

“The workers stand down in that pit for hours on end operating the drop stamps. They use their legs to pull the stamps up and down, up and down, up and down! As you can imagine they get very big muscles....but only on one side! You can always tell who works with the drop stamps as they walk with a limp, dragging their weak leg behind them.

Of course you can also tell them by their missing fingers! These stamps are very heavy and you need to slide the metal in and out from underneath them all day long, the best and most experienced stampers can do close to 60 a minute! As you can imagine when you are working that fast mistakes are bound to happen, all of the men I know down here are missing a finger or two!

On my first day here I was warned to never play around with the drop stamps, one of the workers told me a story about a young man who worked the drop stamps until one day something got stuck underneath his stamp. He bent down to have a look underneath it and stuck his head just a bit too far....and BANG! The stamp came down! I'm sure it was just a story that they tell all the new people to keep them from messing with the drop stamps but just the same I'm not going to stick any of my body parts underneath one!”