

LOCK-PICK LARCENY

by
Alexander Mundy

I hope all of you TAP readers have either made or acquired your lock picks, because I will teach you how to use them.

In order to get started, you will need the following equipment:

1. A pair of tweezers
2. A set of followers



No. SUT-0, Size .395



No. SUT-1, Size .495



No. SUT-3, Size .500



No. SUT-10, Size .550

Picture from HPC catalogue

You TAP readers can make a set of followers from brass or plastic round stock or tubing. The important point to remember, is in making the follower, the end must match the plug. When you push the follower through the shell, the top pins and springs should not fall down in between the plug and follower.

3. Rim or Mortice cylinders (stay away from the ones with a curved keyway, like Yale and Lockwood and also the ones with mushroom or spool pins, like Corbin and Russwin.)

These cylinders are harder to pick for the average beginner.

In order to start, remove the tail piece of the cylinder. It is usually held on by two screws or a spring clip. Next, take a follower and remove the plug from the shell. Be careful not to drop any of the pins. Also, when pushing the plug out of the shell, make sure that the key is slightly turned and that the follower is firmly against the plug. Otherwise, you will jam one of the top pins or springs between the plug and the follower as you are pushing out the plug.

Next, remove all the bottom pins, except one. It's position in the plug does not matter. Also, remove all the top pins and springs, except the one that matches the bottom pin. Now reassemble the plug in the shell. Be Careful that the top pin and spring does not fall into any of the unused pin chambers in the plug. Take your turning wrench and pick (you should use a hook pick like this)

Insert your wrench into the cylinder and exert pressure on the plug via the wrench. Next, take your pick and push up the one pin so that it reaches the shear line. The plug will turn in the shell. Congratulations!!!! You have just picked a one pin cylinder.

For your next experiment, try putting different amounts of pressure on the wrench and feel the difference as you push up the pin. Also, use your wrench in the various positions shown. After you get the feel of picking the one pin, try moving that pin to a different pin chamber. Don't forget about the top pin and spring.

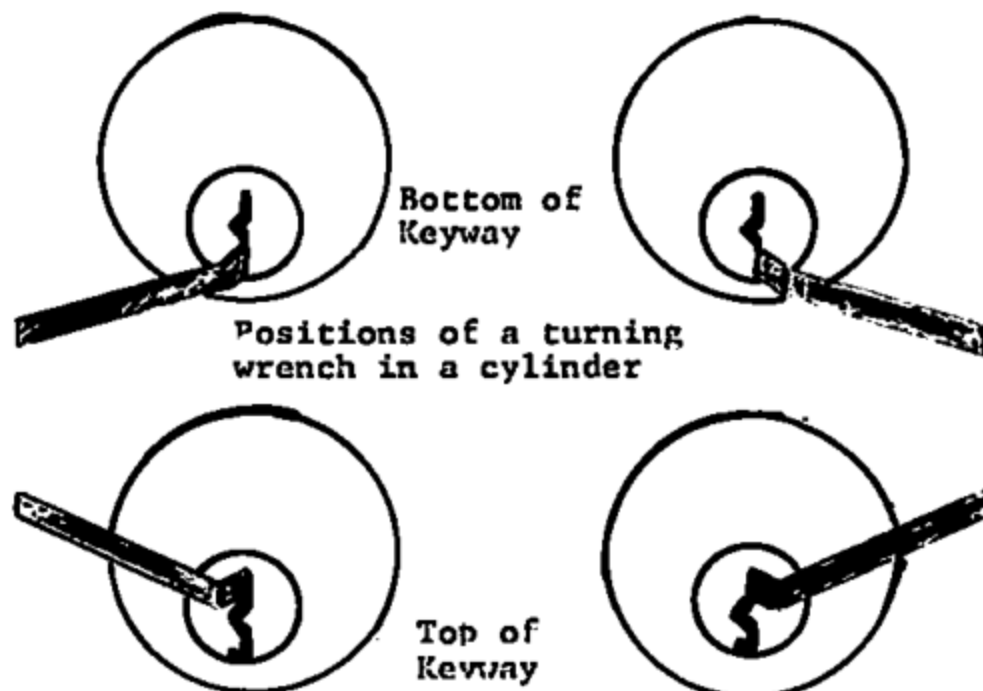


NOV-DEC 1979

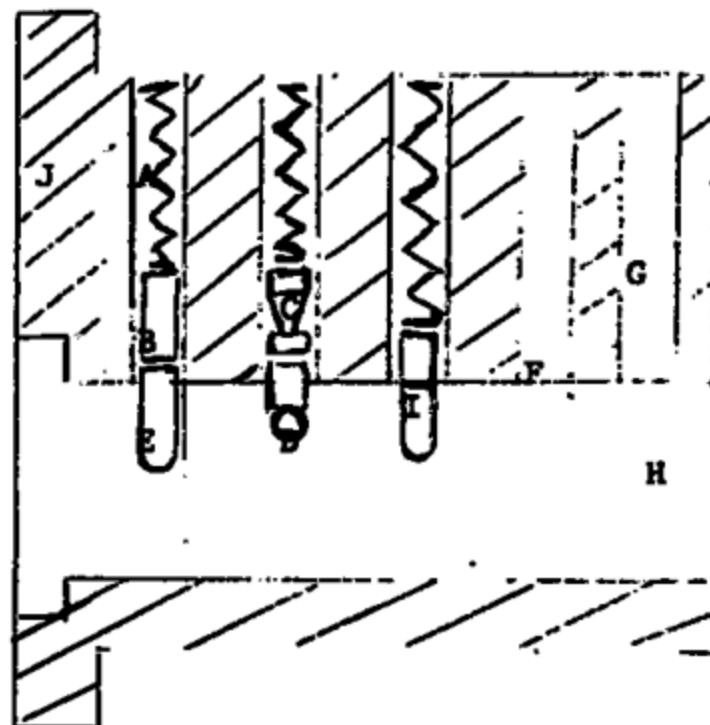
No. 60

After practicing for awhile, try adding another top and bottom pin and spring to the cylinder and practice some more. Keep picking and also remember the feel you are acquiring. Soon you will be able to work your way up to 5, 6, and 7 pin cylinders.

P.S. While picking a cylinder, you should keep the cylinder steady by placing it in a vice or other suitable holder.



Pressure may be applied either upward or downward on the turning wrench.



- A. Cylinder Spring
- B. Top Pin
- C. Mushroom Top Pin
- D. Ball Bearing and Top Pin used as a Bottom Pin
- E. Regular Bottom Pin
- F. Shear Line
- G. Pin Chamber
- H. Plug (the part where the key fits in)
- I. Top and Bottom Pin at the Shear Line
- J. Shell

The shell and the plug along with the springs, top pins and bottom pins, forms a cylinder.

Well, well, well, here we are again, folks, with our never ending blast against technological ignorance. First, congrats to those who sent me letters. I only received 5 letters from four different people, and I could only answer two, but the information I received was both highly interesting and quite valuable. So read on....

There is indeed a separate military phone system (see Future Developments in Telecommunications by James Martin, c.1971 by Prentice-Hall, pp.331-33. A book by Martin, and also Adrian R.D. Norman, that sounds interesting is The Computerized Society). It is called AUTOVON, which stands for AUTOMATIC VOICE NETWORK. (see TAP #40, p.2) According to Mr. Martin, the letters Q and Z are associated with the 1 button as A, B and C go with 2, and so on. Also, "the called party receives a special 'precedence' ringing signal. A unique tone informs telephone users when they are being interrupted by a higher precedence call. If one of these keys is used on a telephone not authorized to use that level of precedence, a prerecorded voice (what rank?) tells the caller that such a call cannot be put through." A California reader (we'll call him "C") wrote "When used--Press 'priority' button first, then rest of number. Auto selectors first hunts for an open line--if none open then person using number is bumped (gets beep signal) only if he is not using a higher priority." Now that you know generally how to use the military tones, you will need to know how to matrix them. A civilian T.T. pad and L.D. (Bell Long Lines Dept. Long Distance) tones are shown matrixed here.

Low Tones (Hz)	697	1	2	3	A	
	770	4	5	6	B	
	852	7	8	9	C	
	941	*	0	#	D	
Civilian Touch Tones		1209	1336	1477	1633	
		High Tones (Hz.)				
Low Tones	700	1	2	4	7	11
	900		3	5	8	12
	1100			6	9	KP
	1300				10	KP-2
	1500					ST
		900	1100	1300	1500	1700

High Tones (Bell Long Dist.)

The trick to matrixing is to write down the freq.'s of the low tones, in order, and then the high tones. Fill in your digits, and you've got your matrix. This info, and the following, is presented courtesy of an Aldergrove, B.C. TAPper. He sent me photocopies of pgs. 2-13 and 2-14 of a book called Reference Data For Radio Engineers. It is apparently available from Howard Sams.

Also, we'd like to know what 11 and 12 are used for. The page I have just says "for inward operators". Page 3 of TAP #27 has a letter signed "-KANSAS-" that refers to long distance (L.D. for short) coin collect and return tones, supposedly 700+1700 and 1100+1700, respectively, and also a "BV key" on some operator boards. I think that 1100+1700 must be a typo, since that is regular KP. The MF tones for 11 and 12 are 700+1700 and 900+1700, respectively. My Nov. 1960 BSTJ (p. 1432) says that "Assistance operators handling European international ... calls are ... 'Code 11' or 'Code 12' ops. These ops are called in by transmission of distinctive signals ... A 'Code 11' op is an assistance op who performs the usual functions of an incoming op in manual service. A 'Code 12' op is a delayed-ticketing or suspended-call op. When a particular 'Code 12' op is desired a call number is added and follows the 'Code 12' signal." (T.Vail's abbreviations)

Until someone figures out, though, here are the military touch tones:

	High Group			
	1620	1740	1860	1980
1020	1	2	3	FO
1140	4	5	6	F
1260	7	8	9	I
1380		0		P
Low Group	Air Force 412 L			

This reader also says: "The army numerical code is similar to the long distance codes. However, this in itself is not enough to suggest that the military have their own long distance system." T.V. Note--They do, though-AUTOVON

"Concerning similarity: notice how similar they are when written in a matrix.

		High Group			
		2100	2300	2500	2700
Low Group	1900	4	8	0	3
	2100		1	7	9
	2300			2	6
	2500				5

For regular Bell code, look elsewhere in this article.

"U.S. Army TA-341/PT Numerical Code"

"The army code seems to lack the extra tone needed for KP and ST signals.

"N.B. The blue box of issue #26 can be used for the army tones. Just re-tune the oscillators (700 to 1900, 900 to 2100, etc.) and relabel the keys (1 becomes 4, 2 becomes 8, etc.).

"I have no ideas on how to use either the air force or army tones. For all I know, the army tones might not even be in use." Thank you very much, TAPper from Aldergrove.

I, Ted Vail, don't know how one would use the military tones without being directly connected to the military network (AUTOVON). If you were, such as if you strolled over to a phone during a visit/tour to a military base, follow the instructions outlined above by "C". I have a strong suspicion that there is indeed a connection between the military and civilian phone systems. Re-read Kilgore Trout's excellent "Report From End Of The Earth", TAP #37, p.1. He says that "the military makes their own Blue Boxes" (So does Bell--a Blue Box is just an imitation of regular L.D. dialing equipment)!! They are, I presume, for calling into the civilian system. Kilgore wants to set up a phreak connection between the civ. and mil. systems up there. Hopefully, one wouldn't have to go

through a human operator; we're not all good at BSing. NOTE: Kilgore, or anyone else who knows anything about these things, please write me at TAP, Ted Vail, Room 418, 152 W. 42nd St, New York, N.Y. 10036.

A number of people think that the special frequency for the military override buttons is 1633 Hz., the fourth column frequency for the civilian T.T. pads. I politely point out "NO!". Civilian phones are used only on the regular Bell system, with the A,B,C, D,*, and # buttons used for computer access or quick dialing (some executives have this--they just push, say, the * button and their home number, or other predetermined number is immediately dialed). The special priority tone must be extra on a military phone; namely, 1980 Hz (mixed with the appropriate tone).

Regarding SF: Flash Bazbo of Iowa (note-- when writing me, include a code name so I can refer to you directly without exposing your initials. It's flattering to see your name (alias) in print!) sent me the following letter:

Ted: According to the information I have (1960 Bell System Tech. Journal), SF signaling was used for "exchange applications". The following quote is straight from the horse's ass, so to speak!

"For application in the exchange plant, a new series of transistorized signaling units makes it possible to adapt loop signaling trunks (all underlines are Flash's) to short haul carrier systems. The SF units provide loop-signaling--reverse-battery supervision toward central office switching equipment, and in-band AC signaling toward the line. These units also include the 4-wire terminating sets required for converting between the 4-wire line facility and the 2-wire loop. The terminating sets are suitable from a transmission standpoint for exchange, tandem and toll-connecting trunks.

"The originating terminal includes 2 receiving circuits: one a 2600 Hz. receiver, to detect trunk status signals, the other a 2000 Hz. receiver to detect the revertive pulses. At the terminating end of the trunk only a 2600 Hz. receiver is required to detect trunk control signals, but 2 transmitters are provided: the revertive pulses are transmitted by keying a 2000 Hz. oscillator, while the trunk status signals key a 2600 Hz. oscillator.

"The band width of the 2000 channel for the revertive pulses is quite wide in order to accommodate the high-speed signals. As indicated, pulsing speeds of up to 32/sec. are used."

Wow! Notice if you will--the SF "keyer" is referred to as a "loop signaling trunk". If there are any of these old fashioned senders in existence (knowing Pa Bell they must be!) it should be possible to build just a 2000 & a 2600 Hz. oscillator, put the 2000 on

a normally open dial contact & let your phingers do the walking! To speed things up a bit, adjust the dial governor so it puts out more pulses/sec. I am currently constructing one to phool around with in a dial trimline I "borrowed" from a local phone store. I will inform TAP readers of the outcome at a later date.

I also understand (same Bell-bull) that a 3700 Hz. tone can be interrupted at dial speed to send you phar, phar away. It was called SF out-of-band and the equipment was "types N,O,& ON". Any reader supplied info would be greatly appreciated. 2600, FLASH BAZZO

Thank you very much, "Flash".

You would probably be able to go all over the world with this sort of beeper, since even an antiquated exchange has a modern dual-freq. "blue box" for communicating with other exchanges. The old exch. would receive your old-style beeps and convert them to the newfangled DF for re-transmission to the rest of the world. Kilgore Trout (iss. 37, p.1, column 1 at bottom) discovered SF independently (I guess). Again, anyone who knows about this; please write, as usual.

On the back page of #37 was an article by Tom called Bell's Boxin' Us In, in which Tom described another black cloud on the phreak horizon, namely C.C.I.S., which is Blue Box proof. The ESS long dist. exchanges used for CCIS stop Black Boxes, too, since they don't connect the audio until the receiving end definitely answers, at which time the ESS sends the initiating end (which is doing the billing) a definite "receiving party answered" signal. What a hassle! Does anyone know how to defeat this?

I would like to know how Bell's new Blue Box detector/tracer is used, and how it works. The news clip on p.1 of iss. 46 is a bit hazy on the technical end; phrases like "protective electronic fog" sound nice to the general public but are electronically meaningless (perhaps deliberately?). The thing that's really scary about this gadget, assuming it's not a hoax (I don't think it is), is that it can trace right back to the phone on which the Box is being used, within seconds!

It might be possible to determine what kind of equipment your local Telco has by looking at the little notations in the lower corners of coin phone dialing instruction cards. However, one would need access to some internal Western Elec. info to "decode" the meanings. To any of you who work for Bell and know how this works, deciphering should be easy. Two inst. cards I saw recently said "TSPS PRE O-555" and the other said "PRE/POST O". Rather than hazard a guess or two right now, I'll wait for some reader response on this and together we'll figure it out. I would also appreciate some details on TSPS (what it is and does). And while we're on this, I'd also like info on IOTC.

Please do not include subscription orders or other TAP business with your letters to me. I am not in New York very often, so the mail is forwarded to me. If an order and a letter to me are on the same page, that sheet stays in New York and I never see it. This happened to a reader from the Chicago (A.C.312) area--and I don't know his name or address because that, and his order, and the rest of his letter were shredded in NYC before I saw them. If that reader would like to write again...? The letter was written with a black felt tip pen on the back of some math problem ditto sheets, so the writer was probably an elementary school teacher, but that's all I know about him (her?).

Several readers would like to know how to get the Abbie Hoffman books other than Steal. According to Bowker's Books in Print Index, Revolution For the Hell of It is available for \$1.25 from Pocket Books, 630 Fifth Ave. New York City 10020. Fuck the System is a pamphlet included in the back of R. for the Hell... I have seen Woodstock Nation, and I don't think much of it. A Northern Ill. reader sent me some info that other Illinoisans might enjoy:

Skokie, Ill., the world's largest

village (over 50,000 pop.), has an excellent library, which contains all of Abbie's books, and a copy of the Nov. 1960 Bell System Tech Journal that started it all. A Skokie bathroom stall contained the following graffiti:

"ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE, SO LET'S ROB IT",
Signed, JESSE JAMES

Appropriate? Hmmm...

There's also a #, (312) 796-9600, that can be called to find out the name and address that correspond with any given tel. nr. Just give them the nr., and they'll give you the info you want. That's (312) 796-9600. Neat!

As far as petty theft goes, those TAPpers interested in free drinks (and glasses!) might be interested in this: At "Red Lobster" restaurants, you take a numbered ticket at the door which you exchange for drinks. The bar tender gives you a bill with the amount on it, which you give to the waitress. The idea is that you don't pay 'till you leave after eating, so if you leave in apparent disgust, empty-handed, nothing is suspected.

Moving on to telephones, I have two ideas to share. First, TAPpers living in colder northern climes can get a roll of ducttape, a torch, a funnel with the end flattened, and a container or two holding 2 gal. of fresh water and drive on a very cold night to an outdoor coin phone. If one wants to split the phone wide open, one needs only to tape up the phone's holes, seams and cracks, and pour the water in, filling up the phone to the top. After an hour or less, depending on the temp., the ice's expansion will shatter the housing's brittle cast iron. Thawing with the torch should remove the pieces. Careful melting will expose the back bolts, allowing the nefarious perpetrator to cart the pieces, plate and all back home. (Pour water through funnel into coin slot)

Once this hypothetical character gets it all unfrozen, he removes the locks, remembering which went into the upper housing and which the lower. He knows that the lowers (coin boxes) are individually keyed, and he also knows that the uppers (electronics) are all keyed the same, according to region; that is, all the upper housings in one region are the same. There are 3 diff. ones for N.Y. City, because that is so populous. He takes the upper lock to a competent, cool locksmith to get a key made for it. Bell probably has a special, private blank, but others may fit into the keyway. In desperation, a piece of sheet metal can be bent into the zig-zag pattern and cut into a key. The local locksmith had better be very cool, or he'll suspect that the lock is a special, industrial high-security lock which common people aren't supposed to have. (True enough.) But a determined person could eventually have a key to all the coin phones in his/her area. Of course, the coin boxes couldn't be opened with the key; but since all but 4 weak bolts can be removed easily with the upper housing off, and the rest can be pried/levered out, this isn't a big problem. That's enough for now. And, lastly, for all those who care, I have found what TASI is. In Pa's own words, "A TASI system assigns a speech channel to a talker only when a channel is required, and when a channel is not required it is prepared to switch that channel to another talker requiring a channel." This is why the beginnings of words are often cut off during a long dist. conversation. Finished 9 August '78. With these thoughts I leave you...TED VAIL

TAP has sold out of "Ma Bell Is A Cheap Mother" T-shirts. Please do not order them anymore. We still have a quantity of TAP T-shirts in stock.

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instructions for Box concealment included.

TAP "Ma Bell Is A Cheap Mother" Patch - \$1.50.



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TANDEM TRICKS by Napoleon Solo

To stack world tandems you will need:

1. A 750 Hz oscillator - the Touch Tone 770 Hz will do.
2. A 2280 Hz oscillator.

In order to use the Single Frequency or SF 770 Hz tone, simply depress the # 4 & 5 push buttons of a standard Bell Touch Tone pad simultaneously. Now let's call ourselves around the world and stack a few tandems in the process:

1. Get on Oakland (Ca) 415-186.
2. Dial Australia - 61 + 3 - This puts you into Melbourne.
+ 153 - This puts you into Sidney.
+ 81 - This puts you into the overseas sender.
+ ST - This finishes the MF part of the call. Now you can throw your Blue Box out the window!
3. SF 750 - 991 - Equivalent to KP-2
+ 44 - Country code for England.
+ 2 - Language digit.
+ 421728 - This puts you back into the London overseas sender.
+ ST - To send ST you hold down the 750 Hz tone for one second. Once this one second burst of 750 Hz occurs, any other burst of 750 Hz won't interfere with this call.
4. SF 2280 - 61 + 3 - This puts you back into Melbourne (Your second time around!).
+ 153 - This puts your tired finger back into Sidney.
+ 81 - Back out to... (Goodness knows where!). Let's call the U.S. of Amerika.
5. SF 750 - 991 - Equivalent to KP-2.
+ 1 - U.S. country code.
+ 2 - Language digit.
+ AC - Area code.
+ No. - Number (Your other line).
+ ST - Start - Again the one second burst of 750 Hz.

Note: You can't go back to England again because you will screw up the first England part of the call with 2280 Hz. NOW!!! IF you haven't screwed up, IF you haven't gotten busted, IF you put 200 watts of audio down your line, IF none of the circuits were busy, IF your other phone wasn't left off the hook so it will be able to ring, IF you dialed the correct numbers, IF when you pick up the phone and IF it isn't a friend calling or IF it isn't the FBI, CIA, or Bell Security calling, you will hear a soft hiss and after what seems like an eternity, you will hear a bizarre series of weird tones. Don't be alarmed, it's only the supervision signal on its way to make that "nasty" little "tick" on your ticker tape. It will take quite a while. When all the gleeps, gloops, glitches, peeps, poops, and grunts are over, you have just gurdled the globe! With your cute little Princess phone say hello into one phone and listen to the other. With a stop-watch measure the time it takes. If you are lucky, you will hear some talking. It will be you!!! 25,000 miles away! Really far out!(with apologies to John Denver.)

Be sure to hang up the phone you called from because the best is yet to come. Listen to the "hang-up". It really takes a long time and is real "gone"! By the way, don't be too surprised if after the 100th try it works. It will take about that long. You have everything in the world against you and only one thing for you and that's patience. But WOW!!! The feeling of success when you do it is really a gas! It makes you feel like you just ruled the world! You did - at least the world tandems! And don't forget to go out and get the Blue Box you threw out the window!



"Hello. This is the mechanical answering device attached to the number you dialed. When you hear the tone, please give your number, identity and reason for calling. At a later date, God and equipment willing, a warm body will get back to you."

Help Stamp Out Letters

SO MANY people find it hard to grasp the reason for the new 15-cent price of a first-class stamp that I want to break down the cost in easy-to-understand terms.

Of that 15 cents, 2.8 cents goes to delivering the mail late. Years ago, when mail was simply delivered on time, it cost the post office almost nothing. Today, however, with the high price of detaining a letter, the cost has skyrocketed.

In 1975, the Postal Service installed expensive modern equipment that can delay a letter up to six times as long as old-fashioned hand-delivered mail. Each letter goes into a mail-dawdling machine that holds it motionless for several days. Three years ago, it took 10 men the same amount of time to delay a letter.

About 2.2 cents of this 15-cent rate goes into crushing envelopes, magazines and packages. Efficient magazine manglers, run by computers, can now wrinkle, twist and rip 750 pieces of mail every minute, including all letters marked "hand cancel."

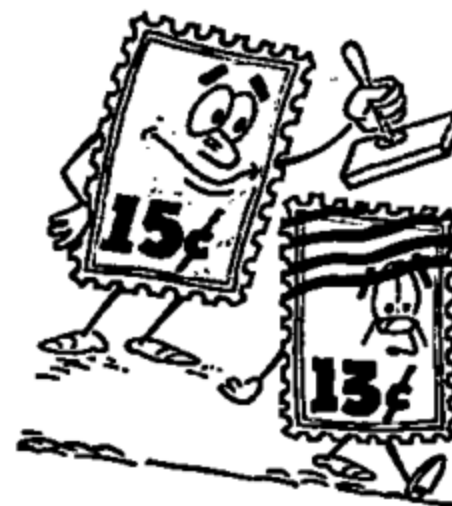
Lyle C. Understaff, chief of the Postal Service special mail-mangling division, explains: "In the old days, we had to hire experts to crush letters, other specialists to crumple magazines and yet a third group of people to jump up and down on packages. Now, one \$2 million machine can do it all!"

I told Understaff I always thought my letters and magazines were crushed by postmen wedging them into tiny mail boxes and narrow slots, but he shook his head: "We've come quite a ways since those horse-and-buggy days. That took the carriers too long and left them with rough, red hands. These automatic crushers are real timesavers."

He pointed out that 3.7 cents of the 15-cent stamp goes for complex letter-losing equipment, which has replaced the occasional lazy, or crazy postman who used to dump all the mail in a garage until it was found 11 years later by neighborhood children playing hide and seek.

Of the 15 cents, said Understaff, 1.6 cents goes into fewer mail box pickups per day. It's very costly, he emphasized, to print up new signs for mail boxes telling you that pickup times have been reduced, not to mention the expense of hiring a man to install all the new little signs.

Two cents of the higher cost of stamps will go toward slowing down so-called special delivery service. In the



past, special delivery meant next-day delivery, but now all such mail arrives at the same time as rug-cleaning circulars.

"Converting to slower special delivery was quite expensive," said Understaff, explaining that the purpose is to get more people to use "air express," which costs \$8 but gets your letter there as quickly as special delivery used to.

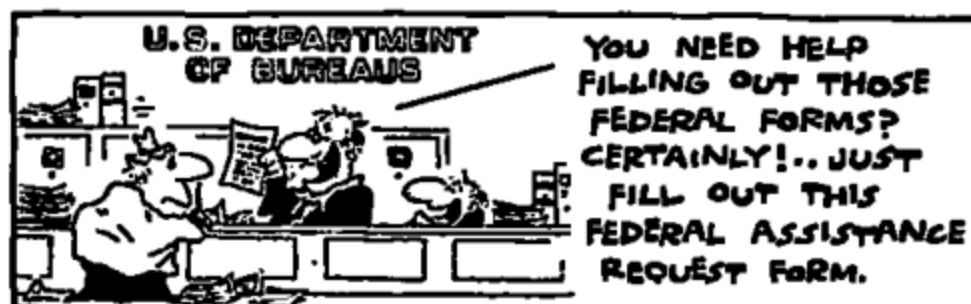
I asked him how he managed to slow down special delivery so efficiently, and he said it had meant buying a lot of old World War I biplanes, but even that didn't do it at first, so lately they've had to start using banana boats, bicycles and horseback. "Those ponies don't come cheap anymore," he added.

Understaff told me that 1.3 cents of every new stamp will be used to improve junk-mail service, which supports the entire postal system.

"Junk-mail always arrives on time, crisp and neat, because it's bundled beforehand by companies. We'd like to get more people to send their letters in bulks of 500 or 1,000. It's cheaper and faster for everyone."

The postal official continued: "We're trying to phase out all first-class delivery, which has become a real pain in the neck to the post office, by making it so poky and exorbitant that the public will be discouraged from writing letters. If people persist in sending letters individually, we may have to start penalizing them even further."

Finally, the last 1.4 cents of the increase in first-class service has been earmarked for designing and printing new 15-cent stamps. "If we didn't have to keep designing more costly stamps," Understaff concluded, "we could probably hold the price down."



THE COST OF LIVING has gone up another dollar a quart," said W. C. Fields ever so long ago. (Nothing has changed, Mr. Fields!)

TAP
Room 603
147 W. 42 St.
New York 10036

