

France & Colonies Philatelist



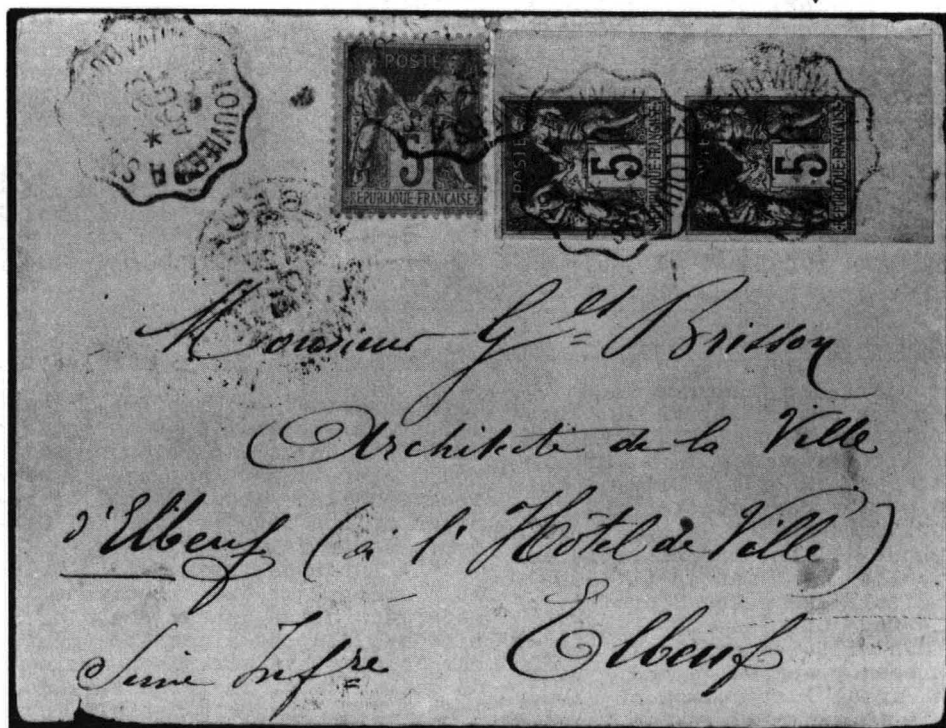
Published bi-monthly by the France and Colonies Group

Secretary: Charles Bretagne, P.O.Box 30, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Editor: Stephen G. Rich, P.O.Box B, Verona, New Jersey

The Listing Copy

5c Sage yellow green, 1898,
Type 1(N under B) IMPERFORATE.



By courtesy of Mr. Martin M. Sternfels, of Waterbury, Conn., we show the cover which was the basis for Scott catalog adding, 1957 edition we believe, the 5c yellow green 1898 Type One (N under B) imperforate. It is used with Type 2 5c yellow green 1898 perforated, to make up the then current 15c domestic rate.

This pair is No. 105a of the catalog.

The 5c Type 2 was added as no. 104a, in 1958 edition, from some other source.

We do not know why these are both listed as unused copies only, with no price for used ones given in either case.

Postmark date on this cover is Aug. 26, 1900.

Our impression is that both types as imperfs came out in 1900. Information wanted.



At the Annual Dinner, Saturday, November 23rd, 1957

Forty-five of us, the largest number ever, at the group's Annual Dinar, had a really wonderful time. As last year, we met at the St. Germain Restaurant, facing Radio City on 48th St.

For every diner there was a complimentary copy of Brainerd Kremer's List of French Numeral Cancellations. For every lady there was a special favor, something French but of interest to the ladies. No. 95 of this journal, just off press that day, was also distributed to everyone.

As always: no speeches.

The picture herewith, furnished us by our

photographer member, Adrien Boutrelle, shows a few of the guests and members present. From the left: Mr. L. Miro, Paris dealer (a guest), President Zweifelach, Secretary Bretagne, Mrs. Kindler, Recording Secretary Kindler, Mr. G. Behr of Paris (a guest), Robert G. Stone.

We gathered at 6.30 p.m., sat down at 7.30, and were starting to break up by 11 p.m. The vin rouge, the vin blanc and the food, were all excellent.

Among those present were Dr. and Mrs. Robert L. Wood; Mr. Raoul Lesgor; Mr. & Mrs. Brainerd Kremer; Mrs. Bretagne; Mr. & Mrs. Fred Auerbach (the latter known in the stamp trade as Paulette Neumann); many others whose name your editor is not able to cite.

Report from the General Issues Study Circle

The Study circle wishes to announce that Dr. Bouvet's article on the use of the Eagle, the Napoleon and the Ceres issues in St. Pierre and Miquelon, has been translated by Mr. A. Cronin, and is available to members of the Group. This article, plus that on the cancellations of St. Pierre-Miquelon published in Vol. 2 No. 3 of the F. & C. Phil., is about all the information now available on this colony at least up to the 1892 period. The Study Circle has a rough draft of the specialized listings of General Issues, used in St. P.M.. This will be available soon.

A monograph has been prepared on the first three issues of the Parcel Post stamps of Ivory Coast. The basis is an article, as published in a French journal, by Mr. E. André, and ably translated by Mr. Andrew Cronin of Canada. This monograph is available to all interested members of the Group.

Both books may be had from Leo F. Goerth, the Secretary of the Study Circle, 386 East York St., Akron 10, Ohio.

Wrong Plant

We are indebted to Mr. Frederic Mulhenheim, for a very interesting correction. On page 15 of No. 93, May-June 1957, we reprinted a bit from Linn's about the Madagascar pictorials. In Linn's text the 4f is stated as showing a plant called "Glove" plant.

Now Mr. Mulhenheim tells us that this is a misprint for CLOVE plant-- source of the dried aromatic buds which form that spice so much used.



Plants, Lepers, Malta Knights Recognized

Those who lean to Botany on stamps will find that from Madagascar to their liking. Each, according to Gimbels Stamp Department, features a plant. On the 4f is seen the roots and foliage of the cassava plant from which tapioca is obtained. The 4f has the "Glove" plant, while the 12f shows the plant from which vanilla is derived including the bean pods and the foliage.

Postal Forgery of the Marianne de Gandon.

The Berner briefmarken-Zeitung lifted in December 1950 an article in L'Echo de la Timbrologie, which would seem to have appeared a few weeks earlier, about postal forgeries of the 15f Marianne de Gandon. We translate in full:

"A large hubbub about false 15 f stamps, of the Marianne de Gandon type, made much noise in the south of France. A long time had elapsed since the counterfeiters in our country had worked on making forgeries to do postal duty. Their new product, by which old lady P.T.T. had felt herself injured, luckily has been possible to get stopped. It is not at all bad as far as quality of product is concerned.

"A glance can distinguish that the numbers and letters are lightly thickened on the bad ones, while on the genuine they are of a thread-like aspect. The G of the signature GANDON has been badly imitated and looks like a C. The perfs. done with less good luck, are irregular and a bit zigzag. We also notice the differences in the shading of the chin and of the upper lip."

"These stamps, printed in sheets of 25, with no margins, were sold cheaply to tobacco retailers in the Marseilles region, who thus made substantial profits. There is no need to talk about their singing their fingers. The postal administration could properly be surprised when people of that sort, who normally secured ten thousand francs in stamps per month from them, now were asking for no more than two thousand francs' worth. One need not be some great lawyer, to guess the reasons for this sudden lessening."





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STOP PRESS



7th LESGOR CONTEST

Coming: A Spring Three-Day Conference or Symposium.

Planned for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, May 16th, 17th, and 18th, 1958.

In New York.

An exhibition (competitive) will be part of the affair. We mean to get a site where we can have a Bourse for the dealer members. There are to be talks on various French and Colonial stamp matters of interest-- possibly demonstrations.

Save this time for a trip to New York. More on the matter in our next two numbers.

Benefit to Treasury of the F. & C. Group

A real help to our finances is promised from an offer made by Founder Member Roaul Lesgor.

He has two books, which he will supply, when ordered by members via your Editor, at the usual prices, but he will give the difference between the wholesale price and the retail, to the Group as a sign of appreciation.

The two books, which are \$3.00 each, postage included (not extra), are:

France 20th Century Specialized.

100 pages, spiral binding.

The Cancellations on French Stamps of the Classic Issues 1849-1876 (by Lesgor & Minnigerode)

Cloth, 129 pages.

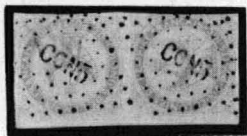
If you collect Metropolitan France, you need both these books. Both have been reviewed, and very favorably, in this journal when they came off press.

Write In to Us.

Our non-resident members, not having the facilities of the Collectors Club Library, nor the opportunity of meeting similarly-minded collectors, with whom they can compare notes, are tied to the Group by the France & Colonies Philatelist. Excellent as we feel this publication to be, it cannot be the perfect vehicle for making us feel together. The parent group, composed of members with many years' experience in collecting French items, many speaking fluent French, many with excellent libraries of their own, and with connections with most of the world-famous philatelists and expert groups, is a collection of individuals who can answer a great many of your questions. We invite your correspondence, hoping it will lead not only to philatelic knowledge, but to real friendships.

The one and only thing we cannot do for you --and would not do if we are to be friends-- is to expertize stamps. This we leave to the Philatelic Foundation or the Friedl Committee.

Nathan Hals, Vice-President.



Two
Hard-to-Find
Colonies
Cancellations.

by
Arnold
Broadbent



The very existence of these has been doubted by well-informed collectors. On the left is the semi-tête beche 10c Eagle Colonies, with CCM 5 of Cochin China struck clearly on both stamps. On the right is 5c Napoleon Colonies with S P M of St. Pierre-Miquelon struck neatly on it. Both repose in my collection, very much treasured.

When: Tuesday evening, FEBRUARY 4, 1958.

Where: At the Group's meeting, Collectors Club, 22 East 35 St., New York, N.Y.

Who may compete: Every member of the France and Colonies Group, no matter where the member resides.

Prizes: At least one in each of the two divisions:

Research (new information demonstrated)

General: any collection you deem worthy.

If enough exhibits turn up in either section (4 or more) there will be 2 prizes given.

How enter: Notify Recording Secretary Jan Kindler, 65 Bedford St., New York 14, N.Y. saying what you wish to show, in which division, and how many album pages of usual size.

Limits: No limit as to period: 19th and 20th Century: any French country.

We have 20 frames, which will each hold 12 pages of usual size, or 9 pages of Scott International Album size.

If many exhibits, we shall have to frame part of the exhibit from each contestant-- but the Judges will see it all

How send: To the Group, care of the Collectors Club, 22 East 35 St. New York 16, N.Y. Send in time to have the package in the C. Club's keeping by Jan. 31. Please include return postage. Please indicate which pages we may have only the judges see, if we are jammed for space.

Judging: Three judges, of whom we plan to have two well-informed stamp people not members of the Group.

Returning of Exhibits: We intend to get all exhibits into the mail within 2 days after the Contest.

And finally: neither money value nor age of what you show will have any bearing on the awards. They could go to 1600-69 stampless of France, or to 1957 Madagascar--strictly on merit of the exhibit. It is a free-for-all. No handicaps.

Step Out with a
share in this contest
this year.

We would be very glad to have entries from those members living very far afield--California, and Canada and overseas.

DICTIONARY PROJECT

The France and Colonies Group, in undertaking to prepare a dictionary of French philatelic terms, approaches a problem made formidable by semantic difference, variations in definitions caused by development and changes in the French postal system, and by the necessity to limit ourselves to a dictionary and not an encyclopedia. The memorable production, 1929 edition by Yvert on the Estampilles, encyclopedic in concept, was marred by lack of definitions. But it became a mighty signpost pointing toward the excitement and fun in the field of postal markings, and a strong pusher to research.

The research goes forward-- to the study no end exists. But, incomplete as our results may be, a milepost must be established from which we can go forward. Every one of us who owns a moderate quantity of stampless covers can boast of markings not yet listed, as well as usages unexplained.

The problems of French philately relate to our lack of definitions, and in some cases of material. Certain problems arise from an insistence on the part of owners of material, to overblow their value by interpreting incorrectly.

One of the wisest things done in handling of information and formation of values on stampless covers, is absolutely to limit the colors of the inks to only three descriptions: red, Black, and blue; without consideration of ANY variations. Green shows up occasionally, but is explained as a special usage without additional value.

One of the difficulties, semantic, brings on arguments over words instead of meanings.

It must be understood that ALL markings applied by the system are postal marks. However, certain marks have no reference to the origin, destination, or route of travel of the letters. The A.E.D., PPPP, PsPs, A over V (*), V, and even the P.P., P.F., P.D. marks as well as others were postal bookkeeping marks. The postal system was highly centralized in Paris; and in Paris they demanded to know everything possible about its financial affairs at any moment. There was, also, a highly legalistic reason for the numerous "cachets à date" and "Après le Départ" markings. The system had to stand ready to explain why any letter was delayed or apparently delayed. The date stamps on the letter were legal evidence.

There is no counterpart in French philatelic literature to the U.S. custom of writing up the routes and personalities of our early mails. If it exists, it has not been popularized for English language readers. Yet there is more than a hint that the colorful personalities and events of the French postal system would equal ours.

Knowledge of this aspect would increase our understanding of the whys and wherefores of certain usages. --- Nathan Hals.

(This article is both a prospectus for the Dictionary Project and a first draft for the introduction to the Dictionary when produced).

Spanish Cuban Marks NE1, NE2, found on Covers from France to Cuba etc.

We are indebted to Dr. B. Cruz-Planas, from whom we got the information that the N E means "Norte Europa" that the numerals, indicating the rate zones whence the covers came, signify the number of reales (Cuban money of the period) of the rate which applies.

* SECRETARY'S REPORT *
December 15, 1957

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome.

- 705 Lizerray, Pierre de 14 rue de Poitier,... Paris, France. (The French Plates)...
- 706 Zuck, William, 340 Parallel Avenue,..... Pittsburg 10, Penna. France & Prec...
- 707 Eaton Frederik S. 40 Jones Road, Wallingford, Conn. France 1849 to date.....
- 708 Dicaire, Paul A. 35 Chapline Avenue..... St. Catherine, Ont. Canada (France & St. Pierre & Miquelon).....
- 709 Miro L. fils 15 rue Laffitte, Paris 9eme.. France. (Classic Stamp Dealer).....

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

- 684 Cook, Randall Rev. to Branford, Florida...
 - 67 Nouss, Henry O., to Box 2775 Hamilton Sta., Pompano Beach, Florida,.....
 - 532 Kahn, William, to 2 Seton Road, Larchmont, N.Y.
 - 462 Robbins, Elsie Miss to 1204 Wakefield Rd.. Flourtown, Penna.
 - 305 Noren, Harold E. to 46 Howard Parkway,.... New Rochelle, New York.....
 - 527 Worwood W. 1462 17th. St. North, Charny,. Quebec, Canada.....
 - 557 Fairchild, Edmund to 21046 E. Cloverland.. Drive, Covina, California.....
 - 333 Schneierson, Joel U. to 61 Lismore Road, Lawrence, L.I., N.Y.
 - 155 Sheriffs, Leigh to 1782 Mandeville Canyon. Road. Los Angeles 49, California.....
 - 419 Beal, James H. to P.O. Box 388, Warren, Pa. Malden Chapter to E.H. Hunnewell, 184 Ferry St. Malden 48, Massachusetts.....
- MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.....

Respectfully Submitted

Charles Bretagne, Sec'y

MEMBERS' APPEALS

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

French Numeral cancellations wanted:-- large and small numbers, Algeria and Foreign Offices.. Will swap or buy, on or off cover. Thousands of copies to trade. W.H. Schilling Jr., 5501 Woodcrest Drive, Minneapolis 34, Minn. (Member 29)

Wanted for study: any quantity France Scott nos. 14, 15, 18, 23, 25, 26, 27, 32 to 36, 50, 51, 55 to 59, and Type Sage. Please make offers with last price wanted. Frederic Mulhenheim, 101 West 83 St., New York 24, N.Y. (Member 589).

Wanted: French Occupation of Hungary:-- Arad Issues Nos. 1N4, 1N8, 1N10, 1N16-18, 1N34, 1N38, 1N41-5. Richard C. Kanak, 3833 South 61st Court, Cicero 50, Illinois. (Member No. 704).

Would acquire the 10 centimes red Sower (Scott No. 162) with the Montenegro overprint: S.P. du M./Bordeaux in any form: single, block, used, on cover or piece--even inverted. Jan Kindler, 65 Bedford St., New York 14, N.Y. (Member 668).

Wanted, Ballons Montés. Submit with price or send description. Ernest H. Taves, M.D., 16 Gray Gardens East, Cambridge 38, Mass. (Member 676).

Literature Wanted, on French Africa, and on cancellations. Books, paper clippings, also list of identified numeral cancels. Thomas Gilbertson 708 Elm St., Anoka, Minn. (Member 694).