

THE COVERS

All three recorded covers were mailed in the United States with 2c franking. This was at the time the inland letter rate while the foreign destination letter rate was 5 cents. Accordingly, each of the covers was stamped in New York with the cachet "T 30 Centimes" (double deficient of 3 cents = 6 cents = 30 centimes).

The earliest of these covers was mailed in February, 1910 and arrived at the French P.O. in Jerusalem on March 14, 1910 (Figure 2). Taxed the next day, it should bear on its back six 5 centimes P.D. stamps – apparently one 5 centimes stamp is missing.

The only doubly taxed cover of the forerunner period seen so far is shown in Figure 3. This cover was mailed from New York in February, 1914. Upon arrival at the French P.O. in Jerusalem one 10 and one 20 centimes P.D. stamps were affixed on March 6. In an attempt to collect the 30 centimes, the payment was refused by the addressee, so the cover had to be returned to the sender.

This we learn of two postal cachets –both unrecorded so far for Jerusalem – a rectangular "Refuse" on the back, and a double line "retour a l'envoyeur" on the front.

A second attempt to recover the charges was made in New York as

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Figure 3: Two cents underfranked cover (instead of 5 cents) from New York to Jerusalem, marked "T 30 centimes" by New York duplex handstamp and accordingly taxed by 10c and 20c P.D.s at the Jerusalem French P.O. in March 1914. Having been refused by the addressee, the cover was returned to the United States marked "Due 6 cents" and taxed in New York by two 3c United States Postage Dues.



Figure 2 Cover from the United States franked 2¢ (inland letter rate), taxed upon arrival in Jerusalem with six French 5 centimes P.D.'s (one stamp missing?), March 15, 1910

