

FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD

WASHINGTON

X-3377

April 6, 1922.

SUBJECT: Postal Registry Receipts in use by
Federal Reserve Banks.

Dear Sir:

There is enclosed herewith copy of a communication received from the Post Office Department, which is self explanatory. It is requested that you send to the Board for transmittal to the Post Office Department samples of the "registry forms" used by your bank and its branches.

Very truly yours,

G o v e r n o r .

(Enclosure)

TO THE GOVERNORS
OF ALL FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS

COPY

X-3377a

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT
Third Assistant Postmaster General
WASHINGTON

April 4, 1922.

Honorable W. P. G. Harding,
Governor, Federal Reserve Board,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:

As will be noted by extract from communication attached hereto, the postmaster at Salt Lake City, Utah, raises the question as to why it is necessary for the local branch of the Federal Reserve Bank at Salt Lake City to use the special registry forms, like samples also attached *, rather than the regular stock registry forms. Your views regarding the matter will be appreciated.

In this connection it is stated that it is very desirable of course that the forms used in connection with registered mail by the Federal Reserve Banks and branches be uniform in size and character and conform, as near as practicable to the stock registry forms, and in this connection it is suggested that there be obtained from the several Federal Reserve Banks and branches samples of forms used by them in connection with the mailing of registered matter, or its receipt from the post office, and that such samples be transmitted to this Office for examination and possible suggestions the adoption of which might tend to uniformity or otherwise be advantageous.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Warren I. Glover.

Third Assistant Postmaster General.

* Samples not received.

GMP/BB
Inclosure.

X-3377b

EXTRACTS FROM LETTER FROM THE POSTMASTER AT SALT LAKE CITY,
UTAH, DATED FEBRUARY 13.

Enclosed herewith find sample forms of registry receipts all of which are used daily and together by the local branch of the Federal Reserve Bank, acting under instructions by district headquarters at San Francisco. In the interest of post office efficiency, which depends to a certain extent upon uniformity and convenience, we have objected to this use of variegated forms, filed under as many serial numbers, by a single patron of this office, and the objection is based on the following reasons:

1. Because of the decided inconvenience in keeping valuable files pertaining to one subject in several lots or filing cases.
2. Because of the obvious irregularity of filing such valuable records under several serial numbers.
3. Because it is practically impossible to satisfactorily check at the time of receipt the registered articles with the entries on these several and separate forms.
4. Because the forms submitted by the Federal Reserve Bank do not harmonize with forms supplied by the Department in size, shape or matter; there is no provision at all for restricted delivery.
5. Because of time and space necessarily wasted in checking and filing these several forms daily; in listing 51 articles yesterday, seven bills were used each of which had space for 40 entries.
6. Because frequently changes made in the system of the Federal Reserve Bank are subsequently requested by other banks.
7. Because it is not clear that one patron or business concern should be allowed privileges which are withheld from other patrons; each may ask the acceptance of one or more forms adapted to the particular need of his office system.
8. Because we are crowded now for floor space in which to do necessary work by the simplest method possible.
9. Because some of these forms have never received the approval of the Post Office Department--they are presented without notice, or concern for the service.

Our protest, based on the grounds above stated, were communicated by the local branch bank to the Federal Reserve Bank at San Francisco which wired that its blanks had been referred to the

Post Office Inspector in Charge at that point; that he saw no objection to their use and that other offices were accepting them in consequence; the local bank was further advised to telegraph the Post Office Inspector in Charge at Denver, Colorado, to issue instructions to this office.

Representatives of the local branch bank intimate that they will not accept bulk receipts on Form 3824 but will remain at the window until individual receipts for every mailing are made out on Form 3806 if their variegated forms are refused. I do not believe in humoring a patron who demands a privilege which cannot be accorded other patrons having equal rights when such concessions involve a loss of efficiency and a waste of time and money with "curtailment" our watch word.

If, in view of the inconvenience of checking, the irregularities in filing and the possibility of an endless variety of forms to suit the changing plans of insistent business concerns, the Department instructs us to accept and file anything submitted, or approved by an inspector, we shall offer no further objections to lists presented with articles to be registered. But we would like to have a ruling on the matter at an early date.