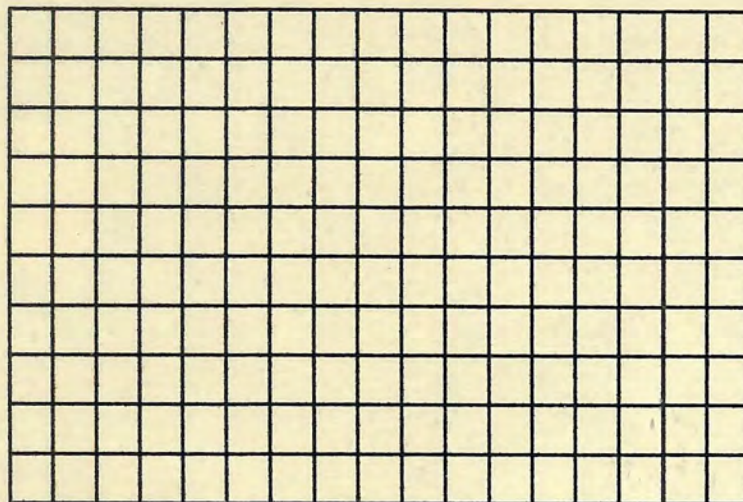


Epilogue: Rotary Press Coil Waste 1919-1924

Production: Plate Layout/Paper/Plate Markings

Horizontal Plate

17 x 10 layout



A small amount of panes were made in 70 and 100 subjects. Note the straight edge on the right side of the block. It is after the tenth stamp which verifies this came from a 100 subject pane.

The coil waste issues were only produced from extra horizontal coil stock.

Preprinting Paper Creases

All coil waste issuers were made from the last rotary press issue which was printed on unwatermarked paper.



Joint Lines

Joint lines are created by ink seeping in between the plates. They are usually seen along the left edge of the panes as in the case of the 2 cent vertical pair. This is where most of the excess sheets were separated. In some cases, as in the 1 cent pair, 1 cent block, and 3 cent strip, the joint line is between stamps. This variety is much scarcer.



Initially, coil waste was issued in panes of 170 similar to those already shown. Later the Bureau at times divided these into panes of 70 and 100. If the separation was made by scissors or a paper cutter, a straight edge could result. Here are several examples from panes of 100; a few others have been noted above.



On these plates the joint line is on the left side of the pane. The cut on the right side of the pane from plate 9151 was outside of the perfs, while on 13576 it was inside.



On these blocks the joint line was on the right of the pane.

In March 1922 the Bureau switched the plate number to stamp 1 next to the small star used for counting purposes during coiling. This led to star plates.



13810 was the first 1¢ star plate.



13812,3 were also used for a 1922 special issue (see below).



14104 was the last 1¢ coil waste plate of the Washington-Franklin series.

In addition to saving pieces of perforated web that were too short for coils, the Bureau also saved imperforate ends of the printed web, such as the portion originally wrapped around the take up spool of the perforator. In 1921 these were perforated on flat bed perforators and issued as coil waste. They are thus perforated 11 in both directions, in contrast to the more common coil waste which was perforated 10 vertically. These come as S30, number only, and star plates.



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When the series of 1922 was introduced, the Bureau continued to produce coil waste until the fall of 1924. One cent and 2¢ coil waste perforated 11 x 10 was produced from star plates, and the vertical perforations do not cross the top margin.



Two cent coil waste perforated 11 x 11 was produced in reasonable quantities, but 1¢ coil waste perforated 11 x 11 is extremely rare and no plate number examples are known. Here is the 2¢ value. Most such plate blocks have a straight edge on the left; this example was “privately” perfed on the left side, since the perfs are not the proper distance from the other vertical ones.



The S30 marking was dropped from coil plates, starting in August 1921, giving number only plates. The plate number was still over stamp 9.



13445 was the first 1¢ number only plate.



13448 is a rare plate, with 0 reports in BIA survey.



Until 1995, 13611 and 13612 were thought to be the last 1¢ number only plates perf 11x10. They were also used for the 1922 special issues (see below). The left straight edges show these came from panes of 100. Recently plate 13615 was discovered perf 11x10 (previously known perf 11x11); it had 1 report in the BIA plate number survey.

The later 1¢ S30 plates, starting in April 1920, had the vertical perfs not crossing the top and bottom margins. This change was made to minimize breakage of the printed web after perforation and during the coiling process.



10694 and 10695 were the first plates with vertical perfs not crossing the top margin.



On plate 13312 the left straight edge resulted from issuing coil waste in panes of 70 and 100. This would be the left edge of a pane of 100 ending on the right joint line. Plate 13315 was the last 1¢ plate with an S30 marking.

The early 2¢ plates with S30 had fully perforated top and bottom margins, and the vertical perfs cross both margins. The full pane to the right originally had a bottom margin, which has been detached. It has the joint line in the middle of the pane, rather than at the edge, as was usually the case (that is probably why it was saved as a full pane). Plate number 8328 had only 1 report in the B.I.A. plate number survey.



Plate number 8327 shows the fully perfed top margin and S30 marking.



Plate 9458 had no reports in the BIA plate number survey.



10097, zero reports, and 10175, 1 report, in BIA survey.

Three cent coil waste was included in only the first batch issued in 1919, since the first class rate dropped back to 2¢, and 3¢ coils were no longer being produced. The plates were number only ones, and vertical perforations go through the margins. No 3¢ perf 11 x 11 coil waste was manufactured.



These plates had a small star over stamp 1. Here is a block showing the star.



When the S30 was left off, number only plates resulted.



13397 was the first 2¢ number only plate.



13414 had no reports in the BIA plate number survey.



13740 and 13764 were the last 2¢ number only plates. 13740 was used for a special issue in 1922 (see below). The right straight edges show that these blocks came from panes of 100 with the joint line on the left side.

The Bureau also prepared later in 1922 a special issue of coil waste that was imperforate in both top and bottom margins, and these were available from the Philatelic Agency in September. The supposition is that this was what was originally wanted when the horizontally imperforate stamps were supplied. Two sets of plate numbers are known, so there may have been two orders from the Philatelic Agency. The 1¢ plates were 13611, 13612, 13812 and 13813. Here is the second set. Notice that the straight edge on the left side of the 13812 block has been reperfed. The perfs are 10 gauge, but extend one hole too high in the margin!



Panes of coil waste were often cut from the printed and perforated web with scissors or a paper cutter, rather than be tearing along the perfs, leading to cuts outside the perfs as on the block of 13779 here, or inside the perfs as on the block of 13786.



This example shows the result of someone not liking a straight edge; they added fake 11 gauge perforations to the left side which cross the top margin. Why didn't they use 10 gauge perfs?



13779
Imp. top
Perf top

When the plate number was moved to stamp 1, this resulted in star plates. Many of these panes have imperforate bottom margins as the result of putting the pane through the perforator displaced one stamp so the bottom margin did not get perforated. This was done so the perforator did not have to be reset with 11 perforating wheels (flat plate perforators had 10 perforating wheels, a cutting wheel, and 10 more perforating wheels, so that sheets would be cut in half during perforation). Requests for imperforate margin stamps are though to be responsible for the special printings in 1922 (see below).



13741 was the first 2¢ star plate. It was used for a special issue in 1922 (see below).



13788 had 1 report in the BIA plate number survey.



Plate 13789; 1 report in BIA survey

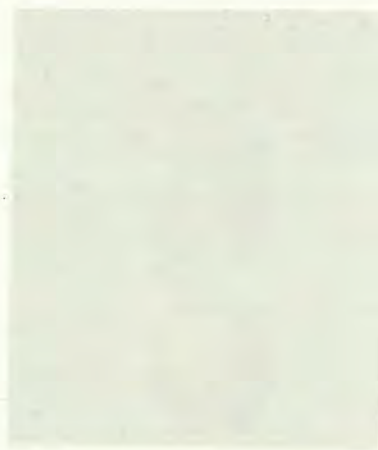


Plate 14057 was the last 2¢ coil waste plate of the Washington-Franklin series.

The first issues of rotary press coil waste had fully perforated top and bottom margins as well as vertical perfs crossing the top and bottom margins. The early 1¢ issues all had the plate number over stamp 9, and S30 over stamp 10. The pane below shows the arrangement, except that this pane was not separated along the joint line, which is in the middle of the pane.



8336 was the earliest
1¢ coil waste plate.

9451 and 10688 had 1 report each
in the BIA plate number survey.



10693 was the last 1¢ plate with vertical perfs crossing the top margin.

The 2¢ plates with imperforate top and bottom margins were 13778, 13779, 13786 and 13840. The first set of plates was at press from June 6 to 28, 1922, and the second set of plates from August 8 to September 12, 1922.



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Starting with plate 12520,
the vertical perfs did not
cross the margins.

Following 13388, the S30
was left off of most plates.



One later set of plates (13536-9) did receive the S30 marking.

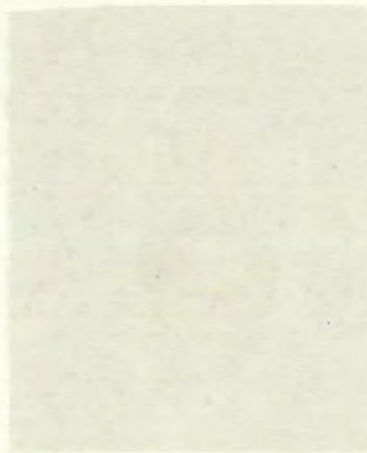
The star blocks of 2¢ perforate 11 x 10 coil waste.



Vertical perfs cross top margin.



Vertical perfs do not cross top margin.



Imperforate horizontally from plate 13740.