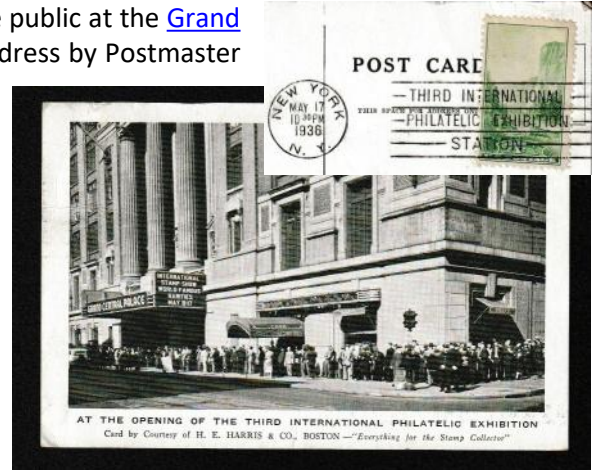


The Third United States International Philatelic Exhibition - TIPEX

Jim Pettway

Since 1913 there have been eleven International Philatelic Exhibitions hosted by the United States. Exhibitions are typically held every ten years in the United States. Exceptions have been in years 1913, 1947, and 1997. World Stamp Show - NY 2016 was the last held in the United States with the next to be held in [Boston, Massachusetts, in 2026](#). This one-page exhibit focuses on the 1936 exhibition.

The [Third International Philatelic Exhibition](#) (TIPEX) was opened to the public at the [Grand Central Palace](#) in New York City at 9:30 a.m., May 9, 1936, with an address by Postmaster General James A. Farley. People began lining up outside Grand Central Palace at midnight, May 8. At times the line outside the thirteen story exposition hall stretched for more than three blocks. Nearly 100,000 people (paid attendees) passed through the doors for the nine day exhibition which closed May 17. Names you will recognize as among those attending TIPEX were Former President Herbert Hoover, Post Master General James Farley, Mrs. Benjamin Harrison, widow of former President Harrison, Miss Anna Jarvis, founder of Mother's Day, and Miss Amelia Earhart, who presented exhibition awards at the Awards Dinner, May 15, at the Hotel Astor. One of the show's major highlights was the arrival Hugo Eckener and his airship *Hindenburg* on May 10. In a message to the New York committee, President Franklin D. Roosevelt sent his greetings and expressed his regret for his inability to attend the exhibition.



Above is a photograph postcard showing the line of people waiting to enter the Third International Philatelic Exhibition in New York. Insert is the last day cancellation for the exhibition found on the reverse.

The exhibition occupied three floors and 125,000 square feet of space in the Grand Central Palace. Over 900 exhibitors competed for awards showing over three thousand frames over the three floors, including the Mezzanine Floor. Numbering of frames began on the third floor with United States exhibits followed by foreign exhibits and flowed down to the exhibition entrance or Main Floor. Dealer Booths were intermingled with exhibits over all the floors. The Mezzanine was also the location of the Lounges of Philatelic Organizations.

For TIPEX, the Postmaster General authorized a special souvenir sheet (Scott Catalogue U.S. 778) printed by the Treasury Department, Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The souvenir sheet included four different commemorative postage stamps. Over one million of these souvenir sheets were sold during TIPEX by the United States Post Office. During 1936, other than the Army and Navy issues, there were 5 commemorative stamps and the special TIPEX souvenir sheet issued by the United States.



Scott U.S. 778



First Day of Issue cover for TIPEX. Stamp is Scott U.S. 778a, cut from the souvenir sheet at left.

In addition to the souvenir sheet mentioned above, there were many poster labels and seals printed for and distributed during this philatelic event. Shown below are a few examples.



Printer unknown



Above printed by American Bank Note Co.

The Third International Philatelic Exhibition ended May 17 after setting a number of philatelic exhibition records up to the time, including attendance, number of exhibit entries, and sales of items by the U.S. Post Office Department. TIPEX was a roaring success on many levels.

All images are reduced to 50% of the original.

For more information about this and other International Philatelic Exhibitions in the United States visit <http://www.stampnewsnow.com/WorldStampShow-2016.html>.