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PAQUEBOT concession rate letter from Senegal. See page 35

St. Pierre & Miquelon

Local Rate and Extra Service fees
1941-1945

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The Era of the French Colonial Allegorical Group Type: Senegal Military Mail

Edward Grabowski

reviously, I have reported on military mail during the era of the French Colonial Allegorical Group Type from Indochina and the French Indochinese Offices, and the French Pacific Colonies of New Caledonia & Dependencies and French Oceania.^{1,2} Prompted by a recent addition to the Senegal military mail section of my collection of Group Type postal history, I thought it might be of interest to do an overview of military mail from this colony, which had its own peculiarities relative to the two previous areas. Military mail during the era of the Group Type (1892-1915) falls into three distinct categories: the military concession rate of 15c in lieu of the 25c French Community rate which was in effect until January 1, 1899 and was generally applicable to soldiers not engaged in combat; the completely free military franchise rate which was generally applicable to troops engaged in combat throughout the era of the Group Type; and the period of use of the French franchise military stamps which were given free to troops not engaged in combat beginning around June 1901.3 All three of these categories will be examined from the viewpoint of the colony of Senegal based on material in my collection of Group Type era postal history.

Military Concession Rate

The 15c military concession rate was already in effect in 1892 when shipment of Group Type issues began from France. It was applicable within the French Community and represented a 10c reduction relative to the 25c French Community rate in effect at the time. It ceased to exist on January 1, 1899 when the French Community rate was lowered to 15c. The concession rate was generally applicable to troops on station and not en-

gaged in combat. Validation of the rate via a unit cachet or a manuscript endorsement along with the commander's signature was required. Such was normally done on the lower left of the envelope or on the reverse.

A. Saint Louis

Most of the concession rate letters from Senegal are seen from the city of Saint Louis. Although Dakar was the principal commercial center and most populated city of the colony, more military mail is seen from the capital at Saint Louis which was the headquarters for administration of military activities in Senegal and its dependencies. The first military concession rate letter from Saint Louis, shown in Figure 1, is a delight from a number of points of view. It is based on a 15c Group Type letter card from Senegal. Use of letter cards for this rate is extremely rare. My entire collection of Group Type Era material (about 3000 covers) shows but four examples of the concession rate based on letter cards. This example bears beautiful strikes of the Saint Louis military datestamp: CCE MILRE ST LOUIS SENEGAL, 2 DEC 97, wherein the first two shortened words stand for Correspondance Militaire. The letters for **DEC** have been inverted, and come out in mirror image form because of the symmetry of each of the three letters. Confirming the concession rate is the French Packet transit datestamp: CORR D ARM LIG J PAQ FR Nº 6, 3 DEC 97 (Salles 1899A). French Packet Line J provided regular service at Dakar, the departure point for most overseas mail. The reverse shows a Nantes transit and a Douarnenez arrival on December 11, 1897. The reverse also contains a manuscript endorsement and signature validating the rate. A short message of holiday greetings is written on the inside of the letter card completing the package.



Figure 1. Concession rate from Saint Louis based on a 15c letter card.

The next example of the concession rate is shown in Figure 2. It bears an unusual combination of 1c, 2c, 4c, and 5c Group Type stamps to prepay the 15c rate. A total of eight strikes of the Saint Louis military datestamp, dated from December 19, 1897, tie these stamps to the cover. The lower left shows the cachet of the Health Service present in Saint Louis, and the manuscript endorsement and signature of the Chief of the Pharmacy completing the validation of the concession rate. The arrival from Amelie les Bains (December 31, 1897) is also on the front of the cover.



Figure 2. Concession rate prepaid by an unusual combination of low value Group Types.

Figure 3 shows a less spectacular combination of Group Types prepaying the concession rate. Interestingly the stamps are cancelled by the regular Saint Louis datestamp (June 8, 1896), and not the military datestamp, showing that such was done. Collectors tend to ignore or devalue letters not featuring the military datestamps, but they do represent how letters might be handled. Validation for this letter was achieved by the sender's manuscript *Correspondance Militaire* endorsement and, on the reverse, the cachet **Bureau de Fonds Senegal**. A light Line J military transit completes this letter.



 $Figure \ 3. \ Concession \ rate \ letter \ showing \ use \ of \ the \ regular \ Saint \ Louis \ datestamp.$

Unlike the military franchise rate which was limited to the first weigh level of fifteen grams, military concession rate mail was valid at higher weight levels at the charge of 15c per each fifteen grams. Figure 4 illustrates a concession rate cover posted from Saint Louis at the second weight level of 15 – 30 grams. It is franked with a pair of the 15c Group Type stamps tied by the Saint Louis military cancel of December 17, 1896 posted to the unusual destination of Hanoi, Indochina. Double weight concession rate letters are as rare as military usage of letter cards in my experience. Validation of this example was achieved via the cachet: TROOPS DE LA AFRIQUE OCCIDENTALE, LE GENERAL COMMANDANT

EN CHEF. It bears transits from Marseille (December 26, 1896) and the Haiphong-Hanoi rail line (February 1, 1897), but no Hanoi arrival.



Figure 4. Double weight military concession letter from Saint Louis to Hanoi, Indochina.

B. Dakar

Concession rate mail from Dakar is much more limited for reasons previously noted. An example is shown in Figure 5. The stamp is cancelled by a strike of the Dakar military cancel: CCE MILRE DAKAR SENEGAL, 1 DEC 98. Validation was achieved by a marine unit cachet, and the letter traveled on the French Buenos Ayres A Bordeaux French Packet Line K (Salles 1114) which also provided service at Dakar. The letter also bears a Paris arrival from December 11, 1898, having made good connections throughout its journey.

Military concession rate mail was also valid if the addressee was a member of the military. Examples of such are quite rare from the colonies, and underappreciated by collectors. An example of such is shown in Figure 6. This cover is franked at the concession rate with 5c and 10c Group Type stamps tied by the regular Dakar circular datestamp of May 6, 1897. It bears a dateless military correspondence transit from Packet Line J (CORR D ARM LIG J PAQ FR N° 4), which serves to confirm the acceptance of the concession rate based on the addressee, who was a soldier



Figure 5. Concession rate from Dakar showing the military cancel of that city.



Figure 6. Concession rate letter from Dakar based on the addressee being a member of the military.

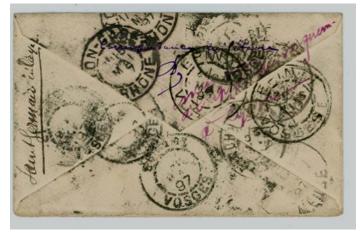


Figure 7. Reverse of the letter shown in Figure 7, documenting the search for the addressee.

stationed in France. The readdressing of the letter suggests that there was some difficulty locating him in France. The reverse (Figure 7) confirms this view with more than ten French datestamps and additional manuscript directives documenting the search for him. Since the letter was not returned to Senegal, that search was apparently successful.

C. Gorée

The last of the Senegalese post offices which supported a military datestamp was the island office of Gorée. The island achieved its initial fame as the center for the French slave trade in the area, which supported the opening of a post office on the small island. Today Gorée is part of the city of Dakar. Shown in Figure 8 is a concession rate letter posted from Gorée bearing the rare military datestamp: CCE MILRE GOREE SENEGAL, 25 MARS 98. A light military packet transit is on the front, but does not show well in the Figure. The reverse of the letter bears a military cachet, manuscript endorsement and commander's signature to validate the concession rate. It also bears a Paris arrival datestamp of April 3, 1898. This is the only example of the military datestamp of Gorée that I have seen. Although an octagonal military datestamp for Gorée is recorded in



Figure 8. Concession rate letter from the island village of Gorée.

Langlois et Bourselet from the 1860's, this more modern circular example from the 1890's is not.⁴

D. Small Village Military Concession Rate Mail

As with other French Colonies, military concession rate mail from small villages not having military datestamps can also be found from Senegal. I personally believe that these are generally under appreciated by collectors. The first example of such shown in Figure 9 is from the village of Thiès, which is located at a rail juncture about seventy kilometers east of Dakar. It was posted on February 17, 1895 and bears a Dakar transit on the reverse and a French Packet military transit on the front. A Paris transit is present on the reverse, but no arrival datestamp from Sedan. A manuscript validation of the rate is on the front of the cover at the upper left, and was surprisingly done by the head of the post office at Thiès, rather than a military commander. Possibly none was available at this time.



Figure 9. Military concession rate letter from Thiès, Senegal.

The second example of concession rate mail in this category shown in Figure 10 was posted from the small village of Bakel, Senegal which is located on the Senegal River about six hundred kilometers east of Dakar. Bakel was an important military outpost for the French relative to devel-

opment of its Colonial Empire, particularly in the French Sudan. This example was posted on December 7, 1896 and transited via Saint Louis on December 16, 1896. It bears a manuscript endorsement and commander's signature from the French Sudan occupation forces. The final example in this category shown in Figure 11 is the most interesting and rarest of this group. It was posted from the Mauritanian village of Kaédi during the period when this village was under the administration of Senegal, prior to the official formation of the colony of Mauritania. It bears a rare KAEDI SENEGAL, 27 FEVR 97 datestamp and an octagonal COR D ARM PAQ FR J Nº 5, 18 MARS 97 (Salles 1100) French Packet transit. A Saint Louis transit from March 10th and Paris arrival from March 25th complete the markings on this cover.



Figure 10. Military concession rate letter from Bakel, Senegal.

E. Military Concession Letters Posted on Ships

It was also possible to post letters onboard ships or at the docks relating to the French Packet Service. In these cases, the letters were processed on the ship post offices and show packet cancellations. An example of such is shown in Figure 12. It was posted on a ship or at the dock of the Line J service while in the Dakar harbor and bears the datestamp: **CORR D ARM LIG J PAQ F Nº1, 3**



Figure 11. Military concession rate letter from Kaédi, Mauritania while under Senegal administration.

NOV 96. No other transits are present, but an arrival from Murat from November 11, 1896 is on the reverse. Validating the rate is a marine unit cachet, manuscript endorsement and signature on the reverse.



Figure 12. Concession rate letter posted on French Packet Line J.

The final letter in this group is the most recent addition to my collection. It was posted on a commercial ship, most probably in the harbor of Dakar, but possibly in that of Saint Louis. Thus, it was treated as mail under the Paquebot System. Stamps of the home country of the ship or of the country of the ship's harbor were valid for postage

under this system. The letters were placed in the international posts at the next port of call of the ship, and marked as Paquebot mail by the arrival post offices. When I saw this cover on sale at a recent VSO, I checked my Group Type data base. In forty-plus years of collecting this issue, I had no examples of concession rate mail that traveled via the Paquebot System. Nor do I remember ever seeing even one example. This meant it was 'crazy bid' time, and I was able to secure the cover shown in Figure 13. The stamp is beautifully tied by a bold **PAQUEBOT** handstamp, but no other postal information is present on the front. The reverse, shown in Figure 14, indicates all is well with this cover. An anchor cachet of a unit of the French Marines validates the concession rate for the cover. A Lisbon arrival from January 3, 1898 indicates that the letter was placed on a ship bound for Lisbon, Portugal. And a Brest arrival on January 6th shows that it properly traveled through the mails to its destination. The price I paid for this cover suggests that others also recognized its unusual nature.



Figure 13. PAQUEBOT concession rate letter from Senegal.

Military Franchise Mail-Via Senegal

Beyond concession rate mail, there is military franchise mail, which meant that postage was free to military units who were accorded this privilege.



Figure 14. Reverse of the cover in Figure 13 showing arrival at the port of Lisbon.

This was usually done for units engaged in combat. Since Senegal was a well-established colony during the era of the Group Type, there was virtually no combat going on within the colony, and little or no military franchise mail is seen. This contrasts dramatically with a colony such as the French Sudan which had copious military activity during this period, and military franchise mail is a sub-specialty for this colony. The only example of military franchise mail that I have from Senegal actually originated with a military unit in Mauritania in 1903 and is shown in Figure 15. It is a private letter card with a full message. The dateline indicates that it was written in Souet el Male, Mauritania in 1903 by a member of a military unit called the Mission du Coppolani, Colonne du Trarza. A check of Wikipedia shows that Xavier Coppolani was a French military and colonial leader, who was instrumental in the colonial occupation and creation of the colony of Mauritania. No French colonial post offices were available in Mauritania at this time, so the letter was carried to Podor, Senegal, the northernmost post office in Senegal on the Mauritania border, where it entered the mails on April 14, 1903. It transited via Saint Louis and arrived at its destination in Algeria on May 11th as confirmed by the datestamp: MOSTAGANEM ORAN, 11 -5 03.



Figure 15. Military franchise cover originating in Mauritania entering the mails at Podor, Senegal.

The second letter in this category is actually an example of failed military franchise mail from the French Sudan with strong Senegal associations. It is shown in Figure 16. It originated somewhere in the French Sudan, and has a full and proper military franchise validation. Present are an anchor cachet of a Sudanese marine unit, and a manuscript validation and commander's signature. However, the letter did not transit via one of the French Sudan post offices, but was carried privately to Saint Louis, Senegal and placed in a postal box for mailing. Because of the unorthodox arrival at Saint Louis for this military franchise letter, it was struck with a Trouvé a la Boite handstamp (Found in the Box), a Saint Louis datestamp of October 31, 1895 and a T in triangle for postage due. It bears a Packet Line J military transit from November 8, 1895. Apparently, the clerk onboard Line J was satisfied that this was some sort of military letter. Finally it bears an indistinct Paris arrival in France and a November 14, 1895 arrival in Chambéry. I am not sure what regulations the clerks at Chambéry applied to the letter, but they treated it as an unpaid letter, marked at the 0.25 rate in blue, and charged it 50c due – double the regular French Community rate.

I have a very similar letter from the Soudan (Figure 17) which arrived in Saint Louis on Au-



Figure 16. Military franchise letter from French Sudan entering the posts in Senegal and charged 50c due as an unpaid letter.

gust 9, 1897, whose detailed description I will forgo. However, on arrival in Paris in was accorded the 15c military concession rate (blue manuscript **0.15**), and charged 30c due according to a red 30c manuscript endorsement at the center bottom of the cover. Which treatment of these two letters is correct? This is possibly a topic for discussion over a few beers! I personally vote for the second treatment.



Figure 17. Similar letter to that in Figure 15, but charged 30c due based on the concession rate.

Service Militaire Military Franchise Mail

There were administrative troops stationed in Senegal who worked to maintain the military presence in the colony. Their business mail was accorded full franchise, and is typically marked **S.M.** for *Service Militaire*. An example is shown in Figure 18. Note that the standard validation for this category of mail (unit cachets, manuscript endorsements and commander's signatures) was required.



Figure 18. Typical Service Militaire letter showing appropriate validation for this service.

Use of the F.M. Franchise Militaire Stamps

The franchise militaire stamps (French stamps overprinted F.M.) were created by France in 1901 for use by troops on station throughout the French Empire. Each soldier was provided with two stamps a month for cost-free letters of his choice. I have written a detailed chapter on the creation and use of these stamps in the French Colonies which is noted in Reference 3. Because large numbers of troops were not stationed in Senegal during the Era of the Group Type, this category of mail has had little impact on Senegal postal history. Their impact can be best seen in the colonies that had active militairy campaigns in progress and large numbers of troops stationed in the colonies. Use of the third franchise militaire

stamp, based on the French 15c Semuse regular issue, is shown in Figure 19. It was posted in Dakar on August 21, 1905 and arrived in France on September 10, 1905, and rounds out this presentation of Senegalese military mail.



Figure 19. Franchise Militaire letter from Dakar, Senegal showing use of the third F.M. stamp.

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St. Pierre & Miquelon Local Letter Rate and Extra Service fees 1941-1945

James R. Taylor

overs addressed locally in the smaller French Colonies are of postal history interest and often difficult to find. Concessionary local letter rates, little used out of the ordinary postal services, wartime postal censorship and addresses to known local personalities make for an exciting search. Figure 1. shows a map of the colony showing the routes of inter-island mail boats and settlements. The small fishing village or *commune* of Miguelon on the island of (Grande) Miguelon is located 30 kilometers northnorthwest of St. Pierre. Langlade is a small hamlet where residents of St. Pierre maintain summer cottages and hunting lodges. Langlade or Petite Miquelon is the name of the island joined, since the eighteenth century, by narrow sand spit to Grande Miguelon. La Baie is the name of the treacherous ocean channel or strait between the islands of Langlade and St. Pierre. Île aux Marins, formerly Île aux Chiens, was a small fishing village, since abandoned, located in the entrance to St. Pierre Harbour. St. Pierre is the capital of the colony, the largest town and has an ice-free harbour.

The islands in December 1941 came under the control of the Gaulle-ist Free French (Anglin, 1999). This meant that any postal rate changes made by the Vichy government in unoccupied France were never applied in St. Pierre. The St. Pierre local and inter-island surface letter rate for a 0-20 gram letter in the 1941 to 1945 period was 60 centimes. By contrast the St. Pierre surface letter mail (0-20 grams) to Canada was 1.50

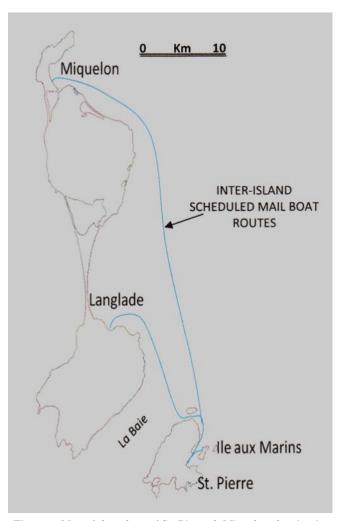


Figure 1. Map of the colony of St. Pierre & Miquelon showing internal mail boat routes and settlements.

francs and international to the United States 2.50f (Taylor, 2017). The 1.00f surface letter rate to France was meaningless because of wartime suspended service. As with most philately, the search is for the uncommon. Three uncommon local St. Pierre- Miquelon postal usages are illustrated.

The cover in Figure 2 was posted at the village of Miguelon and carried inter-island by a vessel of the Flotte Administrative (Government Fleet) to the capital St. Pierre. The 0-20g surface letter rate was 60c. A single 60c surcharged on the 90c definitive stamp overprinted "FRANCE LIBRE/ F. N. F. L." prepays the postage. The postmark is a hexagonal Miquelon struck in purple ink and dated April 4 1942. Using the custom in France, hexagonal postmarks signified a sub or branch post office; main offices used a circular mark. The cover was opened by the local St. Pierre censor and resealed at the left with stamp selvage and hand stamped with double circular censor marking (Taylor, 2014). Censorship of inter-island nonregistered letters was very unusual. Dr. Bertrand Gau, the Chief Medical Officer in St. Pierre, was under scrutiny because of his pro-Vichy activities (Taylor, 2015). Dr. Gau was eventually detained by the Free French administration at St. Pierre and exiled to Miguelon. He eventually returned to unoccupied France which was more in tuned to his Vichy leanings.



Figure 2. Miquelon Inter-island cover to St. Pierre 0-20g Letter Postage rate 60c.

Figure 3 illustrates a step up in service level to registered. The cover was posted at St. Pierre, EV stands for *en ville* (in town). It is a local θ -20g letter. The rate is 60c with an additional fee for registration of 50c. It is franked with 30(3) + 10(2) = 1.10f. The Postmark reads St. Pierre September 29, 1944. A "R" for registration is hand stamped



Figure 3. St. Pierre en ville local cover 0-20g letter postage 60c + Registration 50c = 1.10f.

and the number 225 is in manuscript. The double circular censor marking is at the lower left. Mrs. Fitzgerald was the wife of the St. Pierre Dentist and served as the dental nurse. Dr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald were recruited from Prince Edward Island (PEI), Canada to open a dental practice at St. Pierre. The Fitzgerald name is familiar to collectors from the family correspondence between St. Pierre and PEI.

A further step up in postal service is shown in Figure 4. It is another local St. Pierre 0-20g Letter with the local Postage 60c plus the registration fee of 50c and the seldom seen Acknowledgement of Receipt fee for an additional 30c. Franking is 1.00 franc plus 40c = 1.40f with the "France Libre" issue. The "R" marking for registration with the manuscript number 902 and the double registry or acknowledgement of receipt "AR" markings are lower left. The St. Pierre postmark is dated February 5, 1945. The letter is a judicial summons from the Magistrate's Cabinet at St. Pierre. Containing confidential information, the envelope is endorsed Clos [sealed] par necessité [as required], officially signed in green ink and struck with a double circular cachet "JUGE/ D'Instruction" [Investigating Magistrate] in blue.

The cover shows the unusual usage of postal services by the official Office of the Investigating Magistrate at St. Pierre, *Cabinet du Juge d'instruction* in French. The franking is from the

"France Libre" series with the Schooner and compass design, 1f + 40c = 1f40, which prepays the 1945 60c local letter postage, 50c registration [R] and 30c the Acknowledgement of Receipt [AR] fee. A single 1f40 stamp to pay the fee was not carried in Post Office stock. Covers with payment of the AR fee are seldom encountered.

Official or business letters in 1945 usually had



Figure 4. St. Pierre local judicial cover 0-20g Letter Postage 60c+Registration 50c+Acknowledgement of Receipt 30c = 1.40f.

typewritten addresses and instructions. The cover is postmarked at St. Pierre on February 5, 1945 and addressed locally. The letter is a Judicial Summons to a resident containing confidential information regarding a legal matter. The exact nature of the correspondence is not known, the enclosure did not survive with the envelope, but it may have been a summons to appear as a witness, a defendant or in some other capacity.

The cover is endorsed Clos par necessité [Sealed as required] and signed in green ink. The name on the signature is not legible. An official, 39mm diameter, double circular, purple-blue ink cachet has been struck on the left. Non-confidential official correspondence was often left unsealed and usually travelled unfranked through the French Colonial postal system. In this case however, the confidential nature of the contents required that the letter be sealed and full franking with postage

stamps was necessary under the regulations (Taylor, 2016).

The *Juge d'instruction* in the French legal system is the judge responsible for conducting the hearing for discovery that precedes a criminal trial. In this hearing the evidence is gathered and presented, and witnesses are heard and depositions taken. If the *Juge d'instruction* is not convinced that there is sufficient evidence of guilt to warrant a trial at the end of the proceedings, no trial will happen.

The St. Pierre and Miquelon judiciary is based on the formal methods of the 1804 French Napoleonic Code. Early police forces were often unreliable. The Code allowed individuals to approach a *Juge d'instruction* and, on presentation of *prima facie* evidence alone, ask for an official investigation of a supposed crime.

Unlike the fixed courtrooms used by criminal trial courts which usually operate in public and require proof be-yond reasonable doubt, the *Juge d'instruction* court is held in secret until its findings are eventually summarized. Its proceedings are also less formal. The court may relocate to relevant scenes; ask questions of bystanders or investigators. For example, *Juge d'instruction* may function in hospitals, official offices, private premises or even open fields considered relevant to the acquisition or verification of evidence, which may be admissible in the trial court on the basis being relevant merely on the balance of probability.

It may come as no surprise then, that the *Juge d'in-struction* at St. Pierre would use the Post Office registration system to convey local summons and communicate legal messages. This method, requiring a signature from the addressee, was perhaps more cost effective, compared to sending a court official to deliver the papers in person. In fact there was no reason that the court could not convene inside the Post Office if such a location was related to a case under consideration!

The search goes on for other unusual and interesting philatelic items from St. Pierre & Miquelon. If you have any unusual St. Pierre covers, I would like to hear from you. Contact the editor.

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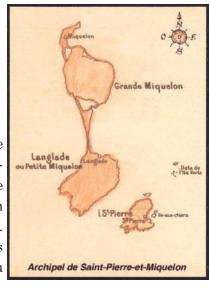
SAINT-PIERRE-ET-MIQUELON LE CACHET « LANGLADE » DEMEURE RARISSIME AU 19EME SIECLE

Jean-Jacques Tillard

Le cachet de la petite commune de Langlade, mis en place à la fin des années 1870, est une mine d'or pour les collectionneurs.



Une cinquantaine de personnes habitait la commune de Langlade à la fin du 19ème siècle. Ses habitants étaient fermiers ou gardiens de phare.



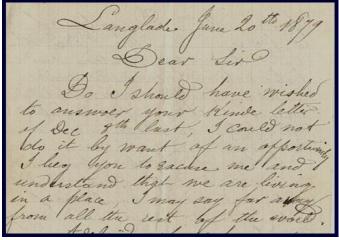
Mais l'un d'entre eux faisait office de responsable du Service des Postes dans cette localité.

Evidemment, envoyer du courrier n'était pas une pratique courante, et de nos jours, l'oblitération « Langlade » au 19ème siècle est rarissime.

Le seul pli connu est un courrier affranchi avec un 30c. Cérès des colonies générales adressé vers l'étranger. N'ayant pas le timbre à disposition, l'agent des Postes a apposé son cachet le 21 juin 1879 puis le bureau de Saint-Pierre a ajouté l'affranchissement nécessaire une semaine plus tard (coll. Privée).

La lettre était encore présente dans l'enveloppe.





Les premiers timbres officiels de Saint-Pierre et Miquelon ont été réalisés en 1885 grâce à des surcharges.

A priori, « Langlade » n'aurait été approvisionné en 1885 que par quelques exemplaires du 5/4c. lilas-brun. Ce timbre est d'ailleurs peu courant de nos jours avec une oblitération normale, soit celle du bureau de Saint-Pierre.

En revanche, si cette oblitération provient du bureau de Langlade, nous pouvons dire « Eurêka », car effectivement, ces 5/4c. lilas-brun deviennent des pièces exceptionnelles.

A ce jour, quatre exemplaires ont été découverts avec ce cachet daté du 13 avril 1885 (coll. Tillard). On peut supposer qu'ils proviennent du même courrier.

Un pli expédié vers la France ou l'étranger demandait, en 1885, un affranchissement à 25c. Si c'est le cas, un cinquième exemplaire pourrait se trouver isolé -comme cette localité à cette époquedans une collection.







On peut se rendre compte que les quatre timbres, décentrés du même côté, proviennent du même feuillet.

Quelques mois plus tard, en février 1886, un manque de timbres dans la colonie donne naissance à des vignettes surchargées « P D » à l'encre noire (P D = Payé à destination), utilisées un peu plus de deux semaines seulement. Elles n'étaient pas vendues au public, mais collées sur le courrier par l'agent des Postes, puis oblitérées.

La commune de Langlade a reçu quelques vi-

gnettes, et de nos jours, deux ont été repérées dont une avec une lisibilité parfaite (1er : coll. Tillard - 2ème : coll. Privée).

Ici, le « PD/5 » soit 5c. affranchissait un envoi local.

On peut aussi remarquer la même date d'oblitération apposée dans le même sens. Il est fort probable que ce soit deux courriers envoyés en même temps.

Deux pièces exceptionnelles.





Conclusion:

De nos jours, le cachet « Langlade » n'existe plus. La recette postale, toutefois centenaire, a été supprimée dans les années 1980.

An internet based translation of the text in this article is on page 51.

ED

Tinker to Evers to Chance: A Philatelic Version and An Unusual Marseille Datestamp

Edward Grabowski

any have heard of the famous Chicago Cubs double play combination from the beginning of the 20th century. They represented the Cubs' delight, and the Giants' lament. A recent philatelic query from Gary Loew came to me, and after due deliberation, I turned it over to Alain Millet for the final definitive answer. For some reason this reminded me of the baseball trio of old. However, Loew to Grabowski to Millet seems to lack the poetic ring of the original trio. Possibly many of you do not know of Gary Loew, but you should and you will in time. He is in the process of writing his definitive tome on all aspects of postal history, and is often a speaker at the philatelic events, including the APS Summer Seminar. His philatelic specialty is Gambia. For years we shared memberships in the Westfield Stamp Club (NJ) and the Collectors Club, and have spent long hours discussing most aspects of philately. Gary's recent move to the Atlanta area has rendered most of our discussions via email these days. Most of the members of the FCPS know of Alain Millet of Paris. Alain has been one of the leaders in French Colonial philately for about half a century, and is in the process of scaling back his philatelic interests. His web site (https://issuu.com/codaxa) is a gold mine of French Colonial postal history, and heartily recommended to all.

Recently Gary sent me a scan of a 25c rate cover from Senegal. (Figure 1) The **PAQUEBOT** hand-stamp clearly indicates that it was posted on a commercial ship, most probably in the harbor of Dakar, Senegal. A poorly struck datestamp ties



Figure 1. PAQUEBOT cover from Senegal showing partial Marseille cancel

the stamp to the cover. (Figure 2) One can see the MARSEILLE portion of the datestamp, which indicates that the letter arrived at the port of Marseille. Also seen are the letters ... RDEMENT, and the date of arrival 11 - 2 22, indicating that it arrived on February 11, 1922. Gary was interested in learning the full nature of



 $Figure\ 2.\ Closeup\ of\ the\ stamp\ and\ cancel\ on\ cover\ in\ Figure\ 1.$

the datestamp, and how it was used. I was not familiar with this style of datestamp, and could find no evidence of it in my personal library. I checked my Group Type data base, and was able to find a **PAQUEBOT** cover from Madagascar to

France. (Figure 3) As the manuscript endorsement and violet handstamp indicate, this letter was posted on the commercial ship Ville d'Alger (City of Algiers) at the 10c French Community rate employing a 1912 overprint of Grand Comoro to prepay the postage. This was perfectly normal in 1914, as the Comoro Islands were put under the administration of Madagascar & Dependencies in 1911, and the stamps of both entities were used interchangeably. The Ville d'Alger normally traveled the southeastern coast of Madagascar, known as the Betsileo region, to French Mediterranean destinations. The specific town of origin of this letter is unknown at this point. It arrived in Marseille on November 26, 1914 and bears the datestamp: MARSEILLE - ST CHARLES PAQUEBOT. Saint Charles is the principal railroad station of Marseille, so the letter was taken directly from the ship to the station for transit by rail to Paris. No backstamps are present, which is not unusual for an ordinary French Community letter.

Unable to find any information on Gary's cover, I decided to turn to Alain Millet in Paris for help.



Figure 3. PAQUEBOT cover from Madagascar showing an arrival at the Saint Charles railroad station in Marseille.

Alain has one of the most complete libraries of French area material that I am aware of, and he has an almost encyclopedic knowledge of French Area philately, particularly that of the French



Figure 4. Closeup of the stamp and markings on the cover in Figure 3.

Colonies. But Alain too was at a loss regarding the identification of this datestamp. Undaunted, Alain considered a source that I had not considered, but should have, and that is the Delcampe website. Both Delcampe and eBay can be excellent sources of information if one is lucky in the search operation. This requires judicious choice of the search terms, and the hope that the sellers have included key information in their titles and lot descriptions. In this case Alain succeeded perfectly, and the cover in Figure 5 was discovered. It is the business side of a postcard that bears a readable strike of the Marseille datestamp: MAR-SEILLE-GARE TRANSBORDEMENT with a



Figure 5. Postcard from Delcampe showing the MARSEILLE-GARE TRANSBORDEMENT cancel indicating transit via the Saint Charles rail station.

transit date of October 5, 1914. This datestamp indicates that the item was processed at the Marseille Saint Charles Railroad Station, and transported on a train headed for its final destination.

No picture of the stamped side of the card is shown in the lot.

So there are two points to be made by this story: get your philatelic questions to knowledgeable philatelists or at least to philatelists who know knowledgeable philatelists; and consider Delcampe and eBay searches as a good way of getting the needed information.

J-J Tillard, page 47 Internet translation

About fifty people lived in the town of Langlade at the end of the 19th century. Its inhabitants were farmers or lighthouse keepers. But one of them was in charge of the Postal Service in that locality.

Obviously, sending mail was not a common practice, and nowadays, the "Langlade" cancellation in the 19th century is extremely rare.

The only known item is a stamped mail with a 30c. Ceres general colonies addressed abroad. Not having the stamp available, the Post Office affixed his stamp on June 21, 1879 then the Saint-Pierre office added the necessary postage a week later (Private Coll.). The letter was still in the envelope

The first official stamps of Saint-Pierre and Miquelon were made in 1885 thanks to surcharges.

A priori, "Langlade" would have been supplied in 1885 by only a few copies of the 5 / 4c. lilac-brown. This stamp is also uncommon nowadays with a normal cancellation, that of the office of Saint-Pierre. On the other hand, if this obliteration comes from the

Langlade office, we can say "Eureka", because indeed, these 5 / 4c. lilac-brown become exceptional pieces. To date, four copies have been discovered with this stamp dated 13 April 1885 (Tillard Coll.). We can assume that they come from the same mail.

A letter sent to France or abroad required, in 1885, a postage of 25 cents. If so, a fifth copy might be isolated - like this locality at that time - in a collection.

A few months later, in February 1886, a lack of stamps in the colony gave rise to vignettes overloaded "P D" in black ink (P D = Paid at destination), used just over two weeks. They were not sold to the public, but stuck on the mail by the Post Office agent, then obliterated.

The town of Langlade has received some vignettes, and nowadays, two have been spotted including one with perfect readability (1st: Tillard Coll - 2nd: Private Coll.).

Here, the "PD / 5" is 5c. franked a local shipment. One can also notice the same date of obliteration affixed in

he same direction. It is likely that two letters sent at the same time.

Two exceptional pieces.

Conclusion:

Nowadays, the "Langlade" stamp no longer exists. The postal recipe, however 100 years old, was removed in the 1980s.

NAPEX 2018

Immerse yourself for 3 days of philatelic ecstasy. June 7-9 in McLean, Virginia.

Meetings and seminars by: International Japanese Philatelic Society American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors

International Philippine Philatelic Society American Revenue Association Chinese Philatelic Society Indochina Philatelic Society International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors

United States Philatelic Classics Society Rail Mail Service Canal Zone Study Group

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www.napex.org



New Issues

France

- ♦ 6 Jan 2018: Works of art featuring nature. Booklet of 12 different nondenominated designs valid for the priority letter rate in France. €11.40.
- ♦ 15 Jan 2018: 2018 Heart stamp. 2 designs inspired by Sonia Rykiel. €1.60 & 0.80.
- ♦ 29 Jan 2018: Léonard Foujita (artist) commemorative. €1.90.
- 3 Feb 2018: Works of art featuring dogs.
 Booklet of 12 different nondenominated designs valid for the green letter rate in France.
 €9.60.
- ♦ 12 Feb 2018: Short Film Festival. €1.30.
- ↑ Teb 2018: Chinese New Year; Year of the dog. Sheetlet of 4 same design nondenominated forever stamps valid for international priority letter rate. €7.30.
- ♦ 19 Feb 2018: Annette Messager (artist) commemorative. €1.90.

- ♦ 12 Mar 2018: Stamp Fete commemorative. Old cars motif. €0.80.
- ♦ 12 Mar 2018: Stamp fete commemorative. Sheetlet of one stamp. €1.60.
- ♦ 19 Mar 2018: Frantisek Kupka commemorative. €1.90.
- ♦ 23 Mar 2018: 200th anniversary of savings banks. €0.95.
- ♦ 26 Mar 2018: 120 year celebration of the ASPTT (Sports). €0.80.
- ♦ 3 Apr 2018: Leatherworking. €1.30.
- ◊ 9 Apr 2018: Spring stamp salon. €0.95.



Andorra

- ↑ 13 Jan 2018: Virgin of the snow chapel.
 4.05.
- ♦ 3 Feb 2018: 10th international mountain and snow tourism conference. €1.30.
- ↑ 10 Mar 2018: Andorran constitution anniversary. €0.95.
- 7 Apr 2018: Joan Miro commemorative.
 €1.20.



TAAF

- ↑ Jan 2018: Reindeer. Triptych of €0.85 stamps.
- 2 Jan 2018: Dr. Sapin-Jaloustre commemorative. €0.85.
- ♦ 2 Jan 2018: 20th anniversary of the treaty of Madrid. €0.85.
- 2 Jan 2018: Ectemnorhinus Viridis (insect).
 €1 55
- 2 Jan 2018: Prion de Mac Gillivray (bird).€1.00.
- 2 Jan 2018: Batral La Grandière (ship).
 €1 70
- ◊ 2 Jan 2018: Starfish of Terre-Adélie. Sheetlet of 3 different stamps. €0.85, 1.05, 1.55.
- ♦ 2 Jan 2018: Ilmenite, a crystal. 2 designs, setenant. €0.50 each.
- 2 Jan 2018: Canyon of the Black Eyebrows commemorative. €0.85.
- ◊ 2 Jan 2018: Keel of St Paul. €1.05.
- ◊ 2 Jan 2018: Pierre Etienne de Boynes commemorative. €0.85.



- ♦ 2 Jan 2018: The forgotten aerodrome of the Kerguelen Islands. €3.90.
- 2 Jan 2018: Insect of Crozet (spider). €0.85.
- ♦ 2 Jan 2018: Kubota tracked snow vehicle. €0.85.
- \Diamond 2 Jan 2018: Protected fauna of the TAAF. Sheetlet of 4 designs; 2 €0.85 and 2 €1.70.
- ♦ 6 Apr 2018: L'Astrolabe, ship. Nondenominated and valid for the 20 g. preferential rate. €0.85.
- ♦ 6 Apr 2018: District de Terre Adélie. €1.00.

French Polynesia

- ♦ 11 Jan 2018: 60th anniversary of Air Tahiti. 4 designs 80F, 40F, 20F, and 10F.
- ♦ 16 Feb 2018: Chinese New Year, Year of the Dog. 140F.
- ♦ 8 Mar 2018: Women's Day. 80F.
- ♦ 6 Apr 2018: 250th anniversary of the arrival of the ship Bougainville at Tahiti. 250F.



New Caledonia

- ♦ 19 Feb 2018: Chinese New Year, Year of the Dog. 75F.
- ♦ 10 Apr 2018: Caledonians at Vesles-et-Caumont in WW I. 75F.



Monaco

- ♦ 3 Jan 2018: Monte Carlo International Circus Festival €1.20.
- ♦ 17 Jan 2018: Grace Kelly Movies. 2 designs; €1.56 and 2.40.
- ♦ 8 Feb 2018: Winter Olympics in South Korea. €0.95.
- ♦ 8 Feb 2018: Rolex Masters Tennis Tournament in Monte Carlo. €1.90.
- ♦ 8 Feb 2018: International Dog Show at Monte Carlo. €0.78.
- ↑ 19 Feb 2018: Formula I driver Jim Clark. 2 designs se-tenant €0.95 and 1.20.
- ♦ 19 Feb 2018: Legendary race cars. 2 designs,



- €0.95 and 1.20.
- 7 Mar 2018: 50th anniversary of the Monte Carlo Garden Club. €1.90.
- ♦ 7 Mar 2018: Sea turtle care center. €1.20.
- ♦ 19 Mar 2018: Opera singers. 2 designs, €2.40 and 3.00.
- ♦ 19 Mar 2018: The 250th Anniversary of the Birth of François-Joseph Bosio, 1768-1845. €0.95.
- ♦ 19 Mar 2018: The nude in art. €3.12.

St. Pierre & Miquelon

- 17 Jan 2018: Red crowned warbler. €0.80.
- ♦ 14 Feb 2018: Woodpecker. €0.95.
- ♦ 14 Mar 2018: Le Nevé (ship). €0.95.



Wallis & Futuna

- ♦ 31 Jan 2018: Pilioko tableau. 85F.
- ♦ 16 Feb 2018: Chinese New Year, Year of the dog. 55F.



Note Concerning New Issue Section

My source for France, Andorra, TAAF, New Caledonia, French Polynesia, St. Pierre & Miquelon, and Service stamps is the website for the French P. T. T. This site's address is:

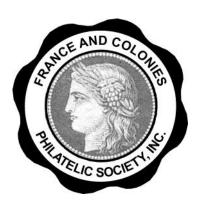
https://boutique.laposte.fr/collectionneur.

New issues for these countries can be purchased at this site.

My source for Monaco and Wallis & Futuna is StampWorld.com. The address for this site is:

https://www.stampworld.com/en_US/

ED



The Fantasy MARTI-NIQUE Overprints on the General Issues Postage Due Stamps

Edward Grabowski

Florida correspondent Ira Rose sent an email query about the history of three red MARTI-**NIQUE** overprints on the black French Colonies Duval postage due stamps, see Figure, that he had gotten in a recent collection. I was not aware of these overprints. I consulted the Yvert Tome II French Colonies catalog of 1936, and found no mention of them. I then went to the Dallay catalog Timbres des DOM-TOM 2006-2007, and found the following note with a single example on the 2c issue: 'Postage due stamps of the French Colonies General Issues exist with a diagonal overprint MARTINIQUE (in red), and are fabrications done by postal workers. They are fantasy issues.' I consulted Dick Stevens on these, and he noted that he sees examples for sale on eBay from time to time. Ira did not need these for his collection, and graciously forwarded them to me for this note and a better scan of how they appear. As clearly seen, they are very crudely done and easily recognized.



Postal Modernization In French Polynesia And Ivory Coast

The French overseas administrative area of French Polynesia and the former French territory of Ivory Coast are both small out-ofthe-way places. The demand for postage meters is not great, and modern digital meters have only recently turned up. Shown here are the first digital stamps of both countries, a Neo-post IJ series stamp from French Polynesia, Figure 3, and another Neopost, with 2D barcode, from the Ivory Coast, Figure 4. Both stamps are different enough from earlier meter stamps that they required their own Groups in the catalog, Group B and Type B 1 for French Polynesia, and Group C and Type C1 for Ivo- ry Coast. Thanks to Marc Perrin for reporting the Ivory Coast stamp. Note the elephant head logo at top right, something new for topical collectors.



Figure 3. First Digital Meter for French Polynesia, Neopost IJ, Type B1.



Figure 4. First Digital Meter for Ivory Coast, Type C1. Note elephant head logo.

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Society News

Convention Schedule

November 2018 CHICAGOPEX Westin Chicago Northwest 400 Park Boulevard Itasca, Illinois 60143

January 2020 Southeastern Stamp Expo Hilton Hotel Atlanta Northeast 5993 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard Norcross, GA 30092

CHICAGOPEX information and highlights
Nov. 16-18th at the Westin Chicago Northwest;
630) 773-4000
www.WestinChicagoNorthwest.com
Chicagopex room rate is \$125

75 dealers

270 frames of exhibits

Free admission



Instructions for authors

Electronic submission using Microsoft Word © is preferred. Pictures scanned at 300 dpi reproduce well and can be shown larger without losing clarity. The preferred format for the pictures will remain TIF but JPEG is acceptable..

In all cases if you need assistance in producing your article, cover write up, column closer, or other submission contact me: nrasmu@gmail.com or 1029 University Ave., Apt 401, Morgantown, WV 26505, or 304-290-6117.

Deadlines are the 15th of the month preceding publication (December 15, March 15, June 15, September 15) but I can be reasonable.

ED

President's Letter

hat a way to start out: a comment that most of us who live north of the Tropic of Cancer are still waiting for spring. There is hope, but it is still cold where I am. Enough! To our business, of which there is much.

First order of business is again to solicit interest in being a trustee of our society. Mr. Tucker's demise last year created a hole for us in many ways, not least of which is his former position on the board. We need one or more of you to step forward and volunteer to take his place.

It's really not a difficult job. I would describe the time commitment as attendance at our in person meetings once every eighteen months or so. Not everyone can make it, so this isn't a deal breaker. We also expect attendance at board meetings, which we hold by telephone about once per year. In addition you would assume the normal responsibilities of any trustee to safeguard the assets of our society, recruit new members, and promote the philately of France and colonies. The financial commitment is the cost of attending our meetings and an expectation that you contribute something above our basic dues amount to help defray costs of the journal. That doesn't seem to be too tough, does it? So will you step forward to keep our society going?

Next is to report on our telephonic board meeting in March. The most important item of business was the cost of printing the journal. As you can see from our treasurer's report in January, it is a losing proposition. There are a couple of alternatives.

Choice A: we can burn up our treasury doing what we are doing. Not a good idea.



Choice B: we can raise dues. Resident dues in 1941 (our founding) were \$2, which would be about \$35 today. Halve that for non-residents and you get about where we are. The journal in the early days was nowhere near what it is today, so it should be worth more anyway. But a dues increase seems like the wrong answer when we have Choice C.

Choice C: we can deliver our journal electronically with a more expensive paper option. That is what our board decided to do starting in 2019. The advantages are pretty clear. You will receive a searchable color PDF (actually, you will probably get an email with a link to our website where you can read or download the journal). If you wish to get a paper version in the mail, there will be an extra charge. The paper version is likely to be stapled in the corner and produced on a copier or home printer, not the equivalent of our current professionally printed journal. So please think about this as the year goes on so you are ready to make your choice when renewing dues for next year.

Third, the board also discussed our website. Ralph DeBoard has been working apace to get our journals uploaded, and several decades' worth are now on line. We discussed a member area, which we are beta testing (with some unsolved problems at the moment). Keep visiting our site, www.franceandcolps.org, to stay up to date on this.

Fourth, our society owns a bunch of its old journals and other publications, stored mostly at one location in New Jersey. If you have any desire at all to own paper copies of these, now is the time to ask. Contact Joel Bromberg, who will make arrangements. Once our journals are on line, we

expect to send the rest of the back issues off to the pulper.

Fifth, our editor, Norval Rasmussen, has agreed to serve as an expertizer for French colonial material on the APS expertizing committee. This begins to fill a hole that has hampered the APS's ability to issue certificates on French area stamps. However, we can use more experts. I encourage you to speak with Tom Horn, twhorn@stamps.org, if you have any interest at all. He can confirm what they are seeking and the two of you can decide if you are a fit.

Sixth, if you are one of our delinquents, it's past time to settle your dues! Let's git 'er done! Keep our society up and running, friends — it depends entirely on you.

Seventh, by the time you get this our November meeting will be just six months away! We need a strong showing of exhibits, so find your way to h t t p://www.chicagopexcurrent.html and send in a prospectus. Show off your beautiful French stamps! This is the time to exhibit, when folks will be expecting to see some really pretty stamps and cover.

We also need more volunteers for our program. As I said last quarter, you can put on a Power-Point show, you can hand around an interesting cover or two or fifty, or you can regale us with stories of how and what you collect. We are an informal group, so there is no need to be uncomfortable. Please tell us about your collection.

Have you noticed the theme (as it always is)? Our society, just like most other groups whether or not philatelic, is filled with interesting people. There is a cadre who gets things done, and there is a larger group who reads / attends / accepts what is offered. It is a constant hope that some members of that larger group will get off the bench and join the game. It really is fun and worthwhile. So

please be one of those folks right now. We're depending on your time, talent and to a lesser extent, your treasure, to prosper.



We Get Letters

Dear Editor,

Could you please publish this request im the next issue of the FCP.

Who is M. Kurkjian?

Last year four covers appeared on eBay, each sent to same addressee (Monsieur A. Kurkjian, 62 Boulevard Pasteur, Amiens (Somme)), each with a current definitive from a booklet with advertising label attached. I won two of them. The covers have different handwriting and are from different locations, so presumably they were not sent by M.





Kurkjian to himself. The dates span 1928 to 1935. Some of the stamps are not carefully placed on the envelope, suggesting that at least some of the senders were not collectors. Does anyone know who M. Kurkjian was and why he received these covers with an advertising label?

Larry Rosenblum 3472

Djibouti new issues

What Did I Miss?

I am an average North American stamp collector with an interest in East Africa. I originally wrote this note for my local stamp club's monthly Bulletin. It sat on my desk because I lacked hard information. I am only speculating. The France and Colonies Philatelist arrived on my desk so I decided to run it up the flag post with you before sending it to the club hoping for more information. Diibouti is a small ex East Africa French colony located in the Horn of Africa. It is strategically located at the south end of the Red Sea between Eritrea to the north, Ethiopia to the west, Somalia to the south and Yemen 20 miles east across the Red Sea. This harsh location controls the southern access to and from the Suez Canal and is the main historical access for landlocked Ethiopia to the ocean. Depending on French political needs at the time name changed starting with Obock, French Somali Coast, Afars and Issas and since 1977 Republic of Djibouti.

This summer I found a free hour when it was raining to look at putting a small lot of Djibouti in my album that I had picked up in a stamp exchange. I opened my Scott catalogue and was smacked in the face by pages and pages of new stamps beginning in 2016 and continuing into 2017. What happened to the "by present day standards" conservative stamp issuing policy of Djibouti? Does anyone have information of the political-economic reason for this change?

In my opinion the Scott catalogue gives short shift to Africa and the Middle East. I refer to the Scott catalogue because it is the most common catalogue among the members of the club. When working with stamps for these locations the two general worldwide catalogues I use are Michel and Yvert et Tellier. All the stamps listed by Scott as issued by Djibouti 2016-2017 I assume are connected with the company Neofila in Lithuania. Is this correct? If not who is the printer? I assume that Neofila is the present face of the source of the bogus stamps that flooded out of Lithuania after the collapse of the Soviet Union. The issuing of bogus issues continues at the present time. It is an interesting relationship between East Africa countries and Neofila stamps (or whoever are the printers of the illegal stamps). For example Neofila stamps have been used by Djibouti since the inception of the republic with the independence issue in 27 June 1977, Scott #457- 458. During the time Djibouti is using stamps printed by Neofila Djibouti Post is declaring "Illegal" issues, in the Universal Postal Union circulars, of Mushrooms, Scouts, etc.

With the policy change in 2016 the 96 sets of Neofila issues begin with the Scott catalogue #858 a - d, a souvenir sheet #916 and in addition but not listed in Scott is a deluxe souvenir sheet. These sets are thematic topical stamps; animals, birds, scouts, reptiles, cars, planes, trains, paintings, personalities, Elvis, Marilyn, Pope, military, etc. Neofila lists 115 sets of stamps printed for Djibouti in 2016. There are 19 more stamp sets in the Neofila list but not recognized by the Scott catalogue. I have not identified all the Neofila sets not on the Scott list but the US President Trump stamp set is conspicuously absent from the Scott catalogue.

After all my ramblings, have I missed a UPS Bulletin, a philatelic notice explaining the change in the stamp issuing policy of Djibouti Post? If any

member has any information on Djibouti stamp issues and postal policy please contact me.

Trivia - my synopsis from Wikipedia when looking for Neofila; a modern derivative of the Latin word neophytus implying born again.

Richard Barnes rtbarnes@shaw.ca

100F Airmail

Dear Editor:

Thanks for sending me 3 copies of the FACP with my article on the 1000 Fr. Air Mail.

I read the article by Thomas Broadhead. I feel that the beginning paragraph " The article by Enrique Setaro, 'Franco-Russian Alliance on Stamps", neglects much information ...".

It seem that I was at fault with my article. I would have expect, being Thomas an expert in this subject, to say something like: "I would like to expand on the article by Enrique Setaro presenting here more information, that I had presented in my 2013 article."

This would have avoided a conflict that should not be part of the membership of the FACS.

Best regards .. Enrique Setaro

And I have received several compliments and requests for the 100F airmail stamp article.

ED

Print in color

Hello, Norval: I belong to a number of other philatelic societies. In every case the dues are higher than FCPS.

In addition, the journal (newsletter) is quarterly and in color. This probably allows for lower costs and less pressure on the editor. So, I suggest going to at least \$30 and 4 times a year journal with color.

Regards, Jon Hussey

Wrong Number on January Issue of the FCP

Dear Norval,

I received my UPS shipment of 16 January 2018 Philatelists today (The USPS has not delivered my single copy yet.)

When I entered them into my Inventory listing, I discovered that they are marked as Whole No. 328. That was the Whole No. used for the April 2017 issue. This should have been Whole No.331 For my convenience, I will change the number on my inventory copies to 331.. I assume the April 2018 issue will be Whole No. 332.

Just a little glitch to be avoided in the future.

Thank you, Dick Stevens

Sure enough.

ED

Editorial

Norval Rasmussen



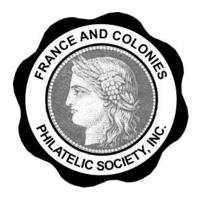
We have some good articles this issue. I hope you enjoy them as much as I did.

I am in the process of sending pdf journmal copies to Ralph and he is putting them on the website. When finished we will have color issues from 2009 through 2018 and will continue adding. For now, anyone desiring a color pdf has only to ask.

I am including a prospectus and philatelic entry form for Chicagopex 2018. Hope to see many French area exhibits. The last time we went to Chicago we had 18 gold medals earned by 19 members' exhibits.

Please look at your collections and send me scans of interesting items. Tell me what makes it interesting and I will even write it for you. My journalist/editor/historian wife has been working with me on editing skills. Still too much white space and you could help me fill those holes.

Have a nice summer and I'll hope to see you in Chicago.



Membership Notices

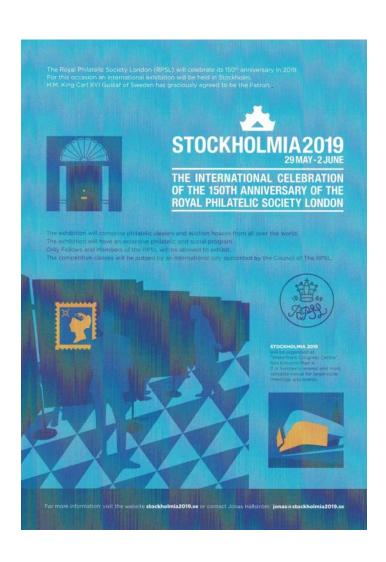
NEW MEMBERS

3491 Farrell, William H. 2465 Wilmhurst Road Deland, FL 32720-2388

RESIGNATIONS RECEIVED:

2207. Sandberg, Charles A.

1122 Wilson, Ralph G.



Members Appeals

WANTED: Tunisian high value airmail stamps, Scott numbers C17-C20 on cover. Scans with asking price to Norval Rasmussen at nrasmu@gmail.com or 1029 University Ave, Apt 401, Morgantown, WV 26505.

Show Reports

Garfield-Perry March Party

Cleveland, OH March 22-24, 2018

Single frame Gold to *Paul Larsen* for "Leeward Islands Federal Postal Stationery of the King George V Reign: Registered Envelopes." Also United Postal Stationery Society Single Frame Award and British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group Medal Award of Excellence

Saint Louis Stamp Expo 2018

St Louis, MO March 16-18, 2018

Single Frame Grand and Gold to *Ralph De-Board* for "The Postal History of Tahiti: The Stampless Era." Large Vermeil to *Ralph De-Board* for "French Polynesia: The Regular Issue of 1958: Design, Production and Usages." Also APS Award of Excellence 1940-1980.

Sandical 2018

San Diego, CA January

Southeastern Stamp Expo 2018

Norcross, GA, Jan 26-28, 2018

Single frame Large Gold and ATHENS PHILA-TELIC SOCIETY MEMORIAL ONE-FRAME GRAND AWARD to **Thomas Broadhead** for "Balloon Post Cards of the Franco-German War - 1870-1871."

Philatelic Exhibitor's Prospectus Our 132nd Anniversary

Chicago Philatelic Society
CHICAGOPEX 2018

November 16-18, 2018

Rules and Regulations Governing Philatelic Exhibits

- 1. Each prospective exhibitor must submit an entry application, properly completed, accompanied by seven copies of the title page of the exhibit (and synopsis if available). Neither the exhibitor's name nor any other personally identifiable information may be included in the exhibit or the synopsis. A separate application must be submitted for each entry. Each exhibit must be the property of the exhibitor. The CHICAGOPEX Philatelic Exhibits Committee will decide whether an application is accepted or rejected; no reason need be given for a rejection. Decisions of the CHICAGOPEX Philatelic Exhibits Committee are final.
- 2. Exhibits can be mounted on any size sheets, encased in transparent sheet protectors for mounting in the frames. CHICAGOPEX frames have an inside display dimension of 35" wide, 5634" high and ½" deep (88×145×1cm). Each frame will hold 16 pages of size 9"×11½" (22.5×28cm) or smaller, in four rows of four pages each. Eight 11 x 17 or larger can also be used. In determining the number of pages a frame will accommodate, measure the album page exclusive of the hinge or binding margin. A small amount overlapping of album pages is permitted.
- 3. The entry fee is \$15 per exhibit plus \$10 per frame, except for applicants under the age of 21 for whom the fee is \$1 per frame. The Exhibits Committee reserves the right to limit the number of frames per exhibit to the available space, or to refund entry fees of exhibits which in the opinion of the Exhibits Committee cannot be accommodated. Failure to exhibit after an entry has been accepted will cause forfeiture of all entry fees.
- 4. A panel of APS accredited judges will act as jury. The decisions of the jury shall be final. The exhibitor agrees to release and hold harmless the judges, the American Philatelic Society and the Chicago Philatelic Society, their officers, directors, employees, and representatives from any damages, including but not limited to damages to the exhibitor's reputation or that of the exhibitor's exhibit, suffered or incurred as a result of the judging. The Grand Award recipient will be eligible to participate in the APS' "Champion of Champions" World Series of Philately.
- Exhibits will be mounted on the evening of Thursday, November 15, 2018, between 4:00pm and 7:00pm. After the
 exhibitor checks in at the Exhibits Committee table, a member of the Chicago Philatelic Society will assist the exhibitor with
 mounting his or her exhibit.
- 6. No exhibit may be removed prior to the close of the exhibition on Sunday, November 18, 2018, at 3:00pm. Travel plans should be made accordingly. Please note that our show site is at least 30 minutes from O'Hare Airport.
- 7. The application deadline is August 31, 2018. Applicants will be notified of acceptance no later than September 15, 2017.
- 8. Mailed in exhibits must be sent prepaid, and will be returned at the expense of the owner. Only mail via USPS will be accepted.

 Mailed in exhibits must be sent so that they will arrive between November 9 and 13, 2018, to the address supplied in the acceptance letter. We welcome exhibits from overseas collectors, but are unable to deal with customs matters; we therefore suggest that some third party be arranged to act as "Commissioner" for such exhibits.
- 9. Each exhibitor must arrange for private insurance during transit to and from the exhibition, and at the exhibition itself.
- 10. Due precautions will be taken to protect exhibits against loss or damage, including security guards on 24-hour duty. No responsibility of any kind or character shall attach, however, to CHICAGOPEX, the Chicago Philatelic Society, the Westin Chicago Northwest, or to any of their officers, agents, members or employees, for any loss, damage or costs arising from any cause or reason whatsoever.
- 11. The exhibitor's signature on the application constitutes acceptance of the Rules and Regulations in this prospectus.

Awards

10. Postal History

Regular Awards: CHICAGOPEX is an "Open Class" competitive exhibition. An unlimited number of Large Gold, Gold, Large Vermeil, Vermeil, Large Silver, Silver, Silver-Bronze and Bronze medals will be made available to the jury. Each entry will be judged on its own merits, regardless of the classification. Special Awards: CHICAGOPEX Grand (Bernard Hennig Award), Reserve Grand (Felix Ganz Award), Single-Frame Grand, and Best Youth Exhibit award (Bette & Ralph Herdenberg Award); Chicago Philatelic Society Awards: Best Exhibit by a CPS member other than the Grand or Reserve Grand; Best Exhibit by a First Time Exhibitor at National Level; other awards, including APS, AAPE and specialty society awards will be made available as determined by the Awards Committee.

General Class Exhibits (all multi-frame exhibits)

1. Advertising, Patriotic and Event Covers 11. Postal Stationery 2. Aerophilately 12. Revenue 3. Astrophilately 13. Thematic 4. Cinderella 14. Topical 5. Display 15. Traditional 6. Experimental 7. First Day Covers 16. One-Frame Class 8. Maximaphily 17. Youth Class 9. Picture Postcards

Area: A) U.S. B) Foreign

Send Completed Applications to:

Chicagopex 2017 Exhibits Tim Wait PO Box 16131 Loves Park, IL 61132

Chicago Philatelic Society

Philatelic Exhibit Application Our 132nd Anniversary

CHICAGOPEX 2018

November 16-18, 2018

Please enter the following exhibit, subject to the rules and regulations in the CHICAGOPEX 2018 Philatelic Exhibitor's Prospectus, and in this application, to all of which I agree to be bound. The application deadline is August 31, 2018.

Title of exhibit (for Show Program listing;	please type or print):		
Please reserve	frames in Area	and Class/Division	(see prospectus)
Entry Fee (\$15 + \$10 per frame unless Return Postage: \$ Tot	youth exhibit in w	hich case \$1 per frame): \$	
Exhibit will be brought & mounted by Exhibit will be taken down by	1	; or sent via:	
Name and address of exhibitor (please tyr) Name:		Telephone: Country:	
Are you a member of the Chicago Phi	For the second s		
Have you previously had any exhibit i What award(s) has this exhibit receive	ed previously, and	where? International:	
National:	Local:		(Use back if needed)
Due precaution will be taken to protect exhibing applying to exhibit, however, the exhibit CHICAGOPEX, Chicago Philatelic Society or employees for any loss, damage or costs to In addition, exhibitor acknowledges that CHI not maintain insurance covering exhibitor' damage insurance covering any such possible.	bitor agrees that no re, Westin Chicago No. o exhibitor or exhibit and ICAGOPEX, Chicago s property and that it	esponsibility of any kind or of thwest, or to any of their of ising from any cause or reason Philatelic Society, and the Wes	character shall attach to ficers, agents, members whatsoever. stin Chicago Northwest do
Signature of exhibitor:		Date:	
If under legal age, Parent/Guardian's s			
Please mail completed entry form, entry	y fee, seven copies of	title page (and synopsis if	available) to:
(CHICAGOPEX 20 c/o Tim Wait P. O. Box 16131 oves Park, IL 6113	018	
Questions: t	.wait@comcast.net	or to above address	
	—— for committee	e use ————	
Exhibit Mounted by:			Frame
Exhibit Taken Down by:			Numbers:
Disposition of Exhibit: Received by:			