

The **PALIMPSEST**

ST DAY
ISSUE



Honoring
HERBERT HOOVER
1874-1964



31ST PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
FAMOUS MINING ENGINEER
PHILANTHROPIST AND PUBLIC SERVANT



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

Commemorative Stamps and Iowa History

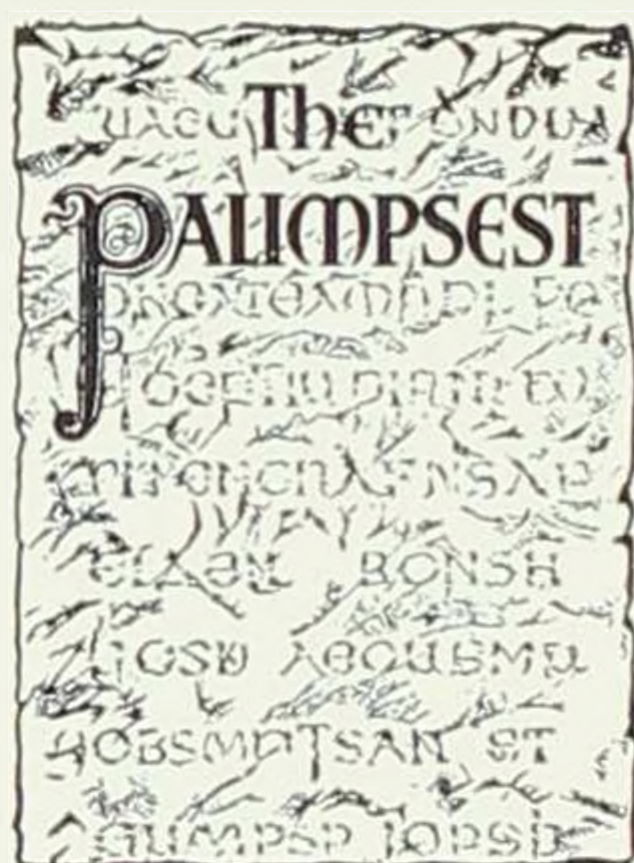
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The Meaning of Palimpsest

In early times a palimpsest was a parchment or other material from which one or more writings had been erased to give room for later records. But the erasures were not always complete; and so it became the fascinating task of scholars not only to translate the later records but also to reconstruct the original writings by deciphering the dim fragments of letters partly erased and partly covered by subsequent texts.

The history of Iowa may be likened to a palimpsest which holds the record of successive generations. To decipher these records of the past, reconstruct them, and tell the stories which they contain is the task of those who write history.

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WILLIAM J. PETERSEN

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Illustrations

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THE PALIMPSEST

EDITED BY WILLIAM J. PETERSEN

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Stamps as Hobbies

Stamp collecting represents the largest single hobby in the United States—or perhaps for that matter the World. Ever since the first United States stamp was issued in 1847 (just six months after Iowa became a State) a steadily mounting interest in postage stamps has been manifested by Americans. Prior to World War I, added interest developed with the issuance of various United States Commemorative stamps.

During the past half century a wide variety of specialists have developed among philatelists. Some specialize only in United States stamps, or in the stamps of Canada, Mexico, South America, Central America, or the islands of the Caribbean. The stamps of England, France, Germany, Spain, Italy, Russia, and other European countries have their devotees. The continents of Africa and Asia, or special countries within these vast areas, afford a fertile field for collectors. Pre-cancelled stamps, plate number blocks, postmarks, meter advertising, and revenues offer still other opportunities for

stamp enthusiasts. The field has become so large that specialists have developed in a wide variety of subjects — art and architecture, literature and music, religion and education, trains, ships and airplanes, animals, birds and fish, kings, queens and presidents, rivers, lakes and waterfalls, maps, inventions and sports, exploration and discovery, and a score of others.

One of the largest, fastest growing fields of philately deals with First Day Covers. By 1965 the "First Day of Issue" had become so well-advanced that the Washington Press of Maplewood, New Jersey, was publishing an 88-page catalogue (already in its 32nd edition) which divided the various First Day Covers as follows:

Section A — Air Mail Issues

Section B — Air Mail Stamped Issues

Section C — Commemorative Issues

Section D — Commemorative Stamped Envelopes

Section E — Regular Issues

Section F — Regular Issues Stamped Envelopes

Section G — Coils, Imperforates, Booklet Panes

Section H — State Overprint Stamps (Kansas and Nebraska)

Section I — Certified Mail, Special Delivery, Special Handling

Section J — Postal Cards

In addition to the above, the book contained similar categories in the United Nations Issues.

Commemorative Covers

During the past three decades, beginning with 1938, four Iowa communities have been designated by the Post Office Department as the place at which a First Day of Issue should be made exclusively for one of the Nation's new Commemorative stamps. This honor is much sought after because it focuses national attention on the spot so designated. Moreover, the First Day of Issue city continues to have its name appear in various stamp guides and postal literature, thus impressing its name on stamp collectors throughout the world.

Many Iowans may inquire — What is a "First Day of Issue" cover? The almost nine thousand members of the State Historical Society of Iowa who, on August 10, 1965, received the Hoover Memorial Stamp as a First Day of Issue, should be familiar with this interesting philately. Over two hundred enthusiastic "thank you" letters and cards have been received from grateful members of the Society and many others have phoned their appreciation.

For readers who did not receive a First Day of Issue cover we will quote Leo August, editor of the *United States Specialized Catalog of First Day Covers*.

Essentially, a first day cover is an envelope to which a stamp has been affixed and cancelled on the day of its issue. A post-1920 cover usually has to meet two additional requirements: it should be cancelled at the specially-designated "first day city" with one of the postmarks prepared specifically for use on the first day . . . Custom has decreed that the first day envelope should be white and of good quality, so it will not yellow with age. It should be standard 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ size whenever possible . . .

Since the 1930's most collectors prefer to save cacheted First Day of Issue covers. A cacheted envelope is one which usually bears on its left side a rubber-stamped, printed, or engraved pictorial design with explanatory text. These cacheted covers have reached a degree of perfection that adds much to their beauty as well as providing interesting, educational information for the collector. While most commercial dealers issue cacheted envelopes as a part of their service, individuals frequently prepare special cachets. Between the two — commercial and individual — it is sometimes possible to collect more than one hundred different First Day of Issue covers for a single Commemorative stamp. The values accruing from the study of United States Commemorative stamps are truly rewarding. The sixteen Columbian stamps of 1893 (the first United States Commemorative stamps) pointed the way to America, and ultimately to Iowa. The nine Trans-Mississippi "Omaha" Exposition stamps had an even more intimate association with Iowa history since they dealt with

various phases of the American frontier — discovery and exploration, the fur-trading, mining, and military frontier, and the frontier of the farmer and the cattleman. The Pan-American stamps dealt with transportation — Great Lakes steamer, railroad, automobile, the steel-arch bridge at Niagara, the ship-canal at Sault Ste Marie, and the ocean steamer. Only five stamps were issued to commemorate the Louisiana Purchase, but since Iowa formed a part of this epoch-making event these stamps were significant in Iowa history.

Most of these early covers were issued on a certain date, generally at "Any City" or at Washington, D.C. Thus, the Columbians were dated from "Any City" January 2, 1893. They were withdrawn from sale on April 12, 1894. The Trans-Mississippi series, on the other hand, was first placed on sale at Omaha, Nebraska, on June 10, 1898. The Pan-American Stamps (six in number) were first placed on sale at Buffalo, New York, on May 1, 1901, and withdrawn from sale on October 31 of that year, the opening and closing days of the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo. The Louisiana Purchase Stamp was first placed on sale at New Orleans on April 21, 1904; thereafter it appeared on sale at "Any City" between May 1 and December 1. The following stamps, or series of stamps, appeared in the years immediately preceding the Norse-American Stamp which is the first intimately associated with Iowa.

<i>Stamp</i>	<i>Date of Issue</i>	<i>Place of Issue</i>
Jamestown	April 25, 1907	Jamestown, Virginia
Lincoln	Feb. 12, 1909	Any City
Alaska-Yukon	June 1, 1909	Seattle, Washington
Hudson-Fulton	Sept. 25, 1909	New York
Panama-Pacific		
1 cent	Jan. 1, 1913	San Francisco
5 cent	Jan. 1, 1913	San Francisco
10 cent	Jan. 1, 1913	San Francisco
2 cent	Jan. 18, 1913	San Francisco
Victory	March 3, 1919	Washington, D. C.
Pilgrim	Dec. 18, 1920	Plymouth, Provincetown
Tercentenary		Massachusetts
Harding Memorial	Sept. 1, 1923	Marion, Ohio & Washington
Huguenot-Walloon	May 1, 1924	11 cities
Lexington-Concord	April 4, 1925	Boston, Cambridge, Concord,
<i>Postage Stamps of the United States (1962)</i>		Lexington

The importance of Commemorative stamps and First Day of Issue covers as tools in studying Iowa history can be readily demonstrated.

The handsome Wisconsin Tercentenary Stamp, which was issued on July 7, 1934, depicted the arrival of the French explorer, Jean Nicolet, among the Winnebago Indians at Green Bay in 1634. Nicolet's feat was an important step in pointing the way to Iowa. The picture on the postage stamp was reproduced by the Society on the front cover of the July 1960 issue of *The Palimpsest* which dealt exclusively with the Winnebago Indians in Iowa. Nicolet was the forerunner of Joliet and Marquette who in turn were honored in the one-cent stamp in the Trans-Mississippi "Omaha" Exposition series of 1898.

A second important stamp celebrated the 150th

Anniversary of the Ordinance of 1787 and the organization of the Old Northwest Territory. The center of this stamp showed a map of the United States in 1787, with the Northwest Territory and Southwest clearly featured. On the left-hand side is Reverend Manasseh Cutler, purchasing agent of the Ohio Company, who bought huge tracts of choice Ohio land for the Revolutionary War veterans. On the right-hand side one sees General Rufus Putnam, a distinguished Revolutionary War soldier, who formed the Ohio Company of Associates in Boston.

Iowa constitutional and governmental history stems from the Ordinance of 1787. In addition, three towns in the Old Northwest served as capitals for Iowa — Vincennes, Indiana, 1805-1806; Detroit, Michigan, 1834-1836; and Belmont, Wisconsin, 1836-1837. The first governor of the Territory of Iowa, Robert Lucas, came from Ohio. Lucas had served two terms as Governor of Ohio before his appointment as Governor of the Territory of Iowa. Curiously, the Northwest Ordinance Stamp deserves special mention in philatelic history because it was the first one on which the "killer bar" was used that cancelled the stamp and also carried the legend First Day of Issue which took place at Marietta, Ohio, and New York City on July 13, 1937.

Closely associated with the Ordinance of 1787 is the Northwest Territory Stamp issued the fol-

lowing year to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the settlement of the Northwest Territory at Marietta, Ohio, in 1788. This was the same year that Washington was elected president. It was likewise the same year that the Fox Indians granted Julien Dubuque the right to work the lead mines around their village on Catfish Creek near present-day Dubuque. First sold at Marietta on July 15, 1938, the Northwest Territory Stamp preceded by a scant month the Iowa Territorial Commemorative Stamp which went on sale at Des Moines on August 24, 1938. Ohio, the first state carved out of the Northwest Territory, furnished more settlers to Iowa than any other state before the Civil War.

In 1944 the Post Office Department issued a stamp commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the completion of the Transcontinental railroad by the junction of the Central Pacific and Union Pacific at Promontory Point, Utah, on May 10, 1869. The stamp was first placed on sale at Omaha, Nebraska; Ogden, Utah; and San Francisco, California. President Lincoln fixed the Eastern terminus of the Union Pacific at Council Bluffs in 1862. General Grenville M. Dodge, a long-time resident of Council Bluffs, was the chief engineer in charge of construction of the Union Pacific from the Missouri River to Promontory Point, Utah.

On October 16, 1946, a stamp was issued commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the entry of

General Stephen Watts Kearny into Santa Fe during the Mexican War. It should be pointed out that 500 men in Kearny's army were Mormons who had just completed, or were on the verge of completing, their trek across Iowa from Nauvoo on the Mississippi to the Missouri. Brigham Young granted Captain James Allen permission to recruit 500 of his men for the Mexican War in return for \$20,000 which was needed to help the exodus of the Mormons to Utah. These 500 men constituted the famous Mormon Battalion that was trained by General Kearny at Fort Leavenworth before setting out overland for Santa Fe. Ultimately, the Mormon Battalion followed Kearny to California and aided in its conquest. The stamp was first placed on sale at Santa Fe.

Closely associated with Iowa history is the Utah Centennial Stamp which was first placed on sale on July 24, 1947, at Salt Lake City. Because the first leg of the Mormon trek lay across Iowa, and because this trek was perhaps the most colorful event in Iowa during the year 1846, it deserves special mention and association with the Iowa story. At one time during the summer of 1846, there were as many as 15,000 Mormons moving across Southern Iowa. Their presence is remembered in such names as Garden Grove and Mount Pisgah in the Hawkeye State.

The 100th Anniversary of the discovery of gold in California was appropriately commemorated by

a stamp issued at Coloma, California, on January 24, 1946. Scores of Iowa communities saw some of their best citizens join the mad trek to California and thousands of Forty-Niners streamed across Iowa in search of fame and fortune. The number of Iowans in California was so great that they played a leading role in framing the California Constitution in 1850. In other words, the newly adopted Iowa Constitution of 1846 served as a model for the Constitution of California. A California Statehood Stamp was placed on sale at Sacramento on September 9, 1950.

A stamp commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Louisiana Purchase was placed on sale at St. Louis on April 30, 1953. Since Iowa was, in the words of William Salter, the "first free state in the Louisiana Purchase" and since Thomas Jefferson subsequently sent forth Lewis and Clark, and Zebulon M. Pike, the Louisiana Purchase is of real interest to Iowans. In addition, the erection of Fort Madison in 1808 must also be associated with the Louisiana Purchase.

The invention of the telegraph and the successful laying of the Atlantic Cable were vitally important to Iowa. The telegraph linked citizens of the Hawkeye State with their relatives and friends back East after its completion to the Mississippi in 1848. Ten years later, in 1858, the Atlantic Cable was successfully laid, and Iowa was linked with Europe. The excitement generated by both

these events can only be likened to such innovations as television or the advent of man into space. The 100th Anniversary of the transmittal of the first telegraph message was observed by the sale of the Telegraph Commemorative Stamp at Washington and Baltimore, on May 24, 1944. The Atlantic Cable Stamp was first placed on sale in New York on August 15, 1958. The story of the successful laying of the Atlantic Cable is described in the October 1958 issue of *The Palimpsest*.

One might continue at length to associate various commemorative stamps with the story of Iowa. Of more than passing interest would be such stamps as the Poultry Industry Commemorative Stamp (1948), Swedish Pioneers (1948), American Turners Society (1948), the Grand Army of the Republic (1949), the Boy Scouts of America (1950), Newspaperboys (1952), the 4-H Clubs (1952), Future Farmers (1953), Land Grant Colleges (1955), Labor Day (1956), Teachers of America (1957), Boys' Club of America (1960), Homestead Act (1962), City Mail Delivery (1963).

There are so many of America's great men associated with Iowa history that the list could almost be endless — Abraham Lincoln, Robert E. Lee, Francis Scott Key, John James Audubon, George Washington Carver — to mention a few. Truly, many stamps on a variety of subjects might be associated directly or indirectly with Iowa.

Sharing Commemorative Honors

Norse-American Stamp

The first instance where Iowa was singled out by a First Day of Issue occurred on May 18, 1925, when two stamps appeared simultaneously in commemoration of the Norse-American Centennial. The occasion marked the arrival in New York, on October 9, 1825, of the sloop *Restaurationen* with the first group of fifty-two Norwegian immigrants to the United States from Norway.

The two-cent Norse-American Stamp had for its central design a ship representing the sloop *Restaurationen*, with a smaller craft in the background, from a photo-engraving. The five-cent stamp had for its central design a Viking ship, also from a photo-engraving. The first issues of the Norse-American commemorative stamps were placed on sale at the following post offices: Algona and Decorah in Iowa; St. Paul, Minneapolis, Benson, and Northfield in Minnesota; and Washington, D.C. The printing was only 1,900,983 of the five-cent Viking ship and 9,104,983 of the two-cent Norwegian sloop variety.

The fifty-two immigrants from Norway who arrived aboard the *Restaurationen* marked the first of more than 200,000 Norwegians who settled in

the United States in the next fifty years. Most of these Norsemen settled in the Midwest — a goodly number of them in Iowa. Winneshiek County has always been the Norwegian stronghold in Iowa, but in seven other Iowa counties Norwegians have represented the most numerous foreign element. As a result, Decorah, where picturesque Luther College is located, was chosen as one point from which to issue the Norse-American Stamp. Algona, for some inexplicable reason (but not because Kossuth County led in Norwegians) was named to share this honor with Decorah.

Project Mercury

In selecting seven points for simultaneous issue, the Post Office Department departed from what already had become fairly established procedure. Only rarely does the Department allow more than one place of issue. The most memorable exception occurred on February 20, 1962, when the Post Office Department signaled the first orbital flight of a United States astronaut (John H. Glenn, Jr.) by the issuance of the four-cent "Project Mercury" Commemorative Stamp.

It was the first time in history that an unannounced United States commemorative stamp was issued simultaneously with the event it memorialized. Designed and printed under tight security precautions, the stamp was distributed well in advance of the flight. . . . A total of 310 million of these stamps was issued to meet the unprecedented demand and 3 million first day covers were can-

celebrated "Cape Canaveral, Fla., 3:30 P.M., Feb. 20, 1962." Provision was made for collectors to purchase these first day covers through the Philatelic Sales Agency, Washington, D. C., for a limited time, since they could not be obtained in the regular manner.

The actual number of post offices selected was 305 of which five — Des Moines, Cedar Rapids, Sioux City, Davenport and Waterloo — were designated in Iowa. These, it will be noted, were the five largest cities in the State.

To avoid any leak, all transactions between the Post Office Department and the Bureau of Engraving were transmitted verbally rather than by letter and formal receipts. All designs, models, and die proofs were arranged and exchanged in hand-to-hand operation. The ingenious lengths taken to insure secrecy through various steps — design, engraving, printing, shipping, distribution of the stamps to 305 Postal Inspectors with sealed instructions as to how they were to proceed was a tremendous challenge that was made all the more difficult by the frequent postponement of Glenn's flight. The stamping of 250,000 envelopes surreptitiously at Washington, D.C., beginning on November 4, and the postmarking of these with others at Cape Canaveral on February 20 brought the total number of First Day of Issue envelopes at that point to almost 3,000,000. How this was done secretly at Cape Canaveral, and simultaneously at 305 other post offices, makes Project Mer-

cury one of the most intriguing tales in philatelic history. James F. Kelleher, Special Assistant to Postmaster General J. Edward Day, wrote:

At the 305 post offices where the stamp was available on February 20, a total of 10,290,850 had been sold by the end of the day. By February 28, orders from the field totaled 187,598,000. The original printing — that secret one — had been 120 million copies. Late in the evening of February 20 a second printing of 100 million was ordered. On February 28, in view of the orders from the field, a third printing of still another 100 million was ordered. Within just ten days of its release there were 320 million Project Mercury stamps — a record for a commemorative issue . . . Nothing in philately ever quite will approach the Post Office Department's Project Mercury, the first time that a stamp went on sale all over the nation at the exact hour of the event it commemorated. When that brisk sunny day, February 20, 1962, began, just a handful of people knew that a feat unheard of in philatelic history was about to be accomplished. By nightfall, the world was talking about John Glenn's three orbits around the earth; and stamp collectors also were marvelling at the most dramatic event in the annals of their hobby.

In Iowa the five postmasters were given the sealed package containing their Project Mercury Stamps immediately after John Glenn was safely landed. Following their instructions carefully, postmasters gave newspapers as well as radio and television stations the story of Project Mercury and with it the announcement that the stamps were on sale in the local post office.

One of the first individuals to be alerted in Cedar Rapids was Norman Erickson, an avid stamp collector and an officer of the Cedar Rapids Stamp Club. Erickson hastened to the post office, bought his stamps, procured 300 envelopes, and affixed his Project Mercury Stamps to them. He then had them run through the cancelling machine, giving him First Day of Issue envelopes at Cedar Rapids on February 20. But this was not enough. Erickson then designed and had printed an appropriate cachet which gave him one of the most attractive First Day of Issue covers personally issued in the country. Erickson then began to trade his cover with those who had possessed both his foresight and initiative around the Nation. As a result, Erickson had acquired 75 First Day of Issue of Project Mercury at the time this issue of *The Palimpsest* was going to press.

The Project Mercury Stamp is definitely one of Iowa's First Day of Issue stamps. The number of stamps actually sold by the five Iowa post offices is not known, nor is the number of First Day of Issue known for Iowa, but the number would not have been great.

Kennedy Memorial Stamp

The John F. Kennedy Memorial Stamp appeared on May 29, 1964, with 2,003,096 First Day of Issue covers passing through the Boston post office alone. The Kennedy stamp, however, was given the most widespread distribution of any

Commemorative stamp, even surpassing the Project Mercury Stamp. This came about when it was decided that every post office in the United States would be permitted to sell Kennedy stamps on the opening day of sale — May 29, 1964. A total of 400,000,000 Kennedy stamps were printed and their widespread distribution insured their speedy disappearance from postal sales. The policy adopted qualified 1,010 Iowa post offices and 34,064 United States post offices to make First Day of Issue sales. The actual number of post offices, by classes in Iowa and the United States, stood as follows on May 31, 1964:

Presidential

	<i>First Class</i>	<i>Second Class</i>	<i>Third Class</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Fourth Class</i>	<i>Total</i>
Iowa	98	245	514	857	153	1,010
U.S.	4,360	6,867	12,934	24,161	9,923	34,084

In its official *Postal Bulletin* dated May 7, 1964, the Post Office Department warned postmasters not to place the Kennedy Stamp on sale before May 29, 1964, the 47th birthday anniversary of the late President. It also pointed out that the First Day of Issue cancellation could be obtained only from Boston, Massachusetts. Finally, postmasters were directed to cooperate with any and all local groups in arranging for observances planned in connection with the issuance of the Kennedy Memorial Stamp.

The Norse-American, Project Mercury, and Kennedy Memorial stamps represent special situations that did not ordinarily prevail in First Day of Issue covers. The tremendous magnitude of printing, sales, and distribution of the Project Mercury and Kennedy Memorial stamps stand in sharp contrast with the relatively small figures associated with the Norse-American Commemorative Stamp. The difference, in a sense, graphically reveals the growth of interest in First Day of Issue covers throughout Iowa and the Nation.

The NRA Stamp at Nira

The *Fairfield Ledger* contained an item of more than passing interest for Fred Spielman that hot August day in 1933. The Post Office Department in the Nation's capital announced that a new stamp would be issued "to direct attention to and arouse support of the Nation" for the National Industrial Recovery Act. Popularly known as the NRA, this was one of several Alphabeticals that was being spawned at Washington that year. A total of 400,000,000 stamps were to be printed and the First Day of Issue was to be sent from Washington exclusively on August 15.

Now Fred Spielman was more than a well-thought-of citizen of Fairfield. He was also a widely known and highly respected philatelist — specializing in United States stamps. His love for philately was a business as well as a hobby, and his enthusiasm for the "King of Hobbies" knew no bounds. The report on the forthcoming NRA Stamp gave Fred Spielman an idea which he revealed in his story in the October 1933 issue of *Stamps*. As Spielman relates:

The announcement of the issue of the NRA stamp came at the same moment that we discovered there was a town named Nira only 38 miles away, and the only town of that

name in the Post Office Directory. We, Mrs. Spielman and myself, made a quick trip there and found a general store with a small Post Office with 26 mail boxes. The Postmaster was out on his daily huckster trip, buying eggs and chickens. We located him by 'phone and he came in. We told him we were going to try and put Nira on the map, and while he could not exactly get the idea, he could understand the benefits of increased business to a fourth class Postmaster, and was ready and willing to cooperate.

That same day Spielman sent a telegram to Postmaster General James A. Farley, asking that the little post office of Nira, Iowa, be designated to send out the First Day of Issue of the NRA Stamp. Postmaster Yoder sent out a similar request to Mr. Farley. By nightfall Spielman had located Congressman Edward C. Eicher of the First District and excitedly explained what he wished him to do. Congressman Eicher proved just as foggy on the subject of First Day of Issue covers as the Nira Postmaster. He frankly admitted to Spielman that he "didn't know a postage stamp from a Christmas seal" but declared he was willing to cooperate in every way since Nira was located in his District. Congressman Eicher's first job, Spielman pointed out, was to wire President Roosevelt and Postmaster General Farley, asking that the post office at Nira, Iowa, rather than at Washington, D. C., be designated for the honor of the First Day of Issue of the NRA Stamp.

Unfortunately for Nira, the wheels of government had swung into action so fast that this request

could not be granted. On August 5, Third Assistant Postmaster General C. B. Eilenberger wrote the Nira postmaster as follows:

In reply to your letter of August 2, addressed to the Postmaster General, you are advised that it will not be possible to designate your office to first offer the NRA emergency stamp for sale. Because of the urgent necessity of having these stamps available for sale at the earliest date possible, they will be first placed on sale at Washington, D. C., only, as there is not time to make necessary preparations or sufficient notification to stamp collectors throughout the country for their sale at any additional post offices.

Your interest and cooperation in this matter is appreciated, and it is regretted that it is not practicable to comply with your request.

Since this letter was dated only ten days before the advertised date of issuance of the NRA Stamp, the explanation is readily understandable to all philatelists interested in First Day of Issue covers. But all was not lost! Thanks to the prodding of Congressman Eicher, Fred Spielman, and other Iowa stamp enthusiasts, and because both President Roosevelt (himself an avid stamp collector) and Postmaster General Farley saw the Nira request as reasonable and just, it was agreed to give the little Washington County community the honor of being the "Second Day of Sale" for the forthcoming NRA Stamp on August 17.

News of this honor electrified little Nira, Washington County, and First Day Cover enthusiasts

throughout Iowa and the Nation. At the same time it was suddenly driven home to Postmaster Yoder that a tremendous responsibility had been thrust upon him. The sudden decision of the Post Office Department to accord Nira this honor posed an equally difficult problem to those commercial stamp firms who specialized in securing First Day of Issue covers for their many thousands of customers. Would this Nira cancellation on the exclusive second day have equal popularity and value with the First Day of Issue? Would it pay them to make the long jump from Washington to Nira? Or would the primary interest be focused on the Nira cancellation, which itself would have special appeal to rabid philatelic fans? Only time would tell.

Meanwhile, on August 8, 1933, the *Iowa City Press-Citizen* carried the following news release from Washington:

Nira, only town in the United States to bear the nickname of the national industrial recovery act, will be the second city to distribute the special issue of the NRA stamps. The first city will be Washington, D. C.

The federal government has chosen this town's fourth class post office to be the second in the nation to offer for sale the special stamps which are a part of the industrial recovery program. The official sale starts in the nation's capital August 15. Nira's sale starts August 17. The rest of the country follows.

Stamp collectors are expected to flood the post office here with requests for letters mailed with the NRA stamp and postmarked Nira. Postmaster E. J. Yoder has been ad-

vised that a special consignment of the stamps will be forwarded to take care of the anticipated rush of business.

Four hundred million of the stamps are being printed to keep the recovery campaign constantly before the people. Congressman Edward C. Eicher of Washington called attention to the fact that Nira in his home county was the only community bearing the name of the national recovery industrial act seal.

So after Washington, little Nira, a town of 20 persons, comes next.

The stamp, known as the "NRA emergency postage stamp," will have as its central subject the figures of a farmer, a businessman, an industrial worker and a female employee to typify American industry "as they walk hand in hand in a common determination."

The few days that remained before August 17 were filled with feverish activity in Nira. Not only was the problem of servicing stamp collectors imminent, but Postmaster Yoder had to see that ample food and at least some form of entertainment, which had been promised to them by Fred Spielman, was provided for the hundreds of visitors who were bound to descend upon the little community.

On August 17, 1933, the *Iowa City Press-Citizen* carried a full account of little Nira — a community that overnight became a "stamp collector's paradise." The first stamp cancelled was on a letter addressed from Postmaster E. J. Yoder to President Roosevelt, which was sent by carrier pigeon from Nira to its home cote in Moline. The

bird made the distance of seventy miles in one hour and thirty-three minutes, and upon its arrival in Moline the envelope with its stamp was forwarded to President Roosevelt for his personal collection.

The message, sent to the Associated Press by carrier pigeon, read in part as follows:

This tiny village of 20 souls, nestled in the hills of the extreme northwest corner of Washington county, where train service is twice daily, and telephone and telegraph communication are not the best, and, hitherto almost unheard of, had fame suddenly thrust upon it when the new NRA stamp went on sale. . . .

When Postmaster E. J. Yoder opened his general store, which houses the post office, the barber chair, and the Yoder family, consisting of more than one-third of the town's population, he was greeted by a group of stamp collectors eager to make the first purchase. . . . Scores of philatelists from Davenport, Iowa City, Washington, Fairfield and other Iowa cities came and went after adding the famous stamp to their collection.

There was much excited activity within the general store for on one of the counters were stacks of packages and envelopes containing thousands of requests for the new stamps. They came from all parts of the United States and Canada. Behind the counter stood the postmaster's charming daughter and chief assistant, Miss Orpha Yoder. A bit calmer than the rest of the workers, she was busy opening and sorting the packages and bulky envelopes and arranging the contents in piles to receive the stamp under the thud of the postmaster, who also is automobile mechanic, clerk, driver and handy man for his father. . . .

More than 25,000 letters had been received for cancellation by Thursday morning, for stamp collectors place a high value on first day cancellations. . . .

More than 300 cars, carrying a crowd estimated at more than 1,000, attended the morning events. A tug-of-war and several foot races were to feature the afternoon events, while a large crowd watched the arrival and departure of the morning and afternoon trains, each of which carried a large amount of outgoing mail.

To the far corners of the world letters are going from Nira. Collectors in Holland, Germany, France, Brazil, Japan, Hawaii, and the Samoan islands have all placed their orders.

It was a big day for Nira, a day which was augmented by music by the Brower sisters quartet of Keokuk County, an invocation by Reverend Dewey of Wellman, a speech by Congressman Edward C. Eicher, another by Professor Royal A. Holbrook of Iowa State College (an avid stamp collector who had purchased the first NRA stamps that day) and a benediction by Reverend Edward Deener of Wellman.

It was a big day for the post office and the friendly townfolk of little Nira. The more faithful of the First Day of Issue collectors tarried in the little community, feasting on the truck load of watermelon which Postmaster Yoder personally provided for the occasion and watching the morning and evening trains pull into the little station. Great excitement was caused when the *Des Moines Register* autogiro circled and landed for a few moments at Nira.

The NRA Stamp brought more business in a single day to the Nira Post Office than it had had

in the previous decade. By nightfall, however, the crowd had just about satisfied its demand for the new stamp and folk began to wend their way homeward. Postmaster Yoder estimated that approximately 30,000 three cent stamps had been sold, representing \$900, a "big piece of business in Nira."

The official report of the Post Office Department indicated that 65,000 First Day of Issue covers had been mailed in Washington, D. C., on August 15, 1933. Since the sale of the NRA Stamp at Nira was really a second day feature no figures have been included in subsequent First Day of Issue reports. Moreover, Nira itself was soon to disappear into the limbo of over two thousand other discontinued Iowa post offices.

On October 15, 1936, Postmaster E. J. Yoder mailed a letter to his friend F. A. Spielman in Fairfield in the upper left hand corner of which he had written "Last day Cancel." Thus, Nira, a post office that had been established on April 8, 1880, with Noah Farley as first postmaster, disappeared from the *U. S. Official Postal Guide* to be heard of no more. And the little town itself has moldered away and died — sans railroad, sans post office, sans inhabitants. But a flood of happy memories came back to all those fortunate enough to possess an NRA Stamp with a Nira postmark dated August 17, 1933. Truly, the NRA Stamp brought the biggest day in its life to little Nira, Iowa.

The Iowa Territorial Stamp

The first postage stamp that directly commemorated the Hawkeye State was issued in 1938 in honor of the Iowa territorial centennial. This stamp holds a unique position in American philately, since Iowa was the first Territory to be so commemorated.

The first efforts on the part of the Iowa Territorial Centennial Committee and other Iowans to secure a commemorative stamp met with an emphatic refusal by the Post Office Department on the ground that stamps had never been issued in honor of Territories. On May 9, 1938, President Roosevelt expressed sympathy with Iowa's desire for a stamp but regretted he could not overrule the decision of the Post Office Department. When the entire Iowa delegation rallied around Senator Clyde Herring and Congressman Fred Bierman in their fight and threatened to introduce a bill in Congress to compel the Post Office Department to issue an Iowa stamp, the Department finally capitulated and Senator Herring jubilantly wired the Centennial Committee of the success of his long fight.

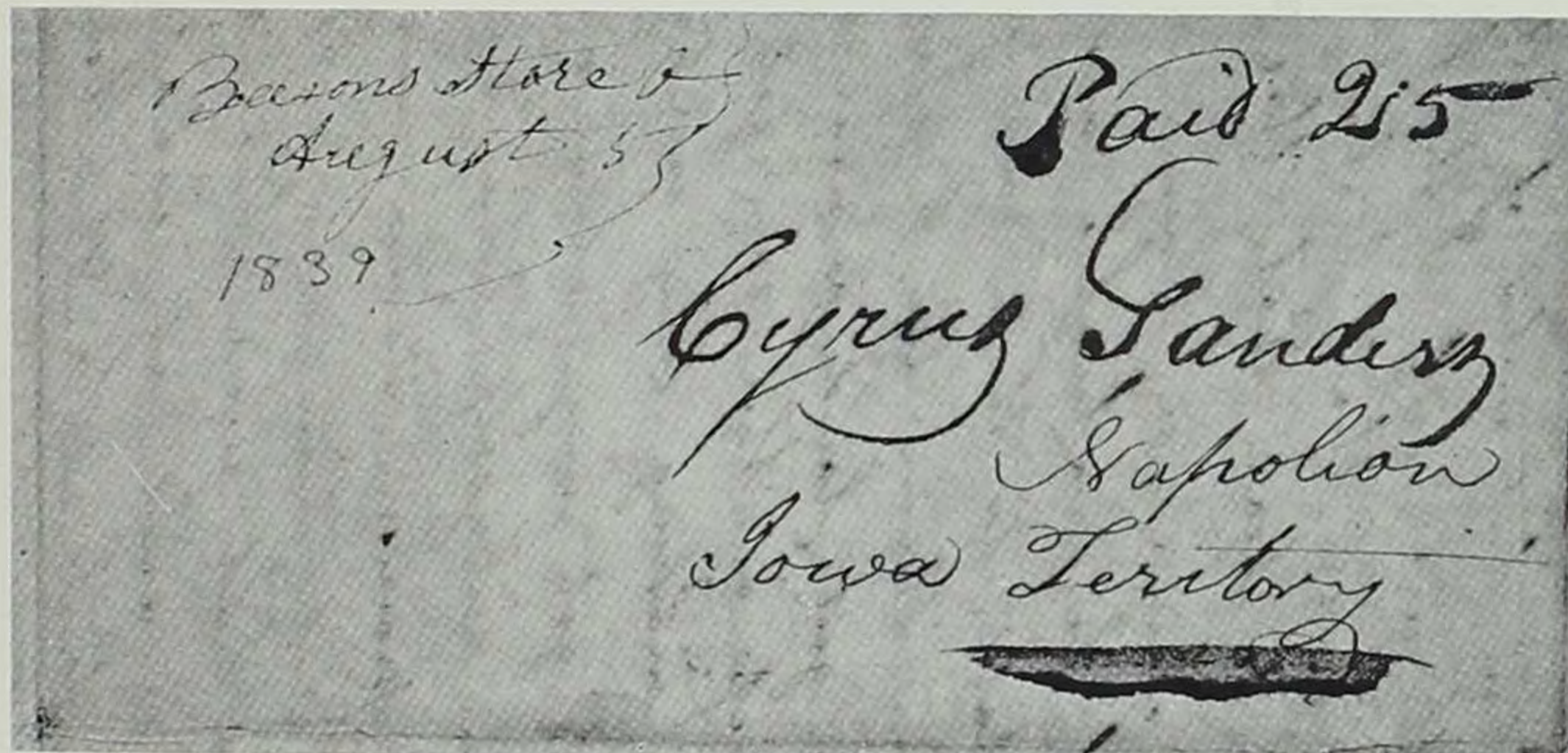
A number of Iowa towns promptly requested that the honor of the first day's sale of the terri-

torial stamp be granted to them. Burlington was a logical choice since it had been the territorial capital in 1838. Dubuque stressed her claim of being the oldest city and was actually celebrating her 150th Anniversary when Iowa was observing its territorial centennial. Iowa City's claim rested on the fact that it served as the capital for three-fourths of the territorial period and for the first eleven years of statehood. Moreover, the Old Capitol at Iowa City had been selected as the central design for the stamp. Des Moines was the State capital and the largest city.

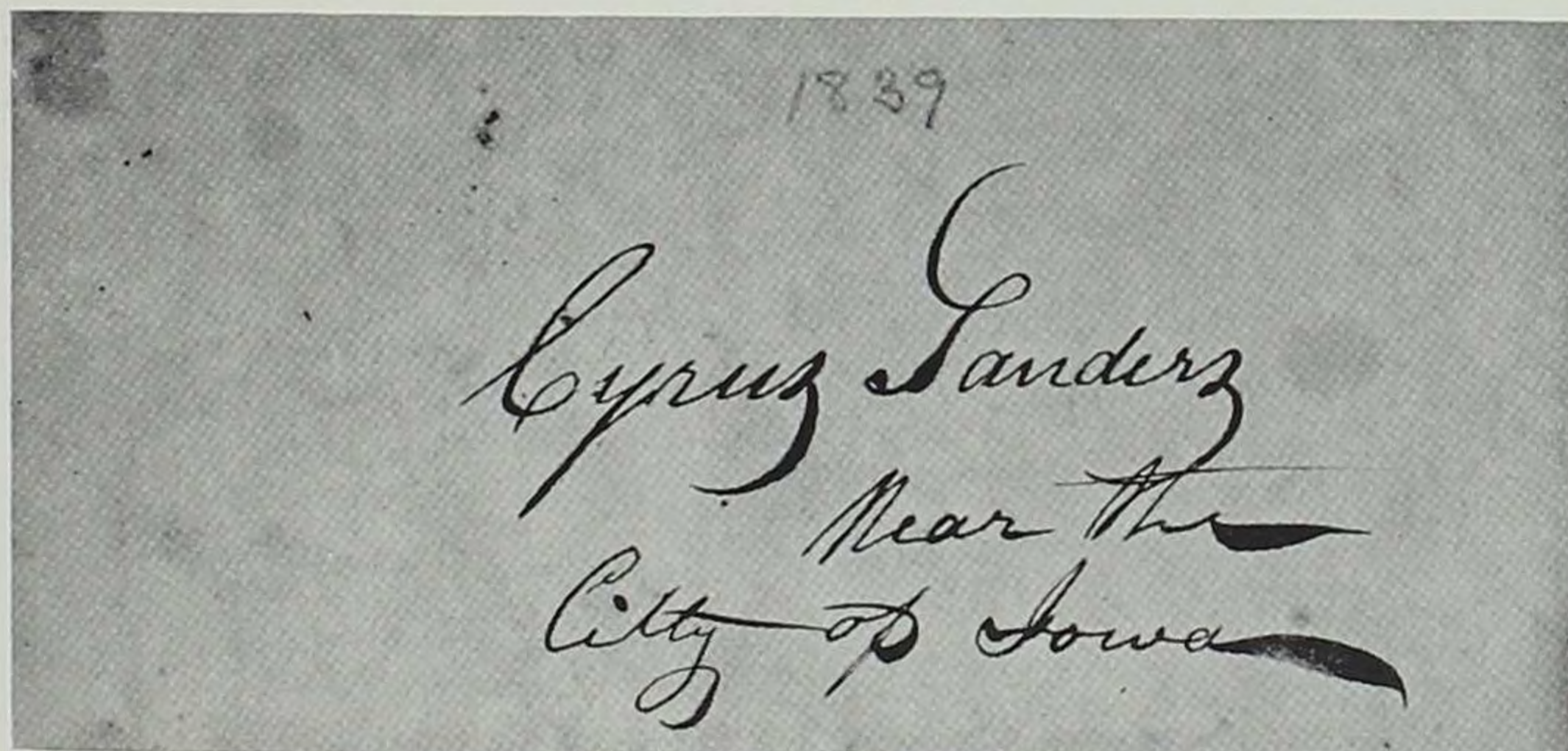
The Centennial Committee at first sought to have the stamps placed on sale simultaneously in all Iowa post offices in order to avoid discrimination against any city, but the Post Office Department declared this would be unprecedented, extremely expensive, and unfair to stamp collectors. After considerable delay the Post Office Department finally wired the Iowa Centennial Committee on June 6 stating that one place would have to be designated and suggesting August 24 at Des Moines during State Fair Week. The Committee agreed and awarded the first day's sale of the stamps to Des Moines.

Iowa received nationwide and even international publicity from its first commemorative stamp, a purple three-cent stamp of special delivery size featuring the Old Capitol at Iowa City. A total of 47,064,300 were printed, of which 245,200

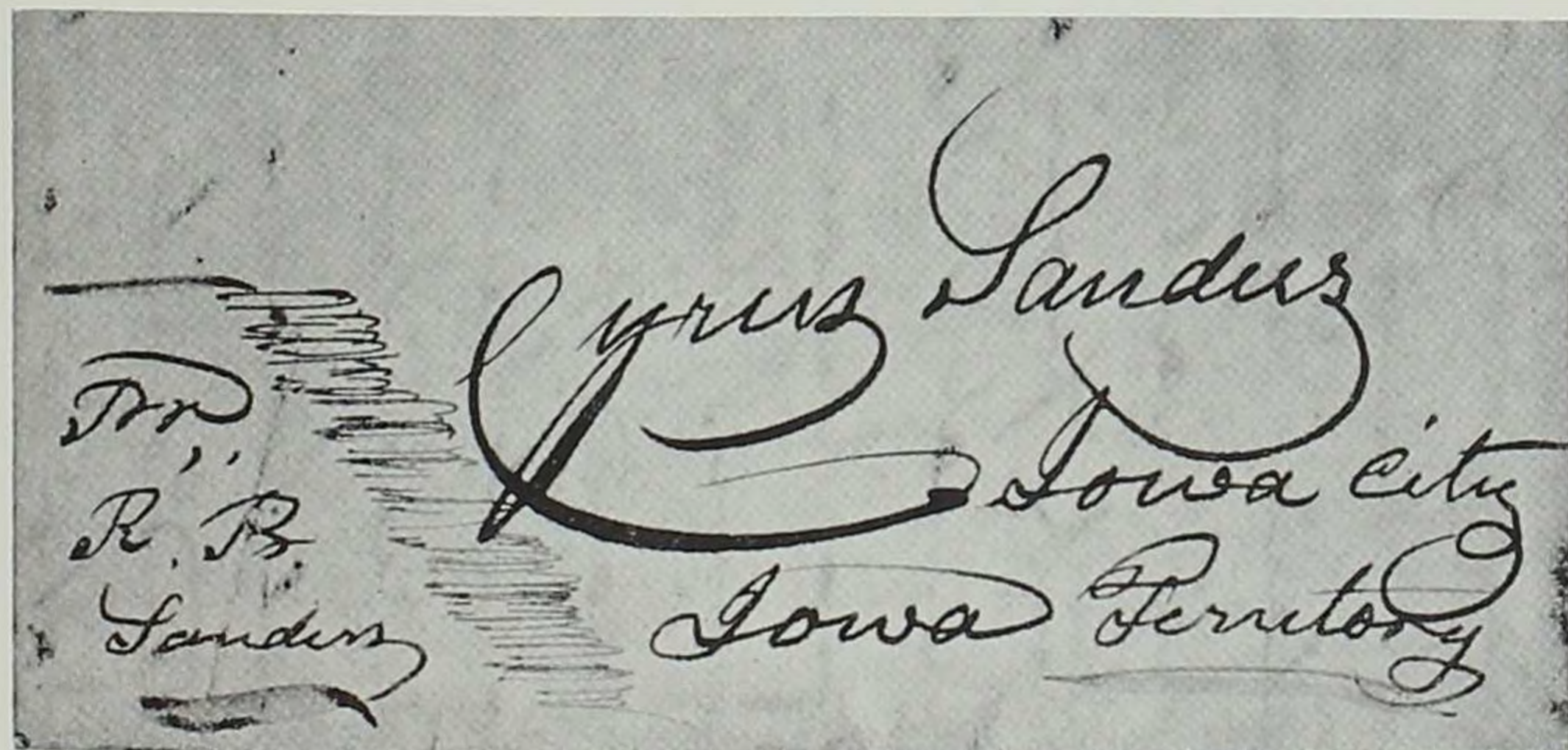
EARLY POSTAL COVERS OF IOWA CITY



Post office established at Napoleon (3-2-1839) changed to Iowa City Nov. 14, 1839.



John Plumbe's MAP of the surveyed part of IOWA TERRITORY showed the "City of Iowa" on the "only Map" exhibiting the location of Iowa City.



State Historical Society Collections

Letter dated Sept. 17, 1841, from John C. Sanders, father of Cyrus Sanders.

LETTERS TO GOVERNOR LUCAS

Paid 6

His Excellency
Robert Lucas

West Point Ia
March 31st

Burlington
Iowa

Letter from West Point (Lee County) dated March 31, 1839. A post office was established at West Point on Sept. 7, 1838, with Orrin Dodd, first postmaster.

Rockingham Ia
28th Mar 1839

12 1/2

His Excellency Robert Lucas
Governor of Iowa

Burlington
Ia

A post office was established at Rockingham (Scott County) on Feb. 26, 1844, with Willard Barrows first postmaster. Discontinued Dec. 16, 1847.

Dubuque Ia
Mar 14th

1834

Gov. Robert Lucas -
Burlington,
Iowa Ter.

State Historical Society Collections

In the fall of 1833 George Ord Karrick carried the weekly mail from Galena to Dubuque where it was delivered from a candle box in Mr. Pfozter's store.

FROM VARIOUS IOWA TOWNS

Camanche May 24 1839 *Post 25*

His Excellency Robert Lucas
Governor of Iowa
Burlington

A post office was established at Camanche (Clinton County) on Dec. 17, 1838, with Simeon Gardner first postmaster.

Department of State

To His Excellency
The Governor of Iowa
Burlington I. T. Redwood

DUBUQUE
OCT 4

A letter from Jackson, Mississippi, dated March 30, 1839, was misdirected to Governor Lucas at Dubuque where it was redirected Oct. 4, 1839 to Burlington.

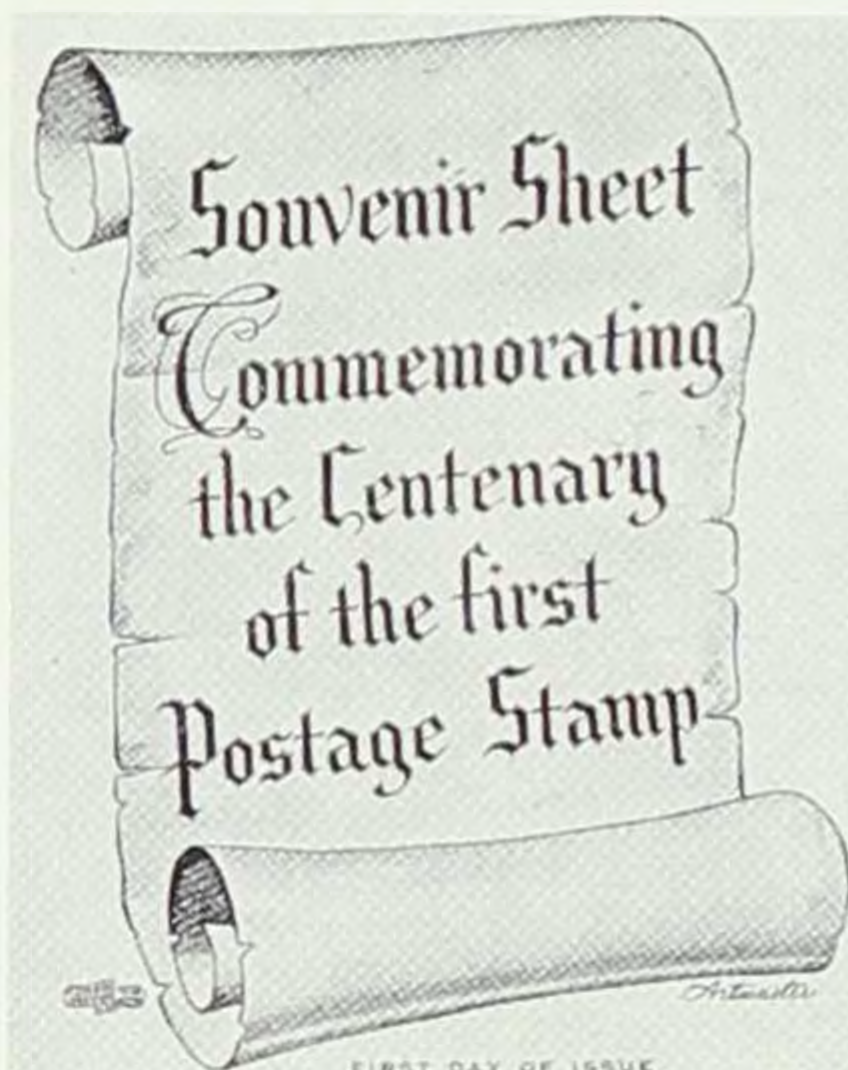
free *J. Galland P.M.*
Commerce Ill

His Excellency
Robert Lucas, Governor of
Iowa Territory
Burlington
I. T.

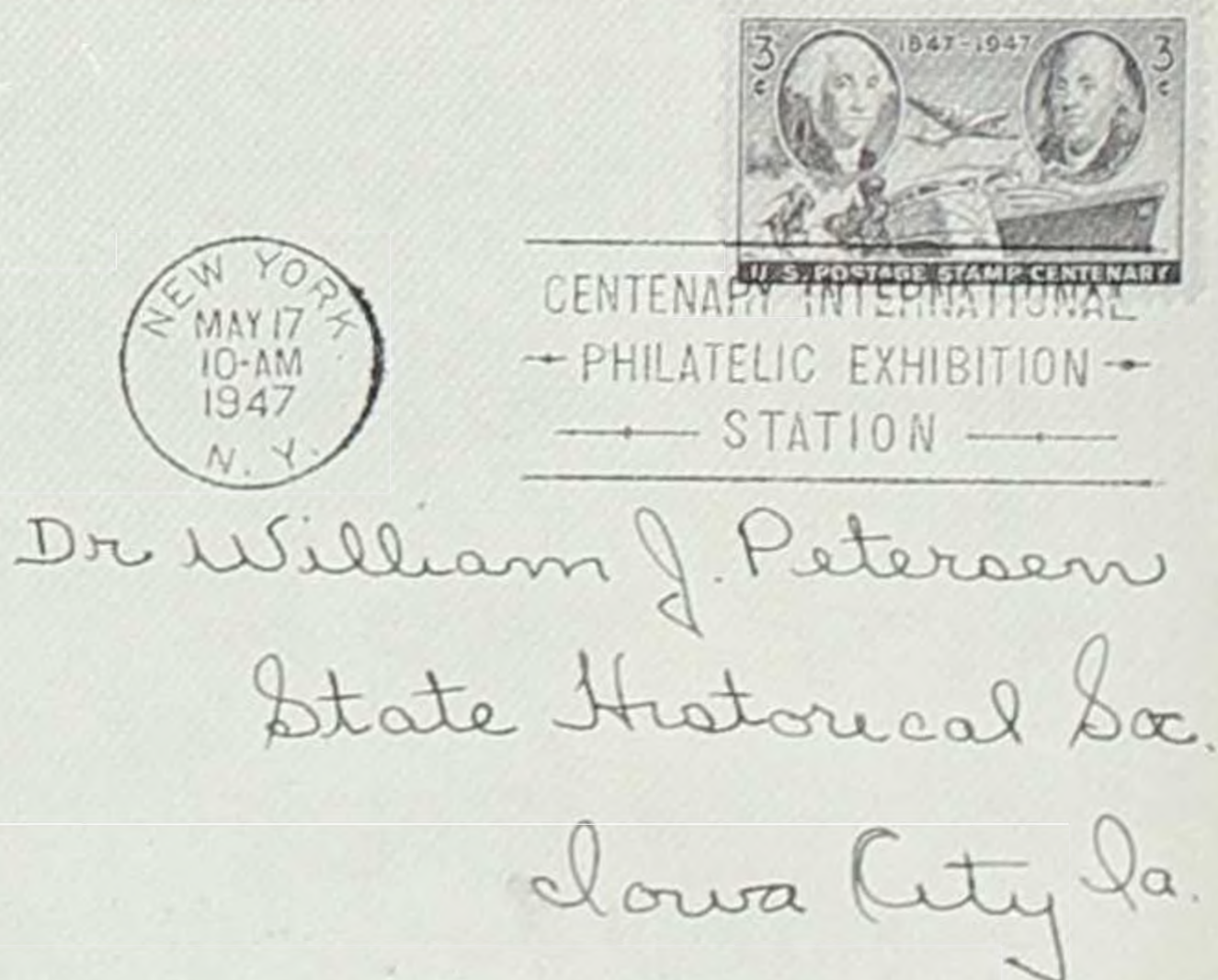
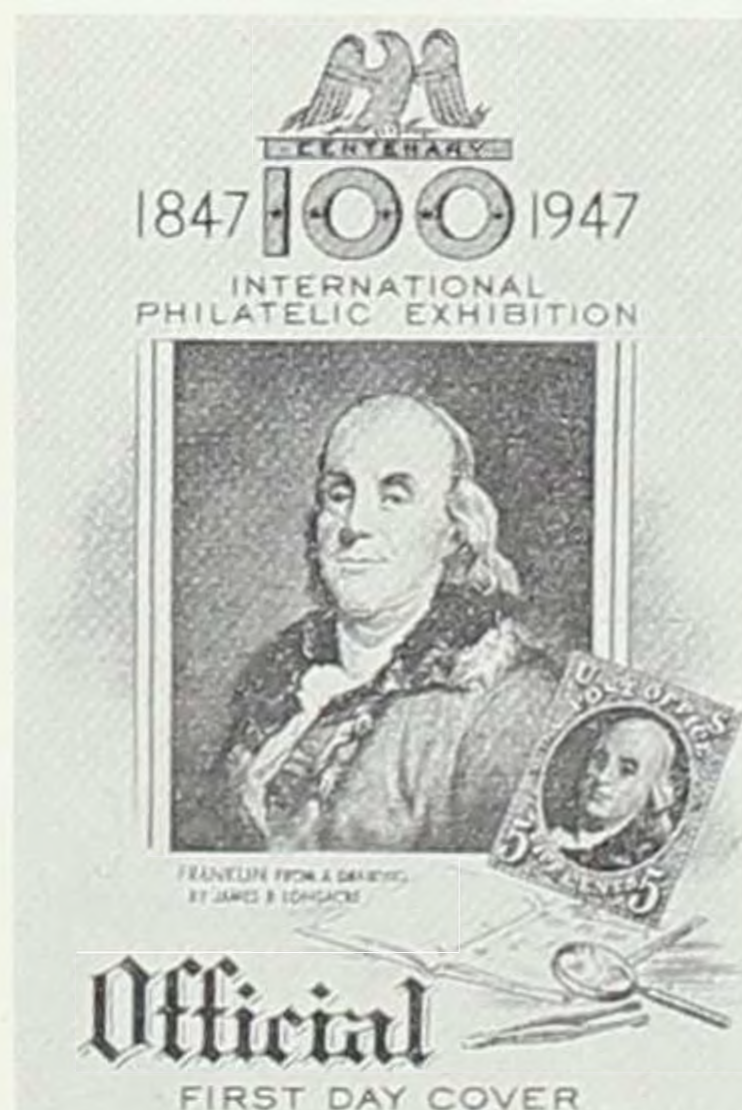
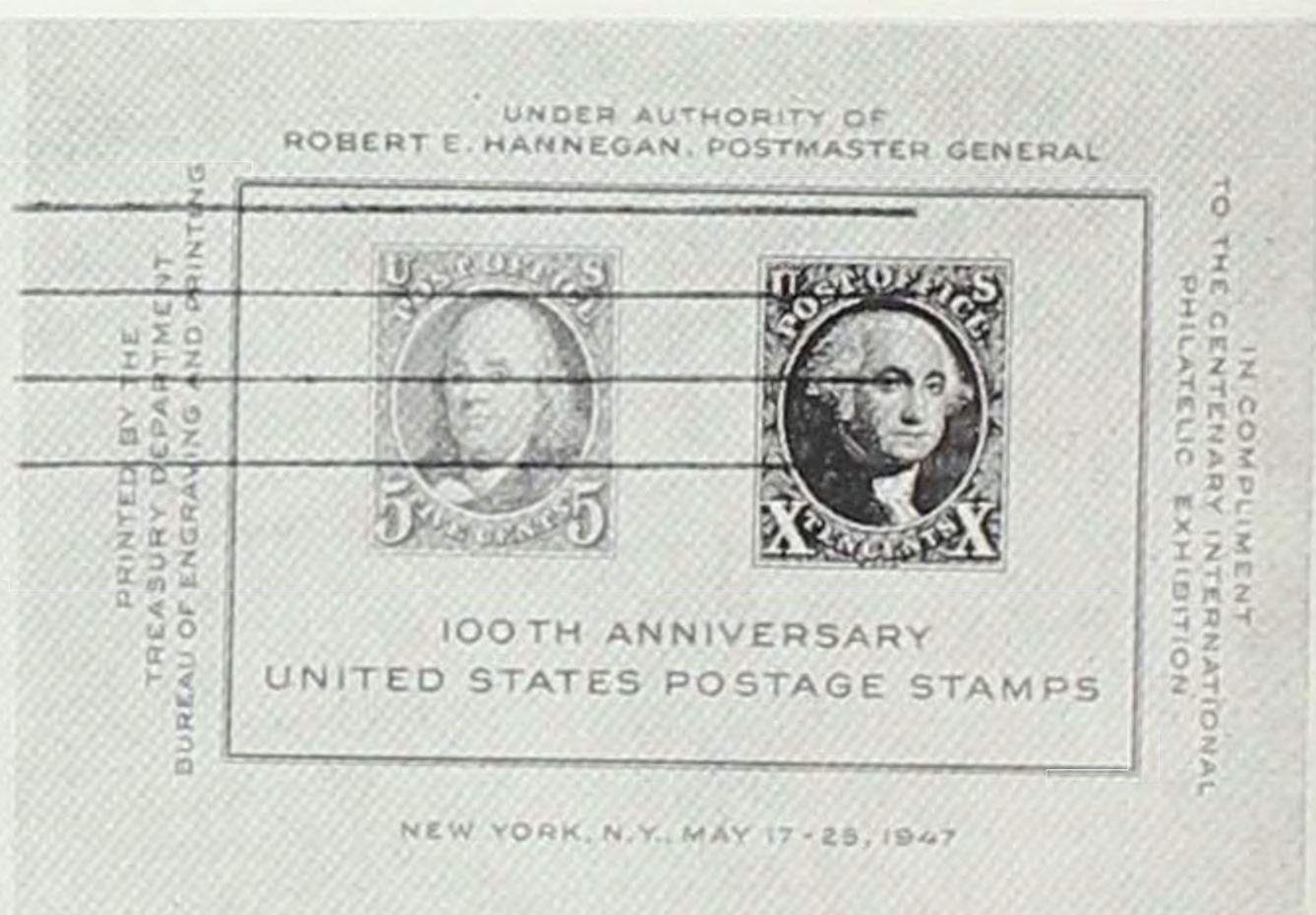
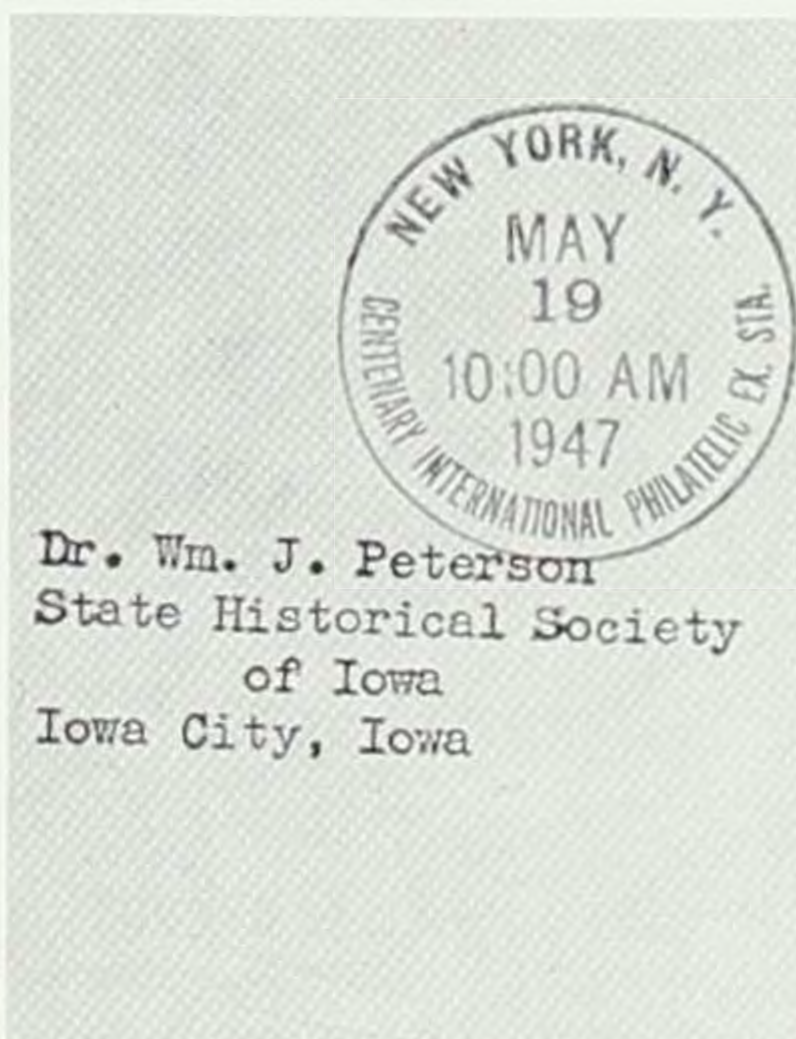
State Historical Society Collections

Dr. Isaac Galland, postmaster, wrote Governor Lucas from Commerce (later Nauvoo), Illinois, on February 24, 1839.

CENTENNIAL OF FIRST POSTAGE STAMP



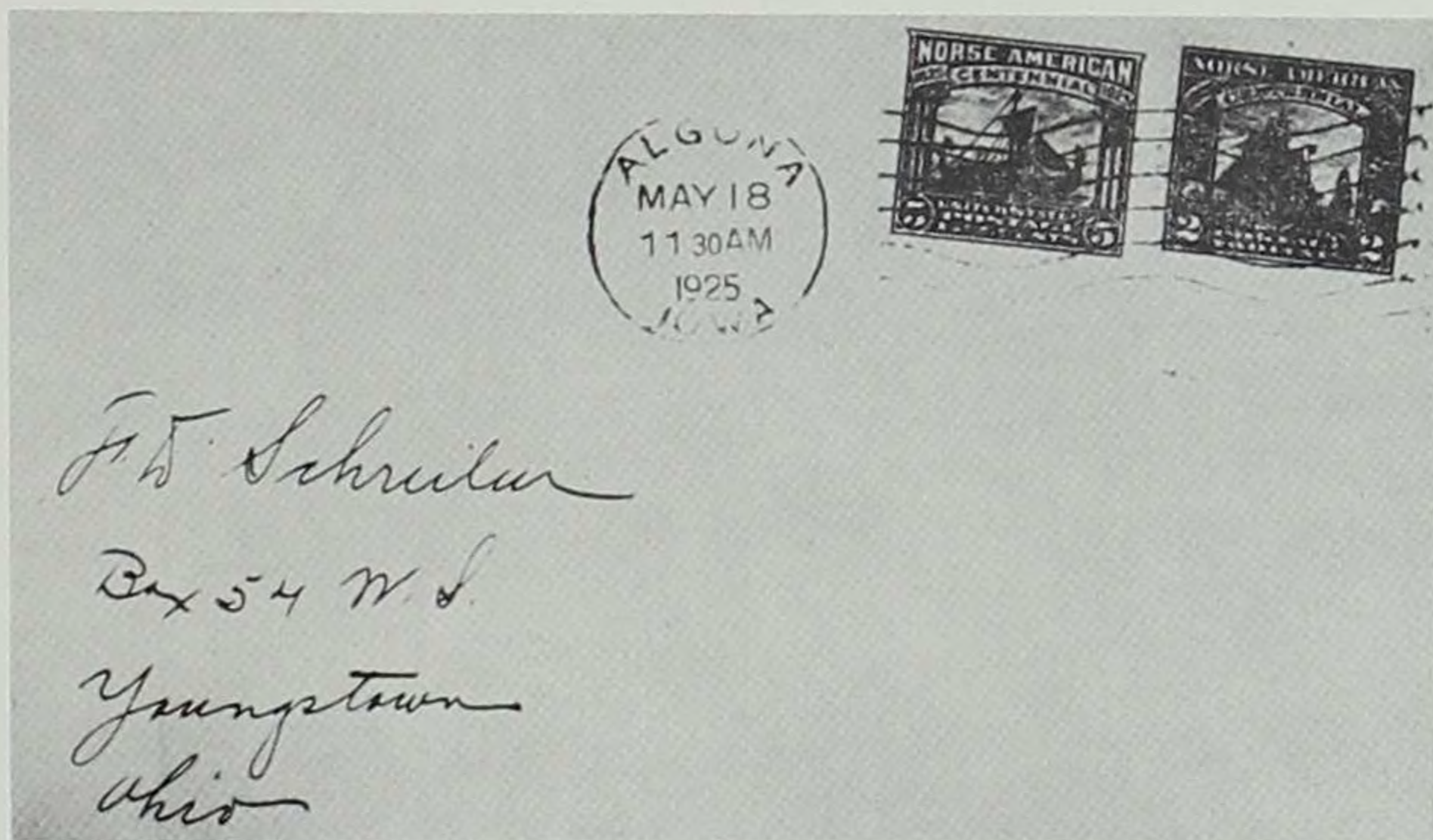
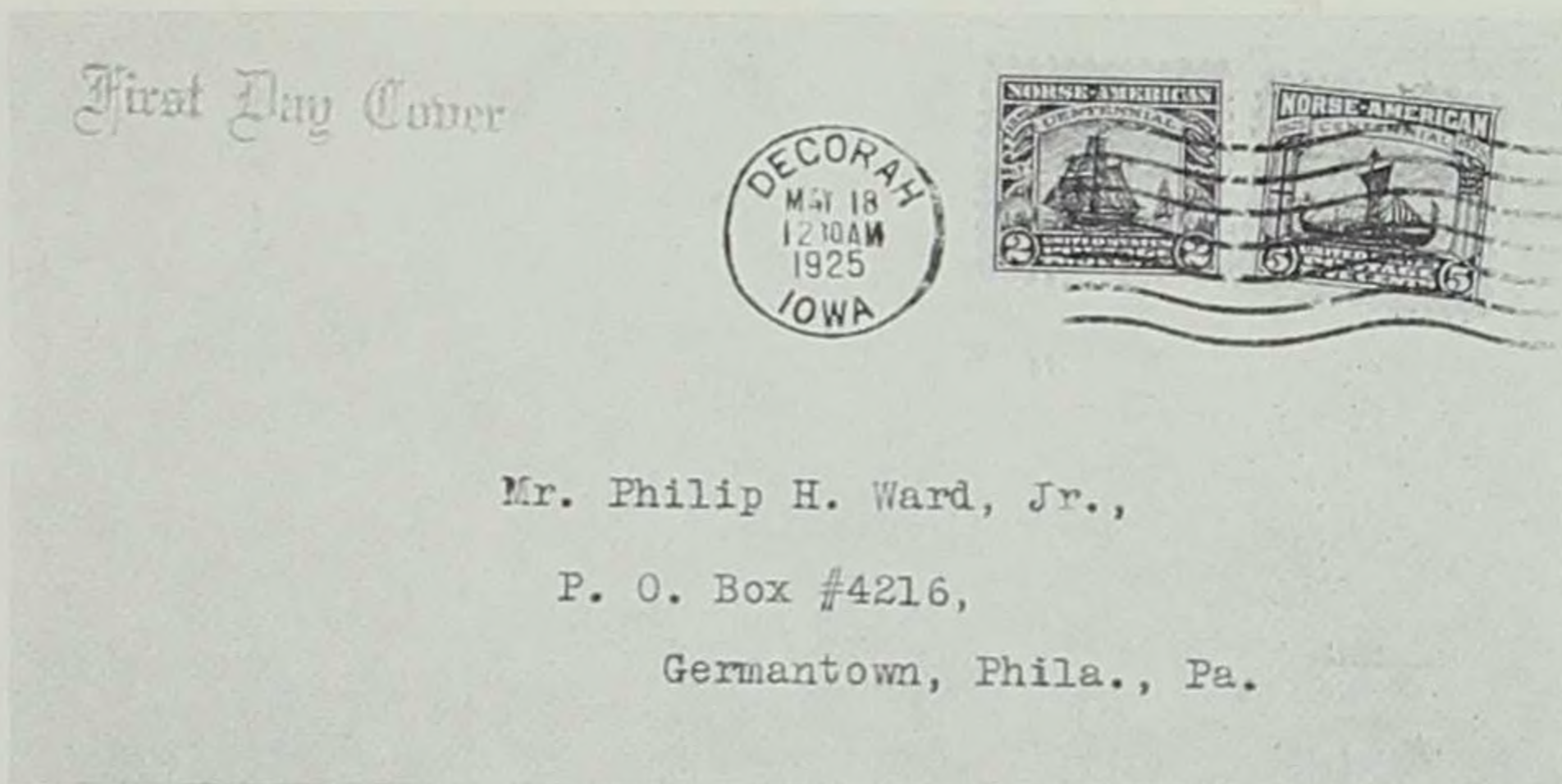
DR. William J. Petersen State Historical Society Iowa City Ia



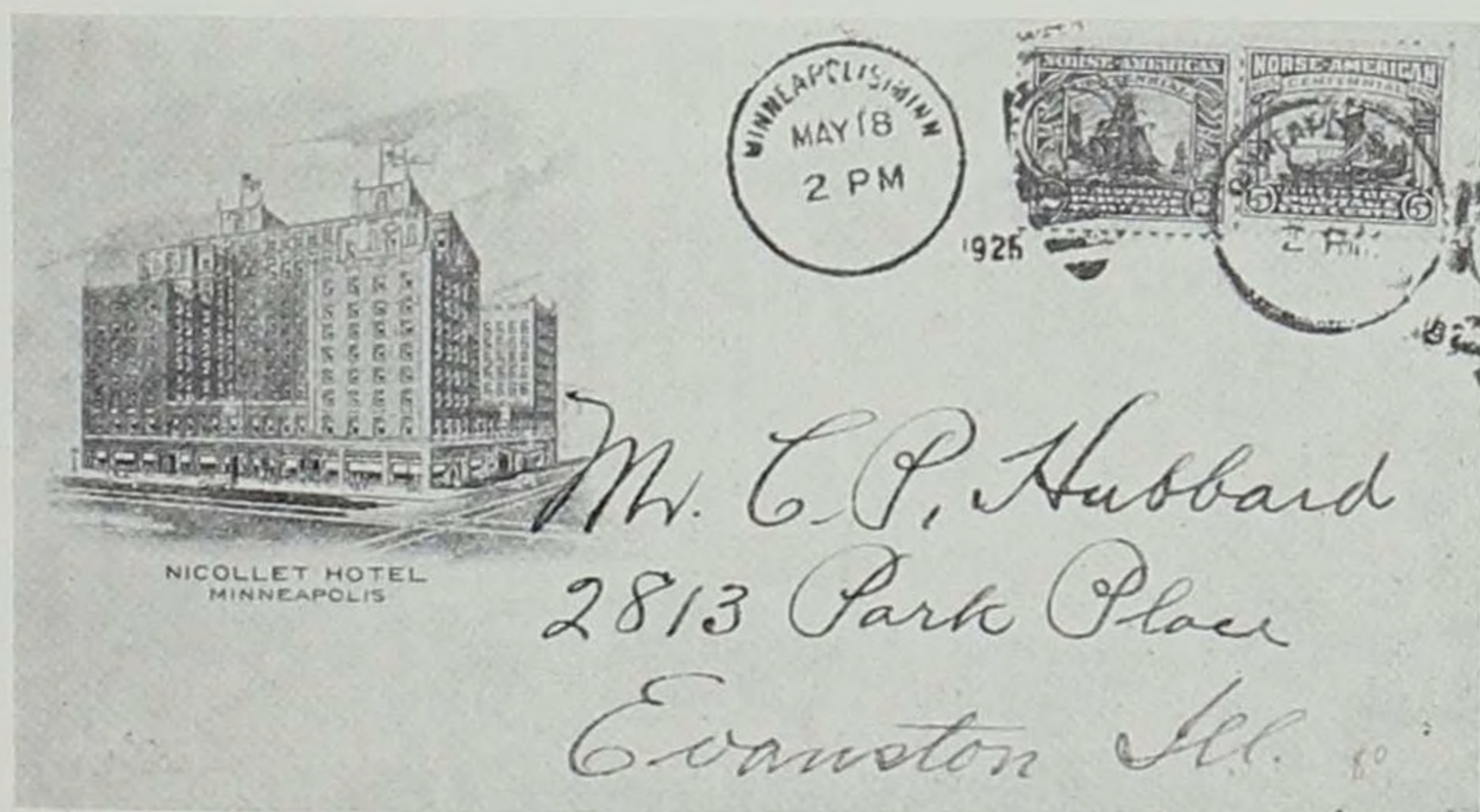
Souvenir Sheet and a First Day Cover commemorating the Centenary of the first United States Postage Stamp.

William J. Petersen Collections

NORSE-AMERICAN CENTENNIAL STAMP



Norman E. Erickson Collections



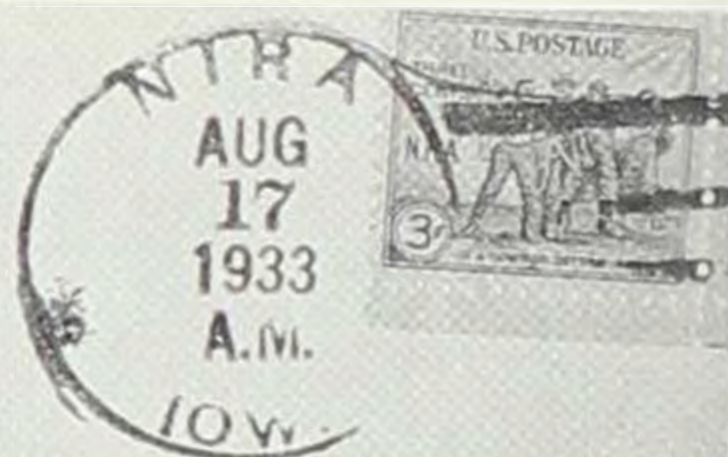
First instance where two Iowa towns (Decorah and Algona) were designated with four Minnesota towns and Washington, D.C. as joint First Day of Issue cities for Norse-American Centennial Stamp.

WHEN LITTLE NIRA BASKED IN

First Day Cancellation

OF THE
*National Industrial
Recovery Act
Commemorative Stamp*
At

Nira, Iowa



Ed Kee
P.O. Box 1234
Washington, D.C.

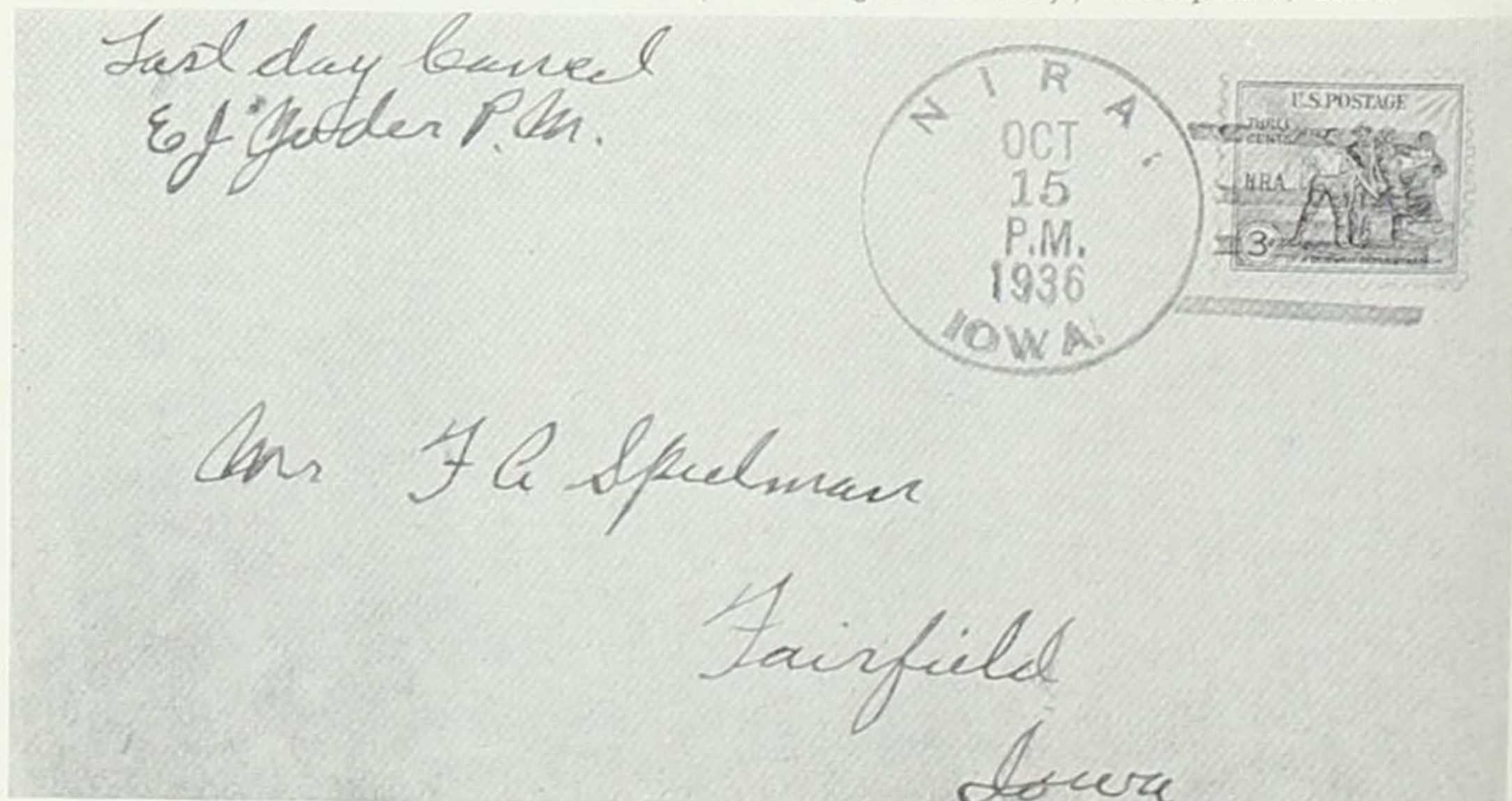
William J. Petersen Collections

Nira was granted a second day of sale for the NRA Stamp on August 17, 1933.



F. A. Spielman
502 E. Burlington St
Fairfield Iowa.

Post office established at Nira (Washington County) on April 8, 1880.



Dillon S. Turney Collections

Last day cancellation for Nira on 10-15-1936, while Yoder was still postmaster.

FAME FOR TWENTY-FOUR HOURS



Dillon S. Turney Collections

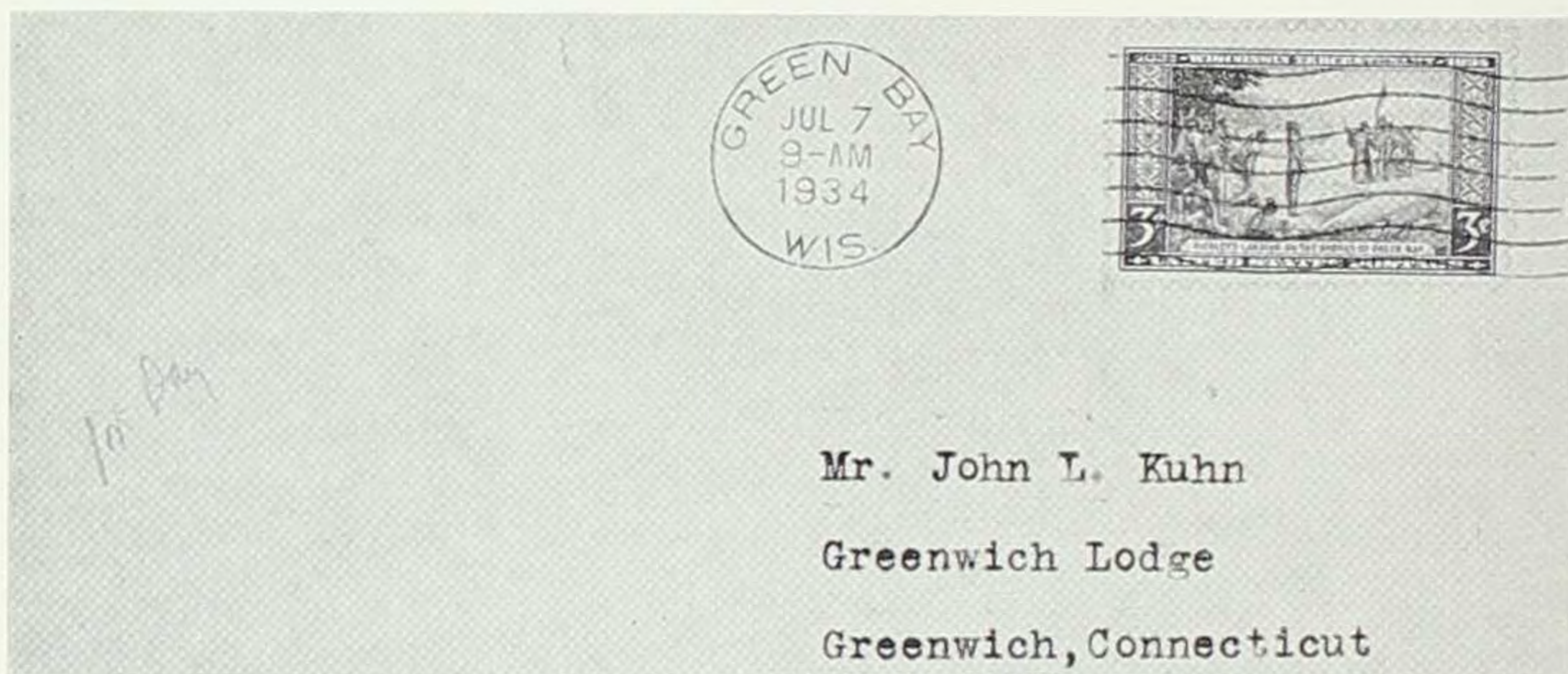
The Nira Post Office was located in Yoder's General Store. The photo was taken on Aug. 17, 1933, when the Second Day of Issue was observed at Nira.



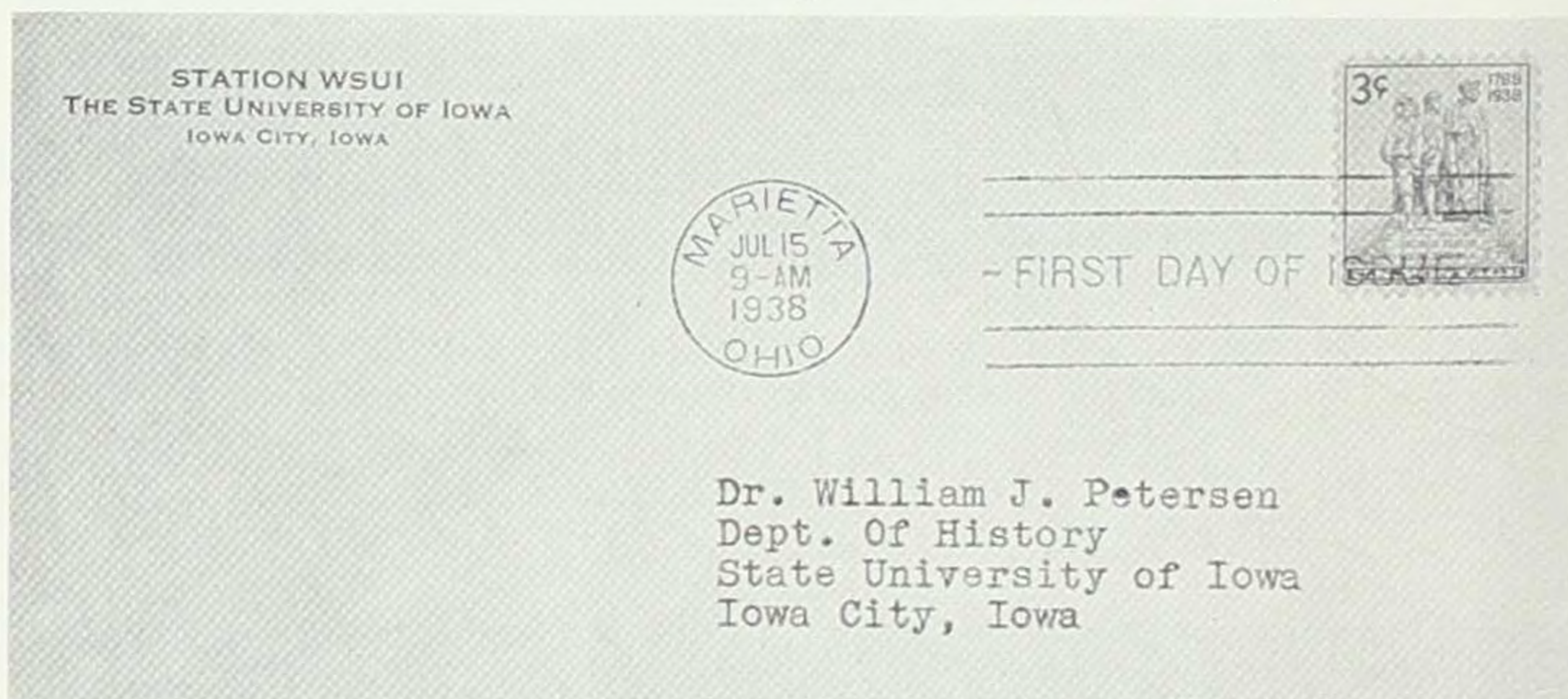
Dillon S. Turney Collections

A Bird's-Eye View of Nira in 1933 at the time the NRA Stamp went on sale.

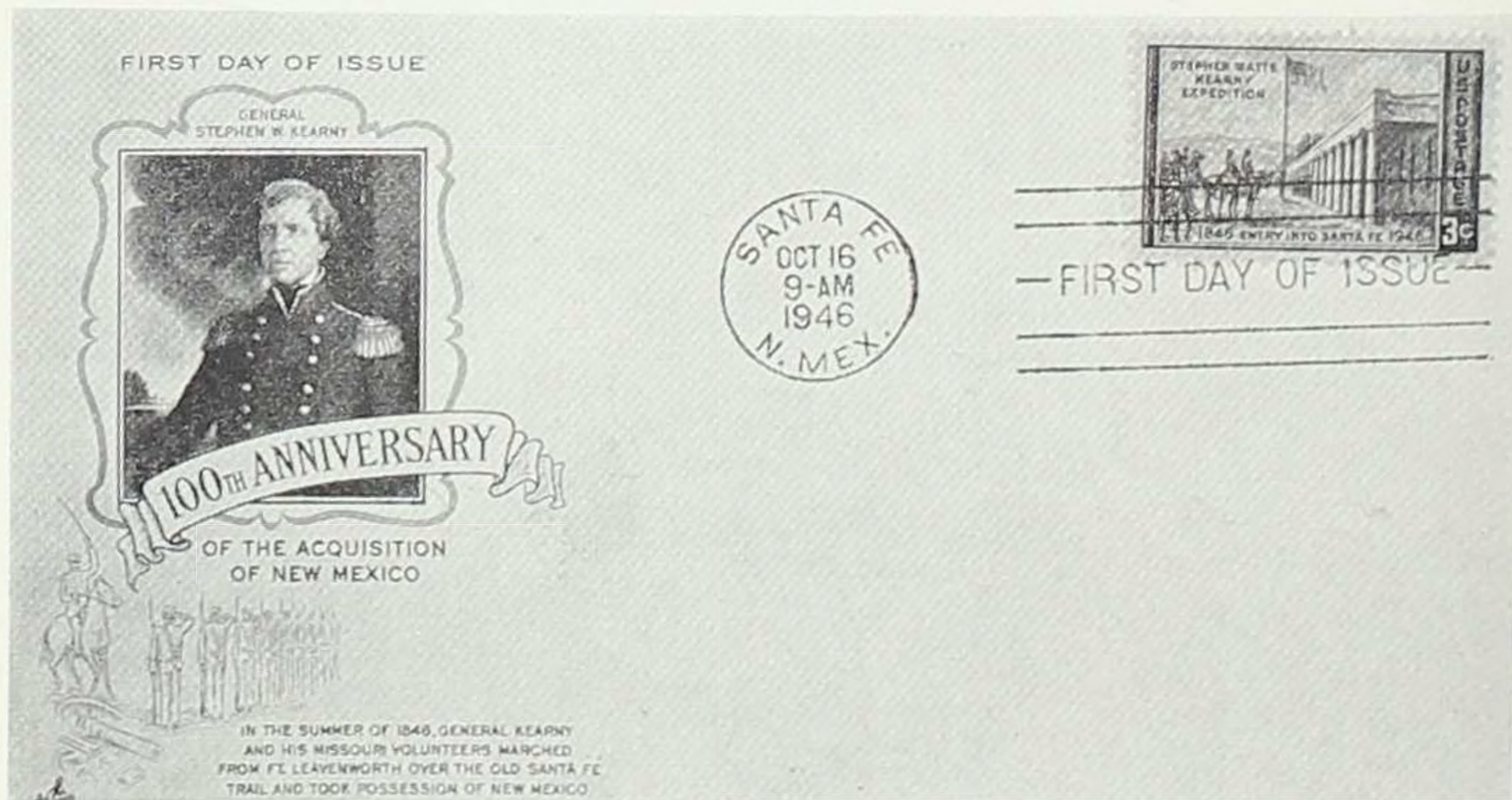
SOME HISTORIC STAMPS POINTING TO IOWA



Wisconsin Tercentenary Commemorative Stamp—Landfall of the white man in Wisconsin—Jean Nicolet meets the Winnebago Indians at Green Bay.



Northwest Territory Commemorative Stamp—150th Anniversary of the settlement of the Northwest Territory under the Ordinance of 1787.



Stephen Watts Kearny Commemorative Stamp—issued on 100th Anniversary of the entry of Kearny into Santa Fe with his Mormon Battalion.

William J. Petersen Collections

IOWA TERRITORY COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

WILLIAM J. PETERSEN
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
IOWA CITY IOWA



—FIRST DAY OF ISSUE—

FIRST RAILWAY POST OFFICE
JULY 28, 1862



This cachet sponsored by the Burlington Railroad and applied in replica of original post office car on exhibition at Iowa Territorial Centennial State Fair, Des Moines, Iowa, August 24, 1938.

Dr. William J. Petersen
State Historical Society
Iowa City, Iowa

This stamp commemorated the centennial of the establishment of the Territory of Iowa on July 4, 1838. The cornerstone of the Capitol building was laid by Governor Robert Lucas on July 4, 1840. The engraving was from a photo by F. W. Kent.

WILLIAM J. PETERSEN
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
IOWA CITY IOWA



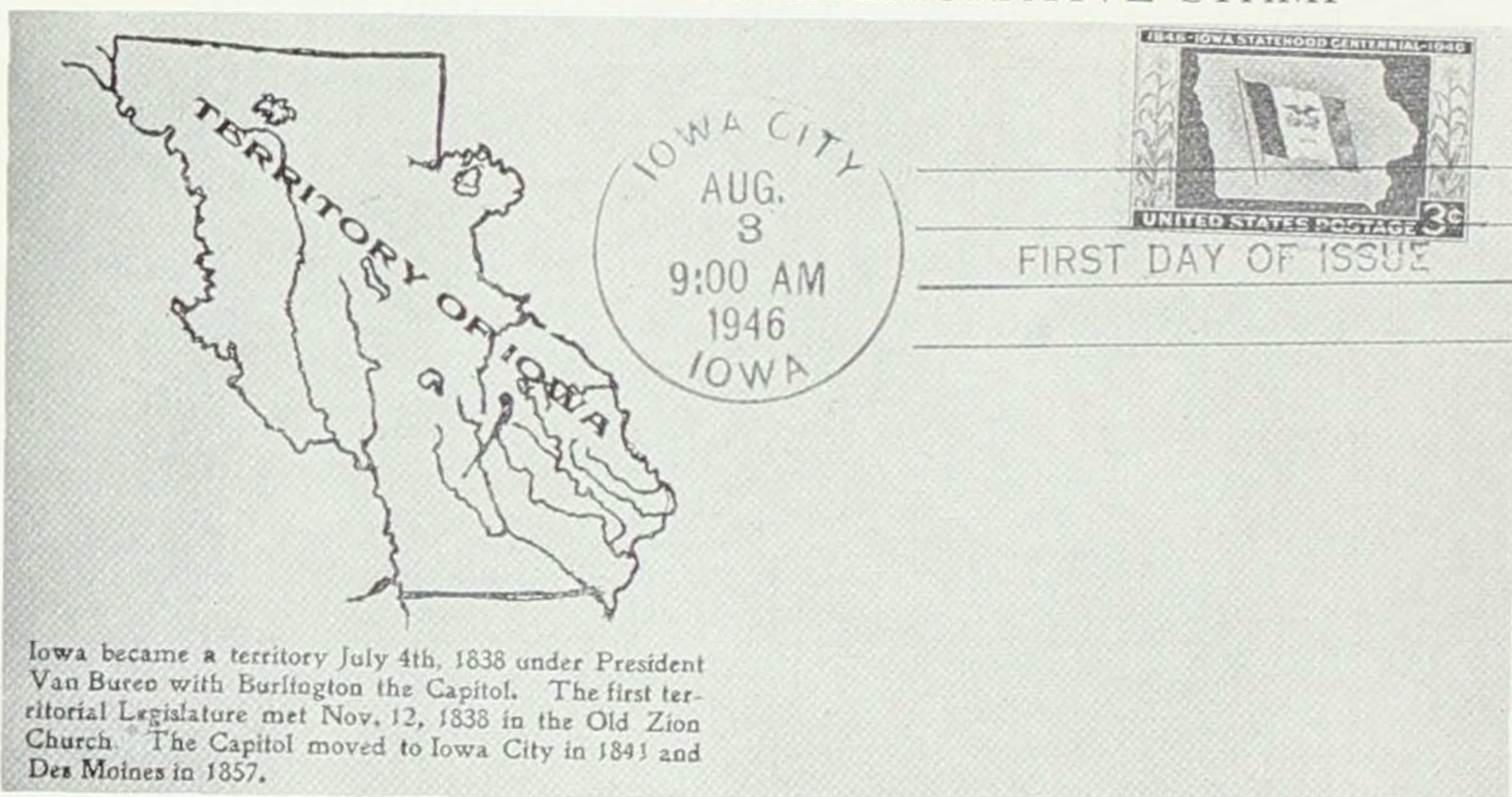
—FIRST DAY OF ISSUE—

Dr. William J. Petersen
State Historical Society
Iowa City, Iowa

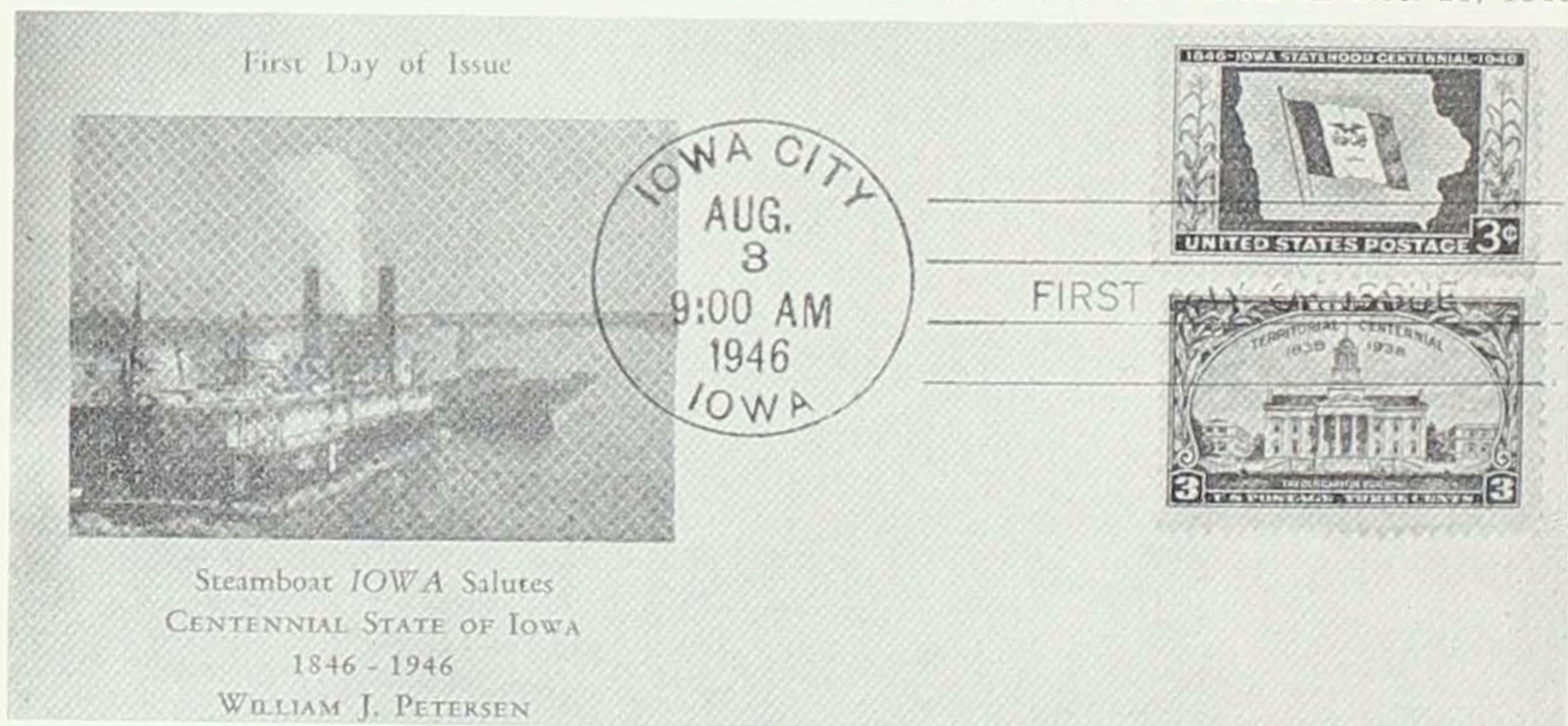
William J. Petersen Collections

The Territory of Iowa was created on July 4, 1838, and extended to the Canadian Line, including most of Minnesota and approximately half of North Dakota and South Dakota. Burlington served as the first capital from 1838-1841, and Iowa City as the second capital from 1841-1846. The Old Stone Capitol continued as both the Territorial and State Capitol to 1857. The Governor and the Supreme Court had their offices in the Old Stone Capitol and the Territorial and State laws between 1842 and 1857 were enacted in this historic building. Today Old Capitol is the administrative building of the University of Iowa.

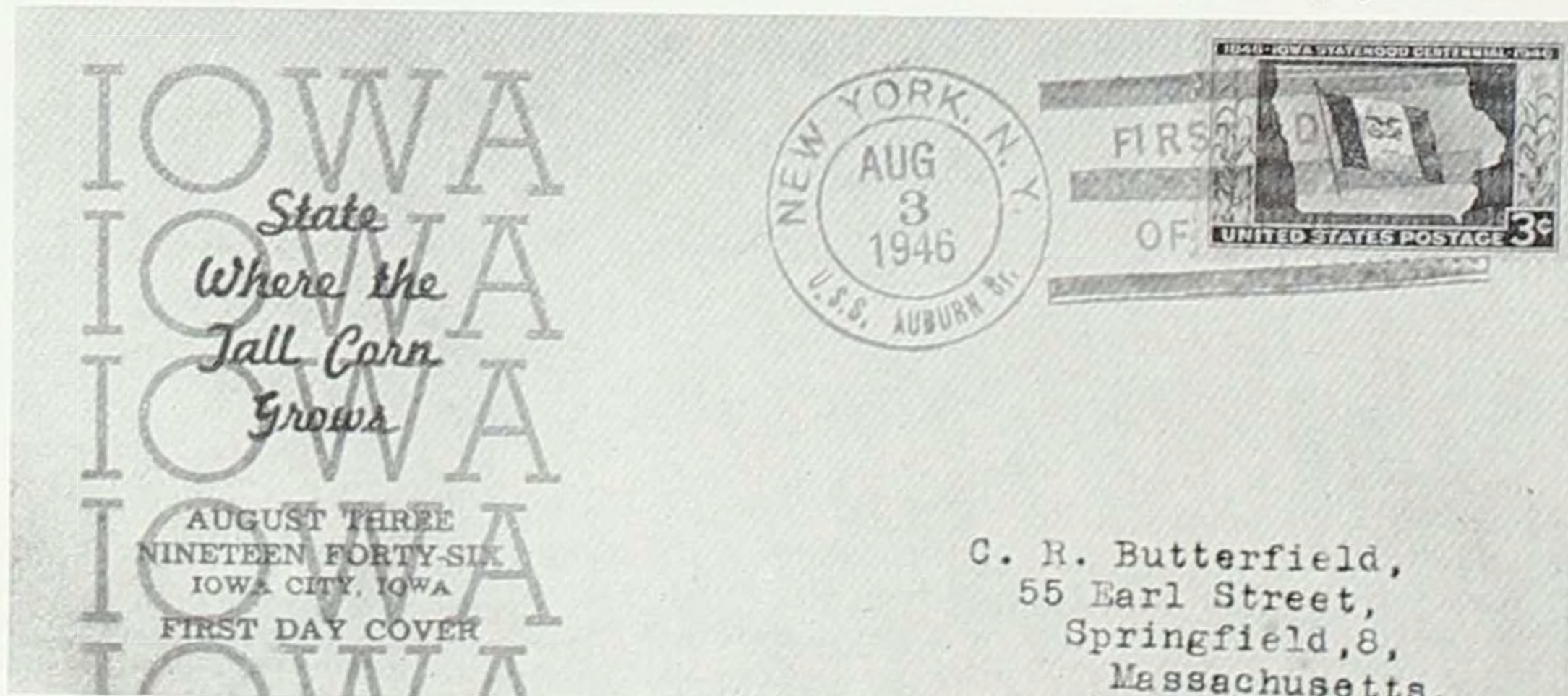
IOWA STATEHOOD COMMEMORATIVE STAMP



Issued to observe the Centennial of the Admission of Iowa into the Union on Dec. 28, 1846.



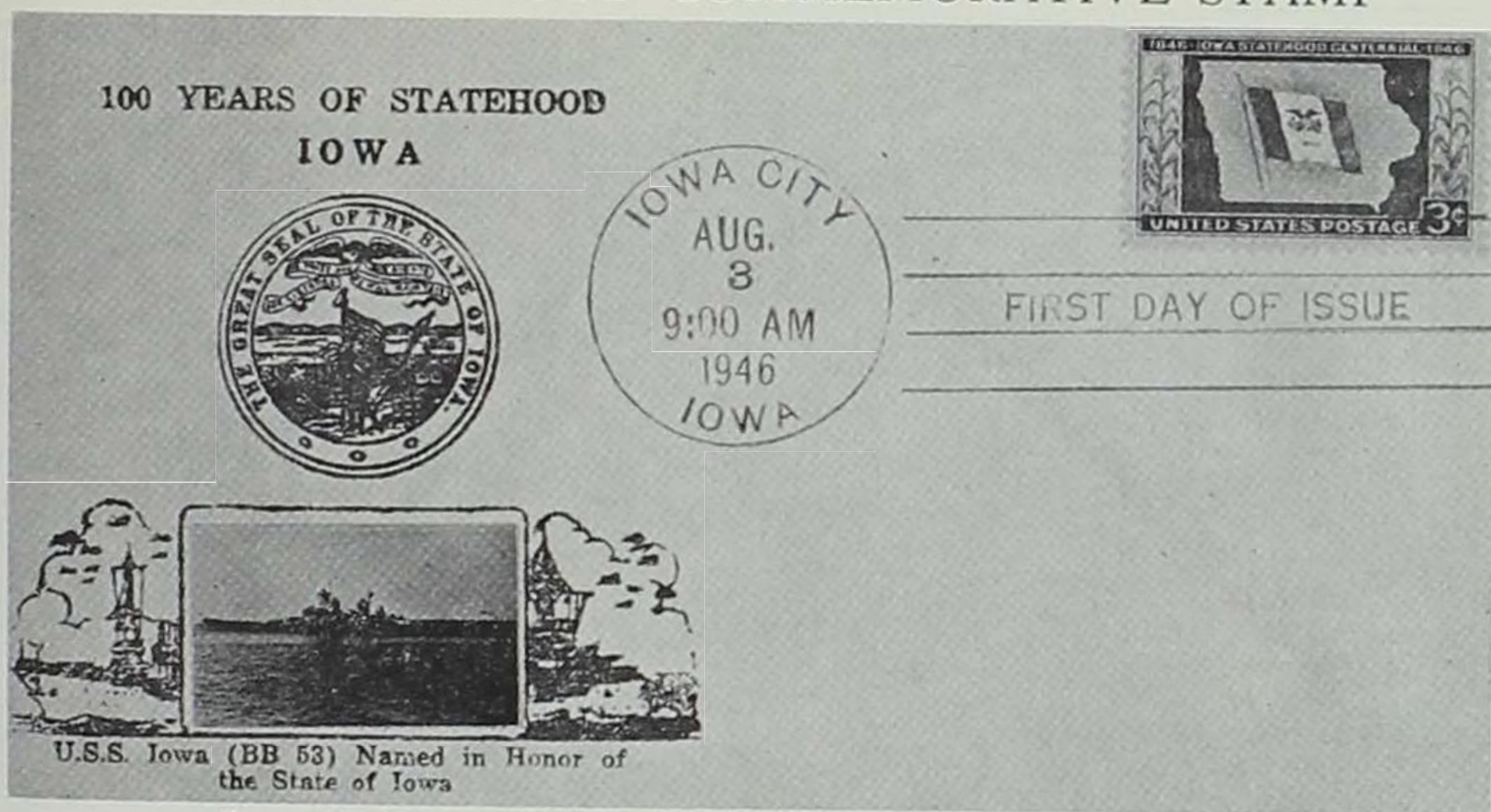
A special personal First Day of Issue using both Territorial and State stamps on the cover.



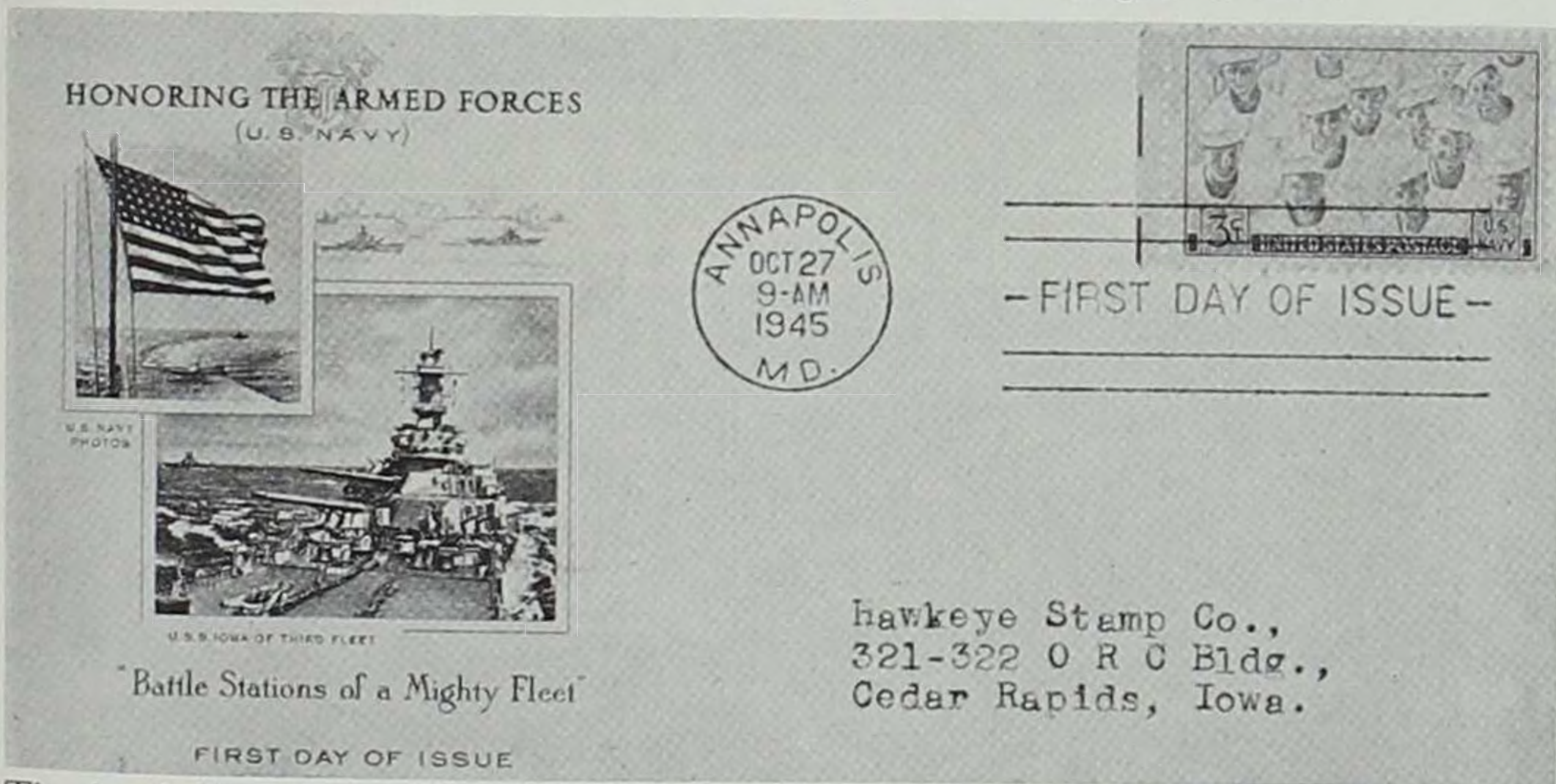
Illegal mailing from the U.S.S. Auburn on August 3, 1946.

William J. Petersen Collections

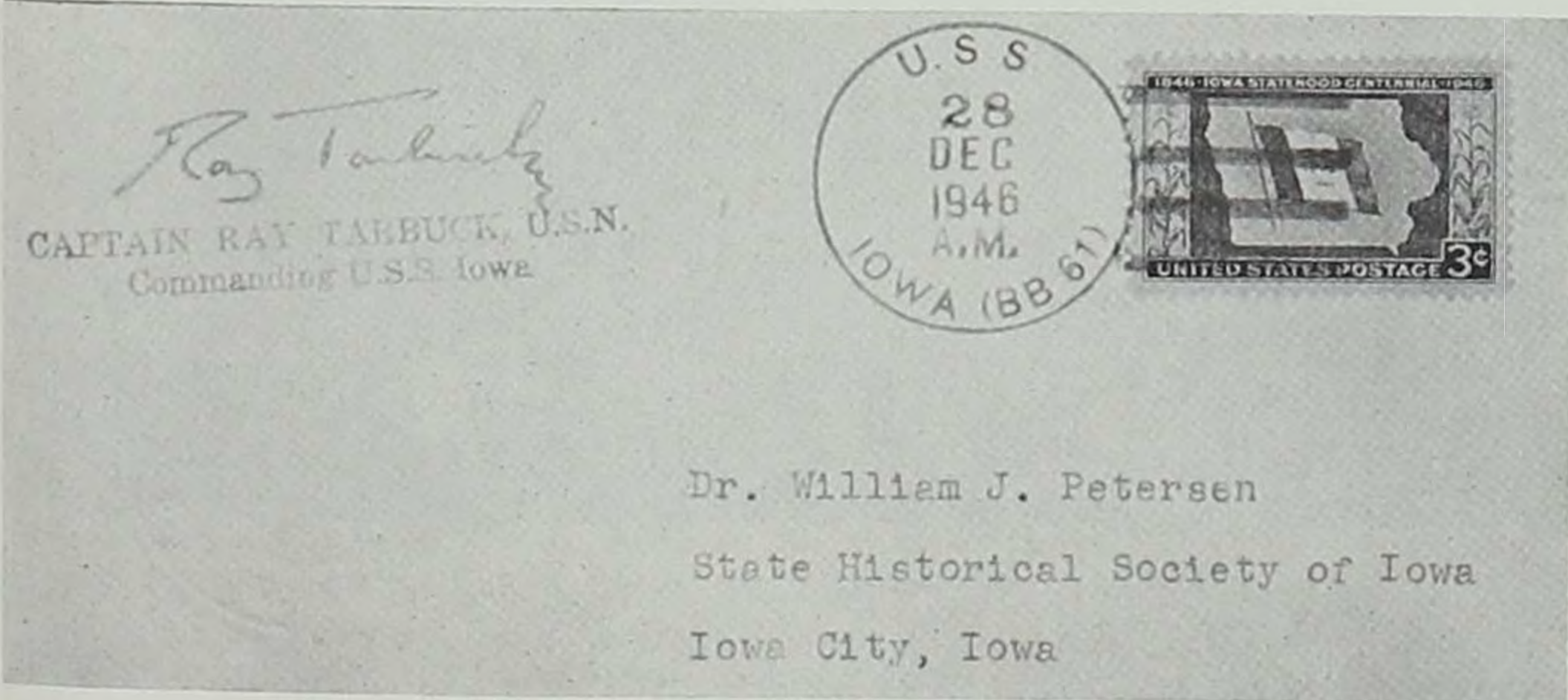
IOWA STATEHOOD COMMEMORATIVE STAMP



Special cachet honors the battleship *Iowa* on August 3, 1946.



The battleship *Iowa* was also honored on this cachet accompanying the Navy Commemorative Stamp of the Armed Forces Series.



William J. Petersen Collections

"Steamboat Bill" saw that history was kept straight by having the Captain of the battleship *Iowa* postmark the Iowa Commemorative Stamp on Dec. 28, 1946.



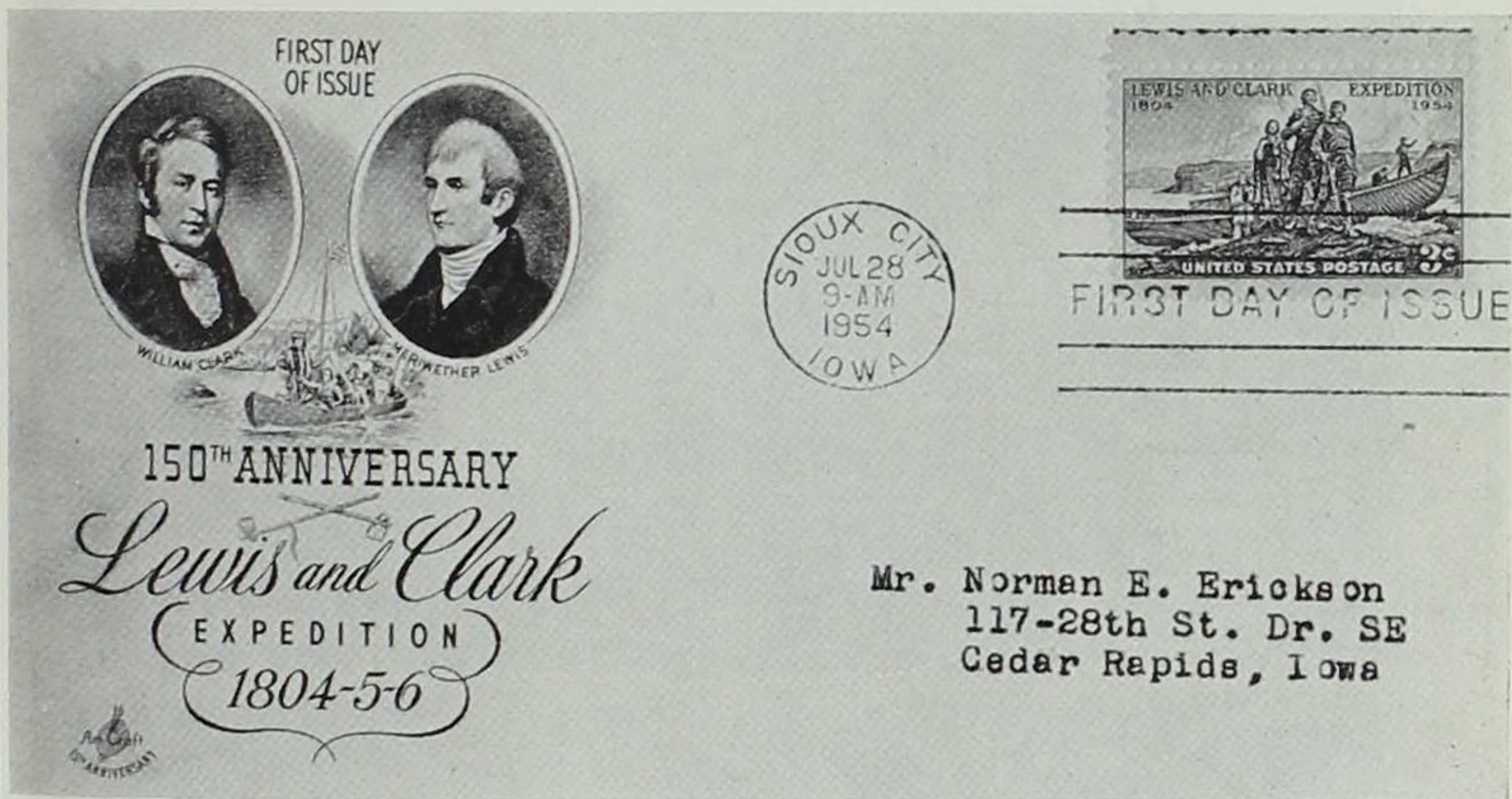
Ceremony on west side of Old Capitol in Iowa City during the First Day of Issue of the Iowa Statehood Commemorative Stamp on August 3, 1946.



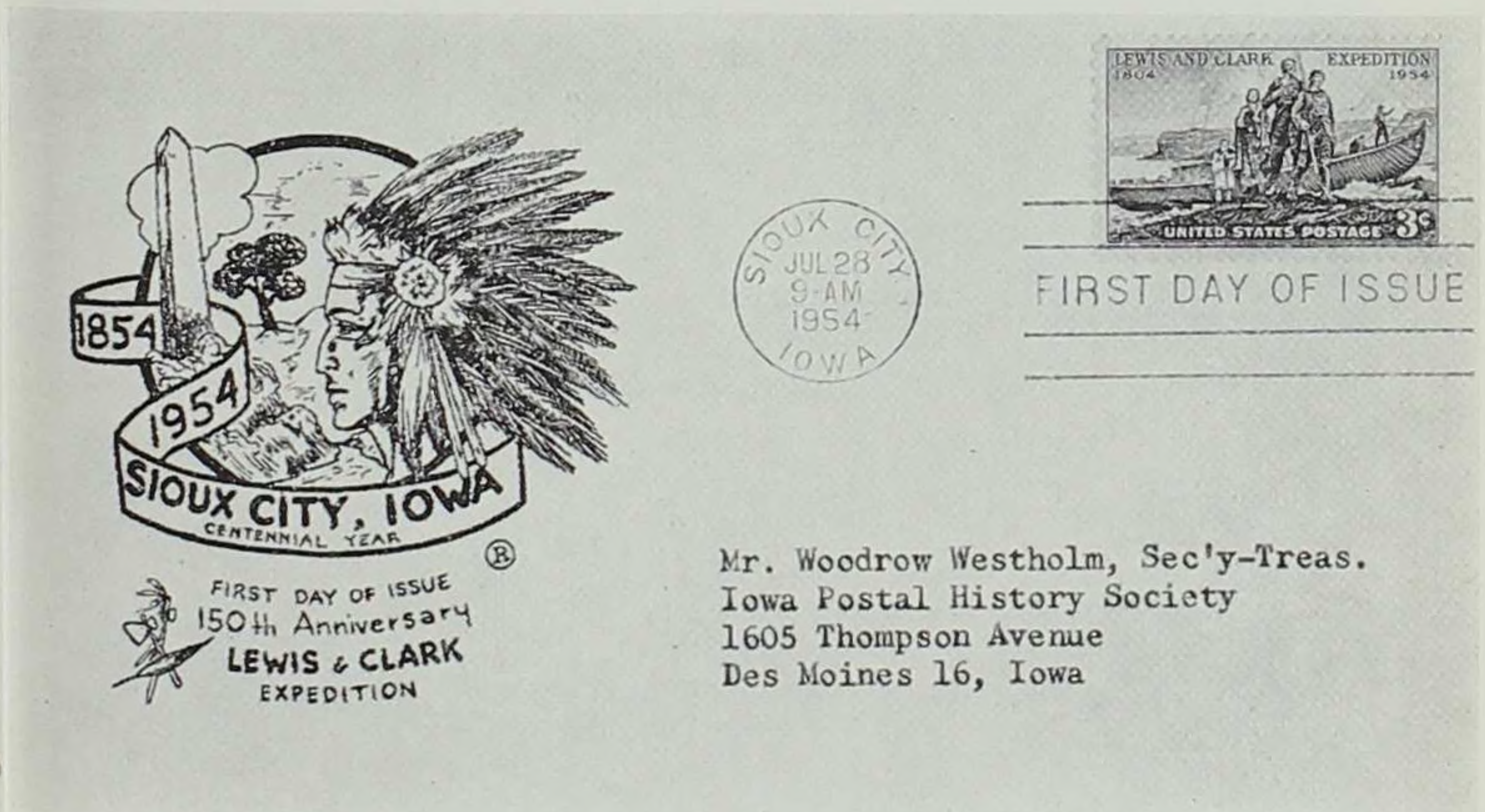
William J. Petersen Collections

Some members of the Iowa State Centennial Committee gathered in front of Old Capitol in Iowa City. Men: left to right: Governor Blue, President Hancher, John Gannaway, William J. Petersen, Ross Burman, Lester Milligan. Women: Mrs. Blue, Mary Humeston, Mrs. F. P. Gernand, Ethyl E. Martin, Mrs. R. R. Roberts, and Mrs. Edith W. McElroy.

LEWIS AND CLARK COMMEMORATIVE STAMP



This special stamp was issued to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Lewis and Clark expedition up the Missouri River in 1804. The scene depicts the expedition preparing to go into winter quarters at the Mandan Indian villages above present-day Bismarck, North Dakota, on Oct. 26, 1804.



Woodrow Westholm Collections

The Lewis and Clark expedition reached the southwestern border of Iowa on July 18, 1804, and left our western border on August 20 after burying Sergeant Floyd on the present site of Sioux City. The expedition spent 33 days passing along the western border of Iowa and it required 160 days to travel the 1,600 miles from the mouth of the Missouri to the Mandan villages. At the time of the First Day of Issue the intrepid explorers were about to hold their famous "council" with the Oto and Missouri Indians.

HERBERT HOOVER MEMORIAL STAMP

HONORING
IOWA'S NATIVE SON

Herbert Hoover

31st PRESIDENT
OF THE
UNITED STATES

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
IOWA

Established by law
at Iowa City in 1857.

WEST BRANCH, IA
AUG
10
1965
52358

HERBERT HOOVER
HUMANITARIAN • ENGINEER • PRESIDENT
UNITED STATES POSTAGE 5¢

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

Mrs. Bessie Petersen

329 Ellis Avenue

Iowa City, Iowa

31st PRESIDENT
OF THE
UNITED STATES
HERBERT HOOVER
1874 - 1964

BORN IN WEST BRANCH, IOWA, AUGUST 10, 1874. GRADUATED FROM STANFORD UNIVERSITY IN 1895, SPECIALIZING IN MINING ENGINEERING. HE PRACTICED IN AUSTRALIA, CHINA, AND LONDON AND AMASSED A FORTUNE. HE BECAME FAMOUS DURING WORLD WAR I AS FOOD ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE AMERICAN RELIEF COMMITTEE. ELECTED PRESIDENT IN 1928. HE RETIRED TO PALO ALTO BUT CONTINUED ACTIVE IN REPUBLICAN PARTY AFFAIRS UNTIL HIS DEATH.

BIRTHPLACE OF
HERBERT HOOVER
WEST BRANCH, IOWA

THE AGITATORS

WEST BRANCH, IA
AUG
10
1965
52358

HERBERT HOOVER
HUMANITARIAN • ENGINEER • PRESIDENT
UNITED STATES POSTAGE 5¢

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

*Herbert
Clark
Hoover*

31st PRESIDENT
UNITED STATES
1929 - 1933

Art Miller

91st BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY 1874-1965

BIRTHPLACE
WEST BRANCH, IOWA

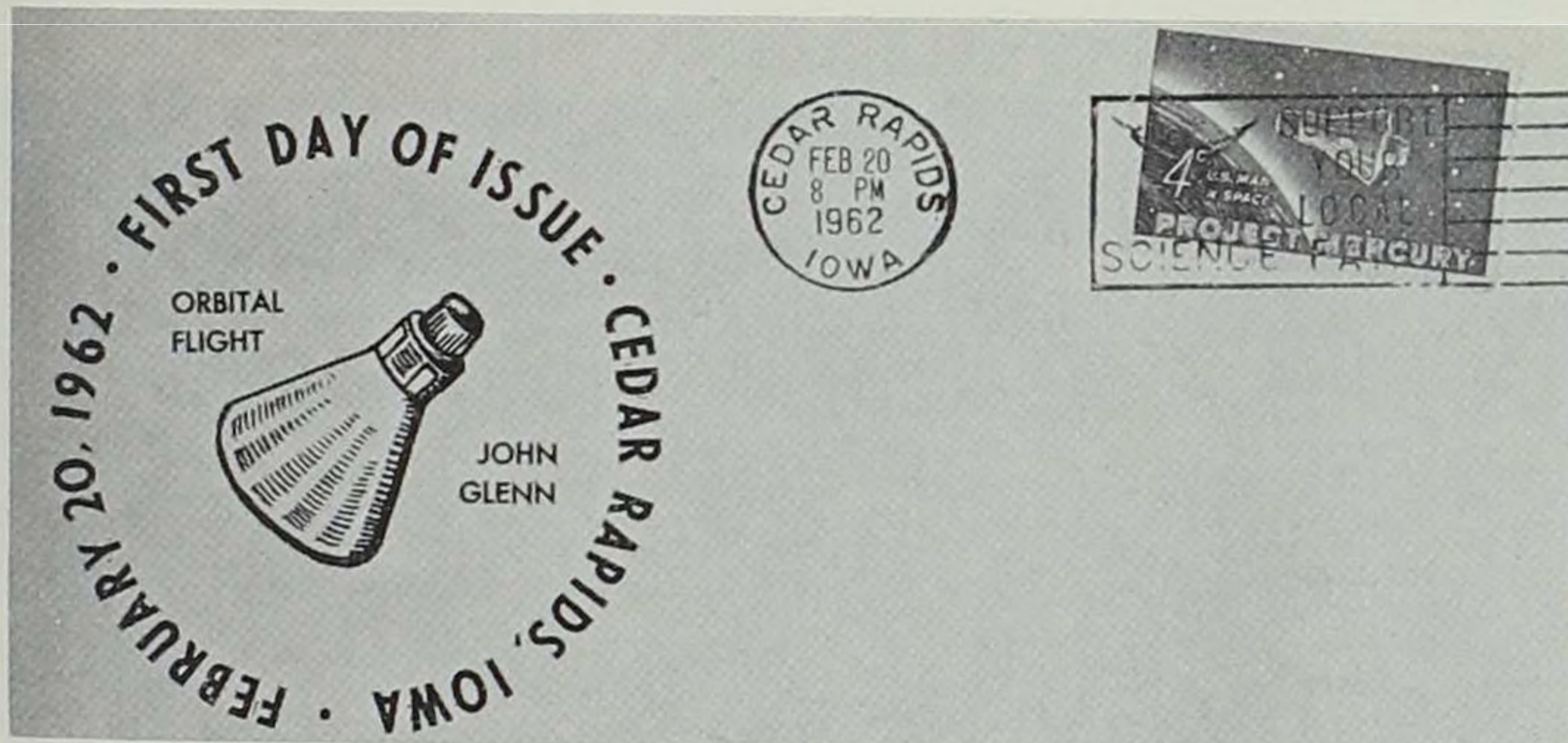
First Day of Issue

WEST BRANCH, IA
AUG
10
1965
52358

HERBERT HOOVER
HUMANITARIAN • ENGINEER • PRESIDENT
UNITED STATES POSTAGE 5¢

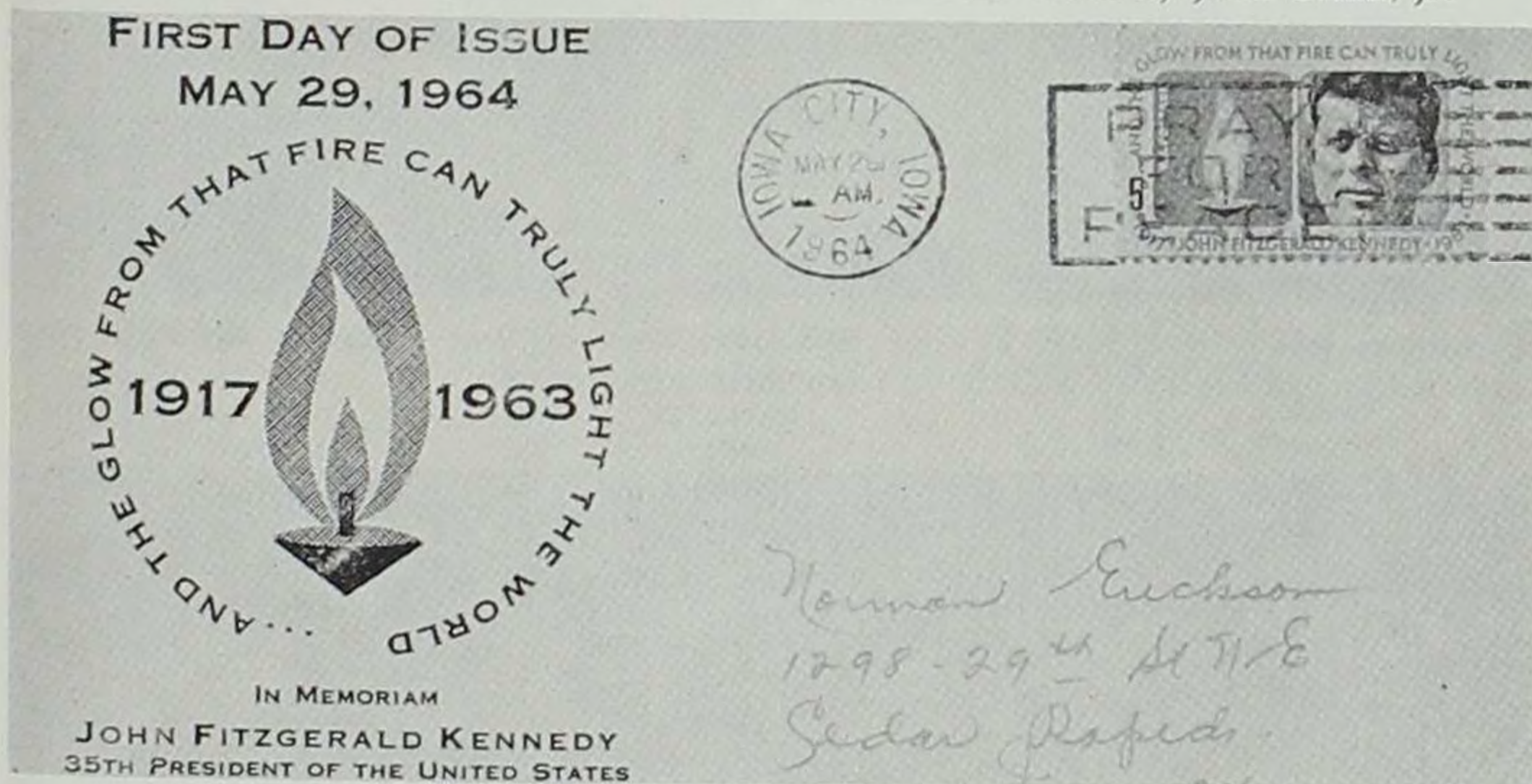
FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

TWO RECORD-BREAKING FIRST DAY ISSUE STAMPS



William J. Petersen Collections

Project Mercury signaled the successful orbit of the earth by John Glenn, Jr.



Norman E. Erickson Collections

The John F. Kennedy Memorial Stamp was placed on sale in all post offices.



The West Branch Post Office was busy on August 10, 1965.

TWO NOTABLE STAMP COLLECTORS



Iowa-born movie star John Wayne is shown with his son admiring the new First Day of Issue of the Iowa Statehood Commemorative Stamp.



President Franklin D. Roosevelt was an avid stamp collector who owned one of the largest and most valuable stamp collections in the United States.

were sold at the Fair and in Des Moines on August 24. Among the notables who received one or more of the 209,860 First Day Covers (envelopes bearing the postmark of the office awarded the first day of sale) were President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Henry Morgenthau, Jr., Harold Ickes, Shirley Temple, Adolphe Menjou, and Mary Pickford.

TERRITORIAL COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

<i>Name</i>	<i>Anniver- sary</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>First Day Covers</i>
Northwest	150	Marietta	7-15-1938	180,170
Iowa	100	Des Moines	8-24-1938	209,860
Mississippi	150	Natchez	4-7-1948	434,804
Oregon	100	Oregon City	8-14-1948	365,898
Minnesota	100	St. Paul	3-3-1949	458,750
Indiana	150	Vincennes	7-4-1950	359,643
Washington	100	Olympia	3-2-1953	334,047
Nebraska	100	Nebraska City	5-7-1954	401,015
Kansas	100	Ft. Leavenworth	5-31-1954	349,145

The State Centennial Stamp

It was on January 7, 1946, that Congressman Henry O. Talle wrote Postmaster General Robert E. Hannegan urging that a three-cent postage stamp be issued to commemorate the centennial of the admission of Iowa into the Union. A fortnight previously Governor Robert D. Blue had appointed the Iowa State Centennial Committee and Congressman Talle suggested that this committee "be given an opportunity to propose a suitable design for the stamp."

The first meeting of the State Centennial Committee was held in Des Moines on January 16, 1946. A number of sub-committees were appointed, including one on a commemorative stamp and coin. Ralph Evans of Davenport was chairman of this sub-committee and Mrs. Mary Humeston of Albia was the other member. William J. Petersen of Iowa City was added later. On January 23 Postmaster General Hannegan wrote Congressman Talle that his department would doubtless recognize Iowa statehood with a "special issue" and that he would be "very glad to have the benefit of the committee's views as to effective subject matter." The Talle-Hannegan letters were printed in the *Congressional Record* on January 24 and

immediately precipitated widespread interest and discussion in Iowa.

At a meeting of the State Centennial Committee on February 27, a motion was made that the Committee adopt the suggestion of Charles M. Fouts, a 14-year-old Albia high school lad, that the Blashfield painting "Westward" in the Capitol at Des Moines be recommended as the design for the Iowa centennial stamp. Various members pointed out that the immense size of the mural, its intricate detail, and the dimness of the painting might make difficult its reproduction on a stamp, but the Committee decided to approve the design and let the Post Office Department determine whether or not it could be used.

Scarcely had this news been released when a chorus of objections arose, and additional suggestions began pouring in. As early as December 20, 1945, the Burlington *Hawkeye-Gazette* had carried a suggestion that a view of Burlington in 1855 would serve well as a design for a commemorative stamp. Newspapers throughout Iowa reproduced designs advocated by local readers. Fully half of those suggesting designs urged that the map of Iowa appear on the new Iowa stamp. Equally popular was the idea of corn panels along both sides of the stamp. The Iowa motto — "Our Liberties We Prize And Our Rights We Will Maintain" — was included in almost half the designs submitted to the Centennial Committee.

Some of the proposed designs symbolized the agricultural interests of the Hawkeye State, usually by pictures of corn, oats, horses, cattle, and pigs, and land under the plow. One of the most artistic of the designs submitted depicted a modern farm with a pioneer farm in the clouds. At least three others showed a farm and tractor, but substituted the eagle and motto in the sky for the pioneer farm. Two of these three contained both the map and cornstalks.

On April 19th the Post Office Department announced that engravers had found the painting "Westward" too detailed for good reproduction and asked the State Centennial Committee to submit a simpler design. This precipitated another barrage of suggestions. Finally, after several personal conferences with post office officials, Ralph Evans, the chairman of the stamp committee, authorized the Post Office Department to designate an artist to prepare a design showing the Iowa flag superimposed on an outline map of the State with cornstalks for panels. Victor S. McCloskey, Jr., of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, prepared a design, using a Rand-McNally map, an Iowa flag copied from the *National Geographic*, and cornstalks furnished by the Department of Agriculture. He did such an excellent job that the sub-committee accepted his design with only minor changes. Matthew D. Fenton engraved the picture and vignette of the Iowa stamp while J. S.

Edmondson engraved the ornamental frame, the lettering, and the numerals.

This beautiful commemorative three-cent stamp was approved by the sub-committee on stamp and coin at a meeting held at Iowa City on May 24, 1946. At this same meeting the sub-committee selected the blue color of the Texas statehood stamp with the green used in the Coast Guard stamp as its second choice. The Post Office Department struck off sheets of both colors and concurred with the sub-committee in its choice of the Texas blue. The issue was to number 125,000,000.

The sub-committee also acted on two other important items — the place and date of the first day of issue for Iowa's commemorative stamp. As early as December 1945, Burlingtonians had bestirred themselves for this honor, mindful of the fact that they had lost out in 1938. Des Moines, however, seemed to hold the inside track, for the Post Office Department had been following the precedent of awarding the honor to the State capital.

The claim of Iowa City was well presented by William J. Petersen. The constitutional conventions of 1844, 1846, and 1857 had been held in the Old Capitol at Iowa City, Iowa's richest historic shrine. The first State government was inaugurated there. The Republican Party was born in the Old Capitol on February 22, 1856. The build-

ing had housed both the Territorial and the State Supreme Courts. After the removal of the capital to Des Moines the Old Capitol had been given to the State University of Iowa for educational purposes. Confronted with such a mass of historical evidence the Iowa Centennial Committee voted that Iowa City be awarded the first day sale and that the sale be held on August 3, 1946.

Joseph J. Lawler, Third Assistant Postmaster General, asked why the First Day of Issue had been moved from December 28 to August 3. There was no precedent for the release of statehood stamps except on anniversaries. The sub-committee explained that it was guided in its recommendation by the wishes of the Iowa Centennial Committee, a majority of whose members felt that the immediate issue of the commemorative stamp would be a potent factor in stimulating centennial celebrations throughout Iowa, as well as serving as one of the most effective mediums for publicizing the occasion. The committee also pointed out that it was on August 3, 1846, that the people of Iowa adopted their first State Constitution.

On June 24, 1946, the following telegram from Congressman Thomas E. Martin was received at Iowa City: "Post Office Department has just announced that original issue of the Iowa Centennial Stamp will be made at Iowa City August 3. It will be a three-cent blue stamp which will have map of State of Iowa and the Iowa Flag and two panels

of corn stalks. The design was submitted by the Iowa Centennial Commission. Congratulations."

The Centennial Committee was naturally hopeful that the Iowa City sale should rank with the best in the nation. The record for State commemorative first day covers was held by Tennessee with 463,512. Texas was second with 397,866. But Texas had $2\frac{1}{2}$ times Iowa's population and Nashville was ten times as large as Iowa City. To overcome these disadvantages, various agricultural, industrial, commercial, religious, and educational groups were encouraged to get out envelopes with individual designs to tell the history of the organizations and to advertise Iowa. The idea was greeted with enthusiasm. The publishers of the *Des Moines Register*, the Maytag Company, the Rath Packing Company, Sargent & Company, Station WOC, Carr, Adams & Collier, the Torch Press, and other organizations issued such cacheted envelopes. These accounted for approximately one-fifth of the total number of first day covers postmarked at Iowa City.

Formal invitations to the presentation ceremonies were sent out by the Postmaster General to Governor Robert D. Blue and other State officials, to members of the Iowa Centennial Committee, and to other prominent Iowans. Iowa-born Admiral William D. Leahy was named to represent President Truman at the ceremony.

Requests for the Iowa stamp commenced pour-

ing into the Iowa City post office from the forty-eight States and U. S. possessions, from Canada, and from many foreign lands. Ranging in number from one to ten (the limit for personal orders for envelopes to be stamped by a post office) these orders ultimately reached a total of 298,942 covers. Of this number 223,584 requested a single stamp, while 57,474 asked for blocks of four and plate blocks. Postal employees were at first confounded by requests for stamps with "an electric eye," a "guide line," or a "bull's-eye cancellation," but before August 3 arrived they had learned an entirely new vocabulary.

The morning of August 3 was warm and sunny, and a thousand people jammed the west approach of the Old Capitol to witness the impressive ceremony when Joseph E. Lawler, Third Assistant Postmaster General, presented the first sheets of the Iowa Statehood Centennial stamps to Governor Robert D. Blue and Admiral William D. Leahy. Postmaster Walter J. Barrow presided at the ceremony and Mayor Wilber J. Teeters and President Virgil M. Hancher greeted the visitors. Short speeches were made by Governor Blue and Admiral Leahy after they had been presented with their stamps. The ceremony was broadcast over Station WSUI and lined out through stations WHO and WOC.

Following this program Postmaster Barrow gave a luncheon at the Jefferson Hotel honoring

Admiral Leahy, Governor Blue, Third Assistant Postmaster General Lawler, and R. E. Fellers, Superintendent, Division of Stamps. The luncheon was attended by Mayor Teeters representing Iowa City and President Hancher of the State University, by Ralph Evans, Mrs. Mary Humes-ton, and William J. Petersen of the Iowa Centennial Committee, and by D. C. Nolan and Robert Gage of the Iowa City Chamber of Commerce.

While these events were taking place Iowans from near and far jammed the post office and substations to purchase the attractive blue stamps. The first private purchaser was Paul Stoner, a graduate student from Lawrence, Kansas, who bought one hundred and eight stamps. Throughout the day long lines formed at the post office. In the basement a special machine cancelled approximately 120,000 covers while a picked force of ex-servicemen hand-cancelled orders calling for that type of postmark.

Meanwhile the big commercial dealers had a corps of assistants at work in the Community Building and in their rooms at the Hotel Jefferson. Unlike the post office force, these men were not able to start stamping their covers until 7 a. m. on August 3, when the stamps went on sale, so they were allowed to work over Sunday and bring their covers in for cancellation early the next week. The post office itself did not finish its own servicing work until a week later, partly because of the

number of orders on hand, and partly because of delayed requests from foreign countries.

One dealer, V. A. McGrew of Marshalltown, prepared 40,000 covers for mailing and "Capt." Fluegel of Washington, D. C., serviced over 30,000. Fred Spielman, a veteran Fairfield stamp dealer who had attended First Day of Issue sales for years, arrived at Iowa City with two striking picture cachets — one of "Buffalo Bill" and the other showing Mrs. Dixie Gebhardt sewing the Iowa flag. Three of these dealers serviced almost one-sixth of the total first day covers.

It was not until August 13 that Postmaster Barrow made his final report to the Superintendent of Stamps at Washington. Of the allotment of three million stamps sent to Iowa City, a total of 1,067,000 had been sold the first day. The number of first day covers was equally impressive — 435,320 had been cancelled by machine and 82,185 had been cancelled by hand, a total of 517,505. Only the New York World's Fair issue of 585,565 in 1939 eclipsed the Iowa City sale.

The Iowa City stamp sale demonstrated to most Iowans that stamp collecting is a "big business" and not merely a hobby for youngsters. The thirty-five first class post offices in Iowa were allowed to place stamps on sale immediately following August 3. As swiftly as possible the remaining Iowa post offices were supplied with the stamps.

The Postage Stamp Centennial

The first pioneers to enter the Black Hawk Purchase found the postal service little different from that existing when Washington was president. Mail was carried on horseback, by stagecoach, by steamboat, and after 1838 in some places by railroad. Since no railroad reached Iowa until 1854, it required an average of from a month to six weeks for letters and papers to travel from the Atlantic seaboard to Iowaland. Frequently the mail was actually lost, or it was damaged by water to such an extent that it became illegible.

The failure to reduce rates for fully half a century was a serious factor in curtailing the use of the mails. The act of 1792 had fixed the rates for single letters at prices ranging from six cents for under thirty miles on a graduated scale up to twenty-five cents for any distance over four hundred miles. Since the settlers in the Black Hawk Purchase were generally far from relatives and friends the twenty-five cent fee usually prevailed, and that was no trifling sum for the average pioneer. Their inability to pay was probably reflected in the decrease in per capita postage expenditures from 26 cents in 1837 to 22 cents in 1845, despite the fact that hundreds of new postal routes had

been established each year in the United States during this same period.

The high postage rate was only one of the problems involved in early mail delivery. For over half a century the Post Office Department of the United States permitted letters to be mailed either prepaid or "collect on delivery." If the sender paid the postage, the postmaster noted on the space reserved for the address the amount of the postage and indicated that it had been "paid." These notations were usually made with pen and ink but some resourceful postmasters provided special stamps or designs to indicate that the postage had been received. In 1845, for example, the New York Postmaster provided a five-cent stamp. These came to be known as "Postmasters' Provisionals." Most postmasters used only a design stamped on the space reserved for the address. A letter to Thomas McKnight at Dubuque, dated December 29, 1840, for example, has "25" written in the upper right hand corner. In the upper left hand corner is an oval stamp bearing the printed words "St. Genevieve" and "Missouri." Between these names someone wrote "5 Jany."

Prepaid mail was easy to deliver. Any pioneer would take a prepaid letter to a neighbor. But if the postage was to be collected, the story was usually much longer. First the addressee had to be notified that a letter for him had been received at the post office. Then he had to collect the post-

age charges in coin. Many are the frontier tales of long journeys made to find some friend who had twenty-five cents in good hard cash. With coins in hand, or in pocket, the addressee had to make the trip to the post office to get his letter. Fortunate indeed was the man who, after all this trouble, received good news in his letter.

But a new day was dawning for the United States postal service and the young State of Iowa was destined to benefit by it. On March 3, 1845, the very day John Tyler signed the bill admitting Iowa into the Union under the Constitution of 1844, the President signed a bill limiting the franking privilege, authorizing "star route" contracts, and reducing postage rates. The latter was particularly important to a frontier State for it meant that henceforth Iowans would pay five cents for distances less than 300 miles, and ten cents for letters destined to go over 300 miles. This meant single one-sheet coverless letters weighing under one-half ounce. The effect of this reduction in rates in 1845 was quickly reflected in the tremendous increase in letter writing. In 1844 a total of 38,135,592 letters had been sent; by 1851 this number had increased to 83,252,735.

The second great innovation occurred when Congress authorized on March 3, 1847, the issuance of adhesive postage stamps. The famous 1847 series consisted of the Benjamin Franklin five-cent stamp in brown and the George Wash-

ington ten-cent stamp in black. During a period of four years about 3,700,000 five-cent stamps were issued and unredeemed. Only about 900,000 ten-cent stamps were issued during this same period.

The figures concerning the number of early stamps pale beside the 125,000,000 Iowa Statehood Centennial stamps issued in 1946 and the latter figure is dwarfed by the total of 656 billion stamps sold from the more than seven hundred varieties issued since 1847. The early stamps were usually printed in sheets of one hundred and had to be scissored apart. The first perforated stamps appeared in February 1857.

In all probability few 1847 stamps were used in Iowa. One authority declares that fragmentary records in Washington indicate that a few such stamps were sent to some Iowa post offices. An equally competent authority asserts that no 1847 stamps were sold in Iowa and that any used here were probably brought in by travelers from the East. Horace Poole of Dubuque, whose Iowa cover collection won first prize at the Trans-Mississippi Philatelic Society meeting at Des Moines in 1946, knew of only one man who had an Iowa cover with an 1847 stamp. It was sent from Farmington to Keosauqua. Since the five-cent and ten-cent stamps issued in 1847 were discontinued on July 1, 1851, when postage was reduced, few Iowans probably used them.

What is the reason for the scarcity of these early stamps? The position of Iowa on the frontier with its relatively scattered population is one factor. Few personal letters were written in those early years; it is said that ninety-eight letters out of one hundred concerned business affairs. Furthermore, many people still preferred to send their letters collect because they felt more confident of their delivery. Since the use of these early stamps was not compulsory and the number printed was relatively small, it is not surprising that the eminent authority, Carroll Chase, should estimate that "only about one letter in fifty bore a stamp."

It thus appears that conditions in Iowa remained much the same during the period 1847-1851 as in the stampless cover period. The issue of the stamps in the series of 1851 brought into use a three-cent stamp for single letters going not more than three thousand miles, and six cents over that distance. The series included the first one-cent stamp and a one-cent carrier's stamp. The provision for stamps did not, however, end the stampless period, for the prepayment of postage by postage stamps was not compulsory until January 1, 1856. Even then, post offices sometimes ran out of stamps and postmasters resorted to the "paid" rubber stamp that had been in vogue in the stampless era. Postage stamps, however, were here to stay. They were convenient and their use gave a simple and effective check on postal income.

During the last half century stamps came to be used to commemorate historic events and to honor countries, States, and persons.

Thus, the birth of the State of Iowa is intimately associated with some of the most far-reaching reforms in postal history; for the introduction of cheap postage meant a sharp break with the old idea of postage for "revenue" and the emphasis of "service" as the motto of the post office. The wisdom of the "service" policy of the United States Post Office is attested by the marvelous growth of postal service. Between 1845 and 1945 the nation underwent a seven-fold increase in population. During the same century the number of pieces of mail increased not seven-fold, but a thousand-fold!

Between 1789 and 1851 the total postal expenditures were \$111,790,393 compared with receipts totaling \$113,748,998. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1945, the postal revenue totaled \$1,314,000,000, or almost twelve times the total revenue from 1789 to 1851. Happily for those who urged cheap postal rates — and many Iowa editors joined this chorus — the year's surplus in 1945 was \$162,642,089, a sum greater than the total postal revenue from Washington's inauguration to the issue of three-cent stamps in 1851. The growth of Iowa might be linked up in no small measure with the inauguration of cheap postage and convenient postage stamps a century ago.

Lewis and Clark Commemorative

The 150th Anniversary of the start of the Lewis and Clark expedition up the Missouri was commemorated by the State Historical Society of Iowa in a special edition of *The Palimpsest* issued in September 1954. It presents a vivid picture of one of the most colorful events in Iowa history.

After spending the winter of 1803-1804 in winter quarters at Camp Dubois [Wood River] opposite the mouth of the Missouri River in Illinois, where the recruits were drilled and disciplined (for this was a military expedition), the little band of men started up the Missouri on May 14, 1804. On July 18 they reached the southwest border of modern Iowa at what is now Fremont County. Although the men complained that the "Musquitos [were] so thick & troublesom that it was disagreeable and painfull to Continue a moment still," they rejoiced over the large quantity of fish and game which they were able to catch and kill while passing along Iowa's western border.

On August 2 a small party of Indians from the Oto and Missouri tribes were encountered. Clark wrote that the Indians were sent "Some roasted meat, Pork, flour & meal, in return they sent us Water millions." A conference was set for the

following day which was held on a bluff on the Nebraska side of the Missouri. It was for this event that Council Bluffs, Iowa, was named. Lewis and Clark informed the chiefs of the wishes of the government in Washington and gave them advice and directions as to how they were to conduct themselves. In reply, Clark wrote in his journal, the chiefs "all Delivered a Speech, acknowledging their approbation to the Speech and promising to prosue the advice & Derrections given them that they wer happy to find that they had fathers which might be depended on &c." Various presents were exchanged and then, after Lewis had astonished the Indians by "Shooting the air gun a fiew Shots," the party proceeded on upstream once more.

As they approached present-day Sioux City, two events of importance in Iowa history took place. On August 19 another council was held with representatives of the Missouri and Oto Indians. More speeches were made and presents exchanged. One of the serious Indian problems was summed up when Clark noted that "those people beged much for Whiskey."

On the same day Charles Floyd, sergeant in command of one of the party's three squads, was "taken verry bad all at once with a Biliose Chorlick." Despite the attention of all members of the expedition, Sergeant Floyd got worse and on August 20, 1804, he "Died with a great deal of Composure." A half mile below the mouth of the Floyd

River, which was named for him, Floyd "was buried with the Honors of War much lamented." He is thought to have been the first white man buried in Iowa. In later years the Missouri washed away part of his grave and in 1857 his remains were moved two hundred yards inland. In 1901 the present monumental shaft was erected to his memory.

There were many cities willing to serve as the First Day of Issue for the Lewis and Clark Commemorative Stamp but Sioux City was finally designated. The choice of location was excellent for Sioux City had erected the most imposing monument honoring both the expedition and Sergeant Floyd — the only soldier to die on the expedition. The choice of date and the subject matter depicted on the stamp itself is debatable, as a careful reading of the above would indicate.

Sioux City was observing in 1954 the 100th Anniversary of its founding and had apparently prevailed upon the Post Office Department to allow its celebration to take precedence over the actual historical event that was being commemorated. As a result the date selected would have been more in keeping with the Council Bluffs-Omaha area and the "Council" with the Indians on August 3. The stamp design, on the other hand, would have been more in keeping with the Bismarck, North Dakota, region and the Mandan villages. Had the sale taken place on August 20

and had the design reproduced the Floyd Monument with pictures of Lewis and Clark on opposite sides, there would have been a perfect synchronization of time, place, and the events of the day.

The *Sioux City Journal* of July 29, 1954, carried the following account of the sale:

More than a quarter of a million first-day covers bearing the new Lewis and Clark commemorative stamps were canceled at the Sioux City postoffice Wednesday and forwarded to destinations that included every state in the nation and a score of foreign countries.

When stamp windows closed Wednesday evening, 250,710 covers had been canceled. Clerks estimated a possible 10,000 more would be deposited and canceled before midnight.

George Dubes, superintendent of finance, said 360,000 Lewis and Clark stamps had been sold at the close of business Wednesday. Orders came from all parts of the country, largely from stamp dealers. Largest single order was for \$2,733 and many for \$1,000 each.

Thirty-six extra clerks have been employed for a week to affix the stamps to covers.

Twelve stamp dealers set up first day cover tables outside the postoffice building Wednesday and all reported heavy demand, most going to Sioux City visitors as centennial souvenirs.

The number of stamps requested on first day covers ranged from a single stamp to as many as 54 on one cover, Roy Walsh, postoffice clerk, said.

A total of one and a half million of the stamps were made available to the postoffice here.

In addition to the designs of the five major concerns,

LEWIS AND CLARK COMMEMORATIVE 417

probably as many as 10 other designs were available, according to A. L. Fluegel, Kansas City, Kan., dealer.

Boy scouts in evidence too, selling first day covers alongside the dealers.

Estimates place the number of stamp collectors in this country at 12 million.

The total sale of Lewis and Clark Commemorative First Day Covers on July 28 was 371,557, a far cry from either the Iowa Statehood Stamp or the Hoover Memorial Stamp.

The Hoover Memorial Stamp

The fourth and most recent First Day of Issue cover associated with Iowa was the Hoover Commemorative Stamp. Issued at West Branch on August 10, 1965, the Hoover Memorial Stamp was a tribute to the only Iowa-born man who rose to the exalted position of President of the United States.

Many of those who gathered at West Branch, on August 10, 1965, were present, or at least could recall from radio or television, that warm October day when Hoover was brought to his final resting place following his death on October 20, 1964. President Hoover paid his last visit to West Branch on the occasion of his 88th birthday on August 10, 1962. At that time, he called for America to organize a "Council of Free Nations" to work for peace when the United Nations failed to act or was "prevented from taking action" to preserve world peace.

Today, the menace of Communism has become worldwide.

The time is here when, if the free nations are to survive, they must have a new and stronger world wide organization. For purposes of this discussion I may call it the "Council of Free Nations." It should include only those

who are willing to stand up and fight for their freedom.

It was against this background that former Vice President Richard M. Nixon delivered the principal address on "American Foreign Policy" on August 10, 1965. Present for the occasion was ex-President Dwight D. Eisenhower, who did not make a speech but did read a greeting from President Lyndon B. Johnson.

On hand for the occasion, too, were the sons of President Hoover — Herbert Hoover, Jr. and Allen Hoover. A 52-piece military band from the Strategic Air Command at Omaha had been flown in to provide music for the occasion.

Among those who attended the program developed around the issuance of the First Day of Issue cover were United States Senator Jack Miller, Representative John Schmidhauser and former Congressmen Fred Schwengel of the First District, and James Bromwell of the Second District. Richard J. Murphy, Assistant Postmaster General, Bureau of Personnel, attended with other prominent postal officials. Donald Johnson, National Commander of the American Legion and himself a resident of West Branch, served as Master of Ceremonies.

To care for the crowd of upwards of 15,000 that was present at West Branch for the occasion, the Heritage Foundation had set up three outdoor concession stands where 5,000 ham sandwiches, 1,000 hot dogs, and nearly 1,500 gallons of soda

pop were on sale. In addition, both the Methodist and Lutheran churches had prepared food for fully 1,000 people. Every effort was made to see that visitors and the 8,000 stamp collectors would not go away hungry.

The big event at West Branch on August 10 was the issuance of the First Day of Issue cover. The philatelic world had been alerted well in advance and the big commercial dealers were on hand, or had hired processors, to service customers ranging from perhaps 25,000 to 50,000. Their orders for the Hoover Stamp had been in the West Branch Post Office for days awaiting the arrival of the Hoover Commemorative Stamp. As soon as the stamps arrived, each order had been specially packed so that no delay would be occasioned for quantity commercial purchasers when they arrived with their checks at 7 a.m. on Tuesday, August 10.

Meanwhile, for almost a month Postmaster Murray Gibson had been checking in the thousands of requests for First Day of Issue covers that had been arriving at West Branch. Starting out with an extra crew of half a dozen, Gibson gradually increased his staff of four until he had a force of forty-five on hand to open letters containing coins or money orders with requests for stamped First Day of Issue covers ranging from one to two hundred. The stamps finally arrived on August 1 whereupon the actual servicing began.

As the orders soared toward a peak, Kenneth

Brooks and James Chapplear arrived from the Post Office Department in Washington to supervise the work. Both men were veterans of First Day of Issue events and did much to smooth out and make easy the Herculean task of processing covers which had reached a total of 450,000 a week before August 10 and which Postmaster Gibson confidently expected to reach 650,000 First Day Covers.

As a further assist to Postmaster Gibson, Leonard Pulinski arrived from Dearborn, Michigan, on Friday, August 6, prepared to use a special canceling machine, and with another on reserve should the first one break down. Soon Pulinski had his machine running through First Day of Issue covers at the rate of 20,000 per hour. Finally, Joe Podzimek of the Cedar Rapids Post Office was sent to West Branch to expedite distribution and dispatch of the mail.

While 600 attended the special luncheon and thousands gathered to hear Richard M. Nixon deliver his address, other thousands swamped the West Branch Post Office for stamps and purchased First Day of Issue covers from stands located on all downtown streets which had been roped off for the day. The Des Moines Stamp Club, the Cedar Rapids Stamp Club, and the West Branch Heritage Foundation were chief among those who offered their own cacheted covers for sale. An estimated 8,000 stamp collectors

were on hand to enjoy the fun of participating in this Philatelic Holiday and brush shoulders with fellow collectors.

Meanwhile, the commercial dealers had purchased their stamps early Tuesday morning and had set up quarters at the Jefferson Hotel and other places in the vicinity of Iowa City where they had their own force employed to prepare their First Day of Issue covers. One processor alone had the responsibility of preparing 150,000 covers for cancellation, a good illustration of the magnitude of the venture by 1965.

The First Day of Issue sale at West Branch was augmented by large purchases from various institutions. The State Historical Society of Iowa processed 10,000 cacheted Hoover Memorial covers using its own corporate seal dating back to 1857 as a part of its special cacheted envelope. Penn College at Oskaloosa sent out over 9,000 cacheted First Day of Issue covers to its alumni. The West Branch State Bank sent out a locally printed Hoover Memorial cover to 2,500 depositors. Smaller quantities were sent out by various individuals and groups. Where the number exceeded 200, however, it was necessary to purchase stamps, affix them to their covers, and either mail them out or allow stamped envelopes to be run through the cancelling machine and turned back to the purchaser.

The variety of covers cancelled at West Branch

is ample proof of the popularity of Herbert Hoover. The total number mailed, which approaches the 700,000 figure, proves that Iowans, as well as Americans, have become avid First Day of Issue collectors. The more than two hundred members of the State Historical Society of Iowa who have written enthusiastic letters of thanks for their Hoover Memorial covers will be interested to know that their letters will form part of a specially bound book to be deposited in the Hoover Presidential Library where they will be consulted by scholars for generations to come.

Herbert Hoover is the 208th person to be honored with a Commemorative stamp, the highest tribute one can receive from the United States. The sale of almost 1,000,000 stamps on August 10 is eloquent proof of the affection held for Hoover.

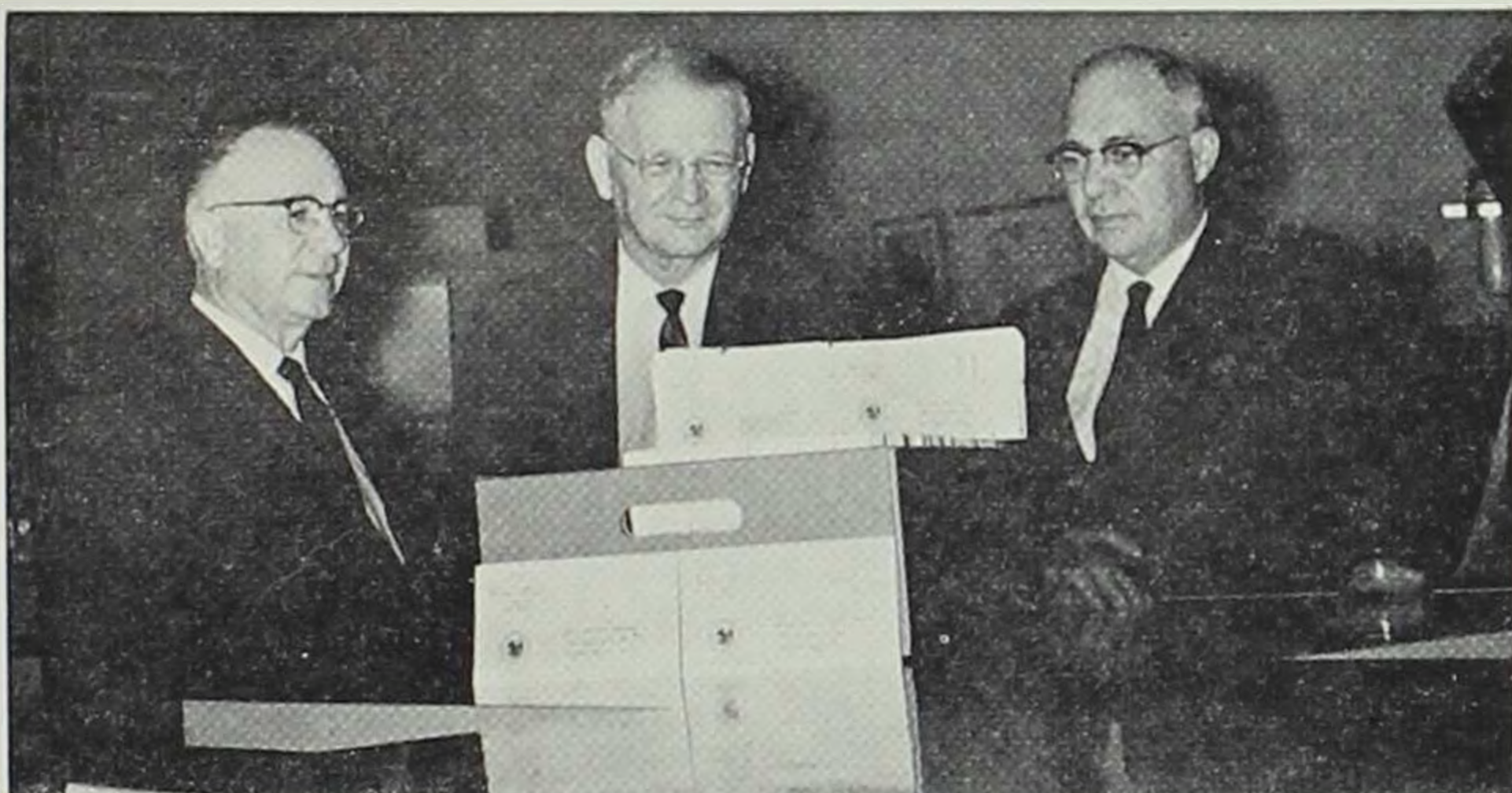
WILLIAM J. PETERSEN

CONTEMPORARY COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

<i>Name</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>First Day Covers</i>
Roosevelt 1¢	Hyde Park, N.Y.	7-26-1945	390,219
Roosevelt 2¢	Warm Springs, Ga.	8-24-1945	426,142
Roosevelt 3¢	Washington, D.C.	6-27-1945	391,650
Roosevelt 5¢	Washington, D.C.	1-30-1946	466,766
Robert A. Taft 4¢	Cincinnati, Ohio	10-10-1960	758,187
Walter F. George 4¢	Vienna, Ga.	11-5-1960	218,890
John Foster Dulles 4¢	Washington, D.C.	12-6-1960	400,055
George W. Norris 4¢	Washington, D.C.	7-11-1961	482,875
Charles Evans Hughes 4¢	Washington, D.C.	4-11-1962	544,424
Sam Rayburn 4¢	Bonham, Texas	9-16-1962	401,042
Cordell Hull 5¢	Carthage, Tenn.	10-5-1963	391,631
Eleanor Roosevelt 5¢	Washington, D.C.	10-11-1963	860,155
John F. Kennedy 5¢	Boston, Mass.	5-29-1964	2,003,096
Herbert Hoover 5¢	West Branch, Iowa	8-10-1965	699,000

STATEHOOD COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

<i>Name</i>	<i>Anniver- sary</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>First Day Covers</i>
Idaho	50	Boise	7-3-1940	156,429
Wyoming	50	Cheyenne	7-10-1940	156,709
Vermont	150	Montpelier	3-4-1941	182,423
Kentucky	150	Frankfort	6-1-1942	155,730
Florida	100	Tallahassee	3-3-1945	228,435
Texas	100	Austin	12-29-1945	397,866
Tennessee	150	Nashville	6-1-1946	463,512
Iowa	100	Iowa City	8-3-1946	517,505
Wisconsin	100	Madison	5-29-1948	470,280
California	100	Sacramento	9-9-1950	391,919
Colorado	75	Minturn	8-1-1951	311,568
Ohio	150	Chillicothe	8-2-1953	407,983
Oklahoma	50	Oklahoma City	6-14-1957	327,172
Minnesota	100	St. Paul	5-11-1958	475,552
Oregon	100	Astoria	2-14-1959	452,764
Kansas	100	Council Grove	5-10-1961	480,561
New Mexico	50	Santa Fe	1-6-1962	365,330
Arizona	50	Phoenix	2-14-1962	508,216
Louisiana	150	New Orleans	4-30-1962	436,681
West Virginia	100	Wheeling	6-20-1963	413,389
Nevada	100	Carson City	7-22-1964	584,973



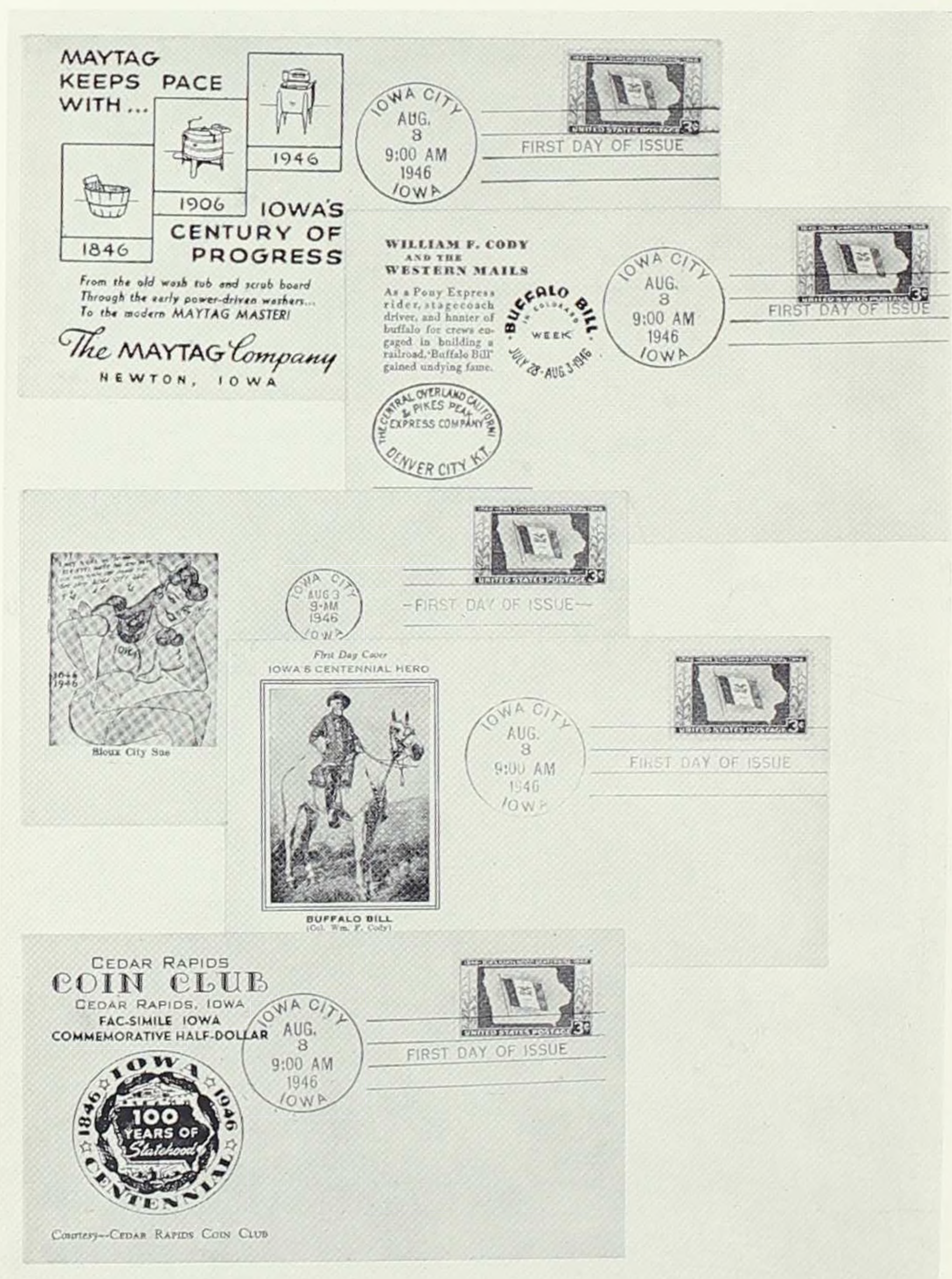
Mailing out the State Historical Society's Hoover Covers.
L to R: L. C. Rummells, William J. Petersen, Postmaster Murray Gibson.



First Day of Issue Sale on streets of West Branch.



Work force needed to get out the Hoover First Day of Issue.



Some Special First Day of Issue Covers of Iowa Statehood Centennial Stamp.