



LET'S PLAY POST OFFICE

by Alfred Balk

The U.S. Post Office is a big factor in your life from birth to death. Yet many postal pointers and mailbox myths aren't widely known. How do you rate? Take this test and see.

- | | True | False |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. If you're mailing a book, the cheapest way is by parcel post. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. If you buy a stamp on which something is printed out of place, better take it back. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Even if you're not a collector, stamps can be as good an investment as stocks. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. The Post Office still has "pony express" routes. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. The new 4-cent stamp for first-class letters should eliminate the \$2-million-a-day postal deficit. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. The Post Office is the nation's largest enterprise. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Only Congress passes on subjects for commemorative stamps. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. To be appointed a postmaster, you must have had some experience as a mail carrier. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. For a record of the mailing and delivery of items such as bank books or insurance policies, you must send them "registered." | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. If you visit Europe or write friends there, always allow for slower mail delivery than here. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Answers:

1. *False.* There's a special book rate—about one-fourth that for parcel post.
2. *False.* Because the Post Office makes few such mistakes, it may be a collector's item. One, a 24-cent air-mail stamp (1918), showed a biplane upside down on 100 copies—now they're worth \$6,000 each.
3. *True.* You must hold them up to 20 years and know what you're buying, of course. But it's common to earn 5 to 10 percent a year on sheets of commemorative stamps—of which some 400 types have been issued since 1893. A \$100 bloc of Louisiana Purchase 10-centers of 1905 today is worth \$10,000!
4. *True.* Rural Free Delivery has more than 100 horseback routes and nearly that many boating routes. But most of the 18,000 RFD carriers use autos to the tune of 1,500,000 miles a day.
5. *False.* Officials admit it's only a stopgap—though a necessary one. Modernization and selected rate increases also would be needed, plus some adjustment in bookkeeping for "side" services offered.
6. *False.* The Telephone Company and General Motors each have more employees than the Post Office's half-million. Eleven firms top its \$3-billion-a-year volume. But it is the world's largest Post Office.
7. *False.* In 1948 it did, voting 29 commemorative issues. Now, the Post Office handles it, with a seven-member citizens' advisory committee. And more than 3,500 suggested subjects are now on file!
8. *False.* It isn't necessary, but you must pass a civil-service exam for the job and be picked from a list of qualifiers.
9. *False.* "Certified mail"—25 cents cheaper per letter—provides essentially the same type registration. (One other little-known saving: an "air-letter sheet" sold for a dime can be air-mailed anywhere in the world).
10. *False.* It may be faster. London and Paris have three deliveries a day. Special delivery within Munich arrives in an hour. In Japan, Hong Kong, and other places, mail may not be that fast but it often equals ours.

FANNIE HURST'S
BEST-SELLING
NOVEL
OF TODAY'S
TORMENTED
GENERATION!



UNIVERSAL INTERNATIONAL
presents

LANA TURNER
JOHN GAVIN



co-starring

SANDRA DEE
DAN O'HERLIHY
SUSAN KOHNER
ROBERT ALDA
with
JUANITA MOORE
MAHALIA JACKSON

singing *Trouble of the World*

Hear
EARL GRANT
sing *Imitation of Life*



"You've given me everything a mother could, but the thing I wanted most... your love!"



"The color line won't stop me, Ma! I look, feel, think white... and I'm going to marry white!"

"I'll get the things I want out of life... one way... or another!"



Directed by DOUGLAS SIRK
Produced by ROSS HUNTER

Screenplay by ELANDRE GRIFFIN and ALLAN SCOTT