STRETCHED SERIAL NUMBERS

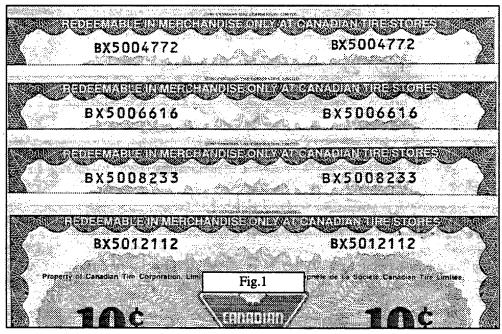
by Don Bradt (CM0000150)

Coupons with stretched serial numbers have been mentioned in three previous articles:

- Vol. 2, No. 1 Feb 1992 in article by Jerome Fourre,
- Vol. 3, No. 1 Feb 1993 in article by Jerome Fourre,
- Vol. 3, No. 3 Jul 1993 in article by Ghislaine Memme.

This article is an attempt to consolidate the information from the above articles pertaining to stretched serial number coupons and to add a couple of new observations. Coupons with stretched serial numbers are hereafter called stretched coupons in this article and Bilodeau catalogue numbers are used throughout. CTC S9 = Charlton 2nd edition CT-26-1 and CTC S13 = Charlton CT-26-2?

Stretched coupons are found in both the CTC S9 series (Figure 1) and the CTC S13 series (Figure 2). In both figures, the middle two coupons are stretched. If you take a normal S9 or S13 coupon (also S7 and S8) and compare the serial number spacing to text printed at 10 characters per inch you will see that the digits line up exactly. If you measure the space taken by the seven digits you get about 17.7

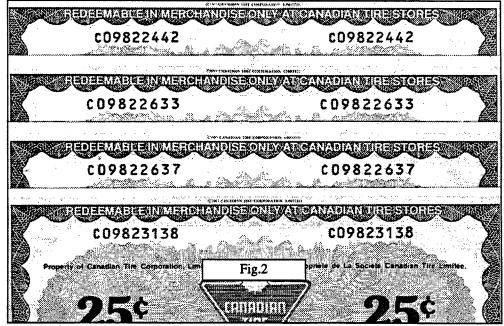


millimeters. The space used by the seven digits on a stretched coupon is 19.5 millimeters. It is interesting to note that this "stretched" serial number spacing is the normal spacing for S14 through S17 coupons and the S15 "compressed" serial numbers are the normal spacing of the pre-S14 series.

Another interesting point is that some of the prefix letters are also different sizes. This is easiest to see on the 10¢ coupons. The stretched coupons have a significantly fatter "B" in the prefix. See Figure 1.

All "accepted"(* in prefix) replacement coupons in the S9 and S13 series are also stretched coupons. See Figure 3.

The S9 series has two major stretched serial number ranges in the 10¢ coupons (BX5260280 BX5434973 & BX8005086 BX8104539) and one in each of the other denominations. These coupons are not too difficult to find, except for the \$1.00 denomination where there were less than 40,000 printed. There are also three small ranges in the 10¢ coupons with



STRETCHED SERIAL NUMBERS cont'd

serial numbers BX500nnnn. BX962nnnn and BX969nnnn. Using the numbers from the combined high/low list at the end of this article you can calculate just how scarce these coupons are. All "nnnn" are not stretched coupons, i.e. there are not 10,000 coupons in these ranges. I have not found any S9 stretched coupons



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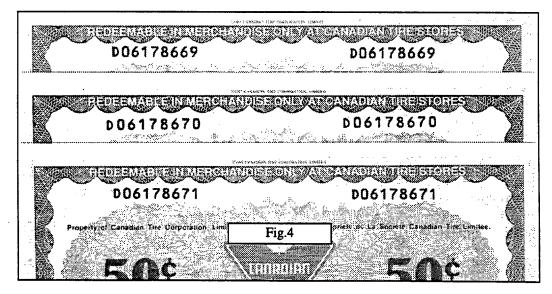
for the other denominations outside the one range.

The S13 series (single letter prefix followed by an eight digit serial number) is more interesting. Each denomination has a single range of stretched coupons at the end of the series plus a number of coupons that are scattered singly or in small lumps throughout the serial number range of the S13 series. Possibly the Canadian Banknote Company (CBN) had already printed the new look S15 series but CTC was not quite ready to switch to them. They needed a few new coupons to tide them over and CBN printed these as a rush order.

The random S13 stretched coupons are even more interesting. Jerome Fourre spoke to a CBN public relations person at the CNA 92 show in Montreal and she said that the stretched coupons were replacement coupons. This conforms to everything I have discovered about them. I have even found three consecutive coupons (Figure 4) where the middle coupon is stretched and the other two are normal. In addition, the middle coupon is a slightly different size and the margins are different.

The high/low list at the end of this article is a combined list comprised of the best coupons from the following people: • D - Don Bradt • G - Gary Doran • J - Jerome Fourre • R - Roger Fox These code letters follow each coupon serial number in the list.

I've been ill for the last six years with CFS (Chronic Fatigue Syndrome). In fact that was how I got into collecting CTC coupons. I needed a relatively inexpensive hobby that I could do at home that was physically undemanding and had no time constraints. So I was wrong about "inexpensive"... two out of three isn't bad. In addition to the well known symptoms of CFS, there are a few that are not so well known or understood. One of these is having trouble working with numbers. There are days when I can't sort ten coupons into ascending order of serial number! Anyway, I apologize in advance for any errors, omissions, inconsistencies, etc. in the following table. For me it was a real challenge and I spent several months producing it in small increments.



Combined High/Low STRETCHED List

Bil. # Low Serial	High Serial	Description	Bil. # Low Serial	High Serial	Description
CTC S9-A	5 cents	,	C09823138-D	C09832363-D	Normal
AY2342736-D	AY7536692-D	Normal	C09832522-D	C09832851-D	Stretched
AY7540490-J	AY7639892-D	Stretched	C09833077-D	C10989899-G	Normal
AY7640281-J	AY9999784-J	Normal	CTC S14-B		
CTC S13-A			0010990266-D	0011601754-D	
A00745823-J	A01676786-J	Normal	CTC S13-C		
A01799591-G	A01799997-J	Stretched	C11602712-G	C12701505-G	Normal
A01832541-J	A05097066-D	Normal	C12702397-G	C12789968-G	Stretched
A05098012-D	A05099483-G	Stretched			
A05100134-D	A05239913-D	Normal	CTC S9-D	50 cents	
A05240877-G	A05315884-R	Stretched	DZ7325845-J	DZ8574810-D	Normal
			DZ8575052-J	DZ8704890-D	Stretched
CTC S9-B	10 cents		-	2283-G is normal))
BX0005231-R	BX5004772-D	Normal	DZ8705272-G	DZ9999920-J	Normal
BX5005773-J	BX5009417-J	Stretched	CTC S13-D		
BX5011865-J	BX5259503-G	Normal	D06112046-R	D06124036-D	Normal
BX5260280-G	BX5434973-D	Stretched	D06129576-D	one only	Stretched
BX5436036-G	BX8004863-G	Normal	D06132632-D	D06178790-R	Normal
BX8005086-G	BX8104539-D	Stretched	D06228935-G	D06229131-R	Stretched
(but BX880	95402-G is norma	•	D06229806-R	D06517802-D	Normal
BX8105181-J	BX9627892-D	Normal	D06521936-D	one only	Stretched
BX9628223-D	BX9629387-D	Stretched	D06522741-D	D06551829-D	Normal
BX9630054-D	BX9697965-G	Normal	D06551830-D	one only	Stretched
BX9698116-G	BX9699931-G	Stretched	D06552532-D	D07176858-G	Normal
BX9700147-R	BX9999856-D	Normal	D07177000-G	one only	Stretched
CTC S13-B			D07177060-G	D07958254-D	Normal
B05784516-D	B06148708-J	Normal	D07959338-G	D07959574-D	Stretched
B06149233-J	one only	Stretched	D07961199-D	D08611735-G	Normal
B06149464-J	B06877795-J	Normal	D08614790-G	D08687811-D	Stretched
B06877801-J	B06877815-J	Stretched			
B06877876-J	B06878650-J	Normal	CTC S9-E	\$1.00	
B06878778-J	B06878813-R	Stretched	EZ6410357-J	EZ7709653-J	Normal
B06878920-J	B09731209-D	Normal	EZ7711485-G	EZ7746540-J	Stretched
CTC S14-A			EZ7748816-G	EZ9999871-D	Normal
0009733463-D	0010219923-G	Normal	CTC S13-E		
CTC S13-B			E06891033-J		Normal
B10222405-G	B12819060-G	Normal	E06969812-G	one only	Stretched
B12821485-D	B12882293-G	Stretched	E06970931-G	E07097978-G	Normal
			E07099372-G	E07099955-J	Stretched
CTC S9-C	25 cents		E07100973-G	E07339721-J	Normal
CY0720098-D	CY3219864-G	Normal	E07438169-J	E07580919-J	Stretched
CY3221016-G	CY3519801-D	Stretched	E07630502-J	E07868063-D	Normal
CY3520145-G	CY7669556-D	Normal	E07868169-D	one only	Stretched
			E07869508-D	E07927777-G	Normal
CTC S13-C			E07928276-G	one only	Stretched
C08542089-D	C09772131-G	Normal	E07944966-D	one only	Normal
C09772837-G	C09772882-D	Stretched	E07948337-D	one only	Stretched
C09773043-G	C09782326-G	Normal	E07956177-D	E07968250-J	Normal
C09782677-G	C09782884-G	Stretched	E07968276-J	one only	Stretched
C09783530-G	C09792119-G	Normal	E07968292-J	E08268346-J	Normal
C09792523-G	C09792674-R	Stretched	E08309469-J	one only	Stretched
C09795640-R	C09802410-D	Normal	E08388797-J	E08641358-G	Normal
C09802504-J	C09812983-R	Stretched	E08642276-G	E08842907-D	Stretched
(>4, but C09804188-D is normal).			E08889586-J	one only	Normal
C09815458-R	C09822442-D	Normal	E08891027-G	E08926884-G	Stretched
C09822637-D	C09822876-D	Stretched	I		
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