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Varieties, errors blooming on flower definitives

By Hans Niedermair

More errors and varieties have been found among recent Canada Post definitives, this time involving the flower definitives issued Jan. 11.

The booklets were discovered in February at the downtown Victoria post office by dealer David Morrell of Morrell Stamps, based in the B.C. capital.

"It was so noticeable that the numbers overlapped the letters," Morrell told *Canadian Stamp News*. "(The postal clerk) knew me, so she let me have a look at their stock. I started going through the booklets; I went through about 600."

"I ended up pulling out about eight that had visually noticeable, significant varieties."

Rather than finding a single type of error or variety, Morrell discovered several.

The most significant is perhaps a colour shift on the grass pink \$1.70 stamp (Scott #2364) that sees the denomination slightly overlap the word "Canada" on all six stamps in the booklet. These same booklets have what Morrell calls a "raindrop" variety, with blue ink splashes noticeable on the two bottom-right stamps. The stamp dealer said that he found the "raindrops" on two different \$1.70 booklets, in the same form and position on both.

Morrell also found significant colour shifts on separate \$1.70 and rose pagonia \$1.22 six-stamp booklets. In both cases, the yellow has shifted in the word "Canada," with the \$1.22 (SC #2363) example looking much more dramatic.

On one \$1.70 booklet, both the yellow shift and denomination overlap are evident.

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Raindrop...

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Morrell also reported colour shifts on the \$1 giant helleborine booklet from the same issue (SC #2358).

The errors and varieties add to the list of anomalies CSN has reported among stamp issues released by Canada Post within a span of two months early this year.

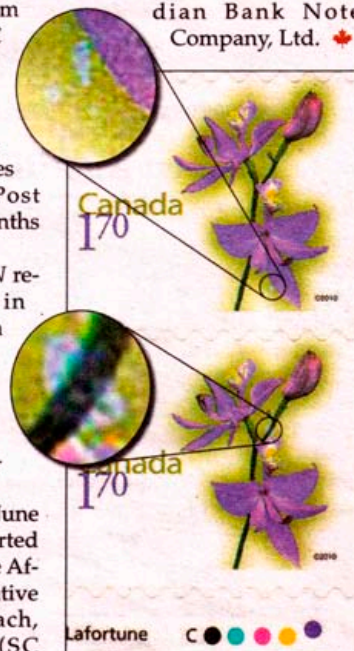
In the July 6 issue, CSN reported the discovery in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. of a \$1 giant helleborine booklet with missing and misaligned perfs.

Lowe-Martin is the printer of the flower definitive booklets.

A month earlier, in the June 8 issue, these pages reported the find of an imperforate African violets commemorative booklet in Wasaga Beach, Ont. Those stamps (SC #2377-78) were issued March 3 and produced by Lowe-Martin.

In the April 13 issue, CSN reported discoveries of dramatically mis-cut Flag over

Mills permanent-rate definitives (SC #2351-55). Examples of those were found in both southeast New Brunswick and Osoyoos, B.C. Those were issued Jan. 11 and printed by Canadian Bank Note Company, Ltd. ♣



Victoria, B.C. dealer David Morrell found two \$1.70 booklets with what he calls the "raindrop" variety, with blue ink splatters on the bottom-right two stamps.

6 x \$1.70 \$10.20

Stamps / Timbres International

LOWE-MARTIN
Design : Monique Dufour, Sophie Lafortune
Photo : John E. Newfield

A \$1.70 grass pink stamp booklet with yellow and violet colour shifts – demonstrated by the "traffic lights" – which caused the denomination to overlap "Canada."

6 x \$1.22 \$7.32

Stamps / Timbres Oversized Mail / Courrier surdimensionné

LOWE-MARTIN
Design : Monique Dufour, Sophie Lafortune
Photo : Jeremy Martin

A dramatic shift of the yellow on a \$1.22 rose pagonia booklet, evidenced in the word "Canada."