



# Dummy News and Views

the Newsletter of the United States Stamp Society - Dummy Stamps Study Group

Issue Number 20

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## Welcome to the Dummy Stamps Study Group's Twentieth Newsletter

This newsletter is produced quarterly by the United States Stamp Society's - Dummy Stamps Study Group for your information and pleasure. We hope that the information included in this newsletter will be informative, useful and encourage your enjoyment of collecting dummy/test stamps. Our goal is to keep you up-to-date with the latest information available to our group. Questions, comments and articles proposed for publication should be directed to Terry R. Scott, Chairman of the Dummy Stamps Study Group at [trs@napanet.net](mailto:trs@napanet.net)

**Note: This newsletter, although dated as Summer 2010, was not issued until Fall 2010**

## Recent Auctions of Interest to Dummy Stamp Collectors

by Terry R. Scott

On June 22, 2010, Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc. held Sale #999, **The Steven R. Belasco Collection of Vending & Affixing Perfs.**, that contained the following test stamps. There is a 15% buyer's premium to be added to the prices realized.



Lot 782 **Shermack Ty. III, Brown Test Stamp (TD14)**. On cover with yellow and black label advertising the Chicago Business Show at the Coliseum Sept. 8-13, 1913, surely a promotional item for Schermack but the first we have seen, Very Fine E. \$100.00-\$150.00 Realized \$475.00

Lot 783 **U.S. Automatic Vending Co., [No Denomination] Dark Red, Coil Test Stamp, Ty. I Perforations (TD24)**. Pair, barest trace of hinging, brilliant color, Very Fine and choice, unpriced in Scott E. \$200.00-\$300.00 Realized \$375.00

See photo following.



Lot 783 **U.S. Automatic Vending Co., [No Denomination] Dark Red, Coil Test Stamp, Ty. I Perforations (TD24)**.

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Lot 784 U.S. Automatic Vending Co., [No Denomination] Red, Coil Test Stamp, Imperforate Horizontally (TD24C, TD24Cd). Pair of normal and pair of the variety, lightly hinged, radiant color, Very Fine, scarce, both are unpriced in Scott E. \$400.00-\$500.00 Realized \$650.00

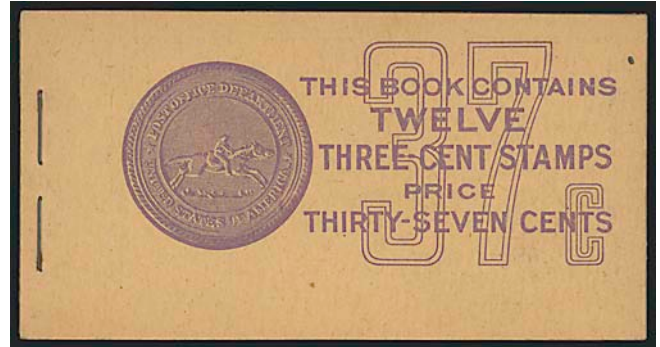


Lot 785 U.S. Automatic Vending Co., [No Denomination] Green, Coil Test Stamp (TD24E). Vertical pair, barely hinged, large margins, rich color, fresh and Very Fine, scarce, unpriced in Scott E. \$300.00-\$400.00 Realized \$600.00

Lot 786 **Test Coils Collection.** About 50 items on pages, incl. singles, pairs, strips and covers, variety of companies, incl. Central Machine & Supply Co. pair (ex Howard), Puritan Mailing Machine Co. (discovery example and basis for the Scott listing), an interesting "fantasy" 2c stamp made up from a Multipost stamp and a Government 2c Offset stamp used on cover and tied by "Jamestown N.Y. Sep 14 1921" wavy line machine circular datestamp, apparently accepted as postage, excellent lot of test coils and not often seen in this profusion, especially with covers. No Photo. E. \$750.00- \$1,000.00 Realized \$2,300.00

No photo was provided for this lot, however, if interested I can send a .PDF file that has scans of the pages with the items included. You may contact me at the address shown in the newsletter heading.

On June 23, 2010, 2010.04.16-17 Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc. held Sale #991, **The Philip R. Beutel Collection of Booklets and Savings Stamps**, that included the following test stamps. There is a 15% buyer's premium to be added to the prices realized.



Lot 1378 ★★ The Philip R. Beutel Collection of Booklets and Savings Stamps **37c Test Dummy Booklet of Two Panes of Six (TDB3).** Booklet covers Scott BC9A, Fine, a rare test booklet, these were discovered by New York stamp dealer B.I. Berner when he bought a group of 3c "Presidential" booklets at the New York Post Office ca. 1940, he managed to acquire sixteen booklets for which he paid 37c each, an inquiry addressed to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing disclosed that these dummy booklets were created to experiment with new cutting devices, after experimentation was completed the booklets were supposed to have been destroyed. Photo. Scott Cat. \$600.00 Realized \$400.00

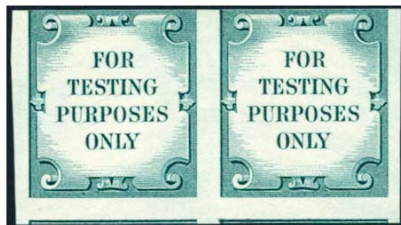
Lot 1379 **Dummy Booklets Collection.** One volume collection of about two dozen items with much research material, includes the seven Seashell booklets (no text) needed to show the complete design of 25 different Seashells (Scott Retail either \$250.00 or \$350.00 each) and other better items, this is by far the best collection of these test booklets that we have ever seen E. \$1,000.00-\$1,500.00 Total SCV \$4,730 Realized \$4,000.00

The following is an inventory of booklets in Lot 1379. TDB4, TDB5, TDB9, TDB11, TDB12a (2), TDB13 (2), TDB14 (2), TDB15, TDB16b, TDB18, TDB19b and TDB26 (2).

On July 10-11, 2010 Harmer-Schau held their ASDA Summer Sale #86 that contained the following test stamps. There is a 15% buyer's premium to be added to the prices realized.



Lot 707 **U.S.; Test Stamp Issues, 1906-09 Scher-mack Brown, #TD14a. Imperf. N.H. pair, Very Fine..** Photo. Scott \$200.00. Estimate \$80-\$100.00. Opening Bid \$55.00 Realized \$210.00



Lot 708 **U.S.; Test Stamp Issues, 1970 "For Testing Purposes" Green, #TD109a. N.H., imperf untagged pair, margins cutting at top, rich color, fresh and Fine.** Photo. Scott \$400.00. Estimate \$80.00-\$100.00. Opening Bid \$55.00 Realized \$130.00

On July 30-31, 2010, The Stamp Center - Dutch Country Auctions, held Public Auction No. 269 that contained the following test stamps. There is a 12% buyer's premium to be added to the prices realized.

Lot 71 **TEST STAMP COVER 1959 Blue Rubber Stamp Tied w/April 28 Wash DC Cancel F-VF+ Sel-dom Seen! Photo EST \$100.00-\$175.00 Realized \$100.00**



On August 14-15, 2010 Regency Superior held Public Auction #82, the APS Stamp Show in Rich-mond, VA. There is a 17% buyer's premium to be added to the prices realized.



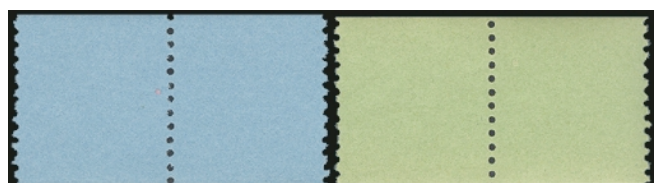
Lot #990: **USA (TD90) 1944-49 MULTIPOST COIL BLUE BLACK (x20). Four strips of 5. All fresh, MINT never hinged, very fine. Photo. Cat \$480.00 Not Sold**



Lot #991: **USA (TD97b) 1954 CARMINE, VERTI-CAL PAIR UNSLIT HORIZONTALLY, Fresh, MINT never hinged, very fine. Scarce item, listed but not priced in Scott. Photo. Realized \$100.00**

Lot #992: **USA 1954-88 TEST STAMP GROUP. In-teresting group of test stamp material. Includes: 36 MINT never hinged coil stamps in pairs or strips, mostly Scott TD95-96, some blank design types, blank designs with pre-cancel bars and a TD107 pair; plus TDB5 booklet; and three covers franked with TD95 or TD96 postmarked 1959 Detroit 'Parade of Postal Pro-gress' (one with three albino strikes). Covers lightly soiled or smudged, stamps fresh, very fine. No photo. Est. \$300.00-\$400.00 Realized \$100.00**

On August 25, 2010, Vance Auctions Ltd., On-tario, Canada, held Sale #276 that contained the following test stamps. I do not know if there is a buyer's premium to be added to the prices realized.

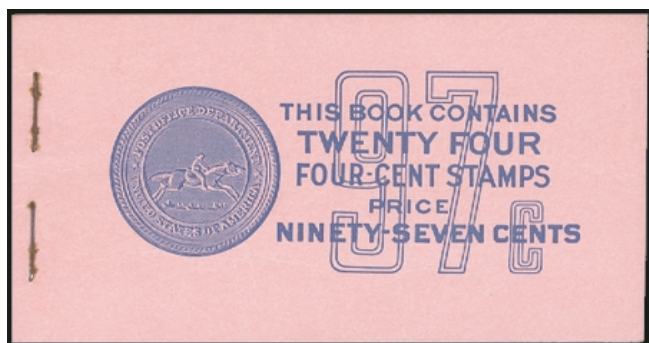


Lot 4213. TD79-81, Lot of 3 diff TEST STAMPS in pairs produced by Electric Vendors Inc in the 1930's. VF, NH Photo. Cat. \$120.00+ CDN. Price realized unknown.

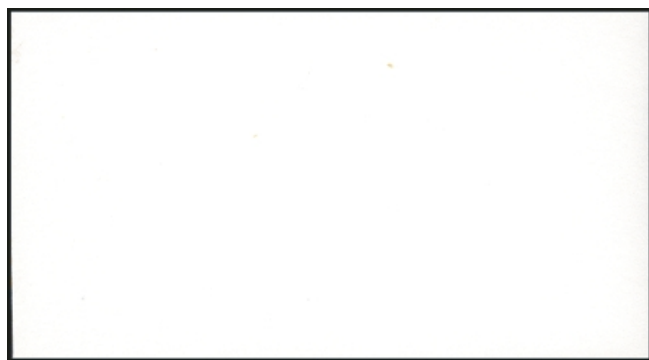


Lot 4214. TD92, MULTIPOST MAILMASTER TEST COIL PAIR from 1944-9. VF, minor facial scuff. Photo. Cat. \$80.00. Price realized unknown.

Lot 4215. TD119 (Strip of 5), TDB82, Test Stamps; also 2 diff. 'NCR/USPS' ATM Test Panes of 12. VF, NH No Photo. Est. \$40.00+ CDN. Realized \$27.00 CDN.



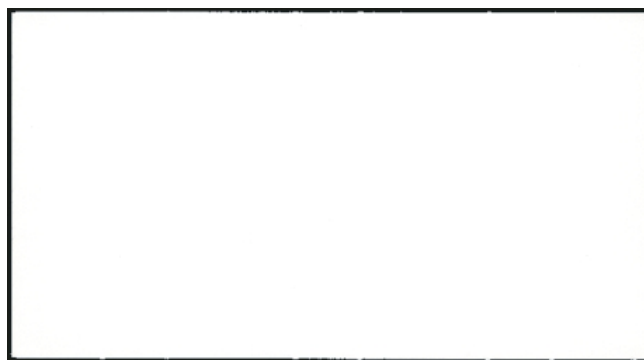
Lot 4216. TDB7, Scarce TEST STAMP 97¢ BOOKLET containing 4 misperforated & miscut panes of 6 plus interleaving. VF, NH. A rarely seen Booklet. Cat. \$900.00 CDN. Realized \$350.00 CDN.



Lot 4217. TDB60, Two blank self-adhesive TEST PANES in complete booklet with blank cover. Not priced in Scott. VF. Est. \$150.00+ CDN. Realized \$188.00 CDN.

Lot 4218. TDB61, Blank self-adhesive TEST PANE of 10 in complete booklet with blank cover. VF. Scarce. Cat. \$150.00 CDN. Price realized unknown.

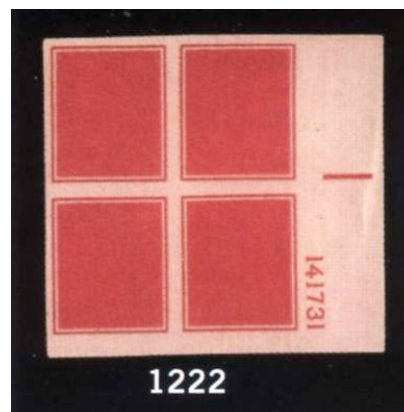
See photo following.



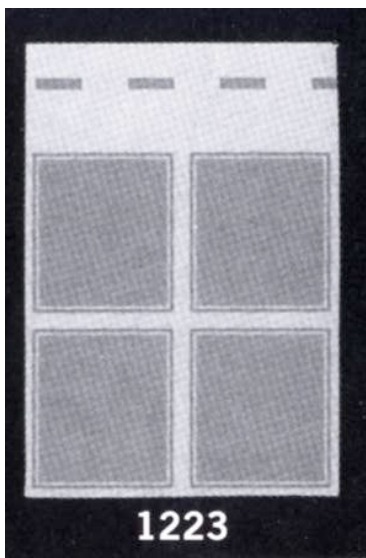
On September 1-2, 2010, Jacques C. Schiff, Jr., Inc. held their Elite & 329th Public Auction Sale. There is a 15% buyer's premium to be added to the prices realized.



Lot 1221 #TD94, Carmine Framed rectangle, Blk (4), Perforated, NH, VF Photo. Cat.. \$300.00 Realized \$200.00

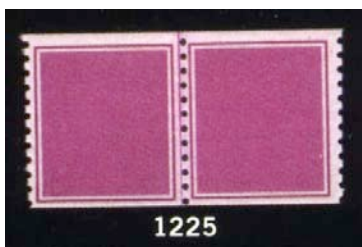


Lot 1222 #TD94A, Carmine Framed Rectangle, Imperf Pl# Block (4) #141731 LR (*Ed. correction UL*), NH, Superb Photo Inside Back Cover, Cat. \$800.00 Realized \$420.00

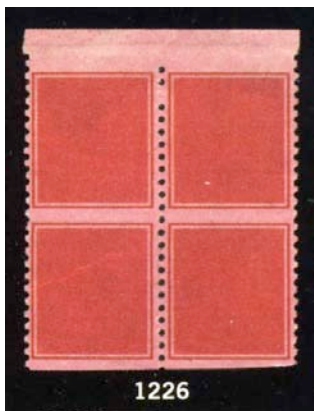


Lot 1223 #TD94A (ed. correction #TD97A), Carmine Framed Rectangle, Imperf top (*Ed. correction bottom*) Electric Eye Blk (4) NH, Superb Photo Cat. \$400.00 (*Ed. correction \$600.00*) Realized \$230.00

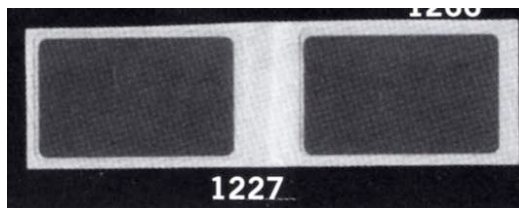
Lot 1224 #TD95, Purple Framed Rectangle Coil, Small holes line strip (7), NH Aver-F No Photo Est. \$75.00 - \$100.00 Realized \$105.00



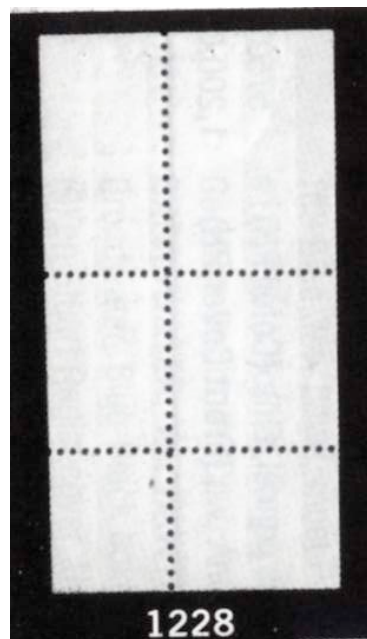
Lot 1225 #TD96, Red Violet Framed Triangle (*Ed. correction Rectangle*), Large Holes (*ed. correction small holes*), 4 coil line pairs, NH, F-VF Color Photo Cat. \$500.00 Realized \$105.00



Lot 1226 #TD97b, Carmine Framed Rectangle, Blk (4), Imperforate Horizontally, NH, HGS, VF Color Photo Cat. \$600.00 (*Ed. correction no Scott catalogue value*) Realized \$300.00



Lot 1227 #TD117a, Black Avery Test stamps, horiz. pair w/Imperforate backing paper, NH, VF Photo No Cat. Value Realized \$55.00



Lot 1228 #TDP1, Test Booklet Blank Stamps, Miscut & Misperf (trial?), SHM Photo No Cat. Value Realized \$28.00

**See photos on the following page of Lot 1229**

Lot 1229 AVERY DENNISON TEST BOOKLET 1999, 20 butterflies (8 on front, 12 on back) Pl# V11111, previously unreported,(11 years old), VF Photo Inside Back Cover No Cat. Value Realized \$550.00

I have illustrations of the front and back of Lot 1229 AVERY DENNISON TEST BOOKLET 1999, 20 butterflies (8 on front, 12 on back). Please see the following page for large illustrations of this very beautiful ATM test booklet.

It is too bad that the USPS can not release beautiful postage stamps with designs like these.





**AVERY  
DENNISON**

V 111

© 1999 USPS





## Proposed Future DSSG Projects

### Updating Research Paper Number 3 - Dummy Stamp Booklets

Work is progressing, very much still at a snail's pace, on updating Research Paper Number 3 - Dummy Stamp Booklets. The last update by Earl McAfee, Dummy Booklets Study Group Chairman, was in 1998. Since then there have been many new discoveries. Many of them have been written up in articles in *The United States Specialist*. Now the time has come to document and illustrate them in a new updated version of Research Paper Number 3. I am in charge of this update project and knowing that it will take quite

a bit of time to complete, have no estimated completion date in mind. I will be asking all of you to join me in this project as I am not able to do it all, nor would you want me to do it all. It is a DSSG project and all members should have a chance to provide their input. Several illustrations are needed and a listing of these will be sent to you when I compile it. Scans at 300 dpi are necessary for clarity. It is anticipated that this publication will be in color. It has not yet been determined if it will be available on CD. □

### The Other Projects

There are several other projects currently being worked on by various members of the DSSG. They are as follows:

- Compiling a complete and comprehensive list of dummy test stamp roll sizes, box and roll labels. There are many different styles of labels sometimes found on the same test stamps. This is especially true of Bureau of Engraving and Printing products

- Compiling a complete and comprehensive record of auction appearances and prices realized for test stamps
- Compiling a complete and comprehensive listing of references for test stamps
- Compiling a complete and comprehensive list of plate numbers printed on test stamps and the frequency in which they appear and the frequency of joint lines on test coils when they appear. □

## Requests for Articles for *The United States Specialist*

by Terry R. Scott

Leonard Piskiewicz, Editor of *The United States Specialist*, is always looking for articles of interest for inclusion in our society's monthly publication. The type of articles Len needs most are the shorter ones, one or two-page articles. If you are considering writing an article for *The United States Specialist*, please contact him for instructions. If the article is regarding dummy stamps, I would appreciate knowing about it also. Many members of the DSSG have

written articles on dummy stamps and other stamps for this publication. It is rewarding and other USSS members benefit greatly from the information that is published in *The United States Specialist*.

Leonard can be reached by e-mail at: [lenp@pacbell.net](mailto:lenp@pacbell.net) or his mailing address is: Leonard Piskiewicz, Editor, 951 Rose Court, Santa Clara, CA 95051, phone (408) 241-4626. □