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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

PATRICK DURBANO

Here it is August already and I am only on the second Perforator of the year, I guess I will be busy this fall pumping out 4 more issues. Well, actually I won't be publishing all 4 issues for the balance of this year as our Chairman has given his approval to issue the Study Group Auctions separate from the newsletter. However, we will still number them as part of the annual set of Perforators.

The reason this has resulted is mainly due to the different schedules kept by Conrad Tremblay and myself. Conrad is retired and spends much of his time at his cottage and doing other well-deserved retirement activities. He also plans the closing dates of the auctions so that he can devote his full attention to them. I, on the other hand, am very much tied to the office and most of my free time is devoted to my family and other household activities. So when I actually get the 15 hours or so that are required to layout the newsletter, produce galleys and have my wife proofread the final draft I usually have shortened Conrad's closing date for the auction which requires me to move the closing date thus interfering with Conrad's vacation plans. So the solution (thanks Mark) was to allow for split issues.

In the last issue, I put out a call for ideas for a commemorative 100th issue and to-date have received just one response. I would encourage all of our members to contribute something. From a copy of your favourite perfin, to how you started collecting perfins to some new research. I know everyone can send something and I trust that you will.

On the exhibiting front, I am proud to announce that I received a Large Silver at CAPEX 96 for my exhibition of 5-Hole and 4-Hole OHMS perfins. My only problem now is where do I exhibit next? Any ideas?

For those of you that keep track of such things, you may notice a change in the layout of this newsletter. This time it is due to my changing companies. I am now working for Eaton's as a Relationship Marketing Manager in the Toronto Eaton Center Tower where aside from putting in 50 hours a week I have access to Microsoft Office. As can see with the Drop Capital Letters, produces a slightly different layout than does the WordPerfect format you were used to.

As for the issue at hand, we have several more articles from Conrad Tremblay as well as an article from Barry Senior who has attempted to plate the Newfoundland Patterns. I have also put out a warning regarding some mint 4-hole OHMS fakes that I have encountered.

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CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

MARK FENNELL

SEEKING A NEW CHAIRMAN

At our Study Group meeting at BNAPEX 95 in Edmonton, I stated that the 1995-96 term of office as Group Chairman would be my last, having served 5 years and at 75 years of age, thought it time for a younger person with new ideas to be at the helm. See the December 5, 1995 issue of the Perforator.

Our constitution states that the executive positions of our Study Group will be reviewed at the annual BNAPS convention, and the holders of same being confirmed, withdrawn, or appointed (elected) by a majority of the Study Group members in attendance. This will take place at BNAPEX96.

If you would like to volunteer for chairmanship of our Study Group, would you please phone me at (306) 244-6629 as soon as possible OR if you are asked to let your name stand for consideration, I trust you will do so.

Sorry that I have been so late in drawing this matter to your attention.

BNAPEX96

The 1996 annual meeting of BNAPS will be held at the Worthington Hotel, Fort Worth, Texas from August 30 to September 1, 1996. As I will not be there, Jon Johnson has kindly agreed to chair the Perfins Seminar on Saturday August 31st beginning at 11:00 a.m., and will also give a talk on some aspect of perfin collecting.

Any Perfins Club members who may wish to, have been invited to join us for this seminar.

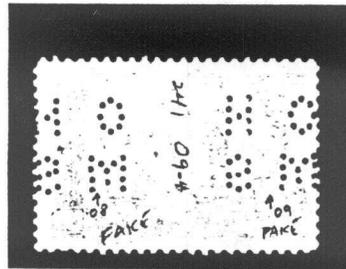
4-HOLE "OHMS" FAKES

PATRICK DURBANO

As a word of caution to those of you that collect OHMS material. I have recently seen some 4-hole material (mostly Back of Book, Coronation and Royal Visit material) that have dangerous fake perfins.

Many appear as mint pairs with 3 patterns covering 2 wide stamps. Of the 3 patterns, one pattern is a Fake type O9 (the other 2 are Fake type O8). As you may be aware, the Type O9 pattern was not introduced until 1947. The earliest known cancel is on a 10c Peace Issue dated April 21, 1947. Based on this date, Royal Visit, Coronation and Special Delivery issues should not exist with the O9 pattern.

I have illustrated an example of an O241 canceled July 2, 1941 in Guelph, Ontario. The pattern on the left is a Fake O8 and the pattern on the right is a Fake O9. Be sure to compare both of the OHMS patterns to your 4th Edition handbook before you buy. (Caveat Emptor!)



Fake "O8" Fake "O9"

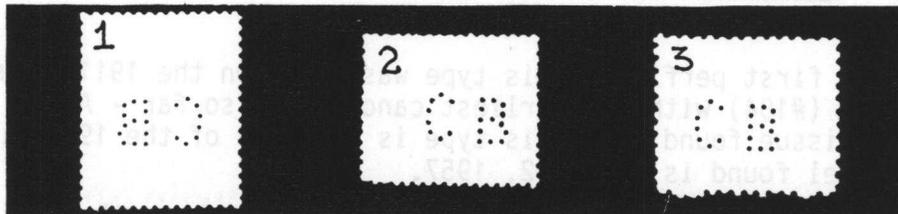
WANTED TO BUY

International Harvester Co. perfin or photocopy of same on stamps of Newfoundland, Great Britain and/or USSR for worldwide display. Write with price to: Barry S. Clarke
24 Spedding Rd.
Whangarei, New Zealand.

In the December 16, 1994 issue of the "Perforator", Michael Dicketts wrote an interesting article titled: "Identifying the Unidentified" where he speculated that the scarcity of the C3 and C4 designs might be attributed to the lost of the perforator's in the Toronto fire of 1904 (see the "Perforator February 1986).

The C3 design will be the main subject of this article. I am not sure where this trail will lead me, but at least I have the conviction to go few steps further on the footpath already known.

When I got my first C3 perfin on the Edward issue #90, I looked for a similar pattern in the U.S. perfin catalogue without success - but the GB catalogue published by McGee and Tomkins gave me the design C46.46 (ill.#2) I was looking for. Then, going through my GB issue collection, I found the GB #138 - the one shilling value - in use between 1902-1911 period and it was matching exactly the pattern shown in our 1985 Handbook (ill.#1) and my stamp. It also matching perfectly an other perfin I added to my collection since then. It is the Scott #111 punched in the position 6 (ill.#3), cancelled TORONTO, ON/STATION' a cancel looking like a depot cancel but not listed in the Ludlow catalogue.



So — C3 design originated from Great Britain and the perforator was in use before and after the Toronto fire. Let's look at the stamp issues we found with this punch:

- The C3 design has been recorded to exist on the following Scott No. 89 in the position 2 and 4, #90 in the position 1-2-3-4-6-8, #91 in the position 2, #104 in the position 1-2-3, #106 in the position 2-4-6-8, #111 in the position 5-6 and on #116 in the position 6.

- While the King Edward VII stamps No. 89, 90 and 91 were issued on July 1st 1903, the King George V stamps #104 and 106 were issued on December 22 1911 and finally the # 111 and 116 were both issued on January 17, 1912.

This wide span of issues (from 1903 to 1912) clearly proves the survival of that single-die perforator - if it was located in the office of "Caufield Burns" during that Great Toronto Fire of April 19, 1904. It is probable that this perforator belonged to Caufield Burns, but the authors of the GB catalogue did not identify the user of their C46.6 design yet. Only the find of a perfin cover with the name of the company could clarify the origin and the usage of this design.

The same remarks apply to the 2 other designs mentioned in Mike's article:

- the C4 design was also used between 1903 and 1911 included. It was found on the #89, 91 pos. 1, 91, 104 and 106 pos. 4.

- the A2 design was used on the 1911 issues #104 pos. 1, #106 pos.1-3 and on the 1912 customs issues, but no stamp perforated with this design was reported to be used before the "Great Fire".

So, the theory of one-time mailing with these three scarce designs do not apply - although it could have been the case for other types...

W7 - W.H. WALKIN Co. located in Vancouver, B.C.

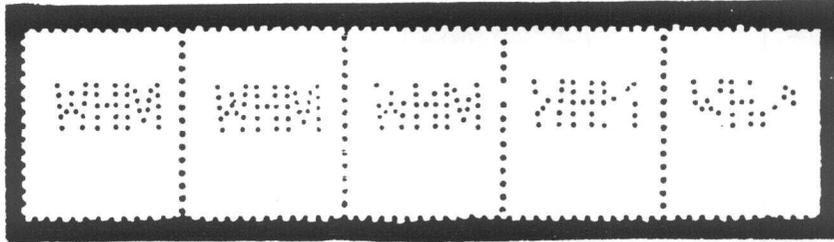
by Conrad Tremblay

The stamp:

Shown is a well preserved strip of 5, punched by a 5-die perforator on Scott No. 117, the 10¢ blue of the Admiral series issued on February 20, 1922.

The punch:

Recorded so far on 42 issues (including 8 revenues) and in 90 different positions, this perforator shows that three of the five dies have missing holes, giving you only a 40% chance to find a perfin of this type with a complete pattern.



The rarity:

The first perfin of this type was found on the 1911 issue of the Admiral issue (#104) with the earliest cancel seen so far - April 15, 1913 - and the last issue found with this type is the #341 of the 1954 Wilding series, the last cancel found is March 12, 1957.

Going by these dates (1913 to 1957), we can say that this perforator was in use during approximately 45 years. No new issues have been found since the 1982 survey when only 198 copies were reported - and today, it is still a relatively scarce perfin, even if it was classified with a PF of "F" in our Handbook. That been said, my strip of 5 could be declared a "Golden Piece"!

NEWFOUNDLAND PERFORATORS

Recently, while reading through some back issues of The Perforator, I came across an article by Mike Dicketts entitled "Searching In Dusty Corners", (March 31, 1989). In this article Mike discusses known and proposed perforator types. I read the article with interest noting that the Nfld. perforators A3 and G5 were suspected to be single die machines, while the A9 and A8 were not listed at all. I contacted Mike and found that he had no new information to add since that article was written. At this point I went through my Nfld. perfins and with some help from Russ Deveau and Mike Behm, via some photocopies of items in their collections, I made the following observations.

1) The A9 perforator is almost certainly a 5 die machine as seen in Fig. 1. The only thing lacking to complete the setting is the tie in between the third and fourth dies.

2) Vertical pairs of A9 stamps show no consistency in the vertical separation of the patterns, giving further merit to the 5 die theory. This is clearly obvious in Fig. 2.

3) The G5 perforator appears to be a 2 die machine. Figs. 3 & 4 show a pair and a strip of three which both indicate a 2 die setting quite clearly. I have at least a dozen other stamps which have portions of two patterns, these line up perfectly in all cases.

4) The A3 is also a multi die machine, at least 3 (Fig. 5), and probably 5. Again the spacing on vertical pairs is not consistent, (Fig. 6), pointing to it not being more than 5.

5) At present not enough information is available to make a determination on the A8 pattern, other than the fact that it is a multi die perforator.

I would like to thank Russ and Mike for their help and also Mike Dicketts for writing the article that started me thinking about this. I would like to ask the members of our study group to send in photocopies of any stamps they have which may help to expand on what I have found so far.

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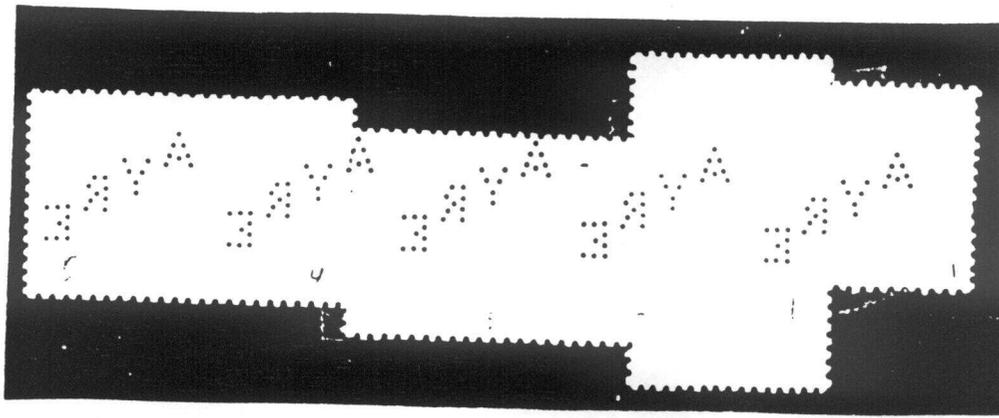


Fig. 1

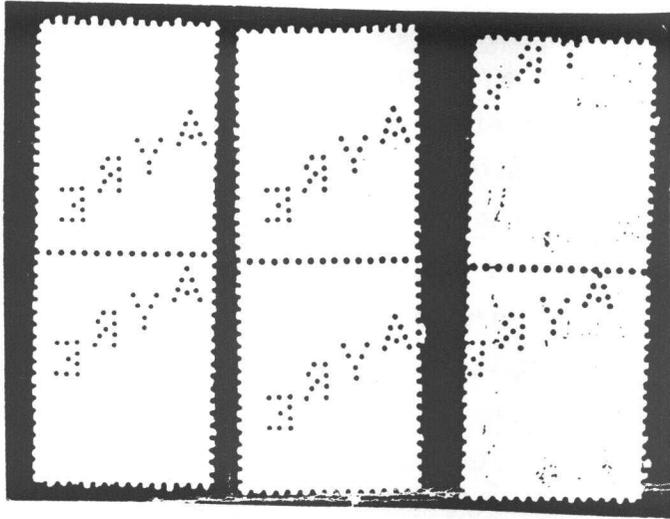


Fig. 2

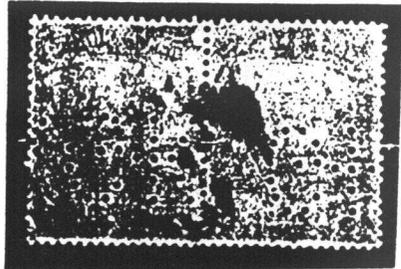


Fig. 3

Russ Deveau

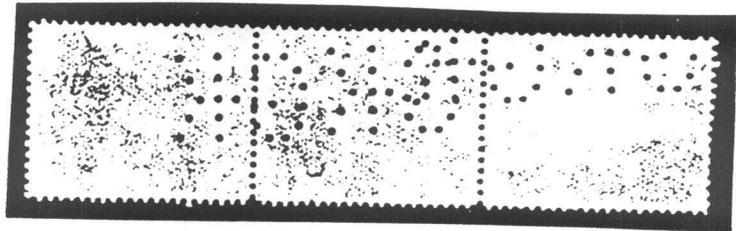


Fig. 4

Mike Behm



Fig. 5

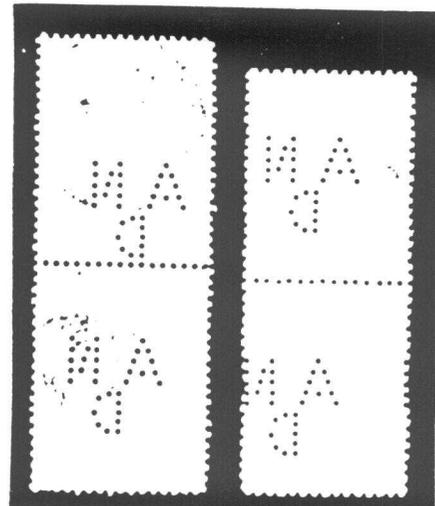


Fig. 6