



THE PREXIES

The Bulletin of the BIA 1938 Presidential Series Committee



Issue 11
Late Summer, 1995

John Grabowski, Editor
Box 536, Willernie, MN 55090-0536
E-mail: minnjohn@aol.com

NOTES FROM THE CHAIRMAN.....

This is a completely unsolicited plug. It's for the philatelic auctioneer from Weehawken, NJ (just a proverbial stone's throw across the Hudson River from NYC): Lowell S. Newman.

Lowell is literally a gentleman and a scholar. He is an astute collector, a fine exhibitor, a talented writer and a knowledgeable philatelic judge. I had the pleasure of serving one of my four judging apprenticeships on a panel which included him.

But I am not writing this simply to praise the man. My purpose is to let fellow PSC members know of a reputable source of some of the finest Prexie material around. Whether it's plate number blocks of the high values, seldom seen EFO's or covers like you have seen nowhere else, Lowell handles them all. The vertical pair of \$1 Prexies imperforate horizontally, Scott No. 832a, was just one of three major Prexie errors that appeared in a recent Lowell S. Newman auction.

You may contact Lowell at 1500 Harbor Blvd, Weehawken, NJ 07087. His telephone number is (201) 223-0100, fax: 223-1202.

You can tell him I said "hello!"



Steve Suffet

EDITORIAL CHATTER.....

This issue has been too long in preparation (it started in May!) The Editor is mostly responsible for the delay. Major factors were our local Twin City Stamp EXPO which consumed a fair portion of my time as bourse chairman this year and a particularly busy time in my regular business. The EXPO was also the site of our annual PSC meeting — see the next page for some of the highlights. Then I tried to cram a lot of stuff into this issue, maybe too much. There is much detail and some of it required extensive rewriting. In the future, I think we'll keep the issues a bit shorter and more frequent. Despite best efforts, there may still be some typos, corrections or additions. I would appreciate hearing about them to share with others.

As always, we need input from PCS members to help fill the next issue. It need not be anything elaborate, a request for information, a special "find" you'd like to share or your perspective on collecting the Prexie Era would do very nicely. I'd also like to continue our "Meet the Member" feature but I need to hear from more members about what you collect and how you started.

I hope to run the rate table on .11 to .20 uses next issue so information and examples in this area are especially solicited.

I'm also trying a new section, "Low-Budget Prexie Collecting", for a few issues to see what kind of response is generated. Contributions to this area are needed — see page 14 for an introduction.

Finally, a sincere thanks to all who contributed thoughts, stamps and money to make this effort possible. Keep up the good work!

John Grabowski

PREXIEPEX VI WAS FUN.....

1990 — NAPEX, Washington, DC
1991 — MIDAPHIL, Kansas City
1992 — INDYPEX, Indianapolis
1993 — STAMPSHOW, Houston
1994 — STAMPSHOW, Pittsburgh
1995 — Twin City Stamp EXPO, St. Paul
(1996 — ROPEX, Rochester, NY)

We continued our annual meeting tradition this year in St. Paul with an outstanding group of Prexie Era exhibits and some great information and cover swapping at our annual meeting. The bourse was very active with dealers from all over the country stopping by on their way to St. Louis and many carrying a wide selection of 20th Century postal history.

EXPO's Grand Award went to PSC member Steve Eckstrom of Connecticut for his superb showing of the "U.S. Transport Airmail Issue: Rates, Usages & Postal History" which included many exciting and elusive covers. Steve also earned the Postal History Society Award.

Also in the gold medal category was PSC member William DiPaolo, of North Carolina, showing his "The Prexie Coils", an in-depth study of the stamps, their production and usages. Bill also earned the well-deserved Roland Rustad Memorial Award. For those members interested in this specialized Prexie subject, Bill has written the definitive article to date on Prexie Coil Usages which appeared in the Nov.-Dec., 1994 issue of U.S. Stamps and Postal History.

Completing a trio of gold awards to PSC members was Jeff Shapiro, from Massachusetts, with his interesting and well-organized "Collecting Prexie Postal History".

Member David Wessely, from Ohio, did a most impressive job with his first-time showing of "Postal History of Famous Americans, Circa 1940" and was rewarded with a Vermeil Medal and the AAPE Silver Award of Honor.

Silver Medals were awarded to member Millard Mack of Ohio for his exhibit, "Postal History of the 3-cent Jefferson Prexie Stamp" and John

Grabowski for his exhibit, "Postal Uses of the Prexie Coil Stamps". Both exhibits showed some very interesting material and should continue to grow in future years.

Special mention goes to PSC member Victor Nieset, also of Ohio, for his showing of "The 1934-35 National Parks Issue". Although this material is outside the Prexie period, it was still a great showing of a first-time exhibit in a challenging area.

Most of these exhibitors chose a narrow period and/or a limited set of stamp values to work with which made their task all the more challenging.

All in all, the exhibits were a real treat for students of mid-20th Century U.S. stamps and postal history. Especially noteworthy was the fact that at least half these exhibits were being shown for the first time and almost all had been mounted for exhibition within the last year or so! A big "ATTAWAY TO GO" award to all the exhibitors from ye Editor and keep up the good work!

CRITERIA FOR RUSTAD AWARD EXPANDS.....

One of the two business items decided at the PSC meeting was to expand the Roland Rustad Award eligibility to include any collection during the Prexie Era such as the Famous Americans, Transports, Overrun Nations, National Defence Issue, etc, in addition to the Prexies. Rollie was a collector of many of these other issues, in addition to his well-known Prexies.

1996 AT ROPEX.....

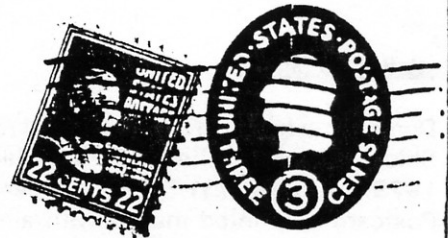
The other business item was next year's PSC meeting place. Look for information in the next issue of THE PREXIES concerning our 1996 PSC annual meeting in Rochester, NY, April 12-14. This is a national level show, in keeping with our philosophy of attending big shows as well as less-big shows. ROPEX will also host the annual meeting of our parent organization, the Bureau Issues Association, so it should be a great opportunity to renew old friendships and make some new ones. The seminars should also be top-notch.

A COUPLE OF INTERESTING PREXIE USAGES.....**A-1 LOAN CO.**

Phone GI 3-3449
429 K St. Sacramento, Calif.

CERTIFIED MAIL

Nº 0549232



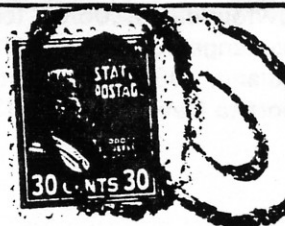
CHAN KEW

1327 3RD ST.

SACRAMENTO,

CALIF.

The 22-cent Prexie is used to pay the .15 certification fee + .07 for a return receipt. The envelope is not marked for a return receipt, but staple holes at left indicate the presence of one. (D. Preston collection)

**BUSINESS REPLY ENVELOPE**

FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO. 4082, SEC. 34.9, P. L. & R., PORTLAND ORE.

PORTLAND POST NO. 1

AMERICAN LEGION

ROOM 512 -- 429 S. W. 4TH AVE.

PORTLAND 4, OREGON



The 30-cent solo Prexie pays the min. registry fee, with no indemnity, in 1953 (this rate was in effect 1/1/52-6/6/55). Prepayment of registration on business reply mail was first announced in Postal Bulletin #16789 on October 25, 1935 (L. Piszkiwicz collection).

PREXIE SOLO USAGES APPLICABLE TO THE 1938-58 PERIOD (Thanks to Len, Steve & others)
(excluding multiple weight usages and 4th class zone uses)

6-cent Solo Usages:

- Domestic airmail rate, .06/oz. (7/1/34-3/25/44) (including postcards, airmail within Hawaii, and to Canada).
- Ship letter within the U.S. 1st class rate doubled as per ship letter regulations which remained in effect until 1979! (7/6/32-7/31/58 for .06 per oz.) Has anyone ever seen such a use.....?
- Postcard or printed matter with airmail service within the continental U.S. to the exchange point and surface mail to any foreign (both reduced rate and full rate) country (6/21/38-3/25/44).
- Domestic airmail rate, .06/oz. (1/1/49-7/31/58) (airmail postcards were only .04 during this later period).
- Military airmail rate, .06/half oz., to and from U.S. Armed Forces personnel stationed outside the continental U.S. (published 12/23, news released 12/25, effective 12/26/41-9/30/46).
- V-Mail lettersheet with airmail service within the continental U.S. to the V-Mail processing center, .06 ea. (6/15/42-10/29/45).
- Airmail rate, .06/half oz., to contractors and civilian employees receiving mail through Army or Navy post offices (APO's, FPO's) outside continental U.S. (order dated 10/21, published in P.B. & effective 10/23/42-9/30/46) .
- Airmail rate, .06/half oz., to U.S. prisoners of war, detainees, and internees held in enemy, enemy-occupied, or neutral countries (3/13/44-9/30/46). All such persons had actually been released, or disposed of, long before the expiration of this rate. Note (1): Effective 9/23/44, this .06/half oz. rate was extended to all Allied prisoners of war, detainees, and internees, in addition to just Americans. Note (2): Effective 12/14/44, specially designed printed lettersheets could be sent to such persons (U.S. or Allied) free of all postage. The .06 rate still applied to mail other than such lettersheets.
- Surface letter rate, including late fee, for ship letter deposited at a dispatching post office after the closing of mails, to or from Hawaii, or a U.S. possession on a particular ship. (7/6/32-7/31/58).
- .06 minimum per piece for a controlled circulation publication. (3/26/44-12/31/48).
- U.S. airmail/surface letter to a reduced rate country including PUAS (Postal Union of Americas & Spain) countries, Canada and Newfoundland, .06/oz. (consisting of .03 surface rate + .03 airmail surcharge within the continental U.S. to the exchange point). (6/21/38-3/25/44).
- Airmail rate to Newfoundland, .06/oz., consisting of airmail service within the continental U.S. and within Canada + surface transport to Newfoundland. (3/27/41-3/25/44).

7-cent Solo Usages:

- Domestic airmail rate, .07/oz. (8/1/58-1/6/63).
- Return receipt fee, mailed at Washington, D.C. from Executive Branch Departments only (1/1/52-6/30/57).
- Third class minimum insured mail, .07/1st 2 oz: .02 3rd class + .05 min. insurance fee (covered maximum indemnity of \$5). (1/1/49-1/1/57) The insured mail fee increased 1/2/57.
- Surface mail to any UPU country + airmail service within the U.S., or from a U.S. possession, to the exchange point, .07/oz. (10/1/46-6/30/48).
- Airmail service within the U.S. and Canada and then surface transport to St. Pierre & Miquelon, .07/oz. (10/1/46-12/31/48).

8-cent Solo Usages:

- Domestic airmail rate, .08/oz. (3/26/44-9/30/46) (including postcards and airmail to Canada).
- Airmail rate to Mexico, .08/half oz. (6/11/45-9/30/46).
- Airmail rate between the continental U.S. and Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands, .08/half oz. (1/15/45-9/30/46)
- Airmail rate to Cuba, .08/half oz. (6/29/45-7/31/54).
- International 2.0 oz. surface rate (.05 1st oz. + .03 2nd oz.) (10/1/07-10/31/53).
- Airmail service within the continental U.S. to the exchange point and surface mail to any UPU country, .08/oz., consisting of .03 U.S. airmail surcharge + .05 surface rate. (11/23/34-6/20/38) + (3/26/44-9/30/46).
- Airmail service within the continental U.S. to the exchange point and surface mail to a full rate UPU country,

- .08/1st oz., consisting of .03 U.S. airmail surcharge + .05 surface rate. (6/21/38-3/25/44).
- International surface rate, .08/oz., to U.P.U. member states (11/1/53-6/30/61).
- Airmail rate to Newfoundland, .08/oz., consisting of airmail service within the continental U.S. and within Canada + surface transport to Newfoundland. (3/26/44-9/30/46).
- Airmail service within the U.S. and Canada and then surface transport to St. Pierre & Miquelon, .08/oz. (3/26/44-9/30/46).
- Airmail service to St. Pierre & Miquelon, .08/oz. (1/1/49-6/30/61).
- Surface transport to a UPU country in Europe (.05/1st oz.) + airmail service within Europe (.03/half oz.) = .08/first half oz. (7/1/32-10/31/46) Note (1): Service to many of these countries was interrupted by WWII; Note (2): If the final destination was Spain, a .06/first half oz. rate applied due to PUAS membership.
- Special 4th class rate for books, .08/1st lb. (1/1/49-7/31/58).

9-cent Solo Usages:

- Combined surface with airmail letter rate, per oz., including a late fee, for a ship letter deposited at a dispatching post office after the normal closing of the mails to/from Hawaii or a U.S. possession on a particular ship (7/6/32-3/25/44 & 1/1/49-7/31/58).
- Special 4th class rate for books, .09/1st lb. (8/1/58-1/6/63).

10-cent Solo Usages:

- Airmail rate to Jamaica, .10/half oz. (11/15/30-6/30/61).
- Airmail rate to Bermuda, .10/half oz. (2/14/38-6/30/61).
- Airmail rate to Cuba, .10/half oz. (12/1/32-6/28/45).
- Airmail rate to the Canal Zone, .10/half oz. (4/1/45-9/30/46).
- Airmail rate from Guam to the Philippines or from Am. Samoa to W. Samoa, .10/half oz. (11/1/46-6/30/61).
- Airmail rate to South America, .10/half oz. (11/1/46-6/30/61).
- Airmail rate to Panama, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Honduras, British Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatamala, Guadeloupe, Trinidad, Martinique, Leeward Islands, Curacao, Barbados (+ possibly others!), .10/half oz. (4/1/45-6/30/61).
- Airmail rate to the Dominican Republic, .10/half oz. (3/21/29-6/30/61).
- Airmail rate to Newfoundland, direct service, .10/half oz. (6/5/39-9/25/39 & 11/1/46-3/31/49). Newfoundland confederated with Canada on 4/1/49.
- Privately produced airmail lettersheet (aerogramme) rate to a foreign country, .10 ea. (4/6/47-6/30/61)
- Supplementary mail to a U.P.U. country, .05 per 1st oz. doubled = .10 per 1st oz. for dockside posting after the close of regular mails (10/1/07-2/3/40?)
- Surface letter to Australia (.05/oz.) + surcharge for airmail service within Australia (.05/half oz.) = .10/1st half oz. (10/15/35-10/31/46).
- International airmail postcard rate (6/1/54-6/30/61).
- Fee for cancellation or alteration of C.O.D. charges (11/1/44-7/24/68).
- Penalty for redemption of a postal savings certificate within 30 days of purchase (10/1/53-10/30/55).
- Customs clearance fee (normally, but not always, paid with a postage due stamp) (5/1/31-5/14/57).
- Special delivery fee (solo 10-cent possible on penalty government envelopes) (10/1/1885-10/31/44).
- Return receipt fee, mailed at Washington, D.C. from Executive Branch Departments only (7/1/57-7/13/69).
- Minimum fee for POD Form 3606 Sender's Statement and Certificate of Bulk Mailing (up to 200 pieces). (7/1/29-6/30/57).

Additions and corrections to this ongoing solo usages list are encouraged, as well as examples of some of the less frequently seen rates. Please begin submitting solo rates for the .11 - .20 Prexie values.

CANAL ZONE PREXIES

I have been using Roland Rustad's book, "The Prexies", and found it very helpful with the combined usages illustrated. The captions have enabled me to improve the wording of my exhibit of Canal Zone postage dues. I was disappointed, however, in the lack of coverage of the 1/2-cent and 1 1/2-cent stamps overprinted for use in the Canal Zone. Listed below some corrections and additional information to update the book's Canal Zone overprints presentation.

1. There are approximately a half-dozen plate flaws of the basic overprint used for the Canal Zone (Scott nos. 118-119) stamps. I don't collect these varieties, but they are listed in the Plass Canal Zone book. I could perhaps obtain photos of these flaws from a fellow collector if there is PSC interest. The "broken Z" variety is on the forwarded cover that is mentioned in item 5 below.

2. Both stamps exist with the "CRISTOBAL/CANAL ZONE" (two lines) precancel. This precancel is the only one used from the Canal Zone.

3. Prexie first day covers exist from every town in the Canal Zone. Most covers are not cacheted.

4. Covers showing the 1/2-cent value added to a 1-cent value to make the 3rd class rate are available and are scarcer than multiple uses of the stamps paying higher rates. The 1 1/2-cent value is very scarce as a solo usage for the 3rd class rate.

5. The 1/2-cent value was also used to pay postage due when there was a fractional amount due on the cover or to pay a postage due bill. I have examples of this rare usage on both a postage due bill of 19 1/2 cents and a forwarded 3rd class cover where the forwarding postage was probably a prepaid deposit left at the Balboa Post Office. These are both part of my Canal Zone postage due exhibit.

I hope this short note will be of some help. If you have any questions, please contact me at the following address:

Paul J. Kravitz
Box 9157
Bardonia, NY 10954
(914) 425-9801

PREXIES ON DISPLAY.....

Jeff Shapiro's exhibit, "The Prexies: Common Stamps, Uncommon Usages" won a silver award at Philatelic Show — '95 in Boxborough, MA this past April 28-30. It was the first time this exhibit had been shown at the national level — great work, Jeff, we look forward to seeing this wonderful exhibit grow and develop in years to come!

Our Chairman, Steve Suffet, took the Prexies out for their first international visit and earned an international silver award for his efforts at Finlandia-95 with his exhibit, "U.S. Presidential Series Postal History, 1938-58." ATTAWAY TO GO, Steve!

See also the review of "PREXIEPEX VI" on page 2 for a summary of the many fine Prexie Era exhibits there.



CORRECTIONS & ADDITIONS.....

On page 7 of Newsletter #10, the 4th date on the left should be "December 6", not "December 7". Some newsletters have the corrected date — check yours.

On page 2 of Newsletter #10, add another 4-cent solo rate: "Fourth class, special book rate, .03/lb. + .01 min. wartime surcharge (3/26/44-12/31/48)"

"THE LAST OF THE PREXIES".....

If you get a chance, please check out Ken Lawrence's "Spotlight" column in the April, 1995 issue of SCOTT STAMP MONTHLY. Ken focuses on what he calls the "last of the Prexies", i.e., those Presidentials that were produced and used after the Liberty series began to be introduced in 1954. Among the stamps Ken writes about are what he calls "the scarcest and most desirable regularly issued stamps of the series, but also the most mysterious."

What are these two scarce and mysterious stamps? They are both Bureau precanceled 1 1/2-cent Martha Washington sideways coils, Scott No. 840. The rarer of the two is precanceled WACO TEXAS, with the state name spelled out in full. The other is precanceled MACON GA. Fewer than 50 of each are known to exist.

Among other stamps Ken discusses are the 1-cent and 2-cent booklet stamps, the 6-cent coil, the Bureau precanceled 8-cent, the 15-cent and the dry-printed version of the \$1 stamp.

E-MAIL.....

From our member survey, we noted the E-mail addresses shown below. Other members are encouraged to contact me with their E-mail addresses so we can continue to add to this list and publish it annually or thereabouts. As more members acquire on-line capability, our ability to quickly communicate notes and information will be greatly enhanced.

Robert Bezilla	bezillar@world.com
Ron Estabrook	estabroo@utsw.swmed.edu
Bill Helbock	laposub@aol.com
John Markunas	j.markunas@dpc.dpc.umassp.edu

THE POST OFFICE FIXES A PRIVATE MISTAKE

Herman Herst, Jr.

(Editor's note — This article caught my attention in the March 20 issue of LINN'S STAMP NEWS after which I wrote to Herman Herst to ask if we could use his material and notes to tell the story here in THE PREXIES newsletter. Our discussions proceeded beyond the editorial sphere and I was able to arrange a swap of some of my 19th Century covers for the Newark Community Chest covers Herman had in his possession. Here's Herst's story, it's a good one!)

In 1943, the Newark Welfare Federation began a campaign to raise funds from a list of 20,000 names for its "United War and Community Chest" drive. It asked the Pavey Envelope and Tag Company to supply envelopes for the mailing. At this time (and up until 3/25/44 — Ed.), the local first class rate was .02/oz. for delivery within Newark. Part of the service Pavey was supposed to provide was to place postage stamps on the 20,000 envelopes, including a reduced rate of .02 on 15,000 of the envelopes intended for local delivery. Unfortunately, the quantities became reversed and 15,000 envelopes received the 3-cent stamp with 5,000 having the 2-cent stamp. Pavey admitted its mistake and offered to pay the difference from its own funds. But the head of the Welfare Federation, Harry D. Burrell, refused to accept it. He was sure that many recipients of the letters would note the overpayment of postage, and think to themselves that what sort of charity would be so careless as to overpay its mail.

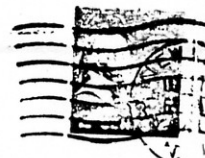
The President of Pavey, Henry A. Wittenburg, turned to Washington for help. The Third Assistant Postmaster General suggested that the letters go through the post, with each one bearing an explanation printed below the stamp in red: "FOR LOCAL MAILING ONLY AT 2 CENT RATE". Pavey obliged with the printing job. The Post Office rebated Pavey \$150 on 15,000 covers (no mention was made of the 5,000 covers originally needed for the non-local rate — Ed.) less a 10% penalty as punishment for the mistake.

The Newark Evening News gave the incident front page coverage on December 18 (see copy on the next page), citing the possibly unique instance when when Post Office offered a refund for a mistake not of its own making and that extra covers might be for sale to collectors.

Several hundred additional dollars were added to the campaign fund as collectors from all over the contry sought examples of the postal mistake and correction. If one were to overpay such a mailing today, a similar petition for redress would be unlikely to receive such favorable treatment!



THE UNITED WAR AND COMMUNITY CHEST
24 BRANFORD PLACE
NEWARK, 2. N. J.



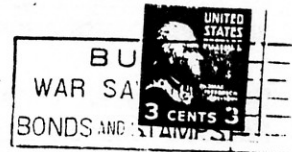
Miss Ruth Stevenson
Prudential Insurance Company
785 Broad St.
Newark, N.J. 2

330 Mt. Prospect Ave
Newark, N.J.

Ind. Act. Dept.

One of the correctly-franked letters (of the initial 5,000) for local delivery with a 2-cent horiz. coil Prexie

THE UNITED WAR AND COMMUNITY CHEST
24 BRANFORD PLACE
NEWARK, 2, N. J.



FOR LOCAL MAILING ONLY
AT 2 CENT RATE

Mr. August Sachse
825 Clifton Avenue
Newark, New Jersey

One of the corrected letters (of 15,000) for local delivery with a 3-cent horiz. coil Prexie
"adjusted to 2-cents".

Miss Collector's Item

Thousands in Newark Pass Up Odd Envelope, Outcome of Mistake

Nearly 15,000 envelopes, bearing cancelled stamps and an imprint believed to be unique in U. S. postal history, were kicking around on Newark office desks in recent weeks and probably found their way into wastebaskets. And a lot of stamp collectors are going to start kicking themselves when they hear about it.

The envelopes, bearing 3-cent stamps and used for local mailing by the Welfare Federation in its War Chest drive, became collectors' items because of a little two-line inscription printed in red below each stamp:

"For local mailing only at 2-cent rate."

Some One Blundered

How it got there is one story. How you missed it—if you did miss it—is another.

Like many another stamp collector's dream, Newark's philatelic oddity was the result of a mistake. The Welfare Federation placed an order with the Pavey Envelope & Tag Co. for 20,000 envelopes bearing the letter head of the United War and Community Chest. The company was to stamp the envelopes, 15,000 of them with 2-cent stamps, 5,000 with 3s.

Then the gremlins got to work. When the envelopes arrived at the federation office, 15,000 bore 3-cent stamps and 5,000 2s.

The Pavey company admitted the error and offered to accept the postage loss. But Harry D. Burrell, executive secretary of the federation, declined to accept the envelopes. What would people think, he asked, if it appeared the federation was wasting money on postage?

Faced with the cost of reprinting the whole order or trying to steam stamps off 15,000 envelopes—ever try to steam one stamp off one envelope?—Henry A. Wittenberg, president of the firm, went to Uncle Sam for advice.

Postal authorities in Washington offered a solution which satisfied the Welfare Federation, the Post Office, Mr. Wittenberg and the fellow who takes care of the stamp steaming.

The Solution

Wittenberg received written authorization for the imprint from the third assistant U. S. postmaster, plus \$150 rebate for the 15,000 extra cents he had paid for the stamps, minus a 10 per cent penalty which the Post Office Department imposed for its trouble.

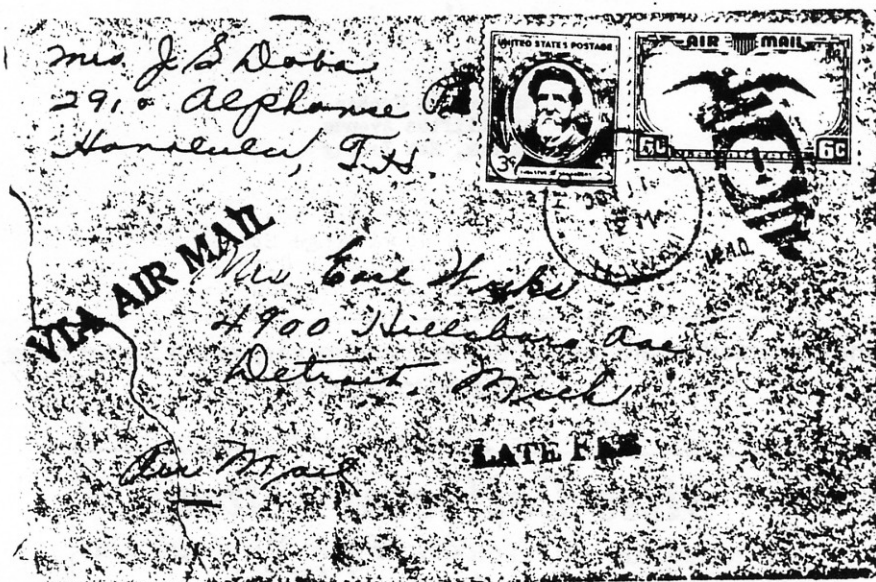
Those who didn't notice the item may have a chance yet to obtain one of the envelopes for their collections. Burrell has a few hundred left over and intimated yesterday he might be persuaded to part with them in return for contributions to the fund.

From the NEWARK EVENING NEWS, December 18, 1943
(Historical note: your Editor was a newspaperboy for this newspaper, 1950-53)

REQUESTS FOR HELP (and some instant answers provided by our Chairman — additional replies and comments are welcome!)

David Wessely writes for some assistance with a couple of seldom seen auxillary markings from the Famous Americans era:

(1) "LATE FEE" Honolulu to Detroit, October 11, 1940



This one appears to be a .03 late ship surcharge fee from Hawaii. The 6-cent stamp paid for surface transport plus airmail service within the continental U.S.

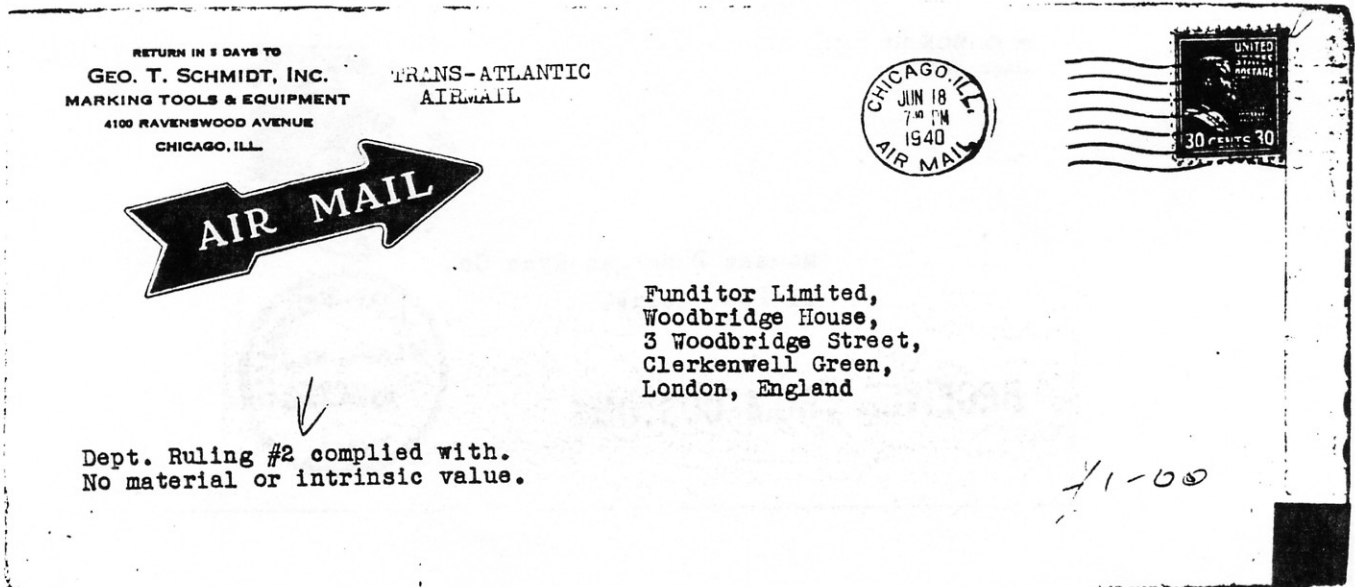
(2) "VIA AIR MAIL POUCH" & "Forward in Pouch Div. For. Act. Cor."
Niagara Falls, Ontario (U.S. Vice Consul) to Madrid, Spain — .30 postage



This letter was apparently carried by diplomatic pouch. Can anyone supply additional info?

REQUESTS FOR HELP (CONT.).....

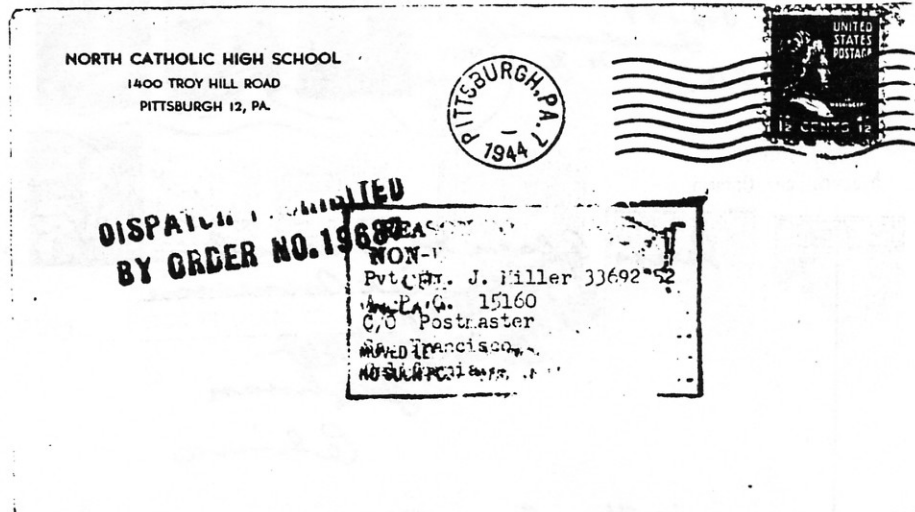
John Hotchner has 3 equally exotic auxillary markings he could use some help with:

(1) "Ruling #2"

What is "Dept. Ruling #2"? What Dept.?

(2) "ORDER NO. 19687"

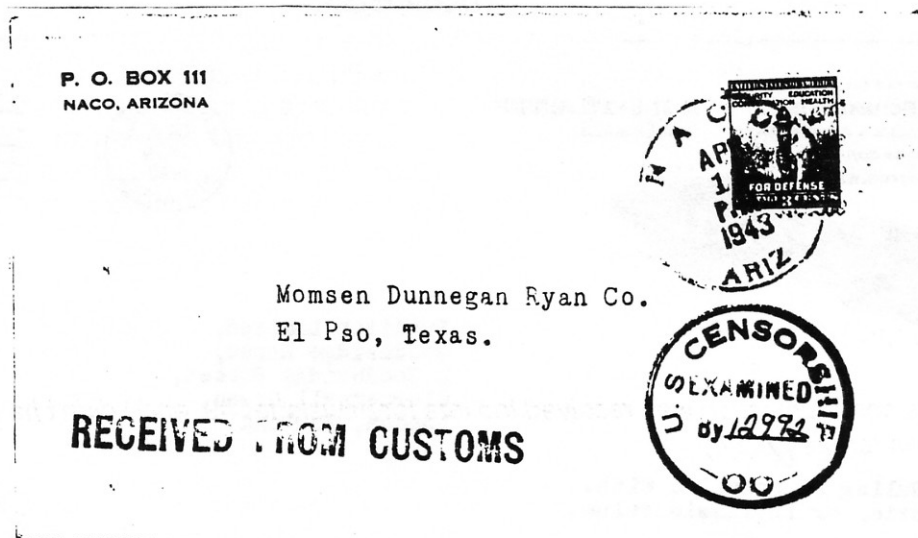
Pittsburgh to Pvt. Miller @ A.P.O. 15160, San Francisco



The Postmaster General issued order #19687 on 1/8/43 to prohibit the use of overseas military mails (to A.P.O.'s & F.P.O.'s) for circulars (commercial or organizational) mailed at 3rd class domestic rates. Third class rates for Christmas cards, books, etc. was permissible. A.P.O. 15160 remains unlisted in the recent Military Postal History Society update. It was likely in the Pacific and used as a mailing address for transient troops.

REQUESTS FOR HELP (CONT.).....

(3) Saving the best for last: "RECEIVED FROM CUSTOMS" & "U.S. CENSORSHIP"



This letter was likely carried from Mexico into the U.S. for mailing or perhaps entered the U.S. under separate cover. In either case, U.S. Customs stamped the envelope as it crossed the boarder.

Lastly, a rate question from your Editor:

Loudonville, NY to Szechuan, China (Nov. 9, 1941) with mss notation "Airmail Hong Kong to Chungking"



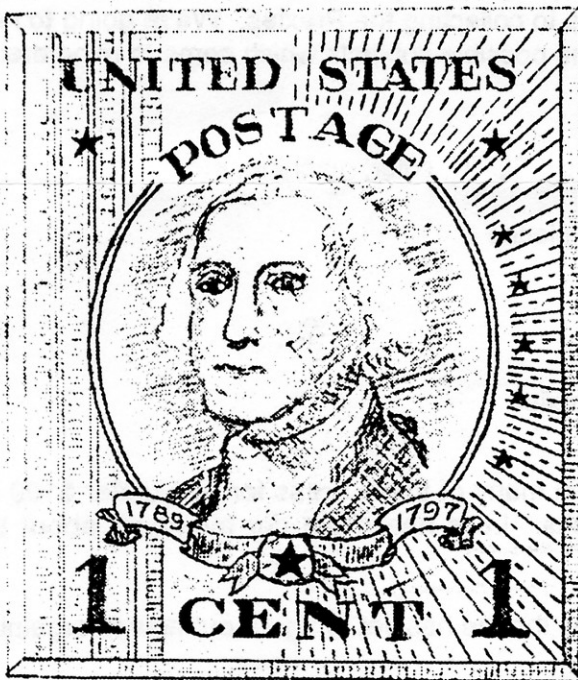
Steve identifies this cover as an example of the .05/oz. surface transport rate to China plus a .19/half oz. surcharge rate for airmail service within China (12/20/33-wartime suspension, 12/18/41). What an opportunity for a great 24-cent solo franking!

REQUESTS FOR HELP (CONT.).....1937 PREXIE SERIES ESSAYS

Shown below are two drawings Lowell Newman had in his May, 1993 auction #6, one of which I acquired for my exhibit. Steve Suffet suggested I send you these items to ask the PSC members if anything is known about either item. They may possibly be drawings the Bureau was working on prior to the public essay competition as they seem to meet the Treasury's Department's guidelines except they are drawn in black pencil instead of green and the size is a bit smaller. The date of both items appears to coincide with a period prior to the competition date also. At any rate, I believe the answer may lie in the question of who is the artist, "Rosenblohm". Any information on this matter would be greatly appreciated.

E.J. Guerrant, Jr.
Box 909
Antlers, OK 74523

(Ed. note: This communication was received too late for newsletter #9, and I didn't have space to fit it in #10 — my apologies for the delay.)



8-20-97

Rosenblohm

8-28-97

Rosenblohm

MEET THE MEMBER.....**STEVE SULLIVAN**

"Although not a Prexie collector as such, I became interested in the issue as a result of receiving a sample copy of your newsletter, by way of a request from me after learning of its existence through a piece in U.S. Stamps & Postal History.

I'm 44 years of age, employed as a window clerk at the Burlington, MA Post Office and thoroughly enjoy my opportunity to serve the public while keeping current with the nuts 'n bolts of this hobby. My own collecting whims seem to be drifting towards pictorial cancellations, with a tendency to latch onto themes such as the recent anniversary of the moon landing, pony express routes, etc."

.....thanks for your note Steve, and welcome to the PSC, Ed.

LOW-BUDGET PREXIE COLLECTING.....

Steve's note above started me thinking again about what our PSC is all about. I'm sure if we asked our 100 members, we'd get about 100 different responses, and that's probably the way it should be. But this publication needs to avoid becoming too narrowly focused on postal history and should examine some of the interesting, fun, challenging and less expensive approaches to collecting the Prexies. We're going to need a lot of help from our members to delve into this area. Some possible subjects which come to mind are:

- Precancels and/or Perfins
- Cancellation studies — fancy, SOTN, color, machine, etc.
- Patriotic covers
- Stamp multiples & position pieces
- Color shades
- RPO & ship mail
- RFD mail
- Military mail
- View cards franked with Prexies

I'm sure some pretty neat collections could be assembled in many of these areas for well under \$100 and quite a few would be quite competitive in national exhibits. Let's hear from our members about their activities in this low budget and fun area.

Shown below are a few of the Editor's unusual cancellations that he has yet to figure out how to organize.



ANNUAL PSC MEMBER SURVEY AND CONTRIBUTIONS.....

We had an excellent response to our appeal for member census and contributions in our last newsletter.

Before deducting expenses for this current newsletter, our Treasury balance stands at \$374.68 as shown below, thanks to the generosity of those who contributed.

Our revised membership is now about 100. We are deleting about 70 names from our mailing list who we have not heard from in over 2 years. This should bring our costs per newsletter down to about \$100 per issue, depending on the number of pages in each issue. At that rate, we should have enough funds for the current newsletter and two or three more before having to appeal for funds again.

It appears we are now self-supporting and no longer need to seek funds from our parent BIA. I guess we have "arrived"! A sincere thanks is due the BIA for helping to get this PSC project and newsletter started.

Our census also turned up about 27 BIA membership numbers with likely that many again which were not reported. PSC members with E-mail addresses are noted on page 7. Additional BIA numbers or E-mail addresses are always welcome in our on-going census efforts. Perhaps we'll publish a membership directory eventually. Any member comments?

PSC TREASURY REPORT.....**1/31/95-7/31/95 PERIOD**

Treasury Balance, 1/31/95		\$ 99.43
Income		
Member contributions	\$318.20	
BIA financial support	0.	
	<hr/>	\$318.20
Expenses		
Newsletter #10	\$ 33.60	
(Summer '94)		
(Thanks to financial		
assistance from J. Forte)		
Misc. postage & copies	9.35	
	<hr/>	(\$42.95)
Treasury Balance, 7/31/95		<hr/> \$374.68

FOR SALE/TRADE/WANTED.....

Wanted — \$5 Prexie used on cover. Stanley Sablak, 39 Carr Street, Wallingford, CT. 06492

Wanted — Member sell/trade/wanted ads & PSC donation items. Surely we all have "holes" in our collections and some surplus items available for sale or trade! Send ads to John Grabowski, Box 536, Willernie, MN 55090-0536.

Wanted — PSC exhibits for ROPEX - '96. Write to ROPEX '96, 130 Trafalgar St., Rochester, NY 14619 for a prospectus

COMING NEXT ISSUE.....

The .11-.20 solo usagesmore fabulous examplesdetails on PREXIEPEX VIIinteresting questions and even more interesting answerslow-budget collectingand more!

PSC DONATION BOARD.....

A PSC member sends the following three Prexie sideways coil leaders & trailers to augment our Treasury. The Editor will accept bids on the 3 items individually with a cutoff date of September 30 to determine the winning bids. Minimum bids on any of the items is \$5. Winning bids will be established at \$1 over the second-highest bid.

#1 — 3-cent sideways coil with kraft paper leader and black printing. The imprinted kraft paper has been cut and pasted to the kraft leader attached to the coil stamps.

#2 — 3-cent sideways coil with kraft paper trailer.

#3 — 4-cent sideways coil with white paper trailer. White paper is gummed and contains a fold crease.

