

“THE PREXIES AT WORK”

SYNOPSIS

Over the last few years, the Presidential Issue of 1938 has captured the attention of many philatelists. I have been fascinated with the "Prexies" ever since I began collecting stamps as a child in the mid-Fifties, when examples of this issue could be found on everyday mail. Over the past 12 years, I've turned my fascination into a project as I've assembled this ten frame exhibit.

I have selected at least one example of each of the thirty-two sheet stamps, the sixteen coil and booklet pane issues, the two Canal Zone overprints, as well as the \$1 “Dry Print” variety.

I have tried to include the most interesting examples for each denomination. Some varieties, such as the coil issues, are much more difficult to find properly used on cover. Therefore more common usages are shown.

On the other hand, the more common stamps of the series are represented by some uncommon rates and unusual usages. Noteworthy items include:

- **Scarce solo and multi-franked usages**
- **Unusual rate combinations**
- **Exotic destinations**
- **Short term air mail rates and routings**
- **Covers related to significant people and events of the period**

My approach to exhibiting the Prexie Series is by denomination in ascending face value order. Non-philatelic examples on envelopes, government postal cards, post cards, wrappers, forms and mailing tags have been chosen to show the wide variety of postal rates and fees – domestic surface and air rates, foreign surface and air rates, as well as special rates and fees. I show examples used from 1938, when most of the stamps were first issued, through the end of the 1950’s, when the Liberty Series had largely replaced the issue.