

PO 'OLEKA O HAWAII



PUBLISHED BY: HAWAIIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P. O. Box 10115
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

Issue No. 24

July 1981

July 1981

Fellow Philatelists:

A precedent is about to be broken!

Usually, the Hawaiian Philatelic Society tries to hold a HAPEX Show every two years.

However, the dealers at our HAPEX-81 Show in January of this year were so enthusiastic that they have convinced the Executive Board to hold a HAPEX-82 Show.

We are willing to comply! Consequently, we have made a tentative reservation for the Pacific Ballroom at The Ilikai Hotel for January 29, 30, and 31, 1982. (Confirmation by The Ilikai will be in late July - six months before the event - their policy, not ours.)

We will have almost double the space of HAPEX-81, and hope to see many more Mainland dealers joining us.

Full details on bourse tables, exhibits, awards, etc. are being forwarded to all members and dealers on our mailing list.

We are looking forward again to seeing our many friends.

Aloha,

Wayne T. Yakuma

Wayne T. Yakuma, President

1981

OFFICERS OF THE HAWAIIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY:

President	- Mr. Wayne T. Yakuma
1st Vice President	- Mr. Max W. Starr
2nd Vice President	- Mr. Dale P. Cruikshank
Secretary	- Mrs. Virginia May Lewis
Treasurer	- Mr. Kay H. Hoke
Auctioneer	- Mr. Harold Strong

MEETINGS:

Business Meeting and Auction - the 2nd Monday
of each month at Ala Moana Banquet Hall,
Honolulu, at 7:30 P.M.

Swap Meet - the 4th Monday of each month at the
Kaimuki Christian Church, Honolulu, at
7:00 P.M.

"PO'OLEKA O HAWAII"

Editor - Mrs. Virginia May Lewis

Subscription Price: \$3.00 per year (4 issues)

Advertising Rate: \$5.00 per issue (half page)
\$10.00 per issue (full page)

Checks payable to:

HAWAIIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P. O. Box 10115

Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

MISSIONARY INFLUENCE ON HAWAIIAN POSTAL HISTORY

Before the Hawaiian Postal System was established, the missionaries solved their postal problems in unique fashion. Levi Chamberlain wrote in his journal on November 2, 1834:

"....(Armstrong) states that something like a mail has been started between the three stations (on Maui) a stout native man has been hired for a fathom of cloth a trip to travel the distance and carry dispatches."

After the official establishment of the Postal System by the DECREE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL, December 20, 1850 and its re-enactment by the Legislature on June 18, 1851, many of the missionaries at outer stations became postmasters for their areas. None were paid, but as Lorenzo Lyons, postmaster at Waimea, Hawaii stated:

"As the local post masters have no pay but the franking privilege, I endeavor to write as many letters as possible to get something by way of compensation."

Two missionary descendants, Henry M. Whitney, son of Samuel and Mercy Whitney of the Pioneer Company, and Alvah K. Clark, were Postmaster Generals in Hawaii. It was Henry Whitney who, in his second term in office in 1883-1886, placed letter boxes on the street corners of Honolulu for the convenience of the public.

Lorenzo Lyons was postmaster at Waimea for many years. This was a part time job which he filled between his other duties as a missionary with the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM). His position was later given to his daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Woodbury Lyons Hay. A wing of the Lyons' home served as both school room and post office.

Amos Starr Cooke and Samuel Northrup Castle came to the islands as secular agents for the missionaries. Part of their job was to act as forwarding agents for letters written by and to the missionaries before the establishment of the Hawaiian Postal System. When the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions withdrew their support from the missionary activities in the islands in 1951, the two men entered the mercantile business under the name of Castle and Cooke.

Henry Martyn Whitney was the first Postmaster General of Hawaii, appointed by King Kamehameha III, a post he officially assumed on December 22, 1850. Under the legislative action of 1851, Whitney issued the first Hawaiian postage stamp, the "Missionaries", on October 1, 1851. Also, during his term of office, the "Boston Engraved" issue of May 1853 (Kamehameha III stamp) was put on the market. Whitney was reappointed postmaster again in February 1883 and served in that position until April 1886. It was during this second term that he placed the post boxes on the corners of the streets in downtown Honolulu.

Alvah Kittredge Clark served as Hawaii's third Postmaster General, from September 1859 through February 1863. During his term of office, the "Plain Border Numerals" were first issued. They were used for inter-island mail or, in the case of the five-cent, for the Hawaiian portion of postage to mainland addresses. In 1863, Clark resigned and sailed to the mainland where he enlisted in the Union Army and served in the Civil War.

The Polynesian Office (home of the newspaper, THE POLYNESIAN, which had been established by Whitney in 1856 before he became Postmaster General) served as Hawaii's first post office. It was here that the "Missionaries" and "Numerals" were printed. THE POLYNESIAN was the forerunner of today's "Honolulu Advertiser".

* * * * *

JUAN FERNANDEZ,

THE ISLAND OF ALEXANDER SELKIRK AND ROBINSON CRUSOE

By Clyde Carriker

Really, it isn't much of a postcard at first glance. The colors have faded, the message is hard to translate, the addressee's name is nearly obscured by the large CDS, and it is franked with a very common Chilean stamp.

But with so many bits of postal history, the more I studied my friend Bill's new acquisition, the more I realized there is a most interesting history behind it.

Like most kids of my generation, Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe was one of my favorite books although at the time I didn't realize it was set in the South Pacific. The small and somewhat illegible CDS reading "Isla De Juan Fernandez Chile" started me doing some research.

The Juan Fernandez Islands are about 400 miles west and a bit south of Valparaiso, Chile, and are from 33-34 degrees south and from 78-81 degrees west. The island pictured is Mas a Tierra and Cumberland Bay. The other islands are Mas Afuera and Santa Clara which are not inhabited.

The navigator Juan Fernandez discovered them in 1563, and eventually received a grant from the Spanish government to settle there. Chilean independence in 1818 brought the islands under that country's control. As with a number of other South Pacific islands, the main island was used as a penal colony, mainly for political prisoners.

Nothing much happened until World War I when the German cruiser "Dresden", the only survivor of the battle of the Falkland Islands, steamed into Cumberland Bay and took refuge there. The ship was later scuttled by the captain who refused to surrender his ship to a British squadron of ships.

Tarjeta Postal

Carte postale — Union postale universelle
CHILE



EN ESTE LADO DEBE ESCRIBIRSE
UNICAMENTE LA DIRECCION.

36196



Isla de Juan Fernandez

However, long before that, Alexander Selkirk was marooned on the island for about four years; his story is said to have formed the basis for Defoe's book about Robinson Crusoe. British naval officers erected a tablet there in 1858 to honor Selkirk.

San Juan Batista, a town of about 625 persons, is the main settlement. It is considered part of Valparaiso province, hence the Valparaiso receiving cancel of May 6, 1915 although the April 21 CDS from the island does not show the year.

As nearly as can be translated, the message on the view part of the card reads:

"Lots of memories! I have taken care of all of those sick with eye illnesses and I think they are getting better but right now they can't see anything. Your assistant,
R. Eltjingeral."

If correct, the card is addressed to "Senior Dr. Emelio Hagraesaer, Valparaiso, Chile". Unfortunately, the writer did not date his card which would definitely tie in with the CDS markings.

The rather fast delivery to Chile of 15 days indicates that ship travel was fairly good even during the war years.

This little bit of Pacific postal history might well have passed into oblivion if my friend hadn't liked the Pacific and had had the sharp eye that we all need to pick up these elusive and historical items!

* * * * *

TO HAWAII SPECIALISTS - Your Help Is Requested!

The S.P.A. JOURNAL has been running serially the philatelic portions of the autobiography of Mr. James Handshaw, an early stamp dealer who bought out J. Walter Scott in 1916.

From the description in the following article from his autobiography, "The Rarest Stamp I Ever Owned", this stamp would seem to be a Hawaiian missionary acquired by him about 1916 and before 1919.

Mr. Theodore W. Bozarth, RFD 2, Box 61, Titusville, New Jersey 08560, is preparing a commentary for this republication. He requests that any information which would help him more fully identify the stamp and the Yale student who benefited from the sale, be sent to him at his address above.

THE RAREST STAMP I EVER OWNED

One day, a Saturday afternoon as I remember and one of our busy days, a nice appearing young man entered the store, and wanted to sell an old Hawaiian Island stamp, one of the old missionary stamps issued about the year 1851. Here the reader will recall the fact that the Hawaiian Islands were inhabited at this time by a lot of savages or uncivilized people. There were missionaries from our country who went there for the purpose of Christianizing the natives. There were no postage stamps used at the time, but an issue of several different varieties was gotten out by those early missionaries and a very limited number was used, perhaps for mailing letters to friends in the U. S., and probably most of the stamps were destroyed as it is not likely anyone knew they would be of any special value years later, so those old stamps are among the rarest in the world.

I looked at the stamp the party wanted to sell, and told him it was probably a counterfeit stamp, as such

had been counterfeited. I requested the party to leave the stamp with me for a few days, so it could be carefully examined; this he consented to do. He left his address, which was New Haven, Connecticut. I was to report or return the stamp in a few days. After a careful examination of the stamp, it was pronounced genuine, so I wrote to the party who left the stamp with me, and made him an offer for it, but received no reply, and so one afternoon I took a train for New Haven for the purpose of seeing the young man who had left the stamp with me.

After considerable delay, I located him at Yale College, and learned he had never received my letter. The young student was in a room on the top floor of that building and was apparently glad to see me. I told him my purpose in taking the trip to see him, and I made him an offer for the stamp, which he accepted. The amount which I gave him, no doubt, went a long way towards paying his college expenses. He was highly pleased and considered himself fortunate. I told the young man if I sold the stamp at a larger price than I expected, I would give him more money.

On my return to New York, I had a photograph of the stamp taken and hoped to have the picture appear in print, but the Post Office Department in New York was opposed to this, as the Hawaiian Islands now belong to the U. S. For some reason, the Post Office Department would not allow a picture of a postage stamp of any of the U. S. possessions to appear in print.

Suffice to say, the stamp was the rarest stamp I had ever owned. The catalogue price was very high, but unfortunately the stamp was slightly damaged, and consequently its value was very much decreased. Nevertheless, I sold the stamp for a large amount of money, and was pleased to give my student friend an additional \$150.00.

This stamp had a history. The young man's grandfather had been to the Hawaiian Islands many years before, and it is supposed, brought the stamp from there. It was, I believe, found in an old album, and perhaps by chance was saved. It proved a lucky find for the young Yale student.

* * * * *

Daylight was still below the horizon when Moses Walters saddled his pony, Patsy. The air was motionless and the pre-dawn frost glittered in the moonlight.

Moses Walters has started another day of work as he coaxes his pony down the trail of a typical Kentucky hollow. The 83-year-old Walters is something of a legend in the mountains of eastern Kentucky. He has had a horseback mail route through this region for more than 40 years.

Walters' route follows Cow Creek Hollow up the right and left fork. The right fork with gravel and dirt is passable most of the year but the left fork turns into a blanket of mud during the rainy season and in some places the creek overflows knee-deep and crosses the road.

At 6 a.m., Walters leaves the house to collect mail "pokes" from the left and right fork of Cow Creek before turning up the main branch to the post office at Stella. There, postmaster Loney Dunn searches the poke for outgoing mail, fills the bag with incoming mail and returns them to Walters.

Leaving Stella, Walters retraces the 5-1/4 mile trek, returning each poke to the proper box.

After six hours on the road, he and Patsy round the last bend for home.

* * * * *

FLYING THE MAIL

Earliest Dr. Adams' Airmail Pick-ups

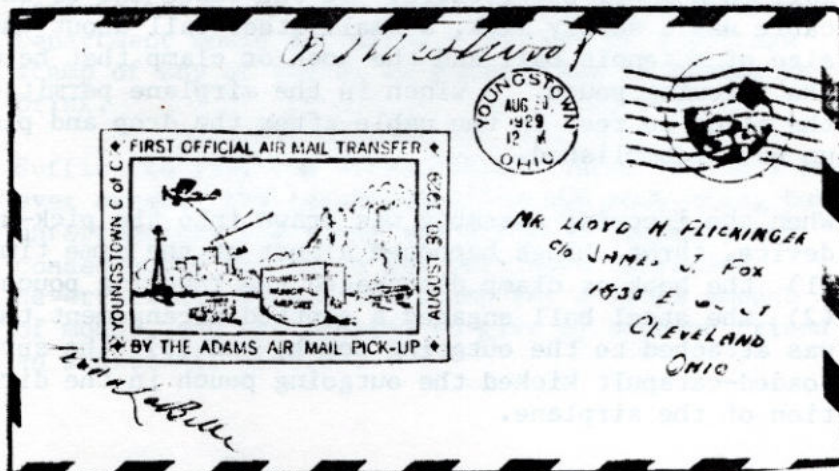
By Lloyd H. Flickinger

On September 20, 1934 at the Century of Progress Exposition in Chicago, Dr. Adams' experimental transfer of airmail from the ground to an airplane in flight took place.

The event was advertised as the "First Transfer of the United States Mail in Flight". Actually, the first transfer from the ground to an airplane in flight took place in Youngstown, Ohio, on August 30, 1929 - five years before the experiments in Chicago.

The covers from this first event (8/30/29) are listed in the AAMS catalog as No. 186 in the U.S. Government Flights section. Unfortunately, the catalog is partly in error. The only pick-up device was located on the Municipal Airport at Youngstown. Mail from Cleveland was Drop Mail. Youngstown had actual pick-up. The catalog lists Pittsburgh as pick-up -- I have no covers from Pittsburgh, and there was only one pick-up device and it was located in Youngstown.

I lived in Youngstown at the time of the experiment. The covers from Youngstown received a cachet. (Below)



A rough sketch of the cachet was prepared by me. A draftsman in our office drew it up in final form. The Chamber of Commerce paid for the rubber stamp cachet made from the sketch. The Youngstown Post Office applied the cachet to all outgoing covers. The aircraft were furnished by Clifford Ball, the contractor for C.A.M. 11.

The cachet pictures office buildings in downtown Youngstown and steel mills as background. Cleveland Airmail Field had a rubber stamp cachet reading: "FIRST OFFICIAL AIRMAIL DROP IN THE UNITED STATES, BY ADAMS NON-STOP METHOD, YOUNGSTOWN, O., C.A.M. 11" in four lines. I have not seen a Cleveland Main Post Office cover.

An interesting sidelight is that one of the pouches of mail from Cleveland got lost in the aircraft and was not dropped in Youngstown. Quite some time later the pouch was found.

The pick-up experiment was repeated on August 4, 1930 at New Castle and Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania. The lost covers with the Cleveland cachet were posted at Beaver Falls at this time.

HOW THE DEVICE WORKED. The Adams pick-up device had some unusual features. The incoming airplane, flying between 100 and 200 feet altitude, held the pouch of mail on a small steel cable. At the lower end of the cable was a safety link, a small steel ball about the size of a tennis ball and the hook or clamp that held the incoming pouch. A winch in the airplane permitted the pilot to reel in the cable after the drop and pick-up was accomplished.

When the incoming assembly was drawn into the pick-up device, three things happened almost at the same time. (1) the hook or clamp disengaged the incoming pouch, (2) the steel ball engaged a slotted arrangement that was attached to the outgoing pouch, and (3) the spring-loaded-catapult kicked the outgoing pouch in the direction of the airplane.

The catapult-kick was to prevent a severe yank on the cable and the airplane. One feature worried the pilots. They were afraid the cable would get fouled in the pick-up device and jerk the airplane to the ground. So a safety device, or link, was placed just ahead of the steel ball. It was a very simple feature. (Below)



The diameter of the breaking feature was about that of a six-penny nail. The material was soft steel. If something went wrong, and the mail pouches or the steel ball tangled with the pick-up device, the safety link snapped, and the cable was released without placing an unacceptable yank on the airplane.

The above description of the operation is entirely from memory. Some of the descriptions may not be entirely correct. After all, the event took place over fifty years ago!

OTHER EXPERIMENTS. The pick-up and drop experiment at Youngstown was actually the first ground-to-aircraft experiment by the Adams Non-Stop Method. The first aircraft-to-ship and the first ship-to-aircraft transfer by the Adams Air Mail Pick-up device took place on June 12, 1929. This was about two and a half months before the Youngstown trials. This transfer was to - and - from the S.S. Leviathan.

Covers from this experiment are listed as AAMS No. 602 in the U.S. Souvenir Historical Flight section of the AAMS catalog. Covers to the S.S. Leviathan were cacheted in red, and those from the S.S. Leviathan were cacheted in purple and black.

Dr. Adams was not a scientist, as you might suspect. He was a dentist by profession. I had the pleasure of knowing him while he was in Youngstown. We had many

visits in which we talked mostly about stamps. He had a lot of inventive thoughts. One I remember is that his device could be mounted on a railway mail car of the Broadway Limited which made very few stops between New York and Chicago. Smaller cities along the route could dispatch mail, by airplane, to the train, while it was moving at 70 to 80 miles per hour!

* * * * *

"A HISTORY OF THE STAMPS OF HAWAII: 1851-1900"

This informative story of the stamps of Hawaii also contains a price comparison between 1970 and 1980; a rarity list of 60 Hawaiian stamps; a set of eight 5x7 color photos of all Hawaii issues; plus a selection of forgeries and counterfeits.

This book is available for \$5.00 postpaid, from Col. Pat Hogan, 427 Kawaihae Street, Honolulu, Hi. 96825.

— — — — —

Also available: Hawaii stamps from No. 5 to No. 82; the Officials; the Revenues; the Kahului Railroads; Envelopes (with blue insides); Postal Cards; and a stock of Hawaii's Town Cancels and Postmarks.

Col. Pat Hogan
427 Kawaihae Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96825

A MOST WELCOME COMMENTARY

From our HPS member, Robert C. Swed, of Wilmington, Delaware, concerning L. J. Crampon's article, "The Two-Cent Kalakaua Error", published in the January 1981 issue of this Journal.

We quote:

"I read with much interest L. J. Crampon's article (January 1981, PO'OLEKA O HAWAII) on the 2¢ Kalakaua lilac rose stamp, Scott #38. His conclusions concerning the overvaluation of this stamp by Scott are logically arrived at, but they do not agree with my observations of the availability of this stamp in the "East of the Mississippi" philatelic market-place.

"I have been collecting Hawaiian stamps for eleven years and am fortunate to be able to visit all of the major stamp shows from Chicago east, and Washington/Baltimore north to Boston. In addition, I hold bourse tables over 30 times a year at small local shows in the Mid-Atlantic region. I am always searching for Hawaiian material, and in a typical year go through the stocks of perhaps 400 dealers (most have little or no Hawaii).

"These are my observations:

"Of the five stamps primarily in question in Mr. Crampon's table (#38, #66, #31a, #56, #65), the most difficult to find in mint (unused) condition is #38. In used condition, #65 and #56 are more difficult to obtain. #38 is "never" seen as a block, while #66 is readily available as blocks and in sheets. #56 is easily available as mint singles and blocks; #31a as singles, more difficult in block form; and #65 is readily found at major shows as singles and occasionally as blocks (both genuine and counterfeit, I might add).

"The lilac rose, #38, was a widely distributed, commonly used stamp of its day. As such, most copies were lost to philately. The overprints, arriving on the scene at a much later date, were largely sold to dealers in a more philatelically enlightened age and thus preserved for today's collector. #31a arrived later also, despite the Scott number, and presumably received more dealer interest.

"Only #65 is difficult to explain. Few copies exist used (genuinely) and fakes abound. It must be that 6000 copies are sufficient to satisfy the Hawaiian collector market. Whatever the reason, it is easier to find a mint #65 than a mint #38, at least out here.

"Therefore, I don't feel that the lilac rose, #38 is overpriced. I believe that #56 used is much underpriced, and #65 used is very much underpriced."

Thank you, Mr. Swed, for taking the time to write to us and for sharing your experience.

* * * * *

AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS:

At Harmers of New York, February 18-19 Auction:

- A used Missionary 5¢ - extensively repaired - brought \$9,000 (catalogue \$13,000).
- An unused 13¢ - repaired - brought \$9,000.
- A used ms. "5" on 13¢ dark red of 1853 brought \$5,250 (catalogue \$3,750).

* * * * *

THE WEDDING OF THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE LADY DIANA SPENCER

Crown Agents has just announced that a number of the countries whom they represent will be combining to produce a unique omnibus series of postage stamps to celebrate the forthcoming Royal Wedding.

It is planned that each country will issue three stamps and an official first day cover on July 22, 1981. Face value per set will be approximately \$1.75 to \$2.30.

The stamps will be vertical and will be printed in sheets of 50 (2 x 25) with a central heraldic gutter strip printed in black. The stamp borders have been designed from the heraldic devices on the Order of the Garter as worn by Prince Charles and from the coat-of-arms of Lady Diana Spencer.

The low value stamp depicts a traditional English wedding bouquet consisting of the flowers of the issuing country. The middle value will show various scenes of Prince Charles as a "man of action". The third stamp, the top value, will depict Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer from a photograph taken on the day their engagement was announced.

At the present time, the following countries are participating in the Omnibus:

Ascension Is.	— 10, 15, 50p	Lethsotho	— 15, 25s, M1
Barbados	— 28, 50c, 2.50	Mauritius	— 25c, 2.50, 10.00
Bermuda	— 25, 30c, 1.00	Norfolk Is.	— 28, 35, 60c
British Virgin Is.	— 10, 35c, 1.25	Pitcairn	— 20, 35c, 1.20
Brunei	— 10s, 1.00, 2.00	St. Helena	— 14, 29, 32p
Cayman Is.	— 20, 30c, 1.00	Sierra Leone	— 31, 45, 75c
Falkland Is.	— 10, 13, 52p	Solomon Is.	— 8, 45c, 1.00
Fiji	— 6, 45c, 1.00	Swaziland	— 5, 25c, E1
Gambia	— 75b, D1, D1.25	Tristan	— 5, 20, 50p
Hong Kong	— 20c, 1.30, 5.00	Vanuatu	— To be advised
Jamaica	— 20c, 1.00, 2.00	W. Samoa	— 18, 32s, 1.00

* * * * *

THE PLEASURES OF PRECANCELS

By Mary A. Manhoff

You've never collected precancels? Just possibly you don't know what you have been missing. Are you on a plateau with your specialized collection? Are you looking for a new pastime to fill in the hours of a rainy day, or looking for something very challenging?

Collecting precancels has something for everyone, from an inexpensive start with a general pack-rat-all-inclusive accumulation to a search for the very rare and hard-to-find ones.

Where to begin? Where's that showbox of "junk", or did you give it to Uncle Clem's nephew? In the morning mail, did you find a piano stamp with two bars and no city name? You've started!

There are ads in the stamp news journals with offers of mixtures that will give you hours of pleasure sorting through. You'll discover that some city names are printed in identical type, all so very neat. Bureaus! (There are bureau pages available. All you have to do is fill in each space with a stamp.) There are duplicates galore in these mixes. After you have bought a selection from several of the firms that have advertised, you may have found a preference: bureaus vs. towns and types. Or, perhaps you are attracted to those beautiful double lines, or to the Washington Bicentennials.

No two precancel collections will be the same. Yours will be unique. For one thin dime, SASE, and a request, you can get ten one-cent precancels from the postmaster of almost any town in these United States. For one dollar, you can request ten each of the one-, two-, three-, and four-cent stamps precanceled. You might wish to have a precancel from each of the state

capitols, or from each county seat of your favorite state.

Possibly you are interested in how they precancel. Drop in at a post office someday and find out for yourself. Ask if they have the precanceling device. You might get "hooked" and find yourself going out of your way to find another post office where you can buy precancels. Don't worry about what to do with the duplicates. You'll find other enthusiasts who want to swap.

The Hawaiian Philatelic Society has several precancel catalogues which members may borrow.

Next to Hawaii, what would be your favorite state? There are 842 town and 1757 types listed for Ohio. Now, there's a challenge!

To aid you in this new pursuit, it is helpful to join the Precancel Society. Their monthly publication, "The Precancel Forum", contains much information for you.

Several states have societies, too. You don't have to be a resident of Ohio, Illinois, Arizona, Florida, or Missouri to join. They want all of us. Columbus, Ohio, is the site of the annual convention this year. The dates are August 5th to 8th.

Give precancel collecting a try. You might like it!

* * * * *



Stamp on right sold for \$230,000 and stamp on left sold for \$210,000.

Two-Cent Stamps Bring Male Collector Record \$440,000

11/20/80

NEW YORK (UPI) — A two-cent stamp brought a record price of \$230,000 at auction — the highest price ever paid for a single U.S. stamp.

The price offered Tuesday was for a Hawaiian "missionary" stamp. The series got its name because the stamps were frequently used on mail sent by American missionaries in Hawaii to their friends and family in the U.S.

The previous record for sale of one U.S. stamp was the \$135,000 paid in May 1979 for a 24-cent stamp showing an inverted airplane.

The rare Hawaiian missionary stamp was sold to a California dealer, Stanley Piller, who acted as an agent for an anonymous

buyer.

Another two-cent Hawaiian missionary stamp was sold later in the day for \$210,000. It was bought by Joseph Krois, president of the National Philatelic Advisers' Corp., a New York City firm. The spokesman said one stamp brought a higher price than the other because it has a more elaborate border and bears a San Francisco postmark.

The two stamps, part of a series printed in 1851 and 1852, were included in a collection of 561 Hawaiian stamps owned by a Japanese industrialist, Ryohei Ishikawa.

Only 15 of the small, blue two-cent stamps exist, and six, including the two auctioned Tuesday, are in private collections.