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THE THREE CENT 1851-57 UNIT  
Associated with APS Unit #11

C H A I R M A N ' S      C H A T T E R  
C.C.    #17

48 Hancock St.  
Lexington 73, Mass.  
May 9, 1953

Dear Fellow Route Agent:-

Time passes quickly and now nearly two years have passed since so many of us gathered in Philadelphia for the centennial of our stamp. At that time our hopes were high that we would shortly obtain the information to enable any member to identify the position of a stamp. As of today no tangible results are evident beyond the three charts of Sylvester Colby for Plates I late, II late and III, though the writer knows that some of our members have given considerable time and effort to find a satisfactory and workable solution.

It is all very nice to sit back and feel that we know a member who is competent and willing to plate our stamps when we so desire, but we have no right to expect such opportunity to exist eternally. To obtain a satisfactory solution of this problem will require serious thought of every member as to the manner in which the material should be presented and the cost.

Here is the nub of the problem. The government prohibits a reproduction in actual size, though it is difficult to understand why this prohibition should apply to the stamps of the 1847 and 1851 issues which are no longer legal for postal use. Dr. Chase's belief is that only by reproductions in actual size can every position of all the plates be identified, though perhaps half could be plated by legally enlarged reproductions. With the exception of the recut bust, that portion of the stamp within the oval is not necessary for plating, the identifying features being found in the outer parts of the stamp and the rosettes. Will it be possible by blocking out the oval and such parts of the stamp as are not essential, to get the government to allow reproduction in actual size? The writer hopes every member will search for a solution.

Tracy Simpson, Ye Editor of our Chronicle, got a well deserved bit of praise in Stamps recently for the fine work he has done in The Chronicle. It is marvelous how he is able to dig up all the material which appears therein. We know that he would appreciate more help from all the members. Let each of us search through our collections for some item to send him for the next Chronicle.

Our Unit was well represented at the Peoria Exhibition. J. David Baker won the APS medal for the best entry by an APS member; Paul C. Rohloff was one of the judges and also showed his 1847 to 1862 U.S. issues in the Court of Honor; Charles M. Putnam, Jr., won a first award with his Illinois Postal History and showed his 5¢ and 10¢ 1847s in the Court of Honor; Horace S. Poole won a second

award and Richard K. Meyer a third award; Lester G. Brookman exhibited his Denmark collection and Dr. C. D. Sneller, who was General Chairman, gained much attention with his sketches of "Men and Women behind the Stamp".

Milton Edelman won the grand award at the 1953 Sojex with his 19th century U. S.; Frank Hollowbush, with his West Town stamps and covers, and Dr. Charles A. Roser, with his hand struck markings, also were successful in their showings.

Jack Molesworth was one of the judges at the Columbus, Ohio, Philatelic Club's exhibit where R. M. Wilkinson won an award for his showing of Confederate States.

Robert Golden has been elected president of the Ravenswood Stamp Club and John Norbeck was exhibition chairman of the Twin City Philatelic Society's 40th anniversary show.

How often it happens that we hear of the activities of a member of which we had not the least inkling. How many members realize that Lauder W. Jones, now in his eighties, was for years Professor of Chemistry at Princeton. He has specialized in Austrian-Lombardy Venetian stamps as well as the U. S. classics.

We have been anxiously waiting for Henry A. Meyer to publish his handbook on markings on inland waterways mail and understand that now the handbook is approaching its final form. We sure will be on the watch for it, Henry.

Heyliger DeWindt has reported the find of a postmaster's provisional from West Stockbridge, Mass.

With this Chatter you will receive a copy of the new By-Laws which have been prepared in the main by Henry Meyer with some slight changes in the wording here and there by Towner Webster, our Vice Chairman, and the Directors. All this entailed a lot more work on their behalf than would appear on first sight and we are indebted to them and also to Bill Hicks, who has personally supplied the copies of the by-laws for each member.

We were sorry to learn that Abe Rubel, Jr., our very active and young old man, has been sick but Bill Hicks on his latest visit to Abe found him looking better. Keep up the improvement, Abe.

Burleigh Jacobs was the featured speaker this month at the Roosevelt Philatelic Society in Chicago.

Harry M. Buten has been elected president of the National Philatelic Museum at Philadelphia and Bernard M. Davis, Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Dr. Polland, manager of our Sales Department, advises that suitable material for the sales circuits is very hard for him to obtain and that there is an eager market for very fine material, but poor quality material sells very slowly. The scarcity of 3¢ 1851-57 material in the auctions is further proof of this. It would be a great help to Dr. Polland, a help that he certainly deserves, if we would all look over our duplicate material and send it to him for inclusion in the circuits. It also affords our fellow members an opportunity to improve their collections. The

wants of the different members cover a wide field and nice material of all types is certain to sell.

You will find a new list of our members enclosed with this Chatter and the writer wishes to inform the members that after May 15th his address will be 119 Washington Street, Topsfield, Mass. He will be glad to have any of the members drop in if they are travelling on the turnpike between Boston and Newburyport.

Sincerely,

Lester L. Downing

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On Cover or Single; 3¢ Perf or Imperf;  
Imitation Boston PAID of Turner, Maine.

On Cover with 3¢ S1 (orange brown);  
Small RED or MAGENTA Boston PAID with townmark having "3cts" at bottom.

On Cover with 3¢ Perf or Imperf; on Nesbitt Envelope, or Stampless:  
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L 4- 31, 41, 51 & 61; R 4- 40, 50,  
60 & 70;

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Corner wide margin all around, no  
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MEMBERS WISHING CIRCUIT MATERIAL, PLEASE WRITE.

W. SCOTT POLLAND,  
ROSS, CALIFORNIA