

OFFICE OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL,  
Washington, May 9, 1938.

## CHANGE IN CONVERSION RATES FOR INTERNATIONAL MONEY ORDERS

ORDER No. 11664.

It is ordered that on and after May 12, 1938, in the issue of international money orders, the money of the United States shall be converted into that of Great Britain, Ireland, and the Union of South Africa at the rate of \$5.00 to the pound; into that of China at the rate of 26½ cents to the Shanghai dollar; into that of France, the French Levant, and the Regency of Tunis at the rate of 3 cents to the franc, and into that of Switzerland at the rate of 23 cents to the franc.

JAMES A. FARLEY,  
Postmaster General.

THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL,  
Washington, May 9, 1938.

### INSTRUCTIONS

Lower quotations on the exchange market have made it possible to reduce the money-order conversion rates for the British pound, the Shanghai dollar of China, the French franc and the Swiss franc.

Postmaster General's order No. 11664 directs that beginning May 12, 1938, the rate for the money orders issued in the United States for payment in Great Britain, Ireland, and the Union of South Africa shall be \$5.00 to the pound; for payment in China shall be 26½ cents to the Shanghai dollar; for payment in France, the French Levant and the Regency of Tunis, 3 cents to the franc; and for payment in Switzerland, 23 cents to the franc.

Table 27 shall be used for Great Britain, Ireland, and the Union of South Africa; table 105 for China; Table 47 for France, the French Levant and the Regency of Tunis, and table 98 for Switzerland.

Postmasters and postal employees are cautioned to guard against errors by consulting conversion tables in connection with the last notice of change received, since any loss imposed upon the remitters or payees by lack of care will be charged against the postal employee at fault.

ROY M. NORTH,  
Acting Third Assistant Postmaster General.

SECOND ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL,  
Washington, May 9, 1938.

### AIR MAIL SERVICE—NATIONAL AIR MAIL WEEK CACHETS

Special cachets have been authorized for use during National Air Mail Week, May 15-21. They should not be used prior to, or after those dates.

### REVOCATION OF THE ORDERS RESTRICTING THE EXPORTATION AND IMPORTATION OF SILVER

The Secretary of the Treasury, having revoked the orders of June 28, 1934, and May 20, 1935, and the Silver Regulations of August 17, 1934, as amended, and having removed the restrictions upon the exportation and importation of silver imposed thereunder, section 39 on pages 19 and 20 of part II of the Postal Guide is amended by the elimination of the information relative to the furnishing of licenses or affidavits for silver or articles fabricated from silver presented for mailing from the continental United States to a point outside of the continental United States.

The instructions appearing in the announcement "Foreign silver coins prohibited importation or transportation into the continental United States," published in the POSTAL BULLETIN of May 27, 1935, and on page 15 of the June 1935 Supplement, are likewise rescinded.

Postmasters will cause due notice of the foregoing to be taken at their offices.

HARLEE BRANCH,  
Second Assistant Postmaster General.

THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL,  
Washington, May 6, 1938.

### NEW ISSUE OF 2-CENT ORDINARY POSTAGE STAMPS

Postmasters are hereby advised that the 2-cent stamp bearing the likeness of John Adams will be the next denomination to be made available in the new regular series.

The stamp is identical in size and general design with the denominations heretofore announced except for the change in numerals and portrait. The stamp will be printed in red by the rotary process and issued in sheets of 100.

The new 2-cent stamp will be first placed on sale at Washington, D. C., on June 3, 1938, and at other post offices as soon thereafter as practicable.

Stamp collectors desiring first-day cancellations of the new stamp on June 3 may send a limited number of addressed covers, not in excess of 10, to the Postmaster at Washington, D. C., with a cash or postal money order remittance to cover only the cost of the stamps required for affixing. Postage stamps will positively not be accepted in payment. Each cover should bear a pencil endorsement in the upper right corner to show the number of stamps to be attached thereto. Envelopes for covers should not be smaller than 3 by 6 inches. Compliance cannot be made with unusual requests, such as for the affixing of plate number blocks, etc., and all covers must be fully addressed.

To receive the official first-day postmark, covers must bear postage at the first-class rate.

Requests for uncanceled stamps must not be included with orders for first-day covers for the postmaster at the above office.

For the benefit of collectors desiring stamps of selected quality for philatelic use, the new 2-cent stamp will be placed on sale at the Philatelic Agency, Washington, D. C., on June 3, 1938. To insure prompt shipment,

mail orders to the Agency must be limited to the 2-cent stamp, excluding other varieties of stamps heretofore on sale.

So far as production will permit, all requisitions for 2-cent stamps from direct and central-accounting post offices after June 3 will be filled in whole or in part with the stamps of the new issue.

Postmasters at district-accounting post offices may obtain needed stocks of new design 2-cent stamps by requisition on the central-accounting postmaster after June 3.

In some cases shipments of the new 2-cent stamps may be received by postmasters prior to the close of business on June 3. In all such cases care must be exercised not to allow any of the stamps to be sold before June 4.

### ARKANSAS STATE PLANT QUARANTINE (SHIPMENT OF SWEETPOTATO PLANTS RESTRICTED)

The State of Arkansas has established at Little Rock, Ark., a place for terminal plant inspection under the provisions of the law embodied in section 596, Postal Laws and Regulations, of the following plants and plant products: *Sweetpotatoes, sweetpotato plants, vines, draws, and slips.*

All postmasters are, therefore, informed that packages containing any plants or plant products addressed to places in the State of Arkansas may be accepted for mailing only when plainly marked so that the contents may be readily ascertained by an inspection of the outside thereof. The law makes failure so to mark such parcels an offense punishable by a fine of not more than \$100.

The State of Arkansas has also issued a State plant quarantine on account of the sweetpotato weevil, pursuant to the act of June 4, 1936, embodied in amended section 596, Postal Laws and Regulations, which prohibits the shipment into that State from any other part of the continental United States of *sweetpotatoes, sweetpotato plants, vines, draws, and slips*, known to be hosts of this pest, unless accompanied with an inspection certificate issued by the State of origin, showing the plants and plant products to be free of infestation.

Postmasters are, therefore, requested to observe the restrictions of the Arkansas quarantine when the host plants and plant products named above are offered for mailing and will also invite the attention of mailers to these provisions.

Postmasters within the State of Arkansas receiving parcels containing the plants named, which are not accompanied with the required certificate, should be guided by paragraphs 3 and 6, section 595, Postal Laws and Regulations, obtaining the necessary forwarding postage and forward the parcels to the postmaster at Little Rock, Ark., indorsed in the prescribed manner. Parcels containing these plants which are accompanied with a proper certificate may be delivered to the addressees without being submitted for terminal inspection.

### CANCELLATION OF POSTAGE STAMPS

Recently in connection with the inspection of a large post office the inspectors examined 40 percent of the parcel-post mail addressed to one of the leading firms in the city. On this mail there were found stamps amounting to \$2.79, which were totally uncanceled and \$1.23 very faintly canceled. All of these stamps could be reused. If this 40 percent examination produced \$4.02 in reusable stamps on mail addressed to only one firm in this large city the ratio would indicate that there would be on the total postage on mail received at this large office reusable stamps amounting to many dollars. It is unmistakably clear that the uncanceled and faintly canceled stamps which could be used again represent a potential loss of revenues to the Department of thousands of dollars.

At this time therefore all postal employees who are assigned to the work of canceling stamps are urged to make it their particular and individual duty to see that inking apparatus is kept clean and in working order and that all stamps whether on parcels or letters are completely and effectively canceled with a clear impression.

Postmasters are directed in accordance with paragraph 2, section 717, Postal Laws and Regulations, to report to the office of the Third Assistant Postmaster General on Form 3039 all delinquencies coming to their attention of postmasters at offices of mailing to completely deface stamps on mail matter. Form 3039 may be obtained by requisition on the Fourth Assistant Postmaster General, Division of Building Operations and Supplies, Equipment and Supplies Branch.

### STOLEN MONEY-ORDER FORMS

Since April 1, 1938, blank domestic money-order forms printed for the use of the offices named below have been reported as stolen. Numbers inclusive.

Baldock, S. C., 26739 to 26746; Apr. 16, 1938.  
Cambria, Iowa, 27401 to 28000; Apr. 10, 1938.  
CHASE, ALA., 23604 to 23800; May 5, 1938.  
CHICAGO, ILL., STATION 317, 64179 to 64200; May 6, 1938.  
Frenchtown, Mont., 26601 to 27000; May 1, 1938.  
Gillham, Ark., 76352 to 76400; May 3, 1938.  
Grant, Iowa, 57137 to 57200; Apr. 19, 1938.  
Los Angeles, Calif., Sta. 5, 73533 to 73800; Apr. 19, 1938.  
Platform, Ohio, 1881 to 1900; Apr. 17, 1938.

On receipt of this notice, the postmaster will carefully examine his records to ascertain whether any of these forms have already been paid at his office. If the coupon of any such order is found in the paid files or if any of the forms are hereafter presented for payment, he should promptly report that fact to the post-office inspector in charge of his division. A postmaster should take similar action in case of theft of forms from his office, being careful to give the correct serial numbers, and under no circumstances to issue orders on such forms in event of their recovery.

MAKE EVERY REASONABLE EFFORT TO RENT MORE LOCK BOXES

