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Copies Mailed: 123

**TD Bank Issue**

As we announced in the last issue of *Corgi Times*, Canada Post added a number of issues to this year's stamp program. Included in this was an issue marking the 150th anniversary of the TD Bank Financial Group.

Illustrated below is the pre-issue publicity image and an image of the actual stamp that was issued.

Many issues over the past several years have been altered after the pre-issue image has been released to the public.

This particular issue received a bit of press since it was first announced for release. It joins the list of "corporate" issues that Canada Post has issued over the past few years, including last year's Home Hardware stamp. Another "sold" stamp will be the *Maclean's* Magazine issue of April 12th. It features covers from 4 different magazine issues over the years. ♣

**Czeslaw Slania, 1921–2005**

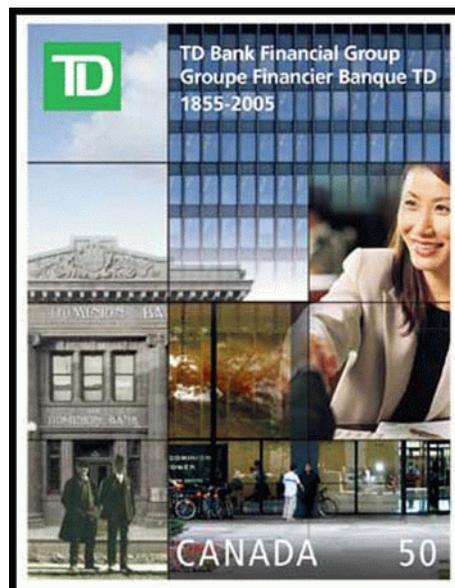
The Royal Court Engraver of Sweden, Czeslaw Slania, died the night of Thursday, March 17 after a long period of illness. Slania was 83 years old.

He engraved over one thousand stamps around the world. He was active until his very last days. His last completed stamp in February 2005 commemorates the 60th Session of the UN General Assembly.

Slania did not engrave any Canadian postage stamps — I always wished he would have. However, he did engrave the Prime Minister portraits found on the current \$5 and \$100 bills. ♣



Three Strikes Out  
See page 76



TD Bank Financial Group stamp issue of March 18, 2005  
Left: pre-issue image; Right: issued stamp  
Several differences are apparent upon close examination.

## 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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Articles with *no* by-line are written or compiled by the Editor. All articles are ©2005 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...

### Perforated Self-adhesive



Canada Post has issued its *second* fully perforated self-adhesive stamps — the “Bridges” issue of April 2nd. Last year’s Cunard/Allan issue of May 28th was the *first* perforated self-adhesive issue by Canada.

As illustrated below, the back of this new pane includes additional information about each of the four bridges, as well as the UPC barcode, which, up until now, has always been found on the selvedge on the front of the pane.



Bridges issue of Apr 2/05 — back of self-adhesive pane of 16.

## Corgi Times

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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, colour, actual size, JPEG or TIFF, black background), if available, should be sent as separate files from text files.

## Study Group Business

### New members

Marcel Paradis

### E-mail changes/additions

none to report

## Have you made plans to attend BNAPEX in Edmonton this September?

## 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.

### 2005

Apr 30–May 1: **ORAPEX 2005**. RA Centre, Ottawa, ON.

Sep 2–4: **BNAPEX 2005**. West Edmonton Mall, Edmonton, AB.

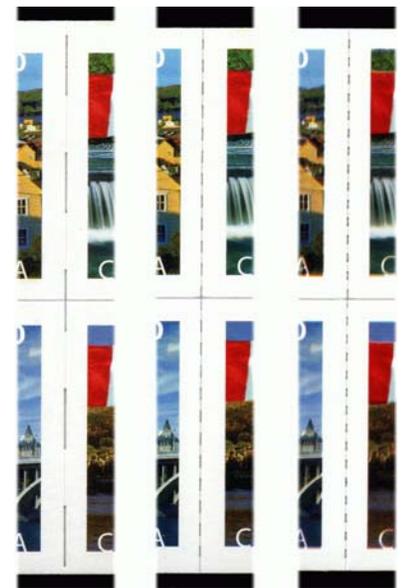
## 50¢ Flag over... Booklet

by: *Robin Harris*

In the last *Corgi Times* we reported that the new 50¢ Flag over ... booklet of 10 stamps was printed with 5 different “banners” on the back cover and 5 different advertisements and 2 different rouletting patterns: wide (5 slits per booklet) and narrow (29 slits per booklet). These various printing varieties result in 50 different complete booklet panes to find.



I'm afraid we need to report a new rouletting variety that started showing up in February 2005. **Rouletting with a count of 23 slits is now available.** This is proving fairly difficult to find. I have not yet seen these at post offices here in Winnipeg. ♣



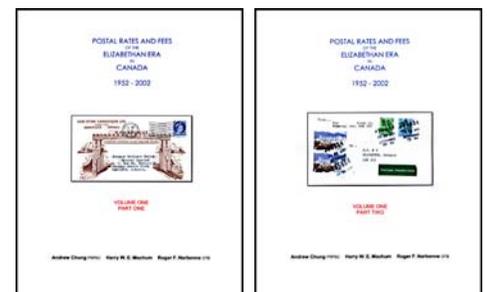
5 23 29  
Flag rouletting

## Postal Rates and Fees of the Elizabethan Era in Canada 1952–2002

The *Postal Rates and Fees of the Elizabethan Era in Canada 1952–2002* book by Chung, Machum and Narbonne is available for immediate shipping.

The book — Volume 1 — is bound in two parts (245 and 261 pages, respectively). The rate sections on *parcels* are found in Part 2. Both parts are only sold together as ‘one book’. [Volume 2 will cover the International postal rates and is now being put together.]

You can order your copy(ies) by sending your cheque, payable to “Elizabethan II Study Group” to: Robin Harris, 770 Inkster Blvd., Winnipeg, MB R2W 0L5 Canada. Pricing for ESG members is C\$62.95; non-members is C\$89.95.



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

## Canada Post 2004 Stamp Program

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

Scott numbers as of February 23, 2005

Issued	Description	Scott#
Dec 20	Rate change definitives: (all self-adhesive) < 50¢ Queen Elizabeth II (booklet pane of 10) [5 different covers] < 50¢ Flag over... (5 designs in booklet pane of 10) [50 different covers] < 50¢ Wildflower (coil of 100) < 85¢ Wildflower (coil of 50 and booklet of 6) [2 different tag widths and paper stock on booklets] < \$1.45 Wildflower (coil and booklet) [2 different tag widths on booklets]	

## Canada Post 2005 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 7	Year of the Rooster < 50¢ single < \$1.45 souvenir sheet < \$1.45 <i>overprinted</i> souvenir sheet < two (\$1.49) postal card (non-denominated) — one for each postage stamp design	Also: uncut press sheet
Jan 29	50¢ National Hockey League All-Stars (6th set in a series) < pane of 6 (6 designs: Henri Richard, Grant Fuhr, Allan Stanley, Pierre Pilote, Bryan Trottier, John Bucyk) < booklet pane of 6 (self-adhesive)	
Feb 1	Prepaid postcards (\$1.49 non-denominated) < Yellow Calla Lily < Red Calla Lily < Purple Dutch Iris	
Feb 4	50¢ Fishing Flies < booklet pane of 8 (self-adhesive) < souvenir sheet of 4 < four (\$1.49) postal cards (non-denominated) — one for each postage stamp design	
Feb 14	50¢ Nova Scotia Agricultural College 100th anniversary (self-adhesive booklet)	
Mar 4	50¢ EXPO 2005	
Mar 10	50¢ Daffodils < booklet pane of 8 (self-adhesive) < souvenir sheet of 2 < two (\$1.49) postal cards (non-denominated) — one for each postage stamp design	
Mar 18	50¢ TD Bank (self-adhesive booklet)	
Mar 23	Audubon birds < 50¢ (4 designs) < 85¢ booklet pane of 6 (self-adhesive)	
Apr 2	50¢ Canadian Bridges (block of 4, fully perforated self-adhesive pane of 16)	
Apr 12	50¢ Maclean's Magazine 100th anniversary	
Apr 22	50¢ Biosphere Reserves (2 designs); joint issue with Ireland < pane of 16 < souvenir sheet of 2	
Apr 29	50¢ Battle of the Atlantic	
May 6	50¢ Canadian War Museum (booklet pane of 8)	
May 27	Homer Watson < 50¢ single < souvenir sheet of two: 50¢ and 85¢	

## New Postcard Factory® Stamp Indicia

In the last *Corgi Times* we reported that the stamp indicia used on The Postcard Factory® postage paid postal cards had changed in late 2004.

A new stamp indicia is now being used. Is this one replacing the second design, or are there now two designs in use simultaneously? We don't have the answer at this time.

So far it has been reported on four different "Toronto" scenes.

The new image is that found on the 5¢ Canadian Flag stamp of 1965.



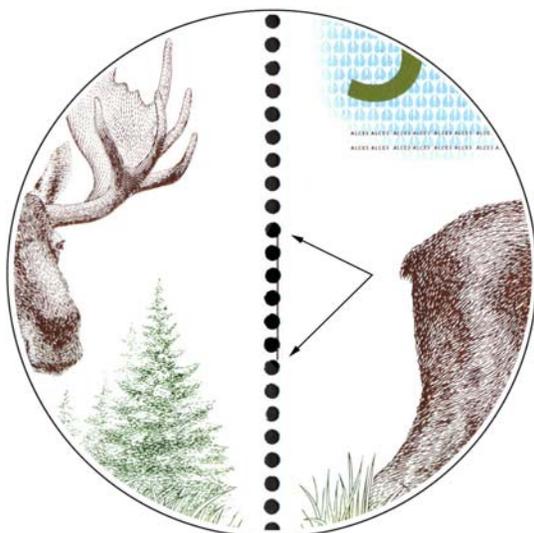
Scott 439  
June 30, 1965



## \$5 Moose Constant Variety

by: Rick Penko

On some panes of four of the \$5 Moose definitive (Scott #2007), there is a vertical guideline between the top two stamps. You may want to use a magnifying glass to look for this one, even though it is a fairly long line. It falls on the centre of the perforation holes. If there is a slight perforation shift the guideline is easier to spot. ♣



## Flower Definitives

by: Robin Harris

Spring time and the Flowers are blooming, both in nature and philatelically! The three face-different Flower definitives (all self-adhesive), released on December 20, 2004 for the rate-change that went into effect January 17, 2005 have produced, at a minimum, **ELEVEN** different varieties. If you want to go hog wild, you are talking dozens more!

All three designs in all of the various formats were printed by Lowe-Martin of Ottawa. They are a relatively newcomer to the printing of Canadian stamps and it seems to show. They must still be trying to work out various specific internal mechanisms to printing large quantities of stamps. This is evident by the inconsistent coil die cutting (explained later) and various booklet varieties (also explained later).

Before we get too far into this, there are three basic designs/values:

- < 50¢ Red Calla Lily. This stamp is the “work horse”, with the most usage by businesses. It meets the domestic first-class 0–30g rate ... by far the most common rate in use today.
- < 85¢ Yellow Calla Lily. This stamp has two purposes: domestic first-class “second step” (30–50g) letters and the 0–30g rate for letters to the United States.
- < \$1.45 Blue Iris. This stamp meets the International 0–30g rate.

All three values were issued in rolls: the 50¢ in rolls of 100 stamps; the other two values in rolls of 50 stamps. The 85¢ and \$1.45 were also issued in booklets of 6 stamps.

### ~ Coils

The three coils were initially serpentine die cut *somewhere between 8 and 9 horizontally*. Is that an *odd* way to describe the die cutting ... “somewhere between”? When the coils were issued I measured the die cutting at 8.6 horizontally (or *about 8½*). I checked one stamp and that was it ... my mistake.

The rolls come with a gutter every 10 stamps (gutters are usually collected in strips of 4). This was the first time that Canadian coil stamps included the printer and colour dot information on the roll itself.

The die cutting is applied to 10 stamps + 1 gutter *at a time*. The paper is then moved this distance and another 10 stamps and 1 gutter is die cut ... and so on, and so on. We believe there are 10 rolls printed side by side at one time. We also know that the same die cutting machine was used on all three values (see below).

It turns out that if you measure the die cutting for every 10 stamps between the gutters, you *may* get a different measurement for *every stamp!* **There is absolutely no consistency in the die cutting.** In fact, if you go a step further and measure other rolls, your result will be different from roll to roll! Based on this there are theoretically 100 different die cutting varieties (per denomination). This number comes from 10 stamps between gutters *times* 10 rolls across the web.

If you measure the die cutting “perforation” of enough rolls, you will get a range of 7.8, 7.9, 8.0 ... all the way up to 8.7, 8.8, and 8.9 (using the standard method of ‘perfs’ per 2cm). Thus, you can have a single stamp that has a die cut of 8.2 on the top and 8.7 on the bottom. The next stamp in the roll will have 8.7 on the top and some other die cut on the bottom!



Coils



Coil gutters — strips of 4

Illustrated are strips of 10, from gutter to gutter, noting the different “perforations” that have been recorded on just a couple of rolls (note: this is not a *complete* recording of all ten rolls across the width of the die cutting equipment).

	1st Ptg	2nd Ptg		1st Ptg		1st Ptg
	8.2	7.3		8.5		8.0
	8.7	7.0		8.5		8.3
	8.5	7.0		8.0		8.2
	8.4	6.8		8.5		8.4
	8.3	7.1		8.2		8.0
	8.4	6.9		8.4		8.2
	8.5	6.8		8.3		7.9
	8.2	7.1		8.5		7.8
	8.5	6.5		8.5		8.5
	8.7	6.8		8.7		8.4
	8.2	6.9		8.9		8.4

How will the catalogues treat this wide range of die cutting? In the United States, Scott will assign a new minor catalogue number if the perforation is “a quarter perf” different. Time will tell, I guess. The majority of measurements that were read were 8.5 at both the top and bottom.

The 50¢ value also exists where the two stamps immediately below the gutter have a minute inner ‘frame’ of tagging within the surrounding tagging. This also existed on the 49¢ Maple Leaf coil and occurs on the 85¢ Yellow Calla Lily booklet pane of 6.

### Second Printing

Hold onto your hats! A new printing of the 50¢ coil appeared in late February 2005 with a serpentine die cut closer to  $6\frac{1}{2}$  to  $7\frac{1}{4}$ , with a range in between! The examples I have seen appear to be mostly 6.9 (or rounded to 7). This is much different from the initial release of this stamp. I expect that the 80¢ and \$1.45 values also exist and will show up any day now.



Top: die cut 8.6  
Bottom: die cut 7

If you want to simplify it even further, at a bare minimum, each coil exists with a horizontal die cut of either  $8\frac{1}{2}$  or 7. Thus, this gives you “just” six examples to find (two of each value).

If you try to “simplify” just a bit, here is a chart that goes to *quarter* measurements:

First Printing (Dec 2004)					
Bottom \ Top	8	$8\frac{1}{4}$	$8\frac{1}{2}$	$8\frac{3}{4}$	9
8	x	x	x		
$8\frac{1}{4}$	x	x	x	x	
$8\frac{1}{2}$	x	x	x	x	
$8\frac{3}{4}$		x	x		
9				x	

Second Printing (Feb 2005)				
Bottom \ Top	$6\frac{1}{2}$	$6\frac{3}{4}$	7	$7\frac{1}{4}$
$6\frac{1}{2}$			x	
$6\frac{3}{4}$	x		x	
7		x	x	x
$7\frac{1}{4}$				

Notice that a die cut of 9 has only been found at the bottom of a stamp, not at the top. How can that be? Well, the actual reading of 8.9 (or rounded to 9) was found on the stamp immediately above the gutter. Thus, there is not a stamp immediately below this.

Based on this chart, using  $\frac{1}{4}$  measurements, there are 20 different combinations of die cutting available ... per each denomination.

### Thicker paper?

All three values have been found where the die cutting does not penetrate all of the way through the stamps, making it very difficult (if not impossible) to separate and remove a stamp from the backing paper. Is this because the stamp paper is thicker than normal?

### ~ Booklets

The 85¢ and \$1.45 values were also printed in booklet format. The single stamps from this source are straight die cut all around making it easy enough to differentiate a single copy from the coil version.

Currently there are three “basic” booklets:

- < 85¢
- < \$1.45 with colour dots at left
- < \$1.45 with colour dots at right



Booklet singles



85¢ booklet of 6



\$1.45 booklet of 6  
Colour dots at left



\$1.45 booklet of 6  
Colour dots at right

Which of the two \$1.45 booklets is the “normal one? The Canada Post *details* new-issue magazine illustrates the booklet with the guide dots at the left. However, this particular booklet is the harder one to find. A copy sold on eBay at the end of March for over US\$22.00, and the booklet is still “current”!

We noted above that there are three “basic” booklets. However, these have additional varieties: different tagging bar widths and different papers!

### Tagging

The 85¢ booklet comes with 3mm wide tag bars that include “cut outs”, or “notches”, around the design of the flower, and 4mm wide tag bars that pass over the flower. A third type, 4½mm tagging, exists where the 4mm tagging has a minute inner ‘frame’ of tagging within the surrounding tagging (same as what is found on the 50¢ coil, note earlier).

The \$1.45 with guide dots at left has only been found with the “cut out” 3mm wide tag bars. The \$1.45 booklet with guide dots at right has been found with both 3mm wide tag bars that include “cut outs” around the design of the flower, and 4mm wide tag bars that pass over the flower.

### Paper

Although the colour dot inscriptions show “F” type paper (Fasson) on all booklets, the \$1.45 booklet with guide dots at right also exists with paper having the same characteristics as Tullis Russell Coatings paper (TRC). This has been noted by comparing the paper texture with either the 50¢ Queen or 50¢ Flag booklets, both of which were printed on TRC paper (noted by a ‘C’ in the inscription). This TRC-type paper on an “F”-noted \$1.45 booklet is proving to be a hard item to find. Under 10x magnification (or better), F paper has a smooth, flat appearance; C (TRC) paper has a textured, “indented” appearance.

The 4mm tagging booklets have been found with different levels of fluorescence, either medium or high. More study may be needed here to determine how many different varieties there are.

A chart on the next page summarizes these various varieties.

Flower Booklets				
Tag width:	3mm (notched tagging)	4mm†		4½mm (inner tag 'frame')
Paper	Fasson	Fasson	TRC‡	Fasson
85¢	x	x		x
\$1.45 - dots at left	x			
\$1.45 - dots at right	x	x	x	

† tagging can appear either shiny or dull

‡ inscription says "F"

## ~ Constant Varieties

### *Constant Die Cut Variety on Coils*

Earlier we noted that the die cutting is applied 10 stamps at a time and that all three values were die cut using the same equipment. How do we know that? By a die cutting constant variety!

The variety consists of a "ski slope"-type slant to the die cutting, as illustrated below. This is found on 1 roll per box of 10 on all three values. On the roll itself, it repeats every 10 stamps ... it falls between the third and fourth stamp above the gutter. If you are collecting this in mint condition, a gutter strip of 6 is recommended. For the "used" collector, you will want *two* examples, one with the "slope" at the bottom of the stamp and one with the "slope" at the top of the stamp. Happy hunting. Remember, it occurs on all three denominations.



Constant "ski slope" die cut variety

### *Constant Inscription Variety on Booklets*

The \$1.45 booklet with the guide dots at left has been found with a constant plate variety in the inscription.

The right hand leg of the R of "Lacroix" is broken on some booklets.



## ~ More to come?

With all of the above said, we fully expect more varieties to appear. This has been proven in past years where just a couple of months after the initial release of new definitives, reprinted booklets with new advertising on the booklet covers began to show up.

A report received just as this issue was being finalized is that a new shipment of booklets received in the east show a bolder font in the inscription. Does this indicate a new printing or just 'over printing'? The rest of the booklet, including the rate information is still the same as the original release.

With stocks becoming low at postal outlets and re-ordering taking place on a regular basis, it is only a matter of time before more reprints appear. Perhaps the next *Corgi Times* will report on new discoveries? ♣

# International Reply Coupon

A new version of the “new” International Reply Coupon (IRC) has been found. Andrew Chung reported in mid-February the finding of this new variety.

The original release (illustrated below at the left) had a 20011119 (Nov 19, 2001) date. This is found below the bar code on the back of the coupon.

The new version has a 20040315 date (Mar 15, 2004). Another difference is the addition of micro-printing at the bottom left on the front side. This reads, in black, “101914”. It is not yet known what the significance of this is.

Both versions still expire as of 20061231 (Dec 31, 2006).

The numerical sequence at the bottom of the back of the coupon ends with a two-letter code. Do these represent the position on the overall printing sheet? Various codes have been reported: the initial printing has been found with letter codes ranging from AA through AO. The newer version has been reported with AP, AR, AT, and AS codes.



Figure 27  
IRC — 2001 edition



Figure 28  
IRC — 2004 edition

**BNAPEX 2005**  
Edmonton, Alberta  
September 2 to 4  
Plan to attend our study group meeting

# Three Strikes Out

by: *Leopold Beaudet*

## Missing strikes from CBN, Ashton-Potter, and BABN

The most spectacular perforation error is a completely imperforate pane, caused by a sheet not being fed through the perforating machine. Missing perforation strikes can also produce spectacular errors. With a missing strike, a sheet is fed through the perforator - a comb perforator - but, for whatever reason, the comb misses one or more strikes.

Canadian Bank Note Co. (CBN) produced several examples of this type of error. In many cases, the missing strike was the first or last one so only one row or column of stamps at the edge of the sheet was affected. Examples date from the very first set of stamps CBN perforated using a comb perforator, the 1973 Caricature definitives. Three different values, the 2¢, 6¢, and 8¢, are known with one strike missing. CBN also produced errors with two adjacent strikes missing. Examples include the 1979 17¢ Nelligan-Grove pair and the 1982 2¢ Artifact definitive. The 1987 36¢ Parliament definitive exists both ways, with one and with two strikes missing (both illustrated in colour in the May-June 2000 issue of *Corgi Times* [11]), and the 1977 10¢ Christmas stamp (showing an Indian nativity scene) is known with both two strikes missing and one strike missing in the middle of the pane. Because CBN used a H-comb perforator, a missing strike produced stamps with one side completely imperforate and the two perpendicular sides partly imperforate. The most recent missing strike is on the 1997 \$8.00 Grizzly Bear definitive. A pane of four with the top strike missing sold for \$3,220 (including 15% buyer's premium) in a 2004 Eastern Auctions Ltd. sale [3]. The error is illustrated in the July-August 2004 issue of *Corgi Times* [9] and in colour in the Eastern Auctions Ltd. catalogue and in the latest Darnell EFO catalogue [10].

Ashton-Potter Ltd. also produced several missing strike errors beginning with the 1973 6¢ Christmas stamp (showing ice skates). In all cases that I'm aware of, just one strike is missing at the edge of the sheet. Ashton-Potter perforated all the stamps with the error using a T-comb perforator, so the missing strike produced stamps with one side imperforate and the other three sides normal.

After abandoning the Goebel web-fed press in favour of a lithographic sheet-fed press, British American Bank Note Co. (BABN) also produced some missing strike errors. I'm aware of three examples, on the 1988 38¢ QE II definitive and the 1989 \$1.00 and \$2.00 Architecture definitives. In all three cases, BABN used a two-row T-comb perforator and the missing strike occurred in the middle of the sheet, so two rows of stamps were affected. One row was completely imperforate and the second was imperforate on three sides.

Since these missing strike errors are so spectacular, they tend to get publicized, and catalogued, and priced at a premium - provided they are found by someone who recognizes that they are a major error, highly valued by philatelists. But sometimes finders are so oblivious to the potential value of the error that they use the stamps for their intended purpose. This was certainly the case with the missing strike errors on the 1985 34¢ Louis Hébert (four used copies known) [1] [2] [7] and 1986 34¢ Philippe Aubert de Gaspé commemoratives (one used copy known) [6] [8].

This article describes three missing strike errors that have received very little publicity to date and/or were not recognized as major errors when they were discovered.

### 1982 3¢ Artifact definitive (Stable Lantern)

Richard Gratton writes a fairly regular column on Canadian varieties in *Philatélie Québec*, a bimonthly (formerly monthly) magazine published by the Fédération québécoise de philatélie. The column is very popular amongst the magazine's readers, and Richard Gratton receives a lot of feedback in the form of varieties discovered by the readership. In fact, much of the column is devoted to reader reports which cover the gamut from lithographic "hickie" varieties to major errors - like missing strikes!

The September 1992 column [4] illustrated part of a strip of 20 of the 3¢ Stable Lantern definitive with the bottom strike missing. The report was submitted by Gaston Hardy, a reader from Sept-Îles, QC, a community on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River. The write-up mentioned that Mr. Hardy submitted an illustration of a complete strip of 20 from the bottom of the pane, but did not indicate whether this was the only strip found.

The 3¢ Artifact definitive was issued on 19 October 1982. Ashton-Potter produce the initial printing, CBN reprinted the stamp on 10 January 1985, and Ashton-Potter regained the printing contract, producing a new printing on Rolland paper on 4 July 1986. The illustration in *Philatélie Québec* clearly shows that the variety was perforated using a H-comb perforator that travelled from top to bottom (or vice versa), so the variety must have come from the CBN printing.

CBN printed the low value Artifact definitives in sheets of six panes of 100 stamps, two rows by three columns. Since CBN perforated five sheets simultaneously, 150 copies of the error were produced of which at least ten are known to be in philatelic hands.

### 1987 42¢ Artifact definitive (Linen Chest)

The 42¢ Linen Chest definitive was issued on 6 May 1987 and replaced by the 43¢ Lynx Mammal definitive on 18 January 1988. Ashton-Potter printed the stamp, and perforated it from bottom to top using a 1-row T-comb perforator.

On 29 April 1989, at the bourse of the ORAPEX show in Ottawa, I spotted the missing strike error shown in Figure 1. The dealer, Nepean Stamp Co., a collectibles dealer from Ottawa, told me that the variety had been found in an Ottawa post office. By the time someone who knew something about the penchant of philatelists for oddball stamps spotted the variety at the post office, there were just two copies left. The dealer had already sold one copy, and was offering the second for \$250.

Ashton-Potter printed the medium value Artifact definitives in sheets of six panes arranged in three rows by two columns. The panes consisted of 50 stamps, five rows by ten columns. Since Ashton-Potter perforated four or five sheets at a time, up to 100 copies of the variety could exist. However, I have not seen or heard of any, other than the two handled by Nepean Stamp Co.



Figure 1  
Missing perforation strike on the 1987 43¢ Linen Chest Artifact definitive.

### 1989 38¢ International Trade

Late in 2002, Ian Kimmerly, a prominent Ottawa dealer, showed me a missing strike error on a used copy of the 38¢ International Trade commemorative issued on 2 October 1989 (see Figure 2). Ashton-Potter Ltd. printed this commemorative and perforated it from right to left using a one-row T-comb perforator. As a result of the missing strike, the left side of the stamp is imperforate. The stamp comes from the first column of the pane so there are no perforations between it and the left pane margin.

The lucky finder spotted the variety while soaking a used mixture, and brought it to Ian for his comments and evaluation. The postmark is a circular date stamp on which the following letters appear: "NEW G...". As far as I am aware, the collector kept his find.

When Ian showed me this error, I had a sense of déjà vu. After some digging, I found a second example described and illustrated by Richard Gratton in *Philatélie Québec* back in 1996 [5]. The error had been found by Jean A. Hébert of Montreal. It too was a used copy cancelled with a circular date stamp, most of which is visible, albeit smudged.

With just a bit of imagination, one can make out the following letters in the postmark: "N...ERMANY". The two examples of this error, found in different mixtures at different times, came from the same post office, New Germany, Nova Scotia!



Figure 2  
Missing perforation strike on a used copy of the 1989 38¢ International Trade commemorative, postmarked New Germany, NS. Courtesy Ian Kimmerly Stamps.

The 38¢ International Trade was issued in panes of 50, 10 rows by 5 columns. Thus, a single pane would have ten copies of the variety. I do not know how many panes there were in the sheet, but typically Ashton-Potter printed commemoratives of this size in sheets of four panes, and perforated four or five sheets simultaneously. If so, there could be up to 100 copies of the variety, probably sent to two different post offices. To date, the only examples I know of are the two mentioned above.

### Concluding Remarks

This almost certainly isn't the end of the story. As illustrated by the discoveries in this article, finding and recognizing major errors such as missing perforation strikes is a serendipitous affair. If an error is discovered by someone who knows about philately, chances are it will achieve philatelic prominence. But with so few errors among so many millions of stamps distributed to thousands of post offices across the country, the odds are that many errors fall through the sieve into obscurity.

How many more missing strike errors have gone uncatalogued and unreported? Do you have any? Do you have copies of any of the three errors described in this article?

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## Red Dues

by: John Arn

Post card from Zwickau, Germany to West Minster, BC, 25 XII ? rated by German Postal Service postage due of T 10/25 (box in center of card - quite faint).

The German stamp was issued in 1961 and was part of a definitive series continued through at least 1967.

The 10¢ red due was issued in November 1967 (First Series). Consequently, it is clear that the first delivery was attempted in March 1969 as noted in the center of the card. My first reading of that date had been 1964.

As an aside, it is interesting the GDR post card rate to foreign countries from early 1960's to 1971 was 15 pfennigs. The actual short payment was 5 pfennigs however the German (GDR) practice at that time was to double the shortage which accounts for their marking the short payment as 10/25. (My German rate source does not have anything explaining the doubling practice and whether it applied to out going mail as is the case in this instance)

In Canada the calculation of the tax was quite clear. For mail between Nov. 1, 1968 and June 30, 1971 the originating country's fraction was to be multiplied by 12¢ — the Canadian international surface letter rate of the first step designated for that period.

Postage due was  $10/25 \times 12 = 4.8$  or rounded 5¢. Clearly the calculation was not made. Undoubtedly the 10 in the fraction translated to the 10¢ red due — Scott #J27. This resulted in an overpayment of 5¢. ♣



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## Cameo Winnipeg Tagging Corner Blocks

by: John Arn

Two pages from the Winnipeg tag section of my Cameo exhibit show *two sizes* of field stock corner blocks used in the Winnipeg Phosphorescent Experimental Tagging program.

All blocks are normal type "W2" (Winnipeg 2-bar). All eight blocks illustrated are from matched sets.



Cameo Winnipeg tag corner blocks  
Narrow selvedge at left

I suspect the three narrow selvedge blocks are from my early holdings before I even thought of doing anything extra with the Cameos. But, they could be from one of the several lots I subsequently purchased.

I have looked at a lot of dealers' stock and made a number of inquiries and so far I have yet to find any narrow selvedge blocks or anyone who is aware of there being two sizes. I am looking for the narrow version in the 4¢ and 5¢ and of course do not even know if they exist.

Why two sizes? and where are the 4¢ and 5¢? Does anyone in our membership have any information on these in their files? ♣



Cameo Winnipeg tag corner blocks  
Wide selvedge at left



