



# France & Colonies



# Philatelist

## INDOCHINA AND THE FRENCH COLONIAL ALLEGORICAL GROUP TYPE

by Ed Grabowski  
(cont. from *FCP* #230, p. 119)

Sometimes one is fortunate enough to come across an item that seems to have everything going for it. Such is the insured money letter shown in Figure 6. It was posted from the small office at Cholon-Binhthay on the 21st of April 1906 to Sadec. It weighed 200g and was valued at 7500F. It bears 2F35c in postage (25c and 50c values from the 1900 printings, plus two 75c values and a 10c Grasset issue) and was sent locally to Sadec. An unusual administrative cachet was used to account for the insured letter; these are typical of the smaller offices in Indochina.

The cover in Figure 7 appears to be quite interesting at first glance. It is based on a large format 15c blue stationery envelope brought to 55c registered rate with a Dubois issue of the Colonies General Issues. This corresponds to a double weight letter (2 x 15c) plus the 25c registry for the correct franking on this 11th of February 1897 posting. Unfortunately, the addressee, E. Meyer of Pnompenh, is a known philatelic address, and the unusual combination franking has to be considered philatelically inspired.

Mail from Tonkin is as common as mail from Cochinchina, giving the collector the opportunity to find the more unusual frankings. Shown in Figure 8 is a 1c printed matter wrapper posted from Hanoi to the small office of Dong-Hoi, Annam, where it was received

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on the 19th of February 1904. Only three 1c rates reside in my entire Group Type collection, so I must conclude that proper 1c rates are quite rare despite the ready availability of used 1c stamps.

Again the smaller offices offer an interesting avenue for the collector, as the card in Figure 9 illustrates. It was posted from the small office at Phu-Lang-Thuong in 1895, and shows a Ligne N transit and a New York arrival handstamp on the front.

The military cover shown in Figure 10 has to be amongst one of the most interesting that I have. It was posted to France from the small office at Cao-Bang in 1906. At this time troops on station were allowed two military-franchise stamps per month. These were the F.M. overprints on the Sower issues. This double-weight letter was franked with one F.M. military franchise issue, plus a 10c Group Type and a 5c Grasset issue to prepay the second weight level. Apparently the sender had already used his other franchise stamp.

I have a few Group Type covers with **AR** handstamps and these pose a special problem. The **AR** handstamps were used to indicate that a return receipt (*avis de reception*) had been requested, as illustrated by the cover in Figure 11. It bears a large boxed red **AR** handstamp on the large-format 15c stationery envelope franked with added 30c and 40c Group Types for a total of 85c. The envelope was posted in Haiphong on the 7th of December 1896 to Philadelphia. Apparently a double-weight registered letter (2 x 25c postage plus 25c registry), the regular franking would have been 75c. The extra 10c is for the return receipt. A number of covers in my collection show the additional 10c charge for the return receipt. However, that shown in Figure 12, posted in 1905 with a similar boxed **AR** handstamp in black from the same office, shows only a 50c franking (25c postage and 25c registry, with the remainder of the stamps on the reverse) with no 10c charge. I also have a number of these in my collection, suggesting that the 10c charge for the return receipt is sometimes reflected in the franking and sometimes not. I do not have a sufficient number of these

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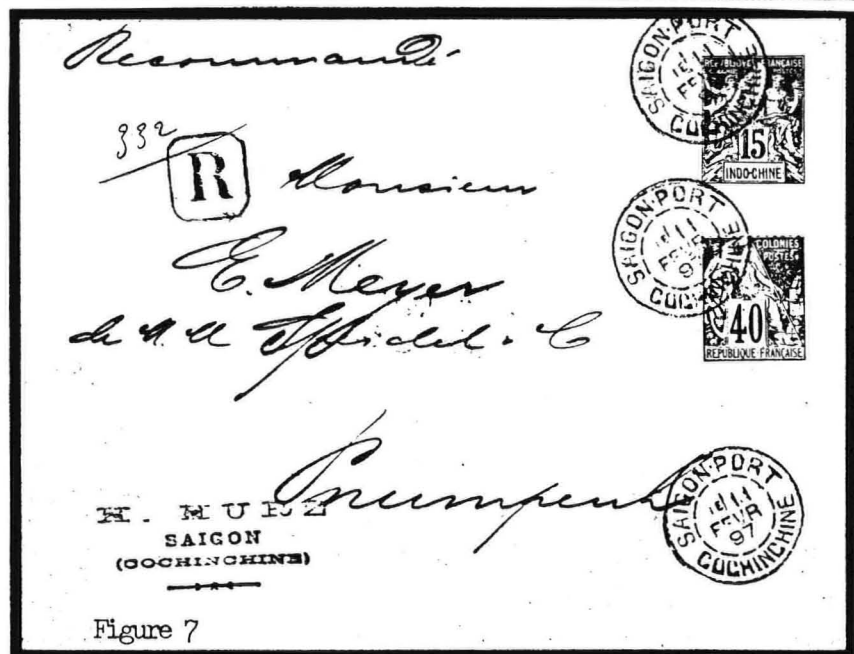
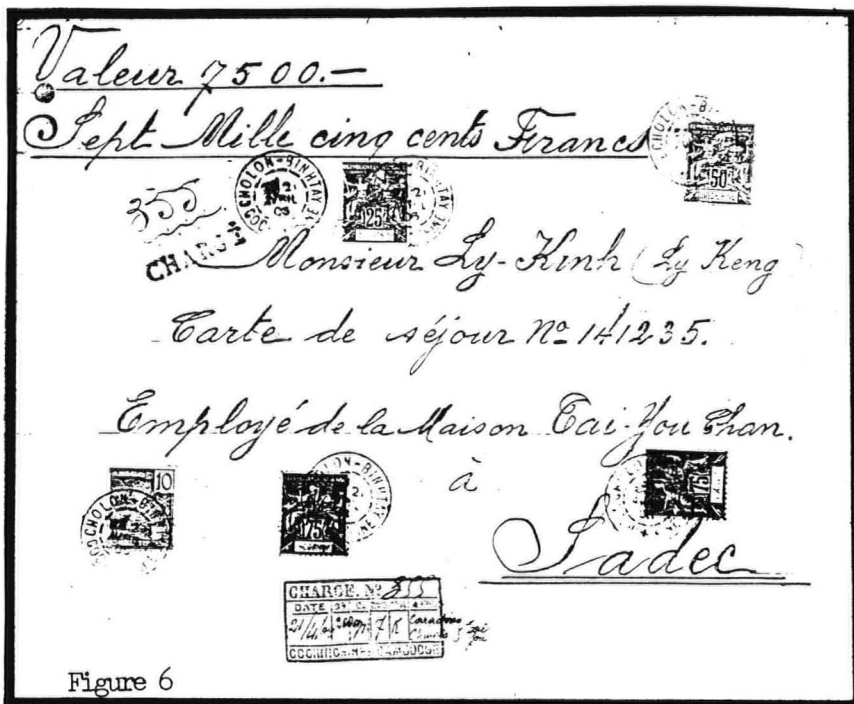
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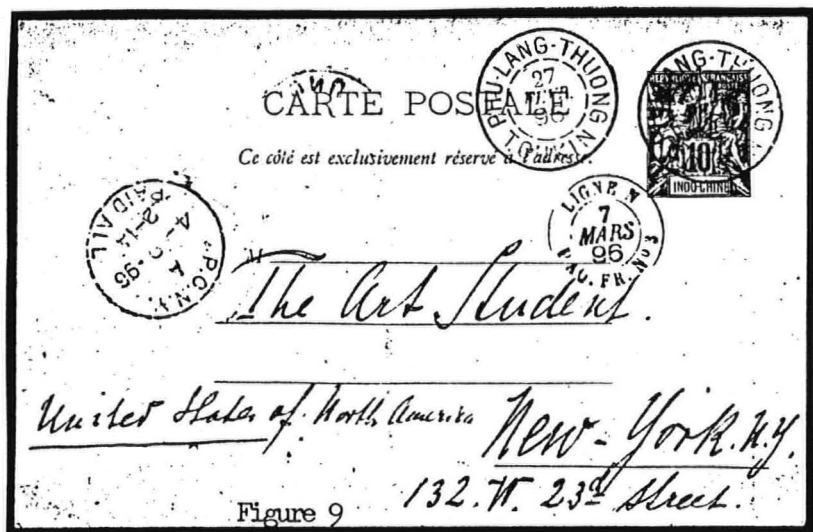
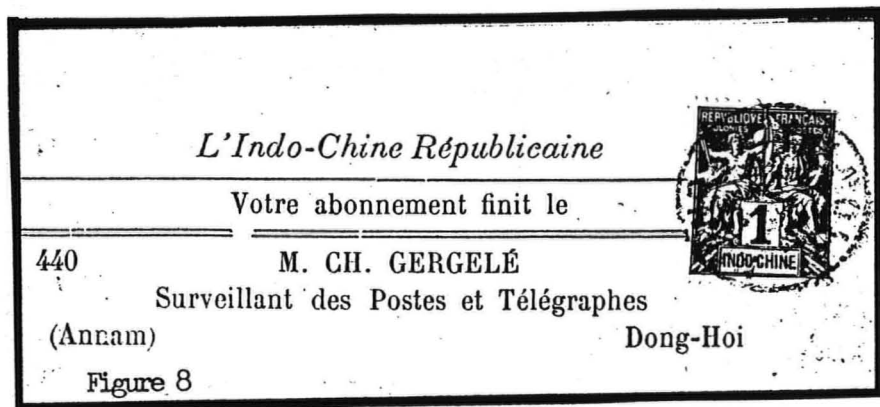
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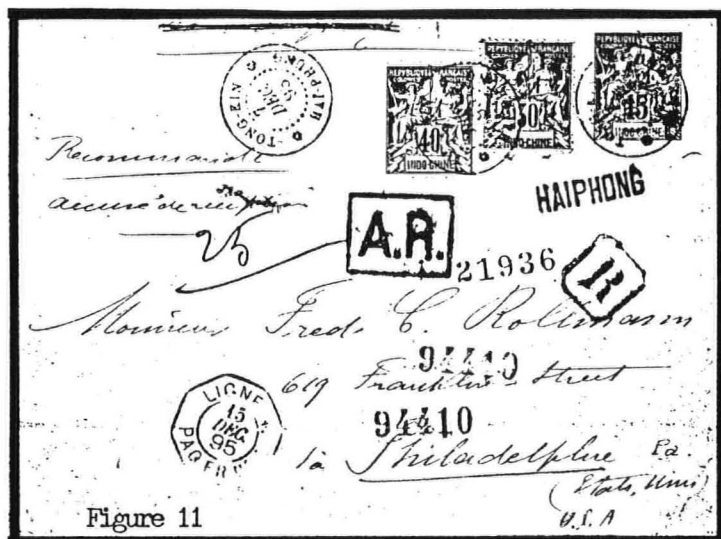
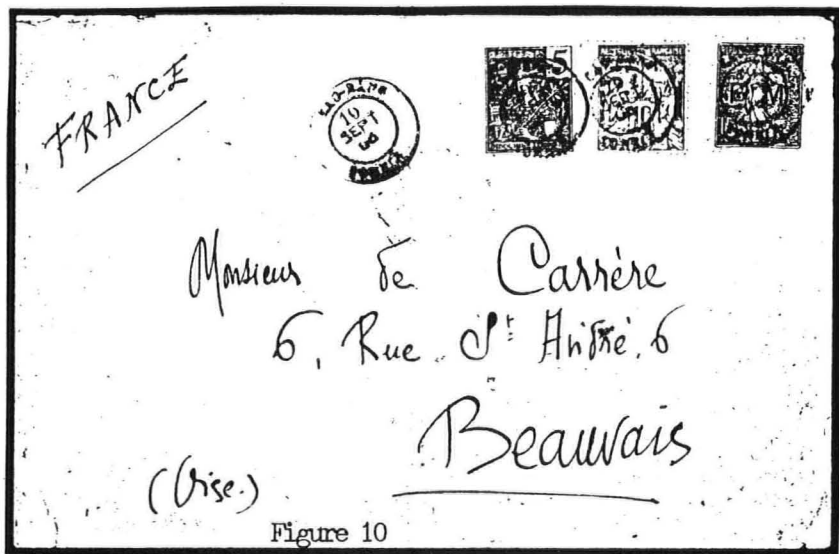
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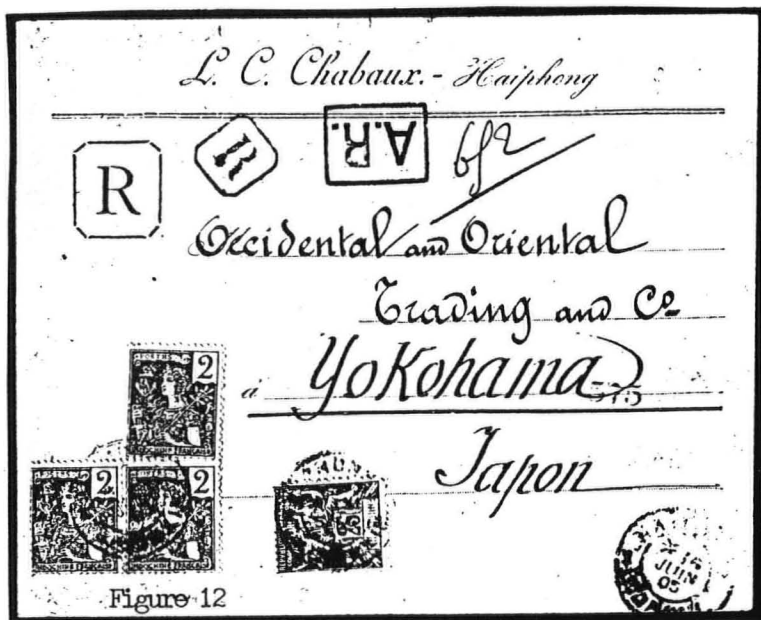


Figure 12

covers to begin to extract the operating regulations. I would be interested in hearing from others who have AR covers franked with Group Type stamps.

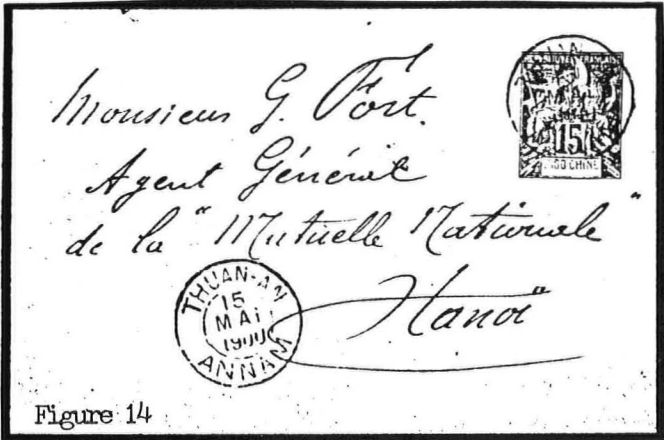
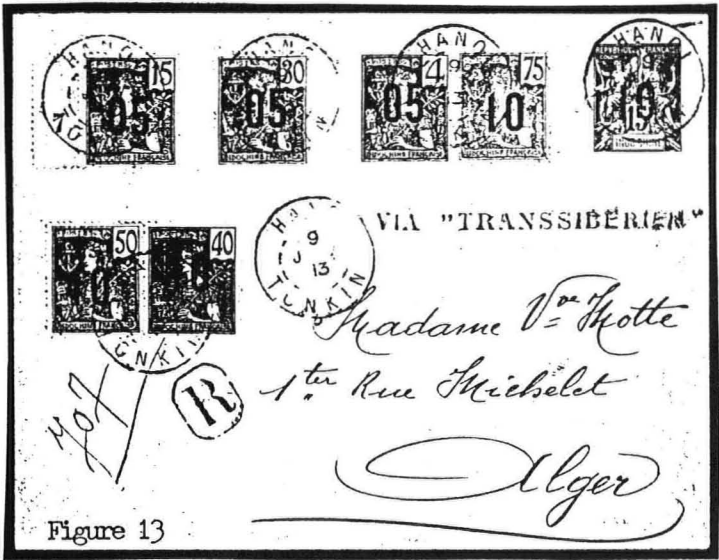
Proper use of a 5F Group Type stamp is as difficult to find as is use of a 1c stamp. I have but one, on a declared value letter posted from Haiphong in 1903 and valued at 1500F. The piece is franked at 7F85c and was sent to Paris. It is too big to reproduce for this article.

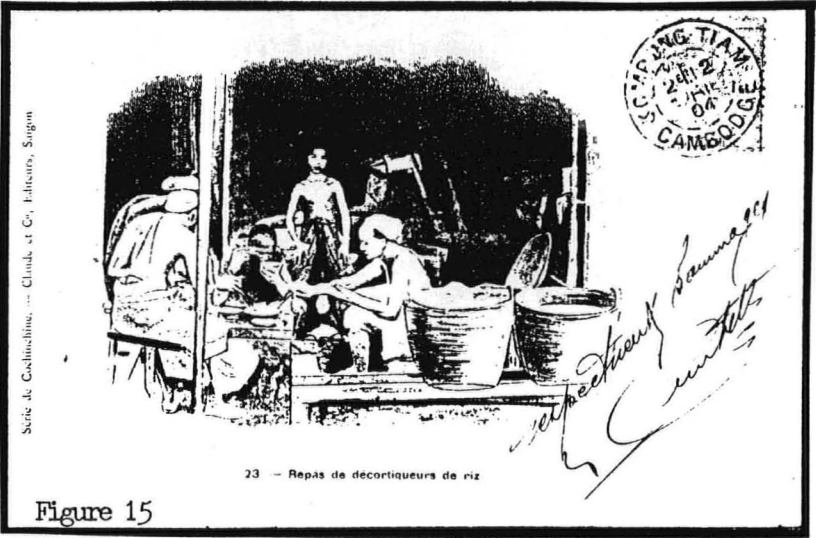
A Madame Vve. Motte in Alger, Algeria maintained a vigorous correspondence with someone in Tonkin. I have her letters in my collection from 1900-1913. Often they appear to be at prevailing rates, but their composition suggests a philatelic inspiration. That shown in Figure 13 is typical: it was prepared on a large format 15c envelope, which had been revalued 10c in 1912, with additional postage made up by a variety of the 1912 overprints on the Grasset issues. The total franking is 55c, which corresponds to a triple-weight registered letter. Despite its philatelic origins, it is a colorful correspondence, and, as in this case, this item is the only example of the revalued stationery that I have in my collection.

Annam and Cambodia are more difficult areas from which to obtain material. Shown in Figure 14 is a small format 15c envelope used locally from the village of Thuan-An, Annam, in 1900 to a business agent named Georges Fort. Fortunately a lot of correspondence from Indochina's smaller offices survives from this correspondence. Cambodia is illustrated by the unusual 5c postcard (Figure 15) from the village of Kampong-Tiam. The pictures on Colonial cards are often as interesting as their postal history aspects.

Since it was pacified last (read that as a gentlemanly way of noting that the Locals were beaten down), material is most difficult to obtain from Laos. Material from the capital at Vien-Tiane is available, but far from common. A recent Cherrystone auction suggests a "value" of \$250-300 for a common Group Type letter originating there. My total holdings comprise but six covers. The triple-weight registered (3 x 15c plus 25c registry for a total franking of 70c) letter shown in Figure 16 from Khone to Marseille is amongst one of my rarer pieces.

Packet and ship mail comes in various types from the Indochina area. Packet Line N frankings are relatively common. More unusual is the military correspondence version (CORR. D. ARM. LIG. N P. FR. No 2) as shown in Figure 17. There was a line serving Saigon-Singapore which had its own date stamp (LIGNE DE SAIGON A SINGAPORE)





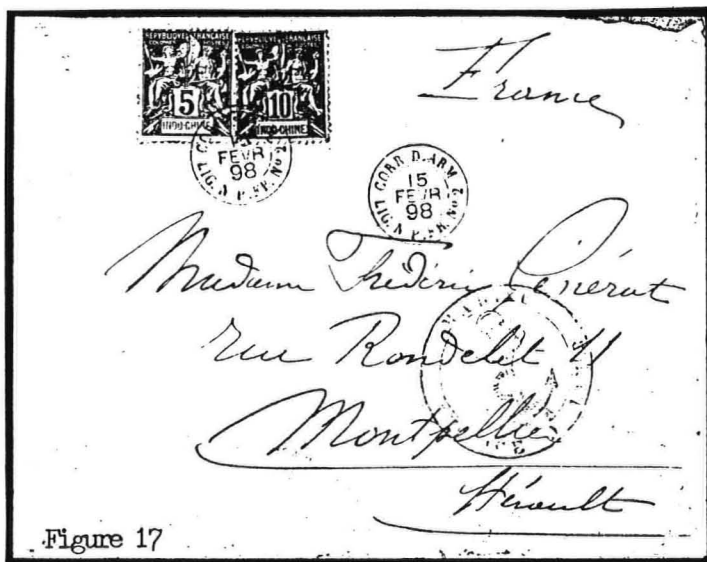


Figure 17

as the 1894 letter to France in Figure 18 illustrates. The Mekong has a group of river steamers that carried the mail as illustrated by the post card in Figure 19. It bears the date stamp of **VAPEUR No 4**. In my time of collecting the Group Type, I have not seen too many of these, and definitely consider nice examples worth acquiring.

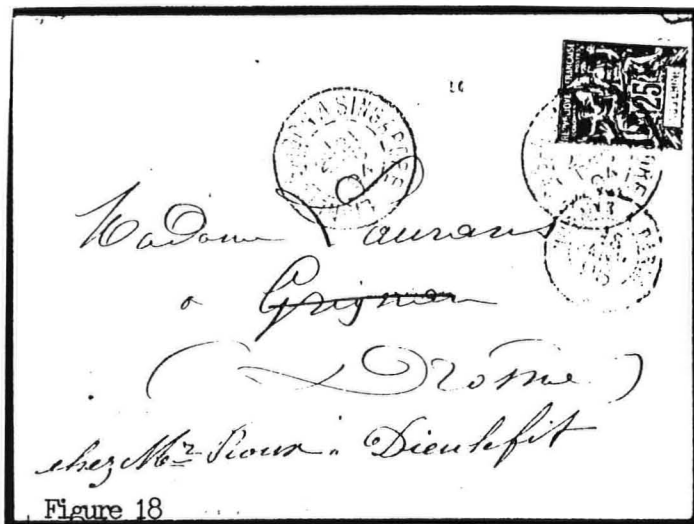


Figure 18

The parcel post overprints on Group Type stamps can be found on pieces as shown in Figure 20 (Quinhone, Annam). I have but three others, and suggest that you get them if the chance strikes.

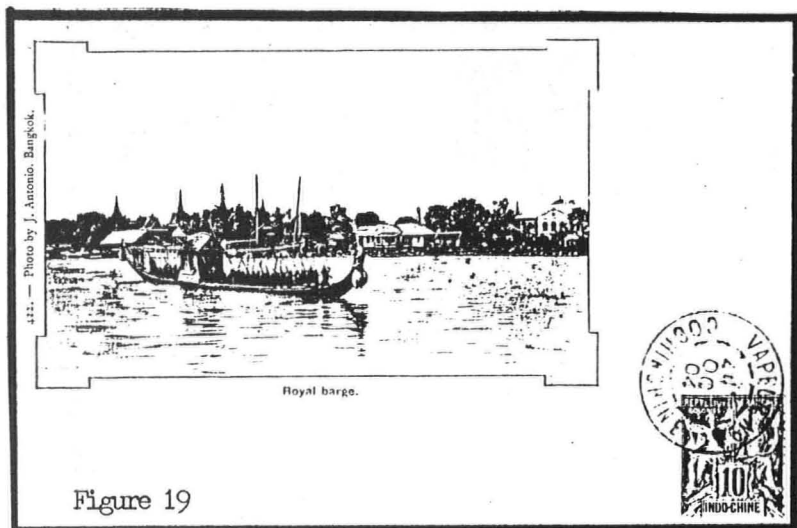


Figure 19

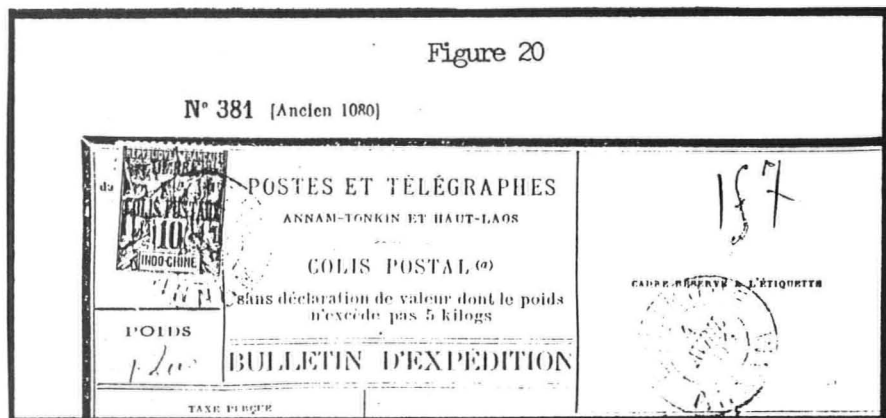


Figure 20

Before leaving Indochina proper, something should be noted about the philatelic mail. It is fairly common, and often in pristine condition as shown by the example in Figure 21. The letters are often to Germany, from ship's personnel sending souvenirs home. This one is over-franked with 10c, 20c, 30c, 40c and 75c issues, for a total of 1F75c. This would cover a sixth-weight registered letter, a weight far in excess of what could fit into a small envelope unless it contained lead.

After the turn of the century, French Offices were created in a number of Chinese cities in support of French commerce and interests. These included Canton, Hoi-Hao, Kouang-Tcheou, Packhoi, Mongtseu, Tchongking and Yunnan-Fou. These are reflected in four different uses of Group Type stamps: use of Indochinese stamps, use of **CHINE** overprints created for general use throughout the Offices, use of stamps prepared for individual offices and use of stamps of one office from another. Desrousseaux gives a history of these offices, but good data on rates is still needed. Most match existing French Colonial rates. However, even a small collection of covers indicates that there were special rates applicable to the area.

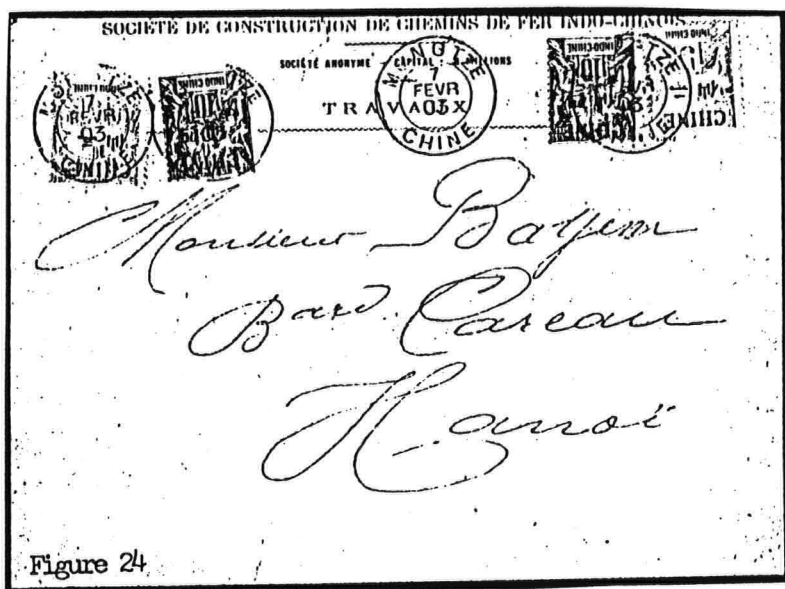


Figure 21

Shown in Figures 22 and 23 are postal stationery items of Indochina used from the Offices. The first is a postal card used from Packhoi on the 9th of October 1903 via Hoi Hao to France. The second is a 5c envelope used in 1910 from Yunnan Fou. The letter from Mongtseu (Figure 24) to Hanoi is franked with **CHINE** overprints and clearly at the double (2 x 15c) French Community rate. Of all of the offices, Canton is the most common. The registered letter in Figure 25 was posted in Canton on July 4, 1901 to Hong Kong and franked at 35c (25c registry and 10c postage). Logically, Hong Kong should be treated as an overseas area and the regular rate should be 25c; or possibly at the 15c French Community rate. However, this letter, and others I have, suggest that special rates existed for common Chinese destinations (Hong Kong, Macao, Shanghai, etc.), though I have seen no tabulation of such. This one was received in Hong Kong the next day. The large registered



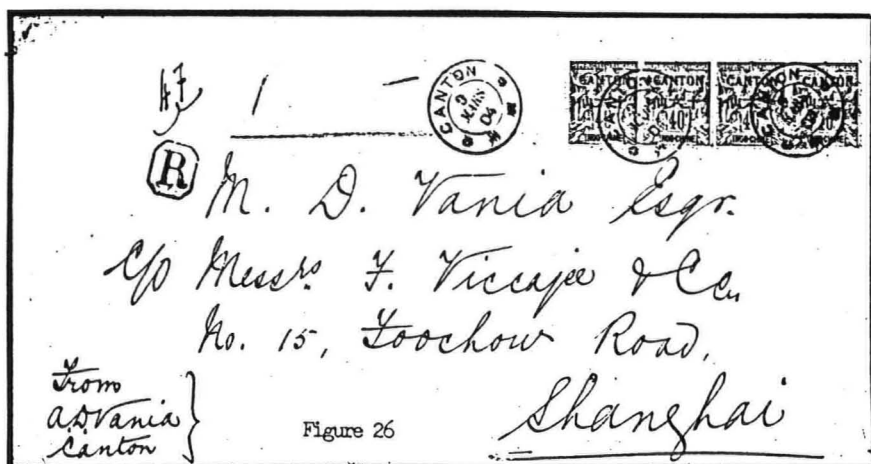
Figure 22



letter in Figure 26 was posted from Canton on March 9, 1904 to Shanghai, and franked at 2F40c. It is not a philatelic item, as much commercial mail was directed to various members of the Vania family at this time. I have letters to various members in the Offices, Macao, Shanghai and destinations in India. So it is unlikely that this is a philatelic item. With 25c for registry, this leaves 2F15c for postage, but the weight level of this large piece remains uncertain.

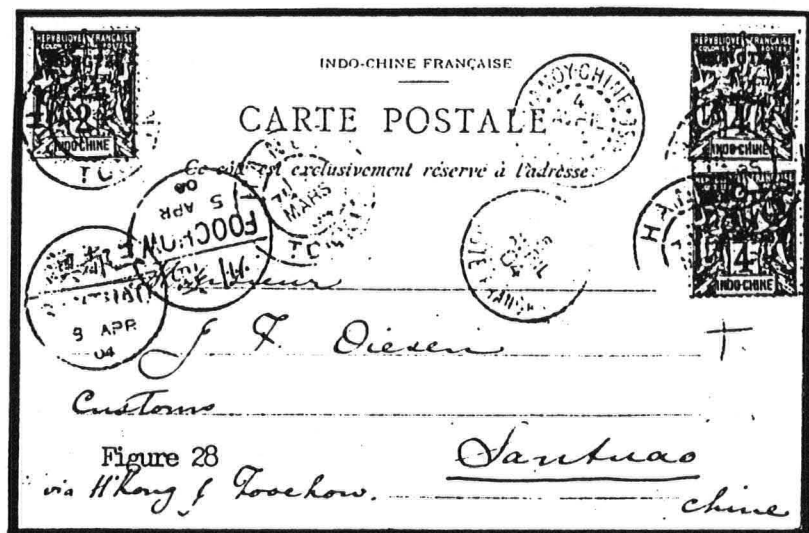
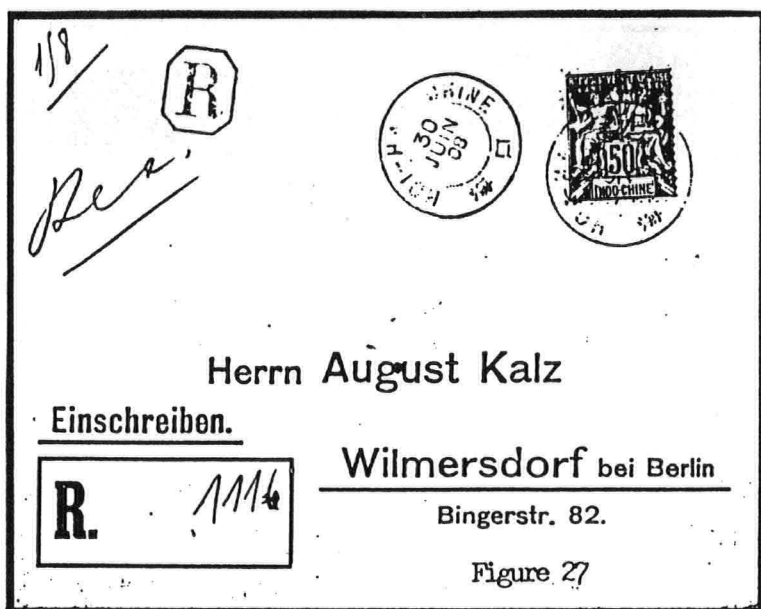
Hoi Hao is among the more difficult of the Offices. Figure 27 shows a typical single-weight overseas registered letter franked at 50c posted in 1908. A most unusual card shown





in Figure 28 was posted from Hanoi in 1904 to China proper and franked with the issues of Mongtseu. This was apparently tolerated by the Hanoi post office (where there were a lot of irregularities during 1900-1910), as the item shows three transit handstamps and a Santuao arrival, clearly indicating that the card traveled through the posts.

The most interesting of the Offices is the office that never became an office: Longtcheou. Group Type overprints were prepared, but never issued. Occasionally these are seen in dealers' stocks or at auction, but authenticity has to be questioned as stocks were supposedly burned. Mail did emanate from this office, but it required Chinese postage to pay



the prevailing local rate to the Indochinese border (usually Langson), and Indochinese stamps thereafter. Among the more unusual items in my collection (Figure 29) is the printed matter piece from 1899 bearing a 2 cent Chinese Dragon stamp and a 5c Group Type stamp to prepay the printed matter rate. On the other end of the scale is the registered merchant's letter (Figure 30) bearing a dozen 2 cent Chinese Dragon stamps and a 40c Group Type stamp (cancelled in Langson), prepaying the registry rate on both ends. In addition,



Figure 29



Figure 30

the piece bears a boxed 'AR' for a return receipt. A propos of the previous discussion, no evidence of a charge for the return receipt is reflected in the prepayment in stamps.

So ends my story. Its purpose was to give the reader some idea of the wealth and diversity of material one can find with Group Type frankings from the Indochina area. To date my Indochina area collection comprises about four frames. For the gluttons out there, check the FCPS exhibits at the **MEGA EVENT** (the old name for **NATIONAL '92**) to be held in NYC at the end of October. Marc Isaac is putting in TEN frames of Indochina Group Type material. I'm really looking forward to this exhibit, as Marc has been in this game far longer than I have, and has much exciting material to show us. I'll be more interested in hearing comments from any of the readers, or seeing copies of interesting items in your collections.

## FRENCH MARITIME MAIL IN THE CARIBBEAN- Some New Discoveries by Thierry Lallavee

The octagonal La Guayra/Paq. Fr. L. N° 1 (Salles #1619) maritime departure (or port-of-call) date stamp has heretofore been known only (1) on back of mail from the French consular agency at La Guayra, Venezuela, or (2) on unpaid, taxed mail.

Figure 1 may show the first recorded use of this date stamp on a prepaid cover. Line L connected the Venezuelan ports of Porto-Cabello and La Guayra with Fort-de-France (Martinique) (1865-1872), and the latter connected via principal Line A with St. Nazaire (France). This cover also shows "semi-mixed" franking, for the blank-center double-circle Correos/Caracas cachet indicates prepayment of internal Venezuelan postage to the port of La Guayra. The French 80c Lauré stamp (with difficult-to-illustrate anchor killer) prepaid the maritime transit, and then the land portion, all the way to Paris.

Figure 2 shows a letter placed into the mails at the port-of-call of Carúpano, Venezuela, already franked with a French Colonies General Issues 1F Sage, which had been grossly perforated at top, and cancelled by the octagonal port-of-call date stamp Venezuela/Paq. Fr. B. N° 4 (Salles #1445/4) (Line B = Vera-Cruz-St. Nazaire). This perforating must have been done privately, and somewhere prior to arrival at Carúpano. Readers who may have information regarding this or similar curiosities, please contact me, Thierry Lallavee, at 18 rue du 8 Mai, F 69110 Ste. Foy-Les-Lyon, France, for which I thank you in advance.

(Translated by S.J. Luft)

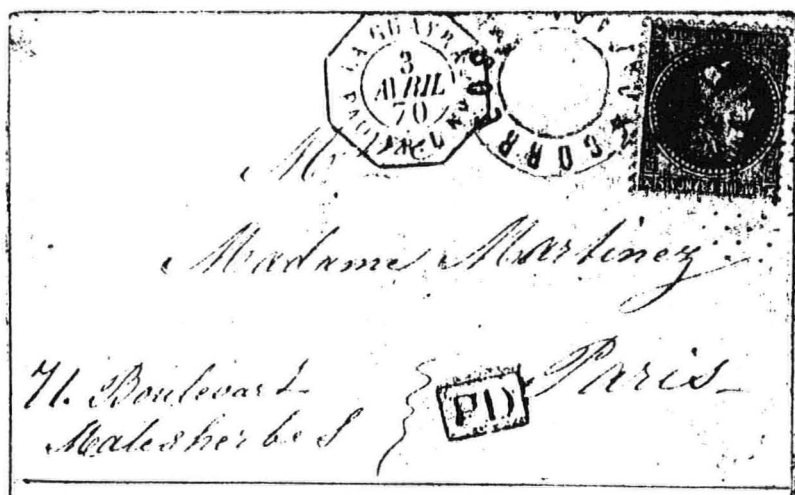


Figure 1. The Ligne L ran from Fort de France to La Guayra, Porto Cabello and Curacao (1869 on) from 1865 to 1872. At Fort de France the mail was transferred from or to packets of Ligne A which went to France. Ligne L cachets are extremely rare when used as here on front of cover prepaid in stamps at La Guayra or posted on board. Salles illustration of Paq. Fr. L. of La Guayra is shown for comparison.

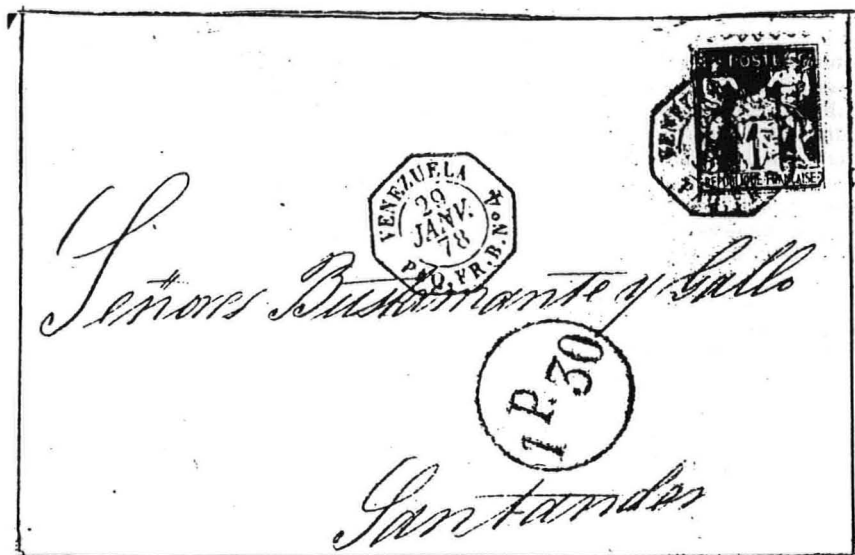


Figure 2. 1 Franc Sage pen cancelled and then date stamped with Salles #1445/4, originated at Carúpano, Venezuela, January 1878, addressed to Santander, Spain. The cachet "Venezuela/Paq. Fr. B" was struck on a packet of Ligne B at Fort de France, Martinique, destined to France but calling at Santander en route. Carried from Carúpano to Fort de France on Ligne L. There was a considerable correspondence from a firm in Carúpano to Spain in the 1870s, franked with Sage stamps either French or Colonies, covers priced by Salles at only 250F. The "1p30" is a Spanish postage-due mark.

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### SOME WORDS OF WISDOM FROM THE PEN OF JOHN M. HOTCHNER

"... Too many collectors expect to buy quality for cheap. The fault lies partially with our references:

Scott catalog... a superior authority in many areas is but a general guide when it comes to pricing.

Sell ads in the philatelic press... useless unless the seller differentiates by condition. Even if quality level is specified, the often encountered "out of stock" upon ordering means that they are not accurate guides. In other words, lower prices, upon occasion, turn out to be only come-ons.

There are only four references which tend to be more useful:

- \* The dealer you have dealt with over the course of years.
- \* The buy ad in the philatelic press.
- \* The sell ad for stamps labeled as seconds or average.
- \* The auction realizations for high quality: Fine, Very Fine, and Superb level material.

Careful analysis of these references will yield two important conclusions:

The first is that the higher the level of condition, the rarer the stamp. Because of the problems of paper aging, rough handling, prevalence of heavy cancels, etc., the top of the line in early U.S. philately is hard to come by.

The second is that condition-based rarity commands a premium as it does in every other area of philately. Why that should surprise so many people is quite a mystery. ..."

(J. M. Hotchner, "Facts and Fantasy about Philately," Melbourne, FL, 1992, p. 34-35.)

## RALPH HOLTSIZER, 1897-1992

Ralph was one of our first members to join the Society in the fall of 1941. He was a customer of Raoul Lesgor who organized the Society and recruited members from his clients. Others who joined at first were: Steve Rich, Arthur Dean, J.B. Kremer, Jacques Musy, Edmond Queyroy, Dr. A.J. C. Vaurie, Dr. Carrol Chase, Louise Clemencon, Adrien Boutrelle, George Mary, Charles Kutner, and John McGee, who have been stalwarts of the Society in the ensuing years and still remembered by (several of them still living) some of our present members.

Ralph came over from Philly to many of the early meetings of the Society in N.Y. and greatly enjoyed his association with the "pioneers." He gave several talks to the club and had articles on Martinique cancels and stamps in the *Philatelist*. His Martinique collection was one of the most complete known at that time. He also had a considerable collection of Guadeloupe. In the 1930s he made several visits to Martinique and became close friends with several prominent people there.

Ralph remained healthy and alert until his last days, though he withdrew from philately after he sold his collections. We received notice of his death, at age 95 from a stroke after a short hospitalization, from his late wife's sister.

Ralph's profession was as a photographer. For years a "Society" photographer for the Philadelphia Inquirer; he photographed many Society people and events on the Main Line and in the City, and on occasion celebrities such as King Albert and the Queen of Belgium, Duke of Windsor, and Cardinal Mercier.

He lived with his mother and after her death married Nelta Hamilton who died in 1984.

Ralph was very personable and had a host of friends. He made a striking figure with his ruddy complexion and white hair, showing his Pennsylvania German heritage, though his family were long time Presbyterians. Born in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania where his father was a mill manager, he early developed a love of horticulture (gardening), stamps and photography. A few years ago I (R.G.S.) invited him to visit his old haunts in Chambersburg which he enjoyed immensely.

Ralph was a life member of A.P.S. and the Lansdown Stamp Club.

R.G. Stone

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

### New Issues and Withdrawals

(continued from FCP #230, October 1992, p. 123)

► France: 14 September: 4,20F rose Marianne de Briat; October: Pre-cancels (Musical Instruments) 1,73F, 2,25F, 3,51F, 5,40F; 6 (9) November: 2,50F European Unity; 13 (16) November: 4,20F Marcel Paul (1900-1982); 12 (16) November: 2,50F Nancy-Lunéville air-mail service (1912-1992); 20 (23) November: Contemporary European Art, four at 5F; 28 (30) November: Red Cross (Strasbourg) 2,50F + 0,60F; and 31F booklet; 5 (7) December: 30F booklet of twelve x 2,50F, The pleasure of writing.

Withdrawals: 9 October: 2,50F Olympic Games; 3,40F Marguerite d'Angoulême; 15 October: 2,50F French pavilion at Seville Expo; 13 November: French Musicians semi-postals (sheet stamps and booklet); 3,40F Inter. Congress of Bread and Cereals; 4F 400th Anniv. of Ajaccio; 2,50F Congress of Phil. Societies at Niort; 30 November: Pre-cancels--all eleven of the January 1992 issue plus one earlier one; 18 December: 2,50F Olympic Games Nations; 2,50F Chateau de Biron; 4F Lorient Harbor.

► Andorra: 5 (6) October: 5,00F Art of Mauro Staccioli; 14 (16) November: 5,00F Art of Dennis Oppenheim.

Withdrawals: 10 July: Nature series: 2,50F sheep and 3,50F Pyrenees cow (not 10 June as previously announced); 11 September: 3,40F Bicent. of Mozart's death; 9

October: 5,00F Virgin of St. Julia & St. Germa: 13 November: Winter Olympics triptych; 2,50F St. Andreu; 18 December: 2,50F buttercup and 3,40F vulture.

► Monaco: 18 September: Stamp Museum S.S. of two 10F stamps-on-stamps design (previously scheduled for 20 October release).

► Polynesia: 16 September: 78F Herman Melville; 16 October: Sixth Pacific Arts Festival: 40F Gambier raft, 65F Otahiti pirogue.

Withdrawals: 1 July: 350F Eric de Bisschop (Link with South America) (of 1988); 29F and 31F Center for Artisan Skills (of 1989); 100F single and 200F S.S. for Philex-France 89; Folklore 47F, 61F, 67F (of 1989).

► New Caledonia: 29 September: 205F Air, painting by Paul Mascart; 4 (5) October: 175F Air, "le bouvier australien" (shepherd dog).

► St. Pierre et Miquelon: 14 September: Dolisle Valley triptych (postponed from August); 19 October: 5,10F Columbus.

Withdrawals: 3 July: 2,20F Dr. Thomas; 10 July: 23F Marianne de Briat booklet; 2,50F Admiral Muselier; 14 August: 17F "Savoyard" triptych.

► Wallis & Futuna: 12 October: 20F ship "Le Garonne"; 17 November: 300F Rodin 75th Death Anniv.

► Mail to and from French troops with the UN mission to Yugoslavia was to be relayed (Summer 1992) via the following Military Postal Bureaus (BPMs): 651, 652, 653, 654, and 655. French UN observers for the electoral campaigns in Cambodia were using BPMs 211 and 212 at that same time.

► Can somebody tell us (preferably with documentation) whether the hours shown in 20th Century date stamps stand for (1) approximate time of mail collection (from mail boxes), or (2) time of actual cancellation (at the P.O.), or (3) some other possibility? We suspect the second of the three, but it would be preferable to be sure. Thanks!

► According to member Thierry Lallavée, the octagonal Corrd.Arm./Tan-An date stamp of Indochina is known on only two covers. This one (see illustration) with CCH killers on Colonial Eagles, sold for 14,542Fr in Lallavée's (Lugdunum Philatélie) 29 September 1992 auction.



► The non-postal vignette (*timbre fictif*) printed 1971 by heliogravure, and showing a *pic vert* bird, was printed for purposes of calibrating and adjusting the Chambon press HEL-1. This vignette is known for its wide range of individual and multiple colors, the latter frequently offset and misregistered in relation to one another.

► The COLISSIMO service guarantees one-day service on packages of up to 10kg within the same Department, and two-days service to other Departments. Starting 1 September 1992, some 20 post offices were provided with experimental, unfolded, pre-stamped (imprinted) boxes in two sizes, one selling at 40F, the other at 58F. According to the Tariffs of August 1991 and August 1992, 40F covers intra-departmental packages of 3kg to 5kg, but there seems to be no 58F rate. Perhaps these values include a charge for the box, plus some common rate.

► Philately lost Gilbert Noël 27 August 1992. Born in 1920, he was elected to the Académie de Philatélie in 1961. Author of numerous articles and handbooks, including such well-known works as the several editions of "Catalogue des Marques et Cachets d'Entrée en France 1800-1881," and also "Catalogue des Timbres-Taxe Carrés de France 1859-1878," and "Catalogue des Départements Conquis et Provinces Illyriennes," plus studies on Transatlantic mail between the U.S. and France. His writings have stood the test of time.

► Modern blue definitives, in the Sabine, Liberté, and now Marianne de Briat designs, were printed for the international 1x surface-letter rate. Because of steadily increasing tariff rates, all were short-lived and are increasingly difficult to find used, and especially so used alone on surface-mail covers to foreign destinations.

► Derek Richardson's "Tables of French Postal Rates 1849 to Date," reviewed on p. 125 of the October *FCP*, wasn't quite altogether error-free. Mr. Richardson prepared a one-page corrections sheet in September 1992. I can supply the page to interested readers for a SASE (29¢, or correct US postage to your country). Stanley J. Luft, 16291 West 56th Place, Golden, CO 80403, USA.

► The 30,00F purple airmail of 1986, showing a Wibault 283 trimotor, received a 2nd press run 7-16 January 1992. The new printing is clearer and brighter than previously.

► The 2,50F red Marianne de Briat coil stamp exists with white gum and with slightly "brownish" gum.

► The 1993 Yvert catalogues have appeared. France is now alone in Vol. I (352 pages, 72Fr), with Monaco, Andorra, the UN, and Europa issues in a new Vol. Ibis (224 pages, 45Fr). Prices tend to lie between stable and increased over previous editions. Volume I includes a new eight-page specialized section on the 5c Blanc. Yvert Vol. VII, for Overseas O to Z countries, is also available (864 pages, 180Fr). All prices given are exclusive of postage. The 1993 Cérès has also been released.

► The four dismal-appearing small-format red stamps, released 28 September 1992 for the 200th anniversary of the First Republic, are considered to be what I've previously called "quasi-regulars" whose printings have and will, for a time, replace those of the 2,50F Marianne de Briat. They have been printed on the RGR-1 press with, on one sheet, Garouste's coq with the head of a woman on the left side of the central gutter, and Blais' childlike REPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE on the right. Those positions are taken on another sheet by Alechinsky's Tree of Liberty (left) and Raysse's portrait of a low-IQ adolescent (right). Congratulations to the Ministry of Culture for having sponsored these monstrosities.

► "Les 'Libertés', coins datés des tirages en feuilles" has been published by the SO.CO.DA.MI. (19, rue Alsace-Lorraine, F 22000 St. Brieuc, France). A limited quantity of copies are available to non-members for 70F postpaid. The complete range of sheet-stamp printings for the Liberté issues is given in standard tabular form in 84 pages that also include information on distinguishing between the various cylinders (*viroles*) used to print the red and green Libertés.

► "La Poussée vers l'Est," by Bernard Abouchar, recounts the history of aviation (and air-mail) between France and Asia between the two World Wars, with emphasis apparently upon air service with Indochina. It is available for 120F (+ 20F postage) from Amicale Aérophilatelique d'Air France, ARAF, 1 square Max-Hymans, F 75741 Paris Cedex 15.



► *Catalogue des Timbres de France seuls sur lettres 1900-1945*," by Robert Baillorgeat, is available from Bertrand Sinais, at 7, rue de Chateaudun, F 75009 Paris. In addition to pricing some 7000 stamps present by themselves on cover (as per their intended postal usage), the author tabulates the scarcity of the covers, the official documentation that led to the stamp and its face value, the duration of application of the particular tariff rate, etc.

► **Some show results:**

STAMP SHOW '92 (APS Annual Convention, Oakland, CA): Gold to Paul Blake for "Russia Charity Issues, 1914-1915"; silver to Bob Kinsley for "French Somaliland 1890s-1940s; bronze to Mark Isaacs for 'Philatelic Fun.'" The Champion-of-Champions for this year is James P. Gough, who showed numerous superb examples of French postage-due material in his "The Evolution and Use of Adhesives for Postage Due, 1790-1954."

OMAHA STAMP SHOW '92: Gold to Mark Isaacs for "Indochina Navigation and Commerce Issue of 1892-1900"; vermeil to Stan Luft for "France: The 30c Cameo Sower"--which also received a silver at INDIPEX '92.

SESCAL '92 (Los Angeles): Silver medals to Donald T. Eggen for "French Stampless Covers 1776-1855" and Bob Kinsley for "The French Expeditionary Corps 1861-1905."

PEACHTREE STAMP SHOW '92 (Atlanta): Gold to Dr. Stephen W. Gray for "Cérès Stamps of France" and Stan Luft for "Alsace-Lorraine 1925-1950"; and silver to Betty E. Gray for "French Red Cross Stamps." Ernst Cohn served as Chief Judge.

NEW YORK CITY'S MEGA-EVENT SHOW is covered in detail elsewhere in this issue.

► The Scandinavian Collectors Club Chapter of Southern California will offer in its auction on May 1993 an interesting Cover from Paris dated 22 November 1870 sent by balloon monté addressed to Brussels on the Ville d'Orleans which crashed in the sea. Anyone interested write to: SCC, Box 310, Claremont, CA 91711.

► Le Monde Editions has just published a book titled "Les Plus Belles Histoires de Timbres," recounted by Pierre Julien and Dominique Buffier with 1,000 original illustrations, 188 pages, 295Fr. These stories relate historical events and persons which had their political and cultural aspects communicated in stamps. It will be a gold mine for thematic collectors. Sold by Le Monde Editions, 5 rue Antoine-Bourdelle, 75015 Paris.

► The Union Marcophile will shortly publish as a Special N° of *Feuilles Marcophile*, a book by Joseph Bergier on the Grande Pêche mail of Newfoundland, Greenland, and Iceland, with some connections to St. Pierre-Miquelon. A work of 250 pages, with over 150 illustrations of documents and letters. Carton cover. Subscriptions are being taken at the Union Marcophile at 360Fr postpaid by Lucien Bridelance, 19 Ave. du Chatelet, 77150 Lesigny. After publication it will cost 390Fr.

► René Cottet who designed or engraved 246 stamps of France and other countries, died on 24 April 1992; a Société des Amis de René Cottet is being formed to preserve his work and make it more widely known. For information write to Yvonne Chapolard-Manhes, rue de Faubourg, 07400 Rochemaure.

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## FOR THE RECORD

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(continued from *FCP* #230, October 1992, p. 122)

► 644.) The S.A.L. service (for Surface Air Lifted) is an economy-class airmail service that took effect 16 April 1990. It can be used for printed matter, postal cards "of 5 words," newspapers and magazines, books, brochures, catalogues, maps, music scores, and small

packages, and requires the use of a dark blue and green self-stick label (see illustration). Also an airmail surtax (not required to some parts of Europe) that, for the U.S. and Canada, is only a third of the surtax on "fast mail." We assume that this type of mail flies on a space-available basis.

Bleu  
foncé

Vert



►645.) The most important post office in a Department, that is, the one with the biggest volume of mail and revenue is the Department's Recette Principale (R.P.), whether located in the Department's administrative town (chef-lieu) or not. Where a city has several post offices, the most important one is called the Bureau Principal (Ppal). We hope this clarifies some misunderstandings.

►646.) Steven Walske reminds us of his mention on p. 3 of "The Military Post During the Siege of Paris" ("New Studies of the Transport of Mails in Wartime France 1870-1871," by Brown, Cohn, and Walske; *FCPs* Vaurie Memorial Fund Publication N° 6, 1986) that, on 8 November 1870, the various military entities within besieged Paris were reorganized into three new armies. Of these, the second was the one to use (at times) the new *Armée Française* postmarks. Very scarce auxiliary straight-line markings of DEUXIEMME ARMEE and TROISIEMME ARMEE are known, usually accompanied by divisional, etc., designations on a second line. Genuine markings should, naturally, be present only on covers from Paris that easily postdate that 8 November 1870 date.

►647.) H.W. van der Vlist who, together with D. de Vries, authored "Les Bureau de Poste de Paris 1849-1977" in 1978, is a board member of the FIP. Mr. van der Vlist reported to the Board, at GRANADA 92, that the following French stamps are known with forged cancellations (Yvert numbers given first; Scott numbers added within parentheses):

Yvert 146 (Scott B1), 147 (B2), 148-55 (B3-10), 156 (B11), 162-69 (B12-19), 183-86 (198-201), 209 (219), 210-15 (220-25), 229-32 (B20-23), 246-48 (B24-26), 249-51 (B28-30), 252 (B27), 253-55 (B31-33), 256 (B34), 266-68 (B35-37), 269 (B38), 275-77 (B39-41), 470-73 (415-18), 494 (B111), 505-25 (427-47), 552 (B134), 565-66 (B147-48), 568-71 (B149-52), 576-80 (B153-57), 584 (B158), 585-86 (B159-60), 606-08 (B175-77), and 719A (542A).

While it may be "useful" and even "desirable" to offer used copies of semi-postals to collectors, one can wonder why fake cancels were also applied to something as common as the Scott 542A 5F rose Gandon or, somewhat less so, as the Scott 219 75c Ronsard.

Mr. van der Vlist also confirmed the discovery (in Holland) of French stamps bearing fake Belgian

cancels, such as those shown in the accompanying illustration. (From "FIP Flash 41," September 1992).

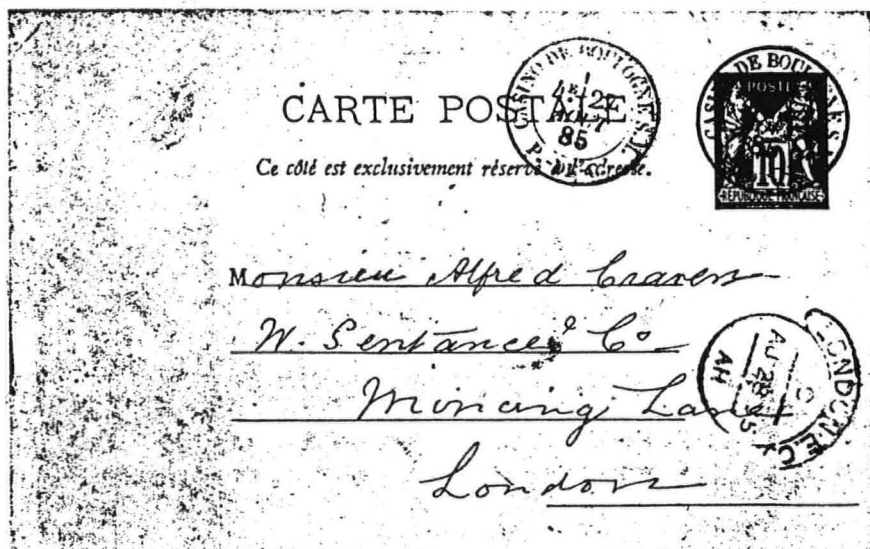


►648.) A considerable proportion (nearly 14 percent) of the UN troops stationed across the globe come from the French armed services, 4,600 out of 37,900 total deployed during

the summer of 1992. They are serving in Yugoslavia, Lebanon, western Sahara, Syria, Turkey and Iraq, and El Salvador. The following Military-Postal Bureaus (BPM) were in use: BPM 125 in Lebanon (Postal Sector SP 25 000); BPM 211 (SP 50 002) and 212 (SP 50 020) in Cambodia; BPM 648 in Turkey, for the relief of Iraqi Kurds (SP 26 000); and BPM 651 through 655 (respectively SP 71 000 through 71 004) in Yugoslavia, chiefly Bosnia and Croatia.

►649.) G. Fabrègue has published ("L'Echo de la Timbrologie," September 1992) an addendum to his article on *bureaux d'intérêt privé* (contract postal stations located within private enterprises), which was reviewed here as Item 597 in For the Record, July 1992.

►650.) Among the scarcest of all French cancellations is the circular date stamp Casino de Boulogne.S.M./P.de-C. (type 17bis, Roman type), known used 24 July - 21 August 1884 and 27 August 1885 (see illustration). Only five covers have been recorded, plus a very few off-cover cancellations. This Casino de Boulogne-sur-Mer, and the contract station therein (in the tobacconist's stall), were open only during the summer months of July and August, beginning 1 July 1884.



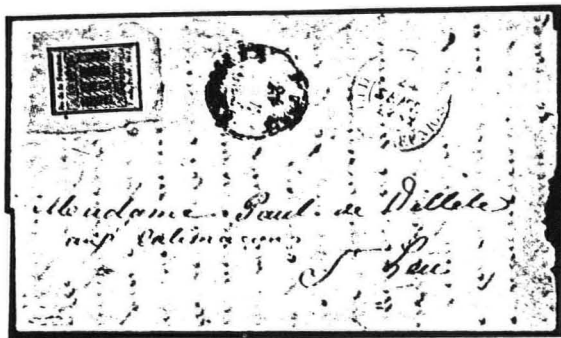
The only known 1885 cover. Sold in May 1992 for 21,298Fr (Sinais 21st auction, Lot 7910).

►651.) The 75c rose Sage (Type II) is now known in pre-cancelled form. The sole discovery copy is owned by the Musée de la Poste, Paris. The pre-cancellation is of the 4-line variety and dated PARIS/IMPR./22/FEVR., that is, 22 February (1893). It is considered authentic, though there was little reason to have a pre-cancel solely for the 700-750 gm printed-matter rate (from A. Malevergne, in "Documents Philatéliques," N° 134, 1992).

►652.) For those not in the know, such as your assistant editor, "L'Echo de la Timbrologie" for September 1992 recounts the story of Reunion Scott N° 1 and 2, now valued at \$17,500 each unused, and \$10,000 each used--and at least twice as much in Yvert.

These locals were issued in 1852 for use within the island; the 15c value serving on letters to port of embarkation, the 30c for service throughout the island. Although 7,500 of each value were printed, the total face value sold by the postmaster at St. Denis-de-Réunion came to only 8F, an average of barely more than one franc per year of service. Upon arrival of the first shipment of Colonial Eagles in January 1860, the remaining stock of local stamps was destroyed.

The stamps were ungummed and meant to be attached with a pin. Illustrated here is a 30c that was glued onto its cover.



►652.) In a rather complex and convoluted article in "Documents Philatéliques" (N° 134, 1992) Maurice Guizat explains that, with the end-of-January 1871 Armistice declaration which temporarily separated the Occupied Zone from the Unoccupied Zone of France, a neutral zone was established along the demarcation line between the Zones. This neutral zone was 10km wide. Mail to and from the principal Zones (German or French controlled), and to and from the neutral zone, was taxed or not according to whether it had to transit from one principal Zone into the other before reaching its destination-or not. This is a very complex subject, too complicated for me and obviously at times to the postal personnel of the day, who seemed to tax (or not) most haphazardly. But it is worth studying and dissecting by those students deeply interested in the intricacies of 1871 interzone mail exchange.

►653.) If you examine closely the Liberté de Gandon issues of 1982-1990, you will notice that the D'AP. (d'après) DELACROIX "signature" at bottom left is not always of the same length. For the 0,20 and 0,30 values, the final letter X falls under the right side of the L of REPUBLIQUE; for the 1,60 value, it goes beyond the I of REPUBLIQUE; and for the other values, it lies somewhere in-between the L and the I.

The explanation for such variations was given by the late Pierre de Lizeray. Artists (not even long-departed ones) are not permitted to sign master dies, for they are the property of the state. Signatures are not engraved until intermediate dies are prepared for individual values. This step is done manually and individually, thereby resulting in signatures that are not quite identical from one service die to another (from "Le Monde des Philatélistes," October 1992).

►654.) Of equal interest to collectors of Franco-Prussian War 1870-1871 material and to Red Cross thematic collectors are the scarce to rare items of postal stationery bearing Red Cross insignia and/or imprinted designations of official Red Cross agencies. These date from late 1870-on and were prepared mainly for the use of wounded and/or interned French soldiers of the Armée de l'Est. They are usually found sent under the franchise of the Swiss Red Cross (Agence Internationale de Secours aux Militaires Blessés) at Basel, etc., or of the various French Comités and Sociétés (at Marseille, Strasbourg, Lyon, Nantes, etc.). For more and basic information, the reader is invited to peruse p. 146-154 of the 1975 Yvert Specialized Catalogue (Vol. I).

►655.) It is not common knowledge, even to collectors of France and of Monaco that a border "customs war" took place between the two countries between 12 October 1962 and 8 May 1963. In 1962 the vast majority of Monaco residents were Frenchmen and French corporations, who found Monaco's tax climate as agreeable as its balmy breezes. The two governments reached an impasse over taxes presumably due France and over various customs and import duties. Accordingly, on 18 October, mail from France to Monaco was considered foreign mail, requiring the application of international rates. The adjoining illustration shows a cover prepaid (14 January 1963) at the French domestic rate, then taxed on arrival in Monaco at a 2x penalty rate (50c international letter, less 25c already paid, times two = 50c).



► 656.) To illustrate For the Record Item 582 (January 1992 FCP), here is a recently acquired undated but undoubtedly August 1891 Strassburg i. Els. horseshoe cancel applied (on arrival) to the Parisian newspaper "Le Chiavari" of 31 July 1891. This extends the known dates of usage of this marking beyond the 1880s of Item 582.

25 centimes

VENDREDI 31 JUILLET 1891

ABONNEMENTS  
DÉPARTEMENTS

Trois mois.....	75
Six mois.....	140
Un an.....	275

(LES MANDATS TÉLÉGRAPHIQUES NE SONT PAS REÇUS)

L'abonnement d'un an donne droit à la prime gratuite

DIRECTION  
Politique, Littéraire et Artistique  
PIERRE VÉRON  
Rédacteur en Chef

ANNONCES  
ADOLPHE EWIG, PREMIER DE LA PUBLIÉ  
92, Rue Richelieu (36) 5MN

►657.) Bob Kinsley sends a copy of this booklet cover. It promises that, for every enclosed "stamp" affixed to the back of an envelope, two free glasses (or cups, from the illustration) of warm wine will be given to a soldier, for warm wine dissolves the common cold. The labels inside (presumably 10 per booklet) are the same size as the cover illustration, and are perforated 11¼. Can anyone tell us if they're known on (backside of) cover? Would the period be the First or the Second World War? Who prepared the booklets and who supplied the wine?

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## " LE VIN CHAUD DU SOLDAT "

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Apposition obligatoire  
de ce timbre au verso  
de l'enveloppe.

Chaque fois que vous collerez  
ce timbre sur votre correspon-  
dance, vous offrirez 2 verres de  
vin chaud aux soldats.

PRIX DU CARNET : 10 francs.

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►658.) Martinique produced one parcel post stamp, the 5 Franc surcharge of 1903. According to Yvert there were one thousand copies printed. Although a fairly expensive stamp, with very fine copies selling for \$200 to \$300, it is not a rare stamp, with one or more copies offered in almost every French auction. However, multiples are scarce: in fifteen years of following auctions I have seen nothing offered larger than a pair, and they have appeared less than once a year. As a result, I was suitably impressed when the Roumet auction earlier this year offered a full sheet of twenty-five. I finally decided the most I could afford to bid was the minimum value that the sheet would have if broken into singles. I was rather surprised when I found out that I had bought the sheet, and even for a bit less than my top bid. Now I can feel like a philatelic hero, since I have preserved the sheet intact for at least a few more years, rather than having a dealer buy it, and break it up.

I found another surprise when I received the sheet and studied it closely. (I have not attempted to provide a picture in this journal: the tiny letters of the surcharge and the brown color of the basic stamp would render any such reproduction too illegible.) The literature lists four plate varieties for this stamp: a lowered period after F in position 4, and missing letters in COLIS POSTAUX in positions 4, 13, 20, & 22. When I inspected my sheet, I found the anticipated errors in positions 4, 13, & 20. In Position 22 there is supposed to be a missing X in POSTAUX; on this sheet, however, while there is barely a dot left from the S of COLIS, the X of POSTAUX is strong and clear. This leaves the question: is the missing X in Position 22 just a printing error caused by poor inking on

some sheets, or did the type loosen, and the letter fall out part way through the printing? The latter would seem surprising, with a printing of just forty sheets, but it is certainly possible.

I would also note that I now have three examples of Position 4, which can always be recognized by the lowered period. In one specimen the I of COLIS is completely missing, as reported, but in the other two a portion remains, producing an apostrophe where the top of the letter should be.

►659.) Gordon Torrey sends us this Turkish postal card addressed to Stockholm with a very curious circular cachet or postmark inscribed all in Arabic which Gordon transcribes reading from top to bottom: Der Sacdef/Fransaz/Posta/Khan, in English: Stamboul/French/Post/Office. The stamp is cancelled "Pera Grand Rue," a regular type used between 1901 and 1904, this one dated 17 February 1902, transit mark of Kustenji (Constanta). He thinks the round Turkish cachet is a private marking probably put on by a hotel where European travelers stayed. Have never seen another example.



## FC.P.S. OFFICIAL

### President's Letter

The next Philatelic Mega Event in New York has been scheduled for May. It will again be held at the Javits Center, which, in spite of its isolation, provides a much more pleasant and commodious ambiance than the other facilities used by the New York shows. The Society plans to have its usual booth. The night for our informal dinner will be determined later. Traditionally it has been the first evening for four-day shows; usually this has been the day when the largest number of our members attended the show. Now, with a five-day show, the first night is Wednesday, and the Collectors Club will probably plan a meeting for that evening. For the last Mega Event, we were forced to move our dinner to Friday night to avoid conflicts with a reception at the Philatelic Foundation on Thursday, and the award presentation on Saturday. The latter will probably not be a concern in the future, as relatively few of our members will be exhibiting. Anyone interested in joining us for dinner should contact me, or one of the other officers. I expect a date will be set by the middle of March. Even if you are not considering joining us for dinner at the May show, we would like to hear any opinions you may have regarding the best night.



I hope we can re-establish a set night for future shows.

An increasingly urgent problem for libraries everywhere is the deterioration of the paper used for many publications. It is particularly serious for many philatelic publications which were originally printed on low-grade paper. Recently one of our non-resident members asked for photocopies from an early French journal in the Collectors Club Library, and was refused because of the poor condition of the original. He has proposed to the Directors that we sponsor a drive to raise money and make microfilm copies of the early French literature in the Collectors Club Library. The board is now considering this proposal, and would be interested in hearing from any other members who have opinions on the matter.

Elsewhere in this issue you will find a report of the death of one of our earliest members, Ralph Holtsizer. I would like to remember Ralph here, although I cannot claim to have known him well. We both collected Martinique, but Ralph had become inactive before I started, so we were never competitors. I finally met him several times eight years ago, when I arranged to purchase his collection, and was much impressed by him as both a collector and student of the philately of Martinique, and also an enthusiastic visitor to the island.

Dick Stevens

### Meeting of 13 October

It was a Show-and-Tell this evening and Marc Martin presented a delightful showing of unusual cancellations from the 1870s through the 20th Century. He began with a strong group of Sage, Blanc and Sower issues illustrating the variety of cancellations that can be found on these ordinary issues at the turn of each year. In France the tradition is to send New Year's greetings, as opposed to our Christmas card tradition. Typically the post offices were inundated with mail at the New Year, and every available device was brought into service to aid in the cancellation of stamps on the New Year's greetings. The array of cancels is almost endless; certainly amongst the most bizarre is the use of an 1850s grill on a Sower issue. For someone of limited means, this is an excellent area to pursue.

Dick Stevens presented some large die proofs of the Martinique issue of 1947. While mono-colored and bi-colored proofs are typically seen during this period, Dick showed this issue in multi-colored proofs. These were hand colored in a variety of colors, probably over the printing color, but the reason for their origin remains obscure.

Yours truly concluded with the Madagascar cover showing provisional use of Group Type stamps as due stamps, which is detailed in the October *Philatelist*.

Ed Grabowski

### Report on the MEGA EVENT

The ASDA's MEGA EVENT is now history. We were pleased to join this first of the MEGA SHOWS sponsored by the ASDA to celebrate our 50th anniversary. As part of the celebration, we put together more than 125 frames of competitive and Court of Honor exhibits, presented five lectures on various aspects of French area philately and joined in sponsoring and celebrating a variety of other philatelic events that occurred over the five days (October 28-November 1) of the show.

First and foremost, my sincere thanks to all of the exhibitors (see below) who took the time and effort to enter their exhibits. Undoubtedly, this was the finest presentation of French area exhibits in the USA in a generation or more. I was quite proud of our collective showing, and was in awe in the presence of so much magnificent material. We certainly made chief judge John Lievsay and his panel work hard in sorting all of this out, and the results suggest that they too were quite pleased with our entries.

Before discussing the exhibits, let me write a bit about the Javits Center location for these events. The surroundings were excellent, with the entire show area carpeted. Getting to the Javits Center took a bit more effort than previous locations, but the space and ambience were worth the trip. Even the lighting was excellent. Bless you Joe Savarese (Executive Director of the ASDA)! We gathered on Tuesday evening to mount the FCPS and general entries. Again special thanks go to Ray Gaillaguet, Marc Martin and Alain Millet for their enduring help in this important task. Without their assistance, I doubt that we would have ever finished in time. Alain was in from Paris on a short holiday with his wife and son, and was gracious enough to help us out. Each of our exhibits was



highlighted with a small French flag, and the crossed French-US flag pins, passed out to exhibitors, FCPS members, friends and others, proved to be a great hit.

As to the exhibits, let me highlight, first and foremost, Marc Martin's **Classics of France** which was in the Court of Honor. In terms of condition, this is one of the finest classics assemblages that I have ever seen. The block of nine of the ten centimes Cérés first issue with the *tête-bêche* in the center is probably the finest in existence. The 1 franc vermillion on cover is simply superb. One could go on and on. I have always enjoyed Marc's treatment of the shades of the classics.

As to the competitive exhibits, I was pleased to note what I believed to be a number of definitive exhibits in their respective areas. We didn't take all of the top awards, but we did gather most of them. Right at the top was Steve Walske's exhibit on **Atlantic Mail - France To The USA** which took the Kitchen Sink Award (The Grand Award, the FCPS Grand Award and the Postal History Society Medal). Steve begins the exhibit in top form with the front franked with the only known example of the fifteen centimes *tête-bêche* in combination with two 1F issues posted from Paris on March 11, 1852 to New Orleans. (It's in the Cérés catalog guys!) The last time we saw this was in the **PhilexFrance** exhibit which took the Grand Prix National. After that start everything else is downhill, but the hill isn't too steep. Other top covers to the USA included one from Collioure (September 12, 1851) franked with a strip of six of the 10c Cérés issue; one from Paris (November 24, 1852) to New York City franked with thirteen 1F stamps (!); one traveling on an American Packet via England to NYC franked at 2F40c including the 1F *tête-bêche*; a ballon monté (l'Archimède) to the USA with an accountancy mark; and a 10X rate posted on January 26, 1872 franked with two 5F Napoleons, plus two 80c and a 40c. One could go on and on. A truly wonderful exhibit and most deserving of all of its awards.

We missed out on the Reserve Grand. That went to my Landsman Jim Mazepa's Kingdom of Poland exhibit. But we had a strong share of Golds amongst our top exhibits. Walter Brooks took one with the **Siege of Paris Balloon Mail**. I noted a General Uhrich *plis confié* with the proper Luzarches 20 November backstamp. Much mail is attributed to the *General Ulrich*, but without the proper backstamp the origin is uncertain. Also seen was a Gazette des Absents N° 9 from the Jacquard with military markings. Jeff Bohn also took a Gold with his **Franco-British Accountancy Markings**. This is a topic that Dr. Stempien has been educating many of us on for years. I consider Jeff's exhibit a definitive study of this area, and loaded with many rarities of which between one-to-three are known. From Martinique Jeff has an *Article 13* marking from 1855. Seemingly this is not rare, until one realizes that most mail traveled in closed bags at this time and did not receive these markings. This one must have been handed to the British agent and traveled as a loose ship letter. From 1852 Jeff has an **FR 2f** marking (2F/30g of mail was the exchange rate) on a letter from Ireland to Spain. This marking has been recorded for but one week in August of 1852. From Ecuador Jeff showed a complete newspaper to France with a **GB 2F96cPK** marking, the only one known on a newspaper. The condition on Jeff's material is absolutely superb as is his write-up.

Dick Stevens also received a Gold for his exhibit entitled **France & Serbia: Allies In The Great War**. This has been one of Dick's favorite topics over the years. He has made a number of key discoveries in this area and written much. This, too, I consider one of the definitive exhibits in the show. One of my favorite Gold exhibits was that of Stan Luft: **France: The 15 Centimes Sage, 1876-1901**. This is a truly amazing one stamp exhibit, and it clearly illustrates what can be done with one stamp. I noted some unusual covers such as the registered commercial papers rate (50-100g at 45c, franked with 3 x 15c stamps) from Paray le Monial on the 27th of December 1892; a good selection of military mail, a piece of street-car mail; a first day for the 15c rate, and pieces from Madagascar and Zanzibar. In that vein, the most exciting was one used from Tivaouane, Senegal on the 15th of November 1900 (watch that spelling Stan!). Denise (aka Ray) Gaillaguet also received a Gold and the FCPS Third Award for the exhibit titled: **France: Selected Values Of The Roty-Mouchon Sowers**, as did Lew Bussey for his showing of **French Naval Mail To America, 1943-1946**. Lew also received the APS Award of Excellence - Post 1946. Again this was one of the definitive exhibits which we contributed, as Lew is literally rewriting the book on the **RF** overprints. Among the goodies he has the earliest of five recorded 8 cent **RF** uses, a complete **RF** Type 6 die study, and three of seven combination **RF** covers.

Yours truly completed the Golds with an exhibit on Guadeloupe (**Guadeloupe: From The Eagles Through The Group Type**). For reasons uncertain, the judges chose to award me the FCPS Reserve Grand. (Remember what Maresch said to me in Quebec: "All those Guadeloupe covers are cheap and common!").

Among those receiving Vermeil medals was Richard Winter for his **Trans-Atlantic Mails** exhibit. Dick has spent much of his philatelic lifetime studying this area and is a noted authority on all of its aspects. If you ever have a Trans-Atlantic cover about which you have a question... ask Dick. And in his case, he HAS written the book on the subject! Ray Gaillaguet also received a Vermeil for his showing on **France: Postal Stationery - Roty-Mouchon Sowers** as did Harlan Stone for his definitive study on **Franco-Swiss Border Covers**. Harlan has been "writing the book" in this area for many years and his work was recognized with the receipt of the APS Research Medal. Harlan participated as a Friend of the Society at the invitation of the Board. He has regularly presented the fruits of his studies at our Tuesday night meetings. Closing out the Vermeil Awards were Shirley Gallagher (**Tahiti and Surrounding French Polynesia**), whose exhibit contains some magnificent classic covers, and Marc Martin (**French Maritime Mail Covers**).

The Silver Awards included: **The Allegorical Group Type Issue Of St. Pierre & Miquelon** (Bob Stone); **Slogan Postmarks Of The French Colonies** (Bob Stone); **Colonial Ivory Coast: The Definitive Issues** (Bob Picirilli), and **French Somaliland: 1890s-1940s** (Kinsley). Bob Stone's Slogan Postmarks shows what can be done with a very modern area in the Colonies. Bob Picirilli was kind enough to let us hold his exhibit for the November 2nd FCPS meeting, at which it formed the center of discussion, along with parts of Bob Stone's Group Type exhibit. All of these exhibits deal with Colonies or areas that do not have an abundance of material, and all contained a number of excellent pieces. Lou Staub closed out the FCPS awards with a Bronze for his most colorful exhibit on **French Equatorial Africa Airmail Covers and Stamps**.

Unfortunately, we did not get to see Mark Isaacs' exhibit on the Indochina Group Type. Mark needed a bit of surgery just before the show, and was not quite ready for the trip to New York City at the end of October. I did speak with Mark and am happy to report that he is quite well and back on the exhibition trail. I'm still looking forward to seeing that exhibit.

In addition to the exhibits, lectures were presented by Martin Stempien (**Unpaid Letters Into The General Postal Union**), Ray Gaillaguet (**Les Semeuses - The Sower Issues of France 1903-1941**), Scott Gallagher (**French Consular & Other French Mails From Puerto Rico**), Dick Stevens (**Martinique: A Typical French Colony**) and yours truly (**Collecting The French Colonial Allegorical Group Type**) in respective areas of expertise. We had an informal dinner on Friday night, and celebrations at the Foundation or Collectors Club just about every other night.

Finally a closing word of thanks to Joe Savarese of the ASDA who put the show together, and to my old friend the Rev. Charles Fitz who worked day and night to put all of the exhibits together. Charles had to pull all stops to make this one work, including carrying parts of the last frame (not the exhibit but the frame itself) from his home in Elizabeth, NJ to the show via NJ Transit. I shared a taxi to the Javits Center with him that morning. We never did quite get all of that contraption into the cab. My sincerest thanks to the exhibitors, lecturers, booth sitters (that's you Dick Stevens and Walter Parshall) and helpers.

One final word... this was the biggest show that I have ever been part of organizing. Believe me, it is a complex affair and there are people and groups pulling in all directions. To the outsider things might seem quite simple. But, in fact, they are not. Please forgive me if we didn't get everything right this time through. I had to dance to many drummers, and many things were not in my control.

Ed Grabowski

## Board Policy Decisions

FCPS Board Member John E. Lievsay has kept a record of important Board policy decisions over the period 1973-1992, which he noted as not having been changed or rescinded by later action:

- 1/23/73 No junior memberships
- 3/23/73 Permanent instead of annual membership cards
- 12/12/78 Tax exempt interest income limit is \$1,000
- 11/13/79 A dealer may use our logo if he identifies himself as "member"
- 12/16/80 Dues must be paid in U.S. funds on U.S. bank, otherwise a \$7.50 surcharge
- 3/11/82 Normal size of *Philatelist* to be 32 pp.
- 9/13/84 Discontinued publishing the Directory; members may obtain a set of address labels at cost
- 9/12/85 A back file of the *Philatelist* to cost \$125 postpaid including Xeroxes of some issues
- 5/12/87 Discontinue annual banquet
- 3/8/88 No advertising accepted in *FCP*; Spiegel Fund to be kept in a separate account
- 4/11/89 Dues of NY and Overseas members \$15, rest of U.S. \$11.
- 11/13/90 FCPS Literature wholesale discount 20% for 2-9 copies, 25% for 10 or more
- 9/10/91 Print order for *FCP* 150 over the membership copies
- 1/14/92 FCPS will hold a meeting at PACIFIC '97

## NEW MEMBERS

- 2940 ARNOFF, WARREN, 18511 Waxwing Circle, Lake Oswego, OR 97035. (General France: 19th Century used, 20th Century mint.)
- 2941 ADAMS, JAMES A., JR., P.O. Box 8009, Spartanburg, SC 29305-8009. (General France: Classics 1849-1876: Mint; 1870-1871 issues. Sage Type, 1876-1900. Modern France: Mint & used; Semi-postals; Airmails; Coils; Miniature sheets; Dues; Parcel Post; Franchise Militaire; Liberation Issues; Pre-cancels; Occupation Issues; Andorre.)
- 2942 MAMBOURG, JAMES E., 1809 N. Berendo, #208, Los Angeles, CA 90027. (General France: Used. Postal History in General. Classics 1849-1875; Blanc; Mouchon & Merson Types; Sowers; Semi-postals; Airmails; Dues; Franchise Militaire; Liberation Issues; Occupation Issues. Philatelic literature.)
- 2943 LEGROS, ELAINE N., 190 E. Beach Blvd., #6, Gulfport, MS 39507. (Niger: All issues & topics.)
- 2944 REYNOLDS, C.P.A.C., 1809 Flagler Ave., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30309-2707. (General France: All issues: Mint (NH) & used; Monaco; Territories; F.S.A.T.)
- 2945 REISMAN, CHARLES, 4 Avalon Rd., Great Neck, NY 11021. (General France: 19th Century. Departmental "Marques Postales"; Paris "Marques Postales"; Maritime & Railway Posts; Used Abroad; Classics 1849-1876: Mint & used; On cover, 1870-1871; Dues; Plating; Flaws; Cancellations; Sage Type; Telephone & Telegraph; Parcel Post; Newspaper; Offices Abroad. Philatelic literature.)
- 2946 TURPIE, MARTIN D., 243 Prospect St., East Longmeadow, MA 01028. (General France: All issues: Mint.)
- 2947 DRAPIEWSKI, ZENON, 8 Marion St., Toronto, Ont., Canada M6R 1E5. (Topical: Copernicus & Popes; Esperanto; Nobel Prize Winners; Essays (projects, rejected designs); Deluxe Proofs; Imperforates. All colonies & territories: Covers. All Independent Republics. Dealer part-time; New Issues; Approvals.)
- 2948 LAYMAN, TERRILL, Box 3627, Arlington, WA 98223. (General France: Mint, used; Andorre; Stamps: F.S.A.T.)
- 2949 LAMPEN, PETER C., 245 New York Ave., New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1733. (Topical: Art; Architecture; Historic Sites. Modern France: Mint, Miniature Sheets; Red Cross Issues; Andorre; Monaco; Europa & United Nations.)
- 2950 TEYSSIER, GREGOIRE, 988 Ave. de Manrese, Quebec, Que., Canada G1S 2X1. (Postal History in General. French Guyana Postal History to 1960. Philatelic literature.)

## REINSTATEMENTS

- 1360 DuBANE, J.J., 31 West 21st St., New York, NY 10010. (General Collector: All Issues. General France: Mint. Red Cross booklets.)

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- 2628 DESJARDINS, ROBERT, 475 Charleso St., Apt. 408, Longueuil, Que., Canada J4H 3X1.  
 1634 JONES, HERMAN LeROY, JR., 600 Valley Rd., Apt. 204, Middletown, RI 02840.  
 2657 KNEE, STEVEN T., 1200 Calle Cordoniz Rd., Los Osos, CA 93402.  
 2912 ROTTMAN, MILTON, 3845 Park Ave., #18, Fairfield, CT 06432-1237.  
 1518 STILLIONS, CLARENCE A., 2010 48th St., N.W., Washington, DC 20007-1552.  
 2336 WORKER, JOHN ROLAND, 21, Florida Fields, Castle Cary, Somerset, Great Britain, BA7 7DL.  
 2386 BROM, THOMAS K., 556 Silverado Dr., Lafayette, CA 94549.  
 2448 DOIG, KENNETH F., 26363 Club Dr., Madera, CA 93638-0248.  
 16 MUSY, JACQUES, P.O. Drawer 69, Valrico, FL 33594.  
 2862 MASTERS, WILLIAM D., 42 Windward Way, Chagrin Falls, OH 44023.  
 2621 MANDOT, BARBARA R., 101 Manson Dr., Louisville, GA 30434-1439.  
 1790 ROYE, MARILYN, 69 Taconic Rd., Greenwich, CT 06831-3452.  
 2308 BAKER, GEORGE B., 140-11 Ash Ave., Apt. 5N, Flushing, NY 11355.  
 2101 SIMON, JAMES R., P.O. Box 1354, Ridgecrest, CA 93556-1354.  
 1420 STEELE, JOHN R., 2800 Bogus Basin Rd., Apt. 203, Boise, ID 83702.  
 1073 CASTOR, WILLIAM N., 813 Ryan Ave., Sault Sainte Marie, MI 49783.  
 2402 WOLF, DONALD E., 38 Lilac Lane, St. Charles, IL 60175.  
 2529 BEAUPRE, ROGER D., P.O. Box 3334, Fort Pierce, FL 34948-3334.  
 2498 TUPPER, WILLIAM K., OPMAS-EUR, Unit 29921, APO, AE 09086.  
 2856 CLARKE, WALTER S., 42 Liberty Court, Carlisle, PA 17013.  
 435 OAKES, FRANK E., 15 Washington Terrace, St. Louis, MO 63112-1931.  
 2602 GODWIN, MORGAN W., 205 Boulevard Saint-Germain, 75007 Paris, France.  
 289 PARKINSON, A.E., Tel Hai Cottage 31, P.O. Box 190, Honey Brook, PA 19344.  
 607 MARTIN, WILLIAM C., 314 Railroad Pl., Manville, NJ 08835-2377.  
 2881 BRYANT, J.B., 4446 John St., Niagara Falls, Ont., Canada L2E 1A5.  
 1829 MASSLER, JEROLD M., Jose Martin, Apartado 545, Sevilla 41080 Espana, Spain.

## DECEASED

- |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1058 FULLER, CLARENCE R. | 1321 HURST, DONALD D.     |
| 1665 BUCHHEIT, LEON J.A. | 1302 DUFFY, JACQUES       |
| 2400 PERIGO, WILLIS E.   | 358 CHAMPLAIN, CHARLES E. |

## RESIGNATIONS

- |                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| BELLINGER, ROBERT C.      | BURNS, DONALD L.          |
| GREENBAUM, LEON M.        | HENRY, JOSEPH W., DR.     |
| LEE, HOWARD               | WILLIAMS, CHARLES G., JR. |
| EDDS, HOWARD L.           | LEVIN, ROBERT A.          |
| EVAN, JOHN E.             | YOST, MADELINE            |
| MYERS, JOHN R.            | McGRATH, EDWARD J.        |
| MURPHY, EDWARD W.         | NEWELL, JAMES W.          |
| SKVARA, FREDERICK C., DR. | TERRY, GLENN F.           |
| NIEHOF, JOHN GERRIT       | JOHNSON, FRANK            |
| NOESKE, GERALD E.         | REISH, DONALD J.          |
| AYLMEER, RICHARD J.       | HAMILTON, ROBERT A.       |