

France & Colonies Philatelist



Published bi-monthly by the France and Colonies Group

Secretary: Mrs. Helen A. Stringham, 34 Minerva Ave., Manasquan, N.J.

Editor: Stephen G. Rich, P.O. Box B, Verona, N.J.

January 1859
10c Lithographed

1. Word CHIFFRE 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. long.
2. Word CHIFFRE 1 mm. high.
3. Inside width of the zero 2 mm.
4. Word CENTIMES 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ mm. high.
5. Spaces between C and E, E and N of CENTIMES, $\frac{1}{2}$ mm.
6. a 1 mm. wide
7. Accent on a almost horizontal.
8. Space between I and M $\frac{2}{3}$ mm.
9. Numerals of value 5 mm. high.



March 1859
10c Typographed

1. Word CHIFFRE 9 mm. long.
2. Word CHIFFRE 1 $\frac{1}{5}$ mm. high.
3. Inside width of the zero 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ mm.
4. Word CENTIMES 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. high.
5. Spaces between C and E, E and N of CENTIMES, $\frac{1}{3}$ mm.
6. a 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ mm. wide.
7. Accent on a almost vertical.
8. Space between I and M $\frac{1}{2}$ mm.
9. Numerals of value 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ mm. high.

1862
15c Typographed

1. Word CHIFFRE 9 mm. long.
2. In 5, upper loop is $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. from lower loop.
3. S in CENTIMES raised slightly.
4. Accent on a almost vertical.
5. In "percevoir" the c is almost closed.
6. Word CENTIMES 12 mm. long.
7. Numeral 1 is 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ mm. thick.
8. Numeral 1 has serifs thicker at tips.



1870
15c Lithographed

1. Word CHIFFRE 9 $\frac{1}{3}$ mm. long.
2. In 5, upper loop is $\frac{1}{4}$ mm. from lower loop.
3. Accent on a almost horizontal.
4. In "percevoir" the letters are thin, c open, dot over i is small.
5. Word CENTIMES 12 $\frac{1}{3}$ mm. long.
6. Numeral 1 is 1 mm. thick.
7. Numeral 1 has serifs uniformly thick.

See article on next page

Unravelling the First Two Values of French Dues

By I. de Saint Brice

Translated from France-Philatelie, March 15, 1947

See illustrations on previous page.

Up to 1859, letters unpaid or insufficiently paid, were assessed due postage by means of a special handstamp, usually struck in black, but exceptionally in red; or the amount to be paid was written in with a pen. But this system, involving numerous inconveniences, was overcome by the use of due stamps, which were prescribed on Jan. 1 1859, for mail of "local origin unpaid: that is, for matter mailed within the same unit of postal administration as the office to which it was addressed, other than within Paris.

Meanwhile, up to 1882, in all other cases, due postage was handled as before, by manuscript markings or by dated town marks struck at the sending office and including the amount of due postage to be paid on delivery.

Among the due stamps, without doubt the most interesting are the 10 centimes and 15 centimes which each appear in two types, the lithographed and the typographed. As we have stated in our work, "Etude sur les Timbres-Taxe," the thorny task of separating these two types is the bugbear of collectors. Therefore we shall present in this article a solution of this problem, as clear and as complete as possible in the limited space available.

The 10 centimes lithographed, issued on Jan. 1, 1859, imperforate on white paper in the first printing and imperforate on lightly gray paper in the second, was the first stamp made for the collection of postage due on local mail. Early in January 1859, the black is most intense. From mid-January to the end of February, it is tending towards grayish.

In May 1859, an official circular sent to the postmasters, informed them that "by the public notice of April 25, 1859, the method of collecting postage due on unpaid letters, applied to local and rural mail," is extended, from June 1, to all matter originating in and deliverable in the administrative unit of each postal district.

The stamp used was the imperforate 10 centimes typographed, in use since March. Printing by lithography was too slow; recourse was had to quicker production by typography. Thus, the lithographed 10c did not continue in use beyond two months -- though it is found used even as late as 1860 by some small post offices.

In 1862, the postage due on letters not prepaid was raised to 15c. So the 10c typographed stamp became useless. From Jan. 1 1863, it was replaced by the 15c typographed, of the same design, issued imperforate on white or yellowish paper. This stamp continued in service until the end of September 1871.

In 1870, when communications with besieged Paris were broken, due stamps were made from a lithographic stone at Bordeaux, thus completing the "Bordeaux Issue." The lithographed 15c black, issued in Nov. 1879, imperforate on white or blue-grayish paper, did little service, and during only a short time. Thus it is very scarce used. In contrast, it is very plentiful unused. Even now it is found in blocks and strips. The supply comes from remainders of stocks which were sent from Bordeaux to many offices in the north and the east and from remainders of stock from stamp receiving offices in the south, when the due rate was raised to 25c.

We give the distinctive characteristics for the 10c and 15c lithographed, the 10c and 15c typographed, enabling them to be recognized.

{The reader needs to notice that, as well as the generally known but often puzzling slope of the accents on a, there are other easy points for recognition of each. The accent is stated to be "horizontal" or "vertical" but actually, it is not even "almost" that way. Much more convenient is this distinction: the line of the accent clears the top of the a in both of the lithographed stamps, but runs into the letter in both the typographed stamps.

There are other easy points for recognition: such are shape of 0 in 10, space between curls of 5 in 15, style of lettering of "percevoir," in the 15c. Use of these will avoid need for measuring small distances. The usual different appearance of lithographed and typographed work shows far less clearly in these stamps than is usually the case: the lithographic "irregular string of beads" appearance is not very clear.

--- Editor, F. & C. Phil.)

(See also Mr. Dilleman's article in L'Echo de la Timbrologie, Sept. 30, 1934. From this we add:

First day use of the lithographed 10c is a great rarity, scarcer than the 20c postage stamp used on Jan. 1, 1849.

The typographed 10c has been seen on cover of Feb. 28, 1859.

From 1861 on, the plates were made by a new process, and gave less clear impressions.

Until 1863 the due rate was the same as for prepaid letters; after that, 5c more until 1871. On local initiative only, not authorized, dues were used on letters insufficiently paid, prior to 1871.

Failure to use due stamps for mail requiring their use was cause for dismissal of the carrier omitting to do so.

Over 8 million due stamps were used in the year 1859.)



Famous buildings of Paris and a view of the Seine river and its many bridges provide a striking design for the 1,000 francs air mail stamp which France issued Jan. 17, 1950.

Courtesy of Western Stamp Collector. As when we showed the 1947 500f a year ago, this picture is inserted for those who may wish to clip it to use on an album page. Several members wrote appreciatively about doing so, then.



Algerian R.P.O. postmark of a fairly early period shown by courtesy of our member R.S. Gordon.



Type Sage Stamps Hardly Commemoratives

By S.G. Rich

In No. 35 of this journal, Sept.-Oct. 1947, an article by me appeared, citing the 1876-1900 Type Sage stamps of France as the world's first commemorative stamps. This article drew some questions about the grounds for such nature of this series. In particular, Dr. Carroll Chase very properly asked for the source of any such attribution. For two and a half years I have been trying to locate the forgotten source from which came this attribution. Unfortunately, at the time I had not made any memorandum of it.

In mid-1950 I again ran across the source of the commemorative idea.

W. Ward's book, "The Postage Stamps of France" published 1932 in London, was the locus, pp. 30 and 31. Mr. Ward, in no sense an original writer but a competent, careful student of sources, was sure enough of his ground to say:

"Within five years of the debacle of September, 1870, the Third Republic recorded its aims of rejuvenation in the design of its new postage stamps."

And again:

"The first notice of the new issue to celebrate France's freedom from the Prussian spider's web, was announced in the official journal of August 9th, 1875, when it was stated that a design by M. Jules Auguste Sage had been adopted."

I took this as a lead, looked up the history of France, its postal history in Maury's great book and its general history in the Britannica. From the facts found, and Mr. Ward's hint, the inference as to commemorative nature of stamps in Type Sage was my own induction.

Communicating the situation to Dr. Chase, in mid-1950, I received a courteous and illuminating answer. I quote his words:

"To the best of my knowledge no one in France ever thought of this issue as commemorative and it seems to me this is a clinching fact."

And again:

"I feel very strongly that had the French Government intended this issue to commemorate one or more events, it would so have stated when the stamps appeared. I am satisfied that no such statement was made."

As the commemorative idea is my own, based on date thus shown to be hardly sufficient, now I have abandoned that idea because it is not proven.

The 1950 Colonial Semi-Postals

FRENCH COLONIES — A single design in various color combinations has been utilized for a semi-postal series consisting of one stamp for each of ten different colonies, for the benefit of French Overseas assistance. All stamps have a value of 10 plus 2fr except that for French India which is 1 fanon plus 10 caches. The

design shows a doctor administering medical aid to a native child, a map of France, a sailing vessel and with heads of various racial types as border ornaments. Five different color schemes are used, as follows: red-brown and deep brown—French West Africa and New Caledonia; red-brown and red—French Somaliland and St. Pierre; blue and deep blue—French India and Togo; blue-green and purple—Fr. Equatorial Africa and Madagascar; blue-green and green—Cameroons and French Oceania.



Courtesy Leon Monodson

Chambers Stamp Journal
June 19, 1950

FRENCH SUDAN The Post Office List, 1948

By Edmond Queyroy

We continue the office listings for the West African colonies, taken from public notice, July 17 1948, No. 3273, with those of French Sudan.

Six colonies have been reported in this way in previous numbers, beginning with No. 42, and one more remains to complete after Sudan.

These lists will help to avoid stamps which are illegitimately cancelled (for sale to us of the philatelic public), and to determine post-war boundary changes.

French Sudan:

A. Independent or "full" offices.

Bamako (head office or *Rapette Principale* --- often abbreviated RP in official or philatelic writings)

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| Ansongo | Kita |
| Bafoulabé | Kolokani |
| Baguineda | Koulikoro |
| Banamba | Koulouba |
| Bandiagara | Kourouma |
| Barouéli | Koutiala |
| Bougouni | Macina |
| Bourem | Markala |
| Dioila | Ménaka |
| Diré | Mopti |
| Djenné | Nara |
| Douentza | Niafunké |
| Fana | Niono |
| Gao | Nioro |
| Goundam | San |
| Gourma-Rharous | Ségou |
| Kalana | Sikasso |
| Kati | Sofara |
| Kayes | Tombouctou |
| Kénieba | Toukoto |
| Kidal | Yelimané |

B. Subordinate or Secondary offices (Postal Agencies)

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Diakarabé | branch of | Macina |
| Dioro | branch of | Ségou |
| Fadougou | branch of | Kénieba |
| Hombori | branch of | Douentza |
| Kabara | branch of | Tombouctou |
| Mourdiah | branch of | Bamako |
| Ségala | branch of | Kayes |
| Sokolo | branch of | Niono |
| Tessalit | branch of | Gao |

(Some of the pronunciations are: Douentza as "Dwaynt-Sah"; Tombouctou as "Timbuctoo"; Kayes as "Cayze". --- Editor, F. & C. Phil)

The interesting current stamps of the two former Italian areas in North Africa that are now French.



FEZZAN — This African military territory occupied by the French has issued a set of 11 stamps with designs and denominations as follows: 1fr gray and 2fr rose, Djerma monument; 4fr brown and 5fr emerald green, tombs of Beni-Khettab; 8fr blue, 10fr brown and 12fr deep green, native irrigation device; 15fr red and 20fr gray, Col. Colonna D'Orlando and the fort named in his honor; 25fr blue and 50fr red, General LeClere and map of his route of March from Fort Lamy, in the Chad region, to Paris and to Berchtesgaden, Germany.



GHADAMES — This French-occupied territory in Africa has issued a set of ten stamps showing the Cross of Agadem, as illustrated here. Values and colors are: 4fr gray and brown, 5fr blue and green, 8fr gray and brown-red, 10fr gray and blue, 12fr violet and magenta, 15fr brown and red, 20fr gray and green, 25fr gray and blue, 50fr violet and red, and 100fr gray and dull red.

Chambers Stamp Journal

Gerard Gilbert Memorial Award

At the Pre-Centenary Dinner of the Group, on Oct. 23, 1948, Mr. Raoul Lesgor announced that the Gerard Gilbert Memorial Award, in memory of that great student of French and other stamps--our late member, Mr. Gerard Gilbert-- would each year be given for the best contribution of an original nature, to the philately of France and French Colonies.

For 1949, the award was made by a committee appointed by Mr. George Weiler during his term as president of the Group. This award is now reported:

The winners are:

Meade Minnigerode
and

Raoul Lesgor,

for their book:

"The Cancellations of French Stamps
of the Classic Issues 1849-1876"

Certificates for the award are being prepared and will be sent to the winners. We have not yet had word whether anything further will be given--though the 1948 announcement stated that there would be a "substantial recognition," as the award.

Your editor joins with others in heartiest congratulations to the winners.

Officers of the Group, 1950-51.

President: Alan R. Fernald, 71 Washington Sq.,
New York 12, N.Y.
Vice-President: Wm. S. Delafield, 3240 Henry
Hudson Parkway, New York 63, N.Y.
Secretary: Mrs. Helen A. Stringham, 34 Minerva
Ave., Manasquan, N.J.
Recording Secretary: Miss Louise Clemenson, 30
Monroe St. B-H-5, New York 2, N.Y.
Treasurer: Dr. Robert L. Wood, 395 Clinton Ave.,
Brooklyn 5, N.Y.
Directors: Miss Helen Feneberg, Philadelphia, Pa.
Raoul Lesgor, New York, N.Y.
Stephen G. Rich, Verona, N.J.
Harold Noren, Woodside, L.I., N.Y.
Editor of Philatelist: Stephen G. Rich, P.O. Box
B, Verona, N.J.

THE NEW SERVICE

(We continue this name although this service has been running for over three years)

Want and exchange notices only; members only; one or two insertions only; no charge. Those who reply will please offer only what is asked.

Wanted: International and French Colonial Reply Coupons from France and colonies...prefer to buy....have some of France to swap. Leo F. Goerth, P.O. Box 6, Cincinnati 7, Ohio. (Member 349)

Wanted to buy: Used French Colonies, mixtures, accumulations and collections. Lewis Izzo, 628 Woodward Ave., Iron Mountain, Mich. (Member 351)

Wanted: Covers of all stamps of French Oceania from 1892 to 1920; also used blocks of 4 off cover. H.M. Barnhart, D.D.S., 2185 Huntington Drive, San Marino 9, Calif. (Member 392)

If you have the 5 France Type Sage (Scott 96 or 96a) of France with clearly showing date in the cancellation, please offer it me on approval at your price. S.G. Rich, Verona, N.J. (Member 2).



France released July 10 a six-value series honoring leaders of the French Revolution. Shown are two stamps from this set.
(Courtesy Gimbels Stamp Dept.)

Bugeaud is a philatelic familiar (France 1141). A Marshal of France in 1843-49, his greatest military victory was against the forces of Abd-el-Kader at Isly in 1844, this triumph winning for him the title of Duke of Isly. It was the Battle of Isly which the 1944 French stamp bearing his likeness commemorates.



SCOTT'S MONTHLY JOURNAL

SECRETARY'S REPORT May 15 through August 15, 1950.

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome --

- 442 Beltz, Charles F., 230 Courtland St., East Stroudsburg, Pa. (France and Colonies, U.S., Great Britain)
- 443 Rediger, Emilia, Lexington, Ill. (France & Colonies old issues)
- 444 Ven Meter, David, 525 West Foster Avenue, State College, Pa. (France)
- 445 Page, Seymour, 4 Marshall Road, Hamden 14, Conn. (France, U.S., Canada)

APPLICATION PENDING:

Hughes, The Rev. A.L. Ronald, The Rectory, Llangynyw near Welshpool, Montgomeryshire, Great Britain.

NEW APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:

Byrne, William E., P.O. Box 836, Lexington, Va.
Hampson, Elmer, 3 Hillside Ave. Nutley 10, New Jersey.

RESIGNATIONS RECEIVED:

- 204 Seed, Allen H., Jr., Wayzata, Minn.
- 128 Tucker, D.J., Chestnut Hill 67, Mass.
- 355 Waldbott, George L., M.D., Detroit, Mich.

DECEASED:

- 43 Kirchofer, Arnold, Albany, N.J. (reported in S.P.A. Journal, June 1950)

CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

- 38 Borie, Renshaw, to 115 South Beechwood St., Philadelphia 3, Pa.
- 412 Knowles, Buford L., to Haines City, Fla.
- 435 Oakes, Frank E., to Box 4174 W.C., Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida.
- 187 Wright, Comdr. W.R., to 205 North Abington St., Arlington 3, Va.

(Correction)

- 381 Quint, H.F. is at 3400 Gillham Road, Kansas City 2, Mo. (street name not correct as given in No. 51)

LOST:

- 311 Ipp, John A., whose last known address is 701 East State St., Trenton, N.J.

DUES NOTE:

Final (third) notices have been sent out. These are bright RED.

All members who receive these, and who are not heard from, will be dropped from the active membership. A lapsed membership--simply means no more F. & C. Philatelists. Don't let that membership lapse!