

RATES OF POSTAGE ON DOMESTIC MAIL MATTER.

FIRST-CLASS MATTER.—Matter which is in writing, or other matter containing a written inscription in the nature of personal correspondence, and matter which is sealed against inspection, are alone by their nature and the intent of the law first-class matter, and subject to the postage rate of three cents for each half ounce or fraction thereof.

On local or drop letters at offices where free delivery by carriers is established, two cents for each half ounce or fraction thereof.

On local or drop letters, at offices where free delivery by carriers is not established, one cent for each half ounce or fraction thereof.

SECOND-CLASS MATTER.—This class includes all newspapers, periodicals, or matter exclusively in print, and regularly issued at stated periods from a known office of publication or news agency, except regular publications designed primarily for advertising purposes, or for free circulation, or for circulation at nominal rates. Second-class matter can only be mailed by publishers or newsdealers. Postage, two cents a pound or fraction thereof. Weight of packages not limited.

THIRD-CLASS MATTER.—This class embraces books (printed and blank), transient newspapers, and periodicals, circulars, and other matter wholly in print, proof-sheets and corrected proof-sheets and manuscript copy accompanying the same, prices current with prices filled out in writing, printed commercial papers filled out in writing (provided such writing is not in the nature of personal correspondence, and the papers are not the expression of a monetary value), such as papers of legal procedure, unexecuted deeds of all kinds, way-bills, invoices, unexecuted insurance policies and the various documents of insurance companies, hand-bills, posters, chromo-lithographs, engravings, envelopes with printing thereon, heliotypes, lithographs, photographic and stereoscopic views with title written thereon, printed blanks, printed cards; and postage shall be paid thereon at the rate of one cent for each two ounces or fractional part thereof.

FOURTH-CLASS MATTER.—This class embraces blank cards, card-board and other flexible material, flexible patterns, letter envelopes and letter paper without printing thereon, merchandise, models, ornamented paper, sample cards, samples of ores, metals, minerals, seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots, scions, drawings, plans, designs, original paintings in oil or water colors; and any other matter not included in the first, second or third classes, and which is not in its form or nature liable to destroy, deface or otherwise damage the contents of the mail bag, or harm the person of any one engaged in the postal service. Postage rate thereon, one cent for each ounce or fractional part thereof.

REGISTRATION OF DOMESTIC LETTERS.

Letters may be registered on payment of a fee of ten cents in addition to the regular letter rate of postage, but the Government takes no responsibility for safe carriage, or compensation in case of loss. Postmasters are required to register all letters properly presented for that purpose, but no letters are to be registered on Sunday.

Third and fourth class matter may also be registered, but must be unsealed, fully prepaid at the proper rates, and conform to all requirements.

POSTAL CARDS.

The object of the postal card is to facilitate letter correspondence, and provide for the transmission, through the mails, at a reduced rate of postage, of short communications, either printed or written in pencil or ink. They may, therefore, be used for orders, invitations, notices, receipts, acknowledgments, price lists, and other requirements of business and social life; and the matter desired to be conveyed may be either in writing or in print, or partially in both. The postage of one cent is paid by the stamp impressed on these cards to any office in the United States, and no further payment is required. No card is a "postal card" except such as are issued by the Post-Office Department. According to the provisions of the Treaty of Berne, postal cards may be sent to the following named countries (or others included in the General Postal Union), on the prepayment of postage two cents, viz: Algeria, Austria, Belgium,

Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, Great Britain and Ireland, Greece, Holland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and Turkey; also to Newfoundland, on prepayment of two cents, and to Canada same as domestic.

POSTAL MONEY ORDER SYSTEM.

The money order system is intended to promote public convenience, and to secure safety in the transfer, through the mails, of small sums of money. All principal Post Offices receive money and issue drafts for the same upon other Post Offices, subject to the following charges and regulations:

DOMESTIC RATES.—On orders not exceeding \$15, 10 cents; over \$15 and not exceeding \$30, 15 cents; over \$30 and not exceeding \$40, 20 cents; over \$40 and not exceeding \$50, 25 cents.

CANADIAN RATES.—On orders not exceeding \$10, 20 cents; over \$10 and not exceeding \$20, 40 cents; over \$20 and not exceeding \$30, 60 cents; over \$30 and not exceeding \$40, 80 cents; over \$40 and not exceeding \$50, \$1.

BRITISH, SWISS, GERMAN AND ITALIAN RATES.—On orders not exceeding \$10, 25 cents; over \$10 and not exceeding \$20, 50 cents; over \$20 and not exceeding \$30, 75 cents; over \$30 and not exceeding \$40, \$1; over \$40 and not exceeding \$50, \$1.25.

A money order may be issued for any amount from one cent up to fifty dollars inclusive, but fractional parts of a cent must not be introduced into any money order or account. When a larger sum than fifty dollars is required, additional orders to make it up must be obtained. Not more than three orders of fifty dollars each can be remitted by one person each day to one payee.

An order is only payable at the office upon which it is drawn. The order should be collected within one year from its date. After once paying an order by whomsoever presented, provided the required information has been given by the party who presented it, the Department will not hold itself liable to any further claim, but in case of improper payment of an order, will endeavor to recover the amount for the owner.

FREE POSTAL DELIVERY.

The Free Postal Delivery System is similar to the one so successfully maintained in several of the large Eastern cities. There are forty-two districts, each of which is in charge of a carrier, who delivers promptly all mail matter received at the Post Office, upon which is written the correct address, street and number of the party for whom it is intended.

All persons who desire their letters, etc., retained until called for, must leave their address at the Post-Office.

Pierre P. Hoin, Jr., Superintendent; F. D. Arnold, Thaddeus T. Austin, M. P. Arnold, C. S. Curtiss, F. I. Cutter, Robert D. Cunningham, Robert E. Chapman, Frank M. Coburn, Thomas O. Drinkall, Victor D. Duboce, Shadrach M. Fortier, John Gundlach, G. W. Hart, Otto H. Johnson, Augustus King, Austin King, Theodore Link, J. Lansing, Carl T. Lagercrantz, M. W. Littlefield, F. E. Marsh, James Murray, O. J. McCoy, Daniel McGrath, F. B. McStocker, T. B. Parker, Henry O. Perry, Stauley O. Post, J. R. Rines, Alvin B. Reed, Edmond Rees, David M. Ramsey, H. L. Starkweather, James H. Smith, Jeremiah M. Smith, Jos. E. Steers, R. J. Trumble, A. J. Vining, J. J. Walsh, Jacob Weinshenk, J. W. Williams, R. E. Williams, John H. Armstrong, George F. Conway, Frank P. Forbes, Chester S. Packard, John F. Lewis, Charles Eggeling, F. W. James, W. F. Corcoran, E. H. Lee, L. Batchelder, W. B. Chamblin, H. M. Castellar, W. P. Spencer, and Richard H. Weber, Carriers.

BRANCH OFFICES.

Three Branch Offices have been established at the following named localities; Station A, 1305 Polk street; A. M. Cox, Superintendent. Station B, southwest corner of Seventh and Market streets; Hugh W. Forbes, Superintendent; Theodore F. Tracy, Clerk. Station C, northeast corner of Twentieth and Mission streets; G. E. Fillebrown, Superintendent. A Sub-office has been established on Railroad avenue, near Eleventh avenue, South San Francisco, where letters may be left for registration, and requests for money orders will receive prompt attention.