Type LB-bW-D.L.O. (Dead Letter Office)

LB - Left Hand, Palm Back

bW - Return_ to Writer



Returned from Arica, Chile, with Chilean "Inconnu" label Returned to New York City

Backstamps: Arica, Chile, 26 July, 1892
U.S. Dead Letter Office, February 6, 1893
(A long time in return!)

Type RF-DW-COLLECT(Town)

"RETURNED/TO/WRITER/COLLECT/ Dead Letter Office/Washington DC"

After. D......days, return to

A. F. Ryong Atlornes JAN 19

Sov Yanes Pa. Res d 900

Resonant Church

Meader crembaugh

Moreffe.
insuffsance
d'adresse.

Prunia

Neadercrembaugh, Germany Returned to Lockhaven, Pa. Numerous transit handstamps and machine cancels.



Type RF-DW-Reason Checked(List)

Third Subtype - A list of six items

(Deceased is not on the list, and from the handstamp makeup, never was.)



Returned July 29, 1943 (seven months)

CAN'T SAY THAT THEY DIDN'T TRY!!!

Type RD-bS-VERIFIED, etc.

RD - Right Hand, Palm Down

bS - Return_ to Sender



A U.S. Army POSTAL DIRECTORY COMPANY
VERIFIES A MISSING SOLDIER, and returns to sender.
Additional handstamp "MISSING IN ACTION",
with "IN ACTION" crossed off.

Note that the military hold the letter two weeks past the initial Feb 23, 1944 verification, and do not release until after a second verification on March 6. The letter was not actually returned until May 9 (reverse).

RF - Right Hand, Palm Forward

D - Returned

W - to Writer



Durham, North Carolina, Jan. 29, 1928
Returned to Wilmington, N.C.
Additional Handstamps -

"REGISTERED" (Wilmington)
"Second Notice/JAN 23 1928" (Durham)
Usual Registry handstamps on rear



No. 710-10 Printed in U. S. A

Type RD-DW-(Town, Reg. Div.)

RD - Right Hand, Palm Down

DW - Returned to Writer

"N.Y.P.O. Reg. Div." in cuff



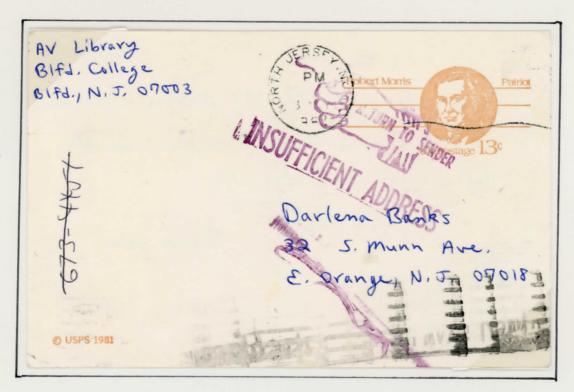


Two Different New York City examples, separated in use by many years - 1904 and 1931!

Type RF-bS-INSUFFICIENT ADDRESS

RF - Right Hand, Palm Forward

bS - Return_ to Sender

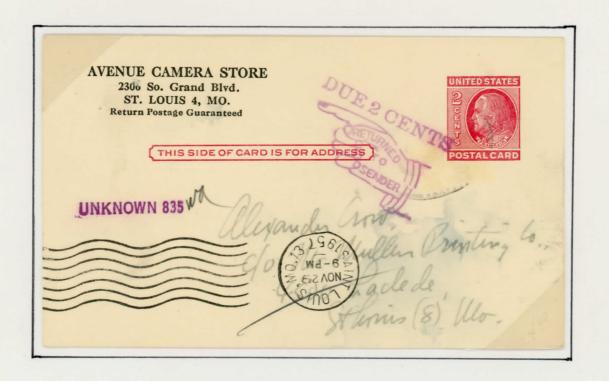


East Orange, New Jersey, April, 1982 ((One needs a DORMITORY ROOM NUMBER to deliver here.) Returned to Bloomfield, New Jersey.

Type RF-DS-DUE 2 CENTS

RF - Right Hand, Palm Forward

DS - Returned to Sender



POSTAL CARD RETURN IS NOT FREE

Domestic postal cards do not carry with them a free return privilege. <u>If</u> the card states "Return Postage Guaranteed" (as this card does), the P. O. will return the card, charging as postage due the normal postal card rate.

November 29, 1957 -

Local St Louis, Mo.

Additional handstamp - "UNKNOWN 835"

A Mexican Pointing Hand



The Pointing Hand Return Latin American "Wrong-Way" Hands

Mexico



Panama



"Wrong way" Hand

Type LD-bW

LD - Left Hand, Palm Down

b - Return

W - to Writer

"Wrong Way" hand

cannot point to

return address unless

struck upside down

If not called for in days, return to

E. C. Voorheis,

Sutter Creek,



J. Erradia Jan Audreas Cal

San Andreas, California, October, 1894. Returned to Sutter Creek, California

"Wrong-Way" Hand

Type RD-bW-(D.L.O.)

RD - Right Hand, Palm Down

bW - Return_ to Writer

D.L.O. - Dead Letter Office
(International
letter return)

"Wrong-Way" hand cannot point to return address unless struck upside down.



French language "inconnu" (unknown)

From Washington, D.C., to Zurich, Switzerland,
and return via New York City. Ample backstamps.



So even the "big city" post offices can make the mistake of acquiring "wrong-way" hands!

The Pointing Hand Return "Wrong-Way" Hand

Type RB-bW

RB - Right Hand, Palm Back

bW - Return_ to Writer



Return April 29, 1988 (backstamp)

OAKES, DAKOTA TERRITORY, returned to St Paul, Minn

Additiona Handstamp - "Unclaimed."

"WRONG WAY" HANDS

These are genuine errors. The hand is reversed.

They cannot point to the normal return address at upper right of the cover without being struck upside down!

"Wrong Way" Hands are classified by the hand position:

RD Right Hand Palm Down



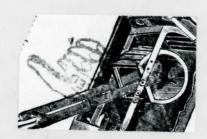
LD Left Hand Palm Down



RB Right Hand Palm <u>B</u>ack



Left Hand Palm Forward

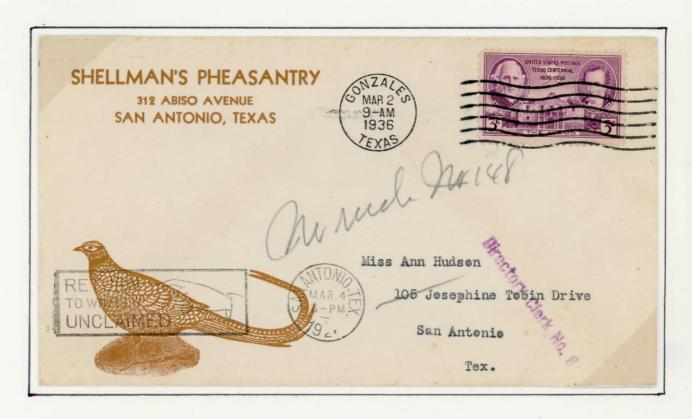


"Wrong Way" Hands are over a hundred times scarcer than their normal counterparts.



New York, N.Y., July 26, 1942
Returned to Cleveland, Ohio, but only after censoring!
Originally mailed Dec 2, 1941.

"International" Machine Cancels
All Type LB
RETURN/ TO WRITER/ UNCLAIMED



San Antonio, Texas, March 4, 1936
Returned to San Antonio sender.
Additional handstamp "Directory Clerk No. 8"
Note that San Antonio appears to be using an old, "spare" international machine for this return marking. The YEAR
DATE IS STILL IN THE 1920's!! The digit "2" has been partially gouged out, but not beyond recognition!

"Universal" Machine Cancels

all Type LB

RETURN/TO WRITER/

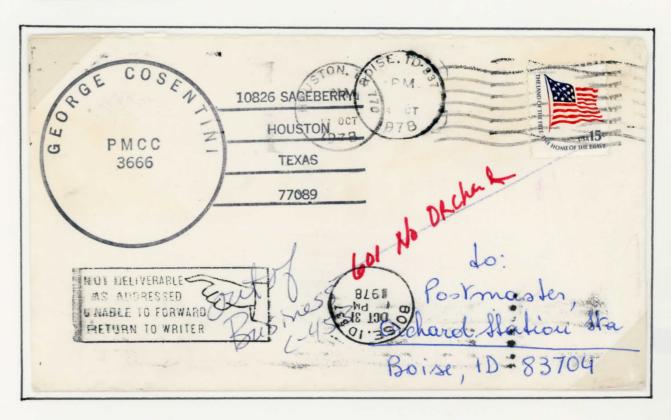
UNCLAIMED - Dial Inverted



Dallas, Texas, July, 1924Returned to Leatenworth, Kansas Additional handstamp "Directory Searcher No. 3

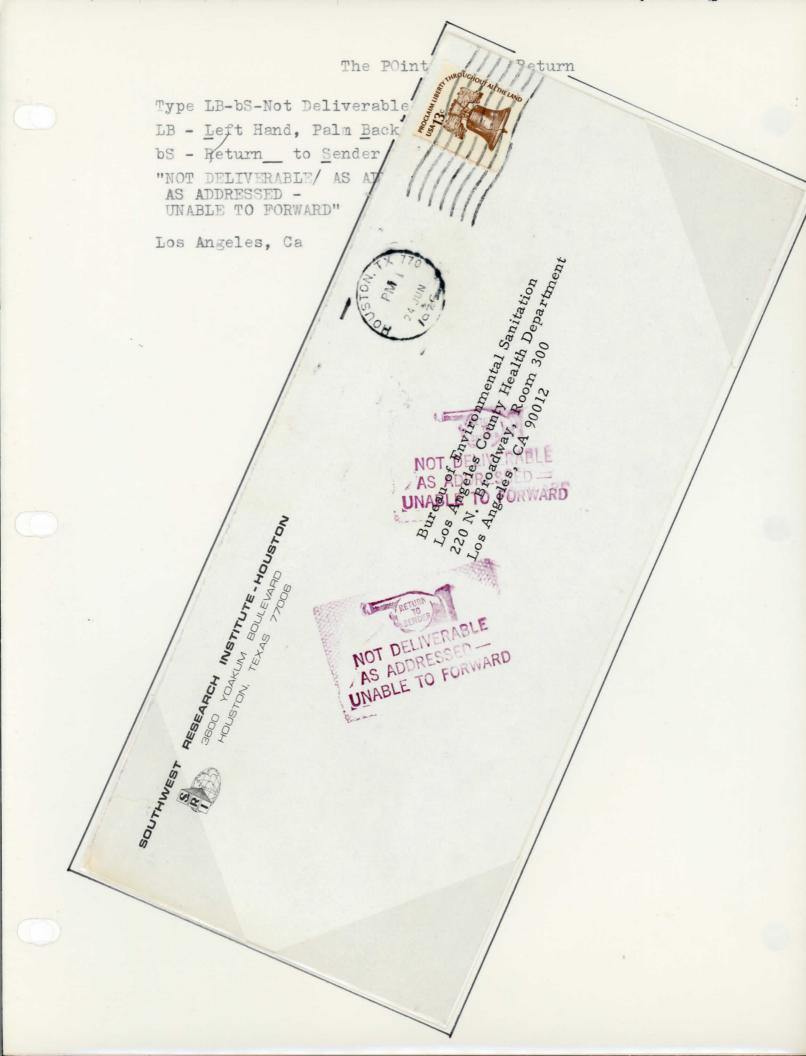
The Pointing Hand Paid

"Universal" Machine Cancels
all Type LB
"NOT DELIVERABLE/ AS ADDRESSED/ UNABLE TO FORWARD/
RETURN TO WRITER"

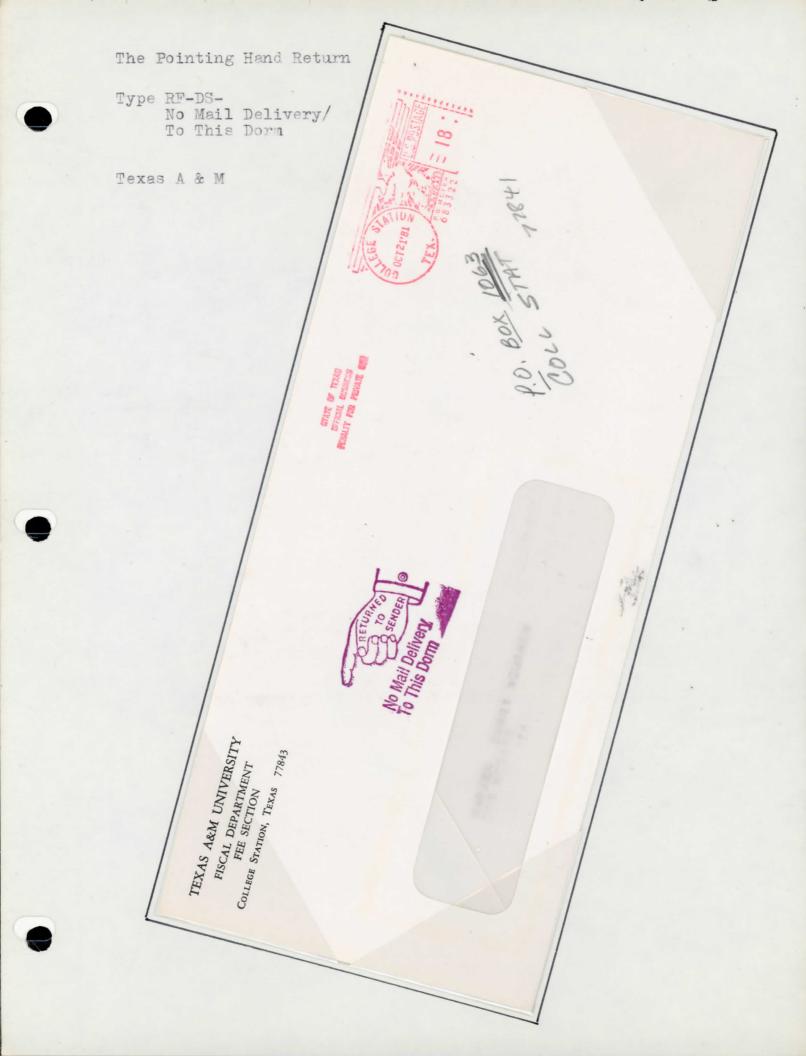


Boise, Idaho, Oct 31, 1978 Returned to Houston, Texas





No. 710-10 Printed in U. S. A.



This is earliest cutout

The Pointing Hand Return

Type - Boxed RF-DW-Reason Checked(List)

Second subtype - "Deceased" has been cut out to

make a list of six items. In

cutting out "Deceased," the outer

frame has also been cut.

MOFFAT & ATWOOD
INSURANCE
BO MAIDEN LANE
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

MOVED MY. Hunter Chomso for the language of the la

Richmond, Va., June, 1944 - Returned to New York City -

8

Type - Boxed RF-DW-Reason Checked(List)

First Subtype variety - "short list"

(Through breakage or removal, the last line has been removed, leaving a list of 6 items. Confirmation strikes have confirmed the consistency of this damage.)



Lumberton, North Carolina, Sept. 20, 1928 Returned to Wilmington, N.C. Additional Handstamps -

"REGISTERED" (Wilmington)
"RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED." (Wilmington)
Lumberton Gen(eral) Del(ivery) D.C. on Face
Usual Registry handstamps on reverse

10-10 n U. S. A.

Place

reduction founds

Type RF-DW-UNCLAIMED

(In this subtype the "UNCLAIMED" is located on the sleeve.)



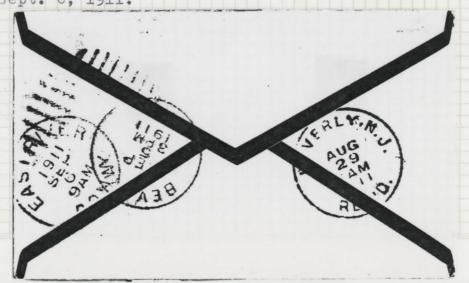
Origin - East River, Conn., August 28, 1911

First destination - Beverly, "Pa" (No such town)

IN Philadelphia, clerk "C" applies his red circular handstamp and routes the letter to Beverly, N.J.

On reverse - Received, Beverly, N.J., Aug. 29.

On reverse - Beverly, N.J., (having failed, it is on its way home, with the "pointing hand paid on fface), Sept. 5. Received in East River, Conn (back home) on Sept. 6, 1911.



Type LB-Db-UNCLAIMED-(Town, Date)-Envelope.. Cannot be Mailed ..

LB - Left Hand, Palm Back

Db - Returned by ... (Sender, Writer omitted)

"UNCLAIMED. Envelope or Wrapper with this P.O. Mark

Cannot be again Mailed Lawfully."





Two Philadelphia, Pa. examples - July 16, 1903, and May 20, 1908.

THE BASIC CLASSIFICATION

I

THREE ORIENTATIONS OF THE HAND

LB LEFT HAND, PALM BACK

RD
RIGHT HAND,
PALM DOWN

RF RIGHT HAND, PALM FORWARD







II

TWO TENSES OF THE VERB "RETURN"

RETURN___(Inperative)

D
RETURNED
(Past)





III

TWO RECIPIENTS OF THE RETURN

WRITER

S SENDER

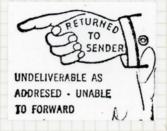




THE SECONDARY CLASSIFIERS
THE "REASONS" FOR RETURN
EXAMPLES







THE CITY (ONLY WHEN IN THE HANDSTAMP)





THE DATER (ONLY WHEN IN THE HANDSTAMP)



ALL OF THE SECONDARY CLASSIFIERS ARE USED ONLY WHEN THEY APPEAR AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE POINTING HAND HAND. STAMP. AS SEPARATE HANDSTAMPS THEY ARE INTERESTING, BUT DO NOT FORM PART OF THE POINTING HAND CLASSIFICATION.

Type RD-DW

normal

RD - Right Hand, Palm Down (The rarest of the "Hands")

D - Returned

W - to Writer



Wisconsin Dells, Wis., July, 1930 - returned to Baraboo.

Additional Handstamp - "UNKNOWN"



Type RD-Db-No such P.O. (Town, Date)

RD - Right Hand, Palm Down

D - Returned

b - (phrase "to writer (Sender) omitted)

"No. 3/RETURNED FROM/CHICAGO, ILL./
No such P.O. in State/named. M.D.N.S."
Date in cuff.

ELMER E. DEVOL

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
GENEVA, ILL.

Postmaster

Kaskaskia

I11

TO BE SEE MY AND ARTHUR AND ARTHU

Chicago, Ill., December, 1932 - returned to Geneva, Ill. The letter addressed to "Kaskaskia, Ill., after that post office had been discontinued.

RPP Cancel on Roverse - needs photo

No. 710410 Printed in U. S.

Type LB-DW-(Town, Date)-Do Not Use ...

LB - Left Hand, Palm Back

DW - Returned to Writer

Galveston, Texas

"Do not use this envelope or wrapper again"



Galveston, Texas, December 19, 1962
Local Return
Additional Handstamped list - "unknown" is checked

THE

POINTING-HAND

RETURN

A Study of Types.

Throughout much of the 19th and 20th centuries the pointing hand has been a bold indicator of the directive to return mail to the sender. This exhibit explores the types of handstamp and machine cancels of the pointing hand that have been in use over these many years.





Type LB-bW-D.L.O. (Dead Letter Office)

LB - Left Hand, Palm Back

bW - Return_ to Writer



A complicated history -

Left Elgin, Illinois, September 16, 1892

Underpaid - due 3 pence (twice the 3c underpayment)

British postmarks record the diligent attempt to

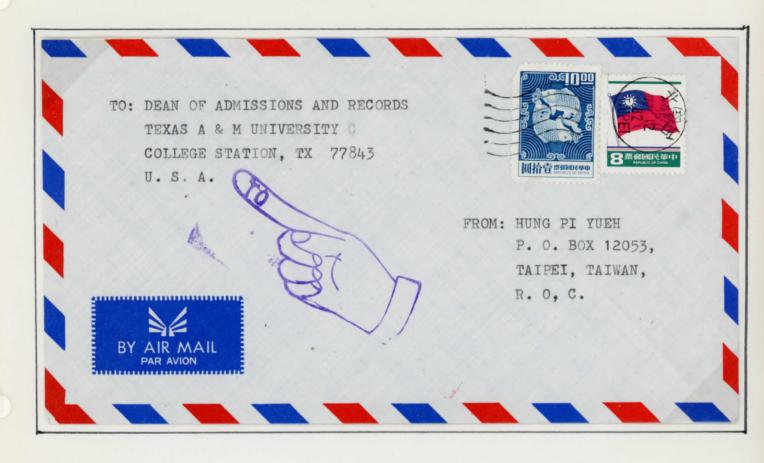
find the addressee.

Triangular American "Dead Letter Office marking on reverse, and pointing hand return on face.



The POINTING HAND RETURN

A Taiwanese "Fickle Finger" ("Naughty-Naughty!!")



Type LB-DS-Cannot be found (Town)

LB - Left Hand, Palm Down

BS - Returned to Sender



Stamford, Conn., March, 1894
Returned to Bridgeport, Conn.

"anuscript "Opened by error/John McGuinness/Orchard St"
On reverse - Receiving cancels,
Stamford, Feb. 13

Bridgeport, March 13



LB - Left Hand, Palm Back

D - Returned

W - to Writer

The reason for return is omitted from the pointing hand handstamp per se.

Town (Chicago) and <u>Date</u> are in contrast given as integral parts of the pointing hand

FOURTEENTH FLOOR
22 WEST 48TH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

Sterling reductions Agency
Room 302
180 North Wacker Drive
Chicago, Ill.

BUY U.S.

ASK YOUR PUSE

Chicago, Illinois, Aug. 20, 1936 - return to New York City.

Additional handstamp - "MOVED LEFT NO ADDRESS 213"

No. 710-10 Printed in U. S. A Type LB-DW-CANNOT BE FOUND (Town)

Des Moines, Iowa



Des Moines, Iowa, Oct 27, 1898 Returned to Galesburg, Illinois Type LB-DW-INSUFFICIENT ADDRESS(Chicago, Date)

"INSUFFICIENT ADDRESS/Returned to Writer/ Unclaimed from/Chicago, Ill. (D.S.)" and Date in cuff.

"DO NOT REMAIL IN THIS ENVELOPE OR WRAPPER" below and an integral part of the pointing hand handstamp.



Chicago, Ill., Nov. 20, 1942 - return to Detroit, Mich. (Return address over on flap, where handwisspointing.

Additional Handstamp -

"DIRECTORY SERVICE/HAS BEEN GIVEN/ CHICAGO, ILL. (1)" "MISDIRECTED/Returned to Writer/ Unclaimed from/Chicago, Ill.(D.S.)" and Date in cuff.

"DO NOT REMAIL IN THIS ENVELOPE OR WRAPPER" below appears to be an additional integrap part of the pointing hand handstamp.



Chicago, Ill., June 1, 1943 - return to Geneva, Ill. Additional handstamps -

"15 K" (struck twice)

"DIRECTORY SERVICE/HAS BEEN GIVEN/CHICAGO, ILL. (13)"

"NOT THERE G-2626" (struck twice)

Type LB-DW-UNCLAIMED

LB - Left Hand, Palm Back

DW - Returned to Writer



Boston, Mass., May 15, 1904. Returned to Utica, N.Y. Additional Handstamp:

> THIS LETTER WAS NOT CALLED FOR BY THE ADVERTISER AND ACCORDING TO U.S. POSTAL LAW IS RETURNED TO SENDER

(The "Advertiser" referred to above is the person who had placed an ad in the Boston Globe under the number "271.")

Type LB-DW-Unclaimed(Town, Date)
Central Station, Chicago, Ill.



Chicago, Ill., Central Station, July 6, 1907 - Return to Clinton, Wisconsin (July 7 Red'd on reverse).

Cancel is thatof the Chicago & Wentworth Ave. Street Car R.P.O., June 3, 1907.

Additional markings

Red Circular "Name Not In Directory 9"
On reverse - "Chicago General Delivery"
(Doremus Machine Cancel)

G.D. No. 9 m violeT

Type LB-DW-Unclaimed(Town, Date)
Central Station, Chicago, Ill.



Chicago, Ill., Central Station, July 6, 1907 - Return to Clinton, Wisconsin (July 7 Red'd on reverse).

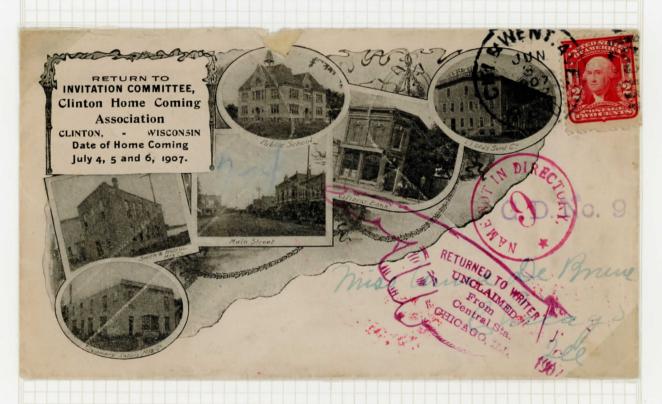
Cancel is thatof the Chicago & Wentworth Ave. Street Car R.P.O., June 3, 1907.

Additional markings

Red Circular "Name Not In Directory 9"
On reverse - "Chicago General Delivery"
(Doremus Machine Cancel)

G.D. No. 9 m viole7

Type LB-DW-Unclaimed(Town, Date) Central Station, Chicago, Ill.



Chicago, Ill., Central Station, July 6, 1907 - Return to Clinton, Wisconsin (July 7 Red'd on reverse).

Cancel is thatof the Chicago & Wentworth Ave. Street Car R.P.O., June 3, 1907.

Additional markings

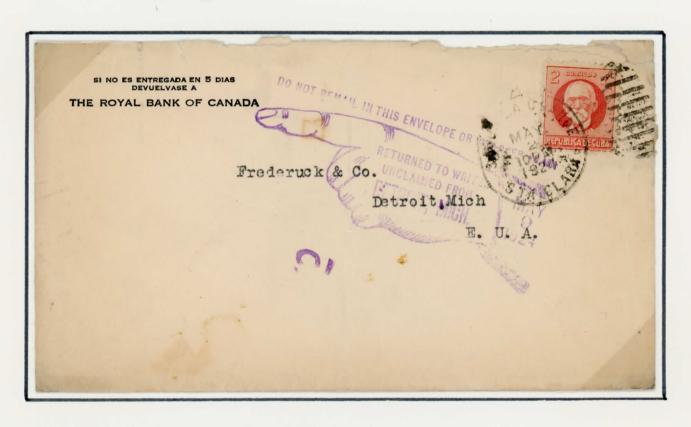
Red Circular "Name Not In Directory 9"
On reverse - "Chicago General Delivery"
(Doremus Machine Cancel)

G.D. No. 9 m viole7

Type LB-DW-UNCLAIMED (Town, Date)-DO NOT REMAIL

LB - Left Hand, Palm Back

DW - Returned to Writer



Detroit, Michigan, May 9, 1924 Returned to Sagua La Grande, Cuba



Similar,
but without
the
"do not remail.."
phrase.
1911 return
to Buffalo,
N.Y.

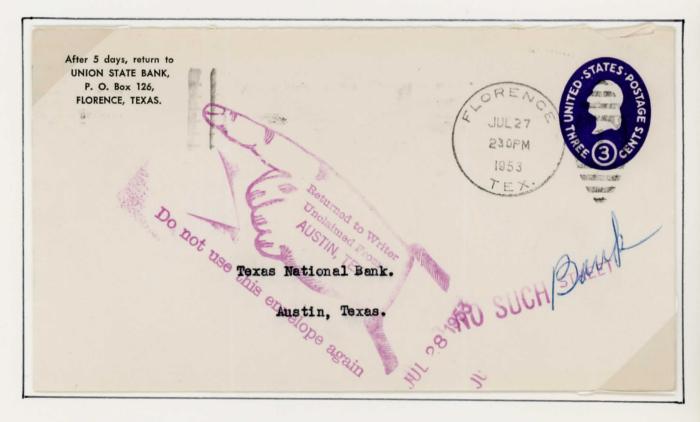
Type LB-DW-Unclaimed-(Town, Date)-Do not use

LB - Left Hand, Palm Back

DW - Returned to Writer

Austin, Texas

"Do not use this envelope again"



Austin, Texas, July 28, 1953
Returned to Florence, Texas
Additional handstamp "NO SUCH STREET"

(with "STREET" overstruck by a handwritten "Bank")

Type LB-DW-UNCLAIMED (Town, Date)

"RETURNED TO WRITER UNCLAIMED / PUEBLO, COLO. / P.O."

Date in cuff; "B.D."below;

"Do not use this envelope or wrapper again" above is also an integral part of handstamp.



Pueblo, Colo., April 11, 1905 - return to Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

Additional Handstamps -

"Name not in Directory"
"OUT/APR 7 1905"

Type LB-DW-UNCLAIMED (Town, Date)

"RETURNED TO WRITER UNCLAIMED / PUEBLO, COLO. / P.O."

Date in cuff; "B.D."below;

"Dô not use this envelope or wrapper again" above is also an integral part of handstamp.



Pueblo, Colo., April 11, 1905 - return to Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

Additional Handstamps -

"Name not in Directory"
"OUT/APR 7 1905"

H. R. A. Meier Fagerowille, N. Y.





Misses Weta & Rydia & Blackford Au

wanticlent addre

Evansville, Ind., December, 1950 -Returned to Fayettewille, N.Y.

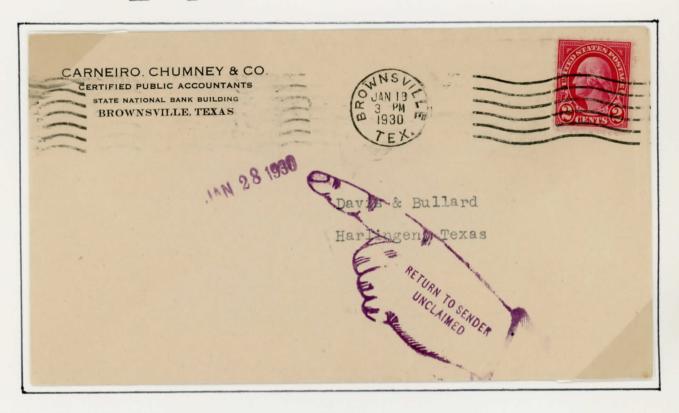
Additional handstamp -

"Insufficient address" (Hogwash! The Misses Schlundt had a perfectly good Evansville address at that time.)

Type LB-bS-Unclaimed

LB - Left Hand, Palm Back

bS - Return_ to Sender

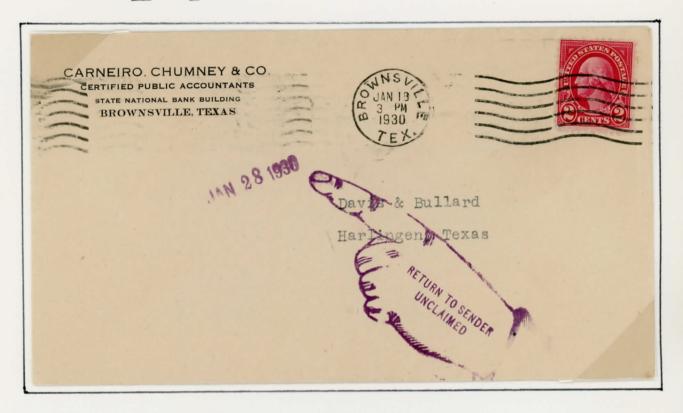


Harlingen, Texas, January 29, 1930 (Backstamp)
Returned to Brownsville, Texas

Type LB-bS-Unclaimed

LB - Left Hand, Palm Back

bS - Return_ to Sender



Harlingen, Texas, January 29, 1930 (Backstamp)
Returned to Brownsville, Texas

Type LB-bW



St Louis, Missouri, May 10, 1890 Returned to Kansas City, Mo.

Additional Handstamps Dates (May 2, May 10)

On Reverse -

St. L. & Kan. City TRAIN, May 1 Kansas City REC'D, May 14 Type LB-bW-Cannot be found (Town)

LB - Left Hand, Palm Back

b - Returno (imperative)

W - to Writer

"Return To Writer/Cannot be found/ FROM YONKERS, N.Y."

ROBERT E. DUNKLEE & SONS
72 FLAT STREET
BRATTLEBORO, VERMONT





Mr.

Carl Hollander Jonkers n. J.

Yonkers, N.Y., February, 1955 - return to Brattleboro, Vt. Additional handstamp -

"Insufficient Address."

Type LB-bW-Not Deliverable...

LB - Left Hand, Palm Back

bW - Return_to Writer

"NOT DELIVERABLE AS ADDRESSED / NO FORWARDING ORDER ON FILE"



Chicago, Illinois, November 27, 1974 Returned to Homewood, Illinois "RETURN TO WRITER" in hand

"RETURNING TO UNITED STATES/NO FORWARDING ADDRESS" below.

A military New York APO marking



New York, N.Y., June, 1945 - return to Park Ridge, Ill. Additional handstamp -

"No Record 97th inf Div"

Several manuscript notations -

"12-2-6", "97 DIV", "Ret To US"





History uncertain:

Origin: Wilmington, N.C., Feb. 26, 1932 -

Return to Wilmington: March 9, 1932 -

Destination: "Bay View, S.C., changed to Lake View, S.C. (by whom?)

Intermediate travels not recorded by legible handstamps (rare for registered letters)



Type LB-bW-UNCLAIMED (Town)

LB - Left Hand, Palm Back

bW - Return_ to Writer



Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Nov. 23, 1945, returned to Penang, British Malaya

Note also the "Forward" pointing hand in the red malayan handstamp "GROW MORE FOOD."



Type LB-bW-(List) LB - Left Hand, Palm Back b - Return W - to Writer a list of three reasons -"Unclaimed Unknown.... Moved...." C. Stratton Wilmington RETHRE PROPERTY RESTED. 6504

> Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, December, 1928 -Returned to Wilmington, N.C. -Additional Handstamps -

> > "REGISTERED" (Wilmington) "RETURN RECEIPT RE UESTED" (Wilnington)

Type LB-bW-(List) LB - Left Hand, Palm Back b - Return W - to Writer a list of three reasons -"Unclaimed Unknown Moved " RETHRE PROPERTY RESTED. 6504

> Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, December, 1928 -Returned to Wilmington, N.C. -Additional Handstamps -

> > "REGISTERED" (Wilmington) "RETURN RECEIPT RE UESTED" (Wilnington)

Type LB-bb-(Town)

LB - Left Hand, Palm Back

bb - (Customary "Return(ed) to Writer(Sender) omitted. (The reason for return is also omitted)

"N.Y./3D Div."

Return to JEWELL BELTING CO., HARTFORD, Conn., If not delivered within 10 days.

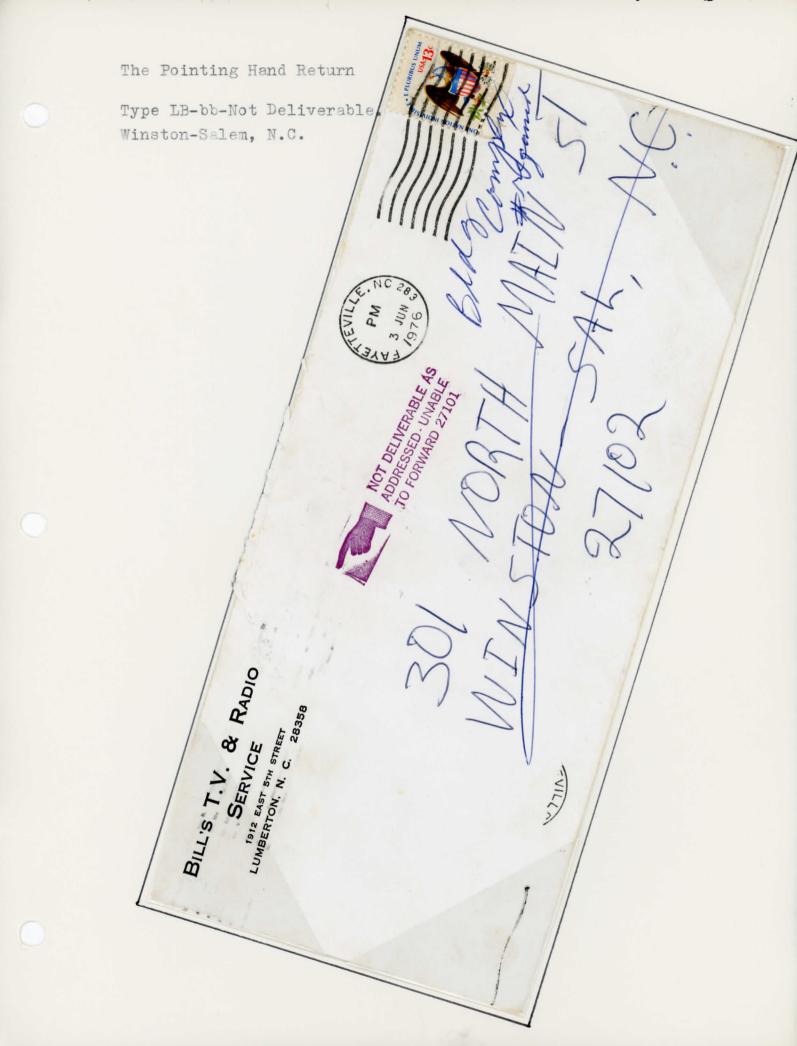


Wm. Casperson, Jr., Solater Paulson, N. Paulson, N. Decker

Sept. 1893 -

Handstamp "MISDIRECTED" (New York City). The letter to Paulson, New Jersey, has been missent to New York City. For some reason it is returned to Hartford, Conn., rather than sent to Paulson. Additional Handstamp -

"7" in circle (Hartford? N.Y.City?)



LB - Left Hand, Palm Back

bb - (customary "Return(ed) to Writer(Sender) missing)

"UNCLAIMED/MT. OLIVER STA./ PITTSBURGH, PA."

P. H. MULLER 214 N. LANG AVENUE PITTSBURGH, PA.





CLAIMED Mearl Fair,

R. D. 6, Bry 62 a. Mt. Oliver Sh. Pittsburgh,

Pittsburgh, Pa., Mt. Oliver Sta., Sept. 1934 -Return to local address.

Additional handstamp -"R.D. 6 - GONE"

Type LB-DW-Unclaimed(Town, Date)

"Returned to Writer/Unclaimed From/Fort Dearborn Sta./Chicago, Ill."

and date in cuff.

"DO NOT REMAIL IN THIS ENVELOPE OR WRAPPER" below, an integral part of pointing hand handstanp.



Chicago, Ill, Fort Dearborn Sta., Jan 26, 1942 - Return to Park Ridge, Ill.

Additional handstamps -

"NOT AT NAVAL ARMORY" (struck twice)

"NOT AT NAVY PIER"

"NOT THERE K. 404"



Type RD-DS-UNCLAIMED (Town)

RD - Right Hand, Palm Down

D - Returned

S + to Sender

"UNCLAIMED/ From KINSTON, N.C."



Kinston, North Carolina, October, 1927 Returned to Wilmington, N.C. Additional Handstamps "REGISTERED" (Wilmington)
Usual Registry handstamps on reverse





Rocky Mount, North Carolina, October, 1929 Returned to Wilmington, N.C. Additional Handstamps -

"REGISTERED" (Wilmington)
"RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED" (Wilimington)
Registry handstamps on reverse









Type RD-bS-UNCLAIMED

RD - Right Hand, Palm Down

b - Return

S - to Sender

RETURN TO SENDER/ UNCLAIMED

IN SEVEN DAYS RETURN TO

BERT D. GALBRAITH

CLERK OF THE PROBATE COURT
KANE COUNTY
GENEVA, ILLINOIS

Mande & Trouve Drive State & River Drive Jockson Drive This Trich.

Not for R. D. No 3

Jackson, Mich., May, 1947 - returned to Geneva, Ill. Additional Handstamps -

"NOT IN DIRECTORY"

"Not for R. D. No 3"

"Jackson, Mich."

RD - Right Hand, Palm Down

b - Return

W - to Writer

Return to LAIRD, NORTON CO., WINONA, Minnesota, If not delivered within 10 days.



Wm. Sparr Lumber Co., Crescen,

Iowa.

Creston, Iowa (1893 or later)
Returned to Winona, Minn.

Additional Handstamps
"UNCLAIMED" (black)

"DUE 1c" (violet)

DAISY SHEET No. 710-10 Printed in U. S.





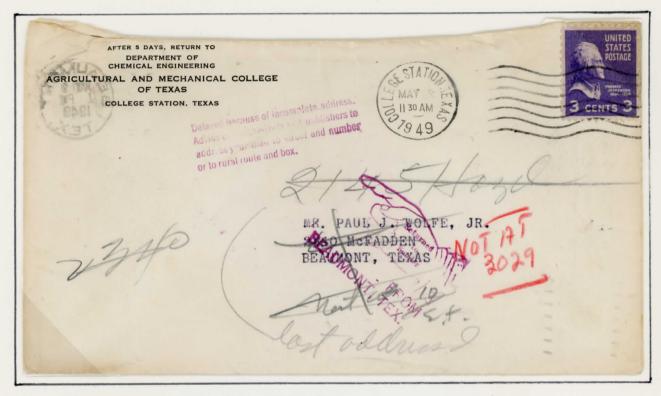
No. 710-10

Type RF-DS (Town)

RF - Right Hand, Palm Forward

DS - Returned to Sender

"FROM BEAUMONT, TEX."



Beaumont, Texas, May 10, 1949 (cancel on reverse)
Returned to Texas A & M by its earlier incarnation.

Type RF-DS(Town) - ADDRESSEE UNKNOWN
"CAPE CORAL BR 33904"

Mrs. Oscar C. Nussmann 351 N. FULLERTON AVENUE UPPER MONTCLAIR, N. J. 07043



Muss Drothy Balon 1749 S.E 46th Lane Cape Coral Blouda 33904

Cape Coral, Fla., May, 1978
Returned to Upper Montclair, N.J.



Type RF-DS-Insufficient address

Ms. Jaanne Bianchini Park

St. Danid's Park Cepts.

Waryne, Rennsylvania

Wayne, Pa., Feb., 1979 Returned to Havertown, Pa. (address on reverse)

Type RF-DS-MOVED, LEFT NO ADDRESS

RF - Right Hand, Palm Forward

DS - Returned to Sender



Phoneton, Ohio, April 21, 1981 Returned to Montclair, N.J. Type RF-DS-Moved, not forwardable(Town)

New York, N.Y. 10021



Moved, not forwardable NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021

Meale Konsord
1987 Leyington Avenue
New York, New York
10021

New York City, March, 1978 Returned to Haverford, Pa., (address on reverse)



Moved, not forwardable NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021

Meale Konsord
1987 Leyington Avenue
New York, New York
10021

New York City, March, 1978 -Returned to Haverford, Pa., (address on reverse)

New York City, April, 1975 Returned to Clearwater Beach, Fla. (address on reverse)
Remailed (with new postage and revised address).

No. 710-10 Printed in U. S. A



RETURN IN ONE WEEK TO

MOFFAT & ATWOOD INSURANCE 80 MAIDEN LANE NEW YORK 7, N. Y.





NEW YORK NOT IN DIRECTORY GANAL STREET STA Mr. William J. Broadhust 27 Grand Street New York 13, New York

CAHAL STREET STAL or wrapper again.

Examples D. Fferent Two

res Claimed by Office of First Address

Type RF-DS-Not Deliverableas Addressed/Unable to Forward

RF - Right Hand, Palm Forward

DS - Returned to Sender



Rochester, N.Y., September 14, 1979 Returned to State College, Pa.

Type RF-DS-REMOVED/LEFT NO ADDRESS(Town)
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

RETURN IN ONE WEEK TO

MOFFAT & ATWOOD

INSURANCE
BO MAIDEN LANE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

STRE
NUMBER

NOTE

N

New York City, April, 1937 Returned to local address Additional Handstamp "Moved, Left no address"

Type RF-DS-UNCLAIMED (Town)

RF - Right Hand, Palm Forward

D - Returned

S - to Sender

"RETURNED/TO/SENDER/UNCLAIMED/ From Charleston, W.Va."



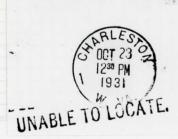
Charleston, W. Va., October, 1931 - Returned to Bluefield, W. Va. - Additional Handstamps -

"Special Delivery" (Bluefield)

"Delivery delayed on account/of incomplete address" (Charleston)

"Directory Service Given/Special Delivery Section" (Charleston)

(on reverse) "UNABLE TO LOCATE" (Charleston)





Type RF-DS-Undeliverable, etc. (Town)

"RETURNED/TO/SENDER/Main Office/ Wetairie, LA. 70002/Undeliverable As Addressed/Unable To Forward"

The Nussmanns 2472 Homesite Drive San Diego, Ca. 92139





Main Office

Metairie, LA, 70002 Undeliverable As Addressed

2724 Whitney

M. = 228

7000 2

E. 4.a.

Metairie, La., December, 1976 - Returned to San Diego, Cal. -

(The San Diegoans, who also have a Baja California residence, had mailed their Christmas letter from Mexico, but used the California return address.)

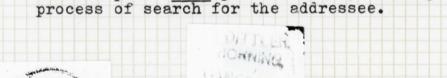
Type RF-DW-(Town)
"Easton, Pa. Post Office"



Easton, Pa., Sept 24 (1880's)
Return to Saint Albans, Vt.
Mss "not known"
Additional Handstamps:

"Unknown at Easton, Pa. Post Office"

Handstamps of <u>nine</u> postal clerks, showing the







Type RF-DW-(Town)
"Phillada.,/Penna." on cuff

GREEN & QUINN

1722 ARCH STREET



Mrs. Elizabeth O'Day,

c/o Mrs. Lillian Gaul, 891 Granite Street, Philadelphia, Pa

Registered - Return
Receipt Requested
Deliver to addressee only

ver to dadressee only

Philadelphia, Pa., Sept., 1927.

Returned to local address.

Additional Handstamp -

"REGISTERED/No. 22347" in box in green.

Manuscript notations -

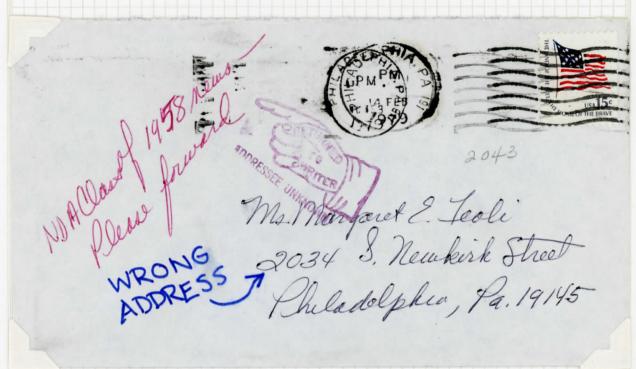
"No Answer 9/11/ Called twice 1133R / Left notice / Second notice / left 9/17 "







Type RF-DW-ADDRESSEE UNKNOWN



Philadelphia, Pa., February, 1979
Returned to local address (on reverse)

No. 710-10

Type RF-DW-NO SUCH NUMBER

DA Marie Man Sur Muller

Mos Marie San O'Maller

1919 Ritterhause Square

Philadelphia, Fa. 19103

Philadelphia, Pa., February, 1979 - Returned to local address (on reverse).

No. 710-10 Printed in U. S. Type RF-DW-NO SUCH OFFICE, etc. "NO SUCH OFFICE IN STATE NAMED"



Acen D. Am. Manhs-

Dr. and Mrs. I Verbert Gass Pleasant Hill

December, 1975 - to Pleasant Hill, Tenn. Returned to Waterloo, Ill.



Type RF-DW-UNCLAIMED

Return Recei Toquestal Fee Paid eturn Receipt Requested

> Goldsboro, North Carolina, May, 1927 Returned to Charlotte, N.C. -Additional Handstamps -

> > "REGISTERED/NO. 26628" (Charlotte)

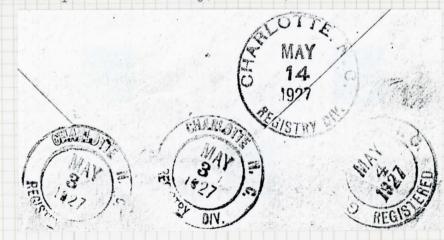
"Return Receipt Requester" "

"Return Receipt Requested/Fee Paid" (Charlotte)

" fay 17 1927"

"Second Notice No Reply/To First Notice"

Manuscript - "Left city/Left no/address +"



"Returned to Writer" on finger

"From/CHAMPATEN,/Ill./P.O." on palm

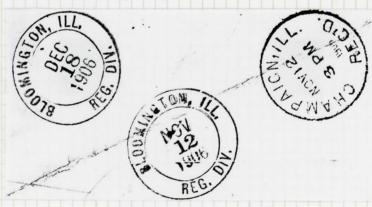
"UNCLAIMED" on sleeve



Champaign, Ill., Dec. 18, 1906 Returned to Bloomington, Ill. Other Handstamps -

Bloomington, Ill. Sta No. 1 Registry, Nov. 12 Champaign, Ill. Registry, Dec. 18

(reverse has additional handstamps)



Type RF-DW-UNCLAIMED(Town)
"Returned/to/Writer/UNCLAIMED/FROM/DANVILLE, VA."



Danville, Virginaa, January 10, 1928 - Returned to Roanoke, Va. - Additional handstamps -

"REGISTERED/NO. 14924" (Roanoke)
"RETURN RECEIPT RE UEST/FEE PAID" (Roanoke)
Usual registry handstamps on reverse

Type RF-DW-UNCLAIMED(Town)
"FROM/ Hot Springs Natl. Park, Ark."



Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas -Sept. 20, 1934 Returned to Salgahachia, Arkansas
Additional Handstamp "NOT IN DIRECTORY"

Type RF-DW-UNCLAIMED(Town)

"RETURNED/TO/WRITER/UNCLAIMED!
From San Francisco, Calif. P.O./
RETURNED FROM HOTEL"



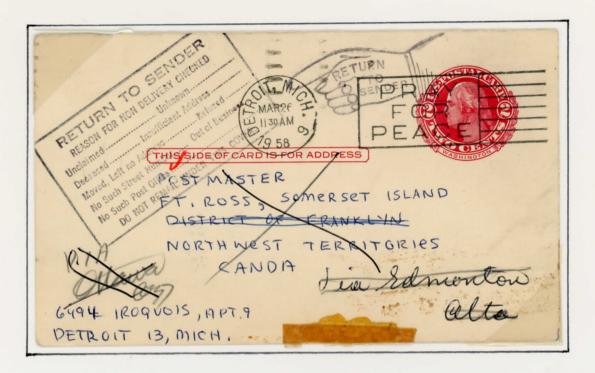
San Francisco, Cal., Sept. 27, 1946 Returned to Detroit, Michigan (address on reverse)
Additional Handstanp -

"NOT AT/KSFO"
"UNKNOWN AT "ADDRESS 128P"

Type RF-bS

RF - Right Hand, Palm Forward

bS - Return_ to Sender



Meant for a distant outpost of the Canadian Arctic, but it didn't get near that far! Returned to Detroit, Michigan.



Type RF-bS-ADDRESSEE UNKNOWN

RF - Right Hand, Palm Forward

b - Return

S - to Sender

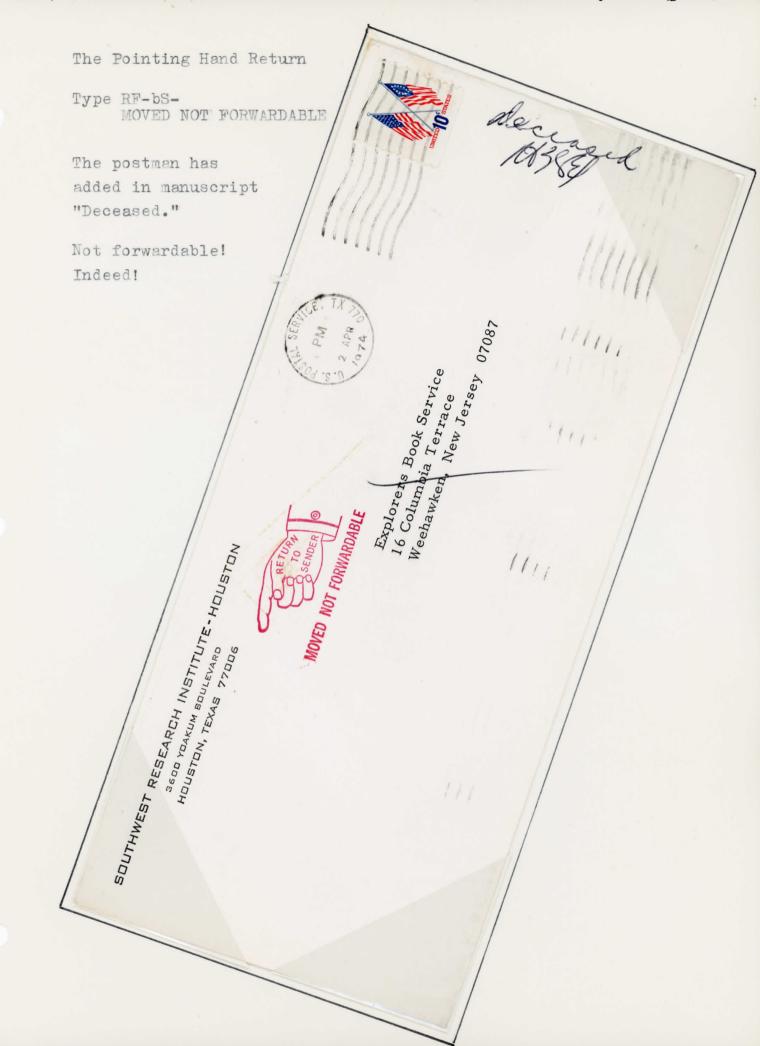
with added phrase

"ADDRESSEE UNKNOWN"



Montclair, New Jersey, June, 1977 Returned to Evansville, Ind. (address on reverse)

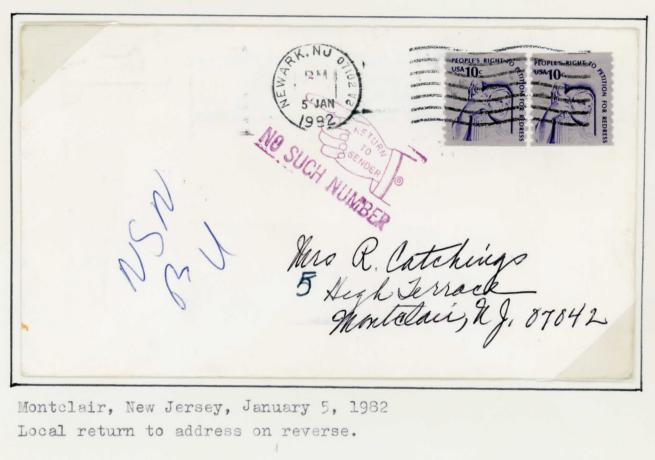
(The addressee is perfectly known - in <u>Upper Montclair</u>, at the indicated zip code.)



Type RF-bS-NO SUCH NUMBER

RF - Right Hand, Palm Forward

bS - Return_ to Sender



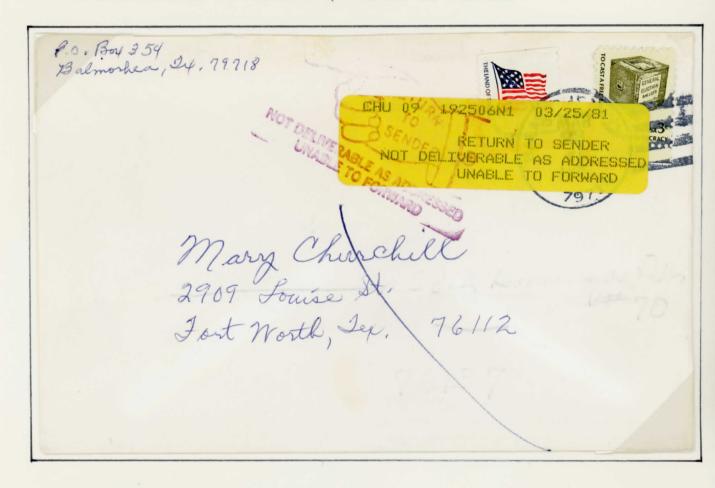
Montclair, New Jersey, January 5, 1982 Local return to address on reverse.

Type RF-bS-NOT DELIVERABLE ...

RF - Right Hand, Palm Forward

bS - Return_ to Sender

"NOT DELIVERABLE AS ADDRESSED/ UNABLE TO FORWARD



Fort Worth, Texas, March 26, 1981 Returned to Balmorhea, Texas.

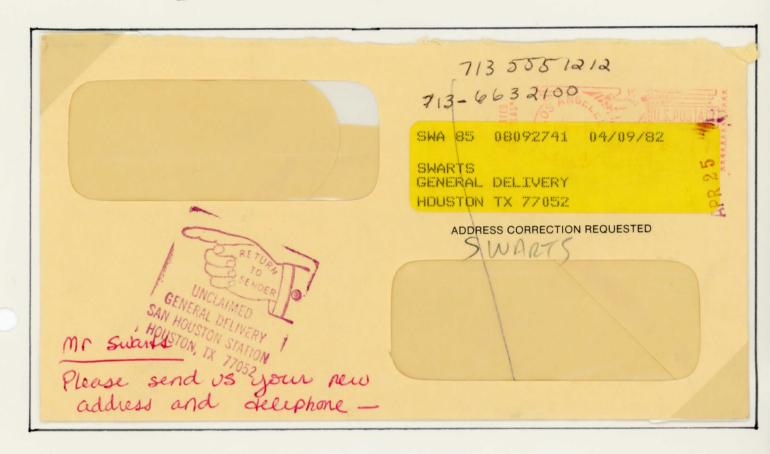
Type RF-bS-UNCLAIMED (Town)

RF - Right Hand, Palm Forward

bS - Return_ to Sender

Note ERROR IN HANDSTAMP

"SAN HOUSTON STATION, HOUSTON, TX, 77052

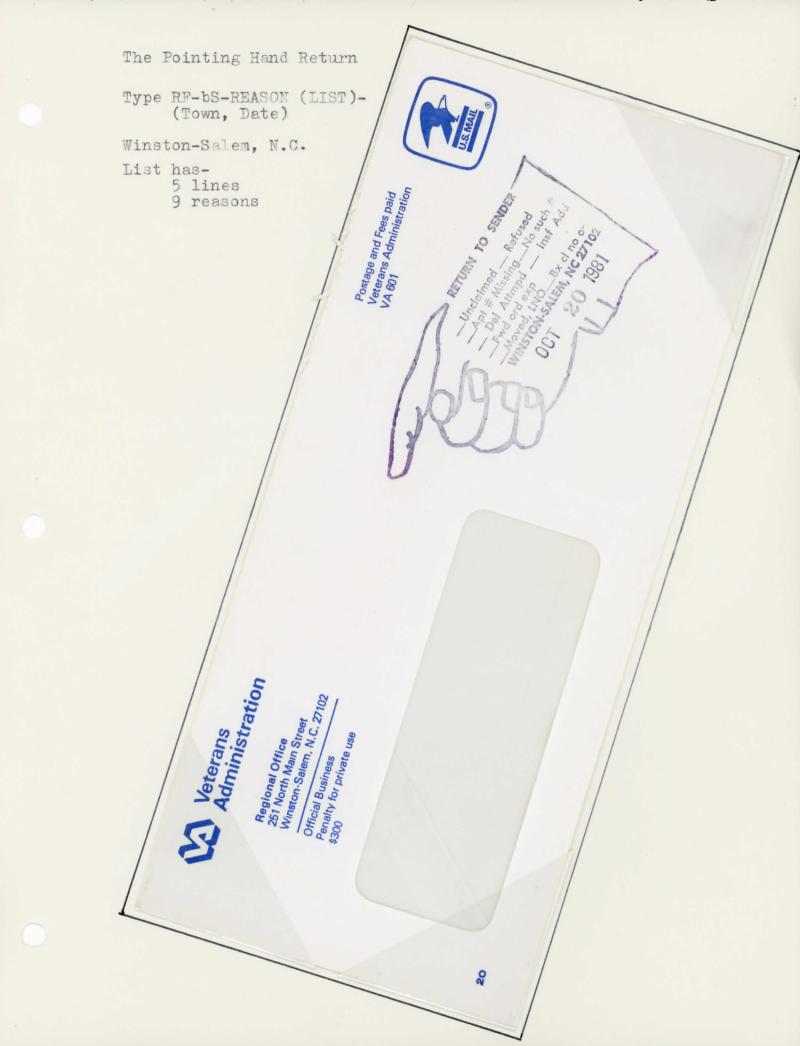


Houston, Texas, April 9, 1982 Returned to Los Angeles, California,

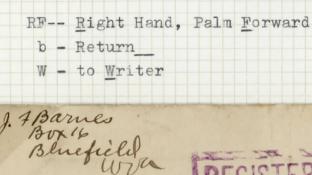








Type RF-bW





unclaime d

War Eagle, West Virginia, Sept. 10, 1931 -Returned to Bluefield, W. Va. -Additional handstamps -

"REGISTERED/No." (Bluefield)

"RETURN Receipt Requester / Fee Paid" (Bluefield)



Type RF-bW

RF - Right Hand, Palm Forward

b - Return

W - to Writer



Origin - New York City - July 18, 1904 -A search in West Hoboken, despite lengthy checks, fails to find the addressee, and the letter is returned.

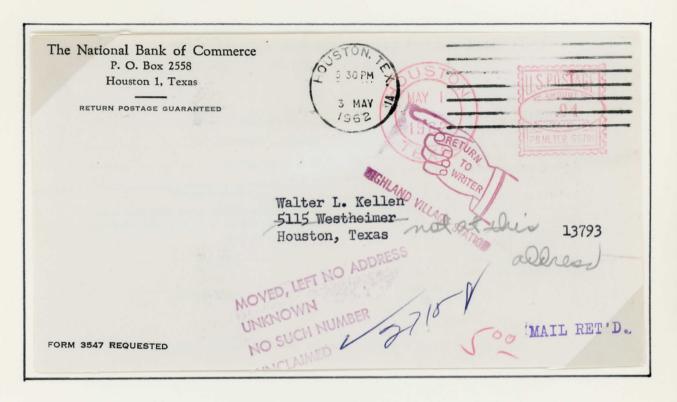




Type RF-bW-(Town)

RF - Right Hand, Palm Forward

bW - Return_ to Writer



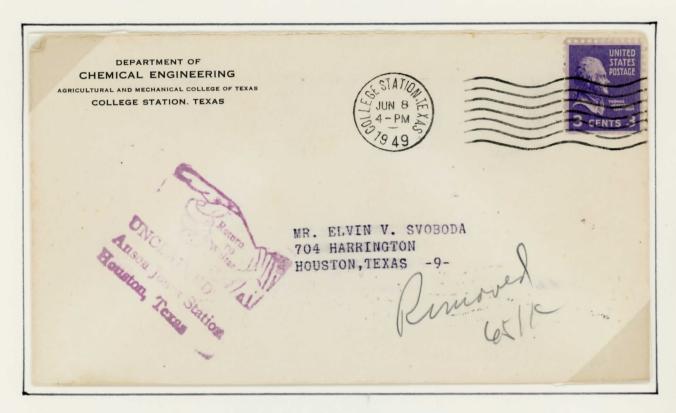
Highland Village Station, Houston, Tx, May 3, 1962 Local Return



Type RF-bW-Unclaimed (Town)

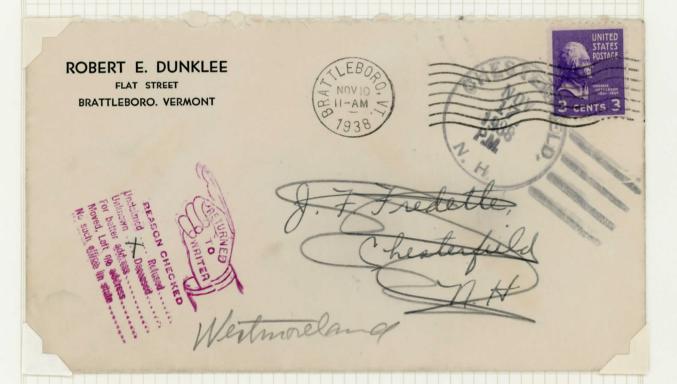
RF - Right Hand, Palm Forward

bW - Return_ to Writer



Anson Jones Station, Houston, Tx, June 8, 1949 Returned to College Station, Texas Type RF-DW-Reason Checked(List)

First subtype - A list of seven possible items for checking, including the item "Deceased" on line 2.



Chesterfield, N. H., November, 1938 - Returned to Brattleboro, Vt.

Second subtype - The item "Deceased" is cut out

of the list to create a list of

six possible items. The gouged-out

space remains as evidence.

(one can suspect the reason - a check in the "unknown" place, immediately in fron of the word "Deceased" could have led to mis-interpretations, and mountains of accompanying anguish.)



Elburn, Illinois, April, 1946 -Returned to Geneva, Illinois -Additional Handstamps -

"NOT KNOWN TO ROUTE No. 4"
"NOT KNOWN TO ROUTE No. 3"
"NOT ON R. R. 1"

Third subtype - A list of six items

(deceased is not on the list, and

from the continuous dots never was.)

ROBERT E. DUNKLEE & SONS 72 FLAT STREET BRATTLEBORO, VERMONT

RW Phellips clerk & Treas 3/31/54

For better address over the such office in tate of the such office in tate over the such of the such office in tate over the such of the

474 Washington ave.

new Hanen, Coun.

Origin - Brattleboro, Vt., Oct. 22, 1953 to Townshend, Vt. Forwarded - to New Haven
Returned to Brattleboro.





GIVE ENOUGH THROUGH YOUR UNITED FUND

No. 710_10 rinted in U. S. A.

elbe

Eight lines, Eight reasons, plus

"DO NOT RE! MAIL IN THIS ENV."

and "POSTAGE DUE CENTS"



REASON CHECKED

Unclaimed ... Refused ...
Addressee unknown ...
Insufficent Address ...
Moved-Left no address ...
No such street ... number ...
No such office in state ...
OO NOT RE-MAIL IN THIS EM.





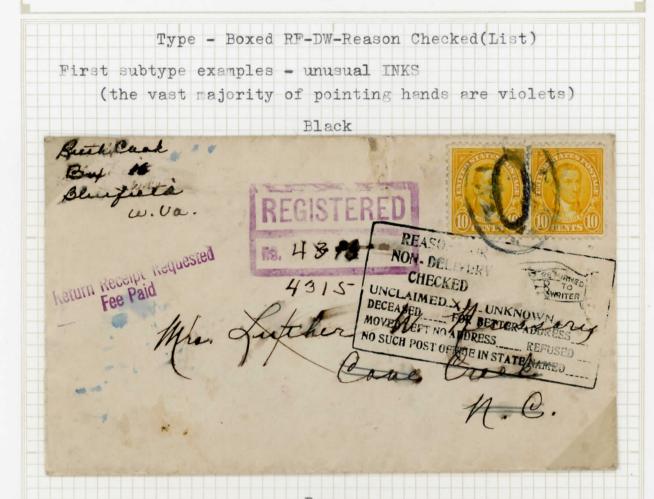
DAISY SHEET No. 710_10 rinted in U. S. A.

Type - Boxed RF-DW-Reason Checked(List)

First subtype - A list of seven possible items
for checking. The item "Deceased"
is first on line 2.



Whitaker, Pa., June, 1930 Returned to Pittsburgh, Pa.

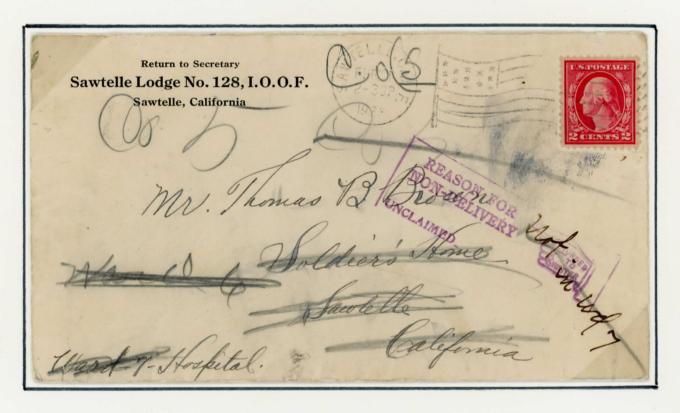








Boxed RF-DW-Reason Checked(List)
Subtype - List has been <u>severely</u> excised, and now consists of the single item "UNCLAIMED"



Sawtelle, California, Feb 15, 1923, for local return. Backstamped "Soldiers Home, Calif."

Mr. Oscar C. Nussmann 351 N. FULLERTON AVENUE UPPER MONTCLAIR, N. J. 07043



Unclaimed

Addressee unknown

No such street

No such street

And tenant in this contained

Blue Springs Servere Blue Springs, Mo.

Blue Springs, Mo., Sept. 18, 1978
Returned to Upper Montclair, New Jersey

M. I. MESSINGER, Secretary
UNITED CHAPTER #127, R.A.M.
1528 BURR OAK
HOMEWOOD, ILL. 60430





Unclaimed Refused Refused Addressee unknown Insurticient Address
No such street number No such office in state Do not remail in this envelope

GEORGE NEUKOM 322 W.PALATINE RD. PALATINE, ILL. 60067

Deceased -

Ibid

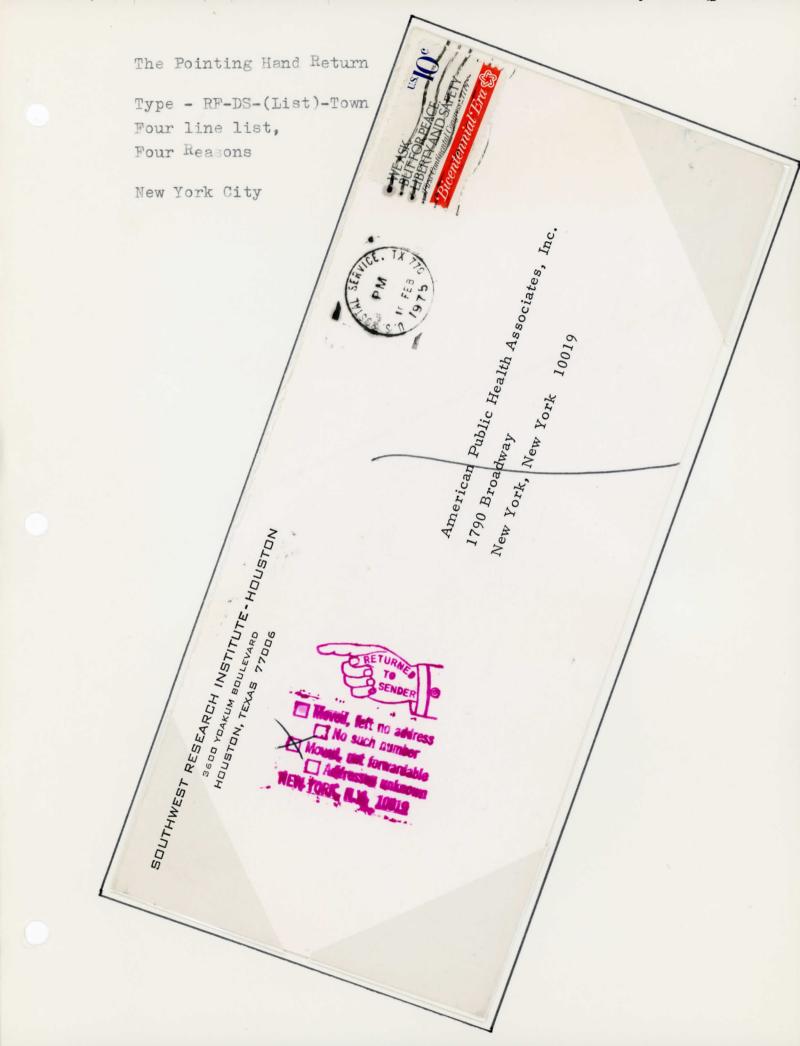
Postal

Clerk

has

writte

Deceased



Type - RF-DS-REASON CHECKED (LIST)

Two Different handstamps (different lists) on the same envelope!

- a) Six Lines, Seven reasons plus
 "Do not remail in this envelope."
- b) Five Lines, Seven reasons



Winter Haven, Fla., Feb. 25, 1981
Returned to Houston, Texas
Additional Handstamp "UNDELIVERABLE AS ADDRESSED"

Type - RF-DS (List)

(Unusual in the omission of the words "Reason Checked)
Five lines, Six Reasons, plus "POSTAGE DUE___"



"Wrong-Way" Hand

Type LF-DW

LF - Left Hand, Palm Forward

D - Returned

W - to Writer

"Wrong-Way" hand

cannot point to

return address unless struck upside down.

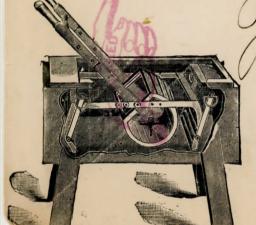
If not called for in TEN DAYS, return to

JONAS L. KNOLL,

INVENTOR AND MAN'FR OF

Double-Action Washer,

Residence, No. 107 S. Fourth St., LEBANON, PA.



H. Bowman

Son co sa

Red in Longaster Directory

Stamp 15 Scott 2 48,

Lancaster, Pa., Jan. 25, 1895 Returned to Lebanon, Pa.

Additional Handstamps:

"Not in Lancaster Directory"

Circle with "HAVE YOUR MAIL DIRECTED TO STREET AND NUMBER"

on reverse - Received markings of Lancaster (Jan 9) and Lebanon (Jan 26)

No. 710_10 Printed in U. 5.

"Wrong-Way" Hand

Type RD-bb-UNCLAIMED -(Town)

RD - Right Hand, Palm Down

bb - Normal Heturn phrase omitted.

UNCLAIMED/ FROM WASHENGTON, N.C.

"Wrong-Way" hand cannot point to return address unless struck upside down.



Wilmington, N.C., March 17, 1928
From Wilmington to Lumberton, N.C., thence forwarded to Wilmington, where manuscript "Opened by Mistake" is added.

No-one wants to pay this sewing machine bill!

"Universal" Machine Cancels

These constitute a family, all Type LB, with wording of the "killer" varying to fit the need.

"Return to Writer"



Wilmington, N. C., July, 1946 - Returned to Montreat, N. C. -

Additional handstamps - "NOT IN DIRECTORY"

"UNKNOWN BY B.Y.S. 3"

Other manuscript markings track the search.



Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Mugust 6, 1935 Returned to Cleveland, Ohio Additional handstamp -

"FRAUDULENT./Mail to this address returned/ by order of Postmaster General." The Pointing Hand Paid

Return to
Writer
Unclaimed Universal
Machine
in Red and
Green and Violet



Saunders Mdse. & Novelty Co.
IMPORTER'S & WHOLESALERS OF NOVELTIES
620 St. Clair Avenue, West
CLEVELAND, OHIO







John H. C. Hillow 1403 W. Jo St Seattle, Wash Jone 711 H

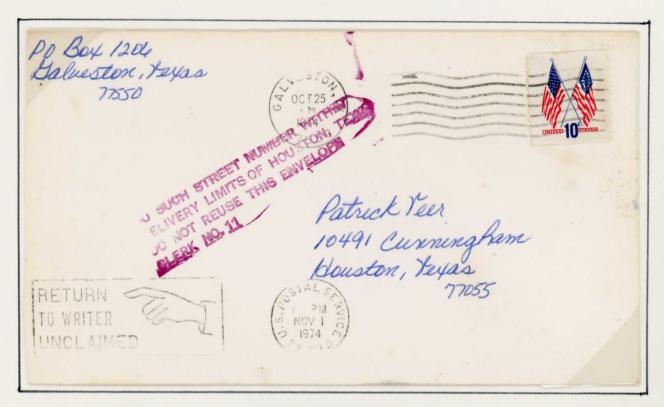


The Pointing Hand Paid

"Universal" Machine Cancels

All Type LB

"RETURN/ TO WRITER/ UNCLAIMED" (A more recent type face)

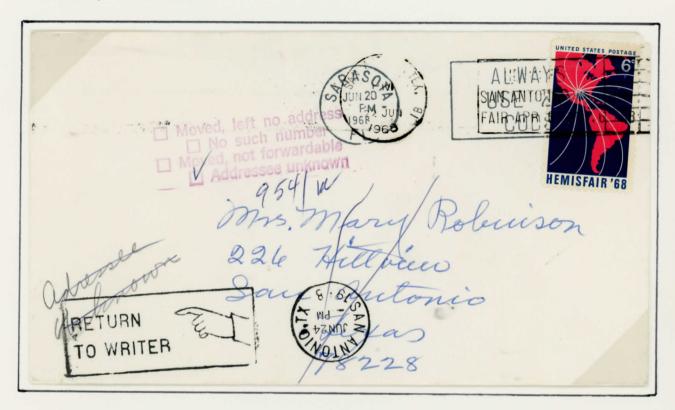


Houston, Texas, Nov. 1, 1974 Returned to Galveston, Texas



Ibid
Houston,
Texas,
Nov.,
1980

"International" Machine Cancels
All Type LB
"RETURN/ TO WRITER"



San Antonio, Texas, June 24, 1968
Returned to Sarasota, Florida (addressee on reverse)
Additional 4-line handstamp, with
"Addressee unknown" checked.

"Universal" Machine Cancels
all Type LB

RETURN/TO WRITER/
UNDELIVERABLE/AS ADDRESSED

MOFFAT & ATWOOD
INSURANCE

130 WILLIAM STREET NEW YORK, N. Y.

Miss Kathryn O'Tool,

Brooklyn, N.Y.

RETURN FOWRITER UNDELIVERABLE OS ADDRESSED

Brooklyn, N.Y., December, 1927 Returned to New York City (Manhattan) Manuscript "House Closed"

Manuscript Pointing Hands St James, La. "Return to"

BIOGRAPHY JAMES G. BLAINE,



By GAIL HAMILTON,

(His Literary Executor,)
With the co-operation of his FAMILY.

AGENTS WANTED.

The Henry Bill Publishing Company,

(ESTABLISHED 1847.)

56 to 62 Shetucket St. - NORWICH, CONN

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS.



It. Januts La.

Washington Court House, Ohio (no addressee)

THE DAHL-MILLIKAN GROCERY COMPANY, BRANCH

THE MIDLAND GROCERY COMPANY WHOLESALE GROCERS.



'WASHINGTON C.H.,OHIO.







Has Handsome back

Manuscript Pointing Hands



Manila, Philippine Islands under U.S. Military Occupation.



Bechtelsville, Pa.















No. 710-10

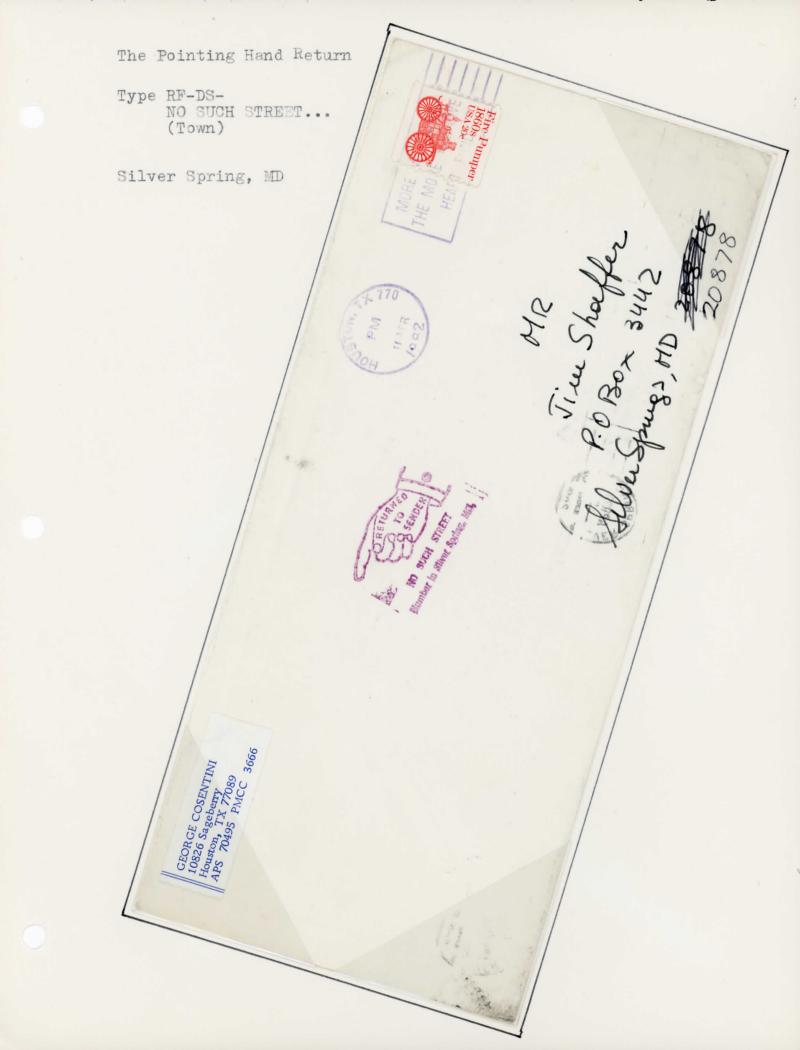
elbe

Type RF-DS-NO SUCH NU BER (Town) "New York, N.Y. 10027" with added two lines "DO NOT USE THIS ENVELOPE OR/ WRAPPER AGAIN."



New York City, December, 1974 -Returned to Upper Montclair, N.J. (on reverse)









Type RF-DS-NOT DELIVERABLE.. UNABLE.. (Town)

RF - Right Hand, Palm Forward

DS - Returned to Sender

"NOT DELIVERABLE AS ADDRESSED/ UNABLE TO FORWARD" "HOUSTON, TX"



Similar, to "ZIP CODE - 65233"



NEW YORK, NEW YORK

(with additional two-line phrase "Do not use this envelope/or wrapper again.")

RETURN IN ONE WEEK TO

MOFFAT & ATWOOD
INSURANCE
80 MAIDEN LANE
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.



CHURCH STREET
ANNEX
3 CENTS 3

or wrapper again. Mrs. Hazel Q. Rollings
221 East 76th St.
New York, N. Y.

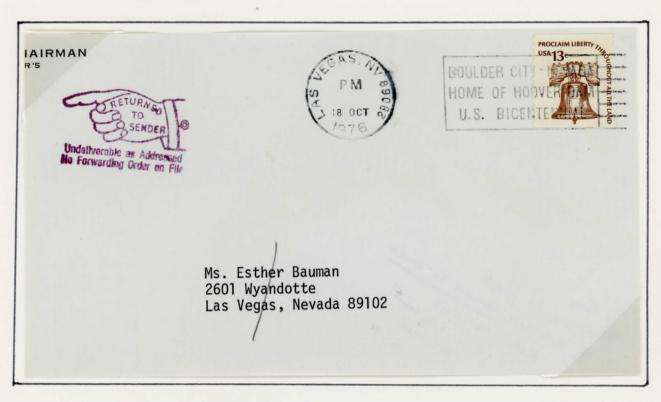
New York City, November, 1944 Returned to local address.



Type RF-DS-Undeliverable as Addressed/No Forwarding Order on File

RF - Right Hand, Palm Forward

DS - Returned to Sender

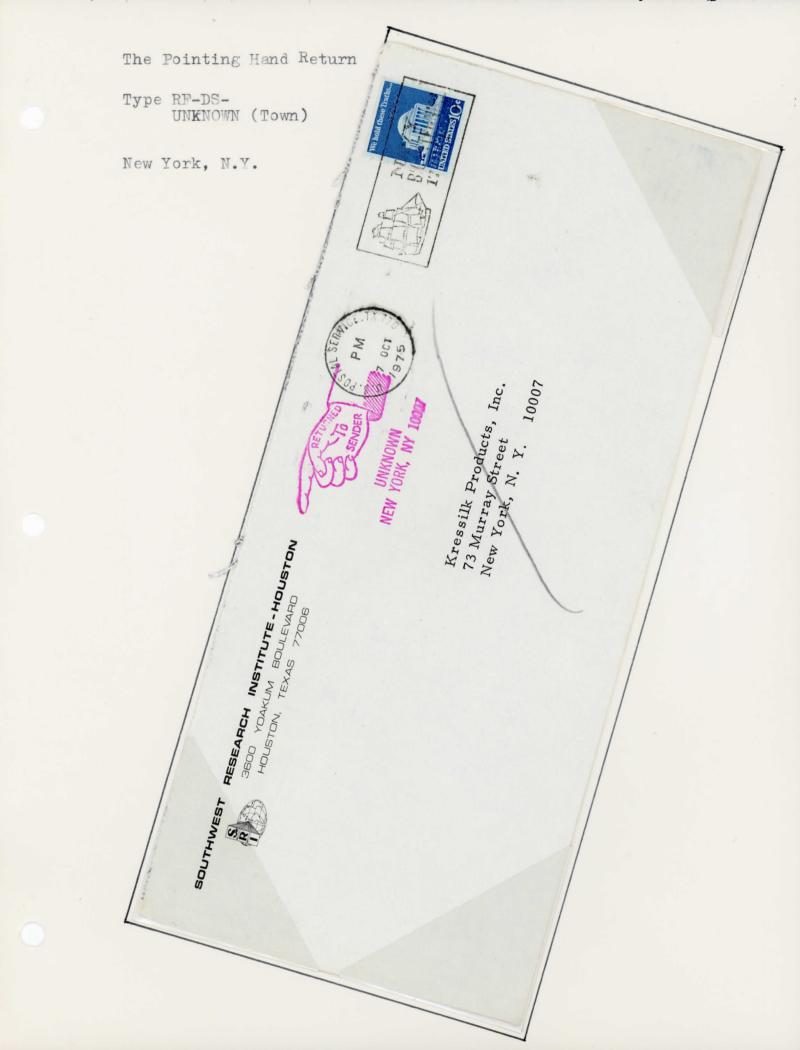


Las Vegas, Nevada, October, 1976









Type RF-bS-MOVED, NOT FORWARDABLE (Town)

RF - Right Hand, Palm Forward

bS - Return_ to Sender

New York, N.Y.



New York, N.Y., May 1979 Returned to Houston, Texas



Type RF-bS-NOT DELIVERABLE...(Town)

RF - Right Hand, Palm Forward

bS - Return_ to Sender

"NOT DELIVERABLE AS ADDRESSED/ UNABLE TO FORWARD"

"ASTRODOME STATION/ HOUSTON, TX 77025



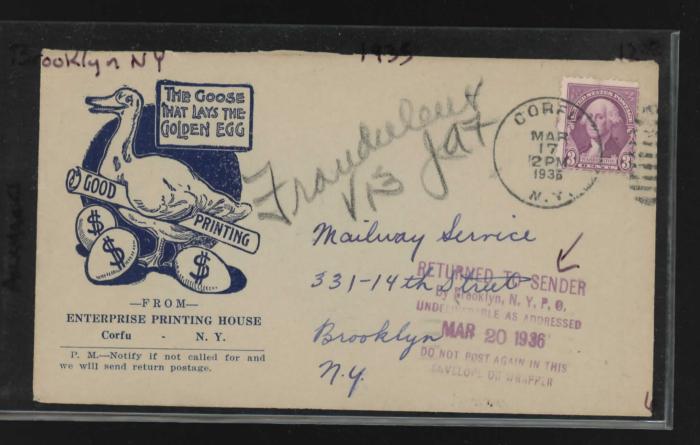
Houston, Texas, January 5, 1978
Local return to address on reverse.

The Pointing Hand Return Type RF-bS-RETURN TO SENDER/ Undeliverable as Addressed/ Unable to Forward/ SHARPSTOWN STATION+UNIT HOUSTON, TX 77057 SHARPSTON, TX 77057 Jan. 1977 Houston, Texas 77057 5844 Valley Forge Darie Wilssman Rostotegattonal Church Address Correction Requested of Beinhorn Type RF-DS-RETURNED TO SENDER/ Postage Due c.

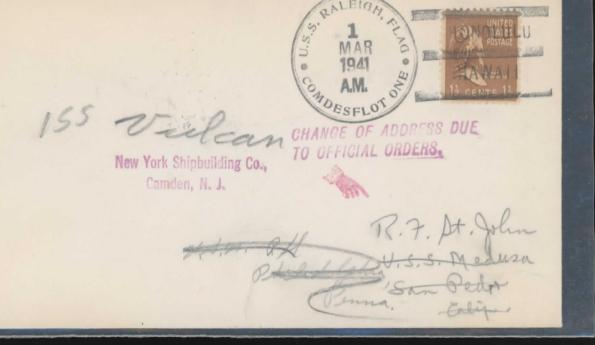




















(No. 6036.)

SPECIAL NOTICE OF REPAYMENT OF DOMESTIC MONEY ORDER.

SW When repayment of an order is made, the Postmaster who issued the Order must, by its use of the should, notify the Postmaster upon whom the Order was crawr, of the fact of repayment. The latter is thus enabled to complete any cool of the nattern door consider the transaction as closed. Immediately upon receipt of this notice the Postmaster to commission the words "Order regaid. 189..." and mail the view to the issued Postmaster, who in turn must transmit it and the regaid Order together to the Auditor with the Statement, its underlying it he repayment; schimed.

Post Office,

SIR: Domestic Money Order No2/4688 drawn by this office upon your office on Aug 25, 1897 in favor of Geo. Westworth for \$ 18 has this day been repaid to the firm office.

13

27

1897

Postmaster. Hampton

Postmaster

ISee other side

James Toorhies

John Postmoder

John Tosender

John Warcher W. M. 7 More

Not a ball

Mar Journe Beau

Xanny

13962

13962

Return to BOX No. 363
NAPA, Cal.,
If not delivered within 10 days.





M. Dicranian
STAMPS - COVERS
1006-44th St., Brooklyn 19, N. Y.





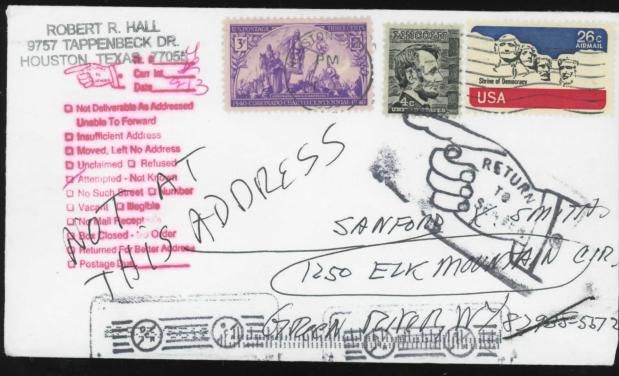
RETURN TO SERDER

Mr. Bernard Early
VA HOSPITAL
B'KLYN 9, N. Y.

Brooklyn, 7, Marroy

Broo





ROBERT R. HALL
9757 TAPPENBECK DR.
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77055

III. DISTRICT
THE MOTHER OF T