

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK
OF NEW YORK

[Circular No. 950, December 19, 1929]
Supplementing Circular No. 920]

New Counterfeit

*To all Banks, Trust Companies and Others Concerned
in the Second Federal Reserve District:*

The Treasury Department in a letter dated Dec. 18, 1929 describes the counterfeit as follows:

\$100 Federal Reserve Note (OLD ISSUE)

On the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Philadelphia, Cleveland or San Francisco; check letter "A"; face plate number 4; back plate number 25; (check letters and plate numbers vary). Specimens at hand bear the following signatures: 2-B, New York, JOHN BURKE, Treasurer, CARTER GLASS, Secretary; 2-B, New York, JOHN BURKE, Treasurer, W. G. McADOO, Secretary; 3-C, Philadelphia, JOHN BURKE, Treasurer, W. G. McADOO, Secretary; 12-L, San Francisco, JOHN BURKE, Treasurer, D. F. HOUSTON, Secretary; 4-D, Cleveland, FRANK WHITE, Treasurer, A. W. MELLON, Secretary. Portrait of FRANKLIN.

This production is exceptionally dangerous and is printed from finely etched photo-mechanical plates. One of the earlier circulars describing this note states that it is printed on bleached genuine paper. It has since been determined that the note is printed on a manufactured paper very similar to the genuine. However, the silk fibre in the counterfeit seems to be slightly finer than that in the genuine, and not as curly.

On the face of the counterfeit, at the top of the medallion, which is executed with a background of cross-hatch lines drawn horizontally and perpendicularly, the outer edge is rough and finely serrated, where the lines terminate, and the oval background is without the encircling hair line to even out the rough border caused by projecting cross lines. The face of the note has an ash grey tone, while the back is printed in bright grass green.

Underneath the portrait, in the legend, the upturned shaded flange leans to the right of the letter "R" in the word "HUNDRED" until it contacts with the lower right formation of the letter. In the genuine this flange does not touch any part of the letter.

At the top of the note, in the counterfeit, the shaded dot in the final "A" in "AMERICA" is nearly rounded, while in the genuine this dot has a semi-circular formation, with the top showing a flat surface.

In the genuine note, the imprint of the numbering block will show through the paper on the back. In the counterfeit the numbering is not visible from the back unless the note is held up to the light.

A period instead of a comma is etched after the word WASHINGTON in the legend on the back of the counterfeit.

This counterfeit will deceive even the wary handler of currency, and great care should be exercised in examining notes of this denomination.

GEORGE L. HARRISON,
Governor.