







France & Colonies Philatelist

THE POSTAL HISTORY OF THE COMMUNE REVOLUTION PARIS 1871

by Gardner L. Brown (cont. from FCP 220, pg. 48)

CHAPTER VII - PRISONER'S MAIL

General

Our survey documented 72 covers written to, or by, prisoners of the Versaillaise. Nearly one half of these were found in the magnificent article by Michael Parlange in La Révue Maritime (1). Since none of the Révue examples were duplicated in the auction catalogs used for the survey, it must be said the ready availability of prisoner's mail to collectors is much less than the number of 72 examples would indicate.

We have divided the material into 4 categories:

| A. Prisons in the Paris region. | 20 examples |
|---|-------------|
| This covers the time span immediately after | |
| the revolution. | |
| B. Coastal prisons and hulks. | 32 examples |
| This covers a much longer period of time while | |
| military tribunals made their decisions. | |
| C. Military tribunals. | 4 examples |
| Documents relating to individual trials. | |
| D. New Caledonia | 16 examples |
| Our survey shows only 3 covers relating to this | |
| period. The others are from Parlange and many | |
| are in the Archives and unavailable to | |
| collectors. | |

| The Postal History of the Commune Revolution, Paris 1871, Chpt. VII 6 | 5 |
|---|----|
| Captain Cecil Johnson's Round Trip To Besieged Paris | |
| Stamp World London | |
| Announcements & News | |
| New Books, Pamphlets & Catalogs | 38 |
| Reviews8 | |
| For The Record | |
| F.C.P.S. Official 9 | 1 |
| Member's Appeals | 14 |

In a "normal" war (revolution) one would expect to find mail generated by prisoners taken during the conflict. There is no philatelic evidence of this during the Commune and all of the letters in this chapter concern only the more than 40,000 prisoners taken by the Versaillaise during the "Bloody Week" (May 21-28) when Paris was recaptured. We have already mentioned in Chapter VI the 4 letters known to have been written by Communard soldiers who were jailed by their own forces in Paris during the revolution. They are not included here.

Prisons in the Paris Region from which Prisoner's Mail is Known

Roquette (Paris) 5 examples
Versailles (Satory) 3 examples
Versailles (Orangerie) 2 examples
Versailles (Rue de Noilles) 1 example
Versailles (specifics unknown) 5 examples
St. Cyr 3 examples
Ford d'Issy 1 example

Roquette, 5 covers known

All are very much alike being addressed in pencil and, lacking stamps, struck with a crude 15 handstamp for the local postage due. (Figure VII-1) It appears to have been carved

(1) Parlange, Michael: Des Pontons de France à la Nouvelle-Calédonie avec les Insurgés de la Commune et Missions Particularités de la Maritime. La Révue Maritime, No. 140, Jan. 1958.

NOTE: If it were not for the sharp eye and good memory of our Editor, Bob Stone, we would not have known of this reference. Even so, it was difficult to find. Our local library got photocopies from the University of Alabama. An easier to find synopsis of the Parlange article is by Dr. P. Lejune, Les Feuilles Marcophiles Nos. 17 and 18, Feb. and March. 1978.

FRANCE & COLONIES PHILATELIST

USPS #207700

Published quarterly by the FRANCE AND COLONIES PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC. (N.Y.) Affiliate No. 45, American Philatelic Society

July 1990 - Vol. 46, No. 3, Whole No. 221

Second-class postage paid at Bloomfield, NJ
Office of Publication: 103 Spruce St., Bloomfield, NJ 07003
An additional entry office at Platteville, WI 53818
Printing arranged by: Jay Smith, PO. Box 650, Snow Camp, NC 27349

Dues \$11.00 per year. Parent Chapter and Foreign \$15.00 (plus 50¢ 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 should be sent to the Corresponding Secretary,

Walter E. Parshall, 103 Spruce St., Bloomfield, NJ 07003

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

Robert G. Stone, P. O. Box 356, Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17214

President: Richard M. Stevens
Vice President: William Wallis
Treasurer: Beatrice M. Berner
Recording Secretary: Ed. J. Grabowski

Recording Secretary: Ed. J. Grabowski Corresponding Secretary: Walter E. Parshall

Editor: Robert G. Stone

Directors: Class of 1991: Marc Martin, John Lievsay Class of 1992: Ira Zweifach, Jerold Massler Class of 1993:

Stanley Luft, Martin Stampien

Postmaster: Send form 3579 to 103 Spruce St., Bloomfield, NJ 07003



Figure VII-1 Only provisional postal marking of the Communards. Used only on mail from the La Roquette prison. (Photo courtesy of the F&CPS member who once owned this cover.)

from cork or wood and is the only provisional cancellation from this period. All were postmarked 1 Paris on June 1, 1871. Boussac (2) notes the normal date cancel for this prison was that of Bureau No. 36 (Bd. Voltaire) and suggests that perhaps a special clerk was sent from the main post office to handle the mail from this prison. All messages have a common theme, written to relatives, "I am in prison, I am innocent, please come get me out."

The Roquette prison had two sections; Grande Roquette for men and Petite Roquette for women and children. The five were identified as follows:

| Grande Roquette | 2 examples |
|--------------------|------------|
| Petite Roquette | 2 examples |
| Simply La Roquette | 1 example |

Satory at Versailles, 3 covers known

Two were written at the very end of May to Versailles addresses. Lacking stamps, each has a 15c typographed due stamp. The third was postmarked July 29, 1871, a rather late date as, by then, most prisoners had been moved to coastal locations. It was franked by a 20c stamp and, at the upper left, carries the manuscript notation VU followed by a signature. Several examples of the VU ("I have seen") are known on prisoner's mail from Cherbourg and this is the only example we have seen of a censor marking from another area except on Military Tribunal Mail.

Orangerie at Versailles, 2 known

Both carry a 15c typographed due stamp cancelled by a Versailles date stamp, 3rd distribution, May 29. Figure VII-2 shows the philatelic side of one cover addressed to Versailles (rue Satory, 39). Figure VII-3 shows the other side. This prisoner had to use his Garde

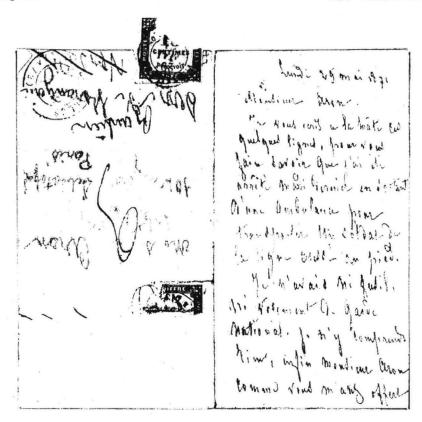


Figure VII-2 From prisoner at Versailles. Addressed to Paris and 15c due stamp applied by mistake to seal the letter. Correct 3 décimes due added later.

Civique orders to write for help as this was the only paper he had. We have not been able to find this organization mentioned in the history books.

The second cover (again paper was in short supply) was addressed to Paris and was sealed, mistakenly, with a 15c due stamp (Figure VII-4). The word "banlieue" (suburbs) was added and the other side (not illustrated) shows the Paris address and the correct 3 décimes due.

Versailles, rue de Noilles, 1 example known

This cover was illustrated in reference (3) and carries a normal Versailles date stamp of August 16. It was addressed to Passy-s-Eure and, lacking stamps, has the standard 30 double-line tax.

Versailles, specifics unknown, 5 examples known

Two of the letters were written in Versailles but were carried into Paris by someone unknown. Both were franked with a 20c stamp and have Paris star cancels.

The other three were cancelled in Versailles, one with a date stamp in blue. The 30c tax was also in blue which may explain the date stamp color.

The most interesting letter, by far, has its philatelic side illustrated in Figure VII-4. The typographed 15c due stamp was cancelled May 29 with the Versailles distribution type date stamp. Figure VII-5 shows the reverse side and emphasizes the shortage of paper

⁽³⁾ Pothion, Vincent: Documents Philatelique No. 113, 1987.

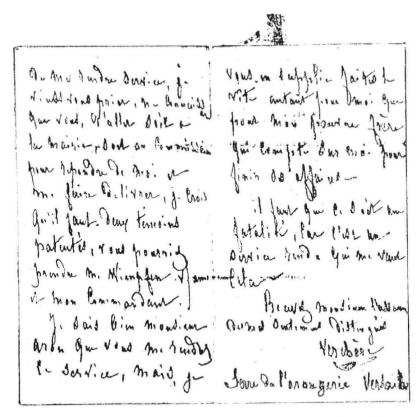


Figure VII-3 Reverse side of Figure 2, giving his new address as being l'Orangérie.

on which to write letters. He writes to his sister in Versailles asking for help using his Garde Civique papers. We have never been able to find any record of this particular organization which we assume to have been a sort of "Home Guard" in contrast to the Garde Nationale and Garde Mobile.

St. Cyr, 3 examples known

St. Cyr is the French equivalent of our West Point and the school is only about 2½ miles west of the Palace at Versailles. Two of the three covers are shown in Figures VII-6 and 7. Both were written by foreign nationals (Swiss and Italian) on May 31 to their consulates in Versailles claiming their innocence. Both were taxed at 30c despite the short distance involved.

The third cover was addressed to Paris and again taxed at the 30c rate.

Fort d'Issy, 1 example known

This is a strange cover found by Parlange in the Naval Archives. It was written by a prisoner on November 24 to be sent to another prisoner on board the prison hulk Le Tage (?). However, it was supposed to go by the way of the good offices of the Minister of the Navy in Paris. Lacking stamps, a double line 40c tax was applied (the rate had changed Sept. 1). The tax was crossed out by 6 pen lines which Parlange thinks was not a mark of free-franking but simply indicates the Navy did not have to pay postage due.

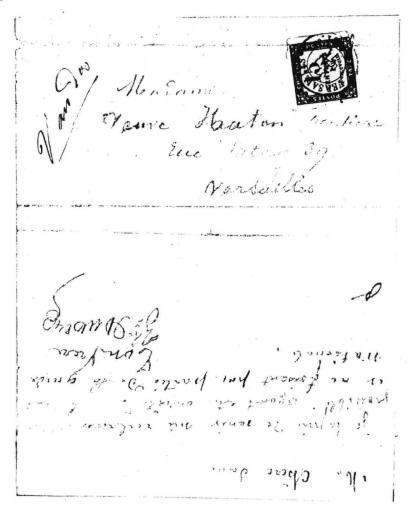


Figure VII-4 Written by a prisoner in Versailles to his sister also in Versailles. 15c due stamp is correct.

Coastal Prisons and Hulks

About half of the more than 40,000 prisoners taken by the Versailles troops soon found themselves in various forts and ancient ships (hulks) in the Atlantic ports of Cherbourg, Brest, Rochefort and Lorient. The first prison ship bound for New Caledonia did not leave until April 9, 1872. While the Paris region mail was all FROM prisoners, the expanded time frame for the Coastal Period allowed the establishment of communication both TO and FROM prisoners.

The Cherbourg area was the most important as will be seen from the following table:

| Cherbourg | 22 examples |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Rochefort/La Rochelle | 5 examples |
| Brest | 2 examples |
| Lorient | 3 examples |

| 4° ARRONDISSEMENT Quartier Saint Gervois. | GARDE CIVIQUE |
|---|---|
| • Compagnie | ORDRE DE SERVICE |
| Le présent hillet ne cer- tifiera le service fait qu'au- tant qu'il aura été signé par le chef du poste. | |
| _ | M= (Inbry) demourant rue Greffrong Winin No 10 se rendra le James de la Ferrier 18 |
| Vu: LE CHEF DU POSTE | à y heures précises du matin à |
| | just-new Trançois miros |
| | pour faire le service qui lui sera commandé. |
| * | Paris, ce & Firm 1871 |
| | Pour le Commandant-Chef de Quartier. |
| | Le Sergent-Major de la Compagnie. |
| Miche | Michel |
| į, | Adresse: |
| | Nota. — Tout Garde Civique dûment convoque et non régulièrement dispensé, qui ne répondra pas à l'appel, serait passible de peines disci- plinaires. |

his orders from the Garde Civique.

Cherbourg
Several of the Cherbourg area letters gave more specific information as to their origin:

Hulks: Le Tage

Le Bayard

La Ville de Nantes (3)

L'Arcole

Le Tourville (2)

Land:

L'ile Pelée (4)



Figure VII-6: Written by a Swiss national from the prison at St. Cyr enlisting the help of his consul in Versailles.



Figure VII-7 Same as Figure 6, but written by an Italian to his consulate.

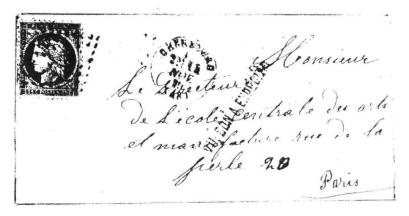


Figure VII-8 From a prisoner in the Cherbourg area (Nov. 14, 1871) with the "VU: BON A EXPEDIER" censor marking in black.

The following table lists franking and censorship markings of both franking and censorship markings of mail both to and from the Cherbourg area.

| | Total | Properly | Censor |
|----------------|--------|----------|----------|
| | covers | franked | markings |
| From prisoners | 17 | 2 | 15 |
| To prisoners | 5 | 5 | 4 |

The most common censorship marking (12 examples) is shown in Figure VII-8. Very loosely translated the VU: BON A EXPEDIER means "I have seen this letter and it is okay to deliver." The earliest use of this cachet that we have seen is June 24 and the latest November 21, 1871. Oddly enough, the two covers known without the cachet are the rare ones (Figure VII-9) and are dated June 14 and 16, before the earliest known use of the censor marking.

Parlange (1) lists one other cachet known on 3 examples of mail from the Cherbourg region, all from Fort Pelée. It is illustrated in Figure VII-10. It is not clear to us whether or not it should be classified as a censor marking.

The following tabulates the censorship markings on mail addrssed TO prisoners in the Cherbourg area, all on hulks:

Mail TO Prisoners

| VERIFIE (Figure VII-11) | 3 examples | |
|----------------------------|------------|--|
| MS M. Billard, pour examen | 1 example | |
| No markings | 1 example | |

We assume the M. Billard letter contained something the censor thought ought to be called to the attention of his superior.

Rochefort/La Rochelle

Five covers are known concerning this area, three of them being very exceptional ones described by Parlange (1). First is an example of a Registered (Chargée) letter the only one known on Commune correspondence. It was sent from Paris to Lile d'Aix on Sept. 20, 1871 with 75c postage.

Second is a triple-rate domestic letter. Only one other is known and it is described in the chapter on Mail From Paris. Sent from Paris June 20, 1871 to a prisoner in the Citadelle d'Oleron.

The third carries an unusual cachet. It is postmarked St. Martin-de-Ré (on the island of Ré) August 7, 1872. It was sent by a prisoner to the Minister of Interior at Versailles. It is stamped VU in a different design than others seen and carries a blue Dèpôt des Dèportés cachet which is illustrated by Parlange.

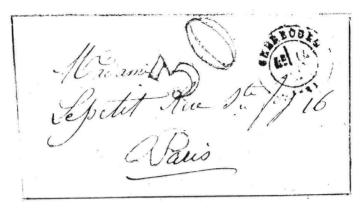


Figure VII-9 From the prison ship Le Tourville in the Cherbourg area. Posted June 14, 1871, 10 days before the earliest known use of the "VU" censor marking. No censor handstamp.



Figure VII-10

Blue cachet (37/33mm diameter) found on 3 letters from Fort Pelée in the Cherbourg region. (Illustration from Parlange.)

Figure VII-11 Cachet found on some mail TO prisoners in the Cherbourg area (20/13mm diameter). Thought by Parlange to have been applied on board ship rather than land. (Illustration from Parlange.)



Brest

Two covers are known, both addressed to prisoners. One is illustrated in Figure VII-12 and was sent July 13, 1871 from Paris to the hulk Austerlitz which was not a transport ship. Over-franked by 10c, it is theorized the extra postage was in case the prisoner had already been sent to New Caledonia.

Lorient

Three covers are known from this port, all from a prisoner on L'Eumenide and dated June 12, July 12 and August 5.

Military Tribunals

Military courts were established in several locations to decide the fate of the more than 40,000 prisoners which had been captured at the end of the revolution. We know of 4 covers relating to these military tribunals.

In Figure VII-13 we show the insides of one of these letters. Basically, the court was writing to the area in which the prisoner had lived to ask about his record and reputation. In this case, the man was in trouble as his record was poor. The red crayon marks indicate it got back to the court involved, but the mechanism is not clear. The philatelic side of the cover shows it was sent from Paris/Vaugirard (date stamp) Oct. 12, 1871 to the Police Commissioner at Montrouge. The 25c double-line due marking has been pen cancelled.

A similar document (Figure VII-14) was addressed to the public prosecutor at St. Denis

| | 1148_ |
|--|--|
| | |
| 1" Division Militaire | DEMANDE DE RENSEIGNEMENTS |
| JUSTICE Adres | ssée à M. le Commissaire de police du quartier |
| T | de la rece de l'heminal ps. |
| TRES URGENT | |
| | Welangue |
| Nom : | Michel rollipsweiter |
| Prénoms : | (11.7) |
| | 1 cias |
| Adresse: 20 | un chemin de fer 41, |
| Profession : | loucher for |
| Conduite : | In A Owil 1868 on 30 |
| Condine . | man 1831 |
| Moralite: 1 | 1 min many |
| | Condamné la 17 juillet 18/0 |
| Anti cédents : | pur la cour S'assises De la |
| owchell. | deine a cony un de huan |
| fyp. A. Mouchel | forces pul compo at Clares |
| | whatever it such gratifies |
| a l'insurrectio | on: 1/ De le garde untie à |
| Pari, 6 14 8br 187. | |
| Le Commission De | rhounds, be 10 Corticines 1871. |
| Lelen | Le Substitut du Rapporteur en mission, |
| | L'berriet, |
| | tin a M. Drawn, Substitut du Rapporteur à vite toure |
| Prière d'adresser ce bulle (Cherbourg). | tin a M. Dissalso, Substitut ou Rapported a The Con- |

Figure VII-13 Typical contents of a letter from the Justice Militaire to the Police Commissioner of the district where the defendant had lived. In this case from Paris to Montrouge, October 12, 1871.



Figure VII-12 To a prisoner on the hulk Austerlitz at Brest. Reason for 10c overfranking probably was to forward the letter in case he had already been sent to New Caledonia.

asking for the police record of a specific prisoner. It was struck with a three-line blue cachet:

1re Division Militaire (abbreviated)

Service

de la Justice.

Posted in Versailles Nov. 23, it received a red Contre-seings the same day.

Another (Figure VII-15) is distinctive for the "VU" in a circle indicating the document has been seen when used as a censor marking, but here it is an obsolete form of Contreseings. Figure VII-16 is the same but with a simple "V."

New Caledonia Mail

During the six-year period of 1872-1878, 3,929 prisoners of the Commune Revolution were deported to New Caledonia. They were spared the climate of Devil's Island as it was thought to be too severe for political prisoners. Parlange (1) lists the details of each voyage made by the French Navy even to the point of listing how many died on the long trip.

We list 16 covers as belonging to this period, six of them to be found only in the Archives of the French Navy. We have categorized them as follows:

Mailed to French ports in anticipation of sailing 2 examples Mailed from the transport ships during their passage 2 examples The Emile Fortin Correspondence 5 examples Other mail to New Caledonia 2 examples Mailed to the Minister of the Navy for transmission to New Caledonia 5 examples



Figure VII-14 From the Military (abbreviated) Division of the Service de la Justice to the Public Prosecutor in St. Denis. Red Contre-seings on back.



Figure VII-15 "VU" in circle is an obsolete form, preceding use of the Contre-seings cachet. From Cherbourg to Verdun-s-Marne September 17, 1871.

With the exception of one letter written off the coast of Brazil Nov. 24, 1872 and carried to France in a sealed official Navy bag, no other mail FROM New Caledonia prisoners is known. This one was posted in Paris February 14, 1874, 18 months later!. A similar letter is in the Archives.

Apart from the Emile Fortin correspondence, two letters were sent to prisoners on board ships at Toulon and Cherbourg. No details are known about the one cover, but the Cher-

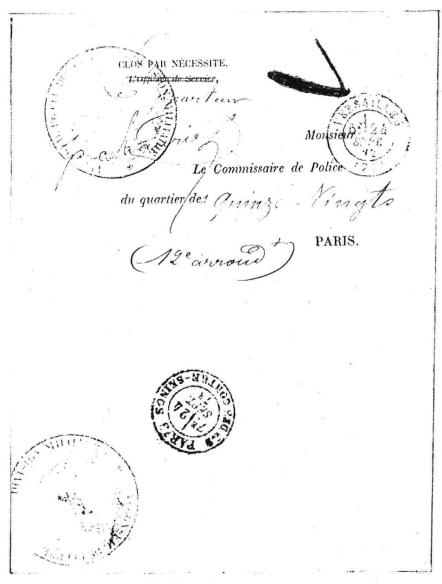


Figure VII-16 Same as Figure 15 but with single-leter "V" instead. Contre-seings added on back. September 24, 1873.

bourg letter was hand stamped VU: BON A EXPEDIER and it must be assumed it was forwarded to New Caledonia although there is no proof of this.

By far, the most interesting cover to a prisoner in New Caledonia is the one illustrated by Chanaryn (4) and exhibited at PhilexFrance '89 by John Levett. Now we know there are 4 others described by Parlange. Three of them are addressed to Prisoner No. 23,792. When Fortin arrived in New Caledonia his number changed to 4419. The details follow:

| France date | Addressed to | Arrival | Comments |
|-------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 11/24/72 | Toulon | Toulon 11/25/72 | |
| 2/16/73 | Toulon | Noumea 7/23/73 | Via next ship |
| 6/21/73 | Toulon | Noumea 10/10/73 | Via unknown ship |
| 12/22/73 | New Caledonia | Noumea 22/?/74 | 3rd stamp missing |
| 12/23/77 | New Caledonia | No arrival date | 3rd stamp missing |

Parlange listed the 1st four covers as being in private hands and presumably they still are. He did not list the Chanaryn (last) item.

It is difficult to understand the rates. The first cover has only a 25c stamp, enough to get it to Toulon. The description of the 2nd cover makes no mention about the franking. The third cover has a 25c stamp and was taxed, but it doesn't say how much.

The last two covers are the strange ones. The December letter has a 25c and a 5c with the third stamp scissored out. Parlange expresses the opinion the third stamp was removed because it was not needed for the rate. Chanaryn feels a high-value stamp was smuggled into the prison under the stamp which was removed from the cover. The purpose was to give the prisoner spending money.

Of this handful of covers to prisoners in New Caledonia, the whereabouts of only two are known to us. The second is illustrated in Figure VII-17 and is addressed to a convict who had been pardoned but apparently chose to stay there. It was postmarked in Paris March, 1879 and arrived in Noumea June 12, being franked with the 35c UPU rate.

Figure VII-18 shows the attachment which had been glued to the letter which states the man had died May 4, 1879. Although there are no signs of it, one would assume the Navy had returned the letter to the sender under separate cover.



Figure VII-17 Addressed to pardoned convict in New Caledonia. Paris March 1879, Noumea (on back) June 12, 1879. 35c UPU rate.

⁽⁴⁾ Chanaryn, Victor: "An Introduction to the Posts of France in the Franco-German War of 1870-1871 and its Aftermath." Published by the author, 1976.

F&C PHILATELIST

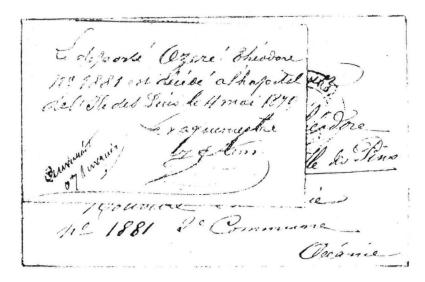


Figure VII-18 Sticker applied to Figure 17 announcing the man had died May 4, 1879, at the hospital on Ile de Pins off New Caledonia.



Figure VII-19 Letter to Commander of frigate Virginie which had just arrived in Noumea with 169 convicts. Virginie made the trip in 128 days under sail. This letter went by steam via the Suez Canal in 74 days. 1F10 rate.

The details given by Parlange make the cover in Figure VII-19 interesting to the collector of the Commune. Commander Albigot was in charge of the frigate Virginie which left Brest on August 29, 1874 with 169 convicts. He arrived in New Caledonia January 4, 1875 after 128 days under sail via Cape Horn. The letter shown addressed to him went by steam via Brindisi, the Suez Canal and the Indian Ocean, arriving in Noumea January 22, 1875, only 18 days after the Virginie had made port. The letter was carried by commerical mail and rate was 1F10.

Mail from New Caledonia

Apart from the single letter posted (plus the one in the Archives) while en route to New Caledonia, no examples of mail from the deportees are known to us. We think the reason is fairly obvious; there is nothing about them to draw the attention of a collector. Unless the convict wanted to come up with the money to send his letter via commercial mail, he gave his letters to the prison authorities. They sent them in a bag addressed to the Minister of the Navy in Paris to be carried in the next homeward-bound Navy vessel. This mail was turned over to the Paris post office and they were delivered with postage due. Since there were no New Caledonia markings, only the contents would show they were something more special than unfranked mail from Paris. Here is a chance for sharp-eyed collectors to make a "find."

According to the 5 letters found in the Naval Archives by Parlange, some people thought the same system should work both ways. All of the covers were sent to the Minister of the Navy in Paris to be forwarded to specific convicts in New Caledonia. They must have been sent under separate cover for there are no postmarks but several do have manuscript notations (prisoner escaped in 1875) which indicates that if they were not delivered to the convict (QED), at least they were the subject of an investigation.

(To Be Continued)

Page 82 F&C PHILATELIST

CAPTAIN CECIL JOHNSON'S ROUND TRIP TO BESIEGED PARIS

by Ernst M. Cohn and Albert Schneider (cont. from FCP 220, pg. 50)

Captain Johnson apparently didn't deliver the U.S. pouch until the day after his return to London. As usual, U.S. Despatch Agent Benjamin Franklin Stevens processed the mail promptly, in this case both stamping the cover with his oval forwarder's stamp and franking it with the 1d stamp needed for local delivery. The stamp is cancelled with the duplex LONDON WC/2/OC 4/70 (dater portion) and WC/14 (bar portion). It is addressed to Mrs. L.A. Du Bouchet, Nelson's Portland Hotel, Great Portland St., London W., England. Other correspondence, both during the siege and some years thereafter, from the same source, is known.

Mail to USA

Two other examples of that correspondence are illustrated here, both being addressed to the U.S. While not nearly as rare as U.S. diplomatic pouch covers, Paris siege covers to the U.S. are not common. Both are franked with 70 centimes, the correct postage for single-weight letters. Of those, the 40c on the earlier one shows the picture of Napoleon, whereas that on the later one is one of the Cere 40c stamps issued during the seige.

Figure 2 is postmarked at the main post office of Paris, section 1 of the 5th collection period, 20 October, the stamps being cancelled with the mute pointed star used at that office. The boxed small PD was then the current marking for "postage paid to destination", in this case only to New York City. The red LONDON N PAID transit mark is dated 4 NOV 70; the red NEW YORK PAID ALL is of 15 NOV; and the 2 CENTS red inland postage was applied there to take the letter to Mrs. Du Bouchet, because her husband, Dr. Du Bouchet, had meanwhile learned, presumably via a message carried in the U.S. pouch from London to Paris, that she had moved to Shoemakertown in Pennsylvania.

The earliest balloon on which the cover might have been flown out of Paris is the "Garibaldi" of 22 October, mail from which is known to have arrived in London on 1 November. Then there was the "Montgolfier" of the 25th; virtually all of its bagged mail was found and destroyed by the Germans. Next was the "Vauban" of the 27 October, a personally entrusted letter from which arrived in London on 3 November. The "Bretagne", a privately owned balloon that was launched the same day, may or may not have carried postal mail bags. In any case, all but a small amount of personally entrusted mail fell into German hands. Next, the "Colonel Charras" of 29 October carried a letter that arrived in London on 2 November. Finally, the "Fulton" of 2 November is known to have taken

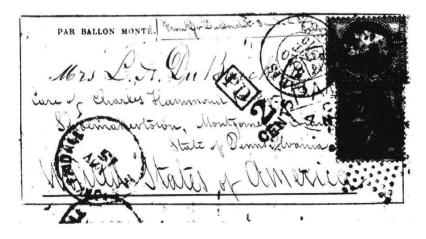


Figure II

a letter that is postmarked at London on the fourth. In view of this overlap of mail from several balloons, it appears impossible to pin this cover down to a specific one.

Figure 3 shows a letter from the armistice period, first postmarked at the PL. DE LA MADELEINE post office, 7th collection period of 26 February 1871. It carries a faint black PD mark and the red LONDON C PAID mark of 28 FE 71. There is no U.S. arrival mark except for the red 2 CENTS due for transport to Pennsylvania.



Figure III

Moran's Comments

Benjamin Moran, secretary of the U.S. legation at London, made the following entry in his diary for October 4, 1870 (l):

I received this morning by "balloon", no doubt, from Paris an envelope addressed "Benjamin Moran, Esq., United States Embassy, London" and stamped in blue ink "Légation des Etats-Unis d'Amérique à Paris." It contained nothing whatever for me, but five letters addressed as follows... I sent all off by mail. All had English stamps on them."

Moran was evidentally unaware of the mode of transporation and prior handling of these letters, which must have been forwarded to him by Stevens.

All U.S. diplomatic pouch letters from besieged Paris that have been identified as such thus far are postmarked in the West Central district of London, marked either London WC or Charing Cross WC, the post office nearest the office of Stevens.

Conclusion

Johnson had been informed, upon emerging from Paris, that no messenger would be allowed through the lines while the siege lasted. The next news we have about him is from the *Times* (m):

Library of Congress at Washington (D.C.), Manuscript Room, Diary of Benjamin Moran, First Secretary of U.S. Embassy at London, vol. 26, July 1 - Oct. 10, 1870.

⁽m) Times, Apr. 7, 1871, p7c3.

Paris, April 6, 1871

Postal communication is not to be depended upon. Lord Lyons is obliged to send all his dispatches by Queen's Messengers. Capt. Cecil Johnson who arrived from Calais yesterday is just leaving again with papers for the Foreign Office.

And here is yet another item of postal history interest from the *Times* (n):

Versailles, April 14

Letters to English residents in Paris will be forwarded to them by his Excellency, if addressed to 'the care of *Ambassade d'Angleterre*, *Versailles*.' Such letters presumably were sent and may still exist. Who will identify the first one?

(n) ibid, Apr. 17, 1871, p5c1.

STAMP WORLD LONDON 90

by Ed Grabowski

Our Editor asked me to write a note on my impressions of the London 90 international show held at the Alexandra Palace from May 3-13. I had not planned my visit with a review in mind, so if this seems a bit choppy I ask your patience. Comparisons with AMERIPEX and PHILEXFRANCE are inevitable, and I would rate this show below those two, but still an excellent and fun show overall. I arrived in mid-show and took the long Tube ride and shuttle bus to recently redone and pleasant Alexandra Palace where the show was held. My entry was greeted by the free handout of a magazine-like exhibition catalog, which gave an excellent listing of the exhibits, dealers and other important show information. I looked at the official show catalog at 10 pounds a copy and passed on it as I thought it a far cry from the beautiful volumes received at PHILEXFRANCE for less money.

The British P.O. had a large and well-organized setup in one of the halls, and business was always heavy, though the lines moved very rapidly. I even succumbed and bought a few souvenirs. For me the exhibits were highlighted by Stan Luft's French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Armies 1792-1814 exhibit which was in the FIP Championship Class. Over the years I have watched this exhibit grow and develop, and Stan has done a job for which he can be justifiably proud. Mary Ann Owens received a Large Gold for her exhibit on Elephants as did Wally Dean for his Haiti. French-area exhibits which received Golds and caught my eye were J.P. Schroeder's Imperforate Stamps of the Empire which begins with a magnificent showing of the 1F stamp; Dick Winter's Transatlantic Mails exhibit; Hy Nathanson's Colonies General Issues exhibit which contains a number of very nice goodies; J.I. Matsumoto's exhibit on the Office at Yokohama which took my breath away and deserved a Large Gold in my book; and R. von Scharpen's exhibit on Colonies' Postal Stationery. The latter had some true gems in it, but I was bothered by some of the cto'd material which appeared at the end of the exhibit. Peter Smith also received a Gold for his Egypt.

I found a number of items at the bourse, which seemed very busy throughout the show. Obviously the theme of the show was British area material, but there was enough French area stuff available to keep wallets thin.

On the social side Lenore and I were pleased to be the dinner guests of Colin and Pat Spong one evening, and Colin invited me to our Sister Society's buffet reception on the last Saturday of the show. Both were truly enjoyable occasions, with the latter having more than one hundred in attendance and providing a chance to meet many of our fellow travelers from the U.K. and France.

Overall it was a very successful show for me. One complaint applicable to all internationals I have attended is it would be nice to have a visitor message board available to all attendees to provide a means of ready communication. Such has proven to be a general problem at these shows and I regret missing the opportunity to meet with member Bill Bartlett at this one.

-- Ed Grabowski

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS









▶ The 2.30F Centenary of 1 May was issued on 1 May. On 5 May the 3.80 Institut du Monde Arabe, and the 2.30 + 0.60 Faience de Quimper for the Red Cross also in booklets of 10 with two pubs sold at 29F. On 21 May Mariannes de Briat in denominations 1.00, 2.00, 5.00 and 10.00F. On 26 May, 2.30 and 3.20F for Europa. On 2 June the 2.30 Villefranche sur Saone (for Congress of the Phil. Fed.). On 6 June the 2.30 Course autour du Monde 1939-1990 (of the yacht La Poste), and also an illustrated postal card at 4.00F. On 9 June the 5.00 "Cambodgienne Assise" of Rodin. On 16 June 5.00F head of Christ of Wissembourg. Also on 16 June the set of six Personnages de Chanson Françaises, 2.30 + 0.50 each: Aristede Bruant, Edith Piaf, Maurice Chevalier, Georges Brassens, Tino

Page 86 F&C PHILATELIST

Rosi, Jacques Brel, and in booklets with illustrated covers sold at 16.80F. On 19 June the 2.30 Appel à la Resistance; 23 June the 2.30 Cluny. On 7 July the 2.30 Pont Canal de Briare was to appear; on 14 July the 3.80 Cap Canaille-Cassis and 3.20 Maison France-Bresil à Rio.

- ► For Andorre: On 9 April a 2.10 Prémier Ecu d'Auch and a 2.30 in the current type. On 9 April a 23F booklet of 10 of the Auch type. On 21 April a 2.30F Les Mines de Llorts, and a 2.30 Pont de la Margineta. On 9 July 2.30F Roses and 3.20 Loutre in the nature series were to appear. On 26 May, 2.30 and 3.20 Eurobas. On 23 June a 3.00 Ecensoir de St. Roma des Bons.
- ► For Monaco: On 8 Feb. a 21F booklet of 10 of the 2.10 stamp La Rampe Major; and a 23F booklet of 10 of the 2.30F La Cour d'Honneau de la Marine. On 15 March a 3.20 Effigy of His Highness, and a 3.80 Le Prince Rainier IIX.
- ► For St. Pierre-Miquelon: In March a 2.30 Champignon; and 2.10 and 2.30 Mariannes of France surcharged Saint Pierre et Miquelon in 3 lines. On 26 March the Mariannes .10, .20, .30 3.20 and 3.80 surcharged for S-P-M. On 21 May the 5.00F Le Pou du Ciel. On 20 Aug. a 2.50 Canoe Mic Mac was to be issued.
- ► For New Caledonia: On 21 February 18, 50 and 94F Papillons et Gramminées; 230F Expo de jade et nacre. On 17 March 85 and 140F Monnaies Canaques. On April 9 10F and 42F Aquarium. On 17 April the .10, .20, .50, 3.20 and 3.80 Mariannes were surcharged for S-P-M; on 25 June the 5F 25km view of Miquelon, and 2.30 Appel du 18 Juin were issued. On 16 July are to appear the 1, 2, 5 and 10F Mariannes surcharged for S-P-M.
- ▶ For Polynesia: On 14 March 58, 59, 63 and 71F illustr. Le Monde de Maohi; on 5 June 20F and 13F Oiseaux uniques. On 18 May 150 and 250F Centenaires de Ville de Papeete. On 24 Aug. will be issued 125 and 250F for N.Z. Phil. Expo.
- ► For Wallis et Futuna: On 15 March 200F Anniv. Birth of Rodin; on 9 June 56F Clement Ader.; to appear 16 July 600F Oiseaux de Phaeton, Inst. du Pacifique. 50F Coup du Monde de Football; 15 May 78F Bouquet d'Orchides.
- ► The French PTT last spring issued new booklets of the Mariannes de Briat, sold at 10F, containing 4 stamps of 2.30, 4 stamps of 0.10 and 2 stamps of 0.20.
- ▶ The PTT cooperated on 22 March with the celebration of "Open Doors Day" of the Conseils Generaux; the stamp of 1989 commemorating the Creation des Departements Françaises was offered in blocks of 4 at temporary P.O.s requested by the Departement Presidents with an illustrated Cancel.
- ► Postal card with no value but with vignette from the original die of the Creation stamp was sold at 2.00F each.
- ▶ On 12 March a new generation of automatic franking machines was introduced at Paris. These are called DIVA and will replace the LSAs which have been in use for some time. The design of the labels for the DIVA is in blue with a view of the moon across the face of which are streaks of clouds and geese flying across (extending the length of the label). The frankings are for fixed predetermined categories of mail and rates which the sender selects. In April new machines called LISA were also introduced. The labels are similar to those of DIVA but these machines can compute the exact postage by means of a scale; the labels can be used at any P.O., not just where the machine is. The labels can have a variety of imprints (overprints in red) according to the circumstances of the posting; a receipt can also be obtained.
- ▶ Last year the well-known Paris "expert" and dealer, a member of FCPS, Jean-Francois Brun, suddenly announced he was giving up his expertising business, much to the surprise of many colleagues. Even his old friend and sometime collaborator, Roger Calves,

was "surprised" and didn't understand it. But Brun has given his explanation: After 20 years of expertising he will devote his energies to the Brun et Fils stamp and auction firm. Why? Because he found the "metier" of expertising does not pay, is not gratifying, not accorded recognition. He was submerged with expertising of items of value lower than the honorariums paid or the postage on them. Too many collectors don't consider expertising a service worth a fair compensation; too many clients are disgruntled when you tell them their material is fake or repaired, or when a signature is refused because absolute authenticity cannot be assured. Brun had been appointed expert for various organizations such as the Academies, FIP, and juries, but they rarely solicited his opinions. So he has, as the expression goes, "had it." Presumably Brun will continue his writing of articles for the journals and his catalogue work.

- ▶ Something of a minor brouhaha or "scandale" (as the French would be apt to say) has occurred over a Polynesia stamp issued last year on 16 March, the 55F titled "Le Coprah, resources traditionnelles," showing a semi-nude young woman preparing copra from coconuts. The Polynesia Office des Postes et T. had not thought it necessary to get the permission of the young woman shown—the photo of her used has already been published in a book. But seeing the wide dissemination of her photo on stamps and on covers and other philatelic promotions, she decided (with aid of a lawyer no doubt) that her privacy had been invaded and sued the Office des Postes. Under the French civil code everyone has the right to have his private life respected. So on 11 July last year the Papeete court ordered that the stamp be withdrawn from public sale. However, most of the 100,000 stamps printed for the Territory had been sold during the 4 months they were on sale at the P.O. The Agence in Paris had a stock of 25,000, but most of those were sold for PHILEXFRANCE. The Court order was only three days before the opening of the Expo so it was too late to do much about that. The attention in philatelic circles to the withdrawal of the stamp quickly made it a potential rarity.
- ► Raymond Duxin, the editor of La Philatelie Française has retired.
- ▶ The 20F Pont du Gard stamp designed by H. Cheffer has an error--one of the arches in a set in the top row was omitted. Tut-tut M. Cheffer, and where have all you topicalists been all these years!
- ► The PT is returning to the practice of the 1920s to put publicity on the covers of regularissue booklets.
- ▶ A few of the blocs for Philexfrance show fluorescence, a rare variety, which is bringing up to 3000F. The printery explains that the first batch of paper ordered for the printing from Sinty was far too small which is the one showing fluorescence. A second but large order of the paper apparently had few if any of the fluos. The fluos did not appear in the stocks at Philexfrance until the last day of the Expo.
- ► The Japanese Ministry of P&T organized a contest for design of a stamp on a "free theme": There were 1,048 entries from France, out of these, prizes went to Maurice Goujou for "La Paix entre mains des peuples," and to J.P. Veret-Marinière for "La Poste Universelle."

Page 88 F&C PHILATELIST

NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS AND CATALOGS

- "La Poste en Bourgogne No. 8, July 1989." 30 pp. 50F + 8F post. (articles on BM and Courrier-Convoyeurs, postal history) From M. Dupuis, 28 Quai Gambetta, 71100 Chalons sur Saoane.
- "Vallées d'Andorre: Repertoire des Cartes postales Anciennes, Tome III." By J.-P Rivière. 60 pp 30F + 5F post. From B. Hennequins, 5 rue Aug.-Candolle, 91230 Montgeron.
- "Les Affanchissements Mécaniques dans La Marine Nationale." By J. Mériaux. 63 pp. 40F p.pd. 8 rue Racine, 33200 Bordeaux.
- "Presence Française au Sahara." By R. Goin and R. Granet. Tome I. 1990. 160 pp. 75F p.pd. 76 Route de Bon Secours, 08600 Givet.
- "Ligne Mermoz (Latécoère Aéropostale, Air France)." By G. Collot and A. Cornu. 1990. 316 pp. 420F + 55F post. from B. Sinais, 7 rue Chateaudun, 75009 Paris.
- "Monographie sur l'Ain 1650-1816." By A. Perrin. 1990. 185F + poste. From M. Mastroyannaki, BP 114, 42603 St. Etienne Cédex 0l.
- "Catalogue des Perforés de France at des Colonies" 2nd ed., 400 pp. May 1990. 300F from ANCOPER, c/o M. Herbert, 90 Ave. de Paris, 78000 Versailles. (New ed. covers 3000 perfs, of 1600 companies or users.)
- "France: Le Type Merson." By Jean Storch and R. Francon. 200 pp., 200 photos (BW). Text in French and English, Eng. transl. by George Barker. Royal Philatelic Society London. L38.50. For sale in US at \$75, by RPSL, P.O. Box 7474, McLean, VA 22106 (Dr. Michael D. Dixon).
- "The Papal Post from 1798 to 1870" (Strade, Corriere et Poste dei Papi dal Medioevo al 1870). By Mario Gallenga. 1989. 594 pp. L80,000, reg. L6,500. I.S.S.P., C.P. 514, 50047, Prato, Italy (includes the Napoleonic occupation, French posts, etc.)
- NOTE: The work by Bratzel, Kraja and Maddocks on "Cancellations of Cameroun" listed in the April FCP is not stocked by Leonard Hartmann, but must be ordered from M. Bratzel, 1233 Virginia Ave., Windsor, Ont. NB8 2Z1, Canada at \$40 U.S.
- Publications of Le Club Le Meilleur, B.P. 21, 77350 Le Mée sur Seine:
 - "Catalogue des Oblitérations et Blocs Horaires de Paris."
 - "Catalogue des Oblitérations Daguins Jumelées par Depts., 11th Ed., Cachet R-84." 37 pp. 374F p.pd.
 - "Catalogue des Oblitérations Mécaniques des Cheques Postaux #90." 23.80F p.pd. "Catalogue des Flammes Obliterées Au Type Drapeau #64/5 France." 53.80F p.pd.

REVIEW

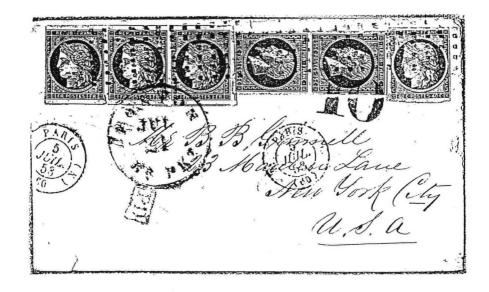
"Le Timbre et la Poste à Tahiti." By Christian Beslu. 1987. 52 pp. Illustr. in color. Société des Océanistes, Musée de l'Homme, 75016 Paris. 36.20F. For sale also by Musée Gaugin, B.P. 70277, Papeari, Taravao, Tahiti.

This comprehensive but concise up-to-date and well-illustrated booklet gives just about all the information a collector with moderately specialized interest in French Oceania (Polynesia) stamps and postal history would need. The author has used the literature, his access to local archives and sources and his collecting experience to very good advantage. Our only criticism is that he does not provide a bibliography. Highly recommended.

FOR THE RECORD

(Continued from FCP #219, Jan. 1990, p. 26)

- ▶ 564). The 1F Philatelic 1964 stamps in a block sold 5-21 June 1964 as an entry ticket for the EXPO, was faked at the time by an Italian, mint, cancelled, and on cover, which he sold to French tourists in Italy to be used on their mail from France. The fakes are in typo and have many aspects readily identifying them: for example, the two blue spots above the nose of the rocket.
- ▶ 565). Bert Mendelsohn notes that in our list of colonies booklets for Indochina in FCP #177, p. 75, the "1930" (our error for 1927) booklets have been confused with those of the 1931 issue. The 1927 issue had one pane of 20 (10x2) surrounded by pubs, while the 1931 booklets have 25 stamps-5 panes of 5 each-with a blank label with an Andrews Cross. Yvert repeats these confusions in the 1989 catalog.
- ▶ 566). Ed. Grabowski shows us a cover from Lastourville, Gabon, to Paris with the cds misspelling "Lassourville," date 5 Mars 14. No other reports of this.
- ▶ 567). Harmers Zurich Sale of 23 Nov. 1988 had a cover from Martinique with a very rare framed pmk "TRINITE" and an ms date 12 Janvier, franked with a pair of 25c and single 1F Cérès, cancelled Paris grid roller, arr. pmk 14 Mars 53. Endorsed "Par le Packet" and Calais entry mark.
- 568). Member Stanley J. Luft reports on a cover (le. DIV/ARMEE DE L'OUEST) in his exhibit of Revolutionary and Napoleonic armies. The message inside could well be an historically very early mention of the loss of registered mail. A soldier at Saumur writes 7 April 1794 (time of the wars in the Vendée and Bretagne), to his wife at Nevers, requesting that she explain how come his previous missive, a registered money letter failed to reach her. (Perhaps to enable him to file a claim?) At that time money letters might have been sent as Chargé letters, at twice the simple-letter rates, or perhaps more likely as Articles d'Argent, at 5% of declared value (plus postage). Luft has no knowledge however, regarding either the actual mechanism of insuring such mail or the possibilities and provisions for indemnification.



- ▶ 569). This remarkable cover Paris to N.Y. in 1853 was shown us by mb Siegfried Feller from an old family collection sold by Steve Ivy Auctions in August 1989. The strip of 3 Cérès 1F, pair of 25c Nap., and a 40c Cérès, are in beautiful condition and neatly cancelled by the Paris roller of large square dots. Dick Winter kindly gives us an analysis of it as follows: Paris 5 July, dep. Liverpool on Cunard "Europa" on 9 July, arr. Boston 21 July. Letter prepaid 3F 90c (39 décimes) for triple rate (½-¾ oz.) from France by British open mail via British packet, 2x5c=10c postage due marked at Boston (large "10") to be collected at N.Y.
- ▶ 570). During Oct. 1862-May 1863 Monaco and France had a "tariff war." It started because Paris PT began on Oct. 17 charging the international rates for mail to Monaco. Monaco PT said it would not reciprocate for mail to France. And France said if Monaco would not change its tariffs to France, the mail would be surtaxed in course of forwarding. This brouhaha grew out of difficulties of a larger scope over customs dues-French firms had been locating offices in Monaco to avoid French duties and this caused France to abrogate the Franco-Monacan Customs Convention, and France threatened to remove the French postmen assigned to the Monacan post. After delicate technical negotiations the problems were resolved. Collectors can find covers showing the evidences and effects of this "war."
- ▶ 571). Our esteemed Spanish correspondent and well-known Monaco specialists sends us an illustration of a cover which shows the first day of use of the Albert I issue of Monaco was 17 April 1891 not 1 May as the date accepted heretofore by all authorities. Cover sent registered to Paris with 1c and 2c Albert I (and other stamps), and ms "notation ler jour Albert I," postmark 17 April 91. According to Yvert the stamps were delivered by the printers on 15 April.

LONDON '90 FRENCH EXHIBITS

Colin Spong kindly sent me a copy of the Catalog for the London '90 Expo. There were numerous exhibits relating to France. In the Championship Class: Bustamente's French Morocco, Lecha's French Armies in Spain, and Luft's Revolutionary and Napoleonic Armies. The Traditional Class had: A. Mayer "France 1849-50," C1. Pelorini "France 1849-71," and Pittier: "Franco-Prussian War."

In the Postal History Class: "French Maritime P.H." of J. Bergier, "Pas de Calais 1828-76" of A. Pennequin, "La Grande Armée" of A. Fillinger, the "Cancellations on the Imperf. Stamps," Y. Newbury's "Paris 1870-71," "Monaco P.H. of N. Posteraro, "Crimean War" of Piat, H. Arnould "D.W.I. P.H.," "French Colonies" of H. Nathanson, "Morocco Offices" of A Halida, and R. Winter "Transatlantic Mails."

"French Postal Stationery 19th Cent." of Hellebrekers, "French Postal Stationery" of Baecher, and "French Colonies Stationery" of R. von Scharpen.

Aerophilaty: "Evolution of French Airmails" of A. Bouthie.

Literature Class: Book by Sohier and Madron on Sabine Phospho varieties.

The article "Stamp World 90" by Ed Grabowski has further information concerning exhibits and awards.

F.C.P.S. OFFICIAL

President's Message

In May the Society held its annual election. It did not last very long, with the existing slate of officers being re-elected. I report this with concern, not elation. Like so many other philatelic organizations, our society has been run by the same people for many years. We desperately need to add some new and younger persons. One of our current directors is now living in Spain, and should be replaced. The effects of time are inexorable, and other positions will be open before too long. We are all looking for new candidates for officers.

I am pleased to announce that speakers have already been confirmed for our first two fall meetings at the Collectors' Club in New York. Irwin Rosen will be the speaker in September; he will discuss French essays and proofs, and provide a magnificent display from his outstanding collection. This meeting will be the day after Labor Day; I hope many of our New York area members will be back from vacation and able to attend. On October 2nd we will again welcome the prominent collector and exhibitor of Swiss material, Harlan Stone. He will discuss some additional aspects of the complex postal relations between France and Switzerland. Our meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month from September through June. The formal meeting opens at 8:00 p.m.; some of us gather at the Club before 6 p.m. and go to a nearby Chinese restaurant for dinner. All members, and particularly those from the New York metropolitan area, are encouraged to come.

MEETING OF 3 APRIL

It was Members' Participation Night once again, and John Lievsay began with a discussion of the 15c brown on rose error in the 10c brown on rose issue of 1871-75, a recent patient at the Foundation. John noted that the regular stamp grew from the 10c bistre printed during the Siege of Paris, which was re-issued in 1871, along with a 15c stamp in the same color and with small numbers. The 10c and 15c issues were too easily confused, as John illustrated with an 11 Sept. 1871 cover franked with these 10c and 15c issues to make the new 25c rate. But the cover was marked due as the franking was taken as 2x10c by the post office! The confusion between these issues led to the large numbered stamps and finally the change in color with the 10c stamp on rose for easy identification. A misplaced 15c cliché in the 10c composition led to the now-famous error.

Charles Vengrove finished a story begun last year at a similar program. A 25c Sage with a 'Sous Securite d'Etat' overprint turns out to be a proof noted by Behr to Charles. Gil Loisel turned up with a 20c Cérès first issue cancelled on the 12th of January 1849, after a little detective work. The stamp, also with a pen cancel, came from an APS circuit. Dick Stevens followed with new material used from the Salonika Front, where the Serbs were told not to cancel the French stamps and the French Post Office chose not to for security reasons. Thus, material from this area bears an unusual array of cancels including use of crayons, Marseille, Geneva and Lausanne arrivals and use of censor marks.

For modern postal history, Dick concluded with a recent registered letter from France where a 20 old franc stamp was used as a current issue.

-- Ed Grabowski

Meeting of 1 May

The present officers of the Society were re-elected for another term of office as were board members Stan Luft and Martin Stempien. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Reuben Braun who died during the past month.

An old friend and postal historian, Mr. Robert Danzer, returned this evening to present his material on the Invasion and French Occupation of Luxembourg 1794-1814. Material Page 92 F&C PHILATELIST

from the period was beautifully presented beginning with that from the French invasion during 1793-1795. Military mail from the Army of the Ardennes and a letter from Luxembourg conscripts highlighted this period. This was followed by the 1795-1814 occupation where various markings of the Dept. of Forets (Dept. 98) were illustrated. Included were letters from the various '98' towns, with Bob noting that the letter from Tellin, which showed no department number, was the rarest.

-- Ed Grabowski

Meeting of 5 June

Tonight was the night of our annual Rich Exhibit, delayed because of the International in London last month. Five exhibits were presented. Bob Picirilli's exhibit was entitled "Ivory Coast - Group Type and Palmiers" and received a First Award in the 20th Century Class. Highlighted in the exhibit were an example of the "Cote d'Or" date stamp on an 1898 cover, an 1899 13th-weight class Group Type registered letter franked at 2F20c (correct for 13x15c + 25c registry), a 13th-weight class overseas ship letter franked with 5c and 15c Group Types arriving in Liverpool with all appropriate markings, and a nice showing of Palmier imperfs. Norval Rasmusen took a Second Award in this class for his showing of "Algeria 1924-1960." This was an excellent showing of the regular issues, booklet panes, proofs and an occasional cover from this seldom seen area.

In the Postal History Class yours truly took a First Award for my Reunion dues covers from the 21-day period when due stamps were used in lieu of the Group Types because of a shortage of the latter. New member Bill Bartlett received a Second Award in this class for his exhibit titled "French Postage Dues Second Duval Issue: 1893-1941 Returned/Forwarded. This exhibit included an excellent selection of covers and cards showing use of the French due stamps. Many of the items bore stamps of three entities because of the complexity of the material as suggested by Bill's title. Typical was a 1936 cover franked at 2p from Tasmania to Japan, where it was forwarded to Saigon but missed the addressee. Twenty eight centimes of Indochinese dues were applied and the letter was forwarded to France where it was charged 60c in French dues.

Dick Stevens closed out the show with a non-competitive exhibit on his study of the Martinique issue of 1908. Essentially nothing is known about this issue, and Dick presented some of his work on shades, papers and varieties as illustrated by stamps and covers. This will be presented in detail at a fall meeting.

-- Ed Grabowski

NEW MEMBERS

- 2827 CRAWFORD, MS. D. MERRIMON, 100-A West Carr St., Carrboro, NC 27510 (General France: mint used. British, NW Carribean and Great Britain.)
- 2828 RADIN, STEPHEN, 6660 Lafayette Dr., Miami Springs, FL 33166 (General France: mint semi-postals air mails miniature shts. Saint Pierre and French Polynesia Exchange.)
- 2829 JENNINGS, DAVID J., 2735 Oak Trail, Carrollton, TX 75007 (General France: mint. Military posts. Occupation Issues. Offices Abroad. Colonies General Issues: mint. Philatelic literature.)
- 2830 BROADHEAD, THOMAS W., 5513 Crestwood Rd., Knoxville, TN 37918 (General France: mint used on cover. Postal History in general.)
- 2831 SAYRE, MARGARET H., 2 Providence Ave., Falmouth, ME 04105 (Topical: Ships Maps. General France: mint used (preferred).)
- 2832 CANUPP, RICHARD W., P.O. Box 240155, 5532 South Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28224 (Topical: Trains Horses Butterflies Ships Fire Trucks. General France: mint semi-postals air mails booklets. Colonies General Issues: mint. Dealer: Full-time.
- 2833 HENRY, DR. JOSEPH W., 65 Calle Cenizo, Brownsville, TX 78520 (General collector: All issues.)
- 2834 SWAN, LAWRENCE LINN., P.O. Box 51547, LaFayette, LA 70505-1547 (General France: mint used to 1965. Colonies General Issues: mint used. All Colonies and Territories.)
- 2835 PARULIS, ELAINE M., 781 Poquonnock Rd., Apt. N, Groton, CT 06340 (General France: mint.)
- 2836 FOREMAN, DALE I., 7946 Beechwood Ct., Urbandale, IA 50322 (General France: mint used. Saar. Colonies General Issues: mint used.)
- 2837 CAMBRE, BARBARA L., 809 Andrews Ave., Metairie, LA 70005 (Topical: Art Flowers. General France: mint used. Postal History in general. Booklets. Colonies General Issues: used. All Colonies and Territories stamps. Philatelic literature.)
- 2838 BOSSARD, ALAIN R., 12-244 Charlotte St., Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1N 8L3 (Modern France: mint used on cover. Perfins. Philatelic literature. Offices Abroad. French Types Blanc, Mouchon and Merson, Sowest, and Pasteur, i.e., Algeria, Alouites, Lebanon, Memel, Morocco, Alexandria, Port-Said, Syria, Levant, etc.
- 2839 LAUGHLIN, PAUL, 4135 Miller Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103 (Postal History in general. Classics 1849-1876. Colonies General Issues.)
- 2840 TRAVER, THOMAS G., 34 Woodbury Rd., Watertown, CT 06795 (General collector: All issues. General France: used.)
- 2841 SPONGBERG, STEPHEN A., 121 Edgewater Dr., Waltham, MA 02154 (General collector: All issues.)

Page 94 F&C PHILATELIST

REINSTATEMENTS

| 2234 | WHITTEMORE, JAMES M., P.O. Box 27, Wallburg, NC 27373 |
|------|--|
| 2355 | COULBOURNE, JOSEPH C., 705 Prince Allen Ct., Virginia Beach, VA 23454 |
| 2221 | GUENTER, RAYMOND A., 52 Wood Pond Rd., W. Hartford, CT 06107-3526 |
| 2375 | LAZENBY, JESSICA, 4250 N. Marine Dr., Apt. 810, Chicago, IL 60613 |
| 2204 | BAILEY, WILLIAM J. (drop Lt. Col.), 5-1891 Francis Rd., Richmond, B.C., Canada V6Y 1A5 |

DECEASED

1651 SEYMOUR, LAUREN

2339 BROWN, REUBEN



WANTED: Information about how to identify counterfeits of Cameroun Scott nos. 101-129. --Jon A. Hussey, 7911 Juniper Ave., Gary, IN 46403 (Mb. #1363)

OFFER: France, mint, used, FDC, booklets, covers. Send want list. --Mike Trubetzkoy, 3437 Taraval St., San Francisco, CA 94116 (Mb #1843)