

ORDER OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL

RETIREMENT

ORDER No. 37193; DATED APRIL 20, 1948.

In accordance with section 2 (a) of Public Law 426, approved February 29, 1948, hereafter all officials and employees in the Post Office Department and all postmasters, officials, and employees of the field postal service shall be retired upon reaching the age of 70 years with 15 years of service.

In compliance with this law each person retiring shall be notified in writing 60 days in advance of the time they shall retire. This notification will be the responsibility of the Chief Clerk and Director of Personnel for officials and employees in the Department; of the First Assistant Postmaster General for postmasters; of the Chief Inspector for officials and employees in his field service; of the postmaster for each supervisor and employee in his office; of each disbursing postmaster for rural carriers paid by his office; and each general superintendent of the railway mail service for employees of his Division.

Any previous instructions issued that are contrary to those contained in this order are rescinded. Standard Form 37, Notice of Retirement, may be used for the purpose of notification in compliance with this order.

INSTRUCTIONS OF SECOND ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL

INTERNATIONAL MAILS

FIRST FLIGHT COVERS—GERMANY TO THE UNITED STATES

In connection with the establishment of civilian air-mail service from Germany to the United States as announced elsewhere in this POSTAL BULLETIN, the German postal authorities have arranged for the dispatch of philatelic covers from Frankfurt (Main) by the first mail-carrying flight on May 1, 1948, to New York.

Covers for the flight may be addressed for delivery in the United States only. No cover may exceed 10 grams (about one-third ounce) in weight, and each must be accompanied by two international reply coupons to be exchanged for German postage at the special rate applicable to these covers only. International reply coupons are sold at United States post offices for 9 cents each.

The addressed covers, with two international reply coupons for each, are to be sent in an envelope or other container to the Frankfurt post office with a request that they be sent by the first flight. The container must be addressed:

"Postamt (Post Office) (16) Frankfurt (Main) 2, Germany (Ausland-stelle)."

To reach Frankfurt before May 1, the containers must be sent by air mail with postage at the rate of 15 cents per one-half ounce or fraction. The container and contents must not exceed 4 pounds 6 ounces in weight. Air-mail service to Germany operates daily, with transit time of about 24 hours to Frankfurt from New York and correspondingly longer from other places.

The Frankfurt post office will apply a special marking to the covers, and they will be backstamped at New York.

Covers for the first flight from Germany must be envelopes, with or without enclosures. Air-letter sheets are not admitted for philatelic treatment.

AIR-MAIL SERVICE—GERMANY TO THE UNITED STATES

Effective May 1, 1948, civilians in the United States and British zones of Germany will be able to send air-mail communications to the United States, subject to the following conditions:

The service will be divided into two categories, as follows:

"A. Business letters in usual form, up to 100 grams (3½ ounces) in weight from authorized users. The air-mail surcharge on these letters will be one Reichsmark for each 10 grams or fraction, in addition to the ordinary letter postage of 50 Reichpfennigs for the first 20 grams and 30 Reichpfennigs for each additional 20 grams or fraction.

"B. Communications written on approved German air-letter sheets may be sent by all users. These air-letter sheets will be available in German post offices only and can only be secured in exchange for two international reply coupons for one sheet."

International reply coupons are sold at United States post offices for 9 cents each. See section 14, page 14, 1946 Postal Guide, part II.

Postmasters are directed to give the above service as much publicity as possible without expense to the Department, pointing out to interested patrons that communications other than business letters may be sent by air from Germany only in the form of air letter sheets, and in order for their correspondents in the American and British Zones of Germany to obtain these sheets it is necessary that they be furnished two international reply coupons to be exchanged at a German post office for one of the approved air-letter sheets.

INSTRUCTIONS OF THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL

UNDELIVERABLE THIRD-CLASS MATTER BEARING A PLEDGE TO PAY RETURN POSTAGE MUST BE PROMPTLY RETURNED

It is again necessary to remind postmasters of the provisions of section 805, Postal Laws and Regulations, regarding the treatment of undeliverable third-class mail bearing the sender's pledge guaranteeing payment of return postage. Many postmasters are not giving proper attention to the return of such undeliverable matter, with the result that additional pieces are sent to the same address, thereby placing unnecessary labor and expense on the mailer and causing criticism of the postal service.

Such matter, even though in itself it may not appear to be of any intrinsic value, must, nevertheless, be promptly returned when undeliverable, if it bears the words "Return Postage Guaranteed" or a similar pledge in connection with the return card in the upper left corner of the address side.

Postmasters are, therefore, again requested to give this matter their personal attention and see that all undeliverable matter bearing the pledge of the sender to pay return postage is promptly returned plainly endorsed to show the reason for nondelivery, in accordance with the provisions of sections 805 and 806, Postal Laws and Regulations.

CORRECTION—LIST OF STOLEN MONEY-ORDER FORMS

In the list of stolen money-order forms published in the Quarterly Supplement to the United States Official Postal Guide for January 1948, it was reported that Forms Nos. 1595 to 1800, inclusive, were stolen on September 25, 1947, from Columbia, Station 3, S. C. Forms Nos. 1601 to 1800, inclusive, have been recovered, and postmasters will amend their records to show that Forms Nos. 1595 to 1600, inclusive, have not been accounted for.

INSTRUCTIONS OF THE SOLICITOR

FRAUD ORDER NOTICE WESTCHESTER LABORATORY

On April 19, 1948, a fraud order was issued against Westchester Laboratory, and its officers and agents as such, at White Plains, N. Y.

All mail addressed to this concern should be returned to senders stamped, "Fraudulent—Mail to this address returned by order of Postmaster General," and no money orders in favor of said concern should be issued, certified or paid.

CHANGES—POSTAL GUIDE 1946—PART II TRANS-JORDAN—PARCEL POST

CHANGE No. 125.

The following table of rates supersedes that shown under the item "Parcel post.—(Trans-Jordan.)" on page 322:

[Rates include transit charges]

Lbs.	Rate	Lbs.	Rate	Lbs.	Rate	Lbs.	Rate	Lbs.	Rate
1	\$0.39	4	\$0.94	6	\$1.22	8	\$1.61	10	\$1.89
2	.53	5	.08	7	1.36	9	1.75	11	2.03
3	.80								

POST OFFICE CHANGES

Discontinued—Fourth Class

WYOMING
89230. Lookout, Albany County, routes 114704 and 264025. Effective Apr. 30, 1948. Mail to Bosler.

Change of Name—Presidential

FLORIDA
78777. Lemturner, Duval County. Changed to Garden City. Effective June 1, 1948.

Change of Name—Fourth Class

FLORIDA
79270. Horseshoe, Dixie County. Changed to Horseshoe Beach. Effective June 1, 1948.

POST OFFICE CHANGES

Summer Post Offices—Opened

ALASKA
05590. Coal Creek. Effective May 1, 1948.

MAINE

94914. Ogontz, Somerset County. Effective May 17, 1948.

MICHIGAN

09351. Macatawa, Ottawa County. Effective May 1, 1948.

NORTH CAROLINA

77377. Blue Ridge, Buncombe County. Effective May 16, 1948.