Subject: Caliber 151 - (Extra) Precision - 5 1/2 " Posted by Case on Mon, 15 Jun 2020 13:44:42 GMT

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Adding this one into the database. The 1939 standardized parts catalogue lists this as "Extra Precision" grade. Not sure what that means. Was it one of the calibers that got a gold special "Extra Precision" edition for the 50th anniversary?

It is a Gruen Watch Co. caliber--not a Guild caliber--but there is no "Precision" factory serial number. Interesting. It seems to be Favre sourced, like so many 1xx series. Not sure what additional finishing, if any, Gruen did. Perhaps just grinding a bevel on the narrow ends of the front plate?

This one adjusted for temperatures only, I'm guessing mid- to late 1920s. Coded L 19.

Here is the Favre in-house version, sold under their Delphia brand. L 335. Thanks to seller for permission to post images.

File Attachments

1) favre delphia 151 bp.jpg, downloaded 2040 times

Page 1 of 11 ---- Generated from Vintage Gruen



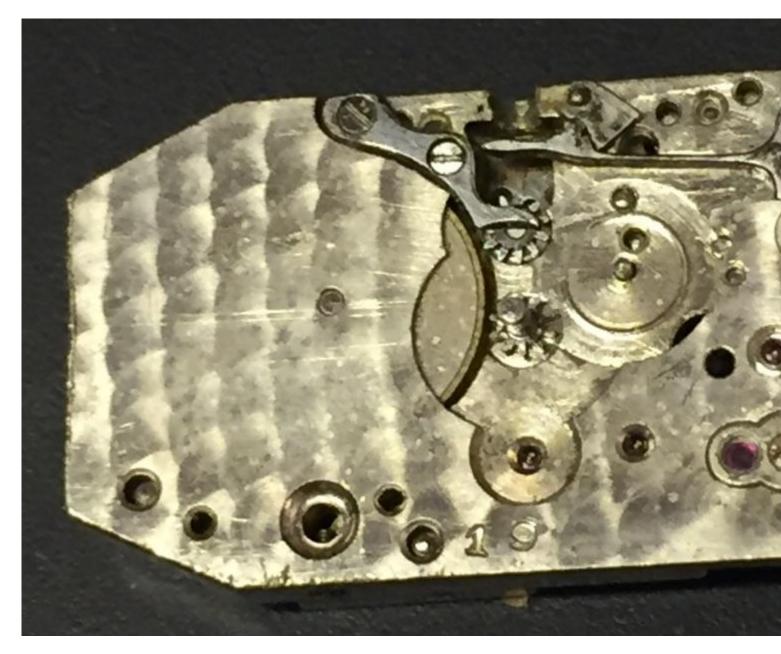
Page 3 of 11 ---- Generated from Vintage Gruen



3) 151 bp.jpeg, downloaded 2057 times



4) 151 fp.jpeg, downloaded 2037 times



5) 151 letter code.jpeg, downloaded 2061 times



Subject: Re: Caliber 151 - (Extra) Precision - 5 1/2 '"
Posted by Barney Green on Mon, 15 Jun 2020 13:57:38 GMT

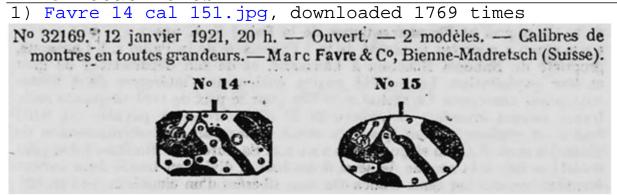
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Also Cal.151 is an ID'd Favre movement. No. 14 from 1921...

No. 15 appears to be not used by Gruen, or has anyone seen this one with a Gruen making?

Barney

File Attachments



Subject: Re: Caliber 151 - (Extra) Precision - 5 1/2 "Posted by afire on Wed, 17 Jun 2020 18:38:41 GMT

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Case wrote on Mon, 15 June 2020 08:44The 1939 standardized parts catalogue lists this as "Extra Precision" grade.

• • •

I'm guessing mid- to late 1920s.

The 1926 standardized parts catalog has it listed only as Precision. All of the calibers listed as Precision Extra at this time were 18 jewels. And they usually have a diamond shaped Precision logo:

The exception would be the gold finished Quadrons that are "engraved in the old Guild manner." They are marked Precision Extra, but are 17 jewels and other than the finishing, appear to be a standard 117/119/123. But maybe there were finer adjustments or something. So, I would conclude that the 1926 catalog is correct, and the 1939 Precision Extra designation is a mistake. Unless somewhere between 1926 and 1939 this caliber was upgraded to higher specs.

I'm a little surprised that it is a Favre movement. I had thought that by this time the Precision designation was reserved for in-house calibers, with the outsourced calibers being designated Guild. Evidently things were not quite as clear-cut as I had presumed.

Subject: Re: Caliber 151 - (Extra) Precision - 5 1/2 "Posted by Case on Thu, 18 Jun 2020 00:20:54 GMT

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Never seen one like # 15 yet, Barney

Favre seems to be the exception. Were he and Aegler guys all just super close to the Gruens? Then again, I'm not aware of even an Aegler marked with Gruen Watch Co Precision. Always struck me as odd that Favre and Aegler were the only ones who remained WSC and never got a movement letter in the first "Guild X" period, then the only ones to get one in 1929.

Regarding Extra Precision, I've never seen one, but that's cuz I've never seen any! Those 5th Ave shop lady creations seem to have some choice trim, always a surprise. Maybe one will turn up in a 5th Ave, but I'm inclined to agree with you.

Subject: Re: Caliber 151 - (Extra) Precision - 5 1/2 "
Posted by Barney Green on Thu, 02 Jul 2020 19:31:25 GMT
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Back to the original topic, here another proof that cal 151 is a Marc Favre movement:

Barney

File Attachments

1) Anzeige_Marc_Favre,_F.H._7._Juni_1922.jpg, downloaded 1627 times

<u>Il taut voir</u> la Rectangulaire 5 lig.



18 rubis

largeur 12,4 m/m. longueur 22 m/m, hauteur 3 m/m

de Marc Favre & Co

pour se rendre à l'évidence que son

fini parfait — son excellente marche — son réglage précis

lui assurent cette supériorité incontestée

qui fait le succès de la vente

En préparation : ovale 5 lig. pendentif

Autres calibres de la maison :

ancre 7 3/4, 8 1/2, 8 3/4, 9, 9 3/4, 10, 10 1/2, 11, 13 lig.

Nouveaux prix pour 1922

Subject: Re: Caliber 151 - (Extra) Precision - 5 1/2 " Posted by Case on Fri, 03 Jul 2020 03:24:36 GMT

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Favre for the ladies, now and forever!

Subject: Re: Caliber 151 - (Extra) Precision - 5 1/2 " Posted by Gary on Fri, 03 Jul 2020 04:32:11 GMT

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18 jewels?

Subject: Re: Caliber 151 - (Extra) Precision - 5 1/2 "

Posted by Barney Green on Fri, 03 Jul 2020 05:51:09 GMT

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Good catch, I think that the number of jewels could easily have been varied. Favre seem to has advertised the maximum possible, but they should have been able to reduce the jewel count to customers requirements.

Subject: Re: Caliber 151 - (Extra) Precision - 5 1/2 "Posted by Case on Fri. 03 Jul 2020 12:38:13 GMT

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Yep, always show your best.

Back to afire's comment: the ad shows an 18J + all adjustments 151 is possible. We shall see if one ever turns up

Subject: Re: Caliber 151 - (Extra) Precision - 5 1/2 "Posted by Case on Sun, 26 Jul 2020 23:48:17 GMT

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Back to the Extra Precision question: here's a theory. The 151 is listed as 5.25L in the 1926 parts catalog. Fast forward to 1939, where it's shown as "Extra Precision", and it's listed as 5.5L.

There was another 5.5L Extra Precision with the same layout as 151 in the 1926 book: the 840. For a limited time, you can view both sides of an 840 on sold item # 383608908018. I missed it while traveling.

You can also see the back side of one here on the forum.

Was the 151 a necked down evolution of the 840? Could be the bridge between Barney's 18J ad for the 151 layout & the later "Extra Precision" notation.

Subject: Re: Caliber 151 - (Extra) Precision - 5 1/2 " Posted by Jenneke on Mon, 27 Jul 2020 14:23:56 GMT

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See cal 105. 1926 is it GWC precision. In 1939 extra precision. Same difference in ligne.

I would go for a mistake in the 1939 book, there is no diamond on the movement.