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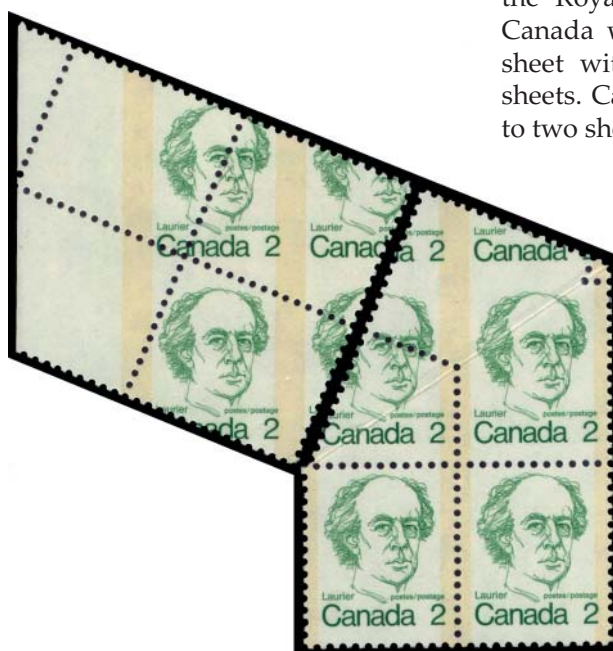
Copies mailed: 126

Canada Post Sell Outs

It seems that there have been some popular items released by Canada Post this year. Some of the “sold out” items include:

- Purdy’s Chocolate commemorative envelope (Feb 8/07). These are now selling on eBay for around US\$30.
- International Polar Year gutter strip of 8 (Feb 12/07). From what I understand, these can be created by cutting a full pane of 16.
- Year of the Pig uncut press sheet and postage-paid postcards (Jan 5/07). The uncut press sheet was reported to have a specific character missing from one of the Chinese inscriptions (on all sheets). These are now selling for around US\$90 on eBay.

The latest Canada Post *Details* magazine (mailed the last week of March) notes that the May 9 issue of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada will include an uncut press sheet with a printing of just 2,000 sheets. Canada Post has limited sales to two sheets per customer.



Caricature Definitives
See page 78

Year of the Pig “Pork Prices Dropping”

The latest mailing from Saskatoon Stamp Centre (Catalogue #248) that was received the last week of March, included a flyer with the above announcement.



It seems that more sheets of this error have surfaced and the price has dropped substantially ... from \$995 a single to \$395 a single. This is not too bad a price for such a dramatic error.

2007 Issue — TBA

The *Stamp Quest Club* mailing for March included a calendar noting the release dates for all 2007 stamp issues.

Included in this listing is a “To Be Announced” entry for June 29. Any ideas on what this stamp issue might be?

Stamp Quest is sponsored by Canada Post. “Membership includes mailings four times a year with album pages for each new stamp, *Perf and Friends* comic book, and contests with cool prizes.”

For more information, see www.stampquest.ca

In the same Stamp Quest package it notes that The Year of the Rat will be released Jan 8/08. This is the last installment in the Lunar New Year’s series.

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.

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

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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...

93¢ Flower Booklet

As we reported in the last issue of *Corgi Times*, the current 93¢ Flat-leaved Bladderwort Flower booklet pane exists with both “C” and “F” paper designations in the inscription. At the time it was noted that the “F” paper had been seen in post offices in Eastern Canada and was also distributed to those collectors having a “Standing Order” account with Canada Post.



We have since received reports that both types have now been seen at post offices all across Canada.

Envelopes

Also in the last *Corgi Times*, we reported that the Tourist Attractions and Flower design envelopes were available in the “size 8”. We can now report that the size 10 versions are available.

The card inserts in the 10-packs of both sizes advertise the Picture Postage™ stamps from Canada Post on the back. There is an error of description on the size 8 packages (in both the Flower and Tourist designs). It notes that the “popular #8 legal-sized envelopes...” Size 8 envelopes are not legal size! That is what the size 10 envelopes are.

• popular #8 legal-sized envelopes perfect for business use



Corgi Times

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Study Group Business

New members

(none)

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.

2007

Aug 31–Sep 2: **BNAPEX 2007**: Calgary, AB

Oct 12–14: **Royal 2007**: Toronto, ON

2008

BNAPEX 2008: Halifax, NS

Member Sightings

Royal 2007

We have received word that ESG member Dr. James Watt will be giving a special presentation on the current Flower definitive coils (50¢ onwards) at this year's *Royal *2007* Royale* stamp show being held in Toronto, ON from Oct 12–14. This particular talk is being sponsored by the Golden Horseshoe Regional Group of BNAPS.

Date and time to be determined.

Canadian Stamp News

Mirko Zatka, an ESG member and advertiser, has begun writing for the *Canadian Stamp News*. His first article of *Varieties & Errors* appeared in the March 20, 2007 issue. It is titled *In search of flawed Flower coil definitives*. It is a lengthy article on the first set of Flower coil definitives issued in December 2004. For those who do not subscribe to CSN, I happened to have updated the Flower listings on my website back on February 15 to better reflect the growing number of varieties that exist on these values (www.adminware.ca/phil_chk.htm).

New Postal Rates Book

Andrew Chung informs us that *The Postal Rates and Fees of The Elizabethan Era From Canada 1952–2005, Volume Two* has been completed (at 282 pages) and approval has been given by Canada Post. We expect to have the final copy available for printing any day now.

We have been advertising the first volume (Domestic Rates) here in the *Corgi Times* for the past year or so. This is the companion volume, featuring International Rates. There will be about 250 pages divided into three sections: Canadian Forces mail, United States of America, and International (non-USA).

You can order your copy(ies) by sending your cheque, payable to “Elizabethan II Study Group” to: Robin Harris, PO Box 104, Seddons Corner, MB R0E 1X0 Canada. Pricing for ESG members is C\$34.95; non-members is C\$49.95.

Please add postage/packaging: within Canada \$10; to USA \$13; International \$16.50 (surface).

For those have already ordered (and thanks to the many that included an order with their recent dues renewal), your copies will be delivered as soon as the book is off the press. Thanks for your patience.



Cover design not yet finalized — this is a mock up illustration

Canada Post 2006 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#
Nov 1	Christmas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 51¢ Madonna (booklet of 12) • 51¢ Christmas Cards (booklet of 12) • 89¢ Christmas Cards (booklet of 6) • \$1.49 Christmas Cards (booklet of 6) 	2183 2184 2185 2186
Nov 16	Permanent™ Stamps (accepted at the current basic domestic letter rate, forever) [all were 51¢ at time of issue] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “P” Spotted Coralroot wildflower (coil of 100) • “P” Queen Elizabeth II (booklet of 10) • “P” Flag over ...: five designs (booklets of 10 and 30) 	2187 2188 2189–93
Dec 19	Rate-change definitives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 93¢ Flat-leaved Bladderwort (coil of 50 and booklet of 6) • \$1.10 The Marsh Skullcap (coil of 50 and booklet of 6) • \$1.55 The Little Larkspur (coil of 50 and booklet of 6) • water-activated souvenir sheet of 4: (P) 51¢, 93¢, \$1.10 and \$1.55 stamps 	2195, 98 2196, 99 2197, 00 2194

Canada Post 2007 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 5	Year of the Pig <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 52¢ single • \$1.55 souvenir sheet • uncut press sheet • two Prepaid postal cards — one for each postage stamp design 	2201 2202
Jan 15	52¢ Celebration (booklet of 6)	
Feb 12	52¢ International Polar Year (pair and souvenir sheet)	
Mar 1	Lilacs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 52¢ pair in self-adhesive booklet of 10 • 52¢ pair in gummed souvenir sheet • two Prepaid postal cards — one for each postage stamp design 	
Mar 12	52¢ HEC Montreal (booklet of 8)	
Mar 15	Art Canada (Mary Pratt) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 52¢ <i>Jelly Shelf</i> single • 52¢ and \$1.55 <i>Iceberg in North Atlantic</i> in souvenir sheet 	
Apr 3	52¢ University of Saskatchewan Centennial (booklet of 8)	
May 3	Ottawa as Canada’s capital city <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 52¢ single (self-adhesive booklet of 8) • 52¢ and \$1.55 in souvenir sheet 	
May 9	52¢ Royal Architectural Institute of Canada: 1907–2007 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 x 52¢ in pane of 8 • uncut press sheet 	
Jun 22	Captain George Vancouver <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1.55 single • \$1.55 in souvenir sheet 	
Jun 26	52¢ FIFA World Youth Championships (pane of 16)	
Jun 29	<i>To be announced</i>	
Jul 6	52¢ Terra Nova National park	
Jul 20	52¢ Jasper National Park Centennial	
Jul 25	52¢ Scouting in Canada Centennial	
Jul 26	52¢ Chief Membertou (French settlement series)	
Sep 13	52¢ Law Societies of Saskatchewan and Alberta Centennials (2 stamps)	
Oct 1	52¢ Endangered Species (4 stamps)	
Oct 12	Low-value definitives: Beneficial Insects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1¢ Convergent lady beetle • 4¢ Golden-eyed Lacewing • 5¢ Cecropia Moth • 10¢ Northern Bumblebee • 25¢ Canada Darner (dragonfly) 	
Nov 1	Christmas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 52¢ Reindeer • 52¢, 93¢, \$1.55 Hope, Joy, Peace 	

Apr 5

Definitive reprints:

- 52¢ QE II booklet of 10, new C paper
- P Flag booklet of 30, barcode moved to back of booklet

An honour to serve stamp advisory group

By: Charles Verge

Originally published in The Ottawa Citizen on March 3, 2007

After seven years, my term with the Canada Post Stamp Advisory Committee comes to an end. It was an honour to be part of the selection process on the subjects and designs of Canadian stamps and to serve with the other volunteers. I had the pleasure to work with many qualified committee members over that period,

Along with suggestions from the public, various associations, the Governor General, government departments, foreign governments, the United Nations and its agencies, and Canada Post staff, committee members throw their own ideas into the mix. I am particularly proud of some which I had a hand in — and have had to apologize for one on a regular basis,

My successes include the 2001 World Figure Skating Championship block of four enlargements of skaters' feet portraying moves found in each of the four disciplines of the sport: pairs, men and women's singles and dance. Having taught figure skating to beginners many years ago, I believed it would be a benefit for young people to see these skating moves on stamps.

My other achievement, in my opinion, was convincing the committee to continue to issue flower stamps, building on the success of the earlier 1999 orchid and 2001 rose stamps. As a result, Canada Post has since issued the very popular and sought after tulips (2002), daffodils (2005) and this year's lilacs (issued March 1).

The committee is often avant-garde in its selections, and particularly so in its decision to honour living Canadians.

Oscar Peterson was the first, followed by three opera singers. I am sure there will be others. In my view, it is better to honour a lifetime of achievement while a person is still around to enjoy it. It also allows the stamp buying public to celebrate this nation's outstanding current personalities.

The composition of the committee changes every year and I have enjoyed the exchange of ideas, the collegiality and the excellent working relationships. I am particularly impressed with the mature participation of the two teens who joined the committee in May 2000. Canada Post was in the world vanguard in appointing young people to a stamp advisory committee.

I thank my fellow committee members, the three committee chairs I have served under and the staff of Canada Post who support the committee for their help, understanding and support. Charles Verge is post president of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. Write to him c/o The Citizen, 1101 Baxter M, Box 5020, Ottawa K2C 3M4. E-mail: vergec@sympatico.ca

Footnote (for *Corgi Times*):

The foregoing may sound a little innocuous and bland and not reveal much of what happens on the Committee but the reader should note that Stamp Advisory Committee members are bound by a non-disclosure agreement relating to the discussions of the Committee. I will be bound to this agreement for all stamps from 2001 until the 2008 programme is complete and some of the 2009 stamps have been issued. The Committee works that far ahead. When I arrived on the Committee in May 2000, it was still completing most of the 2001 programme. As I leave in March 2007, it is half-way into completing the 2009 programme and, in some instances, it has examined stamp subjects for years beyond to 2012."

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, PO Box 104, Seddons Corner, MB R0E 1X0, Canada.







Specialized Elizabethan Canada /
Booklets / New Issue Service /
Want Lists Welcome

mjzatka@shaw.ca P.O. Box 1181, Calgary, AB, T2P 2K9

Defective (?) Flower Coil Die Cutting

ESG member Mirko Zatka reports that P-Flower coil rolls found in boxes that are dated February 15th include one roll that appears to have been produced from a defective die cutting mat.

Some of the rows exhibit patterns where the die cutting is out of alignment. In other rows the left couple of "perfs" appear distorted.

The errors in the image to the right indicate where a very significant distortion or where breaks in the die cutting occur.

I tried to match the die cutting pattern on this roll to known examples from both die cuttings known to exist so far on this stamp ... but without any success.

Is this a new die cutting mat or damage to the existing one? If the latter, will this damage lead to a new pattern being seen on future rolls?

Back to the box dates. Andrew Chung reports a box dated February 13 that exhibits many of the same traits as illustrated here. But, a box dated March 7 does not show these anomalies. Has the problem been corrected already?

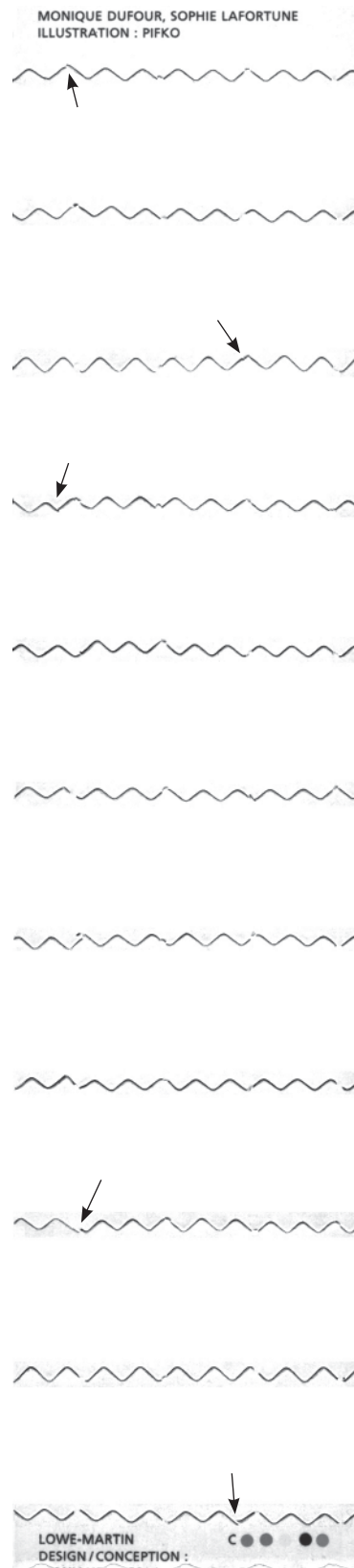
[I am still preparing detailed scans of every die cutting pattern on all of the Flower coils. This is a very lengthy project.]

Doubling on Flower Booklets

A constant printing variety exists on all three of the most recent Flower booklets (93¢, \$1.10, \$1.55) issued December 19, 2006.

It consists of a 2mm doubling of the black ink found at the bottom of the booklet on the cover side. This affects the UPC barcode and a very small portion of the left-most black line on the Canada Post logo.

On the copies I have seen it is most prominent on the \$1.10 value. The bundles of booklets that I have examined in the Winnipeg area suggest that these occur on every second booklet.



Articles Needed
Can you help?

Letters from Home

by: John Burnett, OTB

As I have mentioned in previous articles I did for many years correspond with my mother who lived in Vancouver, British Columbia. My mom was a sympathetic collector and so would always endeavor to frank her envelopes and parcels with the current commemorative stamps.

I still claim that Canadian commemorative stamps used in period (not five years after their release and sold at a discount to commercial establishments) are going to prove to be rare in the future. I especially believe this will be true of pieces paying some of the really crazy rates that have started to pop up in Canada over the last few years.

Today's example is a simple one. I had given my mom a couple of boxes of envelopes and paper for Christmas one year and she sent letters back to me and this one is a gem.

Pictured nearby is a Jean Sauve commemorative stamp, Canada Specialized 1509. These stamps were produced in a sheet of 20, with each stamp having a tab to the right. The sheet is shown in figure 2 and a close up of a couple of stamps is shown in figure 3 where two of the tabs are clearly visible.

Each of the tabs is different and so the number of potential collectible combinations is huge.

My cover being addressed to the United States also has three edible fruit definitive stamps affixed to make up the 50¢ rate. I wonder today how difficult these would be to find used commercially in period. I dare say they might not exist except in my collection.

I urge each of you when using Canada Post to use current commemorative stamps on your mail, you are feeding the hobby twenty years down the road.



Figure 1



Figure 3
Different tabs

Figure 2
Full pane



1998 Birds of Canada Press Sheet Combinations

by: Georg Gerlach

This article was originally published in the Calgary Philatelist #32 in October 1998. Originally the quantities of press sheets estimated to have been broken up was 500. This has been revised downward significantly to only 85 or 1% of the unsigned press sheets printed. It is still unclear if all the press sheets from this issue were sold. The quantities issued in 1999 were much lower at 5000 unsigned and 1500 signed.

1998 marks the third year that Canada Post has issued a press sheet associated with the Birds of Canada issue. The 1998 Press Sheet has an identical layout to the 1997 Press Sheet and was issued on February 10, 1998. It again provides stamp collectors with numerous gutter pair and block combinations. As in 1997, 8500 of the 10000 press sheets were unsigned and sold at face value (\$54.00). The remaining 1500 press sheets were signed and numbered and were priced higher (\$89.95). Unlike the 1997 issue which sold out very quickly, neither the signed nor unsigned press sheets were sold out as of mid-June 1998, and were still available from the Philatelic office in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. The press sheets were printed in a 3-horizontal by 2-vertical sheet of 20 stamps format. All the press sheets have the stamp colours printed on the top selvage as colour bars in two primary rows with a grey-tone row in between.

Based on my own press sheet purchases, there are two distinctly different printings of the press sheets, noticeable on the upper row of colour bars. Type 1 was purchased in Calgary from both the main postal outlet as well as the outlet on 4 Avenue and 3 Street SW on the first day of issue. Type 2 was purchased from Canada Post in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, and arrived approximately 3 weeks after the stamps were issued. Another press sheet was purchased from Antigonish in mid-June 1998 and was also Type 2. Based on the few sheets I've seen, Type 1 appears to occur only on unsigned sheets supplied from Antigonish. The variation between the two types occurs in the upper row of colour bars in both the upper left and upper right corners of the press sheets. The two types can be collected as corner blocks.

The following is a description of the colour bar variance between both types. It is useful to look at the Canada Post COLLECTIONS booklet (Spring/Printemps 1998) as it clearly shows Type 2 on page 3. The differences between the two types can be seen on both the upper left and upper right corners.

Type 1: Upper left corner – Beginning from the left above the light grey bar there is a ¼ width pink bar adjacent to a ¾ width purple bar adjacent to a full width medium grey bar. The remaining colour bars are the same for both types.

Upper right corner – Beginning from the right sheet edge, there is a ¼ width black bar adjacent to a ¾ width medium grey bar, adjacent to a salmon coloured bar, adjacent to a dark grey bar adjacent to a white bar. The remaining colour bars are the same for both types

Type 2: Upper left corner – Beginning from the left above the light grey bar there is a ½ width light blue bar adjacent to a ½ width purple bar, adjacent to a full width medium grey bar as in Type 1.

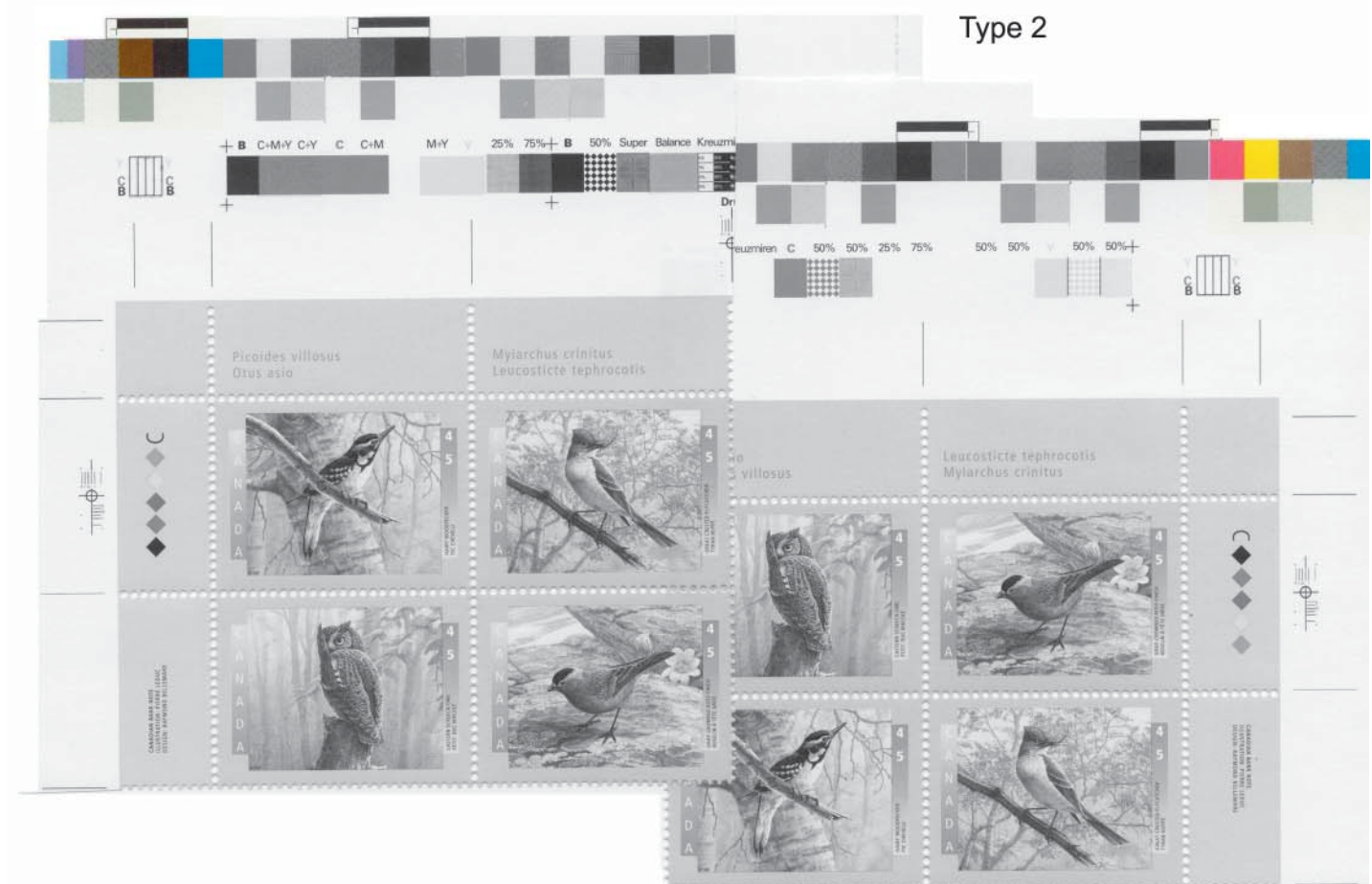
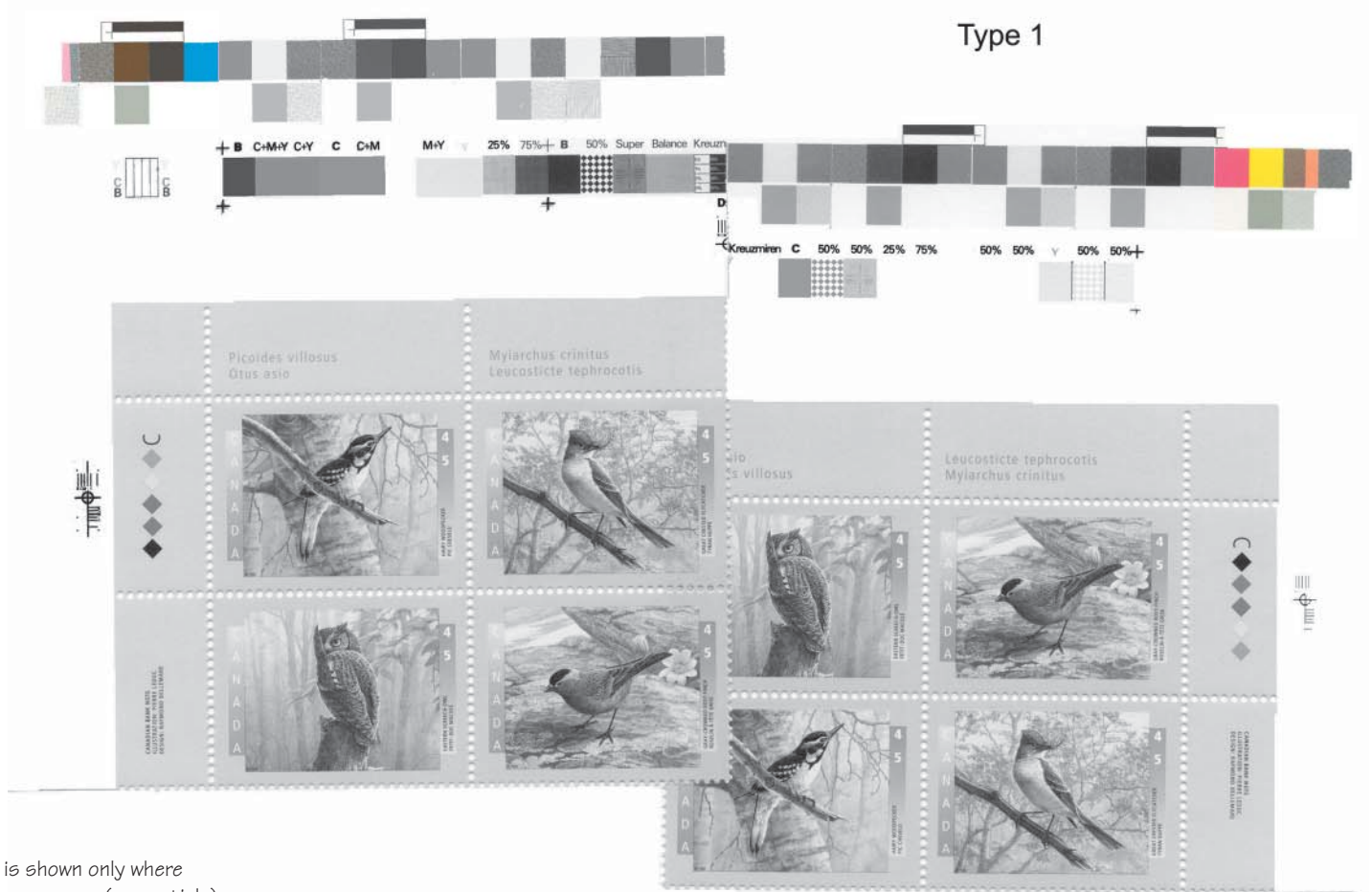
Upper right corner – From the right edge the colours are ¼ width black bar adjacent to a blue bar, adjacent to a grey bar. The remaining bars are the same.

This discovery was quite unexpected and raises a number of questions about how these stamps were printed, and what would make the printers change the colour bar order. I would very much like to hear from anyone who can shed some light on this unusual occurrence.

It may be that one type represents the normal press run and for some reason a second press run was needed to supply philatelic needs. Why anyone would go through the work of making this colour bar change for such a small number of sheets is truly a mystery to me. Having said that, the quantities of each type make these much rarer than the 1997 issue.

I would suggest that Type 1, which was acquired locally, is the less common of the two types. This is at least partially supported by the fact that I was able to acquire Type 2 both on the date of issue and in mid-June 1998. I have not been able to confirm whether other cities such as Toronto, Montreal or Vancouver received Type 1 or Type 2 in their local post offices. If anyone has some more information, please let me know.

Apart from the press sheet differences described above, my primary interest in this issue revolves around postally-used gutter pairs and recognizable press sheet combinations on cover. It is hard to estimate how many press sheets were broken up to create gutter pairs and blocks, but based on only a handful of dealers offering them, I would say that less than 1% (*I had originally estimated 500 press sheets at the time of the original article published in the Calgary Philatelist #32*) of



the unsigned press sheets were broken up. Given this small number Table 1 represents my estimate of the potential number of various combinations that may exist.

Without knowing the exact number, I would estimate that around 500 press sheets (signed and unsigned) still remain unsold as of the middle of June 1998.

If we assume that only about 85 of the total 10,000 Press Sheets have been broken up by collectors and dealers to obtain gutter pair and block combinations, the following represents the quantities of the various gutter pairs and blocks available to collectors. (*Certainly additional press sheets can be broken up to provide MNH gutter pairs and blocks but it is not possible to obtain in period used material*)

Gutter centre blocks (2 per Press Sheet)	170
Vertical gutter pairs (Hairy Woodpecker)	85
Vertical gutter pairs (Great Crested Flycatcher)	85
Vertical gutter pairs (Gray Crowned Rosy-Finch)	255
Vertical gutter pairs (Eastern Screech-Owl)	255
Horizontal gutter pairs (Rosy-Finch – Woodpecker) w/colour symbols	340
Horizontal gutter pairs (Rosy-Finch – Woodpecker) w/o colour symbols	340
Horizontal gutter pairs (Flycatcher – Screech-Owl)	680

In addition there would be 85 matched sets of corner blocks. However, given that there are two different colour bar types, I would estimate that of the total perhaps 20 are Type 1 and 65 are Type 2. My estimate of the number of vertical gutter pairs assumes that all the gutter centre blocks are left intact.

As can be seen from the summary above, the quantities are very small. I have further assumed that most will remain MNH and that only a very small number will be cancelled. Of the 85 press sheets I've assumed may be broken up, I believe fewer than 20% of these stamps will be cancelled. I also believe that less than a quarter of the cancelled combinations (5% of the total estimated) will be used "in period" and remain on cover. In period, for me, represents the period within the first year of issue or until a rate change occurs, whichever comes first?

These numbers are extremely small and as with the 1997 issue will no doubt mean high prices in the coming years for good used (with discernable date) as well as on cover material. Based on the numbers above, it is likely that there will be combinations where fewer than 5 to 10 in-period postally used covers will exist. Even the common Flycatcher – Screech-Owl horizontal gutter pairs will likely be used on fewer than 40 covers. A modern rarity in the making and one that catalogues should definitely include in their listings.

The reason I find these combinations so interesting on cover is that they can readily be used on overseas mail. As of mid-June 1998 the overseas letter rate remains at 90 cents (less than 20 grammes) and thus lends itself to the use of all gutter pairs to pay the proper rate required. Used gutter pairs could also be obtained from postally used oversized envelopes mailed within Canada which require 90 cents. Gutter blocks and corner blocks could also be obtained postally used on heavier letters to overseas destinations where the current rate is \$2.25 for 50 to 100 gramme items. It is also possible to use these combinations on registered or special delivery covers. Thus, getting these stamps on cover having paid the correct rate is certainly feasible. Whether you'll ever see any is the question, and yet these combinations are available at face value and could be used by anyone to mail their letters.

Other interesting items will be covers with individual or pairs of stamps having the colour bars attached. Such stamps will be from the top selvage of the press sheets and, while being an awkward size, are feasible to use on larger envelopes. Such colour bars have long been popular with collectors in other countries, and offer another opportunity for collecting stamps from this issue. Even stamps from the lower, left and right edges are distinguishable from the normal stamps because they have a white bar on the selvage.

It will be very interesting to see whether the Darnell and Unitrade catalogues capture these combinations, mint, used, and on cover. They will definitely be scarce. I am very interested in hearing from anyone who has these stamp combinations on cover or postally used, and those that were lucky enough to purchase some of the Type 1 press sheets. At this juncture I would estimate that only a small percentage of the total number of press sheets printed are Type 1. Could someone confirm or contradict that assumption? Once again Canada Post confirms the old adage: Never a dull moment.

Table 1:
Quantities of 1998 Birds of Canada Press Sheet Combinations

Unsigned press sheets	8,500	issued
Signed press sheets	1,500	issued
Total	10,000	

It seems like Yesterday — 50 Years ago

Here is a look back at 50 years ago in Canadian philately...

1957 was a relatively busy and expensive year, compared to previous years that is. The ten commemoratives that Canada issued in 1957 had a total face value of 60¢ (1956 saw four commemoratives with a face value of just 19¢).

The 1957 Commemoratives



5¢ Recreation Sports
Mar 7/57



5¢ Loon
Apr 10/57



5¢ David Thompson
Jun 5/57



5¢ / 15¢ UPU Congress
Aug 14/57



5¢ Mining
Sep 5/57



5¢ Royal Visit
Oct 10/57

All of the stamps were printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company. The large-sized commemoratives were printed in sheets of 200 subjects and released to post offices in panes of 100 stamps; the smaller stamps were printed in plates of 400 subjects in four panes of 50.

The Recreation Sports issue was the first se-tenant stamp set issued by Canada.

It was a very “monochrome” year. The Recreation Sports and David Thompson issues were printed in blue; the UPU Congress were printed in dark blue; the other three designs were printed in black.



Recreation Sports
Full pane of 50

Misperforated Bookbinder Stamps form the Handicrafts Series Offered for Sale in Eastern Mail Auctions

by: *Joseph Monteiro*

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

On April 29, 1999, Canada Post issued a new definitive series depicting Canadian handicrafts. The eight stamps -- 1-cent to 25-cents -- in the series depicts the skills of a artistic bookbinder, a ironworker, a glassblower, an oyster grower, a weaver, a quilter, a woodworker and a leather worker. These stamps were designed by Monique Dufour and Sophie Lafortune with photography by Jean-Pierre Beaudin. They were initially printed by Ashton Potter in panes of 100 on Tullis Russell Coating paper using five colour lithography. The adhesive used on the stamps is PVA gum.

Since the first printing, a second printing occurred in 2001 by Canadian Bank Note. The printing by Canadian Bank Note has occurred more than once. The first one occurred without any barcodes and the second one occurred with barcodes. The misperforation offered for sale was from the second printing by Canadian Bank Note.

1-cent Bookbinder

The 1-cent stamp depicts the decorative art of bookbinding, a skill which rose to prominence during the Middle Ages. The stamp is printed in black, white and yellow. Marginal inscriptions that appear on the 1-cent pane are at the right and left in each of the four corners. The perforation run through the selvage separating the colour code from the inscriptions on the right and left of the pane. However, the perforations do not go to the top and bottom on the pane, so as to avoid going through the bar code. The colour code and the text of the inscription of the Canadian Bank Note printings on the lower left corner (bottom to top) are indicated hereafter:

C O O O O O Canadian Bank Note
Design: Monique Dufour,
Sophie Lafortune
Photo: Jean-Pierre Beaudin

Description of the Misperforated Error

The 1-cent misperforated error was offered for sale by Eastern Auctions Ltd. in its mail auction of October 11, 2006. A picture of the bottom two rows offered for sale were shown on page 45. The misperforated error was described as follows in lot 2582:

*PB1673i 1¢ Bookbinding lower margin cross sheet block of twenty showing
a nice misperforation error, the vertical perfs are shifted a full 5mm to the left,
VF NH showpiece.....Photo Est 500.00

The vertical perforations are shifted to the left and the horizontal perforations are shifted down. Both the shifts appear with a slight slope. The vertical perforations slopes down from right to left and the horizontal perforations slopes sideways from the right to the left. As a result, the perforation shift for stamps in the bottom of the pane offered for sale have a shift to the left about 5-6mm and a shift down of about 1.5-2mm. The effect of the two perforation shifts are quite impressive.

The perforation shift to the **left** causes parts of the design of the stamp to be cut off from the right side of the stamp of the stamp and to appear on the left side of the stamps, except those in the first column. The stamps in the first column or on the left side of the pane are of particular interest since these stamps include part of the marginal inscription and do not have the value of the stamps on them. In addition, only part of the name of the country appears on the stamps. The other stamps in the pane as a result of the misperforation have the value appearing on the left side of the stamp rather than the right side i.e., the value which is missing on the right side of the stamp appears on the left side. The perforation shift **down** does not affect the design of the stamp as it is marginal since it does not cut the design.

Concluding Remarks

Since the perforator perforates both the horizontal and vertical perforations simultaneously a slope in the horizontal row of perforation means a slope in the vertical column of perforation. This is because the row of horizontal pins and column of vertical pins are placed at right angles to each other. Given the slope, I suspect that the misperforated error pane came from the second row and first column in the sheet. If the entire sheet was misperforated, I suspect the pane in the third column would reveal a more dramatic misperforation with regard to the horizontal perfs as it would cut into the design of the stamps. Likewise, the pane in the second row and third column would reveal more dramatic perforations with regard to both horizontal and vertical perforations.

Bibliography

1. *Eastern Mail Sale*, October 11, 2006, p. 45.

Unusual Misperforated Stamp Offered for Sale by R. Maresch & Son

by: Joseph Monteiro

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

Introduction

Maresch & Son offered an interesting misperforated stamp in its auction Sale of October 25, 2006. The misperforated stamp is interesting for two reasons: the stamps in the fourth column are longer than the stamps in the first column; and the stamps in the fourth column shows three values, perhaps the only Canadian stamps which shows the value thrice.

The misperforated stamp was the 10¢ Fur stamp issued on October 2, 1950. The Fur trade and Canada have a long history. Much of Canada's early history as a trading nation is associated with the fur trade which was exported to New York, Paris and London to satisfy the appetite of the burgeoning fashion industry.

10-cents Fur

The 10-cents stamp depicts an Indian woman drying beaver pelts on stretchers at an Indian encampment near James Bay. On the right of the pelts and the Indian woman is a teepee shown against an enchanting winter background. The stamp was printed by Canadian Bank Note Co. in brown and white colours in a pane format of ten rows and five columns. Marginal inscriptions appear in one corner of each pane or four corners of the sheet given the printing practice of that time. The inscription reads:

CANADA'S FUR RESOURCES
RICHESSSES DU CANADA EN FOURRURES
CANADIAN BANK NOTE CO. OTTAWA. No 1

Two plates of this stamp were printed on plain paper. The quantity of stamps printed was 115 million and the stamps were perforated using a line perforator with a 12 gauge. The size of the stamp is approximately 37.7mmx26mm.

Description of the Misperforated Error

The 10-cents misperforated error was offered for sale by Maresch & Son in its auction of October 26, 2006. A picture of part of the last two columns offered for sale were shown on page 107. The misperforated error was described as follows in lot 1945:

301 Var: 10¢ Fur, LR corner margin imprint vertically MISPERFORATED BLOCK OF 12, l.h., UL stamp in selvedge, otherwise n.h, Est. 200+ PHOTO

First, the vertical perforations are shifted to the right so that the perforation separates the 10 and the c. The shift is approximately 5mm and from the illustration shown does not show a slope. As a result, the stamps in the last column have 5mm of the blank selvedge as part of it on the right and part of the design on the left is missing. Second, the stamps in the fourth column are 42.5mm. The stamps in this column are much longer vertically than the stamps in the last column (37.5). In addition, the stamps in this column contain the missing part of the design of the stamps in the first column. This together with the fact that the perforation on the left side of the stamps in the fourth column are in the normal position suggests that the stamps in the first three columns of the pane are normally perforated. It also suggests that the misperforation was caused because the last two perforating wheels on the rod holding them moved to the right during the perforating process.

On line perforators, each wheel is attached to the perforating rod or shaft by a screw. The wheels on the perforating shaft are adjustable so as to perforate stamps of different sizes. The screws occasionally become loose during the perforating process and move resulting in misperforated errors. From the misperforation, one would have to conclude that the second last perforating wheel moved more than the last wheel to create the two misperforated stamps of unequal size.

Concluding Remarks

These misperforated errors offered for sale are interesting because there are really two misperforated variety of stamps rather one. The one in column five is 37.8mm horizontally and the one in column four is 42.5mm horizontally. It is also interesting because it is the perhaps the only misperforated stamps with the value appearing three times on it, apart from overprinted stamps.

Bibliography

1. *Auction Sale*, R. Maresch & Son, Sale 417-419, October 25-October 26, 2006, p. 68 and p. 107.

Caricature Definitives

from the
John Hillmer Collection

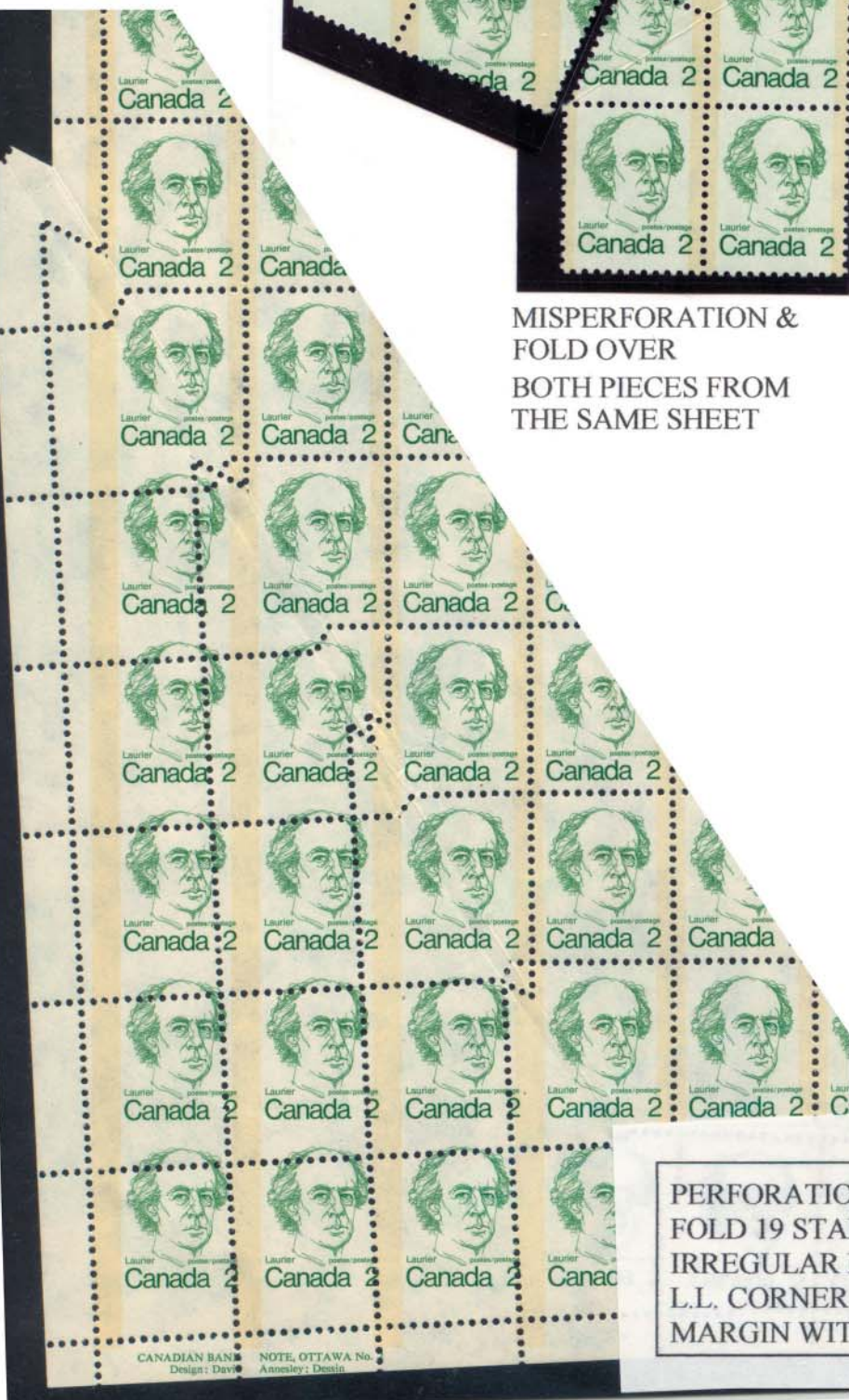
Special thanks to ESG member John Hillmer for allowing us to share in his Caricature definitives exhibit. This page shows examples from three of his exhibit pages. I have cropped two of the images (they are actually full panes) to fit on this page.



MISPERFORATION &
FOLD OVER
BOTH PIECES FROM
THE SAME SHEET



DOUBLE H-COMB PERFORATION
LEFT MARGIN AND 1ST ROW
PERFORATION GAP 7TH ROW
FINE GREEN LINES DOCTOR
BLADE FLAW 10TH ROW.



PERFORATION PAPER CREASE OR
FOLD 19 STAMPS HAVE
IRREGULAR PERFORATIONS
L.L. CORNER ETC; EXTRA PAPER IN
MARGIN WITH FULL IMPRINT L.L.

3



PERFORATION JUMP H COMB
PERFORATOR CAUSED 5TH ROW
TO BE 26.5MM.

6TH & 7TH ROW HORIZONTAL
PERFS CUTTING FOREHEAD. 7TH
ROW SHORT 21.5MM.

3RD & 9TH ROW JUMP & OUT OF
LINE VERTICAL ALSO ROW 7.



PREPRINTING CREASES FROM DIFFERENT SHEETS

