

**CENTENNIAL DEFINITIVE
STUDY GROUP NEWSLETTER**



Vol. 18

No. 3

Whole Number 76

December 2000

NOTES FROM YOUR EDITOR

To date, 59 members have renewed their membership. I have sold 56 copies of Robin's Centennial book at the special price. I have sent out 33 reminder letters to members I have not heard from yet. I am pleased to report that I have failed to eliminate the surplus: on Dec 31, 1999 our surplus stood at \$ 2,231.01. Today it is still slightly over \$1,000. I will provide a detailed financial report for 2000 in the next issue.

David Platt has put together an index for newsletters No. 1-75; you will find a copy enclosed with this newsletter. Thanks, David.

I had hoped that Robins's book would start a flurry of activity and it did: George Mayo has started the ball rolling on the "dots in the margins" on the 8 cent library, providing details on the "Type II" dots between rows 1 and 2. It's too early for me to write a lengthy review of the book, but let me say that looking up the "dots in the margin" section in Robin's book was a very pleasant experience: he has things laid out in a logical way that few authors can match. Bravo Robin!

Closed Album

I regret to inform you that we have lost a member: Dave Whalley. Dave joined the study group in 1995 and you will see his name mentioned in every second or third issue since then. Dave got the ball rolling on the "zombies" varieties on the 2 cent totem pole.

Once again, we feature one of Bill Topping's slogan cancel on the masthead.

New Members

Chuck Umstadter

Jomtien, Cholburi Thailand

Member's Ad

Wanted to Trade "2 Booklet Of"

If you are still wanting to add this item to your 67' Collection, I am willing to trade for an item of similar value. My booklets were purchased from a very reliable dealer several months after their experimental release. Knowing I was interested in anything 67' he showed them to me during one of my visit to his home. Neither of us knew much about them at the time other than we had not seen them before. He advised me he purchased them from a vending machine in Toronto. Some years later a number of articles appeared in Linns Stamps News, CSN, and the BNAPS Topics on this item. Subsequently, I had one of them certified by the Vincent Graves Foundation (BNAPS).

If you are interested you can contact me via snail mail at;

George Mayo

41 -C

Portugal Cove, Nf

A0A 3K0,

Or for same hour response at: gmayo@roadrunner.nf.net

REMINDER

If you would like to run a (free) ad or submit an article or just some news, drop me a line:

Len Kruczynski

19 Petersfield Place

Winnipeg, MB

R3T 3V5

E-mail: lkruczy@ms.umanitoba.ca

What is valid postage?

By George Mayo

We have all had an experience where we read about some interesting aspect of the 67' issue and wondered if we would ever see that item as part of our collection. Here's a cover I purchased in 1998 that provided me with just such an example PLUS something I had not seen before. I first learnt that the labels used as starter/end strips for the coils were being used as postage from a comment in Jacques Laroche 67' Reference Manual (1973). He has an example in that very early reference booklet on page 5-04.

I might add that this booklet, was one of the first to attempt to "display and to illustrate for the collectors a comprehensive and detailed study of this issue." The Foreword to the Manual begins with this sentence; "Since the Admirals of 1912, no other issues has ever created such interest, promoted so much research, and caused more frustration than the 1967 "Centennial Definitive Issue. Ink has been flowing on this subject and still more will flow for years to come." " I wonder what Jacques would say today? This booklet, definitely served as the catalyst for creating my interest in the 67' issue. I knew it was certainly too late for me to consider the Admiral Issue but I thought then I at least had a chance with the 67' Issue huh, some chance!

In relationship to this cover, I know the Newfoundland Postal Authority did authorize the issue of a 2¢ bisect for one of its stamps, but this item has to be a wonderful example of an attempt to be twice cheap...or would that be crafty?

Editor's Note: After writing me this article, George refers the reader to the article on Centennial bisects by John Aitken on pages 180 and 181 of the Newsletter (January or March 1986)

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POSTES CANADA

6

CANADA POSTAGE

"2 Booklet Of"

by George Mayo

In our August Newsletter Mike Painter presented some information on the "2 Booklets Of" variety. I provide some information of how I located my copies in the "Wanted To Trade" Ad which I sent along to Len for publication. On noting Len's request for responses from members I decided to dig up what information I had collected on those booklets. I knew I had started a file consisting mostly of clippings and correspondence pertaining to just this booklet variety. I recall the first time I read about the "2 Booklet Of", was either from an article David Gronbeck-Jones wrote in both Linn's Stamps News or in BNA "Topics." This was in early 1975. I subsequently wrote to him and here's a copy of his response, dated Nov.26, 1976;

Quote.

"Several years back I corresponded with two people who had the booklets. The Post Office was queried at that time and I determined that the booklets were sold through only three machines in the Toronto area, in 1972. Five or six hundred sets were made up (presume they mean items) for use in experimental 50¢ vending machines.

The people I corresponded with only had a couple of booklets and weren't interested in selling any...they also got the last few available. The item was mentioned in early 1975 in my column in Linn's and also in BNA "Topics", but no one else seemed to have any. It has also been mentioned in my book on the Centennials (3rd printing).

It is undoubtedly a very rare item and I could not set a price on one as none has, to my knowledge, ever been sold at auction. On hearing of the ones you had, perhaps it is possible that most of the 5-600 booklets did get to dealers....I though at first that none had. [Insert by George...this seems to suggest I have several hundred copies....NOT SO...wish I did though!]

Anyway, the problem with this item is the ease with which it could be faked. For that reason many people won't touch one. Myself, I've been trying to get one for years, and it is the only major item missing from my own centennial collection. Unfortunately it will remain a variety only for the specialist in booklets and may never get into a catalogue. Both Gibbons and Canada Specialized felt it was outside their scope. That will keep the price lower than the hibrite \$1.50 booklet right there....the demand has not been created to push the price up."

Unquote.

In the summer of 1977 I decided to send a copy of one of my booklets along to the Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation for authenticating. This I subsequently received and shortly thereafter I received a letter from H. Sutherland, the Secretary of the Foundation stating the following;

Quote.

Further to my letter of June 24, I thought that you would be interested to know that the total number of booklets printed in the same manner as that submitted to the Expert Committee was 1270. The booklet was prepared by OPAL pursuant to Government instructions as an experiment for a 50¢ booklet.

I trust that this additional information will be of interest to you.

Unquote.

One other piece of information I can provide comes from the "Philatelic Bulletin" Vol 1, No 3 published by Canada Post. This is a publication some members may recall which was published quarterly by the Retail Marketing Branch of Canada Post. Page 3, paragraph 6, of that specific issue contains the following under the subject heading, Stamp Booklets;

Quote.

A lesser know officially sanctioned booklet experiment occurred early in 1972. For this experiment, the current 25-cent booklets were stacked back-to-back and rubber-stamped on the face "2 booklets of". It is estimated that approximately 3,200 of these double booklets were sold from vending machines –6,400 single 25-cent booklets in total. These double booklets were never made available from the Philatelic Service and are not to be confused with the 25-cent booklets that were sold containing two panes of 25-cent value, with a sticker that read "50¢". These were released in August 1971 and sold through the Philatelic Service.

Unquote.

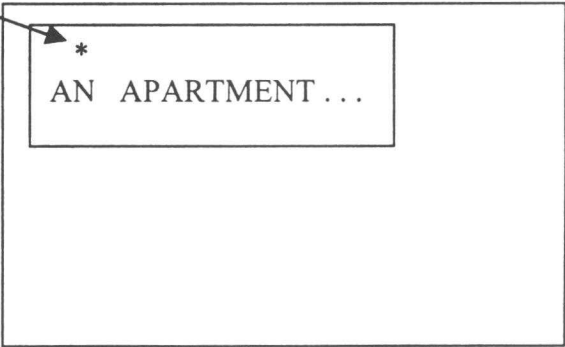
For my part I was able to locate the cheque with which I paid for my copies. Maybe the cheque looked like a stamp - ☺. The cheque is dated November, 14th 1972. Readers will note from the above information , differing opinions on the number of booklets released. I have no idea where Mr. Sutherland's information came from or how we account for the different information given by Canada Post to Gronbeck-Jones and what they state in their publication. I am sure of one thing, this is one of the rare Centennial items. As to its value..... whatever is agreed upon between a willing seller and a willing buyer.

Booklet 56 Cover Flaw, continued.

In a very recent newsletter Mile Painter showed an example of the cover flaw found on Booklet # 56. I decided to look through my copies of this specific booklet, a search which produced not 1 but 15 examples. The amount of inking which produces this flaw varied on each of my examples. These came from a group of approximately 100 booklets, which may give some indication of the frequency of the flaw.

My search also turned up another type of flaw. For now I will describe it as being 'another type' as this 'new' flaw does not appear on any of the booklets containing the original cover flaw reported by Mike. I found 5 examples in my copies of Booklet 56. The flaw consist of a small brown dot in the Upper Left Corner of the each booklet. Unfortunately the photocopying of this flaw is even more difficult to produce. The size of the dots are larger and certainly more intense than the photocopying would suggest. They are quite visible to the naked eye. This dot is located in the same position on each of my examples, namely 5mm directly about the 'N' of "AN.....PART.."

New (?) flaw



As to the presence of the counting tab on the cover flaw reported by Mike, I should point out that all of my examples (15) are without any counting tab. However, of the 5 examples I found with the 'new' cover flaw, 1 copy does have a counting tab.

If you feel there are some clarifications about the copies of these two flaws which I have found you are most welcome to contact me via;

<gmayo@roadrunner.nf.net>

AN APARTMENT NUMBER IS A NECESSARY PART

OF A POSTAL ADDRESS - PLEASE ENCOURAGE

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PRATIQUE À ENCOURAGER.

OTHER
EXAMPLES
of
Booklet 56
with
Cover Flaw

Yet more ink on "the row of dots on the 8¢ Library.."

by George Mayo

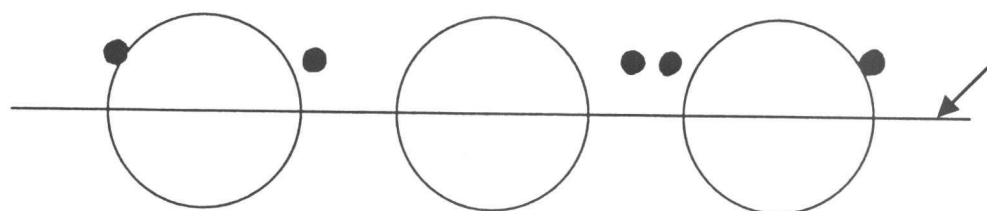
The several articles in our Newsletter on the dots found on the 8¢ Library (#544) encouraged me to have a look at some of the field stock panes I purchased years ago. At that time I recall looking for the "Black Moon" variety which had just been reported. I remember visiting a Laundromat which had a small Postal Outlet as part of their business. On checking their supply I found 12 full panes {Otag/PVA} of the "Black Moon" variety. Today I noted that these panes also contained "the row of dots "

Using the format in our Newsletter and in Robin Harris wonderful book, I'm sending along my observations of this 'inking.' I regret not having the time nor patience to give a detailed look at all 12 panes, however there may be some value in my submission in that it comes from 3 of 12 full panes, all of which were purchased from the one Postal Outlet.

I've decided to include with the format used in Robin's recent book a smaller scale breakdown of each individual stamp, which I hope will provide our members with a more precise location of these small dots. A closer look at the individual dots of these 3 panes from the group of 12 panes will show that their individual locations are similar but not identical. The centering of the stamp no doubt determines the location of the dots with respect to the individual perforations. My 12 panes revealed very few with the dots at the 3 o'clock or 9 o'clock positions, the majority being at the 2 o'clock/10 o'clock positions.

I should also add that a closer study of each pane revealed 2 other constant dots (p 685) occurring on ALL 12 panes. The attached diagrams (see pages 683, 684, 685) reveal their specific locations.

Editor's Note: George got the ball rolling on this one. The Type I dots (between 5 th and 6 th row) and Type VI dots (through design, second row) have been well documented (see pp 255-259 in Robin's book); the dots occur on three panes that are on the circumference of the printing cylinder. That means that there are two other sheets of these Type II dots to be "plated". I have an upper left 2 by 5 fragment that has dots between rows 1 and 2, but does not correspond to the "dark moon" sheet. Readers should check their sheet stock. I once had a "Black Moon over the Library" sheet which I ripped in half, the right half with the "dark moon" (row 4/6) which I sold to Mike Painter. The left half shows the dots between rows 1 and 2 as outlined by George; in addition, my sheet showed extensive forehead scratches and ink in the right margin. I missed the dots! Had I seen them, I never would have broken up the sheet! Look at the 2 x 4 fragment on page 259 of Robin's book: you can clearly see all the dots because that sheet was misperforated enough that the perf holes do not eclipse the dots. I have added pictures of the dots in the right margin of R7/2 and R9/5 to George's description on page 685; Mike Painter has previously noted the R9/5 dot (see Fig 652 on page 251 in Robin's book). Mike's copy is on HF OP-2 paper, mine is on LF OP-2 paper.

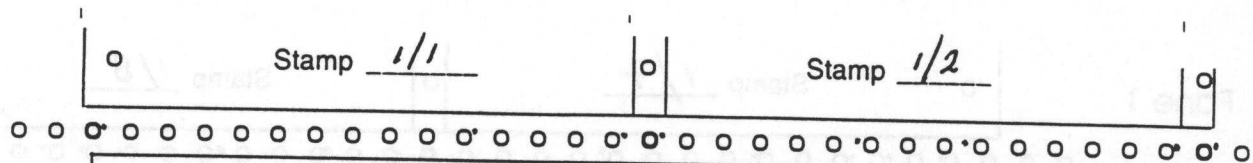


Imaginary line
separating perfs
at the diameter.

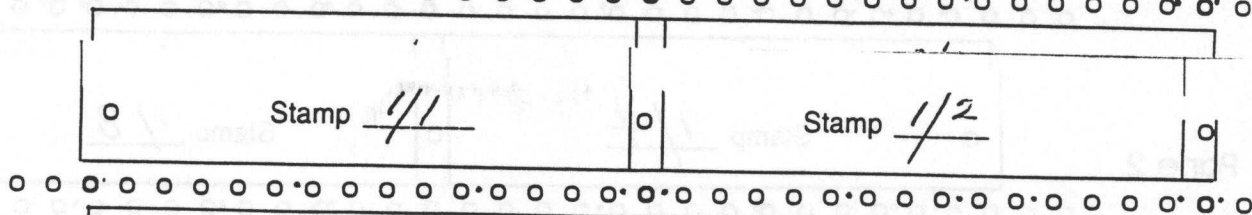
3 Perforations, showing the varying locations of the dots.
Most dots could be described as being at either the 10 o'clock or
2 o'clock position. For most part dots are very distinct, with the
occasional one faint. The dots tend not to occur on successive perfs.

Dots Between Rows One and Two - The "Dark Moon" Pane

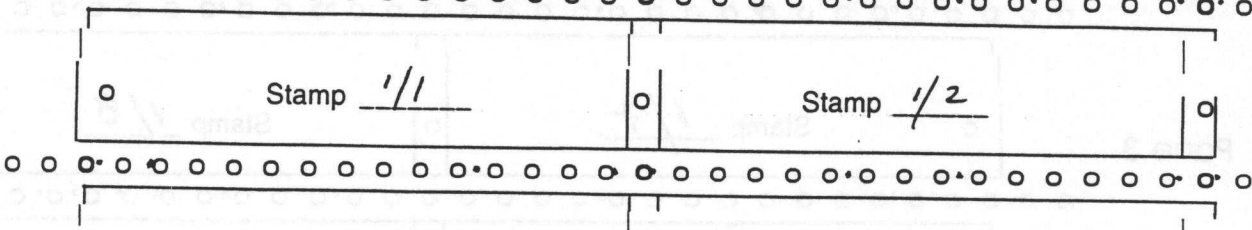
Pane 1



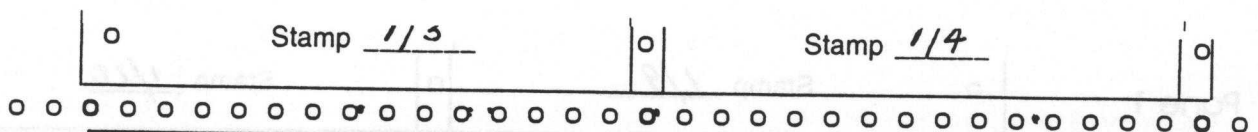
Pane 2



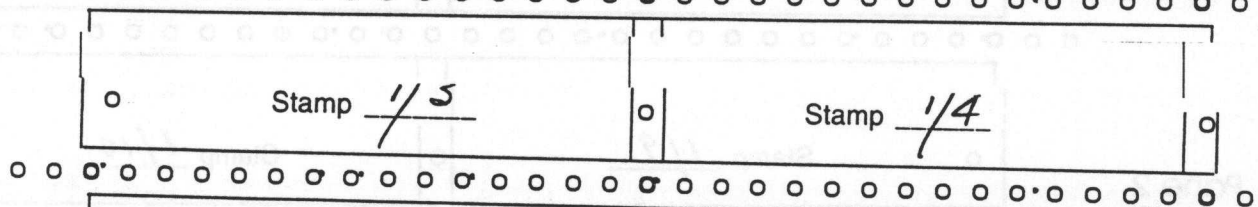
Pane 3



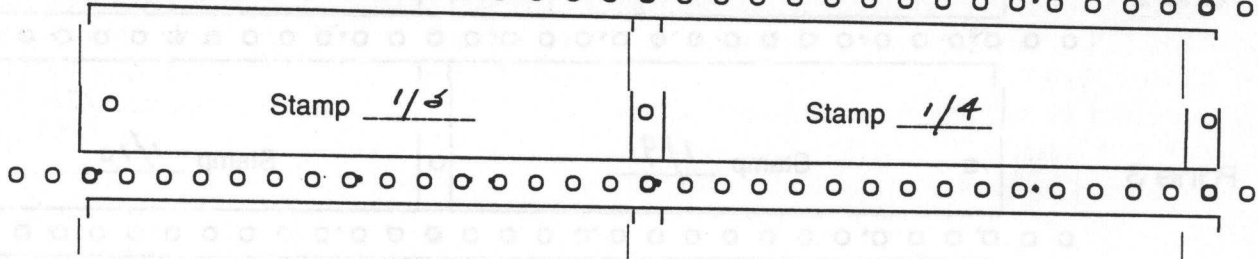
Pane 1



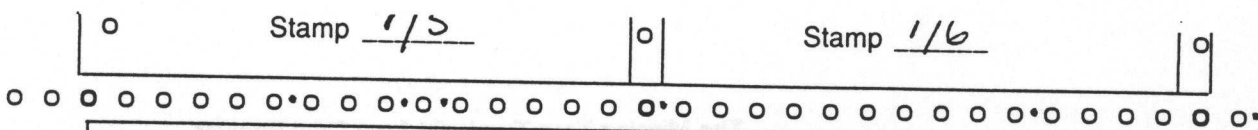
Pane 2



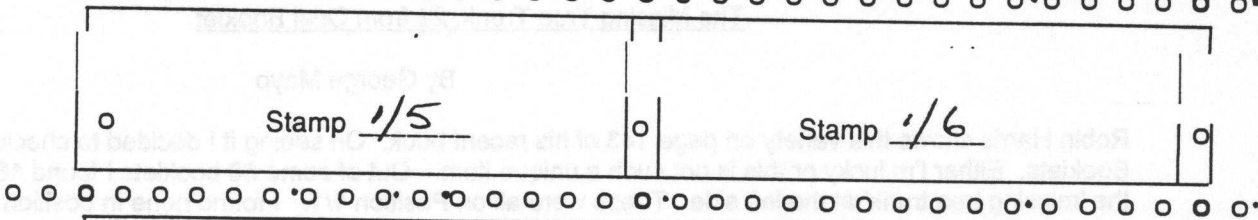
Pane 3



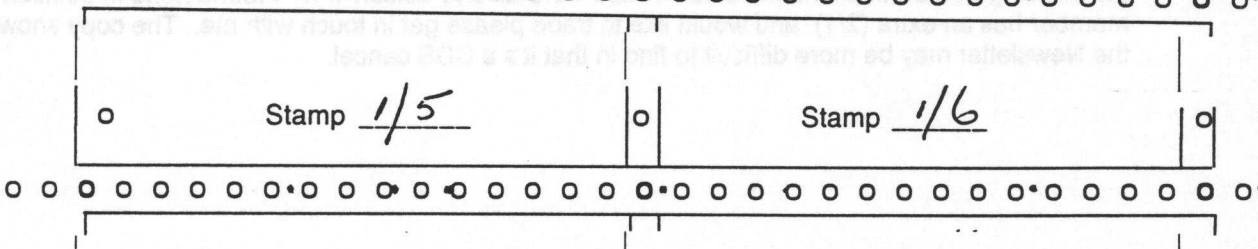
Pane 1



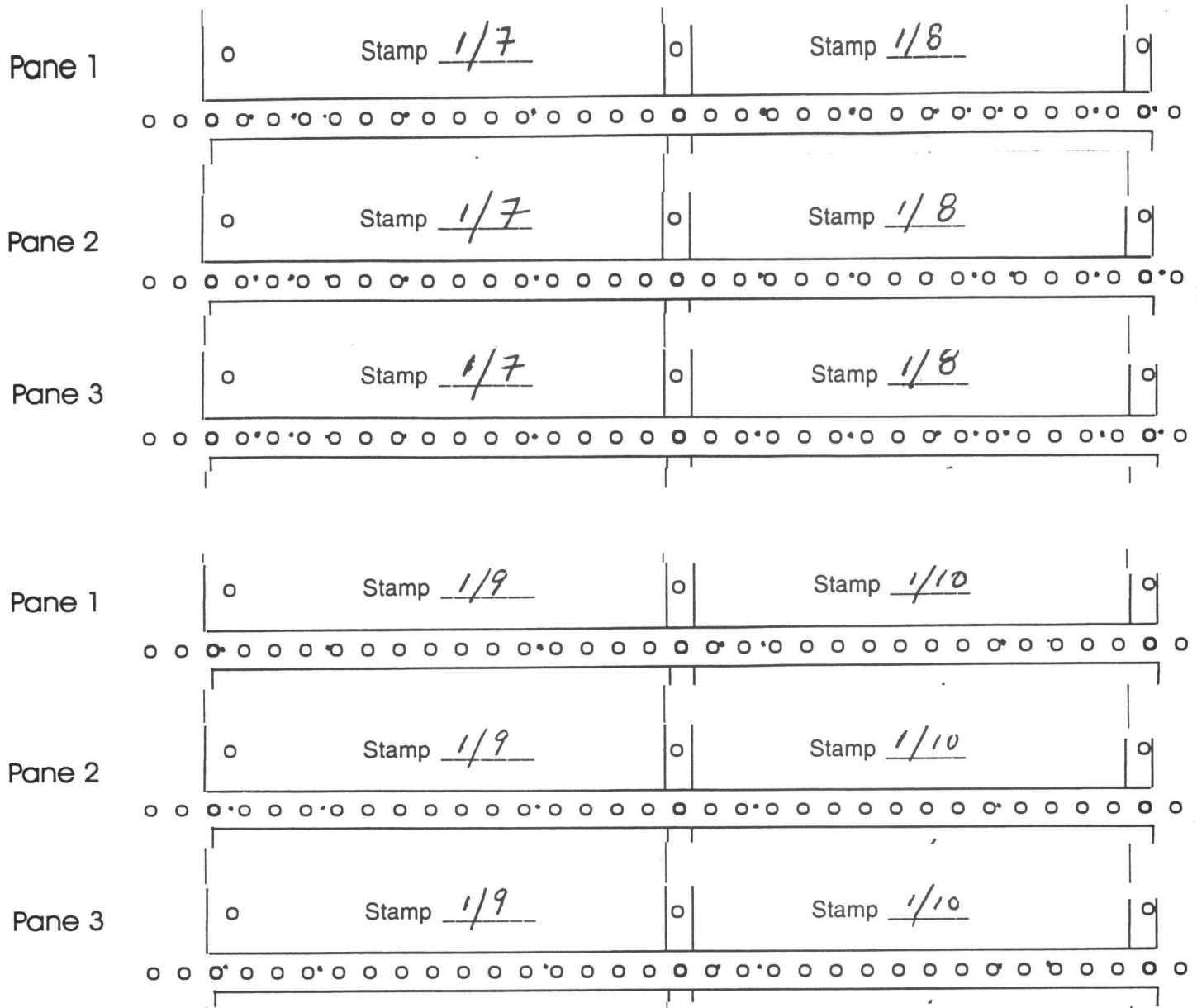
Pane 2



Pane 3



Dots Between Rows One and Two - The "Dark Moon" Pane



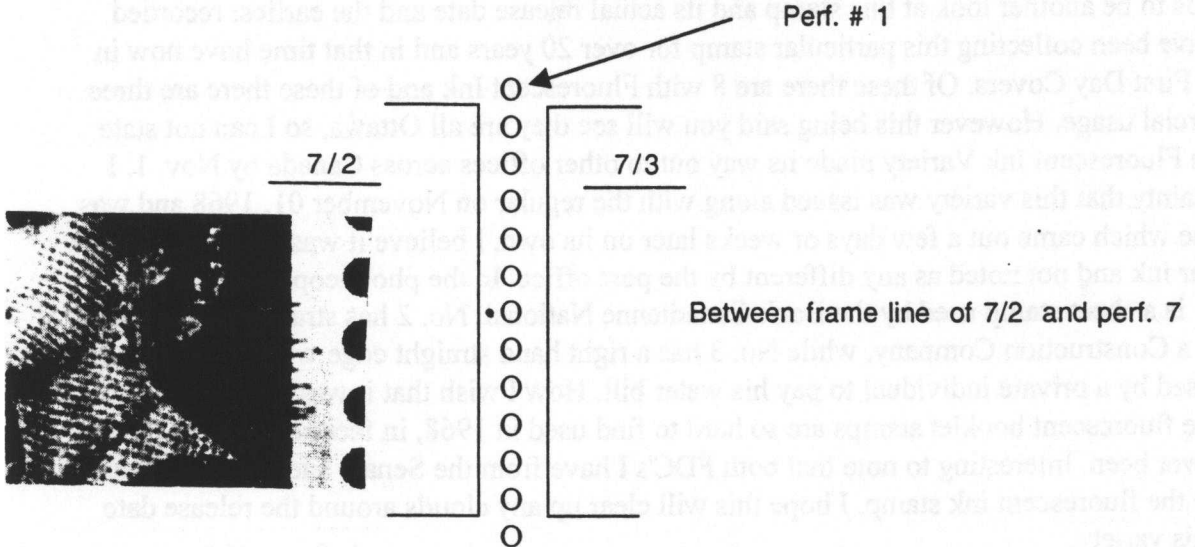
The Missing Tree Trunk, 2¢ from Opal Booklet

By George Mayo

Robin Harris shows this variety on page 143 of his recent book. On seeing it I decided to check my Opal Booklets. Either I'm lucky or this is not such a unique item. Out of some 60 booklets I found 16 copies with the 'missing tree trunk' at the left side. These were all on Position 1/1. I found none in position 2/1. If some member has an extra (2/1) and would like to trade please get in touch with me. The copy shown on p. 595 of the Newsletter may be more difficult to find in that it's a CDS cancel.

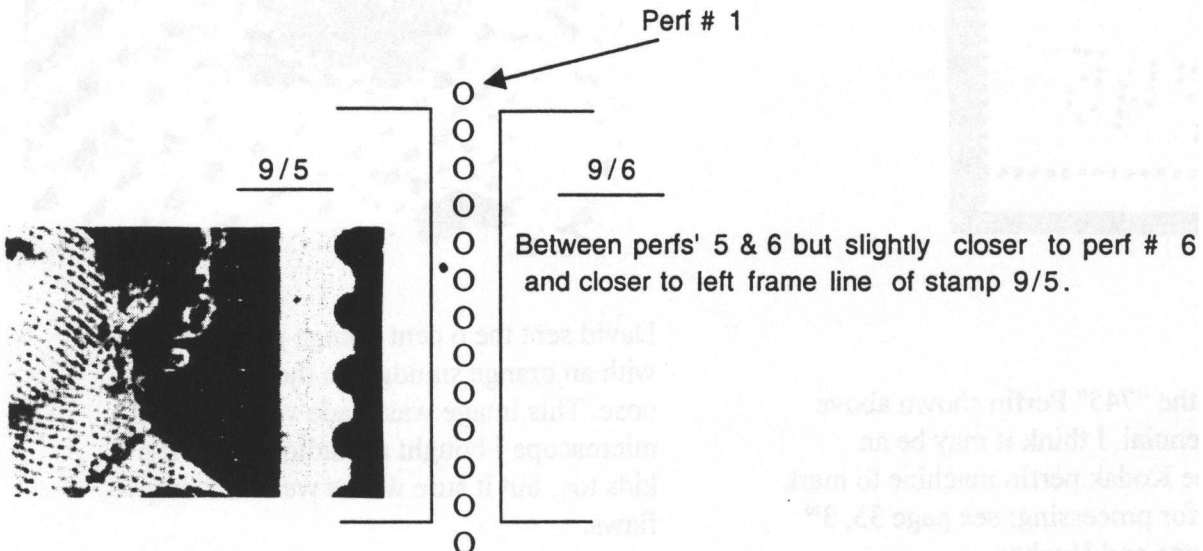
Two repeating dots found on same field stock. This occurs on all 12 panes, and in exactly the same postions.

Row 7/2 - 7/3



There is also a very faint dot in the same location between the two adjacent stamps,i.e.,
R7/3 - R 7/4

Row 9/5 - 9/6

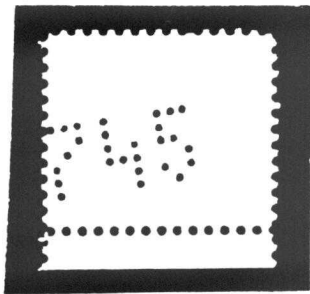


THE SIX CENT ORANGE FLUORESCENT INK VARIETY
LATEST NEWSLETTER

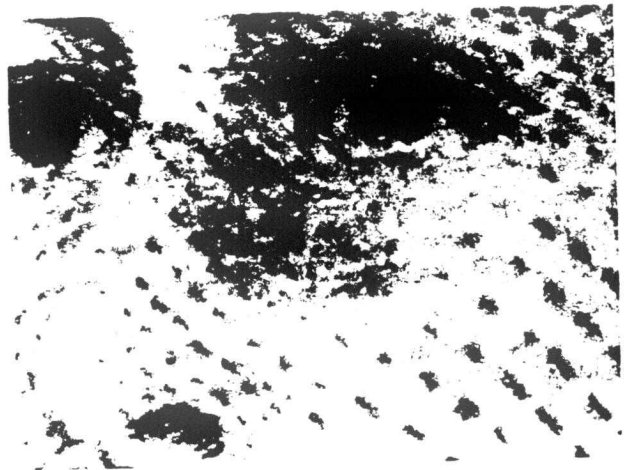
by David Platt

There needs to be another look at this stamp and its actual release date and the earliest recorded date on cover. I have been collecting this particular stamp for over 20 years and in that time have now in my possession 53 First Day Covers. Of these there are 8 with Fluorescent Ink and of these there are three which are commercial usage. However this being said you will see they are all Ottawa, so I can not state for certain that the Fluorescent Ink Variety made its way out to other offices across Canada by Nov. 1. I can state with certainty that this variety was issued along with the regular on November 01, 1968 and was not a separate issue which came out a few days or weeks later on its own. I believe it was mixed in with the stock of regular ink and not noted as any different by the post office. In the photo copies (next page) you will see No. 1 is a sheet stamp used by the Bank Canadienne National, No. 2 has straight edges top and right, used by a Construction Company, while No. 3 has a right hand straight edge which could be booklet or sheet used by a private individual to pay his water bill. How I wish that it was a left side straight edge as the fluorescent booklet stamps are so hard to find used in 1968, in fact none to my knowledge have ever been. Interesting to note that both FDC's I have from the Senate and from the House of Commons have the fluorescent ink stamp. I hope this will clear up any clouds around the release date and early use of this variety.

I welcome any comments or dated photo copies of any of the Fluorescent Ink variety with Ontario Cancels especially the Booklet Stamp.



David sends the "745" Perfin shown above on a 5 ct centennial: I think it may be an example of the Kodak perfin machine to mark slides sent in for processing: see page 35, 3rd paragraph Keane and Hughes.



David sent the 6 cent orange pictured above with an orange smudge on the side of the nose. This image was made with a digital microscope I bought at Radio Shack. It's a kids toy, but it sure works well on stamp flaws.

City of Ottawa,
111, Sussex Dr.,
Ottawa, Ont.

First Day of June



First 10

1

10

J. G. KAVANAGH CONSTRUCTION

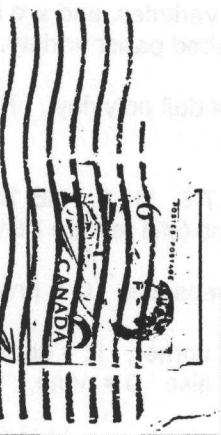
1171 WELLINGTON ST. — OTTAWA 3, ONT.

FROM *J. HARRIS*
DE

ADDRESS *193 BREEZEHILL AVE*
ADRESSE

OTTAWA 3.001.

(CUSTOMER'S ACCOUNT NUMBER)
(VOTRE NO. DE COMPTE)



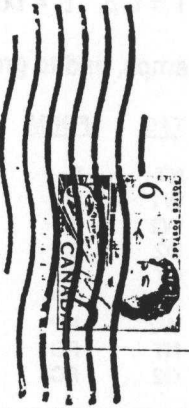
CITY OF OTTAWA

TAX AND WATER REVENUE BRANCH,

111 SUSSEX DRIVE,

OTTAWA 2, ONT.

First Day Cover



First

2

Those of us who, for over 30 years, have been diligently trying to define the boundaries of the universe of the 1967 Centennials, know that they offer the widest possible (and most frustrating) range of collecting opportunities, from a single album page to well filled multiple albums. The basic series of 16 denominations quickly expands to 50 face different varieties, when one considers only those visible to the naked eye - the various formats (booklet and mini-pane singles, coils, precancels and perforation changes). Taking into account changes in gum, tagging and printing dies (6¢ black) quickly increases the total to over 200. Paper fluorescence and texture varieties then expand the total to over 400, using only 6-8 levels of fluorescence (while Keane & Hughes use 13, and Len Kruczynski published, in the Dec. 1993 Newsletter #58, a proposal for up to 17 subdivisions of the two lowest K&H levels). Finally, there is another domain of errors, freaks and oddities such as imperforates and mis-perfs, tagging errors, and "flyspeck" die flaws (many published in a number of Newsletters, by Mike Painter and others).

The following set of tabulations attempts to list the 400 "normal" varieties, of which only about 260 have achieved catalog status. The other 140 derive mostly from paper fluorescence or texture (ribbing) varieties not yet accepted for listing in the major catalogs (notably, each year sees a number like these being included, but it is unlikely that all will ever make it). The provenance for most of these was published in the May 1998 Newsletter #72.

These tabulations are not presumed to be the "end-all", and are offered only as a starting point for scrutiny by the members of the Study Group - inspiring, hopefully, the feedback of corrections, additions or deletions which will improve the quality and accuracy of the contents. Sharing your knowledge would be welcomed by all - especially the author at: 25 Oakland Ave., Metuchen, NJ 08840; e-mail: rock08840@aol.com; fax: 732-549-3113

With that said, the following comments are offered as an aid to deciphering some of the contents:

SCOTT # - numbers followed by a "V#" are uncataloged varieties, and are attached to the number of the nearest cataloged sibling. Vr is a ribbed paper variety.

GUM - DEX = dextrine, DXW = white dextrine, PVD = dull polyvinyl, PVS = shiny polyvinyl, SWG = spotty white gum

PAPER - DD 0, DL 0-1, LF 1-3, M- 4, MF 5-7, HF 7-8, H+ 9, HB 10-12
DDC and DLC are coated paper variations (still require better definition)

FORM - B = booklet, C = coil, M = mini-pane, P = precancel, Q = precancelled coil, S = sheet

SE (straight edges) - LCRCTB: L = at left, 1st C = left corner, R = right, 2nd C = right corner, T = top, B = bottom, also 0 = none, ts = trimmed sides

GROUP - used to classify like stamps, and to group those of different denominations:

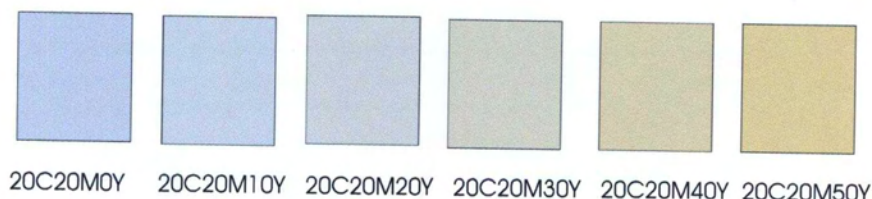
<u>GROUP</u>	<u>PERF</u>	<u>TAG</u>	<u>FORM</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>PERF</u>	<u>TAG</u>	<u>FORM</u>
A	12	NT	S	P	12½	NT	S
B	12	W1	S	Q	12½	W1	S
C	12	W2	S	R	12½	W2	S
E	12	O2	S	S	12½	O4	S
F	12	NT	BP	T	12½	O2	S
G	12	NT	MP	U	12½	NT	BP
H	12	W2	MP	V	12½	O4	BP
I	12	NT	PC	W	12½	O2	BP
K	12	O2	PC	X	12½	NT	PC
L	10	NT	S				
M	10	W2	S				
N	10	NT	BP				
O	10	NT	PC				

A GUIDE TO SORTING LOW FLUORESCENT(DEX GUM) PAPERS

By L. Kruczynski

For 20 years now I have been buying bulk mint Centennial lots and sorting them under the uv lamp. To my surprise, each new lot had quite a few “new” papers. Soon the number of different papers (ie having a different shade under the uv lamp) far exceeded even the Keane & Hughes Tables. Something was wrong. I always suspected “toning” or ageing as one reason. My routine for sorting Centennials was as follows: after separating values and varieties visible by normal light, I would sort under the uv lamp at my windowless basement stamp desk. I would then turn on my 100 watt tungsten desk lamp to look for stamps where the gum had yellowed, putting these in the “toned” pile; sorting the “fresh” stamps according to uv shade under the lamp. Recently, however, I made two important changes to my sorting routine:

ONE: I took the pile of “fresh” stamps upstairs into bright daylight and discovered that I could, with natural light, easily identify four different levels of gum yellowing on the dex Centennials. Most collectors will recall that heavily toned (yellowed) stamps exhibit a distinctive cream fluorescence under the uv lamp. Was it possible that less heavily toned material was exhibiting different shades under the uv lamp as well? The question I had to answer was: if you mix violet and yellow, what colours do you get? Rather than getting out a paint set, I decided to go to my computer. The drawing program CorelDraw allows you to draw a rectangle and “fill” it with any shade you desire: you simply tell the program how many units of Cyan (a light blue), Magenta (a deep pink) and Yellow you wish to use. I started with a violet shade, made by mixing 20 units of Cyan (20C) with 20 units of Magenta (20M) and no Yellow (0Y). This shade is shown below in the first panel to the left, the formula for mixing the ink is written below as “20C20M0Y”.



Then I started to add yellow in increments of 10 up to a total of 50 units of yellow; the results are shown above. If you have spent any time sorting the dex Centennials under the uv lamp, you will immediately recognize the range of shades shown above to be somewhat typical for the Dex Centennials classes as “PL (NF)” or “LF” in Unitrade or Keane and Hughes levels 0,1 and 2, (cream to off-white shades). The conclusion I came to was that toning could affect the uv shade, but how could I be sure that I was looking at the same paper, aged differently, and therefore showing a different shade under the uv lamp? That’s where my second change in sorting routine comes in:

TWO: I started looking at material through a low powered glass (I have a 1 ½ inch diameter glass that allows me to see the entire stamp without moving the glass) under the uv lamp. Under these conditions, one can clearly see and count the fluorescent fibers present in the paper. The Dex papers broadly fall into four categories as shown below:

Comparison of different Fluorescent Grading Systems

Paper Description in Unitrade	Keane and Hughes Description	Number of fluorescent fibers
dull or NF	0 - brown & dark violet	zero
PL or DF	0 - cream	0-3
LF	1 - ivory	5-10
SF	1 or 2 - off- white	30 +

The fibers vary from long (1-2 mm) to shorter pieces, sometimes straight, sometimes curled. The numbers shown above are “ball park” figures and should not be taken too literally: they are averages and one must use one’s own judgement as to which fibers to count. The important thing about counting fibers is that their number does not change as the stamp ages. Invariably when I see two different uv shades but the same flecking pattern, I see two different levels of toning when I turn the lights on. As I update the Keane and Hughes Tables (3 ct coil in this issue) I will include details on the flecking pattern.

3 CENT COIL

Perf 9 1/2 horizontal DEX GUM Canadian Bank Note Co

Regular Precncl

Keane/Hughes		A	B	A
PAPER	off-white	●	●	●
GUM	dex(smooth)	●	●	●
INK SHADE	reddish purple	●	●	
	dull purple			●
UV BRIGHTNESS		0	2	0
UV COLOUR:	black/ ivory (8 flks)	●		●
INK/PAPER	black/ off -white, flkd (30 flks)		●	
NOTES		a	b	c

Catalogue Numbers used below are from the Unitrade Specialized Catalogue (2000 edition)

- a-

466:

DF, DEX

Feb / 08 / 67
- b-

466i:

SF, DEX

Feb / 08 / 67
- c-

466xx:

No. 466 precancelled

Feb / 08 / 67

As outlined in my article in this issue on Sorting the Dex Papers, I am including an abbreviated description of the number of flecks or fibers observed under the uv lamp when the stamp is viewed through a low powered glass. Regular item “B” has very bright, long (1-2 millimeter) fibers that can be observed without the aid of a glass, hence the designation “SF”, but the other paper, the ivory paper, still has, on the average, 8 flecks: these tend to be not as bright as the off-white (B) paper, and can be discerned only with a glass. One bonus with working with a glass is that used items on hibright stock can be easily distinguished by their characteristic flecking patterns. Both papers used on the 3 cent coil are just about equal in occurrence.

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