

FIRST DAYS

Publication of the American First Day Cover Society



Early cachet by pioneer designer Torkel Gundel. Note fine detail — all hand-work! (See "First Cachets" article on page 40.)

Vol. 14, No. 1

•
Whole
Number 78

•
Jan.-Feb.
1969

Price —
Seventy-five Cents

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THE GALLERY OF FAMOUS FIRST DAY COVERS

(This is the sixth in a series of articles on famous FDCs from various collections which are of unusual significance in the First Day Cover field. The author will welcome any information on additional covers to be featured in this column. Address mail to L. S. Fisher, 25 Bellaire Drive, New Castle, Pa. 16101.)

FIRST DAY COVERS OF THE 1893 COLUMBIAN ISSUE

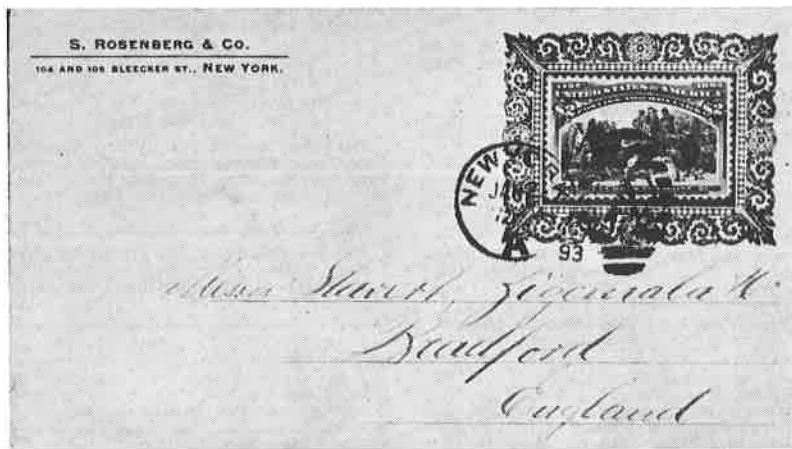


Photo by Boutrelle

Scott #242, \$2 Columbian, FDC dated Jan. 2, 1893. Note ornate framing printed on the envelope for the stamp.

Before reading this column, it is suggested that FDC collectors review the articles on Columbian FDCs published in *FIRST DAYS* Vol. 9 No. 6 (July-August 1964) and Vol. 10, No. 4 (March - April 1965). In those stories the true date of issue was discussed. They concluded that January 1, 1893 saw the first sale of these stamps in New York City. In most or possibly in all other cities, the First Day of sale was January 2, 1893 or later. January 1 was a Sunday, and although the Columbians were sold, this was not a day when Post Offices were normally open. At least one cover was mailed on that date. Catalogs and even the U.S. Post Office Department still regard January 2 as the first official day of issue. This column will not attempt to justify either date, but will assume that covers with either date may be considered to be true First Day Covers, with the final decision resting in the hands of the collect-

or as he adds his own Columbian FDCs to his collection.

What is possibly the only known FDC of a Columbian mailed on January 1, 1893 from New York is illustrated in the above-mentioned 1964 issue of *FIRST DAYS*. This column will illustrate all the values of the Columbian series known used on January 2, 1893. It has been mentioned by several people, at various times, that all values of Columbians issued on January 2 are known on covers mailed that day. However, these rumors will be ignored by the writer until such time as he is presented with proof that such covers actually do exist. Until then, the writer assumes that the only values known used on January 2, 1893 are the 1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c, 6c, and \$2.00.

The most "common" of the Columbian values on FDC is the 2c. This is because 2c was the proper amount to

(Continued on page 12)



FIRST DAYS

Jan.-Feb., 1969
Vol. 14, No. 1
Whole Number 78

Official Publication

Sol Koved, Editor

14 Samoset Road, Cranford, New Jersey 07016

Communications pertaining to the publication should be sent to the editor at the above address. Request for return must accompany material submitted for inspection.

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Published bi-monthly by the American First Day Cover Society, Inc., at Quiz Graphic Arts, Inc., 305 S. 16th St., Ord, Nebr. Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Ord, Nebr.

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Dues include subscription to FIRST DAYS and participation in all activities.

Applicants should submit dues with their application to the Executive Secretary in accordance with the following schedule:

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Thirteenth Annual Meeting of the American First Day Cover Society

Philadelphia, Pa.
October 19, 1968

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 P.M. by President Curtis Patterson. A motion was made to accept the minutes of the 1967 meeting as published in *FIRST DAYS*. Seconded and passed.

There was no old business. The officers and committee chairmen who were present read their annual reports. They are published below, together with those reports that were submitted by mail.

Ad Manager, *FIRST DAYS* Reg. vice-president

The past six issues of *FIRST DAYS* Vol. 12 No 8 through Vol. 13 No. 5, contained a total of 100-3/4 pages of advertising.

— Frank Aufrecht

Awards Committee

Since the last report submitted by this committee, six plaques and 22 certificates were furnished to exhibitions throughout the U.S. and Canada.

— George A. Connes

Combinations Column (*FIRST DAYS*)

I continue to be pleased and amazed with the mail received from readers of my column. This is most encouraging, I have made many good friends. Readers' opinions and suggestions are most welcome. The principle difficulty has been in preparing my text from incomplete information received from the P.O.D. We hope that the situation will improve next year.

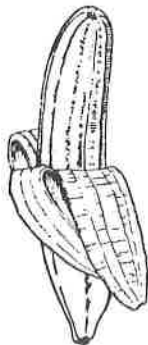
— Frances Wickerd

Constitution & By-laws

During the past year the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society were brought up to date by incorporating the amendments passed during the last several years. In the final form this was submitted to the Board of Directors, read, corrected and then given to the Editor for publication in *FIRST DAYS*. All members will thereby have a copy of it. It is also contemplated that additional copies be printed for distribution

(Continued on page 24)

4 Sale Bananas?



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From The Editor's Desk



This month we happily relinquish our editorial space for the Convention Chairman's report by *Alan Warren*.

Thirteenth Convention Report

The Thirteenth Annual Society Convention held in Philadelphia, in conjunction with SEPAD, may not have been the biggest, but it was one of the best in Society history. Many AFDCS members took top awards in the show, which you will read about elsewhere in this issue.

Things got off to a hesitant start when *Norm Walker* and his wife found the hotel lost record of their reservation. The situation was corrected the same day and President *Curt Patterson* later joined the Walkers in the Society suite. Other early arrivers were *Alma Snowa*, from Richmond, Va., and *Dave Zubatsky* who came in from St. Louis.

The show opened Friday morning but cover activity was delayed for a very special set of arrangements. Roy Lundin, coming in from Medford, Mass., stopped off in New Haven, Conn. long enough for member *Nate Jones* to whisk him into town to pick up some John Trumbull stamps on the day of issue. Roy almost missed his connecting flight, but the obliging airline wheeled the ramp back up to the plane door and let Roy on. At Philadelphia International Airport Roy was met by Curt who barreled back to the convention hotel where a crew of AFDCS members waited to apply stamps to covers in time to be cancelled the same day. So, you can see that your set of convention covers this year has an exciting tale to go with it, and we urge you to order them from Jim Sheaffer as soon as possible. Those cancelled on October 18th are an unofficial FDCs of the Trumbull stamp.

Late Friday evening the AFDCS Board of Directors met to discuss (into the wee hours of the morning) issues vital to the Society. Saturday's activities were highlighted by the well attended membership meeting for presentation of annual reports, followed by a slide program by *Lee Waterman* on "Combination First Day Covers."

Saturday evening SEPAD held its Awards Banquet, AFDCS members helped fill three of the many tables. Curt Patterson presented the Society-

sponsored exhibition awards, and also made special presentations to *Don Heuring*, for his ten years as Sales Manager, and *Alan Warren* as 1968 Convention Chairman. Don's wife, *Evelyn*, also received a lovely silver tray from Curt for her understanding and untiring assistance during the years Don worked on this important activity. Ben Papell was awarded an AFDCS plaque for seven years service as Treasurer — plus unselfish devotion of time in Society lounges at dozens of shows.

Sunday afternoon featured a Cover Clinic with a presentation by *Jim Sheaffer* on "Foreign First Day Covers," illustrated with many items from Jim's own collection. During the 3-day convention, Donation Auction Chairman *Dmytro Bykovetz* displayed the auction material and took additional bids. Sales of convention covers and other Society items went well.

With the Thirteenth Annual Convention now a part of history, we are already looking forward to next year's meeting. Will you be there?!

The editor expresses appreciation for the receipt of the following:

FIRST DAY COVERS: Arkansas River from *Francis Bloch* of Hartford, Mich.; from *Cover Craft Cachets* of Paterson, N.J. and *Francis Bloch* the Lief Erikson, Cherokee Strip and John Trumbull issues; Waterfowl Conservation submitted

(Continued on page 36)



DOES YOUR COLLECTION NEED DIRECTION TOWARDS THE RARE, THE UNUSUAL IN FDC?

1969 Season's Opening Offerings

First Day Covers moved up substantially in price in the 1969 Scott Specialized catalogue just out, and deservedly so. Quality FDC moved the most, as anticipated, and the market remains bullish. The following are now available on a first come, first served basis; mostly only one in stock. Prices upon request. Scott Numbers Used Exclusively.

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| 548-550 Ward. | C1 1st flight |
| 548 & 550, 549 2 covers. D.C. | C2 1st flight |
| 551-570 | C3 1st flight |
| 610 | C4-5-6 3 covers. |
| 611 | C7-8-9 all cities |
| 612 | C10 all cities, incl. |
| 614-616 various towns | C10 Chicago Air Mail Field |
| 617-619 various towns | C11 pairs |
| 620-621, 7 cities, cmpt. | C13-14-15 including C13 card. |
| 622 | C16 machine & handcancel. |
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Adam K. Bert's Notes

5c KOSCIUSZKO FIRST DAY COVERS

The first announcement of the Kosciuszko stamp stated that First Day sales would be held at 5 cities on Oct. 13, 1933, namely:

Boston, Mass.

Buffalo, N. Y.

Chicago, Ill.

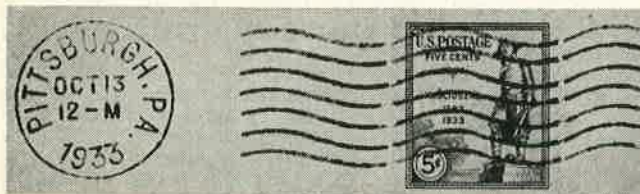
Detroit, Mich.

St. Louis, Mo.

I arranged with subscribers to my cover service who lived in those places to service my covers from their respective cities and was relaxing in the thought that my service problems

more as we had ample time to spare.

Al Gorham, one of the pioneer First Day Cover servicers sent me his covers to service and this was my first introduction to the First Day Bullseye cancellation. Several of his covers (possibly a dozen or so) had pencil outlines for guiding me in pasting the stamps in top center of the envelope to receive a machine bullseye cancel. I never learned how well these turned out and I often wondered what ever became of them. Who got them? Where are they now? Al Gorham had



apparently been getting First Day Bullseyes previously and he continued it until old age or death put a stop to his stamp activities.

D. Blake Battles of Wooster, O., the veter-

were solved when it was announced at the last minute that Kosciuszko, Miss. was to be included as a First Day city. Fast arrangements had to be made for servicing FDC there and once more I sat back to relax.

Then suddenly, Pittsburgh was added to the list. This caught most collectors and dealers completely off guard. Very few people knew of it in time to get covers. Fortunately my home in Washington, Pa. was only 30 miles away and my only problem was to get an extra batch of covers ready on short notice. Several distant dealers wired or telephoned that they were sending packages of covers by airmail to me at General Delivery, Pittsburgh, which they wanted me to service for them. I picked up several such packages including one that was sent to me purely on speculation without any prior notice. I bought 5000 stamps and used about half of them on FDC. Some were blocks but, as I recall it, most were singles. I had one helper and we got our work done early in the day. We could have serviced many

an dealer in old covers, acquired a lot of the Gorham material at some later date and I bought such odds and ends of First Day Bullseyes as were left in the stock but there was not a Kosciuszko in the lot.

Incidentally, it took me quite a few years to get interested in preparing stamps on cover for First Day Bullseye cancels. In 1948 I launched out daringly (?) and set up 5 or 10 of most of the new issues for bullseyes but I had poor luck with most of them until I became more experienced. I developed a liking for this specialty and found many collectors liked bullseyes, too.

My helper and I worked in the lobby of the old main post office at the corner of Fourth Ave. and Smithfield St. just a block away from my present office. The post office was no more busy than on an ordinary business day. It is doubtful if the average postal patron knew that a special stamp was on sale. Quite a contrast to the recent activity when the 10 Historic Flag stamps were issued July 4, 1968.

I serviced about one-third of the total mailing of 6,282 covers. I believe there has never been such a small mailing of any First Day Covers (except the 50c Zeppelin) since the P. O. Dept. has been keeping records of the quantities mailed. If this figure is any guide to the number of collectors of FDCs it would seem to indicate that there are very few serious collectors. Or, it could be that in the mad scramble for current issues this sleeper is being overlooked. Scott's price is pitifully low for such a scarce cover, and no First Day Cover collector need feel he can't afford to own it.

How many readers of these notes own one?

SECOND NOTICE

This constitutes the SECOND NOTICE to renew AFDCS membership. This is the last issue of *FIRST DAYS* to be received by those who have not already remitted dues for 1969. The enclosed envelope may also be used for *Publication Fund* donations and Sales Dept. orders by those who have already signed up for the year.

Members not paid by February 10th will be dropped from the mailing list.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

To fill the sensitive post as chairman of the Literature Promotion activities, President Curt Patterson appointed *J. Richard Chellevoid*. Filling a vital Society need will be *Lawrence Fisher* as Convention Planning chairman. The Society anticipates rapid gain in both these areas.

Patterson was also happy to designate *Harry L. Benedict* Chapter Coordinator. He will advise present chapters, promote new ones and report such activities in *FIRST DAYS*.

The President regretfully accepted the resignation of RVP *Stanley Watson* with an expression of appreciation for the work he has done for the Society during the past four years.

1919 C. George 1969

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Mystery Combination – 643 & 644

by Wayne P. Gasper, AFDCS 664ch

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"This is Curt Patterson of the American First Day Cover Society," announced a quiet voice as I answered the insistent ring of the telephone on a warm Saturday in May. Quickly we arranged for a meeting that afternoon where I spent three animated, rewarding hours with our vacationing president talking about First Day Covers and sharing my collection. Several of my favorite combination covers also struck Curt as having certain built in mysteries. The visit concluded with his urging me to share this mystery with others in the Society, so here goes.

On August 3, 1927, two stamps commemorating different events were issued: Scott #643 and #644. The former, recognizing the Vermont Sesquicentennial, was issued both from Bennington, Vermont, and Washington, D.C. The latter, commemorating the surrender of Gen. Burgoyne, was issued that same date from four cities in New York: Albany, Rome, Syracuse, and Utica, and also from Washington, D.C. I often wondered if any First Day Covers existed with these stamps combined. To date, I have located two such covers.

The first contains a pair of both #643 and #644 beautifully center-

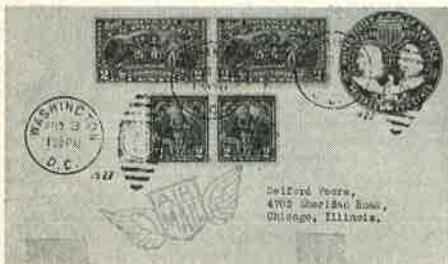


Figure 1

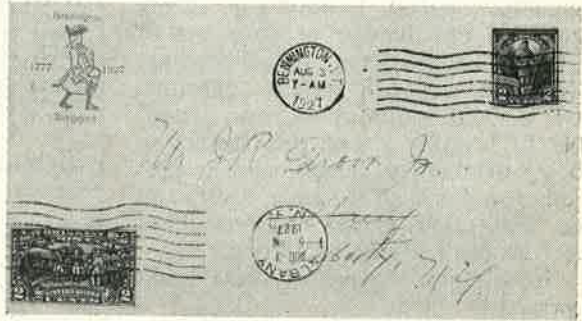


Figure 2

ed on the two-cent Columbian envelope (U349) and hand cancelled at Washington, D.C. at 1:30 PM, August 3, 1927 (Figure 1). The cover, stamped "Air Mail," is addressed to Chicago, Illinois and is backstamped to show receipt in Chicago at 9:30 AM, August 4.

The other cover is even more unusual (Figure 2). It contains a single #643 in the upper right corner, machine cancelled at Bennington, Vt. at 7:00 AM, August 3, 1927. In the lower left corner is a single copy of #644, machine cancelled at Albany, N.Y. at 5:00 PM, August 3. The cover was originally addressed to Albany, N.Y., then readdressed to Liberty, N.Y. To add to its beauty it has a small cachet printed in green in the upper left hand corner — a colonial drummer, with the word "Bennington" over the drummer's head and "Burgoyne" under his feet.

All this seems to indicate careful preparation of a number of covers by someone with a philatelic interest. Who prepared the covers? How many exist? Do combinations exist from Bennington and cities other than Albany? Here is a mystery you can help solve. If you can answer any of these questions, or have similar combination covers, please let me hear from you.

February Auction of Rare F. D. C.'s and Stamps

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Columbian issue (from page 3)

pay the postage on a regular first class letter at that time. The next most common was the 1c which could be used in a pair to pay the letter rate or could pay the card rate, or could be used in combination with other stamps to pay other rates. FDCs of the 2c are known from several different towns, and, although only one of the 2c FDCs is illustrated here, there may be as many as 50 of this value known. The 1c value is much more scarce on FDC with probably not more than 5 to 10 of these known. The 3c, 4c, 5c, and 6c values are exceedingly rare with probably not more than one or two FDCs known of each.

Six First Day Covers are illustrated in conjunction with this story. Five covers are franked with the six low values of the Columbian series, all postmarked January 2, 1893, all mailed from Boston and all mailed to (and possibly by) a Mrs. or Mr. Moberg (spelling?) of Boston. They were obviously mailed for philatelic or souvenir purposes. The 1c FDC was made by using the 1c and 3c values on the same cover. This matched set of the six low values is very beautiful, indeed.



Photo by Boutrelle

Scott #s 230 and 232, 1c and 3c Columbian values on January 2, 1893 FDCs.

On page 3 is illustrated a FDC (January 2) of the \$2.00 value, mailed from New York City to Bradford, England on an envelope with a specially printed frame around the space provided for the stamp (an occasionally used device of the day, especially for advertising purposes). It is worthy to quote in its entirety a 1951 letter from Harry Weiss, a lead-



Photo by Boutrelle

Top to bottom: Scott #s 231, 233, 234 and 235 with January 2, 1893 First Day cancellations.

ing stamp writer and authority, to the man who owned this cover at that time. This letter gives information about this cover and also discusses some of the ways to determine if a cover is genuine. The letter is as follows:

"The writer has examined a first day card bearing the \$2.00 Columbian issue stamp, Scotts No., 242, sent by S. Rosenberg & Co., of New York, N.Y. and addressed to Stavert, Zigounala & Co., Bradford, England. I find the following facts and give you my opinion on this card. This opinion is based on two scores of years of examining these stamps, as well as others.

"By examination with Ultra Violet Ray lamps at 1620 Angstrom Units, at 3420 A.U. and at 3800 A.U. I find this stamp genuine and postally used on January 2nd, 1893. I do find a question arises as to the setting of the cancellor used at that time. Under quartz lamp with filter removed and examination with a blue filter glass I find the cancellation is genuine. A

smoke colored filter bears out my contention that this stamp is genuine. An examination of the ink used in cancellation work at that period shows that the range of variance comes within the scope of the cancellation on this stamp. This was ascertained by comparison with postmarks on other stamps used in New York City at the same time.

"It is my opinion that the date used in this cancellor was of the movable type. Thus the digit '2' is offset to allow the daily change of type of date numerals to be added. Thus we find that the dates of the month from 1 to 9 are offset on stamps used for cancellation comparison at that date. The dates from 10 to 31 are centered where the date of the month has two numerals as for instance '20'. In other words, in dates from 1 to 9 a 'spacer' is used. The spacer is removed from dates above the 9th of any one month and the number which would go to make up the dates from the 10th to the 31st is used. In other words, the second numeral takes the place of the spacer.

"In my opinion no erasure shows up on your card via Infra Red ray examination. This device will bring back charred lettering, erasures, etc.

"Microscopic examination at 100 dioptrs (Bausch and Lomb) substantiate my finding.

"My opinion: Your card was postally used on January 2nd, 1893 from New York to England and is genuine in every respect.

Respectfully submitted / Harry Weiss, Examiner (signed)"

This letter shows the lengths and techniques involved in determining the genuineness of this card.

Finally, it is interesting to note the contents of an ad placed in *STAMPS* magazine of November 25, 1950 by the well known dealer, Herman Herst. It reads, "LIBERAL REWARD! We want to buy (or borrow) for study purposes a cover with any value of the Columbian Series postmarked New York, January 2, 1893, the first day of issue. We will pay for even a peek at such an item, though we would prefer to buy it at a good price. Can any reader of this magazine help us out?"

This ad indicates the great rarity of such covers, as even in the days when demand for scarce FDCs was quite limited, these were recognized as having quite a bit of value. Almost needless to say, the writer of this column would be very grateful to learn the whereabouts of any value of Columbian stamps on FDC regardless of whether they are for sale or not.

Addendum

A January 1, 1893 First Day Cover of the 2c Columbian denomination from Boston has recently been discovered with a Roxbury backstamp of the same date. Also, a January 1, 1893 2c FDC from New York City with a 1:00 A. M. cancellation has been found. Furthermore, a Chicago January 2, 1893 2c Columbian has turned up. These three discoveries will be the subject of an article in a future issue of *FIRST DAYS*.

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Patterson Re-Elected For Second Two-Year Term

AFDCS President Curtis Patterson has re-elected to a second two-year term as the Society's top officer in what appeared to be a record vote.

Also re-elected, to serve during the 1969-70 term are Executive Vice President William H. Bayless, Executive Secretary Mrs. Sidney (Marge) Finger, and Corresponding Secretary James H. Sheaffer.

Richard A. Elms has been elected Treasurer, succeeding Ben Papell who moves into a Regional Vice President post after many years of fine service to the Society in the financial position.

In addition, nine other Regional Vice Presidents have been elected, as follows: Frank J. Aufrecht, George A. Comnes, Mrs. Fred (Monte) Eiserman, Donald G. Heuring, Elmer E. Koehler, James McLemore, Jr., Frank F. Raciti, Bernard Ring and Stanley D. Watson.

Thus the full slate of officers selected by the membership to guide the Society during 1969-70 is the slate recommended by your elections committee. The total vote was unusually heavy and ballots have been received from nearly every section of the nation.

There were a number of write-in votes, most of which showed considerable thought and consideration. These write-ins will doubtless be given important consideration by your next elections committee two years hence.

Your committee extends thanks to the many members who exercised their right to vote in selecting the Society's leadership for the coming two-year term.

Respectfully submitted:

Committee on Elections

Vito Maranzano

William Decker

Jack V. Harvey, Chairman

Translations from or into a foreign language available free to all members. For details write to:

D. Bykovetz, Jr.
905 Stratford Ave. Philadelphia, Pa. 19126

Junior Views

Carmen Puliafito
300 Ayer Road
Williamsville, New York 14221

Jay A. Messersmith (J-8106), of Irving, Texas, has proposed an idea which should be of considerable interest to many AFDCS members, particularly juniors. Jay has suggested that a special AFDCS unit devoted to "first day bullseye" collecting be formed. He writes, "I am sure that there are many members interested in these unique stamps, so why not something especially for them?"

Curt Patterson agrees with Jay and so do I. But the formation of such a unit is of course contingent upon the interest expressed and the commitments made by members of the AFDCS. An ill-fated "Project Merc" was started some time ago, but as they drifted off into other fields the members lost interest. To avoid this mistake, the new unit which is envisioned would have the express and sole purpose of promoting the collection of "bullseye first day cancellations."

Clearly, for many members of the Society, now is the time to act. If you have an interest in bullseye cancellations, cultivate it in cooperation with fellow AFDCS members. It is always unfortunate that some collectors with a specialized interest or ability choose to remain "lone wolves," instead of sharing their insights and gaining new ones from others. Contact Curtis Patterson (8 Darthmouth Rd., Wilmington, Del. 19808) for further information.

One additional note: Mr. Messersmith is certainly to be commended for his initiative, a quality often thought rare. Other juniors would do well to follow suit. Suggestions are always welcome, and this column allows stands open as a forum for junior comment.

Complaints involving unethical behavior of AFDCS members or dealers should be referred to:

James C. Hobbs
2300 Magnolia Dr. Wilmington, Del. 19803

20c AIRMAIL ASDA F. D. Cancels

The AFDCS used a special promotion at the recent ASDA Show in New York City to attract new members. We serviced *Artcraft* cachets (in three colors) with the 20c airmail stamp — tied on with *hand* cancels, both First Day of Issue and ASDA slogan. These are rare!

The following are the color cachet and cancellation varieties that we have on hand, we offer them on a first come — first served basis. First Day of Issue: 10-blue. ASDA slogan: 16-black, 44-blue and 43-sepia. They are priced at 55c each.

Also, we have 50 P.O.D. poster bulletins (8"x10½") printed in red and black with 20c airmail stamp tied on with hand cancel. Absolutely stunning! Suitable for framing or makes a handsome album page. Priced at 75c each, mailed flat.

Since the supply of all items is very limited, we suggest that orders not be delayed. Write to AFDCS Sales, 1837 W. State St., Alliance, Ohio 44601.

Letters to the Editor

Wilmington, Del.

Dear Sol,

I recently purchased a Scott 622 First Day Cover that was hand cancelled in Washington, D. C., Jan. 11, 1926. As usual I carefully opened the envelope to remove the insert and to replace it with a "No Stick" liner.

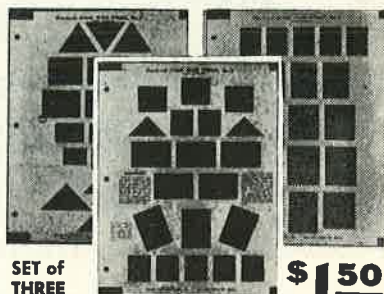
Much to my surprise the insert was a blank membership application with the sunburst insignia of the International Apple Shippers Association. At the lower edge of the card are the words "Mail to Raymond Bahr, Springfield, Illinois. Chairman Membership Committee I.A. S.A." I then noted that the First Day Cover was addressed to Raymond V. Bahr, in Springfield, Illinois and was stamped Special Delivery. To my knowledge this is the first time that I have seen such an insert, although I have many First Day Covers that were made and serviced by Bahr as he was one of the pioneers in the FDC collecting field. He is especially noted for obtaining the C-10 Chicago Airmail Field cancellation.

Curt Patterson

STAMP SPACE

STENCILS

(TEMPLATES)



SET of
THREE

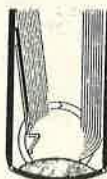
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Fake Seward First Day Cancels!

By Frederick Langford

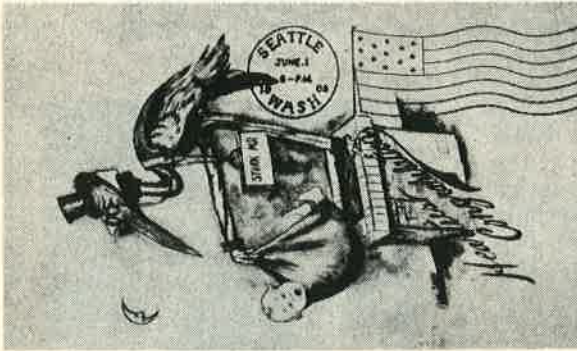


Figure 2

The ever increasing prices at which pioneer First Day Covers change hands shall cause some future counterfeiting of them, although this seemingly has been no threat up to now. With continued reporting of faked items, collectors should also not fear for the future.

The writer is known in philatelic circles as the author of the *Standard Flag Cancel Encyclopedia*. Because of this, I have the privilege and duty to report to members of the AFDCS the first instance, called to my attention, of the forgery of Flag cancellation designs employed to make fraudulent U.S. First Day Covers.

Two different fake Flag cancelling devices, inscribed "Seattle, Wash., June 1, 1909," were recently created by someone, apparently in the New England area. They were used to imprint First Day cancels upon 2c Seward stamps.

If the forger reads this, we hope that this early exposure will now dissuade him, for we believe the fake cancelling devices still exist. The perpetrator is obviously a rank amateur who did not realize it is as impossible to create a fake Flag cancellation that would deceive we few collectors active in Flag Cancel collecting since the 1930's. This is as easy as creating a counterfeit U.S. stamp that would have deceived a John Luff or a Max

Johl.

The first crude device was totally unlike any Flag canceller ever used, the design reproduced in Fig. 2. Its seriffed letters, and the fact that, as proven by the *Flag Cancel Encyclopedia*, no Flag cancellation was used at Seattle's main office in 1909, are a give-away that it is fraudulent. Also, its Flag design was created in the wave and pitch of a very few Flag cancelling dies, restricted in use to New York City in the 1890's, and all discontinued from use by 1899, ten years before.

The faker's first device is therefore a "fantasy Flag Cancel," meaning a design of which no genuine prototype ever existed. It was first seen on a 2c Seward First Day nearly a year ago.

Later, the faker decided to improve his product and a rubberstamp was made from a photograph of the illustration of the 1909 Seattle Exposition Flag cancel shown on page 61 of the *Flag Cancel Encyclopedia*, with the picture's "Jun. 23" date changed to "Jun. 1." The resultant impression that this second fraudulent device produced is shown in Fig. 1.

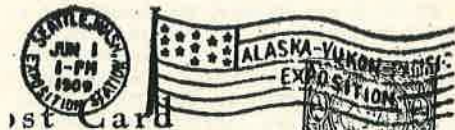


Figure 1

To give this card what he hoped would be an appearance of genuiness, and noting that much mail of the 1909-era was backstamped he decided his card needed such a cancel. Therefore, he used the first device on the reverse of this card, the "impossible fantasy," as in Fig. 2. Its use on the self-same card only helps to show his

Exposition Sta. impression must also be a fake. Also, he didn't know that backstamping of postcards was officially discontinued before 1909.

In addition, Mr. Faker did not know that even if his card bore only the fake Exposition Station impression, and no imitation backstamp, the spurious nature of the former would still be easily discernable, no matter how precisely the picture in the book was reproduced. Because the book's illustration is a drawing of the cancel, not the cancel itself!

The book's illustration is sufficiently exact enough so that there is no difference between it and the genuine cancel on comparison. But, microscopic differences resulting from the method of book-printing exist, which prove that the fake device could have been made only from a photograph of the book's illustration, not even from a photograph of an original specimen of the cancel.

The faker's technique, and his creations, both show how ridiculous an "expert" he really is. We hope this account will also convince any other like-ambitioned person of the futility of faking a First Day cancellation that is detection-proof.



Mrs. Annabelle F. Hart
7740 Moreland Drive
Willoughby, Ohio 44094

The following items were among the FDCs which have been sold at recent auctions. The prices realized are shown in bold type. Scott catalog numbers are used for identification. All issues are US unless otherwise identified.

Recent sales held by Al Zimmerman (see adv. on page —) included many fine FDC lots, some of which were the following: #645 with black Cleveland Town machine cancel, scarce item **\$35.**; #367 2c Lincoln, circle cancel, tied Bayshore, NY, Feb. 12, 1909, 4PM on multi-

color Lincoln card **\$110.**; Q1 1c parcel post cancelled June 1913, Chicago, predated FDC **\$60.**; #552 1c Machine cancel Jan. 17, 1913, Wash., DC, pair on fine Worden cover **\$11.**; #554 2c Jan. 15, 1923 Machine cancel on VF Hammelman cover **\$12.50.**; #555 3c Lincoln, Feb. 12, 1923, machine cancel on VF Worden cover **\$10.**; #555 3c with Hodgenville, Ky. handstamp, VF, scarce item **\$100.**; #559 7c May 1, 1923 machine cancel on Worden cover **\$30.**; #560 8c machine cancel May 1, 1923 on Worden cover **\$30.**; #561 9c machine cancel, Jan. 15, 1923, VF unaddressed **\$22.**; #562 10c machine cancel, 1-15-23, Worden cover **\$30.**; #564 12c Caldwell, NJ handstamp, spec. del. **\$30.**; #567 20c Wash., DC, May 1, 1923 machine cancel, rare **\$90.**; #611 VF line pair, Nov. 15, 1923 Wash., DC machine cancel **\$19.**; #612 2c Harding rotary, Sept. 12, 1923 **\$30.**; #614 pl # pair (15757), tied Albany, NY, 5-1-24 machine cancel **\$10.**; #615 Blk of 4 with machine & hand cancels on unaddressed FDC **\$15.**; #E14 20c black spec. del., handstamped Wash. DC, Apr. 25, 1925, with #611, scarce **\$47.50.**; #591 10c perf 10, 6-8-25 machine cancel from Wash, DC **\$23.**; #617-19 Lex-Concord set on 1 Nickels FDC, handstamped Wash, DC **\$11.50.**; #620-21 set on 1 FDC cancelled Air Mail Field, NYC **\$28.**; #627 pl #18541 blk of 4, cancel Wash, DC, flown Nickels FDC **\$22.50.**; #832c pl blk of 4, 2 pl #s on 4 Artercraft FDCs **\$80.**; #803-831 ½c-50c, all pl blks, matching cachets **\$42.50.**; #803-834 complete set 1c-\$5, hand-painted cachets **\$46.**; #C5 Wash. DC Aug. 17, 1923, scarce **\$155.**; #C10 Air Mail Field, Chicago, black & green handstamps, scarce, only 200 serviced **\$45.**; #C13 VF Apr. 19, 1930 on FD, flown card **\$225.**; #C16 5c rotary, Aug. 19, 1931, **\$115.**; #C19 blk of 4, Baltimore, June 30, 1934, the only blk recorded **\$650.**

Publication Fund

Your donation to the AFDCS *Publication Fund* will help bring you a better "award winning" *FIRST DAYS*, handbooks, cover clinics, slide programs, reprints, etc. Income from dues, sales and other sources cannot pay the entire cost of publishing FDC literature plus all the extra services that we would like to give to you. Members who make contributions to the *Fund* will have their names published in bold face type in the 1969-70 Membership Directory. Please use the reply envelope enclosed with this issue.

LUNDY: The Puffin Isle (Part I)

by Bryan Tagas, 6011-34th Ave. N.E., Seattle, Wash. 98115

Situated off the southwest coast of England, in the Bristol Channel, Lundy provides an interesting study, historically as well as philatelically. The island itself, with a population of about twenty, is only three and a quarter miles long and a half mile wide at its broadest point. Even though small in size and population, Lundy has long exerted interest among those who have visited or read of the place. Approaching the island by sea or air one might believe it to be just another island. However, as the landing beach is reached, he finds himself in another world — that of the *Puffin Isle*.



Tighearna miniature sheet FDC dated February 3, 1942. Tighearna is Gaelic for "chief," an important ruler on Lundy 1500 years ago. Note Lundy slogan cancellation at upper center which reads LUNDY/LIGHTS/AND/LEADS. Stamp and cancel at upper right are British.

Lundy's history is filled with many fascinating and anomalous events. The island was once a visiting place for Norsemen who were active in the area until defeated in 981 A.D.. The word *Lundy* itself is made up of two Norse words, *Lunde* — a seabird, the puffin, and *y* — an island. The word *Lundy* therefore means *Puffin Island*. In 1870 two gigantic skeletons were found on the island, one over eight feet long. It is very possible that these are the remains of Vikings killed in the tenth century according to certain experts.

From 1050 to 1647 the island was the property of various English royalty. The DeMariscos, an offshoot of the Plantagenets who ruled England for two and a half centuries owned it from 1135 to 1242. However, Sir Wil-

liam DeMarisco, convicted of high treason against King Henry III, was hanged, drawn and quartered. Lundy was then garrisoned by order of the King.

During the early 1600's the island belonged to Sir Richard Grenville. But because Sir Richard was always too busy to live on the island, it soon became the haunt of pirates. There is still a section of Lundy called *Turkish Village* after the Turkish pirates who once held

the island.

Lundy was again used for illegal purposes around 1750, when Thomas Benson leased the island from a Lord Gower. He was apparently a smuggler and is said to have built a cave there for illicit purposes. He was trusted with the transporting of convicts to the American colonies, but he used some of them as laborers on Lundy. This was technically not illegal, as his contract stated that the convicts were to be transported "overseas," which they were — to Lundy. The government soon put a stop to that when some of the convicts escaped. Returning to the mainland, they were caught and Benson's little game was discovered. Finally, Benson was forced to flee the country after another of his fraudulent acts.

The more recent history of the island has been much calmer. For over 200 years Lundy has been in the hands of private individuals, either being sold or obtained through inheritance. The present owner is Mr. A. P. Harman who inherited the island from his father, M. C. Harman, in 1954.

Quoting the *Lundy Guide* by F. W. Gade: "A great deal has been written about the 'independence' of Lundy . . . but no documentary proof exists to show that it was ever independent." Apparently the local authorities in Devon (the nearest municipal district on the mainland) were quite unsure of Lundy's status even up to the early nineteenth century. He reports that in 1866 "the Chief Constable of Devon refused to send police to Lundy to quell rioting among the Irish laborers employed by the Lundy Granite Company who worked granite on Lundy until 1870, saying that he 'had no jurisdiction over the island of Lundy.'" In 1918, Lundy was officially annexed to a mainland parliamentary division. Even though this was a serious blow to the former semi-independent status of the island, she was allowed certain concessions. Quoting *The Puffin Isle of Lundy*, by Harrison's & Sons: "Lundy is the only place now in the British Isles where no income tax or any other mainland tax is paid and there are no customs or excise duties." Residents are liable to National Service and receive all benefits of the National Health Service.

The main industries of Lundy are the raising of sheep and cattle and the breeding of ponies. Potatoes and oats are raised, and some fishing for the abundant crabs, crawfish, and lobsters is done as well. Another source of revenue during the summer months is tourism. Regular sailings are made to Lundy by various excursion boats and the island's own tender, the *Lundy Gannet*.

Postal History

Originally, the British Post Office sustained a sub post office on Lundy, opening it in 1892. In 1927, however, because no successor to the previous

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postmaster could be found, M. C. Harman, the owner, asked that the post office be closed. From that time to the present the British Post Office has ceased to have any interest in Lundy.

Between 1928 and 1929 Harman transported the mails free of charge, but in late 1929 decided that the issuance of postage stamps to cover the cost of transporting and distributing the mails would be the easiest way of exacting payment.

As the unit of currency for his stamps, Harman chose the *puffin*. More than fifty years earlier, there had been a system of barter on the island with the feathers of some of the tens of thousands of sea birds nesting there. A certain number of puffin feathers, or abbreviated, *puffins*, would be worth a particular amount of any commodity which was not produced on the island.

On November 1, 1929, the first stamps of the Puffin Isle were issued. Unfortunately, no First Day Covers were cancelled officially, nor are any regular covers bearing the November 1st cancellation known to exist. When these first stamps appeared thirty-nine years ago, considerable interest was sparked among philatelists the world over. Simultaneously with the philatelic event, Harman also issued two bronze coins. These later had to be withdrawn due to a law prohibiting anyone other than the Crown from minting coins in the United Kingdom.

The *Postal History of Lundy*, by F. W. Gade, reports that "for a year, the Lundy stamps were affixed to the front of the envelopes, but in the corner opposite to the British stamps, without comment from the British Postal Authority, but suddenly it was discovered that the affixing of any stamp on the same side of a cover or envelope of a postal packet was against regulations. Without warning, one day all mails sent from Lundy were returned to the senders marked 'Contrary to Regulations'". From that time until quite recently, Lundy

stamps could only be affixed to the reverse side of all envelopes and coverings of outgoing mail. In 1962, Lundy was granted permission to affix her stamps to postcards only, on the address side as far as possible from the British stamps. Question is now raised as to why if on postcards such a procedure is permissible, why not on other types of mail as well?

Method of Handling Mail

At various times during the periods 1935-39 and 1950-56, mail was carried between Lundy and the mainland by plane. Air service was stopped, however, when the owner of Lundy purchased a small boat in 1956 to transport mail and other supplies. Christened the *Lundy Gannet*, she made her first trip from the island on June 25, 1956. Special envelopes were designed for the occasion, headed "Maiden Voyage of M. V. Lundy Gannet," and were carried on her first trip from Lundy to the mainland. Since that time she has faithfully transported the mails to and from the coast, regularly except during the stormy



Lundy postmaster, F. W. Gade, emptying a mail collection box. Posted in the background are the rules governing the use of "puffin" postage.

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season when the Channel is too rough for the island tender.

Incoming Mail

The British postmaster at Bideford collects all mail destined for Lundy and places it in special sacks at the post office. From Bideford, the *Lundy Gannet* carries the mail the 25 or 30 miles to the island. Gade, or an assistant, picks up the mail when the boat lands at the beach. From there the mail sacks are carried up the steep incline to the *Marisco Tavern & General Stores* where the postmaster's office is located. In the office the mail is sorted and franked with the appropriate stamps which are then cancelled. All residents of Lundy call for their mail at the Tavern and pay their "puffinage." Guests on the island have their mail handed to them if they are staying at the hotel.

Outgoing Mail

All outgoing mail must bear British as well as Lundy stamps. Mail is collected in special boxes on the island, the stamps are cancelled by Postmaster Gade, and dispatched at intervals in the *Lundy Gannet* to the British post office at Bideford. From there the mail is carried by the British Postal System.

Obtaining Stamps

It is interesting to note that between 1941 and 1945 philatelic material from Lundy was sufficiently popular with philatelists abroad, that a *Lundy Philatelic Bureau* was established to handle the needs of these individuals. This step was necessitated by wartime restrictions and transportation difficulties which made communication with Lundy difficult. The Bureau, therefore, was located on the mainland and provided collectors with material until the war ended, whereupon it was closed. The Bureau affixed Lundy stamps to all mail it despatched, cancelling them with a device that had no date.

Today philatelists abroad can obtain stamps much easier than during the war. F. W. Gade, who has served as postmaster almost without break since 1929, personally handles all or-

ders sent to Lundy. Several dealers in England now stock Lundy stamps. He presently stocks many of the stamp sets issued since 1929. However, many are incomplete, the lower values having been sold out. Few First Day Cover stocks exist as most dealers and collectors obtained only enough for their own needs, and Gade did not keep surplus quantities on hand.

(To be continued)

For information on securing Lundy philatelic material, contact the writer. Please include a self-addressed envelope.

Did you know that —

All of the regular air mail stamps issued in 1941, except the 6c value, were issued First Day at stamp conventions?

10c violet — August 15, 1941
American Air Mail Society Convention Station — Atlantic City

15c brown — August 19, 1941
American Air Mail Society Convention Station — Baltimore

20c green — August 27, 1941
Society of Philatelic Americans Convention Station — Philadelphia

30c blue — September 25, 1941
Trans-Mississippi Philatelic Society Convention Station — Kansas City

50c orange — October 29, 1941
World Wide Philatelic Convention Station — St. Louis

The 8c value, although of the same design, was not issued until 1944.

UX46a Data Sought

Data is being sought concerning FDCs of the missing "I" postal cards (UX46a) of 1958. Needed are numbers of FDCs in collectors' hands as well as information on the mechanics by which these errors were produced. If you have an FDC or any information please write to Richard Chelle-vold, 40 South Staebler, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48103.

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Annual Meeting (from page 5)

to new members when their application for membership in the AFDCS is accepted.

— Bernard Ring

Convention Chairman (1968)

With the detailed plan of action laid before me by Curt Patterson, and with his constant help and suggestions, arrangements for this year's convention went smoothly. SEPAD officers were receptive to our ideas and provided for our every need. Committees for the donation auction, exhibits, programming, cachet and publicity functioned very well. The suggestions and cooperation of all who aided me was most appreciated.

— Alan Warren

Cover Clinic Reg. Vice-Pres.

The following Cover Clinics were scheduled during 1968: BALPEX (Baltimore, Md.), SEPAD (Philadelphia, Pa.), CENJEX (Plainfield, N.J.), FLOREX (Clearwater, Fla.) and ASDA Show (New York City). Participating in these programs were: Bill Bayless, Dick Thompson, Larry Fisher, Jim Sheaffer, Lee Waterman, Bill "Duke" Gmahle and Frank Raciti. The programs included lectures, demonstrations and slide programs. Tentatively scheduled for 1969 are Clinics for APEX (Albany, Oreg.), ORPEX (Newburgh, N.Y.), WESTPEX (San Francisco, Cal.), SOJEX (Atlantic City, N.J.), COMPEX (Chicago, Ill.), SANDIPEX (San Diego, Cal.) and CENJEX (New Brunswick, N.J.).

— Frank F. Raciti

Editorial Staff (FIRST DAYS)

Off to a slow start this year in getting at our project. We now have the Christmas painting text and label to give away. With the proper publicity and the new stuffer cards with which to sign up members, we expect a very busy 1969.

— Elmer Koehler

Editorial Staff (FIRST DAYS)

Under the direction of Sol Koved, extensive correspondence was conducted to secure FDC articles for publication in the Society's organ. These efforts yielded manuscripts which required minimal editing. Quality was high, and several specialty groups accepted our invitation to be highlighted in a particular *FIRST DAYS* issue with two or more articles by their members. Also corresponded with members whose questions were of a nature to preclude

inclusion in "The Question Box."

— Alan Warren

Executive Secretary

Routine work of this office has included channeling mail to the proper department, processing new members, re-sending *FIRST DAYS* to members who have moved, taking minutes at meetings, etc. Other activities included hand-lettering life membership cards and award certificates, program slide titles, servicing printing orders for stationery, updating various give-away lists and designing several pieces of AFDCS promotional literature. There are various other projects in different stages of completion which will be used in enlisting new members.

— (Mrs.) Marge Finger

Expertising Committee

We are pleased to report that there has been a decided increase in activity during the last year. During this period we have received seventeen requests, one as far away as Havana, Cuba. Several of these have been especially interesting, and one of them led to extensive research which in turn established a new First Day date for E16, the 15c rotary special delivery (see *FIRST DAYS* for Sept./Oct. 1968).

Your committee needs help from members who are informed on FDCs of Canada and the European countries, especially as to correct dates. We would be pleased to hear from members who might volunteer to aid us in this respect. We hope that the membership will continue to use the services of this committee and the volume of requests will at least double during the coming year.

— Jack V. Harvey

Exec. Vice-President

Attended all meetings of the Executive Committee and the Annual Convention. Authorized payment of all valid Society expenses and prepared a budget. My principle concern has been the financial affairs of the Society.

— William H. Bayless

FIRST DAYS

This has been an exceptionally good year for the Society publication. The number of pages rose to 336 from a total of 256 for the preceding twelve months. It is a reflection of advertising department success.

More important has been the high caliber of published articles and subsequent recognition by many philatelic authorities. This has resulted from increased contributions by Society members and we have experienced a declining obligation to go afield for mate-

Thirteenth Convention Highlights



TOP ROW: left — Alma Snowa and Wilma Walker preparing convention covers; center — more AFDCSers join cachet assembly line; right — Reg. V. P. Frank Raciti, President Curt Patterson and Treasurer Ben Papell discuss meeting agenda. **SECOND ROW:** left — Ben Papell examines wares of dealer Al Zimmerman; center — Fred Casani indicates a special feature of his autographed FDC collection to Conv. Chairman Alan Warren (left) and Program Librarian Roy Lundin (right); right — Dick Chellevoid and Exec. Secretary Marge Finger exchange cancellation variety details. **THIRD ROW:** left — Auction Chairman Dmytro Bykovetz, Sales Manager Norman Walker and wife Wilma talk to visitor at AFDCS lounge; center — Marge Finger comes to attention as Curt Patterson calls the meeting to order; right — part of the crowd at the annual membership meeting. **BOTTOM ROW:** left — Lee Waterman delivering his lecture on combination FDCs; center — Curt Patterson makes a special presentation to Evelyn and Don Huring; right — Past Pres. Dick Thompson presents special "junior" award to Ruth and Larry Fisher on their son's first birthday.

rial.

We have been particularly fortunate with the addition of Dick Elms and Lee Waterman to the staff. Active participation by other members is invited — there is more than enough work to be shared.

— *Sol Koved*

Foreign Information Service

During the past year the committee has conducted a very active correspondence and written a column for *FIRST DAYS*. An excellent file has been accumulated with which we are prepared to answer inquiries with reference to the securing of foreign FDCs. It is suggested that another member be added to the committee to aid the chairman in this work.

— *Ross H. Stanwood*

Past President

The correspondence covering a wide range of matters has been extremely heavy during the past year. Attended all meetings of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors at no cost to the Society. Arranged for awards for the convention and special occasions. Entered *FIRST DAYS* in PRAGA 1968, EFIMEX and Rochester APS literature competitions. Conducted a Cover Clinic at BALPEX. Made necessary arrangements for and recruited judges for the Ward Award competition for 1968.

— *Richard H. Thompson*

Publicity Department

More than 30 stencils were prepared during the first eight months of this year. These were used to mimeograph press releases to publicize AFDCS activity. There were also special forms prepared for various departments as well as give-away items such as lists and instructions. Through these various methods we hope to promote interest in the Society among philatelist previously unaware of the existence of our organization.

— *Linda M. Jablonski*

Research Director

During the past year very many inquiries were received by this department, most of them were of a general nature. Good progress was made by the Research Director on his bibliography of First Day Cover literature. This year should see the completion of the U.S. section. Future publication of this bibliography will be in the form of a handbook.

— *David Zubatsky*

Sales Dept.

During the nine month period that I

managed this department, the net sales income was \$700.80. The purchases of the Jack Harvey "1922-35" handbook have been very brisk, most of them to non-members. I am of the firm belief that the handbook program should be expanded. Members suggestions for services and goods from this department would be most welcome.

— *Norman Walker*

Slide Program Librarian

Since taking over the chairmanship in April from Karl Bielenberg, who did a marvelous job in setting up the library, I have scheduled showings at the rate of three a month for our two programs — "Modern Cachet Makers" and the hit of the year "Fascinating Highlights of FDC Collecting." A new program entitled "First Day Covers — Illinois Cities and Towns" is to be premiered at the ASDA Show in NYC in late November. I anticipate continued growth of the library as we work on additional topics. Financially, the project is self-supporting.

— *Roy O. Lundin*

Treasurer

RECEIPTS

Membership Renewals	\$ 5334.03
New Members	1426.60
Advertising	3066.55
Sales	3146.80
Boosters	1198.65
Miscellaneous	474.90

\$14,647.53

DISBURSEMENTS

Officers & Chairman	\$ 5221.68
Printing — <i>FIRST DAYS</i>	7276.92
Office Stationery	1072.68
Merchandise — Convention	
Covers	299.50
Convention Expenses	825.36
Bank Debits	67.25
Insurance	75.00
Bulletin	130.00
Miscellaneous	351.07

\$15,319.46

BANK BALANCE 8/31/68 \$ 2,943.30

ADDITIONAL ASSETS

Advance Petty Cash	\$ 185.00
Life Memberships	2831.91

\$3,016.91

TOTAL ASSETS \$5,960.21

— *Ben Papell*

Translation Department

The number of translations requested during this past year were disappointingly few. Consequently the expense incurred was correspondingly low. We

suggest that the editor insert notices in *FIRST DAYS* of the available service so that members may take advantage of it for collecting assistance.

— *Dmytro Bykovetz, Jr.*

Curtis Patterson introduced two new appointees. Lawrence Fisher will be Convention Planning Chairman and J. Richard Chellevoid will be responsible for *LINNS* special editions and recruiting Ward Award judges.

The meeting was opened for general discussion. There ensued a lively debate, led by Carlo V. Stabile (AFDCS 4930) of Lucernemines, Pa., concerning problems involved in the recognition of the original Hammar-skjold invert First Day Covers.

As the allotted time had elapsed, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P.M. so that the next scheduled SEPAD program might be presented.

Respectfully submitted,
(Mrs.) Marge Finger

ILLINOIS SLIDE PROGRAM

A new one-hour slide program on FDCs from Illinois cities and towns is now available for loan to philatelic groups. The basis for the presentation was an invitational exhibit which appeared at the last COMPEX in connection with the Illinois Sesquicentennial celebration.

The program, which includes material owned by several AFDCS members, includes an example of every official First Day Cover emanating from Illinois as well as a number of rare and early Illinois First Days originating before the time of official cities of issue.

Consisting of 55 slides, the presentation begins with the earliest known FDC from the state — the 3c stamp of July 1, 1851 — and continues chronologically through the latest issue. The slides are accompanied by a descriptive commentary on keyed cards for use of the narrator.

The slide program is available for use by stamp clubs and philatelic organizations. Inquiries for reservations should be sent to Roy Lundin, 71 Otis St., Medford, Mass. 02155.

UNITED STATES FDCs

We specialize in filling wantlists for U.S. First Days between 1926-1948. We can supply many different cachets to help fill broken sets, such as Parks, Army-Navy, Pres., Fam. Americans etc., in both singles and blocks. Covers requested will be sent on approval if you desire. Drop us a line. The service is good and the prices are reasonable.

STEVE AND JERRY RITZER

Members AFDCS

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CANADA — ROSECRAFT

Year-End Special Offer

Start your Canada First Day Cover collection NOW. — Send \$4 and receive all 1968 issues on ROSECRAFT Engraved Cachets, unaddressed, crisp, clean, postpaid.

OR

— Send \$5 and we will supply all 1968 issues as above AND start you on our Automatic Continuous Deposit Service for 1969 issues.

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Each Sale has many fine Cover Lots — is your name on our mailing list?

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1951—11 covers	_____	\$3.95
1952—6 covers	_____	\$2.15
1951—13 covers	_____	\$4.75
All 30 covers only	_____	\$9.95

Flag Stamp Covers

Covers with our country's Flag stamps including the 10 Historic Flags issued July 4, 1968.

17 Covers in all—only \$4.95

ROBEV

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Combinations and Cancellations

By Stephen J. Spiro, AFDCS 7966

There are some individuals who attempt to dictate the "proper" manner in which to collect stamps, and deviations from this prescribed method are the work of collectors who don't know what they are doing. As a general rule, I think that this is a rather absurd attitude. After all, a hobby is a very individual and personal affair. If there are people who wish to mount mint stamps on oilcloth with glue because they are of the opinion that it looks nicer, that is their business — nobody else's.

However, I said that this was a general rule and I feel that there is at least one exception: "combo" First Day Covers. It seems to be an increasingly popular variation of FDC collecting to prepare covers with additional stamps that are related to the new issue. For instance, the old Register and Vote stamp on the same cover as the one issued last June was probably a very (relatively) common idea. Some may have used stamps picturing eagles.

Occasionally combo collectors get carried away. I recall seeing a \$5. John Bassett Moore FDC on exhibit at the 1967 ASDA Show — there were about seven other \$5. U.S. stamps on the cover, too, and the exhibitor mentioned in the display that the catalog value of these totalled \$125. That is enthusiasm!

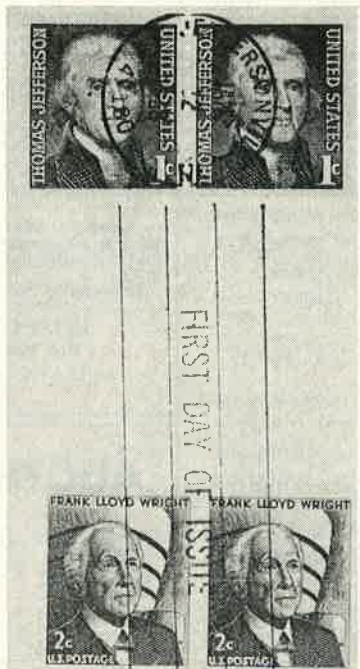
However, the "First Day of Issue" cancellation is related only to the stamp being issued. To cancel another stamp with that postmark is to make that slogan untrue. I admit that this is only my personal opinion, but I

feel that there is something basically dishonest about using an F.D.I. cancellation when it is indeed *not* the First Day, even if another stamp on the cover does enjoy that status.

Actually, I can appreciate one good excuse for a combo cover. That is when the issued stamp is of a denomination too low to pay the postage on its own — as a 1c stamp. My own practise when these values appear is to place the additional postage in the lower right hand corner of the envelope. Usually, P.O.D. personnel will cooperate by cancelling the extra stamp with a separate strike consisting only of the date circle. To my way of thinking, this is an *honest* cover.

I did have an unusual experience when the 1c Jefferson PA was issued. I affixed the extra franking in my customary manner, but the clerk cancelled the cover with a *vertical* obliteration. This thwarted my intention but provided an oddity.

Since I am hardly a combo enthusiast I have used whatever stamps were on hand for additional postage. However, I did make a few half-hearted attempts at making real combos. On a few covers I placed 1c Jackson stamps (same denomination) and on some others I used 2c Jefferson adhesives of the Liberty series (same subject). But, invoking my general principal of the privacy of a hobby, I can't object to people producing combos — as long as the stamps are placed in such a manner as not to make liars of the cancelling machines.



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NEWS -- THE OCCASIONAL CACHET



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

Here is a beautiful and new idea. General cachets made for nearly all ideas and topics . . . and for the more important issues. Gone is the idea that your collection must look like everyone else's.

With our cachets you can design your own collection . . . and make it what you want it to be. Write us now for samples or place your order immediately. Our printer is working hard to get as many issues out as possible. Please be patient at this point as we have been flooded with mail. Mailing List .50c.

**BLANK CACHETS: 2 for .30c, 5 for .50c, 10 for .90c
25 for \$2.00, 100 for \$6.50 PPD**

General Cachets: Check items wanted — Use as Order Blank
Fill in Quantity

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> US General FDC | <input type="checkbox"/> First Day of Issue, great men, and events etc. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> UN General FDC | <input type="checkbox"/> Inauguration Day US |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Cachet without words FD of Issue* | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> US General cachet with White House** | <input type="checkbox"/> Birds* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Navy Cancels* | <input type="checkbox"/> Scouts* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> UN General cachet with UN Building** | <input type="checkbox"/> Flowers* |

*Publication Date approx. January 30, 1969
**Publication Date approx. December 20, 1968
Other now available. All 2 colors, Rippletone Bond.

MIXING: in any way is ALLOWED so that you can take full advantage of lower prices, especially the 100 rate. A deposit of \$6.50, the 100 rate, will be accepted at any time and can be drawn on as long as 10 cachets are ordered and shipped at one time . . . all at the .06½¢ rate.

Serviced covers when available. Single .40c, Pl. Sing. 75c. At present US Christmas issue is available. Same cachet with beautiful Great Britain (3 values) \$1.50. Canada 5c Christmas 45c.

AFDCS

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"Unique" 1963-1968 U.S. "Tagged" and Fluoresce

CURRENT FDC's ARE "TAGGED"

Did you miss any of the following?

Scott #s	"TAGGED" Denomination	Date of Issue	City	Sgl. FDC	Pl.#Bl. fdc.	Combo cover	Stamps	Sgl.	Pl.#Bl.
								Mint	Mint
1035b	3c Liberty	7/6/66	W	60c	\$2.00	\$1.50	2	\$0.10	\$1.00
1036b	4c Lincoln	11/2/63	W*	\$1.00	—	—	-	.15	\$1.00
1044Ac	11c Liberty	1/11/67	W	75c	—	\$1.50	2	.25	\$3.00
1044b	10c Ind. Hall	7/6/66	W	\$1.00	—	\$3.00	3	.25	\$2.25
1045a	12c Harrison	5/6/68	W	75c	—	\$1.50	2	.25	\$1.50
1046a	15c Jay	7/6/66	W	\$1.00	—	—	-	.30	\$2.00
1055a	2c coil pair	5/6/68	W	50c	—	\$1.00	2	pr .10	L .50
1057b	3c Look coil	5/12/67	W	\$1.00	—	\$1.50	2	pr .30	L \$2.
1208a	5c sm. flag	8/25/66	W	50c	\$2.00	\$1.00	2	.15	\$1.50
1209a	1c Jackson	7/6/66	W	60c	\$2.00	\$1.00	4	.10	\$0.60
1213b	5c Wash.	10/28/63	D	75c	—	—	-	.15	\$1.00
1213ca	Top pr. Ty I	10/28/63	D	75c	—	—	-	\$1.75	\$7.50
all 3	5c var.	10/28/63	D	—	—	.75	3	—	—
1213ca	Top pr. Ty II	4/10/64	D	50c	—	\$1.00	2	.75	\$5.00
1225a	1c coil	7/6/66	W	60c	—	\$1.50	2	pr .10	L .35
1238	City Ml. Del.	10/26/63	W	50c	—	—	-	.10	.75
1240a	1963 Christ.	11/2/63	W*	\$1.00	—	*\$1.00	2	\$1.00	\$3.00
1254-7	1964 Christ.	11/10/64	D	\$1.00	\$2.00	\$4.00	8	.50	\$1.00
1276a	1965 Christ.	11/15/65	W**	\$2.00	—	**\$1.00	2	.10	.75
1280a	2c Wright	9/25/67	—	—	\$1.00	\$1.00	2	.25	\$1.50
1282a	4c Lincoln	12/1/65	WD	35c	\$1.00	.75	2	.08	.40
1283a	5c Wash.	2/23/66	WD	35c	\$2.00	\$1.00	2	.10	.40
1284a	6c Roosvlt.	12/29/66	W	50c	\$5.00	\$1.00	2	.10	.50
1285a	8c Einstein	7/6/66	W	\$1.00	—	\$1.50	2	.15	\$1.00
1303	4c coil	5/28/66	S	35c	—	—	-	pr .15	L .35
1304	5c coil	9/8/66	CW	35c	—	—	-	pr .20	L .35
1314a	5c Park	8/26/66	CDW	50c	\$2.00	—	-	.10	\$1.00
1315a	5c Marine	8/29/66	W	50c	\$2.00	—	-	.10	\$1.00
1316a	5c Wmn's. C	9/13/66	W	50c	\$2.00	\$1.00	2	.10	\$1.00
1317a	5c Aplseed.	9/26/66	W	50c	\$2.00	\$1.00	2	.10	\$1.00
1318a	5c Beautific.	10/5/66	W	50c	\$2.00	\$1.00	2	.10	\$1.00
1319a	Gt. Rvr. Rd.	10/22/66	W	50c	\$2.00	\$1.00	2	.10	\$1.00
1320a	Srvemen's.	10/27/66	W	50c	\$2.00	\$1.00	2	.10	\$1.00
1321a	1966 Christ.	11/2/66	W	50c	\$2.00	\$1.00	2	.10	\$1.00
1322a	5c Cassett	11/17/66	W	50c	\$2.00	\$1.00	2	.10	\$1.00
C59a	25c Airmail	12/29/66	W	\$1.00	\$5.00	—	-	.50	\$3.00
C62a	13c Airmail	2/15/67	W	\$1.00	\$5.00	\$2.00	2	.30	\$2.00
C63a	15c Airmail	1/11/67	W	\$1.00	—	\$2.00	2	.30	\$2.00
C64b	8c Airmail	8/1/63	D	50c	—	\$1.00	2	.15	\$1.00
C64ca	8c bklt. pr.	11/23/64	D	50c	—	—	-	\$1.00	—
C65a	8c coil	1/20/65	W	\$1.00	—	\$4.00	3	.25	—
C67a	6c Eagle	2/15/67	W	75c	—	\$1.50	2	.15	\$1.50
C69	8c Goddard	10/5/64	R	50c	\$1.50	—	-	.15	\$1.00
UX48a	4c Post Card	7/6/66	***	35c	—	—	-	.25	—
UY18a	4c Rply. cd.	3/15/67	W	\$5.00	—	—	-	.50	—

Covers (*) 11/4/63 - 35c; (**) 11/16/64 - 35c & Pl. # \$2.00; (***) 7 cities @ 35c ea.

nt "Hi-Brite" Covers are Future Philatelic "Gems"

U.S. Stamps printed on FLUORESCENT Paper

Placed into distribution without any prior publicity — No First Day Covers.
Combination covers were made later in some cases with Normal & "Tag"

Scott #	Denomination	Mint Copy	Pl. #	Block	On Cover
1031	1c Washington	\$2.00	10.00		_____
1035	3c Liberty	\$2.00	15.00		_____
1036	4c Lincoln	\$0.50	\$5.00		\$2.00 (3)
1040	7c Wilson	\$4.00	35.00		_____
1044	10c Independence	\$1.00	35.00		\$3.00 (3)
1044A	11c Statue of Liberty	\$1.00	10.00		_____
1046	15c John Jay	\$2.50	50.00		\$5.00 (3)
1047	20c Monticello	\$1.00	\$5.00		\$2.00 (2)
1048	25c Paul Revere	\$1.50	15.00		_____
1058	4c Lincoln coil	\$20.00 pair	_____		_____
1181	5c Wilderness	\$1.00	\$5.00		_____
1191	4c Girl Scout	\$1.00	\$5.00		_____
1204	Hammarskjold Invert	\$1.00	\$5.00		\$2.00 (2)
1208	5c Small Flag	\$0.50	\$2.00		\$2.00 (3)
1209	1c Jackson	\$0.50	\$7.50		\$2.00 (3)
1213	5c Washington	\$0.50	10.00		\$2.00 (3)
1213c	5 Line Booklet pane	\$8.00	_____		_____
1213c	4 Line Booklet Pane	\$5.00	_____		_____
1229	5c Washington coil	\$1.00 pair	\$5.00 line pr.		\$2.00 (3)
1230	Carolina Charter	\$1.00	\$5.00		_____
1231	Food for Peace	\$1.00	\$5.00		_____
1232	West Virginia	\$1.00	\$5.00		_____
1237	5c Science	\$0.50	\$2.00		_____
1238	City Mail Delivery	\$1.00	\$3.00		10.00 (3)
1240	1963 Christmas	\$0.50	\$2.50		\$2.00 (3)
1241	5c Audubon	\$0.50	\$2.50		_____
1243	5c Russell	\$0.50	\$2.50		\$1.50 (2)
1244	N.Y. World Fair	\$0.50	\$2.50		_____
1245	John Muir	\$1.00	\$5.00		_____
1249	Register & Vote	\$0.50	\$2.50		_____
1254-7	1964 Christmas	_____	\$1.50		_____
1261	New Orleans	\$1.00	\$2.50		_____
1270	Robert Fulton	\$1.00	\$2.50		_____
1271	5c Florida	\$1.00	\$2.50		_____
1276	1965 Christmas	\$0.50	\$2.50		\$3.00 (3)
1321	1966 Christmas	_____	\$5.00		_____
C53	7c Alaska Airmail	\$1.00	\$4.00		_____
C54	Jupiter Airmail	\$1.00	\$6.00		_____
C59	25c Lincoln Airmail	\$1.00	\$7.50		_____
C62	13c Liberty Bell	\$1.00	\$7.50		_____
C63	15c Liberty Bell	\$1.00	\$7.50		_____
C64	8c Capitol Dome	\$2.00	_____		\$4.00 (3)
C65	8c Airmail Coil	\$3.50 pair	_____		\$4.00 (3)
C67	6c Bald Eagle	\$1.00	_____		_____
C69	8c Goddard	\$1.00	\$5.00		_____

ALFRED G. BOERGER

P.O. Box 23822

Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33308

First Day Personalities

Virginia Brizendine

Reprinted with the permission of *Postal Life* (May-June 1968)

From the moment a new stamp becomes the germ of an idea until the day, six months or so later when it is affixed to an envelope (or placed in an album), the person most intimately concerned with the labor pains is the Post Office Department's Director of the Division of Philately, Mrs. Virginia Brizendine. She directs a staff of twelve, and her responsibilities are manifold.

Mrs. Brizendine holds the Distinguished Service Award, the highest career service recognition that the Post Office Department bestows, and in job stature she is numbered among the top-ranking women in the postal service. She looks back on a career that began in 1936. Newly from the University of North Carolina, she was wooed to Washington by the glamour of the city and the high pay of a Grade 2 stenographer.

The first day on the job she recalls as a difficult one because of her inability to spell the unfamiliar word "philately". If all the "philatelys" she has written or dictated since then were laid end to end they would stretch well into outer space.

Mrs. Brizendine moved upward in 1946 to become Secretary to the Director of the Division of Philately, with duties that entailed considerably more than the title implies. Among other things, she wrote books, pamphlets and speeches dealing with stamps.



Mrs. Virginia Brizendine in philatelic exhibition room.

University of North Carolina, she was wooed to Washington by the glamour of the city and the high pay of a Grade 2 stenographer.

She was named head of the Division in 1965.

She acts as Executive Secretary to the Postmaster General's Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, a group of eleven experts from the fields of art, history, printing and philately who weigh the merits of proposed new stamps and pass judgment on stamp designs prior to production.

Over her desk, which on bad days can become cluttered, funnel the myriad details that go into a stamp. A recent spotcheck of her activities

showed that in a typical day she signed 95 pieces of mail as the telephone jangled incessantly.

Some of her chores might involve:

Keeping on top of plans for a First Day ceremony to launch a future stamp and assuring that the planned program is in order.

Gently chiding an artist who is falling behind promised delivery date for a stamp design.

Dealing with representatives of the Treasury Department's Bureau of Engraving and Printing and of the Post Office Departments Bureau of Facilities when problems involving stamp production arise.

Serving as a philatelic encyclopedia.

Mrs. Brizendine has participated in the launching of 500 commemoratives and perhaps an equal number of regular issues during her career. To her, few things are as exciting as a new design or a First Day ceremony.

Her current delight is the American flag series which will be dedicated on July 4 in Pittsburgh.

"Each ceremony is a different experience," he says. "Sometimes it turns out to be quite an adventure. You never know what to expect."

Postmasters of small communities have been known to undergo a moment of panic when notified by the Post Office Department that a First Day of Issue is coming their way and with it the prospect of a half million or more pieces of mail to cancel. They regain their cool upon realizing that help is on the way. The Department's Division of Philately supplies on-the-scene assistance in directing the processing of First Day Covers.

The First Day Cover task force comprises about forty-five people, hired by the postmaster. Usually the job takes about three weeks. Very frequently wives and daughters of permanent postal personnel are hired.

It is an assembly line operation that runs smoothly and efficiently. At one end, the mail is opened, the money extracted and the order verified. Next, stamps are affixed, then the mail flows

to the special cancelling machine, which applies the magic words: "First Day of Issue."

A new stamp is launched with a First Day ceremony that is staged whenever possible in a town or city that has an historical connection with the stamp. The Illinois Statehood commemorative stamp, issued in February, came out in Shawneetown, a small town in the southeast that earned the honor by having the oldest continuous post office in the state. Shawneetown residents were receiving mail in 1811, seven years before Illinois became a state.

Small towns go all out in arranging colorful ceremonies that often put to shame those held in the bigger cities. The New York post office band, which is no more, could tootle vainly in front of the post office, in efforts to attract spectators to a ceremony. But the blase New Yorker takes one look and moves on about his business. Stamp collectors and members of the sponsoring organization usually comprise the bulk of the attendance at the big city ceremony.

Shawneetown, population 1,280 was something! A parade attracted an estimated 3,000 persons. The *Daily Register*, of nearby Harrisburg, and The *Gallatin Democrat*, the Shawneetown weekly, each printed 20 pictures in covering the event.

Governor Otto Kerner was on hand to buy stamps from Postmaster Keith Phillips. He presented two six-cent checks in payment. The *Democrat* reported: "Phillips, showing a certain amount of wit, responded facetiously, 'I must first check the checks to see if they are certified, as we cannot accept personal checks.'"

Sometimes unscheduled and untoward events enliven a ceremony. A few months ago, the Tom Paine stamp dedication was interrupted by an admirer who insisted that Tom, a man not noted for regular attendance at church, would have objected to an invocation. Philadelphia Postmaster Anthony Lambert, the master of ceremonies, blotted out the protest sig-

nalling the band to play the national anthem, as TV cameramen had a field day.

Then there was the time that a rampaging Brahma bull made the Kansas Statehood stamp ceremony a lively occasion. The beast, scheduled to participate in a rodeo, broke away from its handlers and roared down the street of Council Grove to become an uninvited guest at the ceremony. It scattered the audience to the four winds until lassoed by a cowboy.

The peak of colorful First Day ceremonies is reached when the towns are not too large and the recipient of the postage stamp honor is a former member of the community who is still fresh in memory.

The combination came about twice a few years ago when a stamp for Amelia Earhart was issued in Atchison, Kansas, and one for Sam Rayburn was a memorable day for Bonham, Texas. On the roadside markers at the entrances to the town, Atchison boasts that it is the home of Amelia Earhart and the Santa Fe railroad. That in itself is tip-off to the rousing celebration that greeted the stamp honoring the famous aviatrix.

Bonham, Texas, hung out bunting from the lampposts in honor of the man who had been speaker of the House of Representatives longer than any other man. In the drugstore, on the streets, at the garage, men talked about Mr. Sam. Men who had gone to school with him, men who had fished with him talked of his goodness, and to the stranger in town this seemed more real and more important than the stamp itself.

An old friend of Mr. Sam came to town to speak at the ceremony. His words were charged with emotion as he told of his debt to the man who had once guided him, an inexperienced young congressman from Texas.

His tribute ended, the speaker left swiftly in a helicopter that was parked nearby. Lyndon B. Johnson is a busy man.

AFDCS Eighth Annual Donation Auction

Prices Realized

Lot No.	Price Bid	Lot No.	Price Bid	Lot No.	Price Bid	Lot No.	Price Bid
1	2.50	52	5.25	112	2.00	163	1.01
2	2.00	55	8.00	113	4.00	166	1.01
4	4.00	57	9.75	114	8.00	167	1.10
5	5.00	58	6.25	115	4.25	168	1.75
8	1.25	59	8.50	116	2.25	169	5.25
9	1.25	60	2.00	117	4.00	170	3.11
11	1.25	61	6.50	118	6.00	171	3.75
12	1.00	70	2.50	119	2.50	172	2.50
13	2.00	71	3.10	120	12.25	175	2.00
18	2.25	80	6.50	121	4.00	176	1.25
19	4.25	85	2.25	122	2.00	178	8.40
20	2.25	89	10.00	124	2.00	179	8.00
22	2.75	90	8.50	125	13.35	180	2.75
24	4.25	91	9.50	126	2.25	181	1.35
25	1.50	93	8.00	127	1.25	183	1.50
26	1.70	95	3.00	128	1.25	184	1.35
28	19.00	97	3.50	132	1.10	185	1.50
31	3.00	100	3.50	135	1.20	186	8.00
32	2.50	101	3.00	136	2.00	187	5.25
33	15.00	102	8.50	140	7.35	190	1.75
34	5.50	105	6.00	142	8.00	191	2.65
35	4.50	106	3.10	143	12.95	193	2.75
39	2.75	107	4.50	147	9.50	195	8.50
41	2.50	108	4.10	152	2.10	196	2.50
43	8.25	109	2.00	159	2.00	198	1.25
48	11.50	110	2.00	160	3.20	199	2.00
49	8.25	111	3.75	162	1.85	200	1.25

A total of 108 lots were sold by mail bidding for gross receipts of \$470.58. All lots not sold were either given to Monte Eiserman for distribution to various penal institution stamp clubs or will be held over for next year's event.

I wish to express my appreciation to the donors and the bidders for making this auction such a success.

— Dmytro Bykovetz, Jr.

Meet Your Officers

Reg. V. P. Elmer Koehler

Elmer Koehler launched his business forms career in 1934 in Milwaukee, moved to LaCrosse, Wisc. shortly thereafter. He is a graduate of Northwestern College and a member of United Commercial Travelers and the LaCrosse Chamber of Commerce. Recreational activities center around his cottage on the Mississippi River, where he and his wife, Lillian, enjoy fishing and sailing. His FDC hobby led to the design and production of cachet labels — then to spreading the good word about the AFDCS.

U.S. HISTORIC FLAGS KENNEDY-SPACE

Goodart Cachets
Limited Edition FDC's

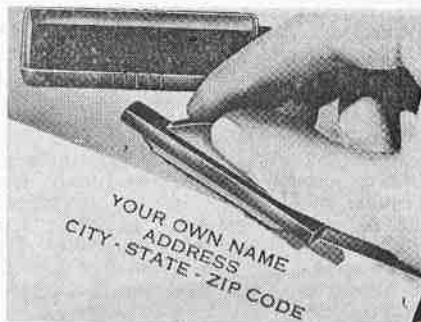
1. U.S. Historic Flag Series
Single Cover 30
Set of Ten Covers ... 2.75
2. U.S. 11c JFK Aerogramme ... 40
3. U.S. Space Twins (pair
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AFDCS ATA JFKPS SOSSI

HENRY GOODWIN

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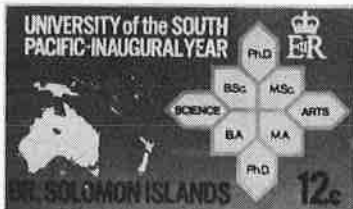


Printer and compact case, with automatic inker, fits pocket or purse. Use at home or office — looks like printing. Get one for yourself and every member of your family. High quality — exceptional value.

Plastic Pocket 50c each
Plus 10c for Postage and handling, Send payment to:

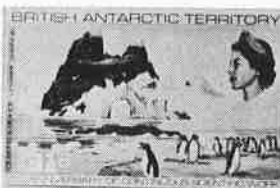
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The Crown Agents Stamp Bulletin is published monthly and contains all details of forthcoming issues. Subscription rate is \$3 by sea and \$5 by air from England. Apply to address below for sample copy.



Release date: February 6th
4 attractive designs
Value: 3d, 6d, 1/-, 2/-

Release date
February 3rd



4 designs
Values 4c, 15c,
25c, 50c

CROWN AGENTS REPRESENTATIVE

3100 Massachusetts Avenue N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20008

Editor's Desk (from page 6)

by Elmer Koehler of LaCrosse, Wisc., Francis Bloch, James Helzer of Cheyenne, Wyo., Cover Craft Cachets and A. H. Zychick of Cleveland, O.; the *Universal Philatelic Society*, Elmer Koehler, Cover Craft Cachets, Francis Bloch and R. C. Butler of Chicago, Ill. sent the Christmas 1968 stamp; the American Indian from Francis Bloch and Cover Craft Cachets; the 6c window stamped envelope from Richard Thompson of Lutherville, Md.; and the 20c air mail from Joe Moberly of Manhattan, Kan. and Marge Finger of Elberon, N.J.

From the *Columbia Postal Administration* issues for the Centenary of the National University and the VII National Philatelic Exposition; the *Cook Island Post Office* submitted a set for the XIX Olympic Games; the *Liechtenstein Postal Authority* sent the St. Luzius and famous philatelists items; from T. A. Matthews of Ft. Fraser, B.C. the Canadian Christmas issue; *Tay Tien Seng* of Singapore offered the set honoring the Mexico Olympic Games; and from *Dwarkadas Jivandas* of Karachi came the very attractive Pakistan Decade of Development set.

SPECIAL COVERS: Frances Wickerd of Redondo Beach, Cal. sent a SESCAL cachet; NASA Local Post issue for Apollo 7 from *Space City Cover Club* of Houston, Tex.; 5th Anniv. JFK Burial in Arlington National Cemetery from Harry Benedict of Detroit, Mich.; from *Space Craft Covers* of Huntington, W.Va. came INTELSAT III, LES-6, ESRO-1, Apollo-7 launch, Apollo-7 splash down and Pioneer 9 — all very attractive Swanson cachets.

STAMPS: From the *Argentine Consulate General* the issues for Dr. Osvaldo Magnasco, Childrens Designs, CCITT IVth Assembly, National Guard, Coast Guard, Aeronautics Week and St. Martin of Tours; the *Bhutan Stamp Agency* sent the Rare Birds set; the *Columbia National Postal Administration* submitted the commemorative for the Centenary of the First Postage Stamp; and from the *Crown Agents' Representative* Antigua Opening of St. John's Deep Water Harbor, Ascension Islands Fish issue, Barbados Int. Human Rights Year, Botswana Christmas 1968 and Opening of National Museum and Art Gallery, British Honduras new definitive issue, British Indian Ocean Territory definitive set, British Virgin Islands Rev. Martin Luther King, Cayman Islands Christmas 1968 and Olympic Games, Falkland Islands new definitives, Gibraltar Christmas 1968, Gilbert & Ellice Islands 25th Anniv. Battle of Tarawa, Guyana 1400th Year of the Holy Qur'an and Christmas 1968, Hong Kong Int. Human Rights Year, Ja-

maica Int. Human Rights Year, Lesotho Rock Paintings, Malawi Christmas 1968 and definitive issue, Malta Vith FAO Regional Conference, Mauritius Bicentenary of visit of Bernardin de St. Pierre, Papua & New Guinea new definitive issue, Pitcairn Islands 20th Anniv. of WHO, St. Helena new definitive issue, St. Lucia Christmas 1968, St. Vincent Int. Human Rights Year, Singapore definitive set, Southern Yemen Revolution Day, Tristan da Cunha 30th Anniv. of Dependency on St. Helena, Western Samoa Christmas 1968 and Zambia United Nations issues.

In this issue

We're very pleased to introduce two new series in this issue — the Isle of Lundy and the F. D. Roosevelt topic. Negotiations for these articles dates back many, many months. It was certainly worth the effort.

You'll see some new names in this issue, too. Members like *Stephen Spiro*, *Wayne Gasper* and *Arthur Radlauer* each finally made an initial contribution — covering a wide range of interests. We hope that this is only the beginning for them.

A 'First Days Personalities' feature has appeared in *FIRST DAYS* all to infrequently. (This is an open invitation for biographers to get busy.) The focus on *Virginia Brizendine* came via the suggestion of an AFDCS member whose name we have since lost in our files. We publicly thank him, nevertheless.

Society news

Born to *Kathy and Karl Bielenberg* — Kathryn Lynn, on November 19th. Karl is the former *FIRST DAYS* ad manager and slide librarian now serving with the U.S. Army overseas.

An exhibit entitled "Selected Examples of U.S. FDCs" won second prize at NORBAPEX (Santa Rosa, Cal.). The entry, prepared by *Ray Costa* (AFDCS 1801), included examples of C4-5-6, C10a, C18 and arrow double plate number blocks of 833 and 834.

Member *Joe Moberly* suggests that *FIRST DAYS* institute a column for the exchange of ideas on producing one's own cachets. We invite suggestions.

A hearty welcome to *Charles F. Craig*, formerly J6438, of Salem,

Mass. — our newest Life Member, #53.

Coming attractions

Robert Kimball has proposed a new series on the topic of cancellations on pre-1937 FDCs. We've seen the first installment — it's excellent, complete with illustrations . . . *Jim Sheaffer* did a very good presentation on "Servicing Foreign FDCs" at the SEPAD Cover Clinic. So, we invited him to do an article on this topic — now in preparation.

Events moved rapidly forward as *Larry Fisher's* Columbian article was being processed. Several new covers were discovered which will be the subject of another interesting story . . . AFDCSer *L. D. Van Valkenberg, Sr.* has submitted interesting information on Canal Zone postal history. Watch for this, to be published soon.

Other publications

A 'labor of love' is the *Flag Cancel Forum* — edited and published as a public service by John McGee. A free copy may be secured by sending a stamped, addressed #10 envelope to Box 98, Greenbelt, Md. 20770 . . . Several new check lists and supplements have been published by the Fine Arts Philatelists. Information concerning Paintings, the Dance and Opera, as well as membership details, can be secured from Dr. John Papa, 1950 NE 59th Place, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33308.

Last chance

This is the last issue of *FIRST DAYS* to be received by those members who have not renewed for 1969. We expect this to be a banner year with respect to excellent reporting, a larger magazine, new handbooks, slide programs, services, etc. Stay with us to get more out of your hobby. Use the enclosed reply envelope to pay dues and place orders with the Sales Dept.

Looking ahead

The 1969-70 Membership Directory will be published in conjunction with the May/June issue of *FIRST DAYS*. The last such project included the ads

J. H. BAXTER FIRST CACHET ON SESQUICENTENNIAL F.D.C.

May 10, 1926, Chester, Pa.
For illustration see *First Days* Vol. 13, No. 5, Sept-Oct 1968, pg. 22. Price \$3.00

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Free Price List. Wants filled: Prexies, Lib., Air Mails, Commsens, Postage Dues. Polyethylene envelopes —
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JAPAN FIRST DAY COVERS

Woodblock Handprinted,
Beautiful Cachets,
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Write for free list.

SAN STAMP

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of members who had special interests. Are you looking for special information, for scarce covers? Are you seeking to trade, to sell? Remember, 4000 copies of this constant two-year reference are published and distributed.

The rates are as follows: full page — \$42.00; half page — \$22.50; quarter page — \$12.00; eighth page — \$7.00.

We suggest that space be reserved early. Send a check with your ad to the editor: P.O. Box 23, Cranford, N.J. 07016.

Mapping The Great River Road

by Arthur Radlauer

Deep in the heart of every combination FDC collector there is a desire to create an original cover. The reward for success is the spontaneous response from a fellow enthusiast "Gosh, that's clever! Why didn't I think of that?" Frank Raciti's map covers for the Illinois Statehood commemorative are an example of items which fall in this category (see *FIRST DAYS*, July-August 1968). This article describes another "angle" for making map covers.

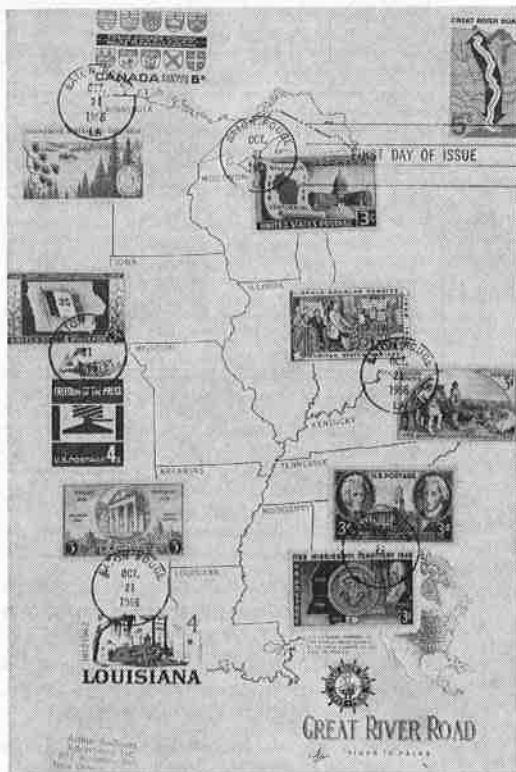
The opportunity was provided by the issuance of the Great River Road

commemorative in October 1966. I had more than the usual interest because my own city and state figured prominently in the conception of the road. The southern terminus of the Great River Road is at New Orleans; and Baton Rouge, location of the headquarters of the Mississippi River Parkway Commission, was chosen as the First Day city.

Inspiration for the combo cover was sparked by the advance publication of the Great River Road stamp design. The background information supplied with the design enumerated the states involved and mentioned that the parkway had an international character since it extended into two Canadian provinces and joined the Trans-Canada Highway. I decided to represent each state with an appropriate stamp superimposed on a map, mimicking the design of the stamp.

The number of stamps involved indicated the need for a larger-than-usual envelope. The hunt was on for a map and envelope combination that would suffice. A map in color would detract from the colors of the stamps — and colored maps are more expensive! Search in a New Orleans map store turned up Rand McNally's State Outline Map (#4681) which shows the outlines of the states without geographical or topographical markings. The central portion of the United States, cut from the 11" x 17" map, fitted comfortably on a 6½" x 9½" white envelope. I obtained over-size envelopes and lightweight cardboard suitable for stuffers from a local stationery store.

All of the states involved except Illinois and Missouri had commemoratives. The fact that Lincoln was prominent in Illinois



Combination stamps Scott numbers, left column top to bottom: Canada 400, 1106 (Minnesota), 942 (Iowa), 1119 (Missouri), 782 (Arkansas) and 1197 (Louisiana). Right column, top to bottom: 1319 (Great River Road), 957 (Wisconsin), 1115 (Illinois), 904 (Kentucky), 941 (Tennessee) and 955 (Mississippi).

politics and that the debates with Douglas took place there made this stamp an obvious choice for a statehood substitute. Freedom of the Press was selected to represent Missouri because it was first issued at Columbia. Hindsight indicates that a better choice would have been the Kansas City Missouri Centennial (994) — proof that research should not end until all possibilities are exhausted!

A dozen copies of the combo were prepared, six each with cachets cut from Artcraft and Artmaster envelopes. Both designs complement the theme of the cover. A cachet on an oversize combo almost always enhances the cover by giving it the accustomed "finished look" and it serves as a quick identification for the new stamp. I attended the First Day ceremonies at Baton Rouge which made it possible to personally give instructions for servicing the covers.

An inspiration, coupled with some philatelic research and a bit of shopping around to locate suitable materials has produced a "unique" item — one of the two "most noticed" covers in my combo exhibit at NOPEX '68. Although there has been much criticism of the design of the Great River Road commemorative, I have received numerous compliments on the concept of this combination cover. This kind of "Praise" makes one work harder.

The 1968 commemorative stamp program furnishes several examples where this concept could have been exploited. The same size cover would have worked fine for tracing Marquette's exploration of the Mississippi and its tributaries. A larger map in the same series (#4683) is excellent for outlines of single states and could be used for such issues as the Cherokee Strip. An A. J. Nystrom & Co. map (D 1) showing the principal U.S. rivers would have been suitable for both the Marquette and Arkansas River issues. While I had no difficulty obtaining large size white envelopes, they are not as readily available in some areas as the manila variety.

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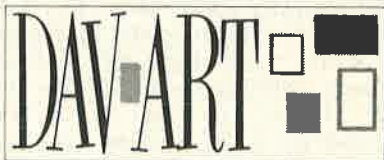
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First Cachets — Part V

by R. A. Elms, AFDCS 6055

New first cachet information from our readers has been altogether too sparse since the last article. Lend a helping hand — send data on those early cachets in your collection to the author at 910 Valencia Mesa Dr., Fullerton, Calif. 92632.

In the meantime, we continue with information on three cachet-makers of slightly more recent vintage:

Period I — 1920-1929 (cont'd.)

Torkel Gundel

There is at least a small group (including the author) who feel that the cachets of Torkel Gundel are among the most artistic and attractive ever produced. Distinguished by fine ink-work and bright colors, Gundel's cachets were of consistently professional quality in an era when many FDC cachets were amateurish, to say the least.

Gundel's first cachet was for the Sullivan issue of 1929 (Fig. 1). It was unsigned, but the lettering and style were consistent with later, signed cachets.

At the time, Gundel was a member of the Gateway Philatelic Society in Chicago; in fact, he had been a founder of that group. He explains how he became a pioneer cachet-maker:

"Being something of an artist, I didn't like some of the early cachet designs that were on the market. Those were depression years, and I was also anxious to make a few extra dollars. I owned a small foot-powered printing press and a dozen cases of type, so I printed a small line drawing with an appropriate inscription, then added tempera colors later, by hand. I took the envelopes to the next meeting of the Gateway Club and the members gobbled them up like hot cakes. Before I knew it, I was launched on a fairly busy schedule, ultimately printing up to 10,000 covers at a time (for the 1938 Presidential issue) on my little press."

Gundel continued to employ the



(Torkel Gundel collection)

Fig. 1 — Torkel Gundel's first cachet, printed on his own, foot-powered press with dash of color (green) added by hand.

hand-coloring technique up to about 1939, when the demand for his designs dictated a shift to a faster production method. "So I started to print the colors, too, and this worked out good," he explains.

Occasionally, Gundel also produced cachets totally by hand, using India ink and tempera colors. These are truly works of art! An outstanding example is the California Exposition cover illustrated on the front cover.

Gundel advertised in the various stamp publications, often bartering artwork for advertising space. Thus, his cartoons can be seen in *Weekly Philatelic Gossip* issues of the mid-1930's. In addition, he developed a mailing list of several hundred FDC collectors to whom he sent a postcard publication, *Cachet News*, in the late 1930's. In a 1938 edition of *Cachet News*, for example, he offered hand-colored cachets at 15c each, with a special "Christmas offer" to regular clients: "My last 12 Susan Anthony covers at 10c each."

Gundel's records indicate that he designed and produced more than 100 different cachets in all, stopping with the 1940 issues. He went on to become a successful Chicago advertising

executive, only last year closing his downtown office to work in semi-retirement from his home. Born in Copenhagen, Denmark, in 1902, Gundel came to the U.S. as a boy of 10. "That explains the screwy name," he says.

Gundel's cachets were printed on standard - size envelopes, 3½" x 6½", with linework printed in black, by letterpress, and colors added either by hand or by letterpress. Most of the early Gundel covers I've seen carry Chicago addresses, although in later years he sold hundreds of his covers to Eastern dealers, including Jacques Minkus of Gimbels in New York.

Eugene Zimmerman

Occasionally, an outstanding artist is persuaded to design a FDC cachet. Since he is not usually familiar with First Day Covers, the famous artist brings to the assignment a fresh viewpoint, often resulting in an interesting departure from the usual cachet. A case in point:

Back in 1929, the Post Office Department announced a new stamp to commemorate the Sullivan campaign of the Revolutionary War. A whole spate of official First Day cities was designated — 15 in all — among them, Horseheads, N. Y.

When members of the Horseheads Rotary Club decided to capitalize on the event and issue special, illustrated envelopes for use with the new stamp, there wasn't any question as to whom they'd have design the cachet. After all, didn't one of the most acclaimed artists of the day live right there in town? And wasn't he always ready and willing to contribute his considerable talent to a worthwhile project, be it designing and installing the complete decorations for a county fair or dashing off an illustration for a friend?

Eugene Zimmerman was the artist, and it was to him that the Club's representative went for the illustration seen in Fig. 2. By 1929, Zimmerman (or "Zim" as he signed himself) was nearing the end of an outstanding ar-

tistic career. Getting his start as a regular in the leading humor magazines of the late, 1800's *Puck* and *Judge*, Zim later joined the staff of the New York *Sunday Telegram*, where his cartoons appeared for many years. In those early days, he lived in New York City, but later returned to Horseheads where he turned more and more of his attention to other loves — fishing and community projects.

Zim's professional stature was such that he was elected president of the American Association of Cartoonists and Caricaturists; selected to illustrate Ring Lardner's book, *Regular Fellows*



(Tom Arnold collection)

Fig. 2 — The world-famous cartoonist, "ZIM" — Eugene Zimmerman — prepared this FDC cachet for the Horseheads, N.Y., Rotary Club. Humor is carried through in caption.

I Have Met; and successfully marketed a correspondence course in cartooning, comic art and caricature. Noted personages came to Horseheads just to meet him.

Born in Basle, Switzerland, on May 25, 1862, Zim came to the United States in 1870 at age 8. He died March 26, 1935. Zim's Sullivan cachet — only one known by him — exists in both printed and rubber stamp form on a variety of envelope types. (Note: Special thanks to AFDCS member Charles R. Ziegler of Lowman, N. Y., for most of the above information on Eugene Zimmerman.)

Frank Herget

Anyone who ever read the classified ads in a philatelic publication under the heading, "First Day Covers," will recognize the name, Frank Herget. For many years the owner of a FDC and new issue service and since 1918 a full-time stamp dealer, Herget is also a pioneer FDC cachet-maker.



(Author's collection)

Fig. 3 — First known FDC cachet by Frank Herget. Cachet was applied by means of addressing machine stencil.

Herget isn't certain which issue carried his first cachet, but the earliest identified by him to date is one he applied to the 2c Nebraska overprint of 1929 (Fig. 3). It's an unusual cachet, in that it is not printed, but applied by means of an Elliot addressing machine. The Elliot, used in those days by many newspapers and advertisers for imprinting names and addresses on papers and envelopes, employed a small stencil similar in principle to that of a mimeograph. The lettering or illustration to be imprinted was scribed onto the stencil with a typewriter or stylus, allowing ink to seep through and onto the paper. In



(Author's collection)

Fig. 4 — Early FDC by Frank Herget with perhaps his first printed cachet. Herget did not prepare his own cachet for each new issue, but has serviced FDCs for every U.S. stamp since 1928.

this case, Herget apparently sketched an outline of the state of Nebraska, adding the appropriate lettering by hand.

A few months later, Herget tried his hand at a printed cachet for the Ohio River Canalization issue (Fig. 4). He continued to prepare his own cachets for occasional issues through the mid-1930's, but more often than not employed cachets by others to fill his ever-growing clientele's orders. Herget doesn't remember every cachet he prepared, but is emphatic on one point: he has serviced FDCs for every U.S. issue from the Valley Forge stamp of 1928 to the present!

Born in 1906 in Omaha, Nebraska, Herget moved first to Sioux Falls, S. Dakota, then to Buffalo, New York, his present home. He was a pioneer specialist in airmail and first day covers, serviced his first FDCs in 1926 and by 1936 was credited by *Stamps* columnist George Van Den Berg with "a stock of first day covers that will make your eyes pop out!"

Herget evidently did not apply his Nebraska cachet to all covers he serviced for that issue, as covers similarly addressed are known without the cachet. His Ohio River cachet is printed in blue-black, by letterpress, on envelopes 3½" x 6½".

Mystery Cachet



(Richard Chellevoid collection)

Fig. 5 — This month's "mystery cachet" is a two-color envelope prepared for the Lindbergh air mail issue of 1927. Who cachet who prepared this colorful cachet?

Here's one for the airmail enthusiasts — Lindbergh's photo in blue, the two-line inscription in red, the stripes in red and blue, with the red one

above (Fig. 5). It's addressed — with green typewriter ribbon — to Mr. J. B. Nicklin Jr., Chattanooga, Tenn. OK, who will be the first to identify the cachet designer?

Thanks for new "first cachet" information to: Mrs. Ted Ashworth, Leo August, Fred Casoni III, Richard Chellevoid, Roy Cohen, Larry Fisher, Col. Lewis E. Klotzbach, Delf Norona, Ben Papell, Curt Patterson, George Rose, Harry Themal and Dave Zubatsky.

SIXTH WARD CONTEST

January first marks the start of the sixth annual competition for the Philip H. Ward, Jr. Memorial Award for Excellence in First Day Cover Literature. A handsome 14" silver-plate tray, beautifully engraved, by International Silver Company, will be presented to the author of the most outstanding article written on the subject of First Day Covers during the 1969 calendar year.

Articles (of any length) entered for judging must have been published in a recognized philatelic publication during the period January 1, 1969 to December 31, 1969. Articles published in *FIRST DAYS* are automatically eligible. Other entries must be submitted in triplicate to Richard Chellevoid, chairman of the committee for FDC Literature Promotion, no later than January 15, 1970.

Philip H. Ward, Jr. was a prominent philatelist of international repute. It was because of his pioneering spirit that the hobby of FDC collecting received a tremendous impetus during the early part of this century. His contributions to philately mark him as a man in whose footsteps others should follow.

E16 News

As a result of a research article published in the September-October issue of *FIRST DAYS* (see cover and page 38), Scott's *U.S. Stamp Catalog Specialized* will carry a new First Day listing for E16, the 15c rotary special delivery, starting next year.

In line with facts presented in the article, the new First Day for E16 will be August 6, 1931, with Easton, Pa., listed as the First Day city. In addition, the listing of August 13, 1931, at Washington (first day of sale at the Philatelic Agency) which has been carried in the past, will be retained.

This advice comes from Scott Editor Eugene N. Costales in a letter to Jack Harvey (LM#21), author of the article and chairman of the AFDCS expertising committee. An acknowledgment has also been received from Minkus Publications to the effect that their catalog will list the amended date.

In connection with the E16 find, a piece of sad news has been reported by Dick Chellevoid (#2115), who discovered the August 6 covers. On his return trip from the recent AFDCS convention at Philadelphia, Dick stopped at Easton in the hope of visiting with Thomas H. Hawk, who originally made these covers in 1931, only to find that Mr. Hawk had passed away in July at the age of 81.

Although then in ill health, Mr. Hawk had corresponded with Harvey as recently as April of 1968, just three months before his death, to confirm that he had made the covers. Mr. Hawk was Member #3 of the Bureau Issues Association and one of the founders of that philatelic organization.

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SEND STAMPED ENVELOPE
FOR SAMPLES

CUBA No. 406 - First Day Cancel Varieties

By Barbara Ann Lyon, Secretary Franklin D. Roosevelt Philatelic Society



Fig. 1. Two-thirds actual size

In 1947, Cuba issued a commemorative stamp in honor of the second anniversary of the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Presidential Decree #3670 of November 27, 1945, as declared in Order No. 6, Ministry of Communications of March 22, 1947, announced the plans for this new issue. The design, which depicts the late President with his date of birth and death, was taken from a photograph submitted by Eleanor Roosevelt to the Cuban Government. The 2-centavo stamp (Scott #406) was engraved by the Security Bank Note Company, U.S.A. It was printed by Compania P. Fernandez, S.A., Havana, Cuba, on white smooth 35# wove bond paper with five-pointed star watermark (Scott 106) using soluble vermilion ink, in sheets of 100 and divided into four panes of 25 by gutters, with gutter blocks and cross gutter block positions. The plates used were numbered S-649, S-650.



Fig. 2. Two-thirds actual size

First Day of Issue: April 12, 1947 — with three devices used for First Day cancels as illustrated and described below with translations:

1. Applied by the post office cancelling machine reading — BE A

PHILATELIST/FIRST DAY. All covers that passed through the post office bear this cancellation.

2. A diamond shaped rubber stamp cachet, in purple or black, reading — CUBA/POSTS/A GOOD NEIGHBOR/HONORS A GREAT AMERICAN/FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT /APRIL 12, 1947/FIRST DAY. This cachet, supplied by the Cuban Philatelic Club, was used on the majority of covers, but not on all of them.



Fig. 3. Actual size

3. A double-circle dated stamp of the Havana Post Office reading — POSTAL ADMINISTRATION/HAVANA — CUBA between the two circles, and, in the center, the date, APRIL 12, 1947.

While it is known that 3,000,000 stamps were issued, the number of First Day cancels is unknown as the Cuban GPO did not keep tally of these events.

Several cachets are known. These were produced by collectors as well as dealers. The most sought after was supplied by the Philatelic Club of Cuba. It features a color portrait of Franklin D. Roosevelt from the original painting by the Cuban artist Esteban Valderrama.



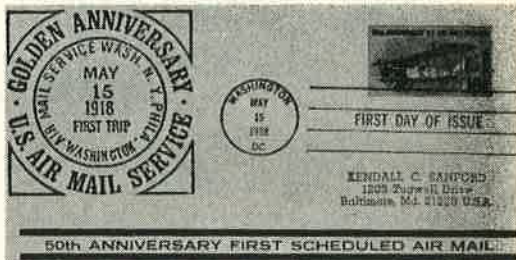
50th ANNIVERSARY U.S. AIR MAIL SERVICE FIRST DAY — ADDENDUM

By Kendall C. Sanford

In his article in the September-October issue, "First Day Cancellations on the 50th Anniversary U. S. Air Mail Service Stamps," Dick Thompson explained that First Day Covers either with or without the "First Day of Issue" cancellation, bearing the official POD commemorative cachet and flown to Philadelphia and New York, are quite scarce. There are two reasons for this.

First, at the Washington City Post Office, on May 15th, a designated counter was set up to service First Day Covers. This was identified by a small sign. However, there was no sign or anything to indicate that the commemorative cachet was available, that it would be applied to uncached covers and that the collector could have his covers flown to either Philadelphia or New York. The collector actually had to know that the cachet was available and request that it be applied to his covers, and that they be flown.

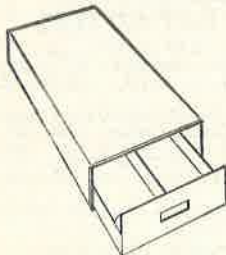
The second reason is obvious. No one ever expected the commemorative cachet, or the inclusion of regular FDCs along with flown covers, to be available at the City Post Office on May 15th. Not even the writer, who was on the GAMA Philatelic Committee and hence very closely connected with this issue. Therefore very few collectors had uncached envelopes with them when they went to



GAMA FDC with commemorative cachet on AAMS envelope with First Day hand cancel. This cover was flown as evidenced by the New York back stamp on the reverse side.

the Post Office to service their First Day Covers. Most of them had the standard printed cachet envelopes as Arcraft and Artmaster. Obviously, one could not have the commemorative cachet applied to such covers, thus the scarcity of flown FDCs with the official cachet.

The American Air Mail Society, however, must have anticipated that the cachet would be available on May 15th as they were selling envelopes at their convention, which were plain white with only red and blue stripes along the bottom with the inscription "50th ANNIVERSARY FIRST SCHEDULED AIR MAIL" in the space between. This left the entire left side blank — thus ample space for application of the cachet. We illustrate one of these covers.



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6c Statue of Liberty (envelope)
January 4, 1968 New York, N. Y.
FDC — 184,784

5c Abraham Lincoln (postal card)
5c Lincoln (double postal card)
January 4, 1968 Hodgenville, Ky.
FDC — 274,400

10c red airmail definitive
(sheet, coil & booklet pane 8)
January 5, 1968 San Francisco, Cal.
FDC — 814,140

10c definitive airmail (envelope)
January 8, 1968 Chicago, Ill.
FDC — 157,553

2c Frank Lloyd Wright (booklet)
January 8, 1968 Buffalo, N. Y.
FDC — 147,244

10c red A.M. defin. (booklet pane 5)
January 9, 1968 Washington, D.C.
FDC — no official count

1c Jefferson (sheet, coil, booklet)
January 12, 1968 Jeffersonville, Ind.
FDC — 655,680

6c Flag-White House (defin.)
January 24, 1968 Washington, D.C.
FDC — 412,120

40c Thomas Paine (defin.)
January 29, 1968 Philadelphia, Pa.
FDC — 157,947

6c Illinois Sesquicentennial
February 12, 1968 Shawneetown, Ill.
FDC — 761,640

6c Roosevelt (sidewise coil)
February 28, 1968 Washington, D.C.
FDC — 213,060

8c A.M. postal card (defin.)
March 1, 1968 New York, N. Y.
FDC — 179,923

15c Oliver Wendell Holmes (defin.)
March 8, 1968 Washington, D.C.
FDC — 322,970

1.4c Liberty Bell (envelope)
March 26, 1968 Springfield, Mass.
FDC — 134,382

6c Hemisfair
March 30, 1968 San Antonio, Texas
FDC — 469,909

\$1- Airlift stamp
April 4, 1968 Seattle, Wash.
FDC — 105,088

6c Support Our Youth
May 1, 1968 Chicago, Ill.
FDC — 354,711

10c A.M. 50th Anniversary Airmail
May 15, 1968 Washington, D.C.
FDC — 521,084

6c Law and Order
May 17, 1968 Washington, D.C.
FDC — 407,081

6c Register and Vote
June 27, 1968 Washington, D.C.
FDC — 355,685

6c Ten Historical Flags
July 4, 1968 Pittsburgh, Pa.
FDC — 2,924,692

5c P.C. 25th Anniversary Women
Marines
July 26, 1968 San Francisco, Cal.
FDC — 203,714

12c Henry Ford (definitive)
July 30, 1968 Dearborn, Mich.
FDC — 342,850

50c Lucy Stone (definitive)
August 13, 1968 Dorchester, Mass.
FDC — 140,410

6c Walt Disney
September 11, 1968 Marceline, Mo.
FDC — 499,505

(To be continued)

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Trade Notes

New entry in the 'occasional and general' cachet field is *Butler Cover Service*. It all started with the Christmas design. This firm intends to fill the requirements of the ordinary cover collector, with extra duty envelopes of a special Rippletone Bond.

H. E. Harris celebrates the firm's 52nd Anniversary with an unusual sale of better grade material. There are more than 800 items in the \$5 to \$200 price range at a 40% savings. For a copy of the catalog write to Mr. Eric Thompson at the Boston address.

Have you seen the *White Ace* "FDC Collecting Kit?" A novel idea from *Washington Press* will start the novice on his way to years and years of hobby pleasure. Priced at a nominal \$4.75, the kit provides an album with pages, mounting suggestions, servicing instructions, catalog — in short, everything necessary for a perfect introduction to the FDC field. At your favorite dealer.

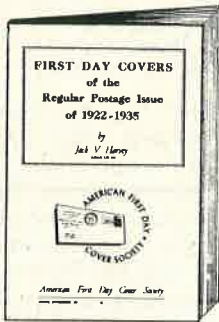
Chapter Activities

by Harry Benedict
14503 St. Marys Ave.,
Detroit, Mich. 48227

In the coming months I will be revitalizing the AFDCS Chapter program — an activity which can broaden the hobby for Society members and provide so much more enjoyment. Just think of all the benefits that can be derived by having an AFDCS affiliate in your own city. There will be meetings to attend and the opportunity to meet fellow collectors, trade covers and exchange experiences.

The Society is providing this service for the benefit of its members. Don't let the other guy do it. Write to me for information on how to start a chapter or affiliate a local club. The AFDCS will be strengthened and collecting will become that much more meaningful for the participants. Let's all get together and make this program a rousing success.

Watch for this column.



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By Jack V. Harvey

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Member Stephen Hutak of Sierra Madre, CA owns several covers bearing four plate number singles arranged in the form of a miniature "block". The illustration shows such an FDC of the Scott C33, 5c airmail. Other covers in his possession bearing four plate singles each include the 1c Roosevelt commem of 1945 and the Smithsonian



Institution issue of 1946. The cachets are all by Fluegel. In the case of the Roosevelt issue the cachet was applied after the stamps since the cachet design actually overlaps onto the plate selvage of two of the stamps. Stephen would like to know how plentiful such covers are and any other background information on them.

Dick Chellevoid has identified the cover belonging to Curt Patterson, shown in the last issue of "The Question Box." It is a cachet by Linn, and Dick sent photocopies of similar Linprint cachets pointing out the identifying characteristics. The earliest of these covers appeared between 1930 and 1932 bearing the trademark and serial number in the upper righthand corner, where they were normally covered by the stamp itself. The marks may be seen by holding the cover up to a strong light. The 1933 Kosciuszko issue bears the identification "1933-Linprint" in the cachet itself. Other earmarks of this cachet marker are

use of double dates, underlining, italic type, use of bright orange color. The following catalog was compiled by Dick. Can others supply the missing information so that we can complete the story on this cachet line?

Linprint Ser. No.	Issue or Characteristic
101	Ornamental border for general use; used April 8, 1930 and later
103	As above, different border
104	As above, different border
104	As above, different border
(These three are normal size envelopes with pointed flaps)	
205	Olympic Summer Games, June 1932
206	Olympic Summer Games, June 1932
207	Arbor Day, April 1932
209	Daniel Webster, October 1932
212	William Penn, October 1932
(#'s 205-212 are small envelopes, 6" x 3 3/4" with round flaps)	
Scott Nos. 726-775 were serviced on large envelopes with round flaps and without trademark under the stamp. Nos. 776 on into the early 1940's were on large envelopes with pointed flaps.	



Frances Wickerd
230 S. Broadway
Redondo Beach, CA 90277

By deadline time for this issue of *FIRST DAYS* the post office department had provided only sketchy information with respect to new stamps for 1969. In addition to those listed in my last column, commemoratives for W. C. Handy and the 50th Anniversary of the American Legion have been announced. The dates and designs for all proposed issues are as yet undisclosed. If announcements are made before you receive *FIRST DAYS* for March / April, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for my suggestions.

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The JFK Memorial Museum

Dr. Gerald J. Steinberg AFDCS #6641

The John Fitzgerald Kennedy Memorial Museum was formally established in August, 1967, and incorporated in the District of Columbia. This institution will provide a permanent home for the extensive collection of material relating to the life of JFK which has been assembled by the author during the past five years. It is estimated that it will require an investment of \$250,000 to make the museum a reality. The project is being financed through the public sale of shares.

The Kennedy Memorial Museum will house a collection of more than 250,000 separate items related to the life and times of the 35th President. These memorabilia are made of paper, cloth, leather, straw, wood, precious and base metals, etc. There are coins, medals, tokens, postcards, pamphlets, and *objets d'art*. The reference and research library will contain copies of the scores of books written about JFK, and hundreds of papers and photographs chronicling his life and political career. The collection of information and photographs documenting JFK monuments and memorials will be unequalled.

Much of the material in the museum will be of interest to the philatelist. There will be a complete collection of mint copies of all known JFK commemoratives. The world's largest assemblage of philatelic errors and freaks will be on display. The First Day Cover enthusiast will find a complete worldwide collection of FDCs for every Kennedy postage stamp and examples of every known cachet extant for the U. S. Kennedy Memorial issue (1246).

The JFK Memorial stamp was issued nationwide on May 29, 1964. While official FDC cancellations were available only at Boston, thousands of different First Day postmarks were possible. The museum will display one of the largest collections of different city and R. P. O. cancels. Scores of FDCs for other U.S. Kennedy issues — 11c aerogramme (UC38), 13c Prominent Americans (1287) and 13c aerogramme (UC39) — with different cachets and/or FD postmarks have likewise been assembled. Hundreds of these FDCs have been autographed

by relatives, friends, and members of the JFK administration. Others are signed by people — humble as well as great — who have some way figured in the Kennedy story.

Almost every period of JFK's adult life is represented in the autographed cover collection. Signatures have been obtained from people who knew him during his years at Choate, Harvard, and in pre-war London when he was an aide to his father, Ambassador Joseph P. Kennedy. All of the crew members of PT-109 and other World War II U.S. Navy notables have autographed covers. Congressmen and Senators who served with him in Congress are also represented.

President Kennedy personally visited, or received as White House guests, dozens of world leaders. The collection includes Kennedy FDCs autographed by The Imperial Shahanshah of Iran, The Chancellor of Germany and the Prime Ministers of the British Commonwealth, to name only a few. Many world leaders attended his funeral. Covers and photographs signed by

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Ethiopia's Emperor Haile Salassie and Philippine President Desidio Macapagal are two examples.

There will be scores of covers on display autographed by contemporary U. S. political figures. These include all members of JFK's cabinet, White House aides and special assistants. One set of identical Arcraft covers has the autographs of the fifty state governors. Another very special set contains a FDC postmarked at each state capital. Each cover bears a cachet showing an outline map of the state, a picture of JFK and the U. S. flag at half mast. Each cover is autographed by the state's two United States Senators.

A tremendous effort has been made to document history with relevant autographs on First Day and special event covers. Signatures of scores of people who were caught up in the events of the assassination and funeral have been obtained. These include the doctors at Parkland Hospital; and the Reverend Oscar Huber, the priest who administered the last rites in the hospital emergency room. Signatures have also been obtained from such people as the taxicab driver who took Lee Harvey Oswald from the Book Depository to his rooming house; the driver of the bus on which he traveled to the Texas Theatre; and the policeman who subdued and captured him. There are also the autographs of the men who dug the grave and installed the eternal flame, Richard Cardinal Cushing who conducted the funeral rites, and Sgt. Keith Clark who blew taps.

No less important to the serious students of the Kennedy era will be the hundreds of special event covers which have been assembled over the past five years. Covers have been prepared for every major Kennedy event. These covers are professionally printed with cachets appropriate to the occasion. Virtually all of these covers are franked with the 5c JFK Memorial stamp, often in combination with foreign Kennedy or Alliance for Progress issues. The depth of this coverage can best

be illustrated by listing a few examples.

The museum collection contains two of the extremely rare (only a dozen were manufactured and serviced) covers postmarked August 29, 1967, the day the eternal flame failed. One of these is autographed by the man who installed the flame; the other, by the Superintendent of Arlington National Cemetery. Other covers were serviced on the day the United States Army ordered permanent removal of military hats from the gravesite and on the day of the removal ceremony. There are unique covers postmarked Arlington, Virginia, March 14, 1968, the day President Kennedy's body was moved from the temporary grave to the permanent memorial site.

There are day of ceremony covers for numerous John F. Kennedy memorial awards. These are autographed by the speakers at such functions and the recipients of the awards. There are dedication covers, autographed by the Principals, for schools all over the world named to honor JFK. There are covers commemorating every dedication ceremony of the Tom Sawyer Fence Project sponsored by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. These are autographed by the children who painted each of the panels. Nearly 80 countries are represented.

Also in the international field are a special set of Alliance for Progress covers. This cooperative program for Western Hemisphere economic betterment was a legacy of the Kennedy administration. There are 31 covers, printed with an appropriate cachet, franked with the Brazil Alianza commemorative stamp and postmarked on Alliance for Progress Day. All are appropriately autographed. JFK was Honorary Chairman for the Tenth International Olympics for the Deaf. A set of special covers was prepared and serviced for the opening day ceremonies. The cachets picture the flags and seals of the participating nations. Each cover is autographed by the Ambassador or Charge d'Affaires to the United

States. In all there are nearly 1700 autographed First Day and special event covers in the museum's holdings.

There are many novel covers with double and triple postmarks relevant to Kennedyana. One set records the names of four members of the Kennedy clan with postmarks applied on the covers in proper order. There is *Johns*, Alabama; *Fitzgerald*, Georgia and *Kennedy*, Nebraska. There is no city in the USA named John. Others in the postmark set are Rose (Nebr.) Fitzgerald (Ga.) Kennedy (Nebr.); Robert (La.) Francis (Okla.) Kennedy (Nebr.); and Edward (N.C.) Moore (Idaho) Kennedy (Nebr.). All covers are appropriately autographed.

This museum will not cater solely to the philatelist, or the numismatist, or the deltiologist, but — we hope — to every American interested in this period of our history and heritage as exemplified in the life of John F. Kennedy. Such a museum will surely enhance our nation's capital city. Announcement of the opening will be made in a subsequent issue of *FIRST DAYS*.

Obtaining Foreign FDCs

Ross H. Stanwood, P.O. Box 389
Northampton, Mass. 01060

COOK ISLANDS

Order and inquiries concerning new issues should be sent to: *Philatelic Bureau, P.O. Box 200, Cook Islands (South Pacific)*. Envelopes for FDCs are supplied at 10c each with no charge for affixing the stamps. Servicing orders must arrive three days before the new stamps' release. Registered mail is suggested for orders containing mint stamps. Make checks payable to: Philatelic Bureau, Cook Islands Post Office.

PHILIPPINES

Remittance for FDCs must include payment for stamps, envelopes (if not supplied), registration and return postage. FDC envelopes are priced at 10c each. U.S. — orders must be received on or before the day of issue. Inquiries and orders should be sent to: *Postal Fiscal Service Chief, Stamp and Philatelic*

Division, Bureau of Posts, Manila, Philippines.

SAUDI ARABIA

The government of Saudi Arabia does not respond to inquiries of new stamp issues.

TURKEY

This country does not prepare First Day Covers, but envelopes supplied by collectors will receive a F. D. cancellation. Service and information may be secured from *PTT Genel Mudurlugu, Posta Dairesi, Filateli Servisi, Ankara*. Approximate conversion rate is nine Turkish lira to the U.S. dollar.

ANGOLA

For information on obtaining FDCs from Angola, address an aerogramme to: *Centro Filatelico de Angola, Largo da Republica, No. 26, Luanda, Angola*.

Something Special

It was bound to happen sooner or later — we goofed in the last issue. As many of our readers pointed out and many more members probably noticed, the deadline for the bids to be submitted was given as Nov. 1. We apologize for our mistake, but are happy to know that so many members read our column closely.

It is rather difficult to decide what to do — the people who bid will feel that the lots should be awarded now and the people who wanted to but didn't bid will feel that we should observe the published rules in spite of the wrong date. We must admit that we hold the latter view.

Therefore, the lots in this month's *Something Special* are exactly the same as in the last issue. Please refer to it for the description, rules, etc. This time the bids must be received no later than Feb. 1, 1969. Send communications to Peter Sorenson, 6218 Gehring Apt 16, Houston, TX 77021.

First Day Covers on Approval

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The Historical Significance of First Day Dates — Part XX

David Zubatsky, 323 Clara, St. Louis, Mo. 63112

#1173 Echo I

The *December 15, 1960*, date had no significance.

#1174-1175 Mahatma Gandhi

January 26 is India's National holiday, Republic Day. The stamp was issued on *January 26, 1961*.

#1176 Range Conservation

February 2, 1961, was the opening day of the annual meeting of the American Society of Range Management at Salt Lake City, Utah.

#1177 Horace Greeley

Horace Greeley was born on February 3, 1811. The stamp was issued on *Feb. 3, 1961*.

#1178 Ft. Sumter

On April 12, 1861, the bombardment of Ft. Sumter took place. This stamp marked the centennial on *April*

12, 1961.

#1183 Kansas Statehood

The issuance date of this stamp had political overtones. Senator Schoepfel of Kansas promised his good friend and backer, Mrs. Frank Hauke of Council Grove, Kansas, that he would get the Kansas commemorative issued on her birthday, May 10, and at her home town, Council Grove, Kansas. Postmaster Summerfield went along with the Senator and the stamp was issued on *May 10, 1961*, at Council Grove, instead of the actual anniversary date of January 29.

#1184 Senator Norris

Senator Norris was born on July 11, 1861. The stamp was issued on *July 11, 1961*.

(To be continued)

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 8455 Bonagura, Rita, 725 Moore St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19148; by Walker
 J8470 Chernin, Jeffrey L., 3560 Tolland Road, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44122; by Walker
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 J8450 Fisher, Michael G., 25 Bellaire Drive, New Castle, Pa. 16101; by Fisher
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 8502 Gawecki, Major F. M., FR 3126964, Box 177, USAF Hosp Clark, APO San Francisco, Cal. 96274; by Koehler
 8495 Gillott, William, Box 171, Kew Gardens, N.Y. 11415; by Koved
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 J8506 Maxwell, Don R., 9650 Leaside Drive, Dallas, Tex. 75328; by Finger
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 8501 Morris, Charles W., 118 Church St., Chester, W. Va. 26034; by Eiserman
 8414 Mulder, Raymond M., 12 Venezia Ave., Albany, N.Y. 12203; by Eiserman
 8425 Nemac, Frank J., 4 Margery Court, Clifton, N.J. 07013; by Eiserman
 8458 Nesker, Jerry M., 30 Sparrow Ave., Toronto 19, Ont., Canada; by Eiserman
 8477 Noe, Lewis R., P.O. Box 66, Elizabethtown, Ky. 42701; by Benedict
 8486 Nollan, Richard C., 530 N. Williams Drive, Palatine, Ill. 60067; by Amoroson
 8418 Novak, Frank J., 2430 Rochelle Ave. S.E., Washington, D.C. 20028; by Finger
 6506 O'Brien, William J., 225 Hillcrest St., Staten Island, N.Y. 10308 (reinstated)
 8437 Orr, Ernest L., 3756 Washington Blvd., Ogden, Utah 84403; by Finger
 5057 Oshinsky, Abraham, 502 Amsterdam Ave., New York, N.Y. 10024 (reinstated)
 8436 Owen, Daniel P., P.O. Box 5512, Knoxville, Tenn. 37918; by Eiserman
 8497 Owens, Walter R., 63 Center St., West Haven, Conn. 06516; by Papell
 8504 Penn, Bedford F., Room 105, City Hall, Alexandria, Va. 22314; by Sheaffer
 8483 Price, Mr. P., 3205 Aldridge St., Victoria, B.C., Canada; by Eiserman
 8423 Quick, Mrs. Jack O., 216 N. Somersset Ln., Apt. 2 Ct., Arlington Hts., Ill. 60005; by Heuring
 8433 Ray, Samuel, 3600 Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Ill. 60613; by Thompson
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 8431 Ricca, Harry L., 19 N. Marmic Drive, Holland, Pa. 18966; by Koved
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 8485 Salkind, Sol, 3306 Rochambeau Ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10467; by Koved
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 8438 VandenBoom, Jerry L., Pioner Apts. No. 26, Ponca City, Okla. 74601; by Bielenberg
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 8430 Yeaw, James R. D., Box CF, Monterey Park, Cal. 91754; by Westbrooks
 8474 Zyga, James E., 84 Sattler Ave., Buffalo, N.Y. 14211; by Eiserman
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 5846 Barrett, James F., P.O. Box 10174, St. Petersburg, Fla. 33733
 1132Ch Beer, Jr., William C., P.O. Box 786, Bucyrus, Ohio 44820
 5908 Bogard, Solomon, 2420 Sedgwick Ave., Apt. 148, Bronx, N.Y. 10468
 7124 Brimm, Mrs. Carolyn S., RR #2, Box 203, Anna, Ill. 62906
 7088 Brimm, Kenneth H., RR #2, Box 203, Anna, Ill. 62906
 8342 Brown, Capt. Albert D., 441 E. Byrd, Universal City, Tex. 78148
 J8162 Burns, Mikeal F., TUSLOG Det. 33-2, APO New York, N.Y. 09224
 7526 Dulak, Mrs. Marian J., R #2 - Box 337, Mosinee, Wis. 54455
 4573 Graebner, Robert C., 626 Woodward Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20005
 7119 Grounds, Richard A., 1315 Central Ave., Albany, N.Y. 12205
 8104 Gunton, Donald R., P.O. Box 273, Simcoe, Ontario, Canada
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 7969 Hamilton, Stan, 3143 NW 41st St., Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33309
 7373 Harker, Mrs. Margaret E., P.O. Box 276, Indian Rocks Beach, Fla. 33535
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 6561 Lauter, Dr. Monte A., 3862 Rue Maison, Apt. B, Mobile, Alabama 36608
 7748 Lifschin, Robert R., 264 Warwick Ave., Staten Island, N.Y. 10314
 6767 McGee, John F., P.O. Box 697, Belle Plaine, Kan. 67013
 6024 MacCart, Mrs. Raymond D., 201 No. Riverside Drive, Pompano Beach, Fla. 33062
 7160 Malone, SMSgt John J., 8th CMBT SPT GP, CMR 1485, APO San Francisco, Cal. 96304
 1136Ch Malsi, John A., 241 N. Lake St., Chadron, Neb. 69337
 7415 Margolis, Robert B., 3740 N. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Ill. 60613
 6924 Masterson Jr., Conrad J., 18329 Jamestown Circle, Northville, Mich. 48187
 5967 Morenberg, Herbert, 33-44 91st St., Jackson Heights, N.Y. 11372
 1900 Mueller, Miss Barbara R., 225 S. Fischer Ave., Jefferson, Wis. 53549
 7764 Peeler, Edward R., EM2, COMCRU DES FLOT - 5, FPO San Francisco, Cal. 99610
 8304 Peidl, John C., Rt. 1, Box 264, Manassas, Va. 22110
 297Ch Pitterle, Norbert L., 915 Sunset Court, Two Rivers, Wis. 54241
 LM #14 Rose, George C., 621 South Harbor Blvd., Anaheim, Cal. 92805
 J7998 Rosser, Greg J., 1288 Thurston Ave., Los Altos, Cal. 94022
 8069 Rutz, Erwin H., 109D Fairway Lane, Crestwood Village, Whiting, N.J. 08759
 7349 Sawyer, Mary Rose, Box 8, Petersburg, N.Y. 12138 (zip change)
 7445 Schombert, John L., Rt #1, Box 173B, Germantown, Md. 20767 (Box number added)
 8220 Smith, Eugene D., 2235 Winfield Way NE, Canton, Ohio 44705
 7796 Spivack, Miss Wendy C., 2815 Barker Ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10467
 7984 Straub, Dennis R., 731 Crestwood Drive, Marshall, Missouri 65340
 5856 Strauss, Dr. William T., P.O. Box 134, Rensselaerville, N.Y. 12147
 5445 Van Buskirk, L., 950 Logan, Denver, Col. 80203
 120Ch Webb, C. V., c/o Burket, 1026 Pinewood Circle, Lyndhurst, Ohio 44124
- CORRECTIONS —
- 6536 Lehner Jr., Gene, South Main St., Wolfeboro, N.H. 03894 (membership number)
 6098 Schaefer, Carlton A., 37 Clinton St., Akron, N.Y. 14001
- DECEASED —
- 621Ch Brooke, Walter C., Box 101, Boyertown, Pa. 19512
 1363Ch Carnathan, Robert D., 134 Bellevue Road, North Quincy, Mass. 02171
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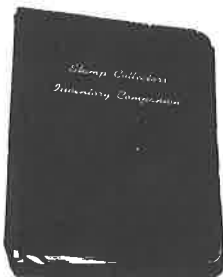
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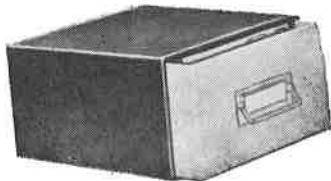
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