

*Frank*  
File No. *1745*

OFFICE  
OF THE  
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL  
FOR THE  
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

SUBJECT: *Helen Post, etc*  
*Chas. F. Burgman,*  
*"Freedom"*

*Saabreez, I do*  
ACTION: Papers referred for investigation on follow


date: .....

Returned to files of Office of Assistant Attorney General  
on following date: .....

Returned to writer: .....

*indexed*





CHAS. F. BURGMAN

1427 ARCH STREET

PHILADELPHIA

MANUFACTURERS' AGENT FOR  
MODERN SUPPLIES



July 21, 1903.

Postmaster,

Seabreeze, Florida.

Sir:

There is inclosed herewith a copy of Order No. 643, dated July 21, 1903, (the original of which, signed by the acting Postmaster General, has been retained for the files of this Department), revoking Fraud Order No. 571, dated June 27, 1903, so far as it relates to "Charles F. Burgman". In accordance therewith, you will hereafter deliver all mail matter addressed, and have paid all money-orders drawn in favor of, "Charles F. Burgman".

Very respectfully,

*Signature* C. H. Robb

Assistant Attorney General  
for the Post Office Department.



received no correspondence, nor money, from  
the respondent, and deposited no mail at any  
time during the said business.  
The respondent was employed by said Helen Wilmans or  
Mrs. H. W. Post from August 21, 1903 until May 1st, 1904, in  
the capacity of manager of her printing business, and that the  
duties of respondent in said business consisted in attending  
to the following:

July 21, 1903.

MEMORANDUM

The records of this Department show that on June 27, 1903,  
a fraud order was issued against Mrs. Helen Wilmans, Helen Wilmans,  
Mrs. Helen Wilmans Post, Helen Wilmans Post, Mrs. Helen Post,  
Helen Post, Mrs. H. W. Post, H. W. Post, Mrs. Charles C. Post,  
Mrs. C. C. Post, Mrs. Charles Post, Charles C. Post, C. C. Post,  
Charles Post and Charles F. Burgman, and the newspaper "Freedom"--  
all of Seabreeze, Florida, upon evidence satisfactory to the Post-  
master General that these parties were using the mails in the  
operation of a scheme devised for obtaining money under false or  
fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises, in violation  
of Sections 3239 and 4041, Revised Statutes, as amended.

Charles F. Burgman, one of said parties, has applied to have  
said fraud order revoked so far as he is concerned, and has sub-  
mitted with his application an affidavit setting forth the follow-  
ing facts:

"1st. That he never, in any manner, violated the U.S.  
Postal Laws and Regulations nor has he ever defrauded, nor  
attempted to defraud, any one by use of the U. S. postal  
facilities or in any other manner either as a single person  
or in co-operation with other persons.

"2nd. That respondent's name has been wrongfully and  
erroneously linked by the Department agents with the practice  
of Mental Healing and Absent Treatment of one Helen Wilmans-  
or Mrs. H. W. Post of Seabreeze, Florida. Respondent never  
was employed by the said H. W. Post in the business, or  
practice, of Mental Healing- or Absent Treatment. Had no fi-  
nancial interest in same nor derived any income therefrom,



wrote no letters, received no correspondence, nor money, from any source or person, received and deposited no mail at any time on account of said business.

"3rd. Respondent was employed by said Helen Wilmans or Mrs. H. W. Post from August 2d, 1901, until May 1st, 1903, in the capacity of manager of her printing and publishing business, known as "Wilmans Publishing House." And that the duties of Respondent in said position consisted in attending to the following:

A.- The Supervision of employees in said 'Wilmans Publishing House.'

B.- The soliciting of work in the printing line. (Job work) from the business public.

C.- The direction and supervision of the weekly publication 'Freedom'.

D.- Attending to the subscription and advertising department of said journal 'Freedom'.

E.- The sale and shipment of books, from various authors to purchasers and agents ordering the same; and any other duties connected with, and incidental to the business of printers and publishers - and none other.

"4th. As compensation for the performance of the duties above mentioned Respondent received a regular monthly salary, and nothing farther, as he has not and never had any other interest in said Wilmans Publishing House than that of an employee.

"5th. On May 1st of this year Respondent quit the employment of said Helen Wilmans (or H. W. Post or Mrs. C. C. Post) and permanently severed any and all connections with the 'Wilmans Publishing House'. Respondent left Seabreeze, Florida on June 26th of this year and arrived in the city of Philadelphia on July 2d last where he is now permanently located and exclusively engaged in the business as Manufacturers Agent for industrial products.

"6th. Respondent avers that if his name was ever used by anyone in connection with the business of Mental Healing or Absent Treatment of ~~Helen~~ Wilmans (or Mrs. H. W. Post or Mrs. C. C. Post or any other party) it was done without the knowledge or consent of this Respondent and that he is in no wise responsible or to blame for the use of his name in connection with such business. And as far as his knowledge extends his name has not been, and is now not, used in connection with such business."

In view of the foregoing, I do hereby revoke the said fraud order of June 27, 1903, so far as it relates to Charles F. Burghman, Seabreeze, Florida, and issue the attached order so doing.

(Signed) R. J. Burghman  
Postmaster General.





July 21, 1903.

ORDER NO. 643 of this Department show that on June 27, 1903,  
a fraud ORDERED, That Order No. 571, dated June 27, 1903, prohibiting the delivery of all mail addressed to Mrs. Helen Wil-  
mans, Helen Wilmans, Mrs. Helen Wilmans Post, Helen Wilmans Post,  
Mrs. Helen Post, Helen Post, Mrs. H. W. Post, H. W. Post, Mrs.  
Charles C. Post, Mrs. C. C. Post, Mrs. Charles Post, Charles C.  
Post, C. C. Post, Charles Post, and Charles F. Burgman, and the  
newspaper "Freedom", of Seabreeze, Florida, be and the same is  
hereby revoked so far as it relates to "Charles F. Burgman" at  
Seabreeze, Florida, and that hereafter all mail matter addressed  
to said "Charles F. Burgman" at Seabreeze, Florida, be delivered  
in accordance with its address, and that all money-orders drawn in  
favor of said party be paid to him.

mitted with his application an affidavit setting forth the follow-

(Signed) R J Wynne

ing facts:

Acting Postmaster General.

To the Postmaster,

Seabreeze, Florida.





Office of the Postmaster General,  
Washington, D. C.

July 21, 1903.

MEMORANDUM.

The records of this Department show that on June 27, 1903, a fraud order was issued against Mrs. Helen Wilmans, Helen Wilmans, Mrs. Helen Wilmans Post, Helen Wilmans Post, Mrs. Helen Post, Helen Post, Mrs. H. W. Post, H. W. Post, Mrs. Charles C. Post, Mrs. C. C. Post, Mrs. Charles Post, Charles C. Post, C. C. Post, Charles Post and Charles F. Burgman, and the newspaper "Freedom"--all of Seabreeze, Florida, upon evidence satisfactory to the Postmaster General that these parties were using the mails in the operation of a scheme devised for obtaining money under false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises, in violation of Sections 3929 and 4041, Revised Statutes, as amended.

Charles F. Burgman, one of said parties, has applied to have said fraud order revoked so far as he is concerned, and has submitted with his application an affidavit setting forth the following facts:

"1st. That he never, in any manner, violated the U.S. Postal Laws and Regulations nor has he ever defrauded, nor attempted to defraud, any one by use of the U. S. postal facilities or in any other manner either as a single person or in co-operation with other persons.

"2nd. That respondents name has been wrongfully and erroneously linked by the Department agents with the practice of Mental Healing and Absent Treatment of one Helen Wilmans- or Mrs. H. W. Post of Seabreeze, Florida. Respondent never was employed by the said H. W. Post in the business, or practice, of Mental Healing- or Absent Treatment. Had no financial interest in same nor derived any income therefrom,



wrote no letters, received no correspondence, nor money, from any source or person, received and deposited no mail at any time on account of said business.

"3rd. Respondent was employed by said Helen Wilmans or Mrs. H. W. Post from August 24, 1901, until May 1st, 1903, in the capacity of manager of her printing and publishing business, known as "Wilmans Publishing House." And that the duties of Respondent in said position consisted in attending to the following:

- A.- The Supervision of employees in said 'Wilmans Publishing House.'
- B.- The soliciting of work in the printing line. (Job work) from the business public.
- C.- The direction and supervision of the weekly publication 'Freedom'.
- D.- Attending to the subscription and advertising department of said journal 'Freedom'.
- E.- The sale and shipment of books, from various authors to purchasers and agents ordering the same; and any other duties connected with, and incidental to the business of printers and publishers - and none other.

"4th. As compensation for the performance of the duties above mentioned Respondent received a regular monthly salary, and nothing further, as he has not and never had any other interest in said Wilmans Publishing House than that of an employee.

"5th. On May 1st of this year Respondent quit the employment of said Helen Wilmans (or H. W. Post or Mrs. C. C. Post) and permanently severed any and all connections with the 'Wilmans Publishing House'. Respondent left Seabreeze, Florida on June 26th of this year and arrived in the city of Philadelphia on July 24 last where he is now permanently located and exclusively engaged in the business as Manufacturers Agent for industrial products.

"6th. Respondent avers that if his name was ever used by anyone in connection with the business of Mental Healing or Absent Treatment of Helen Wilmans (or Mrs. H. W. Post or Mrs. C. C. Post or any other party) it was done without the knowledge or consent of this Respondent and that he is in no-wise responsible or to blame for the use of his name in connection with such business. And as far as his knowledge extends his name has not been, and is now now, used in connection with such business."

In view of the foregoing, I do hereby revoke the said fraud order of June 27, 1903, so far as it relates to Charles F. Burguan, Seabreeze, Florida, and issue the attached order so doing.

*R. J. Wynne*  
Acting Postmaster General.



CHAS. F. BURGMAN

Manufacturers' Agent for Modern Supplies

1427 Arch Street

Philadelphia. Pa.



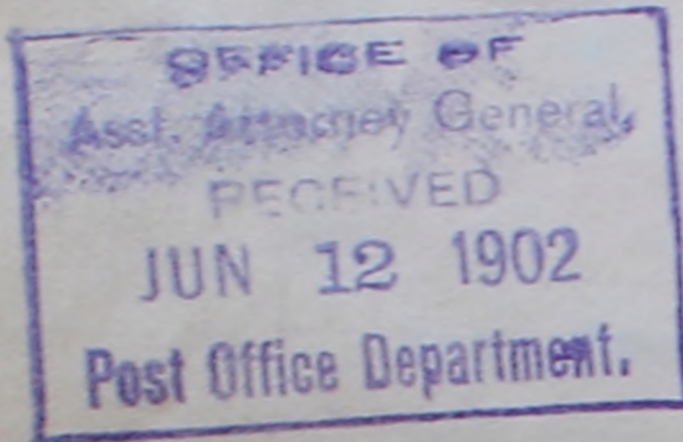
*E. M. S.*

Hon. C. H. Robb  
Assistant Attorney General  
for the Post Office Department  
Washington  
D. C.



OFFICE OF THE  
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL  
FOR THE  
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON

May 20, 1902.



M E M O R A N D U M .

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The statements made by C. C. Post and Helen Wilmans Post in their communication to the Postmaster General, bearing no date but presumably of May 19th, are both misleading and false in so far as they relate to the action of this Office in recommending to the then Postmaster General that a Fraud Order be issued against Helen Wilmans for the fraudulent use of the mails. The reasons for such recommendation were fully set forth in the memorandum, of October 5, 1901, to the Postmaster General, a copy of which is hereto attached; and from this it will appear that Mr. Post's assertion that a Fraud Order was issued "suddenly and without warning x x x against Helen Wilmans Post and her correspondence coming from every country where the English language is spoken by any considerable number of people x x x held up, marked 'Fraudulent,' and returned to the writers," is not in accordance with the facts of the case. The mail was temporarily held pending a hearing in the case upon the urgent recommendation of the Fourth Assistant's bureau, but a Fraud Order was not issued until formal notice had been served upon Helen Wilmans (Mrs. Post), and a hearing of five or six days duration given her to show cause why a Fraud Order should not be issued. The matter was of such a nature that it was, in detail, brought to the attention of the then Postmaster General, who acted upon the recommendation of this Office and issued the order.



Mrs. Post's attorneys were not told, as they claim to have been, that "with a slight change in the wording of her advertisement" she could continue business and receive mail as Helen Wilmans Post, as H. W. Post, or as C. C. Post. What the attorneys were in fact told, was this: That the order did not extend to any mail except that addressed to Helen Wilmans or Mrs. Helen Wilmans, and, therefore, if she should at any future time operate a business not in violation of the statutes, she could do so under the name of Helen Wilmans Post, as Mrs. H. W. Post, or under any name other than those against which the Fraud Order was issued.

With respect to the criminal prosecutions in Georgia and Florida, it need only be said that this Department has nothing whatever to do with actions in the courts under criminal statutes. That is entirely in the province of the Department of Justice; but it may be well to state that the indictments in Georgia are still pending, that those in Florida were quashed by the judge upon demurrer, and that the district attorney is to bring the matter before the grand jury this month for other indictments, when it is expected that the defects fatal to the previous indictments will be remedied. Answering an inquiry from this Office as to the status of the cases in Florida and Georgia, the Chief Inspector, under date of the 14th instant, forwarded to this Office a letter from Paul E. Williams, inspector-in-charge, Chattanooga, Tennessee, dated the 12th instant, in which he says:



Referring to your recent communication to me in case of above number (360,538-C), relating to the case of the United States vs. Helen Wilmans Post et al, in which you made inquiry as to whether the indictments at Macon, Ga., were still pending, I have the honor to advise you further that I am in receipt to-day from Inspector F. D. Peer of copies of two letters written on April 3, 1902, by the Attorney General, Washington, D. C., addressed to the United States Attorney at Jacksonville, Fla., and the United States Attorney at Macon, Ga., in which communications the Attorney General, answering letters from the District Attorneys, expresses the opinion that the prosecution in both Districts against these defendants should be pushed vigorously, with the view of their conviction and the breaking up of this fraudulent scheme.

The attitude of the Department of Justice on this subject is very gratifying, and is in entire harmony with the views of the District Attorney in each of these Districts. I very much hope that the Post Office Department will not relax the fraud order now issued against this concern.

Something is said in the communication already referred to from Mr. and Mrs. Post, about the "law governing the relations between the material and the mental, more especially the relation of the mental to the physical body of man"--Mental Science, so-called. It was announced at the hearing, and the records in the case will support this statement, that the faith or belief of so-called Mental Science was not at issue or on trial, so to speak, but simply the methods followed out by Mrs. Post, under the name of Helen Wilmans, *in the conduct of her business* ~~as operated~~ through the medium of the United States mails.



OFFICE OF THE  
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL  
FOR THE  
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON

COPY.

October 5, 1901.

M E M O R A N D U M ,

In re:

Mrs. Helen Wilmans and Helen Wilmans of Seabreeze, Fla., for operating through the mails a scheme devised for obtaining money under false or fraudulent pretenses, etc.

-----C-----

On September 12th, 1901, Helen Wilmans was called upon to show cause on or before September 30, 1901 why a fraud order should not be issued against her for operating through the mails a scheme devised for obtaining money under false and fraudulent pretenses, etc. On the date set for the hearing she appeared at this office in the person of her husband C. C. Post and her attorney, O. T. Green to answer the charges against her. Frederick C. Bryan, Esq., of Washington, D. C. was also present at the hearing as attorney for interests connected with accused. The hearing was held before G. A. C. Christiancy, Acting Assistant Attorney General for the Post Office Department. F. C. Huebner from the Office of the Assistant Attorney General, etc. was also present.

The facts brought out at the hearing were that Mrs. Helen Wilmans claims power to heal any disease or affliction including poverty by a method of concentrating her thought on the patient taking treatment, and for such service solicits remittances of \$3 per week or \$10 per month (or in special cases other prices are given). Evidence was further submitted showing that a large number of persons have applied to her and have paid her money for the extension of her thought power to their specific cases. To these persons she has sent instructions to the effect that they shall set apart fifteen minutes per day in which to forget about other matters and permit the healing thought which she



sends to her patients to enter their bodies and renew them. The impression is carried through the printed literature that during this fifteen minutes Mrs. Wilmans is sending healing thoughts to them, and when patients have expressed this belief in communications to Mrs. Wilmans, she makes no effort to explain matters so they have a proper understanding of just what Mrs. Wilmans does in fact do. The evidence before the Department has shown that during a long period while certain persons by the name of Dayton were acting as Mrs. Wilman's Chief Clerks, Mrs. Wilmans opened the mail coming to her address and simply took out the money, and without carefully reading any of such mail, and without examining a part of it in any way further than to extract the money, the same was handed to these Chief Clerks to answer with certain stereotype letters to fit the different inquiries, which letters were mailed to the patients without being reviewed or seen by Mrs. Wilmans, and that on some occasions when Mrs. Wilmans was absent from home the letters were opened and answered in the same manner as when Mrs. Wilmans was present. Evidence was offered by the defence that the methods in vogue at the time the Daytons were in their employ had been changed and that Mrs. Wilmans not only opened the mail at the present time but also reviewed the letters which went to patients. Even granting this as true, it appears that every letter sent out in connection with this scheme is designed to have the patient put constant faith in the power of Helen Wilmans, which calls for more money, and even should she answer all letters coming to her personally it is held that that would not show a compliance with her promise to send healing thoughts to certain patients at certain hours of the day. Further evidence was offered and not disputed that Helen Wilmans does considerable other work, such as writing books, articles for papers, etc. While it is conceded that Mrs. Wilmans is energetic and capable of much work, from the amount she has done shows that it would be absolutely impossible to even make a pretense of sending specific and individual thoughts to all her



patients on account of the limited number of hours in a day. To this evidence the defense replied that Mrs. Wilmans could think of 1000 at a time as easily as of one - which seems beyond human possibility, and what makes it still more improbable is the fact that the character of diseases she treats includes not only those usually treated surgically and medically, but also treatment to restore confidence, to relieve from poverty, and any other affliction to which humanity is heir.

Therefore, without in any manner inquiring into the merits of so-called Mental Science except so far as deception was in fact imposed upon the sick and unfortunate who were induced to take this treatment, or alleged treatment, without a knowledge of just what would be given, or done for the money sent to Mrs. Helen Wilmans or Helen Wilmans, it is my opinion that a fraud order should be issued against them.

(Signed:) G. A. C. CHRISTIANCY,

Acting Assistant Attorney General  
for the Post Office Department.

**Postscript:**

A fraud order would have been recommended in this case without such a protracted hearing had some of the evidence which has since been brought to my attention been presented at the opening of the hearing as it would have shown that the scheme was certainly one to defraud. For example: In a book in the possession of the Post Office Inspector in which the patient's names were entered and the diagnoses of their complaints, which book was secured through a subpoena duces tecum from one of the clerks of Helen Wilmans, appears in effect the following: Mrs. A. B. of -----, Terms \$-----, per month, (a statement of two or three, possibly four payments). Then follows a diagnosis of the case "Wants a new set of teeth, money, and everything nice". Another was:



Mrs. A. B. of some place in Colorado, diagnosis: "Wants some one to love her 'soul mate'". From these and other entries under other diagnoses it appears that she accepted money and represented her ability not only to cure physical and mental trouble but to give the patient anything that he or she might express a desire for. In other words, they stamp the scheme as that of a charlatan's and a fraud-order would have been issued upon this evidence alone without considering the other points involved.

(Signed:) G. A. C. CHRISTIANCY,

Acting Assistant Attorney General  
for the Post Office Department.

To the Postmaster General.



To the Postmaster General:

For many years Mrs. Post, (better known to the literary and scientific world by her maiden name under which she first made her reputation as an author, as Helen Wilmanse), and myself have been earnest and conscientious students of the law governing the relations between the Material and the Mental, more especially the relation of the mental to the physical body of man. Coming into a partial knowledge of this law, we, -more especially Mrs. Post, -have sought to impart this knowledge to our fellows, and to apply it to the healing of their bodily ailments. For sixteen years, we pursued our way without molestations, Mrs. Post healing and teaching thousands. At first, all of those healed were cases abandoned as incurable by the old schools of practitioners, but more lately her practice became in a considerable degree the same as that of a regular family physician, i.e., if a member of a family was ill, she was written or telegraphed to as formerly a resident family physician was called in.

Several times during these years, a Post Office Inspector called and asked for information regarding her business and always everything was thrown open for his inspection. Absolutely nothing was concealed. We had no reason for concealment as we knew we were doing a wholly legitimate business and besides, we were being of



great service to humanity.

Suddenly and without warning, a fraud order was issued against Helen Wilmans,, and her correspondence, coming from every country where the English language is spoken by any considerable number of people, was held up, marked "fraudulent" and returned to the writers. These letters were in part letters of inquiry regarding our teachings, others containing orders for our published works, subscriptions to her paper, "Freedom", and requests for terms or payments for treatments. This virtually cut off from communication with her friends and patrons and the means of proving her innocence. Sixteen indictments were found against Mrs. Wilmans Post, myself, and our son-in-law, Mr. Bergman. Mr. Bergman was in no way connected with Mrs. Post's business except as an employee and I had, and have, no financial interest in her business.

At a hearing had before Mr. Christiancy, an official of the Department, refusal to remove the fraud order against Helen Wilmans was made, but our attorneys were told that with a slight change in the wording of her advertisement, she could continue business and receive mail as Helen Wilmans Post, as H. W. Post or as Mrs. C. C. Post.

Immediately all advertising previously prepared for sending out was thrown away under the supervision of our attorney and in fullest compliance with what we and our attorney understood was



the requirements of the Department, new advertisements were gotten out. Judge then of our surprise when we were again indicted at the instance of the inspector, this time in Georgia. The indictments in Florida were quashed by Judge Lock of the Federal Court at Jacksonville, who also ruled that those in Georgia were not good and refused to issue an order for our arrest.

We have been put to great expense in the payment of attorneys' fees, in bringing witnesses from other States to testify in Mrs. Post's behalf before the Department at the hearing, and Mrs. Post's business, both as a publisher and healer has been virtually destroyed, herself been branded as a fraud the world over and hundreds of people who looked to her to heal them of diseases which the so-called "regular" practitioners could not remove, have been denied communication with her through the mails.

The Act of Congress under which the Post Master General is authorized to issue a fraud order is clear and explicit. "You, as Post Master General may issue a fraud order against any one "upon evidence satisfactory to you that such person is doing a fraudulent business." You are judge and jury and executioner. You may, indeed must, because of the magnitude of the business of the Department, delegate your authority to others, who, in turn, must depend for their information upon still others. But, I submit in all candor



and with all due respect that when the sole power to destroy not only the character and business of a citizen, but, if an error be made, to deny the means of regaining their lost health to hundreds of sufferers, and to delay the progress of the race in a knowledge of the law of health and of how to preserve it, that when such grave interests are at stake, it is eminently proper, even a duty to appeal to the official head of the Department with whom the real power lies, and to ask if that head wishes to bear the responsibility of condemning one who is acknowledged by thousands of educated, intelligent and thoughtful people to have added greatly to the race's knowledge of the law of life, and health, who has healed hundreds of diseased bodies, lifted others out of the slough of despond, and placed them upon the solid ground of renewed faith in themselves and in the infinite source of all things, who has the endorsement of numbers of intelligent physicians of the old school as to the honesty and value of her practice and that her system of healing is scientific and in accordance with the latest discoveries in the physical sciences, all of which evidence we are ready to submit together with a hundred sworn certificates of cures made by Mrs. Post, accompanied by many hundreds of letters from patients not sworn to. We have also in our possession letters from twelve of the people in whose name we were indicted, stating that they did not know that their names were being used in indicting us; that they



had not been defrauded by Mrs. Post, but on the contrary, could not repay her for services rendered.

I am ready further to submit the testimony of the leading business and professional men of my town and my neighboring towns and of my country as to the standing of myself and wife both in business and social life as people of integrity and honor. And I respectfully submit that the evidence of hundreds of people who have been healed, of reputable physicians as to the honesty of purpose and scientific method of healing, and of the leaders in business, in law and in politics of the community and State in which myself and wife are known, and do business, ought to vindicate us over the testimony of a few who have not been healed under her practice, of people discharged for inefficiency or dishonesty, and of personal enemies made in the discharge of official duties, or in the ordinary affairs of every day life.

We ask that the fraud order against Helen Wilmans be withdrawn and that those who wish to employ her as a teacher or healer be permitted the use of the mails in addressing her by the name of which she is known to many people in every civilized country on the globe, and that no other fraud order be issued against her under any name.

C. C. Post.

Helen Wilmans Post.



F. BURGMAN  
Agent for Modern Supplies  
27 Arch Street

Philadelphia, July 18, 1903.

Relating to Fraud Order issued by the U.S.  
Postmaster General against Chas. F. Burgman, at  
Seabreeze, Florida.

Chas. F. Burgman, Respondent, hereby certifies  
that the U.S. Post Office wrongfully and upon in-  
correct information issued said Fraud Order against  
said Respondent for the proof of which Respondent  
states the following facts.

1st. That he never, in any manner, violated the  
U.S. Postal Laws and Regulations nor has he ever  
defrauded, nor attempted to defraud, any one by use  
of the U.S. postal facilities or in any other man-  
ner either as a single person or in co-operation  
with other persons.

2nd. That respondents name has been wrongfully  
and erroneously linked by the Department agents with  
the practice of Mental Healing and Absent Treatment  
of one Helen Wilmans-or Mrs. H. W. Post of Seabreeze,  
Florida. Respondent never was employed by the said  
H. W. Post in the business, or practice, of Mental  
Healing- or Absent Treatment. Had no financial  
interest in same nor derived any income therefrom,



*Philadelphia,*

wrote no letters, received no correspondence, nor money, from any source or person, received and deposited no mail at any time on account of said business.

3rd. Respondent was employed by said Helen Wilmans or Mrs. H. W. Post from August 2d, 1901 until May 1st, 1903 in the capacity of manager of her printing and publishing business, known as "Wilmans Publishing House." And that the duties of Respondent in said position consisted in attending to the following:

A.- The supervision of employes in said "Wilmans Publishing House."

B.- The soliciting of work in the printing line. (Job work) from the business public.

C.- The direction and supervision of the weekly publication "Freedom."

D.- Attending to the subscription and advertising department of said journal "Freedom".

E.- The sale and shipment of books, from various authors to purchasers and agents ordering the same; and any other duties connected with, and incidental to the business of printers and publishers - and none



*Philadelphia,*

other.

4th. As compensation for the performance of the duties above mentioned Respondent received a regular monthly salary, and nothing further, as he has not and never had any other interest in said Wilmans Publishing House than that of an employe.

5th. On May 1st of this year Respondent quit the employment of said Helen Wilmans (or H. W. Post or Mrs. C. C. Post) and permanently severed any and all connections with the "Wilmans Publishing House."

Respondent left Seabreeze, Florida on June 26th. of this year and arrived in the city of Philadelphia on July 2d last where he is now permanently located and exclusively engaged in the business as Manufacturers Agent for industrial products.

6th. Respondent avers that if his name was ever used by anyone in connection with the business of Mental Healing or Absent Treatment of Helen Wilmans (or Mrs. H. W. Post or Mrs. C. C. Post or any other party.) it was done without the knowledge or consent of this Respondent and that he is in nowise responsible or to blame for the use of his name in connection with such business. And as far as his



BURGMAN  
ent for Modern Supplies  
1427 Arch Street

*Philadelphia,*

knowledge extends his name has not been,, and is  
not now, used in connection with such business. <sup>h</sup>

In view of the facts above stated, the under-  
signed most respectfully requests that the Fraud  
Order issued against him at Seabreeze by the U.S.  
Postal Department be revoked and the postmaster  
at Seabreeze, Florida be directed to forward all  
mail addressed to Respondent at once to his pre-  
sent address.

Respectfully submitted,

*Chas. F. Burgman*

1427 Arch Street,

Philadelphia, Pa.

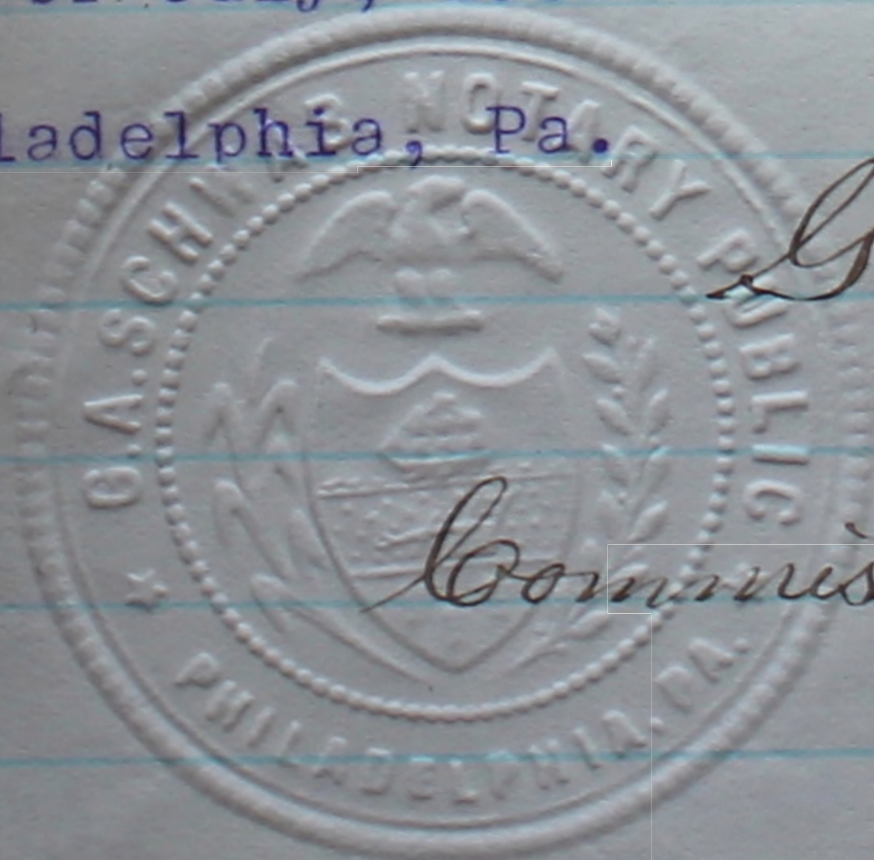
Subscribed and sworn to before me on this the 18th  
day of July, 1903.

Philadelphia, Pa.

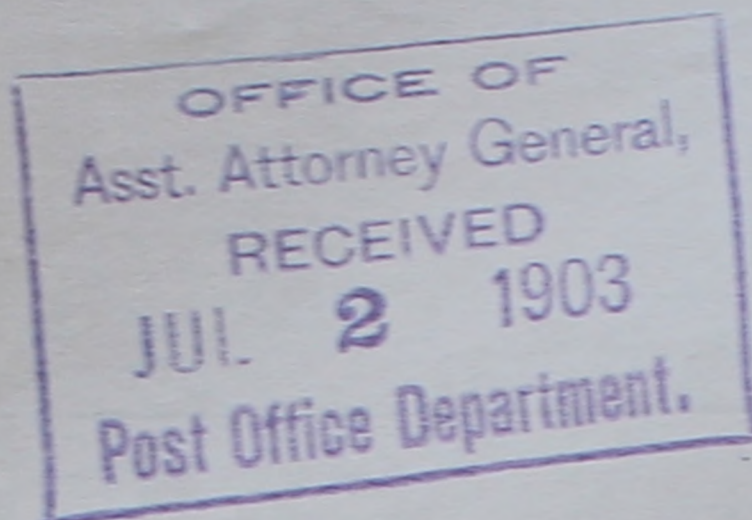
*G. A. Schwab*

Notary Public.

*Commission expires Jan'y 5, 1905.*







Post Office

Seabreeze, Florida. June 30<sup>th</sup> 1903.

Hon. C. H. Robb.

Assistant Attorney General.

for the Post Office Department.

Washington D C.

Dear Sir.

yours of the 27<sup>th</sup> inst enclosing copy of "frand order" No 571, dated June 27<sup>th</sup> 1903 issued by the Postmaster General, received and contents duly noted.

Will you kindly advise this office, if said "frand order" was intended to also apply, to mail and Postal Money Orders, addressed to, and drawn in favor of Wilman's Publishing House, of which Mrs Helen Wilman's Post, is the proprietor, said Wilman's Publishing House in addition to the printing of "Freedom" being also engaged in a general commercial and job printing business.

Very Respectfully

L J Burchick  
Postmaster



CHAS. F. BURGMAN

Manufacturers' Agent for Modern Supplies

1427 Arch Street

OFFICE OF  
Asst. Attorney General  
RECEIVED  
JUL 21 1903  
Post Office Department

Philadelphia, July 18, 1903.

Hon. C. H. Robb,

Assistant Attorney General,

for the Post Office Department,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

In compliance with suggestion made at interview with Mr. E. W. Lawrence of your Department on the 17th inst. in your office and also in response to your letter to me of the 7th inst. in reply to my communication of the 3d inst. addressed to the Postmaster General. I forward with an affidavit relating to facts in connection with action of your Department in issuing a "Fraud Order" against my name at the Post-office in Seabreeze, Florida.

Feeling sure that your Department will revoke the order issued against me at the earliest possible date and correct a wrong done me based upon incorrect information, I remain,

Yours respectfully,

Chas. F. Burgman



E. H. J.



Office of the Postmaster General,

Washington, D. C.

June 26, 1903.

MEMORANDUM.

IN RE

Mrs. Helen Wilmans, Helen Wilmans, Mrs. Helen Wilmans Post, Helen Wilmans Post, Mrs. Helen Post, Helen Post, Mrs. H. W. Post, H. W. Post, Mrs. Charles C. Post, Mrs. C. C. Post, Mrs. Charles Post, Charles C. Post, C. C. Post, Charles Post, and Charles F. Burgman, all of Seabreeze, Florida, and the newspaper "Freedom" of Seabreeze, Florida, - for operating through the mails a scheme devised for obtaining money or other property under false or fraudulent pretenses, representations or promises, within the meaning of Sections 3929 and 4041, Revised Statutes of the United States as amended.

On October 5, 1901, the following memorandum was prepared, and a fraud order was accordingly issued against the parties named therein:

"In re:

"Mrs. Helen Wilmans and Helen Wilmans of Seabreeze, Fla., for operating through the mails a scheme devised for obtaining money under false or fraudulent pretenses, etc.

"On September 12th, 1901, Helen Wilmans was called upon to show cause on or before September 30, 1901, why a fraud order should not be issued against her for operating through the mails a scheme devised for obtaining money under false and fraudulent pretenses, etc. On the date set for the hearing she appeared at this office in the person of her husband, C. C. Post, and her attorney, O. T. Green, to answer the charges against her. Frederick C. Bryan, Esq., of Washington, D. C., was also present at the hearing as attorney for interests connected with accused. The hearing was held before G. A. C. Christiancy, Acting Assistant Attorney General for the Post Office Department. F. C. Huebner from the Office of the Assistant Attorney General, etc. was also present.

"The facts brought out at the hearing were that Mrs. Helen Wilmans claims power to heal any disease or affliction including poverty by a method of concentrating her thought on the patient taking treatment, and for such service solicits remittances of \$3 per week or \$10 per month (or in special cases other prices are given). Evidence was further submitted showing that a large number



of persons have applied to her and have paid her money for the extension of her thought power to their specific cases. To these persons she has sent instructions to the effect that they shall set apart fifteen minutes per day in which to forget about other matters and permit the healing thought which she sends to her patients to enter their bodies and renew them. The impression is carried through the printed literature that during this fifteen minutes Mrs. Wilmans is sending healing thoughts to them, and when patients have expressed this belief in communications to Mrs. Wilmans she makes no effort to explain matters so they have a proper understanding of just what Mrs. Wilmans does in fact do. The evidence before the Department has shown that during a long period while certain persons by the name of Dayton were acting as Mrs. Wilman's Chief Clerks, Mrs. Wilmans opened the mail coming to her address and simply took out the money, and without carefully reading any of such mail, and without examining a part of it in any way further than to extract the money, the same was handed to these Chief Clerks to answer with certain stereotype letters to fit the different inquiries, which letters were mailed to the patients without being reviewed or seen by Mrs. Wilmans, and that on some occasions when Mrs. Wilmans was absent from home the letters were opened and answered in the same manner as when Mrs. Wilmans was present. Evidence was offered by the defence that the methods in vogue at the time the Daytons were in their employ had been changed and that Mrs. Wilmans not only opened the mail at the present time but also reviewed the letters which went to patients. Even granting this as true, it appears that every letter sent out in connection with this scheme is designed to have the patient put constant faith in the power of Helen Wilmans, which calls for more money, and even should she answer all letters coming to her personally, it is held that that would not show a compliance with her promise to send healing thoughts to certain patients at certain hours of the day. Further evidence was offered and not disputed that Helen Wilmans does considerable other work, such as writing books, articles for papers, etc. While it is conceded that Mrs. Wilmans is energetic and capable of much work, from the amount she has done shows that it would be absolutely impossible to even make a pretense of sending specific and individual thoughts to all her patients on account of the limited number of hours in a day. To this evidence the defense replied that Mrs. Wilmans could think of 1000 at a time as easily as of one - which seems beyond human possibility, and what makes it still more improbable is the fact that the character of diseases she treats includes not only those usually treated surgically and medically, but also treatment to restore confidence, to relieve from poverty, and any other affliction to which humanity is heir.

"Therefore, without in any manner inquiring into the merits of co-called Mental Science except so far as deception was in fact imposed upon the sick and unfortunate who were induced to take this treatment, or alleged treatment, without a knowledge of just what would be given, or done for the money sent to Mrs. Helen Wilmans or Helen Wilmans, it is my opinion that a fraud order



should be issued against them.

"(Signed) G. A. C. CHRISTIANCY,  
Acting Assistant Attorney General  
for the Post Office Department.

"Postscript:

"A fraud order would have been recommended in this case without such a protracted hearing had some of the evidence which has since been brought to my attention been presented at the opening of the hearing as it would have shown that the scheme was certainly one to defraud. For example: In a book in the possession of the Post Office Inspector in which the patient's names were entered and the diagnoses of their complaints, which book was secured through a subpoena duces tecum from one of the clerks of Helen Wilmans, appears in effect the following: Mrs. A. B. of -----, Terms \$-----, per month, (a statement of two or three, possibly four payments). Then follows a diagnosis of the case "Wants a new set of teeth, money and everything nice". Another was: Mrs. A. B. of some place in Colorado, diagnosis: "Wants some one to love her 'soul -mate'". From these and other entries under other diagnoses, it appears that she accepted money and represented her ability not only to cure physical and mental trouble but to give the patient anything that he or she might express a desire for. In other words, they stamp the scheme as that of a charlatan's and a fraud-order would have been issued upon this evidence alone without considering the other points involved.

"(Signed) G. A. C. CHRISTIANCY,  
"Acting Assistant Attorney General  
for the Post Office Department.

To the Postmaster General."

It is shown that the parties named herein are conducting the same fraudulent scheme through the mails, by using various names, and other devices.

It is further shown that numerous indictments have since been obtained against Helen Wilmans Post, Charles C. Post and Charles F. Burgman, for fraudulent use of the mails.

Being satisfied by this and other evidence that Mrs. Helen Wilmans, Helen Wilmans, Mrs. Helen Wilmans Post, Helen Wilmans Post, Mrs. Helen Post, Helen Post, Mrs. H. W. Post, H. W. Post, Mrs. Charles C. Post, Mrs. C. C. Post, Mrs. Charles Post, Charles C.



Post, C. C. Post, Charles Post, and Charles F. Burgman, all of Seabreeze, Florida, and the newspaper "Freedom" of Seabreeze, Florida, are conducting a scheme or device for obtaining money or other property through the use of the United States mails, by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations or promises, I issue the "Fraud Order" hereto attached.

*McPayne*  
Postmaster General.

(360,538-C)



OFFICE OF THE  
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL  
FOR THE  
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON

File No.

June 27, 1903.

Postmaster,

Seabreeze, Florida.

Sir:

I inclose herewith a copy of order No. 571, dated June 27, 1903, forbidding the delivery of mail matter and the payment of money orders to Mrs. Helen Wilmans, Charles F. Burgman, the newspaper "Freedom", et al., all of Seabreeze, Florida, the original of which, signed by the Postmaster General, has been retained on the files of this Department.

In the enforcement of this order, please observe the following general regulation, published in the United States Postal Guide for March, 1901, viz:

"Postmasters are notified that fraud orders issued under the provisions of Section 331, P. L. and R. of 1893, do not cover mail matter under the frank of a Senator or Representative or other officer entitled to the franking privilege, nor that which is covered by an official envelope. Nor do these orders apply to matter not under seal, such as newspapers, circulars, etc., unless specifically stated in the order, or by subsequent letter of instructions."

Very respectfully,

Assistant Attorney General  
for the Post Office Department.



# Post Office Department,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ORDER NO. 571

June 27, 1903

It having been made to appear to the Postmaster General, upon evidence satisfactory to him, that

Mrs. Helen Wilmans, Helen Wilmans, Mrs. Helen Wilmans Post,  
Helen Wilmans Post, Mrs. Helen Post, Helen Post, Mrs. H. W. Post,  
H. W. Post, Mrs. Charles C. Post, Mrs. C. C. Post, Mrs. Charles  
Post, Charles C. Post, C. C. Post, Charles Post, and Charles F.  
Burgman, and  
the newspaper "Freedom"

at Seabreeze, Florida, are  
engaged in conducting a scheme or device for obtaining money through the mails by means of  
false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, in violation of the Act of Congress  
entitled "An act to amend certain sections of the Revised Statutes relating to lotteries, and for  
other purposes," approved September 19, 1890—

Now, therefore, by authority vested in him by said act, and by the Act of Congress entitled  
"An act for the suppression of lottery traffic through international and interstate commerce and  
the postal service, subject to the jurisdiction and laws of the United States," approved March 2,  
1895, the Postmaster General hereby *forbids you to pay any Postal Money Order* drawn

to the order of said parties

and you are hereby directed to inform the remitter of any such postal money order that payment  
thereof has been forbidden, and that the amount thereof will be returned upon the presentation  
of the original order or a duplicate thereof applied for and obtained under the regulations of the  
Department.

And you are hereby instructed to *return all letters*, whether registered or not, and *other  
mail matter* which shall arrive at your office directed to the said parties

to the postmasters at the offices at which they were originally mailed, to be delivered to the  
senders thereof, with the word "*Fraudulent*" plainly written or stamped upon the outside of  
such letters or matter. Provided, however, that where there is nothing to indicate who are the  
senders of letters not registered or other matter, you are directed in that case to send such letters  
and matter to the *Dead-Letter Office* with the word "*Fraudulent*" plainly written or  
stamped thereon, to be disposed of as other dead matter under the laws and regulations applicable  
thereto.

(Signed) H. C. Payne  
Postmaster General.

To the Postmaster,

Seabreeze, Florida.

(360538-C)