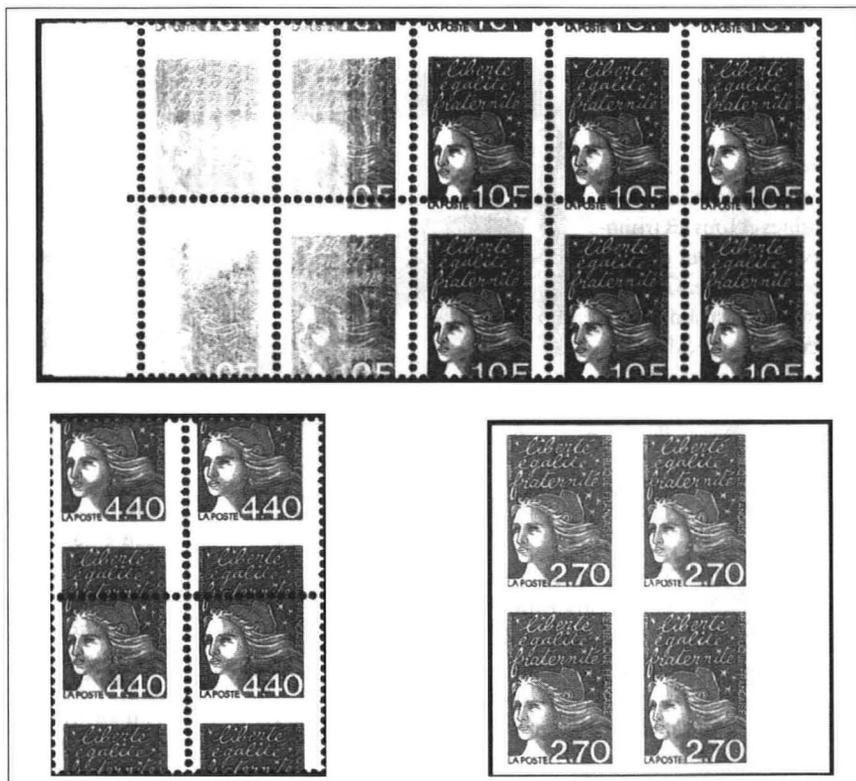




France & Colonies Philatelist



Vermeil Medals at CHICAGOPEX '98 & STAMPSHOW '99



Some new Marianne de Luquet freaks and varieties currently on the market: 10F block of ten with freak perforations and partial lack of inking; 4,40Fr block of four with freak perforations; 2,70Fr accidentally imperforate block of four.

CONTENTS

ARTICLES

Senegal: Prepayment Of Postage In Cash During January 1902 (A Not Entirely Resolved Philatelic Mystery) (*Bruno Mattei*) (*Concluded*).....35

The Published Philatelic Writings Of Jacques Desrousseaux (*Jacques Y. Desrousseaux*)40

SHORTER CONTRIBUTIONS

A World War II - East Africa Miscellanea (*Colin W. Spang*)41

A Commentary of Paul A. Larsen's "Slogan Cancels Of Fort Lamy, Chad" In N° 254, October 1998 (*Bill Mitchell*)44

Marianne de Luquet - New Discoveries46

Amazing 1870-1871 Wonder Stories - 51 (*Ernst M. Cohn*).....47

Determining The Dates Of Rate Changes In The Colonies55

French Military-Postal Bureaus In Ex-Yugoslavia-Periodic Update55

REGULAR AND SPECIAL FEATURES

Random Editorial Jottings.....46

The Carnet Corner (*Bob Seeke*)50

Suggestions To Future Authors51

New Books, Pamphlets And Catalogues52

Announcements And News53

Review.....56

Some Show Reports.....57

Members' Appeals57

Questions And Answers57

For The Record.....58

New Issues And Withdrawals.....60

SOCIETY NEWS

President's Letter62

1999 Report Of Secretary62

1999 Report Of Treasurer62

Meeting Notice.....63

Membership Changes.....64

* * * * *

FRANCE & COLONIES PHILATELIST

USPS #207700

ISSN 0897-1293

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

The *France & Colonies Philatelist* is the official journal of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society, Inc. Permission to reprint material appearing in this journal is granted provided that proper credit is given the *France & Colonies Philatelist* and that the Editor is notified. The quoting or paraphrasing, in whole or in part, of any material therein should be properly attributed to its author and to this journal.

April 2000 - Vol. 56, No. 2, Whole No. 260

Periodicals 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, P.O. Box 650, Snow Camp, NC 27349

Dues \$11.00 per year. Parent Chapter and Foreign \$15.00 (plus \$5.00 admission fee)

A subscription to the *F & C Philatelist* (at \$11.00 per year) is included in the membership dues.

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

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

Stanley J. Luft, 16291 W. 56th Place, Golden, CO 80403, USA Phone 303-279-8587

e-mail: fcpesd@worldnet.att.net

Postmaster: Send Form 3579 to Corresponding Secretary, 103 Spruce St., Bloomfield, NJ 07003

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE SOCIETY

President: Richard M. Stevens,
 P.O. Box 99, Greendell, NJ 07839, USA
 E-mail rmstevens_greendell@yahoo.com

Vice President: William W. Wallis

Treasurer: William W. Wallis

Recording Secretary: Dr. Edward J. J. Grabowski

Corresponding Secretary: Walter E. Parshall

Editor: Stanley J. Luft

Editor Emeritus: Robert G. Stone

DIRECTORS

Class of 2000
 Marc W. Martin, John E. Lievsay

Class of 2001
 Louis K. Robbins, Beatrice M. Berner

Class of 2002
 Dr. Martin F. Stempien, Jr.,
 Robert T. Kinsley

SENEGAL: PREPAYMENT OF POSTAGE IN CASH DURING JANUARY 1902

(A Not Entirely Resolved Philatelic Mystery)

by Bruno Mattei (FCPS N° 2952)

(e-mail address: simomatt@newel.net)

(Continued from October 1999 & January 2000)

*[Translated from the French by Christopher Simons, with modifications
and corrections by S. J. Luft]*

The Provisional Handstamps

We wish to remind readers that the *Collectionneur des Timbres-Poste's* correspondent had commented back in January 1902 that the large A in a circle (Figure 2 and 3) was “*in the same style as the marks which are used to indicate the brigades of the ambulant service.*” (Figure 7).

The “A” is indeed in “the same style,” and very closely resembles the hand-stamped cachets used in France from August 1854 by the *ambulant* service to cancel stamps that had escaped earlier canceling en route. Figure 8 shows a 19th Century “A” within a 19 mm-diameter circle, as depicted by Alexandre (1996, p. 51). The French handstamp was not of local confection, but one made uniformly in Paris and widely distributed to the *ambulant* service (Figure 7).

There was and is a railway post in Senegal, but we have no knowledge of it ever using these French-made markings. We must therefore assume that the Senegal handstamps were created locally, and perhaps specifically for the stamp shortage and the prepayment in cash. The “A” used at Dakar and St. Louis is in a 19 mm-diameter circle; the horizontal crossbar of the “A” is 4.5 mm above the base (Figure 9). Examination of Dakar-originating documents reveals slight variations in the shape of the head of the “A”: in Document N° 6, the head ends in a sharp point; in Document N° 10, the head is slightly truncated and the left (thin) side of the “A” is not perfectly straight.

The post office at Rufisque used a different handstamp for its “A”. Its horizontal crossbar is only 3.5 mm above the base (Figure 10). Stone (*op. cit.*, p. 8) stated the circle measured [only] 18 mm in diameter. Granoux (*op. cit.*, p. 60) confirmed this variety on “*envelopes dated the 13th and 14th January,*” and we can verify this with Document N° 24, in our possession.

Langlois and Bourselet (*op. cit.*) misinterpreted the meaning of the “A”, believing it stood for *affranchi* (franked). Apparently it doesn't, for the Gorée post office used a “C” in a circle (Figure 11) for the very same purpose. According to Granoux (p. 61) and Stone (p. 8), it was used on 11 January 1902 and, according to Stone, the circle is 18 mm in diameter.

Questions still remain: (1) Why were these letters within circles used (and also made) to indicate prepayment in cash, especially when we know that the far more appropriate boxed “P.P.” marking should have been available for that purpose? We know that this marking was used in 1903 in lieu of unavailable postage, from Granoux and from Stone (p. 8), previously cited. (2) Why did Gorée use a “C” whereas Dakar, St. Louis and Rufisque simply used more than one “A”?

In addition to its “A”, the Rufisque postmaster also used, at least on 11 January, a four-line endorsement (Figures 6 and 12) on Documents 23 and 24. It reads: *affranchie en numéraire* [in script]/POSTE & TÉLÉGRAPHES./Le

Receveur / *his signature* [in script]. What might have been the reason for this additional marking? Quite likely the postmaster of Rufisque wished to ensure that his superiors would be aware that cash had been collected in lieu of unavailable stamps. Both of these Rufisque documents are envelopes for visiting cards, for which 5c postage was ordinarily required, provided the envelopes were unsealed and the cards bore no more than five words of greeting.

It was not uncommon for a piece of mail, particularly one sent at a reduced rate, to be held for a week (*viz.*, 11 to 18 January) while awaiting the announcement of a ship leaving from Senegal. Obviously Document 24, of 11 January, was held until the 18th, when a 5c stamp became available and was affixed over the provisional letter in a circle (Figure 6). Perhaps the Rufisque postmaster, aware of the impending arrival of new stock, may have held overseas mail to await and use postage stamps.

But it is nonetheless surprising that, after prepayment in cash had been accepted and accounted for on the 11th, that a stamp was added on the 18th, which would require that the postmaster re-account for the receipts taken on the 11th.

Granoux showed one of these four-line handstamp-plus-script markings to several experts, none of whom could render any opinion. And so, nearly a century after the event, some mysteries remain to be resolved.

Conclusions

- Prepayment in cash existed for only a very short period of one week, extending from 11 to 18 January 1902. It was in effect at Dakar, St. Louis, Gorée and Rufisque, and perhaps elsewhere in the colony. Covers accordingly are quite rare.
- Throughout the entire philatelic history of Senegal, this was the only occasion for the use of capital letters within circles to denote prepayment in cash. The markings closely imitated those employed as auxiliary cancelers by the French *ambulant* service.
- Prepayment in cash resulted from a shortage of certain stamp denominations that had existed in Senegal since 15 December 1901.
- Restocking of stamps began on 17 or 18 January and, by the 20th, the situation had completely normalized.
- If yellow fever raged in Senegal at this time, it was **not** the cause of either the stamp shortage nor of the prepayment in cash.

Acknowledgement

We wish to thank M. Constant Bouerat for his invaluable assistance. His vast knowledge regarding West African post offices and his understanding of local history were extremely useful in the preparation of this article.

Bibliography

- Alexandre, J.-P., *Dictionnaire historique des timbres et griffes "standard" de l'Administration Française des Postes 1792-1914*; Brun & Fils, Paris, 1996, 160 pp.
 Beslier, G.-G., *Le Sénégal*; ed. Payot, Paris, 1935, 225 pp.
 Charbonnier, R., *Le Collectionneur Philatéliste et Marcophile*, N° 66, 1985.
 Charpy, J., *La Fondation de Dakar 1845-1857-1869*; ed. Larose, Paris, 1958, 596 pp.
 Demougeot, A., "La poste au Sénégal de 1817 à 1877"; *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, N° 982, 30 November 1936.

- De Pomyers, O., *Les timbres du Sénégal*; Imprimerie Desquand et Fils, Bourges, 1959, 246 pp.
- Grabowski, E., "The French Colonial Allegorical Group Type as used in Africa; Part I: Senegal, The French Sudan, and Senegambia & Niger"; *France & Colonies Philatelist*, N° 236 (vol. 50, N° 2), April 1994.
- Granoux, A., "À Dakar (Sénégal) en janvier 1902; *Les Feuilles Marcophiles*, N° 145, 1962.
- Guigues, G., "Pauillac et le lazaret de Trompeloup"; pp. 45-53 in *Bulletin de la Société Internationale d'Histoire Postale* N°32/33, Grenoble, 1976.
- Langlois, M., and V. Bourselet, *Les oblitérations des bureaux de Poste des Colonies et Possessions Françaises: Afrique Occidentale Française*; ed. Du Graouli, Paris, 1937, 61 pp.
- Mathis, C., *L'oeuvre des Pastoriens en Afrique Noire*; Presse Universitaire de France, 1946.
- Mitchell, B., "Senegal - the 1901-1902 Yellow Fever Epidemic and the "A" in Circle Cachet"; *Jour. of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society*, N° 206 (vol. 47, N° 4), December 1997.
- Ibid.*, "Senegal - the 1901-1902 Yellow Fever Epidemic and the "A" in Circle Cachet, a Contemporary Account"; *Jour. of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society*, N° 209 (vol. 48, N° 3), September 1998.
- Salles, R., *La poste maritime française, Vol. 3: Les paquebots de l'Atlantique Sud*; edited by the author, Alençon, 1963, 222 pp.
- Stone, R. G., "The P.P. and other Provisional Paid Handstamps of French Colonies," pp. 5-17 in *France & Colonies Philatelist*, N° 183 (vol. 37, N° 1), January 1981.
- Tristant, H., "Affranchissement de Fortune"; *Les Feuilles Marcophiles*, N° 150, 1962. *Le Collectionneur des Timbres-Poste*, February 1902; reproduced in COL.FRA, N° 27, 3rd Quarter 1984, p. 14; also in *Les Feuilles Marcophiles* N° 145, 1982; and translated by Mitchell (1998).
- TimbrOloisirs* N° 19, 1990, p. 64



Figure 13. Provisional use of 1c and 4c stamps at St. Louis, 27 December 1901, during the shortage of higher denomination stamps.

Annex N° 1

DIRECTION
des
POSTES & TÉLÉGRAPHES
du Sénégal.

REPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

Liberté. — Egalité. — Fraternité.

N° 970

Classer

NOTE pour Monsieur le Gouverneur Général
de l'Afrique Occidentale Française

Saint-Louis, le 15 Décembre 1901.

Cablé le 17 Décembre

J'ai l'honneur de porter à la connaissance de Monsieur le Gouverneur Général que le stock de timbres à 0.05 et à 0.10 centimes est totalement épuisé.

Il me reste plus en dépôt, au Trésor, que 6000 timbres à 0.05 fr ; 57,500 à 0.02 fr et 25,000 à 0.01 fr qui, pu les approches du 1^{er} janvier, seront éculés très rapidement étant donné leur emploi actuel et remplacement des 0.05 et 0.10.

Le Ministère des Colonies se réserve d'approvisionner les services des différentes Colonies, d'après un état trimestriel fourni par le service des Postes & Télégraphes et contrôlé par le Trésorier payeur, en exigeant d'office à la Colonie des quantités suffisantes pour la constitution d'un stock de réserve pouvant faire face à une consommation normale de 10 mois.

J'ai l'honneur de prier Monsieur le Gouverneur Général de vouloir bien, conformément aux instructions contenues dans la dépêche Ministérielle du 18 Janvier 1895, demander par câblogramme l'envoi des figurines qui nous font défaut.

Très profond respect

J. CHEF DU SERVICE
DES POSTES ET DES TÉLÉGRAPHES

Translation of the document [request for stamps was sent on by cable on
17 December 1901]:

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

Liberty -- Equality -- Fraternity

DIRECTORATE
of Posts and Telegraphs
of Senegal

N° 970

NOTE for the Governor General
of French West Africa

Saint-Louis, 15 December 1901

I have the honor of informing the Governor General that the stock of stamps of 0,05 and 0,10 centimes stamps has completely run out.

There remain in the Treasury only 60,000 stamps at 0,01c; 67,000 at 0,02c, and 75,000 at 0,04c which, as the holiday [1st January] season approaches, will be rapidly used up, inasmuch as they're now being used to replace those at 0,05c and 0,10c.

The Ministry of Colonies reserves the right to supply the needs of the various colonies, in accordance with the quarterly orders provided by the Posts and Telegraphs service and countersigned by the Treasurer by automatically sending to the Colony a quantity deemed sufficient to act as a reserve for 10 months of normal consumption.

I have the honor of requesting of the Governor General, in conformity with the instructions in the Ministerial dispatch of 18 January 1895, to order by cablegram a supply of the stamps that we now lack.

With profound respect,

The CHIEF OF THE SERVICE
OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS on mission
[+ signature]

(We illustrated this provisional, emergency usage of 2c and 4c stamps in Figure 13, as well as in Figures 4 and 5.)

THE PUBLISHED PHILATELIC WRITINGS OF JACQUES DESROUSSEAU

(Continued from January 2000)

35. *War Cover Club Bulletin*, April/June 1985, "Mail between America and France during World War II" [also see Reference N° 42].
36. *FM*, January 1986, "La transition entre les postes de l'Indochine et celles du Viet-Nam, 1945-1952."
37. *Colfra*, 2nd trimestre 1986, "Histoire des bureaux indochinois en Chine; un polar à l'Asiatique!"
38. *Colfra*, 4th trimestre 1986, "Une ancienne colonie peu connue: le territoire de Kouang-Tcheou-Wan."
39. *FCP*, April 1987, "French letters from the XVth Century up to the first postmarks--as illustrated from the department of Basses-Pyrénées."
40. *FM*, April 1987, "Bureaux de ville en Indochine" [reply to a question in the journal].
41. *Colfra*, 2nd, 3rd and 4th trimesters 1987 and all four numbers of 1988, "Indochine: timbres imprimés localement de 1941 à 1946."
42. *FCP*, January 1988, "Mail between America and France during World War II" [reprinted from Reference N° 35].
43. *Relais [Revue des Amis du Musée de la Poste]*, March and June 1988, "Deux exemples d'histoire postale ancienne, Les Pyrénées occidentales"; September 1988, "Deux exemples d'histoire postale ancienne. Le début des postes chinoisés."
44. *Colfra*, 1st trimestre 1988, "Siam, occupation française" [reply to a question in the journal].
45. *FCP*, July 1988, "Notes on some 'mails suspended' covers of France and Indochina, W.W.II."
46. *FCP*, October 1988, [Notes (by Paul Blake) regarding six typewritten sections by J. Desrousseau on the stamps and postal markings of French Indo-China, that are deposited in the Musée de la Poste, Paris (see Endnotes)].
47. *Bulletin de l'ANAI [Association Nationale des Anciens et Amis de l'Indochine]*, 1st trimestre 1989, "Philatélie et marcophilie indochinoise: éphémérides de l'histoire en Indochine."
48. *FM*, numéro spécial *Philexfrance*, July 1989, "L'Armée des Pyrénées Occidentales" [also see Reference N° 52].
49. *Colfra*, 3rd trimestre 1989, "Losange C6 de Cochinchine, timbre Yvert N° 27a du Viet-Nam Nord, entier carte postale 12c l'Indochine" [replies to questions in the journal].
50. *FM*, October 1989, "Corps expéditionnaire Courbet" [reply to a question in the journal].
51. *Relais*, December 1989, "Lettres par messagers privés au XVIIIè siècle."
52. *FM*, October 1991, "Postes militaires au pays basque" [additions to Reference N° 48].
53. *FM*, April 1992, "Losanges oblitérants en Indochina au 19è siècle" [reply to question in the journal].
54. *Relais*, June 1992, "La poste dans les Pyrénées sous l'ancien régime."
55. *FCP*, October 1992, April and October 1993, "A thorny neighborhood--Siam and French Indochina."
56. *ICP*, March/April 1993, "French post offices in China."
57. *FCP*, July 1993, "Seldom-seen World War II covers from or via French Indochina."

Articles published after his death (5 August 1993)

58. *Ekaina*, August 1993, "La grande ligne et les anciennes postes du pays basque."
 59. *FCP*, October 1994, "The 1902 Tchong-King overprint."
 60. *FCP*, January 1997, "Some bits of helpful information for collectors of Tonkin (French Indochina) postal history" [translated and recast from a letter].

Endnotes

Ref. N° 14. *Les Feuilles Marcophiles* published an early version of "Les postes françaises en Extrême-Orient" between 1968 and 1971 (Reference N° 5). This study was later completed and updated, resulting in three brochures:

1st brochure (October 1972, 38 pp.). Part 1: "Le corps expéditionnaire de Chine et les premiers bureaux de l'Indo-Chine (1860-1881)."

2nd brochure (May 1971, 80 pp.). Part 2: "Les cachets civils de l'Indochine française."

Part 3: "Cachets de moyens de transport; ambulants, vapeurs."

3rd brochure (February 1972, 98 pp.). Part 4: "Les corps expéditionnaires français en Indochine et Chine du Sud (1883-1904)."

Ref. N° 46. "Les postes et courriers français en Extrême-Orient," a work of more than 400 pages, is an update of and a gathering together of the many publications of Monsieur Desrousseaux on the postal history of Indochina and of the French mails in the Far East. Two editions were deposited in the Musée de la Poste at Paris, in March 1984 (436 pp.) and in March 1991 (422 pp.), as well as several additions and refinements, in 1985, 1987, 1989, 1990, and 1992 and 1993.

A WORLD WAR II - EAST AFRICA MISCELLANEA

by Colin W. Spong (FCPS N° 1605)

[Here are some more or less disconnected queries and puzzlements from our good British member and Madagascar specialist. All answers and elaborations on these and similar subjects would be highly appreciated, and will be conveyed to Colin by your Editor.]

French POWs of British Forces in Madagascar

What do we know about mail sent by Vichyite troops after the British took over Madagascar in 1942-1943? It is known that M. Annet, the Vichy governor-general, was sent to South Africa for eventual repatriation to France. Also that his officers and men were offered the choice of either serving with DeGaulle's Free French or of awaiting repatriation to France. Where were those awaiting repatriation kept? One hint is given in a French-language British postcard formule (Figure 1) that was offered in one of Bertrand Sinais' auctions. Written to France on 28 September 1942 and sent postage-free, it has a printing date of 9/42 (September 1942), perhaps in a quantity of 1000 cards, at lower left and a handstamped boxed P/W EAST / AFRICA 021 in upper right. The message side is docketed as having been received on 10 March 1943. Harry Henning of the East Africa Study Circle identified this as coming from Camp 358 at Makindu, Kenya (double underlined on map, Figure 2). [Sinais notations (lot number and starting bid) in lower right; Henning's notations in lower left]. Similar cards were also offered in 1997 by Sinais and fetched high prices.

Who could tell us about the French POW camp(s), how the mail was handled, and whether it was dispatched and delivered in both directions?

Free French Forces in Kenya

Figure 3 shows another Sinais auction cover, sent 3 February 1944 from EAAP0 2 [East African Army Post Office N° 2 at Nairobi, Kenya]. It was written 1 February 1944 by a S/Sgt. Haas to his wife back in Madagascar,

PRISONNIER DE GUERRE.

<p>Nom..... <i>Zarrank</i></p> <p>Prénoms..... <i>Fabert</i></p> <p>No. Matri..... <i>A. 309</i></p> <p>Grade..... <i>Sergent-chef</i></p> <p>Unité..... <i>1^{er} T. M. M.</i></p> <p>Date et lieu de naissance : <i>1^{er} Décembre 1913 à Bouhars / France</i></p> <p>Nom du père..... <i>Jean</i></p> <p>Nom de la mère..... <i>Marie Goussy</i></p> <p>Indication postale du Camp : <i>358</i> EAST AFRICA</p> <p><small>D. P. & S. - 4581 - 9/42 - 1.000.</small></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Postage Free Franc de Port.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>P/W EAST AFRICA 021</p> </div> <p><i>Madame d'yt: Jean Zarrank 13 rue Lamalque au 11^{orillon} Boulon (Van) France</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>3301 40/3 150</i></p>
---	--

Figure 1.

(Figure 2 map taken from "Italian P.O.W.'s and Internees in Africa," by Giorgio Migliavacca):

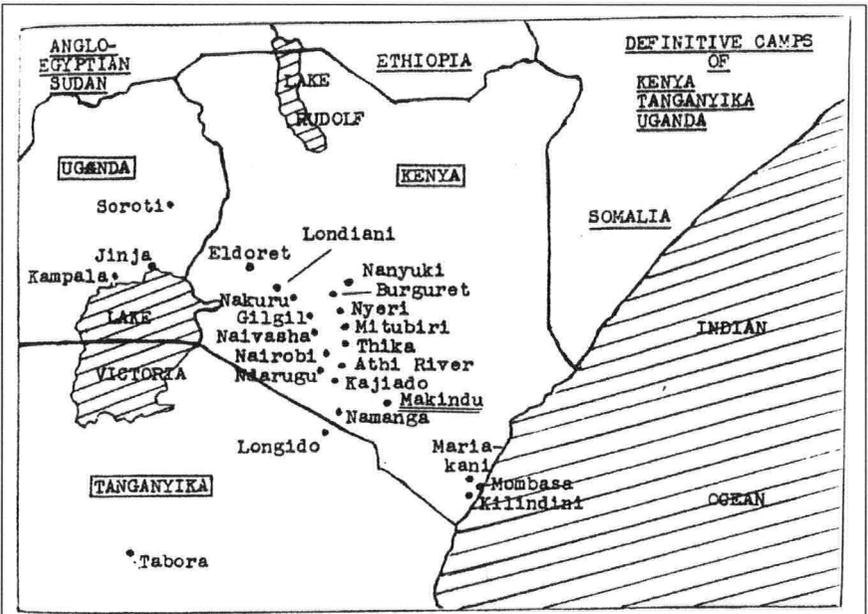


Figure 2. Map showing locations of P.O.W. camps in British East Africa.

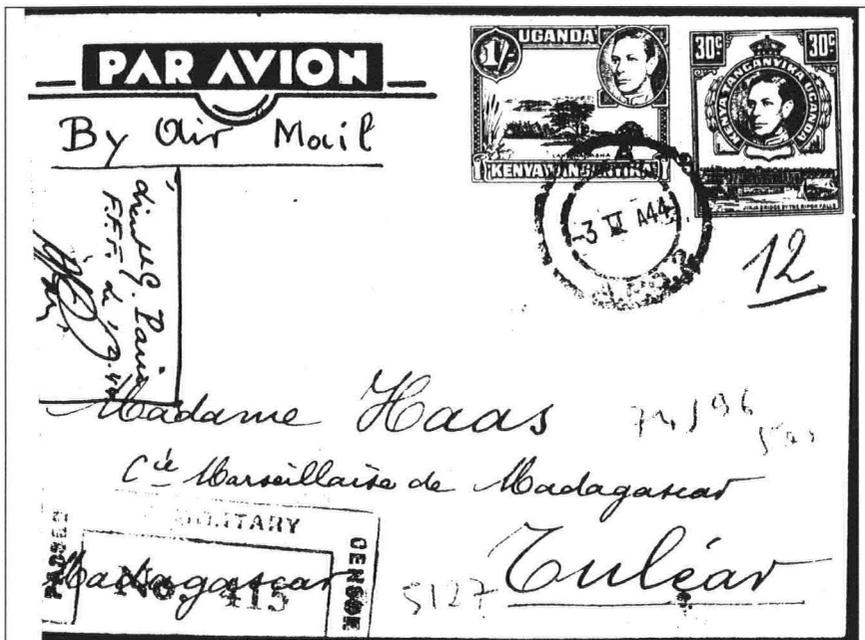


Figure 3.

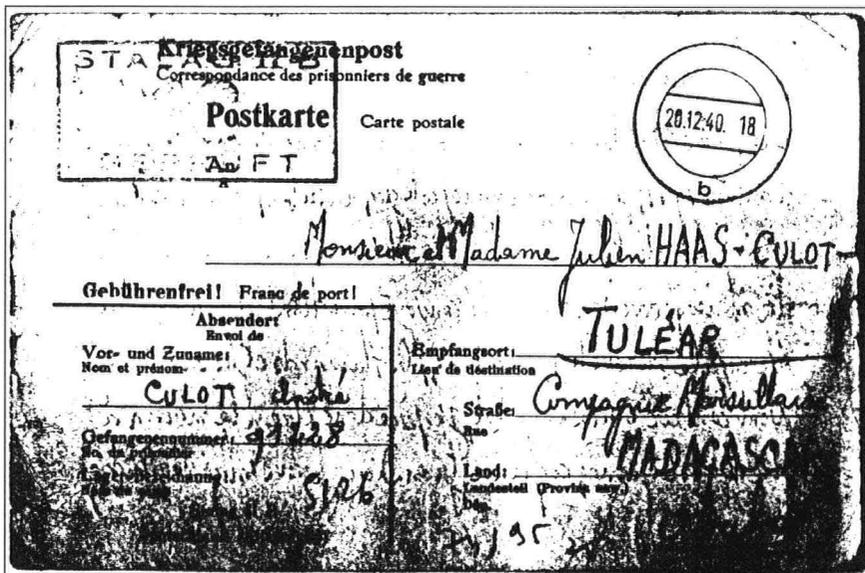


Figure 4.

bears the handwritten endorsement of Lt. G. Paris, F.F.F., 1 Feb. 1944 [F.F.F. = Free French Forces?], and was passed by [British] Military Censor N° 415.

S/Sgt. Haas' message, translated by Roy Reader of the British F&CPS, is difficult to decipher. Apparently, however, he is forbidden to discuss what he is doing but appears to be receiving some sort of course of study from the British, and has difficulty understanding English technical terms. He mentions having flown from Tanatave to Diego Suarez (presumably while en route to Kenya) and his anticipated return to Madagascar (soon? eventually?).

Was S/Sgt. Haas Julien(?) Haas one of the French soldiers, taken in Madagascar, who had opted to join the Gaullists?

Quite coincidentally, and of related (albeit non-East African) interest is an earlier POW card that I own, from Stalag IIB in Germany and postmarked 20 December 1940, that was sent to that same Julien Haas household in Tuléar, Madagascar (Figure 4), and received there on 20 March 1941. The POW, obviously Haas' brother-in-law, had hopes of going home for Christmas.

A COMMENTARY OF PAUL A. LARSEN'S "SLOGAN CANCELS OF FORT LAMY, CHAD" IN N° 254, OCTOBER 1998

by Bill Mitchell (FCPS #715)

Barbary Priddy of the British F&CPS and I have acquired covers that, either on front or back, reproduce Figures 2a, 2b and 2d of Larsen's Fort Lamy, Chad, slogan cancels [FCP N° 254, pp. 103-105]. A Figure 2b is on the back of a First Flight cover from London (9 February 1936) to Fort Lamy (16 February). The other item recently acquired is a domestic flight cover, with obvious philatelic franking (Figure 1), from Abéché, Chad to Fort-Lamy (16

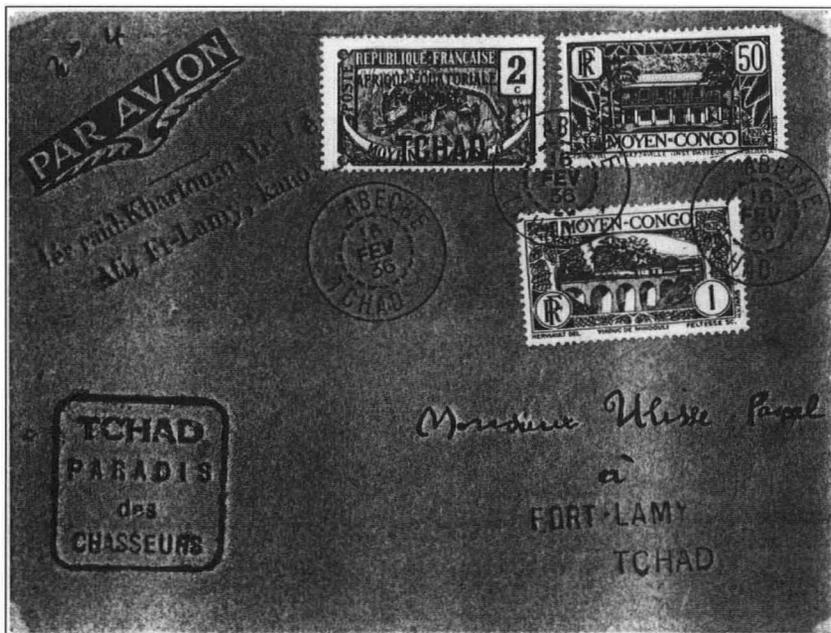


Figure 1.

February 1936 departure and arrival), bearing Larsen's Figure 2a on front and 2d on back. This second cover also bears a handstamp (on front) reading "1^{er} raid: Kartoum/Abéché / Ati, Ft-Lamy, kano." This flight is listed by Paul Saulgrain on page 267 of his *Le Service Postal Aérien dans les Pays d'Expression Française* as "Tchad #56." Ms. Priddy had always assumed that this flight, by Imperial Airways, only stopped in French territory for refueling and off-loading, but the second cover's handstamp shows this was not the case. Probably very little mail was handled in Chad; the cover is endorsed "5 flown" and "No 4." The franking is silly; assuming that no charge was levied for carriage by air within Chad, 50c would have sufficed and the extra 3c was totally unnecessary. This service was extended to Lagos later in 1936, on 22 October.

Ms Priddy has kindly sent me a copy of an advisory letter to philatelists, dated London, 3 February 1936, which is of interest to collectors of pre-World War II airmails It reads:

IMPERIAL AIRWAYS LIMITED

AIRWAY TERMINUS,
VICTORIA STATION,
LONDON, S.W. 1.

AM/7200/B4359

3rd February, 1936

ENGLAND-NIGERIA AIR MAIL

Plans for the introduction of this new Air Mail service are sufficiently far advanced for us to be able to advise philatelists that it is expected to open during the month of February, 1936, and to suggest that they should watch the daily press for announcements from the Postmaster General as to posting times, date and rate of postage.

The route to be followed is along the existing Imperial Air Mail route to Karthoum and thence via El Obeid, El Fasher, Geneina, Abesher, Ati, Fort Lamy and Maidugri to Kano, which will be the temporary terminus, the onward transmission to Lagos being effected by rail.

It is regretted that this Company cannot handle first flight covers either on this or future inaugural flights, and collectors should therefore make their own arrangements. The returning to senders of any such covers addressed to stations of the Company cannot be undertaken.

[signed] Dennis W Standover
Traffic Manager

* * * * *

Only a year later (March 1937-onward) there came to be a plethora of First Flight covers for the Aéromaritime service along the coast of West Africa. Our February 1936 covers may therefore be considered as forerunners of sorts, albeit not anywhere as early as the Lemaitre-Arrachart 1925 cover I described in that same *FCP* N° 254 of October 1998. The Imperial Airways letter shows that philatelists had clearly become much better organized over these 11 intervening years

MARIANNE DE LUQUET -- NEW DISCOVERIES

The red, permanent-value coil stamp exists also in Type II, which was described in N° 256, April 1999, pp. 56-57. First seen September 1998, when found in vending machines in the Savoy region.

A 3,50 (light green) value has been found with two phosphor bands (one on each side) instead of the normal just one.

The 2,70 green, printed without a phosphor band, has been sighted in many parts of France. Known printing dates include parts of 14-19 November 1997 and perhaps all of 21 January 1998.

The red permanent-value sheet stamp, printed without phosphor bands, is known as having been printed 10 June 1997. -- S. J. Luft

RANDOM EDITORIAL JOTTINGS

Many members who reside outside the United States are faced with outrageously high bank or service charges when paying their dues (and other purchases) with U.S. dollars. This is a reminder (or an advisory, in some cases) that you can prepay two or more years' dues at one time, thereby cutting down on annual bank fees. Canadian members may also pay with the Royal Bank of Canada's World Money Orders. And, you can always chance sending U.S. currency (no coins please!) through the mail.

With all due respects to our dedicated, hard-working, efficient, long-time Corresponding Secretary, it would simplify my job if such things as Members Appeals, Questions and Answers, and the like were to be sent directly to me. I would then have more time to recast and/or translate them and get them into the computer. Mes remerciements en avance!

For the benefit of new authors--and at least a couple of regular contributors who tend to forget--there's a boxed "Suggestions" (actually more like Requirements) on page 51 of this issue. But please remember that you'll be on safer ground if you contact me before your manuscript is too far along.

And, while on the subject of contributed writings, we can always use more reviewers of books (etc.) of interest to F & C collectors. I review (or send to specialists) those received from publishers and, more often than not, I will review those purchased for my own use. You would be most welcome to write reviews of the same works for more than one periodical if you like. For instance, Ernst Cohn's reviews are also published in the *Postal History Journal* and sometimes in other venues as well.

I'm sure I've asked for this at least once before, but intended to keep on trying. It would be great to receive and publish biographical sketches of those "elders" who have since passed on, while we still have members whose recollections have not completely faded away. Please consider honoring our "ancestors." And, how many newer members (and older ones as well) know that Dr. Carroll Chase, to whom homage is constantly paid in the annals of the U. S. Philatelic Classics Society for his pioneering work on classic U. S. stamps, is equally renowned in France for his plating of classic French stamps and for his studies of postal markings and postal history?

Looking forward to seeing some (many?) of you next month at our Society's meeting at ROMPEX 2000.

AMAZING 1870-1871 WONDER STORIES--51

by Ernst M. Cohn (FCPS #1491)

Everyone knows, of course, what a *dépêche-réponse* card (d-r card) is and how it was used. For those who don't, however, it was a form to be used in a scheme thought up in October 1870 by a newspaperman, who hoped that the homing pigeon service, until then used only by the government, might thus be made accessible to ordinary people at reasonable cost for news from outside Paris.

His name was Paul Lacoïn. He was the director of the newspaper *La Reforme maritime*. He talked the matter over with his secretary — the French of 1870 were very generous with the title “secretary,” so maybe he was that or maybe he was just a friend — whose name was D. Cadloni — and with Charles Boissay, who wrote about it in his detailed article, *La Poste et la Télégraphie pendant le Siègne de Paris* (*Journal des Economistes* [3] 22, 1871, 117-29 and 273-82).

Lacoïn, Cadloni, and Boissay went to see Postmaster General Rampont on 15 October 1870 to propose the scheme to him. *Le Gaulois* carried an article about it in its issue dated 23 October, pp. 2-3; and *Le Moniteur Universel* has a pertinent letter by Cadloni on 27 October, p. 1462.

I take pleasure in citing these names and sources because they seem to have been almost totally forgotten, yet these men were responsible for helping to open up the pigeon post to the general public. As a matter of fact, newspapermen of 1870 Paris probably had the most, and the most workable, ideas for helping communications with besieged Paris.

The scheme that eventually was developed from the idea was not exactly what had been proposed, according to Boissay. In any case, the post office published a decree, dated 10 November, authorizing private pigeongrams up to 40 words and these d-r cards, which the Paris sender bought for 5 centimes, and for which the person who responded from outside Paris paid 1 franc. The card was enclosed in a letter, in which the Parisian asked four questions, each to be answered by “yes” or “no”. (Figure 1) The card also contained information identifying the questioner, so that the answers could be sent to him, if a pigeon returned them. Later, it occurred to the postal people that someone might send more than one set of queries to more than one person, so a subsequent form made provision for that as well.

The scheme did not catch on like wildfire, but d-r cards were sent out until the end of the Siege of Paris. If and when recipients decided to answer the questions, they filled out the four columns on the d-r card by writing “o” for oui (yes) or “n” for non (no) (Figure 1), took the card to the nearest post office and paid 1 franc, for which they got receipts. The cards were then sent to Bordeaux, where the inserted information was set in type, combined with more usual telegrams, also set in type, and the whole sheet was photographed on a piece of coated, flexible film that was amazingly close to the 35-mm size used today. These films were rolled up tightly, inserted in a piece of hollow quill that was pierced at both ends and tied to the central tail feather of a homing pigeon, which was then released as close to Paris as one of the people in the pigeon service dared to go. At that time, pigeons flew only in daytime and hence had to be released when it was light.

I have searched for the origins of 35-mm film and found that there is absolutely no relationship between the 1871 films and today's film size — apparently pure coincidence.

When the pigeons arrived at Paris, which was perhaps 15 percent of the

time, the pieces of quill were removed and taken to the telegraph office, where they were put into *lanterna-magica* devices. Perhaps you have seen them, they are merely very old-fashioned projectors, even if they were called magic lanterns. The pictures were thrown on a whitewashed wall, from which scribes copied whatever information was shown there.

Recto. DÉPÊCHE-RÉPONSE.							
(Décret du Gouvernement de la défense nationale en date du 10 novembre 1970.)							
Prix de la présente carte, cinq centimes , représenté par un timbre-poste qui sera placé dans le cadre ci-contre.							
Les réponses doivent être exprimées par oui ou par non dans les colonnes 5 à 8. Taxe d'affranchissement des réponses, au nombre de 4 ou au-dessous, un franc .							
(Le numéro de la réponse doit être indiqué, à Paris, par l'expéditeur. Les autres colonnes de la dépêche-réponse seront remplies par le correspondant dans les départements.)							
N° d'ordre de la dépêche-réponse 1	NOM DU PAYS où réside LE CORRESPONDANT. 2	INITIALES DU PRÉNOM ET DU NOM du correspondant. 3	NOM ET DOMICILE (en toutes lettres) DU DESTINATAIRE à Paris. 4	RÉPONSES AUX QUATRE QUESTIONS POSÉES.			
				1 ^{re} question. 5	2 ^e question. 6	3 ^e question. 7	4 ^e question. 8
	Dijon	H. de B.	Mise de Villeneuve r. Université 4	0	0	0	2

Figure 1. Type III dépêche-réponse card shown full size.

The d-r card answers occur in blocks among the regular telegrams. D-r cards were then used in Paris to transcribe them, the block numbers were added so they could be identified again, should questions arise, and the cards were sent to the intended recipients, stuck into official envelopes of the post office — usually nothing more than the cheapest envelopes available, stamped with

*Le Receveur principal
du Département de la Seine.*

Whereas such used cards with written numbers at the top are not difficult to find, envelopes (Figure 2) are very rare. I know of only three card-envelope pairs.

So much for the facts. Now we come to the amazing wonder:

The specialized Yvert of 1928 illustrates the five types of d-r cards known to the person who wrote the section about the Siege of Paris.

Types I and II each have 7 columns, but type I has some text under the rectangle for the stamp whereas type II has no text at that point.

The other three types all have an 8th column added in front of these seven, which is intended for a number by which the questioner can determine which of his d-r cards is being answered in this case. That is, of course, if anyone wrote more than one of the cards to one or more addresses.

They differ from each other in little details of the text that starts "Prix de la présente carte..." [price of the present card...]. Lines 2 and 4 start as follows:

Types III — poste & lonnes (as per Figure 1)
Type IV — Timbre & colonnes
Type V — poste & colonnes.

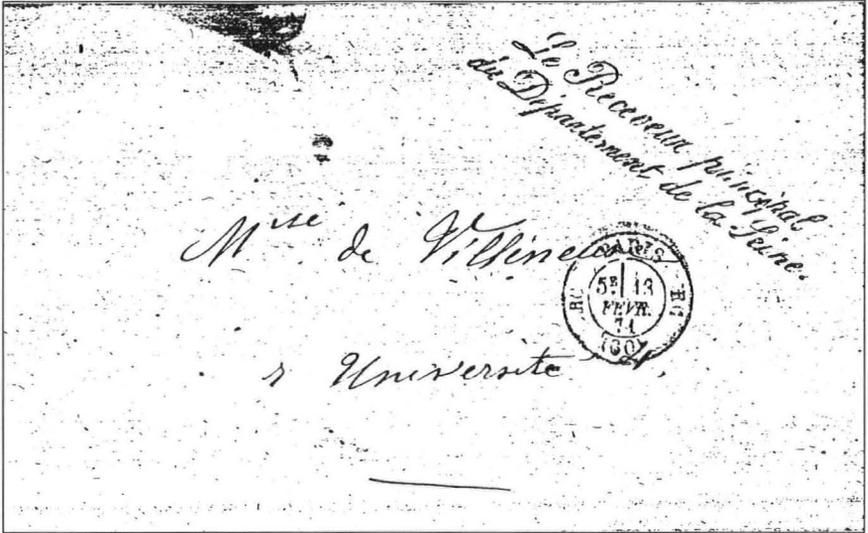


Figure 2. The franchise envelope that held the Figure 1 card, shown reduced in size.

When I set out to get one of each type, I found III to be most abundant, used and unused. Type II was a bit harder to get, and I have seen it only unused, with stamp affixed. Type I was the most difficult to acquire, again only unused but with its stamp evidently canceled at the time it was purchased.

I have never seen types IV and V offered anywhere. And then it slowly dawned on me: My d-r card/envelope pair was prepared and postmarked on 13 February 1871 (Figure 2), i.e., two weeks after the Armistice and well after the last pigeon had returned to Paris. That card is type III, so there must have been plenty of that type available when the pigeon mail had stopped. So why were IV and V printed at all?

Yvert claims that types I-III came from the *Imprimerie Nationale*, whereas IV and V were printed by another shop but on order from the *Imprimerie Nationale*. In other words, private industry was not permitted to print and sell these cards, according to Yvert.

While I am willing to believe that the National Printers did, or ordered someone else to do, types I to III, I do not believe that IV and V were actually ordered officially, there having been no need for them at all. They could, however, easily be post-war souvenirs, just like a series of other (unrelated) items, produced in Paris, Brussels, and London. Yvert may have fallen for the joke quite innocently, of course, and no harm was really done, because people apparently never did care for the whole scheme of d-r cards and so did not bother to buy these souvenirs.

Incidentally, that edition of Yvert is the only one in which I have ever seen types IV and V. Perhaps they have been pictured elsewhere and I just did not stumble over them. Do you think that these counterfeits could now be worth more than the real thing?!

THE CARNET CORNER

by Bob Seeke (FCPS #1334)

You may have noticed that in past articles I've made no mention of prices for French booklets. This was intentional, for I feel that the main reason for collecting stamps is the relaxation, enjoyment, friendships, etc. that we derive from our hobby.

I'm breaking with precedent here because of some prices given in the year 2000 editions of the Cérés and Yvert catalogs.

(Figure 1) shows the front and back of a booklet issued in early 1990. The front urges people to collect the Winter Olympics stamps issued by France, and the back shows postal rates as of January 11, 1990. Notice also the number "6" in the upper left corner of the back. This is the number of the press that printed the cover. Numbers 7 and 8 also exist. The catalog numbers for this booklet are: Yvert-1083, Cérés-479.

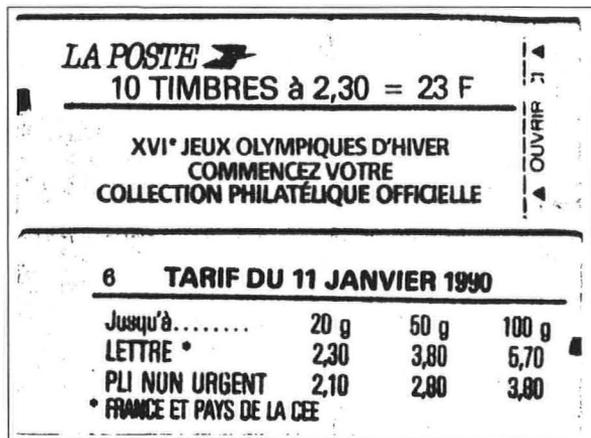


Figure 1.

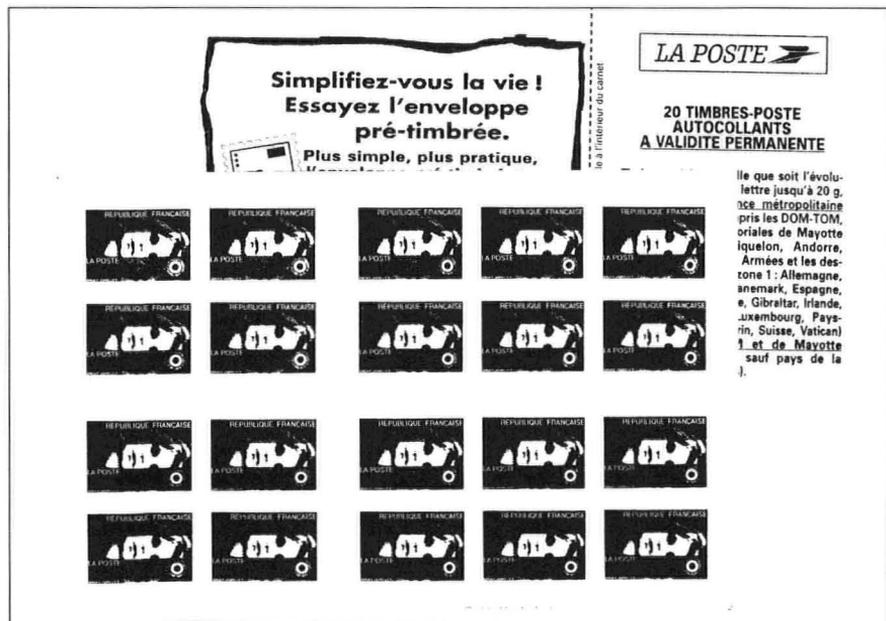


Figure 2.

The 1999 Yvert prices this booklet at 120 francs. I don't have a 1999 Cérés, but it was probably close to Yvert. In the 2000 catalogs, Yvert lists it at 800 francs, and Cérés at 1,500 francs! Quite a jump in one year! The number of days that this booklet was printed is on a par with other, less pricey booklets of the period. It's hard to believe that speculators have hoarded copies. I don't know why these prices are so high.

One more booklet to look at: the unfolded booklet of 20 non-denominated Briat stamps issued late in 1996. This booklet (shown reduced in Figure 2) was available only from four ATM machines in Paris, and four ATMs elsewhere in France. It was printed on one day only: June 24, 1996. The catalog listings are as follows: Yvert 1105 at 1,000 francs; Cérés 515 at 1,500 francs. Another large jump from the 120 francs in the 1999 Yvert. In the case of this ATM booklet, it could be genuinely scarce, since its entire printing (*tirage*) lasted only one day.

There are also some wide discrepancies in the prices given for other booklets between the Yvert and Cérés catalogs. We'll have to wait until the 2001 catalogs come out to see if that trend continues. I'll let you know what happens in a future article.

Correspondence about French booklets is always welcome. Write to Bob Seeke, 866 La Costa Lane, N. Fort Myers, FL 33917.

Until next time, *bonne philatélie*.....

SUGGESTIONS TO FUTURE AUTHORS

Text: Type double-spaced (1.75 space if you have the capability of doing so) on 8½ x 11" (or A4) paper, on one side only. Leave 1" (2.54 cm) margins at sides and bottom, and 1½" margin at top of your title page.

References and citations can be flexible; use recent Journal articles as guides. Endnotes, being easier to set and read, are preferable to footnotes, but up to three footnotes should be OK.

Illustrations: If possible, leave some margins around your illustrations, and number them consecutively in soft pencil. Do **not** paste or tape them down on our manuscript pages; that's my job! Ordinary but clear photocopies (or preferably originals) of cuts, sketches, maps, etc., are OK. For stamps and covers, halftones or very clear photocopies will normally do. However, Jim Graue, the long-time editor of the very fine *Air Post Journal*, recommends black-and-white photocopies on a Canon color laser printer for best results; these printers are available at Kinko's and other print shops. Whatever works best for you, but remember that you want your article to have the best quality illustrations possible.

All originals, and all quality copies that you might wish to keep, will be returned to you within four months of publication.

Note: If you are considering the possibility for joint publication with another journal, please contact me in advance; disseminating information to audiences, that don't normally subscribe to the same periodicals, is usually a good thing for our hobby. However, please don't submit your manuscript to other journals without advising me; it's very disconcerting to edit or even rewrite parts of a manuscript only to learn it has already been published elsewhere, in another editor's revision.

--S. J. Luft

NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS AND CATALOGUES

- > *The James Bendon Listing of Philatelic Literature*; the September 1999 catalog is available from James Bendon Ltd., P.O. Box 56484, 3307 Limassol, Cyprus; Fax + 357 5 632 352; e-mail <jbendon@attglobal.net> [As usual, Bendon publishes or handles a number of books of interest to F&C collectors].
- > François Bertin, *LA POSTE, du messager à cheval au courrier électronique*; 1999; 450 color illustrations, at least in part from the Musée de La Poste, Paris; Editions Ouest France; other details not communicated, but should be of interest to postal historians.
- > Alain Trinquier, *Marques postales du département du Var*; 1998; 34 pp., A5 format; 50Fr + 6,70Fr postage, from the Musée Régional du Timbre et de la Philatélie, Le Château, Boite Postale 51, F-83340 Le Luc-en-Provence, France. [Concerns entry markings by sea and land, arrival markings, and purification markings of the Var Dept.]
- > *Catalogue des timbres fiscaux et socio-postaux de France*; edition 2000; 176 pp., illustrated in color; prepared by the Société Française de Philatélie Fiscale; 160Fr + postage, from publisher Yvert & Tellier. [The latest, priced, authoritative version of the revenue stamps of France.]
- > Laurent Lemerie, *La France par ses timbres*; 1999; large format; illustrated in color; 299Fr + postage; published by Flammarion; no other details available. [Should be of particular interest to topical collectors.]
- > Michèle Chauvet, *Introduction à l'Histoire Postale des origines à 1849*; 2000; 500+ pp., 21x30 cm, bound; 350+ illustrations, 130+ tables; request ordering details from Brun & Fils, 85 Galerie Beaujolais, Palais Royal, F-75001 Paris. [Should be the definitive, fully documented, one-volume work on French prephilatelic postal history.]
- > R. Philippon, *Les Constances des 25c. Semeuses Camées Bleues*; 46 pp. [printed on one side only], A4 format, illustrated; published as a Supplement to *Collectionneur Philatélique et Marcophile*, N° 123, July 1999; 100Fr, payable to C.L.E.P.M., from Dr. Pierre Magnard, 141 rue Duguesclin, F-69006 Lyon, France. [Extremely detailed study of the constant ("flyspeck") varieties on the 25c blue Cameo Sower (Scott 168, Yvert 140).]
- > *First Day Cover -- Cérès 2000--Catalogue*; 208 pp., illustrated; 95Fr + postage, from Editions Philatéliques de Paris, 23 rue du Louvre, F-75001 Paris, or your usual sources. [First-day covers of France, Monaco, Andorra, Europa; complete for 1950-1999; also listed thematically, as well as chronologically.]
- > Twenty-fourth Stock Catalog of Philatelic Literature, from Leonard H. Hartmann, The Philatelic Bibliopole, P.O. Box 36006, Louisville, KY 40233 (also see his web site at <http://www.pbbooks.com>).
[As usual, a number of books on French and Colonies philately are offered; also all the in-print Pothion ("La Poste aux Lettres") handbooks.]
- > Mario and Toni Caldiron, *L'Occupazione Francese del Fezzan nella Libia Italiana* ["The French Occupation of Fezzan 1943-1950"]; 1997; 192 pp., 6½x9", card cover, perfect bound; 149 black-and-white and 17 color illustrations; in Italian, with French translation of the most relevant sections; 50,000 Lire (+ postage and handling), from Toni Caldiron, Via Riccoboni 4, 35127 Padova, Italy. [The last word on the history and postal history of the French occupation of the Fezzan; the authors convincingly demonstrate that the [now very scarce and expensive] provisional overprints were entirely legitimate and served postal purposes.]
- > *La cote des coins-datés et millésimes*; the yearly priced catalogue published by SO.CO.CO.DA.MI; 60Fr postpaid in France, postage extra elsewhere, payable to the above-named society, at Boite Postale 4625, F-22046 St.-Brieuc Cedex 2, France.
- > Pierre-Stéphane Proust, *Les plus belles enveloppes illustrées de 1750 à nos jours*; three parts, each ca. 160 pp., 29 x 22 cm, quality printing and binding, profusely illustrated; 275 Fr + 35 Fr postage per part, or 650 Fr + 70 Fr postage for the three parts, payable prior to 31 May 2000 [prices to go up afterwards] to Normandie Terre des Arts, Boite Postale 31, F-50370 Brecey, France; Fax 011-33-2-33-89-21-19. (Part 1: examples of the first illustrated envelopes through the 19th Century. Part 2: 20th Century envelope art, including those designed by famous artists. Part 3: dedicated to a study of this form of graphism [or something like that...])

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

- We apologize for having misled anyone by giving an incorrect e-mail address for Ed Druce, the editor of *The Asia Pacific Exhibitor*, on page 125 of N° 258 (October 1999). The correct address is <Ed.Druce@geomentus.com>.
- Some additional French dealers who accept major credit cards: SOLUPHIL (Raymond Goebel), 5 rue du Helder, F-75009 Paris (fee of 3% over invoice); and STRAPHIL, 24 rue de la lère Armée, F-6700 Strasbourg, France (no fee). Pascal Behr, 30 ave. de l'Opéra, F-75002 Paris (no fee); Lahitte Philatélie, 39 rue Ste. Hélène, F-69002 Lyon, France (no fee); Boule/Monaco Collections, 10 rue de la Grange Batelière, F-75009 Paris (fee of 1%); Bernard Brunet, Boite Postale 103, F-73701 Bourg St.-Maurice Cedex, France (no fee); Christian Demarest, 19 rue Drouot, F-75009 Paris (no fee). Your editor can vouch for their honest and fair dealings. We would be pleased to hear about other card-accepting dealers.
- The 49th Grand Prix for French Philatelic Art went this time to two stamps: the 3,00F butterfly detail by Emile Gallé on the Ecole de Nancy stamp (issued 22-25 May 1999) and designed by Louis Briat; and the 6,70F stained-glass detail from the Auch Cathedral (issued 19-21 May 1999) engraved by Jacky Larrivière. The Grand Prix for the DOM-TOMs went to New Caledonia's PHILEXFRANCE 99 sheetlet, printed by Cartor in five different processes (see N° 258, October 1999, pp. 125-126), and issued 3 July 1999. And the "lemon" award for the ugliest French-produced stamp of 1999 went to the 3,00F "Thank You" stamp, issued 20-22 March.
- Meanwhile, some 9,200 subscribers to La Poste's new-issues service voted the round FRANCE 98 stamp (issued 12-13 July 1998) as the best single stamp of 1998; and the St.-Exupéry/"Le Petit Prince" PHILEXFRANCE sheetlet of five stamps (issued 12-14 September 1998) as the best series.
- France will soon be issuing stamps portraying living persons: Jean-Claude Killy and Carl Lewis, to be depicted in the Sports category honoring the Millennium (see N° 259, January 2000, p. 24). The last person to be so honored in his lifetime was Marshal Philippe Pétain, in 1940-1944.
- ACEP, the French society devoted to postal stationery, is preparing a new catalog of stationery of French Colonies, occupied territories, mandated territories, etc. In order for the catalog to be as complete as possible, ACEP requests (1) modifications and corrections to the previous edition; (2) information on all items of stationery that were released since the various colonies achieved independence--particularly for the African ones. Please send your information to M. J.-P. Cachera, 108 rue Jean-Jaurès, F-59135, Walers, France.
- Beginning with volume 50, N° 1, to be dated March 2000, our British sister society's *Journal of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society* will appear in A4 format (approx. 21x30 cm), instead of the former 6½x8 inch one.
- Which reminds me that, to dispel any confusion, the British society's the **F&CPS** whereas ours is the **FCPS**. No big deal perhaps, but article authors (and letter writers to your editor) should differentiate the two societies' acronyms when writing.
- The anticipated date for the reopening of the renovated Musée de La Poste de Paris is 17 January 2000. The museum is located at 34, blvd. De Vaugirard.
- The 1,00F Marianne de Luquet was accidentally printed with its single phosphor bar on the left side on 10 and 16 August 1999 (and perhaps some or all the in-between dates). The error was rectified later in the day on the 16th.
- We've learned that New Caledonia new issues (or at least some of them) have not been selling well. About 85 percent of the Noël 1994 set wasn't sold and had to be incinerated, as was almost 46 percent of the 1991 Philanippon block and 62 percent of the 880F Cagou bird booklet of 16 stamps that was issued in 1993.
- The new **ColiPoste** service, for prepaid small packages, was mentioned in passing in the previous number (N° 259, January 2000, p. 25). In addition to the dark blue cardboard box with yellow lettering, which probably doesn't come gratis, two different booklets of ten labels each have been made available, to be affixed in lieu of postage. Individual labels in the booklets are priced at 40Fr for mailings to Europe, the Maghreb, and the DOMs, and at 80Fr for the rest of the world (including the TOMs) An indemnity of 200Fr is included. For additional insurance, there's another booklet of ten labels at 8Fr each. For 1000 Fr insurance, one affixes 8Fr; for the maximum of 2000Fr, two 8Fr labels are to be used.

- One final(?) word on those electronic *prêt-à-poster* cards out of PHILEXFRANCE 99. Several anguished writers reported to *Timbroscopie* for January 2000 regarding the non-arrival of these prepaid items. If you have any of your own, hang on to them for the number received must be far scarcer than the number sent.
- Doubled overprints of the "RF" on the four values of the Mercure design with legend "Postes Françaises" (Scott 499-502, Yvert and Cérés 657-660) are much scarcer than the rather feeble values given them by Cérés would suggest [they are not mentioned in my 1991 Yvert]. According to Michel Melot [*Timbroscopie*, N° 174, December 1999], the doubling is not especially evident and the letters merely appear extra thick rather than distinctly separate, and would have appeared mostly (or entirely) on *feuilles de passe*, which are preliminary press runs that are never (or hardly ever?) shipped to post offices for sale to the public.
- Former member Melvin Garabrant passed away in Florida early in 1999. He had been a collector of early 20th Century French definitives and later French first-day covers, among his several specialties. Along with his wife Loretta, he had been an active promoter and officer of New York City-area stamp exhibitions.
- Thomas ("Tuck") Taylor received the 1999 Lester G. Brookman Cup for his services to the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society. You may well have run into Tuck at that society's table at innumerable stamp shows.
- Good 20th Century French stamps always do very well. Here are a few results from Patrice Robin's 34th auction sale of 7 January 2000: booklet of 40 15c lined Sowers realized 20,010 Fr; booklet of the 25c blue Sower (type IA) realized 20,060 Fr; that of the type IV 25c blue sold for 15,110 Fr; a booklet of the o,25 Marianne de Décaris with carmine completely missing went for 15,560 Fr; a yellow-green Mermoz (Yvert 337a) sold for 36,160 Fr; coil strips and private booklets generally also did well.
- The *American Philatelist* for February 2000 lists Stephen F. Cohen of New York City as deceased. Steve was a long-time chairman of the United Nations Military Mail Study Group. Albeit not a member of our society, he contributed freely to the final entries in the handbook on 1815-1983 French military campaigns by the late Bill Waugh and your editor, and to our later, as-yet-unpublished data on 1983-on UN military actions.
- Yet another philatelic journal editor has surfaced amongst our membership. Colin Spong is the editor of *Czechout*, the journal of the Czech Philatelic Society [of Great Britain, we assume].

FCPS National Meeting at ROMPEX 2000--Final Call

While it's now too late to accept exhibits--and we will have a number of very fine exhibits on display--it's **almost** past time now to advise me as to whether you will be attending ROMPEX 2000 this May 19-21. On Friday evening, May 19, our Society will hold an informal, fun, delectable dinner meeting (no speeches!) in Denver's finest affordable French restaurant. Dinner will run about \$22 plus tax and gratuities; wine and other alcoholic beverages will run extra.

I need to know as soon as possible if you will attend and if bringing a spouse or friend (a spouse should also be a friend...). My address, e-mail and ordinary are on the second page of this issue. We don't want to rattle in too large a room nor find ourselves overcrowded in a small one or as part of the regular clientele, but time's running short now, and I do need a "head" count!

--S. J. Luft

Determining the dates of rate changes in the Colonies

As Ian McQueen learned from a few days' visit to the Colonial Archives at Aix-en-Provence, France (*Jour. of the F&CPS[GB]*, N°213, September 1999), "Sometimes metropolitan France made a [rate] change, instructed that the change should apply in the colonies, and then (perhaps three months later) the governor general would issue an arrêté to show the change. Occasionally, but not always, a date was indicated [in the *Journal Officiel* of that colony--SJJL] for when a change had become, or was to become effective, but only seldom was the exact date of change made clear. Sometimes the governor general of a colony would order a change of rate, and perhaps two or three months later the Minister of Colonies in Paris would approve it. Whether the alteration was immediately effective, or only after it had the French government approval, was often not clear."

As we can see from this quote, determination of actual rate-change dates in many Colonies is a very chancy affair.

Still, McQueen feels it is a very worthwhile thing to engage in studies at the Colonial Archives (Centre des Archives d'Outre-Mer, 29 chemin du Moulin Detesta, Aix-en-Provence) while visiting this charming city and its environs. Arrangements are best made in advance, and one should have some prior notion as to which *Journaux Officiels* need to be perused. Once the bound books or boxes of loose items are delivered, valuable time can be saved by searching only for specific subjects (*i.e.*, *Postes*, *Timbres-poste*) in tables of contents or indexes. The facilities for viewing, relaxation, refreshments, etc. are first-rate, and McQueen found the staff to be most accommodating, especially to non-French speakers. The first two days' visit is free; after that, there is a small fee (50 francs) for a 15 day period. --S. J. Luft

FRENCH MILITARY-POSTAL BUREAUS IN EX-YUGOSLAVIA--PERIODIC UPDATE

Two additional military-postal bureaus (BPM) have opened in ex-Yugoslavia (Figure 1) since our previous report (N° 258, October 1999, p. 125):

BPM 663, opened 19 April 1999, at Kumanovo, Macedonia. After the entry of NATO forces into Kosovo, the bureau moved 20 June 1999 to Mitrovica (Kosovo province) in the French (northern) sector of Kosovo.

BPM 664, opened 18 April 1999, at Rinas, Albania, near Tirana's airport; transferred 2 May 1999 to Elbasan, closer to the refugee camps; closed 9 August 1999 after the majority of refugees had returned to Kosovo.

The other BPMs in ex-Yugoslavia that were still open as of Autumn 1999 are: 651 at Dubrovnik, Croatia; 653 at Ploce, Croatia; 658 at Sarajevo, Bosnia; 660 at Mostar, Croatia; and 662 at Kumanovo, now only serving rear-echelon units.

-- S. J. Luft

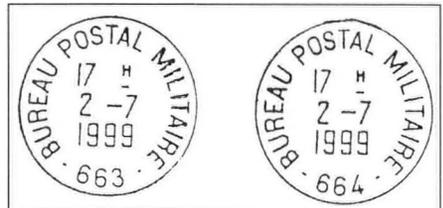


Figure 1.

REVIEW

[Reprinted from "The American Revenuer" for October 1999 (vol. 53, N° 9), with the permission of its publisher and reviewer.]

Yvert & Tellier Catalogue des Timbres Fiscaux et Socio-Postaux de France 2000 by the Société Française de Philatélie Fiscale (S.F.P.F.) (ISBN 2-86814-104-8). 176 pages, 155 x 230 mm, card covers Smyth sewn, priced, illustrated (all color). Published by Yvert et Tellier, 37 rue des Jacobins, 80036, Amiens, Cedex 1, France. Available from the publisher for F160 and from most philatelic literature dealers worldwide.

This is new edition of the 1994 catalog published by Yvert and Tellier. Riley, in his *Fiscal philatelic literature handbook* of 1997 had listed that catalog as the third edition of the S.F.P.F. (formerly ARA-France) which it was not. As Yves Maxime Danan, president of the S.F.P.F., has stressed, Yvert & Tellier first published the French revenue catalog in 1990. Gary Ryan has pointed out that the "Yvert" label on the French revenue catalog helped considerably in the creation of a Revenue class within the F.I.P. in 1991; it was a commercial venture just as the Scott catalog listings in the U.S. that helped to establish the legitimacy of revenue collecting.

The 1994 Yvert & Tellier catalog was almost completely rewritten from the previous catalog with a greatly changed numbering system, section introductions and the inclusion of many new areas. It was, as described in the introduction by Jean-François Brun, a "new one." It was this "Yvert" label that helped the catalog grow and to encourage other collectors to take up fiscals.

The 2000 edition is again at least a major update of the 1994 catalog if not again a new one. Most noticeable is the use of color illustrations in the entire catalog. Other major changes include the addition of many types and varieties and the revision of some categories (Automobiles and Viandes). Additions include new categories for Eaux minérales, Spiritueux, and Timbres pour "Cibistes" and the expansion of listings for essays and proofs throughout the catalog. Each category of stamps now has an abbreviation that can be used with the catalog number to make it easier to identify the stamp.

Yvert & Tellier have called upon the expertise of the members of the Société Française de Philatélie Fiscale to author this catalog. The catalog lists the national revenues and social stamps of France and of Alsace-Lorraine categorized by usage. (Local revenues are listed in a separate catalog published by the Society.) Each section includes an introduction briefly telling of the legislation that created the stamps. The catalog is well illustrated including illustrations of varieties, essays and proofs.

Prices are in French Francs with a minimum value being F1 and all prices in even francs. The prices have remained fairly stable due in large part to the lack of speculation seen in postage stamps. About 15% of the valuations have increased. Most of these changes occurred in the medium priced and very rare stamps as well as corrections in the values of many issues from the Second Empire which were previously under priced.

Some sixty revenues or socio-postal stamps have had their prices reduced from the 1994 edition. This is the result of a large number of stamps that have entered the market from three or four archives; that is sixty out of several thousand prices. And of course, many of the categories now have priced listings for proofs and essays.

The catalog is all in French, but like most well written catalogs it is understandable in large part by the majority of collectors and usable by virtually all. An absolute necessity for the collector of France.

Kenneth Trettin

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- A. 99.1.** A detailed answer to the query regarding Tahiti handstamps on newspaper wrappers was given on pp. 17-18 of the January 2000 issue. We have since received another, from Christian Beslu in far-off Tahiti. Information regarding the Decision of 30 July 1884 to surcharge stamps and stationery, quantities so altered, and dates of use, is to be found in M. Beslu's *La Philatélie à Tahiti*. Stamps bearing two different surcharges, on fragments rather than entires, tend to be favor items. Your editor will send a copy of the page to any interested party for a self-addressed stamped envelope.
- A. 2000.1.** Bob Kinsley's cover is most interesting, although I have never seen this mark, and no longer have any 19th century Madagascar material, it has caused me to look through my files of literature. Unfortunately I haven't discovered anything specific on Diégo Suarez or Nossi Bé, but copies of covers from various documents have been sent to Bob Kinsley. It would appear that these boxed PP [Postage Paid] marks were used whenever adhesives were not available during the late 19th and early 20th century. Perhaps later dates may be discovered.

I confirm that Diégo Suarez became a protectorate of France following the French 1st Campaign of 1883 over territorial rights in Madagascar, and with Nossi Bé and St Marie de Madagascar formed a three-area dependency until 1894 when they issued their own stamps. The 1890 of local issue of Diégo Suarez were cancelled by a cds inscribed Diégo Suarez - Madagascar [see Kohl Handbook] and the Madagascar 1889-1902 Handbook by Kricheldorf and Pannetier notes on page 127. By 1898 all three regions were absorbed into a common Madagascar postal administration. English translation of the latter handbook is available either at the APRL or the Collectors Club. A French translation has also appeared in the COL.FRA journal.

--Colin W Spong

SOME SHOW REPORTS

- Sandical Expo 2000 (San Diego, January 2000): Gold medals to Stan Jersey for his Solomon Islands in World War II exhibit, and to Roger Quinby for his Finland 1891 stamps and stationery exhibit; Vermeil medals to Stan Jersey for "New Caledonia: The War Years" and for "New Hebrides, World War II Postal Stationery"; Vermeil medal to Bob Kinsley for "The Conquest of Indo-China 1861-1904"; one-frame Silver medal to Stan Jersey (busy guy!) for a Gilbert & Ellice Islands study.
- Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition 2000 (Sarasota, FL, February): Gold medal to Paul Larsen for his Leeward Islands 1890-1911 exhibit.

MEMBERS' APPEALS

HELP WANTED: I am preparing a census, for a book in progress on the postal history of St. Pierre & Miquelon, of all mail from and to St. Pierre & Miquelon and from and to French Shore, during the 1729-1885 period: origins, destinations, dates, taxes levied, whether carried via French or British mail, etc. Your assistance will be highly appreciated! Contact Dr. J. F. Gibot, 6 rue C. Grellier, F-87190 Magnac Laval, France; Fax 05-55-68-53-36; e-mail GIBOT@wanadoo.fr (Mb #2980).

FOR THE RECORD

(Continued from #259, January 2000, p. 29)

- **788.)** According to David Jennings-Bramly (*Jour. Of the F&CPS [GB]*, N° 211, March 1999) all France & Colonies stamps line-perforated 11x11--with the exception of the 20F Pont du Gard and of some Monaco stamps of the 1920s--are very likely fraudulent.

However, Ray Gaillaguet disagrees with the use of the term "fraudulent" [written commun., 3 January 2000]. The perforated 11 stamps in question, although completely unauthorized, were very definitely produced at the Blvd. Brune plant. "They first came to my attention in 1971 when a letter purported to come from the [Post Office] department surfaced stating that the stamps had been perforated at the same time as the Pont du Gard perf 11 issue. Rather than 'fake,' I prefer the French '*Emissions de Minuit*' better. [NDLR: or perhaps '*backdoor chicanery*' might also be appropriate.] These shenanigans tend to occur around midnight, "when supervisors are safely ensconced in their offices digesting their late supper." The Monaco N° 21, listed by Cérés, is real. The four Sower values perforated 11 are the 5c green, 10c red, 25c blue and 30c orange; all four semi-legitimate in that they were produced at the government's printing plant. "Personally, I would not exhibit any of the aforementioned [Sower] stamps but would own them for reference purposes."

There, you have it. Nice to own these particular Sowers, but do avoid exhibiting them.

The next three entries have been selected from the Jamet-Baudot 178th auction sale of 18 December 1999. Monsieur Baudot considers them all extremely rare and we cannot but agree:



Figure 1.

- **789.)** Lot 133. Double-weight letter from Tunis to France bearing 1F and two 10c Cérés, cancelled by *petits chiffres* 3713 (Figure 1); date stamp Tunis par Bône, 4 January 1853, when the French Tunis bureau was only an annex of that of Bône. Stamps

far from being four-margined but cover is quite fresh for the times. Unsold at the 25,000Fr opening bid.

- **790.)** Lot 278. 20c perforated Empire, cancelled by Paris lozange E; Paris E/Après le Depart, 25 May 1863 [*banderolle Après le Depart*] (Figure 2). This date stamp, considered a precursor to French supplementary mail; was used only very briefly. Offered at 20,000Fr, it was hammered down for 40,425Fr.



Figure 2.

791.) Lots 590 and 591. Surcharge(?) essays [the questionable status as per Joany, et al, *Histoire des Timbres-Poste au Type Sage 1875-1976*, p. 149] in, respectively, red and blue, on horizontal strips of five of the gray 3c Sage

(Figure 3). Offered at 20,000Fr per, they went for 22,665Fr and 22,666Fr, respectively.

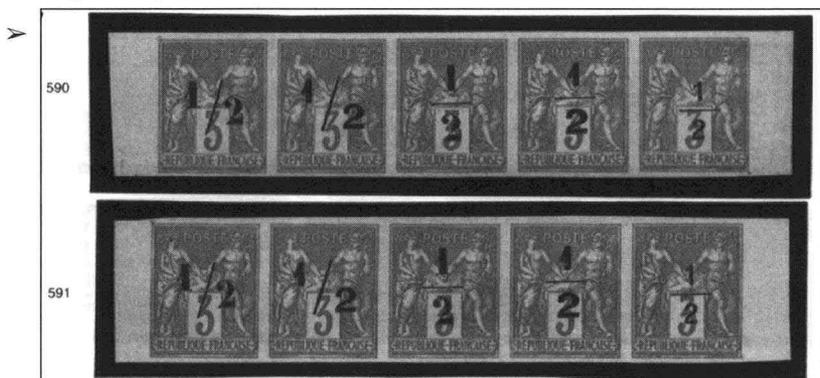


Figure 3.

792.) This circular marking (Figure 4) is present in many collections, including mine, and is a pleasant addition to one's holdings if you didn't pay too much for it. J.-F. Brun, writing in *Timbroscopie* (N° 174, December 1999), states that no authentic, postal usage is known for this newspaper-rate marking during the 1884-1908 period, and that all examples are to be considered as having been "cancelled-to-order." However, from late 1908 until the issuance of the 1/2c on 1c Blanc stamp in December 1919, the marking could have been used legitimately on wrappers for newspapers weighing less than 50 gm sent within the department of origin. This marking is unofficial, and not shown in Alexandre's *Dictionnaire des Timbres & Griffes "Standard"...1792-1914*. According to Brun, it was the handiwork of a stamp dealer, sometime around the close of the 19th Century.



Figure 4

NEW ISSUES AND WITHDRAWALS

(Continued from N° 259, January 2000, p. 26)

France

- 1 (3) January 2000: 3,00F / 0,46€ The Lighthouse at the end of the World (Cape Horn, Tierra del Fuego);
- 8 (10) January: 3,00F / 0,46€ (x two) Yves St. Laurent-designed heart-shaped stamps; same in 30F / 4,57€ booklet of ten self-adhesive stamps (five of each design);
- 15 (17 January): 3,00F / 0,46€ Bicent. of the Bank of France;
- 12 (14) February: 50,00F / 7,62€ airmail, Couzinet 70 airplane;
- 17 (18) February: 3,00F / 0,46€ The Corps of Prefects;
- 25 (28) February: 6,70F / 1,02€ Art of Botticelli;
- 3 (6) March: 3,00F / 0,46€ Carcassonne (Aude Dept.);
- 11 (13) March: Stamp Day (cartoon character Tintin): 3,00F + 0,60F / 0,55€ in miniature sheet, and 22,80F / 3,48 € booklet of four stamps at 3,00F + three at 3,00F + 0,60F;
- 25 (27) March: 3,00F / 0,46€ Parliament of Brittany; 4,50F / 0,69€ pervenche of Madagascar (flower).



Withdrawals: [8 October 1999 withdrawals postponed to 10 October]; 25 October: Council of Europe twosome of 1996; [12 November: previously listed]; 3 December: 3,00F Countess of Segur; 3,80F La Jurade de St. Emilion façade; 4 February 2000: 3,00F Camargue region (EUROPA), 3,00F Ecole de Nancy detail of glass art, 3,00F Chateau of Haut-Koenigsbourg, 3,00F "practice welcoming," of 3,00F Figeac, 4,50F René Caillé, 6,70F art of Monet, 6,70F Auch Cathedral; 10 March: 3,00F (x two) and 30F booklet for happy holidays, 3,00F Cérés 1849-1949 (PHILEXFRANCE 99), 3,00F Celebration of Year 2000, 3,00F design me the Year 2000; 3,00F solar eclipse, 3,00F 1998 happy holidays, 4,50F Hotel de la Monnaie, 12F old roses sheetlet, 15F "Le Petit Prince" strip of five stamps, 30F sheetlet 1998 best wishes; 31 March: 25F "Le Petit Prince" sheetlet, 50F PHILEXFRANCE 99 sheetlet.

Andorra

- 5 January 2000: 3,00F / 0,46€ Celebration of Year 2000;
- 28 February: 30F booklet of ten self-adhesive permanent-value stamps showing Arms of Andorra-la-Vieja;
- 20 March: 4,50F / 0,69€ snowboarding.

Withdrawals: 3,80F 250th Anniv. of the "Manual Digest."

French Austral & Antarctic Terrs. (TAAF)

Withdrawals: 31 December 1999: all stamps issued 1 January 1999.

French Polynesia

- 10 November 1999: 85F Tahiti on the eve of Year 2000; [see N° 258, October 1999, for the other 1999 issues];
- 3 January 2000: 85F and 120F Welcome to the Year 2000;
- 5 February: 180F Year of the Dragon.

Withdrawals: 31 March 2000: 85F FRANCE 98 "overprinted" stamps, 200F submarine scene, four stamps showing garlands of flowers and shells, four stamps showing scenes of daily life, 500F diptych (with central label) for Autumn Philatelic Salon, Queen Pomaré booklet of ten self-adhesive permanent-value stamps.

Mayotte

- 6 (8) November 1999: 4,50F / 0,69€ vanilla flower and pods; 10,00F / 1,52€ the *déba* (religious/festive ceremony);
- 11 (13) December: 10,00F / 1,52€ Soulou Waterfall; 3,00F / 0,46€ Year 2000;
- 7 February 2000: 3,00F / 0,46€ Indian Ocean "boute" (sailboat).



Withdrawals: 31 March 2000: 1,00F family planning, 2,70F Port of Longoni, 3,00F children's carnival, 3,00F Tsingoni Mosque, 3,80F La barge.

Monaco

- > 13 December 1999: 2,70F / 0,41€ 24th International Circus Festival; 3,00F / 0,46€ Noël 1999; 3,50F / 0,53€ Holy Year; 4,50F / 0,69€ 33rd International Bouquets Competition;
- > 23 December: 3,00F / 0,46€ MONACO 2000 International Philatelic Expo.;
- > 17 January 2000: 4,20F / 0,64€ Museum of Napoleonic souvenirs; 4,90F / 0,74€ 40th Monte Carlo TV Festival.

Withdrawals: 10 January 2000: **1997** issues: 21,60F Scea block, 71F Seigneurs of Monaco sheetlet, 78F Princes of Monaco sheetlet, 20F geographic evolution block, 15F Botticelli block, 3,80F Princess Charlotte, 4,90F (x two) Nagano Olympics, 5,20F art of David; **1998** issues: 6,00F discovery of radium, 3,00F Junior Chambers of Commerce, 3,90F Joseph Kessel, 10,00F Charles Garnier, 10,00F World Music Awards, 3,00F Formula 2000 Grand Prix, 8,00F and 9,00F artisanal prestige arts, 7,00F Enzo Ferrari, 7,50F George Gershwin, 4,50F Inter. Marine Pollution conference, 5,00F "PostEurop" Plenary Assembly, 4,20F Inter. Assoc. against violence in sports, 3,50F Monte Carlo Magic Stars, 11,50F Bernini, 3,00F and 6,70F plus 15F sheetlet for Noël 1998.



New Caledonia

- > 10 (12) November 1999: 70F The Nouméa Accord [primitive art]; 70F Âji âboro spectacle [aboriginal dances];
- > 18 November: 155F "Château" Hagen [historic building];
- > 8 December: 30F "Don't cut down my tree!" [environmental protection];
- > 20 or 21 December: 100F (x four) Christmas and Greetings stamps.



Withdrawals: 31 March 2000: 70F Univ. Declaration of the Rights of Man; 70F mail carrier and dogs, 80F Fantasia of Nouméa 1903, 100F (x four) protection of animals, 110F Vincent Bouquet, 130F abolition of slavery, 140F OPT anniv. diptych with central label, 155F Isle of Nou penitentiary, 200F (x two) regional landscapes, 210F Vasco da Gama block (PORTUGAL 98), 100F (x four, se-tenant) Vasco da Gama.

St. Pierre & Miquelon

- > 17 (22) November 1999: 3,00F / 0,46€ Best Wishes;
- > 12 (17) January 2000: 3,00F / 0,46€ Welcome to the Year 2000;
- > 26 January: 3,00F humpbacked whale and 5,70F common porquial.

Withdrawals: 24 December 1999: 12F PHILEXFRANCE 99 block; 14 January 2000: boats block of four 3,00F stamps; 11 February: 5,20F strike at the Isle de Marins; 10 March: 3,80F "plate-bière (berry).

Wallis & Futuna

- > 8 November 1999: 55F carving a dugout canoe;
- > 22 November: 325F airmail, four-master sailing ship "Wind Song";
- > 1 December: 65F 150th Anniv. of postage stamps (stamp-on-stamp);
- > 20 December: 500F Sunrise over the lagoon;
- > 1 or 3 January 2000: 350F Welcome to the Year 2000.

Withdrawals: 31 March 2000: corals of the lagoon (4 stamps), 62F World AIDS Day, 36F dragonfly, 40F cicada, 106F cricket playing, Wallis, 175F Autumn Philatelic Salon, 250F Polynesian dancer airmail, 460F "the garden of good fortune," 700F Paul Gauguin.



F.C.P.S. OFFICIAL

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Elsewhere in this issue of the Philatelist you will find the Treasurer's Report. After a number of years operating at a surplus or a small deficit, this past year the Society had a substantial deficit. This was caused both by reduced Dues income, as membership continues to decrease, and by increases in the cost of producing the Philatelist and in officers' expenses. The last item fluctuates markedly from year to year, and was unusually high last year. As we have no plans to reduce the number of pages published, the cost of producing and mailing the Philatelist will continue to gradually rise. Our dues have not been changed for ten years, and currently they are lower than those of most specialist societies. No formal action will be taken until after the adoption of the revised Bylaws at the Annual Meeting, but I expect an increase will then be necessary.

I have written here before about the Internet and the eBay auction site. As Ed relates in his Meeting Report, eBay was a major topic of discussion at our February meeting, with particular interest shown by those members present who do not yet have an Internet connection. I have just read a report in **Linn's Stamp News** that, "facing stiff competition from eBay," the A.P.S. Sales Division will open an Internet site later this year, although it is not planned as an auction site. Certainly, at present, eBay is the "place it's at" for buying stamps and covers on the Internet. I urge all our members to visit eBay, and see if they can use it as a source of material. However, be aware that eBay is best considered as a giant Flea Market, with all the associated dangers and opportunities. Generally, you are dealing with people you do not know: so far, I have had only good experiences with my philatelic purchases, but remember that you are generally paying in advance, and have little or no prospect of recovery if the purchase is not received. Even more important: Use your knowledge! Many eBay sellers are ignorant about their material; if an offering can be fake or misidentified, assume that it is, unless you can prove otherwise. Know the value of what you are buying; I have seen one particular book repeatedly sell far above its actual retail price. Finally, something is offered on eBay only if someone has it for sale, and then only if the seller thinks it can be sold for a satisfactory price. If the seller is smart, this means he must think there will be interested buyers there. If you find nothing of interest the first time you visit eBay, try again a few days or weeks later. Try to devise an efficient means of searching for the items which may interest you. Items are described by the seller: sometimes in great detail, other times with no detail, or incorrect detail. Like any flea market, you have to look, then maybe you'll find. Happy hunting.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1999

Total Membership as of January 1, 1999:	600
Total New Members for the Year of 1999:	28
Total Reinstatements for the Year 1999:	13
	41
Resignations Received for the Year 1999:	10
Total Deceased Members for the Year 1999:	8
Members Dropped for Non Payment of Dues, 1999:	32
Members Undeliverable as Addressed, 1999:	5
	55
Net Membership Gain for the Year of 1999:	0
Net Membership Loss of the Year of 1999:	14
Total Membership as of December 31, 1999:	586

TREASURER'S REPORT

FRANCE & COLONIES PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC. 1/1/99 THROUGH 12/31/99

INFLOWS

Dues-Income:	
1999	6,360.90
TOTAL Dues-Income	6,360.90
Int. Inc.	741.04
Publications	
Back Issues	109.00
Bordeaux	46.00
General Issues	8.00
Glossary	13.00

Index.....	30.00
Ink Color	6.00
Lozenges.....	19.00
Luft III	5.00
Transport Marks	5.00
TOTAL Publications	241.00
TOTAL INFLOWS	7,342.94
OUTFLOWS	
Ads	312.00
Meetings	92.02
Philatelist:	
Editor	362.41
Envelopes	122.27
Labels	265.88
Magazine	6,444.55
TOTAL Philatelist	7,195.11
Secretary:	
Corresponding	571.00
Recording	427.58
TOTAL Secretary	998.58
Treasurer	131.75
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	8,729.46
OVERALL TOTAL	1,386.52
ASSETS	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
F&C Saving	23,147.37
F&C Cash	0.00
F&C Checking	2,738.48
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	25,885.85
TOTAL ASSETS	25,885.85
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
LIABILITIES	
Other Liabilities	
Prepaid Dues	4,686.50
Spiegel Fund	1,212.29
Vaurie Fund	18,031.23
TOTAL Other Liabilities	23,930.02
TOTAL LIABILITIES	23,930.02
EQUITY	1,955.83
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	25,885.85

Respectfully submitted, William W. Wallis, Treasurer

February 8, 2000

MEETING OF FEBRUARY 4, 2000

It was a gathering of the usual suspects this evening. Dick Stevens and Martin Stempien presented three covers for consideration and discussion. All were of sufficient interest that I suggested that both of them prepare small articles for Stan, with illustrations of course. Let's see if this will get them going.

The evening took a most interesting turn when Dick brought out some printed sheets from his most recent excursion onto eBay and its philatelic auctions. Indeed, this is an idea whose time has come. Dick noted the basics that are necessary to bid on eBay: a decent computer, hopefully a printer, a modem or better, an e-mail account with someone and an eBay account. He has been bidding on some smaller items in his collecting areas (Martinique, the Salonica Front, etc.), with good success. I too have purchased a few items on eBay, and between us we got a good discussion going. What is amazing is that one can sell items from 1 cent to the sky's the limit on eBay. In fact, I just bid on a Guadeloupe cover that had no minimum, so my opening bid was recorded as 0.01. For those who have not ventured onto eBay, the mechanics are quite simple, and the sale of items is generally honest. Sellers develop ratings which can be checked, and the behavior of buyers is also monitored. One of the biggest problems has been the lack of sophistication of some of the sellers, who are not up to par with philatelic terms and condition. Also, we have seen a number of problem items. Just before the meeting I noted a nice copy of the 15c Cérés up for sale. A check of its picture (yes images of almost all items are available - that's why a good computer and a modem are necessary) showed it to be a poor and common fake, not worth the opening bid of a few hundred dollars. An e-mail to the seller brought the item's immediate withdrawal. Another area of concern is the search for items of interest. If you do not check the "Stamps & Coins" box before you search, searching of a colony such as "Reunion" will generate

hundreds of hits. Just think of all those high school reunions and soldiers' reunions that have generated sellable items. I must confess, however, that I did search "Guadeloupe" once before I selected the "Stamps & Coins" box, and came across a beautiful 1863 map of the Colony, on which I was subsequently the high bidder. It's now framed and on the wall in front of me as I type.

The mechanics of a sale are fully automated, and when you place your bid, it is executed as if you were at the auction. Thus, your posted bid is just one jump above the second highest bid, assuming you have exceeded the highest bid. If not, that one is indexed to one jump above your highest bid. Items are usually up for sale from 3-7 days, based on Pacific Standard Time. A flurry of bids can come in as the end of the sale approaches. I have been successful on a number of Group Type items, and I missed out on a nice one from Rufisque, Senegal to Austria, underpaid and with Austrian dues. A few bids in the final five minutes knocked me out of the competition. You can e-mail the sellers if you have questions, and they are quick to answer. If you are successful, the seller quickly sends you an e-mail noting such. Within a day the seller contacts you with information on where to send payment and costs for shipping. To date, only the seller pays eBay a commission. I have not bought any high ticket items yet. Most of the sellers note that satisfaction is guaranteed. Since the images are from color scanners, you generally have a better picture of items than you do in a typical auction catalog. Many sellers add images of the backs of the covers. To those who see these minutes, you might want to send your thoughts on eBay sales to Stan, and possible we can have an eBay update in a future *F&C*. -- Ed Grabowski

NEW MEMBERS

- 3219 VAUGHN, JOHN K., Jr., 9303 Hammerly Blvd. 3 1207, Houston, TX 77080-5430. (Regular Issues: Classics 1849-1876: Used - 1870-1871 Issues. Colonies General Issues: Mint - Used - Imperfs. All Colonies And Territories.)
- 3220 DUNLEAVY, ROBERT, 208 Prince George St., Annapolis, MD 21401. (French Morocco, Algeria.)
- 3221 KOPLAR, DAVID A., P.O. Box 827, Solana Beach, CA 92075. (Dealer: Full Time. France & Colonies Stamps & Postal History. Primarily Pre-Independence.)
- 3222 TRICOT, FLORENT, 1002 Residence Jacques Brel, F-59280 Armentieres, France. (Colonies General Issues: used - On Cover. Military Covers: 1859-1892 Specific Colonies: All For Which Military Rates, Datestamps, And Covers.)
- 3223 FONG, STANLEY B., 5533 Camellia, Sacramento, CA 95819-2430. (General Collector: All Issues. General France: Mint - Used - On Cover. Specialized France: Used Abroad. Regular Issues: Classics 1849-1876: Mint - Used. Dues. Cancellations. Sage Type 1876-1900. Modern France: Mint - Blanc, Mouchon & Merson Types - Sowers - Air Mails - Coils. Special Issues: Telegraph - Dues - Newspaper - Revenues - Proofs And Color Trials. Colonies General Issues: Mint - Used - On Cover. All Colonies & Territories. Cancels And Postal History. Philatelic Literature. Exchange.)
- 3224 URISH, JACK, 1105 Levee, Dallas, TX 75207. (Colonies General Issues: Mint, Indo-China.)
- 3225 CAIN, BILLY B., HC 84, Box 1896, Barbourville, KY 40906. (No Specialty Given.)

CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND CORRECTIONS

- 2240 KUEHN, MARK A., 7019 CO Rd. 426 M. 5 Rd., Gladstone, MI 49837.
- 2571 FARBER, MARTIN R., 1801 Fonseca Way, The Villages, FL 32159.
- 3010 LANDAU, ELIOT A., 515 Ogden Avenue, Apt. 101, Downers Grove, IL 60515-3071.

RESIGNATION

- 3187 MAYNE, E. J.

DROPPED FOR NONPAYMENT OF DUES

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2522 BARKER, CHARLES S.P. | 2748 LUIKAART, W. DAVID |
| 1960 MARINESCU, CONSTANTIN, A | 2907 MILLE, FELIX |
| 2509 ALBERTIN, RICHARD | 1249 MORGAN, JOHN C., II |
| 1874 ANDERSON, FRANK M. | 3037 NOURSE, CHRIS |
| 2924 BARHAM, TERRY | 2848 RADER, JAMES |
| 1514 BEUXELIN, PHILLIPE | 2739 ROBERTS, STEPHEN S. |
| 3155 BODOW, DONALD M. | 2912 ROTTMAN, MILTON |
| 3182 COY-KENDALL, BOB | 3154 SMITH, MICHAEL R. |
| 2119 EDISON, ROBERT B. | 3179 TETTOR, JEFF |
| 3171 FERRAND, CLAUDE RENE | 3164 TERRY, DAVID L. |
| 1865 GEYER, MEL., JR. | 2966 WEDEKIND, WAYNE D. |
| 429 GOLDEM, MRS. MAXINE | 502 YACONETTI, RONALD J. |
| 3115 GRAHAM, PAUL | 2618 BERKINSHAW-SMITH, BERNARD |
| 2405 GRAY, BETTY E. | 2151 BOULE, MAURICE |
| 1988 GRAY, GEORGE T. | 2915 DIMIDJIAN, CLAUDE |
| 2964 HANCOCK, MICHAEL | 3139 DRUCE, EDRIC |
| 3104 HART, JOHN | 2787 WATKINS, PAUL S. |
| 2954 KARSEBOOM, GLENN | 3099 WHITTAM, VINCENT |
| 3119 KUSKE, DONALD | 3109 BRIDGE, TOM |