



The Canal Zone Philatelist



VOL. 16, No. 1

FIRST QUARTER, 1980

WHOLE No. 54

President's Report

George W. Stilwell
377 Rolling Rock Road
Mountainside, N. J. 07092

A new decade is upon us but without any new Canal Zone stamps. They may be gone but not forgotten as the prices go higher in every sale.

Before this issue comes out, my wife and I will have vacationed in the Canal Zone and Contadora Island. This will be our first visit and we hope that many of our members can meet with us on a Sunday afternoon in Panama City.

The Canal Zone Study Group has held a regular meeting each year during SOJEX in Atlantic City, N.J., and WESTPEX in San Francisco. Other meetings have been held in Los Angeles, Columbus, Ohio, Cranford, N.J., Wayne, N.J., etc. During the coming years I would like to see more meetings in other parts of the country. This is a good way for CZSG members and prospective members to meet one another, to talk about their recent finds, to show examples of their stamps and covers, and to learn from one another.

Letters have been written to our directors asking if they would host a CZSG meeting at a stamp show in their areas sometime this year and/or next.

There is a special box on the front page of the CZP for meeting notices. It would be nice to see this filled with upcoming meetings at all times.

If there are any others who would like to host a CZSG meeting at a stamp show, please contact Dick Salz, Al Bew, or myself.

Mail Auction No. 9

Consignments for the 9th mail auction may be sent between June 16 and July 14, 1980 to CZSG, c/o R.H. Salz, 60-27th Avenue, San Francisco, Calif. 94121. Please ship insured or registered. Certificates necessary on all Scott Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 15. The auction will take place in October 1980.

Scott No. 6 Plate Position Rediscovered

By Robert A. Reisinger

I had only been collecting Canal Zone for about a year when I saw a dealer's advertisement that indicated a large stock of Canal Zone material available. My interests go primarily to collecting airmail stamps and covers, so I looked through those holdings first. I glanced through the other material and the only item that was in any way rare or exotic was an imprint strip of three of Scott No. 6, Fig. 1, that was in a somewhat brown glassine envelope. I had already spent several hundred dollars on airmail stamps, and although beautifully centered, the fact that the piece had only partial gum and a 7 millimeter tear in the selvage did not seem to justify extending myself further to purchase it.

I went back to the dealer several more times to purchase airmail first day covers, plate blocks and postal stationery, but kept putting off the purchase of the imprint strip, partially because I was more interested in airmails and partly due to a comment by the dealer that several Canal Zone specialists had come in a few years ago and cleaned out all his "good stuff." Several months later, after exhausting the dealer's airmail stock, I decided that the imprint strip, with only 418 copies that could possibly exist, would probably be a good investment and finally purchased it.

About a year or two after this purchase, I became a member of the Canal Zone Study Group. Through the *Canal Zone Philatelist*, I learned of several dealers who specialize in Canal Zone material, including Rick Schwartz. He very nicely sends out articles of interest along with his price lists, and in one of these, it was mentioned that only left and bottom plate numbers had been found for Scott Nos. 4 through 8. I said to myself, "that can't be, mine has the plate number on the right." Just to make sure, the next time I went to my safe deposit box, I checked, and sure enough, the plate number *was* on the right!

I'm sure it is the dream of all stamp collectors to own a unique item and I was, of course, elated that this might fall into that category. I contacted Dick Salz several months later, and he told me that in 1949, a right side strip of three reportedly had been offered at auction, but no picture was available. My piece now appeared to have fallen from the probably unique category to the possibly unique, even though it may, in fact, be the same strip of three offered in 1949. We will probably never know, but



Fig. 1. Scott No. 6, plate number on right.

until someone comes forward with another one, it remains the only known copy of this rarity.

(Continued on page 7)

Meeting Notice

At WESTPEX '80, Jack Tar Hotel, San Francisco, Calif. on Saturday, April 12, 1980 at 1:00 p.m. Details from Dick Salz.

The Canal Zone Philatelist

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A.P.S. Affiliate No. 42

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No larger advertisements than above are accepted. Remittance must accompany copy. Deadline for ads, first day of Jan., Apr., July, Oct. Send all manuscript and ad copy to the Editor.

Subscriptions are \$5.00 per year which includes membership in the Canal Zone Study Group. Subscriptions, changes of address, and complaints of non-delivery should be sent to the Secretary, Alfred R. Bew, 29 S. South Carolina Ave., Atlantic City, N. J. 08401.

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The Canal Zone Study Group

1980 Scott Specialized

Reviewed by Gilbert N. Plass

The 1980 Scott Specialized Catalogue appeared on schedule in November. Scott's press release states that there are a record number of price changes in the whole book, a total of 30,262 with 1,369 in Canal Zone alone. They also state that U.S. Possessions are among the areas that have "shown new vitality, possibly due to an awakened interest among seasoned collectors of U.S., and the injection of many new collectors into these areas over the past few years".

Canal Zone has been completely repriced to give an up-to-date picture of the rapidly changing market. Some of the largest changes compared to the 1979 Specialized are Nos. 4-8 up 40%, 27-30 up 29%, 46-48 up 28%, 31-35 up 26%, C1-5 up 25%, 70-81 up 24%, 36-37 up 21%, J21-29 up 21%, and 52-54 up 20%. The errors and varieties of the following numbers also showed large changes: Nos. 96-104 up 53%, J12-20 up 45%, 27-30 up 43%, J21-29 up 43%, 55-57 up 34%, 60-67 up 29%, 141-165 up 29%, 21-26 up 26%, J4-11 up 25%.

As for individual price changes only a few examples can be given here as they are so numerous. The 1980 price is given first followed by the 1979 Specialized catalogue price in parentheses.

No. 8, \$80 (\$65); 12e, \$500 (\$400); 12 PANAAM \$350 (\$250); 14a \$500 (\$300); 14g, \$2500 (\$2000); 15, \$1150 (\$1000); 21a, \$2500 (\$1750); 22b, \$700 (\$500); 31a, \$8500 (\$7000); 40a, \$4000 (\$3500); 47, \$1750 (\$1300); 55f, \$1500 (\$1000); 57, \$160 (\$135); 71c, \$600 (\$450); 81, \$160 (\$125); 84c, \$1250 (\$500); 92a, \$3000 (\$2500); 102a, \$1250 (\$900); 157a, \$5500 (\$4250); C2, \$85 (\$65); J14, \$125 (\$110); J18a, \$600 (\$450); U14, \$300 (\$250); UF1, \$900 (\$750); UX1e, \$1250 (\$600); UX5, \$750 (\$650); all proofs increased about 10%.

We have made our yearly summary of Canal Zone prices. A complete unused collection of each major number of Canal Zone regular, air post, postage due, and official (used prices taken where unused are not priced) stamp catalogues \$9782 compared to last year's price of \$8385 (a 17% increase). All listed errors and varieties of these same stamps catalogue \$176,824 compared to \$143,057 (24%). The major numbers for Canal Zone envelopes catalogue \$2533 compared to \$2266 (12%). The corresponding figures for postal cards are \$1705 compared with \$1453 (17%). The envelope errors catalogue \$4166 compared to \$3481 (20%), while the postal card errors show a large increase to \$12,125 compared to \$7975 (52%). All the proofs catalogue \$25,775 compared to \$23,350 (10%).

Only minor changes have been made in the excellent listing of Canal Zone contained in the catalogue. No. OX5b has been deleted as this does not exist with double impression with the 13 mm seal. Every Canal Zone collector needs this new catalogue not only for the listing, but for prices on almost all important varieties. The prices are as current as possible for a catalogue that only comes out once a year. Congratulations to Scott for giving us such a fine Specialized catalogue.

Auctions

Reviewed by Gilbert N. Plass

Outside of our own CZSG auction, very little Canal Zone material was sold at auction during the fall season. The only great rarity sold was a handmade booklet pane of six of the 2c Type II with inverted center, Scott No. 39f. The Metro Stamp Co. offered an example with several minor defects which brought the amazing price of \$6500 against the catalogue value of \$1750.

The price realized is given in the following list with the catalogue price in parenthesis as listed in the auction catalogue. The name of the auction house follows. All items are unused and without serious defects unless mentioned otherwise. All prices have been rounded to the nearest dollar. Our own CZSG auction is abbreviated CZSG.

Scott No. 3, short perfs. \$200 (\$200) CZSG; 4, \$13 (\$10) CZSG; 4-8, \$150

(\$180) John Fox; 4-8 on cover, 5c s.e., 10c light creases, \$230 (\$221) Robert Siegel; 16, 16a, 16b, 17, 17a, 17b, \$34 (\$28) CZSG; 10a, \$130 (\$125) CZSG; 11, \$6 (\$4) CZSG; 11b, \$150 (\$125) CZSG; 13c, \$340 (\$375) CZSG; 14b, perfs touch, \$125 (\$150) CZSG; 19, \$30 (\$27) CZSG; 23d, \$280 (\$300) CZSG; 25, \$16 (\$12) CZSG; 25a, \$320 (\$250) CZSG.

Nos. 27-30, \$58 (\$58) Fox; 30, \$21 (\$16) CZSG; 32a, \$280 (\$225) CZSG; 36, \$12 (\$10) CZSG; 42-45, \$32 (\$20) CZSG; 46, first printing, \$190 (\$200) CZSG; 46, second printing, \$420 (\$200) CZSG; 46, bl. of 8, f, \$1800 (\$2000) Jacques Schiff; 48, \$480 (\$550) CZSG.

No. 53, \$68 (\$60) CZSG; 55a, \$72 (\$75) CZSG; 56, \$16 (\$14) CZSG; 57, used, \$30 (\$20) CZSG; 58, \$130 (\$165) Fox; 60-65, \$48 (\$57) CZSG; 62a, \$26 (\$22) CZSG; 66, \$60 (\$80) Fox; 73, pl. bl. of 6, \$125 (\$100) Jacques Schiff; 73a, \$58 (\$60) Schiff; 77, pl. bl. of 6, \$300 (\$150) Schiff; 80, first printing, \$22 (\$17) CZSG; 80, used, \$15 (\$15) CZSG; 80, 81, \$220 (\$152) Richard Wolfers; 84-95, \$200 (\$222) Fox; 85, pl. bl. of 6, \$85 (\$40) Schiff; 94, \$120 (\$120), Sotheby Parke Bernet; 94, used, \$62 (\$70) CZSG; 94, 95, \$180 (\$175) Wolfers; 95, used, \$23 (\$20) CZSG; 96, pl. bl. of 6, \$75 (\$55) Schiff; 96, bl. of 9, \$28 (\$27) CZSG; 97, \$19 (\$20) Continental Auctions; 100-104, \$16 (\$17) CZSG; 106a, \$9 (\$6) CZSG; 115c, unexploded booklet of 2 panes of 6, \$195 (\$140) Wolfers; 120-135, \$64 (\$55) CZSG; 163a, all combinations of 2 printings and 3 tabs, 6 bl. panes of 4, \$12 (\$6) CZSG.

No. C2, \$64 (\$70) CZSG; C2 on cover, \$53, Continental; C5a on cover, \$85, Continental; C15-20, \$42 (\$35) CZSG; C25a, \$340 (\$325) CZSG; C36-41, \$11 (\$8) CZSG; C48a, 5 booklet panes of 4, various tabs, \$11 (\$7) CZSG; C49a, 4 booklet panes of 4, all diff. tabs, \$16 (\$5) CZSG; CO1 on cover, \$105, Continental; CO1-7, CO14, \$52 (\$46) CZSG.

The following lots are all plate blocks of 6 from the CZSG auction: No. 71, \$38 (\$12); 86, \$90 (\$75); 110, \$9 (\$5); 124, \$32 (\$15); 125, \$32 (\$15); 126, \$42 (\$25); 127, \$42 (\$25); 128, \$66 (\$40); 129, \$72 (\$40); 130, \$76 (\$42); 131, \$85 (\$50); C15, \$32 (\$12); C17, \$46 (\$17); C36-41, \$68 (\$44), C42-53, \$44 (\$32), J1, \$115 (\$60).

Nos. J1-3, used, \$48 (\$42) CZSG; J10-11, \$32 (\$24) CZSG; J12-14, \$175 (\$190) Wolfers; J21-24, \$8 (\$6) CZSG; 08, used, \$360 (\$400) CZSG; 120-135, FDC, \$100 (\$75) CZSG; OX1, sh. of 8, \$85 (\$105) CZSG; OX2, sh. of 8, cliches 1/2 mm apart, \$160 (\$250) CZSG; OX2, sh. of 8, cliches 1 1/2 x 4 mm apart, stains \$290 (\$300) CZSG; OX5, sh. of 32, \$52 (\$64) CZSG.

No. U1, \$44 (\$45) CZSG; U4, used, \$90 (\$80) CZSG; U7, \$16 (\$16) CZSG;

U9, \$8 (\$7) CZSG; U13, \$12 (\$10) CZSG; U15, \$130 (\$85) CZSG; UC1, \$58 (\$55) CZSG; UC2a, \$34 (\$35) CZSG; UX1, \$14 (\$12) CZSG; UX2c, \$120 (\$100) CZSG; UX4, \$90 (\$75) CZSG; UX5, used, wrinkles, \$380 (\$350) CZSG; UX7, \$42 (\$35) CZSG; C3 on UC2a, Feb. 9, 1929 first flight, Cristobal to Miami with Lindbergh autograph, \$210, Wolfers; Aug. 3, 1937 cover recovered from air crash in ocean near Cristobal, \$65, Wolfers.

8th Mail Auction Report

The 8th Mail Auction is DONE! Lots of fun and a bit of work, too. Many thanks to the West Coast Division: Tom Brougham, Ray Erickson, Terry Ethridge, Russ and Kathy Samuels, Rick Schwartz, and Dick and Maggie Salz for their many hours spent in keeping track of the innumerable details. Thanks, too, to the East Coast Division celebrities who did more than their share of the chores — George and Ginny Stilwell.

A few revisions and additions dot the scene presented in the Prices Realized Blurb. We suffered the return of seven lots because of faulty (as were the stamps) descriptions; so the sales total was reduced to \$28,752.50. A tight rein on expenditures held auction costs to \$968.80, down from the previous year, and we are pleased to report a net profit of \$1,906.45 which has been turned over to the treasurer.

After deducting the "no-bid" lots (30) and the "withdrawn" lots (2), we come up with a total of 742 lots on which 4,675 bids were made, or 6.3 bids per lot. The most popular lot, number 149, received 25 bids. In second place was lot number 16 with 24 bids; and third place was a tie between lots 136 and 316 with 22 bids each. There were 242 bidders plus 6 bidders whose bid sheets arrived after the closing bell. Of the 242 bidders there were 171 successful — 70%.

We wish to extend thanks to all consignors (5 of the 31 were from foreign countries) for providing the material, and the bidders for their good bidding. Needless to say these two groups make the auction a success.

We received many gratifying comments which accompanied the payments for lots and we quote a few of them: "Your package arrived a couple of days ago in fine shape. You are a better packer than all the stamp dealers I have dealt with." "A magnificently handled auction. Shocked at receiving P/R so quickly. The professionals should examine your operation!!" "Good lots! Good prices (for both buyer and seller)! Good work again, West Coast!" and "My congratulations to all involved for running a VF sale."

Copies of Prices Realized are still available from R. H. Salz, 60-27th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94121, for which please send a stamped addressed envelope (15¢).

The 9th Mail Auction will be held in October 1980. Because of unavoidable circumstances it will be necessary to call on the West Coast Division to again run the auction. Vendors should send material anytime between June 16 and July 14, 1980, to CZSG, c/o R. H. Salz, 60-27th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94121. Put these dates on your calendar NOW as we cannot count on the "REMINDER" in the 2nd quarter CZP reaching you in time!

—MAIL AUCTION COMMITTEE
WEST COAST DIVISION

UX9 Variations

The following information appeared in George B. Sloan's column dated March 19, 1949.

"The 1¢ U.S. postal card, overprinted for use in the Canal Zone, Scott No. UX9, went through at least three printings during the period it was in use. There are two marked shades of paper stock, white and buff, and the spacing dividing the words, "Canal Zone," can be found in three forms, 8½ mm, 9 mm, and 9½ mm".

We have recorded the 8½ and 9 mm spacings, but have not seen a 9½ mm spacing. Please advise your Editor if you have a 9½ mm spacing in your collection so that this variety can be included in our check list.

—R. H. SALZ

1960 Cancel

Lawson Entwistle wonders if any member can supply further information on a handstamp with the Balboa CDS 31mm in diameter, dated JUN 25, 1960. The killer has four bars and between the bars it reads "DIXIPEX III/CONVENTION DAY/BIRMINGHAM, ALA." in three lines. Write to him at: 10,000 E. Broadway, Tucson, Ariz. 85710.

Scott No. C46

Christopher DeVoe reports that he has a number of plate blocks of the 30¢ air mail stamp, Scott No. C46, with two stress cracks running through the black plate number 168784. He also has other plate blocks from the same position that do not show these cracks.

4¢ Administration Building

Walter Merkel reports obtaining a pane of 100 of the 4¢ Administration Building stamp, Scott No. 152, with the perforations on the extreme right vertical row being 2.5 mm beyond their normal position. Thus the ten stamps in this row have extra wide margins.



Fig. 1. Photo of plane and stamps that fell off letters in Panagra crash of 1937.

Panagra Crash of 1937

The Panagra crash of 1937 in the Canal Zone was described in our last issue. The article concluded by stating that a folder was given to Mr. Unruh with a picture of the plane and with some of the stamps that fell off the mail. Space did not allow us to show this in the last issue, but here is a photograph of part of this folder (Fig. 1).

Postal Markings

H. Lee Hagerthey has been recording Canal Zone postal markings for some years and now has the help of Lawson Entwistle, Tom Brougham, and Hugh Cassibry. They have prepared an extensive chart which illustrates each type of postmark that has been used in the Canal Zone and indicates the post offices at which that marking was used. Interested collectors should obtain a copy of this list, review their holdings, and advise of anything that is not listed. A copy can be obtained for \$1.00 to cover postage and handling (any excess revenue will be turned over to CZSG) from H. Lee Hagerthey, Box 128B Blackman Road, RFD #1, Linwood, NJ 08221.

MINT SHEETS WANTED

Top prices paid by collector for following CZ mint sheets:

107	140
110	C-17
123	J-27

Also other older sheets wanted.

ROGER L. McCULLOCH, CZSG #1032
2023 Michigan Avenue
LaPorte, Indiana 46350

Errors and Varieties

By Gilbert N. Plass

It is perhaps not surprising that during the 45 year life of the 3¢ Goethals stamp, Scott No. 117, that several perforation varieties were discovered. Perhaps the most striking is the pane of 100 found with the horizontal perforations almost exactly through the centers of the stamps. The plate block of this pane is shown in Fig. 1.



Fig. 1. Scott No. 117. Horizontal perforations through middle.

Other perforation varieties were caused by paper folds. The stamp shown in Fig. 2 can be classified as having an imperforate bottom margin as there are no horizontal perforations between the stamp and the selvedge. The angle of the vertical perforations is slightly changed by the paper crease. Wild freak perforations occur on the block shown in Fig. 3. The left vertical pair comes close, at first glance, to being an imperforate between error, but of course it is not this with the extra diagonal perforations on these stamps.



Fig. 2. Imperforate bottom margin.

Examples of badly cut booklet panes, Scott No. 117a, occur as shown in Fig. 4. The imperforate space between the stamps is quite striking here, but again this cannot classify as an imperforate between error, as only about 1/4 of the right stamp is present. Ink smudges also exist on this stamp. An



Fig. 3. Freak perforations from paper fold.



Fig. 4. Miscut booklet pane.

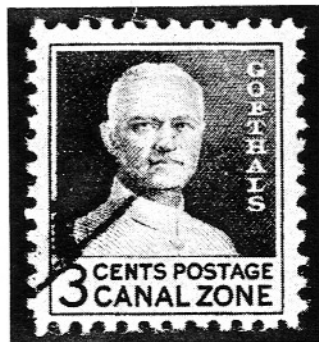


Fig. 5. Smudge at time of printing.



Fig. 6. Scott No. 143. Freak perforations.

example is shown in Fig. 5, where the large smudge and line in the lower left corner is in the color of the printing ink and was made at the time of printing.

An example of wild perforations on the 6¢ Gold Rush stamp, Scott No. 143, is shown in Fig. 6. A fairly large paper crease such as occasionally occurs on flat bed printed issues is seen in Fig. 7, the 12¢ denomination, No. 144.



Fig. 7. Scott No. 144. Paper fold before printing.

Last Days of CZ Postal Service

By Gilbert N. Plass

The Canal Zone Postal Service closed forever on Sept. 30, 1979. Services such as the sale of stamps and money orders and the provision for registry service were phased out at the smaller post offices beginning on Sept. 17th. By the end of the last week only Balboa and Cristobal offered full services. Long lines developed at these post offices and patrons had to wait an hour or more to reach the windows. The last day mail was canceled was Friday, Sept. 28th at all except three post offices. For some time mail had only been canceled and processed at Balboa and Cristobal on weekends. The first exception to the Sept. 28th date was Coco Solo. The last date for this office was actually Sept. 28th, but all the mail canceled on that date has a Sept. 29th postmark. Somehow in the process of closing the office no more figure "8's" could be found, so the date stamp had to be set for Sept. 29th. The last date for cancels from Balboa and Cristobal was Sunday, Sept. 30th.

On the last few days an almost carnival-like atmosphere was seen on the steps of the Post Office at Balboa. Prices were unreal with 15¢ stamps going for \$1 and plate blocks bringing at least \$5. Several hundred thousand covers were canceled on the last day. The cancels from Balboa were usually well struck, but this was not the case from Cristobal with many double strikes, offsets, misplaced cancels, and just plane smudges on the covers. Good covers from Cristobal will be relatively scarcer than from Balboa.

Panama assumed control over the Canal Zone post offices on Oct. 1st. Since this was a holiday, the first day for Panama stamps was Oct. 2nd when two stamps commemorating the return of the Canal were placed on sale. Cancels from the Panama post offices at Balboa, Cristobal, Rainbow City, and Gamboa are known on Oct. 2nd. Paraiso cancels begin on Oct. 3rd. There were no date logos at Rainbow City, so all covers have a handstamp with "2 Oct 1979" written in by hand.

The USAF now operates post offices in the former Canal Zone. The main APO is at Albrook AFS (APO #34002) in a con-

verted hangar. Other branches are at Howard AFB (APO #34001), Quarry Heights (34003), Ft. Clayton (34004), Ft. Davis (34005), Rodman (34006), Ft. Amador (34007), and Ft. Gulick (34008). There was a shortage of U.S. stamps, cancellers, and registry books at many of these offices. The first day of the regular circular date stamps was Oct. 2nd, except at Ft. Clayton which was Oct. 3rd and Rodman which was Oct. 11th. The Ft. Gulick cancel on Oct. 2nd was in red ink only. A meter was available at Ft. Davis on Oct. 2nd. All mail from Rodman was canceled with the 34002 number of Albrook. The Rodman postmark can be distinguished in that the APO number and date are unusually messy when compared to that of Albrook and the Rodman date logo is reversed, i. e. "11 OCT" instead of "OCT 11." The registry circular date stamp was first used on Oct. 2nd, except for the following: Oct. 3rd at Ft. Clayton; Oct. 4th at Quarry Heights; and Oct. 5th at Rodman. The Rodman registry mark also has the incorrect 34002 number but has the words "UNIT 1" inside the double ring, which is lacking on the Albrook mark.

Machine cancels have now been introduced at Ft. Davis, Ft. Clayton, Albrook AFS, and Howard AFB. In addition to the meter available at Ft. Davis on the first day, there now are meters at Howard and Clayton and three at Albrook.

The Canal Zone Philatelic Agency continued to fill orders after Sept. 30th that had been received prior to its closing on Sept. 29th. They were several months behind on orders, but presumably all will have been filled by the time you read this. Many of the later orders were filled with poorly centered stamps and orders for full panes with plate numbers were filled with smaller blocks without plate numbers.

Thanks to several members for sending in information for this report, especially Robert J. Karrer, Jr. who supplied much of this data. An article on the closing written before the event by Rick Schwartz appeared in Linn's and Stamps.

Information Requested— Post Office Seals

The 1940 Scott Specialized Catalog gives the following listing for Post Office Seals: "1907 OX1 ultramarine; OX2 blue." A footnote states "No. OX1 shows the cliches set close together; No. OX2 further apart."

George B. Sloane's column of January 4, 1941, is basically in agreement and adds some additional information: "The first type Canal Zone post office seal (Scott's Nos. OX1 and OX2), issued in 1907, was an adaptation of the smaller type seal issued by the United States in the same year. . . ."

"The Canal Zone seal was issued in sheets of 8, in vertical format, 2 x 4 subjects, and all straight-edged on the outside

margins. It remained in use for several years and during this period the printing plate was set up three times. In the first setting, all eight cliches were set very close together [$\frac{1}{2}$ mm], so that they seem to touch each other, and it was impossible to perforate the stamps without cutting the designs. In the second setting, the spacing horizontally [between the vertical rows of seals] was much increased [to 4 mm], but the vertical spacing [between the horizontal rows of seals] was only slightly improved [to $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm]. In the third, and final arrangement all the subjects were well spaced [$3\frac{1}{2}$ mm] horizontally and vertically."

"In the first setting the stamps are in a light ultramarine shade; in the second setting the shade is still ultramarine but with a slight addition of blue, while in the last setting the color is definitely blue. . . ."

Somewhere along the line Scott has reversed the order and we now find complete disagreement between the present Scott listings and those discussed in this report. Can any of our members shed some light on the correct issue sequence — what came first, the chicken or the egg? Does anyone have one of these seals on a cover with a dated postmark? Please write the Editor as soon as possible so we can have the correct information in the handbook!

— R. H. SALZ

Forgeries

A number of forged overprints have been sent to the APS Expert Committee in recent months. These include the usual forged overprints of the first issue, including the error No. 1f. The errors No. 26a and 39 with a double overprint (unknown in a genuine stamp) have been seen. ZONE ZONE errors on used U.S. stamps with forged overprints have also been submitted. A number of forgeries of the flat and sharp A issues, Nos. 70-96, seem to be circulating even including the least expensive stamps. Careful comparison with a known genuine overprint is the best way to spot a forgery. In case of doubt write to APS Expert Committee, Box 800, State College, Pa. 16801 for an application blank for submitting a stamp.

Stevens Rotary Stamp

Members may wish to make one small addition to their copies of the recent supplement to the book "Canal Zone Postage Stamps" for the years 1961-1979 issued by the Canal Zone Postal Administration. There are two plate numbers for the 5¢ Stevens Rotary stamp, Scott No. 164, as there should be for every rotary issue. In addition to the listed number 172528 there is also 172529. Thanks to Dick Salz and others for this information.

Election Committee Report

In accordance with the By-laws of the Canal Zone Study Group, the Election Committee is pleased to report the results of the 1979 Election. The committee distributed 667 forms in mid-November and received 398 valid ballots by December 15, 1979, for a 59.7 percent membership response.

The full slate of nominated officers has been accepted by an overwhelming majority of the voting membership. George Stilwell, Richard Salz, Al Bew, and William Kuttner have been re-elected to serve 2-year terms as President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, respectively. Lawson Entwistle, David Farnsworth, and Glenn McQuiston have been chosen as directors for 1980-1981. The Election Committee wishes to express our congratulations and best wishes to our newly elected officers and our thanks to the membership for their interest and support.

The Committee continues to receive responses to the questionnaire that was included with this year's ballot. These results will be analyzed and transmitted to the officers, editor, and committee chairmen, as appropriate. We anticipate that a report on the questionnaire returns will appear in a future issue of the *Canal Zone Philatelist*.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ George R. Campbell
Chairman, Election Committee

WANTED

Canal Zone prices have never been higher. Perhaps now is the time to nail down some of those profits! All Canal Zone material needed. Highest net buying prices. Immediate cash. Current buying prices for VF, NH Canal Zone:

# 10	\$ 1.25	# 146	\$ 1.00
12	1.50	C1	4.00
28	17.00	C4	4.00
32	2.00	C5	2.50
33	3.50	C6-14	9.00
35	17.00	C15-20	25.00
37	20.00	C21-26	11.00
38	3.00	C27-31	13.00
52	10.00	C32	.75
55	4.50	C34	.20
73	1.50	C53	.45
74	3.50	C01-7	32.50
75	12.00	01-7 (less 03)	
78	14.00		15.00
80	14.00	09	1.75
95	50.00	J21-4	4.50
120-35		J25-9	1.00
sets 55.00 (over Scott)			

All buying prices are good until desired stock levels are obtained. Write or telephone on large collections or quantities. Ship fully insured.

RICK SCHWARTZ

Box 25193 Los Angeles, CA 90025
(213) 683-2522

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(Continued from page 1)

Additional Details**By R. H. Salz**

The auction referred to by Bob Reisinger was the Canal Zone section of the Ferrars H. Tows collection and was sold by Carl E. Pelander on February 16, 1949, at the Collectors Club of New York. This collection was one of the largest and most complete ever assembled of Canal Zone material, comprised 846 lots, and included most of the errors and varieties. The prices realized were a disaster even when compared to catalog valuations of that time. Of course if you really want a shock, then find a copy of the catalog and prices realized and start reading a catalog the likes of which I venture to say will never appear again.

The catalog description of Lot 257 reads as follows: "Sc. No. 6, 5¢ blue, marginal imprint strips of 3, L. #1885, 87, R. 1888, o.g., tropical tissue adhering to gum on last, #1887 T. stamp light crease, otherwise v.f. \$60.00 9 stamps." Are you ready to read on and find out what this lot sold for? Just \$11.50!!

I have examined this imprint strip of 3 and there is no question as to its genuineness. There is even tropical tissue adhering to the gum as stated in the description — the 7 mm tear is difficult to see and possibly was missed by the auction describer. There is a good lesson to be learned from all this — auction catalogs can hold some interesting facts between their covers.

Now who is going to come up with another "unknown" and upset the apple cart?

Updated CZP Index 1952-79

The membership wishes to extend thanks to Gary B. Weiss for updating the CZP Index for the third time. This index is indispensable when one wishes to consult the CZP on a particular stamp or subject. Though not completely cross-indexed one can find most any subject by a bit of thought as to what other category would also be appropriate. Dr. Weiss is to be commended for his biennial update to the usefulness of the CZP.

We also wish to thank Maggie and Dick Salz for undertaking, also for the third time, the job of getting the index into your hands: typing, collating, addressing, rubber stamping, franking, stuffing, sealing, and sorting by zip code — the printing is done professionally!

If any members did not receive a copy of the index, which was mailed in December 1979, please write to R. H. Salz, 60-27th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94121 for your copy.

Canal Zone Stamps Stolen

The home of Col. and Mrs. James DeVoss was entered by burglars during the holiday season. They took stamps, coins, stocks and bonds, and jewelry. Our members can especially help by being on the lookout for the Canal Zone stamps, many of which can readily be identified. These include an Elbe "Governor" album containing the Canal Zone American Bank Note issues with the five different overprints from 1909 to 1921. The album contained several used copies of Scott No. 47 and 48.

Also taken was a stock book filled with stamps of the Canal Zone Hamilton Bank Note Issue of 1906. The material had been sorted by the various printings of the basic stamp and the several different printings of the Canal Zone overprint. Col DeVoss had completed much research on this issue and had been planning to publish an article on the various printings of this issue.

His entire Canal Zone reference collection of spurious material accumulated over a period of 35 years was also taken. It was mounted in stock books in Scott catalogue number order. These forged overprints of many of the rarer Canal Zone stamps and errors should be possible to recognize if they enter the philatelic market.

Other philatelic material taken includes his collection of stamps pertaining to Interphil, a U.S. 20th century collection, and an accumulation of U.S. plate blocks starting with the issues of 1935.

A \$5000 reward is being offered by the insurance underwriter and Col. DeVoss for recovery of his stamp collection and an additional reward will be paid if such recovery also results in the arrest and conviction of the thief or thieves, or any person criminally receiving or withholding this valuable philatelic property. Persons with any information should call the Pennsylvania State Police at 814-355-7506. Additional information can be obtained from Col. DeVoss at 814-237-3803.

**PO Dates and
Paquebot Cancellations**

Lee Cornell has made up a complete list of the dates when the various Canal Zone post offices opened and closed. Some of these offices were opened and closed as many as three different times and all this is recorded in his list. He will mail a xerox of this list to any member who sends 30¢ in stamps and a stamped No. 10 envelope. He also can supply a complete list of Paquebot postmarks of the Canal Zone from the article which appeared in the "Seaposter". He will supply a xerox of this article for 60¢ in stamps and a stamped envelope. Both lists are 90¢ together with an envelope with 28¢ postage. The address is: Lee Cornell, 1021 Douglas Bldg., Wichita, Kansas 67202.

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Canal Zone Towns

By J. W. Brumbaugh

(Continued from last issue)

GATUN

June 24, 1904 to present

(Mile 6½)

The original town was on the Chagres River where it passes through the low coastal range of hills. It was a worker's camp during the construction of Gatun Dam and Locks. This earthen dam backs up the Chagres River for 23½ miles to Gamboa. The original town was relocated to its present site adjacent to the Locks when the lake was formed upon completion of the dam. Since the dam raised the level of the water 85 feet to form the lake, three locking "lifts" were built to raise the ships from the Atlantic to the lake level. The lake also controls the torrents of water which formerly wreaked havoc along the Chagres River and is a reservoir for the vast amount of water required to lock the ships from one ocean to the other. It is fortunate that the Isthmus of Panama is located in one of the wettest areas of the world. On one damp afternoon, Portobello received 3½ inches of rain in 20 minutes. Fifty-two million gallons of water are required to lock one ship from ocean to ocean. An average of 43 ships pass through the canal every 24 hours (15,198 in 1972). In 1940, excavation for a third set of locks was started, but work was terminated in 1946.

GORGONA

June 25, 1904 to August 16, 1913

(Mile 25½)

This town was a camp during the construction of the railroad and later was also the headquarters for the Central Construction region of the canal including the Carabali Reservoir.

HOWARD FIELD

June 1, 1941 to June, 1943

APO 832 July 1, 1942 to February 16, 1946
February 16, 1946 to September 31, 1948

HOWARD AIR FORCE BASE

October 1, 1948 to present

Receiving APO 09832 or 09820

This air base is located approximately three miles west of the Pacific end of the canal. Together, with the adjacent Fort Knobbé, it provides military protection for the canal; they both use the same APO's. It is the only major Air Base remaining in the Canal Zone. Adjacent to Howard AFB is the Navy Communications "FAR FAN" facility.

LAS CASCADAS

January 20, 1906 to February 28, 1919
(Mile 32)

The construction town was at the northern end of the Culebra Cut (now renamed Gaillard Cut). The excavation was the most ambitious undertaking in digging the canal, as it was necessary to remove dirt to a depth of 500 feet. Because of the unstable rock formations, the cut is a huge ¼ mile "V" with terraced sides. Prior to WW I the 10th Infantry was stationed nearby at Camp Otis.

LA BOCA

June 24, 1904 to May 4, 1909

(Mile 45)

La Boca is Spanish for "the mouth", as the town was at the mouth of the Rio Grande river which the canal used as its exit to the Pacific.

This was the original coastal town, at this Pacific terminus of the canal. Because of the shallow shore, it was necessary to dredge the channel 5 miles out into the Pacific. La Boca is a residential area in the Canal Zone and is now served by the Balboa PO.

MADDEN DAM

January 2, 1932 to June 25, 1937

This town housed workers for 5 years while the dam was under construction. Until 1937, the upper Chagres River was subject to frequent destructive torrents of water because of the fast runoff from the Alhajuela Basin. In addition, with the extremely heavy traffic through the canal, the water need during the dry months was barely adequate in spite of the vast quantity stored in Lake Gatun. The dam also eliminated much of the deposit of silt and the strong currents that were so troublesome in the canal channel. The 220 ft. high, 900 ft. long concrete dam was constructed five miles inside the Republic of Panama, 10 miles NE of Gamboa near the native town of Alhajuela where the early Isthmanian travelers, coming by cayucos from Chagres on the Atlantic, formerly disembarked to continue their journey by land to Panama City. Madden Dam holds back 27 billion cubic feet of water, or ⅓ the canals total yearly requirements. A secondary function of the dam is as a hydroelectric power source. The dam was named for Representative Martin B. Madden of the House Appropriations Committee who had been instrumental in obtaining the money to build the dam. The Alhajuela basin, which forms Madden Lake stretches for 19 miles behind the dam and is a popular fresh water recreation spot. The basin has been included in the Canal Zone since February 1, 1924.

MARGARITA

August 15, 1941 to present

This canal zone residential community is located approximately three miles from

Cristobal (and Colon) near the old Mt. Hope Reservoir. It is adjacent to Ft. Gulick. The Reservoir supplied the water for the cities of Cristobal and Colon until water was obtained from Lake Gatun. The Mt. Hope cemetery contains the remains of many of the construction workers who helped build the Panama Railroad and the several attempts to dig the canal.

(Continued in next issue)

Elusive Postal Stationery

No. U2b* (Head & Ovpt. only) V.F. cream color entire, unused, very scarce, Cat. \$500+	Net \$ 650
Same* Extremely Fine white entire, Beauty	Net \$ 800
Same* Very Fine, tied "ANCON" machine pmk., Rare, much scarcer than unused	Net \$1,000
No. U2c* (Frame only) red, unused, V.F. minor flap separations very scarce, Cat. \$600+	Net \$ 600
Same* V.F., faint overall toning, clean	Net \$ 650
Same* Extra Fine, with A.P.S. certificate	Net \$ 750
Same* Superb and Immaculate, Gem	Net \$1,000
No. U2c* (same, but carmine) unused, unlisted by Scott, Extremely Fine, Rare, Est. Cat. \$750+	Net \$ 850
No. U3* (1¢ green) used, handstamped corner card, pmk. "BALBOA HEIGHTS, C.Z.," slight toning, tiny design skin speck, Cat. \$300+	Net \$ 250
No. U5* (2¢ carmine) Fine, unused, slight overall toning, Cat. \$125+	Net \$ 100
Same* Very Fine, clean and sound	Net \$ 150
Same* Extra Fine, unusually clean	Net \$ 175
No. UX2* (1¢ green and black) Extra Fine, unused, Cat. \$100+	Net \$ 135
No. UX2* variety ("CANAL ZONE" ovpt. omitted) shows faint offset on back proving a C.Z. card that missed ovpt! Unused, Extra Fine, Rare!	Net \$ 250
No. UX3* variety (1¢ green and black) Broken "Z" in "ZONE", Extra Fine, unused, Cat. \$100++	Net \$ 150
No. UX6* (1¢ green) Extra Fine, unused, Very Scarce, Cat. \$550+	Net \$ 750
No. UF1* (10¢ on 5¢ black and red Registration) Extra Fine unused, Size 6, Rare, Cat. \$900+	Net \$1,250
No. UF1* variety ("10 CANAL ZONE 10" blocked out), used with pair of Panama #21 in Panama. The 3rd printing not used by C.Z. but turned over to Panama where revalued "5". Very scarce	Net \$ 650

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