

CORGI TIMES

THE ELIZABETHAN II STUDY GROUP NEWSLETTER

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Capitalizing on the winter blues the third Great Western Stamp Show (Bourse) was held at the Richmond Inn in Richmond, B.C. on Feb. 14-16, 1997. I did not check the dealer count but it must have been in the 25 to 30 range. Dealers attending ranged all across Canada from New Brunswick in the east to Vancouver Island in the west. The weather cooperated beautifully as it poured rain (non-stop) all day on Friday and let up but with a little of everything (except snow) the remaining days. It was the largest crowd ever and for certain this is now an annual event. There was an awful lot packed into the three days: Ron Leith's Philatelic Auctions were spread over Friday (Stamps) and Saturday (Postal History and Covers) evenings; two Dealers ran Bid Boards during the show; a Canada Post Office was in operation; given the range of material offered by the dealers it is difficult to imagine anyone not finding some material of interest. As usual a few of the items I acquired will appear in this and subsequent issues.

After a great deal of thought I have decided to supplement the regular feature of the *PLANNING CALENDAR* with a new calendar featuring *BOURSE OPPORTUNITIES*. Perhaps needless to say, leading this new category will be the *Great Western Stamp Show*. Others will be added as listing criteria is formulated and knowledge of the events is obtained. Help in identifying appropriate listings is solicited.

For over the past year we ran a series of articles on Scott #723 - the 50¢ Prairie Street Scene issue from the Environment Series. I am not sure

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it is possible to list all of the varieties and errors which exist of this stamp. Certainly it has provided many hours of enjoyment to a large number of collectors. In the article by Cecil Coutts (Page 10, Vol. IV) we learned the town of Austin, Manitoba was the subject of the stamp. Last summer, Robin Harris, on a vacation drive, stopped in Austin and took the enclosed picture of the scene shown on the stamp. He has been kind enough to donate a copy of the photo to each member to add to their #723 holdings. Thank you very much Robin. (Editor's note: Robin and his father are very active in supporting youth clubs in the Winnipeg area. I am sure they would welcome a donation of material for use in this work. Send any material, not just Canadian, to Mr. R. Robin Harris, P. O. Box 35026, Winnipeg, MB R2K 4J9 Canada).

This issue features an especially thought provoking article by Leopold Beaudet on Fake Perforations on Elizabethan Stamps. It is an excellent article and one every serious Elizabethan collector should read. It is the longest article we have published. Spreading it over two issues was considered. In my opinion, doing so, would lose much of the train of logic of the article. In addition, we have some excellent material supplied by John Aitken which is difficult to show in a normal issue. Accordingly, this issue has been expanded to 28 pages. The next issue will revert to normal size.

With this issue the number of copies being mailed has recovered and is at a new high. We have two new members to report:

Mr. Edmund (Ed) A. Harris, 620 75 Ave. NW, Calgary, AB T2K 0P9. Interest area: Entire Elizabethan II Period (Selectively); Rate covers, used blocks, plate blocks, coils and CDS. (Ed has been a member for some time as he was serving the Study Groups in an official BNAPS capacity. Now he has changed his status to regular member and we are very pleased to have Ed on board).

Mrs. Gleneta L. Hettrick, Grand Manan PO Box 89, Grand Harbour, NB E0G 1X0. Interest area: General Canadian with special interest in Canadiana.

We want to welcome Doug Lingard - the new Vice President- Study Groups effective Jan. 1, 1997. He is an accredited Canadian National Judge, has among other interests a passion for flag cancels, and is an avid supporter of BNAPS. It was a pleasant surprise to see Doug in Richmond combining business with a bit of pleasure.

The last issue of TOPICS (Vol. 53 - No. 4) reprinted my comments on the new BNAPS Judging Recommendations (Vol. IV - whole no. 23, pages 77/78) along with a response to that article by Mike Street, now past president of BNAPS. Since writing my comments several members of the study group have either commented in person or written to indicate their agreement with those comments. In one or two instances I am aware Mike has also received letters direct from members of the study group.

Mike and I have had a few discussions on the subject and while I have not changed my mind I accept that regardless of how the Rules are written the intent is for modern material to have an equal chance to qualify for higher level awards the same as early Canada classical material. As written I still do not feel this intent is clear. But, as the

by: John Jamieson - Saskatoon Stamp Centre

Chinese-Canadian "YEAR of the OX"

MISSING "GOLD" ERROR

SOUVENIR SHEETS

In late January Canada issued this stamp commemorating the contributions our many Chinese-Canadians have made to the growth of this country over the last century. Shortly after it was released we received a call from an individual in British Columbia who had discovered a pair of these in the stocks of their local post office which was completely missing the gold colour. The inscriptions "Canada 45" which are normally found across the purple strip at the bottom of the stamp were completely missing. As well, the Chinese character "fu", which means "good fortune", "happiness", "well being", and "absence of hardship", which appears on the Red diamond at the top of the stamp, was also missing. I certainly hope the absence of this symbol is not a bad omen? It certainly was "good fortune" for the lucky discoverer who received a rich reward for their discovery. This error pair came from one of the "Year of the Ox" souvenir sheet of two stamps issued on January 7, 1997. Unfortunately, the discovery was not made until the lucky individual had stripped off the margins of the souvenir sheet in preparation for putting the two stamps on envelopes. That was when they noticed that something was wrong. They called us looking for an offer and it was a matter of a couple of days before a deal was made and the stamps arrived.

WHAT CAUSED THIS STRIKING ERROR?

Canada Post produced 2,000,000 of the souvenir sheets each containing 2 Year of the Ox stamps. They were printed in larger printer's sheets each containing 12 of the small souvenir sheets. The background colours are printed on the large, high-speed, web press on a continuous reel of paper which prints everything except the gold inscriptions. The stamps coming off the end of this press are cut into large sheets each containing 12 of the small souvenir sheets of 2. These are then fed into a sheet-fed press where the gold inscriptions are added. Undoubtedly, two of these sheets stuck together as they went through this second press. The result was the top sheet received the proper gold inscriptions while the second sheet, the one these error stamps came from, received absolutely none of the gold ink.

ARE THERE MORE? There must be at least 11 more Year of the Ox Souvenir Sheets of 2 Missing the Gold, the other 11 souvenir sheets from this one large printer's sheet.

WHERE ARE THEY? That is our question for you. We can't believe anyone could use these without noticing the error. After all, there is no denomination on the stamps so what value would they be for mailing a letter? They must be out there somewhere in the hands of some other lucky Canada Post customers.

Chinese-Canadian "YEAR of the OX"



MISSING "GOLD" ERROR SOUVENIR SHEETS



saying goes, the proof is in the pudding.

One of the reasons I put together my exhibit of Canada - Red Dues; The Stamps and Their Usage to show at BNAPEX '96 in Ft. Worth was to test how the new system worked. Before the show I was asked locally what award level I expected to receive and my answer was the "exhibit is a vermeil but at BNAPS it will get a silver." As previously reported it did receive a silver with Felicitations and in two subsequent U. S. shows, one a WSP show, it received Vermeils with an AAPE pin at the WSP show. While I thought the judging at BNAPEX was a bit lacking I have absolutely no argument with the award level.

We should each keep in mind that while proof of the system is in the pudding we will never have a satisfactory answer, or a comfortable feeling we know the answer, until we have served a reasonable number of puddings.

The worst possible practice would be to continue in print a discussion of the rules. I think this would be divisive and would not serve any useful purpose. I am willing to forget the wording and let the system operate. If it performs as is apparently intended I/we have no basis or reason to criticize or complain.

It is not yet clear I will be able to attend BNAPEX '97 in St. John's but I am working in that direction and if I do attend I expect to have a new Elizabethan II exhibit in their frames. I urge all of our members who are planning on St. John's to do the same. It does not matter whether you have a one frame or a ten frame exhibit. Put on your hard hat, be realistic about what you have in the frames, and give the system a chance to prove it is working.

For a report on the Joint Centennial/Elizabethan mail auction see the note on Page 60.

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By: Dean Mario

The firm's next sale, scheduled for March 4-6, 1997 contains a number of Elizabethan pieces. High lighted will be lot 1650 (on March 6), a 1954 3¢ Carmine Rose Wilding horizontal pair imperforated vertically. The estimate is \$2,000 and it looks great. Other items include various imperfs which are usually always desirable. If you haven't received the catalogues why not contact the firm at 330 Bay St., Suite 703, Toronto, ON, M5H 2S8 or telephone (416) 363-7777 and FAX (416) 363-6511. One change for future sales will be the introduction of a 15% buyer's premium which now seems to be the norm for auction houses today. Until next time, good bidding and good luck.

[illegible]

Scott Traquair reports the largest auction to date of some 150 lots is in the process of being mailed and most likely will be in your hands before you receive this newsletter. Not only is this the largest but the value of material being offered is at least double prior auctions.

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.

1997

March 14-16, EDMONTON SPRING NATIONAL 97, Fantasyland Hotel, West Edmonton Mall, sponsored by Edmonton Stamp Club. Information: John Powell, P. O. Box 399, Edmonton, AB T5J 2J6 Canada.

April 25-27, SPRING SHOW, Calgary Philatelic Society & BNAPS - Calgary Group. Information: Hugh P. Delaney, 105 Pump Hill Landing S.W., Calgary, AB T2V 5C4.

May 29 - June 8, PACIFIC '97, San Francisco, CA. Info: PACIFIC 97 News, World Philatelic Exhibition, Pacific 97, Inc., 3459 Township Ave., Simi Valley, CA 93063-1546.

Aug. 28-30, BNAPEX '97, St. John's, Newfoundland. Sponsored by the St. John's Stamp Club. Info: J. Donald Wilson, 11 Elm Place, St. John's, NF A1B 2S4

Sept. 19-21, ROYAL CALTAPEX 1997 ROYALE, Calgary, AB. Info: Hugh P. Delaney (Chairman), P. O. Box 1478, Calgary, AB.

1998

May 30-June 1, PIPEX '98, Vernon, B.C. Info: Jon Johnson, 9604 Kalamalka Road, Vernon, B.C. V1B 1L3

BOURSE OPPORTUNITIES

Listings in this space are for major bourse activities offering a large content of Canadian material. Minimum listing criteria: A two day event; a bourse only - no significant number of exhibits; consisting of in excess of 20 dealers of which the majority are noted for Canadian material. The intent is to list these events as far in advance as possible to facilitate participation.

1998

Feb. 13-15, Great Western Stamp Show, Richmond Inn, Richmond, B. C. Information:

STATUS REPORT - HARRIS CATALOGUES

Robin Harris reports his five catalogs are moving rapidly toward completion. Three are 99% complete and the other two are expected to be finished by mid-March. Saskatoon Stamp Centre will be handling the production - printing of the catalogs. John Jamieson told me in Richmond various printing alternatives are being evaluated. Once that work is completed publication dates and prices will follow rapidly. Most likely you will be seeing notices on availability by the end of March or early April - certainly before the next newsletter in May. It is expected the entire set
(Continued on Page 73)

SECTION I - FAKE PERFORATIONS ON ELIZABETHAN STAMPS

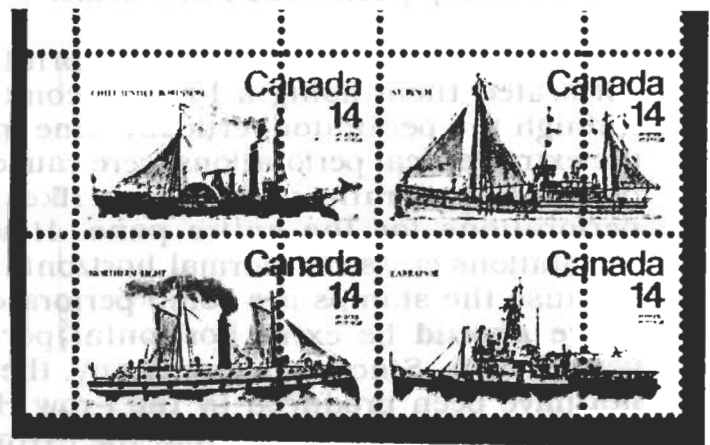
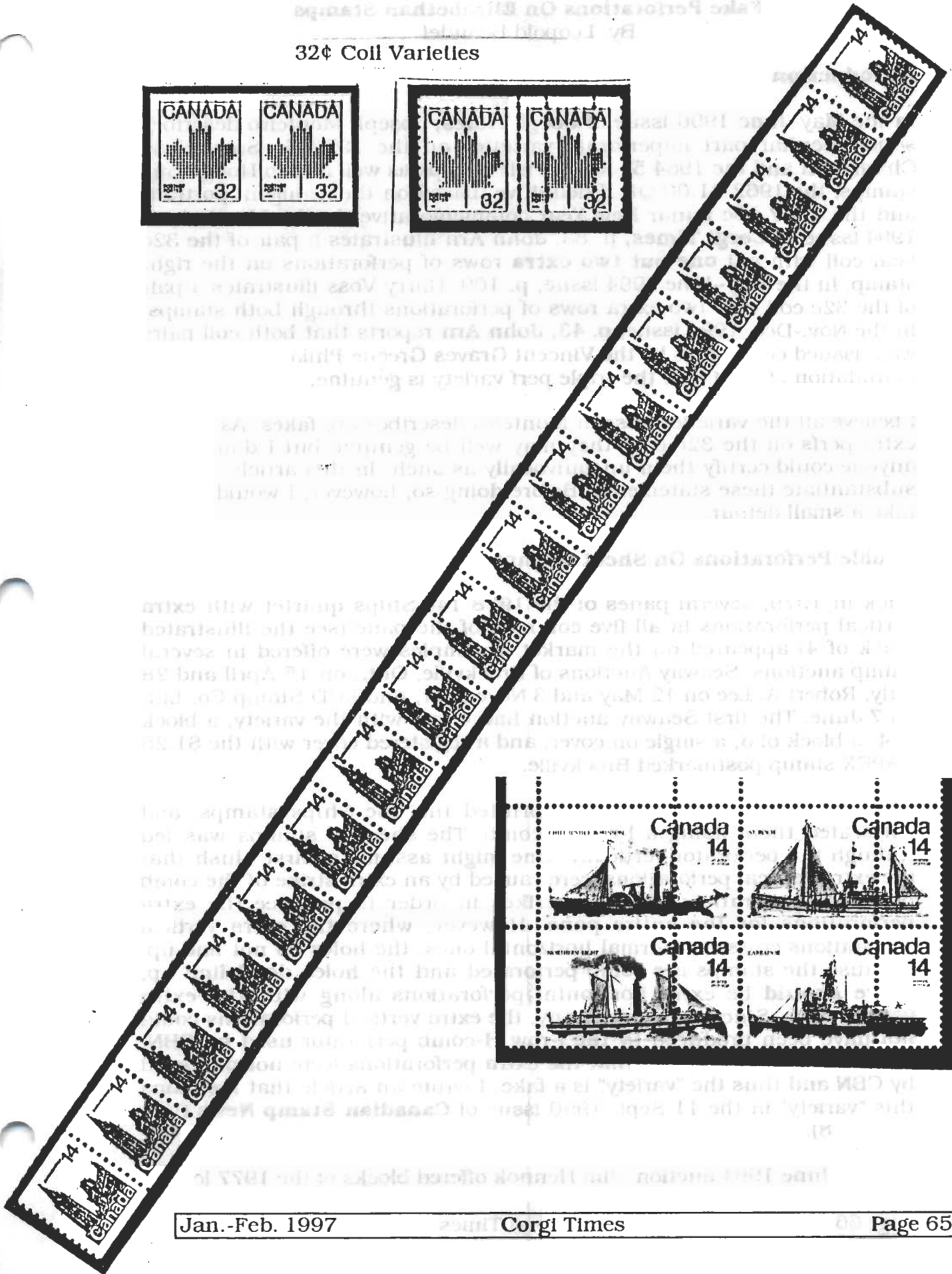
Mr. Beaudet has written a number of excellent articles on perforations on Elizabethan stamps. My limited knowledge of perforating equipment and perforating practices I owe to a large extent to those articles.

The text of his article on *Fake Perforations On Elizabethan Stamps* starts on Page No. 66. Shown below and on the following page are photocopies of the items previously appearing in the Corgi Times which are referred to in the introduction of the article. In addition, photocopies of the two additional items referenced in the article appear on the next page.

You will find a careful study of these two pages before reading the article will be time well invested. As stated in the Editors Notes this article is must reading for everyone with a strong interest in the Elizabethan period,



32¢ Coil Varieties



Fake Perforations On Elizabethan Stamps

By: Leopold Beaudet

Introduction

In the May-June 1996 issue of **Corgi Times**, Joseph Monteiro describes some peculiar part imperforate varieties on the 1958 5c Samuel de Champlain and the 1964 5c Royal Visit stamps as well as two Hong Kong stamps, the 1962 \$1.00 QE II definitive (based on the Annigoni portrait) and the 1967 10c Lunar New Year commemorative. In the March-April 1994 issue of **Corgi Times**, p. 83, John Arn illustrates a pair of the 32c Leaf coil with not **one but two extra** rows of perforations on the right stamp. In the May-June 1994 issue, p. 109, Harry Voss illustrates a pair of the 32c coil with two extra rows of perforations through both stamps. In the Nov.-Dec. 1994 issue, p. 43, John Arn reports that both coil pairs were issued certificates by the Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation stating that the triple perf variety is genuine.

I believe all the varieties Joseph Monteiro describes are fakes. As for the extra perfs on the 32c coil, they may well be genuine but I doubt that anyone could certify them unequivocally as such. In this article, I try to substantiate these statements. Before doing so, however, I would like to take a small detour.

Double Perforations On Sheet Stamps

Back in 1979, several panes of the 1978 14c Ships quartet with extra vertical perforations in all five columns of the pane (see the illustrated block of 4) appeared on the market. Examples were offered in several stamp auctions: Seaway Auctions of Brockville, Ont., on 15 April and 28 July, Robert A. Lee on 12 May and 3 November, and LCD Stamp Co. Ltd. on 7 June. The first Seaway auction had 4 lots with the variety, a block of 4, a block of 6, a single on cover, and a registered cover with the \$1.25 CAPEX stamp postmarked Brockville.

Canadian Bank Note Co. (CBN) printed the 14c Ships stamps, and perforated them using a 1-row H-comb. The sheet of stamps was fed through the perforator vertically. One might assume at first blush that the extra vertical perforations were caused by an extra strike of the comb perforator, or rather 11 extra strikes in order to produce the extra perforations for the entire pane. However, where the extra vertical perforations cross the normal horizontal ones, the holes do not line up. Because the stamps are comb perforated and the holes don't line up, **there should** be extra horizontal perforations along with the extra vertical ones. Since there aren't any, the extra vertical perforations could not have been produced by the 1-row H-comb perforator used by CBN. The obvious conclusion is that the extra perforations were not produced by CBN and thus the "variety" is a fake. I wrote an article that mentions this "variety" in the 11 Sept. 1990 issue of **Canadian Stamp News** (Vol. 15, No. 8).

In a 25 June 1994 auction, Jim Hennok offered blocks of the 1977 1c and

2c Floral definitives with doubled horizontal perforations. Hennok describes them as forgeries in the auction catalogue. The block of the 2c value, which is illustrated in the catalogue, comes from the original CBN printing, not the later British American Bank Note (BABN) printing. CBN perforated the stamps using a 1-row H-comb, and fed the sheets vertically through the perforator just like the 14c Ships quartet. However, in this case the extra perforations are horizontal. The extra perfs don't line up with the regular vertical ones so there should also be extra vertical perfs if the variety was caused by extra strikes of the 1-row H-comb. Since there are no extra vertical perforations, the inescapable conclusion once again is that the horizontal perforations were not produced by CBN and thus the "variety" is a fake.

I am aware of one other example of this type of variety, on the 1989 \$2.00 McAdam Railway Station definitive. An upper left plate block of four was offered in the Paradise Valley Stamp Co., Inc. auction of 2 December 1996 with the vertical perforations doubled. The block has the BA Banknote Co. (BABN) imprint, and so comes from the original BABN printing rather than the later CBN printing. BABN perforated the stamps using a 2-row T-comb perforator, and fed the sheet vertically through the perforator. Again, where the extra vertical perforations cross the normal horizontal ones, the holes do not line up, and there are no extra horizontal perforations. BABN's 2-row T-comb perforator could not have produced the extra perforations. I understand the auctioneer withdrew this lot from the auction.

I wrote about a dramatic missing and double perf combination variety on the \$2.00 McAdam stamp in the 2 January 1990 issue of **Canadian Stamp News** (Vol. 14, No. 16). The variety was handled by Saskatoon Stamp Centre. Briefly, in 1989, panes were found with perforations missing in the third and fourth rows of stamps, the result of a missing strike of the 2-row T-comb perforator. The variety shows very clearly that BA Banknote used a 2-row T-comb perforator, and fed the sheet vertically through the perforator. The missing strike is certainly dramatic, but the perforation holes in the first and second rows of the pane are almost as fascinating to anyone who studies varieties. The holes are slightly elongated diagonally. It appears that after the perforator perforated rows 1 and 2 of the pane, the sheet was not moved for the next strike. The comb struck again, almost on top of the previous strike, and produced the elongated holes. After the second strike, the perforator made up lost ground by moving the sheet four rows instead of two. The third strike struck the sheet in the proper position, and everything returned to normal except of course for rows 3 and 4 which were left imperforate. Two things about this error are particularly germane to this article: 1) it shows the type of comb BABN used, and 2) the extra strike in rows 1 and 2 affected BOTH the vertical AND the horizontal perforations. As one would expect, the perforations in BOTH directions were elongated.

Note that while the extra perf "varieties" on the Ships, Floral, and McAdam stamps appear to be the same, there are important differences when compared with the normal perforations. The \$2.00 McAdam was perforated with a 2-row T-comb whereas the 14c Ships and 1c and 2c Florals were perforated with a 1-row H-comb. On the 14c Ships, the extra

perforations are vertical, the same as the way the sheet was fed through the perforator, whereas on the 1c and 2c Florals the perforations are horizontal, at right angles to the way the sheet was fed through the perforator.

Why this little detour? The only reason for labelling the extra perf varieties as fakes is that, since the stamps were comb perforated, there should be extra holes in BOTH directions because the extra perforations don't line up with regular ones where they cross. The extra perforation holes look identical to the regular ones, they are precisely spaced out like the regular ones, and the perforation gauge is the same. If we had had just the holes to go by, I think it would have been very difficult if not impossible to conclude that the varieties were fake. The implications are unfortunate - if we find an extra perf variety with an anomaly, we might be able to conclude that it is a fake, but in the absence of an anomaly, we can't claim that the variety is genuine.

Extra Perforations On Coils

All the coils from the 6c orange Centennial coil onwards exist imperforate, and some like the 1979 17c Parliament are relatively common. It seems reasonable to expect that if the perforator missed a strike at some point in the roll, it could produce an extra strike at some other point, just like the part imperforate pane of the \$2.00 McAdam. It seems reasonable to accept that at least some of the coils with double perforations are genuine varieties. Are they all genuine? Are there any examples that are fake or at least look suspicious?

In the Nov.-Dec. 1981 issue of **Canadian Philatelist** (Vol. 32, No. 6), I describe some characteristics of the perforations on coils. There are jumps in the perforations just like the better known design jumps. A jump in the perforations occurs after every twelfth row of stamps, and produces a stamp that is wider or narrower than normal depending upon the size of the jump. The perforator obviously perforates twelve rows of stamps with each strike.

Most (but not all) imperforate coils have 12 rows of perforations missing. This variety affects 13 stamps, 11 that are completely imperforate and 2 that are imperforate on one side only. Obviously, one strike of the comb is missing. Imperforate coils do exist with less than 12 rows of perforations missing. They can be produced in at least two ways: 1) a perforation strike is not completely missing, but is shifted by several stamps, and 2) a perforation strike occurs at a vertical angle such that some stamps are perforated normally, some have progressively blind perforations, and some are imperforate. John Jamieson of Saskatoon Stamp Centre has also reported coils with 24 rows of perforations or two consecutive strikes of the comb missing.

Now, back to doubled perforations on coils. In 1995, John Jamieson showed me a photocopy of a strip of 17 of the 14c Parliament coil showing a nice example of the double perforation variety (see illustration). The strip was certified as genuine by the Comité d'expertise de la Fédération québécoise de philatélie (CEFQP) as described in the

October 1995 issue of **Philatélie Québec** (No. 196). An extra strike of the perforator will produce 12 extra rows of perforations. 12 stamps, just 12, will have extra perforations. On the strip of 17 14c Parliament coil stamps, certified as genuine by the CEFQP, the two stamps at each end are normal and the other 13, not 12 but 13, have double perforations. This was obviously not caused by a "normal" extra strike of the perforator.

Could these extra perforations have been a byproduct of one of the three special ways imperforate coils are produced? For the first way, where the strike is shifted rather than missing, one would expect to see normal stamps followed by some (less than 12) imperforate stamps followed by some (less than 12) double perforated stamps where the shifted strike overlapped the

next normal strike. The second way, an extra strike at an angle, would produce some (less than 12) double perforated stamps along with some with extra blind perforations. Clearly the 14c coil doesn't fit either of these cases because there are more than 12 stamps doubly perforated, not less. The only way a genuine strip of 13 stamps with double perforations could be produced is with TWO extra strikes of the perforator, with the second strike falling dead on top of the first except for a shift of exactly one stamp. I think it is far more likely that the extra perfs are fake, and that the forger either miscounted the number of extra rows or thought that since 13 stamps are affected by a missing strike there should be 13 stamps affected by an extra strike. **Unlucky 13 for him.**

I think the 13th row of extra perforations provides solid evidence for labelling this strip a fake, but it is the only evidence I can muster. And when the strip of 17 is broken into pairs or strips of 4, that evidence disappears. The extra perforation holes look identical to the regular ones, and the perforation gauge is the same. The lucky finder of a roll of coils with doubled perforations won't like the implications - he will usually have no way of proving that his find is genuine. This is why I claimed above that no one could absolutely guarantee that a pair of coils with doubled perforations is genuine.

And how about the 32c coils with TWO extra rows of perforations? Admittedly, they could be genuine. Do you take the tack that it is too outlandish a variety for a forger to concoct, or do you opine that having saturated the market for coils with a single row of extra perforations, the forger went exotic? Two more observations: 1) the 32c coil is the only one I've seen with triple perforations (is this because two extra perforation strikes so close together is such a rare event or because the forger had second thoughts about the second extra strike?), and 2) the first pair of the triple perf 32c coil I saw was offered in a J&M auction on 9 April 1989 (J&M Philatelic Auction is a Vancouver firm that offered a large number of varieties, including a large number of coils with double perforations, in the 1980's).

Peculiar Part Imperf Varieties

The four part imperf varieties Joseph Monteiro wrote about in the May-

June 1996 issue of **Corgi Times** all have a similar appearance. They consist of a strip of two to four stamps that look normal except for the perforations on one side. On the abnormal side, the beginning of the strip has perforations which stop part way through the first stamp in the strip. On this side, the rest of the strip appears to be imperforate. Unfortunately, there is a problem. The imperf side of all four strips is trimmed so close to the stamps that no part of the adjacent row of stamps, not even the adjacent stamp margins, is attached to the strip. Because of the trimming, there is no real evidence that the margin between the strip and the stamps adjacent to it in the sheet was actually imperforate. Were it not for the partial perforations at the beginning of the strip, one would simply assume that the stamps were normal, and were trimmed with scissors.

Since Joseph Monteiro's article appeared, a third Hong Kong example has surfaced. A top marginal copy of the 1968 \$1.00 Coat-of-Arms definitive with the right side imperforate except for half the top selvage was offered in the same Paradise auction as the \$2.00 McAdam. In addition, the stamp has an extra strike of the comb slanted diagonally across the stamp. The

auctioneer withdrew this lot from the auction along with the \$2.00 McAdam, and informed me that both lots were consigned by the same individual.

The "mostly imperforate" variety on the three Hong Kong and two Canadian stamps could be faked very easily assuming one has access to perforating equipment, the same sort of perforating equipment used to produce the extra perfs on the other stamps discussed above. Here's how:

- 1) On a normal stamp, produce a partial row of fake perforations closer to the design than the normal ones.
- 2) In the margin where the fake perforations were added, trim off the normal perforations.

I suspect the items are fake for the reasons below.

- 1) On all three Hong Kong strips, the partial row of perforations is one hole too close to the perforations on the other side of the stamps. This means that the partial row could not have been produced by any of the strikes that produced the normal perforations. It would have had to come from an entirely different strike, one with a large lateral and vertical displacement from the normal strikes. It is difficult to explain how this sort of thing could happen on a comb perforated stamp. However, it dovetails perfectly with my two step procedure for producing fakes.

Both Canadian stamps are line perforated. Although the varieties on the Hong Kong and Canadian stamps look the same, the cause of the variety would be completely different because of the

differences in perforating techniques. I can't see how the varieties could have been produced on line perforated stamps. I do not accept the explanations Joseph Monteiro proposed in his article, and will discuss them later on.

- 2) As I mentioned above, on all three Hong Kong strips and on both Canadian strips, stamps with the "variety" have been trimmed very carefully along the "imperforate" margin. On the three Hong Kong samples, the margin is just shy of where the normal next row of perforations would appear. In none of the five cases is there any part of the margin from the adjacent stamp. I might accept the argument that a non-philatelist discovered the error and trimmed the stamps in one or two cases, but not in all five, on stamps from two different countries, issued at widely different times.

Because a comb perforator produces very regularly spaced rows of perforations, the forger had no option but to trim the Hong Kong stamps so that they are **slightly smaller** than normal. The spacing of the perforating wheels on the shaft of a line perforating machine sometimes varies with the result that some stamps are narrower than normal and others are wider. If the forger finds a line perforated stamp with margins that are wider than normal, he has more leeway in trimming one of the margins to make it look imperforate without making the stamp appear too small. Judging from the illustrations in Joseph Monteiro's article, the Champlain stamp appears a bit short but the height of the Royal Visit stamp looks normal.

- 3) In no case has the other half of the variety - which should show the partial perforations and a slightly wider than normal margin that is imperforate - been offered for sale. Even if one accepts that all five examples were unfortunately trimmed (very carefully) by non-philatelists, one has to wonder what happened to the stamps forming other half of the variety. Surely in at least one of the five cases, the "lucky finder" would have realized that the other half of his find was valuable and offered it at auction as well.
- 4) In none of the five cases is there a part imperforate pair which would PROVE that the variety is genuine. In fact, there is no variety of this type on ANY Canadian or Hong Kong stamp to my knowledge.

I mentioned that the Hong Kong lot in the Paradise auction had an extra, diagonal strike of the comb in addition to the partial row of perforations and the "imperforate" margin. I must admit that I did not detect anything obviously wrong (i.e.: fake) with this extra strike. However, I would suggest that someone with the capability of producing the partial perfs and the extra perforations on the Ship, Floral, McAdam, and coil stamps could also manufacture the extra diagonal strike to make the "variety" appear more authentic or desirable.

Here are the three possible explanations (*in italics*) that Joseph Monteiro proposed for the varieties on the Canadian line perforated stamps along

with my comments. Note that none of these explanations is applicable to the comb perforated stamps from Hong Kong.

- 1) *The perforating wheel that produced the partial row of perforations could have shifted after producing the first few holes.*

Since the other row of perforations on the strips is normal, the sheet must have continued traveling normally through the perforator when the accident happened. The shifting wheel would have continued producing perforations. Assuming the wheel shifted away from the affected stamps, it would have produced a dramatic variety in the form of a diagonal row of perforations spilling into the next lower row of stamps. Such a variety has never appeared on the market, and it is difficult to believe that the "lucky finders" of the Champlain and Royal Visit stamps both trimmed off the lower row with the diagonal perforations.

Note that there are actually two wheels for each row of perforations, the one with the pins and the counterpoint wheel with holes in which the pins engage. Both would have had to shift.

Several CBN line perforated stamps exist with one row of perforations ENTIRELY missing. In ALL these cases, the missing row of perforations is between the stamps and one of the sheet margins. It appears the variety was caused either because the sheet buckled or was shifted by one row of stamps when it traveled through the perforator. Neither reason explains the varieties on the Champlain and Royal Visit stamps.

- 2) *The perforating wheel may not have made contact with the sheet throughout. For example, several sheets may have been perforated together and there may not have been sufficient pressure on the wheels to perforate all the sheets leaving some sheets or the last one partially imperforate.*

For comb perforated stamps, it is true that both CBN and Ashton-Potter feed four or five sheets together through the perforator. As a result, many of the spectacular perforating errors found on these stamps occur on four or five consecutive sheets. The lucky finder of such errors is lucky indeed. However, I believe line perforated stamps were fed through the perforator just one sheet at a time. Also, if this explanation were correct, I believe several adjacent rows of perforations would have been affected, not just one as appears to be the case for the Champlain and Royal Visit varieties.

- 3) *A problem could have developed with the perforating wheel (it could have broken, etc.), leaving the row partially imperforate.*

I think if the (metal!) wheel had broken, the stamps would have been torn or otherwise damaged. There is no evidence of this on the Champlain and Royal Visit stamps.

Conclusions

So, are all the extra perforation varieties I've discussed in this article fake? In my opinion, based on what I know of perforation techniques, I believe they are. However, I certainly don't know everything about perforating methods, and there may well be a legitimate explanation for some of these varieties.

If these varieties are fake, what of the many other double perforation varieties? I know of several double perforation varieties on sheet stamps that were discovered at post offices. I have no hesitation in accepting these as genuine. Also, I wrote about a double perf variety on a 32c coil in the July-Aug. 1985 issue of **Canadian Philatelist** (Vol. 36, No. 4), and concluded that the extra perfs were genuine. Interestingly, on the 32c coil in question, the extra perfs are very close to, or actually touch, the regular ones. A forger would want to heighten the dramatic effect of the variety by putting the extra perfs at some distance from the regular ones. So, the less dramatic the variety, the better the chances that it is genuine!

Even if a double perf variety is genuine, can its status be proven? In most cases, I think it will be very difficult if not impossible to do so. For example, if you accept that the extra perfs on the strip of the 14c coil are fake, how much confidence can you put in the Vincent Graves Greene certificate for the 32c coil?

Should you buy double perforation varieties? I think you might consider buying, but only if you are knowledgeable about perforating methods, and have some appreciation for the types of varieties that can be produced. Obviously it also helps if you know the story behind the variety's discovery - where, when, and by whom it was found. You should have sufficient expertise to make your own assessment. While opinions from knowledgeable dealers and certificates of

genuineness from expertization committees are helpful, they are not infallible. In the final analysis, you are buying the variety so you should have enough expertise to make your own informed opinion.

[illegible]

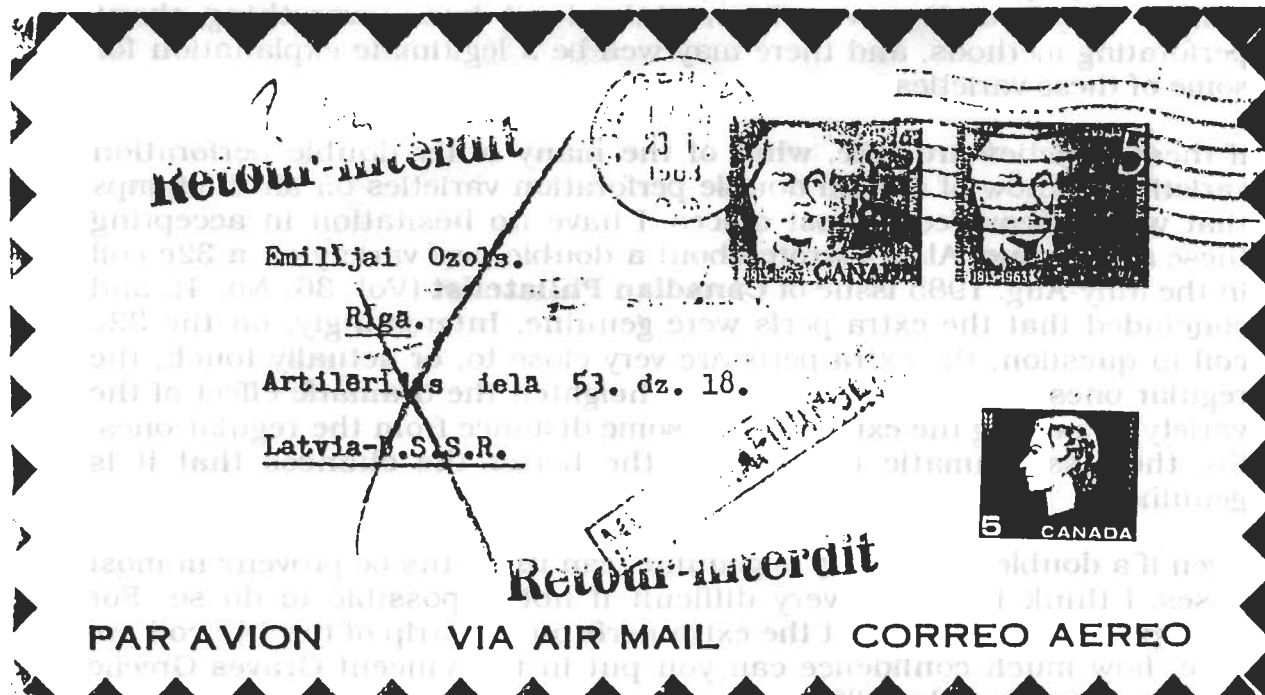
Continued From Page 6X - Status Report Harris Catalogues

will be available either as a set or singly. Robin will also be offering album pages supporting each catalogue and we expect to have details on prices and ordering by the next issue.

In the last issue I provided Robin's internet number. The problem is a digit was left out. The "n". It should be no mystery why some few of us avoid the internet like the plague. The correct listing is:

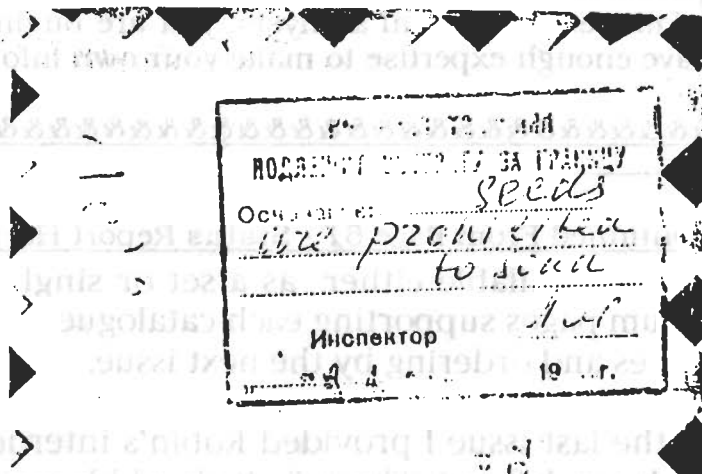
Robin Harris <http://www.adminware.ca/~rharris>

SECTION II - KARSH, WILDING & CAMEO ISSUES - Interrupted Mail - A
March 23, 1963 letter to Latvia - U. S. S. R. was treated as
Prohibited Mail. By: John Burnett

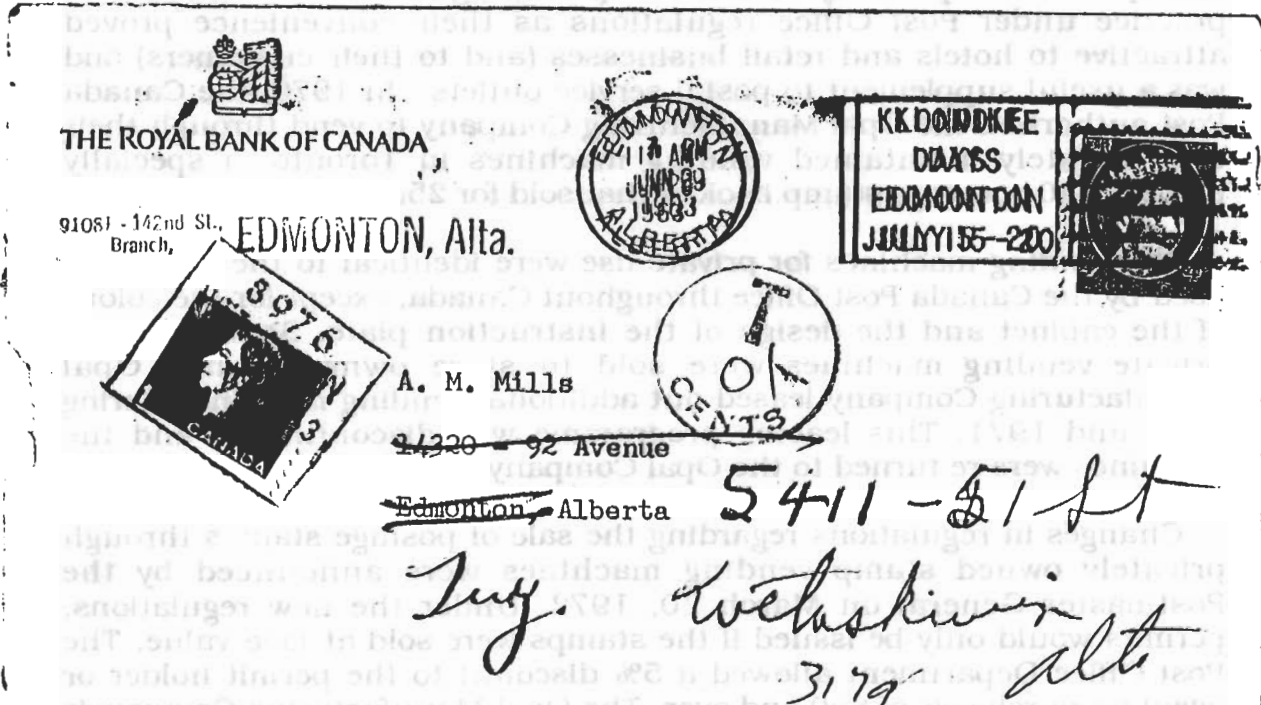


A pair of the 5¢ Sir Casimir Stanislaus Gzowski commemoratives (#410) and a 5¢ Queen Elizabethan Cameo definitive (#405) pay the 15¢ air mail rate to Russian Latvia. Backstamped that "Seeds are prohibited to Send" and marked on the front "Retour - interdit" in purple and an unreadable boxed stamp in black. A rarely seen reason to interrupt the mails.

Backstamped: The stated reason for the refusal to allow this envelope to enter Latvia. The strike is in purple.



SECTION II - KARSH, WILDING & CAMEO ISSUES - CON'T Royal Bank of Canada, Edmonton corner card 9 Jun 1963 paying Edmonton drop letter rate of 4¢ redirected to Wetaskiwin, Alta and assessed 1¢ to pay the first class forward letter rate of 5¢. Postal regulations provided - "If prepaid at the local letter rate and redirected to any address except a local address the difference of the forward letter rate to the local letter rate is collected on delivery". (Nice early use of a definitive stamp to pay postage due).



Card mailed OTTAWA ONT 4 II 1963 to PUTNEY.S.W. 15 franked with 20¢ - overpaid whether air or surface. Badly creased and with a hole prompted a PUTNEY receiving label acknowledging damage in transit.



SECTION III - CARICATURE & LANDSCAPE DEFINITIVES

OPEL BOOKLET VENDING MACHINE ENVELOPES AND FOLDERS

(This material was assembled by John Hillmer, with permission, from Canada: The 1967-73 Definitive Issue by Irwin & Freedman and from John's personal collection).

The Opal Manufacturing Company Limited of Toronto had supplied the Canada Post Office with postage stamp vending machines since 1955. The operation of privately owned stamp vending machines was common practice under Post Office regulations as their convenience proved attractive to hotels and retail businesses (and to their customers) and was a useful supplement to postal service outlets. In 1970, the Canada Post authorized the Opal Manufacturing Company to vend through their own privately maintained vending machines in Toronto, a specially prepared 20c postage stamp booklet that sold for 25c.

The vending machines for private use were identical to the machines used by the Canada Post Office throughout Canada, except for the colour of the cabinet and the design of the instruction plate. Some of these private vending machines were sold to store owners, while Opal Manufacturing Company leased out additional vending machines during 1970 and 1971. This leasing programme was discontinued, and the machines were re turned to the Opal Company.

Changes in regulations regarding the sale of postage stamps through privately owned stamp vending machines were announced by the Postmaster General on March 20, 1972. Under the new regulations, permits would only be issued if the stamps were sold at face value. The Post Office Department allowed a 5% discount to the permit holder or agent on purchases of \$50 and over. The Opal Manufacturing Company's supply of 20c booklets became depleted in 1972. The machine operators who already had permits for vending machines prior to March of 1972 were given a choice: they could either apply to Canada Post for a permit to purchase the official Post Office 25c booklets or they could purchase envelopes from the Opal Company and fill them with sheet stamps purchased by the machine operators from a local post office.

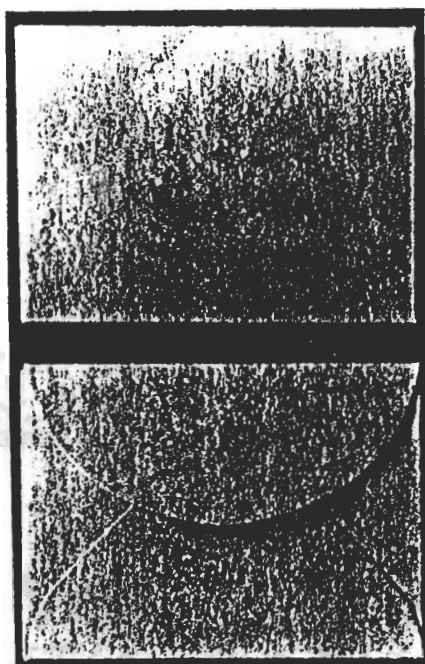
In the summer of 1972, a plain manila envelope, the same size as a sealed booklet, appeared in some vending machines. These envelopes were dispensed for 25c and contained Centennial sheet stamps at a face value of 20c.

Some operators chose to prepare cardboard folders containing postage stamps with a face value of 20c to be dispensed from private vending machines. Shown on the next page is a buff coloured cardboard folder enclosing two 8c Centennial definitives and one 4c Centennial definitive. The stamps were loose inside the folder, which was held closed by a staple and a rubber stamp was used to print the contents in green ink on the front cover.

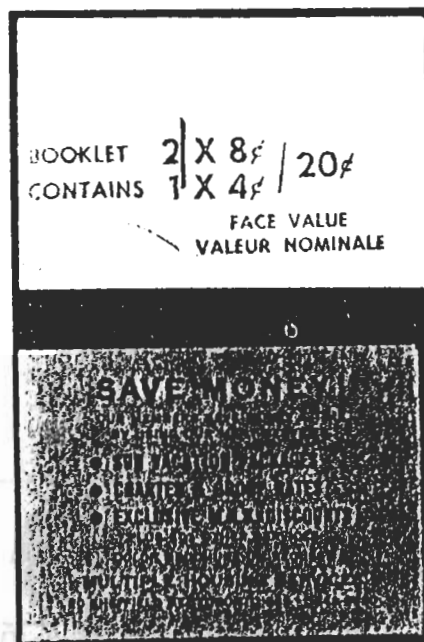
Manila envelopes with advertising on the front appeared in November of 1973 in some Opal vending machines. The envelopes with advertising were made up for one vending machine operator but upon the death of

this operator, the Opal Manufacturing Company purchased the remainder of these envelopes and distributed them (it is interesting to note that the address on the envelopes for Multiple Housing Services is that of the Opal Manufacturing Company).

The Centennial definitives were replaced by the caricature definitives late in 1973. As post office stock of Centennial stamps became depleted, caricature definitives began to appear in these advertising envelopes early in 1974. In August of 1974, the Opal Manufacturing Company began supplying plain white envelopes to the operators of vending machines.



plain manila
envelopes
(front and
back)

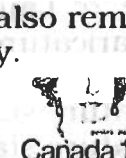
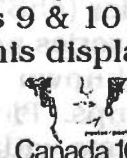
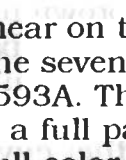
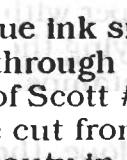
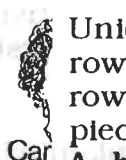
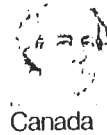
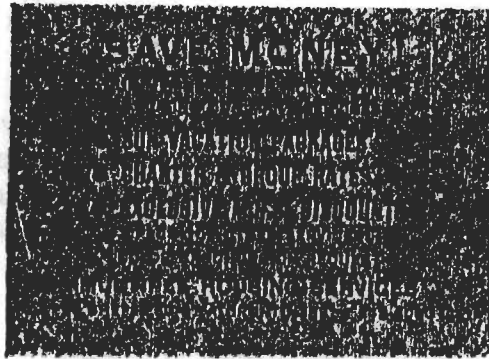


buff coloured
cardboard
folder (top)
and manila
envelope with
advertising
(bottom)

John reports two Opal envelopes in his collection which reflect the transition to the use of Caricature definitive stamps. One envelope on kraft brown paper with advertising contained a pair of the 8¢ Caricature (#593) each paying the 1 oz. first class rate with a 4¢ Centennial making up the 20¢ in stamps.

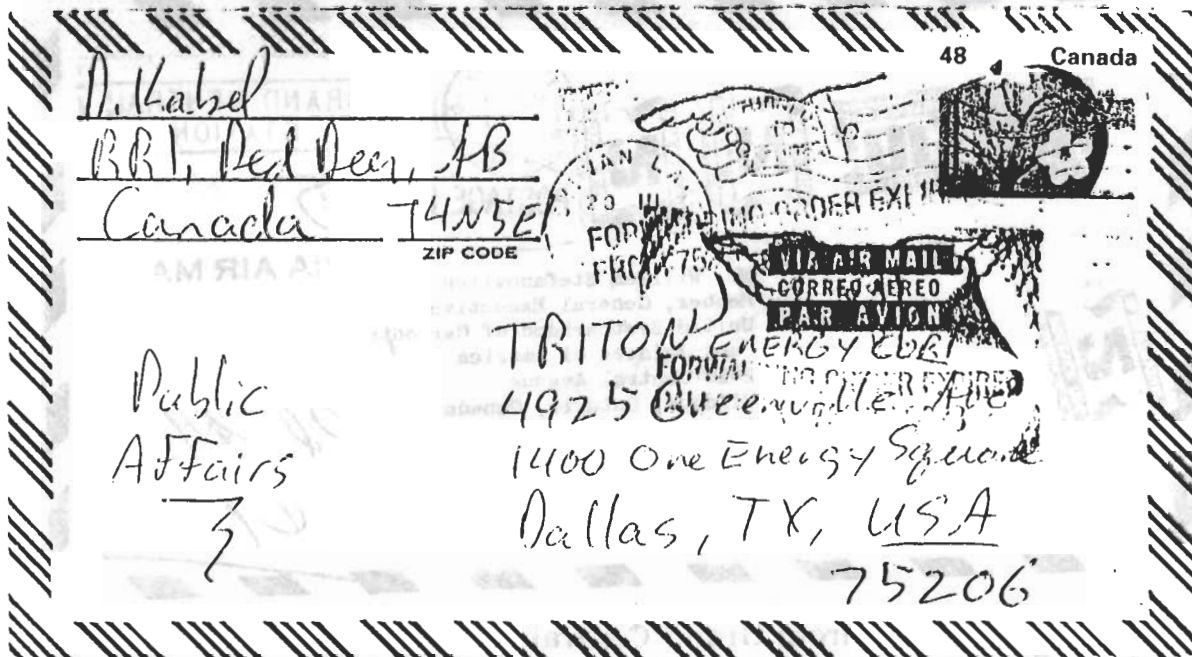
The other envelope, the plain white without advertising contained a pair of the 2¢ Laurier (#587) and a pair of the 7¢ St. Laurent (#592) both in the Caricature series and two 1¢ Centennial stamps to make up the 20¢. As far as is known these are the only two Opal envelopes using Caricature stamps. Please advise the Editor of any other known use of Caricature stamps with these OPAL envelopes. (Both shown next Page).

SECTION III - CONTINUED - OPAL envelopes with caricature content.

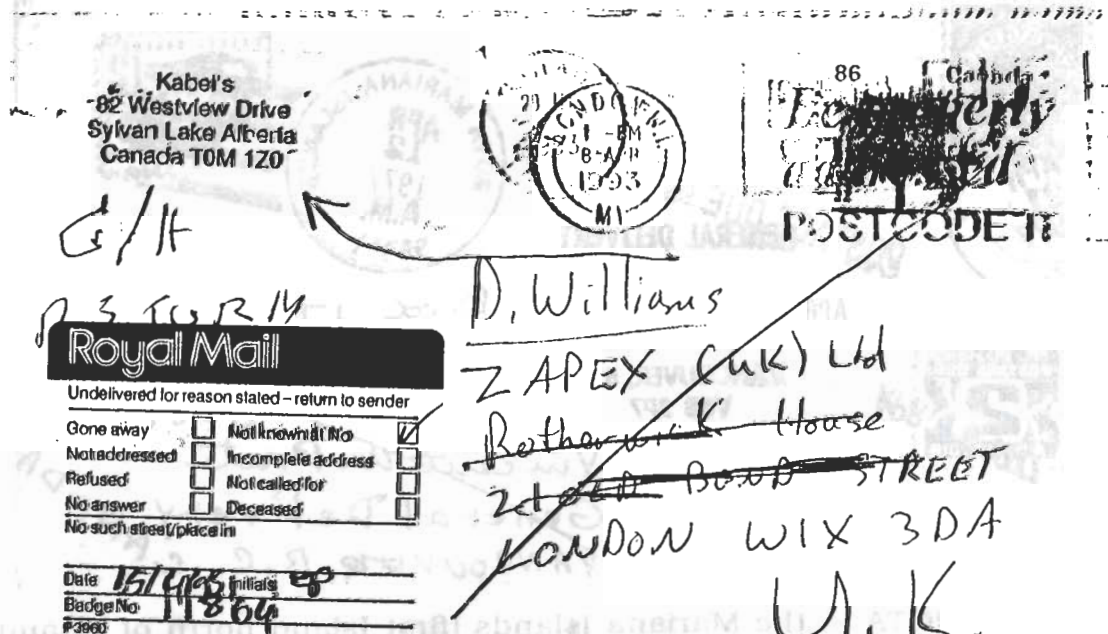


Unique ink smear on third row through the seventh row of Scott #593A. This piece cut from a full pane. A beauty in full color. (Red) Rows 9 & 10 also removed for this display.

SECTION VIII - EDIBLE BERRIES & FRUIT TREES - In previous issues we have suggested now is the time to be on the lookout for good covers from the current definitive series. Here are just two examples:

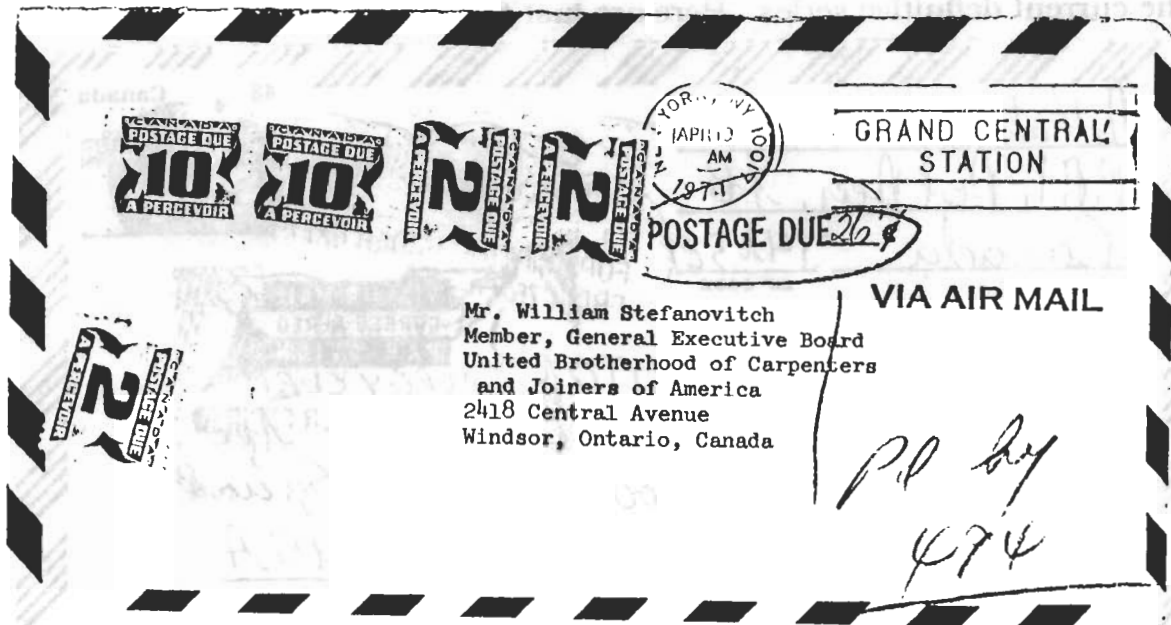


Sylvan Lake, AB 23 III 1992 to Dallas, Texas paying the first step of the airmail rate to the U. S. of 48¢ - returned to sender w/four hand stamps three of which are in purple: FORWARDING ORDER EXPIRED FROM 75206 - RETURN TO SENDER (not very clear as is over the via air mail cachet) & FORWARDING ORDER EXPIRED/DALLAS TX 75206-99988.

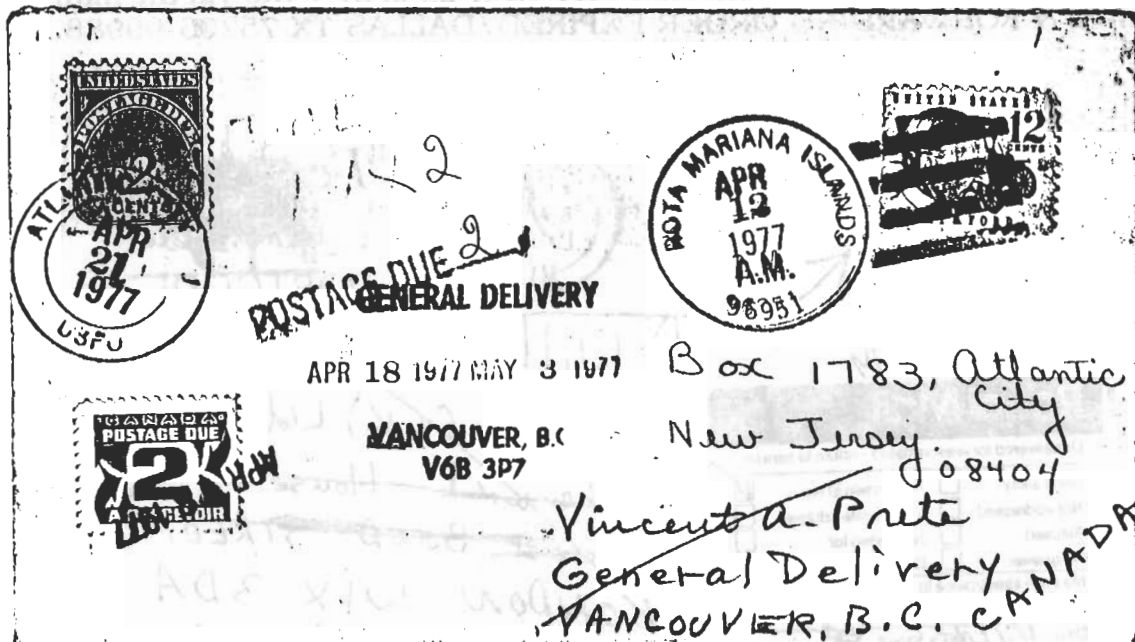


Canada 29 III 1993, AB to London, U.K. paying first step international air mail rate of 86¢ - London, W.I. receiving stamp dated 8 Apr 1993 returned to sender with a Royal Mail directional label affixed 15/4/93. (The label is a yellow colored peel & stick with all preprinted data in red as is the background for the Royal Mail header).

SECTION IX - ALL OTHER - POSTAGE DUES - RED DUES ON BORDER CROSSINGS



Air Mail Apr 19, 1974 from Grand Central Station in New York, N. Y. to Windsor, Ontario unpaid (without stamps). The 1 ounce air mail rate was 13¢ and postage due assessed at twice the deficiency of 26¢. Paid with three 2¢ J22 (first series) and two 10¢ J35a from the fourth series of the red dues. Note: It is quite common for the due stamps not to be tied.



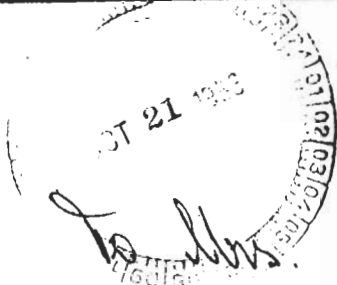
Mailed from ROTA in the Mariana Islands (first Island north of Guam) on Apr 12, 1977 to General Delivery, Vancouver, B. C. franked with a 12¢ U. S. Henry Ford. Received GENERAL DELIVERY, VANCOUVER APR 18 1977 MAY 3 1977 TIME SLOT. The rate was 13¢ for one ounce and was assessed 2¢ (J29) due tied APR 18 1977 - double the deficiency. Presumably not collected and letter was forwarded to Atlantic City, New Jersey where the 2¢ was collected and receipted with a red U. S. 2¢ postage due stamp on APR 21 1977.

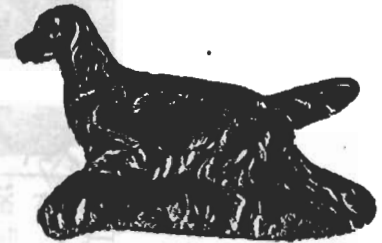
**SECTION IX - ALL OTHER - BULK MAILINGS & PARCELS INCLUDING
ANALYSIS OF RATES - FOREIGN DESTINATIONS (3 Pages)**

By: John Aitken

RATE IN EFFECT: JAN. 1/88 - DEC. 31/88

Special Delivery Expres


 To Mrs.
 Yvonne Tokitis
 34235 Culia Ct.
 Eastlake, Ohio 44094
 U.S.A.



RATE: 1st CLASS TO THE USA 31-50 G \$.63
SPECIAL DELIVERY

$$\begin{array}{r} 2.63 \\ + 3.26 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

STAMPS USED: \$ 2.00

\$ 1.00

20¢

6¢

RATE IN EFFECT: JAN. 15/83 - JUNE 23-85



Small Packet
Petit paquet

Herrn
Bernd Theumerg
Hans Boecklerstr. 5
D 5620 Velbert 1
West-Germany

RATE: INTERNATIONAL 3RD CLASS SMALL PACKET
AIRMAIL 25¢-500 G. (THE MAX. ALLOWED) \$4.12
REGISTRATION WITH INDEMNITY OF \$30 2.12
\$6.24.

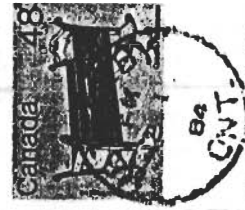
NOTE: THE CUSTOMS DECLARATION WHICH IS
SUPPOSED TO ACCOMPANY SMALL PACKETS
MUST HAVE BEEN APPLIED TO THE
PACKET RATHER THAN THIS ADDRESS LABEL.

STAMPS USED: \$5 - CBN PLATE 1 - ABITIBI PAPER
60¢

50¢ - TYPE II WITH CAR PLATE NO.
NOTE: DOT ON THE BUMPER
VARIETY FROM ROW 2.

14¢ - PERF. 12x12.5 EX BKLT. OF 25.

RATE IN EFFECT: JAN. 15/83 - JUNE 23/85



Parcelpost
 MRS.
 FLORENCE PEARSON
 11 MOUNTFIELD RD.
 ENGLAND
 SK3 9RR (Stockport)

Detailed description of contents

HAND KNITTED
 AFGHAN

RATE: 4TH CLASS SURFACE PARCEL TO GREAT BRITAIN 1.0 - 1.5 KG. \$8.25
 INSURANCE - \$50 - \$100 .53
 OVERPAYMENT \$8.98

NOTE: HUMAN NATURE AT WORK! VALUE FOR CUSTOMS DECLARED AS \$15, BUT INSURED FOR \$100! THE FEE FOR UP TO \$50 INSURANCE WAS 32¢.

\$ 15. - 1500g

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 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 or if U. S. funds at 75% to Elizabethan II Study Group. Mail to Editor: John D. Arn, N. 17708 Saddle Hill Rd., Colbert, WA 99005.

CANADIAN VARIETIES approval service has openings for new customers. Request a selection for your inspection. P. E. Stamps, 130 Wallace Ave., Toronto, Ontario, Canada M6H 1T5 5/95

HELP! HELP! The following needed to complete Caricature & Landscape Series Scott 586-605. Perforated Initials, Horizontal Pairs, Blocks of 4, Corner Blocks (and P. O. sets), Imprint Blocks (and sets), also Landscape 1 bar tags. Will pay premium. Will accept single but prefer above configurations. Need 593 P. O. stock ribbed all four corner blocks. As a fellow collector I need your help. John M. Hillmer, 135 Antibes Drive #1401, North York, Ontario, Canada M2R 2Z1. After Dec. 1, 1996 reply to: 364 Seaside Ave., #1810, Honolulu, HI 96815. 3/96

Wanted: Red Postage Due issues - all series - used on cover, cards or parcel post mailings. Any unusual usage is of interest. Also need printed on gum side.

Commercial usage of Cornelius Krieghoff - both untagged and tagged. Especially interested in varieties on cover.

Write; call 509-467-5521 or Fax 509-467-2282 - John D. Arn, N 17708 Saddle Hill Rd., Colbert, WA 99005 2/96

YOUR AD, RECEIVED BY 20 MAY
COULD APPEAR HERE STARTING
WITH THE MARCH-APRIL 1997 ISSUE