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## Viewing Collections: Hall Outstanding U.S., Part 2

by John F. Dunn

On April 30 Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries auctioned off the Robert R. Hall Collection of Outstanding United States Stamps. In Part 1 of this “Viewing” we covered the 19th Century U.S. postage stamps through the Bank Notes, so now it is on to the later 19th and the 20th Century issues, and in Part 3 we will look at the Back-of-the-Book issues.

First up is a 4¢ Columbian (Sc. 233) Bottom imprint, plate no. 16 and letter “D”



block of eight, original gum, lightly hinged, but with some faults (selvage creases, few reinforced perf separations. With an SCV of \$1,800, it sold for \$325. (All prices quoted here do not include the 15% Buyer’s Premiums that are added on to these hammer prices.)

I selected the plate block in part so that we could compare its color with that of the 4¢ Columbian Error of Color (Sc. 233a). Shown here is a mint NH example in the darker of the two recognized shades.



Per the informative Siegel lot description, “The 4¢ Columbian color error was caused by the use of a wrong batch of ink, and spectrographic analysis has shown that the blue inks of the 4¢ error and 1¢ Columbian have the same components.

“Stamps from at least two panes reached collectors, and the few cancelled examples indicate that stamps used by

the public came from additional panes. It is likely that a number of full sheets were printed using the wrong ink, and most of the stamps have simply been lost to philately.” This particular example has a natural inclusion in the top margin of the stamp. As a result, the stamp went for \$13,500 against an SCV of \$32,500.

Next up is this 2¢ Carmine Type II (251) Bottom imprint and plate no.132 block of six, with lightly hinged o.g. and the brilliant color that was the norm in the Hall Collection, so much so that I think it was Robert Hall’s first (but not the only) consideration in selecting material. With a few



“trivial” perf separations, this scarce plate block with an SCV of \$4,000 realized \$950.

This next block shows the two Types of the 1894 \$1.00 Black unwatermarked Bureau issue. The left stamps are Type I (Sc. 261), the right stamps are Type II (Sc. 261A). The primary identifier is the circle that frames the \$1 numerals, broken where it meets the portrait frame in Type I and complete in Type II.



The auctioneers explain the scarcity of these combination multiples: “The \$1.00 1894-95 Issue was printed in a sheet of 200 comprised of two panes of 100. The left pane and left half of the right pane were Type I, while the right half of the right pane was Type II.



Combination pairs and strips, which exist only between



the fifth and sixth columns, are rare and desirable. According to Bartels and Brookman, only 8,762 of the Type II were issued in total, and of these only a small fraction (20%) come from the positions that could yield combination pairs.” This mint NH block with an SCV of \$19,300 was hammered down for \$3,000.

Here we view the 8¢ Trans-Mississippi Vertical Pair Imperf Horizontally error (Sc. 289a). The auctioneers quote from the Neil-Rosenthal Trans-Mississippi Issue book, “one pane of 50 was discovered by Robert Watts, a stamp clerk at one of the sales win-



dows at the Philadelphia General Post Office, who found it between the wrapping paper of a bundle of stamps. He sold it for double face value (\$8.00) to Herman Lewis, a locksmith in Philadelphia. Lewis soon sold it to William S. F. Pierce, who broke it into three pieces: a vertical strip of ten with sheet margin and full arrow at right, a vertical block of 20 containing both plate blocks, and a vertical block of 20 with natural straight edge at left.

“The strip of ten was reportedly sold for \$15.00 and was taken to Europe when the owner moved there. It returned to the U.S. in the 1930’s, when it was broken. Ethel McCoy owned the vertical strip of four with arrow, and the pair offered here was part of that strip. The vertical block of 20 with straight edge at left was sold to Arthur E. Tuttle, a Philadelphia stamp dealer, who retailed them for \$10.00 per pair. The block of 20 with both plate numbers was retained by Pierce, who later sold the top and bottom plate blocks to Albert Batchelder of the New England Stamp Co. for \$175.00.

This pair, with LH o.g., a few natural gum creases as almost always, and a pencil notation in selvage that has been erased but leaves minor indentation, sold for \$23,000 against an SCV of \$27,500.

Appropriately described as being an intense shade, this mint NH \$1.00 Trans-Mississippi (Sc. 292) with an SCV of \$3,500 fetched a top bid of \$5,500.



Another lot with beautiful color is this \$2.00 Trans (Sc. 293) Bottom imprint and plate no. 613 block of four, with lightly hinged original gum. Described as “without question one of the two or three finest in terms of centering, freshness and gum,” it sold for \$67,500 against an SCV of \$100,000.



As background, we have this from the lot description, “The design of the \$2.00 Trans-Mississippi depicts the Eads bridge, which spans the Mississippi River at St. Louis. The original engraving was used on the admission ticket to the Republican Convention of 1896, which nominated McKinley as candidate for president. The stamp, issued during the McKinley Administration, illustrates the natural boundary between East and West and so was appropriate for the Trans-Mississippi Issue. All of the \$2.00 Trans-Mississippi stamps were printed in a single day’s run on June 3, 1898.

“There are perhaps three imprint and plate number blocks of six in existence. The imprint and plate number block of four format is also extremely rare.” The imprint and plate number block of six has an SCV of \$175,000. As with the plate number block of four, it is shown in italics because it is infrequently traded, so pricing information is limited.

On page 26 we view a 1¢ Pan-American (Sc. 294) block of 20 from the bottom two rows of the plate, the stamps



mint NH, the selvage with a hinge remnant, the left vertical pair and selvage detached. I selected it in order to show the format of a full bottom of the sheet. The realization was nothing to speak of: with an SCV of \$1,170, it went for \$180.



On the other hand, this 1¢ Mint LH Invert (Sc. 294a) with an SCV of \$12,500 realized \$29,000



and the used stamp with an SCV of \$20,000 sold for \$32,500.

And now for the background information. Per the lot description for the mint stamp, “The 1¢ Pan-American Inverts were found in at least four different post offices around the country, soon after release of the issue in May 1901. Of the 600 to 700 known, many have disturbed gum or are off-center. The stamp offered here is remarkably fresh and certainly one of the best-centered examples known....With 1980 P.F. and 2006 P.S.E. certificates (OG, XF 90; SMQ \$35,000.00). This is the highest grade awarded and only four others share it.” [The gum is lightly hinged.]

“...perfectly centered with slightly wider side margins—this slight difference in margin width is the reason the stamp is graded 90 rather than 95, but in terms of balance it is precisely centered and, in our opinion, deserves a 95 grade.”

The used stamp is described as “Almost perfectly centered, deep rich colors and proof-like impressions, cancels at sides leave design clearly visible....This is one of only six sound examples...and of the six this is one of the best centered copies....

“According to the revised Johl-King book (p.7) ‘The first



known copies of this error were discovered at Bessemer, Alabama, by the Carrell Jewelry Company on some circulars just prior to mailing them. When they realized the find they had made they lost no time in removing the stamps from the circulars and thus saved them to philately’.”

Based on the scarcity factors and the condition, if anything the used stamp—statistically—would command a higher SCV and realization, but the relative desirability of mint versus used stamps resulted in the mint hammer being that close to the much scarcer used stamp.



To complete our coverage of the Pan-Am Inverts, to the left we see a 2¢ with wide margins, slightly redistrib-



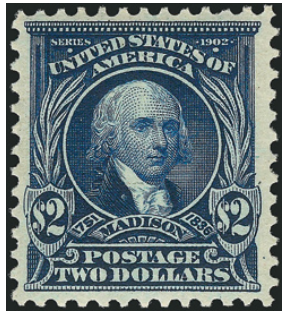
uted original gum, a barely noticeable natural wrinkle, SCV \$55,000, realization \$26,000 and top right we view a 4¢ (Sc. 296a), “vignette impression shifted with wheels into brown frame, large part original gum with hinge remnants, two tiny picked-out inclusions at top, tiny thin spot in area of hinge removal (not noted on certificate)”, SCV \$85,000, realization just \$12,500 because of the condition problems.

And to the right is a 4¢ (Sc. 296a) block of four, “rich color and sharp vignette impression, few small pieces of hinge used to rejoin or reinforce some perf separations, tiny perf thins and minute tear at right of bottom right stamp...one of only seven blocks are recorded... One has not been seen since the 1944 Col. Edward H. R. Green auction and has probably been broken into singles, and another has not been seen since 1970,” SCV \$400,000, realization \$250,000.

By way of explana-



tion on the condition of the 4-centers, “The 4¢ Pan-American Invert was a special printing and not regularly issued. Examples were distributed through two official channels, and the gum on the majority of stamps without ‘Specimen’ overprint was disturbed. In fact, because the stamps were removed from mounting paper, they are generally thinned or have seriously disturbed gum.”



And now for something less complicated, left, a 1902-03 \$2.00 Dark Blue (Sc. 312) mint NH, with deep rich color, SCV \$2,650, realization \$1,700; and right, a used example with wide and balanced margins, rich color, light cancel, fresh and



extremely fine, SCV \$200, realization \$475; and back to the left, the \$5.00 Dark Green (Sc. 313) with rich color, fresh and Fine, SCV \$2,100, realization \$1,050.

And now we come to an incredible array of 1906-08 coil and imperf rarities. First up is the 4¢ Brown Imperforate, Schermack Type III (Sc. 314A), mint NH, rich color and proof-like impression, choice centering with full Schermack perforations clear of design, and a tiny faint brownish speck (not mentioned when the pair from which this stamp was cut was certified). The stamp brought its full, \$200,000 catalogue value.



The history of this issue, from the lot description, is worth repeating:

“With the rising popularity of vending and affixing machines, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing received numerous requests from manufactures for supplies of imperforate stamps, which could then be privately perforated



to conform to each firm's machine. In May 1908, a supply of 25 sheets (400 stamps per sheet) of the 4¢ 1902 Issue, without perforations, was delivered to the Schermack Mailing Machine Co. in Detroit. The entire supply was cut into coils with Schermack Type III perforations, designed for the firm's patented affixing machine and delivered to the Winfield Printing Co. for use on mass mailings of advertising material. Approximately 6,000 were used on a mailing for Hamilton Carhartt Manufacturer, and almost all of the 4,000 balance were used on a mailing for Burroughs Adding Machine Co.

All of the Scott 314A stamps that exist in unused condition originate from a local Detroit stamp collector, Karl Koslowski, who was the only one to purchase some of the 4¢ Imperforates, either from the Winfield Printing Company or from the Schermack firm. His earliest account of the event appeared two years later in the *Philadelphia Stamp News*, and is considered to be the most reliable of several conflicting stories told by Koslowski...Koslowski explains that he purchased 50 stamps and expected to be able to buy more, but the supply was destroyed when he returned. We can account for 32 of the 50 stamps Koslowski claims he acquired. There are 21 unused stamps currently in our census, all of which must have come from him, and he used at least 11 stamps on mail to friends, including the strip of three on a Koslowski cover, two used strips of three off cover (the mass mailings were all singles) and two singles on separate Koslowski covers. The earliest known cover is dated at Detroit on May 27, 1908, from Koslowski to a friend in Austria, and the latest is dated April 8, 1909, which was mailed to him using a sheet-margin single from Sicklerville, New Jersey. Apart from the stamps Koslowski used, there is one recorded commercial cover (June 2, 1908) and approximately 32 used single stamps, most of which were probably removed from the mass-mailing covers."

On page 30 we see the 1¢ Blue Green coil (Sc. 316) in a vertical pair, lightly hinged. Per the lot description, "According to Johl, these first government coils were an



experiment, and collectors and dealers were generally unaware of their existence. Regular sheets of 400 were printed and then perforated in only one direction. They were then cut into strips of 20. The strips were then pasted together to form rolls.

“It is unknown exactly how many of these experimental coils were produced (one paste-up pair is known). They were superseded less than a year later by the Washington-Franklin issue coils, the first of which were issued on December 29, 1908.”

Described as “one of the finest [of the 12] pairs in existence,” with a “few perf separations expertly reinforced,” it realized a lofty \$310,000, well in excess of its \$240,000 SCV.

Another great lot, albeit less valuable than the 1¢ vertical coil pair is this Paste-up pair of the 5¢ Blue coil (Sc. 317), with the paste-up tab at the bottom. Per the lot description, “The 5¢ 1908 Coil stamps, which were stripped by hand, are almost always centered to one side. The example offered here, with balanced margins side-to-side and a Mint N.H. [top] stamp, is a rarity for the issue.”

Interestingly, the 1977 P.F. certificate describes the pair as “o.g., genuine,” which raises an interesting consideration: we are usually told that it is best to collect coils as pairs as an assurance that they are genuine, and not made by trimming perfs from a sheet stamp; however, singles are priced by Scott as o.g. (\$5,750) or as NH (\$12,000), thus the total Scott in the lot description is given as \$17,750 and the pair sold for \$10,500.

With the Certificate indicating the pair—and each stamp—is genuine, it could be broken up. But would you? And how would the paste-up affect your decision?





Next up is a 1¢ Blue Green coil horizontal pair (Sc. 318) with deep color and balanced margins. Gum condition is not stated, so it is at best o.g. with some degree of hinges. The back

is described as “Both stamps with Mekeel backstamp,” from the late 19th through early 20th Century era when C. H. Mekeel was a leading stamp dealer. The pair also has 1980 A.P.S. and 1994 P.F. certificates. With an SCV of \$15,000, it sold for \$6,000.

This 2¢ Carmine coil pair (Sc. 322) displays the brilliant color that is seen throughout this collection, while the pair does show significant perf separations and hinge reinforcing.



The auctioneers tell us it was “issued on July 31, 1908, and intended only to be used by private vending machine companies.” Described as having “well-balanced margins...very fine and choice,” it sold for \$8,000 versus its \$17,500 SCV.

Next we come to the Washington-Franklins, including this 1908-09 \$1.00 Violet Brown (Sc. 342) mint NH “Gem,” with a PSE Grade of XF-Superb. Only one stamp has been graded higher than that, and this is the only mint NH 95 graded stamp. The SMQ (Stamp Market Quarterly) value is \$8,000, the Scott values are \$1,150 VF NH and \$7,750 XF-Superb NH, and the stamp realized \$5,750.



Next, on page 32, we see the 5¢ Blue coil (Sc. 355) in a mint NH guide line pair. The auctioneers offer this interesting statistic: “A review of our computerized records shows that we have on average offered one Mint N.H.



guide line pair a year for the past 15 years” and add “Very few of those compare favorably to the example offered here.”

With its brilliant color, sharp impression, and an SCV of \$3,250, this pair fetched \$8,500.



This next attention-grabber is the 10¢ Yellow coil (Sc. 356) in a strip of three with



bold strikes of “Chiyō-Marū Sea Post 19. 7. 10.” (July 19, 1910) double-circle datestamps that stand out against the intense color.

Per the lot description, “This strip was on a piece of mail postmarked on board the Japanese steamship Chiyō-Marū, which sailed from San Francisco on July 19, 1910. The ‘Chiyō-Marū Sea Post 19. 7. 10.’ was applied by the official Sea Post Office clerk to mail posted on the ship. In this case, the letter was franked with at least three of the 10¢ 1909 horizontal coils.”

As for the count of multiples, “Our census of Scott No. 356 in used multiples, available at <http://siegelauctions.com/dynamic/census/356/356.pdf>, contains twelve pairs, one strip of four and two strips of three....Five of the pairs originated on the same cover, which was prepared by Henry Hammelman and mailed in August 1911. **A guide line pair has been certified as genuine, but the cancel needs to be reexamined to see if it is one of the fakes produced during the last 20 years.** [Emphasis added.]

This strip of three—the only recorded example with that cancel, but with some perf separations reinforced with hinges, sold for \$8,500 against a \$15,000 SCV.

Among the high fliers, we view a 1¢ Green Bluish Paper (Sc. 357), mint NH, with wide margins and deep color, SCV \$180, realization \$2,300.



And next is a 3¢ Deep Violet Blue Paper (Sc. 359) Top imprint and plate no. 4927 block of six, lightly hinged with a few minor perf separations “delicately reinforced”, further described as “among the finest” of

the few known plate blocks—believed to be five, including four Tops. With an SCV of \$25,000, it sold for \$15,000.

And completing our look at the Hall Bluish papers, we have an 8¢ Olive Green (Sc. 363), described as “well-centered for this difficult stamp”. Per the lot description, “the only source of the 4¢ and 8¢ Bluish stamps was the archives of the Post Office Department. Approximately 80 of each were traded for rare stamps missing from the archives.” With an SCV of \$30,000, this example sold for \$18,000.



And now we come to the “Orangeburg Coil” and its background story. First, this particular pair of the 3¢ Deep Violet (Sc. 389) was described with a small piece of hinge reinforcing of a few perf separations at the bottom, completely sound, deep rich color.



One of six unused pairs and two unused singles available to collectors, with an SCV of \$250,000, and described as one of the greatest rarities of 20th Century United States philately, it sold for \$180,000.

And now for the background, per the lot description: “The Orangeburg coil was made by the Post Office Department in 1911, specifically for use by the Bell Pharmaceutical Company. The 3¢ coil stamps were used to send samples of their products to physicians. Due to the quantity of mail, they were put through the first-class cancelling machine at Orangeburg, New York. The Orangeburg coil stamps’ use on third-class mail and the fact that philatelists were generally unaware of their production account for their rarity.

“A census of the Orangeburg coil, published in The Philatelic Foundation’s Opinions VII book, certifies two singles and six unused pairs, plus an uncertified unused pair with paste-up at left in the The New York Public Library’s Benjamin K. Miller collection (on extended loan to the Smithsonian National Postal Museum)....Of the certified pairs, three are centered strongly to one side. This pair comes from the strip of five that was broken into two pairs and a single.

“The other pair from the strip, which adjoined this pair to the right, contains the only known Mint N.H. example of the Orangeburg coil (the other stamp in that pair has a small thin spot)....”

And now for an issue with less of a story—the 5¢ Panama-Pacific (Sc. 399)—but in an exceptional mint NH stamp described as with “proof-like impression, Jumbo margins, Extremely Fine Gem, a stunning stamp”, SCV \$160, hammer price \$425.



Next, on page 35, we display a 1912-14 12¢ Claret Brown (Sc. 417) mint NH left plate no. 6900 block of six, the most interesting aspect—and why I selected it for viewing—being an unusual offset in the bottom left selvage and bottom left stamp. With an SCV of \$1,050, it realized





\$225.

And below we see a rare wide top plate block of the 50¢ Violet (Sc. 440), barely

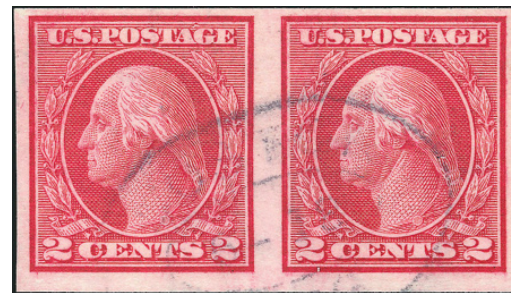


hinged with intense shade and proof-like impression. With an SCV of \$15,000, it fetched \$20,000.

In this 2¢ Carmine Type I Imperforate Coil (Sc. 459) Line Pair, the attributes of being NH, with bright color and extremely fine centering is enhanced by the lack of a crease down the center, which is often encountered. With all that, it sold for \$1,600 against a \$1,375 SCV.



And here we see the 2¢ Carmine Type I Imperforate Coil (Sc. 459) in a rare used pair with “large to full” margins (the top margin being full, but not large), bright color and a light strike of a registry oval cancel.



Demonstrating its rarity, with an SCV of \$3,500 (more than double the NH Line Pair SCV) it sold for \$2,700, just under double the realization for the previous lot.

And now for another issue with a story, the 30¢ Orange Red, Perf 10 (Sc. 476A). In this case we see the mint NH right plate no. 6911 block of six, in the usual radiant color on bright paper, also with typical centering for this difficult issue, but also with some rejoined perf separations in the ungummed selvage and a couple of small creases in the left edge of the selvage at the lower right.



There is some controversy surrounding the Perf 10 unwatermarked 30¢. The discovery sheet was certified by The Philatelic Foundation, and on that basis the issue was recognized by the Scott Catalogue editors and added as Scott 476A—the capital A designating it as a major number, fit in between the previously numbered 20¢ (Sc. 476) and 50¢ (Sc. 477). The individual singles and plate blocks all have Certificates.

Per the lot description, “The 30¢ Perf 10 Unwatermarked, Scott 476A, has no trace of the single-line watermark. Although one or two stamps from the discovery sheets have been found with ‘ghost’ watermarks, the Scott Catalogue and The Philatelic Foundation continue to recognize Scott 476A.

“In an article in Opinions V, published by The Philatelic Foundation, William T. Crowe, former head of the Expert Committee, discussed the discovery of this rare stamp and how it might have been issued. The production of Scott 476A occurred during the period of transition from gauge-10 perfs to gauge 11. Bureau records do not list a 30¢ printing on unwatermarked paper that was perforated 10, but the existence of two certified panes—one bottom-right pane from Plate 6917 and one top-right pane from Plate 6911—is evidence that the combination of new unwatermarked paper and old 10-gauge perfs occurred, even if



inadvertently. Stamps from these two panes (200 total), two left sheet-margin blocks of four and a bottom plate no. 6914 single, none of which have any trace of watermark, are the only accepted examples of Scott 476A...With 1984 P.F. certificate (does not mention trivial selvage flaws).”

With an SCV of \$90,000, this rare plate block sold for just \$21,000, and it remains to be seen how future 476A lots will fare or if this is just attributable to the selvage flaw.

The next lot is the 5¢ Carmine Imperforate Error (Sc. 485) in a mint NH single error in the center of a block of nine, with huge margins showing significant portions of eleven adjoining stamps, brilliant color and light natural gum wrinkles. The search for perfection being what it is, with an SCV of \$26,000, it could do no better than \$11,500.



This next lot is the \$2.00 Orange Red & Black (Sc. 523) in a top plate nos. 8179/8177 and arrow block of eight, lightly hinged with radiant colors. Per



the lot description, “The \$2.00 and \$5.00 1918 Issue are the first bi-colored dollar-denominated postage stamps issued by the United States. Both were released just three months after the famous 1918 24¢ Inverted Jenny, but



the early printings were issued in small quantities, since stocks of the earlier \$2.00 and \$5.00 issues were still on hand. According to Johl, the \$2.00 Orange Red & Black was a color error on the part of the Bureau of Engraving & Printing. The official description and order for the bi-color stamps specified 'Red and Black' for the \$2.00. When subsequent printings appeared in 1920 and philatelists brought the matter to the attention of the Bureau, they were told 'this stamp has always been this color'... From studies of Bureau and Post Office records, it is clear that the originally-intended color was not issued until November 1920 (Scott 547, see page 40), and that the earlier Orange Red stamps were mistakes. The quantity issued has been variously estimated at between 47,000 and 68,000." With an SCV of \$13,000, this scarce plate block went for \$4,500.

The companion to the previous lot is the \$5.00 Deep Green & Black (Sc/524), seen here in a top plate nos. 8179/8178 and arrow block of eight with rich colors, but with "some perf separations expertly reinforced."



It realized \$1,000 versus its \$4,000 SCV.

I selected this lot to explain the monogram in the margin. The issue is the 2¢ Carmine Type VI (Sc. 528A) and the monogram is "OAM", the initials of the plate printer. This mint NH top plate no. 11590 and monogram block of six, with an SCV of \$900, realized \$150.



The next two lots are the 2¢ Carmine Rose Type II Rotary Perf 11 x 10 (Sc. 539). The top plate no. 7462 and “S20” block of four, three stamps NH, the top left stamp with a single light hinge mark, the selvage with a small hinge remnant, in selvage, radiant color, bottom right stamp tiny hole at top left, “better centering than normally seen on the few multiples of this issue that exist,” sold for \$7,500 against a \$17,500 SCV.



And the used single actually has the same \$17,500 SCV as the mint plate block—and sold for \$12,000.

And now for the background story, from the auctioneers:



“At the beginning or end of a coil-stamp print run from the 170-subject rotary plates, some leading or trailing paper was left over that was too short for rolling into 500-stamp rolls. In 1919 the Bureau devised an economical plan to salvage this waste by converting the leftovers from coil stamps into sheet stamps. This was accomplished by cutting the sheets into panes and running them through the flat-plate perforator for the horizontal perforations, giving the stamps perforations on all sides. The Type III design was far more plentiful (producing Scott 540) but a small number of Type II (Scott 539) was also produced.

“Since Scott 539 was put through two different perforating machines (perforated 10 vertically on the rotary perforator during the coil part of production and then perforated 11 on the flat plate perforator), most of the stamps are off-center. The rotary press sheets also had a natural tendency to curl, making perforating on the flat plate perforator especially difficult.

“A Power Search review located only four other [plate



blocks] (including a plate block of eight). All have perforations touching the design, and in three cases significantly so. The plate block offered here is graded Fine, but it is arguably Fine-Very Fine.” [The Scott value is for Fine, as opposed to the standard VF grade used by Scott.]

And regarding the used stamps, “Our census of Scott 539, available at our website at <http://www.siegelauctions.com/dynamic/census/539/539.pdf>, records only thirteen used singles, one used block of four and one on cover. Most are off-center —only two have decent centering and are confirmed as sound—the example offered here and the ex Natalee Grace copy.”

The counts don’t explain why each of the 13 used stamps have the same Scott value as each of the five plate blocks, but the realizations support the higher demand for the used singles—and may be a reflection of the increasing demand in general for used singles and the decreasing demand in general for plate blocks.

Per the lot description starting on page 37 for Scott 523, this plate block of Scott 547 shows the intended \$2.00 Carmine & Black colors (Sc. 547). The mint NH top plate nos. 8179/8177 and arrow block of eight, with an SCV of \$6,000 went for \$2,300.

And here we have the beautiful 1922





\$5.00 Carmine & Blue (Sc. 573) in a top double plate no. and arrow block of eight, lightly hinged with brilliant colors, SCV \$1,800, realization \$1,200.

We conclude this Hall Collection Part 2 viewing with two perforation rarities. First is the 1923 1¢ Green Rotary press Perf 11 (Sc. 594). Per the lot description, “The 1¢ Green, Scott 594, is waste from a horizontal rotary printing used to make coils. At the beginning or end of a coil-stamp print run from the 170-subject rotary plates, some leading or trailing paper was produced that was too short for rolling into 500-stamp rolls. In 1919 the Bureau devised a plan to salvage this waste by perforating and cutting the sheets into panes. They were put through the 11-gauge flat-plate perforator in use at the time, giving the sheets full perforations on all sides. The existence of Scott 594 was not reported until four months after the final sheets were delivered, and the 1¢ Rotary Perf 11 was soon recognized as one of the rarest United States stamps.”



This particular example was described with “part disturbed original gum, attractive centering for this difficult issue with perfs clear (often found with perfs in), corner crease at bottom right, small thin spot...of these [18 available in the Siegel census] only 11 have any gum, and three of those have perforated initials of Crowell Publishing Co. of Springfield, Ohio, which some collectors regard as equivalent to a cancel.” SCV with no gum is \$35,000, with original gum is \$65,000, and this stamp sold for \$17,500.

Finally, in the postage stamp issues, we come to the 1923 2¢ Harding Rotary Perf 11 (Sc. 613). Again referring to the Siegel Galleries’ informative lot descriptions, “Warren G. Harding, the 29th President, died in San Francisco on August 2, 1923, during a cross-country ‘Voyage of Understanding’. Several people suggested



a Harding memorial stamp, printed in black, and it was rushed into production. The first flat plate printing (Scott 610) was issued on September 1, 1923, in his home town of Marion, Ohio, followed less than two weeks later by the normal Perf 10 rotary press printing (Scott 612) on September 12.

“The 2¢ Harding Rotary Perf 11 stamp was discovered in 1938 by Leslie Lewis of the New York firm, Stanley Gibbons Inc. Gary Griffith presents his hypothesis in *United States Stamps 1922-26* that rotary-printed sheets of 400 were first reduced to panes of 100 and then fed through the 11-gauge perforating machine normally used for flat plate sheets. This method explains the existence of a straight-edge on Scott 613. Production quality and quantity was very low, due to the rotary press stamps’ natural tendency to curl, and the use of the flat plate perforator for the slightly different-sized rotary printing.”

The Siegel census records 45 used singles, one used pair and one use strip of three. Of these 26, including this example, are sound. With an SCV of \$40,000 for a Fine stamp, this stamp sold for \$17,000.