

France & Colonies Philatelist



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FLAMMES PUBLICITAIRES

Slogan And Commemorative Cancels Of The French Colonies, Union, And Overseas Departments.

By Robert G. Stone

A fascinating, and fast-growing sideline for the cancellation collector is the "Flamme Publicitaire" used in many shapes and forms throughout the Colonies, Union and Departments of the French postal system. In this article, Mr. Stone attempts to give some idea of the scope and character of these widespread and always interesting postal markings.



There is no generally accepted classification and terminology of French types of slogan and commemorative markings. In France the terms flammes d'obliteration and flammes publicitaires are often given to the category as a whole. As to style or format, it is customary to distinguish the "ordinary" from the "illustrated" or "fancy" ones. And as to function, a distinction is usually made between the "permanent" (used for months or years) and the "temporary" (used one or a few days) ones. The great majority of the "permanent" type are now machine cancels, and have become the object of specialists who identify them according to the make of machine (Flier, S.E.C.A.P., R.B.V., Krag, and Daguin). Handstamps have been used for both permanent and temporary types of

slogan cancels, but mainly for the latter. With regard to the temporary flammes, French collectors often distinguish those of special temporary postoffices (bureaux temporaires) such as are set up for expositions and philatelic shows, from those used at regular postoffices.

All of the above classifications can be found in the colonies, Union countries and overseas departments (although I am not sure that all the makes of machine cancels known from France are also found overseas). But no type of flammes is anywhere near so numerous from overseas as from the Metropole. A few were used in the colonies as early as the 1920's and '30's; most them however are of more recent vintage. Of the French stamp magazines, only *Le Monde Des Philatelistes* Over.



regularly lists the new issues of them from overseas and then usually only for the temporary first-day circular types. As a result, probably many collectors are unaware of the scope of the flames from the colonies and Union. There is a priced illustrated catalogue of the machine cancels covering both France and the Union, by Michel and de Wailly (600 fr PP, M. Michel, 34 Ave. Georges-Clemencon, Nice), which should be consulted by anyone seriously interested in the slogan cancels. Prof. Olivier's book on the Daguin machine cancels is also a must. R. Geoffroy's catalogue of the "Obliterations Temporaires France-Union Fr.-Monaco, 1938-1957" (Etude #19, 750 fr, Le Monde des Philatelistes, Paris, 1959) lists and illustrates only the circular commemorative types.

Without making a special effort to collect them, the writer has noted the following examples of slogan and commemorative marks from the colonies and overseas departments. They will give a good idea of their scope and character (we have no idea how many others exist of some of the types). For this purpose a grouping into five classes, which take care of the most obvious differences in character - though not of all the possible distinctions mentioned above, is adopted:

I. Rectangular Box containing the slogan, with or without illustration (picture or design), in duplex with a regular circular dated town postmark. These are entirely machine cancels (now mostly SECAP, earlier mostly Daguin). Some types (the instructional ones particularly) are used at many postoffices and over a long period of time - these are thus the commonest. Many of the temporary ones are quite scarce if not rare, though recently philatelic mailings have become large enough to insure plenty of "stock". The illustrated ones (fancy designs) are the most desirable but even when they are common it is hard to find clear strikes on commercial mail.

A. Examples of ones without illustrated decoration:

"RICHESSSE D'A.E.F./BOIS COTTON/DIAMANT OR", with Lambarene, Gabon, postmark, 1958.

"LE COTON/RICHESSSE DE L'OUBANGUI", with Bouar, Oubangui-Chari, postmark, 1957.

"VISITEZ GUINEE FRANCAISE/PARC TOURISTIQUE/ET SYNTHESE DE L'A.O.F.", with Conakry postmark, 1956-57.

"HAUTE-VOLTA/TOURISME CYNECETIQUE", with Ouagadougou postmark 1961.

"Ive FOIRE INTERNATIONALE/ POINTE NOIRE/2 AU 6 MAI 1960, with Pointe Noire, Gabon, post-

mark, 1960.

"SES CULTURES VIVRIERES/LES GRANDES CHASSES", with postmark of Bambari, AEF, 1956.

"SEFROU/SES CERISES/SES LACS", with Sefrou, Maroc, postmark, 1953.

"PREMIER PORT/SA PLAGES MODERNE", with Pointe Noire, Gabon, pmk 1959.

"ABIDJAN/DEUXIEME PORT DE L'A.O.F.", with Abidjan Ivory Coast, postmark, 1952.

"4 AVRIL 1961/FETES DE L'INDEPENDANCE/DU SENEGAL", with Dakar pmk 1961.

"LA MARTINIQUE/SON CARNAVAL/UN VRAI FESTIVAL", with Fort de France postmark, 1957.

"LE CHEQUE POSTAL/ECONOMISE/TEMPS ET ARGENT", with postmark of Douala, Cameroun, 1959-60.

"VISITEZ/TAHITI/PERLE DU/PACIFIQUE", with Papeete postmark 1938.

"VOIR/TAHITI/ET Y VIVRE", with Papeete postmark, 1930's-1940's.

"MARTINIQUE/PERLE/DES/ANTILLES", with Fort-de-France postmark 1930's.

"CONSOMMEZ/LA BANANE/GUADELOUPE", with Pointe-a-Pitre postmark 1936-40.

"BUVEZ/LE RHUM/GUADELOUPE", with Pointe-a-Pitre postmark 1936-40.

"GUYANE FRANCAISE/BOIS DE COULEUR/RICHE SOUS SOL" with Cayenne pmk '57.

"CENTRE DU CACAO", with Bitam, AEF, postmark, 1953.

B. Examples of ones with fancy illustrated designs.

"UTILISEZ/LE/COLIS POSTAL/AVION" and view of hut with palm trees and package with wings, with Brazzaville postmark, 1956-60.

"CAISSE D'EPARGNE POSTALE/DE L'A.O.F./SECURITE/COMMODITE/INTEREST", with cornucopia spilling out money, with Conakry postmark 1958-59; with BoboDioulasso pmk 1959 (after



independence the Conakry one appears with "L'A. O.F." cut out, 1960); Dakar, 1958.

"MOYEN-CONGO/SES/CHASSES" and picture of an elephant, with postmark of Brazzaville, 1959.

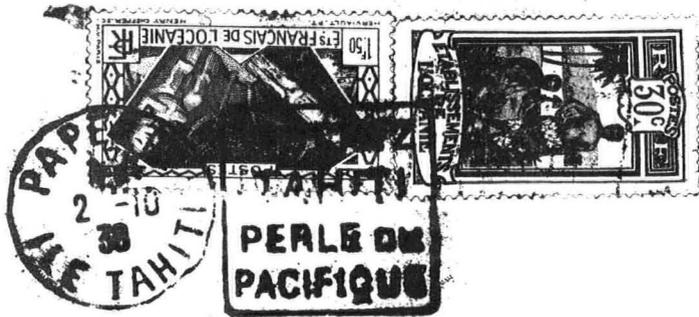
"GABON/SES/CHASSES/SES/PECHES", with head an elephant and a large fish leaping out of water, with Libreville pmk 1958.

"POINTE NOIRE/FIEF/DE LA PECHE/SPORTIVE", and a large fish, with Pointe Noire pmk 1958.

"GUINEE FRANCAISE/JARDIN DE L'A.O.F./BANANES/ANANAS", and picture of pineapple and a hand of bananas, with Conakry pmk 1957.

II. Rectangular Slogan Box in an endless-roll (flag) format in duplex with a circular dated town postmark: These are, of course, machine cancels (RBV machine), but have been used by only a few large postoffices in the colonies or Union because the postal authorities prefer SECAP machines to the endless-roll machines. Examples:

"ST. PIERRE, SON/MUSEE, SES RUINES/SON VOLCAN", with Fort-de-France postmark, 1956-57.



"VISITEZ TAHITI/PERLE DU/PACIFIQUE", with Papeete postmark (2 types) 1948.

"10eme ANNIVERSAIRE/DE L'ORGANISATION MONDIALE/DE LA SANTE", with Papeete, Tahiti, postmark, 1958.

III. Unboxed Slogan in endless-roll wavy, straight-line, or flag format combined with circular dated town postmark (Krag machine). Like Class II these were used only at a few large offices in the colonies. Difficult to obtain with clear strike. We have not yet seen any illustrated slogans on these from colonies or Union though they exist thus in France. Examples:

"CAPITALE HISTORIQUE/SES PALAIS/SES PAYSAGES", with Tananarive, Madagascar, postmark, 1955.

"CELEBRATION/DU PREMIER ANNIVERSAIRE/DU/GOUVERNEMENT CAMEROUNNAIS/10 MAI 1958", with postmark of Yaounde, 20 May 1958.

"CONSOMMEZ LE CAFE/GUADELOUPE/LE MEILLEUR DU MONDE", with postmark of Basse-Terre, 1936-40.

"VENEZ VISITEZ FES/PERLE DE L'ISLAM", with

postmark of Fes, Maroc, Jan. 1956.

IV. Single or Double-Circle Dated Town Postmarks with special inscription for temporary or first-day use, often with illustration included in the center (double-circle type only). The "Journee du Timbre" marks for a given year were of the same design for all postoffices which used them. This class has been used in the colonies since 1947, but not numerous until after 1957. They were generally exploited philatelically and therefore few of them are rare even if used only for one day. (See Geoffroy's catalogue for complete list thru 1957, and Le Monde des Philatelistes for ones issued since 1957). Examples:

"JOURNEE DU TIMBRE FORT DE FRANCE", in double circle 36mm diam., in center design of quill pen in ink well and "15/MARS/1947. (The first of this class used in colonies - Geoffroy #480). The Journee de Timbre mark of 6 Mars 1948 was also used at Fort de F.

"JOURNEE DU TIMBRE St. LOUIS DU SENEGAL" in double circle, in center a shield design inscribed "Administration des Postes/Facteur Rural" and date "11.3.1950"; same design also for Pointe-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe, same date.

"OUVERTURE DU SERVICE POSTAL - TERRE ADELIE -" in double circle, in center bust of man and "DUMONT D'URVILLE 1949", used 15 Feb. 1949 on board boat Commandant Charcot at Adelie Land.

"VOYAGE DU PRESIDENT DE LA REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE" in double circle, in center "PRESIDENT/DE/L'UNION FRANCAISE/BAMA0/28.4.47", used at Dakar.

"CONFce DES INDES OCCLES BASSE TERRE" in single circle, date in center in three lines; used 10-16 Dec. 1948, at Basse-Terre, Guadeloupe, for the meeting of the Caribbean Commission. (rare)

"SAINT-PIERRE MARTINIQUE" in double circle 38mm diam., in center: a picture of Mont Pelee in eruption and inscription: "CINQUANTENAIRE 8 MAI 1902-1952". (Geoffroy #1003) (Also used as motif for a special post card, see Fr. Col. Phil. #63, p. 10, and #65, pp. 17,19)

"JOURNEES DU TIMBRE* PONDICHERY", in double circle; in center: figure of an Indian dancer and "4,5, et 6 Aout 1952".

"PREMIER JOUR PAPEETE", in double circle 37mm diam., in center: "GAUGUIN/24/SEPTEMBER/1953" (The first of a long series of "premier jours" for new stamp issues, common after 1957; most of these are in the single-circle format however.)

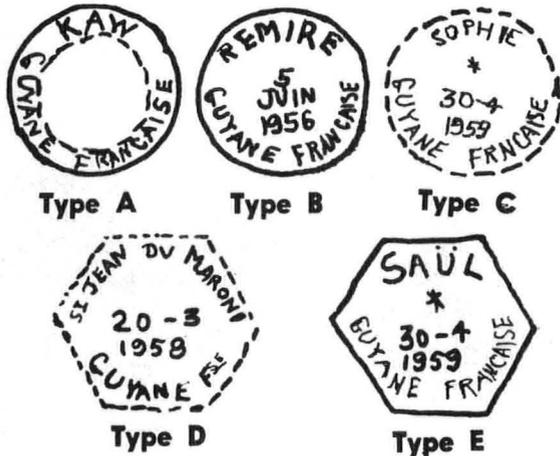
"GRANDE FOIRE EXPOSITION. BOHICON DAHOMEY." in double circle; in center view of exposition buildings and "1er FEV. 57", used at Bohicon, Dahomey.

"FOIRE DE TANANARIVE 26/9-6/10-1957" in double circle; in center: view of town of Tananarive; used in addition to regular postmark (perhaps belongs in Class V, except for shape).

POSTMARKS AND PATHWAYS OF ININI AND FRENCH GUIANA

By C. J. RAYMOND, A.P.S.

Since becoming overseas departments of France in 1947 and 1951, Inini and French Guiana have passed from the philatelic scene as areas with their own distinctive postage stamps. Our thanks to Mr. C. J. Raymond and "The American Philatelist" for this especially useful and much-needed article on the Post Offices and Postmarks of these erstwhile French Colonies.



During a recent tour of America, President Charles DeGaulle's visit to Cayenne again focused world attention on the two French possessions located on the north coast of South America. Inini and French Guiana are well known to stamp collectors for their colorful stamps, now no longer issued.

Perhaps best known as the location of the ill-famed "Devil's Island," these French possessions are no longer "prison-colonies"; that infamous phase of their history belongs to the past.

The fact they no longer have their own distinctive postage stamp issues detracts little from their philatelic interest. Since becoming arrondissements (departments) of France in 1947 and 1951, regular French postage stamps are in use in their postal services. Their postmarks have become even more elusive than ever, if that is possible, for no longer are the canceled stamps preserved for sale to collectors, other than in ordinary accumulations of used French stamps.

Population changes, too, in the two former French colonies have resulted in a decreased amount of outgoing mail. As a matter of record, and to aid in the recognition of their postmarks on ordinary French stamps, it is felt there is a definite need to compile an accurate and comprehensive list of French Guiana and Inini post offices and postmarks. Most of the post offices and agencies existed in their period as colonies and they are included in the following list, which also indicates type of postmark used, with known years of usage, according to postal history data gathered from this writer's collection of covers:

Post Offices or Post Agencies	Postmark Types and Years Seen	Remarks
ININI:		
Cacao	(Postmark report needed)	
Camopi	D-1955-59.....	Est. 26/6/51
Degrad-Edmond	D-1954-58.....	Open by 1948.....
Grand Santi	D-1956.....	Open by 1948.....
La Forestiere		
Maripasoula	D-1956.....	Est. 26/6/51
Port Inini	B -----	(1943?-1953?)
St. Elie (1930-)	B-1945 "Terr. Inini"; C-1955.	Reopened 17/1/58 (C)
St. Nazaire		
Saul	E-1958.....	Est. 24/4/52
Secteur du Centre (Saut Tigre)		1934-37?
Secteur de l'Est (Epouein)		1940?-
Secteur de l'Ouest	B-1939 "Terr. Inini".....	1933-46
Sophie	C-1958.....	Est. 4/9/58
FRENCH GUIANA:		
Cayenne	A & B (many different, incl. slogans)	
Cayenne A (Annexe)		Est. 1/3/1960
Approuague		Changed to Guisambourg
Guisambourg		
He de Cayenne		By 1890; now closed
Iles du Salut	A-1920, B-1938	Closed by 1946
Iracoubo	D-1957, C-1958	Opened *17/1/56
Kaw	A-1958 (hand- written date)	Open by 1890
Kourou	A-1933, C-1959	Open by 1890
Les Roches		By 1890; long closed
Macouria (-Tonate?) "Macouria" pmk		
	D-1957.....	"Tonate" pmk not seen
Mana	B-1957.....	Open by 1890
Malmanoury	B-1957	
Matoury		Open by 1890
Montagne d'Argent		Long closed
Montjoyly	D-1958.....	Reopened 10/1/52
Montsinery	B-1958.....	Open by 1890
Ouanary	D-1959.....	Open by 1948
Oyapock	A-1911.....	Open by 1890
Regina	B-1938-57.....	
Remire	B-1956.....	Opened 10/1/52
Roches de Kourou		Old P.O. (info needed)
Roura	B-1958.....	Open by 1890
St. Georges (Oyapoc)	B-1951	

St. Jean du Maroni, D-1958..... Reopened 17/3/58;
closed 30/4/60

St. Laurent du
Maroni..... B-1940, A-1920 Open by 1890

St. Marie
Sinnamary..... A-1926, B-1957 Open by 1890
Tonnegrande..... Open by 1890

Reports of other known PO's and postmarks would be greatly appreciated. A reported recent PO at "TROU-POISSONS" (F.G.) has not been verified. The Devil's Island PO was called "ILES DU SALUT". During World II, the U. S. Air Force had a detachment at Rochambeau Airfield, near Cayenne, with U. S. APO #418, from May, 1943, to June, 1946. Its hand-cancel datestamp is now quite rare.

Many interesting variations of postmarks occur, particularly for Cayenne. A January, 1945, St. Elie includes the words "FRANCE LIBRE", a similar datestamp was used at Cayenne.

A handful of used foreign stamps sent to this writer from Inini several years ago graphically tells the national origins of the present Guyane and Inini residents. The French stamps told of mail to the French residents, but there were also stamps from Laos and South Viet-Nam, from mail to the Indochinese; stamps from Morocco and Algeria, from mail to the North Africans; stamps from Surinam and British Guiana to mine workers in Inini; and particularly stamps from Dominica, Barbados, Grenada, and St. Lucia, to the many British West Indians who work in the gold fields seeking that one "lucky strike" which will enable them to become wealthy enough to start a small business and to purchase a fine English-style house back on their home island.

Such rich strikes have happened—but alas, too rarely. The tale is told of one man who in a single day found enough large gold nuggets lying in full view on the ground that he was able to retire quite a very wealthy man!

Regarding the Inini postmarks (a special favorite), the post offices are primarily at the gold mining camps. As the gold-placers become worked out, the camps close and move to more promising areas, and the post offices change "town" names. Generally the "postmaster" is the gendarme assigned to the camps to see that the gold is not stolen and that all of it is safely channeled, at official rates, to Cayenne, rather than smuggled into Brazil or Surinam for higher prices. His postmaster's job is just one of his many duties.

Many interesting official seal-type "cachets," utilized often as postal markings, appear on mail from the interior, and sometimes provide a due to postal agencies of brief existence. More than likely the PO list appearing with this article is incomplete, for the writer's collection includes such "cachets" bearing the names "Moyen-Mana," "Ouaqui," and "Depot Lezard," which might have had PO's. One Inini postal agency, at Dorlin, was authorized in 1953, but never opened due to lack of a postmaster! It is believed that camp moved

to "Sophie," which did open a postal agency in 1958.

Mail service to the Guyane coastal strip presents no great difficulties. However, service to Inini is a more difficult matter. The Inini jungle is the most dense, most terrifying, and most physically dangerous in South America. Only the lure of gold has led man to force entry into that inhospitable land, and many have died there. Even the few native Indians that live deep in the interior exist only with the greatest difficulty, and are slowly dying out. Postal facilities to Inini are extremely limited, mainly confined to delivery by monthly airdrops. Mail comes out by canoe and hand-relay as opportunity permits. In one or two places, amphibious aircraft are able to land in deep stretches on the interior rivers and creeks.

Mail and other supplies for St. Elie leave from Sinnamary, on the coast, and go by canoe down the shallow Sinnamary River, then up a narrow inlet, called Tiger Creek, to Saut Tigre "ghost-town". Supplies and mail are then loaded aboard a rim-wheeled wagon for a 22-mile trip along a narrow-gauge railway, which the jungle continuously tries to engulf. There is no engine. First saying their prayers, four men push and pull the wagon the entire distance, cutting away the jungle, resetting twisted rails on rotted ties, replacing the wagon when it derails, which is often, until at last they arrive at the gold fields at St. Elie.

For some years after the political change, the stamps of Inini and French Guiana still were accepted as payment of postage on letters, and as late as 1954 they were still in stock at one small Inini postal agency.

From envelopes containing mail to the miners and officials in Inini, this writer has been amazed—and delighted—to thus acquire covers from the autonomous republic of Togo, the French Cameroons, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Lebanon, and Reunion, to name a few. Most amazing of all is a non-philatelic cover from the French Antarctic, postmarked at "TERRE ADELIE," and forwarded from Paris to the addressee in Inini! Another interesting cover, from St. Laurent (French Guyane), was short-paid on postage and received the French timbre tax (postage due) stamps with the Inini postmark.

One cover this writer sent to Camopi for postmarking was given up for lost, but arrived eventually with a note of explanation. It seems the "postmaster" then had no postmark, and just relayed the mail along to Oyapoc or Cayenne for postmarking and further relay. But to provide a "Camopi" postmark for the cover as requested, he had ordered such a postmark from Cayenne and awaited its arrival before posting the cover, bless him!

With the strong international interest in French Guiana and Inini, it is hoped that a more comprehensive study, with increased co-operation from the Cayenne PTT, can be compiled and published concerning this fascinating field. This writer wishes to express his appreciation for information, source material and aid received from M. Emile Saboly (France) and Robert S. Gordon (U. S. A.).

FRENCH AND RELATED PHILATELIC DUBIETIES

JAN KINDLER

There is a type of dubiety, often an outright fraud, which, if it manages to stay in the catalogues long enough to reach a venerable age, becomes sanctified by its tenure and can never again be blasted loose from its position. But it is no less a bogus issue for all that.



THE EARLY ISSUES OF TAHITI

Thin transparent paper.

It may come as an unwelcome surprise to the non-specialist to learn that the first six catalogue listings of Tahiti belong in this category. All are doubtful, and one at least is an outright fraud.

The first of them (number one in both Scott and Yvert) was quasi-legitimized by an authorizing decree which permitted the 35c value of the Colonial Sage to be overprinted in black with 25c between two horizontal bars. It is alleged that a shortage of the latter value required the surcharge. And this may be true, at least for those applied to the 35c (dark violet) stamps, since 5350 of them were run off on June 9, 1882. The number printed under the conditions of the decree helps to dress up the issue with a semblance of validity. Questions have been raised about the official character of the reimpressions pulled in July, August, and September of the same year, printings which increased the number of copies beyond the official figures given above. But, on the whole, the feeling is that, if the issue was legitimate at all, so were the later impressions and why be stuffy about it — especially since it isn't possible to distinguish between the printing.

My own feeling is one of amusement in the face of the fact that the printings were carefully divided into four parts, one quarter of the total being devoted to a correct impression, and one quarter each to three different errors: inverted, reading up, and reading down. The mathematical precision of the coincidence is remarkable in view of the odds against its happening by chance.

The same surcharge was given to fifty copies of the 40c vermillion and this stamp is listed in Scott as "1B" and in Yvert as number 2. In this issue, about half the surcharges were printed upside down and a new twist was given to a few special copies which were provided with a double overprint, one inverted. The only authentication ever offered for the product is the undoubted, but hardly conclusive, fact that copies of it were found in the Vervelle and Ferrari collections. No mention of it appears in the decree although the Receiver of the Posts in Papeete did scribble a note in the margin to the effect that they had been printed.

Whatever the true status of these two, a charge of pure fraud may be leveled against the third Yvert listing, a stamp which Scott wisely leaves unrecorded. It consists of another 25c surcharge but with the word "Tahiti" added and it was run off on fifty copies of the 35c Sage.

About two-thirds of them were inverted or otherwise made into errors. At the time it was made, the stamp, if such it is, was considered so speculative that the catalogues of the period listed it frankly as an essay, and the best any of them could do to explain its existence was to suppose that it had been prepared "in anticipation of a possible shortage since the shipments of the perforated issues of 1881 had not yet reached Papeete." Baloney! Genuine Tahiti cancellations dated as early as November 3, 1881, exist on stamps of the perforated issues. The explanation is either mistaken guesswork or a specious attempt to justify a piece of flimflam. But there is little logic in the stamp world. The supposed essay should have vanished with the collapse of any possible reason for its existence, instead of which the hardy bit of hanky-panky moved up in society and acquired the prestige of a regular issue.

The case against the fourth, fifth, and sixth listings (given in both Scott and Yvert) consists of the same charge levelled against number one. They too were authorized by a decree, this time of the governor, Gerville-Reache. And again the errors were neatly distributed throughout the printings. On June 12, 1500 of the 5c on 20c were run off. On July 30th, 400 more of these, 850 of the 10c on 20c, and 400 of the 25c on one franc were added to the total and each of the three types was thoughtfully split into four equal components consisting of the correct surcharge and its three misplaced varieties. Liberia could not have done a better job of fabrication. Indeed, Liberia never did; for I have saved the best till last. Curious as it may seem, a number of these stamps were actually used to carry mail, if only to give a semblance of truth to their existence. And in every case the cancellations were carefully placed to conform to the position of the surcharge. By indulging in this naïf form of favor-cancellation, the perpetrators of the galimaufry condemned themselves out of hand. When the overprint is right side up, so is the obliteration; when the former is inverted, the latter is upside down, when the overprint reads up,...but enough, the point is made. Having given thought and care to the production of the errors, they weren't going to be haphazard in applying the cancels and so, in being extra fancy, they tipped their mitts to posterity.

After all these years, the exposure of the swindle isn't going to change the catalogue listings. Others have tried it and nothing has been done. But the collectors should be reminded from time to time that they are dealing with highly suspect material. I would issue a caution on all six of the stamps here discussed. One of them, Yvert number three, I am certain belongs in one catalogue only the catalogue of frauds and fantasies.

GROUP NEWS

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The France & Colonies Group is 20 years young! This is an important milestone in the history of our organization, and we should be proud indeed. I am sure that the little group who founded the France and Colonies Group did not envision the size of the organization today.

There are over 230 non-resident members, and more than 70 resident members in New York and vicinity. Two of our New York resident members bear membership card numbers #1 and #3. Mr. Raoul Lesgor and Mr. Edmond Queyroy, our Treasurer. They have been constant, active workers in the interests of the France & Colonies Group. In addition, of the first 20 members of the Group, nine others are also active France & Colonies philatelists. Mr. John Morrison #7, Mr. Brainerd Kramer #8, Dr. R. L. Wood #10, Mr. Adrian Boutrelle #12, Mr. G. A. Mary #13, Mr. Alexander Kagen #14, Dr. Arthur J. Dean #15, Dr. A. J.C. Vaurie #17, and Miss Louise Clemenson #19.

While we will always think of "the Group" -- our organization's name is now officially, "The France & Colonies Philatelic Society." As I explained in the last issue, this change was made as part of incorporating the organization as a non-profit legal entity.

Coming up in the spring will be an important competitive Exhibit on April 6, 7, 8, at INTERPEX, in New York. The France & Colonies organization has participated in this Exhibit for a number of years and plans to participate in 1962. Why not plan to enter you exhibit?

The American Philatelic Society's Spring Meeting will be held concurrently with INTERPEX.

This issue of The Philatelist comes (almost) on the heels of the last issue. But you should be pleasantly surprised by the fact that your 6th issue (the next one) will reach you before 1961 is over. Six issues were planned for 1961, and six issues you shall have! Editor Ira Zweifach served a protracted period on jury duty, and this forced an unwelcome but undebatable delay. He has served his term -- in the jury box -- and we will wind up 1961 with six issues as planned.

We will be with you again, next month.

SINCERELY YOURS,

W. J. Connelly
President

NEW DATES FOR "INTEPEX 1962"

"INTERPEX," the forthcoming international Stamp Exhibition in which the society is participating, and which was originally scheduled for the beginning of

April, will now be held on March 30, 31 and April 1, 1962 in New York City. There has also been a change in locale; this upcoming event will take place at the Statler-Hilton Hotel, Seventh Avenue and 33rd Street, across the street from Pennsylvania Station in the heart of the City.

This new location provides for nearly 30,000 sq. feet of exhibition space. Thus, there will be a much more expansive area for a greater number of stamp clubs to hold meetings and display exhibits of their members' specialties, as well as for stamp dealers to present their material for sale. Among other prominent stamp groups represented at the show will be the American Philatelic Society who will hold its annual Spring meeting during INTERPEX.

We urge all of you to attend if you possibly can, and we further urge you to consider exhibiting in the society frames. As always, there will be fine awards awaiting the winners. Further details will appear in these columns.

STEPHEN G. RICH MEMORIAL EXHIBIT MARKS 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FRANCE AND COLONIES PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The France and Colonies Philatelic Society held its 2nd Annual Stephen G. Rich Memorial Exhibit at the Collectors Club, 22 East 35th Street, November 7th.

The exhibit marked our 200th meeting and was the 20th anniversary of the founding of the organization.

The exhibit was devoted entirely to France and Colonies covers and ranged from early stampless covers to current specialized studies.

Refreshments were served the large turnout of members and guests from New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut, while the judging of the competitive exhibit took place. Judges were: Mr. Edmond Queyroy, Mr. Charles Bretagne, and Mr. Paul Boudry. Awards were made as follows:

President's Trophy, Best in Show:

Walter Parshall -- Stampless Monaco and 1st Issue on Cover

Bronze Plaques:

Class I, Prestamp -- Origin to 1848

1st -- A. Wittenberg -- Paris Stampless Covers

2nd -- E. Spiegel -- Potpourri of Early French Covers

Class II, Classics -- 1849 to 1899

1st -- W. Schilling, Jr. -- Paris Star Cancellations

Class III, Modern -- 1900 to Date

1st -- J. Kindler -- Cancellations on Non-Metropolitan France on the Red 10-Centimes Sower Issue

2nd -- G. Miller -- French Polynesia on Cover

SECRETARY'S REPORT

To November 1, 1961

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME:

- 819 Hurley, John M., 666 Old Main St., Rocky Hill, Conn. (Indo-China & Forerunners of Cambodia, Laos & Viet-Nam)
- 820 Fisher, F. W. Mrs., 1601 S.E. 7th St., Fort Lauderdale, Florida (France)
- 821 Simpson, James L., 304 So. 9th Bozeman, Montana (France & Colonies, Offices)
- 822 Thomas, H. Gregory, 19 W. 55th St., New York, N.Y. (France in General)
- 823 Anderson, A. A., 1044 Fulton St., Fresno 21, Calif. (France, French Colonies, Monaco, Used Airmails)
- 824 Heilbronner, Ernest, 50 S. Lewis Ave., Waukegan, Ill. (Used French Col., Ind. States)
- 825 Ostrout, Norman, Viborg, South Dakota (French Morocco Specialized)
- 826 MacKay, F. W., 4201 Cathedral Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. (France & Colonies outside Africa)
- 827 Meyer, Otto C. Mrs., 793 Charles Allen Drive N.E., Atlanta 8, Ga. (France)
- 828 Davidson, Ira N., 241 Central Park West, New York 24, N.Y. (France)
- 829 Arnolds, Larry, 55 Sickles St., New York 40, N.Y. (France, Classics Etc.)
- 830 Clagett, A Henry Jr., Dr., 1618 N. Broom St., Wilmington 6, Delaware (Monaco prior to 1930)
- 831 Novotny, Edward Jr., 340 So. Adams St., Westmont, Ill. (France & Colonies)
- 832 Kostenko, Barry M., 6772 No. Oxford Ave., Chicago 31, Ill. (French Polynesia)
- 833 Bailey, Benj. F., 5831 Virginia Place, Riverside, Calif. (France & Colonies)

REINSTATEMENT:

- 197 Gordon, Robert S., Box 145, Northfield, Vermont (Colonial Postmarks)
- 583 Revere, Jack L., 8105 Dearborn, Prairie Village, Kans. (France & New Ind. States)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

- 568 Delaize, Paul C. to One Isle of Venice, Fort Lauderdale, Florida



MEMBERS APPEALS

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

WANTED: Guadeloupe Typeset Dues, Scott J4 & J5 only and all Obock triangles. Will buy or exchange even against Somali Coast triangles. Clifford H. Adams, c/o American Embassy, Grosvenor Square, London, W.1, England. (Member 688) Above address effective on and after Sept. 15, 1961.

WANTED: France Imperfs. Submit list of those available with lowest net prices. Joseph E. Roussel, Box 633, Lowell, Mass. (Member 643)

TO TRADE: 1993 precancels - #14 No date, #15 Sept. 9 proofs, 4-8-12-24 Fr. Roosters for French or Fr. possessions precancels I can use. C. R. Higby, 1730 Dufferin Ave., Wallaceburg, Ontario, Canada. (Member 700)

FLAMMES PUBLICITAIRES

V. Rectangular Boxed Inscriptions, used solo (rather than in duplex with postmark). All are handstamps. Some were temporary and some used for a long time, but nearly all are rather scarce or rare. They were not supposed to be used for cancelling stamps (i.e., officially they are "cachets" not "postmarks"), but not infrequently they hit the stamps whether by accident or intent. We list here only the official marks, which are not nearly so numerous as the unofficial ones used for first-flight airmail covers and commercial-cacheted first-day envelopes. No catalogue of the official cachets has been published, but the airmail cachets are listed in various air mail catalogues (Le Pileur, etc.) and are usually announced in the magazines: Examples:

"TOURISTES/VISITEZ LA GUADELOUPE/L'ILE D'EMERAUDE". Used at Pointe a Pitre, 1920's, earliest slogan mark from the colonies known to me; the postmaster obtained it from a private source, but used it to cancel stamps. Rare.

"ST. PIERRE PLAGE/LA PLAGE A LA PLAGE", Fort de France, 1939.

"2e Salon de la/ FRANCE D'OUTRE-MER/Grand Palais, Paris/23 Nov.- 10 Dec. 1939", used in various colonies, 1939.

"CELEBRATION/DU PREMIER ANNIVERSAIRE/DU GOUVERNEMENT CAMEROUNNAIS/10 MAI 1958", used at Garoua, Cam., and other p.o.'s during May 1958.

"POINTE-NOIRE VILLE DES/CONGRES-/CONFERENCE FORESTIERE/INTERAFRIKAINE/3-11 JUILLET 1958", Pointe Noire, 1958.

"SEMAINE/DE L'ARBRE/23/31 JANV. 55", in left half of a long rectangle, and in right half same legend in native language: "MAMBOLE HAZO/FA HARENA/aZO INTOKA 55", used at Tananarive, Mad., Jan. 1955.