

BUREAU  
ISSUES  
ASSOCIATION

PLATE  
VARIETIES  
COMMITTEE

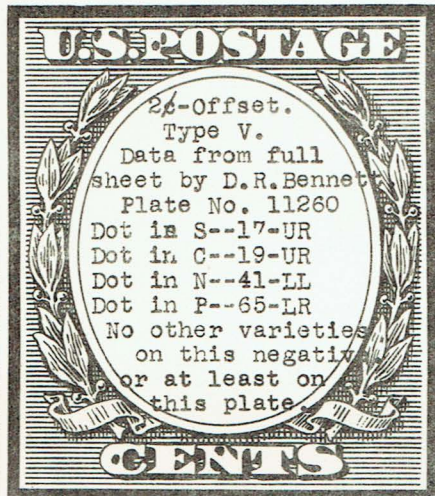
# U. S. PLATE VARIETIES

Shift Hunter Letter No. 42

C. W. Bedford  
319 Vaniman Street - Akron, Ohio

SHIFT  
HUNTER  
CLUB

Subscriptions \$2.00 a year, beginning and ending in September.

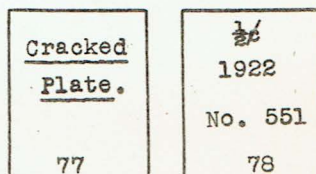


Mr Lybarger, of the Offset Plate Varieties Committee, reports two more items from this interesting issue. Mr Owen sends, what is perhaps the rarest variety of the offsets. It is the **RETOUCHED PLATE** from Plate No. 9274. Check Mr Lybargers report for Oct. 1931 and compare with the S.H.L. illustrations of the plate flaw (SHL 30) and the retouched negative (SHL 35). Illustration at upper right.



Many have reported a number of constant dots and dashes on the offsets. At the left is the complete data from plate 11260 as submitted by Don Bennett.

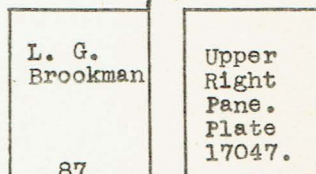
L.G. Brookman sends us two Cracked Plate varieties that we believe have not yet been listed. The  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ crack at the right is another crack that follows the frame line or gutter between stamps and is no doubt produced by the strains setup in the plate during the rocking-in process. Perhaps this crack also runs



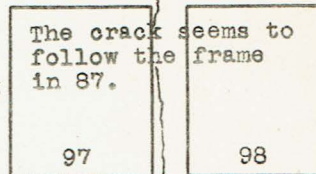
down into the lower right pane as it crosses the center line.

Below at the left, Mr Brookman shows us a second example of surface cracks existing in the plate BEFORE the transfer was made. (SHL 17).

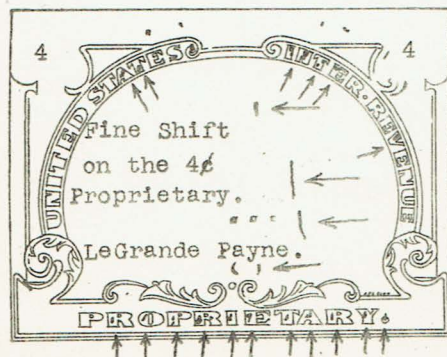
The unevenness of the plate surface around the crack resulted in a DEFECTIVE TRANSFER so there is quite a white space around the crack lines in the vignette head. The unevenness might be either in surface level or in hardness of the metal. There seems to be at least four distinct types of plate cracks. Type I. Irregular. Developing during usage, perhaps from uneven heat or uneven pressure. Cracks travel on the plate irrespective of design. Type II. Rocking-in



cracks. Following the gutters or the frame lines. Type III. Rotary Press cracks. Developed during the bending of flat plates to fit the rotary press. Type IV. Surface Cracks. IVa. Surface cracks with a resultant Defective Transfer, IVb. Surface cracks in margin due to stamping in marginal markings after the plate was hardened. (to be illustrated later).



There is a flagrant ERROR in the mechanics or geometry of the Shift Hunter Letter No. 25. Study the illustrations closely and see if you can find it.



Gerald Burgess reports that Position No. 27 in the Lower Left pane of plate No. 15585 of the 1¢-Flat Plate of 1922, shows a big shift all over the stamp as illustrated at the right. A rare beauty.

There are many small shifts of the left frame line in the Battleship Revenues. Mr Payne finds this major shift in the four cent Proprietary. It is

quite easy to see due to the dark color of the stamp. There is also quite a large shift into the left margin on the 80¢-Documentary that is worth looking for. We would like to see more of the large shifts in this issue.

