



# France & Colonies Philatelist

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



A genuine "Neptune" balloon cover from the 1870-1871 Siege of Paris was described in the October 2002 issue (N° 270, page 123). Here is a different one, but just as genuine. Dated 21 September 1870 and hand-carried by the "Neptune's" pilot, Duruof, it entered the mail stream somewhere along the Paris-Caen railway line, 23 September, arriving the 24th (from backstamp) at its Calvados Dept. destination. Taxed 30 centimes (at the customary 1½ times the prepaid 20 centimes rate).

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## FRANCE &amp; COLONIES PHILATELIST

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# FRENCH MARCOPHILY - MAIL BY RAIL

by Robert T. Kinsley (FCPS #2180)

(Continued from N° 270, October 2002, p. 106)

The lozenge cancellers were phased out between 1858 and 1886 and were replaced by use of the small date stamp alone (Figure 16). Maury shows an

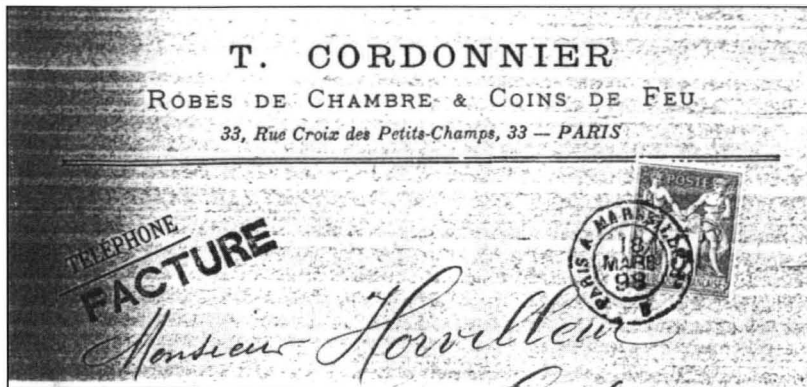


Figure 16. (reduced to 75%)

unusual octagonal postmark for this time period (Figure 17) but I have never seen it. These postmarks were gradually replaced after 1886 by larger postmarks maintaining the inner circle or octagon distinction for night or day service, and used to cancel the stamp (Figure 18). Similarly these ambulants were gradually replaced after 1904 by a single circle or octagon (Figures 19, a, b) which have remained in use until the demise of ambulants. Maury identifies as an essay an additional variety which appeared in 1913 (Figure 20).



Figure 17.

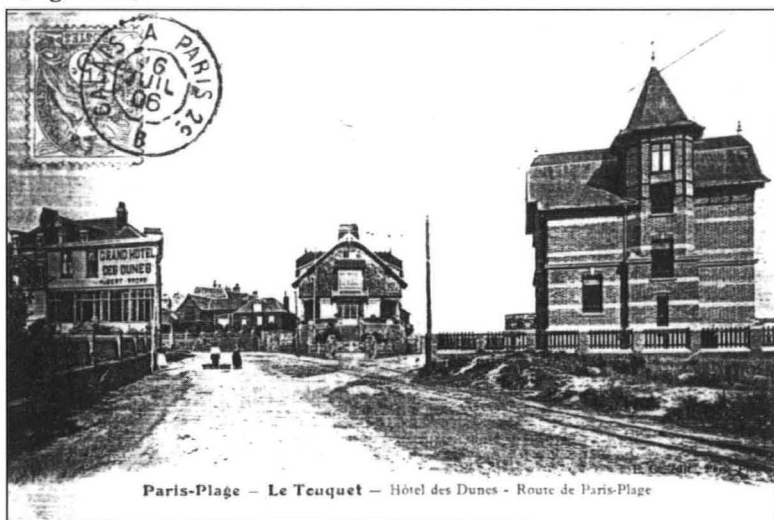


Figure 18. (reduced to 75%)

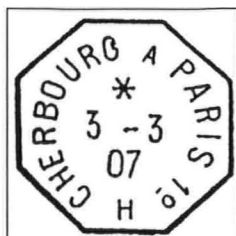


Figure 19.

No discussion of the marks of railway post offices in France would be complete without including the very rare R.P.O. marks of the American Expeditionary

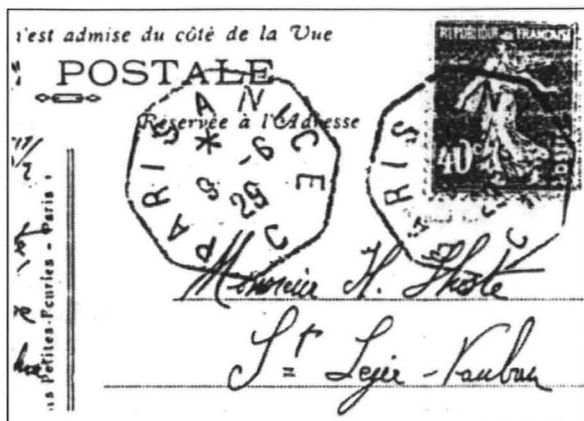


Figure 19a.



Figure 19b. (reduced to 75%)

Force during World War I. Examples of the three known marks are shown in Figures 21-23, courtesy of Alfred F. Kugel, who also supplied the captions. M.P.E.S. stands for Military Postal Exchange Service.



Figure 20.

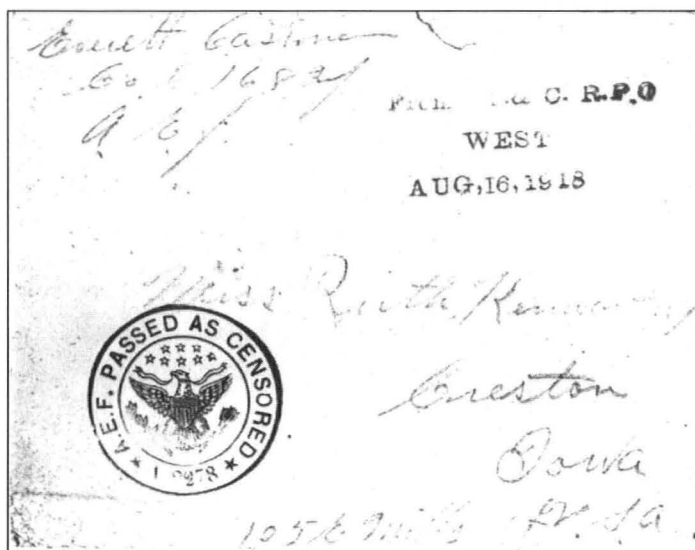


Figure 21.  
Three-line  
straightline  
(in blue) in  
upper right  
is believed to  
have been  
used on a  
route between  
Tours and  
Chaumont,  
the HQ of the  
AEF. (reduced  
to 75%)



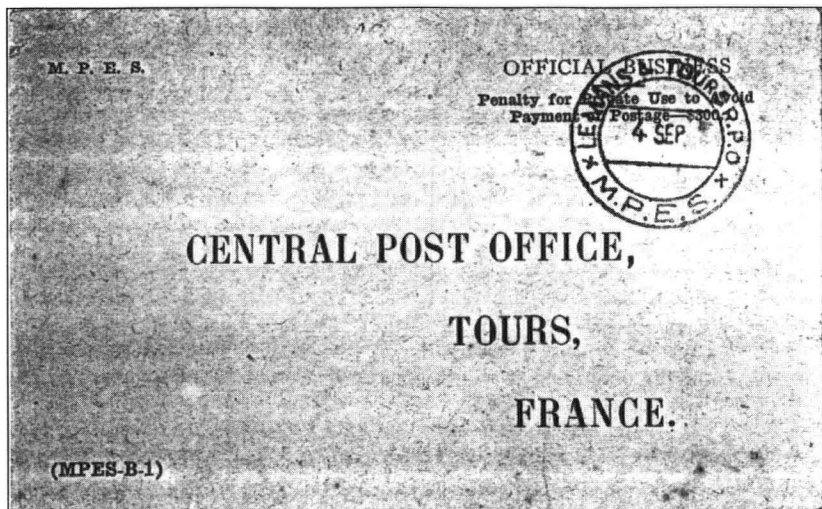


Figure 22. Circular Le Mans & Tours R.P.O. of 4 SEP[tember] has no year date, but message on back indicates it was 1918. (reduced to 75%)



Figure 23. Purple circular Bordeaux - Vierzon - Paris R.P.O., January 5, 1919. (reduced to 75%)

Finally, there is a group of postmarks known as entry ambulants identifying the city of entry of mail into France where the mail was placed on a French rail car. Figure 24 shows examples of the Calais ambulant and Figure 25 of the Marseille ambulant.

As domestic airmail, particularly night flights, and mail trucks began to carry more and more of the mail after World War II, fewer and fewer ambulants remained in service. The last one, La Rochelle à Paris, was retired on 16 April 1995 (Figure 26). Thus, one can consider ambulants -- and railway mail markings in general -- to be in the category of "dead countries." It is therefore possible to achieve a "complete" collection in one's lifetime!

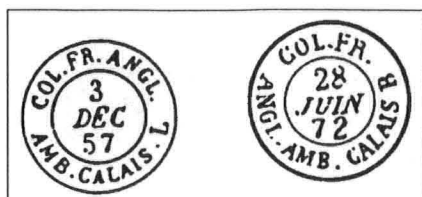


Figure 24.

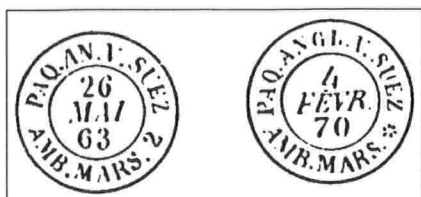


Figure 25.



Figure 26.

### Endnotes

- (1) Raoul Lesgor, *The Cancellations on French Stamps of the Classic Issues 1849-1876*, Nassau Stamp Co. 1949, p. 43.
- (2) Jean Pothion, *Catalogue - Bureau Ambulants 1845-1963 (and) Cachets De Gare 1854-1960*, La Poste Aux Lettres, Paris 1986 provide a definitive listing and valuations for virtually all ambulant postmarks.
- (3) Carroll Chase, *Les Cachets de Routes du Bureau Central de Paris 1838-1856*, Yvert & Cie, 1937.
- (4) Pierre Lux, *La Poste Ferroviaire de ses Débuts à 1870*, Académie de Philatélie, Paris 1992, p. 8. [This is the "last word" on the subject].
- (5) Arthur Maury, *Catalogue des Estampilles et Oblitérations Postales de France et des Colonies Françaises*, Yvert & Cie, 1929, p. 168; reprinted by Postilion Publications, n.d.
- (6) Anthony Goodbody, *An introduction to the Railway Post Offices of France*, Mobile Post Office Society (GB) article, 1977.
- (7) Brainerd Kremer, *French Philatelic Facts*, October 1949; reprinted in Billig's Philatelic Handbook, vol. 29, p. 50.
- (8) See Gilbert Noël, *Catalogue des Marques et Cachets d'Entrée en France*; and see also *The Modane Ambulant*, FCP N° 237, July 1994.

## **POSTAL CENSORSHIP IN ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON 1939-1945**

**by David J. Allen (FCPS #3005)**

Prior to the declaration of war in 1939 the French authorities decreed that there should be immediate postal censorship. An inter-ministerial decree issued on September 24, 1938 was issued to all the territories under French jurisdiction. St. Pierre and Miquelon was not exempt and a postal censorship commission was organized to take effect as soon as war broke out. The administrator of the territory, Gilbert de Bournat, appointed certain officials from his administration to make up this commission. They included:

Raoul Mace, the head of the Judiciary Service, to be the President of the commission.

Charles Cormier, the Leader of the Cabinet.

Joseph Allard, St. Pierre's justice of the peace and head of the printing office.

Eugene Orsiny, the head of the customs service.

These people functioned as part of the commission until the arrival of the Free French forces in December 1941. Subsequently the censorship board functioned with other members verbally designated by the Administrator, Alain Savary. Just after the arrival of the Free French, it would appear that censorship was controlled by two new men designated by Admiral Muselier, Jean Lebreton and Marcel Benda, who had attached themselves to the liberating forces, whose interests were more in the nature of seeking commercial benefits than serving the Free French cause.

In April 1942 a notice was received from the Free French offices in London by the Administrator notifying him that the above-mentioned parties had allowed certain suspect letters to pass through the mail system, which were subsequently seized in Canada, and showing that Benda in particular had a personal financial interest in the overprinted stamps issued by the Free French administration, which were being solicited by the dealer Walter Pam. Lebreton was shown also to have a contract with the North American Newspaper Alliance to exclusively sell information concerning events in St. Pierre. The Free French agent in Halifax, Francis Paturel, was also suspected of having benefited, although no actual proof had come forth. Obviously the censorship of mail was not being rigorously adhered to and changes had to be made.

On November 30, 1942 Savary issued a decree naming M. Sasco (President of the Appeals' Tribunal), Captain Villers-Allerand, Louis Plantegenest (the Bailiff) as well as the Cabinet head and the head of the Information service, to the Censorship Board. This latter person was Lebreton, who almost immediately was asked to leave the territory in December 1942. The decree, in effect, left the Naval services in charge of their own censorship insofar as letters of military personnel and their families were concerned. This situation, which was contrary to the decree, caused many problems because of lax procedures by the Naval authorities. Therefore a decision was made on August 27, 1943, despite the Navy's protests, to reestablish a permanent mixed body under the Administrator's control. This commission was presided over by M. Tchernonog, the President of the Appeals' Tribunal and head of the Judiciary. This was also in response to concerns expressed by the Canadian authorities

whose censorship board was somewhat alarmed by the poorly administered censorship system in St. Pierre. Obviously they had little confidence in St. Pierre's ability to control its outgoing mails and, from 1942 onwards, one sees that outgoing mail was regularly examined by Canadian censors. St. Pierre's major concern as far as censorship was concerned was the movement of capital and the black market; Canada's was the leakage of information that might aid the enemy through knowledge of military activities and the movement of convoy vessels to the United Kingdom. Canada had a liaison officer at St. Pierre and the local authorities did their best to control mail going out of the islands, but in the year following the Free French invasion there were numerous journeys made by various people between the islands and Canada. This meant that mail was often unofficially handed to sailors and placed by them on arrival into the Canadian mail system. There are numerous instances of complaints made by the chief postal censor in Canada, Mr. F.E. Jolliffe, concerning mail handled in this manner. His comments were passed on to the Free French legation authorities in Ottawa. A copy of the letter sent by Mr. Jolliffe to the Under-Secretary of State, referring to these problems, is shown in this article as is a letter addressed to the R.C.M.P. Headquarters received from the French Naval Liaison Officer at Halifax, in which he acknowledges that although checks were made on departing boats, there may be clandestine mail passing unnoticed. He asks that such correspondence be passed on to him and also offers his cooperation concerning mails that might be sent via irregular channels from Canada to St. Pierre.

The rigorous censorship imposed by Canada was the subject of some protests by a later Administrator, P. Garrouste and, in November 1944, he addressed a letter to the Free French representative in Ottawa in which he responded to complaints of clandestine mail. He stated that it is obvious to the reader that the letters in question emanated from the crews of French trawlers on leave in Halifax, that they were used to putting letters in the mails there, and thus the letters had not been subjected to censorship in St. Pierre. His sympathies were with the sailors who were sending messages to their families and deplored the delays that the mails had been subjected to. He asked that the Canadian Censorship board be contacted and requested not to return these letters to the islands and cause the anxious correspondents further delays, and to accept that letters are regularly posted in Canada by French personnel passing through Canadian ports. The French version of this letter is illustrated with this article. The Free French delegate wrote to the Department of External Affairs asking that unnecessary mail stoppages be discontinued and that the Canadian Censorship Board be notified forthwith.

The war ended in Europe in May 1945 and the Canadian Department of National War Services sent a letter to the Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs in Ottawa stating that the Imperial Postal and Telegraph Censorship Board in London had initiated a new policy of not censoring mails in the liberated territories of France and Belgium, now that these countries had initiated their own censorship boards. It was recommended that censorship of mails to and from St. Pierre and Miquelon be discontinued. The only proviso was that censorship would still continue on mails to and from St. Pierre and Miquelon and other French territories, Colonies and Dependencies.

Examples of censored mail follow:

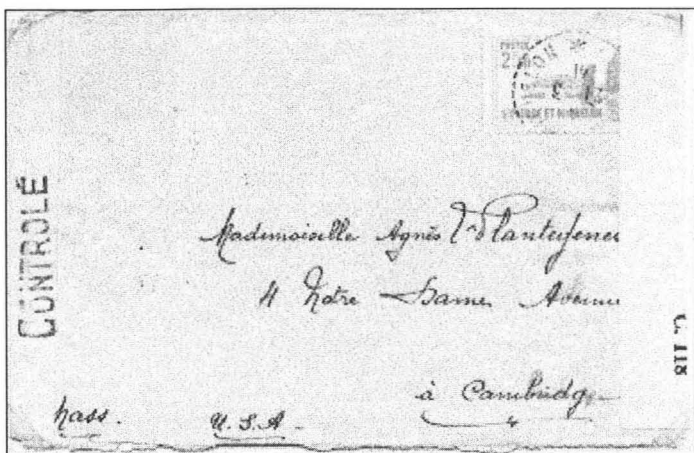


Figure 1. Straight Line "Controle" censorship mark on letter to U.S.A., March 1941.

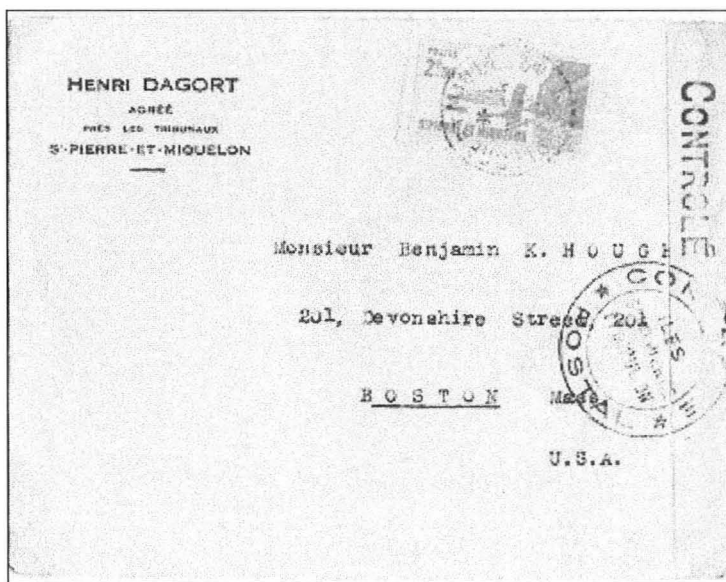


Figure 2. Straight line "Controlé" mark in conjunction with purple "Controlé Postal" on letter to U.S.A., 1941.



Figure 3. Black "Controle Postal" on letter to U.S.A., 1943.

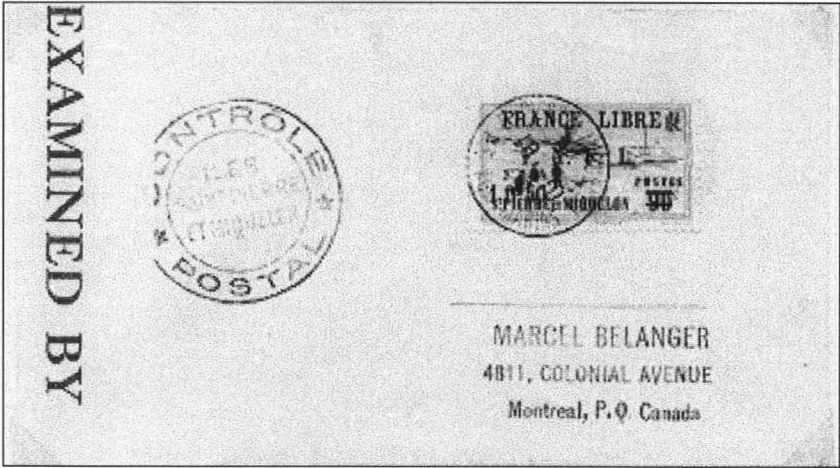


Figure 4. Black "Controle Postal" on mail from Ile aux Marins to Canada, 1943.





Figure 5. Incoming mail from U.K. with U.K. censor and black "Controle Postal", 1942.



Figure 6. Incoming mail from U.S. censored with black "Controle Postal" and blue "Controle des changes," 1943.

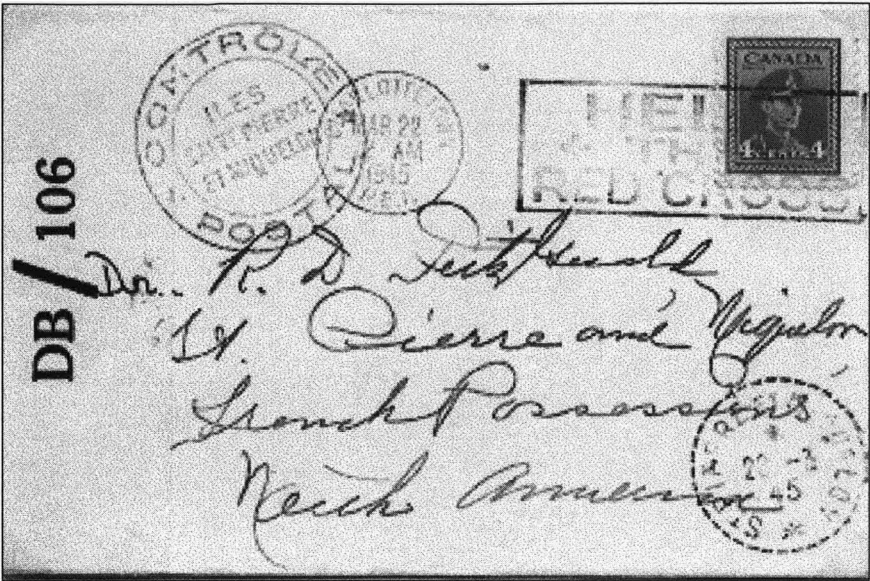


Figure 7. Incoming mail from Canada, late use of "Controle Postal" at St. Pierre. 1945 incoming from Charlottetown P.E.I.

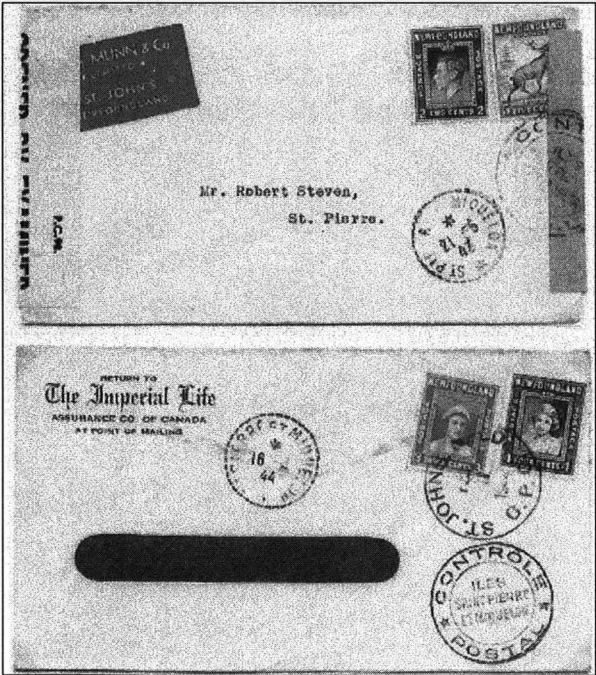


Figure 8. Use of "Controle Postal" on incoming 1943 and 1944 mail from Newfoundland.





Figure 9. Incoming mail from French liberated territory, censored by U.K. authorities and with local "Controle Postal" markings. Algeria to St. Pierre and Miquelon October 1944.

## APPENDIX -- DOCUMENTATION

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO BE  
ADDRESSED TO:

THE COMMISSIONER,  
R. C. M. POLICE,  
OTTAWA

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE  
HEADQUARTERS

724 DH 39c  
1 71

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

FILE NO. C 315-51

OTTAWA,

CANADA

May 2nd, 1944.

S E C R E T

The following communication was received by our  
Office in Halifax from the French Naval Liaison Officer  
at that point:

" REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE  
MARINE NATIONALE  
Halifax, April 19th, 1944. Officier de Liaison, Halifax

FROM: The French Naval Liaison Officer,  
23 North Street, Halifax.

TO: ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE,  
The Inspector in Charge,  
Security Control, Halifax.

MOST SECRET

Sir,

The Administrator of the Islands of Saint Pierre  
and Miquelon wishes me to inform you that the Saint Pierre  
Police Department often checks our boats prior to their  
departures from Saint Pierre.

Nevertheless, it is possible that clandestine  
correspondence may sometimes pass unnoticed and the Admin-  
istrator would appreciate very much if you would kindly let  
him have any irregular correspondence from Saint Pierre and  
Miquelon which should be discovered by yourself or by the  
Canadian Censorship Department.

Reciprocating your co-operation the Administrator  
will transmit to you any clandestine mail which should be  
found on board boats arriving from Canada.

Yours very truly,  
(Sgd) R. Brunswick  
Lieutenant French Navy."

The Under-Secretary of State  
for External Affairs,  
O T T A W A, Ontario.

3/100.



CANADA

CAN. 4751-1 Vol. 2

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL WAR SERVICES  
DIRECTORATE OF CENSORSHIPOFFICE OF THE  
CHIEF POSTAL CENSOR

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS	
File No.	724-DH-396
Sub.	Chron. 1/1

Ottawa, 18th Sept, 1944.

The Under-Secretary of State  
for External Affairs,  
O T T A W A.Attention - Mr. Glazebrook

With reference to previous correspondence regarding the handling of mail of St. Pierre and Miquelon origin posted in Canada, herewith, for your attention, are five letters from members of the trawler "Duguay Trouin", from which it would appear that they may have been written in St. Pierre and Miquelon, as two of them at least give the return address, St. Pierre and Miquelon.

*F. E. Jolliffe*  
F. E. Jolliffe,  
Chief Postal Censor.

Encls.

## C O P I E

ILES DE  
SAINT PIERRE ET MIQUELON  
Cabinet de l'Administrateur

Saint-Pierre, le 14 novembre 1944

N° 165

L'Administrateur du Territoire des Iles Saint-Pierre  
et Miquelon, à

Monsieur le Délégué du Gouvernement Provisoire de la  
République Française, près le  
Gouvernement du Canada, à O T T A W A

Par lettre du 26 Octobre 1944, N° 599, vous  
avez bien voulu me faire parvenir 2 cartes que la censure  
canadienne supposait envoyées en marge de la censure de  
Saint-Pierre et Miquelon.

Par lettre du 14 Octobre, N° 593, vous m'avez  
fait adresser une lettre parvenue de vos services dans les  
mêmes conditions.

Enfin, le 2 Octobre 1944, N° 574, vous m'aviez  
déjà fait parvenir 13 lettres qui vous semblaient être  
sorties irrégulièrement du Territoire.

J'ai l'honneur de vous confirmer au sujet de  
l'ensemble de ces correspondances les termes de ma lettre  
N° 151 du 23 Octobre 1944.

Ainsi qu'il est facile de s'en rendre compte par  
la lecture de leurs suscriptions, toutes les lettres sus-  
visées émanent, en effet, de marins de chalutiers français  
en relâche à Halifax, et ont été régulièrement postées  
par les intéressés dans les bureaux de poste canadiens.  
La censure locale n'avait, en conséquence, pas à intervenir.

Je déplore comme vous le retard apporté par ces  
malentendus à l'acheminement de courriers souvent destinés  
à des familles anxieuses.

Il m'apparaît, en conséquence, opportun, pour  
ces motifs, de prier le Service de la Censure canadienne  
de vouloir bien s'abstenir désormais de nous retourner  
les lettres quelles qu'elles soient, l'irrégularité cons-  
tituée par l'acheminement clandestin et occasionnel, par  
des habitants du Territoire, de correspondances non censu-  
rées ne pouvant à nos yeux être mis en parallèle avec le  
retard important et non justifié causé, par des erreurs  
d'interprétation, à des lettres régulièrement postées au  
Canada par des Français de passage dans les ports de ce  
Pays.

(Signé) P. GARROUSTE

/GL

# FRANCE & COLONIES PHILATELIST

## Index to Volume 58 (2002)

Stanley J. Luft, compiler

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The following numbers of the Journal are included in the present Index:

Vol. 58, N° 1 (Whole Number 267),	January 2002
N° 2	268), April 2002
N° 3	269), July 2002
N° 4	270), October 2002

All citations in the Index are given as Whole Number, hyphen, and page number. Suffixes used after the page number are n for short Notes and (Rev.) for book Reviews, as per predecessor indices.

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\* \* \* \* \*

LÉGATION  
DE LA  
RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE  
AU CANADA  
Réf.: 384

OTTAWA, XX November 29, 1944

724-DH39C  
y 7 r

Dear Sir:

I have the honour to send you here enclosed copy of a letter addressed to this Delegation by the Administrator of St. Pierre and Miquelon, regarding mail originating from the islands and posted directly in Canada.

As you will see, M. Garrouste considers that most of this mail is posted regularly and that it is therefore unnecessary to continue having it stopped by Canadian Censorship.

I would therefore be grateful if you would be kind enough to advise the qualified authorities to discontinue stopping letters from St. Pierre and Miquelon, mailed in Canada.

Yours sincerely,

N. Mac Nulty

N. Mac Nulty.

Dr. R.A. MacKay  
Department of External Affairs  
Ottawa, Ont.

Encl. 1

NMN/GL

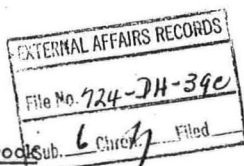


DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL WAR SERVICES  
DIRECTORATE OF CENSORSHIP

Ottawa, 1st May 1945.

OFFICE OF THE  
CHIEF POSTAL CENSOR

The Under-Secretary of State  
for External Affairs,  
Ottawa, Ontario.



Attention: Mr. Glazebrook

We have received a few days ago, from the Headquarters of the Imperial Postal and Telegraph Censorship, London, confidential information indicating that insofar as the examination policy of postal communications with the liberated territories of France and Belgium is concerned, a new policy has taken shape under which a responsible Censorship has been fully established and is working to SHAEF.

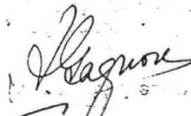
In view of this, the British Censorship is no longer interfering in any way in the communications between these sovereign territories and their Colonies and Dependencies.

We find that the only mail between France and French Colonies that we do examine regularly, is mailed from and to St. Pierre et Miquelon and it would seem that in view of the above-mentioned development we could very well discontinue this examination, it being understood that Censorship in France is now quite efficient.

Have you any comments to submit before we reach a decision in this matter?

It would be understood, of course, that although mail between St. Pierre et Miquelon and France would not be examined by us, we would still exercise a control on mail between St. Pierre et Miquelon and other French territories, Colonies and Dependencies.

I would appreciate an expression of your views in the matter at an early date.



A. Gagnon,  
Chief Postal Censor.

## GABON - A DESIGN SOURCE FOR THE 1910 ISSUES

by Bill Mitchell (FCPS #715)

Jeff Ward's interesting article in the *Philatelist* for October 2001 (Whole No. 266), on the origin of the design of the franc values of the French Guiana postage due set of 1929 has reminded me that I also have a postcard which forms the basis of a stamp design. It, too, must date from the early years of the twentieth century, but unlike the "Guiana Girl" it reached stamp albums quite quickly.

In 1910 (Gibbons says, in February-March) a new set of pictorial stamps was issued for the colony of Gabon, which was shortly to become a part of French Equatorial Africa (it was inscribed CONGO FRANCAIS GABON; in December of the same year it was re-issued with the inscription amended to AFRIQUE EQUATORIALE GABON and later still, from 1924, it re-appeared overprinted AFRIQUE EQUATORIALE FRANCAISE). As was usually the case, there were three designs; the subject chosen for the 1 to 20 centime values was a "Gabon Warrior." The set was designed by L. Colmet-Daage; the inscription at the foot of the stamp does not indicate whether he was also the engraver.

An enlargement of the "Warrior" design is illustrated (Figure 1). Comparison with the postcard (Figure 2) shows that only a part of the original photograph was used; rightly so, inasmuch as the head and shoulders are all that is required to make an effective design. All the essentials are present: the elaborate headdress, the chains, the facial scars [which may not reproduce well here], the necklace and the spears. Whoever was responsible for the engraving did his subject proud. It was not his fault that most of the colours selected did less than justice to his efforts.

So much for the stamp. What of the postcard? The message shows that it must have been printed well before the stamps were under consideration as it was on sale by the beginning of 1905 at the latest. The inscription at the top of the card reads "Pahouin Yemvi - Como - Congo Français" and at the right is "Collection J. Audema"; most interestingly, in view of Dr. Ward's description of the cards in his collection, there is a small circular logo "PHOT./ A.B.&Co/NANCY" at bottom right. The card is unnumbered.

A study of maps in my possession has yielded the following information about the subject of the card. "Como" is a river flowing into the Gabon Estuary some 50 to 60 miles east of Libreville, and "Pahouin" (or, rather, "Pahouins ou Fan") covers a considerable area to the north and east of that city. I have not found any reference to "Yemvi." (According to the Admiralty Handbook on French Equatorial Africa published by H. M. Stationery Office in 1942, page 205, the Fang or Pahouins were a migrant tribe inhabiting a vast tract of land astride the Cameroun/Gabon boundary.) So it is pretty clear that our warrior was a member, perhaps a chief, of the Pahouin tribe from the



Figure 1.



Figure 2. (reduced to 75%)

area around the Como River; possibly "Yemvi" was a sub-division of the tribe. I assume that M. Audema was the photographer.

I have five other postcards from the same Nancy stable (there are in fact two different logos of basically similar design). Details are set out in the Appendix; if, as I suspect is the case, Dr. Ward's card comes from one or other of these two sources, this enables us to deduce a little more about the manufacturer (or publisher) of the cards. Probably Mme Bouchut was (part-) owner of A.B. & Co and took over other publishers to form *Imprimeries Réunies*. The firm manufactured and published cards from photographs taken by agents in the colonies, including most probably Mme Evrard in French Guiana as well as MM. Audema, Verneret and Albaret in Africa. No doubt they were not the only ones, and I would be interested to read details of others elsewhere. Can anyone help?

#### APPENDIX Logo PHOT/A.B.&Co/NANCY

Colony	Subject	Name	Card number
Senegal	Senegal - RUFISQUE - Un Tam-Tam	Em(ile?) Verneret, Rufisque (photographer?)	89
Senegal	Senegal - RUFISQUE - Madame renevant du Marché	Em(ile?) Verneret, Rufisque (photographer?)	95

#### Logo IMPR./RÉUNIES/DE/NANCY

Senegal	Senegal - DAKAR - Autour du Plat de Couscous	Collection Nouvelle, Mme Bouchut, éditeur	150
Senegal	Senegal - DAKAR - Un Coin du Marché et la Banque	Collection Nouvelle, Mme Bouchut, éditeur	Covered by stamp?
Upper Senegal & Niger	Vue pittoresque de BANDIAGARA	Collection Albaret Kayes (photographer?)	2
French Congo	CONGO FRANCAIS et Dépendances/ Village Bafourou, Rive de l'Oubanghi	Collection J. Audema (photographer?)	None



**AMAZING 1870/1871 WONDER STORIES--73****by Ernst M. Cohn (FCPS #1491)**

Little is known about mail of German prisoners of war (POWs) in Paris, which has some highly interesting aspects. The topic came up in connection with one of the rare German POW letters from Paris, owned by the late Horst Knapp (FCP #201, July 1985, pp. 65-67). A more extensive treatment of the subject appeared in German in 1976-1977, published by study groups of France and the North German Confederation, both interested in the matter but from different aspects. My request for further information brought no response. Here, then, are some of the facts in English, in the hope that readers may have more to add.

A major correction must first be made to my commentary on the Knapp letter: I had stated, on page 66, that the letter was "presumably in the writing of the author." It cannot have been written by the wounded prisoner of war but was written *for* him, possibly by a visiting bilingual Alsatian clergyman who may also have franked and mailed it.

Louis François was perhaps the first to consider the topic, on pp. 31-32 of his *Les Correspondances par Ballon monté du siège de Paris* (1925). He states - apparently as suppositions - that POW mail must have been collected in the war ministry for censorship and sent on free of charge. Hence letters written in besieged Paris must have been bundled and taken to the war ministry, first at Paris and then sent to Tours or, from 11 December onward, to Bordeaux. Letters from POWs found in mail boxes were not to be sent on, but the rule seems to have been ignored at times. He knew of letters, clearly marked as to the senders' POW status and addressed to Germany, which were transmitted without objection, as shown by the Paris posting marks. Lack of receiving marks makes delivery uncertain, however. But the lack of control markings indicates that the French mails transported them in error. He cites no sources for these assumptions, which sound reasonable but are unproven. Since POWs were kept in prisons or hospitals, their mail must have been taken by visitors as mentioned above.

Favre declared to Washburne that German POWs were allowed to use balloon mail. Their biggest complaint was that they could not receive news from home.

François could not have known about the two-way diplomatic channel for POW mail, described in my *Ordinary Mail by Diplomatic Means...*, pp. 66-68. In at least one case, a gold coin was thus sent to a POW, receipt of which is acknowledged by foreign minister Favre to US ambassador Washburne in a letter dated 12 January 1871. And on 30 January 1871, a diplomatic pouch arrived right after the armistice containing a "large number" of German letters.

Also, at least one letter was sent via zinc-ball mail to a POW at Paris. Though probably censored by both sides, a century later its text has not been divulged by the French post office.

The number of POWs in Paris is available mostly from German newspapers. In October 1870, 77 (21 of them from Rhenish Bavaria) were housed in La Roquette prison. They got the same rations as French soldiers. Jules Favre sent a list of 87 to Washburne on 24 November, mostly Bavarians. Guillaume Ernest Cresson, police chief during part of the siege, wrote in his 1901 book that German prisoners were transferred on 1 December 1870 from Mazas to La Roquette. Did he err or had there really been some in the Mazas prison?

At the end of November and start of December, French troops made an attempt to break out of Paris. As a result, some 700 more German prisoners were taken into Paris, according to Cresson. A Saxon who was captured on 2 December wrote from La Roquette that 600-700 Prussians, Württemberg-

ers, Bavarians and Saxons were captured, not allowed to go out, had no heat but enough to eat and were treated well otherwise.

A French woman wrote to Stuttgart that there were then some 1000 prisoners at Paris and sent a list of Württembergers with her letter. Wounded Germans were kept together with wounded French soldiers in the Grand Hôtel. The number of Saxon prisoners was estimated to be 400 in January, which agrees well with the statement that the 448 Saxons there shortly after the Armistice amounted to about half the total German prisoners. The total number is given as 914 or 950 by two different sources, so that all these numbers agree well enough for our purposes. Mail of German POWs in Paris is scarce.

During the January 1871 bombardment of Paris, bombs fell on La Santé prison. Cresson then decided to move German POWs there, which was done around midnight, 10/11 January, in the presence of two Republican Guard battalions. No more bombs fell in that neighborhood, and not coincidentally because, as Cresson wrote, German ammunition was still plentiful.

Among POWs at Paris were Polish deserters, aware of their fate should they be sent back. Cresson separated them from Germans before those were transported, let them take on French names of their own choice, and later dismissed them. That lesson was forgotten after World War II...

## RANDOM EDITORIAL JOTTINGS

We have been chided from time to time for having far too many articles (etc.) on terribly dry subjects. That, I'm afraid, is one of the many problems that face philately. Actually we do publish (when we obtain the material) what could be called "social" or "human" philately, or even "fun philately." One such example was "Finding the Guiana Girl" in the October 2001 issue. This was followed by a note on the "Martinique Girl" in the October 2002 (page 124). And we now add here Bill Mitchell's "Gabon Warrior." Obviously period picture postcards (as well as "ordinary" photographs) have been a great source for stamp designs, and we'd like to expect and encourage more such detective work on the part of readers. Help do your part to humanize philatelic writing!

Of course, there are other examples of articles on less-dry subjects in recent issues; *viz.* on the Ultimate Destination: Kerguelen Islands, many if not most of the Amazing 1870/1871 Wonder Stories, and really lots more. There should be something for everyone in any given year. If not, tell us what you'd like to see.

Speaking of "any given year," we may publish the titles and wherewithals of well over a hundred books and pamphlets dealing with French and Colonies philatelic subjects in "New Books...". Yet, we managed to print exactly two reviews in 2002, both by your visibility-challenged Editor. Am I the only one reading the current literature (or viewing it, in the case of the CD-ROM)? Please, if you liked (or disliked) a recent work, do offer to write a review of it for everyone's benefit--and perhaps your literary immortality as well.

Like most everyone else "blessed" with e-mail, I regularly receive infected messages which I get Symantic to delete, sight unseen. So, if you tried to contact me (with or without an attachment) and failed to receive a reply, please try again without the attachment; or send a postcard advising me that you are a genuine, non-virus laden FCPS correspondent. Thanks!

### Articles to be published in future issues

Amazing 1870/1871 Wonder Stores (continued)  
 Detoured Alsce-Lorraine Mail -- 1870 and Beyond  
 A Message from the Front  
 Togo - the 1921 "Mandate" Issue  
 Algerian Registered Mail 1844-1876  
 Discovery of Another, More Recent Scraped Date Stamp from Cochin-China  
*Mers du Sud* and *Mers de Chine*  
 1F Iris -- the Green and the Red  
 The Boxed *Corr. des armées* Marking  
 Quadrisected and Bisected Stamps of Mayotte  
 Postal Issues of the 1925 Paris Decorative Arts Exposition  
 Mekong River Expedition  
 Balloon Post of the 1871 Paris Commune

### More Forgeries Planning the Internet

The "Hialeah forger," to be found at *atdinvest*, is offering fakes on eBay and presumably elsewhere as well, as we've been advised by Jay Smith, Paul Nelson, and others. For a very useful link on this one, and on other forgers and scammers in general, check out <http://www.scads.org> from time to time for updates. In any case, always bear in mind "Let the Buyer Beware."

### More on the MIRECOURT Marking

The handstamped MIRECOURT marking (*FCP* N° 269, July 2002), though still very enigmatic, has turned out not be all that rare. Steven Walske reports that he owns four of them. Although we have no intention of starting a census of covers bearing the marking, here are brief descriptions of Steve's covers, for the record.

1. Dateline Mirecourt 27 Dec. 1870, blue MIRECOURT marking; 10c Occupation stamp cancelled by blue Feldpost-Relais N° 65 (at Charmes, Vosges Dept.), 28 December; Nancy, 31 December arrival.
2. Dateline Mirecourt 4 March 1871, **green** MIRECOURT; 20c Occ. stamp cancelled by blue FpR N° 65 (still at Charmes), 5 March; Paris destination with black 2 due and ms. 10 March docketing.
3. Dateline Mirecourt 14 March 1871, blue MIRECOURT; 20c Occ. stamp cancelled by large blue EPINAL POSTES; also FpR N° 66 (at Epinal), 17 March; Lyon, 23 March arrival and black 2 due.
4. Dateline Mirecourt 22 March 1871, blue MIRECOURT; 10c Occ. Stamp cancelled by large blue EPINAL POSTES; Epinal (type 16) 24 March departure; Strassburg, 28 March arrival.

From these data, we learn that (1) the 1870 MIRECOURT handstamp was used well into 1871, to the 25 March date when the postal administration of the unannexed parts of Lorraine (and of occupied France) reverted to France; (2) that green as well as blue ink was used for this marking; (3) that use of green ink indicates that the marking was not necessarily applied at the same time and place as the Feldpost-Relais or other departure cachets. Otherwise, the assumptions made in the July 2002 article are basically correct. One thing that should have been mentioned in the article was that the MIRECOURT handstamp was a provisional one, used by postal personnel during the town's occupation. Many French postmasters either took away or destroyed their postal material upon evacuation of their premises in the face of the advancing German armies.

We still have no idea as to the origin of the marking itself. Steve states that the rare blue "Mairie d'Epinal" town hall franchise cachet was used as a transit marking right up to 24 March 1871. It's therefore possible that our MIRECOURT could have been some sort (in whole or in part) of an official, or perhaps railway or parcel post, marking rather than the bottom portion of a merchant's imprint.

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## MEMBERS' APPEALS

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**OFFER:** I have a huge stock of France and Colonies stamps that I would like to trade for stamps I need for my collection. Anyone who would like to begin trading stamps to fill holes in their collections should e-mail me at [rrsurace@cs.com](mailto:rrsurace@cs.com) or phone me at (909) 698-6998, or simply write. Ron Surace, 41904 Black Mountain Trail, Murrieta, CA 92562. (Mb. #3150)

**WANTED** to buy the latest (new or used) French catalogs, Dallay's 2002-2003, and reference works on perfins on French stamps. I'll pay asking price. Call first at (609) 264-0470. Jackson S. Sellwood, P.O. Box 424, Brigantine, NJ 08203-0424. (Mb. #3265)

**OFFER:** Covers for sale: Postal history, T.A.A.F., ships, special postmarks, pre-1980 First-Days, etc. Please send SASE for color photocopies. Mike Troubetzkoy, 47 Bess Drive, Clayton, NC 27520. (Mb. #1843)

## SOME NEW AND RECENT WEB SITES

*[NDLR: I seldom can take the time to peruse these sites, so cannot vouch for accuracy of information therein. Critiques of any of the sites would be appreciated from readers. All are in French unless otherwise specified]*

[florent.tricot.free.fr/pres.htm](http://florent.tricot.free.fr/pres.htm) -- a well-illustrated and described study of Corr. d'Armées markings and other markings and postal rates on General Issues of the Colonies and later issues; this is from one of our members in France, I've looked at parts of the site, and it is a good one!

<http://site.voila.fr/www.lettres.indochine> -- *[or www. between / and lettres](?)* -- covers of pre-WWI Indo-China, with emphasis on General Issues of the Colonies and CCN killers.

<http://www/bnf.fr> -- Site of the Bibliothèque Nationale de France, with an immense amount of information, presumably requiring infinite patience in searching and downloading information.

[www.ffap.net](http://www.ffap.net) -- Site of the French Federation of Philatelic Association (FFAP); great variety of contents.

The following come courtesy of Michael Mills and his "Glassine Surfer" column in the November 2002 *American Philatelist*. Mr. Mills suggests, if you need help with your French, to use Google's webpage translating service, at [http://www.google.com/language\\_tools?hl=en](http://www.google.com/language_tools?hl=en)

<http://www.chez.com/memorial/> -- the development of French postmarks and cancellations, by Guy Maggay.

<http://robert.desert.chez.tiscali.fr/index.htm> -- detailed study on the French Offices in the Ottoman Empire, by Robert Desert; this is a different site from the one given in the October 2002 issue (p. 106) and may cover different aspects.

<http://perso.wanadoo.fr/chbarret/> -- a study of the 2,20 Liberté de Gandon.

<http://perso.wanadoo.fr/jef.estel/> -- on the 1863-1876 Paris Stars.

<http://timbreposte.free.fr/> -- a lot of information regarding recent French stamps.

<http://site.ifrance.com/aigles/> -- information on the General Issues of the Colonies.

<http://www.stamps.org/cac/artf006.htm> -- information on French cancellations, from the APS Chapter Activities Committee (in English, of course); I don't know which person or persons is doing this.

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## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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- A. 02.3.** This privately produced precursor card remains a mystery at this time. André Mastroyannaki (the new president of the CLEPM) shows 18 different ones in *Coll. Phil. et Marco*. N° 135 (2002), all identified as to printer or purveyor, but the one in question bears no such identification, as far as I can determine. Sorry, best I can do. (SJL)
- A. 02.5.** I too have a copy of the article by Peter Storm van Leeuwen. It tells an interesting story which is more complicated than AJM's summary suggests. In the early 1880s there was rivalry between the Belgians and the French in the Kwilu - Niadi region to the west of Stanley Pool, and the Belgians sent an expedition organised and/or led by a British captain Grant Elliot (hence, presumably, the name Grantville, one of two coastal trading posts established by the Belgians in the same year, 1883). However, following the Conference of Berlin (1884-1885) the disputed area, including Grantville, was controlled by the French (I have not been able to trace any record of their having opened a post office, or even a postal agency, there).

I believe, therefore, that the KWILU-NIADI/GRANTVILLE cancel, which is totally unlike any postal *marque d'origine* that I am aware of, is almost certainly the administrative cachet of a river steamer plying the Kwilu and Niadi rivers, either named the Grantville or registered there - very possibly both. It's also very likely that it began its career in those waters before the area came under French control, which would make the cachet both Belgian and French but would not explain the use of a Belgian card in French territory.

An alternative theory which meets this objection is that after the 1885 hand-over the steamer moved south so as to remain active in Belgian waters but did not bother to change its cachet. This would rule out any French connection. Unless records of the movements of trading vessels in West Africa at this time can be traced I doubt whether we will get any nearer than that as an explanation of this very interesting card. It is just possible that the cachet was used by whoever was in charge of the trading post at Grantville - but that, again, would not explain how this Belgian card came to be used in French territory. I do not find it surprising that this cachet is not listed by Salles. His study of French maritime mail deals with major international services, and his chapter of "marques administratives" is about the marks applied as cancels by ships' pursers after postal staff were withdrawn towards the end of 1921, many years after the date of this card. (WGM).

## CORRECTIONS

N° 270, October 2002, p. 123; Figure 1 caption: delete the reduction, as none should have been indicated.

p. 122: book by Charles Rioust: address should read 4 rue Watt (not Wall).

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## REVIEW

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*La Poste aérienne française: Tome III, Raids et voyages aéropostaux français de 1919 à 1939*; 268 pp., 240 x 330 mm, illustrated in colour; soft covers; *Revue Icare* N° 179; 22.10 Euros postpaid abroad (preferably by major credit card) from *Revue Icare*, BP 10955, Tremblay en France, F-95733 Roissy CDG Cedex, France.

The third volume in this series returns to the inter-war period 1919-1939, but considers it from a slightly different aspect. The bulk of the book's 168 pages is concerned with some of the more outstanding individual flights by French aviation pioneers (such as Le Brix, Costes and Bellonte - but also many less well known names), and includes technical and anecdotal details. Early flights to Europe, Africa, the Middle East, the Far East, and North America are all covered, with records being broken at every stage. As in the other volumes, the text is accompanied profusely by maps, tables, drawings, and photos of personalities, aircraft, and philatelic covers.

The last few pages of this volume contain a more extensive account by the distinguished French pilot Pierre Laureys of his participation in the Battle of Britain, followed by the report of a machine gun attack by an RAF fighter plane on an Air France hydroplane travelling between Marseille and Algiers in 1942, two brief obituary notices on aviators, and news from the Air France Museum.

The book as a whole is attractive and informative. If you found the first two volumes interesting, stimulating, or even valuable, then the same adjectives are likely to apply to this final(?) one of the series.

-- MS Tyler

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## NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS AND CATALOGUES

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- Vincent Pothion, *Paris marques postales de 1700 au 31 décembre 1848*; 80 pp., 16 x 24 cm, illustrated; 35€ (+ postage) from La Poste aux Lettres, 17 Faubourg Montmartre, F-75009 Paris; e-mail: pothion.vincent@wanadoo.fr (Completely revised edition of the standard catalog/handbook on Paris postal markings of the period, with value indices).
- *Marques postales et oblitérations du Département de l'Aube des origines au Type 19* [Postal markings and cancels of the Aube Dept., from origins to type 19 (type 19 being just a variant on 18)]; ca. 150 pp., A4 format, illustrated; 30€ (+ 7€ postage), from the Société Philatélique de l'Est, Boite Postale N° 6, F-10001 Troyes cedex, France. (Detailed study of the 72 post offices' postal markings up to 1885, known dates of use, etc.).
- Richard Fréchet and Richard Rucklin, *Les Annulés de A à Z*; 225 pp. CD-ROM, with hundreds of color illustrations. 22€ postpaid (+ postage outside France?), from Richard Fréchet, Boite Postale 817, F-25024 Besançon cedex, France. (Texts, commentaries, official documents all relative to methods used and types of indications for preparing stamps destined for destruction; PC- and Mac-compatible, with Acrobat Reader, etc.).
- *The Revenues of Viet-Nam*; CD-ROM priced catalog, produced by the Society of Indo-China Philatelists; all-color illustrations; all known local and national fiscals listed and priced; \$20 (US), from Society's Executive Secretary Ron Bentley, 2600 N. 24th Street, Arlington, VA 22207; e-mail ron.bentley@veridian.com
- Francis Kéledjian, *Répertoire FRANK des carnets de timbre-poste courant en nouveaux francs et en euros* [Handbook/catalog of stamp booklets prepared in New Francs and in Euros]; 100 pp., all color illustrations; 14,90€ (+ postage) from Dallay S.A.R.L., 31 rue de Bourdonnais, F-75001 Paris. (Priced handbook/catalog of the French stamp booklets [regular issues only] issued from the Marianne à la Nef of 1960, up to 2002).



- *Catalogue Yvert & Tellier 2003: Tome 1, France*; all in color, 17€ (+ postage); *Tome 1bis, Monaco, Andorra, Europa, UN*; 348 pp., 15 x 21 cm, all in color; 12€ (+ postage); from Yvert & Tellier, 37 rue des Jacobins, F-80036 Amiens cedex 1, France; fax + 3.22.71.89; e-mail <mail@yvert-et-tellier.fr>; or from usual sources. (Tome 1 [France] includes 44 completely revised pages on booklets, plus the addition of the LVF labels, of deluxe sheetlets, and of encased postage).

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## FOR THE RECORD

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(Continued from #270, October 2002, p. 120)

- **831.)** Mme Michèle Chauvet continues to instruct the semi-educated and the forgetful by reminding all of us (in *Le Trait d'Union* N° 109, 2002, reprinted from *Les Etudes de Phil'Flash*, 2002) that French postal rates from 1 January 1792 until 21 March 1800 were calculated, **not** from bureau to bureau but **between central points** of departments (as the crow flies). Ignorance of this fact can result in erroneous interpretations of the rates shown on one's covers and the displeasure of well-prepared judges. Mme Chauvet has learned of the existence of two original sources of data regarding measured distances between departmental centers. One shows 6889 different measurements, the other more than 13,500. Both were too fragile to be photocopied or photographed, in addition to being rather hard to read and to interpret. Still, one can always obtain reasonable approximations of such distances using only a ruler.
- **832.)** Mail to and from inland Gabon was carried by shallow-draught river steamers that plied the Ogoué River between Boué (wet season only) or N'Djolé (throughout the year) and coastal Port Gentil. Coastal vessels brought the mail between Port Gentil and Libreville to the north. It then went between Libreville and France on regular packets.

Mail to and from posts upriver and up tributaries from Boué (or N'Djolé in the dry season) was hauled in *pirogues* (dugout canoes). Some rare examples of such mail were handstamped PAR PIROGUE POSTALE within a simple rectangle (Figure 1). Different formats are known. Only 1943 to 1945 dates are known at this time. (From *Bull. Col.Fra* N° 99, 2002, and *Coll. Phil. et. Marco*. N° 135, 2002).

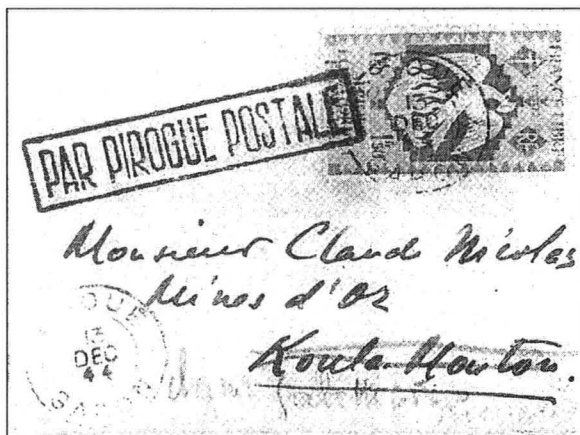


Figure 1.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

- > Vietnamese revenue stamps (like everyone else's revenue stamps) should be collected on complete document or at least on piece, simply because, says Joe Cartafalsa in *The Indo-China Philatelist* N° 153, May 2002, they don't soak off readily if at all, and trend to disintegrate when subjected to an extended bath.
- > Despite its name, Port Inini was not in the Territory of Inini but rather in the more populated area of French Guiana. Nor was it a port. Now consisting of a few ruins, it was a landing on the Tonnegrande River some 25 km southwest of Cayenne. During the Second World War, the US built an airstrip upriver, and the village's population was deemed large enough to support a post office for a few years and also a small grouping of varying date stamps, of which Figure 1 may represent the earliest used.
- > Collectors of the late 19th Century overprinted stamps of Diego-Suarez and Nossi-Bé should not do without *Bull. Col.Fra* N° 100 (2002). This issue consists of the texts and illustrations from catalogues and earlier studies and documents of the period, such as Serrane's, with the addition of current advisories and warnings by Col. Fra's R. Crombez. Inquire of our member Hervé Drye as to availability and price: COL.FRA, Boite Postale 628, F-75367 Paris cedex 08; e-mail: [clubcolfra@club-internet.fr](mailto:clubcolfra@club-internet.fr). M. Drye is the president and editor-in-chief of that esteemed society.
- > Via *La Marcophilie Navale* (Bull. 63, July 2002) we learned that (1) Decree N° 2002-504 of 10 April 2002 has replaced the venerable POSTE AUX ARMÉES with a new POSTE INTERARMÉES; as an example, Toulon Naval would become Toulon Armées (through unification of the armed forces); and (2) the French Navy and its training schools have departed from the port of Rochefort on 22 June 2002, after a 336-years presence there dating back to the times of Louis XIV.
- > From that same source, we also learn that the nuclear-powered carrier *Charles de Gaulle* and most of its escort vessels have departed 1 July 2002 from "Mission Héracles" and the Arabian Sea and Afghan skies, and returned to Toulon. Mission accomplished. A few smaller ships will remain on station for the foreseeable future.
- > In spite of everything that's been announced by La Poste, French stamps bearing only franc values (*i.e.*, devoid of euros equivalents) continued to be used on mail until the end of 2002.
- > Bob Kinsley was named a Northwest Federation of Stamps Clubs' Distinguished Philatelist at the Federation's meetings, held at September's PIPEX 2002 show.
- > Did you know? The 1937 Winged Victory [of Samothrace] pair (Scott B66-67, Yvert 354-55) was originally projected to be issued in the form of imprinted postal cards. However, the cards' selected printer did not have the capability to print from other than flat-bed presses, whereas the government's *Atelier* could imprint line-engraved stamps only on its rotary presses. Accordingly, the design was used for the latter process, to print adhesive postage stamps. (The Deluxe sheetlets were printed on a flat-bed press). These stamps were sold at a premium for the benefit of the statue's host, the Louvre Museum.
- > It appears that, for the changeover of the Marianne de Luquet definitives from francs to euros, the vertical wording on the right side, namely RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE, was "reingraved" on an intermediate(?) die and probably by computer (howsoever that might be accomplished), to read the current LA POSTE LUQUET\_JUMELET. Very faint vestiges of the "Q" and "Ç" may remain on some stamps. (Discovery made by C. Fretellière, reported in *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, N° 1755, September 2002).
- > Military-postal Bureau (BPM) 242 opened 20 June 2002 at Douchambe, Tadjikstan, to serve the postal needs of French air force personnel covering northeastern Afghanistan, as part of "Opération Héraklès Porte Nord."
- > The firm of Théodore Champion opened its doors 100 years ago (in 1902) at 13 rue Drouot, Paris.
- > The Yvert & Tellier firm had sued the publishers of the upstart Dallay catalogue in 2001 for making use of much of its numeration for 19th Century French stamps, requesting considerable sums for damages, etc. The suit was thrown out in June 2002.

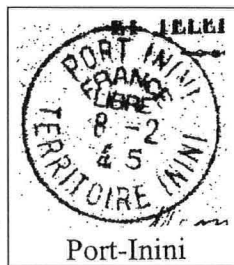


Figure 1.



The Cérés catalogue, as well as the Dallay, are both beneficiaries of this very correct judgement. Nevertheless, Dallay will probably correlate their numeration in the future with that of the German Michel catalogue.

- Via [www.ecriregratuit.com](http://www.ecriregratuit.com) it seems possible to send a post card gratis, that will have an actual postage stamp (at current 0,41€ rate) affixed, to a person of your choice, after selecting a "sponsor" (presumably from a list obtainable at the web site) who will pay the freight. Has anyone given it a try?
- Starting in November 2002, registered letters from companies, other commercial organizations, and government offices can be sent electronically. This service may be extended to the public in 2003, via [www.laposte.fr](http://www.laposte.fr) and/or [www.laposte.net](http://www.laposte.net). Of course, this service cannot be used to send anything with contents inside.
- We note from the *Postal History Journal* for October 2002 that Lucio Marson, eminent writer and collector on Italian postal history, has died. Mr. Marson was not a member of our Society. However, back at AMERIPEX 86, several of us members were starting lunch at a large round table when Joe Geraci and Lucio walked in. We invited them to the table making room for them, and "formally" inducted them as the FCPS's honorary Italian auxiliary. Lucio was a fine gentleman and a true scholar.
- We had requested comments regarding the authenticity of the diagonal "**ST. PIERRE M - on**" overprint on 1F Sage value (For the Record 819, in N° 269, July 2002, p. 87). Well, noted expert J-F. Brun wrote to the *St. Pierre & Miquelon Philatelic Journal* (v. 8, October 2002), reiterating that this item is a simple old-time forgery. Period.
- The 0,46€ "Concorde," issued 23-25 March 2002 as part of the sheetlet showing 20th Century Transportation, just happened to be the very same "Concorde" that crashed outside Paris on 25 July 2000, killing all aboard. A sharp-eyed collector noticed that the stamp had the same F-BTSC identification marking on the fuselage as the doomed aircraft. Cruel coincidence? Or mere happenstance? We've been advised that Airbus Industries had provided the plane's photo as a model for the stamp designer, and that no one had given that particular marking any thought.
- The Service Philatélique de La Poste has moved to 28 Rue le la Redoute, F-92266 Fontenay-aux-Roses Cedex, France.
- New French coils in euros only, issued April 2002, bear ink-jet black numerals on the back instead of the formerly habitual red ones, and these numerals are now present on every stamp instead of every fifth one. There really wouldn't be any reason to collect the new coils other than as singles. It should be noted that first printings of the 0,41€ coil do bear red numerals on the back of every fifth stamp; these should be sought after and may become "collectors' items."
- The 56th Salon Philatélique d'Autonne (held November 2002), continued the trend of producing souvenir items. Among them are computer-vending postage (LISAs) in the colors of Paris and Rome, new personalized stamp labels, and a new CNEP souvenir sheetlet.
- Our Treasurer, Bill Wallis, thanks our members for their timely payment of dues and their use of commemorative stamps, which are being donated to a charity.

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## NEW ISSUES AND WITHDRAWALS

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(Continued from N° 270, October 2002, p. 126)

### France

- April 2002: 0,41€ and permanent-value Marianne de Luquet coils with black numerals on backs [see Announcements and News, read above];
- 1 August: open-face booklet of 10 self-adhesive permanent-value Marianne de Luquet stamps (sold at 4,60€), with blue-on-white "La Boutique du Timbre" cover;
- Early September: same, but with blue-on-white cover advertising the photos of daily family life in France;
- 14 (15) September: Motorcycles ("Youth Collecting"), five stamps at 0,16€ and five at 0,30€, in sheetlet of ten all-different stamps at 2,30€;
- 21 (23) September: 0,46€ Georges Perec (1936-1982) [writer];
- 28 (30) September: Photos of daily family life sheetlet of ten different 0,46€ stamps at 4,60€ (6th and final sheetlet commemorating the 20th Century);

- 5 (7) October: 0,46€ 100th Death Anniv. of Emile Zola;
- 12 (14) October: 0,46€ Neufchâteau (Vosges Dept.); 1,02€ Art of Elizabeth Vigée-Lebrun (self-portrait);
- 26 (28) October: 3,00€ airmail, for 30th Anniv. of the Airbus A300;
- 7 (12) November: European Capitals - Rome, 1,84€ sheetlet of five stamps at 0,46€ each, showing well-known sites; 0,46 + 0,09€ Red Cross semi-postal (Madonna and Child, by Salvi); and same in 5,50€ booklet of ten;
- 7 (12) November: 0,46€ Private Enterprises; 0,46€ Best Wishes, and same in 4,60€ booklet of ten;
- 11 (12) November: 0,75€ Art of Jesús R. Soto.

**Withdrawals:** 12 July 2002: 3,00F Vacations stamps and 30F booklet, 4,40F Gardens at Versailles; 13 September: 3,00F Val de Reuil, 0,46€ Salt Lake City Olympics; 11 October: 0,46€ Circus (Europa), Boule et Bill Stamp Day stamp, sheetlet and booklet (0,46 to 3,95€), 0,46€ Nîmes Arena; 8 November: 0,46€ La Charité-sur-Loire, 0,46€ Paris-Roubaix race course, 0,46€ (two) World Cup Soccer, 1,02€ Art of F. Botero.

### Andorra

- 31 August 2002: 0,46€ Envalira Tunnel;
- 27 September: 0,41€ bagpiper treed by (or entertaining?) wolves.

**Withdrawals:** 12 August 2002: 3,00F 25th Anniv. of Meritxell shrine; 13 September: 2,36€ Hotel Pla; 11 October: 0,41€ Grossa Cross; 8 November: 0,69€ Canillo Aliga Club mountain hut.

### French Austral & Antarctic Terrs. (TAAF) (all values expressed in euros = €)

- 1 January 2003: 0,15 mineral apatite, 0,41 shrimp cannery at St. Paul I., 0,46 homage to Luc-Marie Bayle, 0,46 Emperor Penguins, block of four at 0,46 for youth collecting, 0,61 CEA (hydro-acoustic) station on Crozet, 0,79 rehabilitation of Port Jeanne d'Arc, strip of five at 0,79 for the evolution of protective polar clothing, 1,22 *Phyllica* (local plant), 2,44 destroyer "Bougainville," triptych at 2,44 + 0,79 + 1,22 for Cent. of departure of Charcot's "Français" for the Antarctic, 3,66 Cabot fish, 3,66 Isle of Penguins, 4,12 Super Darn program. [from preliminary information as of November 2002: I may be able to give more precise descriptions at a later date].

### French Polynesia

- 4 July 2002: 90F James Normal Hall and his house;
- 30 August: 400F, and 500F sheetlet, outdoor market of Papeete (AMPHILEX 2002);
- 26 September: 55F and 90F Oceanic Center of the Pacific;
- 21 October: 120F Surfing in Polynesia;
- 7 November: 85F, 130F, 180F salt flowers.

### Mayotte

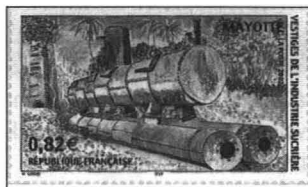
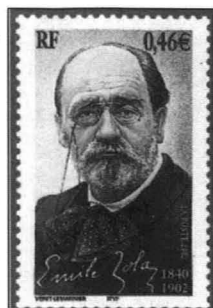
- 23 September 2002: 0,82€ Vestiges of the island's sugar industry; Birds of Mayotte: four at 0,46€ se-tenant vertically;
- 18 November: 1,22€ breadfruit tree; 0,46€ Mount Choungui.

### Monaco

- 21 June 2002: Introduction of the Euro se-tenant block of two stamps at 0,46€ and two at 1,50€ (coins-on-stamps) [for other 21 June issues, see October 2002 FCP, p. 126];
- 2 September: 0,50€ Noël (star cactus); 0,76€ 100th Anniv. of film "Le Voyage dans la Lune"; 1,52€ Monte Carlo Magic Stars.

### New Caledonia

- 15 April 2002: 5F Cagou bird definitive;
- 18 July: 10F statue of Emma Piffault ("Caledonian Women series");
- 31 August: 70F school of the circus; 70F Edmond Caillard and telescope;
- 19 September: Sperm Whales triptych of two at 100F with central label (joint issue with Norfolk Island); 70F illustration by Jean Mariotti;
- 7 November: 1000F Gunpowder factory at old Bourail military post.

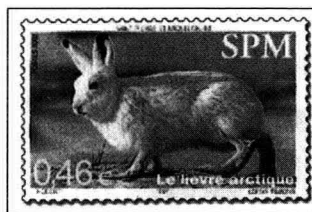


**St. Pierre & Miquelon**

- > 11 September 2002: Permanent-value Marianne de Luquet overprinted for the islands;
- > 16 September: 0,46€ Arctic Hare;
- > 2 or 16 October: 0,84€ historical shipwrecks ("Le Troutpoul" 1923);
- > 6 (12) November: Anse à Henry triptych: two at 2,00€ + central label;
- > 27 November (2 December): 0,46€ Noël.

**Wallis & Futuna**

- > 9 August 2002: two stamps at 50F and two at 55F showing traditional *fales* (huts);
- > 30 August: three se-tenant 125F stamps + same in 475F sheetlet, for discovery of the Horn Islands;
- > 20 September: Regional Views 95F, 100F, 105F, 135F;
- > 28 October: 75F the Serpent of Alofi.




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## SOME SHOW REPORTS

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(Continued from N° 270, October 2002, p. 127)

- Minnesota Stamps Expo 2002 (Crystal, MN, July 2002): Vermeil medal to Chuck LaBlonde for his exhibit of Swiss WWII mail: Silver medal to Karl Winkelmann (non-member?) for "French Censorship during World War II."
- PIPEX 2002 (Richmond, Br. Columbia, September): Gold medal to Chuck LaBlonde for same Swiss WWII exhibit; Vermeil medal to Bob Kinsley for "France Stampless 1560s-1860s"; your editor served on the jury.
- The 2002 Greater Houston Stamp Show (Houston, September): Silver medal to your editor for the maiden voyage of his "Shipboard Postal Markings of the 20th Century French Navy."
- Autumn Stampex 2002 (London, September): Large Vermeil medal to Mick Bister for "The 50c Jeanne d'Arc Issue."
- BALPEX 2002 (Hunt Valley, MD, August-September): Reserve Grand Award and Gold medal to Jeff Bohn for "Accountancy Markings associated with the 1857 Franco-British Convention"; Single-frame Grand Award to Ed Grabowski for "The Use of Due Stamps for Regular Postage in Reunion, Dec. 31, 1900 - Jan. 20, 1901" [*now, that's a real narrow timeframe!*]; well done, fellas! Dave Herendeen chaired the jury.
- Apple Harvest Stamp Show 2002 (Spokane, WA, September): Gold medal to Bob Kinsley for "France Stampless 1560s-1860s."
- Peach State Stamp Show 2002 (Marietta, GA, September): Vermeil medal to Bob Kinsley, this time for "Swiss Internment Mail - WWII."
- Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition 02 (King of Prussia, PA, October): Silver medal to Thomas ("Tuck") Taylor for "French Cameroon 1915-1960."
- CHICAGOPEX 2002 (Arlington Heights, IL, November): Reserve Grand Award for Foreign and Gold medal to Paul Larsen for "Federal Issues of the Leeward Islands 1890-1911"; Gold medal plus other awards to Chuck LaBlonde for "Swiss WWII Mail to Great Britain, Canada and the USA"; Gold medal to Peter Smith for "Sudan: Official, Army Official, and Postage Due Stamps to 1960"; Honorary Gold medal to Cheryl Ganz for her Court of Honor exhibit; Eliot Landau obtained two Silver medals for articles on US subjects. Dave Herendeen served on the philatelic jury while your editor chaired the literature jury.

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## F.C.P.S. OFFICIAL

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**PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

Each fall I am asked by the editorial staff of the Scott Catalog to provide suggestions for corrections, changes, improvements, etc. in their listings of the stamps of France and Colonies. For a number of years in the past, they were actually very reluctant to make any change except to the prices. On November 20 this year James Kloetzel, current editor of the Scott Catalogs, ventured into the "lion's den" and presented a talk at a regular meeting of the Collectors Club. He

explained that the production process for the Scott Catalogs has been radically changed in recent years. In the past, a master was made for each page, which could be reused each year, with provision only for changing the prices. Any other change in the listings or descriptions required making a new master for the entire page. Now the catalog is produced using a computer. As a result, changes to the text of the listings can be made as easily as changes in the prices. This means that, if adequately supported, suggested changes are much more likely to be accepted.

First, I would like to ask if anyone would be willing to volunteer to become the Society's liaison with the staff of the Scott Catalog. This person's task would be to solicit suggestions from the membership, and then forward them to Scott Publishing Co. Second, I am asking any of our members for suggested changes. Remember two things: one, catalog users do not like to see the current Scott numbers changed; two, the catalog is intended for use by general collectors. Anyone interested in helping should contact me (Richard M. Stevens, P.O. Box 99, Greendell, NJ 07839; email: [rmstevens\\_greendell@yahoo.com](mailto:rmstevens_greendell@yahoo.com)).

#### NEW YORK CITY MEETINGS

We are continuing to hold meetings on the first Tuesday of each month from October through June at the Collectors Club in New York. We gather by 6:00 P.M. to go to a local restaurant for dinner together. The formal meeting begins at 8:00 P.M. All members are welcome, either to join us for dinner, or only to attend the 8:00 meeting. Beginning in January 2003, notices of these meetings will no longer be automatically sent to members living in the New York City vicinity. Any member who wants to receive notices of these meetings should contact Lou Robbins, 711 Amsterdam Ave, 11H, New York, N.Y. 10025; email: [lourobbs711@aol.com](mailto:lourobbs711@aol.com). Notices sent through the mail will require a \$5.00 fee; if sent by email, there will be no charge.

#### ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The annual meeting for the presentation of reports and election of officers will be held at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 6, 2003 at the Collectors Club, 22 East 35<sup>th</sup> St., New York, N.Y.

#### NEW MEMBERS

- 3283 HOLTZ, ANDREW G., P.O. Box 1664, Greenwich, CT 06836. (General Collector: 19th Century. General France: On Cover. Postal History: Used Abroad. Regular Issues: On Cover. French Community: Offices Abroad. Colonies and Territories: Cancels and Postal History. Dealer: Full Time. Always interested in buying quality France and Colonies / Offices Abroad and 19th Century Covers.)
- 3284 SCHLESINGER, RONALD, 9206 Standing Creek, San Antonio, TX 78230. (General France: Mint. Colonies General Issues: Mint. Colonial Provisionals. All Colonies and Territories.)
- 3285 PRESTON, DICKSON, 2102 Montvale Court, W., Seattle, WA 98199. (Colonies General Issues: Mint - On Cover. Cancels and Postal History. French Polynesia.)
- 3286 COLEMAN, JOHN, 14623 Maranatha Lane, West Burlington, IA 52655. (General Collector: All Issues. General France: Mint - Used.)
- 3287 SUMMERS, RONALD M., 10935 Bells Ridge Drive, Potomac, MD 20854. (Specialized France: Postal History: Stampless Covers. Marques Postales. Military Posts. Used Abroad. Classics 1849-1876: On Cover. Sage Type 1876-1900. Modern France: On Cover. Philatelic Literature.)
- 3288 POLANSKY, BARNARD, 262 Lafayette St., Salem, MA 01970. (Topical Collector: Paris Subjects Mint - Stamp Shows.)

#### REINSTATEMENT

- 3044 BARSDILL, PAUL, P.O. Box 3475, Manuka, A.C.T. 2603, Australia. (Colonies General Issues: Mint - Used - On Cover - Colonial Provisionals. Group Type. Cancels and Postal History. Indo China. Benin (19th Century Only). Dahomey (To 1942).)

#### CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- 1817 LAYTON, PHILLIP, 103 Parkview Lane, Lynn Haven, FL 32444.
- 1420 STEELE, JOHN R., 337-D Paseo Cerro, Green Valley, AZ 85614.
- 1332 BARKER, GEORGE E., 520 Halifax Road, Bradford, W. Yorks BD6 2LP, Great Britain.
- 406 VENGROVE, CHARLES F., 1013 Stone Stack Drive, Bethlehem, PA 18015.
- 3106 WILLIAMS, JAKE M., P.O. Box 787, Daphne, AL 36526.
- 3169 GAURUDER, LAWRENCE K., 11 Regis Road, East Falmouth, MA 02536.
- 1843 TROUBETZKOY, MIKE, 47 Bess Drive, Clayton, NC 27520.

#### DECEASED

- 16 MUSY, JACQUES A., 3175 JOHNSON, B. CONNOR