



# France & Colonies Philatelist

Vermeil Medals at SESCAL 2000 and COLOPEX 2002  
 Silver Medal at 6th Canadian National Philatelic Exhibition (2002)



*Once again we show another sampling of French printers' waste (or worse?) that is being offered by dealers at premium prices. While these can make attractive additions to one's specialized collection, it's most unlikely they could ever be found in a mixture or kiloware.*

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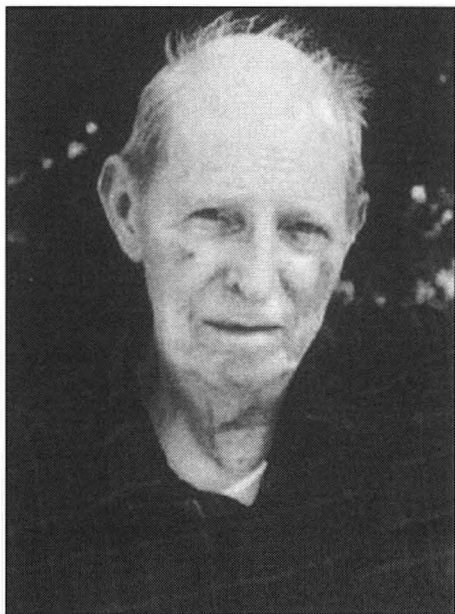
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*Edna and Bob Stone, in their retirement years.*



*Bob Stone, in his final years.*

## THE CARNET CORNER

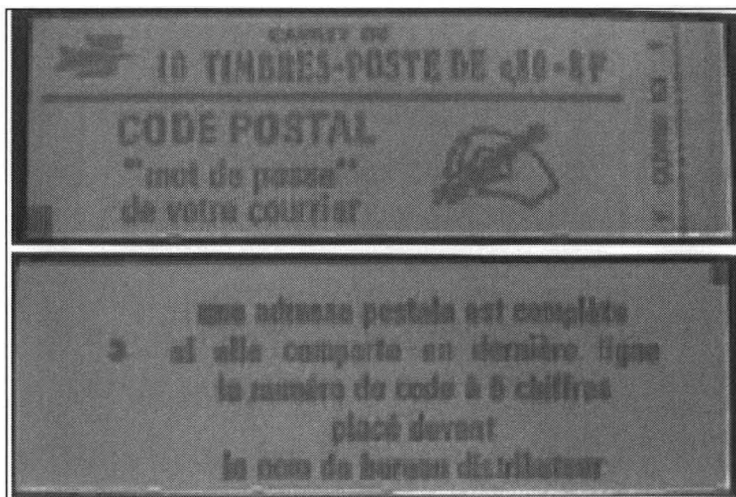
by Bob Seeke (FCPS #1334)

Let's look at a *carnet* that is not a booklet at least not in the conventional sense.

Illustrated below are the front and back of a *carnet* of ten 80c stamps. The design of the front cover is identical to that of the 80c Bequet *carnet*. The back is different: it has the number 3 for the *numéro du confectionneuse* and text which reads "une adresse postale est complète si elle comporte en dernière ligne le numéro de code à 5 chiffres placé devant le nom du bureau distributeur." This is telling the postal patron that the addressee's address is not complete until the 5-digit postal code is placed on the bottom line of the address in front of the destination city.

The interesting thing about this printed-in-orange booklet is that it contains no stamps! In fact, it was never sold to general public. It is a mockup of a real booklet that was used by the training school for postal employees. Since it never contained stamps, it seems likely that it was intended to acquaint the students with this form of stamp selling.

I realized while I was writing this that I failed to include my e-mail address as a way of contacting me, which a few of you have done. It is [cwseeke@msn.com](mailto:cwseeke@msn.com). Glad to hear from you at any time via e-mail or snail mail. Until next time, good collecting. Bob Seeke, 866 La Costa Lane, N. Fort Myers, FL 33917.



(reduced to 75%)



## FRENCH MARCOPHILY - MAIL BY RAIL

### by Robert T. Kinsley (FCPS #2180)

The quantity of different *oblitérations ferroviaires* or railroad mail markings, is voluminous, perhaps because, as opined by Raoul Lesgor, one of the founders in 1941 of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society, in reviewing the Classic period "the French people have always been convinced that a letter mailed at a railroad station gets to its destination more rapidly than one mailed in an ordinary post office box."<sup>1</sup> Collecting rail markings remains a popular area in France and, even today, there is an active group called Les Cheminots (railwaymen) Philatélistes which creates a special cancel every year for their annual exposition (Figure 1). There are catalogues<sup>2</sup> which list and provide valuations for each rail postmark. It is a pretty safe assumption that if you have any French covers, some will contain a railroad postmark, most often on the back

of an early cover.

Railroad mail markings may be divided into three major categories:

1. Bureaux Ambulants (travelling postoffices)
2. Courrier-Convoyeurs (travelling rail compartments), and
3. Gares/Entrepôts (rail stations)

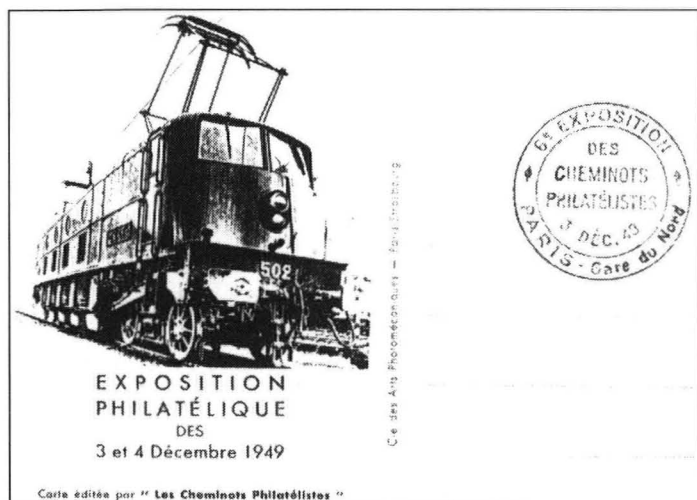


Figure 1. (reduced to 65%)

### 1. BUREAUX AMBULANTS

Small-size (21-mm diameter) date stamps superseded the larger ones from Autumn 1838-onward in all cities and villages. There were also used on mail arriving at the main post office in Paris at about 5 a.m. on one of some 15 main rail lines, as depicted on a map (Figure 2) by the eminent Dr. Carroll Chase<sup>3</sup>. Such postmarks, struck on the back of a letter (Figure 3), were used as arrival marks between 1838 and 1848 and thereafter as both arrival and departure marks.

In addition, there were additional rail lines between Paris and "la Grande Banlieue", the outer suburbs, and smaller locations where a postmark was used bearing the number 17. In mid-1839 mail from these rail lines was struck with a postmark showing, in addition to the number 17, the number for the first mail distribution at 7 a.m. and words for the second through sixth distributions (Figure 4). Two additional rail lines (Route de Genève; Route de Moulins) resulted in additional postmarks in 1844 (Figure 5). Additional postmarks are identified as appearing in 1848, including a group showing a city name at the top (Figures 6, 6a). Later in 1848 the rail postmarks were replaced by post-

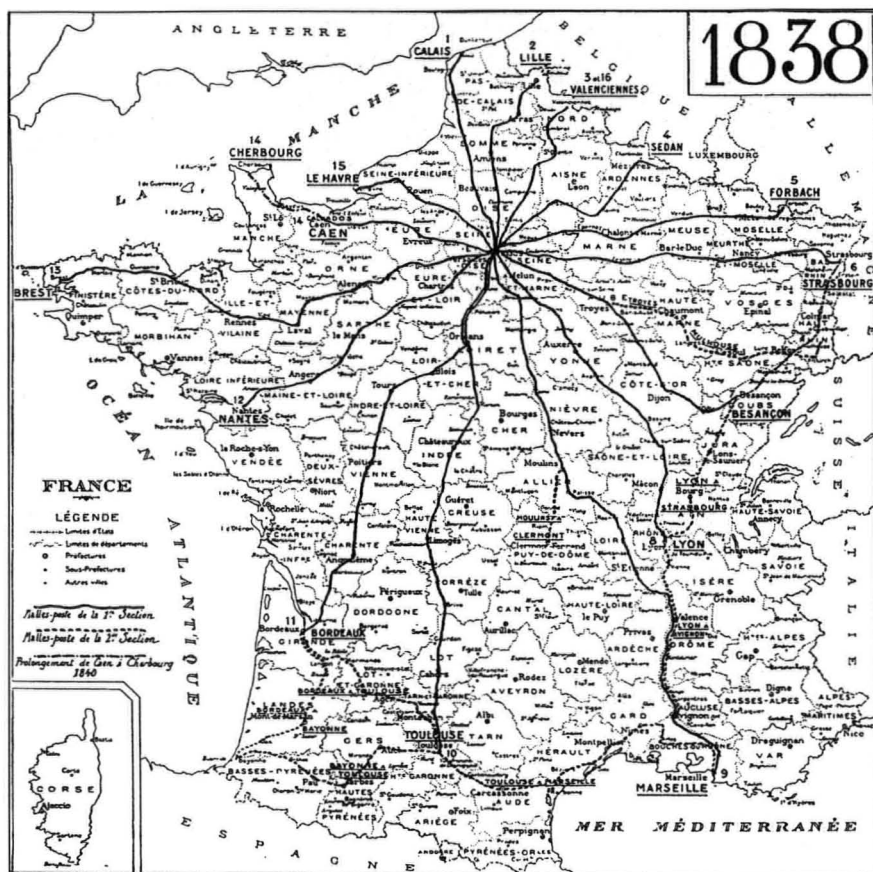


Figure 2. (reduced to 60%)



Figure 3.

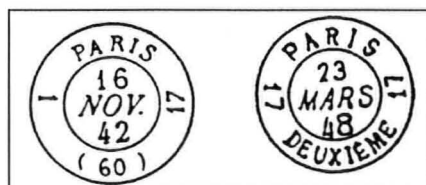


Figure 4.

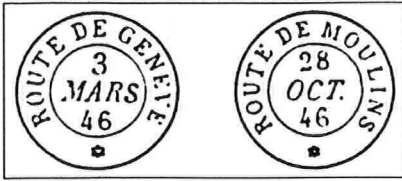


Figure 5.



Figure 6a.



Figure 7.



Figure 6. (reduced to 95%)

marks showing "Route No." at the top (Figure 7) and increasing the numbers from 17 to 20. There were also a number of special situation postmarks such as delay of train, special service, and express service (Figure 8a, 8b).

The use of rail postmarks was discontinued at the end of May 1850, and then reappeared on April 1, 1852 in two types: one with a number on the left indicating the time of departure and a number on the right signifying the rail route (Figure 9); the second type is similar, albeit slightly larger, and shows an amount for postage due at the bottom (Figure 10).

ROUTE N° 1	— Calais	.....
ROUTE N° 2	— Lille	.....
ROUTE N° 3	— Sedan	.....
ROUTE N° 4	— Strasbourg	.....
ROUTE N° 5	— Genève	.....
ROUTE N° 6	— Lyon	.....
ROUTE N° 7	— Marseille	.....
ROUTE N° 8	— Toulouse	.....
ROUTE N° 9	— Pau	.....
ROUTE N° 10	— Bordeaux	.....
ROUTE N° 11	— Tours et au-delà	..
ROUTE N° 12	— Brest	.....
ROUTE N° 13	— Cherbourg	.....
ROUTE N° 14	— Le Havre	.....
ROUTE N° 15	— (inconnue)	.....
ROUTE N° 16	— Bâle	.....
ROUTE N° 17	— Banlieue, puis Mar-	.....
	seille	.....
ROUTE N° 18	— Forbach	.....
ROUTE N° 19	— Montpellier	.....
ROUTE N° 20	— Nantes	.....

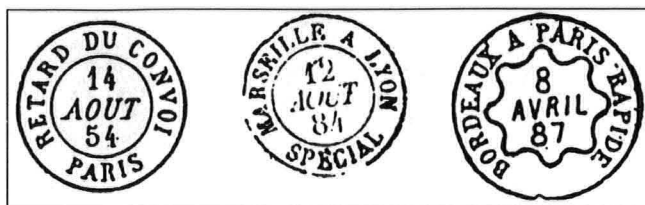


Figure 8.



Figure 8a. (reduced to 65%)

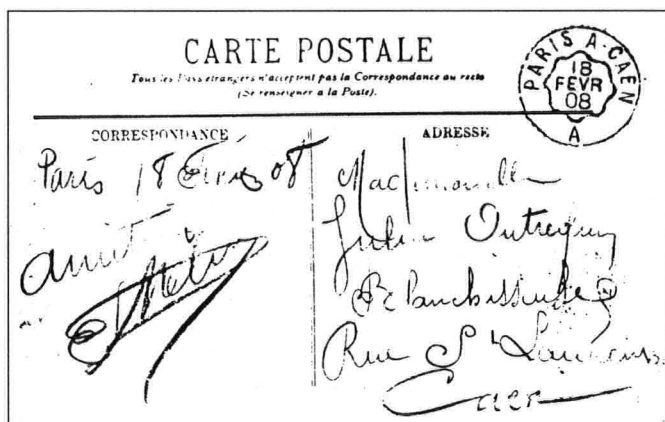


Figure 8b. (reduced to 65%)

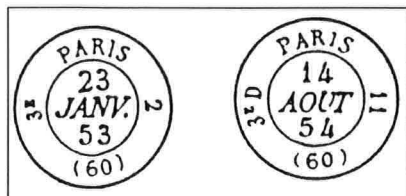


Figure 9.



Figure 10.

The French administration recognized the importance of safeguarding the mail carried by rail and by a decree of 7 July 1844<sup>4</sup> proposed special *voitures* (railroad cars) which were first placed in service on the Paris-Rouen line, using number 1 for departures from Paris at 7:30 p.m. and number 2 for return from Rouen at 1:00 a.m. (Figure 11). A stamp (Scott #472, Figure 12) commemorating the centennial of this service was issued in 1944 depicting an early mail car. A model of this type of mail car may be found in the Postal Museum in Paris. (See also Scott #B257, Figure 13 depicting a more modern mail-car interior, issued for Stamp Day 1951). Officials considered early experience on the Rouen line successful and in December



Figure 11.



Figure 12.

1845 authorized some 15 additional mail cars to be used, three each, on the lines between Paris and Le-Havre, Lille, Tours, Valenciennes and Vierzon. These mail cars became known as *bus-reaux ambulants* and the postmarks on mail carried by these main rail line cars are referred to as *ambulants*. Maury



Figure 13. (reduced to 65%)

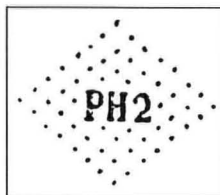


Figure 14.

in his extensive catalogue of markings<sup>5</sup> states that "before 1849 the numbers (on the right side of the postmark) probably indicate the mail train on which the letter arrived in Paris." During this period (1844-1852) it was reported<sup>6</sup> that there were 41 railroad postoffices, most beginning in Paris.

The familiar lozenge canceller or "killer" was provided to postoffices on January 1, 1852 and contained Roman letters plus a number (Figure 14) to identify the railroad line as follows:

- PC 1 or 2 Paris - Calais 1st or 2nd
- PH 1 or 2 Paris-LeHavre 1st or 2nd
- PL 1 or 2 Paris-Lyon 1st or 2nd
- PQ 1 or 2 Paris Quievrain 1st or 2nd
- PT 1 or 2 Paris Tours 1st or 2nd
- SM 1 or 2 Strasbourg-Mulhouse 1st or 2nd

Kremer stated that "The early railroad 'ligne' cancellations are extremely scarce on the stamps themselves as they were usually applied as transit marks on the backs of the envelopes."<sup>7</sup>

These cancellers were replaced in 1854 with lozenges bearing smaller non-sérif letters, expanded to identify both directions of the rail line, and accompanied by new circular dated postmarks (Figure 15). An octagonal center indicates

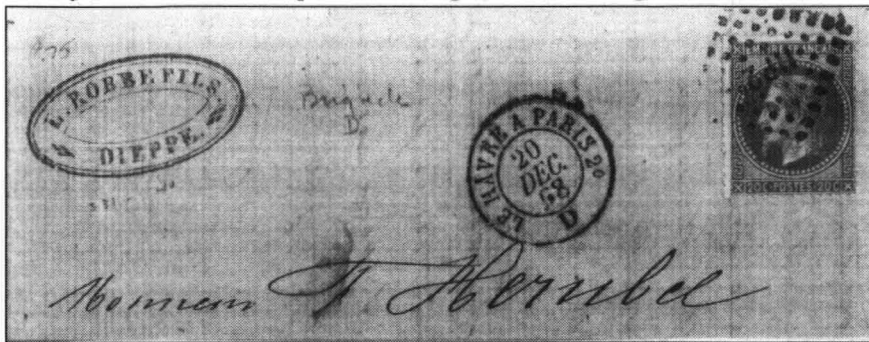


Figure 15. (reduced to 90%)

day service, and a circular center indicates - you guessed it. Some lines had many crews, called *brigades*, identified by a letter at the bottom of the accompanying postmark. Some important trunk lines, such as Paris-Bordeaux, had as many as ten crews, denoted from A to J. A star instead of a letter indicates there was only one crew. These crews at the inception of railcar service consisted of a chief, an assistant and *un garçon de bureau* (helper). As of 31 July 1870 there were 43 ambulant lines, 30 serving Paris, consisting of 156 crews of two to six men. At the end of 1879 there were some 82 ambulant lines, 52 serving Paris. These were all trunk lines, or at least major rail lines.

(continued in January 2003 issue)

## SOME NEW AND RECENT WEB SITES

- France & Colonies Philatelic Society, Inc. (N.Y.): [www.FCPS online.org](http://www.FCPS online.org)
- Society of Alsace-Lorraine Specialists (in French): [www.spal.asso.fr](http://www.spal.asso.fr)
- French postal rates 1876-1900 (Sage period); French registered and money-letter rates, 1870s-1880s (Dr. Thomas Berger): <http://de.geocities.com/tbbch/FHP/FHPindex.htm>
- French Offices in Ottoman Empire (in French) (Robert Desert): <http://perso.libertysurf.fr/robert.desert/index.htm>
- Society of Indo-China Philatelists: <http://www.imnahastamps.com/sicp/index/htm>
- Society for the study of stamps, postal markings and postal history of the French colonies, protectorates, mandated territories, etc. ("COL.FRA") (in French): <http://www.colfra.com>
- Académie de Philatélie (Paris) (in French): <http://mapage.noos.fr/academophilatelie/>
- Union Marcophile (society for the study of postal markings and history, mainly French) (in French): <http://www.union-marcophile.com>
- [Please advise the editor of any incorrectly tapped entries, and of other sites of potential interest to our readers, for future inclusion in this feature].

**AMAZING 1870/1871 WONDER STORIES--71****by Ernst M. Cohn (FCPS #1491)**

Thanks to the kindness of Brian Birch, we have another batch of Amazing stories. The first of them was printed in *The Stamp Lover* of January 1910, vol. 2, No. 8, p. 166 and is *In Praise of Philately* by Count Paul Durrieu. Ralph Wedmore translated part of the Count's speech on 11 May 1909 at a meeting of the Parisian Historical Society. Here is an excerpt of that translation:

Some of them [balloons], as it was feared they would, fell into the hands of the enemy. It occurred to certain persons that advantage might be taken of these probable accidents by using them as a means of influencing the spirits of the Prussian soldiers into whose hands the letters might fall. My father was born at Strasbourg, and for over twenty years held the post of receiver-general, which brought him constantly into communication with officials who knew no French. He was therefore familiar with the German language. During the siege, Arthur Maury, a leading dealer in postage stamps, who has left us a justly-honoured memoir, called on my father, and between them they thought out the idea of writing on the address side of the "balloon letters" four sentences in French and in German. These inscriptions, which were intended to discourage the Prussian soldiers, or to inoculate their minds with disturbing ideas, were as follows:- "Madmen that we are, shall we continue for ever to cut one another's throats for the pleasure and pride of Kings? Glory and conquest are crimes: defeat means envy and desire for vengeance." "One fight alone is just and holy, the fight for independence.- Paris defies the enemy: France, arise and destroy the invaders!"

To think that these objurgations, if read by the enemy, might influence them and perhaps tend to the cessation of hostilities, was a pleasant illusion. ...

Those of you interested in 1870/1871 mail have probably seen this stationery, which comes in all colors of the rainbow, of which only the dark and medium blue papers were available during the siege. In other words, these souvenirs were printed mostly after the war. While their French is flawless, if a bit bombastic, their German is awful. I have often wondered whether Maury had translated these phrases himself with the help of a dictionary. Now I learn that it was Count Durrieu who was so 'familiar' with the German language! What would the Count have thought if he learned that his German provoked a smile on the faces of the intended German readers?

His son thought that stamps "call for quite as much knowledge, perspicacity, and keenness of vision as is necessary to the numismatist or the bibliophile." So let us see what one author, writing for the PHILYMPIA souvenir issue of *Stamp Weekly* had to say about selected contents of Mrs. Augustine Fitzgerald's airmail collection, donated to the British Museum in 1942. He concentrated on the 1870/1871 Metz and Paris airmails in that collection.

His first amazing statement is that the siege of Paris commenced a fortnight after the siege of Metz. Here are the dates: Start of Metz siege 18 August 1870, start of Paris siege 18 September, end of Metz siege 27 October, end of Paris siege 28 January 1871. So what's a fortnight apart? The first Metz balloon left on 5 September, the first official Paris balloon on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, which seems to be as close to a fortnight as it gets. As we shall see, however, the writer had never heard of the first Metz balloon mail.



The next paragraph describes the pigeon telegrams of Metz, supposedly pelicles perfected by photographer Dagron; and the 'romantically named' Papillons de Metz. Here, the writer got the Paris pigeon mail confused, because Metz never did have any. The only two homing pigeons, flown out of Metz in a cage, were captured by the Germans and returned by flag of truce: As expected, this action stopped the balloon mail dead. Nor did the writer apparently know that 'papillons' is a term commonly applied to paper flimsies, though in this case they may have been named after Dr. Jeannel's friend, Dr. Papillon, who first conceived of the idea of sending (manned) balloons out of Metz with military messages. Thus far, I have not seen evidence that settles the question one way or the other.

Unaware of the first Metz balloon mail, started by Dr. Jeannel, the writer refers only to the second one, the first balloon of which flew on 16 September. Said collection contains one papillon postmarked on the 17<sup>th</sup>, supposedly *two* days after the balloon was launched. "This item, complete with its envelope, is of the greatest rarity, perhaps the only papillon known in this condition." It's hard to tell what he means by 'this condition,' but, though postmarked papillons and papillons under cover are rare, neither is unique. To prove that for one condition, at least, here (Figure 1) are photos of two papillons postmarked at

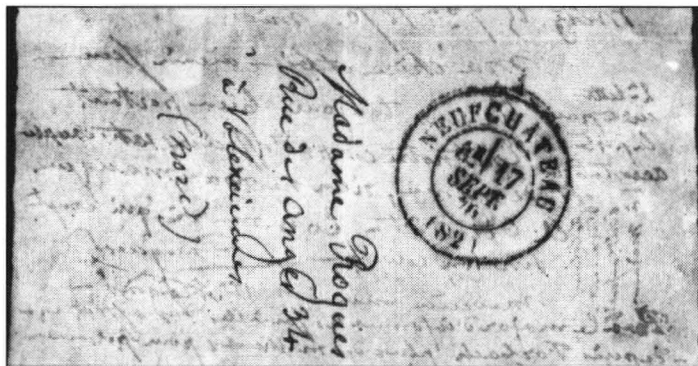
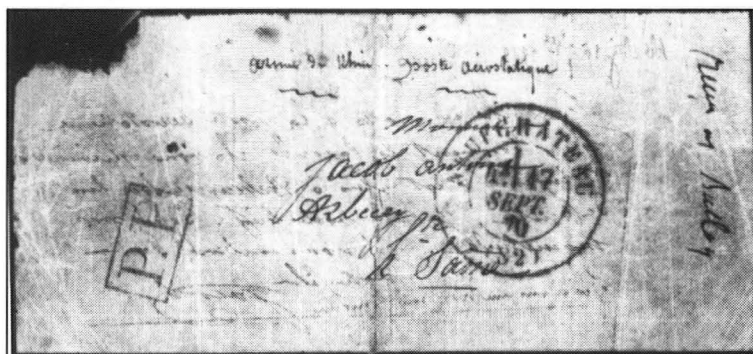


Figure 1.

Neufchâteau, (from where they were posted after their balloon landed) taken many years ago for the reference files of M. Brun, whose grandson kindly had them copied for me.

The writer's Metz story reminded me of what had happened to me years ago, when a friend asked whether I might help him acquire a papillon de Metz with a proper cds, price being no object. I knew that he could afford it, so I told him that I knew one of which I had kept track because it had been offered by a French firm in several of their auctions. Since they had estimated its value consistently at what was then about \$5,000, which I considered reasonable, I told him that I thought he could get it at that price, because no one had snapped it up for months. "Do you think I would pay that much money for it?" Well, so much for 'at any price.'

To return to our story, the writer, showing off his linguistic prowess, mentions that the then new Gibbons catalogue dealt with *balons mountes* - or was that perhaps the erudite editor who corrected the writer's French? Later on, we find 'ballon monte,' however, in connection with one of Correspondent Seinguerlet's letters to a Frankfurt newspaper that 'seems to have got through enemy territory unscatched.' Well, perhaps it did, but a couple of his reports are known to have been sent, still unopened, to the *Frankfurter Zeitung*, to which they were addressed, at the time of the ILA, the international air travel exhibition of 1909!

The paper remarked about that occurrence at the time but had no explanation as to what had happened to the reports in the meantime. We now know, from research done in the then East German archives by Friedrich Spalink, that Paris mail for the North German Confederation was not supposed to be delivered, though exceptions to that rule are also known.

The last item dealing with the Fitzgerald collection is a description of the two cachets applied to mail that was personally entrusted to balloon pilots, of which the scarcer is rendered as "Republique Francaise DARTOIS and YON, AEROSTIERS DU GOUVERNEMENT." Never mind the absence of accents and a cedilla, nor the presence of 'and' instead of '&'. But would you believe the two men are called AÉRONAUTES and not that other AERO word?! The writer presumably had had the strike in front of him, but it seems never to have registered in his mind.

In the first instance, we learn of a real piece of information concerning Maury and his (mostly post-war) products. In the second instance, the writer is entertaining us with a surprising number of non-facts. He is not the only such writer, of course. And as long as their writings are read purely for entertainment, no harm is done. But when writers, auction lotters, and catalogers make such statements in all seriousness, then buyers of philatelic material may get seriously hurt in the pocketbook. Alternatively, buyers may benefit from the ignorance of sellers, but then again these sellers are harming the pocketbooks of the owners who use their services. Clearly, it is best to keep informed, whether buying, selling, or simply enjoying yourself.

Photos made available through the kindness of Jean-François Brun.

## PERIODIC UPDATE ON FRENCH MILITARY POST OFFICES

Very-short duration (with postal markings probably to become scarce commodities) are (1) **BPM** (Bureau Postal Militaire) **126**, opened 29 September 2001 and closed a month later on 30 October (Figure 1). It served the French contingent during the inter-Allied exercise "Bright Star" at Moubarak City, Egypt; and (2) **BPM 626**, for the French contingent with the UN mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea, based at Asmara, Eritrea. This BPM opened 5 June 2001 and closed 7 December of that year.



**BPM 241** opened 22 February 2002 at the Manas air base in Kirghistan, to serve personnel offering air support to the Allied forces in Afghanistan. **BPM 240** had opened

earlier (8 January 2002) in Kabul, serving the French military and humanitarian presence in Afghanistan.

Meanwhile, back in former Yugoslavia, **BPM 665** in Pristina, Kosovo Province (opened 11 April 2000) received, in September 2000, a SATAS-SEG postage meter (Figure 2) and a SECAP-HM single-circle plus five undulating lines canceling machine, because of increased postal traffic at that facility. And **BPM 662**, at Kumanovo, Macedonia from 15 December 1998, was transferred (still within Macedonia) 16 October 2000 to Petrovec near the Skopje airport. On 10 June 1999, this BPM received a SATAS-SEG postage meter but no machine canceller. (From information by Pierre Couesnon, in *Timbres Magazine* Nos. 22 and 24, 2002).



--S. J. Luft

### Auction of the Richard Benjamin Collection of France

As this issue goes to press, it's our understanding that the bulk of Dick Benjamin's collection of France will be auctioned this November or early in December. In large part, the material should consist of stamps and covers, prestamp to pre-World War II, specialized cancel collections, plating studies, literature, etc. Dick tried to collect quality material, to the extent possible.

To obtain a copy of the catalogue or to view the lots on the web, contact: Schuyler J. Rumsey Auctions, Inc., 1255 Post Street, Suite 1000, San Francisco, CA 94909, USA. Phone 415-351-2124; Fax 415-351-2127; e-mail: [srumsey@rumseyauctions.com](mailto:srumsey@rumseyauctions.com); website [www.rumseyauctions.com](http://www.rumseyauctions.com)

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**Q. 02.5.** This 36-mm-diameter, non-postal cancel (Figure 1) struck in blue, showing KWILU-NIADI/GRANTVILLE and, in center, a flag with one star, does not appear in Salles' tome III. It was brought to my attention by a brief, recent(?) article on the marking by Peter Storm van Leeuwen. The Belgian Congo (or rather the Belgian king's fiefdom's) postal card was backstamped upon arrival at Bomo, the Belgian Congo port near the mouth of the Congo River, 23 October 1888. Thus, it appears to be a strictly Belgian-related item. But then Mr. Van Leeuwen states that Kwilu-Niadi was the name of the basin of the Niadi River west of Stanley Pool [therefore in the French Congo] and that Grantville was a post on the coast north of Banana and Cabinda, and was within French-controlled territory as of 1885.

Well, what do we have here? In this a ship (or river boat) marking or some other administrative marking? And was it of French or of Belgian origin, even though the card traveled exclusively within Belgian territory? (AJM).

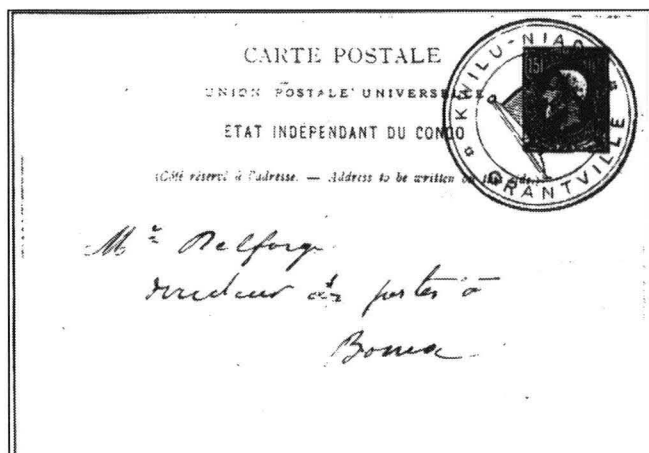


Figure 1  
(reduced to 70%)

**A. 02.1.** By way of Bill Mitchell, Hal Hoyte of the Belgian Congo Study Circle essays an answer: "... is it possible that the '150 K' on the cachet could refer to distance 'Km' rather than weight? That, however, is still rather short of the distance from Brazzaville to Matadi. We do know that the early Congo internal postcards were inscribed 'Service de l'interieur et des pays limitrophes jusques et y compris Libreville au Nord et Mossamedes au Sud.' On the 1900 Internal card the inscription extends this 'au Nord de la Colonie Britannique de la Côte d'Or et au Sud la Colonie Allemande du Sud-Ouest Africain.' Was this concession reciprocal, and did it extend to other forms of mail, and how long did it last? Was the cachet perhaps applied in error, the clerk not knowing the actual distance?"

Bill Mitchell, writing extensively on various possibilities, comes up with the following thoughts: 35c being the basic domestic France/Colonial registered letter rate at the time (1910), could this franking represent a concessional frontier rate, even though Brazzaville and Matadi are quite far apart? The letter most likely went entirely by rail, the direct connection hav-

ing existed since 1898. "AFRIQUE & CONGO" might refer to this line, whose more correct name was "Chemin de Fer du Congo." And the "FRET GRATUIT 150K" could perhaps mean "Freightage free 150 K" -- perhaps a Belgian marking that could possibly mean that no charge was made by the Belgians (the railway?) for carriage of (French) Congo mail within (Belgian) Congo, provided total weight of consignment did not exceed 150 kg? I'm really overextending my conjectures but, whatever the real explanation, the marking must be very rare and the cover most desirable. (WGM).

- A. 02.4. Answering my own question, I understand that the "B<sup>te</sup> S.G.D.G." on enclosed postage stamp stands for "Breveté Sans Garantie Du Gouvernement" (Licensed or Registered Without the Guaranty of the Government), which probably means the "coin" is OK but lacks the backing of the government. (JMM).

### JACQUES A. MUSY (FCPS #16) 1916-2001

The June *American Philatelist* recorded the passing last year of our founding member. Jacques—The Magician—Musy of Valrico, Florida. I first heard his name when I started plating the 25c of 1871, part of an exchange circuit including Ray Smith, Stan Luft, and Harold Metzger. Jacques had a Basque temperament and at first was suspicious of any newcomer to his private circuit. Initial inquiries came back with curt notes in the margin—Buzz off!

When he divorced his first wife, Jacques found himself short of cash and for the first time had to sell some stamps rather than trading which he preferred. In 1974 when he brought material to NYC for auction, he drove up in an old puddle-jumper, dropped off the stamps, said hello, and drove on to Connecticut to load up the trunk with some rocks to line his walkway. My favorite cover, a "Faux d'Oran" cover which was used in the prosecution of the forger, came from that sale. Jacques had liberated it when he was in the U.S. army during WWII in Algeria. He had made friends with a local at the Court who found it for him in the files, but he claimed that he couldn't remember what he traded for it.

In 1982 I did one of my APS judging apprenticeships at SARAPEX, and took the opportunity to visit Jacques in his small trailer home in Valrico. Having lived in a trailer while in college, I knew about cramped quarters, but nothing had prepared me for a home filled to the ceiling with stamps and his wife's doll collection. Jacques liked also to dabble in real estate, rental housing particularly. He claimed that any spacious quarters were for renting, his trailer was comfortable and cozy enough for them, thank you.

After his second wife died, Jacques got lonely and decided to look up his high-school sweetheart in South Carolina, Selethiel. His correspondence relating the courtship is fascinating. He also liked to stick little cards or clippings in his letters, and one which I shall cherish read. "I don't want to be born again—got it right the first time."

JEL

### CORRECTIONS

Re our masthead, our Webmaster's e-mail address should have read kris@spyril.net (and not spvral). Our apologies for the one letter typo, which is not something that Spellcheck could ever catch.

N° 269, July 2002, p. 92, line 2 should read Bertrand (not Bernard) Sinais.

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## MEMBERS' APPEALS

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**OFFER:** Large accumulations of post-WWII Belgian Congo stamps and commercially used covers; would like to trade for similar commercial covers from various French colonies in Africa. Alan Morvay, P.O. Box 48195, Los Angeles, CA 90048. (Mb. #3167).

**WANTED:** Mint post-WWII French issues in trade for other mint French or German post-WWII issues. Will trade French stamps at catalog for catalog or at face for face; will trade German stamps for French stamps at catalog for catalog. Send for list of needed stamps and available trades. Mark Anderson, P.O. Box 3, Montgomery, AL 36101; e-mail [wmaiii@att.net](mailto:wmaiii@att.net) (Mb. #2931).

**WANTED TO BUY:** France 80-centimes stamps (Scott 152, 232, 273) used on cover and off-cover with readable cancels from 1926-1940. Also want to buy France 80-centimes stamps (Scott 49 and 63) on cover to unusual destinations. Dudley B. Thomas, 22 Cherokee Court East, Palm Coast, FL 32137; e-mail [thom387@attglobal.net](mailto:thom387@attglobal.net) (Mb. #3203).

**OFFER:** Stamps of France and other European countries from 25% of Scott. Price lists available. Eugene Meyer, P.O. Box 11303, Bradenton, FL 34282-1303. (Mb. #2911).

## TYPES AND SUBTYPES

### The Pasteur Issues

The few generally-agreed upon Pasteur types are all difficult to distinguish. Theoretically, all flat-plate Pasteurs should be of different types than the rotary-plate ones. In actuality, it may be more fruitful to use the following criteria: Flat-plate stamps are more clearly printed and their designs are 21.5 mm high. Rotary-plate stamps tend to look muddy or at least less well printed than the flat-plate ones, and their designs are 22 mm high.

The most recognizable types are:

**45c red:** Type I (rotary-plate sheets), and Type II (commemorative postal cards): note shape of the 4 of value [but then, how could one confuse an adhesive stamp with an imprinted indicia on card!].

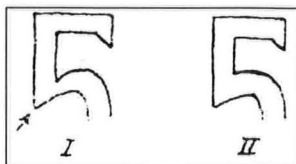
**50c blue:** Type I (flat-plate sheets), and Type II (very rare rotary-plate coils): again, note shape of the 5 of value.

**75c:** Type I (both flat-plate sheets **and** rotary-plate coils--suggesting that type differences may someday be discerned), printed in **blue**; Type II (imprinted postal cards), printed in **red**. No confusion possible.

**1F:** Type I (rotary-plate sheets): open curves in the S of PASTEUR; Type II (rare rotary-plate coils): upper curve of the S more closed.



45c



50c



1F



## RANDOM EDITORIAL JOTTINGS

Due to the necessity for timely publication of tributes to Bob Stone and of Dick Benjamin's obituary, and to cooperative efforts with the British F&CPS (Index to Amazing 1870/1871 Wonder Stories; Airmail Letter Rates from French West Africa), our people at Woodward Printing Services worked real hard to give the July issue more bang for the buck--at our customary 32 pages. That crowded issue was forced to suffer from minimal quantity and variety of articles, extra use of smaller type, temporary elimination of illustrations of new issues, and temporary loss of some regular features. We hope you hardly noticed. We also hope that these circumstances were unusual ones, and that we can return to some sort of normalcy with the present issue.

With the passing of Jacques Musy (see his obituary notice in this issue) our Society has now lost, not only its last founding member, but also all those whose membership numbers were below the one hundred mark. *C'est triste* and, most unfortunately, that's the natural order of things, and our Society shall continue to exist and hopefully, to thrive.

We're starting a new Regular (or occasional?) Feature with this issue, namely a listing of germane internet web sites. I seldom can find the time to peer into such sites (hell, I don't even do eBay!), but I'd appreciate (1) feedback from those of you who will be downloading them--or are unable to because I got one letter wrong, and (2) the opportunity to learn from you about additional sites of interest, so as to list them here. Thanks!

For the time being, we're not actively pursuing new articles (but will welcome them regardless), to give those patiently awaiting their turn the opportunity to appear in print. However, I'd like to suggest to you all to consider boning-up on and writing about current subjects (the kind that collecting doesn't require financial ruin). The possibilities may be endless, but those that come to mind include modern stamp-printing techniques, the mystique of unusual perforations (heart-shaped, football-shaped, etc.), modern meters, self-service stamp and/or cancellation devices, *lettres suivies*, new dimensions in La Poste cartons for parcels, newly created mail services, etc., etc. Opportunities abound! Please think about it.

Had sent out advisory notices through my e-mail list, regarding the upcoming auction of Dick Benjamin's France collection. Several persons were either undeliverable or unknown, according to my server. So please, Dick Winter, Jim Taylor, Ernie Fricks, Derek Richardson and Bob Szymanski, let me know how to reach you.

## A COVER STORY

Sometimes a nondescript, sorry-looking envelope may have some hidden, fascinating information to reveal, as is the case of this letter sent with a single, common 50c red lined Sower (Scott 146, Yvert and Cérés 199).

Sent way underpaid from Paris on 7/6/1927 to China, it arrived at Hankow 10/8/27 and was taxed there 14c in Chinese currency (Scott J46 and 47). The due stamps were obliterated with a Chinese "cancelled" marking. It received two "unknown" markings. Forwarded to Shanghai, it bears a Shanghai circular date stamp of 12/21/27. The Chinese script marking says "See French Legation." Letter then marked "unclaimed" and "Return to Sender"--this last applied in France. The French post office then awoke, and taxed the letter a 2 francs penalty rate on 5/4/1928 and returned it to the Paris sender.

Fortunately the enclosure was still in the envelope. It had been sent to a member of the group called "Promotion de Tananarive," stating that a sword





## REVIEW

*La Poste Aérienne Française: Tome I, Les compagnies composantes d'Air France - 1909/1938; Les lignes africaines - 1922/1940* [The companies that eventually formed Air France; The airlines in Africa]; 167 pp., 24 x 33 cm, soft covers. And *Tome II*, which covers later (1930-2000) airlines, flights, airmail services, etc.; 155 pp., same format. Tome I is *Revue Icare* N° 173, and Tome II is *Revue Icare* N° 177; 21.34 euros **each**, postpaid, preferably with major credit cards, from Revue ICARE, Boite Postale 10955 Tremblay en France, F-95733 Roissy CDG Cedex, France.

As can be expected from ICARE productions, these two volumes on the history of French airmail are handsome picture books, with minimal text, that only lack the heavy-duty bindings of cocktail-table literature. Both volumes are beautifully and faithfully illustrated, mainly in color, and show numerous flown covers, stamps and vintage airline posters (all of these in color), plus black and white photos of pilots and other worthies and their planes, flight maps, etc.

Unlike the other Icare books I own--the now "classic" three-volume set dealing mainly with the air operations of the 1870-1871 Franco-German War, the new ones reviewed here carry only the barest minimum of text, and that is my only qualm. But then, what's really better than to study these illustrations of great covers from the past, picturesque and artistic posters, and photos of the brave pilots who risked their lives (and eventually did) while carrying the mails, and of their now most quaint looking planes.

There is also a Tome III (N° 179, at the same price). I have no idea as to what could be left to cover in this third volume, and I don't expect to purchase it. Probably too modern and current for my personal taste, I'm afraid. I'm glad I picked up the more "classic" twosome, and I recommend them highly to anyone interested in pioneer (and later) aviation and airmail, whether their collecting preference be France or the Colonies, or those more southerly continents that were linked with France by air.

-- S. J. Luft

## RECENT CHANGES IN PARIS POSTAL NOMENCLATURE

By a decision of 1 June 1992, the single *direction* that served for all of Paris was divided into five *directions*, as shown here courtesy of R. Charbonnier (*Feuilles Marcophiles*, N° 309, 2002):

Paris Centre (Arrondissements 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10)

Paris Nord (Arrondissements 8, 17, 18)

Paris Sud (Arrondissements 5, 6, 13, 14)

Paris Est (Arrondissements 11, 12, 19, 20)

Paris Ouest (Arrondissements 7, 15, 16)

Then, by decision of 21 March 2000, these five *directions* were reduced to three:

Paris Nord-Ouest (ex-Centre and Nord)

Paris Sud-Ouest (ex-Sud and Ouest)

Paris Est (unchanged)

At present, these changes seem to be required only on official and commercial mail, most particularly on metered mail (Figure 1). Bit by bit and quite slowly, Paris date

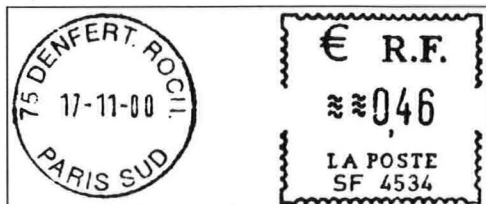
















Figure 1

stamps and metered imprints have been changed to reflect these modifications. However, as I write these words in mid-July 2002, I have yet to receive any Paris mail bearing the 1992 modifications, much less the 2000 ones.

-- S. J. Luft

[NDLR: Dick Benjamin probably never got around to writing an article on French philately, certainly not for our Journal. Many years ago, he sent me, for my edification, a copy of a page from one of his collections. We are reproducing it here (unfortunately much reduced in his memory)]

## REASSIGNED NUMBERS (GC) OF TOWNS CEDED TO GERMANY IN 1871 FROM ALSACE-LORRAINE

REASSIGNED NUMBERS (GC) OF TOWNS CEDED TO GERMANY IN 1871 FROM ALSACE-LORRAINE	
 <p>-94- St.-Gobert (2) [May, 1874]; from Andlau-au-Val (67).</p>	 <p>2578 Fallon (69) [February, 1875]; from Mulhouse (66).</p>
 <p>177 Givonne (7) [April, 1874]; from Ars-sur-Moselle (55).</p>	 <p>3105 Guerard (73) [November, 1874]; from Remilly (55).</p>
 <p>1276 Tricot (58) [April, 1874]; from Dannemarie (66).</p>	 <p>3154 Beuzeval (13) [June, 1875]; from Rixheim (66).</p>
 <p>1288 Tincques (61) [May, 1874]; from Delme (52).</p>	 <p>3494 Auchel (61) [June, 1875]; from St.-Amarin (66).</p>
 <p>1392 Rom (75) [April, 1874]; from Einsisheim (66).</p>	 <p>3725 Pezilla-de-la-Rivière (65) [September, 1875]; from St.-Louis (66).</p>
 <p>1824 Camp du Richard (36) [June, 1875, temporary]; from Ingwilla (47).</p>	 <p>4036 Mareil-en-France (72) [Oct- ober, 1875]; from Truchters- heim (67).</p>
 <p>2227 St.-Amand-sur-Fion (49) [February, 1875]; from Marmoutier (67).</p>	 <p>4796 St.-Géours-de-Marenne (39) [February, 1876]; from Westhoffen (67).</p>

(reduced to 60%)

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## FOR THE RECORD

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(Continued from #269, July 2002, p. 89)

- **824.)** The freight-plus-passenger steamer *Ipanema* was requisitioned early in World War II to serve as a submarine tender, taking the name CROISEUR AUXILIAIRE X-43. According to Sinais and Delhomez (*Catalogue des Oblitérations Navales Françaises 1771-1945* (Philaprint, Le Havre, 1970, p. 28) its postal agency was open from 26 December 1939 to 31 July 1940, and its hexagonal date stamp was again put to use in 1943 (Figure 1) by the Naval Bureau of Tunis. Later investigations indicate that the auxiliary cruiser was in Martinique February-April 1940 and then at Oran (June 1940). It was returned to civilian use around October 1940. All of the very scarce markings known date from 1943-1945, and were used at Tunis and not on the ship. **No postal markings have, to date, been recorded from the 1939-1940 period.**



Figure 1

- **825.)** During the Franco-German War of 1870-1871, letters from the military needed no stamps and therefore generally lack killers. An exception was made for money (CHARGÉ) letters and, I understand also for overweight letters and those to foreign destinations. Figure 2 (Lot 150 of Roumet's Spring

2002 net-price sale) is a rare (and very expensively priced)

CHARGÉ

letter from the Armée du Rhin's Bureau K, 13 August 1870, bearing 40c and 20c Empire Laurés

which are struck with A.R.A.K.

killers of Bureau K.



Figure 2

- **826.)** Parcels could be held at the destination post office for short periods, for the convenience of the recipient, according to a decree of 27 June 1892 (R. Boutserin, in SPAL's *Trait-d'Union* N° 108, 2002). A small daily fee was charged, payable in postage stamps or postage-due stamps, for this *droit de magasinage*, and formules for the service were prepared for such use (Figure 3), through locally printed versions also exist. Fees, of course, tended to rise with inflation. It appears that this service may have died with the 1940 Fall of France. M. Boutserin hopes to receive additional information on formules, fees, and dates of use for the service, via your Editor.

Bureau de poste de Colmar

**Bulletin de droits de magasinage.**

Colis postal N° 648 Val. décl. ....


fr. .... Remb. .... fr. ....

Bureau de dépôt Lib. 3

Date de dépôt 7/9 Date de la  
première présentation du colis, de la mise à la disposi-  
tion de l'ayant droit: 8/9

nombre de jours de magasinage soumis à la taxe de  
0 fr. 25 par jour: 7 jours

x 0.25 fr. .... 1.75

Cadre réservé  contenant le droit de

1929 D 211 à 8

Figure 3

- 827.) In the catalogue of his 62nd auction sale of November 2001, Maurice Boule showed (Lot 489) a Bavarian 3 kreutzer stamp used 9 September 1870 on an envelope from Wissembourg (Bas-Rhin) to Prussia, with two strikes of the Bavière-Wissemb. entry marking used as departure markings (Figure 4). This is a very scarce and unusual usage of a Bavarian stamp, in lieu of perhaps as-yet-



Figure 4

undistributed Occupation ("Alsace-Lorraine") stamps, as well as of the entry date stamp as a departure marking. The lot sold below estimate, at 38,000 Fr.

- **828.)** Pre-ordained first-day-of-issue sales and use of U.S. stamps are now a constant occurrence. This was not the case for 19th Century French stamps, though new EKDs (earliest known dates) do appear at times in the philatelic press. Here's a fresh one: 28 June 1854 for the 20c imperforate Empire (Scott 15, Yvert 14), or three days before the domestic letter rate was lowered from 25c to 20c and before that stamp was supposed to be released. The cover was **not** taxed for the deficiency, apparently because the 20c stamp and the older 25c one (Sc 17, Yv 15) are identical except for their value tablets.
- **829.)** Alan Morvay provides another example of West African mail to Belgium via France (see *FCP* N° 268, April 2002), this time from Boma, Belgium Congo, offloaded at Pauillac (down the Gironde estuary from Bordeaux) and taken to the Bordeaux rail station (Figure 5) for canceling with Salles N°



Figure 5 (reduced to 65%)

293). Salles says this machine cancel was used 1931-1939, but makes no mention of a Belgian Congo origination, only of French West African ones. The cover was carried on the ship *Asie* of the Bordeaux-Matadi line, which left Matadi 7 January 1910, stopped at Boma, and arrived at Bordeaux on 29 January, thus a very early use of this postmark.

- **830.)** To the long list of French maritime-entry markings, we may now add another, *Pays d'Outremer / par* [with space after the "par" for writing in the port of entry] (Figure 6). Jack Stalain (*Documents Philatéliques*, N° 172, 2002) illustrates the two known examples, both struck in blue, and both of which entered at LeHavre in 1844. The first to be discovered had been considered to be either a local production or a fakery, but M. Stalain also shows it as part of an inventory of handstamps in current use as of July 1868, that is retained in the Musée de la Poste at Paris. He believes that it was applied at Paris on incoming mail carried in closed mail bags.

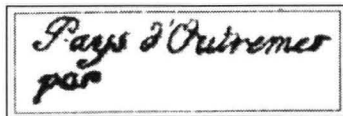


Figure 6



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## NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS AND CATALOGUES

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- *Catalogue Farcigny des enveloppes et cartes Premier Jour 2002* [2002 edition of the Farcigny First-Day cover catalog]; 172 pages, color illustrations, uses Yvert numbers; 21,65€ (+ postage outside France?), from Editions Jean Farcigny, 39 rue d'Estienne d'Orves, F-92400 Courbevoie, France. (Apparently also includes First Days of the French overseas Depts., Andorra and Monaco).
- *Catalogue Yvert & Tellier 2002--Tome 1--France*, 512 pp., 14,95€ (+ postage beyond France); *Tome 1bis--Monaco* [plus EUROPA, UN and Andorra], 336 pp., 9,15€ (+ postage beyond France), from the usual sources.
- *The James Bendon Listing of Philatelic Literature* (February 2002 edition), free upon request from James Bendon Ltd., PO Box 56484, 3307 Limassol, Cyprus; e-mail [books@JamesBendon.com](mailto:books@JamesBendon.com); can be seen on [www.JamesBendon.com](http://www.JamesBendon.com) (as usual, numerous titles on all philatelic subjects, including some francophone ones).
- Ronald G. Shelley, *The Postal History of the International Brigades in Spain 1936-1939*; 2nd ed., (2000); 184 pp. A4 format, soft cover, perfect bound, illustrated; inquire of the author, at 9 Chanctonbury Rd., Hove, East Sussex BN3 6EL, England. (This new, updated edition can be useful to readers who wish to learn about the personnel and dispositions of the French, etc. volunteers).
- *La Poste Aérienne Française*, tomes I and II; published by ICARE, Revue Icare, Boite Postale 10955 Tremblay en France, F-95733 Roissy CDG cedex, France; about 22 euros each, major credit cards accepted. (Both are well written and beautifully illustrated histories of French airmail. Tome I (ICARE N° 173) covers the pre-Air France and the African lines, 1909-1940; Tome II (ICARE N° 177) covers the period from 1933-onward).
- Jean-Philippe Desjeunes, *Etude des variétés aux types des timbres du Maroc* [Study of the varieties on stamps of Morocco]; 39 plus pp., softbound, illustrated in color; \$35 (US) or \$50 (Canadian), inquire for elsewhere, from author at 6691 - 25E Ave., Montreal, Quebec H1T 3L8, Canada. (Overprint varieties on the Blanc, Mouchon and Merson types of French Morocco).
- *La Poste dans l'Oise des origines à 1904*; 240 pp., card bound, 200 color illustrations; 40 euros (+ 5 euros postage in France, more elsewhere?) payable to Groupement des Clubs Philatéliques de l'Oise, from Mme. Martine Divay, 21 rue H. Dupriez, F-60300 Aumont-en-Halatte, France.
- *Catalogue DOMPHIL Monaco 2002 - Spécialisé*; 480 pp; 31,50 euros postpaid (in France), from Librairie Service de Timbres Magazine, 6 rue du Sentier, F-75080 Paris cedex 02. (New edition brought to date to July 2001).
- Robert Gregnac-Daudemard, *La Poste aux Lettre dans le département du Var*, vol. III (Bureaux de direction et de distributions; 66 pp. A5 format; 11,02 euros postpaid (in France), from Musée Régional du Timbre et de la Philatélie, "Le Château," Boite Postale 51, F83340 Le Luc-en-Provence, France. (Covers these two classes of postoffices to 1848; value indices, documents, black-and-white illustrations. For first two volumes, see N°265, July 2001, p. 94).
- Michel Frick, *Les Dépôts de Prisonniers de Guerre de l'Axe en Alsace et en Moselle (1945-1948)*; (2002); 204 pp. A4 format, soft covers, numerous black-and-white illustrations; 23 euros (+ postage); published by SPAL; inquire of André Lader, 52 rue de Monswiller, F-67700 Saverne, France, or by e-mail: [spal@wanadoo.fr](mailto:spal@wanadoo.fr) (Detailed study of the mail, etc. of the camps for Axis POWs in Alsace-Lorraine following World War II).
- Alain Demeraux, *Catalogues des Marques Postales et Oblitérations de Forbach*; detailed, well-illustrated study, published by SPAL; 20 euros (+ postage); inquire of André Lader [see above entry].



- J.-J. Agadiche, *Cachets postaux et marques illustrées des bâtiments de la Marines Nationale* [Postal and illustrated markings of ships of the French Navy], (2001); 26 euros (postpaid in France), from J.-J. Agadiche, 5 rue du Petit Moulin, F-29200 Brest, France.
- Jacques Meriaux, *Les affranchissements mécaniques dans la Marine Nationale* [Machine cancels of the French Navy], tomes 1 and 2; both volumes for 10 euros (+ postage?), from Roger Lagarde, 4 rue Eugène Delacroix, F-33320 Eysines, France.
- R. Gregnac-Daudemard, *Oblitérations manuelles du Var TàD à cercle continu - 2 (1884-1959)* [Full-circle hand cancels of the Var Dept. (1884-1959)]; 7.50 euros (+ postage) from the author, at "Colline," Bd. Des Arbousiers, F-83210 Ste.-Maxime, France. (Author continues to correct and add to earlier versions).
- Claude Ablard, *Les prisonniers de guerre français détenus par la Wehrmacht pendant la Seconde Guerre mondiale* [French POWs held by the Wehrmacht during WWII]; Suppl. to *Feuilles Marcophiles* N° 307; 88 pp., 30 x 21 cm, black and white illustrations; 15 euros, payable to the Union Marcophile, 47 rue de Maubeuge, F-75009 Paris. (Examples of the formules and mail used to and from French POWs held by the Germans during WWII, with official documentation).
- Charles Rioust, *La Lettre Taxée au XX<sup>ème</sup> Siècle* [Taxed French domestic mail of the 20th Century]; 277 pp., A4 format; illustrated in color; 36 euros (+ 4 euros postage in France, more elsewhere?), from the author at 4 rue Wall, F-30000 Nîmes, France. (Study of internal taxed mail from each of the tariff periods, illustrated by mail of the periods, with comments regarding unusual situations; includes valuations).
- Maurice Lange & Dope Tarier, *Essai de Repertoire des vignettes privés non postales et non fiscales de l'Indochine française, du Cambodge, du Laos et du Viet Nam* [Study of the non-postal and non-fiscal vignettes, labels and markings of Indo-China, Cambodia, Laos and Viet-Nam]; details of the publication not communicated; priced at 6,09€ (+ postage); inquire of Maurice Lange, 100 avenue de Paris, F-78000 Versailles, France; e-mail: pvlange@aol.com
- Michèle Chauvet, *Les relations de la France avec l'Espagne de 1660 à 1849*; (2002); 286 pp., A4 format; numerous black and white illustrations; 55€ (+ 6,25€ postage), from Echo de la Timbrologie, 37 rue des Jacobins, F-80036 Amiens, France (Fax +03.22.71.71.89) or from Brun & Fils, 85 Galerie Beaujolais, Palais Royal, F-75001 Paris (e-mail: brunphilatelieatiscali.fr). [Study of the various tariffs (some 11 during this period of less than 200 years), postal markings and their significance of both countries, tables, covers, documents, etc., from the preeminent student of French prephilatelic postal history].
- Pierre Mayer, *Catalogue des timbres de la Libération* (8th edition); 112 pp., 15 x 21 cm, illustrated in color; 46€ (+ postage) from the author, at 4 rue Drouot, F-75009 Paris. [New edition of the well-known catalog of Liberation overprints, plus those of Dunkerque-Coudekerque, ilot de St.-Nazaire, and RF overprints on US airmails].
- *Dallay catalogue 2002-2003*: France, in 672 pp., 15 x 21 cm, color illustrations; 20€ (+ postage); Andorra, Monaco, TAAF, Europa, in 440 pp., 15 x 21 cm; 17€ (+ postage); from many of the usual sources. [Not as widely accepted as the Yvert or Cérès catalogs, but has much merit and gives considerable information on varieties, coins datés, essays, unissued items, etc.].

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

- Jacques Benezra, specialist and author of numerous studies on all aspects of Moroccan philately, passed away 25 November 2001. He was a founding member of SPLM, the society for the study of Moroccan and Tunisian philately, whose journal is *Le Rekkas*.
- Another *Neptune* has surfaced. This *ballon monté* bears a 20c Lauré, cancelled by ambulant BP1° and kissed by a day train Bordeaux à Paris 1°/A, 24 SEP 70 date stamp. At left is a rather faint red Aérostier cachet from the short-lived Nadar-Dartoir-Duruof partnership; arrival backstamp is 25 September. All details seem to be correct and the cover seems to be a genuine *Neptune*-flight item.  
(Jamet-Baudot  
184th auction, June  
2002, Lot 2239).
- At left in Figure 1, we show a block of four of the genuine 2,30F Marianne de Briat (perforated 13); at right is an enlargement of a Marseille counterfeit, made to defraud the posts, line-perforated 11½. (from Fernando Aranaz del Rio, in *Academus*, Year II, N° 3, December 2001).
- The 20F Pont-du-Gard (Scott 253, Yvert 262A) has brought forth many magnificent, pricey, and probably totally unnecessary essays and proofs. In addition to one shown by Bob Kinsley in N° 264, April 2001, p. 37, Figure 2 shown here is an imperforate partial printing of the Type I, ostensibly a trial printing with engraver's(?) notation. Additionally, proofs, etc. exist in a multitude of colors and shades which, of course, we are unable to show.
- J. D. Ladiesse of New Caledonia reports on apparently different types affecting New Caledonia Yvert 611, 613 and 613A, 630, and Par Avion 285 (*Le Bulletin du Cagou* N° 15, 2001). He considers them to be constant Type I and II rather than mere varieties. Figure 3 is an example, for Par Avion 285. If any specialist collectors of New Caledonia are interested, I can supply copies of his detailed enlargements for a stamped, self-addressed envelope. A dollar bill from members abroad (in lieu of the SASE) would be appreciated. There is much more regarding the philately and postal history of the French Pacific than



Figure 1 (reduced to 65%)

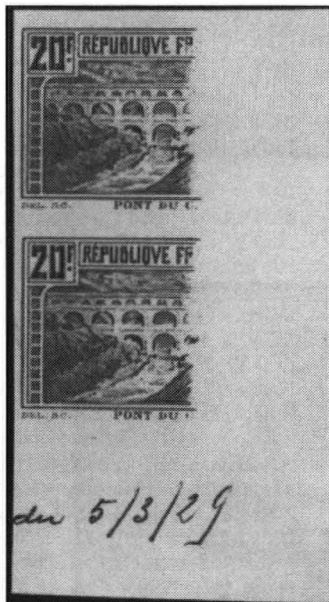


Figure 2

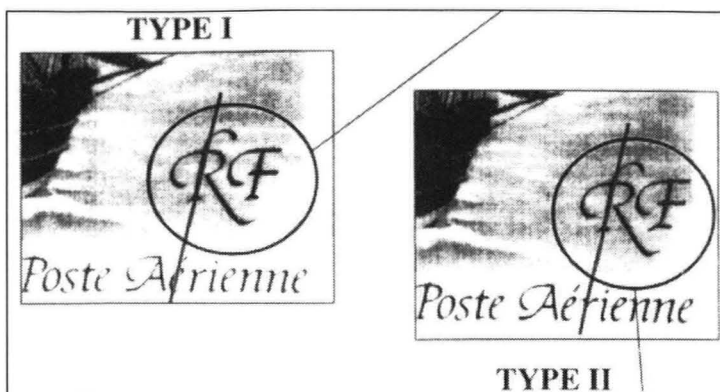


Figure 3

can be noted in our Journal. Collectors who wish to learn more about this vast region's postmarks, special issues, destruction of unsold stamps, etc., are urged to contact the

Groupelement Philatélique du Cagou, Boite Postale 1902, 98846 Noumea Cedex, New Caledonia (Fax +687.28.2514).

- A non-philatelic note. Our recently departed member, Dick Benjamin, received a sizeable writeup in the June 14 Los Angeles Times Inland Valley section. Among other plaudits, where stamps were barely mentioned in passing, Dick has bequeathed to his beloved Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden possibly the largest known (42 feet high) boobum tree. With some difficulty it was transplanted from his home garden to the Botanic Garden.
- La Poste, which had a large deficit in 2001, may look forward to further deficits now that it has more than a million subscribers to its **free** e-mail service. One simply has to connect with site [www.laposte.fr](http://www.laposte.fr) to create one's personal e-mail address, consisting of one's lastname.firstname@laposte.net. Wonder if non-residents may also benefit?
- La Poste is coming out with a new logo (Figure 4). It purports to represent "the symbol of a movement towards new territories: geographic, activities and services .... Brought forth by a strategy for conquest" (!, *Editor's addition*), according to the president of Groupe La Poste, M. Martin Vial.
- Jeff Ward is not the first philatelist to successfully locate a French Colonies stamp's living model (FCP N° 266, October 2001). Michael Round sent us a copy of "The Singing Stamp" by C. W. Hill (*Gibbons Stamp Monthly*, February 1954), in which Mr. Hill recounts his search for the model of the 1947 Martinique Scott design A25 (Nos. 217-219 and Cérés Nos. 226-228) (Figure 5). Through the PTT, he was able to contact M. Lemagny, the stamp's designer. In turn, Lemagny put him in touch with the model, the Martinique-born, Paris resident, singer-dancer Mlle. Jenny Alpha, who sent Hill a dedicated autographed photo of herself. Might other col-



Figure 4



Figure 5

lectors take up the challenge of hunting down other living persons depicted on France and Colonies stamps?

- Through the courtesy of Bill Mitchell (personal communication, 10 May 2002), we have learned from David Pashby, a British expert on TAAF philately, some additional facts regarding Kerguelen Islands mail (see *FCP* N° 267, January 2002). Mr. Pashby states that, according to Pierre Couesnon's *L'Histoire Postale des Iles Kerguelen 1772-1945*, "... in 1908 the Bossière brothers were given a concession to charter whalers and sealers to hunt in Kerguelen waters, and established a shore station and factory to process the catches. There are covers from 1909 on, stamped with the official cachet issued to the Bossière brothers, Henry having been appointed 'Résident de France.' The cachet was applied to covers bearing French definitives of the period." Figure 6 shows such a cover, also bearing a 1912 postal date stamp.

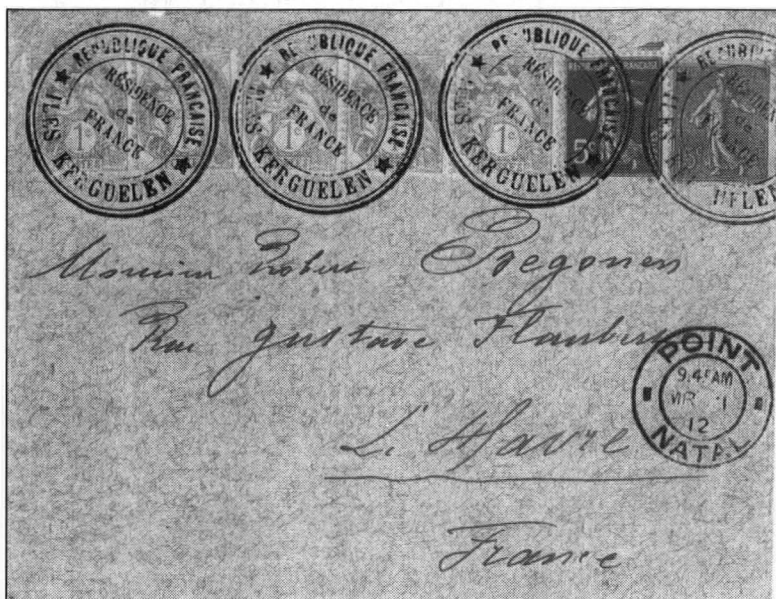


Figure 6 (reduced to 70%)

- The reopened "*Bibliothèque Historique des Postes et des Télécommunications*, now in Irvy-sur-Seine (see *FCP* N° 267, January 2002, p. 28) is readily reached by Metro and bus. Additionally, it offers free parking!
- It's our understanding that, as of 1 June 2002, postage stamps can no longer be used to mail packages in France.
- Anticipate higher French postal rates before you receive this issue, especially now that the current basic 0,46€ rate is lower than anywhere else in Western and Central Europe, except for Ireland.

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## NEW ISSUES AND WITHDRAWALS

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(Continued from N° 269, July 2002, p. 94)

**France** (all values expressed in € = euros)

- 8 (10) June: 0,46 Vacations; same in 4,60 booklet of ten self-adhesive stamps;
- 15 (17) June: 0,46 Handisport (Special Olympics) World Championships;
- 22 (24) June: 0,46 St.-Ser Chapel (Bouches-du-Rhône Dept.); 0,46 Collioure (Pyr. Orient. Dept.), from a Derain painting;
- 6 (8) July: 0,46 Metz Cathedral (Chagall stained glass);
- 13 (15) July: Jazz Musicians, six at 0,46 each; plus sheetlet of the six stamps at 4,36; 0,46 Locronan church (Finistère Dept.);
- 15 (19) August: 0,46 Notre-Dame-de-La-Salette (Indre Dept.);
- 13 (16) September: 0,46 Choreography;
- [14 September: Motorcycles, five se-tenant at ? and five se-tenant at ? -- details not available at press time];
- 21 (23) September: 0,46 Georges Perec (writer).

**Withdrawals:** 17 May: 6,70F Art of Toulouse-Lautrec; 28F French singers sheetlet; 14 June: 3,00F Tomorrow the Euro, 3,00F Albert Décaris, 3,00F J. Chaban-Delmas, 3,00F J.-P. Bloch, 6,70F Art of Jongking, 15F heart sheetlet by St.-Laurent, 2002 Red Cross 3,00F and 3,00F + 0,60F and 36F booklet.

**Andorra** (all values expressed in € = euros)

- 8 July: 0,46 bilberry (myrtle plant);
- 24 August: 2,36 sculpture by J. Viladomat.

**Withdrawals:** 17 May: 3,80F European Year of Languages, 3,00F Jazz Festival at Escaldes-Engordany.

**French Polynesia**

- 3 May: 130F Blood donors give life;
- 30 May: 85F World Cup Soccer;
- 27 June: 120F and 250F Heiva Festival/Traditional Sports.

**Mayotte** (all values expressed in € = euros)

- 3 June: 0,46 25th Anniv. of Mayotte communes; drying salt at Bandréle;
- 27 July: 0,46 Census.

**Monaco** (all values expressed in € = euros)

- 23 April: 0,53 100th Anniv. of Police/Public Safety;
- 27 April: 0,58 Acad. Européenne de Philatélie;
- 3 May: 0,64 Inter. Swimming Meet; Circus [EUROPA] two at 0,46 each;
- 31 May: 0,46 MonacoPhil 2002; 0,70 Monte Carlo TV Festival; 0,75 World Cup Soccer; 0,41 100th Anniv. of first asphaltting of roads;
- 21 June: 0,69 Debussy's *Pelleas et Melissande* (100th Anniv. of first performance); 1,02 Monaco Red Cross; 1,37 Inter. Year of Mountains;
- 1 July: 0,50 and 0,57 200th Birth Anniv. of Victor Hugo; two at 0,61 for 200th Birth Anniv. of Alexandre Dumas;
- 15 July: 1,75 Publication of Annals of Monaco.

**New Caledonia**

- 21 March: 505F ancient hatchet;
- 15 May: 100F World Cup Soccer;
- 13 June: Coffee, three at 70F se-tenant; 210F corvette "Alemène."

**St. Pierre & Miquelon** (all values expressed in € = euros)

- 24 June: 0,75 Pointe du Ouest;
- 10 July: 0,50 preparing codfish meal.

**Withdrawals:** 14 June: 3,00F and 5,70F Cetaceans, 5,20F artistic reflections, 3,80F grisetite, 1,70F and 2,00F gathering hay, 15F heron.

**Wallis & Futuna**

- 31 May: 65F World Cup Soccer;
- 5 June: 330F World Environment Day.

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## SOME SHOW REPORTS

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- Nashville Stamp Show 2002 (Nashville, TN, March): Gold medal to Thomas ("Tuck") Taylor for his exhibit of Washington, DC postal markings. Bob Picirilli was the show chairman.
- 2002 Postage Stamp Mega-Event (New York City, April): Gold medal to non-member Melissa Scott for "Postal History of Tahiti and French Polynesia."
- PARFOREX 2002 (Park Forest, IL, April): First Awards to Paul Larsen for "Togo Yachts" and to Larry Gardner for "Morocco Postal History."
- 75th Congress of Federation of French Philatelic Associations (Marseille, May): Large Vermeil to Robert Abensur. I probably missed recognizing one or more other members.
- AMERICOVER 2002 (Oak Brook, IL, July): Single-frame Gold and Vermeil medals to Eliot Landau for exhibits of US Lincoln issues.
- INDYPEX 2002 (Indianapolis, July): Gold medal to Melissa Scott (see above).
- PhilaKorea 2002 (Seoul, August, **FIP**): Large Gold medal to Ed Grabowski for "Guadeloupe: The development and use of stamps for regular postage"; Gold medal to John Lievsay for "France: 25c Cérès of 1871-1876"; Large Vermeil medal + special prize to Paul Larsen for "German Caroline Islands 1899-1914"; Large Vermeil medal to Lewis Bussey (who also served as U.S. Commissioner to the show) for "French Naval Mail to America 1943-1946."
- APS STAMPSHOW 2002 (Atlantic City, NJ, August): Prix d'Honneur in the Champion of Champion competition to Dave Herendeen for "Evolution of Postage Due Stamps in the French Community, 1876-1930s" and to Paul Larsen for "Ubangi-Shari-Chad 1900-1938" and for two other, non-French Colonies exhibits. In the open competition, Gold medals to Peter Smith for "Egypt: Consular and Territorial Offices Abroad" and to Steve Washburne for his exhibit of Madeira postal history.

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## F.C.P.S. OFFICIAL

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### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I am writing this shortly after my return from APS Stampshow. I was happy to have a chance to meet so many of you. More than 25 members signed in, and others were seen on the floor. The New Convention Center is several blocks from the boardwalk and the nearest casino; this may have reduced the temptation to spend money, other than at the dealer's booths, but it also meant practically no possibility of casual attendees, as there were no passers-by. Next year the APS Stampshow will be held in Columbus, Ohio. I do not expect the Society to have a table there.

Does anyone have any ideas how we can recruit new talent to help guide our Society? The current Board members have provided many years of devoted service, but all of us are aging, and the pressure of other philatelic and non-philatelic interests may limit the time and enthusiasm which we can devote to Society affairs. I believe the Society will benefit greatly, if we bring people with new ideas and new enthusiasm into the leadership. RMS

### NEW MEMBERS

- 3278 INVERARITY, JAMES M., 3495 McAlpine Road, Bellingham, WA 98225. (General Collector.)
- 3279 REDIGER, LOUIS A., P.O. Box 1581, Springfield, IL 62705-1581. (Topical: Masonic. General France: On Cover. Specialized France: Marques Postal. Regular Issues: Cancellations. Modern France: On Cover. Flammes plus the machines that produced them.)



- 3280 JARVIS, CHARLES, 415 Woodlawn, Grand Haven, MI 49417. (General Collector: 19th & 20th Century. Topicals: General France: Used. Sowers. Revenues. Philatelic Literature.)
- 3281 MILLER, ARNOLD, 7082 N.W. 3rd Ave., Boca Raton, FL 33487. (General France: Mint & Used. Regular Issues: Classics 1849-1876: Mint - Used. Dues. Sage Type 1876-1900. Modern France: Mint - Blanc, & Merson Types. Sowers. Air Mails. Croix Rouge Carnets. Dues. Air Meets, First Flights, etc. Preos. French Community: Offices Abroad. Zanzibar. Philatelic Literature.)
- 3282 SAFIR, FRED, 25 Stanford Court, Wantagh, NY 11793. (General Collector: All Issues. General France: Mint. Regular Issues: Classics 1849-1876: Mint. Alsace-Lorraine. Dues. Sage Type 1876-1900. Modern France: Mint - Sowers - Air Mails - Coils.)

### CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND CORRECTIONS

- 2577 LUCHINI, THOMAS R., 209 Tingley St., San Francisco, CA 94112.
- 3150 SURACE, RONALD, 41904 Black Mountain Trail, Murrieta, CA 92562.
- 1262 LADUKE, HARTLEY, P.O. Box 104, Norway, ME 04268.
- 3271 PALMER, PETER H., 33770-2756 (Zip Code Correction).
- 3272 FILES, DOUGLAS S., 2216 Foothill Dr. - Apt. G-308, Salt Lake City, UT 84109.
- 2988 SALOVEY, DAVID E., 3034 Albany Cresent-Apt. 3A, Bronx, NY 10463.
- 3263 KUBIAK, WILLIAM, 252 Uxbridge Road, Hatch End, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 4HS, United Kingdom.
- 2532 HERENDEEN, DAVID L., 5612 Blue Peak Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89131-2512.
- 2998 WILCOCK, DAVID C., Passwang Strasse 2, CH-4059 Basel, Switzerland, (Corrections to name spelling and post code)

### REINSTATMENTS

- 1182 LOTWIN, MARCEL J., Apartado 11-456, Mexico DF 06100, Mexico.

### REMOVED FROM MAILING LIST

- 1435 NORTON, JACK HARRIS (Unable to forward, no forward on file);
- 1511 MEHL, ALAIN (NPD); 3244 LOMONACO, MARK (NPD).

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