

The President's Newsletter

By David Wolfersberger

Checklist Update

Revision 2 of the Checklist has been distributed to all who had the previous Checklist plus a number of new orders. Work on Revision 3 has already begun. Mark Honig and Susan Featherstone have agreed to add Michel and Stanley Gibbons catalogue, respectively, to the Checklist. At the request of several members, the face value of new issues will also be included.

Anyone who would like to help with the Checklist should contact me. Work to be done includes assisting with adding the Michel and SG numbers; adding missing data; reviewing Guyana and Nicaragua for accuracy; and cross checking the Checklist against other checklists. The target is to have Revision 3 issued next March.

Two issues keep coming up: What to include on the Checklist (i.e., what is a map stamp?) and Grading. When the CartoPhilatelic Society was reformed, it was decided to continue a liberal definition previously followed. Thus included are things like empty or stylized globes; someone looking at what might be a map; and simple outlines of countries. The Grade and Coverage attempts to further describe the stamp to help a person decide if they want to include the stamp in their collection. But in the end, each collector must determine what to include and what to omit. Also those working on the Checklist often cannot actually see the stamp but must rely on catalogue descriptions. Thus the Grade and Coverage at times cannot be included. A discussion of Grading will take place at the meeting in New York in the fall.

Society News

First, welcome to all new members. The members are the Society so your active participation in critical. You can help in a number of ways: Contributing material to *The New CartoPhilatelist*; assisting with the *CartoPhilatelist* indexing project; helping with the Checklist; serving as an officer; or providing inputs on

stamps that might have been overlooked or incorrectly listed on the Checklist.

Thanks to all of those who have volunteered to serve as officers for the next year. Alf and Lillian have left a good base for us to continue to develop the Society.

By now, all of you should have received your invitation to meeting in New York City on October 15. This is being held at the same time as the ASDA Mega Event. We hope that many of you and your spouses/guests will be able to attend. If you did not receive an e-mail or letter with details, please contact Alf Jordan.

Also if any members have received any awards for a display, please let me know so you can be recognized in the journal.

As always, any comments on how to make the Society more useful to you are welcome. Please contact me or any of the officers. I am looking forward to another successful year.

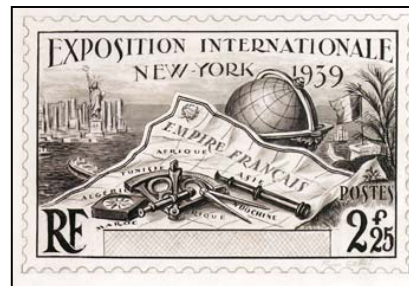
Literature Notes

By Miklos Pinther

(Continued from page 4)

Last year, in two parts, Cherrystone Auctions presented the so-called *Versailles Collection* on behalf of The Catholic Diocese of Las Cruces Foundations, Inc. The Collection comprised of well over 20,000 stunning, signed, artist die proofs, one of the largest offerings of its kind in recent times. Part I was offered on April 3, 2003, consisting of mostly French and French Colonies proofs. Part II was offered on October 23, 2003, a further selection of proofs from Cambodia, Laos, Luxembourg, Peru, Viet Nam, as well as more from French Colonies.

The careful impres-



sions of artist die proofs are excellent exhibit material for the delicately engraved map stamps. And there were lots of map stamps in the *Versailles Collection*. There were also unique, artist sketches. The one illustrated here was lot no. 3147, an unissued pencil drawing, 23.5x15.5 cm, by Renee Cottet. It sold for \$375.00.

Earlier this year, on April 6, 2004, Harmers of London offered for sale a collection of *Transatlantic Pioneer Air Mails* formed by the renowned philatelist Joseph Bergier. Lot 1052 depicts one of the greatest cartophilatelic rarities. This is how the lot was described: "1927, the legendary "London to London" experimental flight by Captain Terrance B. Tully and Lt. James V. Medcalf in the "Sir John Carling", 25c. blue and yellow, o.g. and used on cover addressed to England, the most important Air Mail of Canada. Only 6 mint examples are known and this is the unique cover. With S. Sismondo certificates (2004). The first occasion that these two great Air Mail rarities have been offered together. A wonderful opportunity to obtain these two items missing from even the greatest collections." It sold for £70,575 (\$126,000)!! A mint copy of this semi-official label may also be found in the Allan Lee Collection of the National Postal Museum in Washington, DC.





COLLECTORS OF MAPS ON STAMPS

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The CartoPhilatelic Society is a nonprofit philatelic organization with a world-wide membership of collectors of maps on stamps. Founded in 1955, the organization was rejuvenated in 2003. We are associated with the American Philatelic Society and the American Topical Association. Annual dues are \$15 for residents of North America and \$18 for members residing elsewhere. You are cordially invited to join us and share our enthusiasm for maps on stamps. A membership application may be found on our website or obtained from the Secretary. Please send your application and dues to the Secretary.

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