



George sent this rather unusual pair to see if anyone had a logical explanation for the differing strikes. I sent the query to Roy for his views and this is his reply.

"At first glance it seems to be a case of presenting the side edge of the sheet to the perforating machine followed by the more usual perforation from the top, but now I'm not so sure! All I can say for sure is that the perforations were created by perforating the face of the stamps.

"Not having any examples of my own to look at, I turned to the old Van Lint and Tilles Catalogues and noted that both

illustrate examples that show the perfin sideways on the stamp so I assume that the usual orientation is sideways. As far as I can tell, the die is not mentioned in any of the Sloper ledgers so I didn't know how many patterns there were in the perforating head. I have tried with a single pattern (upright, inverted, sideways reading up and sideways reading down) to see if I can logically create strikes while the stamps are still in sheet form and failed. I have also tried with multiple heads (1x2, 2x1, 2x2 etc), a gain with the four orientations mentioned above and still failed, so I am forced into the conclusion that the strikes were made (perhaps specially) when the stamps were in horizontal strips."

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