

It has been now about one year since we conceived the idea of starting a Centennial Study Group. Initially, we had hoped to find enough Centennial Collectors in the Toronto area who were interested in actively participating in our study group. Our central nucleus consisted of five members from the Toronto and Barrie area. During the past year, we have met on several occasions to discuss a wide variety of Centennial stamp queries as well as to look at each others' Centennial collections. The findings from some of these meetings and photo sessions have resulted in the articles which have appeared in TOPICS.

The TOPICS articles have resulted in our receiving letters from other interested Centennial stamp collectors in North America. Because of this response, we decided to initiate a Newsletter to share information for all interested parties.

We are starting this Newsletter on a trial basis. I am sure that you realize that the secret of success for this venture depends, to a very large extent, upon the exchange of information (whether it be hard fact or merely speculation). Therefore, we are strongly relying on all of you to actively take part in contributing to this Newsletter.

We are hoping to cover all aspects of the Centennial issue (stamps, coils, booklets, postal stationery, etc.). We look forward to your comments on the questions posed in this Newsletter and to your own queries.


The first article in TOPICS (The PVA Gum enigma, Volume 38, No. 1) has brought an interesting query from Leopold Beaudet. It concerns the C.B.N.Co. inscriptions on the miscut corners of the 15¢ Bylot island. These inscriptions have a series of scratches through them. We assumed that this was done to indicate that this portion of the selvedge was to be removed (but this may not necessarily have been the reason). We have seen a sheet of 460fiii, Ottawa tagged (plate 2) printed by C.B.N.Co. which should have had the plate inscriptions removed, but due to a perforation shift and subsequent miscutting of the pane, the inscription remains with no scratches through it. These miscut sheets indeed warrant further study and would make a very interesting article in TOPICS. We would appreciate information from anyone who either has an example of a miscut corner with the plate inscription remaining (but should have been removed) or has seen such a piece. A photo ( or a good, clear photocopy ) of the piece is best, but if this is not possible, a thorough description of the piece would be appreciated.

We have started to receive letters regarding the first article on Centennial booklets (TOPICS, Volume 38, No. 2). Bk. 59 with "cancelled" stamped on the cover and on the pane inside is done in red ink (not black as was inadvertently reported) William Muttera (3286) has written to say that he believes there to be both red and orange fluorescent inks in Bk. 59. We would like to hear the opinion of other collectors - are there red and orange fluorescent inks or is it just an orange fluorescent ink on a wide variety of different ultraviolet grade papers?

In the book by Keane and Hughes, it is mentioned that Bk. 69 comes with one brown cover and one blue cover. We have never seen this variety (nor do we know of anyone else who has seen it). Do any of you have any information on this variety?

It has been rumoured that Bk. 60 (6¢ orange \$1.50 booklet) exists on Hibrite paper (in fact, we travelled recently to Montreal just to see a dealer who said he had this variety, but he couldn't locate it when we got there!). Have any of you seen or heard of this variety?

Back to Bk. 69. We have seen the "airplane in the sky" variety throughout the ten designs in brown booklets (69i, 69ii, 69iii, 69d) but never in one of the wicket booklets (Bk. 69, 69a, 69b, 69c). Have any of you seen this variety outside of the ten designs in brown booklets? We need this information quickly as Bk. 69 will be discussed in September issue of TOPICS (although the issues of TOPICS are late, the manuscripts must be submitted early!).

In the first part of the booklet article in TOPICS, Bk. 58 was discussed occurring with black numbers on the selvedge above the pane (photographic difficulties prevented the inclusion of a picture of this variety in March-April TOPICS). Look for it in the May-June issue. There appears to be many different sets of numbers and indeed more study is needed. All the varieties we have seen so far appear to have a different set of numbers. Has anyone got a pane with the complete numbers visible? If you only have a partial set (i.e. tops only), then send us a drawing of the pattern (i.e. ) and hopefully we can put together a list for a future newsletter.

We know of counting marks occurring on the following (multiple design) booklets. Can anyone add to this list?

Bk	66	type I
Bk	66a	type I and type II
Bk	68	small label type I
Bk	68	large label type I
Bk	69	type I and type II
	69i	1910 vehicle and motorcycle
	69a	type II
	69b	"two booklets of" type II, and regular type II
	69bi	1910 vehicle and motorcycle
	69bii	1910 vehicle
	69c	type II
	69ci	1910 vehicle
	69cii	1910 vehicle
	69d	1910 vehicle

This is it for our first newsletter. We have asked a lot of questions, so, let's have some answers! The next newsletter will come out when we have enough contributions.