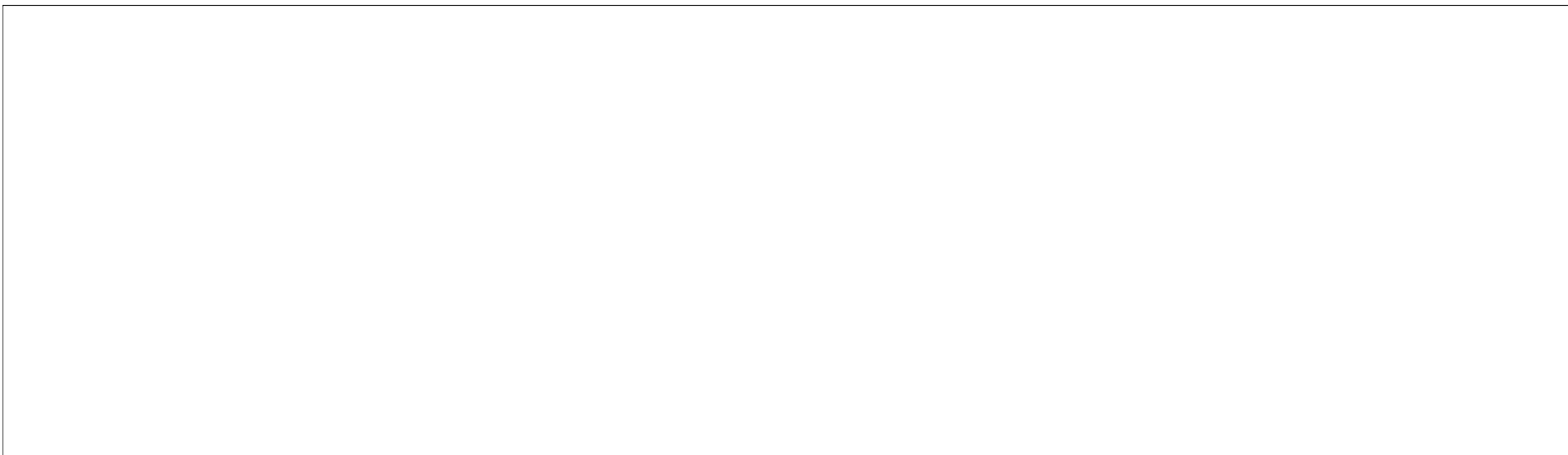


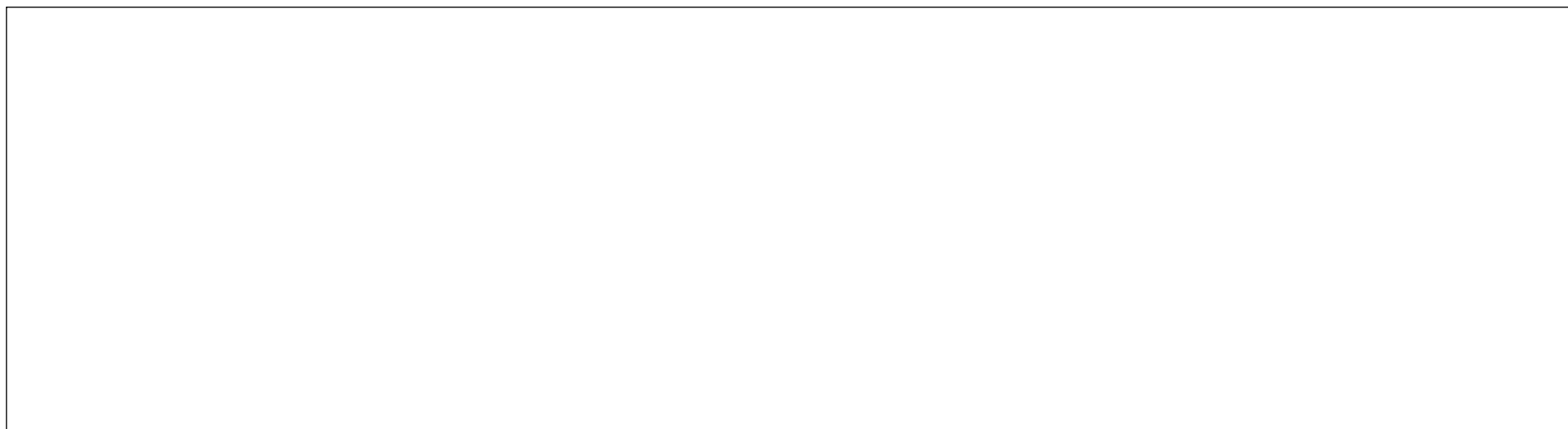
REPUBLIC OF CHINA EXPRESS STAMPS AND MAIL SLIPS: 1912-1929

This is a traditional exhibit of the stamps (largest in the world at the time), their demonetization, and their cheaper replacements. In late 1912 the Republic of China (ROC) issued its first domestic express stamp, following the example of the Imperial Post which issued seven between 1905 and 1912. Like the Imperial stamps it was in green with black numbers. Express service was available between most First and some Second Class post offices. The express service required a fee of 10¢, which included 2¢ for postage (up to 30 g.), 5¢ for registration, and 3¢ for express service. An optional 5¢ paid the equivalent of Acknowledgement of Receipt (AR), or what the Chinese call “double registered.”

Each stamp has five sections: the first a stub retained at the originating post office; the second retained by the receiving post office; the third (a receipt) returned to the originating office, the fourth used to glue the second and third to the cover; and the fifth a sender's receipt.



The second ROC domestic express stamp was issued in February 1914, but with green numbers.



Express stamps were discontinued Feb. 1, 1916. Regular stamps were used to show payment of postage and the express fee. Express mail could be posted anywhere and would receive express delivery if available at the addressee's post office. The express stamps were demonetized by locally overprinting “A,” “B,” “C,” and “D” on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th sections, turning them into express mail slips. Next, stamp-like slips were printed with the letters appearing at the top. City names were sometimes overprinted in black. Finally, less expensive slips were printed on cheap paper, first in a rectangular format and then in a somewhat square format.

RATE TABLE			
Date	Surface*	Express Fee	Total
2/1/16	.03	.10	.13
11/1/22	.04	.16	.20
1/1/23	.03	.10	.13
11/1/25	.04	.10	.14
2/1/29	.04	.12	.16

* per 20 g.

Character For Express 快

Plan of Organization

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