

TYPE 7 SURCHARGE

Issued: February 22, 1883
No. Surcharged: 10,000



Black 20c on 250
Mils. Ultramarine Telegraph
(APS Cert.)



Horizontal Pair
(APS Cert.)



Pair and Single Used on Piece of
Telegraph Receipt
(APS Cert.)



Pair - Telegraph use



Strip of Seven Used on Piece of Telegraph Receipt
with Pair of Five Pesos Telegraph Stamps (1880)
(APS Cert.)



Double Surcharge
(With part of Third)



Double Surcharge on Left Stamp
Used on Telegraph Receipt

The Ordinance of February 22, 1883 called for surcharging 10,000 of the 250 Mils. Ultramarine Telegraph stamps. However, the stamp was not brought into use in that denomination, but was employed for the manufacture of one real stamps, by means of an additional red surcharge. (See, next issue.)

While the 20 centavos value would have been useful for payment of cables, it had far less utility as a postal issue. It would have been used only on multiple rate covers which were posted in a much smaller percentage than single weight covers. Postal authorities had already applied the 20 centavos surcharge to the 8c Brown Postage stamp, and had a more than ample supply of the value. The subsequent addition of the 1 real surcharge made the stamp more useful for both purposes. As a result, this stamp has been a difficult acquisition since its creation. Bartels (1904) noted the stamp "was prepared for use but probably never issued except with the additional surcharge of Un Real. But one genuine copy has been seen." There were eight copies in the Ferrars Tows Collection sold in 1948. The 56 copies in this exhibit comprise the bulk of the known examples, which number *less than 80 Examples Recorded*.