

Bureau Issues
LEE M. RYER
1932 Calhoun Street
Seattle, Wash.

Plate Varieties
Committee of the
Bureau Issues
Association

U. S. PLATE VARIETIES

Shift Hunter Letter No. 62

C. W. Bedford
319 Vaniman Street - Akron, Ohio

Commemoratives
and New Issues
MAX G. JOHL
20 W. 37th Street
New York, N. Y.

Offset Issues
DON F. LYBARGER
422 Engineer's Bldg.
Cleveland, Ohio

All Other Issues
C. W. BEDFORD

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- 1¢-1908 No. 331 J.G. KUESPERT.
A.-From lower frame line.
B.-From bottom of "ONE CENT".
C.-From below vignette and from below the ribbon.

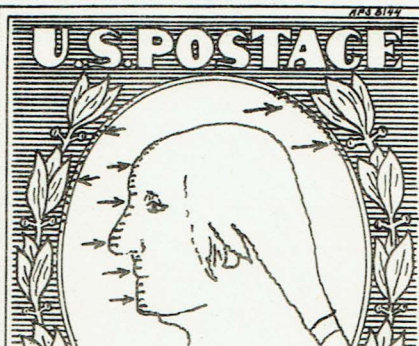
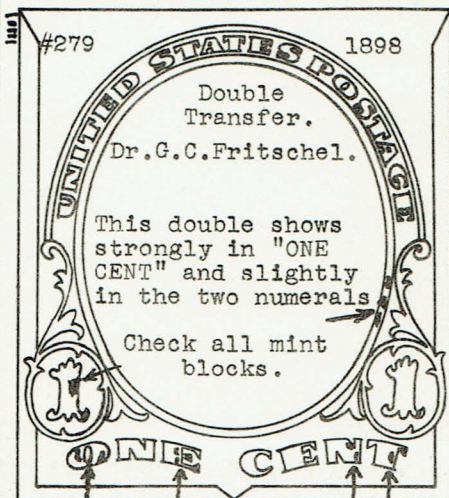
This definitely shows that there are at least two plate positions that show exactly the same defect. It appears, therefore, that this is a broken relief and that other plate positions will be found with the same variety. Please check this on pairs, strips and blocks. It may appear on several plates.

503

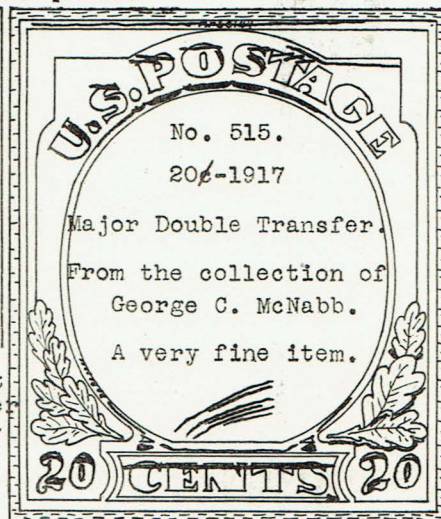
4¢-1917.
Broken
Relief.
T.J.
Gridley.

On the 1930, 1/2¢-Postage Due stamp, No. 2275, Mr Gridley has block of 30 from the UL corner of a LR pane that shows an interesting series of relief breaks. As the right frame line or ridge on the relief, was successively rolled into the plate two little pieces of metal were sheared off of the top of the relief and for a time adhered to it. The first break, just above the center of the right frame, may be followed through the four left vertical rows of this pane in the order of rolling in, until a second break occurred just below the center of the right frame line. The first break continues to show as a spur sticking out into the right margin while the second break bends outward, breaks off, appears as a dot in the right margin and the bit of metal finally falls off of the relief and the dot disappears from the stamps. There is no defective transfer

left after the break as the break seems to only be from the very top of the relief. Here is an item that may be found in our postoffices and we may be able to find the plate number on which this relief broke as well as data from all four of the panes.



#498, 1¢-1917, St. edge at right
Also a similar Double Transfer on #544, showing in the forehead. With the many plates, these nice items are hard to find. Get a lot of 10,000 and look them over.



Position No. 8 in the UL pane of plate No. 9666 shows the spot as illustrated at the left. This has been observed on several sheets. It looks like a damage to the big master Negative. If so, then other plates made from the same negative will show the same variety in the same position. Can you check this? Reported by Dr E.M. Gearhart.

D.F.L.

J.G. Kuespert finds this big double transfer on the 1¢-1908, big in degree and big in strength but visible only in the lower part of the stamp.

From Nickinson and Kuespert we have two more plate cracks as illustrated. There is no question about the authenticity of a clear crack.

T.J. Gridley has found two interesting copies of the 4¢-1917. Both have a heavy defect in the lower end of the right frame line, but one stamp has a straight edge and the other is perfed all around.

A group of small cracks on the 2¢-Shield of 1903.

J.G. Kuespert.

No. 543.
1¢-1919.
Rotary Press.
Perf. 10x11.
Plate Cracks.
E.P. Nickinson.
A nice item on a rare stamp.

COMMITTEE ON PLATE VARIETIES: GENERAL

C. W. BEDFORD, Chairman
319 Vaniman St., Akron, Ohio

#1305. 24¢ AIRMAIL, 1923. E.J. Thomas, B.I.A. 433, sends his first contribution in a block of this stamp showing a Triple Transfer. The main double is displaced to the left, showing the left frame line faintly out in the left margin with extra lines in the "E" of "CENTS" and in the "AGE" of "POSTAGE". The right frame line is also doubled faintly to the right in the right margin.

#559. 7¢-1922, FLAT PLATE. A lower plate number block, 16252, shows small double transfers in all six stamps. Check at the top and in the corners. These doubles are apparently due to the removal of the relief from the plate to examine the design followed by returning the relief to the same position to still further deepen the design but in the first roll of the relief after examination, it did not exactly "key" with the design as first rolled-in. E.J. Thomas.

2¢ COLUMBIAN. Shift Hunter Letter No. 65 will illustrate a DT showing the biggest degree of displacement of design that has yet been found on this stamp. The right frame line and the "2" of the year date are to be found, clearly doubled to the left, out in the center of the stamp. Please do not misinterpret the catalog price for a DT on this stamp as applying to varieties of this type which were unknown at the time the listing was made. Several big Double Transfers and one enormous Triple Transfer have recently been found on this stamp and copies have exchanged hands at from three to ten dollars each. This new variety reported by E. J. Thomas.

#504. 5¢ 1917. One of the two stamps that show Plate No. 13272 in the lower margin is slightly doubled upward and nearly all over, showing best just above the top frame line. There is also an apparent plate damage in the "S" of "CENTS" that is not a part of the double. Max G. Johl.

#2271-10¢ DUE. Large, twisted Double Transfer showing at upper and lower left corners. From the left edge of a pane as determined by a break in the precancel overprint in the stamp just beneath the double, Philadelphia. T.J. Gridley, B.I.A. 273, makes this report and he is the first one of the Shift Hunters to be so familiar with the over-prints as to combine the data of both schools of collecting. It never pays a collector to become so wrapped up in his pet method of collecting that he becomes an outstanding ignoramus in regard to other methods of collecting. Even if your friend

collects Match Box covers, take an interest in his work. You may learn something that will help you in your work. Just here we wish to compliment the students of the overprint plates. The location of breaks and errors on the plates continues to be a fascinating study.

15¢ OZ. TOBACCO TAX PAID STAMP. SERIES 102, ACT OF 2-26-26. Yes, this series is still in use and Gridley that 10 out of 11 that he has show, a double transfer. Sure, they are "Bureau Issues" and if you hunt a bit, you may find one. While we are on Tax Pairs, the 12 inch long stamp for 50 cigars, Paid 30¢, Issue of 1878, shows a beautifully engraved picture of "CLAY" and out of about 100 copies we have found one with this picture showing a really fine Double Transfer, while the frame and the rest of the 12 inch stamp is normal. This Double is such as to clearly indicate that the picture of Clay was not on the same transfer roll as the rest of the design and was rolled-in separately. We have other Tax Pairs that show DT's of sections only and it is quite interesting to figure out how many transfer rolls were used for one of these long stamps.

Committee On Commemoratives - New Issues

MAX G. JOHL, Chairman
20 W. 37th Street, New York City

Welcome to Lee M. Ryer the new Chairman of the Committee of Bureau Issues Plate Varieties. It is certain that the selection of Lee Ryer by C. W. Bedford is for the best interests of the B.I.A. and he should be given the same fine cooperation given to other committee heads as no one person can be expected to find ALL the varieties. As a welcome to Mr. Ryer we will start this month's report with one of the items submitted by him.

3 CENT BICENTENNIAL. 21015-UL-42. There is a small double transfer in the lower right corner. This can be seen with an ordinary glass as a doubling of the shading in in the corner as well as part of the background of the numeral which can be seen in the colorless circle at the right. There is also a very small double in the same corner on #82. This can only be seen with a strong glass as added lines at the lower right part of the white circle around the right numeral and at the bottom of the triangle in the lower right corner.

LAKE PLACID. 20823-UL-73 Reported by John G. Kuespert. There is a scratch running from the ski down through the "E" of CENTS and into the "E" of STATES in #83.

20823-LR-50 Has a horizontal scratch

starting in the lower right corner and continuing out into the margin.

2 CENT BICENTENNIAL. 20865-LR-40. A heavy scratch in the "N" of CENTS and running down into the margin between this stamp and #50 has been found on several copies by Anton Pristoupimsky.

20792-LL. Charles J. Demuth has found a series of cracks in the bottom row of this plate. These cracks are in the margin between numbers 4 and 5 and to the right #10. This may extend into the right pane. Additional information is required.

While on the subject of cracked plates it might be well for those interested to check back previous reports and note that almost all of these cracks recently reported are almost always in the outside rows of the plate, i.e., at the top or bottom. It will further be noticed that most of the cracks are in between the same stamps on different plates. The cracks are usually found on UL-1, between UL-4 and 5 in the margin between the right and left panes, between UR 6 and 7 and on UR-10. From these facts it seems logical to assume that these cracks are caused by pressure in the printing which is unevenly distributed by the bolts at the back of the plate which hold it to the press, causing the plate to crack at these points. This makes it advisable that collectors check these rows on the rotaries in their postoffice stock from time to time as the crack may not be found on earlier printings. A good example of cracks only found on later copies may be seen on the 3¢ Olympic, 20906 UL-1, which is known without cracks as well as with cracks above the sprinter's head, and the 1¢ Bicentennial, 20742-UL, on which there were no evidences of a crack on early printings, but several on later copies.

OGLETHORPE. 21091-UR-14. George R. M. Ewing has found a large dot in the top of "T" of CENTS. H.M. Jones has found the following varieties on this stamp but has not had the opportunity to check for constancy. These are on plate number blocks of ten. Who can check these as plate varieties?

21096-UL-4 Dot in lower loop of first "3" of 1933.

21104-UL-13. Last "T" in STATES is defective at the upper right.

21101-UL-61. Slight doubling of the lower left corner. Shows in the lower left frame line, also background around left "3", causing it to appear almost solid. The last item was found by Mr. Jones on two copies.

21099-LL-23. Dr. G.C. Fritschel has found a dot in the lower left "3". This is small but is found on several copies.

3 CENT, 1932. 20990-UL-72. Dr. Fritschel has found a spot on the nose in several copies.