



France & Colonies Philatelist

THE LUMINESCENT BANDS ON THREE FRENCH STAMPS

By Pierre de Lizeray
 Académie de Philatélie, Paris

The reason for these bands (which have recently been reported in the press) was not clear at first because the Minister of PTT, contrary to the behavior of other postal administrations—and silly in my opinion—, refused to explain their purpose, as if trying to hide the fact of the undertaking.

So it is fortunate that smart philatelic detectives discovered these stamps in spite of an administrative wall of silence.

Was the project for treating letters in a way to facilitate use of machine cancellation, as done in two experiments in Canada fully explained to the public by its postal administration? Or was it to machine sort mail into the "fast" and "slow" categories?

In one of its negative responses to the queries of philatelists the Ministry had said "that it does not relate to an experiment in rectifying mail addresses but is an experiment about which it is premature to give information"! Why hide for so long the intent to modernize or that they are working on it?

So they are seeking an automated way to sort the two classes of mail, as the red stamp for fast mail (40c) has two vertical bands at right and left sides of the stamp whereas the green stamp (30c) has only one vertical band, on the right side. As for the 10c, it has 3 bands.

Just what are these bands? They are produced by a clear luminescent "ink" applied after and on top of the printing of the stamp design. When looking at the stamp at an oblique angle, the eye receives some reflection from the surface as though it were a mirror. It is possible then to see the bands faintly if the light is bright.

Under an ultraviolet (Wood) lamp, the bands become very bright of a pure yellow, and it is evident on the sheets of the stamps that the bands do not extend into the space between the stamps. On the 40c, however, there is a splattering of the luminescent "ink" from the bands onto the margins.

French philatelists have argued amongst themselves as to whether it is a phosphorescence or a fluorescence. Since the luminescence occurs only during the time that the bands are exposed to the ultraviolet light (and perhaps an infinitely short time thereafter), it is by the definition of physicists "fluorescence." The Ministry in its acknowledgement of the bands (after prodding

by philatelists), used the term "phosphorescence," which also the British philatelists use to describe the banded British stamps. "Luminescence" is a general term that covers both phenomena and by using it philatelists will be safe from making a technical mistake.

Only the Cheffer 40c recess printed in sheets, the 30c Cheffer typo in sheets and the 10c Blason de Troyes which only exists in sheets, received the bands for the initial experiment localized in the Departement of Puy-de-Dôme. The experimental sorting machines for the experiment are housed in a spacious building (chosen for this purpose) near the railroad station in Clermont-Ferrand, the main city of the Departement.

Booklets, coils, and the 30c postcard did not receive the overprinting of bands, and thus the "experiment" is hardly a complete one.

The sheets of the banded 10c have their marginal imprints—date in the coin daté, no. of the printing, no. of the press—printed in yellow instead of the usual black. The reason is that this stamp, typographed in 3 colors, is printed on a press with 4 cylinders, one of them ordinarily giving the black imprints. In order to dedicate this cylinder to the printing of the luminescent bands, it was necessary to insert the type for the marginal imprints into the cylinder for the yellow ink, which is why the imprints are yellow only on the sheets of this special trial printing.

As the stamps sold in all the Puy-de-Dôme, the Departement of the experiment, are again normal stamps without bars, it was thought that the experiment was over as of about December 1970. But now that the 50c Becquet (issued in early January for the new postal rate) has appeared with three luminescent bars like its predecessor 40c, new experiments will certainly be going on somewhere.

Sedan

Our Vice-President Gardner Brown and Mrs. Ruth Brown (who shares in all his philatelic activities) are long-time buffs of the Franco-Prussian War and appropriately took a trip to France last fall. He writes us about it as follows: "For an equally long time we promised ourselves we would travel to France 1970-71 to celebrate the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Franco-Prussian War. . . . As a result we found ourselves in Sedan on September 1, prepared to 'celebrate' on September 2 the 100th anniversary of the date when Napoleon III capitulated. Sedan seemed rather unimpressed (not surprisingly) by the historical significance of the date, but at the Chateau-Fort, they were having 'EXPO 70'. Besides a tour of the ancient fortress-castle, they had two exhibits. One was historical in nature—uniforms, guns, etc., of the Franco-Prussian War. The item which 'turned me on' was the letter Napoleon III wrote to King Wilhelm saying in essence 'having been unable to die in battle with my troops, I can only lay down my sword to you, my good friend, the King of Prussia.' But they also had a stamp show and I'm sending you a xerox copy of the catalogue. Mon. Hosteau of L'Amicale Philatélique de Sedan is credited for the show by M. Guy Gommery, adjoint au Maire de Sedan, Président du Comité '70'. The guard would not allow pictures unfortunately. Our next scheduled stop was Metz. By accident, because of a road detour, we stumbled on a Franco-Prussian War Museum (no stamps) in Gravelotte which was most interesting. The Gravelotte area was peppered with monuments, large and small, French and German. We only stopped by a few but were amazed to find nearly fresh flowers on a German monument just outside Gravelotte." The catalogue of 15 pages of the show at Sedan lists the outstanding contents of each of the 97 frames so that one can judge that a very complete cross section of 1870-71 postal material was displayed.

THE SAGE TYPE STAMPS OF THE FRENCH COLONIES GENERAL ISSUES (II)

By Dr. R. Joany

Académie de Philatélie, Paris

(Continued from FCP #143, p. 10)

II. Description of the Values

For this part of the study I have been aided considerably by a very extensive collection of stamps of France of the Banque de France epoch; which has allowed me to discover, for all the printings in common, the identities between the Metropolitan and the Colonial printings which came from them. For certain printings I have to be satisfied with the earliest dates of use found: they are sometimes valuable and make the solution clear; for others the stamp is known to me used only relatively late and thus it could belong to one or another of two successive printings. I am then going on the basis of the frequency of use relative to the size of the printing as far as it is known. There results thus, at least for certain values, a degree of uncertainty aggravated by the fixed difficulty that the subtle characteristics of a color have to be described in words. Here, more than ever, everything is relative, and you must pardon my imperfections.

1 Centime:—

It exists in the four regular printings:—

1st Printing: The green stamp in Type I, no difficulty about it, any more than for the other administratively-recognized stamps made only in a single printing.

2nd Printing:—The first in "black" on bluish (azuré), it is in reality a slate color* on grayish-blue (azuré grisâtre). The background tint, as well as the shade of the stamp proper, offers multiple variations of intensity.

3rd Printing:—It is a very small one and contains only the slate on bright bluish (bleu vif), very agreeable to look at and quite characteristic.

4th Printing:—One of the smallest printings for an officially-recognized stamp, 15 sheets or 4,500 stamps. It is the only 1c really black, the background is light bluish (azuré clair), and one doesn't encounter it often (—I have never seen it mint).

*—Slate (ardoise) is a bluish black, the shade of which does not depend on the background and with which anyone can familiarize himself by examining a lot of the 1c of France: all those prior to 1880 are of this color.

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

2 Centimes:—

Four regular printings of this also:

1st Printing:—It is the green stamp in Type II, no comment necessary.

2nd Printing:—The stamp is red-brown (rouge-brun) on light straw (paille clair). This printing corresponds to the reddest shade, almost rose-red, of all the 2c of this category. It is rather light colored (clair).

3rd Printing:—This small printing is the stamp in brown-red with a somber violet cast (brun-rouge violacé), always on light straw paper.

4th Printing:—The stamp is plain brown-red on a paper tint more pronounced (soutenue) than those of the two printings preceding. It is by far the commonest of the 2c.

4 Centimes:—

Again four regular printings:

1st Printing:—All of the green Type I's that were printed.

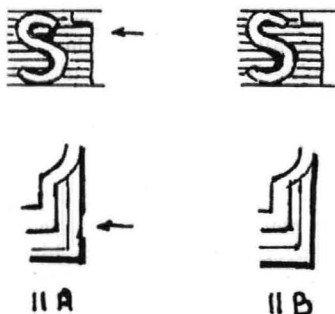
2nd Printing:—A relatively important printing, giving stamps in violet-brown on bluish. It is the most violet of the colonies stamps and the background tint is very slightly tinged with gray.

3rd Printing:—It is deep brown-violet on bluish (bleuté), that is more brown than the preceding printing, on a more pronounced frankly blue paper.

4th Printing:—The stamp is still brown-violet but less deep and duller (plus terne), on a lighter slightly azurish-gray paper.

5 Centimes:—

There were five printings of the 5c green, four regulars and one supplementary. The classification will be greatly facilitated by the fact that the first two printings are in sub-Type IIA, whereas the last three are in sub-Type IIB. I remind you of the distinctive signs of these sub-Types (see Fig. 1) which resulted from retouches on the secondary dies:—



IIA—Presence of a shading under the right extremity of the upper bend of the S in POSTE; a little indentation on the outside of right frame near the bottom.

IIB—No shading in S of POSTE; right frame intact.

It is necessary to note, however, that a cliché in the galvano-type (i.e., a "mother plate" or intermediate galvano) of IIA could be converted to a Type IIB cliché by retouching causing the shading of the S to be lacking but the frame indentation to remain, so one must check it in case of doubt. Thus one IIB-like stamp would be found in a pane of 50 Type IIA stamps.

1st Printing:—In Type IIA, dull green (ranging from light to deep), an almost imperceptible paper tint: off-white or yellowish. Very easy to spot.

2nd Printing:—Again a Type IIA green (but not dull) on light greenish.

3rd Printing:—It is in Type IIB, fortunately because it would be practically indistinguishable from the preceding by the shade alone, which is still green on light greenish.

1st Supplementary Printing:—In Type IIB, of course, dull grayish green on greenish (generally dingy aspect). One cannot find it except with St. Pierre-Miquelon obliteration, but it is not the only 5c that could have this cancellation. 4th Printing: Again Type IIB, the stamp in a green definitely brighter than the preceding printings, on a more pronounced greenish paper than in the other regular printings.

10 Centimes:—

The four regular printings are represented:—

1st Printing:—Green, in Type II.

2nd Printing:—As for the 1c, not truly black but rather a bluish-black or bluish-gray, of variable intensity, on rosy lilac.

3rd Printing:—Slate again, on grayish dull light lilac, the duller of all the papers.

4th Printing:—Stamp is now really black, on light rosy lilac background.

15 Centimes:—

We have here the value with the greatest number of printings, six in all, four regular and two supplementary (for SPM and Senegal). The ensemble combines two administratively different stamps (colors): first the gray in Type IIA, then the blue in Type IIB.

First Printing:—the stamp is dull gray, from light to deep, on grayish. The most important combination has a dull aspect which cannot be confused with the following printing.

2nd Printing:—Stamp has become bright gray, often on a very characteristic bluish (azuré) background, but also on a simply grayish paper that is always brighter than in the first printing.

3rd Printing:—The first in blue, Type IIB. The shade is simply blue, from light to moderate, on light dull bluish.

1st Supplementary Printing:—Dull grayish blue, rather characteristic after one has once seen it; it is always cancelled St. Pierre-Miquelon.

2nd Supplementary Printing:—Stamp is still dull grayish blue, perhaps a little lighter than the preceding, but practically impossible to differentiate other than by the cancel, this time of Senegal.

4th Regular Printing:—Stamp bright blue or frankly deep blue, on bluish paper. Mostly distinctly brighter and more pronounced than what has been printed before.

20 Centimes:—

It will be helpful to underscore here that by a *Décision* of 30 Nov. 1876, the 2c stamp had taken over the color of the first 20c (which now becomes blue by the *Décision* but remained unissued in that color), which however, remained in service because of a very large stock that had been made for the Metropole. Under these conditions, the official descriptions were identical for the 20c and 2c. As both were printed together in the 2nd printing and again together in the 3rd printing, and the same ink was used each time, their change in shades from 2nd to 3rd printing varies in parallel.

This mainly facilitates classifying the rare 2c (2nd printing) but it is not without interest here. We have then four regular printings:

1st Printing:—In Type II, which does not exist for the Metropole, in brown-lilac (with multiple variations) on straw to deep straw—the deepest nuance of the paper seems to have been sent only to Reunion.

2nd Printing:—Very small quantity for this value, in the same color as the 2c of the same epoch: red-brown, generally light, on light straw. It is the reddest of the 20c of the first 3 printings.

3rd Printing:—The stamp is now violetted brown-red on straw, a somber shade sometimes difficult to differentiate from certain examples of the first printing.

4th Printing:—This is the brick-red on green stamp, which has rather numerous variations whose identification is obvious.

25 Centimes:—

The multiple official variations in this value make it the easiest to classify. There were four regular printings plus one supplementary:—

1st Printing:—The ultramarine with its notable variations, of which the most attractive seem to have been sent to Martinique.

2nd Printing:—The blue stamp, especially rare mint.

3rd Printing:—Now we come to the black-on-red stamp.

1st Supplementary Printing:—For St. Pierre et Miquelon; for the first time the color is bistre—a dull bistre on dull yellow.

One should notice that all the stamps of the two Supplementary Printings made at approximately the same time are regularly in dull and grayish shades. The same observation came out of the studies of the Metropolitan stamps of this date. I do not know how to explain this fact except by the employment for all these stamps of a common solvent which made the colors duller, but I have nothing to confirm it.

4th Printing:—The regular printing of the bistre stamp. The shade is simple bistre, on bright yellow, which gives to all its variations a much brighter aspect than the stamps of the supplementary printing.

30 Centimes:—

We are dealing here without doubt with the most difficult value to classify into its four printings, all the more so because judging the 2nd and 3rd printings is not aided by concurrent printings for the Metropole. I do not know any cancellations on 30c dated anterior to 1879, which prevents me from classifying the shades by dates. The 1st and 4th colonial printings being simultaneous with metropolitan printings, the problem for them is relatively easy. So for 2nd and 3rd printings only the quantities of the printings may give some indications for separating their shades. Thus one should find 2 stamps of 2nd printing for every 5 of the 3rd, which is the tentative basis for the shades I suggest belong to these printings. Discovery of some crucial cancellations would permit me to confirm or revise my views.

1st Printing:—The most abundant: the stamp is brown to light brown on light chamois.

2nd Printing:—Probably the dull brown on pale chamois stamp.

3rd Printing:—Rusty-brown, the reddest of all, on light chamois.

4th Printing:—It is pronounced brown (rather dull impression) on reddish chamois.

35 Centimes:—

This value only appeared in the last two regular printings and only the first is in common with the unique Metropolitan printing made before July 1880.

3rd Printing:—The stamp is identical to the first printing for France: violet on yellow to deep yellow.

4th Printing:—Grayish violet on dull orange-yellow, aspect generally duller than preceding printing.

40 Centimes:—

The differentiation of the four regular printings is again difficult to make, but less so than for the 30c.

1st Printing:—Dull red-orange (shades) on pale yellowish.

2nd Printing:—Pronounced vermilion on yellowish (this background tint is of a greenish-lemon aspect in artificial light).

3rd Printing:—Vermilion on yellowish.

4th Printing:—Light red-orange on yellow (relatively deep tint).

75 Centimes:—

Here again the four regular printings are represented:—

1st Printing:—More important than the 3 others combined and includes all the carmine stamps, with numerous shade variations.

2nd Printing:—A slightly violetted rose (the extreme of which has been called the "groseille," (i.e. currant, shade) on a pale rose paper.

3rd Printing:—This printing was very restricted and includes only the vermillioned roses on pale rose.

4th Printing:—Even more limited, this printing is simply rose on yellowish.

1 Franc:—

This value occurs for the colonies only in the first printing; there would not be anything to say about it if it had not also been printed in one sheet of 300 for the Berne UPU office with the third regular printing. I am unable to describe the latter stamp with certainty. Has it something to do with the so-called "unissued" Type II for the colonies? That is possible since the printing material in this Type still existed (having served for the Regents issue) and since it would have been simpler for a single sheet than recomposing a new form of clichés in Type I which would not have served any other purpose. Thus it is possible but remains to be proved.

The identification of the colonies Sage stamps might appear an arduous task; I cannot do more than counsel those interested to commence the task by classifying the printings of French stamps (at least the values most difficult in the colonies) for the 1876-80 period—it is a lot easier in view of the quantities of material available. Moreover, it is desirable to work by comparing stamps under both daylight and artificial light, which often do not give the same visual impressions.

III. Distribution By Colony

Unfortunately, no archive still exists giving the figures on the distribution of the stamps of each printing to the different colonies. The archives must have disappeared in the troubles affecting the Ministry of Navy at the time of the Liberation of Paris.

Thus it is the incomplete and certainly perfectable results of personal researches that I present below in several Tables. The following code signs are used:

n=no printing made

*=the stamp was sent to the colony

o=the stamp was not sent according to all evidence (but may be known with cancel of the colony—simply a rare curiosity)

?=could exist but uncertain (—in most cases a stamp having several printings with the same administrative identification, as I indicated, but for which I have not had the opportunity to make a definitive distinction.)

I will pass in review each of the French territories of the period of Sage distribution beginning with the American colonies, then African, and finally Far Eastern and Pacific.

St. Pierre et Miquelon—The variety of stamps used there is remarkable for such a small territory (5,000 inhabitants then and still) but there were only a few of each.

Guadeloupe—The 25c ultramarine (1st printing) is known in several examples but seems to have come from nearby Martinique which used many of them.

Martinique—

Guiana—Received hardly any after the first printing.

Senegal—This territory comprised the dependencies of Haut Fleuve (Soudan) and Rivières du Sud (Guinea), which were only then at the beginning of their development and did not show up philatelically until the Type Alphée Dubois.

Côte d'Or et Gabon—This colony was practically abandoned at this time and received no Sage stamps. However, there exist some values cancelled at Gabon, either accidental or by favor.

Mayotte—Included the dependency of Nossi-Bé; but we have not counted the posthumous cancelled-to-order stamps of D'Zaoud'zi which could not have been genuinely used on letters.

Reunion—

India—

Cochinchina and dependencies (Cambodia and Tonkin)—Indochina was not created until 1889.

New Caledonia—The colony that received the greatest variety of printings, nearly all of which can be found without any being very common.

Oceania—The colony apparently most poorly supplied with Sage. The 4c green (first printing) and 25c black on red (3rd printing) with postmarks of Tahiti were only cancelled by favor.

December 1970

33 Avenue de Suffrén, Paris VIIe

St. Pierre-Miquelon

	1	2	4	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	75	1F
1R	*	*	*	o	*	*	*	*	*	n	*	*	*
2R	o	o	o	*	o	*	*	o	*	n	o	o	n
3R	*	o	*	o	o	o	?	o	o	*	o	o	n
1S	n	n	n	*	n	*	n	*	n	n	n	n	n
4R	o	o	o	*	o	*	*	*	o	?	o	o	n

Guadeloupe

	1	2	4	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	75	1F
1R	o	*	*	o	o	o	*	o	o	n	o	*	o
2R	*	o	*	o	?	o	*	o	o	n	o	?	n
3R	*	*	*	o	*	*	*	o	o	*	o	*	n
4R	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	o	o	o	*	n

Martinique

	1	2	4	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	75	1F
1R	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	n	*	*	*
2R	o	o	*	*	*	o	*	o	o	n	*	o	n
3R	o	o	*	*	*	*	*	o	*	*	o	o	n
4R	o	o	o	*	*	*	*	o	o	*	o	o	n

Guiana

	1	2	4	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	75	1F
1R	*	*	*	o	*	*	*	*	?	n	*	*	*
2R	o	o	o	?	o	o	?	o	?	n	*	o	n
3R	o	o	o	?	o	o	?	o	?	*	*	*	n
4R	o	o	o	?	o	*	o	*	?	o	o	*	n

Senegal

	1	2	4	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	75	1F
1R	o	*	*	*	o	*	o	*	o	n	*	*	*
2R	?	o	*	o	?	o	*	*	o	n	*	*	n
3R	?	*	o	*	*	o	*	o	o	*	o	*	n
2S	n	n	n	n	n	*	n	n	n	n	n	n	n
4R	o	*	*	o	?	*	o	o	o	*	*	o	n

Mayotte													
	1	2	4	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	75	1F
1R	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	o	*	n	*	o	o
2R	o	*	?	*	*	*	*	*	o	n	*	o	n
3R	*	o	?	*	o	o	*	*	*	?	o	*	n
4R	o	*	?	o	*	*	*	*	*	?	o	o	n
Reunion													
	1	2	4	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	75	1F
1R	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	n	*	*	*
2R	o	o	o	*	o	o	o	o	*	n	*	*	n
3R	o	*	o	*	*	*	*	o	*	o	*	o	n
4R	o	*	*	*	o	*	*	o	*	*	*	o	n
India													
	1	2	4	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	75	1F
1R	o	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	n	*	o	o
2R	?	o	*	o	o	*	?	o	*	n	o	?	n
3R	?	o	o	o	o	o	*	o	*	*	o	?	n
4R	o	o	*	o	o	o	o	o	o	*	o	?	n
Cochinchina													
	1	2	4	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	75	1F
1R	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	o	n	*	*	*
2R	?	?	o	o	o	o	?	o	*	n	?	o	n
3R	?	?	o	o	*	*	*	o	*	*	*	o	n
4R	?	?	*	o	*	*	o	o	*	*	*	o	n
New Caledonia													
	1	2	4	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	75	1F
1R	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	n	*	*	*
2R	?	*	?	*	?	*	*	*	*	n	*	*	n
3R	o	*	?	?	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	n
4R	*	*	?	*	?	*	*	*	*	*	*	o	n
Oceania													
	1	2	4	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	75	1F
1R	o	o	o	o	o	o	?	o	?	n	*	o	*
2R	o	o	o	o	*	o	?	o	?	n	*	o	n
3R	o	*	o	o	?	o	?	o	?	*	*	o	n
4R	o	o	o	*	o	o	*	*	?	o	o	o	n

PIERRE GERMAIN COMMENTS ON THE 25c CERES "ZEROS"

In a letter to the Editor, Pierre Germain advises that our note in FCP #142, Oct. 1970, p. 72, about the status of reconstruction of the 25c Ceres plates, was not entirely up to date. In regard to Type I he wishes to add to the list of zeros, position 84 A2, and to remove from our list 136 B2, 86 G3, 89 G3, and 97 G3, which have been discovered lately and are no longer zeros. He sends us the sketches and descriptions for these, reproduced below.

As for Type II the panes of Plate 5 have been completely reconstructed. Studies are now being oriented towards the substitutions ("remplacants") of Type II and Type III. For Plate 4 he would add to our list 124 G4, which is still unknown. For the two panes G4 and D4 the positions that are still "virgin territory" are not the zeros but the varieties which up to now have never been encountered in pairs, strips or blocks. There are no zeros in Plate 4, but it has 22 unknowns.

Mon. Germain wishes us to make an urgent plea for the collaboration of our Society members who possess such pieces (espec. multiples) as are needed to complete the reconstructions, and asks them to communicate with him at 172 rue Gabriel Péri, 94-Vitry-Sur-Seine, France. In the latest issue of Doc. Phil. (#45,1970) he has a conclusion to his preceding articles, consisting of tables to permit rapid identification of a stamp of Type III which served as a substitution in Plate G5 and D5.

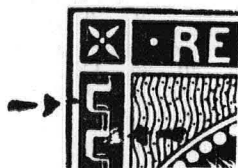
(Note: The "zeros" are positions which are known to have no distinguishing marks, the "unknowns" are ones that have not been found se-tenant to a known position and with an identifiable constant flaw.—R.G.S.)



136 B2—Break in the shadow outside the medallion circumference below the space separating the 10th and 11th pearls of the SW quadrant. Exists on the colonial stamp. Was a Zero.



86 G3—The left part of the white elongated and 45°-aligned spot between the lower extremities of the two strands of hair which are parallel to it, the strand above ending above the 24th pearl of the SE and that below ending above the 25th pearl of SE; it is connected to the end of the lower hair by a thick white line giving it the appearance of being recurved towards the NE. Was a Zero.

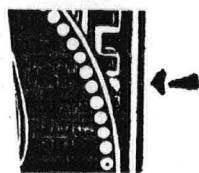


89 G3—White point situated below and slightly to right of the angle formed by the 2nd right vertical element and the 3rd horizontal element of the NW border fretwork (grecque). This point is very visible at the height of the 2nd point of tangency of the 1st wavy line with the vertical border of the NW spandrel (imbriquement). It is located on the prolongation of the bisector of this angle referred to above.



—Very small break in the vertical frame line of the NW spandrel. It is located at the height of the lower part of the 1st left vertical element of the NW fretwork.

—Five small white points, in arc of a circle whose concavity is faced downward, are visible above the 8th, 9th and 10th pearls of the SW and extending to the height of the 11th and 12th pearls SW. Was a Zero.



97 G3—Small white point situated below the center of the 8th horizontal element of the NE fretwork and at the level of the upper part of the 20th pearl of the NE. On certain examples this little point is attached to the horizontal element by a small white line inclined parallel to the exterior circle. Exists on the colonial stamp. Was a Zero.

COMMENTS ON THE PRINTING VARIETIES AND THE VIGNETTE DEVIATIONS OF SOME EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIAL PICTORIAL ISSUES

By Daniel H. Roberts

We feel that the typographed colonial pictorials of 1905 to about 1935 warrant more recognition philatelically than they have been accorded, having proved to us worthy of research. The various series of this era for the different colonies were fascinatingly exotic in subject and design, but, while the marked lack of manufacturing uniformity during the life of these issues makes them philatelically stimulating, it can also make them exasperating esthetically speaking.

There were not too many fine-impression printing "runs" for a given issue. This was obviously due in part at least to plate wear, particularly of the vignette plates (for the centers of the designs) in the bi-color stamps. Other causes for poor impressions were the use of papers with varying degrees of affinity for the printing inks and also possibly the human element in the printing procedure. The foregoing factors added up to producing "individualistic" printings of varying clarity and definition of detail. There are many shade differences as well.

In general the mono-colored colonial issues of the period also show some degree of plate wear in their later printings, in addition to other sources of inferior impressions such as poor die transfers, poor make-ready, poor paper, etc. This situation is noticeable in the first pictorials of Guadeloupe, Guiana, New Caledonia, Tunisia, (and to a lesser extent in the West African Faidherbe-Ballay-Palms series of 1906), which were reprinted for many years.

As for research, there appears to be, as we discovered in the Senegal native-market stamps 1914-35 (see my articles in FCP #75, May-June 1954 and #78, p. 27), a phenomenon of vignette deviations (or "types") in the Gué at Kitim type of French Guinea, although the limited amount of material at hand induces us to be very tentative about it.

However, we have found what appears to be an over-wide vignette in some of the "Gué" stamps. When one vertical edge of the center vignette is in even linear contact with the corresponding inner edge of the frame, there is sometimes sufficient overlap of the opposite vignette-edge onto the frame, suggesting an over-wide vignette for the frame space. We doubt that heavy inking of the vignette plate is a factor in this. We have selected examples in which there could be no possibility of this overlap being due alone to inaccurate vignette-printing registry. All of them happened to have one side in linear alignment with the frame. Of course if an over-wide vignette were perfectly centered in the frame there would be an equal division of the overlap at the sides. The writer also has copies, of the 1 centime Gué for example, in which the vignette is perfectly centered and aligned, but the one centime listed below has the overlap on one side (left) with perfect coincidence of the vignette edge and frame on the other side (right).

Gué Type stamps of Guinea seen with Overlaps:

Scott #63 1c, #105 60 on 75c, #96 1 Fr., #99 1.50 Fr.

We have investigated the 1913 issue of Mauretania for the same thing. A copy of the 2c black and blue was found that appears to have too tall a vignette, overlapping at top.

These observations suggest that reengraved over-large vignettes may have been made for Guinea and Mauretania as happened for Senegal. Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Oceania, India, Upper Senegal and Niger, and Dahomey should be examined for this also.

THE REGULAR ISSUES OF FRANCE 1876-1966 ACCORDING TO THEIR NORMAL POSTAGE USAGE

By Stanley J. Luft

(Continued from #142, p. 82)

VI. The Pair of Laurens Issues of 1932-41 (cont.)

55c

The 55c violet (Sc 268, Yv 363) was issued in Oct. 1937; newly-created value following domestic Tariff of 12 July 1937:

Usage:

*Postal cards.

Printed in sheets of Type I from 9 Sept. 1937 to 7 Oct. 1938. Stamped postal cards (ACEP No. 142) (Type I) printed from late 1937 to Dec. 1938; stamped postal cards with prepaid replies (No. 143) (Type II) printed in 1937-38, issued in 1938.

Rendered obsolete by Tariff of 17 Nov. 1938 and suppressed Dec. 1938.

50c/55c

Overprinted (Sc 401, Yv 478) by flat-plate on remainders of above sheet stamps; about 25.5 million issued from 21 or 25 Jan. 1941 to 16 Aug. 1941.

Usage (Tariffs of 1 Dec. 1939 and 1 Jan. 1940):

(as pairs): Letters, to 20 gm (domestic);

Printed matter, per 50 gm (foreign).

Possible domestic usage of any remainders (Tariff of 5 Jan. 1942):

Printed matter and échantillons, to 20 gm;

Newspapers, non-bulk mailings, from 50 to 100 gm.

60c

The 60c bistre (Sc 269, Yv 364) was issued in Nov. 1937, value having been reestablished by the domestic Tariff of 12 July 1937:

Usage:

Printed matter and échantillons, from 100 to 200 gm (domestic);

Postal cards, to nearby areas of Belgium, Spain, and Switzerland (from 1 Aug. 1937 to 30 Nov. 1938).

Domestic usage (Tariff of 17 Nov. 1938):

*Printed matter and échantillons, from 50 to 100 gm.

Printed in sheets from 2 Oct. 1937 to 6 Dec. 1938; rotary-plate precancels printed 14 Dec. 1937-1 Dec. 1938, issued Jan. 1938 to 1940.

Replaced by the 60c Mercure (Sc 367, Yv 415) early in 1939; precancels continued to April 1940.

65c brown-violet; ultramarine

The 65c brown-violet (Sc 270, Yv 284) replaced the 65c olive green lined Sower (Sc 150, Yv 234) in Nov. 1933.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 6 April 1932):

Printed matter, from 200 to 300 gm.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 12 July 1937):

Letters, to 20 gm.

Printed in sheets of Type I from 13 April 1933 to 30 July 1937; rotary plate precancels (upper part of stamp) printed 13 March-10 April 1933, and (lower part of stamp) printed 29 July 1935-3 Aug. 1936.

Replaced by the 65c ultramarine (Sc 365, Yv 271) in Sept. 1937, after promulgation of Tariff of 12 July 1937.

Printed in sheets (Type I) from 16 July 1937 to 10 Nov. 1938; overprinted (rotary plate) F.M. from 5 Oct. 1937 to 20 Oct. 1938; stamped envelopes of Type I (ACEP No. 75) printed and issued in 1938. Booklets of 20 with

pubs (Type II) printed from 1 Sept. 1937 to 23 Sept. 1938; stamped letter-cards of Type II (ACEP No. 56) printed Fall 1937 to late 1938. Vertical coils (Type III) printed in 1937.

Rendered obsolete by domestic Tariff of 17 Nov. 1938 and suppressed in Dec. 1938.

50c/65c ultramarine

Overprinted (Sc 402, Yv 479) on remainders of above sheet stamps (see 50c/55c, above); about 91.5 million stamps issued from 21 or 25 Jan. to 22 Sept. 1941.

75c

The 75c olive green (Sc 272, Yv 284A) replaced the 75c lined Sower (Sc 151, Yv 202) in Sept. 1932.

Usage (Tariffs of 9 Aug. 1926, 18 July 1932, and various decrees):

*#Letters, from 20 to 50 gm (domestic);

#Registry fee, for other than letters and parcels (domestic);

Letters, to 20 gm (to Luxembourg and Canada);

Airmail surtax, per 20 gm (within Europe).

Foreign usage (Decree of 1 Aug. 1937):

Postal cards (to Luxembourg and Canada, and nearby areas of Belgium, Spain, and Switzerland).

Printed in sheets between 28 July 1932 and 6 Jan. 1939.

Printings interrupted Dec. 1933-Jan. 1934 for printing of the 75c Paul Doumer (Sc 292, Yv 292).

Left without normal franking value by Tariff of 12 July 1937, but continued as a supplementary value. Replaced by the 75c Mercure (Sc 369, Yv 416A) in Spring of 1939, but not retired until 18 Feb. 1941.

(To be continued)

NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, AND CATALOGS

"Contribution a l'Etude de l'Histoire Postale du Siège de Belfort." (In 3 parts, one on means of correspondence during the siege Nov. 1870—13 Feb. 1871, 2nd on exchange of correspondence by land with the defenders, and 3rd on correspondence by balloon). By G. Schauler, R. de Fontaines and A. Cam-boulines. 1971. Illustr. 96 pp. L'Amicale Philatélique de l'Est. From Dr. Ponchon, 12 Quai Charles Valet, F40-Belfort (no price given).

"Emissions de France, Vol. IV—Les Timbres aux Type Paix de Laurens—For-mats et Dentélures des Timbres Français." By Col. Lebland. 16 pp. 1970. Le Monde, Brochure #119. 5.10 Fr p.p. From Le Monde des Phil., 5 rue des Italiens, Paris 9.

"Astrologie et Philatélie, Tome III." By L. Pommier. 1970. 44 pp. 6.45 Fr p.p. Le Monde Brochure—#117. (See above).

"Les Ballons de 1870—Metz et Paris." By C. Dollfuss and P. Maincent. A special issue of *Icare*, Jan. 1971. 180 pp. Illustr. 21.50 Fr. From: *Icare*, B. P. 213, CCP Paris 14.696-14. (Contains illustr. of letters sent by balloons; a deluxe issue for non-specialists.)

"Nomenclature des Timbres-Poste de France—Tome VI. 5e et 6e Période 1937-45." By Dr. R. Joany. 1971. The author, 33 Ave. de Suffrén, Paris 7. 7 Fr p.p. CCP Paris 23-176-57. (Continuation of series of articles that has been running in *La Philatélie Française*.)

- "Catalogue Spécialisé F.D.C.—1er Jour—Enveloppes, Cartes-Maximum, Encarts, Timbres-Poste." Spring 1971 Edition. Illustr. 5 Fr. p.p. Editions Cérès, 23-25 rue du Louvre, Paris 1. CCP Paris 7.144-06.
- "Cote Catalogue de Timbres de France, avec des Oblitérations sur Timbres et sur Enveloppes du No. 1-No. 111." 1970. 5 Fr. p.p. Creator, 9 rue Mansart, Paris 9. CCP Paris 7.708-00. (A dealers priced cat. of 19th cent. France.)
- "Cinderella Stamps." By L. and M. Williams. 1970. 160 pp. Illustr. Heinemann Ltd., 15/16 Queen St., Mayfair, London W1x 8BE. 52sh pp. (Not a cat. but a general discussion of types of cinderella material and sources of info.)
- "Catalogue des Enveloppes 'Premier Jour'" 14th Ed., 1971. 6.90 Fr p.p. Ed. J. Farcigny, 39 rue d'Estienne d'Orves, F92-Courbevoie. CCP Paris 6308.45. (Cat. of FDC publ. by Farcigny for Fr., Monaco, Algeria, Tunisie, Maroc, Andorre, Overseas Terr., Union Afric. et Malgache.)
- "HJMR Priced Guide to Philatelic Literature—A Master List of Philatelic Literature, 1971 Second Edition." Ed. by I. Hagler et al. 1971 509 pp. HJMR Co., P. O. Box 308, North Miami, Fla. 33161. \$5.00 paperbd., 7.50 hardbd. p.p. Includes \$5 of credit coupons towards purchase of items in the cat. Also available from stamp dealers. (France and cols. items on pp. 380-400)

Review

"HJMR Priced Guide to Philatelic Literature—2nd Edition 1971"

(See listing under "New Books")

The market for philatelic literature is considerable and collectors are always complaining especially about the difficulties of obtaining out-of-print works, but the economics of the situation is discouraging. HJMR has made tremendous efforts to build a viable literature service, buying up stocks of others who gave up and advertising assiduously. The core of their stock was (and perhaps still is) the big Billig lot. This catalog, its format somewhat reminiscent of Billig's, is vastly enlarged from previous editions and greatly improved in system, convenience, and readability. The listings have been computerized and indexed, arranged, and printed-out by computer, which should greatly facilitate up-dating and the business management. There are about 50,000 items, and with such a big job one cannot expect perfection the first time around. The grouping is by both general and country categories.

We are of course particularly interested in the French area, so we turn to find pages 380-400 devoted to France, colonies, offices, and Monaco, offering about 800-900 items. A great potpourri of material here—old books, new books, pamphlets, reprints, tear sheets of journal articles, typewritten notes, auction catalogs, stamp catalogs, etc. But the majority is tear sheets of articles, which they sell in the original or in photo-copies (satisfaction guaranteed). Most items are in French, but a goodly proportion are in English and a few German. While many of these publications are trivial, out-of-date, superceded, popular journalism, or second-hand write ups, and thus of limited interest or value to most serious collectors, there are some very scarce and desirable treatises, catalogs and articles. Because the stock has been acquired from some large collector and dealer libraries, it is very uneven in representation of periods of time and subjects. Prices in general seem to us reasonable, a few far overpriced from any point of view, and a few "sleepers." The citations are rather too brief in many cases, of articles especially since the date and source are often not given so that one cannot judge (unless he happens to know) whether it is something old or recent, or is the reference he may be looking for.

HJMR have performed a very useful service and we wish it a success for future growth and improvement.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

In the British philatelic press there have been articles about a once proposed joint Franco-British stamp issue; it was discussed around January 1940. The design was to carry the heads of King George VI and the President of France. It was actually engraved by Cheffer and then made over by Dulac for gravure by Gill and Harrison. The British, however, decided they would prefer each country to issue its own stamps using the common design, when the fall of France killed the project anyway. Material on this project is in the British postal museum.

The French naval postoffice for the nuclear weapons tests in Polynesia in 1970 used a special flamme with the "Bureau Naval 64" postmark, a rectangular box containing a picture of the naval cruiser DeGrasse, a satellite, and a Maori Tiki idol.

To avoid the new right-hand flammes from striking on top of the stamps, collectors in France are promoting the idea of placing the stamp in the top center of the cover. However, many flammes are still running or coming out in the old left-hand format because not all the machines can be converted to the right-hand.

The handstamp or manuscript mark "FD" sometimes seen on covers in France, stands for "fausse direction," meaning sent to the wrong address; it is used when a letter was missent to the wrong place.

According to Seaposter (#208) new PAQUEBOT marks for several French ports have been reported recently: for Calais (25 mm long), and for Villefranche-sur-Mer (38 mm long).

The French customs has re-imposed its old 1943-48 regulation that covers bearing more than 5 times the required postage can be considered a form of export and subject to control.

In 1969, after the rates in France were changed, many printed matter pieces were franked with a boxed cachet on labels, reading, e.g.: "PORT PAYÉ ** / Autorisation No. 206 / Paris 40".

Many postoffices in France have long had on hand a small circular die with office name and word "POSTES" cut in it—for making a reverse (seal) impression. They have been intended for sealing mail bags with wax, but occasionally have been inked and struck on mail.

J. Dumont, writing in *Le Monde*, June 1970, p. 9, calls attention to the forms and labels (titled: "Bon Pour Un Paquet en Franchise Postal") for a military franchise on packets up to 3 kilos which military personnel are entitled to receive once a month while on active duty, in accordance with the Law of 24 May 1951. These are fully postal in nature and collectible but not listed in any catalogs. There have been 6 issues (1952, 1957, 1962, 1964, two in 1968). Printed by plates of two panes of 4 forms each, on colored paper with fancy banknote-pictures background. Detachable etiquettes at the base of the form are gummed and pasted on the packets.

An international hubbub was created recently by a weekly French magazine for juniors "PIF-Gadget," which somehow bought up a stock of the Mongolian Republic set of 8 stamps issued last year in very limited quantity (12,000) and are including them free, one at a time, in the magazine to illustrate a series of articles on philately for youngsters. At the same time the magazine is putting out a lot of promotional publicity with statements by prominent French philatelists praising the project. All this only added to the fire of many philatelic organizations (mainly outside France) who had already been complaining about the irregular way the Mongolian set was issued and cornered with high prices. Apologists in France say the magazine was quite innocent in the affair.

Mon. Jacques Robineau, of the well-known Paris auction house, has retired as President of the Chambre Syndicale de Négociants en Timbres-Poste, one of the two French stamp dealers associations, and Ed. Berck elected in his place. Our member Bernard Behr is active in this organization.

Letters damaged in a fire at the sorting center on Boul. Brune in Paris on 16 Jan. 1969 were forwarded with a cachet: "Deteriore Accidentalement / dans de Service." On 28 May 1969 an Aeropostal de Nuit plane crashed and burned; the damaged letters were placed in new envelopes and cacheted with: "Courrier Accidenté / en cours de transport" in red or black.

Robert Ginestet, member of the Académie de Philatelie and a leading expert on French postal stationery, passed away recently. His many articles on the entires have been a great stimulus to collecting and studying them for types, varieties, usages, etc. A current serial by him on the French entires as explained by the postal rates is running in Le Monde.

The PTT has finally announced that one can order the phosphor-banded stamps (of 1970) from the philatelic service at Cedex 40, F75-Paris-Brune. Also it has announced that the new 0.50 Becquet is printed with bands, but not where they are being sold.

On Feb. 15 an 0.50 stamp in the Becquet rights-of-man design was issued for UNESCO service, and on Feb. 22 an 0.50 stamp in the flag design of Decaris was issued for use of the Conseil de l'Europe. The 0.70 F stamps of UNESCO and the Conseil in these designs were withdrawn on 12 and 19 Feb. resp.

French stamps for newspapers with surcharge "½ centime en plus" should not have been catalogued and priced in mint, as such pieces could only be fakes or obtained by collusion. The mark is struck on the mailing wrappers and only hits the stamps by accident, in which case they are "used" anyway. The Yvert catalog will rectify its listing on these.

At the "great" National Exposition commemorating the Centenary of the Bordeaux issue 7-11 Nov. 1970 at Bordeaux, the Grand Prix, a gold medal and special prize of the President of the Republic, went to M. Décrier of Grenoble—for his Bordeaux stamps mostly in mint multiples. M. Parlange obtained a gold medal for his presentation on the poste maritime of the War of 1870.

The Departement of Basses-Alpes has been renamed "Alpes de Haute Provence" and the postmarks of its towns are being changed accordingly.

An Association Nationale des Collectionneurs de Timbres-Poste et Documents de la Croix Rouge was started last October. The President is Mon. Lémire, 2 Place de l'Hotel de Ville, F63-Ambert.

The postal service of French Polynesia on the first day for the new painting stamps issued in December, issued "official" maximum cards in addition to the usual FDC cachets—this is an unusual step for a French Territory.

A few copies of the "Encyclopedie des Timbres Poste de France." Tome 1 (2 parts), are still available for 215 F p.p. from Paul Pannetier, 16 rue Chaudron, Paris 10.

When you write to France be sure to include the name of the Departement (in parentheses) in the address, if you know it, and especially for small places in provinces, because there are towns of the same name in different Departements and it saves time in delivery.

A new professional organization of dealer-experts has been formed in France—the Chambre des Negociants Experts en Philatélie—with the object of furthering development of philatelic knowledge, assisting in stemming the flood of fakes, and providing collectors with an Expert Committee. The President is J. Robineau, V. P. Ph. Roumet and Roger Calves, Secy. M. Gluxman, Treas. R. Blanc, and Administrators: Boscus, Jamet (FCPS member), and Marchand.



On 6 Feb. an 0.45 Marianne de Becquet was issued in typo, engraved by Miermont, in blue color. On 20 Feb. the 0.80 World Ice Skating Championship (Lyon) stamp appeared (recess), and on 6 March the 0.80 Oceanexpo-Bordeaux 0.50+0.10 General Diégo Brosset (recess), and 0.50+0.10 Esprit Auber (recess) commemoratives came out. An 0.80 ice skating championship design was also issued for Andorre on 20 Feb. Announced for 29 March was a 0.50+0.10 stamp for the Journée du Timbre ("La Poste aux Armées") and for 5 April a 1.00 F stamp of the painting of Millet "Le Vanneur", and for 13 April an 0.80 stamp of the Cape-Horn sailing vessel "Antoinette." On 15 March two new postage-due stamps in typo were released: 0.20 "Petite Pernenche" and 0.40 "Ancolie." The Journée du Timbre, Antoinette, and 0.20 dues stamps were to be also issued overprinted CFA for Reunion, and the 0.20 and 0.40 dues designs for Andorre. On April 17 the 5.00 Didier Daurat et Raymond Vanier will appear; on 24 April the 0.80 Ours and Coq de Bruyère for Andorre; on 26 April the

0.65 Icord, on 10 May the 0.50 and 0.80 for Europe, 0.15 Etats Generaux, 0.50+0.10 Victor Grignard; on 1 June 0.50+0.10 Henri Farman and 0.50 Grenoble Phil. Congress.

An Andorra Study Circle has been started by Ernesto Fink of Mexico. He has already issued no. 1 of the "Andorra Philatelist" (April 1970, 13 pp.). This number, besides some propaganda for the study circle and Andorra stamps, has several interesting articles on the first Spanish issue. Address: Sr. Ernesto Fink, P. O. Box 2554, Mexico 1, D.F. Mexico.

What are some of the themes for a topical collection of or on France? We note in France collections have been devoted to: French scenery, paintings, Napoleon I, DeGaulle, red cross, artisanry, architecture, sculpture, natural history, tourism, chateaux, cathedrals, aviation (Concorde), expositions, presidential elections, etc. Stamps from other countries than France are included if they relate to France.

Mon. Bath (in La Phil. Fr., Jan. '71, p. 2) lists the printings of the three phosphor-banded stamps of 1970 that have been so far found: 0.10 Troyes—plate S+T, press 8, dated 19/2/70 and 4/3/70; 0.30 Cheffer—plate M+N, press 4, dated 17-, 18-, 19-2-70, and 25-, 26-, 27-2-70. 0.40 Cheffer—recess press T.D.6-1, dated 7/2/70 and 23/2/70.

MEMBERS APPEALS

(Members Advertising)

OFFER: We have recently acquired a rather large quantity of French "publicity" booklets complete, as well as some individual booklet panes. Members interested should send me their want list against which we can quote.—Col. Melvin J. Stark (Member #1088), trading as Ethical Stamp Service, P. O. Box 3067, Sta. "A," El Paso, Texas 79923.

WANTED: Tunisia—anything on cover of postal history interest, such as French and Italian P.O.'s, T.P.O., First flights, military, etc., and FDC.—L. Shotton, Apt. 38, Hilltop Apts., Skyline Drive, Saugerties, N. Y. 12447 (Member #1271).

WANTED: Interested in France #58 with fully legible cancellations. Will buy or exchange these for same or other classical French.—Julian W. Story, Hilltop Rd., Mendham, N. J. 07945 (Member #991).

WANTED: If you have a collection, accumulation or duplicates of used French Colonies for sale please contact me first.—Pierre Robichaud, 650 Deguire, Montreal 380, Que., Canada (Member #1128).

WANTED: Complete booklets, especially #168a (Scott 140c) 25c blue sower, with different cover and pane ads. Buy or exchange.—Paul Dinger, 650 Wild Cherry Rd., Naperville, Ill. 60540 (Member #1077).

TRADE: Discontinued my world-wide collection. Will trade all of it, plus duplicates of France and colonies, for the France and Colonies that I need. Basis Scott or ?. Intermediate collector.—Earl Spiegel, 8937 Lilienthal Ave., Los Angeles, Cal. 90045 (Member #1268).

WANTED: Copies of plate positions 2 and 11 of Report 2 of the 20c Bordeaux, Type III (Scott 45), for a study of the flyspecks other than those normally used to identify the plate position. Margin copies specially desired.—Gardner L. Brown, 16 Stamford Ave., Stamford, Conn. 06902 (Member 702)

F. & C. P. S. OFFICIAL

President's Letter

We hope that our fellow members have noted that the PHILATELIST is now published in 24 pages, 4 more than previously. The Directory of Members which was mailed together with the last issue of the PHILATELIST presents a feature of interest: classification of members by States and by specialties. It is sincerely hoped that this information will help the process of communication between members having similar interests. Our member Raymond Gaillaguet of Rumford, R. I., has already taken advantage of these listings to invite fellow members living within driving distance to meet at his home on Sunday, April 18th, at 2 p.m. to "aid each other, to explore each others' interests and perhaps learn more about each others' specialties." We wish him success in this endeavor since it looks like a very positive beginning toward the creation of F. & C. P. S. regionalized groups. We are, once more appealing to all members willing to start the ball rolling in their territory and/or among members having same interests and specialties.

Our Corresponding Secretary has received a few letters asking about the rise in membership dues. The Society is doing its very best to keep its modest budget in balance but the postal-rate increase, the additional pages of our publication, and the increase in all other expenses compelled the change in dues.

The Stephen G. Rich Memorial Exhibit and Competition as well as the 1971 Interpex brought to our exhibiting fellow members well deserved trophies.

At Interpex our members showed the most comprehensive and interesting of the philatelic group exhibits with fine material and excellent presentation.

Our annual banquet will take place on Saturday May 27, 1971. The New York parent chapter will be extremely happy to have as many out-of-town members and their families as possible to join the city dwellers for that event. Reservations can be made in writing to Miss Beatrice Berner, 200 East 62nd Street, New York 10021. Resident members will receive a special announcement in due time.

Philatelically yours, Marc Martin

Meeting of January 5, 1971

The meeting, presided by Mark Martin, President, had a very large turnout. A short business session was held, with a discussion of participation in the upcoming INTERPEX show in New York City, and some routine business. Then followed a very extensive display by our member Raymond Gaillaguet, of Rhode Island, which portrayed his subject, "Attempts To Get In And Out Of Paris During The Siege." The exhibit covered all the available frames at the Collectors Club. Shown and discussed were numerous very scarce pieces of unusual material. Mr. Gaillaguet discussed also the officials who made the decisions concerning the courses of action to be taken, and traced the actions from beginning to end. It was a very comprehensive summary of the period. A long question and answer session ensued, which brought out the reasons for the various actions and more details on the material exhibited. Everyone came away with an enriched appreciation of the postal history of the Siege.

Meeting of March 2, 1971

The meeting was called to order by President Martin, a large turnout of members and several guests being present. At the business session it was re-

ported that due to the number of exhibits entered by members, the Society's participation in INTERPEX resulted in filling 30 frames instead of 24 as was originally contracted for. The method of scoring the S. G. Rich Exhibition was discussed; pros and cons were brought out with a view to improving the judging of future shows. The floor was then given to Gus Wittenberg, presenting an exhibit entitled "A Frenchman's View Of The Rhine," which was a Grand Award winner at TOPEX. This was a superb example of what can be accomplished with a thematic collection, in this case on the Rhine River. Mr. Wittenberg began with stamps and covers illustrating scenes, subjects, and events relative to the source area of the Rhine. This was followed through from source to the mouth of the Rhine, a winding trail through Europe. Each of the various countries involved in the use and control of the river at different times in the course of history, was represented by their postal emissions to illustrate their involvement. In addition to the postal material, Mr. Wittenberg brought out a great deal of the historical side of items covered by his exhibit. At the conclusion Gus was given a fine hand for this unusual showing.

Honorary Members

At the last September meeting Miss Louise Elemencon, one of our longest-time members and most faithful, was elected to Honorary membership. At a recent Board meeting it was voted to elect Charles Bretagne to Honorary membership; he was President of FCPS from 1964 to 1966 and responsible for bringing it back to vigor after the slump in the early 1960's.

1971 STEPHEN G. RICH MEMORIAL EXHIBIT AND COMPETITION PARTICIPANTS

- John E. Lievsay: "25 Centimes CERES of 1871" (2 Frames, Group 1, Sec. 1)
 Ruth & Gardner L. Brown: "A Study of the less commonly used BORDEAUX" (2 Fr., Gr. A, S. 1)
 Ira Seebacher: "Sports Stamps of France and Colonies"—primarily 20th Century. (2 Fr., Gr. B, Sec. 7)
 Louis Staub: "Essays, Proofs, Covers, DeLuxe Sheets of French Airmail" (2 Fr., Gr. A, Sec. 3)
 John Orzano: "Artist Proofs" (1 Fr., Gr. A, Sec. 3); "Imperf. Trial Colors" (1 Fr., Gr. A, Sec. 3)
 Theo Van Dam: "Postal Rates, Routes and Markings of Mail between FRANCE and SPAIN in the 1850-1880 Period" (2 Fr., Gr. B, Sec. 6)
 Mrs. John P. Hudak: "Scouting in French Independent AFRICA: Lure of Scouting" (2 Fr., Gr. A, Sec. 4)
 John R. Waterfield: "Study of Cancellations on Covers of Historical Interest"—French Revolution, 2nd Republic, Paris Commune. (2 Fr., Gr. B, Sec. 5)
 Raymond L. Gaillaguet: "A few selected pages of SEMEUSES and AMERICAN LEGION"—American Legion Issue complete with varieties. (2 Fr., Gr. A, Sec. 2)
 Walter Brooks*: "Covers of the 1849-1875 Period"—selected for unusual hand-stamps, variety of cancellations and utilisation of most of the stamps of this period. (2 Fr., Gr. B, Sec. 6)
 W. H. Shilling, Jr.: "French AMBULANT cancellations (Griffes)" (2 Fr., Gr. A, Sec. 1)

*Exhibit not received in time to be judged.

AWARDS

- Grand Award—Best In Show: W. H. Shilling, Jr.
 First Award—Group A (Stamps): John E. Lievsay
 First Award—Group B (Postal History): John Waterfield
 Topical Collections Award: Mrs. John P. Hudak

A Short Review of the Exhibits Presented by the Participants of 1971 Stephen G. Rich Memorial Exhibit and Competition

"POSTAL RATES, ROUTES AND MARKINGS OF MAIL BETWEEN FRANCE AND SPAIN IN THE 1850-1880 PERIOD," by Theo Van Dam.—An exceptional study of a very interesting and little-known subject. In accordance with a postal convention of April 1st, 1849 between the two countries, no French stamps were to be used on letters addressed to Spain. The tax could be paid by the sender at the post office or, of course, paid at destination. The result of this odd convention, probably political, was to create a great variety of cancellations of all kinds, particularly with 5 postal border exchange offices, not counting the ports of entry. Mr. Van Dam showed an array of hard to get, beautifully-handstamped covers, neatly mounted and written up, representing a real example of originality in philatelic research.

"A FEW SELECTED PAGES OF SEMEUSES AND AMERICAN LEGION," by Raymond Gaillaguet.—The Semeuses of Mr. Gaillaguet include all important and non-important varieties of these popular stamps from singles to complete sheets and booklets. Included in his exhibit were the stamps of the "American Legion" (Scott 243-244) with all possible varieties: values omitted, unperforated, color varieties, etc.; a rare and complete study of these stamps.

"A STUDY OF THE LESS COMMONLY USED BORDEAUX," by Ruth and Gardner L. Brown.—What Mr. and Mrs. Brown mean by "less commonly used Bordeaux" are all Bordeaux stamps other than the 20 centimes, which they showed last year. It is a most detailed presentation of the different types together with their particular characteristics drawn to a large scale. Stamps and covers are mounted wide-spaced on pleasantly hand-designed pages.

"LURE OF SCOUTING"—SCOUTING IN FRENCH INDEPENDENT AFRICA, by Mrs. John Hudack.—This is one of the few topical collections appearing at the Stephen G. Rich Exhibit. The subject being self-explanatory, the virtues of the exhibit consist in a neat and elegant appearance, expanded and detailed write-up, beautified by hand-drawn sketches.

"ARTIST PROOFS" AND "IMPERFORATED TRIAL COLORS," by John Orzano.—The exhibit comprises good peripheral material which could be added to a study of modern stamps. It would gain by being written up and included in a more sophisticated presentation. Of note is a full sheet of color trial stamps (recess) showing the 5 differently colored strips repeated 10 times, which is the standard for printing these trials.

"25 CENTIMES CERES OF 1871," by John E. Lievsay.—This shows a labor of patience in reconstructing a full plate of 300 stamps and illustrating a great many of the varieties connected with that issue. There is no doubt that that the arrangement, mounting and presentation could have been improved, in keeping with this rare exhibit.

"ESSAYS, PROOFS, COVERS, DE LUXE SHEETS OF FRENCH AIR-MAIL," by Louis Staub.—A comprehensive and valuable showing of material pertaining to Airmail issues, dear to the specialists of "Feuillets de luxe," and flown covers, very well mounted but which could stand a little more description. All material presented was in beautiful condition, specially the covers which were neat, clean and pleasant to look at.

"STUDY OF CANCELLATIONS ON COVERS OF HISTORICAL INTEREST," by John R. Waterfield.—Mostly a museum-like display of pre-stamp covers addressed to or originated from well-known personalities: Napoleon's generals, 2nd Republic statesmen, etc. The very rare covers used during the Paris Commune (March-May 1871) with and without adhesives are most inter-

esting. The collection is clean, neat and very well written up.

"SPORTS STAMPS OF FRANCE AND COLONIES," by Ira Seebacher.—Consists in an attractive display of French and former French-colonies' covers adorned with that topical subject. Interestingly enough, all covers are commercial and the great majority are addressed to the USA, which is, in itself, a rarity. The exhibit is neatly mounted but could gain from additional write-up.

"FRENCH AMBULANT CANCELLATIONS (GRIFFES)," by W. H. Schilling, Jr.—Presents a most complete collection of the 1852-1876 adhesives, stamped with railway cancellations, called "ambulant cancels." As there are catalogued approximately 270 different ambulant cancellations, this collection, beautifully mounted on 32 pages, has them all or perhaps even more than "officially" known. This is a top exhibit in rarity, completeness and diligence.

"COVERS OF THE 1849-1875 PERIOD, SELECTED FOR UNUSUAL HANDSTAMPS, ETC.," by Walter S. Brooks, unfortunately, did not arrive in time for the Exhibit.

Interpex Awards

(Judges: James DeVoss, Philip Silver, Ira Zweifach)

Gold Medal: John R. Waterfield.

Silver Medals: Mr. and Mrs. Gardner L. Brown, Wm. H. Schilling, Jr., John Lievsay, Theo Van Dam, and Walter Parshall.

Bronze Medals: Gustave Wittenberg, Raymond L. Gaillaguet, Harvey R. Warm, Walter Brooks, and John Orzano.

F. & C. P. S. Awards

(Judges: John Thomas, Ira Zweifach, and Marc Martin)

Gold Medal: John R. Waterfield.

Bronze Medal: Theo Van Dam.

Plaques: Harvey R. Warm, Walter Parshall, and Mr. and Mrs. Gardner L. Brown

The general presentation of the March 12-14, 1971 Interpex was remarkable by the increase of foreign government exhibits (21) and the decrease in club participations (7). There were 59 domestic dealers, 2 Canadians, 14 British and a total of 195 exhibition frames. Top Interpex award went to Henry Gobie for a magnificent "1869 U. S. Pictorial Issues: examples of usage and cancellations" displayed in 6 frames. We noted specially this exhibit because among numerous cancellations, we saw on each value of 6, 10, 12, 15, 24 and 30 cents the strike of the well known French anchor in a dotted lozenge postmark! It would be extremely interesting to see a stamp cancelled in this fashion on a cover, which, we understand, Mr. Gobie never found (—they exist but extremely rare.—R.G.S.).

The French Group of exhibits in 32 frames was the best in the show from a philatelic point of view and received a just recognition in amount and level of awards. Some of the French exhibits had already been shown at the Stephen G. Rich Competition of last February, those in particular of Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Brown, Raymond L. Gaillaguet, W. H. Schilling, Jr., and Theo Van Dam. Others, also shown in February were expanded by their owners to 3 and 4 frames, such as the exhibits of Mrs. Jeanne H. Hudak, John E. Lievsay, John R. Waterfield and John Orzano. Exhibits not previously participating in the Rich Competition were shown by Walter Parshall, Gustave Wittenberg, Harvey R. Warm, Walter Brooks and Beatrice Berner.

Walter Parshall's Postal History of Monaco starts with the XVIIIth century postal markings and ends with stamps on and off cover of the 1853-1876 period. It is a very interesting and rare ensemble of valuable items in very fine condition. Peripheral material in photostatic copies together with a fair write up adds to the comprehension of the display. A better arrangement and

presentation could enhance this excellent collection.

Gustave Wittenberg's Paris Postal History exhibit includes mostly pre-stamp material beginning with the XVIIIth century, with a rarely seen array of Petite Poste markings, suburban markings as well as XIXth century Paris post office markings in all colors and shapes. This exhibit could be very much improved with more explicit write up, arrangement and presentation.

Harvey R. Warm's study of Proofs of the Postal Union issue of Monaco is a model. Taking a subject which some may consider not to be a "100% philatelic" one, Mr. Warm by applying research, imagination and good sense created a beautiful presentation of the technical step-by-step production of this issue. All details of design, engraving, proofing and final printing are excellently written up and the material is well mounted.

Walter Brooks' study of the classic issues with printing shades, types and cancellations shows samples of the first 7 French issues on and off cover. Quite an important amount of material is shown of somehow mixed quality and condition. The writing up could be considerably improved as well as the arrangement and presentation.

Miss Beatrice Berner's Camels on stamps of Obock and Somali Coast form an attractive presentation of a topical subject. As usual with this type of exhibit, the quality of the stamps, their mounting and arrangement are excellent; the write up is good but could gain with the addition of purely philatelic comments.

NEW MEMBERS

- 1265 KUHN, Robert G., 149 Circular St., Tiffin, Ohio 44883
(France; Andorra; Algeria; Monaco.)
- 1266 GINSBERG, Steven, 357 Everit Ave., Hewlett Harbor, N. Y. 11557
(France; French art proofs; deluxe sheets; imperf. corner blocks dated; imperf. singles; encarts deluxe FDC—art only.)
- 1267 GARRATT, William R., 111 Rollins Road, Millbrae, Cal. 94030
(France.)
- 1268 CLARK, B. Hannelta, 3525 West 116th St., Inglewood, Cal. 90303
(French stamps on art, literature, music, scenes of France on stamps, history of France as reflected in stamps.)
- 1269 SPIEGEL, Earl L., 9770 Culver Blvd., Box 507, Culver City, Cal. 90230
(France and Colonies, mint and used; covers.)
- 1270 HOLLOWAY, Jack H., 102 Thunderbird Drive, Marshalltown, Iowa 50158
(France and Colonies.)
- 1271 SHOTTON, Lewis, Apt. 38, Hilltop Apts., Skyline Dr., Saugerties, N. Y. 12447 (Tunisian postal history.)
- 1272 VINDELOV, Diane J., 616 Santa Fe Ave., Albany, Cal. 94706
(France and Colonies)
- 1273 CARSON, William, Box 11728, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio 45433 (19th Century France)
- 1274 SCHOENENBERGER, Tom, 601 5th St., N. E., Oelwein, Iowa 50662
(First-day covers)
- 1275 ANNABLE, W. Grant, 24 Pheasant Drive, Armonk, N. Y. 10504
(Not Given)
- 1276 GAUGHAN, Thomas E., 3540 Decatur Ave., Bronx, N. Y. 10467
(French Colonies, intends to expand.)
- 1277 FINN, Harold J., R. D. 3, Box 66, Averill Park, N. Y. 12018
(General, especially covers and cancellations.)
- 1278 FOUCART, Jean Pierre, 22-30 28th St., Astoria, L. I. C., N. Y. 11105
(France and Colonies.)

- 1279 HIGGINS, Gladys, 10832 Parnell Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60628
(France, covers and stamps—classic and modern.)
- 1280 SABOURIN, Marcel, 224 Boul. Richelieu, Belotil, Que., Canada
(Commemoratives, semi-postals and air mails of France and Monaco.)
- 1281 ARNOLD, Verlin W., 1626 Glenwood Drive, Abilene, Texas 79605
(General France, all categories.)
- 1282 O'GRADY, Patricia, 437 West 263rd St., Riverdale, Bronx, N. Y. 10471
(Renaissance Era, from Joan of Arc on.)
- 1283 WOLLESWINKEL, Mr., Wandelweg 73, Wormerveer, Netherlands
(Imperforate old France, classics.)
- 1284 COINTREAU, E., 226 Banks St., Cambridge, Mass. 02138
(Air Mails, Epreuves deluxe.)
- 1285 TOMS, Margaret W., 321 Crawford St., Orillia, Ont., Canada
(Grande Peche mail.)
- 1286 SEREBRAKIAN, S., Inc., P. O. Box 448, Monroe, New York 10950
(XXth Cent. Die Proofs; essays; varieties. Dealer.)
- 1287 PICK, Dr. Franz, 419 East 57th St., New York, N. Y. 10022
(Old France.)
- 1288 WEINBERG, Albert, 549 Broadway, Bayonne, N. J. 07002
(France and Colonies.)

REINSTATEMENTS

- 710 McGARRY, John M., 189 Ashuelot St., Dalton, Mass. 01226
(Fr. Guiana, stampless, APO 418, and covers with stamps overprinted 1886, 1887 and 1888.)
- 966 ROBERTS, Trevor D., Route 2, Box 352, Coupeville, Wash. 98239
(France & Colonies including revenues, varieties, imperfs., deluxe sheets, etc.)

CHANGES OF ADDRESSES AND CORRECTIONS

- 1099 HOKE, Mr. Kay H., P. O. Box 10020, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816
- 856 BURTNETT, Robert C., 6629 4th St., Scottsdale, Ariz. 85251
- 1217 VAN DER LIST, H. W., Klarenburg 273, Amsterdam 1018, Holland
- 1193 BUONO, Frank J., P. O. Box 1535, Binghamton, N. Y. 13902
- 627 BOSTON UNIVERSITY PHILATELIC LIBRARY, Serials Dept., 771 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, Mass. 02215
- 264 VOOYS, Daniel W., P. O. Box 8642, Academy Sta., Albany, N. Y. 12208
- 906 NOVITSKI, R. K., Box 31247, Aurora, Col. 80010
- 1199 HOFFACKER, Antoinette C., 312 Montgomery Ave., C-6, Haverford, Penna. 19041
- 1100 CYR, Henry Bruce, Route 5, Box 542, Wetumpka, Ala. 36092
- 1004 BROCKWAY, Alan P., Biology Department, 1100 14th St., Denver, Col. 80202
- 631 LOCK, Nora, P. O. Box 70, Geneva, Ohio 44041
- 1141 HUDSON, Robert E., 2640 Britannia Road, Sarasota, Fla. 33581
- 1112 BAUER, Rudolph E., Apt. C-33, 145 Standart Ave., Auburn, N. Y. 13021

DECEASED

Reinhardt Pirrung, Harold J. Randles, Russell Mason, J. William Meyer, Col. Melvin I. Stark.

RESIGNED

William Rose, Mars. M. Piekarski, S. Boerner, F. A. Auerbach, E. Ross, Jr., E. C. Jenzen, J. Novy, J. R. Fahs, K. Kamholz, J. E. Woodbridge, P. A. Rubio, G. R. Loisel, H. Plougmann, L. H. Archambeault, A. S. Brooks.