



# First Issues

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The Official Journal of the First Issues Collectors Club  
APS Affiliate #232

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## The First Issues Collectors Club

promotes the collection of the first postage stamps issued by any nation, province, city or other entity that has, at any time, issued postage stamps, and facilitates the exchange of information about these issues among stamp collectors.

**First Issues** (ISSN: 1547-2299), the official newsletter of the First Issues Collectors Club, is published quarterly. Submissions are welcome from members and others interested in the collection of first issues.

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president@firstissues.org

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## Outgoing President's Message

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as President of FICC. A very heart felt "Thank you!" to so many of you who helped build and sustain FICC.

When I announced my intent to retire as President, nominations were opened and two very capable members received nominations for the office of President: Louis Laflamme and Tim Balm. Louis currently serves as Vice President, while Tim serves as Editor and Auction Chairman. After thorough and thoughtful reflection, Tim decided that he would rather continue his service in those two positions. Louis, on the other hand, is willing to resign as Vice President to serve as our new FICC President.

I applaud the wise decisions of both of these faithful FICC members.

In accordance with the Bylaws of FICC, nominations were closed, and Louis Laflamme was elected FICC's President by acclamation.

Tim will continue his service to FICC as Editor and Auction Chairman.

The position of Vice President is now open for nominations (see page 5).

Once again let me say that FICC means a lot to me. I certainly plan to continue my membership in the club and I look forward to continued enthusiasm for the field of first issues collecting. I have every confidence that FICC is in excellent hands.

*Clark Buchi*

## Incoming President's Message

First of all, let me take this opportunity to thank our outgoing President, Clark Buchi, for his years of service to the club. Our loss is *The Perfins Bulletin* gain, and I wish him all the best. As the new President, I am quite happy at the prospect of aiding the club to pursue its goal of gathering and disseminating information about this fascinating aspect of philately.

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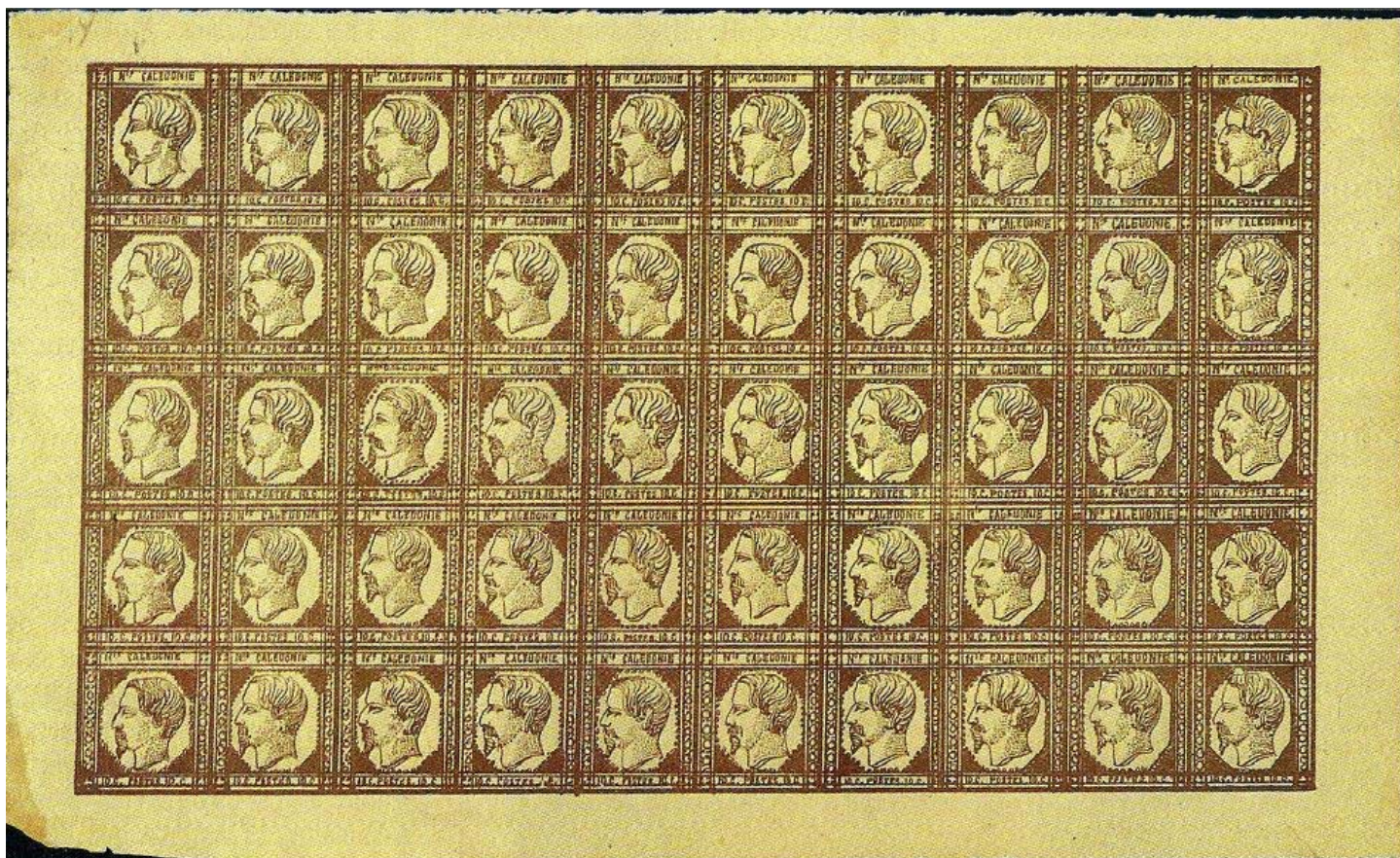




## Two Triquerat Forgeries

By Louis Laflamme, FICC #210

The recent V22N3 article on New Caledonia #1 reminded me of two forgeries of this stamp I came across a few years ago. This stamp is known in French by the name of its designer, Sergeant Triquerat who was an infantryman serving on French ships and stationed in New Caledonia at the time. He was also moonlighting as an illustrator for the local newspaper, the "*Moniteur Impérial*", a simple one page paper produced by lithography. When the need arose in the colony for postage stamps in 1859, the *Moniteur Impérial* was the only place possessing impression material capable of doing the job and Triquerat inherited the fastidious task of drawing, one-by-one, the 50 subjects on the lithographic stone thus creating 50 different varieties of Sc#1. You can find stamps with long heads, wide heads, different shapes of nose, ear, hair, beard & moustache, or more/less centered in different octagonal frames. A reproduction of the full sheet is shown below.



The first printing produced 1500 stamps (30 sheets) but they were reprinted several times over more than two years, and the total produced is unknown. The genuine stamps are scarce and valued at about \$250 mint or used because most used stamps went uncanceled. Some are known cancelled **P.D** (paid to destination) and others with the triple oval New South Wales cancel where international letters transited.

The genuine stamps are easy to plate by comparison to the full sheet shown above. Many forgeries can be spotted that way also.

Figure 2 (near right) shows my genuine Sc#1 (position 10), and Figure 3 (far right) shows an enlargement of the stamp from position 10 in the full sheet.

Continued on page 4.





## Triquerat Forgeries (continued from page 3)

Figure 4 (at right) shows the first forgery I spotted on the internet a few years ago. It was offered as a genuine stamp by a seller no longer active. That stamp is even more primitive than the genuine ones and does not remotely look like any of the known types, it should not pose any problem.

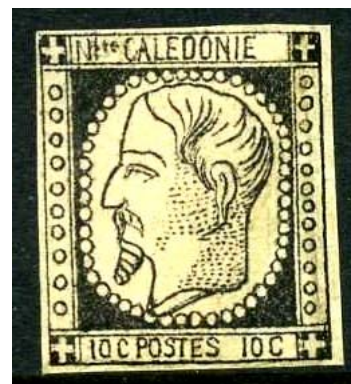


Figure 5 (far left) shows a more dangerous forgery. It is in my reference collection and closely resembles the pos. 27 stamp (near left). This could be one of the lithographical/ photolithographical forgeries described in "The Serrane Guide". It is printed on thin white paper and is lightly cancelled with a triple oval device probably made to resemble the NSW cancel. Close examination will reveal small differences with the genuine stamp the most obvious one being the absence of a stain at the back of the head. Another tell-tale sign is the presence of small white margins around the outer

black frame lines. The genuine stamps do not have any distinct margins except at the sheet edges!

In the Scott catalogue it is stated that counterfeits abound so if you own a copy of that stamp or are contemplating the purchase of one it would be prudent and wise to obtain a certificate of authenticity.

## References:

1. The Serrane Guide.
2. Timbroscopie, Number 41, November 1987.
3. L'écho de la timbrologie, January 1949, p.245.

FICC ~~✗~~

## Additional Forgeries of New Caledonia #1

By Tim Balm, FICC #91

When Louis Laflamme submitted his article on the Triquerat forgeries, it sparked a small e-mail discussion between us. Since he was kind enough to share his forgeries of this stamp, I reciprocated and shared scans of my forgeries from my reference album. I do not want to detract from Louis's article because it contains valuable information, but I decided to share pictures of my forgeries for all FICC members to see – and use for reference. [Note: I have two copies of the same forgery as Mr. Laflamme's Figure 5 – one with the same cancel and one without a cancel. These are not shown.]

The 3 stamps at right (150%) are possibly the most common forgery. All copies I have seen have the same central picture. The most obvious characteristic of this forgery is the lack of any markings between the circles on the left and right sides. Note: the surcharge and the cancel are fictitious.

**Continued on page 5.**



## Vice President Position Nominations Now Open

As discussed in the President's Messages, Louis Laflamme has vacated the Vice President position to assume the office of FICC President. Consequently, nominations are now open for the Vice President position. The VP duties are to contribute input and vote on Board matters. [Of course, new thoughts on membership, club services, etc. are always welcome.] The Vice President would also assume the Presidency if he/she is suddenly unable to continue. Self nominations are certainly acceptable for anyone wishing to share in shepherding FICC into the future. Please send nomination to Louis, Kurt, or Tim (e-mail contact information on page 1).

FICC ~~✗~~[illegible]

## Renewals for 2015 FICC Membership are Now Due

Please check the mailing label on this copy of the Newsletter. Your membership expiration is given after your name (along with your FICC #). If your membership expires with V22N4, then you need to renew your membership. Renewal information is located on the back page. If you do not renew by December 15, 2014, this will, unfortunately, be the last Newsletter you will receive.

FICC ~~☒~~[illegible]

## Editor's Musings

We often do not thank our outgoing officers enough for the service they provide to the club. In FICC's 24 years of existence, it has had only 3 Presidents (Louis makes the 4<sup>th</sup>). David Olson, founder of the club, served as *de facto* President from the club's launch in 1990, and his Presidency became "official" in 1997 when FICC became an APS Affiliate. Dave continued to serve until he resigned in 2003 and Robert Sylvester (then current VP and interim Editor) was elected President. Bob served for 8 years until health issues required him to resign. Clark Buchi took the Presidential reins in 2011.

Like Dave and Bob, Clark was a founding member of the club and served as the Newsletter's first Editor from 1990 until 1997. Without Clark's tireless efforts at generating club enthusiasm in those early years, FICC would have had a much more difficult time sustaining itself. In 2007, when the Secretary/Treasurer's position needed filling, Clark assumed those duties for the 4 years preceding his election to the Presidency.

I know that Clark neither intends to stop collecting First Issues nor to terminate membership in FICC in the foreseeable future. Nonetheless, I had a desire (or maybe a need) to celebrate his dedication to the FICC. A GREAT MANY THANKS, Clark!

*Tim Balm*

[illegible]

### Additional New Caledonia #1 Forgeries (continued from page 4)

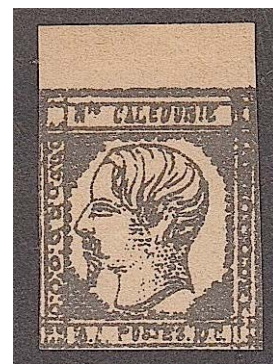


The stamp at right (150%) appears to be from position 4 of the full sheet. It is a reproduction. The ink side is very slick and it is printed on thin paper. My copy has “facsimile” stamped on the back.

The block at left (125%) is printed on a very thick, ribbed paper. The 4 stamps in this block are reproductions of positions 17, 18, 27, 28 of the sheet.

The 2 stamps at right (125%) are reproductions of position 31 (left stamp) and position 44 (right stamp). I group these together because the images are much more blurry than the genuine, and the

paper is “wrong”.

FICC 





**Auction #80**

Welcome to FICC Auction #80. The auction closes on Oct 31, 2014; bids received after that will not be considered. Please read descriptions carefully; lots occasionally have very similar descriptions. If you have questions, please contact me. Also, I will email scans of any specific lots you wish to see.

**AUCTION RULES**

1. Highest bid wins. In the event of tie bids, earliest postmark or email date stamp breaks the tie. Bid what you are willing to pay; winning bids are rarely reduced.
2. Auctioneer reserves the right to reject unreasonable bids. Bids received after the deadline will not be considered. Auctioneer's decisions are final.
3. All lots are sold "as is" without warranty by auctioneer or FICC. In case of a dispute, the auctioneer will contact the seller and provide the name of the buyer and nature of the dispute to allow direct settlement.
4. An expertizing policy exists for lots with a realized price of \$75 or more (contact auction manager for details).
5. The club receives a 10% fee from each lot sold. The fee will be split between the seller and the buyer.
6. Shipping charges are added to buyer's total. Lots will be mailed using normal USPS rates. Winning lots totaling more than \$200 will be insured, certified or registered.
7. Payment may be requested before shipment.
8. Bidding in this auction constitutes agreement to these rules.

**SUBMITTING BIDS**

Submit bids by email (Auctions@firstissues.org) or postal mail (Tim Balm, 5580 Senour Drive, West Chester, OH, 45069-1135, USA). If you are submitting bids by postal mail, you can (1) enter your bids on the bid sheet on page 11 and mail that, or (2) you can place your bids on a separate sheet of paper giving lot number, description, and the amount you wish to bid. Please include your name, FICC#, and address. Phone bids are not accepted.

**#1s**

<u>Lot</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>CV</u>	<u>Min Bid</u>	<u>Your Bid</u>	<u>Lot</u>
1	Australia Sc#1 used(m-cxl) vf	\$7.50	\$2.90	_____	1
2	Czech Sc#1 vert pair mnh/mvlf 4-mrgn	\$0.50	\$0.20	_____	2
3	Dahomey Sc#1 cto(l-cxl) f	\$1.60	\$0.65	_____	3
4	Eastern Rumelia Sc#1 u(l-cxl) f/vf [sealed tear upper right]	\$57.50	\$17.50	_____	4
5	Eritrea Sc#1 mnh avg	\$10.00	\$3.50	_____	5
6	Estonia Sc#1-4 mlh 4-mrgn	\$4.60	\$1.50	_____	6
7	Estonia Sc#1-4 used(cto, m-cxl) 4-mrgn	\$4.70	\$1.50	_____	7
8	France - Off in Canton Sc#1 mng f	\$2.10	\$0.65	_____	8
9	French Eq Africa Sc#1 mhr vf	\$0.30	\$0.12	_____	9
10	French Sudan Sc#3 mng f [1st stamp with colony name]	\$1.75	\$0.50	_____	10
11	Germany - N German Conf Sc#1 used(l-cxl) f	\$15.00	\$6.00	_____	11
12	Germany-Offices in Morocco Sc#1 mvlf f/vf	\$3.25	\$1.20	_____	12
13	Gr Brit-Scotland Sc#1 used(l-cxl) f/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	13
14	Hatay Sc#1-11,2a,3a mlh/mnh f/vf [many mnh]	\$75.00	\$33.75	_____	14
15	Inhambane Sc#1 used(l-cxl) f/vf [signed Francois] [+Sc#47 free]	\$30.00	\$13.50	_____	15
16	Mexico-Sinaloa Sc#1-2 mh f/vf [#1 is mdg, #2 is mhr]	\$10.00	\$4.00	_____	16
17	Northern Rhodesia Sc#1-4 used(m-cxl) f/vf	\$1.60	\$0.65	_____	17
18	Rhodesia & Nyasaland Isl Sc#141-55 mvlf f/vf	\$112.85	\$45.00	_____	18
19	Sierra Leone Sc#1b (grey lilac) mh f [rounded LR corner]	\$300.00	\$30.00	_____	19
20	St Lucia Sc#1 mng f	\$110.00	\$30.00	_____	20
21	Togo Sc#1 used(m-cxl) vf [NICE SON cxl]	\$7.25	\$3.25	_____	21
22	Tristan da Cunha Sc#1-12 mvlf vf [some mnh]	\$85.00	\$38.25	_____	22
23	United Nations-NY Sc#1 mh f/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	23
24	United Nations-NY Sc#1 used(l-cxl) f/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	24
25	Vatican City Sc#1 mhr f/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	25

Continued on page 8.

**Mail Bid Auction 80** (continued from page 7)**Change of Government #1s**

<u>Lot</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>CV</u>	<u>Min Bid</u>	<u>Your Bid</u>	<u>Lot</u>
26	Crete Sc#50 (Cretan Gov't) mh vf	\$0.50	\$0.20	_____	26
27	Jamaica Sc#129-32 (New Constitution) used(m-cxl) f/vf	\$1.80	\$0.75	_____	27
28	Nyasaland Protectorate Sc#112-22 (Provisional) mh f/vf	\$19.10	\$7.65	_____	28
29	Sarawak Sc#159-73 (British) mlh f/vf	\$17.75	\$7.10	_____	29
30	Singapore Sc#43-48 (Self Government) mvlh vf	\$17.10	\$7.70	_____	30
31	Straits Settl. Sc#256-71 (BMA) mlh f/vf	\$89.30	\$35.75	_____	31
32	Tanganyika Sc#45-56 (Independent State) mh f/vf	\$30.30	\$12.10	_____	32

**#A1s/K1s/L1s/N1s**

33	Egypt Sc#O1 used(m-cxl) f/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	33
34	Falkland Islands Sc#2L1 (Graham Land) mh f/vf	\$0.50	\$0.20	_____	34
35	Falkland Islands Sc#3L1 (South Georgia) mhr f/vf	\$0.40	\$0.15	_____	35
36	Falkland Islands Sc#4L1 (South Orkneys) mh f/vf	\$0.50	\$0.20	_____	36
37	Falkland Islands Sc#4L1 (South Shetlands) mhr f/vf	\$0.50	\$0.15	_____	37
38	Libya Sc#1N1 mnh vf	\$0.40	\$0.20	_____	38
39	Macedonia Sc#N1 mnh f/vf	\$6.50	\$3.50	_____	39
40	Saudi Arabia Sc#L1 used(m-cxl) f/vf [normal rough perforations at left and bottom]	\$32.50	\$13.00	_____	40

**BOB (Back of Book) #1s**

41	Algeria Sc#P1 mlh f	\$0.40	\$0.10	_____	41
42	Dahomey Sc#B1 mnh f/vf	\$1.60	\$0.75	_____	42
43	Italy Sc#D1 mnh avg	\$2.75	\$0.95	_____	43
44	Netherlands Sc#B1-3 used(h-cxl) f/vf [#B3 has hr]	\$52.00	\$20.00	_____	44
45	Spain Sc#MR1 mnh avg	\$11.00	\$3.50	_____	45

**Misc Stamps from First Issue Sets**

46	Aitutaki Sc#O2-9 used(cto, l-cxl) f/vf [nh, nice selvage]	\$2.00	\$0.50	_____	46
47	Aitutaki Sc#O10-11 used(cto, l-cxl) f/vf [nh, nice selvage]	\$0.95	\$0.45	_____	47
48	Aitutaki Sc#O12-13 used(cto, l-cxl) f/vf [nh, nice selvage]	\$1.80	\$0.50	_____	48
49	Antigua Sc#MR2 mhr f/vf	\$1.60	\$0.55	_____	49
50	Bosnia & Herzegovina Sc#2 mhr f/vf [crease, heavy hinge]	\$16.00	\$0.90	_____	50
51	Bosnia & Herzegovina Sc#4 used(m-cxl) hr f/vf	\$1.60	\$0.15	_____	51
52	Bosnia & Herzegovina Sc#5 used(m-cxl) hr f/vf	\$3.25	\$0.30	_____	52
53	Bosnia & Herzegovina Sc#6 cto(m-cxl) hr f/vf	\$0.55	\$0.10	_____	53
54	Bosnia & Herzegovina Sc#7 used(m-cxl) hr f/vf [thin, rnd corner]	\$1.20	\$0.15	_____	54
55	Bosnia & Herzegovina Sc#8 used(m-cxl) hr vf	\$10.25	\$0.75	_____	55
56	Germany Sc#12NB2-3 (Berlin) mlh f/vf	\$21.00	\$9.45	_____	56
57	Germany Sc#14NB2-12 (West Saxony) mnh f/vf	\$6.00	\$2.70	_____	57
58	Germany Sc#15NB2 (East Saxony) mnh f/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	58
59	Germany Sc#16NB2-4 (Thuringia) mhr 4-mrgn	\$0.75	\$0.30	_____	59
60	Libya Sc#1N2 mlh vf	\$0.40	\$0.20	_____	60

**Forgeries**

61	Russia-Army of the North #1-5 4-mrgn	\$2.00	\$0.25	_____	61
62	Italin States - Sardinia Sc#1 used 3-margin	\$2,200	\$2.00	_____	62
63	Italin States - Tuscany Sc#1 used 3+ margins [pin hole]	\$2,250	\$2.00	_____	63

**Twins**

64	Hong Kong Sc#9 used(m-cxl) avg [twin to #1]	\$40.00	\$5.00	_____	64
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**END OF LISTING**



*First Issues Collectors Club*  
**Membership Application or Renewal Form**

Membership includes four issues of the FICC Newsletter, First Issues. Dues for members who receive the Newsletters electronically or who have United States mailing addressees are \$10.00 per year. Rates for members with non-U.S. addresses who receive the Newsletters via postal mail are US\$14.00 per year. Make checks payable to **Kurt Streepy** and send to the postal address below or use the online PayPal feature at our web site, [www.firstissues.org](http://www.firstissues.org). Thank you for your renewal or new membership!

☐ New Membership

- Renewal

☐ Additional Contribution: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address:

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone\* \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail\* \_\_\_\_\_

APS# \_\_\_\_\_ Other Memberships: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Your telephone number and e-mail address will be kept confidential if you wish.

Send this form with your dues to: Kurt Streepy, 3128 E. Mattatha Dr., Bloomington, IN 47401, USA



# BID SHEET FOR AUCTION #80



# Bidding Deadline is October 31, 2014



**(email bids to [auctions@firstissues.org](mailto:auctions@firstissues.org))**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

FICC#:

[illegible]

# IT'S RENEWAL TIME

Check your address label on this newsletter. If it has an expiration date of V22#4, that means your FICC membership expires with this issue. Please send in your dues renewal by December 15, 2014 to ensure that you do not miss an issue. Dues are \$10.00 per year for members who receive the Newsletters electronically or who have USA mailing addresses. Rates for members with non-U.S. addresses who receive the Newsletters via postal mail are \$14.00 per year. We believe this remains a bargain relative to most other stamp clubs with newsletters.

A membership renewal form can be found on page 9. If you have an email address, please include any changes. Make checks payable to **Kurt Streepy** (not FICC), and mail your dues to Kurt at the address on the renewal form. If you wish to pay electronically using PayPal or Skrill/MoneyBookers, please contact Kurt Streepy for instructions.

## ***First Issues***

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

