



France & Colonies Philatelist

A PRETEND-COLLECTION OF BALLOON MAIL

By Ruth and Gardner Brown

One collector of France is said to own 6,000 balloon covers. He considers only 300 of them to be his "real" collection, the balance being held only as reference material to try to establish what is "normal" and what is not. His logic appealed to us since such mail is often very difficult to associate with a particular balloon. We have only 75 balloon letters although we regard each of them as "choice". However, the thought of trying to acquire 5,925 more was appalling.

We decided we too could have a reference collection if we were content to own the verbal description of the cover, and not the item itself. From an accumulation of auction catalogues we were able to assemble a "pretend-collection" of 3,263 covers, not counting the two "postcard" balloons. The winter was not long enough to do everything we wanted. Most of the catalogues were French ones from the last 10 years, but among the few American ones was the fabulous Prevost sale of 1936.* Of the 3,263 covers, in 2,242 cases the catalogue description also gave the arrival date, an essential bit of information for those who become involved with the postal history of the period.

Rather than trying to assign each letter to a particular balloon, we arranged them by the date of their Paris cancellation, regardless of the arrival date. After several weeks of this work, we began calling it our "scissors and glue" project. Now that it is done, we thought you might be interested in what we have learned.

First of all, with the obvious exception of certain captured, lost, or otherwise rare balloons, the results show a remarkable uniformity of "letters per day." In other words, the number of days between balloon departures is an

*The Prevost sale was put on by F & CPS member Mozian, and the now famous airmail dealer Irwin Heiman. In attendance was the Armenian-Parisian K. Djismardahoss, whose name is pencilled on many balloon covers.

important factor to remember. Our sample gave an average of 26 letters per day. The average deviation was plus or minus 6 letters per day, but this number could have been reduced by some massaging of the raw data. Balloons rarely carried mail with precise daily cut-off dates, and this would be the factor susceptible to massage. The results lend weight to the thesis of Ernst Cohn (Mr. "Ville d'Orleans") who introduced a kilogram per day concept in his Airpost Journal articles beginning with the April, 1972 issue, Vol. 43, No. 7.

More importantly, it brings home the truth of what should have been obvious. Mail from what we now call "one-day-balloons," is less common than mail from balloons that carried mail accumulated from a span of several preceding days. In fact, the number of covers that have been offered for sale is in direct proportion to the time interval between departures, if one counts the double departures on the same day as but one balloon.

Later we rearranged the letters, this time to tabulate the spread of destination delivery dates as a function of the Paris date. While this gave information of specialized interest, it is much too voluminous to record here. Not surprisingly, there was an overlap for nearly every balloon; before all the mail from Balloon C was delivered, mail from Balloon D was being delivered. However, there is one major gap in delivery dates. The sample showed no balloon-mail deliveries in southern France for the 10-day period between Nov. 13 and Nov. 23. The reason is well known. The balloon "Daguerra" was captured and the one bag of mail which was saved was delayed for a week before delivery, and the "General Uhrich" mail was delayed by its landing in an awkward location in northern France. Our observation about the gap in delivery dates was of particular interest to us for it deepens the mystery about a postcard we own with an arrival date in Agen (a town in southern France famous for "les pruneaux d'Agen") on Nov. 19, 1870; right in the middle of the non-delivery period.

Another example of the usefulness of our new reference collection was its help in determining whether one of our "Ville d'Orleans" covers was in one of the TUNET mailbags, or the one thrown in the sea near Mandal, Norway.

FRANCE & COLONIES PHILATELIST

Published quarterly by the

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

Affiliate No. 45, American Philatelic Society

July 1975 — Whole No. 161, Volume 31, No. 3

Second-class postage paid at Lawrence, Kansas

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

Dues \$5.00 per year, Parent Chapter \$6.00 (plus 50c admission fee)

\$4.50 of which is for a subscription to the F&C Philatelist

All communications about membership, subscriptions, activities, and services of the Society be sent to the Corresponding Secretary, Walter E. Parshall

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

All contributions to and questions concerning the contents and policy of this magazine should be sent to the Editor:

Robert G. Stone, P. O. Box 471, Biglerville, Pa. 17307.

Postmaster: Send form 3579 to 821 Vermont St., Lawrence, Kans. 66044

Balloon students should be sure to read the Cohn-Cappart article in the *Airpost Journal*, Vol. 45, No. 8, 1974. We've already introduced Mr. Cohn of Washington, D. C.; and Mr. Cappart of St. Germain-en-Laye, France, is Mr. Plis Confiés of the balloon world. They stated that the Tunet mailbags, which passed through St. Malo on Dec. 8, 1870 with the "Ville d'Orleans" balloonists were not processed until the day after; i.e., when they reached Tours on the 9th. With this background, our cover had to be from the Mandal sack since it has an arrival cancellation in St. Malo of Dec. 8.

We've spent half the winter, and most of the spring, writing to each other about this cover. We came to the conclusion that the Tunet mailbags must have been opened in St. Malo. But then we made a big mistake, we asked both experts for their opinion. Wouldn't you know, they disagreed; but the one not of our persuasion seems to be weakening. As the result of our winter's work, we are able to produce maps which "seem to show" the Tunet bag(s) delivery dates fan out from St. Malo, not Tours. Our data strongly suggests that the mail of Nov. 21 and 22 was in the Tunet bags, except for the last collection on the 22nd, and that mail from the 23rd and most of the 24th was in the Mandal bag.

This would imply that mailbags were filled in Paris as a function of time. It certainly seems logical with the advantage of hindsight.

If two-days mail would fill two mailbags, another two would be filled in the succeeding two days. One of our favorite balloons is the "General Renault," another 4-day balloon. In 10 more years, we hope to have a specialized collection of just this balloon. We tried to use the above logic in our analysis of its delivery dates. So far, no luck. Perhaps history is not that simple? Maybe two of the "Renault's" mailbags were handed in at Fourcarmont, instead of one being taken to Abbeville. We'll try to let you know in 1985.

Other information of interest to balloon-mail fanciers relates to the relative incidence (rarity) of letters carrying red Paris SC cancellation, and the Plis Confiés which were posted outside of Paris by the balloonists. The results are listed below:

Month	No. of Balloons	SC's	Plis Confiés	Aérostier Marks
Sept.	4	0	16	1
Oct.	15	13	64	20
Nov.	13	30	24	4
Dec.	18	23	10	6
Jan.	14	27	5	0

Since letters with Aérostier markings are also Plis Confiés, they are counted in both of the last two columns. Mr. Cohn claims he now can not remember whether he or Mr. Cappart first noticed that, when the giant balloons were built in October, and the backlog of Paris mail began to clear up, there was less need to ask for special treatment to insure prompt departure from Paris; therefore the number of Plis Confiés fell off. Our data confirms their observation.

One disquieting result of our work illustrates the old adage that "the more one knows, the more one knows he doesn't know." We now look with questioning eyes on several covers we thought we had identified with certainty. But then, this is what makes each cover different, and this is what the fun is all about.

FRENCH AND FRENCH COLONIAL STAMPS USED ON FOREIGN SHIPS

By Robert G. Stone

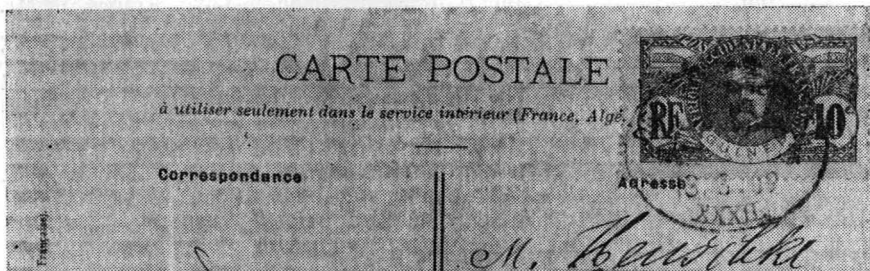


Fig. 1. Picture postcard with Fr. Guinea 10c Faidherbe stamp cancelled with the oval German seapost mark: "Deutsche Seepost/Linie/West Africa /13.3.09/XXXII", mailed at the docks at Conakry on board the "S. S. Lucie Woermann" of the Woermann Line, a Hamburg company that served the West African coast for many years up to 1914. (The cancel no. "XXXII" was assigned to the "Lucie Woermann" in 1909.) Most of the Woermann boats carried German official seapost offices.

In Salles' "La Poste Maritime" there are considerable indications of French maritime markings cancelling stamps of certain foreign countries where the French mail packets called. But many collectors may be little aware that the reverse situation also occurs—French and French Colonial stamps cancelled by ship marks (sea-post cancels or purser's cachets) of ships of foreign (non-French) registry. This can happen when a foreign ship calls at a French-country port and passengers or port residents mail letters on board the ship while it is in the harbor. (At sea, UPU conventions specify that only stamps of the country of the ship's registry are to be accepted as prepayment on letters posted on board, but the rule is often violated.) Theo-

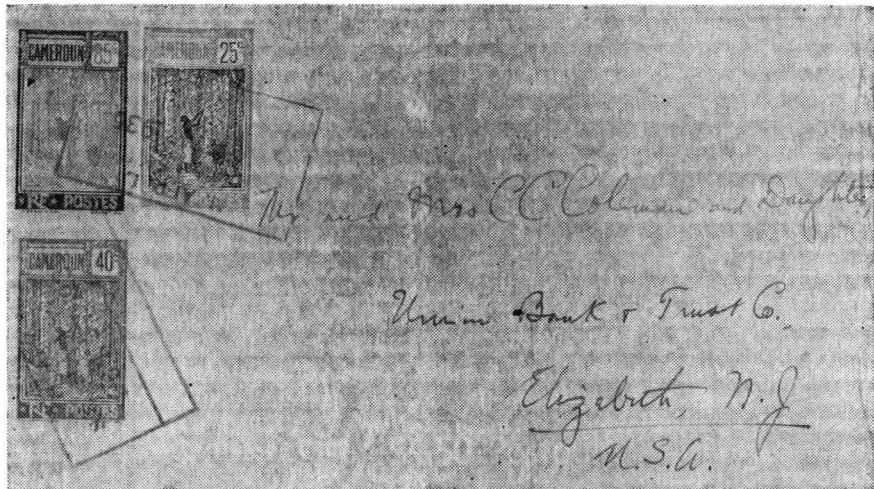


Fig. 2. Cover to Elizabeth, N. J. mailed on board the Dutch "S. S. Maaskerk" at Douala, Cameroun, with 85c+40c+25c Cameroun stamps cancelled by the violet rectangular purser cachet inscribed "N. AFR. L./S.S. MAASKERK/26 NOV 1935" (Royal Dutch African Line).

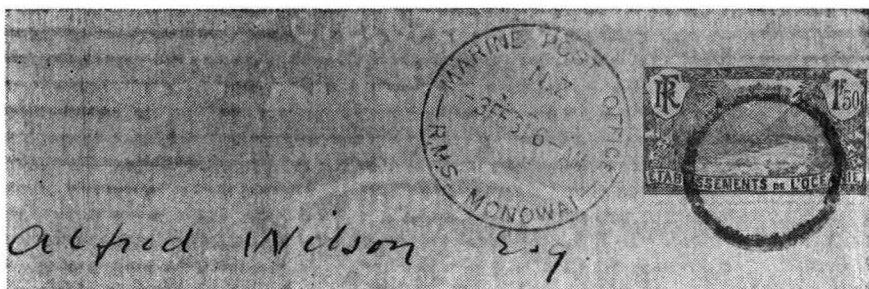


Fig. 3 Cover to London with 1.50 Oceania stamp cancelled by a heavy annulus and at side the seapost mark of the New Zealand liner: "Marine Post Office/N.Z./3 Fe 36/R.M.S. Monowai", probably posted on board the steamer while in Papeete harbor or just after sailing from there. The New Zealand seapost marks are fairly frequent on mail from Papeete. Some of the N. Z. seapost offices cancelled stamps with a circular or straightline "PACKET BOAT" mark.

retically most French and colonial seaports could originate mail with foreign ship cancels, but foreign ships call frequently only at the larger of these ports. Although ship-cover collectors are familiar with such covers, they do not usually obtain them as self-addressed covers and most of the covers of this sort seen are "commercial"—not too common in general. The most likely origins for them are colonial ports of West and Equatorial Africa, Indochina, Martinique, Guadeloupe and Oceania (Papeete), and the major international ports of France: Havre, Cherbourg, Brest, St. Nazaire, Bordeaux, Marseille, Oran, and Algiers. We have seen many such pieces from Guadeloupe, Martinique, and Papeete, but from other colonial ports rather seldom. Marks of cruise ships and regular passenger-freight liners are chiefly seen. The characteristics of hundreds of these marks are illustrated in Cockrill's: "Ocean Mails" and in the files of "Seaposter" magazine.

The West and Equatorial African colonial stamps are often found with cancels of certain Dutch, Belgian, German, British, and Italian lines which have for years called regularly all along the coast. Martinique and Guadel-

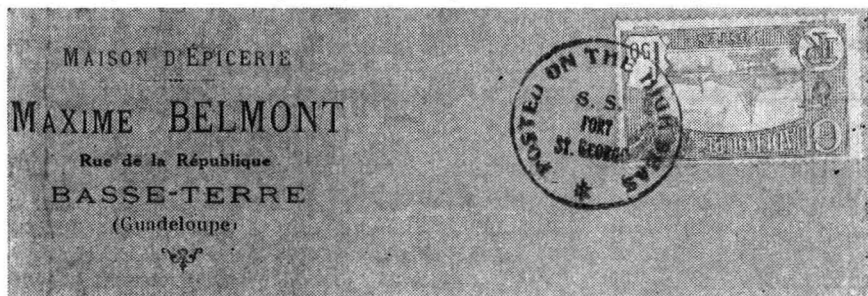


Fig. 4. Cover from Basse Terre, Guadeloupe to NY, with 1.50 GPE stamp cancelled by the purser cachet "Posted on the High Seas/S.S./Fort/St. George" of the Furniss Red Cross (or Furniss Withy) Line (Canadian) about 1935. The Furniss passenger-freight boats were regular callers at the various Leeward and Windward islands in the period between the two World Wars, and their cachets are frequent on stamps or covers from the islands.

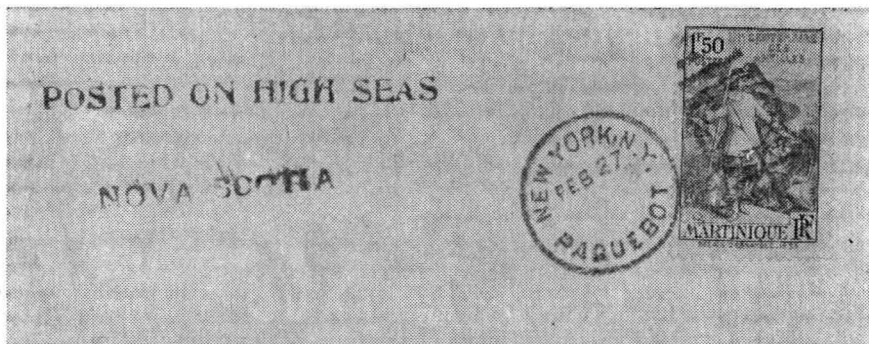


Fig. 5. Cover from Fort de France, Martinique, to New York, ca. 1936, with the 1.50 Fr Centenaire des Antilles stamp cancelled by a New York/Paquebot date stamp; at side the purser cachets of "NOVA SCOTIA" and "POSTED ON HIGH SEAS"—another Furniss boat. A New York "Paq" mark cancelling the stamps is more usual than the purser cachet on them.

oupe stamps are frequent with marks of various Canadian and U. S. lines and cruise ships. French Oceania stamps are often cancelled with seapost marks of the New Zealand steamships.

These ship letters can have four different manners of marking:

- a) only a purser cachet cancels the stamps, no mark of port of arrival (on front) (Figs. 2 and 4)
- b) same, but stamps cancelled with a seapost mark (Figs. 1 and 3)
- c) stamps cancelled by a "Paquebot" or regular postmark of the port of arrival, no other marking (on front)
- d) same, but a purser cachet also on face of cover (Fig. 5)

Such variations result from the varying policies or practices of the port postoffices and of the steamship companies, as well as to accidental deviations or mistakes. In the case of (c) one cannot identify the boat of origin unless the sender endorsed it in ms on front. The type (a) is of course the most interesting, even though it is a somewhat "irregular" usage and only done by certain companies during certain periods. Seapost service has been provided by a few countries, and only on passenger lines on important travel routes; many French colonies never had any foreign-seapost lines calling.

MEMBERS APPEALS

(Members Advertising)

WANTED, on exchange Indonesia 1931 25c purple Yv 159, Die II; offer Die III. B. M. Mendelsohn, 3 Larchfield Ave., Newton Mearns, Glasgow G77 5PW, Scotland. (Member #955).

WANTED: New Caledonia #1, mint, used; will purchase or trade (France, colonies, world). Dealer's welcome. Dennis Naumick, 769 South Irving Ave., Tucson, Ariz. 85711. (Member 1428).

WANTED: Exchange or duplicates by want-list (Scott or Ceres 1975), with beginner or medium collectors. I collect fine used France and colonies (no independent states), and offer both mint and used France, colonies and independent states. Am also interested in used Europa issues, all countries. Melissa S. Erickson, P. O. Box 246, Federal Sq Station, Harrisburg, Pa. 17108. (Member #1523).

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS



On 10 May the 0.80+0.20 Robert Schumann stamp appeared; on 17 May the 4.00F Arphila Ceres design; on 24 May the 1.20 Centenaire du Senat; on 31 May the 1.30F "Gazelle" helicopter; on 6 June the 15F bloc of 2+3+4+6F Arphila sheet; and in June the 0.70 Fondation Santé des Etudiants; on 30 June the 0.80+0.20 Eugene Thomas. Planned releases include the 0.85 Theatre du Peuple de Bussang on 11 Aug.; on 29 Sept. the 1.00F 30th Anniv. of Liberation of the Concentration Camps. Four stamps outside the original program announced last November will come out on dates yet to be set:— a 1.40F Pont de St. Nazaire, 0.70F for 30th anniv. of the creation of the service du déminage, a stamp for the 50th anniv. of Franco-Soviet diplomatic relations, and one on sailing (sport). On 8 Sept. a 1.15F Pays de la Loire will be issued, and on 6 Oct. a 1.30F Auvergne

Andorre issued 3 stamps in its flowers series on 10 May and a 2F Arphila stamp on 7 June (diff. design from the French ones); on 25 August it will issue a stamp for "Pres. Pompidou co-Prince d'Andorre."

From 30 May to 7 Sept. the Musée Postal postoffice will use a special illustrated cancel for its exposition on the theme "La Poste dans les Arts et les Traditions Populaires."

Monaco has issued another of its story sets, a tour de force of 4 scenes from the opera Carmen!



Henri tristant sends us the accompanying prints of the new flammes for

TAAF p.o.s at Dumont d'Urville (Adélie Land) and Port aux Français (Kerguelen) with emperor penguins and a sea leopard—the first such flames used in TAAF. It is reported that TAAF will change its currency from CFA to French francs on 1 Jan. 1976.

A new aerogramme has been issued for France in denomination of 1.40F, yellow and blue.

A new entire envelope with the 0.60F Bequet vignette with a phosphor bar has appeared. It differs from the previous issue in that the address is headed "Destinataire" and the boundary corner guides for address have angles at top and horizontal bars at bottom, printed in green instead of red. Sold at 0.70F.

A recent interview of the new Secretary of State for PTT by the editor of *Le Monde*, brings out some interesting remarks: a) the PTT is looking for a new design to replace the present Marianne de Bequet, which is not pleasing to the public nor philatelists (in general). There are some technical problems to be overcome in doing this (presumably to make it in recess rather than typo or helio). b) The PTT will try to announce at least part of its annual program of stamps as early as June of the preceding year. c) The "History of France" series of stamps will possibly be renewed. d) The printing plant at Périgueux has a new press for 6 colors which should give better results for multicolor stamps by using part recess and part offset. e) They will use helio for stamp designs with large flat color areas. f) Efforts will continue to improve the quality of the stamps (complaints about the colors have been the most general).

Our member Joseph Schatzkes of Paris, Vice Pres. of the Académie de Philatélie, has been awarded the Lichtenstein Medal for 1975 by the Collectors Club of N.Y. He came to New York in May for the ceremony.

The Indochina Philatelist has a new editor: Owen C. Davis, 2191 Lovington, Troy, Mich. 48084; his first issue has a nice new format.

In *La Philatélie Française* for February is illustrated the 6 successive models which Charles Bridoux made in course of designing his stamp for Arphila, the one with the partial view of the Ceres head. Bridoux, an art school graduate and manager of advertising for a chain of French magazines, is a collector especially fond of the 20c Ceres black. Incidentally Beat Knoblauch who designed one of the other Arphila stamps is very unhappy with the way it was reproduced—he says it does not fairly reveal the character of his original model.

The Union Philatelique Libournaise has started a special "Section Andorre" in Jan. 1975, which is publishing a Bulletin 2X a year with studies on Andorre stamps and postmarks. Inquire of M. Savina, Pres., UPL, 50 Blvd. Anatole France, F33500-Libourne.

More information is coming to light on the mail during the postal strike of last fall (see FCP #160, p. 29). Some 20 towns are reported to have used Chamber of Commerce cachets on the covers and even more places used regular postmarks (of the p.o.s) with a star in place of levee. Three places are reported having cancelled stamps with Chamber cachets. Private airmail was taken from Orly airport to Belgium or Jersey, with 5F and 10F private stamps and special cachets. Mail deposited in the PSs in many Paris suburbs was cancelled at "Paris-17 Avenue de Wagram." The aspersions that Paris philatelists cast on the private labels and cachets used on mail privately taken from

Lyons to Geneva are being heatedly rebutted by Lyons philatelists who claim much mail was legitimately taken out that way and it was not just a philatelic fantasy or promotion.

In Reunion, Guadeloupe, Guiana and Martinique the stamps with fluorescent (phosphor) bands have not been sold as they have no facilities there for automatic sorting. Some stamps which were printed for use in France with the bars had to have separate printings made for use overseas and some printings without the bars were used in both France and overseas.

The 0.10 Troyes stamp has been printed repeatedly since Nov. 1962; the first issues were without fluorescent bands and their coin datés were in black. From 19/2/70 on to 1973 they are with the bands and the coins datés are in yellow or in black. From 21/5/73 on they are all in yellow; after 26/12/74 the printings are non-fluorescent but the c.d.s are still in yellow. One must not therefore assume that all those with c.d.s in yellow are necessarily with fluorescent bands.

A correspondent of La Phil. Fr. reports seeing a slogan box cachet of private origin on a cover with 0.80 Preo reading: "Un repas sans vin/est une journée/sans soleil" (sounds like a wine sellers ad!).

Our member Gus Wittenberg was one of the speakers at the meeting of the International Philatelic Congress held in Madrid April 7-9, 1975. His talk was on (what else!) French Postal History. It was published in four languages in the Congress Book distributed at the meeting. At Espana Expo Gus exhibited 3 frames of Paris Postal History for which he won a bronze-silver award. He also visited in Munich the head of the German "Arbeitsgemeinschaft Frankreich," a stamp club devoted to French philately and which publishes a Bulletin.

Stanley Luft came away with a Silver-Bronze award in the literature class at ESPANA for his handbook on the Regular Issues of France 1876-1945 published as a Supplement to the April 1974 FCP. That was in the midst of some stiff competition!

Our Pres. Martin Stempien obtained one of the Awards of Equal Merit in the Collectors Club competition held at Interpex in March, for his exhibit of Franco-British Accountancy Marks (he has some rare ones).

Aha! A new type of Marianne is now available—a very modernistic one, which appears as the background design on the new French mandats-lettre form #1401 (for money orders). Jumelet was the engraver.

Irreverent quatrains making fun of the Arphila souvenir sheet are appearing in La Phil. Fr. and the editor invites more; so here's your chance you versifiers—but you have to rhyme in French!

The 30c Cheffer stamp has not been printed with phosphor bands since last August, at the same time that the coin datés on it began to be printed in black again.

J. F. Brun reports finding a new fake: that of the scarce non-émis 70c "Courrier Officiel" stamp. The fake is identified by the left vertical frame line touching "C" of "Courrier," the signature of Mazelin being followed by DU instead of DEL, and the period separating PIEL from SC is missing.

Madame Zimmermann who recently left employ at the Agence des TP advised her correspondents who used to obtain service on TAAF covers through

her that they would no longer be able to get that service at the Agence; however, we note recently that the Agence announced it was taking orders for this winter's TAAF covers. The covers sent in last year for TAAF were put through in spite of the postal strike.

La Phil. Fr. for March reprints an old article from *Petit Gironde* of 18 Jan. 1934, which illustrates the models for the first French pictorial issues of 1934, including three that were actually issued and three designs that were never adopted.

A Franco-German War Study Circle was formed at Arphila 75. Sole membership requirement and activity will be publication of research-type questions, notes, and research findings, concerning primarily French postal history of 1870-71, including balloon, pigeon, zinc ball, line crosser, diplomatic pouch, censored, delayed, re-routed, and PW mail within, from, and to France. The results will appear in the monthly "*Postal History International*," 25 Meeting House Lane, Brighton, Sussex BN1 1JS, England; editor, Dr. Kenneth Pennyuck, 31 Netherby Road, Forest Hill, London SE23 3AL. Publication will be in English, but contributions will be accepted in French, German, and perhaps other languages, provided a translator-volunteer can be found. (E. M. Cohn)

Leonard J. Silver has informed us he is planning to dispose of his extensive specialized award-winning collection of proofs of various sorts of the post-War Marianne designs 1945-51. The collection includes engravers (artists) proofs in various stages, trial color proofs, sepia proofs, deluxe proofs, collective proofs, souvenir sheets, stamp, label, etc. Anyone interested should contact him c/o First Insurance Management Co., 835 Glencoe Ave., Wyncote, Pa. 19095.

Arphila Report

ARPHILA, set in the Victorian splendor of the Grand Palais and baked by the Paris sun, was a lavish production. Despite the heat, and damage to or removal of some exhibits, the efforts of the organizers and government agencies resulted in a splendid show.

The material in competition in the National class was of course superb, and there were unusual uses of France included in many of the exhibits in other sections. Particularly impressive were the showings of provisional cancels on the first issue, vermillions, Napoleonic, Bordeaux, Maritime, and Commune material. It was noted that there was perhaps the greatest assembly ever of the first issue values, *tete-beche*, including the 1Fr. vermilion in a mint block.

FCPS members in competition were: Marc Martin, "Poste Maritime," vermeil; the Gardner Browns, "Siege Posts," silver; Ray Gaillaguet, "3rd Republic," silver-bronze; and Walter Brooks, "History of Aviation," silver-bronze. Other exhibits which had been shown at meetings in New York included John Levett's 19th Century France, small gold; and Renée Bowden's "F" overprints, silver-bronze. The FCPS silver tray was awarded to Duane Hillmer of Omaha for his classic France, also awarded a small gold. The Society's literature competition entries were not received in the mail, so were not judged.

Attending were Messrs. Martin (U. S. Commissioner), Stempien, Gaillaguet, Brooks, Harmer, Lievsay, and Waugh.—J. E. L.

Further details will be reported in the October FCP.

NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, AND CATALOGS

- "France—Bureaux Ambulants 1845-1965." By J. Pothion. Illustr. 1975. La Poste aux Lettres, 17 fbg. Montmartre, F75009-Paris, Price? (A priced illustr. cat. of all the ambulant cachets known to 1965.)
- "Cachets à Date de France 1854-1876." By A. Mathieu. 1975, 296 pp, 175Fr p.p. The author, 5 rue Blacas, F06000-Nice. (Priced listing of all known date postmarks of France 1 Jan. '54 to 31 Dec. 1876, incl. Sardinian canes used in Nice and Savoy on Empire stamps. Prices are for sts off cover; arranged by Depts. and alphabetical by office.)
- "Les Noms Revolutionnaires—Histoire Postale des Localities Debaptises sous L'influence Jacobine." By J. Legendre, 1975, 124 pp. 95Fr. The author, J. Legendre, 43 rue de Provence, F75009-Paris.
- "Histoire Postale de la Cote des Somalis, Tome III." By Henri Tristant. 1975, 40pp, illustr. Le Monde Brochure #175, 12.95Fr p.p. Le Monde des Philatelistes, 11 bis Byvd. Hausmann, F75009-Paris. (The final part of this thorough study of Somali Coast postal history; covers all postal events in detail, describes postmarks and their use, lists stamps but does not give details of overprint settings, proofs, etc., for which one should consult Yvert Spec. Cat.)
- "Les Entiers Expliqués par les Tarifs Postaux." By R. Ginestet. 1975, 28pp, 11.85Fr p.p. Le Monde Brochure #176. Le Mondes des Philatelistes (see above). (A cat. of the postal stationery organized accord. to the postal rates for which they were issued.)
- "La Poste aux Chevaux de Paris et ses Maitres de Poste a Travers les Siècles." By Madeleine Fouché. 19(5. 28 pp, illustr. Price? Les Nouvelles Editions Latines, 1 rue Palatine, F75006-Paris. (The story of the horse post from Louis XI to the 2nd half of the 19th Cent., illustr by old prints.)
- "Catalogue Spécialisé Yvert, France Tome I 1949-1900." Yvert et Tellier, June 1975, 360 pp. 180Fr. Yvert et Tellier, 37 rue des Jacobins, F80036-Amiens Cédex. CCP Lille 1671-38 r.c. Amiens 54 b 33. (The great work that everyone has been waiting for, the revision of the specialized cat. of France, last ed. 1939-40. Compiled with assistance of various acknowledged experts, it should be the "bible" for years to come. Tome II for years 1900 on is said to be due around end of the year. No word about the Colonies section.)
- "La Poste Maritime, Tome IX" which we listed in last F&CP is priced at 50Fr.
- "Catalogue Berck 75." 1975, 108 pp, 10Fr, illustr. Berck, 6 Place de la Madeleine, F75008-Paris. (Covers France, Reunion, Europa, Fr FDCs and the omnibus sets of Fr. cols.)
- "La Bourse du Timbre 1976 Cours et Valeurs des Timbres de France, Andorre, CFA, Europa, Monaco, Nations Unies." 1975, illustr. 5Fr+3Fr. p. Pubd. by La Bourse de Timbres, 7 rue Drouot, F75009-Paris. (A new dealer's cat.—claims to give "real" current market prices; arranged by date of issue, incl. prices for covers, multiples, etc.)
- "La Poste et Le Timbre en Nouvelle Calédonie." By G. Kling. Cahier #1, Société des Océanistes, Paris. 1975, 32 pp. illustr. Price? (see Review).

- "Roger Koerber—1950-1975, Our 25th Year." Brochure in color. Gratis. (Includes a history and description of services of the firm, latest cat. of philatelic literature for sale, and some private treaty offers of rare stamps and covers. Lit. includes some FCPS publications, also the 1975 Thiaude cat. which everyone has been having difficulty obtaining.) Address, Roger Koerber, 605 Northland Towers West, Southfield, Mich. 48075.
- "Andorra—Andorre. The Story of Its Stamps and Postal History." By W. A. Jacques. 68 pp. illustr. 1975. R. Lowe, 50 Pall Mall, London SW 1 4.50 £ or \$12.00. (Postal history, stamps, cancels of both French and Spanish administrations, semi-officials, revenues, charity stamps, etc.—by a serious student of the subject who has pub'd many articles in the Andorra Philatelist.)
- "Terres Antariques et Australes Francaises—Prix Courant." June 1975, 12pp. C. Demarest, 58 rue LaFayette, F75009-Paris (priced cat. of stamps, covers and literature available from this firm which specializes in TAAF material.)
- "Les Chemins de Fer Racontés par Un Siècle de Timbres Poste." By J. J. Leblache. 1972, 54 pp. Paris. (Topicalist's study, covers all Europe.)
- "The Siege of Paris 1870-1871, Par Ballon Monté." Compiled by Reuben R. Thompson. 1975 322 pp. illustr. Perpubl. price \$30 to July 1975. Limited ed. (500), Wood Printing Co., Rte 11, Box 4021, Lakeland, Fla. 33801. (Compilation translated from various publications and "source documents" but very little use made of recent important philatelic literature; lavishly illustrated with old prints of the scenes, personalities, etc., which will greatly interest balloon specialists.)

REVIEW

"ARPHILA 75 Informations"—No. 4, May 1975, 15 pp. illustr. in color. Arphila, 34 Blvd. de Vaugirard, F75731 Paris Cedex 15. (Contains statements by various French officials of Arphila and PTT and by Pres. Giscard d'Estaing, to promote Arphila; a page reproducing the "Documents Officiels" of the PT on the Arphila stamps, and a longish very interesting article by Pierre Dehay, Dir. of the Monnaie et Medailles de France, on "L'Art du Timbre").

* * *

"La Poste et le Timbre en Nouvelle Calédonie." By G. Kling (see listing above.) Mon. Kling, who was a chief of the New Caledonia PTT at one time, has produced a very nice little booklet on the postal history and stamps of NCE. It is beautifully illustrated and well printed (covers in color), with photos of historic interest, maps, some postmarks and stamps, and a number of rare covers. The author strikes a good balance between a treatment of the history of the P.O.s in NCE based on documents, and of matters of philatelic interest, without getting too specialized, academic or pedantic. The object is to be informative and also appealing to a non-specialized public. In fact there are many details about the history of the postal services that we have never seen before in philatelic literature and which the author had access to in the archives of the PTT, Noumea newspapers and his personal experiences. The result is a work of originality and much value to both specialist and general collectors of NCE. The philatelic aspects are only covered as a representative sampling and one will find more about them in philatelic literature. Unfortunately the author did not include a bibliography or references.—RGS.

CURRENT JOURNAL ARTICLES

Le Monde Des Philatelistes (CC, SI)

- #274, March 1975: "M. Aymar Achille-Fould est nommé Secrétaire de Etat aux PTT"; Vitalyos: "Contre le charnierité aiguée"; Duxin: "Pourquoi nos timbres sont-ils laid?—nos artistes s'indignent"; Du-four: "Flammes Arphila"; Lebland: "Type Groupe des Colonies" (begin ser.); Cont. of serials by: Vartan, deWailly, Muse Postal, Baudelocque, Danan, Frybourg, Brémard, Rykner et Gobillot, Savélon, Joffre, Wirth, Gavault, Prugnon, DeLizeray.
- #275, April 1975: "Nos timbres ne sont pas laids" (cont.); "Beat Knoblauch—son timbre-poste est une ode à l'oeil"; Chapier: "Les cachets des boites rurales"; Cont. of serials by: Vartan, Musée Postal, deWailly, Frybourg, Brémard, Prugnon, DeLizeray, Rykner et Gobillot, Savélon, Danan, Baudelocque, Joffre, Lebland.
- #276, May 1975: "Entretien avec M. Aymar Achille-Fould Secr. d'Etat aux PTT"; Febre: "A la découverte de Paris Monumental" (begin serial); Joany: "Petit glossière philatélique et postal" (begin); Demy: "Trente ans après—les surcharges de la Libération"; cont. of serials by: Melot, Frybourg, Prugnon, DeLizeray, Baudelocque, Vartan, Danan, Rykner et Gobillot, Savélon, deWailly, Joffre, Lebland.

La Philatélie Française (CC)

- #253, March 1975: Demaret: "Interview avec Beat Knoblauch—établir un échange artistique direct"; Bechman: "Une thématique peu connue—les prix Nobel"; Joany: "Nomenclature, Seme Per.—Timbre poste d'usage courant 1953-59" (end serial); Barzic: "L'Automation dans le tri du courrier postal" (begin ser.); Dumont: "Un nouveau coupon réponse International"; Rouques: "Coin datés et timbres de usage courant"; cont. of serials by: DeWailly et Michel, Storch et Demy.
- #254, April 1975: "Nos timbres sont-ils laids?"; "Les collections thématiques"; cont. of serial by Delbrel; Houlteau: "Corvette SN 601 A—vols d'essais et de présentation."

Documents Philatéliques (CC)

- #63, 1st Trim. 1975, tome XIV: Blancher: "Affranchissements doubles au Levant"; Joany: "Tarifs postaux français"; Germain: "40c Cérès aux 4 retouches"; Rougeot: "1fr Cérès de 1949, repartition géographiques des nuances"; DeLizeray: "10c semeuses lignée falsifiée"; DeFontaines: "27e Div. Mil. 1804-14 (2nd partie)"; Pothion: "11th Suppl. a l'Encyclopédie."
- #64, 2nd Trim 1975: Rachou: "Paraphes et contresignes en Provence du XVIII siècle"; Joany: "Les affranchissements de la carte postale dans le régime intérieur"; Tristant: "Les TAAF"; Rouques: "Les papiers avec filigrane ligne d'eau et filigrane Japon"; DeLizeray: "L'émission de Bordeaux; 15c semeuse lignée"; DeFontaine 27e Div. Mil.—suite"; Pothion: 12th suppl. to Encyclopédie.

Les Feuilles Marcophiles (CC)

- #199, 1er Trim, 1975: Dahan: "Centenaire cinquante ans de relations postales entre la Fr et les Iles de la Manche"; Barbey: "Historique de la poste aux imprimées avant 1850" (begin); Allard: "A propos

des Grand Chiffres" (suppl.); Cuny: "Le Bureau M de la Petite Poste de Paris"; Doll: "Boules de Moulins—histoire et jurisprudence"; Charbonnier: "Les centres cheques postaux"; Catherine: "Contribution à l'étude des acheminées ou Forwarded—le Havre"; Charbonnier: "Les guichets annexes fixés" (addenda); Lux: "Quelques mots aux les cachets hexagonales Fr."; Lamar: "Eugène Daguin a-t-il eu un prédécesseur?"; Morin: "L'île de Thassos."

Informations #5, Feb. 1975: LeJeune: "les ambulants de mobilisation"; "La nomenclature des Depts. Fr.; Les marques postales suivies numéros blancs à Moulins sous l'ancien régime; "La purification des lettres."

Bulletin de la Société des Amis du Musée Postal (CC)

#45, 1st Trim. 1975: Gachot: "Petite histoire d'un déboursée de Romans"; "Les grandes dates de l'histoire des postes et des télécommunication (1710-1874)"; DeFontaines: "1801—armée d'Italie, hold-up au Bureau Principal à Milan"; Eve: "Rien de nouveau sous le soleil—24 Feb. 1848"; Cappart: "Siège de Paris 1870-71—le courrier de ballon du 7 Dec. 1870"; Guillaud: "Un curieux gadget au Musée Postal (a stamp cutter)".

Le Collectionneur Lyonnais

#25, Jan. 1975: Storch: "Les semeuses de 1907—le 30c orange"; Fradois: "Les timbres mutilés sur letters"; Fretheu: "La poste aux armées en Rhénanie" (end); Gautier: "Dernières nouvelles ferroviaires"; Mullenheim: "Les recommandées en l'administration en Algérie"; Camboulives: "Cachets Fr en Corée"; Camboulives: "Les boîtes rurales"; Chapier: "Les boîtes rurales du Rhone"; Camboulives: "Le télégraphe Chappé dans le Rhone."

Collectors Club Philatelist (22 E. 35th St., NY)

V. 54, #3, May 1975 (\$3): Stone: "Ship-letters from St. Pierre."

Journal of the France and Colonies Philatelic Society (of GB) (CC)

No. 127, v. 24, #1, 1974: Barker: "The new postal museum"; Barker: "Documents Officiels" (translation); Bister: "Definitive issues of G. Hourriez, Iris Mercury Ceres" (cont.); Barker: "Bureau de distribution postmark type 24bis"; Holder: "Service rural—boîtes rurales" (cont.); Bister: "Une obliteration temporaire—making of a temporary handstamp" (transl.); French P.O. nos. (petites chiffres)—cont. listing.

Postal History Journal (CC, SI, APRL)

#40, June 1975: Allen: "A Spanish view of the French Postal System in the 16th Century."

Indo-China Philatelist (CC)

Vol. V, #1, March 1975 (#16): Kerr: "FDCs of Laos" (cont.); "Ngyyen-Trai"; Glasgow: "Stamps of Vient Nam" (repr.)

Philately from Australia (CC)

1974, v. 26, p. 7: Holbeach: "1870 Ballon Monté to Australia."

Forces Postal History Society Newsletter

1973, #122: Goin: Fr. military participation in the Korean War.
v. 13, 1974, p. 56: Goin: "L'Armée de l'Angleterre 1797-1800."

Cinderella Philatelist (CC)

v. 14, 1974, p. 37: Boffi: "Ravitaillement Général of WW II."

Western Express (CC, APRL)

v. 24, #2, 1974: "Manuscript postage-due markings of France" (reprint).

Bulletin d. Arbeitsgemeinschaft Frankreich (in Bund. Deut. Phil.)

1974: Le secret d'Elmstein—text sur les papillons de Metz; remarques sur le 2c Bordeaux chocolat).

Philao

#11, Feb. 1975: Desrousseaux: "Bureau de Poste et cachets du Laos"; Bernard: "Les saphires du Houei Sai," news.

Story Post

#92, Feb. 1975: Grasset: "Le 15c semeuse lignée sectionnée utilisé sur le Paquebot Oxus"; Hubinot: "Petite postes et postes locales."

La Liaison Philatélique

#427, March 1975: Grasset: "Couleurs et papiers des non-dentelées de France."

Bulletin de Club des Spécialistes de France

#41, Jan. 1975: Cappart: "Le courrier pendant les grèves de PTT"; Lobel: "Erreurs d'affranchissement"; Maradau: "Affranchissement des correspondance Croix Rouge avec des Bordeaux"; Barilly: "La variété POSTFS sur le 25c Cérès Type I."

Bulletin d'Information ASCOFLAM

#21, Feb. 1975: Goubin: "Le second modèle de flammes Daguin."

Bulletin du Club Philatélique Toulonnais

#55, 1975, 1st Trim: Patou: "Sur la Touche"; Aurand: "Etude sure le 5c Sage N/U" (end); DeLizeray: "Le fond coloré des Sages"; "Identification des cachets à date accompagnent les étoiles de Paris."

Bulletin de Liaison de la S.A.T.A. (CC)

#11, March 1973: Bilhaut: "La mission du M/S Gallieni a l'Ile Heard et le débarquement a l'Ile McDonald."
#19, March 1975: Tristant: "La marine nationale dans le desserte postale des TAAF"; Correlator of catalog nos. for TAAF from various cats.

Die Ganzsachensammler

1974, 12: Schild: "Die post der Internierten in Schweiz."

Deutsche Zeitung for Briefmarkenkunde (CC)

1973, #14: Kleine: "Die Funknachrichtenkarten der Franzozischen Atlantickfestungen."

Sommler Lupe (CC)

1974, v. 29, p. 255-8: Wagner: (Bordeaux issue); p. 319: Dusart: (survey of Fr. postmarks since 1849).

Berner Briefmarken Zeitung (CC)

v. 65, 1974, p. 84: (French pre-UPU postal regulations).

Sammler Dienst

1974, v. 25, p. 645: Regitz: (modern Fr. philatelic postmarks).

The Regular Issues of France Since 1876

By Stanley J. Luft (#915)

(Continued from April FCP, p. 37)

CORRECTIONS to Installment in FCP No. 160:—

p. 37, 15F rose-lilac value, last line should read:

Spring of 1946 (not Feb. or March)

p. 37, on printings of the 15F ultramarine, paragraph beginning "Printed in sheets of Type I from 107 plates": 4th line of this paragraph should begin: and 1 April 1954 (not 1955).

18F

The 18F cerise (Sc 654, Yv 887) was issued 24 April or 2 May 1951.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 May 1951):

*Postal cards (printed in shade of UPU "red");

Printed matter and samples, from 100 to 150 gm;

Letters, from 20 to 40 gm, to Canada and Luxembourg, and to nearby areas of Belgium, Spain, and Switzerland;

Letters, per 20 gm, above first 20 gm.

Printed in sheets from 3 plates, 12 April-2 Oct. 1951 (only 12 April-28 Sept. 1951 printings from first 2 plates were issued without overprints), issued 24 April or 2 May 1951-1953; 69.44 million stamps printed. Stamped postal cards (ACEP 195, a) issued in 1951.

Replaced by the 18F Hernani (Sc 691, Yv 944) beginning in June 1953.

15F/18F

Overprinted by flat-plate (Sc 706, Yv 963) on remainders of above 18F Marianne, on printings from all 3 plates; issued 11 Jan.-5 June 1954; 21.78 million stamps issued.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 6 Jan. 1949 and later modifications):

*Letters, to 20 gm;

Printed matter and samples, from 50 to 100 gm, non-bulk rate;

Letters and packets, from 50 to 100 gm, to military personnel in the field;

Letters and printed matter, per 200 gm, between 100 and 500 gm.

References

(Sections X and XI)

Berck: "Catalogue Berck-70."

Bottin: "Annuaire du Commerce Didot-Bottin," Paris (title changes every few years), for years 1942, 1946 through 1950, and 1957.

Braun, J. (1959), *Catalogue des publicitimbres (pubs) des carnets de France et des Colonies Françaises.* Montpellier, 164 p.

Cérès: "Catalogue Cérès 1973."

Deloste, Col. (1969), "Histoire postale et militaire de la Deuxième Guerre Mondiale." Bischwiller, pp. 131-138.

Ginestet, R. (1967), "Les types des entiers postaux," *Le Monde des Philatélistes*, Jan.-March 1967.

Joany, R.: "Nomenclature des Timbres-Poste de France," vol. I; vol. XI (1962); vol. VII (in prep., 1974).

----, (1972-73), "Les surtaxes de la poste aérienne," *Le Monde des Philatélistes*, Nos. 245 and 247 (1972) and 250 (1973).

Leblond, Col. (1966), "Les Gandons' typographies." *Docs. Philatéliques*, Nos. 29-30, p. 34-40.

- Lizeray, P. de (1961), "Timbres et Types," vol. III: Étude No. 38, *Le Monde des Philatélistes*.
- Lizeray, P. de, J. Blanc, Col. Leblanc, and J. Boblique (1964), "Timbres de France," vol. VIII, *Bull. Phil. du Midi*; Montpellier, p. 64-67.
- Rouques, R. (1974), "Le 15 Francs Gandon et sa roulette." *Le Monde des Philatélistes*, Nos. 262-263.
- de Vinck de Winnezele, Baron (1950, 1955) (brought to date by Marcel Charvet), "L'impression des timbres français par les rotatives," 3rd ed. Montpellier; Pt. 2 (1950), Pt. 3 (1955), and Supplements.

* * * * *

Interlude III. Commemorative stamps of 1944-1951

Scott Yvert	Dates of Issue		No. printed (in millions)
2F value			
560	741	France d'Outre-Mer	17 Sept. 45-2 Feb. 46 4.5
Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 March 1945):			
*Letters, to 20 gm;			
Printed matter, from 50 to 100 gm.			
Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 Jan. 1946):			
Printed matter, from 20 to 50 gm;			
Printed matter, to 20 gm, "urgent" (fast service).			
2F40 values			
498	661	Basilique de St.-Denis	20 Nov. 44-3 March 45 2.40
557	734	Arms of Metz	3 May-15 Sept. 45 5.0
Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Feb. 1942):			
*Postal cards;			
Letters, to 20 gm, to Canada and Luxembourg, and to nearby areas of Belgium, Spain, and Switzerland;			
Printed matter, from 100 to 150 gm.			
3F values			
561	750	Anti-Tuberculosis (surcharged)	21 Feb.-28 June 46 11.73
566	761	Paris Peace Conference	29 July 46-14 March 47 10.3?
Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 Jan. 1946):			
*Letters, to 20 gm;			
Printed matter, from 50 to 100 gm.			
Left without specific usage by Tariffs of 2 Jan. and 1 March 1947.			
3F50 value			
581	780	UPU Congress	7 May-28 July 1947 2.55
Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 March 1947):			
*Postal cards;			
Invoices (unsealed), to 20 gm.			
Left without specific usage by Tariff of 8 July 1947.			
4F values			
497	662	Bugeaud	20 or 28 Nov. 44-3 March 45 2.4
503	669	Liberation	16 Jan.-12 May 45 7.59
Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Feb. 1942):			
*Letters, to 20 gm;			
Letters, from 20 to 40 gm, to Canada and Luxembourg, and to nearby areas of Belgium, Spain, and Switzerland;			
Registry fee;			
Invoices (unsealed), to 250 gm;			
Printed matter, from 200 to 250 gm.			

558	735	Arms of Strasbourg	3 May-15 Sept. 45	5.0
559	739	Liberation of Alsace-Lorraine	16 May-13 Oct. 45	4.95

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 March 1945):

Letters, from 50 to 100 gm;
Registry fee.

4F50 values

582	781	UPU Congress	7 May-28 July 1947	4.60
585	784	Auguste Pavie	30 May-15 Nov. 47	2.00
586	785	Fénelon	12 July-15 Nov. 47	1.99

Domestic usage (Tariff of 2 Jan. 1947):

*Letters, to 20 gm. e

Rendered obsolete by domestic Tariff of 8 July 1947; remainders, plus an additional 1F50 in stamps, made up the new 6F rate for domestic letters to 20 gm.

5F values

587	787	Boy Scout Jamboree	2 Aug.-15 Nov. 47	2.87
588	790	Resistance	10 Nov. 47-21 Feb. 48	2.50

Domestic usage (Tariff of 8 July 1947):

*Postal cards;

Invoices (unsealed), to 20 gm.

608	820	Paul Langevin	17 or 27 Nov. 48-26 March 49	2.89
-----	-----	---------------	------------------------------	------

Domestic usage (Tariff of 21 Sept. 1948):

Postal cards, "of 5 words".

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Dec. 1948):

Printed matter and samples, per 50 gm;

Visiting cards (unsealed), "of 5 words";

Postal cards, "of 5 words", to Canada and Luxembourg, and to near-by areas of Belgium, Spain, and Switzerland.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 6 Jan. 1949):

Printed matter, to 20 gm.

634	850	UPU Anniversary	7 Nov. 49-18 March 50	2.00
-----	-----	-----------------	-----------------------	------

6F values

583	782	UPU Congress	7 May-26 July 1947	2.41
-----	-----	--------------	--------------------	------

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 March 1947):

Letters, from 20 to 50 gm.

(To be continued)

FOR THE RECORD

(Continued from FCP #154, Oct. 1973, p. 80)

259.) Here are some new dates, obtained by Stanley Luft from various recent sources, for those who wish to update their records and/or the Luft "handbook":—

5c Blanc (Préo) precancel, green overprint (Yv préo 41a var.); this rare item finally has a known printing date: 21 Nov. 1925 (see DeLizeray, Doc. Phil. #62, p. 187).

25c blue cameo Sower (Luft handbook p. 32-3):

Type II—first booklets in the type; seen with Dec. 1921 cancel, which changes the earliest printing date from 2/1922 to late 1921.

Type IIIC—coils; seen with late 1923 cancel (month illegible), which

changes the printing to 1923-4 (see DeLizéray, Doc. Phil. #62).
 45c Mercure (Luft, p. 63): new last date of printing is 12 May 1939 (from SO.CO.CO.DA.MI.)

260.) The large triangular cachet of New Caledonia used 1876-7 as a substitute for stamps and the circular cachet inscribed "Postes Art." used 1877-90, have been extensively faked. F.M. #196, p. 55-6 gives some useful information on them: The fakes of the triangle were made by Cheval, often with backdated accompanying cancels, around 1880s-90s; if dated after 18 April 1877 they are fake. Earliest date seen of the triangular is 15 March 1876 (Dubus). Fakes on pieces or covers are found in blue and red as well as black (originals only black). Originals are rare. There is a break in the frame at the right on some fakes, the genuine 1876 ones have a break at bottom left (Rifaux). Rifaux has recorded 35 genuine covers. The circular cachet was used April 1877 to April 1890 according to Rifaux, accompanied by cds types E2, E3, E4 or E5 in his NCE cancel study—he has recorded only 6 good copies. It was used for printed matter at a reduced rate.

261.) In Sept. 1972 the PTT began to use a new style label for special delivery to replace the old "Exprès" labels; the new ones read "Distribution par porteur special." Some POs are now using a handstamp with the same wording.

262.) In FtR item #8 the different dies of the 1931 issue of Indochina were described. Member Bert Mendelsohn recently found a block of the 25c Die II overprinted "Kouang Tcheou," which he thinks has not been recorded before. (The die types were first noted by dePomyers. in Bull. Phil. du Midi, for Dec. 1960.) The Kouang Tcheou Die I of this stamp is Yv. 112 (of K-T). Mendelsohn notes that nearly all of the Die I 25c stamps were used up in the overprinting with "10c" in 1942 (Yv #229). The Die Type III of this stamp is rare; Desrousseux indicates only 1000 sheets were printed and the three used copies known are all postmarked Cantho. In that connection it is interesting that Mendelsohn has a recess die proof of the rice-grower design (the one used for the 25c) in which the numerals of all the denominations it was to be printed in were struck separately below; and the numeral for the 25c is in type III. Die I was printed in sheets of 100 divided in 4 panes of 25; Dies II and III may have been in panes of 50, as Mendelsohn has found the 2/5c has both sizes and the 7c and higher values were in panes of 50.

263.) We have mentioned in the Notes section and in FtR from time to time the existence of administrative types of French postmarks occasionally used to cancel stamps. Dr. Goubin indicates that this happens when the PTT clerks use them on their own mail. Some other types he reports are: "Centre Control Mandats," "Div. Exp. Telec. Fche Compte," "Enquettes," "Dossiers De Societes."

264.) After the War the PTT decided to limit the use of coin datés to stamps of more than one printing, which were chiefly the regular issues, not commemoratives. But there were some exceptions and mistakes by the printers. Some commemoratives were given 2nd printings and these were usually dated; in some of these 2nd printings the operator forgot to put the dater in—this happened with the 30Fr Amérique Latine, the 0.20+0.10 Corvisart, the 0.25+0.10 Larrey, and the 0.75+0.25 Jeux Olympiques d'Hiver. Some of the Red Cross items in this list had 3 printings, two of them without coins datés, one with. The exceptional coins datés sold at P.O.s are rare and have a high price; but one must be careful not to be misled by some dates on commemoratives that were struck by postmasters on the sheets to remind themselves not to sell them before the official release date. Another exception to the rule is shown by the Caméléon commemorative, which is always dated, through sev-

eral printings and CFA versions. Finally, the date was omitted on some printings of regular-use issues—the 5Fr Caravelle and 5Fr Daurat-Vanier, e.g.

265.) The franking of postcards at the beginning of the Century had been a headache for the postal clerks of the time. The cards could, depending on circumstances, be franked as a postal card (without limit to amount of the message other than that of the space available) or as a visiting card (with 5 words of greeting), or as printed matter under a band (without any message other than address of sender). The franking of cards by 1c corresponded to the latter case even when sometimes without a wrapper, which should have been charged due. (Joany)

266.) Our member Ken Pierce, an active student of French Offices in Egypt, has an article in the Sept.-Oct. 1973 issue of Egyptian Topics magazine, about a rare and unusual provisional overprint of Port Said 1899 that is not listed in the Yv. et Tellier Specialized Catalogue and we have not heard of before. This overprint was on sale for one week only Nov. 17-24, 1899, being replaced by the officially overprinted stamps which finally arrived from Paris on Nov. 22. Only 200 were said to have been made. The type used was non-serif whereas the official one was in serifed letters. The existence and explanation of the provisional overprints was published in L'Echo for April 1928.

267.) With reference to our article on the "Boite Mobile in the Colonies," in FCP #155, Henri Tristant shows us a cover from Dubreka, French Guinea, June 1910, to Conakry, with a "BM" in a rectangle 16x11 mm; this could have been used to mail letters collected from a box either on the railroad or a coastal boat.

F. & C. P. S. OFFICIAL

Notices

The Board at its meeting of 15 April voted to continue the \$50 annual appropriation for purchase of philatelic literature to deposit in the Collectors Club library. Permission was given to Danam Stamp Co. to use FCPS address plates to mail out an auction catalog of a French collection to our members, at a charge for the service. Renting a lounge at Interphil in Philadelphia 1976 will be considered if another club can be found to share the lounge and expense. The auction-firm list will no longer be reprinted after the present supply is exhausted, but the Sage article translation will be kept in print. A Nominations Committee was appointed.

At the 20 May Board meeting, the Gerard Gilbert Award was voted to be given this year to Stanley Luft for his handbook on the "Regular Issues of France." R. G. Stone was re-appointed as FCP editor for the next year. \$200 was voted for the Guarantee Fund for Interphil. A plaque of appreciation was ordered for presentation to Mr. Harlan Miller, our printer.

Treasurer Bea Berner procured a silver tray for the FCPS Award at Arphila to the Best French Exhibit by a non-French national.

Two books have been purchased and deposited in the Collectors Club library: Francon and Storch: "Les Entiers Postaux de France et de Monaco," and J. Hoogerdijs: "Catalogue des Obliterations de Paris sur Timbres au Type Sage 1876-1900."

A few copies of the Special Issue of the "Journal of the Fr. and Cols. Phil. Society" (of G. B.) at \$3 and of the booklet on Pneumatic Posts by J.

Hayhurst at \$2.50 plus postage, order from the Secretary W. Parshall.

At the 24 June Board Meeting it was voted to take a booth at Interphil jointly with the Fine Arts Philatelists.

Meeting of 1 April, 1975

At the April meeting, Mr. Robert Stuchell, a Collectors Club member, presented a large group of covers passing through or originating from French Post Offices in the Turkish Empire, 1796-1920. Many stamped as well as stampless covers were shown, including consulars, maritime, military and regular offices abroad. A number of covers from each post office were representative of the postmarks in use at each office. Particularly noted were covers from Alep, mixed Austrian and French service Trieste-Alexandrette, French maritime with Turkish delivery to the interior, disinfected mails through Malta, Greek interior mails via Dardanelles, Black Sea Route, and several Israel forerunners from Jerusalem. Bob commented that a major source for some of this material was the firm of J. Zossenheim, Leeds, whose correspondence was preserved. The piece de resistance was a three frame display of one family's correspondence Beyrouth-Connecticut 1862-68 which included several examples of the 1861 3c U. S. bearing the GC #5082 of Beyrouth. This issue was demonetized at the start of the Civil War, and the attempt to prepay interna! U.S. delivery therefore unsuccessful.—M.S. and J.E.L.

Meeting of 6 May

The nominations for officers of 1975-76 were announced by the Nominating Committee (Sullivan, Hurst, and Sherman) and then were elected by acclamation, as follows:

President: Dr. Martin Stempien, Jr.

Vice President: Ira Seebacher

Treasurer: Beatrice Berner

Recording Secretary: Camille Fodor

Corresponding Secretary: Walter E. Parshall

For Three-Year terms on the Board of Directors: John E. Lievsay and Marc Martin

Gus Wittenberg reported on the Expo ESPANA where Marc Martin won a Silver, Gus a Bronze-Silver, and Stanley Luft a Bronze-Silver. There were 18 exhibits of France, all but one on postal history or classics. Mon Joseph Schatzkes' France was the most outstanding.

Secretary Parshall reported that the membership now stood at 495 (with new members through #1604 and 11 reinstatements). Treasurer Berner reported \$605 in the checking and \$2746 in the savings accounts.

The speaker at this meeting was none less than our good President Martin Stempien, who showed three frames of his Franco-British Accountancy Mark covers. These markings were used to account for British handling of mail destined to or through France under treaty between the two countries. He noted that the early varieties "Colonies & Etc/Article 12" were applied to pieces weighed by batch and rated by total weight, and that the various geometric designs with "GB/60c" (or other charges) were applied to mails after the Treaty revisions of 1857 when the pieces were individually treated. All of these markings were reserved for treatment of unpaid mail. The covers, and a copy of a letter bill showing how the different categories were reconciled in the monthly settlement, were beautiful examples and well chosen to demonstrate the range and complexities of the subject. Two examples, showing "GB/Art. 38" and "GB/3F60c" are copies of previously known marks, but as yet nobody has been able to unearth the specific treaty sections from

which these ratings were drawn (see Salles, VIII, p. 63 for both).

The Banquet

The annual party on 17 May was well attended as usual, rather crowding the little banquet room of the Cafe de Paris. Nearly all the faithful devotees of past banquets were there; and we had as guest of Ruth and Gardner Brown, Mr. Stephen Holder of London, the editor of the *Journal of the France and Colonies Philatelic Society* (of G. B.). He brought along from colleagues in England a few items to put up in the auction which Ira Zweifach "cried" in a style of dubious authenticity for the profit of the FCPS exchequer. Pres. Martin Stempien made a few announcements and introductions, but the rest was for good eating, gaiety, music and chit chat.

Dr. A. J. C. Vaurie

The old-time members of the Society will be saddened to learn that Dr. Charles Vaurie died on 13 May in Reading, Pa., after an operation. He was 68. Charlie Vaurie was an active cohort of the late Raoul Lesgor in the founding of FCPS back in the fall of 1941, and was editor of the *Philatelist* for its first 18 Whole Numbers (1941-44). But he remained a member up to his death even though no longer an active collector. He developed fine collections of early France, especially the Bordeaux issue, with numerous rare pieces from the Dwight collection, also a specialized collection of early Guadeloupe and of certain issues of some Latin American countries (Bolivia, Salvador). During the War he became a close friend of the late Girard Gilbert and was probably the last philatelist to talk with him before he passed away. Charlie turned his enthusiasm from philately to ornithology and in time gave up his practice of dentistry to become a researcher and curator on bird taxonomy and distribution at the N. Y. Museum of Natural History. After retiring from the Museum in 1972 he transferred to the Musée d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris. His philatelic library was sold to some of our members several years ago. He came to U. S. as a youth from France. It was probably natural therefore that he would incline towards French philately and to help in the creation of a France and Colonies philatelic society. We remember well the amiable and enthusiastic presence of Charlie at our early meetings, smoking his pipe, egging Lesgor on to expatiate in his fractured English. His work on the *Philatelist* was painstaking and devoted, assisted by his wife Pattie who did the very neat typing and layout. Those were the days—it seems like a Century ago. We join with other members in expressing heartfelt condolences to his wife and surviving sister.—R.G.S.

NEW MEMBERS

- 1589 REDDING, Michael C., P. O. Box 42654, San Francisco, Calif. 94142
(General Collector all issues. General France all major varieties: mint. Topical: ships, mountains, chateaux. Modern France: mint, First Day Covers. Special issues and usages: DeLuxe Proofs, Imperforates. Colonies, certain omnibus issues only. Philatelic literature. Exchange)
- 1590 ATEN, Bill A., 1206 Westfield Road, Lansing, Mich. 48917
General France all major varieties: mint, used. Classics 1849-1876: used, dues. Sage Type 1876-1900. Modern France: mint, used, Blanc, Mouchon, and Merson Types, Sowers, semi-postals, air mails, booklets, coils, First Day Covers, miniature sheets. Special issues and usages: dues, parcel post, newspaper, franchise militaire, Liberation issues, essays, De Luxe proofs, imperforates, precancels, perfins, occupation issues of and by France. Philatelic literature. Exchange)

- 1591 HOBÉ, Robert, 40 North Lake Road, Armonk, N. Y. 10504
(General France all major varieties: mint and used. Classics 1849-1876: mint and used. Modern France: mint, Sowers, imperfs, semi-postals, air mails, booklets, coils, miniature sheets. Special issues and usages: De Luxe proofs, imperforates, precancels. Philatelic literature. Exchange)
- 1592 RUSIN, Frank R., 2856 East 98th St., Cleveland, Ohio 44104
(General collector 20th Century. Topical: paintings and sculpture. General France all major varieties: mint and used. Modern France: mint, used, semi-postals, maximum cards. Andorre, Monaco, Saar. Philatelic literature)
- 1593 KOHAGEN, Roger A., 634 Morse St., Apt. B-7, Ionia, Mich. 48846
(General France all major varieties: mint. Classics 1849-1876: used. Modern France: mint)
- 1594 SIMONETTI, Frank, P. O. Box 706, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11237
(General collector all issues. General France all major varieties: mint)
- 1595 DAVIDSON, Ira N., 65 Central Park West, New York, N. Y. 10023
(General France all major varieties: mint and used. Central African Republics. Exchange)
- 1596 POLLOCK, Daniel B., 1108 Rohrer Towers, Westmont, N. J. 08108
(Topical: errors, freaks, oddities, fauna, flora. Modern France: mint. Special issues and usages: essays, DeLuxe proofs, imperforates, artist's proofs, color trials, specimen, annule, fictifs, perfins. Colonies General Issues mint. Independent Republics. Philatelic literature)
- 1597 WILLIAMS, Joseph, 264 Ste. Cecile, Trois Rivières, Que., Canada G9A 1K3 (General Collector 20th Century. General France all major varieties: mint, used, on cover. Modern France: mint used, on cover. Air mails, First Day Covers. Andorre, Monaco, Saar, Europa and U. N. Colonies General Issues: mint, on cover. Philatelic literature)
- 1598 COOK, Thomas Ira, 425 Yale Ave., El Paso, Tex. 79907
(General France all major varieties: used. Postal history: used abroad. Classics 1849-1876: used. Modern France: used. Special issues and usages: dues, parcel post, newspaper, franchise militaire, precancels, occupation issues of and by France. Offices Abroad. Saar, Europa and U.N. Colonies General Issues. used)
- 1599 PACHECO, David, 1173 Louise St. San Leandro, Calif. 94578
(Classics 1849-1876: used, cancellations, Sage Type, 1876-1900. Modern France: mint, used, on cover, Blanc, Mouchon and Merson Types, Sowers, air mails. Special issues and usages: newspaper, stationery, air meetings, first flights, crash cover, artist's proofs and color trials, precancels, perfins. Stamps and covers used of French India. Philatelic literature relating to all of above)
- 1600 LICHER, Bruce, 12536 Woodbine St., Mar Vista, Calif. 90066
(Colonies General Issues: mint. Stamps and covers of Martinique and Guadeloupe. Algeria. Imperfs, proofs and any other interesting postal items from above-mentioned countries)
- 1601 FAGAN, John R., W 140 N7470 Lilly Road, Menomonee Falls, Wis. 53051
(Classics 1849-1876: 1870-1871 issues, Commune, Ballons. Sage Type 1876-1900. Modern France: mint and used. Philatelic literature)
- 1602 VAN MATRE, Reber M., 1436 Sheridan St., N. W., Washington, D. C. 20011 (Modern France: used, on cover, First Day Covers. Flamms slogan cancels).
- 1603 LAPLACE Raymond, 19 Parkside Drive, Parsippany, N. J. 07054
(Postal history in general. Classics 1849-1876: cancellations. Modern

- France: mint, air mails. Special issues and usages: dues, stationery, air meetings, first flights, crash covers. Offices Abroad. Covers of individual colonies)
- 1604 HAYMAN, Edward H., 3377 Beacon St., North Chicago, Ill. 60064
(General France all major varieties: mint and used. Classics 1849-1876. Sage Type 1876-1900. Modern France: semi-postals, air mails. Occupation issues of and by France. Dealer mail sales. Philatelic lit. Exchange)
- 1605 SPONG, Colin W., 4 Bellview Court, Barton Close, Worthing, Sussex, BN13 1NQ England (Cancels and postal history. Stamps and covers of Madagascar. Philatelic literature. Exchange)
- 1606 MacGREGOR, Dr. Donald A., 913 State St., Erie, Penna. 16051
(General France all major varieties: mint, used, on cover. Classics 1849-1876: mint and used. Modern France: mint, used, First Day Covers (Plate blocks of #496)
- 1607 JOERG, Lowell G., P. O. Box 340, Fairmont, Minn. 56031
(General France all major varieties: mint, used, on cover. Offices abroad,
- 1608 BELLMOR, Richard H., Box 5237, Lighthouse Point, Fla. 33064
(General Collector all issues, 19th Century-20th Century. General France all major varieties mint and used. Specialized France. Andorre, Monaco, Saar. Independent Colonies of Africa. Philatelic lit. Exchange)
- 1609 RAYMOND, Jerry Gaston, 7116 Leonard De Vinci, APP. 3, Montreal, Que., Canada H2A 2N7 (General France all major varieties mint. Postal History in general. Classics 1849-1876 mint. Franchise Militaire Monaco, Saar. Exchange. Dealer part time: New-issue service, approv.)

REINSTATEMENTS

- 1383 OLIVIER, Georges, 120 Vimy N., Sherbrooke, Que., Canada
- 1507 YVERNAULT, Gerard, 71 Summit Ave., Bronxville, N. Y. 10702
- 1326 PITTMAN, Mrs. Grace, Route 4, Bloomington, Ill. 61701
- 1202 PARSONS, Dr. William T., 712 Chestnut St., Collegeville, Penna. 19420
- 1199 HOFFACKER, Antoinette C., 312 Montgomery Ave., C-6, Haverford, Penna. 19041
- 1401 BAKER, Dennis, 2089 N. Delsea Dr., TR #10, Vineland, N. J. 08360
- 1499 CLEAVES, Norman R., Box 70, Academy Road, Monmouth, Maine 04259
- 1350 KAPLAN, David E., 5310 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda, Md. 20014
- 631 LOCK, Nora, P. O. Box 70, Geneva, Ohio 44041
- 1176 PINCUS, Dr. Jack H., 91 School St., Springfield, Mass. 01105
- 1419 TONG, Dennis P., 2310 Tunlan Road, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20007

CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND CORRECTIONS

- 1318 DeVASHER, William A., Jr., 185 E. 85th St., Apt. 12-N, New York, N. Y. 10028
- 1380 DODSON, Carol E., 2868 'A' Road, Laxahatchee, Fla. 33470
- 435 OAKES, Frank E., 5290 Waterman, Apt. 1-W, St. Louis, Mo. 63108
- 823 ANDERSON, A., 333 W. Shaw, Suite 8, Fresno, Calif. 93704
- 1428 NAUMICK, Dennis Michael, 769 South Irving Ave., Tucson, Az. 85711
- 659 RAMSEY, John P., 126 Kingston Road, Wellington Green, Greenwood, S. C. 29646
- 1226 CAHN, Walter J., 3229 Merrick Lane, Indianapolis, Ind. 46222
- 1551 MUNOZ, Louis, 2704 Kingsbridge Terrace, Apt. B-7, Bronx, N. Y. 10463
- 972 FRITZ, Albert C., Box 291, APO New York, N. Y. 09291
- 1539 PROULX, Thomas W., Dept. of Chemistry, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas 76129
- 1397 JAKABOVICS, Sylvain, 110 Wykagyl Terr., New Rochelle, N. Y. 10804