INAGURATION OF WASHINGTON COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL,
Washington, March 29, 1939.

Postmasters and employees of the Postal Service are hereby notified of the issuance of a special postage stamp in the 3-cent denomination in commemoration of the Sesquicentennial of the Inauguration of George Washington as first President of the United States. The stamp will be first placed on sale at the New York, N. Y., post office on April 30, 1939. It will be available at other post offices as soon after that date as stocks can be printed and distributed.

The new stamp is $\frac{3}{4}$ by $\frac{1}{4}$ inches in dimensions, arranged vertically. It is printed in purple by the rotary process and issued in sheets of 50.

The central design depicts Washington taking the oath of office as first President under the Constitution on the balcony of the Federal Building, New York City, on April 30, 1789. In a curved panel forming an arch above the central design is the wording "Sesquicentennial of the Inauguration of Washington as First President," arranged in two lines, in white gothic lettering on a dark ground. Below the central design are the dates "1789–1939" in white. The arch is supported on each side by ornamental scrolls resting on narrow panels which extend down the sides and across the lower edge of the stamp.

Included in a horizontal panel with dark ground at the top of the stamp and resting on the central arch is the inscription "U. S. Postage." in white gothic lettering. Below on each side is a triangular-shaped panel. The denomination numeral "3" in white appears in ornamental shield-shaped panels in each lower corner. In a narrow horizontal panel with dark ground at the base of the stamp are the words "Three Cents" in white gothic.

Stamp collectors desiring first-day cancelations of the new stamp on April 30 may send a limited number of addressed covers, not in excess of 10, to the postmaster at New York, N. Y., with a cash or postal money order remittance to cover only the cost of the stamps required for affixing. Postage stamps will positively not be accepted in payment. Each cover should bear a pencil endorsement in the upper right corner to show the number of stamps to be attached thereto.

Envelopes for covers should not be smaller than 3 by 6 inches, and care should be exercised, since the stamp is of the special-delivery size and arranged vertically, to allow ample space for the affixing of singles as well as blocks. Compliance cannot be made with unusual requests, such as for the affixing of plate number blocks, etc., and all covers must be fully addressed.

Requests for uncanceled stamps must not be included with orders for first-day covers to the postmaster at the above office.

For the benefit of collectors desiring stamps of selected quality for philatelic use, the new stamp will be placed on sale at the Philatelic Agency on May 1, 1939. To insure prompt shipment, mail orders to the Agency must exclude other varieties of stamps.

Postmasters at direct- and central-accounting post offices may submit requisition for a limited supply only of the new stamp on Form 3201–A, endorsed "Washington's Inauguration." These initial requisitions shall exclude other varieties of stamps. Postmasters at district-accounting post offices may obtain small quantities of the new postage stamp by requisition on the central-accounting postmaster.

Postmasters receiving advance shipments of the new stamp are hereby cautioned not to allow any of the stamps to be sold before May 1.

RAMSEY S. BLACK,
Third Assistant Postmaster General.

70114° (Ed. 10,000.)

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1939