

Newfoundland Plate Blocks

by DAN MEYERSON (#L-3)

The following list has been in the making for the past two years, and yet, strangely enough new varieties are recorded almost every month. When one realizes that we are dealing with 20th century material for the most part, the expectation is that all varieties should appear in a very short time, but such is definitely not the case. It would seem as though no record was ever made of the plates used, so we will continue to have to get the information the hard way, the way we are doing it now.

Most Newfoundland collectors are aware that the entire last set, Scott Nos. 253-266, with the exception of the 4¢, #256, and the 7¢, #258, exist in the later printings with 5-digit plate numbers in all four corners of the pane of 100. The 4¢, Scott #269, and the 5¢ Cabot, #270, also were issued with 5 digit plate numbers in the late printings. The 30¢, #267 and the "TWO CENT" overprint, #268 and the 7¢ Airmail #C19, printed by the Canadian Bank Note Co. in sheets of 200 (four panes of 50), each had a 5-digit plate number in the lower left corner of the lower left pane of 50.

The earliest recording we could find was in Boggs' book, as he listed numbers of the 1¢, 2¢ and 3¢ values of the 1919 Caribou Issue. However, a few letters directed to Newfoundland collectors convinced us that there was far more to the subject than had been put into print. We got the most help from Joe Chambers, Alex MacMaster, E. H. Hiscock, W. E. Lea, Leo Baresh, Stan Wood and Tom Hutton, one of our newest members. The others mentioned are the old stand-bys, the ones we always call on when there is information to be gathered.

The result of our pooled efforts is seen in the following list. All plate numbers marked with an asterisk have been reliably reported but they have not actually been seen by us.

PLATE NUMBERS

Scott # Die # Perforation

83				R3UL*	R4UR		
115		LC1*	RC2	3*			
116		LC1	RC2				
117		LC1*	RC2*				
133			2LL				
164	comb	13.5x13.5		3LL			
164	comb	13.5x13.8		2LL			
164	line	14x14		2LL			
165	comb	13.5x13.5		3UR*			
165	comb	13.5x13.8		2LL	3UR		
173	comb	13.5x13.8		2LL			
183			1UL	2UL			
184			1UL	2UL	3UL	4UR	5UR 6UL
184	line	14.1x14.1				4UR*	
185				R2UL*	R3UL*		
186	Die I		R-UL*	R2UL*	R3UL		
186	Die II			2UL*		4UL	
186	line	13.7x13.7			R3UL*		
186	line	14.1x14.1	R1UL*				
187			R1UL	2UL	3UL		
189				R2UL	3UL		
189	line	13.7x13.7		R2UL			
189	line	14.1x14.1		R2UL*			

Scott # Die # Perforation

191	Die II		R2UL	3UL	4UL	5UR	6UR	7UR
191	Die II	line 14.1x14.1		3UL				
191	Die II	Imperf.		3UL*				
245			2UR					
246			2UR					

In the case of Nos. 115-117, the prefix RC and LC mean Right and Left Center respectively. The Left Center number is opposite stamp #40 and the Right Center number is opposite stamp #49. The one without a prefix was reported by Boggs, but no further information was given. In the case of Nos. 185-191, the prefix "R" signifies that the plate number is reversed.

The numbers on the 1941 set with the 5 digit numbers are herewith recorded.

Scott #	253	Plate Number	42430	All positions
"	253	"	43965	" "
"	254	"	43078	" "
"	254	"	43968	" "
"	255	"	43066	" "
"	255	"	43967	" "
"	257	"	43966	" "
"	259	"	41601	" "
"	260	"	43702	" "
"	260	"	43838	" "
"	261	"	41789	" "
"	262	"	41784	" "
"	263	"	41796	" "
"	264	"	41795	" "
"	265	"	41791	" "
"	266	"	41793	" "
"	269	"	43359	" "
"	270	"	43476	" "

In addition to the positions listed above, portions or all of the plate number in a different type are occasionally found at the left center or top center of the sheet.

Scott #267	Plate Number 1	All Positions—L.L. block #16367
" C19	" " 1	" " " 16479

The last two stamps were printed by the Canadian Bank Note Co. of Ottawa. ★

The 1954 Convention of the Canadian Philatelic Society will be held in Kitchener, Ont., April 22-24, with the Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society playing host. A full and interesting program is being arranged, full details of which will appear at a later date for the information of those BNAPSers who are also members of C. P. S.

From The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly (England): "Canada is thoroughly ashamed of her Coronation stamp; even those responsible for it admit its faults. The new 4¢ Elizabeth definitive is also under fire and it wouldn't surprise many if a new design came out pretty quickly. (Let's hope that those responsible for the terrible stamp designs have learnt a lesson.)