

Great Britain and the League of Nations

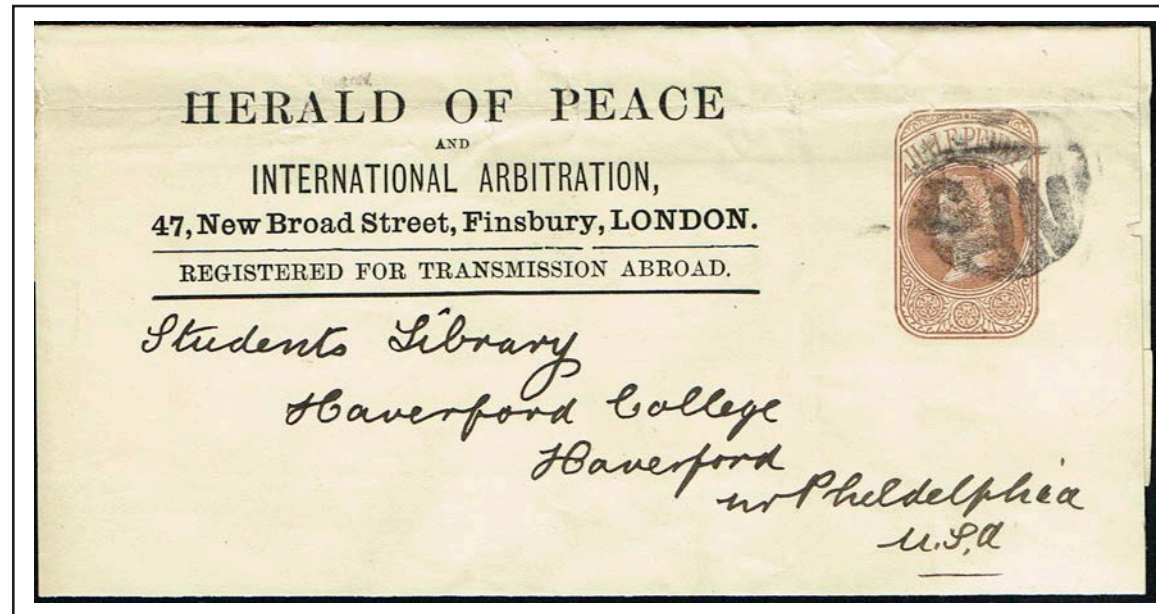
Purpose: This display exhibit presents the role Great Britain played in the workings and activities of the League of Nations from its beginnings in 1919 to its demise in 1946.

Background: The League of Nations was the first truly international civil service organization dedicated to preserving peace and fostering universal co-operation among nations. Born of the ashes of World War I through the signing of the Treaty of Versailles in 1919, the League was established by the victorious powers lead by Great Britain and France. As a result much of the internal operations and international activities of the organization were entrusted to these countries.

Exhibit Plan:

- A. Forerunner Peace Activities
- B. International Cooperation
- C. The Great War
- D. Versailles
- E. League Union
- F. The London Period and Early Years
- G. League London Offices
- H. Conferences
- I. Mandates
- J. Demise of the League
- K. Epilogue

Exceptionally scarce items highlighted in Blue

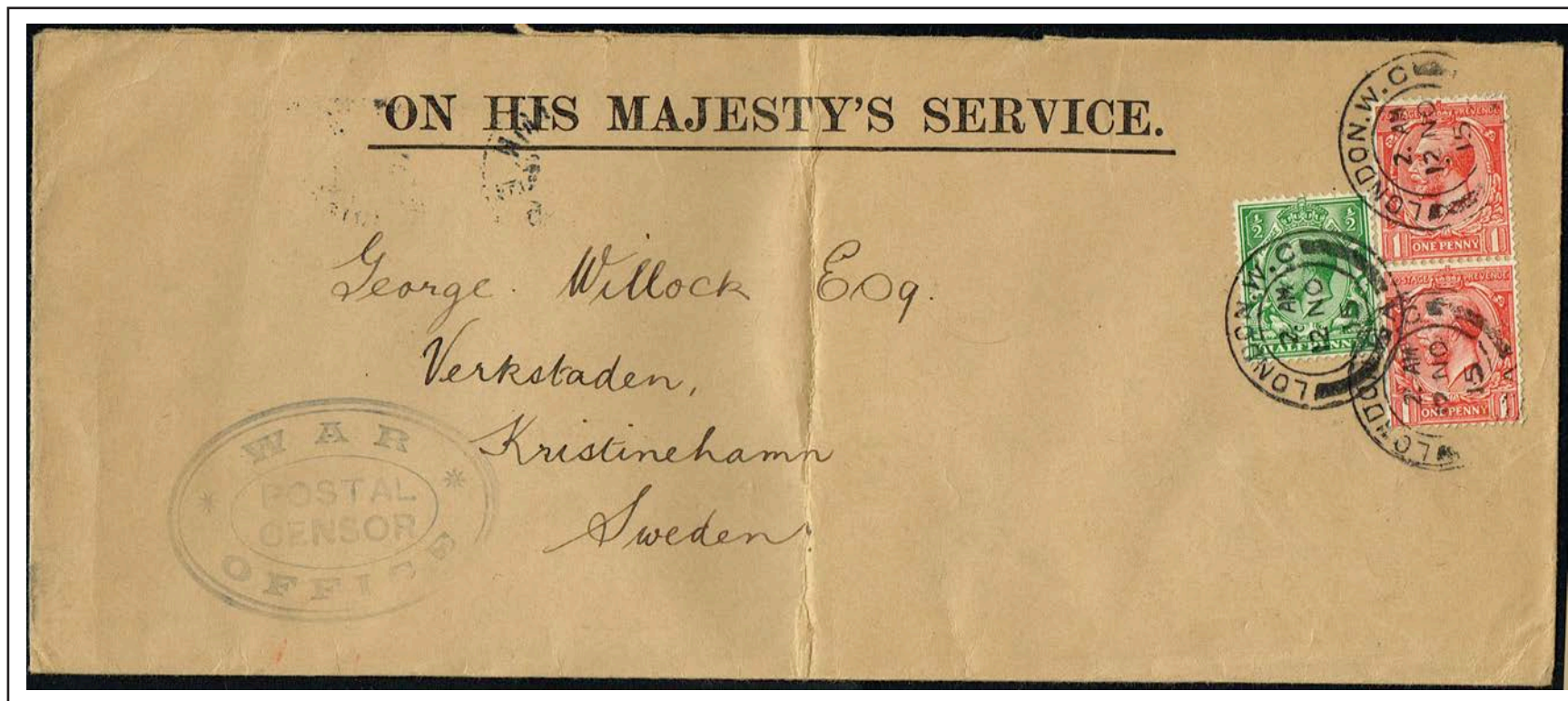


A. Forerunner Peace Activities

Prior to the League of Nations, grass-roots organizations came together to promote peace and cooperation. One such organization, The Peace Society, International Peace Society or London Peace Society originally known as the Society for the Promotion of Permanent and Universal Peace, was a British pacifist organization that was active from 1816 until the 1930s.

Preprinted half-penny wrapper used to mail the monthly journal, The Herald of Peace. Tied by fancy cancel to Philadelphia, PA., USA.

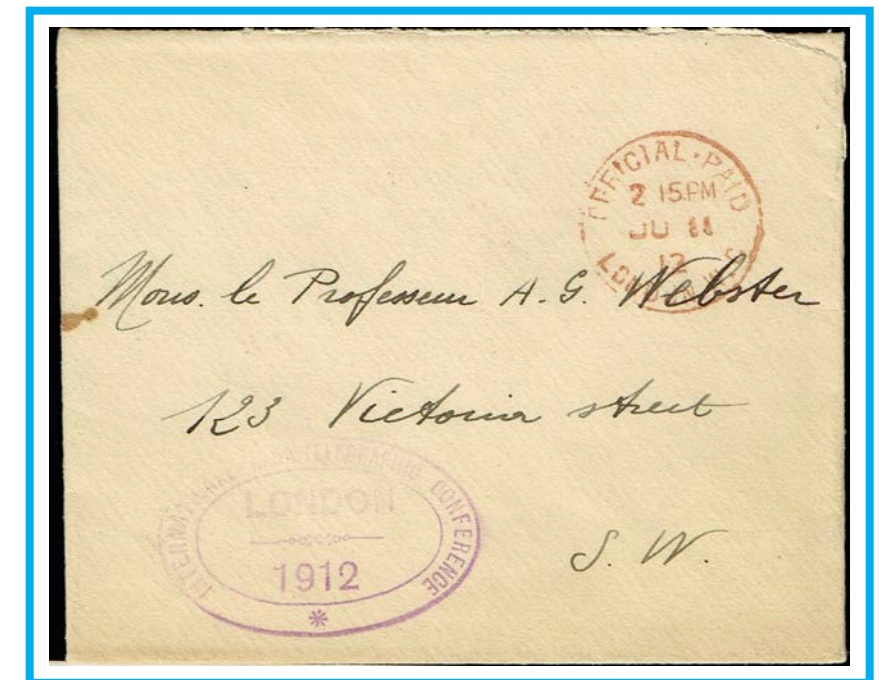
C. The Great War



World War I was in all respects horrific. In spite of atrocities suffered by millions, people from affected nations yearned for a method to settle disputes through international cooperation and peaceful dialog. This dream became reality in the fall of 1919 at Versailles, France.

Surface letter London, England to Kristinehamn, Sweden, Paid 2.5p. King George V definitives tied by London W.C. circular date stamp (CDS) posted 12 November 1915. Blue oval War Office censor imprint applied.

B. International Cooperation



The second International Radiotelegraph Convention met in London, England in 1912. It adopted international maritime radio communication standards that updated the ones approved by the first International Radiotelegraph Convention held in Berlin in 1906. Significant additional new regulations were added to the international standards adopted at the 1906 Convention,

Small Free-frank envelope bearing London Official Paid CDS, posted 11 July 1912. Local delivery within London. Also bearing special origin cachet from conference in violet.