

SANDY McTIRE UPDATE

by Don Robb

New Discoveries:

There are two new discoveries to report. These are the first additions to our Sandy McTire series in several years. Including these two, we now have a total of 87 coupons in the Sandy McTire series. The new coupons are:

1) MP1C-10C: This is a 10 cent coupon on "Cheque" paper with "C" prefix serial numbers. The back is Blue with the "Do You Know?" format and a small seal underprint. There are now 4 coupons in the MP1C classification.

2) MP2B-30B2: This is a 30 cent coupon on "Bond" paper with "B" prefix serial numbers. The back is Black with a "We Pay Half!" format and no underprint, ie. clear. The MP2B classification already has a 30 cent "B" prefix coupon. It has a Red back and a small seal. It's number will be adjusted to MP2B-30B1. There are now 9 coupons in the MP2B classification.

Should we change our numbering standards?

At various times over the years there have been suggestions that certain changes would be appropriate. To properly respond to the question I need to describe for our members the present Sandy McTire coupon numbering standards.

In 1991, I started doing my research about these coupons. It became a tremendous challenge to bring together the many factors that had to be recognized. They are:

- 1) 5 Denominations: 5, 10, 20, 30 and 40 Cents.
- 2) 4 Types: Mor-Power Gas Bars, Canadian Tire Gas Bars, Pit stops and Pit stop.
- 3) 3 different back formats: Do You Know? We Pay Half and Free Membership.
- 4) Different Back "Underprints": Helmet, Both Large and Small Seals and Clear.
- 5) 6 Different Back Colors: Green, Blue, Red, Black, Violet and Rose.
- 6) Flexibility to add new discoveries.

Are Changes Needed?

These standards are clear and easy to understand. Jake's first lucky number 298. They have worked just fine since 1992 and have been maintained without change.

The two main suggestions for change are:

- 1) Recognize differences in shades of a color, eg. Orange along with Red, 2 shades of Blue and 3 shades of Green, etc.
- 2) High and Low "Pit stops".

Let's have a look at each of the above possibilities.

1) Color Shades:

- Red/Orange: (Here are a few examples)

MP1B-20C1: I have a coupon with a Red back and one with an Orange Back in my collection.

MP1B-20C3: Cataloged Red but Back of my coupon is Orange.

MP1C-20F: Have both Red and orange.

MP3B-40D2 and MP3B-40I: Cataloged as having a Red Back. Those in my collection have an Orange back.

- Shades of Green:

MP1C-5D: Have 2 distinct Greens.

PS2B-5: Have 3 distinct Greens.

PS2B-3C: Have 7 distinct Greens.

PS3B-5: Have 2 distinct Greens.

- Shades of Blue:

MP1B-10B3: Have 2 shades of Blue.

MP1B-10E: Have 2 shades of Blue

With regard to the Red/Orange suggestion I can tell you that in 1992 I agreed to the theory that the Orange was simply a faded Red. It was not printed as Orange. Does it merit its own number The right answer is "No".

The Green colors appear to be more definite. In my opinion they do not seem to be the result of color change or fading. There is some merit here.

So, what do we do? Do we open a possible hornet's nest and allow shades of some colors? My strong concern is that when it comes to shades of color we must face the inevitable question. Where does it start and where does it end? To keep things simple we should avoid shades of color. An individual can collect what he or she wants but let's keep the cataloguing as simple and as correct as possible.

2) High and Low "Pit stops":

Please refer to member John Emmett's informative article on Page 24 of the April 1999 issue of "The Collector".

Both the High and the Low "Pit stops" occur in PS1B-30H and PS2B-30 as well as in the Coupon John uses in his article. There maybe other instances as well.

I do not know why this difference occurs. Obviously it is in the printing process. Can anyone shed some light on this one? Is this an error or was it intentional? Does it merit a number if intentional?

Please send me your suggestions. I am interested in hearing your ideas and I assure you that a change that is logical and in the best interests of collectors can be made. Contact me at: Don Robb, Box 22062, Westmount P.O., Waterloo, Ont., N2L 6J7 E-mail: drr@golden.net

