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SEAPOSTER

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THE TITANIC (?) MYSTERY COVER

The cover shown on page 1 of the July-Aug. issue did get us some nice publicity in STAMP COLLECTOR (can't lay my hands on the issue at the moment) and also some helpful explanations. We now have seen 3 different covers all addressed to the same company in Washington, D.C. The 3 covers are postmarked Mar. 3, Mar. 6 and Mar. 13. The TITANIC was to have made its maiden voyage initially in mid-March. Retrofitting of many of its amenities caused holdups at dry-dock in Belfast, leaving there April 2 and delaying its Southampton departure until Apr. 10. In anticipation of its original March departure, French postal workers were busy collecting mail scheduled for pickup during the TITANIC's stop at Cherbourg. Some of this mail was stamped TITANIC and bagged for the journey. When news of a delay was known, a decision was made to put the mail on other vessels. The Mar. 3 and Mar. 6 covers probably went on the LUSITANIA, Liverpool to New York Mar. 9 to Mar. 15 with stop at Cherbourg. The only thing that has not yet been explained is the stamped number on each cover:

March 3	267914
March 6	267920
March 13	273938

Most of the input on this has been from members outside the MPS. Further information is welcomed.

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