

The Journal of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society



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THE FRANCE & COLONIES PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

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The Society

The Society was founded in 1949 and is affiliated to the ABPS. Its affairs are managed by a Committee comprising President, Officers and Committee members, elected annually.
All inquiries of a general nature should be addressed to the General Secretary.

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* * *

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The Journal of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society

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SOCIETY NOTES

New Members

The Society is pleased to welcome the following:

1181 R V Barnes (York), 1182 Philip Beton (Essex), 1183 Douglas M Casey (Canada), 1184 Dr C Armstrong (Newcastle), 1185 Tony Rennie (Glasgow), 1186 Richard Griffiths (Devon), 1187 Mrs Yvonne L I Larg (W Sussex), 1188 Graham O'Hara (Hertfordshire).

* * *

Members Deceased

We are sorry to hear of the death of the following member, and offer our sincere condolences to his family:

1074 Dr I T Boyle.

A short obituary appears opposite.

* * *

Exhibition Successes

The following members of the Society are to be congratulated on their achievements in recent months:

Ed Grabowski gained a Gold medal and the Grand Award at Nojex 2001 (Secausus, New Jersey, May) for "Guadeloupe: the Development and Use of Stamps for Regular Postage". For the same exhibit, in the Champion of Champions class at APS Stampshow 2001 (Rosemont, Illinois, August), he obtained a Prix d'Honneur.

Jean-Luc Trassaert gained a Large Vermeil medal at the 74th Congress of the Federation of French Philatelic Associations (Tours, June) for "Marianne de Decaris".

Bob Picirilli gained a Gold medal at Indypex 2001 (Indianapolis, July) for "Colonial Ivory Coast: the Definitive Issues, 1892 to World War II".

Bernard Berkinshaw-Smith gained a Large Vermeil medal at Philanippou 01 (Tokyo, August) for "French Maritime Mail in the Indian and Pacific Oceans".

Tony Shepherd gained a Large Vermeil medal at Autumn Stampex in September for "Guadeloupe 1769-1880" (this entry was omitted by accident from the list published in Journal 222 of December 2001).

* * *

Acknowledgement

In the last issue of the Journal [N° 222, page 151] we failed to mention that Marty Bratzel's article on "Postal Tariff Information at the Centre des Archives d'Outre-Mer" was a slightly edited version, reproduced by permission, of a piece that had previously appeared in Newsletter N° 11 (October 2000) of the Study Group for Airmail Rates in French Colonies to 1945. Our apologies for this omission by oversight.

* * *

Photograph Identification

Prue Henderson has indicated the identity of the person referred to as "a WASC member" in the top photograph on the back cover of Journal 219 (March 2001). It is Philip Beale, author of *A history of the post in England from the Romans to the Stuarts* and of *The postal service of Sierra Leone, its history, stamps and stationery until 1961*. He is a member of the Postal History Society as well, and has an enviable collection of early English letters and documents.

Prue points out that there are often much later requests for those who appear in group photographs to be named, and unless this is done at the time it may become very difficult or impossible to achieve.

* * *

Lost in Transit

Member Michael Round reports that six items from Bernard Brunet's 34th Auction Sale (sent from Bourg-Saint-Maurice on 14 December 2001) have disappeared in the post.

The lots involved (Nos 1831, 1841, 1965, 1991, 1995 and 1997) were all French Colonial covers, and included Cameroun (seven 1916 overprints cancelled 'Jaunde Cameroun 15 Oct 17', and a similar cancel but dated Feb 1922 on 25c p/s envelope), Morocco with Ivory Coast and Upper Volta postage dues on the same cover, and three prepared-to-order covers bearing Niger 1927 postage dues cancelled Maradi 1947.

Any information to Michael, please, c/o The Editor.

* * *

Madagascar Research

Colin Spong reports that in the latest issue of the Col.Fra bulletin received, n° 97 4^{ème} Trim. 2001, there is a reply by M Hervé Drye and Dr Jacques Desnos to Question 96-4 re Madagascar Moveable Boxes by our member Peter Kelly. Dr Desnos gives details of what little he knows on the subject, admitting that nobody has so far been able to research it at source. However, he gives as sources of information the following [translated by Roy Reader]:-

"The Official Journal of Madagascar (a complete collection in the Archives d'Outre-mer at Aix-en-Provence, part collections at La Documentation Française, 29 quai Voltaire, 75007 Paris, and at the Académie des Sciences d'Outre-mer, 15 rue Lapérouse, 75016 Paris {J.O. 1896-1905, 1920-1925, 1954-end}). Dr Desnos states that these are the main centres of research that he has used for Madagascar. He further mentions that the Official Bulletins of the Madagascar Postal Service are unfortunately nowhere to be found, even in Madagascar. These could have yielded some information on the subject he was replying to."

* * *

OBITUARIES

Prof Iain T Boyle, DSc, BSc (Hons), MB ChB, FRCP

Iain Boyle, who died at the age of 66 on 23 November 2001, had an outstanding academic career from secondary school onwards. His own ill health at an early age led him to enter the medical profession rather than his original choice of nuclear physics. He graduated at Glasgow Medical School with first class honours in biochemistry, and proceeded to his MB ChB in 1962. After initial training at Glasgow Royal Infirmary, he took an associate research post at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School in London until, in 1970, he was awarded a scholarship to work at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Here, what has been acknowledged as his “imagination and creativity” brought fundamental breakthroughs in the understanding of his specialist subject and a revolution in the treatment of kidney and bone disease. On his return to Glasgow he established a clinic for metabolic bone diseases, and this clinic grew to be the most influential in Scotland. Iain held many professional posts, examined in medicine for the medical royal colleges, and became first vice-president (medical) of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow (1992-94). In 1994 he was elected honorary librarian of that college, a post he held with great distinction. His professional life was devoted to the university department of medicine at Glasgow Royal Infirmary, and to the department of pharmacology and physiology at Strathclyde University which awarded him the DSc in 2000.

Outside his clinical role he had many interests including the social history of Scotland, with a fine library of antiquarian books and an archive of letters and other documents relating to his homeland. His lifelong interest in philately developed into a specific concern with postal history, and he was president of the Caledonian Philatelic Society (1983-84) and of the Association of Scottish Philatelic Societies (1995-96). He joined the France and Colonies Philatelic Society in 1997, and with his customary enthusiasm attended the Annual Weekend in both 1998 and 2000. On the latter occasion he displayed some rare postal markings from the Ancien Régime, ranging from the Corsini correspondence of the 16th century to some fascinating handstruck marks of the 18th century.

His detailed knowledge of his subject matter and his intellectual capacity were balanced by a true modesty of approach and genuine sociability. His pride was in his close family, who were round him when he died.

Robert G Stone

Although he was not a member of this Society, we were saddened to learn of the death of colleague Bob Stone on 1 February 2002 in his 95th year. He was a collector and researcher since 1937, specializing in the Danish West Indies, the French Colonies, Ship and Paquebot Mails and US stamps used abroad. His exhibit of St Pierre & Miquelon won Gold Medals at AMERIPEX 86 and PH1LEXFRANCE 89.

Professionally, Bob was a meteorologist/climatologist. After attending Antioch College in Ohio, he graduated from Ohio State University, and pursued further studies at Grenoble, Chicago and Harvard. As a civilian with the US Air Force Air Weather Service, he engaged in research management and technical information services, and authored many technical reports of a variety of topics, including cloud physics, high altitude flight and forecasting. From 1936 until 1951 he was Editor of the *Bulletin* of the American Meteorological Society.

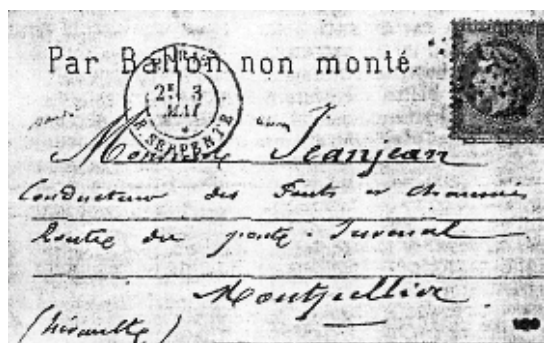
In the sphere of philately, Bob had authored hundreds of articles, a number of handbooks and several other books, most notably *The French Colonies General Issues* in 1961, *Danish West Indies Mails, Vol. 1, Postal History* in 1979, a *Bibliography on French Colonies Literature* in the 1980s and *A Caribbean Neptune* in 1993. He was recognized as the *doyen* amongst French Colonies collectors, based on an almost unending record of publications in the area over his philatelic lifetime. He was Editor of the *France & Colonies Philatelist* for almost thirty years beginning in 1964. He was a Corresponding Member of the Académie de Philatélie, a member of the Société des Amis du Musée Postal and the Union Marcophile. Among his many US memberships were the Collectors Club, the American Philatelic Society, the Philatelic Foundation, the Postal History Society and the Scandinavian Collectors Club. He was also elected a member of the Society of Postal Historians of the United Kingdom. He prolifically published the results of his research endeavours in the journals of all of these societies.

For his extensive research, exhibits and other contributions to philately he received numerous awards, including the Collectors Club's Lichtenstein Award in 1981, the American Philatelic Society's Luff Award in 1983 and the US Philatelic Classic Society's Distinguished Philatelist Award in 1993. He signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in the UK in 1984 and was named to the APS Writers Hall of Fame in 1993.

Amazing 1870-71 Wonder Stories - 66

Ernst Cohn

Peter Martin, Editor of *Scott Stamp Monthly*, has furnished me with a photocopy of part of an article that appeared in the September 1998 issue of *Berner Briefmarken Zeitung* (*Journal philatélique de Berne* as it calls itself in French), thus supplying the raw material for this story, which again deals with an airmail card from the siege of Paris, illustrated here as a reduced size photocopy.



The card, carrying a laureated 10 centimes Napoleon stamp, is imprinted

Par Ballon non monté.

It is addressed to Monsieur Jeanjean, Conducteur des Ponts et Chaussées, Route du pont Juvenal(?), Montpellier (Hérault), bears the dotted star “25” cancel and corresponding circular date stamp PARIS/R. SERPENTE, 2E / 3 MAI. No year date is evident. Part of the caption says that the message is dated 3 October.

You will remember that the decree authorizing unmanned balloons for airmail cards was signed on 26 September 1870 and published in the *Journal officiel* on the next day. Thus, it seems entirely plausible that someone would write such a card on 3 October. What is not so logical is that the card was postmarked at Paris only on 3 May and apparently carries no other postal markings than those described.

With the signing of the armistice, the last (manned) balloon left Paris on 28 January 1871. Furthermore, I have not seen any evidence, up to now, of balloon cards being used up, except for that joke I mentioned in an earlier story. But now consider the date of the postmark.

The uprising of 18 March 1871 started the Commune, which did not, however, have any effect on the mails until the end of March, when the top postal personnel left Paris for Versailles. Mail connections for Paris were broken off soon thereafter, to be resumed only towards the close of Bloody Week, when the Paris main post office was taken by regular troops near the end of May. Meanwhile, no mail got into or out of Paris by regular postal means.

Is it possible that a Parisian had such a card at home and tried to mail it more than one month after connections had

been interrupted? Besides, if he had written it on 3 October and misplaced it — unlikely but possible — why would he have tried to mail it 7 months later, when the text must have been totally out of date? Or had it fallen down somewhere in the post office of Rue Serpente and managed to hide itself until early in May, when someone found and processed it at that post office? But surely that postman knew that the card would just be held back pending further developments, so what was the point? Is this yet another practical joke?

Even today, such a card is not worth much and hardly deserves being the target of some philatelic hanky-panky, because the time wasted on it would certainly not repay itself.

As the author, whose name I do not have, said, “there are still many things to be discovered in this area. The time that has passed and the sometimes printed, contemporary, contradictory information make it necessary to guard against prejudices and received ideas as well as new discoveries that seem to put in doubt this or that point..”

That is excellent advice, of course. In addition, the author might have said that one must closely examine the documents (= covers) that bear witness to what happened, and keep in mind the well-established historical facts, with which these covers must be in harmony. Intensive study of every aspect of a cover may reveal absurdities that can perhaps never be cleared up but, seeing them clearly, will at least tell us to be on our guard. In this particular case, the illustrated card is of such doubtful authenticity that almost any other one would have been more convincing and hence more useful to show to a non-specialist, which presumably most subscribers to this journal are, because it gives monthly updates to Swiss stamp catalogues.

It may be useful to get an item expertized. But if an expertizer simply expresses his opinion, without giving his reasons, he does not add anything to anyone’s knowledge and may even contribute to the confusion. In this specific case, any opinion which does not express at least some doubt about the authenticity of the card may be safely disregarded. It is a good example of an item that has but a slim chance of being totally authentic.

To quote the author again, “this rarity and ... the diversity of the criteria for their values justify their presence in the finest auctions.” Yes, but provided that they are properly described by a knowledgeable lotter, for otherwise it is but a lottery for seller, auctioneer, and buyer. Incidentally, would *you* bid on or buy this card? Do *you* take the word of a lotter without examining a lot closely yourself? And don’t be one of those people who, as a friend of mine says, only want those certificates from expertizers so they can safely exhibit!

Tariffs of Registered Letters Sent Abroad from France 1860-1880

Thomas Berger

Until its adherence to the GPU (1 January 1876), the postal relations between France and other countries were regulated by bilateral treaties. The letter tariffs abroad differed from country to country and were in addition complicated by different transportation routes and the subdivision of the destination country in different tariff *rayons*. The additional possibility of the sender to have his letter sent registered (*lettre chargée* or *lettre recommandée*, respectively) or to insure its value (*lettre chargée avec valeur déclarée*) increased the degree of complexity. As a result of the foundation of the GPU (UPU since 1878) registration became possible in the postal services between all member countries. The postage and the properties of the letters were analogous to the system within France and the tariffs were unified. Because there was no general agreement about the establishment of an insurance service (*lettre chargée avec valeur déclarée*), from 1 January 1876 until 15

January 1879 only letters to a few neighbouring countries (Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Germany, Switzerland) could be insured. In these cases the bilateral agreements from before 1876 were prolonged. After the conference of Paris in 1878 nearly all UPU countries agreed to allow insured letters with *valeur déclarée* (except the USA).

Because registered and 'charged' letters abroad from these decades are not to be found very often, a complete documentation of all tariffs is difficult to achieve. However, this article should give a first survey of this topic. In the first part 'charged' and registered letters from France to Italy, Germany and the United Kingdom display the similarities and differences of the period before 1876. In the second part registered letters under the different tariffs from 1876 to 1880 are shown, and in the last part some statistics are given to round off the picture.

Tariffs before the GPU foundation in 1876

Italy had been unified since 1861 and in the tariff of 1 October 1861 a letter of the first weight step up to 10g had to be franked with 40c.

An additional 50c had to be paid for the *chargement*. This tariff was identical for all parts of the Kingdom of Italy (Figs 1-3).



Fig 1 -
Registered letter sent in franchise by
Emperor Napoleon III
from Fontainebleau
to his relative,
a cardinal in Rome.
The postage was paid
"en numéraire"
(7 décimes).

These 70c resulted from the sum of 40c for the letter plus 50c for the *chargement* minus 20c for the franchise within France.

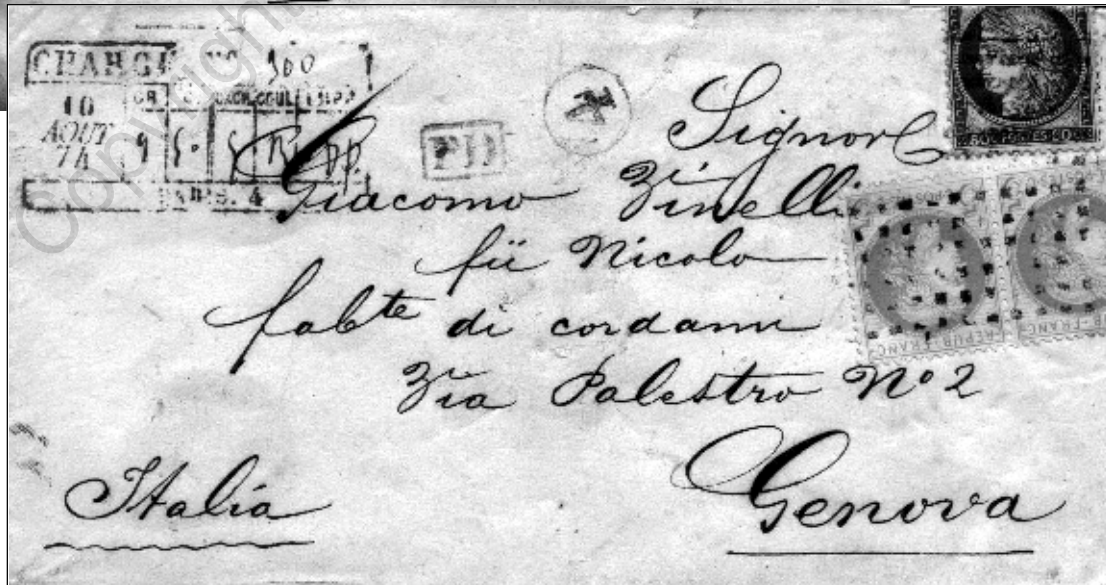


Fig 2 -
Lettre chargée
of the first weight step
to Genoa.

The 90c tariff was franked with one copy of the 80c and a pair of the 5c Cérés.

The letter was posted at the Paris post office n° 4 in the rue d'Enghien and the stamps were cancelled with a *Rouleau Gros Point*. This rare postmark was only used in this bureau and only for the cancellation of insured letters as well as for letters going abroad.



Fig 3 -

Lettre chargée of the fifth weight step (41-50g) to Milan.

The postage consisted of five times 40c for the letter plus 50c for the *chargement* and was franked with a strip of three 80c and one copy of a 10c *Napoleon lauré* (250c).

Thus, the tariff for 'charged' higher weight letters to Italy was just the sum of the postage for the weight step plus the *chargement*.

The tariff situation for insured letters to Germany was much more complex (Figs 4-6). Until the foundation of the Empire in 1871 there existed a whole group of independent states with different tariffs. This disorder was not changed until the tariff of 25 April 1872 between France and the

German Empire. This treaty reintroduced in addition the *lettre recommandée* even before it replaced the *lettre chargée* within France (February 1873). In comparison to a *lettre chargée*, the French postal administration did not have to pay an indemnity if the *lettre recommandée* was lost.



Fig 4 -

Lettre chargée of April 1866 to the Kingdom of Hanover.

This tariff was identical to that of the second Prussian *rayon* and a letter of the second weight step (11-20g) had to be franked with twice 50c for the letter plus 50c for the *chargement*. It was franked with copies of the 10c and the 20c as well as a strip of three 40c *Napoleon dentelé* (150c). Three months later the Kingdom of Hanover became part of Prussia after the lost Austro-Prussian war.



Fig 5 -

Lettre chargée of April 1871

to a French prisoner of war in Mainz
(Grand Duchy of Hessen-Darmstadt).This tariff consisted of 40c for the single
weight letter plus 50c for the *chargement*
and the letter was thus underpaid by 10c
with one copy of the 80c Napoleon *lauré*.

Fig 6 -

Lettre recommandée of
December 1875 to German Alsace.This tariff consisted of twice 40c
for a double weight (11-20g) letter
plus 50c for the *chargement*
and the letter was franked with copies of the
40c Siège and 10c and 80c Cérés (130c).

The tariff of registered letters to the United Kingdom was based on the Franco-British Convention of 1857. In this convention no fixed amount for the *chargement* was settled but the tariff of a registered letter was double that of ordinary letters (Figs 7-8).

Fig. 7 -

Lettre chargée of February 1868 to Bristol.

In the tariff of 1 January 1862, 80c had to be
paid for a double weight letter (11-20g).
Registration doubled this sum and two copies
of the 40c Napoleon *dentelé* and one copy of
the Napoleon *lauré* were used (160c).

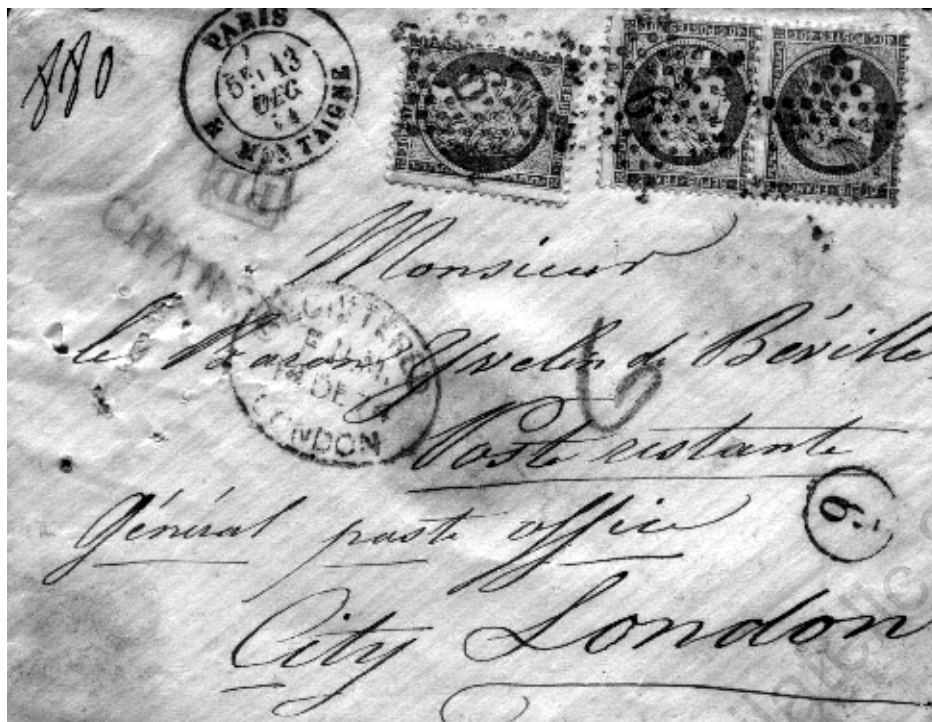


Fig. 8 -

Lettre chargée of December 1874 to London.

In the tariff of 1 July 1870, 60c had to be paid for a double weight letter (11-20g).

Registration doubled this sum and three copies of the 40c *Siege* were used (120c).

With a postage of 60c the single rate *lettre chargée* was even cheaper than the *lettre chargée* within France (75c).

GPU tariff (1 January 1876)

The unified GPU tariff introduced the *lettre recommandée* to all members of the union while the *lettre chargée* (without *valeur déclarée*) was abolished. The postage of the registered letter consisted of the letter rate and the registration fee (see column 3 in table). Until April 1878, the simple letter abroad had to be franked with 30c, thereafter with 25c; and the registration fee was 50c until January 1879 (Fig 9),

thereafter 25c. For letters to the overseas members of the GPU (United States) as well as for letters from the overseas possessions of France to metropolitan France, a 10c *voie de mer* surtax had to be paid (Figs 10-11). The "R" postmark was used in France while in the destination countries local postmarks and characteristic marks were added (e.g. blue cross in the UK, registration labels in Germany) (Figs 12-13).



Fig. 9 -

Lettre recommandée of the first weight step (up to 15g) to Switzerland.

The tariff consisted of 30c for the letter plus 50c for the registration.

A pair of the 25c *outrémer* N/U and one 30c N/B type Sage were used (80c).

In Switzerland a *CHARGÉ* postmark was added.



Fig. 10 -

Lettre recommandée of the first weight step to New Orleans (United States). The tariff consisted of 30c for the letter and 10c for the shipping overseas (*voie de mer*) plus 50c for the registration. Copies of the 10c and the 80c Cérés were used.



Fig 11 -

Lettre recommandée of the first weight rate from Saigon (Cochinchina) to Toulouse (France).

Also for this inverse direction, the tariff consisted of 30c for the letter and 10c for the shipping overseas (*voie de mer*) plus 50c for the registration. Copies of the 10c and the 80c Cérés of the general colony issue were used.



Fig 12 -

Registered trade sample of the second weight step (51-100g) to Hampton (United Kingdom). The tariff consisted of 10c for the sample plus 25c for the reduced registration fee. Copies of the 10c and the 25c Sage were used. The reduced registration fee was applied for items with reduced postage (postcards, samples ...). A blue registration cross was added by the British post.



Fig. 13 - Registered letter of the second weight step with an insured value of 1,350F to Haguenau (in Alsace, then part of Germany). The tariff consisted of twice 30c for the letter plus 50c for the registration fee plus 14 times 20c for the insured value (20c per 100F insured value or part thereof). A strip of three 1F N/B and copies of the 75c N/B and the 15c N/U Sage were used (390c). In contrast to *lettres recommandées*, these *lettres chargées* with *valeur déclarée* showed a special postmark in which the weight and other information were inscribed.

Tariff of 1 May 1878

At that date, the postage for letters abroad was reduced from 30c to 25c, while the registration fee was left unchanged at 50c. The tariff of the single rate registered

letter was therefore reduced from 80c to 75c. Because this tariff was in effect for only about 8 months registered letters abroad are rare.



Fig. 14 -

Lettre recommandée of the first weight step to Moscow (Russia). The tariff consisted of 25c for the letter plus 50c for the registration. A copy of the 75c N/B type Sage was used. The Russian registration postmark "ЗАКАЗНОЕ" was added.

Tariff of 16 January 1879

The application of the decisions of the UPU conference in Paris in 1878 led to a general permission of registered letters with an insured value between the UPU members (exception: USA). However, the surcharges and the

maximum insured sum differed from country to country. In the tariff of 16 January 1879, the registration fee was fixed generally at 25c, the lowest tariff ever seen for letters abroad, and unchanged over the next 42 years until April 1921.

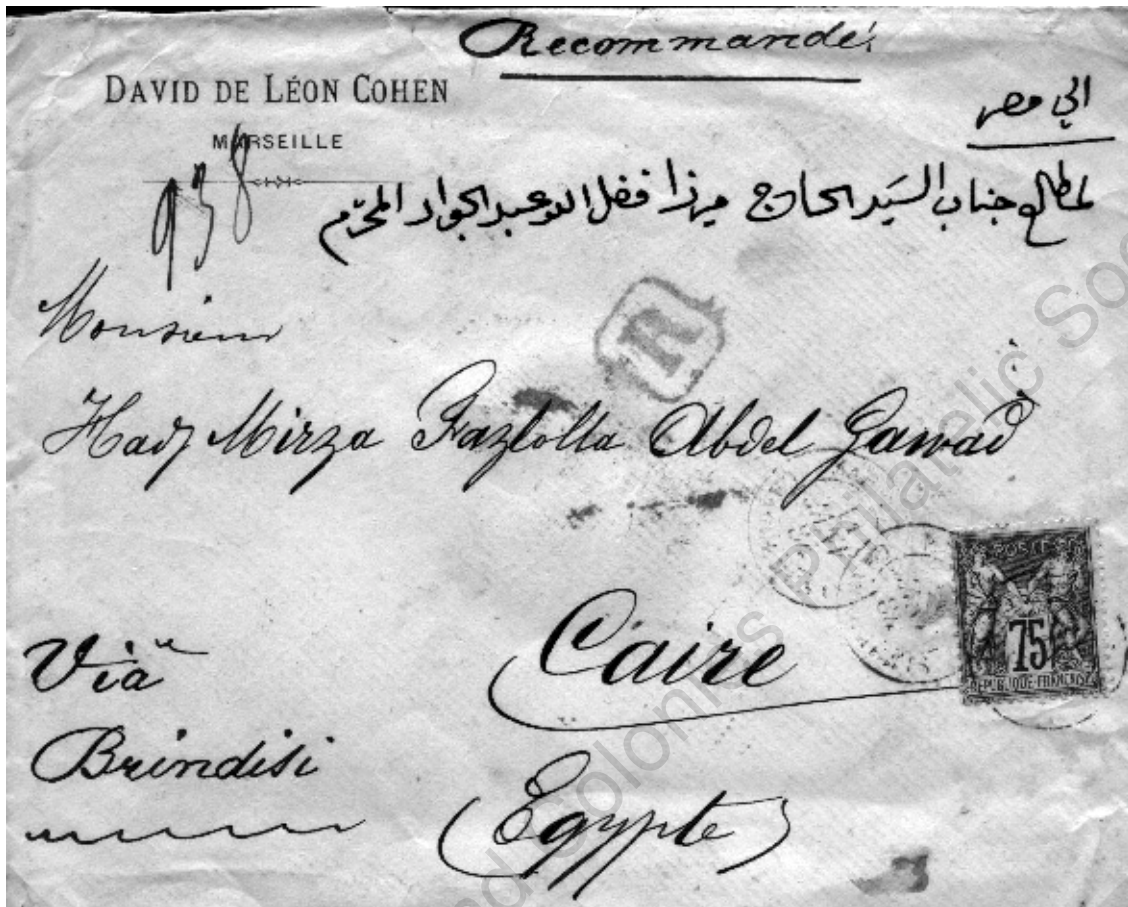


Fig. 15 -

Lettre recommandée of the second weight step (16-30g) to Cairo (Egypt). The tariff consisted of twice 25c for the letter plus 25c for the registration.

A copy of the 75c N/B type Sage was used.

Egypt had been a member of the GPU since 1 July 1875.



Fig. 16 -

Registered postcard to Switzerland.

The tariff consisted of 10c for the postcard plus 25c for the registration. A copy of the 25c bistre type Sage was used on the postal stationery card with the 10c black type Sage.

Registered letters abroad after the foundation of the GPU – a comparison

Tariff of	Postage Europe* (1 st /2 nd /3 rd weight rate)	Surcharge registered letter	Surcharge per 100F insured value #	Maximum # insured value
1.1.1876	30/60/90c	+ 50c	+ 20c	10,000F
1.5.1878	25/50/75c	+ 50c	+ 20c	10,000F
16.1.1879	25/50/75c	+ 25c	+ 10c	10,000F

* The postage to oversea members of the GPU / UPU had been 40c and 35c since 1 May 1878 for a single weight step letter (*voie de mer*).

Letters with an insured value were not possible to all member countries of the GPU / UPU. The surcharge and the maximum value which could be insured varied from country to country. The data given in this table are those countries which are France's direct neighbours.

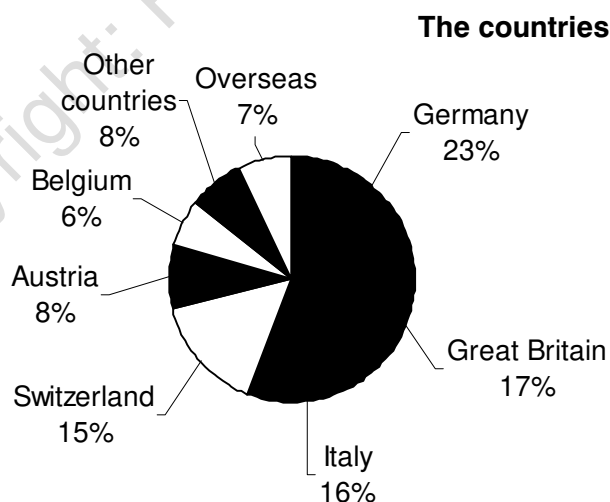
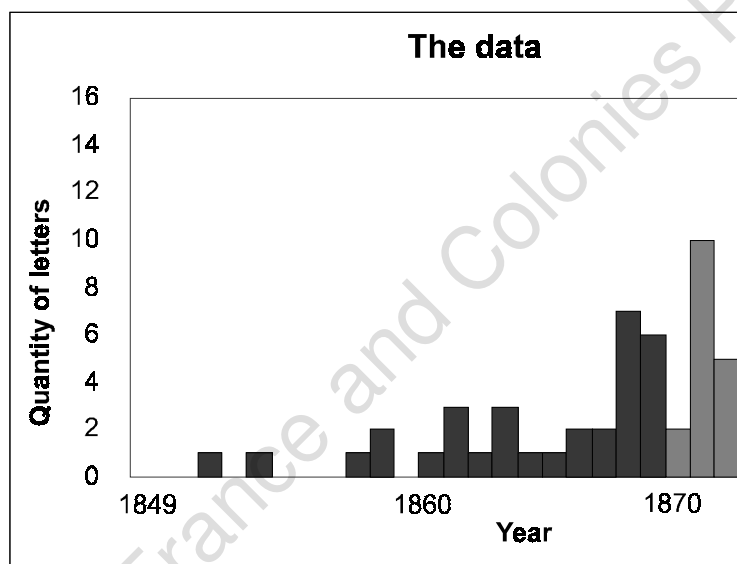
A statistical survey

130 registered letters (*lettres chargées* or *lettres recommandées*) sent abroad between 1849 and 1880 were used for this survey.

Until 1860 these letters are very rare. In the following decades their number increases continuously, only disrupted by the Franco-Prussian war. After the foundation

of the Union Générale des Postes in 1876 the insured letters became more frequent.

The countries to which these insured letters were sent are primarily the countries bordering France: Germany, Great Britain, Italy and Switzerland. About 30% were sent to other European countries or overseas.



Thanks to Jeff Bohn for his help with the Franco-British Convention of 1857. These and other *Chargé* - as well as *Recommandé* - letters within France and sent abroad

between 1870 and 1880 can be viewed on the internet using the URL <http://de.geocities.com/tbbch/FPH/FPHlrce.htm>

Airmail Letter Rates from French West Africa to the UK and other European Countries before World War II

Bob Picirilli

The June 1999 issue of *The Journal of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society* (Whole N° 212) carried my article entitled "Airmail Letter Rates from French West Africa to France to 1945." This article serves as a follow-up to that and will also provide (at the end) one correction to the information reported there. As before, I write not only for myself but for a small, international group of collectors devoted to researching airmail rates in use in any French areas (not France itself) until the end of 1945. (I also refer the reader to a companion article being submitted to the *France & Colonies Philatelist* of the US, entitled "Airmail Letter Rates from French West Africa to the United States before World War II.")

The reader may note that these two articles are somewhat less ambitious than the one already published. Where that article treated rates from French West Africa (hereafter AOF) to France *to 1945*, these must be content to stop at about 1940. The reasons are probably obvious. The wartime situation interrupted normal international relationships. By the end of 1942, AOF was no longer aligned with mainland France and had thrown in its lot with the Allies. Furthermore, the old airline connections with England and many other European countries — not to mention the US and the rest of the world — had changed. No longer would airmail be routed via France and from there to such destinations. And official information about routes and rates during the war is proving very difficult to find. For such reasons, then, the scope of this article will extend from the beginning of airmail in AOF until the early stages of World War II.

For brief information about the early airmail connections between AOF and France, see the earlier article. As reported there, airmail could be sent between France and Dakar, Senegal (itself part of AOF) as early as 1925. By 1937, the airmail connections were extended into most of AOF. That article also indicated the nature of franking on airmail letters to France. Total postage typically included: (1) the "basic" letter rate from AOF to France, (2) the airmail surtax from AOF to France, and (3) any additional fees, such as for registration.

When we begin to deal with airmail rates from AOF to non-France Europe, we meet a similar situation, though with one important addition and one basic difference. In other words, the total franking on an airmail letter from AOF to Europe will typically involve the following elements.

(1) The *foreign* (international) basic letter rate, which is different from the domestic (internal and intercolonial) rate for letters going to destinations *within* the French community. Consequently, the table of basic letter rates provided in the earlier article will *not* work for this one.

(2) The airmail surtax from AOF to France, which is the same as indicated in the table of airmail surtaxes provided in the previous article.

(3) Airmail surtaxes, if any, paid for airmail from France on to other destinations in Europe. This last leads to a fairly wide range of possibilities.

(4) Any additional fees, most common among them the cost of registration, which for foreign letters was *not* the same as for domestic letters.

The tables to follow provide the detailed information needed to analyse the franking of most letters involved. Table 1 shows the foreign basic letter rates, from 1925-1942, between AOF and Europe, including the UK — for that matter, between AOF and any non-French community countries regardless of distance. (See also my article "Postal Rates in the French Colonies, 1892-1944" in *F&CP* for July 1997 — Whole N° 249.)

**Table 1. Foreign basic letter and registration rates,
AOF to UK/Europe**

Rate begins ¹	1 st 20 grams	each added 20 grams	registration
16 Jul 1925	1F	50c	1F
1 Oct 1925	1F	60c	1F
1 Feb 1926	1F25	75c	1F25
1 Aug 1926	1F50	90c	1F50
20 Jul 1932	1F50	90c	2F
1 Aug 1937	1F75	1F	2F
1 Dec 1938	2F25	1F25	2F50
1 Jan 1940	2F50	1F50	2F50
1 Feb 1942 ²	4F	2F40	4F

¹**Important:** The dates given are for the beginning of these rates *in France*. The rates *did not always* begin in the colonies as early as in France itself. At times, therefore, one will find a letter using the former basic or registration rate after the change to a new rate had taken effect in France.

²Airmail beyond this date falls outside the scope of this article; this change is given to mark the end of the previous rate.

Table 2 shows the airmail rates between AOF and France. (Here I am repeating what was given in the earlier article.)

Table 2. Airmail surtaxes from AOF to France

Rate begins	to 10 g	10-20 g	20-50 g	50-100 g
28 May 1925	2F	3F	4F	6F
16 May 1926	2F60	3F80	5F	7F50
11 Jan 1928	3F	6F	10F	15F
Beginning 1 Aug 1929, the airmail surtax was uniform by weight steps, as follows				
1 Aug 1929	3F per 10 grams			
1 Sep 1935 ¹	2F per 5 grams (eastern route only; see Note 1 below)			
1 May 1937	2F per 5 grams (all routes; see Note 1 below)			
1 Sep 1938 ²	2F50 per 5 grams (all AOF except Mauritania and Senegal; see Note 2 below)			
2 May 1941 ³	3F50 per 5 grams (all AOF; see Note 2 below)			

¹From 1 Sep 1935 to 30 Apr 1937, there were two competing airmail routes from AOF to France, charging different airmail surtaxes. Letters going the western route (via Dakar, Senegal, by Air France) paid 3F per 10g; letters going the eastern route (via Niger and Algeria, by Air Afrique and Sabena) paid 2F per 5g. (See the previous article for additional information.)

²Mauritania and Senegal were exempted from the increase from 2F to 2F50 that took effect about 1 Sep 1938. Apparently this exemption lasted until the new rate of 3F50 that began about 2 May 1941.

³Airmail beyond this date falls outside the scope of this article. The date is given to mark the end of the previous rate period.

Many airmail letters from AOF to Europe went airmail only as far as to France, then surface the rest of the way. But the sender could, if desired, pay for airmail on to the UK or other European country; if so, that cost would be added to the total already required from the two previous tables. Various “*Jusqu’à*” markings and manuscript directions were sometimes (but not consistently) used to indicate whether letters were to be flown part or all of the way; see the illustrations below for examples. (I can not say whether the sender could choose to pay *only* for airmail onward *from* France without paying it *to* France. I have not seen any letters with notations or franking to indicate such a possibility.)

In the following, the primary sources for the information given are: (1) *Les Surtaxes de la Poste Aérienne* by Dr R Joany (Le Monde des Philatélistes, Étude 166), pp. 4-6; (2) *Les Tarifs Postaux Français 1627-1969*, by J-P Alexandre, C Barbey, J-F Brun, and G Desarnaud, 2nd edition edited by Dr R Joany (Brun & Fils, 1989), p. 198. These will be referred to, respectively, as Joany (or J) and Alexandre (or A).

Prior to 21 April 1931 (according to Alexandre; 1 June according to Joany), a variety of airmail surtaxes applied from different origins in France to different countries, dating from 1919. (These may be found in Alexandre or Joany.) These are too many and complex for inclusion in this article, since I am concerned only about airmail *from AOF to Europe* and that could not begin until airmail connections were available in AOF.

The following table (see Table 3a on next page), therefore, begins with rates established (or already in effect) in 1925. Table 3a shows the airmail surtaxes charged for transport by air onward from France to the UK and other European destinations — a special thanks to Bill Mitchell for large contributions to this table — and Table 3b shows the airmail surtaxes after they were made uniform for all of Europe.

As the reader will see, all this makes for a wide range of possible frankings. The examples selected serve to illustrate a few of these.

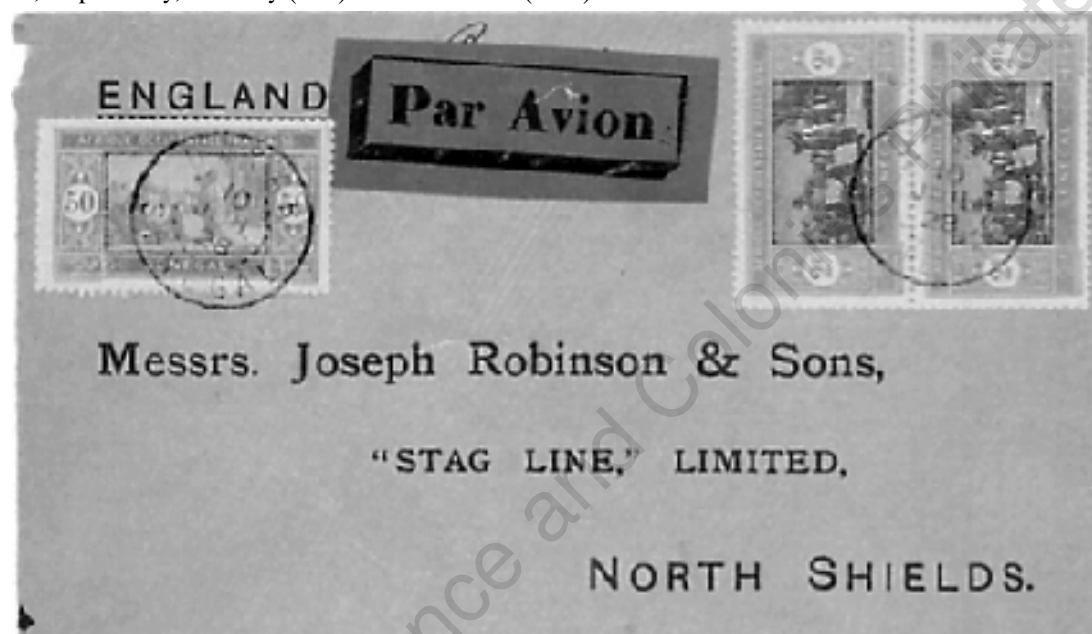


Figure 1 -
10 Jul 1928, Dakar,
Senegal to the UK
The 4F50 franking =
1F50 basic + 3F (per
10 grams) airmail
Dakar to France.
Surface from France
to the UK
(Courtesy
Barry Newton)



Figure 2 -
4 Jul 1929, Bougouni,
French Sudan to Sweden.
The 6F franking = 1F50 basic
+ 3F (per 10 grams) airmail
AOF (Dakar) to France + 1F50
airmail France to Sweden.
Note the sender's written routing
instructions, apparently to take
advantage of the first night flight
from London to Malmö.
(Courtesy Mick Bister)

**Table 3a. Airmail Surtaxes from France to U.K/Europe
(from 1925 to April/May 1931)**

Destination	1925	1926	1927	1928 ¹ -31
Austria² from Paris from Strasbourg	15 Sep '22: 2F / 3F25 / +1F25 1F50 / 2F75 / +1F	19 Jan: 75c / 1F / +50c ³	16 Jan: 2F/20g ⁴	1 Apr (A: 20 Mar): 1F/20g
Belgium	1 May '21: 30c/20g			15 Apr (A:20 Mar): 50c/20g
Bulgaria from Paris from Strasbourg	15 Sep '22: 2F25 / 4f / +1f50 2F / 3F75 / +1F25	19 Jan (A: 1 Feb): 1F50 / 2F75 / +1F	16 Jan (A: 17 Apr): 2F/20g	1 Apr (A: 20 Mar): 1F50/20g
Czechoslovakia from Paris from Strasbourg	23 Mar '21: 1F25 / 2F25 / +50c 50c / 75c / +25c	19 Jan: 75c / 1F / +50c	16 Jan '27: 1F/20g	
Denmark/Norway/ Sweden	13 Jun '25: 1F50/20g		20 May: 2F/20g	15 Apr (A: 20 Mar): 1F50/20g (J: 30 Apr to Norway)
Estonia/Finland	—	—	4 Jun (A: 12 Jun) : 3F/20g A: 1 Sep (J 19 Aug) to Estonia	30 Apr (A: 20 Mar): 2F50/20g
Germany	13 Jun '25 (J: 1 Jul): 1F/20g			
Greece	—	—	—	6 Jun '29: 2F50/20g 1 Jan '30 (A: 21 Dec '29): 1F50/20g
Hungary from Paris from Strasbourg	15 Sep 1922: 2F / 3F25 / +1F25 1F50 / 2F75 / +1F	19 Jan: 1F / 1F50 / +50c	16 Jan: 2F/20g	1 Apr (A: 20 Mar): 1F/20g
Italy	(23 Jul '24): 50c / 1F / +50c (for line Antibes-Ajaccio-Sardinia)		12 May: 60c/20g	6 Jun '29: 1F50/20g 21 Jul '30 (A: 21 Dec '29): 1F/20g
Lithuania/Latvia	—	—	19 Aug (A: 15 Aug): 2F/20g	30 Apr (A: 20 Mar): 1F50/20g
Netherlands	(1 May '21): 50c/20g			
Poland from Paris from Strasbourg	23 Mar (A: 21 Mar) '21: 1F75 / 3F / +75c 1F / 1F50 / +50c	19 Jan: 1F / 1F50 / +50c	16 Jan: 2F/20g	1 Apr (A: 20 Mar): 1F50/20g
Romania from Paris from Strasbourg	15 Sep '22: 2F / 3F50 / +1F25 1F50 / 2F75 / +1F	19 Jan: 1F50 / 2F75 / +1F	16 Jan: 2F/20g	1 Apr (A: 20 Mar): 1F50/20g
Russia (European)	—	8 Sep (A: 7 Sep) '26: 4F/20g		1 Apr (A: 20 Mar): 2F50/20g
Spain	(8 Jul '21): 50c / 1F50 / +75c			1 Apr (A: 20 Mar): 1F/20g
Switzerland from Paris or Marseille via Lyon		to Geneva 10 Jun (A: 1 Jul): 60c / 1F20 / +1F20	to any destination 12 Jun: 60c/20g ⁵	any route to any destination 1 Apr (A: 20 Mar): 50c/20g
from Lyon	to Geneva or Lausanne 26 Jul '24: 25c / 50c / +50c	to Geneva 10 Jun (A: 1 Jul): 35c / 70 c / +70c	to any destination 12 Jun: 35c/20g ⁵	
from all of France		via Strasbourg to Basel or Zurich 19 Jan: 50c / 75c / +25c	any route to any destination 7 Jul: 60c/20g	
Turkey (European) from Paris from Strasbourg	30 Sep '22: 2F25 / 4F / +1F50 2F / 3F75 / +1F25	19 Jan: 2F / 3F75 / +1F25	16 Jan: 3F/20g	1 Apr (A: 20 Mar): 2F50/20g
UK from Paris from Lyon from Marseille	1 Mar '22: 25c/20g 15 Sep '22: 35c/20g 15 Sep '22: 50c/20g	30 May (A: 1 Jul): 25c/20g (unchanged) 60c/20g 60c/20g	20 May '27: 50c/20g	
Yugoslavia	—	19 Jan (A: 15 Jan): 1F25 / 2F25 / +75c	16 Jan: 2F/20g	1 Apr (A: 20 Mar): 1F/20g

¹Unless otherwise noted, the dates of rate changes in the 1928-31 column are for 1928.

²Throughout the table, when different places of origin within France are given, we are not able to say which rate would have been used for airmail from AOF transiting in France; we would assume that in most cases it would be the rate from Paris but are providing all the information and leaving it to the reader to judge.

³Throughout the table, when three figures are given (75c / 1F / +50c, for example), the first is for 0-20g, the second for 20-100g, and the third is added for each additional 100g or fraction thereof.

⁴Throughout the table, the notation "/20g" means per 20 grams or fraction thereof.

⁵Alexandre does not list these 12 Jun 1927 rates.

Table 3b. Airmail surtaxes from France to the U.K./Europe
(after 20 April 1931)

Rate begins	Amount
1 June (A: 21 Apr) 1931 ¹	75c per 20g
29 Sep (A: 29 Nov) 1939	1F25 per 20g
2 Jun (A: 23 Jun) 1941 ²	2F per 20g (A: per 10g)

¹According to Alexandre, as of 10 Aug 1937, the airmail surtax from France to Belgium, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, and Norway was cancelled. This exemption was extended to Germany, Switzerland, and Great Britain as of 13 May 1938, and to Finland and Poland 18 Apr 1939. Joany begins the exemption with Germany, Belgium, Great Britain, and Switzerland on 13 May 1938, then simply says that "This measure was progressively extended to all of the countries of Europe (except for the U.S.S.R.) up to 18 Apr 1939 with Poland and the Scandinavian and Baltic countries. Regardless, the exemptions were cancelled as of 29 Sep (A: 29 Nov) 1939. There is a question whether this exemption, while it was in force, applied only to mail originating in France or was also available (if known) to mail originating in the colonies. Our sources are not clear in this regard, and cover evidence leaves me uncertain.

²This rate change falls outside the scope of this article. Once Germany invaded France in May-June 1940 (with the armistice signed between them on 22 Jun 1940), it is unlikely that airmail went from AOF via France *directly* to the UK (Mick Bister has a cover that went from France to England via *Lisbon* in Aug 1942.) A note in Joany, p. 5, indicates that this rate was intended for neutral countries and countries occupied by the Axis powers. See further observations near the end of this article.



Figure 3 -
(day?) Apr 1931,
"railway ondulé"
(Thies to Kaolack),
Senegal to Scotland.
The 5F franking =
1F50 basic + 3F airmail
AOF to France
+ 50c airmail
from France to the UK
Note the manuscript
directions indicating
airmail all the way
to destination.
(Courtesy Bill Mitchell)

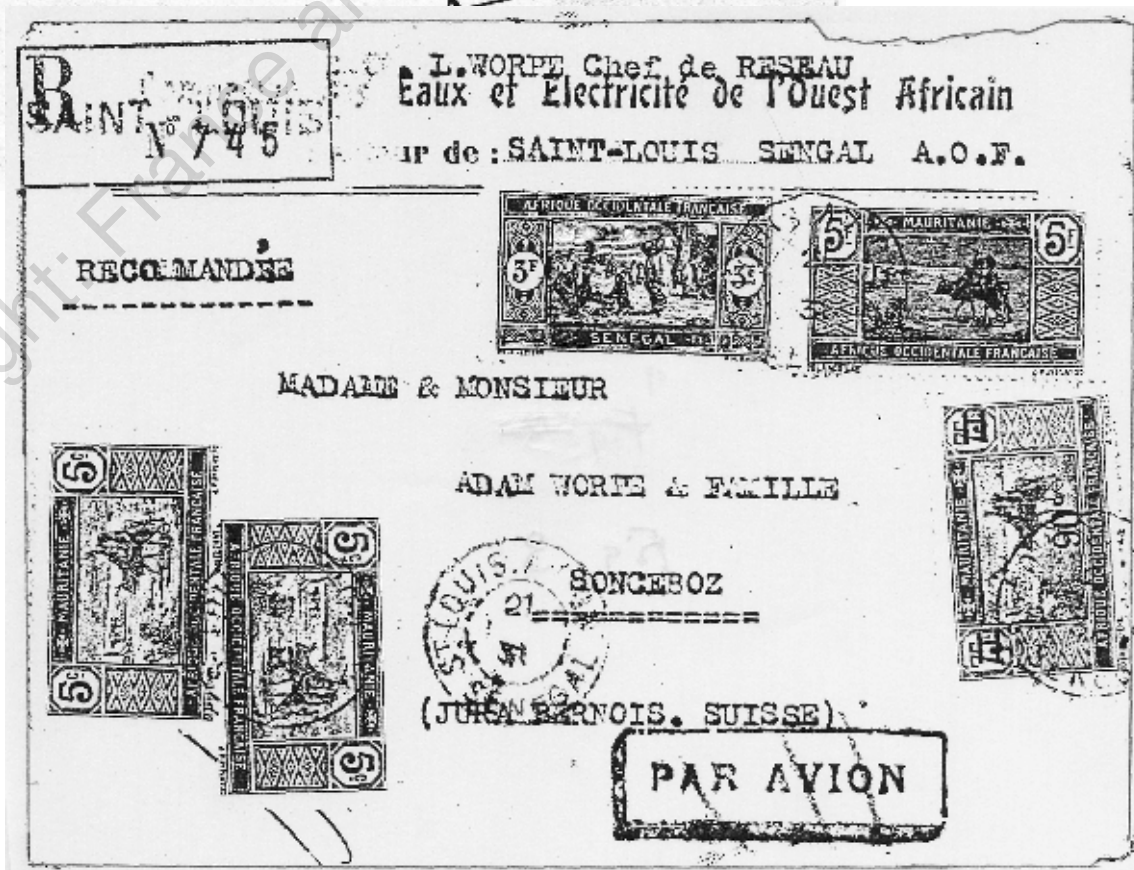


Figure 4 -
21 (month?) 1931,
St. Louis, Senegal
to Switzerland.
The 9F franking =
1F50 basic + 1F50
registration
+ double 3F/10g
air to France.
Surface from
France to
Switzerland.
(Courtesy
Barry Newton)



Figure 5 -

24 Apr 1933 (35?), Dakar, Senegal to the UK

The 11F40 franking = 2F40 basic (over 20g) + triple 3F/10g airmail AOF to France.

Surface France to the UK

Note the "Trajet Dakar - France," a fairly common (but not consistently used) marking during this period indicating the airmail leg of the journey.

(Courtesy Michael Ensor)



Figure 6 -

27 Oct 1935, Cotonou, Dahomey to the UK

The 15F90 franking apparently = 2F40 basic (2nd weight) + 6 x 2F per 5g airmail AOF to France + 1F50 (double 75c per 20g) airmail on to the UK

But note that the airmail etiquette appears to have been cancelled (in France), usually an indication that the letter would not go the rest of the way via airmail.

Perhaps the letter weighed more than the 30 grams for which the airmail from AOF to France and the UK was paid.
(Courtesy Robert Johnson)



Figure 7 -

7 Sep 1937, Grand Bassam, Ivory Coast to the UK

The 4F50 franking = 1F75 basic + 2F airmail AOF to France + 75c airmail France to the UK
(Courtesy John Slingsby)



Figure 8 -
26 Feb 1938,
Abidjan, Ivory Coast
to Switzerland.
The 5F75 franking
= 1F75 basic
+ double 2F/5g
airmail AOF to France.
Note the (somewhat
misplaced) cancel of
the printed airmail
slogan, indicating
surface from France
to Switzerland.
(One must not
assume that such
cancels were applied
consistently.)
This was before the
airmail surtax from
France to Switzerland
was suspended on
13 May 1938.
(Courtesy
Ian McQueen)

Figure 9 -
12 Nov 1938,
Cotonou, Dahomey
to Germany.
The 5F franking =
1F75 basic
+ 2F50/5g airmail
AOF to France
+ 75c airmail
France to Germany.
At this point, airmail
from France to
Germany was free,
at least for letters
originating in France.
If this exemption
was applicable
in the colonies,
the sender or postal
clerk in Dahomey
may not have been
aware of it.
(Courtesy
Mick Bister)





Figure 10 -

29 Sep 1939, Bobo-Dioulasso, Ivory Coast to Switzerland.

The 4F75 franking = 2F25 basic + 2F50 airmail AOF to France.

This was during the time that airmail was free from France to other European destinations; consequently the letter may have been flown all the way.

Airmail was apparently still travelling via this route, but the censor markings speak of the relatively new war situation.
(from Author's Collection)



Figure 11 -

8 Jun 1940, Dakar, Senegal to the UK. The 4F50 franking = 2F50 basic + 2F airmail from Senegal to France (Table 2, Note 2).

Note that the letter, from the office of the British Consulate General in Dakar, was marked to go airmail from Dakar to France, with the intention that it go surface the rest of the way.

But the German occupation was under way before the letter could be delivered.

Someone (the recipient?) has noted that it arrived in London on 8 August, but the means of carriage is not clear.
(Courtesy Robert Johnson.)

The reader should understand that the information in this article applies *only* to airmail from AOF routed through France to the rest of Europe — which was the normal routing during the prewar period. It is not entirely clear to me exactly how long this routing remained open as the war situation developed. A few covers in our database dated in 1941 may have gone that way. According to Thomas H Boyle, Jr (*Airmail Operations During World War II*: AAMS, 1998, pp. 413, 414) Air France kept open its route to London most of the time until Germany invaded France in May of 1940. No doubt airmail connections with other European countries, after this, depended in part on the relations between German-controlled France and those countries. Furthermore, France itself was subdivided into the Occupied Zone, under direct German government, and the Unoccupied Zone, under the puppet government at Vichy, and the situations for those zones were not always the same. AOF remained in the orbit of the Vichy government until shortly after the fall of North Africa to the Allies in November 1942.

Conclusion and Appeal

As indicated in the introduction to this article, a small number of collectors of France and Colonies have formed an informal study group to research the airmail rates in use in any and all French colonies (not France itself), on mail addressed to any destinations, prior to 1946. The group includes collectors in the US, Canada, the United Kingdom, and France.

Included within the projects of this group is the building of a database of information about airmail covers that fit these parameters. Though there are some 3,300 covers listed in the database at the time of this writing, many colonies and periods are poorly represented and the need

for additional information remains strong. All readers who have airmail covers from any French possessions to anywhere, prior to 1946, are urged to send photocopies (front and back, please) to Bob Picirilli, 301 Greenway Avenue, Nashville, TN 37205 (USA). I will respond with analysis of the franking to the degree that information is presently available. We also welcome into our group any collectors who can offer assistance with information or research.

One of our special needs is for covers during 1940-45. While our research has brought us far, we have not yet solved the problem of the rates for airmail, during this period, that was not flown via France or by contracts established by mainland France. We need more covers from this time to help us determine this. Figure 11 provides an example but cannot yet be fully explained.

Special thanks to Mick Bister, Michael Ensor, Robert Johnson, Ian McQueen, and Bill Mitchell, who provided helpful suggestions for this article.

Correction

In the previous article (referred to at the beginning of this one) the basic (domestic) letter rate for the period between 16 July 1925 and 1 May 1926 was listed as 30c (to 20 grams), 50c (20-50 grams), 75c (50-100 grams), and 20c for each additional 100 grams or fraction thereof. While those figures are correct for non-airmail letters, further research has shown that during that very period (and that period only), the domestic basic letter rate was different for a letter being sent via airmail. The correct figures for the purposes of these articles, therefore, should have been 40c, 70c, and 1F, respectively, with 20c for each additional 100 grams as previously indicated.

Auction Lots

The following lots will be offered in the May 2002 Society Auction.
See also the back cover and page 37.



50 franc Banknote, mounted mint



1876 Napoleon III Bordès essays in three different colours



30c Mercury with 1940 Coudekerque occupation overprint

LIST OF RECENTLY PUBLISHED ARTICLES

Compiled by Colin Spong

Bulletin de la COL.FRA

N° 97 4^{ème} Trim 2001: Autour du Type Groupe Allégorique et de la surcharge de 1912 (Buchheit); Madagascar: Création du Service de Distribution Rurale (Desnos); Madagascar: Émission de la Série « Zébu » (Favrel); Nouvelle Calédonie: deux timbres pour une surcharge (Drye).

France & Colonies Philatelist

Whole N° 266 (Vol 57, N° 4) Oct 2001: Finding the Guiana Girl (Ward); "Radioscopy" of some Auction Offerings "Made in Tahiti" (Beslu); A Free-franked card from Monaco (Massler); Amazing 1870-1871 Wonder Stories 59, 61 & 63 (Cohn); Types and Subtypes - 30c Cameo Sower (-); Togo: The 1921 "Mandate" Issue (Mitchell).

L'Écho de la Timbrologie

Permanent features: Dossier, Variétés, Flammes et Oblitérations, Livres, Maximaphilie, Thématique.

N° 1746 Nov 2001: Paquebots de rêve au musée de la Poste (-); Albert Decaris, champion du burin (Trassaert); Phosphorescence et héliogravure [1^{ère} partie] (-).

N° 1747 Dec 2001: Claude Perchat, une artiste atypique(-); L'héliogravure [2^e partie] (-); La Poste du Maroc, une entreprise privée (-); Une utilisation peu courante [De Nice à Beaulieu-sur-Mer (Alpes-Maritimes) en passant par Vittel] (Prugnon); Tout sur les prêts-à-poster (ACEP); Les papiers à lettres de Noël décorés (Dutau).

N° 1748 Jan 2002: La dorure à chaud (-); Les courriers du 1^{er} janvier (Blanc); Euro: Les «gilets bleus» de La Poste (-); Adresse incomplète (Prugnon); Quand le facteur faisait du zèle! (de la Mettrie).

Les Feuilles Marcophiles

N° 307 4^{ème} Trim 2001: Les surprises de l'Yonne à l'Aube (de la Mettrie); Service des dépêches par pigeons voyageurs. Articles d'argent (Sené); Atelier Histoire de la Poste en Milieu Rural. Le type A9 (Cabayé); Mise en place difficile du service postal rural dans le Calvados en avril 1830 (Choisy); Essai de reconstitution de tournées de facteurs ruraux dans le Var en 1847 (Trinquier); La fureur de lire... Un gant de soie dans une lettre locale (Abensur); À la recherche du soldat Francis (Cuidet); Les formations sanitaires de l'Ariège pendant la guerre 1914-1918 (Galliget); Le service postal à Séez [1940-1943] (Gérard); Les prisonniers de guerre français au Kenya (Ablard); L'école de tri des ambulants (Benhamou); Les nouveautés en matière de guichets-annexes (Delvaux); Vélocifères [suite de FM 305-30 et certainement pas fin] (Cappart et Sené).

Timbres magazine

Permanent features: Actus Andorre, Monaco et TOM, Cybermarché, Expertise, Les nouveautés de France, Les

variétés, Manifestations, Marcophilie, Poste navale, Polaires.

N° 17 Oct 2001: Une nouvelle base scientifique au pôle Nord (Bergez); «Les pirates du Grand Sud» (Lecouvey); Le trop court destin de l'unique vraie série de poste aérienne (Melot); Garibaldi-Verdi (Michaud); La Mémoire de la Philatélie (de Pellinec); Algérie: Non émis pour cause d'insurrection [Congrès des Médailles militaires] (Melot); Colis postaux pour prisonniers de guerre (Chauvin); Philatélie et art postal [3] (Jullien); Coq et Marianne d'Alger, les vrais chiffres (Melot); Les affranchissements composés (Guichenduc); Honorés pour leur héroïsme en France [Distinguished soldiers] (Chauvin); [1] Les Ballons montés du siège de Paris; [2] Les Basses-Alpes (Baudet); Prisons sur cartes postales (Zeyons); Les Timbres autocollants (-).

N° 18 Nov 2001: Albert Decaris, DEL & SC. [1901-1988] (Gontier); Brazil, Brésil [pionniers de l'Aéropostale] (Aboucher et Ferry); A l'attention des travailleurs français en Allemagne (Chauvin); Indo-chine 1945-47 [5^e partie] (Michaud); La Commune de Paris [1871] (Baudot); Les marques d'armées dans le Comté de Nice-Alpes-Maritimes (Baudot); Par ici la monnaie! [postcards] (Zeyons); Détours maritimes [Saigon-Alger] (Chauvin).

N° 19 Dec 2001: Noël de Guerre (Chauvin); L'aventure Air Bleu (Sinais); L'Ain [Les noms révolutionnaires] (Baudot).

N° 20 Jan 2002: Victor Hugo: l'histoire inédite de son 1^{er} timbre(Melot); Un siècle de prix Nobel français cont. (Michaud); Le pilote du Négus (Guichenduc); Reflets de la France des années 30 (Chatriot); Étonnants non émis de Madagascar (Melot); De Lattre: une épopée indo-chinoise (Michaud et Raulet); Petite Poste de Lyon (Baudot); Cartes Postales: Victor Hugo à l'honneur (Zeyons).

I thank George Barker for supplying me with details of a missing *Timbres magazine*.

Member Michael Round has sent us details of the following articles in the National Philatelic Society Library:

Collectors Club Philatelist

Vol 80, N° 3. May-June 2001: The French Colonial Allegorical Group Type as used in Saint Pierre et Miquelon. [pp. 111-32] (Grabowski).

Vol. 80. N° 4. July-August 2001: A Personal Odyssey - The 45c French Colonial Allegorical Group Type on Cover [pp 185-9] (Grabowski).

The Stamp Lover

Vol 93, N° 4. August 2001: Forgotten Countries: French Comoro Islands [pp 96, 101] (Towler).

Vol 93, N° 6. December 2001: More on Comoros [pp 156-8] (Round).

Hors Sac Mail

by Jean-Luc Trassaert (Correspondant de l'Académie de Philatélie)

translated by Mick Bister

For many French people the newspaper and the breakfast croissants are the first purchases of the day. With most daily newspapers being printed and dispatched to the provinces during the night, it is essential that the news reports be delivered to the newspaper's editorial team as quickly as possible.

Background

To avoid the restraints of postal delivery times Librairie Hachette, the sole newsagent and bookstall licensed to operate on railway stations, acquired the right in 1854 for the bundles of newspapers addressed to them to be handed over at the station without passing through the post office system. It was a privilege and the beginning of a long love affair between the press and the railway companies.

In 1866 this privilege was extended to all periodicals. To take advantage of the scheme, the bundles of newspapers had to be enclosed in a green wrapper clearly marked 'ALIVRER EN GARE' ('FOR DELIVERY AT THE STATION').

The expression *hors sac* (unbagged) appeared around 1880 for bundles of newspapers that were not carried inside

Nowadays, satellites enable distant reporters, wherever they may be in the world, to submit their reports instantly by telephone, fax and e-mail. In comparison, up to the middle of the nineteenth century, two days were required to complete the journey from Paris to Bordeaux by mail coach.

mail bags. The sender paid a fee calculated according to the number of copies and the newspapers were bundled up with a coloured address label attached. Stamps to the value of the number of copies enclosed had to be affixed and the number written on each consignment (Figs 1 & 5).

When there was an odd number of newspapers in a single wrapper the payment of half a centime was recorded by the mark "*½ centime en plus*". These wrappers for sending newspapers predate letters sent *hors sac*.

The bundles of newspapers, which were carried unsealed so that their contents could be checked, were marked *HORS SAC* in large lettering and the wrappers were printed on red, pink, green or orange coloured paper.



Figure 1 - 1906 newspaper wrapper with 19c franking cancelled *JOURNAUX TOURS* cds

Letters sent *hors sac*

The tariff of 28 February 1912 granted the printed matter rate to printers' proofs. This tariff was quickly extended to cover journalists' mail, articles, proofs, illustrations and later printing blocks. As with the bundles of newspapers, the

handing in and collecting took place at the railway stations. To benefit from these terms, the items sent *hors sac* had to be franked at the printed matter rate to which was added the urgent fee created by the Act of 22 March 1924.



Figure 2 - 1924 *Hors Sac* envelope franked at 10c (5c Printed Matter + 5c Urgent Fee)

At this time, the first weight band printed matter rate (up to 50 grams) was 5c and the urgent fee was 5c; the first *hors sac* letters were therefore franked at 10c (Fig. 2).

The development of *hors sac* tariffs

From 25 March 1924 to 31 December 1934 the service was restricted to the printed matter first weight band plus urgent fee.

From 1 January 1935 the *hors sac* service was extended to the higher weight bands but the urgent fee remained fixed irrespective of the weight band.

The last tariff to operate with the urgent fee was in force from 19 May 1964 to 17 January 1965. From the 18 January

To begin with, letters sent *hors sac* were limited to the first weight band which, on 31 May 1933, was reduced to 20 grams.

1965 letters had to be franked at the letter rate in order to benefit from the terms for the handing in and delivery of *hors sac* items.

The postal reform of 13 January 1969 introduced the two tier *URGENT* and *PLI NON URGENT* service. Printed matter within France was to be treated as *P.N.U.* but on the other hand *hors sac* correspondence had to be franked at the *URGENT* rate within the various weight bands.

The development of *hors sac* envelopes

Since their inception, the words *HORS SAC* had to be printed in large letters.

The paper used in the manufacture of the envelopes has always been coloured, orange pink from 1924 to 1935, then pure pink. In the 1940s appeared the first red envelopes together with beige envelopes with red printing. Nowadays the envelopes are pink with either black, red or blue printing. In certain cases when there has been a shortage of printed envelopes, press correspondents have used

ordinary ones with the words *HORS SAC* added by hand. We call these covers 'makeshift'.

From the 1940s, the name of the sender, the date, time and place of handing over were recorded on the envelope and signed by the sender (see illustration on front cover).

Since February 1973, the reference *HORS SAC* should have been replaced by *PRESSE* but this instruction has not been strictly adhered to.

Anomalies

Anomalies are frequent as press correspondents are not always aware of the tariffs. One comes across many covers where an *hors sac* envelope has been used but where the franking is incorrect. During the first period the urgent fee

has often been omitted and the cover is therefore taxed. One comes across many items which have been franked according to the various weight bands of the letter rate and hence are overfranked.

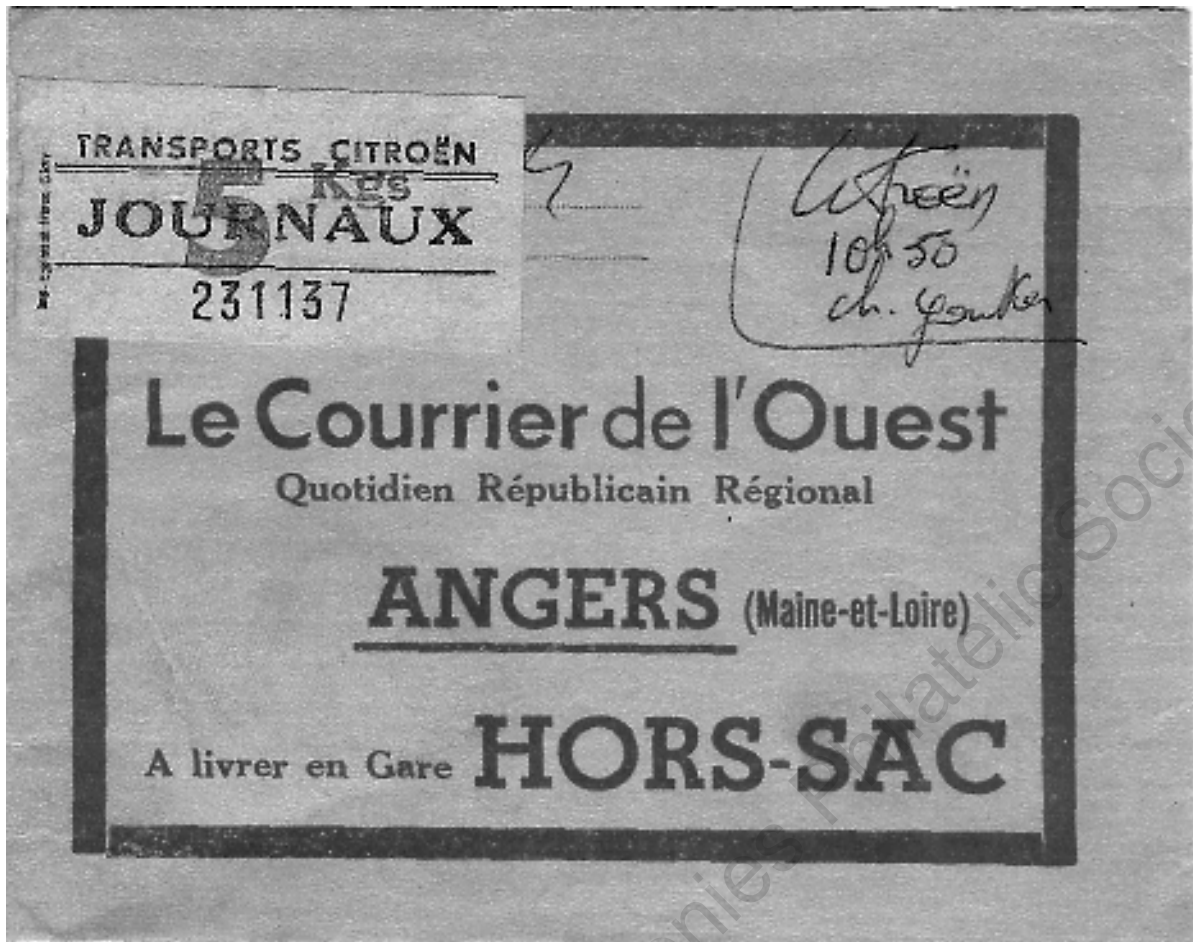


Figure 3 - Undated *Hors Sac* envelope carried by Transports Citroën under the Poste Rurale service

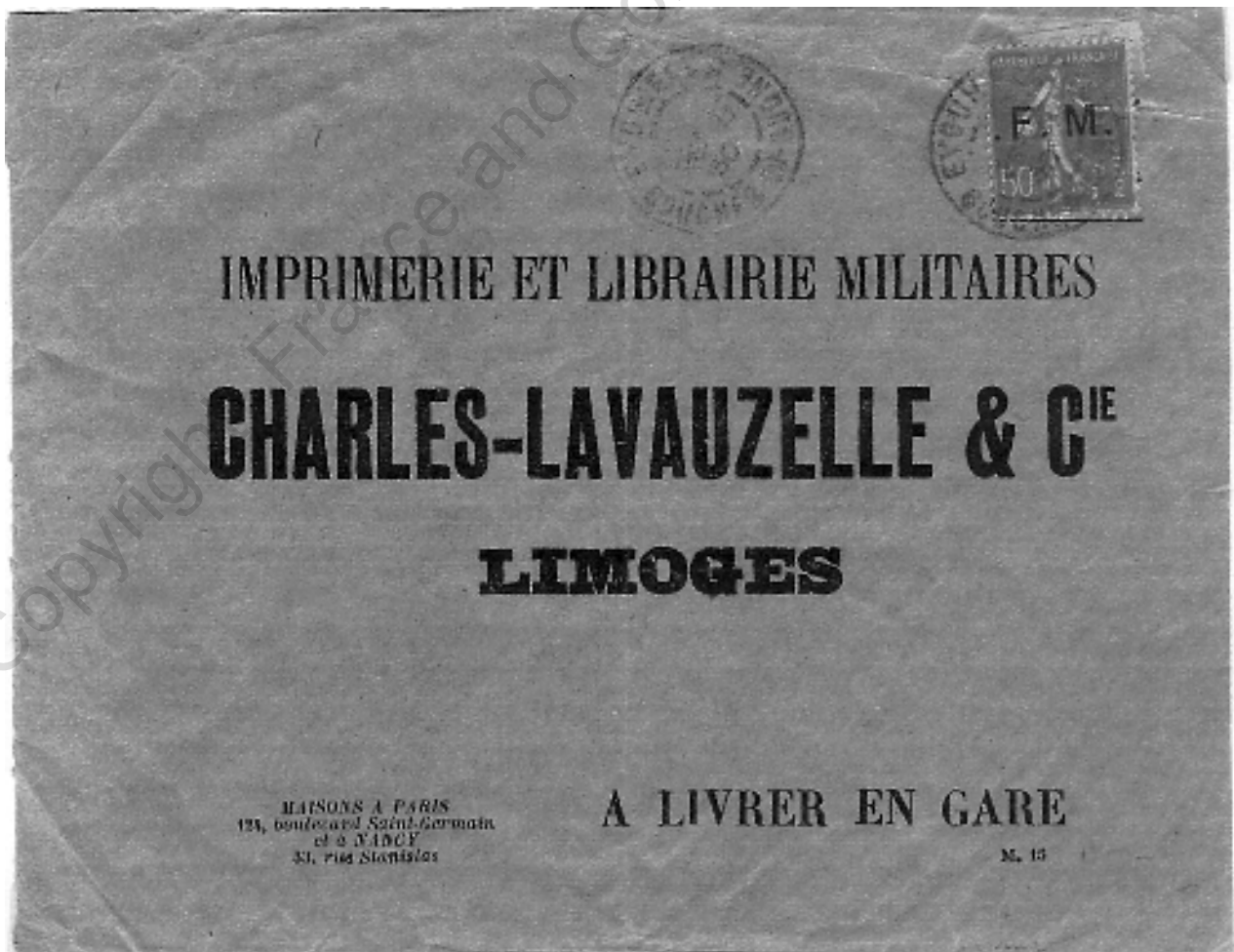


Figure 4 - 1930 *Hors Sac* envelope sent under *Franchise Militaire* (NB overprint variety 'dot before F')

The Poste Rurale which used road transport such as the Citroën buses also conveyed and delivered *hors sac* mail (Fig 3).

Forming a Collection

Newspaper wrappers with the inscription '*½ centime en plus*' are rare and sought after. They can fetch more than 250 Euros. As for the *hors sac* covers, a collection of the twenty-one successive tariffs with the urgent fee and the different weight bands can be completed without too much difficulty. Then come the twenty-three tariffs at letter rate

Official military *hors sac* mail and letters sent *hors sac* by war correspondents in the field benefit from postal franchise (Fig 4).

beginning in 1965*. Covers sent at the standard *hors sac* tariff or at rates which lasted a long time are not rare but some weight steps are impossible to find. Prices vary from 8 to 50 Euros for a standard cover. Items carried by the Poste Rurale or with postal franchise can fetch more than 250 Euros.



Figure 5 - A similar newspaper wrapper to that in Figure 1, but franked at 8c for 8 copies

Note

* 'Le Courrier *hors sac*' by Jean-Luc Trassaert in *Le Monde des Philatélistes*, N° 548, February 2000, gives the full table of *hors sac* rates.

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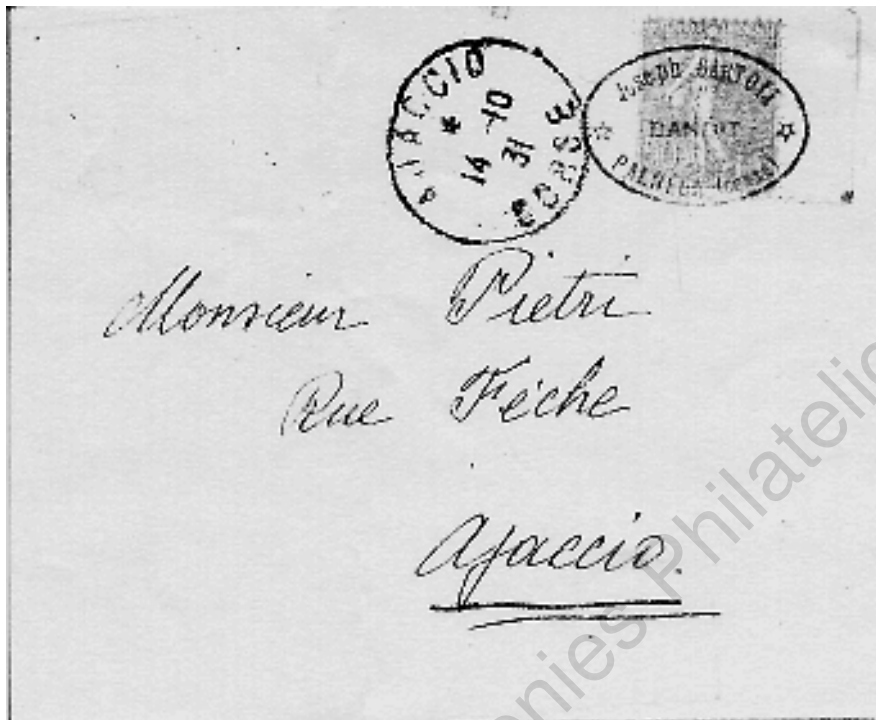
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SHORTER ITEMS - INCLUDING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Corsican "Bandit" Cachet



This cover may be of interest to members. There are a lot of Bartolis in Palneca and a lot of Pietris in Ajaccio. The only other relevant point is that banditry was certainly rife then as it is now, and that at that time France sent mobile squads of machine guns etc to try and quieten things down. The quiet was temporary - partly as a result of there being too much *maquis*. Is this cachet an advertisement of the sender's profession, braggadoccio, or both?

The stamp, incidentally, is a 50c red lined Sower, and there is a back strike which is identical to the Ajaccio one on the front.

I have contacted a Society member in Belgium who is a Corsican specialist, and he has sent me the following information.

David Jennings-Bramly

* * *

In the 30s it was a tourist attraction to take pictures of so-called "bandits", but the real reason why France sent special armed guards to the island was and is the unending fight for independence. Even now Corsica is the only part of France to have its own laws.

The name Bartoli is that of one of the great families in Palneca, as can be demonstrated by the local telephone directory. The address "Pietri, rue Fèche" is that of one of the (perhaps largest at that time) stores of Corsica. Perhaps

Joseph Bartoli was sending an order to buy some accessories for dressing up and playing a bandit?

I believe 50c was the genuine postage rate for sending a letter. The adhesive is cancelled with Bartoli's own cachet, but why not? The postage fee was paid, and the Ajaccio cancellation is not on the adhesive because Bartoli had taken the stamp out of use. There was probably no post office in Palneca.

Roland Ingels

Marianne de Briat Envelopes with Self-adhesive Flap

The euro year has got off to a fine start so I understand, but I'm still in the midst of a never-ending great removal. However, this has led to one minor positive - or negative - discovery.

I came across some Marianne de Briat envelopes, the ones with the self-adhesive flap. Although I don't collect them myself, there may be other members who do, and unless their collection is housed in optimum conditions* - temperature, humidity, etc - I would advise them to take a

look at the self-adhesive strip on the envelope flap. Mine are beginning to deteriorate and damage the paper.

The used envelopes in my collection are no problem because, right from the start, I decided to cut away the flap and sealing strip to avoid damage by this kind of adhesive.

John Simmons

* Even then, I should think that in the long term this type of adhesive will deteriorate.

18th Century Pre-stamp Covers from Lisbon

I have part of the answer to David Stirrups' query on page 155 of Journal 222. The earlier of the two marks (*D'ESPAGNE*) is illustrated on page 166 of the second part of Louis Lenain's "*La Poste aux Armées et les Relations Postales Internationales des Origines à 1791*" (1968), where it is given the consecutive number 80. It is believed to have been applied at Paris and is stated to have been known used between 1778 and 1797 so, unless something has come to light since 1968, Prof Stirrup's is the earliest known example.

The curved *ESPAGNE* mark is not listed so, again unless something has been reported since 1968, it is so far unrecorded. Incidentally, Lenain does not list any linear *ESPAGNE* cachet — is a "non-curved" type something to look out for?

Lenain is, of course, to eighteenth century entry marks what Gilbert Noël is to those of the nineteenth century.

Bill Mitchell

* * *

The handstamp "*D'ESPAGNE*" forming the subject of David Stirrups' enquiry in Journal 222 is illustrated in "*La Poste aux Armées et les Relations Postales Internationales des Origines à 1791*" by Louis Lenain — the known dates of use of this *marque d'origine* now being at least from 1772 to 1797.

Letters from Spain and from Portugal do not normally show the postage paid by the sender, the very acceptance of a letter by the relevant postal administration alone being acknowledgment that the fee was paid. Letters for France from both countries had to be pre-paid to the point of exit from the Iberian peninsula whether overland or by sea.

The normal route for letters from Lisbon would have been Badajoz, Madrid, Irun, Bayonne, Bordeaux to Paris. The handstamp on the 1789 letter appears to have been damaged - perhaps by overwork! Not only is it bent but the "D" does not seem to register. Having said this it would not be unreasonable to presume that over the length of time this marking was used more than one existed — possibly at Bayonne but certainly at Paris for letters received in the closed valise.

One further comment on the letter addressed to St Étienne: whilst Irun-Bayonne was the preferred route for mails into France it is possible this letter was conveyed, after Madrid, via Barcelona, La Junquera on the Spanish border to Perpignan, and thence via Avignon and Valence to St Étienne. This would seem more sensible, but it does seem to be generally accepted that save for letters destined to somewhere in the immediate vicinity of a border crossing all incoming international mails had first to go to Paris in those early days. Can this statement be confirmed with authority?

According to "*Les Tarifs Postaux Français 1627-1969*" by Dr R Joany the tariff of 1759 for a "*lettre simple*" from Spain to Paris was 20 sous whilst a simple letter in an envelope was 21 sous — which may apply in the case of the 1772 letter. However, there is the additional possibility that the 1772 letter to St Étienne did travel via Paris and that the additional one sou was charged for the further distance beyond Paris!

Fred Goatcher

But postcards can be opened



"Bildkarte / Zurück / zur Zeit nicht zugelassen"
[Picture postcard / Returned / at present not allowed]

Chris Hitchen, in Journal 222 page 157, commented on the change in wording in WWI censorship cachets from “Ouvert” to “Contrôlé” by stating that “a postcard cannot be opened.” There is one type of postcard, however, that can be opened, and that is the picture postcard. The reason lies in its manufacture: a photograph is glued to a card. This means that the two parts could be prised apart and a message inserted in-between.

British and German censors were alive to this and had special marks to put on the picture postcards they were

returning to the effect that picture postcards could not be sent. I do not know of French or American marks, but I illustrate a German example from 1942. The emphasis in the mark is on the “Bild” [or picture] of the “Bildkarte”.

Until I understood this I always wondered how innocuous ordinary photographs could be of interest to an enemy, especially as many would have been sent abroad before a war.

Robert Johnson

Cachets Cancelling Airmail Routes



I have been through my literature and can find nothing to explain these two marks, “PAS DE DÉPART PAR AVION” (16.7.38 from Fort Archambault in Chad to Morocco) and “*Courrier avion provisoirement suspendu. Acheminement par bateau*” (9.9.39 from Brazzaville in Middle Congo to Paris).

The 1938 one may have been due to lack of an aeroplane, and the September 1939 one (illustrated overleaf) was probably due to the outbreak of WWII. I have consulted Barbara Priddy to see if she can flesh out these bare bones, and any help from members would be very welcome.

Robert Johnson

* * *

The first cover is a complete mystery. It should certainly have been picked up by the Régie Air Afrique service which called at Fort Archambault northbound that day, and if it missed that it would surely have been better to wait for the next week's Sabena service. Both airlines were well equipped with reliable aeroplanes: the only problem I can find around this time was with the RAA southbound flight of the previous fortnight which had to put down in a forest clearing between Fort Archambault and Bangui on 29 June, but was found the next day and refuelled and flown safely to Bangui on 3 July.

Are there any backstamps to indicate its eventual route or the date of arrival in Casablanca? By air I should think it

would have gone to Marseille and then back south by Air France (unless the Algeria-Morocco line was functioning at this time, which I'm not sure about. By surface it would have taken weeks down to the coast and round by ship, unless they sent it by road to meet up with the Aéromaritime service ... no, I can't believe any of that!

As for the second cover, I am sure you are right in linking it to the outbreak of war, when civil airlines were put under the control of the military and flying was temporarily suspended while everyone worked out where they stood in the situation. However, this didn't last long and a week or two later normal services resumed on the African routes — until June 1940, of course!

Barbara Priddy

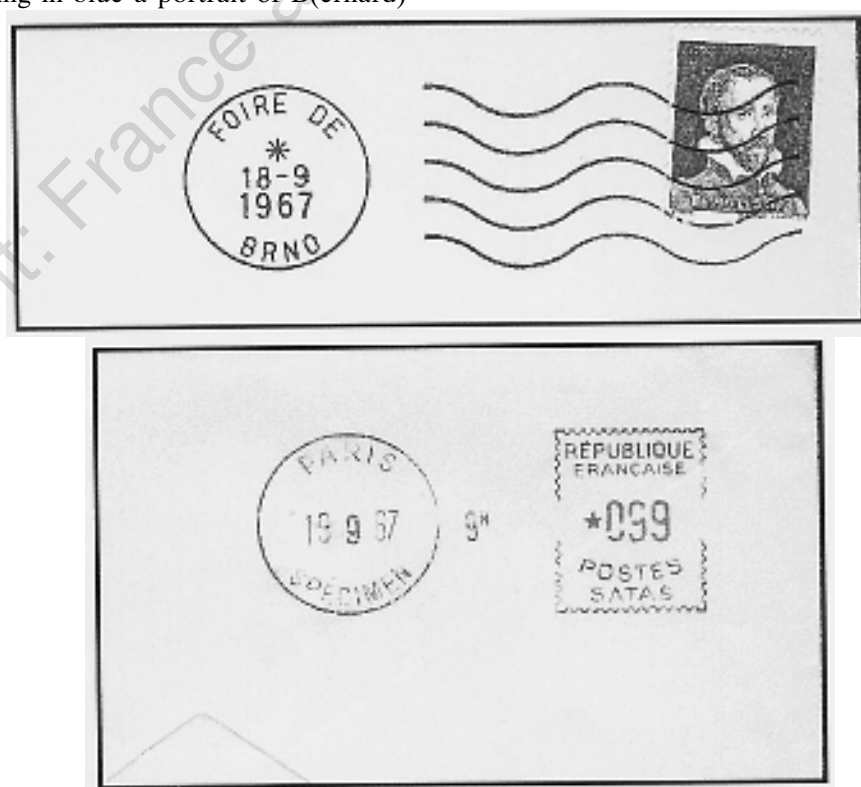


Czech-French Query

My very good friend Bob Hill, The Auction Secretary of the Czechoslovak PS of GB, has asked for any information members may be able to give about this Czech-French item, a blank Specimen cover, two portions of which are illustrated here. The front has a Brno Fair cancel in black and a vignette depicting in blue a portrait of B(ernard)

Palissy, at the bottom of which is the name A Frères (to the left) and the wording "d'après Larousse" (to the right). On the reverse of the envelope is a Paris meter mark cancellation in red with the word "Spécimen" at the bottom of the circular date stamp.

Colin Spong



Madagascar: 1903 Issue - Zebu and Traveller's Tree

Since Gavin Fryer and I published our studies of this issue in the Journal* in 1981-2, our colleagues in France have begun to take an interest in their former colonies following the formation in 1974 of the Société COL.FRA which began publishing a *Bulletin* in 1977. The present day journal has come a long way since the early issues and is highly commended to members who collect the colonies.

As far as the Zebu issue is concerned, two main articles have appeared in the French philatelic press — *Suivez le Zébu de Madagascar* by Georges Bartoli, *Timbroscopie* N° 117, October 1994, and *Le Type Zébu de Madagascar* by Guy Dutau, *La Philatélie Française* N° 490, 1995. Both of these articles in different ways cover the Zebu design very well, the first with some fine colour illustrations of this issue and the second with further information obtained from members of COL.FRA, as well as making a personal study of the Zebu.

However my attention was drawn to a short article by Pierre Favrel, which appeared in COL.FRA *Bulletin* N° 97, 4^{ème} Trimestre 2001, and I am grateful to Roy Reader for translating this article for me. Pierre Favrel mentions that he has found a very detailed and instructive article by M Guy Dutau [presumably the paper in *La Philatélie Française*] and quotes:

"The issuing of the 15 stamps of the Zebu and Ravenala set took place on the same day and in a single printing, except for the 1c which was given a second printing in mauve [lilac-grey] in 1905. Marked on the item reproduced in Figure N° 1, an imperforate block of the 40c in its definitive colour and with a handstamp reading "IMPRIMERIE CHARDON, WITTMAN Successor," is the date of 3 September 1903, which would correspond to the day of printing...the various catalogues state simply that these stamps were issued in 1903."

Pierre Favrel continues "Now, in my notes on the postal history of Madagascar, I have noted an "ORDER" appointing a commission responsible for checking and

taking receipt of a consignment of postage stamps sent by the Department.

ART.I - A commission consisting of :

Messrs Prelat, Civil Affairs clerk,

Lerosty, Treasury clerk,

Vuidepot, Post and Telegraph clerk, will meet on Saturday 11 April 1903 at Post and Telegraph Headquarters, for the purpose of carrying out the checking and taking receipt of a consignment of postage stamps sent by the Department.

ART. II - The Secretary General and the head of the Post and Telegraph Service will be responsible, each insofar as he is concerned, for executing the present order.

Tananarive

On behalf of the Governor

And on his authority:

Chief Administrator

VERGNES

In my opinion, given the date of this order, it could only have been about the sending of the postage stamps of the "Zebu and Ravenala" design, which enables us to put the issuing of these stamps well before September 1903."

I have checked with M Guy Dutau's paper and on pages 44-5 is the printing information quoted by M Pierre Favrel. Whilst Gavin Fryer and I together with the late Robert Stone had confirmed that only one printing was made for this issue apart from the 1c value, the further details that both MM Dutau and Favrel have added would I hope persuade catalogue editors to amend their dates for the *Zebu and Traveller's Tree* issue.

I showed my study of this issue at the Society meeting on Saturday 2 March, but that was probably the final display as I am considering selling the Zebu in order to study another issue.

References

*Zébu & Lemur Issue of Madagascar [C W Spong] 184/61

Zébu & Traveller's Tree Issue 1903 [G H Fryer] 148/3; [C W Spong] 150/76

Colin Spong

Benin Commemorative with 3 Dates

In 1999 Benin issued a set of stamps to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Council for Rural Development on 29 May 1999, consisting of three values: 135, 150 & 200F [the first postmark I know of being 15.7.99] and bore a 1999 date imprint. A second set appeared with a date imprint of 2000 [first postmark 2.10.2000], and a third with a 2001 imprint [20.5.2001].

The perforations vary through these issues regardless of value or date of issue, and it is almost as if the printers use whichever perforating machine is available.

As the only copies seen are on commercial covers arriving in this country, it can be assumed they are genuine, though none of the regular new issue dealers are able to obtain mint copies for distribution.

200F and 150F Benin commemoratives with the date imprint "POSTE 1999" to the right of the stamp in each case

If anyone knows, or can suggest, any reason why Benin issued the same commemorative set in three consecutive years, or has any other information on this perplexing puzzle I would love to hear from them.



Peter Upson

Continued on page 36

BOOKSHELF

Books Noted

Monaco 2002, Catalogue de timbres-poste (3rd ed.); pub. Domfil; 480 pages 170 x 240mm; in French and Spanish; 33,54 € (inc. p&p); details from l'Écho de la Timbrologie, 37 rue des Jacobins, 80036 Amiens Cedex 1. [2,750 stamps in colour, listed by year and date of issue, with Domfil numbering and values in Euros.]

Catalogue Yvert & Tellier, Tome 2 - 1^{re} partie (colonies françaises et TOM); 480 pages 165 x 230mm; 29 •.

Catalogue Yvert & Tellier, Tome 2 - 2^e partie (pays indépendants d'Afrique, Cambodge, Laos, Vietnam); 1,152 pages 255 x 230mm; 26 •.

Le Courrier des casques bleus, by Gérard Schmidt; 362 pages 210 x 297mm; 39 • (inc. p&p); available from Gérard Schmidt, villa la Marguerite, 17 avenue de Brunet, 83100 Toulon. [A study of the mail of United Nations forces since 1945, including operations in Lebanon, Cambodia, Somalia, Yugoslavia]; illustrated by 639 envelopes, postcards, drawings and documents.]

Loire en Loiret, Le patrimoine du Val de Loire en images, pub. le Cercle des cartophiles du Loiret; 232 pages; 27,44 •; available from le Cercle des cartophiles du Loiret, 45560 Saint-Denis-en-Val. [450 postcards and accompanying text illustrate the history of the Val de Loire.]

Catalogue des Enveloppes et Cartes Premier Jour 2002; pub. Farcigny; 172 pages; 21,65 •; available from Éditions Jean Farcigny, 39 rue d'Estienne d'Orves, 92400 Courbevoie. [Complete listing from beginnings in July 1950; includes productions from countries such as Andorra, Monaco, Polynesia, New Caledonia, TAAF; illustrated in colour; chronological classification with Yvert numbers.]

Icare, revue de l'aviation française, N° 177: "La Poste aérienne française, tome II"; 155 pages 340 x 220mm; 21,34 • (+ 0,76 • p&p to UK) (credit cards accepted); available from Revue Icare, BP 10955 Tremblay en France, 95733 Roissy CDG Cedex. [History of airmail from 1933 to date, superbly illustrated with philatelic and other contemporary documents and photos, and includes bibliographic references. **Tome I (Icare N° 173)** covering the constituent companies of Air France 1909-1938 and the African lines 1922-1940 is also available at the same price.]

Army & Air Force Locations, Vol I: BPOs, PRSs and Regular APOs 1941-1964, by Russ Carter; 321 pages 216 x 279mm; 3-hole punched, no binder; illustrations and charts; \$55 for non-MPHS members in UK; available from Military Postal History Society, PO Box 32, Cypress, TX 77410-0032, USA. [Updated source for locating e.g. US APO numbers used in liberated areas of North Africa and France, and bases on French territories and elsewhere, during and after WWII.]

La Cote des coins datés et des millésimes (65th ed.); pub. Sococodami; 129 pages 249 x 147mm; 9,15 •; available from Sococodami, BP 4625, 22046 Saint-Brieuc Cedex 2. [2002 edition with values in Euros and a Francs-Euros conversion table.]

Catalogue Cérès des timbres-poste français de 1849 à nos jours; 521 pages 224 x 154mm; 118F (+ 23F p&p); details from Cérès Philatélie, 23 rue du Louvre, 75041 Paris Cedex 01. [Nearly 5000 colour reproductions, with date of issue, number printed, main varieties, and added booklet section.]

Réfugiés Espagnols en Charente-Maritime (et Deux-Sèvres) 1936-1945, by Jacques Perruchon; 150F; available from Le Croît Vif, 83 rue Michel-Ange, 75016 Paris. [Historical study of Spanish refugees before and during WWII, based on departmental archives.]

Marques postales et oblitérations de l'Île de la Réunion, by François Feuga; 200F; available from the author at 20 rue des Clercs, 57000 Metz. [Postal markings of Reunion from origins to July 1994, including temporary and first day stations, machine cancels and slogans, and meters.]

Histoire postale du Département du Rhône (des origines à 1996), tome 2 et tome 3, by Pierre Souchon; 540 & 560 pages; 350F each; available from UPT de La Poste et de France Télécom, 39 avenue Jean-Jaurès, BP 7084, 69301 Lyon Cedex 07. [Continuation and conclusion of history of the posts in Rhône (Tome 1 is o/p), with Tome 2 on the evolution of the posts surrounding Lyon (except Lyon-Ville and Villefranche-sur-Saône) and Tome 3 on the posts of Lyon, the two World Wars, perfins, railway post, and telecards.]

Les boîtes rurales et urbaines du Lot-et-Garonne, by Jean-Pierre Duval; 200F; available from the author at 21 rue St-Laurent, 33000 Bordeaux. [Over 1600 rural and urban boxes identified for this département, with known dates of opening and closing; some illustrations and documentation.]

[Those prices above given in francs are from sources that date back to the end of last year.]

Maurice Tyler

* * *

The Early Postal History of Saudi Arabia, by Jakob von Uexkull; pub. Sahara Publications Ltd, London, 2001; 98 pages A4; hardbound; 320 illustrations; ISBN 1-903022-10-X; £35. [Mostly deals with the period 1865-1919, covering Turkish and Egyptian posts, but there is a section of 5½ pages on the **French Military Mission in Hejaz 1916-20**, with some 25 illustrations of covers and markings.]

Ian McQueen

* * *

Étude des variétés aux types des timbres du Maroc, by Jean-Philippe Desjeunes; softback ring-binding; 39 pages + intro; 15 colour illustrations; Can\$50 or US\$35; available from author at 6691-25E Avenue, Montreal, Quebec, H1T 3L8, Canada. [Covers overprints on Blanc, Mouchon & Merson types.]

David Taylor Smith

* * *

REPORTS OF MEETINGS

MAIN SOCIETY MEETING OF 28 NOVEMBER 2001

Godfrey Bowden - The Sage Period

Before introducing our speaker, president Mick Bister announced that (1) David Jennings-Bramly, after his spell in hospital, would welcome a letter or card from members who know him, and (2) material was urgently needed for future auctions.

Godfrey began his Sage display by admitting that in his research he had plumped for quantity rather than quality. The 17 different values used during the Sage period (1876-1901) were displayed on boards extending across the six display frames to allow a few distinctly postmarked stamps from each value to be displayed for each year of issue. This enabled the viewer to identify the start and finish of each of the 58 identified types to be clearly seen. Changes in colour and shade could thus be related to the periods in which they occurred. Only a forgery of the 1c black on Prussian blue was shown (and this was partly recognisable by the blue stains on the back), but we were reminded of the large quantity of this stamp shown some years ago by Chanaryn.

The stamps were produced by the Banque de France until 1880, when the Atelier de Fabrication des Timbres-Poste, boulevard Brune, took over. The least numbers of stamps issued were in the years 1883 and 1881. The 5c yellow-green N/U was seen with date stamps of May and November 1898, earlier than the date of 8.12.98 generally accepted: Godfrey said he would be pleased to hear of other such examples.

Following this exhaustive study, Godfrey then displayed a wide variety of special printings, *SPECIMEN* overprints (probably used abroad where the currency was different), printed stationery from 1878, previous formula cards from 1876, perfins, telegrams, *pneus*, Chaplain cards, *mandats*, cigarette duty wrappers, printed matter wrappers, 1882 postal orders, 1882 envelopes, Vervelle letter-cards and officials, *poste enfantine* items, 1887 advertising *repiquages* (sold at a loss of 10c), different coloured cards from the late 1880s, those commemorating the visit of the Russian fleet to Toulon (used examples where possible), and 1900 Exhibition *repiquages*.

To conclude the first half of the display, Godfrey concentrated on Sage stamps from the Colonies, made from the same plates, from 1877 onwards, but imperforate.

He explained that the 25c blue was a particularly difficult value to find, but that he had been lucky enough to obtain one on cover cheaply in an auction. We also saw Alphée Dubois stamps and, from 1892, the Commerce and Navigation series. The range of territories using these stamps included Turkey, the Protectorate of Tunisia (1888), Morocco (1891), Madagascar, Reunion, the Levant (1893), Djibouti and Obock (1894), Zanzibar, Alexandria, Port Said, and China. The final exhibits were parcel stamps from 1892, and telephone stamps.

The second half of the display was described by Godfrey as a "make-weight", but contained an astonishing variety of material from the Sage period. Thus we were shown fiscals (*affiches, connaissements, copies, dimension, effets de commerce*, perforated fiscals from 1892, and railway receipts), postage dues (black and coloured Duval, colonies), printing errors, the Châlon forgery, advertising trade cards (English ones but in fashionable French), exhibition cards (1878, and Eiffel Tower ones from 1889 with colour added), commercial cachets from 1878, personalised stationery, a 25F bond (valid for 75 years until 1964), a large wrapper for the *la Belle Jardinière* catalogue, cards from hotels and dealers, and Huot vignettes.

We were also able to examine technical details of types 1 and 2 of Sage, a study of minor irregularities such as "fly specks" and identifiable shadows, and types of postmarks on stamps and covers, with some omitted details. These postmarks included type A1 dated December 1882 with the *0 levée* mark (perhaps a test, as it was 2 years before the official start), *sections de levée* (with evidence of the 30 Paris post offices, and the 29 *levées* at the Gare du Nord), *journaux, horaires*, trains, and Swiss and Belgian marks. We ended up with a change of address wrapper stuck with a 1c stamp on card (precanceled and stuck on top of a pile to the new address, perhaps?).

In thanking Godfrey, Mick commented that we had had more than expected in one evening's display. This was a welcome return to stamp collecting, presented in a very interesting way and put into a meaningful relationship to make the Sage stand out in an enormous range of different material.

MST

MAIN SOCIETY MEETING OF 12 DECEMBER 2001

Members' Short Displays

It was very evident that a number of members had been so exhausted by their Christmas shopping and card writing that they had succumbed to having an evening in rather than venturing out again to attend the Society's meeting. Nevertheless, the few who did bring along material provided an evening of variety and quality if not quantity.

Barbara Priddy opened up the proceedings with a display of Concorde flight covers. We were reminded of the disaster

which had befallen Concorde in Paris last year and it was felt that a display on this very special aircraft was appropriate as it had just had its certificate of airworthiness renewed. Barbara showed us a 1975 Paris-Dakar first flight cover marking an event which had taken place fifty years after the opening of the first airmail service between the two cities. Barbara gave a brief résumé of the *ligne Mermoz*, the precursor of the Concorde route, and showed us various

covers of the different stages of the Paris-Dakar-Rio de Janeiro service up to its last scheduled flight in 1982. Barbara closed with an example of a cover flown on a chartered flight to Dakar in 1985.

Derek Richardson then stepped forward to give a display on the 1944-45 Marianne de Dulac issue. Derek explained the need for the allies to print stamps for France in case the Germans had destroyed the printing works during their retreat. Twenty different values were issued but although they had been printed with no regard for current or potential postal rates, Derek illustrated how some of them were able to be used. Amongst those shown being used alone were a 1F on an internal 5 word postcard, a 1F50 on an internal letter, both dated 1945, and a scarce example of a 50F on an airmail letter to the USA dated 1946. In addition, we saw multiple frankings and liquidation stock being used as late as 1951.

The first half of the programme closed with **Bernard Berkinshaw-Smith** displaying some of his recent acquisitions. The first part consisted of a run of covers sent from Paris to Belgrade in the 1870s but all charged at different Austro-Hungarian rates. The rates could not be explained at the time of speaking but Bernard was hoping to do some research on them in the near future.

Bernard then proceeded to show some extraordinary covers carried in the main by fishing vessels to and from St Pierre et Miquelon. Highlights to be savoured included an 1843 Granville to St Pierre cover forwarded by a shipping agent via the Ile de Rhé, an 1858 cover from Boston, USA, to St Pierre via Halifax, and a beautiful cover dated 1866 with an 80c Eagle cancelled SPM addressed to Granville.

After an extended period of viewing which had been needed to discuss the many issues raised by the above displays, **Alan Barrett** launched the second part of the evening with a selection of miscellaneous Cinderella material. A particularly attractive study of the Napoleon Head (*effets de commerce*) fiscals was shown followed by other examples of this expanding philatelic genre. We saw fiscals which had been issued to raise taxes on casino passes, theatre tickets, playing cards and matches and, just as in regular philately, the specialist aspect was revealed by the display of different papers used, ordinary and the curiously named 'onion skin'. Finally, Alan entertained us with a selection of large tricolour *Exportation* labels that had been removed from boxes transporting cauliflowers and tomatoes from Brittany to the UK. We could all remember seeing these labels in our youth and even discreetly inserting one into

our stamp albums but never realising at the time that one day they would become collectable items.

Geoff Gethin gave us another instalment of his study of fakes and forgeries which included a postally used example of the 50c Béquet *faux d'Aubervilliers*. The main item of his display however was a recent discovery of a 1F50 Pétain brown with a forged + 50 S N overprint which had been found in the Society packet. Geoff related how, in order to raise funds for the *Secours National*, it had been decided in 1942 to overprint the 1F50 Pétain in brown with a 50c surcharge. A few trial sheets were duly overprinted but it was quickly realised that the criminal fraternity could easily forge this issue by obtaining sheets of the normal printing and surcharging it themselves. It was therefore decided to print the receiving stamp in blue before adding the surcharge. The surcharge on the brown printing remained unissued.

Geoff went on to demonstrate with the use of photographic enlargements that despite the variations within the genuine overprint, it was possible to identify the forged one as its characteristics were quite unique. Furthermore, the excessive *foulage* or relief created on the reverse of the stamp by the pressure applied during the forgery process confirmed its lack of pedigree.

Finally, **Mick Bister** closed the second half with a short study of the dual value 3F / o,46 • Euro issue of 1999. Mick opened with a brief reference to the o,31 Ecu issue of 1988 which heralded the attempt to find a common European currency and of which 55 million copies were printed, one per head of the French population. This was followed by a look at the Euro issue itself in sheet, booklet and stationery format. Mick showed an example of the famous booklet in which the stamps had been erroneously printed on the ungummed paper intended for the cover and the cover printed on the gummed paper intended for the stamps. Examples of the plethora of postal stationery were displayed, made all the more complicated by the variety of printers' licence numbers, batch references, packaging details etc which are printed on the reverse. Mick finished with a display of meter markings which traced the transition from the franc to the Euro and saw the introduction of the computerised MAI machines (*machine à affranchir intelligente*).

The president closed the meeting by thanking all those who had entertained that evening and the usual seasonal best wishes were extended by an invitation to adjourn to a nearby hostelry.

MLB

SOUTHERN GROUP MEETING OF 26 JANUARY 2002

Members Displays

The Organiser opened the meeting on a wet and blustery afternoon welcoming those who had braved the weather. As on previous occasions the displays were to be given by those present and the following members entertained:

Michael Annells showed Military Mail of World War I, including an interesting cover and letter from Marshal Joffre dated 11/9/14 and the Obortino family cor-

respondence from Savoy to a soldier son Ernest in the Military Hospital N° 196. Michael also displayed two maps: one prior to 1914 and the other post 1914-18.

Colin Clarkson continued with this theme showing a military card headed Touring Club de France to Military Hospital N° 123, rue St Jacques, Paris, 10c rate, a ppc depicting "*ma chérie petite Marianne*" to London from

Depot 112 Toulon and the Australian Memorial cards covering both the inland and foreign rates.

Michael Berry continued with correspondence from his island home - Île de Ré. Internal and foreign letter rates were seen including 1802 and 1872 letters from St Martin.

Bob Small showed a collection of the Type Sage 1877-1901. This was Bob's first display and he was complimented upon the layout and writing up.

Barbara Priddy showed non-airmail material. This covered various shipping mails with a map of the area. Amongst the covers displayed were a registered letter from Moya Bérébi 29/3/1899 to London, Jaquerville 26/5/1900 to Leeds via Marseille, Quimperlé 7/11/01 to Dakar via Liverpool! The display ended with military mail from French Sudan, Guinea and Ivory Coast: these included Niamey 15/6/06 to Commercy, 21/7/99 Timbuktu redirected to Kayes 18/8, Ligne M 1/9, Tours 14/9, Oran 18/9 to Guirara on 19/9.

After tea **John Hammonds** showed Airmail Routes to Africa and Syria including: 14/4/33 Madagascar to Nottingham, 8/5/33 Casablanca to Paris, 23/4/35 Ft Lamy to Paris *voie Transsaharienne*, Air France cover 11/11/35 Ft Lamy to Tananarive, Air Orient cover 21/3/32 Beirut to

Paris, and Indochina covers flown by Air Union, Air Orient and KLM 1929-31.

Colin Spong displayed the essays and revenue stamps as well as stamped documents of Madagascar. The documents were from the Lasocki family in Majunga.

Bob Larg continued with the various types of military mail FM cards including regimental history cards, FM lettercards with maps on the reverse and back of the cards.

Roy Ferguson closed the afternoon with picture postcards and brochures as well as covers from Mont St Michel.

As the non-showing member **Bill Mitchell** gave the vote of thanks for an enjoyable afternoon. Members were reminded that the next meeting on 13 April, would be a visit by our President, Mick Bister, who was giving a display on the 1F50 Pétain issue.

Members present: Michael Annells, Michael Berry, Colin Clarkson, Roy Ferguson, John Hammonds, Bob Larg, Bill Mitchell, Barbara Priddy, Bob Small, Colin Spong, and guests: Christine Annells, Yvonne Larg, John Thorpe and Pat Spong. Apologies from Betty & Frank Blincow, and Michael Wilson.

CWS

MAIN SOCIETY MEETING OF 30 JANUARY 2002

Peter Kelly - Reunion Postal History

President Mick Bister began the meeting by announcing that the next Society display would be given by Colin Spong on Madagascar; Bernard Berkinshaw-Smith reported that over 40 members would be attending the Leamington Weekend; and Iain Stevenson, just back from Nice, recommended the new Dally Catalogue (and CD) and warned that the Couleurs de Marianne miniature sheet was already sold out.

Peter Kelly began his display, a sample of which had been seen last year at Kenilworth, by telling us that records on Reunion are thin as a result of the Post Office being burnt down and archives being pillaged or misfiled, so that rates and routes are not easy to establish. He introduced his collection with a summarised history of the island, dating back to the time when permanent settlements were being sought on the east coast of Africa and in the Indian Ocean, in order to supply or repair vessels trading with the Far East. But Bourbon, as the island was first known, suffered from lack of a safe harbour and was neglected in favour of Île de France (later named Mauritius) until 1810, when it was captured by the British for 5 years.

Most mail travelled via Mauritius at this time, but in 1830 a proper postal service was set up and early linear marks began to appear. The reorganisation was largely justified by the overland route via Suez, and later by the Canal which meant that Marseille was only a month away. The advent of steam improved the economic position of the island, and this was reflected in the rise in postal activities, with the first date stamps appearing in 1841 in the name of Bourbon (the Revolutionary name of Réunion was resumed from 1848). Postage stamps were introduced in 1851,

although the local ones issued were not a great success. In 1859 the use of postage stamps became general with the introduction of the Eagles, and Reunion received its own canceller - a 64 point dumb lozenge. The name of the colony appeared on postage stamps for the first time in 1891.

The first part of the display was conducted around the maritime history of the island and its various means of communication with the outside world, giving as many examples as possible of the different postage stamps, cancellations, instructional marks and other material, with a map to show the particular routes used. Thus we saw different entry marks and rates applied by France, preferential rates in Reunion on unpaid mail from France, mail sent to Mauritius and to Ceylon, various packet services — General Screw S S Co service 1852-4, P&O Australian contract 1858-60, Suez to Mauritius service via Reunion 1860-4, Messageries Maritimes *Lignes T, U and V* serving in various combinations Mauritius, Madagascar, Mahé in the Seychelles, and the east coast of Africa, and eventually merging in 1912 to become the *Ligne de Réunion à Marseille* — and alternative routes with the P&O and Union lines. The wide variety of material included insured and registered mail, military covers, postal stationery (Alphée Dubois and Group types), *chiffres-taxe* used for postage in 1901, telegrams, and postal relations with France and the French Colonies.

The second half of the display was introduced by a description of the topography of the island, which lies 700km to the east of Madagascar in the Indian Ocean, with its volcanic formations and a tropical climate. In 1882 a

railway opened from St Denis down both the windward and the leeward sides of the island - on the latter linking with the only natural port of St Paul - lines which were closed by 1956. A new man-made port at Pointe des Galets opened in 1888, and this, combined with a reduction in postage rates, had a marked impact on the volume of mail. The economic and maritime activity of Reunion was also stimulated by the arrival on Madagascar of a French expeditionary force in 1885.

The first set of pictorials, showing a map and views of the island, appeared in 1907, and the first commemoratives in 1937 - though the latter were not widely used. There is little to report of the postal history of Reunion until 1933, a year which saw the first trials in the despatch of mail by air to Mauritius. In 1937 came the first airmail stamp, and mail arrived in the mother country without surcharge and by air. This service was interrupted by WWII when the island fell under the nominal control of Vichy until the Free French took possession in 1942. Vichy stamps never reached the colony, and from 1942 all available stamps were overprinted locally with *France Libre* and the Cross

of Lorraine. After the War Reunion became an Overseas Department and used the stamps of France, from 1949 overprinting them with the value in CFA francs. In 1975 Reunion left the CFA, and her stamps were now printed with their value in French francs.

Again, an extensive variety of material illustrated this account. Items particularly noted included WWII censored mail, postcards sent abroad, airmail, railway marks (*Ligne du Vent*, *Ligne sous le Vent*, *convoyeurs*), foreign mail insufficiently paid, official mail sent under franchise, advice of receipt of goods, *après le départ*, the octagonal handstamps of St Benoît, Île Bourbon 1848, an Alphée Dubois type printed matter wrapper, postage due, items sent to France at the UPU rate, and even a few picture postcards.

Mick Bister, in giving the vote of thanks, commented that though it is not always easy to transmit one's enthusiasm to other members, Peter had most certainly achieved this, as shown by the time spent in viewing and the questions engendered. We had seen a superb display, given with an erudite yet interesting approach.

MST

Continued from page 31

Colonies Packet Section

The "Colonies" packet section continues to flourish — to the extent that, at the end of 2001, I was able to forward a cheque for £1,025 to the treasurer as the total income from commission and insurance deductions. This success is due, in no small measure, to the volume and quality of the material being submitted for sale. Indeed, I recently dealt with a packet where sales exceeded £600 and, considering that the maximum insured value of the packet cannot exceed £750, that is an astonishing percentage sales rate. Of course, that figure is distorted by the fact that a number of vendors agree to insure their material at 50%, but if they weren't willing to do that I would have the most dreadful backlog.

This article is designed to explain to members, who are offering material for sale through the society, why it sometimes takes an inordinately long time to return material to them. The logistics of the packet are set out below:-

The Colonies Packet Section is divided into four circuits, which are, loosely, geographically based to increase the chance of a member being able to pass by hand. (*Note to members who always have to post the packet – now is the time to try and persuade another local philatelist to join the F&CPS and halve your postal costs!*)

At any given time, eight packets are circulating with two out on each circuit. This means, therefore, that with a maximum of 18 books per packet, a total of 144 books can be circulated at any given time. The problems begin to arise when the packet organiser has stocks exceeding that number because, the reader may see, any books in excess

of that figure are going to 'lie fallow' for three or so months whilst the others circulate.

Since taking over the packet section in 1997, I have consistently been hovering on the brink of a figure, for stock awaiting sale, which approaches double the amount I can circulate. Thus, whilst the packets are circulating I am able to make up new packets and have them ready to distribute as soon as the others are due to return to me. Nevertheless, it does not take a professor in quantum physics to work out that if a packet takes about three months to circulate around one circuit, then lies idle for three months, by the time it has gone round four circuits it may be almost two years!

I have tried to reduce this delay by dint of some draconian culling, returning books to vendors after only two or three circuits, but I have to bear in mind the vendor's interests as well as the members. After all, that item left unsold on three circuits may be just the one that someone on the fourth circuit has been looking for. Obviously, most vendors look for a speedy return on their books and are discouraged by protracted delays, so it is in the Society's interest that we reduce this period by as much as we can — otherwise we'll find that no-one offers us material to sell. For the time being, if you are a vendor (or a potential vendor) and you're prepared to be patient, you will find that there is still a good market for Colonies material amongst our members. You will find the addresses to send material to, for either the "France" or the "Colonies" packet, inside the front cover of the Journal.

John West

Auction Lots

The following lots will be offered in the May 2002 Society Auction.
See also the back cover and page 21.

1877 entire from the
Lorilleux company,
supplier of ink to the
Atelier des Timbres-Poste,
with headed front and
paper seal on the reverse



Guadeloupe formula card with
15c General Issue, unused

TARIFFS

Translations of two further tables provided by Colin Spong and originally published in *Bulletin Col.Fra* n° 93, reproduced by permission.

Postage Fee Equivalents of 1946 (1/1/46 - 5/1/49)

The fees applied by the Offices concerned for dispatches addressed directly to France are as follows:

CATEGORIES OF ITEMS	FRENCH COLONIES C.F.A. & C.F.P.*	FRENCH INDIA	INDOCHINA
Letters:			
Up to 20 grams	2 francs	20 caches	15 centièmes
Up to 50 grams	3 francs	1 fanon 6 caches	20 centièmes
Up to 100 grams	4 francs	1 fanon 16 caches	30 centièmes
Up to 200 grams	7 francs	and 12 caches	40 centièmes
Up to 300 grams	7 francs	per 100 grams	50 centièmes
Up to 400 grams	10 francs	extra	60 centièmes
Up to 500 grams	10 francs		70 centièmes
Up to 1,000 grams	14 francs		90 centièmes
Up to 1,500 grams	17 francs		
Up to 2,000 grams	20 francs		
Up to 3,000 grams	25 francs		
Postcards:			
Ordinary ones	1 fr. 50	16 caches	12 centièmes
Reply paid	3 francs	32 caches	24 centièmes
5 words maximum	1 franc	10 caches	6 centièmes
Invoices up to 20 grams:	1 fr. 50	16 caches	12 centièmes
Printed matter (not periodicals):			
Up to 20 grams	0 fr. 80	.....	5 centièmes
Up to 50 grams	1 fr. 20	6 caches	7 centièmes
Up to 100 grams	2 francs	10 caches	12 centièmes
Up to 200 grams	3 fr. 50	and 8 caches	20 centièmes
Up to 300 grams	3 fr. 50	per 100 grammes	27 centièmes
Up to 400 grams	5 francs	extra	34 centièmes
Up to 500 grams	5 francs	.....	40 centièmes
Up to 1,000 grams	8 francs	.....	60 centièmes
Up to 1,500 grams	11 francs	.....	80 centièmes
Up to 2,000 grams	14 francs	.....	1 piastre
Up to 2,500 grams	18 francs	.....	1 \$ 20 centièmes
Up to 3,000 grams	18 francs	.....	1 \$ 30 centièmes
Samples:			
Up to 50 grams	as for	6 caches	as for
Up to 100 grams	printed	10 caches	printed matter.
Per 100 grams extra	matter	8 caches	1 kg. weight limit
Registration fee:			
Letters, postcards	4 francs	1 fanon 16 caches	30 centièmes
Reduced price items	3 francs	1 fanon	20 centièmes
Express fee:			60 centièmes
Advice of delivery:			
Requested when posted	2 francs	1 fanon 6 caches	15 centièmes
Requested after posting	4 francs	2 fanons 12 caches	30 centièmes

* CFA group: French Equatorial Africa, French West Africa, Cameroon, French Somali Coast, Madagascar, Reunion, St Pierre & Miquelon, Togo.

CFP group: New Caledonia, New Hebrides, French Oceania.

In order to determine the equivalents of metropolitan French currency, one should multiply the sum in local currency by 1.7 for the CFA group and by 2.4 for the CFP group.

Postage Fee Equivalents of 1949 (6/1/49 - 30/6/49)

The fees applied by the Offices concerned for dispatches addressed directly to France are as follows:

CATEGORIES OF ITEMS	FRENCH OVERSEAS <i>DÉPARTEMENTS</i> AND TERRITORIES C.F.A.*	FRENCH OVERSEAS <i>DÉPARTEMENTS</i> AND TERRITORIES C.F.P.*	FRENCH INDIA#	INDOCHINA†
Letters:				
Up to 20 grams	3 francs	2 francs	1 fanon	0 \$ 60
Up to 50 grams	4 francs	3 francs	1 fanon 12 caches	0 \$ 90
Up to 100 grams	6 francs	4 francs	2 fanons	1 \$ 20
Up to 300 grams	10 francs	7 francs	3 fanons 12 caches	2 \$ 00
Up to 500 grams	14 francs	10 francs	5 fanons	2 \$ 80
Up to 1,000 grams	20 francs	14 francs	7 fanons	4 \$ 00
Up to 1,500 grams	25 francs	17 francs	8 fanons 12 caches	5 \$ 00
Up to 2,000 grams	30 francs	20 francs	1 R. 2 fanons	6 \$ 00
Up to 3,000 grams	40 francs	25 francs	1 R. 4 f. 12 caches	7 \$ 80
Postcards:				
Ordinary ones	2 fr. 50	1 franc 50	18 caches	0 \$ 50
Reply paid	5 francs	3 francs	1 fanon 12 caches	1 \$ 00
5 words maximum	1 franc 50	1 franc	12 caches	0 \$ 30
Invoices				
Up to 20 grams:	2 fr. 50	1 fr. 50	12 caches	0 \$ 50
Printed matter (not periodicals) and Samples:				
Up to 20 grams	1 franc	0 fr. 80	10 caches	0 \$ 20
Up to 50 grams	2 francs	1 fr. 20	15 caches	0 \$ 40
Up to 100 grams	3 francs	2 francs	1 fanon	0 \$ 60
Up to 300 grams	6 francs	3 fr. 50	1 fanon 18 caches	1 \$ 20
Up to 500 grams	9 francs	5 francs	2 fanons 18 caches	1 \$ 80
Up to 1,000 grams	15 francs	8 francs	4 fanons	3 \$ 00
Up to 1,500 grams	20 francs	11 francs	5 fanons 12 caches	4 \$ 00
Up to 2,000 grams	28 francs	14 francs	7 fanons	5 \$ 00
Up to 3,000 grams	30 francs	18 francs	1 R. 1 fanon	6 \$ 30
Registration fee:				
Letters, postcards	6 francs	4 francs	2 fanons	1 \$ 20
Reduced price items	5 francs	3 francs	1 fanon 12 caches	0 \$ 80
Express fee:	15 francs			2 \$ 50
Advice of delivery:				
Requested initially	3 francs	2 francs	1 fanon	0 \$ 60
Requested afterwards	6 francs	4 francs	2 fanons	1 \$ 20

* CFA (*Communauté Financière Africaine*): French Equatorial Africa, French West Africa, Cameroon, French Somali Coast, Madagascar, Reunion, St Pierre & Miquelon, Togo.

CFP (*Communauté Financière du Pacifique*): New Caledonia, New Hebrides, French Oceania.

One roupie = 8 fanons; one fanon = 24 caches.

† One piastre = 100 centièmes.

NOVEMBER 2001 AUCTION REALISATIONS

Lot	Realisation	Lot	Realisation	Lot	Realisation	Lot	Realisation	Lot	Realisation	Lot	Realisation
1	19.00	76	8.50	160	5.00	223	3.50	299	5.00	386	2.50
3	7.00	78	7.00	161	8.00	224	4.00	300	7.50	387	5.50
4	5.00	79	17.00	162	10.00	225	5.50	301	36.00	390	7.00
5	8.00	84	12.00	163	9.50	226	5.50	302	11.00	391	4.50
6	5.50	86	40.00	164	17.00	227	5.00	303	7.50	392	14.00
7	11.00	88	10.00	165	10.00	228	4.50	305	3.50	393	4.00
8	5.00	92	12.00	167	6.00	229	100.00	307	3.00	394	20.00
9	5.00	96	100.00	168	2.50	230	4.50	309	3.00	395	105.00
10	4.00	97	14.00	169	18.00	232	32.00	312	85.00	399	5.00
15	8.50	99	18.00	170	4.00	233	6.50	316	9.00	400	6.50
16	1.00	100	16.00	172	7.50	234	5.00	317	27.00	401	10.00
20	11.00	102	21.00	173	5.00	235	5.50	318	17.00	403	8.00
21	3.50	103	16.00	174	5.00	238	15.00	319	10.00	404	11.00
22	10.00	104	4.00	176	6.00	246	26.00	320	14.00	407	14.00
23	4.00	105	5.00	177	5.50	247	18.00	321	15.00	409	9.50
28	6.00	106	20.00	178	5.00	248	7.00	322	3.50	413	8.00
29	1.00	107	8.50	179	5.00	249	5.00	323	6.00	419	18.00
30	12.00	108	11.00	180	8.00	250	4.00	324	86.00	420	15.00
31	8.00	109	4.00	181	19.00	252	4.00	325	26.00	421	15.00
33	12.00	111	3.00	182	6.50	253	12.00	326	2.50	422	12.00
36	2.00	114	96.00	183	5.00	254	26.00	327	10.00	424	4.00
39	16.00	116	15.00	184	5.00	255	4.50	328	2.00	425	5.00
43	135.00	117	8.00	185	11.00	256	5.50	329	3.50	426	3.00
44	40.00	118	5.50	187	21.00	257	14.00	330	6.00	427	9.00
45	35.00	119	5.00	188	4.00	258	11.00	331	7.50	430	8.00
46	48.00	120	6.00	190	4.00	259	8.50	332	16.00	431	5.00
47	22.00	121	7.50	191	6.50	262	35.00	333	21.00	432	2.50
48	15.00	122	16.00	192	21.00	263	12.00	334	5.50	433	7.50
49	12.00	123	2.50	194	5.00	264	7.50	335	9.00	434	5.00
50	25.00	124	4.50	195	4.00	266	60.00	338	3.00	435	5.00
51	8.00	131	2.50	196	550.00	268	10.00	342	7.50	437	12.00
54	8.00	133	3.00	197	100.00	270	20.00	343	5.00	438	12.00
55	8.00	134	6.00	198	350.00	274	13.00	344	7.50	439	12.00
56	8.00	135	5.50	199	27.00	276	2.50	346	3.00	440	12.00
57	8.00	136	4.00	200	22.00	278	3.00	349	10.00	441	12.00
58	8.00	137	4.00	201	24.00	279	5.50	350	12.00	442	12.00
59	8.00	138	5.00	203	10.00	280	2.50	351	6.00	443	12.00
60	8.00	141	15.00	204	8.00	284	4.50	352	2.50	444	12.00
61	8.00	142	13.00	207	5.50	285	4.00	357	6.00	445	12.00
62	8.00	143	2.50	208	5.00	287	16.00	360	7.50	446	12.00
63	10.00	144	17.00	209	11.00	288	5.00	361	20.00	447	1.50
64	42.00	147	10.00	210	13.00	289	9.00	363	5.00	448	5.00
65	6.50	148	4.00	212	3.50	290	8.00	364	5.00	450	3.00
66	30.00	150	5.00	215	8.00	291	12.00	365	5.00	453	7.00
67	7.50	151	5.00	216	4.00	292	5.50	369	3.00	456	2.00
68	6.50	153	9.00	217	4.50	293	3.00	372	5.00	457	7.00
69	5.50	156	3.00	218	65.00	294	9.00	376	3.50	460	7.00
70	8.00	157	6.00	219	4.00	295	18.00	377	4.00		
73	5.00	158	13.00	221	12.00	297	6.50	378	4.50		
75	11.00	159	5.00	222	25.00	298	28.00	380	5.00		
										Total	4590.00

Covers, stamps, collections to sell?



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Auction Lots

The following two lots will be offered in the May 2002 Society Auction.
See also pages 21 and 37.



1942 cover from the
Camp de Gurs
to the USA
and returned
having been held
by the British authorities



1925 cover with the
first anti-TB label
cancelled at Blamont
(Meurthe-et-Moselle)