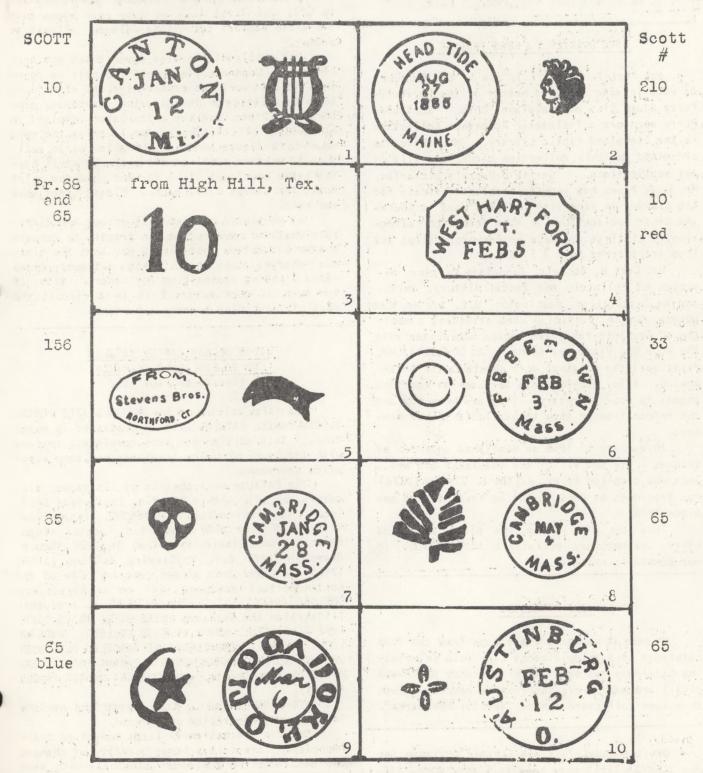


Cancellation Club NEWS

VOL. 9 - NO. 2 WHOLE NO. 93

MARCH - 1968



FROM THE COVER COLLECTION OF DR. ROBERT deWASSERMAN (#418)

THE U.S CANCELLATION CLUB NEWS

Published six times a year, January, March, May, July, September and November by the US CANCELLATION CLUB and sent free to members.

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Address communications to the Club Secretary, C. D. Root, 855 Cove Way, Denver, Colo. 80209

USCC QUARTERLY & NEWS INDEXED

Mr. Paul T. Skove(#11), one of the founders of USCC is also a valued member of the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club of Cleveland, Ohio. Garfield-Perry sponsors a Philatelic Reference Collection in the Cleveland Public Library. Mr. Skove has presented to this collection a complete file of our publications. Garfield-Perry's Librarian, Mr. E. D. Piper has indexed these periodicals for the Library in line with the plan used in indexing other publications in this reference collection. Listings are made on temporary slips and then transferred to 3 x 5 cards.

Mr. Carl H. Scheele, Associate Curator, Division of Philately and Postal History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. and Mr. Leo Gordon, Museum Technician were attending a meeting of Garfield-Perry and became acquainted with the work Mr. Piper was doing. As a result, Mr. Piper sent the original work sheets to the Smithsonian. After copying them Smithsonian sent the sheets to your Secretary. They are here now and the information on them is available to our members.

In January of 1958 we published an index of Volumes I, II and III of the QUARTERLY and NEWS. This was compiled by Mr. Walton E. Tinsley(#376) now President of USCC, but we have not had one since then.

Thus the NEWS takes its place alongside other contemporary philatelic publications in our Country's records.

OLD CATALOGUE

On page 18 we reproduce a page from the 1898 catalogue of Stanley Gibbons Ltd. This interesting catalogue was sent in by Lawrence B. Lawson (#731) and makes very interesting reading. Even then some collectors wanted "Special Postmarks".

Orville Mohr(#744) was Exhibit Chairman for the CORNPEX-IFPEX show held in Bloomington, Ill. last October.

SALES DEPARTMENT

As usual we can use more material. Right now the greatest shortage is in socked-on-the nose commemoratives. Our present system of retiring all books as soon as possible after 18 months reduces our stock more quickly than before. This system was made necessary by the increase in Insurance costs and seemed like a good system in any case. Many books, of course, are retired sooner than that because they become too far depleted to send out again.

A circuit group whose members forward promptly will get first look at many more books than one whose members cause long delays. Please be prompt.

Our supply of the blue cover books has been exhausted. Upon ordering another supply we found that the cost would be prohibitive. We also found that the printing on the glassine envelopes, numbers I-I2 etc. and the extra labor involved in assembling, if eliminated, would bring the cost down to a figure which would allow us to sell them to members still at 20ϕ each. We still have the sales envelopes at 5 for 25ϕ and the sales books for stamps @ 10ϕ each. Please order what you need.

As we always have we will accept and circulate whatever members take the trouble to prepare and send in but we must remind you that the minimum charges make circulating extremely cheapitems a losing proposition for owners. Also, if too much of such material is in a circuit the cost of forwarding becomes a burden.

TO BE PUBLISHED IN MARCH (See Ad on Page 13).

The fifth edition of the UNITED STATES POSTAL SLOGAN CANCEL CATALOG will be published in March 1968. This edition has been completely revised with hundreds of price increases and some minor price decreases.

The CATALOG will consist of 128 pages, plus covers, $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$, with a plastic, loose-leaf bind-It will contain a COMPLETE alphabetical listing of over 2500 known U.S. postal slogan cancels, from their inception in 1897 through December 1967; U.S. Philippine Islands (1908-1945) and Canal Zone slogan cancels. One of the most important features will be an 85-subject TOPICAL CHECK LIST. The CATALOG is profusely illustrated and includes WHERE USED, DATES USED; TYPE OF CANCEL; "HOW & WHAT TO COLLECT: MACHINE IDENTITY CHART; COMMEMORATIVE CANCELS: U.S. USED ABROAD; SLOGAN ERRORS; WORLD'S PANAMA PACIFIC EX-POSITION Type Charts, with CURRENT MARKET PRICES for all.

All FLAG Slogans, Expositions and World's Fair slogans are listed and priced.

Besides the extremely large amount of price increases, there is a large quantity of changes and additions to the older slogans, with some listings of items that have never been reported from the 1920's and 1930's.

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704 Norman Weiner to Box 609, Morro Bay, Calif.

93442 from White City. Oreg. 733 Capt. F. H. Hemphill Jr. to Qtrs. 0-3, MCB, Quantico, Va. 22134 from Fort Sill, Okla.

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776 Robert J. Dale, 147-37 Beech Ave., Flushing, N.Y. 11355- Covers (Gen'1) 19th Century US; Stamps (Gen'l) USA; Certain European Semi-Postals; Vatican (Gen'l)

777 Douglas Gary, Box 457, Campbell, Calif. 95008- Dealer specializing in USA stamps & Covers; Collecting interest; unusual covers (Kuhn)

778 Irving Weinberg, 627 Princeton Ave., Philadelphia, Pa. 19111

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780 Ted Smits, 601 E. 20th St.. Apt. 13-G, New York, N.Y. 10010-US # 65 on or off cover. Cancellations, Shades, Multiples (Horwitz)

781 David Ernest Lawson, 41 Carleton Ave., Brockton, Mass. 02401- US Fancy Cancels 19th Century on & off cover; Stampless Covers; USA Classics 1847-1900. (Horwitz)

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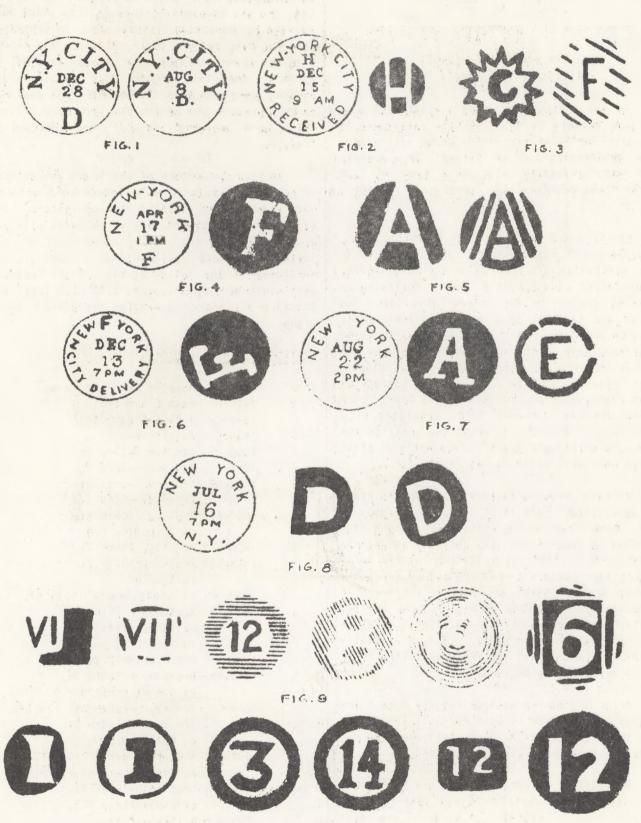
784 Robert J. Martin, Plymouth St., P.O. Box 277. Bryantville, Mass. 02327-19th Century Fancies. Corner Cards; Early 20th Century to 1915 on & off Cover (Horwitz)

785 Philip D. Lovaas, P.O. Box 14832, Las Vegas, Nev. 89114- USA Mint, Used, Cancels, Covers; UN.

786 Kazuyuki Takahashi M.D., 6622 Gatto Ave., El Cerrito, Cal. 94530- USA mainly 19th Century, NYFM Cancels



SEE PAGE 17



F16.10

SEE PAGE 16

NUMBERS AND LETTERS

IN NEW YORK CITY HANDSTAMPS 1869 to 1900

by ARTHUR H. BOND (#505)
Illustrations on Page 15

In the period under consideration the outstanding feature of New York City handstamps is the development of the duplex stamp with elliptical-grid obliterator or "killer". This article will deal primarily with this type and the cruder forms of handstamps immediately preceding it.

New York was the first city in this country to adopt the duplex handstamp, in which the townmark and killer are mounted on a single handle. It was first used August 8, 1860, following an order by the Postmaster General forbidding the use of the townmark as a cancelling instrument; so as to avoid the extra labor involved in using separate stamps. The advantage was so apparent that it came rapidly into general use in all the large cities, in spite of patent litigation which eventually reached the Supreme Court. The killer die, until about 1876, consisted of a steel ring or socket, in which was inserted the renewable printing element, frequently a plain bottle cork with patterns cut in its face.

Killers showing letters representing station designations were first used, we believe, in 1863, when free delivery started. These were attached to some of the city delivery handstamps reading "N.Y.CITY" with station letters below (Figure I). Letters A-B-D-F-G-H-M have been seen in the townmarks and letters D-F-H in the killers. Stations B and D used smaller letters in the townmark 1867-69. These markings occur in red, blue and black. They are usually found on "Black Jacks" for the drop letter rate, but occasionally as backstamps.

Prior to 1863 the station letters A to F inclusive had appeared in some markings identified with the U.S. Carrier Service, following the establishment of those stations in 1856.

The carrier markings to 1861 are well shown in "United States Postal Markings 1851-1861" by Tracy W. Simpson (1959). A study of the markings of the 1861-69 period is now being undertaken by the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society (A.P.S. Unit No.II), which will extend our knowledge of that period.

A brief description of the growth of the New York City Post Office will be helpful toward an understanding of these markings. On July I, 1863 the six independent post offices which then existed on Manhattan Island were incorporated into the City system, adding Stations H-J-K-L-M-N to the seven branches that already existed. On March 17, 1875 ten separate post offices in the present Bronx area were discontinued and replaced by eight branches of the New York Post Office, which were assigned regional names instead of letters.

In 1895 the Borough of the Bronx was extended easterly and three more independent offices were absorbed and assigned station letters. The stations which existed only a few years with regional names did not, as far as we know, use any letters in their obliterators. These are not mentioned in the following list of the lettered stations that existed before 1900 with their respective periods of operation and general locations:

STATION	PERIOD	LOCATION
A B C	1856- 1856- 1856-	Houston St Broadway East Grand St. Hudson & Bank Sts. Astor Place
E	1856-	8th Ave33rd St.
F	1856-	3rd Ave33rd St.
G	1862-69 1870-	6th Ave34th St. Broadway -52nd St.
Н	1863-69	3rd Ave86th St.
		ex Yorkville P.O.
	1870-	3rd Ave54th St.
1	1873-74	Broadway -84th St.
		to Sta. 0
	1897-	Columbus Ave 105th St.
J	1863-72	Broadway - 75th St.
		ex Harsonville P.O.
		to Sta. I
	1887-	8th Ave 125th St.
K	1863-69	Broadway - 130th St.
		ex Manhattanville P.O.
	1870-	3rd Ave 86th St. ex Sta. H
L	1863	3rd Ave 124th St.
		ex Harlem P.O.
M	1863-	Amsterdam Ave 15oth St.
		ex Washington Heights P.O.
N	1863-74	Foot of Dyckman St.
		ex Kingsbridge P.O.
	1895-97	Williamsbridge
		ex Wakefield P.O.
	1899-	Broadway - 69th St.
0		Ave. C - E. 6th St.
	1875 only	Broadway - 84th St. ex Sta. I
	1890	5th Ave 14th St.
	A	_

Broadway & Beaver St.

Cont. p. 17.

1885-

STATION PERIOD LOCATION 1875 only Broadway - 110th St. 1881ex Morrisania Sta Morrisania S 1881-97 Kingsbridge ex Kingsbridge Sta. et al. Broadway - Howard St. 1898-1881-Tremont ex Tremont Sta. et al. 1898-3rd Ave. - 103rd St. ٧ 1894-W. Broadway - Walker St. Columbus Ave. - 87th St. W 1890-1895-Westchester X ex Baychester P.O. 1894-3rd Ave. - 68th St. 1895-97 City Island Z ex City Island P.O.

Examination of this list will make clear what letters may be expected to be found in any certain period. We are hopeful that publication of this information will encourage other collectors to inspect their New York City covers and find additional markings. Communications on the subject will be welcomed by this writer and supplementary information will be recorded.

Figure 2 shows a negative "H" in the killer on a 2¢ 1869 stamp in December 1869. Figure 3 shows other killers used at Stations C and F. This type of townmark circle has been recorded for years 1869-71 from Stations C-D-F-G-H-L, usually without clear letters in the killer. Although most include the word RECEIVED, this type has not been found used as a backstamp. Backstamping did not become a general practice until about 1875. A similar, but smaller, circle with P and O at the sides instead of a station letter, possibly applied at the General Post Office, has been seen with a negative "A" in the killer.

The next townmark form was apparently that of Figure 4, with other killers shown in Fig. 5. Clear letters in killers have been recorded only for Stations A-E-F-G and in years 1872-76.

Figure 6 shows a type of circle that is known from Stations A-C-D-E-F-L and used 1874-77. Letters A, C, E and F have been seen, with possibly a very crude "D", but killer was usually a plain cork or geometric figure.

Figures I to 6 indicate characteristics of the preliminary type of circles carrying station letters. The General Post Office used similar circular markings, some without letters and some with the letters "P.O.". Although occasionally used on mail for out-of-town addresses, these

markings were intended primarily for city delivery letter service.

In 1870 both the General Post Office and the branch stations began using handstamps for out-of-town mail that contained simply the words NEW YORK in sans-serif letters, as shown in Figure 7. When backstamping became customary in the city about 1875 some of the branch stations used these stamps with killers bearing the station letter, also using the same combination on the face of city delivery mail.

One type (Fig. 8) is remarkable from the fact that the townmark contains the state designation "N.Y." at bottom of circle. This seems to have been the only N.Y.C. marking indicating the state at any time before 1889. It was used at Stations D and E and is found with positive and negative killer letters on both city and out-of-town mail from 1873 to 1877.

Meanwhile at the General Post Office a few of the handstamps were being fitted with numbers in the killers instead of the random fanciful designs which were current in the 1860's and early 1870's. Examples of such numbers are shown in Figures 9 and 10. These have been found from 1872 to 1876 on out-of-town mail only. Since the life of a killer was only a few months and most were roughly carved, it is obvious that a great variety will be found. The highest number recorded is "16".

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first of probably four installments on this subject by Mr. Bond. If you wish to communicate with him, please address him at P. O. Box 625.

Casselberry, Fla. 32707

PAGE 14

On page 14 we show the front of a Post Card mailed from "Aeroplane Station #I, Garden City Estates, N.Y." on Sept. 30, 1911. This card was sent in by Harry S. Taber (#479). Also on page 14 are two examples of "Mailer Permits" on U S Postal Cards and a Cover with "Cadillac Local Post" 10ϕ stamp. Local Posts certainly are an interesting branch of our hobby with many enthusiastic devotees.

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The Books being in great demand, it is necessary to send them in rotation to our numerous clients; but if Collectors will let us know which Countries they are interested in, we will inform them if that Country is ready, and about what date it could be sent. To give some indication of the magnitude of these Books, we attach a short list of those most recently finished, together with their value at the time they were completed.

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U S CANCELLATION CLUB

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

The US CANCELLATION CLUB has been, for a number of years, the leading Society devoted entirely to the field of Postal Markings and Cancellations. Serving the interests of beginners as well as of advanced specialists it is a non-profit organization operated for the benefit of its members.

The following Club functions are of special help to the collector:

- 1. A Sales Department through which stamps and covers may be bought and sold, thereby furnishing a source of supply to the members, an outlet for their duplicates and helping to establish a true market value. (See back page.)
- 2. A Research Department constantly seeking new information regarding Postal History and Markings and preparing it for presentation through the Club's Publication.
- 3. A Bi-monthly magazine sent free to members. Subscription price to others \$2.50 per year.
- 4. An Expertizing Department to give qualified opinion on doubtful items. Mr. Daniel A. Stone, 310 Denver Theatre Bldg., Denver, Colo. 80202 will accept from any member of USCC a stamp or cover and will give an opinion free of charge as to its validity. The item should be mounted on a sheet with sufficient space for notations. Return postage must be included.
- 5. A Library, consisting, as this is written, of about 150 items available to members on a loan basis. This is under the direction of the Club's Librarian, Mr. Wm. J. Bomar, 1846 153rd Ave. SE, Bellevue, Wash., 98004. The list of items available is published from time to time and may be secured from Mr. Bomar or the Secretary. The latest list was made in March, 1963 with additions noted in later editions of the NEWS. Shipping weight of each item is shown in the list. Members requesting loan of items from the Library must be sure to enclose sufficient postage with their request. Members pay transportation both ways.

Membership in USCC is granted through application passed upon by a Membership Committee. Dues are \$4.00 per year payable in advance. The year starts on Jan. 1. New members pay as follows:

Those	accepted	between	Jan.	1	and	June	30	\$4.00
- n	11	11	July	1	and	Dec.	31	

No admission fee is charged.

Application blanks may be secured from the Secretary,
Charles D. Root, 855 Cove Way, Denver, Colorado 80209

THE SALES DEPARTMENT

The Sales Department of USCC is operated much the same as are those of other philatelic organizations.

We operate five different types of circuits:

- 1. 19th Century off cover only
- 2. 19th Century Covers
- 3. 20th Century off cover only
- 4. 20th Century Covers
- 5. Special Selections

Circuits consist of about 12 books of stamps or of about 20 of covers. Circuit groups are made up of from 6 to 15 members and are arranged geographically to reduce cost of transportation to a minimum. Each circuit is accompanied by a letter giving full instructions for handling and a list of members to whom it is to be sent as well as a list of the books of stamps or covers included. Each member, in turn, inspects it as promptly as possible, taking those items he wishes and signing for them in the space provided. He then fills out a report blank and mails it along with remittance for material taken to the sales manager, (The Dept. is run on a cash basis), and forwards the circuit to the next member on the list, using either express or insured parcel post. On the regular circuits members pay transportation to the next on the list only. On special selections members pay transportation both ways, from the sales manager to them and back again. Members must make a special effort to handle circuits promptly. This should never take more than ten days and should usually be accomplished much sooner than that.

Members wishing to sell material through the Department may get from the sales manager, sales books for 120 stamps @ 10¢ each, cover envelopes for up to 20 covers @ 5 for 25¢ or cover books with 12 separate containers, to give-better protection to valuable items, for 20¢ each. All are specially prepared and have printed instructions, as well as space for describing the contents. Any stamp or cover which has passed through the mails may be entered. All items must be priced net and wherever possible the information and the description should serve to identify the item positively. Each book or sales envelope received by the Department will be assigned a number and the owner will be notified. All material in the sales department stock is fully covered by insurance while in the possession of any member or in transit between members, if safe methods of transportation are used.

In addition to the cost of the sales books and envelopes the Sales Department charges are as follows: 2% of original retail value for insurance (minimum charge on each sales book or envelope 25¢) and 15% of actual sales made for the Sales Manager's commission (Minimum charge for this too on each sales book or envelope 25¢). These two charges along with cost of returning remainders to owner will be deducted at the time of retirement. Sales books and Envelopes will be retired and settlement made when they have been all around or when they are too far depleted to send out again. The length of time required will vary somewhat depending on saleability of material and promptness of members in forwarding circuits. We try not to keep any sales book or envelope over 18 months but some do run over this.