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The  
Stamps  
of the  
Canal Zone

Geo. L. Coppan

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

NEW YORK

106

PRICE 50 CENTS

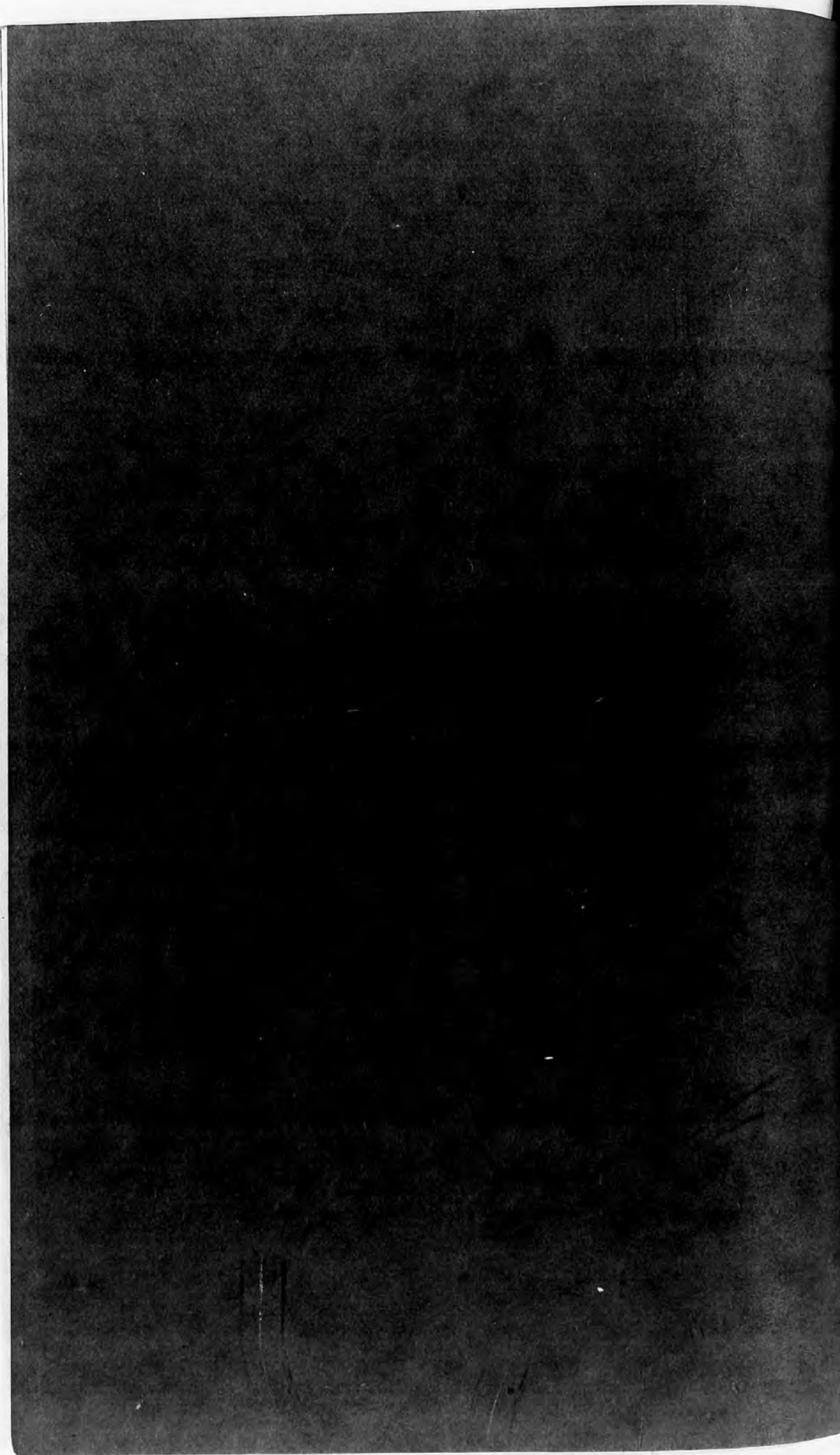
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## The Stamps of the Canal Zone.

By GEO. L. TOPPAN.

Scarcely two years have passed since this little strip of territory made its initial bow to the philatelic public, but, alas! there have been strenuous and parlous times in the postal history of this new aspirant for philatelic honors; even such as we, in the United States, have witnessed over the question:—what type of a canal shall we build through the territory in question?

The natural result of all this is that, notwithstanding its tender age, it is no puling philatelic infant with whom it is my desire that my readers shall become better acquainted, but a strong, healthy child already upon the threshold of that adolescence which we may hope to see it attain in company with that long heralded, and much delayed, event—the issue of a complete and permanent set of stamps by its god-mother, the Republic of Panama.

To those who have followed the course of philatelic events during the past two years the statement that the “new issue” columns of the various journals have been full of items in relation to “Canal Zone” will be no news, and yet, the half has not been told; for it is not new issues alone, but the varieties with which each issue, with but one exception, fairly bristles, which have gone to make up the respectable sum total of the stamps already issued by this comparatively insignificant little strip of territory.

It should not be understood from the above, however, that the stamps in question are lacking in interest for the general collector, on the contrary they possess it in the highest degree, while, to the specialist, they open up a grand field of the most absorbing interest.

The main object of this paper is to bring together, in a logical sequence, the various notes upon these stamps, both published and unpublished, which I have been able to compile and to deduce therefrom a reference list of the stamps themselves, which it has been my

aim to make as complete and comprehensive as the information at my command would permit.

One fact must not be lost sight of in this connection, and that is, that, aside from the second issue, which were surcharged upon the current stamps of the United States, all Canal Zone stamps have been surcharged upon the stamps of Panama and these, with but four exceptions which will be noted at the proper time, had all been previously surcharged "PANAMA", so that, in addition to the varieties of the "CANAL ZONE" surcharge, we have also to take into consideration the many varieties of the "PANAMA".

## I.

### THE FIRST SERIES.

This series, which consisted of three values, two cents, five cents and ten cents, made its appearance on June 24, 1904 and was withdrawn from use on July 17, 1904, after which date they were not available for postage, so that they were current but twenty-four days.

Dr. J. C. Perry, writing of this issue, says: "The first issue of stamps was authorized by executive order of the Governor of the Canal Zone, which provided that a limited number of stamps of the Panama Republic should be secured and surcharged 'Canal Zone' in order to meet the needs of the postal service until United States stamps, properly surcharged, could be obtained from Washington.

"The supply was carefully guarded and a person was only allowed to purchase, at one time, stamps to the value of one dollar silver or fifty cents U. S. Currency. The executive order also cautioned persons against buying or keeping quantities of these stamps, as they would not be available for postage after a certain date, and such as were in the possession of persons would not be redeemed. However, this note of warning was unnecessary, as it was impossible to secure any quantity of these stamps.\*

The stamps used for this purpose were the two cents, rose, of the third issue of the Republic of Panama and the five cents, blue, and ten cents, yellow of the fourth Panama issue. These were surcharged, by means of a rubber hand-stamp, with the words: "CANAL ZONE" in one line of Roman capitals, the color being blue-black for all three values. Having now outlined the history of the series we will consider each value separately.

\*Canal Zone Stamps.—By J. C. Perry, M. D.—AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY Vol. XIX. p. 52 (Feb., 1906). Reprinted from *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News*, Vol. XX pp. 99-100.

## TWO CENTS, ROSE.



Fig. 1.

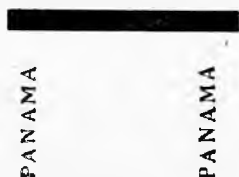


Fig. 2.

CANAL ZONE

Fig. 3.

This value, on account of its comparative scarcity, is probably the most interesting of the series. As will be seen by the illustrations above the "CANAL ZONE" surcharge was overprinted upon the stamp made by surcharging the original stamp (Fig. 1) with the "PANAMA" surcharge of the type shown by Fig. 2. The normal position of the words "PANAMA" is reading upward though they are often found reading downward and also exist reading upward at one side and downward at the other side of the same stamp.

In describing this type of Panama surcharge Mr. John N. Luff says: "This setting covers fifty stamps and is a re-arrangement—or, rather, two very similar re-arrangements—of the setting for the preceding group. 'PANAMA' is set to read in the same direction at both sides of the stamp. It usually reads upwards, but sheets of the 1, 2, and 20 centavos exist on which it reads upward on one half the sheet and downward on the other half. As the sheet contained one hundred stamps two impressions were required to surcharge it and, if it was reversed before the second impression was made, 'PANAMA' would, of course, read in the opposite direction on the second half of the sheet.

"The first arrangement covered ten horizontal rows of five stamps each, the second covered five horizontal rows of ten stamps each. In impressions from the first arrangement we find the stamps with 'PANAMA' 16 mm. long in the first and tenth vertical rows; on six stamps of each of these rows the larger word appears at each side, and on four stamps at one side only.

"In the second arrangement the first stamp in the top row has 'PANAMA' reading downward at the left and upward at the right. Numbers 3 to 10 inclusive, in that row, have 'PANAMA' 16 mm. long at each side of the stamp. These varieties were repeated in the sixth row when the sheet was moved forward on the bed of the press before the second impression was made but, when it was turned around, they appeared in the tenth row and No. 100 was the complementary stamp of No. 1.

\*A Reference List—of the—Stamps of Panama.—By John N. Luff.—The Scott Stamp & Coin Co.,—18 East 23rd Street,—New York.—1905. p. 27.



So far as I am aware none of the stamps surcharged "CANAL ZONE" were of the first arrangement, as described above. Those that I have seen being all from sheets which had been surcharged in five horizontal rows of ten stamps each; on the upper half of these sheets "PANAMA" reads upward, with the exception of the first stamp in the first row, upon which it reads both up and down and, as all of these sheets had been reversed before the lower half was surcharged, the overprint on that portion of the sheet reads downwards, with the exception of the last stamp in the lower row, upon which it reads both up and down as on No. 1.

It is, of course, possible that some of the sheets surcharged "CANAL ZONE" had been previously surcharged "PANAMA" according to one, or even both, of the other arrangements, but, if so, I have not yet met with any evidence of it.

Besides the varieties of the "PANAMA" surcharge spoken of above we also find the word measuring 15 mm. in length on sixteen stamps upon the sheet. They are Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 reading upward and Nos. 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97 and 98 reading downward. There are, also, numerous other small varieties, such as "A" with an accent (No. 34 and 38 reading upward and 63 and 67 reading downward); one, two, or three large "A's" in a word; inverted "v's" for "A's", etc. Misplaced surcharges are to be found in this and all other values of the series.

In the "CANAL ZONE" surcharge we find double and inverted surcharges.

There is a block of four in Mr. Wm. Thorne's collection, all inverted, in which the lower, right hand stamp of the block has a *double surcharge, both being inverted*. Mr. Frank Tweedy also possesses an horizontal pair from the lower right corner of the sheet (Nos. 99 and 100); here, of course, the "PANAMA" surcharge upon the left stamp (No. 99) reads downward while upon the corner one (No. 100) it reads downward at left and upward at right. In both the "CANAL ZONE" is inverted. The latter surcharge, being handstamped, it is, of course, impossible to tell whether an entire sheet received the inverted surcharges or whether a few here and there, upon various sheets were so treated.

The total number of these stamps overprinted for the Canal Zone was 2,650, of which 150 were destroyed, leaving the total number issued, including all errors and varieties, 2,500.

The following is a list of the principal varieties, together with the number issued of each and its position upon the sheet so far as known:

2c Rose, "PANAMA" reading up (normal).

a. " " " down.



- b. Rose, "PANAMA" reading up and down. Nos. 1 and 100 on the sheet. 50 issued.
- c. " 15 mm. long, reading up. Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 on the sheet.
- d. " " " " " down. Nos. 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97 and 98 on the sheet.
- e. " 3rd "A" with accent, reading up. Nos. 34 and 38 on sheet. 50 issued.
- f. " 3rd "A" " accent reading down. Nos. 63 and 67 on sheet. 50 issued.
- g. "CANAL ZONE" inverted, reading up }  
 h. " " " " down } 100 issued.  
 i. " " " " up and down }  
 j. " " double  
 k. " " " both inverted

FIVE CENTS, BLUE.



Fig. 4.

This stamp is of the same type as the last, the only difference being that it bears the fourth "PANAMA" surcharge as shown above. I know of no varieties of the "PANAMA" surcharge but several exist of the "CANAL ZONE."

Mr. Geo. H. Worthington's collection contains a block of six, two horizontal rows of three, of these stamps, of which the right hand, vertical pair have no surcharge. It also contains a vertical pair with the surcharge placed diagonally, reading from the upper left to the lower right portion of the stamp; a block of four, from the lower right corner of the sheet, in which the surcharge is double upon No. 100 in the sheet; and a block of four; all of which have the surcharge double.

The total number of this value printed was 7,500, of which 725 were destroyed, leaving the total number issued 6,775.

5c Blue.

- a. "CANAL ZONE" double.  
 b. " " inverted. 100 issued.  
 c. " " diagonal. 100 "

d. Pairs, one without "CANAL ZONE." 10 pairs issued.

### TEN CENTS, YELLOW.

This stamp is identical with the 5c in every way, excepting its value. The only variety consists of an inverted surcharge. The number printed was 5,250, of which 225 were destroyed, leaving the number issued 5,025.

10c Yellow.

a. "CANAL ZONE" inverted 200 issued.

## II.

### THE SECOND SERIES.

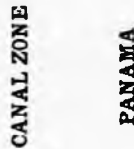


Fig. 5.

This series, which was first issued on July 18, 1904, consisted of the regular United States stamps, of the value of one, two, three, five, eight and ten cents, surcharged as shown by the above illustration. They were overprinted at Washington and, aside from a very few imperfections such as might be due to poor impressions or slightly imperfect type, but two varieties are known.

They are in the eight cents value and consist of a distinct "1" for the "L" of "CANAL", on No. 1 on the sheet while in No. 5 the entire lower stroke of the "L" and some of the vertical stroke is broken off.

The Government of Panama finally arrived at the conclusion that they were entitled to a portion of the postal revenue accruing from mail matter originating in the Canal Zone and, after more or less correspondence with the Washington authorities upon the subject, during which no definite conclusions had been arrived at, the Secretary of War, Mr. W. H. Taft, "the great poo-bah" of the present administration, during one of his visits to the Zone, took it upon himself to enter into an arrangement with the Government of Panama by the terms of which the United States Government agreed to do away with the use of its own stamps in the Zone territory and to purchase from the Panama postal department, at sixty per centum of their face value, such stamps as it might require for use in the said territory, the same to be afterwards surcharged, by United States officials, with the words: "CANAL ZONE".

More or less dissatisfaction with this arrangement has been expressed by the Washington officials, who cannot see why this Government should pay over any of the postal revenue to Panama so long as the latter does none of the work connected with the postal service on the Zone. It has been freely stated that Mr. Taft exceeded his authority in entering into any such agreement and there has been talk of an investigation of the subject by Congress. So far, however, no action has been taken in the matter and, under the terms of the agreement, the surcharged United States stamps were suddenly withdrawn from sale on Dec. 11, 1904 and the next series was placed on sale on the following day.

That the United States government expected this series to be a permanent one is evidenced by the number of each value which were sent to the Zone. They were as follows :

1c	1,000,000	8c	1,000,000
2c	5,000,000	10c	1,000,000
5c	2,000,000		

The following table shows the number of these stamps which were actually sold, the difference between it and the numbers received by the Zone authorities, as shown above, having been destroyed by burning on January 2 and 3, 1906.

1c	43,738	8c	7,932
2c	68,414	10c	7,856
5c	20,858		

The following is a reference list of the stamps in question :

1c green	black surcharge
2c carmine	“ “
5c blue	“ “
8c puce	“ “
a.	“ I ” for “ L ” in “ CANAL. ” No. 1 on the sheet.
b.	“ L ” of “ CANAL ” badly broken. “ 5 “ “ “
10c	orange-brown, black surcharge.

### III.

#### THE THIRD SERIES.

With this series, which was first issued upon December 12, 1904 and consisted of five values, 1c, 2c, 5c, 8c and 10c, our troubles begin. They were all stamps purchased from Panama and overprinted “CANAL ZONE”, from copper-faced type, at the printing office of the United

States Commission. An entire sheet of one hundred stamps was surcharged at each impression. From a careful examination of many sheets of these stamps, I am convinced that there were from two to four printings, or settings, of the "CANAL ZONE" surcharge for each value.

This being so, I deem it advisable to consider each value separately rather than to take up the series in chronological order.

### ONE CENT, GREEN.



Fig. 6.

CANAL  
ZONE

Fig. 7.

This value consisted of the permanent type of Panama, as shown above, surcharged as shown in Fig. 7, in black.

#### FIRST PRINTING.

Issued on December 12, 1904, this printing may be easily recognized by the following varieties which it contains: On the first stamp on the sheet the tops of the letters "C" and "L" of "CANAL" are broken and the cross-bar of the second "A" of the same word is broken so as to give it the appearance of an inverted "v". On No. 4 on the sheet the lower stroke of the "L" of "CANAL" is broken off so that it resembles an "I" and, on the 41st. stamp, the "A" and "L" of "CANAL" are very widely spaced.

#### SECOND PRINTING.

This printing made its appearance sometime during the late summer of 1905. All of the varieties noted in the first printing have been corrected and in their stead we find the following:

No. 32 on the sheet has a "z" with a broken top in "ZONE".

No. 33 on the sheet has an "E" with a broken bottom stroke in "ZONE".

No. 42 on the sheet has a broken "L" in "CANAL". It closely resembles an "I".

No. 48 on the sheet has the word "ZONE" in type of the wrong font. It is the same type which was afterwards used for surcharging the 1c on 20c and the 2c on 1p and is illustrated under the description of those stamps further on, as figure 11.

## THIRD PRINTING.

This printing appeared early in 1906. It contains, besides all the varieties of the second printing, one stamp upon which the word "CANAL" is in the same type as the wrong font "ZONE". The stamp is No. 26 on the sheet and is by no means common.

This gives us the following Reference List for this value :

1c Green.

- a. Broken "C" and "L" and second "A" of "CANAL" without cross-bar. First printing. No. 1 on sheet.
- b. Broken "L" in "CANAL". First printing. " 4 " "
- c. "A" and "L" of "CANAL" widely spaced. First printing. No. 41 on sheet.
- d. Broken "Z" in "ZONE". Second and third printing. No. 32 on sheet.
- e. Broken "E" in "ZONE". " " " " " 33 on sheet.
- f. Broken "L" in "CANAL". " " " " " 42
- g. "ZONE" in type of wrong font. Second and third printing. No. 48 on sheet.
- h. "CANAL" in type of wrong font. Third printing. No. 26 on sheet.

## TWO CENTS, ROSE.

This stamp, and its surcharge, are of the same types as the one cent value.

## FIRST PRINTING.

Issued on December 12, 1904, this printing contains the same varieties as did the one cent and, in addition thereto, two others, both of which are quite rare. The first is an inverted surcharge and, in the second, the "L" of "CANAL" is turned sideways with its base against the second "A" and its vertical stroke at the top, thus: "CANAL". So far, I have been unable to ascertain the position of this variety on the sheet.

Of the inverted surcharge, there must have been at least one sheet printed as the surcharge was set up to cover one hundred stamps at each impression.

Dr. Perry, in speaking of these two errors, says: "Dealers and collectors have been watching for errors in the current series, and some have occurred. However, these stamps are carefully examined and

re-examined for the purpose of detecting any that may have been surcharged."

"There have occurred 2c double and inverted surcharges, \* \* \* and the 2c in which one stamp in the sheet occurs with the "L" dropped and printed sideways."

"All these errors have been detected before the stamps were issued and have been placed aside, and were destroyed by burning on January 23, 1905.

"Every effort has been made to secure some of these errors, and two dealers offered \$5,000 for the lot, but the postal department of the Canal Zone is conducted strictly for postal needs. Still, in spite of the precautions taken, the following have escaped their vigilance and have gone out : \* \* \*

2c inverted surcharge,      30 to 40  
2c dropped "L" sideways about 25

"\* \* \* The 2c inverted—a few of these stamps were sold before the error in the sheet was detected and returned. Again, a few sheets containing the dropped "L" were placed on sale and probably about 25 of this error got into circulation. Then this stamp was removed from all sheets before they were issued to the different postmasters. 920 of this error were burned together with the other errors." \*

The fact that these errors were all destroyed on "January 23, 1905" proves, beyond question, that they were all upon sheets of this printing, and, as 920 of one of them were destroyed and "about 25" are known to exist we should judge that the printing consisted of from 950 to 1,000 sheets, or 95,000 to 100,000 stamps.

#### SECOND PRINTING.

This printing is identical with that of the one cent value except that it lacks the "ZONE" in the wrong font of type, which, had it existed, should be found on the 48th stamp in the sheet.

The probable reason for there being but two printings of this type of the two cent stamp is given by Dr. Perry as follows: "In explanation of the second issue of 2c stamps I will state that it was occasioned by the Panama government being unable to supply the permanent type on account of exhaustion of the supply, and as such a denomination of stamp was urgently needed by the Canal Zone government, the old Panama fourth series stamps were accepted".†

\* Cf. AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY Vol. xix. page 55.

For this value, then we have the following list :

2c rose.

- |    |   |                 |                  |
|----|---|-----------------|------------------|
| a. | Broken "C" and "L" and second "A" of "CANAL" without cross-bar. | First printing. | No. 1 on sheet.  |
| b. | Broken "L" in "CANAL".  | " "             | " 4 " "          |
| c. | "A" and "L" of "CANAL" widely spaced.                           | First printing. | No. 41 on sheet. |
| d. | Inverted surcharge.   | First printing. | 30 to 40 issued. |
| e. | "L" of "CANAL" sideways.  | " "             | About 25 issued. |
| f. | Broken "Z" in "ZONE".   | Second "        | No. 32 on sheet. |
| g. | Broken "E" in "ZONE".   | " "             | " 33 " "         |
| h. | Broken "L" in "CANAL".  | " "             | " 42 " "         |

### FIVE CENTS, BLUE

This stamp is the five cent value of the old Panama series overprinted with the fourth "PANAMA" surcharge, as illustrated by figures 1 and 4. The "CANAL ZONE" surcharge is the same as that employed upon the preceding values of the series. The "PANAMA" surcharge is printed in blocks of fifty, ten vertical rows of five stamps each, and the "CANAL ZONE" in entire sheets of one hundred.

#### FIRST PRINTING.

This printing appeared on December 12, 1904. It was upon the then current stamp of Panama with the narrow bar through the word "Colombia" at the top of the stamp.

Three varieties of the "PANAMA" surcharge are known, they are as follows :

On the 15th and 20th stamps on the sheet the word "PANAMA" on the right side of the stamp is misplaced ; normally the word is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mm. below the bar above it but, in these two stamps, the space between the word and the bar is 5 mm.

In the bottom row on the sheet most of the stamps are errors in which "PANAMA" is mis-spelled "ANAMA" or "PANAM." These are, in reality, due more to dropped letters or defective printing than to anything else, as traces of the missing letters can be generally, though not always, seen if they are examined carefully. They are however, worthy of note, especially so as they are not to be found upon all sheets. The "ANAMA" is found on the left side of numbers 92, 93, 94, 95, 97, 98, 99 and 100, while "PANAM" is on the right side of numbers 92 and 97 in the sheet. All of the lower row show this

+ Cf. AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY Vol. XIX. page 54.



variety more or less clearly but all, with the exception of the two mentioned above, show traces of the final "A" .

In the "CANAL ZONE" surcharge we find the same broken letters as in the two lower values of the series, i. e., the broken "C" and "L" and the "A" without the cross-bar on stamp No. 1; the broken "L" on No. 4, as well as the widely spaced "AL" on No. 41. Besides these copies exist with the surcharge double.

Regarding this last error Dr. Perry says: "The 5c double surcharge, was in a lot sent to Paraiso about last August (1905), and it is supposed that practically all went on letters to Jamaica and, falling into the hands of negroes, were destroyed".\* He also states that but half a sheet, 50 copies, were issued.

#### SECOND PRINTING.

This printing probably made its appearance, like the other values of the same printing, late in the Summer of 1905. It is upon the same stamp as that of the first printing, or, possibly, upon the second printing of the 5c, fourth Panama, which we chronicled in the JOURNAL for July and August, 1905. I am unable to say positively which of the two above mentioned Panama stamps were used for the reason that, if it was the first the error in spacing the word "PANAMA" on the 15th and 20th stamps on the sheet, as well as the "ANAMA" and "PANAM" varieties in the bottom row, have been corrected, while, on the other hand, if it was the second Panama printing, it was from sheets on which the errors "PANAAM" (Nos. 41 and 46 on the sheet) and "PANAMA" with the final "A" raised (Nos. 15 and 20) had been corrected as these two varieties are not known upon any of the stamps with the "CANAL ZONE" overprint.

This printing, then, like the two cents, can only be recognized by the fact that the varieties of the "CANAL ZONE" surcharge, which are found on Nos. 1, 4 and 41 of the first printing, have been corrected and that the 32nd stamp contains the broken "Z" in "ZONE"; the 33rd, the broken "E" in the same word and the 42nd has the broken "L" in "CANAL".

#### THIRD PRINTING.

This printing made its appearance late in 1905. It is overprinted upon the Panama stamp which has the wide bar and "PANAMA" surcharged in the deep, glossy carmine ink. This surcharge, like that on the stamps used for the first two printings, was printed in vertical

\* Cf. AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY Vol. XIX. page 55.

blocks of fifty (ten horizontal rows of five) stamps, so that two impressions were necessary to surcharge a sheet of one hundred.

The following errors of the "PANAMA" surcharge are known: On the 24th and 29th stamps on the sheet the "M" of "PANAMA" is inverted.

On the 95th and 100th stamps the right hand word reads: "PAMANA": This last error was not upon all sheets, probably having been corrected, and is very rare.

Besides the usual misplaced surcharges specimens are known with the bar at the bottom of the stamp and without any bar at all.

In the "CANAL ZONE" overprint we find the broken letter upon the 32nd, 33rd and 42nd stamps in the sheet and, in addition thereto, the wrong font "ZONE" upon the 48th stamp. Double surcharges are also known and, though they are quite scarce, they are by no means as rare as those of the first printing.

#### FOURTH PRINTING.

This printing made its appearance early in 1906. It is upon the same Panama stamp as the previous printing and all of the errors of the "PANAMA" surcharge have been corrected.

Aside from the correction of the errors of the "PANAMA" surcharge, this printing may be easily recognized by the following varieties of the "CANAL ZONE" overprint:

The word "CANAL", on the 26th stamp in the sheet is in the wrong font.

The broken "Z" on the 32nd stamp has been replaced by a perfect letter, but it is of a wrong font, the same type as that used for the wrong font "CANAL" and "ZONE";

The broken "E" on the 33rd stamp has been replaced by a perfect letter of the same font as the rest of the surcharge;

The broken "L" on the 42nd stamp has been replaced by a perfect letter, but of a wrong font, the same type as the "Z" on the 32nd stamp:

K1E

The "ZONE" on the 48th stamp is in the wrong font, the same as in the third printing.

This completes the printings up to date and our reference list for this value is as follows:

5c Blue

- a. "ANAMA" for "PANAMA". First printing. Nos. 92, 93, 94, 95, 97, 98, 99 and 100 on sheet.
- b. "PANAM" " " " First printing. Nos. 92 and 97 on sheet.

- c. "PANAMA" at right is 5 mm. below bar instead of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mm.  
First printing. Nos. 15 and 20 on sheet.
- d. Inverted "M" in PANAMA". Third printing. Nos. 24 and 29  
on sheet.
- e. "PAMANA" for " " Third printing. Nos. 95 and 100  
on sheet.
- f. Bar at bottom of stamp. Third printing.
- g. Bar entirely omitted.
- h. "C" and "L" broken and second "L" of "CANAL" with-  
out bar. First printing. No. 1 on sheet.
- i. Broken "L" in "CANAL". First printing. No. 4 on sheet.
- j. "AL" of "CANAL" widely spaced. First printing " 41 " "
- k. Double surcharge of "CANAL ZONE" " "
- l. Broken "Z" in "ZONE." Second " " 32 " "
- m. Broken "E" " " " " " 33 " "
- n. Broken "L" " " CANAL" " " " 42 " "
- o. Broken "Z" " " ZONE". Third " " 32 " "
- p. Broken "E" " " " " " 33 " "
- q. Broken "L" " " CANAL" " " " 42 " "
- r. Double surcharge of "CANAL ZONE" Third " "
- s. "ZONE" in wrong font. Third and fourth " " 48 " "
- t. "CANAL" in wrong font Fourth " " 26 " "
- u. "Z" of "ZONE" of wrong font. " " " 32 " "
- v. Broken "E" of "ZONE" corrected. " " " 33 " "
- w. "L" of "ZONE" of wrong font. " " " 42 " "

It must be borne in mind that the first and second printings of the five cent value are on Panama stamps with the *narrow bar*, while the third and fourth printings are on stamps with the *wide bar*, therefore, any varieties which might occur in both the first and second, or the third and fourth printings, would be the same for all practical purposes, as on the 48th stamp of the last two printings; but the same varieties, if occurring in two printings where the "PANAMA" surcharge is different, constitute distinctly separate varieties. This is well illustrated by varieties "k" and "r", as well as "l, m, n, o, p" and "q", in the above list. In each of these cases the varieties of "CANAL ZONE" are the same, but the type of the "PANAMA" surcharge is entirely different.

#### EIGHT CENTS ON FIFTY CENTS, BISTRE-BROWN.

This is probably the most difficult value of the entire series to deal with successfully. When a stamp has *two* surcharges upon it, it is bad enough, but when it has *three*, as does the present value, it is still

more complicated, as the following description of the different printings will show.

FIRST PRINTING

**8 cts**

Fig. 8.

**8 cts**

Fig. 9.

Like the other values of this series the first printing appeared on December 12th, 1904. Before becoming a Canal Zone stamp this value had to pass through many vicissitudes. Originally it was the 50c value of the 1896 series of the Colombian State of Panama as illustrated in figure 1. At the time of the declaration of the independence of the Republic of Panama it was surcharged with a bar through the word "COLOMBIA" and with the word "PANAMA" at each side in carmine. This was the type known as the "fourth Panama" and is illustrated by figure 4.

When an eight cent value was wanted by the postal authorities of the Canal Zone, the Republic of Panama having no such value, it was decided to surcharge the new value upon the current 50c stamp. This was done, the overprint being also in carmine, and, finally, the words "CANAL ZONE," as shown in figure 7, were overprinted upon it in black.

The "PANAMA" surcharge was overprinted in two forms, i. e., in horizontal blocks of fifty, five horizontal rows of ten stamps each, and in vertical blocks of fifty, or ten horizontal rows of five stamp each. In both cases two impressions were needed to surcharge an entire sheet of one hundred stamps.

The only variety of this "PANAMA" surcharge is that in which the word at the right side of the stamp is misplaced, being 5 mm. below the bar above it instead of the normal  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mm.. In the first arrangement noted above this variety is upon the 20th and 70th stamps on the sheet while, in the second arrangement, it would be on the 15th and 20th stamp.

The overprint "CANAL ZONE" was set up so as to cover the entire sheet, one hundred stamps, at a single impression.

As to the surcharge "8 cts," Dr. Perry states, or, at least, infers, in his note on the double surcharge,\* that it was printed in blocks of fifty, though he fails to state whether they were vertical or horizontal blocks.

Upon this point, however, I am compelled to differ with him and to maintain that this surcharge was set up in blocks of twenty-five, five rows of five stamps each. My reasons for this statement, based upon the evidence of the stamps themselves, are as follows:

\* *C. AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY*, Vol. xix, page 55.

It is a well known fact that there are two types of the "8" in this surcharge (*a* and *b* in the *Standard Catalogue*), which are illustrated above by figures 8 and 9 respectively. Each sheet contains twenty examples of type *b*, their numbers on the sheet being: 35, 41, 42, 43, 44—40, 46, 47, 48, 49—85, 91, 92, 93, 94—90, 91, 92, 93 and 94. I have separated each group of five of these stamps by dashes simply to emphasize the fact that, on each block of twenty-five stamps, Type *b* is always found upon the *same stamps*, i.e., the fifth stamp in the fourth horizontal row and the first four stamps in the fifth row.

There is, also, in this printing a *third* type of the "8," which I shall call Type *c*. It closely resembles Type *a* and can only be distinguished from it by the fact that, while the measurements are practically the same, the lines of the figure are much thinner, or finer. This variety occurs four times upon the sheet, viz., on Nos. 45, 50, 95, and 100; now, dividing the sheet into blocks of twenty-five again, it will easily be seen that this variety is the fifth stamp in the fifth row of *each block*.

Besides the above I have found minute breaks, or imperfections, in the "8" or some of the letters "cts" and, in every instance, the same break, or imperfection, is to be found upon the corresponding stamp in each block of twenty-five.

From the above it will be seen that the sheet consisted of

74	stamps of "8 cts." type <i>a</i> .
20	" " " " <i>b</i> .
4	" " " " <i>c</i> .

—  
100 " in the sheet.

The only error of the "PANAMA" surcharge is on the 20th and 70th stamps on the sheet when printed in horizontal blocks of 50 and the 15th and 20th when printed in vertical blocks. Here the word on the right side of the stamp is misplaced so that it is 5 mm. below the bar above it instead of 3½ mm., its normal position.

The errors of the "CANAL ZONE" overprint are the same as are to be found in the other values of the series, i.e. the broken "C" and "L" and the "A" without the cross-bar upon No. 1; the broken "L" on No. 4 and the widely spaced "AL" on No. 41.

There were 19,700 of these stamps printed.

Unfortunately three sheets of this printing were upon the 50c stamp with the third "PANAMA" surcharge, illustrated by figure 2. This was not done intentionally, so that these stamps should be properly classified as errors.

The same varieties of the "CANAL ZONE" and "8 cts" overprints

are to be found upon these stamps as upon those with the fourth "PANAMA" surcharge, and in the same positions upon the sheet.

The "PANAMA" surcharge, however, was only printed in horizontal blocks of fifty, five horizontal rows of ten stamps each, and contains the following errors, besides many minor varieties which will be properly noted in the reference list :

"PANAMA" reading down at the left and up at the right, Nos. 1 and 51 on the sheet ; "PANAMA" 15 mm. in length, Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 56, 57, 58, 59 and 60 on the sheet, all reading upward.

There were 300 of these stamps printed, which, added to the 19,700 on the fourth Panama type, gives a total of 20,000 for this printing.

Owing to the great number of varieties of this value in the different printings it has been considered advisable to let the reference list follow each printing, rather than to run the risk of confusion which would inevitably be the result if we made but one list, containing all the varieties, at the end of the notes upon the last printing. Our reference list of this printing is, then, as follows :

#### ON FOURTH PANAMA.

8c on 50c bistre-brown, type *a* of "8 cts" (normal).

- a. Type *b* of "8 cts"
- b. Type *c* of "8 cts"
- c. "PANAMA" at the right 5 mm. below bar instead of 3½ mm.  
Nos. 15 and 20, or 20 and 70 on sheet.
- d. "C" and "L" broken and second "A" of "CANAL" without  
cross-bar. No. 1 on sheet.
- e. Broken "L" in "CANAL" " 4 " "
- f. "AL" of "CANAL" widely spaced " 41 " "

#### ON THIRD PANAMA.

8c on 50c bistre-brown, "PANAMA" reading up, Type *a* of "8 cts."

- a. Type *b* of "8 cts"
- b. Type *c* of "8 cts"
- c. "PANAMA" reading up at the left and down at the right.  
Nos. 1 and 51 on sheet
- d. " 15 mm. long. Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 56, 57, 58, 59  
and 60 on sheet.
- e. " 2nd "A" small at left and 2nd "A" at right an  
inverted "V". Nos. 3 and 53 on sheet.

- f. "PANAMA" 2nd "A" small at both sides. Nos. 4, 5, 54, and 55 on sheet.
- g. " 3rd "A" at left is inverted "v". Nos. 14 and 64 on sheet.
- h. " "MA" at right raised. Nos. 19 and 69 " " "
- i. " 3rd "A", on right, with accent. Nos. 34, 38, 84 and 88 on sheet.
- j. " 2nd "A" " " large. Nos. 35 and 85 on " "
- k. " 1st "A" " left " " 42 " 92 " "
- l. " 3rd "A" at right large. " 44 " 94 " "
- m. " "P" at right is wrong font " 49 " 99 " "
- n. "C" and "L" broken and second "A" of "CANAL" without cross-bar. No. 1 on sheet.
- o. Broken "L" in "CANAL". No. 4 on sheet.
- p. "AL" of "CANAL" widely spaced. " 41 " " "

#### SECOND PRINTING.

This printing made its appearance sometime in 1905, probably during the late Summer.

The stamp is of the fourth Panama type, figure 4, but "PANAMA" and the bars are printed in red-brown instead of the usual carmine shade and, as this is unknown in the regular Panama series, I am led to suppose that these stamps were specially printed in this color, either in error or intentionally, for the Zone authorities upon the old Colombian-Panama stamps. There are no varieties of this surcharge, the errors with the word: "PANAMA" 5 mm. below the bar above it, instead of 3½ mm. having been corrected. It is surcharged in vertical blocks of fifty, ten horizontal rows of five stamps each.

The "8 cts." overprint is, also, printed in the same red-brown color and, besides the three types of the "8", two other errors are known. The first, consisting of a double surcharge, was applied to one-half of a sheet, or fifty stamps.

In the other, the figure "8" is entirely omitted; the only known copy is in Mr. Frank Tweedy's collection and came from the left vertical row of the sheet. It is not due to a misplaced surcharge, as the "cts." is well over to the right of the stamp.

The "CANAL ZONE" surcharge shows the same errors as are to be found in the second printing of all the other varieties of the series, viz.: the broken "Z" on the 32nd stamp; the broken "E" on the 33rd, and the broken "L" on the 42nd.

The number issued of this printing was 10,000.

A list of the varieties of this printing is as follows:



See on 50c bistre-brown, Type *a* of "8 cts." (normal).

- a. Type *b* of "8 cts."
- b. Type *c* of "8 cts."
- c. "8 cts." double: 50 issued.
- d. "8" omitted. 1 known.
- e. Broken "z" in "ZONE." No. 32 on sheet.
- f. " "E" " " " 33 " "
- g. " "L" " "CANAL." " 42 " "

### THIRD PRINTING.

I have been able to obtain practically no information regarding this printing, which is on the fourth "PANAMA" type and which, it appears to me, must have been issued during the fall of 1905, and upon which both the "PANAMA" and "8 cts." surcharges are again printed in carmine.

It contains the error "ZONE" in the wrong font, which is typical of a distinct printing in all the other values of the series with the solitary exception of the two cents. As in these other values, it is on the 48th stamp of the sheet. The only copy of this error that I know of is contained in a block of four which is in the collection of Mr. Geo. H. Worthington; the block consists of Nos. 37, 38, 47 and 48 on the sheet and, conforming to the arrangement of the "8 cts." surcharge upon the first and second printings, Nos. 37 and 38 are of Type *a*, while Nos. 47 and 48 are Type *b*.

As stated above, I have never seen an entire sheet of this printing, so that I am unable to state positively that it contains the broken letters on Nos. 32, 33, and 42 on the sheet. However, as these varieties are present in the second printing as well as in the sheets of all the other values containing the wrong font "ZONE", it is but reasonable to suppose that they exist in this printing and I shall, therefore, list them tentatively until some evidence is produced which will absolutely prove their non-existence.

This gives us the following list for the third printing:

See on 50c bistre-brown, Type *a* of "8 cts."

- a. Type *b* of "8 cts."
- b. Type *c* of "8 cts."
- c. Broken "z" in "ZONE" No. 32 on sheet.
- d. " "E" " " " 33 " "
- e. " "L" " "CANAL" " 42 " "
- f. "ZONE" in wrong font " 48 " "

## FOURTH PRINTING.

This printing is still more mysterious than the third and, like it, has the "PANAMA" and "8 cts printed in carmine and is on the fourth Panama type. It must have made its appearance late in 1905. My attention was first called to it by Mr. J. C. Morgenthau, who showed me an irregular block from the lower, right half of the sheet which proved that the "8 cts" overprint had been re-set.

The block in question consisted of stamps Nos. 50 to 80 inclusive vertically and was very irregular horizontally. No. 50 was, as in other printings, Type *c*, but Type *b* was represented only on No. 80, which, in all other printings, is Type *a*. Nos. 48 and 49 were Type *a*, instead of Type *b*, as they are normally.

I also have a block of four with the bar at the bottom of the stamp instead of at the top. This block consists of Nos. 49, 50, 59 and 60 on the sheet and all are Type *a* except No. 50, which is Type *c*. Normally No. 49 is Type *b*.

I have also seen a block of this printing which has no bar at all.

Errors of the "CANAL ZONE" surcharge exist in all probability, but what they are I am unable to state, though it is probable that they are the same as in the third printing.

The only varieties which I am enabled to list as being of this printing are, therefore, the two following, and I list these only because they are unknown in any other printing.

8c on 50c bistre-brown, bar at bottom of stamp.

a. Bar entirely omitted from the stamp.

## TEN CENTS, YELLOW.

There are four printings of this value, all of which are upon the fourth type of the Panama stamp, figure 1 surcharged with figure 4.

## FIRST PRINTING.

Like the other values of the series this printing was first issued on December 12th, 1904, and it may be recognized by the same errors, or varieties. The "PANAMA" surcharge is printed in vertical blocks of fifty, ten vertical rows, of five stamps each, and in carmine. It has but one variety, the "PANAMA" on the right side of the 15th and 20th stamp on the sheet being 5 mm. below the bar above it instead of 3½ mm.

The "CANAL ZONE", as usual, is printed in black and in blocks of one hundred, necessitating but one impression for each sheet of one hundred stamps. The varieties of this surcharge are: broken "c" and "L" and second "A" of "CANAL" without cross-bar, on No. 1; the broken "L" in "CANAL" on No. 4, and widely spaced "AL" on No. 42.

## SECOND PRINTING.

This printing was issued sometime during the late Summer or early Fall of 1905. It is on the fourth type of the Panama stamps and may be easily recognized by the fact that the "PANAMA" surcharge is printed in *brown-orange* instead of carmine, in vertical blocks of fifty.

So far as I am aware there are no varieties of the "PANAMA" surcharge.

"CANAL ZONE", as usual, is in black and the entire sheet is surcharged at one impression. The following varieties of this overprint exist: broken "z" in "ZONE" on the 32nd stamp; broken "E" in "ZONE" on the 33rd stamp, and a broken "L" in "CANAL" on the 42nd stamp.

## THIRD PRINTING.

This printing made its appearance early in 1906. Like the earlier ones it is on the fourth type of Panama. The "PANAMA" surcharge is printed in carmine, as in the first printing, but it may be easily distinguished by the "wide bar," which measures  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm. wide as against 2 mm. in the first printing. It is, also, printed in vertical blocks of fifty, ten vertical rows of five stamps each.

The following errors of the "PANAMA" surcharge exist: On Nos. 24 and 29 the "M" is inverted in the right hand "PANAMA". In the lower row on the sheet "PANAMA" is much closer to the bar above it than is normally the case and, on the 91st and 96th stamps the word at the left touches the bar above. In No. 95 and 100 the right surcharge reads: "PAMANA" and, as this error was afterwards corrected, it is not found on all sheets and is comparatively rare.

"CANAL ZONE", which is set up as in the other printings, contains the following varieties: Broken "z" in "ZONE" on No. 32; broken "E" in "ZONE" on No. 33; broken "L" on No. 42, and "ZONE" in wrong font on No. 48.

## FOURTH PRINTING.

This printing was issued during the present Summer, probably in June, 1906, as stamps which left the Zone in the latter part of May were of the third printing while the first of this printing which I have seen arrived, direct from the Zone, to-day (July 5, 1906).

It is the same Panama stamp as that used for the third printing, i.e. the fourth type, with the wide bar, and carmine surcharge. It is, also, surcharged in vertical blocks of fifty, ten vertical rows of five stamps each.

There are no varieties of the "PANAMA" surcharge in this printing, all those which occurred in the third one having been corrected.

In the "CANAL ZONE" overprint the 26th stamp in the sheet has the word "CANAL" in the wrong font; the broken "z" on the 32nd stamp has been corrected, but with a "z" of the wrong font; the broken "E" on the 33rd stamp is still present; the broken "L" on the 42nd stamp is replaced by a wrong font "L", and, as in the third printing, the word "ZONE" on the 48th stamp is of a wrong font.

The reference list of this value is, then, as follows:

- 10c yellow, carmine surcharge with narrow bar. First printing.
- a. "PANAMA" at right 5 mm. below bar, instead of 3½ mm. First printing. Nos. 15 and 20 on sheet.
  - b. Broken "C" and "L" and second "A" of "CANAL" without cross-bar. First printing. No. 1 on sheet.
  - c. "A" in "CANAL". First printing, "4" "4"
  - d. "AL" of "CANAL" widely spaced. First printing. No. 41 on sheet.
- 10c yellow, brown-orange surcharge. Second printing.
- a. Broken "Z" in "ZONE". Second printing. No. 32 on sheet.
  - b. "E" " " " " " " " 33 " "
  - c. "A" "CANAL" " " " " 42 " "
- 10c yellow, carmine surcharge with wide bar. Third printing.
- a. "PANAMA" with inverted "M." Third printing. Nos. 24 and 29 on sheet.
  - b. " spelled "PAMANA" (not on all sheets). Third printing. Nos. 95 and 100 on sheet.
  - c. " "P" touches bar above. Third printing. Nos. 91 and 96 on sheet.
  - d. Broken "Z" in "ZONE". Third printing. No. 32 on sheet.
  - e. "E" " " " " Third and fourth printings. No. 33 on sheet.
  - f. "L" "CANAL". " printing. No. 42 on sheet.
  - g. "ZONE" in wrong font. Third and fourth printing. No. 48 on sheet.
  - h. "CANAL" in wrong font. Fourth printing. No. 26 on sheet.
  - i. "Z" of "ZONE" is wrong font. Fourth printing. No. 32 on sheet.
  - j. "L" of "CANAL" is " " " " " " 42 on sheet.

In speaking of errors of the "PANAMA" surcharge on the 5c value of this series Dr. Perry says: "The following concerning the varieties or errors in spelling of Panama may be of interest on basis of rarity. These errors in Panama surcharge only occurred in limited printings by Panama post-office authorities, and were immediately corrected, and,

as the supply in the Panama office was not kept separate, only a few sheets containing the error in Panama might be in the supply furnished the Zone officials. \* \* \* \* Whether the surmise is correct or not, the fact remains that most of these varieties are very scarce, and some are very rare indeed. The following exist:

5c PANAAM	5c PANAMA
5c inverted "M" in PANAMA	
5c PANAMA	5c PAMANA

"Of these varieties 'PAMANA' is very rare, and next in rarity are those with misplaced 'A'."\*

Again, he says: "The minor varieties, such as inverted 'M' and 'PANAAM' that occur in the Panama surcharge, also appear in the Canal Zone stamp." †

With reference to the first of the above statements I cannot but think that reference was made only to what *did* exist in the stamps of Panama and what *might* exist in the Canal Zone stamps as I have been totally unable to find any evidence whatever in support of the statement that the "PANAMA" with either of the misplaced "A's" or the "PANAAM" error exist in the stamps overprinted "CANAL ZONE", and this, too, notwithstanding the positive statement regarding the latter variety which is made in the second quotation.

Mr. H. F. Colman, who has probably handled more of these stamps, especially the varieties, than anyone else, assures me positively that none of the above mentioned varieties exist.

We know that the variety with the inverted "M" is found in the third printing and, so far as I am aware, it is found in all sheets. The error "PAMANA" also occurs in the third printing, being the 95th and 100th stamps on the sheet, but it is not found on all sheets.

The "PANAAM" variety, as well as those with the misplaced "A's", would be found in the second printing if they occurred at all. The former would be the 41st and 46th stamps on the sheet and the dropped "A" would be the 15th and 20th stamps. In the chronicle of the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY for August 1905, ‡ we find, under the heading "Panama", the following statement regarding the variety with the raised "A": "In the sheet of 5c. with the ordinary, carmine surcharge we find that the dropped "A" is found on the 15th and 20th stamp on the sheet and that the raised "A" has either been corrected or does not occur on all sheets, as it is not to be found upon those which we have before us at the present writing."

I have not yet been able to place this variety upon the sheet.

\* Cf. *McKeel's Weekly Stamp News*, Vol. xx. pp. 183, 184 (May 12, 1906).

† Cf. AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY, Vol. xix. page 55.

‡ Vol. XVIII p. 302.

## FOURTH SERIES.

This series, which made its appearance early in 1906, consists of but two values, the two cents and eight cents.

## TWO CENTS, ROSE

In speaking of this value, which was issued in January, 1906, Dr. Perry says: "In explanation of the second issue of 2c. stamps\* I will state that it was occasioned by the Panama Government being unable to supply the permanent type on account of exhaustion of supply, and as such a denomination of stamp was urgently needed by the Canal Zone government, the old Panama fourth series stamps were accepted."

"The Zone postal authorities were opposed to doing this, as it has been the endeavor of the Director of Posts to conduct a simple and as clean an administration as possible, but no choice existed as stamps must be had, and the law provides that such shall be Panama stamps surcharged "Canal Zone". There were 150,000 of this provisional 2c. printed".†

As will be seen from the above this stamp consisted of the type of Panama stamp shown by figure 1 surcharged as shown in figures 4 and 7. The "PANAMA" surcharge comes in two distinct shades, rose and deep carmine, the latter being much scarcer than the former. It was printed in vertical blocks of fifty, ten vertical rows of five stamps each.

There are but two errors of the "PANAMA" overprint so far as I am aware. The first consists of an inverted "M" in the right hand word and occurs on the 24th and 29th stamps in the sheet. This error is found on all sheets. In the other, which is known only in the rose surcharge, the bar is at the bottom of the stamp.

The "CANAL ZONE" surcharge, which is printed in blocks of one hundred, contains the usual varieties, viz: Broken "Z" in "ZONE" on No. 32; broken "E" in "ZONE" on No. 33; broken "L" in "CANAL" on No. 42, and "ZONE" in the wrong font on No. 48.

This gives us the following reference list:

2c rose.

- |    |   |                          |
|----|---|--------------------------|
| a. | Inverted "M" in "PANAMA".                     | Nos. 24 and 29 on sheet. |
| b. | Bar at bottom of stamp (rose surcharge only). |                          |
| c. | Broken "Z" in "ZONE".                         | No. 32 on sheet.         |
| d. | "    "E"    "    "                            | " 33 "    "              |
| e. | "    "L"    "    "CANAL".                     | " 42 "    "              |
| f. | "ZONE" in wrong font.                         | " 48 "    "              |

\*The Doctor regarded the first and second printings of the third series as being identical.

†Cf. AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY, Vol. XIX, page 54.

## EIGHT CENTS, BISTRE-BROWN.

In speaking of this stamp Dr. Perry says: "This constitutes an entirely new issue and was occasioned by all the 50c stamps in the fourth Panama printing having become exhausted, consequently the Panama government was obliged to furnish Panama stamps of the third series. In these there is an entirely new setting of the "8 cts." The figure "8" is high, thin and narrow and occurs in only one type, and the letters "cts" are much thinner and smaller and there is a period after the letter "s". This stamp is totally unlike the error with the thick "8 cts" on the third Panama series of stamps mentioned above.\* 20,000 of these stamps have been issued".†

8 cts.

Fig. 10.

As stated above, this stamp is made up of the 50c value, of the type illustrated by figure 1, overprinted as shown by figures 2 and 7 and, finally, with the "8 cts." as shown in figure 10. It was issued early in 1906. The "PANAMA" surcharge was applied in horizontal blocks of fifty, ten horizontal rows of five stamps each, and contains numerous varieties as follows: "PANAMA" reading down at left and up at right, Nos. 1 and 51 on the sheet; second "A" at left small and second "A" at right is an inverted "V", Nos. 3 and 53; second "A" at both sides small, Nos. 4, 5, 54 and 55; "PANAMA" 15 mm. long, Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 56, 57, 58, 59 and 60; the third "A" on the left is an inverted "V", Nos. 14 and 64; "MA" at right raised, Nos. 19 and 69; the third "A" at the right has an accent, Nos. 34, 38, 84 and 88; the second "A" at right is large, Nos. 35 and 85; the first "A" at left is large, Nos. 42 and 92; the third "A" at right is large, Nos. 44 and 94; the "p" of the right hand word is from a wrong font, being heavier and thicker than usual, upon Nos. 49 and 99. In other varieties the bar is at the bottom of the stamp instead of the top; there is an extra bar near the bottom, and there is no bar at all on the stamp. This last variety is in the bottom of the sheet and is due to the surcharge being misplaced.

I think that the "8 cts." overprint is applied in blocks of fifty; though, as they are all of the same type, I cannot positively state that such is the case.

The "CANAL ZONE", applied in blocks of one hundred as usual, contain the following varieties: Broken "Z" in "ZONE", No. 32 on

\*The third series.

†Cf. THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY, Vol. XIX., page 55.



the sheet; broken "E" in the same word, No. 33 broken "L"; in "CANAL", No. 42, and "ZONE" in the wrong font, No. 48. This gives us the following rather extensive reference list:

8c on 50c bistre-brown ("PANAMA" reading up).

- |    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| a. | "PANAMA" reading up at left and down at right.             | Nos. 1 and 51 on sheet.                              |
| b. | " 2nd "A" at left small and 2nd "A" at right inverted "v". | Nos. 3 and 53 on sheet.                              |
| c. | " 2nd "A" at both sides small.                             | Nos. 4, 5, 54 and 55 on sheet.                       |
| d. | " 15 mm. long.   | Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 56, 57, 58, 59 and 60 on sheet. |
| e. | " 3rd "A" at left is an inverted "v".                      | Nos. 14 and 64 on sheet.                             |
| f. | " "MA" at right raised.                                    | Nos. 19 " 69 " "                                     |
| g. | " 3rd "A" at right with accent.                            | Nos. 34, 38, 84 and 88 on sheet.                     |
| h. | " 2nd "A" at right large.                                  | Nos. 35 " 85 " "                                     |
| i. | " 1st "A" at left  | " " 42 " 92 " "                                      |
| j. | " 3rd "A" at right   | " " 44 " 94 " "                                      |
| k. | " Heavy, thick "P" in right hand word.                     | Nos. 49 and 99 on sheet.                             |
| l. | Bar at bottom of stamp.                                    |  |
| m. | Extra bar near bottom of stamp.                            |  |
| n. | No bar on stamp.   |  |
| o. | Broken "L" in "ZONE"                                       | No. 32 on sheet.                                     |
| p. | " "E" " "  | " 33 " "   |
| q. | " "Z" " "CANAL".   | " 42 " "   |
| r. | "ZONE" in wrong font.                                      | " 48 " "   |

#### FIFTH SERIES.

#### ONE CENT ON TWENTY CENTS VIOLET.

In beginning my notes upon this value I can do no better than to quote Dr. Perry's account of the reason for its existence. It is as follows: "In an article recently published in the *Weekly* the various issues up to that time were enumerated. Now, however, two new issues have to be recorded. 2 cts. on 1 peso, 1 ct. on 20 centavos.

"These stamps became necessary on account of exhaustion of the supply of 1 cent and 2 cents stamps both in the Canal Zone and Republic of Panama post offices.

"The new permanent set for Panama has been promised for some months, but delay in ordering the same resulted in a complete exhaustion of stamps of these denominations of both the new Panama series and those of the old Colombian design.

"The Canal Zone authorities desired that the 1 cent and 2 cent of the Republic of Panama stamps be furnished, and requested the Panama authorities to have a sufficient amount printed and forwarded. This they did not do, as the complete series of stamps for Panama, in new design, had already been ordered, and they did not want more printings made of the 1 cent and 2 cent. The Panama authorities offered the 1 cent and 2 cent provisionals that they had prepared to meet their postal needs for stamps of these denominations, but the surcharging has been so poorly done that the Zone authorities would not accept them, and, after several days' delay and much correspondence, the old Colombian stamps were furnished. All the surcharging, Panama, bars and value, was done by the Canal Zone authorities.

"This type of Canal Zone is entirely different from that on previous issues, as a new setting was made; the word 'Canal Zone' being smaller and the letters being closer together. The stamps were surcharged in panes of 50. The quantities printed are: 2 cts., 200,000; 1 ct., 100,000.

"Both a double and inverted surcharge has been detected in both denominations. The stamps are carefully examined and I doubt if any errors pass into circulation. Still, such may happen, and I record such as have been detected: 1 ct. Inverted surcharge, 50,  $\frac{1}{2}$  sheet; 1 ct. Double surcharge, 50,  $\frac{1}{2}$  sheet; 2 cts. Inverted surcharge, 50,  $\frac{1}{2}$  sheet; 2 cts. Double surcharge, 50,  $\frac{1}{2}$  sheet.

"The quantities printed of these provisionals are expected to last until the new permanent Panama series is furnished, which should not be later than July 1, 1906. If, however, the supply should become exhausted, an additional quantity of the same type will be surcharged.

\*\*\*

"Since writing the article already mentioned I have seen two copies of the 1 cent, double surcharge, so that one sheet, or a portion of one, must have been sent to one of the post-offices. One of the specimens was on a letter returned to the dead-letter office; the other was found in a large lot of cancelled stamps. Of course, others may 'turn up', but the indications are that practically all were destroyed and lost."\*

The above, naturally, refers solely to the first printing of this stamp and to the two cent value which was issued at the same time. It is unfortunate that the Doctor did not give the actual date of issue

\* Cf. *Mickel's Weekly Stamp News*, Vol. xx. page 183 (May 12, 1906).

or, at least, that the editor of the *Weekly* did not publish the date of the communications from which the above quotation is made (that the article quoted from was made up from two communications is evident by the last paragraph, which says: "Since writing the article mentioned, etc."). However, the date at which they were published, May 12th, 1906, makes it evident that the stamp was issued during the first half of April.

That the supply was exhausted much sooner than was anticipated is also proven by the fact that a second printing, of an entirely different arrangement, was received in New York early in June last, having probably been issued in the latter part of May.

Having now covered the historical portion of the issue so far as is possible, I will take up each printing separately and endeavor to point out its salient features and to enumerate the varieties of each.

#### FIRST PRINTING.

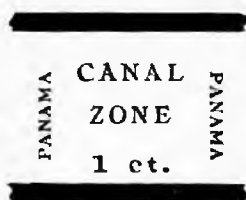


Fig. 11.

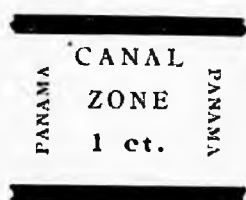


Fig. 12.

As we have seen above this printing was issued in April, 1906 and consisted of 100,000 stamps. It was printed upon the 20c Colombian stamp of 1892, illustrated by figure 1.

The type of the surcharge printed upon it is shown above by figure 11 and I have thought it best, so as to render comparison more easy, to reproduce the type of the surcharge used in the second printing side by side with it. This latter surcharge, then, is shown by figure 12 and we have nothing further to do with it in this printing. The entire surcharge is printed in black.

The "PANAMA" measures  $10\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  mm.; "CANAL", measured from the tip of the lower serif on the "L" in a straight line to the "c",  $12 \times 2$  mm.; "ZONE" measures  $9 \times 2$  mm. and "1 ct.", including the period,  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 2$  mm.

The distance from "CANAL" to the bar above is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mm., from "CANAL" to "ZONE" is 3 mm.; from "ZONE" to the "1" is 4 mm.; from the "1" to the bar below it is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mm.; the distance between the top and bottom bars is  $17\frac{1}{2}$  mm. on all excepting the fourth and ninth rows, where it is  $17\frac{3}{4}$  mm., and the two words: "PANAMA" are 18 mm apart.

The type used for the words : " CANAL ZONE " is identical with that of the errors of the third series, i.e. the " CANAL " on the 26th stamp of most of the values and the " ZONE " on the 48th stamp.

The " 1 " of " 1 ct. " is quite thick, has a long, thin foot and quite a prominent *serif* which is horizontal below but quite concaved above. The surcharge is printed in horizontal blocks of fifty, five horizontal rows of ten stamps each.

Twenty-four stamps on the sheet have accents on one or more of the " A's " of " PANAMA ". They are numbers 39 to 50 and 89 to 100 inclusive.

As I have stated before, the correct way to spell " PANAMA " is with an accent on the final " A "; however, the compositor who set up this surcharge was evidently not to be bothered with a little thing like that, so he used the accented " A ' " in a rather hit or miss manner, the result being that we find no less than six combinations among the twenty-four stamps. They are as follows :

- 1) Nos. 39 and 89 have no accents at left but one over each " A " on the right.
- 2) " 40, 50, 90 and 100 have accents on the second and third " A " at left and on all three at right.
- 3) " 41 and 91 have the accents on the third " A " at left and on the second and third at right.
- 4) " 42, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 92, 94, 95, 96, 97 and 98 have the accents on every " A " on the stamp.
- 5) " 43 and 93 have the accent on the first and second " A " at left and on all three at right.
- 6) " 49 and 99 have the accent on all the " A's " at left and on the first and second at right.

It must be remembered that these accents, which are nothing more than small dots over the letters, are very liable to become broken, or otherwise damaged, so that they will not print. In this case sheets may be found on which the arrangement will not exactly correspond with that given above, which was taken from an exceedingly clear and sharp impression of the surcharge. Indeed, I have seen several sheets whereon the arrangement of the accents on a certain stamp in the upper half of the sheet did not agree with the complementary stamp on the lower half of the sheet. So far, however, I have found no sheet upon which at least one of any two complementary stamps did not agree with the type given above for those particular stamps in the sheet.

Aside from these accents there is the variety with double surcharge already spoken of and one other, which consists of two dots, like a colon excepting that the lower dot is much larger than the upper, between

the "z" and "o" of "ZONE." They are on the 12th and 62nd stamps, but are not on all sheets.

None of the inverted surcharges having been issued, I shall not recognize that variety.

#### SECOND PRINTING.

This is an entirely new setting of the surcharge and is illustrated by figure 12. Like the former printing the entire surcharge is in black and it is printed in horizontal blocks of fifty, five horizontal rows of ten stamps each. It was most probably issued in May, 1906.

The distinctive features of this printing are the distance between the word "CANAL" and the bar above it, and the shape of the figure "1" of "1ct."

The latter is thinner than in the first type and has a very short foot and *serif*. Before pointing out the differences in distance between the upper bar and the word "CANAL" it seems to me to be advisable to call attention to a peculiar attribute of this printing: I have already stated that this, like the first one, was set up in blocks of fifty, the first five upper rows being overprinted at one impression and, the sheet being then moved forward upon the bed of the press, the lower half of the sheet received its overprint by a second impression. That this statement is so is borne out by the fact that the only error on the sheets is first found upon the 49th stamp and is repeated upon the 99th, its complementary stamp. It is further proved by the fact that all varieties with the accented "A" which are to be found upon the upper half of the sheet are exactly duplicated upon the stamp occupying the same relative position upon the lower half, as is also the case in the first printing.

In describing the first printing I have stated that the distance between the two bars on a stamp is  $17\frac{1}{2}$  mm. on all but the fourth and ninth rows, where it is  $17\frac{3}{4}$  mm. This difference would, naturally, affect the distance between the upper bar and "CANAL" or the "1ct" and the lower bar, but, being so slight, I did not consider it of sufficient importance to notice.

In this printing, however, matters are decidedly different, for, after most careful measurements, I find that the distance between the bars on the upper half of the sheet (Nos. 1 to 50) is  $16\frac{1}{2}$  mm., while upon the lower half (Nos. 51 to 100) it is 17 mm. and that in the lower row on the sheet the distance increases very gradually from the left until upon No. 100 it is  $17\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

These differences are quite enough to warrant their being taken into consideration and must be noted when they affect the measurements of the other portions of the surcharge.

To "come back to our mutton", then, and point out the differences in the spacing between "CANAL" and the bar above it: as will be remembered, this was, in the first printing,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mm.; in this printing it is 1 mm. on the upper half of the sheet and 2 mm. on the lower half, either of the latter differing from the former sufficiently to be easily noted by the naked eye.

The measurements of the "PANAMA" are the same as in the first printing, *i.e.*  $10\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  mm., and the distance between the two words on the same stamp is 18 mm. The measurements of the words "CANAL" and "ZONE", as well as the distance between the two words, remain unchanged, *viz.*:  $12 \times 2$  mm.,  $9 \times 2$  mm., and 3 mm. respectively. "1 ct." measures  $8 \times 2$  mm. and is 3 mm. below "ZONE", while from "1 ct." to the bar below it is 3 mm. on the upper half of the sheet and 4 mm. on the lower half.

The only error on the sheet is to be found upon the 49th and 99th stamps; here the distance between the "1" and the "c" is but  $1\frac{3}{4}$  mm. while, normally, it is  $2\frac{3}{4}$  mm.

The printer has been even more liberal than usual with his accented 'i's'; so much so that we find but thirty-two stamps without them upon the sheet, the other sixty-eight all having one or more from which we can make up nineteen different combinations, as follows:

- (1.) Nos. 1, 9, 35, 51, 59, and 85, on first "A" at left and second at right.
- (2.) " 2 and 52, on the second and third "A" at left and second at right.
- (3.) " 3 " 53, " " third "A" at both left and right.
- (4.) " 4 " 54, " " " " " left and the first and third at right.
- (5.) " 5 " 55, " " " " " " " " " " and second at right.
- (6.) ,, 8 and 58, on the first and second "A" at left and the second at right.
- (7.) " 10 " 60, " " " " third " at left and the third at right.
- (8.) " 11 " 61, " " " second and third "A" at left and the second at right.
- (9.) " 13, 24, 36, 38, 63, 74, 86 and 88, none at left but on the first at right.
- (10.) " 14 and 64, none at left but on the second at right.
- (11.) " 16, 20, 23, 31, 48, 66, 70 73, 81, and 98, none at left but on the third at right.

- (12.) Nos. 17, 29, 49, 67, 79, and 99, on the second "A" at left but none at right.
- (13.) " 19 and 69, on the first, second and third "A" at left but none at right.
- (14.) " 21 " 71, none at left, but on the first, second and third at right.
- (15.) " 22, 26, 40, 44, 72, 76, 90, and 94, on the first "A" at left but none at right.
- (16.) " 25 and 75, on the third "A" at the left and the second and third at right.
- (17.) " 27, 34, 77 and 84, on the second and third "A" at left and the first and second at right.
- (18.) " 28 and 78, none at left but on the first and third at right.
- (19.) " 33 " 83, on the first and second "A" at left but none at right.

The remarks as to the possible breaking or wearing away of these accents apply here as in the first printing.

The reference list of this value is as follows:

1c. on 20c. violet ("CANAL"  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mm. from the bar above). First printing.

- a. Double surcharge. First printing. 2 used copies known.
- b. Two dots between "z" and "o" of "ZONE." First printing.  
Nos. 12 and 62 on sheet. Not on all sheets.
- c. Accent on one or more "A" of "PANAMA." First printing.  
Nos. 39 to 50 and 89 to 100 on sheet.

1c on 20c violet "CANAL"  $1\frac{1}{2}$  or 2 mm. from bar above). Second printing.

- (a.) "1" and "c" of "1 ct."  $1\frac{3}{4}$  mm. apart instead of  $2\frac{3}{4}$  mm.  
Second printing. Nos. 49 and 99 on sheet.
- (b.) Accent on one or more "A" of "PANAMA". Second printing. Various Nos. on sheet.

#### TWO CENTS ON ONE PESO, LAKE.

The history, so far as it is known, of this value has been rather fully covered in connection with that of the 1c on 20c, so it is unnecessary for me to repeat it here. Like the latter value there were two printings, of it both in black and applied in horizontal blocks of fifty-five horizontal rows of ten stamps each.



## FIRST PRINTING.



Fig. 13.



Fig. 14.

This printing was made in April, 1906, and consisted of 200,000 stamps. It was printed upon the one peso Colombian stamp of 1896, illustrated by figure 1.

The type of the overprint with which it was surcharged is shown by figure 13. Figure 14 is the type of the surcharge used for the second printing and is given here merely to render comparison of the two types easy.

As will be seen, excepting for the value, both types of surcharge are the same as in the 1c on 20c stamp.

The same stamps, Nos. 39 to 50 and 89 to 100, are found with the accent on one or more of the "A's" of "PANAMA", giving us the six combinations, as follows:

- 1) Nos. 39 and 89, none at left but over each "A" at the right.
- 2) " 40, 50, 90 and 100, on the second and third "A" at left and on all three at right.
- 3) " 41 and 91, on the first and second "A" at left and on the second and third at right.
- 4) " 42, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 92, 94, 95, 96, 97 and 98, have accents on all the "A's" at both left and right.
- 5) " 43 and 93, on the first and second "A" at left and on all three at right.
- 6) " 49 and 99, on all the "A's" at left and on the first and second at right.

The variety with the two dots between the "Z" and "O" of "ZONE" exists on the 12th and 62nd stamps in the sheet.

The measurements of the words composing the surcharge are the same as in the same printing of the 1c on 20c, excepting that "2 cts." measures  $10\frac{1}{2} \times 2$  mm.

The distances between the words and the words and the bars, are as follows: "CANAL" to bar above  $3\frac{1}{4}$  mm.; "CANAL" to "ZONE"  $\frac{3}{4}$  mm.; "ZONE" to "2 cts."  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mm.; "2 cts." to the bar below  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mm. From "PANAMA" to "PANAMA" is 18 mm. and the two bars are  $17\frac{1}{2}$  mm. apart except on the fourth and ninth rows, where they are  $17\frac{1}{4}$  mm.

## SECOND PRINTING.

This, like the 1c on 20c, is an entirely new setting of the surcharge, figure 14. As in the earlier printing, it is in black and is applied in horizontal blocks of fifty. It was probably printed in May, 1906, but I have no information as to the number so printed.

Its distinctive features are the differences in the spacing between the various words and the words and the bars, which are as follows :

“CANAL” to bar above  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm.; “CANAL” to “ZONE”  $3\frac{1}{4}$  mm.; “ZONE” to “2 cts.”  $4\frac{1}{2}$  mm. and “2 cts.” to bar below 1 mm. The two bars are from 17 to  $17\frac{1}{2}$  mm. apart.

There are no errors on the sheet so far as I am aware. As in the 1c on 20c, 68 stamps on the sheet have accents on one or more of the “A’s”, and they are arranged so as to give us the same nineteen combinations which we have found in the corresponding printing of the 1c on 20c and as they are fully listed under the above stamp, I can see no reason for repeating them here.

The reference list of this value is as follows :

2c on 1p lake (“CANAL”  $3\frac{1}{4}$  mm. from bar above). First printing.

- a. Two dots between “Z” and “O” of “ZONE”. “ “  
Nos. 12 and 62 on sheet. Not on all sheets.
- b. Accents on one or more “A” of “PANAMA”. First printing.  
Nos. 39 to 50 and 89 to 100 on sheet.

2c on 1p lake (“CANAL”  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm. from bar above). Second printing.

- a. Accent on one or more “A” of “PANAMA”. “ “  
Various Nos. on sheet.

## EIGHT CENTS ON FIFTY CENTS, BISTRE-BROWN.

**8 cts**

Fig. 15.

This is an entirely new setting of the “8 cts” surcharge and it is illustrated above.

It probably appeared in April, 1906 and the number issued was 20,000.

Dr. Perry writes of it as follows : “ Another printing of the 8 cent has also been issued, and this differs from all others in the following essential points. The figure ‘8’ is high and narrow in proportion to its length, in fact is larger than in any previous printing. The “cts” is closer to the figure “8”, and the letters are smaller than those in

the first and second printing,\* and slightly larger than in the third printing.†

“There is no period after “cts”. The stamps are on the third Panama series.”§

As will be seen from the above the distinguishing feature of this issue is the “8 cts” surcharge; it can be readily distinguished from that of the fourth series by the absence of the period and from those of the third series by the comparative thinness of the “8”. This may readily be seen by comparing it, figure 15, with figures 8, 9 and 10.

It is printed upon the 50c of the third Panama series, which was the 1896 series of the old Colombian stamp, figure 1, surcharged in red with the type of “PANAMA” shown in figure 2. This surcharge was set up in horizontal blocks of fifty, five horizontal rows of ten stamps each, so that two impressions were necessary to surcharge a full sheet of one hundred stamps. The normal position of the word “PANAMA” is reading upward and its normal length is 13 mm.

This was then overprinted “CANAL ZONE” in black as illustrated by figure 7; the entire sheet of one hundred stamps being surcharged at one impression. Following this the “8cts” surcharge was printed upon the stamp, in red, but I am unable to state in what size blocks this surcharge was set up.

As is to be expected, errors and varieties are very plentiful and are to be found as follows: “PANAMA” reading upward at left and downward at right, Nos. 1 and 51 on the sheet; the second “A” at left is small and the second “A” at right is an inverted “V”, Nos. 3 and 53; second “A” small at both right and left, Nos. 4, 5, 54 and 55; “PANAMA” 15 mm. long. Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 56, 57, 58, 59 and 60; the third “A” at the left is an inverted “V”, Nos. 14 and 64; the “MA” at right is slightly raised, Nos. 19 and 69; the third “A” at the right has an accent, Nos. 34, 38, 84 and 88; the second “A” at the left is large, Nos. 35 and 85; the first “A” at the left is large, Nos. 42 and 92; the third “A” at the right is large, 44 and 94, and the “P” at the right is thick and heavy on Nos. 49 and 99.

The following varieties may be found in the “CANAL ZONE” surcharge: “CANAL” in wrong font, No. 26; the “Z” of “ZONE” is a wrong font letter, No. 32; the “E” of the same word is a broken letter, No. 33; the “I” of “CANAL” is a wrong font letter, No. 42, and “ZONE” in wrong font letters on the 48th stamp.

This gives us the following reference list for this stamp:

8c. on 50c. bistre-brown (“PANAMA” reading up).

\*Types a, b and c of the various printings of the Third Series.

†Our Fourth Series.

§Cf. *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, Vol. XX., p. 183 (May 12, 1901).

- a. "PANAMA" reading up at left and down at right. Nos. 1 and 51 on the sheet.
- b. " 2nd "A" small at left and 2nd "A" at right is an inverted "v". Nos. 3 and 53 on the sheet.
- c. " 2nd "A" small at both sides. Nos. 4, 5, 54 and 55 on the sheet.
- d. " 15 mm. long. Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 56, 57, 58 59 and 60 on the sheet.
- e. " 3rd "A" at left is an inverted "v." Nos. 14 and 64 on the sheet.
- f. " "MA" at right is slightly raised. Nos. 19 and 69 on the sheet.
- g. " 3rd "A" at right with accent. Nos. 34, 38, 84 and 88 on the sheet.
- h. " 2nd " " " is large. Nos. 35 and 85 on the sheet.
- i. " 1st " " left " " " 42 and 92 on the sheet.
- j. " 3rd " " right " " " 44 " 94 " " "
- k. " Thick, heavy "P" at right " 49 " 99 " " "
- l. "CANAL" in type of wrong font. No. 26 on the sheet.
- m. "Z" of "ZONE" " " " " 32 " " "
- n. "E" " " broken. " 33 " " "
- o. "L" " "CANAL" is wrong font. " 42 " " "
- p. "ZONE" in type of " " " " 48 " " "

In conclusion I desire to express my thanks for, and appreciation of, much valuable aid and information which has been so generously given to me by a large number of dealers and collectors, prominent among whom have been Messrs. F. Tweedy, Geo. H. Worthington, H. F. Colman, John N. Luff, J. C. Morgenthau, and Burger & Co., all of whom have placed their collections or stocks at my disposal for the purposes of study.

