



France & Colonies Philatelist

Paris—A Theme

For over 5 centuries Paris has dominated France politically economically, and culturally. Centrally located, it has focussed everything its way; long a very large city, much larger than any other in France. Many other countries have a single very large city, though hardly any are analogous to Paris in their central-focus dominance. Perhaps Madrid and Vienna, but their central role has a much briefer history than for Paris. The single largest cities of other countries, not all of them capitals even, are mostly peripherally located as seaports whose growth resulted mainly from shipping, entrepot, foreign and colonial trade.

With such a large area and population for centuries, its correspondence and postal service have required numbers of sub-postoffices over the last several hundred years. The plupart of French letters that collectors see are from or to Paris. During certain periods of military/political stress, as in Napoleonic and 1870/71 times, the great significance of Paris as a national focus for control and communication was emphasized by the heroic measures taken to keep its posts open. All this presents philatelists with the opportunity to build a remarkable thematic collection about Paris, with items representative of nearly all aspects of its postal, political and cultural history. Such material is generally abundantly available for most aspects; one does not need to be a millionaire to get it, but it would take a lot of philatelic as well as other kinds of knowledge and experience. As has been pointed out many times, good thematic collecting is for experienced philatelists, not a superficial game like topicals. I suppose some people in France have tried this, but it can be done with so many variations of taste, imagination, and emphasis that nobody need worry about duplication or competition. Exhibited it would be immensely interesting and educational for collectors and public alike.

The historical scope could start with matters of postal history rather than political history of early times for which there is hardly any philatelic material. Start with the Petit Post and the marks of the Ancien Régime before the Revolution.

For the cultural aspect, topical exhibit of stamps or maximum cards showing architecture, scenes, art holdings, etc., can be used. If the coverage

of all aspects might seem to be too vast to be practical, remember that one does not need to be repetitious or detailed about anything—one Paris "star" or one ballon monté is enough! But they should be "choice." For the postal markings a good guide is the old Maury et al "Catalogue des Estampilles" (last ed. 1929) which has now been reprinted in Germany so you won't have to pay \$100 for a second-hand copy at auction. In Arphila Brochure #2, MM Harnould and Dhôtel, two eminent thematic specialists, briefly outline the philatelic scope of Paris for the adhesive-stamp era, and some topical aspects on stamps are covered by certain articles in the French philatelic magazines over the last few years.

The philatelic material (and there should be none other) for such a theme is sufficiently explicit in itself that prolix textual explications should seldom be necessary. Long texts and unnecessary non-philatelic ornamentation or documents will not get any points by FIP judging rules for thematics.—R.G.S.

Stamp Program for 1976

As usual the next year's projected issues were announced on 13 Nov. at the 29th Salon Philatélique D'Automne. The total of 49 is larger than announced for other recent years, indicating the effort the PPT is making to keep its promise to announce its program more completely than heretofore. However, there will still probably be some more issues added later, as seems inevitable. The total issued last year was greater than normal on account of Arphila.

I. Stamps with Surtax (9):

- a) Journée du Timbre (1): Centenaire of the Type Sage
- b) Celebrated Personages (6): Marshall Moncey 1754-1842; General Dumesnil 1776-1832, Eugène Fromentin 1820-76, Mounet-Sully 1841-1916, Anna de Noailles 1876-1933, Max Jacob 1876-1944.
- c) Red Cross Series (2): Sculptures of the church at Brou (Ain)

II. Stamps Without Surtax (40):

- a) Art Series (5): Venus de Brassempouy, Linteau de l'Eglise de Saint-Génis-des-Fontaines (26 Jan.), a work of Maurice de Vlaminck, two other subjects to be announced later.

FRANCE & COLONIES PHILATELIST

Published quarterly by the

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

Affiliate No. 45, American Philatelic Society

January 1976 — Whole Number 163, Vol. 32, No. 1

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



- b) "Philatelic Creation" Series (original works of contemporary artists) (2): Carzou, and Excoffon
- c) Europa Series (2): reproductions of two works to be chosen on the theme designated by CEPT: works of artisans in ceramics, faience, porcelain, or pottery
- d) Touristic Series (6): Chateau de Malmaison, Chateau de Bonguil, Biarritz, Cathedrale de Lodeul, Ussel, Thiers
- e) Series on Great Accomplishments: (2): Satellite Symphonie, Particle accelerator
- f) Commemoratives and Miscellaneous (23):

Regions Series (6)

Sailing ships series (1)

Protection of Nature and Environment series: Forest of Troncais

Commemoratives (6): Bicentenary of US Independence, Cent. of the invention of the Telephone, 60th Ann. of Battle of Verdun, 30th Ann. of the Assoc. of Free French, 50th Ann. Assoc. Centrale des Officiers de Reserve des l'Armées de Mer, Cent. of the Reserve Officer Corps
 Miscellaneous: (9): Inauguration of commercial service by Concorde, National Congress of Fed. of French Phil. Societies (Rouen), JUVA-ROUEN world phil. expo for youths, Olympic Games at Montreal, Fairs/Expositions, 10th festival of tourism films, Brigades des Douanes, Police Nationale, "La Communication."

Andorre (9): Europa (2), Prot. of Nature (2)—butterflies; Winter Olympics at Innsbruck, Olympic Games Montreal, Bicent. of US Independence, Cent. of 1st Telephone communication, New Sanctuary of Meritxell.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

The 1.40 "Pont de Saint Nazaire" stamp after long delay waiting for the bridge to be opened, was finally issued on 8 Nov., the same day as the 1.20 International Womens Year stamp. The "Picardie" and Andre Siegfried stamps appeared 15 Nov., the 50th Anniv. of France-USSR relations on 22 Nov. The two Red Cross stamps had their first day in both France and Fort de France, Martinique, on 29 Nov. The "Poitou" and Frégate La Melpomène

came out on 6 Dec. On 13 Dec. a 2.80Fr Nord/Pas de Calais in the regional series appeared.

In January the 1.70F "Concorde-Paris Rio de Janeiro 1976" and the 2.20 "Midi-Pyrénées" (regional series) were to be issued on the 12th, on the 26th the 2.00F Linteau de l'Eglise de Ste. Gènes-des-Fontaines. On 2 Feb. a 0.25F "Centre" in the regional series is scheduled.

On 1 January four new precancelled stamps in the Gallic money design denominations 0.50, 0.60, 0.90 and 1.60 were to become available for use on certain bulk-mailing categories, sold only in multiples of 100 and a minimum of 1000. But collectors can buy single copies from the Philatelic Service office in Paris.

The reported use of metered mail franks with "000" in the denomination block on mail privately distributed by a French firm has been condemned by the PTT as illegal and subject to prosecution.

The PTT has admitted that many Arphila souvenir sheets have slightly different dimensions from those officially described, which collectors and dealers are pretending to be a distinct variety. The PTT says, however, that all the sheets were printed on the same batch of paper and with the same inks. Further reports indicate a range from 156 to 157.2 mm x 141 to 144.5 mm. The PTT thinks several 100 thousand sheets deviated from standard size which was 151x143 mm.

The 5th International Prize for Philatelic Art awarded at Asiago, Italy, for 1975 in the category for the best design relating to mountains, was given to the 0.65F Centenary of the Club Alpin de France stamp issued in 1974.

Our note on p. 85 of FCP for October about a 0.90 Marianne de Bequet was a misprint for 0.80F. Sorry, hope you didn't try to order a 0.90 from your dealer.

For the first time the PTT has issued a statement giving the scheme relating the various denominations of stamps to particular rates or uses, as follows for the current tariffs:

- 0.25—1st weight step for journals mailed by individuals
- 0.70—1st step international rate for printed matter:
 - postal card of 5 words international rate
- 0.85—domestic non-urgent mail, 2nd wt. step
- 0.90—international rate printed matter 2nd wt. step
- 1.00—preferential international rate to certain countries, 1st step
- 1.15—domestic non-urgent rate, 3rd step;
 - parcels 1st step
- 1.20—international letter rate 1st step;
 - international printed matter 3rd step;
 - international small parcels 1st step
- 1.30—international post card with airmail surtaxes for areas charged 0.50/5gr
- 1.40—domestic letter, 2nd wt. step
- 1.50—international letter less than 5gr with airmail surtax of 0.50
- 1.70—international letter less than 5gr with airmail surtax of 0.50
- 1.90—domestic letter, 3rd step;
 - urgent parcels 1st step
- 1.90—international airmail 5grs surtax of 0.70
- 2.20—domestic letters 3rd step;
 - non-urgent mail 4th step;
 - parcels 2nd step
- 2.20—international letters 2nd step
- 2.30—international small parcels 2nd step
- 2.80—international letters 3rd step

- 3.00—domestic non-urgent mail 5th step;
parcels 3rd step
- 4.00—domestic 4th step;
urgent parcels 2nd step
- 5.00—domestic urgent parcels 3rd step
- 5.50—domestic registered letters 1st step

Our member and former Recording Secretary, John Thomas, won a bronze award last fall for "Ancient Korean Art" exhibit at BALPEX.

At NOJEX last October John Lievsay got a small gold for his Paris Stars and a silver for a showing of Yv. #58s (it should have been the other way around, if you know your stuff). Martin Stempien took a large gold for his Franco-British Accountancy Marks. Gus Wittenberg got a Best in Section. They are warming up for Interphil, as are at least a half-dozen other members.

Our former long-time member Hardin D. Thweatt of Buffalo died a year ago at the age of 81. He was an enthusiastic collector of Reunion for many years, and once gave a slide presentation on it at an FCPS meeting. His collection was sold very favorably by Robson Lowe several years ago. He donated to the Society his set of slides which will be used as a basis for a tape-slide "show" on Reunion.

The Service Philatélique of the PTT has moved from 4 rue Hippolyte-Lebas to 61-63 rue de Douai, F75436-Paris Cedex 09. It is now using on its mail a postmark reading "Service Philatélique des PTT—Paris", whereas heretofore it used a "Bureaux Temporaires—Paris" postmark (since the postal strike began).

P. DeLizeray comments about our note in July 1975 FCP, p. 56, where it was misleadingly stated that the printing plant at Perigueux has a "new" 6-color press that uses part offset and part recess. Actually (as we well know) they have had 6-color recess presses for some years, which can on occasion be adapted to a combination of offset and recess; this is done by having one of the recess-plate cylinders (the first one to print) transfer its image to a plastic offset roller to print on the paper followed by the normal direct-recess imprint from the 2nd recess-plate cylinder. This procedure has been used for a number of the paintings stamps. What is new is that they now will have a press adapted to a combination of helio and recess instead of offset and recess.

The PTT which for years has denied it considered the income from stamps sold to collectors in its annual budget, has now admitted that it estimates that it profits by about 20 to 25 million francs a year from collectors. However, Daniel Bernet, the editor of Philatélie, claims he computes it is more nearly 100-200 million frs a year!

Il Collezionista's jury last year selected a French stamp as 17th place in its list of 68 chosen for beauty from 1974 issues of the world—it was the Saint-Florent stamp. Oddly a local philatelic society in Raincy, France, un-animously picked the same stamp as "most artistic."

There is a sudden interest in France in the fact that some stamps of France have been differently printed for use in Guadeloupe, Martinique, Guiana, and Reunion (the Depts. d'Outre-Mer or "D.O.M.'s") and the specialists are studying to see how they differ and how they can be identified. It seems that special gums have been used for the stamps sent to DOM and Algeria since the War. It may not be long before the specialized catalogs begin to list these stamps with "tropical gum." But there are exceptions to the rule, as not all CFA overprinted stamps, for example, had the special gum. Also the stamps sold in France with phosphor bars were sent to DOM without such bars since they had no automatic sorting machines there. And late printings

of the last stamps in the old francs were made for DOM in 1961-62 after they were no longer printed for France—these are rare and generally had the special gum. The special gums tend to be dull (mate), thin, yellowish, and crackly or striated. The stamps for DOM are not sold in P.O.'s in France, but may be had at times from the Philatelic Service office in Paris, and of course from the P.O.'s of DOM.

One of our members, a real booster from Buffalo, who finds the columns of FCP a "treasury of valuable information" suggests one should acquire 3 copies of each issue to cut up and file by subjects. Nice idea, but don't all start at once without notice as there won't be enough supply to go around.

The 3 or 4 syndicates of philatelic merchants (or "experts") in France have engaged in rivalry, dissension, even "dirty tricks", etc. Internal dissensions between dealers of different "philosophy," social and economic status, etc., ("high experts" vs small, especially provincial, dealers) led to the split up of one syndicate into two several years ago. Each syndicate is dominated by a single dealer and a small clique of supporters who re-elect themselves regularly. Things were rather openly nasty between the dealers many years ago, but gradually calmed on the surface at least. There used to be a half-dozen syndicates, then they reduced to 2 or 3, now 3 or 4. The feelings have heated up again lately, partly over certain issues and events but more a matter of personalities. Some aged dealers who have been "running things" for quite a while are resented by the younger ambitious generation who sometimes stoop to calumny against them. One of the syndicates recently gave in to pressure, "decommissioned" Jacques Robineau, the well-known auctioneer, from the presidency and installed a nice young guy who has no enemies as general secretary (future president?). It remains to be seen if he will be free to "reform" things. The situation puts the editors of the French philatelic magazines on the spot; in general they try to avoid the appearances of favoritism and to hide the behind-the-scenes machinations. But Daniel Bernet, the able editor of *Philatélie* (a Thiaude organ), hangs the linen out on the line every month; because he claims the influence of the dealers molds and affects the tendencies of collectors, who therefore should know more about what's going on. Bernet has treaded on some sore toes, brought a law suit down on him (which he lost), and become the enfant terrible of the philatelic establishment. But he puts out a pretty good magazine with many followers. Not exactly the Jack Anderson of France but a little more air may be good. We do not mean to imply that philatelic politics is any worse in France than say in U. S. or England, but it has more difficulty in keeping the affairs dignified.

The new Bureaux Mobiles postoffices (independent POs on wheels) which we mentioned here awhile back are now found in about 15 communes. Their postmarks contain the letters "B.M." Not to be confused with postmarks of the dependent Guichets Annexes, some of which are also mobile and whose postmarks may be inscribed "An. Mobile".

The series of stamps now being issued for the regions of France is planned to cover all 26 regions; in most cases local contests for the designs are being held, but this procedure is causing delays and the PTT may not be able to keep the schedule for all 8 regions intended for 1975 or the 6 for 1976.

Last May collectors in France were complaining that they could not obtain some of the recent French issues as they had run out of stock very quickly in the POs—especially the 0.80 Pompidou stamp which was gone in 2 weeks. The PTT explained that it was due to unforeseen great demand. The printing plant was instructed to make new printings right away.

The French steamship/packet "France" has been sold to Canada to be

used as a floating casino at Montreal during the olympic games next summer. What a demise!

The Arphila souvenir sheet was printed in 2,300,000 copies. Considering it will be little used on mail, that ought to be enough to take care of everyone. The withdrawal of stocks from the POs and for standing orders was deferred from end of October to end of November.

The PTT last year sold at the POs special cartons for making Christmas shippings. They were stiff and came in 4 sizes, at prices of 1, 1.50, 2.00 and 2.50 Fr.

The Agence des Timbres Poste d'Outre Mer in Paris fills about 60,000 mail orders per year and makes 12,000 sales at its window. These are for the stamps of French Territories and the foreign countries which are printed by the French stamp printing plant.

Raymond Salles indicates he is working on a new price list of all the marks numbered in his "La Poste Maritime." Meanwhile he has said that the prices (i.e., valuations) in his Tomes I and II should be raised now about 3 times, those in Tomes III, IV and IX by about 2.5X, those in Tomes V and VI by about 2X, and in Tome VIII by about 1.5X.

Fake flammes are sometimes made in France on covers with regular hand-stamped date-postmark and a slogan or illustrated box added privately afterwards beside it to give the appearance of a machine cancel.

A Portuguese monthly journal devoted to French philately, "Franquia," is being published. Address: Praca Artur Portela, 2-5 o dto, Lisboa 4, Portugal; subscription equivalent to about 27F/yr.

Mrs. Xavier Maurer informs us that in the picture on p. 93 of the Oct. FCP her husband, an old time member (#55), is the one seated to left of Lesgor and in front of Greg Mozian.

In FCP #60, p. 29, we mentioned that the imprint of the 2Fr Miro stamp on the Document Officiel is from a recess die whereas the stamp was printed in helio. We are informed that the same situation applies to the 2F Mathieu of 1974, the 1975 Journée du Timbre and the two Europas of 1975. But the notion that these recess imprints are a "non-emis" seems to us quite incorrect—just a put-on to get a few more francs out of some unlucky Pierres. The Documents Officiel imprints are not "stamps," and the stamps in question are from helio plates made by photoengraving from proofs of the recess imprints; they are essentially identical except for the screening.

Congratulations to our member and former Recording Secretary, John Thomas, who has just been appointed to the U. S. Citizens Advisory Committee. John is specially interested in stamp designs and subjects, and he devotes his collections to them.

NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, AND CATALOGS

"Cachets à Date de France sur Type Sage 1876-1901." By A. Mathieu, To appear March 1976. 240 pp. illustr. Subscr. price 150Fr (do not send money in advance). A. Mathieu, 5 rue Blacas, FO6000-Nice. (All known pmks on Sage, priced, listed by Communes and Depts., incl. chargements, gares, guichets, imprimes, journaux, etc.)

"Catalogue Spécialisé de France." 19th Ed., 1976. 120 pp. illustr. 8Fr+2.20 post. Georges Monteaux, 6 Sq. de l'Opéra Louis Jouvét, F75009-Paris.

- (Covers 20th cent. specialized by types, sheets, booklets, coils, shades, papers, millésimes, coin datés, etc.)
- "Catalogue Yvert et Tellier 1976, Tome I: France et Pays D'expression Françaises—Mandats, Terr. Occup., Sarre, Monaco, Europa." 1975, 664 pp., illustr. 19Fr p.p. Yvert et Tellier, 37 rue des Jacobins, F80036 Amiens Cedex (General rise in prices for 19th and early 20th France and for early colonies. Independent Guinée, Togo, and Viet-Nam have now been put back into Tome I from Tome III.)
- "Catalogue P. Mayer—Les Timbres de la Libération—1976," 2nd ed. 1975, 102 pp. illustr. Price? P. Mayer, 20 rue Drouot, F75009-Paris. (By a dealer who specializes in Liberation issues.)
- "History of Letter-Post Communication between U. S. and Europe 1845-1875." By George E. Hargest. 2nd ed revised. 256 pp. 1975. \$30.00. Quarterman Pubs., 5 So. Union St., Lawrence, Mass. 01802. (The first ed. has been out of print and bringing \$75 in auctions; a long chapter deals with the US-French mails.)
- "Les Timbres de Fantaisie et Non-Officiels" Vol. 2. By S. Bourdi. 1975. 148 pp. illustr. Price? S. Bourdi, 1 rue du Bat d'Argent, F69001-Lyon. (Catalog of Cinderella material of the world, much on France. A continuation of the work started by the late G. Chapier who compiled Vol. 1 some years ago. Vol. 2 covers countries Bahamas to Ethiopia.)
- "Les Bleues de France." By A. Suarnet. 1975 ed. illustr. 175 Fr. P. J. Barat, C.C.P. 34.931.19J LaSource. (A new edition of the popular book of Suarnet, completely revised; compiles varieties of and cancels on the classic "blue" stamps, 20c, 25c, of France. The previous editions were found very convenient, but were inconsistent and with many errors and misconceptions.)
- "Catalogue des Estampilles et Oblitérations Postales de France et des Colonies Françaises." By A. Maury, P. Devoitine, et al. Yvert et Tellier 1929. Reprinted 1975 by Arbeitsgemeinschaft Frankreich, c/o Alfred Busotti, 8 München 81, West Germany. Price? (Reprint of the much-wanted classic, now very expensive second-hand; covered all aspects of French markings and as such is still convenient for an overall view of the types of them that may be found. But each class of marks has since been given more detailed treatment in other specialized works, which specialists should refer to for accuracy and completeness, though many works and articles would have to be used to cover the same ground as in the Maury work. The 1929 cat. was a revision of earlier editions starting with 1898.)
- "Oblitérations Temporaires et P. J. France-Réunion-Monaco-Andorre-Terr. Outre-Mer et Pays d'Expression Françaises, 1974." Le Monde Brochure #179, 1975, 56 pp. 18.30 Fr p.p. Le Monde des Philatélistes, 11bis Blvd. Haussmann, F75009-Paris, CCP 18.382.12 Paris. (Reprint of listings in each issue of Le Monde during 1974, continuing previous annual compilations.)
- "Supplement 1974 au Catalogue des Oblitérations Mécaniques à Flamme Illustrées ou Stylisées." 32 pp, 1975, 15.10 Fr p.p. Le Monde Brochure No. 180. (See above.) (Annual suppl. to Bremard's cat.)
- "La Poste Pneumatique de Paris (Tome I): Histoire Générale." By Rykner and Gobillot. 1975, 28 pp. 14Fr p.p. Le Monde Brochure #181 (See above.)
- "Réimpressions et Faux." By M. Mazabrey. 1975. 36 pp. 15.10 Fr p.p. Le Monde Brochure #182 (See above.) (Includes forgeries of some Fr. stamps.)
- "La France en Thématique, Vol. II: La Femme, Palais, et Châteaux, Sculpture, Philatélie et Religion, Croix Rouge." 1975, 32 pp. 14Fr p.p. Le Monde Brochure #186 (See above.)

- "Sélection Philatélique, Vol. III." 1975, 40 pp. 15.10Fr p.p. Le Monde Brochure #187 (See above.) (Reprint of a number of short arts. from Le Monde on variety of subjects.)
- "Timbres et Types, Vol. XI." By P. deLizeray. 1975, 48pp. 16.15 Fr p.p. Le Monde Brochure #188. (See above.) (Continuation of DeL.'s series in Le Monde, valuable for specialists in types, printing methods, etc., of the 20th Fr. issues.)
- "Les Meetings Automobiles." By Wirth. 1975, 37 pp., 14Fr p.p. Le Monde Brochure #184. (See above.)
- "Les Timbres Francaises Perforés—10e et 11e Listes, Vol. VIII." By G. Leland. 1975, 16pp. 10.80Fr. Le Monde Brochure #183. (See above.)
- "Catalogue 'Horoplans' 1912-1974." 4th Ed. 1975. Mimeogr. 40 pp. Club Le Meilleur, BP 21, F77350-Le Mée sur Seine.
- "Catalogue des Oblitérations Avec Levées Centrales." 1975, 40 pp. mimeogr. Club le Meilleur, BP 21, F77350—Le Mée sur Seine.
- "Guerre 1914-18—Cachets des Commissions de Gare." 1975, mimeogr. Club Le Meilleur, BP 21, F77350-Le Mée-sur-Seine. (Priced cat. of cancels of the commissaires de guerre, infirméries, cantines, AVC, etc.)
- "Catalogue Philatelique des Editions C.E.F." 8th Ed., 1975. Eds. CEF, 2 rue de l'Hotel-des-Postes, F06000-Nice. (Prices of various souvenir pubd by this firm.)
- "Les Timbres d'Alsace-Lorraine et les Oblitérations de Lorraine 1940-41." By J-R Jacquot. 1975 40pp, illustr. Price? The author, 27 rue Desnouettes, F75015-Paris. (Detailed study of stamps and cancels used.)
- "Catalogue des 'Documents Officiels' de la Collection Historique du Timbres-Poste Francaises." 8pp, 1975, 3rd ed. 3.85Fr. By J. R. Jacquot, 27 rue Desnouettes F75015-Paris. (1st ed. to be pubd separately; priced cat. of the Doc. Off. issued by the Musée Postal.)
- "Catalogue Spécialisé des Timbres de Guernsey, Jersey et Man." 1975, 6th ed. 40pp. Price? By J. R. Jacquot, 27 rue Desnouettes, F75015-Paris. (Includes the private cards used during the French mail strike.)
- "The Posted Letter in Colonial and Revolutionary America 1629-1790." Ed. by A. L. TerBraake. 1975, 670pp. \$15. Amer. Phil. Soc., State College, Pa. (Contains a long article by Marc Martin on the French royal paquebot service to US during 1784-1789.)
- "Monnaies Francaises et des Pays D'Expression Francais Depuis 1900, Tome I." 3rd ed. 1975, 96pp. 18Fr illustr. Ed. Thimonnier, 30 rue Pascal, F63-Clermont-Ferrand. (Priced cat.)
- "Les Cachets Postaux de l'Occupation Allemande en Alsace-Lorraine 1940-44." By Marcel Perrier. 1975? Price? Villa El Mirador, F66110-Amélie-les-Bains.
- "Catalogue des Plis Aéropostale Transportées par Avion à Reaction et Turbo-Prop. des Cies Aérienne Francaises et Cies en Pool." 49 pp. 1975, 13Fr p.p. By J. Houlteau, 22 ave. de la Mer, F44380-Pornichet. (A revision of the 1964 ed.)
- "Catalog International Bolaffi of Rare Stamps, No. 2, Europe and Overseas." 1975, 800 pp., illustr. Ed. SCOT, via Conson, 17F/10123 Torino, Italy. For sale in US by P.R.R., Inc., Lovell St., Lincolndale, N. Y. 10540. (Descr. and illustr. of 15,000 classic stamps and covers sold in 300 auctions of 150 firms during Sept. 1974-June 1975.)

Note: the book by Sinais listed in Oct. FCP can be had for 60Fr from the author, 9 rue de la Montagne Ste-Génévieve, F75005-Paris. Most of the contents of Sinais' book is appearing in various article in the journals such as Philatélie and L'Echangiste Universelle.

CURRENT JOURNAL ARTICLES

(Note: The abbreviations after the journal names indicate the libraries we know receive it: CC—Collectors Club, APRL—Amer. Phil. Res. Library, SI—Smithsonian Institution Phil. Div., CSM—Cardinal Spellman Mus.)

L'Echo de la Timbrologie

- #1458, Sept. 1975: Blanc: "50c bleue Pasteur roulettes rotatives au type 2"; cont. of Munier, Lordet, Tristant.
- #1459, Oct. 1975: Sinias: "La Commission du Contrôle Postale de Port Said"; Pacquelin: "Les Bulletins d'Expedition de colis postaux pour chemins de fer"; cont. of Munier, Lordet, Tristant, Brijon.
- #1460, Nov. 1975: Storch et Francon: "Découvertes récentes sur le type Blanc" (begin); Deshouillers: "Remarque sur les oblitérations mécaniques à flamme"; Perrier: "Les cachets postaux de l'occupation Allemande en Alsace-Lorraine 1940-44"; Goubin: "Les cachets à date jumelées Daguin"; cont. of Munier, Schutz, Tristant.

Le Monde des Philatélistes

- #280, Oct. 1975: Dumont: "Pas d'entiers postaux pour Arphila"; cont. of Frybourg, Joany, Vartan, Baudelocque, Philippon, Gavault, Savélon, DeLizeray, Leblanc, Joffre, Melot et Landl, DeWailly, "La Fr. en Thém."
- #281, Nov. 1975: Bertoni: "Timbres et oblitérations de la Réunion" (begin); TAAF—Info by ATOM; Cont. of Frybourg, Joany, Vartan (end), Philippon, Savélon, DeLizeray, Baudelocque, Leblanc, Melot et Landl, DeWailly, Danan, "La Fr. en Thém."

La Philatélie Française

- #258, Sept. 1975: Joany: "Nomenclature—Timbres pour la Post Aérienne, de franchises, et de télégraphes" (begin of Tome X); "Etudes sur le Timbre"; "La poste aux Armées pendant la 1^{re} Guerre Mondiale" (begin); Joany: "Les timbres au type Sage—le cas du 5 centime."

Philatélie

- #88, July-Aug. 1975: Bernet: "Coup d'état rue du Coq-Heron—I. Lavalette prend le pouvoir" (begin); "Les français en Italie"; Reyner: "Les wagons ambulants en 1900"; Podovin: "Un timbre, un pont—St. Nazaire-St. Brevin-les-Pins"; cont. of Sinias.
- #89, Sept. 1975: "Les émissions de la Libération—consultation juridique, législation"; Ceberland: "Le wagon poste de 1845 requait d'être broyé"; Bernet: "2. Lavalette annonce à la France l'arrivée de Napoléon à Paris (1815)"; Fromaigeat: "Le point sur le 5c Report I de l'émission Bordeaux"; cont. of Sinias.
- #90, Oct. 1975: "Echos d'Arphila"; Bernet: "Un courrier de l'empereur nommé Napoléon"; Bernet: "1708—la carte routière des postes révélée au Grand Public"; "Un ancêtre oublié en télégraphe Chappe"; "La Picardie est Gothique"; Pavillon: "Une oblitération tempo.: une odyssée (Fr. action in Norway 1940)"; Sinias: "Le service postales convois automobile pendant la Guerre Mondiale 1914-18"; Sinias: "La poste en Alsace pendant la G. M. 1914-18."
- #91, Nov. 1975: Lejeune: "Restaurer le timbre à son usage originale"; Bernet: "Les voyageurs de la poste (16th Cent.)"; "La poste dur 18e

siècle devient véritablement un service public"; "L'eau de la Seine fait maigrir les cheveux étrangers que en boivent"; Aix: "les connus du Bureau de Poste manquent de civisme (1792)"; "La première étude complète sur la poste militaire Fr. en 1914" (Sinais' work); Lebland: "Le type Merson des Bur. Franc. à l'étranger"; Sinais: "Le service postal des prisonniers pendant la G. N. 1914-18."

L'Echangiste Universelle (\$7/yr., 7 rue Dr.-Belot F76600-Havre)

#898, June 1975: Storch et Francon: "Les entiers de Fr. aux types Petain" (cont.); Bilhaut: "Les oblitérations et cachets connus de l'île Marion (TAAF)"; Bilhaut: "L'archipel Kerguelen" (end); Chapier: "Le bureau centrale militaire de Marseille 1914-19."

#899, July 1975: Aldo: "Les plis maritimes des TAAF"; Savina: "Les oblitérations de poste Espagnole en Andorre" (cont.); Morant: "Le hausse de timbres Fr. en douze ans."

#900, Aug. 1975: Viger: "La Fr et l'Indochine" (begin); Sinais: "La carte postale 'priorité' de 1918"; Bilhaut: "Les deux touchées du 'Galliéni' à Ste. Helène."

#901, Oct. 1975: Viger (cont.); Regnaud: "L'art moderne dans le timbre" (interview with L. Levacher, artist); Storch et Francon: "Le type Marianne de Gandon" (begin); Tristant: "Les découverte de l'île Amsterdam en 1922 par J. S. Eliano et ses incidences philatéliques."

#902, Nov. 1975: Savina: "Les oblitérations de la poste Espagnole en Andorre" (end); "L'année mondiale de la femme selon Mad. Pierrette Lambert" (stamp artist); cont. of Storch et Francon.

Collectors Club Philatelist

V. 54, #6, Nov. 1975: R. & G. Brown: "Detoured mail during the Franco-Prussian War 1870-71."

Bulletin du Club Spécialistes de France

#42, April 1975: "Le courrier pendant la grève de PTT" (cont.); Raux: "Utilisation des timbres de France aux colonies"; Quesnel: "Les cachets utilisés en Alsace en 1915"; Goudenhooff: "Les variétés du 5c Présidence"; Bernard: Bureaux de Passe"; "Le télégraphe Chappé en Cote d'or."

Les Echos du Club Philatélique Française

#352, 2 April 1975: Schroeder: "Les chiffres taxe carrés du France 1859-1871."

Essay-Proof Journal

Wh. #127, Autumn 1975: Stone: "Pictorial issues of French Colonies (cont.):—the Gabon designs of 1910-13."

Philao

#14, Aug. 1975: Dutreix: "Petit histoire des émissions pirates avortées"; Melle: "Les animaux de Laos—le panthère commun"; VanUffelen: "Les premiers contacts entre le Laos et l'Europe"; Dutreix: "A propos de timbres oblitérés vendus par les PTT de Laos."

Spécial Andorre (50 Blvd. A France, F-33570-Libourne)

Bull. #1, 1975: Savina: "Le courrier de l'Andorre pendant la Guerre civile d'Espagne"; Oliver: "Les marques de tri électronique à destination de la Pr. Andorre"; Goudard et Oliver: "Les empreintes des machines à affranchir en Andorre"; Goudard: "La desserte du village espagnol d'Os de Civis"; Savina: "Les oblitérations de la poste Fr. en Andorre"; Oliver: "Le blason d'Andorre."

Feuilles Marcophiles

Informations No. 6, Apr. 1975: Lejeune: "Marques postales linéaires doubles, Type 18"; Bernard: "Bureau de Passe"; Charbonnier: "La grève des PTT"; Lejeun: "Le calendrier Republicain"; Roussot: "Terminologie postale" (cont.).

Informations No. 7, Sept. 1975: Lejeune: "Oblitérations des lettres transportées par les convoyeurs-stations"; Dumont: "Les entiers postaux."

Le Collectionneur Lyonnais

#26, April 1975: Storch: "Les semeuses de 1907-le 35c violet"; Quesnil: "Les faux 5Fr Merson"; Chapier: "les origines de la recommandation"; Camboulives: "Les inadmis de 1940-44"; Gilliot: "Un précurseur de Cavallini"; Camboulives: "Censure armée d'Orient, à propos du triangle No. 1916-18"; Pothion: "La petite poste de Lyon 1810."

#27, July 1975: Guillaume: "Comment distinguer rapidement les 3 types du 20cms Bordeaux"; Fradois: "Les timbres mutilés"; Camboulives: "La poste civile entre 1940 et 1945" (cont.); Mullenheim: "A propos de l'origine des lettres recommandées en France"; Dubreuil: "Les flammes drapeau"; Rayssiguier: "Cachets convoyeur-Ligne polyvalent"; Lordet: "La poste à La Calle, Algérie" (begin); Didier: "Le Part."

Archives Erinophiles

#129-133, 1974: Granger: "Etude sur les timbres anti-TB Fr" (cont.); Depardin: "Catalogue des vignettes touristiques et assimilées de France" (cont.)

Arbeitsgemeinschaft Frankreich Bulletin

#129, April 1975: Gudekunst u. Gachot: (Mixed frankings 1871-2); Vetter: (the post during the Commune); Vetter: (the cancels of 1/1/1849 (cont.).

Révue des PTT de France

#1, 1975: Charbon: "Le télégraph de Chappé."

#2, 1975: Davegac: "L'Apport de l'Administration des PTT à la Philatélie."

#3, 1975: Mouilleseaux: "Les colis postaux et la SNCF."

Postes et Telecommunications de PTT

#237, Oct. 1975: "Des emballages PTT pour paquets-poste vendus aux guichets."

French Polynesia Newsletter

#80, March 1975: O'Reilly: "Report from Polynesia"; new issues, tempo. pmks.; "An early critic" (of 1930 issues).

#81, June 1975: New issues, correspondence, registry marks, "Wallis et Futine" (cont.).

Journal of the France and Colonies Philatelic Society

Wh. #129/130, Jan.-June 1975: R. & G. Brown: "We had to get married"; Hayhurst: "The affair of the 1968 Boule de Moulins"; Holder: "The 'Service Rural'" (cont.); Hayhurst: "The Daguin postmarks of France"; Bister: "Def. issues of Hourriez—Ceres, Mercury & Iris" (cont.); Hartland-Swann: "French rural bus posts"; Hayhurst & Bister: "Postal code markings"; "French PO Nos." (G.C.s) (cont.).

ARPHILA Informations

#4, March 1975: Deshayé: "L'Art du timbre."

Bulletin Assoc. des Collectionneurs des Timbres de la Libération et de la 2em G.M.

- #29, April 1975: Pfefferhorn: "L'émission Libération d'Annemasse"; Mayer: "Emission Tour Halles"; DuBoil: "Les timbres émis par la Fr. Libre dans le Terr. de Inini"; Bouttes: "La France Libre—les forces fr. combatt. de Londres"; Francais: "DeGaulle, chef des Fr. Libres, NCE—AEF—Tchad—Cameroun."
 #30, 1975: Bouttes: "Les postes des Forces Fr. Libres."

Ice Cap News

- #113, Sept.-Oct. 1975: Lajugie: "The annual French Polar Phil. Society convention."

Bulletin de Liason de la S.A.T.A.

- #20, June 1975: Bilhaut: "L'Archipel de Kerguelen."
 #21, Sept. 1975: Bilhaut: "Les plis de la campagne 1951-52 en Terre Adélie"; "Lettre de l'Agence TPOM"; Tristant: "Campagne océanographique MP 05 (1975)"; "Mise en service de la flamme de T.A."

Egyptian Philatelic Topics

- #41, July-Aug. 1975: Winter: "French maritime mail 1851-56"; Pierce: "France in Egypt—earliest use of the numeral cancels."
 #42, Sept.-Oct. 1975: Pierce: "Query on mark of 1862 Fr. Off. in Egypt."

Chronicle of the U. S. Classic Postal Issues

- V. 26, 1974: Hargest: "Prepaid British mail rates to France 1870-75."

Philatelic Magazine

- #11, Aug. 1975: Holland: "The post in the Pyrenees and Andorre."

Documents Philatéliques

- No. 65, 3rd Trim 1975: Schatzkes: "Correspondances d'armées, cachets sur lettres des colonies generales"; Langlois: "La naufrage de l'Ibex"; Fromaigeat: "Les essais des Bordeaux"; Salles: "Le bureau francais de Yokohama 1865-80."
 No. 66, 4th Trim. 1975: Foster: "Marques de controle See"; Joany: "1 centime non-Lauré"; Mignon: "5c Blanc, decrets et épreuves"; DeLiz-eray: "4c Blanc brun-jaune de 1924"; Rouques: "25c Potier en tirage rotatif"; Perrin: "Algerie, Palais d'Eté surcharge P. C. Douane"; Michon: "Réflexions sur les Semeuses"; DeFontaines: "28e Division militaire ci-devant Ligurie 1809-1814."

Noorderlicht

- #7, 1975: Jansen: "French frontier markings to 1881."

Baltimore Philatelist

- #238, Sept. 1975: Meier: "Germany's post WWII postage-paid markings" (incl. ones used in French Zone).

Bulletin de l'Amicale Philatélique de Calais

- #13, 1975: Fontaine: "Le pavillon francais et le service postal dans la liaison avec Gr.-Br. de 1873 à 1893"; Mullard: "La malle des Indes."

Diligence d'Alsace

- #13, 1975: Kauffman: "De la malle poste aux ambulants"; Gachot: "Les cachets des courriers convoyeurs-stations d'Alsace"; Charbon: "Premier wagons-poste francaises."

Portuguese Philatelic Society News Bulletin

- #47, 1975: Herrick: "Napoleonic War markings" (in Portugal).

The Regular Issues of France Since 1876

By Stanley J. Luft (#915)

(Continued from FCP #116, p. 66)

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Feb. 1946):

*Postal cards;

Printed matter, from 100 to 150 gm;

Letters, to 20 gm, to Canada and Luxembourg, and to nearby areas of Belgium, Spain, and Switzerland.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 8 July 1947):

Letters, to 20 gm;

Printed matter, from 50 to 100 gm;

Printed matter, to 20 gm, "urgent" (fast service).

604	815	Leclerc	3 July-4 Dec. 1948	8.10
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Domestic usage (Tariff of 21 Sept. 1948):

Printed matter and samples, to 50 gm.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 May 1948) (until 30 Nov. 1948):

Newspapers, from 100 to 150 gm, mailed by publisher.

8F values

609	821	Jean Perrin	17 or 27 Nov. 48-26 March 49	2.89
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Domestic usage (Tariff of 21 Sept. 1948):

*Postal cards.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 May 1948) (until 30 Nov. 1948):

Printed matter and samples, from 50 to 100 gm;

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

Domestic usage (Tariff of 6 Jan. 1949):

Postal cards and visiting cards, "of 5 words".

640	873	Chateaudun	25 Nov. 50-5 May 51	2.9
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666	908	Beaudelaire	27 Oct. 51-10 May 52	2.30
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Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 July 1949):

*Postal cards and visiting cards, "of 5 words".

10F values

567	762	Paris Peace Conference	29 July 46-14 March 47	10.3
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572	771	UNESCO Conference	19 Nov. 46-14 March 47	5.00
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584	783	UPU Congress	7 May-26 July 1947	3.50
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Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Feb. 1946):

*Letters, to 20 gm;

Registry fee;

Printed matter, from 200 to 250 gm.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 Jan. 1946) (until 31 Dec. 1946):

Letters, from 100 to 300 gm;

Registered letters, from 20 to 50 gm.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 8 July 1947):

Registry fee, for other than letters and parcels.

624	841	Stamp Centennial Souvenir sheetlet	1-12 June 1949	1.30
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625	844	C.I.T.T.	13 June-10 Sept. 49	2.90
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Domestic usage (Tariff of 6 Jan. 1949):

Printed matter and samples, to 50 gm;

Printed matter, to 20 gm, "urgent" (fast service).

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Dec. 1948):

Postal cards, to Canada and Luxembourg, and to nearby areas of Belgium, Spain, and Switzerland;
 Printed matter and samples, from 50 to 100 gm;
 Newspapers, from 150 to 200 gm, mailed by publisher.

12F values

605	818	UN General Assembly	21 Sept. 48-12 Feb. 49	3.00
607	817	Genissiat Dam	21 Sept. 48-12 Feb. 49	2.00

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 May 1948) (until 30 Nov. 1948):

Letters, to 20 gm, to Canada and Luxembourg, and to nearby areas of Belgium, Spain, and Switzerland;
 Printed matter, from 100 to 150 gm.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 6 Jan. 1949):

#*Postal cards (rate extended to Italy, 1 June 1950);

#Invoices (unsealed), to 20 gm.

621	839	Acquisition of Dauphiné	14 May-23 Dec. 1949	2.25
629	848	Racine	14 June or 4 July-23 Dec. 49	2.58
638	865	Charles Péguy	12 June 50-24 March 51	2.95
639	866	Rabelais	26 June-23 Dec. 1950	2.80
641	875	Madame Récamier	9 Dec. 50-5 May 1951	2.96
643	878	Palais de Fontainebleau	22 Jan.-9 June 1951	2.60

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 May 1951):

Postal cards, to Canada and Luxembourg, and to nearby areas of Belgium, Spain, and Switzerland;

Printed matter and samples, from 50 to 100 gm;

Printed matter, to 20 gm, airmail rate to Europe, French North Africa, Spanish Morocco, and Madeira;

Newspapers and magazines, from 150 to 200 gm, mailed by publisher.

655	897	Veterinary Medicine	8 June-13 Oct. 1951	2.50
665	907	Maurice Noguès	13 Oct. 51-10 May 52	2.94
667	909	Verlaine	27 Oct. 51-10 May 52	2.80

15F values

611	829	Polar Expeditions	2 May-10 Sept. 1949	3.45?
612	830	Stamp Centennial (imperf.)	9 May-10 Sept. 49	2.52
614	832	Stamp Centennial (perf.)	9 May-10 Sept. 49	2.52
626	845	C.I.T.T.	13 June-10 Sept. 49	3.39
633	849	Chambers of Commerce	18 Oct. 49-18 March 50	2.50?
635	851	UPU Anniversary	7 Nov. 49-18 March 50	3.00
637	864	Poincaré	27 May-16 Dec. 1950	3.82
642	874	Madame de Sévigné	25 Nov. 50-5 May 1951	3.00
644	880	Jules Ferry	17 March-21 July 1951	3.00

Domestic usage (Tariff of 6 Jan. 1949):

#*Letters, to 20 gm (rate extended to Italy, 1 June 1950);

#Printed matter and samples, from 50 to 100 gm.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Dec. 1948) (until 30 April 1951):

*Postal cards;

Printed matter, from 100 to 150 gm;

Letters, to 20 gm, to Canada and Luxembourg, and to nearby areas of Belgium, Spain, and Switzerland.

646	882	de la Salle	28 April-21 July 1951	3.00
647	889	Colonial Troops	12 May-13 Oct. 1951	2.85
656	898	Military Medicine	17 June-13 Oct. 1951	3.00
657	904	St. Nicholas	23 June-17 Nov. 1951	3.27
664	906	Paris Bi-millennium	7 July 51-10 May 1952	3.57

668	910	Rimbaud	27 Oct. 51-10 May 1952	2.30
669	918	Clemenceau	11 Nov. 51-10 May 1952	3.50

Domestic usage (Tariff of 8 Dec. 1951—or earlier?):

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

18F values

603	816	Chateaubriand	3 July-4 Dec. 1948	2.4
606	819	UN General Assembly	21 Sept. 48-12 Feb. 49	3.50

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 May 1948) (until 30 Nov. 1948):

*Letters, to 20 gm.

671	911	UN General Assembly	6 Nov. 51-10 May 1952	3.00
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Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 May 1951):

*Postal cards;

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

Printed matter and samples, from 100 to 150 gm.

25F values

496	611	Chateau de Chenonceaux	30 Oct. 1944-Aug.? 1945	4.00
Printed 10-19 Oct. and 13-14 Nov. 1944; issued primarily to frank "Expeditionary Force Message" telegrams sent home by U.S. troops in France and, later on, elsewhere in liberated Europe.				

613	831	Stamp Centennial (imperf.)	9 May-10 Sept. 1949	2.52
615	833	Stamp Centennial (perf.)	9 May-10 Sept. 1949	2.52
622	840	Franco-American Friendship	14 May-23 Dec. 49	2.58
627	846	C.I.T.T.	13 June-10 Sept. 1949	2.70
636	852	UPU Anniversary	7 Nov. 49-18 March 1950	2.00
645	881	Textile Exposition	9 April-21 July 1951	2.80
648	890	Vincent d'Indy	15 May-13 Oct. 1951	2.00

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Dec. 1948) (until 30 April 1951):

*Letters, to 20 gm;

Printed matter, from 200 to 250 gm;

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

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 July 1949):

Registry fee, for other than letters and parcels.

30F values

670	913	Chateau du Clos-de-Vougeot	17 Nov. 51-10 May 52	3.00
672	912	UN General Assembly	6 Nov. 51-10 May 1952	3.00

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 May 1951):

*Letters, to 20 gm;

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

Printed matter, from 200 to 250 gm.

Domestic usage (Tariffs of 6 Jan. and 1 July 1949):

Letters, from 50 to 100 gm;

#Printed matter, from 100 to 300 gm;

#Registered printed matter, to 20 gm;

Airmail letters, to 5 gm, to French Union areas of West and Equatorial Africa.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 8 Dec. 1951—or earlier?):

Letters and parcels, from 100 to 1000 gm, to military personnel in the field.

50F value

628 847 C.I.T.T. 13 June-10 Sept. 1949 2.59

Domestic usage (Tariff of 6 Jan. 1949):

Registry fee, for letters and parcels;

Registered printed matter, from 20 to 50 gm;

Special delivery (exprès) fee.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 July 1949):

*Registered letters, to 20 gm.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Dec. 1948):

Special delivery (exprès) fee;

Registered postal cards;

Registered printed matter and samples, from 100 to 150 gm;

Airmail letters, to 5 gm, to Central America;

Airmail postal cards, to 5 gm, to South America;

Airmail printed matter, to 20 gm, to Central America.

References

Berck: "Catalogue Berck-64."

Bottin: "Annuaire du Commerce Didot-Bottin," Paris, for years 1942, and 1946 through 1950.

Cérès: "Catalogue Cérès 1973."

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

Joany, R.: "Nomenclature des Timbres-Poste de France": v. I (1959); v. VIII (1969).

—, (1973), "Les surtaxes de la poste aérienne," Le Monde des Philatélistes, Nos. 250-251.

de Vinck de Winnezele, Baron (1946) (brought to date by Marcel Charvet, 1950, 1955), "L'impression des timbres français par les rotatives," 3rd ed.; Montpellier; Pts. 1-3, and Supplements.

FOR THE RECORD

(Cont. from FCP #161, p. 68)

268.) The question has been asked of us as to whether some uses of the Gros Chiffres numeral cancels in Egypt, Algeria, and France took place somewhat prior to the "official" first day of issue 1 Jan. 1863. Member Ken Pierce discovered a cover from Alexandria with the GC #5080 dated 1 Sept. 1862, and another cover had been reported from Alexandria with 5080 dated 13 Oct. 1862. Backstamps verify the dates. (The latest date he has recorded of the Petit Chiffres #3704 of Alexandria is 31 July 1862, a month before the earliest 5080.) In France some pre-1863 GC dates are also known—the experimental Lyon 1818s in Feb. 1862, and many in Dec. 1862; in Algeria dates are reported of 19 Aug. at Constantine, a 30 Aug. and 1 Sept.; in the Smyrna French PO a date of 5 Aug. 1862 is recorded. Thus it appears that the GC killers were actually distributed to the POs well before 1863, and especially early in the overseas offices. Langlois and Francois in their book on the marks of the French offices abroad state that the conversion from PC to GC marks in these offices was accomplished in the course of 1862. The earliest GC use of same number as preceding PC no. in France reported ca. 22 Oct. 1862 and another 20 Dec. (With acknowledgements to John Lievsay.)

269.) During the German occupation of Tunis in WWII, the Germans

issued special parcel post stamps in 1943 for use of the military in sending packages. These stamps are the subject of a study by the Mainzer Verein in Briefmarkenkunde—see Billig's Phil. Handbooks, v. 22, p. 121-2.

270.) Some of our members may be wondering what is meant by the specialists in 20th Cent. French issues when they speak of a "type". As they may have guessed, this is not a design type in the usual sense. The term has several special meanings in recent French philatelic literature, which Dr. Joany has summarized conveniently. He notes first that some of the conceptions are rather imprecise, and he suggests it is best to consider "types" and "varieties" in terms of the methods of production. Basically a type corresponds to the actual die used for making the printing plates; any change in this die leads to a change of type. The final touches on a die are made by hand, and even if they are slight the differences between different dies result from differences in the engravings by hand. An example of such differences is that between Type I and Ibis of the 5c Blanc, one seen on flat-plate sheets the other on the booklets. Except for sheets printed from plates formed of separate clichés, all the stamps in a sheet are of the same type. Certain identical variations are sometimes found through the whole set of stamps of a given issue, such as the Types I and II of the Sage; these result from particularities of the original dies which were copied to make secondary dies for the plates of the various denominations. These might be called "general types." Some other varieties, in recess printings especially, are present in only some of the positions on the single solid printing plate. These result from deterioration of the transfer-roll die during the course of its use to make the plate; the design at first comes out "perfect" but then when a defect arises all later transfers show it in rest of the plate(s) and we find them in all the sheets from that plate(s). There may even be a succession of "accidents" to the roll-die, giving a train of varieties in the sheet. An example of this is the three "types" of the Travail stamp (Yv 252). The recess multicolor printings are obtained by one plate but separate ink rollers are used for each color, each roller being cut out so it inks only the areas to be printed in its color. New rollers may have to be cut and used before the printings from a given plate are ended, and the sheets from the printings with different rollers usually show some differences in distribution of the colors over the design. These variations might be called "découpage variations or types." An example is the 2F Nor-atlas stamp in all blue instead of bicolored. "Varieties" as distinct from "types," affect only one cliché position of a plate (and sheet). So-called "constant varieties" are ones due to a damage or wear accident to a cliché in course of use and once it has happened it will show in all the stamps of that plate printed thereafter—often called "plate flaws." An example is the famous "cigarette" flaw on Napoleon 5c or the "bees" flaw on the Napoleon laureated 20c. Non-constant varieties can occur from temporary specks of foreign bodies on the plate or in the ink. DeLizeray introduced the term "cliché-type" or "galvano-type" for the monoblock of clichés made by electrotypy from a setting of separate transfers (usually of lead) from the die, and in turn reproduced again several times to make up a full plate.

271.) In Documents Philatéliques #63, the late Pierre Germain, the master of the 25c Ceres reconstructions, offered an answer to the riddle of the "large 4" and so-called "retouched or recut 4s" of the 40c Ceres. After reviewing the existing hypotheses, he narrows the issues to two decisive questions: (1) was the correction made before the plate was completed? 2) How was the correction effected? His answers are plausible if not absolutely conclusive. As to 1), he says the distinctive characteristics of the 20c value which survive in the 40c printings make it certain that the error was not de-

tected until after completion of the printing plate (see FCP #156, pp. 26-28, and 35). As for 2), the correction was made on the copper plate (galvano) by scratching out the error and inserting new metal. This was probably not tin, as some have suggested, but an alloy of lead, tine and bismuth (Darcet alloy) known to have been used by the Mint in that period. New numerals were then engraved by hand on the plate. Germain further notes that the same material, but a different process, was probably used in 1872 in the attempt to repair the pane of 25c with the damaged bottom row, including the notable position 146A2, the famous Grand Cassure. (Courtesy J.E.L.)

272.) Sending mail across the Congo River between former Belgian Congo (Stanleyville) and French Congo (Brazzaville) has been going on for perhaps over 70 years. But there are few philatelic evidences of it in the form of special markings. Recently we noted a 1973 cover to Chicago from Zaire with a "Rep. Pop. du Congo" stamp cancelled "Brazzaville Poto-Poto/Congo" dated postmark and on the cover face a PAQUEBOT straightline mark of 30x5 mm, and a manuscript "Bateau" (boat). This appears to have been handled just like a loose-letter paquebot mail under UPU rules (see FCP #149, p. 1). There must be few places in the world where this could happen across a river (not a sea) separating two nations.

273.) A precise definition of what is a "Boite Mobile" seems to have been lacking in official as well as philatelic literature, though many philatelists think they know what it is. Prof. Lejeune in FM summarizes the history of it. A box has been called "mobile" if it can be detached from its support, as on a RR station wall or on a boat, train, tram, or wagon (diligence). Originally the boxes were on the wagons; they were removed and emptied at each P. O. or town reached along the route, or the box was opened by an agent who removed the contents to take into the PO. Later the same was done with boxes on boats, trains, etc. The first "B.M." marks were put in service in January 1862 in metropolitan France and used until 1869. Letters taken from the boxes were deposited in the Bureau de Direction or Bureau de Distribution, which obliterated the stamps with a Gros Chiffre killer and postmarked the letter with a cds of Type 15 or Type 22 inscribed with name of town and Bte MOBILE, BOITE MOBILE, or Bte Mle. In 1869 these were replaced by the "BM" in oval frame. In Algeria the "BM" in a rectangle was used with a cds, but extremely rare. In Levant a straightlined framed Boite Mobile in serified caps is known. For the BM marks used on boats or in connection with the ship mails, see Salles "La Poste Maritime."

274.) Member Wm. Von Height queried us as to the meaning of a Madagascar postmark he had noted which was inscribed "Tananarive R. P. Cabine/Madagascar". This is not listed in Langlois et Bourselet. Henri Tristant advises us that he has the same mark on a registered cover, dated 14 Dec. 1961 from the Bureau des Installations Francaises de Tananarive, and the registry label has an overprint "M.O." He notes that the term "cabine" in PTT vocabulary means a telephone booth, so perhaps the "Cabine" postmark was intended for telephone tickets and mistakenly used on a letter—the PTT offices handle both the telephone and mail services.

275.) With reference to the article on Paquebot marks of French colonies in FCP #149, H. Tristant adds to our list of colonial ports with such marks, the following: Port Gentil (Gabon), Tuléar (Madagascar), LePort (Reunion), Port-Aux-Francais (Kerguelen), Martin-de-Viviés (Amsterdam), Alfred-Fauré (Crozet), and Dumont D'Urville (Terre Adélie). The ones for the TAAF ports are illustrated on covers in his recent book on TAAF, p. 247, p. 258, and 249, and in several recent articles of his on TAAF news in the French magazines.

276.) Member Steve Slavik reports discovery of two varieties on stamps of Lebanon which are not catalogued and which a specialist dealer in Levant did not know of: Scott #150 (Yv 163)—in the usual overprint the "12½" is 3mm high, but he has never seen a copy in which the Arabic part was not too smeared to measure. He has an example in which the "12½" is 4mm high though the type seems to be the same sort as the normals. Scott #152 (Yv 164)—he finds a printing flaw showing "smoke rising from the projection of the building," quite distinct from normal stamps. He would appreciate hearing from any reader who has seen these or has any information about their status. (401 Ker Ave., Victoria, B. C., Canada.)

277.) Stanley Luft recently found a new "earliest date" of use for the 40c Sage Type I (Sc 74 Yv 70); the date (off-cover single) is 26 Mars 1878, and from Paris (Pl. de la Madeleine), which is 10 days earlier than the 5 April earliest date given by Joany (Le Monde. Etude #54) and still being quoted (viz., Dreyfuss in FM #200). He furnished this information to Dr. Joany whose reply states in part that "... it is fitting that this first date should be reported from the U. S. as that was the tariff (40c) for a letter to your country." It might be worth adding that, although the stamp had been printed in July 1876 and Feb. 1877, the stocks had been held back from sale because of the large quantities of the 40c Ceres (Sc 59, Yv 38) still on hand—so an earlier earliest date could well be present in someone's collection—look around.

278.) In IndoChina Philatelist #11, J. Desroueaux illustrates some covers that were sent from US to Indochina or from Indochina to France in 1940 after France had capitulated, with various censor and transit marks. The last airmail left Hanoi 14 June, the last boat left Saigon 17 May and was seized by the British in Port Said, mail being returned to the senders. Some French boats took mail around Cape of Good Hope to Marseilles up to Sept. 1941. From August 1940 to Dec. 1941 mail went by boat to Singapore or HongKong then by air to India or Palestine thence surface to eastern Europe, Germany and France. PanAm airmail opened Aug. 1940 via Manila and Hawaii until Pearl Harbor. From Aug. 1942 to 1944 mail could go via Japan and Siberia. But all mail, except to Japanese-occupied areas, was cut off on 9 March 1945.

279.) French stamps of the 1920-39 period are seen sometimes with certain British postmarks used on the railway sorting carriages from Channel ports to London; these include "The Newhaven-London SC" (or "RSC") with various index slugs. Covers may have transit registration marks with FDM or FNM (French Day or French Night Mail) of the Dover-London train. (From Jn. Fr. Col. Phil. Soc.)

280.) The administrative circular date stamps of the French postal checks centers ("Cheques Postaux") are occasionally seen on stamps or covers. The one of Lyons is most frequent. These centers now exist at 19 cities and formerly at Algiers also.

281.) The French occupation of Castellorizo and of Rouad islands during WW I are well-known to philatelists from their special overprints or cachets. A similar occupation of the island of Thasos (20km off Cavalla, Turkey) is not. The French naval troops were there from June 1916 to August 1917. They made up some cachets to use on mail, including a 4-line mark: "RF / GOUVERNEMENT MILITAIRE / DE / L'ILE DE THASOS" seen on Greek stamps, a circular francise cachet with anchor device in center like the Castellorizo ones, inscribed "Ile de Thasos / Commandant Militaire / 1er Armée Navale / 3eme Escadre" (in violet), and another French cachet, a rectangular box inscribed "RF / Marine Nationale / Division d'Orient / Vu au Controle Postale de l'Ile de Thasos". These marks are all presumably very rare and were probably subjected to philatelic abuse." (Moru, in FM #199).

F. & C. P. S. OFFICIAL

Notices

No Board meeting was held in October. At the 18 Nov. Board meeting it was voted to change the Rich competition from the Feb. to the March meeting date and to add a new entry category for "slide presentations" (see Announcement below). It was decided to offer a silver tray at Interphil for the best French or French Colonial exhibit. Since 1976 is the 35th anniversary of the FCPS, a special celebration convention will be held in Philadelphia during Interphil, probably on Saturday 5 June at 2:00 p.m.—details will be in the April FCP. At a later date there will be a call for volunteers to assist in manning our booth at Interphil, which FCPS will share with the Fine Arts Philatelists. (No plans for Interpex as yet.)

The new edition of the ACEP "Catalogue des Entiers Postaux de France et — Colonies, etc." was purchased for deposit in the Collectors Club library.

The annual Stephen G. Rich Memorial Contest will be held on March 2nd, rather than in February as was usual. In addition to the usual categories of Postal History and Classics to 1900, Moderns (incl. Topical), and Colonies, we will have, this year, a new category: Slides. This will allow people who have made slides of their philatelic properties for insurance or other purposes to share their material with other members, as well as providing another way for members to exhibit their material. An entry in this category will consist of up to twenty-four (24) colored (or black and white for some postal history items) slides (2x2") of philatelic material with accompanying captions or text forming a unified program. These will have to be submitted at least two (2) weeks before the date of the Contest in order that the judges have ample time to view the slides, as there will not be sufficient time to do so on the evening of the Contest. Contest applications will be in the mail to all members at the end of December to give everyone sufficient time to prepare an entry. Here is a chance for all you "Shutter-bugs" to show your versatility.

REMINDER

The annual Statement of Dues for 1976 was mailed out in December. Please give it your early attention. Members whose dues are not paid by 1 April will be dropped from the mailing list and will not receive the April Philatelist.

Meeting of 7 October

Members attending were treated to another spectacular selection of Marc Martin's collection of French material. This was a section from his collection of French Maritime Mail for which he received a vermeil medal at "Arphila 75" in Paris. As Salles lists over 5000 Maritime marks a "complete" collection is impossible. A small initial group of covers illustrated the diverse types of postmarks which can be found on maritime covers from the pre-stamp period through the 1880's. Any one of these types could form the object of

a specialized collection. This was followed by a superb collection of covers carried by French Mediterranean packets 1851-66, in which each packet was represented by a stamped cover cancelled by the lozenge of dots with anchor and the circular date-stamp bearing the name of the packet. After this came a group of covers carried by the two abortive attempts to create a regular packet service between the United States and France. The first, one of Marc's special interests, a service set up by Louis XVI in 1783 just after the United States had declared its independence from Great Britain. Although 79 trips were made only about 6 covers with its marks are known. The second attempt dated from the 1850's, the company of "Herault et de Handel." Only 9 round trips of their ships were made before the company collapsed. Transatlantic covers carried by ships of the "French Line," in its early days, formed the third part of this group. Especially noteworthy was a cover carried by the "Lafayette" bearing the rare postmark of the ship. If this were not enough, we were further treated to a selection of covers showing postmarks of some of the various other lines set up by the French from various parts of the world. After 1865 these lines were designated by letters which went from "Ligne A" through "Ligne Z." The fact that some letters were used in different places at different times makes for more interesting collecting. Among this group were a number of covers posted at French Consular Post Offices in South and Central America. It was an extremely interesting presentation which was well received by all in attendance.—M. S. and J. E. L.

Meeting of November 4th

Through the courtesy of The Philatelic Foundation, Christopher Sinclair, its executive director, showed a selection of material from the famous Luff reference collection (Luff was a long-time editor of the Scott catalogue). These included many different examples of counterfeits used by the Foundation in authenticating stamps sent to it. Among them were examples from the first issue of France through the Sowers, as well as a number of interesting airmail forgeries. The manner by which stamps are expertized was also discussed.

Meeting of December 2nd

Our past-President John Lievsay spoke at the December meeting about his collection of Paris Stars. Not the shapely two-legged kind that show up on the beaches at Cannes, but the five-pointed variety which were used as cancellers by the various Paris branch post-offices during the 1860's and 70's. Because John thought his collection too small a showing, he also brought along some cancellations leading up to the stars as well as some after them. The latter consisted of a large group of Sage-type stamps showing the different circular-date cancellations of the various Paris branch offices. The question of what constitutes a complete collection of the star cancellations depends on which catalog you follow. Not only are there varieties of the numbers, but there are mute stars and ones with the numbers removed, plus a variety of accompanying circular-date stamps showing where the office was situated (some moved during the life of these stars). 123 is a fair number for completeness. John was able to show examples of all with the exception of star 35 used at the Salpêtrière station which is exceedingly rare. In addition he showed some of the different ways in which the stars can be collected: on a single value, a single issue, on cover or off, etc. John also displayed his work sheets which gave a good idea of how one goes about the whole project of accumulating examples. In all, an impressive show.—M. S.

NEW MEMBERS

- 1619 YAMAMOTO, Hideaki, 4-10 Wakabaddi 2-Chome, Nara-Shi 631, Japan
(General collector all issues)
- 1620 VERHOTZ, Mrs. Alice A., 58 Lakeview Road, Poughkeepsie, N. Y. 12603
(General collector all issues. General France, all major varieties used. Exchange.)
- 1621 BACKAL, Isaac, Fuente de Parian 6, Mexico-10, Mexico.
(Stampless covers to and after 1815. Maritime posts—Used abroad. Classics 1849-1876 on cover. Corps Exp. Mexique. Mail Between France and Mexico up to 1876. Paquebot markings. Transit and Reception marks.)
- 1622 PROPST, James E., Jr., Apartment 601, 300 East Armour, Kansas City, Mo. 64111 (General France all major varieties mint and used. Modern France: mint, used, semi-postals, air mails. Special issues and usages: dues, parcel post, Franchise Militaire.)
- 1623 CLARK, Robert J., Post Office Box 38, Wilmette, Ill. 60091.
General France all major varieties mint. Dealer part time. Philatelic literature. Exchange.)
- 1624 DYKHOUSE, Jack R., 1729 Hazel Court, Sleepy Hollow, Ill. 60118
(Topical: motorcycles. French Community: cancels and postal history, proofs, essays, stamps, covers of individual colonies: Annam and Tonkin, Cochinchina, Indo China. Independent Republics: Laos, Cambodia, North and South Viet Nam.)
- 1625 GURMAN, Joshua L., 75-05 210th St., Bayside, N. Y. 11364
(French Near-East and North African French Colonies. Colonies General issues mint and used. Stamps and covers of individual Colonies: Algeria #78 all varieties and covers. Exchange.)
- 1626 RHODEHAMEL, Robert H., 5320 N. Meridian, Indianapolis, Ind. 46208
(Colonies General Issues on cover. Cancels and postal history of colonies and territories. Philatelic literature.)
- 1627 ROBERTS, James P., 41 West Santa Clara St., Arcadia, Cal. 91006
(General France all major varieties: mint and used. CFA. Andorre, Monaco, Saar. Colonies General Issues mint and used, on cover. All Colonies and territories, major varieties. Exchange.)
- 1628 BOSHWIT, Buck, 208 Dermon Building, Memphis, Tenn. 38103
General France all major varieties, mint, used, on cover. Classics 1849-1876, mint, used, on cover. Modern France mint. Monaco. Colonies General Issues: mint, used. Philatelic literature.)
- 1629 SMITH, Charles S., American Embassy, APO New York, N. Y. 09285
(General France all major varieties: mint, on cover. Modern France: air mails, first day covers, miniature sheets (bloc feuillets). Special issues and usages: essays (projects, rejected designs), Deluxe proofs and color trials, occupation of and by France issues.)
- 1630 CASSEM, B. N., P. O. Box 8, Rockton, Ill. 61072
(Monaco imperfs, deluxe proofs, artist's proofs, plate proofs. Part-time dealer. Philatelic literature of Monaco.)
- 1631 McNICHOLS, Robert A., 2943 N. Halsted St., Chicago, Ill. 60657
(General France all major varieties: mint. Modern France: booklets, coils. Special issues and usages: liberation issues, precancels. Colonies General Issues: mint.)
- 1632 AXELROD, Sidney, 111 W. Colonial Apartments, Cherry Hill, N. J. 08002
(General France all major varieties: mint.)
- 1633 NATHANSON, H. M., P. O. Box 10509, Johannesburg, South Africa
(19th Century French Colonies.)

- 1634 JONES, Herman Le Roy, Jr., 400 Bellevue Ave., Apt. 103, Newport, R.I. 02840 (General France all major varieties: mint. Modern France: mint, semi-postals, air mails, booklets, coils, miniature sheets (bloc feuillets). Special issues and usages: dues, parcel pots, stationery, precancels, Exchange.)
- 1634 DUTCHER, William E., 1842 Los Altos Drive, San Mateo, Cal. 94402 (General Collector all issues. General France all major issues: mint. Offices abroad, CFA, Andorre, Monaco. Colonies General issues: mint.)
- 1636 PAVLOFF, Constantin, 1900 Stevens Drive, Apartment 228, Richland, Wash. 99352. (General collector all issues. General France all major varieties: mint. Colonies General Issues mint. Dead countries until 1950. Exchange.)
- 1637 EWELL, Prof. Albert H., Jr., 28 Weybridge St., Middlebury, Vt. 05753 (Stamps and covers of individual colonies: especially proofs, presentation sheets, imperfs. St. Pierre & Miquelon, French South Antarctic Ter.)
- 1638 GERWIN, Ronald P., 1862 Rowland Road, Abington, Penna. 19001 (France and Colonies.)
- 1639 LaROCQUE, Alfred J., 571 Clay Ave., Rochester, N. Y. 14613 (General France all major varieties: mint. Classics 1849-1876: mint & used. Modern France: mint, Blanc, Mouchon and Merson Types, Sowers, semi postals, air mails. Philatelic literature.)

REINSTATEMENT

- 1218 ZIMOWSKE, G. S., (Denali Stamp Company), 11309-4 Grand Oak, Grand Blanc, Mich. 48439. (General France all major varieties: mint. Dealer part-time. Approvals.)

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- 429 GOLDEN, Mrs. Robert H., 7135 14th St., South, St. Petersburg, Fl. 33705
- 963 WINTER, Richard F., 688 Marsh Point Drive, Charleston, S. Car. 29412
- 1597 WILLIAMS, Joseph, P.O. Box 201, Trois Rivières, Quebec, Can. G9A 5G1
- 1140 KAMHOLZ, Kenneth, 27 Pawtucket Dr., Cherry Hill, N. J. 08003
- 946 VOSSLER, Vernon R., Apt. 3, 8516 East 25th St., Tulsa, Okla. 74129
- 1458 VAN EVERY, K. E. (c/o Viking Stamps), P. O. Box 3096, San Diego, Cal. 92103
- 1338 ALDEN, John, 15-A Pratt St., Providence, R. I. 02906
- 1615 CASE, Karl, 275 East 18th St. No. 70, Costa Mesa, Cal. 92627
- 1456 FORSYTHE, Edmund, Putol, Kawit, Cavite, Philippine Republic 2713
- 1425 DeCHARLEVAL, Alexic, Box AB 342, F.D.R. Station, New York, N. Y. 10022

MEMBERS APPEALS

(Members Advertising)

WANTED: To purchase a copy of E. H. DeBeaufond's "Catalogue des Oblitérations des Timbres de France 1849-1876," Yvert et Tellier, 1947. Contact Ralph G. Wilson, 216 W. Victoria St., Apt. 208, Santa Barbara, Cal. 93101 (Member #1122)

WANTED: Reasonably priced covers bearing postage due stamps of French Colonies. Covers must be non-philatelic in nature and illustrate legitimate commercial use of these stamps.—Jon A. Hussey, 7911 Juniper Ave., Gary, Ind. 46403 (Member #1363).