

CENTENNIAL DEFINITIVES
STUDY GROUP
NEWSLETTER
July 1984
Number 18 19



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PLEASE ENCOURAGE FELLOW COLLECTORS TO JOIN THE STUDY GROUP. A LARGE MEMBERSHIP HELPS TO KEEP THE COST (PER PERSON) OF THE NEWSLETTER DOWN.

We have picked up a number of new members over the spring (our present membership is 74) thanks mainly to David Gronbeck-Jones mentioning our study group in his columns in Canadian Stamp News and Linn's and as a result of our successful seminar at Stampex earlier in June. For the benefit of these new members, we still have a few sets of back issues of our newsletter available (#1 to #9 at \$8 and #10 to #15 at \$6). Many of the questions we asked in past newsletters are still relevant and we are still seeking answers. Looking back:

- #18: We presented an extensive listing of constant plate flaws on the 6¢ orange and black and asked your help in plating the position of some of these varieties. No member has responded yet to this plea.
- #17: Here we presented an up to date listing of known Centennial Perfins. We are looking to add to this list. Please let us know if you have come across a Centennial perfin not listed.
- #16: This was the last time we mentioned our quest for earliest dates. We have been able to push back the dates of a few hibrites, but I have had virtually no response to our effort for the Ottawa tagged Centennials. Please check your covers and used stamps and see if we can establish some earlier dates. We are always on the lookout for new special order Centennial stationery (particularly items not listed in the new edition of "Canada, The 1967-73 Definitive Issue"). We mentioned some items that possibly existed in newsletter #16 but received no response.

Other items have come up in a number of past newsletters. We have shown misperfs on the low value Centennials but have not received many examples on the high values. I currently have received one example on the 10¢ and one example on the 20¢. If anyone has some misperfed high values, please send us a clear photocopy (preferably against a black background).

We are on the lookout for new Centennial tagging errors. An extensive listing can be found in "Canada, The 1967-73 Definitive Issue" and the "Milos Centennial Handbook", thanks to Ken Rose. However additional items do appear and we have to update these listings periodically (see newsletter #17). Does anyone have tagging errors not found in either of these listings?

COMING EVENTS

Friday, September 7, 1984, 2:45 pm to 3:45 pm, BNAPEX 84: Bill Muttera will be leading an interesting slide show discussion on Centennial errors and varieties. Bill would appreciate any members attending this meeting to please bring any interesting items you may have. I am sure all members will come away with a wealth of new knowledge.

In the last fifteen years, Canada Post has produced a number of varieties that makes a fascinating sideline. I'm referring to singles from booklet panes. Almost all of those can be identified by having straight edges on one side or two adjacent sides. Some of the later ones differ by having a different color or design or even a new value. This article is confined to the 1967-73 Centennials which differ from the sheet stamps by having different perforations or by having been printed on different papers. Let us consider the various values.

	Perf 12	Perf 10	Perf 12½ X 12	Perf 12½ X 12 General tag
1	C	N	N,1	N,1,9
2	N,2			
3	N,2		N,3	
4	C,4,5	N,6		
5	C,5	N		
Orange 6		C,1,6,7,8		
Black Type Ia		N,2,6	C	
" " II		N	C,1	N,1,9
7			N,3	
8			C,1	C,1,9

LEGEND: C - catalogued

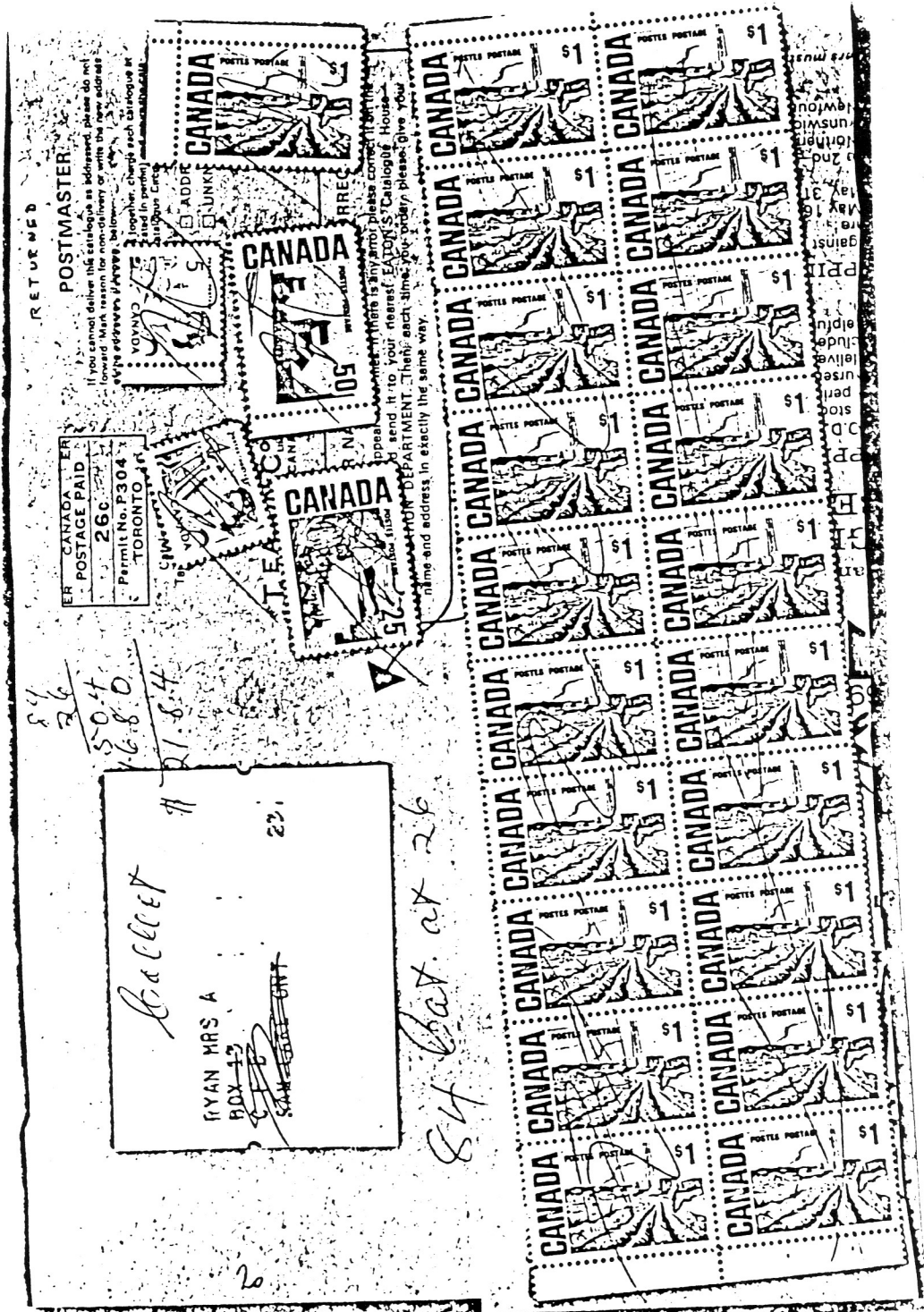
N - not listed in most catalogues

- 1 - varies degrees of paper fluorescence but not hibrite
- 2 - hibrite
- 3 - dull fluorescence
- 4 - rosy mauve fluorescence
- 5 - also from cellopaqs
- 6 - also without straight edges
- 7 - also with fluorescent ink
- 8 - also available from Post Office panes
- 9 - all tagged items listed are general tag and all listed items exist with OP2 and OP4

To add to the fascination of these items is the number of setenant pairs or strips or combinations in blocks that show up, and the possibility of finding tagging errors.

The real puzzle about booklet panes singles is their lack of recognition in most common catalogues. In fact of all the catalogues I checked, only Grunbeck-Jones & Gibbons list the singles. But all catalogues list the various panes and most of them illustrate the pane layout in some manner.

Scott Traquair has sent us an example of a most interesting Centennial postage rate. The item is from the wrapper of an Eaton's catalogue and is franked with \$21.84 in Centennial stamps, including a block of twenty of the \$1. This rate represents 84 multiples of one catalogue at the individual 26¢ rate (notice the Canada Paid 26¢ permit on the wrapper for single catalogues). DOES ANYONE HAVE EXAMPLES OF A HIGHER CENTENNIAL RATE? DOES ANYONE HAVE EXAMPLES OF OTHER UNUSUAL AND INTERESTING CENTENNIAL RATES?



A good mix of study group members and guests were in attendance at our Stampex meeting. The meeting centred around Centennial stationery, both Post Office and Special Order and was conducted by John Aitken. John went through a thorough discussion of the issue in chronological order while showing a newly prepared slide programme. Various comments by knowledgeable philatelists on the subject added to the presentation and all present came away with a wealth of new information. After viewing the slides, John showed some unusual stationery items not covered in the new edition of "Canada The 1967-73 Definitive Issue" handbook.

John brought along a couple of examples of 5¢ envelopes with the left wall of the boat house missing. Other portions of the frame line are usually weak or missing as well (above the head of the Queen or small sections down either side of the stamp). Webb lists this variety as occurring on the 5¢ envelopes (85f & 85g) and on the corresponding Gasparo revalued envelopes (97g & 97i). Guenter Jansen has sent in examples occurring on the International Envelope Company revalued envelopes as well (unlisted in Webb) indicating that this variety occurred late in the printing of the 5¢ (non precancelled) envelopes. See figure 1 for a drawing of the variety.

I displayed three examples of constant dots that I have found on the 8¢ number 8 envelopes. A small dot over the head of the Queen appears on untagged envelopes (figure 2). A small dot over the T of POSTES appears on tagged envelopes with complete sealing gum and 23.5mm long tagging (figure 3). Two small dots above the upper right corner of the stamp impression occur on tagged envelopes as well, with segmented gum on the sealing flap and 25mm long tagging (figure 4). HAS ANYONE ELSE FOUND EXAMPLES OF CONSTANT DOTS ON CENTENNIAL STATIONERY???

Chas. Walton commented that with the introduction of tagged stationery envelopes in 1973, the International Envelope Company applied the single tagging bar in a separate step from the impression of the stamp die. However later printings saw the application of phosphor and stamp impression at the same time. No mention was made as to how to tell the two techniques apart but it only stands to reason that with the latter process, the phosphor bar should always be in the exact same position relative to the stamp impression.

A thorough discussion of revalued envelopes and postcards can be found in the new handbook. John displayed a 5¢ number 10 envelope of the 1962 dated die issue surcharged to 6¢ by Gasparo (figure 5). It was noted that although Cameo and 1962 dated die issue stationery was revalued along with the Centennial stationery, some quality control was exercised as only 3¢ stationery seems to be revalued to 5¢ and only 4¢ and 5¢ stationery were surcharged to 6¢. John displayed a pink spacer card the size of a number 10 envelope which received the new 6¢ value surcharge (figure 6).

The Town of Beausejour Waterworks Department used meter reading request forms similar to Ontario Hydro. These special order items were prestamped with the 5¢ pre-cancelled die for mailing the entire printed matter form to the customer and a 6¢ black die for the return portion of the customer (via first class post card rate). A complete form is shown on the reverse of this page.



figure 1



figure 2



figure 3



figure 4



figure 5

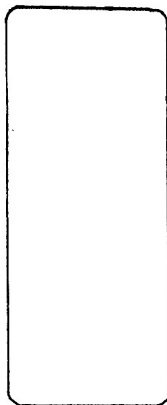


figure 6

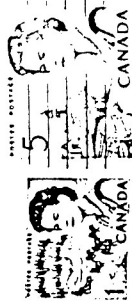
We would appreciate your help in reducing meter reading costs by sending us your meter reading as soon as possible by Post Card.

Thank You
THE TOWN OF BEAUSEJOUR
Beausejour, Man.

AFTER 5 DAYS RETURN TO
TOWN OF BEAUSEJOUR
WATERWORKS DEPARTMENT
BEAUSEJOUR, MAN.



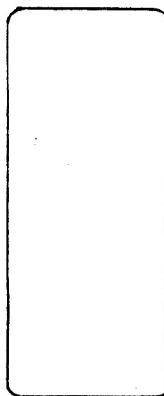
meter reading card
please return promptly
avoid estimated bills



TOWN OF BEAUSEJOUR
WATERWORKS DEPARTMENT

TOWN OF BEAUSEJOUR
WATERWORKS DEPARTMENT

METER READING CARD



Would you please follow instructions carefully. →
Detach and mail the (RETURN THIS PORTION)
of this card on, or before the FIRST of
the next month following.

RETURN THIS PORTION

FROM

Stephen Major
Box 1106
Beausejour, Manitoba

POST CARD
CARTÉ



MAIL TO

TOWN OF BEAUSEJOUR
Waterworks Department
Box 1078
BEAUSEJOUR, MANITOBA

No. 1620

Example:— How to fill in your Meter Reading

Fill in your Meter Reading →

Date Meter Was Read

0	0	9	3	2	7	4	6

John Jamieson has sent me a photocopy of the spectacular jump which occurred in the 6¢ orange coil. A jump of 17mm occurred between successive printings rather than the normal 4mm. This strip also shows blind perfs between the second and third stamps. I discussed this item on page 69 of the new edition of "Canada, The 1967-73 Definitive Issue" but I did not have a photograph of it for the book. I have corrected a couple of printer's errors and included a modified page 69 for those of you who would like to insert it in your handbook.



Fluorescent number overprints

Quantities of the 5c (Winnipeg tagged, two bar), the 6c orange (Winnipeg tagged, two bar) and the 15c were overprinted with a three or four numbered rubber stamp using a fluorescent ink. The numbers reported to date are 955 (6c), 5955 (6c), 5959 (5c, 6c, & 15c), 9599 (6c) and 9959 (6c). Random stamps on a pane were overprinted with these numbers for security reasons. The numbers can not be seen without the aid of an ultraviolet lamp and give off a bright blue fluorescence during activation by ultraviolet radiation. Collectors should beware as this variety can be easily faked.

"One stamp with the overprint '9959' was found on cover cancelled 'Brandon 9 PM/17 11/1970'."

Printed on the gum

"In early 1972 a number of sheets of the 6c black definitive Type A, printed on the gum side of the paper, were sold over the post office counter at Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. According to the Sault Daily Star of December 13, 1972, Postmaster Ken Vesala offered to refund the money to anyone wishing to return the faulty stamps. He had few takers, as more than 2300 of the errors eventually reached the hands of collectors in the area, never to see the light of the Post Office incinerator (pardon the pun).

At first this error was thought to be quite a rarity but since that time the error was discovered in other Ontario post offices.

In late December, 1974, it became known that the 1c value was also printed on the gummed side. One pane was reported by a postal employee and was kept secret for two years. It is untagged on PVA gummed paper and printed by the CBNC. Only one or two panes of 100 stamps appear to have been reported, as of 1983. The colour is slightly paler on the variety. It is possible that most panes were retrieved by Canada Post, since a multiple of six panes must have been produced."

COIL STAMPS

Jumps and spacing varieties

The 3c, 4c and 5c coil stamps were printed by the CBNC in rolls of 500 subjects while the 6c, 7c and 8c coils were printed in rolls of 100. The printing plates would print 10 columns (10 stamps across) of 25 subjects at one time. Thus a roll of 500 would require 20 successive printings and 20 successive inkings of the printing plate (and a roll of 100 would require 4 successive printings) on a continuous web of paper, with the paper being advanced after each printing. In normal cases, the spacing between the bottom (horizontal) frame line of one coil stamp and the top frame line of the next coil stamp is 4mm, and the vertical frame lines are perfectly aligned.

In many instances, the continuous web of paper would not be aligned perfectly after being advanced for the next successive printing of stamps. Therefore spacing varieties may occur every 25 stamps. If the web of paper is advanced too far between successive printings, a wide space between horizontal frame lines can be found. Similarly, if the paper was not advanced far enough, an abnormally narrow spacing between framelines would result. Occasionally the web of paper is shifted a small amount horizontally while being advanced. This would result in the next group of 25 stamps being printed slightly to the right or left of the previous group of 25 coil stamps. In these cases, the vertical frame lines seem to "jump" to the left or right. In the case of the 6c orange, a super jump occurred, whereby a 17mm space between successive coils resulted (rather than a 4 mm space) and normal perforating of the web of coil stamps produced what appeared to be misperfed coils.

Guide lines

The CBNC utilized a guide line along the right edge of the printing plate. It is in the form of a T on its side (└) and is printed in two sections, the "└" coming from the upper right corner of the printing plate and the "I" being found on the lower right corner of the plate. Consequently, these guide lines would appear every 25 stamps, juxtaposition to the jumps or spacing variations. Occasionally the first or last stamp in the roll of 500 will show a portion of one of these guide lines while complete guide lines can be found on the stamps in the roll.

Repairs

After the coil stamps had been printed, they were perforated horizontally. Occasionally, the web of paper separated along one of these horizontal rows of perforations and this necessitated joining of the two pieces by the CBNC. These joints consisted of a horizontal strip of gummed paper, perforated horizontally through the centre. This strip, which varied in width vertically, was attached to the gum side of the coil stamps.

Double images

The 3c, 4c and 5c coils have been found with the heavily inked portions of the design doubled, probably resulting from the printed web of stamps momentarily coming into contact with the printing plate a second time.

CANADA: THE 1967-73
DEFINITIVE ISSUE

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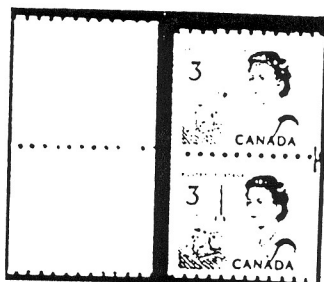
printed on gum
soak it and the
design disappears



spacing
variations
(on all
coils)



17mm
jump
6¢
orange
coil



coil repair (left)
and guide line
(right)