

COLLECIOR

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VOL. VIII, #6 (#46)

June, 1986

Founded 1978

Member: APS, Affiliate #103; COPO

PORTUSATO BY A JOURNAL OF THE STO COLLECTORSA GLUB

Page 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

At one time, I never thought I'd be writing a president's message to the EFOCC. Once I began, I never thought of a final message - now here it is!

As I look back over the past two years, I see this as the most productive time for the EFOCC, second only to its original founding in 1978. What has my administration accomplished or seen reach fruition? What comes to mind for me are:

- A. Revised EFOCC Constitution which allowed for nonprofit status to be obtained.
- B. Life membership and capital funding program.
- C. Awards committee and program, including Robert E. Manning Award.
- D. Acceptance as hosted organization of a National WSP Qualifying show.
- E. Expansion of Executive Board.
- F. Greatly improved quality of the EFO Collector.
- G. A feeling that the EFOCC has "arrived" on the national philatelic scene and is taken seriously.

Of course, I pushed hard for many of these projects, but without willing workers, much would still be only a dream. While I constantly thanked those around me personally, I would like to announce that I have issued 10 formal proclamations of thanks and three 1984-85 and three 1985-86 Certificates of Appreciation. A full listing of those honored

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We Are Pleased To Announce That

Pat Herst, who advises that he loses sleep when he hears of a philatelic publication that does not get his manuscripts, will be represented from time to time in these pages.

One of his recent experiences is interesting - and instructive:

"I have a story for you you ought to like which tells me what I always knew. Both collectors and dealers do not always like to read nor to improve their philatelic knowledge. Your most recent EFOC came in - I read it, and I took it to the Miami Expo. (I never throw away a stamp magazine. I give it to a collector, a dealer or even leave it at a barber.) I took the EFOC and saw a dealer there who specializes in EFOs. I asked him if he got the magazine. He said no so I gave it to him. Five minutes later I passed by the garbage can. He had thrown it away, unread!"

Pat says that there is a good explanation for his tremendous production of MSS. He has two typewriters: The MSS with mistakes is the one that he types with his left hand! -JMH

"Stamps for the Wounded" Donations

Thanks to Marge Finger for several nice donations to SFTW.

SFTW serves sick and wounded veterans in over sixty of the

Veterans Administration Hospitals. Stamps are used as a proven successful therapy.

Stamps, including commeratives and revenues, envelopes with special postmarks, FDCs, first flights etc. may be sent to John Hotchner, a SFTW worker, at Box 1125, Falls Church, VA. 22041-0125. Donations are

tax deductible. Receipts upon request.

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by Earl McAfee 1912 Rebecca Drive Champagne, IL. 61821

Monday, April 9, 1973

Page 26

Our February issue (pg. 20) contained a request for articles on overpaying for EFO material. I'd like to approach this subject from an oblique angle.

Some of the most outrageous prices I've seen asked for EFO items have been by dealers that have little knowledge of the subject. My guess as to the reason for this pricing is that the dealer overpaid when he acquired the item.

UNIQUE

VERY LIMITED 26 ERRORS

Imprint of Stamp Completely Inverted on 6c Paul Revere Postal Card



To be sold by mail auction. All bids to be in by April 30, 1973. 25% of offer must accompany bid. Minimum offer \$50.00 ea. Successful bidders will be notified by return mail. Unsuccessful offers immediately returned.

Some years ago I started using an example of this type of pricing for my own purposes. I clipped the ad beside this article from Linn's. When giving a talk on EFO's I pass this ad around, along with an example (obtained from another source!) of the postcard pictured in it. I then offer to sell my card at only 10% of the ad price. This usually gets the attention of the audience and leads into a natural explanation that collecting EFO's requires a little understanding of production processes.

Since acquiring this ad, I found it helpful to my talk to add a full, unsevered postcard sheet of another issue. The audience can then imagine how they'd cut it to make their own "EFO" postcards. Also added through the year, are a few other "crazy" ads.

The obvious corollary to collectors sometimes paying too much for an item, is that less knowledgable dealers may also be taken. Still, I wonder how many of the postcards pictured in the ad were sold when the ad appeared in Linn's!

From Page 1 -

will be contained in the pages of the next issue of the EFOC.

I personally, and for my administration, thank all of you, the EFOCC members. Without your support and dues, we would not have an organization to head and run. I hope all of you continue on as members. (1986-87 dues are payable now - \$10.00 to the Secretary, P.O. Box 1125, Falls Church, VA. 22041-0125.) If you wish to show further support, join as a life member or sponsor.

Am I really leaving? As President, yes. But as an EFOCC Board Member? No. If you'll allow me to say so, I trust I will win my election to Vice President of the EFOCC

since I'm running unopposed. I plan to continue on helping the EFOCC for the next two years. I also plan to run for President again for the 1988-90 term.

New inverts, inexpensive color missing and imperforate errors, new BEP equipment and production methods: What a time to be an EFO collector! I'm happy to step a little closer to the rank and file and enjoy what this organization is all about: Collecting and learning about Errors, Freaks and Oddities.

Warmest Regards, (Signed) Daniel S. Pagter, President EFOCC, 1984-86 Term

U.S. ERRORS



Inverts
Imperforates
Colors Omitted

1986

Stephen R. Datz

U.S. ERRORS is the most comprehensive catalogue for U.S. postage stamp errors.

- * Inverts
- * Imperforates
- * Colors Omitted
- * Latest Prices
- * Quantities Known
- * Fully Illustrated

\$10

POSTPAID

GENERAL PHILATELIC CORPORATION

POST OFFICE BOX 402 LOVELAND, COLORADO 80537

Jack Schiff Jr., EFOCC #106 and owner of Jacques C. Schiff, Jr., Inc. walked toward me. Something was not normal. We were both excited and happy and both ready to boast. Almost in unison we said "Guess what, I made page one". A long pause followed. "What for?"

I had reached page one in STAMP COLLECTOR for my article on the unique corner plate proof set of singles of Cl3-15. Jack mentioned - eventually after a game of wild guess - the \$1.00 Rushlamp invert. Zepps were forgotten.

During the balance of WESTPEX '86 John Hotchner and I learned the \$1.00 story. Selling the part pane of inverts and having one copy for his AMERIPEX Auction was obviously the high point in Jack's career to date. It definitely put his name onto the permanent philatelic history books.

Figure 1 shows the stamp Jack is to sell at AMERIPEX '86. It is position 16 of the only reported pane, or the left most stamp in the top partial row (Figure 2).

1610c as it should be named, was printed in sheets, not in web (continuous roll) form. The stack of pregummed sheets were first fed into the Miller offset press which applies the Tan (background), Yellow (flame and candle) and Orange (candle glow) colors. One sheet was then inverted, that is turned 180°, not turned gummed side-up, within the stack of paper. This stack was then fed into the Intaglio 8 press to add the dark brown lettering, value, lamp stand and the outline of both the flame and candle.

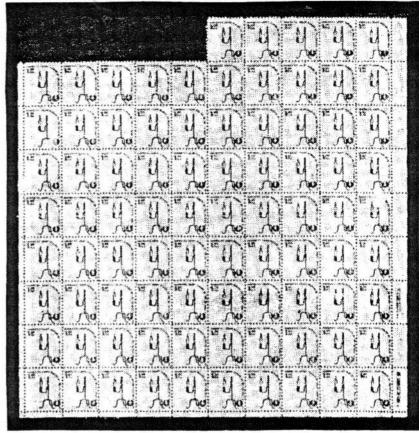


Fig. 2 Piece from which Fig. 1 was removed. Note that the left column of inverts did not receive a full tan color background. (Courtesy STAMP COLLECTOR)



Fig. 1 Invert Auctioned by Jack Schiff at AMERPIEX '86 (Courtesy LINN'S STAMP NEWS) Sold for \$5000 + 10%.

The stack of printed sheets was then perforated and cut into panes of 100. Thus four one-hundred stamp panes were produced, more if more sheets were inverted as was this one. The B.E.P. and U.S.P.S. have not found any of the remaining three invert panes from the one reported sheet. They have or are destined to be sold over a postal counter somewhere.

Of the pane discovered, 14 examples including the plate number single were used on business mail which was unretrievable and presumed destroyed, one mint single was badly torn and the piece of 85 (Figure 2) account for The piece of 85 has been reduced to 84, as previously described, to allow for a single to be sold by Jack at auction. The piece of 84 is now owned by a collector.

The piece, insured for \$500,000 (\$5,950 per stamp) will be displayed at AMERIPEX.

This, at one dollar, is the highest value U.S. postal stamp invert yet produced. It joins the long list of U.S. government stamps issued inverted listed below:

U.S. Government Issues Inverted (No Possessions Included)

Scott Number (Denomination of Issued Items) *Footnotes 119b (15¢), 119c (15¢)*1, (Postage) 120b (24¢), 120Pb4*2 121b(30¢), 121Pb4

R103a(1¢), R104a(2¢), R107a(5¢) R109a(10¢), R111a(20¢), R112a(25¢), R115b(50¢)C R117a(70¢), (2nd Issue Documentary R118a(\$1.00), R127a(\$5.00) Stamps)

R135b(2¢), R137a(3¢) (3rd Issue Documentary Stamps)

R139a(15¢), R140a(30¢), R142Pa4, R144a(\$1.00), R146a(\$2.50), 1872

(3rd Issue R150a(\$20.00)

Documentary Stamps)

068Pa4, 069Pa4, 071Pa4 (Officials)

R15la(2¢) 1875 129Pa4 1874 (Postage) (Documentary)

129Pa4 1876 (Postage)

294a(1¢), 295a(2¢), 296a(4¢)*3 1901 (Postage) 296aSE*4

1918 C3a(24¢)

(Air post)

1203 Inverted (4¢), 1204(4¢)*5 1964

(Postage)

1610c(\$1.00)*6 1986 (Postage)

MYLAR is a trade name of Dupont

TAYYLOR

MIANDIE

PROTECTIVE POUCHES

Q (215) 566·7067 amples Taylor Made Company design P.O. Box 406 Lima, Pa. 19037

TUCK'S I's' is a trade name of TAYLOR-MADE Pat applied for

Clear, Strong, Inert, Dimensionally Stable DuPont "MYLAR" * Type D

> COVER PROTECTORS. PAGE PROTECTORS.

> • "TUCK'S T'S" (pouches & sleeves

COVER PAGES.

*Foot Notes:

- 1. This is a double center, one inverted.
- Proof inverts are considered oddities unless it is proven the inversion was accidental (None known)
- 3. Valid for postage at face value, but never sold over the counter. USPOD traded these errors (questionable term oddity may be correct) for other material or gave as gifts. This invert was not accidential. (See 4)
- 4. Some quantity of the 296a were overprinted "Specimen" prior to distribution (See 3). These are not considered errors, only oddities by definition.
- 5. One pane of 1203 was found with yellow inverted, if documented, these are errors. The USPOD then printed 805,400 panes (201,350 sheets) to purposely destroy the value of the found error. These normal as issued stamps are considered oddities and assigned #1204 by Scott.
- 6. No Scott number has been formally assigned; 1610a is used as engraved missing, 1610b as offset missing.

A Review - The Great Britain and Commonwealth Catalogue of Great Hsitirb Errors

102 Pages; \$8.00 soft bound 8½ x 11; post paid airmail Order from: B. Alan Ltd., 184/186 Portland Road, London England SE24 4QB

"This is the first edition to be published in a bound book", to quote from the first line of the first page. It was first produced as a catalogue in 1983 and annually there after.

As with Scott Catalogs and the Brookman Price lists, this fine catalogue has grown out of the B. Alan Ltd.'s price lists. And as with Scott and Brookman, this catalog is destined to become an indispensible tool of the collector of Commonwealth EFOs.

It is without peer or counterpart in U.S. philately.

Profuse black and white illustrations from blocks to details of positional varieties are used throughout. Those enhance the catagories of Missing Colours, Imperforates, Missing Phosphors, Forgeries, Proofs and Essays, Airletters, Post Office Presentation items to name a few. Everything is priced throughout.

Great Britain occupies 3/4 of the catalog with commonwealth and thematics and topicals filling the last 1/4. General information and definitions are scattered throughout. -Daniel S. Pagter

LITERATURE REVIEW by Scott A. Shaulis

Philatelic Gems II by Donna O'Keefe. Published by Linn's Stamp News, P. O. Box 29, Sidney, OH 45365. \$7.95 postpaid for the softbound version or \$15 for the hardcover edition autographed and numbered by the author.

In no way at all does this book play second fiddle to its predecessor, Philatelic Gems. This book is a must on your library shelf, especially if you own the first edition, as this edition continues down the philatelic path of rare stamps.

This edition has 75 individual entries, not counting the many allusions to other rarities related to the stamps in the spotlight. Appropriately, Argentina's 15 centavo tete-beche pair of 1862 starts things off with a value of a mere \$50,000. Mere pocket change, correct? The 5¢ imperforate of Vancouver Island rounds out this excellent book.

Although this work includes some of the rumors and conjectures behind some of these superb items, it basically sticks to the facts. Each entry varies in length from one to three pages. However, that short amount of information contains a wealth of history and research behind each item. The content is geared to reach the average collector and captivates his/her imagination. I could hardly put my copy down.

Once again, EFOs command a large portion of the entries. Find out how Queen Elizabeth II loses her head and when two Cs make an O. How about a stamp with an "invisible" design? Have you heard about the Red Honduras? Find out the facts on the Black Honduras' cousin. Better yet, get the story behind a German postage due surcharge that was in use from the Bavarian Post Office for only 1 hour. And you thought that today's definitive issues don't last very long!

The United States again takes the lead with 13 entries. Read about the misnamed "August" issues, a "Z" grill, a Persian Rug that you wouldn't want to wipe your feet on, a "garbage card" that you wouldn't want to throw away, and a host of postmaster provisionals of all kinds.

Of course, I'm not going to give all the secrets away. I'm sure that any collector who enjoys looking at the world's rarities will thoroughly enjoy this most fascinating book.

Once again, the only item that I would like to see included is color photos of the items being discussed. Black and white photos are depicted but, color sure would be nice.

Along with my copy came a brief questionnaire. Among the questions was one asking if you would be interested in a <u>Philatelic Gems III</u>. Could this be an indication that <u>Philatelic Gems</u> may become a continuing series? Let us hope so.

FO POST EFO POST EFO POST EFO POST EFO POST EFO POST EFO POST

TRADE: Will trade my US EFOs, post office fresh from sheets, for your US EFOs. Bob Blond, 4907 Lake Road, Dollard - des - Ormeaux, Quebec, Canada H9G 1G9

US #1730 red shifted 2mm, only \$1.00 to introduce my US EFO stamps on approval. Order now and I will donate a \$5.00 freak to the EFOCC in your name. Please include your EFOCC #. Thank you. Ag, P.O. Box 1, Medford, NJ 08055

WANTED: Re-entries, major or minor. All issues. All Countries. Also interested in photocopies of re-entry - related literature, plating studies, etc. For personal library. Please send with asking prices. Ralph E. Trimble, P.O. Box 532, Stn. A, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada MIK 5C3

WESTPEX'86 APRIL 25-28 27th ANNUAL



RYUKYU PHILATELIC SPECIALIST SOCIETY

OFFICIAL WESTPEX CACHET & SEALS

- CACHETS-\$1.00 EA.
- SEALS—50° PER SET OF TWO COLORS
- VISIT THE CACHET TABLE AT BOOTH M6
- •CACHETS FROM PRIOR YEARS AVAILABLE

WESTPEX WILL HOST THE FOLLOWING GROUPS

1987 American Air Mail Society April 24, 25 & 26

1988 Society of Israel Philatelists April 29, 30 & May 1

1989 E.F.O. Collectors Club April 28, 29 & 30

WESTPEX '86 AWARDS

Grand Award Best in Show Gold, Vermeil, Silver, Silver Bronze and Bronze Awards

SPONSORED AWARDS

	Collectors Club of San Francisco Award Reserve Grand Award
	Sescal Award Best Postal History Exhibit
	California Collectors Club
	Roy E. Hill Memorial Award Best Research Exhibit
	The O'Neill Memorial Award Best Topical Exhibit
	United Postal Stationery Society
	Marcus White Memorial Award Best Postal Stationery Exhibit
	Richard Wolffers Inc. Gold Tong Award Best Classic Exhibit
	Al Van Dahl Memorial Award Best Scandinavian Exhibit
	Friends of WESTPEX Award Best British Commonwealth Exhibit
	American Philatelic Society Medal Best Pre-1900 Exhibit
	American Philatelic Society Medal Best 1900-1940 Exhibit
	American Philatelic Society Medal Best Post 1940 Exhibit
	Postal History Society Medal Best Postal History Exhibit
	American Philatelic Society Research Award Best Research Exhibit
	United States Cancellation Club
l	Charles D. Root Memorial Award . Exhibit with Best U.S. Cancellations
	Michael Rogers Award

WESTPEX '89 - Designs, Exhibits Needed by D. S. Pagter

Back in 1984 when the EFOCC was selected as the hosted, participating society at WESTPEX '89 an announcement was made in the EFOC. In 1984, 1989 seemed a long way off. In terms of day to day activities, it still is. However, in terms of a major project, now is the time to begin.

I have selected Dr. Gene Russell, 123 Central St., Orland, CA. 95963 to Chair the EFOCC/WESTPEX '89 DESIGN COMMITTEE. He, an EFO on F.D.C. collector, cachet maker and graphic arts instructor will oversee the selection of the Commerative WESTPEX '89 show cancel and cachet. He will be announcing a contest in a later issue. Why not start thinking about your entry now.

We, the EFOCC, are commited to fill a large block of frames in this WSP qualifying national show. While these frames will be part of the general competition, they will be housed and highlighted in a room separate from the main exhibit area. WESTPEX is considered a premier if not the premier show in the western U.S.

I am the EFOCC's liaison for WESTPEX and will keep you abreast of any developments. Contact me if you have questions.

DWIDE STAMPS & POSTAL HISTORY



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individual stamps, covers or collections for Public Auction or Private Treaty Sale.

Contact us first, describing your material. Include your address and phone numbers.



Jacques C. Schiff, Ir.,

195 MAIN ST. RIDGEFIELD PARK, NJ 07660







TELEPHONE: 201-641-5566, From NYC: 662-2777

A BROCHURE DETAILING OUR SERVICES SENT UPON RECEIPT OF A STAMPED SELF-ADDRESSED LEGAL SIZE ENVELOPE.

ESPECIALLY FOR SPECIALISTS

From the EFO Collector's point of view, collecting classic or even pre-1920 issues with EFO's can be quite difficult. Most of that type of material has migrated into the collections of issue specialists (e.g. #1; 1901 Pan-Americans, etc.) remain there for years and are often traded as part of an intact or as a large portion of a collection.

Further frustration occurs because often many specialty collections exchange hands privately or via private treaty. When offered publicly the cost of an entire collection makes it near impossible for an EFOer to make a purchase just to cherry pick EFOs.

We writers have it only a bit easier. Often we can borrow an illustration to do a story but first must locate an owner of the item or illustration. I have access to several nice illustrations but will not violate a copyright. Unless I can get or even know where to begin to get permission to use the published illustration, I can't use it.

For example, I can't illustrate two of the rarest and most sought stamps in 19th Century U.S. philately. Scott 85A and 85D are the 1¢ and 10¢ Z-grill 1867 issues. These two

Z-grill 1867 issues. These two rarities have an EFO angle too. One of each is an Error - a double grill error. However, the 1¢ Z-grill is due to be up for auction later this year in a Superior Stamp and Coin sale. I am currently promised a photograph sometime after AMERIPEX.

A classic I can illustrate is this just-fine LH mint four-dollar Columbian. This item is from the stock of Globe Stamp Store, 1507 Cypress Ave., Walnut Creek, CA. (415-935-1246) and photographed by me.

It is a good example of a difficult to find freak. Paper most likely, or other foreign matter, adhered to the stamp paper prior to and during printing. Subsequently, it fell or was plucked off leaving a blank space





surrounded by a Crimson Lake halo. The flaw shos well in both photos in spite that the color of this stamp is quite difficult to work with. It is quite striking in person.

I have named this the "Little America Flaw". If you turn the illustration upside-down, it resembles a map of South America.

Brookman lists 244 at \$2,700 Fine and \$1,675 Average. Globe has priced this item at \$1,000 and if you mention the EFO Collectors Club you get a \$50 discount. \$950 is an extremely good price for a difficult freak on a 19th Classic, if you can afford it.

Make A Convert

I recently came across the following in a stamp club newsletter President's Message.

"In the past year my appreciation of First Day Cover collecting and of Errors, Freaks, and Oddities has been sparked in large part by the programs at our meetings."

This was Earl McAfee's club. Thanks Earl, for spreading the good word about EFO philately. How about it folks - give a talk at your club. Make a convert! -JMH

For Album Page Makers and Exhibitors

CLARIFYING DRAWINGS

One problem exhibitors of EFO material run into is producing Clarifying Drawings. Whether it is fine detail that needs an enlargement, or the back of an item that needs illustration, photographs just will not do. Primarily because photographs draw attention away from the item they refer to. A photocopy can be a problem quality wise, and a problem cost wise if you have to have a photograph made before you can produce a photocopy.

One solution to the illustration problem is to use a pantograph. With a pantograph you merely trace the original picture with a blunt stylus. This guides a pen, or pencil which makes a drawing on another sheet of paper. You can reduce, as well as enlarge, or make an exact size duplicate of the picture you are tracing with the stylus. The result is an exact copy of what you want to illustrate.

If you cannot find a pantograph at your arts and crafts store you can purchase one by mail for \$5.98 plus 95¢ postage and handling from: Norton, 271 N. Ave., New Rochelle, New York 10801. This pantograph will enlarge, or reduce, up to 10X. -James W. Harkleroad

ON MAJOR ERRORS AND MARKET PRICES by Howard Gates

There's a fascinating contrast to be seen between the U.S. and Swedish outputs of error stamps. Stamp Collector's Swedish correspondent, Christer Brunstrom, observed, in the January 11, 1986, issue, "Almost every time I read a U.S. stamp paper I find news about the discovery of yet another U.S. stamp error. Stamps are apparently found all the time with one or more colors missing, which of course makes them more valuable, because the number of available stamps is normally quite limited. Imperforated stamps also seem to be quite common, especially among the coils. This is perhaps not so strange, considering the huge quantities produced for each issue."

Just how prevalent are U.S. major errors? - Which I define as color-missing stamps, either coil or sheet, and imperforate Sheet stamps. To find out, I analyzed my auction records and the Scott "Specialized" catalog year by year starting with Scott #1000 (issued in 1951). The results are, to say the least, disturbing.

As depicted graphically in Figure 1, the earliest modern major errors were imperforates that appeared in 1954; there were two affected stamp issues. Then there were none until 1959 and 1960, when two more issues were found imperforate each year. In 1962 there was another imperforate error issued. The year 1964 was when the trouble really started with missing-color errors - one arrived each year until 1968, when four appeared, along with four imperfs; and from then through 1976, it was Katie bar the door. In 1976 there were 21 issues in which missing-color stamps were found and 26 in which imperforates appeared. That was the year, of course, of the American Revolution Bicentennial Souvenir Sheet fiasco. The souvenir sheets, four of them, with five stamps per sheet, multicolor, afforded the printers the opportunity for every kind of error imaginable, and they leaped at it.

After 1976, the color-missing problem came under some control. The decline in the number of stamps issued with such errors is shown in Figure 1; but, as Figure 1 indicates, sheet stamp issues yielding imperforates have continued to proliferate.

The total number of regular issues affected by color or perforation mistakes or both - from 1954 through 1984 is, to me, astonishing: at least 215. This represents a full 20% of about 1077 regular-issue postage stamps put out during the 31 years. Remember, now: This figure excludes coil imperforates, of which there are many, and airmail, special delivery and postage-due major errors. The number of "standard" variaties of these 215 issues on the major-error market is about 241, comprised of 122 color-missing errors and 119 imperforates. By "standard" I mean varieties as they are usually sold: If color errors, normally as singles, but as multiples if they were issues as souvenir sheets, se-tenant pairs or blocks; if imperfs, normally as pairs, but as larger multiples if they were issued as souvenir sheets, se-tenant blocks or strips.

By comparison with U.S. output, the rarity of Swedish errors is amazing. Brunstrom lists only five since 1954, all imperforates: #477, #916, #953, #955 and #1143. If the United States error output were that meager, there would be no raison d'etre for the EFO Collectors' Club.

Perhaps we are moving in the Swedish direction. In 1984, no color-omitted stamps were issued; the only one newly to appear at auction was the 8¢ Copernicus, black omitted, which was originally issued in 1973. Among 1985 issues only one color-missing stamp has been found so far - and what an ironic beginning it gives to 1986, the 100th anniversary of the American Philatelic Society: The stamp is #2145, issued in honor of AMERIPEX. Red, blue and black colors are omitted. Unfortunately, it appeared too late to be included in my favorite catalog of missing-inscription errors, although it is the perfect candidate: Like the tar baby, "it don't say nuffin."

Another color-omitted stamp first appeared at auction in 1985, but this one was issued in 1979: #1608, the 50¢ Iron Betty Lamp, sans black. There's no inscription on this one, either. Figure 2 shows the two new arrivals.

Arnie Brown, a friendly Florida correspondent, may have discovered still another color-missing error. It is the 1973 8¢ Pharmacy stamp (Scott #1473) in which exotic laboratory instrumentation (a spectrophotometer?) has found no trace of the normal orange. But the find has yet to be validated by stamp (as opposed to laboratory) experts.

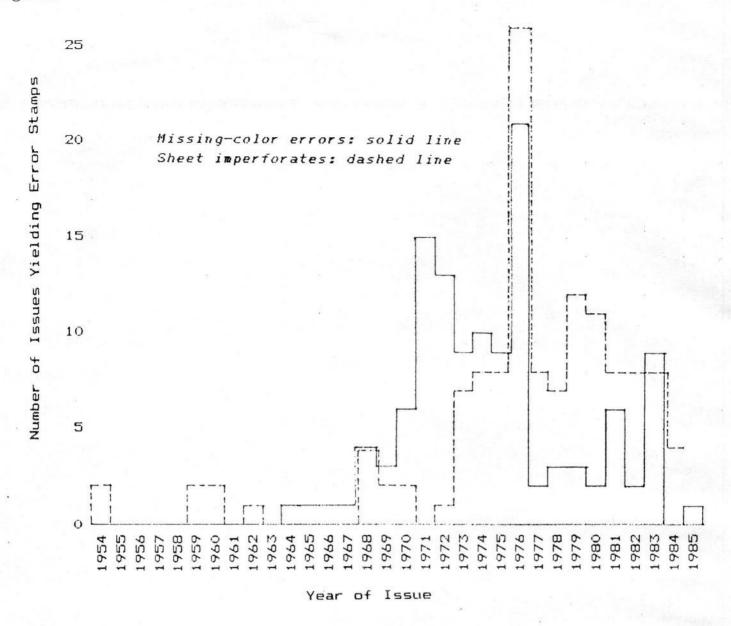
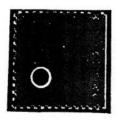


Figure 1: Major Stamp Errors by Year of Issue, 1954-1985



50c Iron Betty Lamp, #1608, black omitted, issued in 1979



22c Ameripex, #2145, red, blue and black omitted, issued in 1985

Figure 2: 1985 Arrivals on the Auction Scene

I've continued the computation of the "major error price index" ("MEPRI") through December 1985, and it appears that the booming stock market, fears of rekindled inflation, or simply the selection and high quality of offerings in the December Schiff auction have given year-end prices a huge boost. Both color- and imperforate errors benefitted. Figure 3 shows the results.

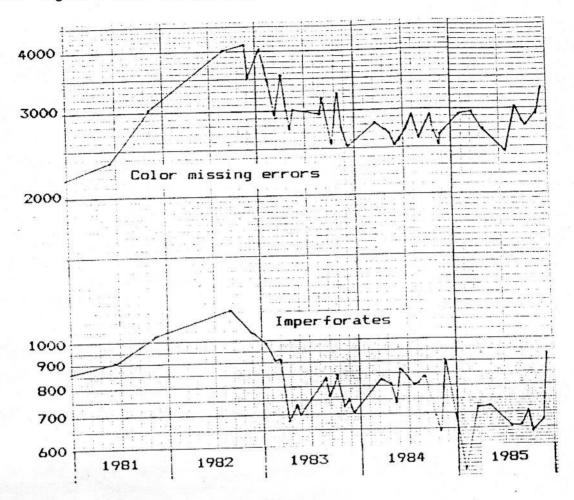


Figure 3: Modern Error Price Index, 1981-1985

For readers who may not already know, I'll explain: The MEPRI (computed separately for missing-color and imperforate errors) is simply the ratio of the sum of the realized prices of stamps sold at auction to the sum of their base prices, multiplied by 1000. It's influenced, obviously, by current demand and supply and by the particular auction offerings. Hence it's volatile, and some readers are uncomfortable with that volatility. But I'm equally uneasy about applying time-smoothing to the index. I've tried it, and smoothing not only introduces a time delay but obscures what may be significant temporal changes. Be happy: The market is up.

Howard Gates is a consulting engineer and economic analyst. He has recently published a catalog of missing-inscription U.S. stamps.

Welcome To Our New Members

- #521 Clarence E. Rash 110 Victoria Dr., Enterprise, AL 36330 All EFOs
- #522 Igor J. Huryk HQ 649th Engr. BN (T), APO New York 09081 1861 to Date
- #523 Jeremy H. Johnson 312 W. Louisiana Ave., Tampa, FL 33603 Flag over Supreme Court Errors
- #524 Brad A. Irvin 8004 Chanute Place, Apt 11, Falls Church, VA. 22042 General
- #525 Richard J. Borden 9626 6th Ave. No., Minneapolis, MN 55441 All USA
- #526 Mark T. Congelio 40 Ewing Rd., Youngstown, Ohio 44512 US Imperfs; Missing colors (stamps and postal cards)
- #527 Harold L. Carmichael 1715 Lockwood Dr., Knoxville, TN 37918 Transportation Series
- #528 Collectors Emporium Rt. One, Box 342, Dogwood Lake Rd., Bailey, Miss. 39320 Part-time dealer
- #529 Paul S. Bruckman 4933 Papaya Dr., Fair Oaks, CA 95628 US Errors
- #530 H.E. "Bill" Menker 601 Alester Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94303 Coils, booklets, part-perfs
- #531 Mario S. Giombetti 20500 107th St., Bristol, WI 53104 General
- #532 Civia M. Tuteur 7327 N. Osceola, Chicago, IL 60648 Mexico
- #533 Gerald E. Case 10931 Hillhaven Ave., Tujunga, CA 91042 Booklet Panes
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- #535 Stephen R. Datz P.O. Box 402, Loveland, CO 80537
- #536 G.C. Greiner, Sr. 762 N. Naranja Ave., Mesa, AZ 85202

Thanks To: APS, John Casey, Linn's Stamp News, Stamp Collector, The U.S.P.S., Daniel S. Pagter and Harold Blaufuss for recruiting efforts, publicity and/or referrals.

Address Changes

- #35 Frank Wengen 12905 5th Isle, Hudson, FL 33567
- #54 John Herczeg 6500 W. Charleston Blvd., Apt. 65A, Bldg. 8, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102
- #196 Michael Bame 1102 Kentwood Dr., Blacksburg, VA. 24060
- #207 Paul Biggy P.O. Box 10126, Sarasota, FL 34278
- #236 Leonard Stein P.O. Box 9768, Anaheim, CA 92802
- #276 Harold Stral 4438 Estes Ave., Lincolnwood, IL 60648-2228
- #340 Edward Z. Antonian 3514 Highland Ave., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
- #370 Wayne E. Hillelson P.O. Box 3087, Latham, NY 12110-9087
- #386 Russ Darnell P.O. Box 8004, Canyon Lake, CA. 92380
- #487 Rory P. Blake 3216 Chaucer Dr., Charlotte, NC 28210-4814
- #493 Nathan Reeder 3621 McFarlin Blvd., Dallas, TX 75205

Deceased #380 Franz M. Lowen

Resigned #114 Waldo E. Emrick

Membership Resumed

- #8 Dale Parry 108 Perry St., #2B, New York, NY 10014
- #16 Carlos San Martin, Jr. 1930 S.W. 57th Place, Miami, FL 33155
- #135 Dick Stiewing 100 Media Ave., Waterbury, CT. 06708
- #174 Robert C. Hollow 1013 Crescent Ln., Bismark, ND 58501
- #177 Fr. Pat R. Schimizzi Bishop Eustace Prep School, Marlton Pike, Pennsauken, NJ 08110
- #228 Michael Korovich 3625 N. Pioneer, Chicago, IL 60634
- #428 Mary S. Kendrick 6012 Memorial Dr., Houston, TX 77007

Thank You for the donations to EFOCC to Frank Wengen (#35), Leo Stawecki (#69), Marlyne Valencia (#137), John Strong (#310), Marge Finger (#367).

Dues Notices have been mailed out to those who have not already paid dues. PLEASE send in your dues to John Hotchner, P.O. Box 1125, Falls Church, VA., 22041-0125.

Former EFOCCers Comment by D.S. Pagter

As President, I sent a letter to all members who dropped in the past two years. The letter simply asked, "What Happened?".

I received letters, calls and checks from former members. Here are several selected comments received:

I cannot give proper attention to stamp collecting at the present time...Please understand the (EFOCC) has been a great help to me... When I resume the hobby, I will be in touch. (Fr.) P. Schimizzi, S.A.C.

...a change in interest from stamps to trains...(I) believe John (Hotchner) is one of a kind when it comes to stamps. -Postmaster R. Miller.

(The EFOCC) seemed...extremely amateurish. Promises of a round robin auction which never materialized; screw-ups with the auction itself; nobody wanting to be the leader, those that do begging for help. Its ridiculous. However here's \$2.00 for a sample. -P.M., Watertown, Mass.

(President's Note: A. The circuit ("round robin auction") did materialize and is operational - the buyers greatly out number sellers thus stock is limited. Sellers anyone? B. We've returned to 1st Class mailing due to the auction "screw ups.")

How much? Ten dollars. Here's my check.

I have decided not to renew my membership and feel I should offer a brief comment.

References are made on pages 6 and 7 of the current issue of the EFO Collector to "scrap-krap" and "saves junk." Unfortunately, there is more than an element of truth in the use of these phrases to some of the stamps that appear in EFO ads and auctions. It is my feeling that this "trash" should be put to death much like the fine race horse with a broken leg. If one tries to sell a collection of such stamps on the philatelic market, he soon learns that they are worthless - whether or not he will accept calling them "trash."

Certainly, in this free country, one can collect anything he desires. We have far more collectors of "junk" and "trash" (of all kinds) than we do of EFO stamps. I guess that I just don't care to belong and pay dues to an organization that encourages in any way the collection and preservation of these pathetic examples of philately.

Sincerely yours, (signed)
M.O. Young, M.D.

Secretary's Note: Dr. Young has been a member since May, 1981. - JMH

NON-PROFIT UPDATE

The EFOCC is now a recognized educational non-profit organization in our headquarters state of New York.

We are still pursuing the matter with the IRS.

Contact your tax advisor, State Tax Board or Phil Nazak for information regarding the deductibility of donations in excess of your annual membership dues of \$10.00. (D.S. Pagter)

New Auction Director Appointed by D.S. Pagter

I am pleased to announce that I have appointed Mr. Joseph A. Licata, P.E., 209 East 11th Ave., Conshohocken, Pa. 19428 (215-825-7385) as the new EFOCC Auction Director.

Mr. Licata will be taking over the job from Scott Shaulis. The transition is underway NOW. Scott will be closing out EFOCC Auction #25 and Joseph is starting Auction #26 for the August EFO Collector.

Send Joseph your auction material now.

While the full EFOCC Board and I have full confidence in Joseph, John Hotchner, Scott Shaulis and I will be ready to help him if any problems arise. There is no reason to "wait and see" before sending your material.

The EFOCC Auction, considered by many dealers to be the best society auction in the U.S.A., shall run as well as it has for the past 7 years and will continue fully insured.

For those with comments, complaints and suggestions, now is the time to write to Joseph. He may find them useful as he begins to adjust the Auction to fit the expertise and knowledge he has to offer.

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Send orders and checks to EFOCC Publications, P.O. Box 6394, Albany, CA 94706-0394

EFOCC AWARD FUND UPDATE

The EFOCC has received a significant cash donation for the EFOCC Awards Fund from member Howard Gates. Howard, who has written for the EFOC and Stamp Collector, is also an author of an EFO book. Howard wrote and published the "Catalog of Rare Missing-Inscription United States Stamps." At 66 pages, this book is well worth the \$4.95 cost (Box 955, Lake of the Woods, Locust Grove, VA 22508).

This Award Fund pays for the Certificates of Appreciation presented by the EFOCC as well as show awards given at several major shows. It is also responsible for the \$25.00 cash award and free year's dues given for the annual Robert E. Manning Award.

For the awards fund to be self perpetuating, it should have a minimum balance of \$800.00. Currently, its balance is approximately \$325.00.

If you wish to add to this fund, send your check, cash, mint US Postage or salable EFOs, clearly marked "Awards Fund," to Phil Nazak, Treasurer (and Awards Director), Box 662, Binghamton, NY 13902-0622.

The EFOCC will entertain discussions of new EFOCC awards and the naming of same by a donor or donors of large contributions. Contact Phil Nazak if you have questions regarding the tax-deductibility of such donations. (D.S. Pagter)

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\$4.95 pp. Howard Gates, Box 955LOW, Locust Grove, VA 22508.



VAPEX '86 PROSPECTUS NOW AVAILABLE

VAPEX '86 frame space is expected to be snapped up quickly if prior years are a guide. This year, several participating societies will mean early requests for frame space in the November show a must.

This year's show will be held November 21-23, 1986 in the Virginia Beach, Virginia convention center, "the Pavilion". Up to 400 frames will be available.

Potential EFOCC exhibitors are encouraged to write to Mr. Leroy P. Collins III, P.O. Box 2183, Norfolk, Virginia 23501 early to obtain a copy of the hot-off-the-press VAPEX prospectus!

Our EFOCC Regional Meeting at VAPEX - the 4th Annual Saturday Dutch Treat Breakfast will be held at 8:30 A.M., Saturday, November 22. Why not put it on your calendar now: November 22, at Virginia Beach.

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