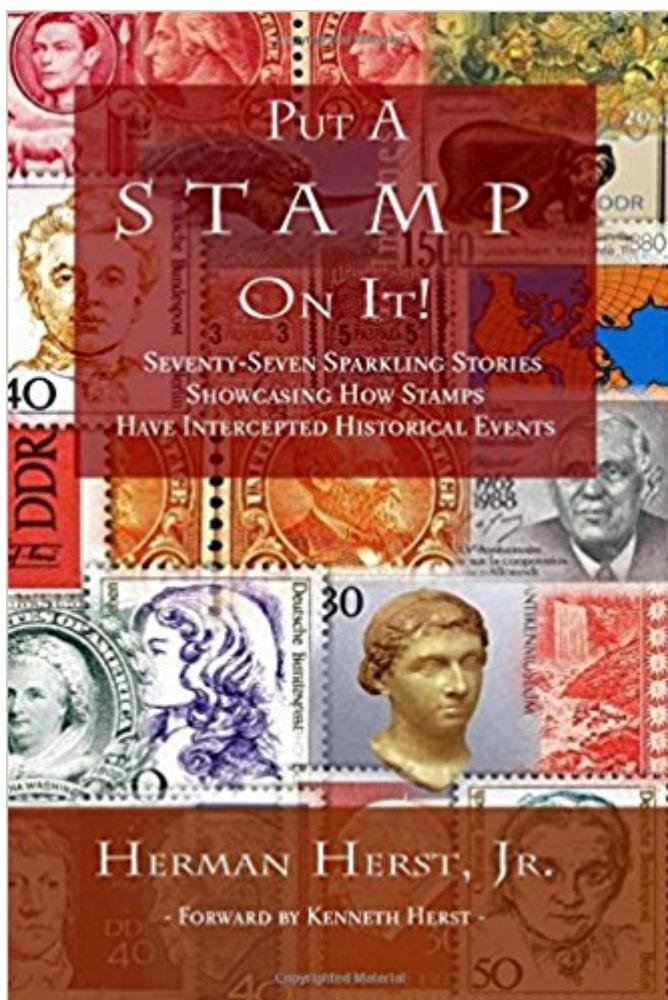


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# Put A Stamp On It!: Seventy-Seven Sparkling Stories Showcasing How Stamps Have Intercepted Historical Events



## **Synopsis**

WHAT do the Charley Ross kidnapping, the Dunning sale, Britain's female mason, Sherlock Holmes and the Littlewood's pool, the founding of the YMCA, George Sloane, and the Madeline Smith Postcard all have in common? Stamps were an important part of these historical events. Even though we don't often think of stamps in the context of making history, those small, decorative aspects of the mail system are far more than just there to decorate the envelope. At the heart of every letter, every postal moment for hundreds of years, stamps can be found, changing history as we know it. In this book, author and stamp historian Herman Herst, Jr. shares with us about the rich history of several historical events and the way that stamps influenced them. Told with good humor, perspective, and solid documentation, Herman Herst, Jr. offers us insight into the smallest details of the mail industry - stamps - and shows us that history is often staring back at us every time we mail or open a letter. Come along to share in seventy-seven stories where history proves that stamps are the stars, sealing history in ways we would least expect it.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Although my father Herman Herst Jr. passed away in 1999, this book was actually written in 1994 and "forgotten about". It was discovered on the top shelf of a closet in 2012 and has taken four years to come to fruition. These words sadly can honestly be said to be his "last words". Enjoy!

known author and philatelist, specializing in writing for the philatelist community. His work was particularly noted for focusing on the history of stamp collecting and was of interest to collectors,

regardless of whether they were new to the hobby or involved with it for a long period of time. He received the Luff Award in 1961 and was elected to the American Philatelic Society Hall of Fame in 2000. His books included Fancy Cancellations on Nineteenth Century United States Postage Stamps, Forensic Philately, Nassau Street, and Fun and Profit in Stamp Collecting. This book has been brought into print by the author's son, Kenneth Herst, in memory of his father's work and legacy.

Highly recommended--a fast, fun read for anyone interested in the quirks of history. Herman Herst, Jr. was one of the twentieth century's top stamp experts, but this collection of his writings should appeal to a far wider audience. Herst uses stamps as a tool to explore history in much the same way historians in recent years have used salt (Salt: A World History), cotton (Empire of Cotton: A Global History), or even potatoes (The Potato: How the Humble Spud Rescued the Western World) as anchors for their histories. Herst's subjects range from the arts (Arthur Conan Doyle, Whistler and his mother) to John Brown's raid and the origins of the YMCA. The tales are short, witty, and often end with a twist.

Colorful stories and history of the stamp collecting business and hobby. Put life into a pastime that most typically see as dry and boring. Hopefully, someone will continue in a similar fashion and entertain today's and tomorrow's collectors with their experiences. The future of stamp collecting is by no means certain. With email and texting, postal machines and technology. Stamp collecting seems nostalgic and antique but there is and should be a place for history and the trappings that get us to the future. And frankly, there is just something timeless in writing and mailing a heartfelt message to someone you love with stamp and envelope. It still means a bit more than flashing electrons through the ether.

this book is so interesting that I would like to read again as soon as I am done with it. So much information ! Wonderful anecdotes. You feel like you are present at the moment everything is happening. Very well written and fun to read.

Excellent stories about stamp collecting. Lots of historical information. I'm glad this manuscript was discovered and published.

ok, but not up to his past books. a lot of spelling errors, and confusion of information in the same

chapter.

Nice little set of vignettes from a most important in the fields of one of my avocations. Good to be able to have it available as an ebook. Thank you.

I bought this book for my husband, who is very pleased. Great book for anyone interested in stamps and history. I've looked through it and plan to read it also

Pat's usual interesting review of facts. Still reading but enjoy it very much. A Fan

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