

École normale provinciale de Truro (Nouvelle-Écosse): DÉCOUVERTE D'UNE ERREUR MAJEURE D'IMPRESSION

Richard Gratton
AQEP et Comité d'expertise de la Fédération

Plusieurs feuilles complètes du timbre de 2\$ de série courante représentant l'École normale provinciale de Truro ont été découvertes avec des impressions défectueuses.

Ce type particulier d'erreur d'impression est très recherché en philatélie mondiale. On n'a qu'à se rappeler les 400 timbres canadiens de la Voie maritime du Saint-Laurent, émis le 26 juin 1959, avec le centre inversé. Aujourd'hui, ces timbres cotent à 13 500 \$ chacun !

Le timbre-poste de série courante qui nous intéresse fut émis le 21 février 1994, en remplacement du timbre représentant la gare de MacAdam émis environ cinq ans plus tôt. Lors de sa seconde impression, en mai 1995, 12 millions de timbres furent produits par la Canadian Bank Note.

Le 23 janvier 1996, deux feuilles avec impression défectueuse sont découvertes par le Centre de service au détail de la Société canadienne des postes. Le personnel s'est alors aussitôt mis à la recherche de ces erreurs d'impression dans le stock du Service. Plusieurs autres feuilles avec erreur furent ainsi découvertes.

Tout le stock en inventaire fut retourné le 30 janvier dernier à la Canadian Bank Note et vérifié par des inspecteurs spécialisés. On avait jusqu'alors découvert cinq feuilles complètes de 25 timbres

avec des erreurs d'impression. On savait donc à cette date que des timbres-poste avec erreur d'impression avaient été vendus à des franchisés ou à des bureaux de poste, mais on ignorait la quantité de feuilles erronées encore à découvrir.

On savait cependant qu'il devait y en avoir au moins trois autres, car ces feuilles sont produites huit à la fois, soit en multiple de 200 timbres, selon nos informations.

Au début de mars 1996, le Centre de service au détail avait encore en sa possession 5,6 millions de timbres de la seconde imprimante n'ayant pas été expédiés.

La troisième impression de ce timbre fut livrée à la SCP en novembre 1995 et la totalité de ce stock est considérée comme étant sans défaut.

Le mercredi 20 mars dernier, monsieur Gary Lyon fait la une du *Northern Light*, un journal de Bathurst, au Nouveau-Brunswick. Acheteur sérieux de ce type de ma-



Possible assault on ref is under investigation

By JIM COUTURE
Northern Light Staff
Northern Light reporter Michael Neary officials in no form of compensation. The letter response policy has been adopted by the Canadian Bank Note Company. It is the first time that the company has responded to a letter from a customer. The letter was not only responded to, but also included a copy of the stamp sheet that was discovered.

The incident was a surprise to the author.

A BNFP spokesman said Monday that the company had been in touch with various post offices for the correction of the error. The spokesman said that the stamp sheet would probably be returned to the author.

The incident apparently caused the author to become more aware of the quality control process.

Hunters asked to be charged

By GORDONNA PANTERIS
Northern Light Staff
The law enforcement officers in the Northern Light have received a number of calls from readers since the recent stamp discovery.

Deputy attorney general Pauline O'Neil said that the stamp sheet was discovered by the Canadian Bank Note Company.

"They are investigating the matter and will let us know what they find," she said.

Mr. Lyon said that he has been in touch with the Canadian Bank Note Company and the Royal Canadian Mint.

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térieur, toujours à l'affût de belles pièces pour ses clients, Gary Lyon est très connu dans la communauté philatélique. Il est donc normal qu'il ait été approché par celui qui, dans sa province, a fait cette heureuse et importante découverte.

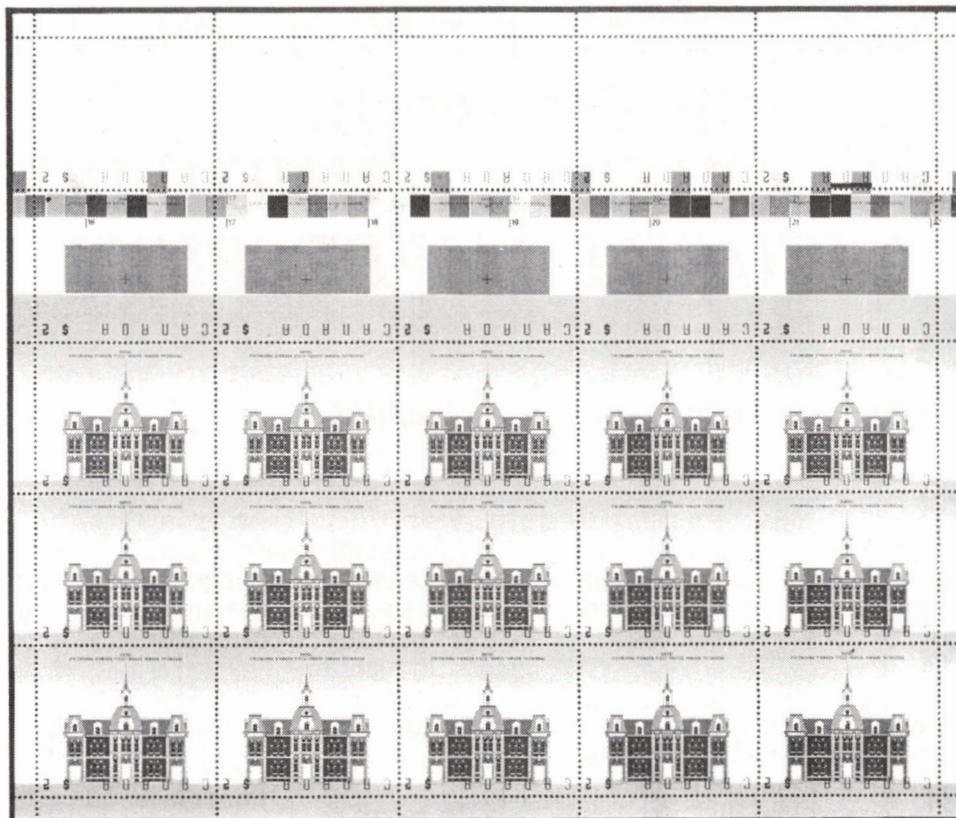
6

Selon certaines sources, de telles feuilles auraient aussi fait leur apparition en Ontario et au Québec et toutes n'auraient pas encore été découvertes dans les bureaux de poste et chez les franchisés à travers le Canada. On attend donc avant de confirmer une valeur à ces timbres, mais déjà on l'estime à plus de 5 000 \$ chacun.

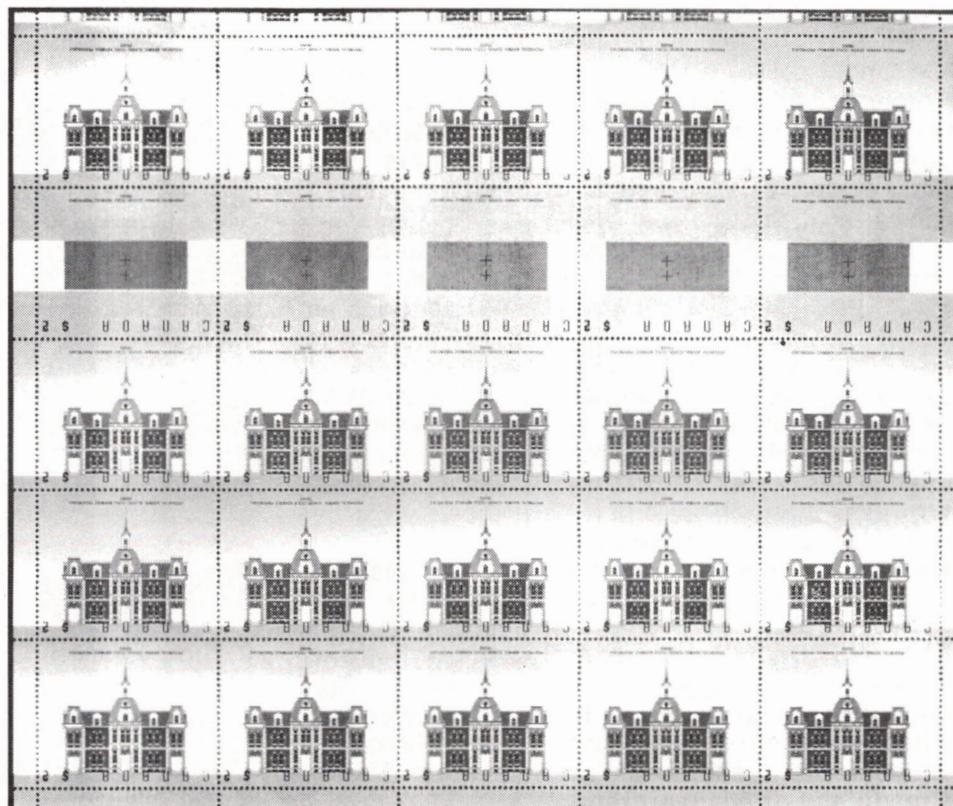
La feuille illustrée en première page du *Philatélie Québec* de ce mois-ci nous fait voir l'erreur d'impression à son meilleur ! (ill. 1) Remarquez aussi les guides d'impression et les couleurs utilisées lors de la production des feuilles de bordure de ces timbres-poste de haute valeur. Normalement, ces indications sont coupées chez l'imprimeur et le philatéliste ne les voit pas dans les marges.

La seconde feuille mise à notre disposition pour cet article (ill.2) est très différente de la première, car elle nous fait voir dans la seconde rangée des guides de coupe (les signes +). Cette feuille contient 20 timbres avec l'erreur, tandis que la feuille en couverture ne contient que 15 timbres avec l'erreur, quoique, d'un point de vue philatélique, cette dernière soit beaucoup plus intéressante !

Puisqu'un rappel de toutes les feuilles était à tout point de vue irréalisable et



ILL. 1



ILL. 2

quasi impossible, la Société canadienne des postes a véritablement fait son possible afin d'éviter la distribution des feuilles erronées sur le marché du détail. On doit l'en féliciter.

La Canadian Bank Note a inspecté tout le stock qui lui a été retourné et son personnel a été très diligent lors de la vérification. Selon des spécialistes qui ont analysé les circonstances de l'erreur, celle-ci serait de nature humaine.

Des erreurs comme celle-ci se produisent à l'occasion. Il n'y a personne à blâmer dans de tels cas si tout un chacun a fait son possible pour tenter de corriger la situation et d'empêcher que des erreurs semblables ne se reproduisent à l'avenir. C'est ce qui rend la philatélie si intéressante, car des découvertes palpitantes sont possibles n'importe quand... en autant qu'on ait un peu de chance !

Nous remercions Gary Lyon, le «chanceux», d'avoir bien voulu nous donner l'occasion de montrer des feuilles complètes aux lecteurs de *Philatélie Québec*.

NDLR: La chronique régulière rédigée par Richard Gratton sur les «Erreurs et variétés du Canada et des provinces» vous reviendra dans le prochain numéro de *Philatélie Québec*. C'est à ne pas manquer !

E X P O S I T I O N S

CAPEX 96 s'enrichit de nouveaux points d'intérêt !



7

Le comité organisateur de CAPEX 96 annonçait le mois dernier que le programme de l'Exposition, déjà fort riche et prometteur, venait de s'enrichir de nouveaux points d'intérêt, susceptibles d'intéresser le philatéliste averti comme le simple visiteur.

On sait que CAPEX 96 réunira sous un même toit des collections prestigieuses, des raretés et curiosités philatéliques, ainsi que certains des camions et voitures d'époque mis en vedette sur les timbres relatant le développement des transports au Canada, dont, entre autres, le camion aux lignes profilées de la firme Labatt (qui figure sur le dernier volet de la série consacrée aux véhicules historiques). De plus, les visiteurs pourront suivre les différentes étapes de la fabrication des timbres, c'est-à-dire du choix du sujet à l'impression, en passant par la recherche et la conception graphique, à partir de la production de la série consacrée aux véhicules historiques.

Une présentation sur la ruée vers l'or soulignera le centenaire de la découverte de l'or au Yukon, en

situant les timbres et l'histoire postale de cette époque, en s'intéressant notamment aux rôles de la poste et des agents de la Gendarmerie royale du Canada, les premiers «facteurs» de la région. On pourra suivre également l'évolution des timbres-poste émis pour l'occasion, de la maquette à l'épreuve d'imprimerie.

Les visiteurs assisteront sur place à la naissance d'un timbre-poste et verront même à l'oeuvre un **maître-graveur de France**. Ils verront aussi le fonctionnement d'une presse à épreuve, d'une perforatrice et d'une machine à oblitérer les timbres. Il y aura des simulations sur ordinateur.

Admission

Le prix d'entrée sera de 8\$ par jour pour les adultes et de 4\$ pour les aînés et les jeunes de moins de seize ans. L'entrée est gratuite pour les enfants de moins de six ans. On peut faire l'achat par la poste de carnets de trois billets. Les carnets sont offerts pour un temps limité au coût de 21\$ chacun. L'inscription au club Beaver pour la somme de 100\$

donne droit à un laissez-passer valide pour la durée de l'Exposition ainsi qu'à d'autres priviléges exclusifs.

Écoles et clubs philatéliques

Un programme de visites est offert aux écoles et aux clubs philatéliques. (On demande aux enseignants intéressés de commander le guide d'information sur les visites scolaires et la feuille d'inscription en composant le 1 800 946-9696. On peut adresser toute question concernant le programme de visites scolaires à Susan Redmond, au 1 800 800-4756.)

L'Exposition philatélique mondiale CAPEX 96 aura lieu au Palais des congrès du Toronto métropolitain, du 8 au 16 juin 1996.

Pour d'autres renseignements, il suffit de composer le 1 800 946-9696, ou d'écrire à l'adresse suivante: CAPEX 96, C.P. 204, succ. Q, Toronto (Ontario) M4T 2M1. Par courrier électronique, faire le: Info_CAPEX'96@parrassoc.com