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## POSTAL ISSUES

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## Issue of 1847

Printed by Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson



Benjamin Franklin



George Washington

On July 1, 1847 the first official United States stamps were issued featuring the portraits of our first postmaster and our first president. The 5¢ value paid for postal service up to a distance of 300 miles, and the 10¢ value paid for service beyond this point. These stamps were issued imperforate (unperforated) and had to be cut apart with scissors. The adoption of adhesive stamps paved the way to the remarkable development of the postal system of today.

#### Issue of 1851-57

Imperforate

Printed by Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.



Benjamin Franklin



George Washington



Thomas Jefferson





George Washington

The rapid expansion and popularity of the postal service soon made a greater flexibility in rates and necessity. Lower rates for all distances was deemed advisable and in 1851 a new set of stamps was issued for this purpose. If pre-paid, a 3¢ stamp was sufficient to cover charges up to a distance of 3.000 miles. 5¢ was required if not pre-paid. Beyond this point the rate was six or ten cents. 24¢, 30¢, and 90¢ values are known but it is believed that they were not regularly issued.

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POSTAL ISSUES

Issue of 1857-61
Perforated 15

Printed by Toppan, Carpenter & Co.



Benjamin Franklin



George Washington



Thomas Jetierson



George Washington



George Washington

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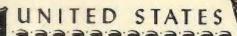


Benjamin Franklin



George Washington

This issue marked a great milestone in postal progress. Due to the pressing need for a faster method of dispensing stamps to the public the stamps were machine perforated so that instead of being cut apart by scissors stamps were now easily and quickly separated. This set employed the same designs as the previous issue. The 24¢, 30¢, and 90¢ values were now regularly issued.



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### Issue of 1861-66

PERFORATED 12

PRINTED BY THE NATIONAL BANK NOTE CO.



Benjamin Franklin



Andrew Jackson



George Washington





George Washington



Abraham Lincoln



George Washington

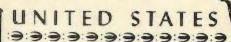


Benjamin Franklin



Geerge Washington

U PON the outbreak of war between the states in 1861, the postal authorities found it necessary to demonitize all of the United States stamps in order to prevent usage by the Confederate States. The issue of 1861 was created as a replacement. During the war, due to the scarcity of metal coins, these stamps were used as small change.



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### Issue of 1867

Perforated 12

Printed by the National Bank Note Co.





Benjamin Franklin





George Washington



Thomas Jefferson



George Washington





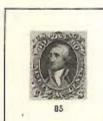
Abraham Lincoln



George Washington



Benjamin Franklin



George Washington

The removal of cancellations from used stamps for the purpose of reusing with intent to defraud the government caused the postal authorities to adopt the use of the grill. These metallic grills, which consisted of small square pyramids, were impressed on the stamp so that the fibers of the paper would be weakened and would completely absorb the cancelling ink and thus make cleaning for a second use impossible.



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### Issue of 1869

PERFORATED 12
PRINTED BY THE NATIONAL BANK NOTE CO.
GRILLED



Benjamin Franklin



Pony Express Rider



Locomotive



George Washington



Eagle and Shield



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S. S. Adriatio



Landing of Columbus



Declaration of Independence



Eagle, Shield and Flags



Abraham Lincoln

The first pictorial issue of the United States was introduced in 1869 and is still considered one of our most beautifully engraved issues. The 15¢, 24¢ and the 30¢ values exist with the center inverted and are very scarce.





POSTAL ISSUES

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### Issue of 1870-71

Perforated 12

Printed by the National Bank Note Co.



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Andrew Jackson

George Washington



Abrahan, Lincoln



Edwin M. Stanton



Thomas Jefferson



Henry Clay



Daniel Webster



Gen. Winfield Scott

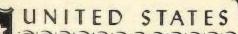


Alexander Hamilton



Commodore Oliver Perry

T HIS series of stamps could well be termed the first famous American set since it featured the portraits of our great leaders. This set is found both with and without the grill.



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POSTAL ISSUES

### Issue of 1870-71

Without Grill

Perforated 12
Printed by the National Bank Note Co.



Eenjamin Franklin



Andrew Jackson



George Washington



Abraham Lincoln



Edwin M. Stanton



Thomas Jefferson



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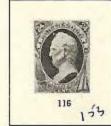
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Henry Clay



Daniel Webster



Gen. Winfield Scott



Alexander Hamilton



Commedore Oliver Perry

T HIS series of stamps could well be termed the first famous American set since it featured the portraits of our great leaders. This set is found both with and without the grill.

### Issue of 1873

PERFORATED 12
PRINTED BY THE CONTINENTAL BANK NOTE CO.



Benjamin Franklin



Andrew Jackson



George Washington



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Zachary Taylor



Abraham Lincoln



Edwin M. Stanton



Thomas Jefferson



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Henry Clcy



Daniel Webster



Gen. Winfield Scott



Alexander Hamilton



Commodore Oliver Perry

THE CONTINENTAL BANK NOTE COMPANY was awarded the contract to continue producing this series of postage stamps. To identify its product from that of its predecessor (the National Bank Note Company) secret marks were added to the retained designs through the 15¢ denomination. The 24¢, 30¢ and 90¢ values can only be distinguished by the shades.

These secret marks are illustrated below:



Franklin, Dash of color added in pearl left of I



Jackson, Closed outline of orna-



Washington. Shading under upper ribbon under THREE



Lincoln. First 4 vertical lines of left ribbon heav-



Stanton, Semicircles added in



Jefferson. Cres cent added in



Clay. Balls in



Webster, Worn lines of shading in triangles and below U.S. Post-

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POSTAL ISSUES

### Issue of 1879-1888

PERFORATED 12 SOFT POROUS PAPER



Benjamin Franklin



Andrew Jackson



George Washington



George Wuskington



Zachary Taylor



Abraham Lincoln



Thomas Jefferson



Thomas Jefferson



Doniel Webster



Alexander Hamilton



Alexander Hamilton



Commodore Oliver Perry



Commodore Oliver Perry

THE AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY, having consolidated itself with the Continental Bank Note Company printed this series. Added interest for the collector is found in this issue because of the soft, porous paper used in contrast to the hard, snappy, translucent paper of the previous issues.

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### Issue of 1881-82

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Benjamin Franklin





Abraham Lincoln



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Thomas Jelferson

Designs of the 1881-1882 series at first glance appear to be a replica of the previous issue. Closer inspection will reveal a denser appearance in design which was due to the reengraving of the plates. The characteristics of the recutting are shown:









- Lines of shading have been added to the up-per archesques, and vertical lines in the up-per portion of the stamp have been deepened. About Imm. below the "is" of cents a short horizonial dash has been etched. The width of the shading at the side of the central aval has been reduced.
- Three lines can be counted from the edge of the panel to the outside of the stamp. Before re-engraving four lines were present.
- Four lines can be counted between the left side of the coal and the edge of the shield. Be-fore re-engraving five lines could be counted.

#### Issue of 1882-1888

Perforated 12

Printed by the American Bank Note Co.



Benjamin Franklin





George Washington



Andrew Juckson



Andrew Jackson



James A. Garfield



James A. Garfield

OLOH and design changes feature these issues. The widow of President Garfield did not approve of the stamp issued in his memory and therefore the color was changed from brown to indigo.

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### Issue of 1890-93

Perforated 12
Printed by the American Bank Note Co.



Benjamin Franklin



George Washington



George Washington



Andrew Jackson



Abraham Lincoln



Ulysses S. Grant



James A. Garfield



William T. Sherman



Daniel Webster



Henry Clay

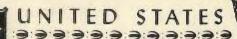


Thomas Jefferson



Commodore Perry

T HIS series of postage stamps was produced in the reduced size that is still used for regular issues and occasionally used for commemoratives. It features the portraits of several presidents, statesmen, and military heroes. The 2¢ value was originally issued in the lake shade but was changed to carmine on March 12, 1890.





POSTAL ISSUES

### Issue of 1894-1895

Perforated 12

Printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing





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Benjamin Franklin



Benjamin Franklis



George Washington



George Washington



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George Washington



George Washington



George Washington



A PROPERTY AND PERSONS NAMED IN



Abraham Lincoln



Ulysses S. Grant



James A. Garfield



William T. Sherma



Daniel Webster



Henry Ciay



Itomas JeHerson



Commodore Perry



Commodore Perry



James Monroe



Iohn Marsaali

With this issue the task of printing United States postage stamps was turned over to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing at Washington, D.C. This new postage series was similar in design to the issue of 1890-93 but small ornamental triangles were added to the upper corners. One, two and five dollar denominations were added.

Three:Types of the 2¢ Triangles
Are Herewith Illustrated:



type



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type 3

Two Types of the \$1.00 Circles Are Herewith Illustrated:





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OSTAL ISSUES

### Issue of 1895-98

Perforated 12 Double-line Watermark



Benjamin Franklin



Benjamin Franklin



George Washington



George Washington





George Washing



Andrew Jackson





Abraham Lincoln







Jumes A. Garfield



William T. Sherman

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Issue of 1895-98

Perforated 12 Double-line Watermark







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Doniel Webster





Henry Clay



Thomas Jefferson



Commodore Perry



Commodore Perry



James Madison



John Marshall

Two types of the 10¢ stamp are distinguished as illustrated:.

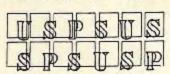




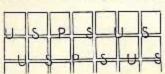
Type II

A line of color appears in the white curve below "TS" of cents and "E" of Ten.

In printing this new issue watermarked paper was used for the first time on stamps intended for postage purposes. Watermarking had been used previously for revenue stamps and postcards. The watermark consisted of Double-line letters "USPS" so distributed that each stamp on the sheet shows at least a part of the watermarking, as illustrated below. In 1910 a single-line watermark was used for the first time by the Bureau.



Double-line



Single-line

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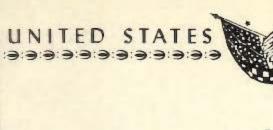
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### Issue of 1902-03

PERFORATED 12

DOUBLE-LINE WATERMARK



Benjamin Franklin



George Washington



Andrew Jackson



Ulysses S. Grant



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James A. Garfield





Daniel Webster



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James Madison



John Marshall

### Issue of 1906-08

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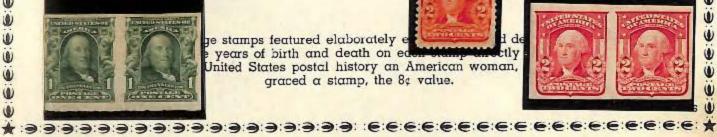
Abraham Lincoln

Issue of 1903-06 PERFORATED 12



IMPERFORATE





ge stamps featured elaborately e years of birth and death on eden stamp the tily United States postal history an American woman, graced α stamp, the 8¢ value.





OSTAL ISSUES

#### Issue of 1908-17

Perforated 12 Double-line Watermark



Benjamin Franklin



George Washington







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Imperforate











This series for the sake of uniformity and artistic e ington on all of the denominations except the 1¢ of this issue was printed on α stock which was m "bluish paper," although they are actually grayish printed on this paper











POSTAL ISSUES



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Coil Stamps Perforated 12 Vertically



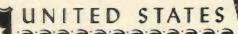






Officially issued coil stamps came into being in 1908. As the name indicates, the stamps instead of being issued in sheet form, were made available in lengths which were coiled into rolls of five hundred and one thousand. Stamps in this form were found to be more convenient for handling large quantities of mail that called for the same stamp value. These coils were also made available to private companies who were licensed to perforate them and sell them in vending machines at neighborhood stores for the convenience of the public.

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## POSTAL ISSUES

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### Issue of 1910-14

Perforated 12 Single-line Watermark























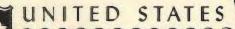






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Single-line



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#### Issue of 1910-13

Coil Stamps Single-line Watermark

Perforated 12 Horizontally







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Perforated 12 Vertically



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Perforated 81/2 Vertically











This series of coil stamps featured the designs of the previous regular issues. As an experiment the Bureau of Engraving and Printing used a 8½ perforation instead of the usual 12 in an effort to find a more suitable size. The 3r perforated 12 stamp of this series is the rarest coil only a few being used at Orangeburg, N. Y. and for that reason is omitted from this album.

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The portrait of Benjamin Franklin was featured on the entire set of this issue. The 50¢ denomination appeared with both types of watermark.







### Issue of 1914-15 Perforated 10 Single line Watermark



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The portraits of George Washington and Benjamin Franklin were again used as the prominent part of the design on this issue. The larger-holed perforation 10 was placed in use to prevent sheets from falling apart due to the fineness of the perforation 12. prevent sheets from falling apart due to the fineness of the perforation 12.





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### Issue of 1916-17

Flat Plate Printing



The stamps of this series were a repeat of previous issues but with differences discernible only to stamp collectors. They were printed on unwatermarked paper and the \$2 and \$5 values were previously issued perforated 12. One of the most spectacular errors occurred in the printing of this series. Sheets of the 2¢ value were found with one stamp being of the 5¢ denomination. This was found on the lower right sheet of plate number 7942. On the Upper left sheet of plate number 7942 a double error was found. These errors continued to appear in later printings of the 2¢ stamp imperforate and perforated 11 and are greatly desired by stamp collectors.







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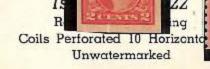
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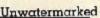




POSTAL ISSUES

Issue of 1917-19 Flat Plate Printing

Perforated 11















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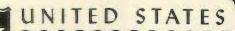




The Bureau of Engraving and Printing was still trying to find a more suitable size of perforation. Perforation 12 was found to be too fragile and perforation, 10 was too strong, causing damage to stamps during separation. To remedy these defects perforation 11 was used for this series.

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POSTAL ISSUES

### Issue of 1918-20 Offset Printing



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The Bureau again experimenting tried with the 1918-2e months to use the onset method of printing (a type of lithography). It was not successful and was soon discontinued.

### Issue of 1919-21

Rotary Press Printing

Perforated 11 x 10







Perforated 10 x 11



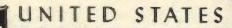






Stamps which were originally intended to be issued in coil form but were later perforated fully are known as coil waste, and some of the above issues were created in this manner.





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## POSTAL ISSUES

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### Issue of 1922-26

Flat Plate Printing Perforated 11



Nathan Hale



Benjamin Franklin



Warren G. Harding



George Washington



Abraham Lincoln



Martha Washington



Theodore Roosevelt



James A. Garfield



William McKinley



Ulysses S. Grant



Thomas Jefferson



James Monroe



Rutherford B. Hayes



Grover Clevekand



Benjamin Harrison



American India

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POSTAL ISSUES

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Issue of 1922-26
Flat Plate Printing
Perforated 11



Woodrow Wilson



Statue of Liberty



Golden Gate



Niagara Falls



Bison



Arlington Amphitheatre



Lincoln Memorial



U. S. Capitol



America



Benjamin Franklin



Warren G. Harding



George Washington

With this issue an entirely new series was made available to the American public. It featured presidents, famous Americans, and pictures of the American scene.

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POSTAL ISSUES

Issue of 1923-26 Rotary Press Printing

Perforated 11 x 10





Perforated 10

















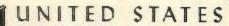






The same designs used in the previous issue were used for this printing. In order to overcome the tendency of Rotary Press stamps to curl, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing used gum breaker bars. These bars which are colorless, raised, impressions may be seen on the gummed side of mint rotary press stamps.

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Issue of 1926-34 Rotary Press Printing



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After much experimentation the Bureau of Engraving and Printing decided that the 11 by 10½ perforation was the most suitable for the rotary press printed stamps and is still in use.

Issue of 1926 Rotary Press Printing Imperforate



Issue of 1930-32 Rotary Press Printing Perforated 11 x 101/2









Following the death of President William Howard Taft the Post Office Department issued a new 4-cent stamp bearing his likeness.

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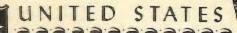
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## POSTAL ISSUES

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### AIRMAIL STAMPS

### Issue of 1918



















Map of U.S. and Planes

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### Issue of 1928





Focky Mountain Beacon

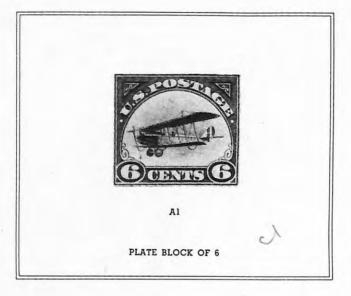
Winged Globe

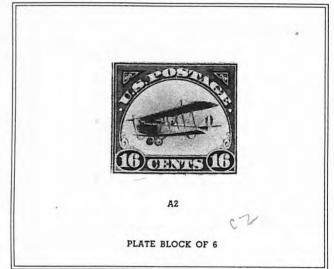


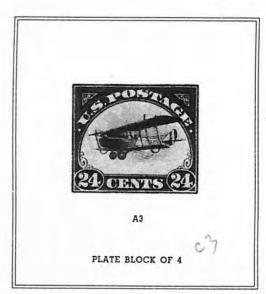
nt of the United States Air Mail System can be told through its f this is the special 10 cent stamp issued as a tribute to the non-tit by Charles A. Lindbergh which paved the way for world-wide airmail coverage.



#### ISSUE OF 1918







A1-A3 Curtiss Biplane

On May 15, 1918 Air-mail service was established between Washington, Philadelphia and New York and it was during this year that the United States issued its first air mail stamps. The 24¢ denomination was specifically issued to meet the requirements of the new route and the other denominations were created as the rates were reduced. One sheet of the 24¢ stamp was found with the picture of the airplane inverted.

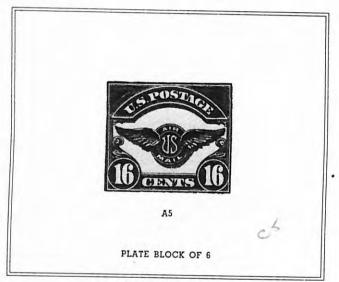


ISSUE OF 1923



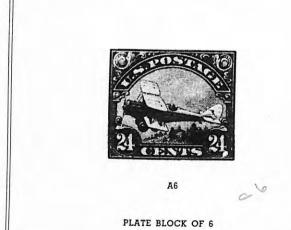
PLATE BLOCK OF 6

Propeller and Radiator of Plane



Air Service Insignia

The Second Airmail Series was issued primarily for use on the new night-flying airmail service between New York and San Francisco.



Mail Airplane



**MAP SERIES 1926-27** 



Symbol of Trans-Continental Mail Service



Symbol of Trans-Continental Mail Service

As the use of mail carrying planes became more and more popular the government continued to reduce the rate of air mail postage charges. This new set of stamps reflected the new rates as set forth in the Act of Congress of Feb 2, 1925.



### **BOOKLET PANES**

Issue of 1928



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Issue of 1943 ROTARY PRESS PRINTING



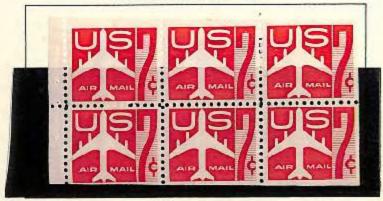
Issue of 1949 ROTARY PRESS PRINTING



Issue of 1958 ROTARY PRESS PRINTING



Issue of 1960 ROTARY PRESS PRINTING



For the convenience of the public air mail stamps were occasionally made available in booklet form.

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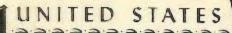








This new series of Postage Due stamps replaced the previous issue which had been in use for 29 years. Printed in two colors, this set also included denominations never before used in dues stamps.





## POSTAL ISSUES

### SPECIAL DELIVERY

Printed by the American Bank Note Co.
Perforated 12
Unwatermarked

### Issue of 1885

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Issue of 1888



Messenger Running

### Issue of 1893

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Printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing
Issue of 1894



Issue of 1895



Messenger Running

Issue of 1908



Helmet of Mercury

Issue of 1902



Messenger on Bicycle

Single-line Watermark

### Issue of 1911



Issue of 1914

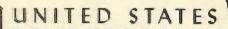


Messenger on Bicycle

The demand for fast delivery of mail brought forth the Special Delivery Issues. When affixed to a letter it indicated that the letter would secure immediate attention and be delivered between hours of 7 A.M. and midnight.

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POSTAL ISSUES

## PARCEL POST STAMPS

Issue of 1912-13

PERFORATED 12 SINGLE-LINE WATERMARK



Post Office Clerk



City Carrier



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Railway Postal Clerk



Rural Carrier



Mail Train



Steamship and Mail Tender



Automobile Service



Airplane Carrying Mail



Manufacturing



Dairying



Harvesting



**Fruit Growing** 

Specifically created to meet the requirements of fourth class matter by Act of Congress approved August 24, 1912, these stamps were declared valid for all purposes for which regular stamps were valid. The 20 cent value featured as the central part of its design an aeroplane and this was the first time any country had ever featured an aeroplane on its stamps.

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POSTAL ISSUES

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### PARCEL POST POSTAGE DUE Issue of 1912







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SPECIAL HANDLING



### REGISTRATION STAMP Issue of 1911

PERFORATED 12 SINGLE-LINE WATERMARK



Issued to prepay registry fees these stamps were soon discontinued, as ordinary postage stamps were valid for the same purpose.



The Special Handling series of stamps were provided for use on fourth class matter and when affixed would secure for such mail the expeditious handling accorded to first class matter.

# CERTIFIED MAIL STAMP Issue of 1955

Perforated 101/2 x 11



Issued as a simplified form of registration applicable to mail having no intrinsic value.