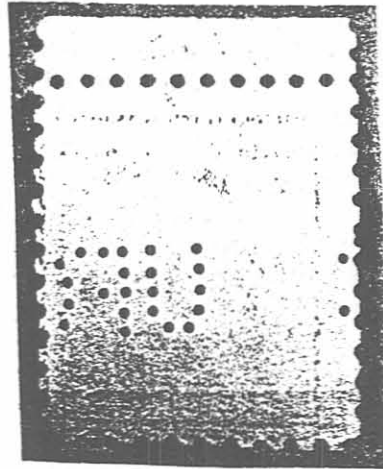


received four denominations of regular stamps and two of the postage dues. Springfield, Massachusetts received fourteen different denominations of precancels.

Somewhere in print, one could probably find how many of each of the twenty-one Bureau experimentals were printed for the orders for the 12,000,000 stamps. Inasmuch as sixteen denominations were represented in the experimental, sixteen different plate numbers (with eight positions each) could be expected as a minimum.

Peter Heydt (IPSC #734) mentioned at Ottawa that John R. Broker, Jr. (IPSC #886) stated that there have been only nine reports of Bureau Experimental Plate Numbers. Not only does the stamp illustrated below show plate number #7753, but it also has a partial of the United Fruit Company's perfin pattern "UFC."



### Bureau Experimental Plate # Single Surfaces at Ottawa Meeting:

Reprinted from *Illinois Precancel News*, September/October 1994, p. 280-11, with permission of the Editor Earl Ratzer.

Back in 1916, in connection with attempts to develop a system of producing precancels, the United States Bureau of Engraving and Printing was awarded contracts to provide four million stamps to each of three post offices. Augusta, Maine received one denomination. New Orleans, Louisiana

