

season's greetings



CENTENNIAL DEFINITIVES STUDY
GROUP NEWSLETTER

Number 9
November 1982

Douglas Irwin
Editor

Our 1983 membership fees will once again be \$6.00. For Canadian members, the 1983 dues are \$6 Canadian while for our U.S. members, the dues are \$6 American. Postage rates to the U.S. are 17% higher than within Canada and there is a bank service charge for cashing U.S. cheques, making the two fees pretty well equivalent. Those members paying by cheque, please make it payable to Douglas Irwin.

Because of the great deal of difficulty experienced in 1982 trying to get members to participate in study group activities, the newsletter in 1983 will be issued quarterly (as it is doubtful that there will be sufficient material to once again put out six issues).

WARNING



An ugly Centennial item has once again surfaced. Back in the mid 70's, one of our members purchased a lower margin block of 8 of the 6¢ orange, perf. 10 on hibrite paper (uncatalogued and not previously known to exist) from the B.C. Stamp Gallery. The hibrite papers of the 6¢ orange and black are readily identifiable as they are MUCH whiter under normal light than the regular paper varieties (in which the paper is a cream coloured). The 6¢ orange perf 10 hibrite stamps shown at left are on creamy paper, the orange ink has an overall smeary look, the dextrine gum does not look fresh and the UV

fluorescence is not quite as bright as the true hibrites and the fluorescence is not even (it shows signs of streaking). This item is a FAKE and collectors may wish to avoid them.

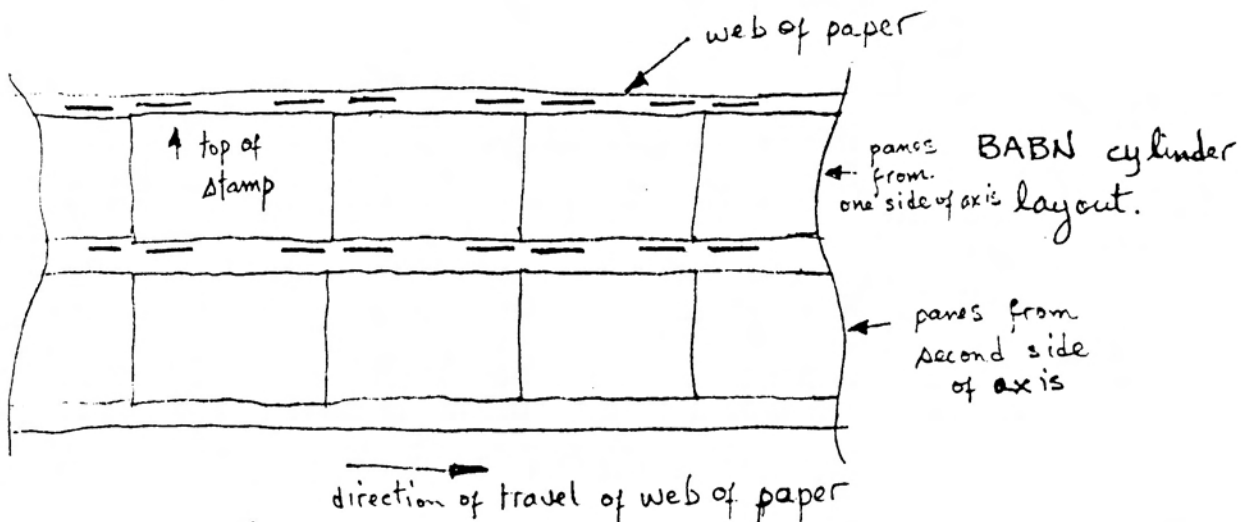
PRINTING PLATE LAYOUTS

by Leopold Beaudet

When the Centennial definitives were first issued by the Canadian Bank Note Company, there were six panes per plate and the plate inscriptions were placed only on the four corner panes. Each corner pane had just 1 inscription and the two centre panes had none. When CBNC switched from dextrine gum to PVA gum, they produced new plates, sometimes renumbering them with old plate numbers (why?). On the PVA gum printings from the new plates, there are plate inscriptions in all corners of all panes on the plate.

BABN also put six panes on their cylinders of the small size definitives (eg: 6¢, 7¢ 8¢ Centennials) and the double size commemoratives (eg: 8¢ Cycling issued 7 Aug. 1974). These cylinders had 2 panes along the axis by 3 panes around the circumference.

The logical arrangement as far as BABN is concerned would be to leave out the inscriptions on all 3 panes on one side of the axis of the cylinder because of the way they cut and collate the panes. The Gobel web-fed press they use prints and perforates the web and then cut it directly into panes using slitters and a guillotine. The "sheet" size is identical to the pane size since the large roll of paper is cut directly into panes. The panes fall one on top of the other in two stacks (one from each side of the cylinder axis) at the output of the Gobel press. Thus every third pane in a stack has the same constant cylinder flaws, and the panes from one stack have different flaws from the panes in the other. Philatelic stock always come from the same stack and thus has only half the flaws that appear in the post office stock. Philatelic stock does have all 3 panes from one side of the cylinder axis.



WHY NOT WRITE AN ARTICLE FOR
YOUR NEWSLETTER ?

Over the past two years, five members of the Centennial study group (Rick Fournier, Murray Freedman, Doug Irwin, Mike Milos & Ken Rose) have been working on an extensive listing of the Centennial issue, classifying the sheet stamps, coils, booklets and miniature panes by their paper (non fluorescent or one of five easily distinguishable grades of UV fluorescence), gum, perforations, printer, etc. This handbook is soon to be available from: Canadian Stamp Handbooks, P.O. Box 215, Stevensville, Ontario, L0S 1S0.

We are including a few excerpts from the introduction, written by Richard Fournier. Watch for more about this handbook in a future newsletter and in BNA TOPICS.

PAPER:

Type A: A bleached "Kraft" paper produced by the E.B. Eddy Company at its Ottawa mill. It is "creamy" under visible light and varies from brown (violet) to cream (or ivory) non fluorescent under ultra-violet light. These variations in color under UV are due to the amount of bleaching and the degree of residual lignin in the paper.

A secondary grade of this type of paper may be found exhibiting dull and low fluorescence under UV. These papers show a "flecked" fluorescence caused by the presence of brightly bleached fibers from re-cycled commercial pulp, and the presence of calcium carbonate (CaCO_3) impurities used during the digestion process.

These papers are always associated with dextrine gum and this serves as a quick method of identification for mint stamps.

PAPER:

Type B: This paper is known by the trade name of "Hibrite". It is a highly bleached paper to which optical brighteners have been added. These papers are smooth and resilient, providing an excellent printing surface for all types of processes.

Although the paper fluoresces in the bright blue-white range the stocks utilized by the security printers originated from two different sources.

BABNC's stock originated from Harrisons, the British security printer. British produced paper contains a high concentration of rag fiber (i.e. cotton fiber) in combination with wood fiber. Rag fiber is easier to bleach than wood fiber and produces a whiter pulp. This necessitated a lower concentration of optical brighteners added to the pulp. This added brightening agent was titanium dioxide (TiO_2). This compound has the property of reflecting both the visible and ultra-violet spectrum of light, and thus the paper appears whiter.

CBNC's stock originated from the E.B. Eddy Company at their Ottawa mill. This paper contains no rag content but is a mixture of wood pulp and recycled paper. Although this type of pulp is highly bleached it still contains some lignin impurities. In order to mask these impurities a higher concentration of titanium dioxide was used. This produced a paper of brighter fluorescence under UV.

The methods of paper production used for the two types of papers were essentially different. British paper was produced on a Foudrinier bronze wire mesh. This shows up on the paper as small creases when the stamp is held to a strong light. E.B. Eddy used a combination of synthetic wire mesh and hydrofoils to rapidly remove water from the pulp. This resulted in a wove paper with virtually no mesh impressions.

In 1970, CBNC produced its last booklet, the Opal booklet. The paper stock also originated from E.B. Eddy but had a unique feature not found on any other Centennial issues. This "Hibrite" paper was passed through a super-calender process. This imparted a "glaze" to the felt (or printing) side. This process consisted in passing the paper through a series of stream and pressure rolls to impart a glossiness.

The "Hibrite" papers were experimental. They originated in the search by the security printers for a paper stock that would be suitable for both engraving and/or lithography (or photogravure). As well, Canada Post required a brighter paper stock to enhance colors for use in its optical detection device (Pitney-Bowes Mark II Facer-Canceller).

It is not coincidental that this type of paper was abandoned when general tagging was introduced in early 1972. It was an expensive paper and could be replaced by a cheaper paper with the same characteristics (as was done).

CBNC GUM

Dextrine base. The gum was applied to the paper by the paper producer using a roll coater. To prevent curling of the gummed paper it was passed through a film breaker that "cracked" the gum surface. This formed the "streaks" found on the gummed surface. In some cases the gum was still supple and elastic when passing through the film breaker and remained smooth after this operation.

BABNC GUM

Dextrine base. Unlike CBNC, BABNC purchased their rolls of paper from the manufacturer ungummed. After the printing of the stamps the roll of paper was passed through an offset gum roller to apply the gum.

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YOUR STUDY GROUP NEEDS YOUR
PARTICIPATION !!

CENTENNIAL CATALOGUES & HANDBOOKS by Ted Harris

Hello, Doug has asked me to do a few columns in the newsletters to offer some help to the centennial beginner. The 1967 definitive issues are a challenging and intriguing subject. To start with, what we need are the stamps, magnifying glass, ultra-violet light, a perforation gauge and a catalogue. But which catalogue, there are a number available. First off, lets list the catalogues - not all of them for sure and not in any real order of preference:

1. Canada. The 1967-73 Definitive Issue, by F. Keane & J. Hughes, published by George S. Wegg Ltd. of Toronto.
2. Canada Specialized by Charlton Press, Toronto.
3. The Centennial Definitives of Canada by David Gronbeck-Jones (revised and updated - 4th printing, 1981).
4. The Charlton Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Postage Stamps, part 3 by the Charlton Press.
5. Lyman's Canada - BNA Catalogue by Rbt. Lyman (Canada) Co.
6. Canadian Postage Stamps, 1953 - 1974 by K. Bileski, Winnipeg.
7. Scott - both the Standard (volume 1) and Specialized
8. Stanley Gibbons, British Commonwealth.
9. de Rooy / Hali Booklet catalogue.
10. Canada and Newfoundland Postal Stationary Catalogue by Jim Webb of Hornby, Ontario.

Personally, I have found, for the regular stamp issues, numbers 1 to 4 to be very helpful, though the others are of some use, especially that by W. Bileski.

What I would wish to do, is, in the next three newsletters go over 1: the regular issue stamps, 2: precancels, coils, cello-pacs & booklets, 3: stationery & forgeries. As there is more to these issues than just "plain stamps".

The use of a magnifying glass will enable us to spot some of the more specialized varieties such as hairlines and extended shading lines, plate scratches and dots and for differentiating between the six cent blacks.

Ultra violet lamp(s) are a must for the centennial student, not only for detecting the "Winnipeg" or "General" types of tagging, but for the classification of paper types also. For a basic, starter, collection we split the papers into three types: Plain, Fluorescent and Hibrite - which classification we chose, depends upon the reaction we see, when the stamp is viewed under ultra-violet light.

A perforation gauge would be used for separating certain of the sheet stamps from each other, for example the 6¢ orange comes in both perf 10 X 10 and 12.5 X 12, and for the differentiation of sheet stamps from some of the booklet pane stamps. For deciding which catalogue to use, well, thank goodness that we all have different outlooks in life, but here most of us would agree as to what catalogues we would / do use.

Until quite recently the "Canada Specialized" was one of the best for general usage; however, the new "Charlton Specialized Catalogue" is an excellent publication and I like it's preamble and listings. However these, though termed specialized, are not specific to our centennial knowledge quest. The only publication that does is "The 1967-73 Definitive Issue" by Keane and Hughes - this is the only true specialized listing and it must be termed a necessary catalogue for the centennial enthusiast. It deals in, to start with, the issues simplified, then as we get to understand more, we can get into the specialized tables. Also under the same cover, we get the dates of issue, varieties, booklets, cello-pacs, stationery items, etc., so we get a lot of valuable information.

If I can help in answering any specific problems you may have, please

write to Ted Harris, 36 Beattie St. RR#1, Lennoxville, Quebec, J1M 2A2, and if I can't help directly, then we can pass the questions to other study group members.

TO BE CONTINUED

OUR THANKS

We would like to thank Percival Muirhead, George Rogers and Robert Wyse for sizeable financial donations toward the study group activities.

EARLIEST RECORDED DATES

Although only three of our members have responded to our earliest recorded dates survey, we have received a couple of significant new earliest dates. One is the 6¢ black plate 4 (460ci) listed as Sept. 1970 in the catalogue. Joe Aasland has sent us a nice strike from Amherst View, Ontario, dated 19 VI 70. This is shown at left. Let's consider the hibrites. Here are the earliest dates we have so far. DO ANY OF YOU HAVE EARLIER EXAMPLES?

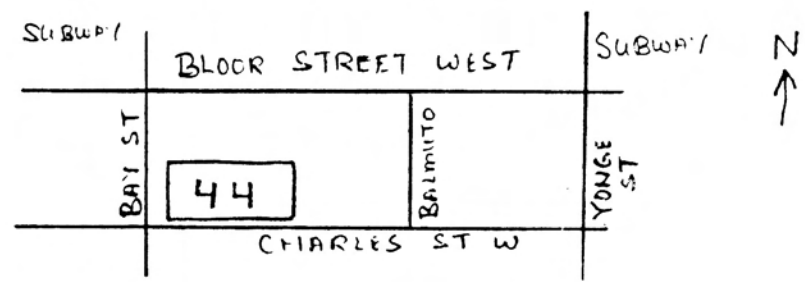


1¢ 2I VII 71	6¢ or. W.T. no reply yet	15¢ 27 III 71
1¢ W.T. no reply yet	6¢ bl. Jan. 7, 1970	20¢ II 72
5¢ " "	8¢ Alaska 4 VII 71	25¢ 29 X 71
5¢ precancel " "	10¢ 29 XII 71	25¢ W.T. no reply yet
5¢ W.T. " "	10¢ W.T. no reply yet	50¢ 10 III 71
6¢ or. Oct. 1, 1969	10¢ O.T. " "	\$1 no reply yet

WE NEED YOUR HELP FILLING IN THE GAPS!!!!

COMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 21, 2pm: I (D.I.) will be giving a talk on Centennial error and varieties at the Golden Horseshoe Regional Group meeting held in the Manulife Centre, 44 Charles St. West, Toronto (one block south of Bloor on Bay). Any BNAPS'er who is not a member of this regional group is welcome as a guest. We have over 15 Centennial study group members in the Toronto area and so let's have a good representation.



QUESTION
&
ANSWER
COLUMN



by Murray Freedman
329 Richview Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
M5P 3G4

Murray was unable to have his column prepared for this issue of the newsletter, but he is avidly seeking questions from our members for next issue.