

S Cancellation Club NEWS

VOL. 12 - NO. 7 WHOLE NO. 134

JANUARY - 1975





2 INTERESTING STAMPLESS COVERS
FROM THE COLLECTION OF DAVID JARRETT (#640)

THE U S CANCELLATION CLUB NEWS

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

DUES FOR 1975

Members' response to the notice asking payment of dues in the November issue of the NEWS really was gratifying. Many have paid. However many still have not paid. Please do so now. The amount is still only \$4.00. Although we shall have enough copies of the March NEWS for every member, it will be sent only to those whose dues for the current year are paid. As usual, the Roster which will accompany the May NEWS will contain only members whose dues have been re-Please send checks payable to USCC to ceived. 855 Cove Way, Denver, Colo. 80209.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- 595 Lyman R. Greenwood Jr. to 811 Tallulah Ave. FPG, River Ridge, La. 70123 from Harahan.
 722 Eugene Spencer to 2251 N.W. 41st Ave., Lauderhill, Fla. 33313 from Mendota, Ill.
- Bart J. Billings to 9451 Lee Highway, Apt. 104, Fairfax, Va. 22030 from 9385

 1041 Lyndon F. Duke to 1524 Greenbrae, Sparks,
- Nev. 89431 from Ellensburg, Wash.

 1119 Maurice Grossman to P.O. Box 2064,
 Providence, R.I. 02905 from 84 Homer St.

DECEASED

32 Emerson W. Eddy

RESIGNED

- 441 Ben A. Edwards Jr.
- 664 Roger B. Cotting
 717 Charles J. Reiling
 1022 Lee S. DeGraff

NEW MEMBERS

- Harry Kennedy, 10801 E. 21st St., Wichita, Kans. 67206-19th Century U.S. Covers especially Auxiliary Markings; Early US (Sampson) used singles.
- 1137
- used singles. (Sampson)
 Harold Gelchinsky, 1169 Ocean Ave.,
 Brooklyn, N.Y. 11230 Fancy Cancellations
 on USA Postal Cards. (Bond)
 H. Denny Donnell Jr. MD., 1105 Pheasant Run,
 Columbia, Mo. 65201-US Specialized; Postal
 History; Truman; Lindberg; TB & other Charity Seals; First Day Covers; Covers with
 various Postal Markings; Machine or Fancy
- Cancels etc. Alvin Gerstenberger, P.O. Box 6464, Phoenix, 1139 Ariz. 85005-Precancels, Postal Cards, Covers.
- Charles F. Nettleship Jr., 5525 N. Via Estrada, Tucson, Ariz. 85718-Postal History Vermont & Western States (Primarily Arizona 1140
- **New Mexico;) RPOs; U.S.Postage 1893-date; Australasian; Mexican-U.S.Cross Border Covers Harry M. Woodward, P.O. Box 39206, Cincinnati, Ohio 45239-US Covers, Postal History, Fancy Cancellations; Dealer

NEW MEMBERS, Continued

- John M. Blood, 380 High St., Holyoke, Mass. 01040-Dealer
- 1143 Dennis C. Jones, 4614 E. 31st, Tulsa, Okla. 74136-19th Century US Fancy Cancellations. John V. Hays, 531 W. Penn Ave., DeLand, Fla.
- 32720-Florida Material only; Dealer.

LIBRARY

#PM-13 has been assigned to the 1973 publication, "THE CANADIAN FLAG CANCEL HANDBOOK, 1896-1973" - 92 pages, a gift from Ted Kilish (#741) which we acknowledged in the last issue of the NEWS.

Also we have received a copy of "BOSTON POSTMARKS TO 1890" a gift of the publishers, the Quarterman Publications Inc. and also a copy of THE POSTAL HISTORIAN'S NOTEBOOK, Part I from the co-author, Kenneth F. Olson (#102).

BARRY MACHINE CANCELS SUPPLEMENT NO. 2

Supplement No. 2, including changes and additions for the Barry Handbook by Funk & Bond that we published in 1972, is now printed and ready for distribution. A copy will be mailed postpaid upon receipt of 35¢. U.S. stamps acceptable. This Supplement illustrates three previously unknown types of Barry cancels, contains additional information about the Barry Postal Supply Co. and their experimental installations; also explanation of the two styles of Baltimore cancels in early use.

The Plaque in appreciation of my services to the Club which was approved at the meeting in Chicago in October, has arrived and I wish to take this opportunity to thank the members for it. Beautifully and tastefully executed it is now one of my valued possessions.

(signed) Charles D. Root.

As suggested at the Chicago meeting the Roger Cotting material has been sent to Mr. Hubert Skinner(#632). Mr. Skinner is enthusiastic about the work already done and feels it is worth while to continue with it. Offers to help in finishing it have come in response to the request in the November NEWS. These have been sent to Mr. Skinner.

Mrs. Root and your Editor wish to thank all of you who so thoughtfully sent Holiday Greetings.

At the 36th annual convention of the PENIN-SULAR PHILATELIC SOCIETY held last April in Saginaw, Mich. the USCC Certificate was awarded to Mr. Mark Anderson for "WELLS FARGO COVERS THE WEST".

The Grand Award at INDYPEX '74 went to Orville E. Mohr(#744) for his "U.S. STAR CANCELLATIONS OF THE 1800s". Digitized by https://stampsmarter.org/

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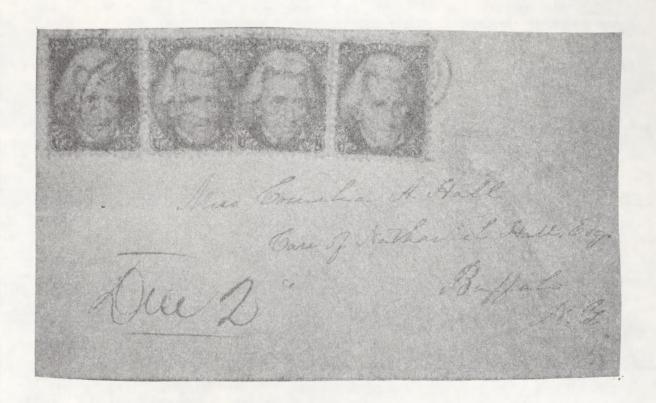
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BANKAMERICAND, MASTER CHARGE ASDA USCC

PAGE 56

The Cover illustrated on Page 56 is from the collection of Warren C. Bower (#751). Note the unusual arrangement in the Postmark and the rather interesting letter. Mr. Bower welcomes your comments.



An interesting cover franked with two pairs of Black Jacks, without grill, totalling 8¢, and marked "Due 2" in manuscript. Addressed to Buffalo, N. Y., but the townmark, unfortunately, is not readable. About the only letter clearly visible in the CDS is the letter "U."

There are two possible explanations of this odd rate. Firstly, it is possible that this is a Buffalo Drop Letter, which does not seem very likely, as the envelope is fully addressed, including the State name, N. Y. This has not been the usual practice in addressing local letters, most of them are merely marked "City." If it were a Drop letter, it would have to be a 5x rate, (over $2\frac{1}{2}$ ounces, not over 3 ounces,) 4 rates paid (8¢); one rate (2¢) due, as marked.

The second hypothesis is that it is a First Class letter, from some other place of origin, 1¢ underpaid for a triple rate, (over 1 counce, not over 1½ ounces.) The Postmaster rated it as 2¢ due, 1¢ for the shortage and 1¢ as penalty. It was legal, but not common, for a penalty to be charged on a multiple-rate cover, only slightly underpaid.

Reviewing the above solutions, it appears, on balance, that the second one more properly fits the case.

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1065	David L. Mackey

The Cover shown on the front page of the July 1974 issue still provokes comment. Perry Sapperstein (#349) writes that in some cases a charge was made for advertising usually 2ϕ . He expresses ignorance as to when, where or why.

PATRONIZE THE "NEWS" ADVERTISERS IN 1975

BOSTON POSTMARKS TO 1890

by

Maurice C. Blake & Wilbur W. Davis

As advertised in the September 1974 issue of the NEWS this book has been reprinted. Since the USCC Library owns a loose-leaf copy of the original and since this is an exact copy many of you know how complete this one must be. Originally published in 1949 it includes a postal history of Boston from earliest Colonial times through the Bank Note period. Wilbur W. Davis. considered the most knowledgeable student of Boston Postal Markings, was one of the founders of USCC and very helpful during our early years. The thousands of illustrations and the authentic discussions are contained in a bound book of nearly 400 pages. It is available for \$30.00 postpaid from Quarterman Publications Inc., 5 So. Union St., Lawrence, Mass. 01816 (Massachusetts residents please add sales tax.)

"THE POSTAL HISTORIAN'S NOTE BOOK" Part I

A new publication from one of our members, Kenneth F. Olson and his wife, offers a new approach to machine cancellations and their histories. It covers three different producers of machines of 19th Century origin. A most thorough study has been executed, that shows the basis of the American Postal Machines Co., as well as the problems encountered in the creation of new machines in the story of Groth-Constantine.

58 pages of history, cancellation illustrations that have never been made readily available in the past. A highly recommended publication.

COST: \$5.00 postpaid - Wisconsin residents 4% sales tax - available from K. F. Olson, 2400 North Grant Blvd., Milwaukee Wis., 53210.

The Scandinavian Collectors Club has awarded the Carl E. Pelander Award for outstanding service to Frederick A. Profos (#1104). Mr. Brofos also holds an honorary Life Membership in S.C.C.

We wish to give all possible publicity to the activities of the local Clubs to which our members belong but all too often announcements arrive too late for our current issue and the next issue will be too late to do any good. If you wish us to announce coming shows or meetings please get the notice to us at least three months in advance.

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PITTSBURGH PA.

"Keystone and Cross"

Dec. 10 1875

Receive Rog. Letter Rosept-M5 Deer 7-75 Merica at Hepartys X Heredo Ra by Julie Smith a letter acidnessis to Miss & Ewing Milsburg Ra Registered Business.



Postmaster,

OFFICIAL.

This Envelope is to be used only for Post-Office Business.

contents....return receipt

ONE PAGE FROM AN EXTENSIVE COLLECTION OF COVERS SHOWING THE FANCY CANCELLATIONS OF PITTSBURGH. COLLECTION BELONGS TO A. M. GAUMER (#909).

THE MACHINE MARKINGS ATTRIBUTED TO PALMER

For many years machine postmark specialists hunted for examples of the use of the Palmer postmarking machine.

Certainly until 1966 the possible existence of a Palmer type machine was accepted but no evidence was forthcoming to substantiate the use

of such a machine at any Post Office.

However, in 1966 member Bob Payne documented in the Club News (Vol. 8. No. 2 March 1966), the results of his painstaking researches and illustrated for the first time what he believed to be a Palmer Machine cancellation. (Fig. 1.)

The basis of this belief was quite substantial: Fig. I had every appearance of a machine cancel.

- * April 21, 1876 preceeded any known date of use of a Leavitt machine in New York and by a substantial time period, use of a Leavitt circular postmark type.
- * In the Post Office archives in Washington is a letter dated March 30, 1976 from Postmaster General Marshall Jewell to Mr. T.B. Palmer of Schultzville, N.Y. authorizing him to furnish the Post Office Department with ten postmarking, stamping and cancel printing machines of the same kind as the one exhibited in the Department on the 29th inst. but of perfect mechanical construction and with such improvements as may suggest themselves for which Mr. Palmer was to be paid \$100.00 each on their delivery and acceptance. Each machine was to be furnished with a full outfit of dates including year, month, day and hour blocks. Palmer was further directed to construct machines for use in the following cities: New York (2), Albany (1), Washington (1). Philadelphia (2), Hartford (1), Boston (2) Cleveland (1).
- A patent filed by T.G. Palmer and H.F. Clark of Schultzville and Poughkeepsie, N.Y. respectively on March 10, 1975 was granted on March 16, 1875 in respect of "new and useful Improvements in Rotary Printing Presses for Dating Letters, Cancelling Post Office Stamps upon letters and for other like purposes! (Patent 160.947)
- A further patent was filed on March 18th, 1876 by the same two inventors for "new and useful Improvements in Machines for Cancelling Postage-Stamps and Post-marking Letters" (This patent was subsequently granted on Sept. 26th, 1876 - Patent No. 182, 698)
- An article appeared in the "Daily Union" Newspaper of New York City on Friday April 14, 1876 entitled, "Stamping Letters by Machinery", which stated thus:

"The smartest Post Office clerk can cancel only 160 stamps per minute and a New Yorker has now invented a machine that will do the stamping at the rate of 400 a minute, provided of course, that the stamps are all in the upper right hand corner....

In short, Palmer had patented a machine. He lived in New York. The Post Office had authorized the delivery of 10 machines, one of which was for use in New York. A local and contemporary newspaper confirmed the actual use of a postmarking

machine in New York invented by a New Yorker and there were no other known inventors in the field that fitted the bill.

This substantial evidence to support the proposition that Fig. I. was an impression from a Palmer machine was furthermore reinforced by its similarity to the postmark used on mail carried by the celebrated speed-record, trans-continental express from New York to San Francisco on June 1st, 1876, known as the "Jarrett & Palmer" postmark on account of the promotional annular ring around the datestamp (Fig. 2).

In his article Bob gave a fascinating account of this centennial year, trans-continental railroad publicity stunt arranged by New York theatre managers Jarrett and Harry D. Palmer and also highlighted the remarkable coincidence of the

family name - Palmer.

Was Palmer the theatre manager related to

Palmer the postmark machine inventor?

To date no one has managed to establish this relationship and in the light of recent findings it is really not important any longer, for the markings of Fig. 1 and 2 were not made by a for the Palmer machine but by a Myers machine!!

Frederick Myers of New York City, New York, filed an application for a patent on Jan. 21st, 1876 for his invention of a "Machine for Cancel-ling Stamps and Postmarking Letters." His request was granted on March 21st, 1876 (Patent No. 175,

Figure 3 is a simplified sketch of the side view of the Myers machine whilst Figure 4 is the same but more detailed side view as actually illustrated in the Patent specification.

For a detailed understanding of how the machine works the student needs to study the complete specification but the following extracts

are worthy of note.

"A represents a pile or batch of letters to be cancelled and postmarked, for which they are first arranged by the attendant with the stamped side uppermost and the stamps at the right hand end, and then placed in the holder B on the follower C with the feed roller D against which they are continuously moved as the pile diminished, and are slightly pressed by the weighted lever E.

The feed roller D is geared to the printing roller J K so as to run in unison with them to which the letters are delivered from the feed rollers by means of a pair of carrier rollers M.N.

Every time the points a' of the sectional bands b' of the roller D which are armed with little teeth, rubber or any suitable friction material, come forward to the pile they catch a letter on its upper surface and push it forward.... the letter being started from said stop gages by points a' of the toothed or friction bands of roller D will on coming to the printing rollers be presented to the dies thereof so that the stamp of the letters will unerringly receive the impression of the cancelling die, provided the stamp is located in the usual position on the upper right hand or lower left hand corner of the letter.

..... From the printing-rollers the letters may be delivered by the spout Z to one of the receptacles of a revolving hopper...."

It is interesting to compare this extract with the full article which appeared in the New York "Daily Union" as quoted by Bob Payne in his article: --To be continued.

Next installment will contain illustrations.



March C. W. BENNETT,

See PAGE 51

Office of C. W. BENNETT,

Show the Standard Stand