

July 1984

PUBLISHED BY THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
CANADIAN PERFIN STUDY GROUP

Volume 5, Number 4

Jim Catterick, editor; 210 Steeles Ave. W., Apt. 2102, Brampton, ON, Can. L6Y 2K3

NEW PERFIN TYPE

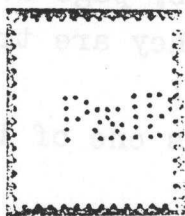
H1



A new Perfin, HBC has been discovered. The Perfin is a 2¢ red Admiral, Scott # 106. Surprisingly, the perfin is not listed in the U.S. Perfin Catalogue, so the origin is most likely Canadian. Unfortunately the wavy line cancel does not supply any clues to the location.

PERFIN DELETED

P10



P16 is not a perfin type so you can scratch a RJ 100 Perfin from your want lists. With a clue from Jack Brandt, P16 is a double strike of P6, P&L. I'm sure that many collectors have looked at this perfin and wondered about it. The L is missing the middle hole across the lower part of the L, so that the last hole from the L makes the second P look like a probable B.

G6

G/LD Coil

Mike Dicketts has this Perfin on Scott's # 127 & 128.

Wally Gutzman also reports this Perfin on the 2¢ Admiral Coil.

C36

C13 C9L

with the extra holes below the L as reported by Dave Hanes!

Wally Gutzman finds the same extra holes on Scott's 163 & 197.

C27

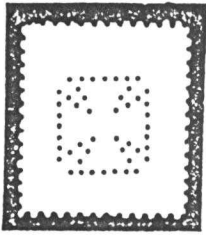
C12L CH9 London, Ont.

Jack Benningen has received a few reports, but would appreciate hearing from all of the members who have any C12L in their collection.

C29

C12N CH9 Ottawa, Ont.

Jack would also like to have the stamp numbers and missing holes where evident to further his study on this C12



Design No.1
How to find the "A" position?
by Conrad M. Tremblay

Over a year ago, the BNAPS Study Group member Thomas Inglis wrote an interesting article in the "Perforator" Volume 2, Number 9, on the CBC perfins and on the No.1 Design, perforator manufactured for the Gutta Percha Rubber Co. This was enough to whip my unsatisfied curiosity. Collecting positions, I always had problems with the perforated stamps from these two companies. Tom straighten my CBC's, and decided to make my own investigation to find a way to positively identify the "A" position for the design #1 and I did.

First, I checked the last reprint of the handbook on "Canadian Stamps With Perforated Initials, third edition reprinted in 1979. I found 3 reproductions of the Design #1 : one on the cover, the second in the center of the printed golden rod addenda and the last is shown at the end of the regular listing of patterns, page 27. Of course, these three illustrations look alike, but they are truly images of a stamp punched in three different positions!

The fun starts : which one is the "A" position? ...Is one of them right?

I passed in review the stamps in my collection and my duplicates several times and I was going in circle all the time until I tough of a basic criterion based on common sense. If someone wants a perforator made up, he would expect his name, initials or the insignia of his company be the exact reproduction of the model submitted when punched in the stamps glued on the envelopes face up.

So far we all agree that it is a solid criterion for establishing the "A" position of any pattern of any country and that the "A" positions should be the commonest position found.

By making a final survey of my duplicates, I grouped the identical punches when looking at the stamp face up in an upright position.

Position		Wrigley	Clock	Duplicates	Collection	Total
A	B					
A	1	A		32	9	41
B	5	E		1	4	5
C	3	C		22	7	29
D	7	G		0	5	5
		Total		55	25	80

The table gives you the results I came up with - 41 designs alike and at this time they should be called the "A" positions.

How to separate the different positions?

If the drawing of the maltese cross would be symmetrically done, the four center holes would make a perfect square. But fortunately for the purpose of this study, the design is not perfect, with one hole out of position as illustrated by the Figure 1.

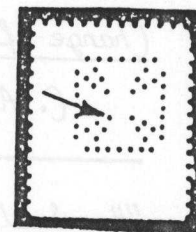
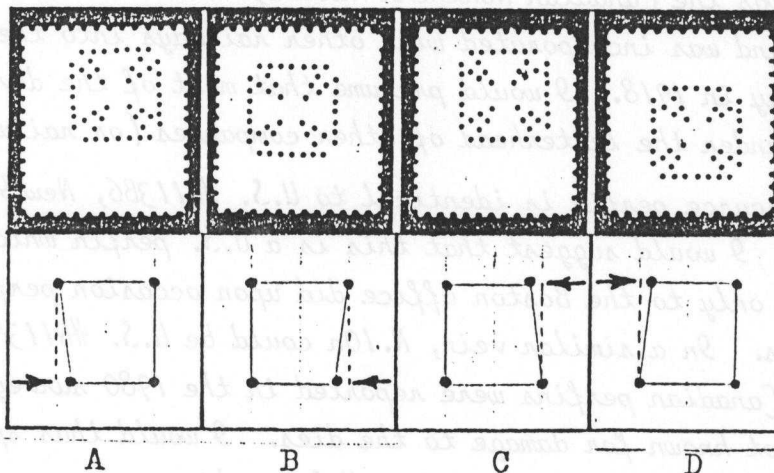


Figure 1

The Figure two (below) shows all 4 positions.

We notice from the survey of the 80 perfins that the sheets were rarely punched with the gum side up, giving us the position B(E) and D(G) relatively rare.



A

B

C

D

Figure 2

Back of stamp

5

4

7

3

- This design was punched manually by a single head perforator.
- The small definitive stamps were never found (yet) punched sideways, limiting the varieties of positions to 4, as shown above.
- The period of usage seem to span from 1903 to 1931 issues, and are known on 31 stamps from the number 104 to 190 as reported in the "Perforator" by the study group.

It is time now to identify all your perfins with the Design #1. by position, time to make a list and to send it to me as soon as possible for publication of a check list so much wanted.

You can reach me at : Box 85, St. Gabriel, Que., JOK 2N0

At the same time, mention the stamps you have to trade ... why not? It is an excellent occasion to increase your holdings!

Exhibits by Members Congratulations are in order to Wally Gutzman. His exhibit of Canadian and Newfoundland Perfins at his local stamp show won him a Vermeil.

Change of Address

C. Allan Burger, 1714 Kirkwall Crescent, Mississauga, ON Can. L4X 1N7

"How Small is Small" in our May issue brought the following notes from Jon Johnson.

M17

M. 12 Mackenzie & Mann Co., was a partnership of two notable Canadian Railway developers. Individually and together they were involved in many of the railways planned and built around Winnipeg. The largest of their railways was the Canadian Northern Railway which went into receivership in 1917 and was incorporated with other railways into the Canadian National Railway in 1918. I would presume that most of the developer's mail was sent under the letterhead of other companies (or railways) they controlled.

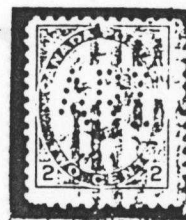
N10

N. 10b This scarce perfin is identical to U.S. #N113B6, New York Life, Boston, Mass. I would suggest that this is a U.S. perfin which for some reason known only to the Boston office did upon occasion perforate Canadian stamps. In a similar vein, N. 10n could be U.S. #N113A3, Buffalo N.Y. Both Canadian perfins were reported in the 1980 survey, and NYL perfins are not known for damage to the dies. I would thus speculate that both N. 10b and N. 10n originate from U.S. machines.

A4

A. 6 The largest shareholder in the Alberta Railway & Irrigation Company was the C.P.R. and the land agent who sold all of the AR&I's newly irrigated lands was Osler, Hammond & Nanton, both of whom used perfins although not prolifically prior to 1912. It is possible that the AR&I was just keeping up with the Jones with modern business equipment. I have seen many private stationery post cards (Webb P. 22 etc.) all but two of which had the postage reprinted on them. The two with stamps were both from the Lethbridge accounting office and were dated January 2, 1909, and October 2, 1909, and these can be found illustrated following these notes. It is possible that most of the cards had preprinted postage thus reducing the requirement for stamps. I would presume that if the perforator still exists it would be somewhere in southern Alberta.

ALBERTA RAILWAY & IRRIGATION COMPANY



The 'ARI' perforated insignia was most likely only used for a portion of the less than eight year life of the Alberta Railway & Irrigation Company. The Alberta Railway & Irrigation Company was formed in 1904 and was absorbed into the Canadian Pacific Railway on January 1st, 1912.



One very surprising fact is that this perforated insignia is more common in United States postage stamps. The United States postage was required as the Alberta Railway & Irrigation Company had an interchange in Sweetgrass, Montana, with the Great Northern Railway. During the 1980 census only five copies of this insignia were reported, and no covers, excluding the two voucher notices below which surfaced recently.

PRIVATE POST CARD

THIS SIDE IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY

*The Secretary - Treasurer
Provo School District.*

FORM 1-6-38 1M

The Alberta Railway & Irrigation Company.

COUNTING DEPARTMENT
JAN 25 1909
RAYMOND, ALTA.

H. Thompson

Sir,

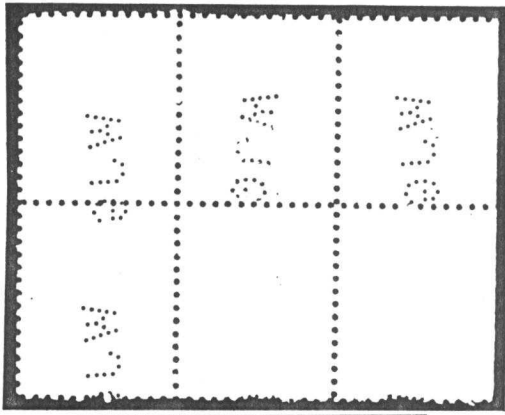
A Voucher in your favor for \$ 7.60

paid at Raymond Office

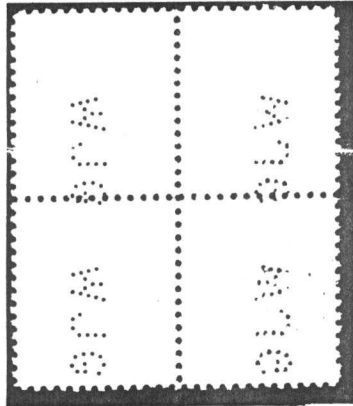
Please call and collect from Agent

THE ALBERTA RAILWAY AND IRRIGATION COMPANY

Per A. H. Lopp Cashier



An interesting block of 6, Scott's No. 111, 5¢ Blue Admiral. 2 of the block did not get "perfinned". The block also shows the use of a single perforator. 3 stamps punched in "d" position, and 1 punched in "h" position. The two top right are a mirror pair.



A block of the 10¢ Admiral, Scott's No. 118. Precancelled Toronto, Ont. This clearly shows the mirror pairs.

Clock positions on the perfins

I have received quite a few letters from members listing their perfins with all 8 positions. Most have also included their 7 positions in the hope that another member will have their missing position. Have you reported yours? I would like to publish a list in the fall.

British North America Philatelic Society

Canadian Perfin Study Group

Chairman

Jonathan Johnson
Box 6118, Station D
Calgary
Alberta
T2P 2C7

Secretary

J. L. Purcell
6 Richardson Drive
Kingston
Ontario
K7M 2S6

The Editor

The BNA Perforator
Jim Catterick
210 Steeles Ave. W. #2102
Brampton, Ont.
L6Y 2K3