



France & Colonies Philatelist

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A LOOK AT THE DIVERSE WORLD OF POSTAL MARKINGS OF GABON/CONGO/A.E.F. (I)

By Robert G. Stone

What It's All About

The Equatorial African French colonial complex was a very large territory extending from 5 deg south of the equator straight north to the Tropic of Capricorn, from equatorial rain forests to Saharan desert—one of the largest units of the French empire (see map). Aside from early trading posts along the Gabon coast, the modern economic and administrative development of the territory has been accomplished mainly since 1890. It spread from the coast inland;—the pacification of interior Gabon and most of the lower Congo was attained by about 1895, of the upper Middle Congo and lower Ubangi by 1903, the "Haut-Oubanghi" and Shari basins by 1910, and finally the northern Chad by 1920. During and in wake of this expansion, numerous postoffices were opened (except in the sparsely-populated northern Chad). Philatelically, the results are impressive for colonies collectors and postal-history specialists. The series of changes in the administrative geographical organization through subdivision and then re-combinations thereof, is reflected in changes in the stamps and postmarks.

Many postoffices found themselves first in one and then another sub-colony of the complex and later on all p.o.s were lumped together under the general A.E.F. "umbrella" organization (Afrique Equatoriale Francaise), only to be separated again in anticipation of independence.

For some reason this fluctuating postal geography produced a surprising variety of postmark styles in addition to the administrative name changes, more than in any other colonial entity except Indochina. Moreover, there

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are more of the specialized functional types of postal markings than seen in most colonies. Perhaps all this goes with the vastness of the territory and its complicated evolution. The A.E.F. is therefore an area we particularly recommend to collectors who are looking for one of big scope, mostly in the modern period, without expensive rarities once past the period of the General Issues, early surcharges and military-campaign covers. Covers in general are not difficult to obtain from 1900 on.

We will not dwell here on the stamps, which are sufficiently covered in the catalogs. But we will illustrate a selection of postal markings, including all the distinct basic postmark types, most of the special and unusual postmark types, and a few of the numerous administrative, auxiliary, and official-use marks. (Not included are the many French packet marks, merchant steamer marks, and "Paquebot" marks that can be found on the stamps, as they are not peculiar to A.E.F. and are well cataloged in several readily-available works.)

Information is drawn from the papers of Jean Wall and Paul Pannetier, from many items kindly sent us by Pierre Raynaud, some by Dr. J. Grasset and Henry Tristant, and from our own collection.

The object is to give the flavor of the A.E.F. postal markings, with only a few comments. There is a lot of "postal history" back of all this, on which Pierre Raynaud is preparing a treatise, as only a scattered and very incomplete literature is available (—see our forthcoming Bibliography in Phil. Lit. Review).

Administrative Geographic History

The chronology of the administrative divisions of the territory is diffi-

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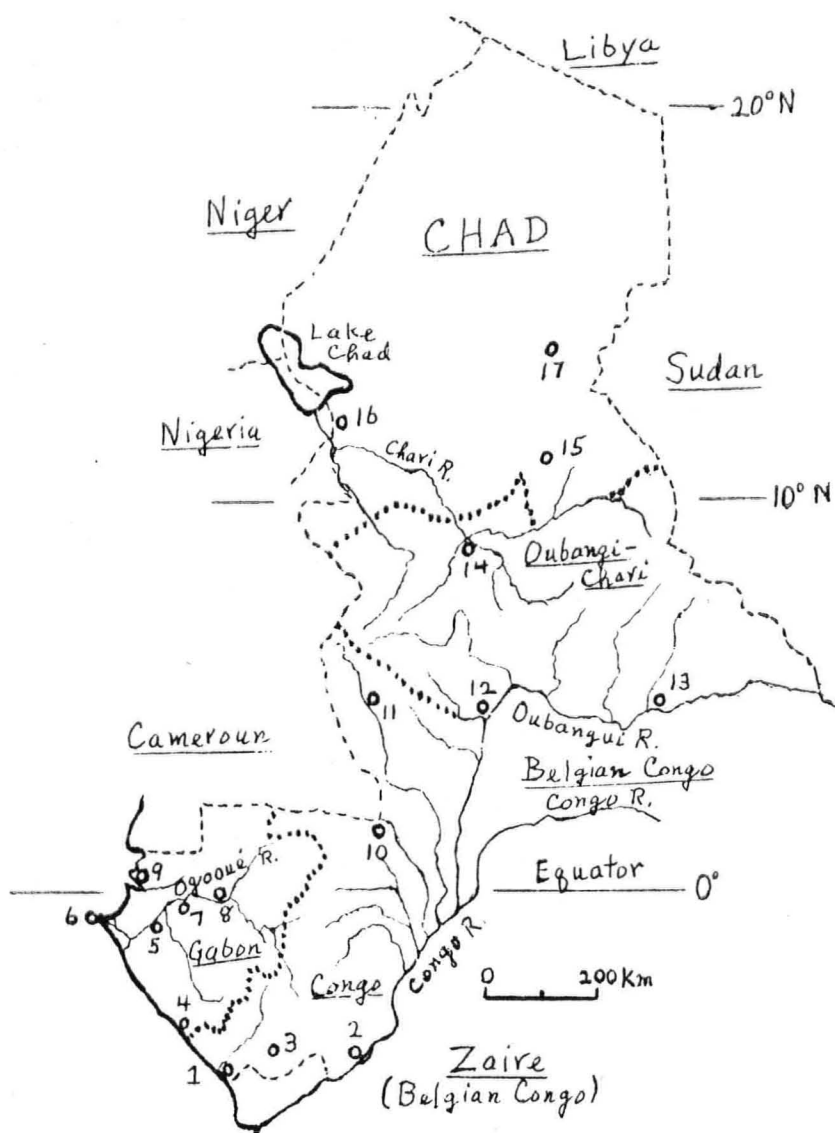
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Outline map of the French Equatorial Africa, ca. 1930.

Small circles show locations of some important places; the administrative capitals of each colony, and several places for which odd or early postmarks are illustrated. Key to these: 1—Loango/Pointe-Noire, 2—Brazzaville, 3—Loudima, 4—Mayumba, 5—Lambarene, 6—Port-Gentil, 7—Sam Kita/Talagouga, 8—Booué, 9—Libreville, 10—Ouessou, 11—Carnot, 12—Bangui, 13—Bangassou, 14—Fort-Archambault, 15—Am-Timame, 16—Fort-Lamy, 17—Abecher.

Dashed lines are the A.E.F. land boundary; dotted lines boundaries between colonies; solid lines are main rivers, the Atlantic coast and Lake Chad.

cult to outline in a way very meaningful for collectors. The official decisions on changes were not always immediately or clearly reflected in the postal issues and markings. There was usually a considerable lag in changing the designations in the stamps and postmarks; some issues and postmarks continued in use for many years after the official administrative changes had theoretically made them obsolete. This administrative untidiness makes the philatelic material both puzzling and very interesting. The following Table gives, somewhat arbitrarily, the official administrative regimes; comparing them with the stamp designations in the catalogs and designations in the groups of postmarks we illustrate, will make the complications and confusions all too evident. There is no clean-cut postal history here.

The A.E.F. Regimes

"Gabon," first regime, 1862-1888

"Gabon-Congo" regime, 1889-1891

"Congo Francais" first regime, 1891-1904, including Gabon, (Middle) Congo, Ubangi, Shari, and Chad as one administration

"Congo Francais," second regime, 1904-10, like the first but with Gabon separated from it and Middle Congo separated in 1907

"Gabon," second regime, 1904-1936, separate administration

"Middle (Moyen) Congo" regime, 1907-1936, separate administration

"A.E.F.," first "umbrella regime," 1910-1936, with several "colony" subdivisions each having its own postal administration:—

A. "Moyen Congo" 1910-1936

B. "Gabon" 1910-1936

C. "Oubanghi-Chari-Tchad" 1910-1920

D. "Oubanghi-Chari" 1920-1936

E. "Tchad" 1920-1936

"A.E.F.," second "umbrella" regime, 1936-1940, with unified postal administration

"A.E.F.," third "umbrella" regime 1940-1959; gradual return of administrative responsibilities to the separate subdivisions after 1947 in preparation for their ultimate autonomy. (In 1959 designation of Middle Congo changed to "Congo," Oubanghi-Chari to "Cen-trafrique").

The Postal Markings

The marks are shown below in groups. Regular date postmarks are grouped according to the territorial inscription, roughly in chronological order of the introduction of each type. The special and administrative markings are shown separately, again by types, but grouped by functions. All the major postmark types are shown, but only a selection of the very numerous special and administrative marks (which have not been extensively studied or cataloged). Each type illustrated is identified by a number and our annotations are keyed to these numbers. Annotations for most of the types attempt to indicate period of introduction and duration of use (overall) and the approximate number of postoffices that used them. Additional comments may note minor variations in the style not illustrated, explain certain oddities, rarities or uses. The scarcity of the date postmarks of any one style or type varies greatly according to the office; Wall gave value ratings to many of the postmarks for each office as he collected extensively and kept statistics, but some of his ratings seem to be the result of a small unrepresentative sample, or influenced by too many CTOs.

Lists published by Wall and others indicate that many offices were often using two or more types of postmark concurrently, and these overlaps in use of certain marks often persisted for many years. The boundaries between the separate colony administrations or divisions were altered from time to time, so that for some offices marks of several divisions or colonies occur and as just noted might be even used concurrently.

Marks are reproduced in original size—several distorted illustrations due to copying problems. Colors are predominantly black but blue, purple or magenta are seen in a few cases. Note that some types of marks, mostly special function and administrative ones, do not normally occur on stamps, but only on covers, official correspondence, or postal forms.

Up to ca. 1892 the General Issues of the Colonies were in use, during 1886-92 concurrent with some surcharges or local issues. The General Issues up to about 1876 were generally cancelled with the diamond-of-dots killer ("lozenge") inscribed "GAB" (rare).

Notes on the Types of Marks Illustrated

Early Gabon and Early Congo:

1. Libreville, from 1862 to 1866, and again from 1883 to 1886 (13 covers reported from first period, 17 from second); in 1884 the dater read "1864." There are two die types.
2. Libreville, ca. 1866 to 1880s. ("Côte D'Or" was in present Ivory Coast, then under the Governor of Gabon).
3. 1886 to 1890s; scattered late uses at Libreville to 1906. The mark for Libreville suffered many breaks and altered daters (see Raynaud, FCP July 1980); also many fake Libreville marks on early Gabon stamps. This type was prepared for 16 p.o.s but besides Libreville, only "Lambaréné (Ogooué)," "Brazzaville," and "Loango (Pte. Noire)" are recorded, all very rare.
4. Rare type, used 1888-1891, 5 p.o.s recorded though it was prepared for 15 p.o.s (reported: Cap Lopez, Lambaréné, Iguéla, Loango, and Bata). Late use Lambaréné 1929-41. M'Pando and Campo marks "used" at Libreville in 1893, long after those p.o.s were closed.
5. Very scarce type, three p.o.s reported 1890-91: Libreville, Brazzaville, N'Djolé. Few late uses, Brazzaville 1907. For Libreville variant with partly dashed outer ring see under Interlude below.

"Congo-Français":

6. First issued 1891, over next 20 years some 35 p.o.s in all were supplied with it; only a few are rare. Several variants in the lateral fleurons. For faked Bas Kouilou mark see under Interlude below.
- 7a-b. Issued 1901 to 1913, at some 38 p.o.s; late uses to 1942 at some places. 7 p.o.s in Oubanghi-Chari and 4 in Chad. 7b is a variant with hyphen omitted (not all p.o.s). The La Kemo mark in Oubanghi extremely rare as P.O. was open for only 4 days in Feb. 1901.
- 8a-b. Very rare odd marks, 1904-05, unique to these p.o.s.
9. In the French "telegraph" style; used 1904-1925+?; variants in the fleurons. Used Loudima only, not scarce.

Interlude About Several Curiosities:

Four marks of uncertain status, Figs. A, B, C, and D.

- A.) The curious "Libreville/Gabon-Congo" Type 5 mark of 22.5 mm di-



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7a.



7b.



8a.



8b.



9.



10.



11.



12a.



12b.



Fig. A



Fig. B



Fig. D



Fig. C



- ameter with lower half of outer ring cut into 11 dashes (one below each letter of "Gabon-Congo") was found by Pannetier in the Musée Postal with date block missing; the original uncut marker had been retired in Sept. 1891. Now Raynaud has found it rarely cancelling stamps of Congo and Gabon with daters reading between 1903 and 1905. He speculates it was used as an emergency cachet at Libreville or was issued to a newly opened small p.o. until a regular mark could be supplied.
- B.) The "Mo Ai" mark is a variant of Type 6, only recorded on two post cards from the telegrapher at Impfondo in 1906; it is not a place found on any maps, and it cannot be a misspelling for Mobaye which is 1000 km up the river from Impfondo. As one of the cards was registered at Impfondo a day or so after the Mo Ai date, Mo Ai must be close to Impfondo—but why was the office and mark of Impfondo not used?
- C.) The "Bas Kouilou/Congo Francais" mark in Type 6 is found on a number of covers of 1910 along with the Libreville mark illustrated; the covers all bear Colonies postage-due stamps overprinted with the straightline GABON mark used for registry labels and money-order forms, cancelled by the Bas Kouilou mark, sent from Libreville (apparently) unpaid and marked "T" for due. Bas Kouilou is a small place, near Loango, whose p.o. was closed well before 1910 and marker retired to Libreville main p.o. The covers are all fakes made by a postal clerk at Libreville who cleverly inserted in the retired Bas Kouilou marker a dater taken from the Libreville postmark used on the same covers, as revealed by the identical break in the "10" in the two marks (detective work courtesy P. Raynaud). The covers never saw Bas Kouilou! The "T" mark on the covers is identical to that used at Libreville at the time.
- D.) The "Dongou" mark in Type 13 is known only on philatelic covers or CTO stamps. The regular mark for the place reads "N'Dongou." The "Dongou" mark was probably made by mistake and not issued but retained at Brazzaville p.o. where the clerks played with it.



13.



14.



15.



17a.



16.



17b.



17c.



18.



19.



20.



21.



22.



23.



24.



25.

Gabon Colony Restored

- 10. 1906-1930s, 13 p.o.s; a late variant for Libreville is smaller in diameter.
- 11. 1914-1930s, 5 p.o.s (not the same ones as got Type 10).
- 12a-b. 1907-1930s, 26 p.o.s; 12b is a larger diameter variant seen 1910-.

Middle Congo (Moyen Congo) Colony:

- 13 and 14. 1912 to 1930s, 36 p.o.s in all; about 12 are very scarce. Variant 14 used at Brazzaville only, ca. 1923 (rare). (For variant of #13 with name of p.o. cut out see #60b.)

Early Oubanghi-Chari ("Haut Oubanghi"):

- 15. Seen ca. 1901, rare (used at Fort Archambault?).
- 16. Seen 1900?-1905, rare (analogous style to Type 8b).
- 17a-c. 17a without date block seen 1905; 1906-1910? rare.
- 18. Unique Type, 1908-1910? ("TR.P"=Travaux Publiques).

Oubanghi-Chari-Tchad Colony:

- 19. 1910-1920s, 3 p.o.s; Ft.-Sibut had variant with the "ghi" of Oubanghi raised.
- 20. 1910-1920s, 19 p.o.s (3 in Chad).

Oubanghi-Chari Colony:

- 21. ca. 1923?-1930s, Type #20 with "Tchad" cut out for use in Oubanghi-Chari p.o.s only; 6 p.o.s at least.
- 21a. 1927-1938 Type #20 with both "Tchad" and the name of the p.o. cut out; used in Oubanghi-Chari p.o.s as a provisional or spare---reported from Batangafo 1927 and Bossangoa 1937, both of which may have already had regular postmarks of Type #23.
- 22. 1920s-?, at Bangui only?
- 23. ca. 1920-30s, 7 p.o.s; Bangui had variant with inner circle of dashes.

Tchad Military Territory:

(see #7 for earliest types)

- 24. 1913-1920?, 2 p.o.s; also a variant inscribed: "Fort Lamy/Congo-Tchad."
- 25. 1920-1930s, 3 p.o.s.

Tchad Colony:

- 26. 1920s?-30s, Type #24 with "Congo-Francais" cut out; used Fort-Archambault only?
- 27. 1930s Fort-Lamy only.
- 28. 1930s, 5 p.o.s.
- 29. 1930s, 6 p.o.s.

The A.E.F. Unified Postal Administration:

- 30. Odd type for the postal agency at Kilometer 102 on the Congo-Ocean Railroad line, ca. 1937; the earliest mark of the "A.E.F." series.
- 31. 1940-1950s, 33+ p.o.s.
- 32. 1942-1950s?, British-made type, issued to Brazzaville and Fort-Lamy only.
- 33a-c. 1954?-1959, 48 p.o.s (incl. some that had #31); 33b-c, variants in the fleurons.
- 34. 1955?-1959, 94 p.o.s, incl. most of those with #s 31 and 33.
- 35. 1955-1959, 14 p.o.s, most of which did not get #s 33 or 34



26.



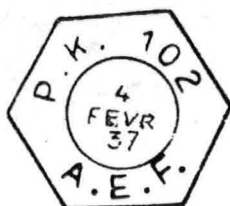
27.



28.



29.



30.



31.



32.



33a.



33b.



33c.



34.



35.



36.



37.



38.



39.



40.



41.



42.



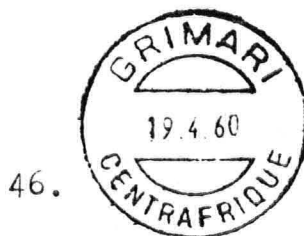
43.



44.



45.



46.

Restored Gabon Post:

36. Unique type (Makokou had "A.E.F." types concurrently).

- 37. 1956-1959, 3 p.o.s
- 38 1956-1960s, 30+ p.o.s.

Restored Middle-Congo Post:

- 39a and 39b. 1946-1950s, 3 p.o.s, scarce. (M'Baiki's is a variant).
- 40. 1954-1959, 6 p.o.s
- 41 1956-1959, Brazzaville only.
- 42. 1956-1959, 40+ p.o.s.
- 43. 1959-, independent Republic type.

Restored Oubanghi-Chari Post:

- 44. 1945-1950s, 4 p.o.s, scarce.
- 45. 1956-1959, 35 or 40 p.o.s probably.
- 46. 1959-60, for independent Republic.

(To be continued)

ILE ROUAD

Ile Rouad was a brief episode in French philately that is little understood by collectors and little has been published on it. Jean-Fr. Brun greatly clarifies the situation in his article in *Le Monde des Phil.* for October 1979. He had the good fortune to acquire a "dossier" of documents, letters from the Governor, decrees, correspondence with Paris collectors and dubious dealers, and miscellaneous covers (including fakes), which he describes in chronological sequence.

The small island just off the Syrian coast was occupied by French military in September 1915 until 1922 when it was included in French Syrian Mandated territory. A military post office was authorized by a Ministerial Arrêté of 18 Dec. 1915 and opened on 12 Jan. 1916. A French Décret of 22 March 1916 in its Art. 1 applied French domestic postal rates to mail between France, Colonies, and Ile Rouad.

A provisional issue of stamps on 12 Jan. 1916 consisted of locally surcharged 5, 10c, and 1p French Levant stamps of 1902-03 with a handstamp ILE ROUAD vertically in black, 19x3½ mm, non-serifed caps, reading bottom to top. The issue amounted to only 1200 of each stamp and was exhausted by 4 July according to a letter from the Governor, and new surcharges from Paris were awaited. But meanwhile some 5c, 10c and 25c Port Said stamps were received and used unsurcharged, though there is an alleged local surcharge of them which Brun shows to be fake and were never issued (listed in Yvert). 40c and 2p50 Levant stamps were also allegedly surcharged but not issued and presumably also fake. However, the Governor wrote to a Paris correspondent on 2 August that some Levant stamps of same type as used for 12 January issue had been "delivered" and he sent him several sets which were cancelled to his favor "12 Janv 1916"! On 11 Sept. he wrote they were still awaiting the "official issue" (i.e. the new surcharges) from Paris. But what the Governor had sent out to requestors were only unsurcharged ones during July-August-Sept. The covers show that indeed Rouad had been using some Port Said stamps and later some Levant stamps, all unsurcharged. On Aug. 11 the postmaster wrote a card to a Député in Paris saying he was sending him some (unsurcharged) stamps cancelled "12 Janv. 1916."

In Nov. 1916 the new surcharges on Levant stamps arrived from Paris; they have typographed surcharge ILE ROUAD horizontally in black, on 13 values; later when reprintings were required some values (1c, 2c, 5c, 20c) were

resupplied as late as 1920, which is evident from the millésimes reported in the Yvert catalog. The stamps of this issue were used philatelically in Port Said during the winter of 1919-20 (—we have seen them on covers).

The Député correspondent in Paris wrote on 6 March 1917 enclosing an article from a French philatelic journal which led the Député to ask if the surcharges only exist on Levant stamps (answer, yes), the number of each value surcharged (in 1916 Jan.) (1200), if more than one surcharge device was used for the surcharge (only one). Then there is correspondence of the postmaster with a Dr. Voisin in Paris (a well-known colonies "specialist" eager for varieties), who had asked for some information and sample stamps. The postmaster on 9 Nov. 1916 returned with favor cancellations some of the Port Said and Levant stamps sent him, except for the 15c which was never issued in Rouad, and stating that the Port Said stamps could not be cancelled any longer, requests for which had caused him endless annoyances, and also advising that the new surcharges were expected soon and he would send him some copies. On Nov. 22 the postmaster returned uncanceled some more (Levant?) stamps Voisin had sent to be cancelled as the new surcharges had now been received. On 27 Dec. he wrote Voisin that he was obliged to reject the insinuation of the existence of surcharges in red, blue, etc., which did not come from Rouad postoffice but were the work of a faker, and he was returning the unsurcharged Levant stamps without cancel as they had no currency in Rouad any more since the surcharged issue came out.

Covers that Brun illustrates show examples of the "R," "Recommandé," and registry labels with ROUAD handstamped in them. The latter handstamp is different from the first surcharge and it is the same as used on some stamps on faked covers. Brun has one cover with even a French 35c Sower plus 5c Levant cancelled 9 Nov. 1916. All letters were routed through Port Said and show its postmark in transit. Military personnel had a free franchise (to late 1919 at least) and need for the adhesive stamps was thus minimal. The large violet cachet "Marine Française / Service à la Mer" is found on many military covers.

A Trieste dealer wrote the Brun firm in 1931 offering a small stock of Port Said stamps surcharged ILE ROUAD, and to another firm he wrote that he had cornered a majority of the Rouad first issue obtained from an officer at Rouad and the Port Said postmaster verified that he had sent out 600 covers of the issue through the Port Said p.o. (which would be half of the whole issue)!

The several reported items of Levant postal stationery postmarked at Rouad are fakes. There are plenty of fake surcharges, mint, used, and on cover. A dealer in Alexandria in 1938 was offering the Port Said stamps surcharged ILE ROUAD; he had these and the postal cards and Levant surcharges prepared by collusion with someone (a postal clerk?) in Rouad, using the cachet intended only for registry labels (— it is 21 mm instead of 19 mm) but cancelled with the genuine postmark.

The Yvert specialized catalogue (1940) listed several minor varieties: pairs of the first issue one stamp without surcharge, the Nov. 1916 issue some values on G.C. paper, the 2.50p without background tint, and the 3c with double surcharge. But Yvert also lists the fake Port Said stamps with surcharge, and the Levant 40c and 2.50p with first surcharge type which are called "non-émis" but probably spurious in view of the chronicles above.

It is surprising how much finagling there could be with a couple innocent looking issues—but in the Middle East . . . And if that is not enough take a look at Castellorizo. —R.G.S.

THE BORDEAUX ISSUE—ADDENDA

By Ruth and Gardner Brown

The object of this article is to update our 1981 book on the subject with information not available to us at the time. We will cover: errors and misleading statements in the book; the Bordeaux shown at PHILEXFRANCE '82; more information on the lithographic process; additional commentary on each value; and more on forgeries.

Errors:

The book is remarkably free of them and none are serious:

1. Figure 87 on page 64 should be rotated 90° counterclockwise. It is intended to show the upper-left corner of the stamp.
2. Figure 88 on the same page should be rotated 90° clockwise. It is supposed to show the lower-left corner of the stamp.
3. Figure 106 on page 79 should be labeled "Italian Forgery No. 2" according to its former owner. Consequently Figure 105 should be called "Italian Forgery No. 1."

Ernst Cohn reminds us of two misleading statements which should not be allowed, by repetition, to become thought of as facts. In the second column of page 28 we comment that the military within Paris lost their free-frank privilege. This was true only for balloon mail. Otherwise military mail within the besieged area was free.

We comment in the second column of page 29 on the disposition of mail for Paris during the Siege. Ernst reminds us our statement is too confining as the regulation was that mail for Paris and other occupied or besieged cities was to be transported as far as possible on the regular routes. Thus, mail was stored in many places. The French newspapers carried a decree dated Oct. 27, 1870 saying that mail for Paris should be sent, under separate cover, to A. Feillet in Tours. It was his job to try to get the mail into Paris. We have been told by Hubert Cappart it was this mail which was stored first at Tours, then Bordeaux, and finally at Lille, before being sent into Paris after the Siege was ended.

Ernst also brought to our attention an "error of omission." Soon after he received his copy of the book he wrote and asked, "What is a Report, and what is a State?" Apparently we did not make it clear and the following is an attempt to rectify the matter:

Report: When 15 prints are taken from the master design stone and transferred to a block-report stone, this constitutes a REPORT. The words are the same in English and French but it would probably be better translated as a transfer. The individual prints are "reported" on the block-report stone. In English, Report is an archaic term for transfer.

State: To preserve the life of the block-report stone, it is used primarily to make transfers to an intermediary block-report stone. Transfers from the latter were used to make up the actual printing stone. In this process, sometimes minor modifications were made to improve the appearance of the final stamp. White lines behind the head were added, eye shading was changed, etc. When this was done in a consistent and recognizable fashion a new STATE was created which still showed all the plating signs of the original report (transfer) stone. The English translation of the word "état" implies condition. That is wrong.

A sentence on p. 16, misplaced due to oversight by the printer, should be transferred to p. 17. This is the last sentence in first paragraph of col. 2 on p. 16, starting with "After rinsing . . .," which should be placed at the end of the first paragraph of left column of p. 17.

Proofs:—

The early literature on the Bordeaux shows photographs of proofs from the transfer stone, i.e., small sheets with wide margins containing 15 clichés. In our study of the auction catalogues we had not seen any of these change hands and it was not until the Sotheby sale (March '82) of John Levett's Bordeaux collection that we realized these still existed.

Philexfrance '82:

The best Bordeaux exhibit was that of Roger Loeuillet but we were told this was not really his best material. He did win a large gold but at an earlier show in London he was awarded the International Grand. He showed the following block-report proofs of 15: 1cR2, 2cR2, 4cR2, 5cR2, 10cR1, 20c Type II R2, 20c Type III R2, 30c, 40c and 80c. If this weren't enough, all of them were signed either by Yon or Delebecque!

On pages 39 and 63 we described the se-tenant design proofs of the 80, 10 and 1c and the 40 and 5c. He had both of these but his example of the 40 and 5 also contained a 20c which he said was a non-adopted essay by Dambourgez. All of these were taken from the original design stones of 1 cliché. It was interesting to note the 20c was not properly aligned with the other values.

He also exhibited a mint block of 15 of the very rare 5c Report 1. We had not known this existed. If this was not his very best material we can only imagine what we could learn if we could see the rest!!

The Musée de la Poste had on display the largest known piece of the 20c Type I, 24 copies (6x4) unused. We were disappointed to find the Musée has withdrawn from view their collection of the Bordeaux and other classics; too many problems with security was the reason given.

Many other collections contained nice Bordeaux sections. We were interested to note only a few exhibitors tried to identify the various shades by name. This made it difficult for us to learn more about this subject. We have been interested in shades and colors as the catalogues show wide differences in value as a function of color. For instance, what does an 80c "groseille" really look like, or a 2c marron (chestnut), or chocolate or a brick-red? For the most part exhibitors ignore these questions.

While exhibitors are cautious about colors, the major auction houses are not. We plan to undertake a project this summer. The auctioneers frequently show color plates of the out-of-the-ordinary shades and we hope to create a reference collection of colors from the auction catalogues. While this may sound hopeless, our candidates for an 80c groseille and a 40c rouge sang clair are good matches for the ones shown in the latest Roumet catalogue (sales 369 and 370).

We have admired the work done by the Philatelic Foundation and the APS-ISCC Committee on Philatelic Color Designations but have been discouraged from suggesting parallel work on the Bordeaux. The first requirement for the scientific evaluation of color is to find, for instance, an 80c groseille. We have been told it is difficult to find a copy on which all experts would agree. More than that, collectors and dealers who own a valuable "groseille" are not anxious to have a scientific test which might depreciate the value of their holdings. Maybe in the 21st Century?

The Lithographic Process:

At the time of our book we were not alert enough to realize we should have made some comparisons between the Bordeaux and the lithographed issues of the Confederate States. Both were produced by stone lithography, in the same era, during wartime, and by people who had never before produced postage stamps. For those interested in further details about stone lithography we recommend the excellent book by Dietz (Ref. 2) on the subject. Mr. Dietz was an excellent philatelist who also owned a printing company in Richmond, Virginia. During his apprenticeship in the trade he worked with the men who actually lithographed the early Confederate Issues and quotes extensively from his conversations with these men. They were German-trained lithographers and Dietz gives much more detail about the lithography of the Confederate Issues than is available about the Bordeaux in the contemporary French literature.

We said in our book the details of the preparation of the master-design stone are of little interest to the collector of today. Dietz describes a somewhat different process than what we said about the Bordeaux Issue and we have no way of knowing whether the French used similar techniques or not. We think the Bordeaux collector of today is more interested in what caused the "88" variety and why is the frameline broken, or howcome this big blob. Here Dietz confirms what we had guessed about the source of minor printing defects. Also he agrees with what we had written about the source of minor printing defects.

There is one quotation from his book which we think is most significant: "... nor does a filled-in design necessarily indicate a 'late state' of stone. (Here he uses the word state to imply condition). Every newly made-up printing-stone will show clear impressions. Neglect of the stone—permitting it to run dry—will yield a product, before the end of the day's run, that shows every characteristic of 'late state.' This same stone, cleaned and etched will produce 'earlies' the next day."

Dietz does not shed any light on the question of how many sheets one can expect to print from one stone but, he cites many instances of "re-entries," a subject on which the Bordeaux literature is silent. If a print does not transfer well to the printing stone or to one of the block-report transfer stones, a single position can be erased from the stone with a slate pencil and another single transfer can be made to fill the hole. In such cases the alignment is usually imperfect and, of course, allows the possibility that a multiple will not plate properly. Something more to watch for in the Bordeaux Issue although no examples have yet been reported.

More On The Values:

THE ONE-CENTIME VALUE:

Readers of our book will notice the identifying characteristics of Report 2, State 2 and Report 3, State 1 are the same, i.e., dashes under the eye and no white line behind the head. In earlier drafts of the book we had commented on this and noted the only way to tell the difference was by "plating." Somehow this statement got left out of the final draft.

The illustration used for Report 1, State 1 (Fig. 50) is confusing as it does not show much shading under the eye. The illustration we copied showed a lot of shading but it did not reproduce well.

The late Mr. DeLizeray (Ref. 2) has taken issue with our identification of Figure 52 as being State 2 of Report 1 instead of State 1. He based his findings on the fact that the pearls opposite from the nose are melded, ig-

noring the old test from the literature which involves the amount of shading under the eye. He stated that just before production started with Report 2, the intermediary stone of Report 1 was retouched to join the pearls, which created State 2 of Report 1.

We own two blocks of 15 of this value. One is Report 1, State 1. The other is Report 2 and is of the rare State 2. In our Report 1 block most of the pearls opposite the nose are not melded but a few are. In our block of Report 2 most of the pearls are melded but a few are not. Therefore, on the basis of our very limited observation, we conclude the pearl test is not consistent. We hasten to add we do not have as much material to examine as do the French. In his recent articles (Ref. 4), Dr. Fromaigeat does not mention the pearl test and restates the differences between States 1 and 2 of Report 1 as shown in our book.

THE TWO-CENTIMES VALUE

The following remarks for this and the other values have mostly been extracted from Dr. Fromaigeat's recent articles (Ref. 4). They include only information not already in our book.

The chocolate shade (more or less dark) is the most common for Report 1. It is printed on white paper just barely tinted. A true rarity is known printed on yellowish paper with pale reddish-brown ink. Dr. Fromaigeat has only seen one copy cancelled as it is usually found mint.

The "fine impression" of the Tours print may be the result of overetching the stone with acid. Although the stamp is not common uncanceled, it is very rare cancelled. Curiously all the cancellations he has seen are badly blurred and illegible.

Report 2 is the most fertile in shades, ranging from a warm chocolate to a "cold" maroon (chestnut colored), passing through a more or less brick red to a reddish brown. The colors are deep and some are nearly black. The paper is whitish or yellowish but not as prominent as in the Tours print.

THE FOUR-CENTIMES VALUE

Our book makes note of the fact the literature contains some confusion about which State is which in Report 2. Dr. Fromaigeat says State 1 does not have a white line behind the head and State 2 does. His reasoning is that the white line was added by retouching the stone and it is unlikely that the retouch disappeared to form a second State.

THE FIVE-CENTIMES VALUE

Dr. Fromaigeat reconfirms the existence of 4 States in Report 2 although he phrases it "in my opinion." He notes also that some copies of State 3 have a thin white line behind the head. He states this is a result of a retouch on the printing stone. Our figure 86 on page 63 is an example.

THE TEN-CENTIMES VALUE

His article gives Sept. 13, 1870 as the first known use of this value. This is clearly a typo. Nov. 13 is the date. A most unusual cover was just sold by Behr (sale #28, April '84). A letter written in St. Omer was carried into Paris by a traveller and mailed at the postoffice at 4 Rue des Vieilles-Haudriettes on February 13, 1871, just after the Siege. We assume the 10c Bordeaux (for the local rate) was applied in St. Omer.

THE TWENTY-CENTIMES VALUE (all Types)

There exists a proof in blue of Type I, Report 1. Our 1983 Ceres catalogue lists a blue proof for Type II only.

Rayssiguier (Ref. 5) reports on a most unusual use of the 20c Type III. The stamp illustrated was not a good copy but it has a very clear Paris 60,

Avril 7, 1871 date stamp. It is difficult to speculate on the use of this stamp. It was most certainly brought into Paris from the outside. Perhaps it was used on Paris mail addressed to a suburb within the Commune control.

THE THIRTY-CENTIMES VALUE

Dr. Fromaigeat refers to the variety with a strong white line behind the head as a rarity. Its color has a slight greenish tint and he has never seen a copy which could not be contested. It does not quite match the proof published by Meinertzhagen.

THE FORTY-CENTIMES VALUE

The ochre shade is not the ordinary dull grayish brown but is an intermediate between a warm and cold shade. It is dark and appears faded. In his description of the color Dr. Fromaigeat uses the phrase "encre fluide." We discuss on page 106 his findings about bands of color intensity on one pane of the 40c. In his original article he thought it might be due to a settling out of the pigment in the ink. We think his "fluid ink" (or thin ink) description refers to the top layer of the unstirred ink and we have translated it as "appears faded." The need for the scientific notation of color is apparent!

The rouge-sang (blood-red) shade is most often found cancelled in the French Foreign Offices. Citron (lemon) is the rarest.

We should have made note in our book of the most unusual double franking cover illustrated by J. Kauffmann in the 1970 CENTEX catalogue. It is a triple-rate cover from Mulhouse to Paris in March of 1872. The German franking is 5gr.+1gr. The corresponding French postage should be 70c. It is made up by 3 issues, 20c Siege, 10c Napoleon laureated and what must be a 40c Bordeaux. The photograph is not clear enough to verify the denomination. All are cancelled by a circular date-stamp which is probably the blue Paris-Etranger cancel.

THE EIGHTY-CENTIMES VALUE

Nothing to add.

Forgeries:

When we wrote the book we had not yet obtained a copy of the excellent book "Faux et Truqués" by P.-F. Brun (Ref. 1). We should have referred to it and will try to make up for it now.

Brun starts off his work with a discussion of forgeries made by lithography, illustrating ones made from Bordeaux proofs. The genuine proofs were very well printed but every time the design image was transferred in course of the actual lithographic printing process, the clarity diminished. He also illustrates a block report of the Bordeaux 80 centimes copied by typography, which can be identified by the poor quality of the printing.

We were told at PHILEXFRANCE '82 that some people had cut out the reproductions of proofs illustrated in the Meinertzhagen book and sold them as genuine. We found that the real ones are about 1mm shorter than those we xeroxed from the Meinertzhagen book, but the forgeries of proofs pictured by Brun are the right size.

The genuine Bordeaux proofs were pulled on coated paper but, today, from the effects of time the adhesion of the coating to the paper substrate is weak. We saw examples of block report proofs where whole sections of the coating (and the black ink) had flaked off the paper. We advise special care.

Brun illustrates a forged pair of 10c Report 2 reproduced by photo-

lithography but not mentioned in the BPA work on Sperati. It is a very good forgery but can be identified as follows: there is a white point inside the second vertical line from the top of the outer right side of the upper-right Grecian design. Later Brun shows a forged anchor lozenge cancellation. He comments that large stocks of mint Bordeaux were available in Paris in the late 1880's and the early 1890's and many forged cancellations were struck on them for the philatelic trade. We have looked at his pictures of the true and the false lozenge and are still at a loss to describe the differences for you.

Brun's book contains four color plates and two of them show Bordeaux stamps. He has a pair of the 2c forgery by Paul of Toulouse which we described on page 51. It is more than difficult to plate a stamp from a picture in a book but, the left-hand stamp does appear to be position 3 which is what it is supposed to be. The right-hand stamp is not position 3 but that is all we could tell. He also shows a 40c unused rouge-sang which he said was produced by "repainting" the stamp.

Apparently there was a forger in the town of Cornimont who liked to create covers with bisected stamps. Brun shows several examples but the only one using the Bordeaux issue has a 20c Bordeaux and the left vertical half of a 10c Bordeaux. It was postmarked in Cornimont Feb. 27, 1872. He shows another cover from Cochinchina to Nice dated May 28, 1874. It has 5 copies of the 4c Bordeaux (one pair) and a 30c General Colonies issue. The stamps are genuine, the cover is not.

Brun also illustrates a 20c mint Bordeaux made from two copies of lightly-cancelled stamps. He shows an enlargement of the junction of the parts cut from the two stamps and says the splice is "quasi-perfect." That may be but we couldn't see the line. He also said the two stamps used were just slightly different in color.

Towards the end of the book he gives a very informative treatment of the forgers, Sperati, Paul and Fournier. Our Bordeaux book covers all of the Sperati forgeries listed by BPA and Fournier is not known to have forged any of the issue.

Brun shows two Paul forgeries not mentioned in our book. One is position 15 of the 4c Report 1. We have recently seen a pair of this forgery. The stamp on the right could (with some imagination) be plated as position 15 but the other defied plating. They were very sophisticated forgeries and could fool anyone especially since the 4c is very difficult to plate. The other is 10c Report 2, position 2. He shows a pair and both plate as position 2.

Finally Brun deals with the issue of forged certifications.

The January '84 issue of F&C Philatelist (p. 11) carries a news item about a "B. Ballon/P. E." overprint on various genuine Ceres 1870-75, including an 80c Bordeaux. Coincidentally our member Robert McNichols called our attention to a similar horizontal 2-line overprint on a forged Bordeaux stamp; Carl Kane also showed us a number of copies of the same overprint on several forged values. These forged stamps are very crude. Ernst Cohn had the answer and he writes:

"My earliest reference is a brief article by G. S. in "Deutsche Briefmarkenzeitung" (Dresden), vol. 1, No. 7, pp 56/7. I guess this issue must have appeared in April or May 1871, i.e., right after the siege. The bogus stamp (overprint on genuine stamp) was offered by a German who claimed the surcharge meant Bar Ballon/Post Expedition. Apparently the forger mistook Bar for Par since the German equivalent would be Bei. They were being sold for 5 or 7½Silbergroschen each."

Conclusion:

The following is the chart we take with us when we visit the dealers. It is helpful particularly with the one-centime value. "Under eye" refers to the shading; "WLBH" is white line behind the head; "outside circle" refers to the shading outside the medallion. The "Look For" is to remind us about the uncommon. It is not complete as there are some things we are supposed to remember.

Bordeaux "Look For" Chart

Value	Under eye	WLBH	Frame	Outside Circle	Look for
1cR1S1 S2	dots less dots	not much nearly none			Rare
1cR2S1 S2	dashes dashes	white line none			
1cR3S1 S2	dashes dashes/lines	none none			
2cR1 R2				all dots some lines	reddish brown
4cR1 4cR2S1 S2		none white line		all dots some dashes some dashes	we need
5cR1 5cR2S1 S2 S3 S4	dashes lines less	white line less none but sometimes thin		Reinforced	complicated, look at eye
10cR1 R2	dashes dashes		Reinforced		dashes sometimes missing/fewer dashes sometimes lines
20cTIR1 20cTIIR2					spot in brickwork
20cTIIR1 R2 R3	very light very light more/dashes	strong WL	grapes different grapes different		Type II has longer UL Grecian design
20cTIIIR1 R2			normal reinforced		
30c					look for long R Strong WL rare
40cS1 S2	lines dashes				colors
80cS1, S2					for position 2 colors; '88 var.

References

1. Brun, J.-F.: "Faux et Truques." Le Havre, 1981.
2. Dietz, August: "The Postal Service of the Confederate States of America." Dietz Pr. Co., Richmond, 1929.
3. De Lizeray, P.: "Essais et épreuves," L'Echo de la Timbrologie, July 1, 1888.

4. Fromaigeat, Dr. J.: "L'Impression des timbres-poste," *Le Monde des Philatelistes*, #364, June 1983, cont. in #s 365, 366, and 367.
5. Rayssiguier, Y.: "Cachet de la Commune sur 20c Bordeaux," *Coll. Philatelite et Marcoph.*, #57, Jan. 1983.

ROMPEX '84

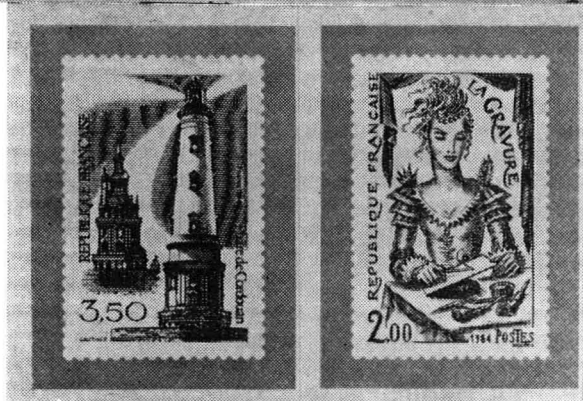
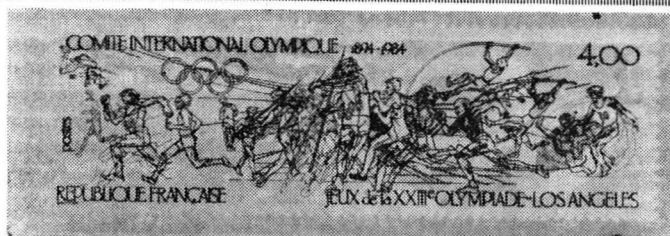
The A. P. S. 1984 Spring Meeting is now history. The entire APS Official Family attended, including FCPS members Keith Wagner and John Apfelbaum. Among other FCPS members sighted were Ernst Cohn (judge), Stan Luft (apprentice judge and exhibit chairman), Stan Jersey (exhibitor), Lorraine Hackman, and Charles Sandberg. Most unfortunately, ROMPEX and QUEPEX were held the very same (May 18-20) weekend.

A total of 6 Golds and nine Vermeils were awarded. Although no France or Colonies exhibits were entered, two of our members received Vermeil medals for their efforts: Stan Jersey for a fascinating array of covers bearing the U.S. 6c airmail of 1941, including some "R.F." overprints; Bill Waugh, also received the Samuel Schlessinger award for best historical exhibit, for his pre-unification Italy. The Grand Award went to Hubert Skinner's pre-1861 New Orleans postal history which included some prime examples of transatlantic covers to and from France. Dr. Jerome Byers' Reserve Grand exhibit of Holyland Forerunners "featured" generally superb markings from the French P.O. at Jaffa (Jaffa "cursive" straightline; dotted outer circle Jaffa dated cachet; not one but two Jerusalem Cross covers, etc.). Truly memorable and spectacular.—SJL.

QUEPEX '84

At the Royal Canadian Philatelic Society Quebec show, May 18-20, seven of our members entered exhibits upon the special invitation of the Chairman, Guy des Rivières, who offered a special prize for France and Colonies. Traveling from U.S. to the show were Marc Martin and wife, Ed Grabowski with wife and son, Ruth and Gardner Brown, Ray Gaillaguet, John Lievsay, Bill Waugh, Bob Pratt, Clarence Stillions and family, and Bob Stone; whilst Maggie Toms, Jean-Pierre Delwasse and probably some other of our Canadian members also were there. Although the ambiance of Quebec city and the hotel, the good food, etc., was very agreeable, a number of our exhibitors were quite unhappy with the results of the judging. However, Marc Martin won the Grand Award and France and Colonies Prize for his superb classic France. Denise Gaillaguet obtained a Gold for her Sowers. But our other exhibitors were more or less dismayed by awards one to three levels below what they should have or have gotten at other shows. Apparently one of the judges, the chief judge in fact, had rather unorthodox personal prejudices on what should be exhibited and how presented. Quality of the show, however, was very good—seven Golds out of about 343 frames (plus 135 frames of thematics and juniors). Our Canadian members, Guy des Rivières, Jean-Pierre Delwasse and Alan McKanna also had exhibits of France. In the Court of Honor members Bob Pratt (St. Pierre) and H. Nathanson (Guadeloupe) had exhibits, along with Alan Steinhart's remarkable pre-stamp covers to and from Canada 1685-1865. We had some very agreeable discussions with the enthusiastic Quebec collectors, also with Bob Pratt, Jack Arnell, and Cimon Morin of the Canadian Postal Museum. Member Guy des Rivières organized and managed the show in excellent fashion keeping himself always on hand and in a cordial mood in spite of his recent heart attacks and the serious illness of his wife.—R.G.S.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS



- ◆ On 14 April the Pierre Bonnard painting "Coin de Salle à Manger au Cannet" appeared; on 20-21 April the Jacques Cartier 2.00F stamp (see April FCP, p. 55). On 30 April the 3.10 Légion Etrangère; on 8 May the 2.00 Resistance and 3.00 Débarquements in a triptych with label between showing the Croix de la Libération, for the 40^{eme} Année de la Libération; on 26 May the 2.50 Belle Ile en Mer—Vauban La Citadelle. On 1 June the 4.00F for Los Angeles Olympics appeared; 8 June the 2.00 La Gravure; 9 June the 2.00 Bordeaux FSPF Congress; 16 June the 3.00 for 40^{eme} Anniv. du Centre National d'études des Télé-communications; on 23 June the 3.50 Phare de Cordouan and 2.00+0.40 Gaston Bachelard; 30 June the Palais Ideal du Facteur Cheval.
- ◆ On 7 July the stamp of Monastère de la Gde. Chartreuse, and on 25 Aug. the Congres Intern. de Géographie will be issued.

◆ For Andorre: a 3.00 Communauté de Travail des Pyrenées was issued 28 April and a 2.00 and 2.80 Europa on 5 May. On 7 July the Le Noyer and Le Chataignier are to appear.

◆ Two new entires were issued in April: a 2.00 Carte Postale with a Philex-Jeunes vignette on the occasion of the Dunkerque expo for juniors 21-29 April; a 2.20 Carte Postale (sold at 2.30F) in the Europa '84 vignette type appeared on April 28 (sold at 2.50F). These mark the beginning perhaps of a policy to issue more colorful and varied entires. A 3.50 Concorde type Aérogramme was issued on 1 January.

◆ On 1 July the postage rates in France were raised and accordingly on that date new values of the Liberté type were issued: 1.70F green for the non-urgent domestic mail, 2.10F red for the "fast" domestic mail, and 3.00 blue for international mail. Booklets of 5, 10, and 20 of the 2.10 and 20 for the 1.70 will be issued; coils will come out later.

◆ Four stamps not on the previously announced lists for 1984, will be issued in the autumn: one for Pres. Vincent Auriol, and one for Marx Dormoy, one for the 9th Plan for Modernization of the country, and one for launch of Satellite "Télécom 1."

◆ The 4.00F stamp of a painting by Jean Messagier issued last 31 March, titled "les 4 coins du ciel" (4 corners of the sky) is a colorful swirl suggesting the sky in various states from calm to stormy, rain and sun; it is characteristic of Messagier's love of nature and life, and his abstract expressions for making exuberant statements about them.

◆ We remind you that RIPEX XIX will be held this year on Sept. 22-23 in the Providence area. Always a good show for first-time French exhibits to get awards. Deadline for entries is in August. Write to Ray Gaillaguet, 15 Fletcher St., Rumford, R. I. 02916.

◆ Speaking of RIPEX, we have just received the excellent "kit" announcing full details about the April 19-21, 1985, RIPEX XX show, which will be the National Spring Meeting of APS and include meetings of participating national societies, incl. FCPS, PHS, Austro-Hung. Soc., and Soc. for Thai Phil., as well as regional meetings of 9 other philatelic societies. This show commemorates the 100th anniversary of the R. I. Phil. Soc., the oldest philatelic society in U.S. FCPS has voted to participate in the show and to hold a meeting—we look for a large turnout of French exhibits and members. Various events, tours, etc., will be set up, especially for visiting families. Write now to R. L. Gaillaguet, 15 Fletcher St., Rumford, R. I. 02916, for your copy of the kit.

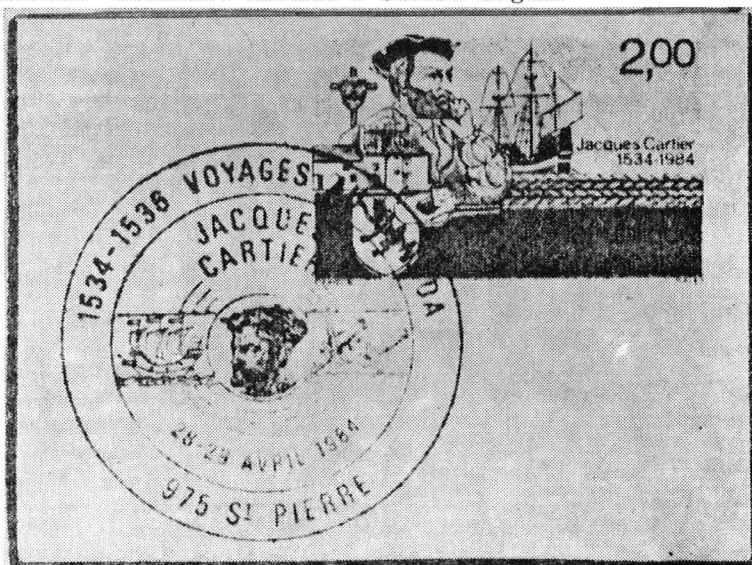
◆ A regional meeting of The France and Colonies Philatelic Society, Inc. will be held at CHICAGOPEX 84 on November 9, 10, and 11, 1984 at the Westin Hotel O'Hare, near the Chicago O'Hare Airport at 6100 River Road in Rosemont, Illinois. This is the 98th annual exhibition of the Chicago Philatelic Society. It is an APS National exhibition and the grand award winner is invited to the Champion of Champions. There will be 200 16-page exhibit frames (the same as will be used at AMERIPEX 86), over 50 dealers, a literature competition, banquet, USPS and UN. There will be France and Colonies awards and all interested exhibitors are invited to write for a prospectus. Just show your F & C membership card for free admission to the show. A meeting is being planned for Saturday at 11 a.m. (verify time at the show). A slide presentation with several speakers is being organized (if interested in participating, please write). For a show prospectus, hotel reservation information, banquet information, or just a note to say you will attend, write: Cheryl Ganz, P. O. Box A 3843, Chicago, IL 60690.

◆ Our member Pierre Wertheimer, who trades under the name France International, has published a very attractive 4-page "An Introduction to Modern Proofs of the French Area" with excellent full-color illustrations and with a clear comprehensive and accurate text of elementary description of the different types of proofs, imperf, and de luxe sheets. He will be pleased to send copies on request: P. O. Box 1568, Fort Lee, N. J. 07024.

◆ At SCOPEX '84 in April, Stanley Luft won the Grand Award with his exhibit of French military covers 1815-1983. Bob Stone showed his colonies slogan cancels and Clarence Stillions some of his Newfoundland collection (silver). Bill Welch got a Silver for his Peru postal history.

◆ Member Frank M. Anderson, a long time collector of French Colonies, has decided to form a firm to supply exclusively specialized 20th Cent. French material incl. Territories, Monaco and Andorre, against want lists. A new issue service also will be offered. He will trade under the name Philateliques Francais, Ind. He will accept orders by Scott, Ceres, Yvert, and Marianne catalog numbers. Write for his explanatory letter and new issue form: P.O. Box 210612, Dallas, Tex. 75211.

◆ The P.T.T.'s Musée d'Histoire des PTT at Riquewhir, will use from 5 May to 11 Nov. a simili of an original Daguin machine cancel with the flamme box inscribed "Centenaire Machine à Oblitéré Daguin."



◆ At St. Pierre, the Club Philatélique held an expo on the weekend of April 28-29 of 357 post cards of St. Pierre, a collection of SPM stamps and FDCs, as well as thematics put up by the juniors; on the occasion it issued a souvenir envelope for the 450th anniversary of Jacques Cartiers voyages. The souvenir envelopes had affixed a 2.00 Cartier stamp cancelled by a special postmark (see illustr.). The expo was attended by 1500 visitors which is a lot for St. Pierre, and 5000 of the souvenirs were sold. In August the Club will have on sale another souvenir with a different cancel. Inquire of Michel Malvaux, 31 Rue Brue, St. Pierre-Miquelon 97500.

◆ When Madame Schach-Duc, a designer of French stamps, arrived at the Salon d'Automne last November with a falcon perched on her gloved hand, the organizers of the show and the visitors raised their eyebrows out of sight.

◆ Jean Boblique, an ardent student of modern issues of France and author of many articles on them, died on 30 Nov. last. He was a member of the Academie.

◆ The Paris pneumatic tubes system was closed down at end of March as the PTT felt it had been overtaken by telephones and telex; it was becoming a steady money loser. The tubes handled only 648,000 pieces in 1982 whereas it was almost 3 million in 1972. The PTT had been delivering many tube type letters by its Postexpress messenger service, guaranteeing one-day delivery though at higher cost than the tube. The tubes started on 1 May 1879, 117 years ago. Marseille also had tubes 1910-64. The Paris network had been shrinking in mileage over the last decade or so. The Postexpress can handle packages which the tubes could not. But the tube had the advantage that one could deliver a sad or nasty message without having to say it in person as over the phone.

◆ The Richards Co., Box 404, Mashpee, Mass. 02649, deals in out-of-print philatelic literature. They will send their latest catalog to any requester for 37c postage. It lists several French area items. The firm also buys 2nd hand works.

◆ At QUEPEX we had the pleasure to talk with a number of the Quebec collectors. We were impressed with their great enthusiasm, and efforts to develop philately on a higher plane in Quebec. The magazine of the Fed. of Quebec Phil. Soc., "La Philatélie au Québec" has lately blossomed into a very interesting and well-printed journal, with many serious contributions especially on Canadian issues and postal history but not neglecting thematic studies. Denis Cottin, the editor, is energetic in his efforts. Quebec collectors are mostly devoted to Canada, but France and Colonies and U.S. claim many also. Denis collects SPM. Jacques Nolet showed us copies of the excellent series of studies ("cahiers") published by the Académie Québécoise d'Etudes Philatéliques in Montreal—these are collected into annual volumes called "Opus I" (1983), "Opus II" (1984), etc.; the subjects are very diverse and show no parochial tendencies. Nolet has published in Opus I a very detailed study of the Maréchal de Lattre de Tassigny stamps of France. The Quebec societies have a very vigorous program to educate and work with Juniors—the results of which were evident at the QUEPEX '84 exhibits (—the juniors' were much better than the adult topicals?).

◆ On 10 Nov. 1981 the postmaster at Port Français, Kerguelen, TAAF, sent a shipment of mail via a Soviet ship to Madagascar. As this mail never arrived to the destinees, an investigation turned it up at Madagascar. It was sent to the sorting center at Lyon which before delivery stamped the covers: *Courrier Déposé à Madagascar Par Navire Soviétique et Retarde Accidentalement*, dated 12 Jan. 1984—a long retard.

◆ The preliminary stamp program for 1985 was announced on June 21; Journée du Timbre, a Daguin cancelling machine; Personages: Roland Dorgeles, Victor Hugo, Jules Romains, Francois Mauriac, Jean-P. Sartre, Romain Rolland; Red Cross; an altar of Issenheim; Artistics: window of Strasbourg cathedral, works of de Stael, Giacometti, Alechinsky, and Dubuffet; Europa: music theme, de la Halle, Milhaud; Touristic: Montpellier, Solutre, La Sain-tonge Romain, Abbaye de St. Michel de Cuxa; Flora and Fauna; 5 trees; Aviation: Hydravion CPMS 53; Commemoratives and Misc.: Journée de FSP Congrès (Tour), La Francophonie, 1,500 Ann. of Abbaye Landevennec, 40th ann. de la Victoire, Saint-Valentin, Cent. Soc. Intern. do Sauvétage, Pauline Kergomard, Contrib. Architecture, France and its Dead, 50th ann. French television, Charles Dullin.

◆ At NAPEX June 22-24, Dick Winter won a Gold for his Transatlantic Mails, Jim Pratt a Vermeil for his USA-France Mails 1836-1876, Stan Jersey a silver for his New Hebrides WW II, Mel Garabrant a silver for his French Europa. Jim Pratt gave an excellent slide-talk for his exhibit. Also attending were Jeff Bohn, Ron Bentley, Scott Gallagher, Larry MacKallor, Martin Stempien, Bob Stone, Keith Wagner, Bill Waugh, and Bill Welch.

◆ Jean-Francois Brun has just sent us photocopies of several very unusual items: a 20c Empire imperf, cancelled "C.E.B." in a lozenge (—for "Corps Expéd. de la Baltique," he suggests—) a cancel not reported heretofore; and two Corps Expéd. de Mexique covers with the stamps pen cancelled. We will illustrate these in the July FCP. He also informs us that the 1984-1985 (3rd) Edition of the Marianne catalogue of France will be published in June.

FOR THE RECORD

462). Jean-Fr. Brun exposes a counterfeit of the 1949 souvenir-sheet block of French Occupation of Germany, Rhine-Palatinate State, Scott no. 6NB3-5. The original was printed in helio on good paper, whereas the forgeries are by offset on mediocre paper. The red cross-lines separating the four vignettes is not of constant thickness (as it is in genuines) and is irregular. The signatures at bottom of the fake vignettes are in thicker characters and uneven, the 2nd E malformed. The banderole around the shield is too pronounced and as heavy as the numerals of value, contrary to the genuines. As this sheet catalogs about \$175 it should be purchased with care.

463). Andre Goutier's article on La Carte Postale in La Philatélie au Québec #83, 1983, sketches the history of the illustrated post card in France and the great increase in popularity of card collecting in France in the last few years (now only second in popularity to philately among collecting fields). The early developments of the use of the cards depended on the permission and tolerance of the P.T.T. As Gondier notes, the French illustrated post card was "conceived" by a marriage between the Administration of Posts and private enterprise, resulting from an Arrêté of the Ministry of Finance of 7 October 1875; the PTT had issued postal cards since January 15, 1873, and the Arrêté now permitted the back of the cards to be used for re-engraving, litho, or any printing process—which in effect authorized the illustrated post card. But little advantage of the 1873 permissive was taken at first, and the earliest private illustrated post card was issued by Duploye in late 1882. There were other rare early ones. The first important ones were the Tour d'Eiffel color pictures for the Universal Expo of 1889. Photographically-produced cards show up around 1892. The big boost for card lovers came in 1899 when Emil Strauss founded the International Poste Carte Club and its journal "La Carte Postale Illustrée." The collecting fever grew apace through World War I. After then the craze went into a long dormant period, the cards became very mediocre.

The sending of picture cards through the mail was a source of much confusion for years as to how they were to be classified for postal charging, and from the conflicting rules of different countries, until the UPU finally approved private picture cards in international mails in 1905. The new tariffs and rules on cards put out by the PTT in 1917-22 discouraged their publication and use (see discussion of this in FCP 180, p. 65).

464). Gilbert Loisel shows us two copies of the 15c Mouchon stamp with

the F.M. overprint, but the overprint is in red instead of black—a variety not listed in any catalog or literature we know of. The stamps are both used, one cancelled Beauvoisin and the other some place (Vincennes?) in Seine et Marne (ca. 1902?).

465). Some years ago, in FCP #126, we noted a cover of Senegal with a pair from a booklet, the only colonies booklet stamps we have ever seen on cover. Now Bertram Mendelsohn sends us a xerox of a cover from a military post in Tonkin to Switzerland, 1931, with an entire pane of 6c from a booklet including the blank in one corner with the printed cross. It is only when multiples of booklet stamps having the selvage or pubs or cross intact and setenant, that one can positively identify the booklet origin. However, there are probably many singles seen on covers which really come from booklets but no way to know it. The booklets were not popular in most colonies anyway, only Tunisia, Indochina, Morocco, continued to issue them after the 1920s.



466). Jean-Francais Brun sent us the illustration shown here of a rare item—a 20c Empire imperf. cancelled with a lozenge inscribed "C.E.B." He believes it is for the Corps Expéditionnaire de la Baltique of the Franco-British campaign against Russia in the Baltic Sea July-Sept. 1854, as part of the Crimean War. According to Brun, Jean Pothion claims to have seen two covers with this lozenge. Covers with the circular date postmark for this campaign are reported, as also ones with the cachet "Escadre de la Baltique." (See Waugh & Luft, pp. 24-25).

NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, AND CATALOGS

"Marianne 1984-1985, Catalogue Fédérale, Timbres de France." By J. Storch, R. Francon, and J.-F. Brun. 3rd ed., 1984. 89 Fr., from the Federation des Sociétés Philatéliques Française, 7 rue St. Lazare, 75009 Paris, or from many French dealers. (For sale in U.S., \$6.50 ppd. by L. Hartmann, Box 36006, Louisville, Ky 40233.) (Considerable changes made in this considering to import and stock it). (Considerable changes made in this new edition: numerous tables summarizing all the issued stamps, encyclopedia section completely revised, all the various forms and presentations of each stamp are given after each stamp listing; division into 3 parts, each paged separately: 1) up to the 20th cent. with a chapter on stationery, indexed for reference, 2) the 20th cent. to 1959, encyclopedia section expanded, stamps on covers priced up to 1932, chapter on pre-cancels completely revised, 3) issue 1960 on, an encyclopedia section provided, varieties, imperf. and proofs priced. Mint classics, booklets and some 20th varieties prices considerably raised, otherwise not much change.) "Les Premiers Paquebots à Vapeur Transatlantiques 1840-1868." By Henri

- Tristant. Supplm. to Feuilles Marcophiles #238, May 1984. 52pp. 40Fr+ post (13Fr by air to U.S.) From: Union Marcophile, 7 rue Saint-Lazare, 75009 Paris. For sale by L. Hartmann, Box 36006, Louisville, Ky. 40233 for \$8.50 postpaid. (Important work, much original documentation from the French archives on the British and U. S. lines).
- "A.C.E.P. Catalogue des Entiers Postaux, France et Monaco." 1983 ed. 306 pp. illustr. 350 Fr. From M. Pierre Papier, 3 rue Laure Surville, 75015 Paris
- "The French Post Office of Yokohama and its Epoch." By Jun Ichi Matsumoto (FCPS #2085). June 1984. 250 pp. Approx. price 9000 yen, or \$35. In Japanese and English, part in French. Illustr. with maps, 130 figures incl. 4 pp. full color (from his intern. Gold medal coll.). From: Japan Philatelic Publications, Ind., 2 Yoyogi-2, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 151, Japan.
- "A Chronology of French Military Campaigns and Expeditions with Their Postal Markings 1815-1983." By Wm. W. Waugh and Stanley J. Luft. Robert G. Stone, Editor. Jan. 1984, 194 pp. Spiral binding. 1011 illustrations, over 275 references. Joint Publ. of War Cover Club and Fr. and Cols. Phil. Soc. For sale by War Cover Club, c/o Lincoln E. Kieffer, Box 73, Jamesburg, N. J. 08831. Members of FCPS and WCC price is \$12 (cite your membership number) only one copy to a member. Dealers inquire. Public sale price \$16.95 post paid. Overseas add \$1.00 for surface and \$3.00 for airmail. (See Jan. FCP, p. 19.)
- "La Poste et l'Aviation." 32 pp. 1983. LeMusée de la Poste and Musée de l'Air France. Price? Musée de la Poste, 34 Blvd. de Vaugirard, 75731 Paris Cédex 15.
- "Histoire de la Poste et des Telecommunications dans le Nord—Pas de Calais." B. Coussée, ed. 1983, 158 pp. illustr. Memoires du Cercle Amical des PTT de Lille, Section Histoire, Tome IV. (Seven articles several of which are of postal history and make very interesting reading with many old prints, anecdotes and sidelights: "La Poste à Lille avant la Revolution" by Nicole Garcin, "Notes historiques sur la poste et les messageries dans de Cambresis" by G. Herbert, "Ballons montés dans le Nord de la France" by H. Cappart, "Les routes de poste du Nord—Pas de Calais 1502-1850," by P. Nougaret, "Valenciennes, relais de poste sur la route Paris-Bruxelles" by M. Martinache). Order from Cercle Amical des PTT Sect. Histoire, 38 bis, rue Paul Duez, 59035 Lille Cédex.
- "Marques Postales et Obliterations du Dept. de la Loire (41) de l'Origine a 1876." 96 pp, 80Fr + post. Assoc. Philatélique Vellave, Centre Pierre Cardinal, 43000 Le Puy (a catalog of marks with rarity indices).
- "Special Catalogue PIB." 1983? By O. Bourdeau and R. Espinasse. Groupement UV de France, 71 pp. illustr. (on automatic sorting marks).
- "Paris—Obliterations 1849-1876." By Jean Pothion. 1983, 92pp. 120Fr. p.pd. La Poste aux Lettres, 17 fbg. Montmartre, 75009 Paris (all types of marks, with rarity indices).
- "Les Obliterations Ferroviaires en Bretagne." 1983. 12pp. p.pd. Société Philatélique de Rennes, 10 Blvd. Jeanne d'Arc, 35000 Rennes.
- "Les Bureaux de Poste du Dept. d'Ille et Villaine 1695-1876—Marques Postales et Cachets à Date." By M. de Maysse. 1983. 80Fr p.pd.
- "Catalogue des Obliterations de Gares—Depts. sauf Paris." 1983. 56.30Fr p.pd. Le Club le Meilleur, B. P. 21, 17350 Le-Mée-sur-Seine (cachets of type R/1884 on Sage, Blanc, Mouchon and Sowers 1885-1948).
- "Les Formations Sanitaires Guerre 1914-18." 3 vols. 1983. 250Fr + 19Fr post. Le Club le Meilleur (see above).

F. & C. P. S. OFFICIAL

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

As the newly elected president, I want to extend my greetings to all the members of our Society. My collecting interests fall distinctly on the periphery of the French philatelic area; I hope you will accept my regrets when I display my lack of knowledge of the stamps of France itself, particularly the classic issues. I want to express my appreciation to Ed Grabowski for all that he has done for the Society during his tenure as President. I am very pleased that he will continue in charge of our membership development.

I must also congratulate our editor, Bob Stone, on the completion of a philatelic triple slam, as he has now been chosen to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of the British Philatelic Association. Bob has previously received the Lichtenstein award of the Collectors Club and the Luff award of the American Philatelic Society, so he now has all three of the top awards of anglophone philately. (He is also an elected Corresponding Member of the Academie de Philatelie, Paris, and received the F. B. Thomas Award for Philatelic Research of APRL.)

The annual banquet was held at the Chamartin restaurant on Saturday, 2 June. This date was somewhat later than usual because of conflicts with the Memorial Day weekend and the stamp show in Quebec. The 23 members and guests all enjoyed the usual good dinner and a significant sum was raised for the treasury in the auction.

The first fall meeting will be Tuesday, 4 September, at the Collectors Club. The speaker will be Col. Stephen Luster, and I trust we will welcome him as a good attendance so early in the season. Our own member Martin Stempien will be the speaker at the October meeting.

—Richard M. Stevens

Meeting of 3 April

We were pleased to have Mr. Ed Epstein as our guest speaker this evening. Ed is a noted sports philatelist and he traced the development of the modern Olympic games via his material from the French area. He noted that the modern games were founded by Pierre le Coubertin, a Frenchman, and they arose as part of the means of recovery from the French defeat in the Franco-Prussian War and as a way of promoting physical education in France. It was appropriate that the idea for the modern games arose in France, as the French were the first to unearth ancient Olympia in the 1820's. Coubertin was finally successful in getting the IOC established in 1894, and Haiti was the first nation to honor him with a stamp (Scott B1) in 1939.

After his introduction Ed explored French Olympic philately with material beginning from the 1924 games, as none survives from the 1900 games. From here he brought us to modern times showing the Olympic issues in all of their variety.

—Ed G.

Annual Meeting May 1

The following officers were elected for the fiscal year June 1984- June 1985:

President—Richard M. Stevens
Vice-President—William Wallis

Treasurer—Beatrice M. Berner
 Recording Secretary—Eli Goldberg
 Corresponding Secretary—Walter E. Parshall
 Directors, Class of 1987: Marc W. Martin, John E. Lievsay

Meeting of 5 June

Speaker for the evening was L. Wallace Dean, and his display and talk were on his 1983 SEPAD grand prize exhibit, "Postal History of St. Domingue." For those without a handy copy of Jamet's book, that's Haiti from 18th century until joining of UPU in 1881.

The exhibit in the hall was 12 frames, approximately 3 frames of 18th century markings, 1 frame of revolutionary era, 1 frame of early 19th Century local letters, 3 frames of ship letters to U.S., 2 frames of mail handled by British ships or agencies, and 2 frames of material handled by French consular/packet service.

One of our members, struggling with the doctrine that postal history is supposed to tell about the organization of the posts, finally came to the conclusion that much of the story is that the mails continued to function despite the ebb and flow of political history. Certainly that was demonstrated by tonight's speaker, with material demonstrating that the mails and commerce continued through revolution, wars, occupation, independence, and such international mischief. The earliest piece shown, 1743, was a ship letter from the Royal period; followed by half a dozen examples of the local posts organized from 1757. The American Revolution was represented by a nice cover sent via Spain to avoid handling by nations at war. The French Revolution was shown in terms of Haiti's own revolt under Toussaint, British intervention, followed by the Napoleonic campaign of 1802.

The importance of commerce with France in the 18th Century was summarized in that the colony accounted for a majority of overseas correspondence; and the development of inter-American trade was evidenced by the number of covers to and from the United States.

The final frames showed examples of mail handled through the British offices at Jacmel (C59 cancels) and Port-au-Prince (E53); and via the French packet services available at Cap Haitiën and Port-au-Prince from 1866.—J.E.L.

NEW MEMBERS

- 2411 MILLS, David A., Jr., 1586 Response Rd., #2092, Sacramento, Cal. 95815
 (General France: Mint. Sage Type. Modern France: mint, booklets, imperforates, artist's proofs and color trials, precancels. All colonies and territories)
- 2412 SISKIN, E. J., Box 527, Millburn, N. J. 07041
 (General collector)
- 2413 McCONNELL, E. Joseph, P. O. Box 683, Monroe, N. Y. 10950
 (France—Essays (projects, rejected designs), De-Luxe proofs, imperforates, artist's proofs and trial colors. Andorre, Monaco. Dealer, full time. New issues, approvals)
- 2414 NACHSHON, A., P. O. Box 36010, Los Angeles, Cal. 90036
 (Specialized France: Military posts, used abroad, parcel post. Colonial provisionals, all colonies and territories. Dealer, part time. Phil. Lit.)
- 2415 BENNETT, Kira, 3700 Wakeforest, #61, Houston, Texas 77098
 (Typical: birds, flowers, animals, endangered species, fish and wild-life. General France, mint. Classics 1849-1876, mint or lightly hinged. Dues. Modern France, mint, semi-postals, air mails, first-day covers,

- dues, precancels. Monaco. Colonies General Issues, mint. All colonies and territories, major varieties. New Caledonia, Martinique, Tahiti, Guadeloupe, Philatelic literature. Exchange)
- 2416 DE OLIVEIRA, Luis G., P. O. Box 313, Bristol, R. I. 02809
(General collector)
- 2417 FILIPKOWSKI, Paul, P. O. Box 2069, Gainesville, Fla. 32602-2069
(Postal history of the atomic bomb, including atom bomb test covers from Algeria and French Polynesia—naval, military or civilian cancellations)
- 2418 WOOD, William A., 3764 Briarcliff Rd., N.E., Atlanta, Ga. 30345
(General collector, all issues)
- 2419 AYRES, Robert G., 18 Munn Dr., Asheville, N. Car. 28805
(General collector, all issues)
- 2420 MORELAND, Keith R., P. O. Box 177, Hillsboro, Ore. 97123
(Modern France: booklets. Stamps and covers of French Guinea, Somali Coast, Obock, Afars, French West Africa (personal collection). All Africa. Dealer, full time)
- 2421 SCHUSTER, Jeff, Box 198, Sta. 1, UTMB, Galveston, Texas 77550
(General collector)
- 2422 JACKSON, Alexander, 6495 Happy Canyon Rd., Unit 11, Denver, Colo. 80237
(General collector all issues. General France, mint, used. Dues, parcel post, newspaper, Franchise Militaire. Philatelic literature. Exchange, France only. Communication with other members)
- 2423 PISANO, John T., 95 La Rose Ave., Apt. 208, Weston, Ont., Canada M9P 3T2
(General France, used. Classics, cancellations. Parcel post, revenues, Liberation issues, precancels)
- 2424 HOPKINS, John G., 83 Dawson Ave., Boonton, N. J. 07005
(St. Pierre and Miquelon, mint)
- 2425 KLEENE, Steven J., 2214 Maple Ave., Evanston, Ill. 60201
(All African offices and colonies pre-independence)
- 2426 BLAIR, Jill L., P. O. Box 10572, Bainbridge Island, Wash. 98110
(General collector all issues. General France, mint, used, on cover)
- 2427 WIRTA, Allen J., 3820 North Paulina, Chicago, Ill. 60613
(General France on cover. Specialized France, stampless covers to and after 1815. Colonies General Issues on cover. Covers of individual cols.)
- 2428 STEINHART, Allan L., 45 Dunfield Ave., Apt. 1910, Toronto, Ont., Canada M4S 2H3
(General collector. Canada. Dealer)
- 2429 POLLACK, Dr. J. Dennis, 3826 Chiselhurst Pl., Columbus, Ohio 43220
(Topical collector, microbiologists, microbes, microscopes and medicine in any form. Modern France, mint, used. Semi-postals, air mails, coin dates, first day covers, miniature sheets. All colonies and territories. Pasteur)
- 2430 CORRISS, Michael Patrick, 4531 Prairie Ave., Miami Beach, Fla. 33140
(Postal history in general. Modern France, on cover. Perfrins. Colonies General Issues, on cover)
- 2431 BOEST, William J., RD 1, Box 170A, Morris, N. Y. 13808
(General France, mint, used. Modern France: booklets, First day covers. Exchange)

REINSTATEMENTS

- 2094 IERARDI, R. M., 9 Pike St., East Patchogue, N. Y. 11772
(General collector all issues. Topical: French art. General France,

- mint, used, on cover. Modern France, mint, used, on cover. Semi-postals, Maximum cards, FDCs, revenues, air meets, first flights, etc., expositions, special and temporary bureaus. Monaco. Colonial provisionals. Omnibus issues. Dealer, part time. Philatelic literature)
- 2138 BEAN, Robert W., P. O. Box 224, Urbana, Ohio 43978
(Already in Directory)
- 772 BARIE, Michael J., Box 1445, Detroit, Mich. 48231
(Already in Directory)
- 2135 WALLIS, William W., P. O. Box 1241-D, Rahway, N. J. 07065
(Already in Directory)
- 1686 ZIGNAGO, Dario A., P. O. Box 370172, Miami, Fla. 33137
(Already in Directory)
- 2151 BOULE, Maurice, La Plaine Du Roy, 83110 Sanary, France
(Already in Directory)
- 1601 RAGAN, John R., W140 N7470 Lilly Rd., Menomonee Falls, Wisc. 53051 (Sage Type, 1876-1900)
- 1866 WILLS, Jack Hibbard, 2304 4th St., S.W., Altoona, Iowa 50009
(Already in Directory)

CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND CORRECTIONS

- 1959 MONTELLO, Lawrence J., P. O. Box 603, Tolleson, Ariz. 85353
- 1477 WOODS, Carl P., 306 Orbit Circle, Del Rio, Texas 78840-2428
- 1124 KILMER, Dr. Tom H., 2857 Pacific Coast Highway, Torrance, Calif. 90505
- 2232 BURWELL, Robert J., 418 Bar Court, Poinciana, Fla. 32758
- 814 KOPF, Irving, 6 Farmstead Lane, Farmington, Conn. 06032
- 1992 COWAN, Richard T., P. O. Box 154, Pottsville, Ark. 72858
- 1835 COUZIN, Roy, 151 Waner Way, Felton, Calif. 95018
- 1675 KRASSOWSKY, Alexander, 34-35 76th St., Apt. 5-G, Jackson Heights, N. Y. 1372
- 2195 VAVROVSKY, Jean, P. O. Box 5788, Fort Lauderdale, Fla 33310-0788
- 2010 QUINOT, Georges, France. Returned by P. O.

CHANGE IN SPECIALTY LISTING

- 1828 LALLEMAND, Gerard A., P. O. Box 66914, Scotts Valley, Cal.
(Classics, mint, used, on cover. Dues, Sage type. Modern France, mint, Semi-postals, air mails, Dues. Exchange, prior to 1945 issues)

MEMBERS APPEALS

OFFER:—Complete sheet of 54 of Spiro Brothers fakes of France Scott numbers 11 and 6. Sheet layout is 6x9 with three columns of No. 11 followed by three columns of No. 6. Slight staining in upper margin, otherwise VF. Xerox copies available upon request. Net \$350 mailed flat via registered mail. Edward Grabowski, 741 Marcellus Drive, Westfield, NJ 07090 (Mb. #1469).

WANTED: French atomic bomb test covers (naval, army, or civil cancels). 1960 Algeria; 1963-84 French Polynesia. Also 1973 anti-atomic testing philatelic items. Paul Filipkowski, P. O. Box 2069, Gainesville, Fla. 32602 (Mb. #2417)