



Cancellation Club NEWS

VOL. 15, No. 9

WHOLE NO. 167

MAY 1981

UNION EXPRESS OVAL . . .

Just One Of A "Set" Of Fakes

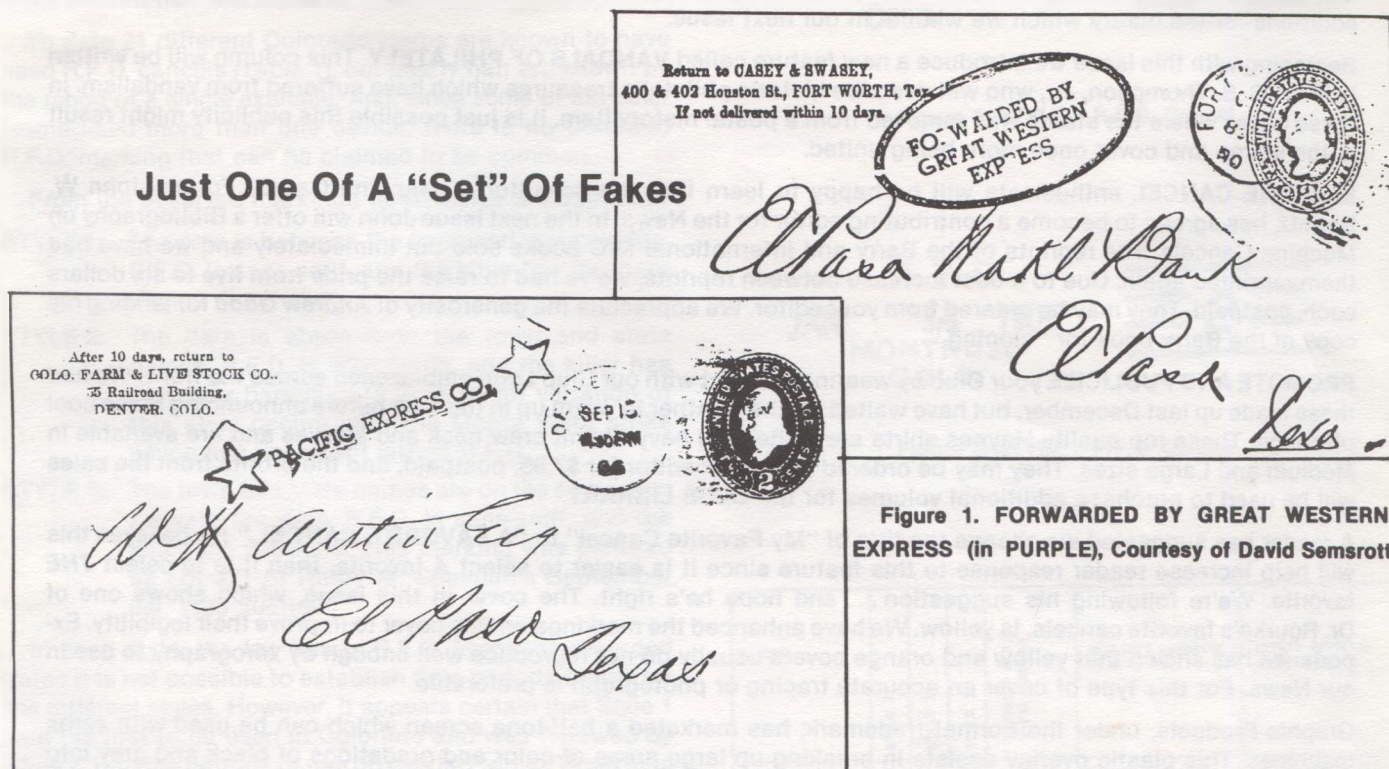


Figure 1. FORWARDED BY GREAT WESTERN EXPRESS (in PURPLE), Courtesy of David Semsrott

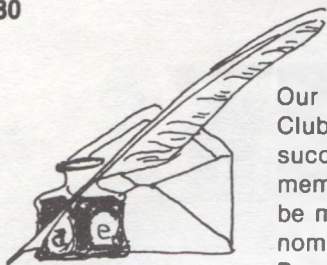
Figure 2. PACIFIC EXPRESS CO. between stars, Courtesy of Ed Siskin

Reader response was swift to condemn the UNION EXPRESS cover which was shown in the March QUESTION CORNER. N. Leonard Persson informed us this marking was one of a fake "set" of ovals which include FORWARDED BY GREAT WESTERN EXPRESS (Fig. 1) and STEAMSHIP and are found frequently on the correspondence to the El Paso Nat'l Bank. Other "sets" having related markings exist, such as the straight line PACIFIC EXPRESS between stars (Fig. 2), NACO ARIZONA TRANSIT, HERMANN FERRY & PACKET SO., S.S. RIVER DENNIS, WELLS FARGO & CO., PAQUEBOT, PAQUEBOT R within a variety of borders, but not all necessarily on the El Paso Bank covers. Mr. Persson is collecting the examples of these particular fakes and will present them in a future issue.

The rogue responsible for these fakes was a well-known dealer in the Chicago area and was expelled from the APS as a result. Herman Herst writes that this dealer acquired a

large holding of the El Paso Bank covers some twelve years ago and overprinted hundreds of these covers with his fake hand stamps. Herst also warns readers against purchasing *any* El Paso Bank cover. William H. Bauer sent a similar warning not to trust any unusual marking on correspondence to the Bank from the 1890's. Bauer also explained how the faker operated. One of the procedures was to offer a small lot of basically common covers at an inflated price. Contained in each lot would be a cover of his own creation. The presence of this "sleeper" would induce the customer to purchase the lot.

We are grateful to Greg Sutherland for sharing his Union Express cover shown in the March News with us. Greg was convinced the marking was a fake but had no proof. He has subsequently donated it to the reference collection of Len Persson. Readers having any of the markings mentioned above in their collections are urged to send photo copies to Len Persson, P.O. Box 774, Barrington, IL 60010.



Our **BYLAWS** state the elective officers of the Club shall be elected by the members of the Club in good standing, by ballot biennially in the odd-numbered years, to take office on the succeeding January 1. Also, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee of three members, which shall select a nominee for each elective office. Additional nominations may be made by a group of not less than five members, all of whom shall sign the proposed nomination. Our President has appointed a Nominating Committee composed of N. Leonard Persson, Chairman, P.O. Box 774, Barrington, IL 60010, J. Leonard Diamond and Richard

H. Poultridge. The Club Offices to be filled are: President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer and Governor-at-Large. Nominations from the membership at large are encouraged.

OUR LIBRARIAN IS MOVING and requests members to hold their library requests until August 1, after which they may contact him by writing to W. H. Bauer, Box 1449, Spring, TX 77373. Bill has recently purchased several new additions for the library which we will list in our next issue.

Beginning with this issue we introduce a new feature called **VANDALS OF PHILATELY**. This column will be written by Prof. C. S. Thompson, Jr., who will describe historic philatelic treasures which have suffered from vandalism. In those cases where the stamp was removed from a postal history item, it is just possible this publicity might result in the stamp and cover once more being united.

MACHINE CANCEL enthusiasts will be happy to learn that the co-editor of Machine Cancel Forum, John W. Koontz, has agreed to become a contributing editor for the News. In the next issue John will offer a Bibliography on Machine Cancels. The reprints of the Barry and International M/C books sold out immediately and we have had them reprinted again. Due to a cost increase between reprints, we've had to raise the price from five to six dollars each, postpaid. They may be ordered from your editor. We appreciate the generosity of *Andrew Good* for lending his copy of the Barry book for "cloning."

PROMOTE AND PUBLICIZE your Club by wearing a T-shirt with our Club Logo emblazoned across the front! We had these made up last December, but have waited for the weather to warm up in the east before announcing these cool offerings. These top quality Haynes shirts are white with navy ribknit crew neck and sleeves and are available in Medium and Large sizes. They may be ordered from your editor for \$7.95, postpaid, and the profits from the sales will be used to purchase additional volumes for the **CLUB LIBRARY**.

A reader has suggested we change the title of "My Favorite Cancel" to "**A FAVORITE CANCEL**." He believes this will help increase reader response to this feature since it is easier to select **A** favorite, than it is to select **THE** favorite. We're following his suggestion . . . and hope he's right. The cover in this issue, which shows one of Dr. Rourke's favorite cancels, is yellow. We have enhanced the markings on this cover to improve their legibility. Experience has shown that yellow and orange covers usually do not reproduce well enough by xerography to use in our News. For this type of cover an accurate tracing or photograph is preferable.

Graphic Products, under the Format trademark, has marketed a half-tone screen which can be used with xerox machines. This plastic overlay assists in breaking up large areas of color and gradations of black and grey into small dots which reproduce quite effectively by xerox methods. This device is particularly helpful when reproducing photographs. It is called **COPYSCREEN** and is available in 65 and 85 lines to the inch. We recommend 85 lines per inch for general use.

This month's For Love Of A Cancel is written by guest columnist Scott Trepel. Mr. Trepel, who writes "The 1869 Cancellation Clearing House" column for the *1869 Times* allowed us to reproduce his article on **FAKES** which was printed in the *Times* February '81 issue. Mr. Trepel, who is presently the acting editor, in this same issue devoted half a page of his column to a description of the activities of our organization, for which we're very grateful.

We are delaying the publication of our membership roster until our next issue in order to give our slow-paying members one more chance to be included. The **RED DOT** on the front page of the News means we still have not received your payment.

With best philatelic wishes,

Alyce

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R.F.D. CANCELS OF COLORADO:

A PRELIMINARY REPORT

by William H. Bauer

In 1972, when the first listing of Colorado Post Offices (1) was published, only five different R.F.D. markings had come to the author's attention. Since then the number has increased to 21 and undoubtedly more remain to be recorded. However, it is now possible to make some tentative conclusions relative to the use of R.F.D. Cancels in Colorado, and to hope that by publication of those observations more information will come to light.

To date 21 different Colorado towns are known to have used R.F.D. cancels (Table 1), but nearly half are known by the report of a single example. And, since some of the other towns used more than one device, there is no Colorado R.F.D. marking that can be claimed to be common.

From the observed markings three styles are apparent:

STYLE 1: The date is between the town and state names, R.F.D. is sans-serif, and the killer has five bars (Figure 1).

STYLE 2: The date is above both the town and state names, R.F.D. is with serifs, and the killer has only four bars (Figure 2). A minor variation of this style occurs with the Monte Vista strike which has sans-serif letters R.F.D.

STYLE 3: The town and state names are on the same line, beneath the date, R.F.D. is sans-serif, and the killer has five bars. This marking was pictured as Lot 371 of Henry M. Spelman's September 8-9, 1980 auction.

In each style, the top line is R.F.D. From the recorded dates it is not possible to establish time periods of use for the different styles. However, it appears certain that Style 1 was the first to be used in Colorado and was followed by Style 2. But, the periods of use do overlap, which is particularly evident for Edgewater, so far the only town reported to have used more than one style marking.

R.F.D. route numbers are a second area that deserves more attention. No Colorado town serviced more than a few R.F.D. routes, and most had only one or two. Thus, most Colorado R.F.D. cancels include the route number '1'. Route 2 is positively confirmed for five towns, and a route 3 for a single town (Longmont). For only Boulder, Broomfield, Grand Junction, and possibly Longmont, have more than one route number been verified from cancels.

Of all the Colorado towns reporting R.F.D. cancels, only Pine is not located in a primarily agricultural region, and of the 21 towns, 13 are located along the Front Range, from Denver northwards, reinforcing the agricultural orientation of the Rural Free Delivery system.

One manuscript R.F.D. marking, in pencil from Canon City has also been recorded, but others probably exist.

Additional information is needed to provide a more complete picture of the Rural Free Delivery System in Colorado. If your collection contains markings not here reported, new towns, route numbers, styles, and earlier or later dates, I would greatly appreciate hearing from you. — W. H. Bauer, Box 1449, Spring, TX 77373.

R F D
LA SALLE
OCT 5 1903
COLO.

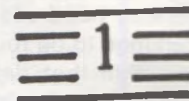


Figure 1. STYLE 1 R.F.D. Cancel

R. F. D.
JAN 14 1905
MONTROSE
COLO.

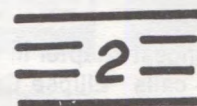


Figure 2. STYLE 2 R.F.D. Cancel

TOWN	STYLE 1	STYLE 2	STYLE 3	REPORTED R.F.D. ROUTE NUMBERS	EARLIEST REPORTED DATE OF USE	LATEST REPORTED DATE OF USE
BOULDER	X			1,2	February 1, 1902	September 19, 1902
BROOMFIELD	X			1,2	February 2, 1901	June 14, 1904
BUSH			X	1	August 19, 1904	
DURANGO	X			1	May 16, 1902	August 15, 1902
EA TON		X		2	November 20, 1902	
EDGEWATER	X	X		1	December 1, 1902 May 20, 1903	September 22, 1902 December 5, 1903
FORT COLLINS	X			2	June 2, 1903	October 31, 1903
FRUITA		X		1	June 22, 1903	
GOLDEN	X			1	March 25, 1901	April 3, 1901
GRAND JUNCTION	X			1,2	August 20, 1902	October 3, 1904
HOLLY		X		1	July 20, 1903	September 5, 1904
LA SALLE	X			1	October 23, 1901	December 18, 1901
LAS ANIMAS	X			1	March 19, 1902	
LITTLETON	X			1	April 5, 1902	
LONGMONT		X		2(?) , 3	August 13, 1902	June 10, 1903
MONT VISTA		X		1(?)	April 4, 1904	
MONTROSE		X		2	January 7, 1905	June 14, 1905
MORRISON		X		1	February 10, 1908	
NEW WINDSOR	X			1	October 15, 1901	October 23, 1905
PINE	X			1	August 6, 1903	August 6, 1907
PLATTEVILLE	X			1	April 10, 1901	

Table 1.

WALTER D. WESSON'S TIME ON BOTTOM (TOB) DUPLEX HAND-CANCELLERS:

A Preliminary Survey And Listing by Theodore W. Bozarth

For the postal historian, the most interesting part of Edward L. Willard's book, *The United States Two Cent Red Brown Of 1883-1887*, is Volume II, in which he describes and illustrates hundreds of the cancellations and other postal markings to be found on that stamp and its covers, generally within that designated 5-year span. That time period marked the beginning of machine cancellations, bringing greater efficiency to the postal service but, unfortunately, also bringing mechanical and impersonal uniformity to what had often been a colorful and very personal postal activity, the hand cancelling of mail. Postmasters in small towns, and even clerks in the larger offices, had obtained or produced their own distinctive hand-held cancelling devices, reflecting a personal pride in their job that is lost today.

The longest chapter in Willard's Volume II is devoted to what he calls "Ellipse Cancellations." These are duplex hand-cancellers having a circular date stamp (CDS) with the town name and posting date at the left (as printed) and an elliptical killer to deface the stamp at the right. (The story of the need for and the invention of duplex hand-cancellers is well told in an article by the late Arthur H. Bond which appeared in the July 1963 issue of *Postal History Journal* (pages 59 through 63), which may be obtained from the American Philatelic Research Library, P.O. Box 338, State College, PA 16801.

The elliptical killers listed by Willard are all formed of either horizontal or vertical bars and have a distinctive number of letter(s) within a circle in the middle of the killer. There are, of course, a multitude of similar killers without the distinctive inner figure, but Willard (who based this chapter largely on the earlier research of Gilbert Burr) chose to eliminate these plain elliptical killers from his listing, for which we may be thankful. There are enough varieties of these distinctive number and letter cancels in the chapter to dismay the novice postmark collector.

Upon closer examination, certain patterns begin to emerge from Willard's all-inclusive survey of the field, and the student realizes that if he concentrates on a certain type of the ellipse cancels, such as split barrels, concentric arc barrels, multiple letter killers, or such, he may isolate a collectible portion of this numerically overwhelming area of postal markings. Even before publication of Willard's book in 1970, the present author had been attracted to those duplex hand-cancels that distinctively carried the posting time in a straight line at the very bottom of the CDS (in place of the state abbreviation or year date more often found there, and not to be confused with the time element appearing on the bottom of three or four lines within the center of the CDS). These "Time on Bottom" (TOB) cancels are the subject of this survey. (See Figure 1.)

Willard called these "Connecticut-type" ellipse cancels, based upon his mistaken belief that significantly more towns in that state used these devices, a belief based on the five Connecticut town users known to him. Later re-

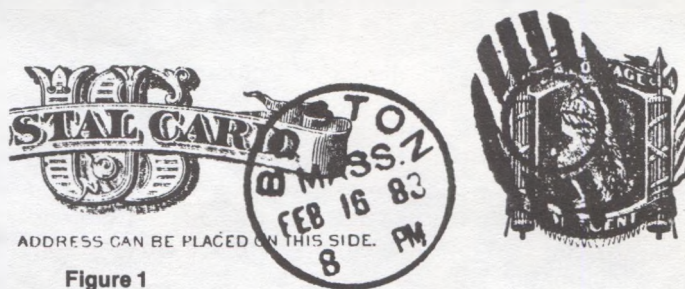


Figure 1



Figure 2

search has turned up four towns for Massachusetts as well as New York, narrowing the supposed predominance, but more importantly, if the number of TOB hand-cancels used by the larger offices is considered (counting only the obviously different number and letter varieties, and ignoring more minor differences), then there were about 30 TOB cancels used in Massachusetts, probably another 30 in Philadelphia, and 16 in Chicago. New York state had 9 different devices, putting Rhode Island and Connecticut, with 7 each, in a two-way tie for fifth place, hardly supporting the name suggested by Willard.

Moreover, Willard's requirement for both an elliptical killer and a distinctive letter or number within that killer, had eliminated from his listing, an earlier TOB cancel from Worcester, MA, which is found only with circular killers, usually without a distinctive central figure. (See Figure 2.) Surprisingly, Willard had overlooked the probable origin of his "Connecticut-type" as revealed by his own source material. On page 7 of his Volume II, in the upper right, is a greatly reduced photograph of Walter D. Wesson's Patent #249,863 (dated 22 Nov 1881) which is easily recognized as what we may call a forerunner of Type I TOB for Worcester, MA, with the town name and state abbreviation in concentric arcs at the top of the CDS (see Figure 4 of the patent), and provision for either a trip number (Figure 4 or 8 of the patent) at the bottom, or time at the bottom, below a straight line date (see Figure 5). (Regrettably, the illustration in Willard is too small and unclear to reproduce here, and the author has been trying since June of 1980 to obtain full size reproductions from the U.S. Patent Office of this and other Wesson patents.) On the same page 7 of Volume II, but in the lower left quadrant, is the illustration of a later Wesson Patent, #286,884 (16 Oct 1883), which has characteristics of our Type II TOB (town name still in an arc but state abbreviation is straight beneath it, and Figure 2 of the patent shows curved "CLERK" at the bottom, rather than date, but dial at right of this figure has straight slot, apparently for time insertion).

Continued on page 86

For Love Of A Cancel

The 1869 Cancellation Clearing House

By Scott R. Trepel

DUPLICATE FAKES

1977 N.Y.

1980 London



Plainfield "C" in Circle



Mason Man in the Moon



Tunkhannock Washington



W. Meriden Devil/Pitchfork



Putnam "DEC" Negative



'Waterbury' Man's Head



1977
1980



Waterbury Heart/Arrow



1977

1980



Eagles



1980 London



1869 Times #22

FAKES OFFERED IN LONDON AUCTION

At least sixty fakes were included among ninety-four lots of early U.S. fancy cancels offered by a major British auction firm in September, 1980. This group is the largest single offering of fake U.S. cancels in four years.

The cancels faked include the Fair Haven, CT "USED & DONE FOR", Hockanum Fox, numerous Waterburys, and an array of desirable designs which have been bringing high prices in recent years. Many of the items are photographed in the catalog, allowing for accurate documentation, but several individual stamps and the

group lots are not; therefore, the actual number of fakes probably exceeds the present count. A few of the photographed fakes are shown here.

The items in this group closely resemble the fakes sold by a major New York auction firm in 1977. The cancel material in that sale was attributed to a "European source". Many of those fakes still show up in the market, but the London 1980 group is an entirely new "wave". Experts are concerned about the possibility of an active "manufacturer" operating in the U.S. or abroad and have begun to investigate the matter further.

It is the opinion of experts consulted that the New York 1977 and London 1980 fakes are products of the same device or process. While the method used to produce these fakes has not been determined, both groups were evidently based on Michel Zareski's tracings, published in his book and the reprints. Further, the London 1980 "duplicates" of the New York 1977 fakes are identical in several respects, including the "white-speckled" ink pattern, highlighted by the black and white catalog photographs.

The emergence of large groups of fakes always causes alarm in the collecting community. The present situation, however, is particularly serious. If dispersed, this material could severely cripple the market for U.S. fancy cancels, much the same as the "sophisticated fakes" of the 1950's and 1960's affected the U.S. classic cover market. For this reason a task force has been established to deter future sale of this material and trace its source.

Collectors and dealers are urged to cooperate by reporting offers of suspicious fancy cancels to: The Clearing House Task Force, c/o Scott R. Trepel. All correspondence will remain confidential.

The developments of this investigation will be reported here when appropriate.



EXPRESSIONS OF PATRIOTISM ON COVER

by William C. Walker

In the late 1920's and early 1930's, quite a few post offices used fancy cancels with a patriotic motif. The Fourth of July probably inspired more cancels than any other National Holiday. Memorial Day, Flag Day and Armistice Day (Veteran's Day to younger collectors) were also commemorated by the use of patriotic cancels. In some cases the same cancel or a nearly identical one was used at different post offices.

On July 4th, 1932, Young America, Indiana used a silhouette of three figures — a man marching with a rifle and two drummers with the wording "spirit of 1776" below (Fig. 1). Two years later, Seventy Six, KY, used a very similar cancel on July 4th, with the lettering below of a different style and size. In 1935, Freedom, WY, 'got on board' with what appears to be the same cancel with no lettering and enclosed in a fancy oval frame.

Bursting firecrackers were used by various post offices in many different states. Some are so similar they may well have been struck by the same canceler. Others are distinctly different. Appleton, WI, in 1929 was among the first to favor philatelists (Fig. 2), along with Henton, IL. The latter town has an eagle clutching what was the world's largest firecracker or a stick of dynamite with the fuse lit. It was used as late as 1932. Chicago Ridge, IL, and Independence, TX, covers are to be found with very similar cancels dated 1933 and 1934 respectively. Both of these look very much like the one used by Independence, MS (Fig. 3). Flint, MI, and La Valle, WI, each had their own unique representations, that from La Valle being very scarce. Patriot, OH, covers dated July 4, 1934 show an arm and hand holding a string of bursting firecrackers with a matching cachet.

Liberty, AZ, contributed a beautiful rendering of the Statue of Liberty in 1934. It can be found on first class (F.C.) covers and registered ones, in some cases in a fancy oval frame. It was 'trotted out' on Veteran's Day in 1932 and 1933. Like most of the others, it is to be found on both cacheted and plain covers (Fig. 4).

Although Ed, KY, 'gave birth to' at least sixty-three different cancels over a period of almost eight years, only one relates to Memorial Day, "Remember Our Heroes." In a frame, it was used on 5-30-32, and as late as 5-30-37 (Fig. 5). There are no known cancels relating to July Fourth, Flag Day or Veteran's Day from Ed, KY.

Jenison, MI, produced three different patriotic cancels in 1932, two in honor of Memorial Day. The one is simply lettered "Memorial Day" in old English. The second depicts the bust of an old man in a circle with G.A.R. beneath (Fig. 6). There were, in 1932, still some Civil War Veterans alive, and the cancel was in commemoration of



Figure 1. Young America, Ind.



Figure 2. Appleton, Wisc.



Figure 3. Independence, Miss. & Independence, W. Va.

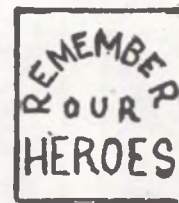


Figure 5. Ed, Ky.



Figure 7. Chicago Ridge, Ill.



Figure 4. Liberty, Ariz.



Figure 6. Jenison, Mich.



Continued on page 86

MORE VANDALS OF PHILATELY

by Prof. C. S. Thompson, Jr.

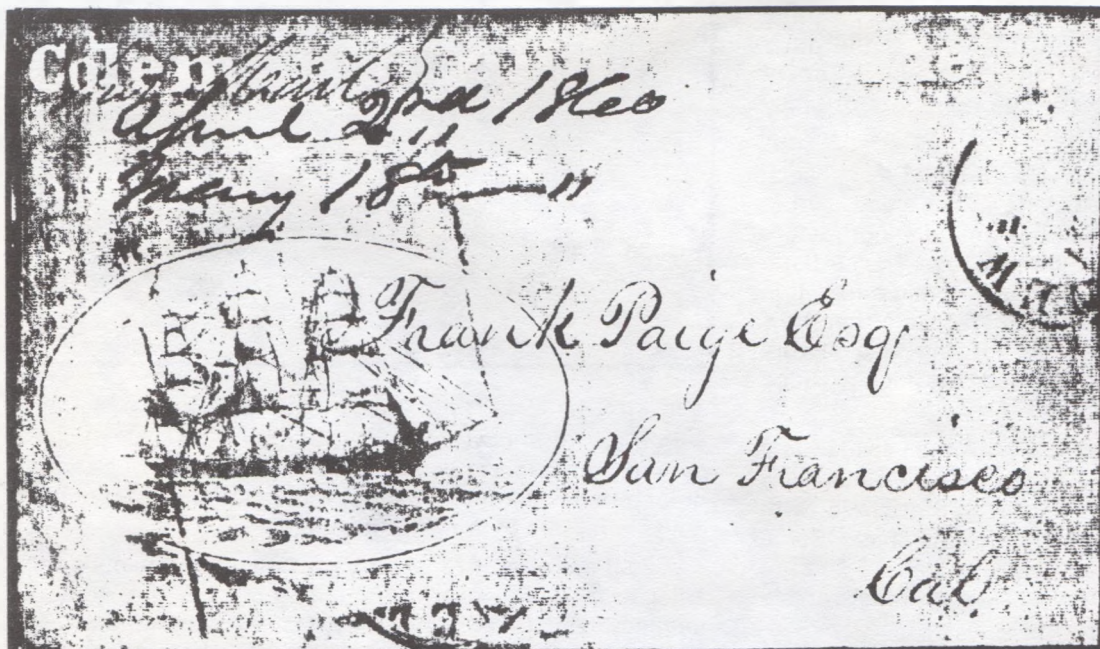


Figure 1

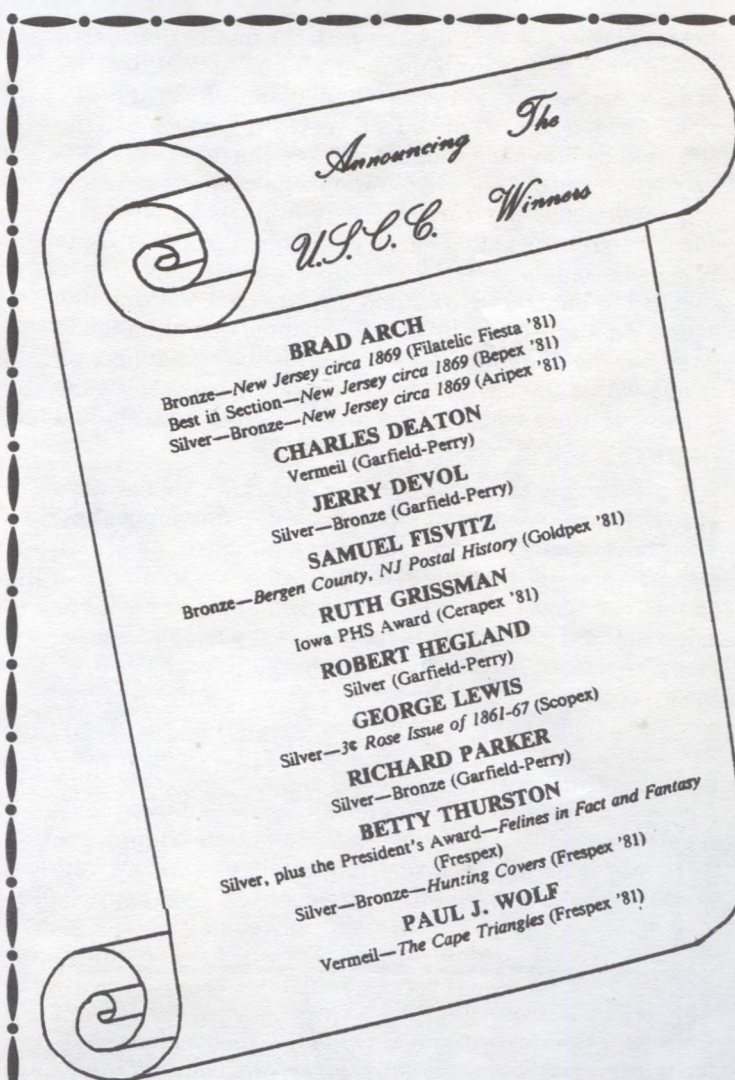
The writer first published an article illustrating a group of used and abused covers in the July 1977 issue of the U.S. Cancellation Club News under the heading of "VANDALS OF PHILATELY." Since that time, several more such covers have come to hand which deserve exposure and condemnation for the vandals that were guilty of their desecration.

Figure 1 illustrates a gem of an east to west method of mail transportation. As can be seen, it is an over-all advertising design cover which is printed in gray. The legend on this cover states, "Coleman's California Line/for San Francisco/Office No 85 Wall St. New York." The main part of the design shows a full-rigged ship in an oval frame. Around the upper part of this oval is printed "FREIGHTS TAKEN AT THE LOWEST RATES." At the lower left-hand corner of the envelope it states, "FIRST CLASS CLIPPER SHIPS/SAILING REGULARLY TWICE A MONTH." The letter is addressed to Frank Page Esq./San Francisco/Cal. A manuscript notation at the upper left-hand portion of the cover proclaims dates of April 2nd 1860/May 18th 1860. The letter originated at New York where it received the NEW YORK black circle ocean mail handstamp. As can also be seen, the stamp the cover contained has been removed which means that we can only surmise what number and type it might have been. Suffice it to say that it was probably a ten cent value of the 1857-61 issue but who knows whether it was a #31, Type 1, or a #35, Type V, or anything in between. Whatever type it was, it did represent an exciting usage in moving the mail from coast to coast.

Figure 2, though not associated with the clipper cover, illustrates the type of stamp and cancellation that the cover once contained. This cover, likewise, originated at New York, received the black ocean mail cancellation, and was carried by sea to its destination at San Francisco.



Figure 2



EXPRESSIONS (Continued from page 84)

the Grand Army of the Republic. On June 14, 1932, an American flag was used on both F.C. and registered covers. The flag is in true colors and is a very scarce cancel. It is attributed to W. H. Gilley. All of the other Jenison, MI, cancels were the output of C. A. Paige. Both of these men were early collectors and originators of fancy cancels.

Lincoln, IA, provided us with two Memorial Day cancels. A framed figure of a soldier looking at a framed picture was used in 1934. The second one is an indistinct picture in a shield with Memorial Day lettering above. Their artistic output on July 4th, 1935 shows a man carrying a flag. It is very similar in style to a cancel found on covers from New Hope, VA. The cancel of a soldier looking at a picture appears to be identical to a cancel used at Chicago Ridge the same year but lacking the outer frame.

Palos Park, IL, and Chicago Ridge both used an identical cancel on Memorial Day (Fig. 7). It shows two men in a shield, one carrying a waving flag. A partial circle, with three stars encompasses the top half of the shield. Some Palos Park covers have a bugler in an oval dated 5-30-31 in blue or purple. Presumably, he is playing 'taps' for his fallen comrades.

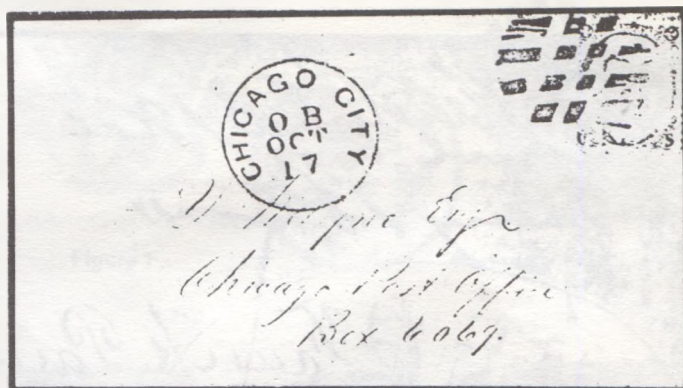
Flag Day also, did not pass unnoticed. At least 15 cancels may be found on covers from this period dated June 14th and depicting flags of all colors and descriptions. A large percentage are cacheted with a patriotic motif. Bass, IN, in 1931 used a tiny flag very much like the one used by Flagtown, NJ, but without the lettering FLAG DAY above it in old English lettering. The only one struck in two colors (blue and purple) comes from Hawthorne, NV, and is dated 1933, with a Flag Day cachet. Unionville, IA, in 1933, was responsible for a purple cancel depicting a soldier and flag. It ranks among the rare cancels from this period. Banner, MO, in 1934 used a cancel depicting Betsy Ross sewing together a banner. This one is found on covers with a somewhat similar cachet. Nearly all of the others are likenesses of flags of varying types, sizes and colors.

A great many of these National Holiday cancels were used only one day. In most instances it is not known how many covers were prepared. Most of them are quite scarce and a number of them are rare. If anyone has information on them or knows of any surviving originator or early collector of these cancels, your help is greatly needed. Particularly important at this time is information on Dr. B. R. Bales, Thomas F. Cornish and P. G. Russo, if they are still alive, and their present addresses. Or information regarding their heirs who might have their correspondence. Any data on the makers of the cachets and cancels can still be included in the Loso de Windt revision now underway. This information will be most helpful to current and future collectors in understanding their origins. Please share your knowledge. Write William C. Walker, 102 Elizabeth St., Clearfield, PA 16830.

ERRATA: The March issue listed an old address for David J. Simmons. Those members wishing to add to his South Hadley, MA, listing may contact Dave at 5572 Waterman, St. Louise, MO 63112.

A FAVORITE CANCEL

BY Joseph F. Rorke



The USCC News for January 1981 revived this section with a beautiful cover of Bert Christian's. As was so eloquently stated there, a cover does not have to be one of the great rarities in order to reach favored status. I offer such a cover here, this time from Chicago, Ill.

A 2¢ Black Jack, #73, is strongly tied by a large cut cork killer to a yellow cover. In matching color is the 30 mm. single circle CDS, Chicago City, Oct. 17 with initials OB. The letter is a local 'drop' to Box 6069. The story of the local Chicago postmarks with initials has been expertly summarized by Harvey M. Karlen in his *Chicago Postal History*, published by the Collectors Club of Chicago in 1971. These postmarks are known used from September 11 to November 30, 1863.

Although the meaning of the initials is not known with certainty it is probable that they refer to someone handling the mail. O. Bushnell was a Chicago letter carrier from April 1 to June 30, 1863. In the fall of 1867 he was listed as a Railway Mail clerk on the Chicago to Burlington run. His exact position during the intervening period has not been determined, but it is quite possible that he could have been the mail clerk using the 'OB' CDS on October 17, 1863.

T.O.B. (Continued from page 82)

It should be noted that Wesson may have been trying to develop a special cancelling device for railway mail clerks at this time. The earlier patent includes a multiple-face killer that could be affixed in several positions, two of them reading "NORTH" or "SOUTH", while the later patent shows the "CLERK" killer cited above, and another killer reading "MISSENT" fastened to a CDS with word "WEST" at bottom.

Although the patents cited very closely resemble the TOB cancels later used in the several cities to be listed, it is possible that they were actually made by someone else to whom the patents had been assigned. It has been reported that Wesson was a clerk in the Providence post office, who died at the early age of 34. His year of death is not presently known, and the actual manufacture of his TOB hand-cancels may have been performed by heirs or assignees, but the author prefers to attribute these distinctive postal cancellers to Walter D. Wesson until someone produces a better claim for someone else.

(To be continued)

STAMP THEFT COMMITTEE

Maryette B. Lane is chairman of the APS Stamp Theft Committee. All stamp thefts should be reported immediately to Lane, 490 23rd Ave. N., St. Petersburg FL 33704, telephone (day, night, or weekend) 813-898-7328.

~~~~~  
 HELP!! Our Sales Manager *DESPERATELY* needs material for the 19th Century circuits!!!!  
 ~~~~~

SMALL AND LARGE SHIELD CANCELS OF PATERSON, NEW JERSEY

by Brad Arch



Figure 1



Figure 2



Known used on the 1861 issue adhesive stamps and on the 1864 issue postal stationery. The only dateable examples that have come to my attention were all used in 1867, with the Small Shield (Fig. 1) used during the first half of the year and the Large Shield (Fig. 2) used during the last half of the year.

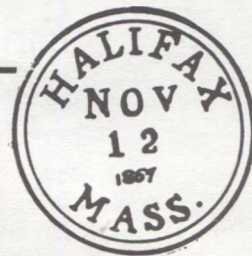
~~~~~  
**ERRATA:** In the March '81 issue of the *NEWS*, Figures 6 and 7 were transposed, page 67. Also in the same issue, page 78, 'The Question Corner,' line six, should read 1890, not 1980.  
 ~~~~~

SKINNER-ENO UPDATE

Bert Christian has sent two covers which he has not found listed in any standard records. The Frontenac cancel is a deep blue with matching CDS. The Laceyville, PA grid is in light blue, almost ultramarine, on a yellow cover which has a tendency to look like a green cancel to the uninitiate. It also has a matching CDS.

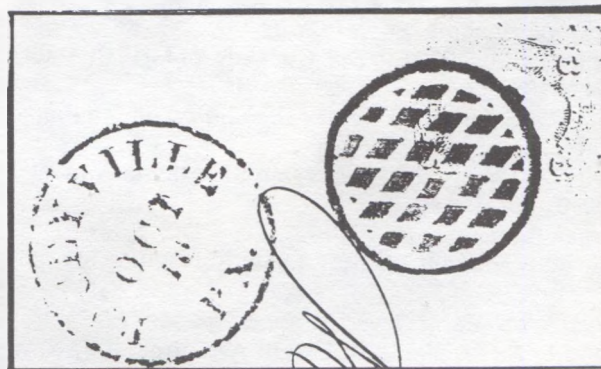


PROJECT RESEARCH



Frank Mandel requests help in researching the Collin & Co. Double Outer Line Circle townmarks, such as the Halifax one shown here. These were used during the 1851-1871 period. Frank would appreciate it if members would examine their collections for these markings and send him full-sized photocopies, noting the color of the marking as well as docketing information which would indicate the year of use. The Collin type townmarks were not used much past 1869 and can usually be distinguished from the numerous non-Collin varieties of the Banknote period which he is *not* researching. Frank, a new member, will give proper credit to those members sending information when he publishes his findings. For further examples of these markings, readers may refer to the revised edition of Simpson's USPM 1851-1861. Page 12 of Simpson discusses Collin & Co., who were sales agents for these handstamps, not the engravers. Letters may be addressed to Frank Mandel, 54 Barrow St., Apt. 1B, New York, NY 10014.

~~~~~  
 Warren P. Tingley would like to form a group to classify by code all the ellipse cancels on the Banknote issues with numeral or letter centers. Warren needs volunteers to send him coded descriptions of their unlisted varieties in their field of specialty, such as a particular city or state. He suggests that perhaps two or more could work together on one of the issues, or perhaps a city or state. Warren would be willing to handle the exchange of information within the group and act as chairman. He can handle the information gathering on his computer. Mr. Tingley has revised and reprinted his Jan. '80 article which appeared in the *News* and a copy will be sent to our Librarian. This new coding system is a brief and easy-to-learn system of describing the type of ellipse and reduces the need for drawing each one of them out. This work will no doubt be accepted as the standard reference work on ellipse cancels. Those interested members may contact Warren at 1627 River View Road, #409, Deerfield Beach, FL 33441.



~~~~~  
 Ed: Bert, the ink is barely dry on your name in the 'New Members' list, and already you have given us an article, 'A Favorite Cancel', and have contributed the above. You truly exemplify the spirit of what I call a genuine philatelist . . . one who cares and shares.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following:

- 1361 Randy Moses, 6048 Canal Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70124
Classic US; US Postal History
- 1362 Joseph von Hake, Paupack, PA 18451
Pre-adhesive Mail; Penn. Towns in the Six northeast Counties.
- 1363 Jack Hilbing, 380 Indian Hill Dr., Buffalo Grove, IL 60090
IL Postal History; NY Stampless; US Stampless; GB Stampless; Machine Cancels.
- 1364 Capt. Kurt A. Sanftleben, 420 N. Summit, No. 4, Gaithersburg, MD 20760
(No collecting interests noted)
- 1365 Richard B. Jordan, 1551 E. Shaw Ave., Ste. 101, Fresno, CA 93710
Rhode Island PH; Falklands and Depds.; Gold Coast & Zululand; and lots more.
- 1366 Robert James Loller, 111 Quail Court, Elkton, MD 21921
US General Area, Mint & Used; US Fancy Cancels, On & Off Cover; US Plate # Singles
- 1367 Kenneth Le Bow, 6 Apple Manor Lane, E. Brunswick, NJ 08816
Revenues; Fancy Cancels on Banknotes.
- 1368 Harold H. Griffin, 537 Round Table Dr., Oxon Hill, MD 20022
19th C. Stamps
- 1369 Margie Sterken, 3006 Woodcliff Ln. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506
Early US; Fancy Cancels; Canada; FDC's.
- 1370 Rienzi B. Parker, Jr., 129 Cherry Brook Rd., Weston, MA 02193
19th C. used US; Singles & On Cover.
- 1371 CW2 Igor J. Huryk, 630th Engr. Co./649th Engr. Bn. (T), APO New York 09081
US; CSA; Germany
- 1372 Richard Knoth, 138 4th Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15229
US & UN Stamps; Covers; Machine Cancels; Postal History.
- 1373 Wayne G Lindquist, 57 Fourth St., Brentwood, NY 11717
US 19th Century
- 1374 Howard N. Loper, 4126 Royalcrest Dr., Memphis, TN 38115
US War Covers; Machine Cancels.
- 1375 Russell F. Hanmer, P.O. Box 614, Wallingford, CT 06492
Machine Cancels; Postal Cards.
- 1376 Ernst C. Abbe, 220 Bio-Sci. Ctr. Univ. of MN., St. Paul, MN 55108
19th C. US, inc. any kind of cancellation on the Bank-note.
- 1377 Ralph E. Lamar III, 120 W. Main St., Middletown, NY 10940
Fancy Cancels 19th & 20th C. On & Off Cover.
- 1378 Steve Wilson, 1433 Vintay Lane, Salt Lake City, UT 84121
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- 1379 John E. McCracken, 1199 Park Ave., Apt. 10F, New York, NY 10028
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- 1380 Ernest Geist, 745 Lincoln Ave., Loveland, CO 80537
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