

1917-20 Stamps

Lack of funds and materials during the war caused the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to experiment with various printing methods. In addition to the rotary press, the new offset printing was tried.

In November of 1917, the first class postage rate was changed from two cents to three cents, causing the demand for the 3¢ stamp to soar. Demand for the 1¢ stamp, to use along with the 2¢ stamp, also increased. In order to keep up with the public's requests, the Bureau was operating at full capacity.

Inability to obtain the materials from Germany to produce a quality ink resulted in the use of inferior inks. These inks, which contained grit, were abrasive and had a tendency to wear out the plates faster. The average life of a plate was 10 days. They were wearing out faster than the Bureau could make them! Besides reducing the wear and tear on the plates, offset printing was advantageous because plates for this process could be made much quicker.

One of the negative aspects of using this method, however, was a less defined and somewhat blurry image. Some designs were modified in order to achieve a better impression. Eventually, a better grade of ink was found and stamps were once again printed by the higher-quality engraving process.

Following the war, many countries had depleted their resources. Items such as food, clothing, and machinery were greatly needed, and the U.S. responded by sending shipments of supplies to the war-torn countries of France, Russia, and other nations. High-value stamps were needed to prepay postage and registry on international packages, and it was decided to release stamps with both \$2 and \$5 denominations. The sudden demand for these issues, however, did not allow time for new designs to be prepared. So, the designs from the 1902 series were used. Identical in color and design, the 1917 issues can be distinguished by their lack of a watermark.

In 1918, the Bureau finally found the time to prepare new designs. On August 19th, the \$2 and \$5 stamps were released carrying portraits of Ben Franklin. In addition to being printed horizontally, they were also printed using two colors. The changes were made so postal clerks could easily tell the difference between these stamps and the lower denominations.

The \$2 stamp was approved in dark red; however, due to an error, it was first printed in orange. Unfortunately, the error was not discovered until the stamps had been printed and distributed. When the Bureau received the proper ink, the stamps were printed in the intended color and redistributed. Collectors, however, not realizing the orange version was the error, stocked up on the dark red issue. Today, this error is extremely scarce. Although the shades of green on the \$5 issue vary somewhat, they are all classified as deep green.



529 OR # 530

Errant Perforations

1917 Design of 1908-09

Double Line Watermark

Perforated 11



#519
Washington

PSE 01308149 2015

Stamps of 1918-20



#523
Franklin

PF 0244155 1991



#524
Franklin



#547
Franklin

Offset Series of 1918-20

Perforated 11



#525
Washington



#526
Washington (Type IV)



#527
Washington (Type V)



#528
Washington (Type Va)



#528A
Washington (Type VI)



#528B
Washington (Type VII)



#529
Washington (Type III)



#530
Washington (Type IV)

Offset Series of 1918-20

Imperforate



#531
Washington



#532
Washington (Type IV)



#533
Washington (Type V)



#534
Washington (Type Va)



#534A
Washington (Type VI)



#534B
Washington (Type VII)



#535
Washington

PF 477795 2009
PSE 01209414 2009
. XF/S 95

1919 Perforated 12 1/2



#536
Washington

1919 Commemorative Victory Issue



#537
"Victory" and Flags of Allies

1919-21 Coil Waste Stamps Perforated 11x10



#538
Washington



#539
Washington (Type II)



#540
Washington (Type III)



#541
Washington (Type II)

Perforated 10x11



#542
Washington



#543
Washington

Perforated 10

Perforated 11



#544
Washington



#545
Washington



#546
Washington

1920 Commemoratives

The Pilgrim Tercentenary Issue



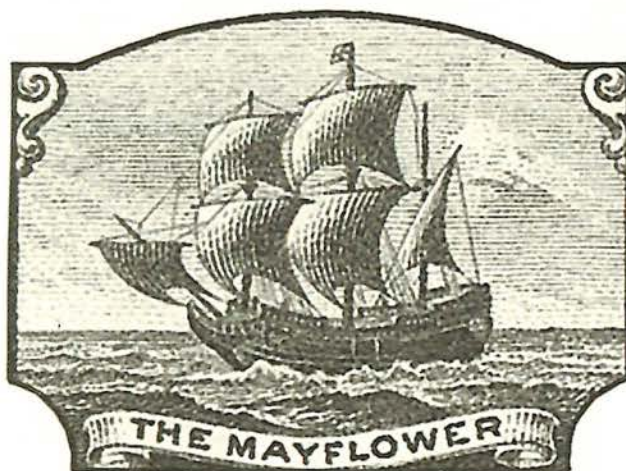
#548
The "Mayflower"



#549
Landing of the Pilgrims



#550
Signing of the Compact



Series of 1922-25
Flat Plate Printing
Perforated 11



#551
Hale



#552
Franklin



#553
Harding



#554
Washington



#555
Lincoln



#556
M. Washington



#557
T. Roosevelt



#558
Garfield



#559
McKinley



#560
Grant



#561
Jefferson



#562
Monroe



#563
Hayes



#564
Cleveland

Series of 1922-25

Flat Plate Printing

Perforated 11



#565
American Indian



#566
Statue of Liberty



#567
Golden Gate



#568
Niagara Falls



#569
Buffalo



#570
Amphitheater



#571
Lincoln Memorial



#572
U.S. Capitol



#573
"America"

1923-25 Imperforate Stamps



#575
Franklin



#576
Harding



#577
Washington

1923 Rotary Press Stamps Perforated 11x10



#578
Franklin



#579
Washington

Series of 1923-26

Perforated 10



#581
Franklin



#582
Harding



#583
Washington



#584
Lincoln



#585
M. Washington



#586
T. Roosevelt



#587
Garfield



#588
McKinley



#589
Grant



#590
Jefferson



#591
Monroe

1923-29 Rotary Press Stamps

Perforated 11



#595
Washington

PSE 01295827 2015

Perforated 10 Vertical Coils



#597
Franklin



#598
Harding



#599
Washington (Type I)



#599A
Washington (Type II)



#600
Lincoln



#601
M. Washington



#602
T. Roosevelt



#603
Monroe



Perforated 10 Horizontal Coils



#604
Franklin



#606
Washington

1923 Commemoratives

Harding Memorial Issue

Flat Plate Press



#610 - PERFORATED 11
W.G. Harding



#611 - IMPERFORATE
W.G. Harding



#612 - PERFORATED 10
W.G. Harding



#613 - PERFORATED 11
W.G. Harding

Rotary Press

1924 Commemoratives

Huguenot-Walloon Issue



#614
Ship Nieu Nederland



#615
Landing at Fort Orange



#616
Ribault Memorial Monument

1925 Commemoratives Lexington-Concord Issue



#617
Washington at Cambridge



#618
"Birth of Liberty"



#619
The Minuteman

1925 Commemoratives Norse-American Issue



#620
Sloop Restaurationen



#621
Viking Ship

Series of 1925-26



#622
B. Harrison



#623
Wilson

1926 Commemoratives



#627
Liberty Bell



#628
John Ericsson Statue



#629
Hamilton's Battery

1926 White Plains Souvenir Sheet



#630
Battle of White Plains

1926-28 Rotary Press Stamps



#631 - IMPERFORATE
Harding



#632 - PERF. 11 x 10 1/2
Franklin



#633 - PERF. 11 x 10 1/2
Harding



#634 - PERF. 11 x 10 1/2
Washington (Type I)



#634A - PERF. 11 x 10 1/2
Washington (Type II)



#635 - PERF. 11 x 10 1/2
Lincoln



#636 - PERF. 11 x 10 1/2
M. Washington



#637 - PERF. 11 x 10 1/2
T. Roosevelt



#638 - PERF. 11 x 10 1/2
Garfield



#639 - PERF. 11 x 10 1/2
McKinley



#640 - PERF. 11 x 10 1/2
Grant



#641 - PERF. 11 x 10 1/2
Jefferson



#642 - PERF. 11 x 10 1/2
Monroe

1927 Commemoratives



#643
Green Mountain Boy

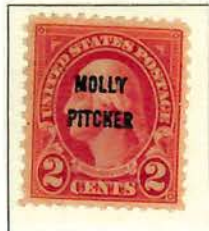


#644
Surrender of Burgoyne

1928 Commemoratives



#645
Washington at Prayer



#646
Battle of Monmouth



#647
Discovery of Hawaii



#648
Discovery of Hawaii

International Civil Aeronautics Conference



#649
Wright Airplane



#650
Globe & Airplane

1929 Commemorative



#651
Surrender of Fort Sackville

1929 Rotary Press Stamp



#653
Hale

1929 Commemoratives



#654 - Flat Plate, Perf. 11
Edison's First Lamp



#655 - Rotary, Perf. 11 x 10.5
Edison's First Lamp



#656 - Rotary Press Coil
Edison's First Lamp



#657
Major General J. Sullivan

Series of 1929 Nebraska Overprints



#669
Franklin



#670
Harding



#671
Washington



#672
Lincoln



#673
M. Washington



#674
T. Roosevelt



#675
Garfield



#676
McKinley



#677
Grant



#678
Jefferson



#679
Monroe

1929 Commemoratives



#680
General Wayne Memorial



#681
Ohio River Canal Lock #5

1930 Commemoratives



#682
Seal of Mass. Bay Colony



#683
Governor and Indian

1930 Rotary Press Stamps

Coil Stamps



#684
Harding



#685
Taft



#686
Harding

#687
Taft

1930-31 Commemoratives



#688
Washington



#689
von Steuben



#690
Pulaski

1931 Rotary Press Stamps

Perforated 11 x 10 1/2



#692
Hayes



#693
Cleveland



#694
B. Harrison



#695
American Indian



#696
Statue of Liberty

1931 Rotary Press Stamps

Perforated 10 1/2 x 11



#697
Wilson



#698
Golden Gate



#699
Niagara Falls



#700
Buffalo



#701
Amphitheatre

1931 Commemoratives



#702
"The Greatest Mother"



#703
Rochambeau, Washington, de Grasse

1932 Commemoratives

Washington Bicentennial



#704
By Charles W. Peale, 1777



#705
From Houdon Bust, 1785



#706
By Charles W. Peale, 1772



#707
By Gilbert Stuart, 1796



#708
By Charles W. Peale, 1777



#709
By Charles P. Polk



#710
By Charles W. Peale, 1795



#711
By John Trumbull, 1792



#712
By John Trumbull, 1792



#713
By Charles St. Memin, 1798



#714
By W. Williams, 1794



#715
By Gilbert Stuart, 1795

1932 Commemoratives



#716
A Ski Jumper



#717
Boy and Girl Planting Tree



#718
Runner



#719
Discus Thrower

1932 Rotary Press Stamps



#720
Washington

Coil Stamps



#721 - PERF. 10 VERT.
Washington



#722 Perf 10 Horiz



#723 - PERF. 10 VERT.
Garfield

1932 Commemoratives



#724
William Penn



#725
Daniel Webster

1933 Commemoratives



#726
Gen. J. Oglethorpe



#727
Washington's Headquarters



#728
Restoration of Fort Dearborn



#729
Federal Building at Chicago

1933 Special Printing For American Philatelic Society Convention Imperforate



#730
Century of Progress



#730a
Century of Progress

1933 Special Printing For American Philatelic Society Convention Imperforate



#731
Century of Progress



#731a
Century of Progress