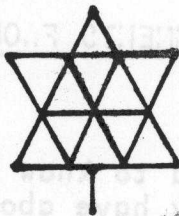


CENTENNIAL DEFINITIVES  
STUDY GROUP  
NEWSLETTER  
Number 46  
WINTER 1990



EDITOR:  
JOHN AITKEN  
P.O. BOX 2021  
LAMBETH, ONT.  
NOL ISO

Greetings everyone! This is my first effort at putting together a newsletter. I hope you will find it entertaining, and worthy of the encouragement you have been sending me.

As this is the last week of winter, the "WINTER" edition is appearing barely in time. I will try to reduce the suspense for next issue.

At this time I think it is appropriate that we congratulate Doug Irwin on his nine years of effort on our behalf. He and the late Murray Freedman organized the Study Group and got it moving. Over the years, to publicize the Centennials Doug has written articles for TOPICS, CANADIAN PHILATELIST and LINN'S as well as exhibiting his collections at the local, national and international levels. He has arranged Study Group meetings for several BNAPS conventions. He put together slide shows - available through the R.P.S.C. - and made it possible for the membership to obtain a photographic record of the Canadian Banknote proofs and essays shown at CAPEX. He was a key figure in the last two handbooks about the Centennials. And along the way he found time to put out 45 consecutive, on-time newsletters with 285 pages of articles, comments and illustrations. WELL DONE!! Doug. And thanks for the pleasure you have given us.

Included with this issue is an index to the 45 newsletters put out by Doug Irwin. A check of the listings will quickly establish the diversity of subjects that have been covered. I hope that having this reference will assist newsletter readers in their search for information and for new collecting ideas.

Doug Irwin has agreed to provide back issues to those requesting them. To cover postage, and possibly photo-copying, the cost will be as follows:

\$1.25	each for 1 to 4 issues
\$1.00	" " next 6 "
\$.80	" " balance over 10

Note: Issues #1, #2 and #3 are counted as one together.

SPECIAL: Full set, ( #s 1-45) regularly \$37.40, for \$30.

There are 5+ copies available of a majority of the issues, but when these are gone we will have to review the practicality of offering this service. So don't delay - Write to Doug Irwin at 2250 Lawrence Ave E. Apt. 406, Scarborough, Ont., M1P 2P9

SOME COMMENTS FROM THE EDITORSTUDY GROUP STATUS

You will be pleased to know that our Study Group is in good shape. We currently have about 50 members, both long term and recent additions.

We are solvent - thanks in part to financial contributions this year from Perc Muirhead, Rick Penko, Robert Lemire, Alfred Hermes, Carlton Steeves, George Rodgers and John Reynolds.

As your new editor, I was delighted ( and relieved ) to inherit a healthy supply of newsletter contributions from no less than 17 members. At present I have material on hand from the following people: John Jamieson, Vaughn MacPherson, Mike Painter, Jim Pilkington, Don Ure, Ray Metcalf, Ed Butler, Doug Irwin, Arthur Beecham, Elliott Berman, Scott Traquair, Peter Lehman, Guenter Jansen, J. R. Thomson, John Reynolds, Jack Myers, Andrew Chung, Robert Lee, Charles Firby and Dick Staecker.

The subjects covered include mis-perfs, damaged mail, booklet varieties, special order postal stationery, printing varieties, unusual rate covers, first day covers and mail from the Arctic. Some of the contributions appear in this newsletter

EDITORIAL OBJECTIVES

At the Hamilton convention, during a late-night discussion of why people belong to study groups, it emerged that one of the major reasons was "To find out information that is not in the catalogue."

This leads me to a statement of my objectives for the newsletter. Since I like to use the Centennials as a focal point for the study of Canadian Philately in general, I'd like to see a broad range of topics looked at. As well, over time I hope to see the newsletter become a source for all the information one could want about the Centennials. I hope we can achieve this with current submissions, and by re-printing and re-examining articles from elsewhere.

It is important to remember that we <sup>have</sup> members well-versed in the issue, and others just undertaking it. We have researchers and we have readers. Some are keen, others just mildly interested. All are vital to our group, and I hope to have something to offer to all. If you don't find something for you in this issue, look for it in the next. Or drop me a line and we'll see what we can come up with.

DUES REMINDER

If a red "X" appears in this space your 1990 Study Group fee of \$5 ( Cdn or US ) is now due. ( Several prospective members will have a "?" instead.)

Please make the cheque payable to John Aitken, not to the Centennial Definitives Study Group.

Please be prompt. I hate bookkeeping. And we could use this space for something more interesting .

## BOOK REVIEW

The Charlton Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Postage Stamps  
 First Edition, 1982. Volume 3. Elizabethan Era  
 edited by George Papaspyrou and Ron Richards  
 published by The Charlton Press. 241 pages

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I'd like to thank Arthur Beecham for drawing my attention to this book. It contains useful information on a variety of subjects, such as:

- a philatelic history of the period
- printers and/or designers for most issuers ( tho' no mention of who designed the Centennials)
- where available, quantities printed, both total and philatelic

The section covering the Centennials is 21 pages long, of which  $10\frac{1}{2}$  pages are priced tables of the booklets and stamps including blocks, plate blocks and first day covers. The other  $10\frac{1}{2}$  pages discuss the issues, printing methods and so on. Although sources for this information are not always given, I found several of the passages particularly interesting. For example, on pages 68 and 69 in discussing "the return of straight-edged panes" produced by British American Banknote Co.

"The printing cylinders were arranged so that on stock supplied to the philatelic service, only the right-hand margin was straight-edged, with the top and bottom margins accomodating the philatelic inscription. On corresponding field stock the top and bottom margins were also straight-edged, leaving only the left-hand side of the pane with selvedge. This 3mm selvedge margin was required to serve as a gripper in the press operation and was also used to staple 50 panes of stamps to a cardboard cover, which was part of the security packaging at that time.

"In the case of the 6-cent definitive, the individual stamp size was set at 24 mm x 20 mm. Each pane of 100 stamps (10 x 10) required an area of 240 mm plus 8 mm of selvedge, for a total of 248 mm. The cylinder circumference was set at 744 mm to accommodate the printing of three panes around. Slitting devices were installed to cut off any side trim where the outside edge perforation holes would normally occur. The philatelic inscription of these panes was located outside or beyond the slitter positions. In the production of regular field stock these trimmed philatelic inscription margins were destroyed. A cross-cutting device cut the web of the stamps into individual panes by cutting across the wab at the position where the top row of perforation holes would normally appear.

"Two changes were made on the printing press for the production of philatelic stock. First, the slitter wheels were relocated to positions outside the imprint area. Second, perforation pins were added to the plates to correspond with the outside edge positions previously produced as slit straight-

edges. In this mode the only straight-edges appear at the "top" of the sheets, ( actually, the right-hand side) with the additional perforations accommodating corner inscriptions on panes of philatelic stock. All upper right and lower right inscription blocks contain a straight edge.

"After three years a decision was made to return to selved edges on the four sides of all stamp panes. The only definitive stamp printings affected by this experiment were B.A.B.N.'s printings of the 6-cent value, orange and black varieties."

Booklet production also receives some attention. On p. 76

"Sometime in late 1972 the black sealing strip was replaced with a clear seal which resembled a type of colourless gum. The sealing of the postage booklets by B.A.B.N. is accomplished by what is known technically as the Howarine Process.

"The Howarine Process is a two-component sealing system. Component A is incorporated in printing ink which is applied along the inner edge of one of the flaps with the booklet in the open position. The printing plate for this is a narrow strip of rubber which is wrapped around a printing cylinder in the appropriate location. A split line corresponds to the position where the rubber strip meets itself on the cylinder, once every ten booklets. On the pictorial booklets, the advertising slogans on the inside front cover are printed simultaneously with the Howarine strip.

"Component B is applied to the edges to be sealed after the booklets have been folded. This material is a liquid. It has an affinity for and reacts with Component A on contact to form an adhesive which quickly dries to seal the flaps. The system enables the sealing of booklets in packs of 50 or 100 because Component B penetrating between booklets has no sealing effect - only where it contacts Component A inside the individual booklet does sealing take place.

"The clear sealing strip replaced the black sealing strip on both the 25-cent and 50-cent pictorial booklets. At the same time, OP-2 tagging replaced OP-4 tagging on these booklets."

Can anyone send in a clear photocopy of this "split line" variety? It would be interesting to illustrate it in the newsletter.

Referring back to the first passage quoted, in Newsletter number 9, Leopold Beaudet sketched the B.A.B.N. cylinder layout and made some interesting observations.

Some of the figures for quantities printed contradict or rather differ from the second edition of Keane & Hughes. For example, the Charlton book says only 25,000 of the Opal booklet with the perforated gutter were produced. Doug Irwin says the release from the Philatelic Bureau cites 225,000. There is also a discrepancy with the totals of the "TWO BOOKLETS OF" variety. Nevertheless, I enjoyed this book and would recommend it .

## POSTAL STATIONERY

Charles Firby sent this photocopy of Webb EN 95a (Scott U94). At his June '89 auction of this envelope bidding opened at \$325 US and closed at \$450 US plus 10% - or just over \$600 Cdn - nearly 5x catalog.

Why?????

Perhaps John Jamieson's Christmas price list has the answer. John wrote "I know many collectors who ... have paid what are breath-taking prices for a philatelic treasure with pleasure - an item they had been seeking for years!"

So, perhaps the buyer was "focusing on a key piece" as John might put it. Or had grown tired of waiting. Or was crazy.

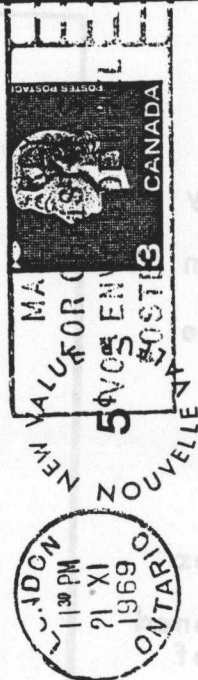
Incidentally, John's catalogues currently contain a series of well written and illustrated articles about "Imperforate and Part Perforates of Canada - 1859 to 1989". Number 128 will be featuring the imperforate coil errors - sure to be of interest to some Centennial collectors.

LONDON GEM & MINERAL CLUB  
BOX 4551, STATION C  
LONDON, CANADA

Mr O McCarthv

1158 Nashua Ave

London 61, Ont.



MORE POSTAL STATIONERY

Arthur Beecham provided this photocopy of Webb EN 818 - a revalued Cameo election envelope.

According to Earle Covert, who originally located these, eight mint copies and five used ones ( one torn ) are known. These stem from a Territories by-election in November 1970.

Earle also mentioned that the whereabouts of the French language version of this envelope ( EN 818a ) is not known. It was reported to Jim Webb and thus listed.

NEW FINDS

A newly found 4¢ special order envelope was sold in Robert Lee's Sept. 9/89 auction for \$77. The window envelope has grey lining and measures 222 x 95 mm. The corner card reads: "RETURN IN TEN DAYS TO/ AMBROSE WAY, ASSESSOR/ TAMWORTH,ONT." 1,000 copies were ordered in April 1968.

Unfortunately, the photocopy Bob sent would not reproduce here.

Dick Staecker reports a copy of the 7¢ CN Express form 5345-B-TOR headed: P.O. Box 400 -Case postale 400/ Postal Station "W"/ TORONTO 385, ONT.



The printed postage stamp is sufficient.

No ordinary adhesive postage stamp need be affixed.

**FORM 95-12-65-190M**

If not delivered within five days

SEND TO

CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

OTTAWA

To.....

(Occupation, as given on ballot paper)

A candidate at the pending election for a member to serve in the

COUNCIL OF THE ~~Province of~~ **Northwest Territories**

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

(P.O. address, as given on ballot paper)

Province of.....

Electoral District of.....  
Statement of Poll from Polling Station

No.....

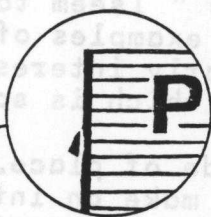
Dispatched by

Deputy Returning Officer.

PLATE FLAWS

Recently Mike Painter has kept the Centennials before the SNAPS public with several articles in TOPICS. Mike very kindly sent in copies of two plate flaws he has located. ( If anyone can help in locating the plate or position it would be appreciated. ) As always, Mike's diagrams are beautifully detailed. Let's hope he finds the time and material to do more.

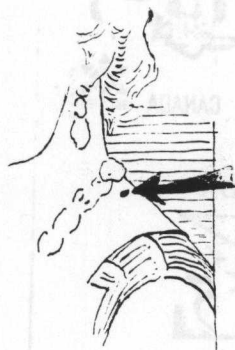
Mike is not the only one with sharp eyes. Ed Butler sent in a photocopy of three different blocks of the 2¢ 455iv with a small dot under the 'e' of POSTES on the fourth stamp from the left margin, second row from the bottom.



460ci: Die II, 6¢ black, plain paper, perf  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ , BABN.

This is the fifth flaw found to date on the die II stamps. It consists of a small triangle adjacent to a slight thinning of the frame line in the upper left corner. The fault is just visible to

the naked eye. Two used copies have been found from different sources, so there is every indication that it is constant. The plate position is not yet identified, other than the stamp comes from row 1, with straight edge at the top.



8¢ plate flaw: 544i, slate, plain paper.

A small slate dot occurs on the Queen's shoulder, just below the top bead in her necklace. Plate and position not yet identified.



CREDITS DUE ON ISSUE No. 45

Through my oversight credits for material shown in the last issue ( number 45 ) were omitted. I wish to thank Dick Staecker for the KP 102 Eaton's card photocopy.

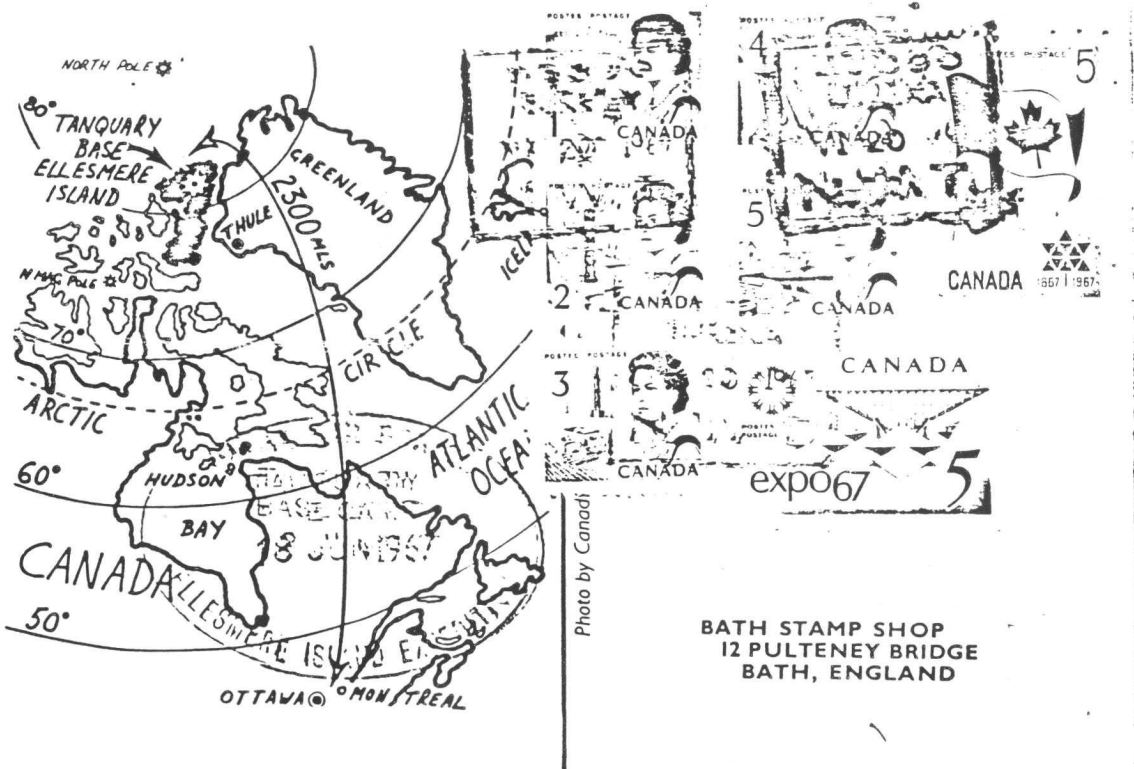
The information about the crash cover comes courtesy of R. K. Malott, and the photocopy of the information slip with the cover is from a text on mail from airplane crashes 1918-1978 by Henri L. Nierinck. In the book the cover shown is described under entry number 690528.

AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT

John Thomson writes ( to Doug ) " I seem to recall that in a previous newsletter you asked for examples of usage of Centennial stamps. Nothing particularly interesting except they originated in a part of Canada which is so little known to the general population."

Granted, the cachets hold pride of place. Nevertheless I find them fascinating. They would make an interesting sideline collection. Does anyone know the stories behind these particular examples?

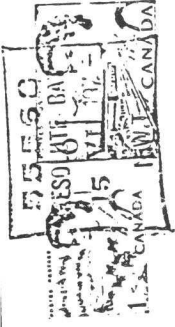
Commemorative cachets are something we haven't dealt with previously in the newsletter. I hope to see more of them.



The oval datestamp reads: JOINT AIR FORCES/ TANQUARY/ BASE CAMP/ 18 JUN 1967/ ELLESMERE ISLAND EXPEDITION!  
The MOON cancel reads: 55390/ EUREKA/ VI 20 1967/ N.W.T.







Mrs. M. Speller  
3839 Saanich Rd.  
Victoria, B.C.



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