



# Cancellation Club NEWS

VOL. 5 - NO. 6 - WHOLE NO. 49

NOVEMBER - 1960



Whitfield  
1321

FROM THE COVER COLLECTION OF DR. deWASSERMAN, See Page 50

## THE U S CANCELLATION CLUB NEWS

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C. D. Root, 855 Cove Way, Denver 9, Colorado

## LIBRARY

After several months of work Mrs. Boyarsky, (#478) has completed the job of overhauling the #1 item in our library, the STAMPS Magazine articles on Cancellations. They have now been put into one volume, a fine appearing and strong loose leaf binder. We believe this is complete except for 5 illustrations to which STAMPS had assigned Numbers XXIX W 51, 52, 53, 54, 55. These are letter W Cancellations. We still hope some member will be able to supply them. This book is available to members on request, shipping weight 13 pounds.

## 1961 DUES

To this issue of the NEWS is attached a notice for 1961 Dues. Although our fiscal year does not start until Jan. 1, payment of dues for 1961 now will be a big help to your Secretary. We make a serious effort to economize in our day to day operations. Including this notice with an issue of the NEWS is just one small economy. Prompt payment will effect further savings. Please do what you can to help us keep dues at the present rate of \$3.00 per year.

Barbara R. Mueller (#360) writes in the Nov. 5th issue of Western Stamp Collector on "The Aesthetic Presentation of a Collection". If you contemplate exhibiting you will find valuable hints in this article.

Through the kindness of Clark McCrea (#81) we have received a copy of the book, "Early Post Offices of Chautauqua County, New York" by C. Malcolm Nichols. This book, which is the result of many years of research and study by its author contains many very interesting chapters and a great deal of detailed information. The printing and Binding both are strictly first class.

Beginning on page 50 and continuing on page 52 with illustrations on page 51 we submit the last of three articles on Leavitt Machine cancels by Mr. Stratton. Information not contained in these three articles will be welcomed by him and will be material for a postscript to the series.

## U. S. FANCY CANCELLATIONS

of the 20th Century

especially 1927-1937 type.

Correspondence is invited from collectors interested in these strange (some rare) cancellations. I have a relatively large quantity both registered and first class on cover.

For identification purposes I suggest the use of Loso-DeWindt catalog numbers. Perhaps I may have some of these items, as well as other 20th Century cancellations, in which you may be interested.

EDMUND FAIRCHILD, #259

111 HACIENDA DRIVE

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tising Covers; Government Postal Cards with  
illustrations or unusual cancellations;  
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NEED FOR COLLECTION - YOUR PRICE OR MY PRICE

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#269 Louisville 14, Ky.

## NEW MEMBERS

506 Dr. James Lauridsen, 110 Pine Grove Ave.,  
Port Huron, Mich. U.S. Cancellations on the  
1892-3 stamps, Mine Scandanavian

507 Arnold Robert Kleiner, 7. Culford Gardens,  
Chelsea, London, England-19th Century USA  
Specialized, proofs, stamps, blocks, covers,  
Fancy Cancels on or off, Polish Provisional  
Overprints, Orange Free State.

508 J. L. Hargett, P.O. Box 170, Okmulgee, Okla.-  
Cancels of Oklahoma prior to statehood, Nov.  
16, 1907; Ghosts, D.P.O. after statehood,  
Indian Territory Postmarks, Killer Markings  
of these.

509 Jim Rasmussen, 6719 LaMans Ave., Citrus  
Heights, Calif.-Flag Cancels. RPO Cancels,  
Pre 1910 Cancels. First Day Covers, Pl. Blocks

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

256 Gideon G. Ryder from Wakefield, Mass. to  
7 Linden, Stoneham 80, Mass.

## CORRECTION OF ERRORS

496 Earle E. Andrus, not a dealer

504 Irving Keiser, not a dealer

Address should be 3783 Pukalani Place instead  
of 5783 as reported in last issue.

## DROPPED

142 Birney Mills  
155 Robert W. Streissguth  
156 Gordon DeLisle  
162 Kenneth A. Whitfield  
243 Samuel C. Paige  
352 Frank L. Stultz  
383 Orlando W. Hanks  
401 James P. Burke  
414 Dr. James E. Winter  
447 Edward D. Skinner  
462 Sol Whitman  
463 H. F. Jenne  
486 Bernard R. Glennon  
490 William H. Baab, Jr.

## FOREIGN COVERS

We have located a source of supply for foreign  
covers, stampless, entires, postal cards, adhesives,  
old and modern. Members interested in seeing any of  
them may notify the sales manager, C. D. Root, 855  
Cove Way, Denver 9, Colo.

## AWARDS

In the September NEWS we reported the names of members who won awards at the APS Convention in Portland Oregon last August. Since then we have learned that the USCC Certificate was awarded to M. H. H. McVeigh of Spokane for his "19th Century Postal Markings".

At the SPA Convention held in St. Louis last August, the Vice President's trophy went to Ben. B. Newman (#257) for his exhibit of the 15¢ Lincoln stamp of 1866. Henry Meyer (#391) was one of the Judges.

At a stamp exhibit sponsored by the Albuquerque Philatelic Society, held during the New Mexico State Fair Maj. Robert G. Babb (#351) won first awards in two classifications, U.S. Covers and U.S. Special Purpose Issues.

On October 8 & 9 the Wichita Stamp Club held its 28th annual show. The Grand Award winner in the US section was Hal Ottoway (#489J) for nine frames of Free Frank Covers. Winner of the second award in that section was Lee Cornell (#27) with 11 frames of US Airmails.

For the first time in 20 years the Rhode Island Philatelic Society held a show on Oct. 8 & 9. The USCC Certificate was awarded to Mr. Kenneth J. Woodbury Sr., West Warwick, R.I. for "Praha Postmarks of Czechoslovakia". Mr. Arthur B. Jackson (#263) exhibited "Obsolete R.I. Postmarks" NOT FOR COMPETITION.

At the TMPS Convention & Exhibition held Sept. 23-5 at Sioux City the USCC Certificate was awarded to Dwight Deter (#359) of Mitchell So. Dak. for his Dakota Territory Covers. Daniel A. Stone (#53) won a first award and the APS special award for his exhibit of "Album Weeds".

## FRONT PAGE

On the front page we show eight cancellations from the cover collection belonging to Dr. deWasserman. Stamps used were as follows:

Illustration #1	1¢ 1861
2	3¢ 1861
3	3¢ Green
4	2¢ Black Jack
5	3¢ 1869
6	3¢ 1869
7	3¢ 1861
8	3¢ 1861

Much to the regret of your Sec'y it proved to be impossible to arrange a meeting with members of USCC in and around Chicago as we so hopefully announced in the September issue. Our time was shorter than we had hoped and no time available to us seemed right for any sort of philatelic meeting. Better luck next time.

## THE LEAVITT MACHINE CANCELLATIONS

## (PART II)

by Frank B. Stratton (487)

Illustrations on Page 51.

## THE FINAL PERIOD

The history of the Leavitt machines and their cancels from 1882 on presents a rather complex and confusing picture. While many of the second Leavitt machines which were distributed earlier remained in use for some time in various other cities, (see Part II of this article,) there was considerable new activity in Boston, and, to a limited extent, in Baltimore and Washington also.

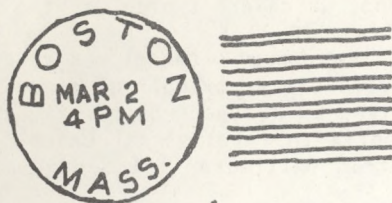
The last of the Group B (barred oval) cancels made its final appearance in Boston in February 23, 1882, (given incorrectly in the text of Part II as February 2) and was immediately succeeded by the first of a new design. The circular postmark is still used, but the killer is a rectangle of 12 parallel lines, arranged in 6 pairs. During the month of March, this new killer was used with the same postmark die that produced types B2 and B3; (Type C1, fig. 14.) In the following month, however, a new postmark joins the 12-line killer, and the combination remains in use, with few interruptions, until January 1885. (Type C2, fig. 15.)

Simultaneously with this pair of cancels, another new design was also introduced. Late in February, 1882, there appeared a cancel consisting of a circular postmark and a rectangular killer composed of 18 equally spaced horizontal lines (Type D1, fig. 16). This cancel was used for about five months, and then is not found again until early in 1884, when it replaces C2 temporarily; it shows up again briefly later in 1884, and has also been reported in August, 1885. Meanwhile, in February, 1885, a very similar killer composed of 19 lines joins the D1 postmark to produce Type D2 (fig. 17). This cancel also continues until August, 1885. The two D-types are most easily distinguished by the varying distances between the postmark and the killer.

In November, 1885, a third Group C cancel comes into use. This one is almost certainly a combination of the D1-2 postmark with the C1-2 killer! (Type C3, fig. 18.) It was used almost continually until July 1886. Blake reports a later use in 1887. I should explain here that my claims of identical postmark and killer dies between the different types are based on superimposed tracings made from the actual cancels on postal cards in my collection. Since there is obviously no question of mass-production methods having been used in the making of these dies, I can't believe that exact correspondence of one with another is a matter of mere chance.

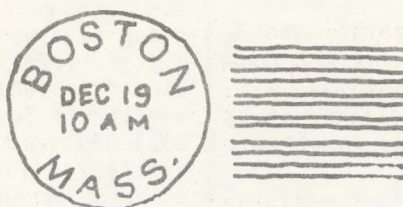
Continued on Page 52.





Type C1

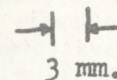
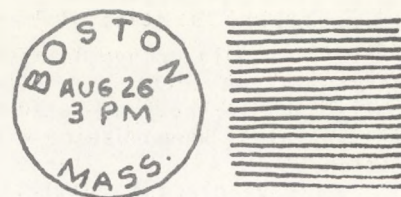
Fig. 14



Type C2

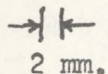
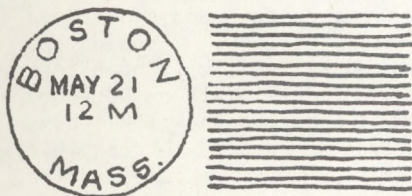
(Note large BOSTON)

Fig. 15



Type D1

Fig. 16



Type D2

Fig. 17

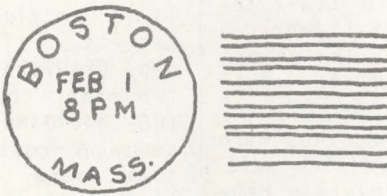
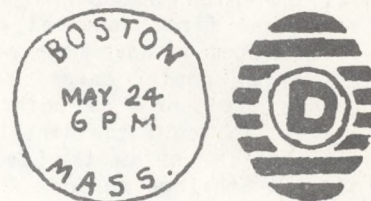
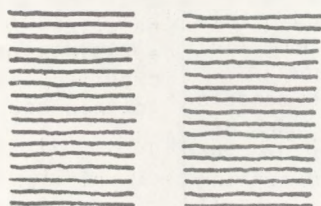
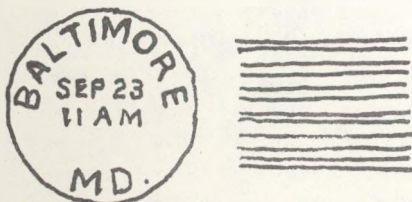
Type C3  
(Combines D1-2 postmark  
with C1-2 killer.)

Fig. 18



Type E

Fig. 19

Experimental cancel.  
Traced from Wash. post  
card; letter and circle  
either omitted or il-  
legible. Fig. 20Experimental cancel,  
on third-class covers  
from Boston. (Sketch,  
NOT a tracing.) Fig. 21Experimental cancel,  
on third-class covers  
from Boston. (Sketch,  
NOT a tracing.) Fig. 22

Type C-Balt.

Fig. 23

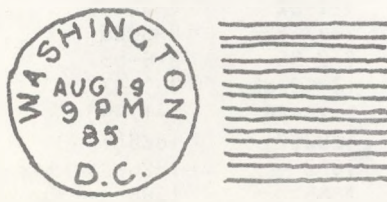
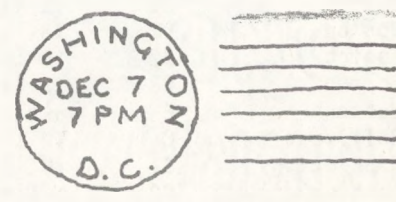
Type C1-Wash.  
(Group B postmark)

Fig. 24



Type C2-Wash.

Fig. 25



Cont. from Page 50.

Finally, in September 1886, Type E appears (fig. 19). In style it resembles the Group B cancels, but is crude in appearance, and is known only with the letter D. It was used spasmodically, and is known as late as April 1890. This is the latest known use of a Leavitt cancel from Boston.

I have classified all the above cancels as Leavitts in spite of the fact that Leavitt is known to have sold all his rights and interests in the cancelling machines to Frank and Martin Van Buren Ethridge, probably at some time in 1884. These two brothers had founded the American Postal Machines Company at about that time, in Portland Maine, and later moved to Boston. Beginning in December 1884, the American cancels are found more and more frequently from Boston; Floyd lists a large number of these without distinguishing between them and the Leavitts. Even these first somewhat experimental American machines seem to have been able to handle letters as well as postal cards; from the first, their cancels are found on both. I see no reason, however, to doubt that the Leavitt machines were continued in use in the Boston Post Office well into the Ethridge period, although they may have been used under Ethridge's supervision. The dies for Type E were probably prepared for Ethridge, but used in the last serviceable Leavitt machine. (Again, it should be noted that Typed C, D, and E are all found only on postal cards.)

To complete the Boston record, Floyd lists and describes eight cancels, all from within the period from October 1882 to December 1882, which are best classified as experimental. Blake shows most of these and adds several others. At this time Leavitt was obviously trying to improve his machines to enable them to handle letter mail, and had succeeded to the extent that large uniform mailings of third class material could often be run through them. These cancels are nearly always found on such mail, and are designed to allow for some variation in the placing of the stamp. Since I can add nothing to Floyd's information, and the cancels are all

extremely rare, I content myself with offering three reproductions, which are typical of the group as a whole. (Figs. 20-22.)

In Baltimore, the group B cancel was replaced in 1882 by a completely new pair of dies, similar to Boston's type C. (Type C-Balt., fig. 23.) Floyd also reports an experimental cancel similar to Fig. 20 from Baltimore, but used on a postal card.

In Washington the group B postmark was continued in use, but the group B cancel was replaced by a type C cancel, which, however, had 14 lines; the inner 12 were spaced in pairs, but not as markedly so as in Boston or Baltimore. This cancel (Type C1-Wash., Fig. 24,) was used from 1882 until 1890. Until about 1889 the year-date is used in the cancel; thereafter it is omitted. The experimental type of Fig. 20 is also known from Washington, on both cards and letter mail. One further Washington type must be mentioned; it is certainly a machine cancel, and probably a Leavitt. (Type C2-Wash, fig. 25.) Beside one copy previously reported by Segnitz, I have seen two other copies; their dates fall on December 1885 and January 1886, a period in which I have seen no copies of Type C1, so it is possible that there was a brief temporary substitution at this time.

I hope that the foregoing discussion will make recognition of the Leavitt cancellations easier, and will serve to increase both knowledge and interest in this field. I have made several assumptions and suggested a number of theories which may or may not be supported as additional evidence comes to light; they seem reasonable in view of what is already known, but proof to the contrary will be just as welcome as confirmation, if not as flattering! I will be very glad to hear from any collector who has ideas or pertinent material--free, sell, or trade. Any worth-while additions or corrections will be duly noted and credited, and offered to the NEWS as a postscript to this series of articles.

Frank B. Stratton (#487)

TABLE II

## LEAVITT CANCELS, FINAL PERIOD

CITY	TYPE	STYLE	EARLIEST	LATEST	FLOYD	BPM	SEGNITZ
Boston	C1	12 lines	3-1-82	3-20-82	20	2694A	
Boston	C2	12 lines	4-2-82	1-24-85	21	2694	
Boston	D1	18 lines	2-27-82	8-6-85	19	2690	3
Boston	D2	19 lines	2-2-85	9-6-85	25	2691	3
Boston	C3	12 lines	11-10-85	7-7-87	31	2696	
Boston	E	8-bar oval	9-24-86	4-17-90	42	2689	
Baltimore	C	12 lines	1882(?)	1886(?)			4
Washington	C1	14 lines	1882	1890			4
Washington	C2	6 lines	1885	1886			5
Experimental cancels:							
Boston	Fig. 20	10-bar oval with 8-bar rectangle		Oct. 1881	11	2687	
Boston	Fig. 21	Two 17-line rects.		1882	12-13	2695	
Boston	Fig. 22	17 lines with clear diagonals.		1882	14-16	2688	
Boston		As in fig. 22 but 16 mm. wide.		1882	17-18		
(Several other minor variations.)							
Baltimore	Fig. 20			?	(11)		
Washington	Fig. 20			1881(?)	(11)		



## IS A WORLD POSTAGE STAMP REQUIRED?

"Perhaps the idea of an international postage stamp -- valid between member countries of the world postal union--is not a new one, but it has for obvious reasons so far not led to any action on behalf of the world postal union."

So writes Mr. Axel Barck, former head of the Kotka Post Office (Finland) in a recent issue of "Union Postale," monthly review of the Universal Postal Union with Headquarters in Berne, Switzerland.

"If it were merely a question of the stamp's original function to verify the payments of postal fees, this idea of a world postage stamp would long ago have been realized," he continues. "But in the course of time the stamps have, in addition to their proper function, a propaganda value for the country of origin."

"The stamp on a letter is like the national flag on the mast of a ship. It has something to tell about the country, its people, its history, its notable personalities, its flora and fauna. How should any country abstain from using these means of making itself known all over the world? National ambitions demand national stamps and thus matters will remain."

## ARGUMENTS FOR WORLD STAMP

"But the idea of a world postage stamp should, nevertheless, not be rejected altogether. Here are some arguments in favor of it:

"The communications between all countries by land, sea, and air have developed after the last world war in a way nobody dared to dream. The airlines cross the globe in all directions. Highways and railways have been built where they did not exist before, and on the high seas giant liners, floating luxury hotels, cruise about with masses of travelers."

"It has become a fashion to travel, and tourists, sportsmen, business men, people taking part in congresses, and so on, move in a never-ending stream from one place to another, from one country to another. An example of the enormous volume the passenger traffic has reached it can be mentioned that one single airport in London counted over 3 million passengers last year."

## TRAVELERS KEEP IN TOUCH

"It is obvious that all these travelers keep in regular touch by mail with their friends, relatives, firms, and offices, at home. A world postage stamp would greatly facilitate the posting of travelers' mail. As long as traveling allowances in foreign currency remain restricted -- as is the case in many countries--it would be very practical to be able to take a supply of international stamps along, purchased in the travelers' own country."

"Thus one could avoid using the limited traveling allowance for mailing purposes. No frontiers would limit their validity as they could be used in whichever country one visits. There is the further advantage of being independent of the office hours of the local post if you carry these international stamps with you. By fixing an international stamp on a letter it will be forwarded at any time, even in the middle of the night. Very convenient!

Cont. next column.

## SAILORS WOULD WELCOME

"Sailors, too, would welcome a world postage stamp. If they had one, they could easily send mail even when their ships do not call at a post, as they could hand stamped letters to pilots or customs officials. With an international stamp one could even mail letters on the high seas when ships meet."

"It should not meet with any difficulties or obstacles for the post offices in the various countries to keep the international stamps available for the public, together with their own stamps. Each postal establishment should gain by keeping the currency in the country."

"The expenses for printing and distributing and the costs of the necessary staff at the international post office at Berne, which would have to be charged with the handling of these international stamps, could be covered by a small extra charge, corresponding to the expenses at Berne in addition to the agreed international fee. It is not necessary to enter into more details here, as it is for the Universal Postal Union to settle these, should this idea be put in practice."

This article was sent in by Major Robert G. Babb (#351). Major Babb has no idea where it originated.

## WESTERN EXPRESS

On page 54 we show drawings sent us years ago by the late W. W. Phillips, one of the best informed students of Western Expresses.

Mr. Phillips' collection of Western Express Covers numbered some 2,000 different from USA, Mexico and Canada of which about 1500 were Wells Fargo. He had 20 volumes of notes on the operations of over 1250 different companies, partnerships and individuals. He had made accurate tracings of all franks and handstamps which had come to his notice. Those shown on page 54 are prints of just a few of these.

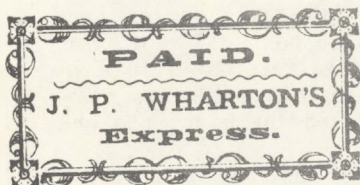
We do not think the Western Expresses have been given as thorough treatment as Mr. Phillips had planned for them as his occupation after retirement from his business. Unfortunately for us he was not able to fulfill his objective.

Perhaps some member of USCC would be in a position to carry forward from where he left off if his notes and drawings could be secured. We know that he planned considerable more research when his leisure would permit it. Perhaps some of that he did.

USCC and the NEWS will be glad to cooperate with anyone who will undertake to finish this job. We would be pleased to publish a series of articles on this subject which could later be put into book or pamphlet form.

An event of the Roosevelt Philatelic Society's annual "Ladies Night" meeting was the presentation of the club's Past President's award to Allan D. Parsons (#122) for outstanding service to the organization.



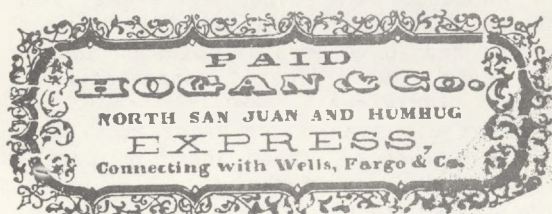


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