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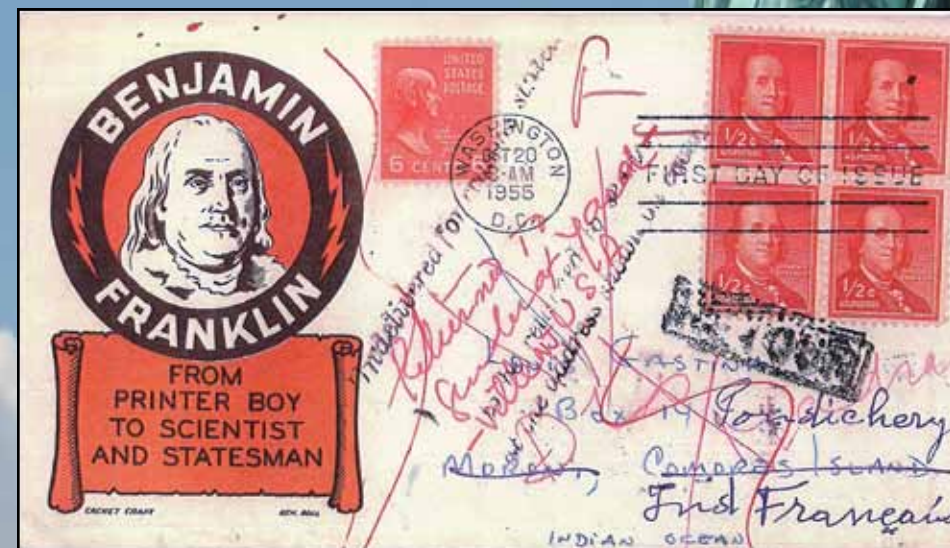
Third Quarter 2015

Vol. 46, No. 3
Whole Number 263
Third Quarter 2015

LA POSTA: THE JOURNAL OF AMERICAN POSTAL HISTORY

FIRST DAY CANCELLED LIBERTY SERIES STAMPS TO FOREIGN DESTINATIONS

BY HENRY
SCHEUER



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Full Color in Another Blockbuster *La Posta*

Comments about the full color Second Quarter *La Posta* were extremely positive and we are pleased to offer this Third Quarter issue again in full color.

And the color has been put to good use as we've put together another blockbuster *La Posta* filled with articles from a wide range of authors covering a broad section of American postal history.

Our cover story, "First Day Cancelled Liberty Series Stamps to Foreign Destinations" by Henry Scheuer certainly benefits from the use of color, as does our lead article, "The Postmarks of Rockville, Maryland: Postal Cancellations from 1801 to 1975" by Wayne Anmuth, which is an excellent example of a town postal history. I hope it will inspire others to contribute articles and research about their favorite towns or cities.

Color, in fact supports all the articles in this issue, whether it highlights a color cancel or auxiliary marking or shows off a postcard or the shades of an envelope.

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The inclusion of full color in *La Posta* is largely due to the continuing support of our Sustaining and Benefactor subscribers. Without their extra contributions, and the support of our advertisers, this would not be possible.

Several Benefactors have seen fit to contribute at the \$100 or more level and, beginning with the Fourth Quarter issue, we will recognize these contributors as Patron supporters. Benefactor and Sustaining subscribers listed on page 4 who would like to upgrade to this new category can do so by adding \$25 or \$50 to their prior contribution.

We continue to be appreciative of all contributions from those readers who are able to give a little more. It makes a huge difference in the production of each issue and lets us know that our efforts to bring you the best in American postal history are deserving of such extra support.

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If all goes according to plan, the Fourth Quarter *La Posta* will feature a one-page miniauction by Colorado



postal history dealer Gary McIntyre. That will give you one more reason to enjoy your Fourth Quarter issue.

La Posta Bookstore

Starting in this issue on page 61, we are introducing the La Posta Bookstore. Included will be books, catalogs and journals, both philatelic and nonphilatelic that we feel would be of interest to *La Posta* readers. Most are one of a kind offerings. The list will expand over time.

If you have unneeded books in good condition that you would like to donate or sell, contact me at: pmartin2525@yahoo.com.

La Posta Website

A number of readers have asked about the La Posta Publications website. When we took over La Posta operations, the La Posta website was badly outdated and we decided to take it down. We do have plans for a new and expanded website that will be a resource for all postal history enthusiasts, but we have yet to find someone who is able to set up the site at a cost that is within our budget. If anyone has suggestions, we would enjoy hearing from you.

Subscriber Notice

As I reported in the Second Quarter *La Posta*, all subscriber records have been verified and, due to the cost of producing and mailing the journal, we will no longer be able carry subscribers past their due dates.

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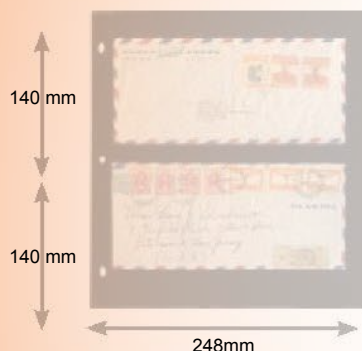
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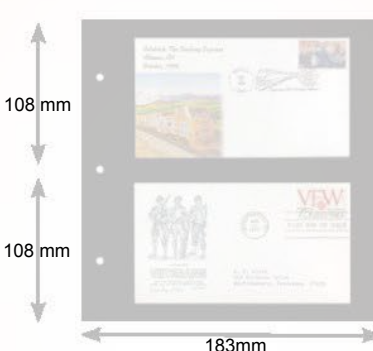
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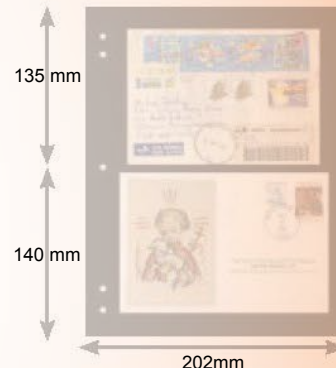
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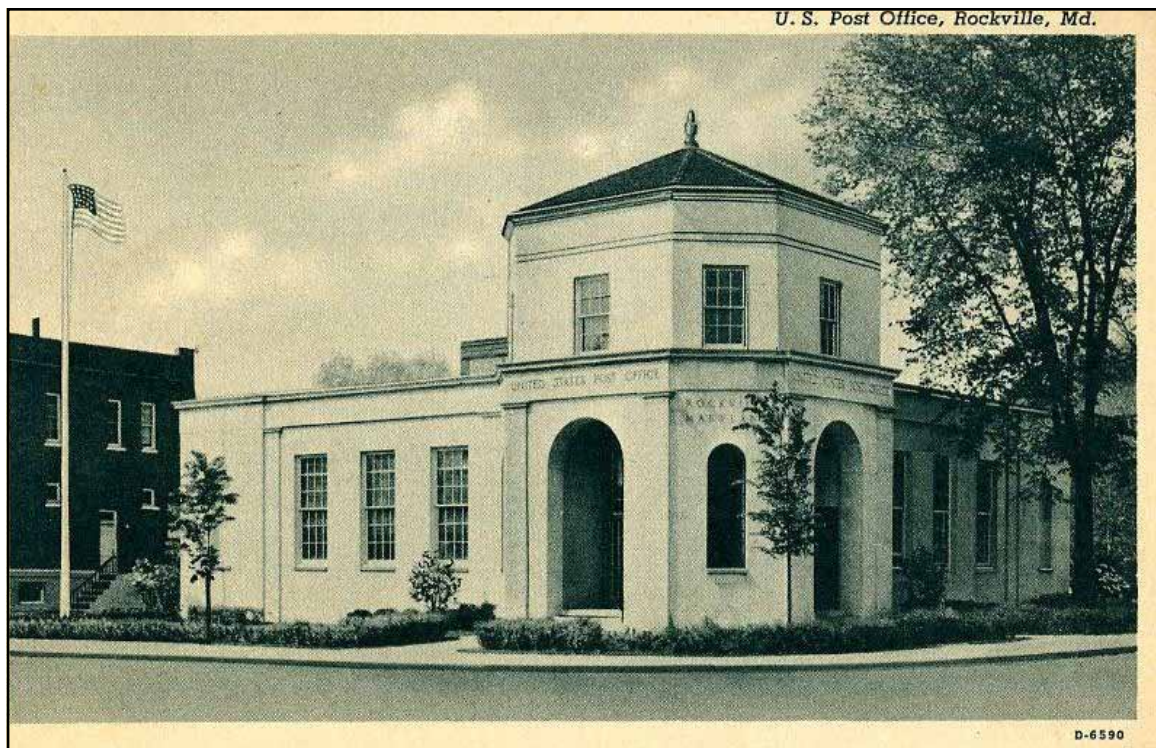


Figure 1: The first government post office in Rockville opened in 1938.

The Postmarks of Rockville, Maryland: Postal Cancellations from 1801 to 1975

By Wayne Anmuth

A Brief History of Rockville, Maryland

Rockville is one of America's oldest towns, with its origins dating back to Colonial America. During Revolutionary times, Rockville was known as Hungerford's Tavern, the name of its most familiar landmark.

In 1776, when Montgomery County, Maryland, was formed by a division of Frederick County, the area later known as Rockville served as the county seat and gradually became known as Montgomery Court House.

In the 1780s, the community was known as Williamsburgh, named for the family that subdivided the central part of town when Rockville was little more than a cluster of homes, a tavern, a courthouse and a jail.

In 1794, federal mail service began in Montgomery Court House. Stagecoaches carried the mail along the Post Road between Georgetown and Frederick. (Today's Route 355).

All of Rockville's small post offices were either in corner stores on the main street or in private homes.



There was also a post office located in the main courthouse.

In 1801, the Maryland General Assembly officially established the name of the town as "Rockville" because of its location close to Rock Creek. The population grew from 200 in 1800 to 400 in 1846.

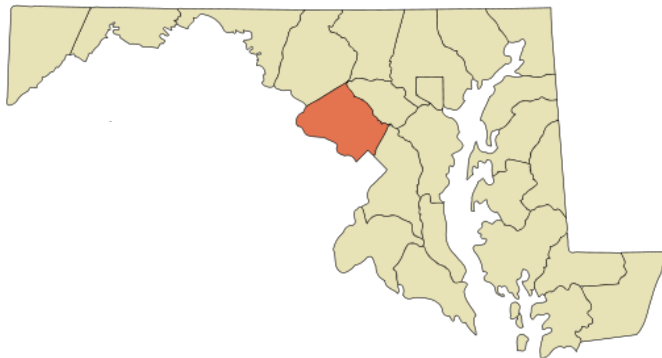
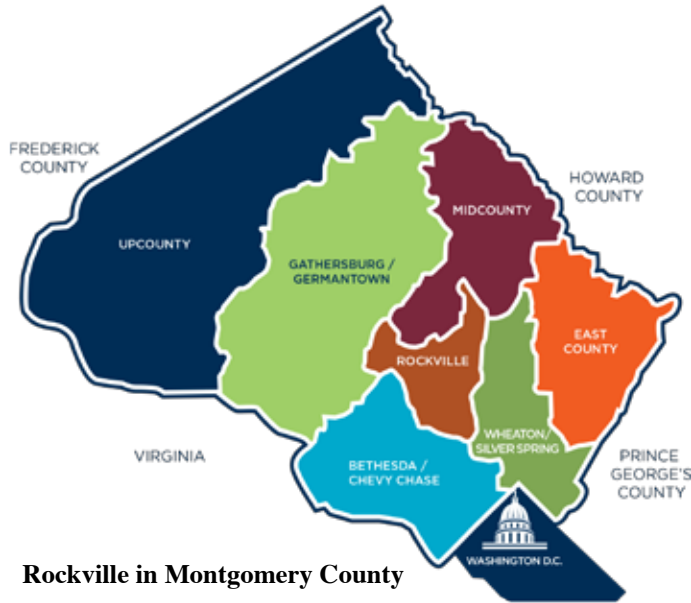
Rockville was only nine miles north of the Capital city and the establishment of the B&O Railroad in 1873 helped to gradually increase its population to 2,047 in 1940.

In 1938, Rockville erected its first post office at the corner of Washington and Montgomery Streets in the center of town (Figure 1). (Ill.1) (2004-1-8-JPG)

Rockville Postal History and Postmarks

Due to its scant population, there was very little outgoing or incoming mail. Most of the mail was of a business nature, with some emanating to and from the few families that lived in Rockville during the 19th and through the mid 20th century.

Rockville Montgomery County Maryland



Maryland map with Montgomery County highlighted.

Rockville	
Census	Population
1860	365
1870	660
1880	688
1890	1,568
1900	1,110
1910	1,181
1920	1,145
1930	1,460
1940	2,047
1950	6,934
1960	26,090
1970	42,739
1980	43,811
1990	44,835
2000	47,388
2010	61,209
2014	65,937 est.

Rockville Post Office Postmasters

Name	Title	Date Appointed
(Originally established as Montgomery Court House)		
Thomas P. Willson	Postmaster	08/19/1794
Enoch Busson	Postmaster	04/05/1813
Brice Selby	Postmaster	09/12/1814
John Braddock	Postmaster	01/22/1816
John Adamson Jr.	Postmaster	02/06/1817
Name changed to Rockville		
Gassaway Perry	Postmaster	10/03/1825
John Adamson Jr.	Postmaster	05/10/1832
William W. Thompson	Postmaster	01/07/1833
John Adamson	Postmaster	11/01/1833
Samuel C. Veirs	Postmaster	04/07/1836
H. Franklin Veirs	Postmaster	01/01/1841
Nathan Holland	Postmaster	07/01/1841
Henry F. Veirs	Postmaster	03/21/1845
John Poole	Postmaster	03/31/1849
William Thomas Poole	Postmaster	09/14/1849
John Braddock Jr.	Postmaster	08/26/1850
Matthew Fields	Postmaster	09/09/1851
Thomas G. Harris	Postmaster	04/28/1853
John W. Spates	Postmaster	11/30/1853
Charles M. Price	Postmaster	12/31/1855
David H. Bonic	Postmaster	09/29/1856
Thomas L. Bailey	Postmaster	05/25/1861
Richard M. Williams	Postmaster	10/14/1863
John T. Bevans	Postmaster	10/23/1863
John G. England Jr.	Postmaster	11/16/1870
Albert J. Almoney	Postmaster	09/21/1885
Thomas Dawson	Postmaster	04/01/1889
Albert J. Almoney	Postmaster	04/14/1893
Charles B. Jones	Postmaster	05/13/1897
James P. B. Veirs	Postmaster	06/06/1901
Willis B. Burdette	Postmaster	02/10/1910
Winifred E. Berry	Postmaster	02/21/1914
John L. Johns	Act. Postmaster	09/01/1915
William S. Day	Act. Postmaster	10/27/1915
Joseph Reading	Postmaster	01/18/1916
Harry A. Dawson	Postmaster	07/06/1921
Willis B. Burdette	Act. Postmaster	10/01/1925
Willis B. Burdette	Postmaster	01/08/1926
George W. Mullican	Act. Postmaster	02/22/1930
Charles M. Jones	Postmaster	01/22/1931
George L. Edmonds	Act. Postmaster	05/16/1935
George L. Edmonds	Postmaster	06/18/1935
Norman E. Ward	Act. Postmaster	12/31/1943
Norman E. Ward	Postmaster	06/01/1944
Bernard Joseph Poss	Act. Postmaster	09/30/1952
Henry A. Dawson	Act. Postmaster	05/15/1953
Henry A. Dawson	Postmaster	08/05/1953
Hugh H. Hassell	Act. Postmaster	07/31/1955
Hugh H. Hassell	Postmaster	06/20/1956
Bert M. Drott	Act. Postmaster	07/08/1961
Lee C. Hocker	Act. Postmaster	08/08/1961
Lee C. Hocker	Postmaster	11/14/1963
James Dennis Jr.	Postmaster	02/01/1986
Brandon Burton	OIC	
Gary Ballard	OIC	
Gloria R. Coleman	Postmaster	06/04/1988
Kent Smith	OIC	
George Wright	OIC	02/19/1991
Robert S. Lochhead	Postmaster	06/29/1991
Thurman Plater	OIC	08/19/1995
Thomas J. Allshouse	Postmaster	12/09/1995
Art Smith	OIC	
Gary D. Ballard	Postmaster	06/06/1998
Weldon Carson	OIC	
Eugene L. Frye	OIC	
Eugene L. Frye	Postmaster	12/02/2000
Lakhjit K. Dheman	OIC	01/06/2004
Jack J. Felton	OIC	10/06/2005
Kathryn N. Harris	Postmaster	02/03/2007
Gregory A. Migliori	Postmaster	07/16/2011
William P. Battles Jr.	Postmaster	06/15/2013

Source: USPS postmasterfinder.com; OIC = Officer in charge

Early Rockville postmarks are scarce. Prior to 1833-35, when mail was sent postmarks consisted of manuscript cancels, though only a few have been documented. Postal publications document five types of postmarks that were developed during 1833-35.

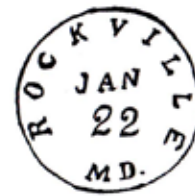
Types 1, 2, and 3, illustrated from *Maryland Postal History* by D. Homer Kendall, are unknown in collector albums and there are fewer than 25 known of Type 4. The majority of known early Rockville cancels bear Type 5.

ROCKVILLE, MD.
MAY 25

The Type 1 straightline postmark was in use sometime during 1833.



The Type 2 large round dated postmark is distinguished by the abbreviated spelling of "MARYLd."



The Type 3 postmark was in use during 1834.



The Type 4 postmark was in use during 1834.



The Type 5 postmark was in use during the 1835-53 period.



Figure 2: A letter sheet sent from Montgomery County Courthouse to Georgetown, D.C., on March 11, 1808. Georgetown had been recently separated from Montgomery County. This letter was canceled on the front by an early Georgetown received postmark. It bears a Paid 18-cent rate.

D. Sir Rockville 26th October 1822
 I expected ere this to have seen
 you in Hagerstown but have been
 confined to my bed for near five weeks
 with sickness - I am now just
 crawling about. if it be possible
 I will see you in course of two
 weeks. Doct. Woolton has carried
 his case to the Court of Appeals -
 in November our Court sits when
 they will determine between the
 Sheriff and your Bank - ~~when~~ I will
 advise of the determination - I have
 now on hand three hundred dollars
 subject to your order in part pay^t of
 my note given to Murray & now in your

Figure 3: An early letter with the postscript indicating that it was sent on October 26, 1822, from Upton Beall to the Hagerstown Bank.

May 6
 Elie Beatty Esquire
 Cash. Hagerstown Bank
 Hagerstown

Figure 4: The cover indicates that the Figure 3 letter was mailed on May 6.



Figure 5: A 'Rockville, Md.' manuscript cancel dated 1831 from the sheriff of Montgomery County to the St. Mary's Courthouse in Leonardtown, Maryland, and bearing a 20 paid tribute.

Figure 6: A later use of the Rockville, manuscript cancel from 1853 with a Paid '5' affixed.

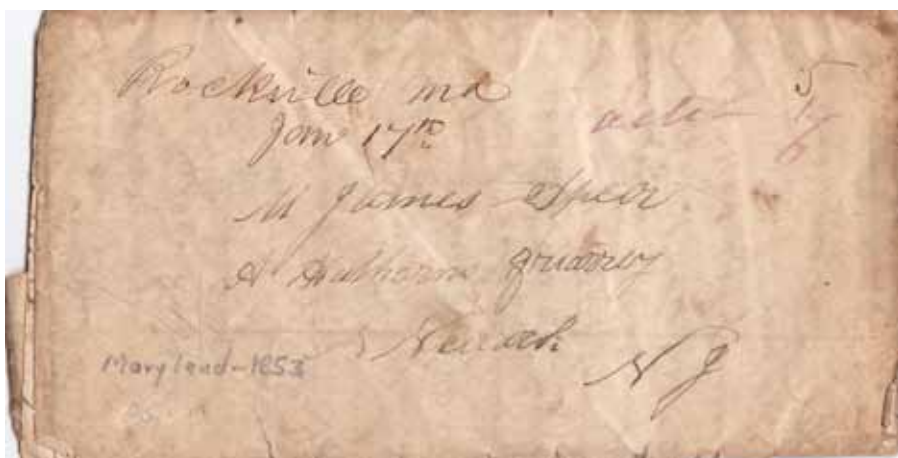


Figure 7: The Type 4 double circle cancel used on a letter dated 1835 and sent from Rockville to Washington, D.C.

Figure 8: A five-cent Franklin (Scott 1) cancelled 'Rockville/Md.' during November 1849. This is the only Scott 1 known cancelled in Rockville or Montgomery County. According to official records, no Scott 1 or Scott 2 stamps were delivered to the Rockville post offices.



Figure 9: The Type 5 cancel from Rockville is known in black, red, and green ink. This cover was sent in 1842 and bears the red ink cancel.

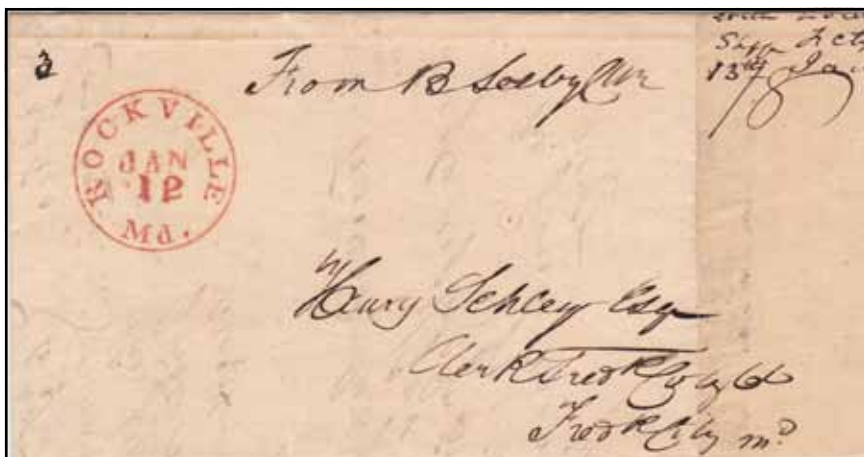


Figure 10: The Type 5 cancel in green ink on a cover mailed in 1837.



Figure 11: A Type 5 cancel in black ink used in 1854 affixed to a cover with a three-cent Washington (Scott 10A).



Figure 12: A two-cent Washington stamped envelope (Scott U61) bearing an 1887 early use of the then-recently issued small round dater.





Figure 13: This drop letter, sent at the proper one-cent rate, was canceled with a known Rockville geometric cancel.

Figure 14: A Rockville Type 5 postmark on a Civil War Patriotic cover dated 1865.

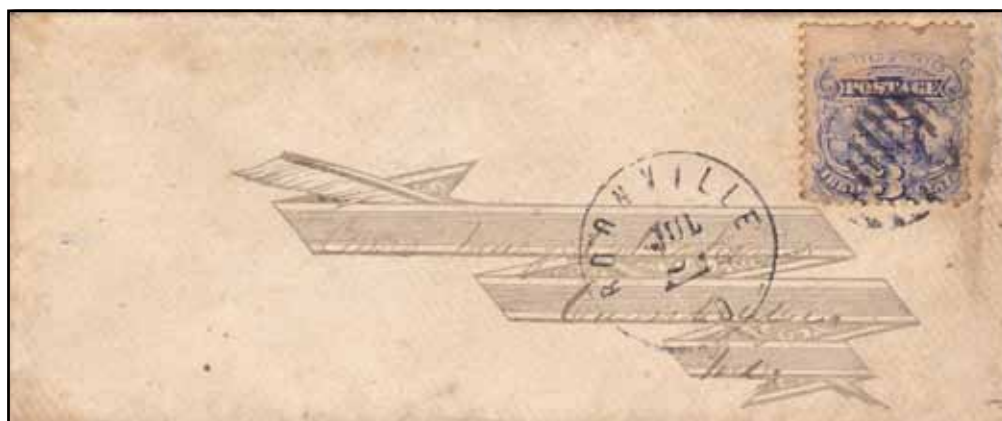


Figure 15: A small ladies envelope bearing the three-cent stamp from the 1869 series with a rarely seen round dater with a killer cancel.

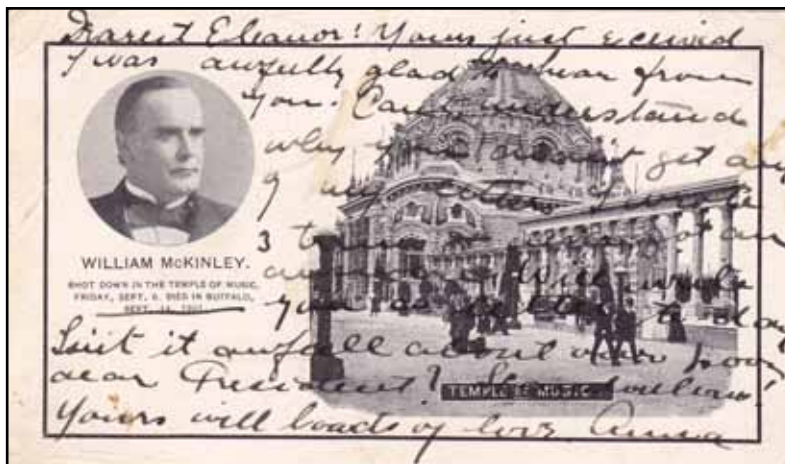
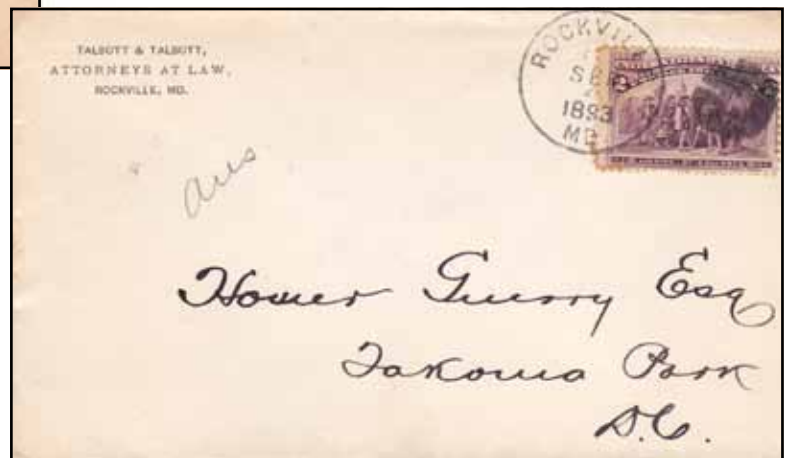
Figure 16: The first United States stamped envelope (Scott U1) with Rockville cancel sent to 'Washington, City/Md' at the three-cent first class rate.





Figure 17: Turn of the century cancels released in 1892 where the CDS had a full date and time included.

Figure 18: An early Rockville CDS with killer cancels on a two-cent Columbian issue of 1893.



Figures 19: President McKinley died on September 14, 1901. This mourning postcard was issued on September 22 and canceled in Rockville two days later on September 24. It was mailed to France.





Figure 20: The first Rockville machine cancel was manufactured by Time Cummins. It consisted of seven straight lines with the year in the middle and was used for limited period in 1912. The cancel is extremely rare.

Figure 21: Rockville flag cancels were used only in the 1920-21 time period.



Figure 22: Two late 19th century small-sized CDS handcancels that were infrequently used on outgoing mail.



Figure 23: Though no official post office existed until 1938, this 1908 Rockville duplex cancel has an official Rockville Post Office Department corner card address.



Figure 24: A Rockville hand cancel on a 1929 registered advertising cover.

Figure 25: A 1963 Rockville slogan machine cancel.

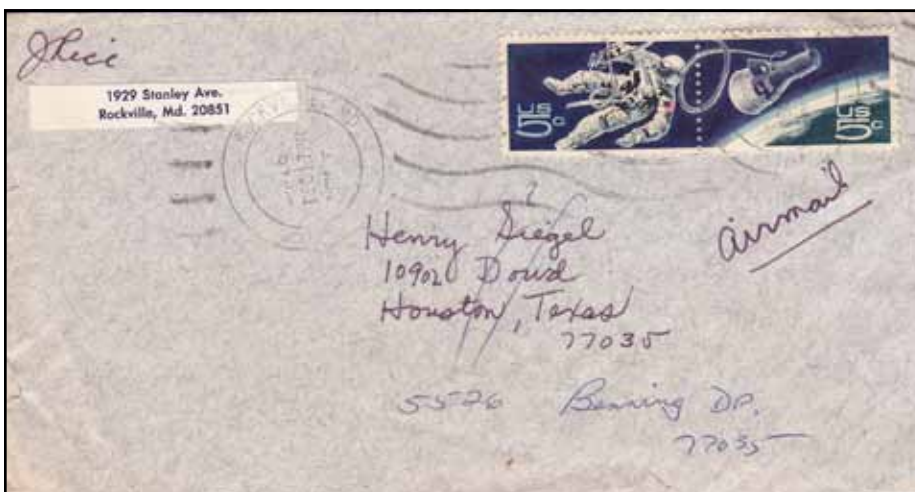


Figure 26: A 1967 Rockville roller cancel.

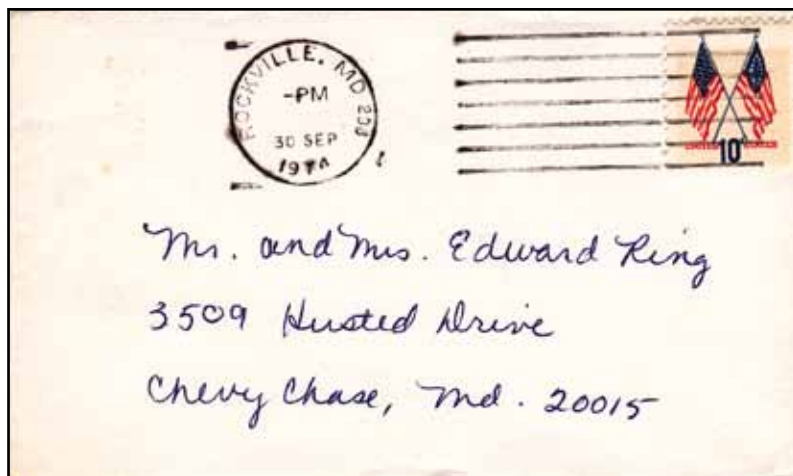


Figure 27: A 1974 Rockville machine cancel.

(Wayne Anmuth collects Chautauqua County, New York, postal history and Maryland postal history with a focus on Montgomery County. He can be contacted by e-mail at wanmuth@verizon.net)

The 1970 United States Mail Strike

By Peter Martin

During March 1970, United States postal workers went on what is considered the largest wildcat strike in U.S. history. The strike crippled the nation's mail system.

The illegal strike began in New York City on March 18 when members of National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 36 met in Manhattan and voted to strike. Postal workers felt that wages were too low, benefits poor and working conditions unhealthy and unsafe. One trigger for the strike was a Congressional decision to raise the wages of postal workers by only four percent, at the same time that Congress raised its own pay by 41 percent.

Although initially the strike affected only workers in New York City, it spread to other cities in the following days and, eventually, more than 210,000 postal workers were involved.

In response, President Richard Nixon called out the United States armed forces, including the National Guard, in an attempt to distribute the mail and break the strike. Nixon's Proclamation 3972 declared a national state of emergency, and authorized military control over the post office. At its peak, Operation Graphic Hand saw more than 18,500 military personnel assigned to 17 New York post offices.

The strike, which ended after eight days, influenced the contents of the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970, which transformed the Post Office Department into the United States Postal Service and guaranteed collective bargaining rights (though not the right to strike.)

Shown at right is an Army sergeant first class from the 42nd Infantry Division (The Rainbow Division, then headquartered in Manhattan) as he sorts the mail at the New Lots Station Post Office at 1223 Sutter Avenue in Brooklyn. Today, the Army National Guard division is headquartered at the Glenmore Armory in Troy, N.Y.





Figure 1: This “RED ROCK, IND. TER., May 31, 1884” double circle date stamp with a five-bar grid cancel on a one-cent postal stationery envelope was found in a 1998 Siegel auction catalog.

A Lesson Learned

By Joe H. Crosby

Sometimes, the material that you acquire for a collection teaches you unexpected lessons. Here is my story of one such occasion.

It started when I saw the Figure 1 cover in a Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries catalog back in July 1998 (Sale 802A). It bears a 32mm double circle date stamp “RED ROCK, IND. TER., May 31, 1884” with a bold five-bar grid cancel on a one-cent postal stationery envelope.

It is earlier than any marking I have from what the books list as REDROCK (all one word). In fact, Signorelli and Caldwell in *Indian Territory Mail* (1966) had only one marking like it, reported with an 1882 postmark.

They also had one reported as a 32mm triple CDS in 1883, but that one included a postmaster’s name in the CDS.

And this cover has a printed corner card “MISSISSIPPI VALLEY MIGRATION/CENTRAL STATION” at the upper left and printed at the lower left is, “Return to W.W. Cooke, Red Rock, Indian Territory.”

It is a nice clean cover with a nice strike. But what is it worth? The catalog lists the estimate at \$100-150.

Well, I know that Red Rock is the location of the Otoe-Missouri Agency in Indian Territory and I figure

the Mississippi Valley migration must have something to do with their removal to Indian Territory. So, I pay a premium price for the cover.

When I receive the cover, I do a quick literature search on Otoe-Missouri and on W.W. Cooke and find nothing about Mississippi Valley migration, or Mississippi Valley anything. So I put it aside to come back to it later.

Back in 1998 there was no Google Internet search engine. Google didn’t even incorporate until September 7, 1998, two months after the Siegel auction. Off and on I revisit the Mississippi Valley migration subject to no avail.

Flash forward to May 2014, nearly 16 long years later. Eureka! I rediscover the cover filed away with my Indian Agency material. I go to my trusty computer and open Google and type in “Mississippi Valley Migration” and, just for good measure, I add “W.W. Cooke.”

The first 11 hits read: “Bird Migration In The Mississippi Valley by W.W. Cooke.” Are you kidding me? No, I am not kidding.

It turns out that in 1884 and 1885 Professor W.W. Cooke was studying bird migration in the entire Mississippi Valley and made his personal central station in 1884 at Red Rock, Indian Territory.

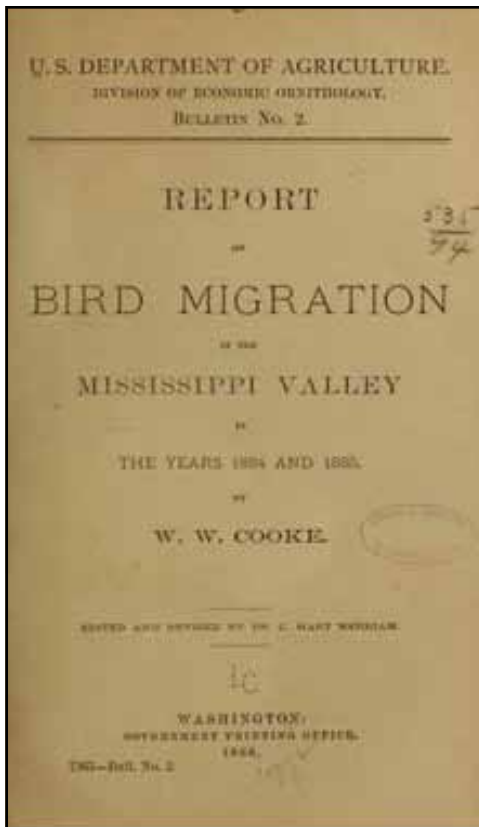


Figure 2: The front cover of the *Report On Bird Migration In The Mississippi Valley In The Years 1884 And 1885, Bulletin No. 2, by W.W. Cooke.*

Cooke used blank forms for observers to report sightings. Since this cover is unsealed and went for the one-cent circular rate, it is likely it contained one or more blank report forms.

You can read the whole report, published in 1888 by the Department of Agriculture (Figure 2), at the Library of Congress Online Archive at: <https://archive.org/details/reportonbirdmigr00cook>.

There, on page 42, you learn that one of Professor Cooke's official station observers was F.A. Sampson, in Sedalia, Missouri. He is the addressee of my cover!

The report discusses the field plover as a common bird seen in the summer at Red Rock, Indian Territory (page 96) and at page 100 there is mention of an observation station at Caddo, Indian Territory, as well.

Page 102 mentions Bobwhite quail hunting near Fort Sill, Indian Territory, and the habit of a "quail lying to a dog" is discussed at length.

In 1884, the booming of the prairie chicken was recorded at Caddo, Indian Territory on March 7 and on March 24 at Barton, Dakota Territory (page 106).

So, I have a very interesting cover, having nothing to do with what I bought it for, but...like Robert the first grader said in giving his book report...I learned a whole lot more about Mississippi Valley bird migrations than I really cared to know.



American Golden Plover



Oklahoma Bobwhite Quail



Greater Prairie Chicken

(Joe H. Crosby is president of the Oklahoma City Stamp Club and a frequent author of Oklahoma and Indian Territory postal history articles. He can be contacted by e-mail at: jocrosby@cox.net)

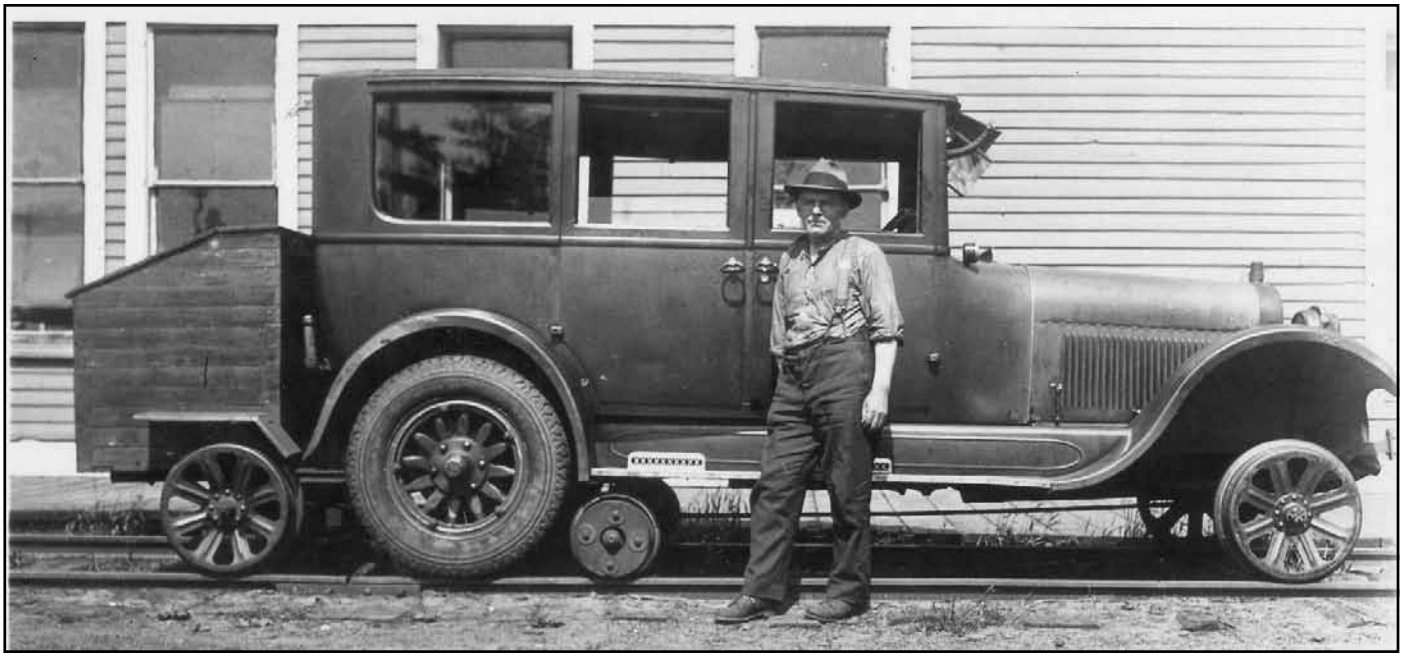


Figure 1: Operator Vern Niles standing in front of the Haywire Mail Car in 1936. (Courtesy, Schoolcraft County Historical Society, Niles Family collection)

The Haywire Line's One-Car Train

By Paul Petosky

An article that appeared in the August 30, 1936, *Detroit Free Press* features an interesting story about the Haywire Line Mail Train along a 35-mile stretch of Manistique & Lake Superior Railroad track that goes from Shingleton to Manistique, Michigan.

The Manistique and Lake Superior Railroad (M&LS) was an American Class III railroad serving the Upper Peninsula of Michigan from 1909 to 1968. It provided service from Manistique, Michigan, to a junction with the Duluth, South Shore and Atlantic Railway at Doty, Michigan, southeast of Munising. Its nickname was "The Haywire."

The story reads as follows:

It Carries the Mail, If the Porcupines Don't Get Mean

They call it the Haywire Line. It was named in the prosperous logging days in the Upper Peninsula when a load of logs sometimes would burst the supports and the train crew would be forced to stop and search for a piece of haywire to reinforce the structure.

The Haywire Line is a thirty-five mile stretch of Manistique & Lake Superior Railroad track between Shingleton and Manistique. But no train travels the track.

The depression sent the lumbering industry into a nose dive and with it went passenger business on the Haywire Line. The train was discontinued and a



Figure 2: A Manistique, Mich., machine cancel from 1937.

1923 Buick sedan was substituted. The front wheels were removed and replaced with handcar wheels. At the rear were placed another set of handcar wheels. The railroad wheels lead and the original back wheels of the automobile drive the car.

It makes the run every day except Sunday, on schedule, carrying the mail in a covered box on the rear. An average of three passengers a day travel the Haywire Line.

The motor is the original one, and a snowplow remains on the car all summer as a precaution against possible derailment by porcupines.

Vern Niles, the experienced engineer who operates the car, claims for it a speed capacity of 65 miles an hour, but he never travels that fast. The one-way trip requires one hour and 15 minutes.

The Haywire Line's mail car was designed and built by S.P. Reid, veteran master mechanic with the Manistique & Lake Superior Railroad. It is said to be the only one of its type in the world.

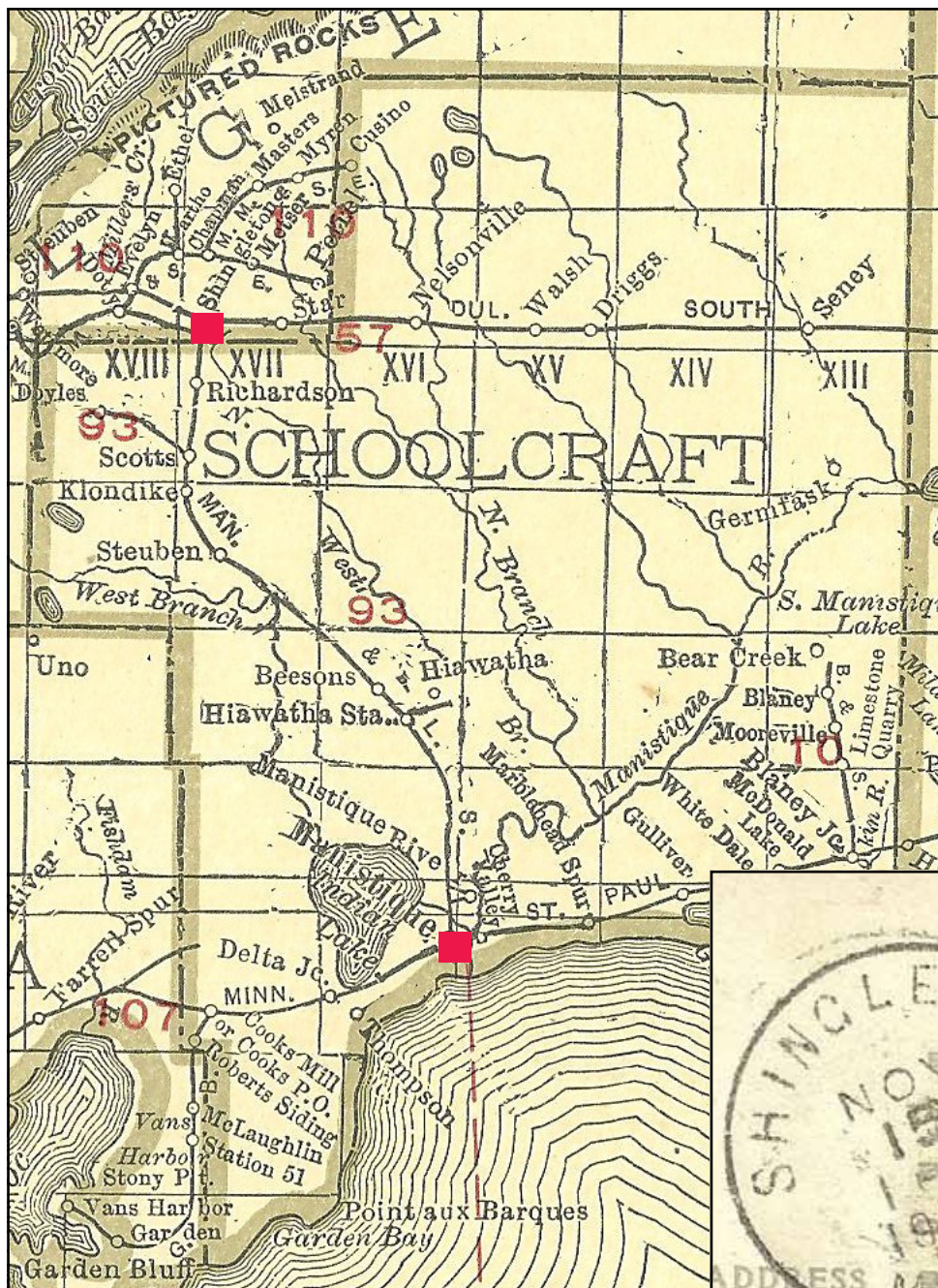


Figure 3: This 1920 Schoolcraft County Railroad map shows the railroad route from Shingleton, Mich., to Manistique, Mich. (The towns are marked in red).

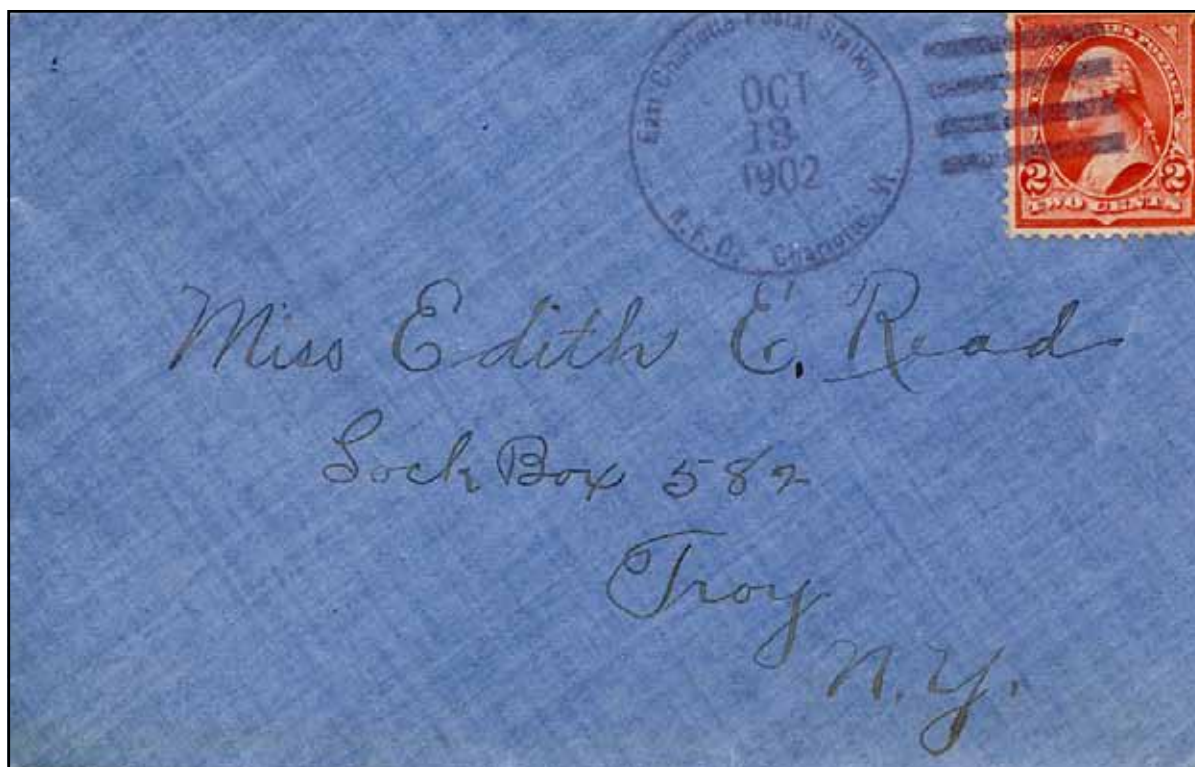
Figure 4 (Below): Postmarks from Shingleton and Manistique, Michigan.



By July 1968, the Haywire Line Mail Train had outlived its usefulness.

(Paul Petosky specializes in Michigan Upper Peninsula discontinued post office postmarks and post offices. He writes a monthly column about Michigan post offices in the Great Lakes Pilot newspaper. His Postmarks from the Past website is at: <http://postmarks.grandmaraismichigan.com/>. Anyone interested in Michigan postal history can contact him by e-mail at: paul_petosky@yahoo.com)





The discovery example of the East Charlotte Rural Station, Vermont, postmark.

A New Postmark Discovery: Vermont's East Charlotte Rural Station

By Glenn Estus

In my capacity as the editor of the *Vermont Philatelist*, I published a list of “10”s: discontinued post offices from which no examples had yet been recorded. Thanks to postal history dealer and Vermont Philatelic Society member Elwyn Doubleday, we have been able to cross another “10” off the list. East Charlotte Rural Station-1 (Chittenden County) has been located.

Postal Bulletin 6563 (September 9, 1901) announced that the East Charlotte Post Office (1875-1901) had been discontinued on September 7, 1901 and mail would be sent to Charlotte.

A number of other post offices in northern Vermont were also discontinued on September 7, including: Champlain, East Monkton, Keelers Bay, Mallett Bay, North Enosburg, Saint George, and West Milton. All these post offices were superseded by RFDs.

Postal Bulletin 6571 (September 23, 1901) announced the discontinuance of Star Route 3274 from East Charlotte to Charlotte, which was “superseded by RFD from Charlotte” effective September 30, 1901. Star Route 3278 from West Milton to Milton was discontinued on the same date.

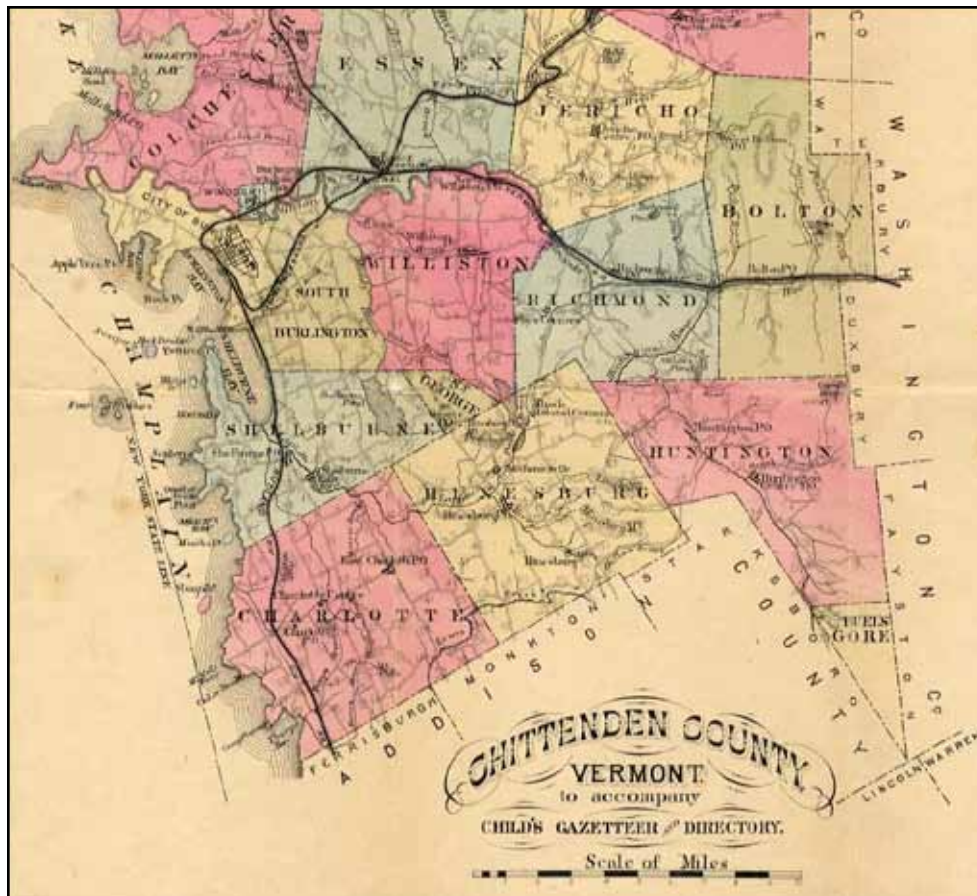
According to the National Postal Museum, a



A black and white close-up of the East Charlotte Rural Station, Vermont, postmark.

Star Route was a route contracted by the Post Office Department to private carriers carrying mail between post offices. The NPM website explains:

*“The legislation establishing new mail service in 1845 called for contractors to carry the mail with ‘celerity, certainty, and security.’ Weary of repeatedly writing these words in ledgers, postal clerks substituted three asterisks—***—and the phrase ‘Star Route’ was born. Star Routes were renamed ‘Highway Contract Routes’ in 1970, though they are still commonly known by their original name today.”*



A color map of Chittenden County, Vermont.

More information about Star Routes is found at: www.postalmuseum.si.edu/starroute.

Postal Bulletin 6669 (January 18, 1902) printed Postmaster General's Order No. 46 (January 14, 1902) that read:

"Establish, on January 15, 1902, in connection with the Rural Free Delivery Service in Vermont, the East Charlotte Rural Postal Station, (emphasis added), tributary to the Charlotte, Vermont, post office. Supply money order and registry facilities.

CH. EMORY SMITH,
Postmaster General"

I believe this to mean that East Charlotte mail was delivered by the RFD driver as part of his route. RFD carriers were employees of the Post Office Department rather than private contractors and delivered mail directly to homes along his route. However, this postal station didn't operate very long.

Postal Bulletin 7020 (March 14, 1903) had another Postmaster General's Order No. 246 that read:

"Discontinue, with the close of business Mar. 15, 1903, the East Charlotte Rural Station, tributary to the Charlotte, Vt. post office.

R.J. WYNNE,
Acting Postmaster General"

Thus, this postal station lasted exactly 14 months. Although the *Vermont DPO Guide* (2006) had this listed

NOTE.—This number of the Bulletin consists of two Sheets. Nos. 6669 and 6669a.

ORDER OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

OFFICE OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 14, 1902.

ORDER No. 46.

Establish, on January 15, 1902, in connection with the Rural Free Delivery Service in Vermont, the East Charlotte Rural Postal Station, tributary to the Charlotte, Vermont, post office. Supply money order and registry facilities.

CH. EMORY SMITH,
Postmaster General.

Postmaster General's Order No. 46 (January 14, 1902) established the East Charlotte Rural Station Post Office.

as an unknown post office, the *Encyclopedia of R.F.D. Cancells, Second Edition* (1995) lists "Charlotte--East Charlotte P.S." with a date of 1903 and a scarcity rating of VIII on a scale of I to X. That leads me to wonder if this is the listing cover for the *R.F.D. Encyclopedia*, or are other examples lying in collections? Only time will tell.

Nonetheless, the illustrated cover is the earliest known cover from the East Charlotte Rural Station.

Below is a list of Vermont Post Offices with unknown postmarks. Anyone with information about these postmarks is asked to contact the author.

(Glenn Estus is president of the Vermont Philatelic Society and editor of its quarterly The Vermont Philatelist. He can be reached at: POB 451, Westport, NY 12993; E-mail gestus@vermonttps.org.

The Vermont Philatelic Society (<http://vermonttps.org>) will celebrate its 60th anniversary in 2016. The organization currently has about 125 members.)

Chronology of Charlotte/East Charlotte Post Offices/Stations

1800 (Second Quarter) — Oct. 27, 1875:
Charlotte #1 (became East Charlotte)

Oct. 27, 1875 - Sept. 7, 1901: East Charlotte
(name changed from Charlotte #1) (Note: *Postal History of Vermont* (1969) says Dec. 7, 1901, was the last day of operation.)

Jan. 15, 1902 - Mar. 15, 1903: East Charlotte
Rural Station #1 (Note: *Postal History of Vermont* has no listing of this postal station.)

July 15, 1904 - June 15, 1912: East Charlotte
Rural Station #2 (Note: *Postal History of Vermont* says "July 5(?), 1904 - July 31 (?), 1912")

OFFICE OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 12, 1903.

ORDER No. 243.

Discontinue, with the close of business Mar. 15, 1903, the Rotherwood Rural Station, tributary to the Church Hill, Tenn., post office.

ORDER No. 246.

Discontinue, with the close of business Mar. 15, 1903, the East Charlotte Rural Station, tributary to the Charlotte, Vt., post office.

R. J. WYNNE,
Acting Postmaster General.

Postmaster General's Order No. 246 discontinued the East Charlotte Rural Station Post Office.

VERMONT.

Champlain, Chittenden Co., 3301. Mail to Milton. [7 sept 01

East Charlotte, Chittenden Co., 3274. Mail to Charlotte. [7 sept 01

East Monkton, Addison Co., 3184. Mail to Bristol. [7 sept 01

Keelers Bay, Grand Isle Co., 107157 and 203062. Mail to South Hero. [7 sept 01

Mallett Bay, Chittenden Co., 3301. Mail to Winooski. [7 sept 01

North Enosburg, Franklin Co., 103007. Mail to Enosburg Falls. [7 sept 01

Saint George, Chittenden Co., 3275. Mail to Shelburne. [7 sept 01

West Milton, Chittenden Co., 3278. Mail to Milton. [7 sept 01

From *Postal Bulletin* 6563 (September 9, 1901).

Vermont Post Offices with Unknown Postmarks

Bason Harbour-1 1798-1816

Belvidere-1 1839-42

Belvidere-2 1849-51

Bloomfield-1 1832-34

Boltonville-1 1833-45

(First) Braintree-1 1831

Branch-2 1886-87

Brownington Centre-1 1849-53

Brunswick Springs 1892-94

Cabot-1 1804-08

Calais-1 1816-19

Carman 1894

Chittenden-3 1856-58

Colchester-1 1813

Colchester-2 1832-35

(First) Craftsbury-2 1853

Dana 1892-95

Derby Centre 1850

Dummerston West River 1823-25

East Alburgh-1 1826-38

East Cambridge-1 1853-54

East Newark 1872-89

East Village 1826

Enosburgh Centre 1838

Fairlee 1808-18

Fays Corners 1890-92

Glendale 1899-1902

Goshen-1 1833-34

Goshen-3 1894-96

Granby-1 1829-31

Greensboro Station 1873

Harvey-1 1895-1902

Harvey-2 1902-03

Hillwest-1 1898-1901

(First) LaGrange 1835-37

Larabees Point-2 1840-42

Long Point 1901-03

Longpond 1884

Maidstone-1 1828-29

Minehead-1 1811-13

(Second) Morristown-2 1853-54

Morristown Corners 1853-54

Newbury-1 1784-1792

North Craftsbury-1 1853

North Hyde Park-1 1839-43

North Winhall 1888-89

Olcott-1 1886-87

Powells Falls 1829-32

(First) Readsboro 1830-33

South Craftsbury-2 1853-54

South Elmore 1887-91

South Glover 1868-78

South Poultney-1 1888-90

South Washington-1 1840-41

Stephens 1846

West Bennington 1849

West Brookfield-1 1833-36

West Montpelier 1865-66

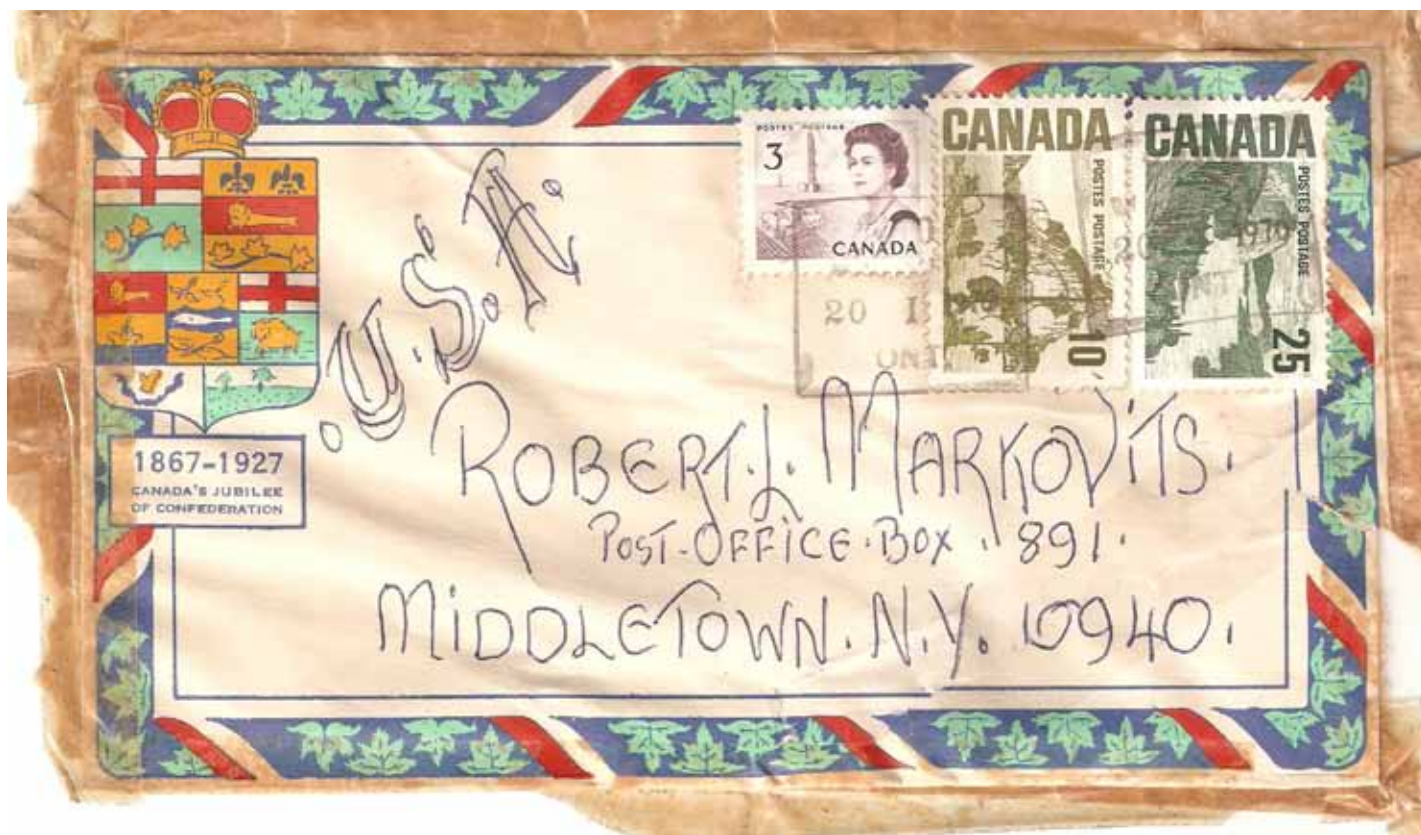
West Norwich-1 1857

West Readsboro 1848-50

West Swanton 1846-51

West Williamstown 1842

West Windsor 1828-32



This classic first day cachet was published by George Eppstadt in 1927 for the 60th Anniversary of Confederation stamp set.

An Ignominious End for a Classic Canadian FDC

By Gary Dickinson

One of the treasures in the Robert L. Markovits archives donated recently to the American Philatelic Research Library in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, is the classic first day cover (illustrated above) published by George Eppstadt in 1927 for the 60th Anniversary of Confederation stamp set (Canada Scott 141-45).

This cover is highly regarded by collectors because it was the first FDC cachet ever produced for a Canadian stamp issue.

Eppstadt printed some 2,000 copies at his own expense as a tribute to Canada, a country to which he had emigrated from Germany in 1910.

Approximately 800 envelopes were put into service as FDCs but, as Eppstadt told Markovits, he "threw away" the remaining 1,200.

The illustrated example was used as an address label on a cover mailed to Markovits in Middletown, New York.

It was posted in Ontario, although the town name is illegible, on January 20, 1970, and has 38 cents postage comprised of three stamps from the Centennial series, Canada Scott 456, 462, and 465. This was sufficient to pay for delivery of a nine-ounce letter.

It is an interesting exercise to speculate as to how this FDC classic came to be used in this apparently cavalier manner. One can visualize a collector or dealer having a pile of unused Eppstadt cacheted envelopes and using one of them to make an address label for some philatelic material being sent to Markovits' business address.

However, as it turned out, this label was actually used on a mailing sent to Markovits by Eppstadt himself. As Markovits reported, "On George's 60th anniversary of leaving Germany for Canada, George and his grocery store were feted by his family and the town of Maxville. Since he considered me another new friend, he sent me a napkin, piece of cake, and a photo in a small box with this stray envelope attached and modern postage paid."

This was a fitting and timely use of Eppstadt's cover as it was sent on the occasion of his 60th anniversary in Canada with the first Canadian FDC cachet that also marked the country's 60th anniversary.

(Gary Dickinson specializes in Canadian first day covers and is a prolific author on the subject. He can be contacted by e-mail at: gandbdickinson@shaw.ca)

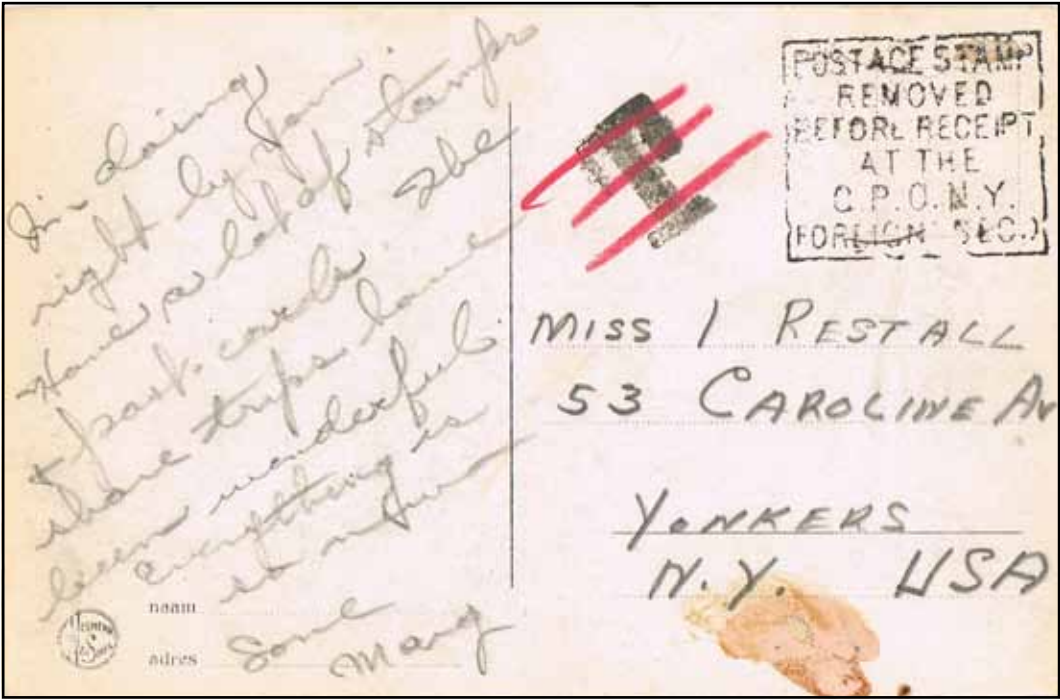


Figure 1: Sent from Curacao, this undated postcard has a bit of a postage stamp in the upper right corner, so the “T” marking indicating postage due was invalidated, and the New York boxed “Postage stamp removed before receipt...” marking was applied.

Follow-Ups to Recent Columns

By John M. Hotchner

This issue provides follow-ups to my recent New York 'Stamps Detached' markings columns and a few answers to mystery markings on overseas-bound mail.

New York Stamps Detached

In my Fourth Quarter 2014 (pp. 21-24) and First Quarter 2015 (pp. 23-27) columns we looked at the markings applied by the New York City post offices on mail received without postage stamps – both incoming from abroad and outgoing destined abroad.

There are two major things to remember:

- (1) Boxed markings were applied by the Foreign Section on letters coming from overseas, and
- (2) Circular markings were applied at diverse New York post offices on letters received from around the United States on which there was evidence of postage paid, but it had somehow been lost in the mail.

Three new covers have expanded the census of boxed handstamps.

Figure 1 is a postcard that seems to be from Curacao, based on the front having a photo identified as “Salt Pans, Curacao.” It is undated and bears a “T,” handstamp indicating that it was rated postage due at point of origin, but without the required indication

of the charge to collect. There is a small bit of stamp adhered to the upper right corner under the letters “tam” of the word “stamp,” so it appears that either the originating post office or the New York Foreign Section saw fit to cancel the postage due marking and chalk up lack of postage to loss in the mail.

Figure 2 is a letter that went routinely from the United States to Belgium, but then ran into the problem of inability to deliver as the addressee must have moved without leaving a forwarding address. This necessitated “Return to Sender” handling. But, somehow, somewhere, in the process, the stamps (there seem to have been more than one) got stripped off or washed off, and so the letter arrived back in New York with no stamps. Again, a Belgian “T” was invalidated and the excuse marking was placed on the cover.

Our third cover in this category (Figure 3) is a copycat, with the boxed “Postage Stamp Removed Before Receipt” being applied (in purple) by the San Francisco Foreign Mail Section in 1952, on a New York to Hawaiian Islands letter.

Hawaii was a territory, not a state, at this time, and for this reason it seems the San Francisco Post Office handled it as having been international mail. It would



Figure 2: The stamps disappeared from this cover after delivery was attempted in Belgium, and the cover was returned to the United States as undeliverable. Thus, it was treated by the New York Post Office as an incoming letter with no stamps.

Figure 3: A marking from San Francisco similar to the New York boxed missing stamps markings was placed on this 1952 cover sent from New York to the Territory of Hawaii.



be interesting to know whether San Francisco also had a circular “stamps detached” marking.

And speaking of circular markings, I have four new New York examples, running from 1903 to 1914, two of which are fairly standard addressed abroad.

The other two are handstamps in pink. One, in Figure 4, is incoming from Trinidad with no discernible date. It says, “Postage stamp lost in transit.”

The second (Figure 5) is equally curious as it is a 1903 New York-origin cover with a handstamp saying, “Postage stamp removed before receipt at New York P.O.” It is not addressed abroad, but rather to a person at the “United States Customs Service, Port of New York.”

A final addition to this group is a 1937 airmail letter to South Africa with a missing stamp (Figure 6). It seems that by this time the New York Post Office had given up use of the square and circular handstamps (the last of which we have evidence was from 1933, illustrated in First Quarter 2015).

Here there is a routine straightline handstamp that says, “Postage Stamp Detached Before Receipt at Morgan Annex, N.Y.P.O.” The missing stamp is a puzzlement. The most likely candidate would be the

30-cent Winged Globe because it would fit with the rate (five-cent surface to London plus 27 cents airmail to South Africa) and that would fit the space occupied by the obviously missing stamp.

But the 30-cent stamp was not issued until May 1939. Earlier long stamps that would also be candidates are the 65-cent Graf Zeppelin of 1930, and the 50-cent Baby Zepp of 1933. Both would have overpaid the rate, and the three-cent stamp would not be needed.

So, looking at the cover more carefully, we can note that actually two stamps are missing. And they were probably the 20-cent Map stamp of 1927 and a nine-cent Jefferson stamp of the Fourth Bureau issue.

Furthermore, the former was probably on the cover when the handstamp was applied because when it was taken off, a bit of the word “at” from the handstamp went with it!

No Longer Mystery Markings

Several readers responded to my Second Quarter 2015 column putting forward a group of covers going abroad that have auxiliary markings needing explanation. Most remain undiagnosed, but we have two that can now be explained.

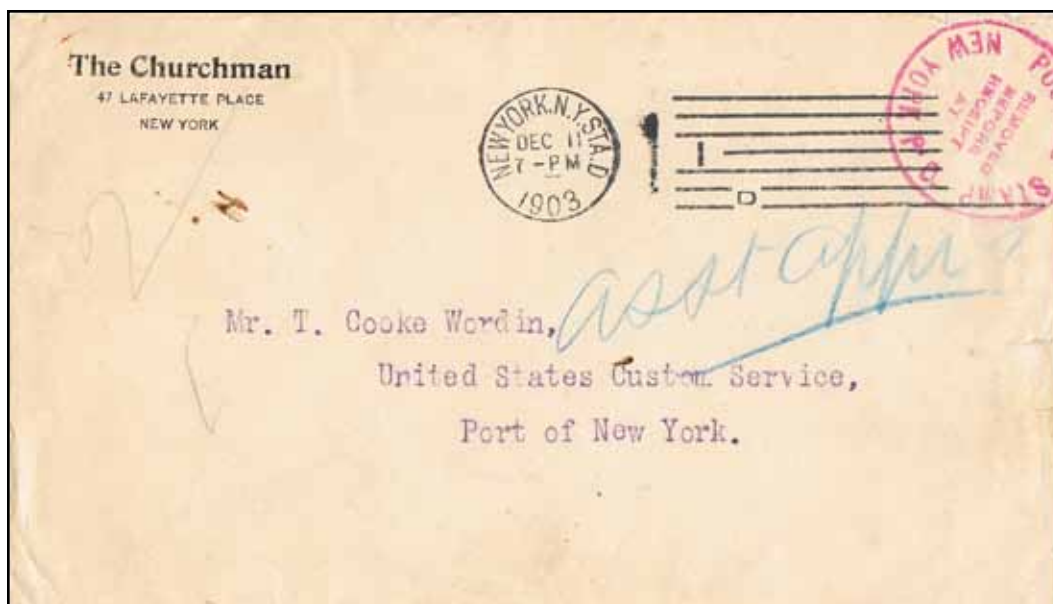


Figure 4: A circular outgoing marking saying "Postage Stamp lost in transit" was used on this incoming, undated cover from Trinidad.

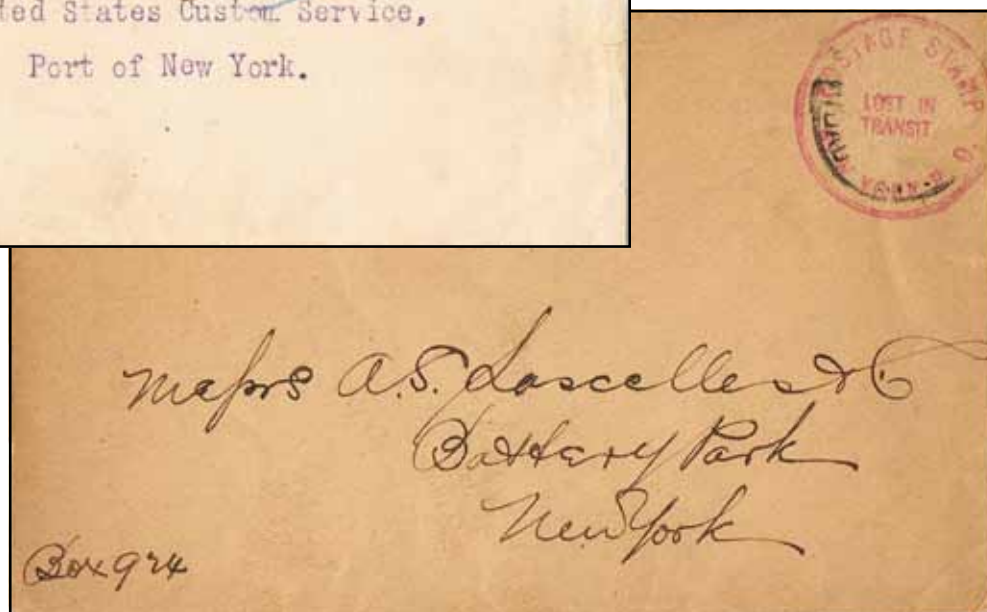


Figure 5: A circular outgoing marking is used on this 1903 cover sent and received within New York City.

The first is "Dept. Ruling No. 2 Complied With," on a March 4, 1941, cover shown in Figure 7.

Additional examples came from Larry Nelson, and concurrently with my article, Louis Fiset published an article on this subject in *The Prexie Era Newsletter* (Spring 2015, No. 69). Fiset was able to solve the puzzle by searching the online version of the U.S. *Postal Bulletin* using the search term, "Neutrality Act." The operative paragraphs from his article are:

In September 1939, after the invasion of Poland, Great Britain and France declared war on Germany. President Roosevelt was barred by the existing Neutrality Acts from selling arms to the Allies now in desperate need of them. So, he asked Congress to lift the ban. The resulting Neutrality Act of 1939 allowed belligerents to purchase arms on the same cash-and-carry basis that the earlier Neutrality Acts had established for the sale of nonmilitary materials.

To prevent U.S. businesses from providing credit to any belligerent country, financial institutions were required to file a declaration under oath that all rights, titles, and interests pertaining to articles or materials being shipped had been transferred to foreign ownership. Isolationists in Congress had feared extending credit would allow businesses to

invest in the success of any belligerent, and would eventually draw the nation into participating in the war.

For purposes of administration, mailing postmasters required senders to certify on the address side of the cover "DEPT. RULING No. 2 COMPLIED WITH" so the contents would not be held for inquiry by the Post Office Department. However, no such articles or materials were allowed to be dispatched by transatlantic air transport, only by ship or transpacific air transport....

The compliance markings, designed to avoid inspection by P.O.D. inspectors and certain delay in mail transmission disappeared once the U.S. entered the war in December, 1941...

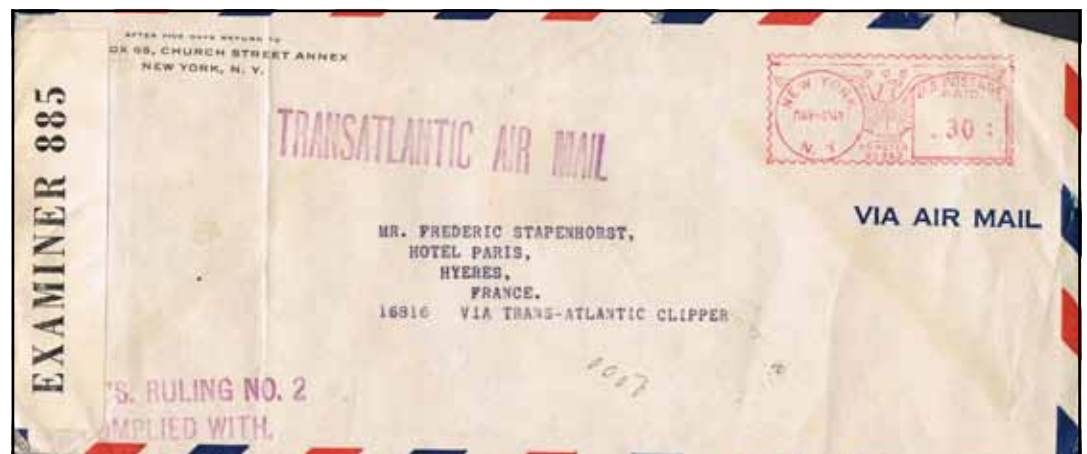
Dealer Labron Harris had a cover that appears to solve the mystery of my Figure 7 cover in the earlier article. His is illustrated, front and back, in Figures 8 and 9.

On the front is a message saying, "BOARD OF ECONOMIC WARFARE/The technical information/contained herein has been/inspected and approved/* JUN 15, 1943 */for export by the/TECHNICAL DATA LICENSE DIVISION/Export Control Branch/Office of Exports"



Figure 6: This airmail cover to South Africa helps to date the demise of the boxed and circular missing stamps markings in New York. This one is dated in 1937 and uses a straight line “Stamps detached before receipt” marking. What stamp is missing?

Figure 7: This March 4, 1941, commercial mailing from New York to France now has an explanation, courtesy of Louis Fiset.



My cover with a similar message dated January 8, 1943, has no additional markings, but the Harris cover does. First, it has a License No. (69876) given by the “Commissioner of Patents” (that marking partially obscured by the handstamp “Church St. Annex, N.Y.P.O.”) and on the back is a large red seal tied by the words, “U.S. PATENT OFFICE/LICENSING DIVISION.”

It appears that the Patent Office, having granted a license, facilitated approval by the Board of Economic Warfare, but that they dealt with other correspondence as well.

Bob Hohertz also has a cover with the same BOEW marking, and a License Number (T-15012, SSD-239c), which bears no resemblance to the Patent License number. Nor are there any Patent Office markings. So, my theory is that more than one agency of government was empowered to grant licenses, but all such mail had to flow through the BOEW. Hohertz checked Wikipedia on the chance that the Board of Economic Warfare had an entry.

Here is what the Wikipedia entry said:

The Office of Administrator of Export Control (also referred to as the Export Control Administration) was established in the United States by Presidential Proclamation 2413, July 2, 1940, to administer export licensing provisions of the Act of July 2, 1940 (54 Stat. 714). Brigadier General Russell Lamont Maxwell, United States Army, headed up this military entity.

It was abolished by Presidential Executive Order 8900, September 15, 1941, and its functions were transferred to the Economic Defense Board which had been established by Presidential Executive Order 8839, July 30, 1941, to develop policies and programs to strengthen U.S. international economic relations. The name was changed to the Board of Economic Warfare by Presidential Executive Order 8962, December 17, 1941.

In turn, it was abolished by Executive Order 9361, July 15, 1943, and the functions were transferred to the newly created Office of Economic



Figure 8: The front of this 1943 cover to Argentina shows a Board of Economic Warfare inspection marking, and a Commissioner of Patents License number.



Figure 9: The back of the Figure 8 cover is shown here because of the unusual U.S. Patent Office sealing method.

Warfare, OEM, which also assumed control of U.S. Commercial Company, Rubber Development Corporation, Petroleum Reserves Corporation, and Export-Import Bank of Washington from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. Consolidated into the Foreign Economic Administration, 1943."

If that does not leave you totally confused, I congratulate you. The bottom line seems to be that any financial dealings or information that might confer economic advantage to the enemy had to be reviewed and approved for transmission beyond our borders, and

that is totally understandable. The reviewing agencies changed as the United States went from neutral to a combatant, and in response to practical issues that developed in the review regime.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to Louis Fiset, Bob Hohertz and Larry Nelson for the information they have developed. Any others who have examples or wish to comment on the covers or information presented here are welcome to contact me by e-mail at jmhstamp@verizon.net, or by regular mail at POB 1125, Falls Church, VA, 22041.

Oklahoma Joe is Still Buying—JUST DON'T ASK WHY!



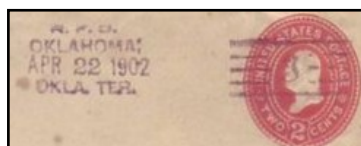
OKLAHOMA AND INDIAN TERRITORY COVERS
 WEATHER FORECAST BACKSTAMPS
 U.S. DESPATCH AGENT AND AGENCY MARKINGS
 19th CENTURY U.S. FANCY CANCELS
 PRIVATE PERFS ON COMMERCIAL COVERS
CROSBY Postmarks—Any State (Not Crosby cachets—No, we were not related)



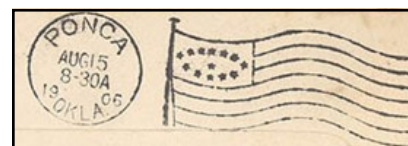
COVERS ADDRESSED "IF NOT DELIVERABLE TO ADDRESSEE,
 PLEASE HAND TO _____" (THE WEIRDER THE BETTER)



WILEY POST COVERS
 A & M COLLEGE CANCELS AND
 AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION FRANKS
 ILLUSTRATED MAIL PHOTOGRAPHY & RELATED
 MULTICOLOR GUN COVERS
 OKLAHOMA CIVIC ADVERTISING
 MULTICOLOR A.B. SHUBERT, FUR BUYERS COVERS



POSTCARDS
 CHARLES M. RUSSELL
 BUSTER BROWN
 YELLOW KID
 OKLAHOMA STREET SCENES



JOE CROSBY
5009 BARNSTEEPLE CT., OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73142-5405
E-mail: joecrosby@cox.net



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First Day Cancelled Liberty Series Stamps to Foreign Destinations

By Henry Scheuer

One of my collecting specialties is United States first day covers addressed to, and backstamped in, foreign countries. Presented here is a small group of such covers for the U.S. Liberty Series, one of the most popular stamp sets of the 20th century. United States first day covers that are mailed to foreign destinations during the Liberty Series period, the 1950s, usually are not backstamped unless they are sent by airmail, registered mail, or certified mail. Most of the covers illustrated here were sent via airmail and, as can be expected, were backstamped. Anyone with obscure destinations for any United States stamp can contact me at: POB 535, Madison Square Station, New York, NY 10159 or by e-mail at hscheuer@janney.com.

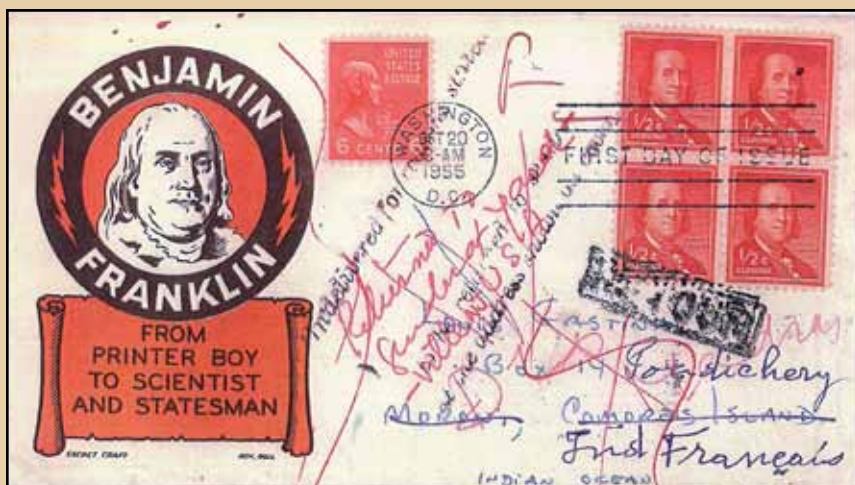


Figure 1: 1/2-cent Benjamin Franklin to the Comoro Islands. Cachet Craft cachet. Addressed to the Comoro Islands off the southeast coast of Africa, this cover traveled through the dead letter office in Bombay, and ended up being returned to sender. The multitude of postal markings make this cover quite interesting.



Figure 2: 1-1/2-cent Mount Vernon to Italy. C.S. Anderson cachet. This first day cover began its journey on February 22 and was postmarked in Rome upon receipt on March 15.

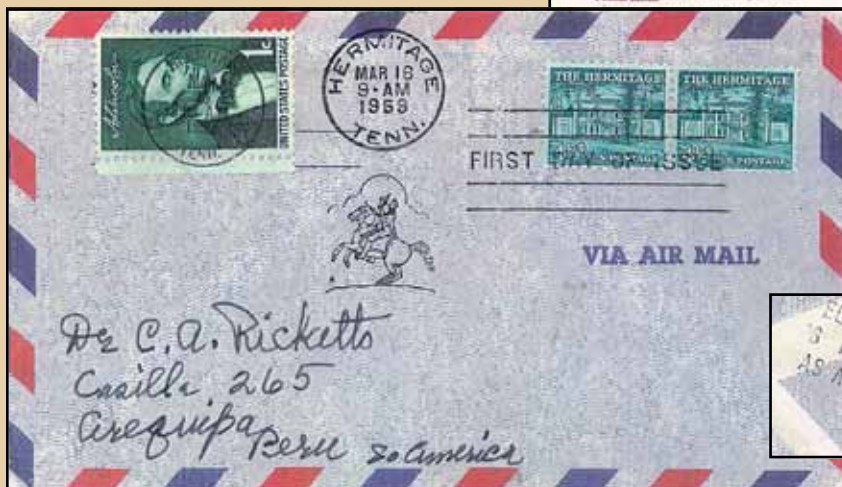


Figure 3: 4-1/2-cent The Heritage to Peru. Airmail envelope. This cover has an unusual combination of stamps that make up the 10-cent rate to South America.

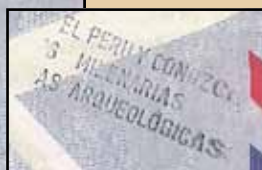




Figure 4: 6-cent Theodore Roosevelt to Argentina. ArtCraft cachet. This neat pair of six-cent Theodore Roosevelt stamps overpay the airmail rate to South America by two cents.



Figure 5: 8-cent Statue of Liberty to Czechoslovakia. Cachet Craft cachet. Two eight-cent Statue of Liberty stamps overpay the 15-cent airmail rate to Czechoslovakia by one-cent.



Figure 6: 25-cent Paul Revere to Pakistan. Artmaster cachet. The 25-cent Paul Revere regular issue stamp pays the correct rate to Pakistan. This is a wonderful example showing the use of this stamp for its intended purpose.

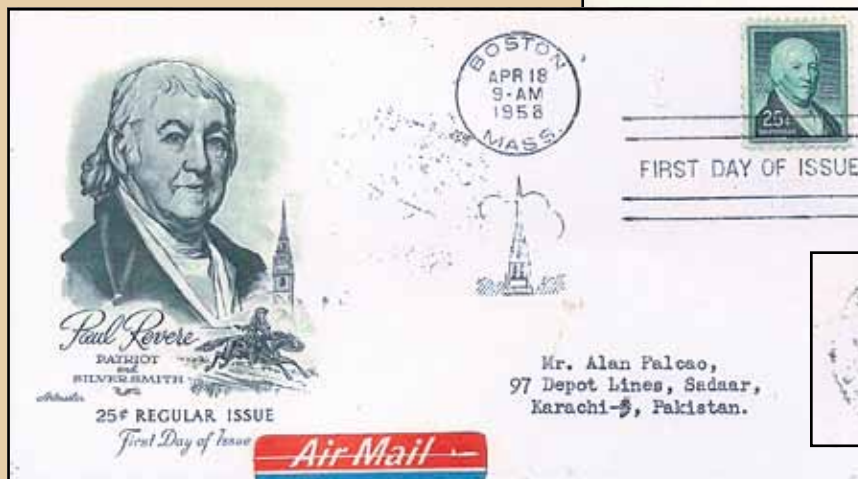


Figure 7: 40-cent John Marshall to Turkey. Artmaster cachet. The 40-cent John Marshall stamp is addressed to the largest of the islands in the Sea of Marmara, near Istanbul. Buyokada is sparsely populated and bans motorized vehicles throughout the island.

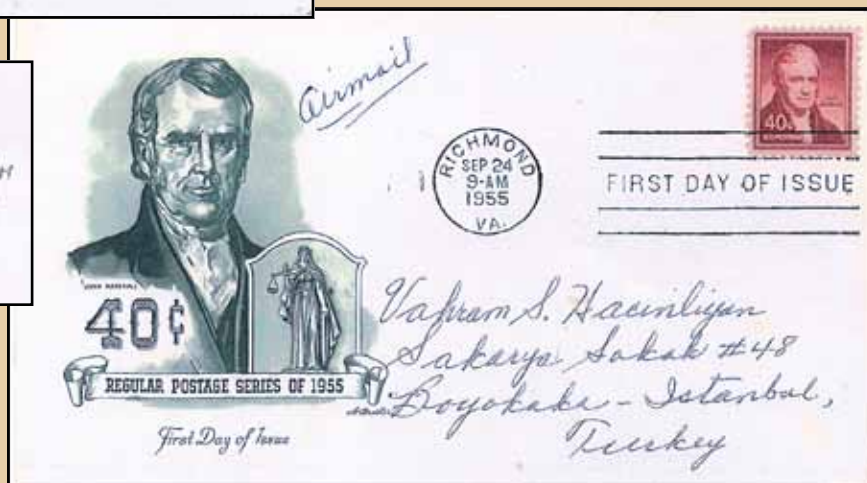
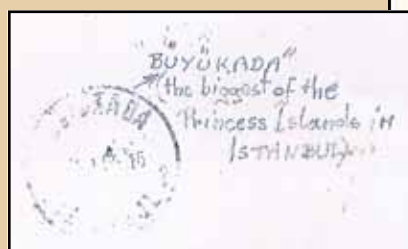




Figure 1: A cover from Reverend H. Hamfeldt to Pastor Carl Enders in Frankfurt am Main.

Reverend Hugo Hamfeldt and the Central Relief Committee

By Jesse I. Spector, Robert L. Markovits and Georgia K. Steele

A 1920 registered letter sent from an Orthodox Jewish organization by a Lutheran minister in Toledo, Ohio, to a Lutheran pastor in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, certainly raised our curiosity and begged looking into. Our subsequent research would uncover a trove of information, almost as if these folks had been waiting, just waiting, to tell us their story.

So be it that Reverend Hugo Hamfeldt, or Hamfeld if you please, made us aware that here lay one of those intriguing adventures involving immigrant ancestors, who made their way to America, created new lives, spawned families and left delicate footprints in the sand. Heaven knows there are literally millions of these tales, most of which will never see the light of day; but here is one that did not get away.

Join us as we relive a World War I era story with a quite disparate cast of characters and organizations that would require backtracking to the second half of the 19th century as we recreate the life of our chief protagonist, the Reverend Hugo Hamfeldt.

Our cover (Figure 1) is a registered letter addressed to a Pastor Carl Enders in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, in the section of the city known as Niederrad, at 39 Klosterbacher Strasse.

The sender is a Reverend H. Hamfeldt, whose scripted name is above the imprinted return address of the Central Relief Committee in Toledo, Ohio.

Postage was paid with a 15-cent Franklin flat plate printing, series 1917-1919 (Scott 514) stamp, with a heavy oval cancellation at Toledo, Ohio.

The reverse (Figure 2) indicates cancellation on November 22, 1920, receipt in New York the following day, and arrival in Frankfurt am Main on December 12, 1920.

For postal history researchers there is enough déjà vu in this cover to arouse both a begrudging respect for, and frustration with, the inevitable stumbling blocks that ever threaten to derail an investigation.

For you see, Klosterbacher Strasse doesn't exist; and, Reverend Hamfeldt is also Reverend Hamfeld—and he seemed not uncomfortable in either skin. We will explain shortly, but first let us shed light on the Central Relief Committee, from whence our missive came, an Orthodox Jewish organization established in 1914 through the exigencies of the Great War.

In early August 1914, international politics spun rapidly out of control and reverberated in the onset of the Great War. The Central Powers—consisting of a



Figure 2: The reverse of the Figure 1 cover showing origination, transit and delivery postmarks.

muscular Germany and a decrepit Austro-Hungarian Empire confronted the Triple Entente of Russia, France and England.

Off to the sidelines, the Turkish Ottoman Empire, having slowly shed its holdings over the preceding two centuries, remained yet in precarious control of the Levant, where 59,000 Jewish settlers from Europe were living in Palestine, but still largely dependent on the largess of Jewish assistance from Europe and America. An August 31, 1914, cable from Henry Morgenthau, the U.S. ambassador to Turkey, to New York philanthropist Jacob Schiff was chilling and explicit:

*PALESTINIAN JEWS FACING TERRIBLE CRISIS...
BELLIGERENT COUNTRIES STOPPING THEIR
ASSISTANCE...SERIOUS DESTRUCTION
THREATENS THRIVING COLONIES...FIFTY
THOUSAND DOLLARS NEEDED.*

The response from Jewish organizations was immediate. Within months, representatives of 40 Jewish organizations had met in New York and coordinated relief measures and raised the necessary funds through what was considered an ad hoc temporary coordination of relief work for the beleaguered Jews of central and eastern Europe and the Levant.

On November 27, 1914, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (AJDC) was founded.

Their “temporary” mandate would, interestingly now 100 years later, still see it in existence operating in 85 countries through more than 1,000 humanitarian nonsectarian projects. Coincident with Morgenthau’s

cable to Jacob Schiff, other telegrams from Eastern Europe and Palestine detailed desperation and urgently requested aid. On October 4, 1914, a group of prominent Orthodox Jews, including philanthropist Harry Fischel, and owner and publisher of the Yiddish daily newspaper, the *Tageblatt*, Leon Kamaiky, would establish the Central Relief Committee.

Well and good, however, within a week another prominent Jew, Louis Marshall, would strongly oppose the establishment of the CRC stating that the American Jewish Committee was already in the process of organizing an all-inclusive national Jewish organization to deal more effectively with channeling the efforts of American Jews of all branches into a major relief effort for the stressful situation in Europe and Palestine.

Marshall would then go on to gather 50 Jewish organizations to a conference on October 25, 1914, in New York and create the American Jewish Relief Committee (AJRC).

To avoid duplication of work, and to squelch animosity, the AJRC and the Orthodox CRC wisely



Figure 3: A collection box of the People’s Relief Committee.

Figure 4: A registered letter (circa 1939) from Germany to the American Joint Distribution Committee. The sender was a Jew with the required use of middle name 'Israel' as prescribed by Nazis as of August 1939.



Figure 5: A 1938 letter from the Far East office of the AJDC in Shanghai, China, to the New York office.

Figure 6: A 1939 letter from the New York office of the AJDC to Ukraine.





Figure 7: Registered letter to the president (European Division) of the AJDC in Hungary, forwarded to Paris, 1940. The correct spelling of the surname is ‘Troper.’

decided to join forces under the umbrella of a new organization, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) that we acquainted you with in a previous publication.¹

Finally, a group of secular, Yiddish-speaking socialists formed a third committee, the People’s Relief Committee, who then joined the JDC as well. This secular group would restrict its activities to house-to-house collections from the nonOrthodox Jewish community (Figure 3). Each of the contingents to the JDC would maintain offices in every local city with a sizeable Jewish population, of which Toledo, the office on the corner of our cover, was one.

With the signing of the armistice ending World War I, the Central Relief Committee discontinued most of its contributions to the JDC and concentrated on cultural activities, including rehabilitating and reconstructing the religious institutions that had been destroyed in the Orthodox communities of Europe and Palestine.

Nevertheless, the post-war years saw the influence of the CRC waning, while the parent organization—the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee—continued to thrive through a number of international humanitarian projects.

True, the rise of Nazism and the onset of World War II would see the CRC galvanize some of its prior luster by again focusing on emergency funding to an ever lessening segment of reachable Jews in Nazi-controlled Europe, but by 1945 more than 90 per cent of its efforts were confined to Palestine.

The end of the war saw the CRC ending European operations and restricting activity to the Levant. With the creation of the state of Israel in May 1948, the Israeli government assumed responsibility for meeting the needs of its citizens.

There comes a time when reinventions are no longer

workable and, in 1950, with the parent organization, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, having shown its continued staying power as several covers exemplify (Figures 4-7), the Central Relief Committee would close its books, having distributed \$3.5 million dollars to institutions in 16 countries from the end of World War I until it ceased its operations in mid century.

Winston Churchill had it right when he said, “History will be kind to me for I intend to write it.”

For the rest of us, however, to undertake the exploration of history involves first finding it, let alone considering how it looks to the world.

The Central Relief Committee is history under our belt. The greater chore would be resurrecting, not in the biblical sense, rather in a historical one, our two protagonists, Reverend H. Hamfeldt and Pastor Carl Enders.

Our cover presented a dilemma in that the scripted sender’s name appeared as “Rev. H. Hamfeld” on our initial reading. This name brought up fragments of information in our research investigation but left a surprising number of blank spots where we felt there should not have been.

Going back to the drawing board we reconstructed the name by adding what possibly was the letter “t,” making it “Hamfeldt,” and to our amazement that resulted in our discovering a completely separate set of records that clearly filled in our “blank spots,” even though the two sets of information would continue to remain entirely detached, as if the individual had two separate lives.

With unequivocal proof that this was the same individual we can now raise the curtain on Reverend Hugo Hamfeldt—the spelling that we will give greater credence to, since it is the name by which he, so to speak, died by, as we will explain.

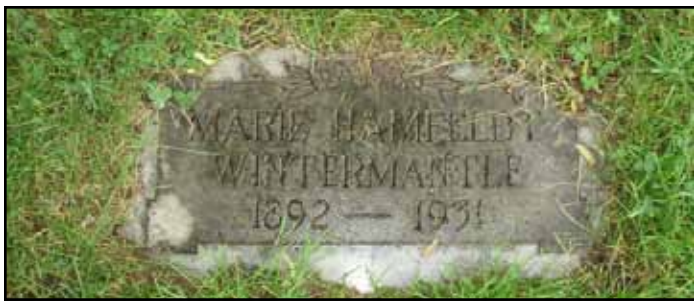


Figure 8: The grave of Marie Behrens Hamfeldt, in Toledo Memorial Park, Ohio.

Our first encounter with the reverend is a 1929 *History of Reedsburg, Wisconsin*² where we learn that a young Reverend Hamfeld had been the minister at St. John's Lutheran Church in Reedsburg, a community 130 miles west of Milwaukee, from 1891 to 1895.

Not to get too excited from this one bit of news, however, since, while by no means as common a name as "Smith" or "Jones," "Hamfeld" in the German communities of Wisconsin and Minnesota would result in many folks raising their hands if this name was called out.

What helped, though, was then a brief remark in a 1927 *Report of Committee on President's Report in the Minutes of the Sixty-fifth Annual Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Canada* that noted with regret that, "the Reverend H. Hamfeld is necessitated by the action of his congregation to join the Ohio Synod of the U.L.C., to sever his connection with the Canada Synod, we recommend that to Rev. Hamfeld and his congregation be extended the appreciation and gratitude of Synod for their participation in the work of our Synod."³

Is it coincidence that "Ohio" is suddenly in the picture? Yet, still we find no records—census, marriage, death—in the United States for our man.

Then, however, we find a 1904 passenger list for Reverend Hugo and Marie Hamfeld departing Hamburg on August 13, 1904, on the *Graf Waldersee* for New York with their six children, with their residence being Toledo, Ohio. Their oldest child is Marie, age 11, and we locate Marie's birth certificate where she was born on November 20, 1892 in- Reedsburg, Wisconsin! Hugo Hamfeld of Reedsburg is our Hugo Hamfeld of Toledo.

The clarification of so many subsequent missing pieces of information then becomes evident when we locate through "Find a Grave" search engine, that a Marie Hamfeldt Wintermantle, born in 1892 to Hugo Hamfeldt and Marie Behrens Hamfeldt had died in 1931 and was interred in Toledo Memorial Park in Lucas County Ohio (Figure 8). For you see, the letter "t" added to the German "Hamfeld" will now make all the difference.



Figure 9: Pastor Hamfeldt as a young man.



Figure 10: Marie and Hugo Hamfeldt as a young married couple.

At that point we were able to construct a quite accurate picture of Reverend Hamfeldt; however, it would have lacked the exquisite color and detail that would subsequently become available through the efforts of co-author Georgia Steele and the archives of the Saint Lucas Church. We share with you now this markedly broadened story of a remarkable man.

Hugo Hamfeld, for so his surname was spelled, was born May 12, 1867, in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, the son of a state official. On completion of school in his hometown in 1885, he attended the Ebenezer Evangelical Church in Kropp, Schleswig-Holstein.

At age 23 he immigrated to the United States on the Hamburg-American Steamship, SS *Russia* departing Hamburg on December 7, 1890. His occupation is listed as "student" and he is clearly traveling alone.

A photo of young Pastor Hamfeld shows a fine looking young man indeed (Figure 9). The next year, 1891, Marie (occasionally spelled "Maria") Behrens, from Wismar, Germany, immigrated to America. It is quite likely that Hugo and Marie had been acquainted in Germany, since they married on September 11, 1891, not long after her arrival in America. A photo of Marie and Hugo shows a lovely young couple (Figure 10).



Figure 11: Marie Wintermantle.



Figure 12: The Hamfeldt Family, 1920.

The transition in name from “Hamfeld” to “Hamfeldt” became official sometime in the *fin d siècle* since the 1900 U.S. Federal Census, and all subsequent records, would use the spelling “Hamfeldt.” From this census we learn that Hugo and Marie have thus far had five children, ranging in age from Marie, age seven, to Margrete, age four months. A family visit to Germany in 1904 finds a sixth child, Elisabeth, born in 1902.

The move from Wisconsin to Ohio would bring to bear the major life change for our now 28-year-old German-born, Lutheran minister and his family, for as *Our History of Saint Lucas Lutheran Church in Toledo, Ohio* would so poignantly phrase it:

“The congregation, under the Holy Spirit’s guidance, issued a letter of call to Pastor Hugo Hamfeldt of St. John’s Lutheran Church in Reedsville, Wisconsin. He began his call on July 21, 1895. A photo of young Pastor Hamfeldt shows him maturing quite nicely. Hugo Hamfeldt, more than any other pastor in the storied 125 year history of St. Lucas, left a lasting legacy and imprint. During Pastor Hamfeldt’s 42 year ministry, the people of St. Lucas defined themselves as a community of faith that would adapt and take spiritual risks for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ.”⁴

By 1920, the Hamfeldt family had been in Toledo for 25 years. Of the children, daughter Marie, who alerted us to the family name as previously mentioned, was now Marie Wintermantle (Figure 11); only son Hugo was 26 years old and a pharmacist; and, sister Elizabeth, was 17 and a stenographer (Figure 12). Yes, our German immigrants had created a new first generation of Americans. For the parents, it would also be a time of learning and change.

The 50th Jubilee history notes of the Saint Lucas Church relate that in 1911 the new church building



Figure 13: Saint Lucas Church, Toledo, Ohio.

(Figure 13) was dedicated and Pastor Hamfeldt, during the festival of dedication, preached his first sermon in English in this previously exclusively German-speaking congregation.

The dedication ceremony would include receipt of a letter from the German consulate in Cincinnati, Ohio (Figure 14) indicating that Saint Lucas Church was being presented an altar bible from Kaiser Wilhelm. The letter included Kaiser Wilhelm’s signed presentation note (Figure 15) with his handwritten note in German, then with an English printed translation below:

*Watch and pray so that you may not be tempted
The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak
Mark 14, 38
Wilhelm (Kaiser)*



Figures 14: An envelope and letter from the German consulate in Cincinnati, Ohio, regarding the dedication ceremony of Saint Lucas' new church building.

Pastor Hamfeldt would continue as pastor of Saint Lucas throughout his mature years as is evident in a latter day photograph (Figure 16). He died in office on November 23, 1937 following a severe stroke the previous July.

Marie Hamfeldt, his wife of 40 years, had preceded him in death in 1932. Husband, wife and daughter Marie, rest for the ages in the family plot in Toledo Memorial Park.

The St. Lucas Lutheran Congregation, in memory and tribute to their beloved pastor would erect a monument on which is inscribed what Pastor Hamfeldt had stated was his "Guiding Star," Psalm 37:5. "Commit thy way unto the Lord. Trust also in Him and He shall bring it to pass" (Figure 17).

Now dear reader we bring to your attention the most remarkable subsequent discoveries that shed light on the nature of our cover and the sender and recipient of the communication.

Through the investigation of Reverend Hamfeldt's archives at St. Lucas Church, co-author Georgia Steele succeeded in making contact with family in Germany who were recipients of letters written by Reverend Hamfeldt over a decade in time during the 1920s.

These extensive communications were then made available to the authors, and were translated from German to English. After almost a century, among the communications were those dated around the weeks that our cover was sent to Pastor Enders.

Figure 18 is a November 15, 1920, communication to the recipient family detailing the food and clothing packets donated by members of the St. Lucas Church community, and food drafts from the American Relief Administration. Pastor Hamfeldt's warmth and compassion are quite apparent in comments made in a related November 30 letter.

Figures 19 is one of the poignant letters written by Pastor Gustav Stearns of Milwaukee, who had been

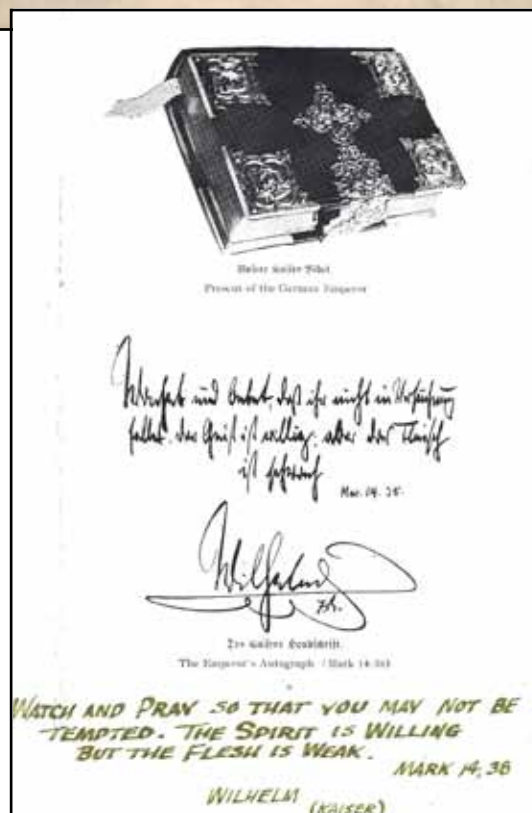
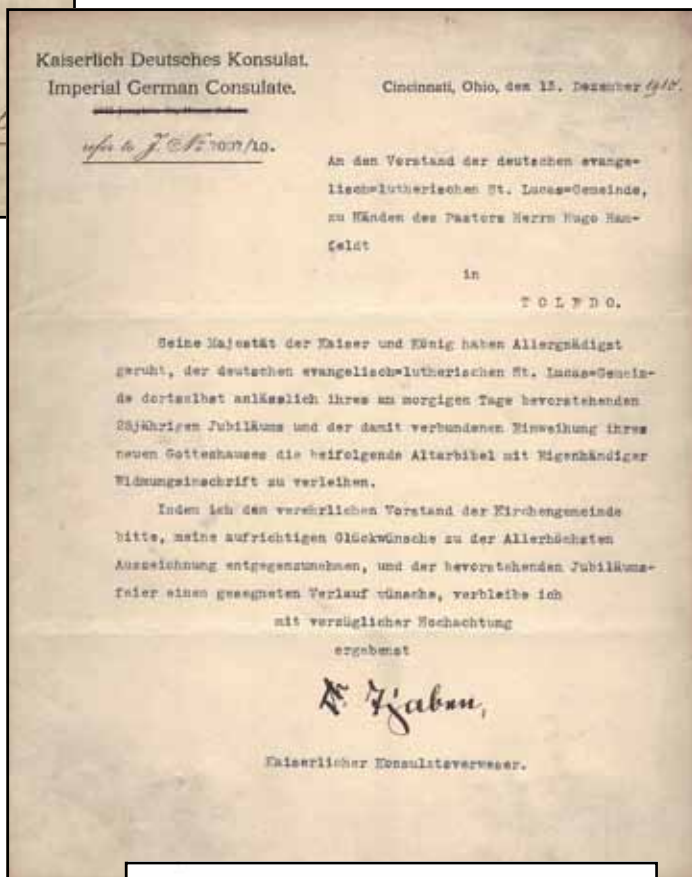


Figure 15: A letter signed by Kaiser Wilhelm II dedicating an alter bible in honor of the new Saint Lucas Church building at its 50th Jubilee year.

attached to the AEF in World War I. The letters had been forwarded to Pastor Hamfeldt for translation into German and then forwarded to the family of Karl Baer, a German soldier who was killed in the final major German offensive of World War I in June 1918.

One can appreciate the sensitivity of the clergyman in his perception of humanity overarching the visceral belligerents' confrontations. We include the original letter written by Reverend Hamfeldt accompanying his translations.

Figure 20 is a postcard sent by Karl Baer to his aunt a number of months prior to his death. In it he thanks her for a letter and money enclosure that he received a month after it had been originally posted. Figure 21 is a marvelous photograph of Karl and his younger sister Federike Caroline Baer.

A final communication from Reverend Hamfeldt is a letter written in 1929 to a Mrs. Ehrenfeld. Mrs. Ehrenfeld is Federike Caroline Baer, sister of Karl Baer. Federike had married into the Ehrenfeld family.

The contents shed light on the personal situation of our reverend. His growing family is detailed, and his "conversion" from a German-speaking congregation to a bilingual one is noted. Finally, reference is made to Pastor Enders, who has moved from Frankfurt am Main to Hamburg.

We have two concluding remarks to bring to your attention that we believe you will find most interesting. On researching our cover a bit further we noted that the return address for the Central Relief Committee was 223 Gardner Building. The Toledo City Directory for 1920 shows this to be a suite of offices of the Kranz Realty & Investment Co.

Peter J. Kranz was a native of Alsdorf, near Trier, Germany. He was a generous supporter of St. Peter and St. Paul Catholic Church, about a mile from Saint Lucas Church. We suspect that Pastor Hamfeldt met Kranz through a neighborhood church association in this heavily populated German community.

In a published biography of Kranz it states,

"...his love of art best finds expression in his magnificent collection of United States and foreign stamps. Comprising over fifty-five thousand specimens and representing more than forty-five years of activity as a collector. His collection is one of the most valuable and complete possessed by any individual in the middle west and one of the few private collections containing a complete set of



Figure 16: Reverend Hamfeldt in his later years.



Figure 17: Monument at Reverend Hamfeldt's grave site.

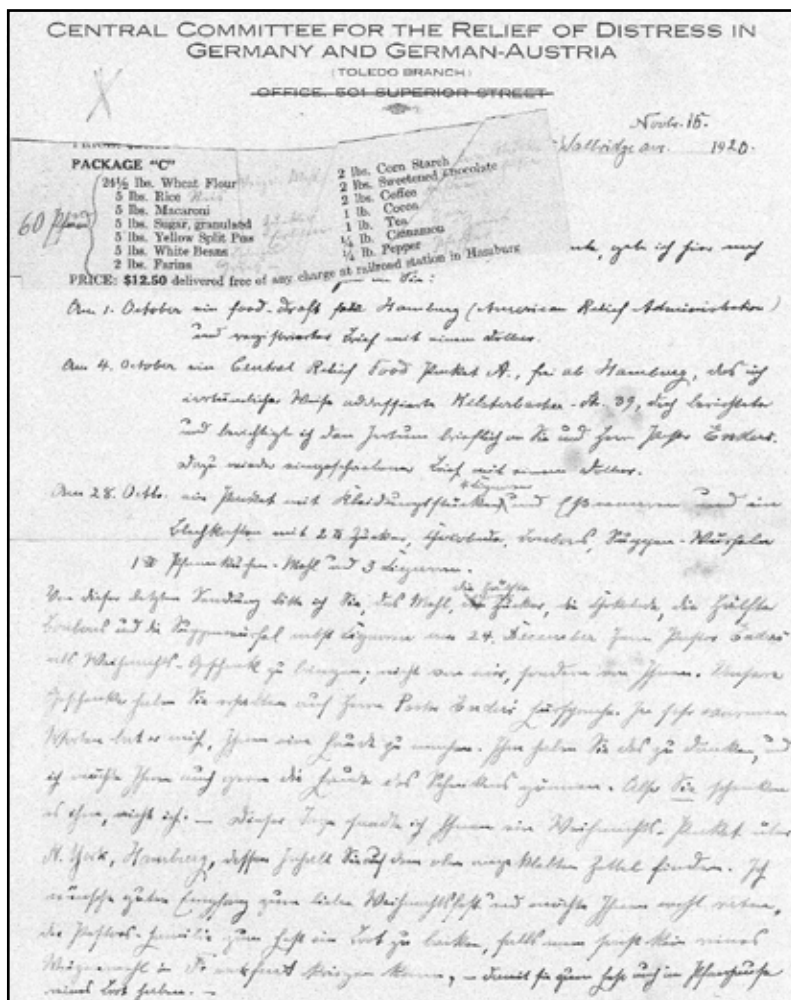


Figure 18: Original copy in German of communications to Germany from Reverend Hamfeldt in November 1920.

United States government postage and revenue stamps, envelopes and post cards. His collection of private proprietary stamps is also complete with the exception of a few practically unobtainable specimens. Since 1888, he has been a member of the American Philatelic Society and is numbered among the prominent philatelists of the county."

Well now, that is a delightful find, is it not?

Finally, we would like to shed at least a glow of light on the receiver of our cover, Pastor Carl Enders of Frankfurt am Main, Germany.

The years, wars, and distance, place extraordinary impediments on developing as full a picture as we would like, but we do believe we have at least been able to bring to life the receiver of Reverend Hamfeldt's communication. The letter to Pastor Enders was addressed to 39 Klosterbacher Strasse in Frankfurt am Main but, as we previously mentioned, there is no such street in that city.

Not to be dissuaded, we did find our pastor (*Pfarrer* in German) in the 1926 German phone directory for Frankfurt am Main (Figure 21): "Enders, Carl, evang. Pfarrer. Kelsterbacher Str, 39," followed by his phone number. Yes, that is the Pastor Enders on our cover. Pastor Enders could be found at that location again in 1928. And of additional note, Pastor Enders, at the turn of the 20th century, was one of the editors of the *International Theological Encyclopedia*.

We believe the *pièce de résistance* is found in the 1840 *City Directory for the Duchy of Nassau*, a previous German state in the Confederation of the Rhine (Figure 22) in which a Carl Christian Enders is listed as pastor of the community branch church for Dahlheim, located 60 miles west of Frankfurt am Main. No, we cannot state with any certainty that this is the father of our Carl Enders, but we certainly would like to think that the apple did not fall far from the tree. Mind you, just our hunch.

We conclude with the query we raised at the outset: a letter written by a Lutheran pastor in Toledo, Ohio, from an Orthodox Jewish relief organization to a Lutheran pastor in Germany—how strange indeed?

But hold on just one moment dear reader for we think there is a final clue yet to elicit. Twice in the *125th Anniversary History of the Saint Lucas Lutheran Church* written by its current spiritual leader, Pastor Martin Billmeier, reference is made to the taking of risks—"spiritual risks"—by Pastor Hamfeldt and by the congregation for the sake of the gospel.

It struck us almost as we read the words for the first time—of course there was no incongruity to a Christian minister communicating through a Jewish relief society to another Christian minister in Germany shortly after World War I. There was obviously a humanitarian need to fulfill; and, even without the

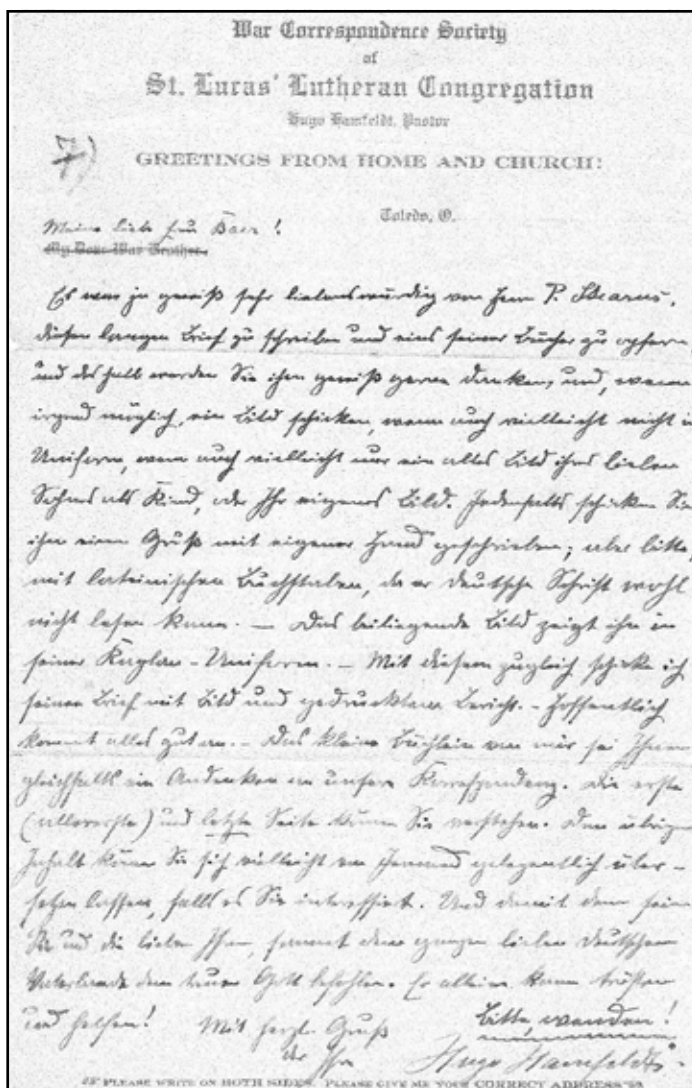


Figure 19: Original letter in German from Pastor Gustav Stearns to the family of a German soldier killed in battle.

details of the communication at our disposal, we have the strong suspicion that these men were in one manner or another aiding in alleviating suffering.

A "spiritual risk" may not be such a risk after all. For men of the cloth it is simply the thing to do, is it not? Yes, we believe it is.

Acknowledgement

We wish to acknowledge the invaluable assistance of Mrs. Margarete Druschel of Frankfurt am Main, Germany, who made available the Hamfeldt letters and the portrait of Karl Baer and his sister Frederike.

Endnotes

1. Jesse I. Spector and Robert L. Markovits, Addressee an "American Dreyfus." *Postal History Journal*, October 2011, 150, pp. 10-13.
2. M.E. Krug, *History of Reedsburg and the Upper Baraboo Valley*, Madison, Wisconsin: Democrat Printing Company, 1929, pp. 185-249.
3. *Report of Committee on President's Report*. Minutes of the Sixty-fifth

Snapshots

The "Snapshots" column features photographs of interest to postal historians. *La Posta* readers with interesting or historical photographs should send a 300 dpi or better scan, or a sharp color or black and white photocopy, plus a photo caption to: *La Posta* Snapshots, POB 6074, Fredericksburg, VA 22403; E-mail, pmartin2525@yahoo.com. Be sure to include your name and address.



The First Airmail Postal Card

This 1949 United Air Lines press photo featured United Stewardess Betty Scheiner displaying the airmail postal card (Scott UXC1), "the newest form of fast communication." As United reported, "The new 4-cent card, available at postoffices throughout the country January 10, will give John Q. Public the opportunity to tell his friends via air, 'Wish you were here.'" The last airmail postal card (Scott UXC28) was issued in 2001.



United States Post Offices, Volumes 1 through 8 **Compiled by Richard W. Helbock**

The *United States Post Offices* series is the first complete listing of all of the United States post offices that have ever operated in the nation. The listings are based on the U.S. Post Office Department's "Records of Appointments of Postmasters," but contains data that has been refined by numerous postal historians who have published listings of the post offices that operated in individual states.

United States Post Offices is a single set of CDs that contain the name, county and state location, dates of operation, and scarcity index value for each and every independent post office to have operated in the nation. Hard-to-find historic maps show early county boundaries, and post office listings are presented both in PDF and Excel spreadsheet format, making them readily searchable and sortable.

This remarkable series was researched and written over a period of 14 years, commencing in 1993 with Volume 1- The West, and concluding in 2007 with Volume 8 – The Southeast. Originally published as books by La Posta Publications, they are available now only on CD or by direct download. The late Richard W. Helbock published *La Posta: A Journal of American Postal History*, for 42 years, and conducted nearly 100 auctions of American postal history.

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Figure 1: The triple-tiered floors of Europhilex 2015.



Confederate Stamp Alliance Celebrates 80th Anniversary at Europhilex 2015 in London

By Patricia A. Kaufmann

The Confederate Stamp Alliance, established in 1935, celebrated its 80th anniversary by holding its first ever annual convention outside of the United States. The Alliance met at Europhilex 2015, the international show held in London in May. Europhilex was celebrating the 175th anniversary of postage stamps. The world's first adhesive postage stamp was the legendary Penny Black, issued in Britain on 1 May 1840.

Also celebrated were the 125th anniversary of the first London Stamp Exhibition and the 150th anniversary of the first Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue. This was a major year for philatelic anniversaries.

CSA trustee John Walker, a British collector who specializes in Confederate patriotic covers, first brought up the idea of the CSA meeting in London. Who better to organize such an event for the CSA than a Brit with connections on both sides of the Atlantic. The idea quickly took hold and the CSA became a financial sponsor of the show and took a double booth in which were displayed an impressive 18 Confederate exhibits.

The CSA has always had a bountiful number of specialized awards at annual conventions, including those for research, writing, service and a wide variety of exhibit awards. The most coveted exhibit award is the CSA Trophy for the best and most comprehensive exhibit of Confederate stamps or covers. It is akin to a

Grand Award but may only be won once in every five years. This year the honor went to Deane R. Briggs for his exhibit of "Florida Confederate Postal History." Briggs also won a gold in international competition.

The CSA exhibits awards were given out at the annual Southern Supper. CSA judges (not Europhilex judges) for this show were Chief Judge Trish Kaufmann, Frank Crown and Schuyler Rumsey.

John Walker arranged for two wonderful philatelic tours for Alliance members during their stay in London. The first tour was to the British Library where Paul Skinner, head curator of philatelic collections, gave members a tour that began with the viewing of the Perkins-Bacon printing press, which was used to produce the Penny Black. There are many great philatelic rarities held at the library.

The initial philatelic viewing was followed by a private showing of the Confederate portion of the renowned Tapling Collection and the De La Rue die of CSA Scott 6, the five-cent blue typograph issue.

The other scheduled philatelic tour was to the Royal Philatelic Society London where the Alliance held their annual trustees' meeting. Members had an opportunity to view library holdings as well as private collections housed there.

There was little down time due to the packed philatelic schedule, but most everyone had a chance to take in some of the attractions such as the British Museum, the Tower of London, the London Eye, Big



Figure 2: The Confederate Stamp Alliance booth on the mezzanine.

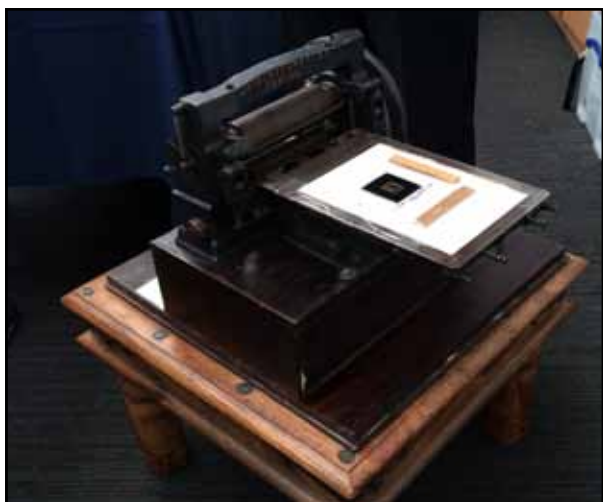


Figure 3: The printing press of Jean de Sperati, the scandalous philatelic forger; it was on display at Europhilex in a special RPSL booth with printing demonstrations and explanations.



Figure 4: Paul Skinner speaks to CSA members at the Perkins-Bacon press that printed the first postage stamps in the world, the British Penny Black.



Figure 5: The De La Rue proof die, which was made for CSA Scott 6, the five-cent typograph issue.



Figure 6: Author Trish Kaufmann poses by Tower Bridge in rainy London.



Figure 7: The CSA dinner table at the Royal President's Dinner.

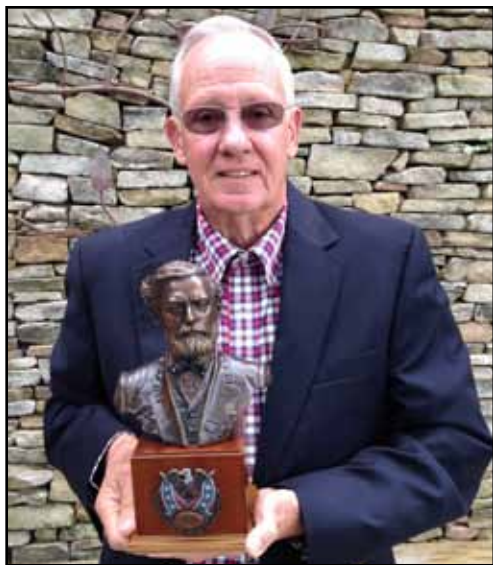


Figure 8: Deane R. Briggs holding the impressive CSA Trophy for his exhibit of Florida Confederate States Postal History. Briggs also won a gold in international open competition.



Figure 9: London CSA host John Walker with his Confederate Patriotic exhibit, winner of the John W. Kaufmann Memorial Award for the best exhibit of Confederate Patriotic covers.



Figure 10: CSA Secretary Larry Baum with his exhibit of Confederate advertising covers that won the Siegel Award.

Ben and other famous places. There was also plenty of camaraderie in the evenings at various English pubs and fine eating establishments, most within a short walk or a tube ride away.

The annual CSA membership meeting was held on Friday followed by four presentations:

1. "The Postmaster Provisionals of the Confederate States" by Francis J. Crown Jr.
2. "Civil War Prize Court Mail" by Patricia A. Kaufmann;
3. "The De La Rue Stamps of the Confederacy" by John L. Kimbrough
4. "The Bryant-Stephens Correspondence from Florida" by Deane R. Briggs

Presentations were well attended by both members and exhibition visitors. A wine and snack reception followed for CSA members and members of the Royal Philatelic Society London, who organized the exhibition.

For a number of the CSA members, some of whom are also members or fellows of the Royal Philatelic Society London, the black tie President's Dinner on Friday night was the highlight of the trip. It was held in the historic London Guildhall in Livery Hall after the palmares. Dinner and libations were outstanding and the entertainment was wonderful.

A young opera star regaled us with "Die Taubenpost" (The Pigeon Post), written in 1828 by Franz Schubert; "The Penny Post Act," a comic song written around 1840; "The Stamp Collector's Song," written in London in 1886; and "Hurrah for the Postman, The Great Rowland Hill," published as a broadside in Leith, Scotland circa 1837-40. The songs were amusing, appropriate, beautifully presented and enthusiastically received.

CSA members had a wonderful time in London and European members had the uncommon opportunity to easily attend an official Confederate Stamp Alliance event on a grand scale.

Members from Great Britain, Sweden, Holland and Germany attended and some from other countries were recruited as new members at the CSA booth. It was a memorable event.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to CSA members Deane Briggs, John Kimbrough, Tom Lera, Rich Murphy and P.E. Holland Photographic Services, the official photographers for the Royal Philatelic Society London President's Dinner, who added their photos to mine for this feature.

(Patricia (Trish) Kaufmann is a fulltime dealer specializing solely in Confederate States stamps and postal history. She began collecting in the mid 1960s and has been a professional philatelist since 1973. E-mail: trishkauf@comcast.net)

A Rare Cover to Yellowstone National Park

By Peter Martin

While mail sent from, and postmarked in, the U.S. national parks, especially Yellowstone and Yosemite, is fairly common, the same cannot be said for mail addressed to, and received in, the national parks. That type of mail is rare, even for the biggest parks. On occasion, this incoming correspondence includes rare postal markings.

Such is the case with the cover shown at right. On its face, it appears to be an ordinary letter mailed by a Denver man to his wife, care of general delivery at Yellowstone National Park. It was mailed with a three-cent Constitution Ratification commemorative stamp (Scott 835) and machine cancelled July 14, 1938, at the Denver Post Office.

Although sent by regular mail, the letter arrived at Yellowstone two days later and was backstamped with a rare "Yellowstone Park, Wyo. (Rec'd)" postmark in red ink.

To add interest, apparently Mrs. Bennet didn't claim her letter during the subsequent two weeks and it received a boxed "Return to Writer" marking on the front and a crisp July 28 Yellowstone Park machine cancel on the reverse to send it back to the writer.

The destination and the combination of markings makes this ordinary cover an extraordinary one.



Bob Emrick's 2014 Top Cachet

By Peter Martin

Each year, the American First Day Cover Society holds a cachetmaker contest with nearly 20 categories. From among these category winners, the jury selects one as the Top Cachet.

For 2014, that winner was Bob Emrick of Heath, Texas. His cachet for the Vintage Circus Posters stamps won the Handdrawn/Handpainted category and the Top Cachet award for 2014.

Emrick, who started as a cachetmaker in 2005, is one of the few artists who still produces limited-edition handpainted cachets and his work is in great demand. His Emrick Cachets studio also recently started offering a nonhandpainted "EmSketch" line.



Postal History at the American Philatelic Research Library: Government Documents

By Tara E. Murray
APRL Librarian

During my two-day research course at the APS Summer Seminar in June, I invited Barb Rehkop, a librarian recently retired from Washington University in St. Louis and wife of APS member T.G. Rehkop, to give my students an introduction to government documents.

In the United States, the term “government document” refers to a publication of the federal government, although the American Philatelic Research Library’s collection also includes publications of other governments.

Why are these documents useful to postal historians?

The bulk of the APRL’s government documents collection was issued by the U.S. Post Office Department or the U.S. Postal Service. These documents reveal information about post offices and postmasters, postal rates, postal routes, postal services, and announcements such as wartime service interruptions and new stamp issues.

The collection also includes Universal Postal Union conventions and treaties, and government publications of Canada, Great Britain, Germany, France, and other countries.

Most of the U.S. documents not produced by the POD or USPS are part of what is known as the United States Congressional Serial Set, or more commonly, the Serial Set. These are documents and reports produced by Congress on a variety of topics.

For example, one set of shelves in the APRL is devoted to *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, published in 30 volumes from 1880–1921. Three more shelves hold reports related to the Panama Canal.

Here is a sampling of frequently consulted government documents from the APRL collection:

Annual Report of the Postmaster General

These reports contain statistics and information about postage stamp issues, dead letters, registered mail, post offices, money orders, transportation contracts, and postal conventions. The APRL’s collection spans from the mid-19th to the early 21st century.

Postal Bulletin

The *Postal Bulletin* (earlier titled *The Daily Bulletin of Orders Affecting the Postal Service*) was first

The *Postal Bulletin* through the years.



Postal Bulletin 1898



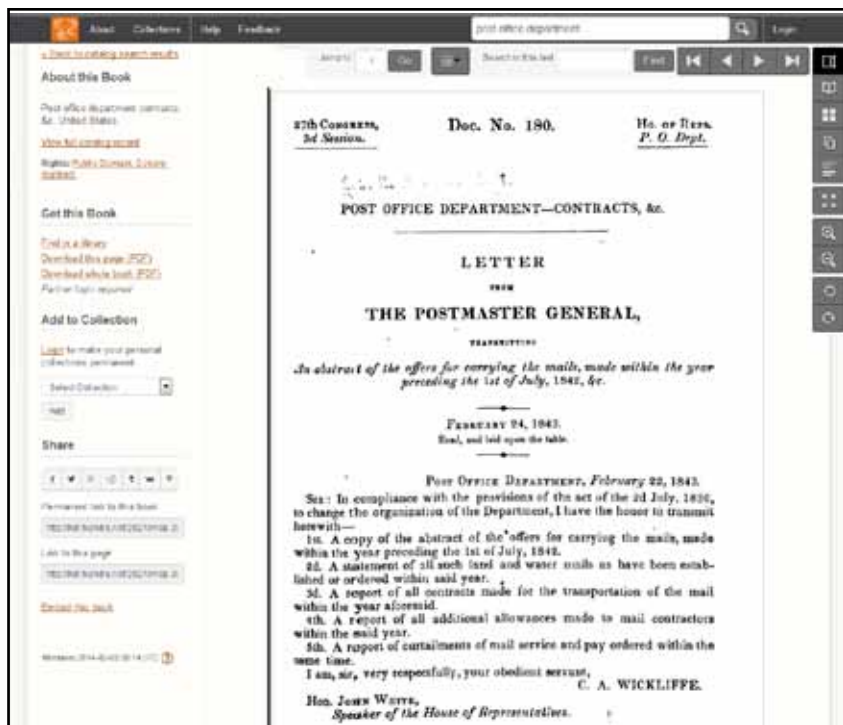
Postal Bulletin 1944



Left:
Postal Bulletin 2007

Below:
Postal Bulletin Online





Post Office Department contracts, 1843, part of the Serial Set and available online from the Hathi Trust.

published by the POD in March 1880 and continues to be published by the USPS. It contains details of POD operations, policies, locations, and services. The APRL has a collection of bound *Postal Bulletins*, but it has been digitized and is now available on a site hosted by the APRL at www.uspostalbulletins.com. The site features a powerful search engine that enables a researcher to retrieve a specific issue or search on a keyword.

Postal Guide

Similar to the *Postal Bulletin*, the *United States Official Postal Guide* contains information about postal operations and services, but compiled on an annual basis. Notable in the guide are lists of post offices alphabetically and by states and counties.

Postal Laws and Regulations

Published from 1794 to 1948, these volumes contain laws and regulations governing the POD. These have also been digitized and are accessible and searchable at www.uspostalbulletins.com.

In addition to the digitized *Postal Bulletins* and *Postal Laws and Regulations*, many other government documents relevant to postal history research can be found online. U.S. federal government publications are free from copyright and therefore can be digitized

and made available. The APRL has made several editions of the *List of Post Offices* and *List of Money Order Offices* available online through the *Philatelic Union Catalog* (<http://catalog.stamplibary.org>), and provides links to digital documents available from other sources.

Many other documents are included in collections scanned by the Google Books project. Some can be accessed through Google at <http://books.google.com>, but the Hathi Trust, a partnership of research institutions and libraries, provides better search access at www.hathitrust.com.

The APRL

The APRL has one of the world's largest and most accessible collections of philatelic literature. Members of the APRL and the American Philatelic Society may borrow materials directly through the mail and others may access the collections through interlibrary loan. The APRL is open to the public and scholars are welcome to take advantage of photocopy and scanning services or do research on site.

For more information, visit the APRL on the web at www.stamplibary.org, call (814) 933-3803 and select option 3 for the library, or email aprl@stamps.org.



Postcard Pursuit

By Charles A. Fricke

Postkarte or Postcard?

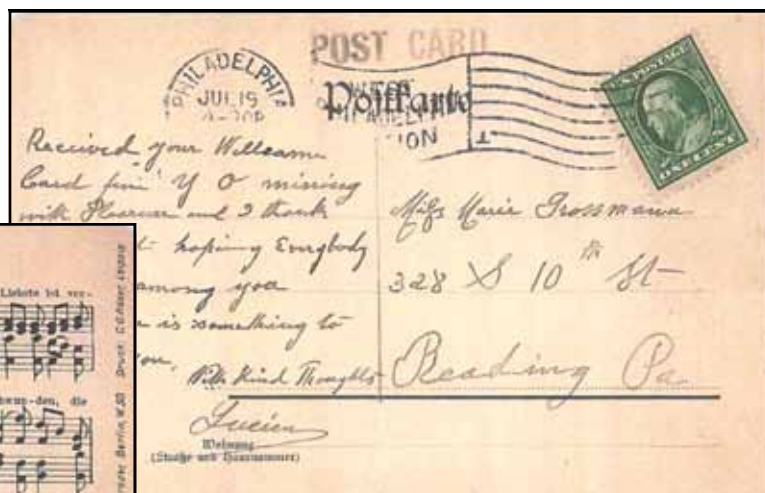


Figure 1 (Above): The handstamped inscription “POST CARD” appears over the faint inscription “POSTKARTE.”

Figure 2 (Left): The front of the German card has a song in German, together with a young man sitting beside a mill with a waterwheel.

Although probably not necessary, the handstamped inscription “POST CARD” appears over the faint inscription “POSTKARTE” in Figure 1.

The postcard, addressed to Reading, Pennsylvania, was mailed with a one-cent Franklin (Scott 300), postmarked Philadelphia, July 19, (19xx), with a West Philadelphia Station flag cancel.

The message on the left refers to, “to Play for you.” It reads:

Received your Willeams card from Y O Missing (note the unique spelling of Wyomissing) with pleasure and I thank you for it. Hoping everybody is well among you Marie! Here is something to Play for you,

*With Kind Thoughts
Lucien*

The other side of the postcard, shown in Figure 2, identifies the “to Play for you” reference. It has a song in German with music and words, together with a scene showing a young man in a spring setting beside a mill with a waterwheel.

At the bottom is “Gruss aus” (Greeting from) and a manuscript “Phila. Pa.,” indicating it really is a German *postkarte*. The card was produced by a Berlin company and printed in Leipzig.

The seller of the cards probably had them handstamped “POST CARD” in English to be sure that they passed United States postal regulations.

While the postcard is unusual for picturing a song, the only reference to postal history is the addition of the handstamped “POST CARD.”

But here the matter becomes a bit fuzzy. On December 24, 1901, the Post Office Department specified that the inscription on privately produced postcards no longer needed to carry “PRIVATE MAILING CARD” with the additional requirements but instead could simply be “POST CARD.”

So, it would seem like the addition of “POSTCARD” was required as the inscription “POSTKARTE” would not be acceptable. This held true until 1907, when even “POST CARD” was no longer a requirement.

Without a date for reference, one might assume that the singing postcard originated in Germany, where you could write a message on the left side of the address side. That could mean that the postcard was published prior to 1907.

But, with the dividing line for a message on the left side, it would indicate that it was mailed in the United States after March 1, 1907. Coupled with the fact that the one-cent stamp was first issued in 1908, we can be assured that the card was mailed later than 1907.

All of which does not explain why “POST CARD” was added on the singing “POSTKARTE” from Germany in the first place.

(Charles A. Fricke, the 1981 American Philatelic Society Luffaward recipient for distinguished philatelic research and a longtime postal card specialist, lives in Jenkintown, Pa.)

Publishers, editors and authors who would like to have books considered for this column may submit review copies to: Editor, *La Posta*, POB 6074, Fredericksburg, VA 22403.

Arrow Philately: The FAM 22 Debate Explicated

Arrow Philately: The FAM 22 Debate Explicated by Ken Lawrence. [Spring Mills, Pa.], The author, 2015. Saddlestitched, 8.25 x 10.75 inches, 36pp., color illus.

Available for \$15 postpaid in the United States, \$18 worldwide, from: Ken Lawrence, POB 98 Spring Mills, Pa, 16875; E-mail apsken@aol.com

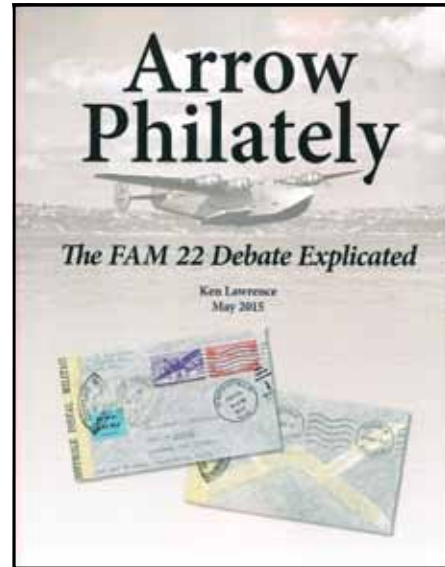
When reviewing *Arrow Philately: The FAM 22 Debate Explicated* by Ken Lawrence, one must first determine what this 36-page document really is. It has the elements of a monograph, a research paper and a white paper, but the best description is probably that it is a position paper.

The subject is Foreign Air Mail (FAM) Route 22, the trans-Atlantic route from Miami to Africa and Asia during World War II. It was the longest route in the world and some also consider it the most important of the FAMs.

Lawrence uses this self-published document to be the protagonist and put forth his strong views about the FAM 22 debate. The title, "Arrow Philately," is likely intended to be a take-off of aerophilately, but undoubtedly it also refers to the slings and arrows tossed about by the major players in this saga, which could easily make an episode for a reality TV show.

Lawrence has shown previously that he is not afraid to broach controversial issues or established wisdom when he feels that he has the evidence to support his theory. He also is an excellent researcher who considers the FAM 22 subject to be one of his areas of specialization and he defends his position like a pit bull. He bares his teeth, bites down hard and does not let go.

Based upon his research in previously restricted and unpublished government, academic and corporate archives, along with an analysis of international airmail from 1941 to 1945, Lawrence deconstructs and refutes a series of articles published in major philatelic journals since 2008.



He includes e-mail correspondence between himself, the former editor of the *American Philatelist*, and the major antagonists, principally Robert Wilcsek and John Wilson, exchanges that become increasingly bitter.

Lawrence regards attempts by specialists to diminish the significance of FAM 22 as an irresponsible approach to postal history and he attempts to offer an affirmative case for the significance of FAM 22 with the inclusion of more than two dozen color covers.

Airmail specialists will get a much better appreciation for the ongoing FAM 22 debate by reading the full 25,000 word essay.

The production aspects are above average with high quality paper and illustrations, although my copy was misaligned slightly by the printer.

With *Arrow Philately: The FAM 22 Debate Explicated*, Lawrence has thrown down the gauntlet. He has laid out his case and, unless his opponents take the time and effort to respond, it appears that he may have provided the last word on the subject.

Peter Martin

**Submit books for review to:
La Posta Editor, POB 6074
Fredericksburg, VA 22403**

United States Post Offices

This column features United States post office photographs from the collection of the Post Mark Collectors Club's Margie Phund Memorial Postmark Museum and Research Library, which is located in the historic Lyme Village near Bellevue, Ohio. The museum has more than two million postmarks from all over America and a photograph collection of more than 50,000 United States post offices. Both are the largest collections in the world. Information about PMCC, the museum and more post office views are available at www.postmarks.org.

Rhode Island Post Offices

By Steve Bahnsen

These photographs are from Rhode Island post offices. A number of people took these pictures over the years. The PMCC museum has 170 photos from America's smallest state. Rhode Island has but five counties. The views range from a 1950 black and white photo to 2014 color digital pictures.



Chepachet Post Office
Providence Co., 2007



Adamsville Post Office
Newport Co., 2006



Below:
Hopkinton Post Office
Washington Co., 2009



Pawtucket Post Office, Darlington Sx
Providence Co., 2004



Wyoming Post Office
Washington Co., 2004



Block Island Post Office, Newport Co., 2009



East Greenwich Post Office, Kent Co., 1974



Carolina Post Office, Washington Co., 2009



West Kingston Post Office, Washington Co., 2006



**Wood River Junction Post Office
Washington Co., 2009**



**Slatersville
Post Office
Providence Co.
2007**



Slocum Post Office, Washington Co., 2009

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Saunderstown Post Office, Washington Co., 2004



Harmony Post Office, Providence Co., 1998



Newport Post Office, Newport Co., 2004



Wakefield Post Office, Washington Co., 1987



Centredale Post Office, Providence Co., 2009

La Posta welcomes reader letters about journal content or anything related to a postal history topic. Send your comments to: Peter Martin, Editor, *La Posta*, POB 6074, Fredericksburg, VA 22403, or e-mail pmartin2525@yahoo.com.

San Diego Expo Navy Postmarks are Rare

I was reading “Play It Again, San Diego The 1935 California Pacific International Exposition” in the Second Quarter 2015 *La Posta* and Mr. Neyhart’s story mentioned the U.S. Navy ship postal cancels. I saw he mentioned both the cataloging by the Universal Ship Cancellation Society with cancel descriptions by Francis Locy and cataloging by *Postal Markings Of United States Expositions* by William J. Bomar.

The values commented on by Neyhart were those published in the USCS catalog, i.e.: A=common, etc. They don’t take into account where and when the postmark was applied as does Bomar’s book.

The exposition catalog by Bomar does provide the values for U.S. Navy cancels applied in conjunction with expositions. Neyart’s story describes a cancel applied by a postal clerk aboard the USS *Richmond* (CL 9) on February 12, 1936, (1ST DAY/EXPOSITION) with an “A” common value. The Bomar catalog doesn’t list that cancel and if it was listed the value would be \$30. I also have a cover that matches the one displayed in Mr. Neyhart’s story.

Bomar states in his book that most postal cancels from any of the Navy vessels during the exhibition were scarce with about 50 specimens existing. Those covers with exposition cachets are scarcer, with a premium applied to value. Those cancels applied during 1935 have a value of \$20 in Bomar’s book.

Personally, I have a few covers with cachets for the exposition and complimentary slogans in the cancel that aren’t listed in my 1996 version of Bomar’s book.

I enjoyed reading Neyhart’s article concerning the California-Pacific Exposition, particularly U.S. Navy post office cancels.

Bill Nix
Underwood, Wash.

A Follow-Up to Resurrecting William Thompson

Subsequent to our publishing the article, “Resurrecting William Thompson: Lunatic Asylums in the Western World” (First Quarter 2015, pp. 34-43), it was brought to our attention by Biochemist Robert Adler that leather tanning with various toxic materials, including hexavalent chromium, may have resulted in this shoemaker’s severe mental illness at a relatively young age.

Thompson was first noted to suffer from mental illness at age 20, subsequently requiring institutionalization in an asylum, with death ensuing at

age 27. His medical record includes the statement that his illness is, “supposed to be hereditary.”

On researching the subject of neurological disorders in leather tanners and shoemakers, it is apparent that a variety of solvents used in the processing of leather can result in critical health issues, including the development in children of various neurological disorders associated with exposure to chrome salts.

In the case of William Thompson, however, his mental illness antedated the known use of chromates, which dates to 1878, when invented and patented by Professor Christian Heinzerling at Frankfurt am Main, Germany.¹

The process was not instituted in England until 1880 when initiated at the Eglinton Chemical Company.²

Prior to the invention of chromium tanning using either chromium sulfate or hexavalent chromium, tanning was a laborious process requiring days to weeks of preparation by the vegetable-tanning method. The latter process was beneficial, however, in not using toxic solvents, rather, requiring naturally produced tannins obtained from tree bark.

While William Thompson’s medical record included the statement that his mental illness was “supposedly” hereditary, this supposition would likely find great skepticism when held to modern medical scrutiny.

Robert Adler did bring up the interesting possibility that since many trades were passed on from father to son, if William’s father had also been a shoemaker, perhaps the “hereditary” mental illness mentioned might actually have been exposure to toxic solvents by both individuals.

Nevertheless, the timeframe related to the invention of chromate tanning in the 19th century would suggest otherwise, since William’s mental illness and institutionalization in 1850 antedated the use of chromates in leatherwork in England.

These are interesting thoughts in any case, stretching the mind of the postal historian to dig ever deeper into the material under investigation.

Jesse Spector, Lenox, Mass.
Robert Markovits, Stockbridge, Mass.

1 “Leather Tanning Methods,” *Scientific American*, October 11, 1879, p. 234.

2 “Leather Tanning in England,” *The Journal of the Society of Chemistry*, December 29, 1884, p. 616.

Closed Album

Julian Pugh 1938-2015

Julian Franklin Pugh, Conroe, Texas, one of the top cachetmakers of the 20th century, passed away July 3 at age 76. He had been battling Alzheimer's for some time.

He and his wife Sharon operated Pugh Cachets. The firm was easily recognized by its skunk logo.

Pugh was born September 22, 1938, and as a youngster he collected coins, stamps, and first day covers. In the 1970s he decided to sell his coins and stamps and focus on FDCs.

He contacted cachetmaker Lois Hamilton who became his mentor. As he developed his artwork in the cachet field under Hamilton's tutelage, he realized that he could turn his hobby into a business. In 1980, Pugh joined the American First Day Cover Society and in 1982 he attended his first first-day ceremony, in Houston for the gliders airmail postal card. He began networking with other cachetmakers and soon started preparing informative stuffers to enclose in his FDCs.

He assumed an active role in the AFDCS, helping to establish the Gulf Coast Chapter and serving as chapter coordinator and auction chairman. He served



on the AFDCS board of directors from 1992 to 2009 and as membership chairman and an executive committee member from 2002 to 2008.

Pugh was a frequent winner in the annual cachetmakers contest. In 1995, Pugh received the Glenn C. Michel Special Recognition award. In 2009 he was honored with the Distinguished Service Award for his endless support of the AFDCS and the hobby.

Pugh exhibited his leadership qualities in high school where he was president of student council, president of the debating club, and editor in chief of the yearbook. He became a top salesman and then vice president of sales for the homebuilding firm, Superior Homes.

Despite his time-consuming vocation and hobby, Pugh found time to be a youth minister to teens, a volunteer sports announcer for summer swim league teams and, later serving as a mentor to recovering drug and alcohol addicts.

Shawna Pugh-Altieri continues to run the family business of Pugh Cachets

Alan Warren

In The News

NPM Sharing Secrets from Around the World

The Smithsonian's National Postal Museum opened "PostSecret: The Power of a Postcard" on August 3. The exhibition offers a contemporary narrative of mail and the postal service, highlighting the aesthetics of postcards and the juxtaposition between anonymity and shared experiences. It will also reveal the unique relationship between mail, digital technology and social media. The exhibition will remain open through September 2016.

More than 500 artfully decorated postcards mailed anonymously from around the world reveal regret, fear, betrayal, desire, confession, childhood humiliation and other compelling confessions. From taboos to confessions of hidden acts of kindness and shocking habits and fears, the display shares deep secrets by individuals seeking a safe and anonymous space to share untold stories. A pyramid of more than one-quarter million stacked cards is also on display,



representing the magnitude and popularity of sharing secrets via postcards.

The exhibition highlights PostSecret, an ongoing community mail art project that encourages people to mail homemade postcards with anonymous secrets to founder Frank Warren. Since 2004, Warren has collected the postcards, posted a weekly rotation of postcards on the PostSecret website and published six books of postcard collections. It began when Warren handed out postcards to strangers less than a mile from the National Postal Museum and left them in public places—asking people to share a secret. He made two requests: The secret had to be absolutely true, and it had to be a secret never shared before.

Now, more than a decade later, Warren has received more than 500,000 postcards, and the PostSecret blog has had more than 700 million visits.

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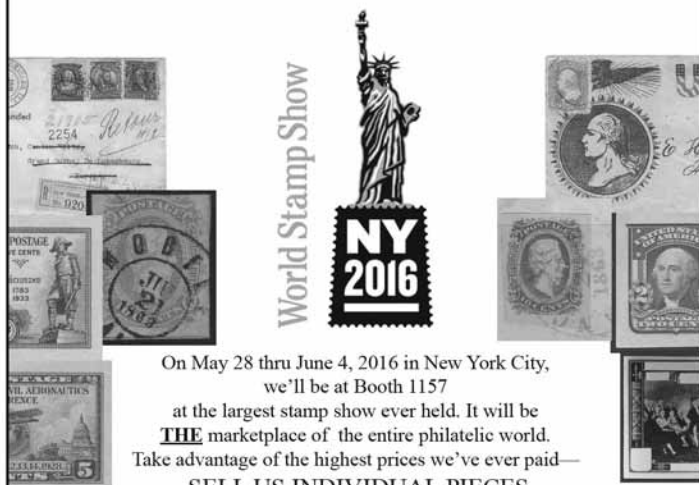
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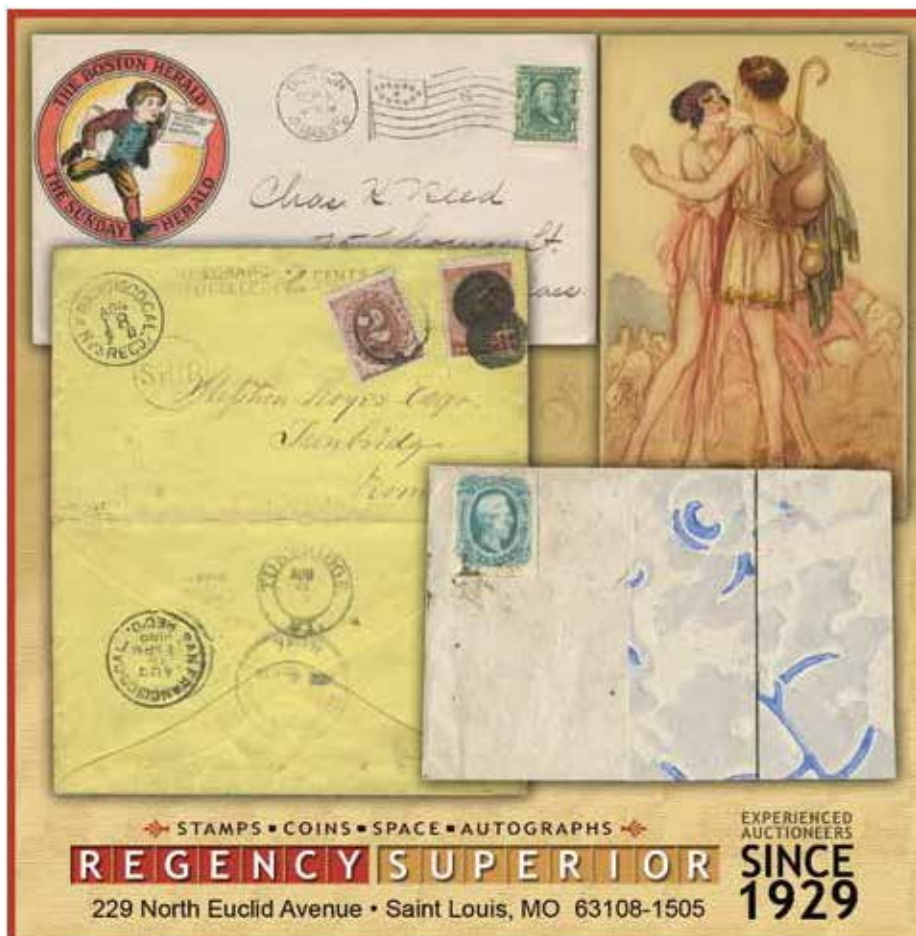
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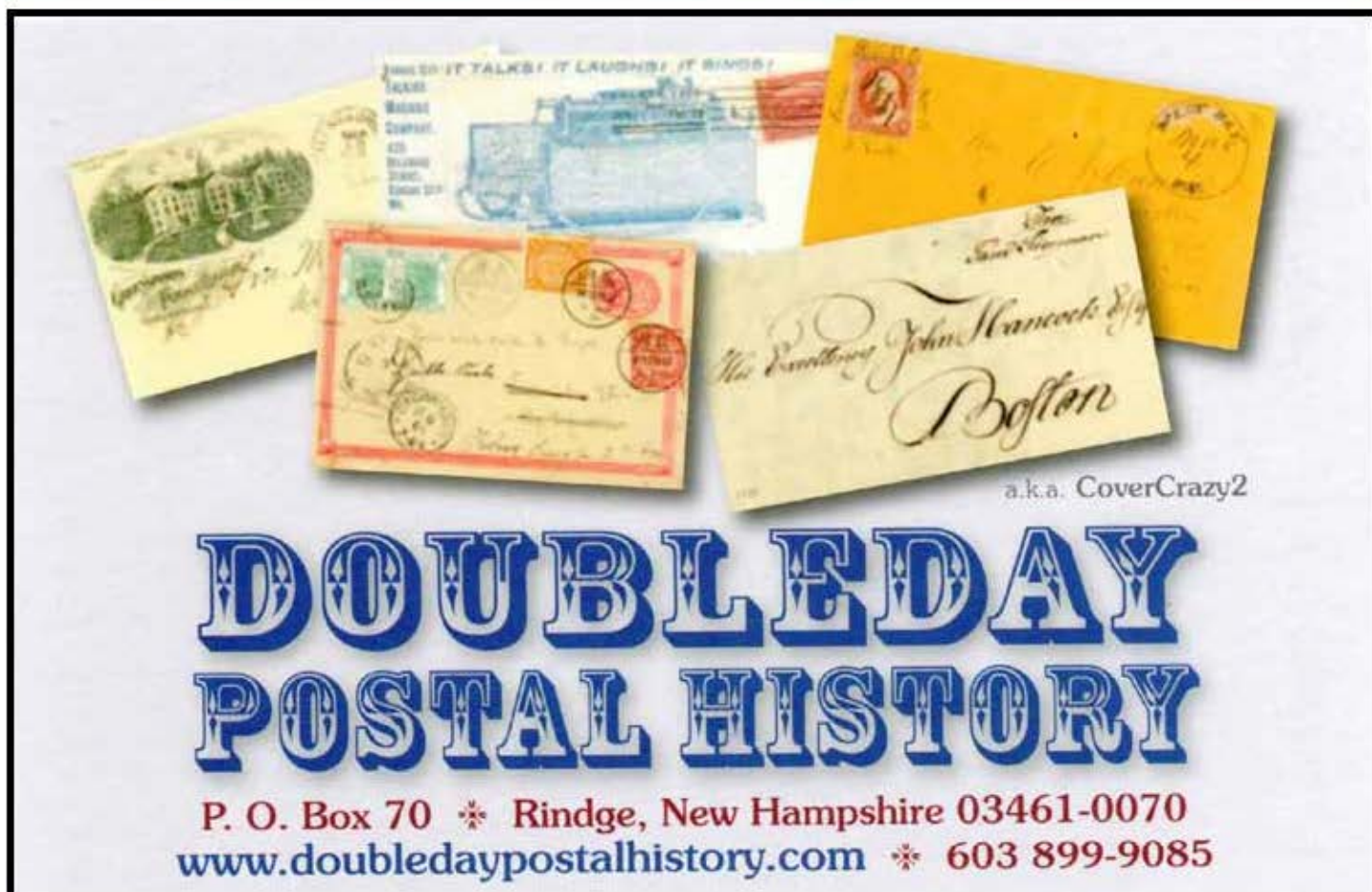
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