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## The Gouges in the Outer Frame of the Z. 65B – "Plate Fault 2"

by Roberto Lopez

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**Everyone is familiar with the Cross and Numeral issue from 1882 to 1907. A stamp which celebrated in 2012 its 130th year of existence, it was born 1 April 1882 and was used until 31 December 1924, or 43 years of use. It is far from retirement, because even today we can discover new things about this issue.**

This issue is fascinating for the multitude of cancellations which can be found on mail, and for its printings and varieties. It is a delight for those of us who love to find "fly specks".

Turning to the *Zumstein Spezialkatalog* (August 2000) we look on page 94 of the book and we find under 65B (5 cts. green) the variety 65B.2.02, with the following description: "broken edge (6 different - see illustrations)." Unfortunately, there are only two illustrations in the catalog, one on page 93, and the other on Page 94.

What are these 6 errors? One would expect a little more information, as these errors are listed at CHF 50. This issue is described in the articles of Raymond Roux that appear in the *SBZ* between 1985 and 1988. We will examine the 6 errors chronologically. We also indicate the degree of rarity (DR) with 1 for the most common and 10 for most rare.

*(Continued on page 8)*

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# The Gouges in the Outer Frame of the Z. 65B – "Plate Fault 2"

(Continued from page 1) The first to the fourth errors (figures 1 thru 4) are on the 4th issue (3rd re-impresion, 1899-1902). The first error is a very strong notch on the top left (A1) with deformation of the upper right corner (A6), DR 6. The second is a very large gouge in the upper right (A5-6), DR 5. The third is in the form of very large break of the first two frames at the top right (A6), DR4. The fourth and last of this issue is a very large triangular notch at the top right (AB6) DR1.



Fig. 1. First Error.  
65B.4.3.2, DR 6



Fig. 2. Second error.  
65B.4.33.6, DR 5



Fig. 3. Third error.  
65B.4.3.13, DR 4



Fig. 4. Fourth error.  
65b.4.3.14, DR 1

The greatest pleasure for a philatelist is to find these errors on documents. The postcard (Fig. 5) has the first error (65B.4.3.2, DR 6).

We will find the fifth error (Fig. 7) on the 6 cts. (5th reprinting, 1904-1905); it takes the form of a very large fracture in the lower right (G6), 7 DR.



Fig. 5. Postcard from Montreux to Amsterdam franked with 5 cts. (this was sent as printed matter – printed matter rate from 01.01.1875 until 01.31.1921, 5 cts. per 50 g). 65B.4.3.2, DR: 6. Postmarked Montreux: postmark group 39a.



Fig. 6. Postcard from Basel to London franked with 10cts. (postcard rate from 1.7.1875 to 31.1.1921); 77C, 65B.4.3 13, DR: 4

There is a crack that looks much like the error above. It is present in the 7th issue (6th re-impresion, 1905-1906), but on Z.82 (large cross watermark!). The lower right corner is strongly deformed (G6), DR8; it is more rare. The sixth and final error (Fig. 9) is present on the 7th issue (6th reprinting, 1905-1906). This is a large error just to the right of the middle of the bottom frame (G4), DR6.

This error should not be confused with the round notch on the 4th issue (3rd re-entry, 1899-1902), DR 6, which it closely resembles.

As you can see, all of these errors of the outer frame are not as rare as represented in the *Zumstein Spezialkatalog*.



Fig. 7. Fifth error.  
65B.6.5.9



Fig 9: Sixth Error.  
65B.7.6.24, DR 6.

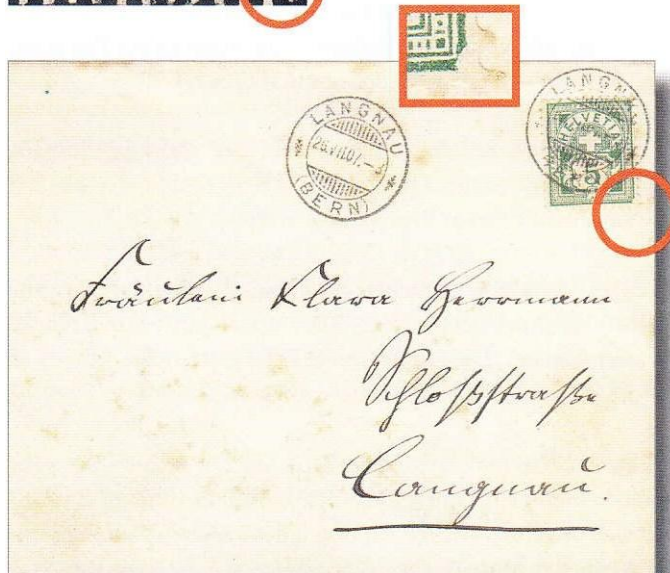


Fig 8. Letter from Langnau to Langnau franked with 5 cts. (local Rayon tariff from 01.01.1897 to 31 12.1917 to 250 g). 82.7.6.15, DR 8



Fig. 10 Postcard from Vevey to Divonne-Les-Bains franked with 10 cts. (Postcard tariff from 01.07.1875 to 31 12.1921). PK 26, 65B.4.3.24, DR: 6

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