

THE LAW STAMPS OF ALBERTA

The Province of Alberta received autonomy 1905. In 1906 a Separate Law Court from the former North West Territories was set up. Law Stamps to conform with the practice in the older Provinces were ordered from Bullman Bros., Winnipeg. The Courts, however, opened before the stamps arrived and a provisional issue was ordered to be printed locally.

This provisional issue was printed at the office of the Edmonton Bulletin, Edmonton, operated by the Hon. Frank Oliver who had played a prominent part in the organization of the new province. The date of the first order given cannot now be ascertained. The stamps were authorized for use on October 1st, 1906. As the expected issue was considerably delayed and only a small quantity of those provisionals had been ordered several supplementary orders were given.

The total number of stamps of all denominations delivered by the printers totalled 97,092 of a face value of \$37,744.40. On September 26, 1914, the remainder of these stamps was destroyed. No information is available as to the quantities of each value destroyed but their total face value amounted to \$20,856.55.

The paper used was ordinary wove of medium weight without watermark, and of a light creamy white variety. The stamps were printed in sheets containing four horizontal rows of three stamps each or twelve stamps to the sheet. Some of the sheets are imperforate on two sides--usually the top and right--and some on four sides. All the perforations with one exception are 12.

In the sheet of twelve stamps the setting was made separately for each. As pioneer conditions prevailed in Edmonton and as type was scarce it was found necessary to secure a supply from a neighboring printing shop. This accounts for many interesting varieties and irregularities. Because of these so-called errors, where each stamp is different, the collector is enabled to reconstruct the sheet of twelve stamps.

When the first order for these stamps was given it was intended that different colored stamps of the same denominations should be used for different services--vermilion stamps for Actions, yellow for Bills of Exchange and Chattel Mortgages, green for Lien Notes and purple for Estates. While orders were given to the printers for these colors, much carelessness was shown by the Bulletin office in producing them. Owing to shortage of colored stamps for the purposes above mentioned the practice fell into disuse and was abandoned.

According to the official record, the following is a list of those stamps first ordered:

- 10¢ Stamp--Vermilion, yellow and purple.
- 20¢ Stamp--Vermilion.
- 25¢ Stamp--Vermilion and green.
- 50¢ Stamp--Vermilion and green.
- 75¢ Stamp--Vermilion.
- 1.00 Stamp--Vermilion.

On December 20th, 1906, the following varieties were also ordered from the printers:

SECOND ISSUE.

The second issue of Alberta Law Stamps was designed and lithographed by Bullman Bros., of Winnipeg, Manitoba. The design, which measures 40 x 25 millimeters, shows the figure of Justice standing and blindfolded. The words "Alberta Law Stamp" appear in two curved lines at the top and the words cents or dollars in a straight line at the bottom. The denomination of the stamps is indicated by figures in each corner.

All stamps are printed on white unwatermarked wove paper and are perforated 12. They were issued in sheets of 25--five horizontal rows of five stamps each.

Negotiations for the printing of these stamps were commenced with Bullman Bros. on October 4th, 1906. Proofs of the cent values were approved on December 28th, 1906, and of the dollar values on April 11th, 1907.

In some of the 25¢ sheets there is a dot between 2.5 of some stamps. There are double print varieties.

The varieties listed occur once in the sheet.

The first order for stamps of this issue was placed with Bullman Bros. on March 13th, 1907, as follows:

5¢--5 books of 200 leaves each, 25 stamps to leaf--25,000 stamps.
10¢--15 books of 200 leaves each, 25 stamps to leaf--75,000 stamps.
20¢--5 books of 200 leaves each, 25 stamps to leaf--25,000 stamps.
25¢--15 books of 200 leaves each, 25 stamps to leaf--75,000 stamps.
50¢--15 books of 200 leaves each, 25 stamps to leaf--75,000 stamps.
75¢--15 books of 200 leaves each, 25 stamps to leaf--75,000 stamps.
\$1.00--5 books of 200 leaves each, 25 stamps to leaf--25,000 stamps.
\$2.00--5 books of 200 leaves each, 25 stamps to leaf--25,000 stamps.
\$3.00--15 books of 200 leaves each, 25 stamps to leaf--75,000 stamps.
\$5.00--5 books of 200 leaves each, 25 stamps to leaf--25,000 stamps.
Total books, 100. Total stamps, 500,000.

Bullman Bros, agreed to print these at a cost of \$350.00.

In compliance with the order given, stamps were received from Bullman Bros. as follows:

	May 17, 1907.	June 18, 1907.	Aug. 6, 1907.	Nov. 23, 1907.	Totals
5¢	5,000	5,000	10,000		20,000
10¢	5,000	5,000	5,000	55,000	70,000
20¢	5,000		20,000		25,000
25¢	5,000	5,000	65,000		75,000
50¢	5,000	15,000		50,000	70,000
75¢	5,000	10,000	5,000	55,000	75,000
\$1.00	5,000	10,000	10,000		25,000
\$2.00	5,000	10,000	5,000		20,000
\$3.00	5,000	10,000		60,000	75,000
\$5.00	5,000	5,000	15,000		25,000

May, 50,000; June, 75,000; August, 135,000; November, 220,000; totals, 480,000.

On September 30th, 1908, a further order was given to Bullman Bros. for the following supply of stamps.

5¢	.....	15,000	25¢	.....	15,000	\$1.00	.....	25,000
10¢	.....	10,000	50¢	.....	10,000	\$2.00	.....	15,000

The filling of this order doubtless accounts for the shades appearing in these values. Those of the 5¢, \$1.00 and \$2.00 are quite marked.

On June 2nd, 1910, the Attorney-General's Department instructed the Government printer to proceed to Winnipeg for the purpose of arranging for and supervising the destruction of the original engraving, the transfers, plates and remaining stock of this issue of Alberta Law Stamps. These instructions were doubtless carried out.

THIRD ISSUE

The third issue of Alberta Law Stamps was designed by the American Bank Note Company of Ottawa. They are line engraved and are perforated 12. The paper used is of white unwatermarked wove variety. The design, which measures $40\frac{1}{2}$ x 25 millimeters, represents the figure of Justice seated and not blindfolded. The name of the engraver appears on each stamp in small plain letters at the bottom. The word "cents" appears in a straight line, and the word "Alberta" in a curved line at the top; the words "Law Stamp" are in a straight line immediately below the figure of Justice; the value in words appears in two straight lines at the bottom and the denomination in figures appears in the four corners.

Negotiations for the printing of these stamps were apparently carried on prior to January 31st, 1910. On that date the company was advised certain quantities of stamps of different denominations would be required.

The first order for these stamps was given on February 5th, 1910. They were to be printed in sheets of 50--five horizontal rows of ten stamps each. The following is a list of those ordered;

5¢ ... 25,000	25¢ ... 50,000	\$1.00 ... 50,000	\$5.00 ... 20,000
10¢ ... 30,000	50¢ ... 50,000	\$2.00 ... 10,000	\$10.00 ... 1,000
20¢ ... 25,000	75¢ ... 10,000	\$3.00 ... 5,000	Total ... 278,000.

The first stamps of the issue were received at Edmonton on May 3rd, 1910. Between that date and July 15th, 1921, many orders for these stamps were given. The total quantities received during this period were as follows;

5¢ ... 125,000	25¢ ... 1,080,000	\$1.00 ... 310,000	\$5.00 ... 5,000
10¢ ... 600,000	50¢ ... 425,000	\$2.00 ... 185,000	\$10.00 ... 14,500
20¢ ... 74,950	75¢ ... 228,000	\$3.00 ... 10,000	

These figures give a total of 3,057,450 stamps, with a face value of \$1,614,740.

CHANGES IN COLOURS.

On July 8th, 1924 the Canadian Bank Note Company received an intimation from the Attorney General's Department, through the King's Printer that they found a slight similarity in the colours used for the various denominations. In order to get over this difficulty the Canadian Bank Note Company prepared a complete set of new proofs. These were submitted on Nov. 3rd, 1924, Mr. C. J. Mills, Secretary of the Canadian Bank Note Company. They were as follows:

the 20¢ from Purple to Red and
the \$5.00 from Black to Yellow.

As it was found that previous to that the \$5. too closely resembled the \$2. and the 20¢, the 75¢ stamp.

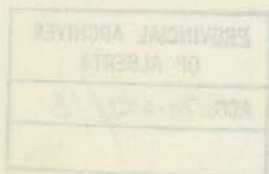
Proofs for 5¢, 10¢, 50¢, \$2., \$3., \$5. and \$10. were finally approved for colour on that date, November 3rd, 1924, and proofs of the 20¢,

25¢, 75¢ and \$1. on January 17, 1925.

These new proofs showed a slightly deeper shade of colour in some of the denominations, which met with the approval of the Department. This contrast, is noticeable in the 75¢ Purple, 5¢ Brown, 50¢ Green, \$3. Brown, \$1. Blue and \$10. Brown.

LAW STAMPS ORDERED.

1923	May 3	400	Sheets	\$5.00	stamps.
	May 3	600	"	\$3.00	"
	June 1	1000	"	\$1.00	"
	Sept. 21	2000	"	.10	"
	Nov. 3	1000	"	\$2.00	"
1924	Apr. 22	5000	"	.75	"
		1000	"	.25	"
		100	"	.10	"
	Sept. 19	2000	"	.50	"
1925	May 28	1000	"	\$1.00	"
1926	June 25	500	"	.05	"
		100	"	\$10.00	"
		600	"	\$3.00	"
1927	Jan. 14	2000	"	.50	"
	Feb. 21	2000	"	\$2.00	"
		1000	"	\$10.00	"
	Aug. 26	5000	"	.25	"
		1000	"	\$2.00	"
1928	Apr. 27	1000	"	\$1.00	"
		400	"	\$5.00	"
	May 9	1000	"	.75	"
1929	Oct. 30	600	"	\$3.00	"
1930	Mar. 14	2000	"	.50	"
		10000	"	.10	"
		50000	"	.25	"



ALBERTA LAW STAMPS.

<u>Denomination</u>	<u>Color</u>
5¢	Light brown
10¢	Olive green
20¢	Mauve
25¢	Pink
50¢	Green
75¢	Purple
\$1.00	Blue
2.00	Carbon Blue
3.00	Medium brown
5.00	Black
10.00	Dark brown.

Quantity delivered.

93,300	5¢ stamps	4,665.00
550,250	10¢ "	55,025.00
50,050	20¢ "	10,010.00
870,100	25¢ "	21,725.00
319,100	50¢ "	15,955.00
128,300	75¢ "	96,225.00
250,050	1.00 "	250,050.00
130,550	2.00 "	261,100.00
5,050	3.00 "	15,150.00
2,050	5.00 "	10,250.00
7,550	10.00 "	75,500.00

2,406,350

\$815,665.00

Total stamps delivered - 2,406,350
 Total value of stamps delivered - \$815,665.00.

Quantity on hand

174,000	5¢ stamps	\$ 8,700.00
5,950	10¢ "	595.00
121,600	20¢ "	24,320.00
82,400	25¢ "	20,600.00
41,350	50¢ "	20,675.00
35,450	75¢ "	26,587.50
68,700	1.00 "	68,700.00
17,150	2.00 "	34,300.00
64,550	3.00 "	193,650.00
63,450	5.00 "	317,250.00
62,100	10.00 "	621,000.00

736,700

\$1,336,377.50

Total quantity stamps on hand - 736,700
 Total value stamps on hand - \$1,336,377.50

MEMORANDUM FROM CANADIAN BANK NOTE COMPANY LIMITED.
FOR
DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, EDMONTON.

re LAW STAMPS

Stamps Delivered Since 26th August 1919 to 17 November 1931.
Both Dates Inclusive

50,000	x	5¢	-	2,500.00
210,000	x	10¢	-	21,000.00
800,000	x	25¢	-	200,000.00
500,000	x	50¢	-	250,000.00
150,000	x	75¢	-	112,500.00
200,000	x	\$1.00	-	200,000.00
250,000	x	2.00	-	500,000.00
90,000	x	3.00	-	270,000.00
40,000	x	5.00	-	200,000.00
65,000	x	10.00	-	650,000.00
<u>2,355,000</u>		Stamps- face value		<u>\$2,406,000.00</u>

Stamps on Hand 17th November 1931

100,000	x	5¢	-	\$ 5,000.00
40,000	x	10¢	-	4,000.00
50,000	x	25¢	-	12,500.00
10,000	x	75¢	-	7,500.00
50,000	x	\$1.00	-	50,000.00
24,500	x	3.00	-	73,500.00
4,500	x	10.00	-	45,000.00
<u>279,000</u>		Stamps - face value		<u>\$ 197,500.00</u>

25¢ stamp--Green, yellow and purple.
1.00 stamp--Vermilion.

And on January 8th, 1907, a further order was given for 10¢ stamps--purple (200 sheets).

The official record approved by the Provincial Auditor shows the total stamps of the first issue ordered to be:

	Vermilion.	Yellow.	Green.	Purple.	Total.
10¢ ...	16,728	5,376		6,744	28,848
20¢ ...	2,148				2,148
25¢ ...	10,248	4,152	3,168	3,348	20,916
50¢ ...	21,764		5,208		26,972
75¢ ...	9,852				9,852
1.00 ...	8,356				8,356
	<u>69,096</u>	<u>9,528</u>	<u>8,376</u>	<u>10,092</u>	<u>97,092</u>

As intimated above, this official record is not accurate as regards the colours of the stamps supplied. It does, however, indicate the total number of stamps ordered and delivered.

The stamps of this first issue were printed on an ordinary printing press and the design and lettering used were set by hand. The design on each stamp measures 37 x 35 millimeters. It consists in the first place of a fancy scroll background made up of six blocks or units of similar character so arranged in three horizontal rows of two blocks each as to give the whole the appearance of a single or solid design. Upon examination, however, it will be noted that these blocks are not always arranged in the same way, with the result that throughout the first issue series there are several distinct varieties on this account.

The background referred to was first printed on the stamps in different colours. Afterwards the sheets were run through the press the second time for the purpose of designating the use and denomination of the stamps. The words "Alberta" and "Law Stamp" are printed in fancy type in the centre of each stamp in two lines; the word "cents" is printed near the top and bottom of each stamp in uniform plain type and the value in plain type figures is inserted in each corner opposite the word "cents."

There are two distinct issues of the dollar stamp. In one printing the value is indicated by the dollar sign followed by the figure "1" printed in each corner. In the other, instead of the dollar sign, the words "one dollar" are printed in plain type across the top and bottom.

As previously intimated, because of the method followed in hand-setting these stamps, there are naturally numerous errors and varieties. The chief of these are as follows:

SCROLL BACKGROUND VARIETIES

On each stamp each of the six blocks or units of the background design has three circular corners and one corner with three points. The location of the three-pointed corners is not always the same. For descriptive purposes, if it is assumed that the normal

background scroll design has the three-pointed corner of each of the six blocks or units in its northeast corner, the following combinations will be found:

Locations of Three-pointed Corners

Var.	1st Block	2nd Block	3rd Block	4th Block	5th Block	6th Block
A	N.E.	N.E.	N.E.	N.E.	N.E.	N.E.
B	N.E.	S.E.	N.E.	N.E.	N.E.	N.E.
C	S.W.	S.E.	N.E.	N.E.	N.E.	N.E.
D	S.W.	S.E.	N.E.	N.E.	N.W.	N.E.
E	S.W.	S.E.	N.E.	N.E.	N.W.	N.W.
F	S.W.	S.W.	S.W.	S.W.	S.W.	S.W.

The location of these varieties of scroll background in sheets of twelve stamps indicates at least four distinct settings. In the following illustrations, each small square represents a stamp and the letters A, B, C, D, etc., the variety of scroll background on each stamp of the sheet:

--1--	--2--	--3--	--4--
D D D	D D D	A A A	A A A
D C D	D C D	A A A	A A A
D A E	D A D	A A A	A A A
D B D	D B D	A A A	A A F

Referring to the Reference List of the first issue of Alberta Law stamps, it will be found that sheets of the following numbers were printed, namely:

- Type 1--Nos. 1, 2, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20.
- Type 2--Nos. 3, 4, 6.
- Type 3--Nos. 7, 8, 9.
- Type 4--No. 21.

To illustrate: The scroll background of a sheet of No. 1 (10¢ mauve and green) is arranged as indicated by type 1 above. The background of the first stamp has its blocks arranged as indicated by variety "D". In this variety the three-pointed corner of the first block is in the S.W. corner; of the second, in the S.E.; of the third fourth and sixth in the N.E.; and of the fifth in the N.W. Similarly the 8th stamp in a sheet of No. 1, has its background arranged as indicated by variety "A" or in other words the three-pointed corners of all the blocks are in the N.E.

As a further illustration the scroll background of sheet No. 21 (the "one dollar" stamp) is of type 4. The first eleven stamps of the sheet have all their three-pointed corners in the N.E. Whereas in the twelfth stamp they are all in the S.W. (Varieties "A" and "F" respectively.)

From the above description, it will be noted that in each sheet of twelve stamps the following varieties are to be found:

Type 1--Variety A--Once.
 " B--Once.
 " C--Once.
 " D--8 times.
 " E--Once.
 " F--none.

Type 2--Variety A--Once.
 " B--Once.
 " C--Once.
 " D--9 times.
 " E--None.
 " F--None.

Type 3--Variety A--12 times.
 Type 4--Variety A--11 times.
 " F--Once.

BROKEN SCROLL VARIETIES

Among the many varieties of these are four that are readily noticeable, which for description purposes are numbered: G, H, I & J.

G--Part of the scroll is missing near the three-pointed corner in the 2nd block of the background, in the fifth stamp in each sheet of Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 & 20.

H--Is similar to G, except that it occurs in the fourth block of the 2nd stamp in each sheet of Nos. 7, 8, and 9.

I--The top part of the scroll block is missing or very badly broken in the 6th block of the 9th stamp in each sheet of Nos. 1, 2, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20.

J--Is similar to I, except that the block is broken or missing to the right instead of at the top. This variety occurs in the 6th block of the 9th stamp in each sheet of Nos. 3 and 6.

The existence and location of these broken scroll varieties, clearly indicate five distinct settings for the printing of the scroll backgrounds of stamps of the first issue, namely, the four indicated above--G, H, I and J--and that of stamp No. 4 (in reference list) in which the broken varieties I or J do not appear.

FANCY "L" VARIETIES

L--Throughout the entire series of the first issue the letter "L" in the word "Law" in the 5th, 10th and 12th stamps in each sheet has an extra stroke to the right and differs otherwise from the same letter as it appears on all other stamps.

The existence of this variety appearing always on the same stamps in each of twelve would indicate that the words "Alberta Law Stamp" were hand set once only and were used for all printings.

In some sheets of the 25¢ stamps there is a dot between the 2 and 5, occurring once in the sheet.

SMALL "2" VARIETIES

These occur only in the 25¢ stamps where occasionally a distinctly smaller and thinner "2" is used in the figures of Value. These varieties appear in all sheets of Nos. 7, 8, 9, 13 and 15, as follows:

- L--The 3rd stamp in each sheet has a small "2" in N.W.
- M--The 5th stamp in each sheet has a small "2" in N.W.
- N--The 6th stamp in each sheet has a small "2" in N.W. and N.E.
- O--The 11th stamp in each sheet has a small "2" in N.W. and S.W.

The small "2" Varieties do not appear in sheets of Nos. 10, 14 and 16. They may possibly be found in sheets of Nos. 11 and 12. It will thus be seen there were at least two distinct settings and printings of this denomination or value of the 25¢ stamps.

RAISED "O" VARIETIES

These are found in certain of the 10¢ and 20¢ stamps only, the figure "O" being printed higher than the "1" or "2". The following is a list of these:

- P--Raised "o" in N.W. of 1st stamp in each sheet of Nos. 1 and 5.
- Q--Raised "O" in S.W. of 9th stamp in each sheet of Nos. 1 and 5.
- R--Raised "O" in S.E. of 12th stamp in each sheet of No. 6.

In the 10¢ Values the raised "O" varieties occur only in sheets of Nos. 1 and 5. They are missing in Nos. 2, 3 and 4.

LOWERED "O" VARIETIES

These are similar to the last except that the figure "O" is lowered. They occur in the 10¢ and 50¢ values, only, as follows:

- S--Lowered "O" in N.E. of 7th stamp in each sheet of Nos. 1 and 5.
- T--Lowered "O" in N.E. of 11th stamp in each sheet of Nos. 1 and 5.
- U--Lowered "O" in N.W. of 11th stamp in each sheet of Nos. 17 and 18.

In the 10¢ values the lowered "O" varieties appear only in sheets of Nos. 1 and 5. They are missing in Nos. 2, 3 and 4.

BROKEN "O" VARIETIES

These consist of a broken "o" which has the appearance of a reversed "C". They are found in the 10¢ and 20¢ values only as follows:

- V--Broken "O" in S.W. of the 4th stamp in each sheet of Nos. 2, 3 and 4.
- X--Broken "O" in N.W. and S.E. of 7th stamp in each sheet of No. 6.
- W--Broken "O" in N.W. of 7th stamp in each sheet of Nos. 2, 3 and 4.

In the 10¢ values the broken "O" varieties appear only in sheets of Nos. 2, 3 and 4. They are missing in Nos. 1 and 5.

From the above description of raised, lowered and broken "O"'s it will be noted there were two distinct settings and printings of the 10¢ values. Sheets of Nos. 1 and 5 have stamps with both raised and lowered "O's" whereas Nos. 2, 3, and 4 have the broken "O" varieties.

WIDE "N" VARIETY

This occurs only in the "one dollar" stamp:

Y--Wide "N" in "one" at the top in the 4th stamp of sheet.

THIN "E" VARIETY

This also occurs only in the "one dollar" stamp:

Z--Thin "E" in "one" at the bottom in the 11th and 12th stamps of sheet.

NARROW \$1 VARIETIES

AA--These are found in the "\$1" variety--12th stamp. The distance between the figures "1" at the top and bottom of each stamp measures $26\frac{1}{2}$ millimeters as compared with $28\frac{1}{2}$ millimeters in the normal variety.

DOUBLE PRINTED SCROLL BACKGROUND VARIETY

BB--These are known to exist in the "one dollar" and other stamps, where the scroll background is distinctly double printed.

OTHER MINOR VARIETIES

There are many of these as it is doubtful if any two stamps in any sheet of 12 are alike.

Key & Position of Alberta Law Stamps.

Type I.

1. Small break at top right of Scroll, Block II.
2. Dot in centre of Block I.
3. Break in round corner at S.W. corner of stamp. Usually imperforate at top and right.
4. Right hand middle block has broken bottom, thus
5. Fancy L in Law. Block II has broken east side.
6. East side of Block IV has small break in centre. Small break in S.W. corner.
7. Border of scroll broken under Law.
8. Every block has pointed corner in N.E. position. A point showing at the top right.
9. Top of Block VI broken.
In some the side of Block VI is broken.
10. Fancy Land break between 5th and 6th block.
11. Middle branch of Block II is broken.
12. Fancy L. West side of Block IV broken.
Top and Right side imperforate.

Type II.

This does not present as many differences as there are in the other types. The arrangement of the stamps is almost the same as Type I with the exception that the 50 cent red has the broken scroll of No. 9 along the side and in the 25 cent yellow and black (or green) there is occasional absence of the dot between the 2 and 5 in the lower left of No. 4. In this case the dot before the 5 appears else-where (see article on position of dot).

Type III.

1. Dot in division of branch in Block VI.
2. Broken scroll Top of IV. Broken scroll under B in Alberta.
3. Imperforate at top and right.
Break in top of Block II.
4. Bottom of Block III absent.
Broken point in centre of pointed corner Block I.
5. Fancy L Dot in S.E. corner of Block III.
Break in lower line of Block IV.
Small 2 in N.W. corner.
6. Broken left to Block VI.
Imperforate Right.
7. In block VI Left of N.W. circular corner broken.
8. S.E. corner of Block VI broken.
Bottom of Blocks II and IV broken.
9. Dot in centre Broken branch of Block III.
Break in S.W. corner of Block III. Imperforate to Right.
10. Fancy L. Bottom of Block IV missing.
Break in Block I.
S.W. corner II. S.E. corner and top of Block V.
11. Bottom of Block IV broken.
Bottom of Block VI broken thus
12. Fancy L and right imperforate.
All blocks in Normal position.
Imperforate Top and Right of Sheets.

12. Fancy L and right imperforate.

All blocks in Normal position.
Imperforate Top and Right of Sheets.

Type IV.

1. Blocks I, II and VI all broken at bottom.
2. Broken bottom of Blocks I, II, III and IV.
3. Broken scroll of Block V, S.W. corner.
Broken scroll under stamp.
4. Wide "N" in "One" Dollar Top.
5. Fancy L. Dot near "A" in Alberta which is broken branch.
6. Defective along the top of Block V, under Law.
Defective middle point of pointed corner at E.F. Block I.
7. Small break top of Block III over "A" in Alberta.
8. Defective middle point of pointed corner in Block I.
9. Defective pointed corner of N.E. corner Block V.
Small break top of Block IV.
10. Fancy L. Broken Scroll bottom of Block II.
Broken branch over "A" in lower Dollar.
11. Then "E" at bottom "One".
12. Fancy L. All scrolls inverted.
"E" at bottom thin.
"One Dollar" in words.

The Position of the Dot in the First Issue Alberta Law Stamps.

The first issue of Alberta Laws was printed at the office of "The Edmonton Bulletin." They were in use from October 1st, 1906, until May 31st, 1907. The supply of type was limited and we find that the same type for figures, letters and fancy scroll background was used for the various types and values, but arranged and set up differently in some printings. This has resulted in numerous errors and varieties.

This is particularly true of the use of the figure five. In sheets of the 25 cent, 50 cent and 75 cent values, there are forty-eight 5's used--four to each stamp. One of these fives was defective, there being a black dot broken off from the lower curved part of the five. This black dot appears as follows:

Type I.

Dot between 2 and 5 in lower left stamp No. 4. Found in all shades:

- 25¢. Brown red and black.
- 25¢. Olive yellow and black.
- 25¢. Olive yellow and green.
- 25¢. Grey and black.
- 25¢. Grey green and black.
- 25¢. Mauve and black.
- 25¢. Red and green.

Type III.

(Pointed corners in the N.E. positions in all stamps of sheet)
Dot between 2 and 5 in upper left of stamp No. 5.

- 25¢. Red and black.
- 25¢. Green and black.
- 25¢. Yellow and black.

Type I.

Dot before 5 in upper left of stamp No. 5.

25¢. Olive yellow and black. (One printing).

50¢. Olive green and green.

75¢. Red and green.

50¢. Red and green.

Dot before 5. Upper left stamp No. 1.

Dot before 5. Upper left stamp No. 5.

No dot at all in some sheets.

In this last number there are evidently three distinct printings. There are also two varieties of broken scroll in stamp No. 9.