	Scrapbook No. 15 1845 – 1849
0.	Newspaper and Journal notices and articles
1.	Newspaper and journal articles
2.	David F. Sellers Re: Green Pieces
3.	Articles Re: Stampless Covers, etc.
4.	Articles: Re: Boston P.O.
5.	The Collector's Club Re: 1851 Dies
6.	Articles: Tributes
7.	Articles: Various
8.	C.W. Remele Re: 3¢ Pink returned
9.	Philip H. Ward Jr. Re: History of the Ludlow Beebe cover
10.	Paul Rohloff Re: 3 Covers
11.	Maurice C. Blake Re: 3 covers
12.	Vahan Mozian Re: Fake block of the 5¢ August Issue
13.	Middlesex Stamp Club Re: N.Y. Marking "Mail Route"
14.	Van Dyk McBride Re: Confederate Pine Level, Ala
15.	Van Dyk McBride Re: Pine Level, Ala covers
16.	Harry C. Flierl Re: 30¢ 1869 cover to Switzerland from Ohio
17.	Re: Confederate, Fincastle, Va.
18.	Re: Brook's Confederate P.M.P.G.
19.	George H. Shirk Re: Sperati
20.	Thomas D. Perry Re: Chips
21.	Dr. C.W. Hennan Re: Stampless covers from Switzerland
22.	Eugene N. Costales Re: 30¢ 1869 cover
23.	Dr. Carroll Chase Re: Railroad Way on 3¢ 1861
24.	Blank
25.	Harry B. Keffer Re: 99R2
26.	Blank
27.	Howard Lehman Re: Confederate, Griffin La
28.	Edgar B. Jessup Re: Armitage, 90¢ 1860 cover to India
29.	M.H. Judd Re: Baldwin's South La Exp. Churchland, Va.
30.	Dr. W. Scott Polland Re: covers
31.	H.W. Stark Re: Via Independent Line or Via Nicaragua 1854?
32.	Donald MacGregor Re: Registered Cover to Naples, 1866, Why 40¢
33.	Thomas M. Parks Re: Book – What Price Philately by Milbury
34.	Leo J. Shaughnessy Re: First Day use of 3¢ 1851
35.	Blank
36.	Blank
37.	Eugene Jaeger Re: Rating on French Mail
38.	Philatelic Foundation Re: 90¢ to Scotland
39.	Dr. W. Scott Polland Re: 5 covers to Denmark and Germany
40.	John W. Fox Re: 30¢ 1869 cover to Lisbon, Portugal
41.	W. Scott Polland
42.	Frederick Lloyd Schull Re: Shabbona Grove, Ill.
43.	Eben D. Finney Re: "Mails Suspended" and other covers

44.	Eugene N. Costales Re: Covers
45.	Gordon Blueler Re: Two Confederate covers
46.	Perry W. Fuller Re: Confederate PMP Charleston, SC
47.	H.W. Stark Re: 75¢ rate from Australia
48.	Van Dyk MacBride Re: Fake Fort Sumpter cover
49.	L.L. Shenfield Re: Richmond Date, April 13, 1863
50.	Van Dyk MacBride Re: "Mails Suspended"
51.	Issue of Weekly Philatelic Gossip
52.	Re: Counterfeit Confederates
53.	Hugh and Tess Clark

Post Riders

BY FRANK I. MORSE

In 1773, the mail was ridden between New York and Boston twice a week; one rider set out from New York on Monday through Saybrook, New London and Providence, then known as the lower road, and the other rider left on Thursday for Hartford, Springfield and Worcester, which was known as the upper road. There was mail from New York to Philadelphia three times a week and one to Albany, including Canadian mail, once a week. In 1772, "for the commercial interest of the inhabitants of both sides of the Hudson River", the rider was ordered to ride each side of the river alternately one week on the east side and the next week on the west side. Just previous to this, a weekly post was established between New York and Quebec by way of Albany. The General Post Office was now located in New York.

Previously to the establishment of regular mail route between New York and Albany, the route had been ridden irregularly by riders on their own account.

READ ALL A

Every month Scott's
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SCOTT STAMP &

West 47th Street (19)
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PU4 U41 E3 Plain
PU5 U41 E3 with inscription "Return
etc."
PU6 U41 E3 with inscription "Return
etc."
and "Money Orde Giro

Co
C1
C1
C2
C2
C3

Frank Pollard Brown

Frank Pollard Brown, formerly of Malden, Massachusetts, passed away June 15th at the age of eighty-two years. Mr. Brown has resided at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Ward Jones at 1312 Penniman Ave., Plymouth, Mich. for the past eight years. He is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Paul Palmer Ayer of Egypt, Mass. and Mrs. Ward Jones of Plymouth, Mich. two grand-children. He was formerly in the Stamp business in Boston, Mass. and in Plymouth, Mich.

—

July 1, 1946

Plate No. Listing

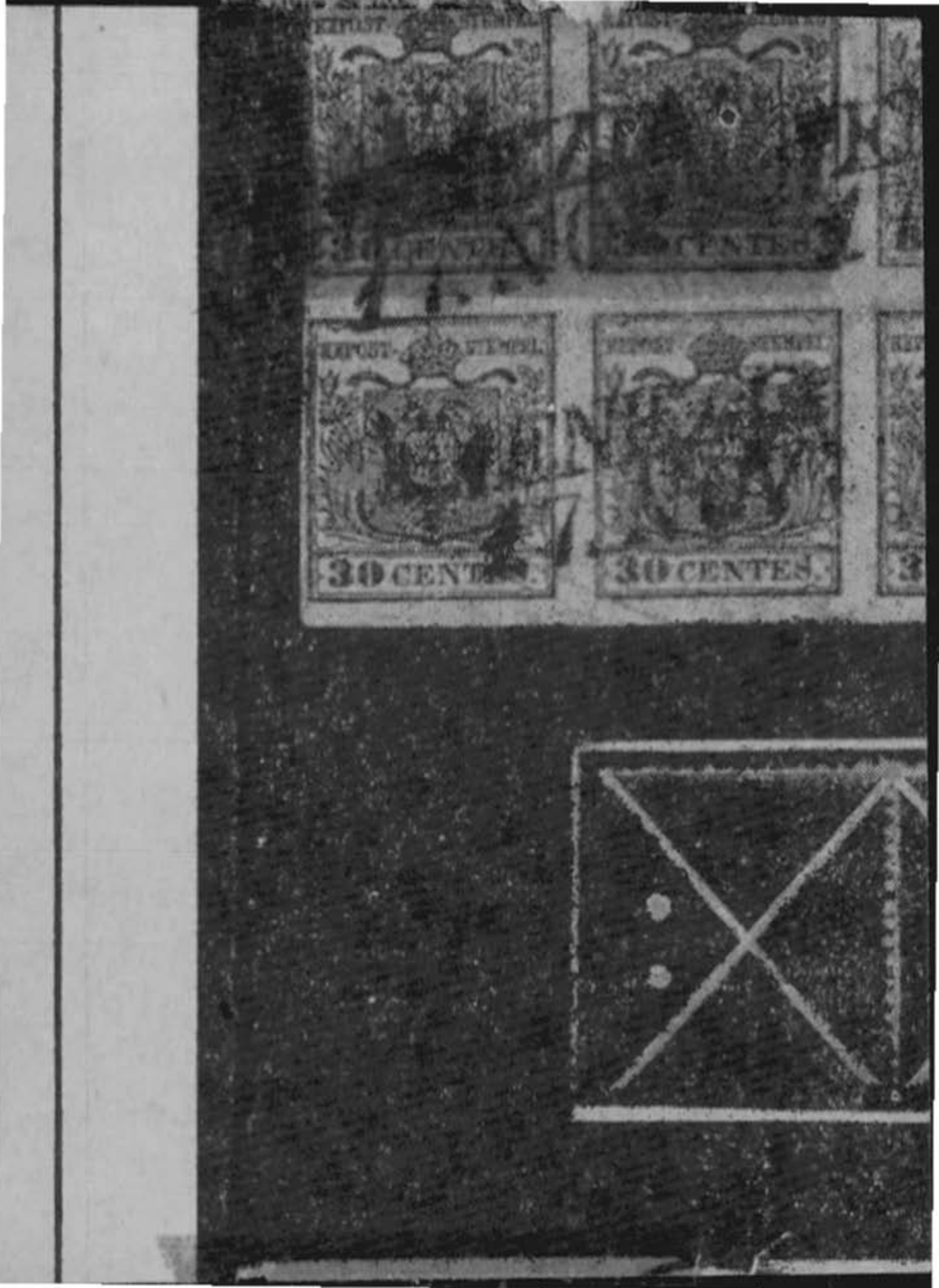
The long awaited Listing of Relative

Department the latter part of July.

Set of 2 Bastogne airmail stamps, comple
Blocks of four, above set .....

FIRST DAY COVER (both stamps com
Issue .....

J. R. W. Purves, 448 Collins St., Melbourne C 1, Australia, one of the outstanding specialists in the stamps of Victoria, is endeavoring to complete his plating of the "Laureated" series, including: 3d lilac and later yellow—1866-84; 6d blue, any wmk.—1866-75; 8d orange and later brown—1865-84; 10d gray, 9d on 10d and later red-lilac—1865-75; 11 (octagonal) 1865-76. He is particularly desirous of getting pairs, strips and blocks, and can use even off-centered singles in any condition if they are priced accordingly. Any of our readers who have any of these stamps are requested to communicate with Mr. Purves, and he would be happy to have any of this material sent to him on approval.


30 CENTES.
30 CENTES.

The Detroit Philatelic Society recently held their annual party at the beautiful home of Harold Stark, located on Clear Lake, about sixty miles west of Detroit. Stanley B. Ashbrook was one of the invited guests, and with the Fleckenstein's and MacGregor's, stayed over as house guests. A regular banquet was served under the trees on the banks of the lake, with Mrs. Stark and her four grown daughters acting as hosts, with the assistance of Mrs. Don MacGregor, Mrs. Jack Fleckenstein, and Mrs. Stanley B. Ashbrook. In addition to looking at stamps, which was a real treat, owing to the very fine collection of 19th Century U. S. owned by Mr. Stark, the group indulged in a ball game, a horseshoe throwing contest, rowing on the lake, and target shooting. The D.P.S. has a limited membership of forty and they meet at one another's homes. As a result every meeting becomes a social event, attended by every member who can possibly make it.

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		Unused	Used
730	1c Century of Progress.....	$.80	....
731	3c Century of Progress.....	1.05	....
735	3c Byrd	.45	$.30
750	3c National Park	.95	....
751	1c National Park	.25	....
C1	6c Orange	.90	.68
C2	16c Green	4.75	2.00
C3	24c Carmine and Blue.....	2.25	1.80
C4	8c Green	.65	.65
C5	**16c Blue ..... **	**2.35**	**1.75**
C6	24c Carmine	3.00	.85
C13-C15	Zeppelin Issue Compl.....	70.00	47.50

Stamps must be in very fine condition, unused copies having full original gum. Other U. S. also wanted

Rumark Company

116 Nassau St. **New York 7, N. Y.**

NOW READY

The Research Group

As we have pointed out in previous issues of **STAMPS**, the Research Group was founded in the early part of 1938 by Edward F. Knapp, William West, Edgar B. Jessup, and Stanley B. Ashbrook. At the present time it consists of thirty-one members, who have contributed a total of $755 to finance the compilation of statistics and data that will be of benefit to philately as a whole. The Group has undertaken a thorough search through the files of New York newspapers, and as a result, compiled lists of the sailings from New York of the U. S. mail steamships to Panama, covering the years 1849 to 1857, inclusive. They have also recorded the "via Nicaragua" ship sail-

cancelled stamps.

"I am still moderately bullish on United States stamps, but believe that stamps of Great Britain and the British Colonies may be better purchases at some time. A set of Silver Jubilee stamps, from about fifty new British Colonies, which sold for $20 in 1935 sold for $100 in 1936. Yet the increase in British Colonials, particularly in the 20th Century issue, had barely begun, in my judgment. British Colonials are attractive, educational, are rarely counterfeited, and have a world market. If you have a good United States collection as a base, stick to it and do not bother with anything else. If, however, you are just starting, you might wish to confine yourself to Great Britain and British Colonials. A second good investment is in a

ings from New York and from San Francisco.

Membership in the Group is by invitation only, and initial contributions are limited to a minimum of $10, which is used solely to finance this research work. It is another of the splendid contributions that Stanley B. Ashbrook is making for the benefit of philately.

—H. L. LINDQUIST

VOLUME 45, NO. 5

News, Vi

Spencer Anderson Recovering from Heart Attack

ON Monday, January 14, 1946, Spencer Anderson, of 65 Nassau Street, New York, N. Y. was suddenly stricken with a heart attack right after he had reached his office in the morning. He was taken to the Beekman Street Hospital, and later was transferred to St. Luke's Hospital, where he is now recuperating.

Although Mr. Anderson is now said by his physicians to be out of danger, he is still unable to see any visitors, and will be confined to the hospital for at least another three weeks.

In the meantime, business is proceeding as usual at his stamp shop, under the able administration of his regular force.

Costa Rica—No. C63, the 1-colon football championship stamp of 1941, is expected to be re-issued with the date changed to 1946, in connection with the Central American Football Championship games which will be played this month. San Jose sources say the American Bank Note Co., has been given a rush order to alter the 1941 plate and print this one fast.

—*Ernesto Ruiz Aviles.*

Cuba—The commemorative to mark the centenary of the death of the poet-martyr, Gabriel de la Concepcion Valdes ("Placido"), is a 2c scarlet on rose, and not a 3c as originally announced. It was issued Jan. 30 with a printing of 2,000,000. Placido (1809-44) was executed by the

I BUY ANY STAMP—
ANY COUNTRY

Chicago Anniversary

By David Lidman

The Charles E. Severn Memorial Trophy, named in honor of the late famed editor and philatelic author, will be awarded for the first time at the 59th Anniversary Stamp Show of the Chicago Philatelic Society, Nov. 2, 3 and 4 at the LaSalle Hotel, Chicago.

Mr. Severn joined the Society in that organization's youth — a birth of some 59 years ago. Throughout the years of his membership, he saw it grow from one of the first philatelic organizations in the country to one of the largest and most outstanding. In point of continuous meetings, the Chicago Philatelic Society is the countries oldest stamp club, even having the priority of adding a year and a half to its age, for it was formed originally as the Chicago Stamp Collectors Union in 1884, changing its name to C. P. S. in October 1886.

It is because of the role played by Mr. Severn during his lifetime — a role in which he contributed not only to Chicago philately, but to the world's —

In addition to the Severn Trophy, there will be awards named in honor of Saul Newbury, one of the country's foremost collectors, and another in honor of Dr. Clarence W. Hennan, another great collector. The Newbury award will be for the best in U. S. 19th Century, and the Hennan award will be for "best in the show".

Also to be awarded will be the Saul Newbury Medal. This medal, to be presented for the first time also, will not be for an exhibition, but will go to the man who contributed most to Chicago philately in the past year.

In addition to the exhibition, a feature of this year's "Annual", is the dinner Saturday night, Nov. 3, when Mr. Newbury will be the honored guest. The dinner is in honor of this famed collectors own contribution to Chicago philately for many years.

The seal for the 59th Anniversary Stamp Show of the Chicago Philatelic Society, Nov. 2, 3 and 4, at the LaSalle Hotel, Chicago, features a "gem" from the Saul Newbury collection, a 30r "Bull's Eye" cancelled in an oblong box, Paranagua. It is the work of Henry Grimsland, 5024 N. Kildare Ave., Chicago 30, Ill. The seal is in black, save for a blue "piece" on which the stamp appears in the Newbury collection. The seals may be purchased — they are on cardboard — at 10 cents each, plus three cents postage, from Mr. Grimsland.

F 5 October 29, 1945 'ER

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Korpa ..... 7.75 Greece ....
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Denmark, K. Chris. B'thday, 3v. .20
Egypt, C30-7, 4 v. Airpost .... .60
Germany, 1942 Sport ..... .10
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Norway, 1945 Red Cross ..... .08
Poland, Hitler Birthday 1944 . 1.20
Roumania, Red Cross, 3 v. 3.00
Hitler Terror, 1200 Lei, 6 v. 11.40
Russia, Stalingrad, 2 v., *1.00; o .60
Sheet of 4 *3.60; o 2.40
Serbia, 1943 Invalids, 4 v. 2.40
Slovakia, 58-60, 64, 4 v., .36; Stor, 2 v. ..... .17
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MINT SETS GEO. VI

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#84-91 ...(8) $.80
#92-93 ...(2) 2.45

Bahamas
#100-109 (10) 1.15
#112-113A. (2) 8.15

Barbados
#193-200 .(9) .90
#201-201A. (2) 2.45

Basutoland
#18-25 ...(8) .85
#26-28 ...(3) 5.65

Bechuanaland
#124-31 ..(8) .85
#133-36 ..(3) 5.65

Bermuda
#118-122 .(5) .85
#123-127 .(5) 10.40

Falkland Isl. Depen compl., 32 mint... 4.25

M. LIEBERMAN, 71 W. 35 St., N. Y. 1

Type A12. The 2.40fr is El Djem Type A13.

Semi-Postal—The 2fr plus 1fr red orange Tuberculosis stamp of France has been overprinted in black "TUNISIE".

—Colonial Stamp Co.

Vatican City — *Postage* — The 1944 series, "Compassion" Type A22, is of the exact design as the two previous issues, except that the date is now "MCMXLIV". The values are 1L dark green, 3L deep carmine, 5L deep blue.

—Mr. S. Serebrakian

The Tribune Stamp Co., 140 Nassau St., N. Y. 7, have completed a check list of European stamps issued during the war years, as complete as possible through Sept. 30. Orders are now being accepted at 25c per copy.

DO YOU SPEND A DOLLAR

or More a Week on U. S. Stamps?

If so, you owe it to yourself to look into my tried and tested Plan for building up representative U. S. Collections. Write for

Gus Mosler

GUSTAVE MOSLER, well known stamp collector of Cincinnati, Ohio and Palm Beach, Florida, passed away suddenly on June 11, 1946 of coronary thrombosis. Mr. Mosler was born in Cincinnati 66 years ago.

Prior to his retirement in 1929, Gus Mosler had been a banker, and was president of the Brighton Bank and Trust Company in Cincinnati, now known as the Central Trust Company. After selling his interest there, he went to Palm Beach, where his home was one of the beauty spots of the area. Gardening was one of his hobbies, and in addition to flowers, he had a large orange grove.

His other hobbies were fishing and stamp collecting. He was a member of the Sailfish Club, the Rotary Club, and the Elks Club. He had a number of philatelic affiliations, including the American Philatelic Society, of which he was a former president, and the Royal Philatelic Society of London. He was a member of the Collectors Club in New York, and of the International Jury at the 1936 Tipex Exhibition in New York. He was also a donor to the 1947 International Exhibition.

Mr. Mosler had been prominent in stamp collecting circles all over the country, as he had traveled extensively, and never failed to lend a hand wherever he went in any stamp collecting activities where his experience and knowledge could be used. He was a general collector, and had a wide knowledge of stamps. He specialized in the stamps of Austria, on which he was a recognized authority.

In the first World War he was a captain in the Army's Secret Service.

He is survived by his widow, a son, and two daughters.

At Elmhurst Ave. Sta.—Independent Sub.

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THE PHILATELY COMPANY

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B. L. Voorhees Dies

We are sorry to advise our readers that Barnard L. Voorhees passed away Sunday, November Tenth from acute heart trouble. Mr. Voorhees was well known to all oldtime collectors. He dealt in Stamps from Chicago, for many years and recently moved to California. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his family.

November 18, 1946

A SMALL SAMPLE FROM O

Write today for the fully

J. AND H. STOLO

WALTER S. SCOTT RETIRES AS AUCTIONEER

AFTER fifty-six years in the stamp business, the last forty-one of which have been as a philatelic auctioneer, Walter S. Scott has decided to enjoy the fruits of his labors by retiring and living "the life of Riley."

He and Mrs. Scott are leaving on December 5th for Sarasota, Fla., where they will stay with their married daughter, Mrs. Eugene Jones, until about the middle of April, when they will return to their home in Long Island.

Walter S. Scott is, without question, the most colorful figure that we have in philately. His father, the famous J. W. Scott, was one of the pioneer dealers, if not THE pioneer dealer, of the United States. He started dealing in stamps in 1868, so Walter was brought up in a philatelic atmosphere and has followed through ever since. In 1890 he went into the stamp business for himself, and in 1904 he held his first auction sale in New York, and has been in the business ever since. For many years he handled every sale in New York and saw to it that there were no conflicting sales held on the same day and, in the early times, even in the same week.

He was long ago elected to fill the niche of Dean of Philatelic Auctioneers, and in 1940 he was honored by a special dinner of the American Stamp Dealers Association, held at the Town Hall Club in New York.

While Walter has not been feeling well of late, he is sound physically and this very much needed rest we hope will bring him back to par. His immediate decision to retire at this time was caused by laryngitis, which made it difficult for him to call his sales, so he came to the very wise decision of calling it a day and letting others carry on.

As a very fitting close to his philatelic activities, Mr. Scott appraised the philatelic estate of the late Col. Green, and the very successful merchandising of these stamps is entirely due to his advice and direction. Every sale was held under his auspices, with the result that the total realized was almost fifty per cent more than the original appraisal. He was also consulted in connection with the sale of the Charles Lathrop Pack collection, which contained some of the finest material that has ever come into the auction market.

Walter Scott has a host of friends who will wish him well, and we hope that he will long be with us to enjoy the leisure he so richly deserves.

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20th CENTURY GENERAL COLLECTION
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Supplement to Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalog Nov. 9-21, 1945

VOLUME II

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

A93 Infantryman
A94 Infantry Officer
A95 Czechoslovak Soldier in Russia
A96 Czechoslovak Soldier in France
A97 Air Force Officer
A98 Tank Corpsman
A99 Fighter Pilot
A100 Soldier in Near East Force

Engraved

1945 *Perf. 11½x12½* **Unwmkd.**

272	A93	5h	intense blue
273	A94	10h	dark brown
274	A95	20h	brick red
275	A96	25h	red
276	A97	30h	purple
277	A98	40h	sepia
278	A99	50h	dark olive
279	A100	60h	violet
280	A93	1k	carmine
281	A94	1.50k	lake
282	A95	2k	ultramarine
283	A96	2.50k	deep violet
284	A97	3k	sepia
285	A98	4k	rose lilac
286	A99	5k	myrtle green
287	A100	10k	ultramarine

ERITREA
AUTHORIZED DELIVERY STAMP

Authorized Delivery Stamp of Italy, No. EY2, Overprinted Type "f" in Black

1941 *Perf. 14* **Wmk. 140**

EY1 AD2 10c dark brown

FINLAND

Don't Scorn Today's Stamps

By Warner Bates, Wardsboro, Vt.

Stamps Need Not be Old to be Collectable — Today's Mail May Produce Tomorrow's Rarity — Study, Research and Arrangement May Produce Prize Winning Collection Out of Waste Basket Material.

Some collectors persist in thinking stamps aren't collectable unless they cost big money and are at least 50 years old.

That manner of thinking ignores the first fundamental that differentiates the philatelic student from the stamp accumulator.

To the real collector, a stamp is a stamp, regardless of age or value, provided it's issued by a recognized government for postal, revenue or other recognized uses; and, for my money, postage stamps that have performed postal duty are far more interesting and collectable than the mint beauties the speculators are buying in vast quantities and hiding in safe deposit vaults like stocks, bonds, diamonds and other inanimate and uninteresting evidences of material wealth.

Fortunately for the collector with a lean purse today's waste-basket stamps provide as fertile a field for collecting, study and research as the classics of the dim and dusty past. It's not the value or rarity of the stamps that counts — it's what you do with them.

At a time when unpicked lots of 3 cent greens and other low-value 1870-1888 used stamps could be bought for $1.00 to $1.50 the thousand, this writer started a specialized collection of those then-despised issues. The collection grew to close to 30 volumes and provided pleasure, profit and an outlet for a scientific curiosity over a long period of years.

More recently a collection of *present-day used* stamps, on and off cover, was begun and this has now grown to a dozen volumes or so, with enough unmounted material in hand to fill another dozen books.

This collection began as a twentieth century collection, but as it began to develop it became obvious that the task was too formidable, so the period of 1938 down to date was selected. The first stamps shown are the Presidentials of 1938/39 and everything else is included that has been issued from 1938 to date. The present intention is to extend this collection until some future date when a new regular issue succeeds the Presidential series.

The collection is specialized, first, as to shades, minor varieties, plate number and marginal pieces, usage and the like; and, secondly, as to cancellations and postal markings.

Covers are used throughout, along with used stamps off cover, including singles, pairs, strips, blocks of four and larger multiple pieces and also, stamps on pieces of cover. Where the item is to show a shade or other variety of the stamp, the effort is made to get a lightly-cancelled, handsome piece, whether on or off cover; but where the cancellation or postmark is the thing, emphasis is placed on a distinctly struck marking so impressed as to show it in its entirety without regard to defacement of the stamp.

Condition is desirable as any collection, however important from a study standpoint, loses eye appeal and interest if any appreciable number of soiled, torn or otherwise undesirable stamps and covers is included. It is occasionally necessary to include a damaged item to show some rare variety of stamp or postmark, but the collector should always strive to replace such unsightly pieces with better ones when possible.

The trick in building such a collection of modern material is in developing a plan of arrangement and study. If this is intelligently done and if the student develops his showing to a point where it is comprehensive, informative and interesting to look at, he can rest assured that the time will come when pages from his collection will stand up competively against exhibits of the older classics in any philatelic show.

Next comes the problem of mounting. The collector who has given no thought or study to the subject may hold the opinion that there are comparatively few varieties of modern stamps and cancellations — that any showing of such material is bound to be monotonous. That is wrong. A collection of present-day stamps and cancellations, if properly handled, presents a great variety and is susceptible to so great a development that it will be well for the beginner not to decide on very expensive or elaborate albums. This writer has found an ordinary ring binder with heavy 8½ by 11 sheets of good quality paper best for his purposes.

What is the future of such a collection? It is the opinion of this writer that any well specialized and carefully developed collection of stamps, regardless of age or value, will give the collector pleasure, knowledge and, in the long run, it will prove profitable. Those of you who go in for used 20th century material will be getting in on the ground floor and yours will be the envied collections of tomorrow. Much of your material will come along at no cost whatsoever and what you have to spend money for will cost so little compared with the current mar-

(Continued on Page 236)

PHILIPPINES

Due to war conditions, some of the pre-Pearl Harbor issues of the Philippine Islands have become available at prices below the face value. This condition is probably a temporary one. We offer the following complete sheets, at special prices for speculators.

#424, 5 peso green and black, large Commonwealth, fine mint sheet of 25 ..... $48.50

#443, 1 peso orange and black, small Commonwealth, fine mint sheet of 25, very attractive addition to anyone's collection, at the special price of 9.00

E7, 20c ultramarine, special delivery, small Commonwealth, complete sheet of 50 of a stamp that has never been common in used condition 3.95

#306, 4c MADRID-MANILA AIRMAIL

We offer the 4 centavo carmine of this rare airmail set at the especially low price of $1.50, for fair centering, and $2.50 for fine centering. Blocks pro rata. We can also offer bottom plate block of six for $15.00.

1936 POTATO TAX STAMPS

The tax for which these handsome stamps were issued in 1936 was cancelled almost as soon as the stamps were on sale. **We offer the complete set in fine mint condition for $8.75.** The short set of 10 varieties, ¾c to 75c, for $2.95, or set of 7, ¾c to 11½c, for 83c. We offer the 2 pound and 50 pound grey Potato Tax exempt stamps in a complete booklet pane of 12 stamps for $1.25 the pair of panes.

1917 DOCUMENTARY HIGH VALUES, $30.00 to $1000.00

Large handsome stamps, bright clean copies, with punched initial cancellations:

R246 $30.00 Vermilion ..... $ .20
R247 $50.00 Brown ..... .46
R248 $100.00 Green ..... .22
R249 $500.00 Blue $3.25
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United States Notes and Comments

By PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

JUST CHATTER

We note from one of the columnists, "The height of war silliness was the Army's refusal to reveal how much butter it has on hand on the ground that this was a 'military secret'." They were just as silly in refusing to let us have information regarding the stamps for overrun nations, which we obtained anyway. Since the ending of the war they still refuse to furnish us with the details. The Colorado Stamp Company sends us a $10 Wine — the first we have seen. Still looking for the 3½c, $4, $6, $9.60, $12, $20 and $50. The same company calls attention to the fact that Scott lists the Cigarette Tubes RH3-4 as "unwatermarked". Has anyone ever seen such a stamp without watermark? We are after stampless covers of the eighteen thirties marked "Express Mail" either in manuscript or hand stamped. Have you any available? We see the Post Office Department is now using a canceller on parcel post reading, "Insured — Minimum Fee" in oval, 2 inches wide. Generally struck in magenta. Herman Herst, Jr., takes a crack at the government insured registered mail in "Gossip". They don't pay if they can get out of it. We say "Amen" for we know. We tried to collect $5 without success. Even claimed we had not insured the letter. After nearly two years and several letters as well as calls from Post Office inspectors, they have not paid! They admit the registered letter is lost. Our insurance company paid upward of $200 a week after we notified them. If you want to guard against loss, take insurance outside or ship via express insured. If a private firm tried to get away with what the government is doing, they would be put out of business and jailed. Did you know that only two unused blocks of the 1847 10c exist — one of four, one of six, both in Philadelphia collections? Two mint blocks of the 1851 5c are known and single blocks mint of the 1857 5c brick red and 1861 5c buff. One used block of four of the 5c buff exists. It has a N. Y. Steamship cancellation smack in the face. Scott lists an unused block of the 1870 90c grilled. We have never seen one with a grill that did not have to be "imagined". Ditto 12c. We have seen blocks of four of the 1869 reissues 6c, 12c, 15c and block of 12 with plate number and corner margins of the 90c. Not catalogued although they were in the Worthington Sale — then to Ackerman and we bought them from the Senator. We have not heard of the 1869 reissue 3c, 24c and 30c in blocks. Have you? Of the other reprints or reissues, we know of blocks of the 1847 5c, 10c, the 1857 1c, the 1861 1c, 2c and the 1869 1c, 2c, 10c. Do you know of any others? Of the imperforate 1860 high values, two pairs exist of the 24c, three pairs of the 30c and a unique pair of the 90c. We have seen but one mint block of the 1869 30c in the correct shade of the issued stamp. They are generally in the deep color unissued shades. Used blocks are not uncommon. The Scott Company found a number of them some years back. At the same time, they located quite a few 1870 90c grilled. Some strips would show a line or two of grill on

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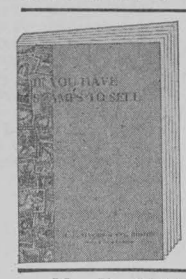

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one stamp with nothing on the others. The only Postmaster stamp we know in block form is the Providence. There was a so-called block of the 5c N. Y. around — a horizontal block of eight, if our memory is correct. This, however, was broken into two horizontal strips and repaired to make a block. Sir Nicholas Waterhouse in London used to tell Frank Godden that if he ever located a block, call him at night and he would come out in his nightgown to get it. Sir Nick was possibly the best known collector of U. S. in Europe. We remember he gave the American visitors, who attended his sale in London in 1924, a luncheon. He also had his auction catalogues with list of prices nicely bound — then autographed them and gave each of us a copy — we still refer to ours. Ed Stern was along, also Hermann Toaspern — poor boy, may his soul rest in peace, as well as several others. The sale lasted a week, the lots were shown around a "U" shape table while the sale was going on and at 4 o'clock, we had tea and "biscuits". We remember we paid $1,000 more for a block of 8 used of the 5c 1847 than we intended, just to take it from somebody we did not and do not like. Nasty way, but we have mellowed much since. We, however, sold it at a profit and handled it twice after — reaching higher heights each time. We finally sold it to the late Frank Sweet, a real follower of the Goddess Philatelia. His son Bill now has it. No finer used block exists. We have in our collection the most important mint piece — a square block of sixteen. From London, Eddie, Tosty and ourself went to Paris to attend a session of the Ferreri Sale. The late M. Gilbert conducted them. Everything was in French and we had to guess what they were saying. Rachitoff, South America's leading dealer, bought in our behalf. There is a trained stamp dealer for you — he speaks fluently Spanish, French, English, Italian, German, Portuguese and what have you. You should see us visiting the stamp dealers in numerous countries in Europe and trying to make them understand what we wanted. Anyway, as we wandered around to distant points we always carried our hotel card with us so no matter where we were we could hop in a taxi, show our card and we would in time get back to our starting point. Those were the days to pick up nice things. Few over there knew the types of the 1851-57 issues, did not recognize the reprints and unusual cancellations meant little. We can recall at least three 3c 1869 reprints priced as originals. We purchased in the Waterhouse Sale one lot of 1869 30c used, described as all very

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Sheets and Blocks

By N. R. Hoover

Don Houseworth said a mouthful when he cautioned "inexperienced investors" about loading up on the 5 cent United Nations and the Hyde Park stamps. Just because U. N. is a 5 cent stamp, and people have an idea a 5 cent unit has better possibilities than an ordinary 3 cent stamp, shouldn't cause them to stampede on the 5 cent U. N. Seventy million have already been ordered printed. U. N. as an opportunity at profit, except for used copies bought advantageously, is distinctly below par. And the same thing goes for the Hyde Parks. One hundred million of these have been ordered. If the Roosevelt devotees go after them in a big way, many thousands may be even now salted away because of such idealism, to come out in later years to disrupt the market. Go slow on both of them as investment possibilities.

There is a story going the rounds that a group of brave men are at work on attempting to corner the Greece Flag stamp. It isn't wise, perhaps, to say too much about this because the very act of giving the tale importance by mentioning it, of itself could start investors reaching for it. Lucile Buchanan recently commented on the fluctuating interest in Korea by interpolating this as against the strength Korea has been enjoying: "At the same time an operator, who likes long shots, hands out this tip: 'Greece is the best. Watch this one'." An answer to this is that the government issued the same number of several of the Flag stamps. Why should one be better than another when in the same category numerically?

fine and found in the lot a N. Y. Steamship, a Japanese usage, a red and blue town and several other nice pieces. Most of them are now in the B. K. Miller collection in the N. Y. Library, unless they have since been sold. Fine old U. S. are just as desirable today. The next time you are in New York or Chicago, or in fact anywhere, wander around among the dealing fraternity and see how many really fine early pieces can be bought. Flag stamps, Famous Americans and miniature sheets — yes, but where are the early blocks and singles and covers? Most of them belong to the collectors. In fact, most of the choice early foreign are in the same place — Caspary, Lichtenstein, Admiral Harris, Hall, Jessup, Newbury, Moody, Brown, Lapham — just to mention a few.

U. S. FIRST DAY DATES

U. S. Navy 3c — October 27 at Annapolis, Md.
U. S. Coast Guard 3c — November 10 at New York City
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The illustrations include reproductions of early photographs, portraits and woodcuts, and two water colors by William H. Jackson, one of which he prepared especially for this volume.

The colored map was especially prepared by the author, who made extensive trips into the Black Hills, covering the old trails, winnowing fact from fiction, and gathering authenic details.

The author, Agnes Wright Spring, has established an enviable record in her writings for accuracy and strict attention to detail. Mrs. Spring knows stage coaching from first hand observation. She is a daughter of a pioneer Colorado and Wyoming stage owner, and grew up on a Wyoming ranch. She is a graduate of the University of Wyoming and studied journalism at Columbia University. Her research for this volume was aided greatly by the letters, records, photographs and clippings, collected by Russell Thorp, jr. the son of one of the owners of the line. This collection, with extensive research in other source material and personal interviews with old stage employees and pioneers, forms the basic material for the volume.

Territory covered includes Dakota Territory, Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado, Montana, and adjacent regions.

The Arthur H. Clark Company, *Publishers*
Glendale, California, U.S.A.

Sept. 30, 1949.

Mr. Ezra D. Cole,
Nyack, N.Y.

Dear Ezra:

Re - yours of the 22nd. I intended for you to keep the photo of the 30¢ 1869 cover so I am returning it herewith. When I returned the cover to Ward I did not state that it was bad, or was good. I advised him to get a P.F. certificate before offering it to his clients. I also advised him that if he wanted an opinion by me, he could have same for ten bucks.

Re - your letter - The New York postmark is perfectly O.K. and you have seen numerous examples of it. How did it get back to this country - no doubt in a package of mail all under separate cover.

Ward evidently got the idea that I condemned the cover because he stated that he had returned it to Mason. I find that Ward is quite an active outlet for Larry, which means that Jim Hardy passes material to Larry to send to Ward.

Auction Sales - I would like to have a list of prices realized at the Fifield sale of Oct. 5-7th and also the Stolow sale. If you will loan me your catalogues I will return them by return air mail.

Your letter of Sept. 21st. Re - the use of ultra-violet or infra-red on various colors. I am quite positive that a quartz lamp will show the difference between two different red inks - or two different blue inks - in spite of the fact that they may look alike to the naked eye. I did not think there was any argument or question on this feature, but that it was an established fact. On the other hand, I have never been able to distinguish any difference between blacks under the quartz lamp. For example, I have studied under my large lamp, as carefully as I was capable, a number of the Bison covers, but I must confess that I was never able to distinguish any difference in the black ink of the Yreka postmark and that of the Bison. If both had been struck in different reds, or different blues, I am quite sure that my lamp would have disclosed a difference. I may be wrong but I believe that if you sent your Bison cover to the Hanovia Company and requested an opinion as to whether both black inks are the same, that they would inform you that their lamps seldom disclose any difference in black inks.

Now for the Baltimore cover. You state that all three opinions are not in accord. I won't comment on this but merely call your attention to the facts.

(1) Foundation Report - Their opinion is simply that it is NOT a bisect, but merely a badly torn stamp. They did not express

Mr. Ezra D. Cole, Sept. 30, 1949.

opinion regarding the Baltimore cancelation. Evidently you submitted it as a "bisect". I stated that this piece of stamp was not a 3¢ 1851 bisect cover - meaning a half or two thirds of a stamp used to prepay less than a 3¢ rate. The Foundation reported used a philatelic term and so did I. When we refer to a 12¢ 1851 bisect cover we certainly refer to a half of a 12¢ stamp used to pay a 6¢ rate. There is no necessity to refer to a dictionary to define the word BISECT.

Kershner is an expert photographer, with little if any knowledge of stamps. His opinion was based solely on what his photographic work disclosed, plus microscope and ultra-violet, etc. The only opinions he expressed were as follows:

No. 3 - "There is a difference in fluorescence of the "AID" in "PAID." No. 4 - "Here again is seen the difference of ink on the stamp as compared with that on cover." His final opinion was as follows:

"It is my opinion that the "AID" of PAID is composed of an ink of a different make-up from the balance of the cancellation."

Now Ez I fail to see where my examination differed to any extent with the above. By my lamp I noted a difference in the blue inks, indidating that two different blue inks had been used. In other words, some monkey-business. You have never answered the following question that I put up to you.

If there never was a Baltimore marking of this type with a "1" (or a line) in the center, how come this strike has a line? I would be willing to bet that no one can show a genuine strike of this marking with a line (such as on this cover) in the center. If that is a fact, then how did that line originate on this particular cover? Did someone insert that "1" to make this particular strike appear as a "bisect" cover with a 1¢ rate? I don't suppose Kershner is aware that this small Baltimore marking never had anything but a blank center. Not being aware of that fact perhaps he failed to make a minute examination of that important feature.

Before critcising the Report of the Foundation why don't you make them give you a report in full, viz., is the Baltimore cancel genuine in every respect? Has anyone monkeyed with this? Has it been painted? Discolored or touched up in any way? Did this type of marking ever have anything in the center? Is all the blue ink of this marking the same - both on stamp and on cover? Put them on the spot and make them answer those questions. If they cannot answer them - then request them to acknowledge that fact. In other words, you don't want any guessing or damn fool opinions by Elliott Perry, or others in his class, but a scientific examination by someone who is capable of rendering such. If they return it to me I will refuse comment. I intended to do this originally but after Boggs sent it to me I saw no reason why I should not give my opinion. I think that they had the idea that you wanted an opinion on only one point, viz., Is this a 3¢ 1861 Bisect Cover? Their answer was, "No ?" And yet you state that my opinion was entirely different from theirs. Kershner did not express an opinion as to whether it was a bisect or not. He don't know anything about Bisects so why would he comment? I think that his report

as very, very fair and certainly not subject to criticism. All he did was to merely explain what his photographs disclosed to him. He did not state that the cover is a fake or is genuine. I'll be damned if I see where his letter is in conflict with the P.F. report or with any finding that I made - other than perhaps my opinion went further than his. If you think the cover is genuine then I ask you to explain that "1." And here is a tip - If the cover is genuine in every way and all the blue ink is the same - and there never has been any monkey-business then perhaps I could supply the answer regarding the center - but first, I want positive proof that the cover is genuine - that my suspicion of painting - retouching - faking - etc. - is wrong. Get me that evidence and then I will have the answer to the center.

I am returning herewith all the material that you sent me including the photo prints of the Bison cover - keep these for your files.

Further regarding yours of the 21st.

Stolow sale. What about Lot 5 - Was this cover genuine? What did you think? Also what about Lot 29? There is that New York p.m. the same as on the Green cover - How would you explain this on a 60¢ rate and also on a 30¢ rate?

Again the Bison. You ask if this might have been applied by Gregory's agent in New York? I think that the answer is obvious. The Yreka covers were deposited in the U. S. mail at Yreka, Calif. They would, therefore, go direct to the Addressee, and had no contact with an agent in New York City.

I was not surprised to learn that the Price and Bennett covers came from the same source - How very odd that the Bison is only known on this same source correspondence - Or is it?

Walnut Hills Cover. Em wrote me that Gordon refused a refund. Too bad, and I don't think that his attitude is right. Regardless of any of their printed rules he should have stood the loss. They sold that cover as a genuine item and it was a fake. I could state a whole lot more but what's the use. After all we are just a bunch of saps when it comes to any dealings with the British. They think that it is their God-given right to fool us, cheat us and screw Americans at every turn and we are saps enough to agree with them. God save the King.

I have carefully noted the last line of your letter, viz., "It might be a good idea if you looked at it in this light, too." I was not conscious of the fact that I gave the impression that I considered all items bad until I could satisfy myself that they were good. I am not in the habit of condemning an item unless I first note that there is something suspicious. I will make a mental note of that bit of advice and I promise you that I will never forget it.

Yours etc.,

Dear Ezra Cole:

Thank you for your letter of August 26th, enclosing the cover with circular Baltimore "Paid" cancellation on bisect stamp.

This is a nice little problem...examination under the microscope failed to show any evidence of tampering with the cancel, nor did it show up any appreciable difference in the appearance of the pigments. Examination under the quartz lamp show the PAID cancel on the cover portion and the large town cancel as having apparently identical reaction, although the portion of the PAID cancel on the stamp itself gave a different reaction. Photographs made by the infra-red technique, however, reveal a decided difference in the intensity of the ink in "AID" of PAID on the stamp. Infra-red, as you know, has the ability to distinguish between two or more pigments having the same color when viewed normally, provided the pigments are of a different chemical structure. In other words, two inks or other pigments which appear to be the same color but having a different chemical structure will appear on the photograph showing one of the colors as lighter than the other, or in some instances one color will fail to register on the photograph. I am enclosing five photographs of the cancellation portion of the cover for your study.

No. 1 - Town and PAID cancellation, greatly magnified, with stamp lightly faded out.
No. 2 - Same, taken with filter to eliminate stamp to permit study of cancels.
No. 3 - Same, taken by ultra-violet. There is a difference in fluorescence of the "AID" in PAID.
No. 4 - Same, taken by ultra-violet, photographing only the fluorescence of the material. Light portions shown by arrows are particles of gum. Here again is seen the difference of ink on the stamp as compared with that on cover.
No. 5 - Same, taken by infra-red technique. It is noted here the difference of intensity of the inks comprising "AID" of PAID as compared with the balance of the cancel and the town cancellation.

It is my opinion that the "AID" of PAID is composed of an ink of a different make-up from the balance of the cancellation.

AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
COLLECTORS CLUB

COMMISSIONS EXECUTED
APPRAISALS

EZRA D. COLE RARE POSTAGE STAMPS
NYACK, N. Y. - - - Telephone Nyack 964
TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

September 15, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Your letter with the Kershner data, etc., etc., just came and just so we will get everything straight, I am quoting from some previous letters of yours and will give you the dates.

Your letter of May 25: "Since writing the above, I am in receipt of yours of the 23rd. If there was never a Baltimore marking of that type with a "1" in the center how can the marking on your cover be good? The biggest "hooey" in this game are the fake covers that come form original finds. Such claims don't mean a thing to me because I have seen too many contradictions. If you send it to the P.F., I could refuse to pass on it, as I frequently do. I simply mark on the sheet - "no opinion - no comment." One don't have to give an opinion."

Your letter of June 2: "Regarding the Baltimore cover with the 3¢ 1861 "split." How come you overlooked the important feature that I mentioned - viz - that Baltimore did not use a marking like that one on the cover with a numeral "1" in the center? If there was no monkey-business how can you explain that? it will be interesting to learn what opinion the P.F. will render. If they send it to me, I will advise you."

Your letter of June 8: "Re - that small Baltimore killer. I have been familiar with this for over 30 years and I am positive it never had a "1" in the center. The marking is common and occurs in blue and black. Most anyone will confirm above - Write Perry Fuller or Mike Miller. How did that "1" get on your cover? It sure don't look like it was handstamped but rather painted."

Your letter of June 28: "Your letter of June 23 - I note that you got the 3¢ 1861 "BISECT" back from the Foundation. Why not return it and request further information on the cancel? Inform them your "client" requests same - make them explain that painted "1" - I may have its answer."

Your letter of June 30: "Today I received from the P.F. your 3¢ 1861 Bisect cover. I will return it to Boggs. My opinion was

that it was not a bisect cover - the envelope was sent sealed. I called attention to the fact that I never saw this marking with a "1" in the center - and that my quartz lamp showed two shades of blue ink - indicating monkey business - This being partially confirmed by the fact that the "T" was way out of alignment with the "L" of "Balto." I am enclosing a cover with a very clear (?) strike of this marking. Incidentally I have seen its use on a 3¢ 1861 cover as late as 1863. I am also enclosing a stampless cover addressed to Flushing, Ohio. This shows a very plain strike and it is the only stampless I have ever seen with this marking. This was presented to me by Alvin Good in 1946. It was the only one he ever ran across. I am also enclosing ten copies of the 1¢ 1857 - Type V with this marking in blue and black."

Now, what I want to know is this: In all of your previous letters you said that the "1" in the cancellation was no good. In your last letter you say nothing about it, and neither Kershner nor the Foundation found anything wrong with it. In this, your letter of September 13, you change your mind and say something about the "aid" of the cancellation, something which no one except Kershner mentioned, and which in my humble opinion for what it is worth, is just as good as gold. I have a quartz light, too, and my eyes are not too bad and the difference that he sees and I think you see are due to the fact that the envelope and stamp are creased and both the stamp and cancellation are faded at that side.

Furthermore, what in the world would anybody monkey with that for? It would not make any difference whether that side of the stamp was tied or not, for it has no bearing on the fact as to whether or not it would even look like a bisect. No part of the cancellation of that part of the cancellation is anywhere near the little "1" which you object to.

To get this discussion back on an even keel, I do not know myself whether or not this was a bisect or meant to be a bisect, but I do know that nobody has monkeyed with this cover. The fact that you and the Foundation and Kershner don't agree on anything makes me more convinced of it than ever, and if you will compare this with other Baltimore "Paids" you will be able to see it for yourself.

Even Kershner says that nothing shows under ultra violet, etc., etc., and he can only discern this difference, if anything, with infra red light. If fakers are that good, we both better quit.

Re - the Dunsmoor Bison covers. You did state you were enclosing a photostat, but you did not send it. I can clear up one portion of it if the letter is addressed to J. G. Bennett. It is James Gordon Bennett, and it is part of the Price family correspondence. I don't know what relationship there was, but it is all part of the same lot. As you know, all of the covers did not have this Bison. It is too bad no one saw the lot intact

but anyway, this may be where the rumor originated, as you say.

With reference to the Kershner photograph of the Bison, the question was specifically asked about the ink: Was the ink of the Bison and the Yreka the same, and I believe the Foundation certificates say it is.

Do you want me to send back all of this stuff, Kershner's photographs, letters, and everything else?

Your second page intrigues me. Who do you mean has the cancer, Souren or Kershner? I would not wish my worst enemy this dread desease, but I hopt it is not Kershner.

The Walnut Hills cover has gone back to Em. I don't know who put the 10¢ stamp back on the cover. It was off the cover in the envelope with the cover when I gave it to Harmer Rooke to sell.

Sincerely

Ezra D. Cole

EDC:hk

Sept. 19, 1949.

Mr. Ezra D. Cole,
Nyack, N.Y.

Dear Ez:

Yours of the 15th received.

I did not make a copy of the Kershner report on the 3¢ "Bisect" cover, but my recollection is that he stated that his examination showed that the blue ink on the stamp was different from the blue ink on the cover. Before replying to your letter I would like to again read his report. But if my memory on the cover is correct I am wondering if Kershner's finding did not agree with mine? In my letter of June 30th I stated that my quartz lamp showed two shades of blue.

Don't you think that you are exaggerating a bit, when you state that all three - P.F. - Kershner and Ashbrook, failed to agree? All that the P.F. stated was that it was not a bisect. Don't that agree with me?

Please send me the Kershner report (also photos) and I will further reply to your letter,- and when you send it, you might give me your idea on the "1" in the center of the Baltimore marking. I don't think that Kershner should be expected to comment on the "1" - I don't believe that he knows that Baltimore never used a marking of this type with a "1" in the center. All he is supposed to do is to render a report on what his photographic examination discloses.

Herewith I am enclosing photos of the Dunsmoor folded letter. You will note that this never passed thru the U. S. mail. The handstamp on face is that of Gregory's Agent in N.Y. as mentioned in the letter.

Re - ink of Bison and postmark. Do you believe that anything short of some sort of a chemical test could actually determine whether two black inks came from the same source? I don't. Do you believe that Kershner can determine such by photography - or ultra-violet or infra-red etc. etc.? I don't.

Cancer - I referred to Souren - not Kershner.

Walnut Hills cover. I don't think that anyone - Krug or myself - ever entertained any thought that you should lose anything on the cover. I urged Em to request a refund from Gordon thru you - You are entitled to your commission - the mere fact that the cover fooled you - fooled Em and fooled me is no reason why Gordon should not make a refund.

I wrote for the Stolow catalogue last week but I may leave Wednesday or Thursday for the D.P.S. affair at the Stark place which occurs next Saturday. I suggest you write me about any special covers in the sale.

Chicago Show - I think that the dates are Oct. 28-29-30th. I believe that it would pay you to attend. They put on quite a nice affair.

Ward sent me the Green Doane 30¢ 1869 cover and I made a most minute examination of it. A very interesting story.

24¢ Violet - Nothing on hand - nothing in sight.

1¢ 1851 - Unused - ditto.

3¢ 1851 reconstructed plates and a 1¢ Type IV reconstruction. If you could find a buyer for such a lot (at even a fair price) I would sure take my hat off to you. I can hardly imagine anything that would be harder to sell. As for me, I wouldn't even try.

With best wishes.

Yours etc.,

AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
COLLECTORS CLUB

COMMISSIONS EXECUTED
APPRAISALS

EZRA D. COLE RARE POSTAGE STAMPS
NYACK, N. Y. - - - Telephone Nyack 964
TELEPHONE NYACK 7-0964

September 21, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

First, with reference to the Stolow sale. The first 29 lots, of course, are the interesting ones in the sale. A number of them are not photographed, unfortunately, which is why I wanted you to see them.

Lots 5 and 6. Lot 5 is not a nice cover, but if it is all right it might be worth taking a chance at. Also lots 9, 14, 15, 16, (which is not a type IV but a type II,) 17, 20, 24, 28, and, of course, 29.

Thanks for letting me look at the photograph of the Dunsmoor folded letter. Could it be that that bison was the handstamp or mark of Gregory's agent in New York? This is just a surmise on my part and this possibly account for only part of the letters in the Price and Bennett find having this bison. It is a queer thing, isn't it, but the Price and Bennett correspondence were one and the same.

I don't know why you write the following: "Re - ink of Bison and postmark. Do you you believe that anything short of some sort of a chemical test could actually determine whether two black inks came from the same source? I don't. Do you believe that Kershner can determine such by photography - or ultra-violet or infra-red etc. etc.? I don't." - and then in our discussion of the Baltimore bisect you take the opposite side and say that it does and that you can tell the difference.

It should be just as easy to tell whether a cancellation was different in any color ink - blue, black, or red.

I wrote you about hearing in New York that Souren had cancer. I will try and get some more information if I possibly can and keep you posted.

Gordon refused to take back the Walnut Hills cover. Please keep this confidential unless Krug says something about it. I wrote him a letter yesterday.

* Another report today, same as yours - 14c is very slow I heard.

My dates for October are getting terribly crowded, especially on weekends, but if I can my way clear to get out there, I certainly will.

I know those reconstructed plates will be hard to sell, but maybe due to the interest in 1851's and the show, I can sell them.

I am returning the photographs of the Dunsmoor Gregory's letter and sometime if you make another print, I would like to have it.

I am returning Kershner's letter and examination, and they did not at all agree with yours. I am not exaggerating a bit when I say both you, the Foundation and Kershner disagree. I asked the Foundation if the cancellation had been tampered with and the only thing that they said was that they did not believe it was a bisect. I still say that the cover is just as good as gold, that the "1" in the center is just the same as all the rest of it, and that the cover has not beem tampered with. I also reserve judgement on the question as to whether or not it is a bisect. According to my dictionary, the definition of bisect is "to divide into two parts of equal size." This has not been done on this particular stamp, but the missing part is slightly larger than the part that is on the envelope. However, it certainly is a stamp which is only partly there and whether or not it is two-thirds of a stamp used as a 2¢ or a 3¢ stamp cut in half to be used as a 1¢, I don't know. At any rate, this phase of the argument is beclouding the issue, for what I am interested in is all of the different opinions as to what happened and not why or how. It is only a portion of a stamp tied on a letter and whether it was used as a 1¢, 2¢ or 3¢ stamp is beside the point until a decision is reached that it has not been tampered with. I know that nobody has touched it. I do think this:- that if the "1" had been tampered with in the postmark the Foundation would have caught it and certainly Kershner would have.

I have spent some time examining this little cancellation, and there certainly are not two shades of blue. A strike of the postmark on the yellow envelope appears a different color than the cancellation on the stamp, but this is because the envelope is yellow and the stamp is rose, and all blue postmarks show just like this. I suggest you look at it carefully, especially noting the crease in the envelope and stamp, and Kershner's photographs.

I have one observation to make and that is this:- When the stamps are submitted to Kershner, he takes good photographs, but he is inclined to think that everything that is submitted to him is bad and he tries his damndest to find something wrong, rather than to prove that it might be genuine, which is the wrong attitude. At least the least one should do is to take a neutral point of view and examine it with an open mind. It might be a good idea if you looked at it in this light, too.

Sincerely

HARMER, ROOKE & CO., INC.

PHILATELIC AUCTIONEERS

560 Fifth Avenue
NEW YORK 19, N.Y.

GORDON HARMER
PRESIDENT

AUCTIONS
APPRAISALS

CABLE ADDRESS
PHILATORS, NEW YORK

TELEPHONE
LONGACRE 3-3335

September 15, 1949

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
33 No. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Thank you for your letter of the 12. I quite agree that the whole matter is rather unfortunate and I see your point regarding advertising but I still think it better not to.

I shall mark the lot withdrawn in the list of prices realized. I think if the matter is mentioned to you it will be a simple matter for you to explain that ~~the~~ a genuine mistake was made by us and the list of prices realized will be evidence of the fact that the stamp was withdrawn.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in the matter but these things are bound to occur now and again.

With best personal wishes.

Very truly yours,

HARMER, ROOKE & CO., INC.
BY:

GH:RF

OSCAR P. NOE
20176 BRIARCLIFF ROAD
DETROIT 21, MICH.

Sept. 18, 1949

Stanley B. Ashbrook
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook — Thanks for your letter of Sept. 7 regarding Walnut Hills cover in Hamer Rooke Sale. I too noticed this, just prior to receiving your letter. Did not intend to bid on it anyway, but was pleased to receive your letter. It is such interest and watchfulness as this that keeps our great hobby on such a high level. Thanks again for your letter.

Sincerely

Oscar P. Noe

Feb. 7, 1949.

Mr. Gordon Harmer,
551 Fifth Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Gordon:

I am in receipt of yours of the 3rd with return of the 10¢ 1847 cover postmarked "Walnut Hills, O." I have returned the cover to Mr. Krug and advised him to take the matter up with Ezra Cole.

I am expecting to have some further word this week on the two collections and will advise you.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

Jan. 31, 1949.

Mr. Gordon Harmer,
% Harmer Rooke & Co.,
560 Fifth Ave.,
New York 19, N.Y.

Dear Gordon:

Regarding yours of the 28th. I requested the owner of the two collections to go over them and give me a complete description, also catalogue value, etc. He is engaged in doing this at the present time and as soon as I hear from him I will write you.

In going thru Emmerson Krug's collection recently, I spotted the enclosed cover which he purchased in your sale of Jan. 13, 1948 thru Ezra Cole as broker. You will note that this cover was sent thru error to Franklin, Tenn., where it was evidently marked "Missent & Forwarded." However, you will note that an extension of the pen line goes under the stamp indicating that the stamp did not originate on the cover. At one time, "Walnut Hills, Ohio" adjoined Cincinnati as a separate Post Office, later it was a suburb and now it is a part of Cincinnati. I have seen covers from the office in the middle fifties with copies of the 3¢ 1851 but I never saw a cover with an 1847 stamp. It was a listed post office as early as the early eighteen forties.

I put the cover under my quartz lamp and noted the pen removed lines so I had Mr. Krug submit the cover to Kershner for photographs and analysis. Herewith I enclose the Kershner report with his prints. After you have finished with them will you kindly return them to me, together with a refund check made payable to Emmerson C. Krug, that is, if you think a refund is due him.

With my kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

HARMER, ROOKE & CO., INC.

GORDON HARMER
PRESIDENT

AUCTIONS
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PHILATELIC
AUCTIONEERS

560 Fifth Avenue
NEW YORK 19, N.Y.

CABLE ADDRESS
PHILATORS, NEW YORK

TELEPHONE
LONGACRE 3-3335

Feb. 3, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

Thank your for your letter of the 31st and I note what you say regarding the two collections. I shall hope to hear further from you in due course.

In regard to the 1847 10¢ cover I return this herewith. This lot was bought by Ezra Cole and of course I cannot deal with any other person ~~rather~~ than the actual buyer. As far as we are concerned we cannot recognize Mr. Krug in the matter. However, just as important is the fact that it was sold over a year ago and we of course would be unable to obtain any refund from the owner. There is no question but that we are in error but these mistake are bound to occur now and again, although as you know we do our best to present the material in our auction sales as fairly as possible.

I suggest that Mr. Krug takes the matter up with Mr. Cole.

Very truly yours,

HARMER, ROOKE& CO., INC.

BY: Gordon Harmer

GH:mg
Enc.

Sept. 8, 1949.

Mr. Emmerson C. Krug,
% Morrison's Cafeteria,
Daytona Beach, Fla.

Dear Em:

This will confirm my two letters of yesterday forwarded to Daytona Beach - the last one in pen enclosing new check for settlement No. 5 - Also a later postal card in pen with the names of the buyers listed in No. 5.

This morning I located the letter that I wrote Harmer under date of Jan. 31, 1949, a copy of which I sent you at that time (according to memo). In that letter I enclosed the Kershner report with a request for a refund - a check payable to you.

Under date of Feb. 3rd, Gordon wrote that they could not recognize you in the matter and suggested that you take the matter up thru Cole. I sent you this letter at the time. After reading his letter, I note that he did not refuse to make a refund to you, and I believe that he would have done so had you made a demand thru Ezra at that time. No doubt you have a copy of his letter.

On your next trip home will you please send me the Kershner report.

The sale was Jan. 13, 1948 - the cover Lot 77 - the sale price $72.50.

Em, I am always very frank with you and tell you exactly what is in my mind - so here goes - I feel that if you had followed my advice and made a demand for a refund thru Ezra last February that this second incident would not have occurred. If you did not choose to do so, then the cover should have been destroyed. I might also add that Ezra should not have turned that cover over to the Harmer Rooke firm to be re-sold when he was well aware of the fact that he knew it was a rank fake.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

690 K

Sale Date_____ Lot No. 8

560 Fifth Avenue, New York 19, N. Y.

HARMER, ROOKE & CO., INC.

Cat. Nos. 2 Cat. Value 100.00

4 large margins tied red grid
red "Walnut Hills, O." & blue "Franklin, Tenn." "Transit & fwd." in vers.

Birmingham, Alabama.
Sept. 16, 1949.

Mr. Ezra D. Cole,
Nyack, N.Y.

In re Cover Lot 77- Harmer-Rooke 1/13/48- $72.50

Dear Ez,

I am sure you know about all the discussion over the above cover which is herewith enclosed.

I have read the rules about auctions, all of them, and in most all sales and know that there is a set time after which one is not supposed to have any recourse. Here however is a case from what I consider one of the top and most reliable auctioneers in New York. And here is a cover which is a rank fake to which I assume you agree.

I hate to see you or the Harmer firm lose on such a cover and hope they may be able to have recourse on who-ever sold it. Their records should show that. But I cant see why I should lose my money in such a manner even if the rules do so state.

Sure, I have signs up in my cafeterias that I will not be responsible for your hat or coat but you dont think I am going to offend you or any guest by abiding by that rule strictly, do you? That is for the chronic offender. You have bought me several thousand dollars worth of covers and this is the only questionable cover I have ever received from you or any other source.

I believe that if you explain how I feel about this to Mr. Harmer he will make an effort to refund me.

Sincerely yours,

Walnut Hills Cover.

Lot 77- H-R sale 1/13/48---- $72.50

COPY

Lot 77
Jan 13 - 1948
72 50

Raymond D. Kershner * Photographer
Photo-analysis of Questioned Documents
Scientific Examination of Postage Stamps
1311 St. Vincent Street * Philadelphia 11, Pa.

January 21st, 1949.

Emmerson C. Krug, Esq.,
3201 Sterling Road,
Birmingham 5, Alabama.

Dear Mr. Krug:

Thank you for your kind letter of January 17th.

I am returning herewith the 10¢ 1847 Walnut Hills, Ohio cover with photographs, as follows:

A - Normal photograph of entire cover, with colors of cancellations marked thereon.
B - Entire cover taken by ultra-violet technique. It will be noted in this picture the difference in fluorescent density of the two red cancellations, indicative of a difference in their chemical structure. It will also be noted that there is no indication of a former stamp having been removed from this cover.

The two enlarged photographs of the stamp area of the cover are taken by ultra-violet technique, one photograph being printed slightly lighter than the other. On these photographs the chemically removed pen cancellation is plainly evident.

Examination of the ink (?) of the stamp cancellation under the stereoscopic microscope reveals that it is not a true ink but rather a thick, heavy substance which I believe to be an artist's oil paint. There are portions on the stamp which reveal a very heavy "clumping" and thickening when viewed under the microscope. It will also be noted that when the cover is turned over and opened up that the Walnut Hill cancellation has penetrated through the fibres of the paper and is visible on the back, whereas the cancellation on the cover at the stamp does not show this penetration although supposedly applied with the same ink at the same time. By holding the cover edgewise, parallel with the eyes there is noted a decided "sheen" over the entire surface of the cover and particularly of the stamp. This indicates an ironing process which is further shown by the firm adherance of the stamp to the cover at all points. You may draw your own conclusions as to the authenticity of this cover.

In your letter you merely requested an enlarged photograph of the stamp showing the removed pen cancellation. This was an interesting cover to me hence the additional photographs taken. However, I am billing you only for the photograph which you requested. I am happy to have had the opportunity of serving you and trust you will call upon me at any time you require photographic assistance.

Sincerely,

Kershner

RDK-m

NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, THURSDAY, JULY 28, 1949

Admiral Harris Estate $75,000

Rear Admiral Frederic R. Harris, U. S. N. (retired), who died July 20, left an unestimated estate valued at more than $75,000 in trust for his daughter and his former wife in his will filed for probate yesterday in Surrogates Court. He bequeathed his daughter, Mrs. Florence B. Downs, of 420 Park Avenue, a life interest in two-thirds of the residuary estate. He bequeathed the income from the remaining third to his former wife, Mrs. Florence Russell Bennet, of Washington. In addition he left $50,000 to Dorothy H. Taylor, of 130 East Fifty-seventh Street, "in appreciation of her loyalty and help since the death of my wife and making available to me her time and services as a companion and chauffeur."

Admiral Frederic Harris Dies; Designed Big Floating Drydock

Retired in 1927; Opened Engineering Office Here; Active in Civic Affairs

Rear Admiral Frederic R. Harris, U. S. N. (retired), designer of the world's largest steel sectional floating drydocks capable of lifting 100,000 tons, who lived at 420 Park Avenue, died here yesterday after a brief illness. He was seventy-four.

Admiral Harris was commissioned in the United States Navy from civil life in 1903 after he had become prominent as a civil engineer. He was promoted through the grades and Jan. 17, 1916, was named by President Woodrow Wilson to be chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks of the Navy with the temporary rank of rear admiral. This rank was made permanent in August that year.

After his retirement in February, 1927, Admiral Harris became active in various civic and better-government movements in New York City and engaged in private consulting engineering practice, with offices at 27 William Street. His clients included the British Admiralty, the Port of New York Authority, and the Peruvian government.

His Docks Followed Fleet

During World War II the huge floating dry docks which he designed were of inestimable value to the Navy in the Pacific because of their ability to follow the fleet. Two years ago, with two other special consultants, O. J. Porter and William Mueser, Admiral Harris supervised a series of tests that worked out a way to control and finaly halt the gradual sinking of LaGuardia Field into Flushing Bay.

In 1947 Admiral Harris also was appointed to a special engineering board organized for the purpose of advising the Port of New York Authority in formulating its proposals to modernize and operate efficiently the city's antiquated waterfront facilities.

Admiral Harris was for a considerable period president of the Republican Business Men's League and in 1929 was one of the chief supporters of the late Fiorello H. LaGuardia in his unsuccessful mayoralty campaign against Mayor James J. Walker. But Mayor John P. O'Brien, a Democrat, appointed Admiral Harris in 1933 to be his technical advisor on the public works program and city relief administration.

Helped Welcome Balbo

In 1933 Admiral Harris also served as chairman of the city committee which welcomed Air Marshal Italo Balbo, leader of the Rome-to-Chicago flight of twenty-four Italian seaplanes, when he landed here.

Admiral Harris's hobby was philately and he won numerous medals at stamp exhibitions for the excellence of his exhibits. His collection of Ceylon stamp issues, which was his specialty, contained some of the finest known copies of early issues from that island.

Rear Admiral Frederic R. Harris

Between 1903 when he first entered the Navy and 1915, Admiral Harris served in a variety of engineering and construction positions, including one tour of special duty from the office of the Secretary of the Navy at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. In his later capacity of chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, he had charge of all Navy public works before and during the first part of World War I, both in the United States and abroad, and for his work received the Navy Cross.

.. Stevens Institute Graduate ..

Admiral Harris was born in New York and was graduated in 1896 from Stevens Institute of Technology. In 1921 he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Engineering from Stevens.

He was a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, the Naval Institute, the Society of American Military Engineers, the New York State Society of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, the American Legion, and the following clubs: Army and Navy; University, of Washington; Union League; Collectors; City; Midday; National Sojourners, and Orient Lodge 289, F. & A. M., of Philadelphia.

Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Haris Downs, and a granddaughter, Miss Florence Roberta Harris Downs. His wife, Mrs. Dena Spery Harris, died in 1945. A funeral service will be held at at 10:30 a. m. Saturday at Brick Presbyterian Church, 1140 Park Avenue. Burial will be at 2 p. m. Monday in the National Cemetery, Arlington, Va.

confidential. He has now agreed to comply.

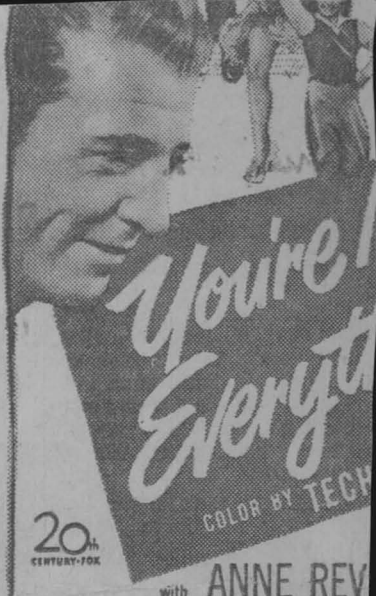
Worker Hurt by Novice Driver

Michael Wren, forty, of 582 Fifth Street, Brooklyn, an employee of the New York Telephone Company, suffered serious back injuries yesterday afternoon when he was struck by an automobile while at work on a cable in Albe-

E LOVE!
urry! 4th and
Kat CAPITOL!
ce his return
creen!"
l-American.
ry inch
Tribune.

In Person
HAL McINTYRE and HIS ORCH. · BERT WHEELER with SID SLATE
HAL E ROY · THELMA CARPENTER
BOB DUPONT

ONDITIONED
APITOL
of 51st Street · DOORS OPEN 10 A. M.



Youre Everyt
COLOR BY TECH
20th CENTURY-FOX
with ANNE REV
Stanley Ridges · Shari Robinson · Henry
Selena Royle · Alan Mowbray · Robert
Directed by WALTER LANG · Produced by LAMAR
Screen Play by Lamar Trotti and Will H. Hays, Jr. · Based on a Story by George Jessel

On the WONDER Stage
A gala new variety revue starring the famous radio and recording personality BOB CROSBY
head man of CBS' "Club 15" singing with eye-and-ear appealing songstress VIRGINIA MAXEY and the delightful juggling satirist BILLY RAYES ...for Terpsichorean magic there is a light-as-a-feather grace of musical comedy dancer JOHNNY MACK with the gay-lavanting of the GAE FOSTER ROXY-ETTES & ESCORTS and as an *EXTRA ADDED ATTRACTION* your favorite new laughmaker SID STONE Comedy Pitchman of Milton Berle's WNBT Television Show.

COOL!
Last Times Today! "HOUSE OF STRA
HERB SHRINER · Plus BIG ICE

Paramount presents
ALAN LADD · BETTY FIELD
MACDONALD CAREY · RUTH HUSSEY
BARRY SULLIVAN · HOWARD DA SILVA
in "The GREAT Gatsby"
TO 1 P.M. 55¢ (Tax Included) Except Sat., Sun. & Hol's.
COOL PARAMOUNT
TIMES SQUARE · Midnight Feature

'Home of the Brave'
LAST 2 WEEKS!
DOORS OPEN 9:45 AM
air-conditioned Victoria B'way & 46th St.
Continuous Performances GATE SHOWS NIGHTLY

ART 18th ST. nr 5th AVE. GR 3-7014
CLIFTON WEBB in Mr. Belvedere Goes To College

Normandie Park Ave. at 53d St. Air-Conditioned
JUNE ALLYSON · PETER LAWFORD
ELIZABETH TAYLOR · JANET LEIGH
'LITTLE WOMEN'
TECHNICOLOR
FEATURE AT 12:10 2:35 5:00 7:20 9:50

GRAMERCY PARK Cinema, 23 St. and Lex. Ave. GR 5-1660
DAVID FARRAR ★ MARCUS GORING
Stars of "Red Shoes" and "Black Narcissus"
"MR. PERRIN and MR. TRAILL"
JAMES MASON "A PLACE OF ONE'S OWN"

xxxxxxxxxxxx 33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,

Sept. 17, 1946.

Mr. Gordon Harmer,
% Scott Publications, Inc.,
1 West 47th St.,
New York 19, N.Y.

Dear Gordon:

Re - yours of the 6th in reference to

Confederate States

#209

Double Transfer
#74 on plate (100 subjects)

I have a record of seven copies of this position, six of which were used and one unused but without gum.

In my opinion this variety could be fairly quoted at about 25% above the figures for the normal varieties used and unused.

Sincerely yours,

SCOTT PUBLICATIONS, Inc.

POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUES
ALBUMS AND BOOKS

One West Forty-seventh Street
New York 19, N. Y.

HUGH M. CLARK, . . . President
THERESA M. CLARK, Vice President
ARTHUR C. ZIMMERMANN, Treasurer

September 6, 1946

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Supplementing my letter of September 5th and with regard to Confederate States stamp #209 with double transfer #74 on plate, would you kindly tell me whether this exists used, unused or both and also can you give me some indication as to what you consider a fair price for same.

I hope to be able to get this information into the new Specialized Catalogue.

Kind regards.

SCOTT PUBLICATIONS, Inc.

Gordon R. Harmer

GORDON R. HARMER

GRH:JK

SCOTT PUBLICATIONS, Inc.

POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUES
ALBUMS AND BOOKS

One West Forty-seventh Street
New York 19, N. Y.

HUGH M. CLARK, . . . President
THERESA M. CLARK, Vice President
ARTHUR C. ZIMMERMANN, Treasurer

September 5, 1946

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stanley:

Thank you very much for your letter of August 28th and the notes for the new edition of the Specialized. We are fairly well along with the Specialized Catalogue but I hope we will be able to consider your recommendations for same.

Certainly hope that you will send me all the data you possibly can as I assure you it is wanted and will always have my careful attention.

With kindest regards, I remain

Very truly yours,

SCOTT PUBLICATIONS, Inc.

GORDON R. HARMER

GRH:JK

xxxxxxxxxx 33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.

June 8, 1946.

Mr. Harold W. Carhart,
% Carlisle & Jacquelin,
120 Broadway,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Harold:

I am wondering if you can give me some assistance on a bit of important research work that I am working on? If at all possible, I am very anxious to locate a cover that was in the First Knapp Sale, same being Lot #2844. I am enclosing herewith copy of a letter that I wrote Souren under date of May 27th, also copy of the reply that I received. This was certainly a nice little brush-off and I am wondering if the busy Mr. Souren ever saw my letter.

Can you help me out? Can you obtain for me a photograph of the cover or better still can you find out who bought the cover so that I can make an effort to borrow it?

Harold I do not suppose that you are doing a thing in stamps these days but nevertheless I would like to hear from you from time to time. If you ever decide to part with any part of your collection I would greatly appreciate if you would give me the opportunity of placing some of it for you.

With every good wish, I am

Cordially yours,

COPY

Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

May 27, 1946.

Mr. Y. Souren,
Park Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Souren:

Regarding Lot #2844 in the First Knapp Sale, I would like very much to obtain a photograph of this cover as it contains the earliest known use of the 24¢ 1861 Red Lilac. Can you supply same to me?

I do wish I had a copy of the letter with the reference to Confederate mail going to Europe, etc. By any chance, have you got a copy of the letter? I sure would like to see it. If not, and if you have a record of who purchased this cover do you suppose that you could arrange to borrow it for me? I do hate to put you to all this trouble but I am doing a bit of important research work and I am sure that this cover would be of tremendous assistance.

With my best wishes -

Cordially yours,

(signed) Stanley B. Ashbrook.

COPY

Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

May 27, 1946.

Mr. Y. Souren,
Park Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

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With my best wishes -

Cordially yours,

(signed) Stanley B. Ashbrook.

(Copy)

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
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Fort Thomas, Ky.

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With my best wishes -

Cordially yours,
STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

PHONE PLAZA 3-6077

Y. SOUREN

POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS
394 PARK AVENUE
BET. 53RD AND 54TH STS.
NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

May 29th, 1946

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I am in receipt of yours of recent date, and wish to inform you that Mr. Souren is away and is not expected back in town until the early part of September.

Very truly yours,

R. Kissel sec'y.

rk

COPY

Y. Souren
394 Park Ave.,
New York 22, N.Y.

May 29th, 1946.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I am in receipt of yours of recent date, and wish to inform you that Mr. Souren is away and is not expected back in town until the early part of September.

Very truly yours,

(signed) R.Kissel sec'y

COPY

Y. Souren
394 Park Ave.,
New York 22, N.Y.

May 29th, 1946.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

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Very truly yours,

(signed) R.Kissel sec'y

The U. S. Grant

SAN DIEGO'S WORLD FAMED HOTEL

SAN DIEGO 12, CALIFORNIA

S.B. Ashbrook

Dear Sir

I have read your many articles in "Stamps" Have no good collection. or covers. but like to read stamps articles. I. am a resident of Chicago. visiting here.

The point is this. The public library has many books on Calif. As a matter of curiosity have looked thru some to see if I could find anything of philatelic value. However, very little.

Here are a few (You may have knowledge of these)

One book Sixty years in Calif 1853-1913. Newmark

3¢ envelopes were imprinted, Wells Fargo. Name and sold for 10¢. Their service was 1 and 2 hours faster than the post.

Spring of 1860 notable for introduction of Pony Express (Los Angeles not a terminal.

Wells Fargo. were early in the field On March 28, 1854 they advertised thru their agent H. R. Myers. they were a joint stock. co. capital $500,000.00

4

I believe, the fastest time the Pony Express ever made was in march 1861 when Pres Lincolns message was brought here in 7 days, 17 hours."

Ft Smith in 12 days

End of April. London. and Liverpool mail reached Los Angeles 20 to 21 days

The Washington Postal Authorities began issuing stamped envelopes of 12¢ and 24¢ values for business men. who were likely to use the recently developed Pony Express

Last contract for carrying Overland mail expired Oct 1- 1868

California admitted to the Union 1850

6 weeks before news reached here from Washington

In 1870 the Los angeles Post office for a considerable length of time, was out of 1¢ and 2¢ stamps

(May account for higher values on cover of the period)

Anathe book "6 Horse Team"

about Butterfield. Wells Fargo. Pony Express

This book shows 2 Wells Fargo Covers. 1860 and 1861 period

1- 1860 (?) Stampless Wells Fargo
Oval stamp. Notation on envelope
" Election news. Lincoln elected Nov. 8

2- 1861- addressed to Sacramento
10¢ Ten cent stamped envelope
Twice on top. and side Paid 5th May 13
Dated Washington May 8. recd
at Sacramento May 2?. not clear.
at 11½ o'clock. a.m. (This is
a notation evidently written on
envelope. after receipt)
Complaint. "We received by Overland
Mail July 3 - a letter postmarked
at Phila Feb. 17. 1866. 4 months and ½
for Halliday to transmit a letter"

1st Pony Express Maj Ger. Carpenning
in 1858 Pres. Buchanan's message
to Sacramento. from Washington
in 17 days

Rates 50¢ 1/2 ounce
Later reduced to 1.50
and finally 1.00

Pony
& Express
discontinued
Oct. 7. 1861

2 Books state this
"By mid summer of 1851 - there
were but 34 post offices in the entire state"

For 6 weeks during the winter of 1852-3
Los Angeles received no mail

The post office in San Francisco
was moved to a new building in 1852

A line a block long stood in front of
Gen. Del window for letters. There was
much bitterness when parties received
no letters. They were told "Call again"

A steamer brought in on the average
60,000 letters, and left with 50,000.

One book publishes
Table of Distances. Great Southern
Overland Mail

From Post masters Generals Report
1858.

BARCELONA HOTEL and Apartments
JUNIPER STREET
3RD TO 4TH AVENUES
SAN DIEGO
CALIFORNIA

This one might be of value

" often found"
on a single envelope
25 - $1 Pony stamps, and an
equal number of government stamps
amounting to 27 $ total postage"

There was much bitterness and
Complaints and pressure on
Washington to better mail service
to the coast at that period.

It appears to your writer
the 1869 rein was reined for the
Completion of the railroad to the coast

Yours truly
S. Hyman
Barcelona Apts
San Diego Calif

Major Geo Copenning

1st Pony Express

Fully equipped.

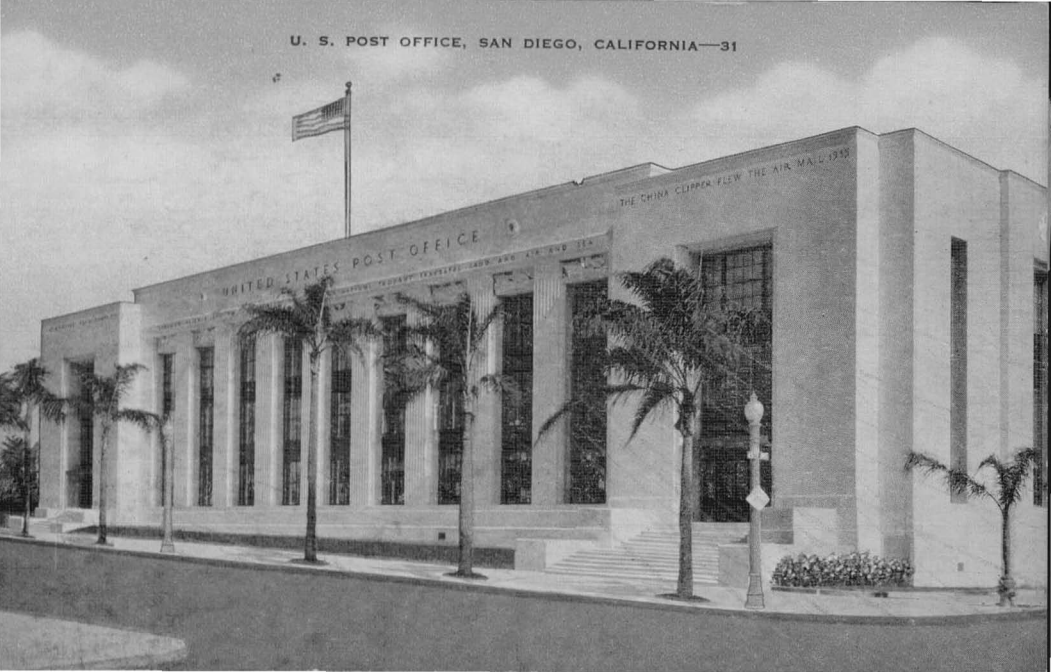
190 stations.

400 stationmen.

80 riders.

Salaries from $100 to $125 a month

U. S. POST OFFICE, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA—31



Along with many other modern business structures, the U. S. Post Office at San Diego is one of the most up-to-date and efficient buildings of the city. Through its network of post offices, San Diego County serves the most densely populated section by daily carrier service and the more remote rural sections through long-established daily rural free delivery.

San Diego
has a few old
Little brown. 600 or
more years old (rusty)
Hitching posts in
front of Library (1900)
across from P.O

— Published by Hopkins News Agency, San Diego, Calif. —
A "Kropp Natural Color Card" made in Milwaukee, Wis. - FHY

14897

POST CARD

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

San Diego Union July 16/49

J. F. Smith, whose grandfather raised the first American flag in California, drives a fringed-top surrey in the cavalcade from the Old Town Presidio to Mission San Diego de Alcala to mark the 180th anniversary of the mission's founding. With him in the front seat is Mrs. Smith, and in the back seat, nearly hidden from the camera, is Mrs. Emily Cazarie. Behind them are 150 costumed horsemen.

AT HARRINGTON'S . . .

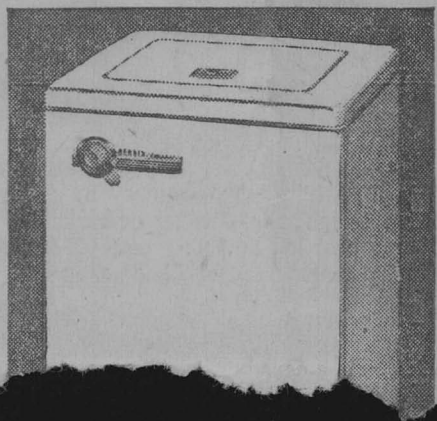
an Agitator Automatic

BENDIX for only $179.95

extra easy terms

Yes—it's true!

Made of a war-developed flexible substance, **it's guaranteed five years.** Expensive parts are eliminated. The Bendix Economat is the first completely automatic washer **every** family can afford.



BARCELONA HOTEL and Apartments
JUNIPER STREET
3RD TO 4TH AVENUES
SAN DIEGO
CALIFORNIA

Stanley B Ashbrook July 30

Ft Thomas. Ky.

I have written the same letter, to Alonzo Hisaply in substance, he was aware of the facts quoted, except the item about 3 envelopes stamped 10 ¢.

He says P.O records do not ~~verify~~ verify this

No doubt the Public Library in New York and Chicago have better books on Calif.

Another book shows a Bowers Ex. Oval San Francisco post marks 4 or 5 ships rate. (stamples) to Windsor Vt.

Another Keokuk Iowa Paid 6 ¢ Brown Express #1 stenciled to Stockton Calif

1 Keokuk Iowa Aug 15 - 1852 post mark (stamples) This may be wrong the 5 in 1852 is ~~indistinct~~

NEAR THE ENTRANCE TO FAMED BALBOA PARK

I have noticed in a copy. I believe
of Southern Philatelist. I believe
about a year ago. you showed a ~~cut~~
Cover you have a Fort Dodge. Iowa
One. with the name Burkholder
Lived. at Ft Dodge for 17 years
before coming to Chicago.

There was an old Indian fort there
in the early days. (Scott show this
post mark) I have never seen any
Covers. ~~or card~~ knew any one. who
cared till you about this fort.

The Wabash school stands
on the site to day

Burkholder. I presume a
descendant, was a mail carrier
there who had a part of the
Lincoln and residential stock on
on his route (~~Ice~~

The Post master in Los Angeles
in 1866. had a boy for an assistant.
Their combined salaries were $1400.00 in greenbacks

The Des Moines Register and Leader
Sunday July 16 issued a special
edition two years in Iowa 1849-1949
Have seen the issue
There is not one thing in the issue
of a philatelic value
In 1853 railroad reached Peila Iowa
You took a stage coach the rest
of the way to Fort Des Moines
There is a quarterly issued by
the University of Iowa. Iowa City Ia
about early Iowa doings
One issue gave a few dates
on the establishment of Iowa P.O.'s in
Eastern Iowa

The only important thing is
the one where 1¢ and 2¢ stamps in 1870
were out in Los Angeles for some time
This shortage might have occurred
in other post offices at that time in
the U. S. and may account
why more postage appears on covers.
As I was born in Des Moines
I would like to see an article in
"Stamps" on early Iowa postal
history. This Des Moines paper
shows a church in Dubuque 1834
I may add I am connected
with Hirshhorn Schw. Co. Chicago
I believe, we sell Eckerman
in Newport: when I was a kid
have handled Donaldson Litho
Co. stuff. Yours truly
S. Hyman

San
Diego Calif

Barcelona Apts

Aug. 16, 1949.

Mr. S. Hyman,
% Barcelona Apts.,
326 Juniper St.,
San Diego 1, Calif.

Dear Mr. Hyman:

On my return Home after a short vacation I found your letter of July 30th.

You are mistaken about an article by me in "The Southern Philatelist" as I do not recall that I ever published any articles in such a publication. Further I have no recollection of writing anything about a "Fort Dodge" cover. Perhaps you read one of the Carroll Chase articles in the "American Philatelist" on "Territorials."

Yes, Eilermans have stores in both Northern Kentucky towns of Newport and Covington. I was born and reared in the latter. The old Donaldson Litho. Co. of Newport was absorbed years ago by a consolidation and the plant was moved to Erie, Pa., as I recall.

Again may I thank you for your kind letters. Here is a photo from my files.

Sincerely yours,

J. Hyman
BARCELONA HOTEL
AND APARTMENTS
326 JUNIPER STREET
SAN DIEGO 1, CALIFORNIA

Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. 7th Thomas Ave
7th Thomas Ky

SEE AMERICA FIRST

BARCELONA HOTEL

SAN DIEGO CALIFORNIA

DR. H. A. MINOR'S ACCOUNT OF GEN. LEE'S SURRENDER AT APPOMATTOX

At Appomattox Court House, Va.

Some Reminiscences of a Surgeon of Mahone's Division

I was the surgeon of the 9th regiment, Alabama volunteers, Forney's (Wicox's old) brigade. Mahone's (R. H. Anderson's old) division, consisted of five brigades, one each from Virginia, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Mississippi, A. P. Hill's corps, army of northern Virginia.

Early in the morning of the 9th of April, 1865, we were halted in an old field about a mile from Appomattox courthouse, faced to the right, marched in line about 100 yards, halted, stood at ease, Soon afterwards Fields' division came up, were halted, faced to the left, marched 100 yards, halted, stood at ease. We had heard much of "the last ditch". Here it was.

These two divisions contained more than half of the organized troops that Gen. Lee then had This was the 9th day from the evacuation of Petersburg. During these nine days, we had had three days' ration. All our baggage, wagons, ambulances, surgical instruments, supplies and artillery, etc., had been captured. As we had marched the booming of cannons, the rattle of musketry had accompanied us; behind, on either side, and before us. But we had kept our alignment—half naked, hungry and weary—but stern and steady, the men marched. Up to this time we knew nothing of what was in our front—had not thought of surrender.

After an hour or two, I saw coming from the court house a cavalcade, two officers in front, one wearing the grey, the other the blue; about twenty men behind them, one-half blue, one half grey. As they came up, I recognized Col. Fairfax of Gen. Longstreet's staff. Stepping into the road, I asked, "Colonel, what means this?" His answer was, "Gen. Lee has surrendered to Gen. Grant." I was shocked beyond expression. The men of our regiment called to me from the line to come to them at once, to tell them what had occurred. I hurried to them and told them the news. No word can express the scene that followed; they had not thought of surrender, but they stood in line. After a while they were allowed to stack arms, but were ordered to remain near the line. A like scene occurred in Field's division across the road. We camped there until we started home. We were not allowed to wander about. There were no other troops in sight except mounted Federal videttes all around us, about a mile away. They all kept in perfect order. A Federal battery did begin to fire half-minute guns, but after a few minutes these stopped. Now and then a squad of Federals went by us, but always on duty with no stops. As they passed us they saluted us respectfully and wondered at the very small number of our men, no evidence of a disposition to crow over us.

Altogether, we remained in this "bull-pen" four days, the Federal indulged in no boasts, nor firing of guns, no cheers that we heard. Never in all history was a captured army treated with so much respect. We were half starved; too faint and weary, we were given one day's short rations while there, the Federals stating that they themselves had very little food.

Those reminiscences that I wish to lay stress upon are the manner in which the Federals received the surrender of our arms and their expressions of admiration. I will now tell of how our (Mahone's division) surrendered. I suppose all the rest of our troops were treated in the same manner.

On the 10th inst. we were marched a mile or more, then came in sight of the United States army, which we then saw for the first time at this place In front of us was a field with two ridges or hills running parallel about one-half of a mile apart. A cross ridge connected them, making three sides of a parallelogram, with the end next to us open. On the three sides of this were standing a large Federal army; many thousands, all armed and in serried ranks, with arms "at shoulder", flags flying, officers in their places. It was a grand sight. No cheering, no orders audible to us. Perfect silence.

We entered the open end of this parallelogram half-way between the two lines. Oh, the heart-breaking ordeal for us. Every officer alert, arms to "right", shoulder shift", flags flying. Oh, the poor fellows. I cannot keep from shedding tears, now forty-nine years after. Ragged, dirty, unkempt, many barefooted, many coatless, some hatless, eyes swollen. Oh, so hungry and so weary.

Yet as they entered this place, where they were to be disarmed and turned loose moneyless, to find their way back to their homes in the various southern states, where mothers, wives and children were so poor, so helpless, where houses had been burned and farm animals had died or been carried off, these poor fellows dropped their route step and fell into parade step, threw back their shoulders, raised their drooping heads and looked at the brave array of blue on both sides and in front of them. Oh, how proud of them was I—were all of us, for we were all well-nigh alike in clothing and other essentials.

When General Mahone had progressed so far that the rear of his division was within the parallelogram, he halted his men and faced them to the left, ordered them to close up, then ordered them to stack arms. The reader must know that on such occasions it is usual to have the men to "ground arms", that is to lay them down on the ground. But here we had no such humiliation. We stacked arms "on the color line" then hung our colors on the center stack; then fell back in line. We looked at our guns; then with eyes blinded with tears, we looked for the last time at the colors. The old ragged rags that had been flags! Ragged? Yes, ragged from shell and shot. In place of the original staffs were sticks—makeshifts, for the staffs had been shot off. There we stood!

What of the Federals? Gen. Grant and his men treated us nobly—more nobly than was ever a conquered army treated before or since. The conduct of the Federals on this occasion was soothing and comforting beyond anything that words can express. As the head of the column entered this paralleogram every flag in that great Federal army came to and was held at salute. Every officer's sword was drawn and held in salute, and every man who carried a gun brought and held it at salute, so long as we remained there.

We looked in amazement. The army that we had been fighting so long, that we were now surrendering to, had suddenly overwhelmed us with kindly courtesy and high appreciation of our soldierly qualities. They stood thus until our forces had passed out of the parallelogram. It is almost impossible to estimate the comfort and relief this treatment gave us. It relaxed the tension of our nerves. We went back to camp, if that old field barren of tents, blankets, food, horses, or wagons, could properly be called a camp. On the evening of the third day we got our paroles. Next morning, lo! there was no army there. No Federals! No Confederates!

On the second day before we had surrendered our arms, we saw coming toward us, as we were jumping about our camp, two horsemen. Soon we knew that the foremost one was our dear old Gen. Lee, with no escort save one orderly. He was riding the old grey thoroughbred, "Traveler". As he came up we strung ourselves along both sides of the road. He lifted his hat and kept it up in his usual salute. His eyes were swollen; he looked, oh, so aged and sad. He did not speak. We stood with heads bare and streaming eyes. He passed on until out of sight. We never saw him again. We had received his last order. (Order No. 9), thanking us, praising us, loving us and bidding us go to our homes, rebuild them and make good and loyal citizens of the United States. We had submitted our cause to the arbitration of the sword; the game had been played; we had lost.

Dear old general! He was the greatest of the great in his prosperity, and adversity and defeat displayed the very highest and noblest characteristics of his Christian manhood.

The next day we remained in the "bull pen" awaiting our paroles. About night we (myself, my brother and a friend), got our paroles and our last order from Gen. Lee, his farewell to his soldiers, No. 9.

Neither of us had a cent of money, no horse. My horse had some time before become disabled. It was between 800 and 900 miles to my home in Macon, Noxubee county, Mississippi. We were weak from want of food. We had no baggage. We prayed for help and guidance to Him who is able to help and we started home.

H. A. MINOR, M. D.
Ex-Confederate Surgeon, Army of Northern Va.

P. S. I have been practicing my profession, Macon, Miss., since May, 1859; joined Confederate army April 30, 1861, as private in Co. F. 11th Regiment, Miss. Volunteers.

CONFEDERATE STAMP ALLIANCE
T. W. CRIGLER, JR., Secretary-Treasurer
MACON, MISSISSIPPI

LOUIS F. YECKEL
6543 WALSH STREET
ST. LOUIS 9, MO.

July 18, 1949.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky.

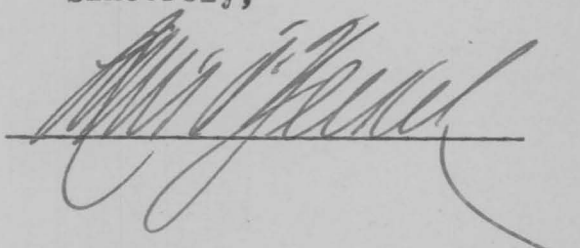
Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thanks for your letter of July 14th.

In my letter of July 1st relative to Blacks & Whites, I mentioned that Nottoway County was formed in 1888. This was the information I had received but I felt that it was an error in view of the fact that if Blacks & Whites was in Nottoway County, Virginia, and was known as that until 1885, it could hardly have been formed in 1888, and I checked into this further and am informed that Nottoway County was formed in 1788 and not 1888, so in order that the information you have in your file is correct, I am sending you this letter and you can change your records accordingly.

Always glad to hear from you.

Sincerely,



V-LFY:MEB.

Prescott Holden Thorp Wins Crawford Medal

THE Crawford Medal, named in honor of the Earl of Crawford, and presented by the Royal Philatelic Society, London, to the author of a work of outstanding merit, has been awarded this year to Prescott Holden Thorp for his "Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers of the United States and Possessions"—commonly known as the *Thorp-Bartels Catalogue.*

The medal, one of the outstanding awards of philately, is usually made annually on a world wide basis without reference to country or nationality, but has been withheld since 1938 due to the war. It was last won by Max G. Johl for his *United States Stamps of the 20th Century.* Previous Americans to win the coveted medal were Stanley Ashbrook (1937) for *The United States One Cent Stamp of* 1851-57; Dr. Carroll Chase (1930) for *The Three Cents Stamps of the United States* 1851-57; Fred Jarrett for his book on Canada, and to Charles Lathrop Pack for his *Half Length Portrait of the Twopence Queen Enthroned.*

—H. L. LINDQUIST.

USED STAMPS

March 9, 1946 Stamps

Commemoratives, etc., comprise our latest selections of "USED SPECIALS." They

were included seven complete sheets of Canadian proofs overprinted "Specimen," Harmer, Rooke & Co., 560 Fifth Ave., New York, realized some sensational prices, on February 19, 1946.

The sale attracted Canadian dealers and specialists from several distant points, and we noted among the audience J. N. Sissons and Leslie A. Davenport of Toronto.

The high spots of the sale were the already mentioned complete Canada sheets overprinted "Specimen," printed from the original plates. It is believed that this was the first time complete sheets have ever been offered at auction. Lot ♯38 6p violet right pane of 100 overprinted "Specimen" in deep red realized $1,000, lot ♯40 6p purple left pane of 100 overprinted "Specimen" margin and "American Bank Note Co. Ottawa" at bottom, a very rare and unlisted item, realized $130.

The Canadian postage issues started with the 1851 on laid paper. A vertical top margin strip of 3 ($1) tied on piece sold for $80 ($75), a very fine and desirable copy of the 6p violet ($2) realized $77.50 ($50), another very fine copy showing next stamp at left $57.50. A very fine and rare vertical pair of the 3p red on ribbed paper tied on front of let-

W.S.C. 11/27 45

Boggs Awarded Crawford Medal

Word has been received that the Royal Philatelic society, London, has awarded the Crawford Medal to Winthrop S. Boggs for his two-volume work on the stamps of Canada. This medal was established in 1914, but presentation was not begun until 1920 owing to the first world war. The medal is awarded for " . . . the most valuable and original contribution to the study and knowledge of Philately published during the two years preceding the date of the award. Such contribution may consist of:

(a) a book, article or series of articles on the stamps of a country, or a single stamp.

(b) a book, article or series of articles on any subject of philatelic interest.

This medal is open to world-wide competition, and shall be awarded annually, if in the opinion of the Council there has been during such period of two years any contribution which merits such recognition."

The medal has been awarded to only five other Americans:

Charles Lathrop Pack
Dr. Carroll Chase
Stanley B. Ashbrook
Max G. Johl
Prescott H. Thorp

It has also been awarded to such internationally famous philatelists as Dr. Herbert Munk, Dr. Emilio Diena. Among the British philatelists who have received it have been Sir Edward Bacon, F. J. Peplow and A. M Tracy Woodward.

Mr. Boggs is director of The Philatelic Foundation and secretary of its expert committee, a member of the Royal Philatelic society, London, the Collectors club, New York, The American Philatelic society, and a life member of the Association for Stamp Exhibitions.

of cover, which is permissibl

Hungarian S
Their Backg

By MARIAN CARNE Z

(Continued from Jan. 24 Issue)

No. 511-524

TYPE: A59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66

ISSUED: January 1, 1938

PROCESS: Photogravure

PAPER: Watermarked double cross on pyramid

PERF.: 12

PURPOSE: To commemorate the 900th anniversary of the death of St. Stephen

DESIGNER: Sandor Legrady

PICTURE: (A59) Pope Sylvester II and Abbot Astrik, receiving the crown
(A60) St. Stephen
(A61) St. Stephen seated on the throne
(A62) Saints Gerhardt, Emerich and Stephen teaching St. Emeric in the presence of his father
(A63) St. Stephen offering the Holy crown to the Virgin Mary, or the founding of the Hungarian Church
(64) St. Stephen as King Stephen I
(A65) Madonna, Patroness of Hungary
(A66) The Crown of St. Stephen

HISTORY: Pope Sylvester II was Pope from 999 to 1003; he introduced the use of Arabic figures into western Europe. Stephen, born 975, died 1038, became King of Hungary in 997; in order to make Hungary a Christian nation and to establish himself as a ruler, he sent Abbot Astricus to Rome to petition Pope Sylvester II for royal dignity and for power to establish episcopal sees. Sylvester acceded to Stephen's wishes, recognizing the Magyar [illegible] endowing the

Sloane's COLUMN

A weekly column conducted by George B. Sloane, 116 Nassau Street, New York 7, N. Y. recognized philatelic expert and authority.

"Baldwin's South La. Express"

After the Civil War ended, postal service in many of the Southern States was completely disorganized and in some areas it was non-existent. The Federal government was unable to restore postal facilities immediately and for a while various express companies took over and provided a limited service. Some of these companies had contracts and remained in the mail service until the U. S. Post Office Department gradually replaced them and furnished a normal, functioning postal system. Some companies, notably the Southern Express Co., were still handling mail in Dixie as late as 1870.

The item illustrated appears on a letter carried by one of these express companies, May 4, 1866, with a U. S. 3c 1861 stamp, the envelope addressed to St. Martinville, in St. Martin parish, Louisiana. Its point of origin is unknown.

The cancellation reads, "Baldwin's South. La. Express, M. R. 8154," in black. The "M. R." is for "Mail Route." Mail Route 8154, I am informed through the courtesy of Elliott Perry, was established in the latter part of 1865, and discontinued late in 1866, or possibly early in 1867. It covered the territory from New Orleans to Brashear, a distance of 82 miles on the New Orleans, Opelousas and Great Western Railroad. Baldwin's Southern Louisiana Express obviously held the mail contract. Little else seems known regarding Baldwin's Express and all sources of express information I have at hand fail to mention him. However, he seems to have left some impress in the district for I find a town named Baldwin, in the parish of St. Mary, in the lower part of Louisiana, in the heart of the section served by his express in a time of emergency in the days following the cessation of hostilities.

TION

S COLLECTION

cl. Covers, Special Delivery, Officials,

FOREIGN

Commemoratives of the World

ES & COLLECTIONS

Catalog Free

fth Ave., New York 17, N. Y.

nd Harry Weiss shouting at the

IDLAND 'TWO CENTS' SOME AWAY. DO IT T REGRET IT."

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EETS IN VERY FINE TO SUPERB CONDITION.

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of getting the VERY BEST IN STOCK picked

A REASONABLE PRICE.

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sheet, $8; matched sheets, $15; single, 30c;

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s and a "house organ" is the best means.
discuss: housing, our expected family member,
from a correspondent living but a few hundred
n 3 hrs. after they were on sale! storing blocks

POSTAL MARKINGS

Harry M. Konwiser

Address correspondence to H. M. Konwiser, c/o STAMPS, 2 W. 46th St., New York 19.

Recording Money Mail

Harold C. Brooks, of Marshall, Mich., well-known collector, turns in three post office receipts, dated and signed by the Postmaster at Marshall, Mich., in the 1839-40 period. These receipts raise the interesting question as to whether these things preceded the "regular registry system." The first of the receipts is as follows:

"I hereby certify that Messrs. Gorham & Brewer have this day forwarded, by mail, fifty dollars to the address of Messrs. Wilson Butter & Baldwin New York fifty dollars by mail. Marshall, April 13, 1840. Chs. D. Smith, P.M."

Another similar handwritten receipt, same addressee, same sum, dated Nov. 14, 1839, is signed by the Marshall Postmaster.

The third receipt, same addressee, as sent to Messrs. Sturges Roe & Barker, New York contained a certificate of deposit drawn by the Saratoga County Bank for $250 was receipted on Nov. 12, 1839, signed by the Postmaster at Marshall, Mich.

Does this indicate there was a "form of registry" before the regular, the authorized registry created by the Act of March 3, 1855?

Those of us who have read a few comments on the P. O. operations of the 1839-40 period, know the system was not operating to any stressed degree of efficiency. There were complaints by business men, especially; and it was not long before the independent posts came into operation and carried more business mail, in some sections where they operated, than the U. S. P. O. system. Readers are referred to the annual reports of the Post Office, likewise to the Congressional and other public discussions on Private Mail Routes. Some of these have been noted in these columns and elsewhere.

Getting back to the Marshall receipts, all three are in long hand, obviously written by the senders of the money, and all three bear the signature of the Postmaster. (These are nice adjuncts to the writer's collection of P. O. Letters and Documents, due to the thoughtfulness of Harold Brooks.)

In the 1839-40 period postmasters were required to Keep Accounts of Letters Received and Sent. These blank forms had lines and columns for Paid, Unpaid, Ship, Free, Way and other types of mail. These forms were filled in daily at the larger offices and in due time reached the "head office" as expected.

A general check-up on the P. O. Laws and Regulations of the period, appear not to make any mention of "registering"

OVER

single items. Reference has been made to the fact the postmasters were asked to *keep a register of mail,* but this seems to have referred to the bags of mail, as received. Some mail was not always routed direct. In 1843, there still were distribution post offices for domestic mail. These offices, the regulations said, were established to insure certainty and regularity in the transmission of letters between remote places. Most of the larger cities of the period were distributing offices.

The form—the mail accounts—had a few blank lines, and it might be possible the Marshall Postmaster made a memo of the three letters, as receipted for by him; and made a note of the valuable letters on the way bill that went with the Marshall mail.

Somewhere, in other years, your correspondent did read that Postmasters could be asked to make a record of letters turned over to them. At this writing the regulation (and its abode) seems unknown. If that printed statement is correct, then the well-known "R" as used on Incoming Philadelphia mail, in the 1846-50 period, is easily explainable. There are quite a few Stampless Covers known with the "R" handstamp and C. Corwith Wagner has a 10-cent 1847 cover with the "R" handstamp. (See *American Philatelist,* March, 1934.)

The registry of mail in the United States Post Office was established by the Act of Congress, dated March 3, 1855. Shortly thereafter several of the larger cities had "REGISTERED" handstamps and receipt forms. The registry fee, i the beginning, was five cents to be pai in cash. Readers interested in debatir this phase of the regulations are cordiall invited to take their thoughts elsewher for airing.

Prior to the creation of the U.S.P.O Registry system, the New Orleans pos office used the word "REGISTERED (handstamped) on a letter in the Elmore Cropsey Collection. This letter is dated 1852. The same handstamp (in appearance) seems to have been used on 1854 and 1855 letters seen by your correspondent. One at hand, as sent to Texas, is dated 1854.

What is the answer to the Marshall receipts? What value were these to the writers? Was it sufficient for them to notify their creditors of the shipment of monies? Did that square the account—in case the mails were robbed?

U. S. MINT SHEETS

548	1c	Pilgrim	$10.00
549	2c	Pilgrim	22.50
550	5c	Pilgrim	125.00
571	**$1.00**	**Brown**	**175.00**
617	1c	Lexington	7.50
618	2c	Lexington	15.00
620	2c	Norse	35.00
621	**5c**	**Norse**	**140.00**
628	5c	Ericsson	22.50
630	2c	White Plains	9.50

Feb. 7, 1945.

Dr. David F. Sellers,
714 Van Antwerp Bldg.,
Mobile 12, Ala.

Dear Doctor:

I am in receipt of yours of the 3rd enclosing check payable to Mr. Richey for $4,500.00, in payment of the Confederate pieces sent you under date of the 28th last. Mr. Richey has requested me to thank you very kindly. May I express my appreciation, for your telegram.

I am indeed pleased that these beautiful pieces have again crossed the old M. & D. Line and have gone into a southern collection, where I know they will be greatly prized. I might mention in passing that my father was a Confederate soldier, one of Morgan's men. He was captured on Yankee soil and was confined at Camp Douglas, Chicago, as a P of W for eighteen months. So you see these pieces did not come to you from a Damnyankee.

I have known and been familiar with each one of these gems for a number of years past as "Sam" and I collected "Confeds" together and we shared with each other the best of the things that we were able to obtain.

I don't know that I can give you much background history of the sheets as none of these ever belonged to me. I don't think that any were what you might call original finds with the possible exception of the unique "block" of 122 of the 5¢ Green. Mr. Richey has owned all of these items for over 30 years and no doubt he obtained them from eastern dealers. I recall that the block of the 5¢ Green came to him from Mr. P. M. Weiss, a Cincinnati dealer, and that he acted as agent for the sale on behalf of some family up in Indiana. In all probability the sheet was taken from some southern post office by a Yankee soldier and had been retained by his family for many years.

I tried to reach Mr. Weiss by phone today but was unable to do so. If I can obtain any information from him regarding this large block I will be glad to pass same on to you later.

I note that you are returning the album binder to me, but don't bother to send the pages. Any albums are quite hard to obtain at the present time, so that is the reason that I requested you to return the binder to me. I wish now that I had not made the request and if you would like to have the binder I'll be glad to ship it back to you with the compliments of Mr. Richey.

Regarding the pages on which are mounted the "Frames" and "TENS".

#2. Dr. David F. Sellers, Feb. 7, 1945. Re- Richey 20¢ Green Pieces

I note that you would like to have about 100 of these but before sending any to you I wanted to mention that these are quite expensive, and cost me complete about 25¢ each. As I wrote you, I have these made special to order. Here is the process: The stock is the most expensive obtainable. It is 3 ply strathmore, and is an art stock, used principally I believe, for water-color work, or pen and ink. I buy this in large sheets, then I have to pay to have it machine cut to uniform size. Then the corners are rounded and three edges are gilded. The next step is the printing of the steel engraved border. And lastly I apply the "Hinge" and the protecting glassine back-sheet. Each process costs its proportion per page and runs up the cost. I doubt if you would care to employ so expensive a page unless it was for a permanent piece of mounting, which included artistic lettering.

Regarding the 20¢ Green, #212. The largest items that are left in the Richey collection are: (A) A strip of twenty, same being the entire bottom row of the plate. This has a wide sheet at bottom, left and right. Fine condition.

(B) Block of 30, same being the three bottom rows from the left pane (10 horizontal X 3 vertical). This is in a light green and in beautiful condition.

(C) Block of 20, same being two horizontal rows of 10, from the right pane. This block is in dark green and has a heavy "cracked" gum on back. (which should be removed).

(D) Same as C.

In addition, there are some blocks of four, some pairs and singles. None of the "A" to "D" items have as yet been priced but if you would be interested in any of them I'll consult Mr. Richey and submit prices. I rather imagine the prices would be approximately on the basis of the catalogue per block of four and perhaps a special price to you.

I regret to state that he does not own a copy of the 20¢ double impression.

I am wondering if you have a copy of the Dietz book on Confederate stamps, and also may I inquire if you have any of my books on U. S. stamps?

I will be pleased to discuss with you at any time convenient, the matter of mounting your collection.

I am enclosing herewith some unusual covers from the Richey collection which I thought you would be interested in looking over.

Sincerely yours,

STAMPLESS Covers

United States Notes and Comments

By PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

MORE CHATTER

We have had the pleasure of assorting a large number of stampless covers running from the early thirties to the late sixties addressed to a firm of ship owners in New England. While the covers themselves are of great interest the letters are even more interesting. It seems that this firm not only owned quite a few vessels but also contracted to sail under their own crews additional ships. Their Captains reported from each port and gave full details as to the cargo they contemplated carrying elsewhere. It seems that when a ship sailed it was loaded with a cargo from a certain port and when it arrived at that point it picked up anything available and moved it elsewhere. When a ship sailed from its home port they had no idea whatsoever as to where they would finally go and when they would again reach home. The firm kept thoroughly informed as to material available for shipment from practically every country with a seaport. We find letters from Peru and Chile, some from Brazil and quite a few from Havana. Most of the communications are from London, Liverpool and St. Petersburg although there are some few from Stockholm, Rotterdam and ports of France. Considerable business was done with New Orleans and Savannah, hence we find quite a few communications carried by express mail from these southern ports.

One express cover of outstanding importance is a communication that originated in Havana. It is marked "Express Mail" and it is indicated that 77c postage was paid. This means a ship fee of 2c to the Captain who brought the letter from Havana to New Orleans and a 75c fee paying the express mail charges.

In one far away port one of the ships broke in half and sank and while the crew and officers were saved, all merchandise was completely lost. A careful reading of the 2,000 or 3,000 letters would undoubtedly give us a story of early shipping worthy of publication.

Under date of September 1, 1849 a printed circular from "San Francisco, Upper California" advises that the firm of Hinrichsen, Reincke & Co. have organized and offer their services as a mercantile house to take care of shipping business in that locality. This letter is partly printed. A similar communication from the same city dated August 25, 1849

(Continued on Page 68)

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Samoa			**Seychelles**		**Seychelles**		
170	..	.12	1...	.20	24...	.38
171	..	.15	2...	.15	27...	.62
172	..	.25	3...	.10	29...	.30
173	..	.50	4...	.20	30...	.35
174	..	.75	6...	.38	31...	.30
177	..	3.00	7...	.62	32...	.30
181-84	..	2.80	8...	.25	34...	.75
185	..	.09	9...	.38	35...	1.80
190	..	1.25	10...	.38	36...	1.50
191-94	..	.40	11...	.62	37...	3.00
Sarawak			12...	.38	38...	.07
135-54	..	51.00	13...	.75	39...	.12
155-58	..	6.50	15...	2.50	40...	.18
159-72	..	2.95	16...	1.50	41...	.45
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LATIN AMERICA
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526	2c Offset	1.00	.25	.07
529	3c Offset	.20	.05	.01
536	1c Rossback perf. 12½	4.75	1.10	1.05
538	1c Green 11x10	.80	.20	.20
539	2c Carmine 11x10	1.45	.36	.36
541	3c Violet 11x10	6.00	1.50	1.50
543	1c Green 10x11	1.35	.32	.05
544	1c Green 10x10	.08	.02	.01
545	1c Green 11x11	..	5.50	5.50
546	2c Carmine 11x11	..	1.85	1.80

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Parks Set 1-10c 1.25
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Army & Navy sets 1-5c (both). .50
Scott's #647, 648, 2&5c Hawaii. 1.20
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Miniature sheets Byrd, Tipex, noky Mts., Centenary 1.55
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Say MEKEEL'S to Advertisers

Via The Air Mails

By ROBERT RICKARBY
154 Nassau St., New York City

India First Flight Airmail—For the first flight from Bombay to London, India issued a 12 anna gray and blue airmail stamp last June (Scott C7). If, as is reported, only 60,000 were issued, this might turn out to be rather a good item, as it was good for postage on only this one flight.

Lebanon 1945 *Airmails* — These four stamps (Scott C97-100) were printed on a rough, slightly grayish paper. However, the two low values also exist on a smooth, whiter paper which also makes the colors of the stamps appear different. This is especially noticeable on the 50 pi. which, on the smooth white paper appears in a rose violet color, while on the rough, grayish paper it appears to be a much darker red violet. I seem to remember the Sanabria catalog differentiating between these a year or two ago, but no mention of it in the latest edition. The different papers seem to be of equal scarcity.

Ecuador Forgery—Below the listing of the 1945 40c on 5c airmail (Scott C110) is the note that "excellent" counterfeits were made, not to sell to collectors, but to defraud the government, and they seem to have been very successful, because in a package of 100 used copies of these which we recently examined, 75 of them were counterfeits. Putting the overprint on the basic stamp results in raising its face value 35 Ecuador centavos, a neat profit of about 2c in U. S. money. The counterfeit is made with a very oily ink, and the overprint generally shows through on the back of the stamp in brown. The impression is much cruder than on the genuine, and the tail of the "R" on the counterfeits is much shorter than on the genuine. So far, we have not seen a mint copy of this counterfeit.

Liberia—We notice that the Scott catalog still does not list some of the provisional airmails issued in 1944 and 1945. Issued and used about the same time as Scott C35, C35A, C36 and C37 was a 30c on 4c orange, and $1.00 on 3c olive green. Also Scott lists as No. 295 the 50c on 3c triangle airmail, while omitting the 70c on 2c and the 30c on 1c of the same issue, which were issued and used at the same time. These were all provisional issues, overprinted because of an actual shortage of these values for mailing purposes and all have been found used on commercial mail to this country. Some of these stamps are really rare in mint condition. Used copies are more readily obtainable of most of the values, and, in some instances, have been sold as the cheaper variety, without the overprint, as some dealers seem to be ignorant of the existence of these provisionals and do not notice the overprint. In all, a very interesting group of stamps, some of which will some day be real rarities in mint condition.

Turkey—For their first airmail set in eight years, Turkey has come out with a beautiful pictorial set, a welcome change from their former overprinted airmails. On checking this year's Scott catalog, we notice they have tripled last

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U. S. Notes and Comments

(*Continued from Page 68*)

The letter originates in Havre and in addition there is a bright red semi-circular postmark "Ship 6".

A printed list gives us the names of American vessels with their Captains that passed "Elsenure" in 1842 together with a list of when they returned. A similar list in manuscript gives the date of arrival and departure "thro the Sound" in 1837. These ships sailed from Boston, New York, Salem, Philadelphia, Newburyport, Portland, Plymouth and Duxbury and carried sugar, cotton, coffee and other merchandise mainly to Denmark, Russia and Sweden and returned with hemp, iron, rye and in numerous cases cargo simply indicated as sundries.

There are several "Way 26" from Mobile, letters from Havana with ship markings on which 27c postage has been paid, which means 2c for the Captain and 25c local postage, a "Steam-Boat 18 3/4" stamped in bright red.

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Roosevelt

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U. S. Notes

(*Continued from Page 61*

advises as to the establishment of the firm of Macondray & Co. who are in a position to transact similar business. One of these covers is postmarked San Francisco via "Steamer Panama" with 40c postage in red in manuscript. The second letter was carried outside of the mail to New York where it was deposited on November 12th. One letter took from September 1st to October 17th to reach destination while the second letter dated September 1st did not arrive in New England until November 13th. One cover from St. Helena dated September 6, 1855 has an oval stamped marking reading "Forwarded from St. Helena by George W. Kimball, U. S. Commercial Agent". In the letter Mr. Kimball advises that he is in a position to take care of commercial business in behalf of shippers and incidentally mentions that he is an American citizen. The cover, in addition, bears markings in black of "Ship", "5" and New Bedford, Mass. dated November 16 where the ship first touched an American port.

A letter from Valparaiso, Chile dated May 21, 1849 shows a concentric circle "Ship 12" in red and "Panama 25 Ju 1849 Transit" in black. There is a steamship postmark that cannot be deciphered and a red Mobile marking. The cover has a manuscript marking indicating that two shillings were paid. From a back stamping we note that the letter passed through Kingston, Jamaica on July 4, 1849. There are several communications from Chincha Island, which was off the coast of Peru. One cover contains a blue oval stamped marking reading "Islas de Chincha". There is a diamond shaped marking reading "Vapor" within together with a black well known circular postmark reading "Steamship 20". A second cover from the same point of origin shows the "Steamship 10" marking with a figure "20" stamped over the "10". Several letters from Peru with similar markings show in addition an oval hand stamped reading "Forwarded by Crosby & Co. Ship Chandlers and Ship Agents Callao, Peru". A further small circular "Steamship 20" has in addition an oval "Forwarded by Adams & Co's. Express, J. M. Freeman, Agt. Panama".

One stampless from Cadiz, Spain has on the front in large black capital letters "Ship-Letter" in addition to a large "8" indicating the 8 Reals Spanish postage. There is a large stamped "37" in black and "32" in manuscript. On the back we note a London postmark indicating that it passed through that Post Office and a final marking of Boston showing that it landed in that port on November 6th. A further cover has us stumped as we cannot interpret the round concentric blue postmark reading "Turlin du Klosque London 17 Mai" (1843).

(*Continued on Page 70*)

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—H. A. Freeman

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United States Notes and Comments

By Philip H. Ward, Jr.

We remarked that we were surprised that the Roosevelt collection had been given to an English firm to sell. We must say that the H. R. Harmer firm is handling the sale in a way to advance the interest of his client and increase the interest of philately. We had a preview of some of the finer items on Friday, December 7th at which time cocktails were served. A real get together meeting was enjoyed by all. Mr. Bernard Harmer and his assistant, Miss Falger, were indeed the gracious host and hostess. As was to be expected, the main philatelic interest of the collection lies in the vast quantity of proofs. Among the classics, we noted some very interesting early Hong Kong covers addressed to members of the family. There was a California Pony Express cover, very pretty indeed, as well as a Baltimore local—the Cook Dispatch tied to a small neat cover.

Among the die proofs—about everything from 1898 on, all of the Air Mails including a unique 6c first issue, also the rare 16c and 24c, a set of the Zeppelins, a set of Omaha including a 50c black heretofore unknown. Of the 1c and 3c Chicago, the Bureau of Engravlng and Printing ran off die proofs as the engraving of the die proceeded, from the first few lines up to the finished stamp. George Sloane appraised the collection at $80,000 and half of this, $40,000, covered proofs.

The question has passed back and forth in our mind, as well as others, if whether even the President had a right to obtain these from the Bureau of Engraving & Printing. If he could request stamp proofs why not finished $1000 bills and currency? In our many years of following Washington philatelic activities we cannot recall another instance where a high goverment official used his position to increase the value of his estate. We claim the Bureau had no right to give away government property and we wonder if a clear title can be given to these proofs when sold. Are they not really the property of the United States?

It is our personal opinion that when these were presented to the Prsident by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing that they thought they would be placed on exhibition at Hyde Park and would continue to be the property of the government. We do not think they were given to the President with the idea of adding $40,000 to $80,000 to his personal estate, at goverment expense.

We know of another case where a private individual was able to obtain many proofs not available to the public and we wonder if some steps should not be taken to prevent future proofs of great value reaching those who are able to obtain them from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

The imperforate Farley sheets are also in the Roosevelt estate and had there not been a howl at the time, which forced their sale to all, these would be classed as great rarities.

If you believe as we do, that such deliveries should not be made by the Bureau in the future, cut out this article and mail it to your Senator or Congressman.

MORE CHATTER

In the Post Office Museum at Washington, the ledger giving a detailed list of all post offices receiving the 1847 issue and the earliest 1851 stamps is on view. It is a large book of several hundred pages. The Library of Congress, Photoduplication Service can supply a microfilm of the entire book at $12.13 or a photostatic copy at $121.25.

Harry F. Dunkhorst, Washington's dean of philatelists, a much beloved dealer has passed away at 73. As a boy in Washington we spent many happy hours in his office in the back of his father's tobacco store on 7th Street. In those days Hawaiian stamps were more popular than U. S.

Nicholas Sanabria, another professional who has been ill for some time, has left our fold. His many many friends will miss him. Another great stamp collector passed on several months back—one who made some of the most important finds in American philately—Col. Cleveland

(Continued on Page 471)

PHILIPPINE HIGHEST VALUES

The 10 peso and 20 peso "gold bullion" stamps, issued in 1937, have a face value of $15.00 for the pair. From stories reaching us, we understand that several sheets of these were amongst the loot from the Manila Post Office. As a result, these two very high values can, for the moment, be offered at very low figures. The prices we quote appear to be well below those at present prevailing in Manila—all stamps are in bright mint condition.

In a letter just received from one of our Manila correspondents, he writes—"Regarding prewar Philippines, mint, there is a strong possibility that same may be validated again for use as postage." Should this come to pass, there would be a very steep rise in prices on the above two stamps; for those speculatively inclined, we would be glad to quote our price on a full mint sheet of each value.

		#431, 10 pesos slate	#432, 20 pesos brown	The Pair
A.	**Extra Fine**	5.95	5.25	10.50
B.	**Fine:** perfs. well clear	4.00	3.75	7.45
C.	**Good:** perfs. just clear	3.10	2.95	5.50
D.	**Fair:** perfs. touch	1.25	1.75	2.85
E.	**Off center:** perfs. cut in	1.00	1.50	2.25
F.	**Plate block of 6**	28.50	32.50	60.00

BLOCKS PRO RATA

PHILIPPINE OCCUPATION ISSUE

We list below several of the Jap Occupation issues. Most of the other varieties are in stock, but in quantities too small to be able to be offered at the moment. We shall be glad to submit anything else we may have if desired.

Emergency overprints on issues of 1939—41: 2c green, .06; 5c on brown, .15; 50c on 1 p. $1.00.

471 First War anniversary, 5c on 4c ..... .22
472—473 Executive Commission, 2c on 8c, 5c on 1p set ..... .38
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488—489 First anniversary Fall of Bataan, 2c—5c ..... .12
490 350th Printing Anniversary, 12c on 20c ..... .20
491—93 Philippine Pin—up Girl, perf. set of 3, (5c, 12c, 17c) ..... .14
494—96 Same, imperforate, set of 3 ..... .25
505—7 Laurel, Imperf. set of 3, (5c, 7c, 20c) ..... .20
B1—B3 Food Campaign, set of 3, semi-postal (2c, 1c, 5c, 1c, 16c, 1c) scarce 2.50
B5—7 Flood Relief, semi-postal set of 3, (12c plus 21c, 20c plus 36c, 21c plus 40c) .50
B8 National Heroes, Souvenir sheet of 3 ..... .35
C38 Official 2c green on 6c brown, the pair ..... .22
O38—39 Official, 2c and 5c on 6c, pair ..... .22
O41—43, Official, 5c on 6c, 20c, 1 Peso, set 1.50

#320B, 2c SCARLET IMPERFORATE (Mint unhinged)

Mint single, $1.50; mint block $6.00; with c. l. either horiz. or vert. $6.20; mint pair, $3.00; with c. l. either horiz. or vert. $3.10; line block $6.50.

#631b, 2c BLACK HARDING ROTARY PRESS, Perf. 11

This stamp is undoubtedly the rarest Twentieth Century Commemorative. We did not discover it until many years after the stamp was obsolete, and intensive search has failed to reveal more than a very few copies. It is a variety to #594, which however, is not a commemorative, and furthermore, far fewer copies of the Black Harding stamp are known; making it a much rarer stamp than #594, (a very poorly centered copy of #613b recently sold at auction for about $435.00.).

We offer below three used copies of this rarity:

(A) Fine, very lightly cancelled copy, perforations well clear of design all around; we believe the finest copy that has been offered, Price ..... $ 550.00
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2c Die D (not listed by Scott), ear entirely covered by hair.
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All mint. Mailed flat.
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8c olive rotary air #C17	36
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Lines From Washington

By James L. Beane

It certainly seems odd to be a soldier one day and a civilian the next, but that is just exactly what happened to me a week or two ago. It is a grand feeling, but, of course, there are little twitches of pain around my heart when I think of all the fine fellows I knew in the army, lived with, argued with, "bull-sessioned" with, and that I must now bid goodbye, and return to the rugged life of a civilian.

My first week was spent in a short trip to Southern Pennsylvania, and was enjoyed very much. At York, Pennsylvania, I met *Larry T. Hendry* who has had a stamp shop in that city for over ten years. Mr. Hendry just finished a hitch of two and one half years in the navy, most of the time aboard the *U. S. S. TENNESSEE.*

The boys in Nassau Street with their split-second deals would shudder at his business. He spends a lot of his time explaining stamps to beginners and children, mounting, arranging and illustrating sets for his customers. As he explains it, has no collection of his own so he gets his fun out of the other fellows' collection. Not so, his wife, Gladys ! She has a beautiful collection of postage stamps of the world which have children's pictures on them, both factual and allegorical. Her pride is autographed pages of the six Princesses and Princes of Luxembourg.

The Hendry's also handle and service first day covers; while I was in their shop, he showed me a collection just purchased, containing copies of the higher values of United States general issues as well as commemoratives; they keep about five hundred better grade foreign approval books on the road at all times. The address : 200 West Market Street, York, Pennsylvania.

William H. Kuntz, attorney, York Pennsylvania, has collections of Graf Zepplins of the World and illustrated sets showing colored maps of the flight, etc.

William W. Stinger, of York, Pennsylvania, has one of the most remarkable collections in existence. He is a member of over twenty stamp societies. His naval cover collection runs into the thousands, and his collection of color essays of the Trans-Mississippi issue recently won the "Grand Award in the exhibit of The Capitol Stamp Club of Harrisburg, Pennsyvania.

Dean C. Seitz, also of York, has a collection of France and colonies, which has reached such a state of completeness that he now occupies his time filling two Scott's National Juniors, one with mint, the other with used.

At Hanover, Pennsylvania, I made the acquaintance of a young man in his teens, who has a very valuable collection of mint United States blocks built up by himself , and he is a sharp one when it comes to the United States. His name is *William Bittinger.* He also collects first day covers.

Any of you traveling men who stop at the McAllister Hotel in Hanover and have noticed the delightful food served in this hotel, might be interest to know that the head of this establishment who is responsible for this good food is also an ardent stamp collector.His name is *Jack Tolico* and welcomes any stamp collector into his kitchen to discuss the charms of "pate de fois gras" or postage stamps.

Mr. William Falmer who owns the Falmer Ice Cream Company in Hanover also collects stamps as well as the Brothers Garrett in the Fischer Insurance Agency.

Down at Gettysburg I had the pleasure of meeting and visiting with *Mr. Ocar H. Benson* who is the father of the 4H clubs of America and the Junior Achievement clubs of the Eastern states. He is a stamp collector and confessed to me that in the near future 4H clubs the country over would adopt philately as one of their recreative programs.

Expert Committee

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of The Philatelic Foundation will take place on Jan. 15, 1946. Material for consideration at that meeting *must* be received on or before January 5, 1946.

Application forms giving fees, and rules for submitting stamps for examination by the Committee may be had on request to the Philatelic Foundation, 22 East 35th St., New York 15, N. Y.

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Russia, Lenin Birthday	(5)	**1.85**
Spain, new air 10 pts	(1)	**1.20**

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U. S. Notes and Comments

(Continued from Page 459)

H. Bandholtz. Bandy found the famous Ludlow Beebe correspondence with several hundred 1847 10c including many pairs and a few with sheet margins at top and two strips. He also found the strip of ten with sheet margins at top and two sides and the block of 14 all on the same cover. These we took off of the large cover, which was ragged and when we sold the pieces we put the cover in our museum as a souvenir of a great find. We have never announced where the cover originated nor where it was actually found.

We have just checked over the new Gibbons price list as well as the offering list of several New York dealers. Scott's Catalogue for 1946 is already out of date insofar as the 20th Century U. S. prices are concerned and the Specialized has not as yet appeared. Late varieties are advancing daily and we have been selling sheets, that is stamps by the 100 at more than retail for individual copies. From our way of thinking, these prices are simply crazy but then, we may be the crazy one.

Mr. G. E. Russell reports that he has the large $100 Wine stamp, issue of 1916 in the light green reissue shade made a number of years later. Serial# 104201. So for we have recorded the $20, $50 and $100. Has someone a $40.

Walter S. Scott, son of J. W. Scott who organized the Scott Co., America's best known philatelic auctioneer has retired and is spending the winter in Florida. Walter has sold possibly more fine and rare stamps in his life than any man living.

We are told that the 1947 Exhibition committee is striking some snags. Some want the exhibition to be limited to classic issues only and by invitation only. What a wail we will have from thousands, if this is so. Personally, we would favor such an exhibit but we know we think differently from most collectors. There is talk of a separate exhibition where all would be allowed to participate. If a man is going to finance an exhibition, in other words pay the fidler, he should be allowed to call the tune but if he intends asking for general support, the wishes of the majority should be considered.

Max Margulies, Stamp Wholesaler, 222 Hopkins St., Brooklyn, N. Y., kindly sends for our collection of philatelic items a 2c green Grant Letter Sheet, imprinted with the offerings of C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Co. of St. Louis, the original founders of MEKEEL'S.

Seasons Greetings To All

from

Sylvester Colby and Staff

Precancels

By DR. S. H. BOWMAN

I have been asked about precancel favors. As the term implies, these are precancels that have been made as a favor to someone and for which there is no need. Many commemorative precancels are favors. The need for precancelling a commemorative stamp arises but seldom.

Precancel favors are usually easy to recognize. When you see a whole string of precancels, usually on commemorative issues, from some town that is just a wide spot on the road, you know there is no necessity for them and they are just favors. When you see issues precancelled that have no excuse for being that way, as the 16c blue special delivery airmail imperf., you know they are favors.

Now favors are not necessarily fakes. Fakes are of a different crop. The precancel fraternity frowns on favors. The official precancel catalog prefers not to list them, but does on occasion, unpriced, for the record. Where some doubt exists, such are listed but prices are low.

When the black Hardings came out many of them were precancelled, and some precancel collectors went for them in a big way. Some unscrupulous schemers, seeing a chance to make money, precancelled black Hardings with towns that never existed, or created their own types for precancel using towns. These are fakes. They exist on issues other than the black Harding, but most of these fakes are found on this issue.

That progressive outfit, the Southern California Precancel Club, used the new 1½c Hollywood narrow bureau print in mailing their bulletin. Members get a desirable precancel each month that way. Shall I tell you more?

"The House That Stamps Built"

Western Stamp Collector

Established 1930
Published Weekly at ALBANY, ORE.
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U. S. Notes and Comments

(Continued from Page 49)

1869 15c REISSUE PART PERFORATE

Students of our early stamps have known for many years that the 15c 1869 reissue, Scott's #129, existed imperforate horizontally. Only single copies have been found, but these generally had large margins top and bottom, which led us to believe that at least one sheet was cut up into singles and distributed with the balance of the set at the time when they were sold in 1876. In the Green Sale, conducted by Irwin Heiman on January 8th, there was a single copy of this stamp showing enormous margins at the bottom and the large sheet margin with part of imprint and plate number #32 at the top. This stamp proves pretty conclusively that these stamps from this sheet are actually part perf. varieties.

Dr. N. P. McGay is General Chairman for the 18th Annual Exhibition and Bourse of the *Cleveland (Ohio) Stamp Club* to be held at Hotel Hollenden. February 2nd and 3rd. Dealers may arrange for bourse tables by contacting Emmett N. Ong, Room 700, Hanna Bldg., Cleveland, Ohio.—HOMER C. LANDIS.

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franc orange. But how was I to know that it was going to be scarce? It is now selling for from 200 to 300 francs in Paris.

When I left the post office I found myself stopping passerby asking them to direct me to someone who collected stamps. I found one who was also a barber. He turned out to be a pleasant sort of chap with a nice wife and two children, a boy and a girl. The girl studied the violin. The boy, like his father, collected stamps. And the pride with which father and son presented their collections for my view was a joy to see. Beautiful albums, magnificently mounted and written up. Senior

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United States Notes and Comments

BY: PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

MORE ABOUT THOSE PROOFS

The "Chicago Tribune" for January 4th devoted a column and a half to an article from their New York press service regarding our recent remarks on the Roosevelt proofs. They quote the article in full and follow it by remarks from Mr. Earl R. Koons, Attorney for the estate of the late President Roosevelt. Under date of January 3rd Mr. Koons "agreed that the stamps to be auctioned include die proofs, but contended they were personal gifts and not government property. Koons said they were given to Mr. Roosevelt by James Farley, former postmaster general, and others, including employes of the government engraving bureau, "because they knew him to be an ardent philatelist". "Since they were unsolicited gifts presented on a purely personal basis, they cannot be regarded as government property", Koons asserted. "Executors of the estate have no choice but to sell everything in the stamp collection. We looked into the legal aspects of the matter and found no basis for not selling the stamps. The question of ownership of die proofs never has been tested in a lawsuit."

In other words, there is even doubt in their own mind as to title to these proofs and they seem to think that because they were given to the President by Mr. Farley and by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing that for this reason, title is clear. We ask the question if any individual has the right to give away government property and if they do not have clear title when they give it away, is the estate of the late President in a position to give clear title to the purchases at auction? In order to clear up this point for the benefit of our readers, we have addressed a letter to Mr. Bernard Harmer, asking if the estate will give a warranty of title to the purchases of these proofs. A copy of the letter was sent to Mr. Basil O'Connor (we believe Mr. Koons just mentioned, is associated with Mr. O'Connor).

Buyers of these stamps do not want lawsuits on their hands to settle title, which would necessitate a vast expenditure not only in fighting the government if they claimed them, but also in pressing claims against the estate. We, therefore, feel it should all be cleared up before the stamps are sold. Our article was copied by several other columns, in cluding the "New York Times", and publicity was given by O'Donnell in his column in numerous papers throughout the country.

Congressman George A. Dondero of Michigan writes one of his constituents: "I heartily agree with the article and believe these proofs, dies, etc., should be returned to the United States government and that they should not be a part of any private collection, whether it is an official of the government or a private individual." An important officer of one of the larger banks in New York wants to know what is holding back the Department of Justice and the F. B. I. A well-known Philadelphia collector writes that he has disregarded this group of collecting, for he had understood the level of ethics in distributing them was typical of the inner circle. An important collector from Georgia writes Senator George at Washington: "If such proofs were taken in response to a request of the President, in his capacity as President, it would again seem to me that they were the property of the public and not of the individual who at the moment held our highest office. We cannot think that a man in such a high position would debase himself to the extent of having such proofs struck as a personal favor since it would be equally, on this basis, a simple matter to have a few bills of large denomination struck off to enter a collection until conditions at some later date dictated their use for purposes other than being exhibited in a collection." A Professor, who has served fifty years at one of the South's leading universities, believes that the proofs could be recovered by the true owner, the United States, whenever and wherever found.

We have not received a single communication among the dozens that have reached our desk, condoning the action of the estate in selling these proofs for their own financial gain rather than place them at Hyde Park for exhibition.

A most interesting story comes from Mr. George P. Smith, told him by the late G. F. C. Smillie, one of the world's great portrait engravers. Mr. Smillie was employed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing for many years. At the time each new President took office, it was one of his duties to engrave a portrait of the new President. When each of these different engravings were completed, Mr. Smillie took several to the new President to be signed, for himself and the others for several friends. When he presented them to the late Theodore Roosevelt, he was informed that while the President would, under ordinary circumstances, gladly sign the engravings, he felt that these were the property of the United States and he did not feel that Mr. Smillie had a right to them.

(Continued on Page 61)

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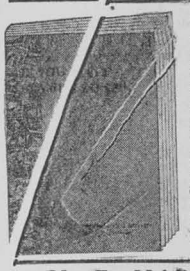

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C3	22.00	C24	.08	C48	.45
C4	.16	C25	1.30	C49	.02
C5	.30	C26	.06	C50	.02
C6	.15	C27	.06	C51	.05
C7	.25	C29	.20	C52	.02
C8	.45	C30	1.50	C53	.02
C9	.80	C31	.20	C54	.10
C10	1.25	C32	.20	C55	.05
C11	3.00	C33	.08	C56	.05
C12	6.85	C35	.18	C57	.55
C13	.25	C36	1.50	C58	.15
C14	.05	C37	.20	C59	.30
C15	.15	C38	.75	C60	.40
C16	.04	C40	.20	C61	3.00
C17	.03	C41	.16	C62	.44
C18	.06	C42	1.25	C63	1.25
C19	.04	C43	1.50	C64	.70
C20	.05	C44	2.00	C65	.04
C21	.10	C45	.03		

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Airing The Air Mail

We note in the fifty-first supplement to the 1942 Standard Catalogue of Air Post Stamps which apeared in the December 1945 issue of Scott's Monthly Journal, Page 317, under the heading *Chronicle For Standard Catalogue Of Air Stamps,* a set of 9 Russian stamps picturing various Russian planes, listed under numbers 993 to 1001, without any prefix before these numbers. In the last few years, we were made to understand that any listing without designating letters before a number, meant a plain postage stamp, all Air Mails would be designated with a prefix of C or CB or RAC.

The very fact that this set appears under the heading as described above, and in a section that is reserved exclusively for air mails is evidence enough that the Editors intended all concerned to know, that they were designating air mails. So why confuse everyone by not giving the listings a C number as all Air Mail stamps are designated. Why not try to simplify the catalogue instead of just the contrary.

In last week's column we told about the 70c Liberian Air Mail stamp picturing President Roosevelt inspecting troops. The stamp has been manipulated into the hands of speculators. This week these people discovered that this columnist's uncovered the news, and they tried to stop the publicity. They threatened to leave this columnist out of any further deals, like this smelly one, and when they were told that we did not want any part of such deals, other veiled threats were whispered. We feel that it is our duty to inform every philatelist of whatever facts we know, and when any individual groups of such people combine to mulch individual collectors or try to kill the finest hobby there is, we shall do so.

However, even things of this sort have a silver lining, for in discussing this very subject with a lawyer of high standing and one who has a very wide and varied experience in philately, and knows the trade intimately, we believe that we have found a satisfactory safeguard against the abuses in the trade, which definitely exist and a way for the collector to protect himself from being made a sucker of. We have already started work on this project, and as soon as it is ready, it will be laid before the Philatelic Public, the A. S. D. A. and every organization that is interested in keeping philately on a higher plane, than it exists on today.

Guatemala Remainders

Guatemala.— Destruction of remainders is always good news. The Guatemalan authorities have made a bonfire of unsold stocks of the 1938 First American Philatelic Exhibition stamps, both Ordinary Air Mail and Official sets. Quantities destroyed were as follows

	Ordinary.	*Optd.* "OFICIAL".
1c.	295 008	—
2c.	315,307	30,477
3c.	319,199	30,385
4c.	222,212	41,627
5c.	221,907	41,821
10c.	172,647	41,917

At the same time a balance of 1782 copies of the 1 quetzal postage stamp of 1937 was destroyed.

—*Gibbons Monthly*

USED AIRMAILS OF MEXICO

Look them over — 144 different!

If you collect USED Airs, you're sure to need some of these.

Prices? You should see the way prices in Mexico have sky-rocketed.

The wise collector will buy these NOW . . . while prices are still reasonable.

C1a	6.75	C51	.20	C98	.10	C135	.04
C2	.06	C52	.4[illegible]	C99	.40	C136	.06
C3	.05	C62	.0[illegible]	C100	.02	C138	.08
C4	.05	C64	.55	C101	.08	C139	.40
C5	.10	C65	.02	C102	.25	C140	2.00
C6	.20	C66	.9[illegible]	C103	.10	C141	3.75
C7	.25	C67	.02	C104	.06	C142	12.00
C8	.30	C68	.0[illegible]	C105	.05	C144	.10
C9	.90	C69	.0[illegible]	C106	.90	C145	.35
C10	.90	C70	.0[illegible]	C108	.05	C146	1.65
C11	.03	C71	.0[illegible]	C109	.10	C147	3.30
C12	.05	C72	.02	C110	.30	C148	7.50
C13	.05	C73	.1[illegible]	C111	.05	C149	.10
C14	.10	C74	1.5[illegible]	C112	.15	C150	.35
C15	.12	C75	1.2[illegible]	C113	.40	C151	1.75
C16	.50	C76	.0[illegible]	C114	.05	C152	3.30
C17	.20	C77	.08	C115	.15	C153	9.00
C18	3.00	C78	.0[illegible]	C116	.40	CO1	.50
C19	5.25	C79	.30	C117	.05	CO2	1.20
C20	.02	C80	.30	C118	.12	CO11	.18
C21	.03	C81	.01	C119	.35	CO12	1.25
C22	.02	C82	.05	C120	.05	CO13	.65
C23	.02	C83	.10	C121	.15	CO14	.65
C24	.35	C84	.35	C122	.30	CO15	.75
C25	.18	C85	.07	C123	.10	CO16	.75
C26	.20	C87	.60	C124	.15	CO17	.12
C28	.18	C88	.60	C125	.40	CO19	.75
C37	.30	C89	.75	C126	.05	CO22	.20
C38	1.75	C90	.75	C127	.12	CO23	.20
C39	.03	C91	.10	C128	.40	CO24	.75
C45	.04	C92	.20	C129	.05	CO25	.18
C46	1.00	C93	.45	C130	.12	CO26	.18
C47	.16	C94	.08	C131	.40	CO27	.65
C48	2.50	C95	.15	C132	.02	CO28	.65
C49	.05	C96	.40	C133	.02	CO29	.70
C50	.70	C97	.04	C134	.01	CO30	10.00

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Donald A. Howe 33C Church Street Hopkinton, Mass.
"Stamps?—and Howe!"

Post Office Meters

By W. M. SWAN

According to an official news release of the Pitney Bowes, Inc., of November 29th, 1945, there was installed in large city Post Offices some 250 new P. O. Meters for handling parcel post.

In the past each year at Christmas time several meters were in use temporarily and saw about one month's service. This practice started in 1940 and has been the rule for the past five years.

This modernization program of the U. S. Post Office Dept. undoubtedly will cause many stamp collectors to say words about the postage meters that will not bear printing. The postage meter stamp is not popular, due to the envelope strip which is collected with the stamp imprinted on same, BUT the P. O. Meter stamps are on tapes and these are adhesives with gum and perforations, so TAPES of postage meter stamps may some day be collected ardently by many collectors. Many prominent "Stamp Collectors" in the past have more or less secretively saved all metered mail that came their way. One chap now deceased and a prominent man had his stamp collection sold by a big name Auctioneer, but his meters were given to a church missionary as a gift, who in turn sold it for a very low sum. This shows that many who collect meters without publicity may really have something without the Philometric world knowing anything about it.

United States Notes and Comments

BY PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

THE ROOSEVELT PROOFS

Numerous additional letters and clippings from the daily papers in regards to the sale of Roosevelt proofs are reaching our desk. We see that one of our stamp papers carries an article of several pages on the subject, which does nothing more than cloud the issue. We are only asking if the estate will give a warranty of title to the proofs and as yet we have received no reply.

We phoned Mr. Koons today (January 21st) and he informed us that they were simply selling the stamps for the estate and that he could not reply 'yes' or 'no'. He suggested that I write a letter direct to the executors and that they would undoubtedly reply in short order. The reply will possibly arrive too late for the information to appear in print before their sale but those interested may have a copy of the letter as soon as received so that they may be guided in their purchases.

An editorial on the subject has appeared in "Stamps" to which we had intended replying, Mr. Cyril F. Dos Passos, however, has written Mr. Harry L. Lindquist under date of January 20th upon the subject, and we are quoting his letter as it presents our opinion on the subject much clearer than any words of our own.

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GENTLEMEN: *This is to acknowledge receipt of your check for $1736.00 in full payment for my mint sheet collection. My wife and I were more than pleased with your prompt, courteous service rendered us in the sale of these stamps. It was a pleasure dealing by mail and in person with your representative. Please feel sure that I shall be ever willing to recommend your company to any of my friends who wish to buy or sell stamps . . .* Very truly yours, CHARLES R. TURNER, 66-37 Forest Ave., Brooklyn 27, New York.

We are pleased to reprint the above unsolicited letter from Mr. C. R. Turner, whose portrait appears at the right. This letter is one of hundreds of gratifying testimonials which we have received from collectors who have found our appraisals entirely satisfactory.

To replenish our extensive retail stocks we are constantly buying — at generous prices — collections and accumulations of postage stamps, provided they are worth $50 or more. . . . Our free appraisals, top prices and prompt payments — with no haggling or delays — have made us innumerable friends among collectors with stamps to sell. . . . Send for our free booklet of valuable information, "If You Have Stamps to Sell", and read it for your own protection before disposing of your collection.

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"SPECIAL DELIVERY

January 20, 1946

Mr. H. L. Lindquist, Publisher
Stamps
2 West 46th Street
New York 19, New York

Dear Mr. Lindquist:

I have read the editorial in Stamps for January 19, 1946 entitled" What is the motive?" to which the only answer expressly given is "*You* ask yourself." The implied answer to the question is that the "philatelic writer", to whom reference is made, has some political motive but nowhere in the editorial is there presented the slightest shred of evidence establishing that fact. Indeed, the "philatelic writer" is a man of the highest reputation and integrity. To open an editorial with such an unsupported inference does not lead one to expect that real facts and logical reasoning will follow. One who attacks another's "motive" usually has no very strong case of his own.

The editorial itself concerns "The presence in his (F. D. Roosevelt's) collection of some die proofs of U. S. stamps . . . ." Most assuredly there are "some" die proofs in that collection - just about $40,000.00 worth. Perhaps "quite some"would have been a more appropriate expression for the editorial writer to have used.

But aside from this the real questions before the philatelic world today are simple. They are, first - to whom did these die proofs belong before they were acquired by F. D. Roosevelt? and, secondly - how did he acquire them? To the first question the answer is clear - they belonged to the United States of America. To the second question the answer is equally clear, although the details may be unknown at present. He received them from their custodian or they were given to him by the Postmaster General or some subordinate official of the Government. That much being settled beyond dispute, a third question arises - did Mr. Roosevelt have the authority to receive

(Continued on Page 96)

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NOTE from the We told you so Department: The 1945 Treaty set is now being bought up by speculators and shipped back to China.

IMPORTANT NOTIC

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WE ARE BUYING
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Airing The Air Mail

I am happy to report that our comments in the January 14th edition, relating to items advertised, which the advertiser did not possess, has been corrected and stopped by the diligent and able president of the A. S. D. A. Now every one is happy. It seems it was an honest, but unintentional error.

Dealers we spoke to in the last few days confirm the fact that the last week or so has seen a considerable falling off in sales, due to either or both reasons; Income Tax payments or the Strikes.

George Herzog's Philatelic Trends was published last week as the first edition of 1946 and all air fans should have a copy of it. Its very informative.

The A. S. D. A. bulletin, under the able editorship of that versatile John Nicklin, is gaining prestige and popularity by each edition.

We are also advised that another (unwelcome) issue of Mexico will appear shortly. (air mails and postage) Surely they must have a wrong opinion of the American philatelist; or do they?

Air mail service has certainly improved of late. Air mail letters have been received from Chile in 4 days, Canal Zone 2, Czechoslovakia 10, Belgium 4, Ecuador 5, Fr. Morocco 6, Costa Rica 3, Honduras 4, Lebanon 7, Guatemala 3, Peru 6, Nicaragua 4, Greece 12, Mexico 2, Shanghai 13, Venezuela 4, Spain 6, Bolivia 7, Manila 12, Panama 3, and Uruguay 5.

When checking on Chinese cancellations, remember that the Chinese count their years from the date of the revolution; that year being 1912.

Air mail circles are breathlessly awaiting Sanabria's catalogue, which should appear the same time these lines do, everyone is anxious to learn if the trend is up or down on prices, and all are wanting to see the new listings.

Another publication of great importance to *All* collectors will be the Scott's supplements of war issues. We understand that numbers have been assigned to them, and we earnestly hope that these numbers will be permanent and will not be juggled around.

State Revenue Lore

BY ELBERT S. AMSLER
418 Twelfth St., Santa Monica, Calif.

A letter from *Marine PFC Herb Hubbard* in Tientsin, China states that he can't figure out why the weight is printed separately on the Kentucky Fertilizer stamps, along with the year date.

Well Herb, I'll admit that you had me stumped for a while, but a little study of the stamps showed the obvious reasons:

From 1908 to 1911 a separate engraving was made for each of the four or more weight sizes each year. Then in 1912 some one got the brilliant idea of making one engraving each year and printing in the weight sizes in a separate operation. In about 1936 someone figured further that the cost of new plates each year could be saved by printing the year date on the stamps in the same operation as the weight.

Now only one plate is used continuously, instead of four every year as was originally done, saving considerable on the cost of having plates engraved.

Auction and Sales Calendar

Billig & Rich, 55 West 42nd St., New York 18, N. Y.
February—United States, Foreign.
Sylvester Colby, 505 Fifth Ave., New York 17.
February 6—U. S. Stamps and Covers, also B. N. A.
H. R. Harmer, Inc., 32 E. 57th St., New York 22.
February 4, 5—Roosevelt's United States, incl. Proofs and Latin American
February 12, 13—U. S., Europe, Czechoslovakia, British Empire.
March 5, 6—United States and Foreign.
mer. Rooke & Co., 560 Fifth Ave., New York 19, N. Y.
February 5, 6, 7, 8,—U. S. 19th and 20th Century, Depts., Revenues, etc.
in Heiman, 2 W. 46th ST., New York 19, N. Y.
February 13—19th & 20th Century United States.
February 14—Airpost Stamps of the World.
February 15—British Colonies and other Foreign.
V. Kessler, 500 Fifth Ave., New York 18, N. Y.
Annouced Soon—British Colonial Auction.
. Morgenthau & Co., 1 W. 47th St., New York 19.
February 6—British Colonies.
an Mozian, Inc., 505 5th Ave., New York 7.
February 6, 7, 8, 9—United States, Brit. Cols. and Foreign.
bur Muller, Gates Building, New Britain, Conn.
February 26—United States, British Colonies and General Foreign.
man Galleries, 116M Nassau St., New York 7.
March 1, 2—U. S. and Foreign incl. Part VI of Doane estate.
olas Sanabria, Inc., 521 5th Ave., New York, N. Y.
February 27—Mint Air Stamps

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Nos. 344	.30	.75	2.00
Nos. 345	2.00	4.25	8.50
Nos. 346	2.25	5.00	10.00
Nos. 347	3.90	6.50	12.00
Nos. 368	2.50	5.00	10.00
Nos. 371	2.75	6.00	12.50

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790-4	1-5c Navy	12.00
899-901	1c-3c Defense	7.50
903	3c Vermont	2.20
907-8	1-2c United Nations	3.60

Our stock of mint sheets is fairly complete. May we suggest that you send for catalog containing these sheets at our usual low prices.

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AXIS STAMPS

SCOTT'S "Axis Issues of Europe and Philippine Islands, 1941-45," fully illustrated, has just been published. Order your copy now.

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To: Scott Stamp & Coin Co., Inc. Date
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☐ Please send me copies of "Axis Issues" pamphlet at $ .50, postage extra.

☐ Please quote prices on the attached list of Axis stamps

☐ Please send on approval stamps of the world on the attached list.

Business References.

1. .....

2. .....

Name.....

Address.....

Scott Stamp & Coin Co., Inc.

1 W. 47th Street, New York 19, N. Y.

Jamaican News

Mr. George F. Stilphen,
Mekeels Weekly Stamp News,
P. O. Box 1660, Portland, Maine.

I have received some comment on the letter which I wrote to you and which was published in the November 26, 1945 issue of Mekeel's - believe some of the contacts will be of value to philately as a whole so wish to bring some of the info up to date.

At that time all of the Jamaican Constitution stamps that had come out here were line perforated and measured 12½ x 12½. That was why that stamp was more common here than the stamp sold in London which happened to be comb perf. and measured 12 3/4 x 13½. We have noticed since that the stamps were more and more very badly perforated - the spacing varying and lines irregular. Now the only 2d Const. on sale here is the comb perf. which had previously been so scarce and the old line perf. is out of issue.

Just recently we have further discovered that all of the 3d values are out in the comb. That makes the old line perf. (12½ x 12½) obsolete and produces another true perforation variety. In view of the know fact that all of the stamps previously have been so badly done on the line machine, collectors here take this as an indication that the entire set may sooner or later be found entirely in comb - the 2d and 3d are the only certain ones as yet.

This helps to illustrate the reasons for the missing values now noted in British Colony material now coming to the United States as mentioned in your "Sees All" column recently. Nearly all those items were color changes which make the missing items obsolete and definitely scarce - just as these obsolete perforation varieties are scarce now. All of those items missing are just as scarce in the English and Colonial market and, in many cases, unavailable since they were changed without notice and during times when exchange of information and transfer of stamps was not permitted.

Very truly yours,
—Kenneth L. Rice
APS #19565

744 Claremore Drive,
West Palm Beach, Fla.
Temp. in Kingston, Jamica

Canal Zone Postage Dues Canceled "2c"

Dear Mr. Stilphen:-

The cover illustrated on Page 481, issue of Dec. 31, and presented as a problem does not seem to be any problem at all to me, but then I may be wrong.

I have had 42 years experience in the postal service, was a collector still further back and have always been interested in the oddities that do crop up once in a while and my decision would be as follow:-s

Air Mail letter mailed at Cristobal, Canal Zone with one rate prepaid. Letter being overweight for one rate it was marked up as Postage due and sent along or rated at office of delivery as being due 15c. This rating should be done at either the office of mailing or delivery.

When prepared for delivery by the carrier the section doing that work put the three 5c due stamps over the rating and cancelled them with anything that happened to be handy in the line of a canceller which in this case happened to be a steel stamp "2". If the "15 cents" that is visible under the word Mrs. is the rating mark it would not change my opinion any only that he did not cover up the due marking as mentioned above.

In my opinion the "2" has absolutely nothing to do with the matter as it was used as a canceller of the postage due stamps. Of course it is interesting to a collector of odd covers.

—Sincerely, Gideon G. Ryder

Scotts Resumes Air Cat.

After a wartime interlude of four years, Scott Publications will resume publishing its "Standard Catalogue of Air Stamps" with the 1946 edition which will go sale in May if printer's promises hold, according to Editor Hugh M. Clark.

The Catalogue Listing Committee of the American Air Mail Society is collaborating with Mr. Clark in preparing this catalogue which will be priced at $2.

The Scott Air Post Catalogue offers specialized information on airmail issues in greater detail than the Standard Postage Stamp catalogue. This information includes quantities issued and day of issue, when available, and prices of used stamps on cover. Also included are commemorative stamps of aeronautical nature.

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Say *MEKEEL'S* to Advertisers

U. S. Notes and Comments

(Continued from Page 93)

$40,000.00 worth of property belonging to the United States or did any official of the Government have the authority to give him any such property? If so, there is no limit to the property of the Government that may be given away. Incidentally, it may be observed that no claim can be made that Mr. Roosevelt received these proofs in consideration for services rendered because the Constitution provides the compensation of the President" . . . shall neither be increased or diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected, ..." Something expressly prohibited by law may not be accomplished indirectly.

The defenders of Mr. Roosevelt's conduct are therefore thrown back upon what is called "custom" or "precedent." It is alleged that other Presidents acted in a similar manner but if they did surely none of them ever acted on as grand a scale as the one under consideration. Furthermore, it is a poor argument to attempt to justify an act claiming that someone else committed the same act. Similar reasoning would justify all crimes and misdemeanors, all torts and breaches of contract. Anyway a custom to be valid cannot be contrary to the law or public policy. It is evident that Mr. Roosevelt acted contrary to the language and spirit of the Constitution, which also provides that the President". . . shall not receive within that peroid (for which he shall have been elected) any other emolument from the United States, or any of them." The word emolument is rather a comprehensive one and according to Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language, 1923, page 717, means "1. Profit from office, employment, or labor; compensation; perquisites, fees, or salary. 2. Advantage; benefit. *Obs.*" Were not these die proofs other emoluments within the meaning of the Constitution? Would Mr. Roosevelt have received them had he not held that office? Were they not received as benefits, advantages, and profits from his office? But if this provision of the Constitution is not enough to establish the impropriety of the receipt of these proofs we have the further provision that "The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; . . ." Therefore it is clear that the President and other officials have no power to dispose of any property belonging to the United States unless authorized so to do by the Congress. Surely no statute of the United States can be found authorizing the President to receive or any official of the Goverment to give him any property belonging to the United States.

Irrespective of the Constitutional arguments a question of morals also is involved. The editorial admits that "Without the background of knowedge . . ." i.e., precedents which have been shown to be invalid, "there appears to be some cause for indignation." To be sure there is much cause for indignation. Is it right, just and proper that those in high authority enrich themselves to the tune of $40,000.00.

There was a somewhat similar scandal in the early days of the Roosevelt Administration. When the public learned of it there was such a hue and cry, within Congress and without, that the special printings of 1935 resulted. Will the same results follow again? To the chorus from abroad of "We wanna go home" may arise shouts in this country from philatelists of "We want die proofs." What then will happen to the values of existing die proofs? People under a democracy righly insist on being treated equally. They do not relish the enjoyment of special privileges by their elected officials. Instead of criticzing the "philatelic writer" for bringing this situation to light he should be praised for his courage. It may result in the correction of an evil.

If you wish to be entirely fair in this matter you will publish both sides of the question. I have sent a copy of this letter to the "philatelic writer."

Yours very truly,
Cyril F. Dos Passos"

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MORE CHATTER

Now that the sale of the Green collection is about over, it is to be hoped that some good soul with time on his hands will make an index from the auction catalogues, similar to the one furnished us from London in connection with the Ferreri auctions. We believe it was the Royal Society that made up the list and if we are not mistaken, the subscription price was around $20.

Three more are in prospect, Costales in February with a grand lot of mint blocks including another block of the 24c Air Mail invert. This time, the corner block with initials of the transferer. The sale will include some outstanding revenues. Harmer, Rooke will have a sale in March. We have not seen any of the material. In April, Fifield will hold the final sale and here again we have a wonderful lot of revenues as well as U. S. postage. It is expected that the total collection, which Mr. Kent Stiles tells us in the "New York Times" was appraised at $1,700,000 will reach a figure between this amount and two million dollars.

The Philatelic Agency sales for the year 1945 reached $2,681,712.93 against 1944 sales of $2,243,729.98. Certainly looks as if enough of the current commemoratives have been put away to take care of everyone.

United States Notes and Comments

BY: PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

THE ROOSEVELT PROOFS

Dozens of daily papers throughout the nation have noted our remarks in regards to the proofs in the Roosevelt collection. Every mail brings us more letters on the subject.

Mr. H. R. Harmer, who will conduct the auction of the Roosevelt proofs, writes: "You speak of the late President 'requesting stamp proofs'. I have no knowledge, nor do I believe that you have, of the late President ever making a request for these proofs. They were a gift to him from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing." Later they state they think my remarks in comparing them to finished $1,000 bills is misleading and write: "On the philatelic side we are dealing with proofs and not issued stamps of high face value and yet you are comparing these with actual items of high face value. Surely, the only comparison you can make to 'obtaining $1,000 bills' is if the late President had accepted as a gift from the Postmaster General dozens of sheets of high value U. S. where there was a very definite face value."

Had they been given the President without his request, we ask if any individual can give away government property. Mr. Harmer's second remark is not well taken for in point of value the proofs are worth even more than sheets of "high face value".

Mr. Harmer informs us that the attorneys for the estate will write us on the subject. Up to date (January 14th) no reply has been received from them to our Harmer letter of January 3rd.

We do not ask for any of the details, which several are giving out to cloud the issue. We only ask "yes" or "no" to the question as to whether the estate will guarantee title. We expressed the opinion that the gracious thing to do would be to remove the proofs from the sale and place them on exhibition at Hyde Park.

THE GREEN JANUARY SALE

Among the highest prices of recent months were realized at the Col. E. H. R. Green Sale held by Irwin Heiman in New York on January 8, 9 and 10.

The second best figure realized by any single item in the entire Green collection was reached when Mr. Y. Souren paid $22,000 for the unique center line block of the 24c Air Mail invert. He also paid $2,100 for the 1901 2c invert and $3,100 for the 1901 4c invert block. The 1c invert block was sold at $1,500.

Everything really fine in the early varieties reached record or near record prices. A superb 1847 5c with ordinary cancellation sold at $115. Even those close on one side or thin sold at $16 to $35. A superb 10c with the common red grid postmark sold at $150, very fine copies $80 to $100, cut close copies $50 to $60. A superb used 1851 5c cataloguing $60 brought $250, several very fine copies $75 to $100 each. The $4 Columbian block that made an auction record a few years back when it sold at $1,600 reached $2,100 in this sale. The block of the 1865 $5, a very rare item, sold at $1,100. If there were any bargains among the finer items in the sale, we failed to note them. It looks as if those with money are hedging against further inflation. The three-day sale totaled $101,774.50, of which Mr. Souren purchased $56,488.25.

This was the 24th Green Sale with three more to come. One thing we have particularly noted in this collection was the shortage of fine early mint blocks from 1847 to 1875. They must be rare when a collection of this magnitude had so few. Of the really scarce blocks, in fine condition, we do not recall a single one. We refer to the 1847 5c, 10c; 1851 5c, 12c; the 1857 5c brick red, 5c red brown; 1861 3c pink, 5c buff; 1866 15c Lincoln; 1867 3c grilled all over, the rare large grills, the "Z" grills, the 11 x 13 10c, 12c, the 9 x 13 30c, 90c; the 1869 15c I, 24c, 30c and 90c. It is our belief that most of the early mint blocks are concentrated in the hands of about three persons. We consider them the most desirable of all United States stamps.

THE 1947 EXHIBITION

Mr. Alfred F. Lichtenstein writes us that definite dates have been fixed for the coming International Philatelic Exhibition — May 17 to 24, 1947.

It will undoubtedly be the most important philatelic exhibition ever held and should do much to advance the interest in stamp collecting.

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C16	.35	C60	1.25	C101	.06	C136	.05
C18	.20	C61	1.00	C102	.06	C137	.20
C19	.25	C62	.75	C105	.40	C138	.30
C20	.12	C63	1.00	C109	.04	C139	.45
C23	.25	C64	.08	C110	.08	C140	.70
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C26	.12	C72	1.25	C113	.08	C142	4.00
C27	.15	C73	.12	C114	.08	C143	.15
C28	.22	C74	.12	C115	.08	C144	.03
C29	.30	C75	.15	C116	.08	C145	.03
C31	.75	C77	.02	C117	.08	C146	.06
C32	.20	C78	.03	C118	.08	C147	.09
C37	.60	C79	.04	C119	.08	C152	2.00
C38	.20	C80	.05	C120	.02	CO1	.05
C39	.30	C81	.08	C121	.04	CO2	.06
C41	.12	C82	.40	C122	.06	CO3	.08
C43	.25	C84	.25	C123	.12	CO4	.12
C44	.35	C85	.02	C124	.16	CO5	.45
C46	.40	C86	.02	C125	.22	CO6	.50
C48	.40	C89	.04	C126	.90	CO7	1.00
C49	.40	C90	.04	C128	.03	CO8	2.50
C50	.40	C91	.08	C129	.03		
C51	.60	C92	.08	C130	.05		
C54	2.00	C93	.12	C131	.05		
C56	.85	C94	.25	C132	.04		

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GEORGE HERZOG
68 NASSAU STREET, N. Y. C. 7

USED AIRMAILS OF CUBA

C1	.02	C16	.60	C27	.05
C2	.12	C17	2.25	C28	.06
C3	.08	C18	.06	C29	.05
C4	.02	C18a	.25	C30	.03
C5	.02	C19	.06	CB1	1.00
C6	.20	C19a	.25	CE1	.17
C7	.06	C20	.30	CE1a	.17
C8	.12	C20a	.35	Sanabria	
C9	.16	C21	.65	#30	.75
C10	.12	C21a	.75	#31	.75
C11	.40	C22	.08	#32	.75
C12	.02	C23	.04	#33	.75
C13	.02	C24	.12	#34	.75
C14	.18	C25	.06	#35	.75
C15	.25	C26	.03		

Stamp Co., 2521 122nd St., College Point, N. Y. [79

APPROVALS, 1c, 2c, 3c issues before 1918 Watermark detector free. Burt McCann Co., 345 N. Newton, Minneapolis 5, Minn. [75

FREE JAP Occupation Of The Philippines, mint set of four, to all requesting our new issue approvals. References please. Irwin Agencies, Box 5336, Indianapolis, Ind. [73

WORTHWHILE STAMPS for medium collections—at the right prices, plus premiums of mint British Colonies Reference or deposit. James O. Smith—S. P. A. Box 56, Edmonton. Canada. [73

SOUTH WEST AFRICA Victory issue

There are no laws or regulations which safeguard or regulate this vast business. Anyone can get into it or out of it, as it pleases the individual. The fact that a person has a criminal record, or has no experience at all, or even he hasn't any stock of stamps, or is a minor and thereby not responsible to anyone for his acts or just a common swindler, makes no difference to our authorities.

Abuses in the trade have been growing instead of diminishing. The collector has no way of protecting himself, or is he sure that ads he reads are on the up and up, or just fishing bait for suckers. Dealers are hard put to fight unfair, unethical, dishonest and outright crooked competition.

Philatelic publications sometimes publish ads that are unethical, and misrepresenting. They do not always know whether the advertiser is a minor, or a dealer who has failed in business time after time, and is again on the verge of failing.

Today in the ranks of dealers are many, who are pursuing the wrong methods. Real American old-time firms are afraid, that these unethical dealers will kill the goose that lays the golden eggs.

The American Stamp Dealers Association has done a lot of good work to bring whatever pressure they could to eliminate abuses and promote ethical and honest trade among it's members. But they are not big enough or powerful enough to do it by themselves, they have no legal standing, they have no legal rights, they do not have the time and money. By the time they eliminate one sore spot, two others arise elsewhere, they

2. Issued by a federal agency for a reasonable fee.

3. License for 1 years duration—

4. No license to a minor, or one with a criminal record, one who employs minors or criminals, (directly or indirectly) those who do not have any stamps in stock, or a permanent address.

6. No license should be renewed to those, against who charges were made and sustained.

7. That individuals or organizations can present such facts and evidence to sustain such ruling.

8. That a stamp dealer without a federal license would be punishable with a fine and imprisonment or both.

9. Laws governing the trade should forbid the sending of unsolicited approvals, the consent of one parent be obtained before doing business with minors, Immediate refunds, All orders be filled and answered within 6 days and prompt refunds for all stamps returned within 10 days, for any or all reason. That substitution by collectors be classed as a crime, that collectors be held responsible for the safe return of stamps they ordered. That collectors who order through the mails and fail to pay, within a reasonable time be declared guilty of mail fraud.

10. That philatelic publications demand that advertisers furnish them with a sworn statement that they are over 21 years of age, that they do not possess a criminal record, that they were never bankrupt, that they have at least $200. in the bank, and that they have every item they advertise in stock when the ad ap-

(Continued on Page 83)

LATEST NE

AUSTRIA—Renner Govt. High values, 1
AUSTRIA—New Postage Dues, 14 value
BELGIUM—New Semi-Postal Coat of A
CZECHOSLOVAKIA—Liberation Issue,
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FINLAND—Sibelius Issue, 1 value, com
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GERMANY—Vienna Postal Congress, o
GUADELOUPE—50F and 100F Airmails
HUNGARY—Peace Issue, "BEKE" ovpt
INDO-CHINA—New Semi-Postals. Valu
LIBERIA—Roosevelt Memorial, 2 souve
LIECHTENSTEIN—New Pictorial Issue
LIECHTENSTEIN—High values, new d
LUXEMBOURG—New Semi-Postals

Airing The Air Mail

Scott Publication's Supplement to the Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue has been received. This is one pamphlet that certainly fills a great void, and we give you herein a pocket review of the same.

154 items will probably be considered air mails as they appear under regular, B, C, CB, MC, NC, and LNC numbers. *Montenegro* leads with 36 items; *San Marino* 22, *Serbia* 20, *Greece* 19, *Corfu* 12, *Hungary* 9, *Jugoslavia* 8, *Ionian, Cefalonia,* and *Itaca Islands* 8, *Croatia* and *Italy* 6 each, *Germany* 5, *Norway* 2, and *Finland* 1.

However, there will be others listed as soon as sufficient facts are ascertained, and it is possible that some items may be dropped if facts now on hand prove incorrect.

Each item is assigned a catalogue number, but it is not certain that they will have the same designation if and when they are moved into the catalogue.

No prices are given, for the publishers feel that due to inflated and rapid fluctuation of foreign currencies, the unstable market, and the unknown quantities issued, do not warrant pricing them at this time. Which, may we add, is a very commendable policy.

All in all, the philatelic world owes Scott Publications and their distinguished editors, Hugh M. and Theresa M. Clark, a great ovation for their excellent idea and production.

Then, to make aerophilatelists feel that they have not been forgotten, and to knock out that ugly rumor that Scott's was discriminating against air mails, this columnist has been informed that Scott's will resume the publication of the Standard Catalogue of Air Post Stamps which has not appeared for the last four years.

The 1946 edition will go on sale sometime in May at $2.00 per copy. The editors have seen the trend towards airs and their ambition to give aerophilatelists the last word and total satisfaction will be their paramount goal.

The good news does not end here. We are reliably informed that the Air Post Albums are being prepared for publication, although no date or price has been determined as yet. It is certain that every effort will be made to hasten this very needed publication. It was further learned that it is being taken under consideration to add one blank page to each country. This page would serve to mount covers, for which no space was ever allotted. New issues may also be mounted here until supplements are received. In this way, a collector may always determine just what issues he has.

Another thing airmail dealers were pleased to hear and aerophilatelists will be glad to learn, is that Mr. Harry Lindquist, who delivered a very interesting talk before the ASDA on January 28th, definitely stated that the Association for Stamp Exhibitions Inc. has not approved the suggestions that only classics be exhibited at the big show in Grand Central Palace, N. Y. in 1947. Air Mails will be included in the exhibition on an equal basis with other branches of philately. It is not known how or when the rumor started in air mail circles that the Association had voted air mails out of its consideration, but we are happy to kill that rumor now, and assure everyone that it is not so. In fact, Mr. Lindquist's statement has already influenced airmail dealers to pledge their support and help underwrite the show.

Texas Cachet

Buck Winn, Jr. Designer of the Texas Stamp also designed a special cachet featuring the Six Flags that Texas is noted for. This cachet is being sold exclusively by George W. Wentz. Jr. San Marcos. Texas who writes that he still has some cancelled First Day Covers at $1.00 each.

London post offices have reported 1,300 hits by flying bombs and rockets between June, 1944, and March, 1945, with death to 13 employes and injury to 213.

United States Notes and Comments

BY PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

ROOSEVELT PROOFS

The stamps papers as well as daily papers continued to discuss the subject. Mr. Harry Lindquist in writing, refers to the proofs: "Of course they are worth $40,000, and probably bring more on account of their association, but if held by the Government they are only worth the cost of production, which is just the time involved in pulling the proofs." Many of us would like to pay the cost of having some proofs pulled and the remarks quoted have no true bearing on the subject for the Government could have sold them and gotten almost as much as the Roosevelt estate will receive.

This morning's mail brings to hand a communication from the estate of Franklin D. Roosevelt, the excutors being James Roosevelt, Basil O'Connor and Henry T. Hackett, who are not only the executors, but trustees. Mr. Earle R. Koons, the attorney for the executors, writes in their behalf under date of January 26th:

Dear Mr. Ward:

This will acknowedge receipt of your letter dated January 22, 1946 in which you state that you have a number of clients interested in purchasing die proofs from the Roosevelt collection and inquire as to whether the Executors will give a warranty of title to purchasers.

In accordance with established custom and law, executors do not warrant title to any property of an estate, either expressly or by implication. What the executors pass on sale is the right, title and interest which the decedent had at his death."

Mr. H. R. Harmer writes one of our readers under date of January 19th: "This is to advise you that neither I as agent for the executor, nor the executor, can guarantee title in regard to the Roosevelt proofs. In my opinion, the authority of the executors to issue me with instructions to dispose of President Roosevelt's collection including these Die Proofs is complete and absolute."

The collection, however, contains a number of other magnificent items and H. R. Harmer, Inc. is to be commended for the very handsome catalogue, which they have issued. There are copies of many of our early stamps including a 90c 1861 addressed via overland mail to Hong Kong. This, we believe, is from the family papers. There are some attractive U. S. Colonies, Argentine and Brazil. Among the latter, we note a block of very rare 60R Bulls Eye from the Guinle collection. As a historical momento a copy of the catalogue should be in the hands of every collector of stamps and philatelic literature. A copy may be had from H. R. Harmer, Inc., 32 E. 57th Street, New York at $1.50. This amount will include list of prices realized.

JUST CHATTER

Mr. Benjamin R. Stickney, the

The F. D. Roosevelt Proofs

Mekeels

Jan 28 1946

BY CLARENCE W. BRAZER.

The United States Notes and Comments by Philip H. Ward, Jr. in *Mekeel's* for December 24, 1945, and the summary of replies received as published on January 21, 1946 by the same author, as to the Franklin D. Roosevelt die proofs, are apparently based on a *false premise* and the tenor of the article is very misleading. This is most unfortunate as uninformed readers and writers in the daily press have been misled to go off wildly on a tangent based on wrong information and conjecture. The implied request to believe the article as truth and forward it to Senators and Congressmen has caused a great injustice and is manifestly grossly unfair.

This article implied that all the U. S. die proofs were obtained by the *President* from the U. S. Bureau of Engraving & Printing, and that they might as well have given the President "finished $1000. bills and currency", It also stated that the B. E. & P. " thought they would be placed on exhibition at Hyde Park"; which is manifestly a false opinion as at the time these proofs were presented to F.D.R. early in 1933 there was no thought by anyone of a future museum at Hyde Park, N. Y. I greatly doubt that the author can prove that these die proofs "were obtained" by the President or "by a high government official" to increase the value of his estate", of that "they were given to the President."

All of these die proofs are of stamps prior to March 4, 1933, when Franklin D. Roosevelt became President of the United States, except the proofs of the 3c Newburg Peace stamp and the Century of Progress 1c and 3c stamps which were issued on April 19, 1933 and May 25, 1933 respectively. It may even be that the proofs of these three stamps were made prior to March 4, but of this I have no record, simply assuming they would not have been included in the lot if made after Mr. Roosevelt was President. No proofs of stamps authorized during all the years he was President are included. If the President "could request stamp proofs" he apparently did not do so, or at least they have not been considered his personal property as offered for sale in this auction.

I personally know that this small die proof collection was prepared and the unused stamps were supplied by a stamp collector, before F. D. Roosevelt was inaugurated as President, and I have every reason to believe that the large die proofs said to have come from the P. O. D., were also. I hold no brief to protect Franklin D. Roosevelt from political opinion, as his policies as President have ruined my profession of quality architecture, and I have suffered severely since he first took office. However, it is only fair that public opinion should be based on true facts and not upon misleading or contorted facts.

and superb, realized $112.

A section was devoted to German States and the realizations were all noteworthy:

Bremen: 1861-63 10gr black, very fine used and tied on cover with light rectangular (BREMEN) pmk., brought $78. A 3gr of 1867, very fine used and tied on entire, sold for $60.

Mecklenburg-Schwerin: 1864 rouletted 4/4s, superb used with town pmk., brought $144.

Oldenburg: 1855 1/3sgr, used and superb, sold for $88, topping the catalogue.

Saxony: 1850 3pf brick red, magnificent copy used on small piece, brought $800.

New Zealand: 1856-59 imperf. 1sh blue green, unused, rare and superb, sold for $290.

Nova Scotia: Of the 1851-53 issue, the 1sh cold violet, a magnificent copy on piece, brought $420, while the 1sh purple of the same date unused, very rare and superb, sold for $700.

Switzerland: Zurich 1843, horizontal lines, 6r superb with black rosette pmk., used on entire, brought $88. The 1843 vertical lines, 4r with same pmk., used on small piece, sold for $400.

Bale 1845, 2½r used on small piece showing variety white ball to right of wing, exceptionally fine, sold for $580.

Vaud 1850, 5c superb used, realized $140.

Neuchatel 1850, used and superb, brought $260.

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[eow2

Random Notes on the Boston Post Office

By K. F. OLSON

IN searching through periodicals, other than those of the philatelic press, for information on the rapid cancelling machine, we were rewarded by securing the names of the Postmasters of Boston, Mass., prior to and during the time that the first rapid cancelling machine* was put into experimental use there.

Many additional facts of Postal History information were unearthed during this search, and for the purpose of preservation we submit these notes, so that students interested in this phase of philately may be spared hours of detailed research, although the following is not at all near the point of completion.

Postmasters—Boston, Mass.

1853—Gordon

—E. C. Bailey—Succeeded Gordon as Postmaster and was still in office as late as January 1856.

1857—Nahum Capen—Still recorded in office in 1861.

1862—Palfrey

1875—Burt

Carriers

In 1856 Boston maintained a staff of ten carriers, and although the records we have read are conflicting, it is reported that two to four deliveries were made daily.

It is interesting to note that 1c was collected on each piece of mail thus delivered, and this amount was turned in at the Post Office. All salaries were paid by the Post Office, as it was thus self-supporting, but in 1862 this method was changed, the charge dropped, and the regular system of payment of salaries was inaugurated.

1856—John W. Crowell—Was appointed as a carrier in January of this year, a position which he held until 1874, when he was appointed to the position of distributor.

1856—Phillip Marchington—Was appointed to Route No. 10, a position and route he is known to have held as late as 1892.

1873—James T. A. Lewis—Was appointed as carrier, but was later transferred to a clerkship in the office.

Clerks

The working hours of the clerks varied from ten to twelve hours per day. Each was strictly accountable for any moment of time lost, and was required to work every holiday and Sunday, but not all offices were too strong in imposing all of these enforcements on the employees. The pay for the period of 1891 and 1892 averaged $50 per month, which on a comparison with today's wages is but little more than a week's pay on the average.

1856—Alonzo F. Johnson—Was appointed to the position of clerk.

1858—Francis Underwood—Was appointed as a clerk in May, but served as a substitute for one and one-half years before becoming a regular clerk.

1861—Eugene A. Reed—Was appointed as a clerk on February 1.

1882—Cornelius J. Ford—Received his appointment as clerk.

Superintendent of General Delivery

1876—A. F. Johnson—Received his appointment.

* The Thomas & Martin Leavitt machine, quite commonly referred to as the "Boston Machine."

OVERRUN COUNTRIES ISSUE 1943

Scott		1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
909	5c Poland	$.15	$.20	$.25	$.30	$.30	$.35
910	5c Czechoslovakia	.15	.20	.20	.25	.25	.30
911	5c Norway	.12	.15	.20	.20	.25	.25
912	5c Luxembourg	.12	.15	.20	.20	.25	.25
913	5c Netherlands	.15	.20	.20	.25	.25	.30
914	5c Belgium	.12	.15	.20	.20	.25	.25
915	5c France	.12	.15	.20	.20	.25	.25
916	5c Greece	.15	.20	.25	.30	.30	.35
917	5c Yugoslavia	.12	.15	.20	.25	.25	.30
918	5c Albania	.15	.20	.25	.25	.25	.30
919	5c Austria	.12	.15	.20	.25	.25	.30
920	5c Denmark	.12	.15	.20	.25	.25	.30
926	5c Korea	.15	.20	.25	.25	.30	.30
926a	5c KORPA Error	.25	1.00	1.50	2.00	2.25	2.50

Analysis

Poland—Quantity issued 19,999,646 copies. Since this is the first of the "Flags" it has gained slightly in favor over some of the other values. One hundred and thirty-three per cent up in five years.

Czechoslovakia — Quantity issued 19,999,646 copies. One hundred per cent up.

Norway—Quantity issued 19,999,646 copies. One hundred and eight per cent up.

Luxembourg—Quantity issued 19,999,646 copies. One hundred and eight per cent up.

Netherlands—Quantity issued 19,999,646 copies. One hundred per cent up.

Belgium—Quantity issued 19,999,646 copies. One hundred and eight per cent up.

France—Quantity issued 19,999,646 copies. One hundred and eight per cent up.

Greece—Quantity issued 14,999,646 copies. Here the quantity is greatly reduced, and in time the last half of the "Flags" will be the top-priced. One hundred and thirty-three per cent up.

Yugoslavia—Quantity issued 14,999,646 copies. One hundred and fifty per cent up.

Albania—Quantity issued 14,999,646 copies. One hundred per cent up.

Austria—Quantity issued 14,999,646 copies. In time this stamp will become one of the better "Flags." One hundred and fifty per cent rise.

Korea—Quantity issued 14,999,646 copies. One hundred per cent up. This stamp was added to the series a few months after the Denmark stamp, and many collectors and investors were caught short on it. It is already beginning to make a comparatively better showing than some of the other "Flags."

KORPA error — Quantity unknown. In the first edition of *Price Predictions* this stamp was priced high because at the time of writing few were known, and it looked like a good thing. It may turn out to be high-priced, but Scott has failed to list it, and consequently it will not become as well known to the future generation of stamp collectors and

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Falklands, 85/87.(3) 1.35
Fiji, 119-120-122-123.....(4)13.00
Gambia, 134/135.(2) .50
Gibraltar 109/110.....(2) .75
Jamaica #120.....(1) $.90
Malta, 192/197..(6) 1.50
Nigeria 54-56/58.....(4) .70
Nigeria, #59.....(1) 8.00
Sierra Leone #179(1) 1.00
Trinidad & Tob. 52/53.....(2) 3.50
Turks & Caic. 85/86.....(2) 3.00
Br. Solomon #73..(1) 1.75

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Falkland Is. Dependencies, obsolete set, 32 val.. 4.25

July 24 1949 THE NEW YOR

ADMIRAL HARRIS MOURNED AT RITES

Shipping Executives Among 350 at Funeral for Ex-Head of Emergency Fleet Corp.

A funeral service for Rear Admiral Frederic R. Harris, USN, Civil Engineer Corps, retired, who died here Wednesday, was held yesterday morning in the Brick Presbyterian Church, 1140 Park Avenue. The Rev. John H. Murray, pastor of Christ Presbyterian Church, 344 West Thirty-sixth Street, officiated.

More than 350 persons, including Rear Admrial Walter S. DeLaney, Commandant of the Third Naval District, and members of his staff, thronged the church to hear Mr. Murray eulogize the 74-year-old admiral, who won the Navy Cross for his work in the first World War as general manager of the Emergency Fleet Corporation of the United States Shipping Board and chief of the Civil Engineer Corps.

Admiral Harris's body was sent to Washington later for burial at 2 P. M. on Monday in the National Military Cemetery at Arlington, Va.

Honorary pallbearers at the rites included Admiral Ben Moreell, USN, retired, chairman of the board of Jones & Laughlin Steel Corporation; J. C. Evans, chairman of the Engineering Board, Port of New York Authority, and C. T. Chenery, president of the Federal Water and Gas Corporation.

Others were John D. Reilly, president of the Todd Shipyards Corporation; J. Rich Steers, president of the J. Rich Steers Company; Arthur Hiltebrant, general manager of the New York district Shipbuilding Division, Bethlehem Steel Company, and Dr. John C. Riedel, consulting engineer for the New York Board of Estimate.

Also Gen. Clinton F. Robinson, vice president of Frederic R. Harris, Inc.; Arthur C. Moore, president of Manning, Maxwell & Moore; W. H. Mueser of the Moran, Proctor, Freeman & Mueser Company; George W. Burpree of Coverdale & Colpitts; and J. L. Kilpatrick, former presient of the New York Telephone Company, who represented the American Institute of Consulting Engineers.

HOSPITAL JOB TO START

Cornerstone Will Be Laid for Big Naval Project in Queens

The cornerstone for the new $15,000,000 permanent United States Naval Hospital at St. Albans, Queens, will be laid on Thursday at 2:30 P. M., it was announced yesterday. When completed in 1951 the hospital will have a capacity of 600 and will be used jointly by the Army, Navy and Air Force.

The contractor is Thompson-Starrett Company, Inc. The project represents the largest lump-sum contract ever awarded by the Navy's Bureau of Yards and Docks for hospital construction. York & Sawyer are the architects.

The new installation will include a six-story administration and treatment building, six three-story ward buildings, a betatron therapy building and a two-story building for hospital personnel.

Farewell to Missionaries

MARYKNOLL, N. Y., July 23—Cardinal Spellman will preside at the thirty-second annual departure ceremony for Maryknoll Missioners assigned to overseas posts tomorrow at the Maryknoll headquarters of the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America here. Auxiliary Bishop Charles H. Helmsing of St. Louis will preach the sermon.

SLOANE'S SUMM

Antique

Ward In Mokeel's

FUND FOR ASHBROOK MATERIAL

Kent B. Stiles in his Sunday column in the "New York Times" writes that a fund is being raised through private subscriptions to purchase from Stanley B Ashbrook the many thousands of books pamphlets, records, photographs and the like which he has accumulated during the last thirty years or more. This will become the property of the Philatelic Foundation. We doubt whether anyone in the world has a finer U. S. reference library with documents, photographs and the like than Stan Ashbrook. Many of the choicest early U. S. covers known have been examined by him and he has not only given them close study and made notes but has photographed the unusual. We understand it will become the property of the Foundation after the death of Mr. Ashbrook. We sincerely trust it will be many many years before they eventually acquire this outstanding reference accumulation. From the price asked it is our impression that Mr. Ashbrook is most liberal in letting them acquire his holdings at such a reasonable price for we are confident he would receive much more in the open market.

May 23, 1949

DIVISION OF STAMPS

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
RK:RS

Post Office Department

THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL

Washington

April 28, 1937.

ORIGINAL Die

Mr. H. L. Lindquist,
2 West 46th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Lindquist:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of April 16, in which you make inquiry concerning the availability of a photograph of original die No. 89 of the 1-cent postage stamp included in the Series of 1851. Your letter of the same date on this subject to the Director of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing has also been referred to this Office.

In view of the precedent that would be created, it is considered impracticable to comply with your request for a photograph of the stamp die in question for illustration purposes in your publication.

Very truly yours,

Roy M North

Acting Third Assistant Postmaster General.

Best Regards

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March 29.37.

Mr. S. B. Ashbrook
Covington, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:-

As per Mr. Lindquist's request I looked through the article of B.K.Miller on the U.S. Dies and under 1851 I find the following reference.

Year	No.	Denom.	Die	
1851	30-2	1	89	The same dies were used for the perforated issue of 1857-60(Nos.40-54) and for the 1875 Reprints 54 a-h.
	33	3	90	
	34	5	91	
	35	10	92	
	36	12	93	
	37	24	94-95	
	38	30	96	
	39	90	97	

If you prefer to have the volume containing this article shipped on to you, I shall be glad to do so.

Sincerely yours,

Mitzi Neumann

MITZI NEUMANN. ACTING SEC'Y.

A Tribute to Percy Doane

By B. D. FORSTER

READERS of Time select "the man of the year," so perhaps we in the stamp field ought to do something along the same line. For my choice of the "stamp auctioneer of the year," I would propose Percy G. Doane, for the year 1943, just past.

In his 342nd sale, held December 6th and 7th, 1943, he called attention to the remarkable condition of the covers offered, and dealers and collectors bid the prices up and up; many would-be buyers came away empty-handed. Mr. Doane is known for his conservative descriptions, which are a joy and a delight, and so when he just mentioned the unusual condition of the covers, everyone knew this must truly be choice material. As an example of his reserve in describing material, I fail to find once in his catalog mention of the word "superb," despite the choice grade of the offerings.

The sale brought very high prices, yet was handled with a simple catalog containing no illustrations.

Perc has befriended and helped me for more than thirty years, and he has a legion of admirers among collectors and dealers. Never have I heard him speak against any of his competitors, and he is most liberal in assisting the novice and giving honest advice.

He began business at 154 Nassau Street, New York, in 1894, and in his present quarters in 1897. He shuns publicity, and the editor of STAMPS aptly recorded his reticent nature in describing Perc's embarrassment when on his birthday three years ago he received a singing telegram.

The years have wrought few changes in his office. Modern devices are nowhere in evidence, though his calendars are brought up to date more frequently now than they once were, and one of his three counter tables now sports a clock about four inches square. It appears as a modern intruder, but is tolerated, in all probability, because it runs slow. Perc has no telephone, no adding machine, not even a pencil sharpener, but he gets results.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: There is probably no other figure in the stamp world whose quaint ways and simple honesty have earned the universal love and respect that is bestowed on Percy Doane. His special niche in the philatelic scene is one which will remain especially his always, and he will go down in the annals of philately as a particular figure of importance, though his whole sojourn in it bespeaks a quiet gentility that sought no attention for himself. He is truly a gentleman of the old school, one of whom many have said the world would be a better place if there were more like him. If this sounds like an epitaph, it is only because all too much it is the habit of men to omit "flowers for the living.")

Identification Chart for the Types of the United States One Cent Stamp of 1851-1857

MOST collectors and dealers who have not made a thorough study of the subject have always found the One Cent Stamp of 1851-1857 difficulty to identify.

For the specialist who is really interested in the stamp the work of Stanley B. Ashbrook, of course, gives a very scholarly and thorough analysis, but the casual collector, who merely wants the listed types for his collection, seldom feels sure of himself when it comes to identifying the various types.

Mortimer L. Neinken, 49 West 23rd Street, New York 10, N. Y., has made a valuable contribution to the subject in a chart which he has just issued. He first shows the original die, with all the various sections of the design labeled, and then illustrates ten designs which clearly point out the essential differences of each type. In the imperforate stamps descriptions accompany which make it easily possible to identify Scott's Nos. 30, Type I; 30B, Type IB; 30B, Type 1A; Type IC, which is not listed; 31, Type II, 32D, Type IV; 32, Type III; and 32B, Type IIIA.

In the perforated issue, the chart points out Scott's Nos. 40, Type I; 40B, Type IA; Type IC, not listed; 41, Type II; 42D, Type IV; 42, Type III, 42B, Type IIIA; 42F, Type V; and Type VA, which is not listed.

The chart has been approved by Stanley B. Ashbrook and is distributed by Murray Simnock & Co., 116 Nassau Street, New York 7, N. Y., at $1.00 per copy.

Nicolas Sanabria Dies

NICOLAS SANABRIA, the well-known air mail dealer, and publisher of *Sanabria's Airpost Catalogue,* died in French Hospital, New York, on Saturday, December 1st, 1945. He was 56 years old.

Mr. Sanabria was born in Caracas, Venezuela, on November 4, 1889, and was educated at Santa Maria School in that city. His father before him was an ardent stamp collector, so he came naturally by his love of philately, and by the age of nine, was corresponding all over the world in search of stamps. His father was at one time Postmaster General of Venezuela, and his uncle, Guzman Alvarez, was President of the Republic from 1895 to 1898.

Following his school days Nicolas Sanabria spent two years in the army, rising to the rank of captain. He entered politics, and became mayor of a town of 15,000 inhabitants when he was 21 years old. Later he became co-editor of a weekly paper, which came under the ban of officials in Venezuela, and eventually resulted in his political exile.

In 1922 Mr. Sanabria came to America, bringing a large general stamp collection with him. Part of this he sold immediately, but the bulk of it was used as the nucleus of the stock with which he started in business. After several years of free lancing, he was employed by Victor Weiskopf, in New York, and remained with him until the end of 1927, when he started in business again for himself, concentrating on airmails, which he believed to have a great future. In 1928 he branched out and opened larger offices at 17 East 42nd Street, later moving to still larger quarters at 521 Fifth Avenue, where he was located at the time of his passing. He had meantime acquired what was believed to be the finest stock of airmail stamps in the world. In March, 1931, he entered into the auction field.

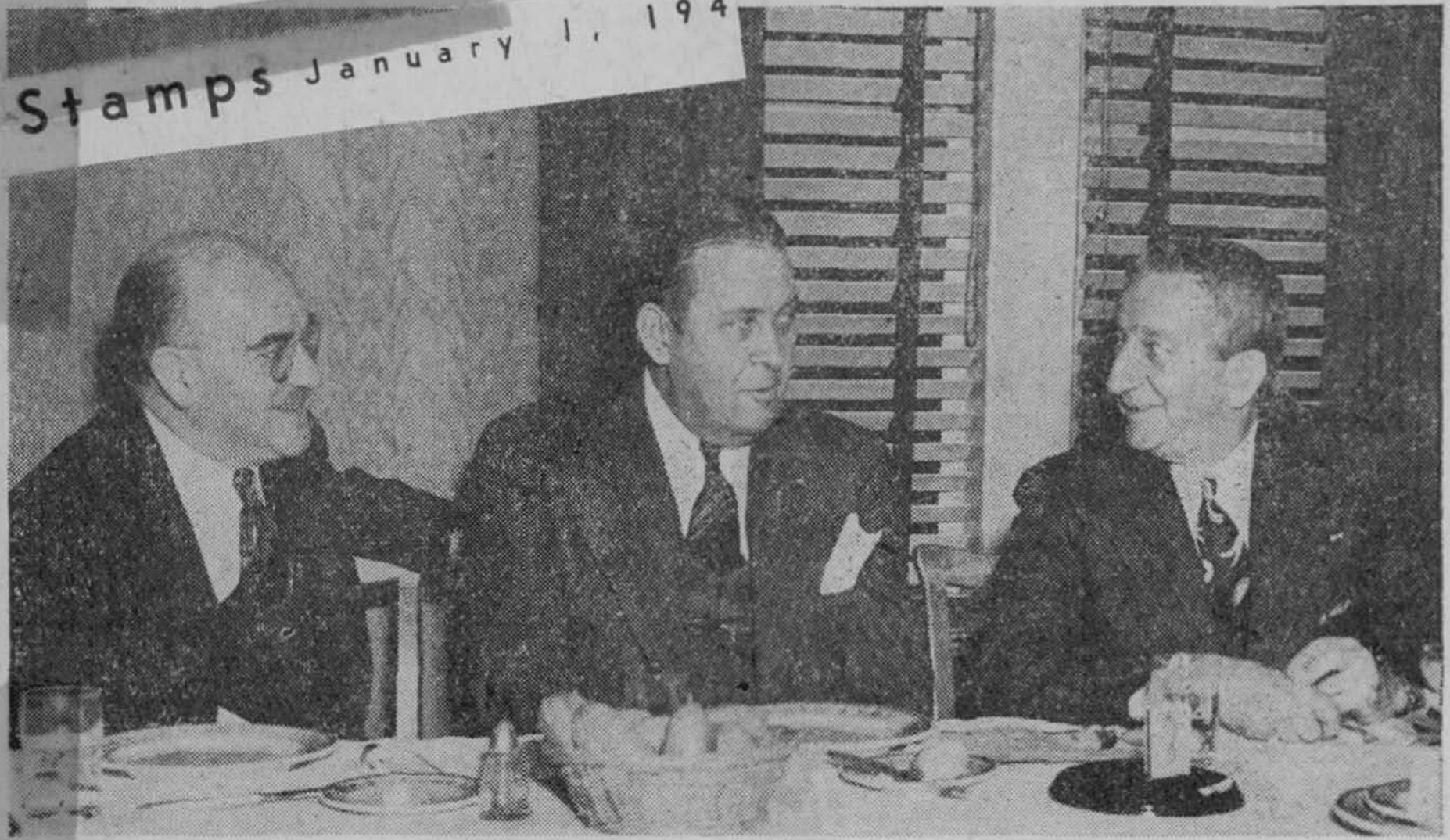
Mr. Sanabria had a personal collection of Venezuela which is one of the finest in existence.

In 1936 Mr. Sanabria introduced his first airmail catalog, which was an instantaneous success, and which has since become an important reference work for airmail collectors. It is not known whether this catalog will be continued after his death, nor is it certain that even the 1946 edition will be published. However, this edition was so near to completion at the time of his passing that it seems probable the advisory editors will see that it is published.

No information is as yet available either as to whether the business will be continued. An announcement concerning these matters will be made in STAMPS as soon as information is available from the executors of Mr. Sanabria's estate.

A solemn requiem mass was held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, December 4th, at Holy Trinity R. C. Church in New York.

Mr. Sanabria is survived by his widow Julia; and a son, Corp. Nicolas Sanabria, Jr., now with the Army in Tokyo. Also three sisters, Mrs. Maria Saume, Mrs. Judith de Castro, and Mrs. Rebecca Scholk.



At the dinner of the Stamp and Coin Division of the New York and Brooklyn Federations of Jewish Charities in New York Tuesday evening, November 30, 1943. Left to right: Chairman Stack; Roy M. North, Deputy 3rd Asst. P.M. General, who was guest speaker; and Edward Stern, Honorary Chairman.

don, known best perhaps for his embossed revenues; Towner Webster, another specialist in the 3c 1851-57 issues, and who is also accumulating an interesting collection of U. S. stamps that look fine on the face, but which may have a minor thin spot, a small tear, or some other defect that detracts from its value but not its beauty; Arthur Van Vlissinger, New York Foreign Cancellations; Chuck Marony, U. S. Packet Boats, R. R. Cancels and Confeds; Bill Stewart of Postal Markings; Larry Edmunds, a more or less reformed Precancellist; Stew Dawson, 19th Century U. S.; W. D. Kenworthy, 1c and 3c 1851-57, among others; W. A. Keightley, general U. S.; and a new, and perhaps temporary member, none other than Major Max G. Johl, the U. S. 20th Century expert who is now stationed in Chicago; as well as two others, Orville Sampson and Deloss Grant, whom we missed meeting on this trip.

A great bunch to draw to, who are making Chicago an important factor in the philatelic world.

VOLUME 46, NO. 10

News, V

Stamp Shops Are Booming in Chicago

ALL of the stamp shops that we were able to visit on a brief stop in Chicago, en route to Tucson and Phoenix, Arizona, report a thriving business. Joseph Whitebourgh of the Garden City Stamp Agency, 68 West Washington Street, says he has solved the mystery of the scarcity of material and the prevailing high prices, and that it is all due to the fact that prices in Europe have risen to such heights, due to inflationary and other

The Jacobs Club At Marshall Field's

FOR many years, a group of Chicago collectors and dealers, headed by Ernest Jacobs, have lunched every Friday, as well as many Mondays, at Marshall Field's Men's Grill When we first met with this group they numbered about half a dozen, and met out in the open spaces of the restaurant. Now they have been promoted to a regular booth and number a dozen or more regulars, in addition to many visitors. Among those who will usually be found at the luncheons are: Number One Man, Ernest Jacobs, himself, who has done more to create an appreciation of superb U. S. stamps than any other man in this country; Dick Cabeen, Stamp Editor, in his leisure, of the *Chicago Tribune,* and an expert on U. S. 3c 1851-57; Fitz Gore, who has built a marvelous collection of superb U. S.; Ted Shel-

packets—of all things. Merrill came in late that day so we assume he was trying to dodge the job. They had a nice set of the Columbian Dollar values on display at $200, and a set of U. S. Zepps at $57.50.

Down the street at 118 W. Monroe Street, we ran into a new store run by C. H. Hunt, well known for his controlled mail supplies. He had a fine lot of used Occupied Nations Stamps, many in complete sheets with neat registered cancels in the center of each block, which he was selling at $2 per sheet.

Two of the smartest stamp men in Chicago are Olaf Nagel and Henry Kuhlmann, who conduct the Stamp Auction Service at 58 W. Washington Street. They were just breaking up a fine collection of used U. S. Department Stamps and U. S. Revenues with handstamp cancellations. No need to write them though, as the lot was going fast and will be gone by the time this appears in print. They were proud of one rare

Civil War Letter

ABOUT ten years ago, Arthur J. Cubbage, who was then connected with the Hotel Traymore at Atlantic City, N. J., fell heir to a remarkable collection of Civil War letters. Since that time he has had them all typewritten and arranged chronologically, and they supply an interesting story on conditions at that time.

Arthur has selected one of these letters from his collection which he thought might interest the readers of STAMPS. In his explanation to it he states: "Fredericksburg was almost the first of 'modern' battles, and one of the last of old-style battles in the grand manner of marching with a band and flag at the head of the first regiment. Gen. Burnside's Union troops made assault after assault on Lee's Southerners who were well protected behind a stone wall. On December 13, 1862, Burnside lost 12,500 men killed and wounded."

Camp near Falmouth, Virginia
January 26, 1863.

Dear Cousin

I have not heard from you lately. I thought I must write you a few lines To Let you know I am well and in good health. Hoping Theis few lines will find you the Same as it leaves me in good health.

I suppose you hear great excitement now about the Fredsburg fight but you must not believe all the papers Says for they cant tell the Truth now days. And for Our governor he ought to be hung up by the heels and hang Till he dies. Just such men as him keeps the war progressing on and I would like to have him Tied to this Tree in our avenneu and Let me Shote him Till he is *dead dead dead*—plague on him.

Well Cousin I like it furstrate So fare. I have No Reason To Complain fore some of our fellows has it harder Than me. Some with theire Little Shelter tents which is made with Muslin and we have Our Sibble Tents. Therefore we are better off than they are.

Cousin Lib I have bin on double duty fore two days but they won't make any thing of me fore I am one of the boys than can Stand double duty. They cant kill me.

I want you to write to me oftener than you do fore I have no chance to write. You may think I have. Hear I Set down on my knapsack and both Legs stuck in the ground and write on my neas. You may believe me or believe me not.

Dear Cousin I often think of you although many miles does part us. That doesnt go to Say I shall not love you fore I think well of you my only friend. Truly.

I must bring my note to a close. Give my love to Auntty and to Unkle Jess and Jack and espesly to the Two Little boys. Tell Betsy Ann not to get married Till I get home fore I want her badly. Tell Amy I have wrote her twice now and havent had an anser from her yet. Give my love to her and to all the rest of the girls. To Mary Huff to. Write soon.

And send me some postage stamps.

From your cousin
Edward Brick.

Direct
Co G 12th N. J. Vols.
In Camp near Falmouth Va
Via Washington, D. C.

…are those (*exc*
…or invest, a minimum
…F. *dc.* N.L." *may* be of
…ay appear in STAMPS

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…l in Book-

CHO

1915 (401) 1c Pan
1915 (402) 2c Pan
1915 (403) 5c Pan

Hilding E. Nelson
Chicago, Ill.

Donald Anthony

These few philatelic things were not "be-smuged" with

A—Jap—Insult!

It was applied (by way of an overprint) to *all* the Philippine Island *stamps* the Japs seized, *after BATAAN!*

The Booklet Panes described below were received in the U.S.A.—from the Philippine Island Philatelic Agency in Manila (mailed out *just before Pearl Harbor* and *Bataan.* The story of the overprints was a news

1915 (404) 10c Panama Pacific, Perf. 10, Block of 4 ..... 125.00
1918 (524) $5 green and black Franklin, arrow block of 4, with 1 Plate No. 45.00
1918 (547) $2 carmine and black Franklin, arrow block of 4, with 1 Plate No. 22.50
1930 (C13) 65c Zeppelin, Block of 4 ..... 35.00
U. S. OFFICES IN CHINA, K17 and K18, Blocks of 4 ..... 25.00

Cat. No.		FINE MINT, O. G.				USED		CACHETED FIRST DAYS			
	The Bi-Color Flag Set	Sheet	Plate	Block	Single	Block	Single	Single	Plate	Block	Cat. No.
909	5c Poland.....	$3.00	$ .40	$ .25	$ .07	$ .16	$ .04	$ .35	$ .75	$ .60	909
910	5c Czech.....	3.00	.40	.25	.07	.16	.04	.35	.75	.60	910
911	5c Norse.....	3.00	.40	.25	.07	.16	.04	.35	.75	.60	911
912	5c Luxembu....	3.00	.40	.25	.07	.16	.04	.25	.65	.45	912
913	5c Netherlands..	3.00	.40	.25	.07	.16	.04	.20	.50	.40	913
914	5c Belgium...	3.00	.40	.25	.07	.16	.04	.25	.65	.45	914

STAMPS
Jan 1 1944

Sloane's COLUMN

A weekly column conducted by George B. Sloane, 116 Nassau Street, New York, N. Y., recognized philatelic expert and authority.

Were Department Stamps Demonetized?

Dr. Carroll Chase reports acquisition of a 3c brown, Treasury Department stamp, tied to an official cover, dated March 19, 1906, used from Fairview, Oklahoma, (then a Territory), addressed to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Washington, D. C. It is a printed, self-addressed envelope, and the cover obviously is not philatelic.

This is an extraordinarily late usage of a Department stamp, and I would be interested in learning if any reader can show a legitimate usage of any one of the Department stamps at or near this period, and most particularly, a later usage. Covers used philatelically or for some one's amusement would, of course, be of little interest.

The question is also raised by Dr. Chase as to when, if ever, the Department issues were demonetized.

Superficial research seems to indicate that no order ever issued from the Post Office Department declaring these stamps invalid for postage. Possibly it was felt no such order was required since the general public had little opportunity of legally using any of the stamps. The Post Office Department's booklet (1937), describing and illustrating U. S. stamps, makes this comment regarding the Department stamps: "These stamps were supplanted on May 1, 1879, by the penalty envelope and on the 5th of July, 1884, were declared obsolete." Obsolete, out of date, no longer used, but the word, "demonetized," is not used. A careful search of John N. Luff's book, "The Postage Stamps of the United States," (1902), gives no indication that the stamps were demonetized, but he, also, uses the word, "obsolete."

Nine executive departments of the government, Agriculture, Executive, Interior, Justice, Navy, Post Office, State, Treasury and War, participated in the usage of these stamps, each with their own separately identified sets of stamps, and which first went into usage, July 1, 1873. The Executives were, I believe, the first to fall into disuse, while the last to remain in fairly general usage were the War Department issues. Although the Post Office Department called upon the various other departments to return any stocks of unused remainders on hand when the issues became obsolete, Mr. Luff reports that some of them complied with the request, while others declined on the ground that they had paid for the stamps and should not be expected to give them up unless properly compensated.

It is probable that some stamps from these remaining stocks continued to be used after July 5, 1884, and I believe that I have seen War Department covers used after this date.

George B. Sloane

ED STAMPS

By

G. SEYMOUR THOMPSON
Honorary Life Member,
Club Philatelique d'Egypte

Enlarged specimen of the 1866 first issue of Egypt.

overprinting the background of the 5 piastres, with the inscription for the 10 piastres, this constituting one of the major varieties of Egypt. The paper was watermarked with the device of a star-and-pyramid while the backgrounds differed slightly north and south, with the consequence that the watermark may be found either way up with reference to the background, and the background to the overprint, and it is apparent that either side of the paper was used: consequently four varieties of this watermark exist. Descriptions in full may be found in Melville's "Egypt" and Georges Zehedi's catalog published in Cairo (last issue 1938/9).

The next occasion for overprinting was at the New Year 1878/9 when a shortage of 5 and 10 para stamps (i. e. 1/8 and 1/4 piastre, respectively, equivalent to 5/8 cent and 1 1/4 cents, respectively) were required for Xmas and New Year cards. These overprints consisted of the figures "5" or "10" in heavy black figures with paras expressed both in French and in Arabic, on the 2 1/2 piastres purple, in two shades. Inverts are found as well as some forgeries which are difficult to detect. There is a variety of the "5" which is constant, wherein the ball of the figure did

STAMPS JAN 8 1944

Alfred H. Cospary Recovers Stamps Lost After the Hind Sale

IN the issue of STAMPS for December 9, 1933, after the sale of the famous Arthur Hind collection, November 20-24, inclusive, 1933, the following ad appeared:

LOSS OF STAMPS FROM THE HIND SALE

A client has had the misfortune to lose the following stamps he purchased at the Hind Auction at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel on November 24th.

St. Louis. On Pelure paper. Two 5c on cover tied together by a red PAID.

U. S. 1851. 12c black, diagonal half on front of cover with Hawaii 5c blue.

U. S. 1857. 5c brick-red, unused block of three and a single making up a reconstructed block.

U. S. 1869. 15c brown and blue, Type I., superb block of 6, unused.

Goliad. 5c black on gray, GOLIAD in small sloping type.

Goliad. 10c black on rose, on Patriotic cover.

Memphis. 5c rose red, unused, and a single and pair on two covers.

Nashville. 5c carmine, on cover, tied on.

A liberal reward will be paid for the return of the above stamps.

Charles J. Phillips
The Mayflower
15 Central Park West
New York

The client referred to was Alfred H. Caspary, and the stamps were presumably left in a taxicab after he had secured them at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. For ten years nothing further had been heard of the stamps, but recently they turned up, and we understand that Mr. Caspary has recovered all of them, except the Goliad 10c black on rose, on Patriotic Cover.

The full story of their recovery has not been told, but we want to congratulate Mr. Caspary on recovering this property after all these years.

eral hundred cachets were sent out to commemorate the event.

* * *

It's a swell thing to have friends who own apple orchards, orange groves, and such. We are again indebted to H. W. Blanks of Colombia, La., for a box of shelled jumbo pecans, which added much to our holiday cheer.

* * *

Fred C. Wilharm of Wilkinsburg, Pa., has sent out an intersting Christmas card, showing his picture on a postage stamp. It is dedicated to his philatelic interests, and shows his A.P.S. and S.P.A. numbers on it, which by a strange coincidence are the same—13713.

* * *

That man Malcolm C. Dizer is here again with another original. Last July we mentioned in our "Newsbits" that he was always coming along with something nobody else had ever done. So, what's he do now but reproduce that item on a full page reproduction of a STAMPS cover, and use it for the cover piece of his Christmas Greeting folder.

* * *

The item mentioned his being in the Merchant Marine, so on the inside pages of the folder, he pictorially tells the story of his May-June-July adventures at sea and in North Africa. We are shown "Main Street" in Casablanca; the Roosevelt-

"GOING!"

Catalogues of the sale o

of the collection of

Green on January

Santa Barbara, Calif.
June 27, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 No. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Last week I had the great pleasure of spending a day with Dr. Carroll Chase at his home in New Hampshire. As you would know, he showed me some tremendous treasures and at the same time very graciously looked through the few things I had brought with me.

One of these latter was a cover bearing a one-cent 1851 which consisted of a four page market letter dated at St. Louis, January 15, 1857, called "Merchants' Exchange Price Current". In this letter there is quoted a new postoffice regulation which Dr. Chase couldn't recall having seen before and in which he thought you might be interested. He suggested that I send it to you, which I am doing by enclosing a copy with this letter. I shall be glad to have your comments.

Dr. Chase also said that I ought to send you two or three other items and that you would not mind if I did so. You will therefore find enclosed three 3¢ 1861's. The one with the target cancellation is one that I purchased in the last Billig and Rich sale for around $8 - as a pink, but Dr. C. is doubtful that it is a pink. To me, it looks practically the same as the one with the two-stroke pen cancel which I am quite sure is not a pink.

The third stamp is apparently on diagonally laid paper, an uncataloged variety, but I suppose it is simply one that was stuck for a long time on an envelope made of laid paper. Would you care to pass on it?

In case the pink is not a pink(!), may I have your permission to return it to Billig and Rich, quoting you? I am a member of the APS but am not familiar with the way these things are handled. If there is a charge, don't hesitate to let me know.

It is a very queer coincidence, but after I had started to type this letter I had to go out for a while and I stopped at a bookseller's where I picked up a copy of your volume I, on the 3¢ 1851-57, in practically new condition, for $3 - which certainly sounded like a bargain to me if the two volumes are bringing $50 at auction as I am told.

I hope I am not making a nuisance of myself.

C. W. Remele
14 E. Carrillo St., Santa Barbara, Cal.
Member 3¢ 1851-57 unit.

July 2, 1949.

Mr. C. W. Remele,
14 E. Carrillo,
Santa Barbara, Calif.

Dear Mr. Remele:

In reply to yours of the 27th, I am returning herewith the three copies of the 3¢ 1861 and beg to inform you that the copy with the target cancel is not a "PINK" but a common rose. It is not even what is termed "a near pink." My advice is to return this copy to Billig & Rich and request return of the purchase price. You certainly are at liberty to quote me. I might remind you, that buying stamps and covers at auction is a very risky practice unless one is absolutely sure that the items are as described.

Thanks very much for the copy of the P.M.G. Regulation of January 1857. Yes, I was familiar with this Regulation as it was the P.O.D. interpretation of a section of the Act of Jan. 2, 1857. Please refer to Volume One, of my book on the U.S. One Cent 1851-1857, page 10.

The Regulation was printed in full in the P.L. & R. of 1857 - (July 1857) - under "Regulations" page 54 - Sec. 119. I think that a very interesting part of this ruling was -

"A business card on an unsealed envelope of a circular, subjects the entire package to letter postage."

I fail to note anything unusual about the paper of the "3rd copy" of your 3¢ 1861's.

My congratulations on the acquisition of a copy of Vol. 1 of my One Cent Book at such an attractive price.

Sincerely yours,

Santa Barbara
Sept. 12, 1949

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Just a line to let you know, that thanks to your help I received a refund from Billig and Rich of the amount that I had paid them for that so-called pink that wasn't even a near-pink. You may recall that I sent it to you at Dr. Chase's suggestion some time ago, and you very kindly gave me your opinion in no uncertain terms.

Both Billig and Rich were away for the summer, hence the delay. In this morning's mail was Mr. Billig's check - no letter or note of apology with it, but the check was the most important.

You may also recall that I mentioned having the good fortune to pick up a copy of volume I of your book on the 1¢ 1851-57 for $3.50. After I received your letter I compared your signature with the one in the frontof the book and discovered that I had an autographed copy! I have only read it through about three times so far! Now if I can only pick up volume II somewhere.

I have slowly acquired a few copies of the one-cents, several of which I have been able to plate from your illustrations which are certainly remarkable. The only thing I have that could possibly be of any interest to you, I think, is a Type V on a newspaper wrapper. It has no distinguishing marks on it other than a New York oval cancellation, undated of course, but I should imagine such a wrapper would be unusual because it would be so seldom that anyone would save such a thing. This is a manila cylinder, very much like the ones issued later by the postoffice with envelope stamps on them.

My best regards, and thank you again.

Very truly yours,

C. W. Remele

SUNDAY NOV. 30, 1947

The Danville, Ill., Commercial-News

Dec. 7 Recalls Yule Seals, Too; Sales First Started in 1907

By DICK RAMEY

Next Sunday will mark not only a memorable anniversary in American military history—the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, bringing this country into World War II—but also that of a great charitable event, the introduction of Christmas Seals in the United States.

On Dec. 7, 1907, the first such seal this side of the Atlantic was sold—in Wilmington, Del. During the holiday season of that year nearly $4,000 worth of seals were sold, netting a profit of $3,000 to combat tuberculosis. Gross receipts first passed the $1,000,000 mark in 1916, surpassed $3,000,000 in 1919, reached the four million mark for the first time in 1923.

Each year the sale has grown, realizing $15,600,000 in 1945. Even a greater total is expected for the 1947 drive which opened Nov. 24 in Danville and elsewhere. Five billion seals are available at 1 cent each.

Started in Denmark

Einar Holboell, an employee of the Danish Post Office Department, is credited with having created the Christmas seal. It was Holboell's idea that money could be raised for charitable purposes by the sale of Christmas seals. Their production for use in the United States was suggested by Jacob Riis, journalist and social service worker. The first one, in 1907, was designed by Miss Emily P. Bissell, bearing the words "Merry Christmas," surrounded by a wreath and below a red cross. Soon thereafter another 1907 seal of similar design, but with the words "Happy New Year" appearing at the bottom, was issued so that sales could continue until Jan. 1, 1908.

The first-year seals were issued and sold by the Delaware Chapter of the American National Red Cross. In 1908, 1909 and 1910 they were issued and sold by the American National Red Cross. From 1911 through 1917 they also were issued by the American National Red Cross, but were sold by the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis. These of 1918 and 1919 again were issued by the Red Cross, but were sold by the National Tuberculosis Association.

Actually no seals were sold in 1918. They were given to members and to others in lots of 10 each, the National Tuberculosis Association being subsidized that year by a gift of $2,500,000 from the American National Red Cross.

Lorraine Cross Appears

Since 1920 Christmas Seals have been issued and sold by the National Tuberculosis Association and since 1919 each seal has born the Lorraine Cross, adopted in 1920 under registration as the trade mark of the association.

The double-bar Lorraine cross, incidentally, dates back to the Ninth Century when it was made the emblem of the eastern branch of the Christian Church. The Crusaders are believed to have been the first to bring it to Europe. Godfrey, the Duke of Lorraine, adopted it as his standard when he was elected Christian ruler of Jerusalem in 1099. During World Wars I and II it formed the central design in the 79th Division insignia.

Whereas all Christmas seals from 1907 through 1918 bear the Red Cross, and those from 1920 to date the Lorraine Cross, both crosses appear on the 1919 seal.

Inscriptions Vary

After the two-type inscription of 1907, those of the next 12 years—excepting 1913—contained the words "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year," but since 1919 there have been varying inscriptions. The word "Health" appeared thereon for the first time in 1919. The various wordings have been as follows:

"Merry Christmas," 1907, 1913, 1923, 1926, 1932, 1941, 1942, 1944, 1947.

"Merry Christmas and Happy New Year," 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919 (also "Health.")

"Merry Christmas, Healthy New Year," 1920, 1921.

"Merry Christmas and Good Health," 1925.

"Merry Christmas, Health to All," 1930.

"For Health," 1922.

"Health, Christmas," 1924.

"Christmas Greetings and Good Health," 1927.

"Christmas Greetings," 1928, 1931, 1933, 1940 ("25th Annual Seal" also appeared in 1931).

"Health Greetings," 1929, 1938.

"Season's Greetings," 1934.

"Christmas," 1935.

"Holiday Greetings," 1936.

"Greetings," 1937, 1943, 1945, 1946.

No words appeared on the 1939 seal.

Collector Attracted

While the Christmas Seal is not a postage stamp, it has become associated with the postal service because of its use on letters and packages, and thus has attracted stamp collectors.

The seals of the first 10 years—excepting 1911—were lithographed. Those of 1911, 1917, 1922 and 1923 were typographed. Approximately half were lithographed and half typographed in 1918, 1919 and 1920. Part were typographed and part produced by offset printing in 1921, while all three methods were employed in producing the 1925 seals. In 1924 and for the last 22 years, beginning in 1926, the offset method has been used exclusively.

Designers of the seals have been: 1907, Miss Emily P. Bissell; 1908, Howard Pyle; 1909, Carl Wingate; 1910, Mrs. Guion Thompson; 1911, Anton Rudert under the direction of F. D. Millet; 1912, John H. Zeh; 1913, C. J. Budd; 1914 and 1915, Benjamin S. Nash; 1916 and 1917, T. M. Cleland; 1918, Charles A. Winter; 1919 and 1920, Ernest Hamlin Baker; 1921, George V. Curtis; 1922, T. M. Cleland; 1923, Rudolph Ruzicka; 1924, George V. Curtis; 1925, Robert G. Eberhard; 1926, George V. Curtis; 1927 and 1928, John W. Evans; 1929, George V. Curtis; 1930 and 1931, John W. Evans; 1932, Edward V. Volkman; 1933, Hans Axel Walleen; 1934, Herman D. Giesen; 1935, Ernest Hamlin Baker; 1936, Walter I. Sasse; 1937, A. Robert Nelson; 1938, Lloyd Coe; 1939, Rockwell Kent; 1940, Felix L. Martini; 1941, Stevan Dohanos; 1942, Dale Nichols; 1943, Andre Duga; 1944, Spence Wildey; 1945, Park Phipps; 1946, Lloyd Coe; 1947, Raymond H. Lufkin.

ONE COAT

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.
1616 WALNUT STREET
PHILADELPHIA 3

February 1, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

In reply to your letter of January 30th would advise that the pair of the 10¢ 1847, West lot #295, was found by Colonel Bandholtz along with several other covers.

To go back to the first, I had known General Bankholtz, his father, very well and one day at the Philatelic Agency Mrs. Shaughnessy introduced me to his son, who was then a Major. A few weeks after Carl Young, a smaller local dealer, offered me about three covers with 10¢ 1847 all cut into. A few days later a second dealer offered me a couple similar covers all from the same correspondence. Following this Wolsieffer had two beautiful copies in one of his auctions which I purchased at the time. I knew these were coming from a single source but could not ask the dealers where they had gotten them nor had I any idea who had made the find, which was addressed to Philadelphia. About two months after this B. K. Miller, whose collection is now in the New York Library and who is the first collector who spent over $1,000 at one time with me, phoned from Washington that he was coming up for a visit. He was a grand old man, I always took him home for dinner and he used to sit on the floor and play with my two little girls who were then around four or five. This time he told me he had something wonderful to show me and when he opened his suitcase he had possibly 75 to 100 covers, all with 10¢ 1847. Out of the entire lot there was not a single stamp that had four margins, all of them being cut into on one side or more. I told Mr. Miller at the time that I knew some covers were being held back and that the man evidently knew the good from the bad for he had weeded out all of his poor pieces. Mr. Miller bought the lot from Coleman in Washington and did not advance any information as to the original finder. He was going to New York after he left me and invited me to visit him at the University Club. I went over to New York, had lunch with him and then we walked down to the Scott Company where Costales was on hand. He started to tell Costales about the find and Costales said immediately, "Oh yes, that's the Bandholtz lot". My ears picked up for this was the information I wanted. I immediately came back, telegraphed General Bandholtz at his home for he had retired and asked him as to the find. He wrote me that he had not made the find and that it was evidently his son.

I knew his son was stationed at Frankford Arsenal; I immediately phoned the Arsenal and was told that he was transferred to M.I.T. in Boston where they had a Cavalry Reserve Corps and Bandholtz was assigned there to instruct the Unit. I immediately wrote him, told him I had been a friend of his father's for many years and recalled our meeting in Washington. He remembered me and wrote back that he had a few nice things left out of the find. I showed the letter to

Gibson, who was then enthusiastic about the 1847 issue, and he wanted me to go there at once. I, however, waited a couple weeks for Dan was going to have a sale and I wanted to kill both birds with one stone. I told Bandholtz I was coming and he asked me to phone him on arrival.

Several other people who knew about the lot were also converging on Boston at the same day, unknown to each other however. I took the night train, reached Boston very early, phoned Bandholtz around 8 o'clock and was at his home in Watertown about 8:30. When I saw his collection I realized that he had kept all the beautiful things. I bought it on the spot, wired Gibson that the collection surpassed our greatest expectations and that I would be home tomorrow, which was a Sunday. I took the collection to Dan's office and your friend, Perry, who had later turned out was sent to Boston by Ackerman to buy the lot, said to me, "What have you got there?". I said, "The Bandholtz 1847". His ears picked up and he said, "I do not believe you". I told him then I did not care whether he believed me or not. Burger heard the conversation and later told me he had come to Boston to buy them, that he had reached Bandholtz about two hours after I had been there and was told that I had bought the collection. Colson also was there ahead of me but tried to get it for nothing and ran down the price, hence Bandholtz refused to do business.

If I recall rightly, I paid around $11,000 for the collection. Perry asked me what I would take for it and I told him that I did not want to sell it, that I had it for a special client and, of course, he knew to whom I was referring. He and Judge Emerson did not attend the sale that night but stayed in Dan's office going over the covers which had been mounted. Judge Emerson wanted the pair, which you recently sold, wanted the pair showing the Double Transfer in "Post Office" and the pair showing the Double Transfer in "X". These, like all of the other stamps, were on the entire covers. Emerson insisted on buying these three pieces separately and I absolutely refused to break the lot. Perry offered me $10,000 for the lot and I told him he was crazy. We argued in Dan's office until 1 o'clock, when I picked up the collection and told them I was going back to the hotel and would put the stamps under my pillow for the night so no one would disturb them.

The next morning, about 8 o'clock, Perry phoned and offered $12,000. I refused it and he told me that if I was selling them to Gibson I could tell him that he would refuse to plate them. I told him I did not give a damn what he would or would not do and that it was none of his business what I would do with them. I reached home early Sunday morning, called Mr. Gibson about 8 o'clock and made arrangements to bring them out and show them to him. He bought the lot for $15,000 and we sat down and figured out what each single pair and strip would cost him. The next morning when I went over to his bank he had a letter from Perry telling him that the lot was not worth over $10,000 and that if he paid any more he was a fool. I immediately told Gibson he would have the privilege of turning them back if he wanted to and that there would be no hard feeling. He said he was more than pleased, considered the price fair and that he had no doubt Perry would plate them for he could not afford to lose his business. He mentioned at the time that he thought Perry was a gentleman and was indeed surprised that he should have written such a letter.

After Perry had finally plated the lot and he had taken out what he wanted, Gibson had the balance which he did not want and he gave me first pick so

that I could take to sell any that I wanted for my clients. As I recall, he kept the nicer things so I only retained a few pieces. He advised that he felt it nothing more than fair in view of the fact that Perry had plated them that he be given the opportunity of selling the balance. I suggested that he not turn them over to Perry at his cost from which a commission would be deducted but that he add to the figures he had paid sufficient to take care of the commission. This he did and Perry sold every lot in spite of the fact that Gibson had fine things at these figures and Perry had simply the leavings. This just proved to Gibson that Perry's letter was in the heat of anger and that he was simply trying to kill the sale in devaluating the lot.

We now come to your cover. When I acquired this lot I picked out this cover along with the pair of 5¢ on cover from the same find, West lot #260. I had these two pieces for several years when West came along and offered me what I considered twice what they were worth. He, hence, acquired them and they came up in the West Sale. For your information, this was the finest pair of the 10¢ 1847 in the Ludlow Beebee find.

I have gone into great detail and am sending the letter in duplicate in case you care to pass on a copy to your client. He evidently knows me anyhow so that he would be glad to have this information.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

PHW,JR:rmw

Longest letter I have written in ten years - "Dictated but not read"

PW.

Feb. 20, 1949.

Mr. Paul Rohloff,
22 West Monroe St.,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Paul:

Herewith the four items as per yours of Friday -

#1 - 5¢ buff cover - This cover is genuine but the stamp to right is damaged at the upper right corner, and the address has been touched up. The postmark on the stamps is the same one as on the face but someone took these stamps off the cover and did not replace them in their original position. My quartz lamp shows this - The framed red marking "U.S.PAID 10" is very faint and indicates(?) that the front of the cover was washed. In other words, there was a bit of monkey business with the cover to "fix" it up. Under such circumstancex if the cover was offered to me @ $100.00 I would not buy it.

#2 - 5¢ Brick plus 10¢ to Germany - This year use was May 1861, hence absolutely O.K. for a brick and a 10¢ Type V - The rate is also correct,viz., 15¢ Via Bremen Pkt. with a "12" credit ouf of the 15¢ - While no one can be sure that these two stamps were used on this cover it is my opinion that they were. I made an examination under my lamp and failed to note anything suspicious. Also the tracing of the cancel on the 5¢ seems to match the one on the 10¢. A price of $75.00 for this cover seems to me to be O.K.

#3 - I believe that this cover is O.K. but its condition leaves a lot to be desired. Note my tracing of the postmark on the face - It lines up with the one on the stamps with the exception of the JAN. It is out of line, but this was doubtless due to the fact that the original strike was Jan. 5 - the "7" in pencil is the correction. There is no indication of year use but my guess is that the use was Jan. 7, 1861, and here is what happened. In 1861, the 5th of January fell on Saturday, and when this letter was mailed on Monday, the 7th, the clerk found he had failed to change the day logo - so he corrected it to "7" and stamped the face of the cover and used a pencil to make it "7" on the stamps. The stamps are a partially severed pair. By the Overland Mail stage via St. Louis would be O.K. for January 1861 and such a routing is most uncommon. In addition, the 10¢ rate to California, paid by the Brick Red, is most unusual. While the condition of this cover is far below par it is a scarce item. Whether a price of $150.00 is justified depends entirely on how bad a collector desires to own it.

#4 - This stamp was never issued to the public in imperforate condition - hence it is in the class of a proof - It is what

I class as "sucker items." I do not consider such things a good investment because they are not a ready sale. I do not keep much track of such freaks but I recall that a block of 4 in the Worthington sale brought only $165.00. But that was 32 years ago.

Regarding your query on the 5¢ 1847 position dots. Your letter is not quite clear so I better not attempt to answer. No position dots occur in the stamps of the first vertical rows of each pane - and position dots occur in the margins of both panes to the right of each of the 10th vertical rows.

I am enclosing some gray prints of the 5¢ and 10¢ 1847 - I will be glad to send you some. Let me know how many - if you require more than 25 I will have to have some printed - Do you want any of the 10¢?

Congratulations on receiving the Grand Award.

The latch string is always out to you and we will be delighted to have you at any time. And remember, this includes Mrs. Rohloff.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

Feb. 20, 1949.

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I am enclosing some gray prints of the 5¢ and 10¢ 1847 - I will be glad to send you some. Let me know how many - if you require more than 25 I will have to have some printed - Do you want any of the 10¢?

Congratulations on receiving the Grand Award.

The latch string is always out to you and we will be delighted to have you at any time. And remember, this includes Mrs. Rohloff.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

11 Mason Street
Brookline 46, Mass.
March 14, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Thank you for your letter of February 28th permitting use of the clear photograph of the 5¢ '47 tied by small Boston PAID grid. I have seen the concentric oval BROOKLINE. MASS. on stamps of the 1851-1857 period, and enclose an example in red on a stampless cover of 1847 in case you would like to see the complete marking.

I am also enclosing a few puzzling Boston markings on which I should appreciate your comments:

(1) BOSTON BR. PKT. is surprising on a letter "p Prussian closed mail via N.Y." Is the 28 in red crayon Boston?

(2) The nearest thing to a Boston Way which I have discovered in this period is the pencilled Due 1 on the 3¢ envelope with postmark of Sept 7 (1858-1859). It seems a good deal like the White Plains only without the word"Way" on the Boston cover. I suppose the black oblong over the Boston concentric of Jan 18 (1861) is some sort of a New Orleans marking.

(3) Is it possible to determine whether the Boston Held for Postage Dead Letter "Postage not paid", of December 5-13, was an obsolete use of the 3¢ 1857 stamp in December 1861, or some other sort of postage deficiency in December 1860? Incidentally, if this is 1860 it would be an earliest record for this type of Boston concentric, otherwise first known January 15, 1861.

Thank you for any help you can give me with these items.

Sincerely yours,

Maurice C. Blake

March 16, 1949.

Mr. M. C. Blake,
11 Mason St.,
Brookline 46, Mass.

Dear Mr. Blake:

Yours of the 14th received with the various covers which I am returning herewith. Here are some remarks:

No. 1 - From Bremen to Cuba - Via Prussian Closed Mail, (thru England). The rates from the U. S. to Bremen in 1867 were as follows:

Via P.C.M. Unpaid	30¢
" " Paid	28¢
" Bremen Mail	10¢
" Hamburg Mail	15¢
" French Mail	21¢ per ½ oz.

This letter surely went by P.C.M. as note the "Aachen." The rate to Cuba, that is, to the Cuban Frontier was 10¢. I judge that the equivalent of 38¢ was paid on this letter. The British dropped this at Boston and I believe that the brown pencil marks were applied at Boston. Did Boston have a habit of using brown pencil instead of red and didn't that "habit" go clear back to the late forties or perhaps earlier? I don't think that the New York Foreign Division used <u>brown</u> but rather red pencils.

Perhaps the Way bill showed a prepayment to the Cuban Frontier - together with the proper credits by the Bremen office. No doubt Boston's "28" indicated the PAID rate to the U.S.

Mail to Germany via "P.C.M." was sent from either Boston or New York, as I recall. That is, when forwarded by Cunard ships. I suppose this piece of mail went direct from Boston to Havana, and never passed thru the N.Y. F.O.

No. 2 - Re - the three covers. Rather than "Due 1" in pencil, I think this is some collector's notation of "Die 1." I don't know anything about U. S. envelopes but perhaps this was a "Die 1." The White Plains cover is probably O.K. but I am a bit suspicious of such manuscript postal markings. On the cover from Boston to New Orleans the black marking is "<u>ADV 1</u>," in other words, for advertising - the sum of 1¢ was due on delivery. I think that I illustrated a tracing of this in my Volume 2, but offhand I cannot give you the page.

No. 3 - This is quite an interesting item. I doubt if the use was 1860 or earlier than 1861. For example, if 1860 why was it held up and sent to the D.L.O.? How does the following explanation appeal to you? The letter was dated Dec. 5. It was mailed with a 3¢ '57 on Dec. 7 (see Boston P.M. on back), 1861., Why wasn't it marked "OLD STAMPS NOT RECOGNIZED" and forwarded with 3¢ Due? Perhaps Crosly was notified that a letter was being held for non-payment of postage and to forward 3¢. Perhaps the addressee disregarded the notice - so the letter was sent to the D.L.O. by the Boston P.O. - There it was opened and the addressor was notified to send postage if he desired the letter. This was done and apparently the letter was sent under separate cover. Or perhaps the D.O.O. returned the letter to the writer in a Government franked envelope - I do not recall if such were used in the late fifties and early sixties.

Here is another possible solution - Date 1860 - dropped in a letter-box, addressee notified to send 1¢. This he disregarded, hence there was no other course but to send the letter to the D.L.O., from there it was returned to addressor. Perhaps this solution has the most merit, because the P.M.G. ruled in the fall of 1860 that unpaid carrier fees (box to P.O.) could not be sent as "Due One Cent." You will recall that at least three offices (Boston, New York and Phila.) attempted to send letters mailed in pick-up boxes with the Carrier fee "Due 1 cent" but the P.M.G. forbid such uses. Here is a cover mailed from Boston on Oct. 4, 1860 with the Carrier collection fee sent collect. Offhand I do not recall one of these "Due" Carriers with a later date.

Regarding the double circle Boston P.M. In my One Cent book I illustrated a tracing from a cover used on Dec. 15, 1860 - I note your cover is Dec. 13 (year?). Under date of Dec. 17 last you mentioned in a letter to me that the earliest record that you had of this type p.m. was November 1860.

Thanks very much for your kindness in sending me the Brookline stampless. I was very much pleased to see it.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

Enclosed herewith:
Cover #1074
3¢ plus 1¢ Due
Boston Oct. 4, 1860
to Newburyport, Mass.
Price $35.00.

11 MASON STREET
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

March 19, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Many thanks for your clear analysis of the P.C.M. Bremen via Boston "28" prepaid U.S. rate on cover to Cuba in 1867. This is a typical Boston crayon which I have not particularized in color as brown, but have only taken as a shade of dull brick red, hence listed as a red without attempting to distinguish between kinds of red.

Our latest record for the Boston Due 1 cent. is Oct.20,1860 on a cover in the deWindt collection. I have it from Aug.22 - Oct.1,1860 with 3¢'57 stamps, but am glad to add the nice OCT/4/1860 with pair and single 1¢'57 for which please find check for $35.00 enclosed. This may be the same cover of which I had a record as Lot 118 in the Mozian sale of Sept.27,1945.

I favor the 1860 solution for the HELD FOR POSTAGE, but there are difficulties hard to explain. If addressee was notified to send 1¢ by Boston DEC 7, it seems a short time until DEC 13(date of the concentric is 13 not 15)for sending the letter from Boston to the Dead Letter Office unless the addressee sent a negative reply from Bangor,Me. I assume the 3¢'57 would be cancelled at Boston before sending the letter to the Dead Letter Office but perhaps not while waiting to receive the needed 1¢ stamp. POSTAGE/NOT PAID seems more like unpaid carrier fee than a form for OLD STAMPS, but I am not up on Dead Letter markings. As to the concentric Boston pmk. we find four distinguishable variant types:the smallest(25mm) Mrs.deWindt reports as early as NOV 20;the other three from 25½-26mm.vary in arrangement of BOSTON MASS and inner circle, earliest records:DEC 15(1860-yours); JAN 15(unless this cover of mine is DEC 13,1860),and JUN 24(1861).

Sincerely yours,

Maurice C. Blake

March 23, 1949.

Mr. Maurice C. Blake,
11 Mason St.,
Brookline 46, Mass.

Dear Mr. Blake:

This will acknowledge receipt of yours of the 19th with check for the 1¢ 1857 Boston Dye 1 cover. As I recall, I purchased this cover from Ezra Cole, so it could have come from a Mozian sale. I do not recall that I have bought anything in an Ohlman or Mozian sale for many years.

Have you ever read the remarks of the New York P.M. in the P.M.G. Report of 1860? If not, I advise you to do so. If you find it inconvenient to obtain a copy at the Boston Library I will gladly loan you my copy.

Re - theBoston Brown pencil. I note you refer to it as a crayon marking - well perhaps they used a crayon instead of a pencil, but I had never thought of it that way. Inasmuch as it is rather distinctive and rather typical of Boston for approximately a couple of decades, I think it should not be called red. It certainly is not red and I think it is a much better brown than a brick red. At any rate, as it is distinctive, I think it should be given a distinctive color name. Naturally I am referring to reference in your Boston book.

Re - the Boston Due 1¢ Carriers. Few, in fact, very few collectors have any appreciation of such items - They are entirely ignorant of the history behind such uses. I believe that collectors of future years will be better educated on the subject of uses and that many covers that today have little appeal will be eagerly sought after. Surely the Boston, New York and Philadelphia Due 1¢ covers are in that class. I would like to see one from Washington, also Brooklyn or Baltimore.

Arthur Davis has two "Phila. Due 1¢" - both used in August 1860. I have a record of a Sep. 12, 1860 use. My record of New York uses consists of two lone examples. I wonder why they are so very scarce.

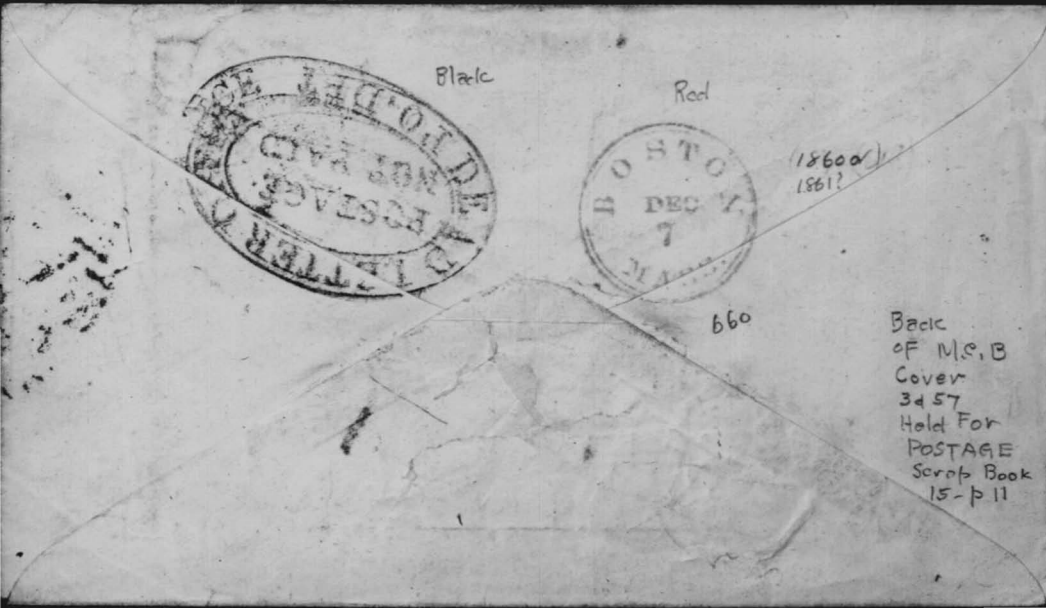
Regarding your D.L.O. cover. The addressee could have refused to send the 1¢, hence the letter went to the D.L.O. without delay.

Thanks for the data on the double circle Boston postmarks.

(over)

With regards -

Cordially yours,


Black
Red
BOSTON
DEC 7
(1860?
1861?
660
Back
of M.S. B
Cover
3d 57
Hold For
POSTAGE
Scrap Book
15-p 11

Dec 5

Geo. Pannefut

Academy of Music

Boston

Mass

Geo. Pannefut.

Red

673

BOSTON
DEC
13
MASS

Red

Blank

624 A

992A

1861 (or 1860?)

M.C.B.
See Scrap Book
#15 - page 11

Earliest
Boston
Double Circle
PM Known
Is Nov 1860

p Prussian closed mail
via Southampton
Red
AACHEN
15
8
PAID
Cts.
Red
BOSTON BRANCH
AUG
28
PAID
BREMEN
Black
Black
To Cuba
From
Bremen
Aug 14
1867
Mlle
Brown (Boston?)
See
Scrap Book
#15 - p. 11
By
M.C.B.
Blue
PAID
Cienfuegos
de Cuba

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or
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VAHAN MOZIAN INC.

Established 1901

DEALERS IN
POSTAGE STAMPS

505 FIFTH AVE., (AT 42ND ST.) NEW YORK

March 15th, 1949

Mr. Stanley B Ashbrook
33 N Ft.Thomas Ave
Ft.Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

We are again imposing on you for a favor, but we would prefer that you send us your bill for this service.

We enclose herewith a block of the 5¢ 1861 first design with gum. Can you tell us if this is the issue on the thin stamp paper, or could it be perf. proof and gummed? We note that you have made a study of this particular issue, and probably would be in a position to let us know.

Thanking you for this and all past favors.

Yours very truly,

VAHAN MOZIAN INC.

Hmozian

HM:SL

March 17, 1949.

Vahan Mozian Inc.,
505 Fifth Ave. (at 42nd),
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

Herewith the "block" as per yours of the 15th. This is a plate proof with fake gum and, of course, fake perforations. The paper of the "Premieres" was not even similar to this paper which is very white and not crisp as stated by Mr. Luff. I rather imagine that a genuine block of four of the 5¢ would make John Luff turn over in his grave. When a fee is justified I will be glad to make a charge but not for expressing an opinion on proofs.

Don't worry about imposing on me.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

5 U.S. POSTAGE 5
FIVE CENTS
U S
5 U.S. POSTAGE 5
FIVE CENTS
U S
5 U.S. POSTAGE 5
FIVE CENTS
U S
5 U.S. POSTAGE 5
FIVE CENTS
U S

PRESIDENT
R. VAN WINKLE

SECRETARY
H. A. KRUMWEIDE
146 GRAHAM STREET
HIGHLAND PARK, N. J.

MIDDLESEX STAMP CLUB

March 22, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Fort Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

As a collector of Stampless ship Covers, I run across many items that are a puzzle. After much searching and making inquiries of many dealers (Ward, Robson Lowe etc.,) it was suggested I contact you.

I know Konwiser lists the "Mail Route" markings under "U.S. Shipmarks" but where was this mark applied - at the source seems the most logical. These covers were carried by vessels - "Louisiana" and "Illinois" as shown by the MMS markings. At this date (1828) there was no rail transportation north and south and boats carried practically all of the mail - correct? So why the marking? Were these boats subsidized; they belonged to the New Orleans-Holmes Line and sailed between 1825-1833 between New York and New Orleans.

Any information would be welcomed and appreciated.

Very truly yours,

H. A. Krumwiede

HAK/da

Re Mail Route

March 25, 1949.

Mr. H. A. Krumwiede,
146 Graham St.,
Highland Park, N.J.

Dear Mr. Krumwiede:

Herewith the two covers as per yours of the 22nd.

In my opinion, the curved marking was applied at New York on mail that was brought in by ships of the Packet Line between New York and New Orleans. That is, on mail that had been posted with the ships rather than placed in the post offices of origin.

I have half a dozen similar covers and generally bid on them when they come up at auction.

I have noted several points in regard to such mail -

(1) Covers addressed to New York bear no New York postmark and are not rated as ship letters, hence were probably carried by mail contract ships.

(2) Covers addressed to points beyond New York generally, (if not always) bear a New York postmark. They seem to be rated with regular postage from New York and not as ship letters.

(3) Most of the covers I have seen bear a New Orleans origin, but I have noted some that originated at Charleston, S.C.

One of your covers is addressed to New York and is rated 25¢ due. This rate is certainly correct for a letter from New Orleans to New York, but I have a record of a cover from the same correspondence in the same handwriting which is rated at either "12" or "12½." Perhaps the latter. Why I do not know.

I have another cover addressed to New York with a N.O. origin rated at a similar "12" or "12½," also a cover to Boston rated at "18¾"(?) and several to Danbury, Conn. rated at "18¾." I have never been able to find satisfactory answers to the ratings.

Your reference to the "New Orleans - Holmes Line" leads me to surmise that you may have a copy of the Albion book "Square Riggers on Schedule." Of their ships I have noted covers routed by the "Kentucky" and "Tennessee" as well as by the "Russell" of the New Orleans "Old Line."

Of course in those early days there were no railroads but

all mail between New Orleans and the North was not carried by sailing vessels.

For example, in his annual report of Nov. 18, 1826, the P.M.G. made mention of the "Great Mail" and that it was carried in "covered carriages" via Huntsville, Columbus, Jackson and Natchez to New Orleans. Also stages ran three times a week between Milledgeville, Ga. to Montgomery and thence to Blakely, Ala. and from Blakely and Mobile to New Orleans by steamboats.

No doubt the mail was carried by steamboats most of the time between Montgomery and Mobile and also between Natchez and New Orleans.

In the "Stamp Specialist" - First Series - Book No. 4 - there was an article by Dunbar in which he illustrated two of these "Mail Route" covers, but his explanation of them was rather absurd.

I am very sorry that I am unable to furnish you with more definite information.

Sincerely yours,

PRESIDENT
R. VAN WINKLE

SECRETARY
H. A. KRUMWEIDE
146 GRAHAM STREET
HIGHLAND PARK, N. J.

MIDDLESEX STAMP CLUB

July 14, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I finally acquired the first four numbers of the "Stamp Specialist" and read with much interest Dunbar's article on "U.S. Postal History".

Knowing so little on this general subject by comparison with others, I hesitate to be critical but the "Ship Covers" part seems to have been very loosely handled.

I wonder what route he would have theorized the Covers would have taken if the Cover had either of the words - "Illinois", "Alabama" or even "Talma" inscribed on them. These were all good New Orleans-Holmes Lines ships as you well know. However the subject is so vast and has so many ramifications that only a few, like yourself for instance, are aware of the glaring faux pas committed by the ordinary writers on philatelic subjects to day.

Thanks very much for your comments, they have increased my knowledge on these items.

Cordially,

H. A. Krumwiede

HAK/da

July 19, 1949.

Mr. H. A. Krumwidde,
146 Graham St.,
Highland Park, N.J.

Dear Mr. Krumwiede:

Yours of the 14th received.

I was pleased to hear that you had obtained the numbers of the "Stamp Specialist," with the articles by Mr. Dunbar. He certainly did draw some rather odd conclusions. I don't know whether I mentioned it or not but another writer published an article some years ago in Gossip and made the same errors. No doubt he had read the Dunbar article.

If you are interested in "Ship" covers, I rather imagine that you would also be interested in U. S. - foreign rate covers, both stampless and with stamps. A few weeks ago my good friend Dr. Hennan of Chicago sent me some covers and asked me if I would kindly explain the rates and the markings. For future reference I made photographs of the covers and if you would like to see these together with a copy of my letter to Dr. Hennan, I would be very glad to forward same. This is only on the condition that such covers might be of special interest to you.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

Van Dyk MacBride
744 BROAD STREET
NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

April 7th, 1949.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
33 North Fort Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stanley:

The enclosed copy of my letter to Gordon Harmer and his reply, are probably self-explanatory. I am strongly of the opinion that this Pine Level, Ala. WAS a true Confederate Postmaster's Provisional, and as such is entitled to listing in the Scott Catalogs. Harmer seems undecided, among other things says that he would like to have your opinion. I think the latter is an excellent idea, - so here is the correspondence and the two covers used as examples.

While you have them please make photographs and send me the prints, one set of which I might then send on to Harmer for the record. Then I wish you would write me your full and frank opinion, or write Harmer and send me a copy thereof. Will you also send by Registered Mail the two covers, the enclosed correspondence, and a copy of your letter in the matter direct to Larry Shenfield, - who also has not seen the covers? Then I would like Shenfield to express his opinion in a letter to me, with a copy to you, and then return the covers and the correspondence direct to me.

I will then gladly submit the whole picture to Gordon Harmer, for final decision.

As Ever,

MacB/HK

c.c.: Mr. Gordon Harmer
Mr. L.L.Shenfield

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

April 10, 1949.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

Yours of the 7th received enclosing the two (2) Pine Level Ala. Confederate covers. I have made photographs of them, and will forward them to Larry Shenfield by registered mail tomorrow, the 11th.

I disagree 100% with your opinion that these two items are a "Postmaster Provisional." In fact, I fail to note any evidence whatsoever of that claim. In my humble opinion, these are both handstamped PAIDS, and I believe that both are genuine Confederate items, as for example, the 5¢ Star Die envelope was issued in August 1860, and was demonetized in the Northern States in the late summer and fall of 1861.

The use from Madisonville, Tenn., on June 28, 1861 is no doubt perfectly O.K. The cover was turned by Mr. Hooten at Pine Level and used back to Madisonville. What makes you think that this turned envelope was handed over to the Pine Level postmaster so that he could stamp it and make a Provisional out of it and then sell it back as a postage stamp to Mr. Hooten?

There certainly is not one vestiage of any evidence that this procedure was followed out. On the contrary, I think it is only sensible to assume that Mr. Hooten turned the cover himself and used it to write to Miss Stakely the following May (May 15, 1862). He paid the postage by stamps, or cash, and the postmaster used his cut as a postmark - I mentioned "by stamps or cash" because we cannot be certain that the 5¢ green stamp (or stamps) were used on this cover. The chances are that they (?) were, and if so, then surely the black marking was nothing more than a "Pine Level" postmark, the postmaster writing the date the letter was mailed, viz., "May 15."

Pine Level is in Montgomery Co., Ala., about 25 miles S.E. of Montgomery. Madisonville, Tenn. is in Monroe County, about 40 miles S.W. of Knoxville. There is no question but what both towns were within the Confederacy during the period that this particular cover was used back and forth. How do you account for the fact that there is no evidence of Confederate payment of postage between Madisonville, Tenn. and Pine Level, Ala. on June 28, 1861? The rate at that time was 5¢ and it had to be prepaid. On the return trip on May 15 (1862?) the rate was still 5¢. Why two 5¢ stamps? And further if this was a "P.M.P." of 5¢ - why did Mr. H. consider it necessary to attach one or two 5¢ 1861 greens? If the P.M. sold the cover as a Provisional then surely he would not have repudiated it on May 15, 1862. I deplore any effort to even attempt to make "Postmaster Provisionals" out of "handstamped PAIDS" and no one has been more guilty of that offense than that old

wind-bag down in Richmond and you know that is the truth.

Instead of listing any more "handstamped PAIDS" as "Provisionals," what should be done is the delisting of a lot of items that never should have been listed.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

c.c. Mr. Ashbrook

Doherty, Clifford & Shenfield, Inc., 350 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, N. Y.

April the twenty-first
19 49

Dear Mac:

I have read Stan's to you of April 10th on the Pine Level matter.

Certainly this handstamp has the characteristics of a Provisional -- ie., it has the name of the town, the rate and the word "Paid" within the entire design. Also it seems to be very special. On the other hand, it has no control mark nor does it have the town cancel which is so usual with this type of Provisional. I would feel much better if the Nov. 18, 1861 use showed the town cancel, assuming that they had a cancellor although perhaps they did not. If they did not, then this could be a special design handstamped with combined cancel together with the rate.

Referring to the 3rd paragraph of Stan's letter -- I think he raises a good question as to whether the turned cover was handed to the postmaster to make a Provisional out of it. Since this turned cover again shows no town cancel but only a pen mark I think it is most probable that the handstamp used on this cover is the equivalent of a town postmark and that the stamps in addition were cancelled with pen. As you remember, it was much more usual if a stamp was used over a Provisional to have it actually be posted with a Provisional which indicated that the stamps paid and not the Provisional. This is not the case with this cover.

On the earlier cover, I don't think the date was written by the postmaster but was written by the addressee which again would indicate that there was no postmark in use in that town. On the later cover, the date apparently was written by the postmaster or clerk which again would indicate that there was no postmark. In Stan's 5th paragraph his question of the rate is valid unless the damaged stamp was not counted as postage. On the point of no evidence of Confederate payment of postage on the inside of the turned cover, it would be that Madisonville at that time was not Confederate territory and that therefore the star die carried the letter.

My conclusion Mac, is that this is still a very debatable item and, as you know, I have always contended that our efforts should be not to increase the number of recognized Provisionals but to stri the list as new information comes to light. I would not agree that the item should be listed -- at least until more 1861 uses with the design in the same position come to light.

Sincerely,

Carry

Van Dyk MacBride
744 BROAD STREET
NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

May 12th, 1949.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
33 No. Fort Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stanley:

I have at last found time to go over that Pine Level matter further and to study your letters and that of Larry Shenfield's on the subject. Let me say right away that I am not going to attempt to press my claim that the marking is that of a Postmaster's Provisional, - if we cannot agree that it IS, I will certainly drop the matter at least for the present. If I can locate further examples of evidence in the future, then of course I will take it up again.

I further concede that there are some difficult things to explain. One of them is the ms. postmark on the inside of the turned U.S. 3¢ star-die envelope, reading: Madisonville, Ten. June 28, 1861. As Tennessee seceded on June 8, 1861, and as U.S. stamps and envelopes were not valid in the seceded states after June 1, 1861, I have no answer to the puzzle of how this cover went through, - particularly as it is addressed to Alabama, a state which had seceded long before June 1, 1861. Apparently it did go through somehow then, as the 3¢ star-die envelope wasn't issued until August 1860, and it was invalid in both the north and the south before 1862.

On the other hand, I think it entirely possible that the recipient at Pine Level turned the cover upon receipt, and perhaps along with other envelopes he had took it to the post office some time in the "Provisional period", - i.e. before Confederate General Issue stamps were available, - paid the postmaster five cents apiece and he put his "5 Paid" handstamp on each one of them. I cannot see anything so remarkable about that, bearing in mind the shortage of stationery, the customs of the day, etc.

Also, there can be no doubt that this was NOT a postmark, - it clearly reads "Pine Level - 5 - Ala. - Paid." I continue to maintain that the postmarks had dates in them, and apparently this small town had no such marker. When a previously paid for and

handstamped envelope was brought in, the postmaster merely wrote the date on it and sent it on through the mails, in my opinion. He probably knew everyone in the town, and didn't need "control marks", or anything fancy like that!

As I said in an earlier letter, no repudiation was involved in the use of the General Issue stamps on a previously issued P.M. Provisional envelope. I own several, and have seen many more examples, of such envelopes used with General Issue stamps placed on, over, or beside the P.M. marking. In answer to your question of "proper accounting", - in what other way could such cases be handled than to have the postmasters issue stamps to holders of such envelopes? After stamps became available, I don't believe that a local Postmaster's Provisional marking would have been recognized in any other town than the original one, and it would have been necessary to use adhesive stamps on such letters. Do you think the postmaster could have collected twice from a citizen from whom he had already received payment? I still think that in such cases he gave him a General Issue stamp for each unused Provisional cover!

All of which is probably unimportant as to our decision on this Pine Level matter! Personally I feel convinced that these envelopes were both issued by the postmaster provisionally, and before their usage. However, as both you and Shenfield have some doubts on the subject, and as I agree that it would be best to wait until we find some further examples or evidence, I am entirely content to "leave the matter lay" for the present!

As Ever,

Mac

MacB/HK

Copies to: Shenfield
Harmer

May 17, 1949.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

I am in receipt of the copy of your letter to Larry dated the 11th but up to this writing I have not received the Fincastle covers from him. When I do I will give them my attention, and advise you.

Several days ago I mailed you a photo print of a 5¢ Mobile imprint. This cover was sent to me by Larry.

Now for your letter of the 12th, copies of which were sent to Gordon Harmer and Larry. I will send a copy of this letter to Larry but won't bother Gordon as no doubt he has all the evidence he desires - Perhaps I should state "arguments," pro and con.

Please refer to the last paragraph - first page of your letter. I agree that a postmark should contain a date but Mac that Pine Level marking was probably a combined postmark (without date) and a paid marking. In other words, a "handstamped paid" with the name of the town - thus a combination - and used as a "handstamped paid" when a letter was mailed. The point that you must establish is simply this - That the Postmaster prepared "Provisionals" in advance of use and sold them to the public. You must have evidence to that effect, otherwise it is no more than right that these Pine Level items be classed as "H.S.P.'s."

Regarding the second paragraph on page 2 of your letter. You surely have had accounting experience so I won't waste time arguing this point with you. Of course a P.M.P. was only good at the office of issuance and it was a "receipt" from that office for the sum paid. As such it was as good in 1864 as in 1861.

Let me cite an example - The Postmaster at blank in July 1861 sold $20.00 of P.M.P.'s he had prepared. What did he do with that cash? Did he keep it or did he list it as a receipt in his quarterly report? I think the answer is - surely the latter. Now along in July 1862 a person mails a handstamped provisional. Did the P.M. take a stamp out of his drawer and put it on the letter? If so, according to your argument who paid the stamp, if the payment made on the letter in July 1861 had been reported to Richmond?

I don't think that a P.M. was compelled to redeem his

P.M.P.'s - He sold them to be used at his office - not for the purpose of being used elsewhere - and they were always good at his office.

Can you cite any Confed. law or regulation that required the public to use postage stamps? The law required the prepayment of first-class mail by the public but there was no law nor regulation that I know of that required the use of Government adhesive postage stamps - hence a handstamped Paid was legal at any time from 1861 to 1865. And naturally a handstamped Provisional was good at any time and no redemption in postage stamps was necessary.

Of course we know of covers with stamps used over handstamped Paids but such items do not prove that the handstamped Paids were Provisionals that were later redeemed.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

COPY

Van Dyk Mac Bride
744 Broad Street
Newark 2, N. J.

May 17th, 1949.

Mr. Gordon R. Harmer,
560 Fifth Avenue,
New York 19, N. Y.

Dear Gordon:

This is in further reference to my letter to you of March 31st, and your reply of April 5th, in the matter of listing the Pine Level, Ala. envelope as a Confederate Postmaster's Provisional. Following your suggestion, I submitted the whole matter to Shenfield and Ashbrook for their opinions, and I wish to report the results as a matter of record, and for your files.

Ashbrook doubts that the marking was used as a Provisional on the covers submitted. Shenfield believes that it has many of the characteristics of a Provisional, but thinks that it may not have been used in that capacity in these cases. I concede that there are several uncertain and debatable things about these two covers, to raise doubts as to the suitability of listing at this time.

I therefore withdraw my request for listing, at least until more conclusive information can be developed.

Very sincerely yours,

MacB/HK

c.c.: S.B. Ashbrook
L.L. Shenfield

Van Dyk MacBride
744 BROAD STREET
NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

May 19th, 1949.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
33 North Fort Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stanley:

I now have your letter of May 17th. You since received a copy of my letter to Gordon Harmer, in which I withdrew my request for listing the Pine Level, Ala. envelope as a P.M. Provisional, - and I suggest that we "leave the matter lay" at that! Incidentally however, I did NOT send a copy of my earlier letter dated May 12th to Harmer, - the only copy of that one went to Larry Shenfield.

As I say, I want to drop the matter of the Pine Level where it is, but I will comment on a couple of things in yours of the 17th which refer to the general subject of Confederate Postmaster Provisionals. Frankly, I think your effort to establish a "combination" of a postmark with a handstamped provisional marking, is somewhat strained. There are a few cases where the "Paid 5" forms part of the postmark, such as Wilmington, N.C. and Columbia, S.C., but in all such cases the date also appears. I likewise concede that occasionally a P.M.P. marking was used to indicate payment received at the time of mailing, rather than in advance, but usually there were separate markers,-or a manuscript postmark was used in the smaller places when payment was made at the time of mailing. The more elaborate handstamps such as the Pine Level one, were doubtless meant, and usually reserved, for pre-use marking.

The other point, is the matter of accounting. While I cannot at the moment quote "chapter and verse", I do know that shortly after the General Issue adhesives became available, that their use was required on all letters, except "drop" and local ones. For instance, I have a Mobile 2¢ black used on a drop letter in Mobile as late as 1863, - but I never have seen a P.M. Provisional (stamp or handstamp) used later than early 1862 to another town. True, Handstamped Paids were so used later, when adhesive stamps ran out or were otherwise unavailable, - but I never saw P.M. Provisionals so used. How the "accounting" was done, - I do not know. But, I can imagine the ire of a local resident of Pine Level bringing in an unused P.M. Provisional envelope for which he had paid the postmaster his good money, and being told he would then have to additionally pay for a

General Issue stamp in order to use it! There may have been exceptions, of course, of late use of Provisionals which somehow "went through", but the large number of such Provisional covers on which adhesive stamps were later attached, clearly indicates that there was some rule or regulation requiring their usage.

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Thanks for the photograph of Shenfield's 5¢ Mobile imprint copy, - it adds several new angles to the study he and I are now making jointly. Thanks also for the copy of your fine memo on that ridiculous deSpârati story, - let me know of any further developments as to that. You now have the copy of my letter to Costales regarding the Fincastle cover, If he has it examined by the Foundation and reports to me, I'll let you know the result.

As Ever,

Mac

MacB/HK

c.c.: L.L.Shenfield

P.S. (SBA) - Still waiting on your 3 2¢ Red Browns, - not sold yet! Have you any covers which I might place for you now?

Don't forget to send me prints of the photos you took of my Pine Level covers

Mac

May 6.

Miss Carrie R. Stakely,
Madisonville,
Tennessee.

Letter was dated
May 3, 1862
(from letter which
was enclosed)

P.M. Proof
Carfed Hand Stamp

(Was dated)
On turned U.S.
3¢ embossed
envelope,

Also 2 part copies
Carfed 5¢ Stamp
(Boo) used on
Proof sheet

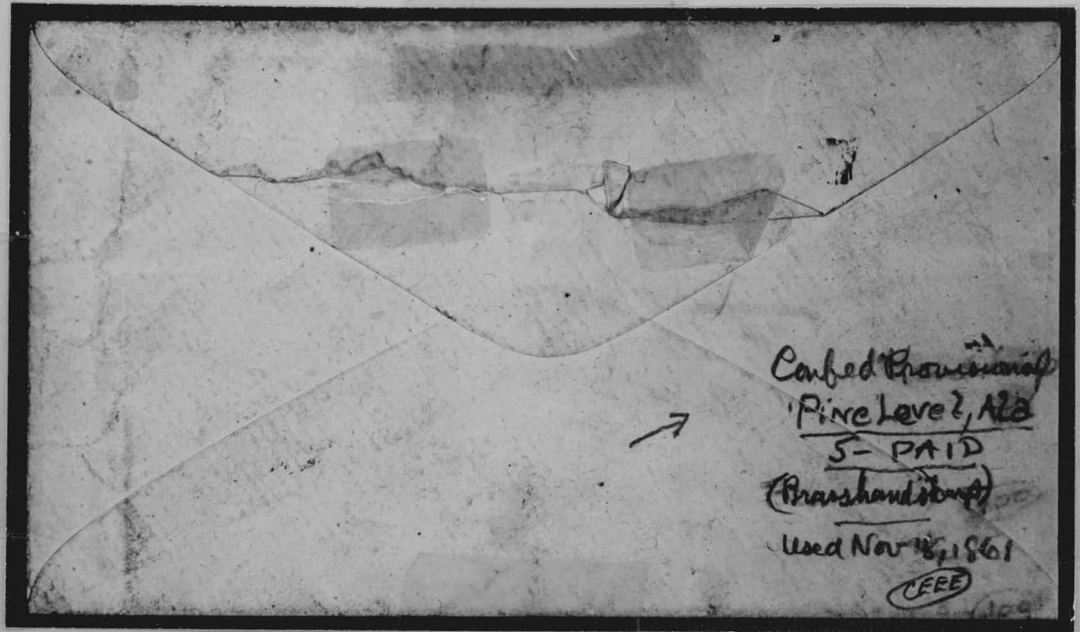
ALLE

Nov 18

Miss Carrie R. Stakely

Madisonville

Tennessee


Canfed Provisional
Pine Level, Alta
5- PAID
(Brushandistamp)
Used Nov 16, 1961
CFEE

Madisonville Lou
June 28, 18 61

INSIDE
PINE
Level
Alj
Coler

Mr. H. C. Hooten
Pine Level
Ala.

MEMBER
AMER. PHILATELIC SOCIETY No. 4574
BUFFALO STAMP CLUB No. 4

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, BOARD OF EXAMINERS
AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

MEMBER
TORONTO STAMP COLLECTORS CLUB
HAMILTON ONT., PHILATELIC SOCIETY

HARRY C. FLIERL
124 TILLINGHAST PLACE
BUFFALO 16, N. Y.
TEL. UN. 7353

May 16th.,1949

Mr.S.B.Ashbrook

Fort Thomas,Ky.

Dear Mr.Ashbrook:

I am taking the liberty of sending you for your expert opinion,a cover with a 30 ct.1869 which was sent in by a new member,and who noticed your name as an examiner,and who requested me to particularly send it to you.

The town from which it was sent is Mt.Eaton,Ohio,population,200,and he says he is quite skeptical about its use,also the cancellation.

Thanking you in advance for any information you may offer,and with best personal regards,I remain

Very truly yours

H.C. Flierl

Exec.Secy.,A.P.S.Board of Examiners

May 17, 1949.

Mr. Harry C. Flierl,
Ex.Secy. - Board of Examiners - A.P.S.
124 Tillinghast Place,
Buffalo 16, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Flierl:

I am returning herewith the 30¢ 1869 cover to Bern, Switzerland. If this cover is genuine it is a valuable item, on the other hand if this stamp did not originate on this cover, it is worth no more than a used 30¢ 1869 (U.S.).

If this cover was forwarded direct to me I would charge a fee of $10.00 for an opinion, good or bad. Inasmuch as I am not under any obligation to the American Philatelic Society, I know of no reason why I should render such a service free of charge, nor do I know of any reason why a member of the A.P.S. should expect a ten-dollar service merely because he pays $3.00 annual dues to the Society.

This cover has been submitted to me in the past by the following dealers, and in each instance I refused to give an opinion but suggested that a cover such as this should not be offered for sale by a reputable dealer unless it was accompanied by a certificate issued by the EXPERT COMMITTEE of the PHILATELIC FOUNDATION of New York City -

Robt. Laurence
Harry B. Keffer
Stephen Lyon

When a collector buys a cover such as this with a catalogue value of $300.00, he is very foolish if he does not demand a guarantee that the cover is genuine. And further, such a guarantee or certificate should not be a mere scrap of paper.

With my kindest regards, I am

Cordially yours,

32 N.25th Street
Mt. Penn
Reading, Pennsylvania

September 21, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
32 North Fort Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Some time back, I believe you placed an add in "Stamps" in which you stated your willingness to expertize stamps; consquently, I am taking the liberty of writing you this letter.

For several years, I have been building a specialized collection of the U.S. 1869 issue. Recently I obtained a cover bearing #121, the 30¢ value of the 1869 issue. I obtained this cover from Mr. Arthur Gillardon of Paterson, N.J., a dealer who specializes in early U.S. covers. In as much as Mr. Gillardon was recommended to me by a close friend and fellow member of the Reading Stamp Collector's Club, I have no reason to mistrust his good faith. However, the cover does lack a certificate of genuineness and is questionable in some respects; therefore, I am interested in getting expert opinion upon it.

If you have time to examine this cover and would care to do so, I would be pleased to send the cover to you along with a check for whatever fee you designate. I am enclosing a stamped and addressed envelope for your convenience, and should you care to see the cover, I would be happy to enclose sufficient postage to cover return registration.

Trusting that I will hear from you I am,

Sincerely yours,

John E. Larkin

Sept. 29, 1949.

Mr. John E. Larkin,
32 N. 25th St.,
Mt. Penn
Reading, Pa.

Dear Mr. Larkin:

I have been away from home for over a week and found yours of the 21st on my return yesterday.

If you will forward the cover to me I will be pleased to examine it for you. I cannot name a fee in advance but I can assure you that you will have no complaint.

There are a great many fake 1869 covers on the market and it certainly pays to have them authenticated.

I have been breaking up a very fine collection of 19th Century covers, which included some gorgeous 1869 covers. Under separate cover I am mailing you a mimeo list describing the collection. You will note two 24¢ 1869 covers - one priced at $1,000.00, the other at $600.00. Both of these have been sold, as well as many of the others in the 1869 group.

Sincerely yours,

32 N. 25th Street
Mt. Penn
Reading, Pennsylvania

October 2, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Enclosed please find the cover which I mentioned in my previous letter. I am also enclosing 30¢ in mint postage to cover return registration costs. If this is not sufficient, I will add the difference to your fee.

The list of covers from the collection you are offering also arrived, and some of the covers described were most interesting. However, at the present time, I am in a position from which I can only look and long.

Thank you for your prompt reply to my inquiry and,

Sincerely yours,

John E. Larkin

Oct. 5, 1949.

Mr. John E. Larkin,
32 N. 25th St.,
Mt. Penn,
Reading Pa.

Dear Mr. Larkin:

Herewith I am returning the 30¢ cover to Bern - Switzerland - Mt. Eaton, O. - June 29, 1870.

I regret to inform you that this use is a fake - that the 30¢ stamp did not originate on this cover - that the rate was 10¢ - and that in all probability a 10¢ Bank Note was removed and this 30¢ stamp substituted. The ultra-violet shows evidence of substitution.

I have been familiar with this cover for some years back and have quite a record of it in my files. It has been submitted to me in the past by various dealers whom I informed that the cover was as above described, but in spite of this, efforts are still made to unload it on some innocent buyer.

It was submitted to me last spring by the Expert Committee of the American Philatelic Society but I refused an opinion free of charge. On several occasions I advised dealers not to offer this cover without obtaining an opinion by the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation.

I am charging you a fee of $5.00, but if you think this is excessive, you do not have to pay me a cent. The Foundation fee would doubtless be $10.00.

You might inform Mr. Gillardon that I am surprised that he would attempt to sell such a cover unless he was sure it was genuine. If he was not sure he should accompany it with a certificate of genuineness. In my very humble opinion, there is little difference between such dealings and handling stolen goods.

I suppose that this was offered to you - "as is," and at a bargain price. You might bear in mind that genuine 1869 covers don't go begging at bargain prices. In fact, it is well to beware of bargains. Generally they are very expensive.

If you can give me any particulars as to how and under what representation - and price - this cover was offered to you - I will appreciate the favor. You might also advise Mr. Gillardon that if he wishes to avoid any undue publicity on this cover that it would be wise for him to write me and give me full details as to

how this fake cover came into his possession.

I may decide to publish a special article on this particular cover and mention the names of the dealers who have attempted to sell it.

Sincerely yours,

P.S.--I note that your Post Office is using wire staples to attach return receipts to registered letters. This is a bad practice and against the regulations of the Department. Will you please call their attention to this bad practice.

S.B.A.

32 N. 25th Street
Mt. Penn
Reading, Pennsylvania

October 7, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I received you letter regarding the 30¢ 1869 cover which I sent for your examination, and I can frankly say that I was not too surprised or disappointed to find that the cover was spurious. However, I was amazed to hear of the biography you possess of this cover.

Regarding my purchasing of this cover, I can offer no excuse except over enthusiam. I am by no means well acquanited with early U.S. covers, but even I should have known that such a cover offered at a price of $65.00 must be definitely questionable.

As to the information you requested, here is all I have to offer: I first heard of the cover from a fellow member of my stamp club who had received it from Mr. Gillardon on approval. He had returned the cover before he had a chance to talk to me, but suggested that I write to Mr. Gillardon. I wrote and asked if I could see the cover and expressly asked if a Foundation Certificate on the cover was available. I received the cover on approval but without any certificate. The price as I have stated was $65.00 and there were no statements as to "as is" or "bargain". I decided to get an expert opinion, and subsequently sent the cover to you.

I have returned the cover to Mr. Gillardon along with statements you suggested, and I trust that you will hear from him.

I am enclosing a check for $5.00, and I consider it a most generous fee in exchange for the information you have given me. Corresponding with you has been both an honor and a pleasure, and I wish to thank you and express the hope that I may have the privilege again.

Sincerely yours,

John E. Larkin

This Cover Sent To Me By John E. Larkin - Reading Penna - Oct 2 - 1949.
His Letter Of Sep 21 1949 - Stated That He Had Obtained The Cover
From ARTHUR GILLARDON Of Paterson N.Y. - No Certificate
Accompanied The Cover - The Manuscript P.M. Is Evidently
Mount Eaton O - There Was Such A Post Office In WAYNE Co. Ohio
At That Time - See Scrap Book No 15 - p. 16
Quartz Lamp Shows Evidence of Removal Of
Former Stamp And Substitution Of This 30d
Evidently A 10d Bank Note Was Removed - That Was The Rate

Red

PAID ALL
SUISSE
TRANSIT

Willhelm Apostel.

Gurnafitnitsgasse

TRACING Showing Only
Markings on Back

BERN
15 VII 70 VIII
14 V..
AU
BR.
BA.
DB.

IN BLACK

Bern.
Suisse
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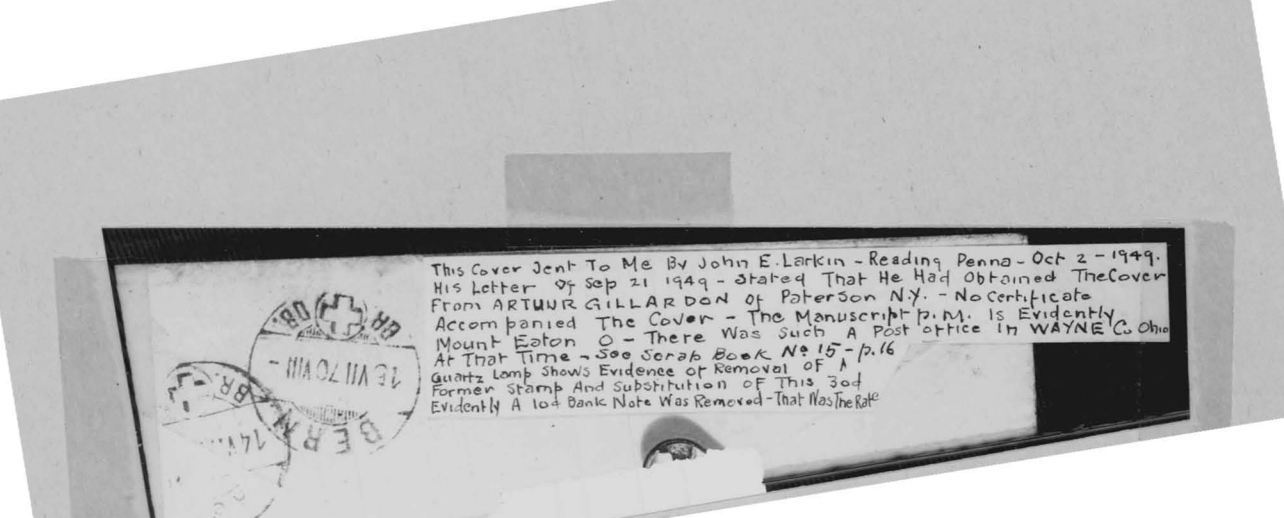
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At That Time - See Scrap Book No 15 - p. 16
Quartz Lamp Shows Evidence of Removal Of
Former Stamp And Substitution Of This 3cd
Evidently A 10d Bank Note Was Removed - That Was The Rate
GERMANY
16 VII 70 VIII

This mimeograph memorandum is being sent to a selected list of members of the

CONFEDERATE STAMP ALLIANCE.

In the near future I intend to run a full page advertisement in STAMPS offering a very choice lot of Confederate Postmasters' Provisional covers. Perhaps there are some members of the Society who would be interested in acquiring some of these covers and if so I will be glad to submit any of them before the advertisement appears. The following is an advance copy of the advertisement.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

May 24, 1949.

*
*
*

PHILATELIC AMERICANA

The Confederate States of America

Serious collectors are offered the unusual opportunity of acquiring the following covers in superb condition from a well-known collection of the

POSTMASTERS' PROVISIONALS

of

The Confederate States

No.	S.U.S.No.			
5 -	5X1	- Athens,Ga., 5¢ Purple, Type I, single	Price	$135.00
6 -	5X1	- Athens,Ga., 5¢ Purple, Type II, single	"	100.00
7 -	5X1	- Athens,Ga., 5¢ Purple, H.Pair,Types I and II	"	250.00
8 -	5X1	- Athens,Ga., 5¢ Purple, Vert.Pair, Tete-Beche, Types I and II	"	400.00
9 -	5X2	- Athens,Ga., 5¢ Red, single, Type II	"	1,000.00
10 -	5X2	- Athens,Ga., 5¢ Red, single, Type II, sheet at top	"	600.00
14 -	12X2	- Beaumont,Texas, 10¢ Black on Pink, single	"	500.00
15 -	16X1	- Charleston,S.C., 5¢ Light Blue, single	"	75.00
16 -	16X1	- Charleston,S.C., 5¢ Dark Blue, single	"	75.00
21 -	24X1	- Emory,Va., 5¢ Dull Blue, single	"	350.00
25 -	49X1	- Lenoir,S.C., 5¢ single	"	200.00
28 -	52X1	- Lynchburg,Va., 5¢ Pale Blue, Superb	"	300.00
30 -	53X5	- Macon,Ga., 2¢ Green, DROP RATE, Superb	"	900.00
33 -	53X3	- Macon,Ga., 5¢ Yellow, single	"	225.00
34 -	53X4	- Macon,Ga., 5¢ Yellow, single	"	350.00
35 -	55X1	- Marion,Va., 5¢ Black, single	"	750.00
36 -	55X2	- Marion,Va., 10¢ Black, single	"	850.00
38 -	56X2	- Memphis,Tenn., 5¢ Red, single, Big Margins	"	140.00
39 -	56XU3	- Memphis,Tenn., 5¢ Red on Orange, single	"	50.00
45 -	61X2	- Nashville,Tenn., 5¢ Deep Carmine, single	"	100.00
46 -	61X2	- Nashville,Tenn., 5¢ Carmine, Vert.Pair	"	150.00
47 -	61X4	- Nashville,Tenn., 5¢ Gray, single	"	125.00
48 -	61X5	- Nashville,Tenn., 5¢ Violet Brown, single	"	150.00

No.	S.U.S.No.		
59 -	66X1	- Pittsylvania C.H.,Va., 5¢ single, a gem.	Price $1,000.00
60 -	78X3	- Spartanburg,S.C., 5¢ single	" 350.00
64 -	86X5	- Uniontown,Ala., 10¢ Red, single	" 750.00
68 -	88X2	- Victoria,Tex., 10¢ Red Brown, single (This is the only cover known with the 10¢ Victoria)	" 1,200.00

All of the above offerings are subject to prior sale

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

All of the above "PROVISIONALS" were issued during the history-making months of that tense summer of the year eighteen sixty one, and because of their close historical association, the above philatelic gems are destined to prove one of the safest forms of philatelic investments. For example, the Victoria, Texas is unique, the only cover known to philately with the 10¢ Victoria stamp. As rare as the famed Ex-Hind, British Guiana, and of far more historical interest. How can such a cover fail to show future enhancement in value?

Confederate stamps and covers are at long last coming into their overdue popularity, and why not? It surely is true that every serious collector of nineteenth century U.S. should include the stamps and covers of "The Lost Cause." They are not stamps of a foreign nation, but rather, the postal emissions of the Confederation of our own Southern States, issued during The Great Life and Death Struggle between the North and South of this great nation of ours during those four terrible years of 1861-1865. For almost four long years the Post Office Department of the Confederate States of America was in operation and its postal service served a great section of our own people, who were engaged in a struggle for principles they deemed right and sacred. Yes, the stamps and covers of the Southern Confederacy are part and parcel of nineteenth United States.

As a student and former collector of the postal issues of the Confederacy for many years, I sincerely believe that no field of philatelic specialism offers a more interesting, or a better opportunity for safe and sound philatelic investment than the stamps and covers of the

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA

and especially the historical

PROVISIONAL ISSUES

of

The Postmasters.

PHILATELIC AMERICANA

FOR YOUR PHILATELIC LIBRARY

Even if you do not collect the stamps of the "Lost Cause," you should have a copy of the Ashbrook Book--

"Some Notes on the Postal Legislation of the Confederate States of America -- 1861-1865 -- Postal Rates--Earliest Known Dates of Use of the stamps of the General Issues" -- By Stanley B.Ashbrook

Comprising 54 pages of valuable ready reference material with over 50 illustrations--(Reprinted from the "Stamp Specialist" -- Emerald Book.) Price $1.50 postpaid.

NINETEENTH CENTURY UNITED STATES COVERS

FOREIGN RATES, DOMESTIC RATES, PATRIOTICS, WESTERNS,

PONY EXPRESS, VIA NICARAGUA, and STAMPLESS.

Many rare and desirable items in the above classification are constantly being placed in my hands to be sold on a commission basis to a selected clientele who depend on my judgment and advice as to genuineness, condition, and value. When a cover is purchased thru me, the buyer has the assurance that it has been subjected to a very careful examination and that it is, in my opinion, genuine in every respect. If you are a serious collector why not seek the type of service that I am prepared to offer?

On the contrary if you have any rare or desirable items for sale why not place them in my hands for disposal? Thru me, they will be submitted to clients of mine who are seeking certain specialties, and in this way the seller avoids the risk of a possible sacrifice sale via the auction route.

Opinions rendered on nineteenth United States and Confederates at reasonable fees.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 N. Fort Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Ky.

or P.O.Box 31.

(Fifteen minutes from the heart of Cincinnati in the Highlands of Northern Kentucky - Phone thru Cincinnati Exchange - Number Hiland 118

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All of the above "PROVISIONALS" were issued during the history-making months of that tense summer of the year eighteen sixty one, and because of their close historical association, the above philatelic gems are destined to prove one of the safest forms of philatelic investments. For example, the Victoria, Texas is unique, the only cover known to philately with the 10¢ Victoria stamp. As rare as the famed Ex-Hind, British Guiana, and of far more historical interest. How can such a

cover fail to show future enhancement in value?

Confederate stamps and covers are at long last coming into their over-due popularity, and why not? It surely is true that every serious collector of nineteenth century U.S. should include the stamps and covers of "The Lost Cause." They are not stamps of a foreign nation, but rather, the postal emissions of the Confederation of our own Southern States, issued during The Great Life and Death Struggle between the North and South of this great nation of ours during those four terrible years of 1861-1865. For almost four long years the Post Office Department of the Confederate States of America was in operation and its postal service served a great section of our own people, who were engaged in a struggle for principles they deemed right and sacred. Yes, the stamps and covers of the Southern Confederacy are part and parcel of nineteenth United States.

As a student and former collector of the postal issues of the Confederacy for many years, I sincerely believe that no field of philatelic specialism offers a more interesting, or a better opportunity for safe and sound philatelic investment than the stamps and covers of the

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA

and especially the historical

PROVISIONAL ISSUES

of

The Postmasters.

PHILATELIC AMERICANA

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Even if you do not collect the stamps of the "Lost Cause," you should have a copy of the Ashbrook Book--

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DOMESTIC RATES,

PATRIOTICS,

WESTERNS,

PONY EXPRESS,

#3

VIA NICARAGUA,

and

STAMPLESS.

Many rare and desirable items in the above classification are constantly being placed in my hands to be sold on a commission basis to a selected cliental who depend on my judgment and advice as to genuineness, condition, and value. When a cover is purchased thru me, the buyer has the assurance that it has been subjected to a very careful examination and that it is, in my opinion, genuine in every respect. If you are a serious collector why not seek the type of service that I am prepared to offer?

On the contrary if you have any rare or desirable items for sale why not place them in my hands for disposal? Thru me, they will be submitted to clients of mine who are seeking certain specialties, and in this way the seller avoids the risk of a possible sacrifice sale via the auction route.

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LAWYERS
COLCORD BUILDING
OKLAHOMA CITY 2, OKLAHOMA

2 June 1949

Editor
Saturday Evening Post
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:

I would like to impose upon your time by writing in connection with the article in your 30 April 1949 issue entitled "He Fooled the Experts."

Without doubt I am unduly alarmed, but to me articles of this type are very disturbing and reflect a somewhat unwholesome journalism.

The article appears defective and in violation of ethical principles in these particulars: (a) it is inaccurate in that Sperati has fooled no expert, except possibly Mr. Jennings, the author of the articles; and (b) it places in a favorable light and upholds fraud and the violation of law.

As to the merits of Sperati's efforts, surely it would be obvious to anyone that were he as successful as you have lead the public to think, he would not devote his remarkable talents to duping philatelists, but would be busy forging present issues of postage stamps and currency.

I have long been interested in the collection of stamps and find it a very enjoyable hobby. The Sperati products, along with countless other fakers, are considered nothing more than unwanted weeds in our flower garden--in fact Reverend Earee some few years ago published a very comprehensive work on the subject entitled "Album Weeds".

May I suggest that some objective effort be made by you to dispell the unfortunate impression created in the minds of countless non-collectors. Perhaps even an article in rebuttal would be in order. There are countless experts qualified for the job, such as H. L. Lindquist, Colonel Ralph Kimble and Stanley Ashbrook.

Very truly yours,

George H. Shirk

GHS:mm
cc - H. L. Lindquist
Colonel Ralph Kimble
Stanley Ashbrook

COPY

June 6, 1949.

Mr. George H. Shirk,
Colcord Bldg.,
Oklahoma City 2, Okla.

Dear Mr. Shirk:

May I thank you very kindly for the copy of your letter to the Saturday Evening Post.

From reports coming to my desk, I believe that the article raised a storm of protest to the Editor. Perhaps his staff will be more careful in the future in accepting articles by crack-pot writers, such as the author of the Sperati article.

I am wondering if you are aware that the same fellow has recently had a serial in Colliers about the "King of Safe Crackers," or something to that effect. This crook, a renegrade minister of the gospel. This is fine stuff to feed the young generation who are surfeited at present with all the gangster and immoral trash turned out by the Hollywood crowd.

Sincerely yours,

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

REGARDING THE RIDICULOUS ARTICLE IN THE SATURDAY EVENING POST OF APRIL 30, 1949 - ENTITLED - "HE FOOLED THE EXPERTS."

Here we have another example of a smart-Aleck attempting to write a sensational article regarding a subject of which he evidently possessed little if any knowledge. But the amazing part of this false and misleading bunch of nonsense is that a publication of the high character and standing of the Saturday Evening Post would publish such a sensational article without even taking the trouble to refer it to one of our leading philatelic publishers, philatelic societies or some recognized authority, in order to obtain an opinion as to whether it was fit for publication.

Well-informed collectors surely wonder why reputable publications such as the "Post," "Coronet," "Colliers" and "News Week" accept silly articles on serious philately by ignorant and crackpot writers. Each have been guilty in this respect in the past two years.

There is no question but what such articles have a damaging effect on collectors who are just starting to collect, as well as on amateurs and perhaps on some of the more advanced class. Many people are apt to take for granted that the Post would not publish such an article unless it contained facts.

If the French counterfeiter, Sperati, could manufacture fakes that would "fool the Experts" why run the risk of investing money in a stamp collection? People a re apt to overlook the fact that if Sperati was clever enough to manufacture "genuine" fakes, he would be clever enough to manufacture current postage stamps of various nations and likewise "fool" their post office departments as well as philatelic experts.

The American Philatelic Society should file suit against the Post for publishing such an article, if for no other purpose than to serve notice to other publications that articles with untrue statements regarding philately by crackpot, irresponsible writers will not be ignored by the world's largest philatelic society in the future.

When I read the Post article I addressed the following letter to the Editor: "May 1, 1949.

To the Editor of
The Saturday Evening Post,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:

I have read the article by a person by the name of 'Dean Jennings' in the Post of April 30th, 1949 and in my very humble opinion, may I state that I have never read quite as silly a lot of rubbish as is contained in this article. I am amazed that the Post would publish such an article without first submitting it to some philatelic organization or some philatelic authority qualified to pass on its merit. In short, this article is simply disgusting, misleading and without common sense.

Sincerely yours,
Stanley B. Ashbrook."

I have since learned that many other collectors have also written letters of protest to the Editor of the Post. Mr. Harold C. Brooks, of Marshall, Mich., sent me a copy of a letter that he forwarded and I am including it herewith:

"Marshall, Mich. May 13, 1949.

The Editor
SATURDAY EVENING POST
Philadelphia

Dear Sir:

When I was married, in 1908, one of our friends presented me with a subscription to the SATURDAY EVENING POST. And since that time it has been one of the few magazines holding top place on our library table. In other words, we have enjoyed reading about 2100 issues.

I have never had occasion to object to any article until two weeks ago when you published an article which was both silly and misleading.

Who is this Dean Jennings who is supposed to know so much about stamps? I have been a serious collector since 1910 and have a wide acquaintance in philatelic circles, but I never heard of him.

Such tripe as he wrote cannot be lightly dismissed for it may readily have the effect of impairing the value of rare stamps of great value which are held by thousands of American collectors.

I think that you should, in justice to that portion of your readers who are stamp collectors, accept an article of refutation, and the man best qualified to speak on the subject is Stanley B. Ashbrook of Fort Thomas, Kentucky. Mr. Ashbrook is generally considered to be America's foremost expert on stamps. An article by him, illustrated might erase, partially at least, the damage you may have done to my holdings, and those of others.

(signed) HAROLD C. BROOKS."

****

Every serious collector should enter a strong protest against the publication of articles that are apt to have a damaging effect on Philately. Will the American Philatelic Society take any action? It would be perfectly amazing if they did.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

MAY 16, 1949.

He Fooled the Experts

By DEAN JENNINGS

Connoisseurs all over the world have been duped by this sly Frenchman's perfect forgeries of rare stamps. Now, exposed, he's selling the experts his book telling how he deceived them.

PHILATELY, or stamp collecting, is generally considered a pursuit of a cloistered nature, conducted to the soft rustle of catalogue leaves and with no occupational hazards except an occasional case of eye strain. But at the moment the philatelic world is full of excitement, thanks to Jean de Sperati, a gaunt and crotchety French engraver who modestly calls himself the "philatelic atom bomb."

The florid title de Sperati has given himself isn't all hyperbole. As European experts recently discovered with a profound shock, sixty-four-year-old Jean de Sperati, to whom I talked recently at his home in Aix-les-Bains, seems to have successfully, and with malice aforethought, forged more than 300 of the world's rarest stamps. Moreover, it appears that these fraudulent masterpieces, which he claims cannot be detected by any known tests and which these same experts unwittingly endorsed as genuine, may one day flood the stamp world and thus endanger the value of fine collections. De Sperati has already achieved fairly heavy production, and recently he offered some of his purported forgeries in wholesale lots at reduced prices. One such bargain was a group of early American stamps which are worth about $4000 when genuine; he was offering them for $115 a set. De Sperati says he ground out this particular set over a week end, and would need even less time to make a dozen copies of the famed Swedish three-skilling "orange error," a stamp owned by ex-King Carol and valued at $30,000 because it is the only known one in existence.

De Sperati regards his own virtuosity with a childlike awe, and greets each new batch of his stamps with cries of delight. "Ah-ha," he will say. "Again I have opened the eyes of the blind—the so-called experts. In the history of philately there has never been a man like me. I baffle everybody. Counterfeiter I may be, but I am an artistic counterfeiter."

Unhappily, the French philatelic experts do not have the same aesthetic perspective, and Jean de Sperati is looked upon as a villain who should be, and may be, tossed into the bastille; an unethical scoundrel comparable, for instance, to Hans van Meegeren, the Dutch painter who duped Hermann Goering and others with six fake Vermeer paintings. The only difference between the two, one philatelist suggested, is that van Meegeren is dead, whereas de Sperati is not only very much alive but envisions a day when all collectors, especially those who can't afford genuine rarities, will fill the blank spaces in their stamp albums with his "reproductions."

De Sperati himself demonstrated the possibilities of this idea when I asked him for some samples just before leaving France a few months ago.

"Just name the stamps," he said obligingly, "and I will make them for you."

"How about some of the first American stamps?" I asked.

He said that would be agreeable.

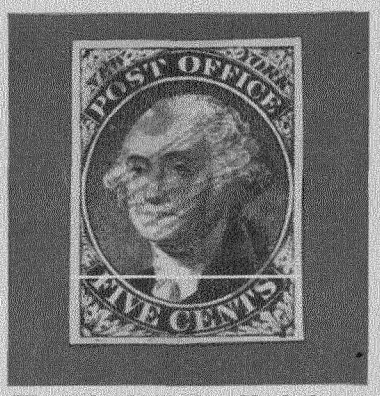
Two days later he gave me an 1845 New York five-cent, known as a "postmaster provisional"; an 1847 George Washington ten-cent; and an 1863 Jefferson Davis ten-cent Confederate States. Originals of these three stamps are considered rare, with a total catalogue value of from $200 to $400, and de Sperati said he was sorry that he could not give them away. "I am a modest artist with large expenses," he said, "so I have to ask for a few dollars. Perhaps you can sell them in America and make a nice profit. In fact, I can make any amount of stamps you want."

A week later I took the three stamps to one of New York City's foremost philatelic dealers, pretended they came from my grandmother and asked if they had any value.

CHARLES ALEXANDER

Jean de Sperati, who admits that his stamp forgeries have been hoodwinking the experts in many countries for years. The originals of the stamps he has copied are valued at about 9,000,000 francs.

A de Sperati forgery of an 1863 Jeff Davis Confederate stamp.



The fake 1845 New York five-cent "postmaster provisional."

An expert also endorsed this bogus 1847 George Washington.

"Of course," he said, "but first we'll give them a checkup."

He dipped the tiny bits of paper in benzine to bring out the watermarks. He examined them under a large magnifying glass, searching for evidence of repairing, retouching or bleaching, and then measured them with a micrometer. "They're in very good condition," he said finally. "I'll buy them myself or you can leave them on consignment and perhaps get a little more for them."

He named a price that was ten times what I had paid de Sperati.

"Are you sure they might not be counterfeits?" I asked.

"Counterfeits?" he said scornfully. "Look; I specialize in forged stamps. I even collect them. I'll stake my reputation that these are genuine."

Then I told him.

He stared hypnotically at the stamps like a man who has just been sentenced to die. "They're perfect," he said listlessly. "They are so good they make me ill. What will happen to my business? These stamps would fool anybody. Good Lord, you could have clipped me!"

(Continued on Page 111)

OLLIE ATKINS

The President gets the word from perhaps the least known big man in Washington, Sidney Souers, of the National Security Council. Decisions made at 9:30 A.M. daily settle our most vital problems.

ACME

Former Secretary of State Marshall, "least Machiavellian of men," talks with Dean Acheson.

How Our Foreign Policy is Made

By JOSEPH and STEWART ALSOP

EVERY weekday morning, shortly before nine-thirty, a faintly plumpish man with pleasant, bland features and a wispy mustache slips quietly through a side door in the west wing of the White House. On the dot of nine-thirty he enters the handsome oval office of the President of the United States. Sometimes only for a few minutes, sometimes for much longer, President Truman and his visitor are closeted alone, while the two men discuss one or another of the great issues with which this country is faced—the blockade of Berlin, perhaps, or the guerrilla war in Greece, or the fall of China.

The visitor with the wispy mustache is the only man whom the President sees regularly every working day. For that reason, if for no other, he is one of the most important men in Washington. Yet not one American in fifty would recognize his name. It is Sidney William Souers.

Souers goes to the White House every day because that is part of his job as Executive Secretary of the National Security Council. The casual newspaper reader has never heard of the council, any more than he has heard of Souers. Even many professional observers of the Washington scene have at most a vague idea of who Souers is and what the National Security Council does.

The astute editors of the London Economist, the world's most informed and influential journal of political opinion, do not share this indifference. They have written that the creation of the National Security Council "may mark a milestone in America's development as important, say, as Washington's Farewell Address." There is a simple reason why the Economist editors, normally not given to wild overstatement, are so excited about the council. The National Security Council is now shaping American foreign policy, and shaping foreign policy in a way entirely new to this country.

The council was born in July, 1947, when Congress passed the National Security Act. The main purpose of this act was to unify the Army, Navy and Air Force, which remain about as unified as three hyperthyroid Kilkenny cats. In the process of passing the act, Congress also created the council, almost as an afterthought, "to advise the President," in those areas of national policy "relating to the national security."

> Here's the inside story on how our decision to defy Russia's blockade of Berlin—thereby risking war—was reached. A brilliant report which explains why Truman once said: "I just don't see how the other Presidents got along without the National Security Council."

In these times just about everything that happens abroad, from the debates on the French budget to a revolt in Southeast Asia "relates to the national security." That is how it happens that the council is forming our foreign policy. And since the world's future largely depends on American foreign policy, it is time for a report on the National Security Council—what it is, what it does, and how.

It must be said at the outset that the State Department has not abdicated its responsibilities. Secretary of State Dean Acheson and his department still have the central responsibility for originating great decisions on high policy. But the National Security Council provides a filter through which these decisions must pass. Acheson, like Marshall before him, welcomes this filtering process and makes maximum use of it.

The best way to understand the filtering process is to examine it in action. Most of the National Security Council's policy decisions are still state secrets. To describe in detail what they are or how they were made might endanger the security of the United States. But the council's first great decision on high policy is not a state secret. And the process which led up to this decision is typical of the new way American foreign policy is being made.

On March twenty-first, last year, banner headlines appeared in the newspapers. They read, with variations: U. S., BRITAIN, FRANCE FAVOR RETURN OF TRIESTE TO ITALY.

When these headlines appeared, tension hung like a dark cloud over Washington. In the first week in March, a top-secret, high-priority intelligence report had been delivered to the President and his chief advisers. It had been learned, from an absolutely reliable source, that Italy's wily communist leader, Palmiro Togliatti, had obtained a vital promise from his Soviet masters. Togliatti had been promised that about a week before the Italian elections, scheduled for April eighteenth, the Soviet Government would officially advocate the return of Trieste to Italy.

No Italian was reconciled to the peace treaty which had stripped Italy of Trieste. The city, with its largely Italian population, is dear to every Italian heart. Under any circumstances, the election was touch and go. The Kremlin's bribe might well tip the scales and give Togliatti the triumph he so clearly anticipated, transforming Italy into a Soviet satellite. At the least, this would mean an unmitigated disaster for the United States and its allies. It might mean war. Could anything be done?

The experts on Italy in the lower echelons of the State Department had been urging an obvious answer to that question, even before the word came of Togliatti's secret agreement with the Kremlin. The United States, Britain and France should them-

HE FOOLED THE EXPERTS

(Continued from Page 29)

He asked if he could keep the stamps for a few days to show to his competitors, and when I left, he was toying aimlessly with some tweezers and still gaping at de Sperati's work.

The remarkable de Sperati affair, which is already a nightmare to European dealers and which in time could affect the endeavors of an estimated 15,000,000 collectors around the world, came to light in a postal-control station on the Spanish border one morning during the war. A French censor, making a routine check on outgoing mail, came across a fat envelope containing eighteen canceled postage stamps, each carefully enclosed in a small envelope. The stamps were addressed to a well-known expert in Lisbon, and the sender's name and address—Jean de Sperati, Aix-les-Bains, Savoie—was legibly rubber-stamped on the envelope. The censor summoned customs appraisers, and the eighteen rare stamps were given a preliminary evaluation of more than 300,000 francs, or about $7500 at that time. The customs office seized the shipment and ordered de Sperati's arrest on a charge of illegally exporting capital in the form of rare postage stamps.

At the time, no one suspected a plant or saw anything odd in the fact that the envelope was plainly addressed to a well-known Portuguese stamp dealer and just as plainly marked with the sender's name. Everyone in France was presumed to know that mail was being censored, and de Sperati was merely considered stupid for trying to get away with slipping something through.

Presently, the cadaverous engraver found himself in court at Chambéry impatiently listening to the charge of the public prosecutor—to wit, disloyalty to the republic in attempting to smuggle valuable stamps out of the country during wartime. De Sperati, who is as unpredictable as a Mexican jumping bean, bounced out of his seat without waiting for his attorney to speak. "I am not guilty," he said. "These so-called valuable stamps are worth nothing. I made them all myself, at home."

The judge was only mildly surprised, and he clearly missed the enormity of de Sperati's remark. The prosecutor also reacted with a polite shrug that suggested tolerance for an ingenious alibi. De Sperati might just as well have announced that he was Napoleon. The court wearily postponed the case, and as a matter of routine the stamps were sent to Prof. Edmond Locard, of Lyon, a distinguished philatelist and author of a standard work on the subject. Months later Doctor Locard submitted a voluminous report, in part as follows:

1. Even if it were possible to imitate any stamp perfectly, there would inevitably be some discernible difference in dimension. The stamps submitted were placed in a comparison microscope with genuine originals and there was not even one tenth of a millimeter difference in size.
2. It is impossible to duplicate colors so that they show the exact shade and give off the same fluorescence in the spectroscope. The stamps submitted were compared with genuine originals in the spectroscope and there was not the slightest difference in shade or fluorescence.
3. False stamps, no matter how carefully made, can never exactly match the original paper. All the stamps submitted were on different paper, and most would be difficult to reproduce, notably the 1 Kreuzer of Bavaria and the 2 Reales of Spain. The paper of each stamp perfectly matched the paper of the genuine originals.
4. Among the stamps examined, many had watermarks, such as the CC (Crown Colony) on the Hong Kong stamps and the CA (Crown Agent) on those of Lagos. Exact imitation of watermarks is almost impossible. In the specimens submitted all watermarks exactly matched the originals in every way.
5. Most of the stamps submitted were gummed. Each of those had the gum characteristic of the country from which it came, and some of the gum had aged naturally. The hypothesis that these original gums could be imitated is untenable.
6. Several of the stamps had perforated edges, such as the 17 Öre of Sweden, the 5 Francs of Belgium and the 1878 10 pesetas of Spain. Perforations are always the stumbling block of the forger, since hand cutting can never exactly duplicate the work of the original machine cut and imitations can be spotted immediately. But each of the stamps submitted had its proper and characteristic perforations.
7. Finally, in addition to the nature and consistency of the paper, one must also consider the thickness. There was not so much as a thousandth of a millimeter difference in the thickness between the stamps submitted and the genuine originals.

In short, Doctor Locard's summary said flatly, the eighteen stamps were all genuine and could not have been forged. De Sperati was brought back to court, found guilty and fined 300,000 francs. He stomped out in a fury, muttering that he didn't have that kind of money, and he cussed Doctor Locard in particular and all stamp experts in general.

His attorneys filed an appeal, and de Sperati disappeared into his laboratory. The morning he came out may be remembered by some as the darkest hour in the history of philately, for de Sperati brought with him three more sets of the same eighteen stamps already held as evidence by the court. Stamp for stamp they were identical with those pronounced genuine by Doctor Locard, and de Sperati suggested acidly that since the noted expert was so sold on the first batch, he might like to look at these too. The Chambéry authorities, to cover their embarrassment, hastily ordered another postponement, meanwhile sending the stamps out for re-examination by Doctor Locard and two other experts—Brun, of Paris, and LaFlize, of Lyon.

De Sperati sulked for days, gloomily predicting the case would be stalled indefinitely, and then plunged back into his work. Some weeks later, three additional experts, two in Marseille and one in Paris, received registered letters from a Mlle. Anne Corne. In each letter were some fifteen rare stamps on which she asked their professional opinion. All three promptly offered to buy the stamps, but Mademoiselle Corne explained they belonged to her personal collection and were not for sale. The experts reluctantly returned the stamps, after authenticating each one with their signature and a formal certificate, but continued corresponding with the lady. Finally she relented, and sent each one a rare stamp for which they paid the regular catalogue price. Shortly thereafter, the three experts happened to be in Paris at the same time and got together for lunch. They were discussing their newest philatelic treasures when the Paris dealer casually mentioned that he had just acquired an Oldenburg No. 5. The stamp was a rarity issued by Oldenburg, a former German state, and there were only ten known copies in the whole of Europe, each worth about $300.

"But I've also found an Oldenburg," the second man said.

"Me, too!" cried the third.

The three dealers looked at one another popeyed and there was a moment of grim silence while each fished in his wallet and pulled out a stamp. Laid side by side, the three Oldenburgs were exactly alike. Even the cancellation marks were in the same position, a coincidence challenging all the laws of chance, even if the stamp itself were not rare.

The three men hurried to the Chambre Syndicale Des Négociants en Timbres-Poste, an organization of stamp dealers, and filed an anguished complaint with the director, Monsieur Leon Miro. In no time at all Mademoiselle Corne was identified as de Sperati's sister-in-law, and the caustic engraver soon claimed he had master-minded the plot and made the Oldenburg stamps to demonstrate, once again, that all stamp experts are *bêtes*, a word which, roughly translated, means "dopes." M. Miro, or "the wily Leon," as he is known in the trade, blew a Gallic gasket and filed a criminal-fraud suit against de Sperati, demanding 1,000,000 francs damages and destruction of all the forged stamps he had made.

The bad news, which until then had been confined to the hinterlands, hit the front pages in Paris, and there was consternation in the stamp world. Dealers in Paris, London, Stockholm, Madrid, Brussels and other cities frantically pored over their prize stamps, wondering whether they had acquired any de Sperati "originals" through some third person such as Mademoiselle Corne. Experts all over Europe recalled with a pang that they had authenticated rare

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Dr Scholl's BROMIDROSIS POWDER

stamps for de Sperati. Warning bulletins were rushed into the mails by philatelic societies and worried stamp brokers.

The publicity meanwhile turned on de Sperati like an X ray, and bit by bit the hidden parts of his story came into focus. Jean de Sperati was brought up in Aix-les-Bains, a French mountain-resort city known for its thermal springs. His grandfather, Trofimo Arnulfi, had been a general and his father, Henri de Sperati, was a Colonel in the Italian Army. Like many another youngster, Jean had a hobby, stamp collecting, but he never had enough money to buy what he wanted. Once, after saving his centimes for months, he says he bought a valuable French colonial stamp which the dealer had assured him was genuine. Months later he discovered he had been duped; the stamp was not only a counterfeit but a poor one.

De Sperati says the incident embittered him; actually it became an obsession that squeezed out nearly all other interests in his life and started him on a forty-year trail of revenge. Even today, despite the restraining dampness of his attorneys, he still sizzles when he talks about stamp experts.

"Quacks! Charlatans! Bunglers!" he snaps. "They would like to get rid of me. They think I am a public danger. Perhaps I am to them. I have proved that they don't know anything. I determined to fight them years ago, when I discovered anyone could be an expert without the slightest scientific knowledge."

De Sperati learned the printing and engraving trade as a youth and, with his brother, eventually became owner of a post-card factory. In his spare time he haunted the libraries and read everything he could find on philately, including Berger-Levrault's rare work of 1867. In this book, which appeared only twenty-seven years after the first postage stamp, he found technical details on printing, engraving, paper and watermarks, and other information on early issues.

Any other collector might have been satisfied with the fundamentals, but de Sperati explains that he was consumed by a cause. He knew, for example, that he would not be the first man to attempt forgeries of rare stamps, for the literature was rich in plots that failed. He studied each case and learned, for instance, that one stamp was exposed because of faulty color; another had a microscopic error in the perforations; still another used paper that was too thin. He was intrigued, he recalls, by the fact that all the experts commenting on these affairs were unanimous in stating that no one could ever successfully forge a rare stamp. De Sperati concluded that these earlier forgers were not only careless but had only a rudimentary knowledge of their subject.

Presently, using the profits from his business, de Sperati bobbed up at auctions all over Europe and picked up bargains in rare stamps that were not in perfect condition, but which could be analyzed for color, type of printing or other characteristics. He invested in expensive equipment—quartz lamps, spectroscopes, cameras, microscopes. Meanwhile he was engaged in a staggering research project—the mastery of all the processes and materials involved in the making of a stamp, such as papers, colors, inks, gums, engraving, lithography, design, perforation and others. His studies on color alone covered thousands of shades, and he remarks now with some asperity that a standard philatelic color guide shows only about 200 colors. He analyzed the color on each stamp he bought and learned what chemicals were used to make that color in the country from which it came, and then gave it its proper spectroscopic classification. He has in his laboratory now, for example, more than 100 shades of green alone. Thus, if he is forging a green stamp, he chooses the shade which gives off the exact fluorescence of the genuine stamp.

De Sperati's researches on stamp inks were equally exhaustive and he reports that he was able to build, after years of effort, a copper furnace which yielded black ink exactly like that used 100 years ago. He analyzed stamp gums, and experimented with their ingredients—agar-agar, albumin, gelatin, flour, bone, fish offal, and so on. He studied asafetida, myrrh, mimosa and other plants which yield gums, because he knew they supplied the adhesive for stamps issued by certain Asiatic countries. Now he insists he can make, among others, a stamp gum which in a few hours develops a crackled surface indistinguishable from the aged original.

De Sperati spent years on paper alone, and he says that by painstaking handwork he can duplicate any paper

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

An executive is a man who has more telephones than he can answer. —R. ARMOUR.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

ever used for stamps, complete with watermarks. This almost impossible feat, the secret of which de Sperati says he will "take to the grave," has earned him the grudging admiration of the Parisian syndicate which wants him kept in jail.

"We don't know how he does it," says M. Maurice Garçon, attorney and spokesman for the dealers, "but it is wonderful work. No one can tell the difference between his paper and the original, no matter how old it is or whether it comes from India or France."

De Sperati gracefully acknowledges the compliments and adds, impishly, that he can even imitate *burelage*, a protective network of dots pressed into some stamps to prevent forgery.

No one, except de Sperati himself, knows when de Sperati made his first complete counterfeit stamp. He admits only that he practically lived in his laboratory for years, laboriously working by hand and rejecting sample after sample because it did not meet his rigorous standards. Though de Sperati does not make a point of it himself, others have observed that some of his first and most successful forgeries were stamps on which other counterfeiters failed miserably—such as the Oldenburg No. 5, the 1878 5 franc of Belgium, the 1849 1 Kreuzer of Bavaria, and the Naples issue of 1858. When these imitations passed his own exhaustive tests, de Sperati retired from the post-card business and devoted all his time to his homework in stamps.

He began sending forgeries to the experts, one or two at a time, and he admits that he was as nervous as a bride with her first biscuits. But they all came back duly endorsed as genuine, accompanied in most instances by an offer to buy. Thus encouraged, de Sperati coveted copies of the Matterhorns of Philately, those unattainable rarities over which men fought and spent fortunes. Among these were a Mauritius one-penny orange and two-penny blue, stamps issued to satisfy a lady's whim, and now priceless; the controversial 1851 dos reales of Spain, the scarlet Austrian newspaper stamp of 1856, worth $2500; the 1850 Saxony black on blue; the 3 skilling of Sweden; Newfoundland's 2-cent vermilion of 1857; the 9-pence lilac brown of Ceylon and many others now reposing in fabulous collections such as those of King George VI, former Secretary Ickes, the late President Roosevelt, ex-King Carol of Rumania, the late Arthur Hind and others.

Where did de Sperati get the genuine stamps to copy? He has never told the whole story, but he has admitted that he bought hundreds of so-called "seconds"—stamps which are damaged in one way or another and which, though rare and genuine, are worth only from 3 to 10 per cent of their normal value. Furthermore, as all philatelists know, photographic reproductions of rare stamps in color are available to dealers, known collectors and others when sales or trades are discussed. Moreover, since de Sperati was also a well-known collector, he was among those privileged to examine, and even photograph, rare stamps in the famous collections of Europe. In many instances de Sperati was protected by the fact that some stamps were so rare that they were almost never taken out of their vaults, and even the experts weren't sure what they looked like.

For more than fifteen years de Sperati kept his imitations flowing through philatelic channels, some 300 separate issues in all, and with from three to six copies of each. All these stamps, which now repose in what he calls his "gold book of philately," bear the signatures of great names in the stamp world. His forgeries have also been certified as genuine by the Royal Philatelic Society, of London, the Philatelic Academy, of Paris, and the London Philatelic Association.

To those who suspect that he sold huge quantities of forged stamps in all the countries of Europe and thus made a fortune, de Sperati gives a sad smile. "Ah, yes, I could have made millions," he says. "The originals of the stamps in my gold book have a total catalogue value of more than nine million francs, and I could have sold all the imitations because they were given the seal of authenticity by men whose names apparently mean something to buyers. How many times these experts tried to buy these stamps from me!"

De Sperati still lives in Aix-les-Bains, but he is no longer obscure, and the parade of the curious has convinced the town elders that in him they have a much hotter attraction than the mud baths and thermal springs. The master forger lives in a square, faded yellow house high on a hill overlooking Lake Bourget, immortalized by the love lyrics of the Poet Lamartine. De Sperati contributes to the romantic surroundings by calling his house La Villa Clair de Lune, but its creaking floors, dusty halls and sagging furniture are convincing evidence that stamp forging doesn't pay. De Sperati is as suspicious as a mountain moonshiner, and keeps snoopers away from his private mint with an enormous black police dog and a ten-foot moat between the street and the front door.

De Sperati himself looks like someone you might find in a cave or a damp cellar lit by candlelight. He is tall, bony and toothless, with thick gray hair and Svengali eyes, and he has a jaw like a meat ax, which he uses with a curious chopping effect as he talks. Restless and

intense, he goes through an eighteen-hour day in ceaseless gestures and jerks, and usually exhausts his attorneys, relatives and friends. "I can't ever make him sit still," his placid wife Marie says wistfully. "He is always nervous and excited."

"These so-called forgeries of mine," de Sperati frequently complains, "are no more forgeries, for example, than some of the furniture reproductions sold everywhere today. Painters go into the Louvre Museum, too, and copy the Mona Lisa or some other famous painting. Are they forgers? Is a man who makes artificial silk a forger? I don't want to be considered a clever crook or commit crimes with my stamps. I want to be considered an artist, because my stamps are works of art. Genuine rarities cost a fortune and only a lucky few can buy them. What about all the nice young people who love stamp collecting? Shouldn't they be allowed to have good copies of these famous stamps? I say they should. I intend to continue with my reproductions, and will sell them, not at prices based on the catalogue value of the genuine stamp, but at a price which would give me only a small profit. Of course, if some unscrupulous collector should resell them as genuine, it would not be my fault."

While de Sperati is frank enough in discussing his motives, only a few confidants have seen all the steps in the actual "forging" process. He keeps casual visitors out of the laboratory on the second floor of his home, and talks only in cryptic generalities about his methods. It is known that he uses glass photographic plates, and that the finished cuts are inked with a small hand roller, but no other details are available.

Unfortunately for de Sperati's self-claimed altruism, his future at the moment looks very dark indeed. He was brought to trial on the Paris fraud charge some months ago, convicted and sentenced to a year in prison and fined 10,000 francs. Attorney Georges Jacob's defense was simple: de Sperati had deliberately sold the three Oldenburgs to bring his thesis before the public and shame the experts. Yes, he had accepted money for the stamps, but had already refunded it to the victims.

The stamp dealers countered that de Sperati was a dangerous rogue who was ruining the philatelic profession. They even suggested, slyly, that since de Sperati had taken money for his counterfeits in this known instance, he had probably peddled them all over Europe.

Evidently the court agreed, and the verdict quickly dissipated one hypothesis suggested by neutral observers—namely, that de Sperati was selling genuine stamps acquired in some mysterious manner. The judges ruled that the stamps were forgeries, that de Sperati was guilty of fraud, and that he had deliberately hurt an honorable business. He was fined 10,000 francs and sentenced to a year in jail and, in addition, was ordered to pay the stamp-dealers' syndicate 300,000 francs damages. He did save his stamps, however, for the court was unwilling to order them destroyed.

His attorney filed an appeal, and de Sperati went home to wait for the final outcome. While there, busily rolling out new specimens of his art, he won a moral victory in the Chambéry case when the court reduced the original fine to 5000 francs—a token punishment for disturbing the normal routine of the customs service—and dismissed the capital-export charge.

The case against him there blew up when the two experts who were asked to join Doctor Locard refused to have any part of de Sperati's stamps, and in desperation the Chambéry court turned them over to Leon Dubus, a Parisian authority. Dubus, by coincidence, had also been hired by the dealers' syndicate, and declared in both cases, naturally, that the stamps were fakes.

Dubus said he was surprised that anyone could be fooled by the stamps, and testified that he needed only a small magnifying glass to spot them as forgeries.

"Now do you see why I do this?" de Sperati cackled when Dubus testified. "Doctor Locard in Chambéry declares my stamps are genuine, and his colleague Dubus in Paris says they are false. They are cutting each other's throats, and thus prove that experts are not experts at all."

There are many philatelists in France today who strongly doubt that Jean de Sperati will actually spend a year behind bars. He found an unexpected friend in Le Journal du Timbre, the French philatelic magazine, and many a prominent collector is supporting him behind the scenes. The French press, which views de Sperati as a schemer with a Machiavellian sense of humor, has had trouble repressing giggles in reporting the case, and Georges Jacob is confident that his fiery client will go free.

De Sperati, meanwhile, is feverishly working on his chef-d'oeuvre, a huge volume entitled, Confidentially—for the Experts. The book, which he says will cost $600 a copy, will summarize his studies and methods, with full-color photographs, as well as samples of all his forged stamps. His first book, sarcastically called Philately Without Experts, was limited to 300 autographed copies, and is already a collectors' item. "The experts bought them, all right," he says with a rare grin, "but they keep them out of sight. I think they would like to do the same to me."

HOW OUR FOREIGN POLICY IS MADE

(Continued from Page 31)

redrafted certain portions and returned it to Souers. Below the level of the Secretaries, the paper now represented the collective opinion of the State Department and the three defense departments—the Western powers must act immediately to forestall the Russians on Trieste.

STEP 3: The council. On March eighth Souers circulated the paper to the members of the National Security Council and notified them of a special emergency meeting. On March eleventh the council members gathered at two-thirty in the afternoon in the cabinet room of the White House.

The men who gathered around the heavy mahogany table in the cabinet room were Secretary of State George Marshall, Secretary of Defense James Forrestal, Army Secretary Kenneth Royall, Navy Secretary John Sullivan, Assistant Secretary of Air Eugene Zuckert—substituting for Secretary Stuart Symington—Chairman of the National Security Resources Board Arthur Hill, Admiral Roscoe Hillenkoetter, chief of the Central Intelligence Agency, Admiral William Leahy, Presidential Chief of Staff, and Sidney Souers. Since President Truman did not attend, Marshall took the chair.

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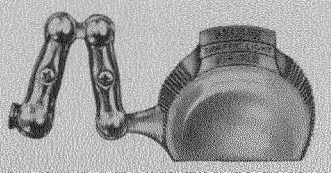

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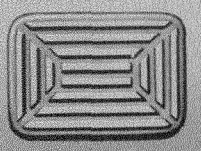

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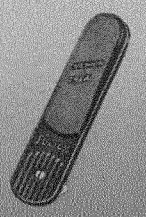

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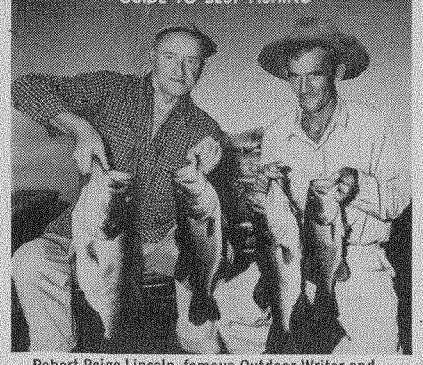

Robert Paige Lincoln, famous Outdoor Writer and Tom Flowers, Florida Guide, with bass taken while using Shakespeare Glass Fiber Wonderod.

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Marshall, most honorable and least Machiavellian of men, had already told his dismayed subordinates that the Trieste proposal disturbed him. It seemed to him like descending to the level of the Russians. Yet he knew that all his advisers strongly favored the move. He knew that a communist Italy might spell disaster. He knew that Russian and Yugoslav obstruction had made the Trieste provision of the Italian peace treaty a dead letter. And when it became clear that all the other men around the table were convinced that it was essential to forestall the Russians on Trieste, Marshall dropped his objections.

The paper was unanimously approved. But it was still not official United States policy. It was merely "advice to the President."

STEP 4: The President. At nine-thirty in the morning on March twelfth, Souers took the paper with him to the White House. Truman read it rapidly and scribbled "O.K., H.S.T." on the lower right corner of the first page. The United States Government thus decided officially to advocate the return of Trieste to Italy.

STEP 5: Action. Souers left a carbon of the policy paper for the White House secret files and hurried across the street to his office in the massive, hideous old State, War and Navy Building. As he came into his office, a secretary held out the phone to him. A State Department official, eager for a decision, was on the line. "O.K.," said Souers; "you can go ahead."

Within an hour coded cables were sent to the American embassies in London, Paris and Rome. The British and French soon fell in with the plan. On March twentieth French Foreign Minister Georges Bidault conferred with his Italian opposite number, Count Carlo Sforza, in Turin. After the conference, Bidault announced to a cheering Italian throng that France, the United States and Britain had now agreed that Trieste should again become part of Italy.

The Kremlin had been beaten to the punch. On April eighteenth the communists were soundly trounced in the Italian election, thanks in part to the new process of making American foreign policy.

In striking contrast to the way the American Government usually operates, the whole process involved remarkably little waste motion. But the fourth step in the process—the approval of the President—involved no waste motion at all. Truman simply read the paper and scribbled his initials on it. This is nearly always the case. Enemies of the President will gleefully conclude that Truman knows nothing about foreign policy anyway, and meekly does whatever he is told to do. But this would be unjust to Truman. To explain why, it is necessary to examine in more detail the role of the plumpish man with the wispy mustache, Sidney W. Souers.

The place to start is with those morning meetings in the White House. When Souers comes into the President's office, Truman greets him with his habitual affability—he calls Souers "Sid." They shake hands and then they get down to business.

The first item of business is likely to be a three-page, double-spaced paper marked TOP SECRET which is lying on the President's desk. This is the daily intelligence roundup. It is delivered to the White House by the Central Intelligence Agency at two o'clock every afternoon. It contains a summary of all the secret intelligence which has become available to the Government in the previous twenty-four hours. Usually the roundup elicits only a brief comment from the President—"Very interesting," or "Not much in this." But occasionally he asks for more information on something that puzzles or interests him, and this Souers either supplies on the spot or has ready for the President the next morning.

The intelligence roundup out of the way, Souers opens his brief case. Often the first paper he takes out is a draft of a preliminary policy paper which is being hammered out by Souers' staff or the consultants. If the issue involved is of great importance, Truman will read this through. Otherwise, Souers will describe it orally, filling in the background, pointing out the risks and advantages of the proposed policy, and reporting whatever disputes or disagreements may have arisen among the officials concerned.

If an issue is important, Truman will question Souers closely. Sometimes Truman will walk over to the great globe near his desk and jab his finger at it, asking Souers pointed questions about the geographic or strategic aspects of the proposed policy. Occasionally, the impulsive President will say, after reading a preliminary paper, "No, we're not going to do it that way." Souers then gently reminds his chief that he should keep an open mind until the whole filtering process is complete and the Security Council has reached a unanimous opinion based on all the available facts.

Souers' brief case is apt to be particularly full after the first and third Thursdays of each month. On these days the council meets to approve final policy papers which have not been so urgent as to require an emergency meeting. Truman has attended council meetings only about half a dozen times, and only in the gravest emergencies. Yet, because of Souers' daily briefing, Truman already knows all about the final policy papers even before Souers takes them out of his brief case. That is why he is very often able to initial the papers immediately, in Souers' presence.

These papers, which define the official policy of the most powerful nation on earth, are short. They are usually no more than five or six pages, each page embellished with the inevitable TOP SECRET in lavender ink. Each paper is divided into three parts: PROBLEM, briefly stated, ANALYSIS, in which the problem is dissected, and CONCLUSION, which outlines what is to be done about the problem, and who is to do it.

The meat is, of course, contained in the conclusion. Here is the conclusion of a typical paper, approved early this year—the secret portions are left blank, which may challenge the ingenious—"The Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense shall initiate high-level secret conversations with . . . government, with the objective of working out concerted action in . . . area. The State Department will notify all departments and agencies of action for which each is responsible, and will assure that such action is taken in a co-ordinated manner."

Thus the wheels of the United States Government are set in motion. There is no wholly typical example of the process which takes place before the wheels begin to whir, simply because there is no wholly typical issue. As this is written, for example, the council is seized with two vitally important issues. One is the exceedingly concrete problem of whether economic assistance and military aid should be extended to the heretical Marshal Tito, and if so, how, and how much. The other is the distinctly nebulous matter of over-all American policy in Germany—what are our real objectives in Germany, and how should we go about gaining these objectives? There is no absolute common denominator between such disparate issues.

Yet the Trieste case was typical in two respects. First, every major decision passes through much the same series of steps before it becomes Government policy. These steps provide a means for insuring that all the pertinent factors—political, strategic, if necessary economic—are thoroughly weighed before an important action is taken.

The Trieste decision was typical in another way. The idea came from the State Department. State Department men did the drafting. The Secretary of State took the chair when the council met. In good Governmentese, and

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST

"I shut my eyes during the kissing scene and make believe he's choking her."

of that sort, each with different arms: 10c, arms of Bourgogne; 50c, Guyenne; 1fr, Savoie; 2fr, Auvergne; 4fr, Anjou.

France's souvenir sheet to mark the centenary of the first French stamps is king size! It includes 40 stamps—a row of 10 of each of 15fr red and 25fr blue in the 1849 Ceres design, and 15fr red and 25fr blue in the Marianne design by Gandon (Scott's A147). A fifth and central row of labels bears an early postmark inscribed "Centenaire du Timbre Poste —Paris," and the exhibition dates.

For the 600th anniversary of France's acquisition of the Dauphine (the region which includes L'Isere, Haute-Alpes and La Drome departments), France released on May 14th a 13fr red brown stamp which shows the collegiate church of St. Barnard at Romans and the ancient arms of the Dauphine.

France celebrated Franco-American friendship by issuing an attractive 25fr blue and red stamp on May 14. Gandon engraved the design which includes a plane and a liner.

NEGRI SEMBILAN — A regular postage set of 15 values has appeared for Negri Sembilan. It uses the standard Malaya design, but with the Negri Sembilan arms supplanting the King's head. The first eight values, 1c through 15c, are printed in one color, while the seven higher values, 20c through $5, are bicolored.

PORTUGUESE INDIA has joined with the other Portuguese colonies which have postally honored the visit of the statue of "Our Lady of Fatima." The design in this instance shows the statue wearing a large ornate crown.

BADEN — Three large-size high values have been proposed for Baden. The 2mk would show the Thermal Baths at Baden-Baden; 3mk, the Council Building at Constance, and 5mk, St. Stephen's Cathedral at Vieux-Brisach.

TRIESTE DUES — Four more postage due stamps of Italy (1c, 5c, 10c and 20c) have been overprinted in black, "A. M. G./F. T. T.," for use in Triesta.

* *

SWITZERLAND — On June 15, 1949, there will be issued, as usual, four Federal festival stamps with additional charge in favor of the professional furtherance of our youth. The series of "Work" and "Swiss house" begun in 1945 are brought to an end by these stamps. These will be valid from June 15th to November 30, 1949. Motif, color and value are as follows: 5c+5c, Postman, bi-colored (reddish violet, red); 10c+10c, Farm-house of the Jura of Basle, three colored (green, chamois, red); 20c+10c, House of the canton of Lucerne, three colored (brown, chamois, red); 40c+10c, House of Prattigau, three colored (dark blue,

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ICELAND—In the beginning of June next a new series of charity stamps will be issued.

The stamps are designed by the artist Stefan Jonsson, Reykjavik and printed by the firm Thomas de la Rue & Co., Ltd., London, in single color Direct Plate on sheets of 50 stamps as follows: 10+10 aur., green, 400,000 stamps; 35+15 aur., red, 300,000 stamps; 50+25 aur., brown, 300,000 stamps; 60+25 aur., blue, 300,000 stamps; 75+25 aur., bluish grey, 300,000.—*Courtesy of Direction Generale Des Poste, Reykjavik, Iceland.*

★ ★

HE FOOLED THE EXPERTS!

By STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

Regarding the ridiculous article in THE SATURDAY EVENING POST *of April 30, 1949—entitled—*"HE FOOLED THE EXPERTS."

Here we have another example of a smart-Aleck attempting to write a sensational article regarding a subject of which he evidently possessed little if any knowledge. But the amazing part of this false and misleading bunch of nonsense is that a publication of the high character and standing of the *Saturday Evening Post* would publish such a sensational article without even taking the trouble to refer it to one of our leading philatelic publishers, philatelic societies or some recognized authority, in order to obtain an opinion as to whether it was fit for publication.

Well-informed collectors surely wonder why reputable publications such as the *Post, Coronet, Colliers* and *News Week* accept silly articles on serious philately by ignorant and crackpot writers. Each have been guilty in this respect in the past two years.

There is no question but what such articles have a damaging effect on collectors who are just starting to collect, as well as on amateurs and perhaps on some of the more advanced class. Many people are apt to take for granted that the *Post* would not publish such an article unless it contained facts.

If the French counterfeiter, Sperati, could manufacture fakes that would "*fool the Experts*" why run the risk of investing money in a stamp collection? People are apt to overlook the fact that if Sperati was clever enough to manufacture "genuine" fakes, he would be clever enough to manufacture current postage stamps of various nations and likewise "fool" their Post Office Departments as well as philatelic experts.

The American Philatelic Society should file suit against the *Post* for publishing such an article, if for no other purpose than to serve notice to

other publications that articles with untrue statements regarding philately by crackpot, irresponsible writers will not be ignored by the world's largest philatelic society in the future.

When I read the *Post* article I addressed the following letter to the Editor:

May 1, 1949

To the Editor of
THE SATURDAY EVENING POST,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:

I have read the article by a person by the name of "Dean Jennings" in the *Post* of April 30, 1949 and in my very humble opinion, may I state that I have never read quite as silly a lot of rubbish as is contained in this article. I am amazed that the *Post* would publish such an article without first submitting it to some philatelic organization or some philatelic authority qualified to pass on its merit. In short, this article is simply disgusting, misleading and without common sense.

Sincerely yours,
Stanley B. Ashbrook.

I have since learned that many other collectors have also written letters of protest to the Editor of the *Post*. Mr. Harold C. Brooks, of Marshall, Mich., sent me a copy of a letter that he forwarded and I am including it herewith:

Marshall, Mich., May 13, 1949

The Editor
SATURDAY EVENING POST,
Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:

When I was married, in 1908, one of our friends presented me with a subscription to the SATURDAY EVENING POST. And since that time it has been one of the few magazines holding top place on our library table. In other words, we have enjoyed reading about 2,100 issues.

I have never had occasion to object to any article until two weeks ago when you published an article which was both silly and misleading.

Who is this Dean Jennings who is supposed to know so much about stamps? I have been a serious collector since 1910 and have a wide acquaintance in philatelic circles, but I never heard of him.

Such tripe as he wrote cannot be lightly dismissed for it may readily have the effect of impairing the value of rare stamps of great value which are held by thousands of American collectors.

I think that you should, in justice to that portion of your readers who are stamp collectors, accept an article of refutation, and the man best qualified to speak on the subject is Stanley B. Ashbrook of Fort Thomas, Kentucky. Mr. Ashbrook is generally

(*Page 441, please.*)

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THE INSIDE STRAIGHT

By HARRY WEISS

Our thought for the day: "It matters not how a man dies, but how he lives."

Franz Paalzow was postmaster in Bergdorf, Germany, when Bergdorf issued its first stamps back in 1861. It was in 1867 that the stamps of Hamburg superseded the stamps of Bergdorf—came 1858 and the North German Federation took over the post offices and issued stamps for that district.

In 1848, over one hundred years ago, a son, John, was born to the Franz Paalzow family. John started collecting stamps in 1858 and like many others in the old country headed for the United States in 1867. He brought his collection with him.

The bells have tolled—the oldest collector in the United States passed on a few weeks ago at the age of 101—a stamp collector for 91 years—he had made and sold several collections during his life time—in his last years the hobby made him stay young and collect—his interest to the end was the collecting of first flight covers—C. A. M. and A. M. Mr. Paalzow subscribed for GOSSIP when it was a pocket size magazine—his present subscription is still in force as he was a constant reader of WEEKLY PHILATELIC GOSSIP. His daughter has asked that it be sent to her.

The albums of John Paalzow have been closed for the last time—he has left for that undiscovered bourne from which no man returns! The last quarter century of his life was spent with stamps that kept him young in mind—we mark "finis" again. The bells have been silenced!

But for each one that leaves, many others arrive to travel the highways and by-ways of Philately. Let us take the case history of Bobby—from the report of Dr. J. I. W. whose letter is before us and we quote:

"As I am interested in keeping youngsters busy with their collections and prompted by something I read in your column this week, I thought you might be interested in the following case history. Bobby K., age ten, began a collection (general) and I helped him with donations of duplicates, etc., and I soon began to notice a waning interest and investigation revealed that Bobby was partly color blind. His reds were green and green was red, blue was purple and purple was blue or black. I got Bobby a U. S. Album with each space containing Scott's number and color description, along with a Scott Catalogue. Bobby had to locate the particular stamp with its description as 'Washington, one cent green, 1938-43 No. 804' and find the appropriate space in the album where he could read *1c GREEN.* He thus was able to correlate that particular stamp with the shade, green. Now one and a half years later, Bobby is an enthusiastic collector, no longer color blind, can distinguish blue from ultramarine, recognizes violet, purple and mauve, green and yellow green. Bobby can be said to be cured of his color blindness by his application and study of the colors of his stamps. If you can use the above in your columns, you have my permission to do so."

Down in Florida lives one of my best friends—he became a war millionaire and returned to civilian goods production after the war was over. His production profits were eaten up by taxes—he retired several years ago. Active all his life, a year of fishing and basking in the sun, did not take the place of a busy workaday! People usually get a nervous breakdown from overwork—this man was a nervous wreck from loafing. It has been two years since this man took up stamp collecting—he attended the recent Miami show—he attends many stamp shows—has built up a fine collection—sells a few duplicates as pastime and instead of being a nervous wreck is now very active collecting stamps as a pastime. We have his physician's word for it—he is another mutual friend, also a stamp collector.

When it comes to mental ills and overwork, only the patient himself can help his physician. You can see a patient who has a broken bone—you cannot see the inner workings of a worn-out mind. As you think so do you live! An avocation is called for and indicated when a man's vocation becomes burdensome to the extent of affecting his well being! Stamps and collecting them as a hobby is not a cure-all—but they are the greatest medicine to the busy man—if a Doctor could prescribe such a medicine, it is our thought that the bottle would be labeled "R—Relaxation—take as directed" and a shot or two of this medicine will make that big insurmountable problem you face seem like nothing at all!

Well, we collectors have had our Coronation issues, our Silver Jubilee issues and the Silver Wedding issues, the latter a headache for collector and dealer alike—now comes another one, slated for October to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Universal Postal Union (see U. P. U. on many South American stamps) and this time the British Empire will not be alone in their celebration with a few stamps running from the low to the 1 Shilling value. Even the United States is expected to bring out a stamp to celebrate this great system where for a few pennies your letter is taken just about any where on this earth. Switzerland beat the other nations to the gun, she has tied this anniversary in with one of her own—fine stamps come from Switzerland, this set is no exception!

And we report the winners in the Junior letter writing contest regarding the reasons why they collect stamps. The Twin City Philatelic Society of Minnesota sort of fosters those interested in seeing that the youngsters get a thorough philatelic education to get them started off on the right foot. Our Publisher has awarded three one-year subscriptions to the winners of the best letters written and there were plenty. By the time this appears in print, Richard Johnson and Joan Argetsinger, both of St. Paul and Jeanne Esau of Minneapolis, will have been reading this magazine for some weeks. Congratulations! It's not so much what you won, it's the idea that you had what it takes to win it!

A interesting Mother's Day tie up with the stamp collection of Mrs. Larie Konikoff of Buffalo, N. Y. was made from May 1st to May 10th by one of that city's largest stores. An item worth noting as it promotes stamp collecting.

Wm. H. Strawn of Minneapolis, Minn., sort of "fathered" the Junior Stamp Exhibit held for two days at the Citizens Club in that city. Admission was free and the Juniors worked hard to put on an all junior stamp show that really rated. Many a proud parent viewed their children's collection and exhibit. There was a bourse, judging, awards, etc., just like the grown ups have. No election was reported to us, no ballots or absentee voting. No politics either! William H. Strawn knew he had something on his hands too—but it was a real success and set a pattern that other clubs could follow—for what child is not the envy of his class mates when he brings home that coveted

HE FOOLED THE EXPERTS!

(*Continued from page 423*)

considered to be America's foremost expert on stamps. An article by him, illustrated might erase, partially at least, the damage you may have done to my holdings, and those of others.

(Signed) Harold C. Brooks.

Every serious collector should enter a strong protest against the publication of articles that are apt to have a damaging effect on Philately. Will the American Philatelic Society take any action? It would be perfectly amazing if they did.

★ ★

PETS AND PEEVES REPORTING

By STEPHEN W. GERBER

Cancer Fight Still On

Philately's official effort in the fight against cancer, was launched by PETS AND PEEVES in the columns of this publication on December 20th, 1947. This campaign has received wide-spread support and more than $3,000.00 has been realized to this date, with the quota set at $5,000.00.

Recent contributions include gifts of stamps from *William H. Henderson, J. T. Fincher* and *Henry T. Zahn.* These will be sold at auction by *H. R. Harmer, Inc.*, and the gross proceeds will go to enrich the fund. Further gifts of $10 have been received from *Richard Garland* of La Porte, Colo., and *J. Irving Wolf, M. D.* of Tucson, Ariz., as well as $5 from *"A Friend." Vernon Sheckells* of Baltimore sent $2.00; *Mrs. Larie Konikoff* and *Jesse H. Schlegel*, $1.00 each.

Through the cooperation of *"Pat" Herst* in the appeal that appeared in his OUTBURST, donations of $1.00 each have come from *Otto B. Hoffman, J. H. Galliver, Paul Reynolds, Jr.*, and *Louis LaBreche. Paul Knuts* sent $1.50 and *Col. S. G. Frierson*, Leaburg, Oregon; *J. E. Campbell*, San Marino, Calif.; *Curtis W. Crane*, Westhope, No. Dakota; *Ronald A. Wankel*, Lincoln, Nebr.; *S. M. Unger*, Richmond Hill, N. Y.; $2.00 each. *Albert A. Newton*, Pittsburgh, Penna. sent $2.50. Also $5.00 from *Carl W. Fisher*, Washington, D. C. and $10.00 each from *H. H. Parker*, Los Gatos, Calif.; *Harry S. VanDenberg*, Rockford, Ill., and *Richard E. Rothbaum*, New York.

Please continue to send your gifts to the GOSSIP CANCER FUND, Holton, Kansas. They will be forwarded to STEPHEN W. GERBER, Chairman of the philatelic cancer fund and acknowledged in GOSSIP as well as by the *American Cancer Society*, which is the sole beneficiary.

★ ★

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‡U4	$5.80	‡U54	$ .52	‡U79	$ .46
U9	.53	W55	3.35	U82	.10
U10	.17	U58	.14	U85	.88
U11	5.75	U60	2.55	U86	.95
W20	4.60	U61	1.30	U87	1.70
U34	.62	U62	1.70	U88	1.05
U36	1.45	U63	1.90	U89	27.75
U39	4.30	U72	2.15	U93	4.15
U50	.67	U73	3.20	U95	8.85
U52	.86	U74	1.10	U100	6.90
W53	2.45	W77	1.70	U105	7.60

These or others gladly sent on approval. Kindly enclose reference.
FRANKLIN STAMP COMPANY
111 Leverich Street, Hempstead, New York

Check the prices on these
U. S. IMPERFORATED STAMPS

	Mint Single	Mint Block	Used Single	Used Block
‡343	$ .14	$ 1.50	$ .12	$ 1.30
344	.40	2.20	.16	2.10
347	4.00	20.00	3.10	15.00
383	.10	.60	.10	———
384	.10	8.00	.05	———
408	.05	.50	.03	.15
409	.05	.75	.04	.36
481	.10	.40	.07	.30
482	.16	.70	.16	.68
484	.70	2.90	.68	2.80
531	1.35	5.50	1.30	5.30
532A V	4.45	18.00	2.65	12.00
532 VA	1.20	4.80	.90	4.75
535	1.20	4.80	1.15	4.60
575	.70	2.80	.60	2.50
576	.13	.60	.13	.55
577	.17	.70	.16	.65
612	1.00	4.00	.75	4.00
631	.40	1.60	.40	1.60

Special: Center line block ‡408, superb ____ 3.00
W. C. PHILLIPS & CO.
36 Pearl St., Hartford 3, Conn.

REDUCED PRICE
Brit. Silver Wedding Sets
We allow 5% discount on assorted order over $100.00.

Aden	$3.75	Jamaica	$6.80
Aden Kathiri	1.90	Kenya	7.00
Aden Qu'aiti	1.90	Leewards	1.40
Antigua	1.40	Malta	5.20
Ascension	4.50	Mauritius	9.00
Bahamas	6.80	Montserrat	1.40
Barbados	1.65	Nigeria	1.40
Basutoland	3.00	N. Borneo	20.00
Bechuanaland	3.00	N. Rhodesia	8.00
Bermuda	6.80	Nyassaland	2.60
B. Guiana	3.40	Pitcairn	2.50
B. Honduras	22.00	St. Helena	4.50
B. Solomon	2.00	St. Kitts	1.40
Cayman	3.00	St. Lucia	8.50
Cyprus	5.60	St. Vincent	7.00
Dominica	3.80	Sarawak	5.50
Falkland	20.00	Seychelles	2.70
Falkland Dep.	.40	Sierra Leone	9.00
Fiji	1.30	Singapore	5.50
Gambia	5.20	Somaliland	2.00
Gibraltar	5.70	Swaziland	3.00
Gold Coast	2.60	Trinidad	7.00
Gilbert	4.00	Turks	4.00
Grenada	4.50	Virgin Is.	5.20
Hong Kong	3.30	Zanzibar	2.70

All 11 Malay States ____ 46.00
The entire set (138 values) ____ $320.00
UNION STAMP CO.
240 Broadway, New York 7

B. N. A. AND B. N. A. P. S.

By JACK LEVINE

The collecting and study of the stamps of British North America is very popular. In B. N. A., the collector, student and specialist finds everything his interests require—postage, airmails, covers, booklets, coils, precancels, revenues, proofs and essays, varieties, and any other collecting possibility.

Jack Levine learned the potential pleasures in collecting B. N. A. years ago. He also learned that he needed others with similar interests with whom to discuss his information and problems. To that end, he set about in 1943 forming a Society which would devote itself entirely to the study and collecting of the stamps and postal history of B. N. A. Today, that Society—the BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY (BNAPS)—numbers well over 500 members and includes the best known and best informed collectors of B. N. A. Today, BNAPS boasts the finest Sales Department, the most representative B. N. A. Library, an excellent monthly magazine, BNA TOPICS, which provides the most informative and enlightening articles and columns by outstanding authorities on their subjects. Twenty-eight solid pages of B. N. A. information each and every month!

BNAPS encourages direct and personal associations between its members. Chapters are very actively functioning in many cities — New York, Philadelphia, Buffalo, Minneapolis—and others being formed. These chapters receive every cooperation from the Society, especially a "King Size" circuit made available for their meetings.

Every two years the membership elects its officers and Board of Governors. Those elected for 1949-1951 were *Richard P. Hedley* of Buffalo, N. Y., President; *Major Ian C. Morgan* of Montreal, Canada, Vice-President; *William C. Peterman* of Brooklyn, N. Y., Treasurer; *Jack Levine*, Secretary. The Board is comprised of *Stanley C. Calder*, Cheshire, England; *Capt. Vincent G. Greene*, Toronto, Canada; *Fred Jarrett*, Toronto, Canada; *Harold R. Meyers*, New York City; *Daniel C. Meyerson*, New York City; *Edward A. Richardson*, Ithaca, N. Y., and *Laurence D. Shoemaker*, Lakewood, Ohio. These eminent names, well known to all collectors for their many and varied contributions to Philately, evidence and exemplify the character and caliber of members elected to govern the affairs of the Society.

BNAPEX 1949—BUFFALO, N. Y.—SEPTEMBER 16-17-18. Three whole days of B. N. A. with B. N. A. collectors! Convention, exhibition, bourse, banquet, auction, anything and everything B. N. A. Here indeed will be seen the finest exhibition of B. N. A. by members of the Society. Here indeed you will meet more collectors of B. N. A. than you could expect. Here indeed is where you should be on *September 16, 17, 18 — Buffalo, N. Y. — BNAPEX 1949.*

B. N. A. and *B. N. A. P. S.*—they just naturally go together.

For information about joining, write *Jack Levine, 74 Arlington Ave., Brooklyn 7, N. Y.* He'll also send you a sample copy of BNA TOPICS.

★ ★

Irresolution on the schemes of life which offer themselves to our choice, and inconstancy in pursuing them, are the greatest causes of all our unhappiness. —ADDISON

RECENT NEW ISSUES

FRANCE

ITALY

IRAN

—Courtesy New York Journal-American.

June 29, 1949.

Mr. Harold C. Brooks,
Marshall, Mich.

Dear Harold:

The enclosed is so good that I thought you would enjoy reading it.

Please return at your convenience.

Regards -

Yours etc.,

June 15, 1949.

Mr. Harry Weiss,
% Gossip,
Holton, Kans.

Dear Harry:

Please note the enclosed letter and return because I would like to put it my scrap book. I never reply to a letter such as this.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

June 29, 1949.

Mr. Edwin A. Menninger, Jr.,
731 East Fifth St.,
Stuart, Fla.

Dear Sir:

I make it a rule never to reply to letters from crackpots or members of the lunatic fringe but in your case I am making an exception as your letter was rather more extreme than the average and afforded me quite a bit of amusement.

Perhaps we can blame the Florida heat.

Very truly yours,

EDWIN A. MENNINGER, Secretary JOHN U. MENNINGER, Treasurer

STUART DAILY NEWS, INC.

Printers and Publishers

COMMERCIAL PRINTING
OFFICE EQUIPMENT and SUPPLIES
TYPEWRITERS ADDING MACHINES

The STUART NEWS
. . . on THURSDAYS
Member of the Associated Press

Stuart, Florida
June 10, 1949

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I rarely write these kind of letters but after reading your and Harry Weiss' comments in WPG on the SatEvePost article "He Fooled the Experts" I was bound to make some kind of reply because to save me I cannot pair my feelings with yours whatsoever.

I don't pretend to be either a renowned collector or a great expert although I have collected for 20 years and am exceedingly fond of philately in general. Instead of feeling as you two do, my personal opinion and that of several other collectors to whom I've spoken on the matter in this community is that the article was very interesting over-all, told us about the man Sperati of whom we'd hear only vaguely if ~~xxx~~ at all and amazed us at his admittedly outstanding ability to fake postal issues without really trying to be malicious about it insofar as financial gain is concerned.

As far as your letter and comments are concerned I was unable to put my finger on a single concrete thing that was wrong about the article. However, in the other letter that was printed there the writer mentioned harm to the hobby in that collectors fortunate enough to possess some of the highly-prized issues now may wonder if they really have a genuine or if it's a fake. That in itself is one good point although those people definitely are in the minority in the family of

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The STUART NEWS
. . . on THURSDAYS
Member of the Associated Press

collectors in this country because most of us are lucky to have a $50 or $100 item, much less $1,000 or something of that nature. Conversely, I feel it (the article) was good publicity for the hobby that philately rarely gets in a magazine of the magnitude of the Post, and made interesting ready for the nation's general public. After all, the Post to maintain the reputation it has achieved cannot afford to print just anything and certainly must have thought twice before printing this story. The writer must have had more than a slight smattering knowledge of Sperati in order to write such a story. Frankly, if Sperati is so good and the experts so poor that they can't detect his products' quality, I say more power to him. If I get hooked with a fake that's my tough luck.

If some one will point out facts of error in the article itself, not in the man Sperati, and not simply use a bunch of adjectives stating how terrible the article was I'd be happy to hear them, but until that time I say to the Post and other publications: give us more such articles, such as one on the history of the $50,000 British Guiana singleton, or one on some other notable in philately, and a lot of others that certainly would be of public interest. And don't forget to tell the other side of the story. Find out who this writer is; don't simply ask thin air. If I have injured your feelings with this tirade I'm sorry, but I got kind of sore reading the comments of you two after I'd liked the article.

Sincerely,

E. A. Menninger, Jr.

cc: Sat Eve Post, Phila
Would appreciate your forwarding this letter to Weiss---

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

June 29, 1949.

Mr. Edwin A. Menninger, Jr.,
731 East Fifth St.,
Stuart, Fla.

Dear Sir:

I make it a rule never to reply to letters from crackpots or members of the lunatic fringe but in your case I am making an exception as your letter was rather more extreme than the average and afforded me quite a bit of amusement.

Perhaps we can blame the Florida heat.

Very truly yours,

Stanley B. Ashbrook

EDWIN A. MENNINGER, JR.
731 EAST FIFTH ST.
STUART, FLORIDA

STUART, FLA.
JUN 10
6—PM
1949

Mr. Stanley E. Ashbrook

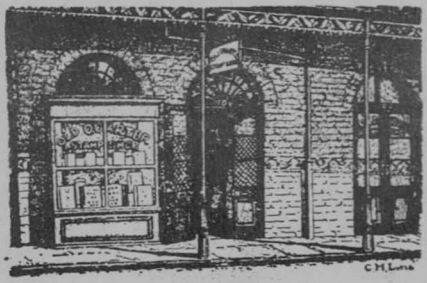
% Weekly Philatelic Gossip

Holton, Kansas

33 to Ft. Thomas Ky

Ft Thomas Kentucky

HOLTON
JUN 13
4 PM
1949
KANS.



Old Quarter Stamp Shop

706 ROYAL STREET
NEW ORLEANS 16, LA.
Established 1492
From the Desk of
LARRY BORENSTEIN

Associate Editor of *Weekly Philatelic Gossip*

A. P. S.
S. P. A.
C. S. A.

July 16, 1949

Dear Stanley,

I return with thanks the enclosures which you so kindly showed me. Don't be too upset by zanies of this sort as they do serve a useful purpose, i. e., they stand in such sharp contrast to logic as to make your position doubly strong.

I am a little sorry that I didn't think to forward you some of the mail which I received both pro and con.

With sincere personal good wishes.

As Ever,

Larry

Editor of *Postage Stamp Parade* a feature of *Linn's Weekly Stamp News.*

MEKEEL'S WEEKLY May 23, 1949

U.S. Notes and Comments

By PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

MORE CONCERNING SPERATI COUNTERFEITS

The recent "Saturday Evening Post' article on the Jean de Sperati counterfeits has caused considerable agitation in the stamp world. As soon as we read the story we mentioned it in this column but since that time had a number of letters asking for more detailed information. To set our readers at rest we can definitely state that the "Post's" article was misleading and that the counterfeits may very definitely be told from the originals. Accurate information on the subject may be obtained from the writings from the pen of Edwin Mueller in the "Mercury Stamp Journal" of last February. This was written for the stamp collector and differs from the sensational "Post" story which was written for the general public.

Sperati's activities in this field are not new for he has been making his imitations for more than 20 years. He has come into prominence of late due to the fact that he was apprehended on the French border for smuggling stamps out of the country and had to prove that they were forgeries to escape punishment for violating the currency laws. He became involved in various litigations and was indicted for forgery and cited before the French courts.

As far as known, he has only forged four U. S. stamps, nine from Hawaii, in addition to some 213 others, mostly early British Colonies, Latin America and Europe. He made no less than 50 imitations of Spanish stamps, 26 Uruguay, 15 Buenos Aires and 11 Switzerland. The four U. S. stamps are the 5c New York, 5c Providence, the 1847 10c and the Confederate "TEN". The "Post" article illustrated three of these four stamps omitting only the 5c Providence.

Sperati usually distributed 226 imitations in booklets of twenty pages with brown cover. These are lettered "Les Jean-de-Sperati Philatelie d'Art". The fakes have the penciled signature "Jean de Sperati" on each. Some are unused, some cancelled. Those cancelled generally have the same postmark on the same fake and are generally put in the same place. The Mueller article states: "Comparison of several of these collections has shown that not two of them are identical. Aside from the differences based on the methods of manufacture, which we will explain later, some forgeries which are cancelled in one collection are uncancelled in another and vice versa. Furthermore other small differences can be noticed; the most important one seems to be the fact that in the collections we have seen always one forgery is included which cannot be found in the other collections. It seems that Sperati wanted to show in this way that he did not put all his different products into any one of his collections and that he still has some up his sleeve in order to create the uncertainty which forgers and fakers feel so helpful for the success of their ventures". He imitated some cheap stamps (Spain No. 240 cat $4) but mostly rare stamps. All were 19th Century with the exception of Argentine 1910 20 p. About 20% to 30% of a book is unused, the balance used. Of the forgeries noted 25 are recess-printed, 70 lithographed and 131 typographed. At least two of these books of imitations are in this country.

The Naval School And Old Annapolis

By ORETHA SWARTZ

(Condensed from SHIPMATE, the monthly magazine of the U. S. Naval Academy Alumni Association)

Three hundred years ago a small band of Puritan exiles from Virginia sailed up the Severn River, settling on a fertile strip of land called Greenberry's Point—the present site of the Naval Radio Station. Soon they moved across the river to a more favorable spot and the settlement "Providence" was under way. But like a whimsical lady, that name was changed five times: from Providence to "Town at Proctor's," "Town Land at Severn," "Arundel Town" and finally, in 1694, to "Annapolis."

From then until shortly after the Revolution, Annapolis was the social and industrial center of North America. Here came such visitors as Lafayette, Braddock and Rochambeau. George Washington slept here—many times.

During this golden age, the port of all parties." Royal governors from then on held sway until the Revolution.

Since its founding Annapolis has never been known to falter in the cause or defense of American rights and liberty. Since the signing of the Treaty of Peace with the marauding Susquehanneck Indians under the widespread limbs of the 800-year-old Liberty Tree and the burning of the brig Peggy Stewart off Windmill Point by her owner Anthony Stewart who preferred to lose the cargo of tea rather than his integrity, Annapolitans have been staunch in the defense of "Mary's Land".

Since its beginning, the Naval Academy has played a great role in the defense of America. It was barely under way when the Mexican War threw all into confusion, with midshipmen detached for active duty—even the Superintendent Comdr. Buchanan, left for a post at sea. At the close of the War Between the States, Admiral David D. Porter undertook the job of humanizing the Academy The grounds were enlarged and new buildings erected. That the Academy was essentially sound, was demonstrated by the conduct of its graduates in the Spanish-American War in 1898, the first war when its product was in entire command.

The part Naval Academy graduates have taken in World Wars I and II is a matter of pride to all Americans. In the past three wars, the officers of the High Command have all been Naval Academy graduates: Dewey, Sampson, Schley Sims, Rodman, King, Nimitz, Halsey Mitscher, McCain, Spruance, Hewitt Kincaid . . . Its graduates have explored the far-reaching corners of the globe.

1898 "DR. K." I.

The 1c, 2c, and 3c of the regular 1898 i lines, reading "Dr. K. and Co. / I. R. /Bing was accepted by the Revenue office and is Revenue issues. The first issue on the 5th issues show a small I. R. with two types of the following.

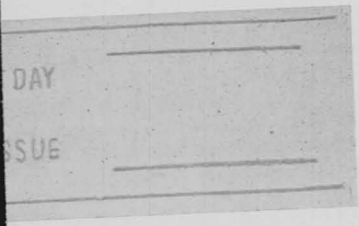
	7/5/98 Large I. R.	7/6/98 Small	7/7/98 Celtic	7 Gothic
1c Green	—	—	10.00	—
2c Carmine	6.00	—	10.00	—
3c Purple	10.00	3.50	5.50	4.50

SPERATI COUNTERFEITS

In a recent article in the "Saturday Evening Post" the story is told of the Sperati counterfeits made in France. It states that our greatest experts cannot tell these fakes from the genuine stamps. Of course, this is a foolish statement for it would be physically impossible to counterfeit an engraved stamp that could not be told by one who knows his stamps. In the "Mercury Stamp Journal" Mr. Edwin Mueller, that well known authority on European stamps, discusses these varieties and, of course, can distinguish them from the genuine. In a recent letter Mr. Mueller writes: They are only good on the first look, but I can spot them on sight, and I am sure you would not be fooled by them." In speaking of the "Post" article he writes: "The story in the "Saturday Evening Post" is highly misleading and in many cases erroneous." We noted that the author illustrates the 5c New York, the 1847 10c and the Confederate "TEN" and tells us that even the watermark is correct. Of course, the U. S. did not start to watermark its stamps until 1895, showing that the author was possibly a professional writer who knew little, if anything about stamps. No matter how expert an engraver, he just cannot engrave a new die that does not differ from the original in some way.

Every line cut has three dimensions—length breadth and depth — and the man does not live who could cut the hundreds of lines necessary without changing some of the three dimensions. Mr. Robert Hoffmann, the well known specialist in the stamps of Uruguay, while visiting us recently told us that he could readily distinguish the Sperati counterfeits of that country. In fact, a publication on the counterfeits of Uruguay from the pen of Mr. Hoffmann has just reached our desk. This illustrates the original as well as all counterfeits known to Mr. Hoffmann and explains how they may be distinguished.

May 16, 1949



Evidently this particular stamp was applied to mail addressed to points outside the Province. We appreciate hearing from any reader who has additional information on these markings.

BNAPEX 1949—Buffalo, N. Y.

September 16-17-18 are the dates for the 1st Annual convention and exhibition of the BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY. The exhibit will take place on Saturday and Sunday the 17th and 18th, with Friday being reserved for general get-together in the afternoon and auction in the evening. On Saturday morning a meeting of the Society will take place, and in the evening will be the banquet and presentation of awards. In addition, it is announced that Mr. Walter S. Bayley, of Toronto will act as toastmaster. Further details as to the full program will be announced shortly.

1865-80 LARGE N

THOMAS DOANE PERRY
ENGINEER IN WOOD WORK
301 EAST MAIN STREET
MOORESTOWN, NEW JERSEY
TELEPHONE 9-0613

May 25th, 1 9 4 9

Mr. Milton D. Eisner,
1890 Broadway,
San Francisco, 9, California

Dear Mr. Eisner;

Many years ago I acquired the two "CHIPS" covers enclosed, and only recently got an inkling from Stanley Ashbrook that such a chap was a well known character in the gold rush days.

Note the two envelopes are different printings, and different dies, having no indicia of any express company or use by express companies. Maybe they were used, maybe not, there is no indication of pastmark or other evidence of use. Perhaps he ran a private business. I read your story in a recent GOSSIP with much interest but find no reference to this particular type of printed address. Can you give me any particular data about them? I will be most appreciative. Also are they particularly rare or valuable, although I have no desire to sell them.

Please send Stanley Ashbrook a copy of your reply to complete his files on the subject.

Thanking you.

Cordially

Thomas D. Perry
APS 7135

cc Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas Kentucky

MILTON D. EISNER
1890 BROADWAY
SAN FRANCISCO 9, CALIFORNIA

June 8, 1949.

Mr. Thomas B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Mr. Thomas Perry has forwarded two covers to me addressed to Chips and has asked me several questions regarding my idea of the method by which they were forwarded and has asked me to send you a copy of my f reply and I will appreciate any suggestions from you as to the accuracy of my surmises.

Cordially

Milton D. Eisner

Milton D. Eisner APS. #13378

MILTON D. EISNER
1890 BROADWAY
SAN FRANCISCO 9, CALIFORNIA

June 8, 1949.

Mr. Thomas Doane Perry
301 East Main Street
Moorestown, N. J.

Dear Mr. Perry:

Your interesting letter arrived just as was about to leave town for a few days and I just now have time to answer you and must ask your forgiveness for my delay.

"Chips" was an interesting character in the early western express days and a short article just published in Weekly Philatelic Gossip, issue of May 14, 1949 will give you a brief outline of his activities. Page 332. I have a grear deal more data and it was hard to condense it but of coyrse there had to be a limit.

Re your envelopes - Chips had his name and address printed and sent the envelopes back east to be used in writing him. It was, I believe,his intent that these could be posted back to him by regular mail as the postage rate at that time for that distance was 10¢ but these two of yours were undoubtedly carried in the regular Wells Fargo Express pouch between the east and the west. Even tho the U. S. Post Office Dep't. regulations required mail carried by express companies subsequent to Feb. 1854 to have sufficient postage on the envelopes to have carried them by mail I have seen many letters used between Wells Fargo employees sent between their offices without U. S. postage, but knowing as much as I do about Chips and his ideas of right and wrong I'm certain that he would have insisted that any letters either sent by him or to him over which he had any control should have rigidly conformed to all regulations.

You ask regarding rarity and value. I have seen similar covers offered in sales but have never acquired any and believe that their value except to someone with a sentimental value such as I have for Chips would

MILTON D. EISNER
1890 BROADWAY
SAN FRANCISCO 9, CALIFORNIA

be based on their value as entires only.

The notations on the reverse are in Chip's handwriting and that one dated March 18, 1857 has a notation on its face "L. O. S." and was from Louisa O. Shattuck, whom he married in 1858. The other was from Silence Shattuck whom I cannot identify, but was probably either his mother in law or sister in law. and the notes on the reverse show that its receipt was answered first by Louisa (then his wife) and also by Chips.

If there is any additional information that you think that I may be able to give you please do not hesitate to ask for it and I will do my best to secure it for you.

Cordially

Milton D. Eisner APS. #13378

cc Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
Fort Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

like of the ugly beasts. Several years later, the herd had dwindled to two, male and female, and these were shipped to the Nevada salt mines to labor in the beds along the Carson River. The two remaining animals raised twenty or so offspring and they met varied ill-fates among the vast wastes of the Mojave Desert. Even today a motorist may excitedly stutter to a gas station attendant, somewhere in the Nevada or California desert territory, "I saw a camel a few miles back," although it is believed that the last one has long since expired.

In 1935, members of the Philatelic Club of Los Angeles, Inc., revived the camel express with several camels borrowed from a local circus. They were sent over the original Fort Tejon - Los Angeles route, carrying collectors' mail in pouches slung over their humps. An interesting cachet, commemorating the event, was applied to all mail carried on the jaunt.

Today, the idea of using camels for desert travel in the United States seems like a ridiculous idea with our Greyhound busses, streamliner trains and stratoliners spanning the map from coast to coast with ever-increasing speed. And yet, men like Greek George and Hi Jolly still roam with their burros over the barren wastelands, looking into the shimmering far off beyond for their Utopia—a cluster of shining gold pebbles—through eyes that grow dim with age. One likes to feel that the ghosts of others like them roam the desert sands on dark and stormy nights, gently swaying back and forth on the back of a plodding camel—as they wend their way across the rolling dunes toward the pueblo of Los Angeles.

* *

REVIVAL OF THE CAMEL EXPRESS

NOVEMBER 4, 1935

CAMEL MAIL CARAVAN ARRIVES FROM HISTORIC OLD FORT TEJON TO HOLLYWOOD BEARING 12,000 LETTERS

Weighted down with mail sacks holding 12,000 letters bearing special souvenir stamps and labels, three camels yesterday morning completed an 80-mile journey at the Hollywood post office and historic old Fort Tejon.

In Hollywood, yesterday, the camel carriers were met by Postmaster H. B. R. Briggs, Clinton B. Eilenberger, third assistant Postmaster General of the United States; Oscar F. Braecklein, founder of the local chapter of the National Philatelic Society; Congressman Charles Kramer and B. W. H. Poole.

PHILATELIC WEEK:

Re-enactment of the old method of mail transport in California, which was generally used in the arid sectors from the early '50s until the outbreak of the Civil War, was the feature yesterday of the opening of National Philatelic Week.

The three camels, guided by their attendants, lumbered over the old Ridge Route, and up over Cahuenga Pass with their mail yesterday, arriving at the Hollywood post office branch on Vine Street above Hollywood boulevard on time.

SOUVENIR STAMPS:

In the mail bags were letters scheduled for redistribution for all parts of the world carrying the special philatelic souvenir stamps and labels which will become exhibits in stamp centers throughout the world.

* *

The May 17th meeting of the Stamp Collectors Club of Hartford, Conn. will have Mr. A. Winfred Hamrick of Enfield as guest speaker. His specialty is 1938 Presidential plate blocks and he will show his collection. President Merton Ford extends a cordial invitation to come to this meeting at Center Church House, Hartford at eight o'clock.

POSTAL SERVICE, DESERT STYLE

The Camel Carriers Reach the Hollywood Post Office—Left to Right:— Oscar F. Braecklein (kneeling by camel), Postmaster H. B. R. Briggs; Clinton B. Eilenberger, Third Postmaster General and Congressman Charles Kramer. —International News Photo by Los Angeles Examiner.

CHIPS OF WELLS FARGO & CO.

By MILTON D. EISNER

Pilsbury Warren Hodgkins, excited by the news of the discovery of gold in California, sailed for the gold fields from Boston in the spring of 1849, on the ship York. He agreed with the Pacific Company, the owners of the ship, in return for his passage to California, to act as ship's carpenter and to pay to the company one-half of his earnings after his arrival in California. This was the normal agreement made by many of the adventurers at that time in exchange for their passage, but Hodgkins never mentions that he or other members of the ships company made any payments to the Pacific Company, which apparently disbanded after the arrival of the York in California.

The voyage from Boston to San Francisco was devoid of anything unusual and after a passage of five months and sixteen days the ship anchored off Angel Island in San Francisco bay where the crew landed and one of the members shot a deer, "which made a grand feast for all on board (sixty-three men all told)" according to Hodgkins.

San Francisco held no charm for the eager miners and after a few days the ship set sail for Benicia, further toward the mines, from which place the start was to be made for the mines. After quite a disagreement as to the best method of procedure the crew disbanded and Hodgkins joined a party of five, one of whom was Cheever the ship's captain, and he was voted $100 and six month's provisions and their party was given one of the York's boats and set off for Stockton, arriving there three days later and he mentions that they were "unmercifully dealt with by mosquitos on the way."

It was determined to proceed to the Southern Mines and an ox team was hired to transport their belongings and after fifteen days of hard work and bad traveling they arrived at Jimtown (Jamestown), Tuolumne County.

In spite of their eagerness to start digging for gold the group took time to build a substantial hut with bunks for the five men and agreed on a daily division of labor. Hodgkins took his turn cooking and mining and he appears to have been the most successful of the group in that capacity. In order to vary their diet of beans, salt pork and flapjacks they looked for edible greens and Hodgkins claims to have discovered the plant now known as "California Lettuce" which is still widely used in salads.

During 1850, next to the search for gold, letters with news from home were the most important items in the lives of the miners, and as there were no post offices or stages in the mining districts it was necessary to go to San Francisco for the mail, as it was to that place to which all letters were addressed at that time. A man from their district by the name of Brown decided to get his mail and arranged with nearby miners to get theirs also if they would share in the expenses of his trip and he made the trip to San Francisco and on his return he charged $5 for each letter he delivered.

Hodgkins at this time came to be universally called "CHIPS," the nickname of all ships carpenters, and all reference to his family name of Hodgkins ceased as far as he was personally known, and as "CHIPS" he was known for the last forty-two years of his life.

Mining didn't prove any too successful and in March 1851 when Brown, then agent for Reynolds Express asked Chips to carry the mail and express through the southern mining camps he was happy to accept the offer and he embarked upon a career that was to last for the next forty-one years and he became the best known and most popular expressman of the west.

Chips' trips usually took about eight days and extended from Stockton on the north to Mariposa on the south, stopping at the countless "diggings" and creeks on the way and his coming was usually heralded by the yell "Here comes Chips" and when he delivered a long awaited letter to a lonely miner one can readily understand his popularity. There was great rivalry between the different express companies and Chips had a number of interesting races with rival expressmen, which he was able to win due to his long familiarity with the country, and also a few adventures with rough characters but always managed to deliver his express and escape unharmed. The letter charges at this time were reduced to $2.00 to $2.50 a letter and were usually paid by the miners by a pinch of gold dust.

In the spring of 1853 Wells Fargo & Co., the giant of all western express companies, bought out Todd's Express Company, the surviving company originally composed of Reynolds and Todd, and bought Chips as part of the good will. This was the beginning of an association with Wells Fargo & Co. that lasted from this time to 1892, the year of Chips' death, thirty-nine years, during which time he held the following positions with the company:

1853 - 1857—Stationed at Stockton, registering passengers and dispatching stages.

1857 - 1870—Express messenger between Stockton and San Francisco (during one year alone he carried over $4,400,000 coin and gold dust).

1870 - 1877—Express messenger between San Francisco and San Diego.

1877 - 1886—In charge of steamer department and supervised the handling of all express matter over the entire Pacific coast.

1886 - 1892—Collection department in the San Francisco office.

The high light of Chips' long career was the celebration in 1876 of his twenty-fifth anniversary as an expressman, at which time "Uncle" Henry Wells, of Wells Fargo & Co., came to San Francisco for the occasion and over five hundred guests attended the reception given in his honor and Chips was presented with a case of silver and a silver treasure chest, an exact imitation of those so much sought after by road agents. The invitation for the celebration shows by interesting illustrations the four methods by which Chips forwarded express — by mule, river steamer, stage and train and is worded as follows:

1851

MR. AND MRS. CHIPS

Express their desire to see yourself and lady at

SANDER'S HALL,

Cor. New Montg'y and Minna Sts.

Wednesday Ev'g, May 10th,

1876, at expressly 8 o'clock, for the express purpose of expressing friendly greetings.

Mr. & Mrs. P. Hodgkins.

1876.

It is fortunate that Chips was of a saving disposition, for there are still many of the letters addressed to him with express cancelations, such as Reynolds, Todd, Reynolds-Todd, Brown and Wells Fargo & Co., and most interesting of all are four Pony Express Way Bills—all of which were part of the display in the Wells Fargo & Co. exhibit at the World's Fair at Chicago in 1893—and many of which are now in the collection of the writer.

Chips was married in 1858 and Mrs. Hodgkins was for many years prominent as a member of the California State Horticultural Society and in amateur theatricals. Their family consisted of three sons, two of whom were also express messengers in the employ of Wells Fargo & Co. and one of whom called himself "Young Chips."

Chips left a remarkable record as an expressman, and it is said of him that he actually handled more money and gold dust than anyone in the United States and that "there was never a short in this mans run."

Shortly before his death in 1892 while delirious he dwelt upon his past experiences. His last words, in fact, were:

"That express has gone wrong."

SB 15
P 21

June 15, 1949.

Dr. Clarence Hennan,
841 East 63rd St.,
Chicago 37, Ill.

Dear Doc:

Herewith the covers contained in yours of the 10th. These are quite a nice little lot and they are a slight demonstration of how interesting is the study of foreign rates and markings, especially the meaning of the latter. So very few collectors have any knowledge whatsoever regarding the markings on foreign rate covers because so little has been published on the subject and also because the study is rather complicated and requires quite a bit of reference material in the way of copies of the various postal treaties, tables of rates, etc., etc. Changes were made from time to time in the treaties, in the rates and in the routes.

As we look back a century ago we are somewhat amazed at the fact that an account was kept on each letter and this involved quite a bit of bookkeeping. If a letter to England or France was prepaid we credited them their share of the rate. If unpaid, we debited them with our share of the rate collected. And in addition, these debits and credits were dependent on how the letter was transmitted.

I have made quite a study of mail to China in the fifties and sixties, that is, the rates and the markings, and the meaning of the latter. Mail routed "Via Marseilles" is quite a study and the tables that I have compiled are probably the only ones in philatelic hands. I can readily determine the original weight of a letter and believe me the credit or debit markings as originally applied by the postal clerks must conform to the weight and the rate, otherwise something is wrong.

It was darn nice of you to send me such a liberal check and I am accepting it on one condition, viz - that this is ample payment for any future data that Mayabe able to furnish to you. Here are some notes on your covers -

Rates to Switzerland were as follows as per the 1859 P.L. & R. -

By "Prussian Closed Mail" (thru England and Aachen)
35¢ per ½ ounce, prepayment optional.

By "French Mail" - 21¢ per ½ oz.
42¢ " ½ oz.
prepayment optional.

By "Bremen Mail" - 27¢ per ½ oz.
By "Hamburg Mail" 27¢ " ½ oz.

In 1861 the rates by Bremen and Hamburg Mail were reduced to 19¢ per ½ ounce.

Here are some comments on the various covers -

Envelope A These four covers were forwarded thru France "By French Mail" at the rate of 21¢ per ¼ ounce - 42¢ per ½ ounce - all were sent unpaid with postage due at Milwaukee.

Cover A - a ¼ oz. letter - 21¢ due at Milwaukee - note what looks like a "19" (pen) in upper right corner. This is the French P.O. debit to the U.S. P.O.D. of 12¢. Their share of this 21¢ rate was 12¢, ours was 9¢ - because this letter was brought over from England by "Amer Packet" - note the British marking "Am. Service." Our 9¢ represented 6¢ sea plus 3¢ domstic. The French share of 12¢, represented 6¢ from Switzerland plus 3¢ French domestic plus 3¢ cross channel to England - all per ¼ ounce.

Cover B - over ¼ ounce - thus rated at 2 X 21¢ or 42¢ due at Milwaukee. This was brought to New York by a Cunard ship - "Br. Service," hence our share was only our domestic of 2 X 3¢. You will note that France debited us "36¢" on this letter - pen "36" which looks something like 96.

Cover C - same as above but a single rate - ¼ oz., with 21¢ gold due at Milwaukee and 18¢ in gold due France - brought over by British Packet - Cunard - "Br. Service." At destination the addressee had his choice of paying 21¢ in gold or 42¢ in U. S. currency. The French Treaty provided that all settlements under the Treaty be made in gold. The Boston marking is a "depreciated currency marking." The Department made a charge at this time of two for one in converting currency to gold. I do not recall seeing such a high rate as this before.

Cover D - same as above, but thru New York - British Packet.

Envelope B - seven covers "Via Prussian Closed Mail" from Switzerland - at the rate of 35¢ per ½ ounce, unpaid. In the 1860's - the rate to Prussia, via "Prussian Closed Mail" (P.C.M.) was 28¢ PAID - 30¢ UNPAID. It was 5¢ extra to Switzerland, that is, 33¢ and 35¢. On mail from Prussia, unpaid, their share was 5¢, ours was 25¢. Mail to Prussia went thru England in closed bags to Aachen where it was sorted and rated. The same applied on mail west-bound - put in closed bags at Aachen. We settled with the British by bulk weight.

Cover E - from Aachen to Chicago in sealed bag - Chicago May 1862 - rated at Chicago with 35¢ due at Milwaukee. Pen markings are all foreign. The "Curs" marking on back is a German railroad marking (Am. Pkt) Prussian debit of 10¢ in Aachen marking.

Cover F - rated at New York - Nov. 1863. 35¢ in Gold - 49¢ in U.S. currency. (Am. Pkt.) - Prussian debit of 10¢ in pen in Aachen marking.

Cover G - rated at New York - Dec. 18 - 1863 - 35¢ in gold - 51¢ in U. S. currency - Prussian debit of 10¢ (Am. Pkt.).

Cover H - Rated at New York Apr. 13, 1864 - 35¢ in gold - 60¢ in U.S. currency. Prussian debit of 10¢.

Cover I - same as above - New York, Apr. 13, 1864. (Am. Pkt.) - Prussian debit of 10¢.

Cover J - same as above - but rated 35¢ in gold or 62¢ in U.S. currency. Apr. 28, 1864 - (Am. Pkt.) - Prussian debit of 10¢.

Cover K - same as above but rated 35¢ in gold or 66¢ in U. S. currency - June 1864 -
British Packet
Note - the U.S. paid the Atlantic sea carriage by bulk weight - by either American or British Packet.

Envelope C - These four covers were evidently rated in error, that is, rated as if originating in the German States rather than in Switzerland. It appears that the errors were made at Aachen and were costly to the Prussian P.O.D. rather than to the U.S., because in each case the Prussian debit is 5¢ per single rate, rather than 10¢ on a letter from Switzerland.

Cover L - thru bag to Chicago - Aachen debit 5¢ - Chicago May 25, 1863. Rated there as 30¢ due - no depreciated currency charge. Amer. Pkt.

Cover M - thru bag to Chicago - A quad rate of 4 x 30¢ due at Milwaukee - Aachen debit of 4 x 5 - "20" in pen - Early record of depreciated currency - viz - Sep. 13, 1863 - $1.20 in gold or $1.42 in U.S. currency - in manuscript.

Cover N - double rate - Aachen debit 10¢ - Boston rating - 60¢ gold or $1.04 in U. S. currency - Boston May 2, 1864.

Cover O - double rate - Aachen debit of 10¢ (in blue pencil) - Boston rating of 60¢ in gold - 96¢ in U. S. currency - Boston Apr. 1, 1864.

Envelope D
Cover P - mailed at Bremen and sent via P.C.M. - year? Letter apparently dated 1860 - Aachen debit 5¢ - Boston rating 30¢. The "2" is a German marking.

****

When a rate or marking cannot be explained it is but natural to assume that there was an error on the part of the postal clerks, but in many instances there was no error and the only error is due to the student's ignorance of some change in rate or method of handling. However, in the case of the covers in envelope "C" I believe that my surmise is correct. I have official tables of rates as of April 1, 1863 - October 1863 and November 1864 and in each, the rate to Switzerland is listed as I have given it.

I will certainly appreciate your comments or criticism of the above.

I will be away from home from the 16th to about the 25th.

With best wishes and again thanks, I am

Cordially yours,

April 14, 1952.

Mr. Waldo V. Kenworthy,

225 North Michigan Ave.,

Chicago 1, Ill.

Dear Ken:

The following is very confidential. I thought I had seen that batch of covers before and dug into my files. I found that the entire bunch had been sent to me by Doc Hennan several years ago, that I photographed each one and explained each one to him. I don't know whether they belonged to him at the time or to you. I will dig out the letter I wrote him at the time and send you a copy if you wish.

Re - "Depreciated Currency" covers, I enclose sample copies of two of my recent "Service Issues" which contain data on this class of mail.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

CLARENCE W. HENNAN, M. D.
REG. NO. 13660

BILLE HENNAN, M. D.
REG. NO. 17707

PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS
ROOMS 217 MARYLAND BLDG., 841 EAST 63RD STREET - CHICAGO
OFFICE TEL. DORCHESTER 7754
RESIDENCE TEL. SAGINAW 2090

℞ For _____ Date _____

Address _____

Dear Dan —

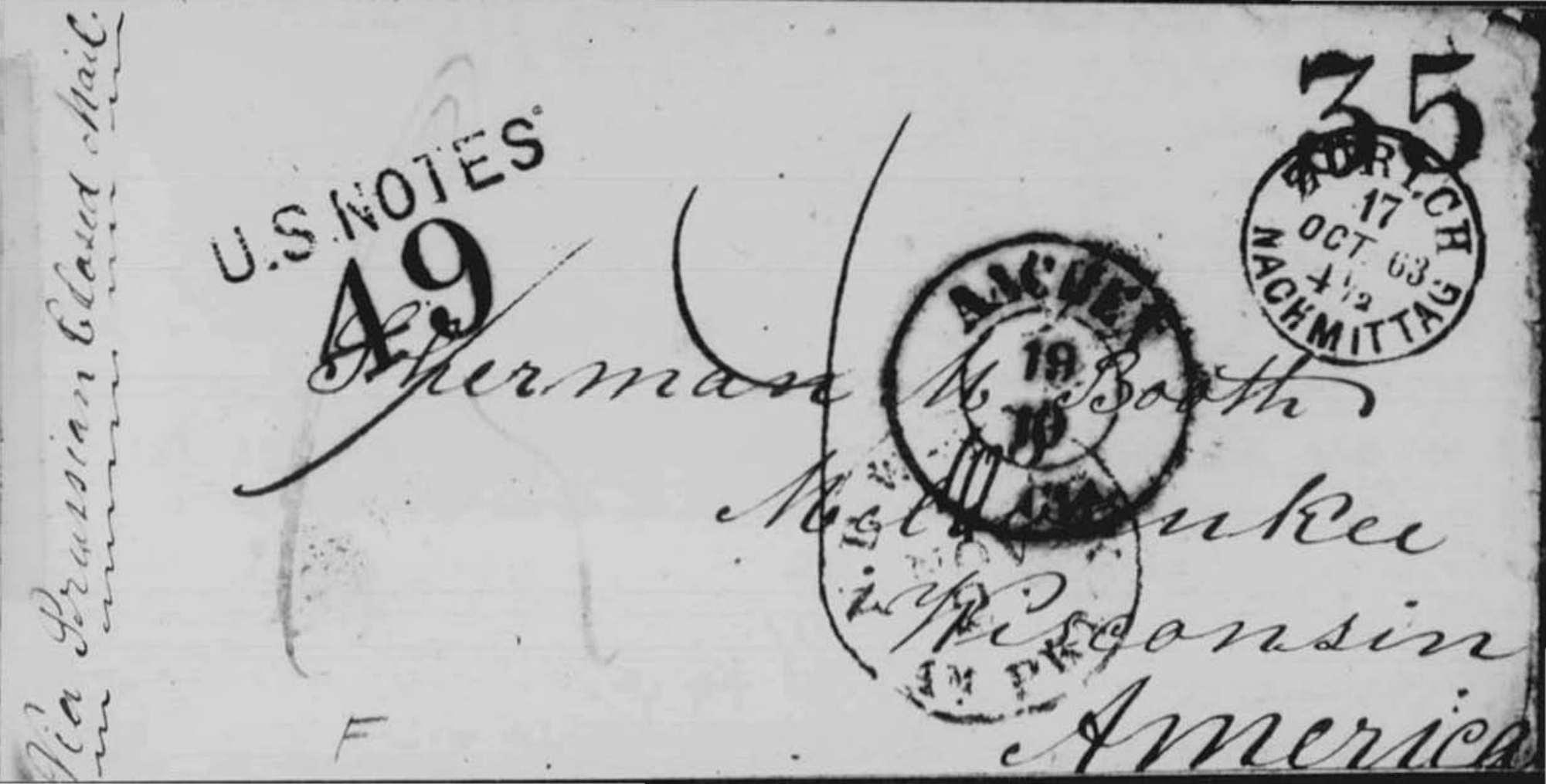
Can you give me any info re these rate wks? Check to cover postage, express etc. Keep the balance to repair wear and tear on the glasses

Love Dad

_____ M. D.

THE APOTHECARY SHOP
PRESCRIPTION SPECIALISTS
2ND FLOOR, ROOM 213, MARYLAND BUILDING
841 EAST 63RD STREET PLAZA 0400
GEORGE L. THURMAN, R. PH. G

Via Prussian Closed Mail
ZURICH
28
APR. 62
4-12
NACHMITTAG
AACHEN
30
4
10
Sherman M. Booth
Milwaukee
Wisconsin
America
E
CHICAGO ILL.
MAY
6
PM PKT
35


Via Prussian Closed Mail
U.S. NOTES
49
35
AM'BURG
19
10
AM PREUSS
BR. CH
17
OCT 63
1½
NACHMITTAG
Herman M. Booth
Milwaukee
Wisconsin
America
F

Via Prussian Closed Mail.
ZURICH
25
NOV 63
22
U.S.NO1
DEC
18
PKT
35
51
Sherman St.
Milwaukie
Wisconsin
America
G

AURORA
15
MAI 62
4 A.
HIRSLANDEN
15
MAI 62
3 A.
21
ST LOUIS
Sherman M. Booth
Milwaukee
Wisconsin
A

Sherman St.
Milwaukee
Wisconsin
America
(B)
LIVERPOOL
NEW YORK
6 MAI 62
1 M.
LIVERPOOL
6 MAI 62
1 M.

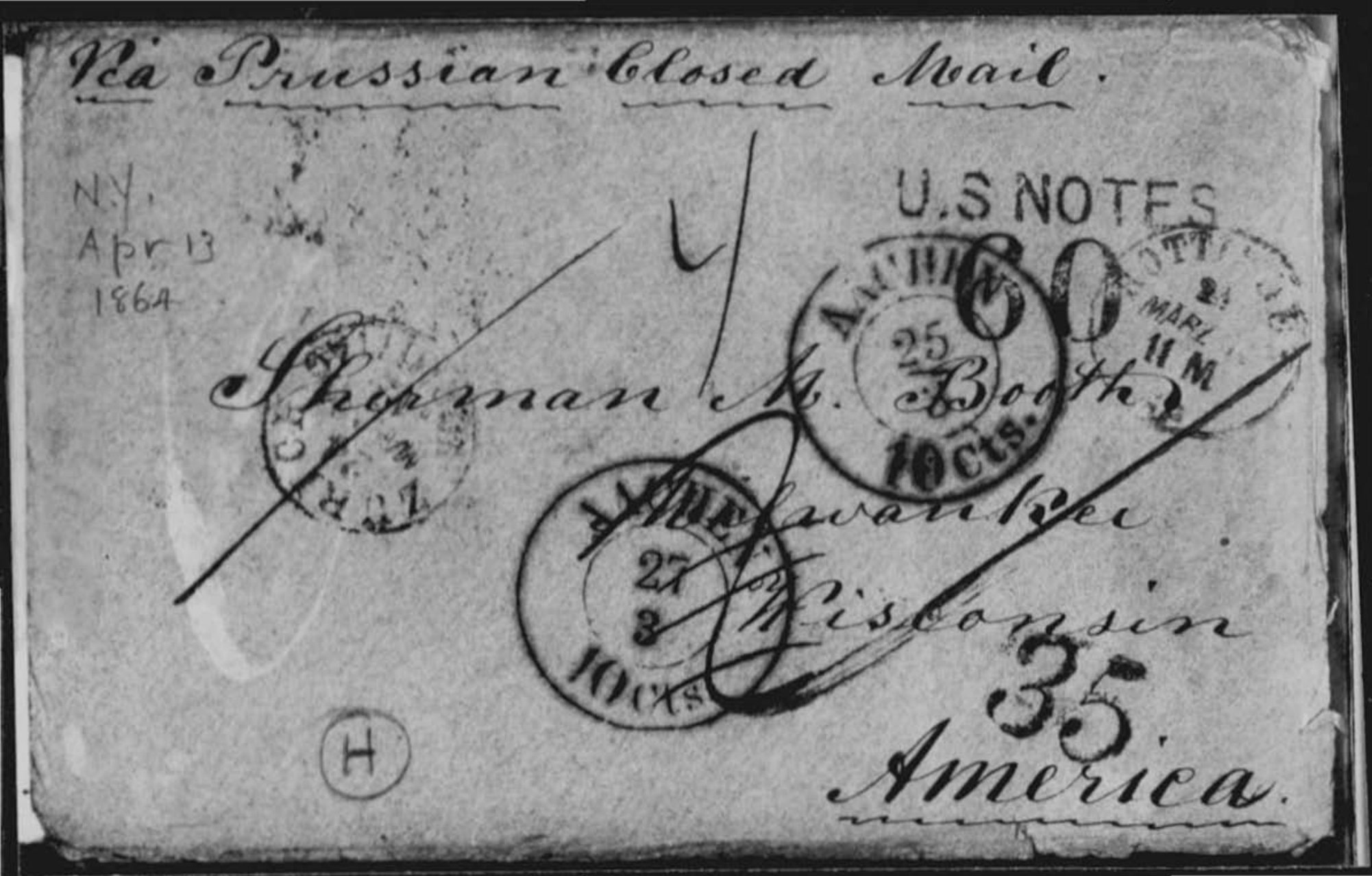
Sherman M. Booth

Milwaukee

Wisconsin

(C)

18
Sherman M. Booth
Milwaukie
Wisconsin
Cover D
America


Via Prussian Closed Mail.
N.Y.
Apr 13
1864
U.S NOTES
60
25
10 CTS.
MAR
11 M
27
3
10 CTS
H
35
America.

Via Russian Closed Mail.

Sherman & Booth,

Milwaukee

Wisconsin

America

Covers From Switzerland By Dr C. E. Henman See S.B.A. Letter Scrap Book #15 Page 21

(7)

Via Prussian Closed Mail.

N.Y. Apr 13
1864
AM. PKT

U.S. STEAMER

60

2PM
3

Sherman M. Booth

Milwaukee

Wisconsin

America

NEUMUNSTER
27
APR 76

I

Via Prussian Closed Mail.

Jun
1864

BREMEN
16
JUN
BR PKT

AACHEN
3
1864

BREMEN

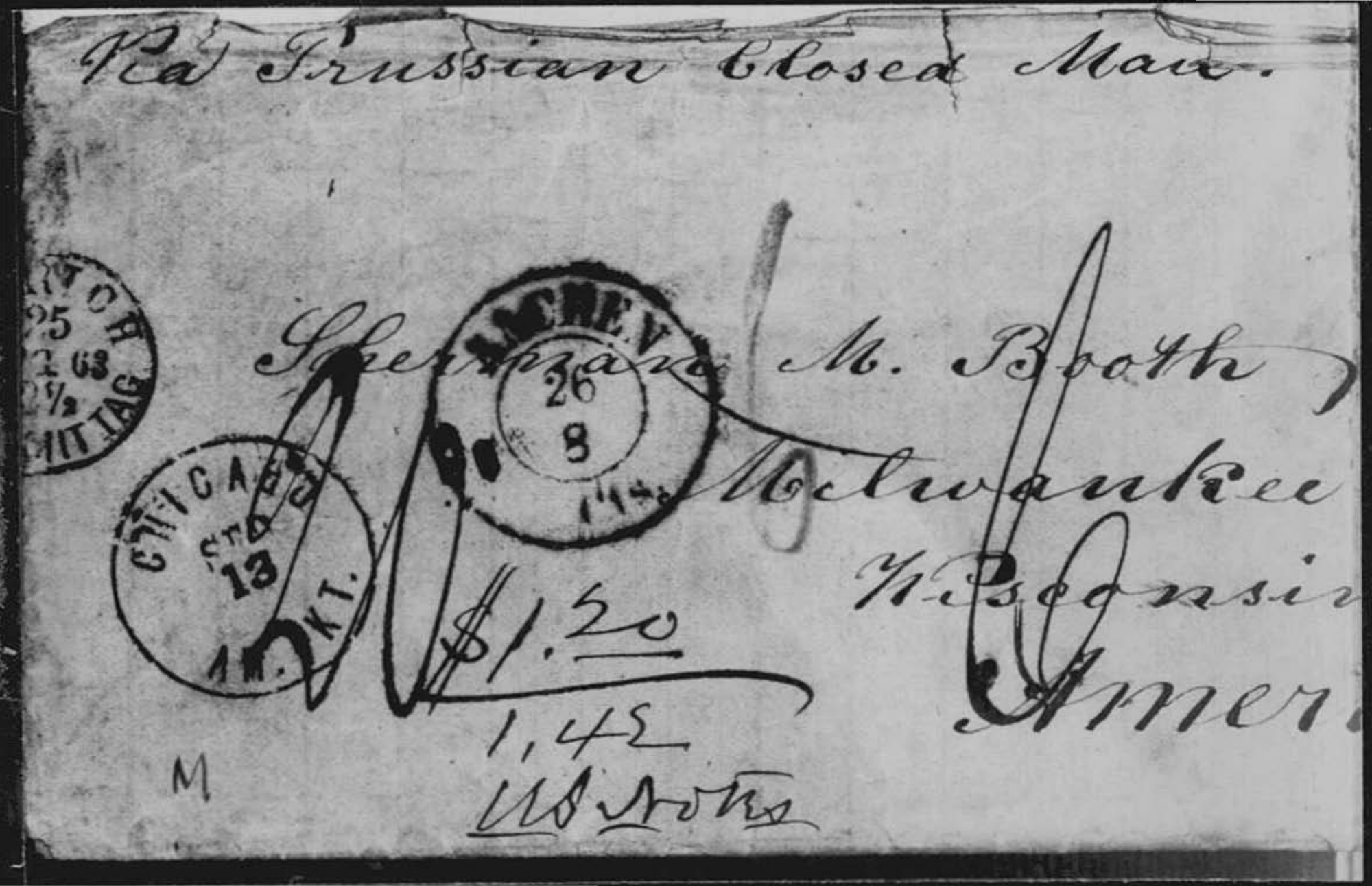
U.S. NOIES
66

Mr. South
Milwaukee
Wisconsin

2
JUN 16
12
PRUSSIA

K

America.


Via Prussian Closed Mail.

Sherman M. Booth

Milwaukee

Wisconsin

America

$1.20

1,45

M

US States

Via Prussian Closed Mail

NY Apr 28 1864

AM. PK.

NEW-YORK
28
APR

AACHEN
12
4

10

135

62

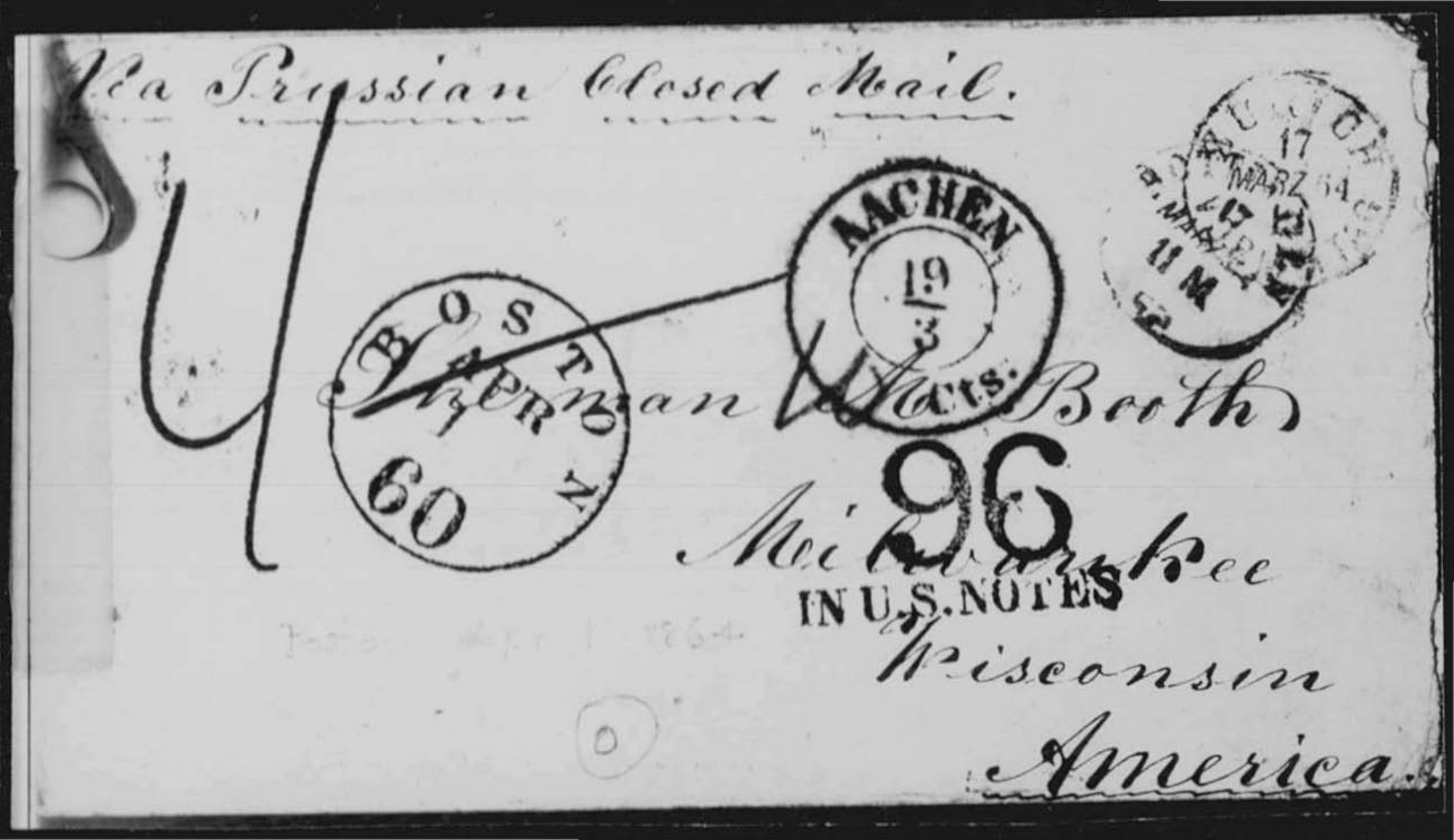
Milwaukee

Wisconsin

America

(J)

Via Prussian Closed Mail
104
IN U.S. NOTES
Herrn
Milwaukee
Wisconsin
America
MAY 2
1864


Via Prussian Closed Mail.

AACHEN 19 3

BOSTON 60

17 MARZ 64

Herman Booth

96

Milwaukee

IN U.S. NOTES

Wisconsin

America.

From: FOR IMMEDIATE

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION, 22 East 3

REGUMMING TO

A recent commercial announcemen
a service (to collectors only) whereby st
This will undoubtedly provide food for th
collectors, many hundreds of whom support
and many thousands more of whom use the s
tion.

As a Chartered educational inst
operates an expertizing service which is
The scientific research and study of phil
devotes its efforts, include the deep stu
printing and perforation in the interest

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

July 2, 1949.

Mr. Eugene N. Costales,
99 Nassau St.,
New York 7, N.Y.

Dear Gene:

This is strictly confidential. Edgar Jessup is in town and he showed me a 30¢ 1869 cover which he stated he had obtained from you and which you stated was absolutely genuine and that you would guarantee same.

Here is a stamp addressed envelope. Will you please advise me if the above is true?

Further, would you mind telling me the source of this cover?

Thanks very much.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

TELEPHONE
CORTLANDT 7-5536

EUGENE N. COSTALES

POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS

99 NASSAU STREET

NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

MEMBER
AMERICAN AIR MAIL SOCIETY
AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
AMERICAN STAMP DEALERS ASSN.
ASSOC. STAMP EXHIBITIONS
SOC. PHILATELIC AMERICANS
BROOKLYN STAMP SOCIETY
BUREAU ISSUES ASSN.
COLLECTORS CLUB, N. Y.
N. Y. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July 5, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

I am in receipt of yours of July 2nd, and wish to state that the 30c 1869 cover which is now in the possession of Ed Jessup was not sold directly by me to him. I sold the cover about two months ago to a dealer, and I did not know Ed Jessup had purchased it until he mentioned the fact when he was in my office last week.

In selling the cover, I, of course, guaranteed it as genuine and wonder why you question the item. The cover was from an old time collection in which there were about four or five of the 30c 1869 on cover.

With kindest regards,

Yours very truly,

Gene

EUGENE N. COSTALES

ENC:fk

July 7, 1949.

Mr. Edgar B. Jessup,
1475 Powell St.,
Oakland, Calif.

Dear Edgar:

I wrote Costales that you showed me a 30¢ 1869 cover that had his guarantee. I inquired if by any chance he considered the cover to be genuine. The following is a copy of his reply:

"I am in receipt of yours of July 2nd, and wish to state that the 30c 1869 cover which is now in the possession of Ed Jessup was not sold directly by me to him. I sold the cover about two months ago to a dealer, and I did not know Ed Jessup had purchased it until he mentioned the fact when he was in my office last week.

In selling the cover, I, of course, guaranteed it as genuine and wonder why you question the item. The cover was from an old time collection in which there were about four or five of the 30c 1869 on cover."

What a life!!!

Yours etc.,

July 7, 1949.

Mr. Eugene N. Costales,
99 Nassau St.,
New York 7, N.Y.

Dear Gene:

Thanks for yours of the 5th.

The 30¢ 1869 cover that Jessup had is a rank fake and that is not just a mere unsupported opinion but a fact that I can easily prove. The use was faked as 1870 but the real use was 1876 and a 5¢ Taylor was removed and the 30¢ substituted. The change in the year dates from "76" to "70" is quite obvious.

I dare say that you never saw a genuine cover of 1870 with a time dated N.O. postmark. The reason is that New Orleans never used such a type for some years later. Also, letters to France before the U.P.U. bore entirely different markings than mail after Jan. 1, 1876. These are only a few of the points that prove conclusively that the cover is a fake.

I admit that I was a bit amused when Jessup told me that several dealers assured him the cover was genuine regardless of any opinion to the contrary by Ashbrook.

In my files, I have a record and photographs of a similar fake from the same correspondence. I found it in the Newbury collection, and Mr. Newbury obtained it from the Emerson collection. He returned it and received a refund.

Fakes a plenty abound in the 1869's and it pays to be damn careful.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

June 27, 1949.

Dr. Carroll Chase,
R. F. D. #1,
Milford, N.H.

Dear Doc:

Mildred and I have just returned home after an auto trip of about two weeks, partly pleasure but mostly business.

I was pleased to learn that you obtained the Aull material and that you will be able to place it to advantage. I told Will that I thought that you were his best bet. Will is a mighty nice chap and so is his wife. We are very fond of them but don't see as much of them as formerly.

Mildred and I both got quite a kick out of your remarks about Mr. Jessup.

I am enclosing herewith a photograph forwarded to me by a friend in Detroit. I don't recall that I have seen this marking before and I am wondering if you are familiar with it and can give me any information. Needless to state same will be very much appreciated.

With best wishes to Genn and you -

Yours etc.,

R.R. Way On 34 1861

June 22, 1949

Stanley B. Ashbrook
32 North Fort Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I am enclosing a photograph showing the usage of "Railroad Way" on a '67 Grill. (Photo courtesy of Mr. MacGregor).

I wonder if you have any idea of the origin of this marking. This envelope is addressed to J. A. Girardin, 120 Plum Street, Detroit, Mich. Mr. Girardin was a trustee of Notre Dame and had a son in attendance there. The find in which this envelope was discovered contained mail from Notre Dame, Illinois, New York and Michigan.

Fred Schmalzriedt doubted if it was Michigan. I appreciate the fact that proving the origin is rather difficult. I wondered if by any chance you would have any information on this subject. Mr. Konwiser says that the oval marking is known. He has seen it off cover on piece, and was told that it existed on cover. He also mentioned the fact that there was no added fee for Way Mail after 1863, bringing up the possibility that the Way cancellation on this cover might have been used in error.

Any information you might have on this subject would be of great interest. The cover was offered to me by a local dealer who could supply no postal information.

Very truly yours

Marvin Preston

Marvin Preston

640 W. Woodland
Ferndale 20, Mich.

June 27, 1949.

Mr. Marvin Preston,
640 West Woodland,
Ferndale, Mich.

Dear Mr. Preston:

Referring to yours of the 22nd, I regret to state that I have no definite information on the marking but I believe that my old friend Edward Knapp owned such a cover but at the moment I have not been able to locate the reference.

I am sending the photograph down to Dr. Carroll Chase and inquiring if he has any knowledge of this oval. I will be pleased to advise you later.

Sincerely yours,

DR. CARROLL CHASE
R. F. D. 1, MILFORD,
NEW HAMPSHIRE

July 6 1949

Dear Sam :-

Thanks for yours of June 27th & of July 4th returning the 10 covers. I think I can sell them little by little — at any rate will try.

I return the photo of the RAIL ROAD WAY cover. We seem at least one of them but I can't remember when & where. A nice item.

We agree thoroughly regarding Trumps.

The heat wave around here is broken — nice & cool now. Did you ever get an air conditioner? Terribly dry up this way — no rain & any amount for weeks.

Best

as ever

CC.

July 13, 1949.

Mr. Marvin Preston,
640 W. Woodland,
Ferndale 20, Mich.

Dear Mr. Preston:

I am returning herewith the photo print contained in yours of June 22nd.

Doctor Chase was unable to give me any information as to the origin of this marking, though he remembered distinctly having seen an example at one time.

May I suggest that you send the print to

Mr. Arthur G. Hall,
533 Boulevard,
Westfield, N.J.

and inquire if he is familiar with it. He makes a specialty of railroad markings. Mention my name if you wish. If he supplies you with any information will you kindly advise me.

If you will loan the cover to me I would like to make a photograph of it for my files for future reference. I will gladly pay the postage.

Sincerely yours,

June 29, 1949

Mr. Harold C. Brooks
Brooks Appliance Company
Marshall, Michigan

Dear Mr. Brooks:

I believe our last brief correspondence ended shortly before the show in 1947.

Since that time the cover bug has gripped me.

I am enclosing a photo of the usage of the oval railroad way on a '67 grill, in hopes that you might give me a clue as to the origin.

I appreciate the fact that Fred Schmalzriedt obtained your Michigan covers, but I thought perhaps you might have a clue filed away.

This cover came from the Girardin find. He was a trustee of Notre Dame and had a son in attendance there.

Most of the correspondence seemed to originate from Michigan, Indiana, New York and Illinois.

Fred didn't think that the origin was Michigan, although he couldn't state so with certainty.

I wondered if you might have any clue?

Very truly yours

Marvin Preston

Marvin Preston

P. S. I saw some of your showpieces that Mr. Ashbrook sold locally. Of course covers of this type are beyond my means, but they were certainly beautiful. I wondered if you are still in possession of any covers of the moderate price range. I would certainly enjoy viewing same if I could manage to get up to Marshall.

M.P.

640 W. Woodland
Ferndale 20, Michigan

Stan -- Please don't return this to me.

Ltr B

MARSHALL
HAROLD
CRAIG
BROOKS
Mic.T.

July 8, 1949

Mr. Marvin Preston
640 West Woodland
Ferndale 20, Michigan

Dear Mr. Preston:

I am sorry there has been such a delay in answering your letter of June 29. Extreme heat has never seriously affected me until this year. Until today I have been really "under the weather," feeling unable to leave my house.

The railroad postmark you sent is entirely new to me. I am sending the photograph to Mr. Ashbrook, thinking possibly that from his research files he might be able to throw some light on the subject. Perhaps the entire cover might be of some aid. You will of course hear from him.

Regarding old U.S. covers, I have at present very few of any consequence, outside of Civil War Patriotics. I don't know just where your interest lies. It might be possible to send, later on, a few miscellaneous pieces for you to consider, but right now I am interested in nothing but cooling breezes.

Sincerely yours

Harold C. Brooks

August 1, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

You suggested that I write to Mr. Arthur G. Hall, in your letter of July 13th. Shortly after receiving this letter, I received a reply from Mr. Hall, whom I had contacted on the advice of Harry Konwiser.

He says, "My letter is marked with the same Railroad Way as yours. In addition it is postmarked 'Detroit', but it is addressed to Buffalo - enclosure dated 4/27/68. Maybe if your letter had gone to some other town, it would also have received the Detroit postmark, to indicate official date of forwarding by Detroit. Come again. Arthur G. Hall."

You mentioned that you would like to borrow my cover to make a photograph of it for your files. It occurs to me, on receipt of Arthur Hall's letter, that a photograph of his cover would be of greater philatelic value, since it shows the town markings in origin. However, if you still desire a photograph of my cover, I would be only too glad to forward it on to you.

Very truly yours

Marvin Preston

Marvin Preston

hp

640 W. Woodland Ave.
Ferndale 20, Mich.

Henry Meyer Wrote July 6 1952

First, a couple of questions before they get out of mind. In Delf Norona's nice little "General Catalog of United States Postmarks," 1935, page 69, he shows an oval mark, "RAILROAD - - - WAY" in which I have used three dashes to represent some sort of ornament. Have you ever actually seen that mark? My friend Neal Grabert (whom I hope you will someday meet, as he has made a marvellous beginning in postal history in a short time) is all hepped up to locate that mark on a cover. He studies every auction catalog hoping to find it. I have never seen it, I was not aware of it until Neal gave me the page reference, and I doubt that it exists. It looks to me very much as if Delf had an incomplete strike of the "BOSTONA - - - WAY" mark and furnished the word "RAILROAD" from imagination. Even the ornament looks right for the Bostona mark. But if you say you have seen it yourself, I will cancel this entire suggestion and accept what you say. In 1935 we were not as critical as we are in 1952, and this may have slipped in as an error.

July 8, 1952.

Mr. Henry A. Meyer,
516 Read St.,
Evansville, Ind.

Dear Henry:

Yours of the 6th received and herewith I return your correspondence with our mutual friend Levy of Paris. First, permit me to express my pleasure at the good news that your mother has fully recovered and is enjoying better health than before her illness in February and also that your arm is okay once more. As for myself, I am on a diet and I have not had any return of the gall bladder trouble - In fact, I am feeling fine at present and believe that I will be able to avoid an operation. The doctors say that such an operation in this age is very simple, yet for a man of my age no surgery is simple - in my opinion.

Now for the matters discussed in your letter. "Railroad - Way." I regret to state that I do not possess a copy of the Norona book that you mention. I have copies of his 1933 and 1935 editions of his "CYCLOPEDIA" - Vol. 1 and Vol. 2 but I never heard of the book you mentioned.

I have a record of this oval marking - It was on a cover tying a 3¢ 1867 grill. The owner sent it to me back in 1939 and I had quite a lot of correspondence concerning it. I wrote Chase about it and his reply stated that he had seen an example but did not know where it was used, etc.

The cover in 1949 was owned by Marvin Preston - 640 W. Woodlawn, Ferndale 20, Mich., and he advised me that it is addressed to a J. A. Gerarden - 120 Plum St., Detroit, Mich. Preston advised me that Girardin was a trustee of Notre Dame University and had a son there. I evidently had Mr. Preston send me his cover so that I could photograph it but at the moment I can't locate a print. I believe that he wrote me that Arthur Hall also owned a cover with the marking, but I never wrote Hall. If you wish I will try and locate a print of the photo I made. Advise. Does Remele know anything about it? Preston showed his cover to Fred Schmalzreidt but he had no information relative to it.

"RAIL R" - I have read your remarks very carefully and I must confess that I don't know the answer - We have " RAILROAD " and "RAIL R" and "RAIL ROAD CAR" and no doubt a number of others that I do not recall at the moment. Consider the latter - The wording seems to indicate it was applied by the route agent. I have a record of such a cover - a use in December 1843 - addressed to Boston - with a small handstamped "PAID" and a manuscript "12½" which indicated a rate for not over 150 miles. I do not believe that the marking was applied at Boston, hence it seems probable it was applied by the route agent - If so, then why was "Rail R" applied by a route agent? I have records of covers with the "Rail R" marking addressed both to Boston and Providence. You sent me a photograph last April of one to Providence with a "Paid" - a "5" and a "Steamboat" - a use in 1846. It was a cover belonging to E. N. Sampson.

I had a letter from Chuck last December in which he stated that he believed the "Rail R" marking was applied at Providence. A cover that I mentioned above with the "Rail R" addressed to Boston was headed New York March 10, 1846. No postmarks. It would appear that the "Rail R? on this cover was applied by the Route Agent. I haven't enough data on this particular subject to form a definite opinion.

#2. Mr. Henry A. Meyer - July 8, 1952.

Canal Boat Mail - I had quite a bit of correspondence with various people concerning the Lynchburg cover, and I enclose some clippings from my "Special Service" issues.

Henry I think the cover that Dr. Polland sold to Levy was carried by a Canal Boat from Richmond to Lynchburg (by Boat Eagle). This was of course a bill of lading and it is possible that the writers intended it to go by regular mail, hence put a 3¢ stamp on it, but instead sent it by the Canal Boat. Had it gone by regular mail or as you term it, Coach Mail, it would have had a Richmond postmark. The "WAY 6" was used merely as a killer on the stamp, and it of course don't mean that an extra 6¢ was collected at Lynchburg. In the case of this particular cover the Way 6 does not tie the stamp but Dr. Polland located another cover (which you mentioned) where the encircled "Way 6" did tie the 3¢ 1851 to the cover. I think this also went by canal boat in the same manner. Why was this marking used on these covers? My theory is this. I doubt if an agent of the Lynchburg P.O. met the canal boat when it docked, but I believe these boats carried Way mail from points along the canal which were distant from the regular mail route - or coach route. Why not? Such mail was probably sent unpaid and upon arrival at the Lynchburg P.O. in a batch were handstamped with this marking "Way 6" - meaning 6¢ was due. When the clerk came to a letter with a 3¢ postage stamp he went right ahead and used the rate stamp as a killer. I do not see any necessity to go far afield and create some theory which has no basis on which to construct it.

I might also apply this comment to Tracy's effort to give some legitimate standing to those fake "Way 2" covers. I doubt if any well-informed student on "Way" markings would give them a second look or consideration. Where there is no such a rate why attempt to construct theories to explain them unless one has some bit of evidence on which to theorize. In the case of this "Way 2" cover there is no basis whatsoever and I was disappointed at Tracy's remarks in his current "Chronicle" which arrived yesterday. Such remarks have a tendency to confuse collectors.

Ragatz - Yes, I had a very nice visit with him but of course he has not much interest in 19th Century U. S.

I had a letter from your friend Neal Grabert offering to loan me some 1815-1816 War Rate covers which I gladly accepted. Thanks to you for the suggestion.

I have no idea where he could obtain a Maysville Way but I will bear him in mind should one turn up.

I believe the above covers your letter of the 6th.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

June 27, 1949.

Mr. Harry B. Keffer,
% The Collectors Shop,
17 Broadway,
New Haven 11, Conn.

Dear Harry:

Under date of April 6th last, I wrote you regarding the 99R2 copy in your sale of April 14th, Lot 24. I find that I never received any reply and that the stamp was sold as a perfect specimen.

I have no illusions that my opinions are always correct, but after all the years that I have devoted to a study of the One Cent I should know the bad from the good when it comes to a 99R2.

May I inquire if you disagreed with my opinion, and if not asking too much will you kindly advise me under what conditions the copy was sold and what figure was realized?

I enclose a stamped envelope herewith.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

June 27, 1949.

Mr. Ben B. Newman,
Suite A - 932,
175 W. Jackson Blvd.,
Chicago 4, Ill.

Dear Ben:

Further regarding the 99R2 in the Keffer sale, last April. Just for the record and your information, here is what I wrote Harry under date of April 6, 1949:

"In my opinion, this stamp shows under the Ultra - violet, a pencancel removed and a distinct damage at right. Further, in my opinion the blue postmark is a fake, and a very poor imitation at that." (end of quote)

Harry never replied to the above, which might be construed two ways, viz: (1) that he did not welcome my remarks, or (2) that he did not agree with my analysis and did not care to argue the matter.

At any rate, I am writing him today as per enclosed. Do not return.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

C. G. Alton Means STAMP AUCTIONS OUR SPECIALTY Harry B. Keffer

THE COLLECTOR'S SHOP

POSTAGE STAMPS - COINS

BOOKS - PAINTINGS - PRINTS

Collections Purchased, Sold or Appraised

17 BROADWAY

NEW HAVEN 11, CONNECTICUT

Telephone 7-4495

June 30, 1949

Stanley B. Ashbrook Esq.
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:-

Thanks very much for yours of the 27th. I didn't think that your letter of April 6th requested an answer.

For your personal information I will tell you the whole story on that stamp. Respecting your judgment I cancelled a $600.00 bid on the stamp from a collector. I could myself see no repair either in benezine or under my light. I could see no evidence of any pen cancellation. The abrasion on the right side of the stamp was obvious. I called to the attention of a possible bidder (dealer in New York) the abrasion and he examined the stamp in benezine closely. What his opinion was I did not learn but he entered a bid of $355.00 another dealer entered a bid of $390.00 and the latter party bought the stamp for $360.00 and later learned or was told by someone that the stamp was no good. Those were his words to me and I asked him what was the matter with it. He told me that he thought it had a fake cancellation and that it was repaired. I asked him where the repair was and he naturally said on the right side where the abrasion was on the face. He did however say he could see no actual evidence of a repair but felt sure it was. He did not know he was quoting your opinion but the man who told him knew it. Nevertheless I took the stamp back and have since sold it to a dealer who entered a bid on it and told the buyer he would have never bought it if he had been able to attend the sale. We will not see it again, at least for sometime. The stamp was not sold to the $355.00 dealer bidder. The buyer was very pleased as he said he would like to buy any more I had like it.

In direct answer to your inquiries I will say as follows:- As to whether or not it was a good or bad 99R2 I say that it was a good 99R2 by this I mean the stamp was actually 99R2 not 98R2 or 58R2 etc. You inquire if I disagree with your opinion. Your opinion was that the stamp was repaired, cleaned, and pen cancelled removed. You also were of the opinion that the stamp had an abrasion on the right side. The abrasion was obvious, the stamp might be repaired altho I saw no evidence of it, as for being cleaned and having a fake cancellation

C. G. Alton Means STAMP AUCTIONS OUR SPECIALTY Harry B. Keffer

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Stanley Ashbrook (2)

that point has not been proven to me. I have seen oily Cincinnati cancellations before altho I will say that it was not the common Cincinnati town cancellation. The final point of inquiry is a little more complcated than just a yes or no answer. First of all I sell stamps on a guaranteed basis and stand behind them with my money. I took this stamp back after I had settled with the estate and had no recourse to them for the money. On the basis of your letter I cancelled a collectors bid of $600. and I further decided against a local customer buying it altho he wanted it. We thought about buying it and sending it to the Foundation but I knew what they would have said, as I felt sure you would be the examinor. At the time of the actual sale no reference was made to the stamp at all as I felt certain who the buyer was going to be. If I had made an announcement it would have sold for $50. or $100. and the owner would have had a niceloss and the buyer might have been the man who sold it to him. I might sum the whole thing up and say that I was protecting the price, also the collectors but not the dealers. The only one who is going to lose from the whole thing is me.

in your opinion

I trust that I have fully covered everything to your satisfacation. I think it is unnecessary for me to say that all of this is strictly confidential.

I have been holding the two enclosed stamps to send to you, the dark one I thought to be a plate 3. It has a small plating characteristic at the top left that I cannot check in your books at all and thus is my reason for saying it might be a plate 3. The other stamp is obvious and from your remarks I have priced it at $50.00 which of course is less 20% if you are interested.

I will be pleased to receive an answer from you.

With kind personal regards

Sincerely

My secertary is away on vacation so you will have to overlook my typing and spelling as I can't type and I can't spell when I type.

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

July 7, 1949.

Mr. Harry B. Koffer,
17 Broadway,
New Haven 11, Conn.

Dear Harry:

Thanks very much for your very explicit letter of the 30th.

There is no question but what everyone is entitled to his own opinion and I have no illusion that I am always right, and that my opinions must be accepted without question. Further, I have no desire that the Expert Committee of the P.F. accept my opinions without question, and I note that they frequently issue certificates contrary to my findings. If I have previously examined an item sent to me by the Committee I generally refuse comment so as not to influence the Committee. For example, if you will send the 99R2 to them I will refuse comment in case it is sent to me.

I examined the 99R2 stamp very, very carefully because I have a close friend who desired to purchase it if it was O.K. He was prepared to pay a round sum for it and I was anxious to obtain a fine copy for him. After my severe tests I did find that the stamp had a cancel removed and that there was little question in my mind that the blue "postmark" was a fake. That was my finding and if I was called upon to testify in court and prove that I was right I think that I could do so. However, it is entirely possible that others might not see what my tests disclosed to me, so they can only go by what their eyes showed them.

I realize fully that my opinions do carry some weight, among the collecting public, hence I conscientiously endeavor to be very careful in any examination that I make, because it is just as bad to condemn a genuine item as to O.K. a fake. Many fake items pass over my desk in a month's time and present day scientific methods enable the scientific faker to produce some extremely clever work, therefore, I am convinced that "on the spot" opinions, freely expressed by would-be "experts" are many times very absurd. Perhaps to some, many of my opinions are wrong and absurd, but at least I am generally prepared to produce very convincing proof that I am right. At least I constantly strive for that result.

A lot of Needham stuff is coming on the market at present, and boy, oh boy, does it prove how right E.Perry has been on that gent right along.

Regarding the two 1¢ 1851 copies which you enclosed and which are returned herewith. The pencanceled copy is from the top row of Plate 3, but the ink marks at top left are not consistent. This is a typical Pl. 3 color.

The 65R1E is quite a nice copy but unfortunately I have no place for it at present.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

July 7, 1949.

Mr. Harry B. Keffer,
17 Broadway,
New Haven 11, Conn.

Dear Harry:

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With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

July 7, 1949.

Mr. Ben B. Newman,
175 West Jackson Blvd.,
Chicago 4, Ill.

Dear Ben:

Here is the reply that I received from Harry Keffer regarding the 99R2, also a copy of my reply.

I thought that you would be more than interested. Dealers as a rule generally find it very difficult to admit that any stamp they sell is not perfectly O.K. Sometimes they insist that a bad item is O.K. even when informed of its faults. And I have known of a case where even a P.F. certificate failed to convince one. You are right - The buyer should beware.

Answering yours of the 29th, as far as I am aware, the publicity re - my records brought very meager response. I have received a total to date of $3,500.00. Whether they have received any more I do not know. I think all of the P.F. crowd left it entirely up to Harry to put it across and he certainly did everything he could.

The heat is terrific here but no doubt it is the same in Chicago.

We send best wishes to Em and you.

Cordially yours,

BEN B. NEWMAN
INSURANCE
SUITE A-932
175 W. JACKSON BLVD.
PHONE HARRISON 7-6001
CHICAGO 4

August 22, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan,

I am sorry that I did not return the Keffer correspondence sooner. Em is away for a month with Patti and she will not be back until September 6th. It is like having your right arm missing.

As for Harry's letter, it certainly has the tone of some-one trying to crawl out from under and the old story of why should the dealer take a loss when the collectors are at hand.

I am wholly convinced that Dan knew the whole story of this stamp and it is not difficult for a man with a reputation to sell an item like this to collectors who can afford to pay for it, and in whose collection it stays buried for untold years.

Molesworth sent me a picture of the stamp and an offer quite some time ago. He told me that Dan had an offer on it for $800.00 from an old customer, but inasmuch as he, Dan, was going to Maine for a couple of months, he was willing to let it go for $650.00. I wrote Jack telling him just what was what with the stamp, and heard no more from him.

A few weeks ago I bought an item from Elmer Stuart, -a vertical strip of 3 with the ~~the~~ middle stamp a type 3-A. I asked him if he guaranteed it sound and of course he said yes. I told him that in my opinion, the 3-A had been repaired. He said it could not have been as it had never been in anybody's collection, but came from an original find of old correspondence. However, under the light it definitely showed a repair. When I brought it back, Elmer took the same attitude that Harry took on the 99R2. The present day so-called scientific item, such as lights and binocular microscopes,brought out things which did not exist. However, I told him that that was the opinion of the dealer when selling, but certainly not when buying. That this stamp came from an original find, I doubt.

BEN B. NEWMAN
INSURANCE
SUITE A-932
175 W. JACKSON BLVD.
PHONE HARRISON 7-6001
CHICAGO 4

August 22, 1949

It is much like Harry's statement that the buyer of the 99R2 was very pleased with the purchase and would like to buy more like it. From what Jack wrote to me, Dan had first sold this stamp a great many years ago and had, in fact, sold it two or three times from the date of his first sale.

While it is true that Harry says that he stands behind every item he sells, what happens if a man were to pay $650.00 for that stamp and a few weeks later discover what you did, and Harry would no longer be around to make it good.

As I have written to you before, I will purchase nothing of any value while you are around to check it for me, as I have been beautifully stung twice, both times by dealers whom I trusted, and the only way I will purchase anything of value, is on examination.

Our friend, Tony, has taken over Jake's theories and methods of doing business, and as a result he is now looking for a new backer. Chuck, who was his original backer, has pulled out, and nothing that anyone has been able to say to Tony has been able to help change his theories and methods of doing business. Just Saturday, a group of us were discussing Tony's methods and there was an unanamous concensus of opinion that he should have a large sign over his door, -Let the buyers beware!!"

I know that from many conversations with him that he seems to feel, as he expressed it, "Jake has done pretty well thru the years, so why should I bother with petty sales when I can hook big deals?"

As for the 1500th. meeting to which there was a tremendous amount of opposition on the part of the C.P.S. members openly expressed in meetings, the honors that are being accorded Jake were much in disfavor with the majority of club members. However, his close association with Elmer Stuart, and a few of the other old timers put the thing over on a basis of who-so-ever will may come, with free eats and drinks, it should not be much of a diffuculty in getting a crowd.

I should have written to you a long time ago, but Em was really on a merry-go-round the last two weeks of July and she has been gone now two weeks, so that I have allowed correspondence to go by the board.

I don't know how much good you would do in bringing up the remains of that collection that you are breaking up, and as for myself I can't see what good it will do me to buy anything that does not really enhance my collection. You went over all the covers that I have and I don't think that I need any more of ordinary material.

BEN B. NEWMAN
INSURANCE
SUITE A-932
175 W. JACKSON BLVD.
PHONE HARRISON 7-6001
CHICAGO 4

August 22, 1949

With best regards to all, I am

Cordially yours,

P.S.

I understand that Paul and Chuck were not over a point apart out on the coast. I can't understand why Chuck showed his 47 fives and tens having already won the S.P.A. grand award with that material in Wichita.

TEL. MUrray Hill 2-4453-4

Lehman & Mayer

516 FIFTH AVENUE Long Life NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

TRADE MARK REG.

July 18, 1949

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
327 Ft. Thomas Ave.
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

I have just recently received the enclosed cover. It is a strip of five and of two cent green, tied on with a Griffin, Ga., cancellation. So far as I have been able to learn, this has never been in any collection, and I believe is from an original find. I have hesitated to buy it because it looks to good to be true. If you will let me know what you think of it, and give me you O. K., and advise me if you think it is genuine, I will certainly purchase it.

I am enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope, plus registration charges for your convenience in returning this cover to me. If there are any charges for expertising same, kindly let me know.

May I add that I thoroughly enjoyed our visit together when I was last in Cincinnati, and I sincerely hope that we may again spend one of our pleasant evenings, when I am there next September.

With Kindest personal regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Howard.

P.S. Ezra was just here and asked to be remembered H.

due $5.00

July 20, 1949.

Mr. Howard Lehman,
% Lehman & Mayer,
516 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Howard:

Herewith the Confed cover with the strip of the 2¢ green canceled Griffin, Ga. I agree with you that this does look almost too good to be true but I have no data in my files regarding any faking of this postmark, nor can I detect anything questionable about the cover itself.

In the Dietz Bulletin, No. 12, - Oct. 1945, he listed on page 4 - "Another Griffin, Ga. Provisional," and his tracing of the postmark is apparently the same as on this cover.

I enclose a pair of typos tied by this postmark and no doubt you have similar examples. I also made a tracing of the one on your cover - lay this over my typo pair and I think you will find practically a perfect match.

To sum up - I think the 2¢ Green cover is genuine.

My fee for the examination is $5.00.

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

P.S.--Enclosed herewith envelope for return of the typo pair and tracing.

S.

TEL. MUrray Hill 2-4453-4

Lehman & Mayer

516 FIFTH AVENUE Long Life NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

TRADE MARK REG.

July 22nd, 1949

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
327 Ft. Thomas Ave.
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

I have today received your letter and the strip of five with the two cent green cover. I note what you state in this letter, and I felt sure that this item was genuine.

I hesitated to mention who sold it to me, but now I can tell you that I got it from John Fox. He claims to have had this item for twelve years, but did not tell me who he originally got it from. I also showed it to Ezra, and he pronounced it good.

I sincerely want to thank you for your attention to this matter, and I am enclosing my check for $5.00 and also the cover with the Griffin, Ga., cancellation.

I am trying to get up some data on this two cent green on cover. Do you have any information as to who owns singles or strips of five? I have come to the conclusion that it is a hundred times scarcer than a 10¢ 1847 on an envelope. I think you will agree with me on this, and if you have any other information concerning this stamp I will be pleased to hear from you.

With kindest regards, and trusting that you are enjoying cooler weather in Cincinnati than we are here in New York, and trusting to hear from you, I am

Very truly yours,

Howard

Stan:-
Please deposit check immediately as I would like it to clear this month.

July 25, 1949.

Mr. Howard Lehman,
516 Fifth Ave.,
New York 18, N.Y.

Dear Howard:

Yours of the 22nd received with enclosures as stated. Many thanks.

So Johnny had that Griffin , Ga. cover for twelve years. In that case it could have come out of the Emerson collection but I have no record of it in my files.

I doubt if I have anything unusual in my files on the 2¢ green except records of various covers with singles and strips. I note a cover from Arkansas with a H.S. of 5 - also one from Mississippi with a block of 5. Also a nice item was a fine sheet of 100 (Ex-Walcott) and supposed to be unique. No doubt it was but I understand that Charley Phillips cut it up. What a shame. I note records of two covers with blocks of five.

Yes, there is no comparison between the rarity of a 10¢ 1847 cover compared to a cover with any sort of a single or multiple of the 2¢ green litho. In simple language - 10¢ 1847 covers are not even scarce, whereas covers with the 2¢ green are in the rarity class. Scarce would hardly apply.

Sincerely yours,

Shenfield Letter Dated 5/22 1950

Now entirely aside -- and confidentially, Stan, I hear that you saw the 2¢ green strip cancelled "GRIFFEN, GA." that Howard bought. He showed it to me but I did not have a chance to examine it closely. It is so pretty that I looked only at the striking of the cancels. Each of the 2 strikes is miraculously clean yet each has a very light strike just to the right -- about 1/8 of an inch away. If the P.M. hit the first 2 very light ones - then wasn't satisfied with them, he certainly was accurate in re-inking the canceller and applying it so equally close to the 2 light strikes. If on the other hand the light strikes are "slips" off the heavy strikes it seems to me they would (or one of them at least would) be heavier "slipping" off the fully-inked canceller. I looked all through my collection for "slips" and couldn't find a one which duplicated this phenomenon. All my "slips" are much closer in heaviness.

Do you suppose, Stan, that some "painting" was done here? I know that GRIFFEN often struck very clearly - I have them - but not as deep

and as damn complete as these 2 strikes - and never with the light "slip". I am told that the strip of 5 has some creases that look as though they were ironed out. No one knows the origin of this cover. Fox just showed up with it and naturally has no suspicion of it. Nor have I really -- except it puzzles me -- suddenly coming to light - so beautiful - such wonderfully clear strikes. Please keep this between us -- I would not do a single thing to cast suspicion on Howard's cover nor on Fox. He is very square - always. If you have a photo of this cover, I would like a print to examine.

Best from a wet-no Spring - cold.

Sam -

May 25, 195.

Mr. L. L. Shenfield,
350 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

This is confidential. Re - the Lehman 2¢ Green cover of Griffin, Ga. Oct. 28. Howard sent this cover to me last July (1949), for examination. He wanted my opinion before he bought it. I examined it and reported that in my opinion it was genuine - I charged him a fee of $5.00 - made photographs - tracings - etc. I remember the incident and that I was very suspicious that the cover was genuine, but concluded that my suspicion was groundless and that I was perhaps looking for trouble. As I recall, my suspicion was that someone had an off cover strip and put it on this cover. In other words, the strip did not originate on this cover. I remember that I examined it from every angle and came to the conclusion that the cover was genuine. I wanted to be doubly sure because I think Lehman is a tricky chap - one who wouldn't hesitate for a minute to pull a fast one - in plain English - I wouldn't trust him as far as I could toss a bull. I had the feeling that there might be something wrong about this cover - that Lehman knew what was wrong - had bought it (probably) for a song and wanted to get my name on it to make his investment safe. He did not tell me where he got it - but later he wrote that hegot itfrom Johnny Fox.

For example, when he sent it to me - He stated - "I have just received the enclosed cover xxxxxxx It has never been in a collection xxx and I believe it is from an original find. I have hesitated to buy it. If you will let me know xxxxx and give me your O.K. xxxxx I will certainly purchase it."

My reply was: "I think the cover is genuine."

I have no record of the endorsement that I made on the back. After I returned it he wrote: "I hesitated to mention who sold it to me but now I can tell you that I got it from John Fox. He claims to have had this item for twelveyears but did not tell me who he originally got it from. I also showed it to Ezra (Cole) and he pronounced it good."

Herewith Larry - (1) the photograph - (2) a tracing that I made at the time from the Lehman cover - (3) a photo of the tracing. Please return the tracing to me, but keep the photos if you wish.

I might add that I thought the two "A's" of "Ga" looked different but concluded I was seeing things.

After Lehman wrote me that he got the cover from Fox, the thought came to me - Was I wrong in my opinion? Did Fox get that cover from the Needham lot?

I do not recall if I examined the cover under my quartz lamp, but I assume that I did. In so many cases a cover such as this, even if it had been faked, would not show anything suspicious under the lamp.

I believe that the two postmarks are genuine. I do not think there is any doubt about this point. If there is anything wrong - it is this - This strip with two genuine postmarks did not originate on this cover. I still believe that it did. What do you think? If you are not thoroughly satisfied, I will have Howard send the cover to me and I will make a further examination.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

May 25, 1950.

Mr. John A. Fox,
116 Nassau St.,
New York 7, N.Y.

Dear John:

Just a line to acknowledge yours of the 18th regarding the "Postal History Society" and to assure you that you can count me in on anything you do.

Last summer I examined a Confederate cover for Howard Lehman. He stated he purchased it from you. It had a H.S. of five of the 2¢ green litho tied by two strikes of "Griffin, Ga." Howarddhhd the impression that this cover came from an original find and was never in a collection. By any chance did this come from the Needham collection? If not, can you give me any information regarding its source. Please consider this as confidential.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

President
STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

General Vice-President
LAWRENCE L. SHENFIELD
40 Highland Circle
Bronxville 8, New York

Southern Vice-President
DR. MARYE YEAMANS DABNEY
3206 Cliff Road
Birmingham 5, Alabama

FRATERNITY RESEARCH COOPERATION

CONFEDERATE STAMP ALLIANCE

NON-SECTIONAL 1955 NON-POLITICAL

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744 Broad Street
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Authentication Committee
LAWRENCE L. SHENFIELD, Chairman
40 Highland Circle
Bronxville 8, New York

May thirty-first
19 50

Dear Stan:

First, I return herewith the tracing of the Griffin, Ga. cancel. I am keeping the photograph and I will pay for it in my next remittance. The 2¢ Green covers came back and thank you for your comments. I am anxious to see the prints.

Reference to your comments on the 5¢ New Orleans to France: I did not know that you thought there was a 10¢ 1857 on this cover originally. Your letter of three years ago did not mention it and I believe that the Handstamp "Not Paid" indicated that it bore only a 5¢ stamp. I have seen plenty of 5¢ '55's singles on covers to France and thought they accepted this for delivery as not fully paid. Will you let me know for my records.

Now for the Lehman cover and <u>this is confidential also</u>.

I was very much interested in your comments on this cover and I have no basis for suspicion except the rare beauty of the thing and the excessively clear strikes. I compared the photo and tracing very carefully with a fine impression of Griffin which I have and it matches absolutely. The telltale on this cancel is the missing branch of the horizontal serif at the top of the final stroke of the "N". It is true that the month date and the day date do not agree in lining up horizontally with my example but I presume that because this was a big mortise it could be set in crooked.

Your suspicion that perhaps the strip was planted brings up the point of where the parts on the cover of the cancel are painted. I thought a lamp would show this or am I wrong? This cover was once sold to a collector whose name I do not know who took it to Bob Laurence for expertizing and Laurence advised the man that the strip had probably been planted and based that on the ironed-out creases in the strip which of course I did not know in my quick examination. My quick examination did indicate, however, that the strip was well refreshed and the paper very white and striking. Whether this would indicate that it was taken off and the creases ironed out or whether it was planted is of course not provable.

Since Bob Laurence told me all this in confidence, please keep it so. I would conclude by saying that I would like to drop the matter and in my opinion I abide by your judgment but if you believe that the strip did not originate on the cover and that the cancels on the cover are painted there should be some way to prove that. Incidentally, I have not been able to locate a cover addressed

to the same party in my entire collection -- this can mean something or nothing.

Yes, I think Lehman is a very shrewd trader and he is always buying and selling things from time to time, but I think he was perfectly on the up and up in sending this cover for authentication -- in fact I know that Fox said that he would abide by your judgment completely.

My best,

Gary

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

P.S. I can assure you absolutely that this cover did not come from the Needham collection.

LLS

June 3, 1950.

Mr. L.L.Shenfield,
℅ Doherty, Clifford & Shenfield,
Empire State Bldg.,
350 Fifth Ave.,
New York 1, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

Yours of the 31st received.

First, your 5¢ New Orleans cover to France. Covers with 5¢ "Rates" to France were of the pre-treaty period - viz - prior to April 1, 1857. Your cover was rated at not over ½ ounce and had the use been before June 1, 1861, the rate would have been 15¢. The use of a single 5¢ payment to France after 1857 would be a most unusual item. It would mean that the 5¢ payment was void, as the Treaty did not recognize any partial payments. It is my guess that the writer put 15¢ in U. S. stamps, hoping that the letter would go thru as paid. He must have known that the rate was 15¢ and that a lone 5¢ 1857 would not pay any part of the 15¢. It seemed to me that someone had cut a pair of the 5¢ N.O. in two, in cutting off the end of the letter, and I think this end probably had a 10¢ 1857 - Type V, in addition to the severed N.O. stamp. No matter how much in U. S. postage stamps had been put on the letter, it would still have been marked as "Not Paid" when it reached the Foreign Division of the New York P.O. The New Orleans stamps showed the origin. I suppose the letter went thru the lines under separate cover. Here is a possible theory -

The writer put 15¢ in U. S. postage stamps on the letter and gave it to an Express Company to carry thru the Lines. The Express Co. took it to the N.O. P.O. - put on a pair of 5¢ N.O. stamps, had the letter postmarked and sent it under separate cover thru the Lines to New York, thus in accordance with the Confed. law. The writer never intended that any evidence of origin should appear on the letter, because any such evidence would render the U. S. stamps null and void.

The Lehman cover. Would a quartz lamp show any evidence that the strip was planted on the cover? The answer is yes and no, depending on the methods used by the "artist." I do not think a lamp would show up the painting of a black "tie" to this cover. I do not remember if I examined the cover under my lamp but I surely must have done so. It is possible the strip might have been creased and wrinkled before its use on this cover, and if the creases were originally rather noticeable someone might have used an iron, but if so, he probably did quite a good job. I think we are in agreement that the two postmarks on the cover are genuine, hence I think we are very safe in assuming the strip was actually used on the cover. If there is any doubt in your mind on this point, now or in the future, let me know and I will request Howard to loan it to me for another examination.

I have just received a letter from John Fox assuring me that the cover did not come from the Needham collection.

With best regards -

Cordially yours,

Mrs B F Harris

Oxford

NC

Coated-Strip Cover-Sub. By H. Lehman 7/20-1949 — 1¢ 1/2 Genuine — Yes — See Scrap Book No 15 - P. 27

July 15, 1949.

Mr. Edgar B. Jessup,
1475 Powell St.,
Oakland, Calif.

Dear Edgar:

Yours of the 11th received.

It is odd but I never associated your 90¢ Calcutta cover with the one listed in my files as the "Armitage cover to India." I suppose the reason is that I did not have a full description on my cards as to the address.

George Armitage was a British collector of U. S. 19th Century. Back in the middle nineteen twenties I had quite a lot of correspondence with him and he loaned me a number of pieces to study and photograph. See my One Cent Book, Vol. 1, Pl. 3 Chapter. He was especially interested in the 1¢ 1851-57, and was on the hunt for Plate 3 material. I lost track of him in the late twenties and the next I heard was that he had passed away and his collection was being sold. Lapham of Boston, was quite active at the time and he acquired a lot of pieces from the Armitage collection including the Armitage cover to India.

The 90¢ cover was in the Lapham Exhibit at Tipex in 1936 and you surely saw it. My knowledge of foreign rates in May 1936 was practically NIL though I did not realize it at the time. I saw the cover in the Lapham Exhibit and made a memo of it but I never suspected anything was wrong with it.

I may be dreaming but it is my recollection that Colson handled a lot of the Armitage material and that he was the one who sold the 90¢ cover to Lapham. You are on good terms with Colson - Why not write him and ask him? Gosh you would do me an immense favor if you could get some dope on that cover from the Crimson Rambler. Why not also advise the present owner that his cover is well known - that it belonged to George Armitage - was sold to Henry Lapham, was exhibited at the New York Show by Lapham in 1936 and further - that it is listed in the Ashbrook records as a fake. What a reaction that would bring!!!

Here is my description made in front of the Lapham frame in May 1936:

"90¢ - 30¢ & 12¢ (Pl. 3) - 1860 Issue tied with red grids - "Per Overland Mail" from N.Y. - cancel "New York Amer. Pkt.

June 26." The 30¢ is faded and spoils looks of cover."

I looked thru the 1936 Tipex catalogue but couldn't find any mention of the cover in the Kaphan Exhibit.

I will surely be interested in any further information that you turn up.

Thanks for the printed matter on the "Mother-Lode"

Regards -

Yours etc.,

MARCHANT
CALCULATING MACHINE COMPANY
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

MEMO FROM OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

TO Dear Ston v DATE 7/18/49

You may be in Detroit but I write this in reply to yours of 15th - just arrived.
The 30 th was bright + beautiful.
Do you suppose its sun has been changed? I cannot do any thing right now but will soon as I can. I went right to my records upon return + I use a letter file system + my "90 th '60" folder had all my 90 th information in it; letters + all, + ill file this fine one from you in it also.
Did you ever get copy of a letter I wrote Krug? You never mention it. Did it go astray? Yours Edgar

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
A.P.S. 2497
33 N. FT. THOMAS AVE.
FT. THOMAS, KY.

July 25, 1949.

Mr. M. H. Judd,
"Oneonta"
Dalton, Ga.

Dear Judge:

Thanks very much for yours of the 21st with check for the 5¢ 1847 cover. I was surprised to learn that you didn't have such an item, which is an indication that such a cover is even more elusive than I supposed.

Congratulations on the 10¢ Rose cover with red Churchland, Va. I have no record in my files of a cover with this stamp tied by a red town. Both the S.U.S. and Dietz leave such a listing with a blank price. I note that the Dietz book lists among a list of red towns - "Churchland, Va." I have no recollection of seeing this town on any cover.

I regret to state that I have no Kentucky H.S. PAIDS or with stamps at present though in the past I had some nice Bowling Green and Columbus items. I am enclosing the only Arkansas covers that I have left. I don't know whether these are "1847's" or Confeds but I note that Dietz lists each one as a Confed H.S.P. - In my opinion, that don't mean a great deal because he is too hasty in listing many items that should never be listed.

My kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Enclosed - Richey covers.
✓ #19 - $4.00
20 - 3.00✓
✓ 26 - 3.50
✓ 27 - 3.00

Dear Edmund Ashbrook, Dalton Ga. July 27 1949
Thanks for covers sent and enclosed please find $3.00 cash to cover purchase of the Monticello, Ark. item. An old 19th Cent. Rand, McNally Atlas gives Churchland Va. as having a population of 89. It was probably less at time of the Civil War. The cover looks O.K. to me. However if you care to look it over would be glad to submit to you. Thanking you for your interest and courtesy and with best wishes.
Sincerely
M H Judd

Dalton, Ga.
July 31, 1949

Dear Admiral Ashbrook:

Knowing you to be one of the main fountains of philatelic knowledge am hoping you will kindly send me a full quart of information with regard to the inclosed sketch.

The 3¢ 1861 is cancelled with a conventional four ring target in black which does not tie.

However, the "Baldwin Cross" punk is smack on the stamp securely fastening same.

There are no markings on reverse. Can find no information in thirty book about the "Baldwin Cross."

Thanking you for your many courtesies and interest

Sincerely
[illegible]

Stamp on cover is #65

Penrose
This word in Maine

Mr. H. A. G. Roberts,
Care
Maj. Calvit Roberts. 41 Union St.
N. O.
La.

(The above postmk. is in blue. The original is 25 mm in diam.)

Box 1585

Dalton, Ga.
July 21, 1949

Dear Admiral Ashbrook:

Even if you were not one of the leading authorities on the 5¢ & 10¢ 1847, would agree with you that these items are rare when tied to cover by a black town neatly and clearly struck. Sorry I cannot help you with regard to black towns on these items. The one you sent is the only one I have. Have bid on the very few offered at auction, but no go. By the way, have picked up a nice Mfld. 10¢ rose tied to cover by Churchtown, Pa. in red. Do you have any hand stamped "PAID" from Arkansas or Kentucky.

Enclosed please find check for $65.00. With very best wishes.

Sincerely
Judge Judd

July 25, 1949.

Mr. M. H. Judd,
"Oneonta"
Dalton, Ga.

Dear Judge:

Thanks very much for yours of the 21st with check for the 5¢ 1847 cover. I was surprised to learn that you didn't have such an item, which is an indication that such a cover is even more elusive than I supposed.

Congratulations on the 10¢ Rose cover with red Churchland, Va. I have no record in my files of a cover with this stamp tied by a red town. Both the S.U.S. and Dietz leave such a listing with a blank price. I note that the Dietz book lists among a list of red towns - "Churchland, Va." I have no recollection of seeing this town on any cover.

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My kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Enclosed - Richey covers.
#19 - $4.00
20 - 3.00
26 - 3.50
27 - 3.00

Aug. 1, 1949.

Mr. M. H. Judd,
"Oneonta"
Dalton, Ga.

Dear Judge:

This will acknowledge receipt of yours of the 27th with $3.00 in cash and return of the other three covers. Thanks very much.

Regarding your Churchland, Va. cover and the 3¢ 1861 Express cover, I think it would be advisable if you would send both of these on and let me have a look at them. In the past you probably heard about the Needham collection and that it contained a lot of queer material. Needham died about ten years ago and in the past six months quite a lot of his material has been very quietly coming on the market and I have noted a number of fakes which I suspect came from that source. There is nothing like playing safe and I will be glad to look at anything that you have purchased in recent months which might appear a bit out of the ordinary.

I am leaving Wednesday on a business trip and will be gone about a week but if you will send any covers after my return I will be only too glad to give them a careful examination.

That 3¢ 1861 cover might be OK but I never heard of such an express company. My first impression is that it don't look good but of course I might be 100% wrong.

With my kindest regards, I am

Cordially yours,

Dalton, Ga.
Aug. 4th, 1949

Dear Admiral Fahbrook;

Your letter of Aug. 2nd received and contents noted. Your advise about the "espes cover" is sound. In spite of your letter, am enclosing same. Now you can get a real gander at it. No one need know you have seen it, or expressed an opinion on it if you desire. The other items enclosed are some which I have intended sending you for some months past. All items have been in my collection for many years except the Churchland, Va. cover and the "espes cover." Hope my remarks about them are correct. Cannot find any dope on them in Klutz or Scott. Will you kindly let me know how to handle items sent to the Expert Committee.

Enclosed please find 5.00 cash for return postage, etc. Thanking you many times for your interest and courtesy;

Sincerely
Ira Judd

Aug. 8, 1949.

Mr. M. H. Judd,
Dalton, Ga.

My dear Judge:

Your registered letter of the 5th with various enclosures received this A.M.

I am leaving for a business trip early tomorrow morning and will probably be gone until the end of the week. I am quite busy getting ready to get away consequently will not be able today to give the various items the careful consideration that they deserve. I will lock these up in my safe and just as soon as I return I will write you regarding them.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Aug. 17, 1949.

Mr. M. H. Judd,
Dalton, Ga.

My dear Judge:

Herewith I am returning the various items contained in yours of the 5th. Comments follow:

Baldwin's South La. Express. This cover recently came out of the Henry C. Needham collection. Needham died about ten or twelve years ago and of course you are doubtless familiar with the charges made against him by Elliott Perry. I have no actual knowledge regarding the Perry-Needham controversy but I do know that I have personally examined items that came from the collection that were fraudulent. Whether this cover is good or bad, I have no actual proof. I never saw this marking before, nor have I any record of such a company. My guess is that the cover is supposed to represent a use after the war, a carriage by a private express company. Perhaps the "MR" was supposed to stand for "Mail Route."

The cover shows no evidence that it went thru a post office - no postmark - yet the stamp is canceled with a target - a P.O. cancelation - This appears rather odd and certainly justifies the suspicion that this may have been an envelope without a stamp and that a canceled 3¢ 1861 was fraudantly applied and tied with a fake circular marking. I really wonder if an express company in 1865 would have a stamper with "M R 8151." That seems to me to be possibly of philatelic origin.

I am requesting L. V. Huber of New Orleans to kindly make an investigation regarding a "Baldwin's"Express Co. There might have been such a company and if there was perhaps we can get a line on it thru the newspapers of the period.

I have no objection to you informing anyone that I examined this cover at my request and you are at liberty to quote any of my remarks. If the party who sold you this cover did not have any evidence that it is genuine it should not have been sold to you as such but "as is" and at a price in line with a questionable item. Several weeks ago I wrote Costales and inquired if he thought this cover was genuine. So far no reply.

BROWN DECATUR GA - Yes, there is no question but what a brown town is far more rare than a red. You will note that the Dietz Confed. Book lists Decatur under both red and brown. It is possible (in my opinion) that this Decatur brown is a faded oily red rather than an actual brown. However, I must admit that this 10¢ Rose cover does appear to be a pretty good brown.

10¢ Brown Rose - off cover - This is quite a fine example of this rare

shade - it is really rare. It is even found somewhat darker than this and as I recall Larry Shenfield termed the darker color a "BURGUNDY" which I thought was quite appropriate. As you are aware, the stone of 100 subjects consisted of 50 different transfers, therefore, 49 and 99 came from the same transfer - I am not much on plating lithographs but your single comes from 49 and the 10¢ blue from 99 - I do not think that the "scratches" on the 10¢ Brown Rose (at upper left) are consistent stone varieties but probably ink marks (not on the stone).

Churchland, Va. - I suppose that this is O.K. but I am not familiar with a Churchland, Va. postmark. It is too bad it is so faded but I see no reason to question it. Red towns on this stamp are indeed rare.

Stamer Camden - I have no record of this. Klein's daughter is carrying on the work of her father and appreciates advice of any unlisted packet marking. I am advising her of this and if she has no record I will send her a photograph.

I judge that this was a Mississippi River Packet and that the letter was picked up at a landing and carried to New Orleans where it was placed in the P.O. (Steamer marking Mar. 16, 1868, New Orleans seven days later or Mar. 23.)

Thanks very much for the $5.00 fee.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

Aug. 17, 1949.

Mr. H. H. Judd,
Dalton, Ga.

My dear Judge:

Herewith I am returning the various items contained in yours of the 5th. Comments follow:

Baldwin's South La. Express. This cover recently came out of the Henry C. Needham collection. Needham died about ten or twelve years ago and of course you are doubtless familiar with the charges made against him by Elliott Perry. I have no actual knowledge regarding the Perry-Needham controversy but I do know that I have personally examined items that came from the collection that were fraudulent. Whether this cover is good or bad, I have no actual proof. I never saw this marking before, nor have I any record of such a company. My guess is that the cover is supposed to represent a use after the war, a carriage by a private express company. Perhaps the "MR" was supposed to stand for "Mail Route."

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I judge that this was a Mississippi River Packet and that the letter was picked up at a landing and carried to New Orleans where it was placed in the P.O. (Steamer marking Mar. 16, 1868, New Orleans seven days later or Mar. 23.)

Thanks very much for the $5.00 fee.

With every good wish -

Cordially yours,

Sept. 6, 1949.

Mr. M. Hubert Judd,
"Oneonta"
Dalton, Ga.

Dear Judge:

Further regarding that "Baldwin" cover of yours, I am happy to report that it appears from what information that I can obtain that the cover is genuine, and that someone else owns a duplicate.

I learned from MacBride that George Sloane mentioned this "Express" in his column in "STAMPS" of July 20, 1946. If you haven't "Stamps" of that issue, I will be glad to make a copy of Sloane's remarks for you.

I also wrote L. V. Huber of New Orleans and under date of Sept. 1st he wrote in part as follows:

"With reference to your letter of August 17, concerning Baldwin's South Louisiana Express, this cover is apparently genuine even though it came from a suspicious source. Baldwin's South Louisiana Express operated in post Civil War days over the lines of the New Orleans, Opelousas and Great Western Railroad which ran from Brashear (now Morgan City) to New Orleans. The mail contract over this line was known as Route 8154 instead of 8151 as you have it, and we have at least one other cover with the marking. The postmark is illustrated in 'The Great Mail'. This concern apparently had nothing to do with Mississippi River transportation." (end of quote)

His remarks are much the same as the Sloane article.

I have an idea that all of the above data originated with Elliott Perry.

If your cover is genuine, and no doubt it is, I believe that you acquired quite a rarity.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

MATTHEW E. HAZELTINE, M. D.
W. SCOTT POLLAND, M. D.
HOWARD HAMMOND JR., M. D.
ARNOLD A. NUTTING, M. D.
GRACE DICKSON KLEISER, M. D.

ALBERT BUILDING
SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA
TELEPHONE SAN RAFAEL 6120

August 19, 1949

Dear Mr Ashbrook:

While I am away perhaps you would have the opportunity to look at these covers and give your worthy opinion. I have numbered each cover and will refer to them by the circled number in the left lower corner. This type of material is often difficult to evaluate and sometimes it seems to be a guessing game between dealer and purchaser as to cost. An estimate by you would be appreciated. Please submit a bill for these services when you return the covers for which is enclosed a self addressed registered, air mail envelope.

(1) Can you tell me anything about the handstamp on the back "Forwarded through Belgian Exchange etc" In Konwieser's dictionary there is a reference to an article in Stamps of Oct 10, 1942, but I have been unable to obtain the same. I gain the impression, however, that Belgium had an agreement with the N. Y. P.O. about outgoing foreign mail. In this case it looks to me as if the letter was given to a private party or agent traveling to California and that is was dropped

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TELEPHONE SAN RAFAEL 6120

in the N.Y. P.O. and treated as an unpaid drop letter. However, the manuscript Paid and the red Paid (Belgnis?) makes one wonder if the full rate wasn't given to the N. Y P.O. and that this was not a real boot leg cover. I could also gain the impression from this cover that Belgnis was more than an ordinary forwarder, that it almost was like a special branch post office for foreign mail.

(2) Isn't this PAID the real N. Y Ocean Mail handstamp for prepaid mail corresponding to the black unpaid 10 which is considered uncommon. However, this must be much rarer, because it would be hard to believe that the N. Y P.O. wouldn't have a large supply of stamps at this time and in most use would use them, although not compulsory. (3) & (4) are covers of the unpaid type sent by a forwarding firm who apparently sent all their mail unpaid. They call themselves forwarders, but apparently must have been so in a different sense than Belgnis, in that they put their mail in the N. Y. P.O., and that it was handled like any other letter dropped in the N. Y. P.O.

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(5)+(6) Could you tell me about this (Way) and where was it applied. Was it put on by the boat which picked the mail up at Havana? I presume the manuscript 30 was either an error or meant 3X the rate from Panama City, because the SF 10 on the other letter must have meant that the S.F. P.O. simply rated it as a rate under 3500 miles, although the letter should have been rated from Havana or over 3500 miles and should have been a 30.

(7) The notes on the back are those of Dr Carroll Chase. The grid cancellations I record are very rare, but I wonder if this type of N.Y cancellation is not another N.Y Ocean Mail cancellation used later than the type you describe on Pg 246 Vol II of your 14 book. On Pg 56 of the book "The Stamps of Hawaii" there happens to be illustrations of both types.

(8) Who paid the Ship fee on this cover? Was this an error that the P.O. allowed to pass, or was there a stamp which has disappeared. The Philatelic Foundation has OK'd the cover, but I still can't figure out how the Captain obtained his money or did he? I can't believe the Honolulu P.O. didn't have plenty of stamps at this time.

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Any help you can give me on these questions would be appreciated. I will be back from my trip about Sept 1st

Sincerely yours,
W. Scott Polland.

Aug. 22, 1949.

Dr. W. Scott Polland,
Albert Bldg.,
San Rafael, Calif.

Dear Doctor Polland:

I am today in receipt of your air registered letter of the 18th postmarked "Ross, Calif." with various inclosures.

Regarding material of this class, you are quite correct, there is undoubtedly much difference in opinion regarding values, due principally to insufficient knowledge on the part of the seller as to the actual scarcity, plus demand. Some dealers have exaggerated ideas and attempt to obtain absurd prices. Others, might thru ignorance, permit buyers to obtain bargains. I have an idea that my friend Edgar Jessup has had much experience with the latter, as he has a very fine collection of San Francisco and California stampless. Jessup likes to pick up "sleepers" but I guess most of us like to do the same thing. I am wondering if you are acquainted with Mr. Robt. Beale of S.F. He is quite a student of S.F. markings and it is my impression that he has quite a nice collection.

As to giving you my opinion as to values of the enclosed covers, suppose we put it this way - If these covers belonged to me, and they were for sale, what prices would I charge? I think that is better than stating that this one is worth this and that one is worth that, because after all, I may be about as ignorant as to actual values as most anyone else. So here goes -

Cover (1). This is a "bootleg" cover. It was undoubtedly sent under separate cover and mailed at San Francisco at the local prepaid drop rate of 1¢. Had it been placed in the mail at New York City, the rate would have been 5¢ prepaid or 10¢ unpaid.

I have often wondered why the San Francisco Post Office permitted such mail to be delivered at a local rate when there was plenty of evidence by the backstamping that the origin was elsewhere, and that such mail was carried over a U. S. Mail Route.

I think that the red "Paid" was applied at the S.F. office.

Official records show that the "S.S.Georgia" sailed on Sept. 12, 1851. Memo on back shows N.Y. Sep. 11, 1851.

I have "Stamps" of Oct. 10, 1942" but it is in a bound volume. The article referred to is in the Konwiser column and I don't think that it would be of much help to you. I recall an article on "Gilpins" by a writer by the name of Abe Schoenfield or some similar

name but I do not recall where or when it appeared. I would have to look it up. Personally I don't think a great deal of the general run of "Forwarders" handstamps and "Gilpins" is in that class. Whether "Gilpin's" had any official connection with the P.O. in 1851, I do not know but I seriously doubt that such was the case. My guess is that "Gilpins" maintained "Mail Bags" for certain outgoing foreign mail, much the same as was the custom in S.F.

The New York firm of "Mairut & Robert" probably sent a batch of mail to "Gilpins" to forward to S.F. and paid them for the service and the postage. Gilpin handstamped such mail and sent it by private carrier to S.F. There the carrier took it to the P.O. and paid the postage in cash and the S.F. P.O. clerk handstamped it as "Paid." I wonder if the New York firm actually paid 6¢ on this letter and that Gilpin "bootlegged" it and saved 5¢? Quite possible.

Everything considered I think that I would charge from $12.50 to $15.00 for this cover even if it did not have the Gilpin handstamp. I think its real value is in the fact that it is a "bootleg" - mailed at S.F. as a prepaid Drop, rather than emphasis on the Gilpin marking.

Cover No. 2 - Yes, this was used on Paid stampless mail to California - therefore, an "Ocean Mail" marking. I have never noted its use otherwise. My earliest record is April 1852 but I have not attempted to keep an accurate record and it may have been used in 1851. No doubt it was. I would charge $7.50 to $10.00 for this.

Cover No. 3 & 4. I doubt if this New York unpaid type is as scarce as I thought it was a decade ago. Neither one of the strikes are very plain, hence I would price these at $5.00 to $7.50 each. Forwarder's handstamps mean very little if anything to me and I believe that very few collectors pay any attention to them. I do not recall a single instance where such a marking added anything to the value of a cover.

Cover 5 & 6 Way Letters, that is, not received in sealed bags from the east, but picked up enroute as a Way Letter - As far as I am aware, the marking was applied at the S.F. P.O., but it might have been applied by a purser (or pursers) on a mail ship (or ships). No. 6 is a single, and No. 5 is a triple, that is, the "Steamship rate of 10¢" in the late fifties. In all probability both were picked up by a U. S. Mail ship enroute, via Havana to Aspinwall. You will recall that the single rate from the east to California in 1857 was 10¢. On a "WAY" letter there was no premium.

Cover No. 7 - This New York marking is what we call the "Intermediate N.Y. Ocean Mail marking" - I sometimes refer to it as the Blake type, because M. C. Blake was the first (to my knowledge) to class it as a regular N.Y. "Ocean Mail marking" - He gave it the name as the "Intermediate" because it came between the "first type" (see Fig. 50E - Ashbrook Vol. 2 page 246 - also Fig. 50D - on page 245 - the markings with "Oct 14" and "Jan 9") and the regular (1854) type - the latter the one with the small grid - Fig. 50H - page 248 (as well as numerous other illustrations.) It is news to me that this type of grid is rare, perhaps a more proper statement would be that the use of

a grid on mail from New York to California is very unusual, hence such covers are rare. Your cover went by the "Empire City" on April 9, 1852 and according to my records this is the earliest record that we have of the "Intermediate type" on mail to California. However, I have been a bit lax in keeping my record up to date and it is possible that Mr. Blake has turned up an earlier use than the "Earliest" that he has reported to me, which I note was June 21, 1852. You are quite correct in the Hawaii book on page 56 - Fig. 19 shows the "First type" whereas "Fig. 20" shows the "Intermediate type." Fig. 19 is from one of my photographs of a cover that is in the Jessup collection. I am enclosing herewith a photograph of a cover with this Intermediate type - Sailing of Oct. 20, 1852. While this is the same type I do not believe it is the same stamper - The strike on your cover appears to be from the same handstamp as the one on the cover in the Hawaii book. Will you please return the enclosed photograph as it is the only duplicate print that I have.

Incidentally here is a copy of an advertisement that appeared in the New York Herald on April 8, 1852, quote:

"FOR CALIFORNIA First and only sure chance to San Francisco direct, no detention on the way. Through in 26 days by the U. S. Mail Steamer 'Empire City' April 9th, via Aspinwall (Navy Bay) thence by railroad to Gorgona and Panama to connect with S.S.Tennessee

Berford and Co. 2 Astor Pl.

I consider this quite an unusual cover and I would charge $17.50 for it if it belonged to me.

Cover 8 - This cover was sold in a Laurence sale on Oct. 28, 1941 - It was Lot 109 and the sale price was $17.00. I have a photograph of it. In my opinion, the Honolulu P.O. paid the ship captain 2¢ in cash. So far as the S.F. P.O. was concerned everything was O.K. It is possible that the Hawaii office did not have any 2¢ or 5¢ stamps at this particular period. I would price this cover @ $25.00.

Inasmuch as I had to consume considerable time in looking up the above data I think that a fee of $5.00 is justified.

All items are returned herewith.

Cordially yours,

P.S.--I do trust that you will pardon me for misspelling your last name in previous letters.

Later - I made a search and found that the article on Gilpin's appeared in the "Stamp Specialist" - "Red Book" published in July 1942. It was by Abe Schoenfeld, and entitled: "Coffee House and News Room Mail." The Konwiser article in "Stamps" of Oct. 10, 1942 was merely a quote of some of Schoenfeld's material.

H. W. STARK & COMPANY

BOX 288

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

Aug. 21, 1949.

Dear Stan,

Enclosed find your check. Guess we got mixed up in the numbers. I also took No. 81B for the missing $17.50.

I am enclosing a cover which possibly could be a "Via Nicaragua" without the conventional hand-stamp. I base my hunch on the San Francisco corner card. You can check the New York post office date for possible confirmation. Let me know what you think of it.

The weather is cool and fine now. Just what I like. Hutch and Fred are away on their trips now. Havent seen Shierson since the party.

More next time. Best of wishes.

Sincerely,

Harold

Lot 1432

Sept. 1, 1949.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
P. O. Box 288,
Ann Arbor, Mich.

Dear Harold:

Thanks for return of my check for $17.50 for the Krug #81B. So far, this is the only error I have made on the collection. That cover was missing but I had no record of what became of it.

Herewith I am returning the cover with the S.F. corner card and the pair of the 3¢ 1851. I regret to state that I have no definite data on a deposit of California mail on "Sep 28." There were two Independent Line sailings from S.F. on Sep. 1, 1854. In 1852 the "Via N" mail was deposited on "Oct. 3" - in 1853, on "Sep 25" - no record for 1854, but I doubt if a "Via N" trip took 27 days in September 1854. It is possible that this letter was carried privately by a passenger and mailed upon arrival at New York. The two "Independent Line" sailings from S.F. on Sep. 1, 1854 - were as follows:

"S.S.Pacific" of the Vanderbilt Line
"S.S.Uncle Sam" of the Independent Line.

As stated above I have no record of the date that the Pacific's mail was deposited but it was hardly as late as Sep. 28th. Mail by the "Uncle Sam" went via Panama and was deposited at New York on Sep. 27, 1854.

I believe that this letter went by one of the above ships but there is no evidence as to which one carried it.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

Sept. 29, 1949.

Mr. Donald MacGregor,
1602 Houstonia Ave.,
Royal Oak, Mich.

Dear Don:

Herewith I am returning the 40¢ rate cover to Naples, (New York, registered Oct. 20, 1866), also the photostat copies of the Postal Treaty with Italy, signed May-June 1866. If Harold has a P.M.G. report of 1866, he will find a copy of this treaty. Whether a 20¢ rate fixed in this treaty applied to the "Kingdom of Naples," I do not know.

I have an official table of foreign postages, "corrected to January 1, 1867, and a separate listing is given for the "Kingdom of Naples" as follows:

"Via Prussian Closed Mail per ½ oz. - 30¢
Via French Mail per ½ oz. 21¢ per ½ oz. - 42¢
By Bremen and Hamburg Mail per ½ oz. - 22¢

It is quite certain that this letter went "By Prussian Closed Mail." The "AACHEN" marking is proof. The states comprising "Italy" are listed as - Sardinian States
Lombardy
Modena
Parma
Tuscany
Roman States
Two Sicilies

You will note that the Kingdom of Naples is not included. Further, although the "Italy" treaty was signed in 1866, I cannot find any listing of a 20¢ rate to any of the Italian States as of Jan. 1, 1867.

The rate to Prussia as of that date was 30¢ unpaid and 28¢ prepaid, so I seriously doubt if there was a cheaper rate via of that route to Naples.

The rate to Switzerland (Jan. 1, 1867) "Via Prussian Closed Mail" was 33¢ prepaid or 35¢ unpaid. You will note that the letter went thru Switzerland, hence the rate must have been greater to Naples. Perhaps the 30¢ quoted to Naples was merely to Aachen with the balance of the route "due." Perhaps this payment of 40¢ represented the rate above 28¢ prepaid to Aachen. In this way we could account for the 18¢ credit - that is, 7¢ the regular Prussian credit plus 11¢ to Naples or the frontier of the Kingdom.

To sum up - (1) I do not believe that this is a double 20¢

rate as set forth in the treaty. (2) I do not believe that the 10¢ represented the registration fee (3) I do not believe the registration fee was paid by stamps and furthermore I do not believe that Naples was entitled to any part of the registration fee.

I cannot find any record of a postal treaty with Naples. Why not write Washington and inquire if we had any postal treaty or postal arrangement with that Kingdom.

I think this cover is a nice study and that it would be nice to get the facts regarding it.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Harold.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

MacGregor and Company

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DETROIT 1, MICHIGAN

NOVEMBER 2, 1949

MR. STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 N. FORT THOMAS AVENUE
FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY

DEAR STAN;

I HAVE BEEN QUITE BUSY AND ALSO HAVE BEEN GOING OVER TO CANADA EVERY WEEK-END SO HAVE NEGLECTED TO ANSWER YOUR LETTER OF SEPT 29TH ABOUT MY COVER TO ITALY.

YOU MAKE A POINT THAT THE KINGDOM OF NAPLES IS NOT INCLUDED IN ITALY IN THE TABLE OF POSTAGES OF JAN 1, 1867. THAT MAY BE - I HAVE NOT HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY UP ON ITALIAN HISTORY OF THAT PERIOD. HOWEVER THE COVER IS ADDRESSED NOT TO THE KINGDOM OF NAPLES BUT TO NAPLES, ITALY AND POSSIBLY THE POSTAL CLERK THOUGHT NAPLES WAS INCLUDED IN THE ITALIAN RATE.

THE ARGUMENT THAT A LOWER RATE WOULD NOT BE SET FOR ITALY WHICH WAS A GREATER DISTANCE THAN PRUSSIA OR SWITZERLAND WOULD APPLY TO THE OTHER ITALIAN STATES EVEN IF NAPLES WAS NOT INCLUDED. THE TREATY DOES DEFINITELY SET A RATE OF 20¢ AND MAKES NO MENTION THAT THE LETTER MUST TAKE A CERTAIN ROUTE TO COME UNDER THAT RATE.

WHAT WAS THE PURPOSE OR SENSE OF THE TREATY IF IT DID NOT MEAN WHAT IT CLEARLY STATES?

I AGREE THAT THE REGISTRATION FEE WAS PAID IN CASH AND THAT THE FEE WAS 10¢ AS PROVIDED BY THE TREATY.

YOU PERHAPS NOTED THAT ARTICLE 14 SETS UP A DIFFERENT ARRANGEMENT THAN WE HAD WITH ENGLAND OR GERMANY:

"ARTICLE 14: IN ORDER TO SIMPLIFY POSTAL ACCOUNTS BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENTS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, AND TO PREPARE THE WAY FOR THEIR ULTIMATE ABOLITION, EACH POST DEPARTMENT SHALL RETAIN TO ITS OWN USE ALL THE POSTAL RATES AND CHARGES WHICH IT SHALL COLLECT, WHETHER BY VIRTUE OF PREPAYMENT OR POST PAYMENT, AND EACH DEPARTMENT SHALL PAY THE COST OF CONVEYANCE OF THE MAILS WHICH IT DESPATCHES AS FAR AS THE FRONTIER OF THE COUNTRY OF DESTINATION. IT IS ALSO ESPECIALLY PROVIDED THAT THE COST OF INTERMEDIATE OCEAN AND LAND CONVEYANCE OF

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THE CLOSED MAILS SHALL BE FIRST DEFRAYED BY THAT ONE OF THE TWO DEPARTMENTS WHICH SHALL HAVE OBTAINED FROM THE INTERMEDIARIES THE MOST FAVORABLE PECUNIARY CONDITIONS OF SUCH CONVEYANCE AND ANY AMOUNT SO PAID BY ONE DEPARTMENT FOR ACCOUNT OF THE OTHER SHALL BE REIMBURSED."

IT WOULD SEEM THAT FROM THE ABOVE EACH COUNTRY AGREED TO FORWARD THE MAIL TO THE FRONTIER OF THE OTHER COUNTRY AT NO EXPENSE TO THE LATTER.

" ARTICLE 15: IT IS DISTINCTLY AGREED THAT ALL MAILABLE ARTICLES ADDRESSED FROM ONE COUNTRY TO THE OTHER SHALL BE EXEMPT IN THE COUNTRY OF DESTINATION FROM ANY RATE OR FEE WHATEVER BEYOND THE CHARGES ESTABLISHED BY THIS CONVENTION. "

THIS ARTICLE SEEMS TO CLEARLY STATE THAT THE POSTAGE SHALL BE AS AGREED -20¢- AND NO OTHER CHARGES SHALL BE MADE.

"ARTICLE 12: OF THE COMBINED RATE OF INTERNATIONAL LETTER POSTAGE HEREBY ESTABLISHED, THREE CENTS REPRESENTS THE INTERIOR SINGLE RATE OF THE UNITED STATES, AND FIFTEEN CENTIMES THE INTERIOR SINGLE RATE OF ITALY; THE REMAINDER OF THE COMBINED RATE IS ASSIGNED TO THE PAYMENT OF THE COST OF SEA CONVEYANCE AND OF INTERMEDIATE TRANSIT BY WHATEVER ROUTE THE MAILS MAY BE CONVEYED."

THIS ARTICLE SEEMS SIGNIFICANT ESPECIALLY THE STATEMENT WHICH FOLLOWS THE SEMICOLOR AND MORE ESPECIALLY "WHATEVER ROUTE THE MAILS MAY BE CONVEYED".

THE ONLY QUESTION I CAN SEE REGARDING THIS COVER IS WHETHER NAPLES CAME UNDER THIS TREATY. CERTAINLY A 20¢ RATE APPLIED TO THE OTHER ITALIAN STATES AND AS PREVIOUSLY STATED PERHAPS THE POST-OFFICE CLERK ASSUMED IT APPLIED TO NAPLES ALSO.

PERHAPS THIS RATE WAS IN EFFECT ONLY FROM JUNE 14, 1866 UNTIL JANUARY 1, 1867 - THE DATE OF YOUR OFFICIAL TABLE. PERHAPS THE DISCREPANCY OF A LOWER RATE TO ITALY THAN TO GERMANY WAS DISCOVERED AND CORRECTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THAT WOULD BE A RARE RATE - ONLY IN EFFECT SIX MONTHS IF THAT WERE THE FACT.

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IF I GET A CHANCE SOON I WILL GO OVER TO THE LIBRARY AND BRUSH UP ON ITALIAN HISTORY. THE COVER SEEMS TO BE O.K. - NO STAMPS MISSING OR ROOM FOR MORE STAMPS. THE MARKINGS ARE IN ORDER AND A DOUBLE RATE ON A REGISTERED LETTER IS QUITE CUSTOMARY. IT AGREES WITH THE RATE SET IN THE POSTAL CONVENTION IN EFFECT AT THE TIME IT WAS MAILED - AND I THINK IT IS A GRAND COVER TO ARGUE ABOUT FOR I JUST LOVE ARGUMENTS.

NOW YOU TELL ME WHERE I AM WRONG.

YOURS VERY TRULY

Donald MacGregor

P.S. DO I SOUND LIKE UNCLE IKE IN THE ABOVE LETTER?

Nov. 23, 1949.

Mr. Donald MacGregor,
2126 Grand River Ave.,
Detroit, Mich.

Dear Don:

Please pardon the delay in acknowledging receipt of your letter of November 2nd, which I have read over several times with due consideration to the facts mentioned.

I will answer your P.S. with a "No" - No indeed Don, there was no similarity in your letter to my ex-friend who calls himself "Uncle Ike," and I will answer your request to tell you where you are wrong with the following - "I cannot" - I thoroughly agree with you that the cover is a very interesting study and it may be "one of those things" that will not divulge its real history.

I note your card of Nov. 3rd with the statement that Garibaldi entered Naples on Sep. 7, 1861. Your cover is of the period Oct. 1866. Looking up the history of Naples, I find that the "Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, embraced Sicily and Southern Italy and was also known as the Kingdom of Naples. It was incorporated in the New Kingdom of Italy in 1861.

You have an 1866 P.L. & R. and it gives the rate to the "Two Sicilies - via Prussian Closed Mail" as 47¢ per ½ oz. Note that the rate to the Sardianian States was 40¢ if prepaid.

I am now wondering if the real answer is that this was a 40¢ rate - prepaid - not over ½ oz. - with the registered fee paid in cash.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Harold.

With regards -

Cordially yours,

MacGregor and Company

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DETROIT 1, MICHIGAN

DECEMBER 8, 1949

MR. STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 N. FORT THOMAS AVENUE
FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY

DEAR STAN;

IN REPLY TO YOURS OF NOVEMBER 23RD, THE 1866 GUIDE LISTS THE 40¢ RATE FOR SEVERAL OF THE ITALIAN STATES BUT NOT FOR NAPLES (TWO SICILIES) OR THE ROMAN STATES. THE RATE TO THOSE LOCALITIES WAS 44¢.

HOWEVER, THAT IS BESIDE THE POINT AS I SEE IT.

THE GUIDE IS DATED MARCH 1, 1866 WHILE THE POSTAL CONVENTION SIGNED WITH ITALY WAS SIGNED AND MADE EFFECTIVE JUNE 14, 1866. THE COVER THEN WOULD COME UNDER THE TERMES OF THAT POSTAL CONVENTION AS IT IS DATED OCTOBER 20, 1866.

FOR FURTHER PROOF OF THE ABOVE CONSIDER THAT IN THE GUIDE THE ONLY COUNTRIES TO WHICH WE COULD SEND A REGISTERED LETTER WERE GREAT BRITAN, GERMANY AND CANADA WHILE THE POSTAL CONVENTION SETS UP AN AGREEMENT TO HANDLE REGISTERED LETTERS TO ITALY. MY COVER IS REGISTERED - THUS IT MUST HAVE BEEN RATED ACCORDING TO THE POSTAL CONVENTION (20¢ PER ½ OZ) AND NOT IN LINE WITH THE RATE IN THE GUIDE.

YOURS VERY TRULY,

Wm

Dec. 17, 1949.

Mr. Donald MacGregor,
2126 Grand River Ave.,
Detroit 1, Mich.

Dear Don:

Re - yours of the 8th and your registered cover to Naples in Oct. 1866 with a payment of 40¢. I read over the treaty again and I agree with you on the solution of this rate. The letter was undoubtedly forwarded under the terms of that treaty, viz., a double 20¢ per ½ ounce with the registered fee paid in cash.

The treaty provided that mail was to be forwarded at the expense of the forwarding country and that each country was to retain postages collected. These are points I did not have in mind when I last wrote you.

The penciled figures on the cover are not credit markings and this explains why the 20¢ per ½ ounce rate was less than the 28¢ per ½ ounce rate to Prussia.

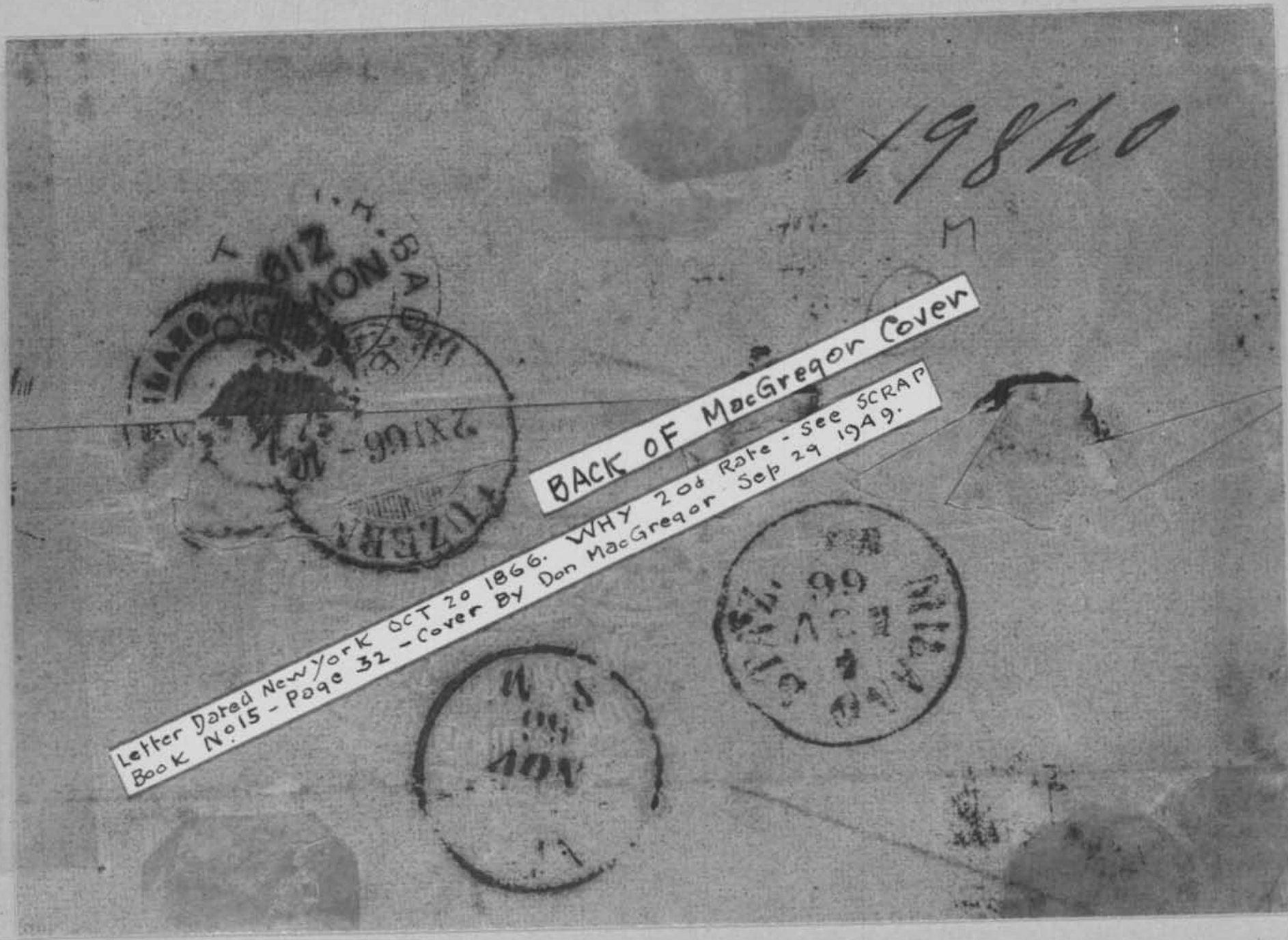
Well, we had a lot of fund figuring this one out but at last we surely have the proper solution.

Incidentally this must be a very scarce cover because this 20¢ rate was reduced to 15¢ as of Jan. 1, 1868, hence it was only in effect about 18 months - And further, I wonder if the registered fee was not payable in stamps after Jan. 1, 1867? If so, then a cover such as yours shows a rate that was only in effect for six months. What do you think?

A Very Merry Xmas to the MacGregors.

Cordially yours,

10
P.D.
243
Red
Red
Brown
AACHEN 1 11
FRANCO
Blue
Blue
NEW YORK
OCT
20
REGISTERED
Napoli
Napoles
Italy
Letter Dated New York OCT 20 1866. WHY 20¢ Rate - See SCRAP Book No15 - Page 32 - Cover By Don MacGregor Sep 29 1949.


1980
BACK OF MacGregor Cover
Letter Dated New York OCT 20 1866. WHY 20¢ Rate - See SCRAP
Book No15 - Page 32 - Cover By Don MacGregor Sep 29 1949.

COPY

Van Dyk Mac Bride
744 Broad Street
Newark 2, N. J.

September 26th, 1949.

Mr. Thomas M. Parks,
3556 - 79th St.,
Jackson Heights, N. Y.

Dear Tom:

I am perfectly delighted with the swell job you have done on Brother Linn! Such things take a lot of time and trouble and you might well ask yourself "why bother?", - but if it is worth doing for the good of the game, I think it is worth what it costs.

I greatly admired your factual presentation as it appeared in the carbon copies which you sent me. I am especially glad that you succeeded in locating the newspaper stories on the sentence of Milbury to jail for defrauding the Government, - as of course that definitely establishes his type and character.

You remember of course that he applied for membership in the C.S.A. in 1946, but following my correspondence with him he withdrew his application. That correspondence included an apology for the Confederate chapter of his book, but although he offered to do anything that "might enable me to undue the harm" which it caused, - he never did anything further about it. I suppose that his subsequent trial and prison sentence gave him more things to think about!

As for Linn, - he referred to the matter in an article on page 14 of the issue of his paper dated April 28, 1947. After quoting substantially all of the "errata" sheet, which I had written and sent to Ohlman, and which Ohlman subsequently enclosed in each copy of "What Price Philately" which he sold, - he continued to offer the book therein at $1.50, and added an "Editor's Note". That was practically an apologia for the book, and then he made the silly remark that our statement that no known plates of

Confederates are in existence, was incorrect. To substantiate this he said that "a piece of a plate of nine stamps" is in an Ohio museum and that his "own files hold an electrotype of this plate". Of course, " nine stamps" do not make up a plate, - particularly when this piece is part of the De LaRue "Ten Cents" typographed plate which was altered from their "Five Cents" plate, from which no sheets were ever officially printed, and which stamp was never actually issued! I am supplying this information to you now for I feel quite certain that Linn will come back at you on this "plate" matter!

If you still feel like battling Linn further, I wish you would go after him on his unfair current attacks on the A.P.S., - tying it in with the large sales he boasts of having made of this "What Price Philately" book at the same time he was criticizing the way the A.P.S. is conducted. As you know, I called this to the attention of the new president of the A.P.S., but in a letter from him today he takes the entirely proper stand that it probably would be better for the Society to officially ignore these attacks. He does hope however, that some individual would take the matter up with Linn and perhaps you can do this in the course of your present campaign.

I guess people will begin to recognize the fact that when they step on the toe of a Confederate collector, they are really "in for it"! I am sending a copy of this letter to Stanley Ashbrook, so that he may be further advised in the whole matter. My best!

Sincerely,

MacB/HK

THOMAS PARKS
3556 79TH STREET
JACKSON HEIGHTS, N. Y.

September 26, 1949

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

Brier Linn has undertaken to distribute "What Price Philately" and to boost it editorially.

I suggested that if he asked you or any other expert on Confederate philately he would be informed the chapter in the book on Confederates is on a par with the Saturday Evening Post story about de Sperati.

He insists there is nothing wrong with the chapter: "The Old Confederate Racket" because he alleges he could write the same stuff from his own experience.

In the common interests of us all I felt obliged to write him as per attached.

Sincerely,

Thomas Parkes.

P.S.
If you write him, please omit my name.

Sept.23,1949.

Dear Mr.Linn:

Thank you for your letter of September 2nd.

You ask what is wrong with the story about Confederate philately in "What Price Philately"? Well, simply that the author allegedly repudiated it, the editor referred to on page 84 (par.1) allegedly repudiated it, and Max Ohlman, who tried to sell the book in 1947, repudiated it in the attached insert which he gave to everybody who bought a copy from him.

You say that you could write a similar story? Well, so could the bright boy who wrote the Sat.Eve.Post story about de Sperati - but could either of you prove any of it?

If you can prove the assertion on page 83, (par.2), that "in the general issues of 1861-62 and ranging from (Scott's) No.200 to No.213, it is an established fact that great quantities of these have been reprinted from original plates that strangely left the South near the end of the Civil War", Mr.August Dietz, of Richmond, will be very glad to hear from you. He has spent a lifetime looking for these "original plates".

If you can prove the statement on page 83, (par.1) "The chances of the collector picking up really unquestionable Confederate materials are remote enough to make it hardly worthwhile a consideration for sound investment," I think that Mr.Stanley Ashbrook, President of the Confederate Stamp Alliance, would be glad to hear from you. His collection is valued at an impressive figure.

I think such auctioneers as Robert Laurence, John A.Fox, and others, would be interested in knowing that their Confederate auction material, which frequently brings in thousands of dollars in individual sales, is bogus -- if you can prove it.

I have a reference collection of 80 varieties of "funny" "Confederates", and other serious collectors probably have larger collections of them. These have been thoroughly exposed by Mr.Dietz and other legitimate writers. They are so crude that only a buyer of Soviet "imperforate errors", (at $200 per copy), or San Marino "air mails", or uranium "stocks", would be foolish enough to buy them.

In view of your sincere concern for the welfare of the philatelic fraternity I am sure you do not wish to knowingly sell your customers information as allegedly phony as the stamps it pretends to describe. You will no doubt wish to send, to all persons who have bought this book from you, a reprint of Max Ohlman's modification. A copy of it is enclosed for your guidance.

Sincerely,

A NOTE

REGARDING THE CHAPTER AND OTHER REFERENCES TO CONFEDERATES in the book WHAT PRICE PHILATELY, by C.Ellis Milbury

---

A group of well-known students of Confederate stamps, covers and postal history has strongly objected to much of the contents of the chapter entitled "The Old Confederate Racket" in this book (page 82) and to certain misleading statements and opinions therein which are repeated elsewhere in the book. While conceding that numerous and dangerous counterfeit and fake Confederate stamps and covers exist, it is pointed out that every known one has been given full publicity; that they are illustrated and described in many well-known reference works; that doubtful examples may be submitted to the examiners of the national philatelic societies and to many specialists and experts, and that the collector of today has only himself to blame is he does not turn to these now readily available sources of information before committing himself to the expenditure of any substantial sum. The statement is made that the "chances of the collector picking up really unquestionable Confederate Materials (sic) are remote enough to make it hardly worthwhile a consideration for sound investment! That statement is considered to be entirely untrue by the steadily growing number of collectors who have found it no more difficult to acquire genuine Confederates than any of the other old "classics", and who have found them to be a very sound investment indeed. The many references to "actual original plates" being in the hands of improper persons today, are wholly erroneous as it is pointed out that not a single original Confederate "plate" is known to be in existence today.

There are many other statements which appear to be unsupportable by evidence and the entire tone of the chapter is such as to cast an unfavorable and unfair light on Confederate collecting. This is deemed unfortunate, as the object of the author was doubtless excellent, and proper checking and reference to the authorities in this field prior to publication would have quickly produced the truths of the situation and eliminated the many harmful and careless untruths which now appear therein.

The information in this "Note" has been supplied by one of the group of Confederate students referred to above, and is published here in the thought that readers of WHAT PRICE PHILATELY should be aware thereof.

OHLMAN GALLERIES

M.Ohlman, Proprietor

March 1947.

THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

PHILADELPHIA 1

September 20, 1949.

In our paper of April 9, 1947 we carried a story of the sentence of Charles E.Milbury, the last story we carried on the subject. On February 25 of that year, we carried a story indicating that Charles E.Milbury was found guilty in a conspiracy to defraud the Government of war ship-repairing contracts from February through June 1944.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) E.Gaynor
Editor
"WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?" COLUMN

enclosed without comment

Oct. 3, 1949.

Mr. Thomas Parks,
3556 - 79th St.,
Jackson Heights, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Parks:

Kindly pardon the delay in replying to yours of the 26th which I have read with much interest. I also have a copy of MacBride's letter to you of the 26th, which he was kind enough to send me.

I have never seen a copy of the book, "What Price Philately" but I recall that MacBride wrote me about it when the book first appeared. It is most unfortunate that publishers and editors go ahead and publish books and articles by sensation seeking writers with little, if any, actual knowledge of philately. As far as George Linn is concerned I think that George is "nuts" - probably in his dotage. I have known him personally for some 32 years, as I first met him in Cincinnati in 1917 at a party given by the old Cincinnati Philatelic Society. I am a subscriber to his weekly publication and occasionally read his editorials. Some are so silly that I think they are proof positive that George is "nuts."

In this vocation that we call philately, we have, and we have always had, a lot of "nuts" - "crackpots" - "fly-by-nights" and down right crooks, fakers, and morons. I suppose that pests of that description will always infest our beloved philately. One can waste a lot of time arguing with such people and one can spend a lot of time trying to undo the harm that they accomplish.

I believe that if anyone who had an inclination to collect the stamps of the Lost Cause and was influenced otherwise by reading the Milbury book, or George Linn's editorials, that they would surely possess so small amount of brains that there desertion would never be of any importance.

On rare occasions I am in accord with views expressed by George Linn. For example, a recent reference that he made to the A.P.S., quote:

"Let it be understood that we have been a member of the APS for nearly fifty years and we have seen but few worthwhile accomplishments."

To my mind that is stating the case very mildly.

With kindest regards - Cordially yours,

Copy to
Van Dyk MacBride.

Leo J. Shaughnessy

~~201 Rosebud Ave.~~

~~CORPUS CHRISTI~~, TEXAS
PLEASANTON"

Sept. 25, 1949.

Dear Stanley;

Tracy Simpson has asked that I work up a record of three cent 1851 first day covers to appear in the Chronicle of the Unit.

Owners of first day covers of which I have record are;

1 - Tracy W. Simpson.
2 - Roscoe C. Burleigh.
3 - Edgar B Jessop.
4 - A.R. Rowell.
5 - C.A. Weiant.
6 - Hr. Gerald B Smith.
7 - Willard C Davis.
8 - Wm J. Aull.
9 - Heyliger de Windt.
10 - Leo J. Shaughnessy.

Doubtless Doctor Chase has one or more.

On page 171 Vol. 1 of your work on the one cent 1851-57 stamps there is illustrated a first day cover which is not included on my list. Can you furnish me information as to its present owner?

Was there a first day cover in the Richey collection?

I shall be pleased to learn of any others.

In case the present owners of any of the covers prefer to remain unknown I can list them as "Collector A", "Collector B" etc.

With best wishes from Boadie and me, Sincerely, Leo J. Shaughnessy.

Oct. 3, 1949.

Mr. Leo J. Shaughnessy,
Pleasanton, Texas.

Dear Leo:

In reply to yours of the 25th. Phil Ward wrote me recently requesting some data on July 1, 1851 uses of the 1¢ and 3¢ 1851 for use in his Mekeel's column. In reply, I informed him that there were probably a dozen 3¢ covers in collections thruout the country. I did not give him any further data. No doubt he will have something on the subject at an early date.

The following is from the data in my files and you have my permission to use it in any manner that you desire. In all probability there is some duplication.

(1) Chase - I illustrated this in my One Cent Book. I don't know where the cover is today. It was from Boston to Wheeling, Va. Stamp in upper left corner.

(2) Richey - I sold this for him but I cannot recall to whom I sold it. — Richey To Krug To Putnam

(3) Tracy W. Simpson - This was listed originally in my records as belonging to W. J. Stauton - "From Cincinnati 3 PAID"

(4) Mrs. H. de Windt - no description.
(5) Leo J. Shaughnessy - From Hartford, Ct. (see #7)
(6) G.L.Habbert - Reported to me. From the description that I have I think this cover is questionable.

(7) Wm. J. Aull - From Hartford, Conn. with a copy of 31L1E - Probably same cover as No. 5.

(8) Edgar B. Jessup - From New York City, to Peace Dale, R.I. This was Lot 103 in a Kelleher sale of Jan. 30, 1943.

(9) Wm. J. Aull - From Philadelphia - a circular letter dated July 1, 1851.

(10) Wm. West - This was in the West Sale - in 1943 - Lot 344 - Philadelphia to Elkton, Md.

(11) A.R.Davis - From Grafton, Ill. on June 19, 1851 to New Bedford Mass. - Forwarded on July 1st to Boston - has a 3¢ 1851 O.B. pen canceled but not tied.

(12) G.E.McCabe - of Troy Pa. - This from Chicago - He reported

this in 1944 - In Aug. 1947 he advised that he had sold it some years previously thru Sy Colby - Perhaps Colby can tell you where it is today.

(13) M.L. Neinken - From Philadelphia to Whitinsville, Mass. (Ex-Cabeen)

(14) Voorhees Sale - Aug. 12, 1924 - I don't know who owns this one at present but the stamp was described "with center line at left, and is beautifully cancelled and tied to cover with 19 bars in large circle in red, also red dated postmark on cover."

(14A) Sloane Sale - of the McLaren collection. Jan. 10, 1929 -Lot 92 - A cover described as - sheet at left with guide line with rare red grid from "So. Wilbraham, Mass. to Whitesville, Miss. This is surely the cover that was in the Voorhees sale.

(15) Costales Sale - 2/10/47 - From ? to ? Stamp was described as having a small marginal tear affixed by wafer and tied by black grid.

Regarding the above list, no doubt your cover is the same one listed as No. 7. Also note Chase Book (original) page 37 where he listed July 1, 1851 covers from Baltimore, Boston (2) Chicago, Hartford, Lowell, Mass., Mobile, Philadelphia, South Wilbraham, Mass. and Probably from Cumberland, Md.

If you can find the time I think that it would be nice to check with all those on your list and also those on my list, in an endeavor to eliminate duplication and to obtain a description of each cover.

I was up in the Detroit area last weekend and I was shown a letter from you to either Harold Stark or Don MacGregor - I do not recall which one. It was in reference to the earliest use known of a 3¢ 1851 from California to the East. As I recall, you stated that the earliest use known to you was January 1852. I am sure that you will be pleased to learn that three or four 3¢ 1851 covers are known showing uses from San Francisco on Oct. 1, 1851. I also have a record (and photograph) of a cover with a strip of six of the 1¢ 1851 used from S.F. on the same date.

With best wishes from the Ashbrooks to the Shaughnessys., I am

Cordially yours,

June 5, 1979

Dear Mr. Ashbrook:

I finally got around to re-writing my article re weights. I enclose original of same to which you are welcome if you wish to put it in your reference file as I am not going to do anything about publishing it.

I enclose 2 covers, thinking you might be able to help me out.

Do you know what city used the 20 3/4 H.S. Ship Rate? It could be a "Philadelphia" marking applied after receiving bulk mail from some other port: (I believe this was done frequently). It couldn't have been N.Y. which would only call for a 14½¢ rate. Boston used a circled (203) of which I have an example in red. I don't think they used any blue ink there anyway. Nor could I find anything in the Stampless Cover Catalog.

On the other cover with SHIP 34 it's the Rate that gets me. I imagine it could have landed at New Orleans but why 34¢ to N.Y. Oddly enough this falls into the "Reprisal Act" period but somehow it doesn't seem to fit in there very well. Reprisals were primarily against Prepaid British Mail. I have several of the 29¢ covers from N.Y. & Boston, other Rates I understand were 24¢ delivered in Port and 34¢ for long distances. By the way, if you keep any records of these Reprisal Covers, I have one used

in December 1878 which is pretty late though personally I believe January covers should exist. The Treaty was ratified Jan. 26, 1879 and the new treaty rates were probably allowed soon after even though the effective date was July 1, 1879. I have never been able to find out just when the Reprisal period ended and the Provisional period started.

I will appreciate hearing from you.

Sincerely yours

Eugene Jaeger

37 Sumner Ave.
Edgewood 5, R. I.

June 8, 1949.

Mr. Eugene Jaeger,
34 Sumner Ave.,
Edgewood 5, R. I.

Dear Mr. Jaeger:

Yours of the 5th received and I wish to thank you for the copy of your article. I will place this in my files for future reference and if I develope any evidence, one way or the other, I will advise you. Inasmuch as we have so little at present I think it is best not to publish the article and raise the question.

Herewith your two covers. First regarding the "20$\frac{8}{4}$". I never saw this marking before and I have no idea where it was applied. The letter is routed "Per Steamer" with one shilling paid in England, both indicating the letter was carried by a Cunard ship - British Packet. In 1845, the Line ended at Boston - and the rate of "20$\frac{8}{4}$" from Boston to Philadelphia would be O.K. (18$\frac{8}{4}$ plus 2). I doubt if Boston ever used a blue in 1845, but such could have been possible for a short space of time.

The Boston crowd are preparing a book on Boston postal markings so I am taking the liberty of sending this cover to my good friend Maurice C. Blake of Brookline, with the request that he forward it to you.

The cover shows that it was placed in the regular mail in London, so it would hardly have been sent by private ship. Boston used a circular postmark with "Ship" and date on Cunard mail at this period so it seems rather improbable that this marking was applied there.

Re - the "34." This was evidently a "retaliatory rate" cover - by British ship into New Orleans. For example, 24¢ plus U. S. postage of 10¢. Had this been carried into N.O. by an American Packet or any other foreign ship the rate would have been 10¢ plus 2¢.

The U.S.-British treaty was signed first at London on Dec. 15, 1848. After that date, U. S. Mail into Britain was treated in accordance with the treaty. As soon as word reached America that the treaty had been signed the retaliabory rate was discontinued in this country. I judge that was about Jan. 1, 1849. I have seen incoming letters (to the U.S.) rated as "ship

letters" very early in January. You are wrong about the treaty rates going into effect on July 1, 1849. That error has been repeated over and over. I wonder who started it. The fact is the treaty went into effect about the middle of February. I have February covers showing."Ship" rating and within a few days - the new treaty ratings.

Again re - your cover. If a letter was carried into an American port by a British ship did it make any difference whether it had previously been paid or not? I do not recall any provision whereby the Retaliatory Rate applied only to prepaid British Mail.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Enclosed:
"Ship" - "34" - from Jalapa (Mexico ?
(or Guatamala?

P.S.--Since writing the above I find that I have records of two retaliatory covers into New Orleans with this same "Ship" and "34." Both have N.O. postmarks. One from Havana, the other from Vera Cruz. Both show prepaid British packet markings.

S.B.A.

June 8, 1949.

Mr. Maurice C. Blake,
11 Mason St.,
Brookline, Mass.

Dear Mr. Blake:

I am enclosing herewith a cover that belongs to Mr. Eugene Jaeger of Edgewood, R.I. After you examine it will you be so kind as to forward it to Mr. Jaeger in the enclosed stamped envelope.

I am sending it to you for this reason - Could this "20$\frac{3}{4}$" be a Boston marking? Of course, I never saw the use of blue at Boston or a Boston ship letter rated without a postmark (on mail from England).

This cover originated at London and was placed in the regular mail and paid a shilling. Hence it must have been sent by Cunard ship and the Cunard Line's terminus in 1845 was Boston. To Phila from Boston, the rate of 20$\frac{3}{4}$ would have been correct. What is your guess? Perhaps the ship put into a Maine port and it was sent from there - due to bad weather in March - I never saw this "20$\frac{3}{4}$" before.

I don't recall the distance from Portland, Maine to Philadelphia. Perhaps over 400 miles?

With regards -

Sincerely yours,

A study of weights as they affect rates of mail between the U. S. and FRANCE during the Pre-Treaty and more especially during the Treaty Period beginning April 1, 1857

By Eugene Jaeger

The Pre-Treaty weight basis for single rate letters was 1/2 oz. in the U. S. and 7½ grammes in France.

The Treaty of 1857 established new and complete rates as follows: "80 centimes per 7½ grammes in France and 15 cents per 1/4 oz. in the U. S." and fixed the permanent rate of exchange at which accounts were to be periodically settled at 5 Francs 30 centimes for the U. S. Dollar.

At this rate 1 Franc equalled 18.868 cents and 80 centimes equalled 15.09 cents.

However, in the matter of weight comparison we are confronted with an inequality which was decidedly to the disadvantage of mailers in the U. S.

Inasmuch as:

1 oz. = 28.35 grammes
1/4 " = 7.09 "
0.265 " = 7½ "

a double rate letter from the U. S., weighing slightly over 1/4 oz. would still be a single rate in France and a full or nearly full 7½ gr. single rate from France would be a double rate in the U. S.

Interpreted in terms of money this weight discrepancy meant a loss to U. S. mailers of only about 3/4¢ providing the letter was kept within the single rate limit. But on all letters weighing over 1/4 oz.(7.09 gr.) and up to 0.265 ozs.(7½ gr.) the rate became double and the loss increased to 15¢ per letter. There is no doubt that many letters fell in this weight class and that the loss to U. S. mailers over a period of 12 to 13 years must have been quite substantial.

Probably only a few people were aware of this injustice and it must be distinctly understood that it held true only on "Prepaid Mail".

On "Unpaid Mail" the situation was reversed and to the disadvantage of the addressee in France. If an unpaid letter from the U. S. weighed a little over 1/4 oz., let us say 7-1/4 gr. it immediately became a double rate letter in the U. S., marked 30 in black which meant 16 decimes (1Fr.60c) were due and payable by the addressee in France.

It is the purpose of this study to prove, or, if this is not possible, at least present the idea that if the American Public was unaware of being short changed in weight or thought it useless to object, not so the French.

The addressee in France paid 1 Fr.60c for a letter weighing only 7-1/4 gr. This may have happened before and could happen again. True, the letter was mailed and rated in the U. S. and therefore subject to the ounze standard. Yet, postage was paid in France in french money and the weight limit there for the single rate was 7½ gr.

There is the chance that complaints were received and that a ruling was made by the French P. O. Dept. that on all letters of this kind only the single rate of 80 centimes was to be collected.

Following is a description of a cover showing that this reduction from double to single rate was actually made whether through error or intentionally is a point that can only be decided by further evidence.

Cover #1 is a treaty subject originating in New Orleans, La. July 7, 1858 addressed to Nantes, France, unpaid. It passed through the Boston Exchange Office and bears the circular Boston 6 (2x3¢) Debit against France as well as a 30 clearly indicating a U. S. double rate. The Calais entry marking shows British Packet service which means the letter went at French Expense, leaving the U. S. only its Domestic Fee of 3¢ per 1/4 oz. as correctly debited by Boston. Yet, upon receipt, the French Exchange Office marked it with the well known large figure 8 (decimes), the single rate, to be collected from the addressee. All markings are in black.

As only a small percentage of the mail was sent "unpaid" it is doubtful whether many letters are now in existence showing this combination of double and single rates of the Treaty period. Perhaps only the most clear cut cases were treated in this manner because France stood to lose, if not 80 centimes, at least the extra 3¢ U. S. Debit.

This brings up a most interesting angle. Suppose the letter had come at U. S. Expense direct to France then the double rate U. S. Debit would have been 24¢(2x12) or 1 Fr.28c in which case France would have lost 48 centimes.

The point has been raised that this change from double to single rate would have thrown the Debit & Credit accounts of the two nations out of balance. Only if the actual Debit marking on the letter was changed would this be true. If, for instance, the Boston 6 Debit had been reduced to 3, then surely the accounts would not balance. But if France chose to collect only 8 decimes instead of 16 that would be her loss but would in no way affect the accounts.

Such a loss would easily be offset by letters franked with insufficient postage which latter, according to regulations, was entirely disregarded, the letter becoming an unpaid subject with full postage collected from addressee. This, of course, has no connection with the subject under discussion but is mentioned to show that gains could be made which did not affect the books.

As before stated, only further evidence in the form of unpaid covers of the Treaty period showing a combination of double U. S. and French single rate will prove the theory advanced.

The entire situation in reverse is also possible. It would mean that on unpaid single rate letters from France the U. S. would have to collect the double rate providing the letter weighed over 1/4 oz. It is extremely doubtful that this was ever done as the U. S. Exchange Office would have to check every letter arriving from France.

The whole matter is a complicated and delicate problem and raises the question of which country had jurisdiction over unpaid mail. Even if the sending country had to use its standard of weight the postage was actually paid in the receiving country.

Exactly what part this weight discrepancy played in the Pre-Treaty period is shown in the following description of: Cover #2. This was mailed from LeHavre Dec.10,1856 via Paris @ Calais Dec.11 by "N.Y.Brit.Pkt.Dec28" to New York. Therefore, prepayment of the french portion of the postage as far as U.S.Port was compulsory and in this case was at the usual rate of 13 decimes or 1 Fr.30c per 7½ grammes. France rated it Quintuple or 6 Fr.50c which amount was prepaid by 8-80c and 1-10c imperforate Napoleon stamps. Upon arrival in N. Y. it was marked with a black 20 indicating that 4 x 5¢ per 1/2 oz., the Quadruple rate, was to be collected from addressee to pay for the U. S. portion of the postage.

If 7½ grammes exactly equalled 1/4 oz., a Quintuple French and Quadruple U. S. rate for the same letter are out of proportion. No matter how close the maximum and minimum weight allowance is figured there would always be this fractional difference:

4 x 1/2 oz. = 2.00 ozs.	or at least	1.51 ozs.	minimum
5 x 1/4 " = 1.25 "	or no more than	1.49 "	maximum
	Difference	0.02 "	

However, using the correct and established grammes and ounze equivalents we get the following picture:

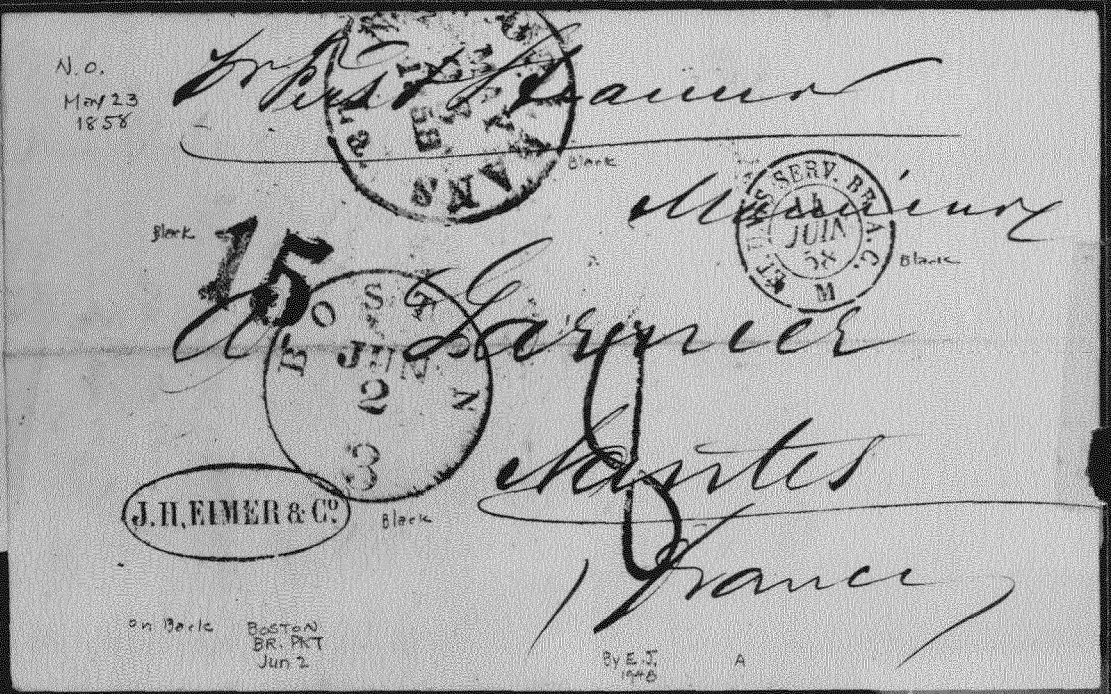
5x7½ gr.= 37½gr.or 44.9 gr.max.@ 0.03527 = 1.58 ozs. which is well above the 1.51 oz. U. S. minimum for the Quadruple rate and therefore makes the French Quintuple and U. S. Quadruple ratings absolutely correct and in agreement.

Ounzes	Grammes	
0.25	7.09	
0.265	7.50	1
0.27	7.65	
0.50 1	14.18	
0.53	15.00	2
0.54	15.31	
0.75	21.26	
0.794	22.50	3
0.80	22.68	
1.00 2	28.35	
1.06	30.00	4
1.07	30.33	
1.25	35.44	
1.323	37.50	5
1.33	37.70	
1.50 3	42.53	
1.588	45.00	6
1.60	45.36	
1.75	49.61	
1.852	52.50	7
1.86	52.73	
2.00 4	56.70	
2.117	60.00	8
2.13	60.39	

Note for instance a U.S. Double letter may show a French Dse of double, triple or quadruple.

or

42 ≠ { 16 dec.
24 "
32 "


N. O.
May 23
1858
Black
Black
Black
J. H. EIMER & Co
Black
on Back
BOSTON
BR. PKT
Jun 2
By E. J.
1948
A

No.
July
7
1858
J.H.EIMER & Co
PAID
NEW YORK
JUL 7
6
PAID
ANGLO AMERICAN
26
JUL
58
Marseilles
Havre
All
Black

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION
22 EAST 35TH STREET
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

MURRAY HILL 3-5667

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MALCOLM JOHNSON

HARRY L. LINDQUIST

SAUL NEWBURY

A. H. WILHELM

June 2, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 North Ft. Thomas Avenue
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Enclosed are items #1800,1817, 1819, 1820, 1821, 1832 and 1837 on which the Committee would like to have your valued opinion. Furthermore, I think you will find them of considerable interest. I hope we can have these back within ten days.

Many thanks for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION

Winthrop S. Boggs
Director

wsb/l

June 5, 1949.

The Philatelic Foundation,
22 East 35th St.,
New York 16, N.Y.

Attention: Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs

Dear Win:

As per yours of the 2nd I am returning herewith items Nos. 1800, 1817, 1819, 1820, 1821, 1832 and 1837. Several of these were rather interesting.

I also wish to acknowledge receipt of yours of the 2nd returning the two Danville covers together with the papers. I feel confident that the Committee made an exhaustive study of these two items and that their findings are no doubt correct.

With kindest regards -

Sincerely yours,

1867
LIVERPOOL
SHIP LETTER
FEB 6 67
A
Red
MANCHESTER
FEB 7
Black
James Stewart Esq
W. S.
No 17 India Street
Edinburgh
Scotland
NEW YORK AM. PKT.
FEB 2
2 PM
Red
Magenta
Per Steamer from New York
Liverpool 6 Febry 1867
By P.F. No 1817 - June 6 1949
4x24 = Am Pk Cr Is 4x3
Cover Is Genuine

#1800 - Rate Was 30¢ Probably Prepaid With 15¢

90¢ Did Not Originate - By P.F. Expert Committee - 6/5 - 49

MATTHEW E. HAZELTINE, M. D.
W. SCOTT POLLAND, M. D.
HOWARD HAMMOND JR., M. D.
ARNOLD A. NUTTING, M. D.
GRACE DICKSON KLEISER, M. D.
ALBERT BUILDING
SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA
TELEPHONE SAN RAFAEL 6120

Oct 18, 1949

Dear Mr Ashbrook:

Enclosed are some Western covers; I would appreciate your opinion in regard to the following points.

I Georgetown May 31, 1861. Is it the use of the 24¢ from California very rare? Is the rate to ~~Europe~~ Denmark correct?

II Carson City Nev T. Is it a registered letter from this area very rare? Is this type of New York unusual? Is the rate correct?

III J P WHARTON'S. According to Wilcox etc, also collectors in this area, this Western frank is extremely rare. However, I am particularly interested in the 15¢ rate to Germany. Is this correct?

IV WHITING - GIBSONVILLE. Same correspondence as III. All Whitings are said to be very rare. What about the 31¢ rate to Germany?

V Same type of Whiting from La Porte and same correspondence. What about 35¢ rate.

I would appreciate your comments on these covers. I realize their condition is not perfect but I think they are all very rare and interesting.

You have been very kind in not billing me for your services, but believe me I would feel

MATTHEW E. HAZELTINE, M. D.
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SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA
TELEPHONE SAN RAFAEL 6120

Feel in asking your opinion if You would charge me for the same.

Sincerely yours,
W Scott Polland.

Oct. 22, 1949.

Dr. W. Scott Polland,
Albert Bldg.,
San Rafael, Calif.

Dear Doctor:

I am in receipt of yours of the 18th with the five (5) covers which I am returning herewith. Here are some comments:

No. 1 - The rate from the Eastern States to Denmark "Via Prussian Closed Mail" was 35¢ in 1861, but 5¢ was to be added if the letter was from California. This cover appears to be genuine, hence I assume that it "got by" - that is went thru at the Eastern rate - the "Paid 35" appears genuine and the "12" is the correct credit (7¢ plus 5¢). The 1¢ stamp is a Type I from Plate 12 and stamps from this plate were not issued until January 1861 so the date of use is correct for this stamp. See my One Cent Book, Vol. 2, page 343 - Fig. 56DD. You are probably aware that while the rate at this time was 24¢ to England from the Eastern States it was 29¢ from the Pacific Coast. There is no question but what the 24¢ 1860 is very rare used on covers from the Pacific Coast. This also applies to the 1¢ 1857 Type I.

No. 2 - This is a most unusual cover, viz., from Carson City, Nev. T. Feb. 27 - 1863. (a) Nevada Territorial to Germany (b) Registered (c) territorial use of the 5¢ Red Brown - The Red Brown is rather scarce on cover, therefore, a territorial use is quite exceptional. This cover shows the West Coast rate of 35¢ "Via Prussian Closed Mail" - From the East - the rate was 30¢. The 35¢ did not include the registration fee, as the fee was payable in cash. Inasmuch asthis letter went thru the Registration Division of the New York Post Office I judge the New York marking was used there. It is indeed most uncommon- The RECOMANDIRT is the German for registered.

No. 3 - Thru New York on Aug. 22, 1863. I am not a student on Western Franks but I am sure that Ed Jessup would be glad to comment on this feature of this cover. The rate is correct - that is 15¢ by "Direct Steamer to Hamburg" - the rate to Hamburg "direct" (from New York) was 10¢. To points in Germany beyond Hamburg it was 15¢. The "10" credit on a 15¢ rate is correct.

No. 4 - From Gibsonville, Calif. in April 1864. After July 1, 1863 the rate to Germany via Prussian Closed Mail was the same as from the East Coast. The correct rate at that period was 28¢ prepaid or 30¢ unpaid. I have no idea why 31¢ was paid on this letter. You will note the credit was 7¢ and this would have been the correct credit even if only 28¢ had been paid.

#2. Dr. W. Scott Polland, Oct. 22, 1949.

No. 5 - From La Porte in February 1864. Via Hamburg Packet. The New York marking indicates that the rate was 15¢ which raises the question - did someone substitute the 30¢ stamp for a 10¢ stamp. Even if the sender intended this to go "Via Prussian Closed Mail" and prepaid it as such, the rate would not have been 35¢ but 28¢ prepaid or 30¢ unpaid.

I do want you to feel free to call upon me whenever you think I can be of some assistance, therefore, if you desire you can send me a check for $5.00.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

Black Star

Via Panama Steamer.

Red

AACHEN & CO
FRANCO

Paid 35

Red

Red 12

No. 1
By Dr W.S.P.
10/18-49

GEORGETOWN
31
1861
Cal.

Black

RARITY

Registered
Red
Violet Brown?
Herrn Fritz Rathke
Red
Red
Nassau Germania
No 2
By
Dr
W.S.P.
Red
Brown
Blue
1863

J. P. WHART
EXPRE
PAID.
Mr Johann Burchen
Kaakhausen Post Uterholz
via Bremen
Germany
Black
Red
No 3
By
Dr W.S.P.
10/12 - 19

Brown

Paid 3½

Red

Mrs. Anna M.

AACHEN

Red

1864
on
Back

930-

No. A

SONOMA
CAL.
13
Cal.

Black

By Dr W.S.P
10/18-49

via Bremen

Germany

PAID
7

Red

PAID
Whiting & Co's
FEATHER RIVER
EXPRESS.

Black

Paid

11.50

Mr Johann Kuroken

Waarhagisen

Ems Ostfriesland

Via Bremen

Germany

No. 5
By Dr W. S. Polland
10/18-49

LA PORTE
FEB
4
1864
CAL

1864
GRAY

Red

JOHN A. FOX

116 NASSAU STREET
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

BEEKMAN 3-5443

STAMPS
COVERS
ACCESSORIES

RETAIL
WHOLESALE
AUCTIONS

October 19th, 1949

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Stan:

I am submitting for your inspection a 30¢ '69 on cover. This comes from a man who had the stamps off cover and placed them back on the cover but did not do a good job. I would like you to examine this cover carefully and let me know if, in your opinion, it is genuine. However, I do not want you to do this for nothing and wish you would submit a bill. I want to purchase the cover but do not wish to do so unless it is absolutely genuine.

Trusting that all is well with you, with kind personal regards,

Sincerely,

JOHN A. FOX

JAF:ff

Oct. 22, 1949.

Mr. John A. Fox,
116 Nassau St.,
New York 7, N.Y.

Dear John:

Re - the 30¢ 1869 cover - Here are some comments - The official rate to Portugal as of Jan. 1, 1870 was as follows:

Via England
Per ¼ ounce 22¢
" ½ ounce 34¢

You will note that this cover was forwarded Via England and the date was "Washington May 13 - 1870." I think that the year use was undoubtedly 1870 because I fail to find any evidence that the "70" in the London marking has been changed or that the "1870" in the Lisbon marking on the back has been altered. I mention this because in faking covers with 1869 stamps the year dates are almost invariably changed. For example from "76" to "70" etc. In my opinion the "48" in red pencil on the face was not the entire rate, but rather our credit to England. As far as I am aware there was no such a thing as a rate of 48¢ (as shown on this cover) to Portugal "Via England," or for that matter by any other route (German or French mail for example). If the credit of 48 is genuine then the question arises what was the whole rate to correspond to such a credit.

Rate tables sometimes fail to give ¼ ounce figures and almost invariably, the rates above ½ ounce such as ¾ oz. for example.

Early in the spring of 1870 the British cut their packet rate to certain destinations by 3 pence or U.S. 6¢. This reduced the above 34¢ half ounce rate to 28¢. Incidentally the rate to Spain was the same as to Portugal.

Our share on a 28¢ rate was 24¢, hence it would appear that a credit of 48¢ indicated a whole rate of 56¢. If the original rate was 56¢ one wonders what happend to this cover.

I am enclosing herewith a photograph of a cover showing the 28¢ per half ounce rate to Spain in August 1870 with a hand-stamped credit of "24"¢. I have records of similar covers of the period - for example in late March, April and June (1870) - all show the 28¢ rate "Via England" and credits of 24¢. My guess is that the original rate was 56¢ (2 x 28) with a credit of 48¢ (2 x 24) and

that some stamps are missing. Whether or not the present stamps originated on the cover, well John, your guess is as good as mine. It is quite a common practice to remove Bank Notes and substitute 1869 stamps and believe me, some substitutions almost defy detection. I am wondering if some stamps are not missing from the middle left portion of the cover.

John be careful in sealing those new hawvy envelopes of yours as your letter and this cover arrived with the flap unsealed and some dishonest clerk could have removed the 30¢ cover.

Under separate cover I am sending you a mimeo list of the covers that I have on hand at this writing from the Emmerson C. Krug collection. This just by chance that you might spot an item you could use.

No fee on the above.

My best wishes -

Cordially yours,

PENNYPACKER 5-3237

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.
1616 WALNUT STREET
PHILADELPHIA 3

May 31, 1951

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Your letter of the 28th is indeed interesting and I have had to smile at the so-called experts from the Foundation who signed the query. I wonder who the other people happen to be. Instead of having them take the trouble of reversing their decision on the Knapp cover I would rather see them retire from business for I do not believe we have ever had a Committee with such a small amount of knowledge.

You undoubtedly have the plate for the photograph that you so kindly submit, hence I am handing you a dollar to cover. If this is not the case and you want the photograph back, do not hesitate to say so. I would like to add this to my bunch of clippings and letters and the like in regards to the Foundation.

I know nothing at all about Abt other than having met him once. I have sold him a few dollars worth of covers but, of course, he unfortunately has little capital so does not buy the scarcer pieces. Not being especially interested in locals I could not give an opinion on his writings. Whether you like a man or not I would never come out in print and call him a liar or try and give the public the impression that he is a crook.

In further reference to the 1869 cover, it looks as if the cork cancellations on the 6¢ and 12¢ differ from the cancellation on the 30¢. I am not aware as to the Portuguese rates but recall that the cover from the Gibson collection, showing a 24¢ and 10¢ used to Spain and which I acquired for my collection, has your okay. I am taking a guess that the rates to Portugal and Spain may have been similar, that my 34¢ rate covered a double letter to Spain whereas the 18¢ on the Lisbon letter showed a cent overpayment. This could readily happen when the writer of the letter had a 6¢ stamp along with a 12¢ rather than a 2¢ and 3¢. Boy oh boy! How I wish you would put some of your notes into book form and privately print it so we could have something in the way of a check list. For instance, if we had a cover addressed to China we could turn to your pages on China and tell what the prevailing rates were for the early periods. I realize such a list would help a faker but if this was prepared privately and paid for by about 25 individuals I think you could tie up the list in a way that it would not come up on the market for many years.

Sincerely yours,

Phil

PHILIP H. WARD, JR.

enc.

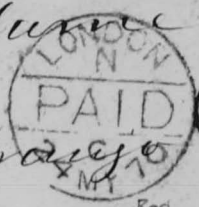
Black

Black

Portugal

Madame

Mme de Araujo



Red

Red

Black

Lisbonne

85 Rua da Madre de Deos

By John Fox For An Opinion - Oct. 22 1949 - See Scrap Book # 15. P. 40 For Letter - Red "48" Indicates CR of 2X24 - Original Rate Was 2X28¢ - Were Stamps Removed From Left Middle End ? Did These Stamps Originate ? LISBON P.M. On BACK 1870

Nov. 7, 1949.

Dr. W. Scott Polland,
Albert Bldg.,
San Rafael, Calif.

Dear Doctor:

Herewith I am returning the lot of "Wheaton covers" as per yours of the 2nd. These are an exceedingly fine lot and it is perfectly remarkable how well they have been preserved thru all the years. Many of the stamps are as fresh as if they had been used in recent years. Here are some comments:

(1) Imprint cover. The stamp is attached by a wafer and I think that it should be carefully removed - and the wafer eliminated - I also believe it would be well to show the entire right sheet as this is an enormous copy and all should be shown. This is only the second copy that I have ever seen of 70R1 with part of the imprint, and the other copy was cut into at the bottom. It is possible that this copy is the finest one in existence.

(2) Type I - This is 91R1 and I have signed it on back. Erase if you do not want signature.

(3) Center Line, 60L1
(4) " " 51R1

(5) New York - stampless - New York May 13 - This unusual sailing date was May 13, 1853 and this letter was carried to Panama by the mail ship "El Dorado." For example, the following advertisement appeared in the New York Herald on May 1, 1853, quote:

"WEEKLY LINE FOR CALIFORNIA
United States Mail S.S. Co., connecting with the Pacific Mail S.S. Co. carrying the U. S. Mail for California and Oregon via Aspinwall and Panama; also a semi-monthly line between New York, Havana and New Orleans, sailing at 2 P.M. from Warren St. Pier, North River. The U.S.M.S.S.Co. intend to dispatch direct to Aspinwall during the month of May, the following steamers -

May 5 - S.S.Georgia
" 13 - S.S.Eldorado
" 20 - S.S.Illinois
" 28 - S.S.Crescent City.

Connecting at Panama with the Pac. M.S.S.Co. Through tickets, excepting crossing the Isthmus can always be obtained at lowest rate, on application at 177 West Street to C.A.Whitney." (end of quote).

The following news item appeared in the New York Herald on May 9, 1853, quote:

. Dr. W. Scott Polland, Nov. 7, 1949.

"Arrival of the El Dorado
his steamship arrived at this port yesterday from Aspinwall with dvices from San Francisco to the 9th April. The first return of he weekly line. The Columbus was the steamer that brought the mails down on the Pacific side. The El Dorado brought passengers and 50 thousand dollars in freight. The steamer of the 16th from San Francisco, the Northerner would bring a large amount of gold dust and passengers." (end)

As you are doubtless aware a weekly service was attempted in the spring of 1853 but it was soon abandoned.

(6) "Due 4" - The S.S.Illinois sailed on Dec. 5, 1856, so this letter probably was held over until the Dec. 20th sailing. One wonders why it was short-paid.

(7) Nice White Plains, N.Y.
(8) Also " " "

(9) Ocean Mail Oct. 22, 1860. Oct. 21 in 1860 fell on Sunday. Date reversed - quite nice.

(10) - 1¢ 1857 is Type II - Plate 2 - This is apparently Nov. 5, 1857 and mailed at Milford. One wonders if it caught the Mail Ship at New York?

(11) Ocean Mail Apr. 20, 1858. Rather late use in the East of a 1¢ 1851, Type IV.

(12) Milford Nov. 4, 1858. The 1¢ 1857 is a IIIA from Plate 4.
(13) 10¢ single - Type II
(14) O.M. Oct. 11, 1860
(15) Routed "Per Overland Mail - via St. Louis" - I have seen very few covers routed from East to West by the Butterfield Route. It is possible that they may not be rare and that I have not run into many. Further I do not recall that I ever saw this large grid used at New York before. 10¢ Type V - top row copy shows two pearls at right.

(16) Type V - big copy - also from top row of plate.
(17) Also, Overland - Apr. 22, 1860.
(18) Sep. 21, 1860
(19) O.M. of Oct. 1, 1860 - nice cover.
(20) O.M. Nov. 21, 1860 - nice.
(21) O.M. Oct. 1, 1860.

I enjoyed going over these covers and again I thank you for the privilege, of seeing them.

Here is hoping that the lady who turned up this correspondence will bring in a few Ponies or something very unusual.

With kindest regards -

Cordially yours,

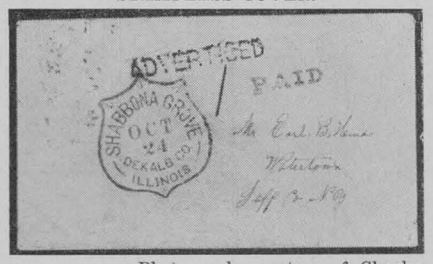
CLASSIC POSTAL MARKINGS

Shabbona Grove, Ill.

By
FREDERICK
LLOYD
SCHOLL
A. P. S.

Throughout the realm of postal markings, during both the stampless and adhesive periods, are found many outstanding examples of ingenious, attractive, and colorful town and rate cancelations. Particularly striking illustrations of such markings originated from a hamlet some sixty-odd miles west of Chicago, in De Kalb County, Illinois. Shabbona Grove produced markings that today are among the rarest of all strikes. George P. Weiland, 152 Hope Ave., Syracuse, N. Y., was kind enough to allow me to present these postal markings for your inspection, and admiration, because they rate it.

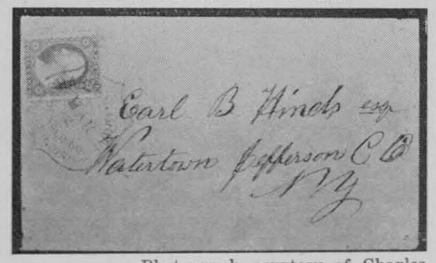
THE SHIELD IN RED ON A STAMPLESS COVER.



—Photograph courtesy of Charles Machell, Syracuse, N. Y.

The well known Shabbona Grove *shield*, struck in red, is shown in Figure 1 used on a fancy embossed cover. This cover was mailed October 24, 1855, traveled prepaid to Watertown, New York, where it wasn't immediately picked up and had to be advertised. The handstamped *PAID* is in red, the *ADVERTISED* is in black, and the manuscript 1 is in black.

THE SHIELD IN BLACK ON A STAMPED COVER—3c 1857.

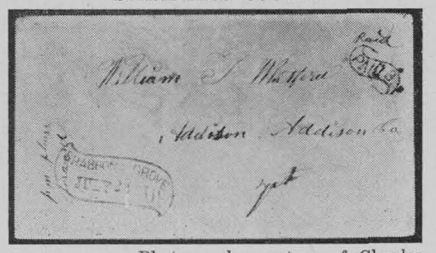


—Photograph courtesy of Charles Machell, Syracuse, N. Y.

The cover shown in Figure 2 is an example of the Shabbona Grove *shield* struck in black on a cover bearing a three cent 1857, Type II. The year date of usage isn't known. This cover also took the trip to Watertown.

The Shabbona Grove *ribbon* is shown in Figure 3 struck in black with an accompanying black *PAID 3* in a decorative scroll. Since neither of the last two covers still had the original letters inside it wasn't possible to accurately determine the year date of usage although the three cent rates place the usage somewhere in the late 1850's, particularly cover number two.

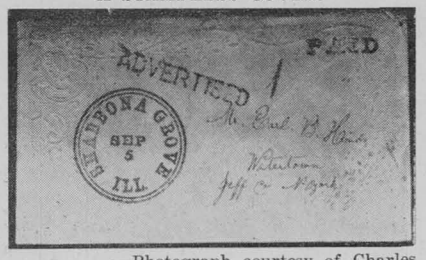
THE RIBBON IN BLACK ON A STAMPLESS COVER.



—Photograph courtesy of Charles Machell, Syracuse, N. Y.

The *double circle* in red from Shabbona Grove is presented on the cover

THE DOUBLE CIRCLE IN RED ON A STAMPLESS COVER.



—Photograph courtesy of Charles Machell, Syracuse, N. Y.

in Figure 4. Mailed September 5, 1855, this cover is the same type of embossed cover as shown in Figure 1. And like the cover in Figure 1 this stampless went to Watertown prepaid, and was advertised.

It is cover markings such as these that make the search for stampless and stamped covers ever exciting, particularly since these markings catalogue twenty-five dollars each. Such a premium price is well warranted since these covers are as scarce as '47s in dime packets.

These covers and others like them are bringing ever increasing prices whenever they appear on the market. Probably an excellent example of what stampless markings can bring will be demonstrated in *Pollitz & Paige's 50th Sale* of May 13th. Lot No. 2 is a dandy copy of the *Windsor Locks steamboat* marking. Not too long ago this cover brought about twenty-five to thirty-five dollars. Let's see what this cover will bring.

As in all commodities value is determined by the old law of supply and demand. The demand for classic stampless is keen but the supply is practically nil. Normally it is only when a collection is being broken up that one of these covers reaches the market. That competition for ownership is so great indicates the growing trend toward interest in postal history. One might meditate on the cause. Could it be that the flood of new issues of the post war years discouraged the collector of moderate means and limited time? Collecting stampless is at the same time exciting and restraining—there is fun and interest for all who give it a try.

Incidentally, postal history students who would like to see a postal history society formed contact Johnny Fox, 116 Nassau St., New York, right away, telling him so. If sufficient interest is displayed positive steps will probably be taken on the project.

Collectors of U. S. cancelations who have sought some group composed of cancelation collectors might inquire of Leonard V. Huber, 4841 Canal St., New Orleans 19, La., for information regarding the *U. S. Cancelation Club*.

Collectors of postal markings would also do well to secure a copy of Black and Davis' *"Postal Markings of Boston to 1890."* Of primary interest to Boston postal marking collectors, this book is of great value to all postal history students. Most progressive dealers stock this great book.

Harry Konwiser's *"The United States Stampless Cover Catalogue"* is a must for the serious stampless student. Herein are listed a majority of stampless markings recorded at the time of writing, arranged according to states, towns, and territories. There is also considerable data relevant to postal rates and other incidental information of value to the student.

With the coming of summer many of us will soon be taking off into the hills, forgetting stamps and covers, seeking only fresh air. It might prove profitable to keep an eye open here and there for possible sources of finds. Decadent farmhouses, backwoods post offices, and the like, frequently provide us with the material that makes headline news in the stamp press. But then *you* didn't have to be told that.

selling forged Confederate stamps are in for trouble. From these people and there are many of them, we have received divers arguments, viz: The Confederate States were illegal, their stamps have no status, the courts will hold that this was a secession government and thus is not protected by any of the laws governing such cases. That the selling, etc., of such material is not a violation of the law, etc. For the legal minded and those not legal minded, let's take a look and see what gives. Why not give some attorney a fee for a look at Hurd's revised Statutes of the United States or failing that, ask your attorney to look up the law covering the counterfeiting of the stamps of the Confederate States. He will tell you that Section 178 of the act of June 8, 1872 provided for just that. But an ever watchful Attorney General saw to it that many revisions were made to bring into the U. S. Statutes the stamps of the Confederate States.

Carefully scanning this law, we find it was repealed and an act was put on the Statutes (June 15, 1917, 40 Stat. 226) which defined "Foreign Governments." That act includes within the term, any faction or body of insurgents, which may or may not be recognized by the United States, as a Government. To the collectors of Confederate material, this may be news. To those dealing in this phony material, this also may be news. To those who come into an encounter with law and who claim ignorance of this law, this also will be news, although the "ignorance of the law" part of their plea will mean nothing. Every one coming into court should know that ignorance of any law, excuses no one!

A few weeks ago we had a party tell us we were as wet as a hen in a rain storm. Just a week before that we ran into another tune where the party selling a Confederate stamp "did so in good faith" not knowing that the stamp and its cancelation were not in order. Well, we could be wrong! So we took it upon ourselves to contact a very busy man and get the real lowdown on the situation—this time both cancelations and stamps of the Confederacy—and we wish to again thank our friend U. E. Baughman, Chief of our U. S. Secret Service which in turn is the policing agent of our U. S. Treasury Department.

Many people have the idea that Chief Baughman and his many District Agents in charge are tough on them. We know personally some of these very fine agents in charge around the country. They have cooperated with us in many ways. When these men make a demand for counterfeit material they are really helping collectors—the quicker this material gets off the market the better it will be for the unwary and the unsuspecting.

Under date of April 30th again a visitor called on us and told us again that our contention was wrong, that our valves needed grinding and an adjustment of our literary spark plugs was in order. We thought perhaps an overhaul job might be in order and we always believe in letting the other fellow have his say. We remembered Chief Baughman and his help in the past. Under date of May 3rd we asked for specific information covering the stamps of the Confederate States. Under date of May 15th we received word from Chief Baughman and are reproducing his letter below. Please keep this issue or remove this page and place it in your albums for future reference as there will be more use for these laws from time to time that will interest the readers of this column. We publically acknowledge a debt of gratitude to Chief Baughman for the information his letter contains. Here it is:

"Reference is made to your letter of May 3, 1950 requesting information concerning counterfeit postage stamps.

"The laws providing for punishment for the possession of or dealing in counterfeit stamps are of fairly early origin, taking into consideration that the first U. S. postage stamps were issued in 1847. The possession of and dealing in counterfeit stamps has been attacked in two ways in the statutes: (1) through statutes outlawing the possession and sale of obligations and securities of the United States or foreign countries, and (2) through statutes outlawing the possession and sale of United States and foreign counterfeit stamps.

"1. Stamps as Obligations and Securities.

"a. United States obligations or securities. Section 10 of the Act of June 30, 1864, 13 Stat. 221, provided that any person who shall pass, utter, publish, or sell, or shall bring into the United States from any foreign place with intent to pass, utter, publish, or sell, or shall have or keep in possession, or conceal, with intent to utter, publish, or sell, any false, forged, counterfeited, or altered obligation or other security of the United States, with intent to deceive or defraud, shall be deemed guilty of a felony. Section 13 of the Act defined the words 'obligation or other security of the United States' as including stamps, and other representatives of value, of whatever denomination, which have been or may be issued under any act of Congress.

"The substance of these provisions were continued in section 5413 and 5431 of the Revised Statutes of the United States (1874); in sections 147 and 151 of the Act of March 4, 1909, 35 Stat. 1115, 1116, and in title 18, U. S. C., sections 8 and 472 (1948).

"b. Foreign obligations or securities. Foreign postage stamps have never been specifically defined by statute as obligations or securities. However, the Treasury Department has interpreted the term 'obligation or other security of a foreign government' to include foreign postage stamps. The dealing in counterfeit obligations or securities, with intent to defraud, or the possession of such obligations or securities with intent to pass them off as true and genuine, was made punishable by sections 4 and 5 in the Act of May 16, 1884, 23 Stat. 23. Although this Act was repealed by the Act of March 4, 1909, 35 Stat. 1156, the substance of the provisions of sections 4 and 5 of this Act of 1884 were continued in sections 159 and 160 of the Act of March 4, 1909, 35 Stat. 1118. These provisions are now continued in title 18, U. S. C., sections 479 and 480 (1948).

"2. Counterfeit Postage Stamps.

"Section 178 of the Act of June 8, 1872, 17 Stat. 305, provided for the punishment of any person who shall make, or print, or knowingly use or sell, or have in possession, with intent to use or sell, any forged or counterfeited postage stamps. The language of this statute would appear to be broad enough to cover both *United States and Confederate States stamps.* Section 179 of the Act of June 8, 1872, made the forging or counterfeiting of, or knowingly uttering or using a foreign postage stamp punishable. These provisions were continued in effect by sections 5464 and 5465 of the Revised Statutes (1874). They were repealed by the Act of March 4, 1909, but their provisions re-enacted by that Act, sections 219 and 220. The Act of June 15, 1917, 40 Stat. 226, added a definition of '*foreign government,*' which included within the term *any faction or body of insurgents* which may or may not be recognized by the United States as a government. The substance of the foregoing provisions were continued in title 18, U. S. C., sections 11, 501 and 502."

Well, we have stopped hunting for Algeria No. 208A. Through the courtesy of Clifford F. Pynn who stocks just about all the stamps needed for part two of the International Album, we are informed that Mammon Pinchot states that No. 208 is listed by him as non-existent. Mr. Pinchot should know—he wholesales this material. Mr. Kosmo of K. & A. Stamp Co., also wholesalers, have checked all French Catalogues and cannot find Algeria No. 208A anywhere. Perhaps this will close the chapter and we will receive no more letters about collectors and their

(*Page 439, please.*)

FINNEY · WOLCOTT · AND · ASSOCIATES — ARCHITECTS
10 WEST 25TH STREET - BALTIMORE 18, MARYLAND BELMONT 1845

EBEN D. FINNEY A-I-A
JOHN WINTHROP WOLCOTT A-I-A
EUGENE R. SMEALLIE A-A-I-A

November 2nd, 1949.

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook,
33 North Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stanley Ashbrook:-

I have picked up a few things lately in the Harmer-Rooke and John Fox sales, and even though you have probably seen all of these items, I am sending some of them on in order to get your brief comments, and just in case you have not seen them, here they are.

There is, of course, no one whose remarks I would rather have than yours, and so at the risk of tresspassing on your time, I am asking for only very brief comments,- as there are some points which do not appear clear to me,- and I know that if anyone has a theory on these questionable points, you will be the one.

The first cover is the pretty one with the SOUTHn LETTER UNPAID cancellation across the twelve and three cent U.S. stamps. I understand that of the very few of these covers that have come to light so far, there are only three known which went to Europe. All of the others were used from the south to the north in this continent only. This is one of them; another is franked with three 10¢ '57s, and went to Prussia; and the third is franked with the 24¢, and I am not sure just what its destination was. In addition to these three Earl Antrim tells me that he has record of only about nine more, of the U.S. variety.

The question about this cover is this: It has a New Orleans post mark which does not cancel the stamps. Why were these stamps left uncancelled until they crossed the lines when they were cancelled with the SOUTHn LETTER etc.? Of course by the date at New Orleans, which looks like June 10th or 19th these stamps were already outlawed. I guess that the due 15 was the southern postage. I suppose that the entire amount of the postage was collected in France. There are also the amounts of 8 and 10 inscribed on the cover, and the New York cancellation has a rate 9 in its circle. Could you tell me briefly just what all went on in this case ? The letter evidently got to its destination, as it is back-stamped in Paris, so all charges must have been satisfied. Incidently, I had to pay $610. for this item, but I do think that I should have one, and this is a particularly nice one. Do you think that I got stuck?

The second item is the small pretty cover with the MAILS SUSPENDED and NO MAIL SERVICE. As you may remember I have a very pretty little cover very much like this which I wrote to you about some time ago. This other one had the CANNOT BE FORWARDRD in addition to the MAILS SUSPENDED. The question about this cover is why would some one attempt to get it through via Memphis to Mississ-

ippi as late as Nov. 20th, 1863 by ordinary mail routes ? It must have been well known to all at that time that mail had to go through the Flag of Truce system, and at specified places such as Old Point. Was there some other way of getting mail across the border which I do not know about ? Or was the sender of this letter just misinformed about what to do ? I do not recall seeing very many of this type of cover either, do you ? As a matter of fact I believe that these are even more scarce than the SOUTHn LETTER UNPAID. As you will see on the reverse of this letter it did get to Memphis, and was back-stamped and probably returned from there. But after all, Memphis was also in Confederate territory, and I cant see how it even got this far. Can you tell me briefly just what probably did happen ? A lot of people liked this cover almost as well as I did and so it cost me $145., which is $45 more than the one that I mentioned which I wrote to you about some time ago. Do you think that I got stuck on this one ?

The third item is the Trans-Miss. letter from the Fox sale, which on the face of it looks to be a beauty, but there are still some questions about it. Why do you think that the Chicamauga cancellation is struck on it if it isn't cancelling the stamps ? After all, the stamps should have been cancelled at the place of mailing, and the cancellation on the stamps is certainly not the small Chicamauga post mark. The date logo was probably set too high, and so nothing but the date took effect, but you can see the outline of the circular part of this post mark, and it is certainly not the Chicamauga. Therefore, if this letter were mailed and cancelled some where else, why does it have the small Chicamauga cancellation at all? The Meridian post mark is logical enough, as the letter was forwarded via Meridian. I do think that this is a pretty cover, and I am also morally certain that everything is OK about it, but there are these questions which I believe that you will be able to clear up for me. Of course these trans-miss covers never were plentiful, but I have never paid as much as this for one before. This was $275. Again, do you think that I got stuck ?

Inother words, I have over $1,000 tied up in these three little covers, and I suppose that I am nutty,- but after all I do believe that any one of them is as rare if not more so than almost any of the provisionals that you can pick,- excepting of course the ones of which there are only one example known. And somehow or other I believe that these covers are prettier than most of the provisionals also;

I am also enclosing a pair of prisoner covers which I am sure will interest you. I had no idea that they told a consecutive story until after I had bought them. The first is postmarked Gettysburg, and must have been from a temporary prison stockade up there following the big battle. It is dated Sept. 17th, '63. The second, dated Sept. 30th is post marked Baltimore, and must have been Fort McHenry. The prisoner had been transferred down here. I'll bet that somewhere there will be another from the same man and at a still later date with the Point Lookout mark on it, as Ft. McHenry did not hold many prisoners and they were generally transferred out to Pt. Lookout, which as you know was one of the largest camps.

Well, so much for now, and I hope that I haven't bothered you too much. Best Regards,

Lee Turner

Nov. 8, 1949.

Mr. Eben D. Finney,
10 West 25th St.,
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Pete:

Your registered special arrived Sunday afternoon and I was quite pleased to see the various covers. I am returning them herewith and I will comment on them to the best of my ability.

S.L. UNPAID. This is some cover and I am delighted that you acquired it. It is such an outstanding cover,- far more rare than a "Poney Express," that I think you obtained it at a very fair price. I remember seeing this cover in Henry Needham's collection back in the 1920s and in 1938 I had him send it to me and I made the enclosed photograph. He sent it to me after my One Cent Book was published, otherwise I would have illustrated it in my Vol. 2 - Chapter 35, One Cent Book.

Regarding the known S.L. U. covers - As near as I can recall, you are no doubt right that only three are known that were forwarded to Europe, viz:

(1) Your cover.
(2) The one to Prussia - See my One Cent Book - Vol. 2, page 34 - Fig. 35D.
(3) Cover with 24¢ 1860 to Liverpool - origin not evident - Thru Louisville on July 11, 1861 - S.L.U. across stamp.

In addition to the above there is a cover to Switzerland that originated at New Orleans on Aug. 13, 1861. It was evidently carried privately to Louisville and placed in the U. S. Mail there on Aug. 20, 1861. The stamps were recognized - and the letter was forwarded as paid. This cover was Lot 174 in the Gibson sale by Ward in 1944.

See Shenfield article in the Stamp Specialist, Vol. 1, Part 2. He illustrated the above Knapp No. 3 - also the above No. 2, - to Prussia.

In April 1948, there was a cover sold in a Harmer, Rooke sale (Apr. 21-22 - Lot 533) described as "Through the Lines to New York and thence to Germany." This is the only record that I have of this item.

Regarding S.L.U. covers addressed to the North, I have a record of fourteen (14) covers as follows:

(1) From Murfreesborough, N.C. to Richfield Springs, N.Y.
(2) " " " " Indianapolis, Ind.
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Further regarding your cover. The New Orleans postmark looks like the 10th or 19th. Inasmuch as the two stamps were of no value in the C.S.A. there was no reason why the N.O. P.O. would cancel them. Naturally the C.S.A. postage was paid in cash and the blue pencilled "10" is evidence of that payment. I have no definite information as to the manner in which the New Orleans P.O. forwarded mail such as this, but it is evident that it was forwarded to a border P.O. and from there "Thru the Lines" to the Louisville P.O. - At that office the New Orleans postmark disclosed its origin so the stamps were invalidated and canceled S.L.U. The letter was rated as unpaid with "15¢ due" at Paris and it was forwarded to the Foreign Division of the New York P.O. where it received the Foreign Exchange (New York) marking of JUN 29 showing a debit to the French P.O.D. of "9"¢. Debit markings were always in black - denoting unpaid. This letter was carried to England in an American Packet, then across the Channel to Calais and on to Paris. In France it was rated as unpaid with "8" decimes due or approximately 15¢ in U. S. currency.

There is the complete story and I am sure that you agree with me that it is one that is most interesting and I have an idea that you now have a greater appreciation for this cover than before. It truly is a perfect little gem. I might add this - The New Orleans P.O. made a mistake in applying their postmark - had they omitted same and also the blue "10" the letter could have been smuggled thru and forwarded to Paris as fully paid.

"MAILS SUSPENDED COVER" - This cover also came from the H. C. Needham collection. My guess is that the writer hoped that it would be treated as a Flag of Truce cover - and would be sent "Thru the Lines." Holly Springs, Miss. is not far from Memphis - not many miles southeast in Northern Mississippi. There was a rail connection between the two points in the sixties. I do not recall that there was any arrangement to send "F of T" letters thru Memphis at any time during the War. If there was "no mail service" one would suppose that a letter such as this would have been sent from Memphis to the Dead Letter Office at Washington, opened, and returned to the sender with postage due - but there is no evidence that this was done - Further, the envelope shows(?) that it was torn open and it would hardly have been opened in this manner by a clerk in the D.L.O.

For lack of definite information I fear that this is about as far as I can go.

If perchance it was opened at Memphis - found harmless and sent thru the lines under "F of T" one wonders why there is an absence of any C.S.A. postal markings?

I have a record of perhaps a half dozen covers with the oval marking "Mails Suspended". Whether they are rarer than the "S.L.U." covers is questionable. Because the latter are more sensational - perhaps they have been more publicised. It is possible that there might be more of the M.S. covers in collections than the "S.L.U.'s". I might add that none of the "M.S." covers that I have seen had any Dead Letter Office markings. If this class of mail passed thru the D.L.O. why no evidence? (See Dietz Catalogue, page 165) I further note that Holly Springs is 45 miles S.E. of Memphis on direct line, but it was further by rail in the sixties. It was at this point that Grant had a most unfortunate experience at the hands of Van Dorn in Dec. 1862. Memphis was in Federal hand after June 1862.

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With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

The following is a copy of the letter enclosed in the E.D.Finney cover "Mails Suspended" and addressed to Holly Springs, Miss. to Miss Diana Holland.

*

365 Fourth St. New York
Thursday night -
19th Nov. 1863.

Miss Diana Holland
Holly Springs, Miss.

Dear Cousin:

Although we have never met, I imagine you know me as the youngest son of the old Consul at Liverpool, and thus a first cousin of your mother. My sister, who has been in England since May last arrived today by the steamer "Persia," safe and in good health.

But my object in writing to you is in relation to your cousin, Lieut. John M. Maury, who was supposed to have been drowned, but latterly has been supposed to be still alive. We have ascertained from himself that the Lieut. Maury captured by the Fed'l Col. Lindsay and confined in the Penitentiary at Alton was not Johnny, but James Fontaine Maury, a son of the judge at Port Gibson, Miss. He is now a prisoner at Johnson's Island, Sandusky, where he has been in correspondence with John Walker Maury at Washington who had a second letter from him yesterday, and Mrs. Field saw a letter from him in March to a Lady in St. Louis, when he was confined at Alton. Thus 2 of the 3 reasons for supposing Johnny was not drowned, as Dabney at first believed, are completely demolished, and there is only one left, viz, the reported conversation or short communication (which his father says was made in March last) to a lady at La Grange, as he was passing thro' that place and which some how reached you, and by you was communicated to Dabney, who sent your brother Dick up to expressly sift it out and with authority to obtain a flag of truce for the purpose; but Dick, as I understand, proceeded no further than Holly Springs and returned to Dabney without having accomplished anything whatever towards the object of his mission. According to what Dabney told Mrs. Arnold in Mobile (who is now settled in St. Louis) your report to him was as follows - "As a file of prisoners was passing thru the street at La Grange one of them stepped aside and said to a lady who was looking on - 'My name is John Maury - I am a son of Capt. Maury of the Navy; My friends suppose I am drowned.' He had not time to say anything more, before he had to fall into line and march on." This story seems very straight but is it true? We have never heard who this Lady was, that is, her name. She seems to have been at utter stranger to Johnnie and for aught we know, to yourself also. We know not how many links it passed thro ere it reached you; but presume it was not a direct communication from her to you, and if so it is all important that you should trace it to the fountain head. We know that Johnny was captured whilst on a visit to Holly Springs, some months before, say about October '62. May he not have then spoken as reported to this Lady, and the words, "My friends suppose I am drowned" have been ? on 'ere it reached you?

I would suppose there is no longer any serious impediment to intercourse between Holly Springs and La Grange. Do try, I pray you, to verify the correctness of this story, and write both to Richard C.Ludlow St. Louis and to me in order to terminate one way or the other the agonising suspense of Johnny's parents - Yrs truly

RUTSON MAURY

If you answer this letter please be as exact as possible as to both names and dates.

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FINNEY · WOLCOTT · AND · ASSOCIATES — ARCHITECTS
10 WEST 25TH STREET - BALTIMORE 18, MARYLAND BELMONT 1845

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JOHN WINTHROP WOLCOTT A-I-A
EUGENE R. SMEALLIE A-A-I-A
JOHN F. LINDSAY A-A-I-A

November 23rd, 1949.

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook,
33 North Ft. Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stanley Ashbrook:-

I have been so busy trying to satisfy a lot of the various State School Boards during these past days that this is the first opportunity that I have had to write an answer and send my sincere thanks for your last fine letter.

I value your opinion more than any other in the field of Philately,- and that is not soft soap,- so for that reason it gives me a tremendous lift to have my judgement prove to be anywhere near your final opinion.

It was particularly gratifying to me to hear you say what you said about the SOUTHn LETTER UNPAID. I am very glad indeed that I bought it,- even though it does seem like a hell of a lot of money for merely a cancellation. If it were the stamps themselves it would seem more justified. However, as you state, there are only three of those covers on record that went to Europe,- and it would seem that if there are only three of anything, why it certainly is getting pretty scarce ! Anyway, I do not think that a Confederate collection is as complete as it can be without one.

As for the Trans-Miss,- I guess that I possibly got a little bit hooked on that one. I do not trust a lot of the New York crowd very much, and I am afraid that I let it be known in too positive terms,during my appearance at Stampex, that I would be gunning for that one in a big way. I am not sure of it, but it looks as if some of the NY crowd deliberately ran the bid up on me for that one, possibly having sensed the fact that I had told Ezra to buy it for me. I do not mean that Ezra was in on it at all. He has had many chances to hook me, but has always proven to be eminently honest, and a very good friend.

At the coming sale of the Peters collection by Perry Fuller I shall do my own bidding. Actually I would rather have Ezra do it, as I hate to have people checking up on everything that is done. However, Ezra will be representing a lot of other people from out of town, and therefore it would be pretty hard on him to differentiate between bids, and would put him in the position of playing one against the other. There aren't a great many top items at the Peters sale, but there are a great many very pretty middle range things. For that reason I will predict that probably the prices will run very high, considering the item bought. There are also, of course, some out-standing things. I believe that Perry will have a fine sale.

Mr. Stanley Ashbrook, (2). Nov. 23rd, 1949.

I am trying to get together a questionnaire concerning various opinions about Confederates, and have it ready to send out about the time of Perry's sale. To you it may seem a little bit elementary, but I believe that the concensus will furnish the material for a fine publicity article on Confederates,- which, incidentally, several of the stamp publications have intimated that they would run for us. It will be the type of interesting information that is intended to appeal to the collector of U.S. perhaps, who as yet has not taken much of an interest in the Confederate issues. I will send it on to you as soon as it is ready. My purpose is to ask all of the serious Confed. collectors to fill in the answers, as they see it, and then I can strike certain averages and percentages from the final result. Also we will get a cross section of opinion on quite a few interesting matters, and it may surprise even you as to the status of certain issues and markings, and certain types of covers. Some times the persons who are closest to a situation are so used to looking at it from the same view point that they accept the traditional without question. I may not prove a thing,- and indeed, I am not trying to prove anything,- merely trying to cut a cross-section through the Confederate collector's mind.

The thing that suggested this whole business to me was the fact that in the seven other fine confed. collections which were on exhibit up at Stampex, there actually wasn't a single copy or cover of the 10¢ rose or of the rose-carmine, which I would even consider for a moment as being worthy of a place in my albums. I am not being snooty, and doubtless most of these collections had such items which they did not show,- but none-the-less, they weren't there ! All of which leads me to believe that that particular issue is a darn-sight more uncommon than most of us believe. Also, the largest piece of unused rose stamps that I know of is a block of four,- and I know of only three of these. The only plate imprint that I know of,- and it is the one that is illustrated in Dietz's large History of the Confederate Post Office,- is the strip of three with imprint, which I bought from the Needham collection, through Costales. I know that we think of the rose 10¢ as being rare,- but just how rare is it ? If I follow that line of reasoning on all of the various issues, and get the cross-section of collector's opinion, I believe that it will be very interesting, don't you ?

I am enclosing postage which I made you furnish on the last lot of stuff, and you really ought to bill me for the time it took you to knock out that letter, and for all of the effort it took to look up the collateral material. I mean it. Send me a statement.

Best Regards,

"Pete" Perry.

The following is a copy of the letter enclosed in the E. D. Finney cover
" Mails Suspended "
and addressed to Holly Springs Miss—
to Miss Diana Holland

— o —

365 Fourth St - New York
Thursday night -
19th Nov 1863.

Miss Diana Holland
Holly Springs Miss

Dear Cousin

Although we have never met, I imagine you know me as the youngest son of the old Consul at Liverpool, and thus a first cousin of your mother. My sister, who has been in England since May last arrived today by the Steamer "Persia", Safe and in good health.

But my object in writing to you is in Relation to your cousin, Lieut John M. MAURY, who was ~~captured~~ supposed to have been drowned, but latterly has been supposed to be still alive. — We have ascertained from him self that the Lieut Maury captured by the Fed'l Col. Lindsay and confined in the Penitentiary at ALTON was not Johnny, but JAMES FONTAINE MAURY, a Son of the Judge at Port Gibson, Miss. He is now a

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COVER #195A - Wht. env. with illustration of hotel. H.S. of three. 1¢ 1879. Canceled by purple Plattsburgh, N.Y. Sep. 6, 1879. Price $5.00.

COVER #195B - Blue env. with business corner card. 1¢ 1879. A superb single. Tied by blue postmark of "Durhamville, N.Y. Sep. 29, 1881." Price $3.50.

COVER #196 - Yellow-buff env. "FRAUDULENT-DELIVERY PROHIBITED BY ORDER OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL." Registered letter of April 1879, with blue oval post office marking as above. 10¢ plus h.pair of 3¢. From Scott Bar, Calif. Addressed to New York. Price $10.00.

COVER #197A - Wht. env. To St. Helena in October 1880. American prints. Single 30¢; plus h.pair 10¢; plus h.pair 2¢ Vermilion - total 54¢. From New Bedford, Mass. Price $30.00.

COVER #197B - Wht. env. to St. Helena in 1881. American prints. Single 30¢; plus 10¢; plus 10¢; plus h.pair 2¢ Vermilion - total 54¢. From New Bedford, Mass. Feb. 1, 1881. Price $30.00.

COVER #198 - Wht. env. Registered Mail. From Pekin, N.Y. Sep. 24, 1889. Three very fine copies of the 4¢ Jackson. Price $10.00.

COVER #198B - 4¢ Green U. S. env.; plus two h.pairs of the 4¢ Jackson Carmine. A Registered letter to Germany. Price $15.00.

COVER #199A - Blue env. with printed address to New York City. Very fine h.s. of three of the 4¢ Jackson Carmine. From Olympia, Wash. July 2, 1890. Price $15.00.

COVER #199B - Yellow env. showing 5¢ rate to Prussia. 4¢ Jackson Carmine; plus 1¢ blue. From New York. Price $10.00.

prisoner at Johnson's Island., Sandusky, where he has been in correspondence with John Walker MAURY at Washington who had a second letter from him yesterday, and Mrs Field saw a letter from him in March to a Lady in St Louis, when he was confined at Allen. Thus 2 of the 3 reasons for supposing Johnny was not drowned., as Dabney at first believed, are completely demolished., and there is only one left, viz, the reported conversation or short communication (which his father says was made in March last) to a lady at La Grange., as he was passing thro' that place and which some how reached you., and by you was communicated to Dabney, who sent your brother Dick up to expressly seek for and with authority to obtain a flag of truce for the purpose; but Dick., as I understand, proceeded no further than Holly Springs and returned to DABNEY without having accomplished any thing whatever towards the object of his mission. According to what Dabney told Mrs Arnold in Mobile (who is now settled in St Louis) your report to him

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was as follows — " As a file of prisoners was passing thro the Breach at La Grange one of them stepped aside and said to a lady who was looking on - "My Name is John Maury - I am a Son of Capt Maury of the NAVY: My friends suppose I am drowned." He had not time to say any thing more, before he had to fall into line and march on." This story seems very straight but is it true? We have never heard who this Lady was, that is, her name. She seems to have been an utter Stranger to Johnnie and for aught we know, to yourself also. We know not how many links it passed thro ere it reached you; but presume it was not a direct communication from her to you, and if so it is all important that you should trace it to the fountain head. We know that Johnny was captured whilst on a visit to ~~Holly~~ Holly Springs, some months before, say about October '62, May he not

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have been spoken as reported to ~~him~~ THIS Lady, and the words, "My friends suppose I am drowned." Have been ? on ere it reached you?

I would suppose there is no longer any reason impediment to. wire course between Holly Springs and La Grange. Do try, & pray you, to verify the correctness of this story. and write back to Richard C. Ludlow St Louis and to me in order to terminate one way or the other the agonizing suspense of Johnny's parents — yrs truly

RUTSON MAURY

If you answer this letter please be as exact as possible as to both names and dates.

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TELEPHONE
CORTLANDT 7-5536

15-44

EUGENE N. COSTALES

POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS

99 NASSAU STREET

NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

MEMBER
AMERICAN AIR MAIL SOCIETY
AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
AMERICAN STAMP DEALERS ASSN.
ASSOC. STAMP EXHIBITIONS
SOC. PHILATELIC AMERICANS
BROOKLYN STAMP SOCIETY
BUREAU ISSUES ASSN.
COLLECTORS CLUB, N. Y.
N. Y. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November 10, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 No. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

The three enclosed items are from a collection of stamps that has been submitted to me for disposal in one of my auction sales. I told the owner that the cancellation on the 90c 1857 did not look good to me, and I also told him that I did not like the two covers.

It would seem to me that on the cover bearing the 90c 1861 that the 3c was added at some later date and the cancellation drawn in with a substance that looks like crayon.

He asked me to submit the three items for your opinion, and I trust you will let me have your report as soon as conveniently possible, together with a bill for your services.

Meanwhile, with kindest personal regards,

Yours very truly,

Gene

EUGENE N. COSTALES

ENC:fk
encls.

Please register for $300 -

Nov. 14, 1949.

Mr. Eugene N. Costales,
99 Nassau St.,
New York 7, N.Y.

Dear Gene:

Herewith the two covers and the off cover 90¢ 1860 as per yours of the 10th.

90¢ 1861 cover. The markings show that the original rate on this cover was $1.06 and not 96¢. The fakers, in many instances take the credit figures (in this case "96" as the total rate) - which was evidently done in this case. The rate at this period to Hong Kong, "Via Marseilles" was as follows:

¼ oz.	- ½	- ⅝	- 1 oz.
47¢	53¢	$100	$1.06

This letter went by a Cunard steamer, hence our share of the $1.06 was only 10¢ (2 x 5) and the British share was 96¢, hence the 96 credit. Of this 96¢ the British credited 24¢ for the carriage across France from Calais to Marseilles.

My guess is that the 90¢ originated on the cover and that the other stamps were two 3¢ and a 10¢. I have a record of other Smith Archer covers and the $1.06 rates were generally franked in that manner.

I am enclosing a photograph of a cover that originally belonged to Steve Brown - It went to Harold Brooks and I sold it to a friend of mine last spring. You will note that the stamps have a similar encircled New York star killer. I do not recall the exact year date of use of this cover but I have it in my files somewhere - I rather imagine that it was Apr. 26, 1864 whereas yours is January 1865. The brown pencil "2" indicated a rate over ½ oz. but not exceeding 1 oz., hence $1.06. 1*

1864

Hold this cover against a good light on the level with the eyes and note the "red markings" on the 3¢ and 2¢. My lamp don't show much regarding the "tie" of the 90¢ except that it appears genuine and shows that there was a space to the left - in fact, you can see where the "tie" overlapped the perfs of the stamp that occupied the space to left.

30¢ 1869 cover. We have very little to go on here. I do not think that the back postmarks have been altered as to year use, hence this use was undoubtedly New York "Jan. 1 1870" - On that date the rate to Switzerland - thru England - was 15¢ per ½ ounce, so this could have been over the ½ oz. - Further, my lamp does not show a thing suspicious about the "tie" or the black ink - the oil stains

around the block tie on the cover appear "aged" and genuine - The grill as registered on the back lines up exactly with the grill on the face - Inasmuch as I cannot find anything suspicious I believe that this stamp originated on this cover - that is my opinion.

90¢ 1860 single - There is very little to go on here, but in some respects it looks like that old fake Philadelphia postmark that Singer used to use - Do you remember it? A good friend of ours used to send Sam pencanceled 1¢ 1851's and he would remove the pen marks and apply his "Philadelphia JUL 13" - It was always "JUL 13" - when I see that month and day use I can almost be sure that Sam applied it. In some respects this looks a bit like "JUL 13" - What do you think?

Back in February 1945 a man by the name of R.L.Welmot sent me a 90¢ 1860 - off cover copy with a Philadelphia cancel - I did not make a photo of the stamp, hence have no way of determining whether this is the same copy or not - perhaps it was not as I must have been favorably impressed with his copy because I wrote him as follows:

"90¢ 1860 - While I am not absolutely sure I am inclined to believe that the cancelation is genuine. I really do not know if there is actually any way to be positive about such a thing. I do know that the European crooks in past years made exact imitations of many of our postal markings, and we had one in New York who used a faked postmark of Philadelphia on many copies of the 90¢ 1860. I can generally tell his work, if the strike is plain enough as he never changed the month and day. The red initials on the back of your copy probably are an indication that the stamp came from Europe. This could therefore mean two things. However, as stated above I am inclined, after a casual examination, to be of the opinion that the copy is genuine."

Gene, if this examination is for you, there is no fee whatsoever, but if it is for a collector the fee is $7.50. Understand - not a penny out of your pocket.

With best wishes -

Cordially yours,

TELEPHONE
CORTLANDT 7-5536

EUGENE N. COSTALES
POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS
99 NASSAU STREET
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

MEMBER
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BUREAU ISSUES ASSN.
COLLECTORS CLUB, N. Y.
N. Y. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Jan 24/50

Dear Stan

I want to apologize for not answering before this to thank you for your opinions on the 30+69 cover, 90+61 etc. Have been sick with the Virus X and a cold, + just beginning to feel better

A check of $7.50 is enclosed as I got the money from the owner, also returned are your photos you so kindly sent me

Your analysis of the covers is very clear and I agree with you 100%.

Kindest regards

Yours truly,

Gene.

November 16, 1949

From: Gordon Bleuler
2115 Barberry Drive
Dallas 11, Texas.

C.S.A. #449

Colonel Stanley Ashbrook
33 North Fort Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Dear Colonel Ashbrook,

I am enclosing for your examination and opinion two very interesting Confederate covers that have been submitted to me. I thought you would like to look over these items as they are quite unusual.

I am particularly puzzled about this cover with the 2 cent green, showing Lynchburg, Va. cancel, to M- Mills and apparently forwarded to Dunie, Va. Could the "Manuscript 49" on the stamp be a box number and indicate the additional postage necessary was charged to the person owning the box? What information can you give me regarding the usage of this item?

Don't you think this combination cover with the "Ten" and 10 cents is rather unusual? Any information you can give me on these covers will certainly be appreciated.

I am enclosing postage for return registration. If I owe you anything additional for looking these covers over, don't hesitate to let me know.

Very truly yours,

Gordon Bleuler

Nov. 19, 1949.

Mr. Gordon Bleuler,
2115 Barberry Drive,
Dallas, Texas.

Dear Mr. Bleuler:

Herewith the two covers as per yours of the 16th.

Regarding the 2¢ Green cover from Lynchburg. I doubt very much if the pen notations on the stamp and cover have any postal significance. The envelope does not appear to have been sealed, hence it must have been a circular rate from Lynchburg, and at first addressed to "Virginia Mills" and later changed to "Diana Mills." There were post offices by those names in Buckingham Co. Va. at that period. The "Lynchburg" and other pen markings have been applied after the letter had been received by the addressee. Incidentally, this cover has been known for many years as it was in the Seybold sale of 1910 - Lot 445, and sold for the small sum of $4.50.

The other cover is a rather unusual combination. It is a "Forwarded" cover. There is no evidence of its original origin, which seems rather odd. It was "Forwarded" from Richmond to the county seat of Franklin Co., "Rocky Mount" with the "TEN." This was probably from a soldier and placed in the army mail, hence no P.O. of origin. Members of the armed forces, very frequently did not avail themselves of the privilege of sending their mail collect.

In my opinion, both of these covers are genuine.

I have some very choice Confederate covers for sale and will be glad to submit a few if you would like to see them.

There is no fee for the above.

Sincerely yours,

Perry W. Fuller

STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS

BALTIMORE LIFE BLDG. BALTIMORE-1, MD.

November 17, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 North Fort Thomas Avenue
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stanley:

I have had much interest manifested in the 10c Charleston Provisional in the Peters sale, and I have had some one raise the question as to the authenticity of this item, stating that you could never be sure of a cover of which only one existed.

This came from an original find made by Dr. Peters and I have some where in his boxes of material, a letter from the lady who was either a daughter or grand-daughter of Mr. Norris, where Dr. Peters had written her and asked if it was possible for her to find the enclosures for this particular letter, and she stated that at the time she had gone through this correspondence she had destroyed all letters that were not a part of the envelope.

There is scattered throughout the sale, numerous Confederate items fromthis find, and I selected several covers which I included with lot #212.

I saw Lawrence Shenfield yesterday and while at the time we were discussing the particular item, he had never seen the cover and I had already packed my grip, yet he said "Well, you know how some of the greatest fakes have been planted in correspondence, and where there is only one of a thing in existence, there can always be such a feeling".

The thing that makes me mad, the very fellow who is whispering around about the possibility that this may not be good, is going to be one of the main contenders in bidding for this item, and I think that he feels that he might scare off most of the competition.

There is no question in my mind but that this was a genuine untouched find made by Dr. Peters in South Carolina as the correspondence that he had with this lady would indicate.

Perry W. Fuller

STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS

BALTIMORE LIFE BLDG. BALTIMORE-1, MD.

November 17, 1949

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook

I have two requests on my desk now from people that want me to send this cover on for inspection, but before doing so I wanted you to see it, as I have more confidence in your opinion than anyone else that I can mention.

I have had a very nice reception wherever I have shown the material, and look forward to a good sale, and I hope that you may find it possible to attend. If, however, you cannot do so, and there are any items that you want to bid on, I assure you I will handle them in the best manner possible.

Sincerely yours,

Perry

PWF
MR

Lot #212 enclosed

Insured to destination.

Nov. 19, 1949.

Mr. Perry W. Fuller,
Baltimore Life Bldg.,
Baltimore 1, Md.

Dear Perry:

Herewith the Confederate Charleston 10¢ Postmaster Provisional with date of "Jul 11" from the collection of the late Dr. Don Peters of Lynchburg, together with the other covers from the same (Norris) correspondence.

I examined this cover when I visited Lynchburg in the fall of 1945 and I never questioned the cover at that time, or since. I have no doubt at all that the cover is perfectly genuine in every respect and cannot imagine why it is not listed as a genuine Confederate Charleston, S.C. Postmaster Provisional in the Scott Catalogue.

Dr. Don Peters was a gentleman of the highest integrity and his statement that he obtained this cover in a "find" that he made, cannot be questioned. The mere suggestion that this cover might have been "fixed" and "planted" is not worthy of sensible consideration, in my very humble opinion.

There are a number of items listed in the S.U.S. that have no legitimate excuse for recognition, for example, the discredited "Premieres Gravures of 1861" but here is an instance where a legitimate item that should be listed has not been, and yet it is as rare, so far as we are aware, as the famed British Guiana, of which only one copy is known.

You have my permission to use this letter in any way that you desire.

With every good wish, I am

Cordially yours,

c.c. Mr. Ashbrook
Mr. MacBride

Doherty, Clifford & Shenfield, Inc., 350 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, N. Y.

TMe.

November twenty-third
19 49

Dear Mr. Fuller:

Thank you so much for sending me the 10¢ Charleston item, together with letter from Stan Ashbrook. I agree that the time to give this item the once-over is before the sale and not after.

I should say that my casual remark to you a week ago that there seems to be some doubt about this cover was not an expression of personal doubt but merely from what I have heard -- one known cover -- very few people have seen it -- Scott doesn't list it.

However, this has given me the opportunity to examine the copy very carefully, together with the supporting news of covers from the same correspondence. I have never heard anyone say that Dr. Peters was ever connected in any way with doubt on this cover. However, it might have been possible that the cover was doctored before he bought the lot which has happened to the most honest collectors.

My examination of the cover discloses some interesting observations as follows:

(1) From an art standpoint, the 10¢ item follows very closely the technique of the 5¢ envelope and the adhesive. The scalloped ends of the label containing P.O. Charleston S.C. are similar to those on the envelope and also to those on the adhesive. Perhaps the designer decided not to complete the lower half of the label in reverse.

(2) There is a period after Charleston in the 10¢ and also in the 5¢ -- more than a coincidence.

(3) The tail of the R in Charleston is identical on the 10¢ and the 5¢.

(4) The numeral 10 seems to be done by the same designer who did the 5¢.

(5) Characteristic of these Charleston envelopes, the postmark does not touch the design.

(6) The paper of the 10¢ example is identical with an example I have showing the 5¢ envelope and the position upper right is normal.

These considerations are aside from the absolute validity of the envelope and the whole correspondence itself. The only real difference between the 5¢ and 10¢ is in the ink -- the 10¢ showing a brighter blue with a glaze while the 5¢ is printed in a dull ink.

However, based upon the above points, it is my opinion that even though only one copy is known this stamp and the cover are genuine. I can find no trace of tampering with the cover and the rate of course 10¢ for any distance after July 1st, 1862 is correct. Therefore, I agree with Mr. Ashbrook and I suggest that whoever buys this cover makes request to Scott to list it in S.U.S.

Cordially yours,

L. L. Shenfield

Mr. Perry W. Fuller
Baltimore Life Bldg.
Baltimore 1, Maryland

COPY

Van Dyk Mac Bride
744 Broad Street
Newark 2, N. J.

December 1st, 1949.

Mr. Lawrence L. Shenfield,
350 Fifth Avenue,
New York 1, N. Y.

Dear Larry:

This is in reference to the copy you sent me of your letter of November 23rd to Perry Fuller, in regard to the 10¢ Charleston, S.C. Provisional envelope. In it you also referred to a letter you have received from Stanley Ashbrook on the subject, which letter however, I have not seen.

I think that the analysis which you give in your letter is entirely logical, and while the cover in question was not submitted to me for careful study, from what I have seen of it and from what you say about it, I think it may well be genuine. Nevertheless and for the record, and as a member of the Authentication Committee, I do feel that I want to make the following point.

The cover was apparently postmarked at Charleston on July 11th of 1862 which is most unusual, if not unique, late use for a Confederate P.M.Provisional. To the best of my recollection I have never seen a Confederate P.M.Provisional used after the General Issue adhesive stamps were issued, without one or more of those stamps put on and cancelled. Handstamped Paids, - yes. I have seen them used in each year including 1864, - usually from western points such as Texas, or the smaller towns where they apparently ran out of the adhesive stamps. But, P.M. Provisionals, - NO! And, I think it almost impossible for the large city of Charleston, S.C. to have run out of stamps in July 1862, which was less than nine months after they were first issued, and while supplies were certainly plentiful.

That forms the basis for the only doubt I have for the genuineness of this envelope, and it may be more than outweighed by its collateral good points. A possible guess would be that this one just "slipped through" the Charleston post office, and was thereafter accepted by any others it passed through on its route. But it is a strange thing that apparently only this one entire survived, and I think we would all be more comfortable about authenticating and listing it, if others could be located. As I understand it, a piece showing this design is owned by Capt. Usticke, and if Warren Colson has a complete one, as I have heard, it might be well to obtain and examine it.

Sincerely yours,

MacB/HK

c.c.:S.B.Ashbrook

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Fort Thomas, Ky.

Dec. 3, 1949.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

Re - your letter to Larry dated the 1st in reference to the Charleston covers - (P.M.P. 10¢) - in the Peters sale. You probably got the impression that this cover was submitted to the C.S.A. Committee by Perry Fuller and that you were not consulted. I want to assure you Mac that such was not the case.

Perry is an old friend of mine and he sent the cover to me so that I could make a photo of it for my files. He did not ask for an opinion but he stated that the cover had been "questioned." I wrote him a letter regarding what I thought of it and gave him permission to use my letter in any way he saw fit. Inasmuch as he had evidently discussed the cover with Larry he sent my letter to him and I suppose Larry's comment was in reply.

The use of this cover in July 1862 does not necessarily indicate that the Charleston P.O. was out of stamps, which probably was not the case, but rather a late use of a P.M.P. of which comparatively few were issued. This is the only one of which I have actual knowledge, but if it is unique, I doubt if that is a just reason to question it. The famed British Guiana is also the only one known.

Dr. Peters stated that this cover came to him in an original find and he had other covers from the same correspondence. The Doctor was a gentleman. Could I add any more?

With regards -

Yours etc.,

STANLEY B. ASHBROOK

(copy to L.L.Shenfield)
File 15-46

Van Dyk MacBride
744 BROAD STREET
NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

December 5th, 1949.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
33 No. Fort Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stanley:

I now have your two letters of December 3rd and I duly received your postal dated December 1st.

As to the latter, - I have now noted that the cover in Lot #622 of the Fuller-Peters sale was addressed to Pamplins Depot, Va. Incidentally, this cover was bought by a collector friend of mine, and he doubtless would loan it to me if we wanted it for any purpose.

I think Arthur Gillardon has now been properly chastised, - it would be a nice gesture if you would write him a pleasant little note and tell him to "be guided accordingly" hereafter!

When I saw the illustration of Lot #411 in the next Mozian sale, I immediately thought of the similar fake cancel on the Confederate 2¢ Red Brown stamps. I would be interested to see your opinion on this piece after you have examined it. It did look "too good to be true" in the catalog illustration!

Thanks for your further comments on that Charleston 10¢ cover. After talking the subject over with Larry Shenfield in more detail, I realized I was wrong in saying that I had never seen a Confederate Provisional envelope used after the end of the Provisional period except with General Issue adhesive stamps attached. As Ezra Cole had raised the same point about the Charleston cover in a talk with me, I am enclosing a copy of the letter to both you and Shenfield.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

MacB/HK

COPY

Van Dyk Mac Bride
744 Broad Street
Newark 2, N. J.

December 5th, 1949.

Mr. Ezra D. Cole,
Nyack,
New York.

Dear Ez:

Thanks a lot for your thoughtfulness in sending me that data on Yencer of Andersonville! Although I have written and sent in my story on that Andersonville cover to STAMPS sometime ago, I have now written another paragraph based on the information you sent me, and I hope there is still time for it to be inserted in the article. Anyhow, - thanks again for your cooperation.

I have been doing a little more checking up as to the usage of that Charleston 10¢ P.M.Provisional cover. As you know, I agreed with you that its use in 1862, long after stamps were available, was at least "peculiar". I do find, however, that there are numerous examples of Confederate P.M. provisionals, both adhesives and handstamped envelopes which were used that late, - or later. As a matter of fact I have several of the latter in my own collection, although they were generally of smaller places than Charleston. I do not mean Handstamped Paids, which are quite plentiful used on late dates.

The paper, printing, ink, etc. of this 10¢ envelope all check up with the 5¢ Charleston Provisional envelopes. I am told that this particular cover came to Dr. Peters in an original find with other covers from the same correspondence. Therefore, apparently it was just late use of a P.M.Provisional envelope which was accepted as O.K. at the Charleston post office, and sent on through the mails. It would be interesting to see the few other examples now known, and what any which may be turned up in the future may tell us.

Cordially,

Mac

MacB/HK

c.c. Stanley B. Ashbrook

Doherty, Clifford & Shenfield, Inc., 350 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, N. Y.

December the fifth
19 49

Dear Mac:

In reference to yours of December 1st - copy to Stan Ashbrook on the 10¢ Provisional Charleston -- you make the statement that "you have never seen a Confederate P.M. Provisional used after the General Issue Adhesive stamps were issued without one or more of those stamps put on and cancelled."

I am sure you could not have meant this because I have a record of 2¢ Blue and 2¢ Red N.O. used after October and November of 1861 and also 5¢ Red Athens and also 5¢ Petersburg. It is my opinion that this use was necessary here and there because of the great shortage of regular government stamps which hit offices now and then when deliveries were on a hand-to-mouth basis.

I repeat that this 10¢ Charleston to me is okay and I hope John Fox who bought it gets hold of the copy that Colson is supposed to have.

Best regards,

Harry

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride
744 Broad Street
Newark, N.J.

ABA

COPY

V. D. Dyk Mac Bride
744 Broad Street
Newark 2, N. J.

January 27th, 1950.

Col. Eugene Wulfekuhler,
P.O. Box 5401,
Daytona Beach, Florida.

Dear Gene:

This is in reply to the questions in your letter of January 21st. John Fox bought the 10¢ Charleston envelope in the Fuller-Peters sale, but I understand that Perry Fuller subsequently bought it back from him on some kind of a deal, and that it now is in the collection of one of his customers. As for its validity, Shenfield and Ashbrook agreed that it was O.K. Of course their opinion had to be based almost entirely on the available and circumstantial evidence, but the printing, the paper, the writing, all were contemporary with the period. Also, there were other covers in the same correspondence, and as Dr. Peters acquired it as part of an original "find", I agree that it can be accepted as doubtless genuine. This is in spite of its rather late usage, - after the Provisional period, - as of course there are many similar cases from other places. We would all like to see one or two more examples, but none seem to exist except for a part of one cover, and the reported ownership of an unused example. Incidentally, we have no knowledge of what Caspary or Hall might think of the item, and if they have seen it at all I doubt that they have given it the study that Shenfield and Ashbrook devoted to it.

Note 10¢ CHARLESTON

As for your 10¢ Danvilles, - I have a dim recollection that Hiram Deats was asked about the one he originally owned, but that he either had no memory as to where it came from, or had no opinion as to its validity. I think we have now established the facts pretty well on these items, - which briefly are that they are NOT counterfeits or fakes, that they were prepared in the right period for the Danville postmaster, but that they apparently were never issued for use during the Privisional period. The few that have been found were used merely as envelopes, probably when stationery became scarce, and with General Issue Confederate stamps attached to pay the postage. The latter were then cut or torn out of the corners leaving part of the Danville postmark showing, in an attempt to make the envelopes appear as used Provisionals.

Yes, we all noticed that the Prisoner's cover which was Lot #622 of the Fuller-Peters sale was addressed to Woodson, as is one of the 10¢ Danvilles. This of course simply bears out our opinion that the latter were genuinely made, addressed and mailed, - but their use was after the Provisional period had passed. Incidentally Larry Shenfield has asked me to answer you on the above matters, so that this will also serve as his reply in case you have written and asked him about these things.

My best.

Sincerely yours,

MacB/HK

Copies to: S.B.Ashbrook
L.L.Shenfield

JOHN A. FOX

116 NASSAU STREET
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

BEEKMAN 3-5443

STAMPS
COVERS
ACCESSORIES

RETAIL
WHOLESALE
AUCTIONS

February 8, 1950

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Ave.
Ft. Thomas, Ky.

Dear Stan:

Thank you for your letter of February 6th. Relative to your inquiry on the 10¢ Charleston cover, it is true that this cover went back to Perry Fuller but not because there was anything wrong with it for I thoroughly believe it was 100% genuine, however Perry was able to move it as a much better figure than it brought in the auction and I made a substantial profit. This, of course, is off the record and I ask you to keep it confidential.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely,

John

JOHN A. FOX

JAF:ff

H. W. STARK & COMPANY

BOX 288

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

Nov. 19, 1949.

Dear Stan,

Thanks for giving me the address of Thomas Parks. Sure I remember him. He was in high school when I was at Lake Linden. I lived up there for around eight years. I ~~wrote~~ wrote him and it will be nice to hear from him.

Molesworth sent me that block of 1¢ with 1c type. If it had been on cover I might have considered it. Jack breezed in last night around 9:30 and I asked him about it and he knew all about it but did not dare acquire it for reasons you know. He also mentioned Renee stopped over at your place on the way down to see her daughter.

I purchased that crack plate variety 1¢ on cover you said was OK. Turned the Via Nic. cover back. Am enclosing three covers that I thought might interest you. Dont quite get the cover from Australia. It says Paid--Melbourne and yet has the black 75 which I presume is to collect. The New York is in black and what appears to be a manuscript "54". Since it is U.S. pkt. we should have 21¢ credit. Is the 54 the credit to England. I am assuming it came via England due to the N.Y. marking. Was the rate changed between '51 and '57. I note the rate in '51 was 73¢. Then too there is what appears to be a large red manuscript "3". Is the "54" a "34"? 21¢ plus "54" would make 75¢. Why the big red "3"? You figure it out. The cover to Brazil I thought fairly Scarce. 45¢ rate. Britian's share 40¢, ours 5¢. The third cover to Guatemala is the same 34¢ rate as was to certain parts of Mexico. We made a postal treaty with guatemala is 1862 Sept. but I have not the terms. Note the red New York marking. Believe this was in error---thought it was for England.--note the date, and note the Black New York date. What does the "2" red, stand for. Is this a double 17¢ rate that might have gone into effect in Sept. 1862.

Hutch, Fred Bott and the MacGregor family are coming out this afternoon to listen to the Ohio State-Mich. game and also a jam stamp session.

Must close for time being. Best of wishes to all.

Sincerely,

Harold.

15-47

Nov. 22, 1949.

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
P. O. Box 288,
Ann Arbor, Mich.

Dear Harold:

Herewith the three covers as per yours of the 19th - all three quite interesting and several are puzzling.

Guatemala cover - We signed a treaty with this country effective Sept. 1, 1862. Your cover is postmarked New York Oct. 11 (1862). This treaty provided that the U. S. would convey mails to and from New York and Aspinwall at U. S. expense, and to and from San Francisco to Panama City at U. S. expense, balance of postage to be at expense of Guatemala. The U. S. rate to bhe 10¢ and the Guatemala rate 2 reals, (25¢ in U. S. currency). These rates to prevail, "provided the same can be secured for the compensation allowed by law."

The "2" on your cover is evidently the "2" reals due at Guatemala City. My guess is that the red New York postmark is an error. Further that this letter was conveyed under the terms of the new treaty and went by a U. S. Mail S.S. to Aspinwall - and that the rate was overpaid - that 10¢ per ½ ounce would have been sufficient. The treaty provided that mail was to be transmitted in closed bags. The "2" indicates the weight was not over ½ ounce and the absence of any Panama markings indicates that the letter went in a sealed bag, and one more point - The sailings of the U. S. Mail steamships for Aspinwall were on the 1st, 11th and 21st of each month. (see my One Cent Book, Vol. 2 , page 249). Inasmuch as the red N.Y. error was meaningless it was not crossed out or corrected. Do you agree with my analysis on this cover?

Brazil - Yes, this was the 45¢ rate via England - Via British Packet from New York, with 40¢ credit to G.B. You are right - rates to South America via England, or France, are far from common.

Australia - Year use 1854 - My rate tables of 1853 - 1854 - 1855 all quote but one rate, viz., 37¢ per half ounce, but the rate is quoted - "By private ship via England." The marking on back was applied in England and the black New York would indicate that the rate from the British Frontier to the U. S. had not been prepaid, (if prepaid this bhould have been in red).

Did the PAID at Melbourne indicate payment only to England? If this letter had been prepaid from Melbourne to U. S.

destination it seems to me that there would have been a credit to the U. S. in red of 21¢ for each rate (21¢ - 42¢ - 63¢ etc.). I must confess that I cannot figure this cover. I have no explanation for the "75" - the "54" or the "3." It should not be hard to figure an inbound cover but it is at times.

Re - Milesworth. I wrote Hutch about this fellow yesterday, to the effect to be careful. I have had some bad reports about him, so watch your step. He has tried to sell that 1¢ block to three or four friends of mine but it seems that he has not succeeded in spite of the fact I gave Pollitz my opinion that it is worth more than $1,000. It is the largest block (imperf) known from Plate 4.

The following is confidential. Rene stopped over night going and returning from Lexington. She was aware that she had been blamed because Jack had not made any purchases and she attributed the talk to me. I told her very frankly to blame Jack as he told most everyone that he wasn't buying anything because Rene had forbid him to do so. That is about where the conversation on the subject ended.

Tom Parks is apparently quite a fine chap and he is a student of Confederates.

Mildred and I plan to drive up to Columbus Friday morning. We have a reservation at the Neil House in case you decide to drive down there at the last minute. Chase will attend, also Ernie Jacobs, and from Detroit, Don Heath.

Mildred joins me in best wishes to Ruth and you and the family.

Cordially yours,

H. W. STARK & COMPANY

BOX 288

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

Jan. 1, 1950.

Dear Stan,

Well I guess the mail rush is over now, so am returning your items and also several of mine for your inspection and comments.

I believe the extended frame line as shown on the 5¢ 1847 cover is due to defective wiping of the plate after inking. They show up in the plane of wiping and could be due to too much pressure or perhaps some minute particle of lint or dirt or some thing similar. I have found quite a few on the 3¢ greens.

Relative to the cover Jack purchased. He brought it to the plant and of course I had no glass or anything to examine it by. He got my expanation a bit mixed up. I told him the Harve in the French receiving meant direct from N.Y. to France. If by Amer. Pkt. something was wrong. I could not make the French receiving out complete. Told him to send it to you and you could unlock the secret by the Str. "Canada." I did not know what vessel this belonged to. I also told him I did not believe I had seen a N.Y. cancel in black. Incidentally I believe this is the first cover I have seen where the British carrier went direct to Harve. They generally have Calais. Thought only our vessels and German vessels carried direct to Harve at this period. It is a nice cover and from his report he got it very reasonable.

Thanks for the tip on the 1¢ cover from Chase. I did not intend buying it.

Am enclosing a cover I recently purchased from Sampson. It has a 5¢ 1851 from New Orleans to Paris via England. The date it left New Orleans is March 28, 1857.---three days before the French treaty went into effect. The 5¢ paid the shore to ship correct and via England was correct. It left Boston April 8th arrived in England April 21 and France Apr. 22 and Paris Apr. 22. The large "16" shows the French charged the double 15¢ rate. Was this standard before the treaty or is this marking showing the treaty being enforced. In other words was this cover treated by the French as a fully unpaid double 1/4 oz. rate as applied to the treaty regulations. If Boston was on their toes they should have treated the letter as fully unpaid. Maybe they were a bit lenient. Would appreciate your comments on this cover. It is the only one I have seen that was enroute when the treaty became effective. What is the manuscript marking in the upper left portion of the cover. I bought this cover because it fascinated me. Paid $95.00. Stamp appears to be nice.

Note the Roxbury stampless with "PAID 9". Never saw a "9" before. Might be a "6" upside down.

H. W. STARK & COMPANY

BOX 288

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

The cover with paid 3¢ imperf. has notation "via Nicaragua". Would you check the New York date and let me know if it came that way. Everything points to it coming that way.

Am also enclosing the cover from Melbourne with another I picked up from Singapore, They both seem to have a lot of markings in common. Thought you might want to mull them over a bit.

The other cover is from the Krug collection. I know we could send mail out of Boston to Halifax by paying 5¢ with 5¢ due on delivery in Canada, but did not know this applied to a French possession. The "10" appears to be a "due 10¢ on delivery. Did Boston put this on or did Halifax. The additional 10¢ would make 15¢ rate but wasnt this a violation. Is the "8", 8 decimes or 15¢ due on delivery and put on by the French. You did not explain this marking in your write up.

Regarding your letter relative to letting you know what I might want from the auctions and you have buy it for me. Did Harmer Rooke give me a licking on that 1869 first day cover and the 10¢ 1847 to Calif.? I sure would be glad to have the bids go thru you and appreciate your offer very much. I do not buy very much thru auctions. Prefer to see what I am buying and perhaps pay a little more, but at least know what I am getting. I have been stung on auctions due to faulty descriptions. Have also sent back quite a bit that was not as printed in the auction catalogue. Have noted this more in the Bank Note issue where they try to make everything the higher priced issues.

I am just getting over Xmas holidays. We had 14 here from Thurs. thru Monday. Too much for old people---result Ruth has been in bed more or less for the last three days. Cold and reaction from the din and commotion. Should be on her feet in a day or so.

We had a nice party meeting at Toat house Friday, Dec. 30th. Most of the members were present.

Shierson has been laid up with a cold, etc. Havent seen him for a week or so. See Hutch regularly on Thursday.

Will write more later. Best of Wishes for a fine and prosperous year to you and yours.

Sincerely,

Harold

am still mulling the 10¢ strip over. Cash is a bit short right now. Would like to see it if possible.

Jan. 7, 1950

Mr. Harold W. Stark,
P.O.Box 288,
Ann Arbor, Mich.

Dear Harold:

Yours of the 1st received with enclosures as stated.

5¢ 1847 - Extended Frame Lines. Thanks for your comments as to origin. We know that these are "ink varieties" and not consistent but very frequently we see examples that have very much the appearance of plate varieties, that is, regularly engraved lines on the plate. Examples on the 10¢ are very scarce in comparison to those of the 5¢. Would it be your guess that the difference is in line with the relative scarcity between the two stamps? Or to the quality of the ink?

Jack's cover to Havre. Here is a little point to remember - By "Amer Pkt" did not literally mean by a ship of American registry but rather at the expense of the U.S. P.O.Dept. Whenever the carriage across the Atlantic was at our expense, the term "Am.Pkt." was used. Thus in the case of this particular cover, while the "Canada" was a British Cunard ship, we paid the sea postage, hence the term "Am.Serv" was used. But "Am.Pkt." meant the same thing.

5¢ 1856 cover - Returned herewith. This was rated pre-treaty, as the Forwarding Office did the rating under postal treaties. This left New Orleans on March 28, 1857, and the Treaty was not in effect when it was mailed. However, before it left Boston, the Treaty was in effect, but the New Orleans rating was not changed. Note my cover herewith No1A of New Orleans Feb. 22, 1857 - Received at Paris Mar. 18, 1857 - Pre-treaty period. You will note that a pair of 1¢ 1851 was removed, but this was the same 5¢ shore-to-ship rate with the same type of markings. Note my cover herewith marked "B" of a few weeks later - mailed from New Orleans on Apr. 11, 1857 - Note the New Orleans unpaid rate of 30¢ - and the Paris due of 16 - also the treaty debit of Boston of 6¢ - (our 2 x 3¢).

Re - the manuscript marking in upper left center on your cover. This looks like a French "4" - See my Vol. 2, page 337 - the figure "4."

I think you got quite a nice bargain in this cover. It surely would be worth more than $95.00 even if it was not of the

1-April 1857 period. However, that point makes it even more rable but it is a feature unknown to Mort.

Roxbury, Mass - I doubt if this was a paid triple rate t rather a double with the "6" struck upside down. Rather cute t that

"Via Nicaragua" Yes, this went Via Nicaragua and the New York date is Dec. 13, 1853. I have photographs of other covers by this same trip and the "13" is faint as on your cover - same postmark stamper, etc. This mail left San Francisco on Wednesday, Nov. 16, 1853 by the "S.S.Pacific" - The "S.S.Star of the West" brought the mail into New York.

Two covers from Manila and Melbourne. Comparing these two it would appear that both were sent unpaid and that in each case they came by "U.S.PKT" from England - making our share 21¢ - that 75¢ was collected and that the balance of 54¢ had been charged to us by the British. The two shillings three pence equaled 54¢ - As I wrote you previously, I have no record of a 75¢ rate to Australia, via Marseilles. Evidently the Melbourne "Paid" did not mean that the letter was paid thru to destination. Glad to see the Manila cover as it makes a nice pair to the other.

5¢ 1857 to St. Pierre - Note the back markings - these show that the letter was dropped off by a Cunard ship at Halifax - and there entered the British Mail and I suppose was thereafter handled under the British-French Treaty. As far as we were concerned this was no different than a U. S. letter to Halifax, with the 5¢ payment. I really do not know the meaning of the "10" or the "8," but I do not think that either one was applied at New York or Boston.

Re - New York auctions. I have no information whatsoever that you were not treated fair in the purchase of those two covers in the Harmer Rooke sale - but I know this - I never trust any of that Eastern bunch with a mail bid. There is only one way to buy at New York sale - in person - or by someone you can trust. And you have to be awful sure of the latter. When Cole executes my bids, I am absolutely sure. In the majority of cases I can trust him to inspect a lot for me but if I have any doubt on that score I send for the lot and inspect it myself. You can do the same but my advice on this is, to return the lot, or lots, the same day of receipt. By so doing, you establish good will with the firm and they will be glad to send all lots requested for inspection.

I talked with Shierson last week and he promised to drive down toward the end of the month - said he would try and persuade Hutch - but didn't think you could leave Sans Souci - as both Ruth and you couldn't leave the place and that you couldn't leave Ruth alone. Too bad that you are so tied down. Can't you make some arrangement?

Next Wednesday night the Cincinnati Philatelic Society will hold a dinner celebrating its 50th Anniversary. I am to be the guest of honor, and I understand that I am to be presented with an Honorary Membership. I wish that Hutch, Charlie, Jack or you could

resent and share this tribute with me.

We trust that Ruth has recovered and that all goes well the Stark family.

Our fondest regards to all.

As ever yours,

Van Dyk Hat Bride
744 BROAD STREET
NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

November 22nd, 1949.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
33 North Fort Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stanley:

What do you think of the enclosed "what-is-it"? Have you ever seen this "Southern Confederacy - 10 cts" type-set design before? IT looks as if it might be genuine, or at least contemporary, - and the U.S. stamp and grid cancel may be O.K. too. But, the Fort Sumter postmark is definitely a fake, - Dietz even has a record of it on another cover.

What do you think of the possibility that the cover was genuinely used with the U.S. 3¢ 1857 stamp and the grid cancel, the fake Fort Sumter postmark having been added later? I think perhaps we had best make a photo for the record, - particularly bringing out the typeset design in the corner.

Sincerely,

MacB/HK

Nov. 23, 1949.

Mr. Van Dyk MacBride,
744 Broad St.,
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Mac:

Herewith the "Fort Sumter" cover. All of it is new to me. The "tie" of the 3¢ 1857 is not very convincing.

Note the date Feb. 12 - A 3¢ 1857 could not have been used in 1862 so the fake must indicate a date of 1861, and, of course, that would be too early for the "TEN CTS." Confed. rate. The whole thing seems very silly to me and I doubt if even the imprint is genuine. Bob Laurence might know.

There never was a U. S. post office by the name of "Fort Sumter." The address looks to me like the handwriting of the old faker R.L.Dietrich of Lorrane, Va. who flourished about 30 years ago.

The design looks to me like it was put together from stock items in a printing shop, and it is possible that printers type was used for the postmark - inserting one letter at a time. Note the "offset" on the back - which might indicate that my above guess is wrong and that the postmark was printed on a press.

I made a negative and will send you a print later on.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

Fort Sumter Fake

Submitted By MacBride - Nov 22 1949 -
See Scrap Book #15 - page 48 -

Rush - by mss.

Dear Stan -

Here is the RICHMOND - APR 13 cancel I wrote you about.* It has the box for the year date. And the notation on reverse says "Recd Apr. 14, 1863"

Please photo front & return cover with bill for photo - Then compare with your photo my former - time o.c. RICHMOND APR 21 (BAR). That puzzled both of us - It seems to me this establishes it as 1863 (unless of course the notation is wrong as to year. Perhaps Richmond used this box for only a few days in APR 1863 - for that reason we have had a tougher time finding one.

Best

Greg -

* Typo wrong on the date - the 13th not the 19th!

Nov
28
1949

(3) Remember my four-line Frame Line dated APR. 21 (slug for year date). I have located a pair of 5¢ Local print canceled APR. 19 (slug for year date) with unquestionable 1863 use. Both Richmond of course. Have always felt my cover was 1863 use but couldn't prove it!

Regards,

Carey

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

TELEPHONE: BRyant 9-0445

Dec. 3, 1949.

Mr. L.L.Shenfield,
350 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Larry:

I have been in and out of town for the past week and this is the first opportunity I have had to acknowledge receipt of yours with the Typo cover of Apr. 13.

That notation is certainly 1863 and I suppose that it is correct but this use looks more like 1864 than 1863. Do you recall the use of a non-serif APR in 1863? If this type was used in 1863 I don't seem to find an example.

Where a bar was used in April 1863 the marking was as per Dietz Type 19 - page 300 - his Confed book. On page 298, his Type 12 is Apr 12 1863. Dietz does not show a combination such as yours.

I made a photograph of the enclosed cover and I will send you print later on.

Your Frame Line - I have this listed as K35 and it has the same APR as on the enclosed cover - Are you sure it is "21" - I looked thru my entire record of "Frames" and "K35" is the only Richmond like the enclosed cover.

With regards -

Yours etc.,

Doherty, Clifford & Shenfield, Inc.
ADVERTISING
350 FIFTH AVENUE • Empire State Building • NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

January the fourth
19 50

Dear Stan:

Thanks for yours of the 18th. I note the address on the Blackford cover which is to Lancelot and not to Eugene. However, Lancelot was in Petersburg at that time because the letters in the book relate that Mrs. Charles M. Blackford went to Petersburg in March of 1863 to visit all the Blackfords who were gathered there at Longstreet's Headquarters. Apparently then the fact that this letter is addressed to Lancelot and not Eugene does not cancel the theory of 1863.

I am sending you as soon as I can find it, with my compliments, a copy of "Letters from Lee's Army" by Blackford.

In reference to mail Trans-Miss. after Vicksburg fell, I agree there must have been some attempt to get regular mail across the river and perhaps they scrambled it across when they could and it just looks like regular 10¢ mail from points East to West or vice versa. However, if this is so, this period lasted from July 4th to say November 1st when the express mail started (Reagan announced the signing of the contract as on October 20th) then it's evident I have never been able to find covers Trans-Miss. in that period. The only two I have are from Scarborough, Ga. - June 19, 1863 and July 16, 1863 - addressed to the Wadley family at Monroe, La. These were in the same find of Wadley that contained so many Trans-Miss. covers - 40¢ rate. I don't know where Scarborough, Ga. is, but certainly these items crossed the river and were delivered as per notations.

Now whether or not the 40¢ rate WAS the only service after it was negotiated I don't know. I have no record of Trans-Miss. addresses in late '63, '64 or early '65. It is possible of course that a lot of this regular mail was transported by hand across the river and dropped in post offices East or West of the river, and therefore would show nothing but normal addresses and postmarks. I am inclined to believe that there was no regular mail while the Trans-Miss. rate was in effect but I could be wrong. I wish I could prove it one way or another with covers.

Did you see the last Confederate Bulletin — especially page 3 -- the Postmaster's notice issued at Mobile? Here's complete proof of your reading of that cover from England to Richmond which went

through the Dead Letter Office and was delivered in Baltimore. You said that the addressee probably made some arrangements to pay the postage due and pick it up in Baltimore and this notice proves that such a procedure was possible.

In the same issue did you read about the Sperati counterfeit? I had one sent to me by Zinsmeister and examined it carefully and came to the conclusion that it was a rotogravure process or an etching process of some kind? The distinguishing marks mentioned in this article I noticed but took to be identical with the position reproduced and did not know they were constant.

Do you agree with Dietz's analysis -- I still don't see how etching with acid, as I understand it, could make the fine lines stand up and give the appearance of this finished product unless the plate were extensively re-touched and worked over. To me it's a beautiful counterfeit and thank goodness Sperati doesn't put them on covers with fake postmarks.

Our New Year's was saddened by the passing of my Mother which though not unexpected was still a shock.

We will have something on the wallpaper newspaper pretty soon.

Best regards,

Gary-

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook
33 N. Ft. Thomas Avenue
Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

TRACING

RICHMOND

Van Dyk MacBride
744 BROAD STREET
NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

December 8th, 1949.

Mr. Stanley B. Ashbrook,
33 North Fort Thomas Ave.,
Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Dear Stanley:

As you can imagine, I read your "MAILS SUSPENDED" article in STAMPS of December 10th, with great interest. You present some information therein which I will be glad to make use of, in the article I have long planned to write on that subject as a sequel to the one which appeared in the AMERICAN PHILATELIST of December 1944. Although you do not mention the latter article in your present story in any way, I am sure you are aware of its contents, and also of the reference to the subject on page 209 of the present Dietz Catalog, which I also wrote. If you will re-read these references, I think you may find some data to supplement your STAMPS article.

Since the appearance of my original AP article, I have accumulated quite a lot of additional information and data which I plan to use in the sequel to which I refer. For this purpose I have photographs of the "NO MAIL SERVICE" cover, which of course Costales got in the Needham lot and then sold to John Fox. I also have photos and data on some other MAILS SUSPENDED covers incldding some with the "CANNOT BE FORWARDED" handstamp which appears without the "MAILS SUSPENDED" marking, one of which reads "MAIL SUSPENDED". There are various town postmarks, receiving stamps, etc. on most of these covers, which will add considerably to my previous data on the subject.

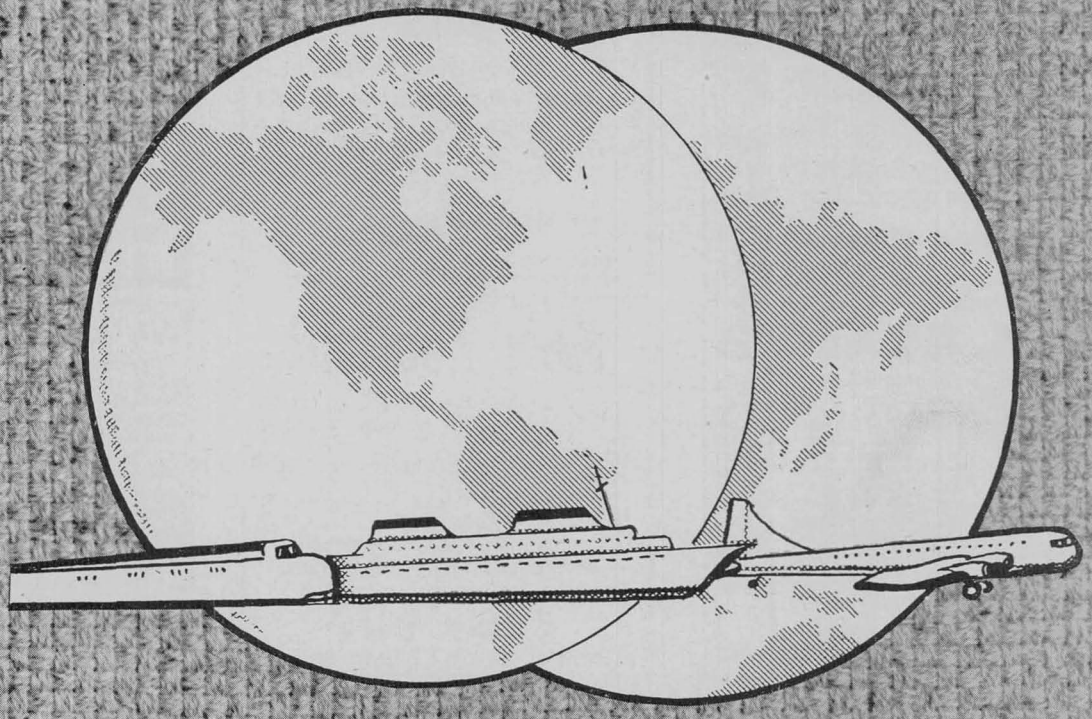
I'll look forward to hearing from you in connection with various other matters referred to in other recent letters.

Sincerely,

MacB/HK

WEEKLY PHILATELIC GOSSIP

THE STAMP COLLECTOR'S MAGAZINE



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VOLUME 48 NUMBER 11 WHOLE NUMBER 1436 ★ MAY 14, 1949

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Edson K. Rice
La Mesa, California

Weekly Philatelic Gossip

Volume XLVIII No. 11 Whole Number 1436
MAY 14, 1949

The Stamp Collector's Magazine

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The opinions expressed in the various articles in GOSSIP *are those of the writer himself and do not necessarily express those of the publisher or editor.*

Send all remittances, orders for advertising, subscriptions, etc., to WEEKLY PHILATELIC GOSSIP, Holton. Kansas. All communications to members of the staff should be addressed c/o PHILATELIC GOSSIP, Holton, Kansas. These will be forwarded to non-resident writers, and those desiring replies should enclose return postage or self-addressed, stamped envelope in every case. *All communications pertaining to editorial matters should be sent to* WEEKLY PHILATELIC GOSSIP, *Holton, Kansas.*

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K. BILESKI
STATION B, WINNIPEG, CANADA

This issue is edited by Harry E. Gray in honor of the Centennial of the State of California. It is WEEKLY PHILATELIC GOSSIP'S salute and tribute to the land of the Golden West. It is with pride that our Publisher, D. E. Dworak dedicates this issue to a great sister State!

Mr. Gray and his co-editors have brought philately to us as seen by them. Not only is great credit due to Mr. Gray but to co-editors H. M. Pierce, Henry Challoner, E. R. Vanderhoof, Fredric Holladay, Cyrus R. Thompson, A. W. Bloss, A. R. Baker, W. R. Parker, H. D. Doscher, W. W. Phillips and many others.

It is interesting to note, that in certain instances, articles that have appeared in WEEKLY PHILATELIC GOSSIP are reprinted. In some cases the authors of these articles have passed on. Their writings have been recorded and perpetuated and not much could have been added to their writings at the present day.

—HARRY WEISS

Editorial . . . .

By HARRY E. GRAY

We are now at about the halfway mark in California's three year Centennial Celebration. A celebration starting with the discovery of Gold by Marshall, January 24, 1848 and winding up with our admission to the Union on September 9, 1850. During these three years events took place that were of great importance not only to California but to our nation as well.

The flow of yellow metal, which started at Coloma in 1848 and still continues, brought prosperity to our nation, helped preserve the Union during the Civil War by furnishing the finances so sorely needed. The Gold Rush of '49 opened up the vast territory west of the Missouri River. The year 1850 saw statehood. History could have been different if our independent Bear Flag Republic had not chosen to become a part of the Nation. Today the Western portion of our country might be a divided country, part under Mexican rule, part under Russia as they held and ruled the territory from a portion of Sonoma County north to the British claims and Great Britain from there to 54-40, our present border with Canada.

One hundred years later we have celebrated and are celebrating some of the hundreds of happenings of those past years. Almost every city, town and village has found some connection with those times and will hold

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1st Day Price List just issued, 10c, deductable from first order.
J. N. CLARKSON, JR., Dept. 11, Ridgewood, N.J.

a centennial. These range all the way from a simple display of the relics of those times to the most elaborate spectacles such as the repetition of the ride of De Anza and his men from San Diego to the hills overlooking San Francisco Bay. Day by day these modern men, clad in armour and the habiliments of the De Anzo expedition, covered the ground their predecessors had traversed until at last they stood in the exact spot De Anza stood when he first looked upon the beautiful landlocked body of water, the Bay of San Francisco.

The publicity of our centennial will undoubtedly bring to light many letters and covers of those early days. Letters that will bring out the mode of life and the events of those times, and covers that will thrill the stamp collector and give us a greater insight into the early mails. Undoubtedly there are covers and letters carried during the reign of Spain. A number of covers rest in the collectors' hands that originated during the Mexican rule, as well as the brief period of the Bear Flag Republic. I have never heard of covers emanating under the Russian rule of their portion of our state. While Captain Sutter ruled a sizable empire in the center of our state he never attempted to claim it for his native Switzerland but was content to be a Californian.

Necessity created the express companies, which became the deliverers of mail throughout the west. The collecting of these "Westerns" is one of the most interesting and enticing fields of the hobby. It is to be hoped that this special California edition of WEEKLY PHILATELIC GOSSIP, will serve to make our fellow philatelists conscious of the interest and value of collecting these historic covers.

★ ★

NEW ISSUES

—Courtesy New York Journal-American.

AUSTRIA—In the first year of its activity in Austria, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund has provided 8,599 tons of food for needy and undernourished Austrian children. This made it possible to serve the children 83,995,525 meals at a cost of $3,100,000.

To show appreciation for this contribution to the health and welfare of their children, the Austrians will issue a special 1-schilling blue green stamp on May 10th. It will commemorate the first year of UNICEF work there.

The stamp will show a dove of peace flying from the UN symbol toward an open-armed little boy. It was designed by Prof. Josef Seger and is being printed by photogravure at the Austrian State Printing Works, Vienna.

(*Page 337, please.*)

U. S. Scarce Plates

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THE INSIDE STRAIGHT

By HARRY WEISS

California, here we come! Those might have been the words of the riders of the early mail days, long before the railroads crossed the plains and mountains enroute to California. Our editorial offices are situated within a hundred miles of the frontier towns of a date long ago. The West Coast and in particular the great State of California was on the *receiving* end in those days. Naturally those cover collectors are well informed on how the mail was received. Today's story has to do with the *sending* end.

Westport, Mo., in those days, was one of the first frontier posts to the southwest of us. Today Westport is known as Kansas City, Mo., the end of the rail line in those days. From there through what is now known as Kansas City, Kans., Mission, Kans., the old Santa Fe trail struck out to the southwest. A ferry made the trip across the "Big Muddy" and mail riders and the stage coach carried the mail beyond.

At what is now Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, the old chains that were used to tie up the ferry boats can still be seen, this trail struck in a jagged north - westerly direction. Many people still living remember seeing this old trail in their childhood. A short distance from Holton, Kansas, is a hamlet known as America City. Here one can still see the old Buffalo Wallow, a big hole where the buffalo came for their drink and bath. Decendants of old man Armstrong related to us not so long ago, the hardships of the trip from Leavenworth to America City, a distance of less than one hundred miles, a two weeks round trip in those days, with horse and wagon over a rough rutted road, a nightmare in rainy weather. It was here that the old barn can still be seen where the Armstrongs ran the old freight line, also occasionally carrying mail to the Pikes Peak territory and Denver City. There were several names for this trail, locally it was called Armstrong's route.

Less than sixty miles northeast of our office the City of St. Joseph is located. It is on the Missouri side of the river. It was from St. Joseph, Mo. that the original Pony Express, on April 3, 1860, started its westward course.

The collector of Pony Express covers would be in a cover collector's paradise were he able to visit St. Joseph, Mo. and he would be thrilled to visit the old barn where the start of the overland journey was made by the intrepid riders of another day. Our illustration is what the barn looked like in the days of the past. Today the front remains. The back of the barn is a shambles. Solid walnut construction comprised the woodwork and stalls—today, after visitors have taken souvenirs in the form of walnut pieces of board to make gavels and other momentos, the Chamber of Commerce is trying its best to have the City of Saint Joseph preserve this historical structure. On our last visit to this barn, it looked very much like our illustration.

Across the street from this barn and on the very spot that the riders knew as their starting point, a beautiful granite marker, built to endure, tells the story. Another generation will learn the story we are writing about today and cover collectors in generations to come will take camera shots for their albums and cover collections.

In the center of the city of Saint Joseph stands a gigantic bronze statue of a Pony Express rider on a dashing horse. The figures are mounted on a huge granite base. Modern highways radiate in all directions from this highway in contrast to the roads of early 1860.

The Robidoux Hotel in this city has a giant mural in its tavern. Here are pictured the many routes that were used in the olden days. The Pony Express route is shown in bold relief. One can see at a glance that this route was a tortuous one that went anywhere but in a direction that was the shortest. In the dining rooms of this hotel, the menus also have a cover showing this mural. The Missouri City of the Saint are proud of their tradition, the starting point of the Pony Express route.

Going west across the State of Kansas, not much is left of the old trail. The old Hollenberg Ranch house is still standing near Hanover, Kansas. This was a relay station where drivers arrived, received fresh mounts and were again on their way to Sacramento, Calif. Collectors will remember Hanover, Kansas, sometimes referred to as the old Cottonwood house relay station. Today, as drivers take their modern automobile and follow U. S. Route No. 36, they pass through several of the towns that were on the old Pony Express route. Seneca, Marysville and other towns today boast of no trail, rather a wide paved highway where in one half hour they cover as many miles as the Pony Express rider made in many hours.

The old ranch house referred to was built by G. H. Hollenberg back in 1857. Some years ago the Kansas

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RESEARCH.....

As applied to the subject of the Western Expresses, their Handstamps and Franks

By W. W. PHILLIPS

People frequently ask me: "What is this research you are so interested in, and how do you go about it?" and again: "Why does it take so long to finish the job?"

Research is defined by Webster as: "(1) A searching for something, especially with care or diligence. (2) Careful or critical inquiry or examination in seeking facts or principles; diligent investigation in order to ascertain something; as, antiquarian, literary or scientific research."

As applied to the quest for knowledge relative to the carrying of mail matter by the Express Companies in the West, (that portion of the United States lying west of the westerly borders of the States of Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana) and in Alaska, British Columbia, Hawaii and Mexico, research at present must be carried on in the libraries and museums which have preserved for our use in this Centennial year of 1949, the newspapers, diaries and letters of 100 years ago, and those which followed to about the turn of the Century.

Not many Expresses carried mail matter under frank as late as 1900. The Alaska-Pacific Express operated during the '98 gold rush, with offices in Seattle, Tacoma and Port Townsend, Washington; Portland, Oregon, and at some half dozen towns and camps in Alaska. Wells, Fargo & Co. carried letter mail under frank in Mexico as late as 1905, according to covers seen. The greater number of the Western Expresses operated between 1849 and 1869, principally in areas where mining was being carried on, and it is to the newspapers of those dates to which we must turn for information, (to be found in both advertisement and news item), as to owners, routes and rates.

Naturally, to be effective the hunt must be thorough, and all available sources of information checked before the results are tallied and conclusions drawn. The length of time involved, then, is in direct proportion to the mass of material to be searched; since the work must be thoroughly done to obtain worthwhile results, it cannot be handled in a hurried manner. Time can be saved only by its efficient use, and an orderly method of taking, transcribing and filing of notes.

The writer has accumulated since 1921 somewhat over 8,000 pages of notes covering the operations of some 1750 expresses, typed on letter paper and filed alphabetically in 3-ring binders. These notes include auction records, which have been kept since 1929. Three indexes have been prepared, the first an alphabetic listing, the second a listing by States, and the third a listing by area, as, for example, the Boise Basin in Idaho. Maps of each State are included in the State index, of a type showing very small localities and "Ghost Towns." A list of the old newspapers available for study in the public libraries, State Libraries and University Libraries of each State is also carried in the files, so that before starting on a searching trip an estimate of the time required for a certain locality can be made and the trip planned accordingly.

The actual searching of the columns of the old newspapers, usually in very fine print and with paper discolored by age, is a most tedious affair, and great care must be taken that some tiny item of importance is not missed. Frequently a small news item will be found in a newspaper published far from some new mining district, that will disclose the existance of a new but un-named Express, and start a chain of search which in time may develop the entire story. A typical "tip-off" is shown below:

Letter From Washington Territory:

Fort Walla Walla, W. T.
February 10th, 1860

. . . An express will be organized in March, to connect Portland with the Similkameen via Walla Walla.

(Sacramento, Calif., "Daily Union," March 10, 1860.)

On finding such an item in a paper, it is copied and indexed under, in this case, "Washington Expresses," and is also noted upon a list of references to be checked. Obviously in the above case the best files in which to seek further information would be those of papers published in Portland, The Dalles, or Walla Walla.

Many of the smaller Expresses, operated by a partnership or by individuals, did not advertise in their local papers, since their business was known to everyone on their route and in their base town. But most expressmen were either agents of the local newspaper, which they carried and sold along their route, or else they acted as traveling reporters, collecting bits of news in the various camps which they visited and turning them over to the local editor on arrival back to base. The editor usually gave "puffs," as they were called, in appreciation of the expressman's efforts in his behalf, or mentioned the expressman in connection with the item when published, as:

Sam Abbey, who runs a daily Express from this place to Sebastopol, Sweetlands, Birchville and French Corral, has obligingly supplied this office with San Francisco and Atlantic papers.

A very rare Express Frank used in Placer County, California, in the 1860's. Collection of Adolf Weber, Berkeley, Calif.

(North San Juan, Calif. weekly "Hydraulic Press," October 23, 1858.)

Thanks to Aitkin & Co.'s Express for favors from Salmon and Klamath. Four days only from the Forks. It arrived too late, last night, to give the correspondence and news rec'd. today, as our paper was made up.

(Uniontown, Calif. weekly "Humboldt Times," February 23rd, 1856.)

BILL SCOOCH now owns the Express line to Copper City and Pittsburgh. Bill is the most accomodating of drivers. Everybody rides with him, for if a man is without money he'll take him along anyway. We wish him success.

(Shasta, Calif. weekly "Shasta Courier," August 15, 1863.)

These little bits and pieces, carefully filed and indexed, represent the evidence upon which the final statements as published by the searcher are founded. It is important that they be copied verbatim, with a record made of the Volume, Number and

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The Saga Of The Camel Express

By FREDRIC HOLLADAY

The sun spread its golden fingers across the adobe bricks of the pueblo's houses and many a pasiano yawned as he drew up his breeches and threw open the door to welcome the coming of a new day. Suddenly the awakening villagers gaped in astonishment at the sight of a strange procession which appeared from out the distance. Down the sunbaked, narrow streets of the pueblo of Los Angeles plodded a convoy of camels, carrying freight of all sizes, defying description, swung across their towering humps. A mob of screaming and laughing Mexican children ran alongside the awkward beasts as they moved through the outskirts of the dusty town and headed for the central plaza and supply huts clustered thereby.

The first camel express had come to town, without advance fanfare. There were no kleig lights to blind them as they drew up to the plaza's hitching posts; no scantily-clad bathing beauties to extend a welcoming hand to the tired and perspiring drivers, for this was Los Angeles in the year of 1858.

The story behind the forming of the camel express is written with a pen filled with romanticism. During the 1850's desert travel in the western states was fraught with danger; not only from roving bands of hostile Indians but from the terror of travel with exhausted and hungry horses, that staggered and finally fell under their riders to die of thirst or hunger and leave their masters afoot hundreds of miles from the nearest outpost. During these trying years of the winning of the west, some of Washington's brightest minds conceived the idea of importing camels from Africa or Arabia to solve man's ever-increasing problem of transporting mail and supplies over the arid wastelands.

Among those statesmen interested in the novel plan was Jefferson Davis, then Secretary of War under President Franklin Pierce. In 1855, Jeff Davis urged Congress to appropriate

GREEK GEORGE

$30,000 in order to dispatch army and navy officers to Egypt to purchase several herds of the beasts. David Porter, later the famed admiral, and Major Henry Wayne, headed the Egyptian expedition and succeeded in purchasing a total of 78 camels for $250 each. It then took a great deal of good old American diplomacy to secure a permit to export the animals out of the Nile country. The two men won their argument and during 1855's later months thirty-four camels were loaded aboard the *USS Supply* and transported to Indianola, Texas. During the voyage the *Supply* was buffeted by unusually heavy seas and the camels were a forlorn and lonely looking lot when they first set foot upon the broad Texas soil.

Twenty-eight of the new arrivals were allotted to Fort Tejon, located near the now large city of Bakersfield, Calif. and under the command of Lt. Edward Fitzgerald Beale (later an ambassador) the beasts plodded their way across the sweltering sands to the California fortress. All of them arrived in good condition and Lt. Beale was so enthusiastic with the performance of his "desert ships" that he said to the officers in command, as they swayed through the fort's open gates, "they are the noblest beasts alive!"

The camels were pressed into service almost immediately after their arrival at Fort Tejon; carrying loads of up to 1,000 pounds apiece to the pueblo of Los Angeles, then a village of 3,500 inhabitants. Native camel-drivers had been imported from abroad to handle the animals and two of them, Greek George and Hi Jolly, achieved a somewhat eccentric sort of fame during the years that followed. It has been said that citizens of the sprawling pueblo were hard-pressed to decide which were the oddest of the strange caravan—the camel-drivers or the animals themselves.

As more of the camels were pressed into service, apprentice Mexican drivers were hired to take care of the overload and they proved to be so inadequate in handling the animals that the army grew discouraged with their venture. In 1859 they began selling the herds. One of the largest purchasers at the government auction was John Butterfield, president of the Overland Mail Company, then optioned by the government to carry mail between San Francisco and St. Louis. He used some of the camels on his mail run but they were so inferior to his fast overland stages that he abandoned the venture.

Another pioneer in freight and express service, Captain W. S. Hancock, bought part of the original herd and sought to establish an express service between Los Angeles and Fort Mojave. The good captain was doomed to bitter disappointment in his trial run by the antics of Greek George, who succeeded in getting himself lost in the desert for two and one half days on the initial trip. The resulting ridicule from press and prospective shippers alike threw the Captain out of business.

Fort Tejon was disbanded in 1860 and the remaining 30 camels stabled there were driven to Los Angeles and quartered near the plaza, where the citizenry loudly proclaimed their dis-

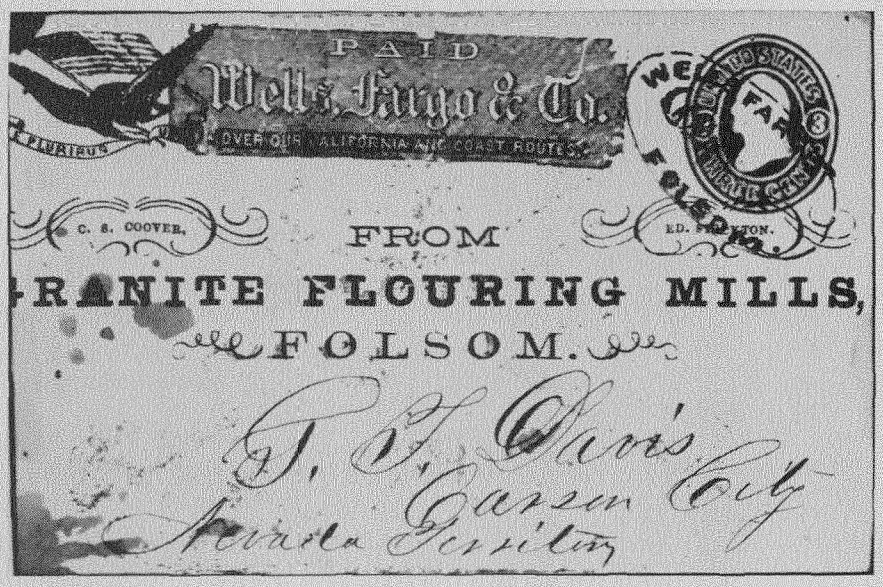
Cacheted cover carried on the revival run of the Camel Express from Fort Tejon to Los Angeles, California on November 5, 1935.
—Through the courtesy of Fred Coops, Jr.

My Most Interesting Western Express Frank

By W. W. PHILLIPS

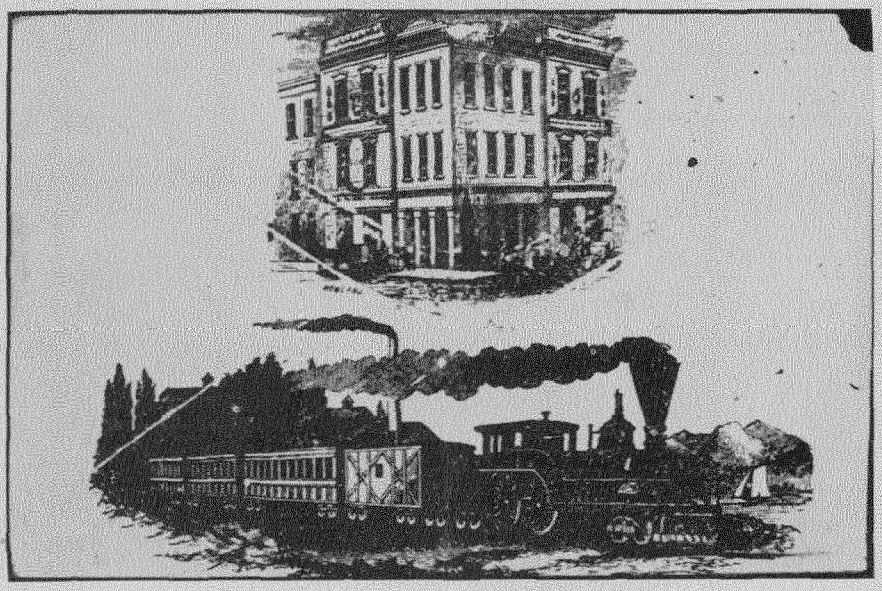
In my reference collection of Western Express covers, the one described and pictured here is most outstanding.

The envelope is the 3c pink on buff of the issue of 1861, with Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Frank at top in black and bearing the blue handstamp of WELLS, FARGO & CO.—Express—FOLSOM. It is addressed to Carson City, Nevada Territory.



The frank was printed from a battered "slug" which shows the imprinted heads of eleven pins.

In addition to these usual Express markings, the return card of the firm using the envelope is spread across the central portion of the face, and a patriotic design of flying eagle, flag, and streamer appears at the upper left corner.



On the reverse are found prints from two fine wood-cuts, the upper of a three story banking establishment, at present unidentified, while beneath it is a long train of cars extending nearly across the envelope. Truly, this cover "has everything."

Council of Northern California Philatelic Societies

By CHARLES H. POOL, JR.

In 1938, a committee was organized from the various stamp groups around the San Francisco Bay to prepare and maintain a stamp exhibit in the San Francisco Golden Gate Exposition.

This committee brought together a group of people from the various stamp societies and their association resulted in the founding of a permanent organization into which all the stamp societies of Northern California were invited. A pre-organization meeting was held in Benicia in 1940 and the Council itself was definitely organized in 1941.

This organization adopted as its name the "Council of Northern California Philatelic Society." The purpose of the Council, as stated in its constitution is, "To effect co-operation among organized philatelic clubs, to promote philately in Northern California, to foster and assist junior philatelic clubs, to sponsor philatelic exhibitions, to aid and assist unorganized philatelists, to promote a unified effort for advancing the cause of philately through publicity and education, to arrange for inter-club entertainment and other club activities, to aid in the organization of new clubs, and to do such things as will advance philately in all its fields."

The first President was Dr. Ralph S. Doscher of the Pacific Philatelic Society of San Francisco. He was succeeded by the following presidents: W. W. Phillips of the Stockton Stamp Club, Stockton; Roy Hill of the California Philatelic Society; H. Sutton of the California Collectors Club; Henry Chaloner of the Berkeley Philatelic Society; L. W. Brewster of the San Francisco Pacific Philatelic Society; C. R. Callahan of the West Coast Air Mail Society, and A. M. Allen of the Sacramento Stamp Club.

The 1949 officers are: President, Chas. H. Pool, Jr., San Francisco Philatelic Society, San Francisco; Vice President, C. D. Quaid, San Benito Stamp Club, Hollister; Secretary, Mrs. Carolyn Steele of Vallejo Stamp Club, Vallejo; Treasurer, E. C. Earl, West Coast Air Mail Society, San Francisco.

Each year the Council, with one of its member societies acting as host, holds an annual exhibit in which any member of an affiliated society may exhibit. These exhibits have been held in Sacramento, Vallejo, Salinas, Berkeley, Oakland and San Francisco.

Besides these exhibits held by the Council, many of the stamp societies have been encouraged to hold individual exhibits at the time of the quarterly meeting of the Council. Some of these exhibits have been held

(*Page 344, please.*)

California Early Revenues

By E. R. VANDERHOOF

With origin dating back to 1857 and continuing for some twelve years the adhesive revenues of the state of California are perhaps unique in many ways. They were the first adhesive revenues issued in the Americas. They are, the early issues, perfect examples of wood engraving.

When we compound the various papers, the different inks, the circular die cuts and the wide range of controls: all spread out over a modest gamut of tax phases we enter into a recondite aspect of collecting.

These stamps are known but slightly to the ordinary collector, their charm and magnetic elements rendering mental satisfaction to the few whose asthetic penchants require a rare cataplasm to ease their ache.

Space precludes more than a brief mention of even the most intriguing facets of attractivity inherent to these stamps. The specialist spins out the thread of his sleave as he penetrates more and more into the multiplicity of Controller's controls which consist of the initials of the Controller stamped upon the design of the stamp per se.

There are twelve different controls of seven Controllers. There was an eighth Controller but he used no private control, merely using up what his predecessor had validated in advance.

We find two varieties of tough pelure paper, the sheets bearing the embossed design indicative of the English paper makers. The pelure is succeeded by a bond paper of varying texture and enlarged by laid lines and color content. This study of papers becomes most absorbing as we slowly and surely allocate each to its class.

The very first issue was a circular stamp of 32 mm. diameter. This did not last long. History seems to prove that the stock of stamps was stolen. The cache of the stolen stamps was discovered nearly ninety years later. It was for this reason, in all probability that made it necesary to come out with a new issue. The same circular design was adhered to, but the size was reduced to a diameter of 26 mm.

I have never been able to balance the dates of the first issue 32 mm. against the second issue 26 mm. and take into cognizance the disappearance of the stock of the first issue and the quick substitution of a second issue to cancel the first, now out of bounds and demonetized. But we know it all happened in 1857-1858 (circa).

The third and final issue was a series of values, each of slightly varying design which did duty for all purposes. These are known to the fraternity as rectangulars as against circulars of the earlier emissions.

The large circular stamps were mainly for BILL OF LADING (in four parts) and MARINE INSURANCE (in 3, 6, 9 or 12 months). These are without exception R to RRR. Certain of these are to be had, without control, from the find of the ancient theft. But even these are now about dissipated by the attrition of demand.

The small circular stamps were used mostly for EXCHANGE, which legend predominates their faces. INSURANCE (Fire and Life) are the next most commonly met with. But of this group the exceedingly rare values in blue are things of greatest rarity. The prices of the catalogue which range from $35 to $90 are hardly indicative of their real scarcity.

Then we meet with the classic ATTORNEY AT LAW and the PASSENGER stamps. These are gems. The first was used to validate the seating of a practising attorney and usually was affixed to his sheepskin. The latter was a tax on passage tickets. Like the blue INSURANCE, all of this group are very rare and we find only an occasional float. The demand far exceeds the supply while the price is a deterrent to many.

In both sizes of the circular stamps we encounter another entry into the maze of varieties. These are the serrate star cuts. They make the stamp seem like a miniature paper buzz saw, the teeth, of mainly two gauges animate the margin circularly. These constitute a system of stamp separation akin to the much more common plain circular DIE CUTS, being the rich relations of the poorer of the same consanguinity.

But few of the star cuts are at all common, even comparatively. Every star cut is worth more than the square cut. Usually the DIE CUT is worth slightly less than the square cut. But this is purely a rhetorical and questionable rationalization of a poorly chosen norm. If the stamp is normal, cut square, it is seemingly abnormal when die cut. It seems de-

serving of at least an equal dignity, while the star cuts are sublimated in their true worth.

My personal plan has always been to acquire a square cut, a die cut and a serrate whenever possible. It spins out the varieties, it uses up my spare change, it energizes my propensities, it heartens my collector's hormones and it leaves no loophole where I may be derided for an error of omission. Like in all collecting, the participant is not liable to his neighbor or friends. He is on his own and he blows willy, nilly, hot or cold just as his personal will and inclinations point. And what a magnificent gesture this is from a man to his Alter Ego. A man may do the wrong thing. He may do the right thing wrong. He may do either or both through stubbornness or ignorance or indifference. But one thing is sure out of the top drawer. He is the big boss and whatever he does no one else should complain.

The final issue of rectangular stamps form a well chosen foil to offset the circulars. They are really handsome stamps and the quest for certain controls of even some of the commoner values is an arduous task.

There is a wide range of values up to $10 which are mainly cheap for this order of philatelics. They may be had for prices up to about $2 for the better values and as cheap as ten or fifteen cents. The rare item in this lower range is the $7 blue. I looked for a long time to annex this piece. All of the high values $19 to $56 are too difficult to price, each being worth $50 net or more for fine copies. Of most of this group from 100 to 200 were the total emission of which most have been destroyed.

The rectangulars experimented with a wholly new device for these issues. I refer to the roulette. Seven values are to be found rouletted, spread over the control initials of three Controllers. On these stamps we also find the moribund gasps of the circularly die cuts. Perfect discs without intersecting cutouts of the adjacent stamps are 1,000 times as rare as any imperfect. The die cut with also the roulette is known and enjoy a greater distinction for this double attention.

Multiples of these rectangulars are known, of course, but it is astonishing how rare they actually are. Some years ago I undertook a canvass to determine just how rare blocks were as compared with singles. I listed all of the then known multiple pieces of those collectors who joined me in the task. Naturally I could not gain access to everything that existed, yet I sifted down a solid cross section of the problem. It is safe to state that a multiple is 1,000 to 2,000 times as rare as a single. This is more or less. The same ration does not apply across the board. But I believe that there exists as singles 1,000 to 2,000 times as many of these stamps as compared to the total stamps of all existing multiples.

It is at once apparent that the stamps were customarily sold to the public as singles, being cut apart before sale. But I have found that certain insurance companies have used unsevered stamps and certain firms have used them. It might then be that on occasion there were sold unsevered sheets to the consumer which sheets were not always dissolved into their units but occasionally applied to the document in multiples.

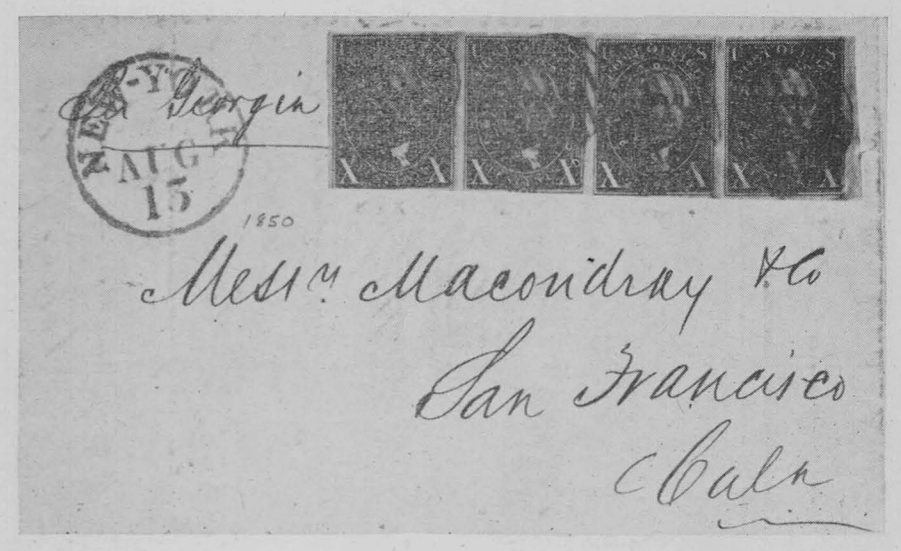
It is my fond hope that this brief writing about the stamps that dogged the heels of the Forty-niners will arouse a condign interest comparable to a tithe of their worth to those who enjoy some study above the jaded joys of the alackaday hingebending abracadabra.

If I can communicate but a decimal part of my past and present love for these splendid issues to some reader my effort is amply repaid.

★ ★

Where we cannot invent, we may at least improve; we may give somewhat of novelty to that which was old, condensation to that which was diffuse, perspicuity to that which was obscure, and currency to that which was recondite. —COLTON

From the collection of Edgar B. Jessup we are permitted to picture two of his favorite covers, each franked with unsevered strips of four of the ten cent 1847 issue.



The ten cent 1847 stamp was not on sale in California. The cover mailed from San Francisco is the only known cover showing that stamp used from this state. It is intriguing to wonder how Macondray & Co. obtained the stamps. In all probability Howland and Aspinwall had sent them to Macondray to prepay a reply to some information they were seeking.

FOUNDERS PLAN BUILDS PHILATELIC CLUB

By A. W. BLOSS

Stamp clubs may be started when two collectors get together, or they may be started by one man with a plan. Either system may be successful, but the man with the plan has the advantage.

The Philatelic Club of Los Angeles, Inc. is a club founded on a plan. The club is now in its twenty-second year; occupies its own club house owned by a group of its members; maintains a library second in America only to the Collectors Club of New York, proving that a plan can help a club.

O. F. BRAECKLEIN

In 1927, Los Angeles, Calif. was ripe for a first class stamp club. Clubs had come and gone during the preceding decade, due partly to club politics, partly to lack of funds, and largely to lack of organization.

Oscar F. Braecklein, then sales manager of a branch of a national tractor company, is the man who had the plan. He saw the need for the permanent philatelic headquarters where local and visiting collectors could meet, and where stamp collectors could meet socially to further their hobby.

Where the average club started with dues of $1.00 to $3.00 per year, Braecklein proposed creating Founder Life Memberships at $75 (limited to twenty-five collectors), Dealer Founder Life Memberships at $75 (without voting privilege), Regular membership at $10 initiation and $25 annual dues, and corresponding membership at $5.00.

Braecklein believed, and rightly, that ample funds aid the building of any project, and his first year's budget provided for $4,950. This figure covered twenty-five members in each class except the eleven dealers also twenty-five additional members at $25 initiation.

In 1927, the country was enjoying great prosperity, and Braecklein found no great difficulty in getting the project rolling, by selecting names of collectors who could afford such membership. Each member soon added to the list, and while the 111 members were not acquired within the first year, the roster exceeded that number soon thereafter.

Original founder members, who governed the club, were O. F. Braecklein, president; William Hornbeck, Morris McLaughlin, Charles Beamish, S. A. Kaasen, John J. Russell, Clarence G. Weisbrod, Ira W. Clokey, Earl J. Oakley, F. Carl Plate, Harold Sandberg, Harry O. Hoyt, Henry B. R. Briggs, John V. Gierding, John L. Dartt, Roland W. Cate, Burt C. Wear, M. H. Newmark, Roy C. Mitchell, Sydney B. Brown, George G. Young, Roy B. Bryant, George A. McGuire, Jean Hersholt and Donald G. White.

Original quarters were in the City Club, where weekly dinner meetings were held, and occasional dinner dances built up family acquaintances. A few months later, the club moved to a suite of rooms in the Broadway Club, where gymnasium, swimming pool, game room and other club privileges were available to the members through cooperative Broadway Club arrangement.

Following a period of the depression, the Broadway Club could not survive and The Philatelic Club moved to quarters on the west side of the city. Its library, built through the untiring efforts of F. M. Gilbert, who, with his wife, toured from California to Maine and Florida in search of literature and found it, required larger quarters.

Finally just prior to the war, Braecklein realized one of his pet ambitions, and promoted among the members, the purchase of a house at 417 South Alvarado Street, where the club now functions in its own home.

Mr. Braecklein has been president of the club much of the time, during the twenty-two years life of the club, having been re-elected following the presidency of Harry Jenkins and J. H. Stone. Now he has retired, feeling that the new members should carry the load and give him a chance to play.

J. H. STONE

Meetings of the club are held every Monday evening in the club house, 417 South Alvarado St., and visitors are cordially invited. The club is affiliated with the local and national federations of stamp clubs, and is a chapter of the A. P. S.

★ ★

Greetings From California Centennials Commission

The California Centennials Commission is very happy to extend to the members of your organization an invitation to visit California during its three centennial years. 1948, commemorating the gold discovery has already been appropriately celebrated this year. 1949, deals with gold rush days and the signing of the constitution under which California was admitted to statehood, and 1950 is the centenary of the admission of California as the thirty-first state in the American Union. Two outstanding celebrations will be held this year—one at Columbia, a mining town which has now become a state park, which will be held on July 15, 16 and 17; Monterey's celebration will be from August 29th to September 4th. A great pageant will be one of the attractions. Many other celebrations will be held in San Francisco and Los Angeles, all dealing with this interesting period. J. R. Knowland, Chairman.

★ ★

Labor is life; from the inmost heart of the worker rises his God-given force, the sacred celestial life-essence breathed into him by Almighty God.

The Miners Ten Commandments

By H. M. PIERCE

In the year 1853, J. M. Hutchings, a gold seeker who had come to California in 1851 or thereabouts, had a brilliant idea. This was the printing, on the back of a ruled sheet of letter paper, which was about 9x12 inches, of a series of "Miners' Commandments," ten in number, and covering a field of interesting subjects especially adapted to the times and the mining country. This sheet, which could be used on the reverse side for letter writing, was embellished with ten pictures along the margins, to illustrate each commandment, and one extra large one at the top for good measure.

Partly in a serious, and partly in a humorous frame of mind, "The Miners' Ten Commandments" caught the fancy of the early Californians at once, and the letter sheets sold like the proverbial hotcakes. They were nailed or pasted to the walls of miners' cabins, and displayed in the hotels, bars and retail establishments throughout the gold belt. Indeed, it was reported that over one hundred thousand copies were sold inside of a year after they were introduced. This enabled Mr. Hutchings to give up mining and put all his efforts into publishing. He established and for five years, 1856 to 1861, published "Hutching's California Magazine," which was an accurate reflector of pioneer life of the day in the Golden State, and is often consulted by students who are interested in that past era.

NEW ISSUES

(*Continued from page 325*)

PUERTO RICO—Four plates were sent to press at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing for the 3c Puerto Rico commemorative, which went on sale at San Juan on April 27th. They are numbered 24062, 24063, 24064 and 24065.

"JORDAN"—The name "Transjordan" has been officially banned at Amman. Henceforth the country will be called Jordan, or given its full constitutional name of Hashemite Jordan Kingdom. New currency plates are being made, and presumably the stamp inscriptions will be revised.

SAAR—The central object in the design of a 15fr carmine stamp, issued by the Saar on April 2nd, is a microscope. With it appear a retort, Bunsen burner, book and a snake coiled neatly about the staff of Aesculapius. It is the first of a new set and bears the inscription: "Universitat des Saarlandes."

U. S. DUES—New printings of five of the current (1930) postage due stamps are evidently planned. The bureau has assigned numbers to seven new plates: ½c, 24066 and 24067; 5c, 24058; 10c, 24059; 30c, 24068; 50c, 24069 and 24070.

ALGERIA'S 25fr blue stamp, due in October for the 75th anniversary of the Universal Postal Union, will show the head and shoulders of an Algerian man in white burnoose, with incidental figures from many lands.

SWEDEN—In Sweden's contest for UPU stamp designs, the winners were Einar Forseth, who drew a dove beneath crossed hands, and Mark Sylwan, who pictured a writing hand and a globe.

FRENCH MOROCCO has released an engraved series of eight fellowship ("Solidarite") welfare stamps. The 3+7fr design obviously implies fishing, and the 5+10fr pictures farm produce and the Aguedal Gardens at Marrakech.

GERMANY—The Western Zone of Germany has issued a set of three handsome stamps to publicize the 1949 Hanover Fair. A Hans Holbein painting has been used in the design. Values are 10pf green, 20pf carmine and 30pf blue. A souvenir sheet, combining all three stamps, is being sold for 1-mark, which includes a 40pf.

SO. AFRICA—In 1849 the immigrant ship Wanderer sailed into the harbor of Port Natal (now Durban) in South Africa. A scene with this ship debarking settlers will decorate a 1½p red stamp which the Union of South Africa is issuing May 2nd to mark the centenary of the settlers' landing there in 1849-51. Capetown critics dislike the Wanderer's rigging.

MOROCCO—The design of an 1899 Moroccan local is being revived for a 10fr+5fr Stamp Day commemorative

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	C17, F. A. O. Airpost	1v	*	.30
Angola:	315-18, Fatima	4v		1.25
	B1 Sheet of	8v		2.45
Guadeloupe:	S3 Hung. 725-37	3v	*	.10
	S4 Japan, 406 Education	1v	*	.03
	S6 Lithu., San 114-16	3v	*	.15
	S8 Phil. N29-31A	2v	o	.15
	S9 Phil. N32-4 Heroes	3v	*	.16
	S10 Poland, B44	1v	*	.14
	S14 Russia, 216-22 Surch.	7v	*	.15
	S19 Hyderabad, 53 Laid	1v	*	.50
	S20 Belg. Colonies Pac.	100v		2.35
Spanish Morroco:	B20-23	4v	*	.65
	B14-16, Tuberculosis	2v	*	.15
	B1-13, Red Cross	13v	*	2.75
	264-75, Pictorials	11v	*	.85
	260-61, Anti-Tubercul.	2v	*	.10
	230-34, Pictorials	5v	*	.30

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NEW AND RECENT

Austria:	New Children Charity	(4)	$ .35
Bahawalpur:	Silver Jubilee bi-colored	(4)	.09
Brazil:	Minas Gerais Church	(1)	.06
Brazil:	Baia	(2)	.17
British Honduras:	St. Geo. Cay	(6)	.50
Curacao:	188/98, Wilhelmina, cpl.	(11)	3.00
Dutch Indies:	Two Queens	(4)	.40
Falkland Deps.:	New 2½d George VI	(1)	.07
French Morocco:	Two New Pictorials	(2)	.07
Germany:	Socialist Martyrs	(1)	.03
Israel:	National Flag	(1)	.10
Japan:	Mount Hodaka	(1)	.10
Liechtenstein:	Famous Paintings	(5)	1.15
Monaco:	Pictorials	(14)	2.40
San Marino:	Bicolored Views	(14)	1.45
Switzerland:	Pro Aero Flight	(1)	.55

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Below we list practically a complete list of the stamps of Belgian Congo. In purchasing our material abroad, we find Scott's 1949 prices quite inadequate on many items. Our prices are based on a small mark-up over our cost for stamps in fine to very fine condition.

Congo Sets

		Mint	Used
#167-72	National Parks	$ .80	$ .60
#173-83	Albert Memorial	4.00	2.50
#173-83	Imperf. Set	30.00	
#187-227	Palm Trees, etc.	9.95	2.00
#231-249	Idols Complete	5.95	3.45

No.	Mint	Used	No.	Mint	Used	No.	Mint	Used	No.	Mint	Used	No.	Mint	Used
1	$ .40	$ .50	62	.05	.05	120	.10	.07	172	.30	.20	225	.80	.12
2	.40	.50	65	.07	.08	121	.07	.04	173	.10	.08	226	2.00	.40
3	——	1.50	66	.09	.07	122	.45	.45	174	.10	.12	227	4.00	.80
4	——	1.00	67	.25	.18	123	.30	.22	175	.10	.08	228	.06	.04
6	.08	.08	68	.09	.09	124	.16	.08	176	.20	.10	229	.12	.06
7	.10	.09	69	.40	.16	125	.20	.15	177	.35	.08	230	.40	.15
8	.11	.11	70	.11	.11	126	.25	.12	178	.30	.09	250	.10	.05
10	.35	.35	71	.40	.20	127	.40	.10	179	.50	.25	B1	.05	.06
14	1.25	1.00	72	1.25	1.00	128	.75	.25	180	.35	.05	B2	.05	.06
15	.20	.20	73	1.20	.75	129	2.20	.30	181	.40	.30	B3	.05	.07
16	.12	.14	74	.12	.12	115-29	4.25	2.00	182	.60	.45	B4	.10	.10
17	1.50	1.35	75	.10	.10	130	.40	.22	183	2.00	2.00	B5	.10	.10
18	.11	.09	76	.25	.12	131	.15	.08	184	.30	.10	B6	.10	.14
19	.15	.10	77	.07	.08	132	.25	.14	185	.40	——	B7	.50	.50
20	.40	.32	77a	.25	.10	133	.12	.10	186	.60	——	B10-11	.18	——
21	.18	.18	78	.15	.10	134	.55	.20	187	.02	.02	B12	.18	.18
22	.08	.09	80	.13	.09	135	.70	.40	188	.02	.02	B13	.18	.25
23	.25	.12	81	.10	.12	136	.90	——	189	.02	.02	B14	.30	.35
24	2.25	1.45	84	.18	.18	137	.16	.16	190	.02	.02	B15	.50	——
25	9.00	.30	85	.80	.80	138	2.00	1.25	191	.02	.02	B16	.40	——
26	5.00	2.25	86	1.20	1.20	139	.03	.03	192	.02	.02	B17	.90	.90
27	.30	.12	87	1.20	1.20	140	.03	.02	193	.02	.02	B18	2.00	2.00
28	.60	.55	88	.05	.04	141	.03	.02	194	.03	.03	B21	.35	.35
29	——	5.00	89	.05	.04	142	.03	.02	195	.04	.03	B22	.35	.35
30	5.00	1.25	90	.05	.04	143	.06	.05	196	.05	.03	B23-5	.60	——
31	.40	——	91	.05	.05	144	.06	.03	197	.06	.03	B26	5.00	——
32a	.25	.25	92	.05	.05	145	.08	.05	198	.08	.05	B27-31	6.00	6.00
33a	.40	.25	93	.05	.04	146	.07	.02	199	.09	.04	B34-7	14.50	——
34	.25	.20	94	.09	.09	147	.08	.04	200	.12	.03	C1	.07	.06
35	.25	.25	95	.08	.08	148	.08	.03	201	.15	.03	C2	.15	.10
36	.35	.25	96	.25	.20	149	.14	.06	202	.20	.04	C3	.40	.20
37	1.00	.25	97	.07	.07	150	.15	.08	203	.22	.05	C4	.40	.30
41	.20	.11	98	.09	.08	151	.40	.11	204	.25	.05	C5	1.50	.60
43	3.00	1.75	99	.06	.04	152	.25	.20	205	.40	.06	C6	1.50	.60
44	.55	.45	100	.12	.09	153	.30	.08	206	.80	.12	C7	.08	.04
45	.30	.08	101	.09	.09	154	.40	.10	207	.02	.02	C8	.10	.08
46	.09	.08	102	.07	.05	155	.45	.40	208	.02	.02	C9	.12	.06
47	.10	.08	103	.11	.08	156	.90	.50	209	.02	.02	C10	.18	.19
48	.06	.03	104	.08	.08	157	.75	.40	210	.02	.02	C11	.35	.10
49	.50	.07	105	.12	.06	158	.40	.20	211	.02	.02	C12	.35	.10
50	.70	.45	106	.12	.12	159	.25	.12	212	.02	.02	C13	.60	.40
51	.65	.45	107	.15	.15	160	.30	.08	213	.03	.03	C14	1.25	.80
52	.75	.28	108	.75	.50	161	.20	.08	214	.04	.03	C15	2.00	.60
53	.55	.30	109	.50	.30	162	.75	.60	215	.05	.03	C16	.30	.15
54	.50	.30	110	1.25	.75	163	.40	.20	216	.06	.03	C17	.20	——
55	.20	.06	111	1.50	1.10	164	.40	.20	217	.08	.06	J1	.04	.04
56	1.30	.95	112	.10	.08	165	.60	.30	218	.09	.04	J2	.04	.04
57	4.00	4.00	113	.09	.06	166	1.20	——	219	.12	.04	J3	.04	.04
58	.40	.16	115	.02	.02	167	.02	.02	220	.15	.03	J4	.07	.07
59	——	2.50	116	.04	.03	168	.20	.16	221	.20	.04	J5	.12	.12
60	.05	.04	117	.07	.07	169	.08	.04	222	.22	.05	J6	.15	.15
61	.05	.05	118	.45	.45	170	.25	.20	223	.25	.03	J7	.15	.08
61a	.08	.05	119	.09	.07	171	.20	.15	224	.40	.06	J8-12	.20	.20

MEMBER Stamp Dealers Ass'n So. Calif.

VILLAGE STAMP SHOP
1091 Gayley Avenue
Westwood Village, Los Angeles 24, Calif.

MEMBER American Stamp Dealers Ass'n

which Morocco plans to issue toward the end of May. It shows a hunter on horseback chasing three gazelles. The original stamp of this design was issued by the French Brudo courier service linking Mazagran and Marrakech.

Morocco is also preparing a 10fr+ 10fr stamp to help the Army welfare fund. The upright design will show a flag between two soldiers.

Newly received 15fr red and 25fr ultramarine regular postage stamps from Morrocco picture the towers of a walled city, with cactus in the foreground.

BELGIUM—Jacob Jordaens liked to paint his own Flemish people of the 17th century. Three of his paintings are reproduced on new Belgian semi-postals: Young Woman Reading, the Flute Player and Old Woman with the Letter.

* *

NORWAY — In memory of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Alexander L. Kielland a set of commemorative stamps, in the values of 25 ore, 40 ore and 80 ore, were issued on the 9th May, 1949.

Alexander Kielland was one of the great Norwegian authors of the end of the 19th century, particularly distinguished for the precision and elegance of his diction. The climax of his literary output was in the years from 1878 up to 1891.

Values are: 25 ore, red, A. Kielland, 21.1 x 27.3 mm., 4 Mill; 40 ore, blue, A. Kielland, 21.1 x 27.3 mm., 2 Mill; 80 ore, brown, A. Kielland, 21.1 x 27.3 mm., 1 Mill.

It is perforated 13, without watermark, in sheets of 100. Portrait reproduced from a photo by E. Hohlenberg, Copenhagen. Photogravure: Emil Moestue A/S., Oslo.—*Courtesy Norway P. O., Oslo.*

THE NETHERLANDS issued five values in their 1949 SUMMER CHARITY SET, *first day of issue May 2nd*, last day June 30, 1949.

Values: 2 cts. + 2 cts, blue and orange-yellow; 5 cts. + 3 cts., blue and yellow; 6 cts. + 4 cts., green; 10 cts. + 5 cts., blue and yellow; 20 cts. + 5 cts., blue.

Total face value of the sets being 43 cts. for postage purpose plus 19 cts. for charity purpose, total 62 cents a set.—*Courtesy Wm. M. F. Sutherland.*

★ ★

Article 16 in the "National Republican Platform" adopted by the National Republican Convention held in Chicago, May 17, 1860, reads: "That a Railroad to the Pacific Ocean is imperatively demanded by the interests of the whole country; that the Federal Government ought to render immediate and efficient aid in its construction, and that, as preliminary thereto, a daily Overland Mail should be promptly established."

RESEARCH . . .

(*Continued from page 329*)

Date of the paper in which found. In the case of the larger companies such as Adams & Co., Freeman & Co., Pacific Express, or Wells, Fargo & Co., these bits and pieces along with copied advertisements may fill several hundred pages of notes before the files which mention them are exhausted. Of many of the smaller Expresses, but a single news item will be found.

Of great importance are the legal notices of Co-Partnership and Dissolution of Co-Partnership, which generally give the full names of the several partners, and serve to fix the beginning and termination dates of many of the Expresses.

Sometimes the advertisement of a mercantile establishment, news stand or hotel will include a couple of lines stating their connection with one or more Expresses, as in the case of Macy & Co., dealers in dry goods, provisions and miner's supplies, who in an advertisement of their wares in the Marysville, Calif. weekly "Herald" of September 3rd, 1850, include:

"Macy & Co. are also Agents for Langton's Yuba River Letter and Package Express."

The newspapers usually carried a "List of Agents," giving their representatives in the various camps. Not all of the persons mentioned were Expressmen, but often the sole reference to some local Express will be found in such a list. Examples are:

TRINITY CENTER — Fred Reller's Express which first appeared in the Sacramento, Calif. "Daily Union" of June 26, 1862 and was continued for a year. Another example:

White & Crook's Express—Scott River, appeared in the "Daily Union" of July 8th, 1856.

Sources of information other than the newspaper files which have produced useful information are: early Court House records, early miners' letters, commercial papers and books, City and State Directories and Gazeteers, and State and County Histories. A letter dated at Fort Hope, Fraser River, June 26th, 1858, contains:

"P. S. Send your letters and papers to Fort Hope, per Alta Express, care of Ballou & Co.'s Fraser River Express."

A journal of 1851-52 in the old store in Shasta, Calif., contains many entries such as:

"To expressage on 7 letters—$14.00."

Bill heads of the Express Companies sometimes were struck with the same handstamps used for franking letters, and provide excellent examples for tracing.

WELCOME TO CALIFORNIA!

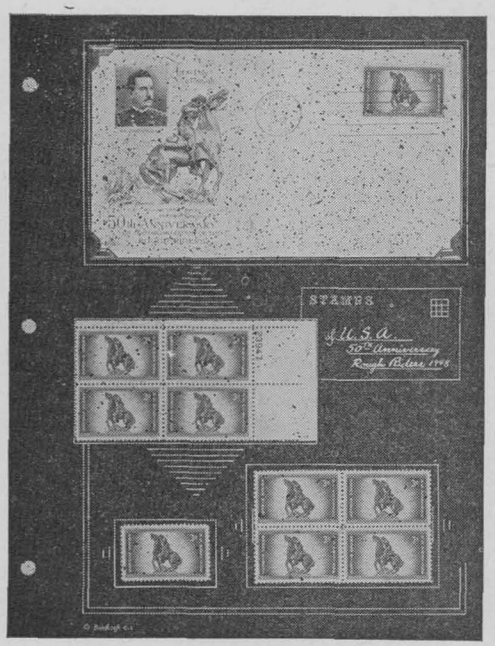
FIFTH ANNUAL STAMP EXHIBITION

OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

honoring CALIFORNIA CENTENNIAL

MAY 13, 14 and 15, 1949

607 SOUTH PARK VIEW ST., LOS ANGELES



Beardcraft WILL BE ON DISPLAY!

• ★ •

Regardless of how you specialize you will like the new Beardcraft pages!—See them at the show—All 12 page styles with stamps displayed!

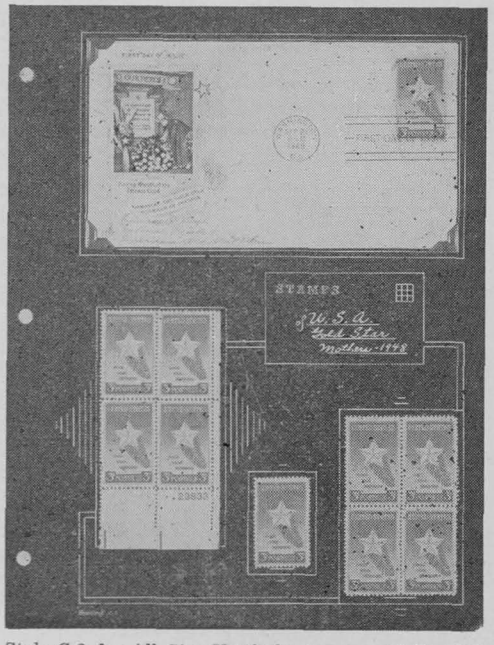
Style C-1, for Horizontal Stamps, Alternates with Cover at Bottom

They will protect and beautify your collection. A safe black page (also white) of smooth finish jute fibre bristol. Size 8½x11, standard three hole punching. Not descriptive pages, but may be used for any stamp — a space design adaptable to all sizes—horizontal, vertical, square, etc. 20 page package printed one side $1.00 — on two sides $1.25.

Style No.

A-1 for horizontal plate block, block, pair and single.
A-2 for verticals (the same).
B-1 for First Day Covers.
C-1 for cover, plate block, block and single.
C-2 for verticals (the same).
D-1 for horizontal singles.
D-2 for both horizontal and vertical singles.
E-1 Border only—all purpose.
F-1 for horizontal blocks and singles.
F-2 for both horizontal and vertical blocks and singles.
G-1 quadrille (with border) all purpose.
H-1 for blocks or plate blocks, four on each page.

Beardcraft orders of $5.00 shipped postpaid in U. S. — on less add 10% for postage. Order by style No., specify color and if wanted printed on one side or two sides.



Style C-2 for All Size Verticals, Square and Regular Size Stamps, Alternates with Cover at Bottom

ORDER FROM YOUR DEALER OR DIRECT.
6c IN STAMPS BRINGS CATALOGUE.

BEARD

PUBLISHING CO., INC.
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA

*MINT SETS**BUYS*

Austria, B110, Wipa	$7.50
Austria, B128-31	1.85
Belgium, B107-13	4.50
Belgium, B152-5	5.10
Belgium, B156-62	8.50
Chile, 3 New Gay Sheets (75)	4.20
Liechtenstein, 132-5	.45
Liechtenstein, 176-80	2.00
Liechtenstein, 181-4	1.00
Liechtenstein, 185-7	.30
Liechtenstein, 212-4	.65
Liechtenstein, B14 Sheet	.75
Liechtenstein, New Paintings (5)	.95
Luxembourg, B40-4	3.45
Luxembourg, B45-9	4.00
Luxembourg, B50-4	5.40
Luxembourg, B55-9	5.50
Luxembourg, B60-5	5.95
Luxembourg, 217 Sheet	2.85
Monaco, C8-9	.90
Poland, NB41	1.35
Poland, NB41 Sheet of 8	10.75

ROOSEVELT SETS

Costa Rica, Post. & Air	3.75
Guatemala, C92 Sheet	2.15
Hungary, 8 values	1.75
Hungary, 2 Sheets	1.95
Liberia, 296-7, C38	3.25
Monaco, 9 values	.63
Salvador, 606-12, C111-7	5.35
San Marino, 14 values	3.10

Hundreds of others in our free lists.
MAIL ORDERS ONLY (Under $2 add 3c)

• ★ •

Jacques Gasselin
(A.P.S.)
5 West 52nd St., New York 19, N. Y.

BRITISH SILVER WEDDING SETS
1948-1949
Assorted Orders over $100 with 5% discount if prepaid.

Great Britain	$ 5.00	No. Borneo	$22.00
Tangier	7.00	No. Rhodesia	7.00
Morocco	7.00	Nyassaland	3.00
Aden	4.40	Pitcairn	2.50
Kathiri	2.20	St. Helena	4.50
Qu'aiti	2.20	St. Kitts	1.50
Antigua	1.50	St. Lucia	8.00
Ascension	4.50	St. Vincent	7.00
Bahamas	7.50	Sarawak	5.00
Barbados	1.80	Seychelles	3.00
Basutoland	3.50	Sierra Leone	9.00
Bechuanaland	3.50	Singapore	5.00
Bermuda	7.50	Johore	4.50
Br. Guiana	3.80	Kedah	4.50
Br. Honduras	26.00	Kelantan	4.50
Br. Solomon	2.30	Malacca	4.50
Cayman Is.	3.50	Negri-Semb.	4.50
Cyprus	6.00	Pahang	4.50
Dominica	3.50	Penang	4.50
Falkland	19.00	Perak	4.50
Falkland Dep.	.50	Perlis	4.50
Fiji	1.50	Selangor	4.50
Gambia	6.00	Trengganu	4.50
Gibraltar	7.00	Somaliland	2.20
Gold Coast	3.00	Swaziland	3.50
Gilberts	4.40	S.W. Africa	.25
Grenada	4.00	Trinidad	7.50
Hong Kong	3.50	Turks Is.	4.50
Jamaica	7.50	Virgin Is.	6.00
Kenya	7.50	Un. S. Africa	.25
Leewards	1.50	Zanzibar	3.00
Malta	6.00	Bahrain	11.00
Mauritius	9.00	Kuwait	11.00
Montserrat	1.50	Muscat	11.00
Nigeria	1.50		

The Entire Lot Complete (69 sets) $320.00
Used sets 25% more.
All mint. Prices subject to change without notice. Blocks pro rata.

Union Stamp Co.
240 BROADWAY, NEW YORK 7
Telephone: CO-7-9250

TWO NEW CANADIAN ISSUES

June 6th. KING'S Birthday. New Portrait on 5 values.	Mint Sgle.	Mint Blk.	Mint Pl. Bl.	F.D.C. Sgle.	F.D.C. Blk.	F.D.C. Pl. Blk.
1c to 5c—Set of 5	$ .20	$ .75	$1.16	$ .35	$1.25 (5)	$2.00 (5)

Sheet of each val. (100) Superb mint $16.50.

June 21st, 200th Halifax Anniversary, 4c Purple	.06	.22	.35	.12	.30	.50

Superb mint sheet of 50, $2.50; 5 sheets, $11.50; 10 sheets, $22.00.

POSTAGE extra for mint. They will be mailed with new stamps under separate cover. Sheets packed flat for 20c extra in addition to postage.

For the covers I have a specially designed beautiful cachet. If you service your own covers I will supply the envelopes at the following rates: 5 for 25c; 10 for 40c; 100 for $3.00; 500 for $12.50. Parcel Post paid. Remit by P. O. M. O. or cash. (No stamps please.) Cheques 15c extra.

J. C. ROSENBAUM, 4119 Decarie Blvd., Montreal 28, Canada

Please Mention Weekly Philatelic Gossip When Answering Ads.

Grand Opening Special

21 Different, Unaddressed First Day Covers only $2.00

To celebrate our reopening at our new location, we have made up a packet of 21 different, unaddressed First Day Covers that cannot be beat! They are crisp clean unaddressed covers on attractively cacheted envelopes that merit a prominent place in your collection. It includes covers from 1944, 5, 6, 7 and only two 1948 issues, averaging about 9c each. What's more, we've included a beautiful First Day Cover of the 15c Cipex Miniature Sheet in each packet.

Here's your chance to obtain a fine collection at low cost! It is also excellent for trading purposes for nobody can equal this $5.11 value at our

SPECIAL PRICE of only $2.00

*37

HARMONY STAMP SHOP
416 South Market Street Wichita 2, Kansas

It is hoped that the above brief account of research methods used by the writer will be found useful by others who would like to enter the field of Philatelic Research, but who do not know just how to go about it.

Todd & Bryan's Express:

News item in the San Francisco, Calif. tri-weekly "Alta California" of December 26th, 1849:

LARGE FIRE AT STOCKTON

WEDNESDAY MORNING 2 o'clock—Through the politeness of Todd & Bryan's Express, we are furnished with the following account of a destructive fire at Stockton . . . .

Same paper, January 7th, 1850:

EXPRESS COMPANIES—There are so many new Express Companies daily starting that we can scarcely keep the run of them. The system is an admirable one and we should judge would prove extremely remunerative.

We have to return our acknowledgements for the prompt delivery of parcels to Messrs. Hawley & Co. and Angle, Young & Co. who both run an express between Sacramento and San Francisco, and to Todd & Bryan's Stockton Express. We appreciate your kindness. . . .

Same paper, now a daily, February 22nd, 1850:

. . . . Todd & Bryan's Express to Stockton and the Southern Mines may be relied on for dispatch and accurate discharge of duty in their line of business. . . .

Same paper, April 30th, 1850:

THANKS. We are indebted to the agents of Adams & Co.'s Express for the prompt delivery of packages from New York entrusted to their care; also to Todd & Bryan's Express for a late Panama paper.

Same paper, June 30th, 1850:

THE SONORA HERALD

On or before the Fourth day of July next the first number of the Sonora Herald will be published in the town of Sonora. . . . All communications for the Sonora Herald must be addressed through the office of the Stockton Times or per Todd & Bryan's Express. . . .

Same paper, September 4th, 1850:

MURDER AT HAWKIN'S BAR—The Picayune of last evening learns from Mr. Todd, of Todd & Bryan's Express, the following particulars of a manslaughter at the above place. . . . .

Greenhood & Newbauer's Express:

Greenhood & Newbauer, Cigar & Tobacco dealers of Weaverville, Calif., who were also buyers of gold dust purchased W. F. Rowe & Co.'s Express in September, 1858 and

opened a Banking & Express Office in Weaverville, operating their Weaverville and Shasta Express daily in competition with F. W. Blake & Co.'s Express and connecting at Shasta with Wells, Fargo & Co. (a). At Weaverville, Fisher, Atkeson & Co.'s Canon City Express connected with Greenwood & Newbauer (b).

In January, 1859, Wells, Fargo & Co. transferred their Weaverville agency, which had been held by F. W. Blake & Co., to Greenhood & Newbauer, who continued running to Shasta and turning the Express matter over to Wells, Fargo & Co. at that point (c). In the same month Loop & Shafer commenced their Weaverville & Uniontown Express, connecting at Weaverville with Greenhood & Newbauer, who then could forward Express matter to any point along the Trinity River route to Humboldt Bay (d). This connection was maintained when John G. Sanborn's Weaverville & Uniontown Express superseded Loop & Shafer's Express in November, 1859 (e). Thede's Express to North Fork connected with Greenhood & Newbauer at Weaverville, commencing operations early in 1861 (f).

In August, 1867, the Banking House of Greenhood & Newbauer failed, having become heavily involved in speculation in the Mount Diablo coal mines in Contra Costa County. The Express ceased operations at about the same time and was succeeded by Grant I. Taggart's Shasta & Weaverville Express (g).

(a) News item in the Weaverville, Calif. "Trinity Journal" of September 18, 1858; advertisement in the "Trinity Journal" of September 18, 1858.

(b) Advertisement in the Weaverville, Calif. weekly "Trinity Journal" of October 16, 1858.

(c) News item in the Weaverville, Calif. weekly "Trinity Journal" of January 12, 1859.

(d) Advertisement in the Weaverville, Calif. weekly "Trinity Journal" of January 29, 1859.

(e) Advertisement in the Weaverville, Calif. weekly "Trinity Journal" of November 5, 1859.

(f) Advertisement in the Weaverville, Calif. weekly "Trinity Journal" of January 9, 1861.

(g) News item in the Shasta, Calif. weekly "Shasta Courier" of August 17, 1867. Advertisement in the Weaverville, Calif. weekly "Trinity Journal" of August 24, 1867.

★ ★

Though a taste of pleasure may quicken the relish of life, an unrestrained indulgence leads to inevitable destruction. —DODSLEY

AMAZING OFFER

300 stamps, cat. over $15.00, all for 90c and a request for my better grade approvals. Most of my approvals sell for ½ cat., or less. Mint U. S. stamps accepted for payment. This offer good for 30 days. References, please.

STANLEY DARCY
888 Washington St., Stoughton, Mass.

Correction Notice!

Item No. 1 of our adv. in the April 30th Issue of W. P. G. should read:
100 Different Mint U. S. Commemoratives (includes complete sets Famous Amer., Flags, Army-Navy, China, N. Y. Jubilee, Air, etc., for only ------$9.75

C. A. WALLING
A.P.S. Rt. 2, Columbia, So. Carolina S.P.A.

Position Plate Block Collection Breaking Up

Sets priced as Plate Number Blocks with no extra charge for the hard-to-get ones or completeness.

	SCOTT'S Cat. Price	Net
294 of 296 Famous American Blox All 2s and Positions (Except one Nevin & Bell) Most VF	$488.50	$361.00
Complete 2785-94 Army-Navy. All 2s and Positions. 160 Blocks	75.20	49.10
Complete 2799-802 Possessions. All 2s and Positions. 64 Blocks	32.00	27.50

GLOBE STAMP STORE
2125 Center St., Berkeley 4, California

MINT U.S. 40% OFF

No.			Mint Blk.	Single
537	3c	Victory	$3.25	$ .75
614	1c	Walloon	.90	.20
618	2c	Lexington	——	.35
511	11c	Green Franklin	1.65	.35
643	2c	Vermont	——	.12
644	2c	Burgoyne	——	.36
645	2c	Valley Forge	.40	.10
646	2c	Molly Pitcher	.50	.12
649	2c	Aero	.54	.13
650	5c	Aero	.45	1.95
651	2c	Clark	.12	.55

Fine Condition—$1.00 minimum, ck. or cash
*37

ORR and ORR
1415 Ashland Lane, Wilmette, Ill.

THE DICKEY STAMP CO.
at Newton, Kansas
have 10 million used U. S. and Precancels to sell at discounts from catalog prices.
Have you a want list?
(S.P.A.)

Visit
Harry E. Gray
1524 Franklin Street
Oakland 12, California
THE STAMP LOUNGE
"Where Philatelic Friendships Flourish"

U. S. PRICE LIST FREE
MILLER STAMP CO.
Malden 48, Massachusetts

Please tell the Advertiser you saw it in W. P. G. Thanks.

USED B. C. *USED B. C.*
Geo. VI Sets & Singles

From Snug Harbor to the Golden Gate, a new generation of collectors is finding my service rapid and reasonable. A liberal proportion of fine used stamps puts charm and romance back into that expensive picture gallery. If you get them from me they are sound, and if you get them sound, they stay that way!

No "drive-away" depreciation when the hinge goes on; less frenzy of keeping up with new issues, which keeps the earlier spaces blank. How about trying Aden as a starter?

No. 16-27, complete ------$7.00
Silver Wedding set ------ 4.00
No sale till you're satisfied.

CLIFFORD H. GALLOWAY
319 W. 18 ST., N. Y. 11, N. Y.

Attention!

STUDY YOUR STAMPS

At Ease!

The E-Z-C Stamp Viewer

is the only viewer that offers all these features:

1. Three-Power Magnification.
2. Facilities for Examining Stamps from a Relaxed Position.
3. Does Not Have To Be Held.
4. Colored Filters To Help Clarify Cancellations.

Price $1.00

Obtainable at your stamp dealer or send currency or M. O. (no stamps) to:

Dealers who have not yet been supplied should write to Dansco Corporation, Santa Monica, Calif., or direct to us for discounts.

GADGETS OF CALIFORNIA, INC.
424 N. Edinburgh Ave.
LOS ANGELES 36, CALIFORNIA

HARDING #605
ENDWISE COIL—MINT
SINGLES, very fine mint ---------- $ .04
PAIRS, very fine mint ---------- .07
LINE PAIRS, V. F. mint ---------- .12
(Postage extra on orders less than $1.00)
ENTIRE COIL (500) ---------- $11.50
(Sent postpaid and insured)
ROBERT M. FLINN
414 S. FIFTH, ALBUQUERQUE, N. M.

PREXYS
88c
COMPLETE FINE USED SET, U. S. PRESIDENTIALS
32 Stamps
Special 88c to applicants for our U.S. Approvals
J. MERRITT BRUNDIGE
Cambridge, N. Y.

THE NEXT 7 F. D. C.
ARTMASTER OR ARTCRAFT
$1.00
Valley Stamp Shop
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(FARLEY ISSUES)
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	SCOTT'S Cat. Price	Net
112 Imperf. Park Plate # Blocks of 6, all #s, positions, & "F"s (except 7c bottom #336) ----	$211.50	$171.40
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Set 40 blocks Parks Imperfs. All 4 arrow positions ----	48.80	34.50

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NOTHING COSTLY
Very few expensive new issues recently. Suppose other countries are waiting until collectors recover from Silver Wedding shock.

Austria, children ----	(4)	$ .32
Brazil, city of Salvador ----	(2)	.15
Colombia, Armero ----	(1)	.05
Cuba, Sanguily ----	(2)	.12
Italy, Milan Fair ----	(1)	.08
Italy, art exhibition ----	(4)	.28
Israel, flag stamp First Day covers, unaddressed ----		.25

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URBANNA, VIRGINIA

I WANT
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First Day Cover Club Members
For $2.00 deposit we will send you a cover with single stamp from the next 10 FD Cities. Cachets available are Artcraft, Artmaster, Anderson, Farnam, Fleetwood, Fulton, Cachetcraft or Smartcraft. You tell us what design you want, we will do the rest. *28tf
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15c LINCOLN
WANTED
Used, Very Fine or Superb
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Boston Circuit,	env. ----	$	.25
Brooklyn Circuit,	card ----		.50
Chi. & Mad. Ave.,	env. ----		.50
N. Clark St.,	env. ----		.50
Cottage Grove,	env. ----		.50
Cleve., 2 types,	env. ----		.25
Washington Wagon,	env. ----		.50
Towson & Cat.,	env. ----		.50
Phila. & Man.,	env. ----		1.00
Pitts. R.P.O.,	card ----		1.00
Albany R.P.O.,	env. ----		.50
FOREIGN			
Naples, Italy,	Flag. card ----		.50
Montreal, 1897,	(1-3c Jub.) ----		.75
Montreal, 1899,	env. ----		.50
Toronto, 1899,	env. ----		.50
Ottawa, 1900,	env. ----		.50
Manila, 1919, off. size	env. ----		.50

150 diff. Flags cut as 2x4s, including an unlisted Philip, S. D., ---- $2.00 lot.
Send Stamps for purchases.
A. C. TOWNSEND
808 E. PINE, CLEARWATER, FLA.

LATEST NEW ISSUES

Austria, Children ----	(4)	$ .30
Bahamas, Tercentenary ----	(16)	9.25
Bahawalpur, Jubilee ----	(4)	.10
Belgium, Anti-Tuberc. pict. Paintings (2 sheets) ----		3.30
Bermuda, Perot ----	(3)	.25
Egypt, Exhib. (5 & 2 sheets) ----		1.40
Falkland Dep., 2½p new ----		.07
Gr. Britain-Tangier, Geo. VI overpr.	(18)	5.50
Germany-Baden, "Freiburg" (4 & 2 sheets)		1.85
Irish Free State, Air ----	(2)	.27
Italy, Comm. ----	(5)	.31
Liberia, Pictorials ----	(6)	1.10
Malacca, Geo. VI ----	(15)	5.35
Penang, Geo. VI ----	(15)	5.35
Turks & Caicos, Commem. ----	(7)	4.00

BLOCKS PRO RATA
Nearly All Silver Wedding Sets in Stock. Send Your Want List.
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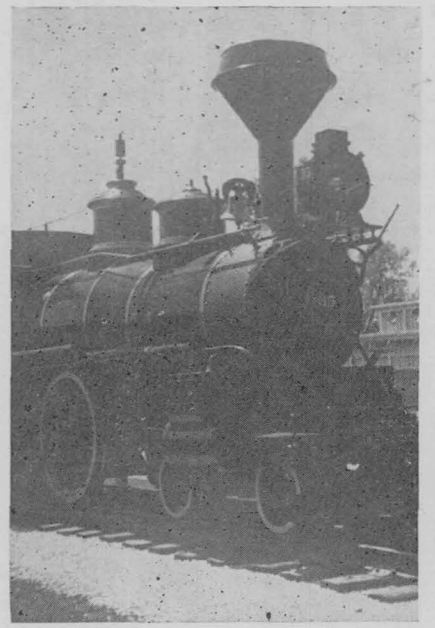
STAR STAMP CO.
503 Fifth Ave., New York 17, N. Y.

CHINA
A penny post card will bring you our newest price list of China offering everything in China in all price ranges. Our 42-page Specialized Illustrated China Catalog is 50c postpaid.
L. F. LIVINGSTON, Inc.
2435 North Charles St., Baltimore 18, Md.

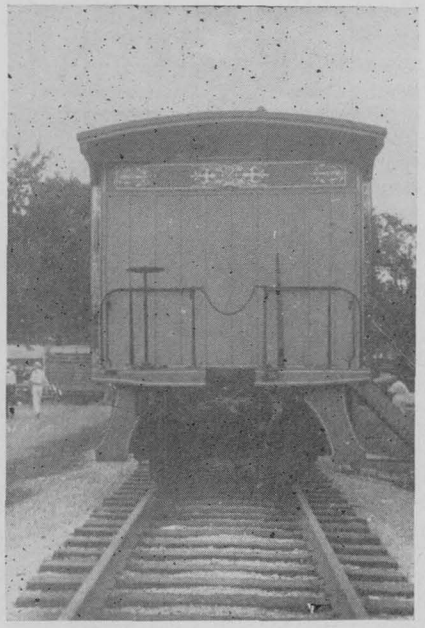
THE INSIDE STRAIGHT

(Continued from page 328)

Legislature made an appropriation for the preservation of one of the few structures still standing on the route between St. Joseph and Sacramento, California.



Getting the mail west of the Missouri River was one thing. Between the Mississippi River and St. Joseph on the Missouri was easy,



the old Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad crossed the State of Missouri bringing the mail. Illustrated is one of the old locomotives that carried this mail destined for the west coast. The old mill shown with its old fashioned smoke stack hauled what is purported to be the first mail car, an end view of this car is also shown. It was at the Century of

Progress Exposition at Chicago, some years ago, that this mail car was on exhibition. If we remember correctly, letters mailed in this car received a suitable cancel of the event. The run across the State of Missouri on the old Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad, a distance of less than 200 miles was a long run in those days, an early morning departure at either Terminal with a late arrival at the other end. Today the old Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad is a part of the Burlington lines.

Today, the story is vastly different. From old Westport, now Kansas City, sleek diesel streamliners carry the mail in less than thirty hours. From the same city the airmail does the job in a few hours.

Along the old Santa Fe Trail, the old Pony Express route, the Old Mission Trail—today motorists think nothing of a fifty mile an hour speed in their cars. To the collectors and Philatelists however, many points of interest are perpetuated with suitable markers.

In the States where the buffalo once roamed, the bison, as they were later called, concrete roads have taken the place of these old trails. Where the riders once traveled the wilderness for miles without seeing a settler, wheat and corn fields exist. Kansas wheat, just before cutting, golden grain, waving in the winds never call the attention to the non-philatelist, that here is where early mail carrying history was once made.

As in the days of another year, when the Pony Express headed westward, when the cumbersome wagon trains headed for the west, when Horace Greely was credited with saying "Go west, young man, go west" so does WEEKLY PHILATELIC GOSSIP cross mountain and plain to our great Sister State in the west!

A salute to the California Centennial. Had this column been written in the days referred to above, it would have taken weeks to reach you in California. Today via second class mail, it is in your home in forty-eight hours, by airmail first class, overnight.

It is indeed a far cry from those days, eighty-nine years ago! Recorded for posterity are those attempts to carry out the familiar "The Mails must go through" slogan! For centuries to come, collectors' albums will record those days of another year, landmarks and historical markers will always carry out their purpose, the silent witness to an historical episode in the dispatching of mail to California and the West Coast.

★ ★ ★

Stamp bargains are just that—Quality always has a price tag.

EARLY CALIFORNIA CANCELS

The postmaster of San Leandro, California, promised me that all outgoing approval shipments from Canos will receive a 7 A. M. cancellation. That's the earliest he can do. Why not send your want list for fine stamps of the world to get this EARLY CALIFORNIA CANCEL FREE?

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Fine Stamps & Philatelic Literature.

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#376	$ .20	#388/9	$ .15
377	.20	391/3	.15
381	.20	394/7	.75
382/4	.50	432/54	.35
385/7	.30	C1/3	2.50

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Send 10c for April Illustrated Price List. Many Prices Reduced. Why Pay More? *38

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WHITE-ACE: Pages only, '40-'47	3.75
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(All above are 3-ring; 8½x11 pages)	
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Silly question? Not a bit! Whether it costs in cents or dollars, the stamp you want is the big stamp for you.

If you are after U. S., Scott's new U. S. Price List, No. 149, lists our country's postage in singles, blocks and covers at prices which pay due consideration to your pocket book. Send today for your free copy of this list.

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FACE + ONE DIME

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Ditto Line pairs 1.35

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	PAIRS		BLOCKS		
	Horo.	Vert.	Horo.	Vert.	Cross
#766	$ .26	$ .38	$ .50	$ .75	$2.75
#767	.60	.70	1.20	1.45	6.50
#768	.60	.64	1.30	1.40	1.25
#769	.33	.37	.65	.75	.60
#770	.80	.80	1.60	1.60	1.60
#752	.35	.40	.65	.75	——

All 3c—1948 Issues, Mint

Plate Blocks, 19c; Blocks, 15c; Singles, 4c.

Ask Kongos for his U. S. List.

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We are again offering the following sheets. This is due to the fact that a number of people wrote to us stating that they did not have a chance to get our special offer, since they did not receive their favorite magazine in time. Therefore, we are going to run this special once more for two weeks only!

	per sheet	per 10		per sheet	per 10
Czechoslovakia	$2.90	$28.00	Belgium	2.80	27.50
Norway	2.80	27.50	France	2.90	28.00
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JUST OFF THE PRESS:—Price list of singles, blocks, plate number blocks, from Victory (1919) to date. Also our list of sheets in stock. Free upon request.

WANTED TO BUY

Send 10c for our list of prices we will pay for sheets, singles, Plate Number Blocks.

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TRADE MARK

AT YOUR DEALERS OR DIRECT

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The ad you overlook may contain just the stamps you want. Read them all!

PLATE BLOCKS

We have a very large selection of Prexies, Special Delivery, Comm. Air Mails in matched plates, or position blocks. Your want list will get our prompt attention.
We have no list.

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WANTED

Well centered Plate Blocks—all Rotary issues—1926 to date. Cash ready up to any amount. Send list of blocks you want to sell and your price. Do not send stamps.

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LOS ANGELES 13, CALIFORNIA
B.I.A. 1896 Bank ref. if needed.

NEW MINT BRITISH

Silver Wedding Special
for limited time only
Cpl. Silver Weds., 69 Sets mint--$300.00
Cpl. Silver Weds., 69 Sets used-- 350.00
Price list of individual mint sets on request.

Australia, new 5/ Coat of Arms	(1)	$ .85
Australia, Princess, wmk.	(1)	.08
Australia, Princess, unwmk.	(1)	.05
Australia, Ferrar, Mueller, Scout each	(1)	.06
Bermuda, Perot	(3)	.25
Brit. Honduras, Cay	(6)	.50
Canada, Newfoundland	(1)	.06
Egypt, Gaza, scarce	(1)	.20
Egypt, Pasha	(1)	.12
Egypt, Palestine overprs, cpl.	(39)	12.50
Iraq, new airs, cpl.	(8)	1.10
Ireland, new 1d & 1/ airs	(2)	.28
Malacca, new Geo. VI cpl. to $5	(15)	5.50
Malta, Self Government	(15)	5.30
Penang, new Geo. VI cpl. to $5	(15)	5.50
Turks, Centenary	(7)	4.00

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ALBERN STAMPS
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AIR LETTER SHEETS
with imprinted stamp
10 different foreign, mint, postpaid --$2.50
Others in stock. World War II postal history material, large list, 50c.

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JOHN LUFF'S FAMOUS
"POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE U. S."
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No.	Value	Cat.	Each	Block
11	$ 2.00	$ 1.75	$ .75	$ 2.85
12	5.00	4.00	1.90	7.20
13	25.00	20.00	10.50	39.95

Used Peace Special
Basutoland, Bechuanaland, So. West Africa, Swaziland, Union So. Africa. Complete in pairs—cat. $4.74. Regularly $3.80—SPECIAL --$2.22
Money Order payable New York City or personal check.

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Member: C.S.D.A., A.P.S., C.P.S., etc.

JUST RECEIVED

A few of the very scarce 1949 sealed SWEDEN Kilos. These have the same high catalog value as the 1948 Kilos which are now obsolete. 1 Kilo--$16.50
We still have some of the 1945 and 1947 Kilos in stock which also have excellent cat. value. Give choice. Either one for only --$11.50
FINLAND GOV'T kilo, 1943 -- 5.00
NORWAY MISSION kilo, 1946-1947 -- 3.50
NORWAY MIDGET SEALED BOX, 1949, 5½ oz. --1.25

CAN YOU USE SOME VERY COMMON MATERIAL?
This is quantity, not quality and no comebacks.
ARGENTINA, 1 lb. --$ .75
BELGIUM, 1 lb. -- .75
DENMARK, 1 lb. -- .75
FRANCE, 1 lb. -- .75
GERMANY, 1 lb. -- .50
GREAT BRITAIN, 1 lb. -- .50
ITALY, 1 lb. -- .75
SWITZERLAND, 1 lb. -- .75
or all eight mixtures for only $5.00.
U. S. MIXTURE, 5 lbs. --$2.50
POSTAGE EXTRA, PLEASE.

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Outstanding Auction --- June 4th, 1949

1117 lots will absolutely be sold without reserve! Sale includes many Complete Collections, Stock Books, lots by Countries, Sheets, Covers, Plate Blocks and Wholesale lots as well as hundreds of fine and rare single United States and Foreign stamps and sets. Exceptional opportunity for all collectors, dealers and accumulators to buy fine material at your own price or less.

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WRITE TODAY FOR YOUR COPY.

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SHEET SPECIALS		PACKET SPECIALS	
1c, 3c, Chicago Panes	$ 3.00	Worldwide, 3000 Diff.	$5.25
5c New York Airmail	12.50	Airmails, 300 Diff.	4.50

FREE CATALOGS

ZENITH STAMP CO.
95 NASSAU ST., NEW YORK 7

WRITE TODAY

"YOUR MONEY'S WORTH OR YOUR MONEY BACK"

Council of Northern California Philatelic Societies

(*Continued from page 333*)

by the San Jose Stamp Club, the Stockton Stamp Club, the Stanislaus Stamp Club, Modesto, and the Alameda Stamp Club. Through the exhibit committee of the Council, an attempt has been made to standardize the classifications of stamps exhibited, the methods of judging, and the size of frames used.

At the last meeting, a resolution was presented urging the Council and its member societies to include in their active program the collection of stamps for the wounded and to encourage our wounded veterans in the veteran hospitals to become stamp collectors.

The Council is looking forward to a successful year in its various societies and the next meeting will be held under the auspices of the San Francisco Philatelic Society in the Palace Hotel, San Francisco on May 15th. The August meeting will be held in conjunction with the SPA Convention with the California Collectors Club, San Francisco, as the host society. The member societies are as follows: Alameda Stamp Club, Berkeley Philatelic Society, California Collectors Club, Inc., California Philatelic Society, East Bay Collectors Club, Golden Gate Precancel Society, China Stamp Society, Chiu Chin Shan Branch, Monterey Bay Philatelic Society, Oakland Philatelic Society, Pajaro Valley Philatelic Society, Watsonville, Penny Blacks, Palo Alto Philatelic Society, Petaluma Philatelic Society, Prune Valley Precancel Broncos, San Jose, Sacramento Stamp Club, San Benito Stamp Club, Hollister, San Francisco Pacific Philatelic Society, San Jose Stamp Club, Stanislaus Stamp Club, Modesto, Stockton Stamp Club, Vallejo Stamp Club, West Coast Air Mail Society.

Any adult society of Northern California not a member of the Council is invited to join and should obtain information through the secretary.

★ ★

WAS THE POSTMASTER A GOOD SCRAPPER?

Back in the late fifties on the wall of the San Francisco Post Office were a set of thirteen rules for the conduct of the help. Rule VI sounds as though it might have lead to some interesting possibilities.

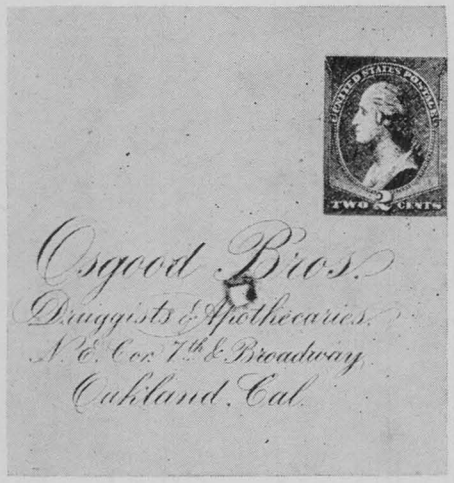
"Rule VI—When an applicant for his mail shall exhibit a disposition to aggravate or insult, or even abuse, he should be met with forbearance and gentlemanly conduct, recollecting that the contact is of a business nature only, and that personalities should be adjourned to outside the office entirely. If a clerk fails to satisfy an applicant, let him be referred to the postmaster."

INFORMATION WANTED

By HARRY E. GRAY

Last summer, a man cleaning out a basement in an old store building, which had at one time been used as a drug store, found a number of Doctors' prescriptions stuck on a spindle. On one side they had various names and addresses of Oakland physicians printed and the handwritten prescriptions. On the other side they were addressed to Osgood Bros. Druggists and Apothecaries, N. E. Cor. 7th & Broadway, Oakland, Calif.

Six or seven of these prescriptions bore a picture of the U. S. 2-cent 1883 in natural size but printed in black.



During that time I believe that the laws were very stringent against the picturing of a U. S. stamp. Osgood Brothers, established in the fifties, had by that time grown into one of the largest drug concerns in Northern California. They were undoubtedly familiar with the laws pertaining to picturing a U. S. stamp.

Why was this stamp pictured on their prescription blank? Was it intended to carry the prescription to their store? A suggestion has been made that it was to pay a 2-cent tax on the prescription. I can find no evidence that prescriptions were taxed. If they had been, the tax would have been removed at the late date in which these prescriptions were used (1887-91).

Can anyone provide an answer or a good guess?

★ ★

S. F. POSTAL STATISTICS

During the year 1857 the average number of postage stamps sold monthly from the S. F. office were as follows: 1c, 45,000; 3c, 27,000; 10c, 32,000; 12c, 500. Stamped envelopes: 3c, 120,000; 6c, 500; 10c, 12,000. Of the 120,000 3c stamped envelopes sold, the Wells Fargo Co. purchased about one hundred thousand a month.

GOOD MORNING, FELLOW STAMP COLLECTORS—
HERE is good news for you today—
U. S. Supplement for Junior, 1947 Edison ₮945 to 1948 Harris ₮980—Our Junior United States Only Supplement, 75c Postpaid. Green National 1948, 50c; Blue American, 50c, Postpaid. Returnable. *37
GLOBE STAMP STORE
2125 Center, Berkeley 4, Calif.

CALIFORNIA POSTMARKS
Cut 2 x 4 inches
100 varieties ---------- $ .35
200 varieties ---------- .75
300 varieties ---------- 1.50
500 varieties ---------- 4.00
*39
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APPROVALS
in complete foreign sets
for adult collectors.
Free price lists on the Elbe, Scott and White Ace lines.
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DEPT. "F" GENERAL FOREIGN — including moderate priced numbers and even many space fillers.
Your request will bring forth an approval selection.
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USED SETS AT POPULAR PRICES
₮294-299 Pan-American Issue ------ $5.25
323-327 La. Purchase Issue ------ 6.75
328-330 Jamestown Issue ------ 1.65
397-400 Pan-Pacific, perf. 12 ------ 1.60
401-404 Pan-Pacific, perf. 10 ------ 5.25
548-550 Pilgrim Issue ------ 1.60
617-619 Lexington-Concord Issue -- 1.75
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100 Different used Commems. ------ .90
Why not try our approval service on mint or used U. S.—1900 to date.
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7000 VARIETIES
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JUST COMPLETED
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ECUADOR
Will you be the first to look them over?
We also fill WANT LISTS
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The ad you overlook may contain just the stamps you want. Read them all!

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U.S. Commemoratives
100 different—$1.00
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SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
In the stamp business since 1918—
Let's get acquainted.

TOPICAL STAMPS ! !
TOPICAL PAGES ! !
TOPICAL ALBUMS ! !
★
Gilbert & Hummer
1523 N. Valley St.
BURBANK, CALIF.

Two New - U. S. Collections - $200.00 Each
Finest Condition — Opportunely Priced.
Fresh MINT only. 527 Different Postage, Commemoratives and Airs ONLY. Many COMPLETE Sets including Kansas-Nebraska Prexys., Airs, etc. L. L. American Album. Scott $450.00. Gibbons $275.00. **NET PRICE $200.00.**
Mint and Used. 840 Different (672 postage, 168 Misc. No envs.) large porportion Mint 20th. Cent. Inc. Kansas-Nebraska Farleys; Miniature Sheets COMPLETE. Commems. 1923 and Airs 1931 to date COMPLETE. L. L. National Album. Scott $570.00. Gibbons $310.00. **NET PRICE $200.00.**
MARSHALL H. HANCOCK
(Martauco Stamp Company)
Postage Stamps for Dealers;—Collections, Lots, etc. dealt in for 40 years. Correspondence invited relating purchase or sale of **substantial properties.**
821 De Young Bldg., 690 Market Street, San Francisco 4, California
— The Crossroads of San Francisco —

1848-1849-1850
CALIFORNIA CENTENNIAL CACHET SERIES

Your Covers
50 plus $1.50 Service Charge.
WE GIVE COMPLETE SERVICE—50 covers for $5.00.

•

Box 928
Lindsay, Calif.

The ad you overlook may contain just the stamps you want. Read them all!

U. S. COMMEMORATIVES

		Unused		Used	
		Fine	V. F.	Fine	V. F.
230		$ .35	$ .50	$ .02	$ .04
231		.20	.30	.01	.02
232		.90	1.35	.70	1.05
233		1.60	2.40	.20	.30
234		1.60	2.40	.25	.40
235		1.50	2.40	.95	1.45
236		.95	1.45	.25	.40
237		2.60	3.90	.30	.45
285		.60	.90	.15	.25
286		.30	.50	.03	.05
287		2.50	3.75	.95	1.50
288		2.35	3.50	1.00	1.50
289		4.75	7.00	1.75	2.60
290		4.85	7.20	.75	1.10
294		.30	.45	.10	.15
295		.35	.50	.02	.04
296		1.90	2.90	.60	.90
297		2.10	3.15	1.10	1.65
298		2.80	4.20	2.10	3.15
299		4.60	6.90	1.25	1.85
323		.85	1.25	.20	.30
324		.60	.90	.10	.15
325		2.70	4.00	2.65	4.00
326		4.50	6.75	1.35	2.00
327		8.75	13.00	2.50	3.75
328		.35	.90	.15	.40
329		.35	.90	.10	.25
330		2.90	7.50	1.25	3.75
367		.25	.40	.10	.20
368		2.75	3.10	2.40	2.80
369		8.00	12.00	7.75	——
370		.50	.80	.10	.15
371		3.75	4.00	1.40	1.75
372		.25	.35	.20	.30
373		3.25	3.65	1.90	2.25
397		.35	.50	.05	.10
398		.35	.50	.02	.04
399		3.20	4.50	.75	1.05
400		5.70	8.00	.65	1.00
400a		6.20	8.90	.65	1.00
401		.80	1.20	.30	.45
402		3.90	5.85	.10	.15
403		8.25	12.25	1.00	1.50
404		35.00	52.50	4.00	6.00
537		.55	1.00	.30	.55
548		.15	.20	.10	.20
549		.25	.40	.05	.10
550		2.00	3.20	1.45	2.40
611		.08	.12	.02	.04
612		1.00	1.15	.75	.95
613		1.50	2.25	.05	.10
614		.15	.20	.15	.20
615		.25	.35	.10	.15
616		2.25	3.00	1.50	2.00
617		.20	.25	.15	.25
618		.30	.40	.25	.35
619		1.35	1.70	1.20	1.55
620		.35	.45	.30	.40
621		1.95	2.50	1.80	2.25
643		.15	.20	.13	.17
644		.30	.40	.25	.35
645		.10	.15	.05	.08
646		.10	.15	.12	.20
647		.25	.40	.20	.35
648		1.00	1.40	1.00	1.40
649		.10	.15	.08	.10
650		.45	.60	.35	.45
651		.10	.15	.10	.15
654		.10	.15	.09	.12
655		.10	.15	.02	.04
656		.40	.55	.05	.08
657		.08	.10	.06	.08
680		.15	.20	.13	.17
681		.07	.10	.05	.07
682		.07	.10	.04	.06
683		.12	.18	.12	.16
688		.08	.10	.08	.11
689		.09	.12	.06	.09
690		.06	.08	.03	.05
702		.05	.07	.02	.04
703		.08	.12	.07	.11

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Southern California Dealers' Association a Live Organization

By HERMAN C. NASCHKE

As the saying goes, "In Union There Is Strength," I might add also that there is a great amount of fellowship to be had in an organization such as was organized Wednesday evening of April 8th, 1936, by a group of Los Angeles stamp dealers who banded together for the purpose of fellowship and mutual assistance to one another in the promotion of a high class standard of business ethics, so greatly needed by such an organization to establish a confidence of the collector who does business with a member of this organization. This group is known as "The Stamp Dealers' Association of Southern California, Inc."

The motive of this organization was not a selfish one for it was attended at the opening meeting by 19 stamp dealers who either conducted stamp shops or who conducted stamp businesses as a part-time or full-time. At this meeting were present the following Los Angeles dealers, some of which have since passed away:

William Schmidt, Long Beach, Calif.
Dr. Gerald Q. Farwell (deceased), Glendale. Calif.
Jean Hiett, Beverly Hills, Calif.
C. Schrumpf.
Oscar Braecklein.
Isadore Goldberg (deceased).
Robert Cowan.
Van Wyckoff.
Dan B. McMillan.
John J. Russell.
Harry M. Bryan.
William DuBois.
Harry Genor.
Stephen Ban (deceased).
Colonel W. E. Mills.
Harry Hoffman.
Paul Harrison (deceased).
Ed Hammock (deceased).
Herman C. Naschke.

There was quite a lot of enthusiasm shown at that time and a Constitution and By-Laws were formulated and the following officers were elected:

Oscar Braecklein, President.
Herman C. Naschke, Secretary.
Dan B. McMillan, Treasurer.

The first meeting was held at the old Philatelic Club on West 7th Street which was located on the third floor of an office building overlooking MacArthur Park. From that time on the organization met monthly at the Philatelic Club and later our meetings were scattered over various localities and meeting in various well known cafes where we could eat, drink and be merry and discuss matters pertaining to the stamp trade. Many of our most interesting meetings were held back in 1937 to 1939 when Joe Hubbell, acting as Chairman of the Entertainment Committee, sought out interesting places to meet.

Particularly interesting was a meeting held at a cafe in the northeastern part of Los Angeles where we had a typical Arabic dinner served by the owner of this restaurant who had spent many years in the Near East and had the place overflowing with relics and mementos of his residence in Palestine, Iraq and the other Mohammedan countries. Also a fond memory of a wonderful French dinner we all enjoyed at Chez Pierre Cafe in East Los Angeles, a typical Bohemian type of restaurant.

Prior to World War II, our organization also sponsored several stamp exhibitions with the co-operation of the Federated Stamp Clubs of Southern California, and as far as I can remember, our last exhibit was held in 1940 at the Los Angeles Elk's Club ballroom and resulting from our entry into the great war, our exhibition activities were disbanded until the spring of 1945 when our spring stamp exhibitions were resumed at the Elk's Club No. 99 which has proven to be an excellent location for stamp exhibitions and who have a spacious ballroom which we rent for our exhibitions. These shows have been held annually since that time and we are now preparing for our 1949 spring exhibition to be held there on May 13th - 15th, inclusive. Oscar Braecklein annually has had charge of the stamp exhibitions and I am sure we have no other person who could do better. Oscar seems to like to put on our shows and does his work expertly like a real showman.

As a matter of interest to the public, we have a "natural" this year—the California Centennial year—and at this exhibition we will re-enact the old "Tub" mail of one hundred years ago before Los Angeles had a regular U. S. Post Office. The mail at that time was accumulated in a tub provided by a merchant on Main Street of now downtown Los Angeles and in this tub was placed all outgoing and incoming mail where our pioneer residents could come and pick up their mail from distant points. This re-enactment will consist of a wooden tub provided by the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Los Angeles, the oldest bank of our city, and who will cachet up to ten (10) covers for anyone who cares to send them in, absolutely free of charge. Provisions, of course, are that they send addressed, stamped envelopes on which the cachet will be applied. Covers may be sent to the Information Booth well in advance of the show located at the Elk's Club, 607 South Parkview Street, Los Angeles 5, Calif. This mail on the opening day will be carried in an old stage coach driven by none other than the Western movie hero, Gene Autry!

(*Page 350, please.*)

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U. S. MIXTURE—CONTAINING HIVALUES, airmails, commems., precancels, etc. Good for blocks, 30c per lb., 10 lbs., $2.80 postpaid anywhere in U. S. J. W. Dauber & Son, Bethesda 14, Maryland. *04tf

500 MIXED STAMPS, 50c POSTPAID. Wilbur Errickson, Englishtown, New Jersey. *64tf

STAMP MIXTURE, THE BEST ON THE market. Sample, $1.00. Jeremias, 383 Whitehall, Lynbrook, New York. *12tf

$1 - NEW FOREIGN OFF PAPER MIXTURE. Clean, undamaged, with plenty of pictorials. The finest mixture we have ever seen at this price. 1000 stamps $1.00. Dusty Farnam, 5451 Buffalo, Van Nuys, California. *12tf

FINEST QUALITY U. S. MISSION MIXture. Contains commemoratives, airs, precancels, high values, etc., 5 lbs., $2.25 or 10 lbs., $4.25. Postage extra. Anthony Roit, 4539 Bleigh Street, Philadelphia 36, Penna. *01tf

ARE YOU A GAMBLER? SEND $1.00 TODAY and get over $4.00 catalog value in stamps cataloging over 3c each. Your money refunded if unsatisfactory. No approvals. Daniels, Box 7033, Roseville, Newark 7, N. J. *26tf

SERIOUS COLLECTORS DESIRING SOURCE of superb mixtures can get current stamps on paper, as received from banks. Guarantee high values. Good British Colonies (Pacific Islands, West Indies, etc.), French Colonies, Latin America, Europe, Asia, Far East, including airmails and commemoratives, without trash. Not "poundage" but quality. Trial lot $10.00, subject your satisfaction or refund. Ghent Trading Co., Box 24-W, Ghent, N. Y. *37

U. S. HIGH VALUE BANK MIXTURE ON paper, $2.50 pound. H. Legg, 45 Ferris Ave., Highland Park 3, Mich. *19tf

PROFITABLE VALUES! 3,000 FINEST U. S., and foreign mission mixture obtainable anywhere. Contains airs, commem's, hi-values, precancels, pictorials. Price $2.00. Act quickly. Supply limited. Liberty Stamp Co., 5349 Elliot Ave., So., Minneapolis, Minn. *13tf

HERE IS A GOOD U. S. MIXTURE, CONtains lots of Airs, Commems., High Values, etc. 2 lbs., $1.00, postpaid in U. S. A. W. A. Savage, 64 Long St., E. Greenwich, R. I. *37

HUNDREDS OF VARIETIES. OVER 1000 mixed foreign. Off paper. No straight edge unless coils. A bargain. Lots vary in contents. Price $1.05 insured. Walter Quaintance, Box 178A, Upper Sandusky, Ohio. *28tf

UNITED STATES MISSION MIXTURE—sold just as received. 10 pounds, $3.50; 25 pounds, $8.00; 50 pounds, $15.00; 100 pounds, $27.00 FOB. Heitzenroder, Baden Station, St. Louis 15, Missouri. *28tf

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U. S. BANK MIXTURE, ½ lb. for $1.00; U. S. Mission Mixture, 5 lbs. for $2.50; U. S. Precancel Mixture, 1000 for $2.00. Albert Zipper, 3226 Parade St., Erie, Pa. *31tf

FRANCE, 77 COMMEMORATIVES, $1.00; 200 French Colonies, $1.00; 75 Monaco, $1.00; French Mixture, 3 kilos, $5.00. Boutin, 3 rue Bottero, Nice, France. *32tf

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NEW ISSUES OF TODAY MIGHT BE RARities of tomorrow. Get this beautiful illustrated "New Issue Bulletin." Drop me a line for your free copy, today. Carl Eggeling, 293 Hayward Street, Yonkers 4, N. Y. *80tf

DISCRIMINATING COLLECTORS FIND THE Limited Editions of our Beautifully Illustrated Monthly New Issue News helps build worth while collections. Inquiries invited. Gem Stamp Co., Little Ferry, New Jersey. *02tf

SENSATIONAL CASE BULLETINS FREE. Offering new issues; old issues; mint; used; the best in stamps. Collection building sets and singles. Sincerely, Martin Ehde, Amiret, Minnesota. *22tf

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WORLDWIDE STAMPS. ALL DIFFERENT. 500, 50c; 1000, $1.00; 2000, $2.90; 5000, $14.50. Beacon Sales, Maynard 8, Mass. *27tf

18 LAST NEWFOUNDLAND STAMPS. Scott's 253-266, 267, 269, 270 & C19. Face $2.32. Mint for $3.00. Used $2.00. Money order. Rev. Butler, St. George's, Newfoundland. *37

FREE PACKET LIST, LOWER PRICES. J. Windsor, 1071 23rd St., Des Moines, Iowa. *39

100 DIFFERENT NETHERLANDS, 29c. B. F. Grant, 1035 Cacique St., Santa Barbara, California.

Philatelic Literature

PHILATELIC LITERATURE REVIEW: Guide to intelligent stamp collecting. Request sample or send $1.00 for membership and one year subscription, including several valuable back numbers. Philatelic Library Association, Mohawk, N. Y. *59tf

FREE MONTHLY ILLUSTRATED PRICE list. Approvals on request. Robert's Stamp Co., 2847 So. Pulaski Rd., Chicago 23, Illinois. *09tf

Precancels

BUREAU PRINTS FOR BEGINNERS—50 diff., 10c; 100 diff., 25c; 300 diff., $1.00. Larger lots to. Satisfaction guaranteed. Maj. C. C. Fisher, 1206 No. Frederick St., Arlington, Va. *62tf

PRECANCEL MIX, DON'T HAVE TIME TO sort precancels by cities and states, mixed lots of B and Better City Type precancels sent out on approval, your pick at 5c per stamp, thousands to pick from. Marshall Miller, 4321 11th Ave., N. E., Seattle 5, Wash. *22tf

Publications

"MONTHLY INVESTMENT LETTER" ANAlyzes outstanding investment buys. Year, $1.00. Sample, 10c. Sturm Press, Box 7338, Pittsburgh 13, Penna.

Stamp Stores

ATLANTA, GEORGIA PEACHTREE STAMP Shop, 224 Arcade Bldg. Visit us when in town. Want lists filled. *24tf

IN VILLA PARK, ILL. IT'S LORY'S STAMP Corner, Villard Theatre Bldg. Illustrated pricelist free upon request. *36

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA. STRAWN Stamp Shop, Kasota Bldg., Hennepin at 4th. Progressively, more and more collectors are better served. *27tf

U. S. Stamp Offers

MINT PLATE BLOCKS. DO YOU KNOW value rare positions? List 25c, exchange plan gives price each individual position. Want to sell? My buying list, Scott 219 to date, plain and plate blocks, price $1.00. Highest prices paid or money refunded. A. B. Crane, Box 351, Altoona, Pa. *34tf

DOLLAR BARGAINS! 500 MIXED COMmemoratives; 300 mixed airmails; 1,000 mixed, over 200 commemoratives. Reim, 3931 Bayo, Oakland 2, California. *47tf

BREAKING UP U. S. MINT COLLECTION—Regular postage, commemoratives, coil pairs, booklet panes, imperforates, air mails, singles, blocks, plate blocks, Columbians to date. Very fine condition. Price Gibbons. Also used singles in quantity. Mother's Day to date. Money cheerfully refunded if not satisfied. Illness. E. Eller, 407 E. Washington Blvd., Grove City, Penna. *50tf

ANYTHING — EVERYTHING ON APPROVal. Send us your want-list. Legend Stamps, East Troy, Wisconsin. *21tf

COLUMBIANS, TRANS-MISSISSIPPI, ETC., 40 different old commems., $1. Barbara Hansen, Loretta, Wisc. *43

U. S. Stamp Offers

MINT U. S. COMMEMORATIVES, AIRmails, Farley's Imperfs., Singles, Blocks and Positions. Want Lists Filled. Collections and Accumulations Bought. John Bauer & Son, 1720 Glendon Way, Rosemead, California. *89tf

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1948 U. S. COMMEMORATIVES (28) MINT plate blox, $5.50; blox, $4.50; singles, $1.20. A. J. Wennstrom, 32-11A 150th Place, Flushing, N. Y. *17tf

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U. S. MINT AND USED APPROVALS. Richard Z. Gooding, Box 363, Lansing 2, Mich. *40

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PLATE BLOCKS—WANT LISTS FILLED. Priced reasonable. Leavitt, Rockaway, Lynn, Mass. *38

PRICE LIST AVAILABLE. MILLER Stamp, Malden 48, Massachusetts. *31tf

U. S. COMMEMORATIVES, 200 WELL mixed, about 80 varieties. No Win War, Defense, etc., $1.00. Optional U. S. approvals at remarkably low prices postpaid both ways. Herman Hack, 68 Manhattan Ct., Brooklyn 23, N. Y. *38

3c COMMEMORATIVE PLATE BLOX, 25 different, $5.00; very fine. Wants filled. Glenn Hughes, San Miguel, California. *36

MINT ARMY & NAVY SET—SINGLES 50c; blocks $2.00. Also plate blocks available to applicants for U. S. commemorative approvals. Hugh De Iorio, 176 Seeley Street, Brooklyn 18, N. Y.

U. S., MINT OR USED, JUST THE GRADE you want to see are sent you on approval from your want list. Album Service, Box 2003, Soledad, Calif.

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WE BUY COLLECTIONS, ACCUMULAtions, sets. Saturn Stamp Co., 730 Main, Buffalo, N. Y. *47tf

WANTED. UNUSED CIVIL WAR PATRIotic envelopes. Also Confederate stamps and covers. Do not send material, but write first giving complete description and price. I frequently have similar duplicate material for sale or exchange. Correspondence with serious collectors invited. George N. Malpass, R. D. 3, Church St., Saratoga Springs, New York. *69tf

"FULL MARKET PRICES PAID" FOR COLlections, Accumulations and Mixtures, singles and sets, old stamps on envelopes. Any quantity. United States and Foreign. Prompt payment. Over 30 years in business. Condor Stamp Co., 87 Nassau St., New York City 7. *02tf

FAMOUS AMERICAN PLATES, ODD VALues, also cpl., $29.00; Flags, $5.25. Ship anything else in plates and other U. S. for inspection and immediate offer. Mint Sheet Co., 276 W. 43, N. Y. C. *36

Wanted

1920 RIGHT THRU 1949 PLATE NO. Blocks wanted. Send your stamps inventoried and insured for highest prices paid. "Mr. Postage Stamp", Emanuel Strauss, Prop., 1336 Union Street, Brooklyn 13, New York. *35tf

WILL PAY $110.00 FOR COMPLETE MINT set Silver Jubilees. E. P. Harris, P. O. Box 4023, Houston 14, Texas. *37

WANTED — VENEZUELA, 204-208. WILL pay full cat. for these five stamps. J. G. Coffey, Holton, Kansas. *36tf

PAYING 30c PER 100 FOR LARGE, TOP-quality U. S. commems. Also want quotes on used Airmails and Prexies. George Foster, 1136 Flatbush Avenue 26, New York. *38

ACCUMULATIONS, COLLECTIONS, DUPLICATIONS. Covers of all kinds. Gustaf Panula, Midlothian, Illinois.

Wholesale

WHOLESALE PRICE LISTS FREE. Universal Stampco., Inc., 110 East 23rd, New York. *61tf

DEALERS—WHOLESALE MONEY SAVING quotations on request. Pearl Brothers, 476 Smith Street, Brooklyn 31, N. Y. *38

HOW TO BUY MORE FOR YOUR MONEY. 4000 special offers of foreign stamps are included in our latest 84-page illustrated price list. Special Service of new money making approval selections. Dealers only. S. Serebrakian, Hotel Aster, New York 19, N. Y. *21tf

WORLD STAMP MARKET, WORLD-WIDE, the oldest and original. Also recognized as the leading stamp trade journal in the U. S. With 12 issues you receive the Wholesale Dealer's Directory, Sources of Supply, listing not only U. S. wholesalers but those of the world, at $2.00. Sold only to bona fide dealers. Published by The Gossip Printery, Inc., Holton, Kansas. *90tf

BRITISH COLONIALS, USED, MINT AND obsolete George VI singles. Expand your approval selections. Write for Wholesale List on your letterhead. Hawthorne, Box 1460, Malden, Mass. *52

SELECTED STAMPS, COMPETITIVELY priced. Wholesale lists to dealers on request. Charles Prant, Aberdeen, Maryland. *35tf

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WHOLESALE MINT AND USED SETS, Quality Packets, Foreign First Day Covers, Mixtures, for dealers only. Walter Hirsh, 12932 Bloomfield Street, North Hollywood, Calif. Phone State 46261.

Southern California Dealers' Association a Live Organization

(*Continued from page 346*)

In conclusion, it might be proper to list the Presidents of our organization from our organization date as follows:

Oscar Braecklein—1936, 1937, 1938.
A. W. (Bill) Bloss—1939.
John J. Russell—1940, 1941.
Tommy Lawrence—1942.
A. H. Murchison (deceased)—1943 until April 1944.
Robert Graves—April 1944 & 1945.
Fred W. Coops—1946, 1947.
John Bauer—1948.
Herman C. Naschke—1949.

Our membership now is seventy-one members and we are taking in Eastern wholesalers who would like to join our Association. Applications are coming in at the rate of three or four per month and at this rate we should soon reach one hundred or more.

CALIFORNIA STATE REVENUES

By HARRY E. GRAY

The following letter gives some side lights on the revenue stamps of California.

San Francisco, Jany 28-1864

His Excellency
Governor F. F. Low.
Governor

I send herewith designs for Insurance, Exchange and Passenger Stamps.

I have had several estimates made —the lowest is Mr. Geo. H. Bakers, Engraver.

He proposes to furnish the State with $120,000.00 in Stamps, with as many of each of the 114 varieties as the Stamp Commissioner may determine—and sends herewith the designs.

He proposes to mucilage the backs and perforate them. For the performance of such contract he will give bonds, and fullfill the Same for the sum of $1200 dollars.

Should the Commissioner determine to have them done, I should be the most happy to supervise the work here. The stamps he refers to are to be lithographic.

Yours truly
(Signature undecipherable)

★ ★

SAN FRANCISCO POST OFFICE 1850

According to Kimball's San Francisco Directory for the year 1850, the San Francisco Post Office was located at the corner of Clay and Dupont Streets, Jacob B. Moore was postmaster. Among the officials and clerks listed was Timothy Page, foreign and ladies delivery clerk. Ladies delivery clerk was typical of the gallantry of the men back in the early days of that rip roaring, tough old tent city.

Postage for all parts of the U. S. and Oregon was forty cents. All parts of California 12½-cents, while drop letters were 2-cents. Postage on newspapers to U. S. and Oregon, 3c, inland postage 1½c to be added, and in all cases, unless sent from the office of publication, must be paid in advance.

Under newspapers, seven were listed as being published in San Francisco, all of them except one being dailies.

Mails were despatched to Sacramento daily, while Stockton and San Jose received theirs three times a week. Santa Cruz and Monterey only weekly.

★ ★

Belmont Stamp Co., George E. Myers, Proprietor, will send you a catalogue of his twelfth mail sale on request. The address is 5843 Vickery Blvd., Dallas 6, Texas.

RECENT NEW ISSUES

CUBA

ITALY

VENEZUELA

SWITZERLAND

—Courtesy New York Journal-American.

1888

E. F. Gambs, who started dealing in stamps in San Francisco in 1872, published a price list in 1888. He estimates that there are fully two hundred thousand stamp collectors in the United States. Prices have changed quite a bit since that day. He offers for 5c 1847, sixty cents per dozen. Cats now at $30. For the 10c '47s, $2.00 per dozen. The 7c and 12c Bank Note issues $2.50 per hundred while the 90c of the same issues only rated $1.75 the hundred. Today nearly all the 90s list at around three times the catalogue of the 7s and 12s.

He offers to purchase foreign revenues, state revenues, tobacco, cigar and snuff stamps. Prices he offered are probably much higher than they would bring today.

★ ★

AUCTION CALENDAR

May 16 and 17. Col. Adam Brown Collection of Great Britain. H. R. Harmer, Ltd., 39-42 New Bond St., London, W. 1, England.

May 17, 18, 19. European Countries, Covers of the World. Mercury Stamp Company, 522 Fifth Ave., New York 18, N. Y.

May 18th. U. S. and Foreign at Altoona, Penna. at Central-Penna.-Get-Together. Elmer R. Long, 112 Market St., Harrisburg, Penna.

May 21st. Latin-America, Mexico (further portion J. C. Taylor collection). Robson Lowe, Inc., 1320 Widener Bldg., Philadelphia 7, Pa.

May 23, 24. British Empire, notably Barbados, Newfoundland, Niger Coast, also valuable collections en bloc. H. R. Harmer, Ltd., 39-42 New Bond St., London, W. 1, England.

May 23, 24, 25. The "A. D. Jenny" Collection of British Empire, by order of Anamaria Inchauspe Condessa de Westerholt, particularly strong in 20th Century Issues. H. R. Harmer, Inc., 32 East 57th St., New York 22.

May 30-31. Five Volumes Specialized Egypt also British Commonwealth. H. R. Harmer, Ltd., 39-42 New Bond St., London, W. 1, Eng.

June 6, 7, 8. General Auction, with a fine range of United States. H. R. Harmer, Inc., 32 East 57th St., New York 22, N. Y.

Catalogues of these sales are obtainable from the auctioneer. Mention WEEKLY PHILATELIC GOSSIP in writing. Use Air Mail if time is short. To be listed, Auction Notices should reach us at least two weeks before date of sale.

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TATHAM STAMP CO., DEPT 24, SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

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P27-35 ..... .14
P36 ..... .02

BOHEMIA

1-19 ..... 5.25
1-19 o 6.75
20-6 (8) ..... .12
27-48 (25) 2.00
28 ..... .02
29 ..... .02
27-35 (10) ..... .45
36 ..... .10
37 ..... .10
36-41 ..... 1.00
42 ..... .04
43 & A ..... ——
44-6 ..... .35
47-A-8 ..... .30
49-53 ..... .15
54-5 (tabs) ..... .09
56-9 ..... .10
60-1 ..... .35
62-83 ..... .65
84 ..... .02
85-7 ..... .05
88-9 ..... .04
90 ..... .04
B1-2 (tabs) ..... .18
B3-4 (tabs) ..... .14
B5-8 (tabs) ..... .20
B9-12 ..... .10
B13-4 ..... .05
B15-7 ..... .10
B18-9 ..... .08
B20 ..... .20
blocks (4) ..... .70
B21 ..... .05
B22-4 ..... .20
B25-6 ..... .06
B27-8 ..... .06
EX1-2 ..... .25
J1-14 ..... .80
O1-12 ..... .30
O13-24 ..... .12
P1-9 ..... .10
P10 ..... .03
P11-9 ..... .06
blocks (4) ..... .20

SLOVAKIA

1 ..... .10
24-5 ..... .10
24-5 o ..... .08
26-33 ..... .70
26-33 o ..... .30
28A & 29A ..... .13
34-7 ..... .40
38-9 ..... .15
40 ..... .25
41-2 ..... .60
41 & 42A ..... .30
43 & A ..... .12
43 & B ..... .10
44 ..... .25
45-9 ..... .08
55-7 ..... .28
58-61 ..... .12
62-4 ..... 3.00
65 ..... .05
69 ..... .06
70-3 ..... .75
74-6 ..... .15
77-82 ..... .40
88 ..... .04
89-92 ..... .23
93-4 ..... .06
95-102 ..... .70
103-7 ..... .06
108-9+B25-6 ..... .70
110-5 ..... .65
B1 ..... .40
B2-4 ..... .65
B5-7 ..... .40
B8-10 ..... .50
B11-3 ..... .12
B14-16 ..... .35
B17-20 ..... .20
B21-4 ..... .30
B27 ..... .36
B27a 2.60
C1-9 ..... .56
EX1-2 ..... .06
J1-12 ..... 9.50
J1-12 o ..... .75
J13-23 ..... 1.70
J24-38 ..... .58
P1-9 ..... 2.75
P10-18 ..... .80
P20-30 (9) ..... .20
P31-6 ..... .12

MONACO

177-81 ..... .55
192-3 ..... .90
Roosevelt (9) ..... .76
B24-5 ..... .70
B76-84 ..... 1.35
B85-90 ..... 1.00
B91 ..... .07
B92 ..... .05
C2-7 ..... 2.00
C8-9 ..... 1.40
CB1-5 ..... .35

FRANCE

197 ..... 8.50
219 X ..... .07
220-5 X ..... .45
243-4 ..... .22
Same X ..... .15
245 ..... .07
246 ..... 14.00
248 o ..... .08
249 ..... 1.40
250 ..... .75
250 o ..... .03
251 o ..... .80
253 o 1.15
254A o ..... .60
256-7 X ..... .85
258-62 X 1.25
258-62 X o ..... .10
263 ..... 1.15
263 o ..... .02
264-83 X 3.60
264-83 X o ..... .30
290 ..... .20
290 o ..... .03
291-3 ..... 1.75
291-3 o ..... .45
291-3 X o ..... .30
294 o ..... .22
295 ..... .16
295 o ..... .03
296-7 ..... 2.75
296-7 o ..... .12
299 o ..... .02
300 ..... .50
300 o ..... .08
301 ..... .55
301 o ..... .02
302 ..... .55
302 o ..... .08
303 ..... .14
303 o ..... .05
304 ..... .50
304 o ..... .06
305 ..... .35
305 o ..... .03
306 ..... .30
306 o ..... .03
307 ..... .08
307 o ..... .03
308 ..... .40
308 o ..... .06
309-10 ..... .22
309-10 o ..... .20
311-2 o ..... .30
313-4 ..... .30
313-4 o ..... .12
315-20 ..... .90
321 ..... .20
321 o ..... .07
322 ..... .12
322 o ..... .07
323 ..... .11
323 o ..... .06
324 ..... .07
324 o ..... .03
325-6 ..... .60
325-6 o ..... .15
326 o ..... .07
326a ..... ——
327-8 ..... .20
327-8 o ..... .25
329 ..... ——
330-1 ..... .15
330-1 o ..... .16
332 ..... .10
332 o ..... .09
333 ..... .10
333 X ..... .03
334 ..... .05
334 o ..... .02
335-40 X ..... .45
335-40 X o ..... .12
347 ..... .07
347 o ..... .05
348-53 ..... 1.40
349 o ..... .03
354 ..... 3.00
354a 3.50
354 o 2.00
355 ..... .17
356 ..... .20
357 ..... .06
358 ..... .10
358 o ..... .07
359-72 X ..... .35
359-72 o ..... .20
Same X ..... .12
379 ..... .14
381 ..... .08
381 o ..... .08
382 ..... .15
382A ..... .20
383 ..... .17
383A-5F(13)X ..... .40
383A-5F X o ..... .15
386 ..... .18
387 ..... .06
388 ..... .07
389 ..... .08
390 ..... .07
391 ..... .08
392 ..... .05
392 o ..... .05
393 ..... .05

FRANCE

393 o ..... .04
394 ..... .60
Same X ..... .50
394 o ..... .65
395-412 X 2.00
409A ..... .07
412 ..... 1.20
413-6 ..... .28
413-6 o ..... .22
417 ..... .05
418-21 ..... .55
421 ..... .20
427-51 ..... 1.30
427-51 o ..... .90
452 ..... .05
452 o ..... .05
453 ..... .06
453 o ..... .05
454 ..... .05
454 o ..... .05
455-8 ..... .05
Same X ..... .02
459 ..... .09
459 o ..... .08
460-3 ..... .42
460-3 o ..... .27
464 ..... .05
464 o ..... .05
465 ..... .19
465 o ..... .15
466 ..... .06
466 o ..... .06
467-70 ..... .38
467-70 o ..... .20
471 ..... .05
471 o ..... .05
472 ..... .03
472 o ..... .03
473 ..... .13
474 ..... .05
474 o ..... .04
477-95 ..... 2.00
Same X ..... .80
496 ..... .20
497 ..... .05
497 o ..... .05
498 ..... .03
499-502 ..... .05
Same X ..... .02
503 ..... .04
505-23A 1.75
Same X ..... .95
505-23A o ..... .90
524-52 ..... 2.50
Same X 1.80
530 ..... .02
536 ..... .02
536A ..... .02
541A ..... .04
541B ..... .04
541B o ..... .02
542A ..... .05
553-6 ..... 1.35
553-6 o 1.00
557-8 ..... .07
559 ..... .04
560 ..... .03
561 ..... .04
562-5 X ..... .02
566-7 ..... .10
568-9 ..... .10
568-9 o ..... .06
570-1 ..... .25
570-1 o ..... .12
572 ..... .08
573-4 ..... .22
573-4 o ..... .10
575-6 ..... .04
577-80 ..... .25
581 ..... .08
582-3 ..... .08
583 o ..... .02
584 ..... .05
585 ..... .05
586 ..... .05
586 o ..... .02
587 ..... .05
588 ..... .02
589 ..... .10
590-1 ..... .17
592-4 ..... .10
B1-2 X ..... .35
B15 ..... 1.25
B16-23 X 3.75
B24-6 X ..... .55
B27 ..... 5.00
B28-30 X 1.50
B31-3 X 3.00
B34 ..... 2.75
B35-7 X 4.00
B38 ..... 5.60
B39-41 X 7.00
B42-3 ..... 1.75
B44-5 ..... .35
B46 ..... .20
B47 ..... .30
B48-55 ..... 1.50
B51 o ..... .08
B56-8 ..... .25
B58 o ..... .10
B59-62 ..... .50
B61 o ..... .12

FRANCE

B63 ..... .15
B64-5 ..... .18
B64 o ..... .08
B66-7 ..... 3.00
B68-9 ..... .35
B70 ..... .60
B71-2 ..... .28
B73 ..... .36
B74 ..... .30
B75 ..... .15
B76 ..... .25
B77 ..... .15
B78 ..... .18
B79 ..... .22
B80 ..... .20
B81 ..... .15
B82 ..... .18
B83 ..... .25
B84 ..... .09
B85 ..... .25
B86-9A ..... .50
B90-1 ..... .26
B92 ..... .10
B93 ..... .25
B94-5 ..... .14
B96 ..... .10
B97-100 ..... .50
B97-100 o ..... .60
B101-2 ..... .25
B103 ..... .08
B104-7 ..... .35
B104-7 o ..... .38
B108-9 ..... .20
B108-9 o ..... .20
B110 ..... .07
B110 o ..... .08
B111 ..... .05
B111 o ..... .05
B112-3 ..... .30
B112-3 o ..... .30
B114 ..... .04
B114 o ..... .04
B115 ..... .06
B115 o ..... .06
B116 ..... .13
B116 o ..... .12
B117-28 ..... .80
B117-28 o ..... .80
B129 ..... .12
B129 o ..... .10
B130 ..... .09
B130 o ..... .10
B131 ..... .05
B131 o ..... .05
B132 ..... .11
B132 o ..... .10
B133 ..... .10
B133 o ..... .10
B134 ..... .03
B134 o ..... .03
B135-46 ..... .60
B135-46 o ..... .75
B147-8 ..... .15
B147a ..... .20
B149-52 ..... .45
B149a ..... .50
B149a o ..... .65
B153-7 ..... 1.45
B153a 1.50
B153a o 1.75
B158 ..... .15
B158 o ..... .15
B159-60 ..... .27
B159-60 o ..... .30
B161-6 ..... .58
B161-6 o ..... .65
B167-72 ..... .58
B167-72 o ..... .65
B173 ..... .10
B173 o ..... .10
B174 ..... .09
B174 o ..... .10
B175-7 ..... .38
B175-7 o ..... .45
B178 ..... .10
B178 o ..... .10
B179-84 ..... .30
B179-84 o ..... .35
B185-9 ..... .20
B185-9 o ..... .25
B190 ..... .05
B190 o ..... .05
B191 ..... .05
B191 o ..... .05
B192 ..... .06
B192 o ..... .07
B193 ..... .04
B194 ..... .05
B195 ..... .05
B196 ..... .05
B196 o ..... .05
B197-200 ..... .15
B197-200 o ..... .15
B201-2 ..... .08
B201-2 o ..... .09
B203 ..... .07
B203 o ..... .07
B204 ..... .05
B204 o ..... .05
B205 ..... .05
B205 o ..... .05
B206 ..... .05
B207-12 ..... .32

FRANCE

B213-7 ..... .30
B218 ..... .08
B219 ..... .08
B220 ..... .09
B221 ..... .04
B222 ..... .07
B223 ..... .07
B224-31 ..... .45
B232 ..... .06
C5 ..... .50
C6c o ..... .03
C7 ..... .35
C8-13 ..... 3.00
C8-13 o 1.50
C12 o ..... .04
C16-7 ..... 8.00
C18-21 ..... 1.95
C18-21 o ..... .85
C22 ..... ——
CB1-2 ..... 1.25
CB1-2 o 1.00
CB3 ..... .28
CB3 o ..... .20
N27-42 ..... 1.70
N43-58 ..... 1.70
2N1-10 ..... 1.25
2N11-20 X ..... .13

FR. COLONIES

B1 ..... 2.00
B2-6 ..... .60
B7 ..... .35
B8 ..... .35
Victory Airpost
15 values 1.00

NETHERLANDS

161-3 o ..... .30
175a o ..... .05
195 o ..... .08
198 o ..... .02
196-8 o ..... .05
200 o ..... .02
201 o ..... .15
202-3 o ..... .30
204-5 ..... .35
204 o ..... .03
206-8 ..... .28
206-8 o ..... .12
207 o ..... .03
209-11 o ..... .14
211 o ..... .07
216-25A (14) 1.20
The 4 imps. ..... .50
226-43 ..... 5.00
244 ..... .04
245-61 ..... .38
277 ..... .03
278 ..... .40
278 o ..... .10
281 o ..... .59
302-3 ..... .13
B1-3 o ..... .10
B6-8 ..... .70
B6-8 o ..... .50
Same X ..... .35
B9-11 ..... .60
B9-11 o ..... .60
B12-5 ..... .90
B16-20 o 1.65
B21-4 ..... .65
B21-4 o ..... .45
B25-32 o 1.75
B33-6 ..... .80
B33-6 o ..... .50
B37-40 o ..... .45
B41-3 X ..... .90
B44-7 ..... 1.10
B44-7 o ..... .70
B48-9 ..... 2.00
B48-9 o 2.10
B50-3 o 1.85
B54-7 ..... 3.00
B54-7 o 2.50
B58-61 o 1.40
B62-5 ..... 2.15
B62-5 o 1.40
B66-9 o 1.00
B70-1 X o ..... .35
B72 o ..... .09
B73-6 ..... 1.50
B73-6 o 1.00
B77-80 ..... 1.40
B77-80 o ..... .70
B81 o ..... .35

NETHERLANDS

B82-5 ..... 1.00
B82-5 o ..... .55
B86-9 ..... .95
B86-9 o ..... .50
B90-3 ..... .70
B90-3 o ..... .35
B94-7 ..... .70
B94-7 o ..... .40
B98-102 ..... .75
B98-102 o ..... .33
B103-7 ..... .60
B103-7 o ..... .35
B108-12 ..... .60
B108-12 o ..... .32
B113-7 ..... .90
B113-7 o ..... .50
B118-22 ..... .50
B118-22 o ..... .40
B123-8 ..... 1.10
B123-8 o ..... .60
B128 o ..... .20
B129-33 ..... .45
B129-33 o ..... .25
B134-8 ..... .20
B134-8 o ..... .15
B139-43 ..... .16
B139-43 o ..... .13
B144-5 ..... .20
Same X ..... .13
B146-7 ..... 1.60
B148 ..... .04
B149-53 ..... .16
B154-8 ..... .18
B159-63 ..... .32
B164-9 ..... .20
B170-4 ..... .25
B170-4 o ..... .18
B175-9 ..... .27
B175-9 o ..... .18
B180-4 ..... .28
B180-4 o ..... .18
B185-8 ..... .25
B185-8 o ..... .18
B189-93 ..... .26
C4-5 ..... $28
Same X ..... .20
C6-8 ..... 6.00
C9 o ..... .10
C10 ..... .10
C10 o ..... .12
C11 ..... .06
C11 o ..... .08

(SERBIA)

2N31-41 ..... .30
2N42-6 ..... .35
2NB1-4 ..... .50
2NB7-10 ..... .30
2NB7a-10a 1.00
2NB7b-10b 1.00
2NB7c-10c ..... .75
2NB11-4 ..... .40
2NB15-8 ..... .25
2NB19-22 ..... ——
2NB23-6 ..... .40

SWEDEN

229 o ..... .45
230-5 o ..... .38
262 o ..... .15
264-7 o ..... .15
299-300E o ..... .05
301-9 (10) o ..... .10
313-5 o ..... .09
316-8 o ..... .10
319-21 o ..... .10
322 o ..... .35
323-5 o ..... .17
326-8 o ..... .32
329-31 o ..... .06
332-4 o ..... .35
335-7 o ..... .08
338-41 ..... .60
338-41 o ..... .35
342-4 o ..... .12
360-2 o ..... .08
366-8 o ..... .14
374-6 o ..... .09
377-9 ..... .25
383-5 ..... .40
386-90 ..... .49
Pioneers (4) ..... .50
Strindb'g (4) ..... .40
B37-41 ..... .45
C8 ..... 6.00

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APS—ASDA—SPA

A. C. ZALESKY

1728 Bever Ave.,
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

Counterfeit Confeds

For a long time it has been our contention that people possessing or selling forged Confederate stamps are in for trouble. From these people and there are many of them, we have received divers arguments, viz: The Confederate States were illegal, their stamps have no status, the courts will hold that this was a secession government and thus is not protected by any of the laws governing such cases. That the selling, etc., of such material is not a violation of the law, etc. For the legal minded and those not legal minded, let's take a look and see what gives. Why not give some attorney a fee for a look at Hurd's revised Statutes of the United States or failing that, ask your attorney to look up the law covering the counterfeiting of the stamps of the Confederate States. He will tell you that Section 178 of the act of June 8, 1872 provided for just that. But an ever watchful Attorney General saw to it that many revisions were made to bring into the U. S. Statutes the stamps of the Confederate States.

Carefully scanning this law, we find it was repealed and an act was put on the Statutes (June 15, 1917, 40 Stat. 226) which defined "Foreign Governments." That act includes within the term, any faction or body of insurgents, which may or may not be recognized by the United States, as a Government. To the collectors of Confederate material, this may be news. To those dealing in this phony material, this also may be news. To those who come into an encounter with law and who claim ignorance of this law, this also will be news, although the "ignorance of the law" part of their plea will mean nothing. Every one coming into court should know that ignorance of any law, excuses no one!

A few weeks ago we had a party tell us we were as wet as a hen in a rain storm. Just a week before that we ran into another tune where the party selling a Confederate stamp "did so in good faith" not knowing that the stamp and its cancelation were not in order. Well, we could be wrong! So we took it upon ourselves to contact a very busy man and get the real lowdown on the situation—this time both cancelations and stamps of the Confederacy—and we wish to again thank our friend U. E. Baughman, Chief of our U. S. Secret Service which in turn is the policing agent of our U. S. Treasury Department.

Many people have the idea that Chief Baughman and his many District Agents in charge are tough on them. We know personally some of these very fine agents in charge around the country. They have cooperated with us in many ways. When these men make a demand for counterfeit material they are really helping collectors—the quicker this material gets off the market the better it will be for the unwary and the unsuspecting.

Under date of April 30th again a visitor called on us and told us again that our contention was wrong, that our valves needed grinding and an adjustment of our literary spark plugs was in order. We thought perhaps an overhaul job might be in order and we always believe in letting the other fellow have his say. We remembered Chief Baughman and his help in the past. Under date of May 3rd we asked for specific information covering the stamps of the Confederate States. Under date of May 15th we received word from Chief Baughman and are reproducing his letter below. Please keep this issue or remove this page and place it in your albums for future reference as there will be more use for these laws from time to time that will interest the readers of this column. We publically acknowledge a debt of gratitude to Chief Baughman for the information his letter contains. Here it is:

"Reference is made to your letter of May 3, 1950 requesting information concerning counterfeit postage stamps.

"The laws providing for punishment for the possession of or dealing in counterfeit stamps are of fairly early origin, taking into consideration that the first U. S. postage stamps were issued in 1847. The possession of and dealing in counterfeit stamps has been attacked in two ways in the statutes: (1) through statutes outlawing the possession and sale of obligations and securities of the United States or foreign countries, and (2) through statutes outlawing the possession and sale of United States and foreign counterfeit stamps.

"1. Stamps as Obligations and Securities.

"a. United States obligations or securities. Section 10 of the Act of June 30, 1864, 13 Stat. 221, provided that any person who shall pass, utter, publish, or sell, or shall bring into the United States from any foreign place with intent to pass, utter, publish, or sell, or shall have or keep in possession, or conceal, with intent to utter, publish, or sell, any false, forged, counterfeited, or altered obligation or other security of the United States, with intent to deceive or defraud, shall be deemed guilty of a felony. Section 13 of the Act defined the words 'obligation or other security of the United States' as including stamps, and other representatives of value, of whatever denomination, which have been or may be issued under any act of Congress.

"The substance of these provisions were continued in section 5413 and 5431 of the Revised Statutes of the United States (1874); in sections 147 and 151 of the Act of March 4, 1909, 35 Stat. 1115, 1116, and in title 18, U. S. C., sections 8 and 472 (1948).

"b. Foreign obligations or securities. Foreign postage stamps have never been specifically defined by statute as obligations or securities. However, the Treasury Department has interpreted the term 'obligation or other security of a foreign government' to include foreign postage stamps. The dealing in counterfeit obligations or securities, with intent to defraud, or the possession of such obligations or securities with intent to pass them off as true and genuine, was made punishable by sections 4 and 5 in the Act of May 16, 1884, 23 Stat. 23. Although this Act was repealed by the Act of March 4, 1909, 35 Stat. 1156, the substance of the provisions of sections 4 and 5 of this Act of 1884 were continued in sections 159 and 160 of the Act of March 4, 1909, 35 Stat. 1118. These provisions are now continued in title 18, U. S. C., sections 479 and 480 (1948).

"2. Counterfeit Postage Stamps.

"Section 178 of the Act of June 8, 1872, 17 Stat. 305, provided for the punishment of any person who shall make, or print, or knowingly use or sell, or have in possession, with intent to use or sell, any forged or counterfeited postage stamps. The language of this statute would appear to be broad enough to cover both *United States and Confederate States stamps.* Section 179 of the Act of June 8, 1872, made the forging or counterfeiting of, or knowingly uttering or using a foreign postage stamp punishable. These provisions were continued in effect by sections 5464 and 5465 of the Revised Statutes (1874). They were repealed by the Act of March 4, 1909, but their provisions re-enacted by that Act, sections 219 and 220. The Act of June 15, 1917, 40 Stat. 226, added a definition of '*foreign government,*' which included within the term *any faction or body of insurgents* which may or may not be recognized by the United States as a government. The substance of the foregoing provisions were continued in title 18, U. S. C., sections 11, 501 and 502."

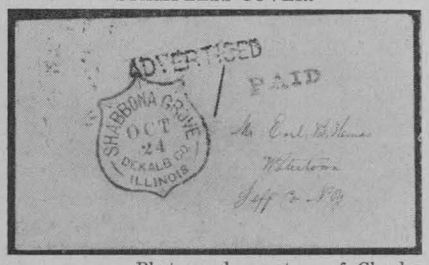
CLASSIC POSTAL MARKINGS

Shabbona Grove, Ill.

By
FREDERICK
LLOYD
SCHOLL
A. P. S.

Throughout the realm of postal markings, during both the stampless and adhesive periods, are found many outstanding examples of ingenious, attractive, and colorful town and rate cancelations. Particularly striking illustrations of such markings originated from a hamlet some sixty-odd miles west of Chicago, in De Kalb County, Illinois. Shabbona Grove produced markings that today are among the rarest of all strikes. George P. Weiland, 152 Hope Ave., Syracuse, N. Y., was kind enough to allow me to present these postal markings for your inspection, and admiration, because they rate it.

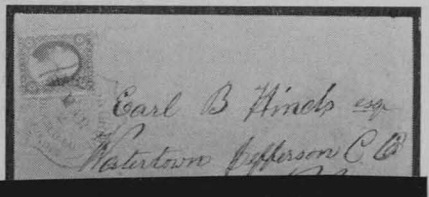
THE SHIELD IN RED ON A STAMPLESS COVER.



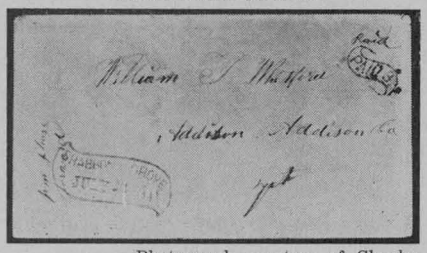
—Photograph courtesy of Charles Machell, Syracuse, N. Y.

The well known Shabbona Grove *shield*, struck in red, is shown in Figure 1 used on a fancy embossed cover. This cover was mailed October 24, 1855, traveled prepaid to Watertown, New York, where it wasn't immediately picked up and had to be advertised. The handstamped *PAID* is in red, the *ADVERTISED* is in black, and the manuscript 1 is in black.

THE SHIELD IN BLACK ON A STAMPED COVER—3c 1857.



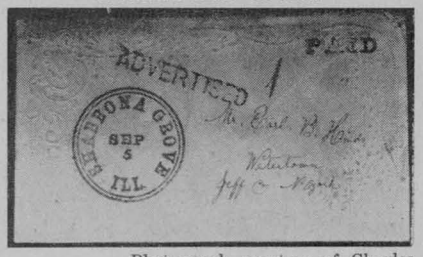
THE RIBBON IN BLACK ON A STAMPLESS COVER.



—Photograph courtesy of Charles Machell, Syracuse, N. Y.

The *double circle* in red from Shabbona Grove is presented on the cover

THE DOUBLE CIRCLE IN RED ON A STAMPLESS COVER.



—Photograph courtesy of Charles Machell, Syracuse, N. Y.

in Figure 4. Mailed September 5, 1855, this cover is the same type of embossed cover as shown in Figure 1. And like the cover in Figure 1 this stampless went to Watertown prepaid, and was advertised.

It is cover markings such as these that make the search for stampless and stamped covers ever exciting, particularly since these markings catalogue twenty-five dollars each. Such a premium price is well warranted since these covers are as scarce as '47s in dime packets.

These covers and others like them are bringing ever increasing prices whenever they appear on the market. Probably an excellent example of what stampless markings can bring will be demonstrated in *Pollitz & Paige's 50th Sale* of May 13th. Lot No. 2 is a dandy copy of the *Windsor Locks steamboat* marking. Not too long ago this cover brought about twenty-five to thirty-five dollars. Let's see what this cover will bring.

As in all commodities value is determined by the old law of supply and demand. The demand for classic stampless is keen but the supply is practically nil. Normally it is only when a collection is being broken up that one of these covers reaches the market. That competition for ownership is so great indicates the growing trend toward interest in postal history. One might meditate on the cause. Could it be that the flood of new issues of the post war years discouraged the collector of moderate means and limited time? Collecting stampless is at the same time exciting and restraining—there is fun and interest for all who give it a try.

Incidentally, postal history students who would like to see a postal history society formed contact Johnny Fox, 116 Nassau St., New York, right away, telling him so. If sufficient interest is displayed positive steps will probably be taken on the project.

Collectors of U. S. cancelations who have sought some group composed of cancelation collectors might inquire of Leonard V. Huber, 4841 Canal St., New Orleans 19, La., for information regarding the *U. S. Cancelation Club.*

Collectors of postal markings would also do well to secure a copy of Black and Davis' *"Postal Markings of Boston to 1890."* Of primary interest to Boston postal marking collectors, this book is of great value to all postal history students. Most progressive dealers stock this great book.

Harry Konwiser's *"The United States Stampless Cover Catalogue"* is a must for the serious stampless student. Herein are listed a majority of stampless markings recorded at the time of writing, arranged according to states, towns, and territories. There is also considerable data relevant to postal rates and other incidental information of value to the student.

With the coming of summer many of us will soon be taking off into the hills, forgetting stamps and covers, seeking only fresh air. It might prove profitable to keep an eye open here and there for possible sources of finds. Decadent farmhouses, backwoods post offices, and the like, frequently provide us with the material that makes headline news in the stamp press. But then *you* didn't have to be told that.

This is the new home
near the ocean. We
like it - very much.
To date Hugh is well
and happy all we can do
is to hope for the best.

Thurza + Hugh Clark