

WASHINGTON-FRANKLINS

ON COVER AND PIECE

The Washington-Franklin Series, 1908-22, is clearly the most complex and fascinating series of stamps ever issued by the United States. This Third Bureau Issue boasts more than 210 major catalog listings. These many varieties were the result of a major evolution in the way the Bureau produced stamps.

This exhibit shows the evolution of the series, with selected covers included to illustrate each change. In the section showing this evolution, Scott catalog numbers have been included to facilitate following the changes. Many of the dates indicated are based on the exhibitors' research and are now accepted by the Philatelic Foundation, the American Philatelic Society and the American First Day Cover Society. Major catalogs are also changing their listings to reflect this new information.

This time span also was a period of great international upheaval, and this is well reflected in the postal history of the series. Covers are included which illustrate that the Washington-Franklin Series offers a fascinating array of varieties and usages and an area of research more fertile than that of any other series of United States stamps.

Note: This collection was exhibited in various national stamp shows in the early 1980's and at Ameripex '86. The collection was sold in Superb Auctions dated April 29, 1989 and September 22, 1989.

THE ORIGINAL ISSUE

'ONE CENT' FRANKLIN

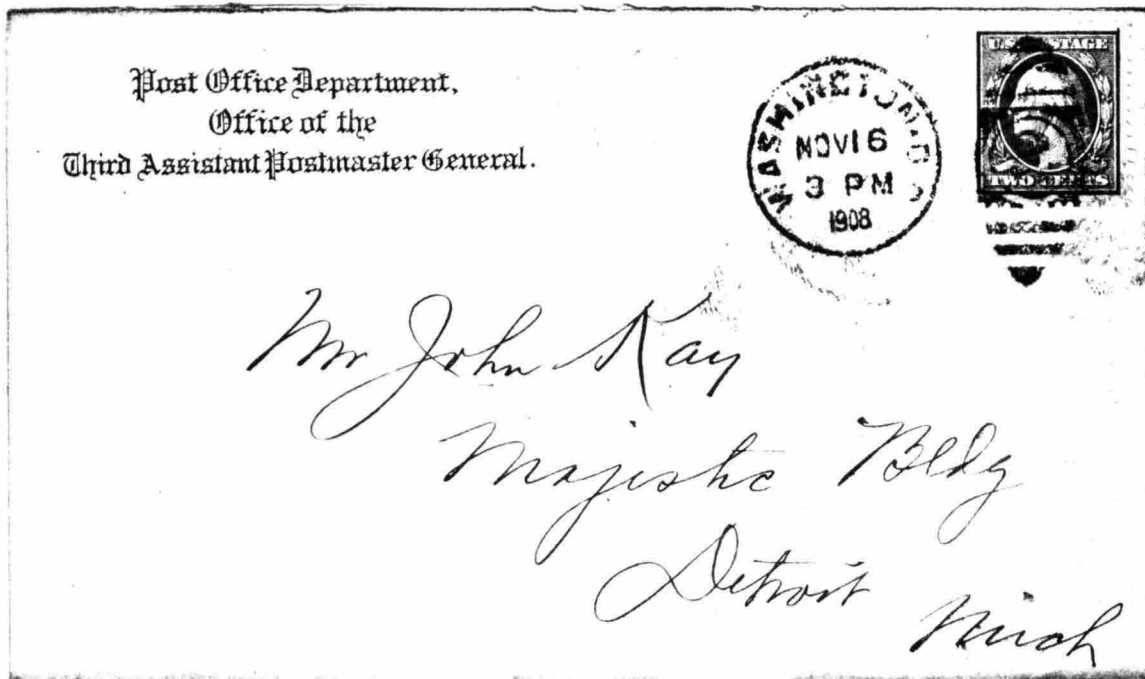
'TWO CENTS' WASHINGTON

NUMERICAL HIGH VALUE WASHINGTONS

DOUBLE LINE WATERMARK

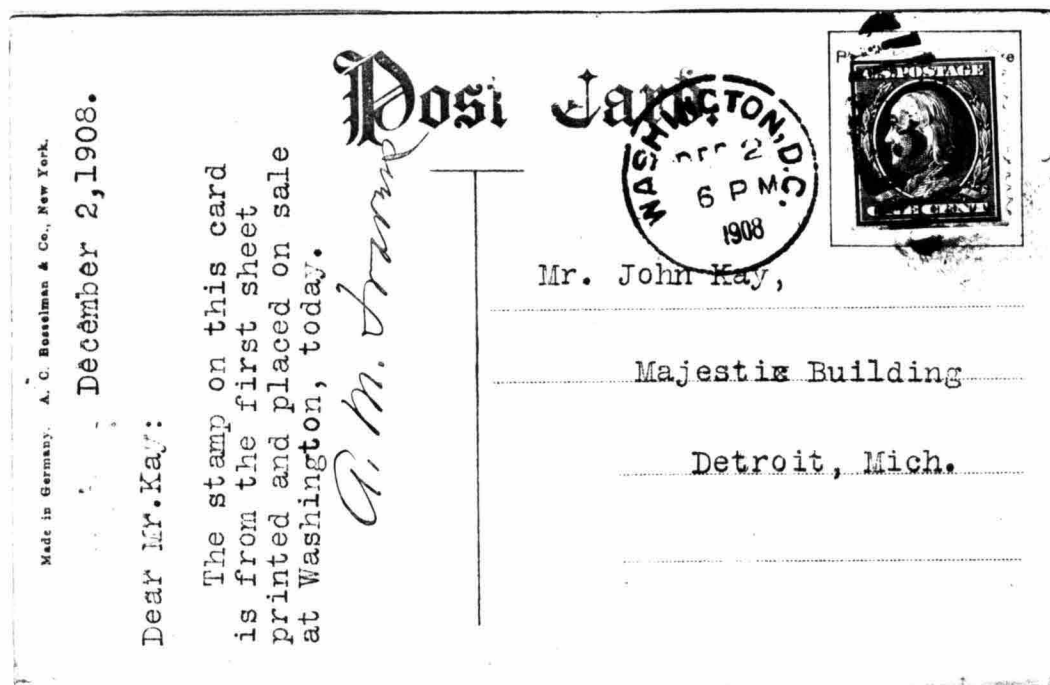
PERFORATED 12

BOOKLET PANES



332a (PF)

The only documented First Day Cover of the "Two Cents" Washington booklet pane, this single was postmarked November 16, 1908. This was the first stamp issued in the new series.



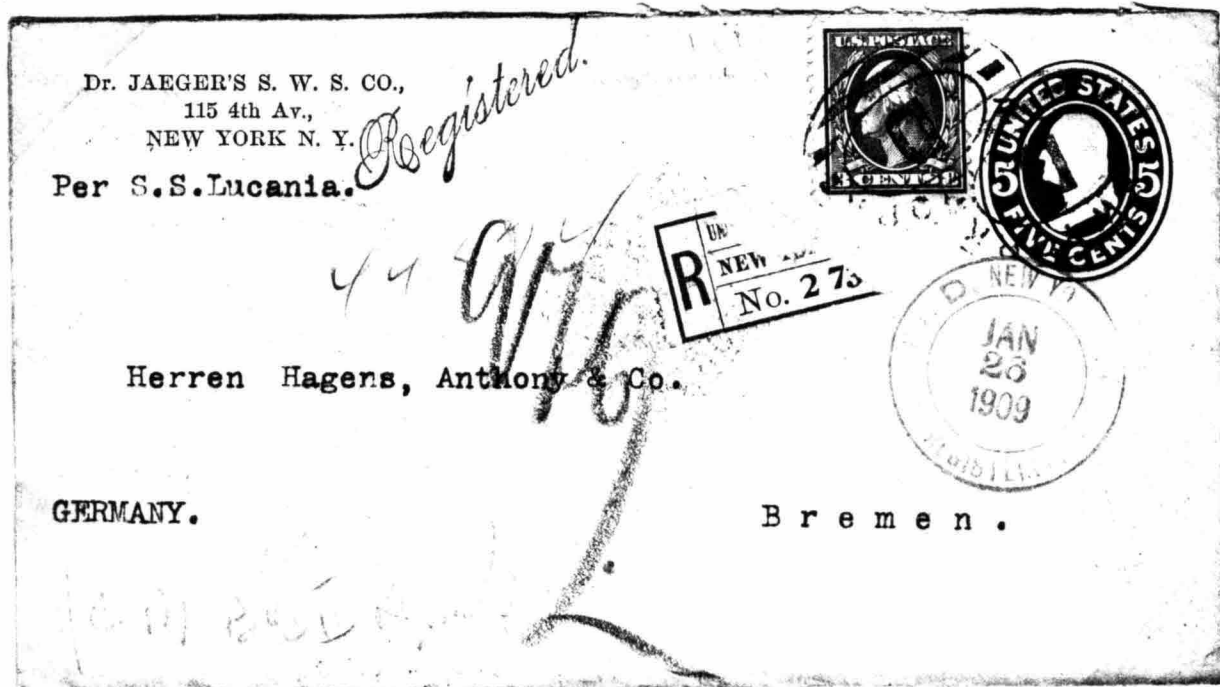
331a (PF)

The only reported First Day Cover of the "One Cent" Franklin Booklet pane, December 2, 1908.



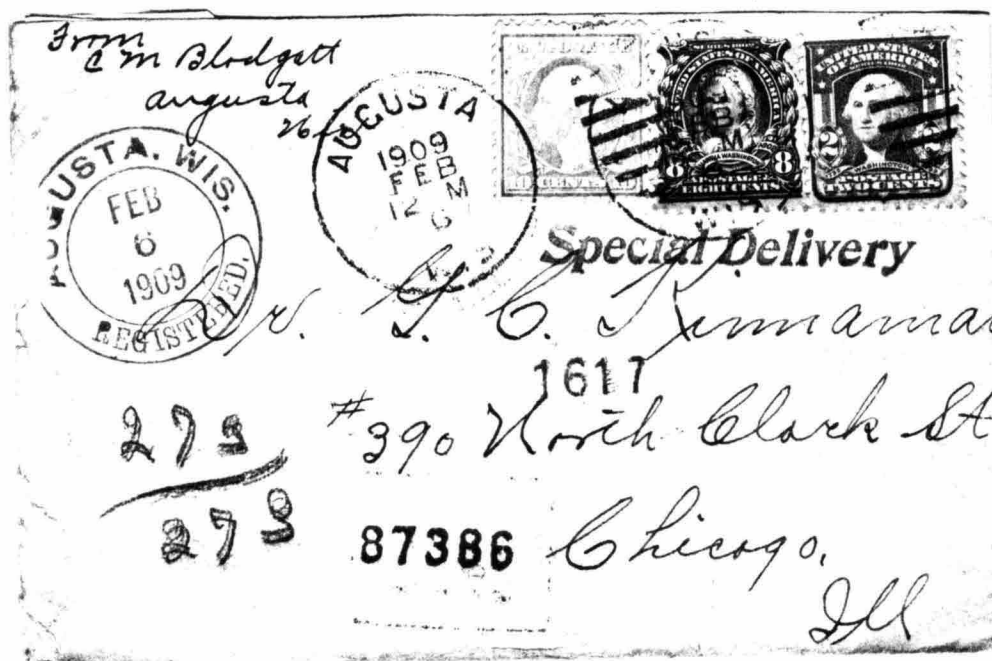
332a

A full booklet pane of the "Two Cents" Washington used to pay the correct postage and registration fee



337

The 8¢ value was probably issued in late December 1908. Post-marked January 26, 1909, this is the Earliest Documented Cover.



338

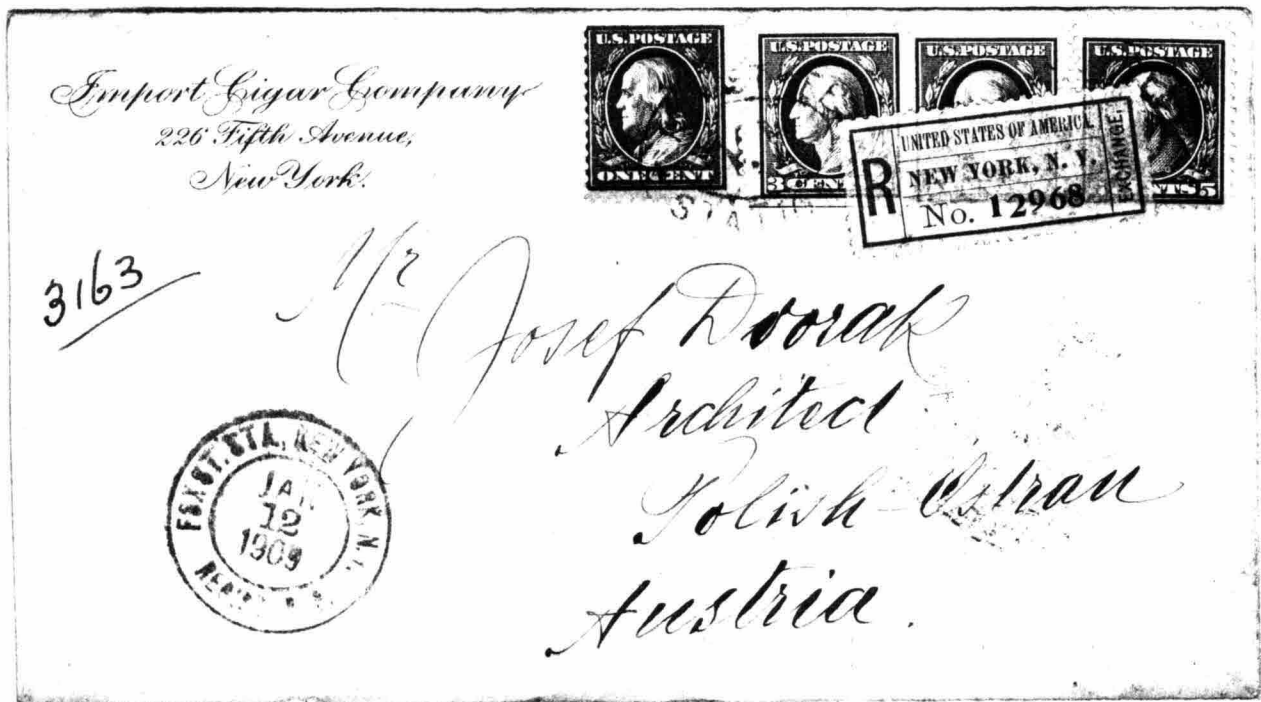
The 10¢ value was probably issued in late January 1909. This February 6, 1909, cover is the Earliest Documented Cover

SHEET STAMPS



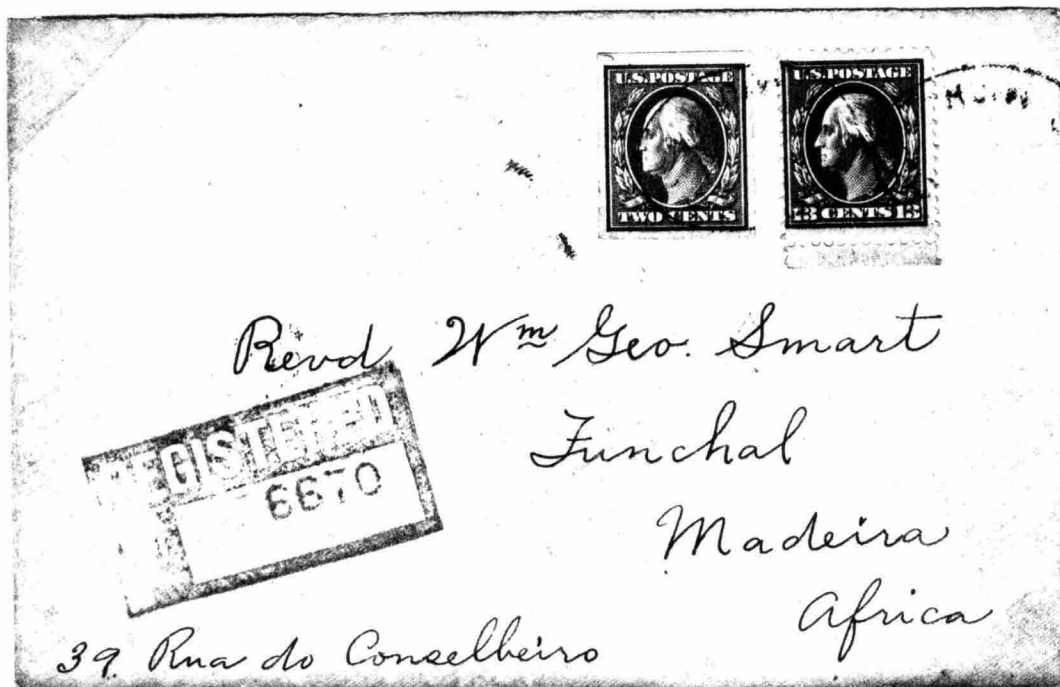
332

The "Two Cents" Washington in sheet form was first placed on sale about December 1, 1908. This is the Earliest Documented Cover, December 4, 1908.



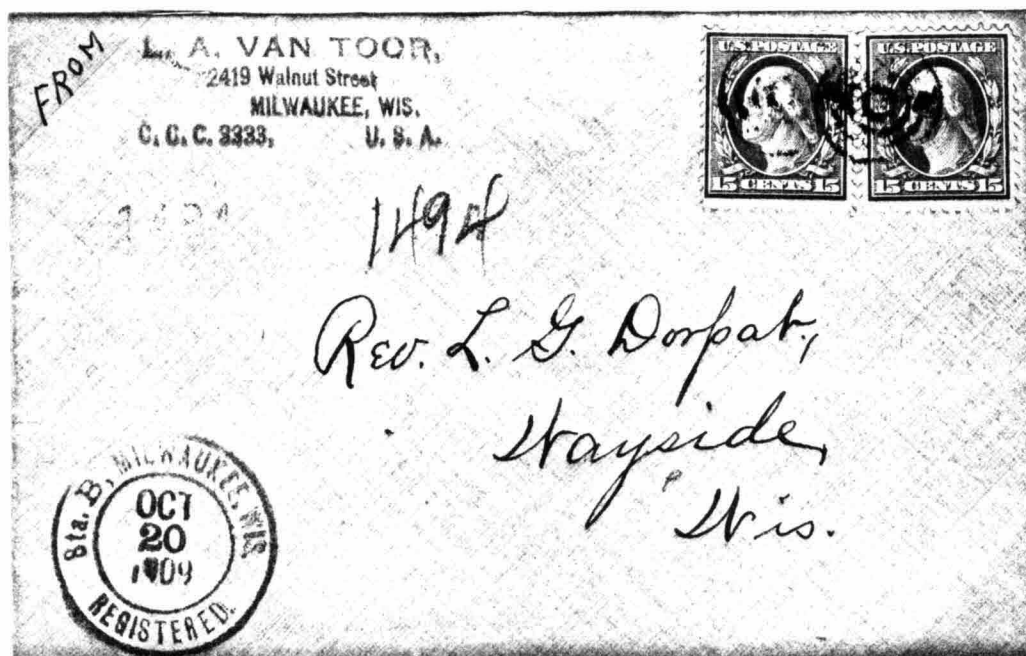
331, 333, 334, 335

The 3¢, 4¢ and 5¢ values were probably placed on sale the end of December 1908. This cover to Austria, postmarked January 12, 1909, is the Earliest Documented Cover for all three values.



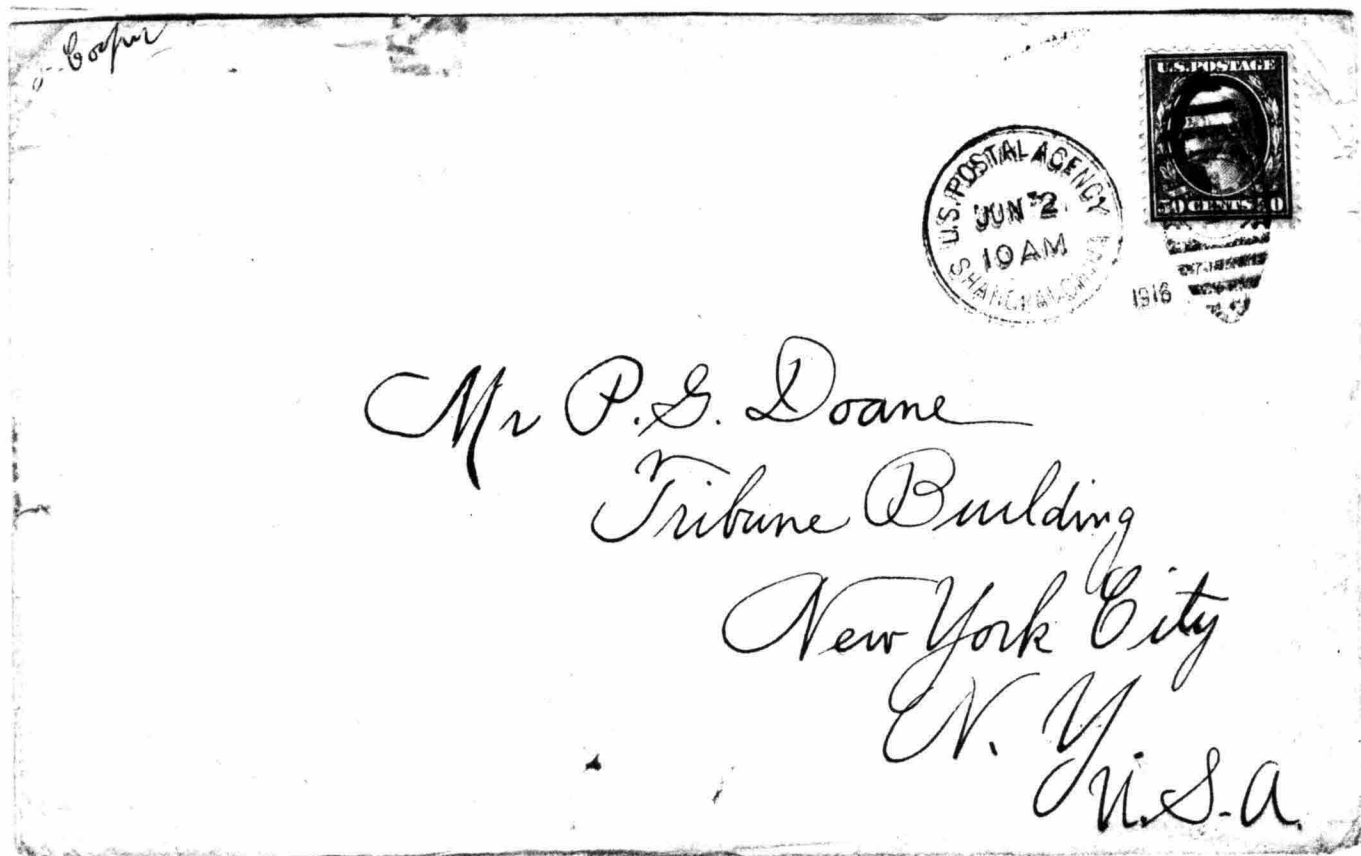
344, 339

The 13¢ value was issued to pay the 8¢ registry fee, effective until October 31, 1909, plus 5¢ international postage. Since this cover was mailed to Funchal, Madeira, March 14, 1911, 2¢ was added to pay the increased registry fee of 10¢.



340

The two 15¢ values on this envelope, used as a label for a package, paid the 8¢ registry fee plus 11X domestic first class postage.



341 (PF)

This overpaid, philatelic cover from Shanghai in June 1916 is the only documented cover of the 50¢ Washington. (Ex-Knapp, Tows)



333, 336, 341

The only documented usage of the 50¢ value on a mailing tag



Dr George R Stehlich
Birdsboro

no. 1000000000

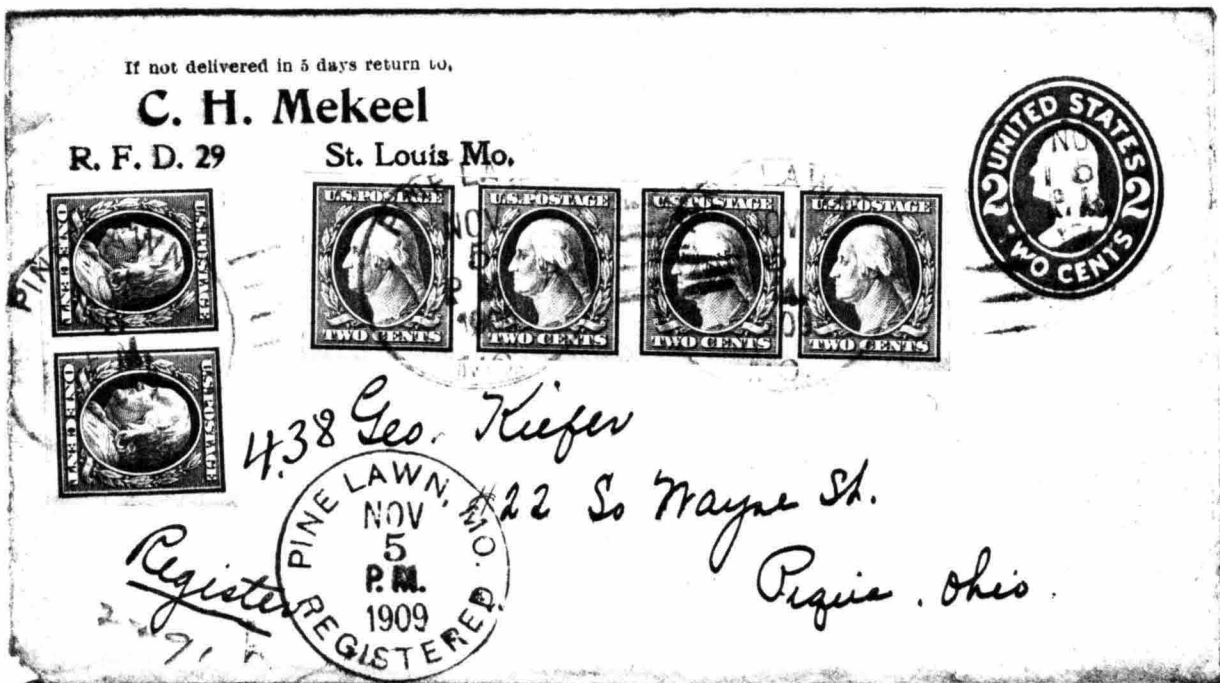
332, 332, 342

Piece from a package mailed from New York to Birdsboro, Pennsylvania, circa 1909. \$1.28 paid postage for either a 3 lb., 11 oz. first class registered package or a 7 lb., 6 oz. fourth class registered package.

1 cover and 1 piece have been documented franked with the \$1.00 Washington.

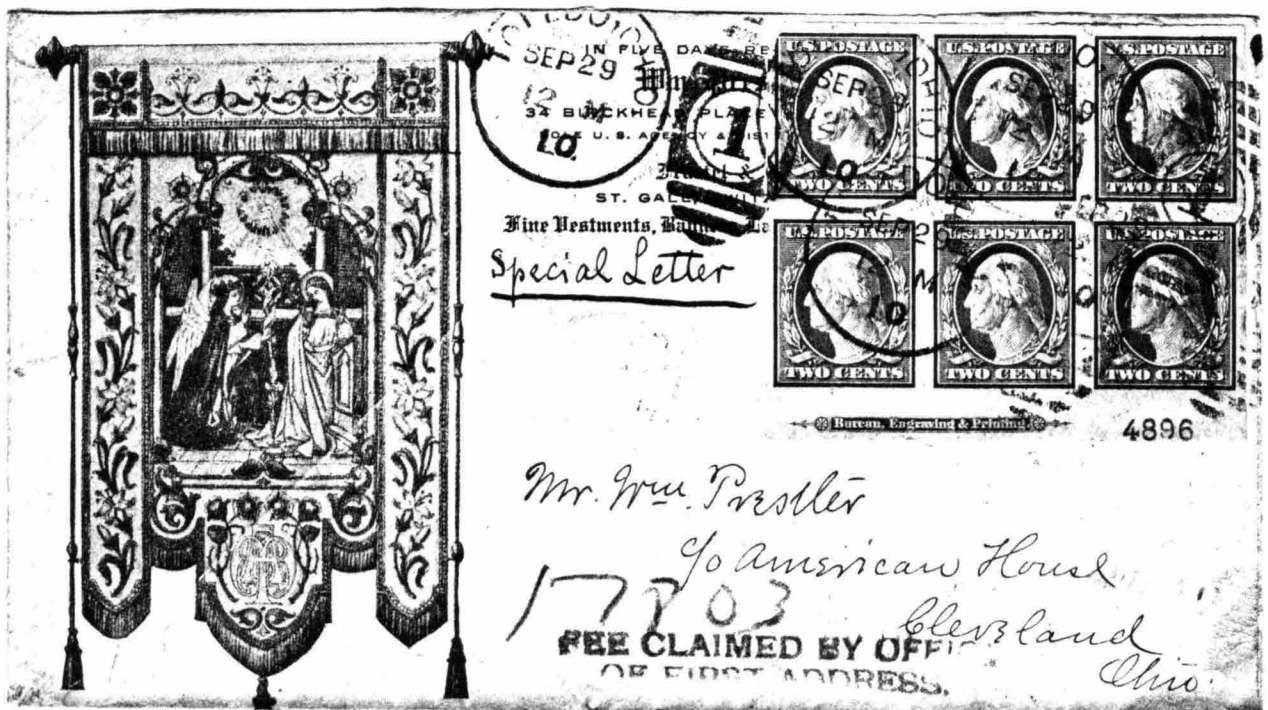
IMPERFORATE SHEET STAMPS

Sheets of the 1¢-5¢ values were sold imperforate by special order, usually to companies which manufactured vending or affixing machines.



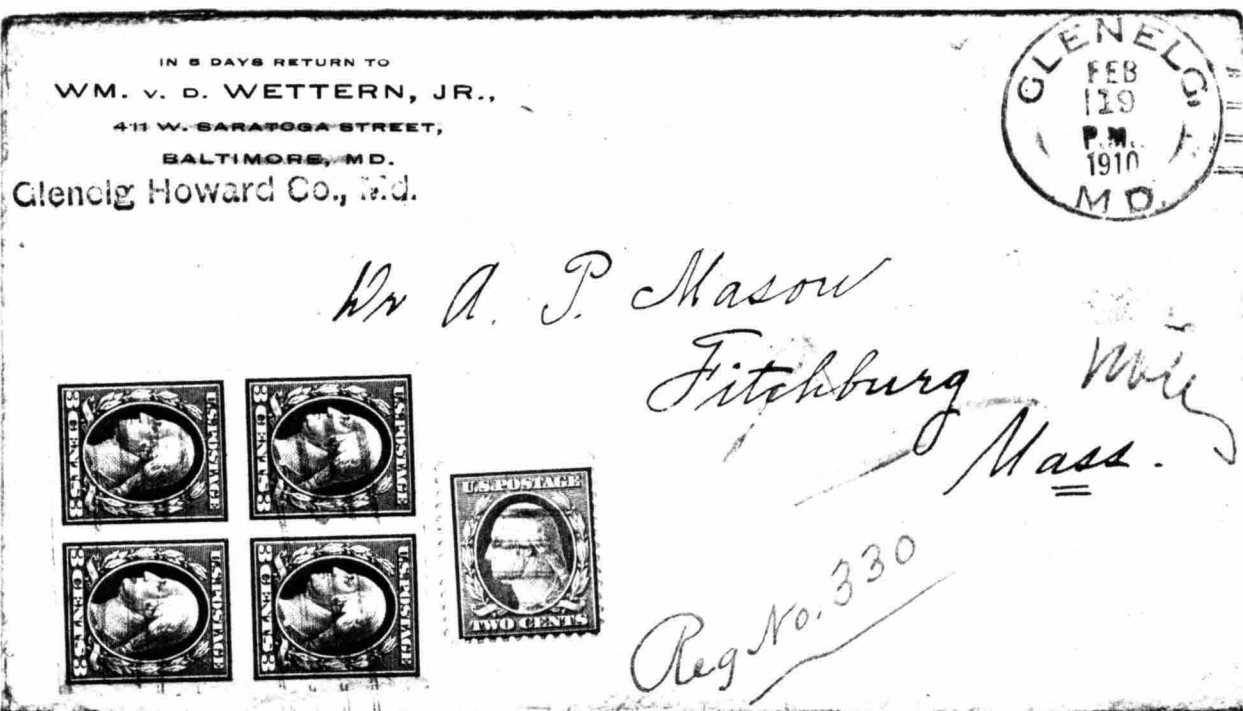
343, 344

This 2¢ strip of 4 illustrates both 2 mm and 3 mm spacing between stamps. On some plates the Bureau experimented with different spacing on the same sheet in an attempt to counteract the effect of uneven paper shrinkage.



344

Imprint and plate number block of 6 used to pay the 10¢ special delivery fee plus 2¢ postage



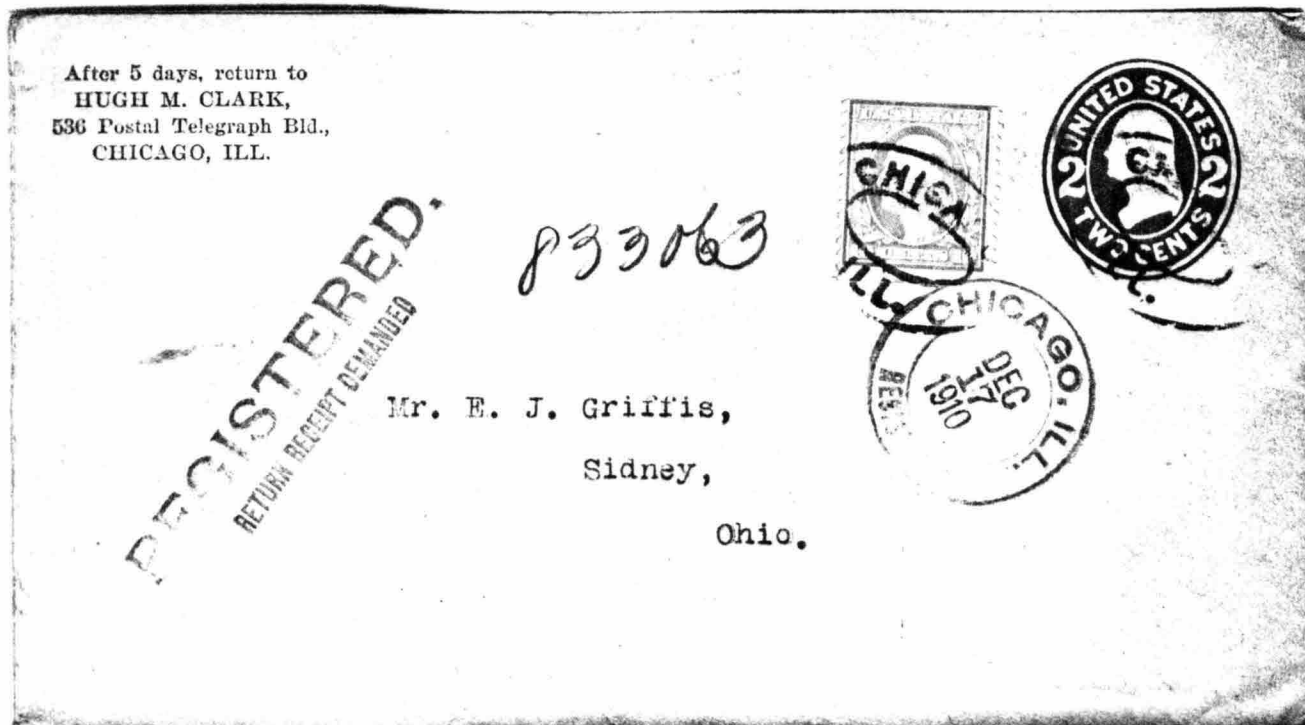
345, 332

Double weight registered domestic letter



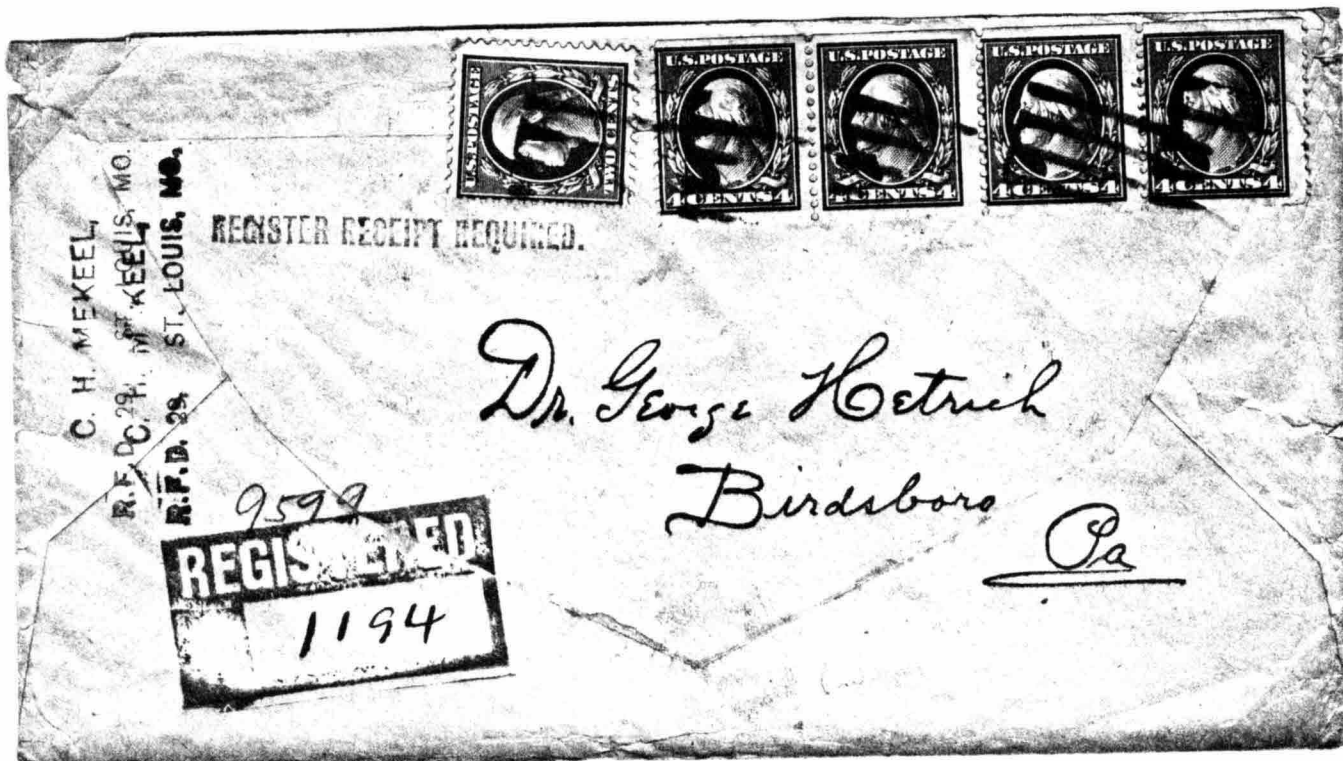
Although the 3¢ value was not sold over the counter until February 19, 1909, a quantity of this stamp was delivered to the U.S. Automatic Vending Company in New York on February 13, 1909. This is the Earliest Documented Cover of this value, February 13, 1909.

COIL STAMPS



356 (PF)

Only about 15,000 copies of the 10¢ coil were sold, and only five covers have been documented.



375, 354

18¢ pays registry and 4X domestic rate



349, 351

16¢ pays registry plus triple domestic rate

STAMPS PRINTED ON BLUISH PAPER

ORIGINAL DESIGN

DOUBLE LINE WATERMARK

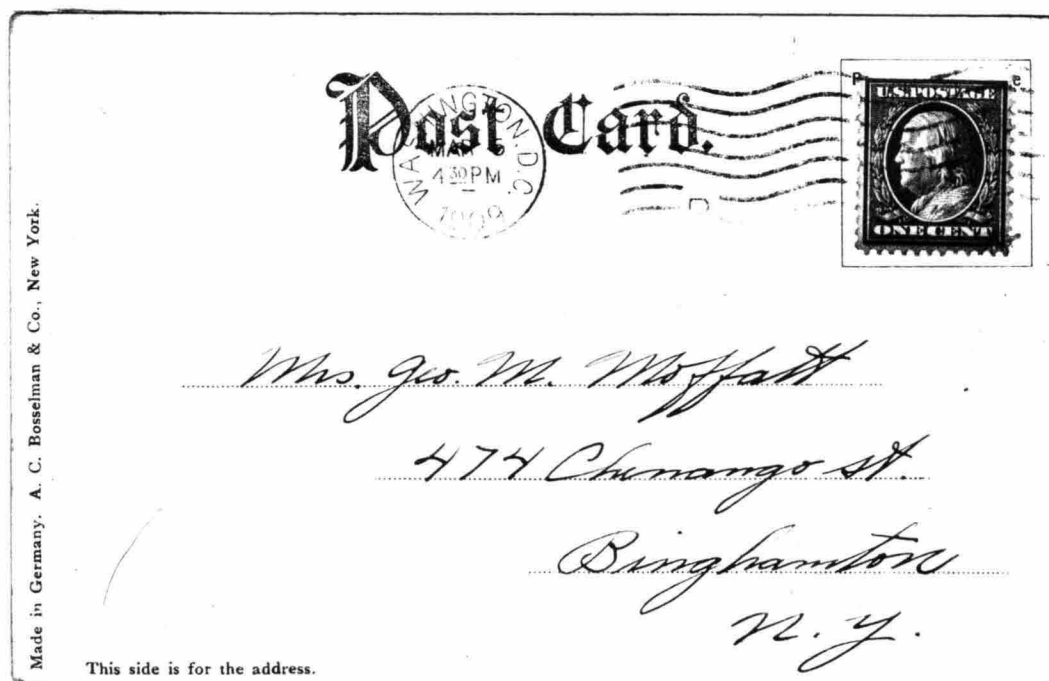
PERFORATED 12

In February 1909, the Bureau experimented with using special papers in an attempt to reduce wastage caused by uneven shrinkage of paper. Because of this shrinkage, stamps were often misperfed. Despite many changes, this remained a problem until the advent of the Electric Eye perforators in 1935.

Most of the papers used for these experiments were 35% rag content, but a very small quantity of paper containing about 20% China clay was also used. These stamps became known as the Blue Papers.

Although all values up to the 15¢ were printed on these special papers, only the 1¢ and 2¢ values were regularly issued. They were sold only in Washington from February to May 1909.

A few sheets of other values were inadvertently mixed in with shipments of stamps and sold in other cities. The 4¢ and 8¢ values were never legitimately sold by the Post Office.



357

1¢ bluish paper to pay domestic post card postage

JULIAN P. BALDWIN,
BUILDER
BALLSTON, VIRGINIA.

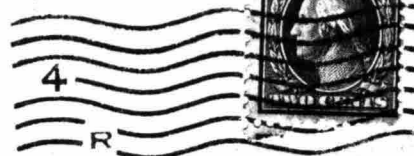


Mr M. E. Church
Falls Church
Virginia

358

The only documented contemporary usage of the 2¢ bluish paper outside of Washington, DC

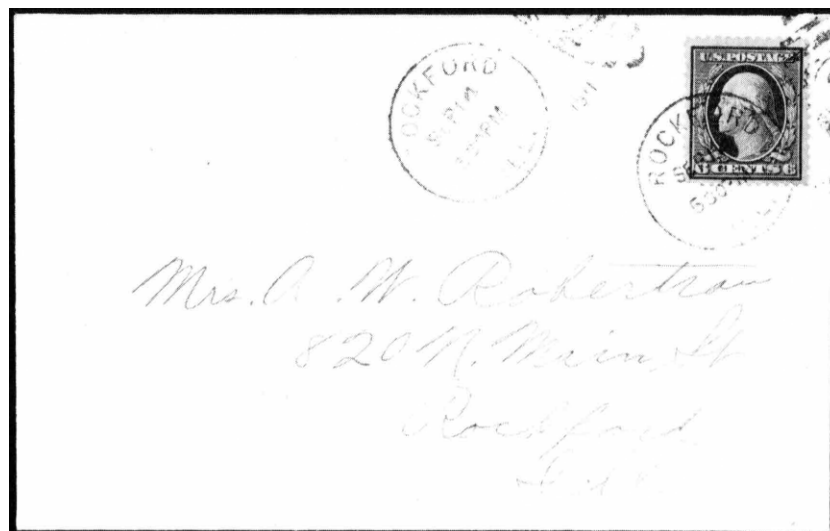
E. P. HAZLETON
Bicycles
Automobiles and Motor Cycles
332 and 334 Pa. Ave. S. E. and
429 and 431 10th St. N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.



A. G. Rice
Chief Clerk
United States Dept. of Agriculture
Bureau of Soils City

358 (var)

The only documented 2¢ China clay cover (Ex-Johl)



362

Unique 6 Cent Blue Paper Cover (Repaired)

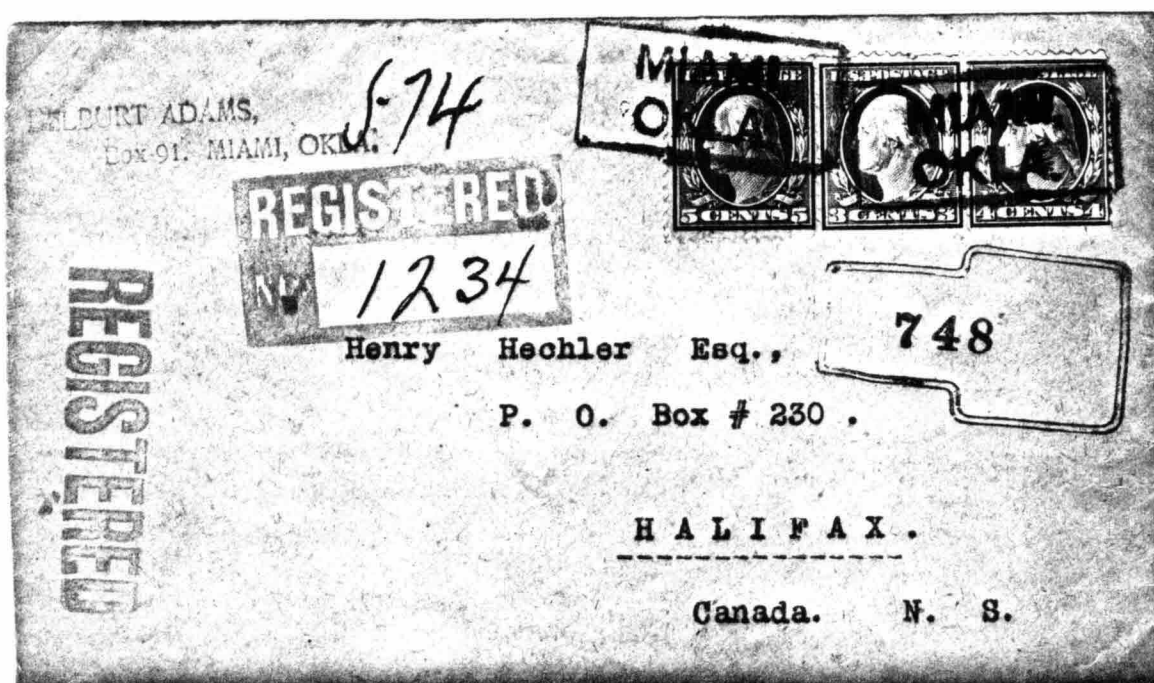
CHANGE TO SINGLE LINE WATERMARK

ORIGINAL DESIGN

PERFORATED 12

Only two changes had so far been made in the Washington-Franklin series. The Bureau had experimented with varying spacing between stamps on the 1¢-5¢ values and with using different types of paper, both in order to counteract the effects of uneven paper shrinkage. This shrinkage caused difficulties in perforating the stamps and thus led to an unacceptable amount of waste.

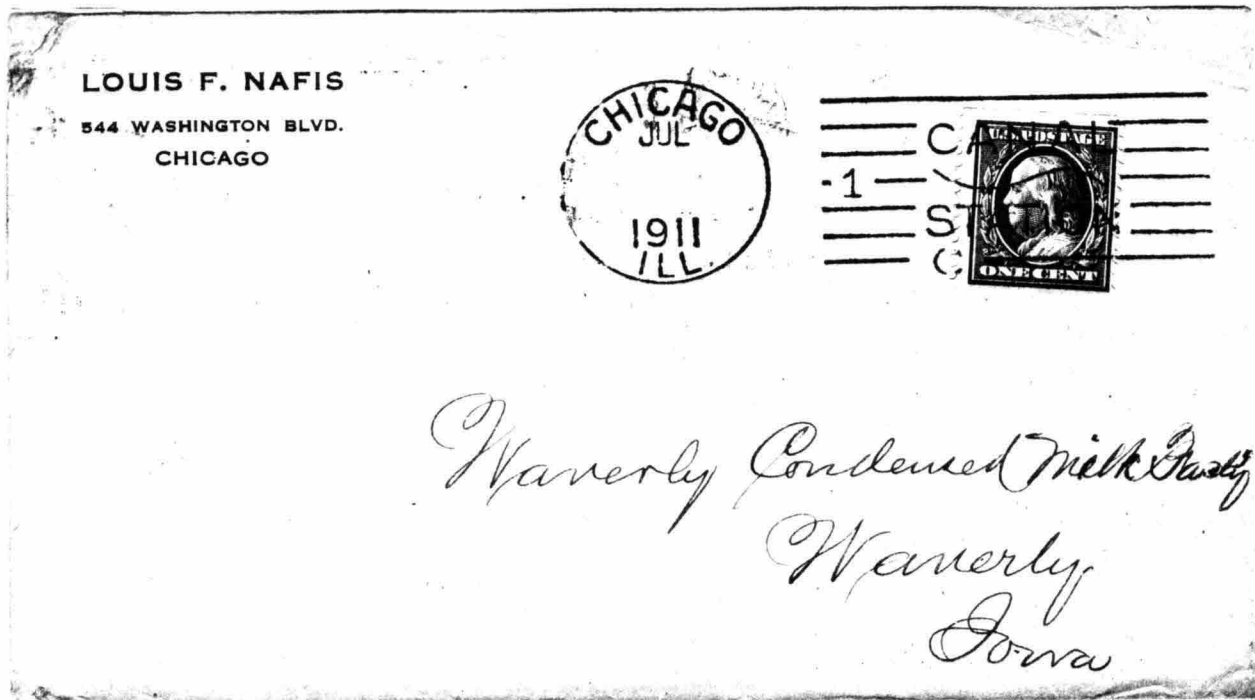
In November 1910 the Bureau started printing stamps on paper with a single line watermark, another attempt to solve the uneven shrinkage problem. This was the only change made at this time.



378, 376, 377

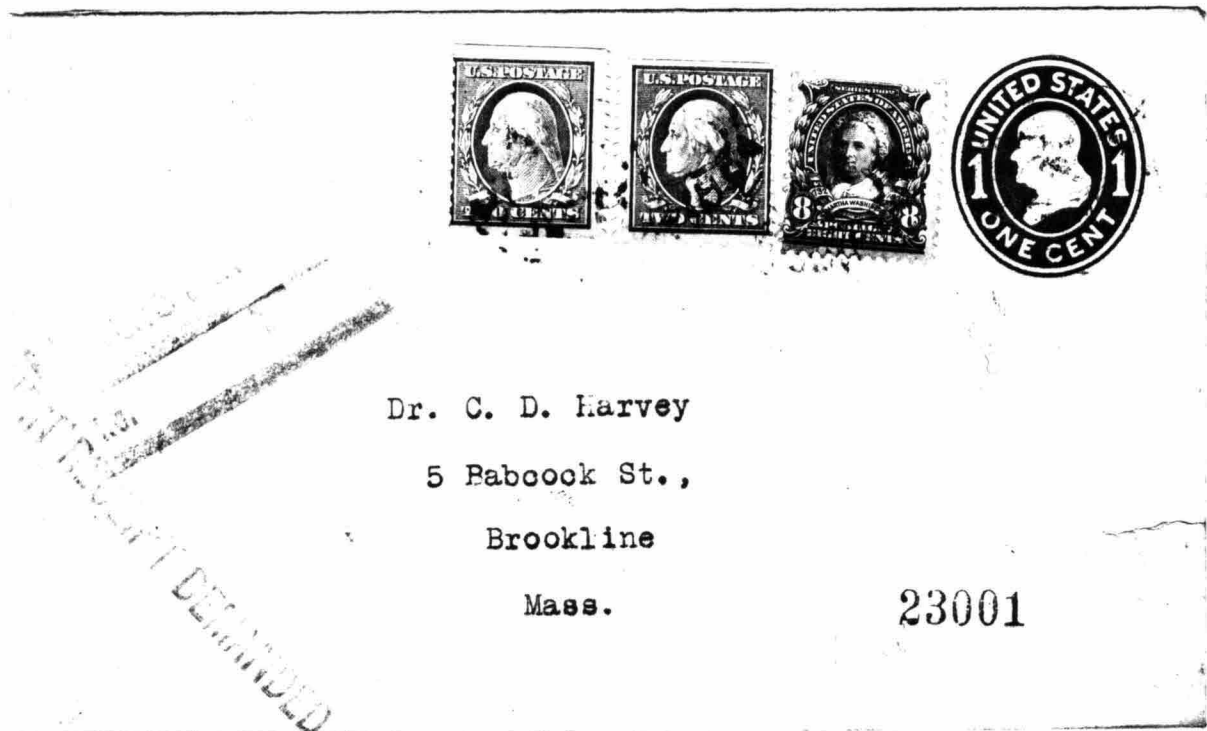
June 1911 usage to Canada, 10¢ registry plus 2¢ postage

COIL STAMPS



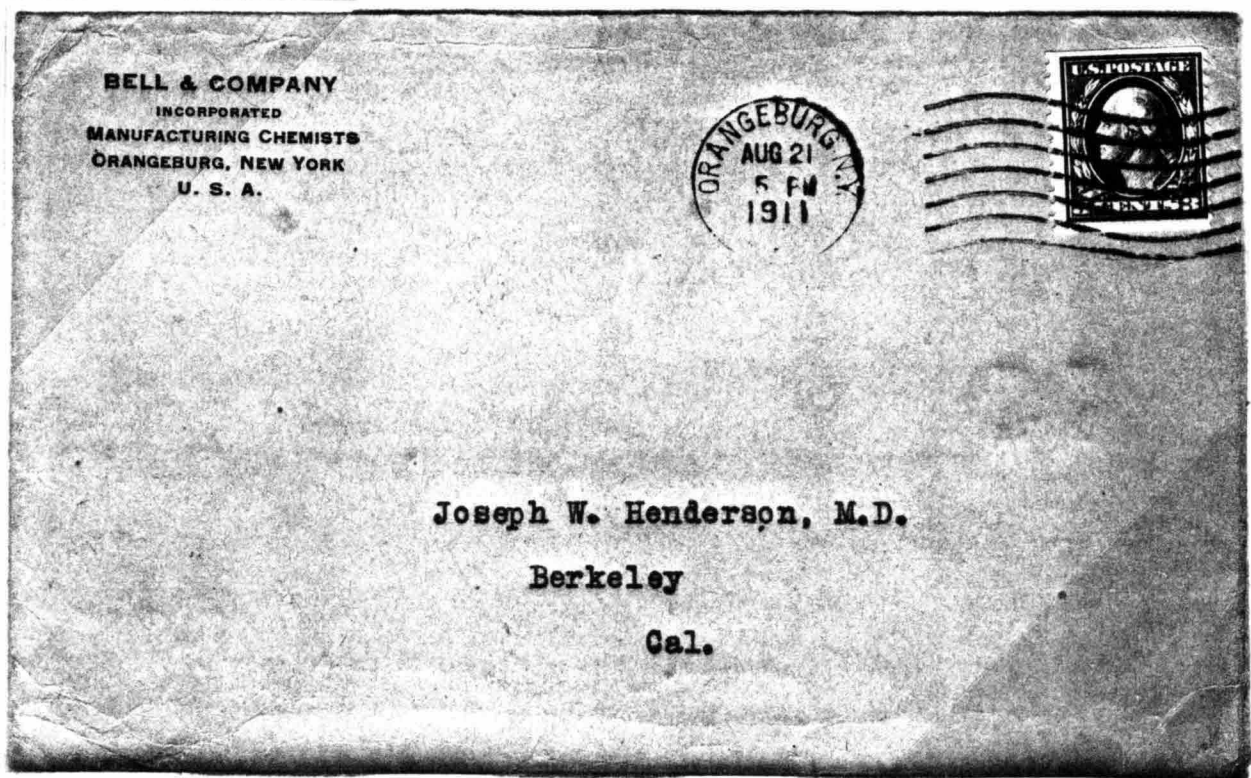
387

1¢ third class rate for less than two ounces of printed matter



353, 388 (PF)

2¢ coils on both double line water mark (left) and single line water-mark papers. All 2¢ stamps of the series printed on double line watermark paper have this distinctive color.



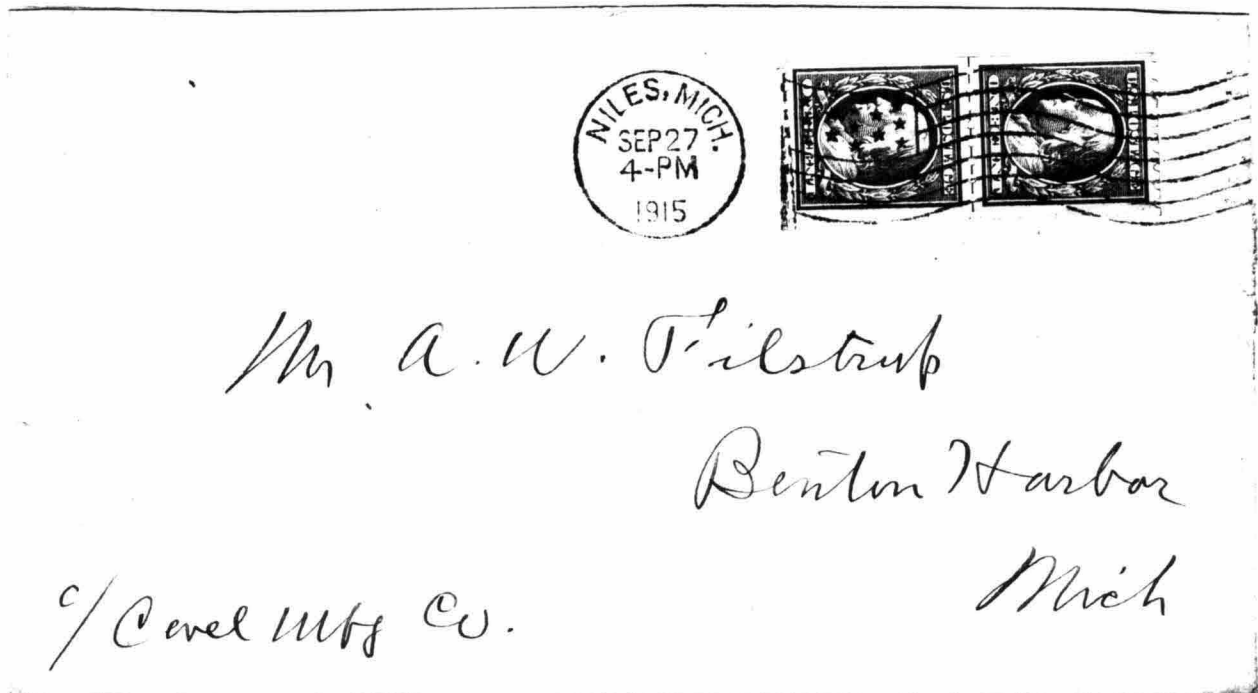
389 (PF)

"The Orangeburg Coil," the most celebrated stamp of the Washington-Franklin series, was the only 3¢ coil perforated 12 in the series. All copies were sold to Bell & Company, who used them to mail 3 ounce samples of their antacid medicine to doctors around the country. The stamps were used primarily between April and September 1911.

This cover is acknowledged to be the finest example surviving.

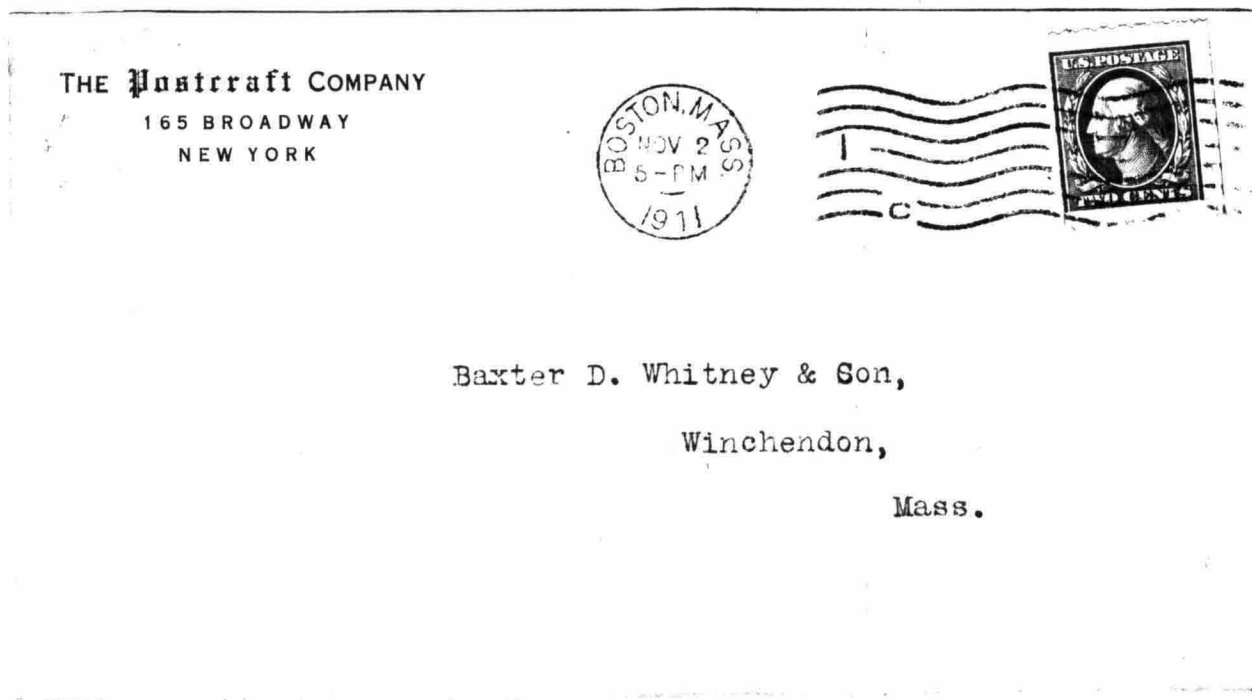
CHANGE COIL PERFORATIONS TO 8 1/2

In December 1910 the Bureau began perforating the 1¢ and 2¢ endwise and sidewise coil stamps 8½ instead of 12 because patrons and postal workers complained that the perf. 12 coils separated too easily. The remaining values were changed gradually through 1913.



390

Line pair to pay 2¢ domestic rate



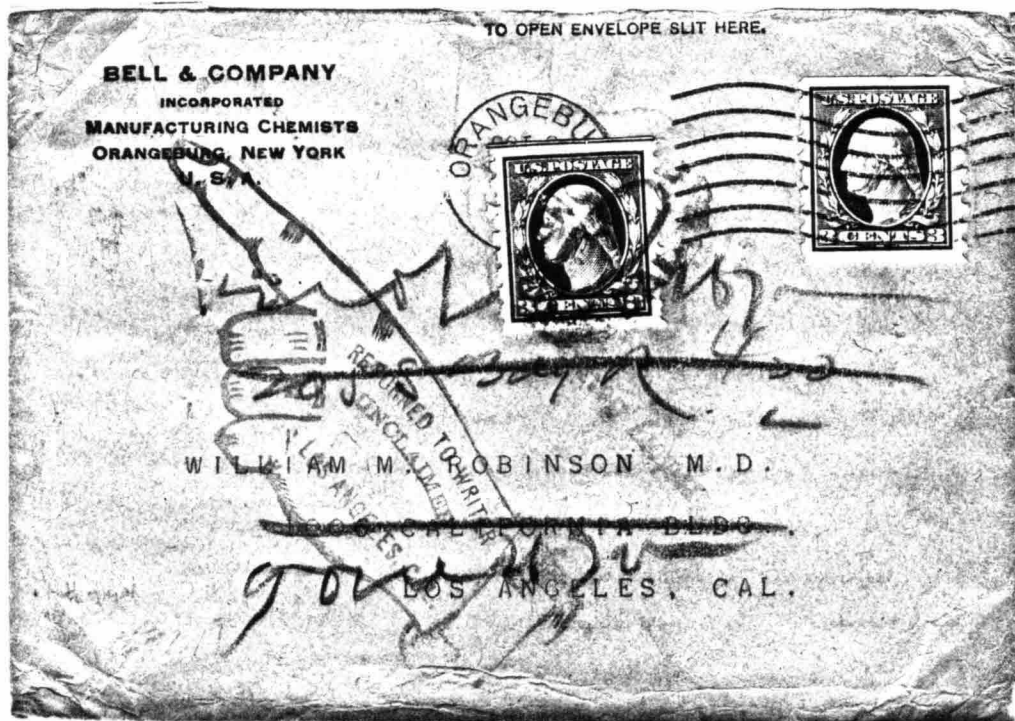
391

2¢ paste-up single to pay domestic rate. Coils were made by hand, taking the full sheet of 400 perforated in one direction, cutting it into strips and pasting them together, forming paste-up pairs at this juncture.



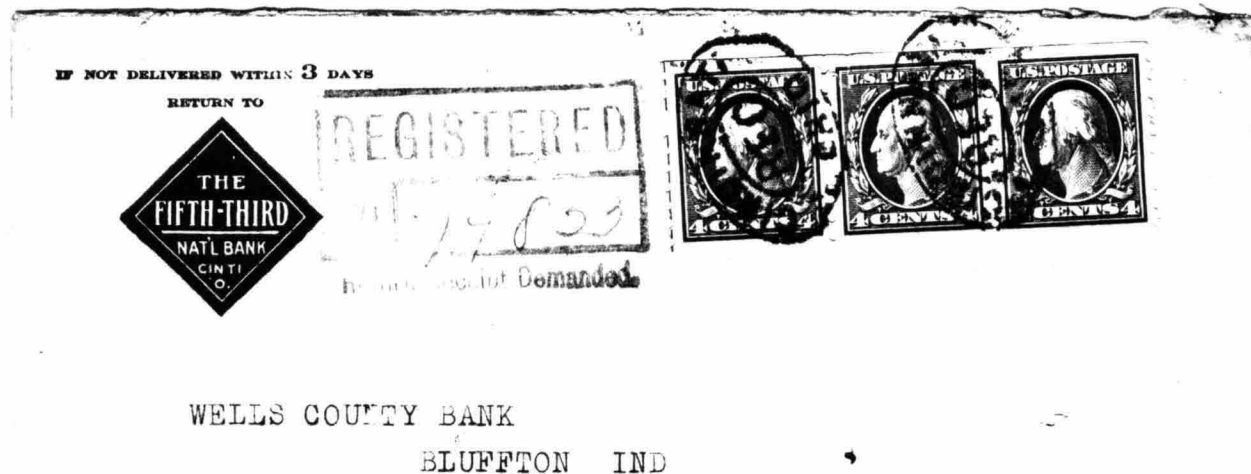
393

1911 registered domestic rate



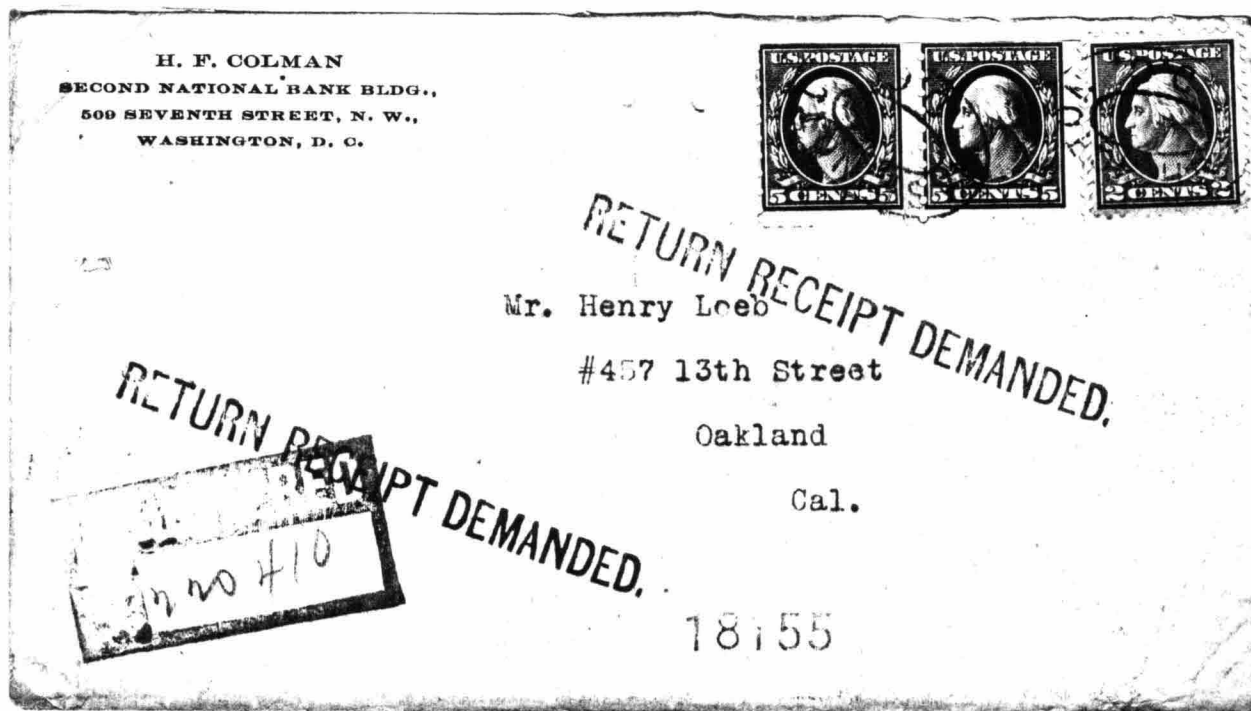
394

October 1913 usage of "The Baby Orangeburg Coil" to send a 3 ounce pharmaceutical sample. Cover was returned, and another example of the stamp was added to pay the postage due. Parcel post postage did not include return of undeliverable mail.



396

1915 registered domestic usage



396, 376 (AFDCS)

The first day of sale of the 5¢ coil is unknown. This May 20, 1913, cover is the Earliest Documented Cover.

REVISED DESIGN

NUMERICAL WASHINGTON UP TO 7c VALUE

NUMERICAL FRANKLIN 8c VALUE AND ABOVE

SINGLE LINE WATERMARK

PERFORATED 12

From February 1912 to May 1914 the Bureau changed the design of the series. 1¢ - 7¢ were to be numerical Washingtons with 8¢ value and above being numerical Franklins.

There were three reasons for the change. First, the 1¢ and 2¢ values of the initial series violated UPU rules. UPU required denominations on stamps to be numerical. Second, postal workers and patrons complained that it was too easy to confuse denominations because of design and color similarities. Third, additional values were needed since the parcel post stamps were being phased out, and the regular issue was to be used on parcel post packages.



406, 375

Covers franked with a combination of both original and revised designs

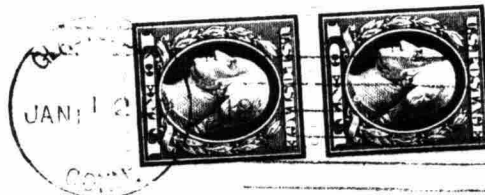


High values used to pay
35X first class domestic
rate. Probably used as
a label on a package con-
taining checks.

COIL STAMPS

In March 1912 new 1¢ and 2¢ coils, both sidewise and endwise, were issued. They were still perforated $8\frac{1}{2}$.

After Five Days Return To
M. C. Phillips & Company
GLASTONBURY CT. U.S.A.



A. W. Filstrup,

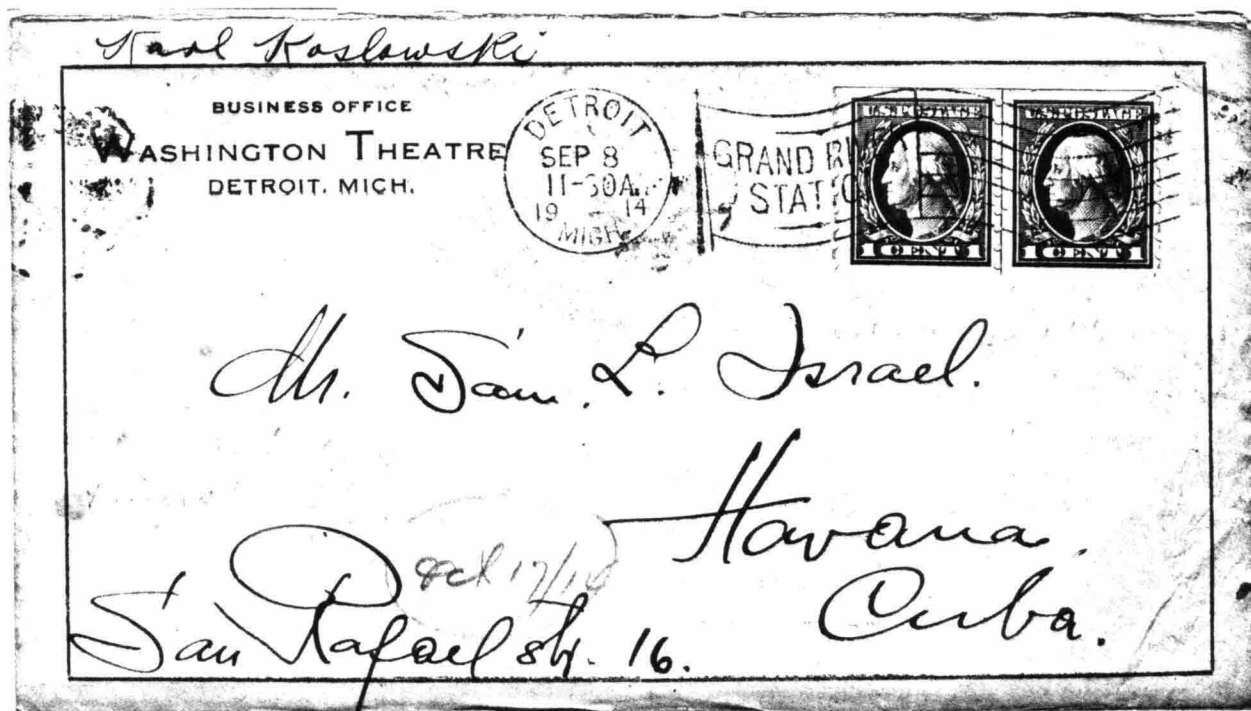
Benton Harbor,

Box 1027.

Mich.

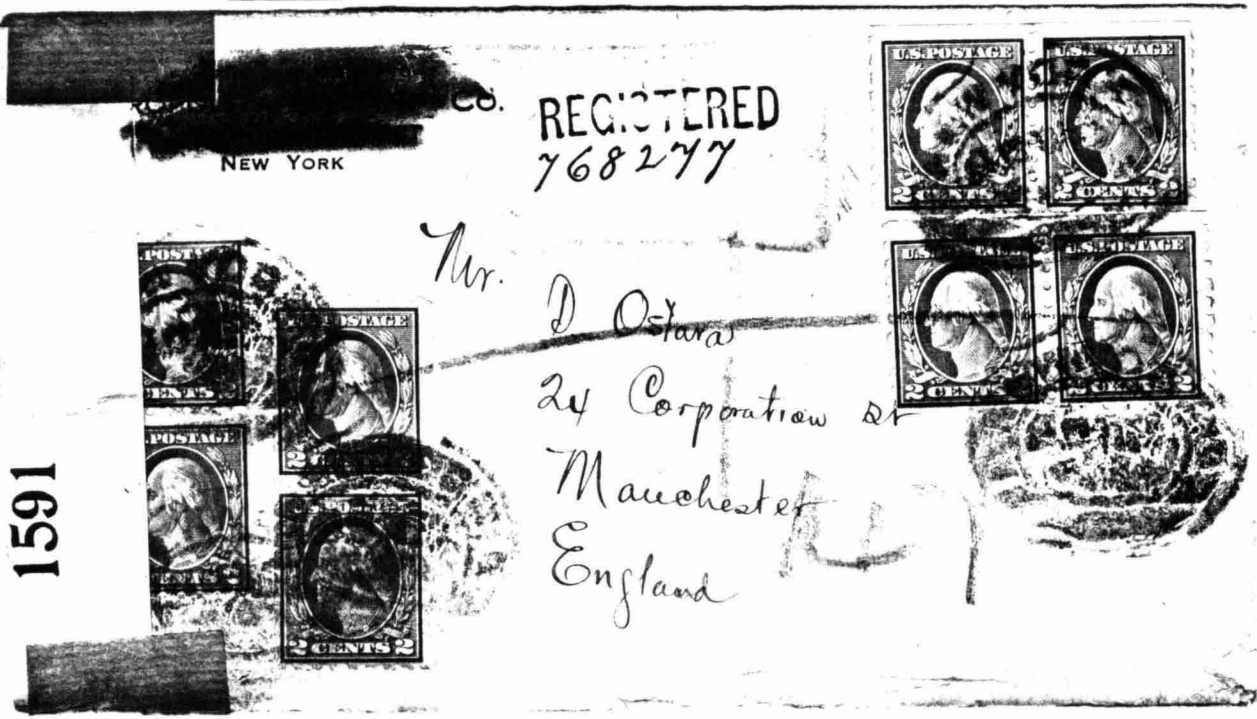
410

1914 first class domestic usage



412

By U.S. postal regulations, domestic rates applied to Cuba

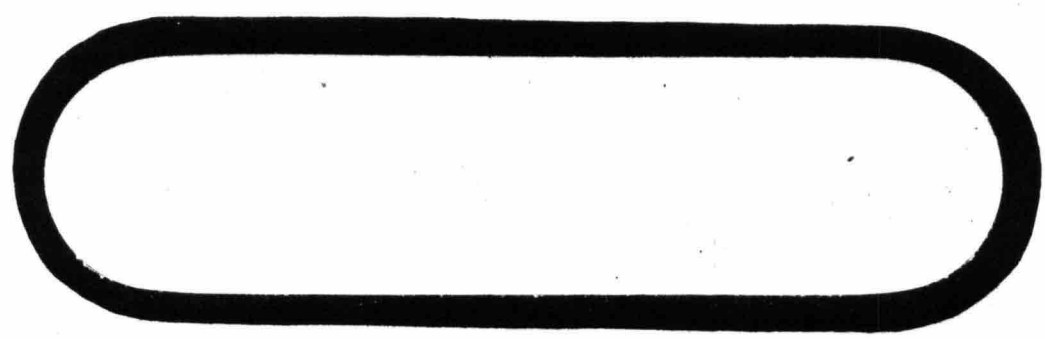


1591

411, 413

Both sidewise and endwise coils on double weight, registered, censored 1918 cover. By the treaty of 1908, the U.S. domestic rate applied on mail to England. Thus the U.S. war rate was required.

After 10 days, return to
LEO SCHLESINGER & CO.,
872 South Street,
NEW YORK, N. Y.



413

Although this coil was first shipped in late March 1912, a large stock of the earlier design existed, and few of the revised design were sold. This is currently the Earliest Documented Cover, June 10, 1912.

REVISED DESIGN ON LEFTOVER PAPER

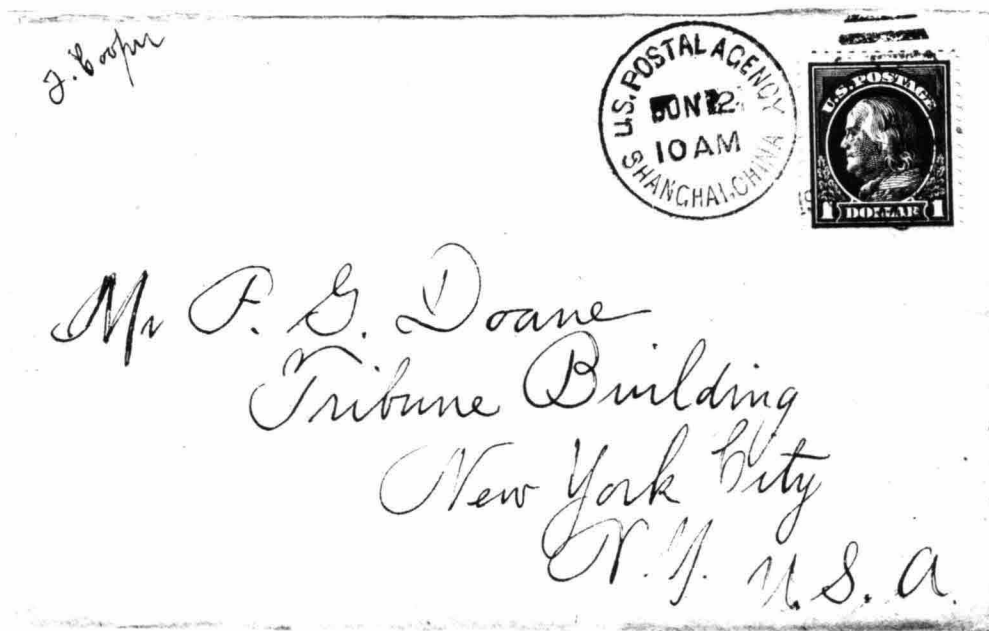
50c - \$1 FRANKLINS

DOUBLE LINE WATERMARK

PERFORATED 12

The 50¢ and \$1.00 value stamps of this series had always been printed in plates of 200, since fewer of these stamps were needed.

In 1912, when the revised design was being printed, the Bureau still had a large supply of the double line watermarked paper used for the original series. In order to save money, they decided to print the 50¢ and \$1.00 values of the revised design on this leftover paper.



423 (PF)

One of 3 documented covers of the \$1.00 perf. 12 double line watermark Franklin

CHANGE SHEET STAMP PERFORATIONS TO 10

REVISED DESIGN

SINGLE LINE WATERMARK

Between September 1914 and December 1915, the Bureau switched to larger perforating wheels, which resulted in 10 holes per two centimeters, rather than the 12 which had been used since the 1860's.

Patrons and postal workers had been complaining for sometime that the stamps separated too easily. The Bureau had also begun to use paper of poorer quality, which exacerbated the problem.



6904

Mr. H. S. Dickey

*Newton,
Kansas.*



434, 424

The 11¢ value was issued in September 1915. Dated October 8, 1915, this is currently the Earliest Documented Cover.

CHANGE COIL PERFORATIONS TO 10

REVISED DESIGN

SINGLE LINE WATERMARK

Between April and November 1914, the Bureau switched to smaller perforating wheels, which punched 10 holes per centimeter instead of the $8\frac{1}{2}$ which had been in use since December 1910.

This change was made because postal workers and patrons complained that the perf. $8\frac{1}{2}$ coils were too difficult to separate and caused tearing of the stamps.

Only the 1¢ and 2¢ endwise and the 1¢-5¢ sidewise coils were issued in this format.



REMINGTON PRESS

Weybosset Street — Back of the Fountain
Providence

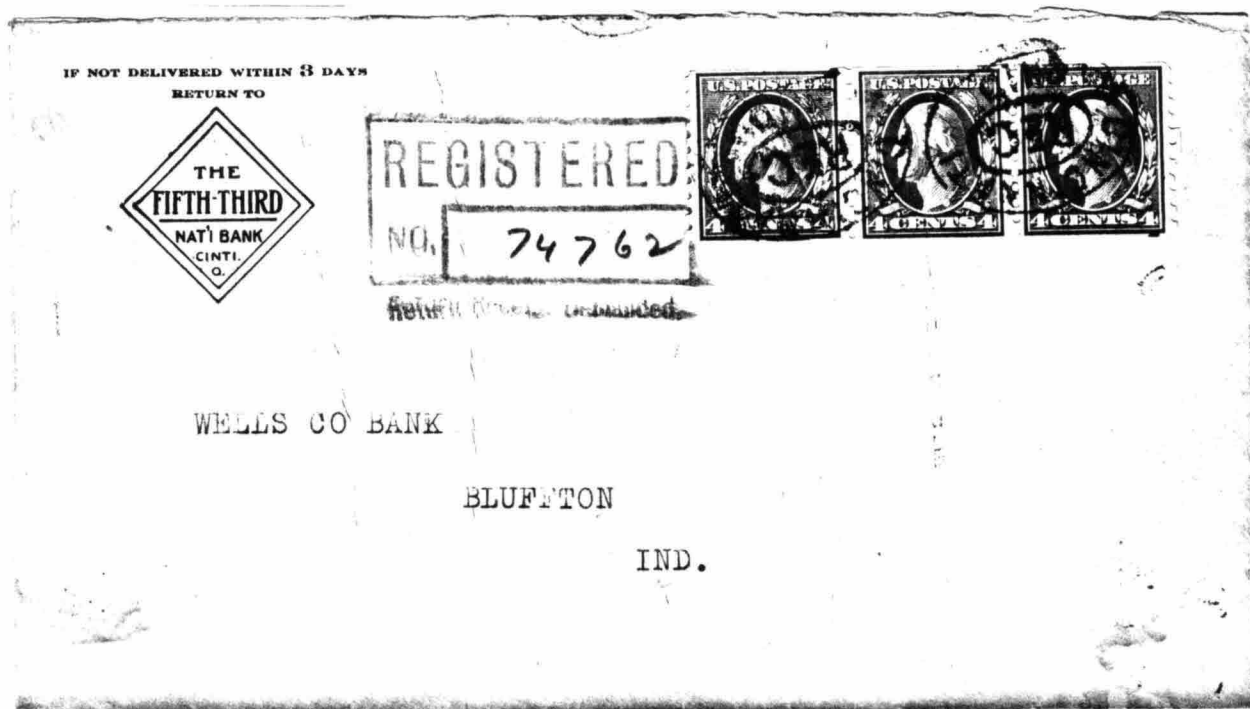


Mr. F. M. Mason,
c/o Providence Institution for Savings,
Providence , R. I.



444

This stamp was first sold in early May 1914. This cover with a paste-up single postmarked May 28, 1914, is currently the Earliest Documented Cover.



446

Strip of 3 used to pay first class domestic postage plus registry in 1915

COILS PRINTED ON ROTARY PRESS

REVISED DESIGN

SINGLE LINE WATERMARK

PERFORATED 10

Bureau employee Benjamin Stickney had been experimenting for about five years to find quicker, more economical methods of printing stamps.

In 1914 he was successful in refining a rotary press to the point where the Bureau was willing to use it to print stamps. Initial experiments printing sheet stamps were discontinued, since the stamps tended to curl too much to be practical. None of these sheets were ever issued.

It was decided, however, that the rotary press would be suitable for printing the coil stamps, since they could be run off in rolls. This would eliminate the need for hand pasting up twenty stamp strips, which was time consuming.

These coils were issued starting in November 1914 and continuing through 1916. The 1¢ and 2¢ endwise and 1¢ - 5¢ sidewise coils were issued. The 2¢ existed in Types I, II and III on sidewise coils and Types I and III on endwise.

After 5 days, return to
NORTHWESTERN KNITTING CO..
718 Western Av.,
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.



449 (PF)

Type I endwise coil used in 1916. Fewer than a dozen covers have been documented.

JNO. I. D. BRISTOL,
MANAGER FOR THE NEW YORK CITY AGENCIES.
THE NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.
ROOMS 8088 TO 8110.
METROPOLITAN BUILDING.
MADISON AVENUE, 23D STREET AND FOURTH AVENUE.
NEW YORK CITY.

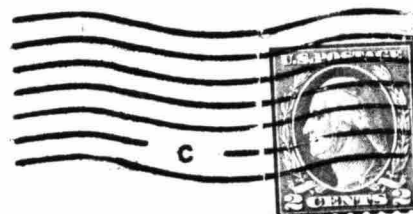


Mr. C. W. Hurst,
Woolworth Bldg.,
City.

454

The Type II sidewise coil was first issued about July 2, 1915. This is currently the Earliest Documented Cover, July 7, 1915.

JNO. I. D. BRISTOL
GENERAL AGENT FOR THE BOROUGH OF
MANHATTAN AND THE BRONX
THE NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.
METROPOLITAN BUILDING, NO. 1 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

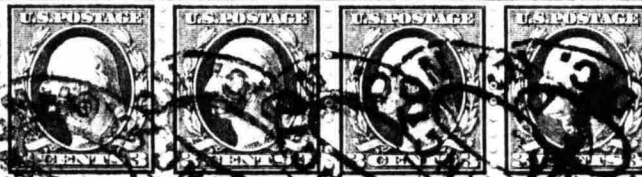


Mr. C. W. Hurst,
Woolworth Bldg.,
City.

450

The Type III endwise coil was issued sometime in March 1916. This is currently the Earliest Documented Cover, April 1, 1916.

H. F. COLMAN,
SECOND NATIONAL BANK BLDG.,
509 - SEVENTH STREET, N. W.,
WASHINGTON, D. C.



J. Pladue Esq.
829 1/2 W. Woodbridge
Detroit
Mich

REGISTERED

NO. 192805

RETURN RECEIPT DEMANDED

456

First issued in late February 1916. This is currently the Earliest Documented Cover of the 3¢ sidewise coil, April 13, 1916.

Blakely, H.R.Y.,
NAVY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
U. S. N. A., ANNAPOLIS, MD.



RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Exhibitor No.

Walter Blakely,
Lincoln Building,
Philadelphia, Pa.

81781



457

According to Bureau records, the 4¢ sidewise coil was first distributed in February 1916. Apparently a small quantity was provided to the post office at Annapolis, Maryland, where they were used to mail out tickets for the upcoming Army-Navy game. This cover, postmarked November 6, 1915, is the Earliest Documented Cover. Three other Annapolis covers are known. The other two are dated one day later.

PERFORATION 11 EXPERIMENT

2c SHEET STAMP ONLY

On July 19, 1915, the Post Office placed on sale 2¢ sheet stamps perforated 11. Complaints that the original perf. 12 stamps were separating too easily had led to the perf. 10 stamps. These were too difficult to separate, so the Bureau decided to try perforating the sheet stamps 11 as a compromise.

The public reaction to the new perforations was very favorable, but the Bureau decided to postpone conversion to perforation 11 until the 10 gauge perforating wheels were worn out. This was an economy measure.

Only about 90,000 of these stamps perforated 11 on single line watermark paper were printed and sold.



461

The only documented First Day "Piece," July 19, 1915. No full First Day Covers are known.

Cover showing blocks of 4
perforated 12, 10 and 11



7084

Mr. H. F. Colman,
2nd National Bank Building,
Washington, D. C.

216549

124981

REGISTERED

406, 463, 46

All are on single line
watermarked paper, postmarked
Washington, DC, July 28, 1915

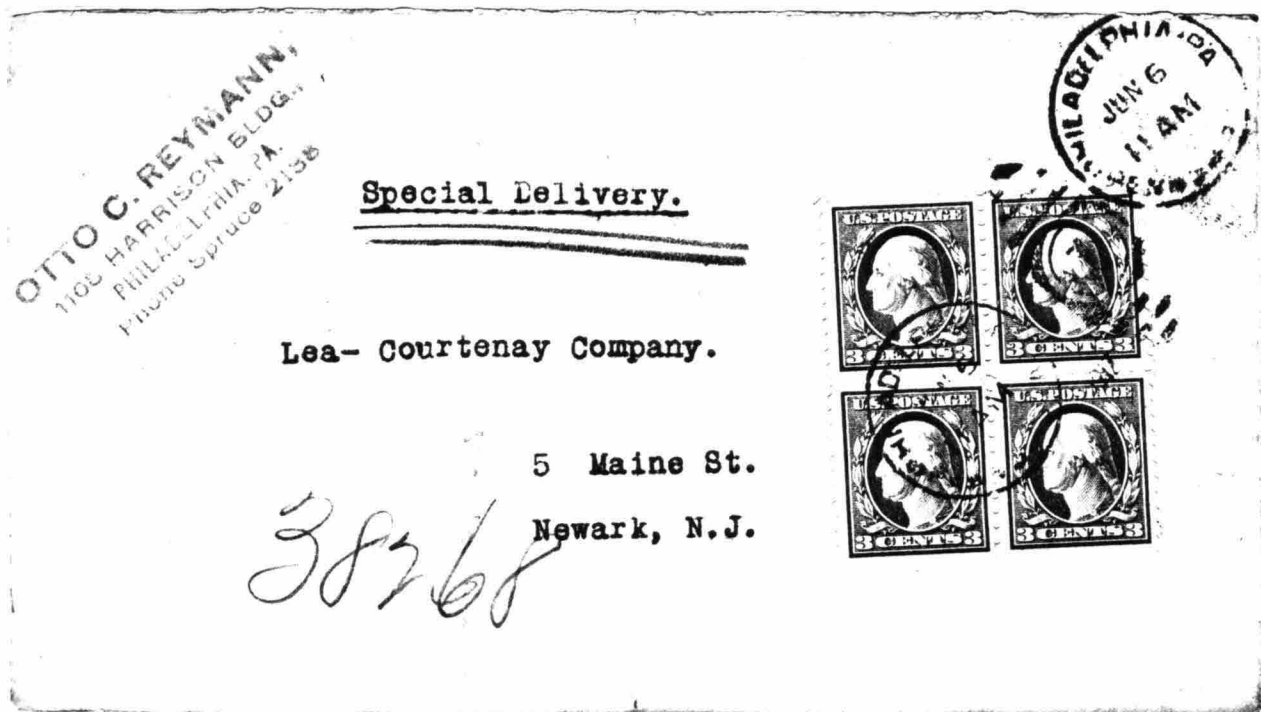
CHANGE TO UNWATERMARKED PAPER

REVISED DESIGN

PERFORATED 10

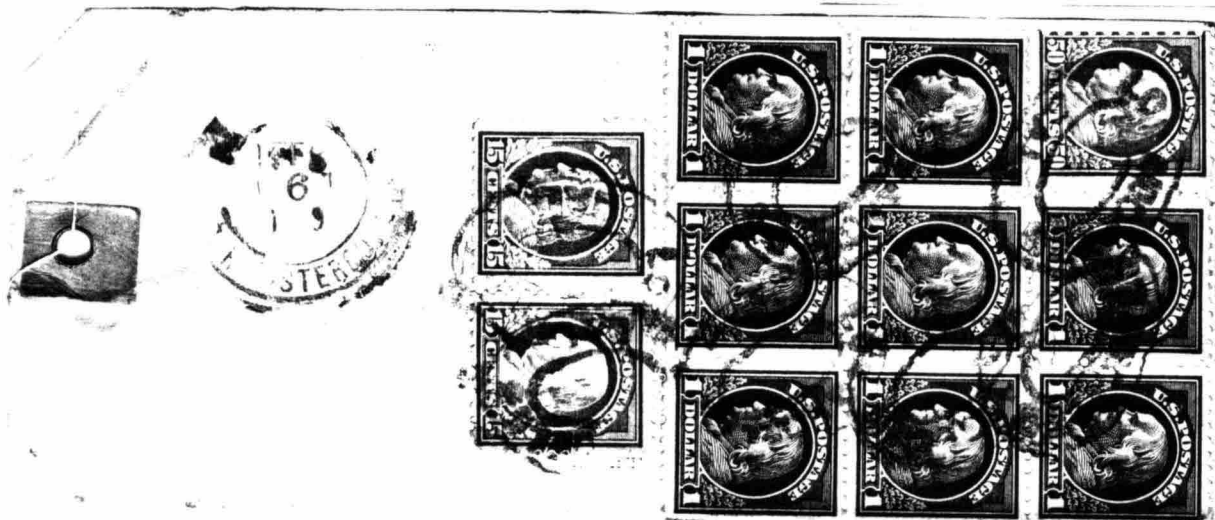
Starting in September 1916, the Bureau began printing stamps on unwatermarked paper. They felt that the single line watermark really did not protect against counterfeiting of stamps, plus the unwatermarked paper was cheaper, and using it would save money.

SHEET STAMPS



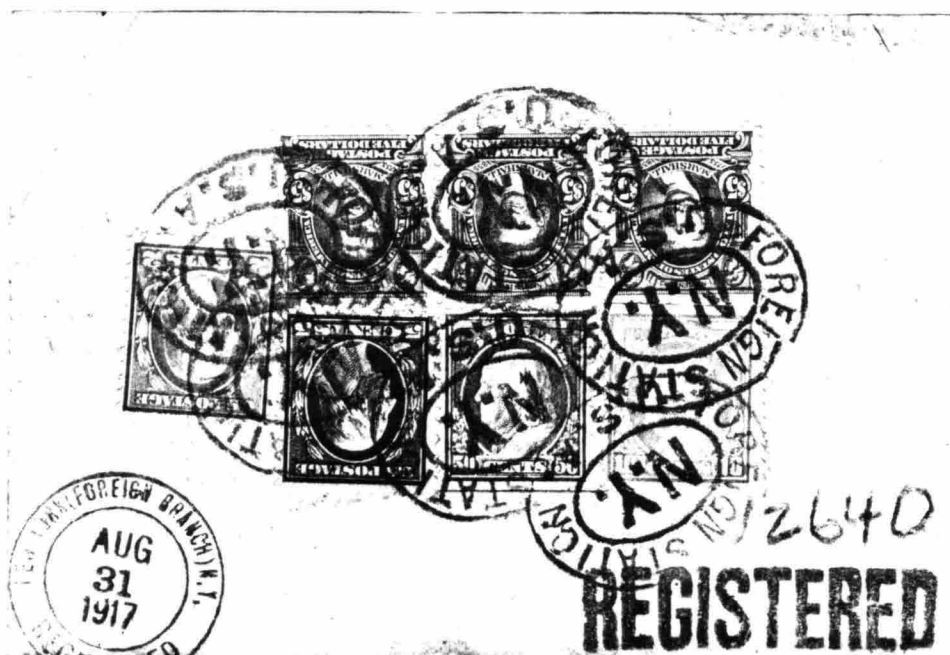
464

Block of 4 used to pay special delivery plus postage on June 6, 1917



477, 514, 518

Mailing tag franked with stamps to pay registry plus postage for an 18 lb. 2 oz. first class package mailed in February 1919 from a bank in Los Angeles to a bank in New York. Contents was most likely gold coins.



463, 466, 472, 477, 480

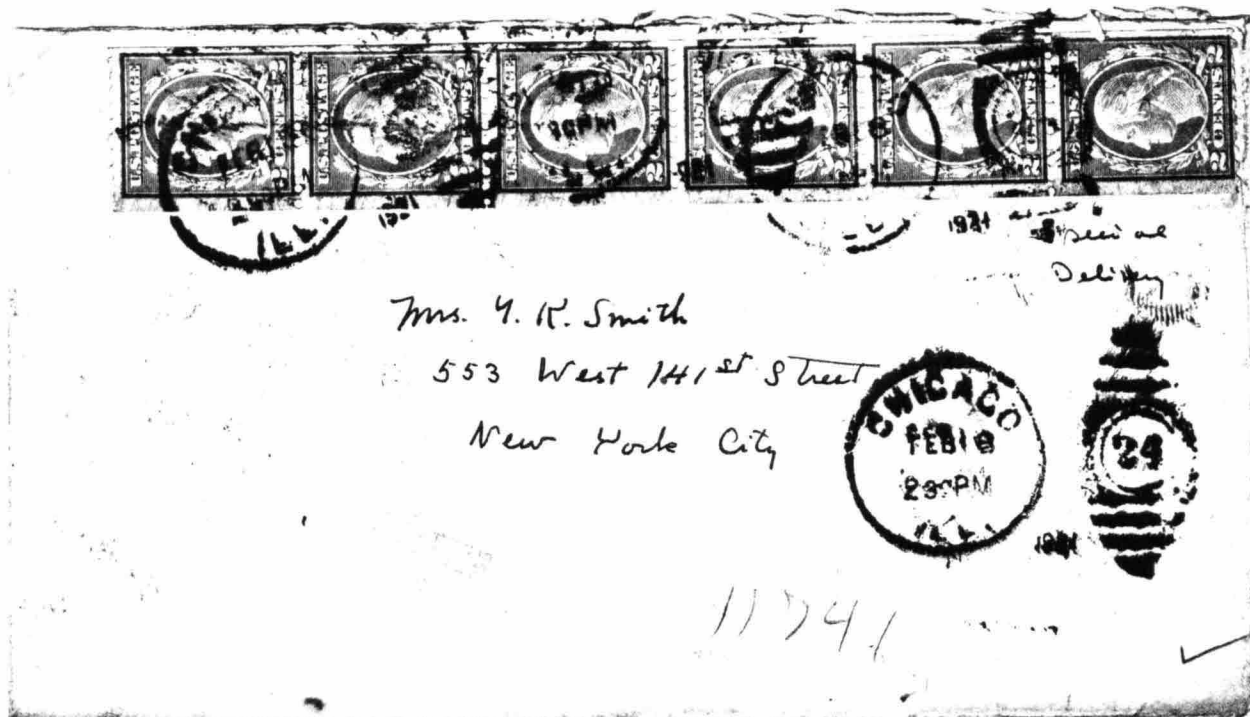
Front of package wrapper, registered in August 1917 to a foreign destination, probably Russia. At 12¢ per pound parcel post rate, the package weighed about 130 lbs.

ROTARY PRESS COIL STAMPS



486

Ten copies of the 1¢ endwise coil on post card canceled in September 1924, paying special delivery fee plus 1¢ postage.



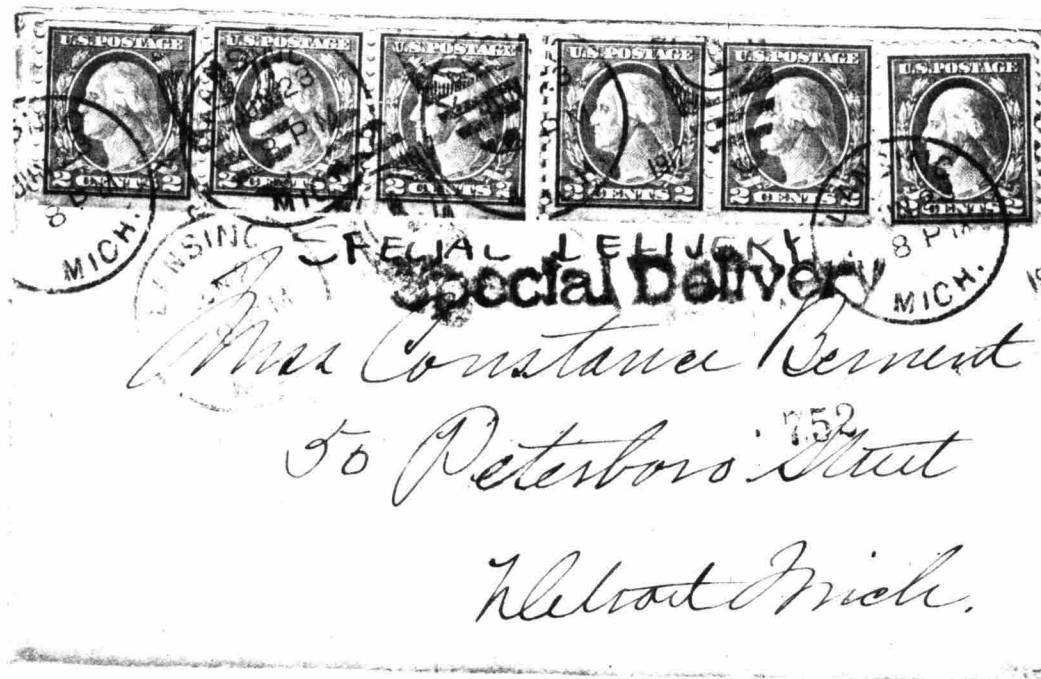
487

February 1921 usage of the Type II endwise coil on Special Delivery cover



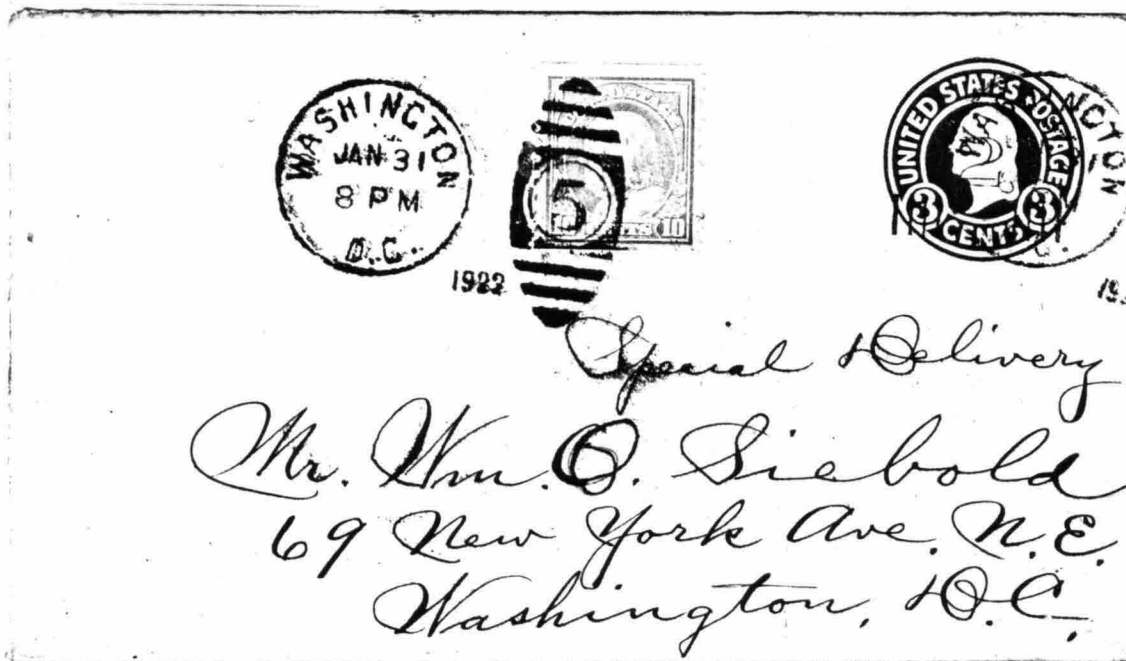
491 (PF)

The 2¢ Type II was probably first sold in December 1916. This is currently the Earliest Documented Cover, February 2, 1917.



491, 499 (PF)

June 1917 usage. This is the only documented cover franked with more than 2 copies of this Type II stamp.



497 (AFDCS)

A First Day Cover of the 10¢ coil, January 31, 1922. The last Washington-Franklin stamp issued. 24 covers were reportedly made.

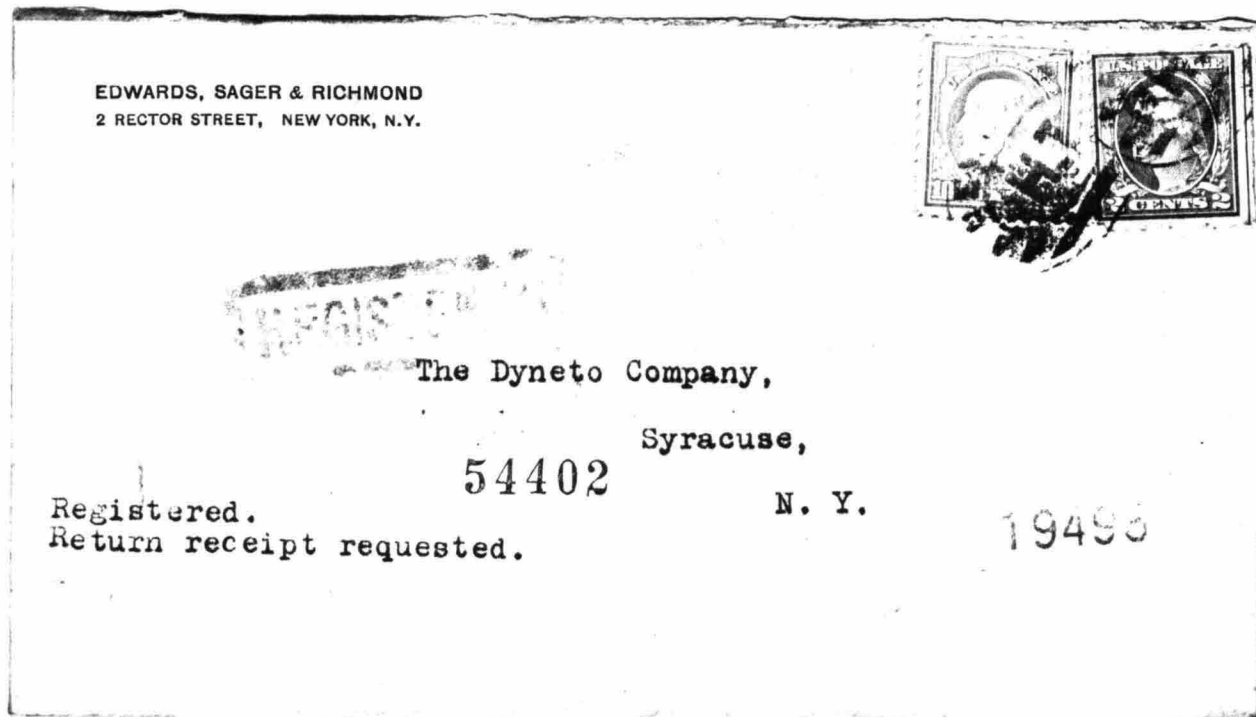
CHANGE SHEET STAMP PERFORATIONS TO 11

REVISED DESIGN

UNWATERMARKED

After much experimentation, the Bureau decided that sheet stamps perforated 11 were the most acceptable.

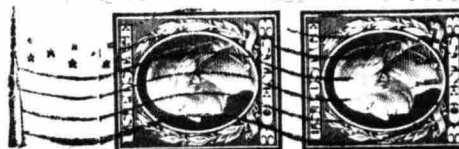
With a few minor exceptions, from March 1917 to the present, all sheet stamps printed from flat plates have been perforated 11.



510, 499

Although the first day of sale of both these stamps was March 23, 1917, no covers have been reported canceled this date. This registered cover, postmarked March 27, 1917, is the Earliest Documented Cover for both stamps.

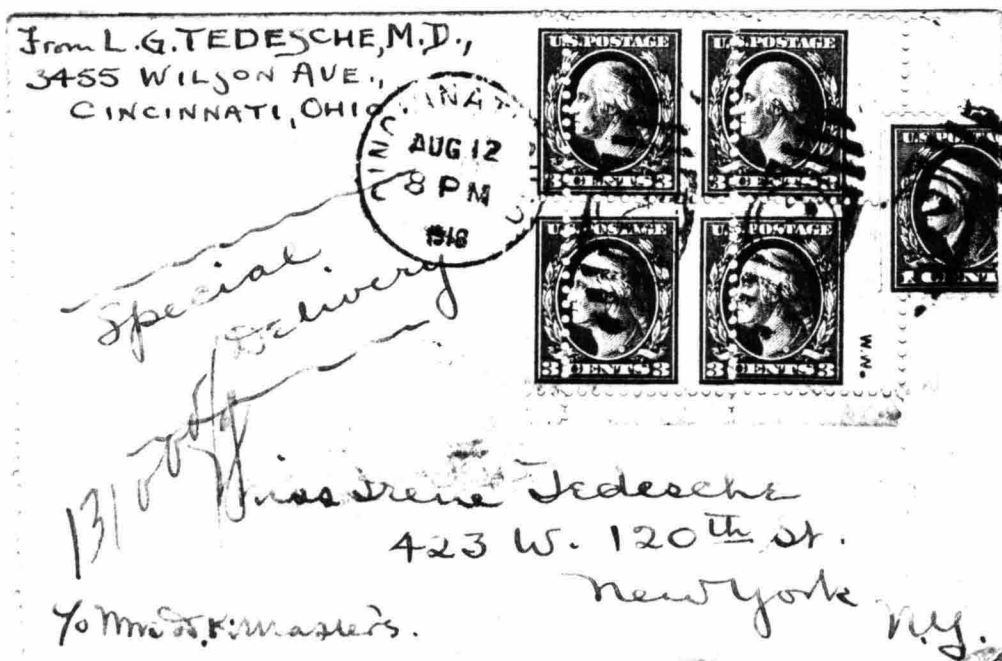
CLAF T. GYLLECK
GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN



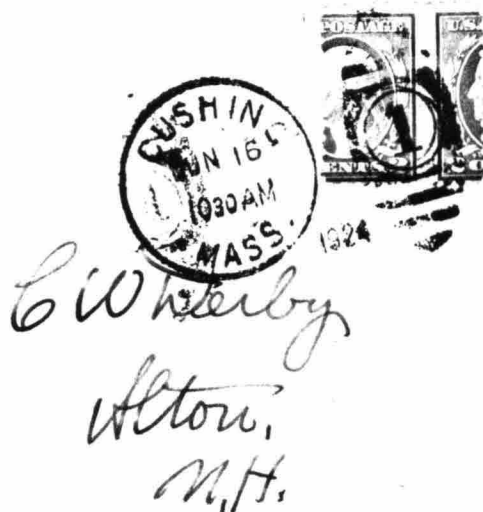
O. J. Richardson,
Eden,
New York.

502c (PF)

3¢ pair imperforate horizontally between on 1922 cover. The only contemporary cover documented with this error.

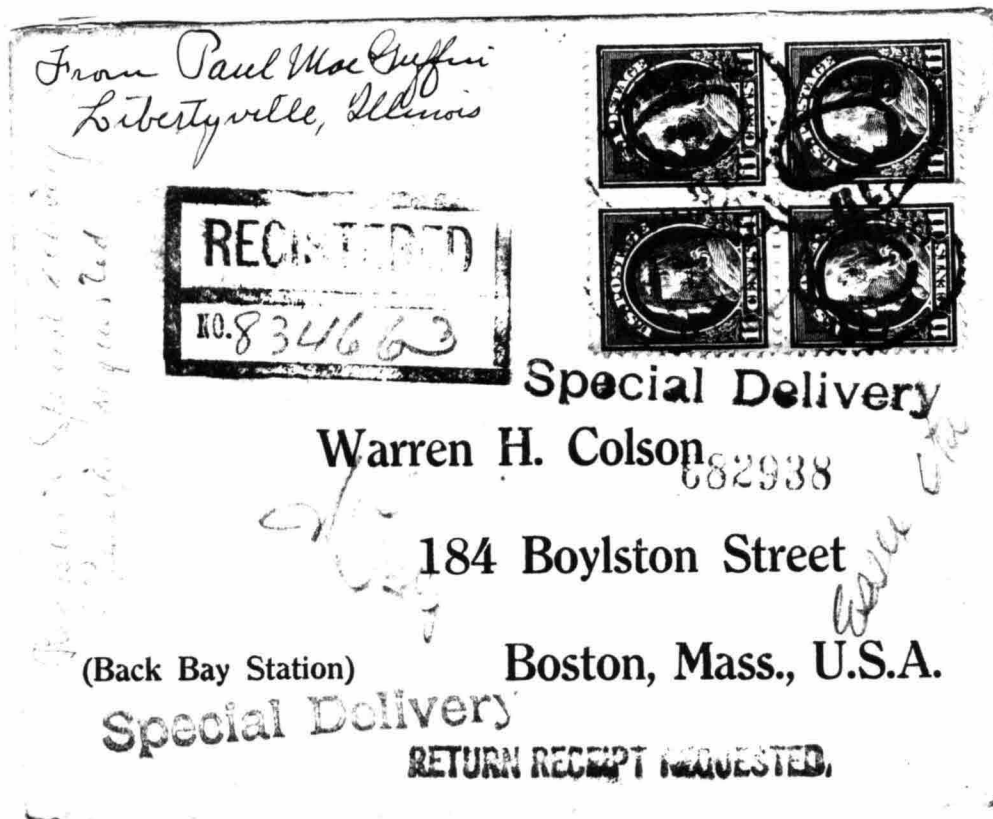


502, 441

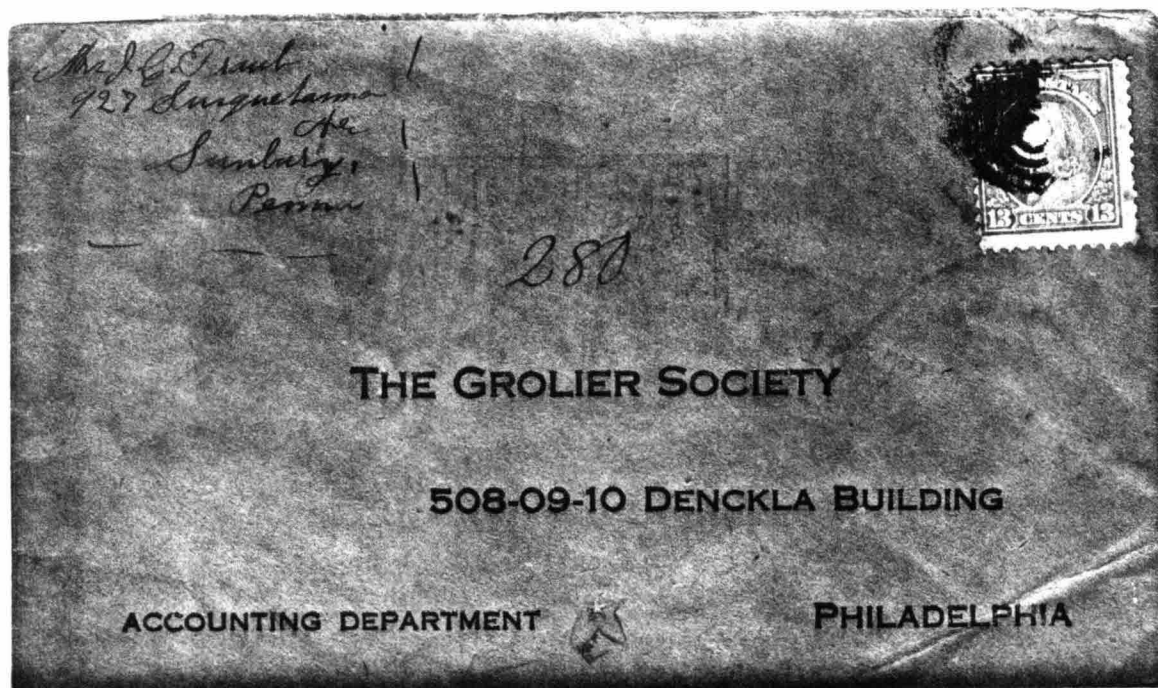


499

Further examples of misperforating in this series due primarily to uneven paper shrinkage



Block on February 1923 registered, special delivery cover. Overpaid.



513

The 13¢ value was first sold in late January 1919. This cover, post-marked February 11, 1919, is currently the Earliest Documented Cover.



10
LAWRENCE

17

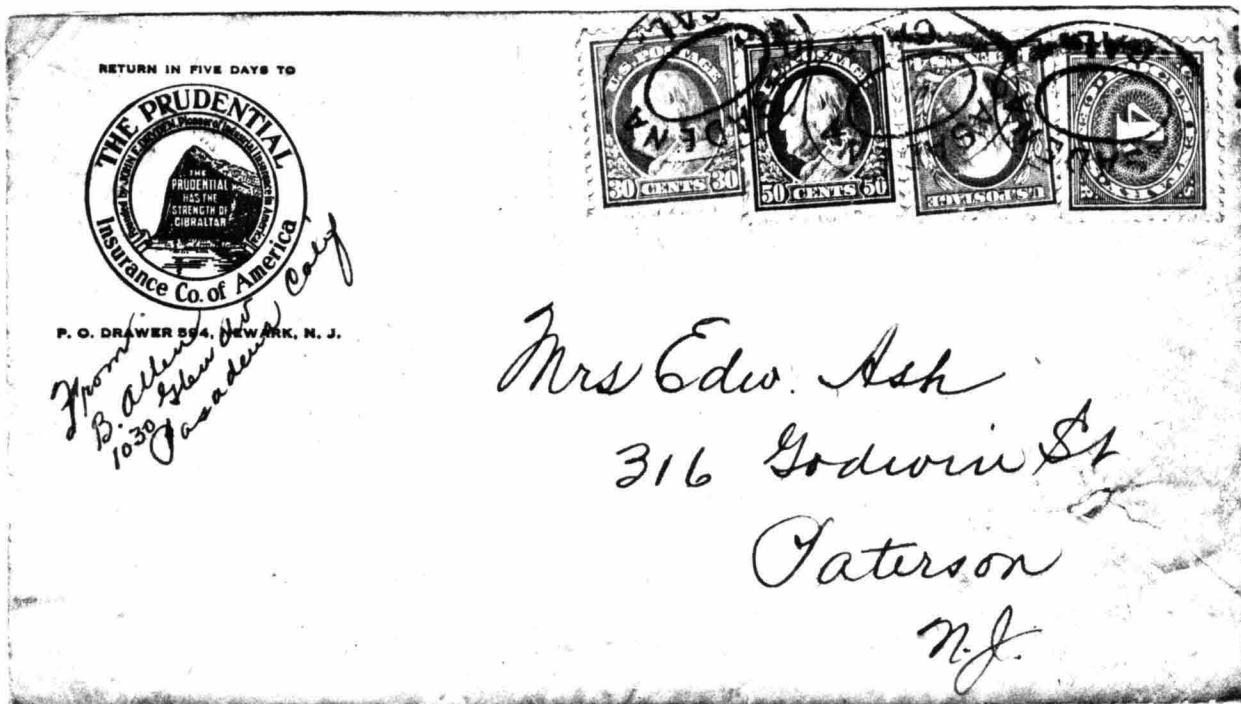
RETURN TO SENDER

REGISTERED
#746

23/5
210/54

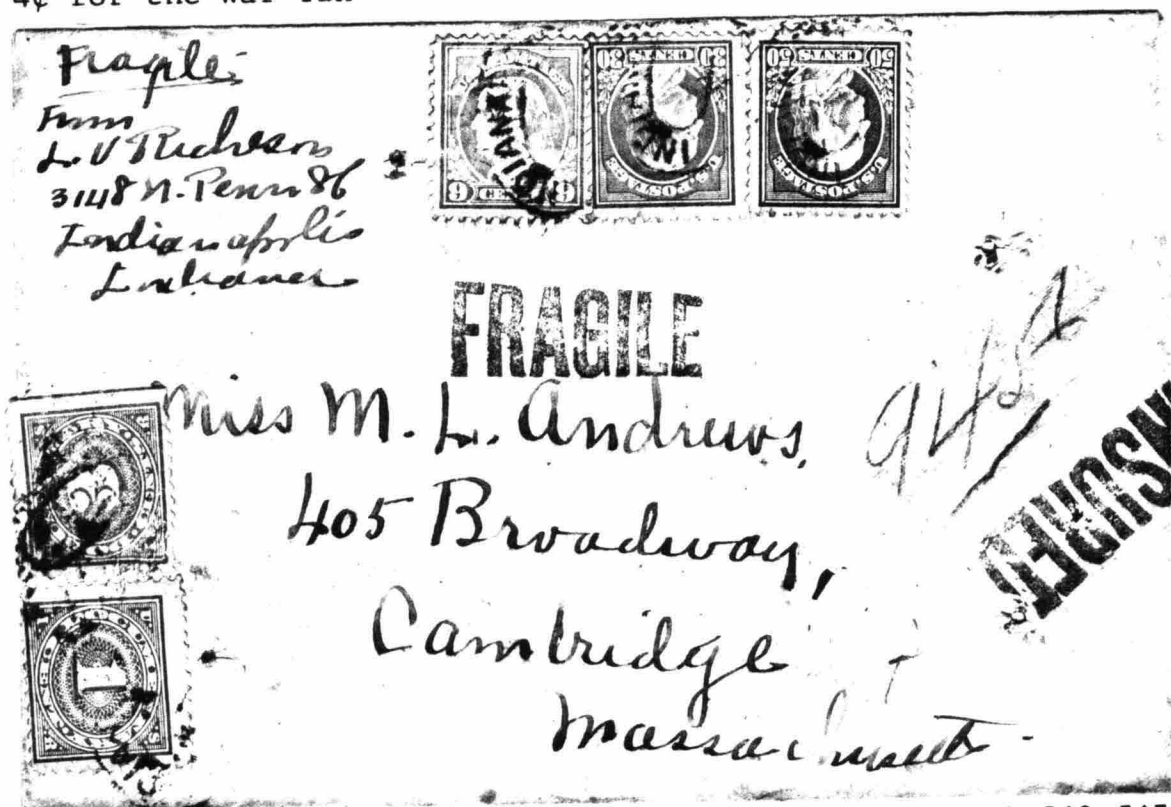
506, 510, 515

\$2.56 (10¢ stamp folded under) paid for a 5 lb. 2 oz. first class package at the war rate, plus 10¢ registry fee.



503, 516, 517

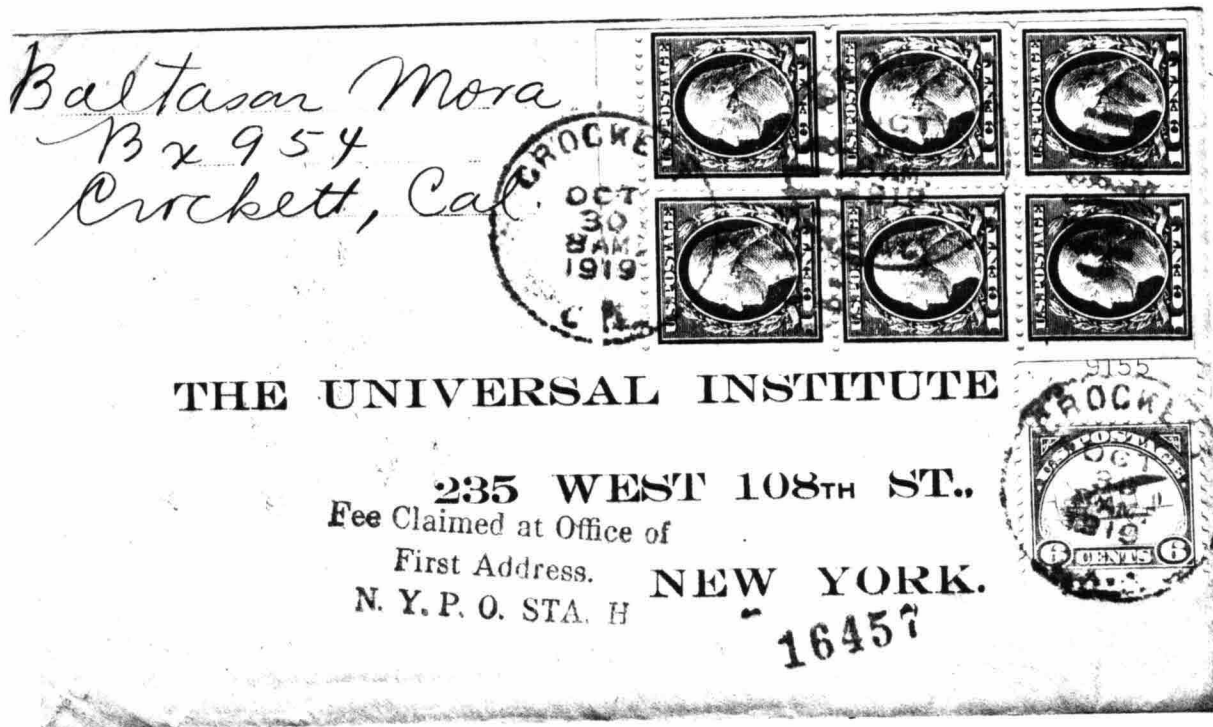
Envelope used as a package label. 84¢ pays postage on a 7 lb. parcel, plus 4¢ for the War Tax



509, 516, 517

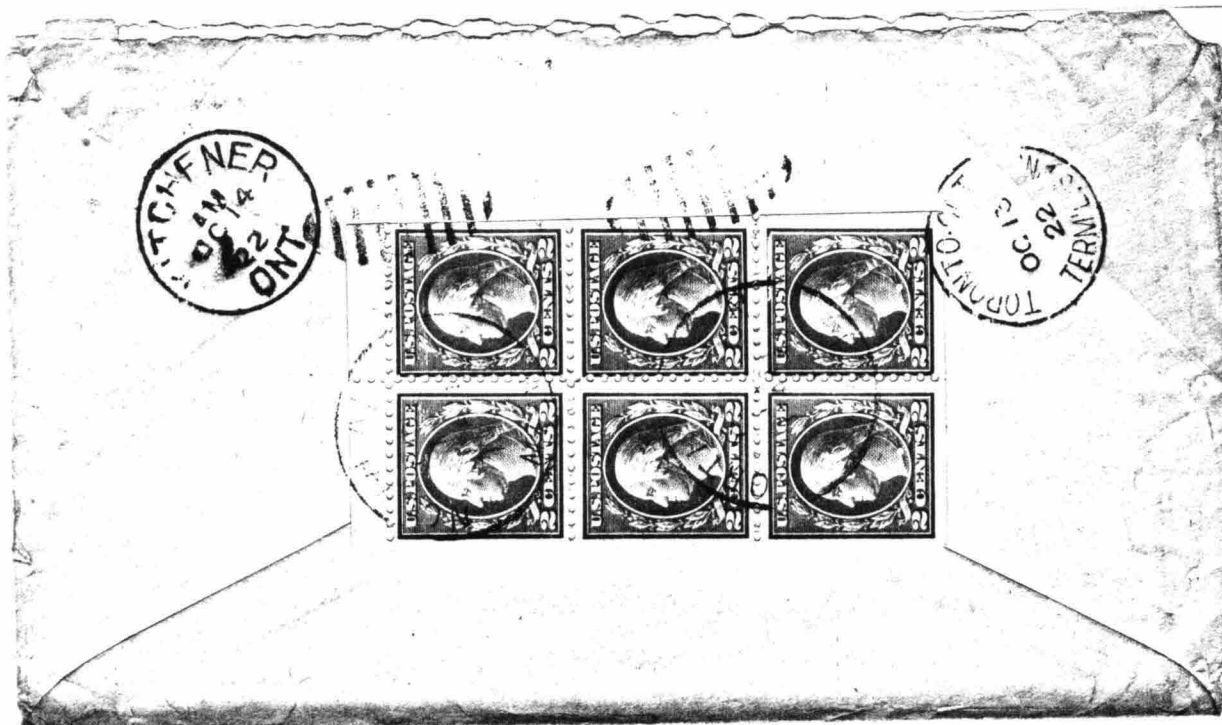
Used as a label on a package. 89¢ in stamps pays 86¢ postage for a 14 lb. package to go 600-1000 miles, plus 3¢ for insurance up to \$5.00 and 4¢ for the War Tax.

BOOKLET PANES



498e

1¢ booklet pane of 6 plus 6¢ first Air Mail used to pay the 2¢ first class postage plus 10¢ special delivery in October 1919.



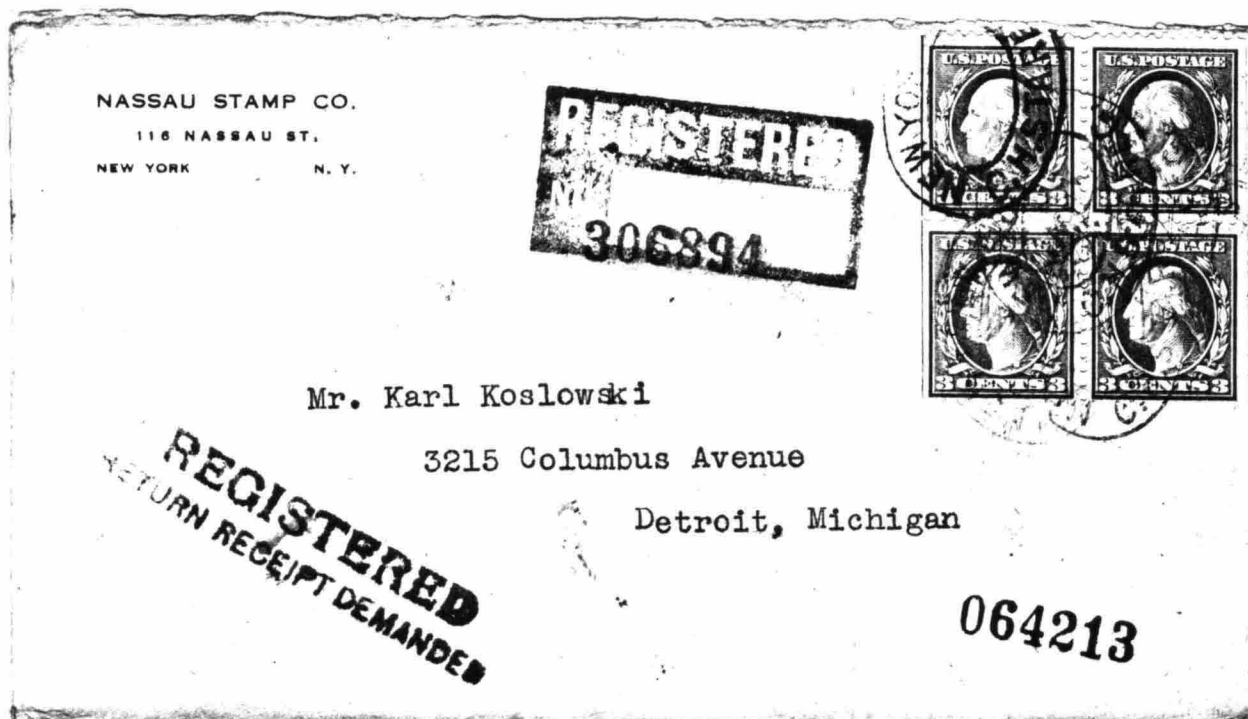
499e

2¢ booklet pane of 6 (plus 2¢ on obverse) used to pay 4¢ double weight postage plus 10¢ registry to Canada in 1922.



501b

3¢ Type I pane of 6 to pay 4X domestic rate plus registry in 1926



502b

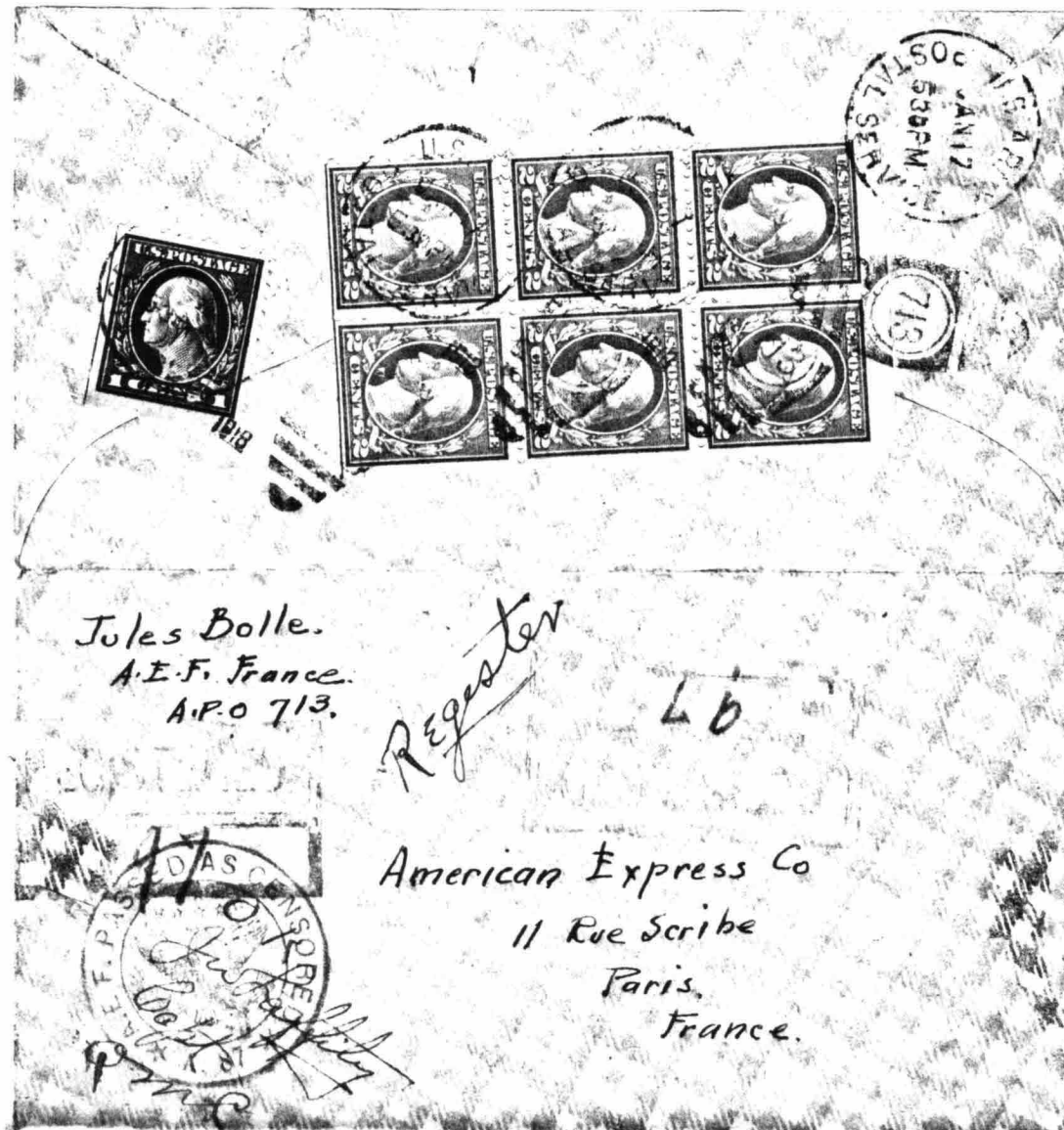
3¢ Type II block of 4 from booklet used to pay 2¢ first class postage plus registry in 1924.

AEF BOOKLET PANES

The AEF Booklet Panes, which were issued in 1¢ and 2¢ values, contained 10 panes of 30 stamps each in a 10 x 3 format. The Post Office felt that these would be easier for the Army Postal Clerks in the field in France to handle than sheets.

About 1500 booklets of each value were printed and shipped in early September 1917. The 2¢ booklets were sold out within two months, and the 1¢ shortly thereafter.

Because U.S. military personnel were granted the free franking privilege on October 20, 1917, there was no further need for the booklets, and they were never reissued.



498f, 499f

A block of 6 from the 2¢ and a single from the 1¢ panes, used to pay 3¢ postage plus 10¢ registry from APO No. 713, Gievres Loire-Et-Cher, France, to Paris in January 1918. The free frank did not apply, since the letter was from a civilian.

One of two documented covers franked with stamps from both AEF panes.

From Sgt. T. Wood
Co C. 16th Engrs (R)

43907

Miss Anne M. Davies
290 Lincoln Av
Detroit
Michigan
U.S.A.



Société Générale

more than 1,000 branches throughout France

will find Wells Fargo bank forms and instructions. You

ells Fargo receipt.

The identical form filled out by you is immediately sent by the

SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE to us in PARIS and the payment order is

dispatched by mail or cable to our New York office and thence to the

address given by you. If by mail we send a duplicate by following



with bank notes and coins, and a discharge from the

of large extent. A discharge from the

school will be awarded to the most grace-

ful couple on the floor. It is expected

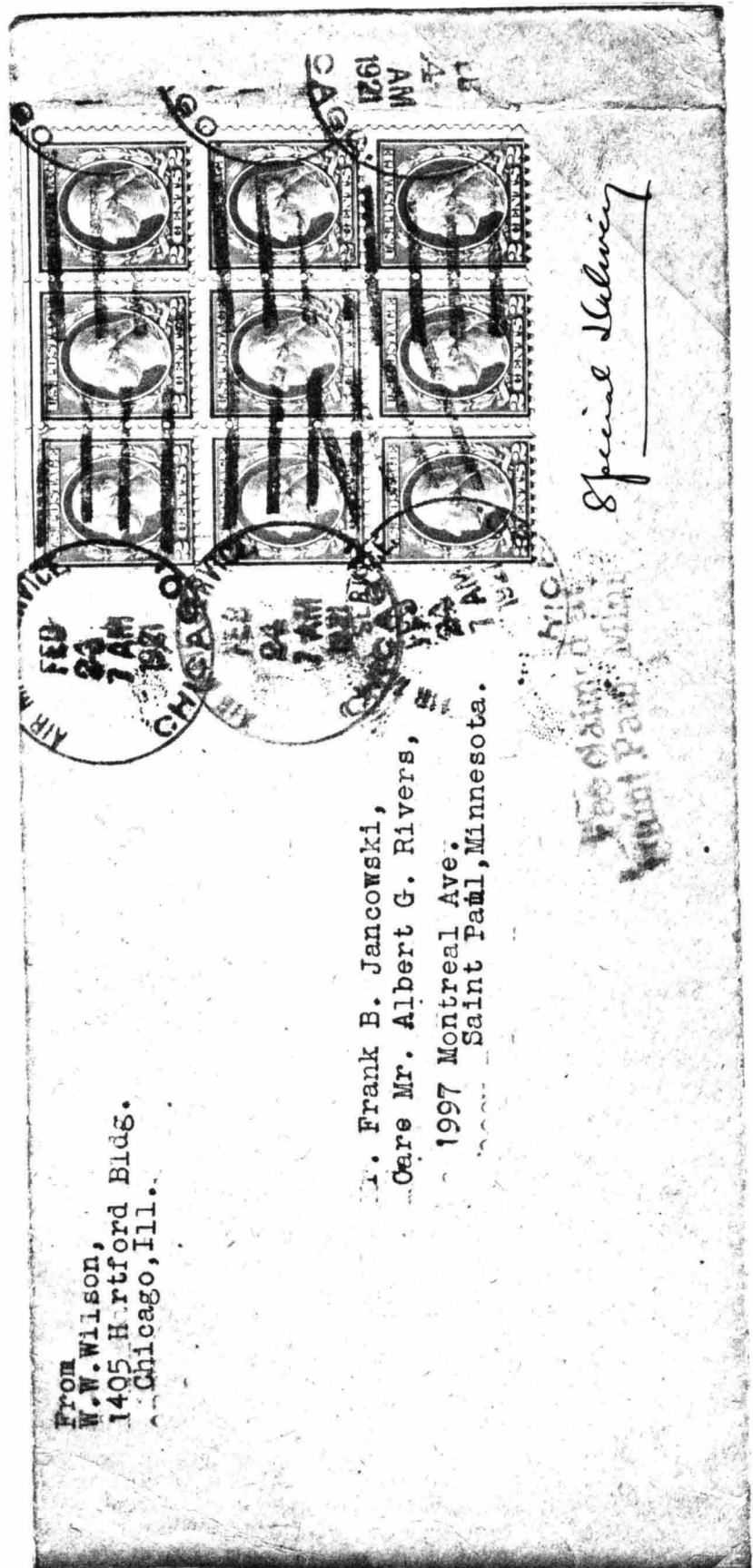
that the entries for the prize will con-

The largest documented multiple of the 2¢ on cover. "Stars and Stripes," mailed from France, postmarked Army Postal Service

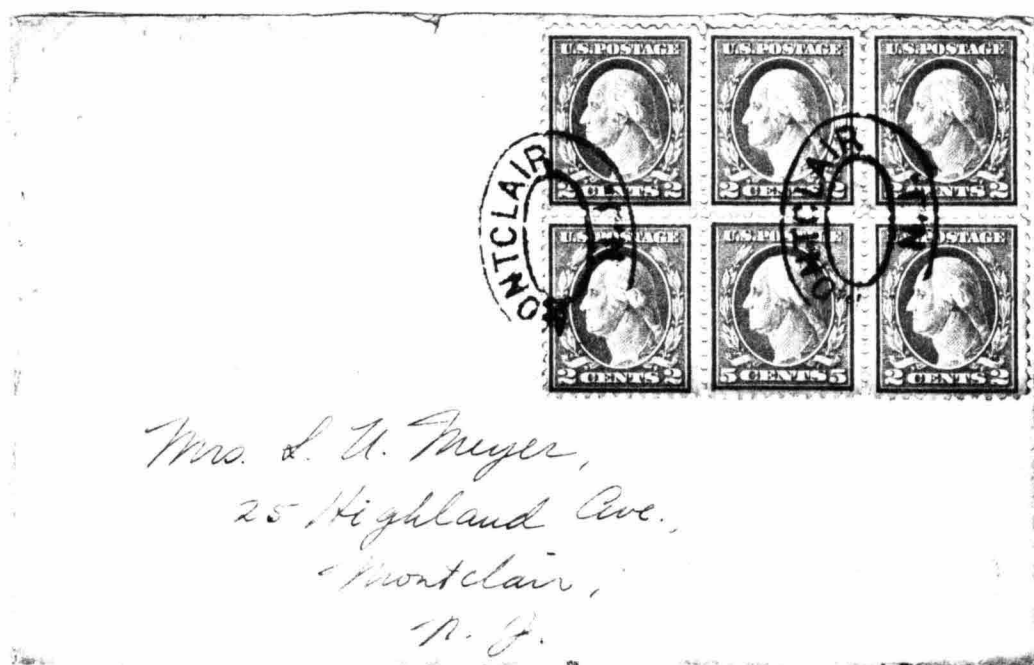
5c ERROR

In March 1917 the Bureau had to replace three positions in a plate of 400 of the 2¢. An employee apparently looked at the transfer roll, which has a reverse image of the engraving, mistook 2¢ for 5¢ and rocked in dies of the 5¢ stamp in position 18 of the lower right pane and positions 74 and 84 of the upper left pane of plate #7942. This plate was in production from March 9 to April 1, 1917. About 50,000 sheets were printed with 3 errors each.

Since this happened at the time the Bureau was changing from perf. 10 to perf. 11., the error was found on sheets perforated 10 and 11 and also on imperforate ones. 4 covers have been reported with perf. 10 errors, about 35 with perf. 11, and no covers were made of the imperf.

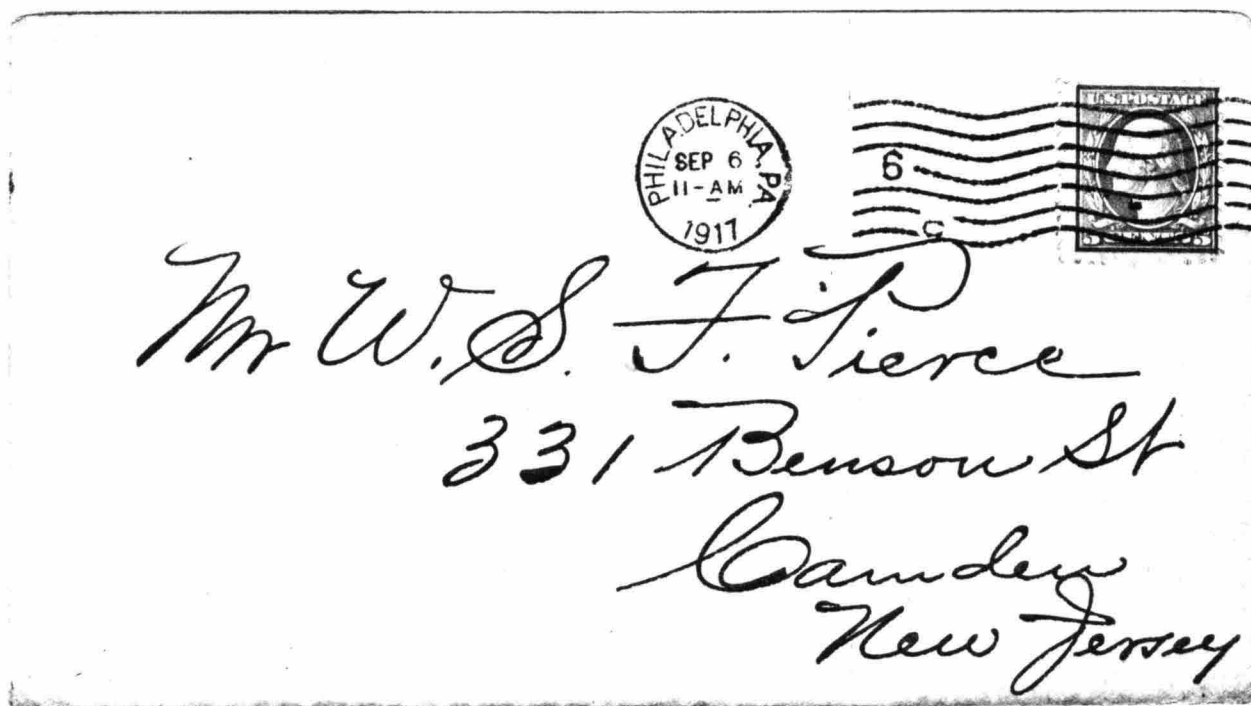


Position 18 of the lower right pane used in February 1921 as 2¢ in a block of 9 to pay special delivery plus 4X air mail rate, which was at that time 2¢ per ounce.



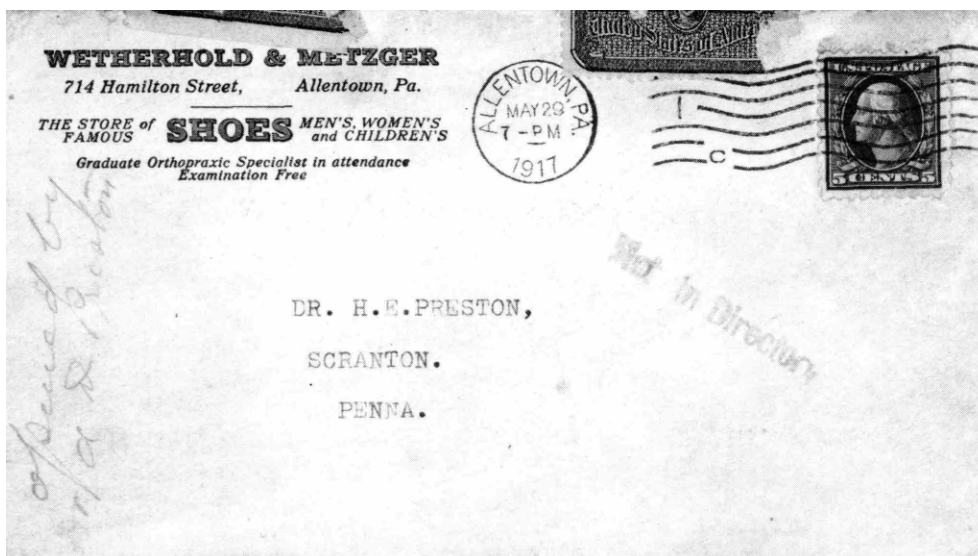
499, 505

Position 74 of the upper left pane used as 2¢ in a block of 6 to pay registry and postage in March 1920.



505

Single error used to pay 2¢ domestic postage in September 1917



467

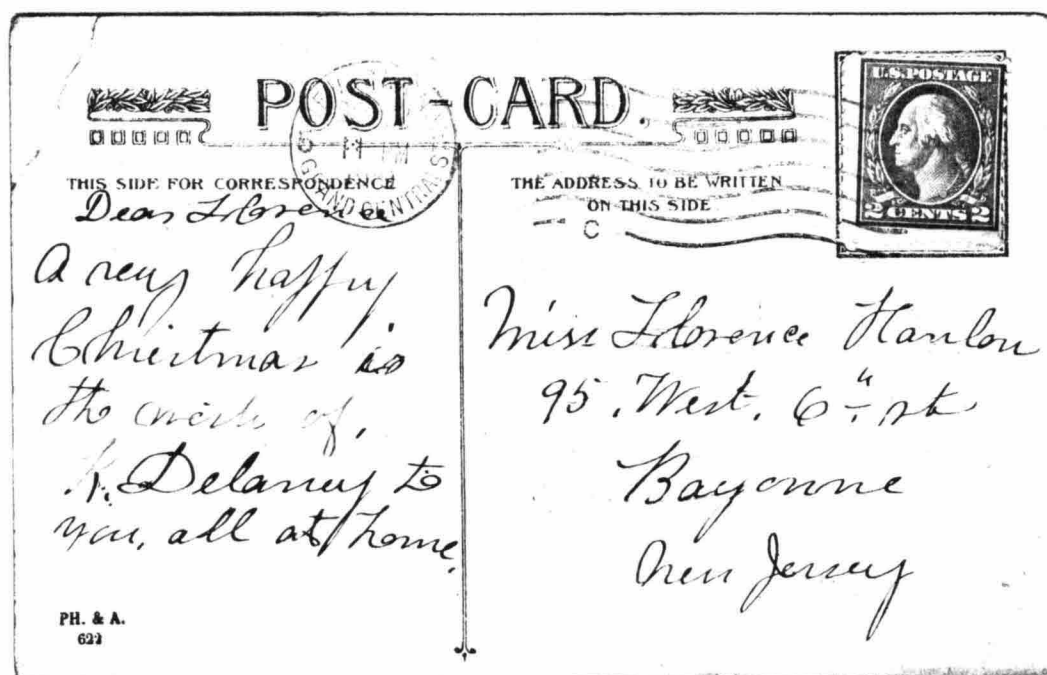
Perf 10 Variety

EXPERIMENTAL TRANSFER ROLL - TYPE Ia

The relief dies for printing U.S. stamps had always been rocked into the soft engraving plates on transfer rolls containing a single die. Thus the designs were transferred one stamp at a time. This was time consuming, so, to save time and money, the Bureau experimented in mid-December 1919 with using a transfer roll with 10 images, in a 2 x 5 format. In order to create uniform designs, the pressure exerted by the transfer roll press had to be tripled. The resulting stamps had much deeper and clearer engraving.

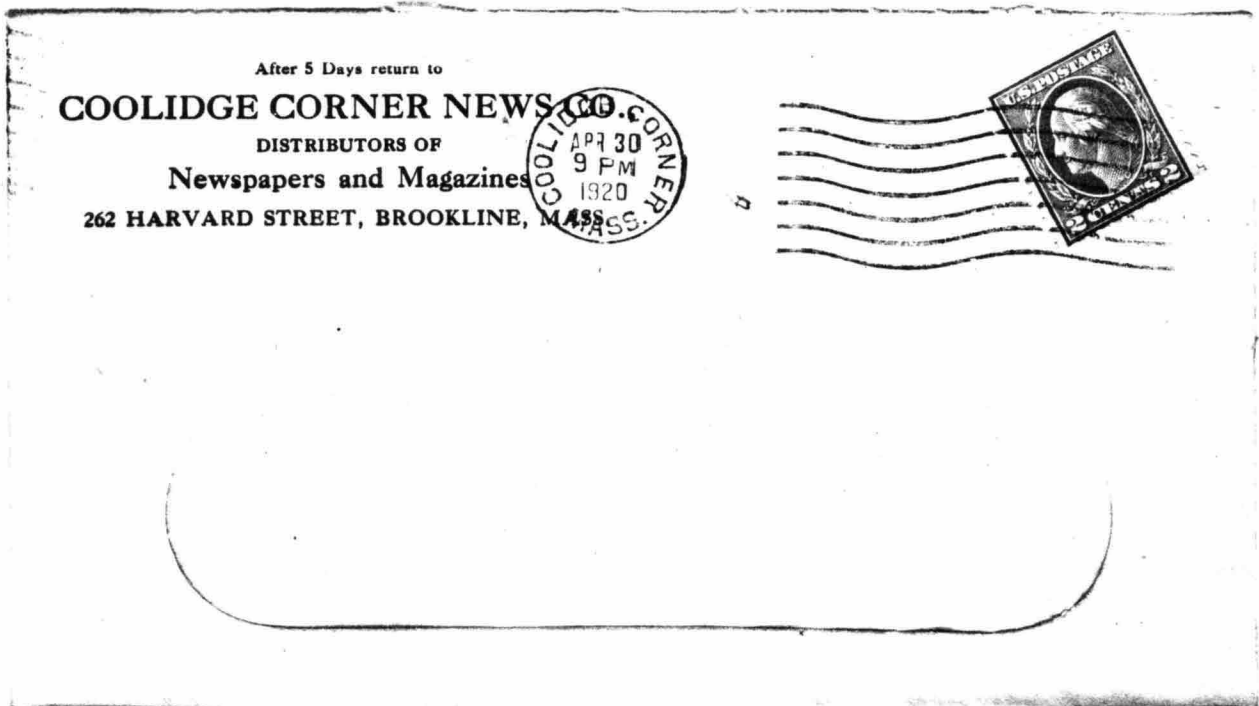
Unfortunately, the increased pressure damaged the two plates used, and the transfer roll was already worn out when the two plates were finished. Therefore, this was a false economy, and the idea was scrapped.

There was only one small printing from each of the two plates made from this multi-subject transfer roll.



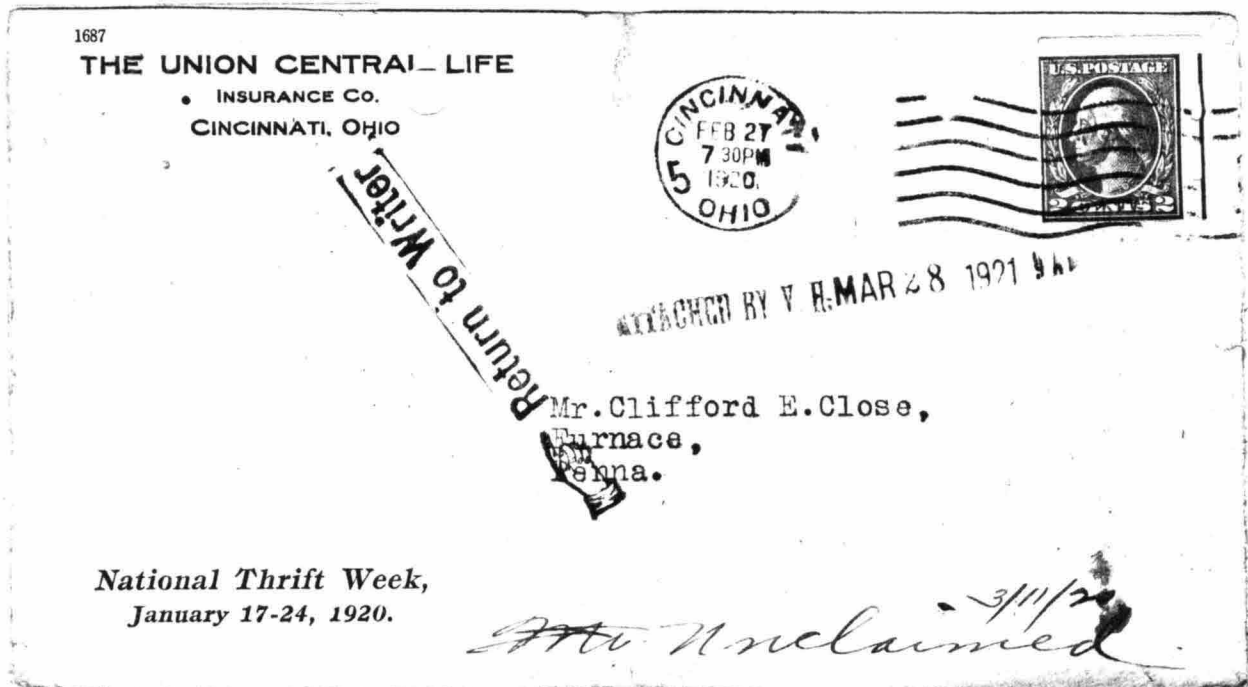
500

Postmarked December 22, 1919, this is the Earliest Documented Cover from the first plate.



500

From the second plate. The mottled color characteristic of this plate, was caused by the worn transfer roll and the warped plate, both the result of the increased pressure from the transfer roll press.



482A

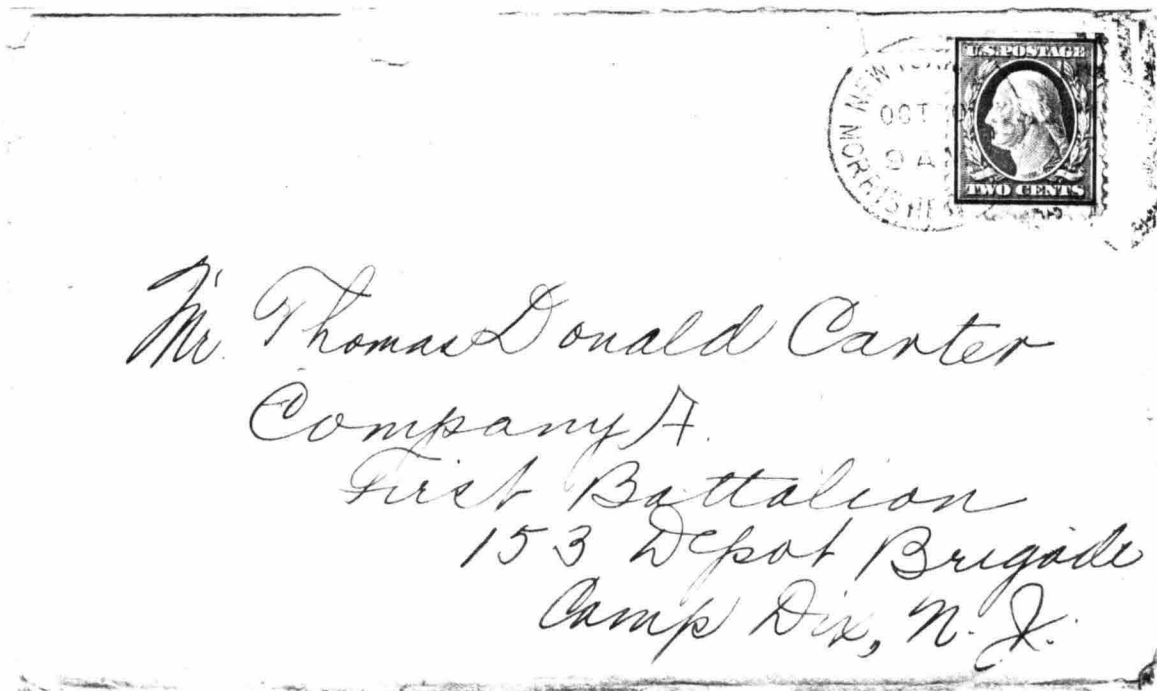
It was not known for many years that imperforate sheets of Type Ia had been sold. It was discovered in the 1930's that sheets had apparently been sold to Schermack Mailing Machine Company, although there was no record of such a sale. Based on color and impression, the imperforate had to be printed from the first plate.

About 20 stamps and only 4 covers have been found franked with the imperf. This is the Earliest Documented Cover, February 27, 1920.

1917 "TWO CENTS" ECONOMY ISSUE

With the demise of the U.S. Automatic Vending Machine Company in 1917, the New York City Post Office was left with 1433 sheets of the imperforate "Two Cents" stamps, double line watermark of the type issued 1908-10. They were returned to Washington, but as an economy measure, they were not destroyed but were perforated with the perforation 11 machine then in use.

The stamps were then returned to New York City where they were all sold between October 8-30, 1917.



519

Cover postmarked October 30, 1917, the day on which the stamps sold out. Five contemporary covers have been reported.

NEW \$2.00 AND \$5.00 DESIGNS

UNWATERMARKED

PERFORATED 11

Beginning in 1916, the Post Office was experiencing a tremendous increase in parcel post mail, especially heavy packages, largely as a result of World War I.

They asked the Bureau to design new \$2.00 and \$5.00 stamps to match the current series. While the Bureau was designing the new stamps, in order to meet the demand for these high values, in March 1917 the Post Office reissued the \$2.00 and \$5.00 stamps of the 1903 series, perforated 10 on unwatermarked paper. The original stamps had been perforated 12 on double line watermark paper.

The new \$2.00 and \$5.00 Washington-Franklins were finally issued in August 1918. The Post Office was unhappy with the \$2.00 because it had been printed in an orange/red and black combination, while they had asked for red and black. It was reissued in November 1920 in carmine and black.



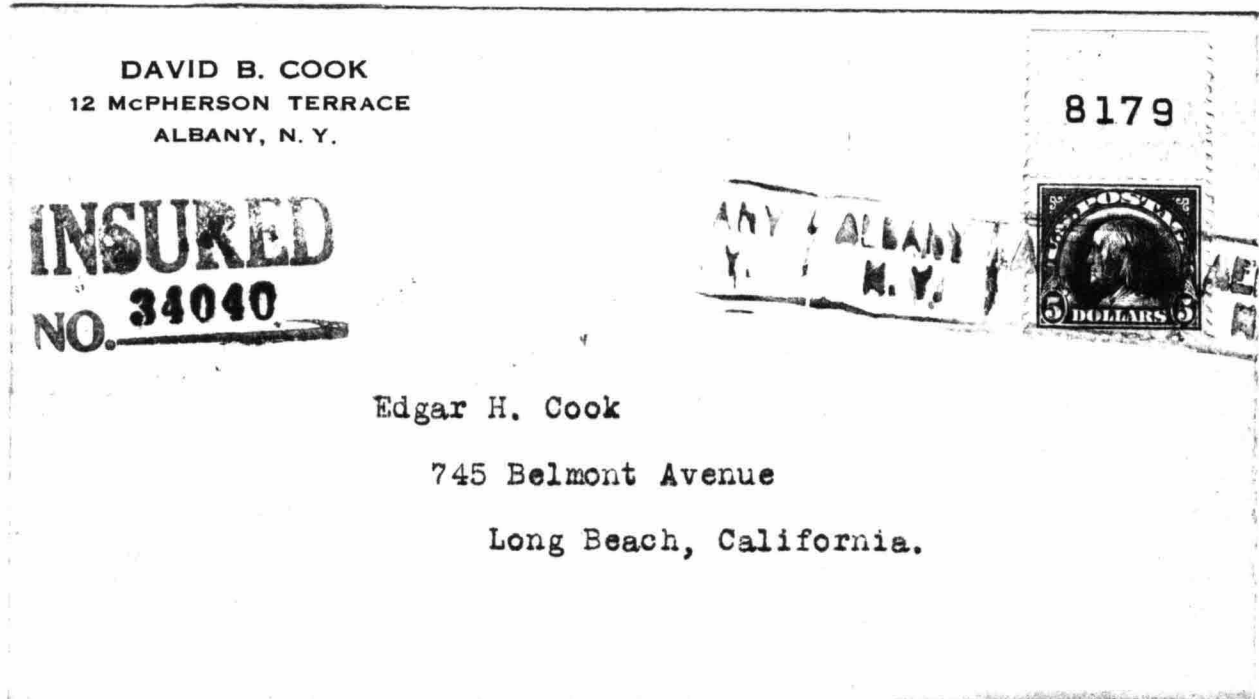
523, 475

A piece from a Railway Mail Service receipt postmarked December 17, 1918, and covering partial postage and war tax for a number of packages shipped at the same time. Since the war tax paid would have covered a larger postage bill, some or all of the remaining packages apparently had some postage on them.



547, 518, 517

Mailing tag with postage enough to cover registry and postage on a 10 lb., 10 oz. package, most likely a bag of coins from the Denver Mint.



524

This envelope was used, probably around 1920, as a mailing label on a 39 lb. package insured for \$100.

OFFSET PRINTING

1c - 3c NUMERICAL WASHINGTONS

UNWATERMARKED

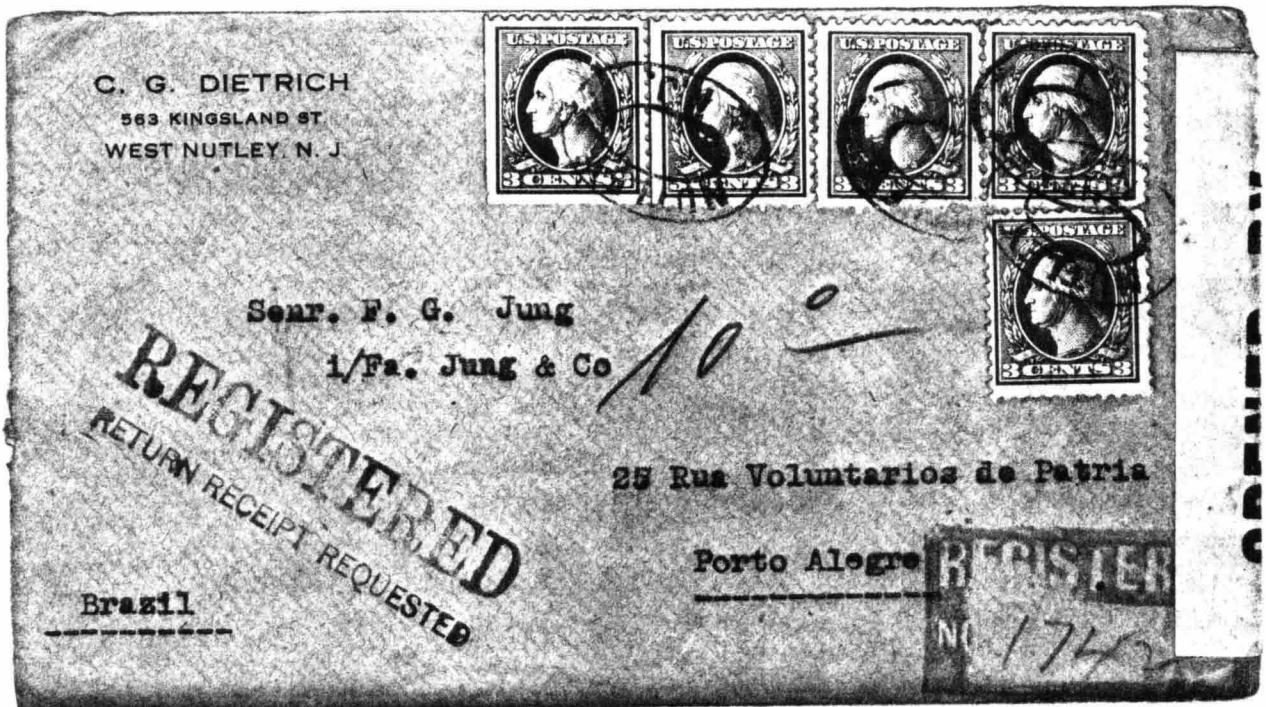
PERFORATED 11

During World War I there was increased correspondence and thus a great demand for low value postage stamps. At the same time, the plates used for printing the stamps were wearing out very quickly because the domestic inks being used were very gritty. The inks previously used had been imported from Germany and were of much higher quality. Obviously these were no longer available.

The Bureau began printing stamps from surface printing plates made by the photo offset process. This was intended as a temporary measure.

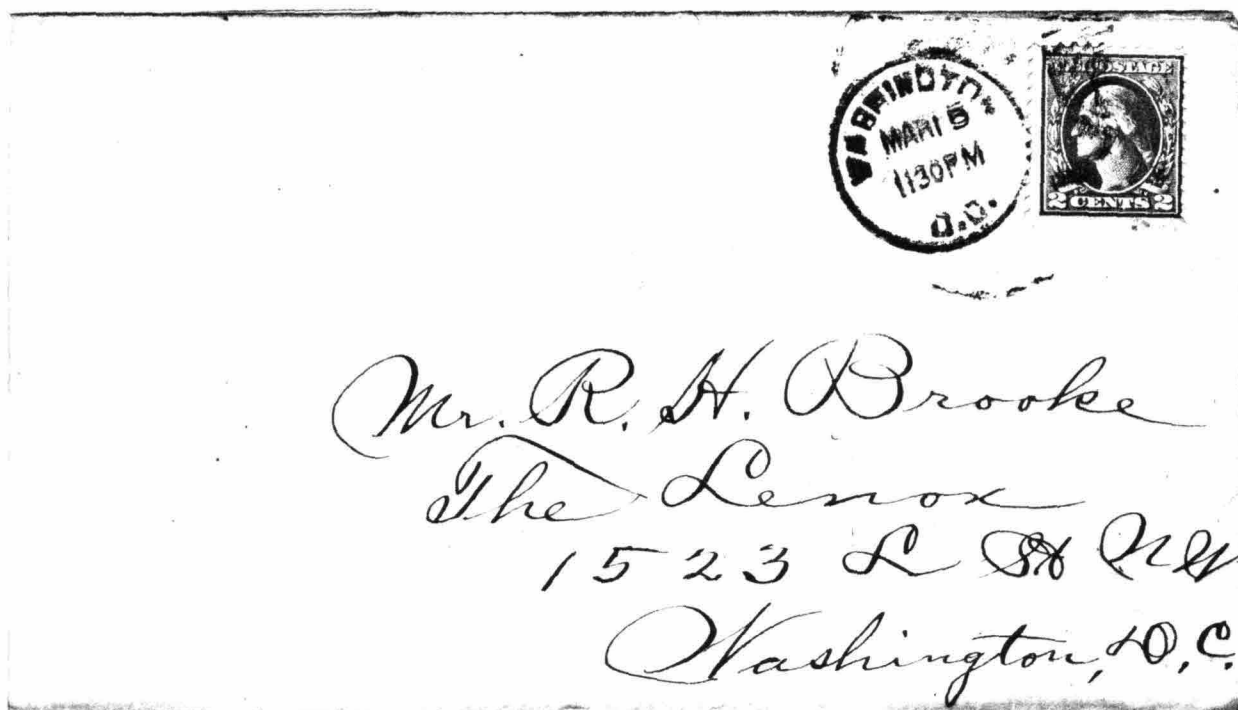
Since the war rate was 3¢, the 3¢ stamp had priority, and in late March 1918 the 3¢ offset was issued. The 1¢ followed in December 1918, and the 2¢ on March 15, 1920, after the 2¢ rate had been restored. The 2¢ was printed by the offset method for about a year until the Bureau could resume their normal production level of engraved stamps. The 1¢ and 3¢ offsets had been discontinued shortly after the 2¢ rate had been restored.

In order to obtain a crisp stamp image, the Bureau experimented with various master dies for use in making the offset plates. Two master dies, Types III and IV were used for the 3¢ value, and five, Types IV, V, Va, VI and VII were used for the 2¢. Only one die was used for the 1¢. All 3¢ imperforates were Type IV.



529

Type III offsets used in May 1918 on registered U.S. censored cover to Brazil



526 (PF)

A First Day Cover of Type IV, March 15, 1920. About 40 covers were made.

AFTER 5 DAYS RETURN TO
L. E. LANCASTER
Clerk Superior Court Craven County
NEW BERN, N. C.

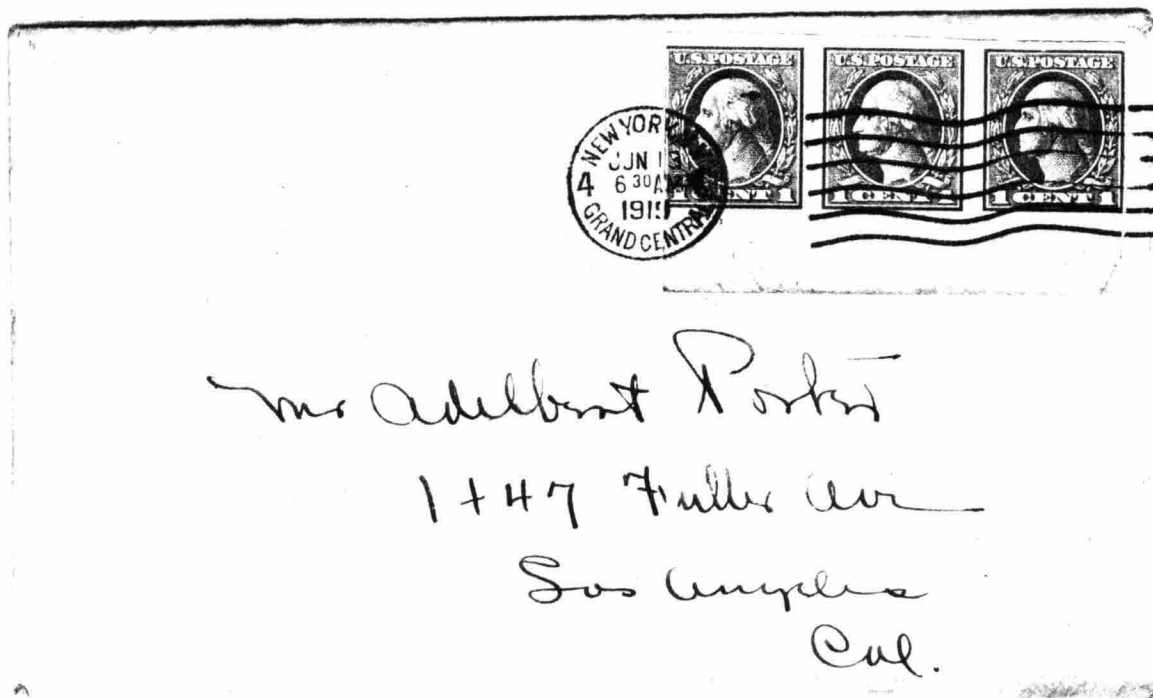
Mrs. Sophia Lorch,
New Bern, N.C.



628B (AFDCS)

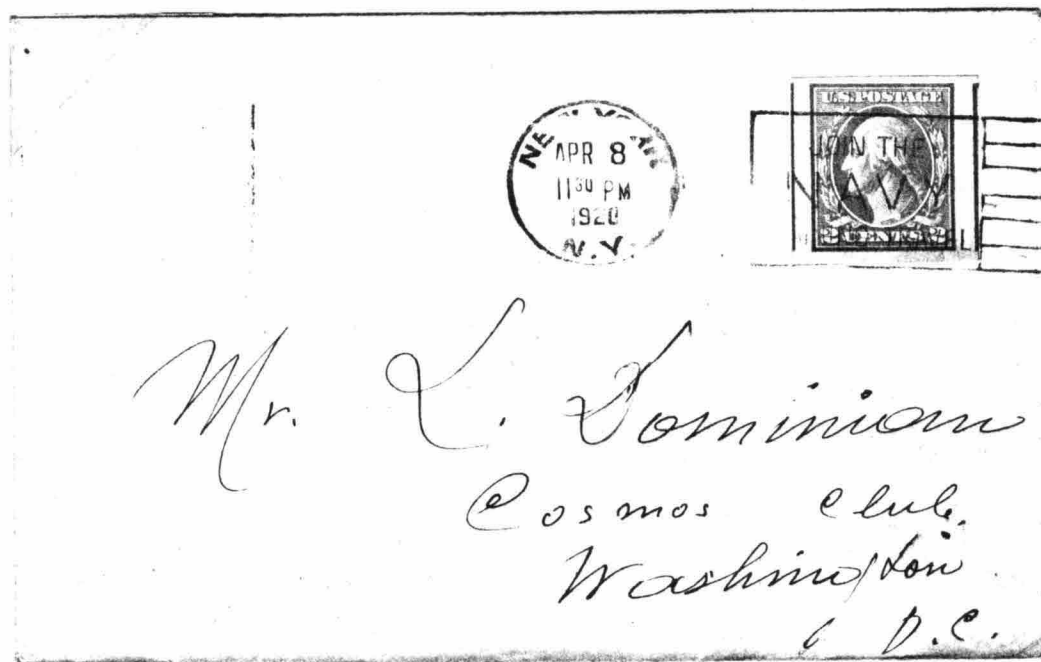
The Earliest Documented Cover of Type VII. This cover is postmarked November 10, 1920, two days after the first shipment was made from the Bureau. Almost certainly a First Day Cover.

IMPERFORATES



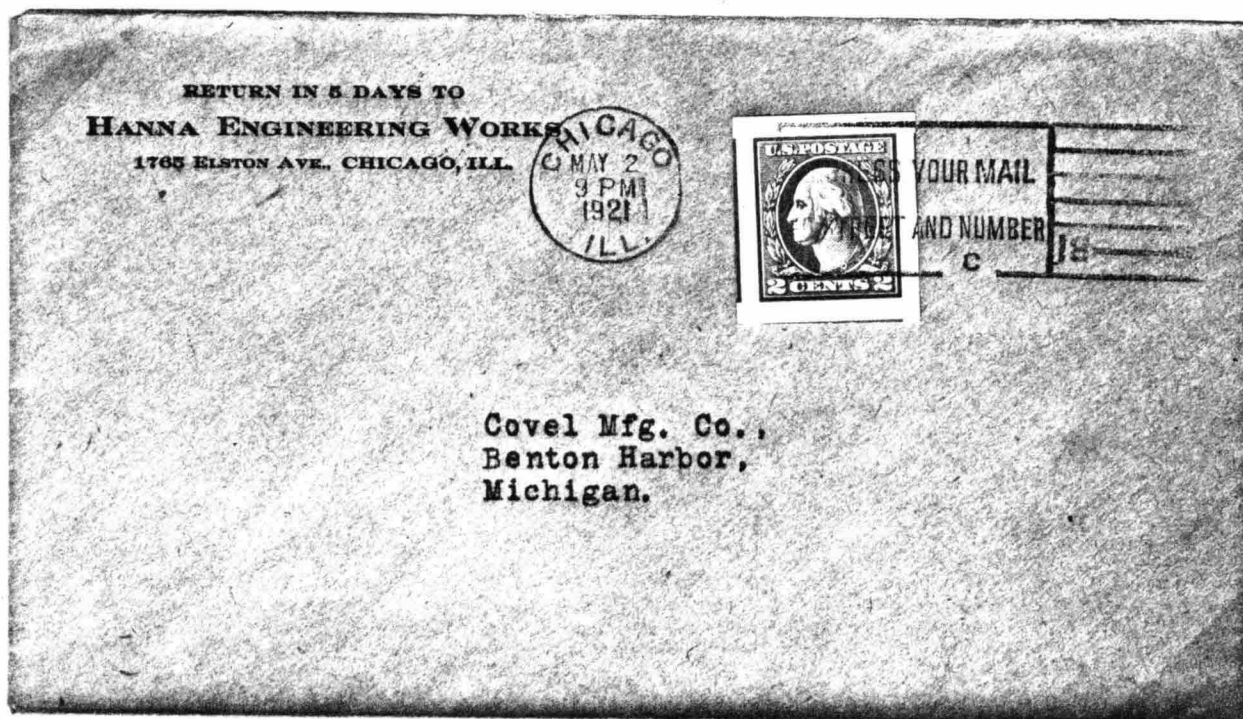
531

First class war rate



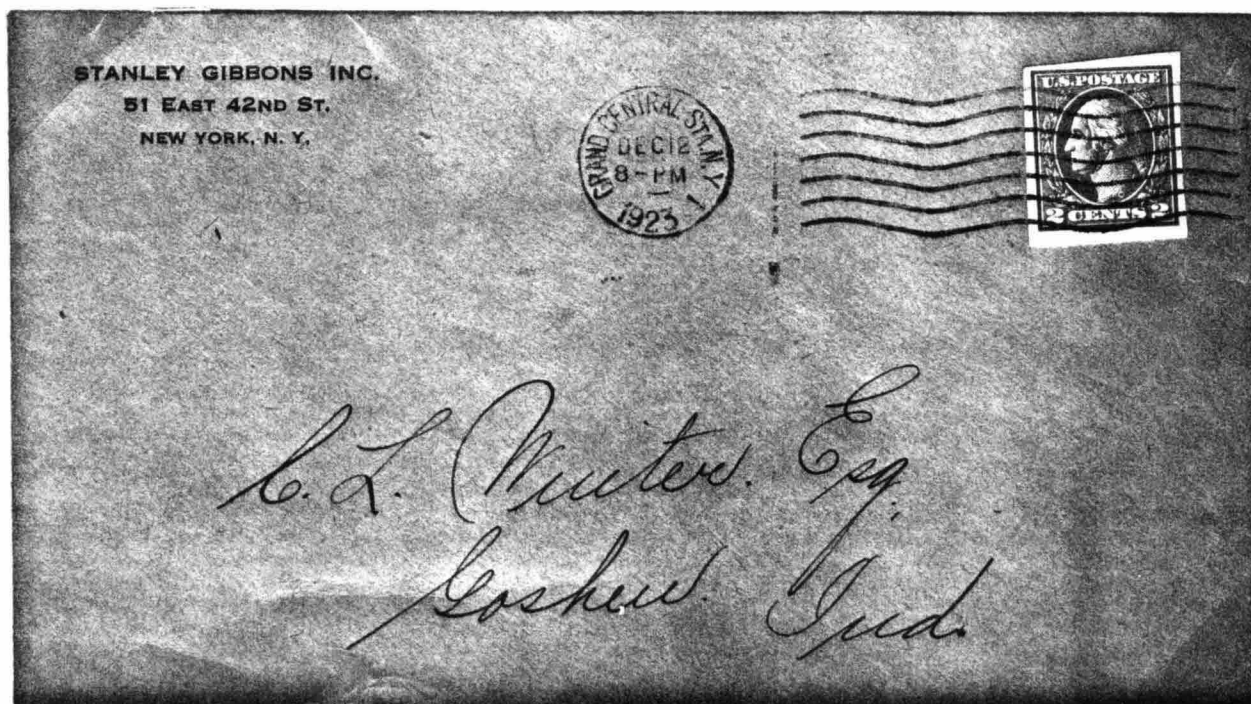
532

The Earliest Documented Cover of Type IV, April 8, 1920, six days after the first shipment from the Bureau.



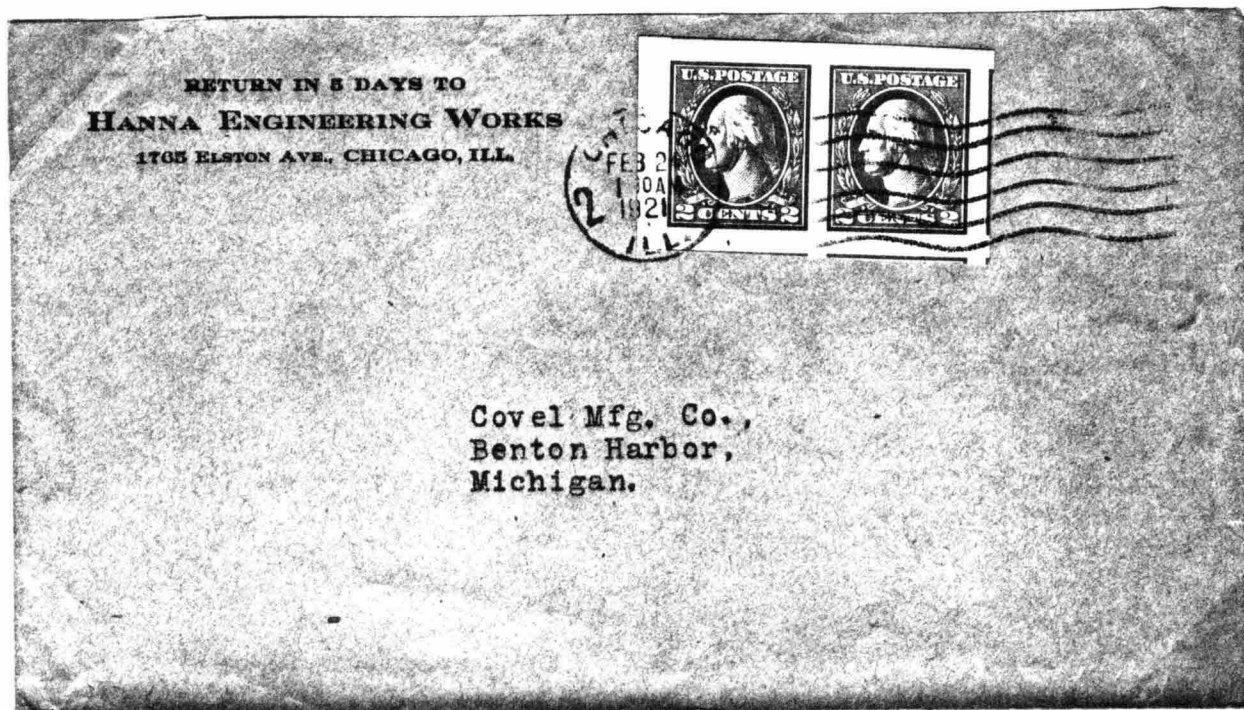
533

Type V



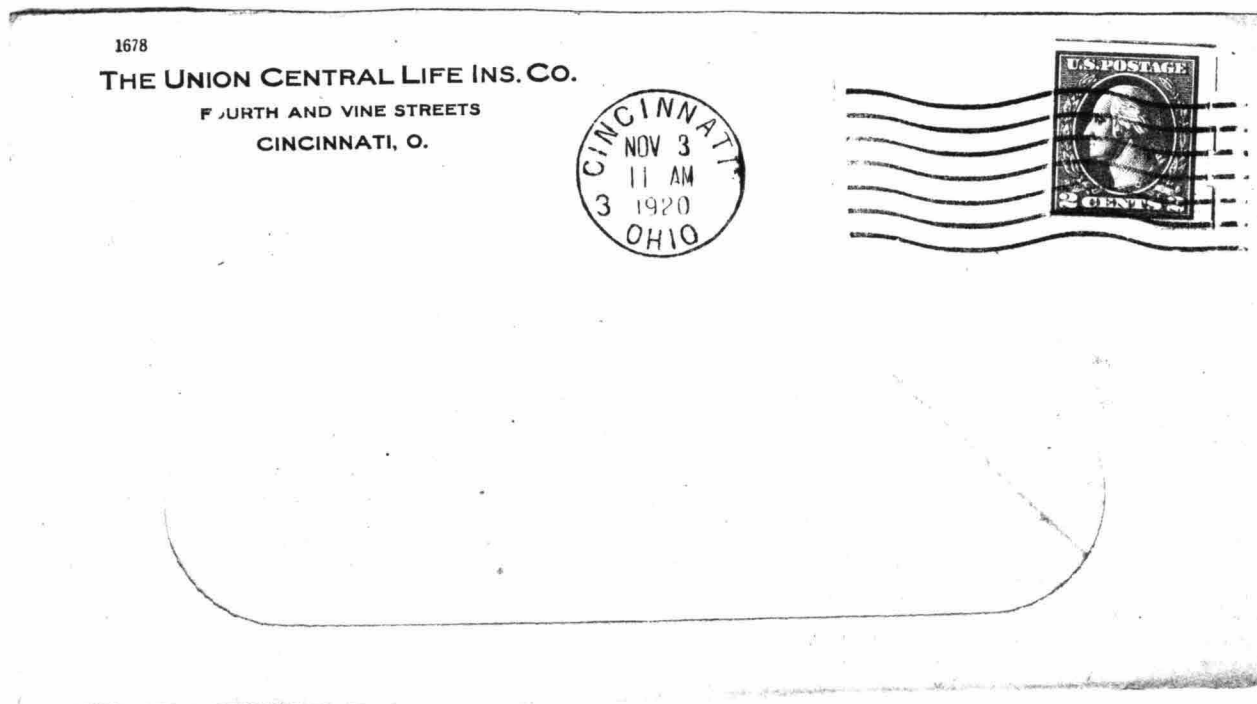
534

Type Va



534A

Type VI

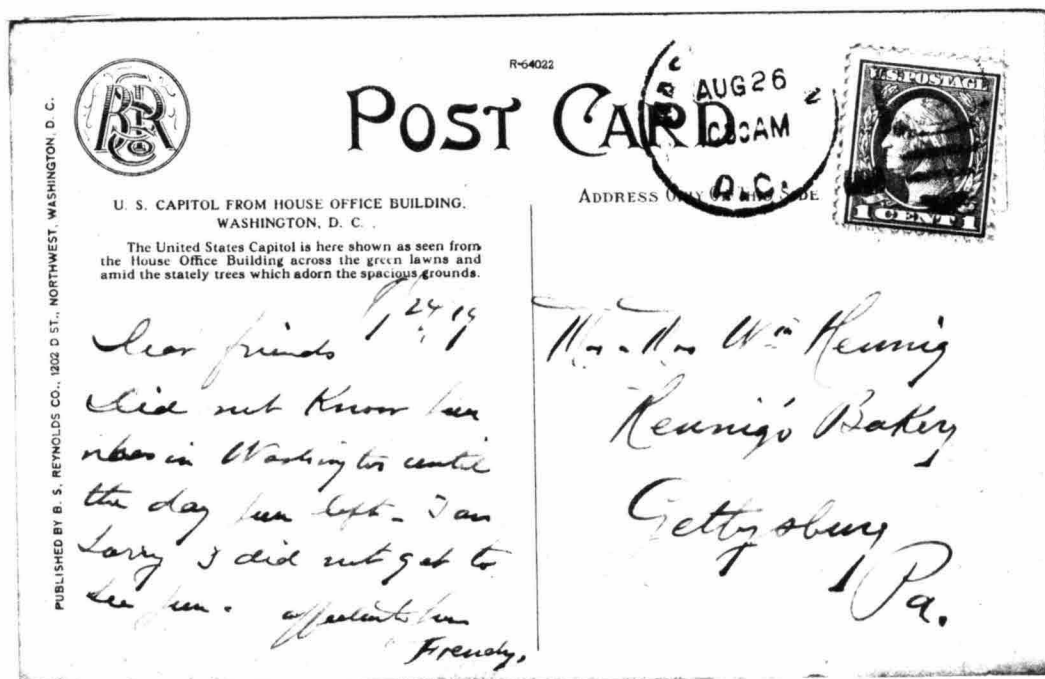


534B (PF)

The Earliest Documented Cover of Type VII, November 3, 1920, one day after the first Bureau shipment. Almost certainly a First Day Cover.

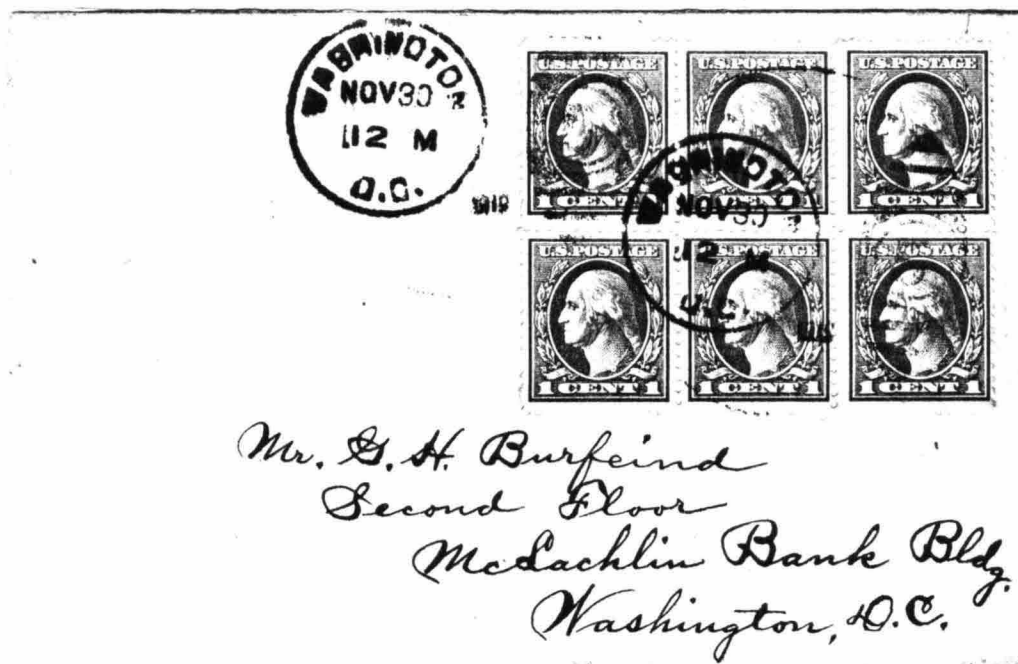
EXPERIMENTAL ROSSBACK PERFORATING MACHINE

In August 1919 the Bureau experimented with a high speed perforating machine called the Rossback. This machine was used to perforate about 2,000,000 of the 1¢ Washington offset printing, but about half of these were destroyed because of perforation spoilage. These were the only U.S. stamps ever perforated 12 ½.



536

Early usage of the Rossback, August 26, 1919, to pay domestic post card rate.



536

Block of 6 of the Rossback paying triple domestic first class rate on November 30, 1919, the last day of sale of these stamps.

COIL WASTE ISSUES

The Bureau had been printing coil stamps on the rotary press since 1914. Coils were printed on rolls that were 17 stamps wide by any length. The overruns of the coils, which were usually between 50 and 100 rows long, had been clipped off and saved.

The Bureau had accumulated a large quantity of the "coil waste," and in June 1919, again as an economy measure, they decided to use it. They took the "coil waste" from the 1¢, 2¢ and 3¢ sidewise coils, which had been perforated 10 vertically and perforated them 11 horizontally. They then had sheets of stamps 17 x any length perforated 10 x 11. These were cut into sheets of 170 stamps, 17 x 10. Sometimes these were cut a second time making sheets of either 70 or 100 stamps. These sheets were then distributed to a number of large Post Offices.

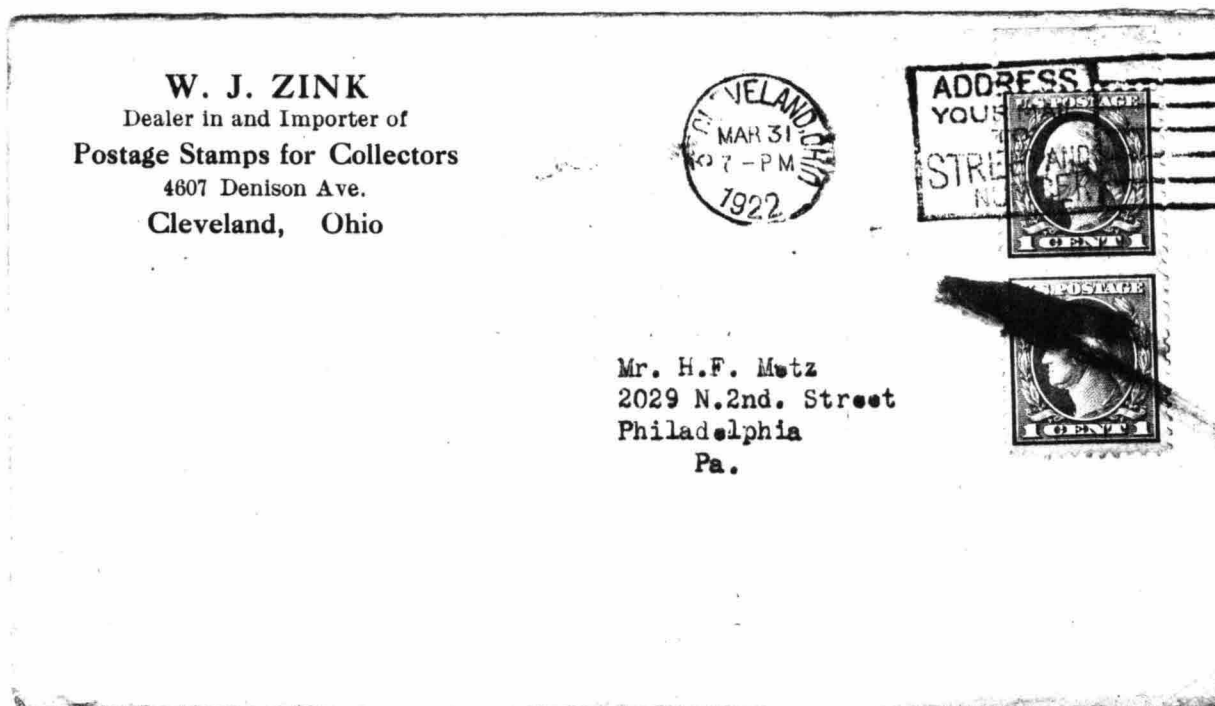


538, 540, 541

November 1919 philatelic usage of blocks of all three 10 x 11 coil waste denominations.

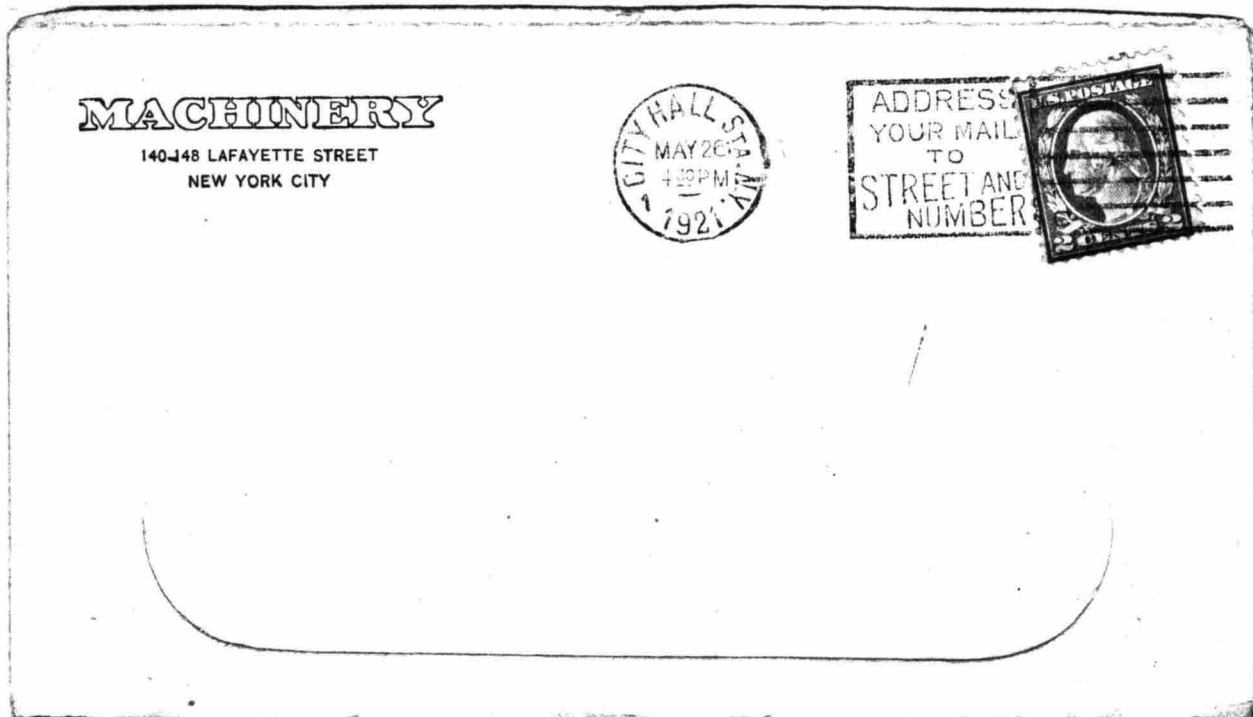
In May 1921 the Bureau had a very long overrun of waste from 1¢ and 2¢ sidewise coils, none of which had been perforated. To cut costs, they decided to perforate and sell it. This time it was perforated 11 all around and sold in the same sheet format as the previous "coil waste," 17 x 10.

The 2¢ value was perforated first and distributed to the Washington and New York Post Offices. It was first sold on May 26, 1921. The 1¢ value was sold ONLY at the Philatelic Agency in Washington, beginning in December 1921.



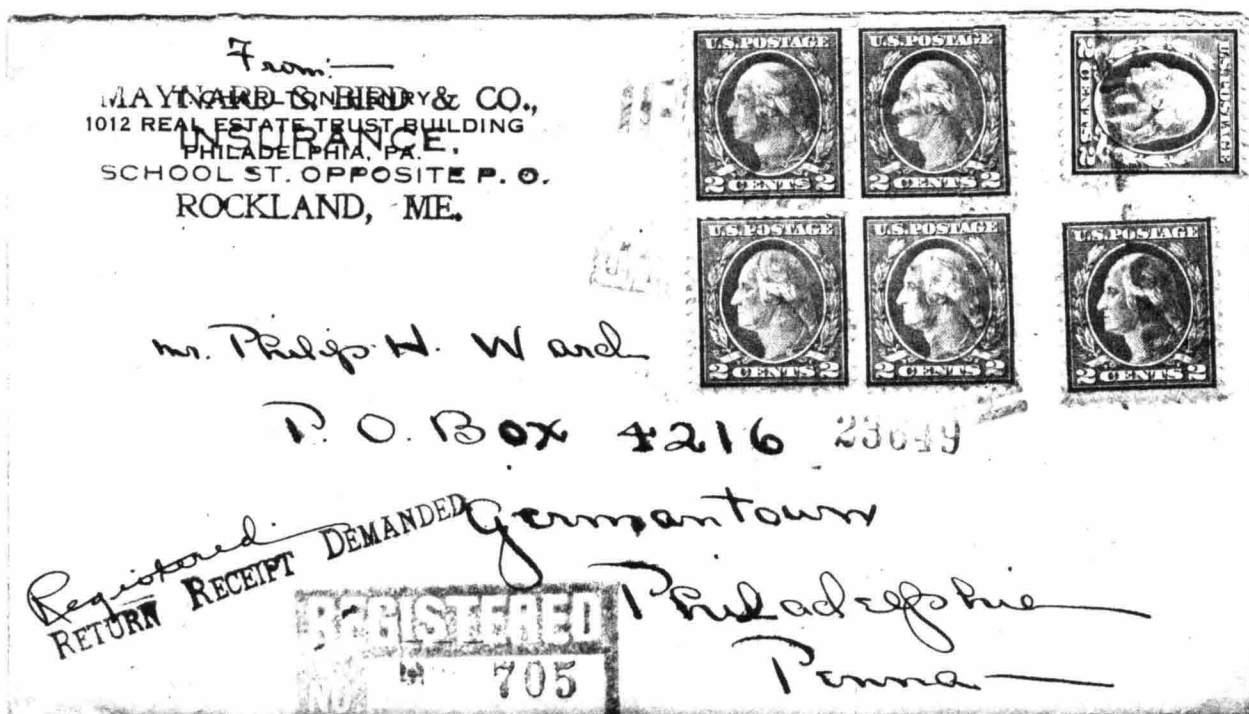
545

The only documented contemporary cover of the 1¢ value



546

1 of 2 documented First Day Covers, May 26, 1921



546, 499

The only documented block of 4 on a contemporary cover, July 28, 1921

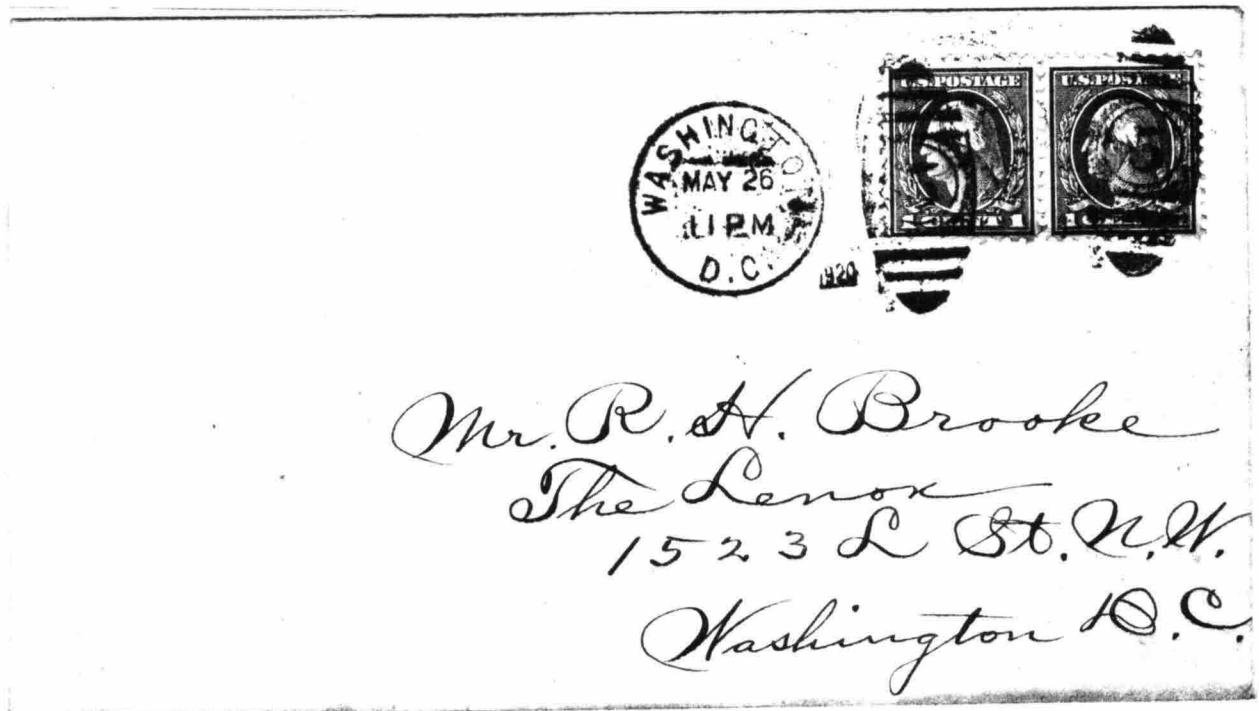
EXPERIMENTAL ROTARY PRESS SHEET STAMPS

The Bureau had such success with printing coils on the rotary presses that they began to think that rotary printing was the way to go for sheet stamps also.

On May 26, 1920, the first rotary sheet stamps were issued. The 1¢ numeral Washington was printed in vertical sheets of 400. The rotary press in use in 1920 was equipped with a 10 gauge perforator which could perforate the sheets horizontally if connected. The vertical perforations were then added separately on a machine in use for sheets, which perforated 11. We therefore have the 1¢ numerical Washington, perforated 10 x 11, and slightly higher than a flat plate printing would be due to the stretching of the plate.

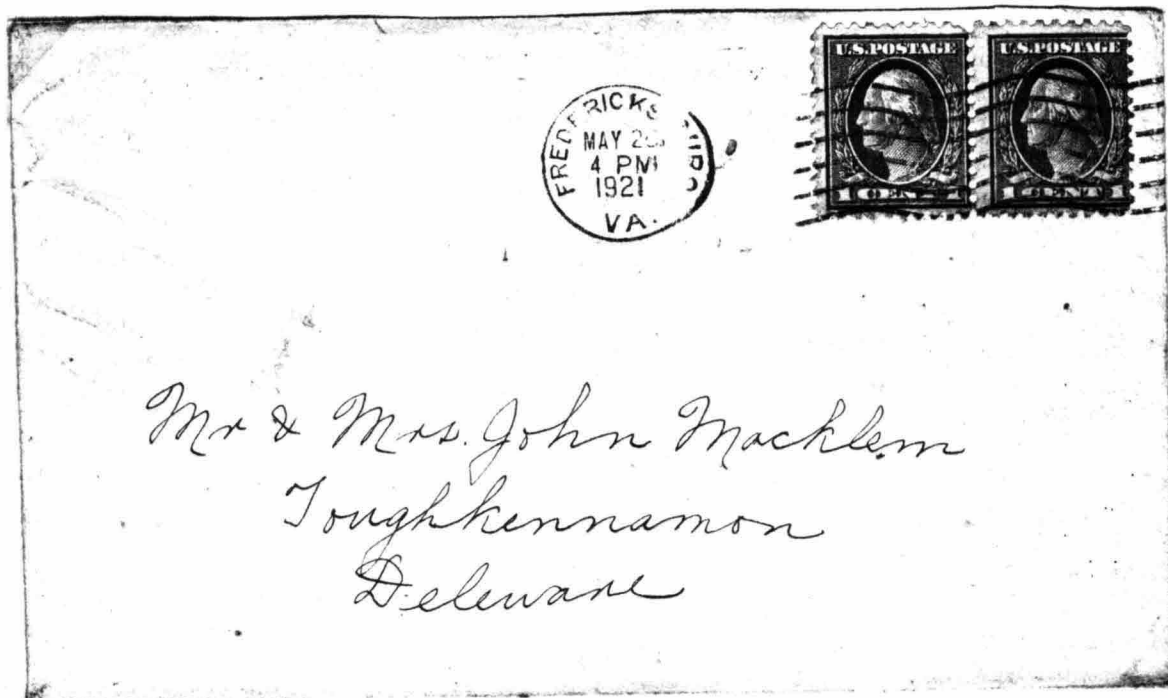
The experiment was reasonably successful, but there were still problems to iron out. The paper was stretched and weakened during the rotary printing process, causing the paper to curl and resulting in unacceptable separation in the sheets on the perf. 11 side.

The Bureau then decided to try using the rotary press, changing the perforations to 10 all around. After some additional modifications, notably in the gumming technique, the experiment was deemed a success, and in 1921 the Bureau began continuous production of these rotary press sheet stamps.



542 (PF)

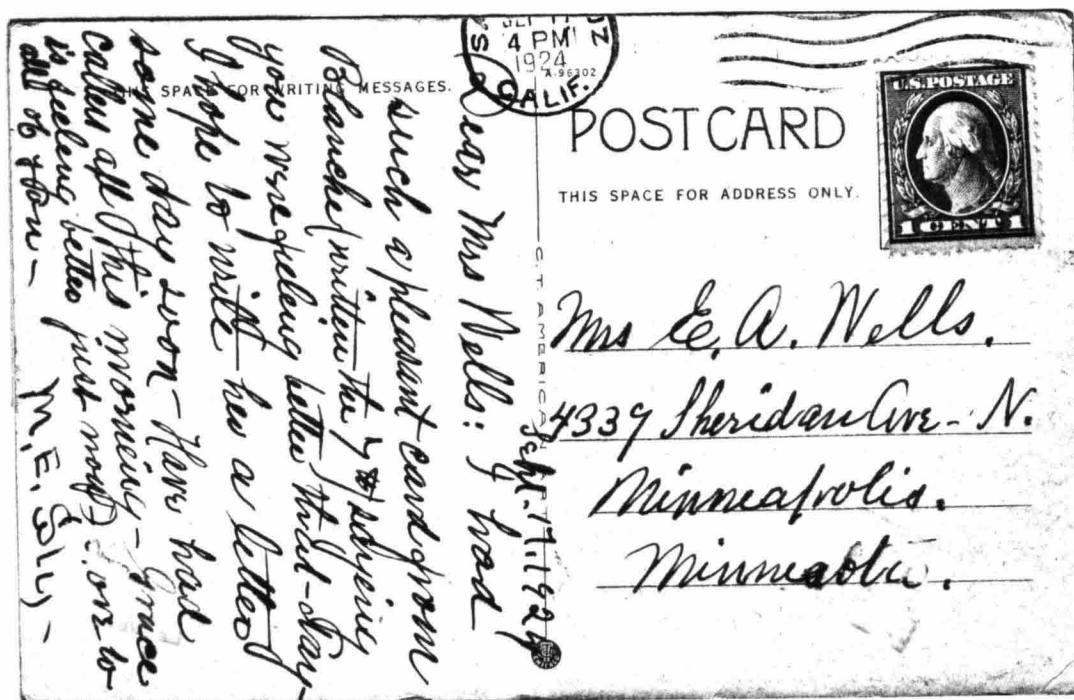
A First Day Cover of the first experimental rotary sheet stamp, perforated 10 x 11, May 26, 1920. 25 covers were reportedly made.



543

The Earliest Documented Cover of the second experimental rotary sheet stamp, May 26, 1921. Probably a First Day Cover. The only documented cover postmarked this date.

ROTARY SHEET PERFORATION ERROR



544 (PF)

In 1936 it was discovered that apparently a few of the experimental rotary sheets had inadvertently been perforated all around. Approximately 70 stamps and 9 covers have been documented. This post card is one of the nicest examples .

SHANGHAI

OVERPRINTS

The Shanghai Overprints were used there intermittently between July 1, 1919, and December 31, 1922. U.S. stamps were surcharged at double their face value so that stamps could be purchased using local Shanghai currency. 1¢ U.S. was roughly equal to 2¢ Shanghai. Whenever this exchange rate became unfavorable to the U.S., the stamps were temporarily taken off sale.

To Holland-Philatelic usage of all values of the Shanghai Overprints. Postal regulations stated that the overprints were valid ONLY on mail addressed to the United States.

NEDERLANDSCHE HANDEL-MAATSCHAPPIJ,

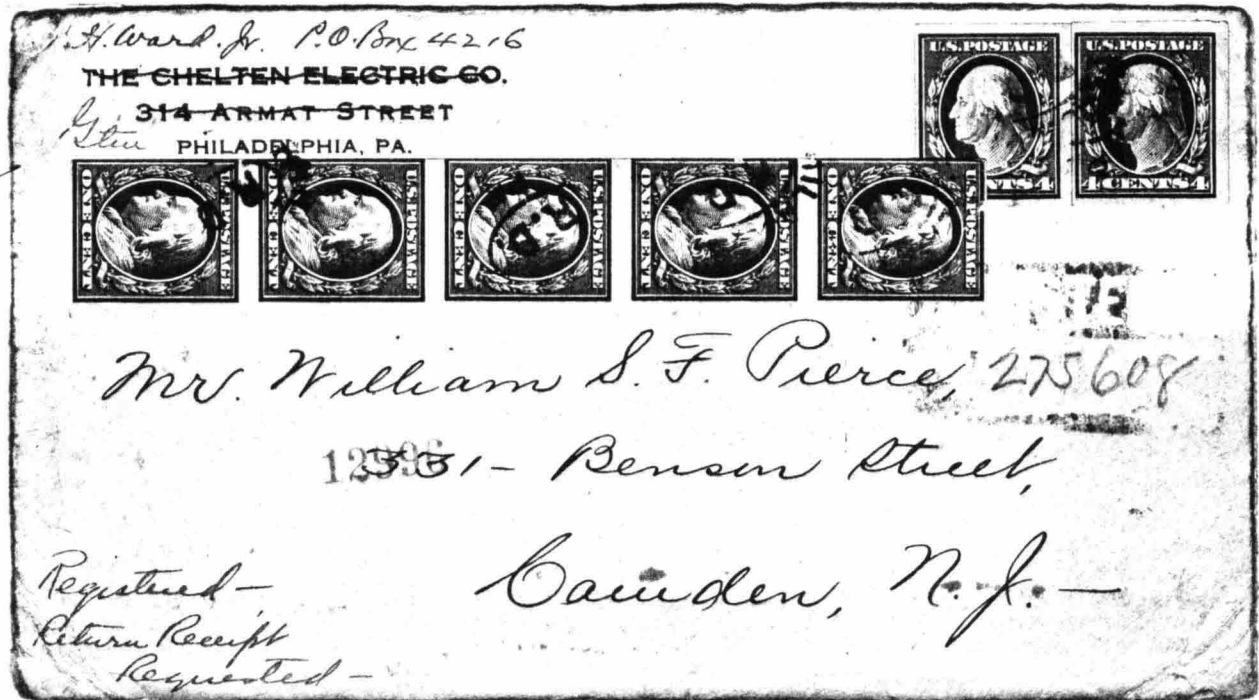
Agents for SHANGHAI (NEDERLANDS TRADING SOCIETY, SHANGHAI AGENCY).

NEDERLANDSCHE HANDEL-MAATSCHAPPIJ

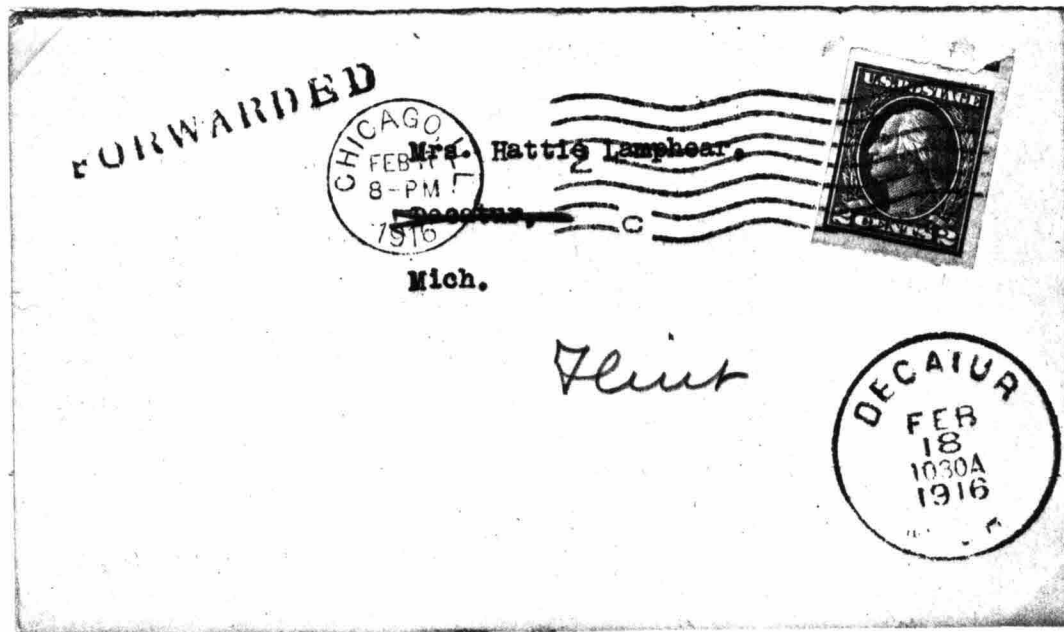
AMSTERDAM.
HOLLAND.

IMPERFORATE COILS

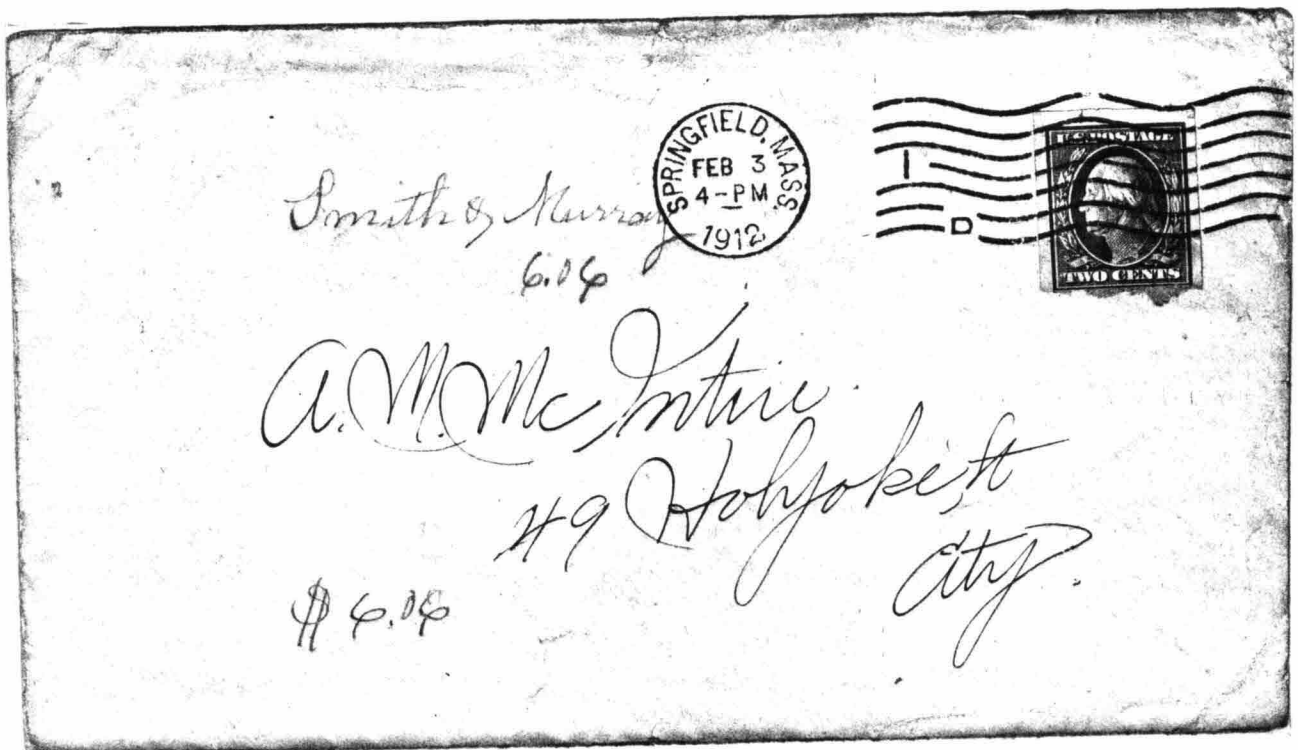
From 1908 to 1916, the Bureau would supply on request imperforate coils for use in vending and affixing machines. These covers illustrate the four ways to differentiate between stamps from imperforate coils and those from imperforate sheets.



The strip of 5 of the 1¢ value is long enough to show that it must have been from imperforate coils. The cuts on either side are too parallel to have been cut by an individual. The 4¢ pair is a paste-up pair. Paste-up pairs without private perforations would have to come from imperforate coils.



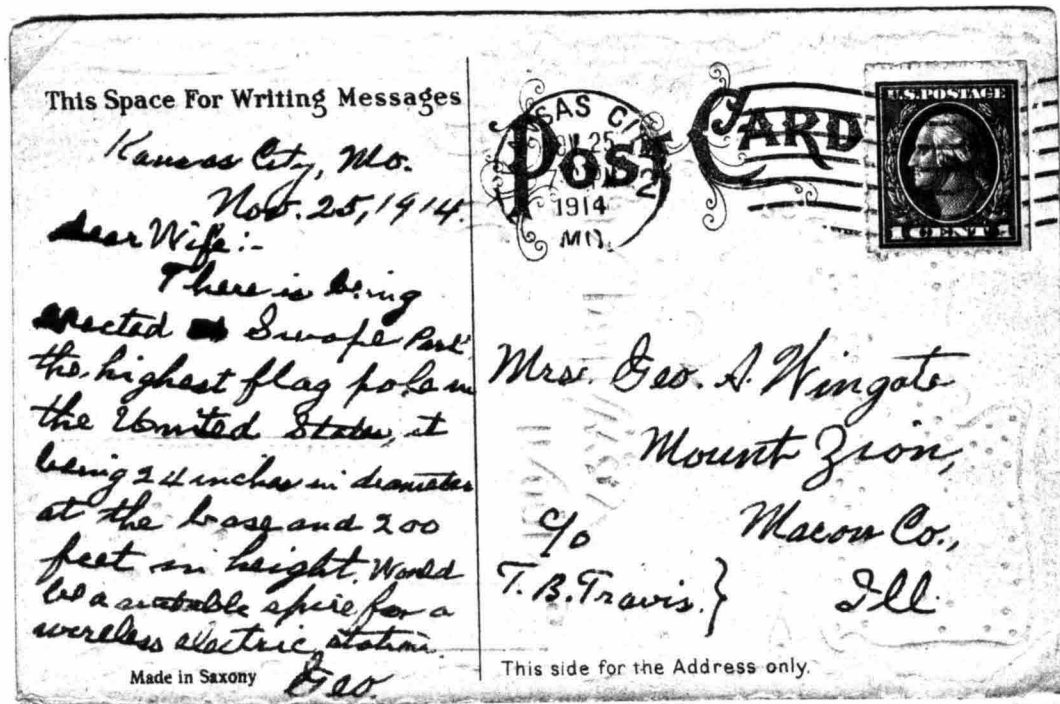
It is sometimes possible to tell an imperforate coil used in a vending or affixing machine by the distinctive cut made by the machine, as in this case.



The end stamp of a roll of 500 or 1000 imperforate coils had attached to it a manila paper leader. The presence of this would confirm an imperforate coil.

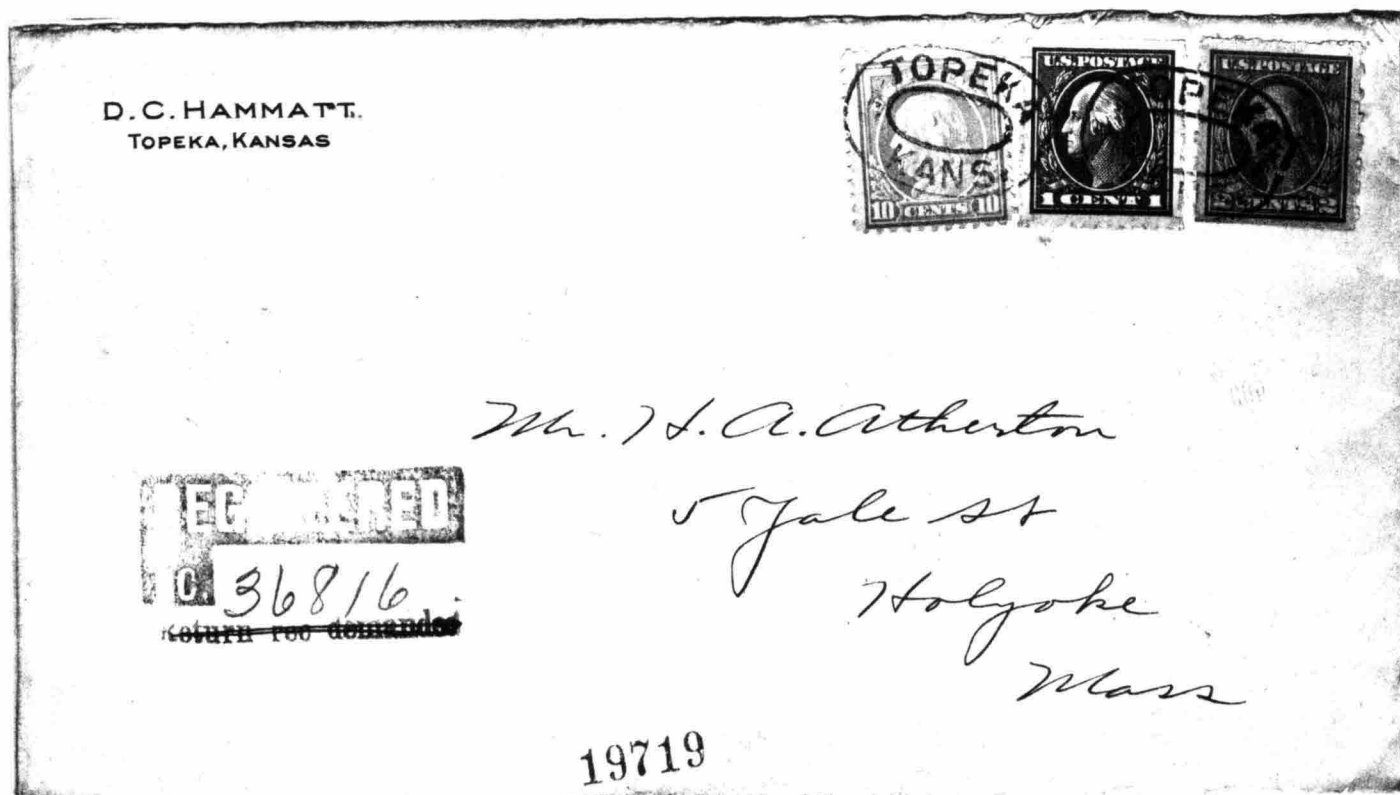
KANSAS CITY ROULETTES

In late 1914, the Kansas City, Missouri, Post Office was left with 234 sheets of the 1¢ and 173 sheets of the 2¢ imperforate stamps. In order to make them easier to sell, the sheets were rouletted with dressmaker's wheels by the Post Office there. Formal Post Office Department approval was granted after the fact on January 5, 1915. Seven 1¢ and three 2¢ contemporary covers have been documented.



408var (PF)

The Earliest Documented Cover of the 1¢, November 25, 1914



408var, 409var, 510

1919 philatelic usage of both varieties on a registered cover



1914

Mr. J.B. Jones,

Kansas City, Mo.

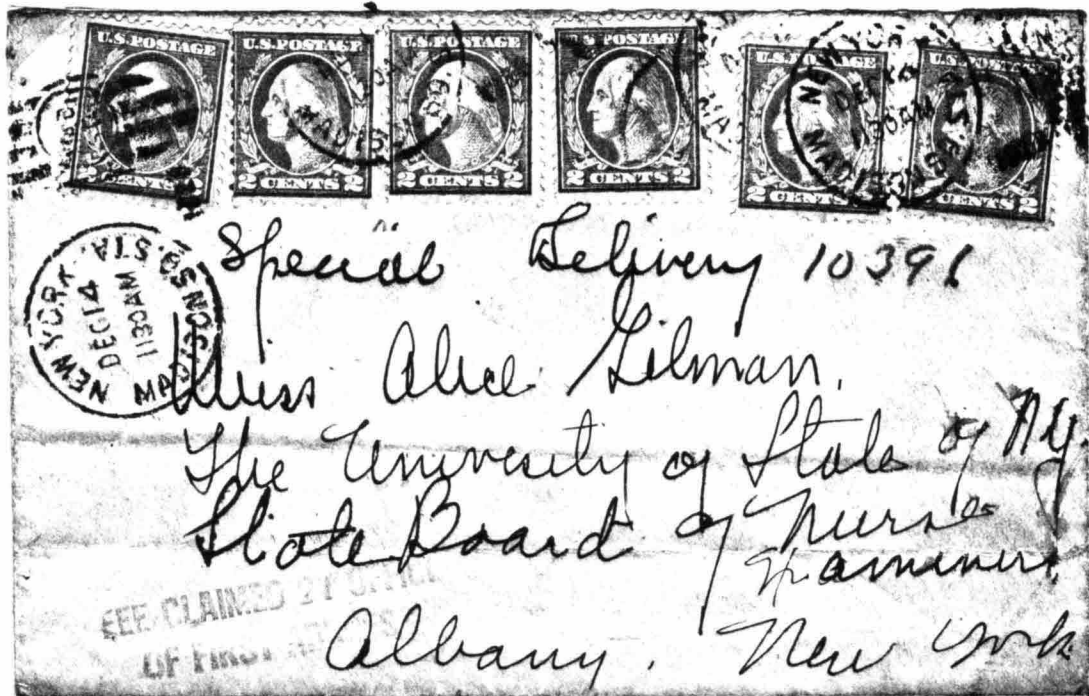
409var (AFDCS)

The Earliest Documented Cover
of the 2¢, December 10, 1914.

POSTAL FORGERIES

There were only two instances in the period when someone produced counterfeit Washington-Franklins. Both cases involved the 2¢ value, and both were offset printed.

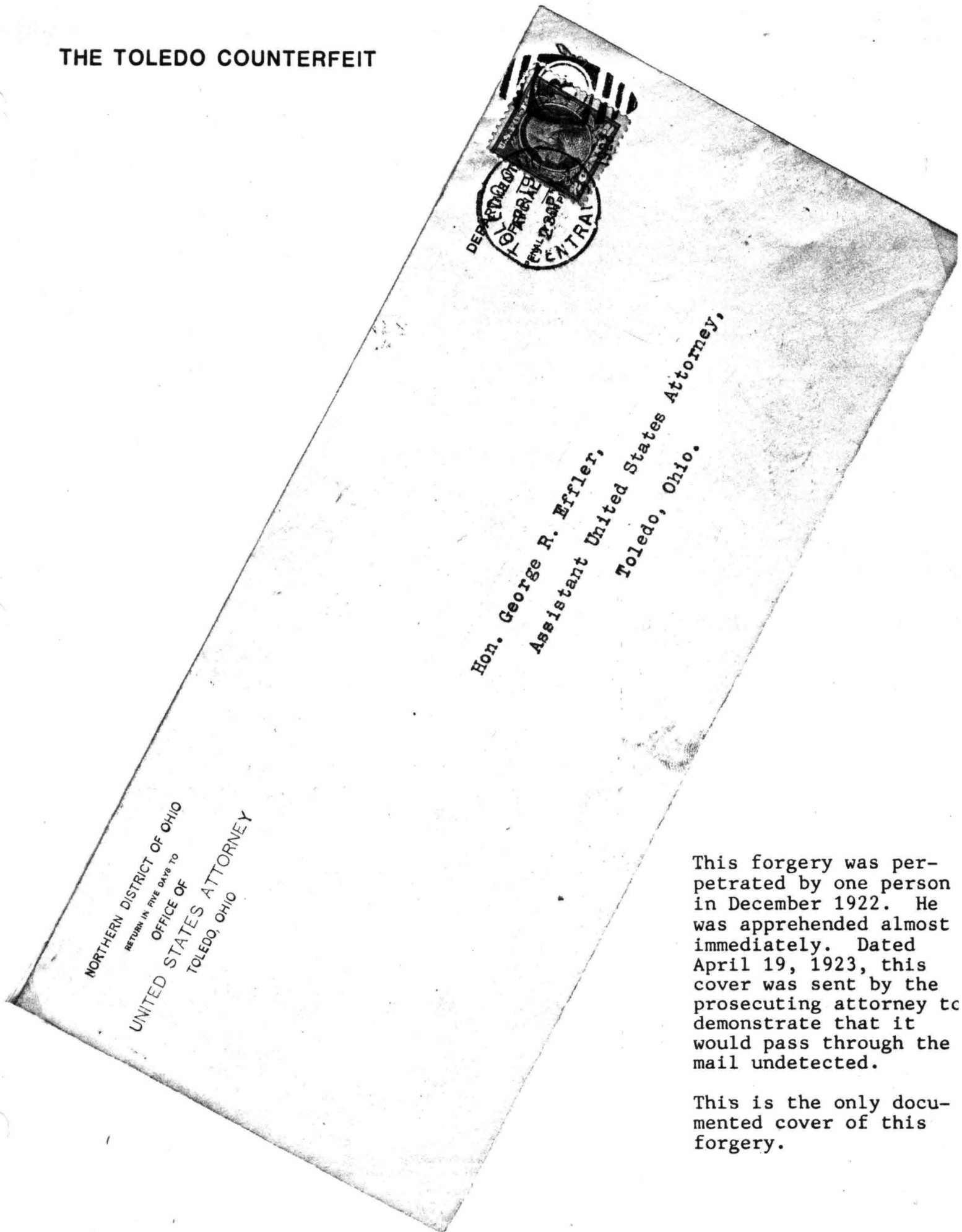
THE BROOKLYN COUNTERFEIT



The Brooklyn counterfeits were printed in mid-1923 from offset plates of 10 stamps in a 5 x 2 format. Each position is distinctive and can be identified. The forgers were arrested and prosecuted in 1924.

Fewer than 10 covers have been documented. This is the only cover documented with multiple franking. Six different plate positions were used.

THE TOLEDO COUNTERFEIT

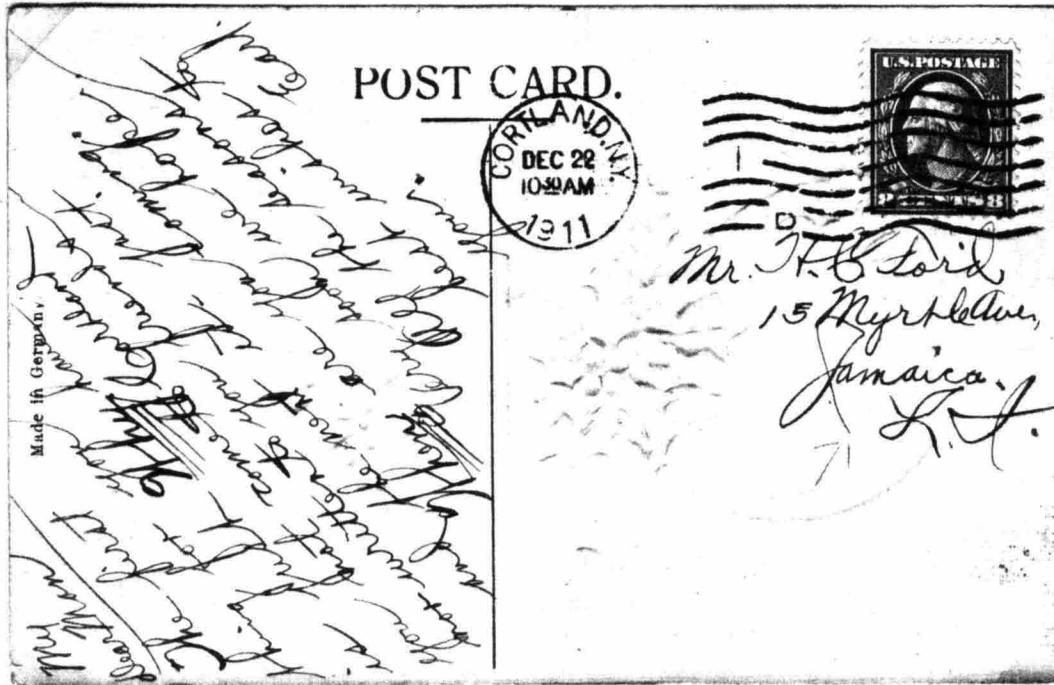


This forgery was perpetrated by one person in December 1922. He was apprehended almost immediately. Dated April 19, 1923, this cover was sent by the prosecuting attorney to demonstrate that it would pass through the mail undetected.

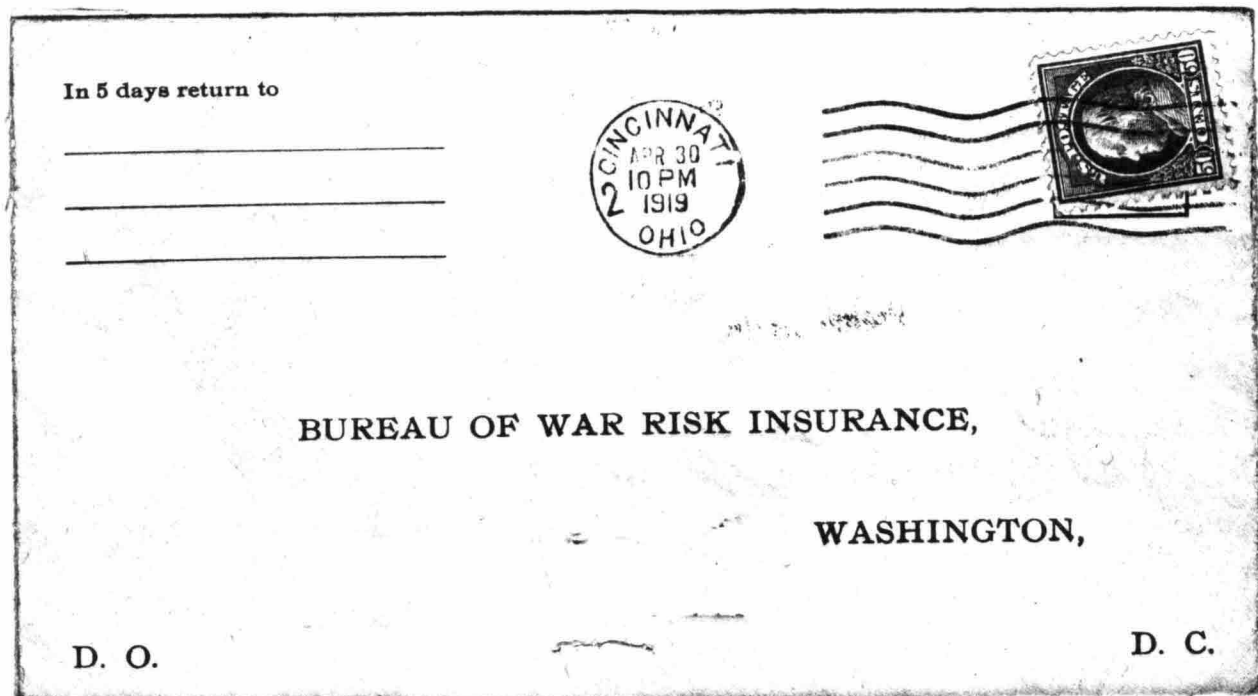
This is the only documented cover of this forgery.

CONFUSED DENOMINATIONS

One of the continuing complaints about the Washington-Franklin series, and one of the reasons for the 1912-4 revised design, was the design and color similarity between some values and the resulting potential for confusion.



8¢ Washington used in 1911 as a 1¢ stamp, which was also green

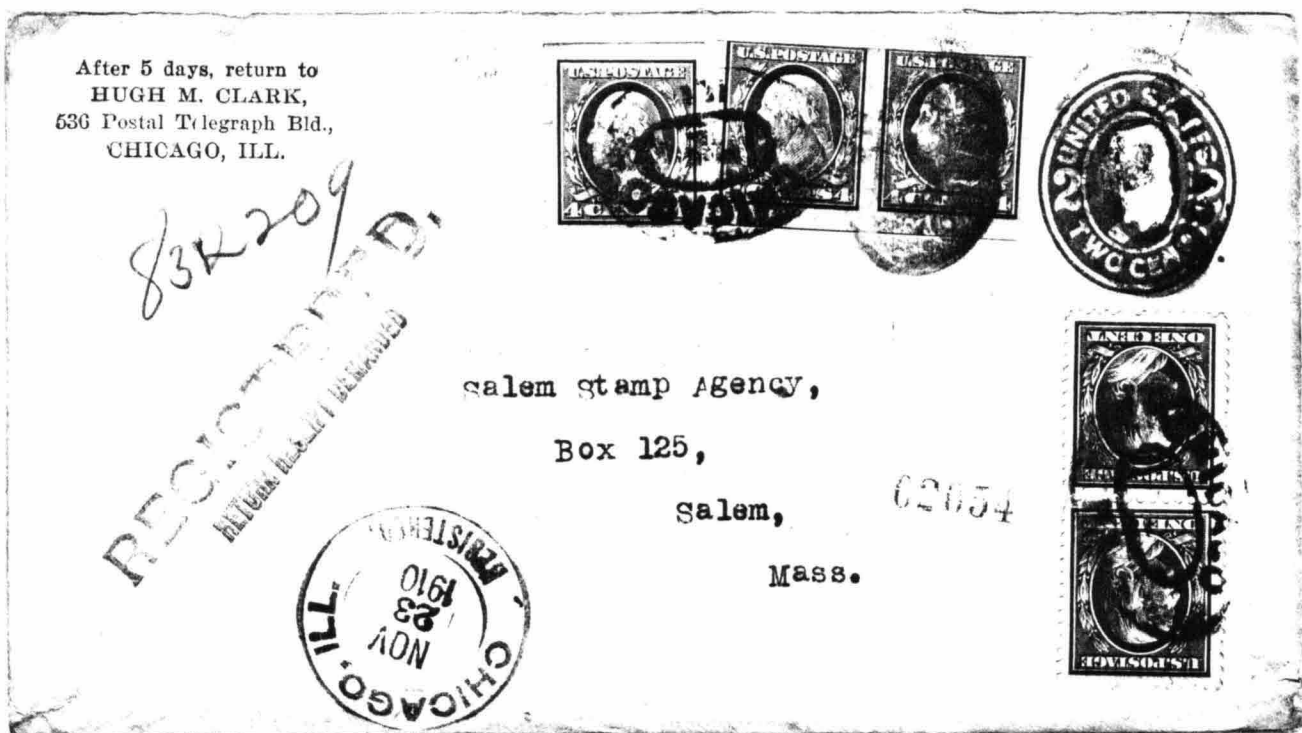


50¢ Franklin used in 1919 as a 3¢ stamp, which was also violet

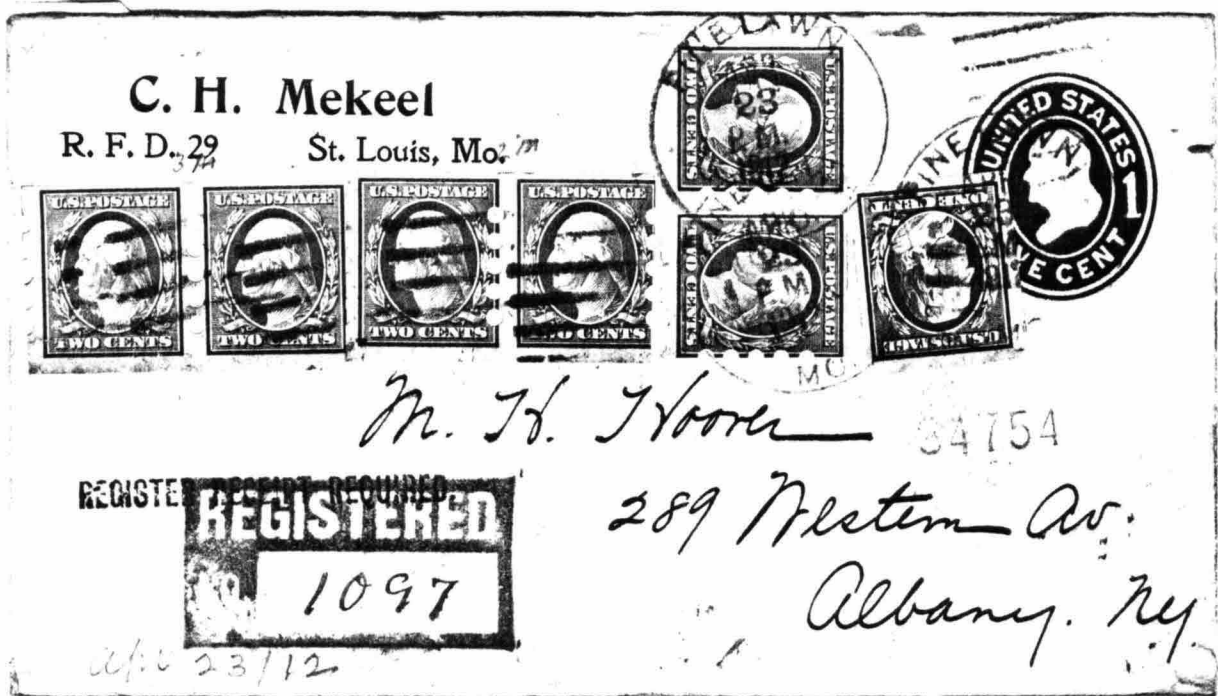
PRIVATE PERFORATIONS

The Post Office Department provided imperforate stamps to vending and affixing machine companies on request, so that they could custom perforate them for efficient use in the machines they manufactured.

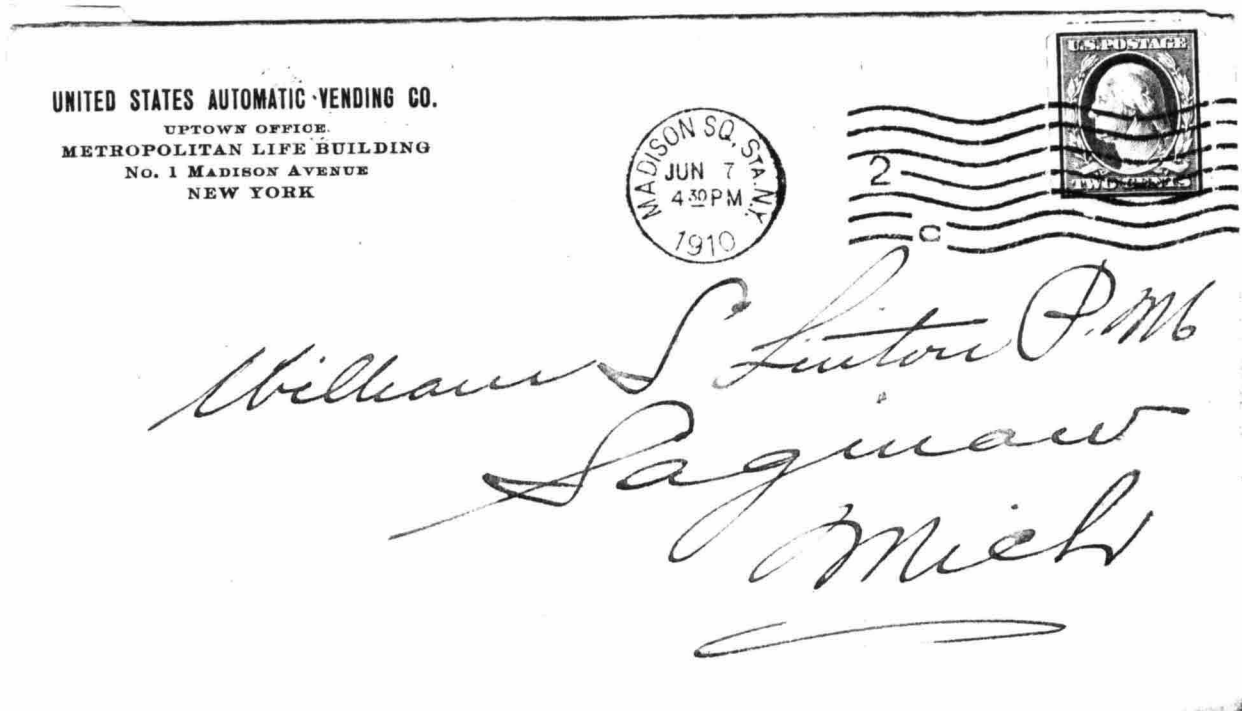
The Post Office would also provided the imperforates to individuals. It was perfectly legal for anyone to use any method they wished to facilitate separation of stamps.



The Schermack Mailing Machine Company - Affixing Machines

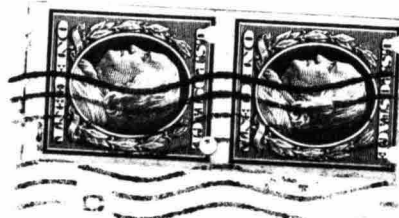


The Mailometer Company - Affixing Machines



United States Automatic Vending Company

~~WM. B. WALTON, JR.~~
REAL ESTATE
208 SCOTT-THOMPSON BLDG.
OKLAHOMA CITY



A. L. Schuyler, Atty,

Weston Block,

Clinton, Iowa.,

The Brinkerhoff Stamp-Vending Machine Company

IF NOT DELIVERED IN 8 DAYS RETURN TO
John V. Farwell Company
CHICAGO



The Pettibone Peabody Co.,

Appleton,
Wis.

John V. Farwell Company - Affixing Machines

A. C. Roesler
140 South Parkway
East Orange,
N. J.



A. W. DUNNING,

BROOKLINE, MASS.,

COOLIDGE CORNER STA.

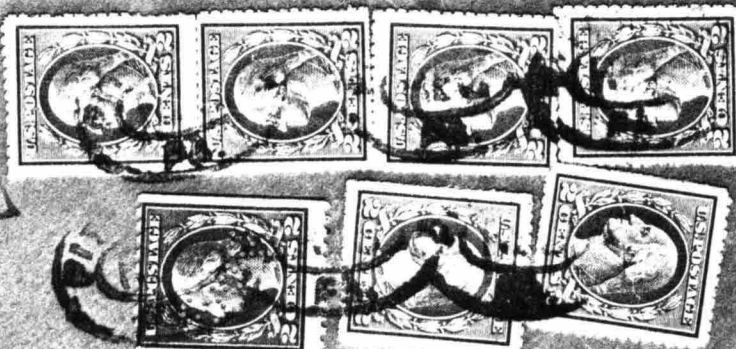
U. S. A.

Dunning Private Perforations - A. W. Dunning perforated a small stock of imperforate sheets he had on hand to facilitate their use on his outgoing mail and reply envelopes.

J. HULL WILSON
P. O. BOX 1627
PITTSBURGH, PA., U. S. A.



#979162

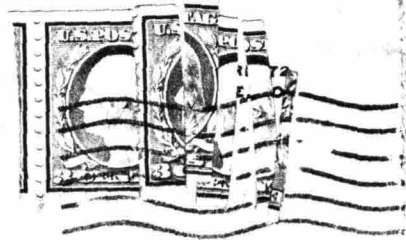


Mr. John W. Haarer, Vice Pres. & Cashier,
10768
City National Bank,

Lansing, Mich.

Return Receipt Requested.

J. Hull Wilson Private Perforations - Financier J. Hull Wilson acquired several hundred sheets of imperforate stamps as forfeited collateral on a loan. He rouletted them with cutting wheels purchased at a local store and used them on his correspondence.



119 W. 40TH ST.
NEW YORK

Form 170-100M-3-11.

After 5 days, return to
THE ADAMS & WESTLAKE COMPANY
Office 319 W. Ontario St.
CHICAGO.



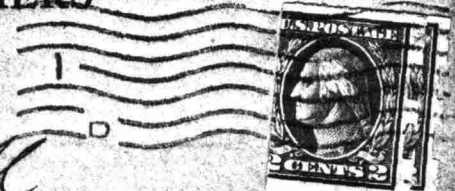
American Radiator Co.,

BUTLER BROTHERS

WHOLESALE ONLY

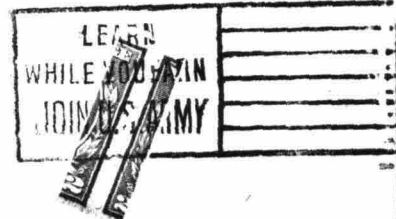


J. Gutschell



GIMBEL BROTHERS

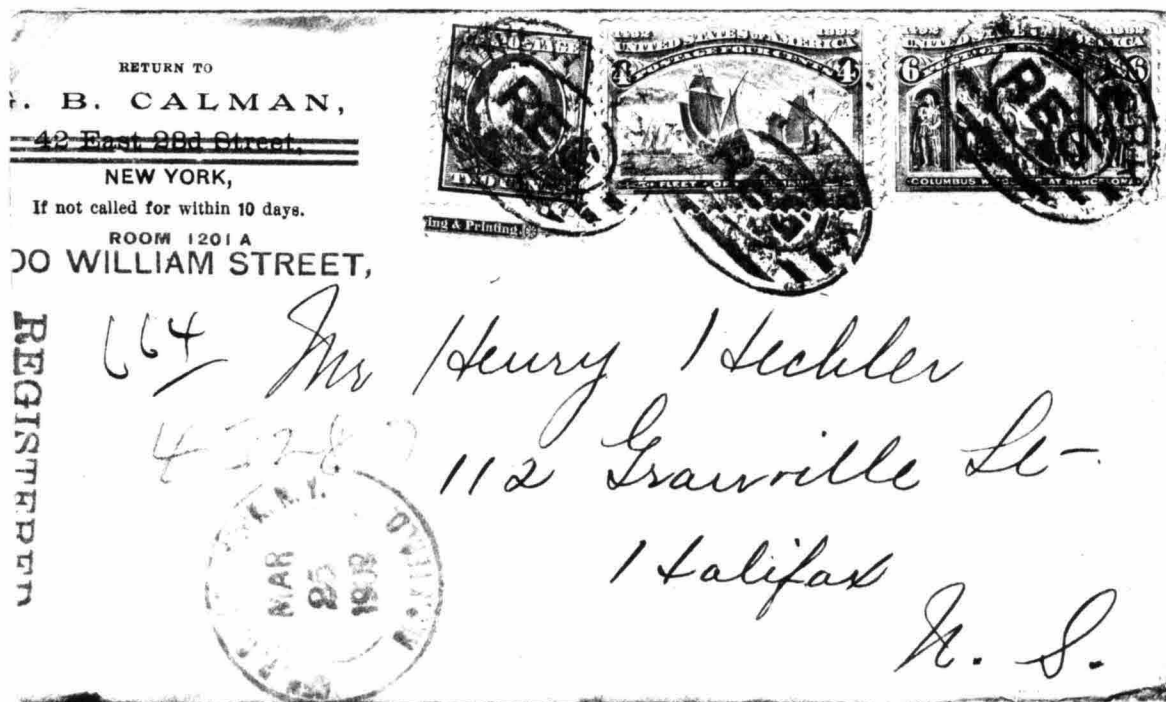
32ND STREET - BROADWAY - 33RD STREET
NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.



The machines did not always work properly, but all of these covers were accepted as paid in full.

FOREIGN RATE COVERS

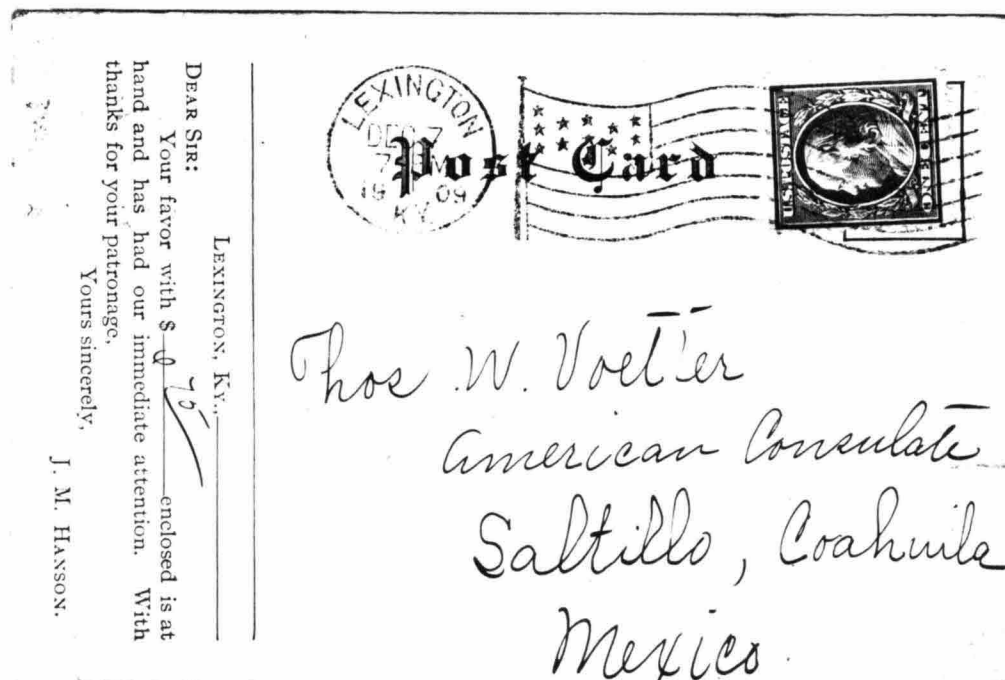
During the Washington-Franklin period postal regulations stated that Canada, Cuba, Mexico, Panama, including the Canal Zone, and the U.S. Postal Agency at Shanghai were to be considered as if addressed for delivery in the United States. Also during this time there were reduced rate treaties in effect. All international mail not affected by either of the above required postage at UPU rates.



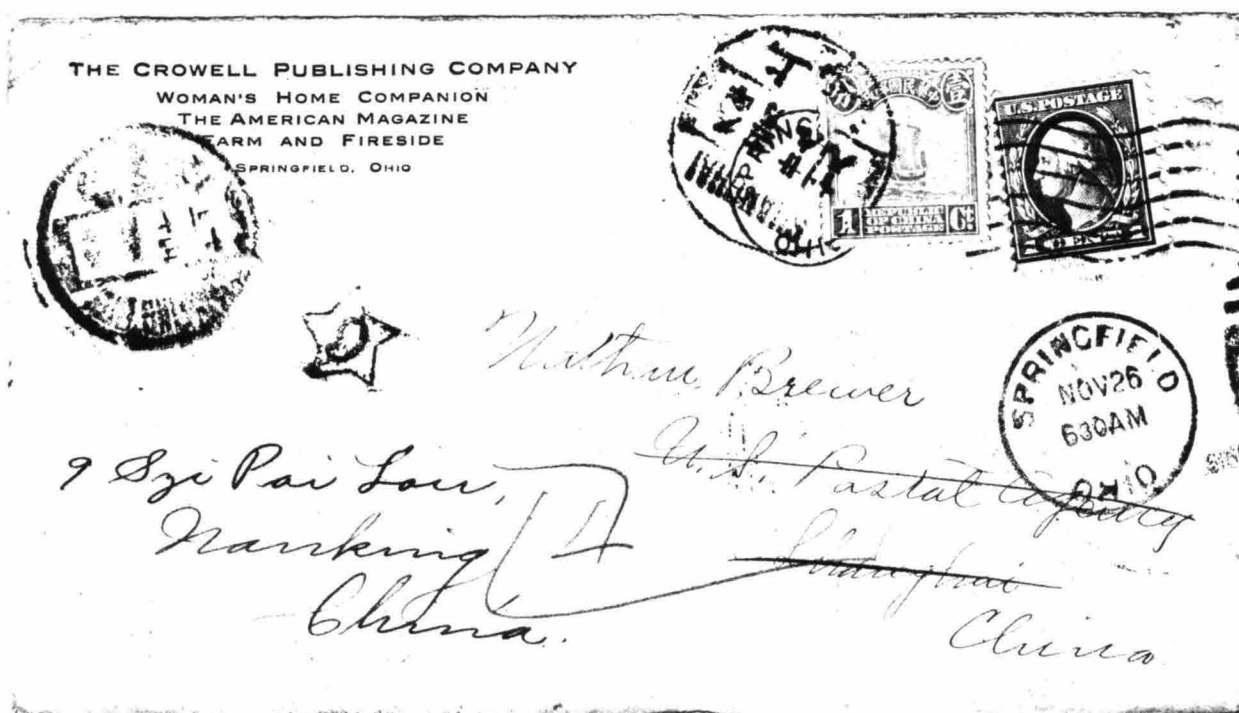
To Canada, 1909, 2¢ postage plus 10¢ registry



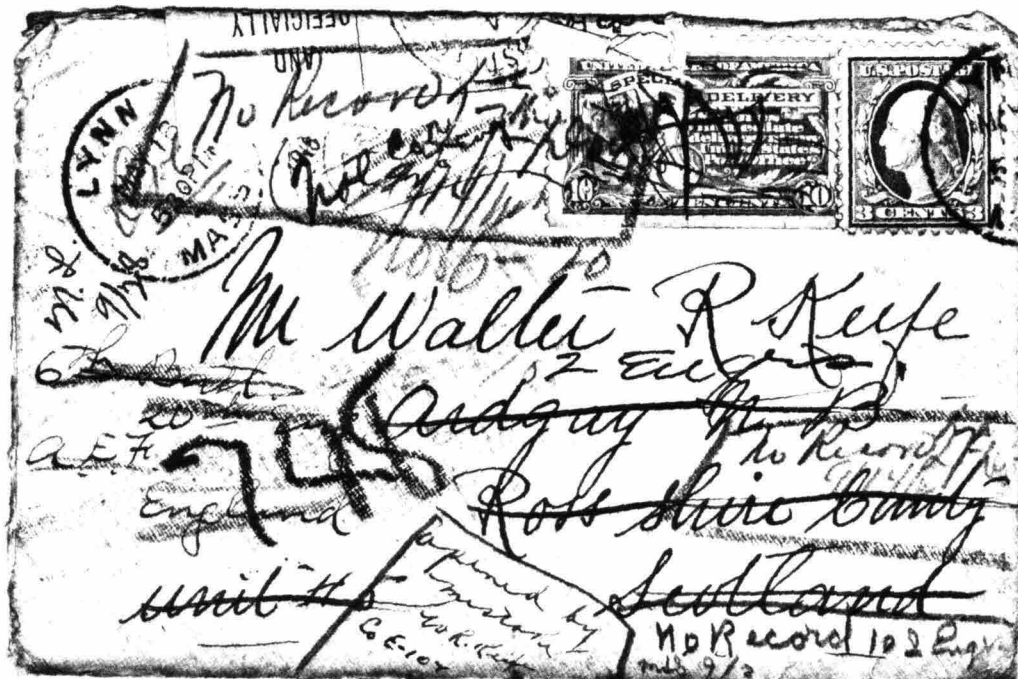
To Canada, 1925. 78¢ in stamps on letter used as a label, paid for 70¢ postage for a 5 lb. package at 14¢ per pound, plus 8¢ for \$25.00 insurance. U.S. regulations permitted insurance only on packages destined for "....Canada, Great Britain and Northern Ireland."



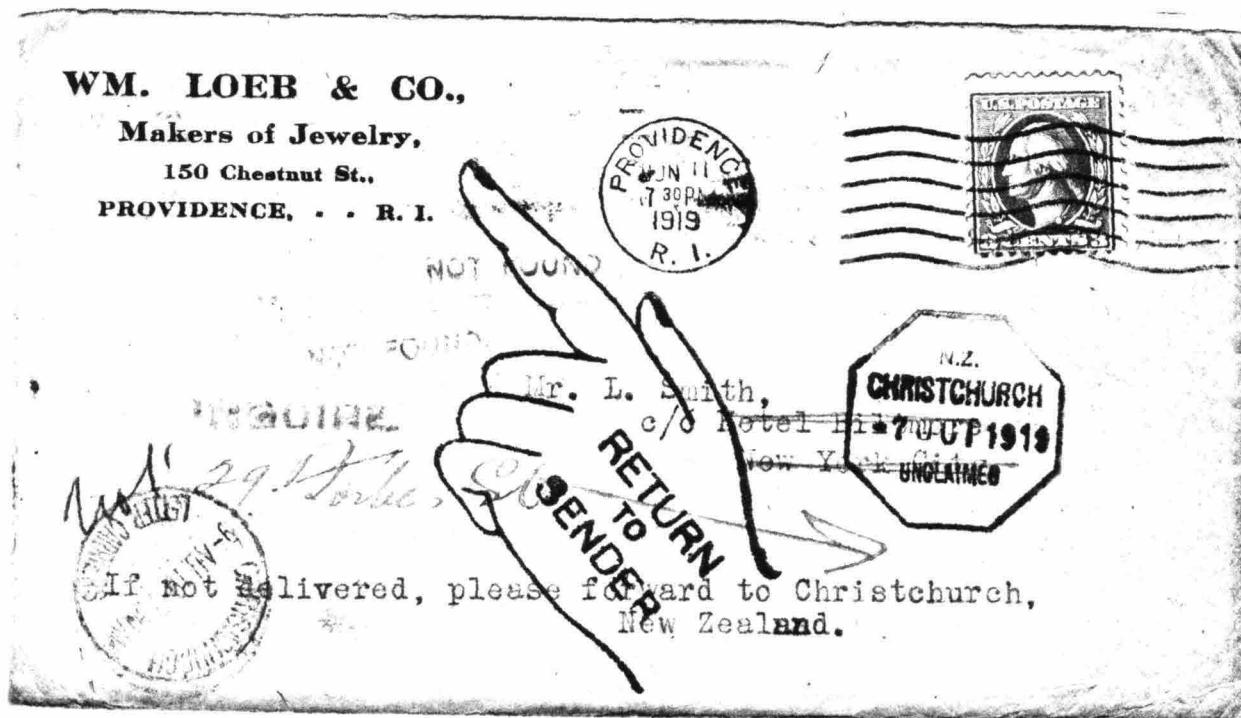
To Mexico, December 1909, 1¢ domestic post card rate



To U.S. Postal Agency at Shanghai. 1919. 1¢ domestic third class rate applied. Chinese postage added for forwarding.

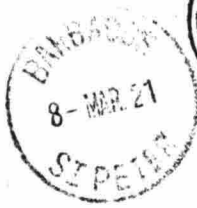


To Scotland, 1918. 3¢ war rate by treaty. Special Delivery requested, but not provided. This service could not be prepaid with U.S. stamps.



To New Zealand, 1919. Domestic war rate applied by treaty.

Ernest A. Bigelow
15 William Street, New York



*Ans
Mann 7.*

Mrs. Minnie Gray Bowen,
~~Haywoods, St. Peter's Parish,~~
Barbados, B.W.I.

521 Marine Hotel

Hasting ch. church

To Barbados, 1921. 2¢ treaty rate applied.



Herrn Dr. Julius Ed. Linke,

Grossröhrsdorf, Kg. Sachsen,

Germany.

To Germany, 1911. 2¢ treaty rate applied only if sent via steamer directly to a German port.

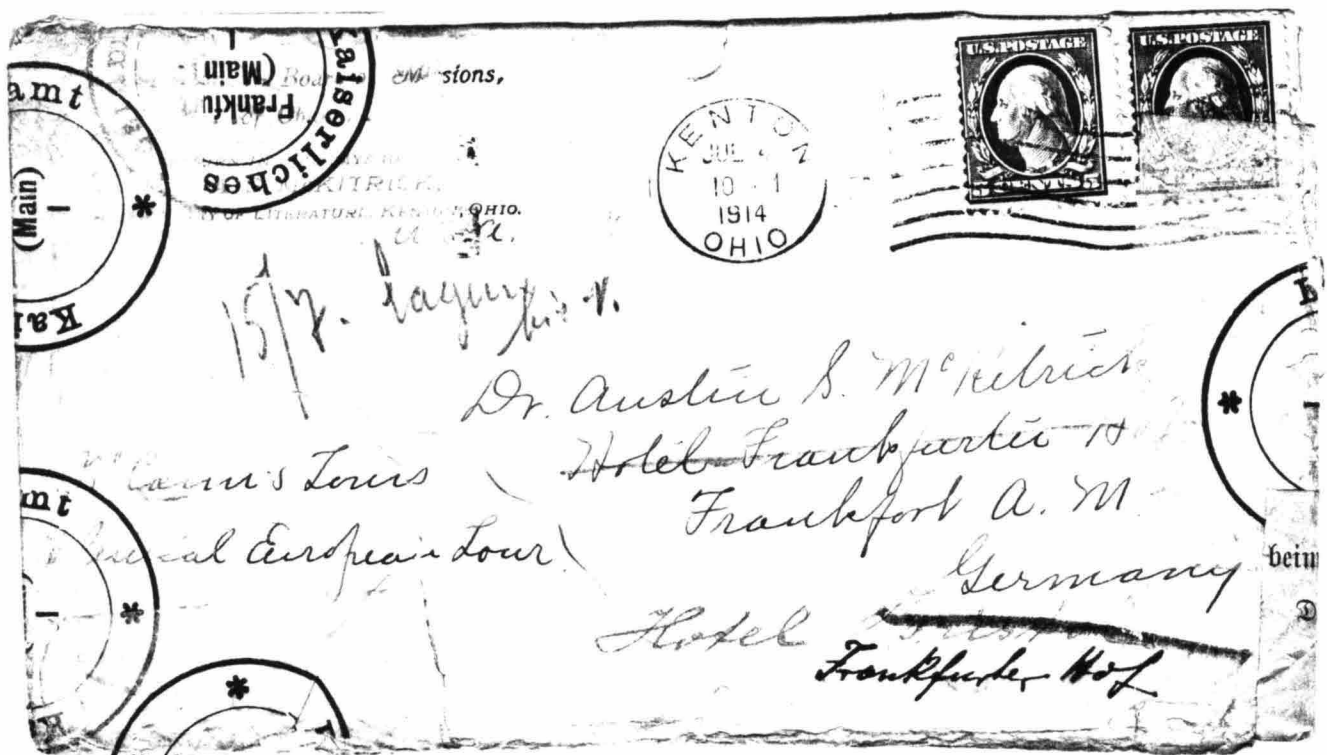
After 5 days, return to
EMIL WATERMAN,
255 California St.,
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

via Holland steamship

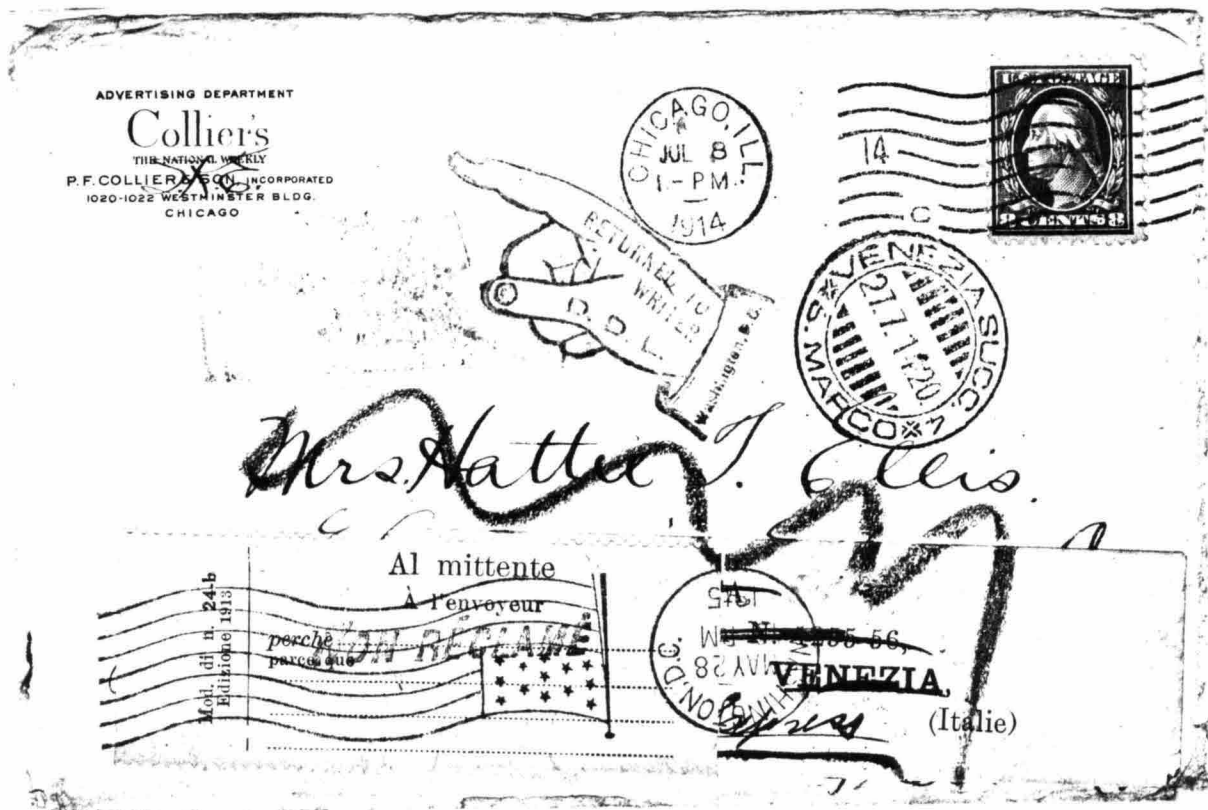


From
Germany
Hirschkind
Baiersdorf
of Erlangen
Bayern

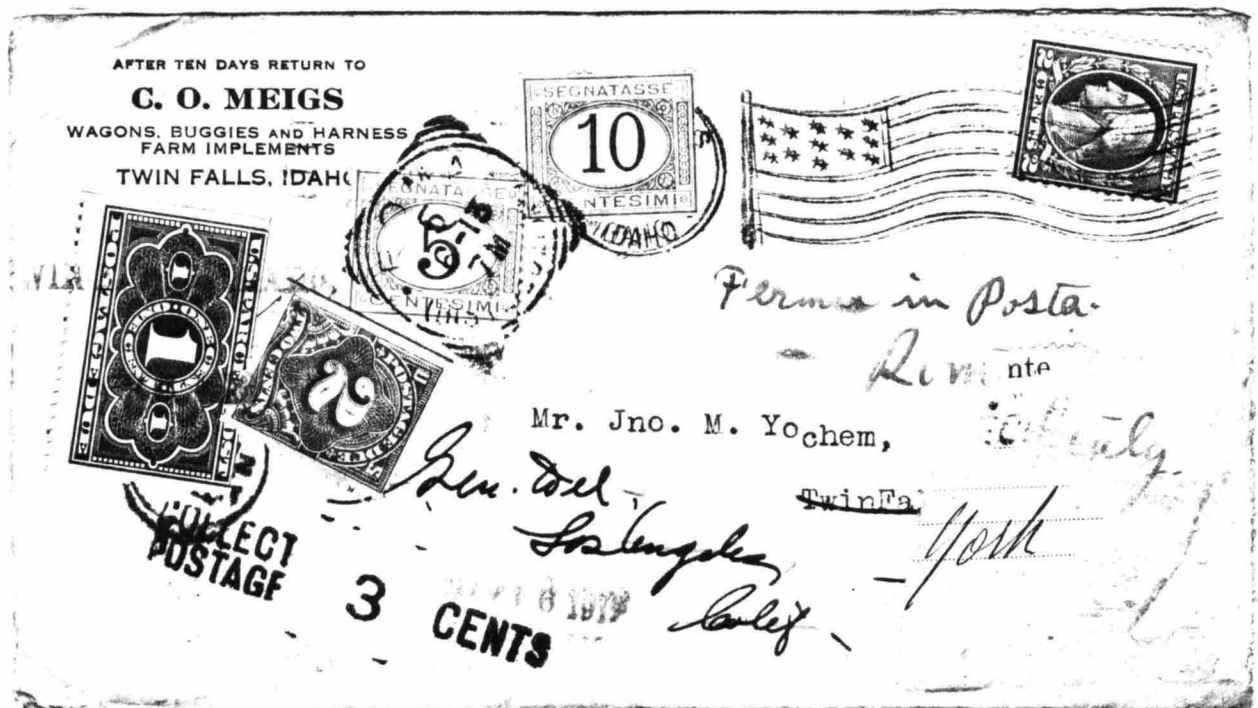
To Germany, 1915. UPU rate applied if specific directions were given as to routing. If UPU rate were paid and no specific directions were given, mail was sent by the fastest means available.



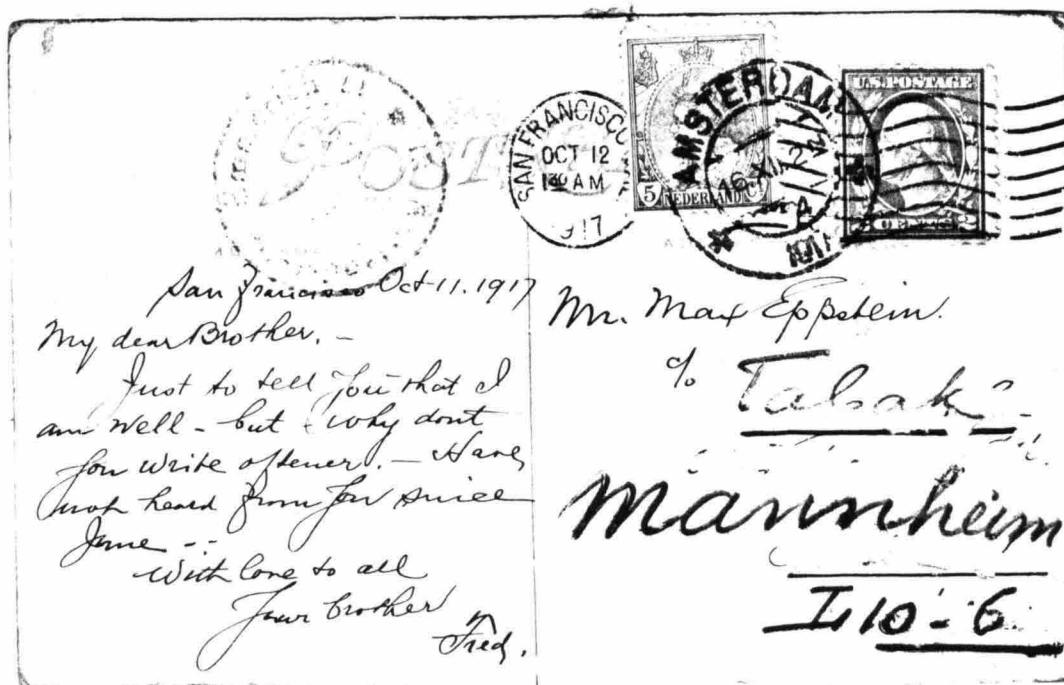
To Germany, July 4, 1914. Double weight. UPU rate of 5¢ for first ounce and 3¢ for each additional ounce applied. Overpaid due to confusion in rates. Mailed at start of World War I. Official seals used by censors.



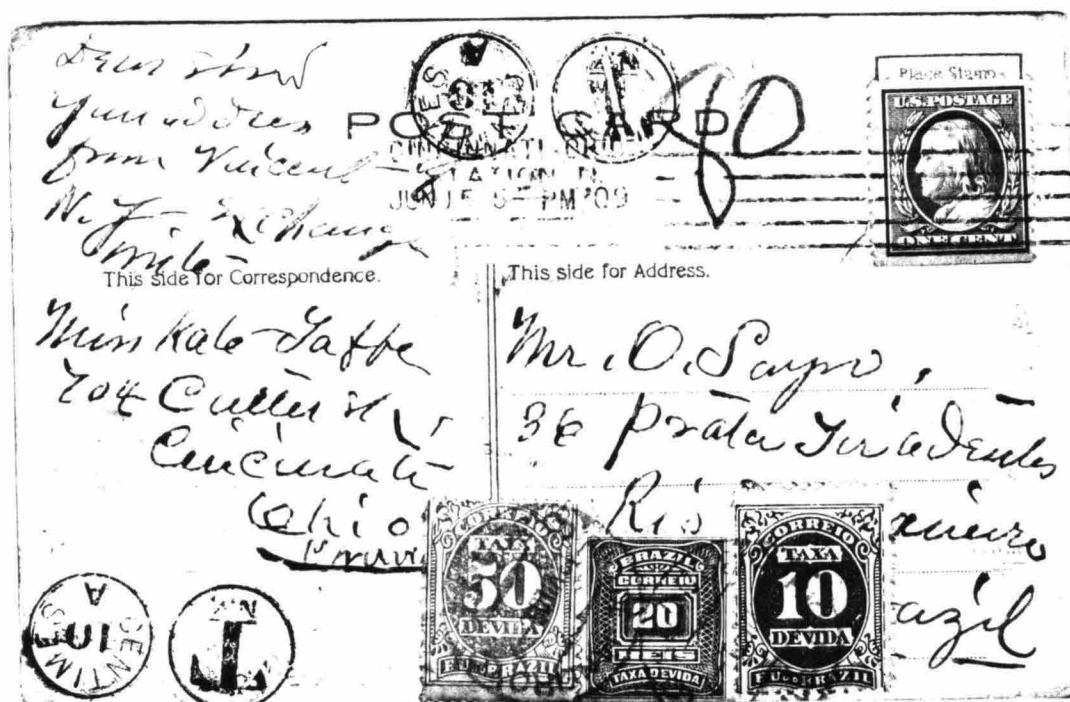
To Italy, 1914. Forwarded by American Express. Properly paid at 8¢ for double weight.



Sent in 1913 from Twin Falls, Idaho, to Twin Falls, Idaho. Forwarded to Los Angeles and then on to Rome, where the equivalent of 3¢ postage due was added, since UPU rates applied once overseas. Since there was no additional postage due as a result of forwarding, only the 3¢ was collected when the cover was returned to the United States.



To Holland, 1917. 2¢ UPU post card rate applied. Card was actually received by the addressee, so Dutch postage was added to forward to Germany.



To Brazil, 1909. 2¢ UPU post card rate applied. Underpaid. The 80 reis in postage due reflected the 1¢ deficiency, plus 1¢ penalty for underfranking. Rules stated that double the deficiency had to be paid if mail had initially been underpaid for service requested.

Gerstendorfer Bros.

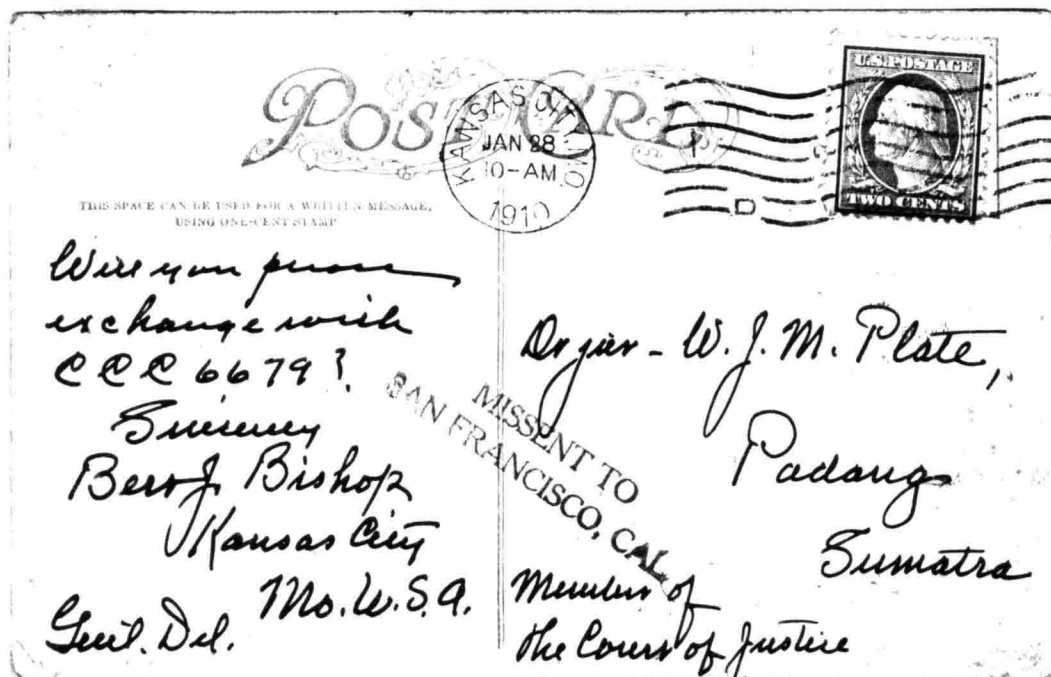
231-235 E. 42nd St.
New York, U. S. A.



P. C. FABRICIUS

APIA SAMOA

To German Samoa. Correct postage of 1¢ for two ounces of third class matter.

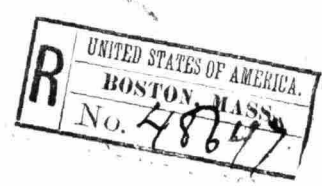


To Sumatra, 1910. 2¢ UPU post card rate applied. Should have been sent to Seattle for the next steamer out, instead of San Francisco.

Return Receipt Demanded



J. Ashby, Serg't.
48641
St. Andrews Pks.



Malta
Europe

To Malta, 1909. 16¢ (1¢ on reverse) paid 8¢ double weight UPU postage, plus 8¢ registry fee.

THIS SPACE FOR WRITING MESSAGES



POST CARD

THIS SPACE FOR ADDRESS ONLY

Arthur V. Agilive
Surva
Fiji Islands



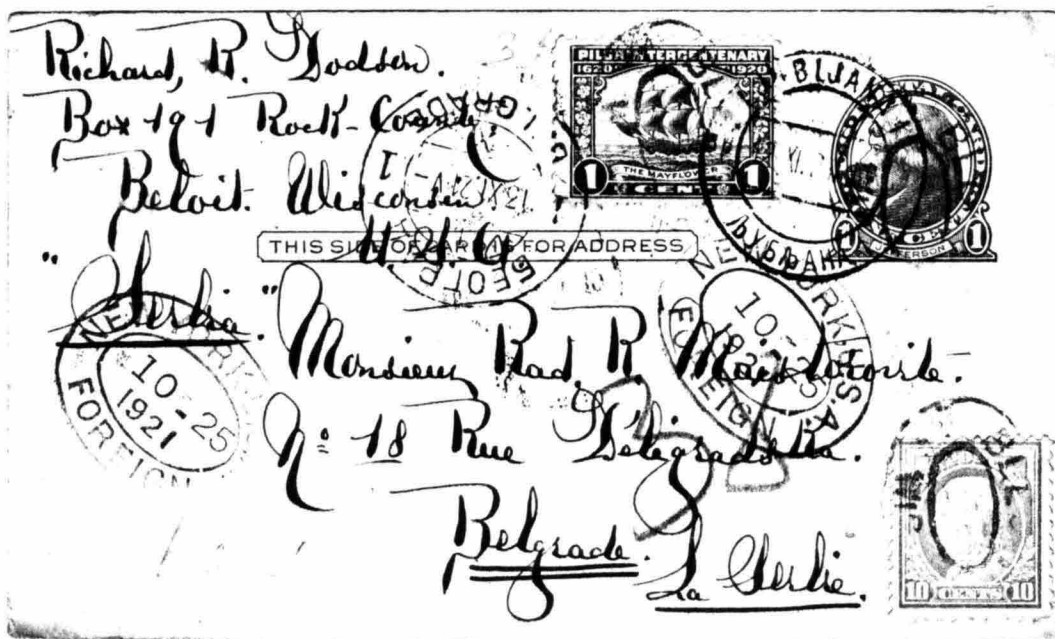
Mr. A. N. Sale
Kinshasa
Congo, Belge
Foriniere
Fairs, Quinze
J. B.



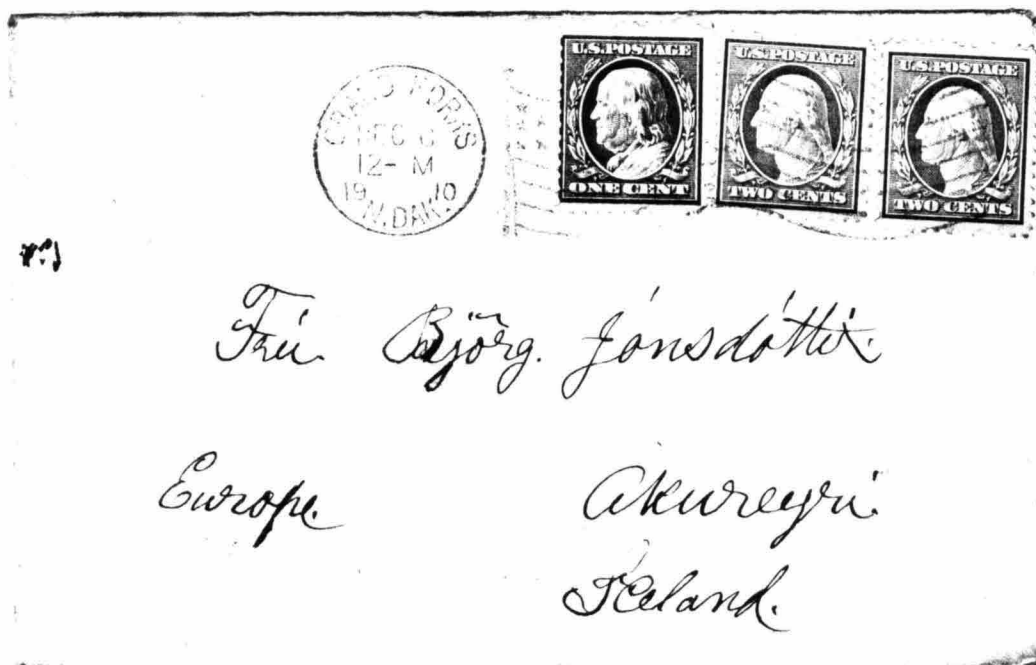
Jan
me a
from
buler
again
see be
have
sed to
ma/-e
Ceele
J. B. W.
quiffy
but has
en for

THIS SPACE FOR THE ADDRESS.

To the Fiji Islands, 1909, and the Belgian Congo, 1911. 2¢ UPU post card rate applied to both.



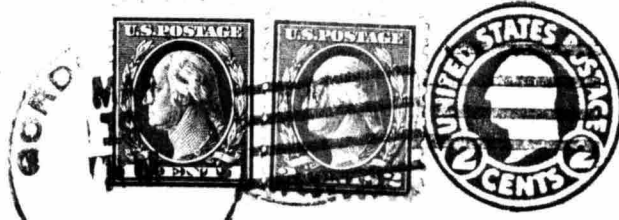
To Yugoslavia, 1921. 12¢ paid 2¢ UPU postcard rate plus 10¢ registry



To Iceland, 1910. 5¢ UPU rate applied.

SERVICE SUSPENDED

*Mr. H. Lufkes,
Gordonville, Mo.
U. S. A.*



Herrn Dirk Martens.

Wisdom, Aland.

Mail service suspended
to country addressed

Ostfriesland,

Germany.

To Germany, March 19, 1917. Although the United States did not declare war on Germany until April 6, 1917, we had broken diplomatic relations on February 3, 1917. This letter was thus stopped in New York and returned to sender.

IF NOT DELIVERED IN 5 DAYS, RETURN TO
REV. W. H. ROBERTS, D.D.
WITHERSPOON BUILDING
1319 WALNUT ST.
PHILADELPHIA, PA.



UNDELIVERABLE

L.P.S.

REV. F. D. P. HICKMAN
BATANGA KAMERUN C.
AMERICAN MISSION
W. AFRICA

To the German Cameroons, 1914. Mail sent there went through London and the British Post Office in Nigeria. Since Britain was at war with Germany, the letter was stopped at London, censored and returned.

POST OFFICE, NEW YORK, N. Y.

Returned to sender for the reason that service is suspended. There are no means available for transmission of the article to destination.



Miss Yudela Kaplan,
Ekaterinaslav, Ukraine.

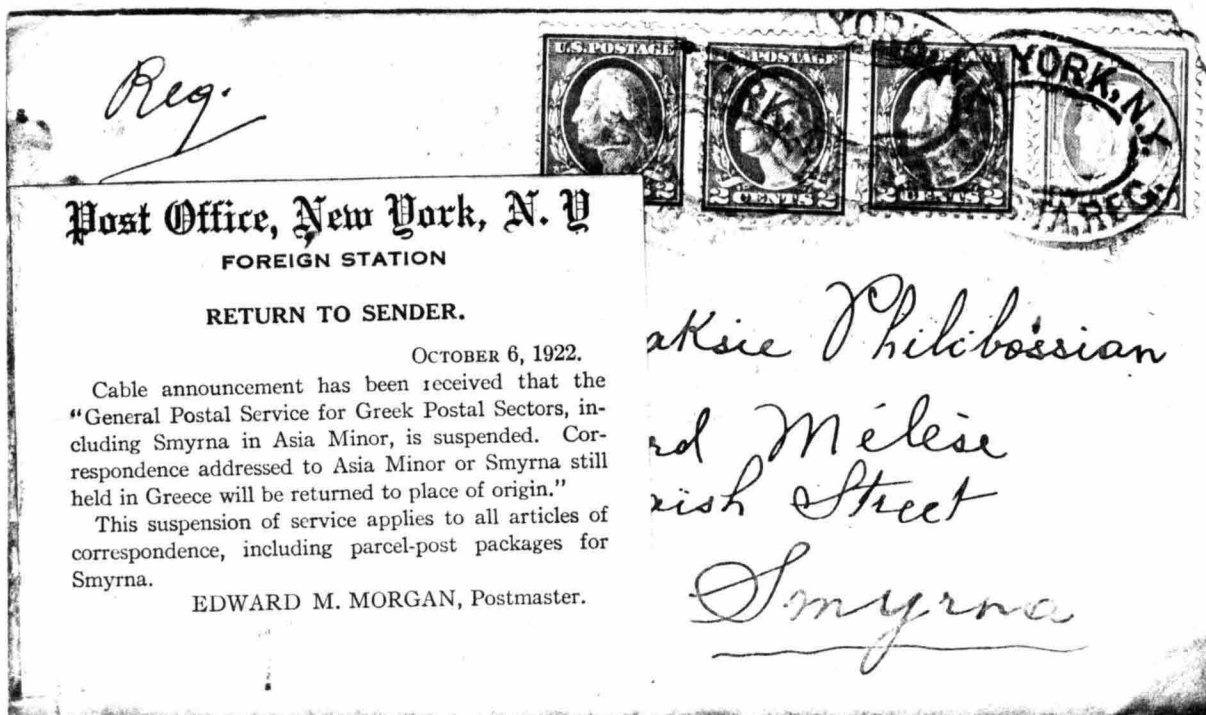
FROM
REMAK & EICHHOLZ
360 BULLITT BUILDING
PHILADELPHIA

To the Ukraine, 1920. There was no mail service to the Ukraine in 1920 because of the counterrevolution of the White Russians against the Bolsheviks. Mail was returned from New York.

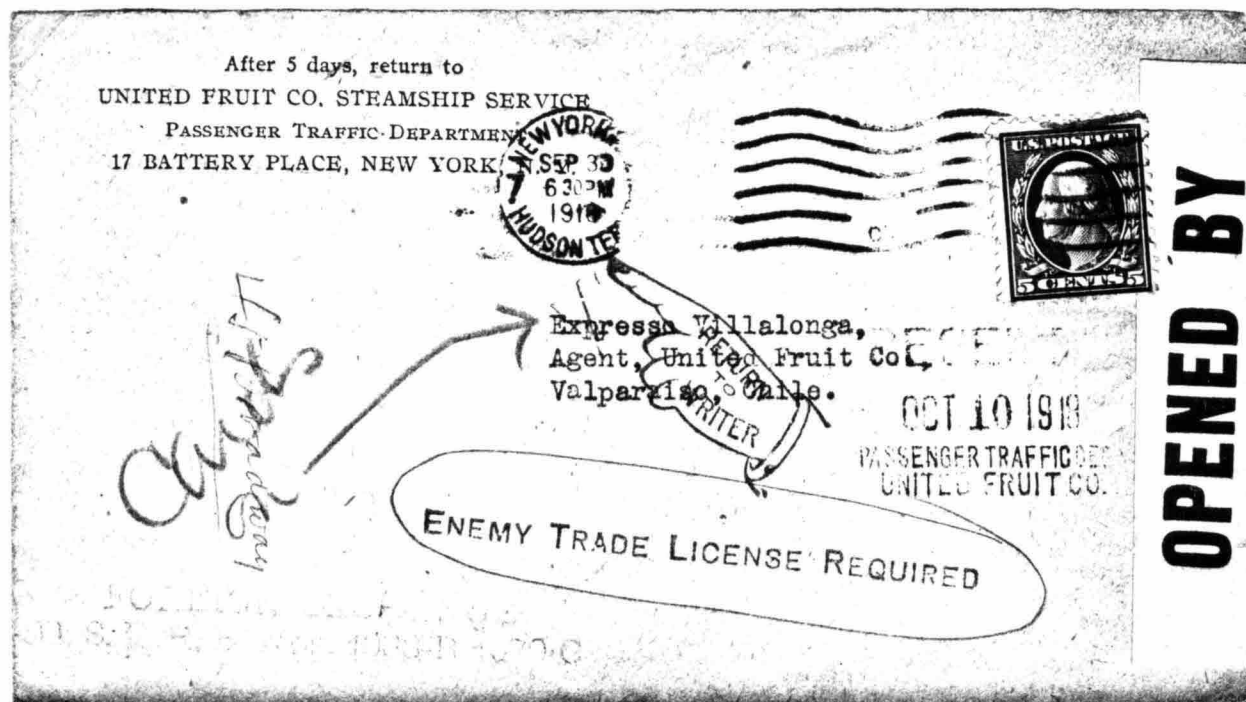
This letter is returned, as being destined to enemy territory, in contravention of the Enemy Trading Law.- Upon application to a local Chapter of the Red Cross and full compliance with its directions, the Bureau of Communication of the American Red Cross, Washington, D.C., is prepared to transmit messages to relatives and friends in enemy countries, provided mention of matters of financial, political or public interest is avoided.



To Petrograd, Russia, 1918. The Russians had withdrawn from World War I, and the British occupied Archangel. No mail was transmitted from there into Bolshevik controlled Russia. Censored in New York and returned.



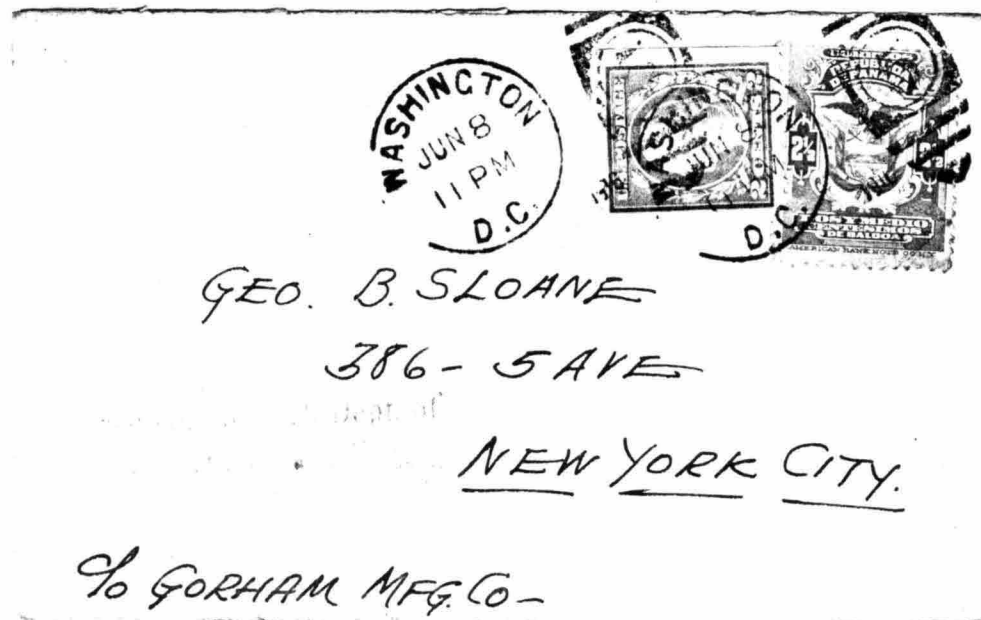
To Smyrna, Turkey, August 1922. Because of internal unrest in Turkey, mail service was temporarily suspended in mid-summer 1922. The New York Post Office held mail for Smyrna until the suspension became official on October 6, 1922, then returned it to senders.



To Chile, 1918. Although Chile was allegedly neutral in World War I, the United States suspected that she was aiding the Central Powers, so special approvals were required to forward mail there. This letter was sent without the required license information being properly indicated, so the letter was returned.

DIPLOMATIC POUCH MAIL

As a courtesy, diplomats could and frequently did, send their personal mail via diplomatic pouch. Regulations stated that it had to be franked with appropriate postage of either the country of origin or the country of destination, if it went through the State Department in Washington. If, however, it was sent to a Consulate and required forwarding, postage of both countries was necessary.

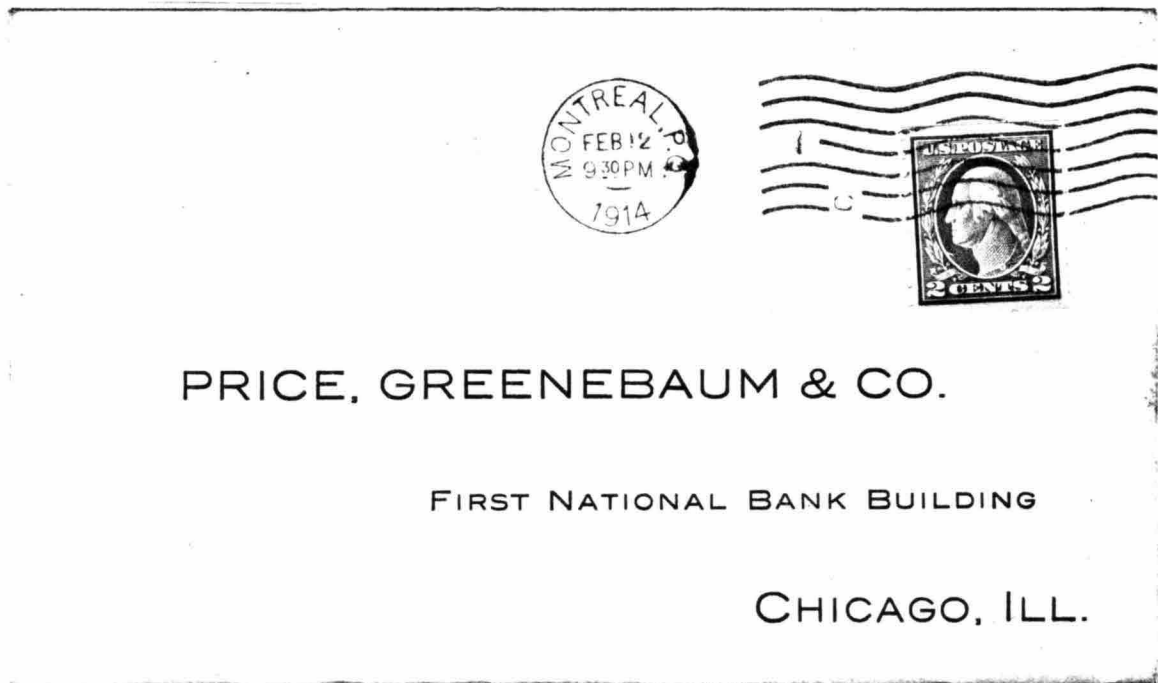


Sent to New York via the State Department in Washington. Either stamp would have paid the postage.

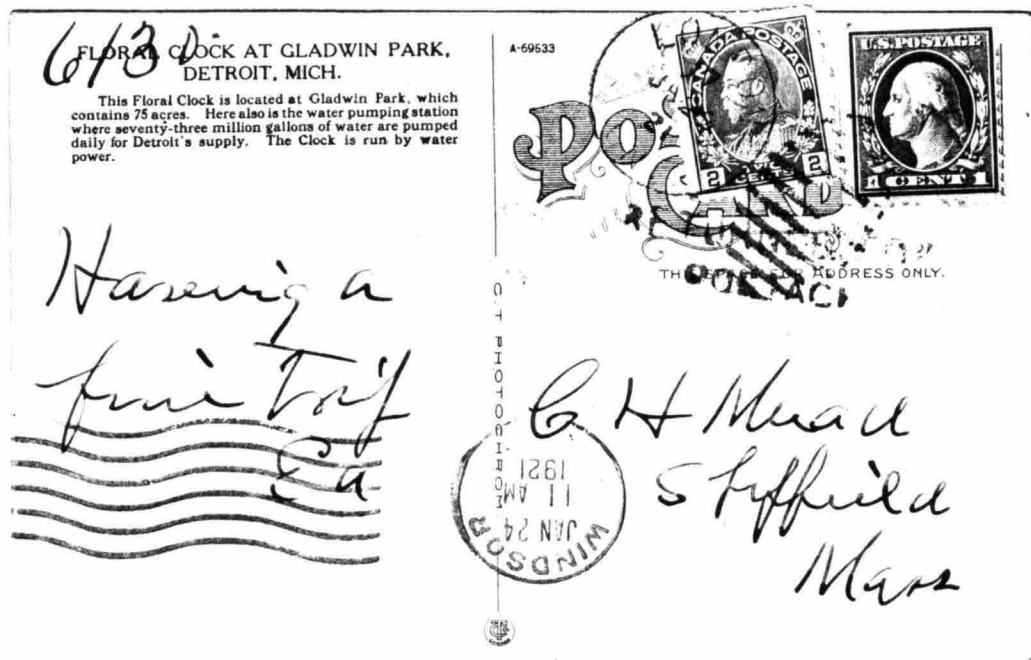


Sent to Michigan via the Czechoslovakian Consulate in New York, so postage of both countries was required.

UNAUTHORIZED USAGES ABROAD



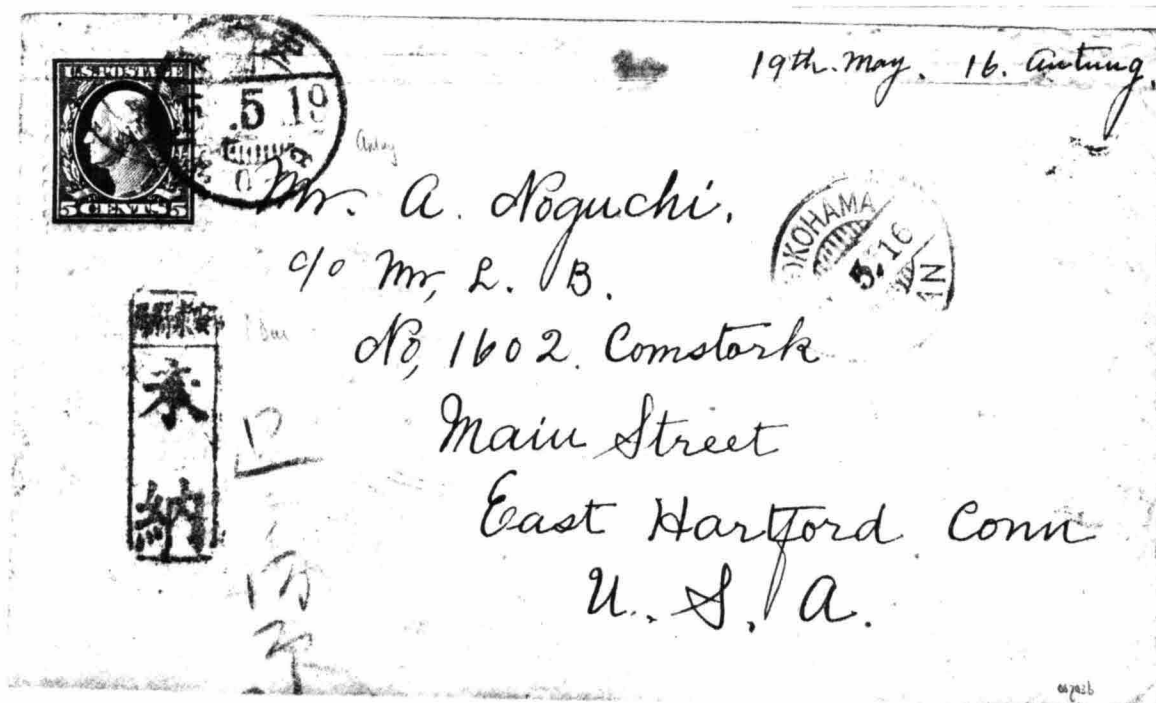
From Canada to U.S. - U.S. stamp accepted at Montreal



From Canada to U.S. - U.S. stamp not accepted at Windsor, Ontario.
Held for postage at the Dead Letter Office at London, Ontario.

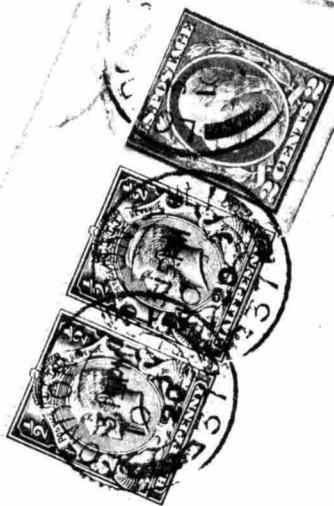


Within Switzerland - a previously used U.S. stamp accepted at Signau to pay postage within the Swiss mail system

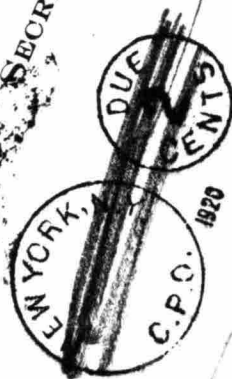


From China to U.S. - U.S. stamps apparently not accepted by the Japanese Post Office at Antung, China. Marked due, but not collected. Forwarded to the U.S via Yokohama, Japan.

From England to U.S.- sender attempted to pay a double weight one penny rate to the U.S. with a combination of British and U.S. stamps. The British Post Office did not accept the U.S. stamp and marked it due.



PROF. JOS. W. RICHARDS,
SECRETARY: AMERICAN ELECTROCHEMICAL SOCIETY,
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY,
SOUTH BETHLEHEM, PA.,
U. S. AMERICA.



The New York Post Office responded to the British due marking by stamping it Due 2 Cents (1 penny), then accepted the 2¢ stamp to pay the postage due.

SEA POSTS

Certain shipping companies, under treaty or contract or both, had authorized U.S. Postal Agents on board their ships, which functioned as seaposts, branches of the U.S. Postal Service, to collect, cancel and forward mail prefranked with U.S. stamps. Postage normally was charged at the rate that would apply if the letter were mailed at the next port of call.

UNITED STATES SEA POST

POST CARD. CARTE POSTALE

Universal Postal Union

"On the sea!"

May 14, 1909. *Dear Mr. Martin: I have heard of you! This is a picture of the boat on which I am sailing. I have had a pleasant trip. I am so far away from home. I hope you will like it. I am with you again soon. Much love to all. Alice.*

For INLAND Postage this space may be used for communications.

The Address only to be written here.

*Mr. Martin Heyland
1516 - 9 Ave. So.
Minneapolis,
Minn.
U.S.A.*

*U.S. POSTAGE
TWO CENTS*

UNITED STATES
MAY 15
1909
SEA POST

Mailed on board the SS Philadelphia, enroute from New York to Southampton, England. 2¢ post card rate applied to the U.S.

JAPAN SEA POST

Published by the Island Curio Co., Jas Steiner, Honolulu, Jan 6-1913

CARTE POSTALE POSTAL CARD

Private Mailing Card

CORRESPONDENCE SPACE SPACE FOR THE ADDRESS

Dearst Lieber,

We arrive at the Island tomorrow at 7 A.M. so far every thing has been delightful. I'm getting to be quite a sailor although we have had a number of sick folks here. It all, however, goes

Mrs. C. L. Whipple,
622 Westlake Ave.
Los Angeles Cal.

U.S. POSTAGE 1 CENT

SEA POST

On board the Tenyo Maru, enroute from San Francisco to Honolulu, Hawaii. 1¢ U.S. domestic post card rate applied back to the mainland.

ITALIAN SEA POST

Can sending these cards to friends is quite easy, as I don't get them with any trouble. I write, sign and seal them in envelopes and then put them in the box. I'm sure you will be able to do it. I'm sure you will be able to do it.

Mrs. H. C. Hill
847 West End Avenue
New York, N.Y.
U. S. A.

U.S. POSTAGE 1 CENT

ITALIAN SEA POST

8462 Edit. Brunner & C., Como

On board the Conte Verda, enroute from Naples, Italy to New York. 1¢ U.S. domestic rate applied to U.S.

CONTROL POSTAL MILITAIRE

ANDRE L. CAUSSE,
109 HUDSON STREET,
NEW YORK.

Monsieur
Charles Saurel
10 rue du Mont de Châlon
Paris

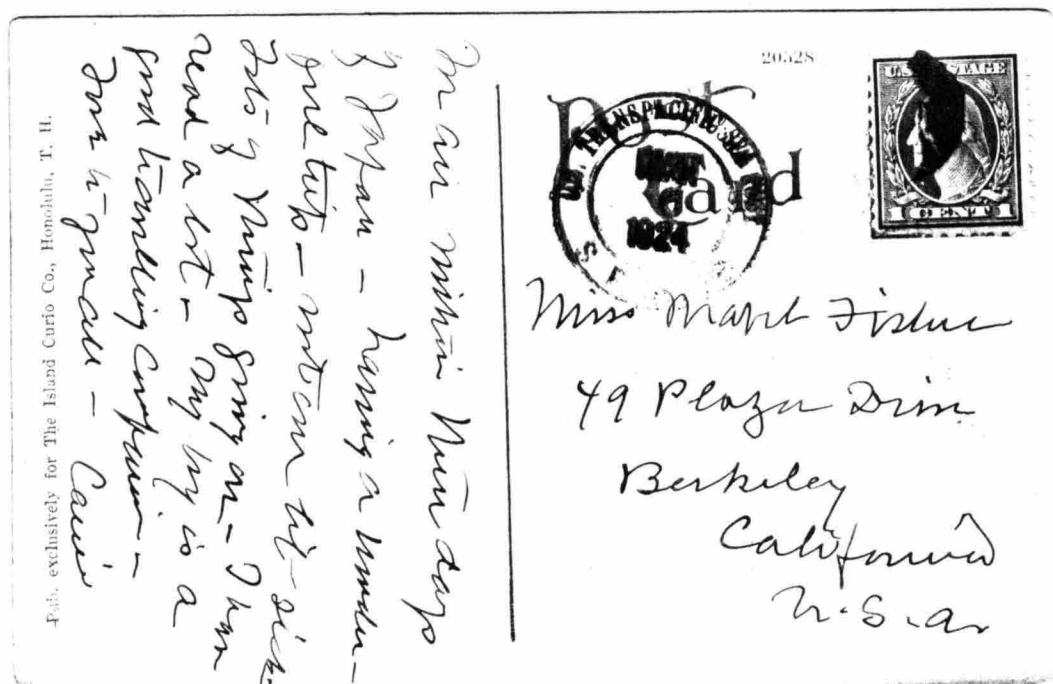
382

382

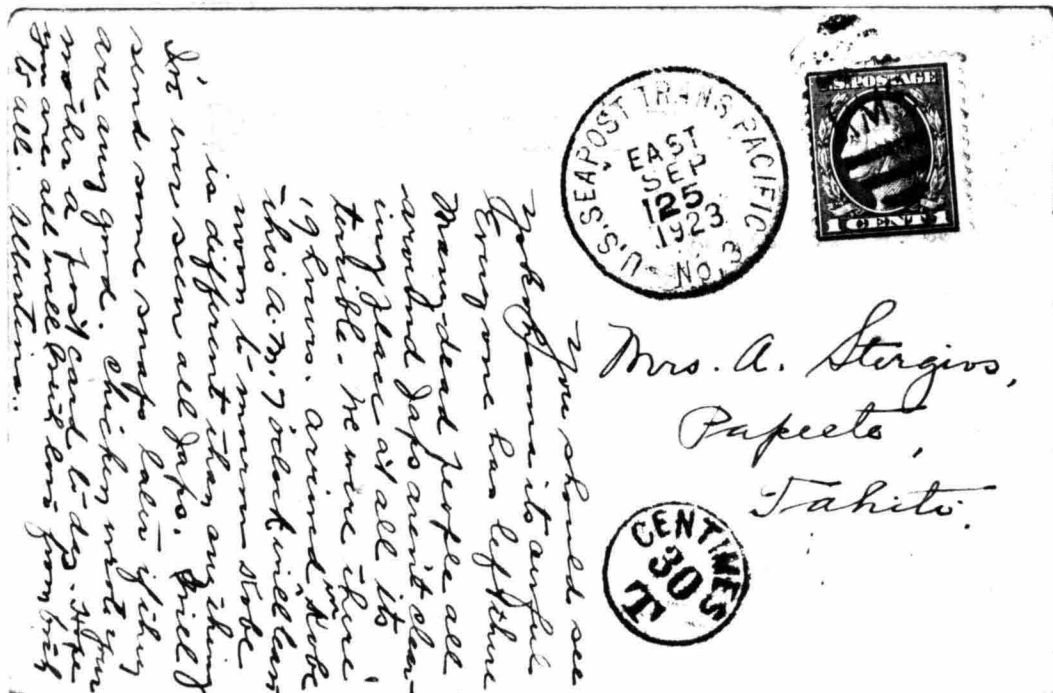
Charles Saurel,
~~10 rue du Mont de Châlon,~~
~~Nîmes (Gard) France~~

~~chez M. Alfred Nogier.~~
Prière faire suivre

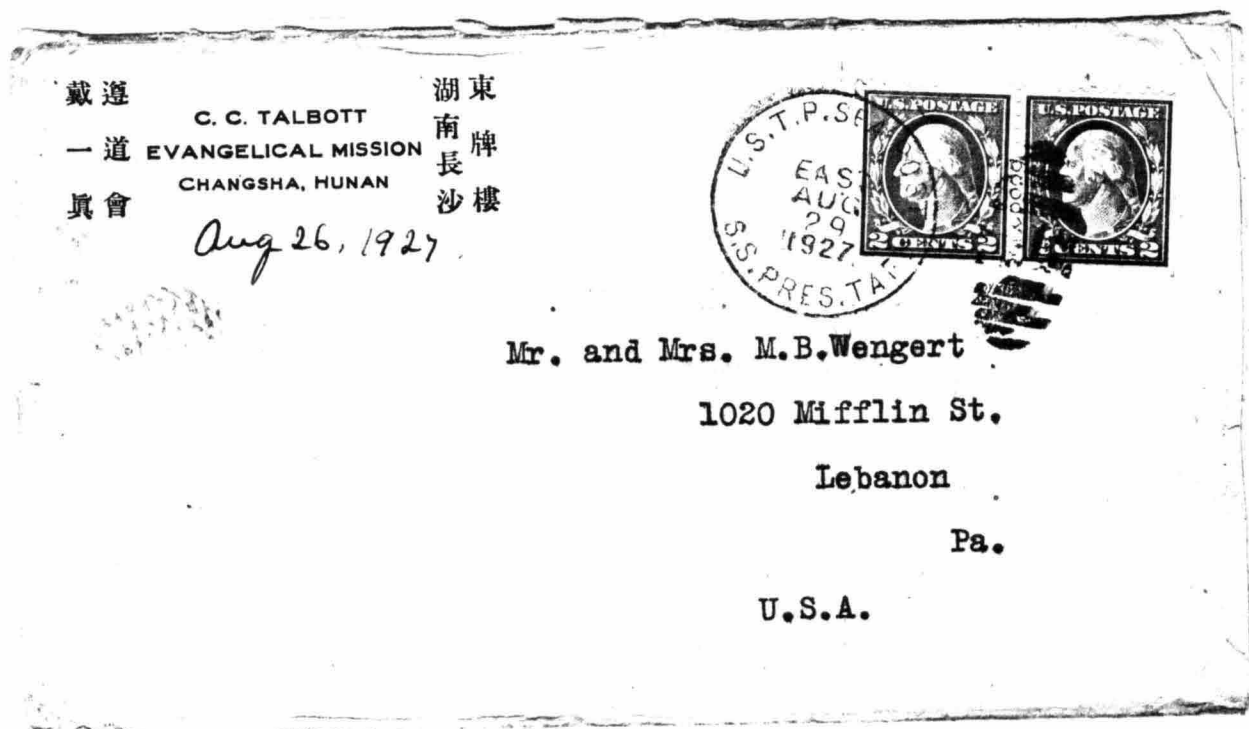
U.S. TRANSPACIFIC SEA POST



Enroute from Honolulu, Hawaii, to San Francisco. 1¢ U.S. domestic post card rate applied. Mailed to U.S.



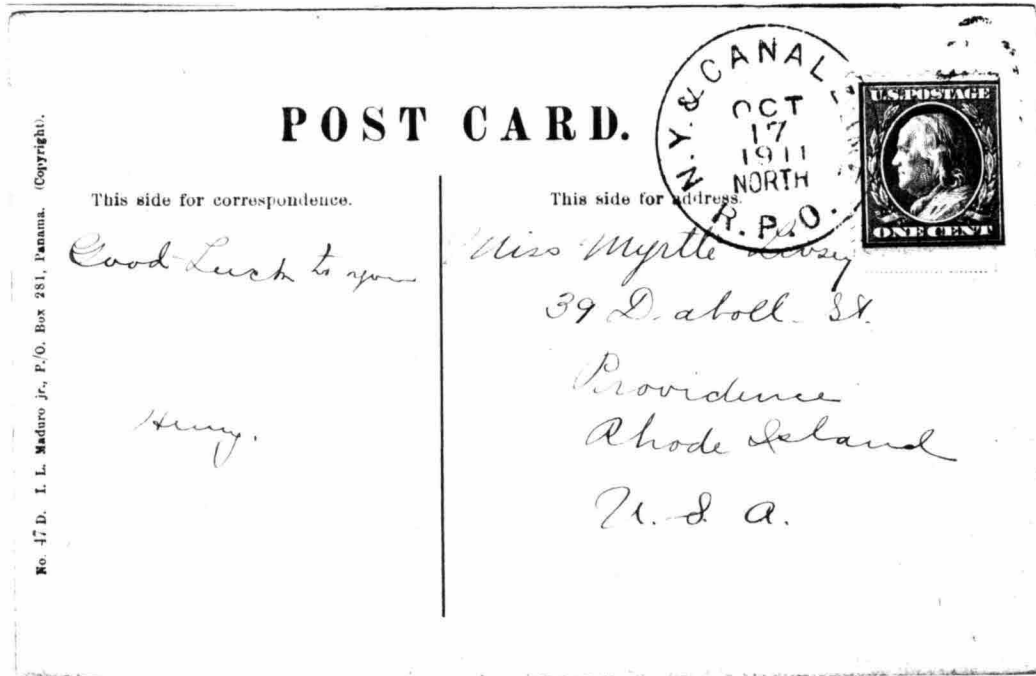
Enroute from Yokohama, Japan, to Nagasaki, Japan. Mailed to Tahiti. 2¢ UPU post card rate applied. Underpaid. Marked due.



On board the SS President Taft, enroute from Shanghai, China, to Honolulu, Hawaii. Double weight domestic U.S rate applied. To U.S.

N.Y. & CANAL ZONE RPO

The U.S. Post Office authorized the establishment of RPO service on certain U.S. Steamship Lines traveling between New York and the Canal Zone



Canal Zone to Rhode Island, 1¢ domestic post card rate, probably to New York then on to Rhode Island

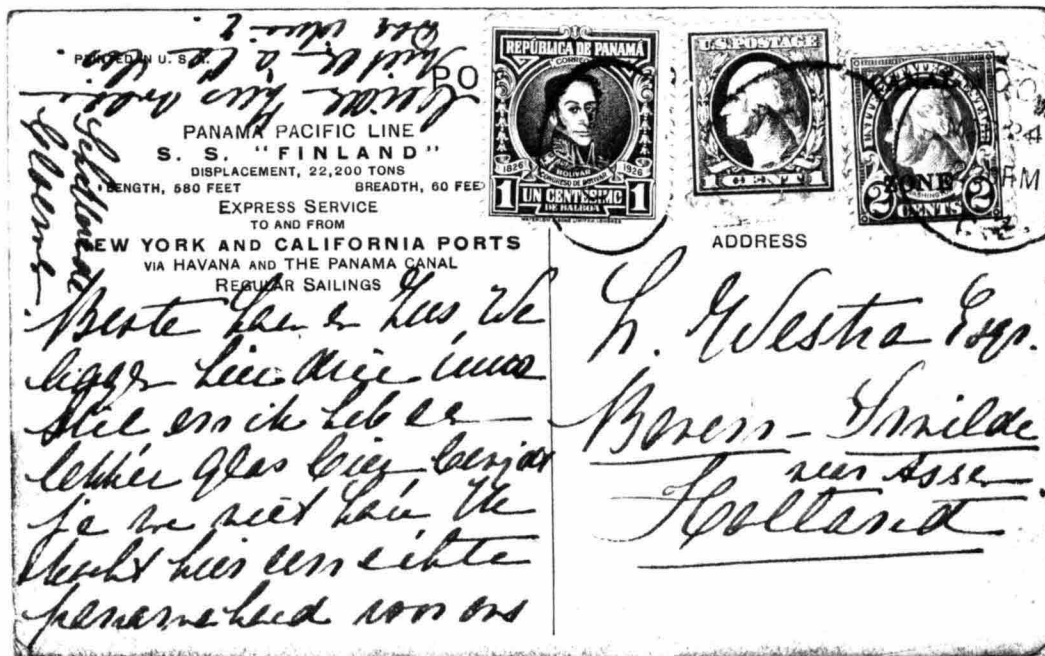


Honduras to Texas, 1¢ domestic post card rate, picked up enroute, and deposited at the first U.S. port of call for transmittal to Texas

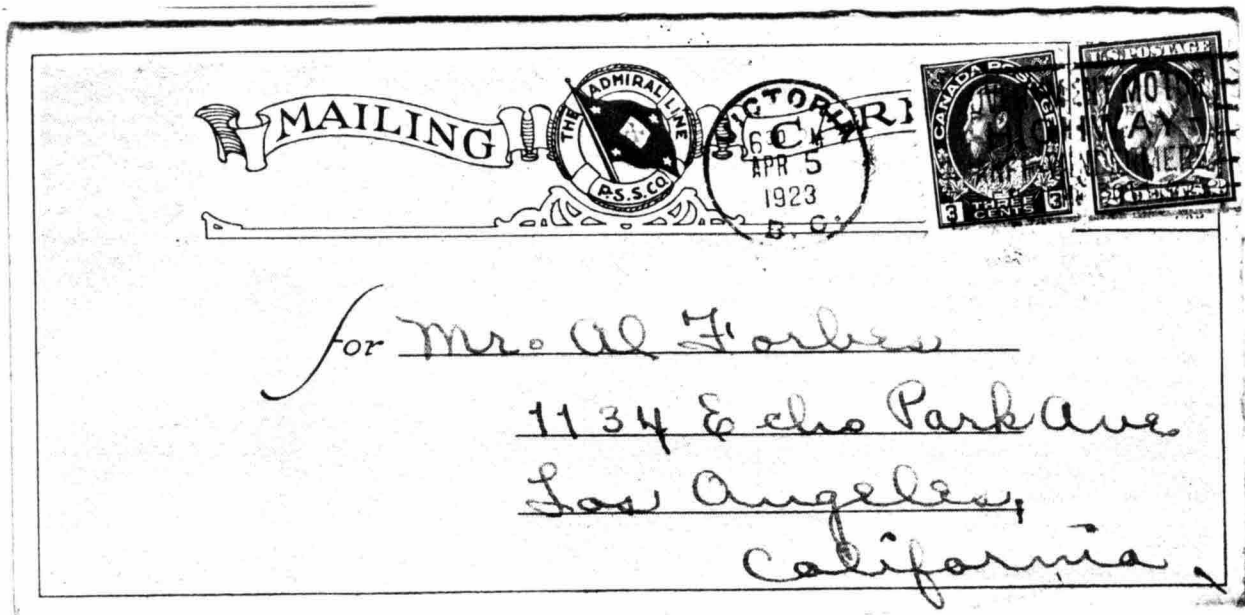
PAQUEBOTS

Under UPU regulations a ship could accept mail on board. It was normally marked "paquebot." The ship could then turn mail over to any postal system for delivery.

Normally stamps used on such mail were those of the country of the ship's registry, but ships would often honor the stamps of the countries of the port of origin and the next port of call. Only the "paquebot" marking was required, but ships' pursers sometimes canceled mail with a distinctive ship's postmark and occasionally omitted the "paquebot" marking or used alternate wording, such as "Posted on the High Seas."

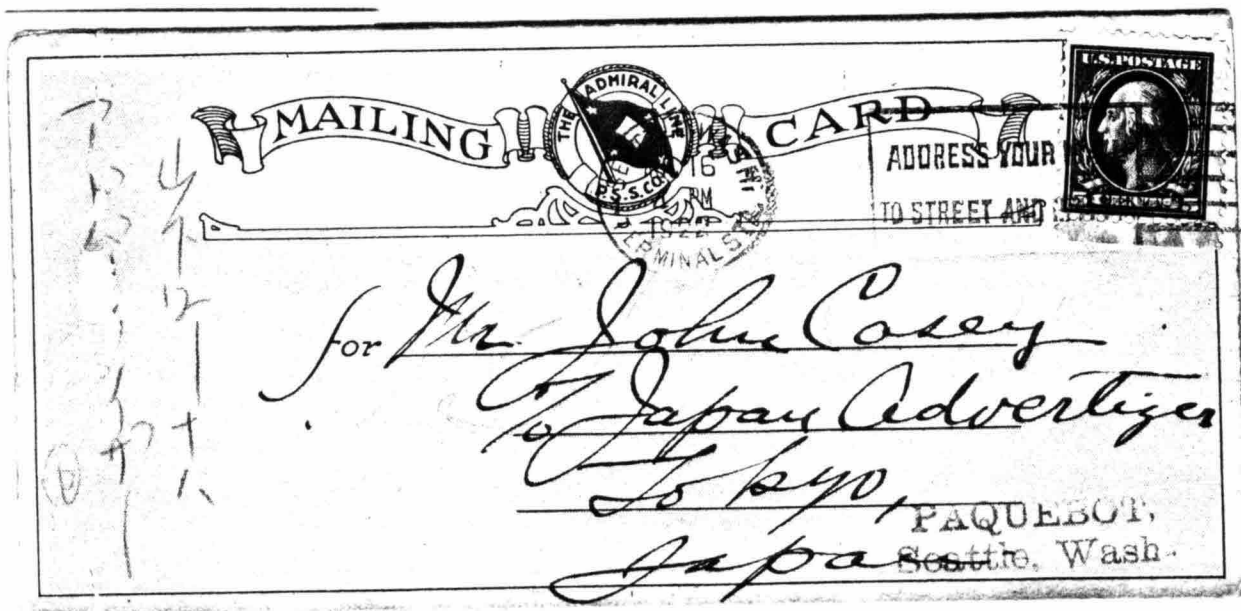


Ship of U.S. registry, the SS Finland, enroute from Panama to the Canal Zone. Franked with stamps of Panama, the Canal Zone and the U.S., paying double the UPU rate to Holland.



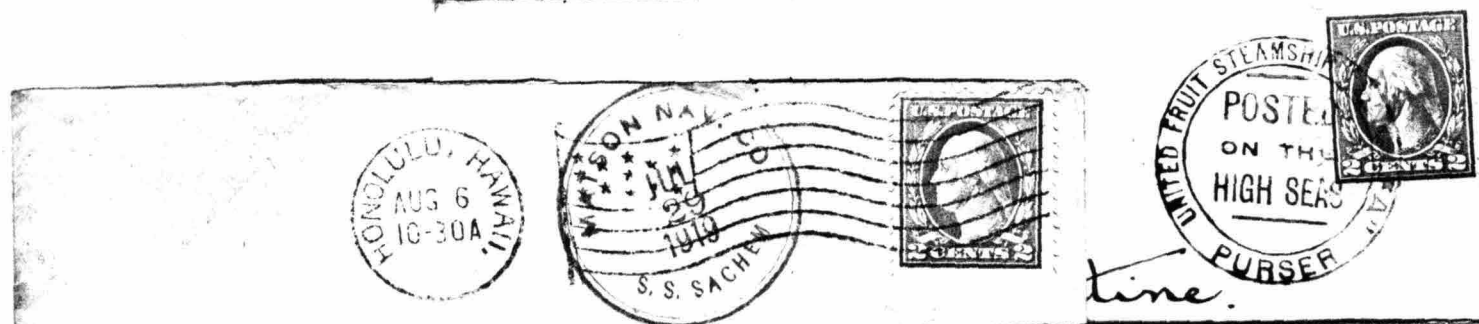
Mailed at sea on board the SS Dorothy Alexander, enroute from San Francisco to Seattle.

Passage through the Juan de Fuca Strait required a Canadian pilot. When the pilot's tug left the ship, it took the paquebot mail with it to Victoria, British Columbia, where it was put into the Canadian Postal System. Overpaid. Treaty with Canada required only the U.S domestic rate which was 2¢.



Mailed at sea on board the SS President Jackson, enroute from Yokohama, Japan, to Seattle.

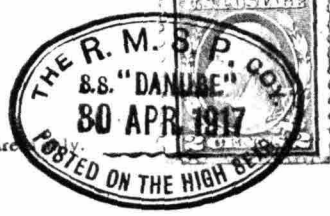
In this instance mail was obviously not taken by the pilot's tug. Received at Seattle, marked "paquebot," and transmitted back to Japan.



FROM: *Dr. L. Wein*
MUNSON STEAMSHIP LINE
S.S. *Republican Club*
AT *54 W. 40th St.*
N.Y.C.



UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE
POST CARD
Jamaica (Jamaïque)



dr. 2nd
let 29"

ORIENTAL NAVIGATION CO.
39 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, N. Y.

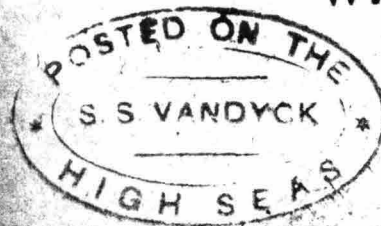
b.g. 1st
2nd
3rd
4th
5th
6th
7th
8th
9th
10th
11th
12th
13th
14th
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100th



SPECIAL DELIVERY



W. T. POLLITZ



24 MILK STREET, (ROOM 707)

BOSTON, MASS.

46st
ork
N.Y.

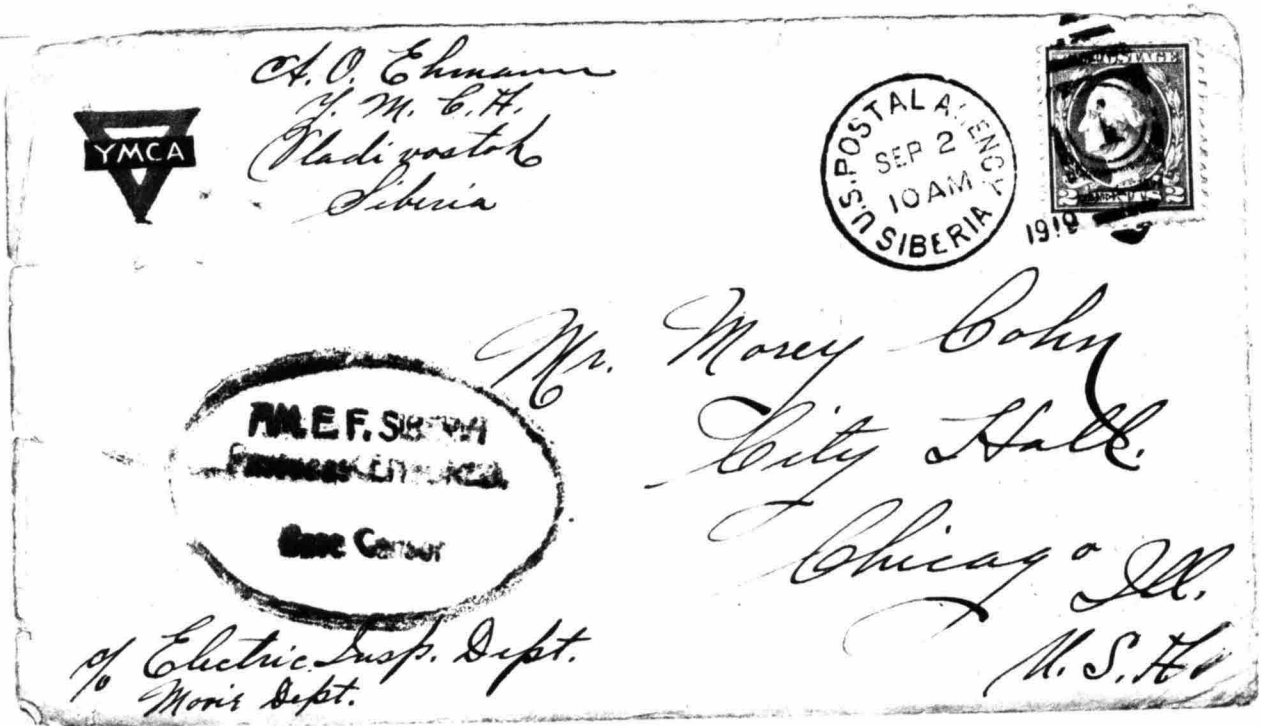
Examples of Purser ship marks

MILITARY INTERVENTIONS

ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE - SIBERIA

In view of the Russian Revolution, President Wilson sent troops to Vladivostok, Siberia, in August 1918 to protect U.S. and Czechoslovakian interests. A postal agency was established shortly thereafter and existed until November, 1922.

Military personnel had free frank privileges, but civilians did not.



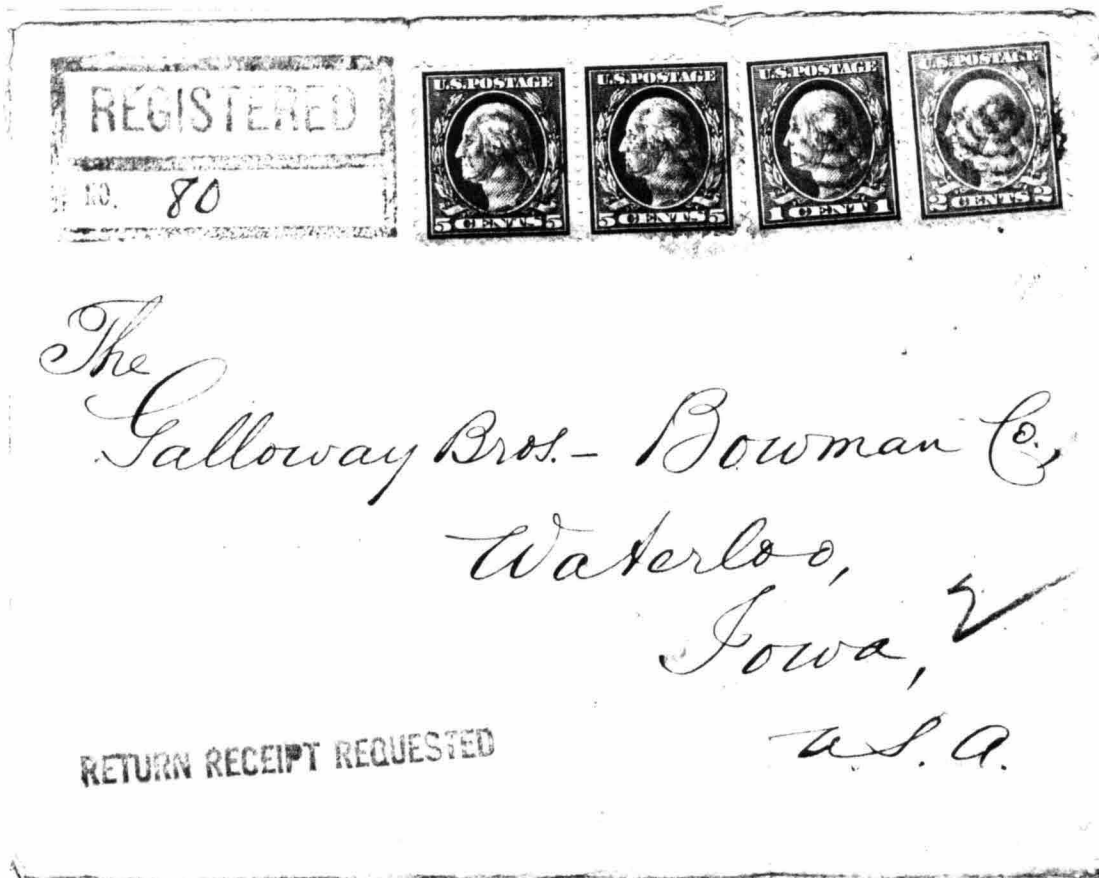
From a YMCA worker

HAITI

On July 28, 1915, U.S. Marines occupied Haiti. A U.S. Post Office, a branch of the New York Post Office, was established and was in use almost until the last U.S. troops were withdrawn in 1934.



Reverse



3¢ war rate plus registry. Port au Prince to U.S.



Mr A. E. Tuttle
1510 Chestnut St.,
Philadelphia, Pa.
U.S.A.

Probably mailed on June 30, 1919, the last day of the 3¢ war rate.
Postmarked July 1, 1919, so overpaid. Port au Prince to U.S.

CENSORED

At King's
~~via July 1, 1919~~



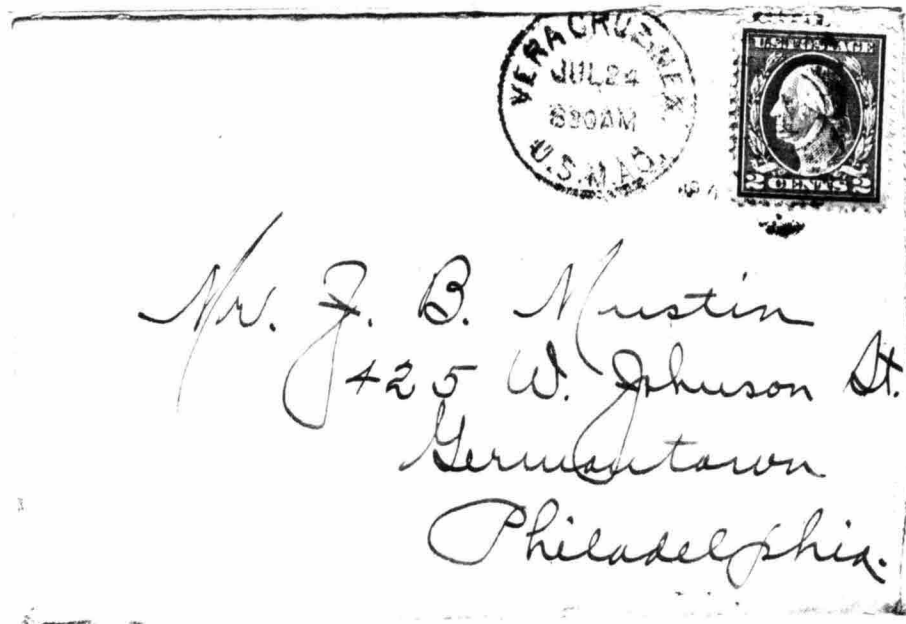
Mrs Lloyd
Huntsville
out
Canada
Ranche

Mailed in Haiti, via U.S. Post Office at Port au Prince and on to Canada. Haitian stamp paid the postage to the U.S. Post Office. Censored. 3¢ war rate applied from Haiti to Canada.

VERA CRUZ, MEXICO

As a result of an incident involving U. S. sailors in Tampico, Mexico, U.S. forces seized the Customs House at Vera Cruz on April 21, 1914. A U.S. Post Office was established there and was in use until November 1914. The town remained in U.S. occupation until November 23, 1914.

U.S. domestic and UPU rates applied.



From U.S. occupied Vera Cruz. U.S. domestic rates applied.



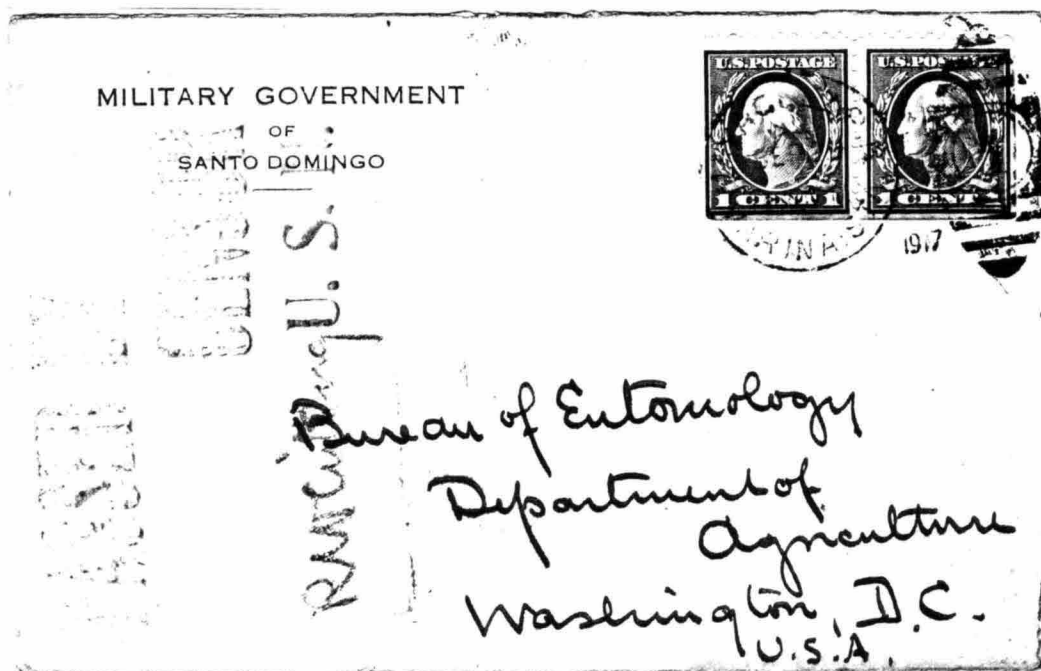
B e r n

Switzerland

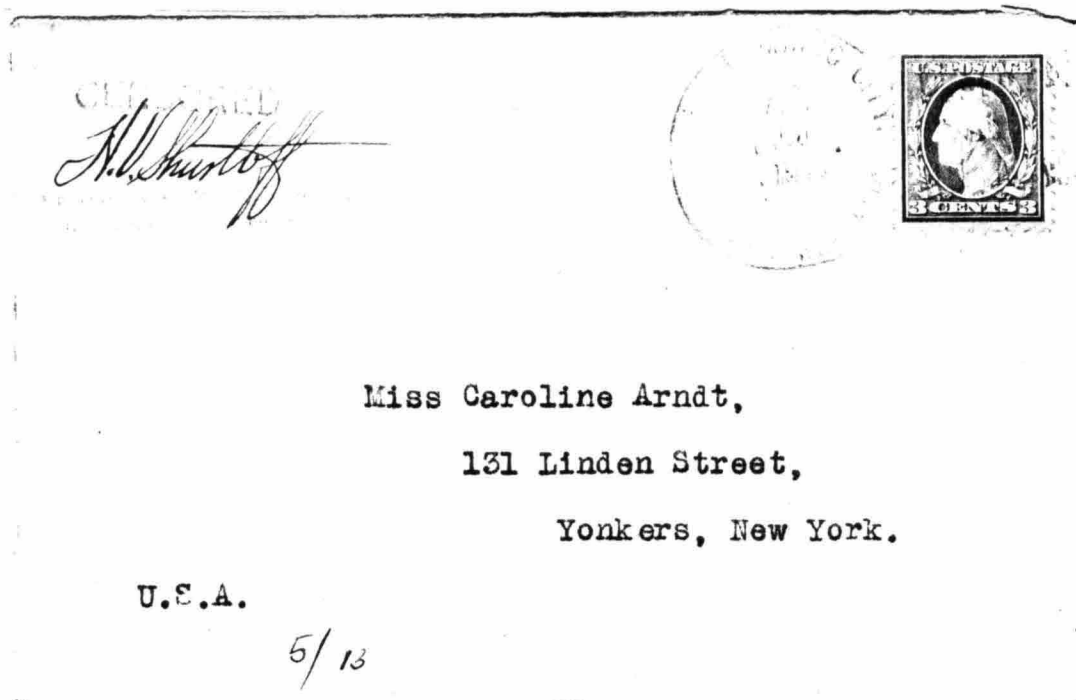
From Mexico City, carried by forwarder to the U.S. Post Office at Vera Cruz, then sent on to Switzerland at the UPU rate.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

On November 29, 1916, President Wilson declared martial law in the Dominican Republic and created a government headed by a U.S. Navy officer. A Post Office was established and was in use almost until the last Marines left there on September 18, 1924.



Initially military mail was handled as a branch of the Puerto Rican Post Office. U.S. domestic rates applied. Censored.



Subsequently military mail was handled in a local branch of the New York Post Office. Censored.

MEXICAN CIVIL WAR

From 1913 to 1916 several Northern Mexican States were in rebellion. They operated their own postal systems and issued their own stamps during this time. Since the States were not members of the UPU their stamps were valid nowhere but within the boundaries of the States themselves.

Outgoing mail therefore required both their stamps and U.S. stamps if it were going either to or through the U.S.

Once the mail reached a U.S. border town, normal domestic and UPU rates applied.



Reverse

Cover registered in Hermosillo, Sonora, franked with Sonora stamps and 4¢ U.S. Because of different weight scales, the letter was double weight in Mexico but single weight in the U.S.

Transmitted by Sonora Postal Service to Nogales, Arizona, where it entered the U.S. postal system. Postal clerk at Los Angeles charged "Due 8¢" for registry fee, giving credit for the extra 2¢ U.S.

ANDRES BUNSON

ESQUINA AV. QAMPO Y CALLE VICTORIA

APARTADO 24

CHIHUAHUA, MEX.



Sr. Andrés Bunsow Jr.

412 Mills Bldg.

EL PASO.

TEX.

Double weight letter mailed from Chihuahua, to El Paso, Texas

"La Francesa"

via New York

B. SCHWOB & CO.
P. O. BOX 169.

Cananea, Sonora, Mexico.



Madame Pauline Schwob
17 Grand'rue
Berne
Suisse

Mailed at Cananea, Sonora. Probably double weight in Mexico and single weight in U.S. To Berne, Switzerland via Douglas, Arizona, and New York. 5¢ UPU rate applied. Overpaid.

ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

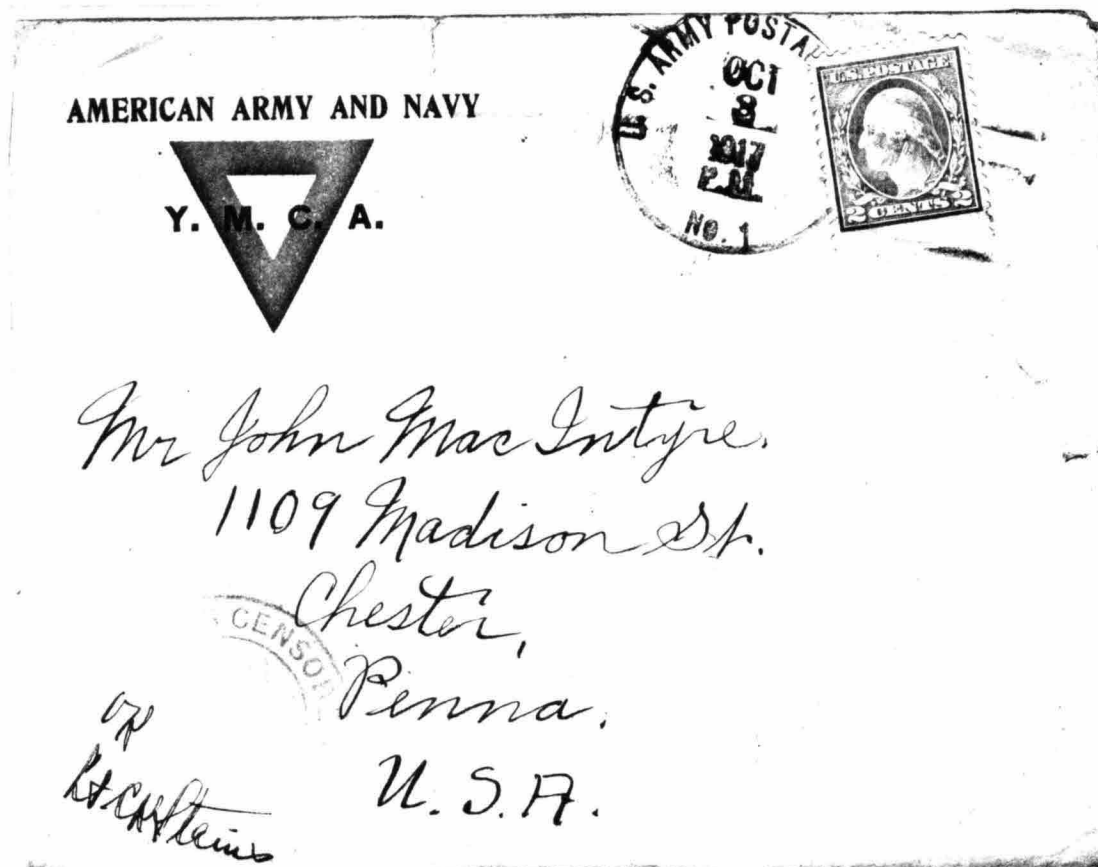
Organization of the Army Post Office (APO) to support the Allied Expeditionary Forces was started by the Post Office officials on June 30, 1917, in Paris, one day after the first U.S. troops landed in France.

Because of complaints of poor service, the Army assumed responsibility for the Postal System on July 1, 1918, and changed its name to the Military Postal Express Service (MPES). The name was changed again on September 13, 1918 to the Postal Express System (PES).

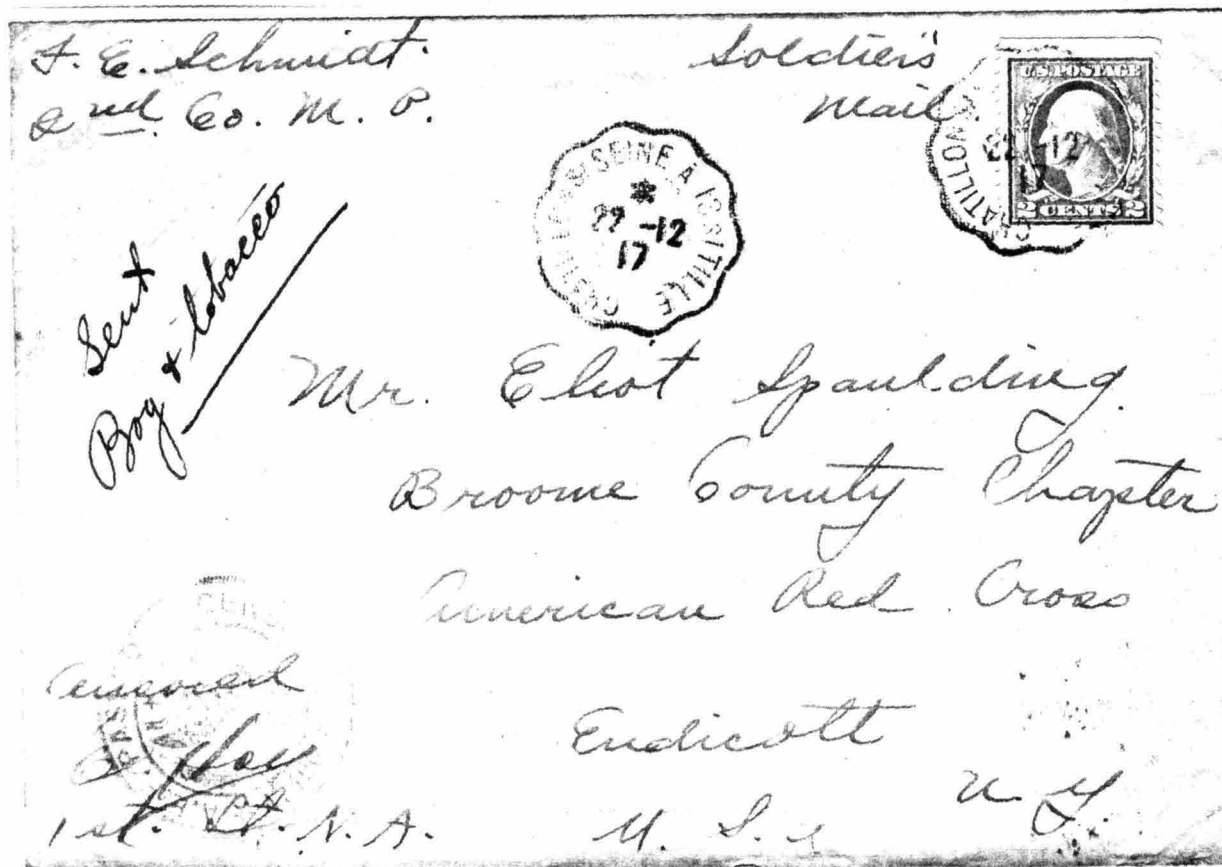
Each unit or stationary Post Office was assigned a distinctive number. Through October 19, 1917, all mail required postage at the normal U.S. domestic and UPU rates. Effective October 20, 1917, military personnel were given the free franking privilege. This covered first class postage only. Supplementary service, such as registration had to be paid with stamps.

Domestic rates applied on mail to the U.S and all countries served by the Army Postal System. The Espionage Act of June 1917 required that all mail sent via the APO be censored. Censorship was discontinued July 11, 1919.

Following World War I, the PES continued to operate in support of U.S. Occupation Forces until July 31, 1921.

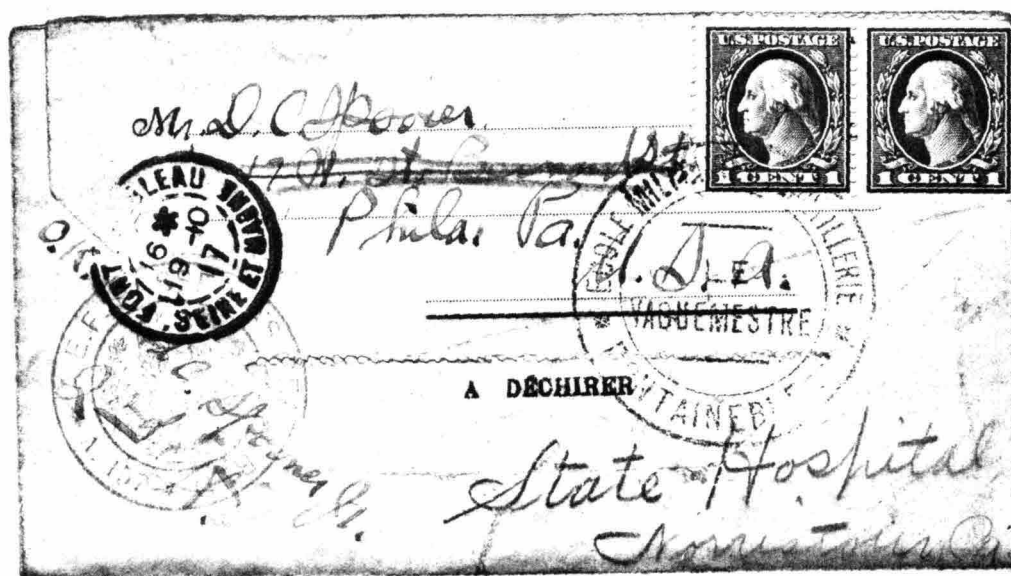


Early use of a single from the 2¢ AEF Booklet Pane of thirty from APO No. 1 at Sant-Nazaire, the debarkation base in France. Fewer than thirty covers franked with one or more stamps from the booklets have been reported.



Mailed by a Military Policeman via the French Post Office at Chatillon-Seine A Issitille. Since this was not convenient to an Army Post Office, the French Postal System accepted it and transmitted it to the Army Postal System.

Franked with a Single from the 2¢ AEF Booklet Pane.



Mailed at the Artillery School at Fontainbleau, France via the French Postal System.

POSTAL INTERRUPTIONS

POLAND

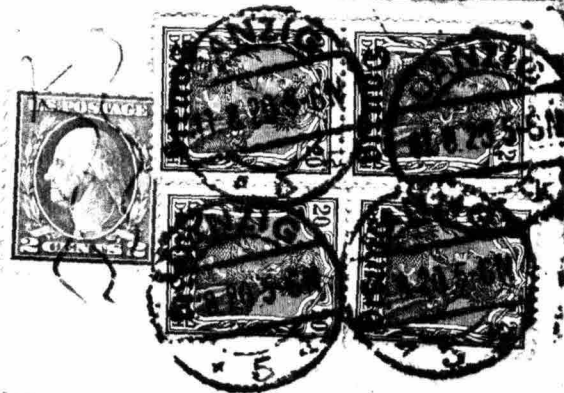
Between 1919 and 1922 for several short periods, the postal system of Poland was not able to handle international mail adequately. During those times the U.S. Embassy in Warsaw provided a mailbox in its courtyard and agreed to take mail prefranked with U.S. postage and destined for the U.S. and deposit it in the most convenient, functional postal system.



REVERSE

Carried by pouch to Paris and placed in the U.S. Military Express System with instructions to register. Double weight registry rate.

From J. P. Howe
Europejski
W A R S A W



Mr. John F. Phillips,

Editor The Service Bulletin,

The Associated Press,

51 Chambers Street,

New York City,

U. S. A.

Double weight letter from Warsaw (4¢ U.S.) Taken from Warsaw to Danzig by embassy personnel. 80 pf in Danzig postage was added, and the letter was forwarded to the U.S.

LEVANT

Because of the general unreliability of the Turkish Postal System, and because the U.S. did not have a Postal Agency in Levant, U.S. warships frequently functioned as Postal Agencies. Normal domestic and UPU rates applied.



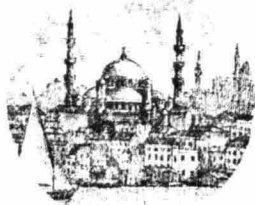
AMERICAN NAVY Y. M. C. A.
115 GRAND RUE DE PERA
CONSTANTINOPLE

JUL 22 1922



*Flagg Loan Co.
112 Thames St.
Newport, R.I.
U.S.A.*

Letter probably was mailed in the Y.M.C.A. in Constantinople, which maintained a mailbox for American personnel. Transferred to the USS Scorpion. Handled through the U.S. Navy Postal System.



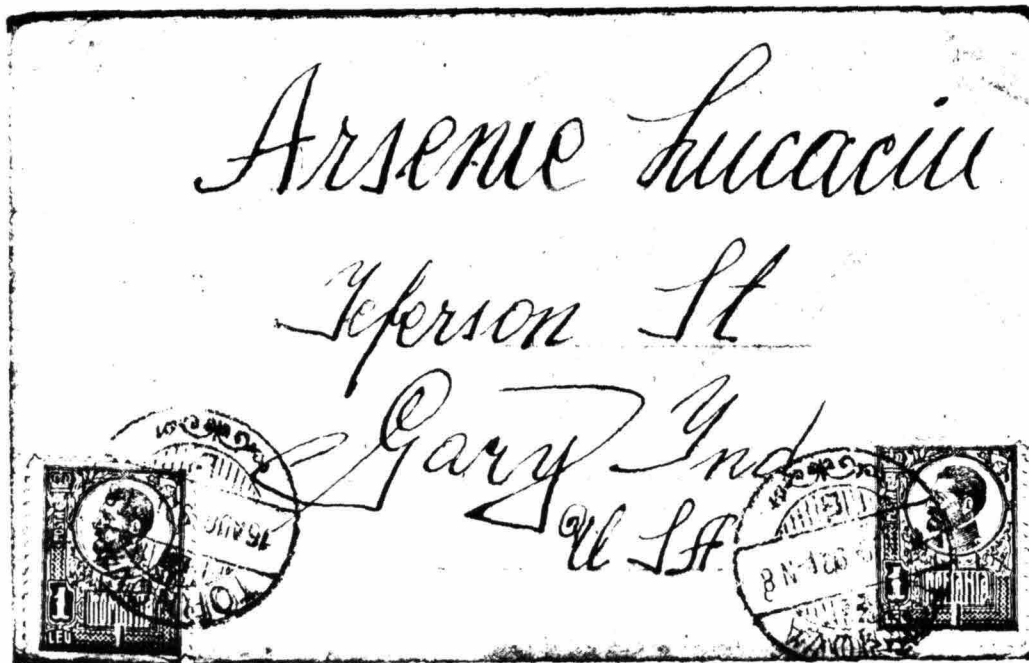
*W. J. Edsall
Constantinople, Turkey*



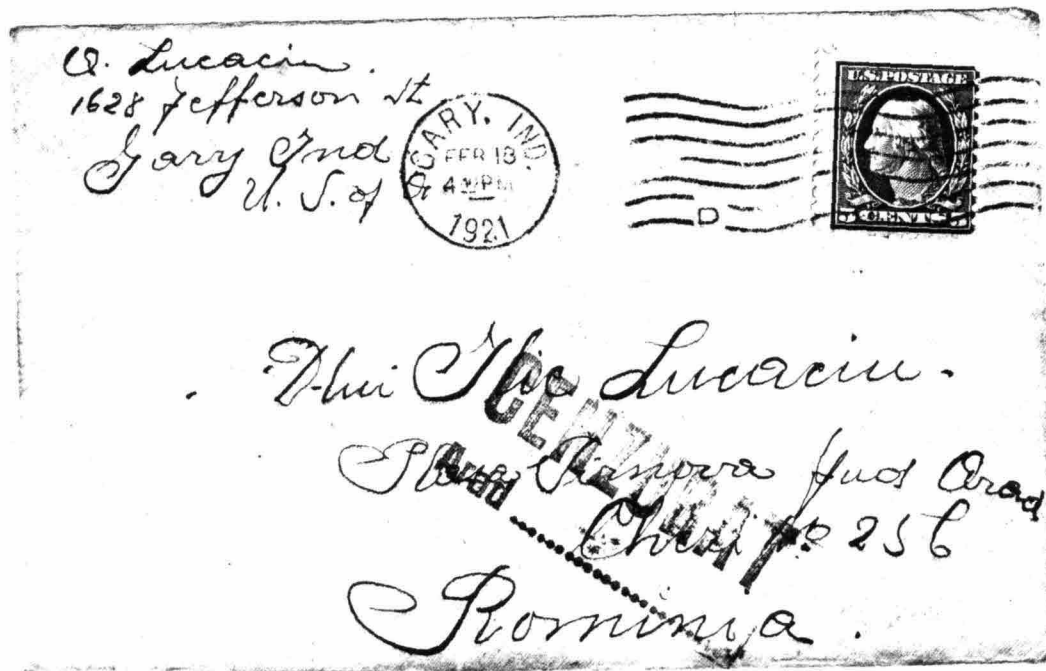
MR. C. C. NEAL,
SHARPE & DOHME,
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND,
U.S.A.

Probably mailed in Greek occupied Smyrna, Turkey, and transferred to the USS Edsall for transmittal through The U.S. Navy Postal System.

TURNED COVER



Inside of cover below

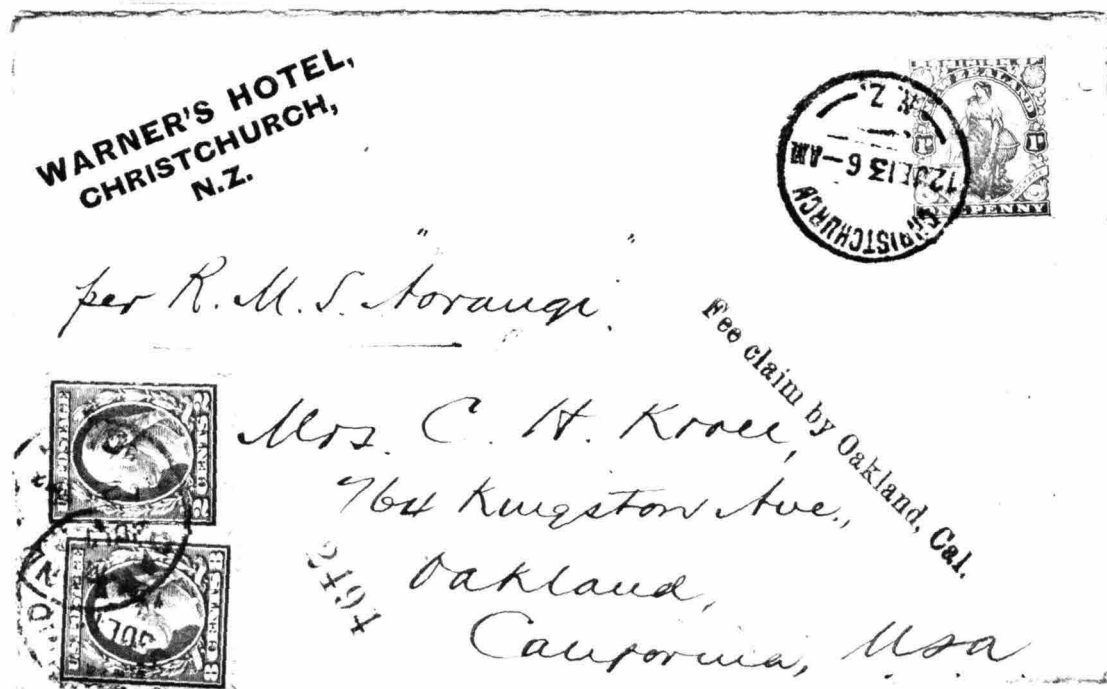


Because of a critical paper shortage in Eastern Europe after World War I, this cover with a 5¢ Washington was turned and used from Romania to the U.S.

INTERNATIONAL SPECIAL DELIVERY

International Special Delivery mail required postage of both the country where the letter originated and that to where it was sent—the former to pay the postage and the latter to pay the Special Delivery rate.

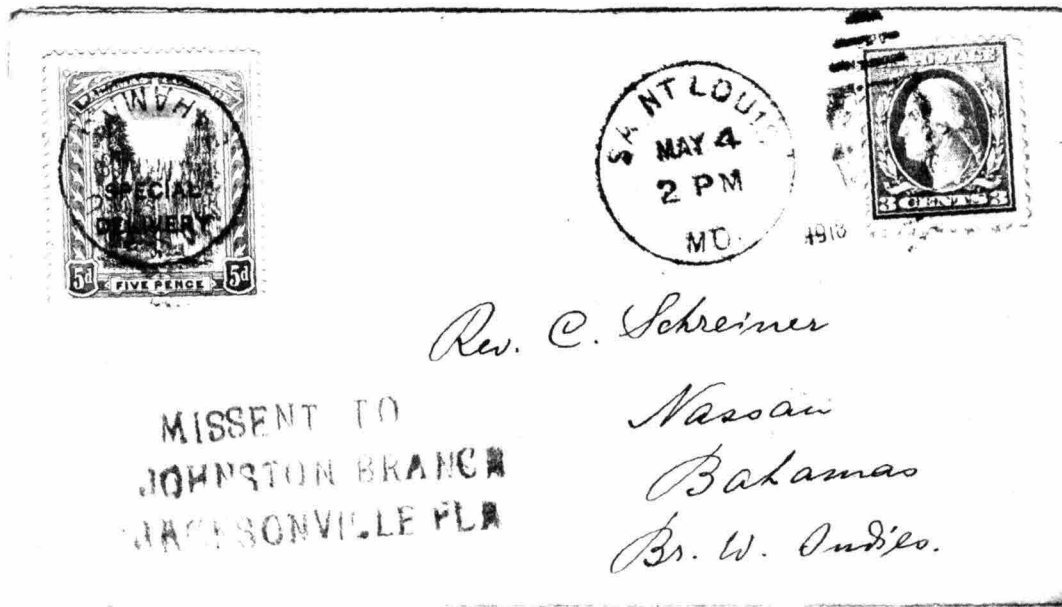
FROM NEW ZEALAND



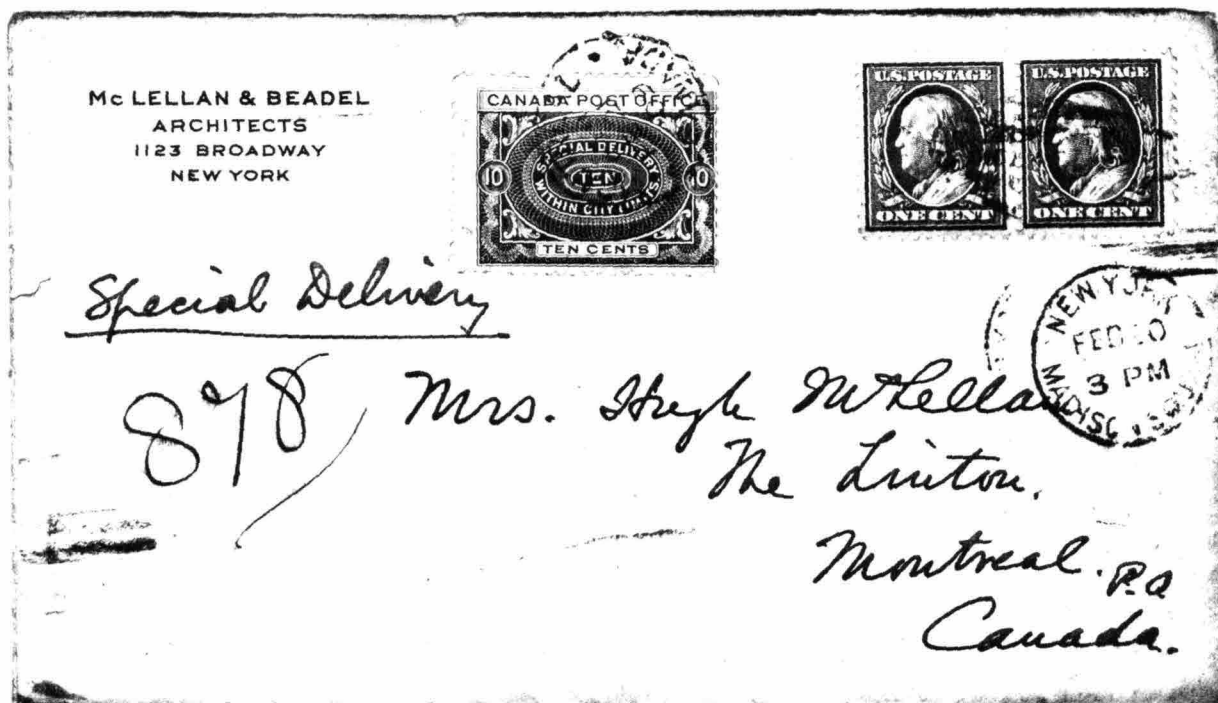
FROM BERMUDA



TO THE BAHAMAS



TO CANADA



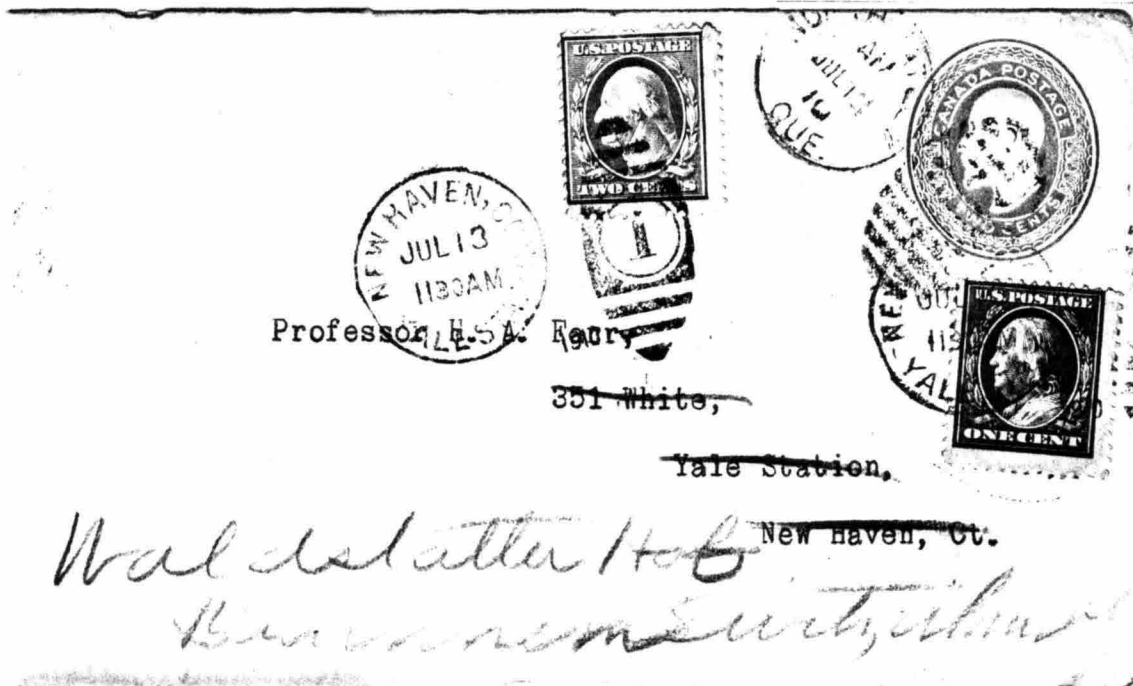
FORWARDED INCOMING MAIL

FROM DENMARK



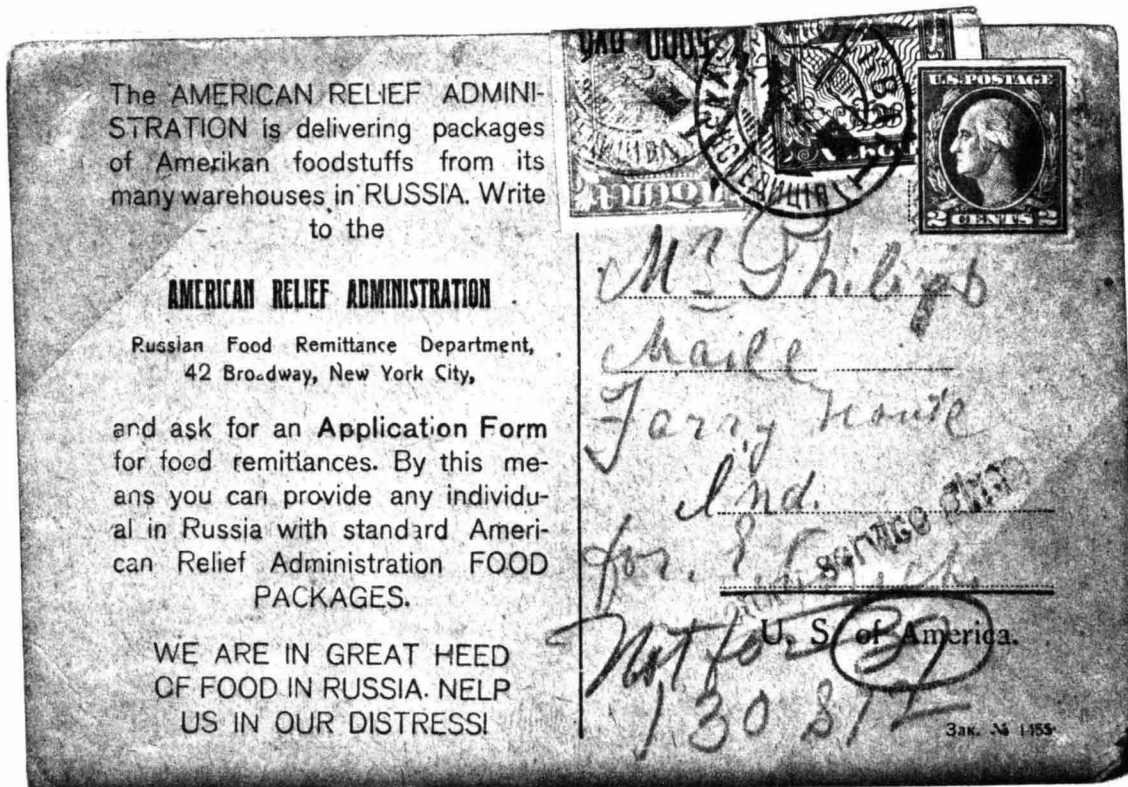
Reregistered and redirected

FROM CANADA

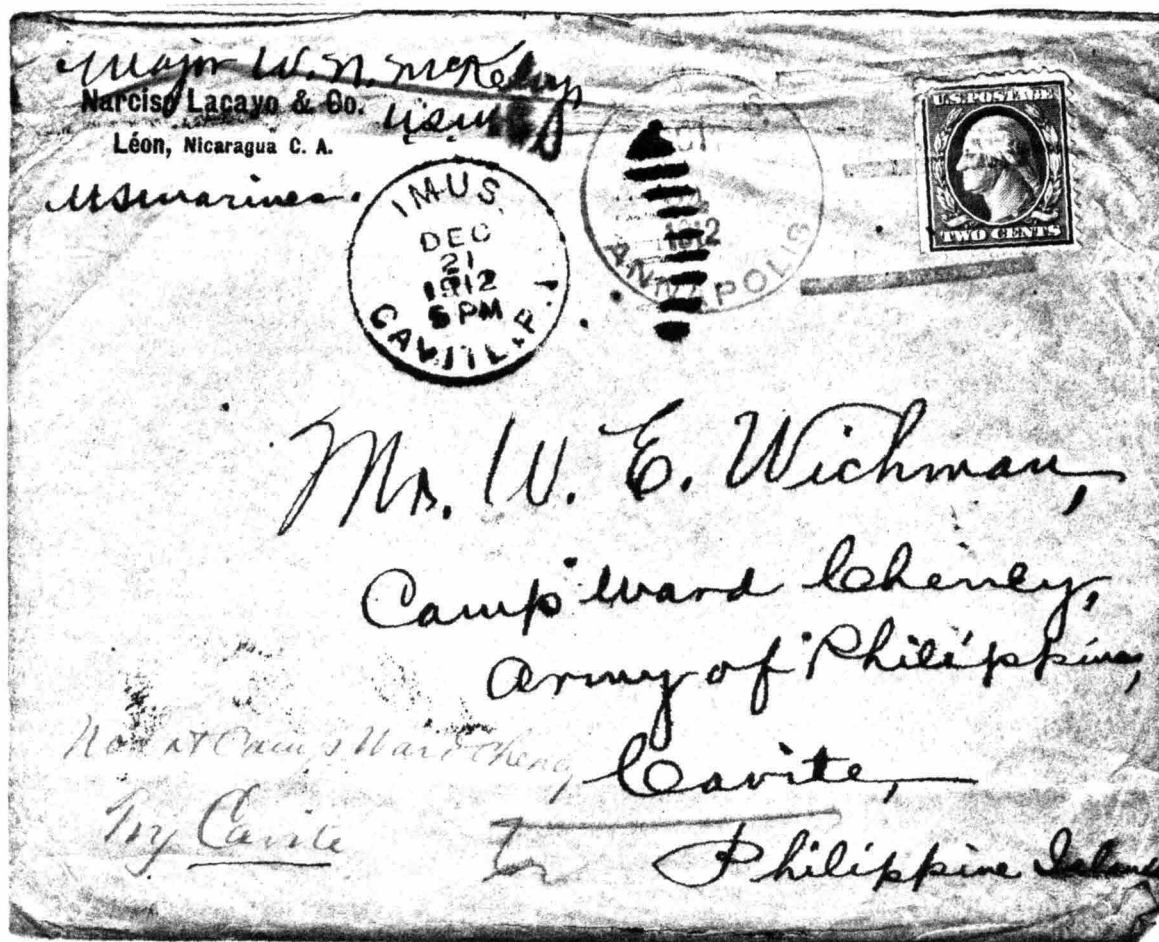


Original postage credited toward UPU rate

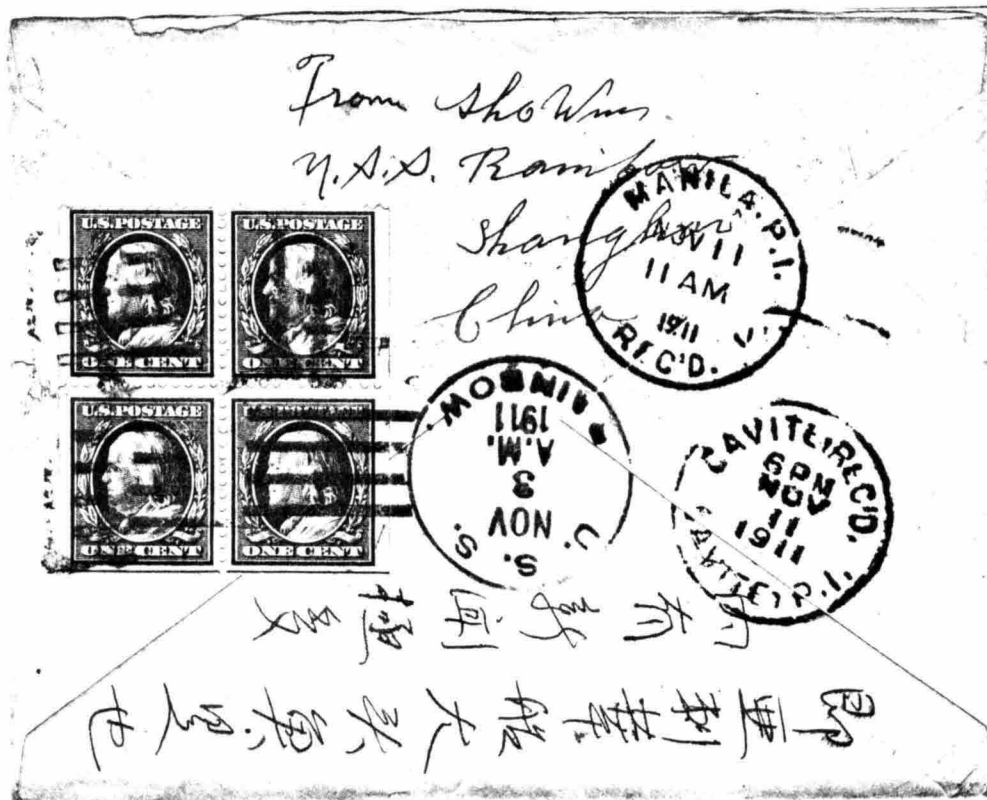
FROM RUSSIA



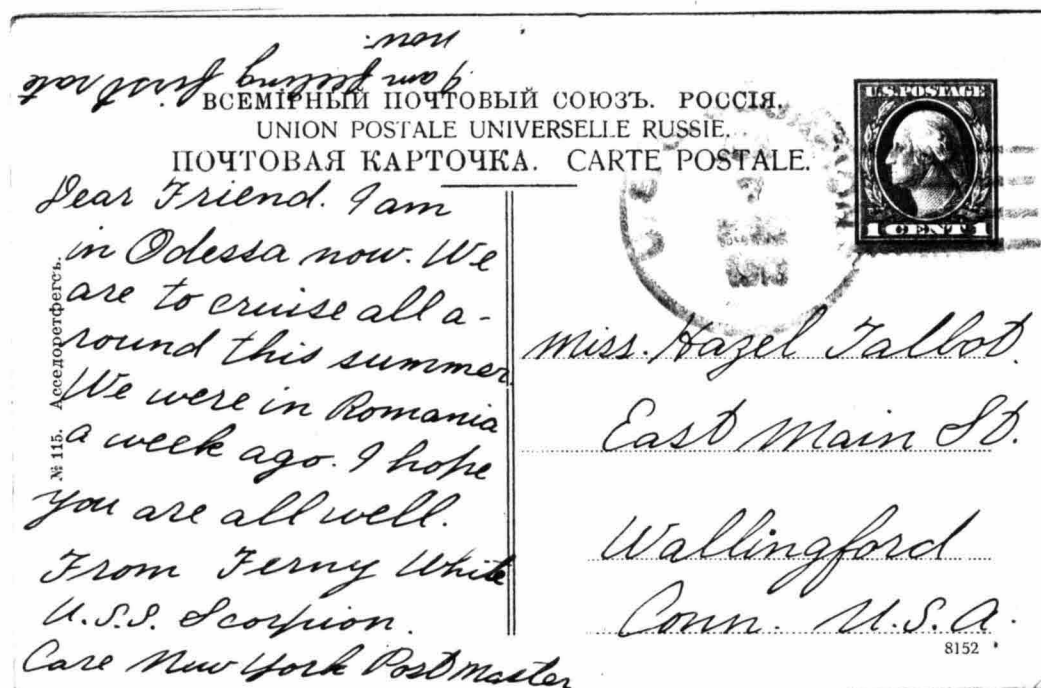
U.S. WARSHIPS ABROAD



USS Annapolis, at Nicaragua, to the Philippine Islands



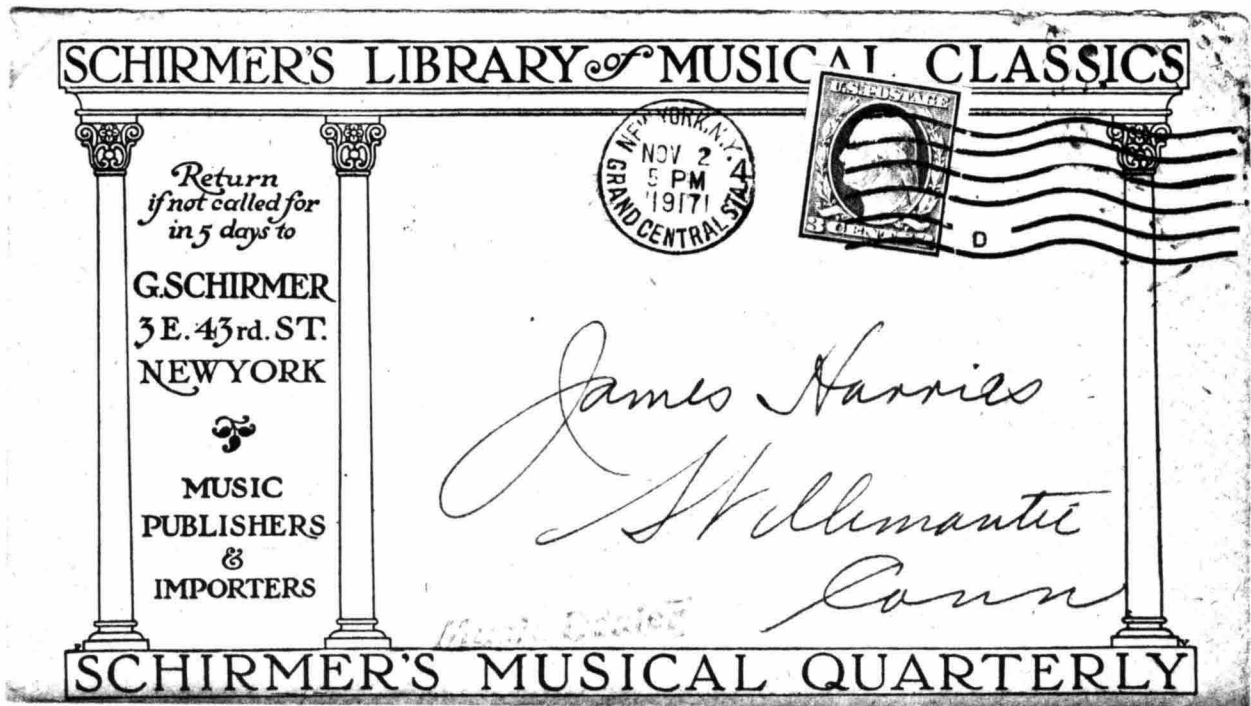
USS Winslow, at Shanghai, China, to the Phillipine Islands



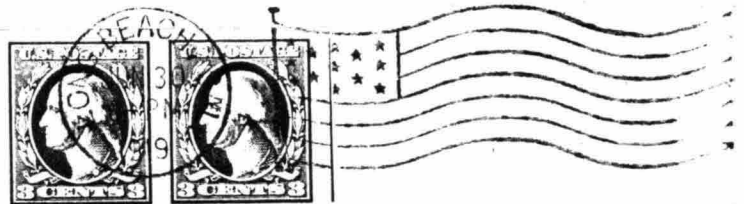
USS Scorpion, at Odessa, Russia, to U.S.

WAR RATE

The War Rate of 3¢ for first class domestic mail and 2¢ for post cards was in effect from November 2, 1917, to June 30, 1919.



First day of rate



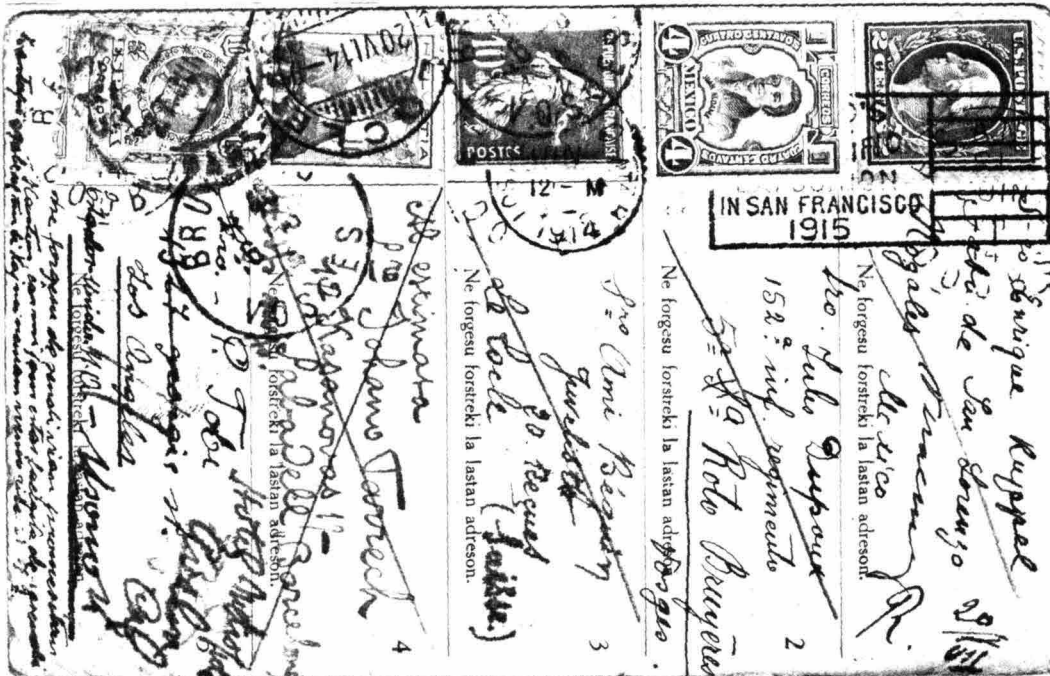
COVEL MFG. COMPANY

BENTON HARBOR,

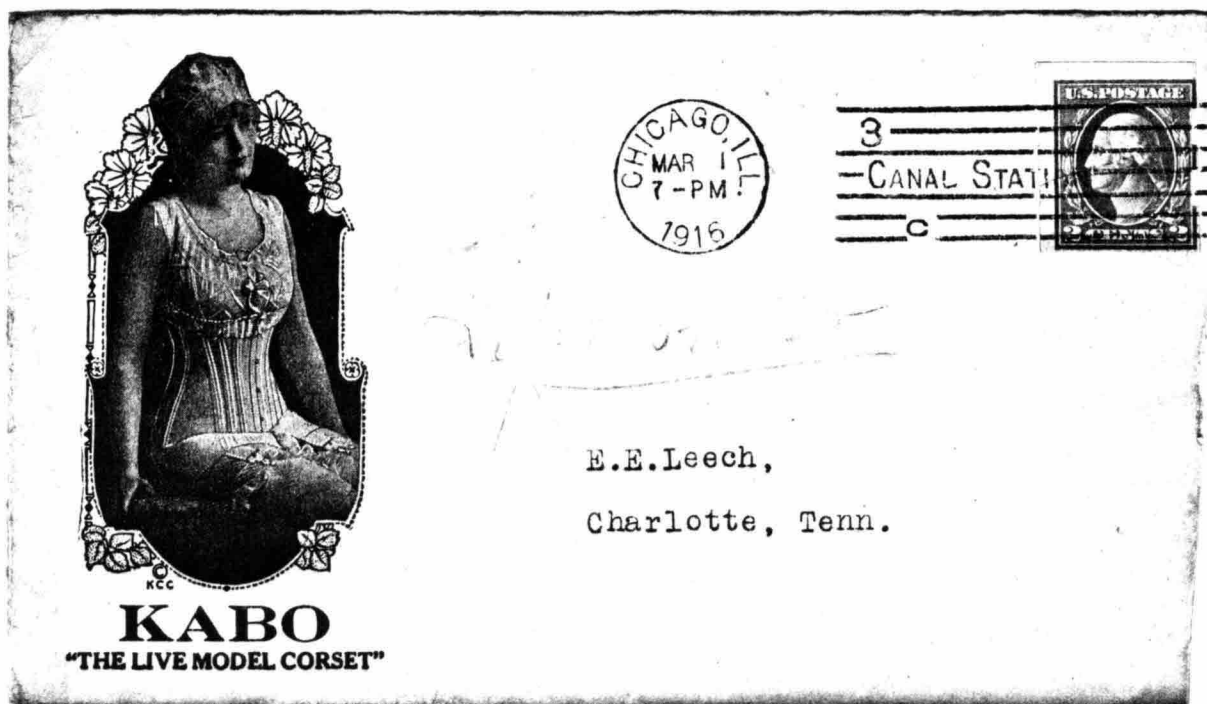
MICHIGAN, U. S. A.

Last day of rate

PERMITTED IN US FROM 1907 UNTIL 1917



ADVERTISING

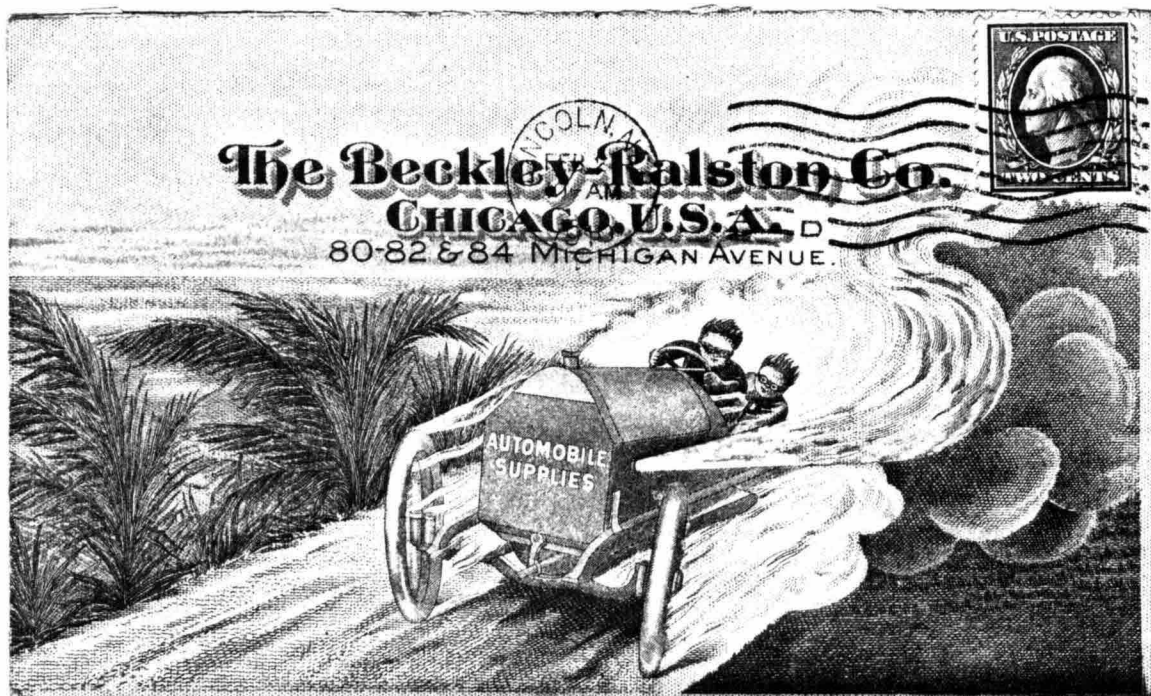


Lingerie



P. VanSchaak & Sons,
138 Lake St.,
Chicago, Ill.

Hudson-Fulton Celebration

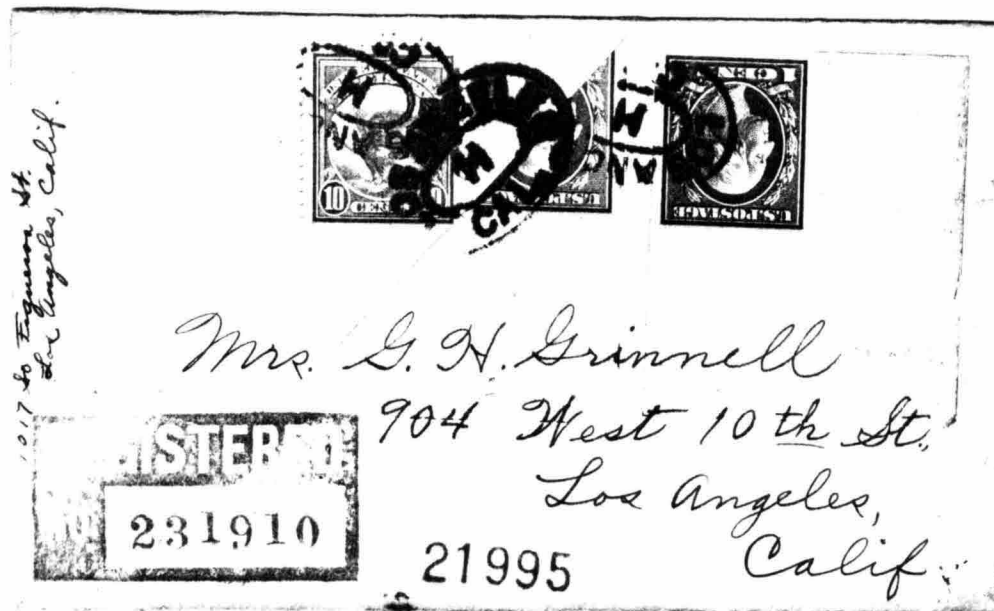


Automobile Supplies



Insensitive advertising of theatrical goods

BISECT



Bisected 2¢ accepted as 1¢ in 1913

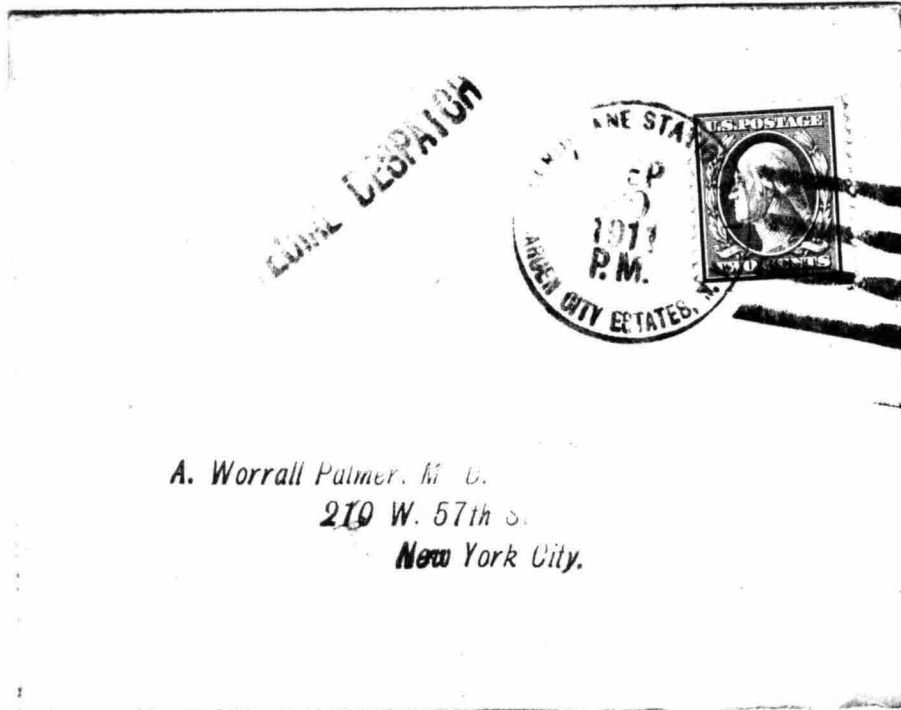
EXTREME OVERFRANKING



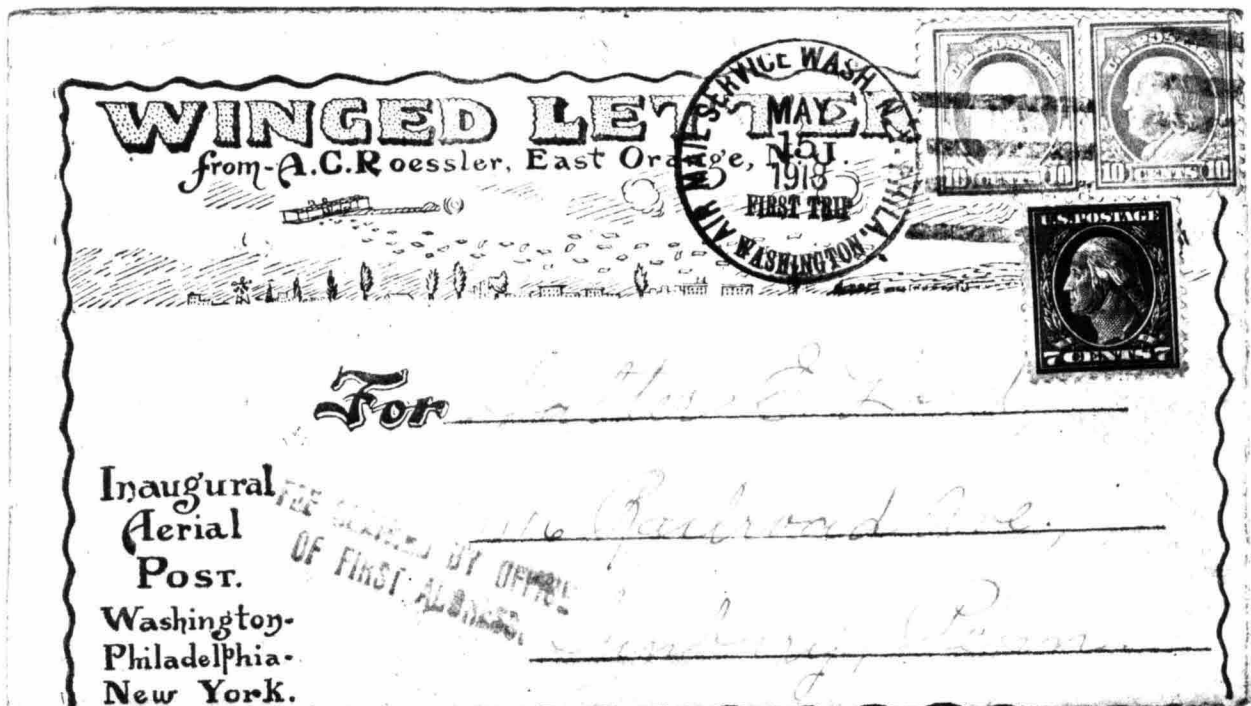
A registered, philatelic cover franked with every stamp available at the Providence, Rhode Island, Post Office on October 31, 1920. (\$10.91)

AIR MAILS

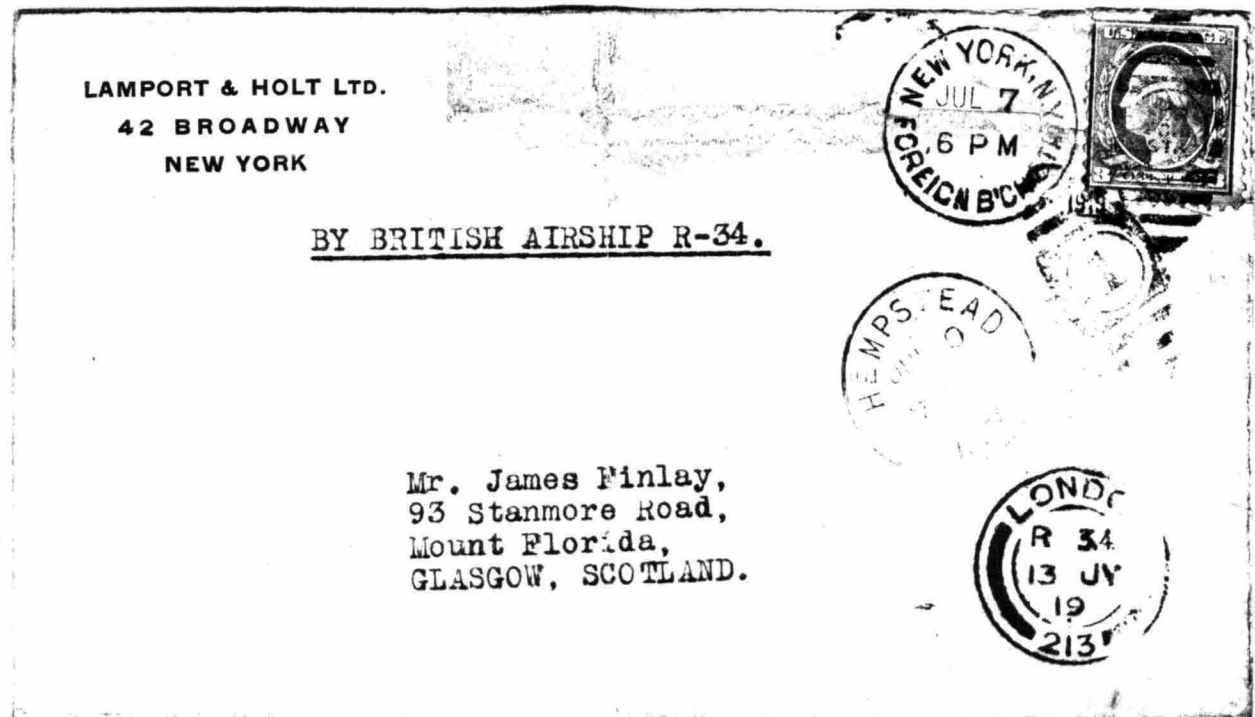
The Washington-Franklin period also marked the advent of Air Mails



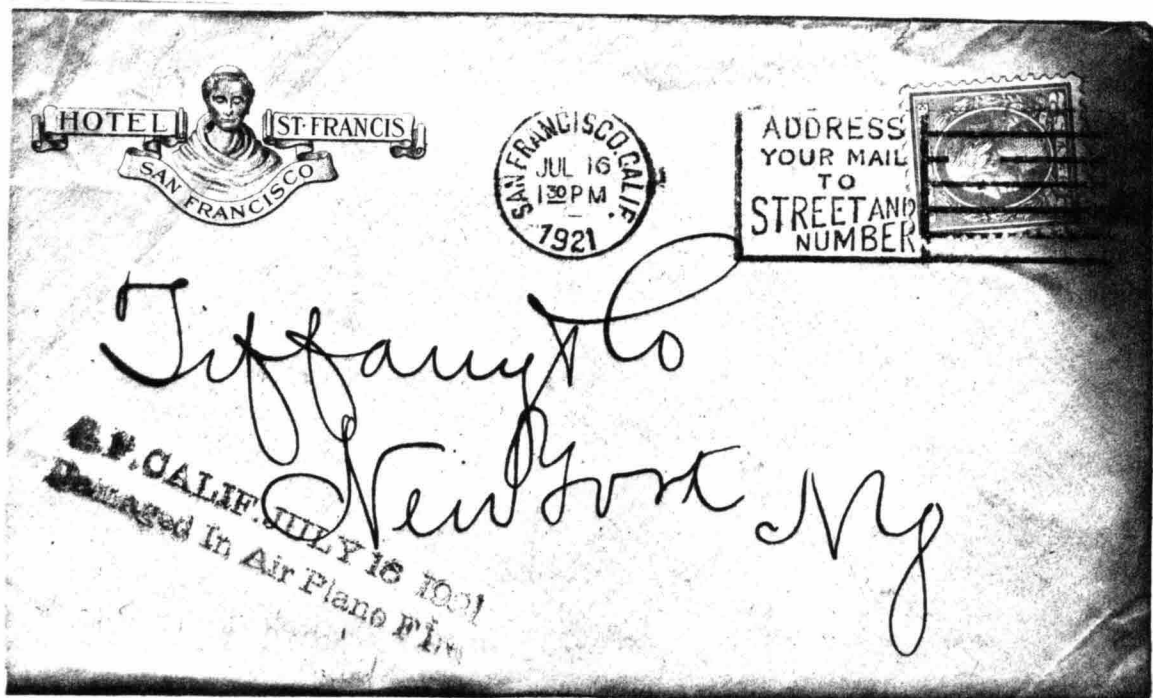
Flown at the first Air Meet held in the United States, September 23-October 1, 1911. After the plane landed this cover was put into the mail at Mineola, New York, on September 30, 1911.



The first official U.S. Air Mail flight, Washington to Philadelphia, May 15, 1918. Actually the plane went South instead of North, crashed 25 miles from Washington, and the covers were transmitted by train. The rate was announced as 24¢, but some misunderstood the instructions and thought the 24¢ was a premium over the 3¢ war rate in effect for first class.



The British Army dirigible, R-34, flew the first transatlantic lighter-than-air flight from England to Roosevelt Field in New York, July 2-6, 1919. A small amount of U.S. mail was flown on the return flight, July 9-13, 1919.



Early Air Mail flights were not always reliable. The plane carrying this cover, mailed in San Francisco July 16, 1921, and destined for New York via Chicago, crashed and burned shortly after takeoff.

PATRIOTICS

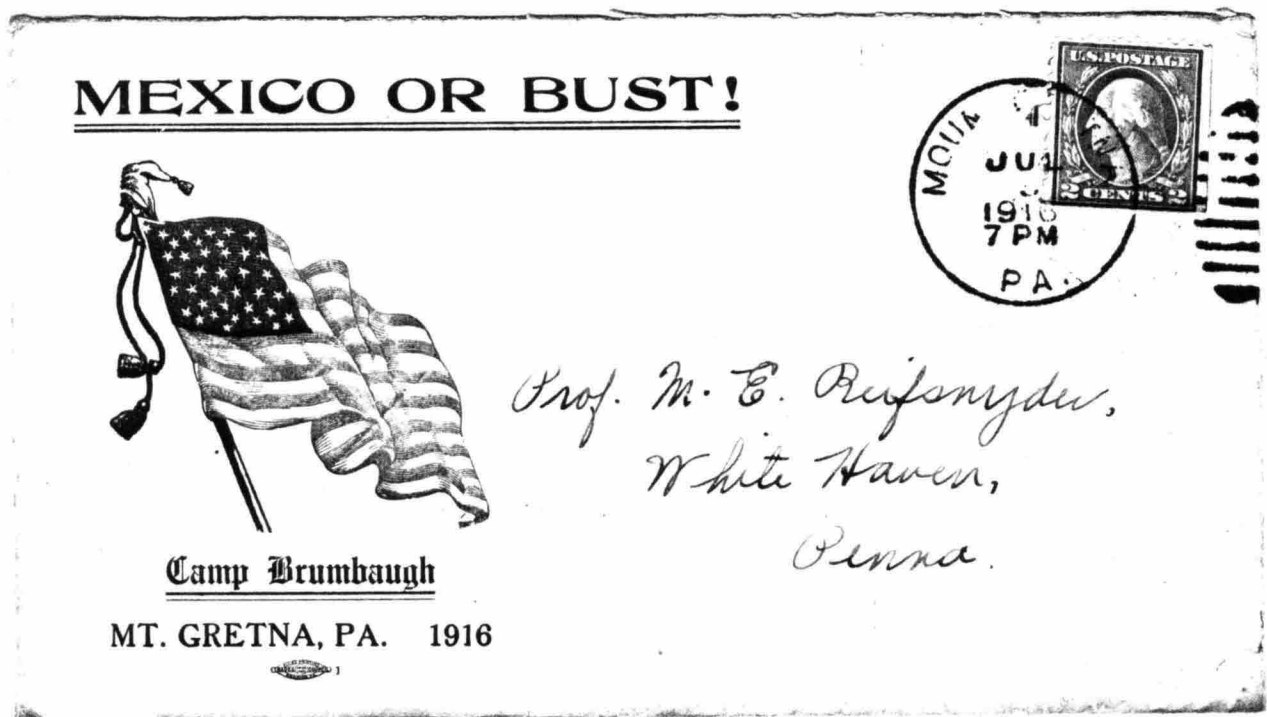
Patriotic envelopes in this period usually pictured a simple waving flag. More ornate ones are quite unusual.



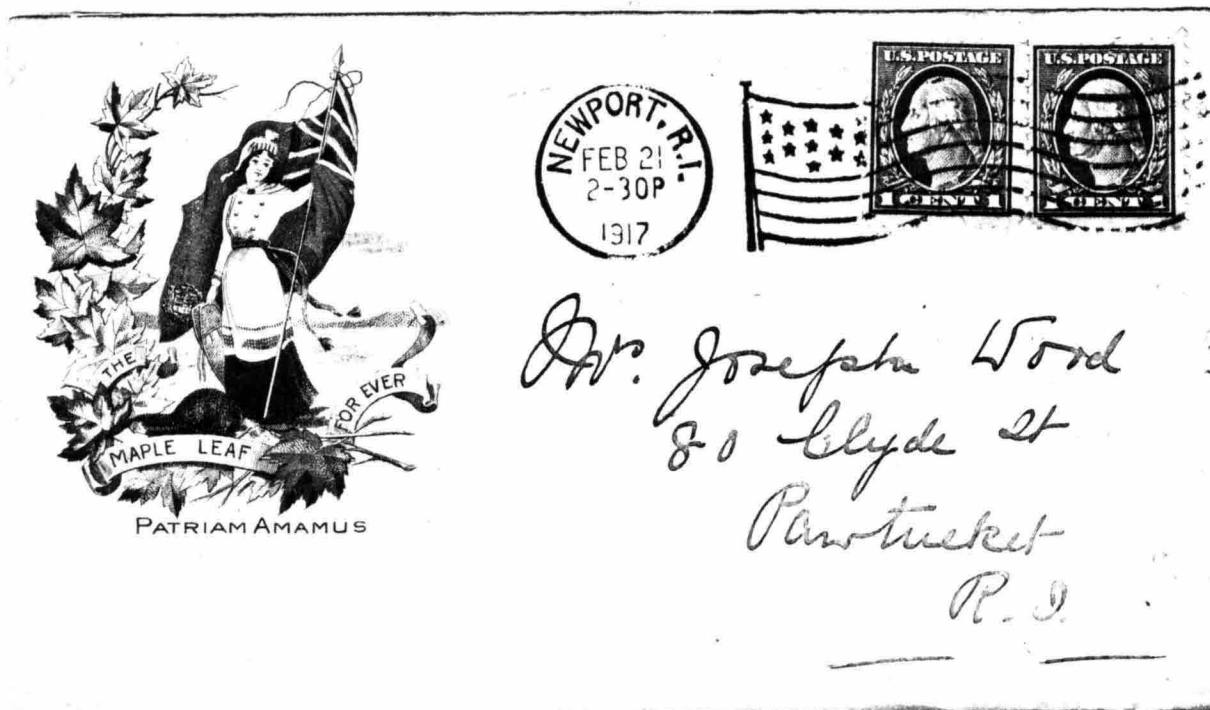
This humorous World War I patriotic was mailed from Tacoma, Washington, in 1918.



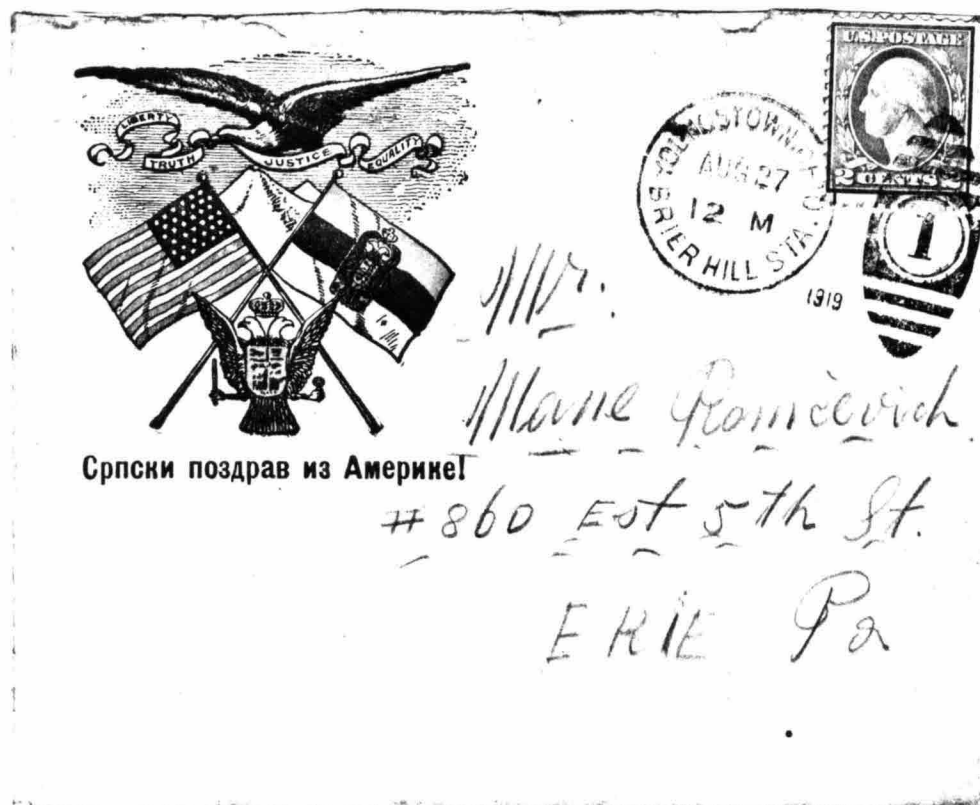
A Civil War patriotic envelope mailed May 2, 1917, shortly after the United States entered World War I.



The only documented patriotic supporting the United States' pursuit of Pancho Villa. Mailed in July 1916.



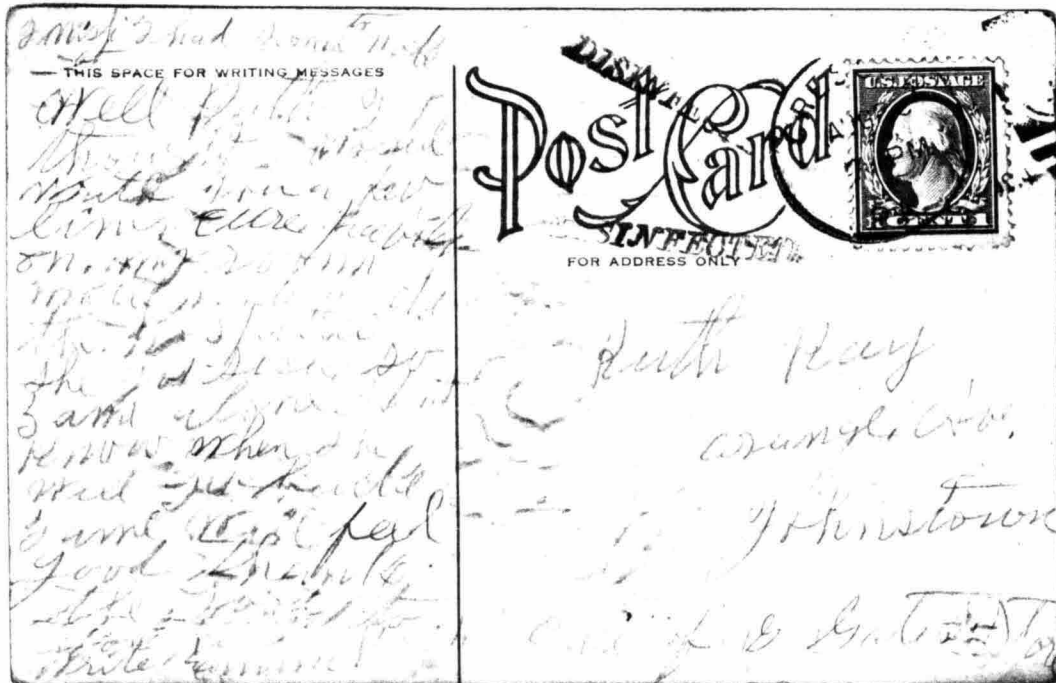
A patriotic expressing support for our Canadian neighbors' participation in World War I. The cover was mailed February 21, 1917, a month and a half before the United States entered the war.



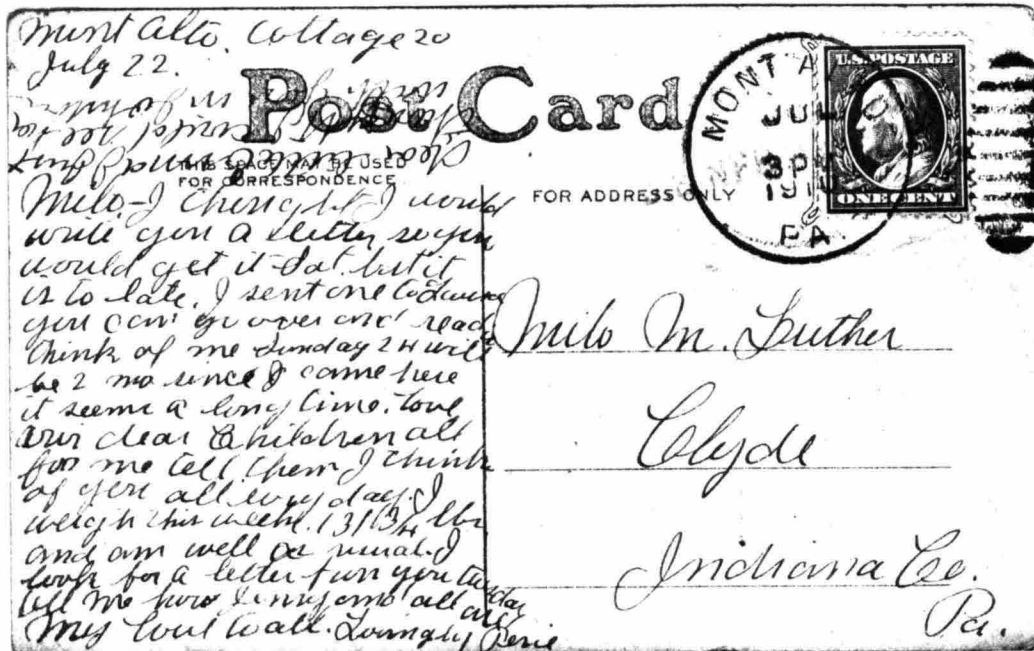
An August 1919 cover expressing support for the White Russians in their unsuccessful battle against the Bolsheviks.

DISINFECTED MAIL

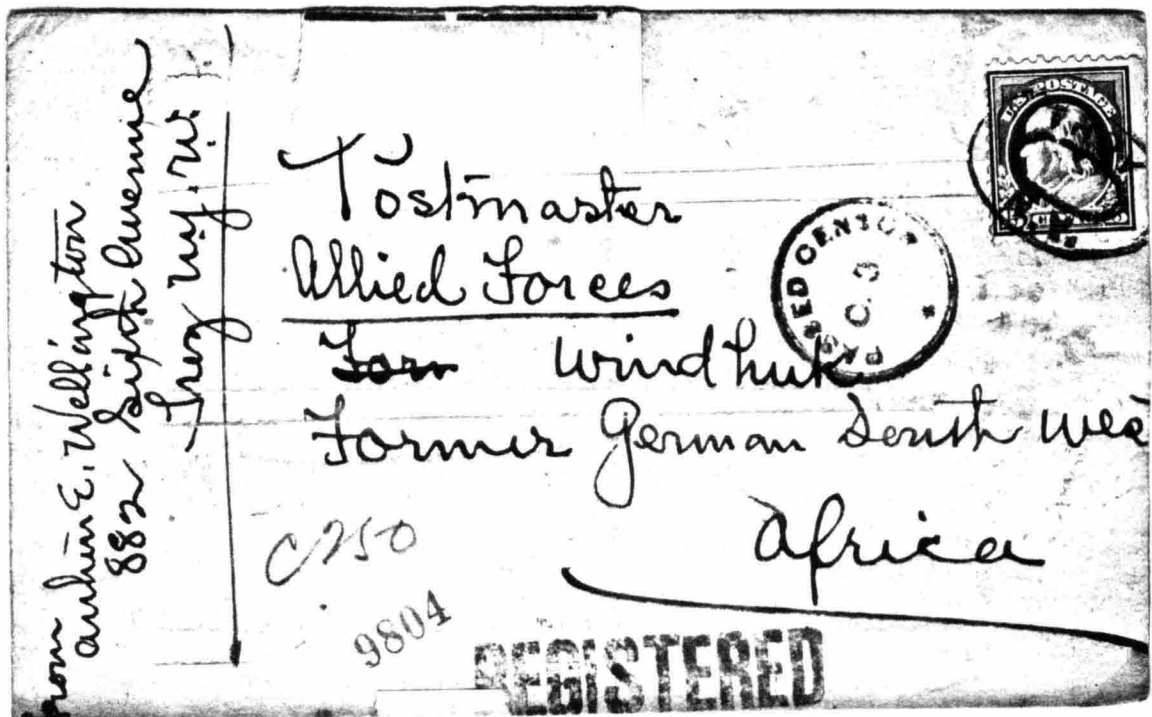
During the Washington-Franklin period there was still a great deal of concern about the spread of tuberculosis. Some felt that the disease could be spread on mail, so two sanatoriums attempted to allay these fears. First, they allowed only post cards to be mailed out, and second, they attempted to disinfect the mail. They placed the cards on wire racks in a closed shed and burned sulfur to kill the germs.



Card mailed in 1914 from Cresson Sanatorium, Cresson, Pennsylvania



Card mailed in 1910 from Mont Alto Sanatorium in Mont Alto, Pennsylvania



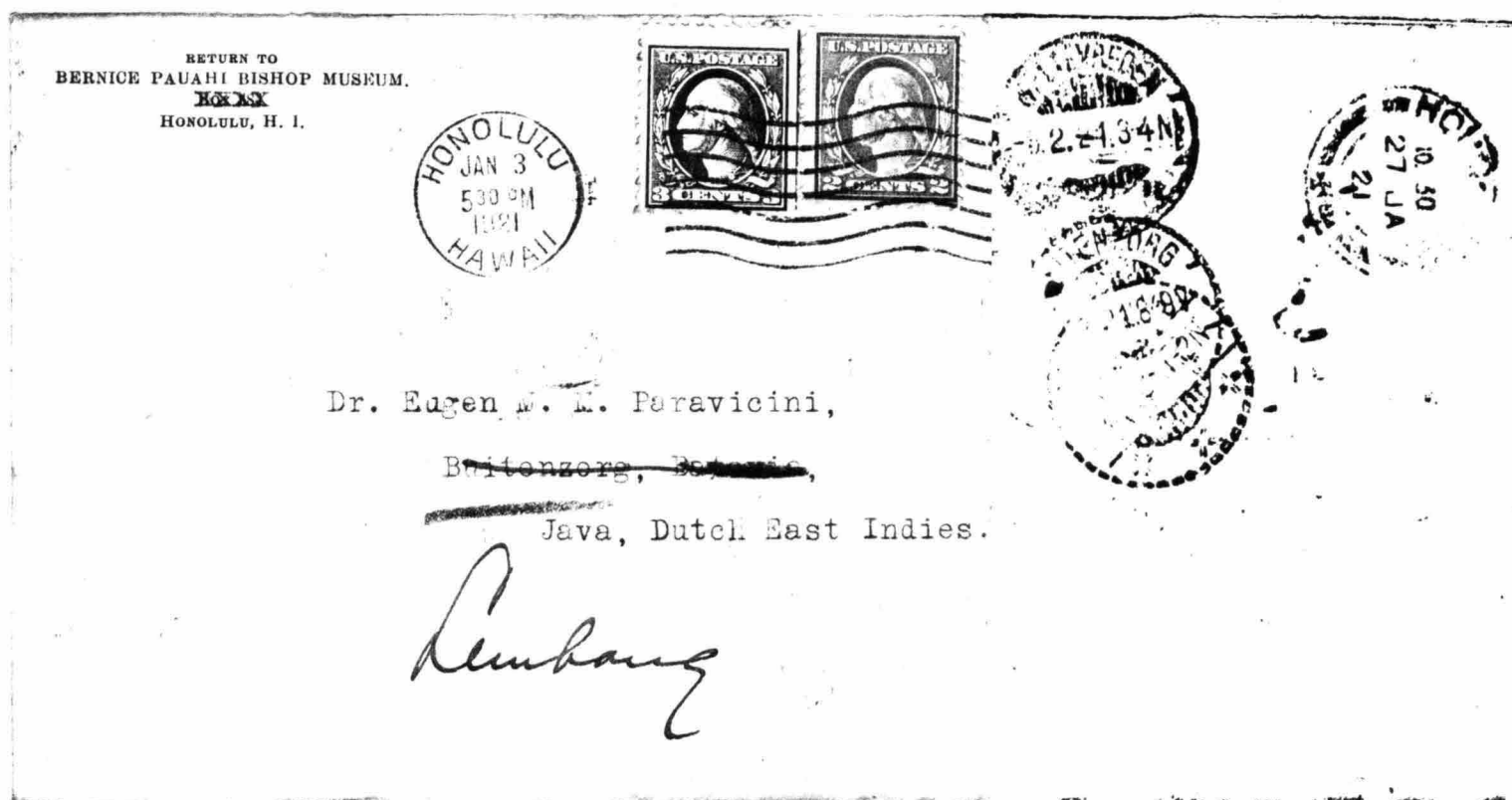
Cover mailed in 1917 from New York to British occupied German South West Africa. Routed via London and Capetown, South Africa.

Cover was slit several times to permit burning sulfur fumes to permeate the envelope and its contents in order to disinfect for cholera.

TERRITORIES AND POSSESSIONS

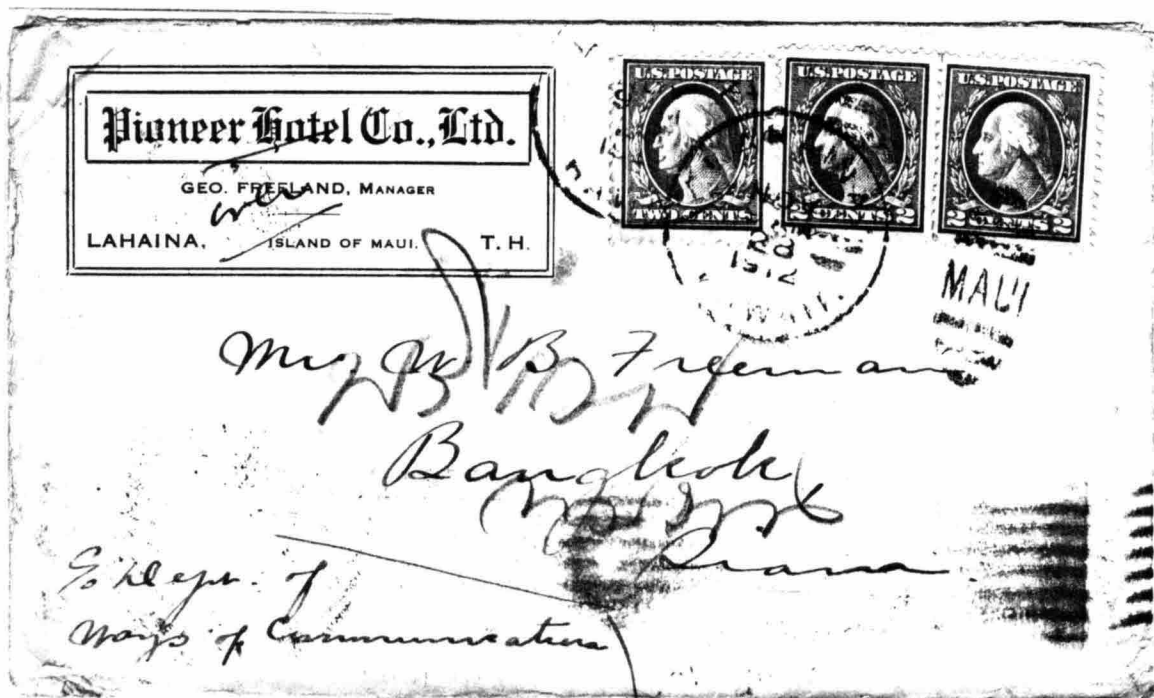
HAWAII

U.S. Territories and Possessions were treated for postal purposes as if they were states. Domestic rates applied on mail from them to the U.S. and all Territories and Possessions, unless it was specifically directed through another postal system. In this case UPU rates applied. UPU rates applied, as usual, on mail to foreign countries.



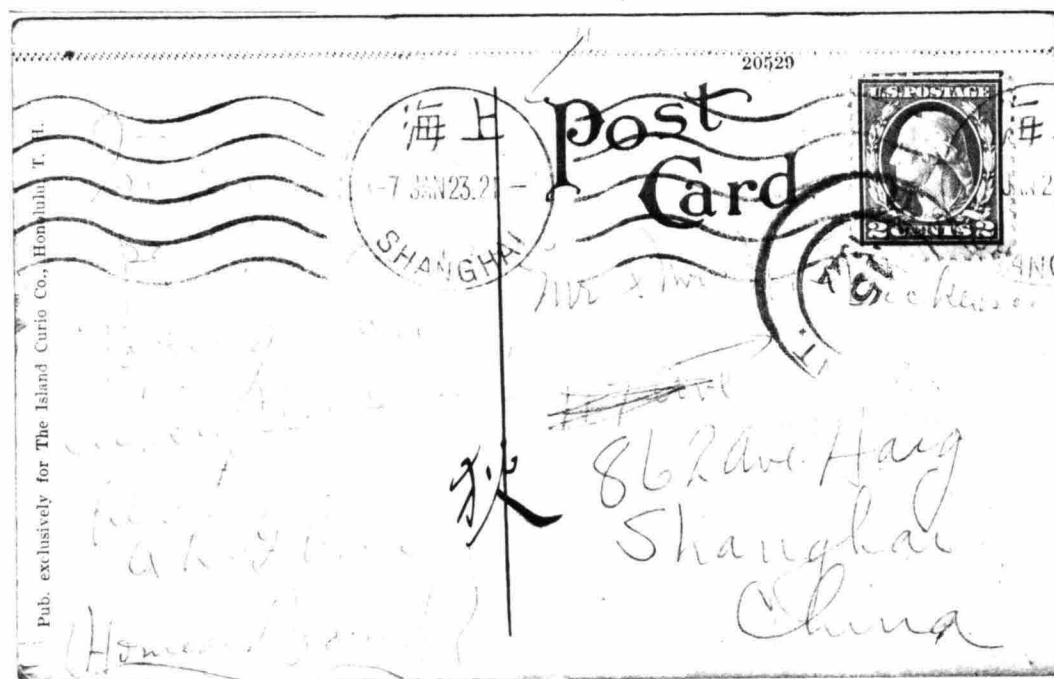
5¢ UPU rate from Honolulu to Java,
East Indies via British Post Office
at Hong Kong.

Reverse



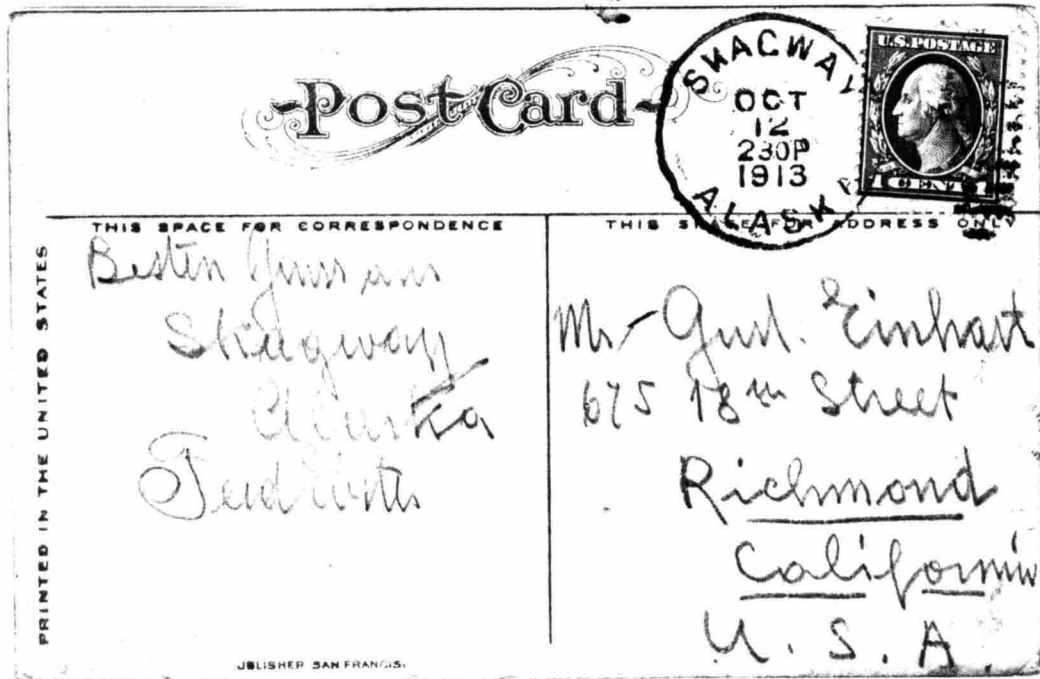
5¢ UPU rate (overpaid), from Lahaina, Maui,
to Bangkok, Siam, via Honolulu and Hong Kong.

Reverse



2¢ UPU post card rate from Honolulu to Shanghai, arriving the week
following the closing of the U.S. Postal Agency there. Shanghai
city roller cancel receiving mark.

ALASKA



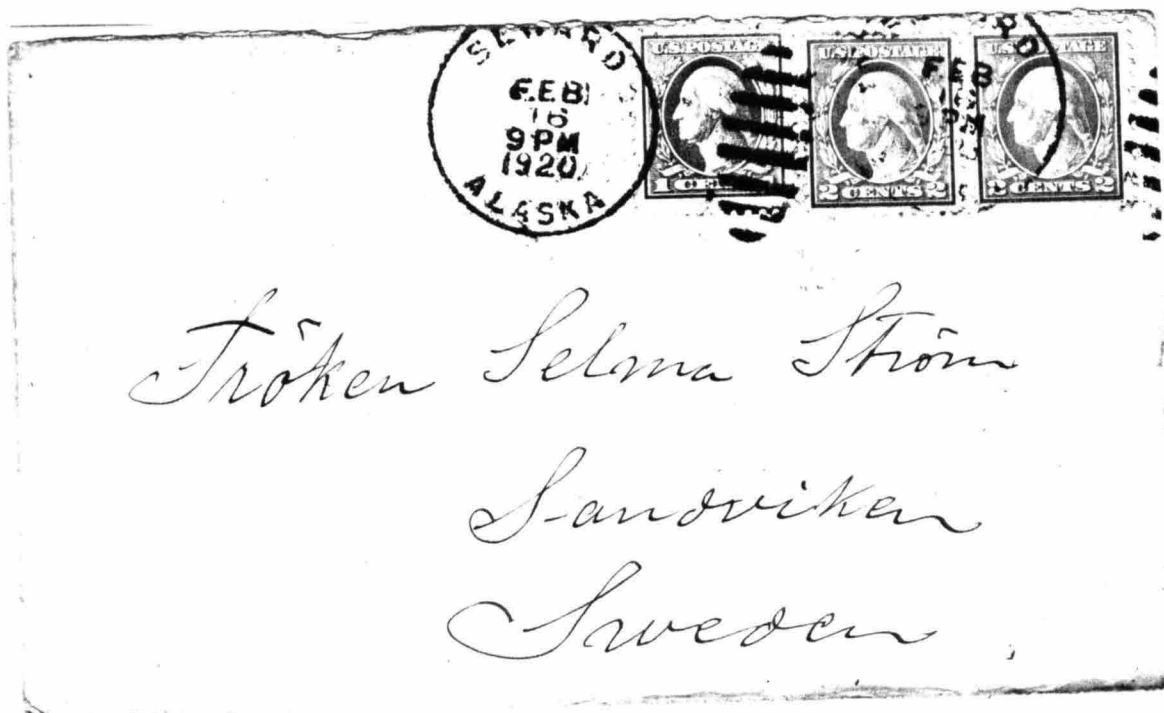
1¢ domestic post card rate applied. Skagway to Richmond, California



3¢ U.S. war rate applied. Chignik to Los Angeles, California



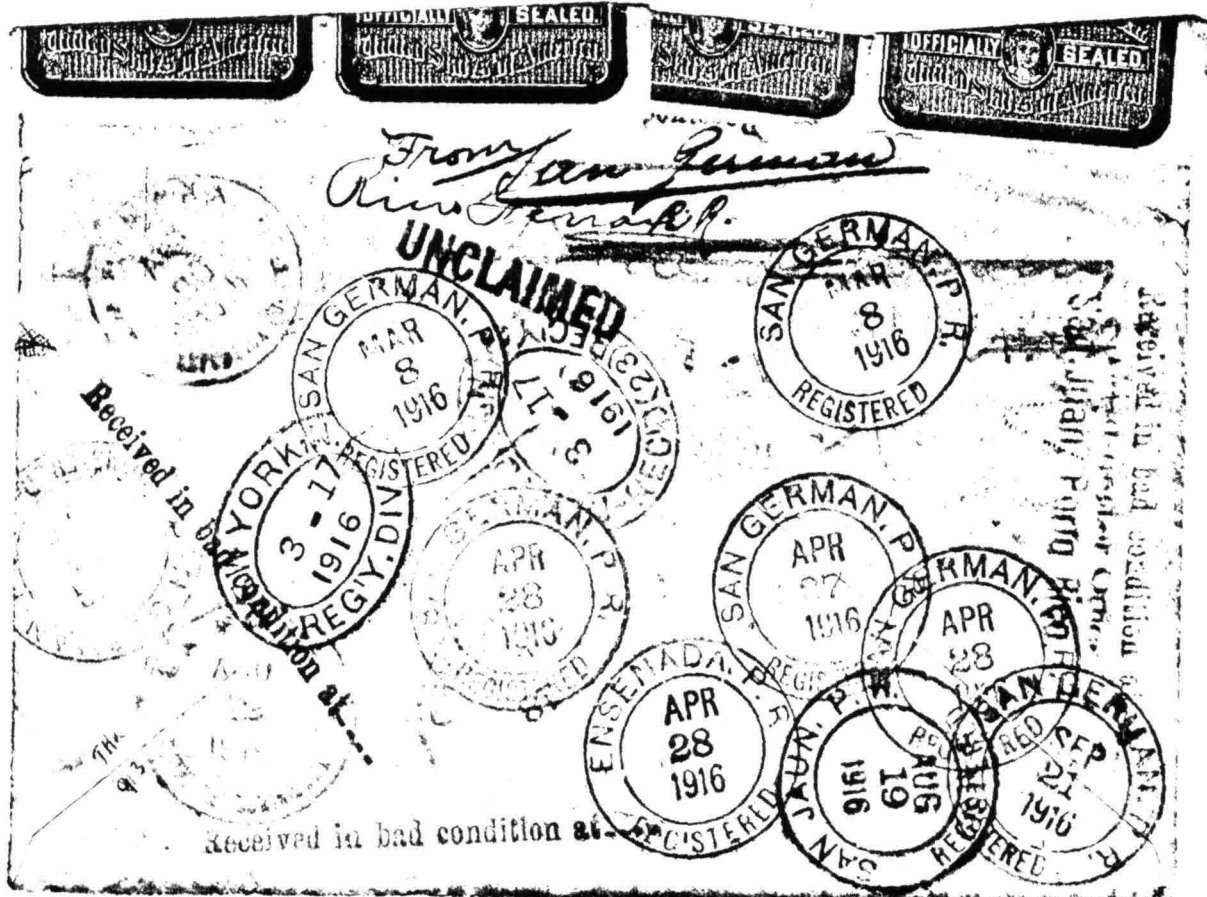
Parcel post rate for mailing fur pelts from Bethel to San Francisco. One of five recorded tags or covers franked with the perf. 12, \$1.00 Franklin, and one of three pieces recorded with the 50¢ Parcel Post.



5¢ UPU rate applied. Seward to Sweden.

Unica Compagnia "FANTOCCHI LIRICI", E. Salici & Figli
ASSOLUTA NOVITA'
Rappresentante Amministrativo
RINO FERRARI
San Pietro Macoris, Republica Dominicana
Signor
C. DE PASCALE
Manager ODEON THEATRE
Springfield & So. Orange
AVES., NEWARK
REGISTERED
No. 0542
MAR 18 1916
RECEIVED
NOTICE
RETURNED TO WRITER
DE VUELTA
8386
REPUBLICA DOMINICANA
La Romana
Interior
NEW YORK
U.S.A.
REGISTERED
24

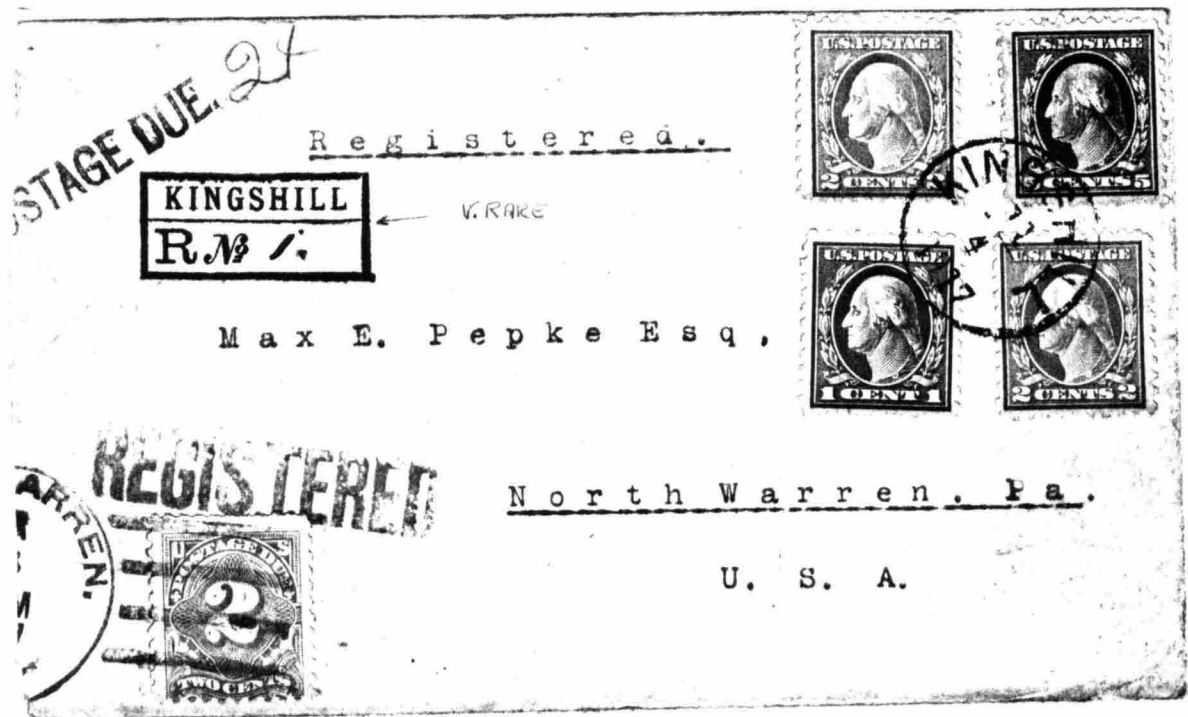
San German, PR, to New York, 2¢ domestic first class rate plus 10¢ registry. Unclaimed, resealed and received in bad condition. Returned to sender, who had removed to the Dominican Republic, but who could not be located there. Finally ended up in the San Juan Dead Letter Office, 9/26/16.



Reverse

VIRGIN ISLANDS

The Virgin Islands were purchased from Denmark on March 30, 1917. From that date until September 29, 1917, both U.S. and Danish West Indies stamps were valid for postage there. After that date only U.S. stamps were valid. The first U.S. stamps and postal devices were delivered there on April 25, 1917.



Canceled at Kingshill April 11, 1917, before the official arrival of U.S. stamps with a Danish cancel. To the U.S. Registered No. 1. 10¢ Registry rate plus 2¢ domestic first class rate. Due 2, collected at North Warren, PA.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF
THE DANISH WEST INDIES.

ST. THOMAS.



Den Danske Landmandsbank

Hypothek-og Vekselbank

KÖBENHAVN

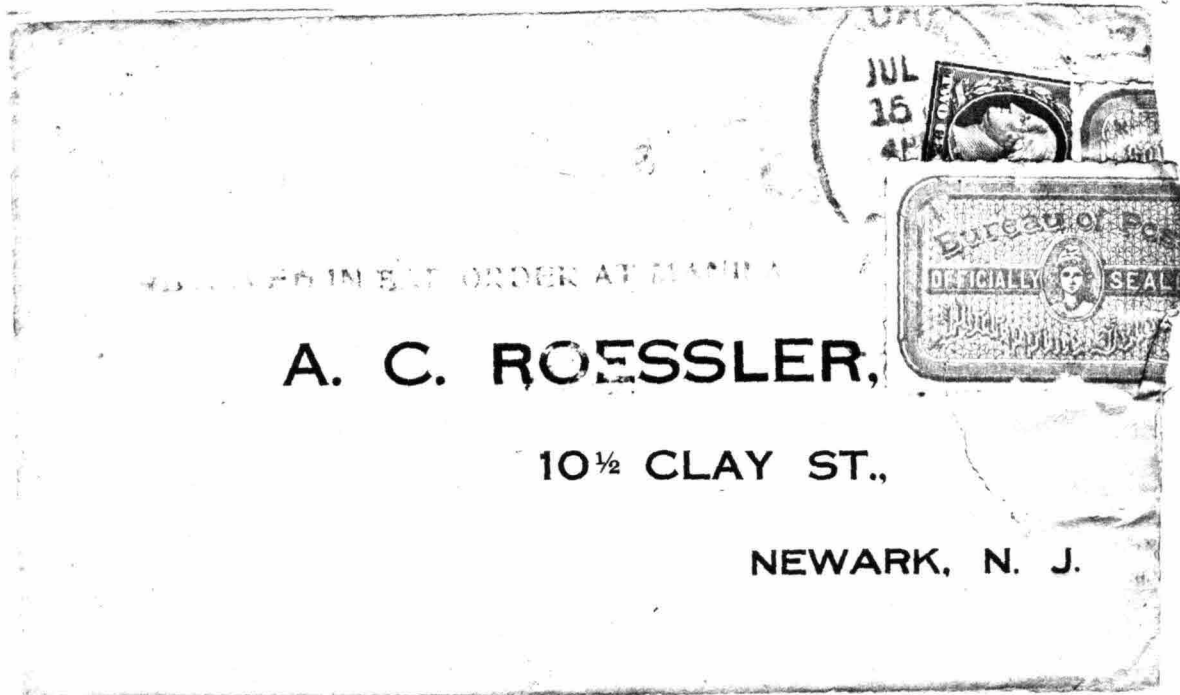
Also before arrival of U.S. stamps, canceled April 10, 1917,
at St. Thomas. UPU rate to Denmark.



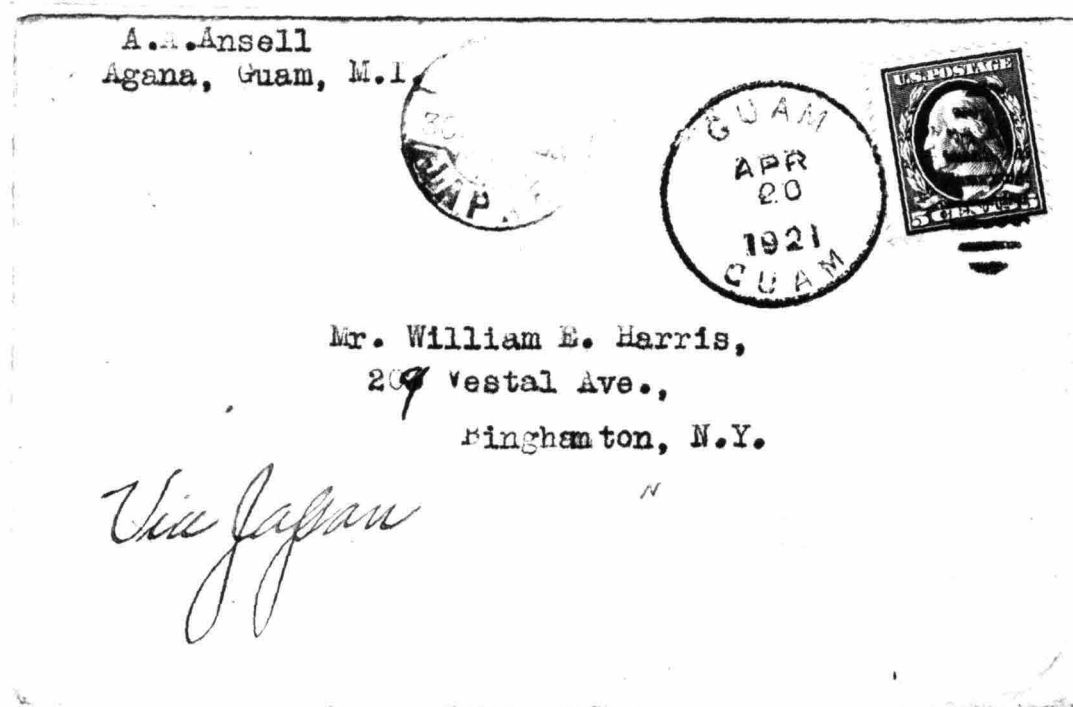
*Atto Friedberg, Esq.
Christiansted
St. Croix.
U. S. Virgin Islands.*

Canceled the first day U.S. stamps arrived in the Virgin Islands,
April 25, 1917, with a Danish cancel at Christiansted. Domestic
rate paid with mixed franking.

GUAM

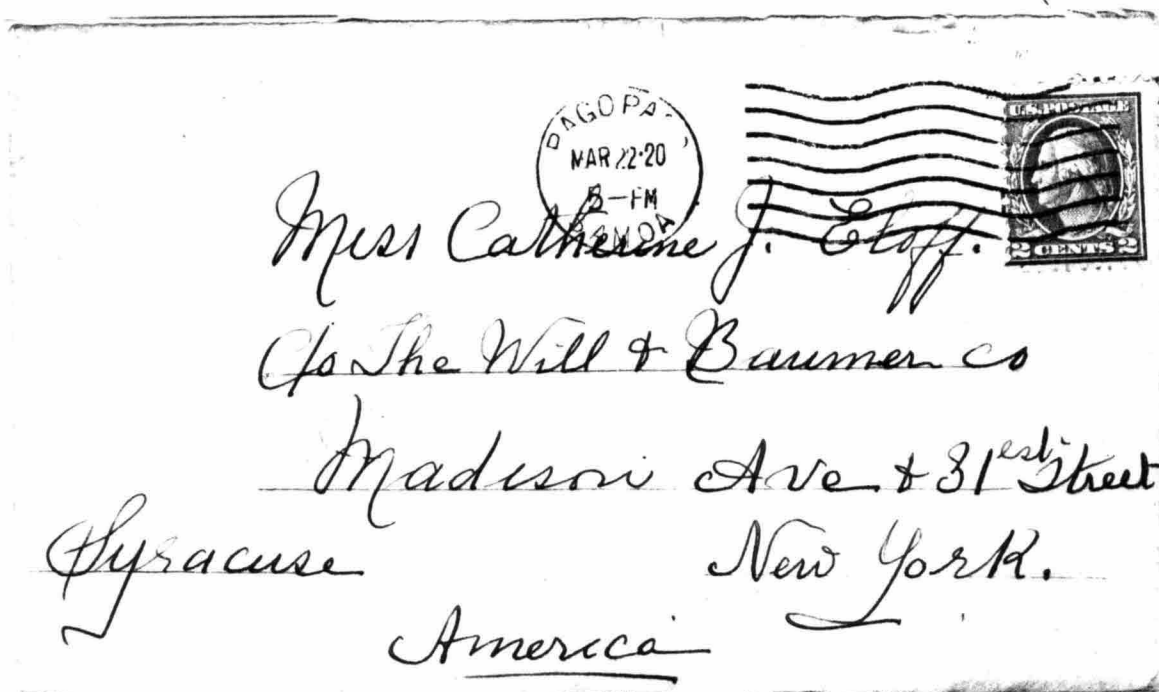


To New Jersey via Philippines and US Postal Systems



To New York via Japanese and US Postal Systems

SAMOA



To New York via US Postal System

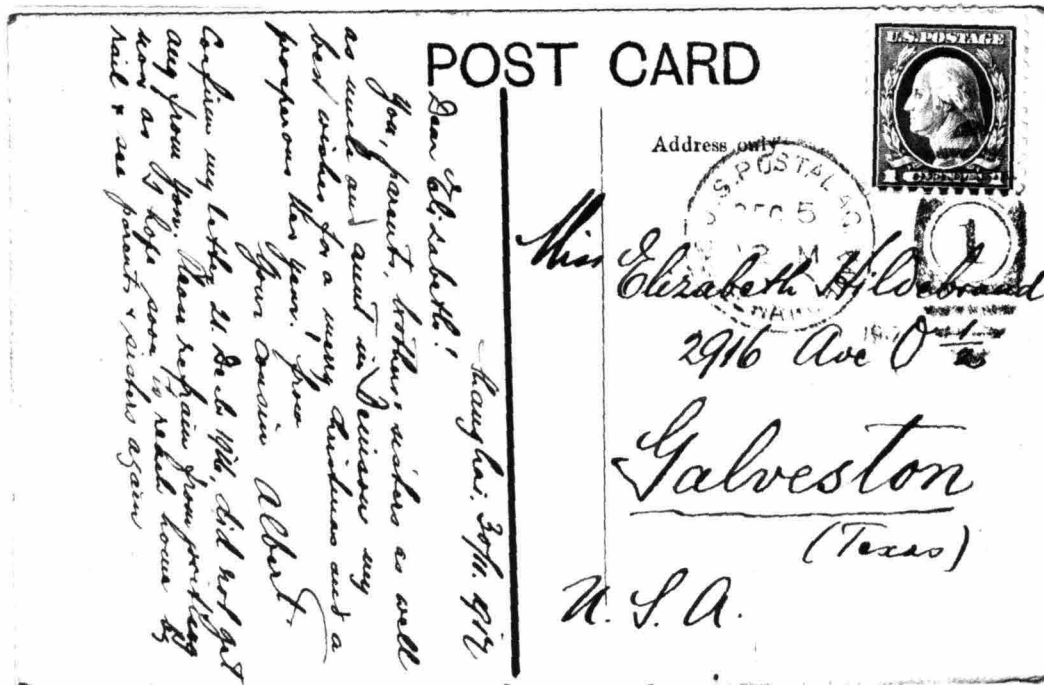


Short paid censored letter to Holland via Dutch East Indies and Dutch Postal Systems.

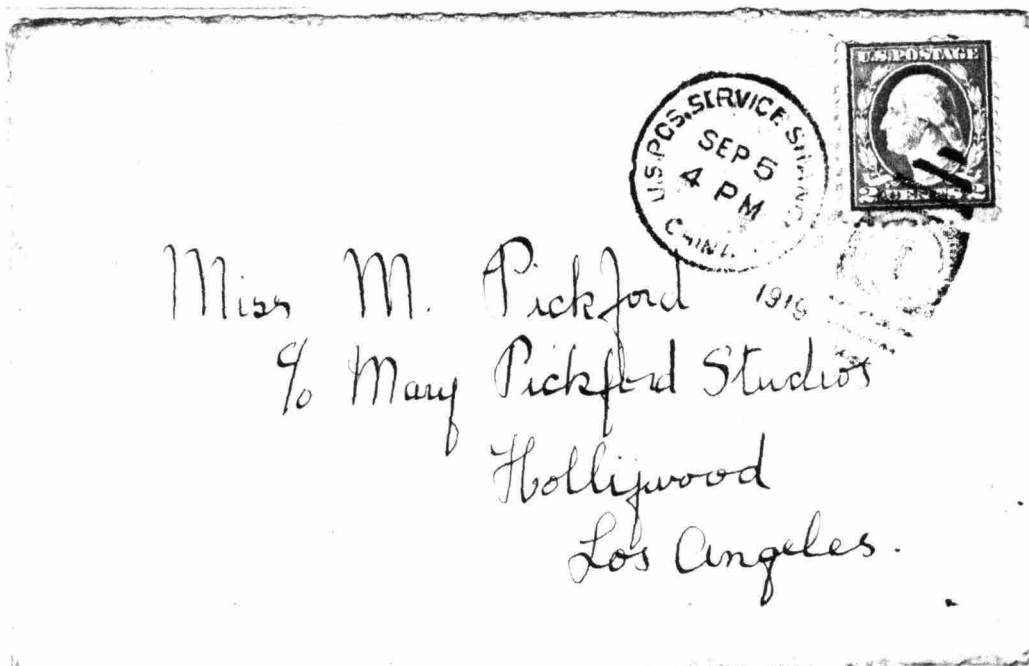
U.S. POSTAL AGENCY SHANGHAI

The U.S. Postal Agency at Shanghai opened for business in 1867. It was originally part of the U.S. Consulate in Shanghai, but it was taken over by the Post Office Department in 1907. China was not a member of the Universal Postal Union until 1914, so the Agency was necessary to facilitate international trade.

United States domestic and UPU rates applied. Mail to the US went at domestic rates unless it was specifically directed through the postal system of another country. It then required postage at UPU rates.



To U.S. - 1¢ domestic post card rate



To U.S. - 2¢ domestic first class letter rate

D
89

NEDERLANDSCHE HANDEL-MAATSCHAPPIJ

Agentschap SHANGHAI.

(NETHERLANDS TRADING SOCIETY, SHANGHAI AGENCY.)

(via America)

Nederlandsche Handel-Maatschap



AMSTERDAM
HOLLAND.



OFFICIAL
AND
SECURED

OFFICIAL
AND
SECURED

To Holland - Quadruple rate first class letter to Holland at UPU rates (5¢ first half ounce, 3¢ each additional half ounce) via US and England. Opened for inspection in England and officially resealed.

ANDREWS, VON FISCHERZ & GEORGE, LTD.

1, FOOCHOW ROAD,
SHANGHAI.

VIA SIBERIA

Messrs. The Simmons Hardware Co.,

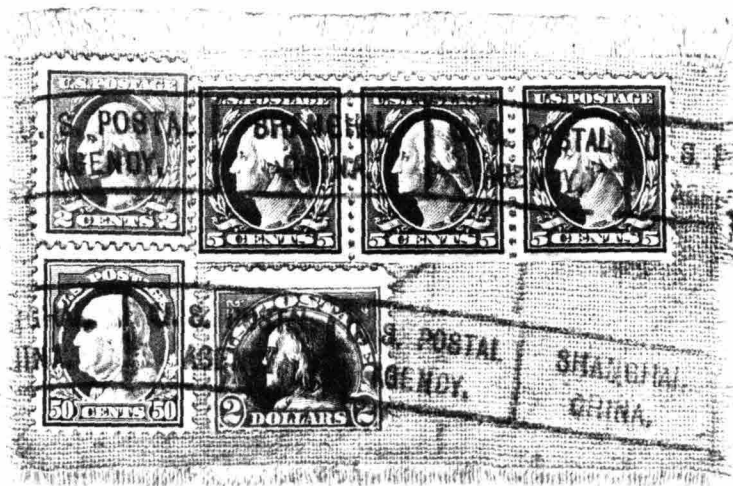
No. 173, Duane Street,

New York, U.S.A.



REVERS

To US - 5¢ US postage to pay the UPU rate necessary because the letter was shipped via another postal system - in this case via Japan, Trans-Siberian Railroad, St. Petersburg, Russia, and Southampton, England.

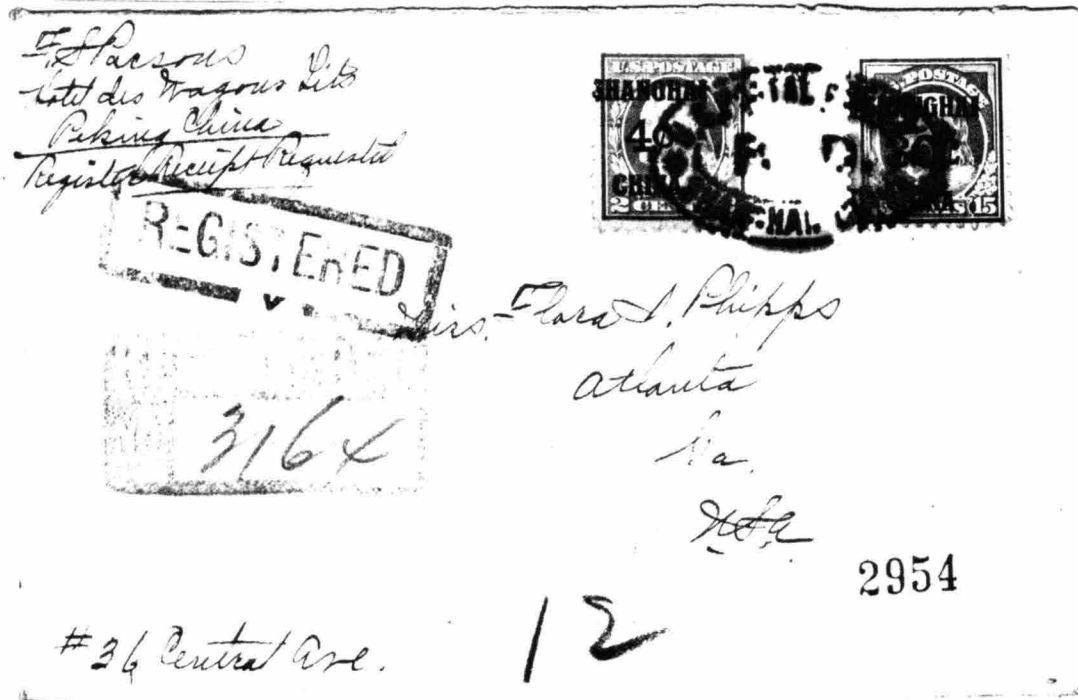


To US - High value US stamps used to pay the domestic parcel post rates to ship burlap covered bales of silk

VIA SHANGHAI

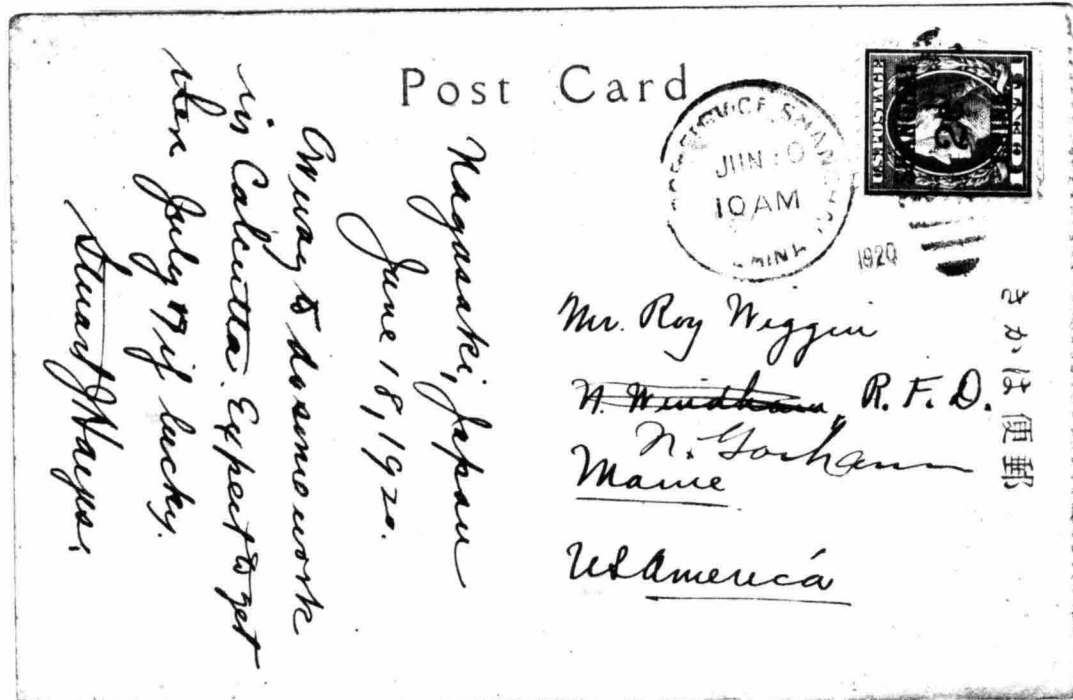
Mail from various public and private sources was sent via the U.S. Postal Agency at Shanghai for one or more reasons. It was more reliable, quicker or less expensive.

PEKING, CHINA



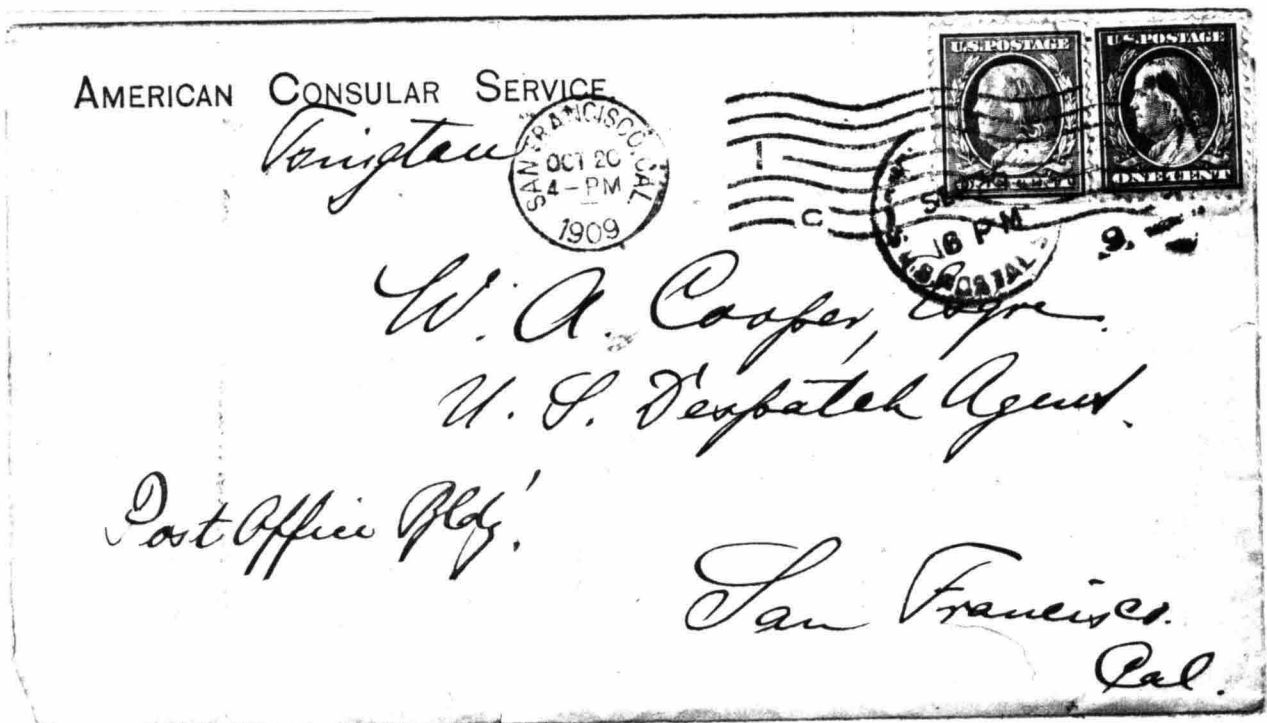
Transmitted from Peking by the Chinese Imperial Post to Shanghai and deposited at the U.S. Postal Agency

NAGASAKI, JAPAN



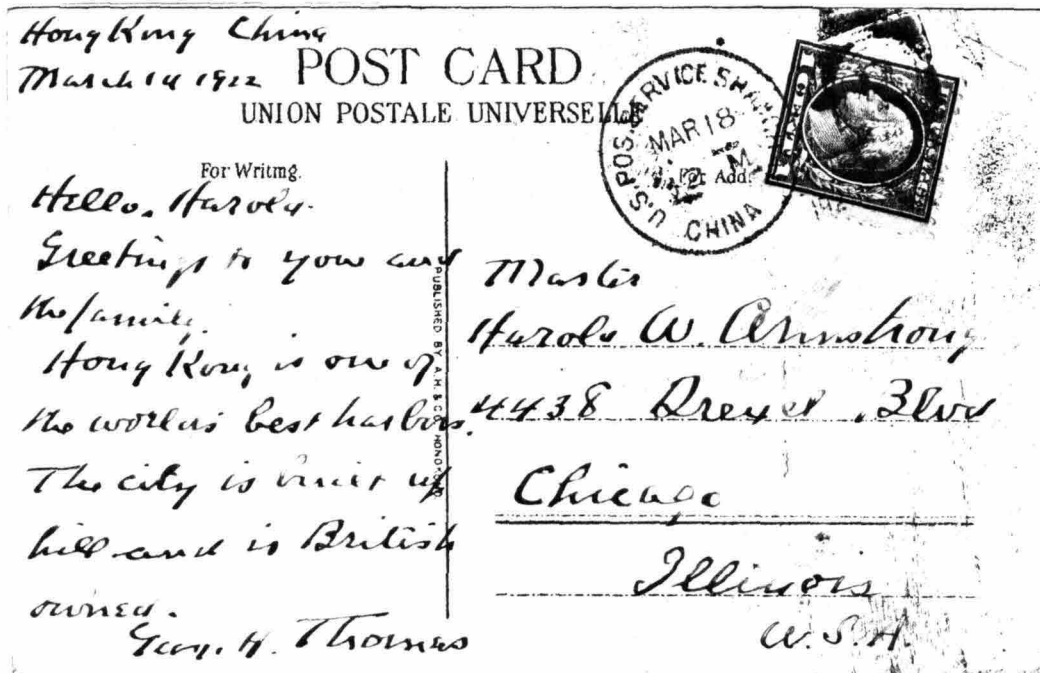
It was often quicker and cheaper to send mail from Nagasaki via Shanghai than to put it into the Japanese Postal System, which would send it to Yokohama and then on by Seapost.

TSINGTAU, CHINA



Routine diplomatic mail was carried by pouch by courier to Shanghai and put into the U.S. Postal System

HONG KONG, CHINA



Several large hotels in Hong Kong offered to their guests as a courtesy the delivery of mail with U.S. postage affixed to the U.S. Postal Agency at Shanghai. Mail probably arrived two weeks earlier by this route than by normal British Postal System routes.

TAIKU, KOREA



Overseers from the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions would as a courtesy pick up mail from the missions under their jurisdiction and take it to Shanghai