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Copies Mailed: 115

BNAPEX 2003

What: 55th annual convention of the British North America Philatelic Society
 When: **Sep 25–27, 2003**
 Where: **London, Ontario**
 Location: Hilton Hotel
 Who: *everybody!*
 Registration:
 C\$135/US\$90 (before Jul 15)
 C\$150/US\$100 (after Jul 15)

London is situated halfway between Toronto and Windsor, with a population of 335,000.

I have requested a 60minute time slot for an Elizabethan II Study Group Seminar. I am *hoping* to be at the show but definite plans have not yet been made.

Do we have any volunteers to give a couple of short talks? or should we go with the ever-popular show and tell format? Your ideas are important and welcome. ♣

Corgi Times Postage Costs

The postage costs for mailing the *Corgi Times* have received a great boost in *savings*. Thanks goes out to John Arn who successfully bid in an auction and was able to get a substantial amount of Canadian postage at a huge discount *below face*. It is savings like this that allow us to keep our annual dues at the same rate.

I am still receiving mailings from John on a regular basis, each containing small groups of postage. Suffice it to say that we will have enough postage for several *years* worth of *Corgi* mailings.



Environment Definitives
See page 76

Upcoming Events

As I finish this issue of the *Corgi Times*, the annual Edmonton stamp show is underway (in Edmonton, AB of all places!). This is always a must-see show for collectors if you are able to visit Edmonton at this time of year.

John Arn has passed along information about two upcoming events that are being sponsored by the Inland Empire Philatelic Society of which John is a member.

The first is a full day event on April 5, 2003 in Moses Lake, Washington. There will be four keynote speakers followed by a dinner and auction:

- < James N. Boyden, "The American Expeditionary Force 1917–1923"
- < Arlene Sullivan, "Sage Issues - French Definitives of the 1876–1900 Period"
- < James Graue, "South Atlantic Zeppelin Flights"
- < William (Bill) Pekonen, "The Origins of On Her Majesty's Service"

John, Arlene and Bill are members of the ESG.

The second event is the eighth annual meeting of the Garden City Stamp Club and Inland Empire Philatelic Society being held at the Best Western Motel in Wallace, Idaho on May 3, 2003.

This will include a speaker ("How the Spanish American War Got into Your Pocket"), auction, and dinner. ♣

Who are We?

We are the Elizabethan II Study Group under the auspices of the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) — *The Society for Canadian Philately*.

Our journal, the *Corgi Times* is published 6 times a year.

With the exception of the 1967–73 *Centennial Definitives*, we study all aspects of Canadian philately during the Elizabethan era.

BNAPS

Website: www.bnaps.org

Membership information:

Peter Jacobi, Secretary
#6 - 2168 -150 A St.
Surrey, BC V4A 9W4
Canada
E-mail: beaver@telus.net

Elizabethan II Study Group

Chairman

Harry C. Machum
Box 123
Little Current, ON P0P 1K0
Canada

Treasurer

Eppe Bosch
E. 618 Second Ave.
Spokane, WA 99202
USA

Corgi Times Index Arlene Sullivan

Market Report *vacant*

Paper Trails Rick Penko

Auction . . . joint with Centennial group

Website:
www.adminware.ca/esg

Annual Dues

US and Canadian addresses is US\$11.00. Canadian addresses option of C\$15.00. All others US\$16.00.

Please make cheques payable to "The Elizabethan II Study Group" and send to Robin Harris, Editor at the address listed to the right.

Articles with *no* by-line are written or compiled by the Editor. All articles are ©2002 by the author and/or the Elizabethan Study Group.

Canada Post News

Do we like more stamps being issued by Canada? Sure we do! Every new issue is a part of the Elizabethan era — right up our alley. Here is what Canada Post is up to these days...

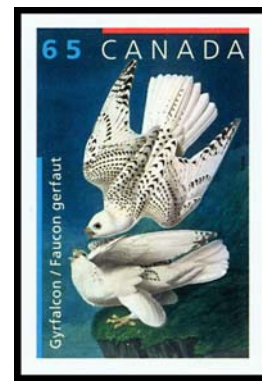
♣ Audubon Stamp Design Changed

February 21 saw the release of five stamps in the first of a three year series featuring paintings by John James Audubon.

If you compared the pre-issue image of the 65¢ value with the stamp that was actually released by Canada Post you were in for a surprise — the two are different. It is the *same* bird that is illustrated, just a different painting.



Pre-issue image



Issued stamp

This isn't the first time Canada Post has published pre-issue images of a stamp that show differences with the final design. However, it is the first time I can remember where a completely different design showed up. The other examples that we have discussed in a previous issue of *Corgi Times* (May–June 2002) only had subtle design differences. Nothing as 'spectacular' as this.

Several post offices I visited in Winnipeg all mentioned that they did not receive this issue until just a day or two before its release. Typically they will receive a new stamp issue a week (or more) in advance. This suggests that the switch in designs was a 'last minute' change and required some last minute printing.

♣ Canadian Senators on Stamps?

The March 4 edition of the *National Post* reports on a recent proposal by Senator Jean Lapointe to honour as many as 12 Senators with stamps. Cindy Daoust, a Canada Post spokesperson, confirmed that the Senator's proposal has been well received and is being considered for the year 2004.

What do you think of this idea? I would be hard-pressed to name even a couple of Senators, dead or alive. ♣

Corgi Times

Editor:

Robin Harris
770 Inkster Blvd.
Winnipeg, MB R2W 0L5
Canada
E-mail: corgi@adminware.ca
Phone: (204) 586-3226

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Corgi Times is produced with WordPerfect® for Windows. Manuscripts should be submitted to the Editor at the address above. Electronic format is preferred but not required. Scanned illustrations (300dpi), if available, should be sent as separate files from text files.

.....

Study Group Business

New members

A warm welcome to the following member:

Bill Robertson billrobertson@sympatico.ca

E-mail changes/additions

None to report.

Planning Calendar

This is a listing of major exhibitions and bourses with a large content of both Canadian Exhibits and Canadian dealers. Minimum listing criteria: two day event; 1000 page exhibition; 18 dealer bourse with 50% offering Canadian material.

The goal is to list events far in advance to encourage either exhibiting or attendance and preferably both.

2003

Sep 25–27: BNAPEX 2003. London, Ontario.

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Editor's Desk

This is my 11th issue of *Corgi Times* I have had the privilege to put together (the next issue will represent two *short* years of being in this position). I have enjoyed putting together *every* issue, particularly reporting the many new varieties that are being released that even Canada Post is not entirely aware of!

The one item that has surprised me the most over the last couple of years has been the *lack of input* from our membership. A quick glance at previous issues of *Corgi Times* will show that there are really only a very few *regular* contributors (Arn, Beaudet, Cannon, Elias, Monteiro, and myself). Perhaps even more surprising is the lack of responses from our membership of nearly 115 people to the various issues that have been asked via this column and the *What is Your Opinion?* column.

The sidebar to the right provides a summary of the number of responses I have received from my past queries. I had fully expected several (even dozens) of members to write back on *each* of these different issues — not a *total* of a couple of dozen over the past two years!

Is this a complaint? Partially. I value the input and insight from others. If I didn't I wouldn't be raising and asking the various topics and questions. As I have written in the *Corgi Times* in the past and as I have read from other editors of the many Study Group journals within BNAPS, these journals are *your* journals and the opportunity for *you* to share your questions, thoughts and ideas, short articles, long research articles, etc., etc.

The only time I have had a 'significant' number of responses to questions was via last year's dues notice. The reverse side of the notice asked several questions. About a third of our membership responded and the many answers and ideas were presented in the July–August 2002 issue of *Corgi Times*.

By the way, I'll keep including the occasional *What is Your Opinion?* column — such as the one below. One of these times we will get several responses!

.....

What is your Opinion?

The *Corgi Times* has included several articles recently (including this issue) about 'major errors' and 'varieties' on the BNAPEX and ORAPEX unauthorized overprints applied over the past couple of years to the 1¢ Macdonald Caricature stamp. Are these collectible? Are these 'major errors'? Are these true constant varieties? How would *you* describe these unofficial overprints?

Write to: 770 Inkster Blvd, Winnipeg, MB R2W 0L5 or E-mail: corgi@adminware.ca

Responses to past Membership queries

Jul-Aug '01	'Years'	1
Sep-Oct '01	Centennial merge	12
Jan-Feb '02	Booklet	2
Mar-Apr '02	Scott #'s	0
Sep-Oct '02	non-Canadian	1
Nov-Dec '02	Siverts award	5
Jan-Feb '03	ESG website	0

Canada Post 2003 Stamp Program

Issue dates are subject to change by Canada Post. Shaded entries are changed/new from the last time we presented this list.

Issued	Description	Scott#
Jan 3	48¢ Year of the Ram \$1.25 Year of the Ram souvenir sheet	
Jan	48¢ Flag over Canada Post Building (booklet of 30) <i>Reprint</i> with revised text on back cover (philatelic version)	
Jan 18	48¢ National Hockey League, 6 designs < pane of 6 (water activated) < booklet pane of 6 (self-adhesive)	
Jan 28	48¢ Bishop's University in Lennoxville, Quebec (150th anniversary) - booklet of 8 [two different barcodes on cover]	
Feb 4	\$1 Loon \$2 Polar Bear	<i>Reprints</i> [delayed from Dec 13/02]
Feb 21	John James Audubon < 4x48¢ (pane) < 65¢ Gyrfalcon (booklet panel of 6)	
Mar 3	48¢ Canadian Rangers, military reservists	
Mar 19	48¢ University of Western Ontario (125th anniversary) - booklet of 8 [two different barcodes on cover]	
Mar 25	48¢ American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association of Canada	
Apr 4	48¢ St. Francis Xavier University (150th anniversary) - booklet of 8	
May 30	Volunteer Fire Fighters	
Jun 2	Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II	
Jun 12	Tourist Attractions - booklets of 5 (USA and International rate)	
Jun 20	University of Guelph's Macdonald Institute (100th anniversary) - booklet of 8	
Jul 9	Pedro da Silva	
Jul 21	The Lutheran World Federation Tenth Assembly	
Jul 25	Korean War, 1950–1953	
Sep 4	University of Montréal (125th anniversary)	
Sep 8	National Library — Authors	
Sep 10	World Road Cycling Championships	
Oct 1	Canadian Astronauts	
Oct 4	National Trees	
Oct 7	Jean-Paul Riopelle	
Nov 4	Christmas	

Elizabethan II Market Place

Classified listings in the Market Place are \$1.00 for 25 words. Additional words are 5¢ each. Camera ready display ads (preferably 300dpi, black and white TIFF scans) pertaining primarily to the Elizabethan era will be accepted at the following rates: 1/8 page \$5.00; 1/4 page \$8.00; 1/2 page \$15.00 and a full page at \$30.00. 25% discount for four consecutive insertions of the same ad. Full payment must accompany ad. Payment in Canadian funds to: Elizabethan II Study Group. Mail to Editor: Robin Harris, 770 Inkster Blvd, Winnipeg, MB R2W 0L5, Canada. ✪

Canada Post 2002 Stamp Program

Scott numbers as of the February 2003 *Scott Stamp Monthly* (Feb 10/03)

Issued	Description	Scott#
Oct 24	48¢ Toronto Stock Exchange 150th anniversary	1962
Oct 31	48¢ Communications technology (2 stamps: Guglielmo Marconi & 100th anniversary of the Pacific Cable/Sir Sandford Fleming)	1963–64
Nov 4	48¢, 65¢, \$1.25 Christmas: Aboriginal Art < panes of 25 < booklets (48¢ is pane of 10; others are panes of 6) (two different barcodes on cover)	1965 1966 1967
Nov 7	48¢ Quebec Symphony Orchestra Centennial	1968
Dec 13	2¢ Traditional Trades (Decorative Ironwork), with barcode in pane selvedge	Reprint

\$1 Loon / \$2 Polar Bear reprints

As we have mentioned over the past two issue of the *Corgi Times*, the \$1 Loon and \$2 Polar Bear high-value definitives have been scheduled to be re-printed by Canada Post.

Initially announced to be released December 13, 2002, they finally began shipping February 4, 2003.

The new stamps are still printed by Canadian Bank Note and have the same perforation as the original printing. The new printing is printed on TRC paper (noted by the letter C in the imprint blocks) compared to Peterborough paper on the original release.

The only other change is the addition of a coloured barcode in the right selvedge — a standard practise on all Canadian stamps these days.

Interestingly, they are still plate #1.



Audubon Pane Missing the Paper Designation

February 21, 2003 saw the release of a set of 5 stamps featuring the works of John James Audubon. This is the first in a three-year series of stamps that will feature 15 of the 33 birds Audubon painted on Canadian soil.

The 65¢ value in this set was released in a self-adhesive booklet panel of six stamps. Interestingly, this pane is *missing* the paper designation that has been an integral part of the plate inscription found on Canadian stamps over the past twenty or so years. The printer (Lowe-Martin), colour designations, and designer details are all there, but *no* paper information.



The BNAPEX 2002 and ORAPEX 2002 Overprints

by: *Joseph Monteiro*

1002-89 Vaudreuil Rue, Hull, Québec, Canada J8X 4E8

Introduction

In this article, two new overprints will be reviewed: the BNAPEX 2002 and the ORAPEX 2002. The varieties that exist for these unauthorized overprints will also be examined. It should be noted that the varieties indicated are based on a limited sample and not on the total universe of overprints printed.

BNAPEX 2002 Overprint

In 2002, BNAPEX held its Annual meeting in Spokane, Washington, U.S. from September 27–29. To commemorate this event, BNAPEX 2002 overprinted the precancelled 1-cent Sir John A. MacDonald stamp. For each of the three days, two types of overprints were prepared. The first type was 'BNAPEX 2002/Spokane, WA/2002-09-27' in three lines. The second type was with the overprint shown upside down. The dates for each of the other days of the show shown on the stamp are: 2002-09-28 or 2002-09-29. In other words, six overprints were printed for this event. I wrote to the person responsible for the printing of the overprint, he provided the following response "I sold some for him [the organizer for BNAPEX in Spokane] (including most of the warning strips) to folks in the RA Stamp Club and others in the Ottawa-Hull area before taking them out to him ... what I did not sell. ... For each of the 3 days of the show, we did one sheet of normal overprints, one sheet of inverse (upside down) overprints and for one day, we did a sheet printed on the gum side (Sep 27th) in error. However, when I took the overprints over to the RA Stamp Club before leaving for Spokane, those printed on the gum side seemed to be the most popular. They were way off centered and we had to sell them in pairs in order to get the full date on the stamps."

ORAPEX 2002 Overprint

On May 4 and 5, 2002, ORAPEX sponsored by the R.A. Stamp Club of Ottawa was held at the RA Centre in Ottawa. The organizers for ORAPEX 2002 overprinted the precancelled 1-cent Sir John A. MacDonald stamp for the 41st Exhibition. The overprint appearing on the stamps for the first day of the event was 'ORAPEX 2002/Ottawa, ON/2002-05-04' in three lines. The date shown on the second day was 2002-05-05. The Chairman of the ORAPEX committee in an article indicated that "We sold 100 stamps dated May 5 and 141 stamps dated May 4. The sheet of May 4 overprints got caught in the printer and was damaged, so the original plan was to sell 100 stamps of each date @ 2.00 each. However, these 200 overprints were once again very popular and sold out by 12:00 on Saturday. A number of collectors asked if any more were available, so over night, I salvaged 41 stamps from the damaged May 4 sheet and these were sold by 12:00 on Sunday. These additional 41 stamps had a somewhat crooked overprint or an overprint that was somewhat off the stamp. Nevertheless, those buying them on Sunday morning seemed quite pleased to be able to purchase one, even if the overprint was not straight or was somewhat off the stamp. The overprints on the remaining 59 stamps from the second sheet of May 4th overprints were just too bad to try selling." [1] Later in early 2003, I was informed that a sheet of stamps was overprinted on the gum side with the overprint of the first day of the show. Some of these overprints were sold later at Minex held on February 24, 2003 at the RA Centre.

Varieties of Unauthorized Overprints

BNAPEX 2002: The BNAPEX 2002 overprint for the first day (i.e., September 27) has a minimum of two varieties for the normal overprint (i.e., upright) based on a small sample examined. These are: 1) Spokane, WA printed touching the overprinted line; and 2) Spokane, WA printed above the overprinted line. In addition, a minimum of two varieties were found for the inverted overprint based on a small sample examined. These are: 1) NAPEX 2002 with the B preceding NAPEX partially or completely missing; and 2) 2002-09-27 touching the precancelled line. There are undoubtedly other varieties.

The BNAPEX 2002 overprint for the second day (i.e., September 28) has several varieties for the normal overprint. The varieties are: 1) BNAPEX 2002 and Spokane, WA are shown between the precancelled line touching neither; 2) BNAPEX 2002 and Spokane, WA are shown between the precancelled line with the BNAPEX 2002 printed on the top precancelled line; 3) BNAPEX 2002 and Spokane, WA are shown between the precancelled line with the Spokane, WA touching the bottom precancelled line; 4) 2002-09-28 is below the bottom precancelled line; 5) 2002-09-28 touches the bottom precancelled line; 6) 2002-09-28 is printed on the bottom precancelled line; and 7) BNAPEX 200 appears on some stamps (with the missing 2 passing through the perforation rather than appearing on the next stamp). These varieties are based on an examination of 89 stamps. In addition, the varieties for the inverted overprint (when the sheet is viewed upside down) based on an examination of a sheet of 100 stamps and a block of 4 stamps were: 1) BNAPEX 2002 is printed above the top precancelled line with Spokane, WA and 2002-09-28 printed in between the two precancelled lines; 2) BNAPEX 200 and Spokane, WA are printed in between the two precancelled lines with the 2 appearing on the next stamp other than those in the first column; 3) BNAPEX 200 or BNAPEX 20 at times touches the top of the precancelled

lines; 4) Spokane, WA or Spokane, W at times touches the bottom precancelled lines; 5) BNAPEX 20 and Spokane, W are printed in between the two precancelled lines with the 20 and A appearing on the next stamp other than those in the first column; 6) 2002-09-2 is printed on some stamps with the missing 8 after the 2 appearing on the next stamp or the 8 is missing since it is printed on the perforation.

The BNAPEX 2002 overprint for the third day (i.e., September 29) also has a few varieties. The overprint varieties for the right side up overprint are: 1) BNAPEX 2002 and Spokane, WA are printed between the two precancelled lines; and 2) Spokane, WA is printed on top of the second precancelled line rather than above it. No varieties were noted on the inverted overprint. I suspect that several other varieties exist as the above observations were based on explanation of only a small sample of stamps of the right side up and inverted stamps (i.e., 4 of each).

ORAPEX 2002: It should be pointed out that the varieties described hereafter are based on an examination of a very limited sample of the overprints. There is hardly any doubt that other varieties exists. The ORAPEX 2002 overprint for the first day (i.e., May 4) has three or more varieties: 1) RAPEX 2002 appears on some stamps; 2) Ottawa, ON is printed above the precancelled line; and 3) Ottawa, ON is printed on the precancelled line. The ORAPEX 2002 overprint on the gum side for the first day (i.e., May 4) has four or more varieties: 1) RAPEX 2002 appears on some stamps (i.e., half of the 'O'; 2) RAPEX 2002 (appears on some stamps (i.e., the missing half of 'O' or bits of it appear on the adjoining stamp and some of it may pass through the perforation); 3) Ottawa, ON is printed above the precancelled line; and 4) Ottawa, ON is printed on the precancelled line. The ORAPEX 2002 overprint for the second day (i.e., May 5) has two or more varieties: 1) RAPEX 2002 appears on some stamps; 2) Ottawa, ON is printed above the precancelled line; and 3) Ottawa, ON is printed on the precancelled line.

Concluding Remarks

Unauthorized overprints are becoming a popular way of raising funds for philatelic events during the last few years in Canada. It is done regularly for shows in Australia and some of their overprints are very attractive, often done on a printing press in silver and gold. The ultimate success of such overprints will depend on whether these overprints are restricted to just a few hundred stamps and once done no additional overprints are made to satisfy increased demand.

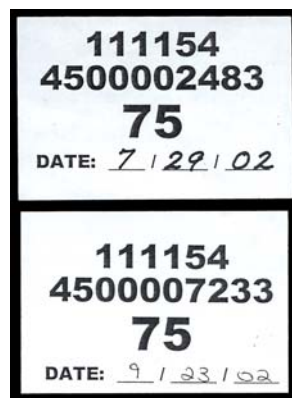
Bibliography

1. Doug Lingard, "Correction to 'MacDonald Overprint' article in May-June 2002 Corgi Times", *Corgi Times*, July-August 2002, Volume XI, No. 1, p. 7.
2. Correspondence between J. Hillmer and Joseph Monteiro, February 11, 2003.
3. E-Mail between Doug Lingard and Joseph Monteiro.

Booklet Packaging Labels Checklist – I

In the Nov–Dec 2002 *Corgi Times* we briefly discussed and illustrated packaging labels inserted into the definitive booklets distributed over the past several months. The labels have the Canada Post item number, Canada Post purchase order number, quantity of booklets, and manufacturing date.

Here is a checklist of the label dates reported so far. We expect that other dates exists — some dates may only be available in different geographic regions across the country. If you are collecting these we would like to hear about (and document) these items.



48¢ Flag Over Post Office			Item# 111154		65¢ Jewelry		Item# 111155	
PO#	4500002483	7/29/02 8/5/02			4500008423		11-04-02	
	4500007233	9/23/02 11-04-02 11-11-02 11-25-02 11-27-02			4500008576		11-06-02 11-08-02 11-11-02 11-15-02 11-19-02 12-26-02	
	4500008575	12-04-02 12-05-02 12-10-02 12-11-02 12-13-02 12-17-02 12-19-02 12-31-02 01-08-03 01-11-03 01-31-03			\$1.25 Sculpture		Item# 111156	
					4500008577		12-10-02 12-26-02	

Member Queries

Can you supply some insight into the following items, received from our membership:

Canada cancellation on foreign stamps

From BC — “I thought you would like to see this Canadian dateless cancel - used on foreign stamps!

Perhaps because the cancels applied in Tuvalu are so light, some clerk in Vancouver decided they needed to be made non-reusable, despite coming from another country.

I have never seen such a dateless mark before. Better than a pen cancel anyway....”



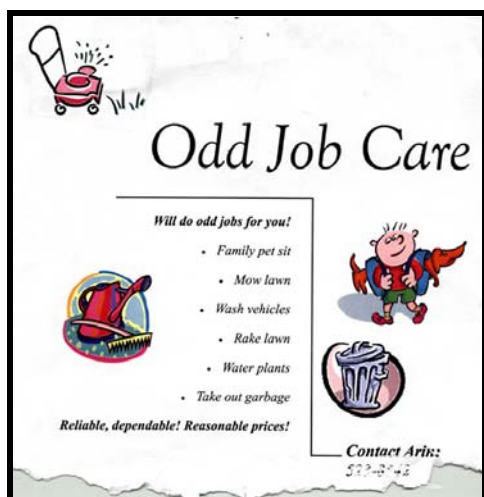
Advertising poster

From MB — “I wonder if you, or the readers of the *Corgi Times*, could help me with a problem regarding an unusual (in my limited experience) usage of postage stamps.

Our local post office has a small bulletin board located in the lock box foyer. The board is used by the community in general, for posting information about community events, etc. While standing in line at the post office wicket one day I found myself behind a young entrepreneur of the “odd jobs for money” variety. The boy asked the clerk if he could post his advertisement on the bulletin board. In reply, the clerk said that, although non-profit posters could be put up freely, anything of a commercial nature required the payment of a posting fee. I was delighted to see that the \$1.15 fee was acknowledged with postage stamps, placed on the back of the poster and cancelled. An example of revenue usage?

At a later point I inquired at the post office to see if I could quote a postal regulation regarding posting fees when writing up the poster in question. They agreed to look through postal regulation handbooks for a specific rule, but could not locate one. They are, however a very busy lot, and could perhaps not spare the time for a careful search of the regulations. They did say that this practice had been in effect “for as long as they could remember”.

This leaves me with two questions unanswered. First, does such a regulation regarding the posting of commercial material exist? If not, do other post offices have a similar policy?



Front of card



Back of card

Dealer News

Two items of interest have been seen in recent advertisements from Canada's two largest retail stamp dealers:

77¢ Basket Weaving 3-bar Tagging

Gary Lyon, of Bathurst, NB is advertising the 77¢ Basket Weaving (sc# 1929) with 3-bar tagging in the February 25, 2003 issue of *Canadian Stamp News*.

Prices are \$19.95 for a mint single, \$37.95 for a pair, and \$75.00 for a strip of 4. We previously illustrated a used copy in the Sep-Oct 2002 issue of the *Corgi Times*.



Sc# 1929
3-bar tagging

48¢ Year of the Ram Missing Gold

A pamphlet inserted in the mailing of Catalogue #230 from the Saskatoon Stamp Centre (received Feb 24/03) announces a major error on the 48¢ Year of the Ram stamp issued January 3, 2003. The pamphlet describes the error as coming "from a small group of sheets, found on Vancouver Island, British Columbia. Missing gold on left two columns due to shift in gold foil sheet as it was applied."

Their advertised price is \$395 for a mint single or \$795 for a left margin strip of 3 with the two left stamps missing the gold and the right stamp having the correct gold inscriptions.



Hook-tag Flaw – Update

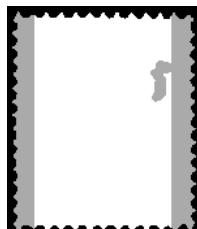
The last issue of the *Corgi Times* included an article describing the hook-tag flaw found on several stamp issues from the Environment Definitives.

Shortly after that issue was mailed I received an e-mail (from a *non*-member of the ESG) that included a photograph of this error on the 2¢ Western Columbine stamp (sc# 782) — previously unreported on this value!

This brings to **10**, the number of different stamp issues this flaw has been found on.



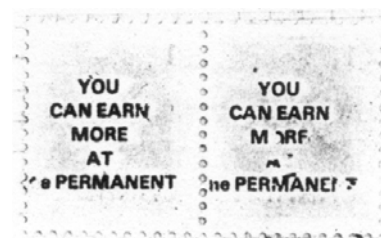
Sc# 782



Hook tag flaw

Unknown Underprint

Can any of our membership identify the illustrated *underprint* (?) found on the 1¢ Bottle Gentian stamp (sc# 705):



This example is one of a couple of *used* pairs, passed along from a fellow ESG member here in Winnipeg.

World Teacher's Day

Here is what appears to be a progressive colour shift across the pane on the 48¢ World Teacher's Day stamp released October 4, 2002 (sc# 1961).

On the examples that I have seen, there is a variance of the amount of 'shadow' seen around the left side of the two numbers in the value ('48') as you move across the pane. The left most column of stamps has the greatest shift while the rightmost column shows no shift at all.

I have heard reports of panes that show no shifts at all and shifts on panes where the stamps from the first column are normal but the stamps from the right column show the shift of colour (just opposite to the examples I have seen here in Winnipeg).



Sc# 1961

None of these shifts are big enough to warrant a second look; however, to see these different shifts on each column across the same pane of stamps was what intrigued me. Hopefully the pictures below will show off this phenomena... (colour images are posted on the ESG website).



from Column 1



from Column 2



from Column 3



from Column 4

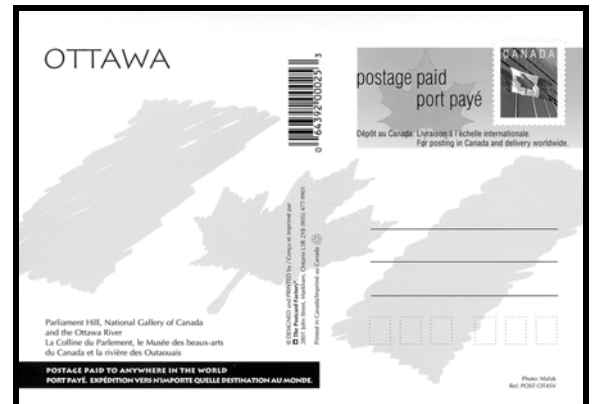
More Postcard Factory Prepaid Postal Cards on the Way

With 400 different PCF prepaid postal cards already documented, another 19 more scenes are scheduled to be released May 1, 2003.

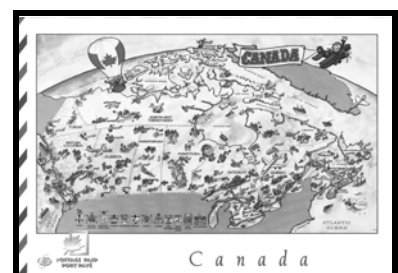
This has turned out to be a fascinating area of study that an unknown number of collectors across Canada are pursuing with vigour (and an open wallet).

There are over 150 different scenes. Many of these scenes come with different coloured pre-printed UPC barcodes and different *sticker* UPC barcodes. Each card costs C\$1.49 (plus GST) so they are not cheap.

There is a prepaid imprint on the address side with a scenic view of Canada on the other.



Check out <http://members.shaw.ca/candef/PCFcards/PCF-index.htm> for a checklist.



Paper Varieties of Wilding Definitives: Checklist

by: Robert J. Elias

All stamps in the 1¢ to 6¢ Wilding definitive series of 1954 to 1962/63 were printed by Canadian Bank Note Company Limited on paper manufactured by E.B. Eddy Company Limited [1]. Wildings were issued in a number of formats. These include post-office panes (regular untagged, precancelled untagged, official untagged, and Winnipeg-tagged), booklet panes, miniature panes, and coils (regular and precancelled) [2].

Two aspects of paper, its texture and fluorescence, are of fundamental importance in the classification and study of Wilding stamps. I have previously demonstrated that five textural types can be identified: nonribbed,

horizontally ribbed front, horizontally ribbed back, vertically ribbed front, and vertically ribbed back [3]. The paper may be nonfluorescent, or may exhibit “flecked” fluorescence for which five levels can be distinguished: very low, low, medium, high, and very high [4].

During my studies of Wilding definitives, I have examined a total of several hundred thousand used stamps (free of gum) from various sources. Cancellations on some stamps indicate that the material originated from across Canada and spanned the entire Wilding era. Every paper variety that I have found is marked by an “X” in the following checklist:

Format	Paper Variety*	1¢	2¢	3¢	4¢	5¢	6¢	Format	Paper Variety*	1¢	2¢	3¢	4¢	5¢	6¢		
untagged post-office panes	NR, NF	X	X	X	X	X	-	booklet panes	NR, NF	-	-	-	-	X	-		
	HRf, NF	X	X	X	X	X	X		HRf, NF	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	
	HRb, NF	X	X	X	X	X	-		HRb, NF	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	
	HRb, vIF	-	-	X	-	-	-		HRb, vIF	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	
	HRb, IF	-	-	X	-	-	-		HRb, IF	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	
	HRb, mF	-	-	X	-	-	-		HRb, mF	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	
	HRb, hF	-	-	X	-	-	-		HRb, hF	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	
	HRb, vhF	-	-	X	-	-	-		HRb, vhF	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	
	VRf, NF	X	X	-	X	X	-		miniature panes	VRb, NF	-	X	-	-	X	-	-
	VRb, NF	X	X	-	X	X	-			VRb, vIF	-	X	-	-	X	-	-
	VRb, vIF	X	X	-	X	X	-			VRb, mF	-	X	-	-	-	-	-
	VRb, IF	X	X	-	X	X	-			VRb, hF	-	X	-	-	-	-	-
	VRb, mF	X	X	-	X	X	-										
VRb, hF	X	X	-	X	X	-	coils	VRf, NF	-	X	-	X	X	-	-		
VRb, vhF	-	X	-	X	-	-		VRb, NF	-	X	-	X	X	-	-		
								VRb, vIF	-	X	-	X	X	-	-		
								VRb, IF	-	X	-	-	X	-	-		
								VRb, mF	-	-	-	X	-	-	-		
precancelled, untagged post-office panes	NR, NF	X	X	-	X	-	-	VRb, hF	-	-	-	X	-	-	-		
	HRf, NF	X	X	X	X	X	-	VRb, vhF	-	-	-	X	-	-			
	HRb, NF	X	X	X	X	X	-										
	HRb, vIF	-	-	X	-	-	-										
	VRb, NF	X	X	-	X	X	-	precancelled coils	VRf, NF	-	X	-	-	-	-		
VRb, vIF	X	X	-	X	X	-	VRb, NF		-	X	-	-	-	-			
VRb, IF	X	X	-	X	X	-	VRb, IF		-	X	-	-	-	-			
VRb, vhF	-	X	-	-	-	-	VRb, mF	-	X	-	-	-	-				
official, untagged post-office panes	NR, NF	-	X	-	X	X	-	* texture: NR = nonribbed HRf = horizontally ribbed front HRb = horizontally ribbed back VRf = vertically ribbed front VRb = vertically ribbed back fluorescence: NF = nonfluorescent vIF = very low flecked fluorescence IF = low flecked fluorescence mF = medium flecked fluorescence hF = high flecked fluorescence vhF = very high flecked fluorescence									
	HRf, NF	X	X	-	X	X	-										
	HRb, NF	X	X	-	X	X	-										
	VRb, NF	X	X	-	X	X	-										
	VRb, vIF	X	X	-	X	X	-										
VRb, IF	-	-	-	X	-	-											
Winnipeg-tagged post-office panes	HRb, NF	-	-	X	-	-	-										
	VRb, NF	X	X	-	X	X	-										
	VRb, vIF	X	-	-	-	-	-										
	VRb, mF	X	-	-	-	-	-										
	VRb, hF	X	-	-	-	-	-										
VRb, vhF	X	-	-	-	-	-											

Differences in the occurrence of paper varieties among the Wilding formats and denominations are readily apparent in this checklist. A new revelation is that all fluorescent varieties have ribbing on the back of the stamp. This is the first report of “flecked” fluorescence for stamps from 1¢, 2¢, 4¢ and 5¢ official post-office panes, and from 1¢, 4¢ and 5¢ precancelled post-office panes. I have seen precancelled 3¢ stamps with very low “flecked” fluorescence, but have yet to find one with a level of fluorescence that might correspond to the “HB” (“hibrite”) variety listed in the Darnell catalogue [5].

- [1] R.M. Fournier, K. Rose and M. Milos, 1996. *The Early Elizabethan Era, 1952-1972, Part I*. In M. Milos (ed.), Canadian Stamp Handbooks.
- [2] D.R. Harris, 1998. *1952-53 Karsh, 1954-62 Wilding, 1962-66 Cameo Definitives*.
- [3] R.J. Elias, 2003. *Paper Texture of Wilding Definitives*. *Corgi Times*, No. 64 (vol. XI, no. 4; Jan.-Feb. 2003), p. 58-60.
- [4] R.J. Elias, 2001. “fluoreSCALE”: *A Classification of Flecked Paper*. *Corgi Times*, No. 57 (vol. X, no. 3; Nov.-Dec. 2001), p. 37.
- [5] L. Rousseau and E. Darnell, 1999. *Darnell Millennium Stamps of Canada Catalogue*.

The Canadian Environment Definitives 1977–1987

by: *Robin Harris*

[This is the first in a series of articles looking back at this most interesting definitive series.]

The first-class letter rate in Canada increased from 10¢ to 12¢ on March 1, 1977. This rate change signified the start of the end of the “Caricature” definitives and resulted in the start of a new “Environment” definitive series. This series would last for 10 years.

This series consists of several groups of similar designs:

- * eight low-value **Wildflowers**
- * five medium-value **Trees**
- * four medium-value **Street Scenes**
- * seven high-value **National Parks**
- * seven first-class **Queen Elizabeth II**
- * five **Houses of Parliament** (first class and low-value)
- * eight **Maple Leaf** (first-class and low-value)



That seems simple enough — there are only 44 face different designs. However, couple these with different printers, printing formats, paper manufacturers, perfins, etc., etc. and the result is nearly 200 different varieties. More importantly, the vast majority of these are very easily identifiable. In this, and subsequent articles, I’ll point out these different varieties and just how easy they are to identify.

As I have written about in the past, the “common”, everyday usage stamps (ie. definitives) provide the most interest to the collector who studies stamps. Because many of the designs are in use for extended periods of time (ie. years instead of months as is seen by commemoratives), they are reprinted on numerous occasions. As such, subtle differences between each printing may exist. This is just what a collector is interested in.

Historical notes:

A number of important Canadian philatelic firsts and events happened during this series:

- < first Canadian definitive series to use multiple colours on the low-value stamps
- < first definitive series to have a face-different variety only available from a booklet
- < first definitive series to have a first-class letter rate stamp which did not depict the reigning monarch
- < first definitive series to use the “traffic-light” inscription on plate blocks
- < precanceled stamps were discontinued during this series
- < first Canadian stamp to be non-denominated appears
- < the post office department becomes a Crown corporation
- < the largest postal rate increase experienced in Canada occurs
- < different paper manufacturers exist on the same stamp design



This series began with the issue of a 12¢ Queen Elizabeth II value. Its most interesting trait was that it was Canada’s first multi-coloured first-class rate definitive. For stamp collectors, this was a dramatic change as we were not used to this, particularly after years of using either the 8¢ Centennial or 8¢ Caricature designs!

Variety Types:

Philatelists are a funny breed. Some of us (particularly myself) try to use any method we can to find as many differences between similar looking stamps. Why? In my instance, I have access to literally millions of modern-day Canadian used stamps. I find it particularly rewarding searching and studying these stamps finding unreported identification tips and varieties. These differences can take many forms: perforation, paper, gum, printers, tagging, etc.

During the ten years that the Environment definitives were around the following types of varieties occurred (many on the same stamp design):

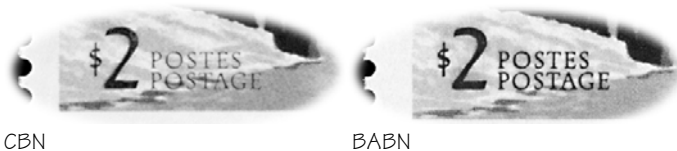
- < different printers using different **printing methods**. For example, the Canadian Bank Note Company used lithography to print the low-value wildflowers when they were first

released in 1977 while the British American Bank Note Company used photogravure when these designs began to be reprinted in 1979. These two printing techniques are easily separated by a visual inspection.



Left: CBN (lithography)
Right: BABN (photogravure)

- < different printers using the *same* printing method but resulting in two recognizable varieties. These occur three times on the high-value National Park stamps. The \$1 Glacier, \$2 Banff, and \$5 La Mauricie values were printed by both CBN and BABN. The inscriptions on the BABN stamps are more pronounced (thicker/darker) than those found on the CBN printings.



CBN

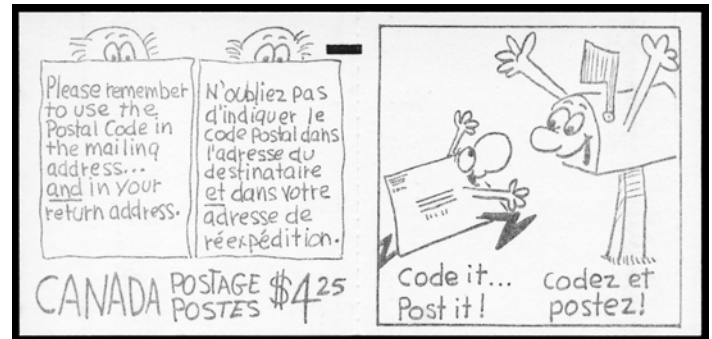
BABN

Also, the 12¢ Parliament and A (30¢) Maple Leaf in sheet format were printed by both printers. There are subtle differences in the ink tone, overall impression, and underlying paper between the two printings.

- < different **perforations** exist on the same design. Several values, such as the 14¢ and 17¢ Queen Elizabeth II and 30¢ and 32¢ Maple Leaf, were perforated 13x13⅓ in sheet version but exist perf 12x12½ from booklets (more importantly, the variety from the booklet can be found perf 'all around', an important consideration for the collector looking for non-straight edged copies).
- < **hibrite** stamps: two values have been found on hibrite paper: the 12¢ Parliament sheet and 14¢ Parliament coil. You will need an ultraviolet light to spot these, but it is well worth it - both are scarce.
- < different **paper manufacturers** were required because Abitibi-Price was unable to supply stamp-quality paper in 1983. Paper made in Great Britain by both Clark and Harrison were used on stamps in the

Environment definitives. Mint examples of Harrison paper can be easily differentiated because of the 'bluish-green' gum. Unfortunately, Abitibi and Clark paper both have clear gum and cannot be told apart without the aid of a plate inscription.

- < only one issue, the \$1 Fundy National Park, exists regularly issued in tagged and **untagged** formats. Yes, there are other issues that exist this way, but these are considered tagging errors.
- < **booklet** collectors shouldn't feel like they are being left out. Several vending machine booklets (with 10 different cover designs each) and a few 'large' over-the-counter booklets (with 5 different cover designs each) are available: the Queen Elizabeth and Maple Leaf designs appear in sheet and booklet formats. In addition, there are seven values that exist only from booklets - this was the first time in Canadian stamp history that this occurred. For collectors who like 'perf all around' stamps, this was a hard concept to overcome.



Front and back cover of booklet containing twenty-five 17¢ QE II stamps
Five cover designs exist.

That is a quick overview of some of the different things to look out for in the Environment definitives. If you really get serious about this series, then you will also want to track down the perfins, first day covers, in-period rate covers, and of course, errors.

Major errors include missing colours, imperforate, one-bar tagging and untagged stamps.

There are also some wonderful and fascinating **constant plate varieties** including *two* that appear on more than one stamp design — one of them actually occurs on *ten* different stamp designs.



Missing inscriptions on \$2 Banff



Low-Value Wildflowers

Although only eight face-different wildflower designs appeared, these produced 23 easily recognizable 'major' varieties.

- < the first six values (1¢, 2¢, 3¢, 4¢, 5¢, 10¢) were released April 22, 1977.
- < postage rate increases added two other values: a 12¢ in mid 1978 and a 15¢ value in the summer of 1979. Both were issued to meet the 3rd class (including greeting cards) postal rate.

All designs were effectively replaced by the low-value 'Artifact' definitives issued on October 19, 1982.

Thus, that gives us *five* years of usage for most of these values. During this time the printing contract for the sheet versions of these stamps switched from the Canadian Bank Note Company to the British American Bank Note Company. Since the two companies (at that time) used different printing methods (lithography vs photogravure) we have two distinct printings on the original six values.

In addition...

- < two of the values appeared in booklet format. Both stamps have a straight edge at either the top or the bottom.
- < as well, six of the values were released in precancel format (the last Canadian stamps to be so printed).
- < last but not least, the 10¢ value printed by CBN had a second plate number assigned which just happened to have a different perforation from the original printing.

Another subtle difference known to exist on the 1¢–10¢ BABN printings is a change in the width of the tag bars from 3½mm wide to 4mm wide. This occurred sometime in 1981. The tagging applied by BABN has very 'splotchy' edges, due to it being applied by photogravure. These varieties are *not* included in the totals listed above as they are a bit more difficult to identify because of this sloppy tagging appearance.

Wildflowers	Sheet		Booklet	Precancel	
	Lithography CBN	Photogravure CBN	Photo BABN	Litho CBN	Photo BABN
	Quantity	Quantity	Quantity	Quantity	Quantity
	250 12x12½	13x13⅓		12x12½	13x13⅓
1¢ Bottle Gentian	705	781	781a	705xx	
2¢ Western Columbine	707	782	782b		
3¢ Canada Lily	708	783		708xx	
4¢ Hepatica	709	784			
5¢ Shooting Star	710	785		710xx	
10¢ Slipper	711	711c	5c 10c	12c 1x 15c	
12¢ Jewelweed					712xx
15¢ Canada Violet		787	BABN		787xx

The Scott/Unitrade number is indicated for each variety.

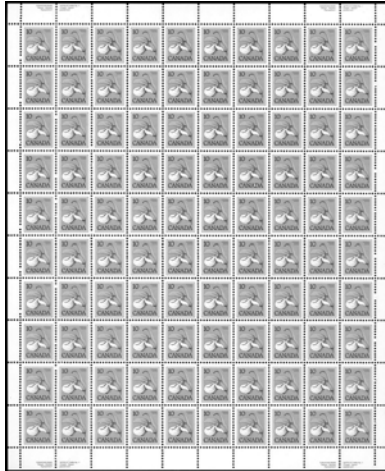
The first six wildflower values (1¢–10¢) were initially scheduled for a March 1, 1977 release, along with the new 12¢ Queen Elizabeth II design. Production difficulties postponed their release until April 22nd. This was the first time that low-value definitives in Canada were printed with multiple colours.

The inks used to print the lithographic "background" of the CBN stamps have a strong tendency to change colour when exposed to long periods of sunlight or ultraviolet light — be cautious when purchasing these so-called printing varieties.

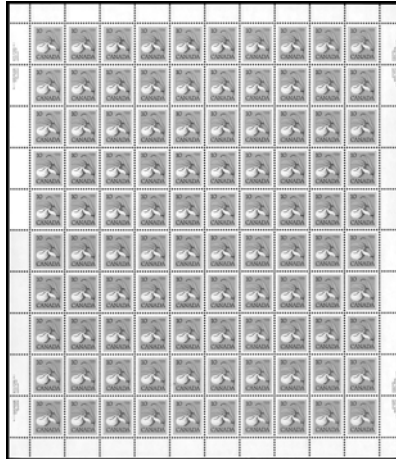
Wildflower Pane Layouts

The low-value wildflowers were issued in panes of 100 stamps.

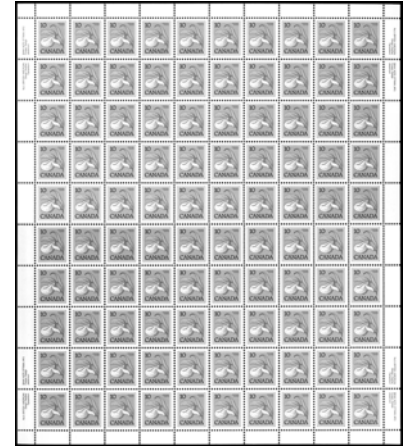
Illustrated are *philatelic* panes of 100. The *field stock* panes, distributed to all post offices, had the imprints trimmed off, resulting in shorter (or narrower) panes, respectively.



CBN pane of 100 (plate 1)
Imprints at top/bottom facing down



CBN pane of 100 (plate 2)
Imprints at side facing in



BABN pane of 100 (plate 1)
Imprints at side facing in

Booklet panes:

The 1¢ and 2¢ values were also issued in booklet form, as part of a 25¢/50¢ vending machine booklet, respectively. Both booklets come with 10 different cover designs. The 1¢ and 2¢ values were used to 'fill up' the panes. These stamps were printed by BABN and perforated 12x12½ whereas the BABN sheet stamps were perforated 13x13½.



BABN booklet panes
Left: 1¢ & 2¢ QEII
Right: 2¢ & 14¢ QEII

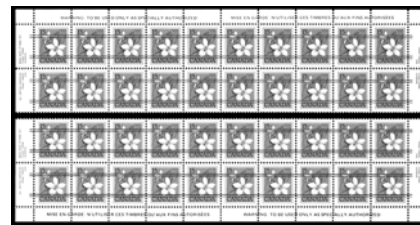
Precancels:

Six of the low-value wildflowers were released in precancel form.

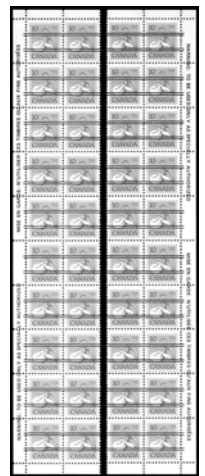
The 1¢, 3¢, 5¢, and 10¢ were printed by CBN and have two pairs of black bars spaced 7mm apart. The plate imprints were removed from the top and bottom selvedge. A precancel imprint (in black) was added to the left and right selvedge.

The 12¢ and 15¢ precancels were printed by BABN. Two pairs of bars are spaced 10mm apart. The precancel imprint was added to the top and bottom selvedge. The plate imprint was removed from the 12¢ value but was left on the 15¢ pane. For some reason, the colour of the precancel bars/imprint on the 12¢ is in red — the only non-black precancel bars used on an Elizabethan-era precancel.

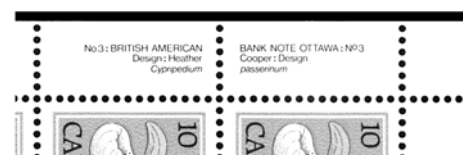
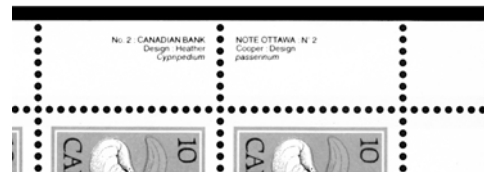
We will continue with other denominations in our next column. ♣



BABN precancel imprint blocks of 20
(top and bottom)



CBN precancel imprint blocks of 20 (left and right side)

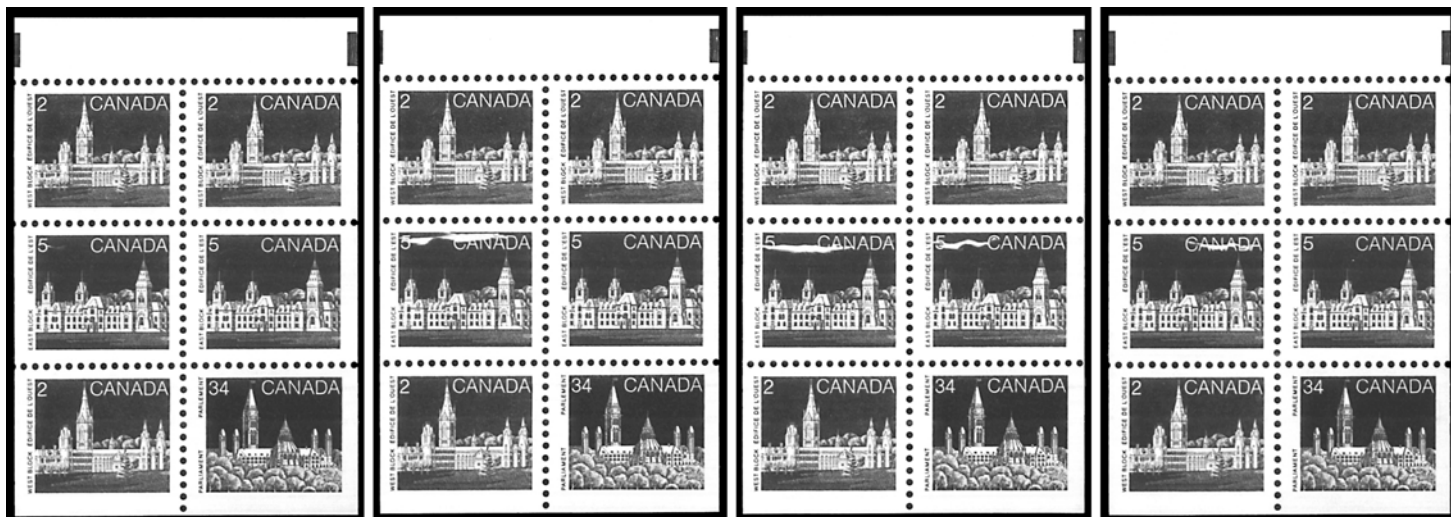


Pane imprints
Top: CBN plate 1 (1¢-10¢)
Middle: CBN plate 2 (10¢ only)
Bottom: BABN (1¢-5¢ pl 2, 10¢ pl 3, 12¢-15¢ pl 1)

'The Storm' on BK88

Back when the issue was relatively current, Kasimir Bileski described a very interesting *constant* plate variety that exists on BK88 — the 50¢ vending machine booklet containing 3x2¢, 2x5¢, and 1x34¢ Parliament stamps. The variety occurs on only the brown 5¢ Parliament (East Block) stamp (sc# 941).

Here is an illustration of these very elusive varieties, courtesy Brian Cannon:



Here is how Mr. Bileski described these varieties:

1. It comes from the east. There is a flicker of far-off lightning in the sky behind the left hand 5¢ stamp.
2. Swiftly it arrives and there is a roar as the lightning and thunder crashes over the buildings; the word Canada is almost obliterated.
3. On and on the storm rages in a furious outburst over the buildings on both 5¢ stamps.
4. A final flickering flash on one stamp and the storm departs.

The four varieties are always the same in format and would have remained the same for the entire printing session except every so often the results were examined, the varieties noted and likely the entire 72 subject plate was removed. ♣

BK74 Caricature Booklet

ESG member, Eirwyn Jones, has passed along the following pair of errors on the same pane.

This is BK74, the 25¢ vending machine booklet from the Caricature series. The pane is untagged **and** missing the bottom portion of 'Canada 1' on the second 1¢ Macdonald stamp in the first row.

He has not heard of this combination reported before — have you? ♣

