

FORGERIES OF CANADIAN OH/MS PERFINS

By Brian Birch

The collection of Canadian OH/MS official perfins has achieved a great deal of popularity in Canada due primarily to the extremely detailed catalogues produced by Roy Wrigley, and his intensive campaign to popularise these stamps.

As their popularity and value grew, it was inevitable that certain parties should try and manufacture forgeries.

In 1978, Ken Pugh published 8 pages showing genuine and forged OH/MS perfins as part of his massive "BNA Reference Manual of Forgeries". As this publication is being serialised and will take another year or so before the final instalment is published, I had not intended to include these items in Perfins Abstracts before it was complete. However, the latest release of pages by Ken Pugh includes the following startling information which I feel must be widely publicised now.

"Canada Perforated OH/MS - Warning"

(Release No. 8, 1980 - Kenneth W. Pugh

"In January 1979, an extraordinary number of OH/MS fakes were distributed by a Vancouver dealer. The approximately 5,000 faked OH/MS items examined by the writer can be grouped into 8 fake types - four of the 5-hole and four of the 4-hole. As the material examined represents only 25% of the fakes suspected to have been produced (estimated catalogue value \$1,000,000) other fake types may exist".

Ken goes on to indicate that court action is pending and that he will issue full details in the future. All 8 fakes are illustrated.

It is possible that Ken will have extra copies of these pages available and he can be contacted at, 134 - 20th Street, Brandon, Manitoba., R7B 1L4, Canada.