



France & Colonies



Philatelist

USPS #207700

A POW'S LETTER FROM BESIEGED PARIS

By Ernst M. Cohn

Horst Knapp (1918-1984) had one of the finest collections of Saxony. It included not only mail within and from but also to that country. Some time ago, he had sent me xerox copies of some of his holdings from the period of the Franco-German War. Among these is the cover and its contents, which are the subject of this note, dedicated to the memory of a knowledgeable collector and good friend.

In his "Correspondances par Ballon monté," L. Francois mentions that mail from German prisoners of war within besieged Paris should have been bundled and sent to Germany via the Government Delegation, first at Tours and later at Bordeaux. He states (page 32) that he knows of franked balloon letters that were mailed by (or for) PW's and were marked as such, contrary to the rules. He apparently had "known" such letters, but none has ever been mentioned, pictured, sold, or exhibited within over twenty years, to my knowledge. I have meanwhile found proof that some PW mail was exchanged across the lines by mutual consent (APC Yearbook 1976, p. 140) but do not know whether any still exists. A summary of virtually everything then known about PW mail to and from besieged Paris was published at about the same time by two German study groups, in letter 135 of the ArGe Frankreich (December 1976) and in Forum of the ArGe Nordd. Postbezirk (No. 1, May 1977). There was no response to that study.

All German prisoners were kept in Paris prisons, partly for their own safety. It was, therefore, impossible for them to purchase stamps at post

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offices and to drop mail into mail boxes. This had to be done for them either by prison officials or by visitors, such as German (or Alsatian) clergymen, who were allowed to lead them in religious services. It is not known how the cover shown in figure 1 was mailed and franked.

The rate of 50 centimes is correct for Saxony. Though the message is dated as of 1 January 1871, the postmark reads 1E/27 JANV. 71, i.e., 26 days after the message was written. The postmark itself is a rarity, because normally the post office of rue Cardinal Lemoine used its cds for canceling; its star with numeral 28 is known but quite unusual for this period. Does the delay between writing and posting point to a deliberate French censorship by holding up the message? The same procedure was used on the German side during that war.

The date and time of posting would indicate that the letter was transported by the last mail balloon, the "Général Cambronne." The absence of all outside markings makes it impossible to be certain, however.

The author of the letter is August Pietzsch of the 107th Saxonian regiment, 7th company, part of the 12th army corps. It is addressed in French (top) and in German (bottom, German script) to glazier Julius Pietzsch at Reinsberg near Nossen in the Kingdom of Saxony, Germany, presumably in the writing of the author. He marked his letter "free" (franc instead of the correct franco), and the post office added the corresponding PD.

The last portion of the message reads:—

... My foot has not yet healed (I presume that you have obtained my last letter of 10 December; in it I reported to you that I was shot—on 2 December during the attack of our regiment on Brie—through the left, flat foot from right to left, and because our men had to go back

FRANCE & COLONIES PHILATELIST

USPS #207700

Published quarterly by the
FRANCE AND COLONIES PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC. (N.Y.)

Affiliate No. 45, American Philatelic Society

July 1985 — Vol. 41, No. 3, Whole No. 201

Second-class postage paid at Lawrence, Kansas

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

Dues \$7.50 per year. Parent Chapter \$10.00 (plus 50c admission fee),
\$4.50 of which is for a subscription to the F. & C. Philatelist.

All communications about membership, subscriptions, activities, and services of the Society be sent to the Corresponding Secretary, Walter E. Parshall
103 Spruce St., Bloomfield, N. J. 07003

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again, was captured.) But I am (in the Hospital Académie St. Genoveva) on the way to recovery and am being excellently cared for. I have not yet been allowed out of bed and shall have to remain in it for weeks yet. The pains are tolerable. The comrades (all Frenchmen) are very kind towards me. I am the sole German in this hospital. I am often homesick.

Please write to Bourgstadt about how I am; Koblers will inform others there.

I close and sign

Your grateful son,

August Pietzsch.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS





◆ On 1 June the 5.00F the "Nature Mort au Chandélier" painting of Nicolas de Stael, the 1.50 Vaccin contre le Rage, and the 10.00F **Mystère Falcon 900** (airmail) were issued. On 15 June the 3.00F **Eglise de Talmont—Saintonge Romain** came out, on 17 June the 2.50 **Société Intern. de Sauvétage du Lac Lemán**, and on 26 June the 3.00 **40ème Anniv. de l'Organisation des Nations Unis**.

On July 6 the 2.20F **Abbaye de St. Michel de Cuna**, on 14 Sept. the 5.00F work of Dubuffet (painting) will be issued, on 21 Sept. a set of four **Flora**: 1.00 **Hêtre Fayard**, 2.00 **Orme de Montange**, 3.00 **Chêne pendoncé**, 5.00 **Epicea**.

◆ For Andorre on 8 June the 3.00F **Any Internation. de la Juventut** was issued.

◆ The 1984 Europa stamp was designed by Jackie Larrivière of Monaco, following a suggestion of the Monaco P.O. Larrivière happens to be also a staff artist and engraver at the Perigueux French stamp-printing plant. The 35 postal administrations of the CEPT each used this same design in somewhat different ways. The Larrivière die for France is different from the one he engraved for Monaco and the one done for Andorre. The French version was also issued on a 2.25F **Carte Postale**, and in the **Document Officiel** format, as well as for the **De Luxe** proofs, trial-color proofs and imperforates. A die-proof card in blue only, was distributed at the IMPA Postal Equipment Fair at Hamburg in June 1984.

◆ Roger Calves the Paris expert reports he has had submitted to him recently some counterfeit precancels of France with the **POSTES PARIS 1920-1921, 1922**, and **POSTES FRANCE 1921-1922** (Yv. #s 24 to 38)—the faker succeeds in imitating the proper ink but the form of the letters of the surcharge is incorrect. Buyers beware!

◆ Haute Volta officially changed its name on 4 Aug. 1984 to **Burkina Faso**, which means the "Republique des hommes intégrés."

◆ According to an item in the **Indochina Philatelist** for Jan.-Feb. 1985 by

L. M. Stern, the U. S. Board of Geographic Names on 2 Jan. 1985 approved changing the official U. S. Government usage from "Kampuchea" back to "Cambodia." Kampuchea was a name installed by the infamous Pol Pot regime in April 1975. The Peoples Republic of Kampuchea remains the self-styled title of the present government.

◆ At the March Party of the Garfield-Perry Club in Cleveland our late member James C. Pratt was posthumously given the Ashbrook Award for his meticulous studies into U.S.-Foreign mail systems and rates.

◆ At COLOPEX '85 in Columbus in March, member George Guzzio won the Reserve Grand and the ATA Award for best topical exhibit, for his Penguin-alia, in the open competition and the Grand Award for it in the ASPP competition. An exhibit by Janice and Herbert Harvis on the 20th Century French Presence in the Polar Regions won a Gold.

◆ SCOPEX at State College April 27-28 was as usual a small show of good quality, pleasant to attend for the opportunity to socialize in a relaxed atmosphere. Member Leo La Francee (now retired to the mountains of North Carolina), won a Silver for his cross-border covers between U. S. and Canada, Clarence Stillions a Vermeil for his Provisional issues of Newfoundland, and Bob Stone a Vermeil for his St. Pierre-Miquelon Group Type Issue (also the APS Research Award). We visited APS Hqs and APRL profiting by the excellent service given by the new librarian, Gini Horn.

◆ At NAPEX in Washington June 7-9, member Leo La France won a Vermeil for his improved cross border covers between Canada and U.S., Bob Stone a Vermeil for his St. Pierre-Miquelon Group Type Issue. Attending were Jeff Bohn, Martin Stempien, Walter Parshall, Bill Bogg, Keith Wagner and Bill Waugh, and Lorraine Bailey.

◆ At ISRAPIL in May member Marc Isaacs got three medals, Walter Brooks a Vermeil, Stan Jersey two Vermeils, and Ernst Cohn a Gold (—we will get the full palmares later).

◆ We congratulate Alain Millet on being elected a member of the Académie de Philatélie at the June 1 Séance. He also obtained a Gold at the French National Expo at Tours for his New Caledonia exhibit—gold is rarely awarded to colonies exhibits at the exhibits of the French National.

◆ Member Wm. L. ("Bill") Welch of State College has been appointed the new editor of American Philatelist, replacing Dick Sine who has become the editor of Scotts Monthly Journal. Welch is highly qualified by virtue of being a lifetime collector, long experience in editing and publishing, a member of many philatelic societies and a trustee of APRL.

◆ With its new 1986 Catalogue of France, the Cérès firm has dropped a bomb on the French philatelic community—it has lowered the prices of many items to bring them down to current market prices (early 1985). That is a decrease of 20 to 40% for a great many post-1900 issues (classics not affected), so that it will not be necessary to regularly quote offers of large discounts from Cérès catalogues. The results are that on the average 50% of the new Cérès would be equivalent to about 30% of Yvert. It is claimed

therefore that there is no real decline of market from this but merely a change in the basis of calculation. But the reaction of the trade and of collectors is likely to be vociferous—as it was in the 1950s when Thiaude tried a similar gambit. The argument for Cérés is entirely logical but it runs against the psychological perceptions—dealers like to be able to claim big discounts and collectors like to think they are getting bargains while enjoying the illusion their collection is worth a lot more than it really is (when sold). Well, it will be interesting to see what happens.

◆ The Monaco Office of Postage Stamp Emissions is organizing a philatelic exhibition to celebrate the centenary of the first issue of Monaco, under the patronage of His Highness the Prince Rainier III of Monaco, to be held from 5 to 8 December 1985 at the Centre de Congres-Auditorium in Monaco. The owners of the leading collections of Monaco postal history and stamps have been invited to exhibit their collections. Our member Jerry Massler is one of those invited, the only one from U.S. His exhibit will cover 25 frames. He will be giving us a report on the exhibition.

◆ Jean Pothion, the well-known Paris postal history dealer and author of many catalogs has recently retired owing to ill health.

◆ The SATA (Societe Francaise de Philatélie Polaire) is forming a branch in Montreal. For information send SASE to SATA, C.P. 387, Lasalle, Que., H8R 3V4, Canada.

◆ The monthly (11 nos. per yr.) magazine "Timbroscopie" which was launched in 1984 has been a great success in France, quickly winning thousands of subscribers and giving Le Monde, L'Echo, and Philatélie Francaise some stiff competition. The general journalistic level and formula reminds us somewhat of the ill-fated "Philatélie" put out for some years by the defunct Thiaude firm. Timbroscopie is printed by offset in full colors throughout (except in a center news Supplement) on a matte calendared paper, trim size 8"x12". The color reproduction is rather good for most objects, better than in some of the French catalogs, half-tones reasonably clear (fuzzed slightly by the matte paper). The articles, nearly all on France and colonies subjects, aim at a middle-level of sophistication, not too technical, nor insulting to the more advanced collector; most are fairly short (very few serial), not original research but competently written by several staff editors who evidently make good use of the literature and the help of some specialists. The illustrations of stamps and covers are well chosen and often intriguing. Subjects of the articles in each issue achieve a balance between classics, modern, colonies, airmails, stamps, postal history and postmarks, but strictly topical stories are missing. The center Supplement without color is devoted to ads, news, sales, etc. The new issue section, not as complete as in some other journals, reproduces a good sampling in full colors at actual sizes. The publisher is now actively seeking subscribers in Canada and U.S. The subscription price is competitive with other French journals; for the Americas it is 230 Fr/yr (11 nos.) by surface mail, and 350Fr by airmail. Address: OSIRIS (Timbroscopie), 35 rue de Chazelles, 75017 Paris. (C.C.P. Paris 24 449 79 S).

◆ We apologize for the incorrect reference to the "late C. J. Hubbard" in the note on Richard Winter in April FCP, p. 40; the reference should have been to the late Walter Hubbard.

RIPEX XX REPORT

RIPEX was a great show. Our ebullient, energetic Ray Gaillaguet as Co-Chairman with his able crew of assistants of the R. I. Philatelic Society, went all out to plan and manage a remarkable event in celebration of the 100th year of their Society, the oldest philatelic society in U. S. It was also the A.P.S. Spring Meeting, and a number of philatelic societies held meetings in conjunction with the show.

The RIPEX people had some difficulties to face in regards to space and lighting, but everything worked out nevertheless to give the exhibitors, judges, and visitors a very memorable occasion. Ray had lined up about 59 exhibits many of such high quality as not seen before to our knowledge in a national show (outside of some Champion of Champions shows), which stunned the blue-ribbon jury, and led to the unheard of total of 30 Gold awards, only a sprinkling of Vermeils and Silvers and a couple Bronzes. Due to a contractor's miscalculations, the space was too short for over 20 of the frames so that 8 exhibits had to be relegated to a bin room for only the judges to see.

The awards banquet was a good cut better than the usual show banquet. Ray planned a delicious French-style meal. The 8-page folded menu had a RIPEX postmark on back tying 3 US stamps on the theme of U.S.-Japan relations (—to commemorate the 200th Anniv. of the birth of Oliver Hazard Perry and the deeds of Mathew Galbraith Perry, the Perrys having been born



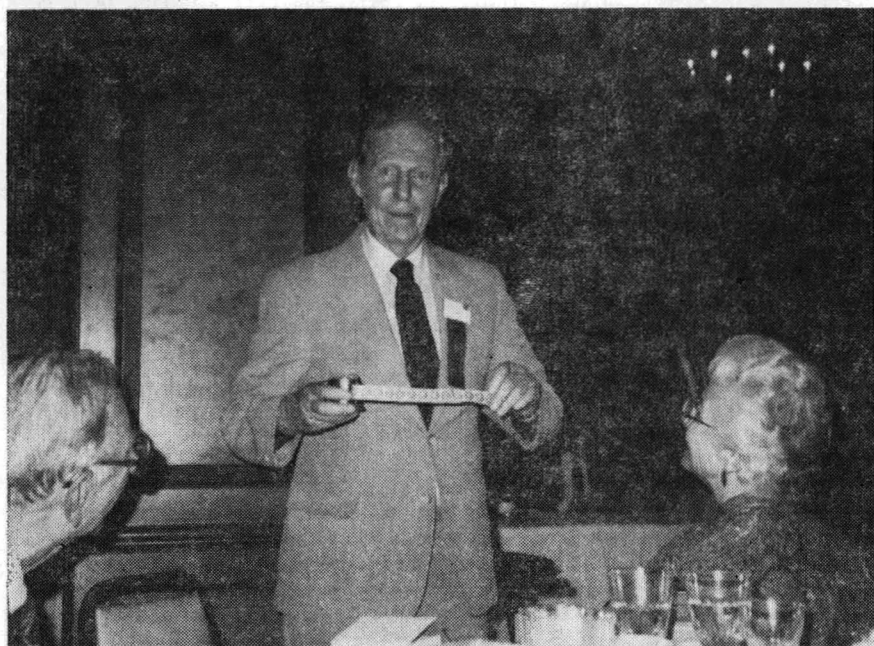
The FCPS "gold miners" attending RIPEX XX—each won a Gold Award. Left to right: Carl Walske, Jerry Massler, Gardner Brown, Bob Stone, Bill Waugh, Ed. Grabowski. (Only winners Stan Luft and Dick Stevens were not at the show.) Courtesy of Carlo Maggi.

in Rhode Island). The show sold cacheted covers which were cancelled at the show postoffice bearing the new 22c flag stamps. The 38-page show catalog contained a history of the RIPS and biographies of the honored Perrys.

The awards were unusual—original intaglio prints by a prominent local professional artist for the Grand and Reserve, and for the others a large molded glass piece with an image of the 5c Providence R. I. Post Office provisional stamp, designed by a glass artist at the famous Rhode Island School of Design.

At the FCPS meeting on Sunday, Steve Walske presented a very well organized slide-talk on the military uses of Siege balloon mail—which was the subject of his exhibit (Gold Award). His material emphasized the scarce military usages, with special study of the location of the units during the siege, and finished with crash and captured flights.

The social activities included a "genuine old-fashioned New England clambake," and a reception at the John Hay Library of Brown University to view their remarkable U.S. philatelic collections, collections of Lincoln and Napoleon materials and miniature military models. The Knight U.S. Collection is practically complete in mint blocks (or larger multiples) in superb condition, beautifully mounted; the Peltz U.S. Special Delivery collection is likewise something to behold. There is also a world-wide major variety collection. The Library has an endowment yielding \$30,000 annually for completing and updating the collections! Collections left to college libraries do



Bob Stone showing off his special FCPS Award—a silver coil-stamp dispenser containing a strip of 15 2c Cérès 1870 kindly cut out of some catalogs and pasted together by Yvonne Newbury. (Mrs. Betty Gray from Atlanta at right and Bill Waugh at left). Photo courtesy Gardner Brown.

not usually obtain such magnificent munificent attention and support.

FCPS members attending included Gardner Brown and his fiancé (almost Brown) Katherine Joyce, Ernst Cohn, Mrs. Betty Elwood Gray and Dr. Stephen W. Gray (who came all the way from Atlanta), Ed. Grabowski, Ray Gaillaguet, John Lievsay and guest Josephine Rowe, Jerry Massler, Bob Stone, Steve Walske, and Bill Waugh.—R. G. Stone

All eight of our members that entered exhibits corralled gold medals. As they appeared in the frames, the entries were: Luft, "French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Armies" plus APS medal of excellence for pre-1900; Waugh, "Italy from Napoleonic times through Unification"; Stevens, "Serbs in Exile 1916-18" plus APS medal of excellence 1900-40; Brown, "Aftermath of the Franco-Prussian War"; Stone, "St. Pierre and Miquelon 1765-1892"; Grabowski, "Allegorical Group Type—Colonial Odyssey"; Massler, "Monaco—Prince Albert I"; and Walske, "Military Balloon Mail—Siege of Paris." Special award of the FCPS was given to Bob Stone for his "St. Pierre and Miquelon, 1765-1892."

This was a show of exceptional merit. The measure of our members' accomplishments is seen more clearly in light of the competition. To the 59 exhibits there were awarded 30 gold, 13 vermeil, 12 silver, only 3 silver-bronze and one lone bronze. That's high power, and a tribute to Chairman Gaillaguet's efforts. Ernst Cohn and I served on the jury, and will attest to the pleasure of serving at such a good show, and the difficult but thorough deliberations which carried us into Saturday morning to decide the winners.
—J. E. Lievsay



The crowd attending the FCS meeting at RIPEX. The ladies are Josephine Rowe, Katherine Joyce, and Betty Gray. Photo courtesy Carlo Maggi.

THE DOUBLE-LINED CENTIMES DUE HANDSTAMPS

The striking large double-lined or "hollow" numeral handstamps are frequent on due-charged French covers of the 1850-1882 period, though not the only type of due mark in use then. The double-lined ones represented (with one exception) values in centimes, whereas for larger charges over 30c or 40c the old single-line script-type or ms marks were still in general use to represent values in décimes or francs. For the due charges of 25c, 35c, 45c, etc., that came into use after 1849 it became impracticable to use décime marks, which were furnished in even multiples of 10c. Hence a distinctive style of due mark for centimes was introduced and thereafter generalized for most charges under 1fr. The issue of dues adhesives for general use in 1882 ended the application of the due handstamps of all types.

What are the kinds of mail on which the double-lined due marks are to be expected? They can be grouped in 6 classes according to the type and origin of the letters and within each class subdivided by different due charges in force at various times. By 1871 all P.O.s were furnished at least some of the double-lined marks.

A). The first class is the letters circulated within France and Algeria, for the first weight-step of the tarif:

- 1 July 1850 to 30 June 1854 — "25"
- 1 July 1854 to 31 August 1871 — "30"
- 1 Sept. 1871 to 30 April 1878 — "40"
- From 1 Sept. 1871 at times on local letters — "25"
- 1 May 1878 to 30 Sept. 1882 — "30"

B). Letters from Paris to Paris:

- 1 Jan. 1867 to 31 Aug. 1871 — "15"
- 1 Sept. 1871 to 30 June 1878 — "25"
- 1867 to 1882 — "5fr"

C). Letters from French Colonies (see explanation in article by Tristant in FCP #184, Apr. 1981, p. 57):—

- 30 May 1851 to 30 June 1854 — "35"

D). Letters from Spain:

- 1 Jan. 1860 to 3 July 1869, special tax — "5c"

E). Letters to and from certain bordering countries:—

- Various periods according to the country, between
- 1 July 1851 and 31 Dec. 1875 — "25," "30," "40"
- For the "Rayon Frontière," Tarif of 1 July 1853 to
- 30 June 1858 — "45," "55," "75," "85"

F). War of 1870-71, Double-franking of the Franco-German regime (see article by the Browns, FCP #199, Jan. 1985):—

- 4 Feb. 1871 to 24 March 1871 — "20," "30"
- 4 Feb. 1871 to 25 May 1872 — "4"
- 1 August 1871 to 31 Dec. 1871 — "20"
- 1 Sept. 1871 to 15 May 1872 — "25"
- 1 Sept. 1871 and a few days after — "5c," "15"
- From 15 May 1872 on — "40"

Sometimes double-lined, single-lined, and ms due marks all appear on the same cover; and rarely they were improperly used to cancel stamps on paid letters. As many copies or dies of the marks were made they show some variations in detail.

On the part-paid letters the due was reduced by the amount of the prepayment; part prepayments occurred frequently just after the postage rates were raised and on over-weight letters. Two double-lined marks of the same value on a cover usually meant a confirmation, but two different value marks a correction (not an addition).

(From an article by Conne, Coll. Phil. et Marcoph. #64)

THE "TAXE SIMPLE"

Jack Blanc, who is a very profound student of the byways of French postal usages, explains in an article in Coll. Philatelite et Marcophile (#63) the marks sometimes seen on postage-due covers of the 1889 to-date period, reading "Taxe Simple" in handstamp or ms. (This term is not to be confused with the occasional expression "taxe simple" or "port simple" to refer to the first weight-step in letter rates.) The Taxe Simple marks are found on covers from certain government offices or functionaries addressed to private individuals or firms and charged due with due stamps affixed. The mark may be accompanied by a reference to the "Loi du 29 Mars 1889" which authorized its use. This law stated: "The tax on objects of unfranked correspondence relating only to the Public Service originating with functionaries to be designated by a Décret and endorsed by their counter-signature, addressed to persons to whom the functionary is not authorized to use a postal franchise, is made equal to prepaid postage applicable to such correspondence. This tax is to be charged to the destinees. The Décrets designating the functionaries whose official correspondence will benefit by this law will be rendered on the basis of proposals of the Minister of Finance and published in the Journal Officiel."

The law became effective on 1 May 1889. The lists of the functionaries or others benefiting by the law have been frequently changed over the years. The only important modification in its application was made on 1 Sept. 1983 when the classification of official mail was changed from normal (urgent) to non-urgent.

Collecting this very special category of due covers has some interesting rarities:— such as heavy-weight and registered letters, and ones sent by pneumatic post. Also to be noted is that certain denominations of the dues stamps were specially created just for this Taxe Simple—e.g., the 25c rose Duval-type for the tarif of 1-4-20 to 15-7-25, and the 1.50 red in Gerbes type for the tarif of 5-1-42 to 25-2-45.

The background for the Law of 29 March 1889 goes back to 1849 with the first postage stamps and uniform letter rate. The practice of certain functionaries sending their official correspondence unpaid was apparently already in existence, but the tarif of 1849 to 1853 made the same charge for unpaid as for paid letters. But on 1 July 1853 the charge on prepaid mail was made 50% less than on unpaid mail in Paris, and on 1 July 1854 for letters from one P. O. to another in France; on 1 Jan. 1863 for all local letters. Since May 1878 the unpaid mail was charged twice the paid rate. And now many complaints arose from receivers of mail from functionaries that was charged double the normal postage, as being unfair. It was this complaint which led to the Law of 29 March 1889 that limited the due on functionaries mail to the equivalent of the normal postage as if prepaid.

PLATERS CORNER

Catalogue and Market statistics. One of the esoteric developments in the French philatelic literature has been the reporting of studies of stamp price movements. "Hausses" in the Thiaude, for example, and now the current series by J. F. Brun, "Les timbres et l'argent" in *Le Monde*. Some of this is pure investment hype, being utilized like the Salomon Bros. US stamp index to argue for diversification of investors into our market. But serious collectors can apply this kind of analysis to good purpose.

For all the discussion that follows, let me suggest that the best index is a simple one. For the purpose of doing any calculations on 19th C. France, I use only the quotation for a used copy of the most common shade of each catalogue number. As base year I take 1975, which is the date of the Yvert & Tellier specialized catalogue, being the most complete and authoritative starting point.

1. APS Insurance. The present plan, requiring itemized listings for only those items insured with a replacement value of \$5000, is a good example of the use of indexing. Yes, it took me months some years ago to inventory my entire collection of 19th C. France, then only 23 volumes. Now I have to update each year those into which I have added significant new material (as noted in my running purchase log); update those sections whose detail listing are the oldest; and index the rest. The detail listings will be invaluable to my executor, a consideration often neglected by collectors even with substantial properties.

2. Bidding aid. Unless you subscribe to a number of auctions, and get the prices realized, it may be difficult to figure a good bid for some specialized item that suddenly appears on the market. If it, or an item of comparable scarcity was listed in the 1975-base catalogue, then it is a simple matter to apply the current index ratio to derive an estimate of the current quotation. For example, if a particularly scarce cancellation was quoted in 1975 at FF10,000 and the current index is 4.0x, a nominal quote of FF40,000 is attributed. Since the Franc was worth 25c in the base year, and only at 11c now, a dollar bidder is at a definite advantage and should bid accordingly.

3. Collection targeting. I break my index log at each of the issues of 19th C. France—1st issue, Presidence, Empire imperf., etc. The purpose is twofold. a) Bargain hunting. Bearing in mind that common will always be cheap, nevertheless it is evident from time to time that some groups or issues are attracting less interest than the general run of stamps. When I write here, as in Jan. '84 on the Hills, that a group has scarcity value it is also with notice that the index for that group is lagging at a sluggish 3.4 vs. the overall 4.0 from 1975. b) Balance. I collect all of 19th C. France. After doing the annual catalogue index and my insurance valuations, I stop to see where my collection is ahead and behind by issue. Thus if the Lauré issue 4.4% of my index total and my holdings are only 4.0% of my inventory, it is time to start looking for things like the 5F Specimen, 20c Lebaudy, or perhaps a Jerusalem consular-office cancel.

Perhaps now is the time to repeat the purpose of this column, to report from time to time on the work of specialists here and in France. Much of the content has been on individual stamps/varieties/plating. All of it is based on the premise that in Philately, knowledge is power!—J.E.L.

CURRENT JOURNAL ARTICLES

(Cont. from FCP #198, p. 126)

Le Monde des Philatelistes (CC, APRL)

- #374, April 1984: Crané: "Terres Australes et Antiarctiques Fr."; Schier: "Les nouveau philatellstes"; Lebland: "Une idee de collection—les timbres perforés"; de la Méttrie: "Charmante Augusta"; "Rencontre" (with J. F. Brun on television), Conts. of Danan, Traessart, Guillard.
- #373, March 1984: De la Méttrie: "Le nouveau philatéliste"; Stofati: "L'Art et la Philatélie"; Stofati: "Hommage César"; Brun: "Les variétés des gouts et des couleurs"; Conts. of Guillard, Altériet, Savélon, Trassaert, Danan, Monchicourt.
- #375, May 1984: "La Sabine souvenirs de P. Gandon"; Dorlé: "La Sabine (variétés)" (begin serial); Trassaert: "Marianne de la Nef" (end); Fromaigeat: "Aérophilatélie"; Beneteau: "Surcharges—une marque d' intérêt"; "Le secret des filigranes"; Brun: "Méfiez vous" (raux numéros sur roulettes); Brun: "Lees variétés"; Rouard-Watine: "Le Croix Rouge et la Poste"; Joffre: "Histoire des timbres et des oblitérations TAAF—1984"; Altériet: "Carnets Liberté" (end); Altériet: "Variété de cliché du 2Fr Liberté"; conts. of Tristant, Bonchicourt, Savélon, "Jean Messagier."
- #376, June 1984: Marty: "Le timbre: valeur reuge?—1914-84 les prix des timbres"; "Riquewihr—visite guidé"; Dorlé: "La Sabine"; Trassaert: "Les préos de fortune"; P. J.: "1940—une projet commune."
- #378, Sept. 1984: "Le train postal a Grand Vitesse (TGV postal)"; "P.J. —pleins faux sur les rapaces"; "Les oblitérations des J.O."; Altériet: "Quelques variétés Liberté, préos"; Fromaigeat: "Impression des timbres-poste Francais"; Crané "TAAF nouvelles"; conts. of Monchicourt, Savélon.
- #379, Oct. 1984: Stofati: "Le centenaire de l'automobile Fr."; Tislowitz: "Le rallye de Monte Carlo"; Fromaigeat: "La gravure en taille douce"; Décaris: "La gravuree est éternité"; Stofati: "Pierre Béquet, graveur"; Altériet: "Variétés de surcharges des préos 1984"; De la Méttrie: "Petite lettre, grosse surprise"; Dorlé, Savélon, conts. Altériet: "La collection carnets Liberté" (cont.)
- #380, Nov. 1984: "La Galerie Théodore Champion"; Altériet: "La collection des variétés—repérage et positionnement—type Liberté"; Trassaert: "Les catalogues (historique)"; Danan: "L'Affranchissement fiscal des actes d'état civil depuis 1930" (begin); conts. of Dorlé, Savélon, Altériet, Monchicourt.
- #381, Dec. 1984: Haley: "Claude Haley—créateur graveur des timbres-poste"; De La Méttrie: "Incroyable mais—vrai" (on Cérés 25c reconstruction); conts. of Dorlé, Altériet, Danan, Monchicourt.
- #382, Jan. 1985: P.J.: "Nos Présidents de la République" (on stamps); Faugère: "Variétés sur la virole 1 du 2.00F de carnet Liberté"; Brun: "Constituer su collection"; Crané: "Nouvelles polaires"; "Repertoire des timbres fr. émis en 1984"; "La fin du timbre-poste?"; conts. of Savélon, Altériet, Danan.
- #383, Feb. 1985: conts. of Danan, Savélon, Altériet, Dorlé.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie (CC, APRL)

- #1543, May 1983: conts. of Duran, Munier, Danan, Tristant.
- #1545, July-Aug. 1983: Duran: "A propos du code postal" (cont.); Barrière: "Histoire d'un plis (Réunion 1842)"; Deshouillers: "Une variété particulière du 0.30F Blason de Paris"; Conts. of Tristant, Munier.
- #1546, Sept. 1983: Brun: "Falsification Rhone- Palatinat bloc"; conts. of Danan, Tristant.
- #1548, Nov. 1983: Conts. of Munier, Tristant, Venturini, Duran.
- #1549, Dec. 1983: Dumont: "Les timbres pour colis postaux de Paris pour Paris" (begin); Lebland: "Timbres commémoratives de 1934-35 des colonies Fr. d'Amérique"; conts. of Tristant, Munier, Venturini.
- #1550, Jan. 1984: Brun: "Prestige de la poste et du timbre—Expo du Musée"; Danan: "Monopôle postale et timbres de Grève—addendum"; conts. of Tristant, Munier, Dumont.
- #1551, Feb. 1984: Conts. of Tristant, Dumont, Munier.
- #1552, March 1984: Conts. of Tristant, Dumont, Munier.
- #1553, April 1984: Conts. of Tristant, Dumont; Foucqueron: "Jacques Cartier."
- #1557, Sept. 1984: "La paiement de la TVA sur les importations de timbres"; Centurini: "TAAF—Retour du courrier des Iles Australes de 1983, quatrième courrier 1983"; conts. of Dumont, Tristant.
- #1558, Oct. 1984: Conts. of Dumont, Munier, Venturini.
- #1560, Dec. 1984: Conts. of Tristant, Danan, Venturini ("TAAF nouvelles").
- #1561, Jan. 1985: Fournier: "Le 50F burelé—à plat ou rotatif?"; de la Ferté: "La nouvelle Calédonie" (max. cds.); conts. of Tristant, Danan, Venturini.
- #1562, Feb. 1985: Conts. of Tristant, Venturini.

REVIEWS

"The Suez Canal Company" By J. B. d'Humières, S. Ringström, and H. E. Tester. Part 3 of the "Private Ship Letter Stamps of the World." 1985. 285pp. illustr. Published by and for sale by Leonard Hartmann, Box 36006, Louisville, Ky. 40233, at \$45 postpaid, and from literature dealers in U.S., G.B., Sweden, Germany, and Italy.

The Suez Canal Company issue, used for only one month July-August 1868, is one of those philatelic oddities that everybody knows about, but nobody collects because of the 1) scarcity of the genuine, and 2) profusion of facsimiles. This book won't change your opinion; but it will tell you in detail the facts of the matter.

An introductory section relates the operations of the Company and the process of procuring stamps and cancellation devices for the service. Known cancels are then discussed, followed by a description of the 21 known covers. Next are 80 pages for plating the genuine stamps, to which I can't attest since I don't own any; and then 50 pages to cover the 20 different known forgeries to which I can attest as I identified mine in about 15 minutes, by transfer type and by using the included enlarged sheet of the 40c, position.

This is a good book. Unlike many reviewers, I paid for my copy and count it in my library. It is a book that would never have seen the light of day but for a sponsor, much as our Society's own Vaurie funded Bordeaux Issue book; and I say philately is better for it.—J. E. Lievsay.

We would add that Leonard Hartmann did an excellent job of editing this book. He also is responsible for the printing and publishing. The quality

of bookmaking and illustrations is excellent, in keeping with the format and quality of the two previous volumes of the Ringström and Tester series. A folded insert of 14x20½ inches is provided showing a reproduction of the Saantjian sheet of the 40c in red at 160% enlargement, to facilitate plating. Also on p. 285 a facsimile souvenir sheet in colors of the Forgery 20, made ca. 1950, is pasted in.—R. G. Stone.

"Images of the Great War, Vol. I. A Fully-Illustrated Catalogue of Delandre's French Military Vignettes 1914-1917." By Walter Schmidt. 1984. 152pp. in a spiral binder. Publ. by the author 3654 Applegate Road, Jacksonville, Ore. 97530. \$25.00 postpaid.

In WW I numerous colorful seals and labels were put out to raise money for the Red Cross and other charities, others were for propaganda. A special category of regimental and military activity seals was the work of a notorious French printer who called himself Delandre (not his real name). The Delandre labels as well as the Red Cross and others, are frequently seen on soldiers' cards and covers of WW I and thus have a philatelic connection, lending to some curiosity from collectors of military mail. However, there is a large coterie of cinderella collectors for the various kinds of labels, not to mention the Red-Cross specialists, and finally specialists in Delandre items. Several books and cinderella clubs are devoted to the Delandre vignettes, mainly in France. As over 2000 items are recorded there is much scope for a collector.

Walter Schmidt is an enthusiast for the Delandre and other WW I labels and is a dealer in them. His Delandre catalog has an introduction about Delandre's career; he was a long-time swindler, crook and scoundrel, seven times sent to jail—a real "operator." He saw in WW I an opportunity as a printer of "war stamps," which he advertised and promoted flagrantly, appealing to the patriotic fervor of the time, conning the Red Cross and various countries, until the Italians finally caught up with him and put him in jail for life. He employed good designers and used themes and bright colors calculated to sell; many of his labels have a Victorian corniness but some are quite good.

Schmidt's catalog is arranged by subjects: infantry, cavalry, artillery, aviation, naval, medical, support, forts, etc., and occupation forces. For each label he gives his catalog no., a clear black and white reproduction, data on size, rarity, and the designers. There is a good index by subjects, which covers an amazing variety (topicalists take note).—R.G.S.

"Cilicie—Occupation Militaire Francaise." By Menachim Max Mayo. 1984. 194 pp. In full color. Softbd. Publ. by the author at \$30.00. 1 Bond St., New York, N. Y. 10012.

While Cilicia is not popular among strictly French-area collectors, perhaps because the issues under French occupation (as well as the occupation of Syria) are rather complicated and troublesome to identify and understand. The author has taken a deep personal interest in the French provisional issues for 1919, the ones overprinted on Turkish stamps, which he catalogs in great detail listing many minor varieties and "errors" (which many specialists suspect include a lot of printer's waste, counterfeits, or fantasies). They are priced in dollars, but probably quite a bit higher than current market (higher than Scott). He discusses the numerous forgeries of the script-type "Cilicie" overprints, but claims not to have found any of the other issues. All the stamps and overprints and some covers are illustrated in full colors (somewhat paler than the originals).

As sort of an afterthought, the author appends a discussion of the "T.E.O." and "O.M.F./Cilicie" surcharges on French and French Levant stamps issued in 1920, which he admits he doesn't know so much about; their treatment is incomplete and with some inaccuracies—one is better advised to depend on the Yvert et Tellier specialized catalogue of French Colonies (Vol. II), last edition 1936.

There is an introduction giving historical background to the incredibly complex affairs of 1919-20, along with some illustrations of postmarks of the various previous foreign P.O.s and the Turkish P.O.s in the area. For some reason the author includes a lengthy article by Col. Brémont on his controversial Mission to reoccupy all of Cilicia in 1919-20, reprinted in translation from the Armenian Review of 1976-77—which has no philatelic information but very interesting history.

The author does not give references (except for several very old articles) or bibliography, and apparently did not consult any French literature.

The book is handsomely printed, with a bright red cover in an all-over design of a Turkish stamp. It is a work collectors of French Levant and the Middle East will want to have for reference.—R.G.S.

"The Paquebot Marks of Asia and of Japan's Sea Posts." By Edwin Drechsel. 62 pp. Pall Mall Stamp Co. Ltd., for Christies/Robson Lowe, London, 1985. (For sale in U.S. by Leonard Hartmann, Box 36006, Louisville, Ky. 40233, at \$15.00 postpaid.)

This is the third section of Drechsel's up-date of the well-known 1953 work of Studd "Paquebot and Ship-Letter Handstamps of the World." It covers the area from Turkey, through Israel, Iraq, India, Ceylon, Malaysia, Indonesia, Indochina, Philipines, China, Japan to Korea and Siberia and countries between. For each port the known "Paq" and equivalent marks are illustrated in correct size with tables giving dimensions, periods of use, the numbers in Studd and Joesten's catalogs, and miscellaneous remarks, sources, etc. A 3-page introduction on the definition and history of "Paq" use, various uses of "Paq" marks, and his sources. A special catalog is included of the "Paq" marks used on board Japanese vessels giving seapost service.

The "Paquebot" marks of French colonies in India, Indochina, and the French P.O.s in China, are properly to be considered as postmarks of those entities, even though they are much more likely to be found on covers and stamps that originated at sea or as loose ship-letters from ports of other countries (and with in many cases foreign stamps of the ship's country of registry). Collectors, however, will find this catalog of more use in identifying "Paq" marks on French and French colonial stamps and covers that were posted at the docks loose or at sea and deposited in foreign port P.O.s. Thus Indochina stamps or covers can be found with "Paq" marks of Hong Kong, Canton, Shanghai, Singapore, Djibouti, Aden, etc. These would be on covers posted on merchant ships that departed Saigon or Haiphong. But the postings on board French mail packets departing Indochina, would have the stamps cancelled by the French maritime postmarks (see Salles' "La Poste Maritime") not by "Paq" marks.

Drechsel's work is thorough and well, if concisely, organized and presented, the marks shown in clear strikes taken off covers, not traced. The author has spent many years in collecting "Paq" marks, visiting many ports, corresponding with postmasters and other collectors, compiling and verifying reports in the literature. The results are much more complete and accurate than any previous catalogs.—R.G.S.

"Histoire Postale des Lacs et des Rivières du Monde (Sauf USA et DDSG)"

By E. Antonini and Dr. J. Grasset. 1984. 163 pp. illustr. with separate insert of 8pp "Indices de Rareté." David Feldman, S.A., C.P. 81, 1213 Onex, Geneva, Switz. 60 Sw Frs. (For sale by Leonard Hartmann, Box 36006, Louisville, Ky. 90233, at \$30 postpaid).

This intriguing and attractive book attempts to survey in concise form all the postmarks of lake and river posts of the World. Such posts operated in France and in some Colonies and thus our readers will find considerable of interest. The authors collected material, surveyed the literature and consulted some specialists, but inevitably in such a broad subject a few things were probably missed or incompletely treated. Also the authors had to make some more or less arbitrary decisions as to just what is a river post vs a coastal or estuarine service. Only postmarks specific to a service are included, the cachets of shipping firms or pursers are generally omitted, or maybe only mentioned.

For each service covered there is usually brief historical and geographic background information, with a few maps, some data on periods of use, listings and illustrations of all the types of postmarks found, and a list of literature sources. It is systematically arranged by continents and sequentially along the coasts. The printing is excellent, on coated paper, with very clear illustrations.

The authors are to be congratulated for contributing to such a broad world-wide postal history, which must have been a long effort, bucking the prevalent trend to narrowly specialized national and local topics. It will help to broaden the outlook and interests of many collectors.—R.G.S.

MEMBERS APPEALS

WANTED: Can anyone confirm the story that in 1969 the PTT discovered an engraved plate of a proposed postage stamp pictured and designed by Napoleon in 1814. Kenneth R. Berry, 7513 Clayton Dr., Oklahoma City, OK 73132 (Mb. #989)

OFFER: Andorra. Disposing of entire French and Spanish issues collection, mint, used, B-O-B, proofs, imperfs, covers. SASE. Lorraine Bailey, Box 1483, Arlington, Va. 22210 (Mb. #1641)

WANTED: Need used France of last four years in quantities up to 25-50. Will exchange for other issues of France or buy outright. Need continuing supply also. Ken Elliott, 1301 Spring St., 5-D, Seattle, Wash. 98104 (Mb. #1251)

OFFER: Free, postpaid, price list of imported philatelic literature. A. De Lisle, P. O. Box 2333, Sun City, Ariz. 85351 (Mb. #2491)

WANTED: 25Fr Chenonceux and 25Fr Gandon on W.W. II military telegraph forms (entire or large fragments). Make offer to Stanley J. Luft, 870 S. Miller Court, Lakewood, Colo. 80226 (Mb. #915)

OFFER: Breaking up two (one unused, one used) collections of France and Colonies. Especially strong in classic and back of the book items. Send SASE with your want lists to be filled at 1/3rd Scott or less. John C. Carleton, 9440 Manchester, S-100, St. Louis, Mo. 63119 (Mb. #1771)

OFFER: Anyone interested in acquiring a postally unmarked papillon de Metz, contact Ernst M. Cohn, 1138 Appian Way, Dothan, Ala. 36303 (Mb. #1491)

THE A.E.F. POSTAL MARKINGS—FURTHER ADDENDA

By Robert G. Stone

Pierre Raynaud has sent us a few additional examples of some of the Types of marks we illustrated in FCP #s 197-199, as well as several new Types. Jean-Francois Ressort also sent us several new Types, and we have made a few discoveries too. Some revisions or corrections are in order.

Type A (of the "Curiosities").—A variant with 10 dashes instead of 11 is reported by Ressort.

Type 1. Make the following correction to the revised annotation in FCP #199, p. 13: — the covers of the second period of use are known stamped with the 25c Dubois yellow and the 5c and 80c Ceres.

Type 2. Extend the extreme dates of use reported to 26/8/65 and 17/1/86. This Type not seen on the Eagles issue stamps off cover (which are cancelled with the GAB lozenge instead) during 1860-69, but only on the face of the covers. It is always in blue 1870-72. Seen on the Eagles and Ceres stamps from Dec. 1876 to Nov. 1884, on Dubois stamps from July 1881 to Jan. 1886. Between Oct. 1870 and June 1877 practically no covers are reported from Gabon as the administration had become very limited (at the same time as the Assinie or Côte D'Or establishment was closed).

Type 14. A similar mark inscribed "Congo Francaise / Brazzaville / 20 / Oct. 36."

Type 16. A mark in similar style, 40 mm diameter, inscribed: "REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE/COLONIE DU CONGO FRANCAISE/ (in center) BENITO," seen 1909.

Type 16b. An official administrative cachet used at Ndolé 1889 as a postmark in lieu of a regular date-postmark which had not been issued to this station (it would have been in Type 3).

Type 19. Mark for the P. O. at Miltou, reported misspelled "Milton."

Type 20. Mark for the P. O. at Bouar, reported misspelled "Bonar."

Type 21a. Also seen: Bozoum, April 1938

Type 23a. Bangui, 1942, a variant with appearance of a semi-octagonal outer ring, perhaps a deformation due to damage. Rare?

Type 34. "Brazzaville R.P.*/A.E.F.," but above and below the central date-line are 4 short parallel lines, Nov. 1953.

Type 52a. Variant with "P.P." and "A.E.F." interchanged.

Type 66. Variant: "BANGUI/OUBANGUI—CHARI," 1910-30? The cachet for "BANGUI" was often struck on registered covers without the registry label, and with the "R" (Type 67) only in ms, 1910-50s.

Type 50e. Also Brazzaville, 1949.

Type 50f. New style.

Type 69a. Omit this illustration as it is a mark of Paris not of A.E.F.

Type 70. Seen also from Libreville 1945.

Type 74. Raynaud thinks the inscription probably should read "L'Offoué N'Goumie"—"Offoué" was the administrative circonscription between the two rivers, the Ogououé and the N'Goumie. (The original report of the mark by Francois was probably misread from an unclear strike.)

Type 84d. Pointe Noire. July 1937.

- Types 84-85. There are many cachets of first flights from or to A.E.F. illustrated in Muller's "Catalogue des Aérogrammes" which we believe were private ones of the air lines, not of the P.O.s.
- Type 86. Also Bangui, Dec. 1930, for the type in rectangle.
- Type 87. Seen also for Bangui, Libreville, and Ft. Lamy.
- Type 95a. An administrative cachet of the P.O., probably at Libreville or Brazzaville, used on official mail, early 1900s?
- Type 96c. Apparently used on official franchise mail regarding philatelic sales and promotions, 1950s.
- Type 100a. Similar mark inscribed "TCHAD/Paradis/des/Chasseurs," Ft. Lamy, 1936.
- Type 101a. Similar mark, unframed: "CENTENAIRE / DU / GABON / Libreville Le 1er Aout 1950."
- Type 101c and 101d: Seen in larger size, used at Pointe Noire, 1937.
- Type 106. The unframed non-serif "T" seen from Mindouli 1925 and Ft. Lamy 1936.
- Type 109. Was used by the purser of the S.S. "African Pilot" while calling at Pointe Noire in 1953, then given to the P.O. there where it was used to 1954 on mail from other ships.

New Types:

Early Gabon:

- Type 113. Double lined circle 36 mm diam., inscribed: "ETABLISSEMENTS FRANCAIS DU GOLFE DE GUINEE—/(in center) POSTES /LIBREVILLE," cachet used by Libreville P.M. on his official annual reports 1889-1890.
- Type 114. Double circle 32 mm diam., inscribed: "*CONGO FRANCAIS* ADMINISTRATION De L'INTERIEUR/(in center) R.F./Service des Postes," on administrative and official letters, Libreville, 1892.

Restored Gabon Post:

- Type 115. Somewhat similar to Type 34, but "Gabon" instead of "A.E.F." at bottom, seen Moanda 1957-61, probably at some other P.O.s.

Military Correspondence:

- Type 116. A military unit cachet for the Army medical service, on franchise mail for medical personnel, early 1900s (style of Type 16).
- Type 116a. A straightline cachet, seen used at Semio, Chad, 5 Sept. 1917. The Arrete no. was probably the decree granting the free military franchise for AEF during WW I.
- Type 116b. Examples of military unit cachets of WW II, used on franchised mail by the vaguemestres of the units, to validate the entitlement of the sender to the franchise.
- Type 117. Double-lined outer circle, single-lined inner circle inscribed: "*R.A.F.L./LIGNES AERIENNES MILITAIRES/(in center) Escale De/BANGUI (and cross of Lorraine)". W.W. II, 1944-45.

Special-Agency Marks:

- Type 118. Circular date stamp 25 mm; for use of the postal checking-accounts office, Brazzaville, 1950s.

Auxiliary Marks:

- Type 119. Seen used at Libreville 1946.



16.



16b.



23a.



52a.



96c.



Le Receveur des Postes

95a.



116.

BATAILLON DU POOL
LE VAGUEMESTRE
BRAZZAVILLE

116b.



122.



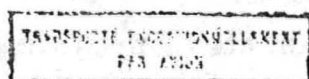
50f.



70.

PAR AVION

84d.



86.

T

106.



115.



118.

LE CHEF DU SERVICE
DES POSTES ET TÉLÉGRAPHES
DU GABON

119.

POSTES ET TÉLÉGRAPHES

120.



121.

Type 120. Seen Libreville, 1946.

Emergency Postmarks (Cachets de Fortune):

Type 121. Seen on a letter postmarked in transit on back at Oyem, Gabon, 1 Sept. 1944, addressed to Cameroun. (The P.O. at Mitzig was opened before 1930.) A temporary mark probably cut from a cork.

Unclassified Marks:

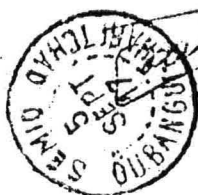
Type 122. Seen on cover with adhesives from Port-Gentil to U.S., purpose of mark unknown; cover was from commercial firm to a U.S. firm, by air mail with local and British censorship, franked at 19 francs in adhesives.

Franchise postale de Guerre ARRETE N°574

TROUPES de l'A.E.F.

Le Comt d'armée

116a.



FM

116b.



DESCRIPTION OF THE POSTAL MUSEUM, PARIS

(Musée de la Poste et de Philatélie)

The Museum consists of fifteen rooms. Your visit starts from the 5th floor moving down to the ground floor.

During your visit, you will discover all that is related to human communication throughout the ages.

Room 1

Reception office—cinema—original works from great artists who have worked for philately (painters and sculptors). Water colors from the stamp designer Decaris, Institute member (donation to the Museum). Video screens; thousands of TV spots and computer games.

Room 2: The Post from Antiquity to the Middle Ages

Exhibits on the origins of writing and its supports (clay, papyrus, wax, leather, parchment, paper).

Diorama in mezzanine: a messenger carries parchments from a Lord's manor to Etienne Marcel, provost of Paris merchants.

The Monks' Post, the "Rotula" and the Messenger from Amien's town. The "Table of Peutinger," road map of the ancient Rome.

Room 3: Trudaine's room

Postal costumes and items from the XVth to the XIXth century: uniforms, messengers' boxes, sign-boards, postal station models, postilion's boots, messengers' badges since the Old Regime as well as uniform buttons, safes, plates printed with postal subjects, private people's mail boxes (18th and 19th centuries).

Room 4: F. D. Blumstein's Room

The means used for mail transport, from cart to the railway—mail steamers included, are shown in documents from that time, by models strictly conforming to the original vehicles or by air navigational instruments.

Room 5: D. Daurat's room

Airmail is illustrated by miniatures of the same scale (audiovisual show that can be selected in switching on a button in the arm-rests of the Boeing 707 seats—1st class) and by items which belonged to the aerospace pioneers. Model of a runway with the loading of a plane. Air navigational instruments before and after the Second World War.

Room 6: G. Moutardier's room

In war-time, the mail has to get through in any way. Documents about the Napoleonic wars, the Siege of Paris in 1870-1871 (model of the balloon, Moulins' ball, carrier pigeon, microfilms . . .). 1914-1918 and 1939-1945 wars. A German phone switchboard (probably coming from Berchtesgaden) and the Army Post (parachutable equipment) are shown in a large show-case.

Room 7: Renouard de Villayer's room

From the postman of the year 1900 until today, different types of letter boxes, postmen boxes since the middle of the 19th century; post-office sign-board and plates; items used in post-office counters (scales, etc.), a collection of post calendars selected among the 3,500 existing in the Museum; the post-office and the postman as shown on the post card since the year 1900; finally, the portraits of the former generals and of General Directors who marked the history of the Post.

Room 8: C. Chappe's room

The following items can be found in the central show-cases: a short retrospective exhibition of telephone and telegraph apparatus; Chappe's telegraph; Morse's telegraph; Paris pneumatic network (suppressed in January 1984).

Room 9: E. Daguin's room

A glance at the huge collection of the postal marks: handwritten marks or pads, cancellation marks of all kinds: the postal mark bears witness to history of Post and to history itself.

Cancelling machines since the end of the 19th century. The first postage stamp printing techniques are exhibited in a large show-case: typography and copper-plate engraving. Steel engraver workshop.

Room 10: Jacques-Jean and Desire-Albert Barres' room

The model of Perigueux stamp printing house. A group of 3-color copper-plate prints and a copper-plate machine (reduced to half the natural size) which was used to issue vignettes for the Museum.

Photogravure: example of a photogravure stamp from one of Jean Picart Le Doux's monumental tapestry works.

Rooms 11 and 12: E. Arago and L. E. Mouchon's rooms

A single of each of the stamps issued in France and in overseas departments are shown as well as the original dies of numerous figurines.

In room 12 can be found a lithographic press which was used to print stamps. The temporary exhibitions managed by the Postal Museum Friends Association, a slide projector to show details of printed stamps are completing the French Collection.

Room 13: Louvois's room

At the beginning, communication—mainly military—progressed along with the conquest, before becoming an indispensable means of exchange between the nations. Founded in 1874, the Universal Postal Union methodically organized the exchanges, which first developed with the Princes of Tour and Taxis, then with Louvois (the latter negotiated bilateral agreements with several European countries).

Treaties, foreign letter boxes, uniforms . . . The Post is universal.

Room 14: E. Vaille's room

From the office counters of the year 1900 up to the ultramodern counters including the oak counter of the years 1930: the charm of the "Belle Epoque" early 20th face the sophisticated machines such as the "Automatic Postal Franking Machines (GAPA)", the financial terminal called "CHEOPS" which is directly connected to Gira and savings accounts.

Room 15: J. Decouzon's room

Latest machines designed for automatic letter sorting: together with counters, this is an aspect of the Post that people never see. The Postal Museum shows in this room "the other side of the picture" in its latest technology.

(These machines are demonstrated every day between 2 and 4:30 p.m.).

After the Museum visit, one can buy souvenirs, philatelic documents, bills, lithographes, books, medals, postcards, etc., on the ground floor sales office

The Library (closed on Sunday) is located on the 6th floor. It is possible there to go through numerous history books or precious documents (one's identity card is to be shown)

Stamps issued all over the world as well as sample-plates of stamps from France can be shown if a special authorization is given.

The Official Philatelic Documents (Documents Officiels)

The Postal Administration publishes an "official philatelic document" for the Postal Museum, for every stamp as it is issued.

This prestige document, on wove paper coming from Arches paper mill, of size 21x29.7 cm, is issued from the Perigueux postage-stamp printing house.

About 40 such documents per year are published.

A sample document is given to every visitor.

The Postal Museum Friends Association (*Amis du Musée de la Poste*)

Founded in 1947, the Postal Museum Friends Association gathers more than 1,000 members among whom are eminent experts in postal history and in philately. A bulletin entitled "Relais" is sent to each member. The Association headquarters is at the Postal Museum.

The Messenger's Gallery

The ground floor Messenger's Gallery shelters marvellous temporary exhibitions which are most often linked with the issue of a postage stamp.

A signboard of a postal station (18th-19th century), two big and closed safes are permanently facing a DC3 propeller and a DC4 speed reducer: "The evolution from the Horse Postal Station to the Aeropostal".

Admission to the Gallery is free.

The Museum and the Gallery are closed Sundays and feast days.

FOR THE RECORD

(Cont. from FCP #200, p. 55)

491). The PTT policy on rural facteur service in the 1920s (and probably more recently too) is revealed in a book of 1928 by G. Giral on "Communes et P.T.T.—Rapports des Municipalités Avec l'Administration des P.T.T." quoted in Coll. Phil. et Marcoph. #49: "Distribution des Correspondances—The administration is pushing to develop to the maximum the use of the bicycle, which permits speeding up the posting of mail, expanding the service without increasing personnel, and using carriers who by returning to town sooner could be put on other tasks. The use of the bicycle is thus prescribed in every case where it could be of advantage to the service. Mail carriers should be well suited to use this mode of locomotion.

The maximum course of the rounds is variable depending on the greater or lesser difficulties of execution—plains vs mountains, nature of the land, track and profile of the roads, density of population, climate, etc. The facteurs must travel at least 4 km/hr when on foot without bicycle or when pushing the bicycle by hand, including time for stops to deliver mail in villages and picking up from boxes. They must travel at least 8 km/hr on routes judged cyclable. Thus the length of the daily route is, in principle, 32 km for designated facteurs on foot and 20 km for the assistants; for rounds by bicycle 48 km and 32 km respectively. All in-between lengths will occur because only certain sections will be cyclable." This seems to be a bureaucratic elaboration of the obvious, but the facteur now knows where he stands or sits.

492). Collectors of Monaco may not be aware that for a very brief period in 1793 Monaco (with communes of Menton and Roquebrune) was an independent republic under a "National Convention." The history of this episode is summarized by Buninin in Feuilles Marcoph. #140. Up to the end of 1792 Monaco was a Principality, as it is today. On 24 Sept. 1792 a French General occupied Nice nearby. Then the revolutionaries in Menton raised the tricolor over the walls of Monaco. On 22 Oct. a French battalion occupied Monaco. First of Jan. 1793 the resulting "Popular" organizations denounced the Grimaldi regime. In January Popular Assemblies in each commune elected representatives to a National Convention which requested at-

tachment to the French Republic; this was formally effected on March 4. The Monaco Convention organized the civil government and remained French until 1804. Thus from 1 Jan. to 4 March 1793 Monaco was independent. Collectors of Monaco covers of 1792-3 should watch the dates of the letters carefully to spot any from the independent period—the postmark “78/Monaco” however was in continual use from 1791 to 1799. Independent Monaco covers will be real rarities.

493). Henri Tristant sends us a xerox of a cover of French Soudan dated Nov. 1900 on which the postmark has part of the office name cut out and only “KO - - -” remains; the postmark originally was probably for Koniamary P. O. which was closed about this time. Question is where was the cover actually posted?

494). Who engraved the medallion of the large-numeral Cérès of 1872 (for the low denominations)? It is well known that Albert Barre disliked engraving stamps (he was a medal designer and engraver by profession) and also that he didn't get along with Hulot the stamp printer. In August 1866 Barre got the Commission of the Mint and Medals to relieve him of the task of stamp engraving in favor of giving Hulot the responsibility of finding engravers outside the government. But the archives and Hulot's records do not reveal who Hulot got to engrave the Cérès medallion for the low values of 1872 (—the frame and numerals were derived from previous Barre dies as were the rest of the Siege issue.) Dr. Joany in a note in Doc. Phil. #96 (1983) presents a hypothesis that it was done by M. F. Joubert, a French engraver who had gone to England and worked for De La Rue on the dies of Great Britain, some British colonies, and Belgium. There are circumstantial reasons for the supposition. Hulot was well-acquainted with the De La Rue firm, which he had visited on several occasions; and he had obtained the services of engraver Joubert to cut the die for the Guatemala stamp which Hulot printed in 1867. Then Hulot adopted for the plate of the 5Fr Empire the technique of steel coating which Joubert had invented and which was regularly used by De La Rue. Also Joubert in 1869 engraved the die for the unissued essay with effigy of the Imperial Prince.



495). Pierre Raynaud sends us three essays for Reunion formula postal cards, which we have not seen reported before. Two of them have the same style borders but only differ in color (blue and rose), and the third (see illustration) in cream color has a fancier border with ornaments somewhat like those of the first French and French Colonies formula cards of 1873-76. Each type has the Reunion coat of arms at upper left, and an outlined space at upper right for affixing an adhesive is inscribed to be franked at 10c, which would be the rate for from one P. O. to another within the colony. These essays have no resemblance at all to the issued Reunion formula cards. We suppose they were prepared around 1874-75.

496). The so-called Devil's Island settlement in French Guiana has had a postoffice for many years called "Iles du Salut." The "isles" consist of three rocky islets, Ile St. Joseph, Isle du Diable, and Ile Royale. In the 17th and 18th centuries French colonists sought refuge from tropical fevers and diseases on these islands (hence "Iles du Salut"). When the policy of sending deported convicts from France began, the penitentiary was located on the islands because their isolation and the strong surrounding ocean currents provided security. The place was made famous when Dreyfus was sent there at the end of the 19th Cent. The deportation ended long ago and the buildings have been converted into a resort. The postoffice served mainly the administrators and probably was located on Ile Royale where the Director, guards, and prisoners lived, rather than on Devils Island.

497). The use of the UNESCO stamps at Paris is restricted officially to mail deposited in boxes inside the main headquarters of UNESCO on Place Fontaine, Paris 7, or at 1 rue Miallss Paris 15, the Annex office. The stamps on these mails are cancelled with a datestamp of Paris 7 office or of Rue d'Alleray. Letters posted outside these conditions should have the UNESCO stamps crossed out in ink or crayon and charged due. However, covers are seen with the stamps cancelled by P.O.s all over the country, usually by machine cancels, with or without due charged. These cases are explained by the fact that if they were posted outside the UNESCO boxes the P.O.s using machine cancelling cannot spot the improper franking and it is left up to the receiving P.O.s to note and charge them. So all sorts of irregularities can occur.

FOREIGN CENTER NEW YORK (U.S.A. - AO)	de	PARIS GARE SAINT-LAZARE ETRANGER	pour	C 28
	DÉPÊCHE N°	26	FOREIGN CENTER NEW YORK (U.S.A. - AO)	
	DATE D'EXPÉDITION	22 JUL 1944	via	
			paquebot	DART BRITAIN
			port de débarquement	

F. 6/81

499). Leonard Hartmann sent us a small blue printed-form tag that was

tion. On the back is the postmark: "Paris Gare St. Lazare Etranger A/20-6/1984." We presume this is a postal form, for large packages of other than first-class matter, i.e. "A.O." by UPU classification.

F. & C. P. S. OFFICIAL

President's Letter

Elsewhere in this issue there is a write-up of the June meeting at which we honored our charter member Ralph Holtsizer. I am pleased to announce that Ralph has contributed a number of books from his philatelic library to the society, which are being sold, and the proceeds added to the Vaurie Fund. We wish to thank Ralph very much for his kind gift.

I hear recurrent complaints (which I find quite valid) that we should have more attention to the stamps of France, both in our meeting programs in New York and the articles in the Philatelist. Both authors and speakers present the topics that they collect; many of us now most active in the Society do not actually collect the stamps of France, but rather the colonies, postal history, or maritime mail, or military mail, etc. We would be happy to hear from anyone able and willing to help fill this void.

Best wishes for the summer,

Dick

The Financial Position of the Society:—Will a Dues Increase be Necessary?

Particularly our newer members should note that the financial accounts of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society are divided into two independent funds: a current account and the Vaurie account. The current account is the regular operating fund for the Society: its principal source of income is the dues payments, and it must pay for all the regular operating expenses of the Society including publishing the Philatelist. The Vaurie account is a special fund established from the proceeds of a series of contributions by Charles Vaurie and his widow. It can be used only to pay for special projects. So far it has been used to finance most recent special publications of the Society, including the book on the Bordeaux Issue. In the recent financial statements published by the Society, the receipts and disbursements of these two funds have been combined, but the final balance has always been properly divided between the two. (Note that the correct total at the end of the 1984 statement should have been \$10,840.55; due to a misprint in the April Philatelist it appeared to be larger.)

From a position of comfortable surplus in the current account the Society's financial condition deteriorated rapidly as we entered the 1980s. By 1982 current expenses were almost double current income, and at the end of that year the current account showed an accumulated deficit of \$2657. Drastic measures were necessary, and not only were dues increased, but also the Philatelist was reduced in length. This is now the third year since those ac-

tions were taken: in 1983 the accumulated deficit was reduced by \$1512, in 1984 by only \$325. Postal rates have recently been increased. Our other expenses are trending in only one direction: up. At the September Directors meeting we will consider the dues for 1986.—R. M. Stevens

◆ At the May Board meeting it was voted to give the Gerard Gilbert Award for 1984 to William Waugh and Stanley Luft for their book "A Chronology of French Military Campaigns and Expeditions with Their Postal Markings 1815-1983."

Meeting of 2 April

We welcomed Dr. Max Kronstein this evening who presented a very personal view of "Pioneers of Aviation—France 1783-1914." Max is a noted pioneer, authority and author in aerophilately, who in his very early years saw its development, who in his mid-years helped develop the first catalogs and societies, and who is still an avid collector to this day. His presentation, divided amongst balloons, zepps and air meets, was heavily and beautifully illustrated with collateral material (programs, photos, signatures, medals and even fabric from an early French plane) much to the consternation of those with a FIPish view of philately. The result was the delightful mix of excellent philately, history and lore that writers claim is missing from shows today. Too many wonderful items to detail here, except to note that a cover from the Quimper air show (July 14-17, 1910) with the round "QUIMPER AVIATION FINISTERE, 17 JUIL 10" datestamp was highlighted. In the question period Dr. Kronstein noted that he has moved into modern aerophilately with collections of men and animals in space!—E.J.J.G.

Meeting of 7 May

The following officers were elected at our annual meeting held this night: Richard Stevens—President; William Wallis—Vice President; Beatrice Berner—Treasurer; Walter Parshall—Corresponding Secretary; Edward Grabowski—Recording Secretary; and Eric Spiegel and Ira Zweifach—Board Members, Class of 1988.

It was "Members Participation Night" and a truly unusual array of classic to modern material was presented. John Lievsay began with the material behind his "Platers Corner" column in the April 1985 FC&P on the proper identification of an unused 25c Cérés imperforate stamp. That of the French first issue showing shades, papers, cancels and the tête-bêche opened the presentation. The Colonies issue followed with typical cancels and a cover from St. Claude, Guadeloupe at the 50c rate. Essays and proofs abounded, including the discovery copy of a 25c proof on yellow, and a 25c in blue with the 1F tablet in blue printed below it. As John notes in the article, an unused 25c might require plating if all else fails.

Yours truly presented covers on non-use of the Group Type during its period of proper use including local stampless from Guadeloupe (1900) and Senegal (1903) caused by a low-value shortage. Three covers from Reunion illustrating use of the GI dues authorized for local mail 12-31-00 to 1-20-01 were also shown. Included were postings from Possession (10c town rate) and the RR system (Ligue V), and one from Hell-Bourg to St. Denis (3x5c) posted on the 24th after expiration of the authorization, but still accepted.

George there's-more-than-Mozart Guzzio followed with a frame dealing with his study of the Paris office at Place Chopin. P.O. opened on Oct. 10,

1901; George began with a cover posted on the 12th. Examples of the variety of cancels on regular and pneumatic mail, machine cancels, and flammes were presented. The date of closure of this office is uncertain, but George has a cover from November 1932 indicating that the office was still open later than the literature suggests.

Marc Martin followed with a study of printing varieties and plate flaws on the 20c imperforate Empire issue, followed by a detailed exposition of his work on the color varieties of the 80c—best to be seen and beheld than described.

Dick Stevens closed with a hint of what is to come from the Holtsizer collection in June. He showed Martinique covers from 1795 and 1762. The emphasis was on content and not postal history, tonight. One was from a British merchant-trader with much flavor of the commerce of the times. The second, from a ship captain, reminded us that Martinique was not always French, and that there was much mayhem between France and England at the time.

All-in-all an evening with something for everyone.—Ed G.

Meeting of 4 June

It was a pleasure to welcome Ralph Holtsizer, one of our charter members, on this occasion. President Stevens has just purchased his extensive Martinique collection. We were treated to 16 frames of this 20-album collection, with Dick presenting the philatelic and postal history and Ralph taking care of the background and color behind the collection. Much of the material was purchased during the 1930's, with portions coming from Ralph's friends in Martinique.

Among the General Issues highlights were two covers from St. Pierre to Cuba at the 80c rate (Eagles—2x40c and 80c), Ralph's selection of pen cancels on cover pictured in the Stone and Holtsizer article (CCP, Vol. XXXI, No. 4), a letter overpaid by 10c by 3x20c Ceres issue, and a quadruple rate franked with five 20c Sage issue. Of note was a cover franked with a single 30c Ceres issue posted to Guadeloupe in Feb. 1878. This was a special rate for colonies less than 300 miles apart.

A good selection of provisionals on and off cover followed including the rare '05c' on 4c Dubois overprint on piece (only 400 issued), and an '05' on 20c Dubois properly used on printed matter. The Group Type featured 50c and 75c values on a registered cover to Java.

The 1908 pictorial issue was presented in excellent detail with proofs, essays, varieties and covers, a most interesting being a 2c used locally on printed matter in St. Pierre. A study of the overprints followed, and the exhibit concluded with a selection of seldom-seen revenue uses. Ralph closed the proceedings by noting, "My collection is in good hands!"—Ed G.

NEW MEMBERS

- 2470 DUNN, Bob J., 3009 Cypress Dr., Killeen, Texas 76541
(General Collector, all issues, 19th Century, 20th Century. Mint, used, on cover. Dues. Offices Abroad. Colonies General Issues, mint, used, on cover. Group Type. All colonies, territories. Covers of individual cols.)
- 2471 HOTTINGER, R. C., 81-16 Commonwealth Blvd., Bellerose, N. Y. 11426
(General France, mint, used. Dealer, mail sales)
- 2472 REISH, Donald J., 3092 Blume Dr., Los Alamitos, Calif. 90720
(General collector, all issues. France, mint)

- 2473 LeCLAIR, Roger, 549 South Fremont St., Janesville, Wisc. 53545
(General collector, 19th and 20th century)
- 2474 JARRETT, David L., P. O. Box 1486, Grand Central Station, New York, N. Y. 10163 (Regular Issues: Classics 1849-1876 on cover. Modern France, mint. Semi-postals)
- 2475 HART, James B., 663 Bostic Hill Court, Marietta, Ga. 30067
(Africa)
- 2476 RODGERS, James J., 113 Andrea Rd., Cheltenham, Penn. 19012
(General Collector, all issues. France, mint)
- 2477 EDER, Joseph, P. O. Box 5517, Hamden, Conn. 06518
(Dealer, Western Europe, Germany, U.S., Canada)
- 2478 HASTIE, Larry, P. O. Box 1063, Baytown, Texas 77522
(General collector, 20th century. Topical, camels, communications, independence. General France, mint. Modern France, mint, FDCs. Offices abroad, CFA. Colonies General Issues, mint, on cover. All colonies and Territories, and independent republics)
- 2479 MOURAD, Elie, Box 43, 31 McAlister Dr., New Orleans, La. 70118
(Lebanon)
- 2480 PICKEN, Robert E., 4176 Hancock Dr., Holt, Mich. 48842
(Classics 1849-1876, mint, used, on cover, 1870-1871 issues, Commune, Ballons, Alsace-Lorraine, Locals, Cancellations)
- 2481 PENDLETON, Roger, 43 Lincoln St., Bangor, Maine 04401
(Specialized France: Departmental, Marques Postales, Paris Marquis Postales. Regular issues: Classics 1849-1876, used, cancellations)
- 2482 BUMP, Benjamin, 43 North Rd., Hampden, Mass. 01036
(General Collector, all issues. Offices abroad)
- 2483 DePUY, Bradley K., c/o ARAMCO, Post Office Box 8537, Dhahran 31311, Saudi Arabia (General Collector, all issues)
- 2484 PIEKLO, Edward A., 5990 W. Touhy, Niles, Ill. 60648
(General Collector, 19th century. France and Colonies to 1945)
- 2485 JONES, Lawrence H., 632 Aldershot Rd., Baltimore, Md. 21229
(Classics, used, Sage Type. Modern France, mint, used, others to 1949. Colonies General Issues, mint, used. Stamps of Martinique and Guadel.)
- 2486 O'DONAGHUE, William, 17 Whitman Rd., North Brunswick, N.J. 08902
(General Collector, all issues)
- 2487 RASMUSSEN, Norval L., 224 Wilson Ave., Morgantown, W. Va. 26505
(General France, mint, used. Classics 1849-1876, used 1870-1871 issues, Commune, Ballons, Alsace-Lorraine, Locals, Dues, Sage Type, Semi-postals Airmails, Coils, Miniature sheets. Occupation issues. Colonies General Issues, mint, used. Stamps of Algeria and Tunisia)
- 2488 DEAN, Wallace, III, 119 Foote Rd., South Glastonbury, Conn. 06073
(Specialized France: Military, Maritime posts, Used Abroad. St. Dominique and Haiti)
- 2489 HERSHEY, John, 8 Carman St., South River, N. J. 08882
(General Collector, all issues. Modern France, Postage dues, Revenues, Occupation issues by France. Saar. Colonies General Issues, used)
- 2490 THAYER, Denise J., 411 Alton Woods Dr., Concord, N. H. 03301
(General France, mint, used. Classics 1849-1876, mint, used 1870-1871. Semi-postals, air mails, coils, miniature sheets. Franchise Militaire, Occupation issues. Offices Abroad. Colonies General Issues, mint, used. all Colonies and Territories, stamps of French communities, independent republics. Philatelic literature)

- 2491 De LISLE, Albert B., 15433 Boswell Blvd., Sun City, Ariz. 85351
(Dealer, part time. Dealer in imported philatelic literature)
- 2492 WALPOW, Nathan, 1042 North Vista #1, Los Angeles, Calif. 90046
(General Collector, all issues up to 1960. Colonies and territories, cancels and postal history, stamps and covers of St. Pierre et. Miquelon. Independent republics, engraved souvenir sheets only.)
- 2493 LARSEN, Paul A., 14 Wilson Court, Park Forest, Ill. 60466
(Stamps and covers of Ubangi-Shari)
- 2494 HERBERT, Robert M., 1765 Wensley Ave., El Centro, Calif. 92243
(Colonies General Issues, mint, used. All colonies and territories)
- 2495 KNIGHT, R., P. O. Box 1211, Poway, Calif. 92064
(Topical, art stamps of France. DeLuxe Proofs, imperforates, Artist's Proofs, Trial colors)

REINSTATEMENTS

- 1228 GALARNEAU, Roland, 545 Rimmon St., Manchester, N. H. 03102
(General collector, all issues, 19th and 20th century, mint and used. Andorre, Monaco, Saar. Colonies General Issuees, mint, used. Exch dups.)
- 2103 KERMAN, Arnie, 140-29M Casals, Bronx, N. Y. 10475
(See Directory)
- 2182 CARMODY, Robert F., 573 Riviera Circle, Larkspur, Calif. 94939
(In Philatelist)
- 2010 QUINOT, Georges, 5 Allée Bremonnier 7. 3092, Montgeron, France 91230
(General France, mint, used, on cover. Departmental Marques Postales. Regular issues, used, on cover. Dealer, part time. Exchange)
- 2188 DUNN, Edward G., Jr., 298 7th Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11215
(Already in Philatelist)
- 1852 HECHT, Charles J., 114 Burrs Lane, Dix Hills, N. Y. 11746
(Already in Philatelist)
- 1905 CERRATO, Peter A., 47 Old Post Road, Edison, N. J. 08817
(Already in Philatelist)
- 1257 NOSEL, Ronald, 136-39 41st Ave., Flushing, N. Y. 11355
(Already in Philatelist)
- 1971 EARLE, Michael Allen, 1275 La Pala Lane, Carpinteria, Calif. 93013
(Already in Philatelist)

CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND CORRECTIONS

- 2293 SCHLESINGER, Ronald A., 13637 Old Dairy Rd., Herndon, Va. 22071
- 2451 BAILEY, David C., 1569 Marquette Ave., Naperville, Ill. 60565
- 2340 TRIBOLET, Robert W., 749 Canal Rd., Sarasota, Fla. 33581
- 2452 LEASK, Samuel, IV, 120 Green St., Santa Cruz, Calif. 95060-3724
- 1435 NORTON, Jack Harris, 4177 Rosa Rd., Dallas, Texas 75220
- 2434 STUTZ, Daniel J., 5748 Coventry Park Dr., #180, Fort Worth, Texas 76117-1542
- 2140 ALLWORTH, Christopher, 36 Milsom Ave., Halifax, Nova Scotia, Can. B3N 2B9
- 2423 PISANO, John T., 2 Hanover Road, #1817, Brampton, Ont., Canada L6S 4H9
- 1328 McCULLOCH, J. Douglas, 11 Darlingbrook Crescent, Islington, Ont., Canada M9A 3H4
- 2458 WANSTALL, George E., 4802 Maple Rd., Edina, Minn. 55424
- 1251 ELLIOTT, Kenneth M., Jr., 1301 Spring St., #5-0, Seattle, Wash. 98104
- 2445 SULSONA, Robin T., 2908 Porter Glade Court, Doraville, Ga. 30360
- 2369 BRIMM, Andre S., 6338 N. E. Radford Dr., Seattle, Wash. 98115