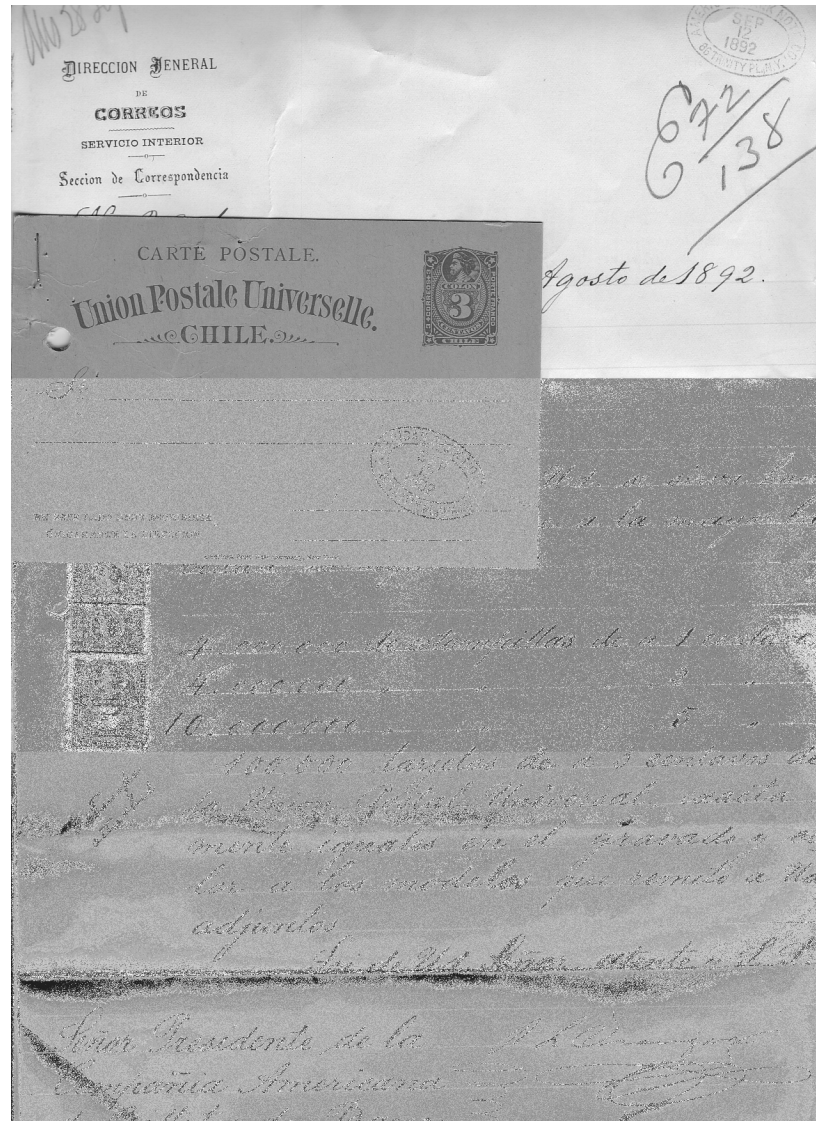


American Bank Note Company Archival Artifacts

Dr. Ross A. Towle
rosstowle@yahoo.com

Incoming letters/orders from agents



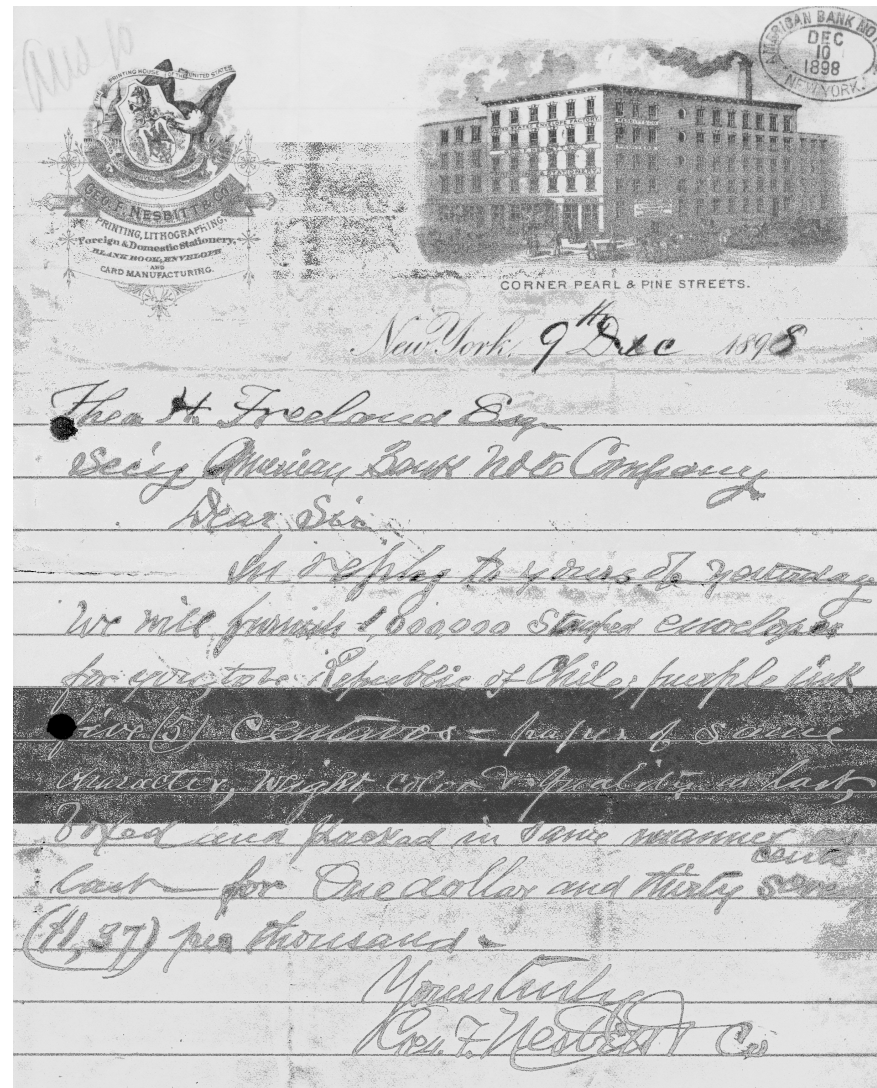
- Some correspondence files are at Museum of American Finance (New York).
- Some sold at November 2003 Alevizos auction
- Some are privately held

Order received September 12, 1892 for stamps and 3c postal cards.

Goodies in the correspondence files

- ABNC “out-sourced” production of stamped envelopes to George F. Nesbitt & Co. until around 1905
- Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Salvador, and probably others

1898 agreement to produce another 1 million 1889 Chile 5 centavos stamped envelopes.



Coded telegrams

Form No. 1.

CABLE MESSAGE.
THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.
 INCORPORATED
 ROBERT C. CLOWRY, President and General Manager.

TWO AMERICAN CABLES FROM NEW YORK TO GREAT BRITAIN.
 CONNECTS ALSO WITH FIVE ANGLO-AMERICAN AND ONE DIRECT U. S. ATLANTIC CABLES.
 DIRECT CABLE COMMUNICATION WITH GERMANY AND FRANCE.
 CABLE CONNECTION WITH CUBA, WEST INDIES, MEXICO AND CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA.
 MESSAGES SENT TO, AND RECEIVED FROM, ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

OFFICES IN AMERICA:
 All Offices (2,238) of the Western Union Telegraph Company and its subsidiaries.

OFFICES IN GREAT BRITAIN:
 LONDON: 10 Broad Street, E.C. 4.
 LIVERPOOL: 8 Broad St. and Cotton Exchange.
 BIRMINGHAM: 10 Broad Street, E.C. 4.
 MANCHESTER: 10 Broad Street, E.C. 4.
 GLASGOW: 10 Broad Street, E.C. 4.
 EDINBURGH: 10 Broad Street, E.C. 4.

RECEIVED at Central Cable Office, 48 Broad St., New York. *Sept 24 1902*

TO: *San Francisco* FROM: *San Francisco*

NO. OF WORDS: *16*

SENT BY: *Almo*

RECD BY: *San Francisco*

FROM: *San Francisco*

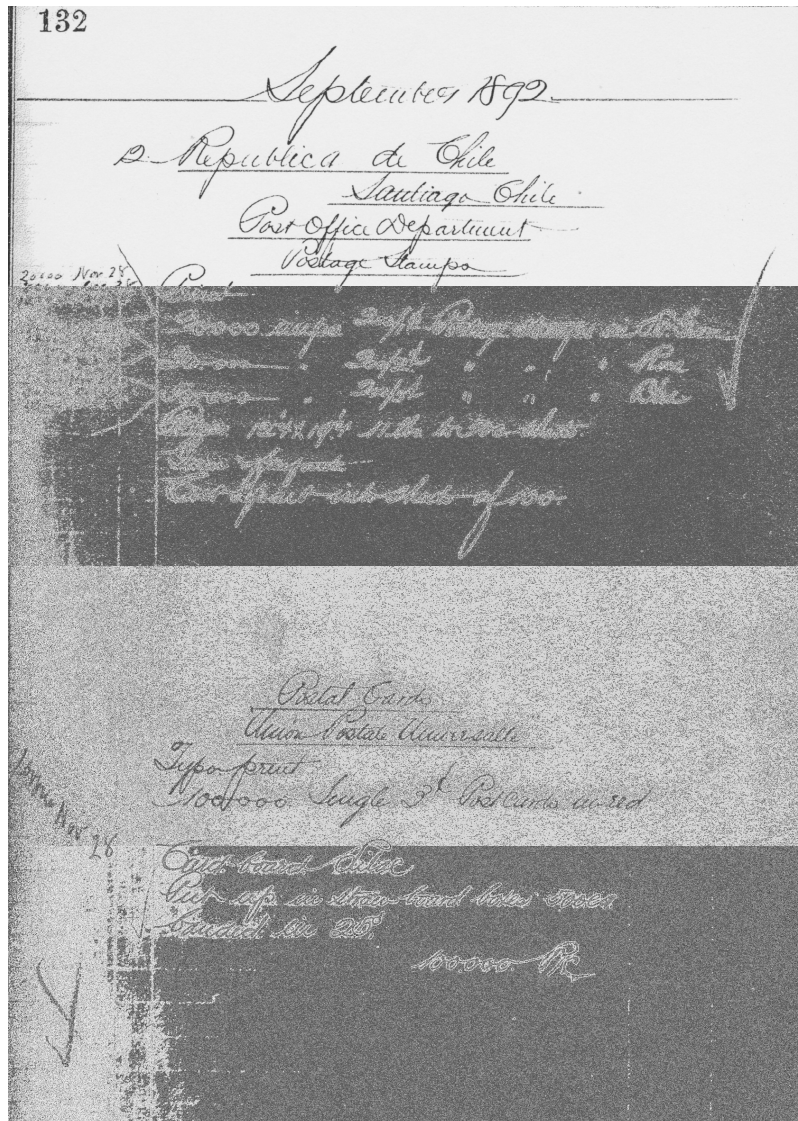
San Francisco *New York 223*

Tarjetas digress Claspings
alacrity grenade send civic
Bystanders Clogging using
portraits Engraved Brocades

Atkinson

Tarjetas *Post cards*
digress *all has been shipping*
claspings *amongst*
alacrity *models go by store of*
grenade *14 Sept*
send *it is absolutely necessary to*
civic *send*
Bystanders *design*
clogging *Postage stamps*
using *sizes left to your*
portraits *judgment & experience*
engraved *using*
Brocades *portraits*
Brocades *engraved on*
Brocades *Brocades*

“Print Order” Book



- Large red leather ledger books
- Books through 1909 found at Museum of American Finance (New York)
- Later books are privately owned

“Print order” page for September 12, 1892 corresponding to order 3 slides earlier. Note the pencil marks of quantities and dates (when produced ? or when counted ?)

Internal forms

51

Date Aug 3/10 02624 2953 Model to STEEL. for Lath

Return Aug 6-10

MODEL WANTED COMPLETE PROOF WANTED

Republish in Lath
2 buttons (big)
pr. L

Style of letter Handwritten

Size of sheet 55 x 23

Text Same as pr. L

FACE ON A PAGE.

General Style Handwritten

Vignette with

Border with

Color with

TINT Use Oak bark stock's print

Border in Oak

Color in Oak

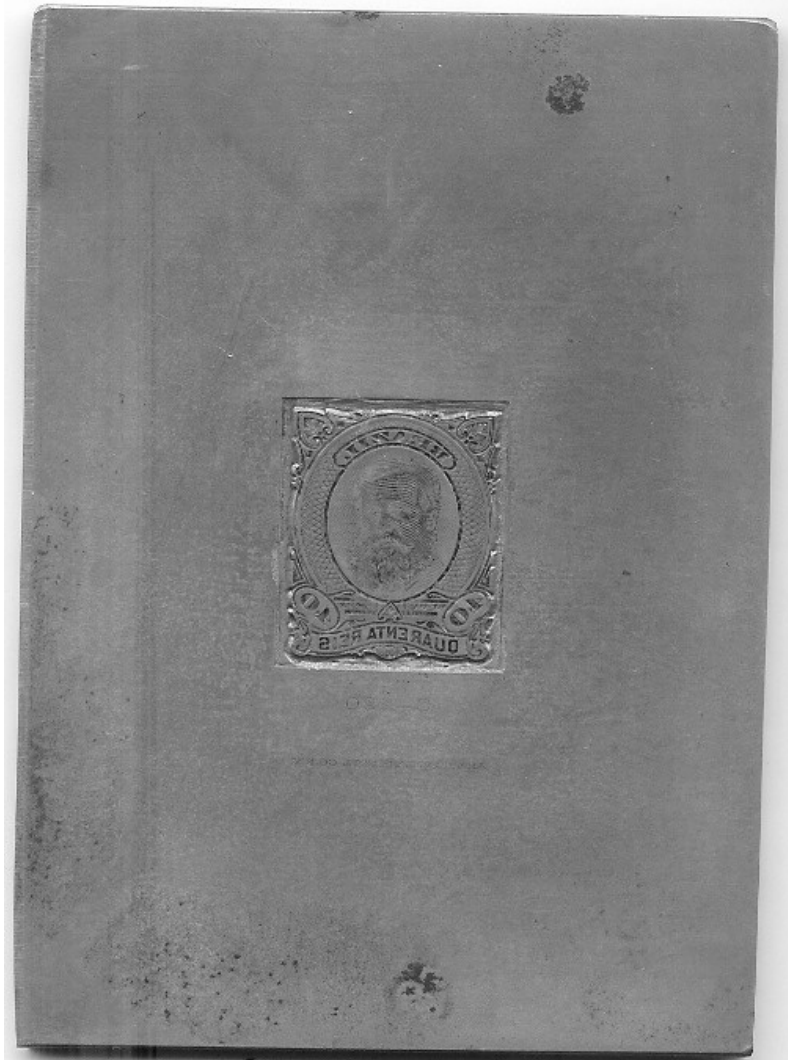
BACK

ENCLOSURE AUG 10 1910 DEPARTMENT

Steel Die

- Brazil 40 reis indicia
- C-220
- However die C-195 was used for single and double postal cards.

Courtesy of Reinaldo Macedo
(all Brazil items)



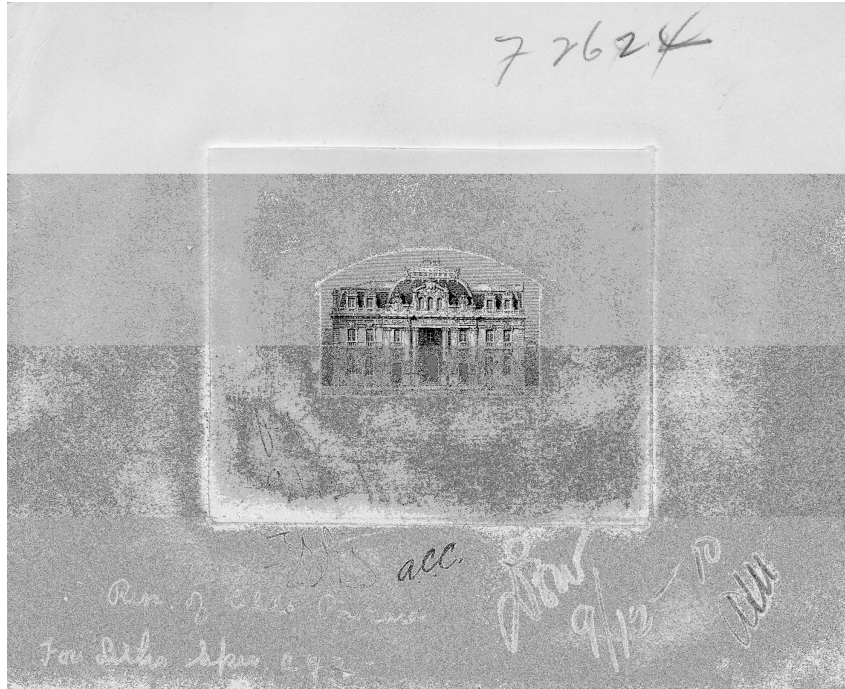
Design Model



Not to be used – New Model Made

Composed of printed base, pasted added text, pasted scroll work, text in pen, pasted photos, and pen drawn stamp frame. Made in May 1909.

Approval proof



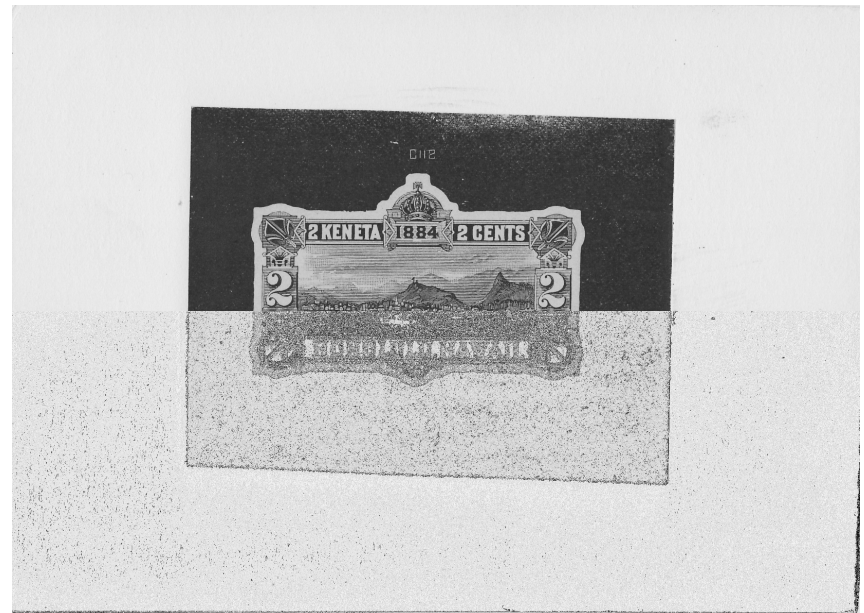
Part of Chile 1911 1 centavo postal card.
Correo Central

- Note lack of die number
- Initials of various ABNC employees and officers.
 - DEW: Daniel E Woodhull (VP)
 - ASM: Alfred S. Major (head of engraving)
 - FWG: Frank W. Gullet (Resident Foreign Sales Mgr).
 - ACC: A. Claxton Cary, Jr. (VP)

Die Proof

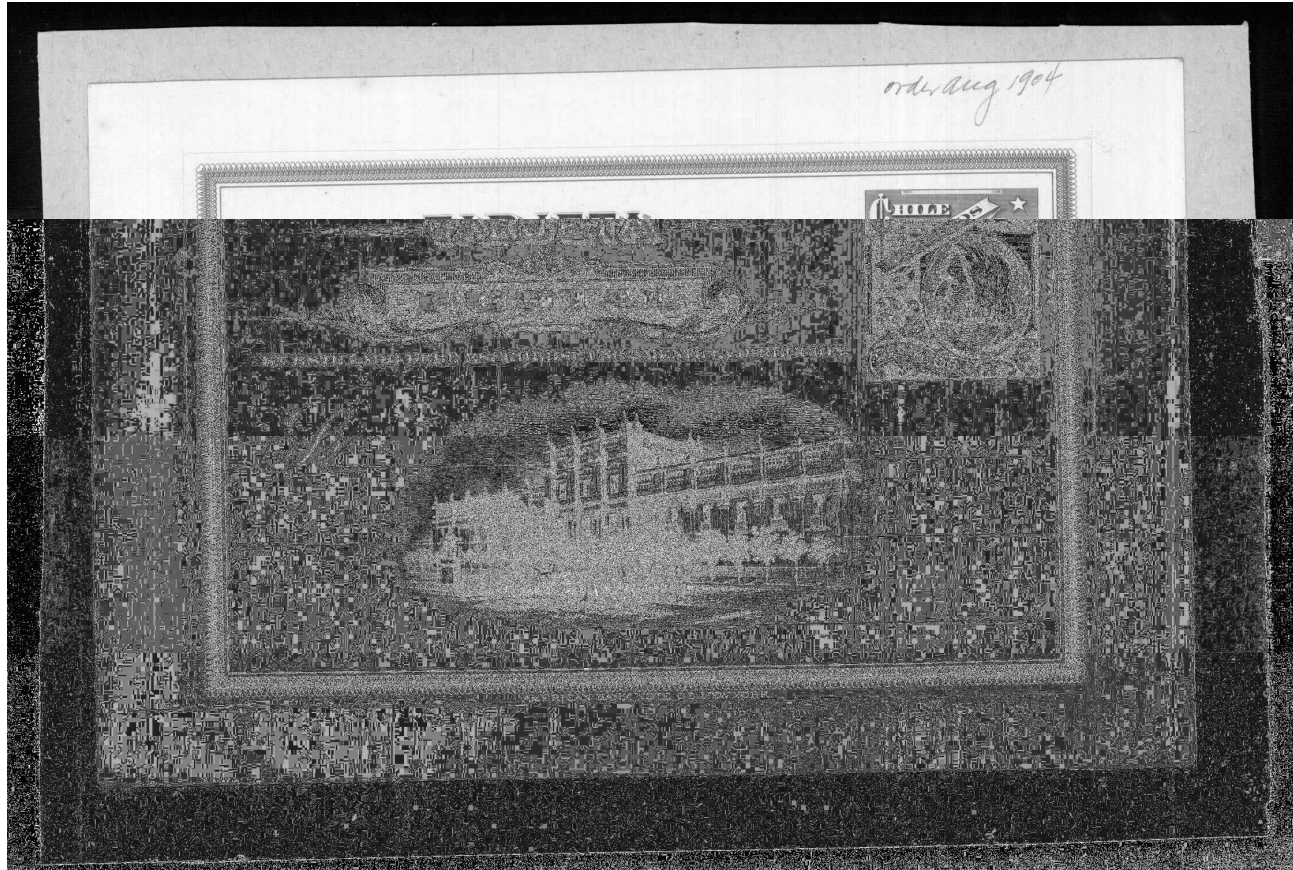


Chile 1912 10 centavos envelope.
Die C-1048. In green instead of brown.



Hawaii 1884 2 cents envelope.
Die C112.

Proof of entire card



Unissued card. On India paper attached to card.

Specimen

CUPÓN.
PUEDO SER DESPRENDIDO
POR EL DESTINATARIO.

CORREOS DE CHILE
ENCOMIENDAS.

F1698

EL INFRASCRITO DECLARA QUE EL CONTENIDO DE LA ENCOMIENDA

Nº _____ CON PESO DE _____ KILOS

GRAMOS ES EL SIGUIENTE: _____

ESPACIO DESTINADO A
COMPLETAR EL FRANQUEO
SI LA ENCOMIENDA ES CON
VALOR DECLARADO O REEM-
BOLSO.

TIMBRE DE LA OFICINA
DE ORIGEN.

NOMBRE I DOMICILIO
DEL REMITENTE

VALOR DECLARADO _____

REEMBOLSO _____

NOMBRE DEL DESTINATARIO _____

LUGAR DE DESTINO _____

CALLE _____ Nº _____

FECHA _____

FIRMA DEL REMITENTE _____

SPECIMEN

CUPÓN.
PUEDO SER DESPRENDIDO
POR EL DESTINATARIO.

CORREOS DE CHILE
ENCOMIENDAS.

F4429

EL INFRASCRITO DECLARA QUE EL CONTENIDO DE LA ENCOMIENDA

Nº _____ CON PESO DE _____ KILOS

GRAMOS ES EL SIGUIENTE: _____

ESPACIO DESTINADO A
COMPLETAR EL FRANQUEO
SI LA ENCOMIENDA ES CON
VALOR DECLARADO O REEM-
BOLSO.

TIMBRE DE LA OFICINA
DE ORIGEN.

NOMBRE I DOMICILIO
DEL REMITENTE

VALOR DECLARADO _____

REEMBOLSO _____

NOMBRE DEL DESTINATARIO _____

LUGAR DE DESTINO _____

CALLE _____ Nº _____

FECHA _____

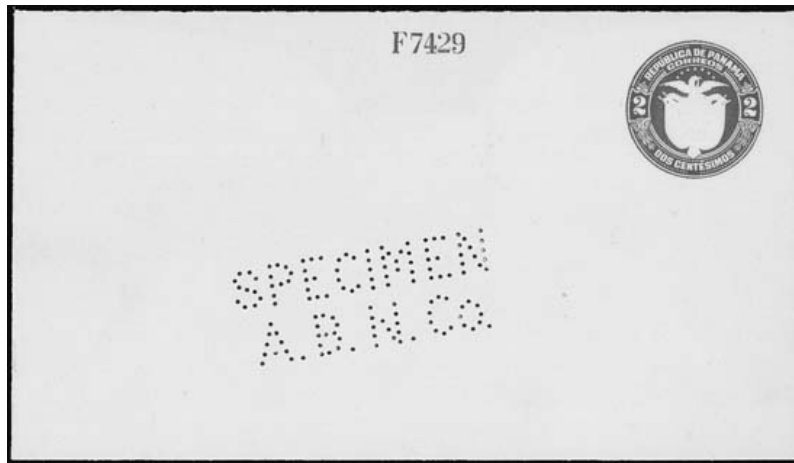
FIRMA DEL REMITENTE _____

SPECIMEN

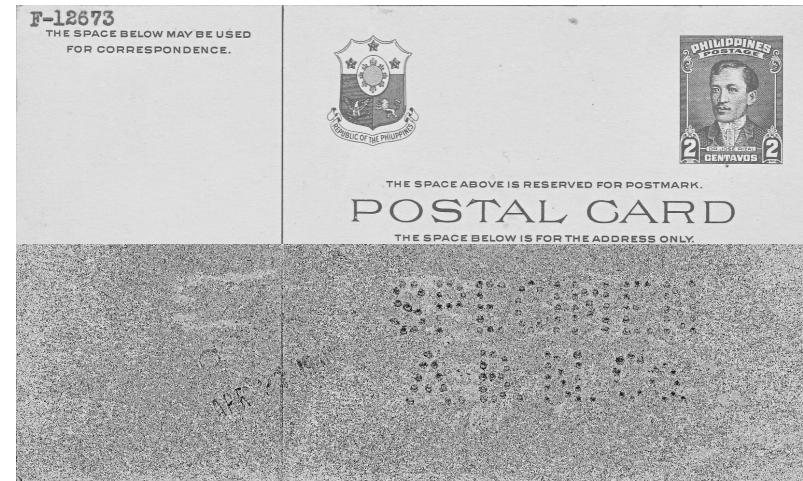
Chile. 1907 150 centavos parcel card from different orders.

Up to 10 examples.
Different sizes of SPECIMEN

Perforated SPECIMEN



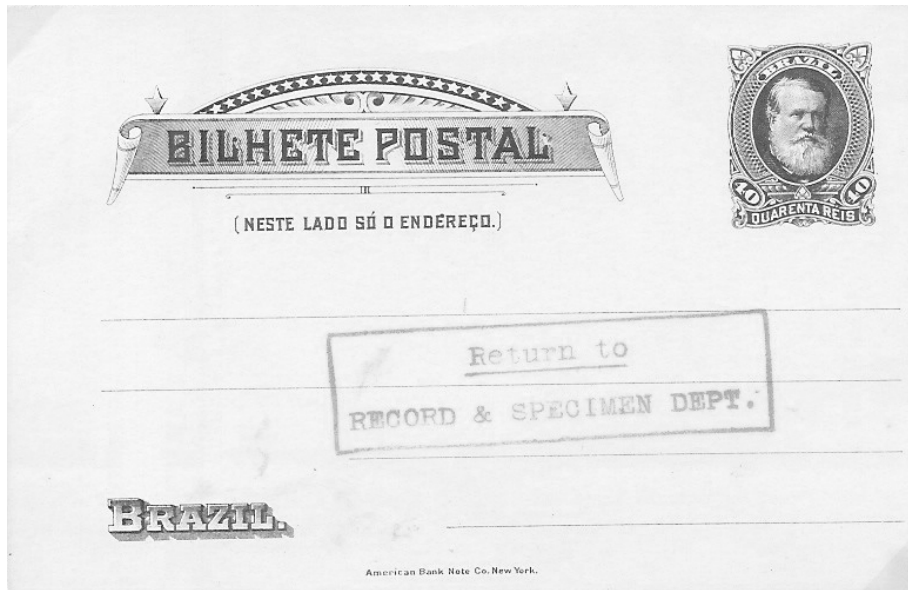
Panama 1925 2 centavos envelope



Philippines 1948 2c postal card

C.P.R. = Christine P. Roser
ABNC archivist

Other ABNC handstamps



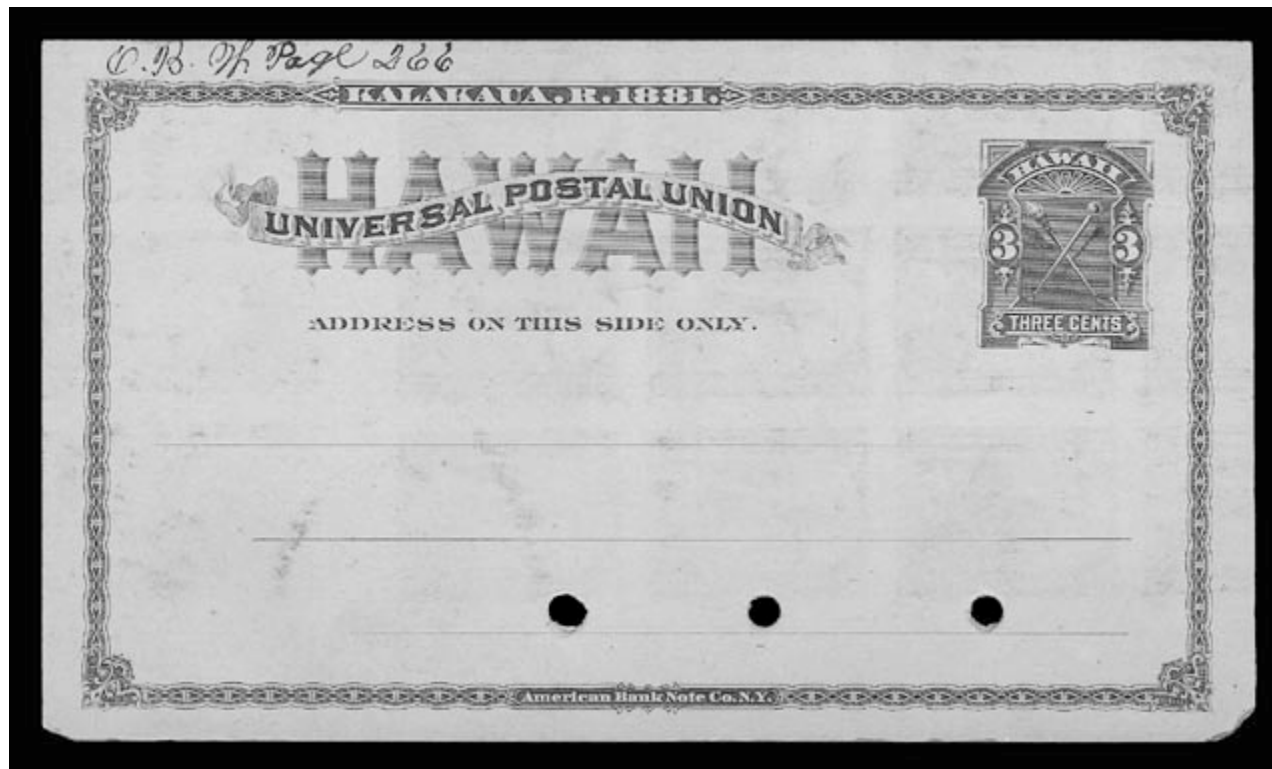
Brazil. 1889. 40 reis postal card.



Chile. 1911. 2 centavos envelope

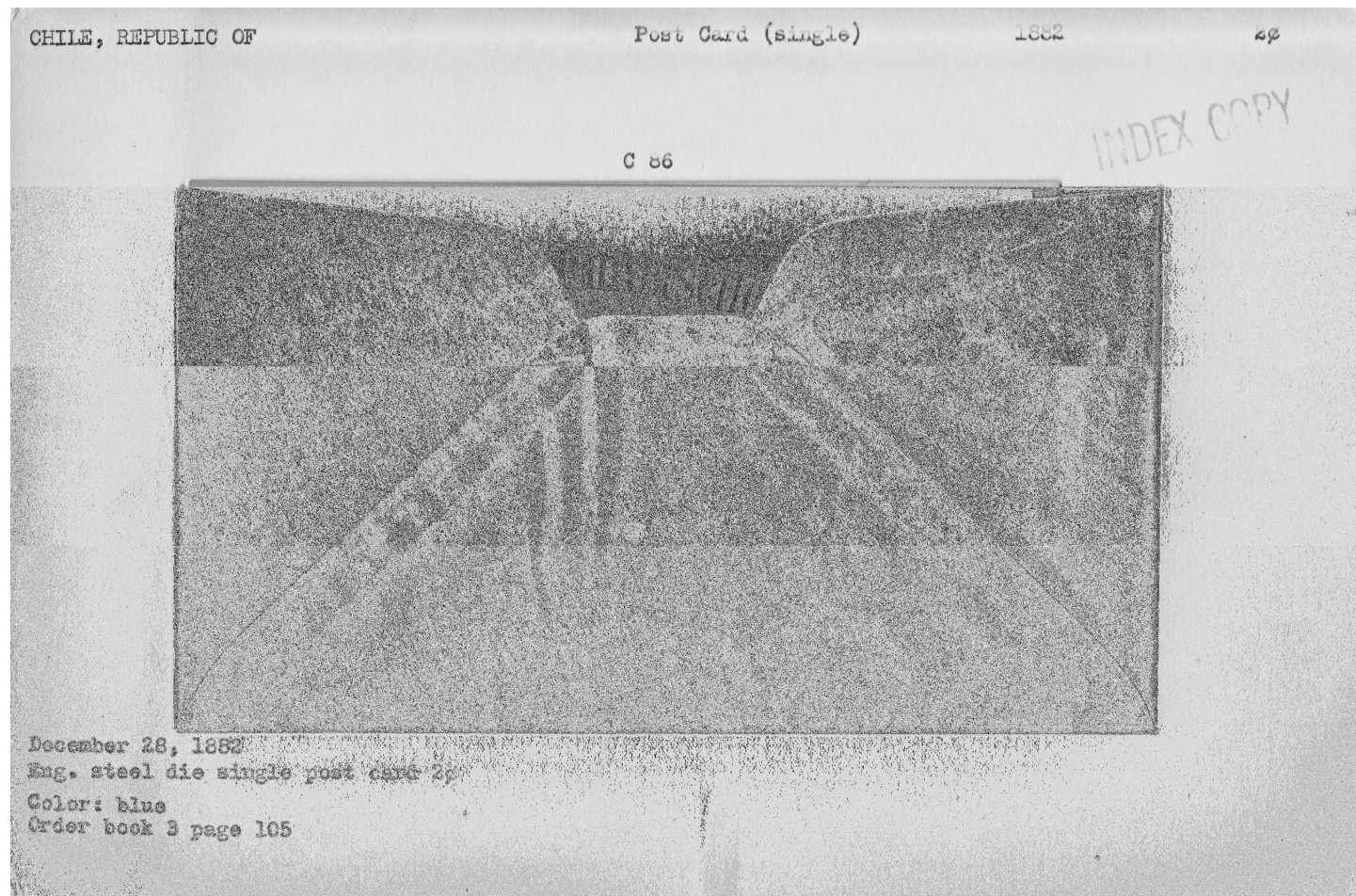
Production copies were kept for reference purposes.

Other ABNC markings



Manuscript O.B.W. Page 222
Order Book W. Page 222 (?)
Only seen on items up to 1883

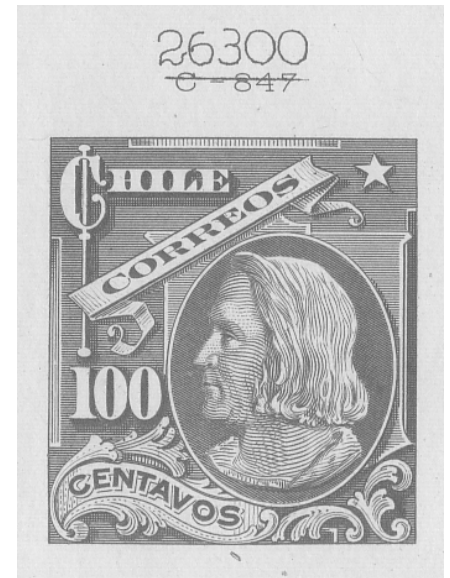
Index Copy Card



Lots of information. Date order received. Die number. Sometimes engraver.

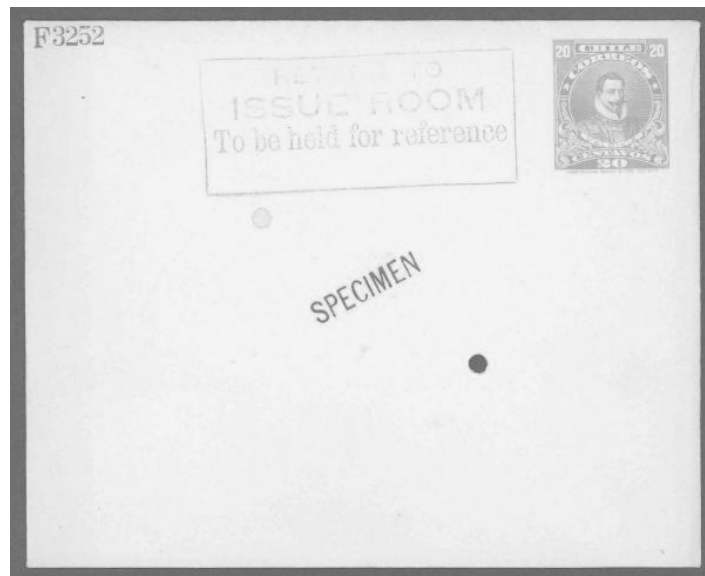
Die Numbering

- 1858-1879 Multiple series, all starting with 1. Die number does not uniquely identify die. No postal stationery during this period.
- 1879-1923 Multiple series all starting with C-1. Die number does not uniquely identify die.
- 1924 – 1980s
Renumber old dies between 1-49999
New dies start with 50000
Now die number uniquely identifies die.
- Die proofs taken of renumbered dies
- Unfortunately I do not have any examples with die number > 50000



Chile 1907 100 centavos parcel card indicia.

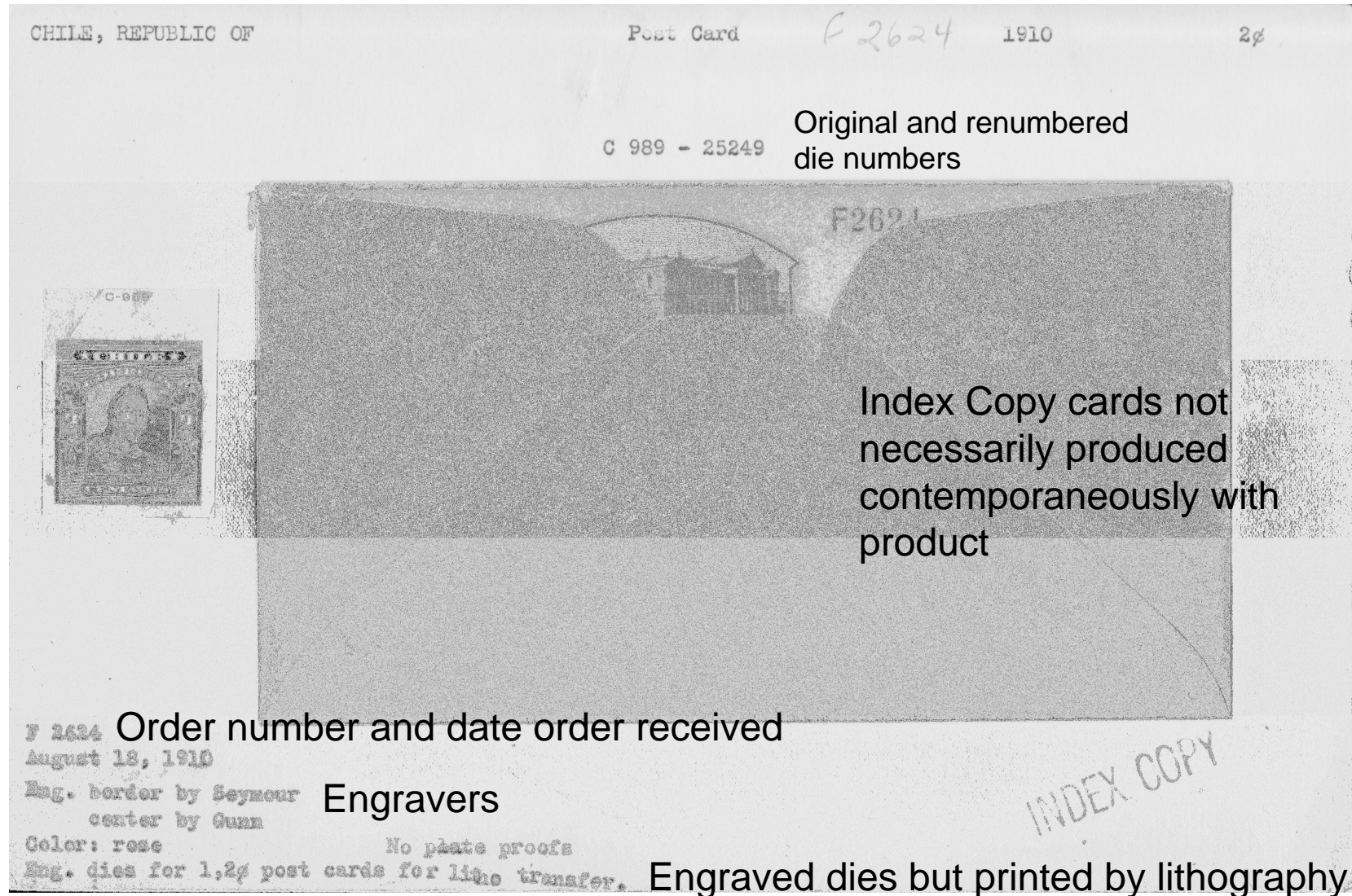
Order Numbers



- Orders given numbers starting in 1902.
- Domestic orders have no prefix.
- Foreign orders start with F
- Remember ABNC did more the postage stamps, postal stationery, etc. Not all numbers are associated with “philatelic” items.
- Used different fonts over the years.

Chile 1911 and 1912 envelopes

Index Copy Card revisited



Sometimes looks are deceiving



- Appears to be a specimen.
- Handstamp applied to incoming correspondence and attachments.
- It is a model for February 1892 order for 1c postal cards.

