

Is the Transportation Series dead?

Linn's ran a scare headline in its issue of March 27.

It said:

Transportation coils end; three new series begin

Linn's attributed the demise of the Transportation coils to Mary Ann Owens, a distinguished collector who is a member of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee (CSAC, pronounced see-sac). She spoke at SCOPEX, a show at State College, Pa., where two new coil stamps were released.

A week later, Owens told Richard Nazar, a contributing editor of *TPN*, that the Transportation Series should end this year but that 10 more designs for it are available.

She was unable, under CSAC's rules, to indicate what those designs might be, but said she was pushing for a couple of denominations.

Nazar said she smiled when he inquired if one of the designs could be a dirigible.

In any event, Linn's assertion faces an-



other problem: The Postal Service has announced that a 20¢ Cog Railway and a 32¢ Steamboat, both most definitely in the Transportation Series, will be issued on June 9 and June 2, respectively.

As quoted by Fred Baumann, Owens said: "[T]here will be some new varieties of the older [Transportation Series] designs, such as the 20¢ (sic) Circus Wagon reprint on March 20."

Ken Lawrence, who heard Owens' remarks, said this is probably a typographical error and that Owens took note of the 5¢ Circus Wagon and the 20¢ Cog Railway.

Linn's made it seem that she ignored the designs shown above.

Two new series were released at SCOPEX:

Please turn to Page 71

New coils have plate numbers every 14th stamp

When USPS issued news releases on the new definitives on March 10, it said the press used at J.W. Fergusson & Sons to print the 5¢ Butte, 10¢ Auto, 15¢ Tail Fin, and 25¢ Juke Box was of an unspecified type. These stamps have a plate-number interval of 14, a new spacing.

This, of course, indicates a new press.

It also will lower prices for new PNCs since dealers will have less scrap to contend with.

The new stamps have back numbers for accounting purposes, with three digits for rolls of 500, four digits for rolls of 3,000, and four digits for rolls of 10,000.

The Plate Number Coil Study Group's Gerald H. Clark has determined that the back numbers have three positions, top, bottom, and center. This has led him to conclude that the plates on the new press are 14x25 because each tray of 50 rolls contains 24 rolls with numbers on top, 24 rolls with numbers at the bottom, and 2 rolls with numbers at the middle.

"If Richard Sennett says the back-

numbering machine works two rolls at a time, these centered rolls must be the result of having one roll on the outside that could not be paired," Clark said.

But it is not necessarily true that you'll be able to find back numbers on the

stamps with the plate numbers. That depends on which stamp in the roll gets the first back number.

Richard J. Schulman has done the arithmetic to figure this out.

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STUDY GROUP LIVES

This issue of *The Plate Number* contains articles by A.S. Cibulskas, Gerald H. Clark, and me. We wrote them as members of the Plate Number Coil Study Group, which has worked on PNCs since 1982 and which produced *The Plate Number Coil Catalog* until 1991.

In recent issues, Larry Haynes has contributed what has been one of the most important research works into PNCs, his detailed study of the Cottrell presses.

On April 1 (April Fool's Day) Richard J. Nazar, publisher of the much-belated 1995 catalog, unilaterally dissolved the study group "effective immediately" because the group "has exhausted its usefulness."

Nazar charged that the study group "was limiting productive PNC research and communication by segregating itself from the broadening PNC community."

Questions:

- Who else has been doing productive PNC research?
- Where has it been published?

Nazar, who became coordinator of the study group when I gave up the editorship of the catalog in 1990 (after I published the 1991 edition), said the "widening divergence of our individual ethics and concerns over proprietary information" were factors in his decision to dissolve the group.

But the study group was not for Nazar to dissolve. I had to give up the catalog and the running of the study group for health reasons. Since I quit, I have had serious medical problems. But since then, I have published some of the following research in *The Plate Number*:

- Ken Lawrence's analysis of Plate 7 of the 20¢ Flag, which gave us insights on how the C Press worked.
- The postal history of DAV covers.
- The overprinting of the 10¢ Tractor Trailer.
- All UV lamps are not alike. Some give bad results.
- Quantities of Eagle and Shields.
- The truth about the Redwood City provisional scam (PNC³ printed the huckster's version, unedited.)

And there has been infinitely more. Lest anyone think *TPN* is "for profit," let me quickly shoot down that idea. It isn't.

Dr. Robert Rabinowitz said this of Nazar's action: "It isn't his study group to dissolve; it's your study group."

Well, I hereby reconstitute the "dissolved" study group. Anyone who was a member of the old study group will receive an invitation from me to indicate willingness to remain a member. I shall publish a list of those who accepted my invitation in the next issue of *TPN*.

I shall also invite Ken Lawrence, who resigned the day after Nazar took over the group.

Lawrence said he was not sure he would rejoin because

Letters to the editor

All letters are welcome. *TPN* reserves the right to edit and condense letters, to print them as bylined articles, or to reject them. For the sake of efficiency, readers are urged to write to P.O. Box 20130, Shaker Heights, OH 44120. *TPN* will forward letters to the proper authorities for replies. Unsigned replies are by Steve Esrati.

The Plate Number
and Great Americans Review

Editor:

Stephen G. Esrati

Contributing editors:

A.S. Cibulskas

Gerald H. Clark

Kim Cuniberti

Ken Lawrence

Alan M. Malakoff

Richard J. Nazar

Phone: (216) 561-9393

FAX: (216) 561-6030

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he is still unhappy about a lack of sharing of information, citing the finding of E&S A11 10 10 10 11 by Rob Washburn, a member of the study group (who was added by Nazar).

"Washburn would not share any information about the find with Linn's," Lawrence said, "but he did share it with the dealer cabal." Lawrence writes the PNC column in *Linn's*.

What does all this mean to you, the reader?

- If my invitations are accepted, there should be no diminution in news published in *TPN*. Some members of the study group have not shared information with *TPN*, either.

- *The Summary of Data on the Great Americans* will continue to be published under the aegis of the Plate Number Coil Study Group.

In other words, the only difference will be that Nazar is no longer coordinator of the group he has dissolved. Before he was named, the study group had no coordinator. I occasionally wrote a round-robin letter, but basically the group was unstructured. That's my style. I'll return to it.

One charge often leveled against me was that the group was "Esrati's Chosen 20" because I limited it to 20 working members. If more than 20 old members accept the invitation, I will rescind the invitation to those who don't contribute knowledge.

If any of the former members of the study group do not want to belong to the reconstituted study group, they need only refuse my invitation. (That will make it easier to keep it down to 20.)

Steve Esrati

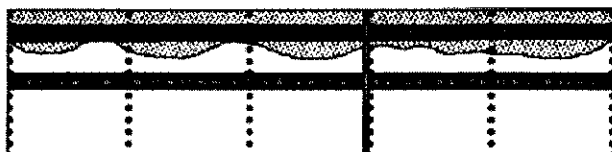
LETTERS:

Cheris finds miscut PNC strip showing tagging breaks of the Greats

Here is a joint-line strip of the 1¢ Omnibus showing no plate number. My field is tagging, so check out how this one is tagged.

In reply: The strip is miscut, so the wheels of the Omnibus touch the bottom edge. There is lots of white space above "Omnibus 1880s."

The writer has found another link between PNCs and Great



TAGGING BREAKS—Horizontal tagging breaks on miscut PNC strip showing amorphous untagged area at top corresponding to edge of tagging mat and two horizontal tagging breaks resembling vertical tagging breaks on Great Americans.

Americans. Under shortwave UV, this strip shows a poorly formed yet identifiable tagging break at top and a clearer one below. Since the orientation of Great Americans is at right angles to that of PNCs, the tagging breaks on the Omnibus are horizontal, as the accompanying diagram shows.

No, there have been no untagged stamps in this roll of 3,000. They're all like this. And no plate numbers!

Leon Cheris, DDS
Astoria, N.Y.

How untagged stamps are canceled

I have just returned from the USPS Technical Training Center at Norman, Okla., where I had the opportunity to test the automated facer-canceler system with several of the tagged errors of the 10¢ undenominated Eagle and Shield as well as the tagged error of the 23¢ USA Flag.

I put these on a standard 6¾-inch envelope and had them run through the machinery. On the first try, all the envelopes were canceled, including some that carried totally untagged stamps.

A technician was asked to explain this and he suggested that it was because of the contents (I had used a highly fluorescent Chinese New Year's flyer as a stuffer), which had triggered the canceler. I removed the stuffer and replaced it with newspaper clippings, and then the facer no longer detected the tagged stamps. When the newsprint would not trigger the machinery to cancel the stamps on the second pass, he said the tagged stamps were tagged with insufficient PMUs (phosphor meter units).

It is shocking to see the brightness of these stamps in shortwave UV and learn that they could not trigger the facer-canceler.

Name withheld

In reply: This is the first indication that the contents of a letter could trigger the facer-canceler. This could explain why many untagged stamps are canceled by the machines. *TPN* received an underfranked letter from this reader with the Chinese New Year's flyer inside. It was canceled on the back of the envelope.

When *TPN* sent some tagged precancel errors to Washington, we were told that although the stamps were tagged, they lacked enough PMUs to trigger postal machinery. Yet we've seen them canceled. Also seen canceled was the untagged 5¢ Circus Wagon with the plate number A3 from ABN, which has a phosphorescent ink.

Yet in a controlled study Joann Lenz found that not all A3s were being canceled.

Pedro's World of PNCs

by Pedro Ortegon, M.D.



Earthquakes! Mudslides! They said Shaker Heights was just a name! I'll move to California and publish Fault Line.

Miscuts disclose secrets

I've been reading and digesting Larry Haynes' recent articles in *TPN* about the old Cottrell presses. While I specialize in booklets, I've always had more than a passing interest in coils, too.

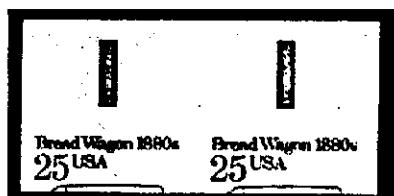
Information Larry presented in his articles that was meant to pertain to PNCs is also applicable to booklet or sheet production on the Cottrell presses in many cases. So, I've been reading those articles and learning a lot.

My main reason for writing is to seek help to obtain a strip of the 3.4¢ School Bus coil that is miscut enough to show the ends of the E-E bars above each stamp (like the strip shown on Page 16 of the January *TPN*). I've long sought out examples of any booklet pane or coil stamp that is miscut enough to show any marginal marking that is normally trimmed off.

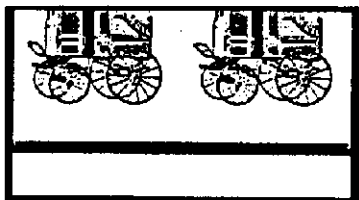
I enclose a couple of pages of photocopies of the PNC miscuts I have obtained over the years. I've been surprised at the lack of interest in these markings—many PNC collectors don't want them because there is no plate number showing! Do you know of anyone who might have additional coil strips of which I do not now have an example?

[The writer enclosed photocopies showing the following PNC miscuts:

- Imperforate 5.9¢ Bicycle, part E-E at top
- 4¢ Stagecoach, from bottom row of Plate 4 with totally empty margin
- 4¢ Stagecoach, part E-E at top



ELECTRIC EYE—Complete E-E marks above 25¢ Bread Wagon. The E-E bars are not solidly colored.



LINE BELOW—Line in the color of the stamp below bottom edge.



MISCUT IMPERFORATE—Top row of ten 25¢ Honeybees (trimmed here) shows part of the EE lines. Note how much thicker they are here than on the Lunch Wagon on the previous page. There is a thin vertical line at the top of the strip between the two right stamps. That line is the tip of a set of overlapping offset registration “+” marks. The Honeybee strip is actually 10 stamps long and shows two other faint register marks at the left end (one on each side of where the ends of the offset plates meet). There is no sign of the offset plate seam lines at that point, but the width of the gutter between the stamps proves that it is where the ends of the offset plates are joined together.

- 9.3¢ Mail Wagon, part EE at top
- Imperforate 25¢ Bread Wagon, complete EE at top (illustrated at left)

- Imperforate 25¢ Bread Wagon, from bottom row with horizontal line across bottom (illustrated at left) [a similar strip was shown at the Garfield-Perry March Party in March by William Hatton, who described the line as a side register mark for the Goebel coiler “used by BEP as a ‘steering device’ to keep the web from slipping sideways to ensure accurate perforation.”]

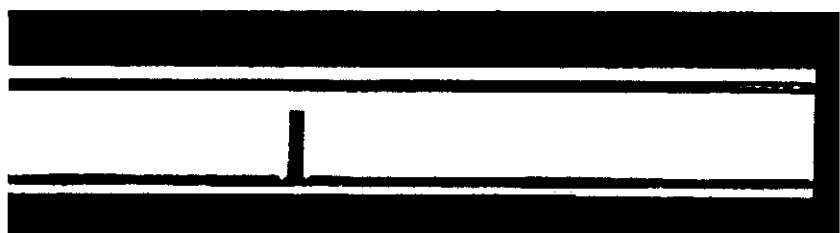
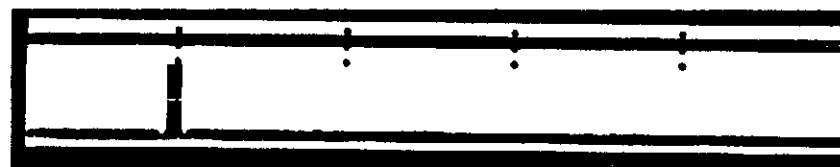
- Imperforate unidentified Tulip (could be from “F” stamp or 29¢ Tulip) showing same horizontal line as the 25¢ Bread Wagon

- 10¢ undenominated Eagle and Shield with the plate-number combination A99999, cut high from bottom row. All of the Eagle’s head clears the top margin, but tiny remnants of tops of EE marks may be seen at bottom

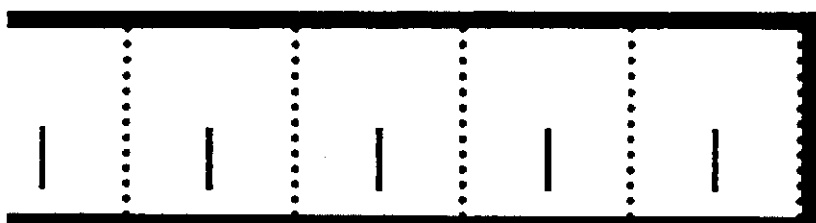
Another example of the thick horizontal line is shown on the bottom of imperforate strips of the 22¢ Flag. In addition there are a pair of bottom margin strips from the 25¢ Yosemite that show no trace of the stamp designs (these are illustrated at the left). Both of these strips show the wide horizontal line along with a vertical EE bar. These two strips came from a full roll of 100, part of which was perforated and the rest imperforate. They were identified from the coil-wrapper label.

Other miscuts submitted to *TPN* were:

- Complete EE marks on imperforate upper margins of the 20¢ Flag



DOUBLE LINE UNDER BOTTOM ROW—Two strips from the same roll of 100, partly perforated and partly imperforated, from below the the bottom row of the 25¢ Flag Over Yosemite. The strips were identified from the coil wrapper label. The second (bottom) line is not a registration mark but the result of excessive ink buildup on the edge of the plate. The strips are shown full size.



LUNCH WAGON—This upper edge of the roll of paper that printed the 23¢ Lunch Wagon is almost stamp sized. It shows the full length of the EE lines, about 8mm long. The original strip, trimmed in our illustration, is eight stamps wide.

and 22¢ Flag.

- Incomplete E-E marks at the top of an imperforate 25¢ Flag pair and a barely visible E-E mark at the top of a 29¢ Rushmore pair.

- The thick horizontal line under the bottom row is shown on strips of the imperforate 22¢ Flag

- Incomplete top margins of the 25¢ Flag Over Yosemite from Plate 15 showing just a bit of the E-E mark at top, a stamp-sized upper margin from the 23¢ Lunch Wagon showing complete E-E marks (bottom illustration at left), and an imperforate strip of 25¢ Honeybees showing incomplete E-E marks (illustration on next page).

I had never heard about the "hash" marks shown on Page 16 of Larry's article.

Michael O. Perry

P.O. Box 1194, Rainier, OR 97048

What about paper?

I had no idea when you asked me to send you information on this glowing phenomenon that you would use it as an article.

Are there no specifications for this? Is the paper coming from one supplier or all of them? Should this be included in a specialist's collection or relegated to the micro-specialist?

I am thinking along the lines of the very pronounced difference on the reissued Legends of the West: dull and very bright.

Catalog Update

New PNCs

M10-11 10 10 11, the only Eagle & Shield reported by the Postal Service in 1994 (see TPN, May 1994) that had never been found by collectors. Found used on cover about Mar. 17. (Washburn). Found mint, April 4. (Dr. Rabinowitz)

TP9-3-1, Plate 1 of the 9.3¢ Mail Wagon, imperforate strip of 18 also showing Plate 2. SR and 7L. (Tison)

New Self-adhesives

(32¢) Undenominated Love Cherub: B2222-1, B2222-2. Feb. 22. (Dr. Rabinowitz)

Same, B1111-1, about March 20. (Federle)

New Great Americans

3¢ White, Plate 4, untagged. Found used only March 7 in Albany, N.Y., area. (Adams). Found mint with dull gum and untagged with ZIP marginal inscription March 10 in Peoria, Ill. (Thiele) All copies so far have the plate number at upper left.

New Scott Catalogue numbers

2886a-Avery self-adhesive "G" "booklet" pane of 18 (solid prephosphored)

[Scott did not assign a catalog number to the "G" self-adhesive coil.]

2887a-Avery self-adhesive "G" ATM pane of 18 (overall tagged)

2888-First-class "G" presort coil (25¢), blue background

2889-BEP "G" coil (32¢) with black "G"

2890-American Bank Note "G" coil (32¢) with blue "G"

2891-Stamp Venturers "G" coil (32¢) perforated with red "G"

2892-Stamp Venturers "G" coil (32¢) rouletted with red "G"

2893-Nonprofit bulk rate "G" coil (5¢), green background

Scott has closed the numbering on 2168-2197, which had been reserved for the Great Americans Series. These stamps will be renumbered.

New Great Americans will have the numbers 2923-2947.

New Transportation Coils and other rate-change stamps will be assigned 2896-2922.

Personally, I vote for the glow! One of my favorites is the Russian version of the joint space issue.

Carol Morehouse

Carlsbad, Calif.

In reply: TPN believes that paper specifications no longer take long-wave fluorescence into account. USPS-P-1191, dated May 24, 1991, makes only one mention of fluorescence. It states:

The red fluorescence shall not exceed 3 PMU when measured with USPS Phosphormeter.

That does not exclude the use of brighteners. The provisions for testing paper under the USPS Phosphormeter make no mention of any fluorescence except red.

TPN does not know who supplies the paper.

TPN's cardinal rule is that each collector is king or queen of his or her collection and the breadth of what one collects is a personal choice. TPN attempts to provide information to all collectors so they can make intelligent choices. It advocates no "proper" way to collect.

What TPN is good for

As you reported in the March TPN, the 3¢ Paul Dudley White MD stamp has been reprinted.

I enclose an untagged plate block from Plate 4.

Again, your reporting has given me the insight to look for a new variety.

Gregg Greenwald,
Marshfield, Wisc.

BACK-NUMBER HEADQUARTERS

(32¢) "G" — STAMP VENTURERS

- Black numbers
- Purple numbers
- Top or Bottom
- 4- or 5-Digit

Any positions on PNC, including
on the S1111 stamp

DR. ROBERT RABINOWITZ
37 Stanwick Pl., Stamford, CT 06905

Phone: (203) 325-2312

FAX: (203) 359-1357



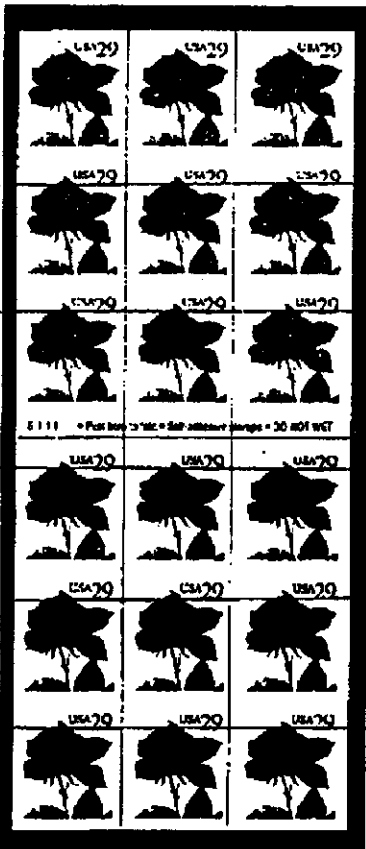
Miscuts, missing cuts, and disappearing things

By Gerald H. Clark

The "Dumpster Diver" who found the 29¢ Eagle and Shield self-adhesive stamp without the intaglio denomination (illustrated on Page 60, March *TPN*) also found a major EFO produced by Stamp Venturers.

On this 29¢ Rose pane, with the Universal Product Code 94, the die cut is shifted as shown in the accompanying illustration.

Like the brown Eagle and Shield shown



in the November issue of *TPN*, this pane is miscut exactly 6mm, or the full width of the peel-off tab.

The results are striking. The top row of stamps has two denominations. Denominations are missing on the third and bottom rows and the third row's first stamp contains the plate number.

The peel-off strip contains three denominations.

Love oddity-Can you explain?

An interesting oddity on the Love Sunrise pane was also submitted by the "Dumpster Diver." The pane shows the



Self-adhesive Stamps

333 • Peel here to fold • Self-adhesive stamps • DO NOT WET • 14 B

Self-adhesive Stamps

Peel and place self-adhesive stamp

plate-number combination B333-14.

This was found at his local post office (not in the dumpster this time) and contains an extra peel-off strip. The strip is on the back of the pane in precisely the same position as the one on the front of the pane. The two strips line up exactly.

If you think that someone could add a strip to the back, look again.

This strip had to be peeled and placed during production, after printing and die-cutting, but before cutting of the sheet into individual panes. The plate-number combination reads 333-14B, not B333-14.

Pine Cone die cut omitted

Rob Washburn, a member of the PNC Study Group, submitted photocopies of the first known EFO on the Pine Cone self-adhesive.

[Editor's note: Washburn sent in his illustration in October. *TPN* ran out of room in the last two issues and had to postpone publication of this find.]

Printed with the plate-number combination B11, his pane had no die-cutting between the second and third vertical rows.

Error dealers had heard rumors of this error, but Rob's copy was the first confirmation of its existence.

The end result is six horizontal pairs of stamps missing the vertical die cuts.

The case of the vanishing 1s

Mike Keller must moonlight as a part-time magician when he is not hunting down self-adhesive plate numbers.

He has a mysterious way of making things disappear.

In late September, he submitted copies of the 29¢ Blue Eagle that is supposed to show the plate-number combination 111. He said the beige 1 was missing and the stamps showed only blue and red.

When I first looked at the panes, there was a faint beige 1. I blinked my eye, and it was gone!

Close examination of the pane revealed a soft, mottled tagging compared to the harsh solid tagging usually seen on this issue.

Comparison under long-wave ultraviolet light showed no difference between this pane and normal ones.

Look at it in one light and the number is there; turn it slightly, and the number disappears.

Shortly after the release of the 29¢ Santa self-adhesive, Mike sent me two copies in plastic envelopes with postal store labels and bar codes but not in the normal postal store shrink-wrapping.

"When I got these," Mike said, "the yellow 1 looked like a couple of dots (five dots). Now it is very hard to see at all."

I have examined these under short-wave UV, incandescent light, fluorescent light, and any other lighting I could find. My only explanation as to why it is so hard to see is because it "just ain't there no more!"

Although the yellow printing on the stamps remains normal, that plate number has just vanished.

Mike and I are open to any explanations.

Mike makes another disappear

Another Mike Keller submission was a

pane of the Love Sunrise showing the plate-number combination B222-6, with an albino 6.

He said he found a few of these in the same deck.

The raised impression is there, but there is no trace of green ink.

Mike, you're either an expert on making things disappear or an expert on finding things that should be there but are not.

Colons, dots, dashes, apostrophes

Several collectors have noticed strange things in the plate numbers on brown Eagle and Shield panes starting with the plate-number combination B3333-1, and on all combinations with higher numbers.

In a future edition of TPN we'll try to analyze these.

Any new EFOs?

If you get lucky and find a new EFO or a new plate number on a self-adhesive, I would appreciate a photocopy.

Please do not send the actual stamps unless requested.

An evening phone number would also be helpful.

Please send to: P.O. Box 424, Midvale, UT 84047-0424.

Revisions in list of self-adhesives

Editor's note: For more than a year, TPN has printed an updated master list every two months of all known self-adhesive booklets and coils. In the past two issues, few changes have had to be made to earlier issues. For that reason, we are now starting to list only updates and additions to the master list.

By Gerald H. Clark

2886a 32¢ "G" undenominated

*V11111 _____ C

*V22222 _____ C

Coil: V11111 _____ A

2887a 32¢ "G" undenominated ATM

No number _____ No writing

NEW 32¢ undenominated Cherub

*B1111-1 _____ D

B2222-1 _____ D

B2222-2 _____ D

Coil: Still unavailable, see story elsewhere in this issue.

NEW 32¢ Flag over Field ATM

V1111 _____ No writing

NEW 32¢ Flag over Porch

V12211 _____ C

Please send reports to Clark at 424 Roosevelt St., Midvale UT 84047-3622. If you find a new plate number, a photocopy would be appreciated.

(An asterisk in front of a number indicates that the item was also found in self-service packaging for postal stores.)

Data Bank

(all text from USPS, TPN additions in brackets)

Self-adhesive stamps

WASHINGTON, D.C. (March 10)-"Peel & Stick" or "Lick & Stick?" Postal customers now have a choice.

Responding to customer demand, the U.S. Postal Service is providing twice as many self-adhesive "Peel & Stick" stamps in 1995. "The goal," said Azeazy Jaffer, USPS Manager of Stamp Services, "is to satisfy both the stamp consumer and the stamp collector."

Enhancements to the Peel & Stick line of stamps is just part of what's in store for the public in 1995 as the Postal Service initiates changes throughout its stamp program.

The USPS will produce more than 6.8 billion of the Peel & Stick stamps this year, nearly a 200% increase over the 2.4 billion produced in 1994. This is in response to the ever-growing number of Americans purchasing the stamps over the counter and at selected automatic teller machines (ATMs) across the country.

"We are responding to popular demand," said Jaffer. "People love these stamps because they are so convenient to use. Many people just don't like to lick stamps, especially when they're mailing in large quantities like wedding invitations or for the holidays."

The first Peel & Stick commemorative released this year was a non-denominated version of the "Love Cherub" stamp for one-ounce letters issued February 1.

Later in the year, Peel & Stick booklets for "Flag over Porch," "Two Fruits," "Midnight Angel," "Pink Rose" and the "Contemporary Christmas" will have simulated perforation die cuts. This will make Peel & Stick stamps look more like the traditional lick-and-stick stamps for serious collectors who prefer perforations over straight die cuts.

The Postal Service is producing 1.2 billion non-denominated Love stamps in the Peel & Stick format and another 200 million in gummed sheets. Customers buying the Love stamps will notice a significant change for the first time, the Peel & Stick stamps will be available in 20-stamp convertible booklets instead of the 18-stamp format previously used.

The change will standardize Postal Service booklets in both the lick-and-stick and Peel & Stick formats. This will make retail transactions at postal lobbies, vending equipment and retail outlets easier, and simplify making change.

ATM stamps will continue to be made in sheetlets of 18 stamps with straight die cuts. That is the only layout that will fit a dollar-bill size, and that has been thoroughly tested for vending from all major types of commercial ATM equipment.

A significant change in the way stamps are shipped to the nation's post offices will affect several commemoratives in the 1995 stamp program.

In the past, every post office in the nation received a "standard distribution" of each commemorative stamp based upon the size of the office. This means, for instance, that in 1989 post offices in Florida received just as many Montana Statehood stamps as post offices the same size in Montana. In many cases, the stamps would sell out quickly in one part of the country while hardly selling in another area.

Targeted distribution will concentrate some stamps in the geographic locations where they are most popular, with limited distribution in other areas going to philatelic units and Stamp Distribution Offices (SDOs). (The specific 1995 stamp issues which will be affected will be announced in a future news release.) Collectors or individuals who simply want a particular stamp not available locally will still be able to obtain any U.S. stamp currently on sale by calling, toll-free, 1-800-STAMP-24.

New technology is driving other innovations in an effort to make stamps more fun for collectors and mail users alike. Star-shaped perforations on the corners of the Marilyn Monroe stamps and elliptical perforations on the space shuttle stamps are two such innovations which will show up later this year. The elliptical perfs are an added security feature being used on high-denomination stamps to discourage counterfeiting.

Also new is the use of micro-type to print "1995" on all stamps being issued this year. "This marks the first time in history that we've ever included the dates on all of our stamps issued in a single year," noted Jaffer. "It's a great touch for serious philatelists who want to add a particular stamp to their annual collection. Stamp collectors asked us for it, and we're giving them what they want."

New definitives

WASHINGTON, D.C. (March 10)- Three new stamp series make their debut in March as the U.S. Postal Service dedicates five new definitive stamps at the SCOPEX Stamp Show in State College, Penn., and the Postage Stamp Mega-Event in New York, N.Y.

Two new stamps will be issued at the SCOPEX 95 stamp show on March 10. A non-denominated [5¢] stamp for use on third class non-profit mail depicts a colorful butte scene, and is the first entry in the "American Scenes" series.

Another new series, "American Transportation," is marked by the debut of a non-denominated [10¢] Automobile stamp for regular third class bulk rate use.

One week later, three new stamps will be issued at the Postage Stamp Mega-Event being held at New York's Madison Square Garden. Two of the stamps, "Auto Tail Fin" and "Jukebox" kick off the "American Culture" series. The [15¢] Auto Tail Fin stamp covers the presorted First-Class postcard rate, while the [25¢] Jukebox stamp is for use on presorted First-Class letter mail.

Also being issued at the Mega-Event is a 32¢ "Peel & Stick" stamp for use in automatic teller machines (ATMs) featuring an American flag flying over a green field.



TECHNICAL DETAILS

Issue:	Butte
Denomination:	Undenominated 5¢
Format:	Coil (single design)
Series:	American Scenes

[This is a new series for nonprofit stamps. PNC Catalog prefix will be AS]

Issue date & city: March 10, 1995
State College, Pa.
Mfg. process: Gravure
Printer: Stamp Venturers
Printed at: J. W. Fergusson & Sons,
Richmond, Va.
Press: Unspecified
Stamps per coil: 3,000 and 10,000
[PNC Interval: 14]
[Back numbers: 4 digits on 3,000s
5 digits on 10,000s]
Paper: Unphosphored
Gum: Water activated
Processed at: KCS, Milwaukee, Wis.
Colors: Yellow, red and blue

Size:
Image: 0.72x0.81 inches/18.3x20.6mm
Overall: 0.87x0.96 inches/22.1x24.4mm

Plate numbers: "S" and three single digits
[S111 in lower right corner]

Marginal markings: 1995 [in lower left corner]

Item number: 7933A—Coil of 3,000
7934A—Coil of 10,000

[PNC Catalog: AS5-S111]

Comments:
Supplements nonprofit (5¢) supply to offer customers more design variety (Canoe: Old Glory ["G" stamp])



TECHNICAL DETAILS

Issue: Auto
Denomination: Nondenominated (10¢)
Format: Coil (single design)
Series: American Transportation
[This is a new series for bulk rate stamps. PNC Catalog prefix will be AT.]

Issue date & city: March 10, 1995
State College, Pa.

Mfg. process: Gravure
Printer: Stamp Venturers
Printed at: J. W. Fergusson & Sons,
Richmond, Va.

Press: Unspecified
Stamps per coil: 500, 3,000, and 10,000
[PNC Interval: 14]
[Back numbers: 3 digits on 500s
4 digits on 3,000s
5 digits on 10,000s]

Paper: Unphosphored, Type III
Gum: Water activated
Processed at: KCS, Milwaukee, Wis.
Colors: Black, light brown, dark brown

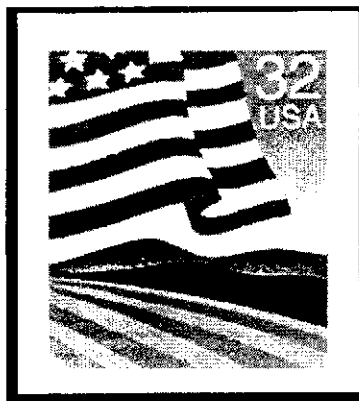
Size:
Image: 0.72x0.81 inches/18.3x20.6mm
Overall: 0.87x0.96 inches/22.1x24.4mm

Plate numbers: "S" and three single digits
[S111 in lower right corner]

Marginal markings: 1995 [lower left corner]

Item number: 7935A—Coil of 500
7936A—Coil of 3,000
7937A—Coil of 10,000
[PNC Catalog: AT10-S111]

Comments:
Supplements bulk rate (10¢) supply to offer customers more design variety (Tractor-Trailer; Old Glory ["G" stamp]; Eagle & Shield)



TECHNICAL DETAILS

Issue: Flag Over Field
Denomination: 32¢ Self-Adhesive Stamp
Format: Sheetlet (Convertible Booklet) of 18 (single design)

Series: ATM (Automated Teller Machines) Stamps

Issue Date & City: March 17, 1995
New York, N.Y.

Mfg. Process: Gravure
Printer: Avery
Printed at: Avery Dennison
Press: Unspecified

Stamps per sheetlet: 18
Paper: Nonphosphored self-adhesive, laminate for ATM

Gum: Pressure sensitive
Processed at: Avery Dennison
Colors: Blue, bright green, red, black

Size:
Image: 0.710x0.822 inches/18.03x20.88mm
Overall: 0.870x0.982 inches/22.10x24.94mm
Full pane: 6.125x2.610 inches/155.6x66.3mm

Plate numbers: "V" and four digits

Marginal markings: "© USPS 1994"

Item number: 5518—Sheetlet of 18



TECHNICAL DETAILS

Issue: Auto Tail Fin, Presorted Postcard Rate

Denomination: Nondenominated (15¢)

Format: Coil (single design)

Series: American Culture

Comments:
[This is a new series for presorted first-class stamps. PNC Catalog prefix will be AT.]

Issue date & city: March 17, 1995
New York, N.Y.

Mfg. process: Gravure

Paper: Unphosphored

Gum: Water activated

Colors: Yellow, magenta, cyan, black, dark aqua

Size:
Image: 0.71x0.82 inches/18.02x20.81mm
Overall: 0.84x0.99 inches/21.31x25.12mm

Marginal markings: 1995 [lower left corner]

Comments:
For presorted postcards (new item); nondenominated format allows use as various presort rates.

BEP version (rolls of 3,000)

Printer: BEP

Printed at: BEP

Processed at: BEP

Plate numbers: Five single digits [11111 at bottom center]

Colors: Yellow, magenta, cyan, black, dark aqua, lavender 24]

[PNC Interval: None]

[Back numbers: None]

Item number: 7941-A—Coil of 3,000

[PNC Catalog: AC15-11111]

Stamp Venturers version (rolls of 10,000)

Printer: Stamp Venturers

Printed at: J. W. Fergusson & Sons,
Richmond, Va.

Processed at: KCS, Milwaukee, Wis.

Plate numbers: "S" and five single digits
[S11111 at lower right]

Colors: Yellow, magenta, cyan, black, dark aqua

[PNC Interval: 14]

[Back numbers: 5 digits]

Item number: 7942-A—Coil of 10,000

[PNC Catalog: AC15-S11111]



TECHNICAL DETAILS

Issue: Juke Box, Presorted First Class Rate

Denomination: Nondenominated (25¢)

Format: Coil (single design)

Series: American Culture

Issue date & city: March 17, 1995
New York, N.Y.

Mfg. process: Gravure

Paper: Unphosphored

Gum: Water activated

Colors: Yellow, magenta, cyan, black, dark aqua, lavender
Marginal markings: 1995 [lower left]
Size:

Image: 0.71x0.82 inches/18.02x20.81mm

Overall: 0.84x0.99 inches/21.31x25.12mm

BEP version (rolls of 500 and 3,000)

Printer: BEP
Printed at: BEP
Processed at: BEP
Plate numbers: Six single digits [111111 at bottom center]
[PNC interval: 24]
[Back numbers: None]
Item number: 7938A—Coil of 500
7039A—Coil of 3,000
[PNC Catalog: AC25-111111]

Stamp Venturers version (rolls of 10,000)

Printer: Stamp Venturers
Printed at: J. W. Ferguson & Sons, Richmond, Va.
Processed at: KCS, Milwaukee, Wis.
Plate numbers: "S" and five single digits [S11111 at lower right]
[PNC interval: 14]
[Back numbers: Five digits]
Item number: 7940A—Coil of 10,000
[PNC Catalog: AC25-S11111]

Supplements "G" First Class Presort; replaces 23¢ USA; nondenominated format allows use as various presort rates.

[The following news release was issued AFTER the stamps were.]

Stamp reprints create philatelic varieties

WASHINGTON (March 31)—Several definitive stamps have been reprinted with paper and press type changes; and for some, denomination changes. There will be no first day ceremonies for these issues.



3¢ Paul Dudley White Pane of 100

Item 1053

Originally issued in 1986 and produced on the Bureau's "A" press, the new printings have been done on the "D" press. While the type of paper, color of ink, dry gum adhesive and engraving are identical for the first and second printings, the third printing used LP-57 paper stock and a dextrin adhesive.

[This is a bit confusing. The first three plates were printed in 1986 and 1987. This new printing is the fourth. The new printing has dull gum, as did the earlier.

[It is not yet clear how one can tell the gum of LP-57 apart from the gum of LP-40 if the USPS information here given is correct. The current BEP specifications list LP-40 as being untagged with dry gum. LP-57 is listed as a "Regular/Coated" paper with Dextrin gum. We believe "Dextrin gum" is either low-gloss or glossy paper. But we have seen

these stamps. The gum is dull.]

The original printing had a phosphor overprint (tagging) and the new printings have no phosphor. The plate number on the reprint is 4, 300 million stamps have been reprinted. Stamps have already been released. First day cancellations will not be provided.

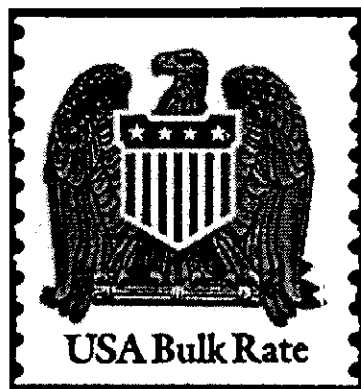


3¢ Conestoga Wagon Coil of 3,000
Item 7763

The paper stock has changed from LP-40 to LP-57 and the adhesive type has changed from dry gummed to dextrin. The plate number on the reprint is 3. No other changes have been reported. Stamps have already been released. First day cancellations will not be provided.

[Please see TPN comment on paper of the 3¢ White at the left below.]

[Stamp Distribution reports rolls of 3,000 and a backlog of rolls of 500.]



10¢ Bulk Rate Eagle & Shield

Item 7978 (same as before)

While the previous printing used Silver Leaf paper, the new printing uses Coated Papers Ltd. The plate number size is in two points from three points in the last printing. Plate numbers are at every 14th stamp. Plate numbers were at every 33rd stamp on the last printing. First day cancellations will not be provided.

[The 14-stamp interval between plate numbers indicates that this reprint is by Stamp Venturers. TPN does not know what the difference in the papers is. As of early April, the plate number is unknown.]

[Stamp Distribution reports automatic distribution of rolls of 10,000. That means most philatelists should get this stamp.]

5¢ Circus Wagon Coil 10,000
Item 7932

Originally issued August 31, 1990, as an intaglio

The "e" sign is being restored to low-value stamps so they are not inadvertently used or accepted as dollar-value stamps. Only 1¢-5¢ stamps will be revised, and only when other revisions or replacements are required.



printed stamp [printed on BEP's B Press], the 5¢ Circus Wagon was reissued December 8, 1992, and produced by American Bank Note as a gravure-printed stamp using non-phosphored coated paper with a water activated adhesive on Press 1 Champlain.

[TPN note: This statement is incorrect and reflects the Postal Service's alleged ignorance of anything having to do with ABN. The ABN stamps were printed by Guilford Gravure on an Andreotti Press. TPN has never previously heard of "Press 1 Champlain."]

The 1992 printing by ABN was printed on Andreotti five-color web-fed gravure press.

The 1992 printing used one gravure cylinder number preceded by the letter "A" on every 24th stamp; the new printing uses one gravure cylinder number preceded by the letter "S." The 1992 printing used a 9.8 stroke perforator; the new printing uses round-hole perforations. [USPS confuses a perforation gauge (9.8) with SV usage to describe perforation as "round-hole." SV calls rouletting "slit perforation."] The typography on the new stamp was done by John Boyd of Anagraphics in New York. The new printing was done at Stamp Venturers in Richmond, Va., and [was] processed at Stamp Venturers in Milwaukee, Wis.

To identify the new printing, the denomination has been changed from "05" to "5c" and 1995 is printed on every stamp. The "e" sign is being restored to low-value stamps so they are not inadvertently used or accepted as dollar-value stamps. Only 1¢-5¢ stamps will be revised, and only when other revisions or replacements are required.

Circus Wagon stamps were released, March 20, 1995, in Kansas City, Mo., 64108. First day cancellations will be provided. 200 million stamps have been printed.

[The Postal Bulletin, from which the following was taken, also notes that the denomination was moved to the right of the stamp.]

Format: Coil of 10,000
Mfg. process: Gravure
Printer: Stamp Venturers
Color: Red (PMS 185)
Size:

Image: 0.72x0.81 inches/18.3x20.6mm

Overall: 0.87x0.96 inches/22.1x24.4mm

Plate number: "S" followed by 1 digit



SHEET STAMP—This illustration is of the 32¢ Flag Over Porch sheet stamp. The self-adhesive convertible booklet's day of issue was advanced to April 19. Sheet, coil, and booklet stamps will be issued May 20. The self-adhesive will have "simulated perfs," but this illustration does not show them. Full details in July *TPN*.

Stamps withdrawn from regular sale

[From *The Postal Bulletin*, March 2] Effective March 15, 1995, all post offices, stations, branches, postal retail stores, and vending outlets except authorized philatelic windows and centers and the Philatelic Fulfillment Service Center must withdraw the items listed below from sale and return the stock to their designated stamp distribution office (SDO) or stamp distribution network (SDN)....

The Philatelic Fulfillment Service Center and the philatelic windows and centers will continue to sell these items until further notice.

- Item 5517 \$5.22 1994 Christmas ATM
- Item 5528 \$5.22 1993 Christmas ATM
- Item 5538 \$5.22 Liberty Torch ATM
- Items 5540, D, and S \$4.93 Eagle Self-Adhesive (item numbers are incorrect)
- Item 6604 \$5.22 Love Sunrise Sheetlet
- Items 6616, 6616E \$3.48 Santa sheetlets
- Items 6661, 6661E, and C \$5.22 Statue of Liberty sheetlet
- Items 6688C, D, and E \$3.48 Contemporary Christmas sheetlet
- Items 6690, 6690E, and N \$5.22 Pine Cone sheetlet
- Items 6694, 6694E, and V \$5.22 Rose sheetlet
- Items 6697, 6697E, and V \$5.22 Eagle sheetlet

Date for 32¢, 58¢ Cherubs

WASHINGTON (Feb. 3)—The U.S. Postal Service announced today updates to its 1995 commemorative stamp program, detailing locations and dates for first-day-of-issue stamp ceremonies.

Love (Cherubs, 1 and 2 ounces, denominated), May 12, Lakeville, Pa.

oops

Size of tagging block as reported by Scott, TPN

Stamp	Perf	Scott	TPN	Notes
1¢Dix 1	—	Sm	Sm	Paper I, no Scott
1¢Dix 1	L	Sm, Lg	Sm	Papers II, IIIa
1¢Dix 2	L	Sm, Lg	Lg	Paper II
10¢Russell 1	L	—	Sm, Lg	Paper II, no Scott
14¢Lewis 1	L	Sm, Lg	Lg	Paper III
20¢Truman 1	L	Sm	Sm	Papers I, II, IIIa
20¢Truman 2	Eureka	Lg	Lg	Paper III
22¢Audubon 1	L	Sm	Sm, Lg	Paper II
22¢Audubon 2	Eureka	Lg	Lg	Paper III
30¢Laubach 1	L	Sm	Sm	Papers II, IIIa
30¢Laubach 2	Eureka	Lg	Lg	Paper III
39¢Clark 1	L	Sm	Sm	Papers IIa, III
39¢Clark 2	Eureka	Lg	Lg	Papers II, III
40¢Gibbreth 1	L	Sm	Sm	Papers I, II, IIIa
40¢Gibbreth 2	Eureka	Lg	Lg	Paper III

GREMLINS!—The above chart was supposed to appear on Page 46 of the March issue, but got thoroughly jumbled by a computer glitch. It seems to show that there is no agreement on tagging-block size.

Page 102 (September 1994)—Ken Lawrence's name was missing in the masthead of this and later issues at Ken's request. Ken resigned as a contributing editor and asked that all material written by him for the September issue be withdrawn. It was.

Behind Ken's ire was that *TPN* would not print his reply to an open letter to Ken in the July issue by Dr. Robert Kugel. In view of the fact that Dr. Kugel's letter consisted of severe and unfair criticism of Ken, we should have printed Ken's reply out of fairness. Our reason for not so doing was fear that it would have brought yet another letter from Dr. Kugel and yet another reply from Ken. *TPN* apologizes for censoring Ken. It should have published his reply. On publication of this apology, Ken agrees to rejoin our editorial board.

Page 36—All the prices in the adlet for the 1995 *PNC Catalog* were those of the pre-publication offer, which expired last year. The correct prices appeared in Tom Maeder's review on Page 57.

Page 47—In "Why nothing on paper types?" we referred to a full-page ad by Richard Nazar. Alas, it got squeezed out by the flood of information on new PNCs for 1995.

'G' stamps Back numbers

	LP	P53	P55
BEP version 1111, 2222	4.15	4.40	5.00
Stamp Vanquiers versions			
25¢ First-class Patriot S11111	4.15	4.40	5.00
32¢ Perfected S1111, S2222	4.15	4.40	5.00
Same, with back number on PNC	—	—	25.00
32¢ Reaffirmed S1111	4.15	4.40	5.00
American Bank Note version (all with prefix "A")			
5¢ Nonprofit A11111, 211111	1.35	1.40	1.50
32¢, blue "G" A1113, A1112, A1113, A1211, A1212, A1222, A1311, A1324, A1417, A1433, A2211, A2212, A2213, A2214, A2313, A3113, A3314, A3315, A3323, A3324, A3423, A3433, A3435, A3436, A4426, A4427, A5327, A5417, A5427, A5437	4.15	4.40	5.00
A1314, A3114, A3426	5.35	5.65	6.25

	LP	P53	P55
	WANT	WANT	WANT
A4335	—	—	11.00
Any self-adhesive coil V11111	—	—	—
and the new stamps			
NEW (5¢) Berta60	.65	.75
Same, with back number on PNC	—	—	1.50
NEW (10¢) Auto S111	1.20	1.30	1.50
Same, with back number on PNC	—	—	3.00
NEW (15¢) Tail Fin 11111	1.80	2.10	2.25
Same, S111111	1.80	2.10	2.25
Same, with back number on PNC	—	—	4.50
NEW (25¢) Julia Box 11111	3.25	3.50	4.00
NEW (25¢) Julia Box S11111	3.25	3.50	4.00
Same, with back number on PNC	—	—	8.00



STAMPS 'N' STUFF

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FAX: (515) 226-1651

Nonprofit G stamps on sale despite a denial

You simply cannot believe the Postal Service.

• "We are going to destroy all Legends of the West error panes."

• "We are not going to issue nonprofit 'G' stamps. They're not needed."

• "We're issuing the nonprofit 'G' stamps, but for sale only through the Philatelic Fulfillment Service Center."

At the Mega-Event in New York City in March, the nonprofit "G" stamps were sold by the USPS counter.

The saga of A4435 (cont.)

Mike Stefun, who lives near Pasadena, Calif., found a copy of A4435 on cover on March 10. He immediately contacted the mailer, but there were no more. He tried area post offices, all to no avail. The cover bore a Pasadena cancel of March 8, 1995.

That may have led to a find by someone who offered them at \$85 a roll. But the seller would not deliver. He sold to Howard Grossman, instead.

The wholesale price of A4435 before the find was \$80, with dealers unwilling to sell. Retail prices, when available, ran from \$120 to \$125.

• Grossman, a Brooklyn dealer, advertised in *Linn's* that he was paying \$10 for a strip of the rare number. He is now selling the strips at \$90 and intends to go to \$120 by the time *TPN* is out.

• Dr. Robert Rabinowitz offered all 46 known "G" stamps for \$270, including A4435. His price for 45 strips of five without A4435 was \$189, giving a value of \$81 to the star item. (After the find, he offered A4435 at \$170, but told *TPN* he was not delivering at that price, in case more were found. "It wouldn't be fair to the buyers," he said.)

• S&B Renoll, a firm *TPN* had not previously heard of, was advertising all 46 strips of five for \$295

• Jim Adams offered 41 different "G"

stamps in strips of five, including A4435, for \$235. His ad did not spell out what constituted the 41 strips.

History lesson

Dr. Rabinowitz ran this ad in a recent *Linn's*. It is quoted here because it is informative, not as a free ad:

"G" A4435 HISTORY

In Dec. 1994, I purchased 400 rolls of 100 for Retail/Wholesale/Trading. A week later, the Post Office was sold out. All A4435s offered in *Linn's* appear to be from that stock. MOST ARE SOLD! If no more surface, there are 300+. FEWER A4435s than Eagle-Shield A32333, and its retail value is estimated at \$300.00. Should more surface, prices could drop sharply. My pricing is a gamble for BOTH of us.

A4435 PSS F-VF \$170

What do the Dr. Bob bashers say now?

Back numbers, a new fad?

So far, "G" stamp back numbers are known only on the perforated \$1111s from Stamp Venturers. They recur, in several forms on the new American Scenes, American Transportation, and American Culture series, all from SV.

Some collectors are really going for the back numbers. One collector is attempting to obtain a strip of five with a back number on each position, 1L on top, 1L on bottom, 2L on top, etc. At an average cost of \$5 a strip, that means a \$50 outlay just for back numbers.

And on the new stamps, there's a middle position, too.

Some data, but probably wrong

We now have a few technical details on what sort of press printed the Stamp Venturers "G" stamps. According to the Postal Service, the gravured stamps were printed at J.W. Fergusson & Sons on a Champlain press. That information is probably wrong.

The plate-number interval on slit stamps with the combination "S2222" is 36, not the 33-stamp interval found on the Champlain

press. That interval of 36 was found on the early 19¢ Fishing Boat stamps printed for ABN by Multi-Color Corp. of Indiana on a Schiavi press.

The Champlain press probably did print the other SV "G" stamps, which had intervals of 33.

The Postal Service also provided data on the nonprofit "G" stamps printed for American Bank Note by Guilford Gravure, but the information is probably wrong, too.

The Postal Service has no connections to ABN any more.

The information we were given is that the stamps were printed on a Giori press. There's a small problem with that. Giori presses are intaglio. Guilford is a gravure house and uses Andreotti presses.

Why some are scarcer

One reason for the quick rise of some "G" stamps was that dealers reduced their standing orders from wholesalers. One dealer, for example, who usually buys 300 sets of each new PNC, reduced his order to 75. Another told his wholesaler to just skip it when it came to "G" stamps.

Thus, the total number of complete sets in dealers' hands was low to begin with because dealers simply could not afford the huge outlays needed for their usual supplies. (Steve Esrati's total outlay to lay in 60 strips of each number exceeded \$15,500.)

It's no longer rare

"G" stamps with the plate-number combination A3426, originally tapped by Dr. Rabinowitz as being difficult to find, has come off the list of rare numbers because quantities have been found. That leaves the list reading as follows:

A1314, A3114, A4426, A4435

Mike Lipson's March price list carried A3113, A3114, and A3426 at \$5.85. Other strips were \$5.25

Is the Transportation Series dead yet? The evidence isn't all in

Continued from Page 61

• The undenominated 5¢ Butte is the first stamp in the American Scenes series. No other designs have been announced for that series. Owens said the series would be limited to nonprofit coil stamps.

• The undenominated 10¢ Auto is the first stamp in the American Transportation series. No other designs have been announced for that series, either. Owens said the series would be limited to bulk rate stamps (such as the undenominated 10¢ Eagle and Shield) and would use gravured, stylized representations instead of the entire vehicle.

Two additional stamps

At the Mega-Event sponsored by the American Stamp Dealers Association in

Madison Square Garden on March 17, the undenominated 15¢ Tail Fin stamp and the undenominated 25¢ Juke Box were released as the first stamps in the American Culture Series.

The Tail Fin, which looks as though it should be in the American Transportation Series, has been assigned to the American Culture series by the Postal Service.

Both stamps issued in New York show the year in the lower left corner and the plate number in the lower right, as do the 5¢ Butte and 10¢ Auto. Those stamps were printed by Stamp Venturers. Versions printed by BEP have the plate numbers in the middle.

None of the aforementioned stamps meet the need for everyday definitives. The 20¢

Cog Railway and the 32¢ Ferry Boat do. Both of those are in the Transportation Series.

All change-makers in the old Transportation set, except the 15¢ Tugboat, have been moved to new presses because they could no longer longer be printed on the B Press. Thus, if Owens is hoping for other denominations in the series, they would most probably be for 15¢ or for two- and three-ounce first-class rates. Those rates have not previously been included in the Transportation Series.

A new version of the 3¢ Conestoga Wagon has been announced but at press time, *TPN* did not know how they differed from the earlier versions.

Paper brightness varies on most recent U.S. issues

By Carol Morehouse

Some recent stamps have been found with differing degrees of optical brighteners in the paper. I've gone back a few years and checked.

It is not good enough to term them all high bright or dull. Some are in between. I call it a glow rather than a bright and most of all I would not call them high bright. I reserve "high bright" for Scott 1058, the 4¢ Lincoln in the Liberty Series, and precious little else.

There are very few stamps that look like a bright neon sign in a pitch black room. That would be more what I call high bright.

I have noticed that quite a few PNCs glow: 29¢ White House, 29¢ Rushmore, 19¢ Fishing Boat, 15¢ Tugboat, the recent 23¢ Lunch Wagon, and some older issues, such as the 17¢ Electric Car, "E" Earth, 10¢ Canal Boat, etc.

Then there is the 29¢ Rose self adhesive, which has just one plate-number combination and just one paper. What a bore I have found that issue to be!

Some of the stamps I call bright [noted in the table by a star (★)] are very bright.

On the stamps I call dull, the range is wide. None seem to be without color in UV. The one that does look completely dead is the Silent Screen Stars.

The Madonna on dull paper also has low-gloss gum.

I use a Lighthouse long-wave lamp.

The tables list items that appear to me to be bright paper or dull paper (and a couple in between).

Among self-adhesives, Santa has two degrees of brightness. Some others that vary are Pine Cone 2, 4, and 6 (bright and dull); 7, 8, and 10 are bright, all the rest are dull. The green Eagle and Shield has a couple of brights while the Statue of Liberty and the Christmas Toys have some of each. Some Love Sunrise stamps are brighter than others.

Listing of papers of recent PNCs

Scott	Description	Printer	Plate #	Dull	Medium	Bright
2590	Sardog	SV	S2...			X
2612	Harrow	SV	S1			X★
2614	29¢ Love	ABN	A11111	X		
2615	52¢ Love	BEF	1111-1...	X		
2616	Davis	SV	S1	X		
2617	Year of Day	SV	S1111	X		X★
2618	Buffalo Soldier	SV	S222...	X		
2619	Silent Screen	BEF	211...	X		
2624	29¢ Sector	SV	S111			X★
2625	40¢ Sector	SV	S111...	X		
2626	50¢ Sector	SV	S111...		X	
2627	Sector S/S	SV		X		
2629	Rockwell	BEF	1111-1	X		X
2640	Rockwell S/S	BEF		X		X★
2641	Moore S/S	SV		X		
2649	Pop singers	SV	S11111	X		
2662	Warbler	BEF	1	X		
2666	Woodcock	BCA	B1111			X
2667	Cranes	BCA	B2222-1	X		
2667	Cranes	BCA	B1111-1			X
2667	Legends	BEF	S11111	X		X
2671	Madonna	SV	1111-2	X		
2672	Shedding sheet	AP	P1s	X		X
2672	Shedding sheet	AP	P3s			X
?	31 add-on	ABN	A17 2517	X		
?	31 add-on	ABN	A18 2618			X
?	31 add-on	ABN	A16 1916			X
?	31 add-on	SV	S111...			X
?	Year of Bear	SV	S1111...	X		

If your results differ from these, please tell TPN.

It seems that almost all recent issues have a glow, with a few exceptions. Perhaps the formula just does not make any difference as long as the tagging is correct.

It would be interesting to

know if anyone has a bright stamp to match one of these dull types. It would probably take two stamps to compare.

You may write to Morehouse at P.O. Box 765, La Cañada, CA 91012.

Papers of Great Americans

Scott	Description	Printer	Plate #	Dull	Medium	Bright
1845	2¢ Scurvy	BEF	3	X	X	X
2169	2¢ Lyon	BEF	1			X
1847	4¢ Schwarz	BEF	4			X
1848	5¢ Buck	BEF	4			X
1851	8¢ Knox	BEF	4			X
2176	10¢ Red Cloud	BEF	1			X★
	Same, shiny gum		2			X
1854	11¢ Partridge	BEF	4			X
1857	17¢ Carson	BEF	4			X
			13	X	X	
			14			X
2179	17¢ Lockwood	BEF	2			X
NEW	20¢ Truman (shiny)	BEF	4			X★
NEW	20¢ Apper	BCA	81	X★		X★
			82	X		X
2184A	29¢ Warren	SV	S1		X★	X
			S2		X★	X
2184B	29¢ Jefferson	SV	S1	X★		X★
			S2	X★		X★
1865	35¢ Brew	BEF	1			X
1866	37¢ Milliken	BEF	3, 4			X
NEW	40¢ Chennault (shiny)	BEF	2			X
2190	52¢ Humphrey	BEF	1			X
NEW	Same, shiny gum		2			X★
2161	56¢ Harvard	BEF	1	X★		X
2193	75¢ Willie	BEF	1	X★		X
NEW	Same, shiny gum		1			X
2194Ab	51¢ Hopkins (black tagged)	BEF	1			X
NEW	Same, prophylactic		2			X

If your results differ from these, please tell TPN.

★ These are reports of TPN, not Morehouse

...but what does it all mean?

Rich Cook, the philatelic clerk at Salt Lake City, was the first to notice that the 20¢ Apper from Plate B1 was on bright and dull paper. Later, he noticed the same thing on the reissued Legends of the West stamps.

Cook's finding led to the re-examination of some other Great Americans and we now know that the 29¢ Warren and the 29¢ Jefferson also came on two or more papers with differing brightness.

But it was Carol Morehouse who first noticed that sheets of the 20¢ Apper from Plate B2 came in a pad in which every other sheet had bright paper while the others were dull.

This led to a query to Washington about the workings of the T/A Press, a sheet-fed press about which no technical data seem to exist. TPN has postulated that it is likely that the press is fed a sheet from one direction followed by a sheet from another direction. We have been unable to gain confirmation from Washington about this.

Later, Morehouse noticed that many of her recent stamps also came on papers with different levels of fluorescence. This is her preliminary report on those and Great Americans.

But a caveat is in order. If Morehouse's Appers went back and forth from bright to dull in the same pad and with the same plate number, it is possible that plate number comments here could be meaningless. The point, however, is that we should be looking at paper more closely.

We already know that all 10¢ Eagle and Shields starting with the plate-number combination A55555 are on a bright paper while earlier stamps were dull. A similar change occurred on the "G" stamps, although the dull paper on these was brighter to begin with.

The Corporate Relations Department of the Postal Service was asked specifically about the two levels of fluorescence in the Apgars, and was provided with examples of the high-bright and dull stamps.

More than two months later, we were told that the Stamp Acquisition and Distribution Branch was saying that it is continuing to work with suppliers to make sure they meet USPS specifications.

That may very well be the case, but the specs (USPS-P-1191, dated May 24, 1991) are totally silent about brighteners in the paper. The only mentions of fluorescence state:

Table II. Paper properties

24 Fluorescence—The red fluorescence shall not exceed 3 PMU when measured with USPS Phosphorimeter.

4.6.2.2 Paper

w. Fluorescence—The red fluorescence shall be measured with a USPS Luminescence Meter Model 2C (see Appendix II)

Appendix II of the specifications outlines the test procedures. There is no ban on brighteners.

Constant plate varieties (This is Report 56)

By A.S. Cibulskas

52¢ Sleigh

a. Plate 2, precanceled, Gap 5L. "Tail on 'h'." Gripper plate crack downward from right bottom of "h" to the top right of the "2." Also extends upward about 1mm from short leg of "h." (SAdams)

10¢ Eagle and Shield

a. BEP plate-combination 22222. Red dot under "A" of "USA." Constant at 4R. (SAdams)

b. Same, blue dot at right top of perforations. Constant at 4L. (SAdams)

29¢ Flag over White House

a. Plate 16, Multiple extraneous blue ink spots (splatters?) in bottom left area of design. Most discernable in bottom right areas of "2" and "9" of denomination and "U" of "USA." Not random inking variety as size, position, and intensity of spots are constant at 1L.

Web splice on Juke Box

Gerald H. Clark has found a web splice on the undenominated 25¢ Juke Box in a roll of 10,000.

The surprising thing about this splice is that we now know it happened before printing or back-numbering because all the intervals are constant and the spliced stamp (which bears a plate number) matches up exactly in both dimensions.

Every 14th stamp shows plate number

Continued from Page 61

"If the first plate number in the roll is on an even-numbered stamp, there is a 70-stamp interval between back numbers on the backs of PNCs," Schulman said.

"But if the first PNC is on an odd-numbered stamp, no PNC in the roll can have a back number."

Some dealers are advertising premium buy prices for PNCs with the back number on the numbered stamp.

A first: USPS names paper type

The news releases on the new stamps also included a paper type for the first time. In describing the paper of the 10¢ Auto, USPS said it was Type III paper, meaning that it is untagged. Types I and II are, respectively, low phosphor and high phosphor.

The USPS paper specifications (USPS-P-1191) of May 24, 1991, use these three designations:

Type I—175±25 phosphor meter units (PMU)

Type II—225±25 PMUs.

Type III—no phosphorescent material.

Simulated perfs on self-sticks

Self-adhesive stamps will have simulated perforation holes from now on, according to the Postal Service.

"This will make peel-and-stick stamps look more like the traditional lick-and-stick stamps for serious collectors who prefer perforations over straight die cuts," said Azeezally Jaffer, manager of stamp services.

This, of course, is far from the truth. Many collectors hate self-adhesives simply because they do not know how to mount them. Cutting a single out of a so-called convertible booklet is almost impossible, and many collectors do not even know that self-adhesive coils exist.

The coils are made specifically so the Philatelic Fulfillment Service Center can strip out singles for making first-day covers.

The Postal Service has also changed its nomenclature on self-adhesives, going to "Peel & Stick."

USPS restores '¢' symbol

With the reissuance of the 5¢ Circus Wagon on March 20, USPS has returned to the use of the "¢" symbol on stamps from 1¢ to 5¢.

[For text of USPS announcement, please turn to Page 69.]

The announcement said the symbol would return only when a stamp needed to be reissued. Since the 1¢ Omnibus and the 2¢ Locomotive have recently been re-

issued on the C Press and the 3¢ Conestoga Wagon is being reissued now, the only other new stamps that may be affected are the 4¢ Steam Carriage and the five lowest values of the Great Americans Series.

However, the 3¢ Paul Dudley White stamps has just been switched from the defunct A Press and does not show the symbol.

A question of gum

The Plate Number Coil Study Group's Richard Nazar, an authority on paper, does not understand it.

Neither do Dr. Robert Rabinowitz, Gerald Clark, or Steve Esrati.

But something is going on with the adhesive on new stamps. The Postal Service calls it "dextrin" gum.

We had all believed that "dextrin" referred to a shiny gum, either glossy of the new low-gloss gum. But the description of the gum on the 3¢ White called it "dextrin," too. We have seen this stamp and the gum is dull.

Dr. Rabinowitz believes that the new 3¢ Conestoga stamp may show shiny gum. We have not yet seen it.

The stamp is supposed to be available from the Philatelic Fulfillment Service Center. The mystery will be solved when we can examine the stamp.

Esrati believes that this is just another manifestation of the Postal Service not knowing what it is doing. He believes the word "dextrin" was used incorrectly in the news release or at the time we were first told by BEP of the new paper specifications, (See TPN July 1993, Page 93) which specifically differentiated among dextrin gum, dry gum, and resin/dextrin gum.

Those specifications called LP-40 dry gum and LP-57 dextrin gum.

The new Eagle and Shield

Clark and Dr. Rabinowitz both asked "What for? Who needed it?" when told of the new undenominated 10¢ Eagle and Shield from Stamp Venturers. The USPS announcement told us only that the paper was from a different supplier (Silver Leaf instead of Coated Papers, Ltd.) but did not explain how to tell them apart.

The stamps have been replaced by the undenominated 10¢ Auto, also printed by Stamp Venturers.

Dr. Rabinowitz expects the new stamps to have back numbers and to look different from the original SV E&S stamps.

The only thing we know for sure is that the plate number (which may be at the right instead of in the middle) will begin with an "S."

Self-adhesives selling out

By Gerald H. Clark

Collectors are having a difficult time trying to beat the public to self-adhesives. By the second week of March, reports of shortages began pouring in from big cities. USPS seems to be trying to catch up, but just can't seem to get ahead of the game.

One dealer I spoke to recently felt that the three reported plate numbers on the Love Cherub issue could become "hot" soon. His theory is that dealers, busy trying to keep up with the "G" coils did not have the time or resources to set aside large stocks of self-adhesives. By the time dealers were able to chase the Love Cherubs, they were gone from most post offices.

Reports on Cherubs are confusing

The first distribution of Love panes was printed 12/15/94 and distributed before the day of issue. The original quantity requested by USPS was 15 million panes. As "G" panes were rapidly gobbled up, USPS recognized a potential shortage and another 45 million panes were ordered. Within two weeks after the first day, a second distribution was made, which gave us the two new plate numbers in the master list (Page 67 in this issue). Beginning in the fourth week of March, a third distribution was beginning with initial quantities being shipped to the West Coast first. Quantities of this distribution are unknown, but it is likely that by the time *TPN* reaches you, new numbers will have been found.

Cherub coil seems unobtainable

The status of the Love Cherub coil seems to be as big a mystery to USPS as it is to collectors. Prior to the first day, I was given an item number for the coil by 1-800-STAMP-24, but was told that it was sold out.

In mid-February, STAMP-24 actually took orders from some collectors and dealers. One collector reports that he received a back-order notice on the item from Kansas City. When I again tried to place an order on March 25, I was told that the item did not exist on the computer. In total frustration, I called Monica Hand in USPS Corporate Relations to get a straight answer. She didn't know and referred me to her colleague, Robin Wright. He was unsure about the item but checked the new *Stamps etc. Catalog* and told me that it was not offered so it must not exist.

A dealer who has been calling Kansas City to check on his order was told that the coil would not be available until late April, but it is coming. This was 30 minutes before I talked to Wright.

Wright was informative as to item numbers on the coil issues for Peaches and Pear, Pink Rose, and Flag over Porch, so we can assume that these will be forthcoming. (They're listed in the new *Stamps etc. Catalog* so they must exist!)

He also stated that NO denominated 32¢ Love Cherub self-adhesive convertible booklet is shown and that only stamps for the second ounce (55¢) would be issued in the self-adhesive booklet format. Only sheet and regular booklet Loves will be available with a first-class denomination. I'm not sure I believe that one, but it may turn out to be correct.

Flag over Field ATMs

Master carton labels on the "Flag over Field" issue show a production date of Feb. 15 and an incorrect plate number.

This led me to report to several readers that the plate number would be V11111. Even the labels on the inner cartons of 500 panes were stamped with "V" and five "1"s. The new *Postal Bulletin*

turned out to be correct in reporting "V" and four "1"s. USPS Stamp Distribution Offices (SDOs) have normally received only 500 panes of any ATM issue, but for this one, most received 3,500 panes.

Flag over Porch—Nine collectible varieties

This should prove to be an interesting issue for collectors. Initial quantities ordered by USPS are just shy of 100 million panes (2 billion stamps).

Initial quantities were distributed in early March for a May 20 first day. In an obvious effort to reduce the shortage of self-adhesives, the first day was advanced to April 19. The "lick & stick coil" and sheet versions will still be issued on May 20.

The latest innovation in the self-adhesive convertible booklet—the simulated perf—will be introduced with this issue. The normal vertical and horizontal straight die cuts have been replaced with squiggles in both directions. Even the two pullout tabs have squiggles. Collectors of used singles will be able to find nine different collectible positions based on the outside straight edges.

The *Postal Bulletin* has announced two more automatic distributions besides the original. The second will occur beginning May 30. The third is scheduled to begin on July 1. About two weeks after these distributions would be a good time to look for new plate numbers at your local post office.

New finds on older coil issues

Several months ago, Joe Reymer submitted a coil strip of the Love Sunrise with a strange, large semi-circle printed on the bottom of the backside. Since *TPN*'s report, at least two more examples have been reported.

Originally thought to be some sort of impression from a screw head, it turns out that the semi-circle is actually an offset of one half of a "bulls-eye" color-registration mark. The mark was printed on the matrix between the stamps, the coil was then wound, and excess ink was transferred to the backside of the backing paper.

Michael Perry describes it best as "set of thin rings with a wide circle in between, and a '+' register mark centered."

While the mark appears to be black or gray, Perry notes that close examination reveals it to be a "dingy" green with traces of red ink mixed in. One question remains: Why rewind the coil prior to the removal of the matrix (the excess paper surrounding the stamps)?

Several long strips showing the tips of a series of five-color control bars have been found on the backside of a slightly miscut

Coil roll of Stamp Venturers red Eagle and Shield stamps. These markings would represent control marks for the booklet covers which were printed above the coil on the plate layout.

They occur at a regular interval precisely the width of four booklets. Three black bars, one yellow bar, and one red bar are spaced over a width of three coil stamps. A strip of 25 stamps contains two complete sets of markings.

Keep those cards and photocopies coming

As always, photocopies of new finds are appreciated. Please send to: Gerald H. Clark, PO Box 424, Midvale, UT 84047-0424

Thanks to: Richard Beecher, Doug Iams, Alan Malakoff, Tom McFarland, Wayne Meyers, Frank Norulak, Michael Perry, Joe Reymer, and Rick Staiger.

PLATE NUMBER COILS

JUST FOUND: E&S A11 10 10 10 11, \$12

	LP	PS3	PS5
NEW (5c) Bats	.60	.65	.75
2604 (10c) Eagle and Shield			
A11111, A11112, A22112, A22113, A43334, A43335, A53335, A77777, A88888, A99999, A99999, A1010101010, A101101010, A1011101011, A1011101012, A1110101010, A1110111010, A1111101010, A111111010, A1211101010, A1411101010, A1411101011, A1412111110, A1412111111	2.64	2.72	2.80
A21113, A33333, A33335, A34424, A34426, A43324, A43325, A43326, A43426, A54444, A54445, A88889			
	3.80	3.88	4.00
A12213	20.00	20.00	20.00
A32333	180.00	180.00	180.00
A33334	85.00	85.00	85.00
A1110101011	35.00	35.00	35.00
2605 (10c) BEP 11111, 22221, 22222, 33333			
	2.64	2.72	2.80
11111, 22221 phosphated (error)	25.00	25.00	25.00
2606 (10c) E&S SV 11111	2.64	2.72	2.80
NEW (10c) Auto 1111	1.20	1.30	1.50
NEW (15c) Pin 111111, 11111	1.80	2.10	2.25
1891 18c Flag 1	96.00	112.00	352.00
2	13.72	20.58	36.00
3	288.00	290.00	800.00
4	4.41	4.66	8.00
5	2.45	3.29	4.40
6	WANT	1.40	WANT
7	26.60	26.99	31.20
2149 18c Wash. 1112, 3333	1.93	2.10	2.80
2149a 18c PC 33333 shiny & dull	3.20	3.60	4.00
PC 11121, 43444	4.60	4.92	5.20
2529 19c Boat A1112, 1212	8.00	8.20	8.40
A1111, A2424, A5555, A5556, A6667, A7777, A7779, S11	2.60	3.00	3.60
A5555 untagged	9.60	10.00	10.40
2005 20c Consumer Ed. 1, 2	3.19	26.25	160.00
3, 4	3.19	26.25	96.00
1895 20c Flag 1	3.92	6.40	68.00
2, 11, 12	5.29	7.00	9.60
3	2.35	2.45	6.00
4	26.46	45.50	640.00
6	72.00	76.00	120.00
8	3.82	3.92	12.80
5, 9, 10, 13, 14	1.93	2.80	4.80
1895a 20c PC 14	48.00	48.00	48.00
0135 20c Official 1	7.35	17.50	56.00
2150 21.1c Letters 11111	2.10	2.21	3.80
111121	2.84	3.08	4.60
2150a 21.1c PC 111111, 111121 3.08		3.08	4.60
2115 22c Flag 1, 7, 13	3.82	10.15	12.00
3	8.40	11.20	48.00
5, 6, 10	4.80	4.90	6.00
14	20.40	20.80	21.60
2, 4, 8, 12, 15, 16, 19, 21, 22, 21	2.80	2.87	3.60
11, 17, 18, 20	4.76	6.64	7.60
2112 22c "D" Eagle 1, 2	3.80	4.08	6.20
0139 22c "D" Official 1	24.50	35.00	64.00
2607 23c Present Flag			
A111, A212, A222	2.60	3.00	3.20
A112	7.20	7.60	8.00
A122, 333	3.60	4.08	4.40
2608 23c USA			
A1111, A2222, A2232, A2233, A3333, A4364, A4443, A4444, A4453	3.20	3.60	4.00
2608a BEP version 1111 (shiny)	2.80	3.20	3.60
2608a BEP version 1111 (dull)	3.20	3.60	4.00

	LP	PS3	PS5
2280 25c Yosemite			
Block 1, 7	5.60	6.40	7.20
Block 2, 3, 4, 5, 8	2.66	2.94	3.60
Block 9	8.00	8.80	9.60
Phos 1	38.40	39.20	40.00
Phos 2-3, 7-11, 13-14	2.80	2.98	3.80
Phos. 5, 15	4.80	5.60	6.40
Phos. 6	11.20	12.00	12.80
2279 "E" Earth 1211	3.80	3.92	5.80
2222	4.00	4.40	4.80
1111, 1222	1.68	1.84	3.00
2281 25c Honeybee 1, 2	1.68	1.96	3.60
1 Onp. full seal	24.00	25.20	25.60
NEW (25c) Julia 111111, 11111	3.25	3.50	4.00
2518 "T" (29c) Tulip			
1111, 1222, 2222	2.80	3.20	3.60
1211	31.20	31.60	32.00
2211	6.40	6.80	7.20
2525 29c Flower 11111, 2222 31c	2.80	3.20	3.60
S2222 (Perf.)	3.20	3.60	4.00
2523 29c Mt. Rushmore			
1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7	2.80	3.20	3.60
6 on Lenz Paper	120.00	120.00	120.00
5, 8, 9	6.80	7.00	7.20
2523c Tealish brown, 7	120.00	120.00	120.00
2523a greenish A1111, A22211	2.80	3.20	3.60
2690 29c White House 1-16, 18	3.60	4.00	4.40
2480 Pine Cone self-stick B1	—	—	5.00
2813 Love self-stick B1	—	—	5.00
2598 Eagle self-stick 111	—	—	5.00
2599 Statue of Liberty B1111	—	—	5.00
2791 Xmas keys PS/B V1111111	—	—	6.00
NEW Santa V1111	—	—	5.00
CYP31 Variable Rate Shield (UVAN) BEP version Plate 1 per PS/5			
1c—18c	—	—	30.00
19c—29c	—	—	10.00
CYP32 Unisys, ABN version A11, 19c—29c	—	—	10.00

'G' STAMPS

	LP	PS3	PS5
BEP version 1111, 2222	4.15	4.40	5.00
Stamp Ventures versions			
32c Perforated 11111, S2222	4.15	4.40	5.00
32c Ruled 11111	4.15	4.40	5.00
25c First-class Present 11111	4.15	4.40	5.00
American Bank Note version (all with prefix "A")			
A1314, A3114, A4426, A4433	5.35	5.65	6.25
A4335	WANT	WANT	WANT
All other 32c numbers	4.15	4.40	5.00
5c Harpich A11111, 211111	1.35	1.40	1.50
Any self-collative coils V11111	—	—	11.00

See complete listing on Page 70

Self-stick booklets

2431a Eagle and Shield 11111	15.00
2478a 29c Red Squirrel B11111, B22211	10.50
B23133	11.00
B22221, B22222	13.00
2479a Rose S111 (94)	10.00
S111 (91 error)	11.00
2480a Pine Cone B1	25.00
B5, B12, B15	15.00
B2, B3, B4, B6-B11, B-13, B-14, B-16	11.00
2595 Eagle Brown B1111-1, B1111-2, B2222-1, B2222-2	11.00
B33331-1, B3434-1, B4444-1	250.00
B4344-3	15.00
2596a Eagle Green	
B11111, B21221, B22322, B32322, B32342, B45461, B45463, B45471, B45473, B45784	11.00
B43352, B43452, B43453	20.00
B45473, B41384	30.00
B42342	10.00
2597a Eagle Red	
2598a Blue Eagle B111, B112	11.00
2719a Christmas Train V11111	9.50
2802a Christmas	
V111-1111, V222-1222, V222-2112, V222-2122, V222-2221, V222-2222, V333-3333	7.50
2833a Snowman V1111	11.00
V2222	13.00
2813a Sunrise Love B111-1, 2, 3, 4, B222-4, 5, 6	11.00
B111-5	150.00
B222-4, B222-5, B222-6, B333-9	11.00
B333-5	25.00
B333-8	20.00
B221-5, B333-7, B344-12, B344-13	13.00
B333-10, B333-11, B333-12, B333-17	11.00
B333-14	75.00
B344-11	POR
B444-8, 9, 10, 13, 15, 17, 18, 19	11.00
B434-10	100.00
B444-7, B444-16	13.00
2599a Statue of Liberty B11111, B1212	10.00
2873a Santa V1111	8.00
2874a Cardinal V1111	8.00
V2222	11.00
6 stamps V11111, V22222	11.00
Love Cherub B1111-1	12.00

With \$100 purchase you may buy
Single Black Forest Yosemite (\$100 cat) for just \$35 or
Pair of Impert 19c Boat (our retail \$450) for just \$250.
Quantities extremely limited on these items.
Subject to prior sale. Call early!

STAMPS 'N' STUFF WILL NOT BE UNDERSOLD

We will attempt to meet any major dealer's advertised current prices!

TERMS: Payment with order. Prices subject to change without notice. U.S. postage taken in trade at 90%. Single plate number coils available at fair price minus one stamp. Average coils available on better items. Please send for list.

CONDITION: Fine-Very Fine. Never hinged. If you require XF, add 35% to list.



STAMPS 'N' STUFF

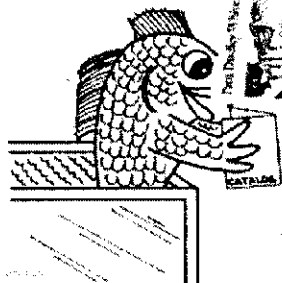
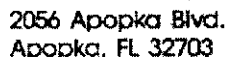
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CANADA

**FIRST CLASS
RETURN REQUESTED**

By Richard L. Beecher

(If you have a cover for this feature, write me at 2641 Locksley Pl., Los Angeles, CA 90039.)

On the day the first-class rate went to 25¢, the postcard rate to Canada was increased to 21¢ (and remained at that rate until Feb. 2, 1991). Although USPS made a

Great Americans

The new stamp is from Plate 4 and has dull gum. That means it was printed on what BEP calls LP-40 paper which is a paper that is untagged with dull gum.

TPN believes that the information in the news release is in error. (Please see the discussion in the portion of Data Bank on Page 69 dealing with the 3¢ White.)

André Thiele noticed that the White stamps, which had to be printed on the C, D, or F presses, show crow's feet electric-eye markings on the side of the pane away from the plate number and the other marginal inscriptions. This also occurred on the 23¢ Cassatt with shiny gum.

The stamps have turned up, so far, in Peoria, Ill., Green Bay, Wisc., and around Albany, N.Y. All are from upper left panes. The news release said 300 million were printed and are available from the Philatelic Fulfillment Service Center as Item 1053.

**3¢ White returns as an untagged stamp;
untagged errors may become worthless**

Collectors who were proud of owning untagged White errors may have seen their stamps become worthless when the new untagged White was printed, unless they have a plate number other than a 4.

But there may be another way to tell the stamps apart. The Plate 4 stamps are all on Paper III_n (meaning it has diagonal gum ridges). Thus, any untagged error that is on a different paper would have to be the untagged error. But there would be no way to distinguish the error from a Plate 4 stamp if it is on Paper III_n.

House of Farnam	\$5.00
Artmaster	\$4.00
ArtCraft	\$4.00

Most earlier FDCs sold at the same prices.
My new-issues customers got their "G" FDCs
(some ordered one of each number)
at similarly low prices.

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Apgar stamps overprinted

By Gerald H. Clark

Copies of the 20¢ Virginia Apgar stamp printed from Plate B1 have been found overprinted on the inside horizontal selvage by what looks like a dot-matrix printed in black ink.

The picture on the right shows the overprint at its left edge.

Eight panes with large portions of the overprint were found widely scattered throughout a master carton of 2,500 panes (250,000 stamps). The cartons had a label dated "08-29-94." All of the overprinted panes were from the upper right or lower right position of the web. Many other panes showed only traces of black dots on the outer edges of the selvage.

In one instance, the printing slipped on to portions of four stamps (that is the strip shown to the right). The exact meaning of the overprinted information and its purpose for being printed on the panes is unknown, but I believe that the number after the word "IMP" is the running total of impressions on this plate.

Reading from left to right, here is what the various overprints show:

- Six numerical characters—These were illegible on all examples found.
- Three numerical characters—Believed to be "110." This is constant on all examples found.
- "SKID #113"—This is constant on all examples found.
- "IMP #008" followed by four additional digits. This is constant on all examples found. But the seven-digit numbers ascends with the time of day, another indication that this may be the impression total.
- "08/27/94"—Apparently the date of production. This is constant on all examples found.
- "15:24" or another time. Examples range from 15:04 to 17:14.

When the six different overprints are put together, the line appears to say:

????? 110 SKID #13 IMP #0087771 08/27/94 15:24

????? 110 SKID #13 IMP #0088992 08/27/94 17:14

We had been told by the Postal Service that Plate B1 was damaged after printing 518,132 sheets. These impression totals, if that is what they are, fall well inside that maximum.

Now for the questions:

- ∞ Why overprint control numbers on the inside selvage?
- ∞ Why overprint at all?
- ∞ What are the first six numbers and what do they mean?
- ∞ What is the purpose of the overprint?
- ∞ Are there other examples in collectors' hands that could help explain?

Destruction of new Legends is halted

After *The Postal Bulletin* ordered destruction of many available stamps, a message went out over the USPS interoffice network canceling the destruction of the revised Legends of the West and the Wonders of the Sea stamps "to support the stamp-collecting promotion to schoolteachers."

It is the first indication that this program exists.

If your mailing label says "3-95,"
your subscription expires with this issue.



All 10 10 10 11 found

Only 1 E&S still out of our reach

In the May 1994 issue of *TPN* we reported on 42 different 10¢ undenominated Eagle and Shield plate-number combinations.

In the July issue we corrected the total and brought it up to 43. That included A12213 and A11 10 10 10 11, the two combinations that had been reported by the printer but had never found by collectors.

And now there is only one unfound number. Rob Washburn has found A11 10 10 10 11 used on cover, proving once again that if dealers cannot find quantities of mint stamps, they may never be found mint.

That is a back-handed compliment to Dr. Robert Rabinowitz, who single-handedly dug up almost all of the difficult E&S numbers, as well as many "G" stamps.

Dr. Rabinowitz examined Washburn's cover and found that it had come from a mailing by Columbia House. He checked the mailer who prepared the mailing and found the stamps had been used up or sold.

Later, the A11 10 10 10 11s were offered wholesale by Diane Thompson at \$20 a strip.

Al Haake and Dr. Rabinowitz tried to warn dealers against laying out \$20, saying they believed they would be able to find supplies of mint stamps. Some dealers, such as *TPN* advertiser Stamps 'n' Stuff, bought the stamps from Thompson and were retailing them at \$35.

But a short time later, Haake and Rabinowitz found an ample supply, and the retail price dropped to just above \$10.

20¢ Cog Railway stamp stirs up controversy

The 20¢ Cog Railway stamp to be issued in Dallas on June 9 is all wrong, according to Lloyd A. de Vries, writing in *Stamp Collector*.

- The Postal Service called it a "cog railway car" in its announcement, but it is obviously the engine.

- The only cog railways in the United States are on Mt. Washington, N.H., and at Pike's Peak, Colo. So why was Dallas chosen for the first day?

- The steam engine shown on the stamp is "The Cloud," the fourth and last engine used on Mt. Washington. The Postal Service said it was the fifth engine. Nobody could tell de Vries why the fourth and not the first engine was depicted.

Introducing: Low-gloss gum

Ken Lawrence writing in *Linn's* has proposed a new classification for gum on U.S. stamps, giving us this threesome:

- Shiny gum
- Dull finish gum

member which is which. The complex nomenclature was shoved down collectors' throats by *Linn's* and Scott Publishing.

Interestingly, Scott still can't tell some stamps with different tagging styles apart, but insists on a naming system that means

*all the PNC news that fits we print
(and some Great Americans, too)*

- Low-gloss gum

The third is what we have been calling matte or matte finish gum which we found on some plate-number combinations of the 10¢ Eagle and Shield, 23¢ USA Flag, and on all 20¢ Aggars.

Linn's has accepted Lawrence's suggestion and said it will begin to refer to these stamps as having low-gloss gum.

As of this issue, so will *TPN*.

No Greats in sight

Ken Moreau took a drive along an interstate from New York City to the Canadian border, stopping at 35 to 40 post offices. His surprise was that most of them had no Great Americans whatsoever.

A similar complaint came from Carol Morehouse in California.

A philatelic clerk in Cleveland may have explained why to *TPN*:

"The Postal Inspection Service made us cut back on the total amount of accountable paper we may carry. I am not permitted to say how much we may now have, but it is less than a quarter of what it used to be. That's why two philatelic clerks now work one stamp show, so we can bring more stock. That's also why we have few older stamps."

He said the rule applied as well to ordinary window clerks.

But a quick check around the country showed that this new policy may be regional. It is not universal.

Memory needs a Post-It

Attached to a file cabinet next to the computer that puts out *TPN* is a Post-It™ brand note with the following message:

Embedded=mottled
Surface=solid

It's the only way Steve Esrati can re-

nothing to a collector who is looking at the stamps. Why not return to a system that is meaningful?

We take pleasure in noting that the 1994 *Durland Standard Plate Number Catalog* still says "mottled" and "solid."

Wayne Youngblood, who created the terminology, sticks by it. He says it applies only to engraved stamps, which are always printed on uncoated paper. On gravure and offset stamps, there is no embedded tagging because the stamps require a coating, and at least up to now, taggant has been used for the dual purpose of providing the coating and acting as a taggant.

[Strictly speaking, however, it is possible that the original tagging may be insufficient, requiring overall tagging after printing. That would be surface (overall) tagging on top of surface-coated prephosphored paper.]

'G's are good for anywhere

Notwithstanding the admonition on the stamps themselves that "G" stamps are "For U.S. addresses only," you may now use undenominated stamps on mail aboard.

The new rules agree with new rules approved by the Universal Postal Union. They immediately sparked a fierce debate on the Internet, but it was finally pointed out that the "G" stamps were printed long ago (in 1991) and the rules were changed in 1995.

(Incidentally, the Internet address of *TPN* is StevStamps@aol.com. It's the address for the latest news on PNCs and Great Americans.)

Contents do trigger facer

The anonymous reader who reported in a letter appearing in this issue that the

contents of a letter can trigger the facer-canceler tried an experiment. He placed a 5¢ Butte, a 10¢ Auto and a 3¢ makeup stamp (for total postage of 18¢) on a letter to TPN. "I'm curious how the post office figures the postage due," he said.

The letter arrived at TPN with the cancel on the back of the letter, not on the stamps. No postage due was assessed.

The writer, however, proved that the contents can trigger the facer-canceler. The enclosure was a bright orange flyer that reacts to both long- and short-wave UV.

The new-font UVM saga (cont.)

Remember how Al Haake drove hundreds of miles and spent a week at the Ann Arbor, Mich., post office to obtain all the ECA-GARD UVMs he could get on dull gum and with the new typeface?

Remember how the post office ran out of rolls with dull gum?

Remember how it was thought the dull-gum stamps would be scarce?

Well, you remember right. But something odd happened in the Los Angeles area, where dull-gum rolls were placed into an ECA-GARD machine at Santa Ana recently, producing more of the dull-gum stamps. The price will decline.

Two post offices in Washington have received ECA-GARD UVM machines. The stations are the National Capital and Friendship Heights. Other Washington-area machines are made by Unisys.

In Detroit, meanwhile, one of the remaining ECA-GARD machines has been moved to Ann Arbor, leaving only one Detroit machine, in the Ren Center.

Here's what you find on the Internet

The following message was found on the Internet. TPN checked with self-stick expert Gerald H. Clark who said it was a fair offer:

Subject: Self-adhesive B111-5

From: waltezell@aol.com (WaltEzell)

I have just acquired five Sunrise Love Self Adhesive sheetlets with the plate number B111-5. I am offering them at \$110 each to the first five responses. Please send e-mail requests to waltezell@aol.com

Juke Box is a Wurlitzer

According to *The Postal Bulletin*, the juke box shown on the undominated 25¢ stamp is a Wurlitzer, "one of the icons of the '40s and '50s music scene." It also said the butte shown on the 5¢ value is an "imaginary American scene," but the scene appears similar to Monument Valley, Utah. The car and hood ornament shown on the 10¢ value was not identified by USPS. The tail fin was not identified, either.

No more Information from...

We found a lot of good new in *Information from...*, the newsletter of the Stamp Distribution Branch. In January, it became *Stamp Services Update*, a compendium of information for Stamp Distribution Offices, but of little value to philatelists.

The March issue, however, did confirm that BEP is still shipping rolls of 3,000 of the 3¢ Conestoga Wagon. (In January it was shipping rolls of 500, too.)

Meanwhile, shipments from BEP have ended of the 1¢ Omnibus, 2¢ Mary Lyon, and 5¢ Canoe. The Canoe, of course, is made redundant by the new 5¢ Butte.

The winners' circle

Bill McMurray won a gold in April at MANPEX 95, sponsored by the Manchester (Conn.) Philatelic Society, for his "Tomorrow's Classics, Part II, Transportation Coils of 1982-83." Dean Hawk won a silver for "Transportation Coils 1981-83."

ADLETS

Classified ads are 15 cents a word. There is no charge

for your address. Members of PNC³ are entitled to one free 25-word adlet each year.

IT'S LONELY DOWN HERE! Wanted: Any PNCer or self-adhesive collector with a computer who would like to converse with Scott Smith at the South Pole. E-mail him at:

Plumbr06.McMurdo@McMurdo.gov

(no period after gov and it's zero-six after Plumbr, without an e) (3-95)

SPECIAL: MNH XF-S plate blocks of Americana Lamps (50¢, \$1, \$2, \$5): set for \$42 postpaid, or \$40 and you provide the postage. George E. Kuhn, P.O. Box 711, Fruitland Park, FL 34731-0711. (3-95 PNC³)

WILL TRADE my Great Americana tag breaks for yours, or will buy. What do you have? Single lines, double, or triple? Also need and will trade untagged singles or plate blocks. Ken Moreau, 402 Coronation Dr., Franklin MA 02038 (3-95 PNC³)

WANTED! WANTED! WANTED!

10¢ COMPUTER-VENDED coils and PNCs. (703) 860-1031. Michael Lipson, P.O. Box 2543, Reston, VA 22090 (3-95)

PNC RARITY: 17¢ Auto, Plate 1, showing the broken axle variety that was left out of the 1995 PNC Catalog. PS/7, Fine only, \$50; PS/5, Fine only \$40; PS/3, \$25; PS/2, \$20. Esrati, PO Box 20130, Shaker Heights OH 44120. (3-95)

FOR SPECIALISTS: We have what you need in tagging varieties—including untagged errors—gum types, precancels, booklets, sheets. Send 75¢ LSASE for my list. We pay high prices for NH. Victor Bove, Box 1013, New Monmouth, NJ 07748. (6-95)

WANTED PS 18s: Regular Perfed XF-S, imperf, misperfed, miscut. John Tison (PNC³ 473, APS, ASDA), PO Box 8755, Newport Beach CA 92658. 1-800-854-4487. (6-95)

LIGHTHOUSE ALBUMS, supplements, stock books, supplies, UV lamps. I offer a generous 15% discount. Also, KABE albums and supplements. Esrati, POB 20130, Shaker Heights, OH 44120. (3-95)

BARGAIN! I have one 20¢ Gallaudet plate block from Plate 8 with some short perf. Usually \$75, this copy only \$40. Esrati, POB 20130, Shaker Hts., OH 44120. (3-95)

JOIN PNC³ For details, write Joann Lenz, 37211 Alper Dr., Sterling Hts. MI 48312-2203. (3-95)

10¢ FISHING BOAT FIRST DAY PROGRAM: Produced by Arlington, VA, post office for Stamp Venturers version of the Fishing Boat. Contains individual stamp with \$111 plate number on it. 200 total programs exist, probably only 6 with plate numbers. One available at \$50. Malakoff, 616 Braun, Highland Pk, NJ 08904. (3-95)

TAGGED ERRORS

TAGGED USA: 23¢ USA Flag, BEP version, 1111. PS/5 XF, \$50; VF \$40. 5% off for PNC³. Also all BEP E&S 11111 tagged error, VF \$35, XF \$40; E&S 22221 tagged error, VF \$25, XF \$30, E&S 22222 tagged error, VF \$40, XF \$50. Esrati, POB 20130, Shaker Hts., OH 44120 (3-95)

28¢ APGAR plate blocks: 810n dead pre-phosphored paper \$3.75, on high-bright paper \$4.75; 82 on dead paper \$2.50, on high-brite paper \$4.75. Esrati, POB 20130, Shaker Hts., OH 44120 (3-95)

TRACTOR TRAILER OVERPRINTS wanted: Pay \$10.00 for covers without plate numbers, pay \$15 for covers with plate numbers. Mixture clips also wanted, inquire at Box TT, P.O. Box 20130, Shaker Hts. OH 44120 (3-95)

RICHARD NAZAR wants to thank all TPN readers for their support in the success of the 1995 *Plate Number Coil Catalog*. He has fewer than 50 spiral editions and 40 hard-cover editions still available. Get them while they last: Nazar Publications, Inc., POB 7307, Somerset NJ 08875-7307. Spiral \$32.95; hard-cover \$49.95; add \$3 shipping and handling for each catalog ordered. (3-95)

ALL BACK ISSUES of TPN are available. For a list with key articles send SASE to POB 20130, Shaker Heights, OH 44120. (3-95)

CHEAP AD: What you are reading is a cheap ad. Only 15 cents a word with no charge for name and address. Each PNC³ member is entitled to one free 25-word ad each year.

VACATION SCHEDULE: The "office" of TPN will be closed for a long Memorial Day weekend and from June 15 to July 5 for recreation and rehabilitation. The computer will accept faxes while I'm away. Don't even dare ask where I'm going (the February trip was to Bonaire). I'm taking my running shoes and my heart pills. Steve Esrati

Did you get A4435 for 4.75 (VF)?

My new-issues subscribers did. How much did you pay? My FDC new-issue subscribers are paying about \$5 for A4435 on FDC. How much did you pay?

Steve Esrati

APS Writers Unit gives award to Jaffer

Continued from Page 82

mary of Data on the Great Americans. Releasing the fiscal year reports was one of Jaffer's promises.

Peterson said he was praising Jaffer for reversing the obstructionist policies of the past and for opening up routes of communication. Peterson added that he had only six months remaining in office and wanted to cement the Writers Unit's role in acting as a conciliator between writers and the Postal Service. He noted the angry reception Jaffer had received from writers at STaMpsHOW 93 in Houston.

In the citation, Peterson praised Jaffer as supportive of philatelic writers.

But while Jaffer has been outwardly supportive of writers, he has even failed to help them find philatelic stores or find out when they are open. His response to any question about them is that there are 100 of them in Pittsburgh and that he, the head of everything having to do with stamps, has no idea of where they are.

On the other hand, Nazar and Esrati praised Jaffer for coming through on a promise first made by Gordon Morison, the former assistant postmaster general who held a position similar to Jaffer's. Morison sought writers' advice at a STaMpsHOW in Philadelphia on what information printers should supply to the Postal Service for dissemination in new-stamp announcements. Jaffer finally brought it about, although the announcements are still incomplete.

For example, *TPN* had to fight to get technical data on the printing of "G" stamps at Stamp Venturers or American

Bank Note.

More recently, despite many calls, we are unable to explain why the plate-number interval on the 5¢ Butte and other recent Stamp Venturers issues is 14. Robin Wright, the Corporate Relations Department spokesman responsible for these stamps, said he has sent our questions "across the street" several times without getting a reply.

In a related development, Rick Arvonio, until recently the head of Stamp Acquisition, has been shifted to a new job. Among his concerns will be the philatelic stores.

Arvonio has been considered the great-

est obstructionist to the free flow of information to philatelic writers. (See editorial in this issue about how Arvonio discarded all the information collectors needed about the production of "G" stamps.)

Replacing Arvonio is Alison Bartlett. Peterson said she has inherited the huge books sent by BIA researchers looking for missing stamp data.

In yet another development, Peterson said, Bartlett has also sought to correct an error made in the USPS contract with Dittler Bros., which left out the provision for quarterly production reports. She will attempt to obtain the data outside the contract.

What's an authorized dealer, anyway?

By Stephen G. Esrati

The July 1994 issue of *TPN* carried a headline, "Service Center gives special breaks to dealers."

Well, I'm a dealer. When I order something from the cave, I wait as much as a month before it arrives. I am unable to speak to the special expeditor who can tell me what plate numbers are available on Great Americans or PNCs.

If I were an authorized dealer, I could get expedited delivery (in as little as a week) and could speak to this wondrous person who is not supposed to talk to ordinary buyers of the cave's wares.

So I asked her how I can become an authorized dealer, too. She told me I would have to order 50 first-day covers and speak to Sonia Edison, who works in the

part of the cave that deals with FDCs.

But it wasn't as simple as that. Even such major dealers as Dr. Robert Rabino-witz or Dale Hendricks of Dale Enterprises would not pass muster with Edison.

The idea, she said, is to allow FDC dealers to order stamps in time for the servicing deadline.

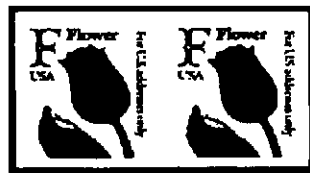
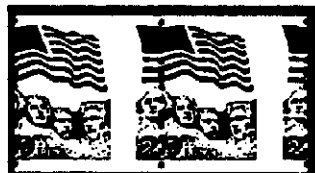
"If people just buy 50 covers and then order other stamps, that wouldn't be fair," she said.

But two things are wrong with that:

- FDC dealers do not order ready-made, uncacheted covers from the cave.
- FDC servicers, such as Fleetwood, Artmaster, and ArtCraft do not need to rush to buy because they are always granted extensions long past the deadline.

Once again, USPS doesn't understand.

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My PNC prices

PNC³ members may deduct 5%. PNC Study Group members may take an added 5%. You'll love my my no-quibble return policy, my VF quality. This list (List 13) is good through July 4, 1995. Prices are for F-VF PS/5. Deduct 10% for PS/3 or Fine; add 25% for XF. If you prefer PSS, deduct 5% except where separate prices are noted. I have precancel gaps, varieties. Ask!

1c Omnibus 1, 2, 5, 6	.40	3, 4	.33.00	(15c) Tail Fin, Present, 11111 (BEP)	2.25	8 PS/5	12.00
3, 4	.50	5, 6	250.00	16.7c Popcorn 1, 2	3.00	8 PS/3	3.00
B Press 1, 2	.55	PC 1, 2	20.00	17c Auto 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	2.00	12	7.50
B Press Unstamped 2	.50	PC 3	25.00	6	12.00	PC 14	50.00
C Press 3 (various 3)	3.00	PC 3 or 5, Hash mark (PS/10)	45.00	7	5.00	P14 "Q" mark (PS/3)	75.00
Cloudy 3 (variety 1)	.75	PC 4	20.00	PC 1C, 2C (F only)	6.00	20c Official 1 PS/5	57.00
Full size 3 (variety 3)	2.00	PC 5, 6	3.00	PC 3A, 4A	3.50	1 PS/3	11.00
2c Locomotive 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10	.50	PC 8	180.00	PC 3A, 4A	3.50	20c Cable Car 1, 2 (black)	3.00
3 Smoking T, or cont.	15.00	10c Camel Boat 1 (black leg)	1.50	PC 3B, 4B	22.00	Overall tagged 2	5.00
B Press 1	.60	1 overall tag (dull gum) F-VF	3.50	PC 3C, 4C	7.00	20.5c Pine Engine 1	3.00
Sales variety (see #)	10.00	1 overall tag (dull gum) XF	5.00	PC 3BA, 4BA (PS/10)	25.00	21c Rail Car 1, 2	3.00
C Press 2	.60	1, 2 plus shiny gum F-VF	3.50	PC 5A	5.00	21.1c 111111, plain and PC	3.00
3c Hammer 1, 2, 3, 4	.70	10c Tractor Trailer 1	2.00	PC 5B, 6B	18.25	111121 plain and PC	5.00
3c Conestoga Wagon 1	1.00	10c Tractor Trailer gasoline 11, 22	2.25	PC 5AB, 7AB (PS/9) (SR)	13.00	22c Flag 1, 7, 13 PS/5	14.00
Flaming wagon, or 1st or 2nd cont.	20.00	(10c) Eagle, Shield		PC 6A	13.00	1, 7, 13 PS/3	10.00
2, 3 unstamped	1.00	A11111, A11112, A21112, A21113, A22112, A22113,		PC 5C, 7C	24.00	3 PS/5	48.00
3.4c School Bus 1, 2	1.00	A33333, A33335, A33336, A33337, A33338, A33339,		PC 7A	12.00	3 PS/3	11.00
5, 6 (VF, Pair only .50)	5.00	A33340, A33341, A33342, A33343, A33344, A33345, A33346,		17c Doghead 2	3.00	14	30.00
4c Stepcrutch 1, 2, 3, 4	1.00	A33347, A33348, A33349, A33350, A33351, A33352, A33353,	2.75	17.5c Racor 1, neg or PC	3.00	2, 4, 12, 15, 16, 19, 22, T1	3.00
2 Quicks	7.00	A33354, A33355, A33356, A33357, A33358, A33359, A33360,		18c Survey 1	76.00	4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 17, 18, 20, 21	5.50
2 Quicks and child damage	12.50	A33361, A33362, A33363, A33364, A33365, A33366, A33367,		2, 5, 6, 8, 17, 18	3.00	(22c) "D" Eagle 1, 2	7.00
5, 6 (VF, Pair only .50)	1.50	A33368, A33369, A33370, A33371, A33372, A33373, A33374,		3, 4	63.75	(22c) "D" Official 1 PS/3	32.50
PC 3, 4	6.50	A33375, A33376, A33377, A33378, A33379, A33380, A33381,		9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16	12.50	3 (modified, dull or shiny)	3.50
PC 5, 6	4.50	A33382, A33383, A33384, A33385, A33386, A33387, A33388,		13, 14	5.50	23c Present A111, 212	3.50
Same, B Press 1	1.00	A33389, A33390, A33391, A33392, A33393, A33394, A33395,	3.50	18c Flag 1	45.00	A222 fat middle 2	4.00
Overall tagged 1	14.00	A33396, A33397, A33398, A33399, A33400, A33401, A33402,	2.75	2PS/5	45.00	A112, 122, 333	4.50
4c Steam Carriage 1, tagged, unstamped	1.00	A33403, A33404, A33405, A33406, A33407, A33408, A33409,	35.00	2PS/3	20.00	23c USA A1111, A2222, 1111 (shiny)	4.00
4.9c Backboard 3, 4	.90	A33410, A33411, A33412, A33413, A33414, A33415, A33416,	5.00	4	7.00	S111, 1111 (dull gum)	4.50
4 Buggy whip (long)	10.00	A33417, A33418, A33419, A33420, A33421, A33422, A33423,	20.00	7	4.00	A2232, A2233, A3333, A4364, A4443, A4444,	4.50
PC 1-6	1.80	A33424, A33425, A33426, A33427, A33428, A33429, A33430,	12.00	18c Wash, 1112, 3333	3.00	A453	4.50
PC4 Buggy whip	10.00	A33431, A33432, A33433, A33434, A33435, A33436, A33437,	85.00	PC 11121	6.00	1111 plus (over)	40.00
PC3 Rain rock or cont.	35.00	A33438, A33439, A33440, A33441, A33442, A33443, A33444,	2.50	PC 33333	3.00	24.1c Tandom 1	3.50
PC4 Buggy rain	35.00	A33445, A33446, A33447, A33448, A33449, A33450, A33451,	1.75	PC 33333 (dull gum, tagged)	5.75	25c Broad Wagon 2, 3, 4	3.50
5c Alcatraz 1, 2, 3, 4	1.00	A33452, A33453, A33454, A33455, A33456, A33457, A33458,	2.50	PC 43444	7.00	1, 5	4.00
5c Milk Wagon 1	1.00	A33459, A33460, A33461, A33462, A33463, A33464, A33465,	1.75	19c Fishing Boat		25c Yosemite	
5c Circus Wg. 1, cont. 1, A1, A2, A3, S1	1.50	A33466, A33467, A33468, A33469, A33470, A33471, A33472,	2.50	A1112	6.00	Block 1, 7, Plus 5, 15	6.00
5c Circus 1, 2, 3	1.25	A33473, A33474, A33475, A33476, A33477, A33478, A33479,	28.00	A1212, 1111, 2424, 5555, 5556, 6667	4.00	Block 2, 3, 4, 5, 8	3.50
Ground S11 (dotted, edged gum)	2.00	A33480, A33481, A33482, A33483, A33484, A33485, A33486,	80.00	7667, 7679, 7766, 7779, 5111	10.00	Block 9	9.00
Ground S11 (dull in UV, smooth gum)	1.00	A33487, A33488, A33489, A33490, A33491, A33492, A33493,	30.00	A5555 unstamped	175.00	Block 9	9.00
(5c) "B" Nonprofit, A11111, A21111	1.00	A33494, A33495, A33496, A33497, A33498, A33499, A33500,	250.00	20c Fire Pump 1 PS/5	50.00	Plus 1	40.00
(5c) Delta Nonprofit, S1111	1.00	A33501, A33502, A33503, A33504, A33505, A33506, A33507,	3.50	1 PS/3	5.00	Plus 6	12.00
5.2c Sleigh 1, 2	8.50	A33508, A33509, A33510, A33511, A33512, A33513, A33514,	2.00	3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 13, 15, 16	4.50	Plus 2-8, 7-11, 13-14	3.50
3	240.00	A33515, A33516, A33517, A33518, A33519, A33520, A33521,	2.00	7, 8 PS/5 F-VF only	160.00	(25c) "E" Earth 1211, 2222	4.25
5	170.00	A33522, A33523, A33524, A33525, A33526, A33527, A33528,	2.00	12, 14	8.00	1111, 1222	2.50
PC 1, 2	12.00	A33529, A33530, A33531, A33532, A33533, A33534, A33535,	2.00	6	35.00	25c Honeybee 1, 2	3.50
PC 3, 5	14.00	A33536, A33537, A33538, A33539, A33540, A33541, A33542,	2.00	11 PS/5	75.00	1 Orig. full seal	20.00
PC 4, 6	13.00	A33543, A33544, A33545, A33546, A33547, A33548, A33549,	2.00	11 PS/3	29.00	(25c) "G" Present S11111	3.50
PC 4, 6 Hash mark (PS/10), each	50.00	A33550, A33551, A33552, A33553, A33554, A33555, A33556,	2.00	20c Conestoga Ed. 1, 2 PS/5	150.00	(25c) Julia Box, Present S11111	4.00
5.3c Elevator 1	1.00	A33557, A33558, A33559, A33560, A33561, A33562, A33563,	2.00	1, 2, 3, 4 PS/3	25.00	(25c) Julia Box, Present 11111 (BEP)	4.00
5.5c Star Route Truck 1	1.75	A33564, A33565, A33566, A33567, A33568, A33569, A33570,	2.00	3, 4 PS/5	95.00	(29c) "F" Bull	
1 Burned Rubber	10.00	A33571, A33572, A33573, A33574, A33575, A33576, A33577,	4.50	20c Flag 1 PS/5	70.00	1111, 1222, 2222	3.50
1 Mo. on top	10.00	A33578, A33579, A33580, A33581, A33582, A33583, A33584,	2.70	1 PS/3	4.25	1211	20.00
PC 1	1.50	A33585, A33586, A33587, A33588, A33589, A33590, A33591,	3.00	2, 11, 12	8.00	29c Flower S1111, S2222	5.00
PC 2	4.00	A33592, A33593, A33594, A33595, A33596, A33597, A33598,	5.00	2 Flying Footprints (no number)	10.00	S11	5.00
5.9c Bicycle 3, 4	15.00	A33599, A33600, A33601, A33602, A33603, A33604, A33605,	2.50	3	5.00	S2222 (Perforated)	5.00
PC 3, 4	25.00	A33606, A33607, A33608, A33609, A33610, A33611, A33612,	2.50	4 PS/3 only	33.50	29c Alt. Redwood Flag	3.50
PC 5, 6	80.00	A33613, A33614, A33615, A33616, A33617, A33618, A33619,	2.00	5, 9, 10, 13, 14	4.00	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7	127.50
Bicycle 1, neg or PC	1.50	A33620, A33621, A33622, A33623, A33624, A33625, A33626,	3.00	14 "Q" mark (PS/3)	25.00	7 Toledo brown VF PS/3	4.00
PC1 Ganges (TR)	8.00	A33627, A33628, A33629, A33630, A33631, A33632, A33633,	2.00	6 PS/5	125.00	5, 8	15.00
PC1 Delt dtd (2R)	8.00	A33634, A33635, A33636, A33637, A33638, A33639, A33640,	3.00	6 PS/3	69.00	9	5.00
PC 2	8.00	A33641, A33642, A33643, A33644, A33645, A33646, A33647,	2.25			A11111, A22211	5.00
7.1c Tractor 1, PC 1	3.00	A33648, A33649, A33650, A33651, A33652, A33653, A33654,				29c White House Flag 1-16, 18	4.50
PC 1 "2P-4"	2.00	A33655, A33656, A33657, A33658, A33659, A33660, A33661,				29c UNM 1 (29c PS/3) (dull)	9.00
7.4c Baby Buggy 2	9.00	A33662, A33663, A33664, A33665, A33666, A33667, A33668,				29c UNM 1 (29c PS/3) (shiny)	8.00
Shown the variety	65.00	A33669, A33670, A33671, A33672, A33673, A33674, A33675,				29c UNM Unbrs A11	4.50
PC 2	5.00	A33676, A33677, A33678, A33679, A33680, A33681, A33682,				29c UNM 1 new feat (29c PS/5) (dull)	12.00
7.6c Carrot 1, 2	2.50	A33683, A33684, A33685, A33686, A33687, A33688, A33689,				29c UNM 1 new feat (52c PS/5) (shiny)	8.00
3	6.50	A33690, A33691, A33692, A33693, A33694, A33695, A33696,				29c Pine Cone PS/5, B1	4.50
B.3c Ambulance 1, 2	1.50	A33697, A33698, A33699, A33700, A33701, A33702, A33703,				29c Xmas, PS/8 V1111111	5.00
1 Whole low number (have separate)	30.00	A33704, A33705, A33706, A33707, A33708, A33709, A33710,				29c Love PS/5 B1	4.50
1 Cat low number	5.00	A33711, A33712, A33713, A33714, A33715, A33716, A33717,				29c Eagle PS/5 111	4.50
Double number (whole at top)	18.50	A33718, A33719, A33720, A33721, A33722, A33723, A33724,				29c Liberty PS/5	4.50
PC 1, 2	2.00	A33725, A33726, A33727, A33728, A33729, A33730, A33731,					
PC 1 No number	75.00	A33732, A33733, A33734, A33735, A33736, A33737, A33738,					
PC 1 Double number (cat at top)	5.00	A33739, A33740, A33741, A33742, A33743, A33744, A33745,					
PC 3, 4	5.75	A33746, A33747, A33748, A33749, A33750, A33751, A33752,					
B Press, 1	3.25	A33753, A33754, A33755, A33756, A33757, A33758, A33759,					
2	7.50	A33760, A33761, A33762, A33763, A33764, A33765, A33766,					
8.4c Wheelchair 1, 2	2.00	A33767, A33768, A33769, A33770, A33771, A33772, A33773,					
3	13.00	A33774, A33775, A33776, A33777, A33778, A33779, A33780,					
8.5c Star Truck 1, neg or PC	2.50	A33781, A33782, A33783, A33784, A33785, A33786, A33787,					
PC 2	11.00	A33788, A33789, A33790, A33791, A33792, A33793, A33794,					
PC2 Flying Flashlight	15.00	A33795, A33796, A33797, A33798, A33799, A33800, A33801,					
9.3c Mail Wagon 1, 2	12.50	A33802, A33803, A33804, A33805, A33806, A33807, A33808,					

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APS Writers Unit gives award to Jaffer

Charles Peterson, president of the APS' Writers Unit 30, announced that he was giving the WU 30 President's Award to stamp czar Azeezaly Jaffer at the writers' breakfast at State College, Pa., on March 12.

Ken Lawrence, who was at the breakfast, said he was totally surprised by the award, which had not been awarded previously. Lawrence is the former editor of WU 30's magazine, *The Philatelic Communicator*.

Peterson said the award was in recognition of Jaffer's "exceptional support of philatelic writers and researchers in their efforts to obtain stamp-production data."

A news release from Peterson commended Jaffer for the "special effort that is under way to recoup information lost during the 'gap years.'" This refers to the period from late 1991 through the end of 1994 when no stamp printing data were released.

When Steve Esrati was told of the comment about the "gap years," he screamed, "Oh, no!" Data from the "gap years," which appeared in the March issue of *TPN*, was obtained under the Freedom of Information Act by Alan M. Malakoff

and cost Malakoff a substantial amount of money.

Nazar, pointed out that although Jaffer had made many promises to philatelic writers, none has yet been fulfilled:

- Quarterly reports from the printers on plate activity.

- An attempt by the Postal Service to gather the data for the "gap years." Asked about the reports for the gap years, Jaffer told *TPN* that one of the obstacles that the Postal Service had run into was that BEP wanted to charge \$200,000 to reconstruct the data.

[The data published in the March *TPN* did not include printing totals, complete dates to press, press designations, or the dates on which the plates were canceled.]

- Regular meeting with writers. The last such gathering was in June during NAPEX in Arlington, Va. None took place at State College, nor a few weeks later at the ASDA Mega-Event in New York. Jaffer had promised to hold one in the cave of the Philatelic Fulfillment Service Center, but he said he is no longer able to schedule such meetings because doing so is in the province of another department. "I have no authority about that any more;

that's in the hands of Mark Weinberg, who has my old job in marketing."

Peterson noted that writers who complain about the award to Jaffer do not understand that Jaffer cannot be expected to do work in other departments, such as Corporate Relations.

Lawrence pointed out that at the last writers' seminar, Jaffer wrote down all his promises on a large scratch pad and that none of these promises had as yet been kept. Almost all these promises would fall in the province of Corporate Relations.

Lawrence said his top concern (and the top item on Jaffer's scratch pad) was the reports on accountable paper for the past five fiscal years, which have been suppressed ever since Lawrence used them in congressional testimony to prove that BEP printing costs were not really higher than those of private printers.

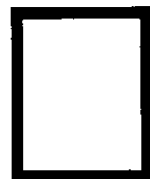
Lawrence needs the reports to update his book, *Linn's Plate Number Coil Handbook*. The reports provide accurate totals of the numbers of stamps produced and shipped. The figures are also used in Nazar's catalog and in Esrati's *A Sum-*

Please turn to Page 80

Stephen G. Esrati
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