

Last month, Ed Pieklo presented "Century of Progress Part III" of the philatelic history (covers, labels and Cinderellas) surrounding this the two-year exposition that actually made money and was privately funded during the *Great Depression*.



This month, we are holding a SWAP MEET. Members have requested:

- 1) Federal Duck Stamps
- 2) Black stamp mounts (20-25 mm)
- 3) Australia, Thailand, Malasia, Northern Borneo & Singapore
- 4) US BoB Revenues and Officials
- 5) US mint Commemoratives & Scott 240-245, 292-293, C14-C15
- 6) Labels & Cinderella's
- 7) Japan before 1945, Ryukyu Islands and BoB Postal Stationery



Next Meeting: 2:00-PM on Tuesday, 24 June 2025 Grayslake Historical Society — Any Changes will be posted on: lcpshome.org



U219

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U218

Also, if someone is interested in a 2019 Scott's Specialized Catalogue – contact Chuck at 847-356-3106.

Other than above, feel free to bring items that you think may spark additional collecting interest.

Commemorative Stamps — When John Wanamaker (38th U.S. Postmaster General - 1889-1893) authorized in 1892 the issuance of a set of postage stamps to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's discovery of the Americas, he probably did not realize he was creating philatelic history — The first U.S. commemorative **stamps** (sixteen - Scott 230 – 245), with a face value of \$16.34 (twice the avenge weekly wage at the time), were the subject of praise/criticism by philatelists and the general public alike after their release in 1893 to promote the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago that year

The determination to issue such a set was decide that summer and why \ldots

We can all but wonder if today's ideas of the U.S. Postal Service for issuing *"salable"* stamps and aggressively marketing them are based on the 1892 November 20, report from A. D. Hazen III, then Assistant Postmaster General. The following excerpt maybe of some interest: **"To Encourage Sales"**



(Continuing from page 1) Thus, the determination was reached by the Department to issue during the progress of the Columbian Exposition at Chicago, a special series of adhesive postage stamps of such character as would help to signalize this **Quatercentenary** of the discovery of the Americas by Columbus.

Justification: This course was in accordance with the practice of other great postal administrations on occasions of national rejoicing. and it was consistent with the idea of a display at the Exposition of such articles as would illustrate the history progress and administrative functions of the Post Office Department, which Congress, by statute, has directed to be made part of a general governmental exhibit. The same idea has been carried out in a limited way during the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia,, by the issue of a special design of stamped envelopes appropriate to the celebration — calculated to prove popular and stimulating the use of stamps to the public and adding to postal revenue.

This endeavor was a proof of concept that led to a second set of commemorative stamps issued for the 1898 **Trans-Mississippi Exposition in Omaha NE.** This set of nine stamps (Scott 285 – 293) were originally to be printed in a bi-color format but due to the requirements put upon the Bureau of Engraving and Printing from the Spanish-American War were printed in a mono-colored format.

Thus, verification of this model — \$revenue\$!

Two years later, we had the **1901 Pan-American Exposition** in Buffalo NY. The first bi-colored stamps (Scott 294 – 299) in a series of six that is noted for a center error invert of the 1c, 2c, and 4c values.

From here on, to WWI there were sets of stamps issued for the:

1904 Louisiana Purchase Expo (five stamps Scott 323 - 327) in St Louis MO;

1907Jamestown Expo (three stamps (Scott 328 - 330) in Virginia Beach VA;

1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Expo (A-Y-P) with one stamp issued in a perforated/imperforated variety (Scott 370-371) in Seattle WA;

2

1909 Hudson-Fulton Celebration (H-F-C), one stamp issued in a perforated/imperf variety (Scott 372 - 373) in New York City NY;

and finally the,

1915 Panama-Pacific Expo (four stamps/two printings plus one color variety Scott 397 – 400A / 401 – 404) in San Francisco CA.

This last set saw a decline in revenue, with many stamps being unsold and later destroyed because (maybe) with WWI, the German ink embargo led the BEP to improvising the printing processes leading to a major decline in quality or (most likely) just because they were overwhelmed by the increase in production required to support the war effort.

It should be noted that there was a "truly" commemorative issue as we know today – the **Lincoln Centenary Birth** Issue of 1909 that came in both a perforated and imperforated variety (Scott 347 – 348).

After WWI, the commemorative "sets" "became a more tied to historical events rather the expositions. Expositions continued to be publicized but generally as a single stamp (except the **1933/34 Chicago Expo** – two stamps).

