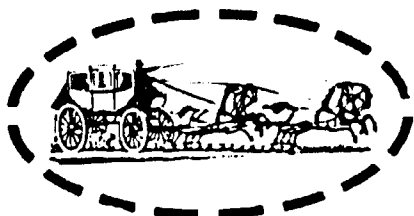


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COVER: Our cover illustration reproduces a postcard view of a devastated San Francisco after the 1906 quake and fire. The view includes a portion of one of the refugee camps and is intended to call attention to Randy Stehle's fine article in this issue.

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IN THIS ISSUE:

THE UPU "T" AND US "DUE" MARKINGS:
An Overview of Short Paid Mail Matter Leaving the US
for or Entering the US from Other Postal
Union-Member Countries
By Henry J. "Hank" Berthelot 7

MAIL ROUTING THROUGH WW II APO's IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW GUINEA
From a Narrative by Irving Pelletier 29

EARLY MAIL FROM A MILITARY MAVERICK
By Michael Dattolico 37

VIEWS ON OLD TIME EDUCATION
By Tom Clarke 40

THE IDEA HAD TO COME FROM SOMEWHERE!
By Robert Munshower 53

AUXILIARY MARKINGS: "Burned Out" in the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake & Fire -- Recent Discoveries & a Re-examination of the Resumption of Normal Postal Service
By Randy Stehle 54

THE POST OFFICES OF MORGAN COUNTY, KENTUCKY, Part I
By Robert M. Rennick 65

GENERAL CHARLES HENRY VAN WYCK OF WYOMING, NEBRASKA
By Charles A. O'Dell 71

Also Postal History Notes & Reviews

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PUBLISHER'S PAGE

Back in the U.S.A.



Cath and I want to express our heartiest thanks to all of you who have welcomed us back during the past six weeks. Our return trip featured two weeks of exploring the Queensland coast by car from Townsville to an area about three hours south of Brisbane in northern New South Wales. The distance was a bit over 1,000 miles and we experienced lots of marvelous country along the way.

We landed back in Portland on April 12, a bit frazzled from a somewhat hectic flight by way of Tahiti and Los Angeles. It was more than a little strange to reestablish contact with American culture. After six months living on a very quiet, tropical island, the traffic and rush of people everywhere was a bit overwhelming. We were delighted at the shopping opportunities. Americans never really appreciate just how many choices we have when it comes to buying things. From food stuffs to automobiles, we have a much, much wider range of choices than our mates in Australia, and Australia is hardly less "developed" than the US. The key, of course, is market size. The United States is the world's largest consumer market, and the producers of the planet seek to find a niche in that market. In some ways, life is much easier here, but I think we are all becoming aware that there are costs.

Thanks to some outstanding work from some of our old hands, we are able to present a great menu of articles for this issue. **Hank Berthelot** conducts a tour de force overview on the subject of shortpaid mail matter entering or leaving the US for other UPU member countries. **Randy Stehle** revisits the postal situation following the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, with a report that describes some surprising recent discoveries. **Mike Dattolico** reports on the discovery of some very early military mail from the Lt. William "Billy" Mitchell shortly after he received his commission in the Army's

Signal Corps in 1899. To make the find even more "juicy" the covers originated from Alaska. **Tom Clarke** introduces us to some earlier views on the subject of education as revealed in period correspondence, and **Robert Rennick** begins his analysis of the place names of Morgan County, Kentucky. In addition **Charles O'Dell** presents some interesting information on General Charles Henry Van Wyck of Wyoming, Nebraska. We publish some WWII recollections of Warrant Officer **Irving Pelletier** from his days in Australia and New Guinea, and **Bob Munshower** presents us with some tempting speculation about postmark types. All in all, a pretty darned good issue for our first six weeks back in the States. Thanks a heap, gentlemen, we needed and appreciate your wonderful support.

Since we have a pretty full plate this issue, I'll keep my comments short, and close by saying that there is still some "space available" for our September issue. If you've been working on a postal history project that you'd like to share with our readers, give me a call (503) 543-2606 or drop me a note and I'll be delighted to assist you in bringing it along to publication.

Richard W. "Bill" Helbock

Letter To the Editor

I thought about what Ron Ward said in his article March 1998 *La Posta* & called Bob Payne today to get his opinion on it. Bob responded privately to Ron about the issue of whether the Type E-2 (pseudo-slogan machines) with the tapered lettering in the slogans were produced by a Baby Columbia machine. Bob has no proof that they were produced by this or any other machine. Where I differ from Ron is in his analysis of why these cancels were not made by a machine. His conclusion is based upon the assumption that a machine which would have produced them used steel dies. Under this assumption I also would agree with his conclusion. When he quoted from my article in the July 1993 *La Posta* (Vol. 24, No. 3), he did not include my complete statement regarding this issue. I went on to state "the baby Columbia is believed to have been a small, hand held device, similar to the one used to produce the Perfection machine cancels. It employed rubber dies as opposed to the metal dies in use in the rapid canceling machines used in larger post offices." As such, one would not expect to find an impression on the inside of the envelope (one sign of a machine being used). Also, I checked all my Type E-1 pseudo machine cancels that Bob Payne says were produced by a Baby Columbia & none of them had ink on the backs of their envelopes

(another sign of a machine usage). Therefore, I contend that one cannot say that the Type E-2 non-standard cancels were not made by some type of machine any more than I can prove they were. As Bob Payne told me today, that's what makes postal history so much fun - there are still areas where one simply does not know the answer.

Randy Stehle

PS: I forgot to say in my prior post that Ron's own article quotes a letter from a postal official at Mills College, CA that states that the cancel in question was produced by a cancelling machine. That's pretty good evidence that runs counter to Ron's conclusion. Incidentally, the 22 Sep 1922 date for the Mills College cancel is still the LKU. I guess they heeded the POD's warning to stop using it. Also, I'm sure that the "steel one" (canceling device) referred to in the letter is the steel duplex used there just after the non-standard one. In John Williams' *California Town Postmarks 1849-1935* this steel duplex has an ECU on 2 Dec 1922, just a little over two months after the LKU for the cancel in question.

NORTH CAROLINA FORMS POSTAL HISTORY COMMISSION

The newly appointed board of the N.C. Postal History Commission recently held its first meeting at the NC Museum of History in Raleigh. Created by the NC General Assembly in 1997, it will operate until June 30, 2000. It is believed to be one of the first such commissions appointed by any state. Its creation indicates the state's commitment to its history and educating citizens about the important role of past postal operations.

The commission was established to advise the secretary of the NC Department of Cultural Resources on the collection, preservation, cataloging, publication and exhibition of North Carolina's postal history. Information and material collected by the commission will be the basis for a future exhibition at the NC Museum of History and for publications on the state's postal history.

For additional information parties are to call Rep. Decker (910) 595-3008, or State Archivist David Olson (919) 733-3952.

ED: Quite a few *La Posta* subscriber names appear among the list of 16 commission members, and *La Posta* wishes to offer hearty congratulations to all who were successful in bringing about this legislative feat. Perhaps other states can be convinced of the value of supporting postal history research.

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The following individuals have expressed an interest in corresponding with other collectors via e-mail. Names are followed by specific interest (where known) and complete e-mail address. If you would like to join this list in future issues of *La Posta*, send us a note via e-mail at laposta@teleport.com

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Corrections to "Love & Death in St. Thomas, D.W.I"

Two errors crept into the published article as it appeared in the May 1998 issue of *La Posta*. First, the date stamp on the letter was identified as "Weymouth". It should be "Plymouth."

Second, in the transcription of letter four, in the second paragraph, the sentence reading "... notwithstanding his being so seduced in flesh..." should read "being so reduced in flesh....". This was the author's transcription error and, as his mother-in-law (a newspaper editor) pointed out, in addition to being wrong, a lady of her position in the 1830s would not even have used such a word!

QUEENSLAND VIEWS

As the risk of boring our entire readership with photo albums and slide shows, we've chosen a few snapshots to provide images to go along with our descriptions of island life. From top to bottom 1) Cath helped raise three baby friar birds after the disastrous January deluge. They all survived. 2) Bill serves as a perch for an adult kookaburra who feeds its young on the post. 3) Our rented house on Magnetic Island. 4) The *Turtle-Dragon*, our accommodation in the Whitsunday Islands.



THE UPU "T" AND US "DUE" MARKINGS:

An Overview of Short Paid Mail Matter Leaving the US for or Entering the US from Other Postal Union-Member Countries

By: Henry J. "Hank" Berthelot

The use of the UPU "T" marking in the United States may be separated into five different periods, which I have designated as follows:

- I. 1875 - 1879, The Postage Paid - Calculation Period;
- II. 1879 - 1907, The Single Deficiency - Conversion Period;
- III. 1907 - 1965, The Double Deficiency - Conversion Period;
- IV. 1966 - 1975, The Double Deficiency - Percentage Period; and
- V. 1976 - Present, The Actual Deficiency - Charge Period.

This most recent period may be further divided into two sub-periods:

- V a. 1976 - 1981, twenty cent charge and
- V b. 1981 - present, forty-two cent charge.

The purpose of this article is to present an historical overview of short paid mail matter leaving the United States for or entering the United States from other Postal Union-member countries. To accomplish that purpose, the procedures used to handle and the auxiliary postal markings used to denote short paid mail during each of the five periods listed above will be considered.

Since my main philatelic interest is United States postal history and my primary medium of collecting is the postal card, this article mostly will consider postal cards used internationally to and from the United States. And, the various auxiliary postal markings illustrated will be affixed, in the main, to a postal card or a post card.

The reader will notice that I use the general term "card" after 1897 to refer to both type mail matter. While there are definite distinctions between a government postal card and a privately manufactured post card, those distinctions became moot when post cards were admitted to the Postal Union mails in 1897. After the admission of post cards, all "cards" in conformity with international rules regarding their transmission have been rated and handled in a similar manner.

The reader also will notice that I use the term "postage due stamp." Some collectors believe that it is more appropriate to use the term "postage due label," reasoning that postage dues are not "stamps" since they were not intended nor used to pay the postage necessary to

mail an item. While I appreciate that reasoning, being a postal card collector, I consider any philatelic adhesive a "stamp."

This article commences on the 12th of May 1873, the date the United States issued its first postal card. Valued at one cent, cards of that issue were intended for domestic use. From that date of issue until July of 1875, United States postal cards were allowed in foreign correspondence; however, the amount of additional postage required to be affixed depended upon the particular country of destination.

Between 1873 and 1875, the United States had conventions with four countries -- Switzerland, Germany, Canada and Newfoundland -- which provided for the exchange of postal cards at a United States equivalent two-cent rate. United States postal cards sent to all other countries required additional postage to meet the then current letter rate stated in the treaty between the United States and the particular country.

The first international Postal Congress met in Berne, Switzerland, on 15 September 1874, at the invitation of the Swiss government. Twenty-one countries sent delegates. Of all the decisions of that Congress, the signed agreement being known as the "Treaty of Berne," the most far-reaching was that which established a continuing international postal organization, which is now in its one hundred twenty-fourth year. The name chosen for that organization was the General Postal Union, usually referred to by the acronym "GPU." The GPU formed a single postal territory for the reciprocal exchange of mail between member countries, under a uniform set of rules and an established rate system. French was chosen as the GPU's official language and the franc and centime of the countries belonging to the Latin Monetary Union was selected as its currency standard. Prior to World War I, that currency standard was the monetary unit on which all international postal charges were based.

I. The Postage Paid - Calculation Period

1 July 1875 - 30 March 1879

Three GPU mail categories were established: letter mail, postal cards and printed matter. The GPU's basic postal rate was fixed at twenty-five centimes per single prepaid letter; however, to each member country was reserved the option, in order to suit its monetary or other requirements, of levying a rate higher or lower than the basic rate, provided that the rate did not go above thirty-two centimes or below twenty centimes. Every prepaid letter that did not exceed fifteen grams in weight was

considered a single letter. Letters exceeding fifteen grams were charged the single-letter rate per each fifteen grams or fraction thereof. Prepayment of postage could only be effected by means of postage stamps or indicia valid in the country of origin. At that time one US cent was equivalent to five centimes, so the United States single letter rate to other GPU-member countries was set at five cents.

The date the Treaty of Berne and its accompanying statutes became effective was the 1st of July 1875. France, one of the "principal" participants at the Berne Congress, was allowed to delay its acceptance of the treaty provisions until the 1st of January 1876. Also, Montenegro, which had been invited to the Berne Congress but was unable to send a delegate, was permitted to become a member upon its declaration of adherence to the treaty.

The GPU had statutes that concerned postal cards. Those statutes were codified in the United States laws as *19 Statutes-at-Large* 577 - 592. The prepayment of postal cards was compulsory and the postal rate for them was set at one half that of single prepaid letters. Each member country had the right to round off fractions. For example, in the United States, with a single-letter rate of five cents, the postal card rate was two and one-half cents. Since United States currency did not permit that particular amount, the United States had the right under the Treaty of Berne to "round-up" and set its postal card rate at three cents. But, it opted to "round-down," thus setting its postal card rate to other GPU-member countries at two cents.

The delegates of the first Postal Congress were keenly aware that if improperly paid mail were allowed to pass unchallenged through the system, mailers would soon realize that it did not matter how much postage was affixed to an item. Thus, the GPU established a system of collection based on the successful French system then in effect that included accountability and the use of special format stamps dedicated to the collection of and accounting for any unpaid postage. GPU regulations that accompanied the Treaty of Berne differentiated between unpaid and short paid mail matter. Those regulations also were codified in the United States laws as *19 Statutes-at-Large* 592 - 609.

Any unpaid and short paid item found in the GPU mail was to be impressed with the letter "T" at the Exchange Office in the country of origin. After being denoted with the letter "T," the unpaid or short paid mail item was forwarded to its destination, where the deficiency was calculated, collected and retained by the Post Office in the country of destination.

Meaning "tax to be paid," the letter "T" was taken from the word "TAXE," found on the then current French postage due stamps. A block of four of the fifteen

centime issue is seen in Figure 1. The phrase on each postage due stamp translates literally "TO COLLECT (the stated amount) CENTIMES CHARGE FOR POST OFFICE ACCOUNT." Issued between 1859 and 1878, the seven stamps of that issue were valued from ten to sixty centimes.

Since the GPU's basic postal rate was established on letter-rated mail, I will use that mail category to explain how Exchange Office clerks (in the country of destina-

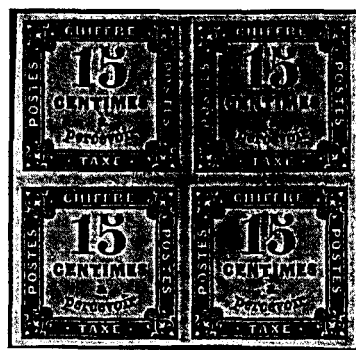


Figure 1. French postage due block. Wording on each stamp translates literally "TO COLLECT (fifteen) CENTIMES CHARGE FOR POST OFFICE

tion) calculated the charge on short paid mail that had been denoted with the UPU "T" during this period. The charge in the particular country's currency was calculated as follows:

A fully prepaid single letter between GPU-member countries was charged the equivalent of twenty-five centimes;

an unpaid single letter between GPU-member countries was charged the equivalent of fifty centimes; and

a short paid single letter between GPU-member countries was charged as unpaid, after deducting the equivalent value of the postage that had been affixed.

For letters exceeding the single-letter rate, clerks multiplied the appropriate charge noted above by the number of weight units of the letter per fifteen grams or fraction thereof. During this period, the Exchange Office clerks had to know equivalent currency values.

II. The Single Deficiency - Conversion Period 1 April 1879 - 30 September 1907

The second international Postal Congress, held in Paris, France, in 1878, resulted in the "Convention of Paris¹." In addition to changing the name of the organization from GPU to the Universal Postal Union², more commonly referred to by the acronym "UPU," that Congress also changed how short paid mail was handled. Effective 1 April 1879, short paid items sent between UPU member countries "were liable to a charge equal to double the amount of the deficiency, to be paid by the addressee." In regard to postal cards, the UPU initially

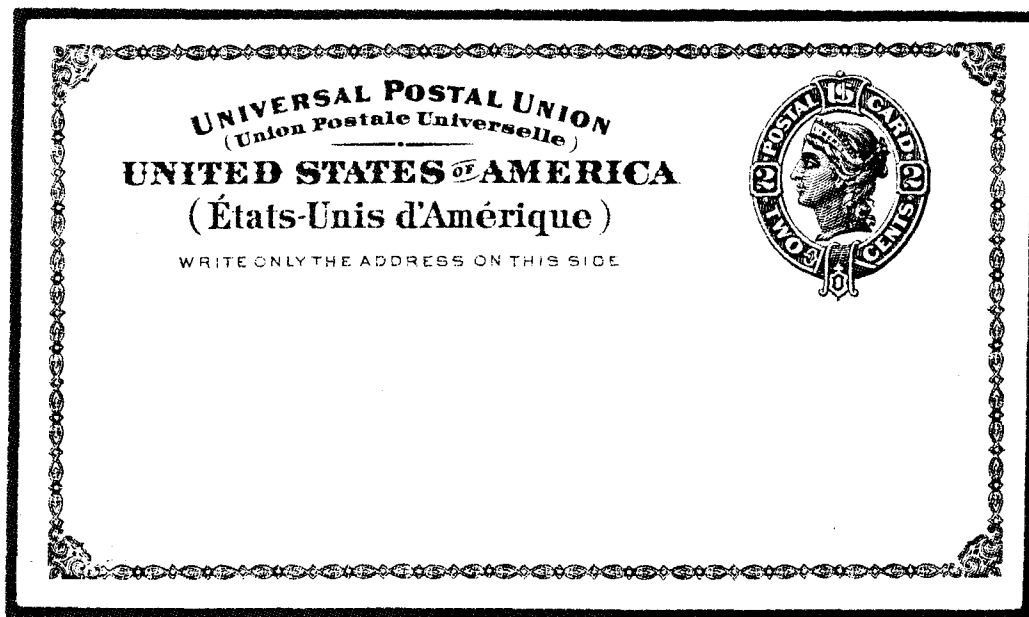


Figure 2. First international postal card issued by the United States on 1 December 1879, in accordance with UPU rules. Valued at the then current two US cent -- UPU equivalent ten centime -- rate, the card was printed both in English and French.

required that they were to be addressed on one side, while the correspondence was to be written on the other side. Also, that postal cards specifically issued for international use be written in the language of the country of origin and in French, and their dimension could not exceed a length of one hundred forty millimeters and a width of ninety millimeters, the dimension more commonly stated in the United States as five and one-half inches by three and one-half inches. Shown in Figure 2 is the first international postal card issued by the United States in December of 1879, in accordance with the UPU rules. Note that the card is valued at the then current two US cent -- UPU equivalent ten centime -- rate and is written in both English and French.

Exchange clerks in the offices of the country of origin continued to mark short paid items with the letter "T," but as of 1 April 1879, indicated the short paid amount in centimes and in black ink "on the side of the postage." Red-ink markings were reserved to denote fully-paid items. As we will see, this

particular country's currency and marked the item for subsequent collection from the addressee.

Seen in Figure 3 is a domestic United States postal card that was sent short paid on 5 May 1886, to England. An Exchange clerk in Boston affixed the circled UPU "T" marking, wrote the numeral "5" to the left of the indicium, meaning the deficiency was an equivalent five

procedure was not always followed. In addition to black, various colors of ink were utilized to denote the short paid amount. And, the short paid amount seldom was written "on the side of the postage." After the Exchange office in the country of origin processed the short paid item, it was forwarded to the country of destination. When the item was received in the country of destination, a clerk at the Exchange Office doubled the deficit amount noted, converted that amount from centimes into the

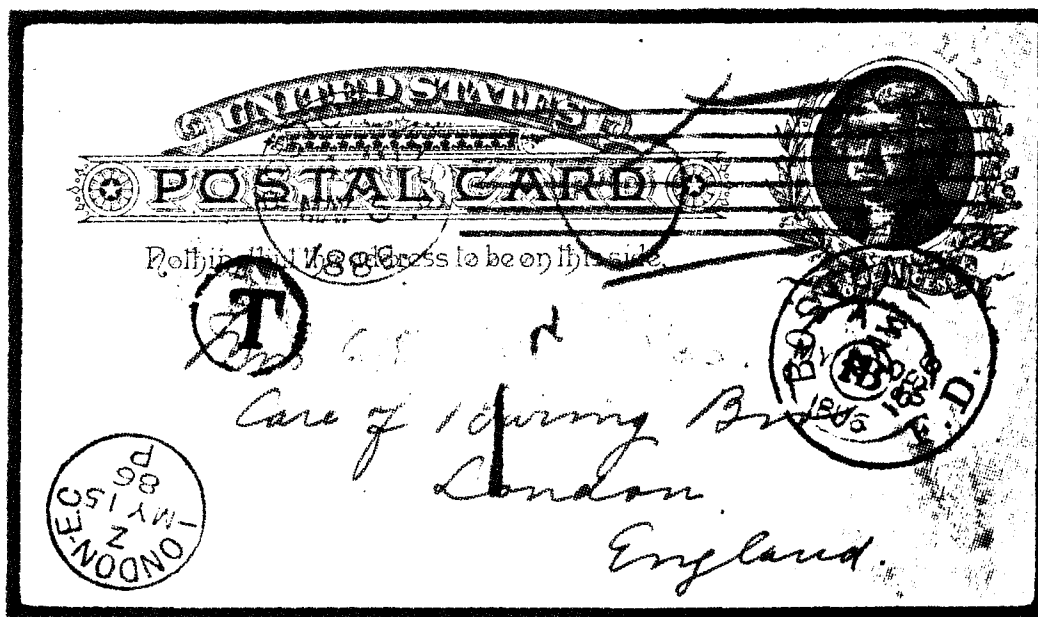


Figure 3. United States domestic postal card sent short paid to England in May of 1886. In Boston, an Exchange Office clerk applied the circled UPU "T" marking in black ink and the manuscript "5" in blue pencil, denoting the deficiency as an equivalent five centimes (one US cent). In England, the deficiency was doubled to ten centimes and that amount converted to British currency. Since 2 cents = 10 centimes = 1 pence, the card was marked due "1^d" in black ink.

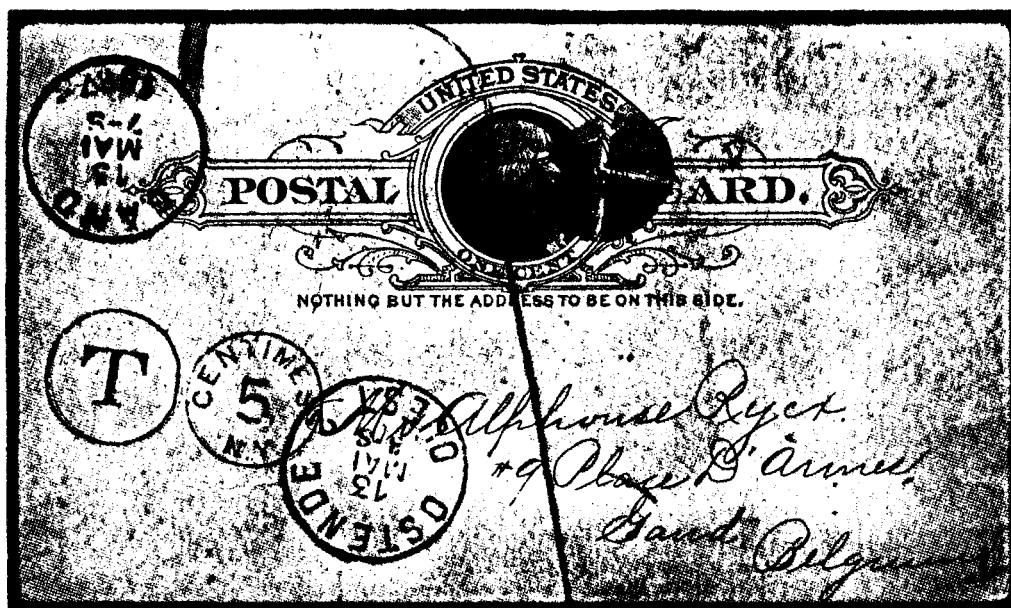


Figure 4. Used 2 May 1887 from Ohio to Belgium, this card was short paid an equivalent five centimes (one US cent). The New York "opera glass" marking denoted the deficiency. Although two Belgium circular date stamps were affixed, there is no indication of how the Belgium Post handled collection of the amount due. All markings were struck in black ink.

centimes (one US cent), and applied the Boston Foreign Department circular date stamp. The card then was forwarded to England. When the card arrived in London, an Exchange clerk there doubled the deficiency to ten centimes, converted that amount into British currency and marked the card due one pence, which amount presumably was collected upon delivery of the card.

In addition to using other type "T" markings, the Exchange office in New York used a distinctive UPU "T" marking referred to as the "opera glass." The postal card seen in Figure 4 was posted short paid in Salem, Ohio, on 2 May 1887, destined to Gand, Belgium. At New York, the opera glass marking was affixed by an Exchange Office clerk, noting the deficiency as an equivalent five centimes (one US cent). Note too that the UPU "T" marking was not struck "on the side of the

this postal card was noted as "DUE 2 c." by a California postal clerk; the marking meant "DUE 2 cents." Since

postage." Although two Belgian circular date stamps were applied to the card upon its receipt in Belgium, there is no indication of how the Belgium Post Office handled collection of the amount due.

The UPU allowed for an additional charge -- a surtax -- "which [was] not [to] exceed the half of the general Union rate fixed for a paid letter" when a mail item required an ocean transit of over three hundred nautical miles or for special services to get the mail delivered. The card shown in Figure 5 evidences the assessment of such a charge.

Sent short paid from San Bernardino, California, on 2 October 1891 to Germany,

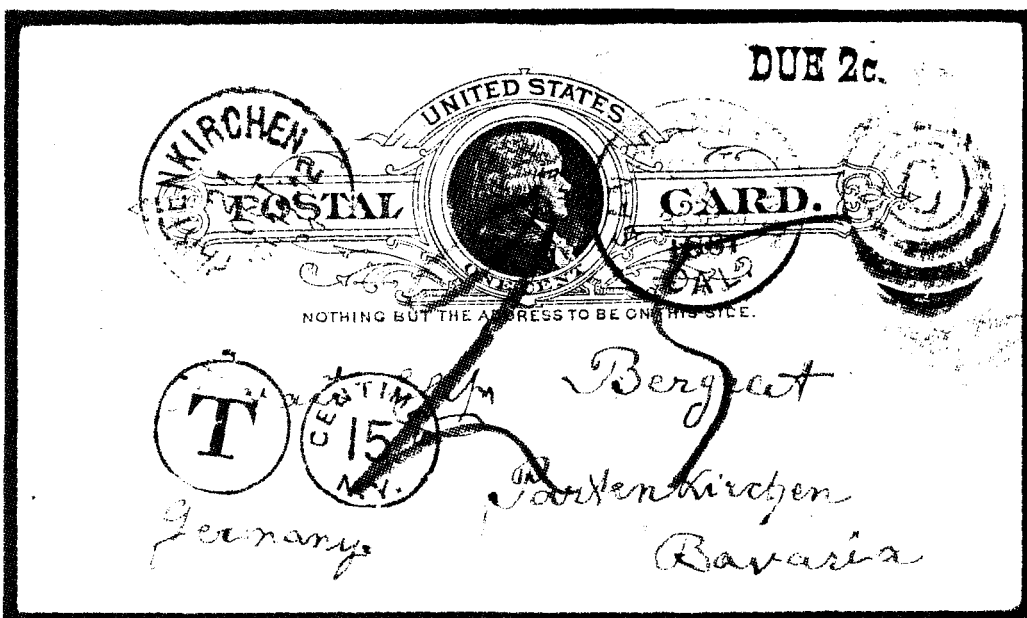


Figure 5. Domestic postal card sent short paid from the United States to Germany. In California, a clerk applied the "DUE 2c." (DUE 2 cents) marking (in black ink). Since the marking was for domestic purposes, it was expressed in "cents." At the New York Exchange office, a clerk echoed the two-cent surtax and added the one-cent deficiency, marking the card (in black ink) deficient an equivalent fifteen centimes (three US cents). In Germany, the deficiency was doubled, converted and rounded-up to "25" pfennig (blue crayon). Since 1 US cent = 5 centimes = 4 German pfennig, 3×4 pfennig = 12 pfennig, and when doubled, 24 pfennig was the amount due. German currency did not permit that particular amount, so according to UPU rules, the Imperial Post "rounded-up" and collected 25 pfennig from the addressee.

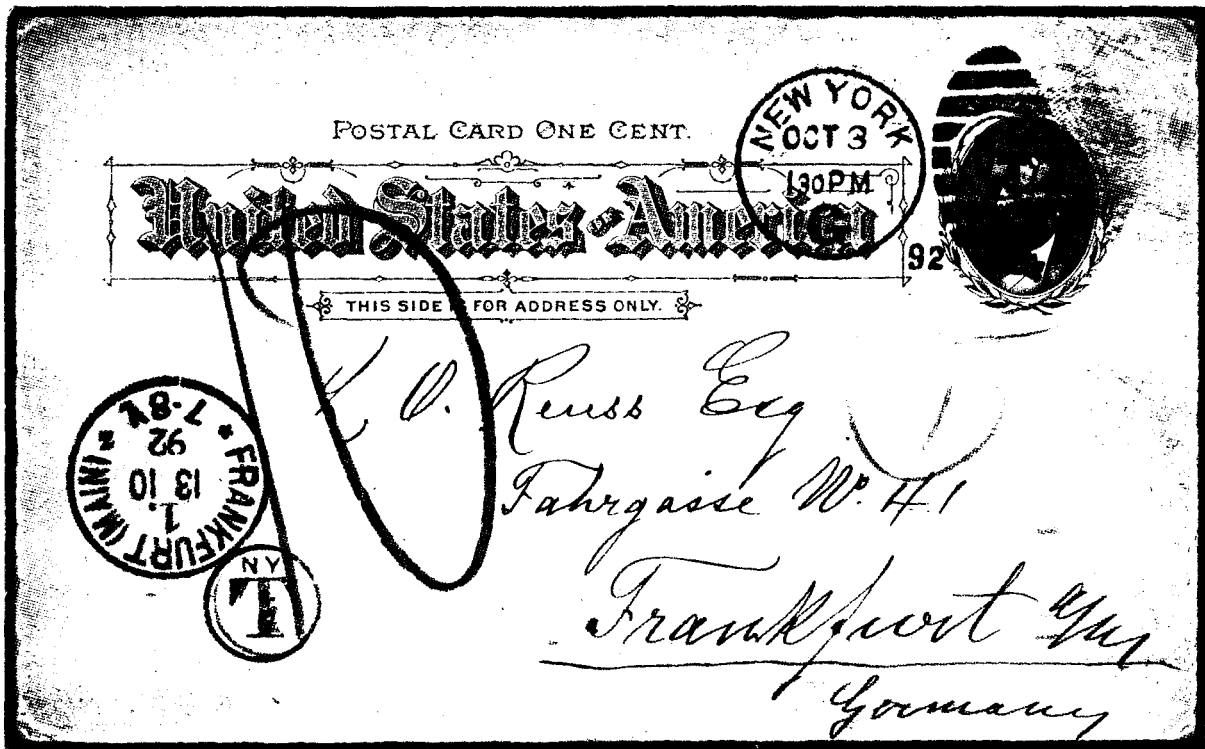


Figure 6a. Mailed short paid from New York to Germany in October of 1892. The card was noted in the United States as deficient an equivalent of five centimes (one US cent). (Manuscript "5" in blue crayon; NY circled UPU "T" marking in black ink.) In Germany, the deficiency was doubled, converted and "rounded-up" to "10" pfennig (blue crayon).

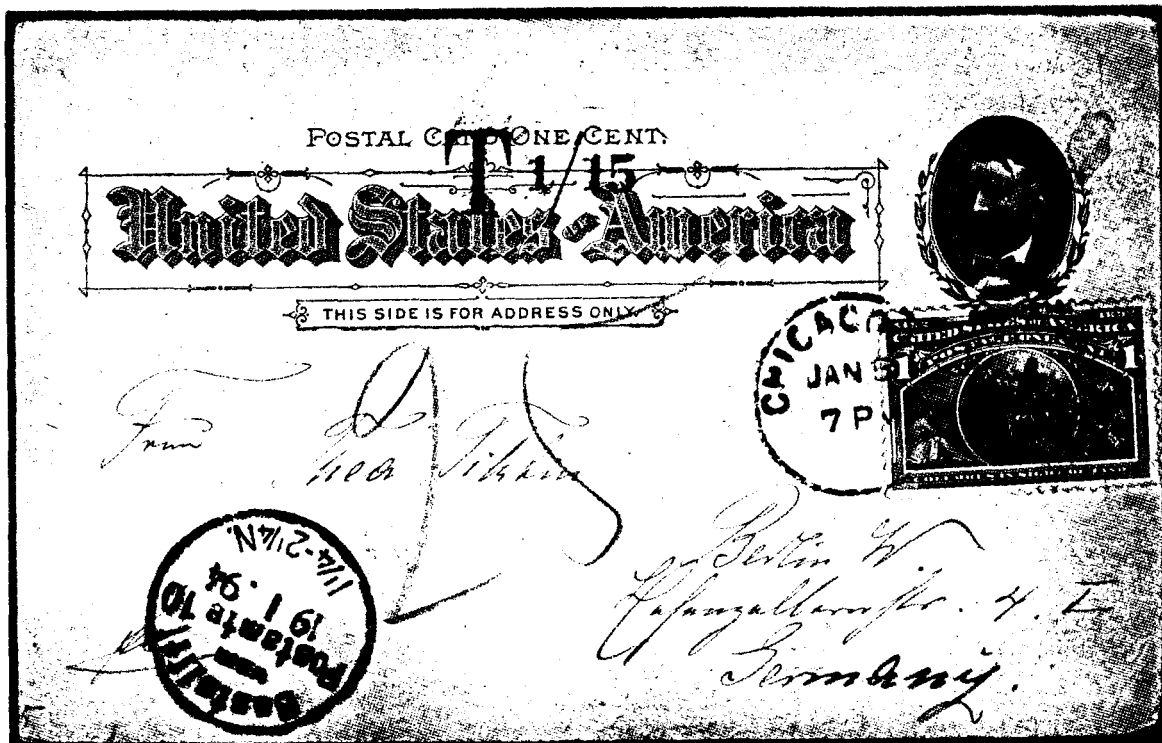


Figure 6b. Posted short paid from Chicago to Germany in January of 1894. The card was noted in United States as deficient with the "T1/15" marking (black ink). In this fraction, the numerator was the item's weight unit [single, 1; double, 2; etc.] and the denominator was the deficiency, expressed in centimes. The figure "25" (blue crayon) meaning 25 pfennig was written in Germany and denoted the deficiency to be collected from the addressee.

the marking was for domestic purposes, it was expressed in "cents." The New York Exchange Office echoed the two-cent surtax and added the one-cent deficiency, marking the card deficient an equivalent fifteen centimes (three US cents). Upon receipt of the card in Germany, the deficiency was doubled and expressed in pfennig by the manuscript "25." Since one US cent equaled five centimes equaled four German pfennig, twelve pfennig was the deficiency. That amount doubled -- twenty-four pfennig -- was the total amount due. German currency did not permit that particular amount, so according to UPU rules, German postal officials were allowed to "round-up," and collected from the addressee twenty-five pfennig. I note that then Postmaster General David M. Key in his *1879 Report of the Postmaster General* to the United States Congress waived the Post Office Department's right to levy additional charges for providing such service.

The United States issued the "large" Grant postal card in 1891. Measuring one hundred fifty-five millimeters by ninety-five millimeters, or six and one-eighth inches by three and three-fourths inches, those cards exceeded the UPU maximum size standard for postal cards. Over-sized postal cards were allowed circulation in the UPU mail; however, postage was required at the higher twenty-five centime letter rate rather than at the lower ten centime postal card rate. Thus, the "large" Grant card required letter-rate postage to all UPU-member countries except Canada and Mexico. The respective conventions between the United States and those two countries provided that the rates and conditions of the country of issue were applicable.

Seemingly, the UPU regulation regarding size was not uniformly enforced until late 1893 or early 1894. How the "large" Grant cards came to be used initially in the UPU mail at the two-cent rate has not been definitely settled. [For a more detailed discussion on the subject, the reader is referred to two articles which appeared in the 1991 edition of

Postal Stationery: "Postal Cards Too Large" by Herman Herst, Jr., pages 131 - 132 of the July - August issue; and "Additional Comments, Corrections and Background on 'Postal Cards Too Large'" by Henry W. Beecher, pages 176 - 177 of the November - December issue.] Shown in Figure 6 are two examples of large Grant cards sent short paid in the UPU mail. The former card was charged at the postal card rate, while the latter card was charged at the letter rate.

The card in Figure 6a was mailed in New York on 3 October 1892 to Germany. A New York circular UPU "T" marking and manuscript "5" denoted the card as being short paid an equivalent five centimes (one US cent). When the card arrived in Germany, the German Exchange Office clerk doubled the deficiency, converted that amount into German currency and noted the total amount to be collected, rounded-up, as "10" pfennig.

The card in Figure 6b was mailed in Chicago on 5 January 1894, with an added one-cent Columbian stamp. An Exchange Office clerk in Chicago applied the UPU "T 1/15" marking. In this method of writing the UPU "T" marking, the numerator was used to denote the weight unit of the item; here the numeral "1" signified that the card was of the first weight unit. The denominator was used to specify the deficiency, expressed in centimes; here the figure "15" denoted the card was short paid an equivalent fifteen centimes (three US cents). Upon the card's arrival in Germany, an Exchange Office

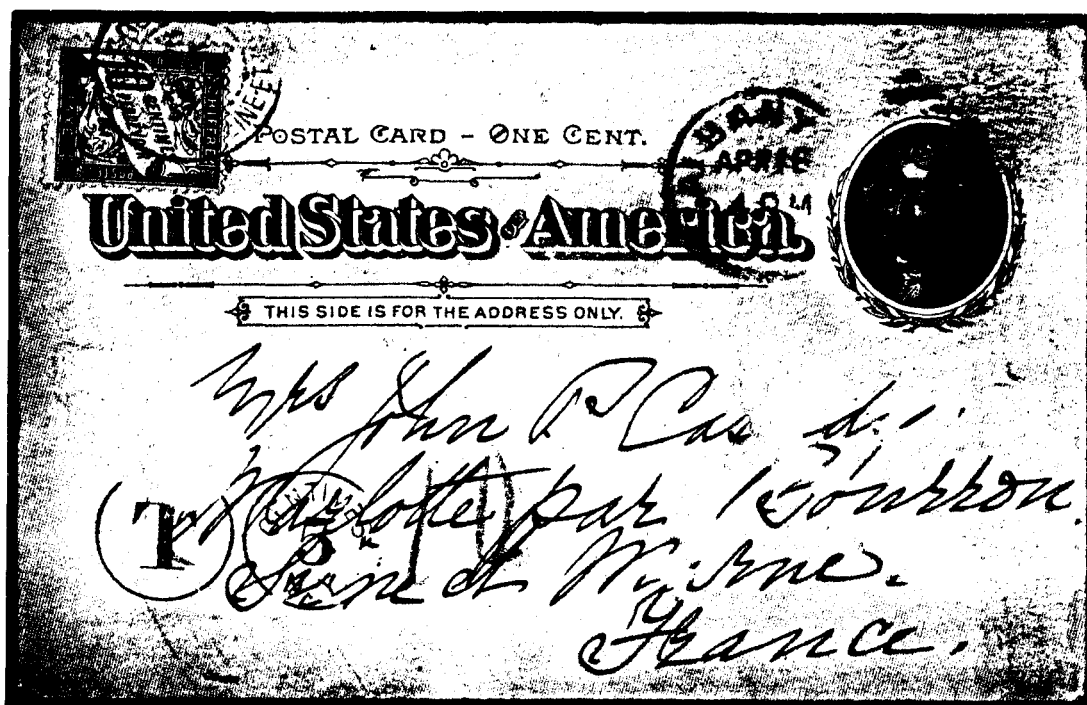


Figure 7a. Card sent in April of 1894 from New York, short paid an equivalent 5 centimes (1 US cent) to France. The New York opera glass marking (black ink) noted the deficiency. In France, the deficiency was doubled and the numeral "10" (red pencil) indicated the total due in French currency. A 10-centime French due stamp also was affixed.

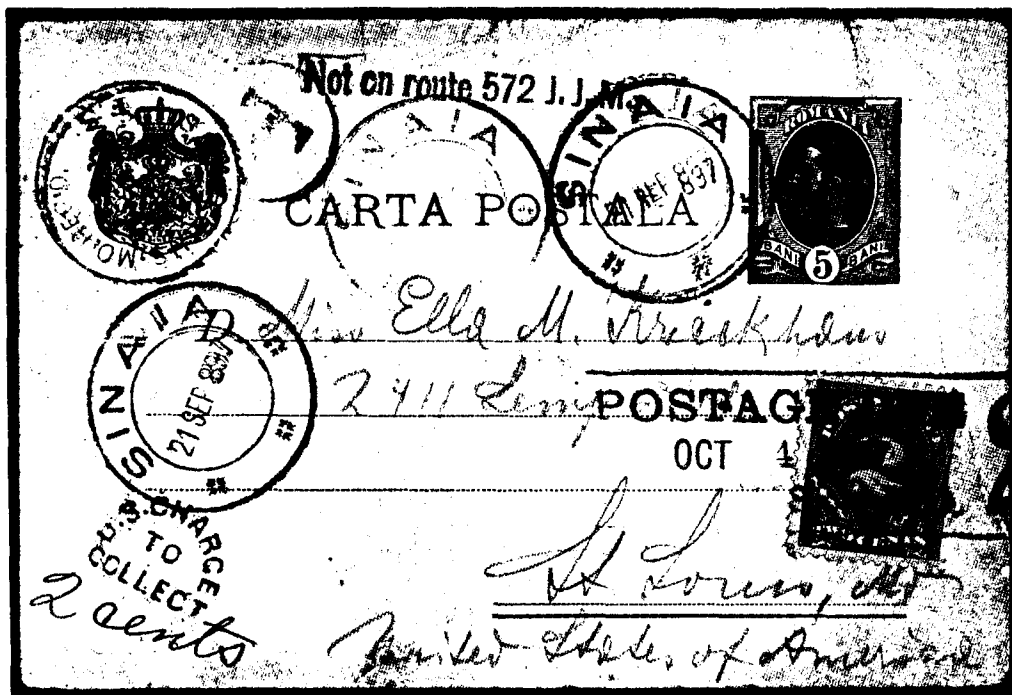


Figure 7b. Romanian domestic card sent in September of 1897 short paid to the United States. Circled UPU "T" marking applied in black ink in Romania. The "U.S. CHARGE TO COLLECT" marking and the manuscript "2 cents" were affixed/written in black ink upon the card's arrival in the United States. The two-cent due stamp was added and canceled at St. Louis.

clerk doubled the deficiency and, rounding-up, expressed the amount due as "25" pfennig.

The two postal cards in Figure 7 illustrate the proper and intended procedure for handling short paid mail and accounting for collection of the additional postage due. The card in Figure 7a was sent from New York, on 16 April 1894, short paid to France. The New York opera glass marking denoted the card was deficient an equivalent five centimes (one US cent). In France, the deficiency was doubled and the amount due not only was written as ten centimes -- the manuscript "10" -- but a French postage due stamp in that amount also was affixed. When the card was delivered, the deficiency was collected from the addressee.

The card in Figure 7b, a Romanian domestic card, was mailed from Sinaia, Romania, on 21 September 1897, short paid an equivalent five centimes (five Romanian bani) to St. Louis, Missouri. A Romanian Exchange Office clerk affixed the circled UPU "T" marking and forwarded the card. In the United States, an Exchange Office clerk doubled the deficiency and converted that amount into "cents." The clerk then applied the "U.S. CHARGE TO COLLECT" marking, adding the amount -- 2 cents -- by hand. At the St. Louis post office, the two cent postage due stamp was affixed and canceled and that

amount collected from the addressee upon delivery of the card.

Figure 8 shows examples of short paid Americana. The Kingdom of Hawaii joined the UPU in 1882. In 1893, the then monarch, Queen Liliuokalani, was dethroned and the government became and stayed a republic until 1900. During that year, the Islands became a territory of the United States, whose domestic rates and regulations then were applicable. The postal card in Figure 8a was mailed in San Francisco, California, on 16 May 1895, short paid to Honolulu, when the Islands were a republic. A San Francisco Exchange Office clerk affixed the UPU

"T" marking, showing an equivalent five centime (one US cent) deficiency. There is no indication of how the Honolulu Post Office handled collection of the amount due.

In 1877, the Danish West Indies ("DWI") and Greenland entered the UPU as "Danish Colonies." The DWI remained a colony-member until March of 1917, when it was ceded to the United States as the "Virgin Islands." The card in Figure 8b was posted on 25 September 1897, short paid from Chicago to Christiansted. In New York, the card was noted with an opera glass marking as being deficient an equivalent five centimes (one US cent). Forwarded to the DWI, the card was marked there with the manuscript "2," meaning two cents, which is the deficiency, doubled and expressed in the DWI's currency.

Seen in Figure 9 are two cards that were sent short paid from Germany to the United States. The card seen in Figure 9a, valued at two pfennig, was a German "local" card intended for use within a city. Improperly used to the United States on 15 December 1900, the card was denoted by a German postal official with the framed UPU "T" handstamped marking and the manuscript "backwards slash 0 cts" on the side of the indicium. The handstamp part indicated the card was short paid, while the manuscript part denoted "zero centimes." When

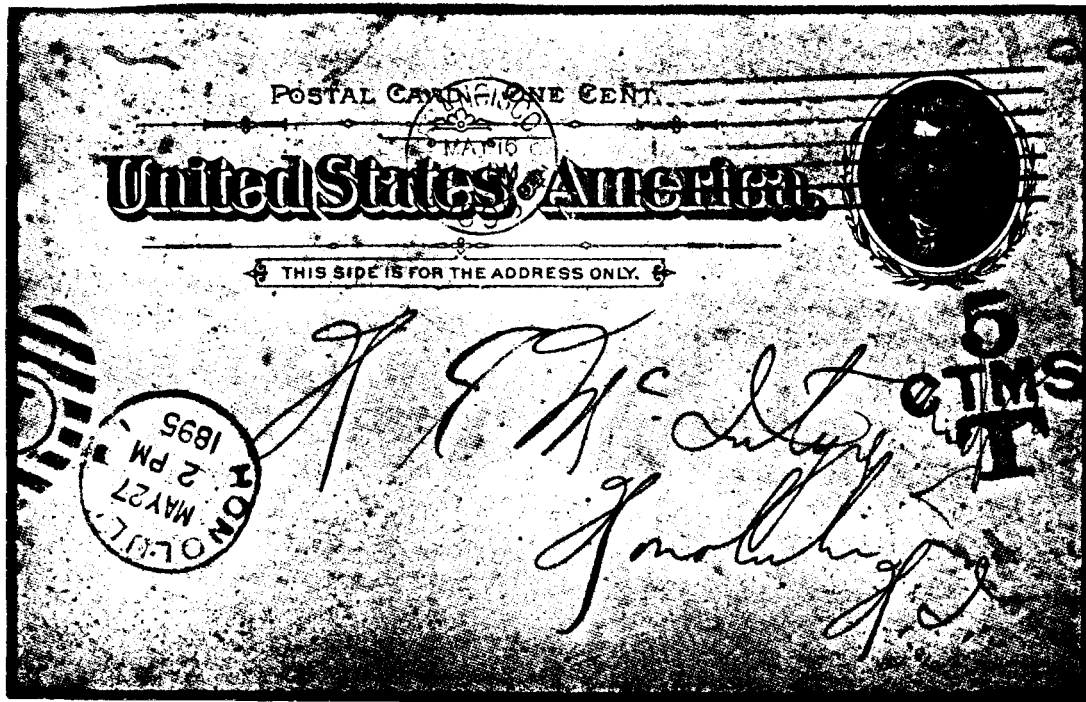


Figure 8a. Short paid card sent in May of 1895 from the United States to the Republic of Hawaii. The UPU "T" marking, applied in black ink at San Francisco, indicated an equivalent five centime (one US cent) deficiency. How the deficiency was handled in Hawaii was not evidenced.

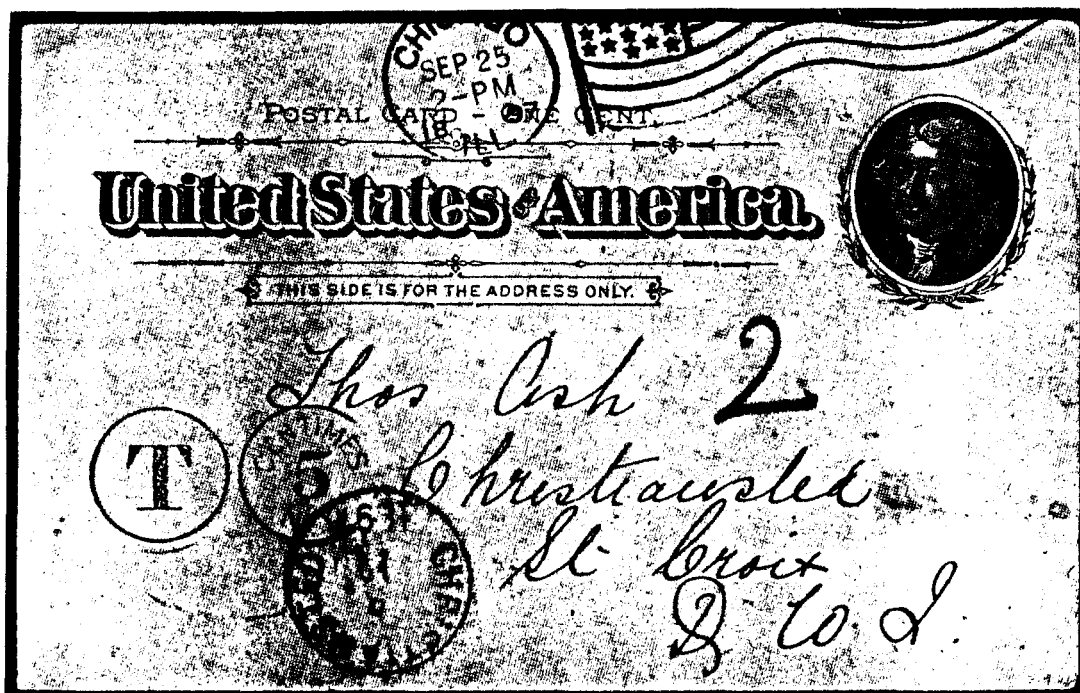


Figure 8b. Card sent in September of 1897 to the DWI, then a member of the UPU with Greenland as "Danish colonies." The New York opera glass marking in black ink notes an equivalent five centime (one US cent) deficiency. In the DWI, that amount was doubled and expressed as "2" cents in blue crayon.

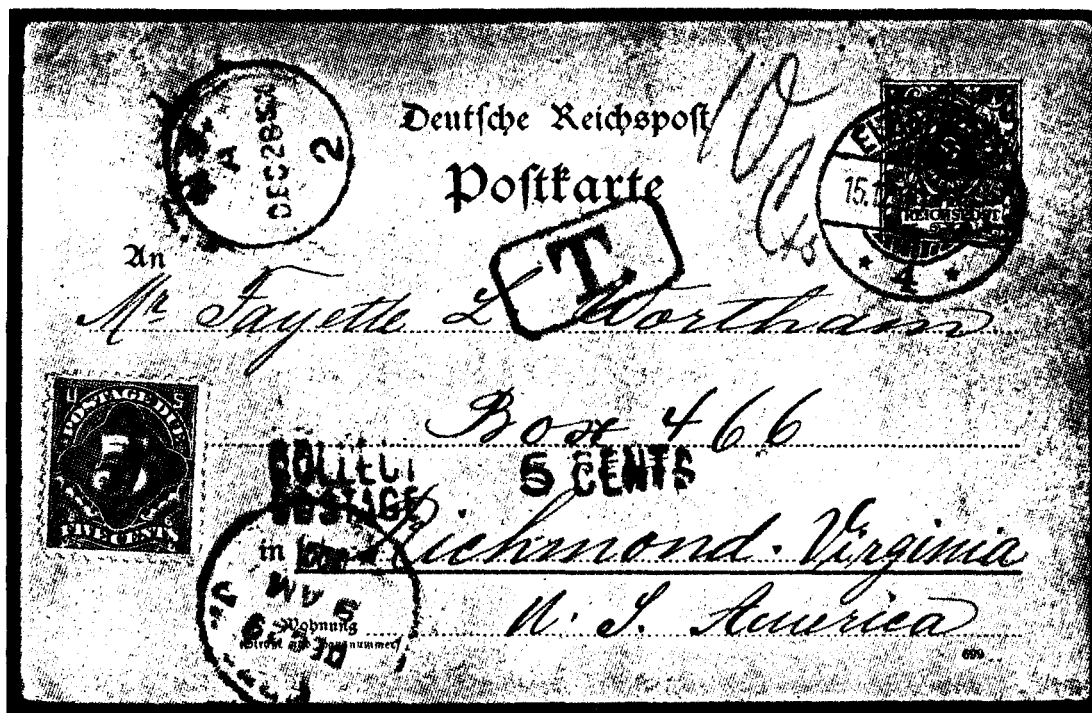


Figure 9a. "Local" German card used internationally. In Germany, the card was noted short paid with the "framed T." (black ink) and manuscript fraction "10 Cts." (pencil). No number in the numerator was a clerk's abbreviated way of noting that the item was of the first weight unit. The denominator, per Article 5 of the UPU Regulations, meant that "no account should be taken of the postage." In the United States, the card was noted five cents postage due (black ink) and that amount was collected from the addressee..

fractions were used in conjunction with a UPU "T" marking, the numerator denoted the weight unit of the item, while the denominator denoted the deficiency,

expressed in centimes. Numerators were omitted in some instances where the first weight unit was involved. Exchange Office clerks recognized that "abbreviated

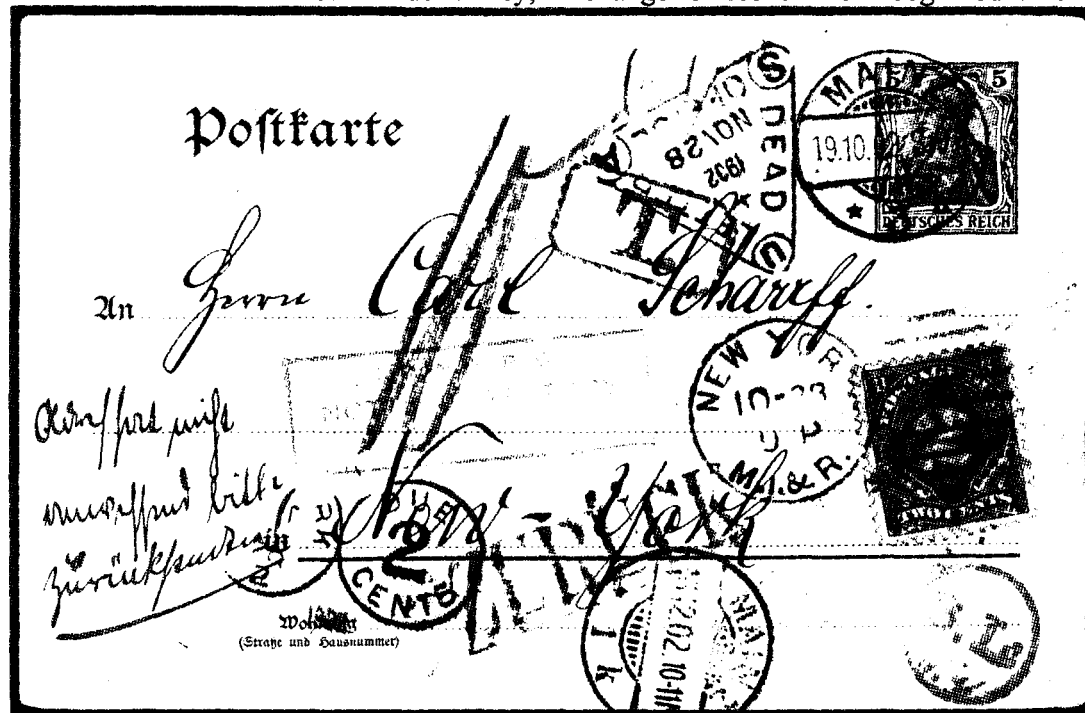


Figure 9b. Short paid card from Germany to the United States. In New York, the due marking (black ink) and due stamp were affixed, but delivery could not be effectuated. The card subsequently was sent to the Dead Letter Office, then returned (ZURÜCK) to Germany, where 10 pfennig (figure "10" in blue crayon) was collected and retained by the Imperial German Post.

form" of writing the fraction. Since the denominator was used to denote the deficiency, the clerk followed Article four of the UPU Regulations which provided that when the stamps used on the item were not of any value in the country of origin, that fact was to be indicated by the figure zero being placed by the side of the stamp. Upon arrival of this card in the United States, an Exchange Office clerk echoed the German clerk's assessment of it being unpaid. Here, the clerk noted the total deficiency as five cents. A five-cent due stamp subsequently was applied and that amount collected from the addressee upon delivery of the card.

The card in Figure 9b was sent short paid on 19 October 1902 from Mainz, Germany, to New York City. A German Exchange Office clerk applied the framed UPU "T" marking and noted five centimes as the equivalent short paid amount. When the card arrived at the Exchange Office in New York, a clerk doubled the deficiency, converted and expressed the amount due as two US cents. A two-cent due stamp was affixed; however, delivery of the card could not be effectuated. Sent to the Dead Letter Office, the card ultimately was returned to Germany. Since the card was marked due the equivalent of ten centimes (two US cents), German officials, upon return of the card to Germany, converted that amount due [two US cents equaled eight German pfennig] rounded-up to ten pfennig, as indicated by the manuscript "10." That amount ultimately was collected from the sender upon return of the card and retained by the German Post Office.

III. The Double Deficiency - Conversion Period

1 October 1907 - 31 December 1965

The sixth international Postal Congress initiated a change, effective 1 October 1907, in the handling and marking of short paid mail. After that date, the responsibility for doubling any deficiency on short paid mail was given to the Exchange Office clerk in the country of origin. Thus, an Exchange Office clerk in the country of destination only had to convert the deficient amount, stated in centimes, into his country's currency. The three United States cards shown in Figure 10 were mailed short paid, from top to bottom, to England on 5 February 1909, to Australia on 10 May 1909 and to Italy on 4 August 1909. In each instance, the UPU "T" marking applied at the particular United States Exchange Office indicated the total deficiency, expressed in equivalent centimes. The cards then were forwarded to destination. Note the "T" markings were those used, respectively, at the New York, Seattle and Boston Exchange Offices.

As relates to cards, the sixth international Postal Congress was the first to set a minimum accepted size for cards in the UPU mail. Henceforth, there were minimum as well as maximum size standards for cards sent in the UPU mail. Also, the sender was allowed to use the left-hand portion of the address side of a card for correspondence or for advertisement.

The United States Congress levied a one-cent tax, referred to as the "war tax," on domestic mail beginning 2 November 1917.

That tax also was added onto certain mail destined to the following other UPU countries: Canada, Cuba, Mexico and Panama. Thus, cards sent from the United States to those countries required two cents postage. The war tax was rescinded, effective 1 July 1919, and the United States card rate to those four countries reverted to the one-cent special treaty rate that had existed prior to the levy.

The card seen in Figure 11 was mailed on 2 October 1920, from Ohio, addressed to Honduras. The then

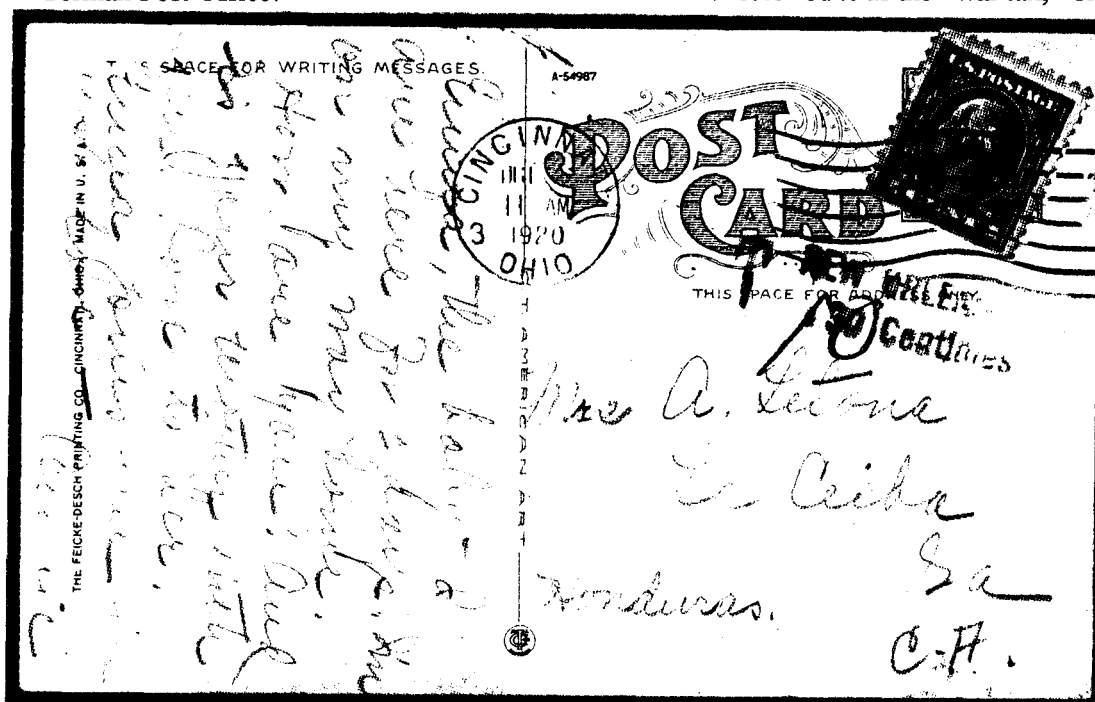


Figure 11. Mailed short paid on 2 October 1920 from Ohio to Honduras, this card was processed at the New Orleans, Louisiana Exchange Office. The double-line marking was affixed in magenta. The figure "30" in that marking was over written with the manuscript "10" in black ink, meaning the card was due an equivalent ten centimes (one US cent doubled). The card does not evidence how it was handled in Honduras.



Figure 12a. Mailed 13 November 1926, from Florida to Switzerland, this card was short paid one US cent. The United States Exchange Office doubled the deficiency, marking the card in magenta "T 10 / Centimes." In Switzerland, an Exchange Office clerk converted the deficiency to fifteen Swiss centimes (numeral in black ink). The due stamp was affixed, but the addressee refused delivery. The due stamp was "voided" (in black ink), a retour (return) label was applied, and the card returned to sender, whose address was on the message side.

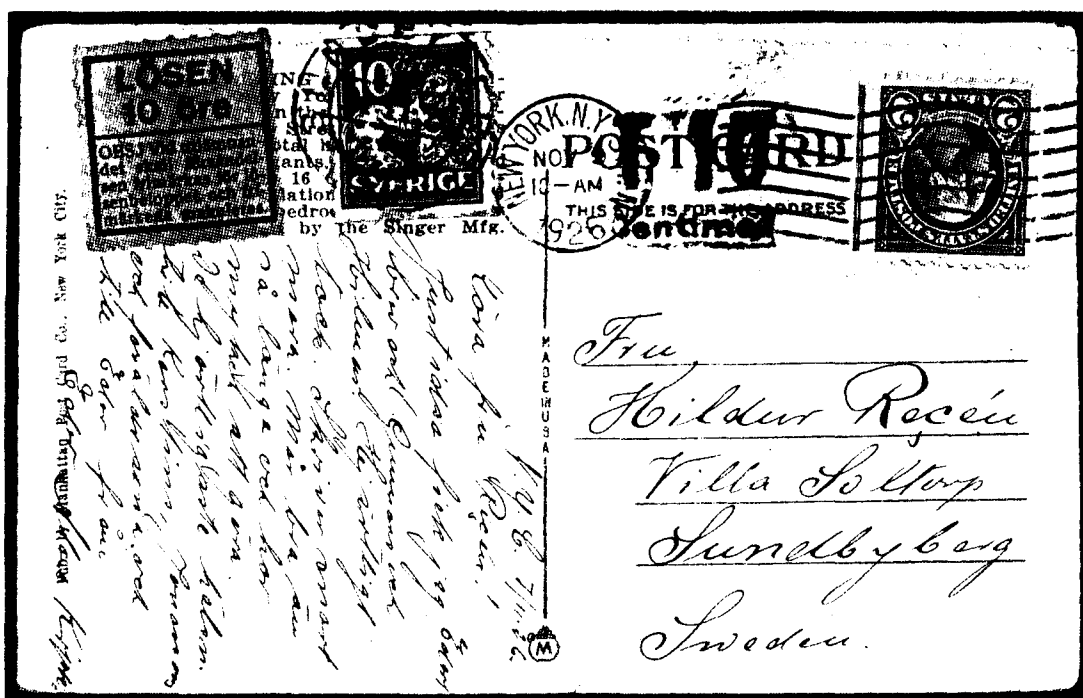


Figure 12b. Posted in New York City on 9 November 1926, this card was short paid to Sweden. In the New York Exchange Office, the deficiency, as doubled, was noted as an equivalent ten centimes (magenta), and the card routed to Sweden. Upon the card's arrival in the Swedish Exchange Office, a clerk affixed the light green due label. The ten öres due stamp accounted for the amount collected upon delivery of the card.

current UPU-equivalent two-cent card rate was short paid one US cent. When the card was processed in New Orleans, the underpayment was noted with the double-line UPU "T" handstamp. The figure "30" was over written with the manuscript "10," meaning the card was "due" a total of ten centimes (one US cent, doubled). Honduras became a UPU member country in 1879. At the seventh international Postal Congress, held in 1920 at Madrid, Spain, that country, Latin America and the United States signed the Convention of Madrid, which allowed domestic postal rates among certain countries -- United States, Spain, Spanish colonies close to Spain, Central American, South American and Caribbean Island countries -- which ratified the Convention of Madrid after 1 January 1921. Honduras ratified the convention effective 1 February 1921; thus, the United States postal card rate to Honduras from 1879 to 31 January 1921 was two US cents. [I note that after 1 February 1921 and until 31 October 1953, the one cent "convention" rate rather than the UPU rate applied between the United States and Honduras.]

The breakdown of the international gold standard after World War I and the resulting fluctuations in national currencies destroyed the value of the Latin Monetary Union franc and centime as a means of international postal accounting. Delegates at the 1920 Madrid Congress found a replacement in the gold franc. The eighth international Postal Congress, held in 1924 at Stockholm, Sweden, described the gold franc, for purposes of international accounting, as a gold franc of 100 centimes with a weight of "10/31st of a gram of gold of .900 fineness." Each UPU-member country was obliged to fix its postal charges on the basis of the closest possible equivalent to the value of this gold franc in its own currency.

The UPU card rate increased effective 1 October 1925. For the United States, the card rate to UPU-member countries rose from two to three cents. Figure 12 illustrates two cards sent short

paid after the rate increase. The card in Figure 12a was mailed on 13 November 1926, in Miami, Florida, addressed to a company in Berne, Switzerland. With the added one-cent stamp, the card still was short paid an equivalent five centimes (one US cent). Double that amount was noted deficient at the United States Exchange Office, then the card was forwarded to Switzerland. Upon arrival of the card in Switzerland, an Exchange Office clerk converted the amount owed into Swiss centimes, noting the deficiency as fifteen centimes with the numeral "15." A Swiss due stamp in that amount was affixed, but the addressee refused acceptance of the card. Returned to the post office, the card had a "retour" -- French for "return" -- label applied, and the due stamp was "voided." The card was ultimately returned to the sender, whose address was written on the card's message side.

The card in Figure 12b was posted in New York City on 9 November 1926, short paid one US cent to Sweden. The UPU "T" marking of the New York Exchange Office noted the short payment doubled, as an equivalent ten centimes. Routed to Sweden, the card was handled by a Swedish Exchange Office clerk as follows: The clerk converted the amount owed to öres and affixed the postal due label noting that ten öres were due upon delivery of the card. The Swedish postage due stamp subsequently was added and the ten öres due presumably was collected from the addressee.

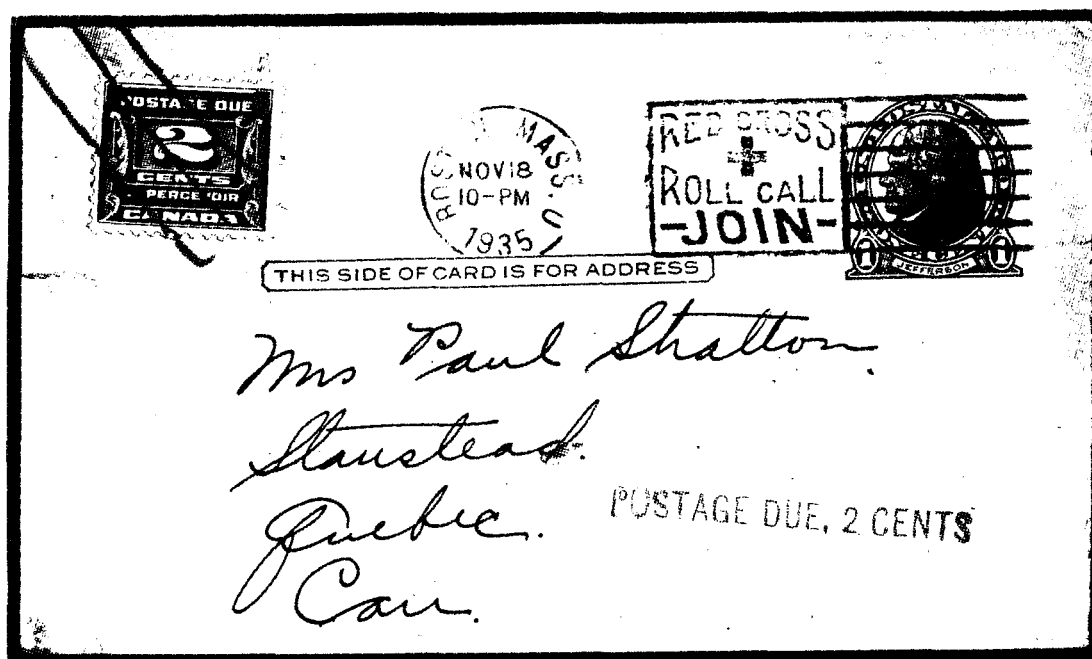


Figure 13a. Sent from Massachusetts to Canada, the card was short paid one US cent. When doubled, two cents was due, as indicated by the handstamped marking struck in magenta.

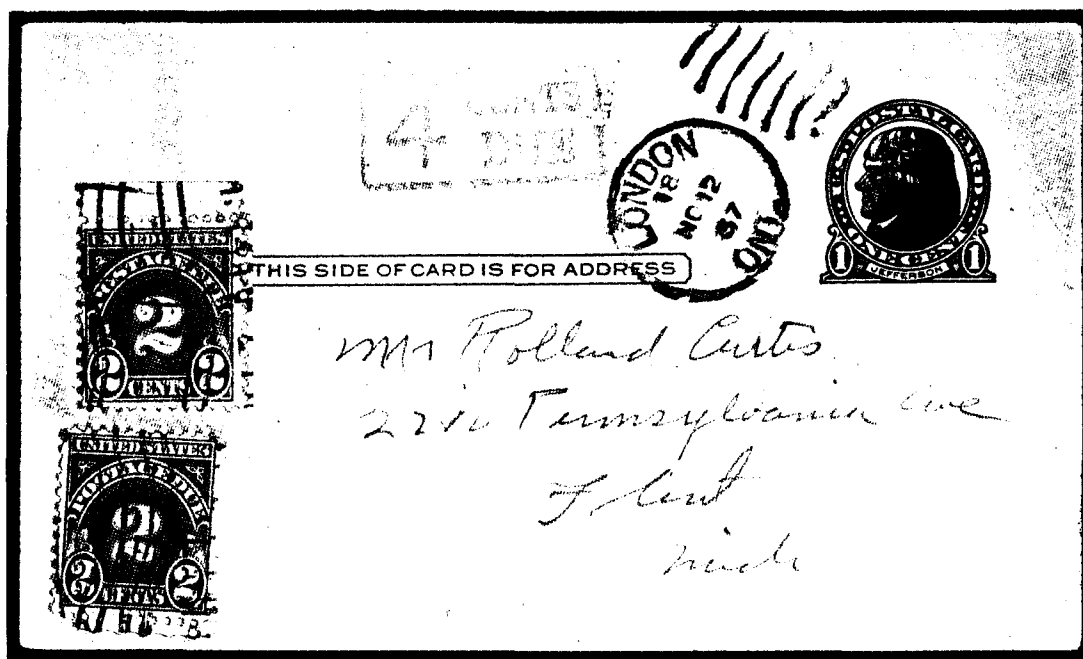


Figure 13b. Since this United States card was illegally used in Canada, Canadian officials gave no credit to the value on the indicium. So two cents doubled, or four cents were due (bluish-green marking).

The two cards shown in Figure 13 were used respectively in 1935 from the United States to Canada and in 1937 from Canada to the United States. Note that the card shown in Figure 13a was marked "POSTAGE DUE, 2 CENTS." Although the United States and Canada were UPU members, they had a bilateral agreement for the exchange of mail, which was allowed under UPU rules. Since the card was subject to the US-Canadian agreement rather than to the UPU requirements, the short paid amount was not expressed in centimes. The United States postal clerk expressed the deficiency in United States currency -- one cent, doubled or two cents -- as the treaty rate for surface-rated cards between the two countries was two cents. Canadian officials affixed the two-cent due stamp and presumably collected that amount upon delivery.

The card illustrated in Figure 13b was used improperly in Canada, addressed to the United States. Since the card was not valid in Canada, Canadian officials did not give any credit to the value noted on the indicium. Here, the deficiency was stated in Canadian currency -- two cents, doubled or four cents. Upon arrival of the card in the United States, postal officials added the pair of two-cent due stamps and presumably collected the four-cent deficiency from the addressee.

Effective 14 October 1948, Exchange Post Offices and Air Mail Fields in the United States rated and marked short paid UPU mail on the basis of three gold centimes as the equivalent of one US cent. The card shown in Figure 14 was sent air mail from San Francisco to Austria, under date of 29 December 1948. Six cents

postage was affixed, but no air mail postal card rate was in effect at this time, so the card should have been sent at the then current single air mail letter rate of fifteen cents. In the United States, the Exchange office clerk calculated the amount due as follows: one-cent indicium plus five-cent air mail stamp equaled six cents paid; fifteen cent air mail letter rate minus six cents paid resulted in a short payment of nine cents. Dou-

bling that amount, the clerk then converted the deficiency into an equivalent fifty-four gold centimes. The UPU "T/CTMS" handstamp shown was affixed and the numeral "54" added by hand. In Austria, the Exchange Office clerk converted the amount owed into Austrian currency as three schilling, sixty groschen and applied the Austrian due marking. Due stamps in that amount also were affixed. Here, the fraction "1/5" in the Austrian due marking had nothing to do with the amount to be paid. The numeral "1" meant "1 Bezirk," or the "1st district." [In the city of Vienna, the 1st district is the central part of the city, that is the part within the "Ringstraße."]; the numeral "5" meant "5 Zustellbezirk," or the "5th delivery district."

The 1949 *US Official Postal Guide* first announced that "if the office of mailing observed an ordinary air mail Postal Union article to be insufficiently prepaid and the (article had a) return address (which) was at the office of mailing," the article was to be returned to the sender for the necessary postage. The card in Figure 15, sent short paid in May of 1950 from Santa Maria, California, to Nicaragua, exemplifies compliance with the quoted provision from the 1949 *Postal Guide*.

Ordinary air mail without a return address and surface mail continued to be forwarded if insufficiently prepaid. The card illustrated in Figure 16 was mailed in New York, short paid to Germany. In New York, the opera glass marking was applied, noting the deficiency as an equivalent twelve centimes (two US cents doubled). The card then was routed to Europe. At the time, one US cent

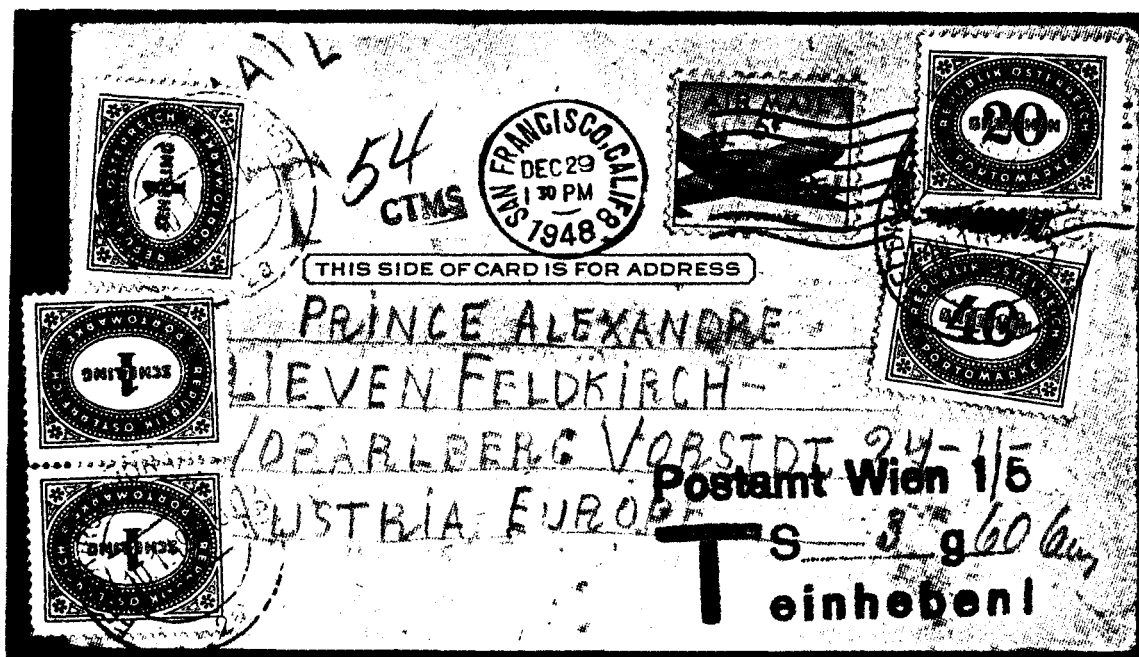


Figure 14. This card was sent via air mail prior to the effective date of an air mail card rate. A United States Exchange Office clerk calculated the deficiency as follows: single air mail letter rate (15¢) minus postage paid (6¢) equals deficiency (9¢). Converting to centimes: 9¢ deficiency, doubled equals 18¢, times 3 (one US cent equaled three gold centimes) and 54 centimes were due. ("T/CTMS" in magenta; numeral "54" in pencil.) In Austria, an Exchange clerk converted the centimes to Austrian currency. The large due marking (purple ink) and due stamps were affixed by Austrian postal officials. The fraction "1/5" in that marking refers to delivery districts in the city of Vienna.

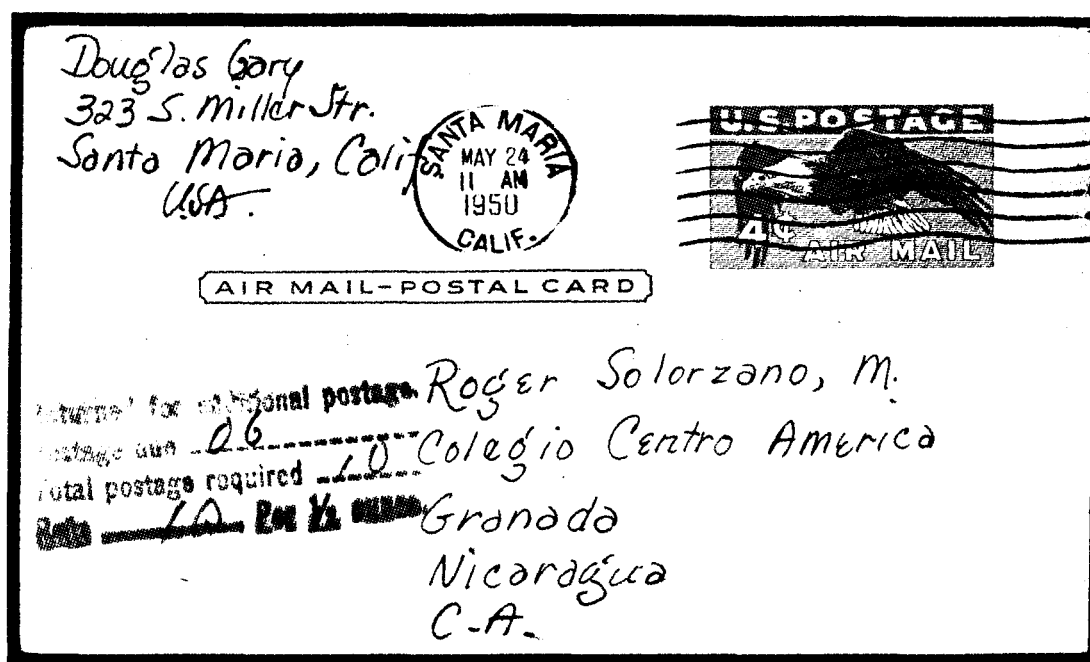


Figure 15. Sent short paid from California to Nicaragua, this air mail card was returned for postage. The marking was applied in magenta.

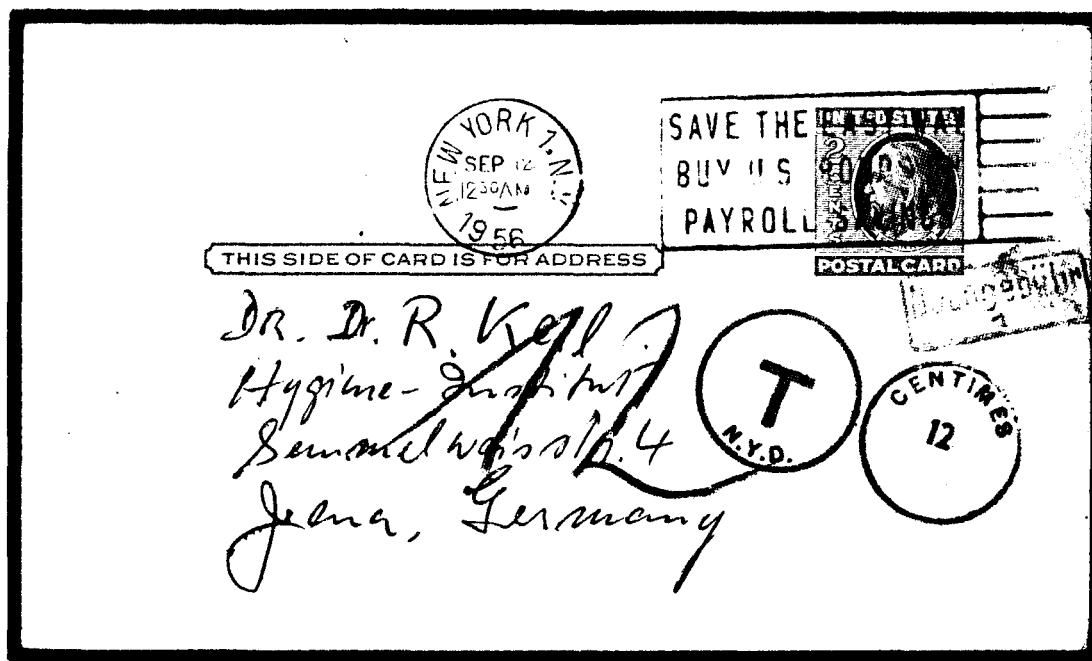


Figure 16. This card, dated 12 September 1956 from New York, was short paid to Germany an equivalent six centimes (two US cents). At the time one US cent = three centimes = three German pfennig. In New York, the opera glass marking was struck in magenta. In Germany, the manuscript "12," meaning 12 pfennig was added in blue crayon and the framed "Nachgebührr" marking which translates "postage due" was struck in light red ink.

equaled three gold centimes equaled three German pfennig. In Germany, an Exchange Office clerk converted the amount due into pfennig, as indicated by the manuscript "12," meaning twelve pfennig. The clerk also applied the rectangular hand-stamped marking, "Nachgebührr," which translates "postage due."

Refer back to Figure 15. The card is used again to make another point. The United States issued this card - its first air mail postal card - beginning 10 January 1949, to comply with the new four-cent domestic air mail postal card rate that went into effect on 1 January 1949. With the exception of some Zeppelin flights,

cards sent in the UPU mails, by air prior to 1 June 1954, required postage at the then current UPU air mail letter

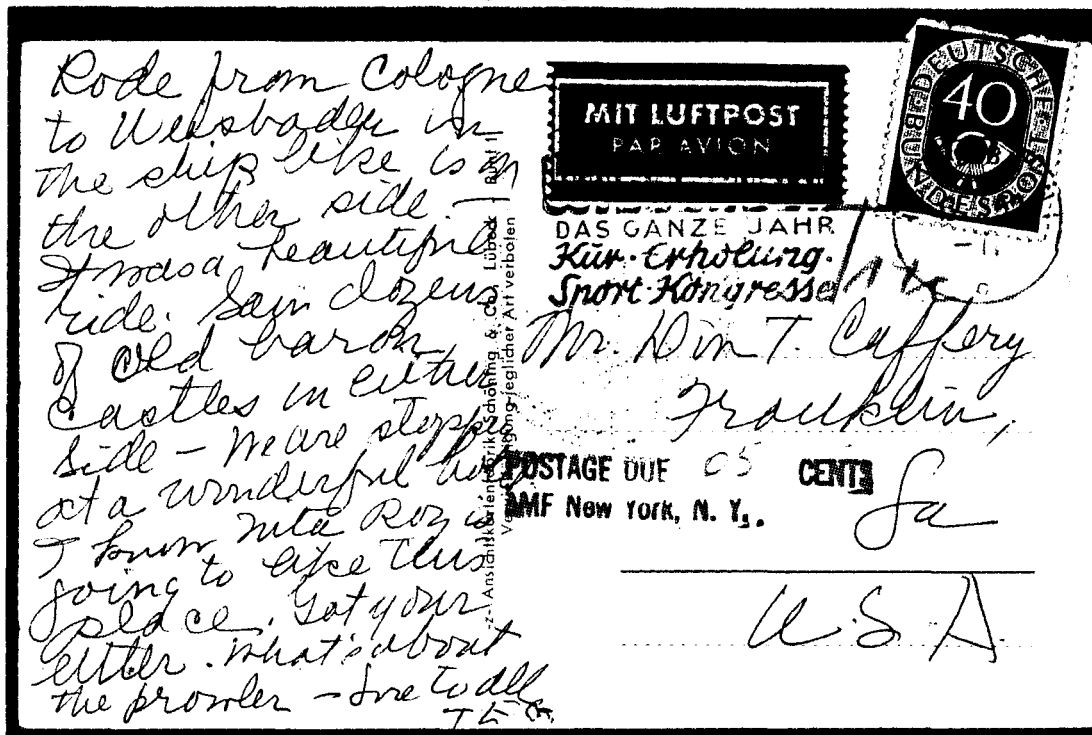


Figure 17. Posted in Germany on 13 July 1952, addressed to Louisiana, this card was short paid because air mail service was requested, but only surface-card-rate postage was affixed. A German Exchange Office clerk figuring the deficiency as an equivalent seven centimes, marked the card with blue crayon as due a total of (7 X 2) or fourteen centimes. In the United States, a New York Air Mail Facility clerk, using one US cent = three gold centimes, calculated the amount due as: $14 \div 3 = 4.66$ or 5 cents. The United States marking was applied in magenta; the figure "05" was written in pencil.

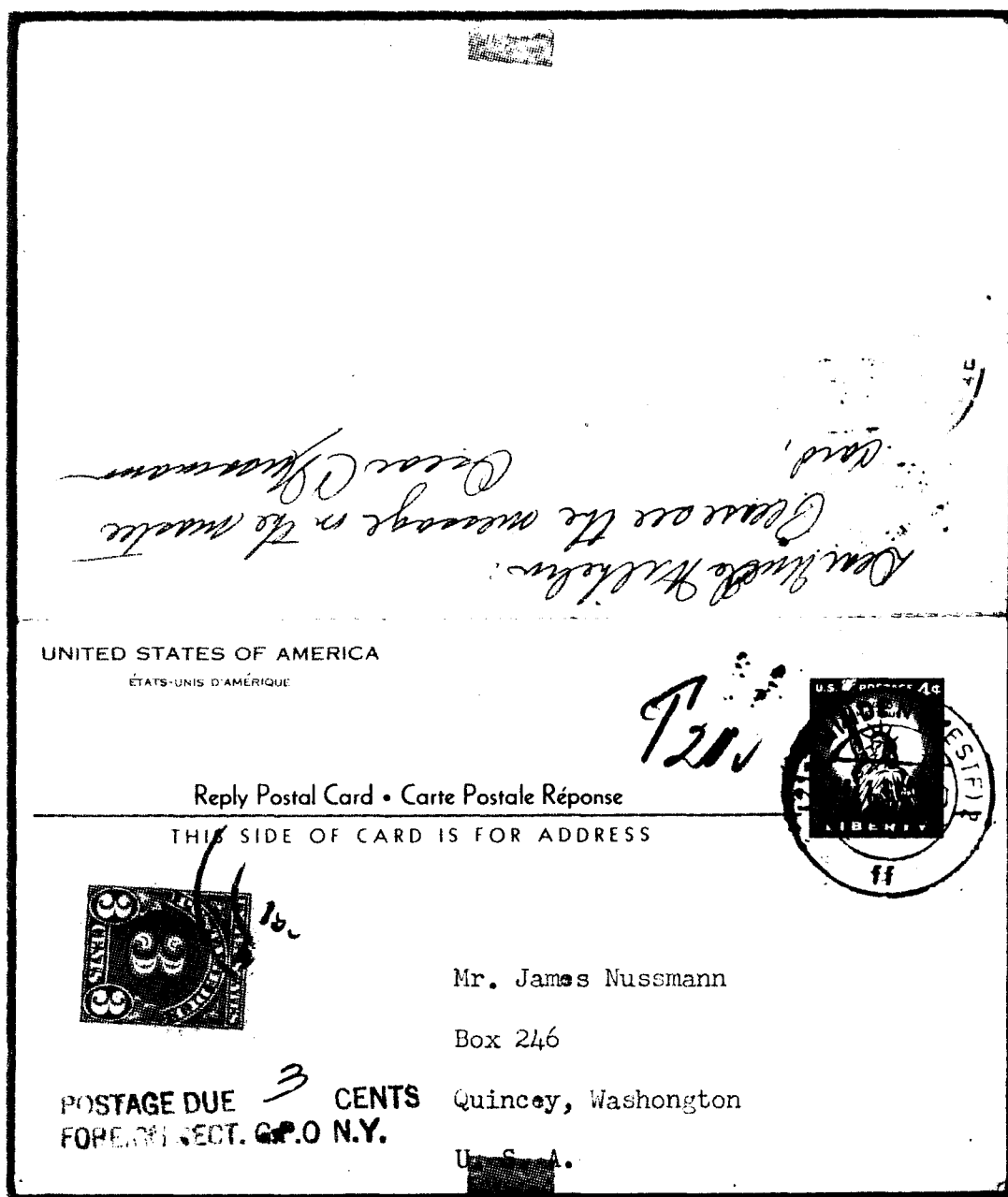


Figure 18. Reply portion (with message card intact) being returned to the United States from Germany. The reply card was noted in Germany (manuscript "T20c" in pencil) as deficient an equivalent twenty centimes. The card then was forwarded. In New York, using 1 US cent = 3 centimes, a clerk calculated the postage due as follows: $20 \div 3 = 6.6$ or 7¢ deficient. Subtracting the 4¢ value of the indicium, $7 - 4 = 3$ ¢ due. The due marking was applied in magenta; the figure "3" was written in black ink.

rate. Note that six cents was written as the amount due on this returned card, since the then current US air mail letter rate to Central America was as stated in the hand-stamp, ten cents per one-half ounce.

The card in Figure 17 was posted in Germany on 13 July 1952, addressed to Franklin, Louisiana. A forty pfennig stamp paid the then current surface rate for cards from Germany to other UPU-member countries. However, the sender had "requested" air mail service by

affixing the "MIT LUFTPOST" ("BY AIR MAIL") label, so the German Exchange office rated the card as an air mail letter (since prior to 1 June 1954) and noted the total deficiency with the UPU "T 14c" [14 centimes] marking. [The card was short paid an equivalent seven gold centimes, and when that amount was doubled, fourteen gold centimes were due]. In the United States, a clerk in the New York Air Mail Facility, using one US cent equaled three gold centimes, calculated the amount due as five US cents.

International message-reply cards were used in the UPU mail for some eighty-five years. These cards were also referred to as "paid-reply" or "double" cards. The third Postal Congress of 1885 admitted message-reply cards into the UPU mail on a voluntary basis, effective 1 April 1886. By "voluntary" is

meant that those member countries who opted to issue such cards were permitted to do so, but all member countries were obliged to return the reply portion. Effective 1 July 1892, the UPU made the issuance of message-reply cards obligatory for all member countries. On the front part of the message portion, these cards were to show "Postal card with paid reply"; on the front part of the reply portion the cards were to show "Reply Postal Card." That wording was to be in the language of the

country of origin as well as in French. The reply portion could only be used to a destination in the country in which the card had originated. **Figure 18** shows a United States four-cent Statue of Liberty message-reply card, issue of 1956. The card initially had been mailed from Missouri to Germany on 28 December 1956. The reply portion -- with message portion attached -- was being returned to the United States. Under UPU rules, these cards were to be folded over; they were not allowed to be sealed with adhesive tape. Too, the original recipient was to cross-out his address. Neither requirement was met in this instance.

In Germany, the reply portion of the card was marked deficient an equivalent twenty centimes. Routed to the United States, the card was received in New York and there assessed with three cents postage due. Calculation of the amount due is noted below the illustration. The due stamp was affixed at Quincey, Washington, and the deficiency collected from the addressee. I note that international message-reply cards were no longer accepted in the UPU mail as of 1 July 1971.

IV. The Double Deficiency - Percentage Period

1 January 1966 - 31 December 1975

Owing to value fluctuations in currencies and the relatively frequent increases in postal rates, the fifteenth international Postal Congress of 1964 devised a new procedure for handling and marking short paid mail. Effective 1 January 1966, all short paid items bearing return addresses were returned to sender for the deficient postage. Those short paid items without a return address were marked at the Exchange office in the country of origin with the UPU "T" and an "international tax fraction." In that fraction, the numerator was the postage deficiency, doubled, and the denominator was the single international surface letter rate for the country of origin. Since this fraction was a "per-

centage," there was no longer the need to convert currencies into their equivalent centimes. The item then was forwarded to destination, where a clerk simply multiplied the tax fraction against the first weight unit of his country's international surface letter rate. After the new procedure became effective, clerks no longer had to be aware of currency values and the postal rates of other countries.

Figure 19 illustrates two cards that reflect usage under the new procedure. The precanceled card without a return address, seen in **Figure 19a**, was sent from Mississippi to Australia, between May of 1967 and July of 1971. At the time, the United States' surface card rate to other UPU-member countries was eight cents and the United States' single international surface letter rate was thirteen cents. An Exchange Office clerk in the United States applied the elliptical UPU "T /13" handstamp. The clerk then doubled to eight cents the four-cent short payment and wrote the figure "8" as the numerator. The tax fraction thus was "8 over 13." Routed to Australia, the card does not show how it was handled by Australian officials.

The card in **Figure 19b** was mailed in July of 1970 from Illinois to Australia. Since it had a return address, it was returned to sender for the deficient postage, as per UPU procedure. Upon payment of the three-cent deficiency by postage meter, the card was remailed and delivered without further delay.

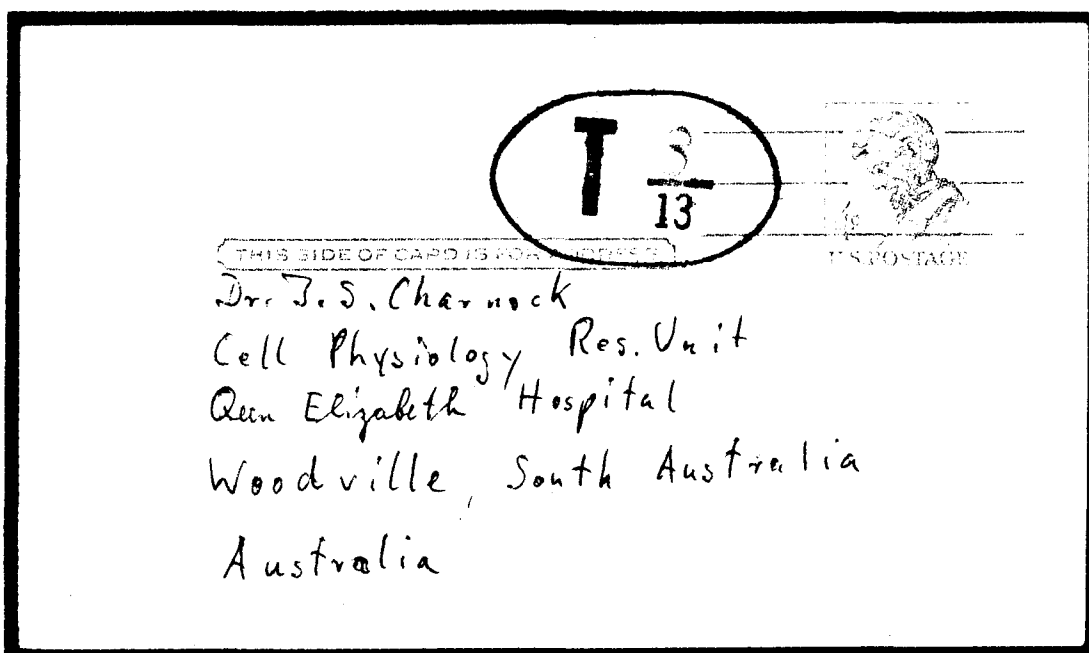


Figure 19a. At the time this precanceled card was posted, the United States surface card rate to other UPU-member countries was eight cents and the United States single international surface letter rate was thirteen cents. The four-cent deficiency doubled or eight cents was handwritten as the numerator in blue ball point pen; the elliptical "T /13" handstamp was affixed in magenta.

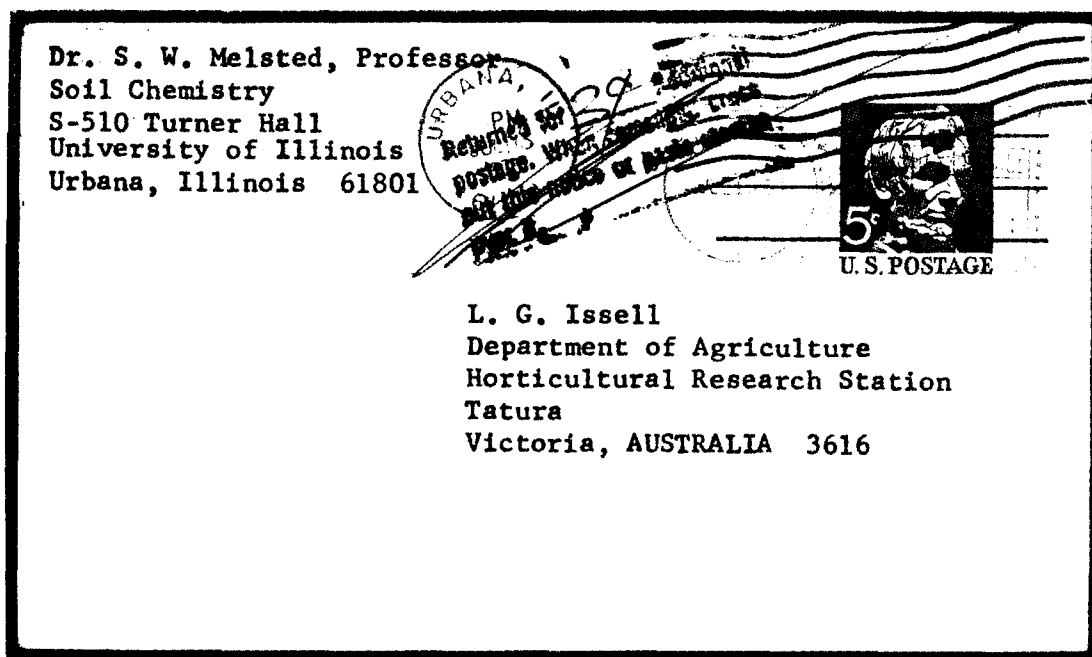


Figure 19b. Posted on 13 July 1970, with a return address, this card was returned to the sender. The marking was struck in magenta; the figure "3¢" was added with a blue ball point pen. After its return to the sender and upon the sender adding the three cent meter, the card was remailed and forwarded to Australia.

V a. The Actual Deficiency - Charge Period

1 January 1976 - 30 June 1981

The UPU discontinued the practice of doubling the amount of the deficiency on the 1st of January 1976, and substituted instead a "handling charge," also referred to sometimes as a "statutory fine." In the United States, the Postal Service collected the actual deficiency and added a twenty-cent handling charge to each short paid item.

Shown in Figure 20 is a nine-cent John Witherspoon United States domestic card that was sent 1 June 1976, short paid three US cents to Guernsey, a bailiwick of the British Crown. The card slipped undetected through the United States Postal Service ("USPS"). However,

item entering the United States after 1982 on which the deficiency was accounted for with one or more postage due stamps?

As relates to UPU mail since the discontinuance of postage due stamps, the USPS continued to use hand-stamps, and has added computer-generated labels to

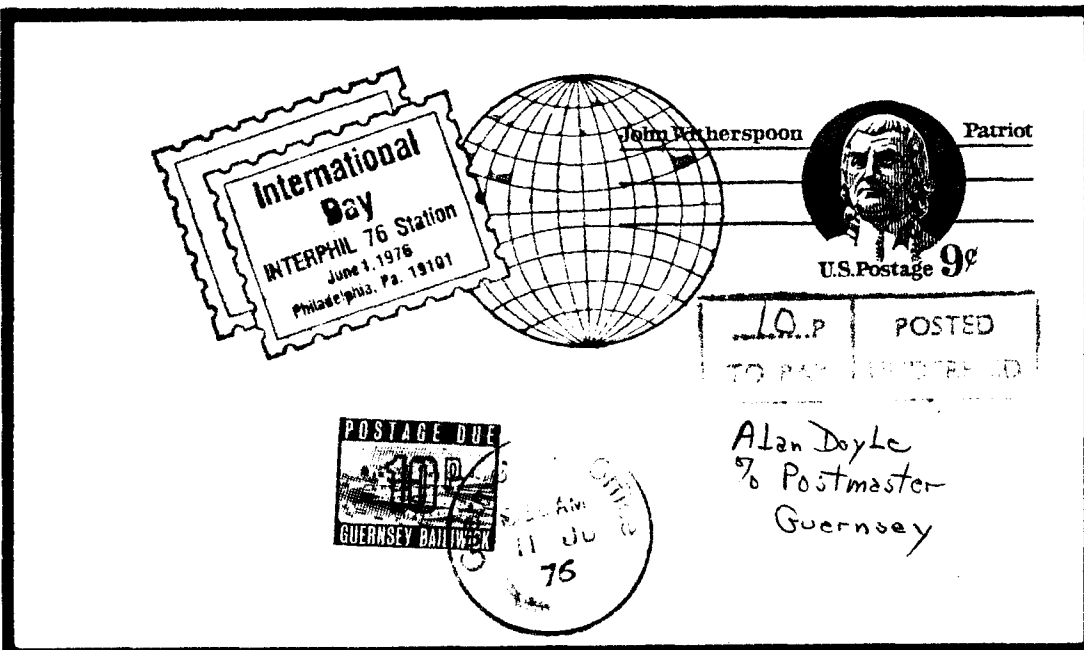


Figure 20. Sent short paid on 1 June 1976 from Pennsylvania to Guernsey, this domestic card passed undetected through the USPS. In Guernsey, the deficiency was noticed and the due marking (applied in violet) was struck and the due stamp was affixed. The ten pence subsequently collected included the deficiency and the bailiwick's handling charge.

the deficiency was noticed in Guernsey, where the Guernsey due marking and its postage due stamp were affixed. The amount due, ten pence, included the deficiency plus the bailiwick's handling charge.

On 2 January 1978, the United States released its last two postage due stamps -- an eleven cent and a thirteen cent denomination. The USPS in August of 1986 discontinued the use of postage due stamps to account for the collection of short paid mail -- both UPU and domestic. Has any reader seen a short paid UPU

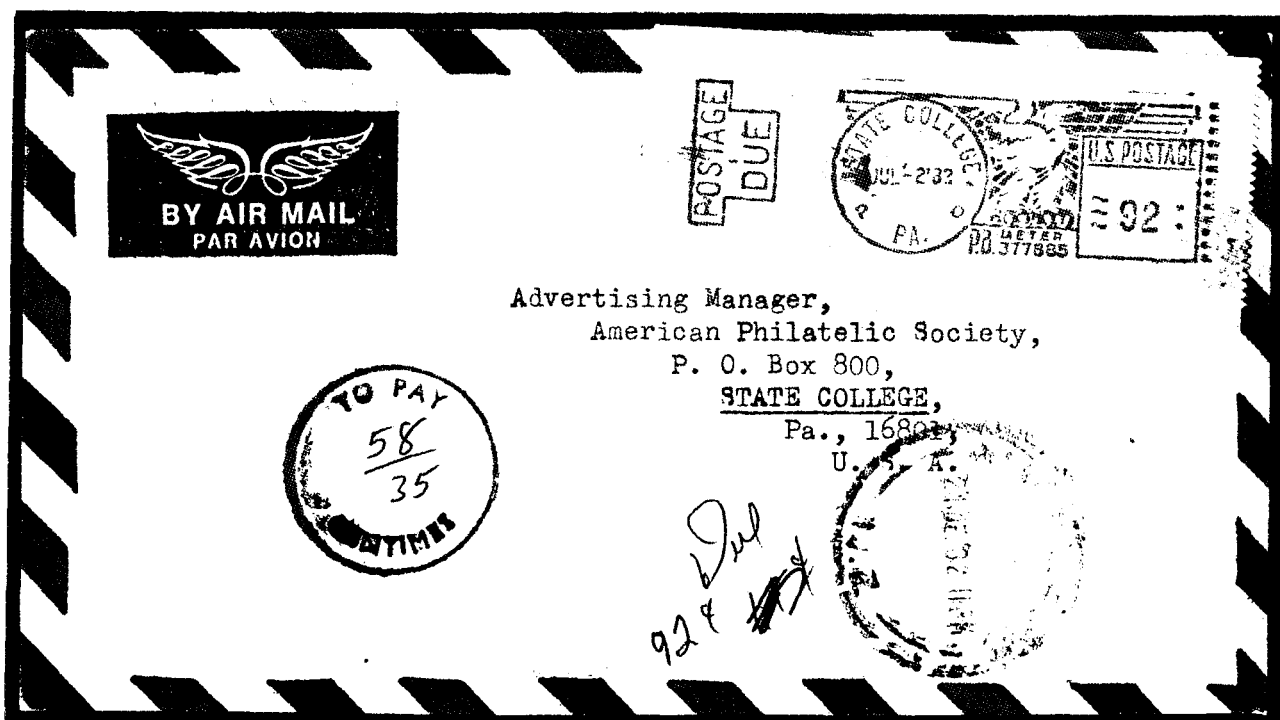


Figure 21a. This air mail envelope with no return address was sent unpaid from New Zealand to the United States on 21 June 1982. A postal official in New Zealand affixed the circular "TO PAY" marking (in red ink) and wrote in black ink the tax fraction "58/35." The numerator was the actual (58¢) deficiency; the denominator was New Zealand's then current (35¢) single international surface letter rate. In the United States, a postal clerk calculated the amount due as follows: tax fraction (58/35) X then current single international surface letter rate (30¢) = 1740/35 = 49.5 or 50¢ + handling charge (42¢) = 92¢ total due. The postage due meter was affixed and the total due was collected from the addressee.

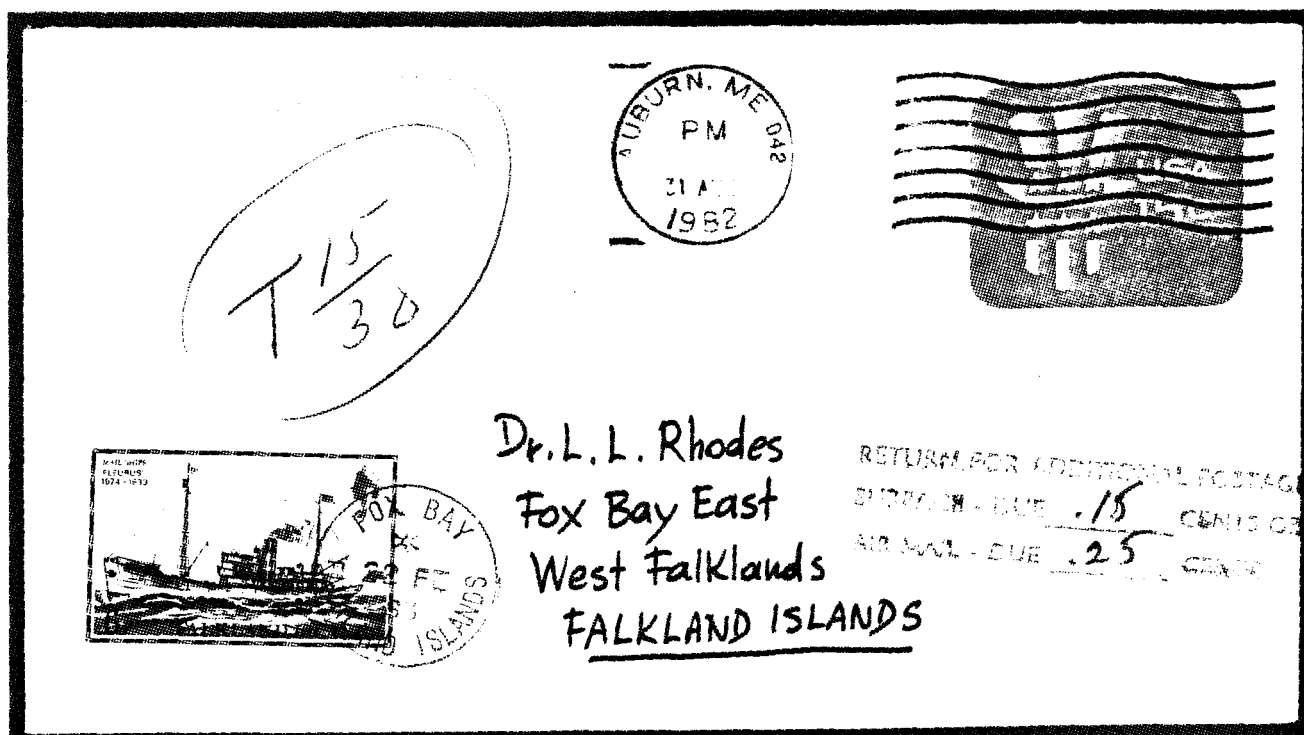


Figure 21b. Mailed short paid from the United States to the Falkland Islands on 31 August 1982, this envelope did not have a return address. In the United States, the "T 15/30" marking was handwritten in black ink: the numerator was the 15¢ actual deficiency; the denominator was the then current (30¢) single international surface letter rate. Upon the envelope's receipt in the Falklands, a postal clerk calculated the amount due as follows: Tax fraction (15/30) X Falkland's then current single international surface letter rate (12 pence) = 180/30 = deficiency (6 pence). The Falklands did not collect a handling charge.

denote short paid matter entering the United States. On one hand, the USPS has used ordinary postage stamps, postage meter strips, or postage due charge accounts to account for the additional moneys collected from an addressee. On the other hand, the USPS has delivered some short paid items with no attempt being made by the carrier to collect the stated deficiency, notwithstanding the item being marked with both a UPU "T" and a US "due" marking. Could the time required to insure collection of the deficiency just not be cost-effective for the USPS?

V b. The Actual Deficiency - Charge Period

1 July 1981 - present

The eighteenth international Postal Congress of 1979 increased the amount of the handling charge effective 1 July 1981. In the United States, the USPS began to collect, in addition to the actual deficiency, a forty-two cent handling charge.

The two covers seen in Figure 21 illustrate respectively, short paid UPU mail incoming to and outgoing from the United States during this period. Between 1 January 1981 and 16 February 1985, the United States single surface letter rate to other UPU-member countries not given a lower rate was thirty cents for the first ounce.

The envelope in Figure 21a was sent air mail from New Zealand on 21 June 1982. Since the envelope was unpaid and did not have a return address, New Zealand officials affixed the circular "TO PAY" marking and the tax fraction "58 over 35." The fraction was derived from

the envelope having been sent air mail and unpaid; fifty-eight New Zealand cents was the actual deficiency. And, New Zealand's single international surface letter rate at the time was thirty-five cents. The envelope then was routed to the United States. Upon the envelope's arrival, a clerk in the USPS calculated the amount due as ninety-two cents and added the postage due meter strip. That amount was collected from the addressee and retained by the USPS. The calculations used by the USPS clerk to reach the amount due are shown beneath the illustration.

The envelope in Figure 21b was posted 31 August 1982 in Maine, addressed to the Falkland Islands. Although a USPS clerk applied the "RETURN FOR ADDITIONAL POSTAGE" marking, there was no return address on the envelope. Thus, the envelope was noted as short paid with the manuscript UPU "T" and tax fraction "15 over 30" and forwarded via surface mail to the Falkland Islands. Fifteen US cents was the actual short paid amount and thirty US cents was the country's then current single surface letter rate to other UPU-member countries. When the envelope was received in the Falklands, a postal official there multiplied the tax fraction by the Islands' single international surface letter rate, then twelve pence. Since the Falkland Islands collected only the actual deficiency, a six pence stamp was affixed and canceled at Fox Bay, and that amount presumably was collected from the addressee.

On 3 February 1991, the UPU postal rates increased. The United States surface letter rate to UPU-member countries not given a lower rate increased to seventy cents for the first ounce.

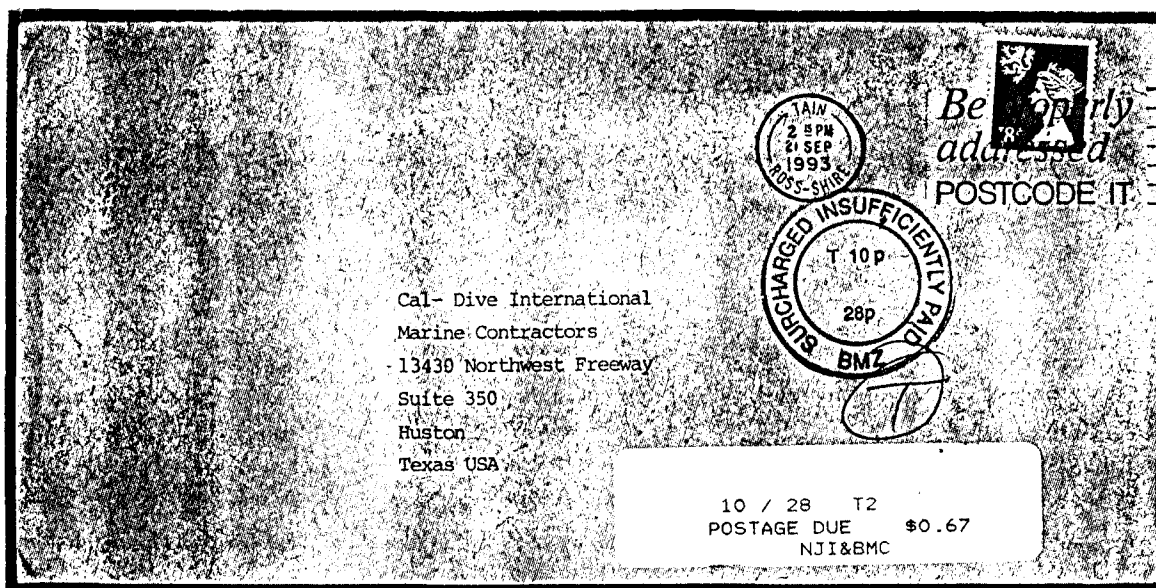


Figure 22. Black printing on dark yellow computer-generated label. Tax fraction $(10/28) \times$ United States then current single international surface letter rate $(70¢) = 700/28 = 25¢$ + handling charge $(42¢) = 67¢$ total due. Envelope shown 68% of original size.

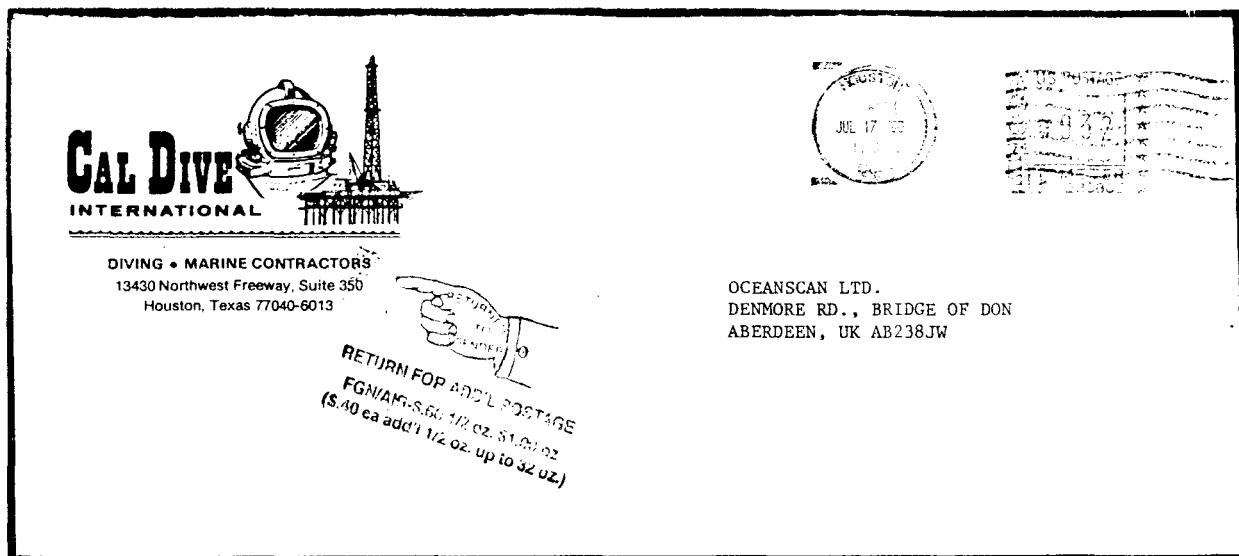


Figure 23. Posted in Texas on 17 July 1996 to the United Kingdom, this short paid envelope had a return corner card. In Houston, the handstamped marking was struck in magenta and the envelope was returned for the additional postage. Envelope shown at 68 of original size.

Figure 22 shows an envelope that was posted in England on 21 September 1993, short paid to Texas. It had a UPU "T" and the tax fraction "10 over 28" applied in England. Upon the envelope's arrival in the United States, the short payment was noted at the New Jersey Bulk Mail Center, where a computer-generated label repeated the fraction and stated the amount to collect -- sixty-seven cents -- upon delivery of the envelope. The calculation of the postage due is shown beneath the illustration. Note that this envelope did not have a return address. If it had, it would have been returned to the sender for the additional postage.

The item shown in Figure 23 was posted in Houston, Texas, on 17 July 1996, short paid to the United Kingdom. In this instance, the item was returned for additional postage since it had the return address of the sender. The USPS handstamp, applied at the Houston Post Office, spelled out in detail the additional postage required.

At the present, the USPS returns all short paid UPU mail to the sender where possible. While that procedure probably is a better way to support and protect the country's postal rate, it took a lot of interesting postal history away from collectors.

Endnotes:

¹The change in nomenclature of the basic document from a "treaty" to a "convention" was purposefully done to reflect what was considered to be its unique nature as well as to differentiate it from ordinary bilateral and multilateral treaties.

²The Union's name was changed to make it better reflect its geographical scope.

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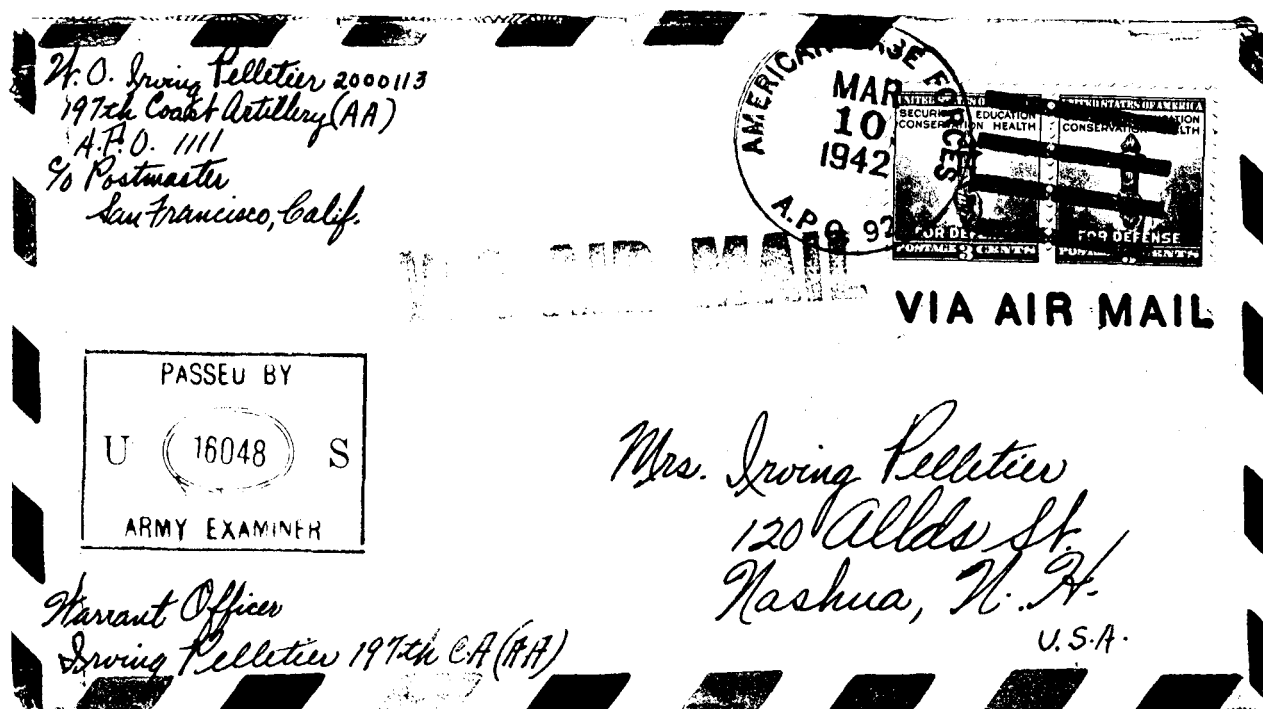


Figure 1. The 197th Coast Artillery Regiment was one of the first American units to sail for Australia. While in transit, the men were instructed to use the temporary APO number 1111 as shown on this March 1942 cover.

Mail Routing Through WW II U.S. APO's in Australia and P.N.G.

From a narrative by Irving Pelletier

Irving Pelletier was a Warrant Officer in the New Hampshire 197th Coast Artillery Anti-Aircraft regiment, one of the earliest regiments sent to Australia in 1942. Pelletier saved covers he had mailed from Australia and later assembled them in an album of United States Military Covers. His narrative describes the APO markings and locales where he was stationed -- in Perth, Darwin, and Townsville; and also Finschhafen, Papua New Guinea. Pelletier wrote that: "A few years following WWII, much correspondence ensued between my friend the late Almon J. Tripp and I. Tripp put his whole heart and soul into compiling facts about various locations of Army Post Offices, and I am happy to have contributed a bit of where I had been and the A.P.O.'s then assigned to us."

On September 16, 1940 the 197th Coast Artillery Anti-Aircraft Regiment of the New Hampshire National Guard was first to be called on active duty for training purposes at Camp Huilen, Texas. When Japan struck at Pearl Harbor, the 197th entrained four days later for the coast where it wasted no time preparing for overseas duty. On the 18th of February, we boarded the Matson

liner SS Monterey, and on the following day we were sailing towards Australia. We of the 197th were told to use A.P.O. 1111 (four aces) because we were the first American task force to sail towards the South Pacific. APO 1111 was the transit number for the 197th C.A. enroute to Australia. In Figure 1, note A.P.O. 1111 in the return address. This was my first letter home and has a first day postmark dated 3-10-42 for A.P.O. 920.

Our regiment, the 197th, docked at Brisbane 8 March, 1942 where a battalion of engineers and one anti-aircraft battalion disembarked. We were flown to Darwin where Australian troops had their hands full repulsing the enemy from landing. It was feared that the Japanese would get a foothold in the capital city of the Northern Territory and eventually invade the entire Commonwealth of Australia, but, they failed.

From Brisbane we proceeded to Perth, the capital of Western Australia, where we were assigned APO 926, which was based at Melbourne, Victoria. The 197th docked at Melbourne March 17, a day or so following General McArthur's arrival by boat from Bataan. It must be stated that troops were not necessarily in the town where mail was to be processed. Figure 2 shows mail from Perth which was postmarked April 18, 1942 in Melbourne (APO 501). Figure 3 is a Perth cover post-

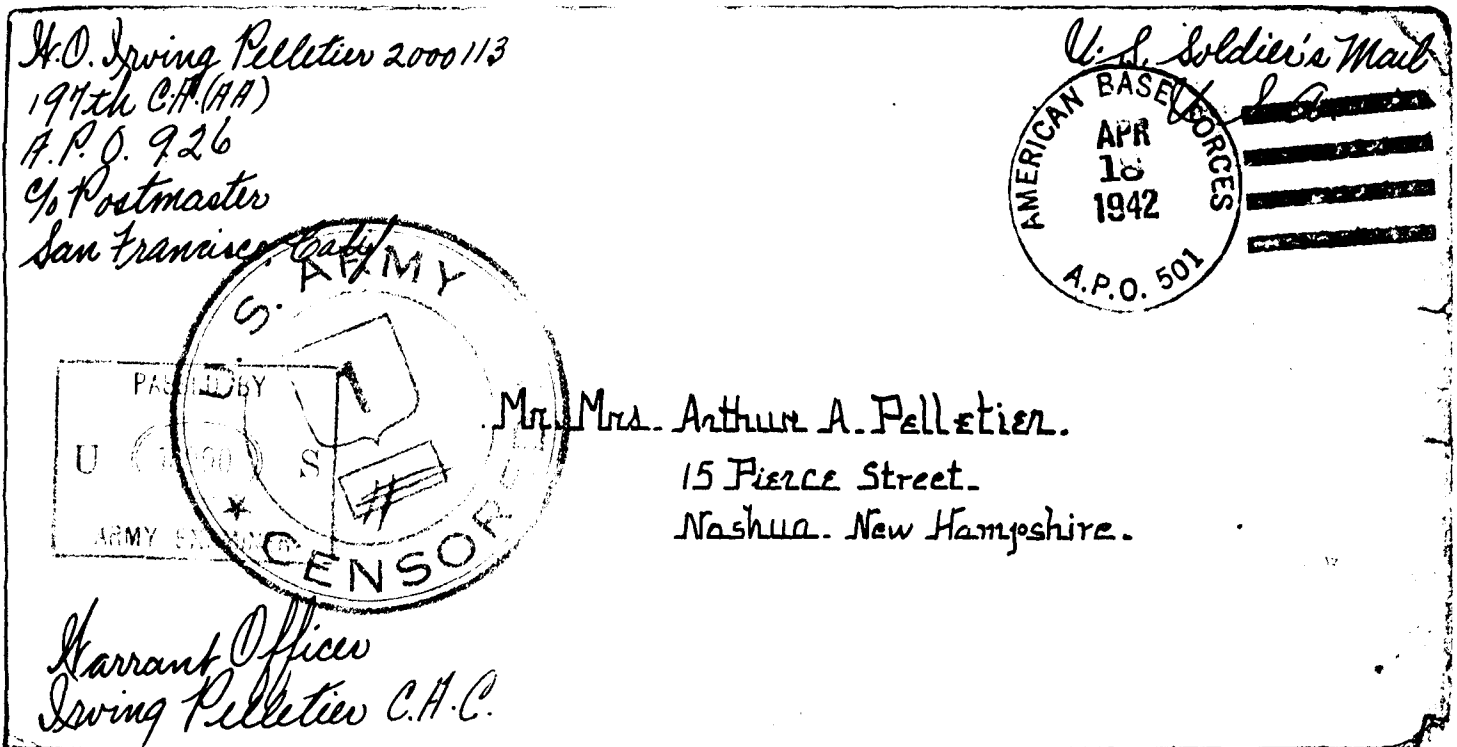


Figure 2. Cover mailed from Perth, but postmarked in Melbourne (APO 501).

marked May 25, 1942 in Canberra (APO 926). As noted in Figures 2 & 3, mail was either flown to Sydney, Melbourne, or Brisbane; or to assigned Base Post Offices

(BPO's). Throughout our stay in Western Australia, we used the APO #926.

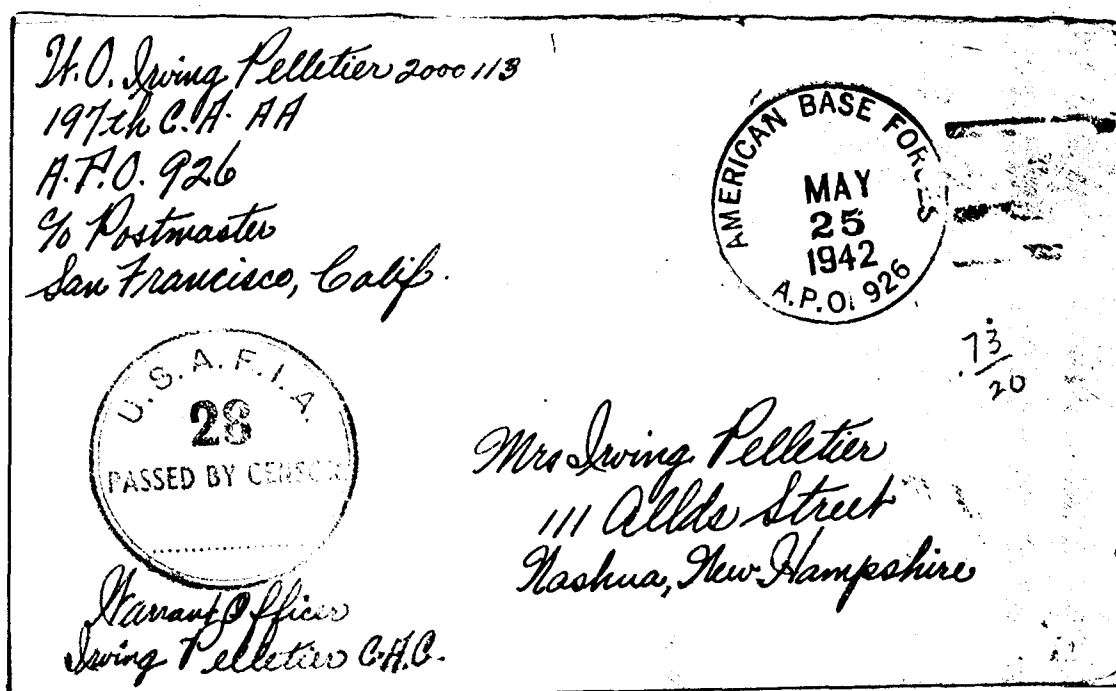
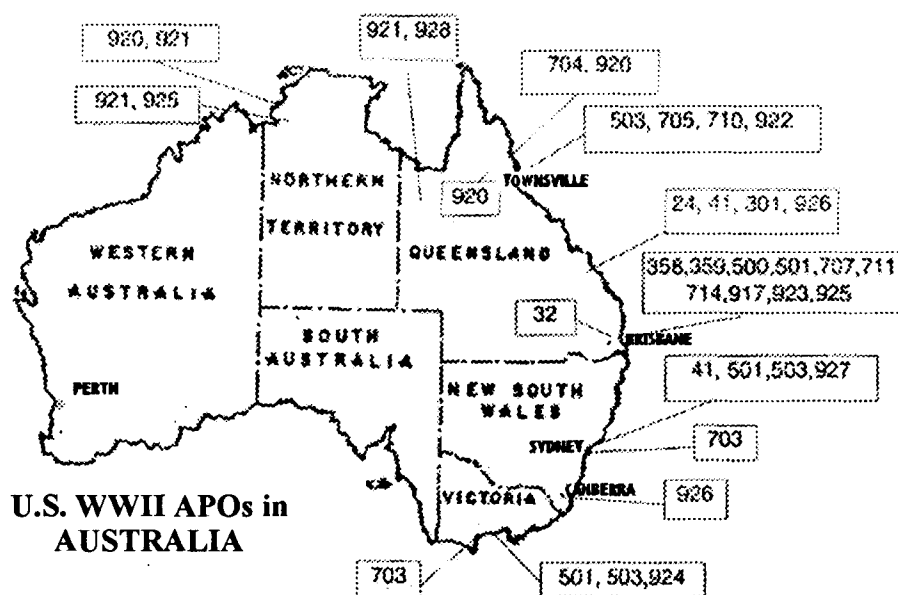


Figure 3a. Cover mailed in Perth, but postmarked in Canberra (APO 926)



U.S. WWII APOs in
AUSTRALIA

From Perth we sailed to Sydney, then by train all the way to Townsville – a difficult two days and three nights of riding on hard benches and sleeping in the aisles. However, we survived the journey and with plenty to write home about. We were now at APO 922 in Townsville. However, part of our mail must have been diverted elsewhere for processing, as noted in Figure 4 dated March 18, 1943 where the APO number is omitted; but the cover in Figure 5 dated August 9, 1943 has Brisbane's APO 501. Townsville's APO 922 appears in the covers in Figures 6 and 7 (dated 31 March, 1944 & 27 June, 1944, respectively) with different cancels.

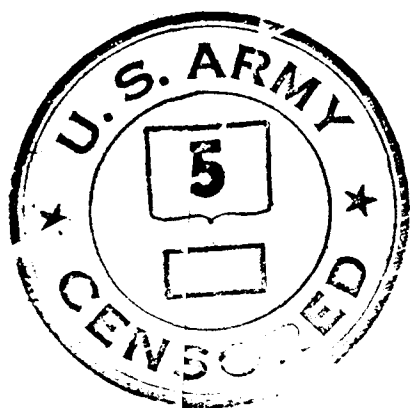


Figure 3b. Censor marking applied to the reverse of the cover shown in Figure 3.

922, as per Figures 9 (Oct. 13, 1943) and 10 (March 8, 1944).

Figure 11 has a Navy cancel dated June 15, 1944, but at that time we were at Finschhafen, New Guinea and APO #322 was the assigned number for Finsch.

Figure 12 has the hand cancel BPO 4 dated August 2, 1944, while the book (by Tripp) has a question mark despite the fact we were still at APO 322; also for Figure 13, processed at Brisbane. At one time there were some 90,000 troops stationed at Finschhafen, New Guinea. No doubt handling of the mail might have presented some problems.

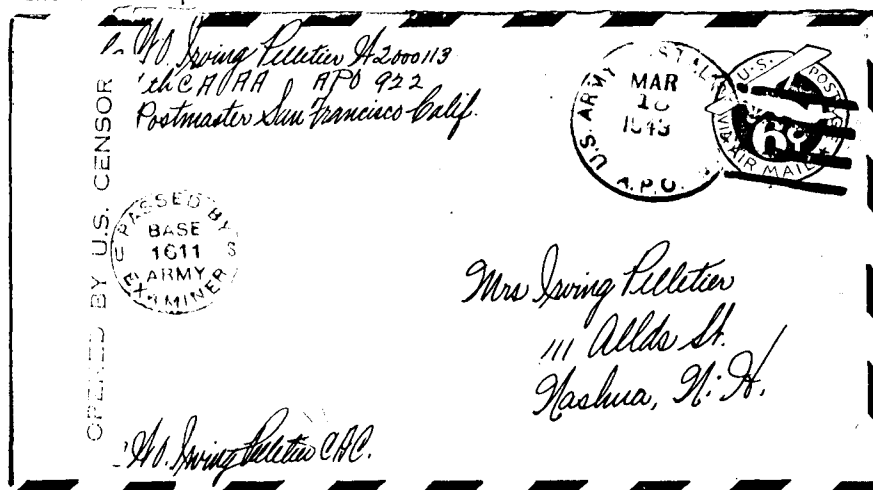


Figure 4. Cover postmarked APO 922 (Townsville) in march 1943.

Figure 8, dated Oct. 10, 1943 shows BPO 7 out of Brisbane while we were still on duty in Townsville, APO

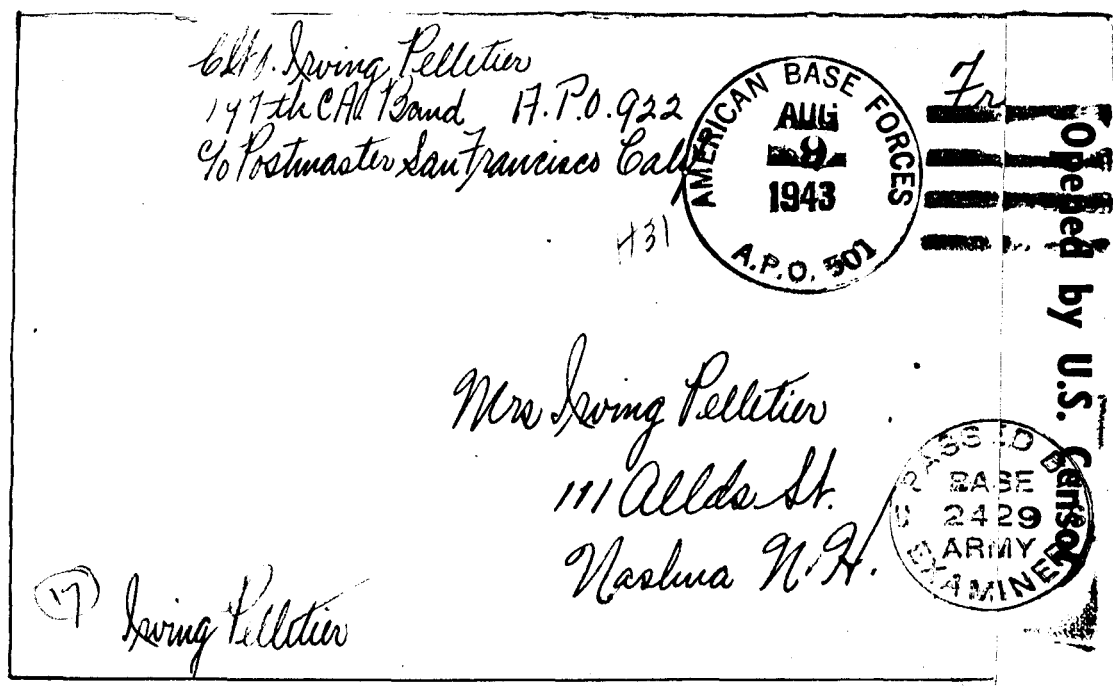


Figure 5. Cover mailed in Townsville, but postmarked in Brisbane (APO 501), August, 1943.

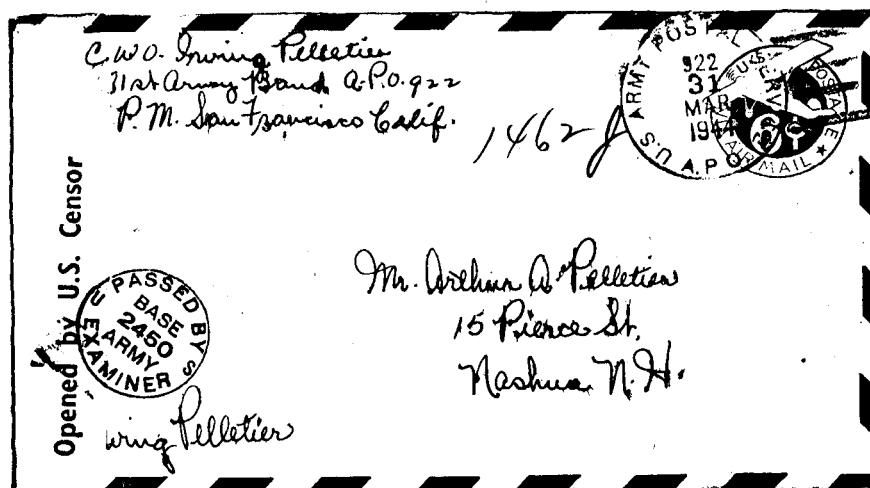


Figure 6. Cover postmarked APO 922 (Townsville), March 1944

Figure 7. Cover postmarked APO 922 (Townsville), June 1944.

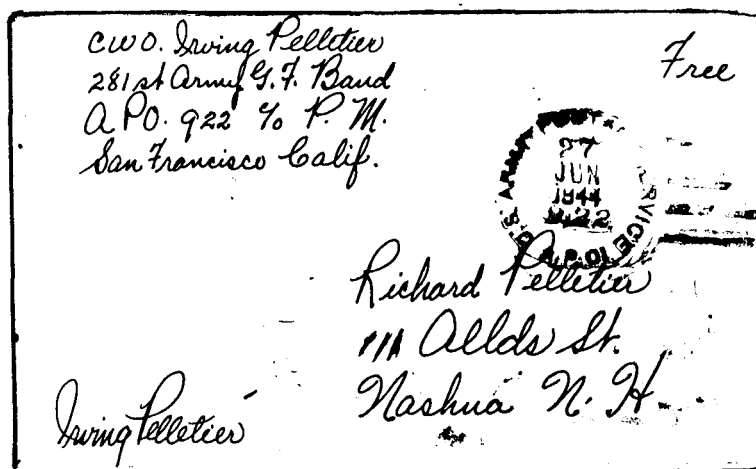
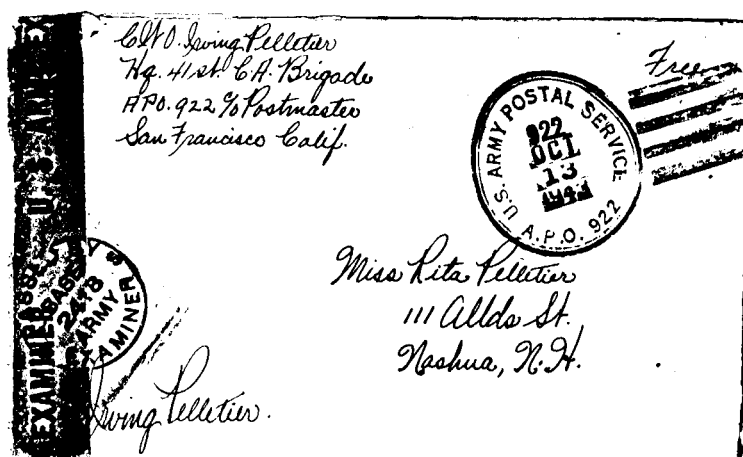
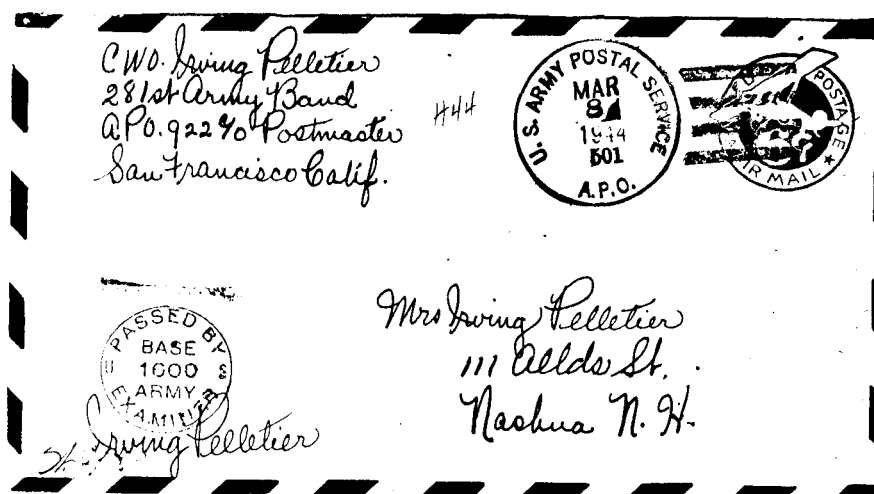


Figure 8. Cover mailed at Townsville, but postmarked at the 7th Base Post Office in Brisbane, October 1943



Cover postmarked at APO 922 (Townsville) with postmark showing the APO number twice, October 1943

Figure 10. Cover mailed from Townsville but postmarked at APO 501 in Brisbane, March 1944



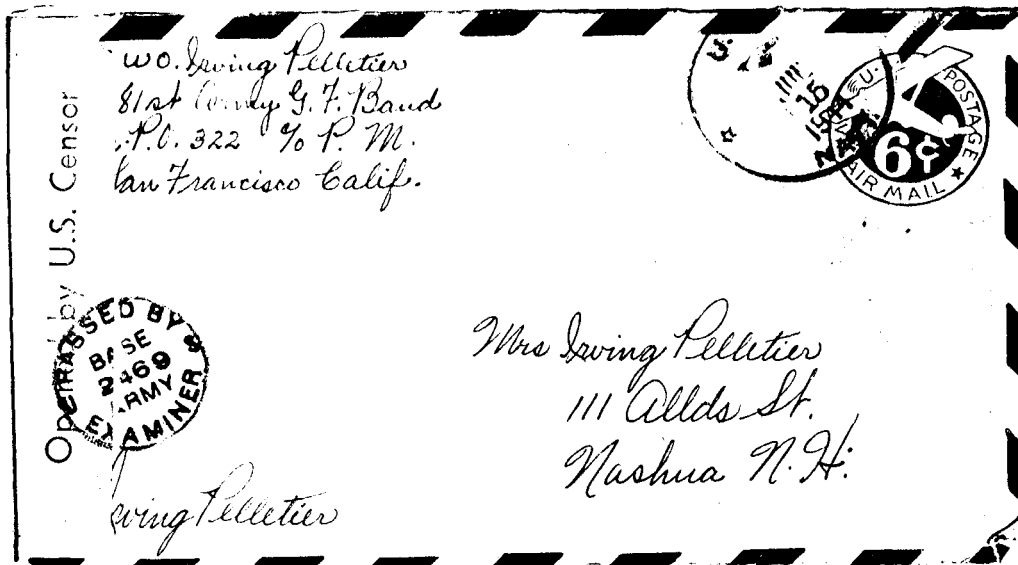


Figure 11. Cover posted at Finschhafen, New Guinea, and postmarked at a U.S. Navy mail facility, July 1944

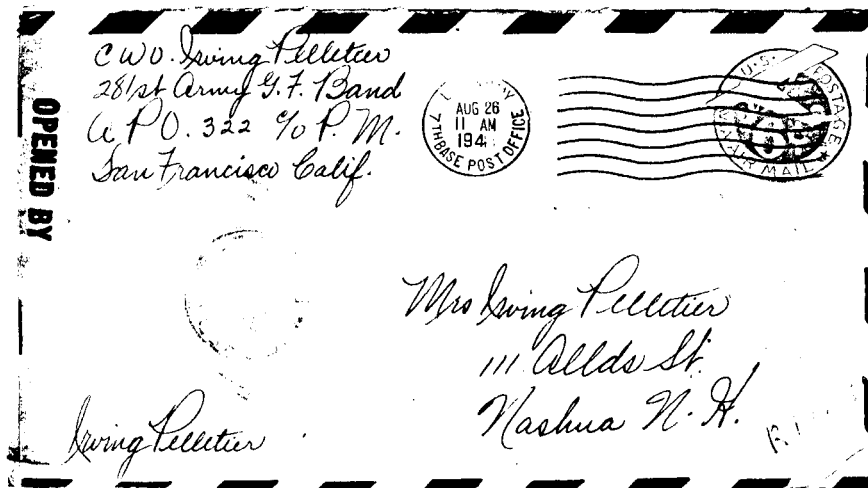
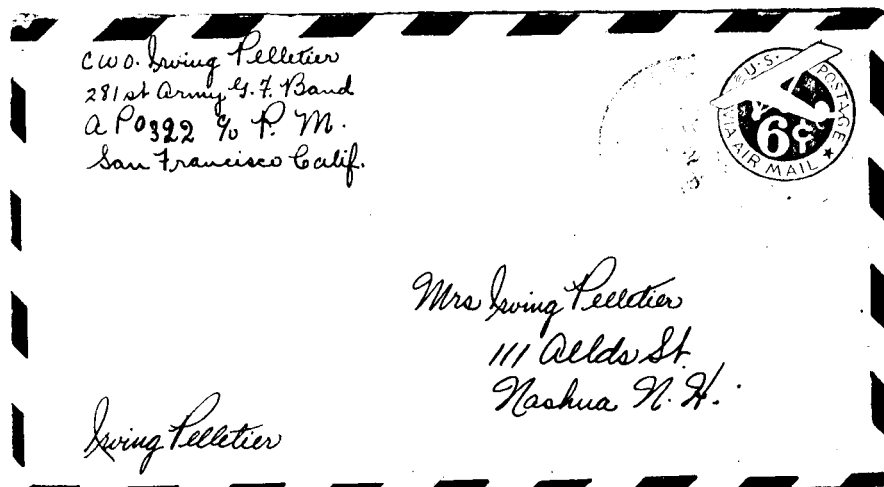


Figure 12. Cover mailed through APO 322 (Finschhafen), August 1944

Figure 13. Cover mailed at Finschhafen and postmarked at the 7th Base Post Office at Port Morsey.



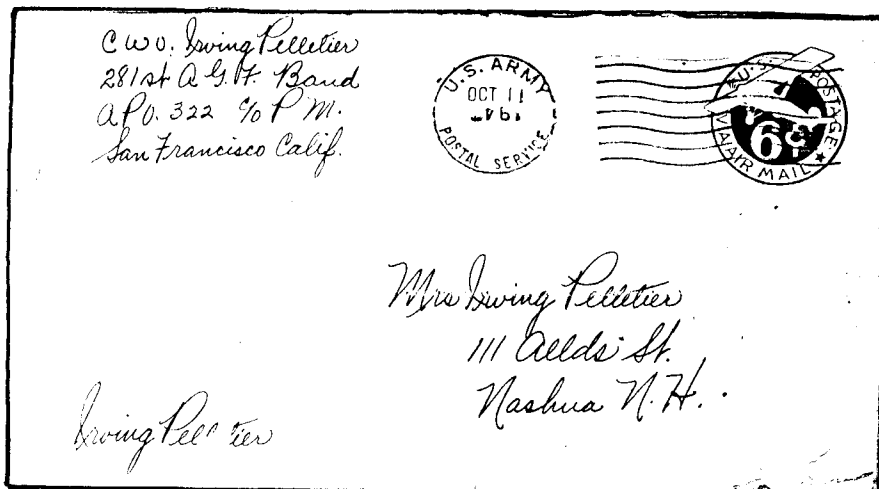


Figure 14. Cover mailed at Finschhaven and postmarked at the 7th BPO in Port Moresby, October 1944.

Figure 15. Cover mailed at Finschhaven and postmarked both at APO 322 (Finschhaven) and the 7th BPO two days later.

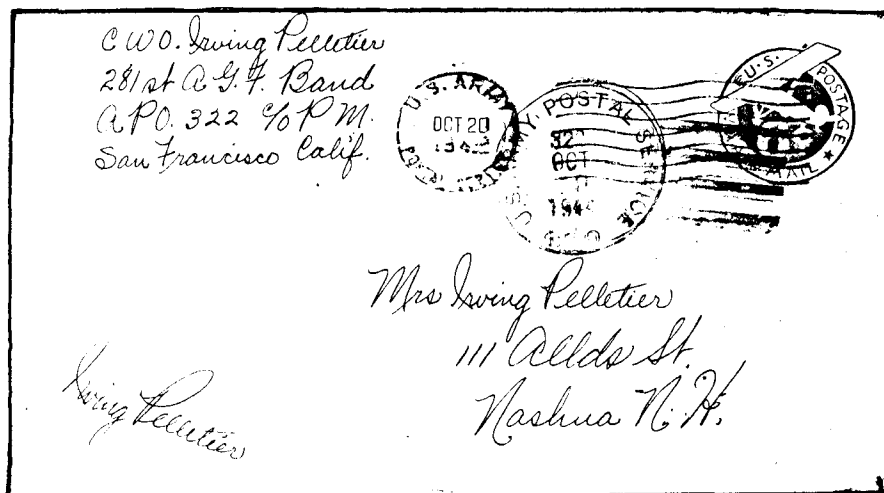


Figure 14 mailed October 11, 1944 is an odd ball – the year date is inverted. The cover in Figure 15 shows both a machine and a hand cancel which was not a rarity at the time.

Figures 16, 17, and 18 dated between November, 1944 and January, 1945 are all of different cancels, yet all are from APO 322, my last overseas base. From

Finsch my unit proceeded to the Philippines. At this time, I sailed to San Francisco, then home for a rest & recuperation leave of 20 days after 3 years of overseas duty. No regrets, but I wouldn't wish to relive those years between 1942 and 1946.

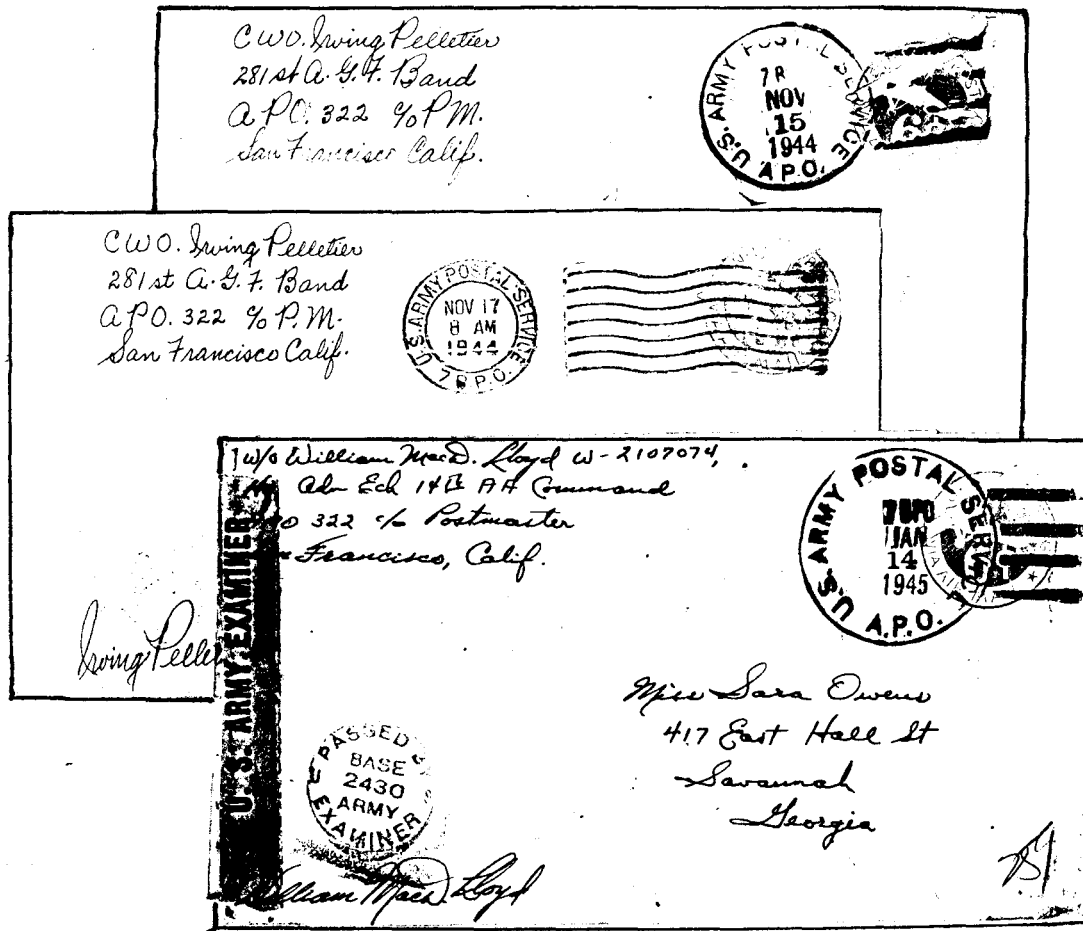


Figure 16-18. Three covers mailed from Finschhafen, November 1944 to January 1945, all postmarked at the 7th Base Post Office in Port Moresby.

JUST A COUPLE MORE AUSTRALIA PIX



Australia has some very fancy possums. This one, called a sugar glider, was very fond of honey soaked bread.



The Whitsunday Islands as seen from Shute Harbor. There are some 75-80 islands in the group. Most are protected as national parks.

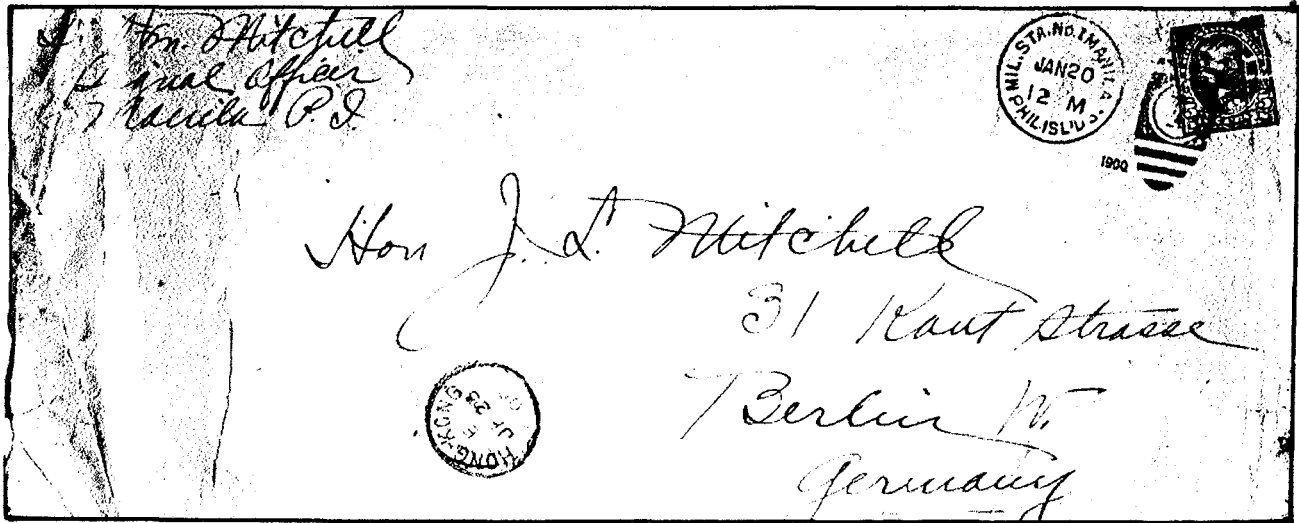


Figure 1. Legal size penalty envelope used by Lt. William "Billy" Mitchell in 1900 when he was a newly commissioned signal corps officer. [Reduced to 67% actual size]

Early Mail From a Military Maverick

by Michael Dattolico

He was the son of a Democratic senator from Wisconsin and the grandson of a prominent Wisconsin pioneer banker and railroad magnate. He was a life-long friend of Douglas MacArthur, who once tried to woo his sister with poetry. Later, he commanded U.S. air forces in France during World War One. The man was William "Billy" Mitchell, one of the most controversial military figures in our history. Presented here are some of the earliest examples of his mail after he began his military career.

Born in France in 1879, Mitchell's home town was actually Milwaukee. When the Spanish-American War commenced in 1898, Mitchell initially enlisted as a private in Company M., 1st Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Regiment. Although some Wisconsin volunteer infantry units saw service in Puerto Rico, the 1st Regiment remained in the states. Through whatever means, Mitchell was soon commissioned a lieutenant in the regular U.S. Army's signal corps. By 1899, he was serving as a signal corps lieutenant in the Philippine Islands.

Figure 1 shows a cover sent from Mitchell to his father, John Lendrum Mitchell, while his father was at the U.S. consulate in Berlin. Note that the cover was sent from Manila on January 20, 1900. Mitchell remained in the Philippines for over a year.

The army was obviously hard on its officers in those years. Having served in the steamy, tropical Philippine Islands for over a year, Mitchell was then assigned to

frigid Alaska. Figure 3 shows a letter sent by Lt. Mitchell from Skagway, Alaska to his father late in 1901, while the former Wisconsin senator was in France.



Figure 2. Lt. Billy Mitchell as he appeared in Alaska in 1903.

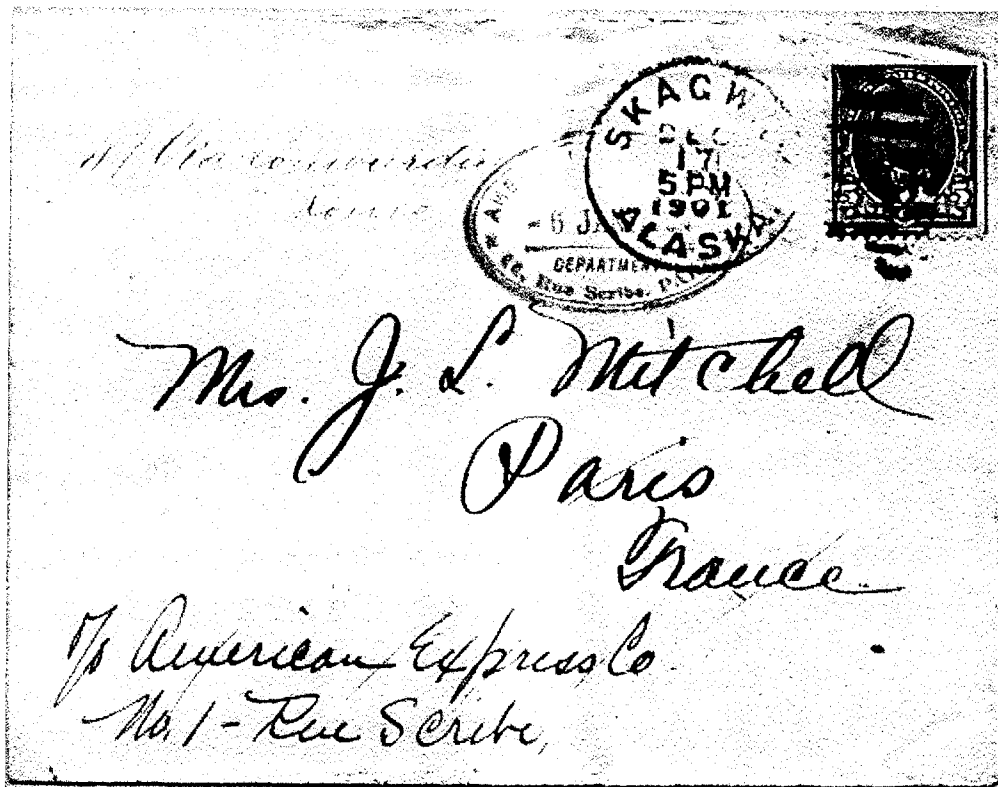


Figure 3. Letter mailed by Lt. William Mitchell from Skagway, Alaska, in December, 1901 to his father, then visiting France. Skagway was the southern point of one route into the Alaskan interior. Mitchell was on his way to Fort Egbert, Alaska.

Mitchell served in Alaska during its gold rush period. The army was trying to maintain law and order, plus civilize the wilds of Alaska. Lt. Mitchell was assigned to

Fort Egbert, near Eagle, Alaska, which was a scant five miles from the Canadian border.

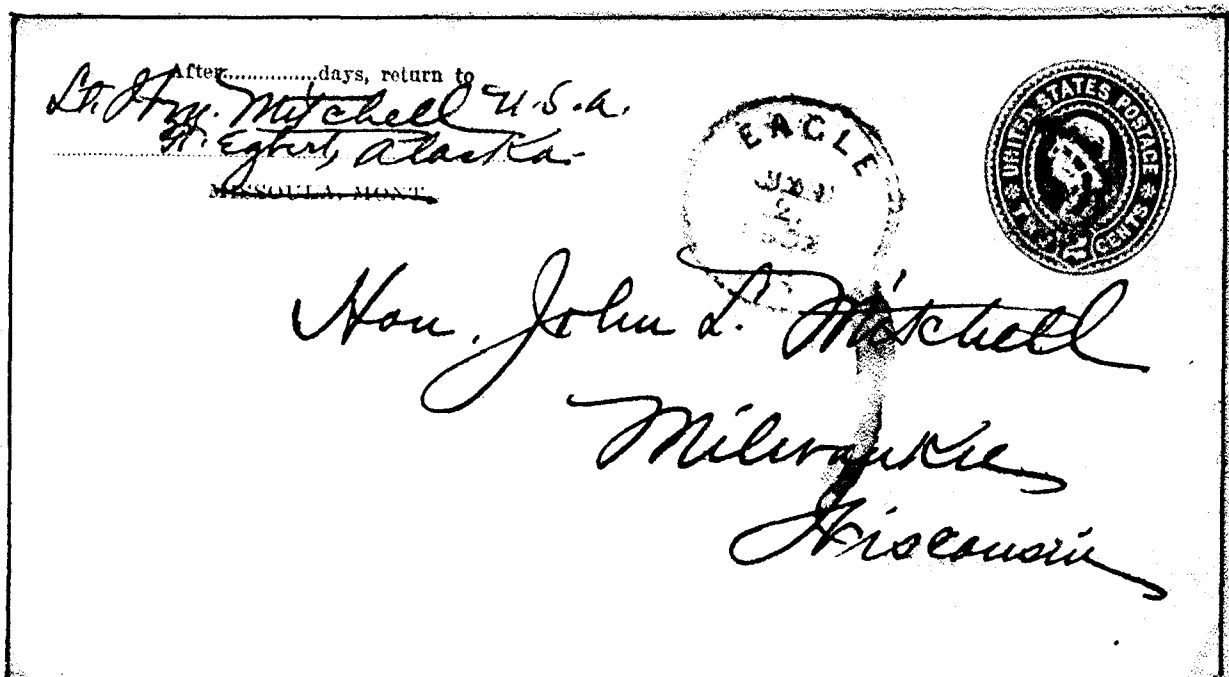


Figure 4. Remarkable cover sent by Lt. Billy Mitchell from Fort Egbert, Alaska, to his father in Milwaukee in 1902. While at Fort Egbert, Mitchell worked on the army's project of connecting Alaskan areas by telegraph.

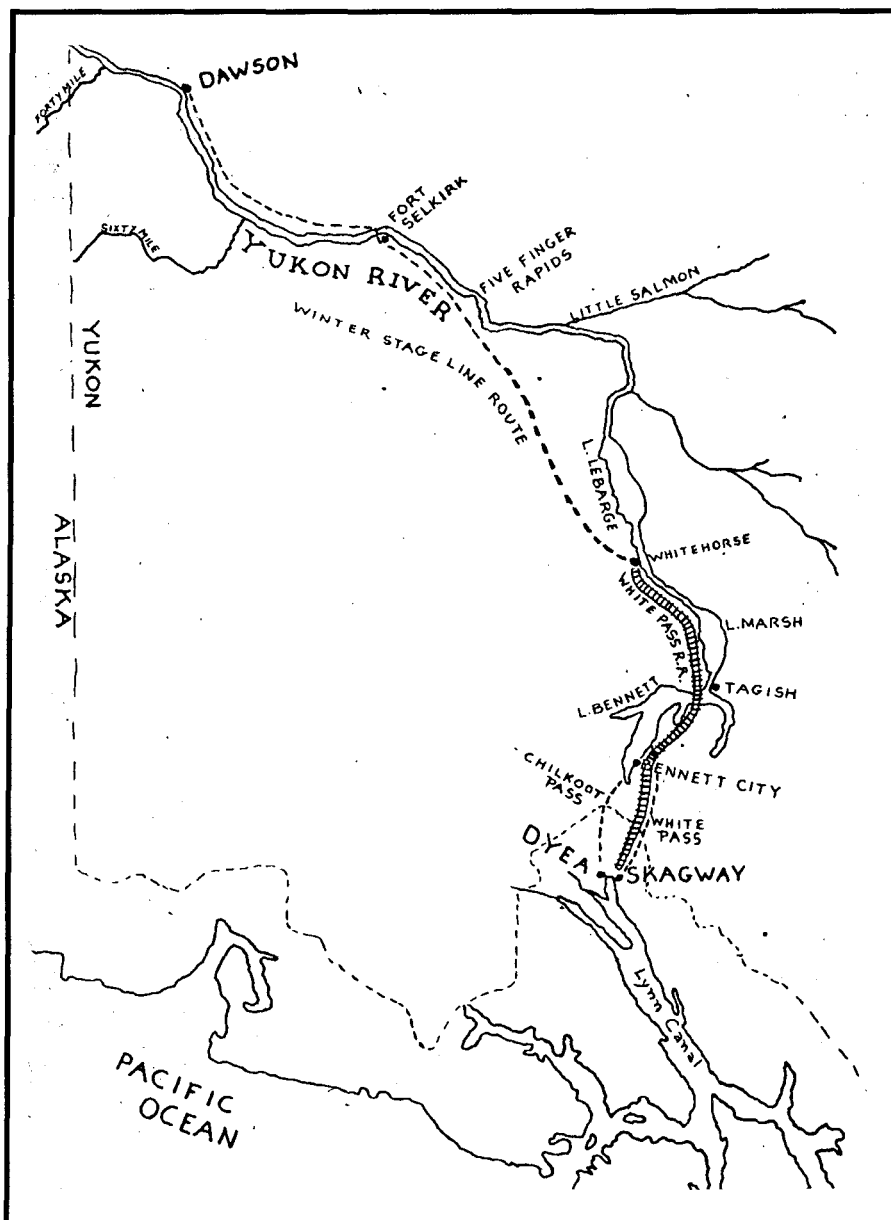


Figure 3. Map showing the route Billy Mitchell took from Skagway to Eagle, Alaska in 1901.

Getting to Fort Egbert was a perilous trip. Figure 3 shows the route Mitchell took to get from Skagway to Eagle, Alaska. You will note that much of the land through which Mitchell traveled was Canadian territory. Mitchell arrived at his new duty station in 1902. Figure 4 illustrates a cover sent from Billy Mitchell at Fort Egbert in 1902 to his father in Milwaukee.

The United States government had decided that as much of the Alaskan peninsula as possible would be connected by telegraph. Mitchell's task was to connect the far-eastern Alaskan town of Eagle with the west coast of Alaska. The army had used horses during the summer months to move telegraph line westward. But during the

summer months when the surface of the Alaskan permafrost had partially melted, the horses often became mired in the mud, thus slowing the operation. Mitchell advocated using army mules instead of horses, and proposed working during the winter months when the ground was not partially thawed. The army approved Mitchell's plans, and the innovative signal corps lieutenant from Milwaukee had settlements on the Alaskan peninsula telegraphically connected well before the army's objective date. His military star was definitely in ascendancy.

The story of Mitchell's professional end is an oft-told one. He publicly criticized senior army officers for not accepting the tactical and strategic value of the airplane in modern warfare. One senior army officer singled out by Mitchell's scathing rhetoric was the commander at Pearl Harbor. Others were accused by Mitchell of criminal negligence.

Mitchell was court-martialed for his actions in 1925. Found guilty, he was banished from active military service for five years. Mitchell chose to resign in 1926.

He died in 1936 before many of his predictions about the value of air power became a reality.

Views on Old Time Education

by Tom Clarke

St. Augustine, Florida proudly proclaims that it is the site of the "oldest wooden schoolhouse" in America (circa 1770?). One of the many souvenirs available there is an unlikely sheet of rules from 1872 that the teacher was required to follow. It's an eye opener.

Banded about today, by whichever political party or pressure group is next in line, are loving or hateful pros and cons of public education and its unions, and teachers in particular. Regardless of where you stand, after reading the list (right), would you suggest that the job of teaching, 1872, compared to today, was

- A) Refreshingly better.
- B) Distinctly worse.
- C) Equally desirable.
- D) Equally detestable.
- E) I cannot read.

By the turn of the present century, most US schools were providing students with, and some readers may recall, neat rows of 1900-30s era bolted down student inkwell desks. Authoritarian teachers had pre-thought and digested the lessons. He or she then doled out (with discipline-ready ruler in hand) measured slices of data and erudition. Hopefully quiet, dutiful kids either absorbed it all or didn't, and had no other choice.

This spartan method of education had become standard schooling extending back to the 18th century, in spite of the protests of a few humanizing theorist educators. Their time would come, but only well into

the 20th century.

A brief orientation follows, then a sketch of the progress of American education with the aim to providing a background for appreciating those precious lines of educationally-related information gathered

from old letters. The letters can't begin to tell the whole story, or even intimate their author's part in the process of America's educational evolution.

Hopefully, this narrative will permit collectors to understand some of the dynamics that lie behind what would otherwise be a mundane retelling of the old tale: adult versus kid versus adult, and the inevitable "make me learn!"

Early Prejudices

Such draconian indignities as the accompanying 1872 regulations add further insult to the prejudices many already had of teachers over the last several centuries. Far too long ago and too far away were educators of Socrates', Plato's, and Aristotle's stature. Why?

The microscopic salaries in 1872 alone would all but dissuade the most masochistic from the profession. The truly knowledgeable, well-read, cultured, and creative from the ranks of society might at first tender their aid, but certainly not for long!

Teacher Rules in 1872

1. Teachers each day will fill lamps, clean chimneys.
2. Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's session.
3. Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to the individual taste of the pupils.
4. Men teachers may take one evening each week for courting purposes, or two evenings a week if they go to church regularly.
5. After ten hours in school, the teachers may spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good books.
6. Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed.
7. Every teacher should lay aside from each day pay a goodly sum of his earnings for his benefit during his declining years so that he will not become a burden on society.
8. Any teacher who smokes, uses liquor in any form, frequents pool or public halls, or gets shaved in a barber shop will give good reason to suspect his worth, intention, integrity and honesty.
9. The teacher who performs his labor faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of twenty-five cents per week in his pay, providing the Board of Education approves.

Inadequate standards

Before 1900 it was widely assumed that a man or woman was qualified to teach if he or she could read and write, and *well* qualified if he or she knew arithmetic! Teachers most likely were local talent, school girls recently matriculated from that very school or nearby academy. A far cry from the multi-degreed resumes of today's professionals. Thus, small wonder teachers had low salaries and little prestige then; requirements were almost nonexistent. But do keep that chimney clean, and carve those pen nibs! Such facts give early school-related letters a disheartening tone.

Literature recorded these glaring faults, portraying teachers sometimes as fools and even as sadists. Washington Irving made Ichabod Crane a clod in *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*. Mr. Brocklehurst was a vicious schoolmaster in Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre*.

In mid-19th century, Thomas B. Macaulay, in Parliament, slandered teachers as "the refuse of all other callings, discarded footmen, ruined peddlers, men ... who [do] not know whether the Earth is a sphere or a cube." Even today, as a leftover from past decades, who hasn't heard the scurrilous refrain: "Those who can, do; those who can't, teach!"

Rising status

But by the 1890s, eminent educator-philosophers as mentioned below had begun to create an appreciative air of respect for the profession. And as the standards for education rose, the status of teachers rose. By 1950 the average teacher had an education that greatly exceeded that of the average citizen, and teachers were being well-placed on charts of most admired occupations.

Oddly enough, though, from the 19th century through the 1940s, despite public disdain for teachers as quality, there persisted the idea that teachers must be nevertheless supreme models of moral integrity (see those 1872 rules again). Town "conduct codes" forbade to teachers to engage in activities which many parents

and the community took for granted such as card playing, drinking, smoking, and divorce.

The year after this writer began his career, 1969, the staff was informed that not only had neckties become optional but no longer were we forbidden to set foot in the local taproom on Fridays on the way home from work. With an air of conquest, teacher friends visited there during the first few weeks just to seal our victory. Such teacher-only codes have almost completely vanished.

Currently, another leap in status is in the making. While some in Congress loudly demand public moneys be vouchered to private schools (what an irony of American history!) and the President calls for increased funding for grants to permit smaller class sizes and to develop national standards for testing, progress is afoot. Despite the cacophony, there are an increasing number of teachers achieving new National Teaching Certification that attest to superior ability. After rigorous study and exams, these will carry with them prestige and a significant added monthly stipend.

* * * *

A Sketch of Public Education

In the 17th century colonists encouraged schools throughout the American territory which reflected the views of schooling in the old country. Thus, most poor children learned what they did as apprentices and

Miss Blanche Lamont's one room school in Hecla, Montana in October 1893.



had no actual schooling at all. Those who could go to elementary schools were taught the 4-R's: reading, 'riting, 'rithmetic, and religion. Recall that children learned the letter "A" with "In Adam's fall, we sinned all." Learning in early days meant rote memorization, accompanied by occasional Bible- and government-sanctioned whippings.

"Secondary school," attended by goal-oriented, wealthier children, meant a Latin Grammar school. Whichever level, instructors were doubtless well intentioned but poorly prepared.

Bible reading Protestants such as the Puritans, in contravention of Catholic thought, demanded universal education (read: literacy). Thus, in 1642, Massachusetts passed a law requiring every child be taught to read. Shortly, 1647, it passed *The Old Deluder Law*, so named because its purpose was to more thoroughly defeat the Devil's hold on illiteracy.

Such schools had clear-cut moral purposes. Skills and knowledge were important, but to the degree they served religious ends and, second, trained the mind.

The 1700s required education to satisfy the many practical needs of growing numbers of seamen, merchants, artisans, and frontiersmen. An so practical content was soon competing vigorously with religious. This led to the expansion in American schools of the curriculum beyond religion and moralities and was immediate and widespread.

From a privately carrier letter of 1788, to a granddaughter in Williamsburg VA, where she is attending boarding school. Emphasis of concerned adults then was on proper conduct and good associations. Since Grandpapa is flattered by her interest in school, did he pay the tuition?

Danville July the 3d. 1788

My ever Dear Sally what pleasure does it give me to hear that every person is pleased with you I hope you will continue to conduct yourself in such a manner as will //////////////// make you agreable & your company desireable. A Mr Craig from Williamsburg writes his son in this Country & desires him to inform your Papa that you was expectd. in that City everyday & that you was to go to a Boarding School under a Mrs Helam [?] I am pleased with the Idea & Flatter myself that you will derive great benefit from such an opportunity. . . .

Private Schools

The private academy that Benjamin Franklin helped found in 1751 was the first of a growing number of secondary schools that sprang up to compete with Latin Grammar schools. Franklin's academy continued to offer humanist-religious curriculum, but it also brought education closer to the needs of

everyday life by teaching such courses as history, geography, merchant accounts, geometry, algebra, surveying, modern languages, navigation, and astronomy.

In these academies, the "haves" would have the opportunity to explore their higher, more creative capabilities. With Federal times, 1789, the "3-R's" (minus religion) would still suffice in the proverbial "Little Red School Houses" all across the land. But private schools would continue, for a price, to add inducements (see Mrs. Mead's 1848 report card, following) such as French, German, or Spanish, Music Lessons, Belles Lettres, and Drawing. Here, too, and very important to personal and national growth, networks of friends were begun that would smoothe entry into higher circles of business and society, and ability to mix with the political elite.

With the disdain for migrant Irish Catholics in the 1840s and before, parochial private schools were established after 1810 (Mother Seton of Baltimore) as a way of indoctrinating the young but also of separating them from a populace that didn't want them. As for discipline, "spare the rod and spoil the child," was not lost on the decades of nuns who, paralleling their secular counterparts, also came equipped with ruler firmly in hand.

Independence and drill

After the Revolution, in addition to the 150-year old *New England Primer*, textbooks began to appear, but these were mostly nationalistic American histories and geographies. In 1783 the *Primer* began to share its supremacy with what was to become an even more popular schoolbook, Noah Webster's *American Spelling Book*. America was doubly emancipated from England, in spelling too.

But Webster's also exposed the next 100 years of American children to grueling spelling drills. The stress on spelling accuracy, along with the spelling bee craze, would continued to grip American schools well into the 20th century.

Parents had a moral, not legal, responsibility for schooling their children, or for having them schooled. Compulsory education was more than a century away. National statutes such as the Land Ordinance of 1785 and the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 acknowledged the dependence of democracy on an educated populace, and to this end, the Confederation Congress set aside large tracts of land, one square

A private school report card of January 1848, from Mrs. Mead's School (probably located in her many-roomed home). Bible study takes the first position in a long list of available courses. Student Miss Mary Breckenridge got mostly high grades except in grammar and arithmetic. Mary was "diligent & exhibiting pleasing improvement." Mrs. Mead concludes her post script with, "Will Mr. Breckenridge inform Mrs Mead how long he designs to have his daughter continue at school, that Mrs. M- may profitably and suitably arrange her studies."

MRS. MEAD'S SCHOOL.

REPORT OF THE RECITATIONS AND CONDUCT OF

Miss Mary Buckenridge
for the month of January - 1848.

[illegible]

5, denotes a perfect recitation; 4, a good one; 3, one tolerably well prepared; 2, an imperfect one; 1, a very bad one; and 0, an entire failure; a, denotes *absence*; ex., *excused recitations*.

Parents in the city, are requested to place their signature upon the back of this report, and return it on Monday.

Mrs Backus is making steady improvement
in her conduct & is now satisfactory - Her mind expands
very perceptibly as she advances to the higher studies - Will
the Backus inform the friends how long he designs to
have his daughter continued at school, I trust Mrs M - will -

the *quality* of education. In the mid-19th century the secondary-school curriculum that had been slowly expanding since the development of Franklin-inspired private academies in the 1750s exploded. The US was a burgeoning society enamored of the latest discoveries in the physical sciences and biology. Add to these inducements the rousing adventures of the Robber

Baron industrialists and Horatio Alger capitalism. There was a clamor for a substantially greater knowledge base.

As early as 1861, as many as 73 subjects were being offered in Massachusetts secondary schools. People still believed that the mind could be "trained," but they now thought that science could do a better job at this than the classic subjects of Latin, Greek, Bible, etc. The resulting curriculum became top-heavy with science instruction.

[Note: the emphasis on teacher-based *instruction*, not student-oriented *learning*. Instruction implies the traditional view that knowledge is to be fed to students who, if they are reasonable, will devour it rote. This, in contrast to the present tendency to prefer student-centered *learning* via stimulation and desire.]

Moral schooling

Few students in the early to mid 19th century went beyond the 3-R common school (equal to 4th or 5th grade in today's terms). While there, their study might include a bit of verbal science and nature (via Audubon's *Birds of the United States*?), but books for the classes of students were scarce but predictable: assorted arithmetic, history, and geography texts, and of course Webster's speller. However, an amazing pair of tomes were fresh on the American horizon, appearing in 1836: the First and Second (eventually six) in the series of McGuffey's *Eclectic Readers*.

William McGuffey, a life-long teacher and administrator in Ohio and at the University of Virginia, chose multi-topic readings that stressed explicit moral virtues to his young readers. His readers were one of the most popular series of schoolbooks ever published in the United States, revised regularly until 1901, with more than 122 million copies sold.

Readers were used as standard textbooks in 37 states, and helped cultivate the literary taste of America. The effect of such lessons was not lost on Theodore Roosevelt who said: "Instruction in things moral is most necessary to the making of the highest type of citizenship." Western pioneer families, it is said, especially appreciated these shortcuts to culture.

This "Little Red School House" school register of an unnamed school district (town of Athens, District 7) lists 39 students (22 boys, 17 girls) who attended the Fall 1867 term (which lasted only two months, 11/2 to 12/31). Ages ranged from 19 down to 5, the mean age being about 15. Of the 44 days in the session, only one boy had perfect attendance, one girl was absent 38 days, but the rest averaged only 2.9 days absent from school (93%, a good rate).

The teacher who filled out the form was Fred V. Barker who had taught in four other schools prior to this one. His wage, excluding board (\$1.75 a week), was \$28 for the two months (64 cents a day).

SCHOOL REGISTER FOR 1867-68.

By a law of the State, the following blank, "properly filled up, completed and signed," must be deposited with the School Committee, or some one designated by the Committee to receive it, before the teacher shall be entitled to receive pay for his services.

1. Name of the City, Town or Plantation,	- - - - -	Athens
2. Number of the District,	- - - - -	Seven
3. Name of the Agent,	- - - - -	Wm. Ladd
4. Name of the Teacher,	- - - - -	Fred V. Barker
5. Taught how many schools before,	- - - - -	Seven
6. When the School commenced,	- - - - -	Nov. 23
7. When the School closed,	- - - - -	Dec. 31st
8. When the school was visited by the Committee,	- - - - -	Second term Dec
9. Length of the School in days, 5 1-2 days in a week,	- - - - -	Forty-four
10. Whole number of Scholars	- - - - -	
11. Whole number attending S	- - - - -	

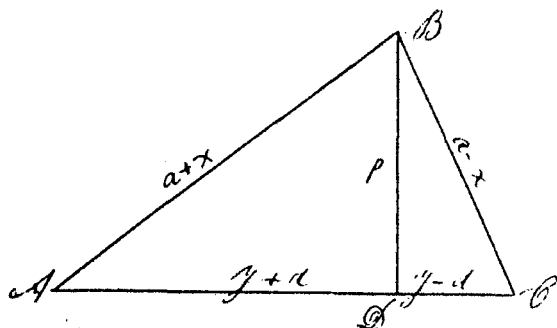
Methods in succession

Schools in, say, 1840, were of the almost mythic one room style where a single teacher taught pupils ranging in age from six to about 13 and sometimes older -- "heterogeneous grouping." The caring teacher would try to instruct small groups of these children separately. (See Miss Blanche Lamont's Hecla, Montana, class of October, 1893.) A good teacher under these circumstances had to have a strong arm and an unshakable determination to cram information into his or her pupils.

Then, from about 1860 to 1880, a shift away from information-stuffing to something new developed. Swiss theorist Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi preached, and American teaching colleges agreed, that children learn best by observing and experiencing tangible things. Teachers must get away from the emphasis on book memorization and recitation of abstract facts.

Pestalozzi envisioned happy children running, jumping, and playing in school and learning the names of numbers by counting real objects and preparing to

A manuscript postmark from Norwich CT of Nov 2, 1841. A brother sends a remarkable geometric solution. He would seem to be one of the better educated teachers of his time, according to popular belief. He is to begin teaching the coming term, the wage for which is \$12 a month (55 cents a day).



...I intend to occupy the station of a dignified pedagogue the coming winter, but whether I shall have the good luck to fill that station I cannot say, however hope I shall be blessed with a decent share of dignity at last, as it is so necessary in order to prosper....

I have engaged a school in Pomfret at \$12 per month....

I shall begin my school the 22nd of this month [November]:

Let $2y =$ sum of the sides

$2d =$ diff. " "

$y+d =$ greater segment

$y-d =$ less " "

According to Leg. 1

$$a^2 + 2ax + x^2 - p^2 = y^2 + 2yd$$

$$a^2 - 2ax + x^2 - p^2 = y^2 - 2yd$$

we have $4ax = 4yd$ & reduce

equation $a^2 + 2dy + \frac{d^2}{a^2} - p^2 = y^2$

equation $a^2 + \frac{d^2}{a^2} - p^2 = y^2 - d^2$

multiply both sides by a^2 we have

7th equation $a^4 dy - ap^2 = a^2 y^2 + ad^2$ transpose

$$a^2 y^2 - a^2 y^2 = ad^2 + ap^2 - a^4$$

we have $y = \sqrt{\frac{ad^2 + ap^2 - a^4}{a^2}}$ divide by a^2 and extract the square root

by substituting the value of y in the 4th equation

we have $x = d \sqrt{\frac{ad^2 + ap^2 - a^4}{a^2}}$

transpose the 7th equation $a^2 y^2 - d^2 y^2 = a^2 ap^2 - ad^2$ divide by $a^2 - d^2$ we have

$$y = \sqrt{\frac{a^2 ap^2 - ad^2}{a^2 - d^2}} \quad \& \quad x = d \sqrt{\frac{ad^2 + ap^2 - a^4}{a^2}}$$

P. L. I shall begin my school the 22nd of this month. please write me before that time if convenient.

F. V. A. J.

Norwich
Nov 3
1841

Mr. Horace Herrick

Francestown

N. H.

Single This letter contains the solution of a question by F. V. A. J. Townsend

learn reading by playing with letter blocks. Students would study geographic principles not only from seeing maps in a book but also by observing the area around the school, measuring it, and making their own relief maps of it.

Derailed by the masses

Stress on education for self and social betterment coincided, about 1880-1910, with the assault of new waves of immigrants. Several million immigrants per year came, a human flood that created new problems for the common school idea. The dilemma was how to impart the largest amount of information into the greatest number of children in the shortest possible time? One room common schools had to be replaced by larger buildings. To make it easier and faster for one teacher to instruct many students, there had to be as few differences between the children as possible -- "homogenous grouping." Children were corralled by age; each of these "grades" went to a separate room.

What to do? The hands-on theorist ideas of the previous several decades had to be cast aside. Classroom discipline was paramount in the crush of numbers. The teacher must discourage physical activities that might disrupt the strict discipline needed

for teacher presentations. Close attention to and absorption of the teacher's words required exacting eye contact and attention; given these needs, seats were arranged in formal rows. For good measure, they frequently were bolted to the floor.

These new circumstances convinced teacher colleges to reverse course and adopt German theorist Johann Friedrich Herbart's stress on the five-step lesson plan. Such daily plans allowed a systematic method of instruction that was the same for all pupils regardless. Herbart, with Teutonic thoroughness, emphasized motivating pupils to learn their pre-determined lessons straight away and, if necessary, through further rewards and punishments.

These ideas represented the opposite of Pestalozzi's views that children's inborn abilities should be allowed to *accept* knowledge and information *naturally*. Rather, under Herbart, the child would be made to fit the curriculum [and so it remains the dominant format today].

Subjects were ranked according to difficulty, assigned to certain years, and taught by a rigid daily timetable. The amount of information that the child had absorbed through drill and memorization was determined by exams. Reward and punishment no

A slightly tatty report card from Pottstown PA for Ada L Halteman (grade missing) through April 1908, including on the reverse excerpts from the Pennsylvania Compulsory School Law of 1901 for children 8 to 16. She was a superior student in the eyes of teacher Mary E. Yorgey. With courses like Algebra, Classics, and Physiology we can assume she probably was a young teenager. The excerpt mentions that 70% attendance is required, and that absence due to "urgent reasons" be strictly interpreted. Also, students 13 to 16, providing they can read and write English intelligently, can waive compulsory attendance provided they are "regularly engaged in any useful employment or service."

Pottstown *Union* SCHOOL.

Report of Ada L. Halteman
For the year commencing Sept. 2, 1907, and ending 1908

MONTH.	Days Absent.	Times Tardy.	Conduct.	Reading.	Spelling.	Writing.	Drawing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	History.	Physiology.	Algebra.	Latin.	Signature of Parent or Guardian.
September.			95	90	100	90		95	95	100	100	100	100	Kate Halteman
October.			95	90	98	90		100	100	100	96	100	100	Kate Halteman
November.			95	98	98	90		97	100	100	100	100	100	Kate Halteman
December.			95	98	98	90		100	100	100	100	100	100	Kate Halteman
January.			95	94	90			100	100	100	100	100	100	Kate Halteman
February.			95	100	90			96	95	100	100	93	100	Kate Halteman
March.			95	100	95			98	98	100	100	95	100	Kate Halteman
April.			95	100	95			100	98	95	100	95	93	Kate Halteman
May.														
June.														

THE Teacher Requests

That parents keep their children in constant and punctual attendance.

That they oversee home studies.

That they visit the schools.

That they examine and sign this report as often as presented.

NOTE.—In Department and Studies, 90 to 100 signifies excellent; 80 to 90, good; 70 to 80, fair; 60 to 70, unsatisfactory; below 60, bad; 100 being the highest mark attainable.

Mary E. Yorgey Teacher.

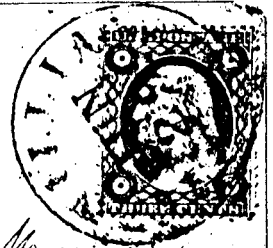
HARTZ BROS., PRINTERS, CLEARFIELD, PA.

A letter from Fitzwilliam NY to NYC, June 2, 1859. It tells of teacher exhaustion in the 19th century, the cause of which was the biannual Examination Day. It seems that local school authorities insisted on visiting outlying "country schools" to see the sum total of student and teacher achievement.

Fitzwilliam June 29th /59

...I did indeed commence a letter to you immediately after receiving yours, but being unusually wearied by my school duties, and in no mood for writing, I decided that I should be doing you as well as myself a kindness by delaying it for a while.

Saturday afternoon witnessed the closing exercises of my school. Did you ever attend an examination of a district school, Carrie? You should attend one in Filz. to know what I had to go through. The people here are more interested in school than in most country towns, and "examination day" is always a great day. Two or three nights after school must be spent in trimming the school room with oak leaves, evergreens and flowers, and the care of this with the anxiety one cannot help feeling for the success of the examination makes the last days of a term trying ones for a teacher....



Miss Caroline Merriam.
Care of B. W. Merriam Esq.
130 Chatham St.
New York City.

As if this were news, the young lady writing this long letter in 1848 to her sister tells her she doesn't like her teacher. This is a manuscript EL from the larger town of Union CT to Broad Brook CT. This, estimated 12-year old, attends a common school in Union since she mentions hers is a "district" school.

Union Ct
July 11

Miss Louise B. Martin

Broad Brook
Connecticut

Union Januray 10th 1847

Dear Sister

...We received your letter very gladly and in good season we were all glad to hear from you and that you was well. You wrote in your letter that cousin Caroline wished to have me come there and go to school with her this winter. I wish I could go for I do not like our teacher at all well I do not know what ails him but Brother Charles say he does not know and I rather guess he told the truth. I have got to the Rule of Three in Dabolls Arithmetic. We have had some first rate sleighing here but it is all gone now only here and there a drift beside the wall and fences. H and I expect to go to Willington as soon as it is good sleighing. We do not have any singing school here this winter I wish there ways one very much. There has been two _____ in our schoolhouse the question was which was the most guilty the rum drinker or the vender. They have had them in three districts and expect to have them in all.

longer was physical but psychological: *grades*. Education for a rapidly growing nation would be based on what *adults* thought children *should* be, not what their natures inclined them to.

One salutary effect of this was to alter the ratio of men and women teachers and the conscious employment of female teachers, particularly for the younger ages, due to recognition of the feminine affinity for them. A hundred years later, there continue to be comparatively few males teaching elementary classes.

Finally, compulsory education

In general, compulsory public education, as we know it today, developed less than 90 years ago. This was due to turn-of-the-century Progressive trend-setting writers called "muckrakers," welfare advocates like maverick Republican President Teddy Roosevelt, and key educational philosopher John Dewey.

Child labor laws came into effect, to protect them from physical abuse and exploitation, to enable remaining adults to secure jobs more easily, to aid in the absorption and acculturation of millions of migrants, and to assuage those who simply felt that children deserved a better future than their parents who sweated at the mill.

Then there was the national need to produce more brilliance and less brute strength in the ever-increasingly technological world of 1910. Social propagandists convinced city councils and legislatures of the moral imperatives of learning --and the economic strength that would accrue. One state after another legislated that children would have to attend school until 14 or 16.

John Dewey, who along with others like Italy's Maria Montessori and Chicago's Francis W. Parker, followed closely Pestalozzi's hands-on view of learning. They appreciated and wanted to foster children's natural curiosity and their need for free-form mental *stimulation*. Students were *not* to be *regimented*. Young people could not approach their full potential by memorization of what he or she read or was told ("book larnin'"), regardless of the score earned. Dewey and others were more concerned with training kids through hands-on activity *how to think*.

Active, individual learning today

These new wave ideas began here and there to take hold in the 1920s and '30s. These doctrines encouraged children to work in bustling groups or by themselves on projects, to do individual reading, writing, or drawing. It was continuous learning by experimentation and experiencing, while the teacher moved about assisting and offering one-on-one instruction and guidance.

Today, some shun John Dewey/Parker/Montessori's liberal methods in schools. They refer to Dewey particularly, the father of humanistic (person-centered) education and choice, in malevolent terms. His ways, neglecting the traditional tried and true, helped usher in broken homes, undisciplined hordes of youths confused about life's values, and helped destroy the American way (including but not limited to encouraging atheism and promiscuity).

Everyone today accepts the basic goal of developing skill in the three "R's," as ever. It is difficult to reach consensus on education's goals beyond that as

we enter the 21st century. In broadest terms the conflict over education's aims is between, as in politics, educational conservatives and liberals, or, the essentialists and progressives.

Conservative/essentialists and liberal/progressives differ ever as to basic questions:

1. Why teach?
2. What should be taught?
3. What methods should be used?
4. Who should do

A free-form Dewey/Parker/Montessori-style hands-on class in 1937.



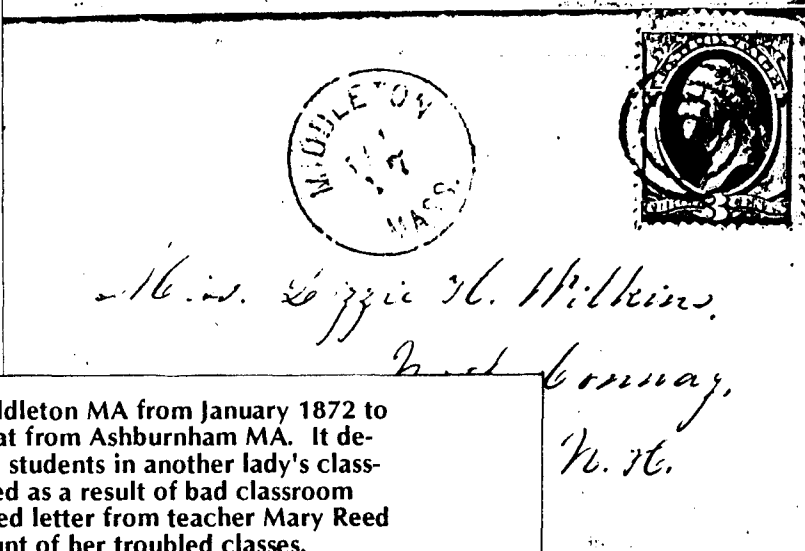
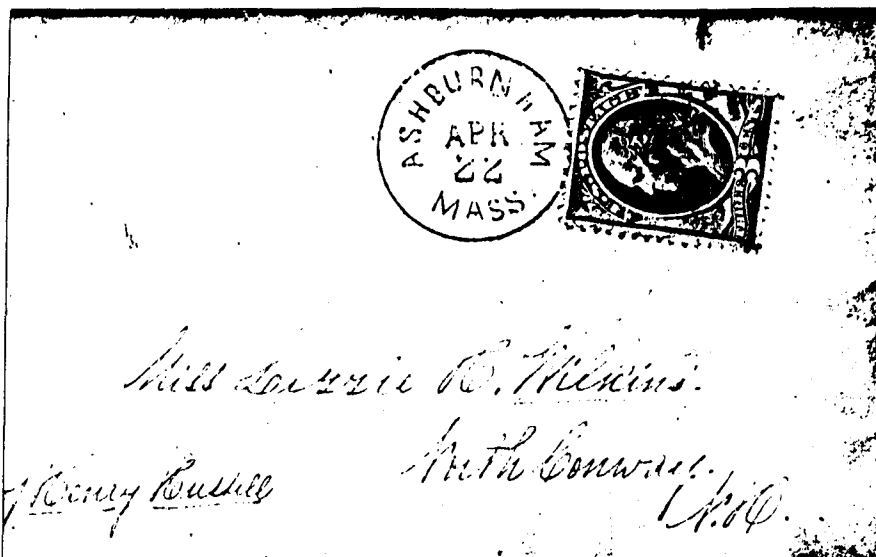
One of three letters referring to the same bad teenage boys and the ruckus they caused in 1872. This letter was written from Ashburnham MA to New Hampshire. A young teaching mother-sister stays in town so that her younger sister can continue at her school for the Spring. There is a harrowing report of the failure of one winter term in the local high school. Overall it tells us of the revolving door movement of teachers in those days. They were hired from term to term or for a year at most, and it would be wise to plan for future employment as the writer suggests here.

Ashburnham April 20, 1872

...I expected to have been in Amherst long before this time. My sister was to be gone but three months nearly five have passed and here I am Emma had three weeks vacation when the Authorities at Town Meeting decided to appropriate money for a Spring term so I could not well leave her. She makes such progress at school that it seems to pay me. She never studied so hard or seemed so interested. I think there are better scholars of their ages here than at A. [page 2] was sorry to see by the school report that the past winter term of High school was a complete failure Mr Cutter says some lazy unruly boys were the cause. Miss Farrington must feel badly....

And now that I'm on the subject of schools Rev. Mr. Parker...kindly offered me one of the village schools. for some reasons I thought first not to take it but I knew Miss Kingsbury was not going to stay at the Manchester State Reform school much longer so I have secured the place for her....

Prissie writes that there was some talk of Sophia Poole coming to take the Amherst High school but she has concluded to take her old place again at Rockport



A parallel letter from Middleton MA from January 1872 to the same recipient as that from Ashburnham MA. It describes the same horrible students in another lady's classroom who was dismissed as a result of bad classroom control! A second enclosed letter from teacher Mary Reed gives further account of her troubled classes.

Middleton, Jan 12. 1872.

...We have two teachers (Miss Towne and Mary Reed) boarding here, and they are quite a help to me...especially when I am ailing....
 ...Mary is doing well in her school. She had a tough time of it for two or three days, but she had good spunk, and willing hands to strap some of the delinquents, and now every thing is pleasant. She never has seemed a bit discouraged or homesick....I knew if Mary had any of her Mother's firmness she would manage and she has it...quiet as she seems.
 One of our schools, that in the North District, causes the Committee some trouble this Winter. One teacher was sent home because she could not govern, and after a week seeking another has been found, but whether she will succeed is doubtful. Should not be a bit wonder if my next work would be to look up another one. Mr Stiles went to Abby Crosby to see if she would take it. I thought if she only would she would be just the one to make stern mind but she did not want to teach.

Second enclosure from Mary Reed

...I am having a very pleasant time this winter, much pleasanter than I expected. I enjoy my school very much although I have not had a very easy time.

I presume you may have heard of some of my troubles by the way of Boston. I did not anticipate having any trouble, and I do not think the [School] Committee thought of such a thing, but some of the boys understood that I had undertaken to teach in Middleton before, but could not succeed, and they seemed to be determined that I should not remain in this school, but I was just as determined the other way. The first two or three days I had all I could do to keep the boys from throwing stones, sticks, paper balls, caps &c. around the schoolroom.

I of course did not want to go into school and commence whipping the first day, so I tried to talk with them, but I soon found talking did no good.

Wednesday noon I went into the school room with the determination of having a quiet school, and I had one from two o'clock until four the time of closing, the first hour I spent in whipping fifteen boys and turning one out of school. I have not had very much trouble with them since, of course they try my patience once in a while, but that must be expected in any school.

I have always thought that teaching would be pleasant, and thus far I have not been disappointed, next week closes one half of the term, so if I have not been discouraged so far, I don't see why I should be during the remaining few weeks.

caps &c. around the school room.

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I could do to keep the boys
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the teaching?

5. What is the best environment for learning?

6. How long should schooling continue?

The conservatives/essentialists stand for the transmission of the cultural heritage and no-nonsense curricula featuring the three R's at the elementary-school level and academic studies or strong vocational or business courses in the secondary school. They stress training of the mind and cultivation of the intellect.

The liberals/progressives are interested in the development of the whole child, not merely by training the child's mind or in preparing the child for adult life for their remote future. They emphasize rich, meaningful school life in the present, and they view subject matter as a resource for total human development rather than as a primary goal. They do not downgrade content but believe it should be acquired, not for its own sake, but as a means of fostering thinking and further inquiry.

Which side is right, if either? Closing with no less than Albert Einstein, who speaks about educational purpose:

The school should always have as its aim that the young [person] leave it as a harmonious personality, not as a specialist. This in my opinion is true in a certain sense even for technical schools. . . . The development of general ability for independent thinking and judgment should always be placed foremost. . . .

It is essential that the student acquire an understanding of and a lively feeling for values. He must acquire a vivid sense of the beautiful and of the morally good. Otherwise he --with his specialized knowledge-- more closely resembles a well-trained dog than a harmoniously developed person.

Would the essentialist or progressive attitude or combination of both fulfill this goal best?

The letters and women's role

As previously mentioned, accepted belief states that before 1900, and certainly before 1830, nearly all teachers were men. But why are most of the letters in this writers collection (mostly 1840s to 60s) from women? Do men simply write less; is writing a right-brained, feminine thing, outside of business?

After 1880, in the new-styled schools graded by age, women more easily commanded classes made up of younger children. By 1920, elementary school and junior high school were a woman's world.

Before 1880, in the ungraded "common" school, where the students ranged from small children to adolescents, female teachers were faced with the severe

problem of disciplining unruly boys who were bigger and stronger than they.

These conditions produced a plethora of horror stories related by letter writing young misses (fresh out of their own common school or academy) and older women more experienced who bitterly complain about the rude treatment extended by male pupils.

Those Rowdies

It is with chagrin that a teacher today looks back on the letter commentaries of previous practitioners of their art. Today we can't identify with their meager abilities and learning, but that's measuring by another century's standards and is thus inherently illogical. But modern education technique and psychology aside, we surely can commiserate with the indignities the school marm/master suffered at the hands of rambunctious, frontier mentality youth who delighted in throwing paper wads and acting rowdy.

Who's to blame them? Instilling basic democratic principles as well as rudimentary literacy was always American education's goal. Today, we see that those kids' goals in life were so drastically limited by the times they lived in, their lack of cash, distance transportation, and certainly of improved job prospects. [But am I not simultaneously talking about city kids and other deprived youth today, too?!]

"Who's to blame Alvin if he cuts loose now and agin?" asks Tennessee hillbilly Ma York of hell-raisin' son Alvin in the WWI epic film *Sergeant York*. We might ask that of our ancestors too [and of contemporary city kids!] as they are represented in the excerpts of these letters. Ruffians of the 19th century [and of the 1990s kids, too?] seem to have been acting out the imperatives of the glorious freedom of individual action that was indelibly their's.

The true American character is surely not to be seen in the actions of the teacher as dominator, but in the rebellious, paper throwing, brawling, disobedient, free-spirited student! Somehow the Daniel Boone/Clint Eastwood tough-guy spirit --minus the violence-- is peculiarly American.

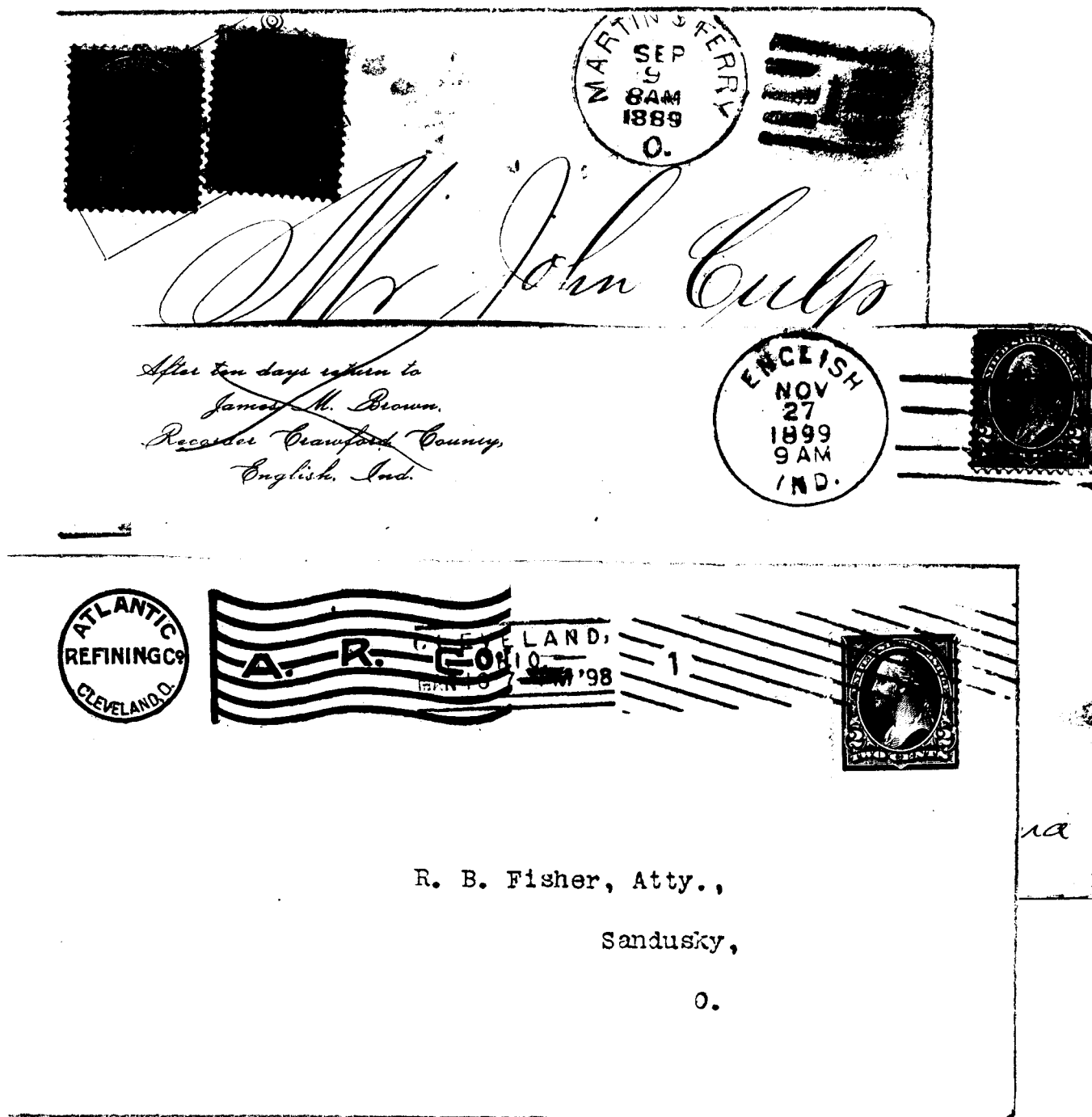
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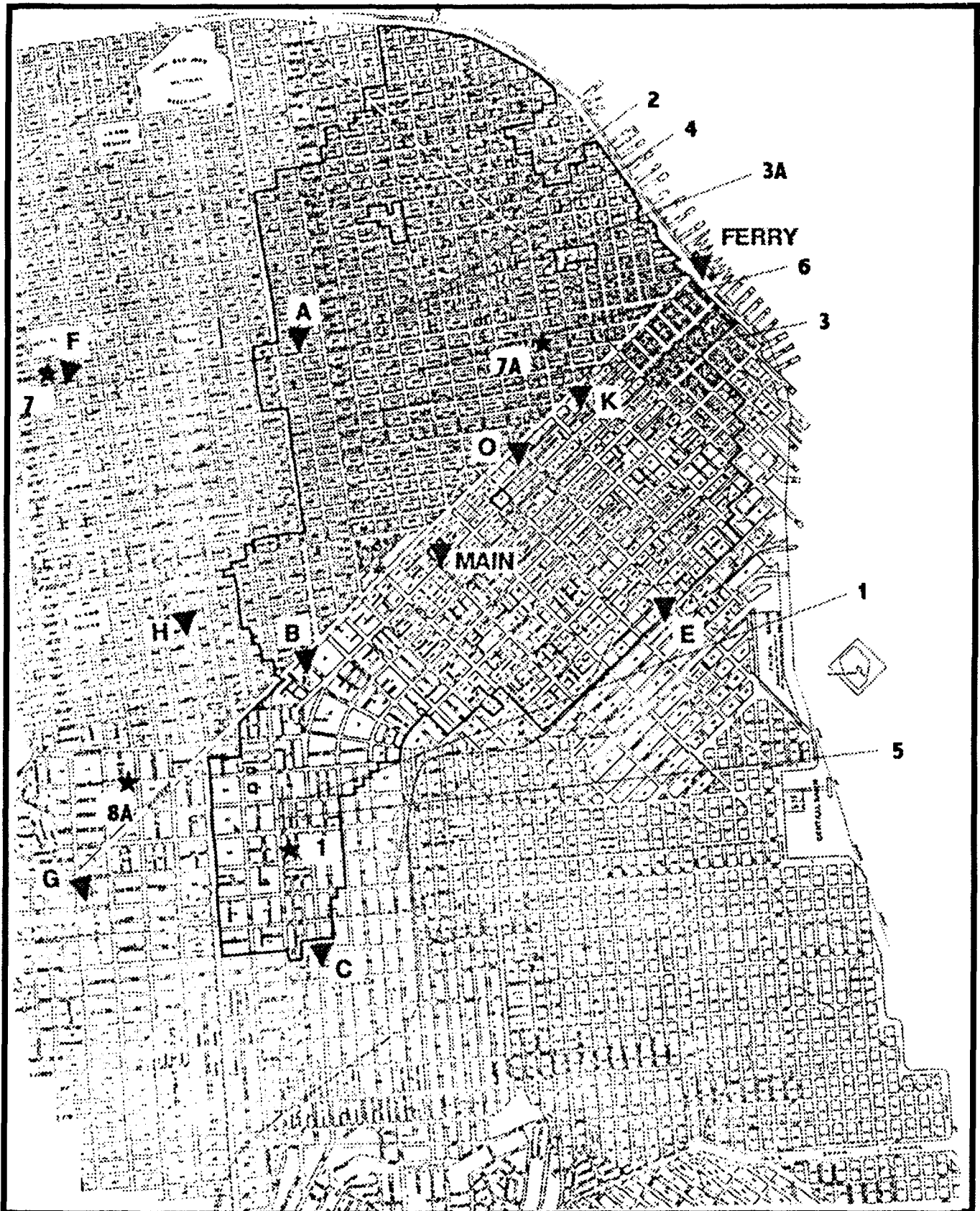
Compton's NewMedia, Inc. for brief passages and 1937 classroom illustration.

THE IDEA HAD TO COME FROM SOMEWHERE!

BY ROBERT MUNSHOWER



The postmarks and cancels on the three items shown above (well, two of them), might just be the forerunners of some of the cancels and postmarks so avidly sought by collectors today. One cannot deny the similarity between Figure 1. and a Doane type cancel. Figure 2. shows what could be the progenitor of the ubiquitous 4 bar cancel. Figure 3. goes another way in that the Atlantic Refining Co. (later, Atlantic-Richfield) decided to copy as its then current logo, an impression left by a cancelling device made by the American Postal Machine, International Postal Supply, or International Stamping Machine companies. Although the Cleveland, Ohio Post Office had machines from all three of the above named companies in operation at the time this cover was mailed, it was postmarked and cancelled with a Barry machine cancel.



Map 1. The area burned by fires following the San Francisco earthquake and postal stations & branches.

AUXILIARY MARKINGS:

"BURNED OUT" IN THE 1906 SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE & FIRE--RECENT DISCOVERIES & A RE-EXAMINATION OF THE RESUMPTION OF NORMAL POSTAL SERVICE

By Randy Stehle

The usage of "Burned Out" auxiliary markings in conjunction with the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake & Fire was the subject of an article in the January 1990 issue of *La Posta* (Vol. 20, No. 6, pp.7-11). At that time four markings had been recorded. The last eight years have seen that number double. Some of the usages are quite interesting and shed light on some of the important issues facing the city back then. The focus of this article will be the restoration of normal delivery of in-coming mail. In order to expand upon the research presented in the first article, I went through all the issues of the *San Francisco Chronicle* (one of the three major daily newspapers then). I kept looking until I reached the point that normal mail service was restored (which took about six weeks). I also spent time in the San Francisco History Room at the Main Public Library where I looked at material from the stacks and special collections. In addition, Dennis Pack was kind enough to send me excerpts from the *Postal Bulletin*, which listed the openings and closings of many of the stations due to the disaster.

The earthquake struck on April 18, 1906, with a magnitude estimated at 8.3 on the Richter Scale. The fires that were touched off by it burned for three days. The damage done was estimated to be between \$350 and \$500 million, representing the destruction of 28,000 buildings in 514 square blocks. The heart of the financial and residential portions of the city were destroyed, leaving between 150 and 225 thousand people homeless out of a total population of about 350,000. About 75,000 of these people left the city. In the spirit of cooperation prevalent back then, Southern Pacific Railroad provided free train service from April 18 through April 26. Over 300,000 people took advantage of their offer, which included over 7,000 who went to other states. The total value of this service was estimated to be worth about \$450,000. Map 1 illustrates the extent of the burned out portion of San Francisco resulting from the fires that followed the earthquake.

The various *Postal Bulletins* that appeared after the quake listed only two stations (O and K) as being temporarily discontinued. In addition, 21 numbered (contract) stations were closed. These were postal stations operated by non-POD employees, and typically were

located in a drug store or other retail business. Further research has revealed that there were actually six lettered stations destroyed by the quake and fire. These additional four stations were never mentioned in *Postal Bulletin*, but instead were written about in the local newspaper. I am puzzled why the POD did not disclose these additional stations, as their loss would affect the movement of mail both in and out of the city. The six destroyed lettered stations are as follows:

Station	Pre-Quake Address	Comments
A	Sacramento & Polk	Combined with Station F at 2502 Sacramento St.; Station F discontinued 19 Jul 1906 with new Station A opening at 2469 Sacramento St.
B	1610 Market Street	New Station B opens at 410 Jackson St. later in 1906.
C	20th & Mission St.	New Station C opens at 22nd & Mission St. later in 1906.
E	4th & Townsend St.	New Station E opens at 19th & Kentucky St. (Kentucky St. is now called Third St.); Station E moves to Third & Townsend St. in 1907.
K	40 New Montgomery	Temporarily relocated to the back of the Main P.O. Per the <i>Postal Bulletin</i> "discontinued at once 17 Oct 1907."; Reestablished at 83-85 Stevenson St. on 1 Mar 1909.
O	825 Market Street	New Station O opens at 1201 Van Ness St. on 30 Jul 1906; Relocated to 1422 Franklin St. on 1 Jan 1907.

The pre-earthquake locations of these six stations as well as neighboring stations that were not destroyed are shown on Map 1. With these six stations destroyed, distribution of in-coming mail must have been difficult. The first delivery of mail occurred just three days after the quake. It was limited to general delivery matter at the Main Post Office at Seventh & Mission Sts. Priority was given to mail addressed to city officials and members of the Relief Committee. There was also a general delivery of business mail and as many individual letters as possible.

The problem of locating people was tackled by the use of personal ads in the local newspapers. The first such column appeared on April 21 (there were no newspapers published on April 19 and 20. The quake struck after the

PERSONAL.	
ANY relatives of WALTER S. THOMAS of Troy, O., can find him at 1003 Twelfth st., Oakland. Phone Oakland 1958.	
OWEN WILLIAMS, 111 Noe st.—We arrived safe and are treated hospitably; C. & D. Thomas is here but can't get over.	DAVID HUGHES.
INFORMATION is wanted about MRS. A. F. LUENING, at St. Francis Hotel during Wednesday, by A. F. Luening, care Pabst Cafe, Oakland.	
MRS. CHARLES THOMPSON will find assistance at Athens Hotel.	HARRY WILCOX.
SIMON KABKA will find brother Ben at 562 15th st. MRS. MARVIN, Oakland.	
MR. DAVID RIESE and family at 464 22d st., Oakland.	
MR. AND MRS. K. BORREN of 429 Grove st., S. F., are in Oakland, at 1008 22d st.	
WILL JULIUS H. JACOBS of 1248 Hyde st., S. F., come to his mother at once, 1008 22d st., Oakland.	
H. R. BROOKS will find his wife at Relief Committee headquarters, Fortieth st. and San Pablo ave., Oakland.	
MRS. SMITH, apartment 8, Warren—Do you know where MRS. DAF, apartment 10, is? Address 883 Jones, Oakland.	
EVE—Where are you? Address 883 Jones st.	HERB.
J. H. NEWBAUER & CO.—All employees please call at once at the temporary headquarters, 1914 Sacramento st., S. F.	
W. H. JACKSON—Can care for Elaine and children at Santa Barbara; send them.	E. W. MADLEY.
MRS. HOWARD JAMES of St. Paul, MISS COGSWELL, MISS HELEN JAMES and MISS O'CONNOR are at the Athens Hotel, Oakland, Cal.	
CHRISTENSEN, EDWARDS & GOODWIN, managers of the American Central Ins. Co. of St. Louis, St. Paul, P. & M. Ins. Co. of St. Paul, Mercantile P. & M. Ins. of Boston have established general offices at corner of Telegraph ave. and 18th st., Oakland, Cal. Formerly 230 Sansome st., San Francisco.	
BEN TRUMBULL, Commercial Agent Illinois Central, Portland, is at Athens Hotel, Oakland.	

Figure 1. The Personal Columns were used to find lost relatives following the quake.

newspapers were printed on April 18). Figure 1 shows the entire personal column from April 21. Subsequent columns were much longer, with both individuals and businesses advertised.

Postmaster Fisk established temporary headquarters in Oakland by April 21. He reassured the populace that all San Francisco mail was going there and not being held in Oakland (which was rumored to have been happening). He ordered all postal employees to report to their regular offices. If their offices were destroyed they were

told to report to the Main P.O. He went on to say that people should address all San Francisco mail to the old address unless they are aware of a new one.

The first lists of people's new addresses came from those who registered at the Information Bureau established at the ferry depot. Many of them were among the first to rush out of town, while others were in the refugee camps. By April 23, about 1,000 people had registered. At this date 350 postal employees were working at the Main P.O. Mail was being collected, distributed and sent out of town regularly by then. No mail had been lost in the fire, and the 50 bags of mail that survived being burned had been recovered. Branch offices under the joint control of the Postmaster and the military were being established throughout the city and in the refugee camps. Deposit boxes for these camps were set up at five locations, two of which were at Fort Mason (in the northern part of the unburned area) and controlled by military sentinels. People were being encouraged to notify the main P.O. of their new addresses so that they could receive mail there.

The Information Bureau was organized on April 20, and was receiving and answering 250-300 letters per day by May 7. They were the only substitute for the city directory. They received daily reports from six outside stations and were adding 3,000 new names a day. The locations of these six stations were published in the newspaper along with a plea not to register anywhere else (like a fraternal organization). At this date they had 25,000 names in their card file, showing old and new addresses. They had a fairly high success rate, with 60 % of the inquiries being matched to their data. They had all letters forwarded to them that were addressed to the War Dept., Finance Committee, Red Cross and Associated Charities. On May 11, the Relief Business Directory appeared. It was the first directory published since the disaster, and listed the new/temporary addresses of 4,000 San Francisco firms and businessmen.

Though first class mail was back to normal in early May, second class mail was still suffering. In a newspaper article from May 13, three reasons were cited for the problems encountered in getting second class mail delivery back on track: thousands of people did not furnish remailing orders, too many cross orders for the same mail and the flood of letters occasioned by the disaster. The first regular delivery of second class mail occurred on May 16. By this time 30 carloads of 1,000 sacks each had piled up.

Night collection of mail resumed on May 19 in the unburned sections of the city. About half the second class

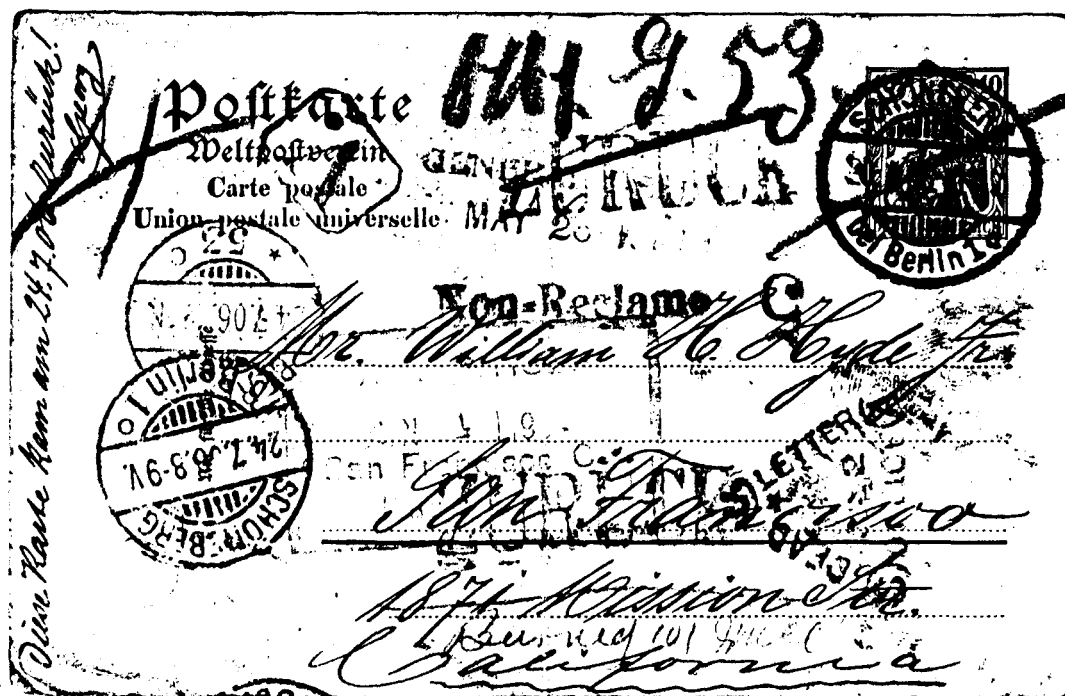


Figure 2A. This card was mailed from Berlin, Germany, to San Francisco just two days after the quake. It arrived to find the addressee "Burned Out".

mail had been delivered by May 21. First class mail was moving right along, with 150 postal employees dedicated solely to redirecting it. By May 30, the Postmaster declared that postal conditions had returned to normal. The usual 160,000 pounds of mail per day were being delivered. This is in sharp contrast to the worst days following the disaster when only eight pounds of mail were delivered. On June 2, it was announced that mail delivery in the burned section would start when there were enough patrons to justify it. Mail was being delivered three times a day in the unburned areas then. On June 3, newspapers were finally delivered to the Western Addition part of the city. The eastern fourth of this area was in the burned zone. The western portion was one of the major relocation sites for people and businesses burned out in the fire. Seventy-five mail carriers each delivered 3,000 pounds of newspapers this day. The carriers were busier than usual because many homes in the area had been turned into stores and office buildings.

NEW DISCOVERIES

The earliest recorded use of the "Burned out" marking is shown in Figure 2A. This postal card was mailed from Berlin, Germany on April 20, 1906, just two days after the earthquake. It was addressed to Mr. William H. Hyde, Jr., at 1871 Mission St. When it arrived in San Francisco it received a manuscript "Burned 101 JM.." marking, which appears just below the street address. It was sent to general delivery on May 26, before being

advertised on June 4. The marking "Advertised/ Jun 4, 1906/San Francisco, Cal./Due 1 Cent." is struck faintly on the card in magenta and appears pretty much in the center of it. This is the only advertised piece of mail that I am aware of from this event. As no advertised letters section appeared in any of the three daily papers, I assume that the list was posted in the Main P.O. It arrived at the Dead Letter Office in Washington, D.C. on July 2, where it received the standard USA/DEAD LETTER OFFICE triangle. A tracing of these two markings is shown in Figure 2B. Before being sent back to Germany it received a "Non-Reclame" and "ZURUCK" markings, which translate as "Not claimed" and "Return". The message side of this card is shown in Figure 2C. It translates as follows: "Dear William and Claire, We heard about the San Francisco disaster in the newspaper, and are sending you this postal card to see how you are

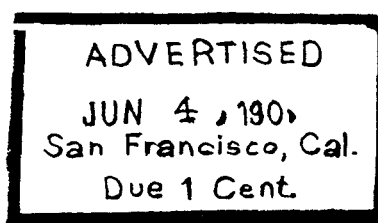


Figure 2B.

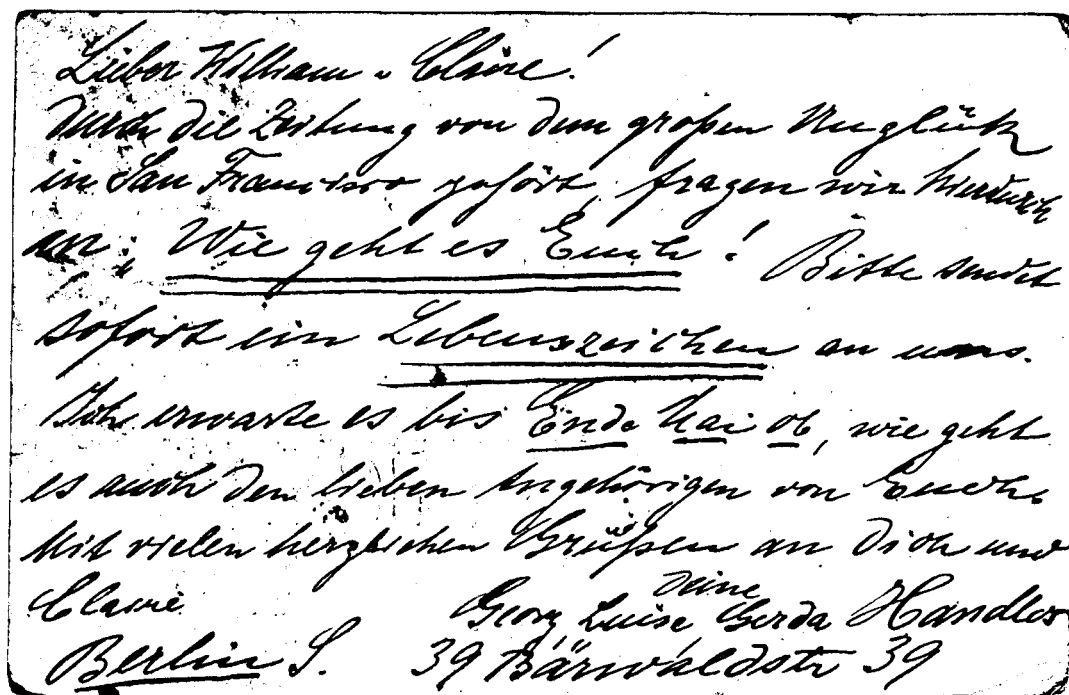


Figure 2C.

doing. Please send word at once about how you are doing. I would like to hear how your relatives are doing by May 6. Many sincere greetings to you and Claire. signed Georg Luise Gerda Handler, 39 Barwald Str 39, Berlin.”

All known “Burned” markings are shown in Table 1. This list also shows the date mailed or received (depend-

ing on the particular circumstance of each item), the wording, the street address, additional comments and the final disposition of the item when known. I checked all the addressees against the list of known victims of the earthquake and fire, but none of them were there. This list has 325 names on it, though another 352 people were mentioned as missing. It has long been thought that many more people died than this. It is now believed that about 3,000 perished. This larger total includes both direct and indirect deaths. In-

TABLE 1: Reported "Burned Out" Markings

	DATE MAILED OR RECEIVED	WORDING	STREET ADDRESS	COMMENTS
1	26 MAY 1906	Burned 101 JM? (ms)	1871 MISSION ST.	MAILED FROM GERMANY 20 APR; TO G.D. S.F. 5/26
2	27 MAY 1906	BURNED OUT	1321 POWELL ST.	LOCAL USAGE
3	28 MAY 1906	Burned out	1028 POST ST.	LOCAL USAGE
4	31 JUL 1906	BURNED OUT	1108-1/2 CLAY ST.	MAILED FROM AUSTRALIA 24 JUNE; TO G.D. OAKLAND 1 AUG
5	17 AUG 1906	BURNED OUT F.W.R. 80.	580 VALENCIA ST.	DATE MAILED FROM YONKERS, NY
6	19 AUG 1906	Burned out 62	909 BUSH ST.	DATE MAILED FROM VANCOUVER, BC
7	10 SEP 1906	Burned out 62	2608 SACRAMENTO ST.	DATE MAILED FROM FRESNO, CA
8	24 DEC 1906	BURNED OUT F.W.R. 80.	72 RONDELL PL.	DATE MAILED FROM DETROIT, MI
DISPOSITION				
1	ADVERTISED S.F. 4 JUN 1906; D.L.O., WASHINGTON, D.C. 2 JULY 1906; RECEIVED BACK IN BERLIN 24 JULY 1906.			
2	RETURNED TO SENDER (S.F. INSURANCE CO.).			
3	TRIED 1216 JONES ST. W/ms "Burned"; RETURNED TO SENDER (S.F. INSURANCE CO.).			
4	FORWARDED TO 975 WASHINGTON, OAKLAND, CA; MARKED "NOT IN POST OFFICE DIRECTORY" & SENT TO GENERAL DELIVERY 1 AUGUST, 1906.			
5	FORWARDED TO SACRAMENTO, CA, WHERE IT WAS DELIVERED.			
6	UNKNOWN.			
7	TRIED HOTEL PRINCETON ON KEARNEY ST. PROBABLY RETURNED TO SENDER.			
8	FORWARDED TO 819 14th STREET.			

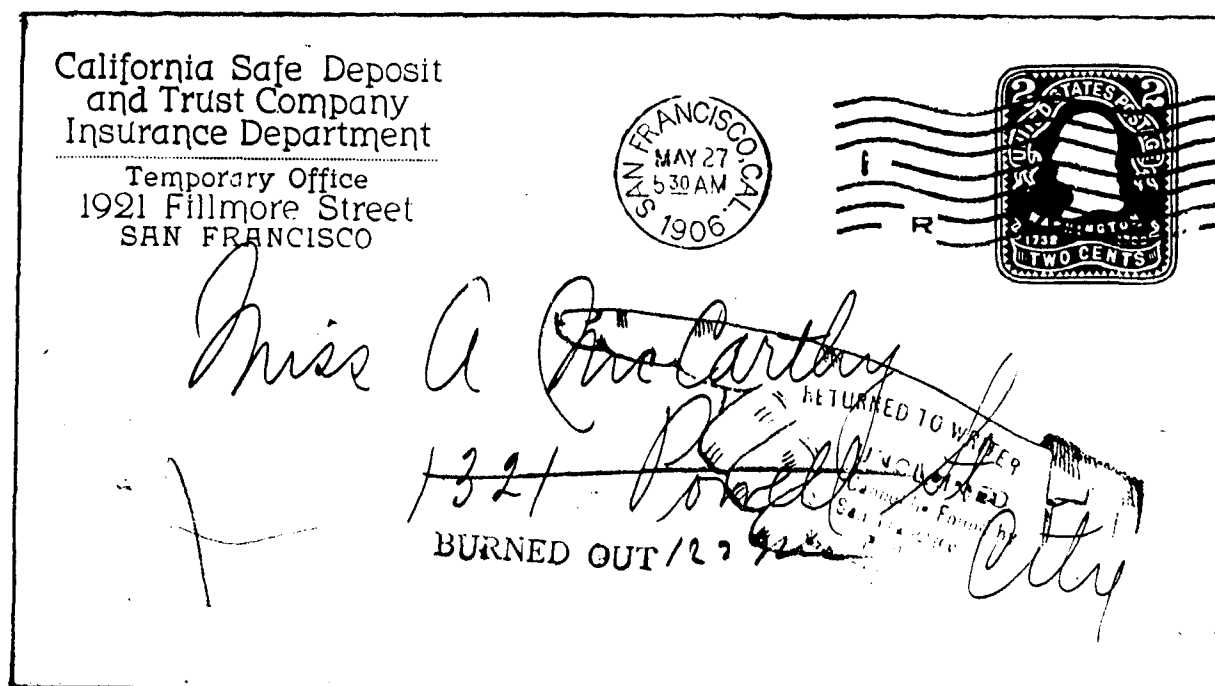


Figure 3A. A recently discovered "BURNED OUT" marking.

indicates the street address if the piece of mail was forwarded within the area of Map 1.

Another recent discovery is shown in Figure 3A. It was mailed on May 27, 1906, from the California Safe Deposit and Trust Company's Insurance Department (note their "temporary" address) in San Francisco to Miss A. McCarthy on 1321 Powell St. in the city. It received the marking "BURNED OUT" and a pointing hand with "RETURNED TO WRITER" in it. The contents of the letter, which are shown in Figure 3B, are quite interesting. To put this letter into historical perspective, a little background information on how insurance claims were being handled back then is in order.

In a newspaper article from May 2, the loss from the disaster was estimated at \$350 million. This property was insured at \$164 million, split among 110 companies. Most of them were out-of-state companies, with almost 30% of them foreign. The insured amount breaks down as follows:

Location	No. of Co.'s	Losses (in millions)
California	4	\$8.5
Other States	74	\$80.9
Foreign	32	\$74.6
Total	110	\$164

These companies required their claimants file a claim within a certain amount of time that ranged from "at

once" to 30 days or so in order to qualify for an insurance payment. In order to forestall any insurance claim from being rejected for untimely filing, Governor Pardee declared a series of legal holidays that began on April 19 and ended on June 2, 1906. This unprecedented action was also instituted for several other reasons: to prevent a run on the banks and to forestall foreclosures, the dishonoring of commercial paper, claims against estates and payments under contract. The Governor wanted to protect the rights of the victims of this disaster. This series of holidays also had the unintended effect of extending the time for the April property tax installment (due April 30 then, April 10 today) to June 2, 1906.

The first reports of insurance companies dealing unfairly with their claimants appeared in the May 24 San Francisco Chronicle newspaper. One of the English companies refused to give any information to their policy holders, including proof of loss blanks. On May 25, all the insurance companies under pressure from various politicians agreed to extend the filing date for claims until June 18 (60 days from the date of the earthquake). They also agreed to allow the removal of debris without invalidating their policies. This would speed up the rebuilding process in the city. On June 2, 81 of the insurance companies agreed to further extend the deadline for the filing of claims until August 18, 1906, (four months from the date of the quake). Many of the other companies had already signed off for other future dates. Even with these concessions a group of insurance companies banded

CALIFORNIA SAFE DEPOSIT AND TRUST COMPANY
INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

Temporary Office - 1921 Fillmore Street, San Francisco.

The California Safe Deposit and Trust Company has established an Insurance Department, with temporary offices at 1921 Fillmore Street for the purpose of assisting its customers and others in collecting and adjusting insurance losses.

Most people are in doubt as to how to proceed to collect their insurance money. This department has been established to assist just these persons.

If you have your insurance policies, bring them to our office and we will prepare and file your notices and relieve you of all details.

Many people have lost their insurance policies and consider that in consequence they are prevented from collecting their insurance. This is not the case.

Have YOU lost your insurance policy?

Did you fail to pay your premium?

Has your insurance policy been destroyed?

Are you unable to obtain possession of your insurance policy at this time?

Is there any doubt in your mind as to how you should proceed to protect your interests?

If so, call upon us. We will help you, without charge.

Office Hours:
9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

J. Dalzell Brown Manager

W. J. Bartnett
Charles W. Slack Attorneys

Figure 3B. Contents of the cover shown in Figure 3A.

together to try to bully their policy holders into settling for 75 cents on the dollar.

Against this ever changing background of deadlines, stonewalling and outright intimidation and fraud, many civic-minded groups stepped forward to assist people make their claims. The three major daily newspapers in town all set up areas where people could come for assistance. The trust company who sent the letter shown in Figure 3B was just trying to help their customers in confusing times. I have seen another identical letter from this same company, so I imagine they simply mailed them to all their customers.

The question why so few of these markings have been reported is still a mystery. The markings were used both on mail that was returned to sender and forwarded successfully. One would expect to see more examples of this marking, due to the well-organized efforts of both the Information Bureau and the P.O. to locate people. I will take suggestions from the readership as to why these markings are not more common.

REFUGEE CAMP MARKINGS

The first refugee camps were simple tent camps that sprang up informally around the city and beyond. These camps soon gave way to the official ones, that numbered 21 by the summer of 1906. The maximum population was 18,356 in August of that year. The tents were abandoned as the cottages were completed. Eventually there were 26 official camps. The population of them did not

drop below 10,000 until October 1907. The last camp, Lobos Square, closed 30 Jun 1908, when the population was finally below 1,000. Many of these people were transferred to regular city institutions.

The cottages proved to be a very successful idea. Initially, monthly rent was to be charged at the rate of \$4 for a two-room cottage and \$6 for three rooms. Rent was declared illegal by special ordinance and payments were then applied to the purchase price. This money was refunded if the occupants bought a lot in order to relocate their cottage. Of the 5,610 that were built, 5,343 were moved after the camps closed to another location in the city, or to another town. Some of these cottages still exist today.

The only recorded marking from a refugee camp is shown in Figure 4. This post card was mailed from San Jose, CA in August 1907 addressed to Miss Norma Costa, Camp Ingleside, San Francisco, Cal. It was post-marked when it arrived in the city and then received another marking when it arrived at the camp. I cannot decipher what is on the first line except for "& RELIEF". It does not match any of the various organizations that I read about. The rest of the marking reads "RECEIVED/AUG 13 1907/Camp Ingleside". The addressee was longer at the camp, and the post card was forwarded to Santa Cruz, CA.

Camp Ingleside, also known as Ingleside Model Camp, was created specifically to house the aged and infirm among the earthquake refugees. Before it was

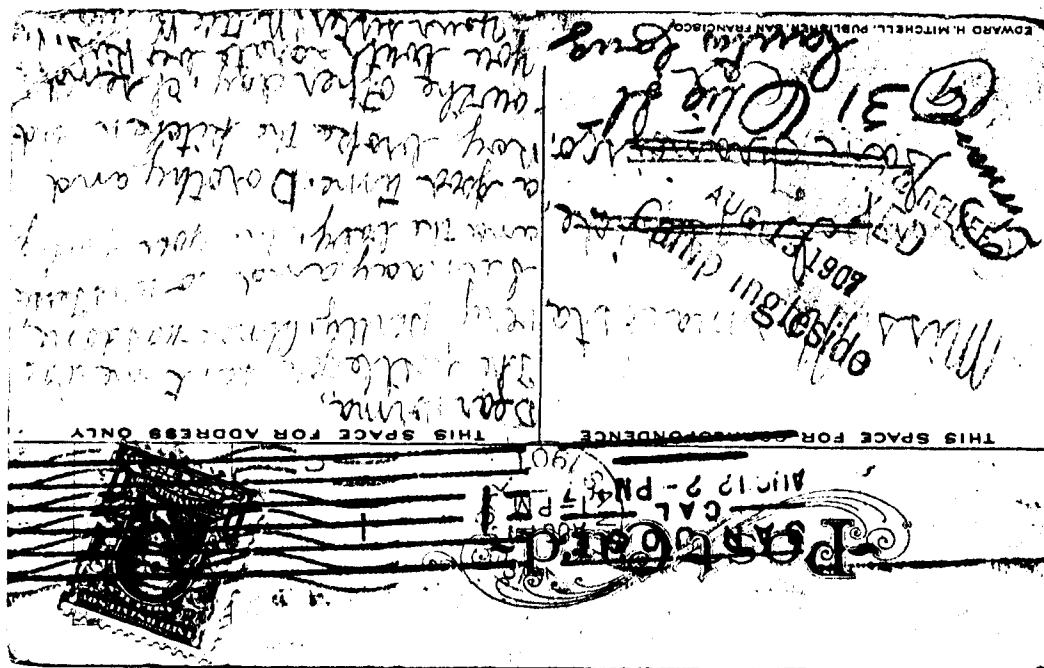
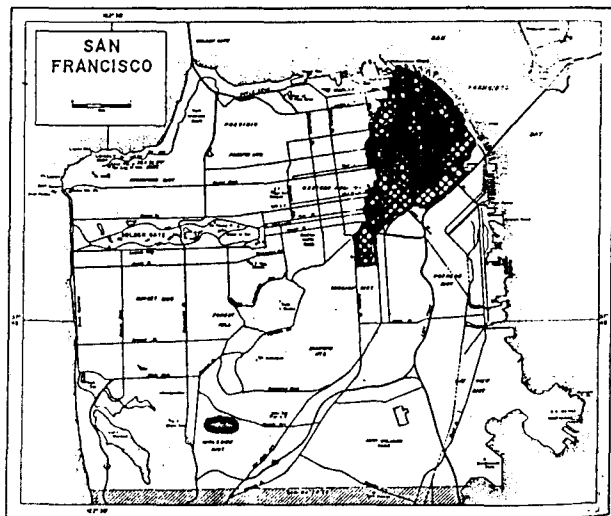


Figure 4. The only recorded marking from a San Francisco earthquake refugee camp.



Map 2. Camp Ingleside appears as an oval on the above map as it was built at Ingleside Race Track.

built, the existing almshouse in the city, which could accommodate 900 people, was full. At this time most of the infirm were at Camp 6, at the Speedway in Golden Gate Park (population 700-800). When the call went out for someone to donate a site to build Camp Ingleside, the California Jockey Club gave free use of their Ingleside Race Track buildings. See **Map 2** for the location of this camp in the southern part of the city. The site is presently situated between San Francisco State College and San Francisco City College. The residential housing currently on the old site still has one street in the shape of the old race track oval.

The race track had 26 stables, measuring 40x160x220 feet, containing 20-30 box stalls apiece. It was already piped for water, had some sewers, was accessible by street car and could be made ready for occupancy quickly and at a minimal cost. The Department of Land & Buildings renovated the stables to serve as single rooms. They were cleaned and disinfected. Windows were added, floors covered with canvas and walls with paper. Hay lofts were converted to dormitories. The building was connected to the sewer main and equipped with toilets, baths, hot and cold water and heating stoves. The kitchen had four large army ranges. There was a dining room, a hospital section and an annex to St. Luke's Hospital on the grounds. In addition there was a social room, reading room and religious service room. All in all the camp had 210 rooms and 18 lofts, with a capacity of 800, at a cost of \$36,000 to build.

Camp Ingleside opened October 8, 1906. Its maximum population was 809, though 1,287 passed through the camp during its 15-month existence. Of this amount, about half were aged, infirm and handicapped. The other half of the population was transient, which is probably the case of the addressee in the Figure 4 post card. No children were allowed, so I would assume that the addressee was a young unmarried woman.

The three essentials of camp life were decency, order and cleanliness. Thirty people were ejected in the first three months after it opened. A certain level of manners was expected. If one grabbed at the food, they were sent to the "hog table". Over the 15 months the camp was open 70 people were sent away, 40 for drunkenness and the rest for stealing, vulgar conduct and insubordination. It did not help matters that there were five saloons just outside the gate. Passes were needed to go out and curfews were enforced. There was a problem with some of the inmates of the city's almshouse. When the earthquake hit about 100-200 people left the almshouse for the refugee camps to pose as quake victims. Some of them found their way to Camp Ingleside, but most were eventually found out and returned to the almshouse.

Work was required of all able-bodied residents of the camp. If one refused to work, they were subject to ejection. There was some gardening going on -- 12 acres were planted in potatoes, cabbage and turnips. There was much to do at the camp. There was a dairy, furniture manufacturing, a carpentry shop and a shoe repair shop. The sewing department made 6,000 garments and 754 curtains. It only cost 50 cents a day per resident to operate the camp, at a total cost of \$174,000 for its 15-month existence. When it closed on 22 Jan 1908, the remaining residents were transferred to the Relief Home in the city.

MISCELLANY

A few post card-related stories were related in the newspaper. The first report of souvenir post cards being sold of the earthquake appeared on May 2. It said that postal salesmen had sprung up during the night, offering crudely printed post cards. Most of the cards I have seen are poorly done. The one on the first page of this article was the best one I could find.

On May 21, 1906, there was a great story out of Los Angeles that pretty much says it all for the spirit of the times. The Board of Directors of the Merchants and Manufacturers Association of Los Angeles denounced some post cards that showed scenes of the quake and were labeled "Los Angeles was not affected in the least by the San Francisco earthquake." The Board did not

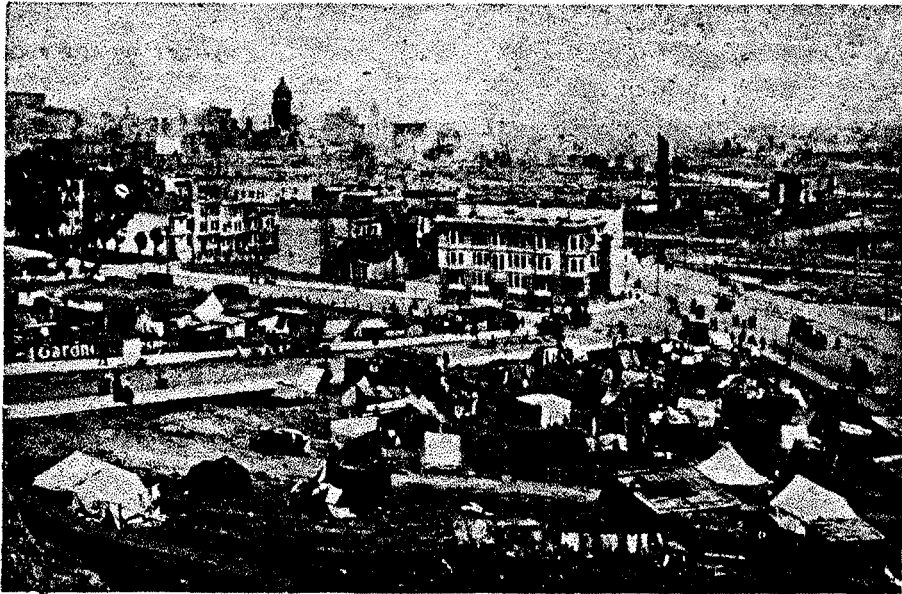
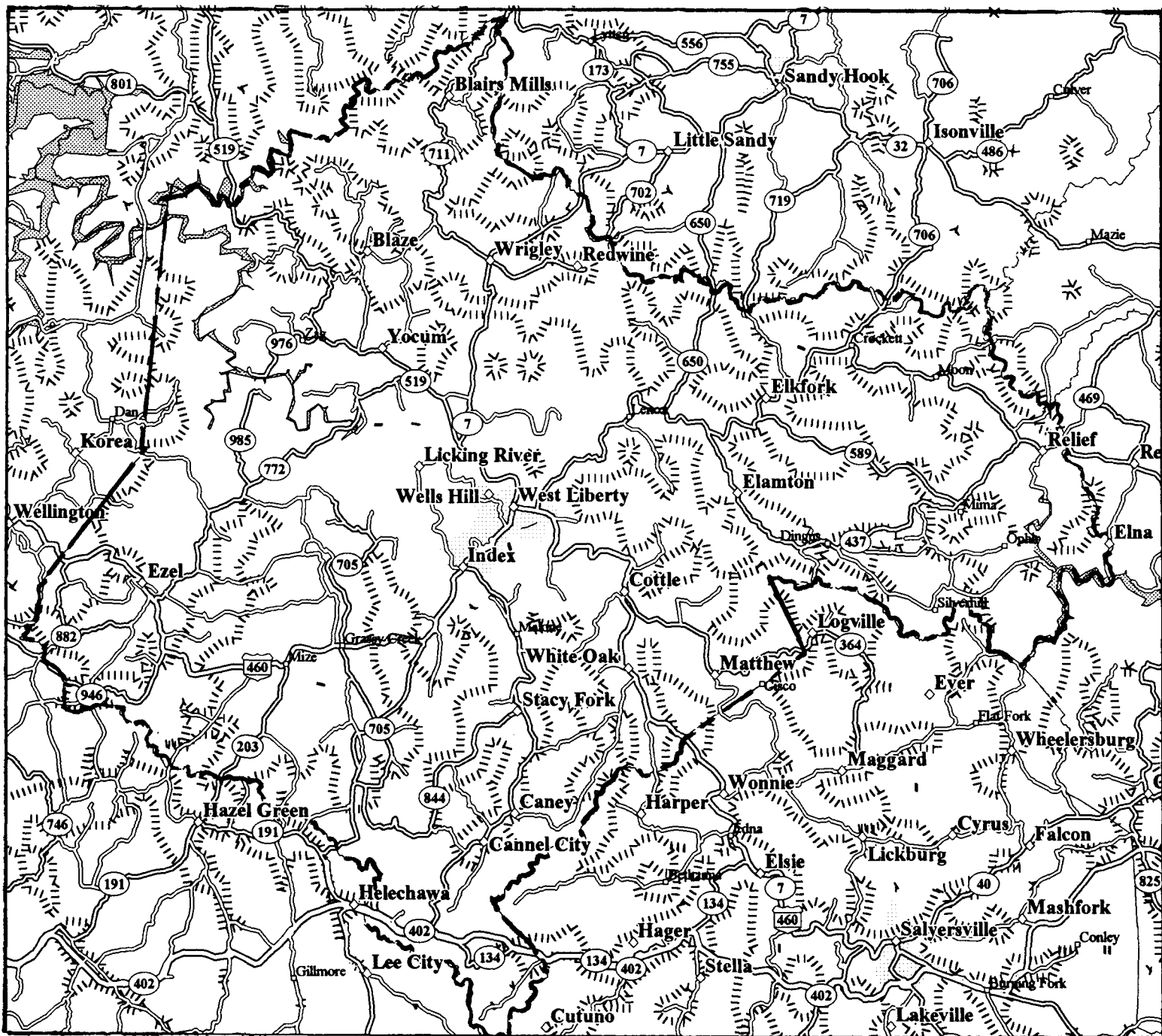


Figure 5. This postcard shows a view of San Francisco from a refugee camp.

want to take advantage of the catastrophe that befell its sister city. There was a great outpouring of generosity from all around the world that really touched me as I read the contemporary accounts of the disaster.

The Panama-Pacific International Exposition of 1915 was held to celebrate the opening of the Panama Canal and the rebirth of the city after the earthquake. Just six

years after the disaster the city was showing off to the world. It has now been eight and a half years since the Loma Prieta quake shook us up. There is still retrofitting going on at City Hall and some of the freeways are not yet completed. This also says a lot about our times versus those days 92 years ago.



Morgan County, Kentucky, Scale 1:250,000.

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The Post Offices of Morgan County, Kentucky

by Robert M. Rennick

Morgan County, on a well dissected plateau in the northern part of the Eastern Kentucky Coal Field, was established by the legislature on December 7, 1822. Taken from sections of Bath and Floyd Counties, its original 780 square mile territory yielded parts of five other counties. By early April, 1886 it had assumed its present 382 square mile area. The county was named for General Daniel Morgan (1736-1802), a Revolutionary War officer and U.S. Congressman (1797-1799).

The meandering Licking River and its branches (especially North Fork, Blackwater, Grassy, Caney, Elk Fork, and White Oak Creeks) drain most of the county and serve as reference points for many of its settlements and post offices. Morgan's southern edge is drained by branches of the Red River (which joins the Kentucky River in Clark County). The head streams of Paint Creek (in the Big Sandy watershed), especially Open Fork, drain the northeastern fringe of the county.

Typical of eastern Kentucky, Morgan's economy has been primarily agricultural and extractive. In recent years, though, some industrial and institutional activities have expanded its employment base. These include factories making industrial rainwear, pallets and skids, and ready-mixed concrete, along with commercial printing, an extension center of Morehead State University, a hospital, and a medium security state prison. The most recent census counted some 13,300 county residents.

This chapter will deal with only the ninety-five post offices contained within Morgan's present boundaries. Most will be located by road miles from downtown West Liberty, the centrally located county seat on the Licking River, eighty-seven road miles east of downtown Lexington (via US 460).

The fourth class city of *West Liberty*, the county's only currently incorporated place, centers just south of the junction of US 460 and Ky 7. The town site may first have been settled between 1804 and 1809 by Daniel Williams, a North Carolina-born Baptist preacher, or James Lacy who had acquired the 500 acre tract including the site. Here in 1816 Edmund Wells (ca. 1775-1846) opened a mill, and the settlement growing up around it was soon known as *Wells' Mill*. On March 10, 1823 Wells, then a local magistrate, offered his tavern for the first session of the new county's court. In December of that year, having just acquired from Lacy's heirs possession of their local holdings, Wells officially deeded thirty-nine acres for the county's permanent seat. A town was soon laid out and chartered as *West Liberty*. Sometime in 1824 Edmund's son Benjamin F. became the town's first postmaster.

According to tradition, the town was named in this fashion: A delegation was petitioning the parent Floyd County for a separate county when another group came from the east to request the establishment of Pike County. As the pike Countians stated they would name their seat *Liberty*, their Morgan counterparts decided to name theirs *West Liberty* since it was sixty miles west and north of the proposed Pike County seat. Liberty, however, was never established; Pike's seat was located at a site ten miles north.¹

Morgan's second post office was given the name of the county. According to Burr's postal map of 1839, it was thirteen miles northwest of West Liberty on the old road between that town and Mt. Sterling, probably on Yocum Creek. John Utterback alone served as its postmaster from December 22, 1836 through March, 1838.

The county's name was again given to a post office on February 3, 1848 to serve what would become an important mill town at the head of Blackwater Creek. In June of the following year, however, John P. Osborne, its first postmaster, had the name changed to *Blackwater*. This name it retained through an intermittent existence until in 1882 Elijah B. May, then postmaster and storekeeper, had it changed again, to *Maytown* for his family.

By March 1884, when *Maytown* was incorporated, it had several mills, at least three stores, a carding factory, furniture and wagon making factories, a hotel, and other businesses. Until the office closed in 1983 it served a three county area from the junction of Ky 946 and 1010, 15 1/2 miles west-southwest of West Liberty. It was in the thirty square mile section of Morgan County that was a part of Wolfe County from 1878 to 1882. The small community is now but half a mile from the Wolfe County line. For the record, Blackwater Creek, which joins the Licking River at the northeastern edge of the Daniel Boone National Forest, is said to have been named for the dark appearance of the water made by leaves in the fall and winter of the year.

Another early Morgan County post office known as *Head of Paint* has not been located. Its name suggests that it might have been where Open Fork and Little Paint join to form the main Paint Creek at the Johnson County line. Since many of its later postmasters were Browns', it might have been further up Open Fork, perhaps at or near the mouth of Brown's Branch, and would thus have been the forerunner of the *Relief* post office. County historian Lynn Nickell believes it was a forerunner of *Moon*, closer to the head of Open Fork. In any case, the office operated from April 12, 1837 through October 1858 with David Hamilton, its first postmaster.

In the extreme northern part of Morgan County, somewhere near where this county joins Rowan and Elliott

Counties, was one of the region's several Christy's Forks that were named for branches of this large Licking Valley family. This stream was not shown on any published maps but, presumably on its banks, was the *Christy's Fork* post office. This was established on January 18, 1849, with John P. Kendall, postmaster, and extended to late February, 1862. Landowner John A. Christy was its second postmaster, from June, 1849 until 1852. According to Lynn Nickell, it was on the present Ky 711, near the Elliott county line.

John J. Cassity owned a mill on the Licking River's North Fork, about a mile above the future Paragon post office (and thus about fifteen miles northwest of West Liberty.) Here, intermittently between July 7, 1849 and late April 1872, Samuel Myers and others operated the *Cassity's Mills* post office. One of the others, William W. Phillips (in 1855 and again in 1868) was later to run Paragon's direct predecessor, the *Popping Hill* post office, on the Rowan County side of the Fork.

Two more unlocated antebellum post offices must be cited for the record. *Taylorsburg*, which Edward E. Duke alone operated between August 11, 1849 and mid-March of the following year, may have been named for then U.S. President Zachary Taylor. According to Lynn Nickell, it could have been just east of West Liberty where Duke owned land.

Saltillo, undoubtedly named for the Mexican city occupied by U.S. troops between 1846 and 1848, was established on September 16, 1850 by Samuel McGuire. It closed in early 1852, and was reestablished two years later by William S. Pierce, but closed for good after only five months. It might not have been within Morgan's present boundaries though it is listed in that county's postal records at its time of operation.

A second post office serving a water-powered grist mill was *Hampton's Mills*. Both mill and post office were operated by their name source - George M. Hampton on the Licking River, at the Mussel Shoals. He alone ran the office between July 6, 1855 and March, 1862 when he went to Frankfort to represent the county in the state legislature.

The post office serving the community long known as *Relief* was at a number of locations along Open Fork of Paint Creek. It was established on June 29, 1859 by Wallace W. Brown, one of the family of Browns that had also run the *Head of Paint* post office earlier in that decade. The community, on the old route between Paintsville and West Liberty, was allegedly named by early travelers who felt relieved to reach this point roughly halfway on their arduous journey. Or it might have been named by post office patrons who were relieved to again have their own post office.³

In July of 1863 the *Relief* post office closed, not to reopen until February, 1878 when Walleye's son Edward

W. Brown set it up in his store at the mouth of Brown's Branch. By the 1890's it was serving a couple of flour mills and four stores, a cooperage, and several other businesses. By the turn of the century the office may have been at the mouth of Smiths Creek, half a mile up the Fork from Brown's. By the first World War it was back at Brown's, and by the late 1920's was serving the so-called *Brown's Branch* community. In the 1930's that place may also have been known as *Paint Valley*. In 1939 the office was at the mouth of Patoker Branch, half a mile the other side of Brown's, but by 1943 it was back at Brown's, on Ky 17, a mile from the Johnson County line and twenty miles east of West Liberty. Here it remained until it closed in late June, 1980 when that site and much of its service area were appropriated for the new Paintsville Reservoir.

The oldest of the extant communities in Morgan County's Caney Creek valley was *Walnut Grove*, whose post office was *Caney*. This grew up around the original Walnut Grove Baptist Church⁴ organized by the pioneer preacher and extensive landowner Daniel Williams at the mouth of Brushy Creek, and named for its site in a grove of walnut trees.

Though the community remained *Walnut Grove* until the turn of the century⁵, its post office, established on August 2, 1854 by David Isaac Lykins (Elder Williams' grandson) was always *Caney*, a name most likely derived from the creek. The creek, in turn, like over a hundred other Kentucky streams with the same or similar names, was probably named for its original undergrowth.⁶

As it was with so many other Kentucky post offices, *Caney* failed to survive the early months of the Civil War and closed in March 1862. It was not reopened until July 1874 with Joshua W. and William Lykins (the latter a local mill owner) as its postmasters. By the time the office closed for good in the mid-1990's, it was just east of the junction of Ky 191 and 1000, 10 3/4 miles south of West Liberty.

With the development of the area's lumber and cannel coal industries and the arrival in 1901 of the Ohio and Kentucky Railroad, the town, as *Caney*, boomed with lumber yards, at least a dozen stores, several hotels, a bank, and other businesses, and became the trade center for the upper half of the valley. But its prosperity was short-lived. The mines closed in 1931 and the railroad was abandoned two years later, forcing businesses to close and residents to look elsewhere for employment. Most of the land has since reverted to farms. Only one store remains.

The hamlet and one-time mill town of *Grassy Creek* lies at the junction of US 460 and 705, seven miles southwest of West Liberty. It was named for the Licking River tributary that runs through it and that is said to have been named by Thomas Goodwin, a Methodist preacher,

for his Ashe County, N.C. home. He organized the local church which was long referred to as *Goodwin's Chapel*, by which name the community, though officially *Grassy Creek*, was also known. On February 19, 1858 Goodwin also established the *Grassy Creek* post office which closed in March, 1989. Although the church is gone, old-timers still call the place *The Chapel*.

The short-lived (September 13, 1860 to January 24, 1861) *Bell* post office may have been on the old road (the former Ky 205) between Buskirk and Daysboro. Samuel Wilson and Morrison Nichols shared postmastering duties. Its name source is not known. Only one Bell family, that of Benjamin and Louisa, are listed in Morgan County's 1860 Census. Could the office have honored John Bell (1797-1869), the Tennessean who ran for the U.S. presidency in 1860 on the Constitutional Union Party ticket, winning the electoral votes of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia?

Equally unheralded was *Devil's Fork*, a post office run by G.S. Stamper between January 1863 and January 1864 near the creek for which it was named. Lynn Nickell located this office on the Winding Stairs Road, 2 1/2 miles northwest of Wrigley, (suggesting that it was somewhere at the head of that road, about 1 1/2 miles up the Fork.) This stream, which joins the Licking's North Fork at Leisure, is one of those streams that tradition says was home to the Devil.

White Oak Creek, undoubtedly named for the local trees, is said to have been early settled and owned by the May, Nickell, and Hammond families. In 1832 Isaac Nickell gave some land for the local church around which the small village of *White Oak* was founded some time before the Civil War. But the *White Oak* post office did not open until November 17, 1874 with John Henry as the first postmaster. Within a few years the community it served, where the present US 460 crosses the creek, a mile south of the Licking River, and eight miles southeast of West Liberty, had one or more stores, a flour mill, tannery, hotel, cooperage, and shoe and wagon makers. The office, which closed in early 1993, is survived by a store and church. The community is said to have once had a most curious and inexplicable nickname. According to James P. Oney's 1915 Site Location Report, it was then also referred to as *Grab Nickell*.

Ezel [ee/zehl], one of the county's six extant post offices, serves a village on US 460, just west of Blackwater Creek, and fourteen miles west of West Liberty. It was settled early by a family of Pieratts whose progenitor John had come to Morgan from Bath County around 1825. On March 18, 1875 John's son Eli established the post office and named it, for reasons now unknown, for the stone by which the Biblical David had sought refuge from King Saul and from which he and his friend Jonathan had parted (I Samuel 20:19). By the time of its

incorporation, on March 6, 1882, the new town of *Ezel* was home to several stores and mills, all owned by Eli's sons. On some late nineteenth century maps the name is mistakenly spelled *Ezell* and even *Ecell*.

Somewhere near the head of Pleasant Run, a Licking River tributary, was the first site of the *Yocum* post office.⁸ This office was established on August 23, 1875 by William H. "Red Head" Lewis, a local lumber man, to serve several mills and other businesses. It is said to have been named for a local resident, perhaps the 51 year old William Yocum listed in the 1870 Census, of whom nothing else seems to be known. Sometime before 1900 the post office was moved down the Run to a site just north of the present Ky 519, 6 1/2 miles northwest of West Liberty, in which vicinity it remained until it closed in July, 1981. For years the local community has been better known as *Pleasant Run*.

On August 18, 1876 Cyrus Perry, Jr. Opened the *Blairs Mills* post office to serve the Blair family's water-powered grist mill on Elams Branch of Devils Fork. The mill may first have been operated by William L. Blair (1805-1866) and was later owned and run by his son David Caskey Blair (1829-1901). In 1949 the office was moved one road mile west from its site in the vicinity of the West Union (or Blairs Mills) Church at the head of Elam Branch to Perry's Grocery on Ky 711, 15 1/4 miles north of West Liberty, where it closed in 1986. *Blairs Mills* is to be distinguished from *Blairs Mills Station* on the Morehead and North Fork Railroad, just below the old Leisure post office.

The extant post office of *Elkfork* has had a curious history. It was established on February 11, 1878 just over the Elliott County line, in Henry M. Hutchinson's store at the head of Fannins Fork. On October 1885 then postmaster-storekeeper David C. Hutchinson had the office moved down the fork to a site two hundred yards within Morgan County. By the late 1890's it was again moved, to the mouth of Muddy Branch, five miles further down Fannins where it served at least four stores and a mill. According to postal records, by 1928 the office was on the west bank of one of the Laurel Forks (of Fannins), at least a mile north of Muddy Branch. Then, in December 1941, it was moved to more or less its present site on Ky 172, just above the mouth of Muddy Branch, some eleven miles east-northeast of West Liberty.

Now, since Fannins Fork joins Middle Fork, half a mile south of the post office, to form the sixteen mile long Elk Fork of the Licking River, the name applied to the office can be misleading. Yet, historians assure us that in the nineteenth century a stream's name was often applied to its entire watershed. But why this office wasn't called *Fannin's Fork* is not known.⁹ The Fork is said to have been named for several brothers who, in the 1820's, had settled upon it. One of their many descendants was later

to establish the Crockett post office, 3 ½ miles up the Fork from the present Elkfork post office. According to tradition, the pattern of the main stream and several of its branches may have reminded early travelers of the prongs of an elk's horns.¹⁰

The *Bonny* post office operated at several sites on and near the Lower Long Branch of Grassy Creek between September 15, 1879 and April, 1954. Most recently it was at the junction of Rt. 3345 and the Tabernacle Road, half a mile west of the creek, four miles north of the old Grassy Creek post office, and 10 ½ miles west of West Liberty. By the turn of the twentieth century this office was serving a store, two sawmills, and a grist mill. There was no one in the first postmaster James Kash's immediate family or among his neighbors to account for the office's name, so its origin remains unknown to this day.

The area between a sharp bend in the Licking River and Straight Creek, a branch of lower Caney, has often aptly been known as *The Flatwoods* (and possibly even *Bearwallow*.) At a point a mile and a half up the creek William Powell Henry established a post office. Instead of by his preferred name *Flatwoods*, the office operated between January 5, 1880 and December, 1913 as *Henry*. On December 14, 1920 the office was re-established in John B(en) May's store south of the bend, about a mile and a half west of the Henry site, as *Woodsbend*. May's wife Zona was named its first postmaster. When this office closed in February 1976, it was on the present Ky 705, five miles north of the Grassy Creek community.

Sellars, probably named for an area family, was established by John B. Amyx on June 20, 1881 just off the present Ky 205, half a mile from the Wolfe County line and 10 ½ miles south south-west of West Liberty. *Gap-ton* was his first name choice. The office closed in June, 1958.

It is believed that the *Mize* post office, just east of the junction of US 460 and Ky 203, was named for William Oldham Mize (ne 1844), a Hazel Green storekeeper, who was then representing that area in the Kentucky Senate. The office, established by John A. Oldfield, operated between May 18, 1882 and September, 1963. The Oldfield General Store on US 460, eight miles southwest of West Liberty, now marks the site.

Ophir [oh/fer], another extant post office, was established on June 21, 1882 in postmaster James M. Pendleton's store at the mouth of the Open Fork of Paint Creek on the Johnson County line. No one knows why it was named for the Biblical source of King Solomon's gold.¹² However, it could, for an equally obscure reason, have been named for one of the five California gold rush towns so named. In September 1887, J.M. Cantrell moved the office to his store 1 ¼ miles up the Fork at a point just above the mouth of Lower Sand Lick. Now, after several

more area moves, the office is a mile and a half up Lower Sand Lick, on the present Rt. 1260.

William B. Redwine, member of a large and influential family of Elliott County lawyers and public officials, opened a post office on the Licking's North Fork on January 15, 1883 and, notwithstanding his first preference for *Rice*, named it for his family. This office was soon serving two sawmills, as many lumber dealers, a flour mill, furniture store, distillery, cooperage, and saloon. The office closed in November, 1895 and was reestablished, also as *Redwine*, the following January by William W. Hall. It is not sure whether at this time or later (certainly by 1909) the office was moved to a site about a mile north of Road Fork (a North Fork branch) and 2 ½ miles north of the future Wrigley. Here it operated through February, 1914.

By September, 1908 the Morehead and North Fork Railroad had been extended three miles east from Wrigley (see below) to the old *Redwine* post office site, and a station with that name was built there to ship area lumber to the C&O station near Morehead. On January 22, 1909, Mrs. Mary C. Love Collins re-opened the local post office and called it *Loveland*. In 1909, since by then the relocated *Redwine* office had closed, the *Loveland* post office was renamed *Redwine*. Though little of the community survived the depletion of the area's timber resources and the closing of the railroad in the early 1930's, the *Redwine* post office lasted until June, 1976. Today there are only some homes at the end of Ky 711, 11 ¼ miles north-northeast of West Liberty (via Wrigley).

Charles B. Dingus came from Virginia with his brother William and settled on upper Williams Creek, a branch of Elk Fork. On April 4, 1883 he established, probably at the mouth of Grays Branch, a post office to which he gave his family's name. Over a period of time, until it closed in 1992, the *Dingus* post office occupied several sites along Williams Creek. By the turn of the century it was serving Rice's store at the mouth of Coffee Creek. For much of the twentieth century it was about half a mile west of Coffee Creek, at the mouth of Paulina Branch (which was probably named for Dingus's long time postmaster Paulina Williams.) The office was most recently located at the mouth of White Oak Branch, on Ky 437, about fourteen miles east of West Liberty. In recent years the upper end of Williams Creek has been known as Burkes(es) Fork (which, though, is identified on current maps as Birch).

Swetnam, one of Kentucky's shortest lived post offices, served *Williams Mill*, which was Leslie E. Swetnam's first name choice. The mill owned by John T. Williams, was on Caney Creek, just north of the future Lemon and Liberty Road post offices. The *Swetnam* office operated only from August 29, 1883 until mid-De-

cember of that year, and Swetnam was its only postmaster.

Two distantly related Elam families gave their name to two Morgan County post offices. The first, *Elamton*, was established on August 29, 1883 by local storekeeper James S. Elam about a mile up War Creek, a Licking River tributary. Elam's first name preference was *Clack*, but on instructions from the postal authorities to find another name, he chose his family's instead. In September of 1912, John W. Pelphrey moved the office to his store on Williams Creek, at the mouth of Pelphrey Branch (given as Pelfrey on current maps), a mile above Elk Fork. From here it was later moved to its last location, three-fourths of a mile further up Williams Creek (and Ky 487), 10 1/4 miles east of West Liberty, where it closed in 1982.

The other office was operated as *Elam* by Leander C. Elam and his family between April 12, 1901 and mid-April 1914. This was on the Licking River, at the mouth of Griffiths Branch, just above and across from the mouth of Lacy Creek. Leander was the son of Jeremiah Elam, a mid-nineteenth century magistrate, and the grandson of Walter Elam, a Virginian who had settled in that section around 1818. Lola, Leander's daughter, is listed as *Elam's* first postmaster-of-record.

The late nineteenth century post office of *Steele* remains an enigma. According to Jesse Meek Adkins' Site Location Report, this office, which opened on June 4, 1886, was on the North Fork of the Licking River and Mordica Creek, four miles southeast of the Redwine post office (sic), and seven miles north of West Liberty. Yet, recent maps would place Adkins' location at the present Redwine site. In March, 1891 Frank Steele became postmaster, suggesting that his family may have been the name source. In the mid-nineteenth century, several Steeles had acquired land on various streams in the northern part of the county.

Sometime after 1898 and before it closed in September of 1901, the *Steele* post office may have moved southeast to Straight Creek, for both Lynn Nickell's 1992 book on Morgan's post offices and the most recent county highway maps place *Steele* on this stream and Ky 650, just north of and opposite the mouth of Big Mandy Creek, and 1.8 miles from Ky 172. However, no historic nor even recent topographic maps locate the post office at any site. In short, I don't know where the office was, nor whether it had more than one location. When it closed, its papers were sent to the Goodsey post office which, at that time, was five miles away.

The *Omer* post office had several locations on the present Ky 772, between its establishment on July 21, 1886 and its closing in 1953. John M. and Bernard M. McGuire had it first at the head of Tom's Branch of the Licking River's Grassy Creek, more precisely at the

junction of the present Ky 772 and 705, where it served a store and two mills. After several moves it ended its days at a store, half a mile west of Ky 772, 13 1/4 miles west of West Liberty. The small community it then served may also have been called *Toms Branch*. The origin of *Omer's* name is not known.

Then there were the two Cox family post offices – *Elder* and *Kellacey*. The first was established by James Franklin Cox on May 19, 1888 probably in the vicinity of the Cox family cemetery for, according to James' Site Location Report, it was half a mile south of the Licking River, half a mile east of Blackwater Creek, and five miles north of Omer. His proposed name *Cox*, however, was replaced by the inexplicable *Elder*.

On May 22, 1922 James' daughter-in-law Ada (Mrs. Tom) opened another post office which she would call *Volney* for one of Tom's brothers (ne 1896). Instead, for some reason, she named it *Kellacey* [kehl/a/see] for Tom's other brothers Kelly (called Kel) (ne 1893) and Asa (1900-1924). The office was 100 feet south of the river, 300 feet northeast of the creek, and two miles north of *Elder*, which, according to the Site Location Report of Elder's then postmaster Will S. McKinney, was two miles south of the river and one mile southeast of the creek.

Elder was discontinued in August 1932, and the following summer Ada Cox moved her *Kellacey* post office three-fourths of a mile south to its last location, three-fourths of a mile up Tarklin Branch of the Licking and Ky 985, a site 2 1/2 miles from the junction of 985 and 772, and 15 3/4 miles west-northwest of West Liberty, where it continued as an independent office through August 1959, and then as a rural branch until August of 1973.

One of the several personal nicknames borne by Kentucky post offices was given to Morgan County's *Pomp*. This office on the present Ky 7, at the mouth of Lick Fork of Elk Fork, four miles north-northwest of West Liberty, was named for Walter "Pomp" Kendall, a local resident. Established by John Milton Perry, it operated at several vicinity sites from December 23, 1891 until 1956.

At the southwestern edge of West Liberty, centering at the junction of US 460 and Ky 191 (two miles from West Liberty's downtown) is one of Kentucky's most oddly named communities. According to Mary Meadows, a former postmaster, the application for its post office was sent to Washington on the back side of a book's index. Hence, for some reason known only to the postal officials, it became *Index*.¹³ This office, with Joseph Cottle Elam, its first postmaster, operated from December 28, 1892 through January, 1982. In 1910 the nearby *Index Station* of the newly completed Caney Valley (O&K) Railroad, began serving West Liberty to which it was connected by horsedrawn hack. The com-

munity and post office survived the closing of the railroad in 1933 with suburban development, especially, in recent years, by the location there of the county's high, middle, and vocational schools, an auto dealership, bank, discount house, churches, groceries, several restaurants, and other businesses. It's still growing.

A short-lived post office somewhere on Johnsons Creek, in the Wheelrim area, would have been named for its only postmaster William S. *Williams*. But it operated from November 28, 1893 through June, 1894 as the inexplicable *Thyra*.

Black Pine, the preferred name for Rufus M. Smith's Middle Fork (of Elk Fork) post office, gave way to *Jeptha*. Whence *Jeptha* is also not known, though a Biblical origin cannot be ruled out. It operated between December 21, 1893 and March, 1969 at the mouth of Gilliam Branch, thirteen miles east-northeast of West Liberty.

On February 29, 1896 Louisa McGuire Brown established the *Matthew* post office just north of Rockhouse Creek, near its confluence with the Licking River. The name is said to have been chosen from the Bible by Mrs. Brown's husband, the Rev. James Monroe Brown. In 1904 the office was moved half a mile north to the Tarkiln Branch of Licking where, at several vicinal sites, it served a community called *Tarkiln*.¹⁴ By the mid-1920's it was back on Rockhouse, on the present Ky 364, some four miles southeast of US 460 at Cottle, where it closed in July, 1976.

To serve the Rockhouse Creek neighborhood after the *Matthew* post office was moved to Tarkin, William F. Lykins, between September 24, 1910 and mid-November 1912, operated the *Luster* post office. This was on the north bank of the creek, a mile from the river, probably in the vicinity of the Brown Cemetery on the present Ky 364. According to Lykin's Site Location Report, this location may also have been called *Fosterville*. Neither that name nor *Luster* has been explained.

The Caney Creek hamlet of *Malone* on Ky 191, 4 1/2 miles south of West Liberty, is said to have been first called *Mudville* for the condition of its roads in wet weather. Its' still active post office was established on March 20, 1896, with Lula M. Lykins, postmaster. It was named for Malone Lykins, the son of David J. Lykins, a local gristmill owner, and the grandson of William Lykins, Morgan's first county judge.

The day after the Malone post office was established, Goldman Castle (ne ca. 1827) opened his *Castle* post office, probably at the mouth of Caney's Castle Branch, two miles south of Malone. On Goldman's death in 1902, his son George T. became postmaster. In 1907, when George moved to Oklahoma, the office was closed. Early twentieth century maps suggest that by this time the office may have been moved a mile up the creek to the

mouth of Stacy Fork where, with the coming of the O&K Railroad, it was reestablished on May 6, 1913. It was then called *Stacy Fork*, and Hezekiah Gullett, the railroad's local agent, was its new postmaster. According to Gullett's Site Location Report, the community his post office would serve was also known as *The Forks of Caney*.

The stream that gave its name to the *Stacy Fork* post office was well populated by the descendants of Tennessee-born pioneer Meshac Stacy, an early neighbor of Goldman Castle's. For years the *Stacy Fork* post office was at the junction of Ky 191 and 844, but shortly before it closed in 1985 it had been moved a mile up the Fork.

Another Caney Valley post office generated by the O&K Railroad was *Wells*, midway between Stacy Fork and Malone. This served *Wells Station* between January 23, 1925 and January, 1937. Henry C. Franklin was its first postmaster. J. Wells, a late nineteenth century resident, or at least his family, was the probable name source.

At the head of Yocum Creek was the *Blaze* post office. This was established on November 11, 1896 with Asberry Donohew, postmaster. According to local tradition, the town was named for Ed Blankenship's horse. The community it served may have been early nicknamed *Gritter* for the local practice of gritting corn. It was later aptly called *Head of Yocum*. The office closed in September of 1987, but there is still a *Blaze* community with Black's grocery and several homes on Rt. 1002, three miles north of Ky 519 (near Yocum), and 9 1/2 miles northwest of West Liberty.

Andrew J. *Fyffe* 1860-1931) gave his family's name to the post office he established on September 27, 1897, half a mile up Splitwood Branch near the head of Paint Creek's Open Fork. In October of 1916 his successor, Lee Skaggs, moved the office to the north bank of the Fork, 1 1/2 miles east of Crocket, where it closed in November of the following year.

The *Forest* post office, maintained by the Davises from January 29, 1898 through February 1935, was on Jones Creek, a mile or so south of the Licking River, and some six miles southeast of West Liberty. Maggie Davis, the first postmaster, had first proposed calling it *Forest Hill* which might suggest the name's origin. Yet there was a Forest Davis (ne 1882), son of Sanford (1838-1921) and Matilda Davis of West Liberty, and we are still inquiring how he's related to the family Maggie married into.

The post office called *Silverhill*, at the head of Coffee Creek, three miles east of Dingus, closed in early 1993. It began operations as *Ret* on July 29, 1898 with Henry Montgomery, postmaster. Why *Ret* is not known; Montgomery's first name choice was *Dewey* for Admiral George Dewey, the hero of the Battle of Manila (May 1, 1898). After several short distance moves, Samuel D.

To Be Continued in September

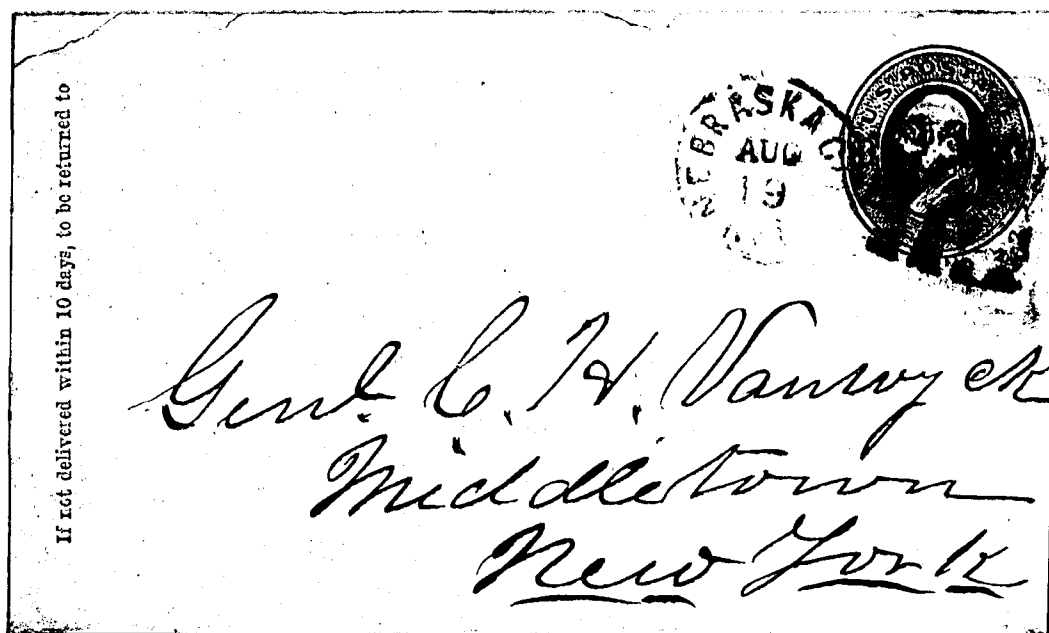


Figure 1. Cover postmarked NEBRASKA CITY, NEBR., circa 1872, addressed to General Van Wyck in New York.

GENERAL CHARLES HENRY VAN WYCK OF WYOMING, NEBRASKA

By Charles A. O'Dell

It's a rare pleasure to acquire a small group of covers that outline a time period in a man's life. It's as if the reference book took note of the covers before the biographical entry was written.

There are ten covers in the collection, all addressed to C.H. VanWyck, though the earliest begin with the title of "General" (FIGURE 1). I checked the fine *Dictionary of American Biography* (DAB) and Charles Henry Van Wyck was indeed listed. He was born in 1824 and described in the DAB overview as a lawyer, soldier, and legislator. After college he served with distinction in the Union army, attaining the rank of Brigadier General in 1865. He left the military in that year and returned to his home state of New York.

The DAB tells us that "In 1857 he acquired lands near *Nebraska City* and in 1874 he moved there." According to another very useful tool for historical research, *The American Guide*, "*Nebraska City* began as a trading post in the 1850's, established at the site of the abandoned Ft. Kearney. Here steamboats landed to discharge cargoes for overland freighters. A bustling set-

tlement grew up, with stores, warehouses, saloons, dance halls and gambling dens." (Alsberg, *The American Guide*, Hastings House, 1949.)

The earliest three covers, probably U 84, ca 1871-1872 are all from *Nebraska City* and are addressed to him at Middletown, New York. They are dated Feb 23, Feb 28, and August 19 and are all from the same writer, I believe. The Aug 19 cover is illustrated in Figure 1.

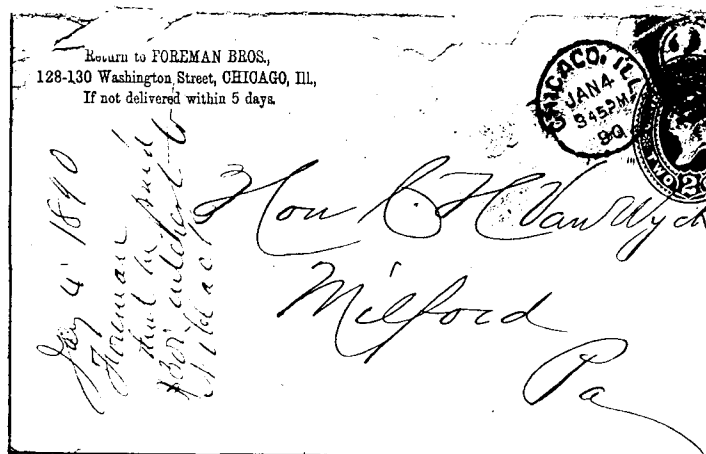


Figure 2.

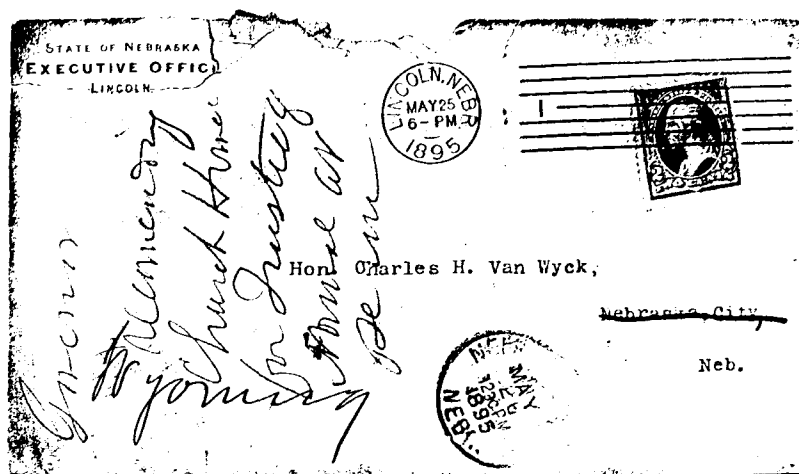


Figure 3

Curiously, one of the covers from 1890 is addressed to Van Wyck at *Milford*, Pennsylvania and comes from Chicago (**Figure 2**). How is this related? Again, the DAB tells us he was buried at Milford, "The early home of his wife, Kate Brodhead, whom he married Sept. 15, 1869 ..."

So we can assume that, first, Van Wyck was married when he moved to near Nebraska City, and second, that he, and probably his wife and daughter, were visiting her relatives in Milford. But even so business must be taken care of. Thus the January 4, 1890 cover has VanWyck's inked note: "Foreman thotthat?he paid \$300 interest to Niblack."

Another cover, postmarked from Washington, D.C. on 17 October 1891, was addressed to *Nebraska City*. That name was marked through and the town name of *Wyoming* was substituted. The Nebraska City post office stamped a purple 'forwarded' on the front and there is a very weak *Wyoming* circular date stamp (CDS) on the back along with *Nebraska City* "rec'd." mark. [Ed. Note: Nebraska City is in Otoe County. The post office was established 1855 and is still operating. Wyoming is also in Otoe County, established 1856 and discontinued 1928. - *Helbock, Checklist of Nebraska Post Offices*].

Mr. VanWyck had made a name for himself in Nebraska politics very soon after his arrival. He served in the state senate for several years, then became a United States Senator and served from 1881 to 1887. So by this time he was well-known in the state.

One of the covers, dated 21 December 1892, from Frohlich & Shelden of *Nebraska City*, has his note on the front that tells he sold 59 hogs. This cover, correctly addressed to *Wyoming*, has a slightly stronger CDS on the back with the 'Dec' posted upside-down.

VanWyck went to Washington, D.C. in 1894 where he stayed at the Portland Hotel. His docketing on a cover

addressed to him at the Portland Hotel notes that "Apr 2, 1894 - \$343 deposited in Col?Bank." Besides the Washington, D.C. rec'd., there is an interesting "Hotel" dial on the back. The D.C.'s dial time is 2:30 P.M. and the Hotel's receiving time is 4:30 P.M.

Again addressed as "Gen.," on 30 January 1895, he received a bill from J.F. Welch of *Nebraska City* for unknown merchandise, which he noted on the cover as costing \$28.78. The *Wyoming* dial across the back flap is practically unreadable.

VanWyck was 71 years old in this year of 1895, and it would be his last. On the 28th of February, though, he received a letter from The Otto Gas

Engine Works of Omaha, and this time the *Wyoming* postmaster came through with a good partial strike.

The last cover I have come to him from the Governor of Nebraska, his adopted state (**Figure 3**). It is dated May 25, 1895 and once again the address was given as *Nebraska City* instead of *Wyoming*. His docketing notes the Governor "recomending Church Himer?for Trustee of normal hool at Peru." This last time Wyoming, Nebraska has a respectable circular date stamp, as if in salute to the old warrior who was no doubt the community's best-known inhabitant. (See **Figure 4**).



Figure 4. WYOMING, NEBR., postmark used as a backstamp receiving mark. (letters enhanced)

The *DAB* describes him as "a man of strong and positive personality, an entertaining and eloquent speaker, a genial and generous host, a friend of the masses." Later that year he returned to Washington, D.C. where he died on 24 October and was buried at Milford, Pennsylvania. His wife and a daughter survived him.