

THE
MIKE FARRELL
COLLECTION
OF INDEPENDENT MAILS

INCLUDING THE HISTORY, FORGERIES, & FANTASIES OF
UNITED STATES, LOCAL POSTS, CARRIERS,
INDEPENDENT MAIL ROUTES, & EXPRESS CO.S

CHAIN DELIVERIES

The research for this section is primarily based on the articles by Mosher, Alexander and Bowman in *The Penny Post* vol 20 # 3 & 4; vol 21 # 3 & 4

The information and identification within these selections is the individual work of the Farrell Collection. It is always recommended to consult multiple sources for additional information or opinions. Local post company descriptions are based on information available at the time of writing. Descriptions in the Farrell Collection were written based on personal research and sources including, but not limited to: Articles in the Carriers and Locals Society's *The Penny Post*; Amos Media's Scott Catalogue; Patton's *The Private Local Post of the United States*; Springer's *Handbook of North American Cinderella Stamps*; Lyons' *Identifier for Carriers, Locals, Fakes Forgeries and Bogus Posts of the United States*; articles in the USPCS's *The Chronicle*; Mosher's *Catalog of Private Express Labels and Stamps*; The Eastern Independent Mail Company Study Group's *Eastern Independent Mail Companies and Express Mail Companies 1840-1845*; Elliot Perry's *Pat Paragraphs*; James N. Drummond's *Catalog of Philatelic Miscellany*; and the notes of George Sloane and Gordon Stimmell.

Colors listed for stamps and forgeries are the opinions of the Farrell Collection based on viewing physical copies of the pieces under consistent lighting. Colors in the .pdfs may be slightly inaccurate due to manipulations from the scanning process, computer monitor settings, or (in event that the files are printed for offline viewing) the printing process.

Unless otherwise noted, stamps are identified by their Scott Catalogue numbers and forgeries are identified by their Lyons Identifier type. Scott numbers in parenthesis under listed forgeries represent approximately what stamp the forgery is attempting to imitate.

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CHAIN DELIVERIES

Originally named the Motor Post, Inc., this delivery company served chain stores in the eastern United States from 1932 into the late 1940s.

Chain Deliveries acted as a consolidator and forwarder of merchandise. The company contracted trucks to pick up small packages from various factories and deliver them to the Chain Deliveries depots. All packages eventually made their way to one of six main terminals in New York City, Boston, or Chicago. From there, all packages for specific clients were gathered into a single delivery and shipped out. Some of the chain stores that used the service were F.W. Woolworth, W.T. Grant, J.J. Newberry, and McLellan's Five and Dime.

The company went through three different names. The first, Motor Post, Inc. was changed in May of 1934. The exact reason for the change is unrecorded. It is possible that the Post Office Department disapproved of the use of the word "post" in the name; or it is possible that the company believed "Chain Deliveries, Inc." better described their business. Then in 1937, the company began using the name "Chain Deliveries Express Inc." This was the name used for the remainder of the business.

In 1947, the company went bankrupt. It was absorbed by new management under the name CDX Merchandise Express. This company did not opt to issue stamps for delivery payment, but continued to offer a delivery service into the 1980s.

ARTICLE FROM *NEW YORK TIMES*
DECEMBER 23, 1947

BUSINESS RECORDS

BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS

EASTERN DISTRICT

Petition Filed—By

IRVING RESS, salesman, formerly doing business as Leader Millinery Shoppe, 1150 Brighton Beach Ave., Brooklyn—Liabilities, \$5,348; assets, \$5,250 (of which \$5,000 is in insurance policies).

Petition Dismissed

DAN BLOOMFIELD and MARTIN BLOOMFIELD, individually and as copartners doing business as Stainless Steel Specialties, 2975 Cropsy Ave., Brooklyn.

Bankruptcy Discharge

ADOLPH COHEN, 103 Stegel St., Brooklyn.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT

Arrangement Proceedings

CHAIN DELIVERIES EXPRESS, INC., 719 Washington St.—Voluntary proceeding under Chapter XI of the Chandler Act. No schedules were filed. A settlement of 100 per cent in deferred payments is proposed.

Petitions Filed—Against

POLLACK'S 45TH ST. RESTAURANT CORP., 125 W. 45th St.—By Kerman, Thall & Lavelle \$152; Robert Resnick, \$50; Alttest & Resnick, \$580.

Petitions Filed—By

RALPH FARHI, cutter, 225 McClellan St.—Liabilities, \$21,207; no assets.

LENN T. PIPER, executive (unemployed), 42 E. 76th St.—Liabilities, \$25,522; assets, \$10.

He was a partner of Gamble Co., formerly at 52 Vanderbilt Ave., which liquidated.

ELIZABETH PURPURA, dressmaker, 25 E. 63d St.—Liabilities, \$17,129; assets, \$9.

LAZARUS SHARAN, unemployed, 18 Wicker St., Yonkers—Liabilities, \$30,877; no assets.

HELEN G. MADDEN, sales representative, 327 W. 85th St.—Liabilities, \$1,228; no assets.

The first stamps used by the company were probably issued in 1933. They are the only stamps that use the Motor Post Inc. name, which is printed on the winged package logo in the center of the stamp. They were printed in nine different values from 1¢ to 40¢. The stamps were printed on surface colored paper perforated at gauge 12.



TYPE 1; 1¢
RED & GRAY /w BLACK



TYPE 1; 2¢
DEEP BLUE & RED /w BLACK

CHAIN DELIVERIES

The first issued stamps for the Chain Deliveries company, then called "Motor Post, Inc.," were printed in nine denominations around 1933. Printed on surface colored paper and perforated at gauge 12. They were printed with one color for the background, another color for the value numeral, and black for text and oval outline. The oval measures 42 by 23.5mm.



TYPE 1 : 3¢
VERMILION & GREEN BLUE



TYPE 1 : 4¢
YELLOW & GREEN



TYPE 1 : 5¢
GREEN BLUE & BROWN



TYPE 1 : 10¢
LIGHT GREEN & GOLD



TYPE 1 : 15¢
PINK (SHADE) & BLUE



TYPE 1 : 15¢
PINK (SHADE) & BLUE



TYPE 1 : 20¢
GRAY & ORANGE



TYPE 1 : 40¢
BROWN & ORANGE

CHAIN DELIVERIES

The second stamps issued by the Chain Deliveries company used the "Chain Deliveries Inc." name, which was illustrated on the winged package logo in the center of the design. The logo was centered in an oval that measured 43 by 23.5mm. Like the previous type, the oval and text were printed in black, while the background and numeral were printed in two different additional colors. These stamps were printed on surface colored paper, perforated at gauge 14.5.

These are the least common of all the Chain Deliveries stamp types. Although the usual nine denominations are believed to have been printed, examples of only four of the values (1¢, 2¢, 5¢, and 10¢) have been recorded by collectors.



TYPE 2 : 1¢
RED ORANGE (SHADE) & GRAY



TYPE 2 : 1¢
RED ORANGE (SHADE) & GRAY



TYPE 2 : 2¢
DEEP BLUE & RED



TYPE 2 : 5¢
GREEN BLUE & BROWN

CHAIN DELIVERIES

The third type of stamps used by Chain Deliveries continued with the winged package logo, although on this logo the words "Deliveries Inc." extend outside of the package lines. The logo is printed inside an oval that measures 42 by 23mm. The oval, logo and text are printed in black, and the value numeral is printed in red. Unlike the previous types, these stamps were printed on colored paper, each value in a different color. They are perforated at gauge 12.

It is believed that nine denominations were printed, although only six are recorded by collectors (the 1¢, 2¢, and 40¢ values are currently unknown). These stamps were used for a fairly short period, starting around 1935.



TYPE 3 : 3¢
LIGHT ROSE & RED



TYPE 3 : 4¢
LIGHT YELLOW & RED



TYPE 3 : 5¢
LIGHT GREEN BLUE & RED



TYPE 3 : 10¢
LIGHT GREEN (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 3 : 15¢
MEDIUM BLUE (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 3 : 20¢
PINK (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 3 : 10¢
LIGHT GREEN (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 3 : 15¢
MEDIUM BLUE (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 3 : 20¢
PINK (SHADE) & RED

CHAIN DELIVERIES

Chain Deliveries used a wavy lines cancellation that included the text "CANCELLED" within the lines. The text "CHAIN DELIVERIES" and the date were printed above and below the lines. There was a large cancel - it is impossible to contain the entire print on one stamp. In addition, the smooth surface of the stamps meant that many of the cancellations are smudged.

The clearest examples of cancellations are shown when the stamps are still attached to larger pieces - usually plain brown packaging paper.



TYPE 3 : 15¢
MEDIUM BLUE (SHADE) & RED
ON PIECE
CANCELLED - WAVY LINES
1935

CHAIN DELIVERIES

The fourth type of Chain Deliveries stamp was issued the same year as the third type. This version is printed with a new winged package logo - the package is only split horizontal (rather than quartered), and the entire text "Via Chain Deliveries Inc." fits within the package. The oval measures 41 by 19mm, and the text within the oval is written in a script font rather than a sans serif print. The oval and text are printed in black, while the gingham patterned background and value numeral are printed in two different colors.

The stamps were printed in nine denominations, all of which are recorded. Some values are known with color shade variations.



TYPE 4 : 1¢
ORANGE RED (SHADE) & GRAY



TYPE 4 : 1¢
ORANGE RED (SHADE) & GRAY



TYPE 4 : 2¢
ULTRAMARINE & RED



TYPE 4 : 3¢
ORANGE (SHADE) & TURQUOISE



TYPE 4 : 3¢
ORANGE (SHADE) & TURQUOISE



TYPE 4 : 4¢
YELLOW & YELLOW GREEN



TYPE 4 : 5¢
LIGHT BLUE (SHADE) & BROWN



TYPE 4 : 5¢
LIGHT BLUE (SHADE) & BROWN



TYPE 4VAR : 5¢
BLUE GREEN (SHADE) & BROWN

CHAIN DELIVERIES



TYPE 4 : 10¢
YELLOW GREEN (SHADE)
& DEEP BLUE



TYPE 4 : 10¢
YELLOW GREEN (SHADE)
& DEEP BLUE



TYPE 4 : 15¢
DULL ORANGE
& BLUE



TYPE 4 : 20¢
DULL MAUVE (SHADE)
& LIGHT RED



TYPE 4 : 20¢
DULL MAUVE (SHADE)
& LIGHT RED



TYPE 4 : 40¢
BROWN & GREEN BLUE

TYPE 4 : 15¢ DULL ORANGE & BLUE - TYPE 4 : 4¢ YELLOW & YELLOW GREEN
ON PIECE WITH NOVEMBER 15, 1835 CANCEL

CHAIN DELIVERIES



TYPE 4 : 10¢ - YELLOW GREEN & DEEP BLUE
 VERTICAL PAIR
 TYPE 4 : 5¢ - LIGHT BLUE & BROWN | TYPE 4 : 2¢ - ULTRAMARINE & RED



TYPE 4 : 10¢
 YELLOW GREEN & DEEP BLUE
 TYPE 4 : 3¢
 ORANGE & TURQUOISE



TYPE 4 : 20¢
 DULL MAUVE & LIGHT RED
 TYPE 4var : 5¢
 BLUE GREEN & BROWN
 TYPE 4 : 4¢
 YELLOW & YELLOW GREEN

CHAIN DELIVERIES

The fifth Chain Deliveries stamps were printed by the Eureka Specialty Printing Company. They include a repeating "ESPCo" safety design in the paper, that shows through on the reverse. This safety design is water soluble - if someone wanted to wash off the cancel to reuse the stamp, the safety design would also be washed off. Stamps were perforated at gauge 12.

STAMP REVERSE SHOWING SAFETY DESIGN
[TYPE 2 : 2¢]



The stamps were printed with a completely new design, which included a decorative leafy border and gridwork background. Text at the top reads "COUPON / FOR PAYING TRANSPORTATION CHARGES". The winged package logo is still used and is mostly unchanged from the previous stamp type. Stamps were bi-colored, with the value numerals in one color (red or blue) and the rest of the design in a second color.

Nine denominations were issued, and all are known. There are some shade variations within the printing, but nothing drastic enough to be considered a variation.



TYPE 5 : 1¢
BLACK (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 5 : 1¢
BLACK (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 5 : 2¢
CARMINE (SHADE) & BLUE



TYPE 5 : 2¢
CARMINE (SHADE) & BLUE



TYPE 5 : 2¢
CARMINE (SHADE) & BLUE

CHAIN DELIVERIES



TYPE 5 : 3¢
BLACK (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 5 : 3¢
BLACK (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 5 : 4¢
VIOLET (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 5 : 5¢
CARMINE (SHADE) & BLUE



TYPE 5 : 5¢
CARMINE (SHADE) & BLUE



TYPE 5 : 5¢
CARMINE (SHADE) & BLUE



TYPE 5 : 10¢
GREEN (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 5 : 10¢
GREEN (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 5 : 15¢
BLACK (SHADE) & BLUE



TYPE 5 : 20¢
BLUE (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 5 : 20¢
BLUE (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 5 : 20¢
BLUE (SHADE) & RED

CHAIN DELIVERIES



TYPE 5 : 40¢
GREEN (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 5 : 40¢
GREEN (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 5 : 2¢
CARMINE (SHADE) & BLUE
VERTICAL PAIR



TYPE 5 : 5¢
CARMINE (SHADE) & BLUE
WITH LEFT MARGIN



TYPE 5 : 5¢
CARMINE (SHADE) & BLUE
VERTICAL STRIP OF FOUR

CHAIN DELIVERIES

The type 5 stamps were issued in 1935 - the same year as the previous type. It is not unusual to see combination usages.



TYPE 4 : 3¢ - ORANGE & TURQUOISE
VERTICAL PAIR
TYPE 5 : 2¢ - CARMINE & BLUE
TYPE 4 : 1¢ ORANGE RED & GRAY
OCTOBER 28, 1935 CANCEL

CHAIN DELIVERIES

Chain Delivery's final stamps were also the longest used, spanning from the earliest known usage in 1936 until the latest known in 1944. These stamps were also printed by the Eureka Specialty Printing Co. and are very similar in appearance to the previous type 5 stamps. There are several smaller differences in the design, but the major change is the wording on the winged package logo, which now reads "CHAIN DELIVERIES EXPRESS INC."

Like the previous issue, nine denominations were issued. Each stamp is bi-colored, with the value numeral in one color (red or blue) and the rest of the design in a second color. The stamps are printed on security printed paper and perforated at gauge 12.



TYPE 6 : 1¢
BLACK (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 1¢
BLACK (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 2¢
CARMINE (SHADE) & BLUE



TYPE 6 : 3¢
BLACK (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 3¢
BLACK (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 3¢
BLACK (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 4¢
VIOLET (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 4¢
VIOLET (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 4¢
VIOLET (SHADE) & RED

CHAIN DELIVERIES



TYPE 6 : 5¢
CARMINE (SHADE) & BLUE



TYPE 6 : 5¢
CARMINE (SHADE) & BLUE



TYPE 6 : 5¢
CARMINE (SHADE) & BLUE



TYPE 6 : 10¢
GREEN (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 10¢
GREEN (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 10¢
GREEN (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 10¢
GREEN (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 10¢
GREEN (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 15¢
BLACK (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 15¢
BLACK (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 15¢
BLACK (SHADE) & RED

CHAIN DELIVERIES



TYPE 6 : 20¢
BLUE (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 20¢
BLUE (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 20¢
BLUE (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 40¢
GREEN (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 40¢
GREEN (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 40¢
GREEN (SHADE) & RED



TYPE 6 : 1¢
BLACK (SHADE) & RED
VERTICAL STRIP OF THREE



TYPE 6 : 3¢
BLACK (SHADE) & RED
VERTICAL PAIR

CHAIN DELIVERIES

The stamps printed by ESPCo. (types 5 and 6) are known with plate numbers. Featured here are examples of the 5¢ type 6 stamp with margins that show the imprint. Three different plate numbers are recorded for the 5¢ type 6 stamps: 03730, 09906, and 25310.



TYPE 6 : 5¢
CARMINE (SHADE) & BLUE
VERTICAL PAIR
UNCANCELLED



TYPE 6 : 5¢
CARMINE (SHADE) & BLUE
VERTICAL STRIP OF THREE
RIGHT MARGIN
PLATE # 25310



TYPE 6 : 5¢
CARMINE (SHADE) & BLUE
VERTICAL PAIR
CANCELLED



TYPE 6 : 5¢
CARMINE (SHADE) & BLUE
RIGHT MARGIN

CHAIN DELIVERIES



TYPE 6 : 10¢
GREEN (SHADE) & RED
VERTICAL PAIR



TYPE 6 : 5¢
GREEN (SHADE) & RED
VERTICAL PAIR