First Of Wildlife Series Postage Stamps To Be Sold At Avery Island

AVERY ISLAND, La. (AP) - The men who work on this hush green hump of high land that rises out of the swamps take its riches, but leave it lovely.

In a world where industry so often pollutes, Avery Island stands today as a three-square mile showcase example that man can live with nature without kicking her in the teeth.

Because of this, the vine-covered post office here was chosen by the postmaster general for first-day ceremonies Saturday in the sale of handsome new postage stamps in the wildlife conservation series.

Officials To Attend

Dr. Elvis J. Stahr, of New York, president of the National Audubon Society, and Asst. Postmaster General James W. Hargrove are scheduled to speak at special ceremonies at the island's jungle gardens.

They will unveil four 8-cent stamps. One depicts an alligator. Others feature a polar bear, alligator or California condor. All were done by California artist Stanley W. Gall in what was billed the first of a series of stamps to call attention to wildlife conservation.

It's an event of some importance to stamp collectors and a mark of recognition to the people who have let their environment thrive.

102 Oil Wells

There are 102 oil wells on the "island" but you have to look sharp to see them. If that doesn't astonish you, then you haven't been around many oil fields. At these oil wells, what can't be cut underground is hidden or landscaped.

AVERY ISLAND POST OFFICE - The Avery Island Post Office is located under giant oaks draped with Spanish moss on the 3-mile island that serves as a wildlife refuge in South Louisiana. Saturday a new postage stamp depicting an Avery Island alligator will be unveiled on the island. (AP Wirephoto)

AVERY ISLAND PARADISE - The snowy egret, once on the verge of extinction in Louisiana, now thrive at Avery Island's bird city. The island, located nine miles south of New Iberia, has been a wildlife refuge since 1865. (AP Wirephoto)