

A TYPE COLLECTION



All the pages you can fill with stamps issued before 1949 the better. With all the numerous issues today, this is one way to have a collection and learn the hobby.

STAMP COLLECTING

A general stamp collection is formed by acquiring one each of as many different stamps as possible, arranging them in an appropriate album or albums, mounted with "stamp hinges" according to country and date of issue.

A working knowledge of the terms and a study of the stamps themselves enables the stamp collector to advance to a true "philatelist."

These pages demonstrate a few of the many terms and fields of interest. They show how unlimited varieties of "Specialized Collections" may be formed—according to the interests and tastes of the collector.

**THE FIRST POSTAGE STAMP WAS INVENTED BY SIR ROWLAND HILL AND PLACED ON SALE
MAY 6, 1840, BY GREAT BRITAIN**



Copy →

Copy

In addition to the conventional letter-postage stamps, adhesives have been issued for various special postal purposes. The Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalog lists them with a prefix letter to the catalog number. Under three main headings, here are the main examples:

GROUP I: REGULAR FIRST CLASS MAIL



B: SEMI-POSTAL



C: AIR POST



**CB: SEMI-POSTAL
AIR MAIL**



**CE: AIR POST
SPECIAL DELIVERY**



**E: SPECIAL
DELIVERY**



F: REGISTRATION



J: POSTAGE DUE



**JX: PORTE
DE MAR**

GROUP II: FIRST CLASS MAIL, LIMITED IN USE



K: OFFICES ABROAD



M: MILITARY POST



MO: ARMY OFFICIAL



**MP: MILITARY
NEWSPAPER**

ADDITIONAL EXAMPLES OF FIRST CLASS MAIL, LIMITED IN USE



MR: WAR TAX



N: OCCUPATION



NJ: OCCUPATION
POSTAGE DUE



O: OFFICIAL

GROUP III: OTHER THAN FIRST CLASS MAIL



P: NEWSPAPERS



Q: PARCEL POST



QE: SPECIAL
HANDLING



R: REVENUE

GROUP IV: POSTAL STATIONERY

U: STAMPED ENVELOPE (Cut Square)



W: STAMPED WRAPPER (Cut Square)



In addition to these various classifications there are many sub-classes.

Revenue stamps (which are not used for postal purposes) are sub-divided in the United States Specialized Catalog into numerous groups such as Proprietaries, Stock Transfers, Hunting Permits, Future Deliveries, Etc.

The U. S. Specialized Catalog also lists other items that are not strictly postage stamps but are widely collected:



PS: POSTAL SAVINGS



T: TELEGRAPH



WS: WAR SAVINGS



WX: CHRISTMAS SEALS

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS MAY BE FORMED COVERING ANY SUBJECT

Specialized collections may be formed according to Topics, Subjects, Individual Issues or by Countries. Such collections may become quite comprehensive. The subjects shown on stamps vary greatly from the largest to the smallest.



One stamp shows a Map of the entire world



Another has a Mosquito as its design

Examples of the principal "topics" include the following:



AIRPLANES



ANIMALS



BIRDS



BUILDINGS



DOGS



HORSES



MAPS



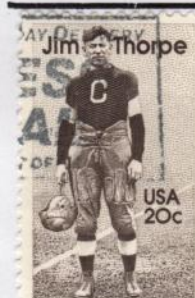
MOURNING



RELIGION



SHIPS



SPORTS



TRAINS



TRIANGLES



WATERFALLS



WOMEN

Even Philatelists have become subjects for postage stamps.



Monaca shows Franklin D. Roosevelt working on his stamps



Germany shows another collector studying his collection

PHILATELIC DEFINITIONS



USED SINGLE



UNUSED SINGLE



STRAIGHT EDGE



HORIZONTAL PAIR



COIL PAIR



COMMEMORATIVE



BI-COLORED



CUT SQUARE



CENTERED



OFF-CENTERED



LIGHT CANCEL



HEAVY CANCEL



ESSAY



GRILL



FORGERY



REPRINT



SPECIMEN



BISECT



SE-TENANT



TETE-BECHE



SURCHARGE OR OVERPRINT

The words "OVERPRINT" and "SURCHARGE" both indicate additional wording or characters printed over a stamp. Strictly speaking, a surcharge changes the value or denomination while an overprint may change the country, the purpose or the type of a stamp.

OTHER EXAMPLES OF PHILATELIC TERMS



MINIATURE SHEET



BOOKLET PANE



PLATE NUMBER BLOCK OF FOUR



PERFORATED INITIAL



BLOCK OF FOUR



PROOF

PRINTING OF STAMPS

There are several methods used in the manufacture of stamps. Most issues have been engraved by hand and produced by the Intaglio method.

**ROTARY PRESS
(CURVED PLATE)**



FLAT PRESS

OTHER METHODS OF PRINTING INCLUDE:



LITHOGRAPHED



OFFSET



TYPOGRAPHED



PHOTOGRAVURE

Various kinds of paper have been used in manufacturing stamps. The commonly found varieties are:



HARD WHITE



SOFT WHITE



SILK



GRANITE



QUADRILLE



THICK



THIN



PELURE



WATERMARKED UNWATERMARKED



Most stamps will be found on only one type of paper but there are exceptions. Excluding stamps printed in soluble inks or on chalky-surfaced papers, watermarks may be detected by placing stamps face down on a black surface and moistening with either benzine or carbon-tetrachloride. (The latter is considered safer to use.)

THERE ARE MANY WAYS OF SEPARATING STAMPS

Early Issues were always without perforations (cut apart with scissors)



Such stamps are called "Imperforates"

OTHER METHODS OF SEPARATION FOLLOWED:



ROULETTE



SERRATE ROULETTE



ROULETTED IN COLORED LINES

The perforating machine was brought into use in the 1850's and various experiments were made as to size of perforations.



SMALL PERF.
15 x 15



LARGE PERF.
10 x 10



COMPOUND
10½ x 11



VERTICAL
COIL

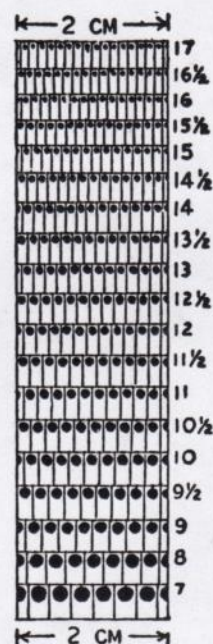


HORIZONTAL
COIL

STAMPS EXIST WITH MANY DIFFERENT SIZES OF TEETH.

THEY ARE "GAUGED" BY MEASURING THE PERFORATIONS AGAINST THE STANDARD "PERFORATION GAUGE."

THE FIGURE INDICATES THE NUMBER OF PERFORATIONS TO BE FOUND IN A SPACE OF 2 CENTIMETERS.



CANCELLATIONS AFFORD A FIELD OF INTEREST, TOO:

EARLY ISSUES WERE OFTEN
CANCELLED BY PEN AND INK



PEN (MANUSCRIPT)

LATER, HANDSTAMPS
WERE INTRODUCED



TOWN CANCEL

SOME POST OFFICES USED
ADDITIONAL CANCELLERS



CORK CANCEL

A FEW OFFICES HAD "FANCY"
CANCELLING DEVICES
SUCH AS STARS OR DESIGNS



FANCY CANCEL

TODAY, MOST STAMPS ARE CANCELLED
BY RAPID CANCELLING MACHINES



MACHINE CANCEL

Precancelling of stamps enables large mail users to deposit mail in the post office with stamps already "cancelled." In many instances, this cancelling is done by local printers or by the post office employees:



CITY-TYPE



HANDSTAMP



COIL-MACHINE



DOUBLE LINE

Other United States Stamps are precancelled at time of printing at Washington, D. C., and are known as "Bureau Print Precancels."

Most Bureau prints have been
produced in these two main
fonts of type



"OLD TYPE"



"NEW TYPE"

In recent years the user must show
name and date on high denomi-
nation precancels.

APPROXIMATELY 5,000 DIFFERENT BUREAU PRINT PRECANCELS EXIST

**THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT CURRENCIES USED IN THE WORLD BESIDES DOLLARS.
HERE ARE THE PRINCIPAL ONES:**

BAHT



SIAM

BALBOA



PANAMA

BELGA



BELGIUM

BOLIVIANO



BOLIVIA

BOLIVAR



VENEZUELA

COLON



COSTA RICA

CORDOBA



NICARAGUA

CRUZEIRO



BRAZIL

DRACHMA



GREECE

ESCUDO



PORTUGAL

FORINT



HUNGARY

FRANC



FRANCE

GUARANI



PARAGUAY

GOURDE



HAITI

GULDEN



NETHERLANDS

KORUNA



CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

KROON



ESTONIA

KRONA



SWEDEN

KRONE



DENMARK

LEMPIRA



HONDURAS

In most countries there are also larger or smaller units of currencies in use (as dollars and cents in U. S. A.).

LEU



ROMANIA

LEVA



BULGARIA

LIRA



ITALY

LITAS



LITHUANIA

MARK



GERMANY

MARKKA



FINLAND

PESETA



SPAIN

PESO



ARGENTINE

POUND



GREAT BRITAIN

PIASTRE



TURKEY

QUETZEL



GUATEMALA

RIAL



IRAN (PERSIA)

RUBLE



RUSSIA

RUPEE



INDIA

SCHILLING



AUSTRIA

SOL



PERU

SUCRE



ECUADOR

THALER



ABYSSINIA

YEN



JAPAN

ZLOTY



POLAND

MANY ODD AND UNUSUAL STAMPS HAVE BEEN ISSUED



LARGE



SMALL



HEXAGONAL



LARGE DIAMOND



DIAMOND



TRIANGLE



OBLONG



UPRIGHT



SQUARE



"DO NOT DELIVER ON SUNDAY" TAG



AD ON BACK



NUDE WOMAN

COLLECTORS ARE ALWAYS ALERT FOR "ERRORS." SOME ERRORS IN PRINTING ARE VALUABLE (SUCH AS ERRORS OF COLOR, OR INVERTING PART OF A TWO COLOR DESIGN)



ERROR OF COLOR

INVERTED CENTER OR SURCHARGE

One of the United States classic errors is the 24c airmail stamp of 1918 which was found "center inverted." The blue plane is flying upside down against the red background. As this stamp is valued at about \$3,500, no space will be found for it here.

COLLECTORS ARE QUICK TO POINT OUT MISTAKES OR FLAWS IN DESIGN. SEVERAL INTERESTING EXAMPLES INCLUDE:



**Columbus grows a beard quickly
ON 1c "COLUMBUS SIGHTS LAND" HE IS
CLEAN SHAVEN**

**ON 2c "LANDING OF COLUMBUS" NEXT
MORNING HE HAS GROWN A FULL BEARD**

As these scenes are reproductions of famous paintings, there is no real "error," of course.

* * * *

The educational value of stamp collecting is tremendous. History and geography are recorded and illustrated by philately. National heroes, both living and dead, are shown on stamps of the world, but in the United States, no living person is shown on a stamp. All of our Presidents, from Washington to Coolidge have been shown on the 1938 Presidential series.



GEORGE WASHINGTON

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

KING GUSTAVE V

KING GEORGE V

IN CONCLUSION

The only conclusion to be drawn is that the collecting of stamps is a fascinating hobby that appeals to persons of all ages and of all nations.

By attempting to gather stamps from as many different countries as possible, you will learn which groups appeal to you most, and you may wish to specialize in such groups! Here are some of the more "popular" countries to collect, along with their characteristics.

THE UNITED STATES



CANADA



MEXICO



GREAT BRITAIN



Many Commemoratives

Beautiful Engravings

For the Student

Conservative Styles

FRANCE



NETHERLANDS



NICARAGUA



CHINA



Colorful Pictorials

Modern Styling

Prolific Issuer

Large Variety

BELGIUM



SPAIN



ITALY



GERMANY



Historical Events

Beautiful Designs

Variety and Color

Many Semi-Postals

• • •

STAMP COLLECTING IS A LOT OF FUN, TOO!