

## X. SPECIAL PRODUCTION STUDIES

### Booklets

Booklets were introduced in the Queen Victoria Numeral issue with two panes of six 2c stamps in a 3 x 2 format. These panes and booklets are quite expensive, as are the follow-on booklets of the Edward VII stamps, issued in similar format. With the Admiral stamps, more booklets were created for the public, with many more variations in denominations. Varieties in the cover design created collectible items. Booklets were produced for the Scroll, Arch, and Medallion issues for King George V, Mufti, War, and 1949 issues for King George VI, and onward into the Queen Elizabeth II issues up to present time. Until 1968 the stamps of these booklets were all definitives with the likeness of the reigning King or Queen, but Canada Post issued Christmas stamps in booklet form in that year, and many different subjects have since appeared in booklet form. As with the early booklets, varieties continue to appear in both stamps and covers, promoting booklet collecting. With very few exceptions, modern booklets are not expensive, yet this collecting area represents a challenge to achieve something close to completion.



### Imprints and Plate Numbers

From the first stamps of all the Canadian colonies and provinces, stamp printers placed assorted marks on the edges of the stamp sheets to identify themselves as the printer and to identify stamps by various production methods. Thus, for the first stamp of Canada, the 3d beaver, the printer placed "Rawdon, Wright, Hatch, and Edson, New York." in eight positions on the sheet of stamps around the edge on



their wove paper printing of 1852. Later printing companies generally did the same thing throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and that procedure continues today with the stamps of Canada. Single stamps and multiples are collected to show the imprints. Single stamps often only show part, so multiples are desirable, and blocks are more costly than strips of stamps with the imprint. An example on a single 3¢ Large Queen is shown in section V.

For some 19<sup>th</sup> century issues beginning in 1868, most stamps also have the denomination printed in the margin. For the Large Queens any evidence of them is rare and the 15¢ did not have a counter. For the Small Queens, the counters are found for all values. This procedure was stopped with the Jubilees.

Beginning with the Jubilees, each plate prepared for printing was given a number, usually consecutive but not always, starting with 1. Starting with the Edwards, many plates were used for the low values.

Post-WWII stamps typically were printed in large sheets with four panes, and imprints were placed in each corner, so that matched sets of blocks of stamps from the four corners are collected up to today. These are listed in current catalogues.

### Miniature Sheets

These are stamps printed in smaller sheet format, or even singly, begun in 1961 with the Wilding portrait issue 5¢ stamp in Cello-Paqs (see that listing also). Later, sheets of se-tenant stamps such as blocks of four were issued, and for some issues the format was a small pane of 8, 12, or 16 stamps as the only format for distribution. A variety of this format is the souvenir sheet, issued for a particular event, particularly philatelic exhibitions.



In recent years, an annual souvenir sheet has been issued, as a single and in uncut press sheet form.

### First Day Covers

Collectors have always been interested in the earliest use of a stamp, and some seek the earliest recorded usage of a stamp, either off- or on-cover. Since in the 19<sup>th</sup> century no particular emphasis was placed on introduction of a new stamp, often the date of issue is not known. For some issues it is, and covers with these dates are highly sought and are very expensive. With the issue of the Jubilee stamps, however, the tremendous publicity around them led to collectors seeking to obtain first days of issue, and some prepared covers specifically for that purpose. This was the beginning of the First Day Cover (FDC) collecting area. With less interest in the plain definitives, the topic died until there was increasing use of commemorative



stamps in the late 1920s and into the 1930s. With the great upsurge in collecting in the 1930s, FDC collecting took off. Since that time, with only a few exceptions, the Canadian Post Office

emphasized FDC, collecting. Now, official FDCs are prepared by Canada Post for each issue. Changes in printing methods, however, do not warrant FDC status, so stamp varieties with different perforations, tagging, or other changes are simply put into

production, and collectors still have FDC items to seek that are not as readily available as are most regular FDCs today. Canada stamp catalogues typically list FDCs with their city of issue, or cities in some cases, which leads collectors to seek examples from each city, much as what happened with the Jubilees. FDCs are collected with single stamps on cover, or blocks or plate blocks.

### **Presentation Books**

Presentation books are sets of stamps current at the time given to members of the Universal Postal Union or to delegates to UPU meetings or conferences. They are limited in number and difficult to find. Often they have leather or cardboard covers, and are often bound. Stamps in earlier times were glued down to the pages, but now are sometimes inserted into plastic holders.

### **Souvenir Folders and Articles**

While many privately produced materials have philatelic links, such as the voluminous material for the Royal Train activities, we mention here only officially produced material by Canada Post, which began printing souvenir cards of some stamps in 1959 through 1972. Beginning in 1973, Canada Post produced annual Souvenir Collections of the stamps issued each year. These were followed by many different types of stamp-related materials, such as thematic post cards and issue-oriented materials for particular stamps or stamp sets. Also available are frameable prints of newer stamps and sets, and international philatelic show cards (typically showing early or new stamps in a format related to the stamp show). Prominent among these are cards produced for the Canada International shows CAPEX 78, CAPEX 87, and CAPEX 96.



## Coil Stamps

Beginning in the Edward period stamps were produced, initially experimentally, to fit new automatic vending machines as strips termed coils (since they could be put into coiled rolls for the machines). The Canadian Post Office experimented in 1918 with the coil formats, including labeling the stamps on the back and putting holes between the stamp impressions to aid separation, and these are collected.

Since the printing process limited the number of stamps in a strip, the stamps were pasted together, and these joints are collected as paste-ups. Some companies made various cuts or indentations between imperforate stamps for ease of separation. These are very rare in early Edward 2¢ stamps. Later, special productions of coil stamps by the Canada Post Office led to new varieties such as blanks for the first few inches, called leader strips, collectible also. Also, markers between stamps were included on coil products, and stamps with the line between the stamps are collected as line pairs or as strips.

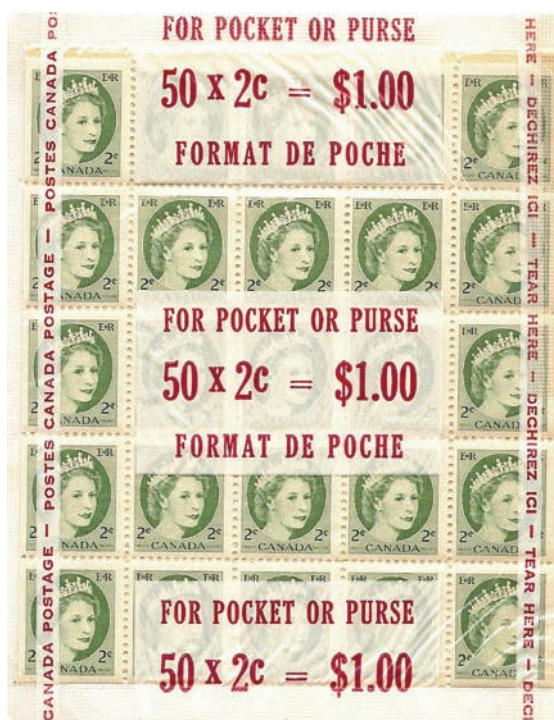


## Cello-Paqs

In 1961 Canada issued two Cello-Paqs of stamps. These were issued without any notification to the collecting public, and so these Cello-Paqs can be difficult to find in an unopened state. These packages were designed so that people would have a convenient amount of stamps in the two popular denominations of 2¢ and 5¢; they used the Wilding definitive stamps of 1954.

The original Cello-Paqs were produced with a “DECHIREZ ICI – TEAR HERE” repeated, going down the right vertical side and “CANADA POST – POSTES CANADA” repeated going down the left side of the Cello-Paq. On the front of the paq is printed in red, “FOR POCKET OR PURSE / 50 x 2¢ = \$1.00 (or 20 x 5¢ = \$1) / FORMAT DE POCHE.”

Pictured on the next page is an unopened Cello-Paq of the 2¢ Wilding definitive stamp of 1954, issued in Cello-Paq format in 1961. These miniature panes of stamps were not perforated on the outer edge and so it is possible to have four stamps from each miniature sheet with two straight edges. Many collectors of these miniature panes collect the four corner stamps, used and create a new smaller miniature pane.



A harder way to collect these Cello-Paqs is to collect them still in their packaging. This can be difficult because they were not announced by the Canadian Post Office, and so were used up by the general public and missed by many stamp collectors of the time.

The Christmas stamps first issued by Canada in 1964 are known to be available both tagged and untagged in miniature sheet format. The other definitive stamps were issued in Cello-Paqs as they were introduced, until the Cello-Paqs were dis-continued in 1967.

## XI. AIRMAILS

### Pioneer Airmails of Canada and Newfoundland

A few flights took place early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Only a few cards and covers exist, but they have no specific designations. Toward the end of WWI, various flying clubs and groups began printing stamps for demonstration flights. For example, the Aero Club of Canada began printing stamps for



their demonstration flights. The flights, which were carrying covers bearing both the special stamps and Canadian stamps needed to pay postage for mail carriage, were supported by the Canadian Post Office. Some of these flights produced rarities.