

FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD

WASHINGTON

ADDRESS OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE TO
THE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD

X-6434

December 3, 1929.

SUBJECT: Use of lead seals on registered mail
shipments.

Dear Sir:

There are enclosed herewith copies of self-explanatory letters exchanged with the Acting General Superintendent of the Division of Railway Mail Service of the Post Office Department, regarding injury to postal clerks by reason of the careless use of Porter lead seals on registered mail shipments received from the Federal reserve banks.

It is respectfully requested that this matter be brought to the attention of your Money Department and that the employees thereof be cautioned, in order to avoid further injuries and the possibility of having the use of the seals ruled against by the Department.

Very truly yours,

E. M. McClelland,
Assistant Secretary.

Enclosures.

TO GOVERNORS OF ALL F. R. BANKS.

COPY

X-6434-a

December 3, 1929.

Dear Mr. Satterwhite:

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of December 2nd (AFS-CFS) reporting several instances recently where clerks in the Railway Mail Service have received injuries from pins inserted in lead seals which are used on certain classes of registered mail packages received from the Federal reserve banks. This type of lead seal has been in use by the Treasury Department at Washington and the Federal reserve banks for several years and the first specific complaint against them was recently brought to our attention by the Third Assistant Postmaster General. We advised the Third Assistant Postmaster General that the pins used in the seals come in different sizes and possibly, in the case complained of, a large size pin was used, through inadvertence, to seal a small shipment. Our supposition was later confirmed by the Federal reserve bank concerned.

Since you state that there have been other cases of injury to Railway Mail clerks, we will, of course, bring your letter to the attention of all Federal reserve banks with the request that greater care be exercised in the use of the seals.

Very truly yours,

E. M. McClelland,
Assistant Secretary.

Mr. E. W. Satterwhite,
Acting General Superintendent,
Division of Railway Mail Service,
Post Office Department,
Washington, D. C.

COPY

X-6434-b

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

Second Assistant Postmaster General

Washington

December 2, 1929.

The Secretary,
Federal Reserve Board,
Washington, D. C.

• My dear Sir:

It has been brought to the attention of this office that Federal Reserve Banks throughout the United States are using lead seals with pins inserted in the lead and the points protruding making a parcel with this attachment dangerous to handle by postal employees.

There have been several cases recently where clerks in this service have been painfully injured when their hands came in contact with the exposed point of the pin in the seal.

The Postal Laws and Regulations provide that an article that is liable to hurt, harm, or injure another, or damage, deface, or otherwise injure the mails shall be declared nonmailable. Postmasters have been instructed to refuse to accept parcels where the pin in the lead seal is exposed.

This information is brought to your attention in order that the Federal Reserve Banks may be advised in this matter and their shipments may not be delayed by postmasters refusing to accept same.

Very truly yours,

(S) E. W. Satterwhite,
Acting General Superintendent.