

BUNDLEMANIA

by Jerome Fourre #120

Bundles of notes have always fascinated me! I was really impressed when CTCCC member Peter Wiedemann sent in a picture of a bundle of CTC S4-A - AN prefix 3¢ notes **(1)**. They were packaged in a cardboard box and were not wrapped in plastic. The box even had the logo of the Canadian Banknote Company (CBN) on it **(2)**. On the same picture we can see that CBN started shrink wrapping in plastic during the CTC S4 series. There is a picture of a bundle of CTC S4-A - XN 3¢ notes **(3)**. You can read all about it in the Collector Vol.9 No.3 from July 1999.

When I started verifying Canadian Tire Money, in the stores and gas bars, back in 1992 the series that was being issued was the CTC S9 series. I did not have enough traders to be able to put away bundles of notes but only to replace the notes that I removed from circulation. My source for coupons was family and friends that were nice enough to sell me their stash. Back then, I was saving everything that was out of the ordinary plus all of the new notes I could find that were in good shape. Like most collectors, I soon became a lot more selective in what I kept because the volume was just too much. My budget was more limited in those days.

All of the bundles from CTC S5 and up were wrapped in shrink wrapped plastic. BABN had also printed the CTC S10 & S11 series and they were wrapped in plastic shrink wrap.

The first two bundles that I pulled out of circulation were CTC S10-D 25¢ notes. One bundle of 500 notes had a radar note in it and that was the bundle I kept, the other bundle I sold to another collector. Since that time I have sold off most of my bundle except for about forty notes. I kept the radar! At that time I was still not interested in bundles other than to check them for radars, replacements and errors.

I had access to CTC S11 bundles long before the replacements in that series were known about, damn! I even got a bundle of CTC S12-A - 3¢ notes that was still wrapped in plastic. Of course I ripped the plastic off that bundle quicker than you could say "rubber baby buggy bumper" and I found that four notes were sticking out of the bundle. These four notes were "same number replacements". They were written up in "the Collector" in 1995 - Vol 5 No1, on page 7.

Then the CTC S13 series started to come out and replacements started to show up in most of the series except the 50¢ and \$1.00 notes. These replacements had an asterisk at the beginning of the serial number. As for the 50¢ and \$1.00 bundles, I would find stretched serial numbers here and there and I was pulling them out with their bracketing notes just so I could prove to other collectors their existence. After about a year, replacements started to show up in the 50¢ and \$1.00 bundles. I then got rid of the stretched serial numbers, damn! All of a sudden, as the S13 series was winding down, I was in one of the stores I visited on a regular basis, the store received five bundles of CTC S13-Da 25¢ notes (2500 notes). When I managed to pick my chin off of the table, I made a deal with the owner to trade all I had in the different denominations for those 25¢ notes. That was the only time that I am aware that CBN shipped their left over replacements at the end of a run of regular coupons.

The CTC S18 series **(4)**, which was printed by British American Bank Note (BABN), were wrapped in cellophane and they now had a red strip of plastic to facilitate their open-

ing. They were not shrink wrapped, but the corners were folded over and glued similar to a pound of butter. This is the only series that was packaged this way.

As most of you know, the CTC S20 **(6 & 7)** & S21 series were printed by BABN before the CTC S18 & 19 series and it also was shrink wrapped in plastic like their other series. Series CTC S20 and S21 had a blue sheet of paper added to separate every 100 batch of notes. The bundles had a brown strip of paper with "CANADIAN TIRE CORPORATION LIMITED" printed on each one around each 100 plus the full bundle before it was shrink wrapped.

The CTC S22 **(5)** and S23 series were printed by CBN and the packaging was the same as series S5 through S16 that they had printed. As with all \$1.00 and \$2.00 notes they were shrink wrapped in bundles of 200 with plastic.

BABN then made their second run of 10¢ and \$1.00s in the CTC S20 series in 2000. These notes had the prefix "2" as first number of the serial number. They also made the 5¢, 25¢ and 50¢ which became the CTC S24 series **(8 & 9)** and later the 10¢ notes of the CTC S25 series. They used larger serial numbers for these two series. The CTC S24 series was wrapped similar to the CTC S20 series with a blue sheet of paper added to separate every 100 batch of notes. The bundles had a brown strip of paper around each 100 plus the full bundle before it was shrink wrapped. They added "CANADIAN TIRE CORPORATION LIMITED" printed in black to the plastic. For some, hard to explain, reason this printing was reversed when the bundles were shrink wrapped.

BABN went back to the smaller size serial numbers for the CTC S26 series **(10 & 11)** of 5¢ and 10¢. The packaging also changed for this series. The brown strips with the company name were widened and were now white with the company name in French and English in red ink on the front and a one half inch black strip across the joint at the back. The blue papers used to separate the bundle into hundreds were also done away. A white quarter inch plastic strapping was used to group either two or five bundles together before they were shrink wrapped.

In 2000, BABN was sold to Giesecke & Devrient and they halted their printing of commercial script in Canada. CBN stepped in and continued printing CTC money as they had done in the past. They have been Canadian Tire's main printer since then.

Series CTC S27, **(12 to 18)** S28, **(19 to 21)** S29, S30 and S31 **(22)** have been packaged in several different ways. The first being similar to the BABN procedure, with a white band around each 100 notes followed by another white band around the 500 or 200 bundle depending on the denomination. Secondly they went to just shrink wrapping the bundle of 500 or 200 with no separators. Thirdly they added yellow separators every 100 notes to facilitate the end users task of separating the notes. And lastly BABN have the yellow separators along with the white band before being shrink wrapped in plastic.

Since the beginning of the CTC S31 series, it is a known fact that CBN has sub-contractors doing their offset printing of the sheets of coupons for them off-site. When shipped back to CBN, the intaglio printing was added to the front and the

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serial numbers to the back. The sheets are then cut, packaged and sent to Canadian Tire head office where they are stored until needed by the stores and gas bars.

In conclusion, you can see that there have been several methods used to package Canadian Tire "Money" throughout the years. From the bundles received at the different stores and gas bars that I visit, it is also evident that they are using more than one team to do the packaging today. Some bundles have yellow dividers and some have none, some have a white band around the bundle of 500 or 200 before being shrunk wrapped and some have no band around them.

I have also noticed that they have been cutting the sheets in batches of 250 sheets at a time, probably to minimize the possibility of sheering. The thicker the stack, the more the blade will deviate while cutting. I have found most bundles have a break at notes #250, 500 & 750.

If you have any comments please contact me by phone: 450-419-7914, email: jayfoure@ctccollector.ca or snail mail: 1120 Place Charron, Blainville, QC, J7C 2T2



1



3



2

The black and white pictures included with Peter Wiedemann's article from Volume 9 No. 3 in 1999 showing the bundles, the actual notes that match the wrapper label on the cardboard box and the CBN logo.



4



5

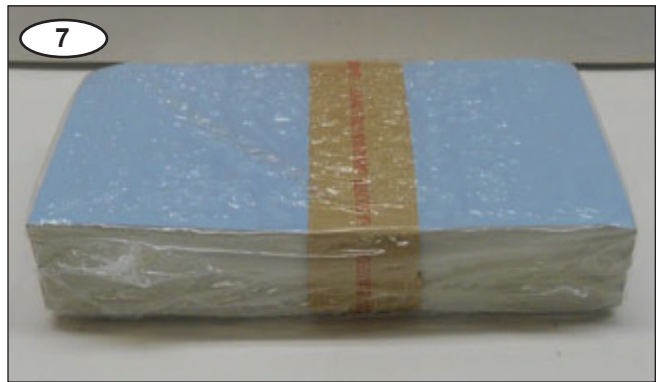
A bundle of CTC S22 \$2.00 notes.

A bundle of CTC S18 5c notes next to a bundle of CTC S31 5c notes. Notice the height difference. Both bundles have 500 notes but the paper used for the S18's is thinner than that used for the S31's

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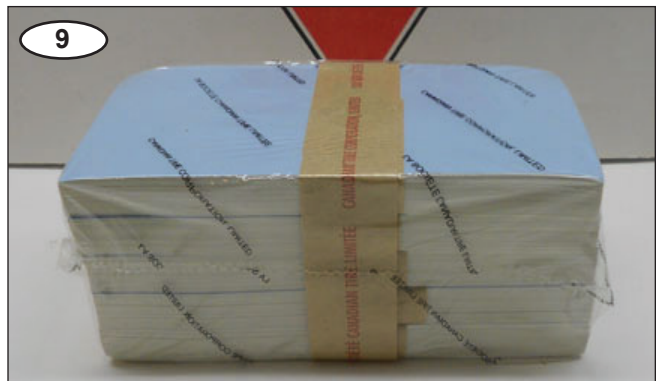
A bundle of CTC S20 \$1.00 notes from the second printing.



The same bundle of CTC S20 \$1.00 notes showing the blue separators.



A bundle of CTC S24 25¢ notes.



The same bundle of CTC S24 25¢ notes showing the blue separators.



A bundle of CTC S26 5¢ notes.



The same bundle of CTC S26 5¢ notes showing the red printing on the white bands.



A bundle of CTC S27 5¢ notes with the white bands.



A bundle of CTC S27 5¢ notes with no white bands.

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A bundle of CTC S27 10¢ notes with the white bands.



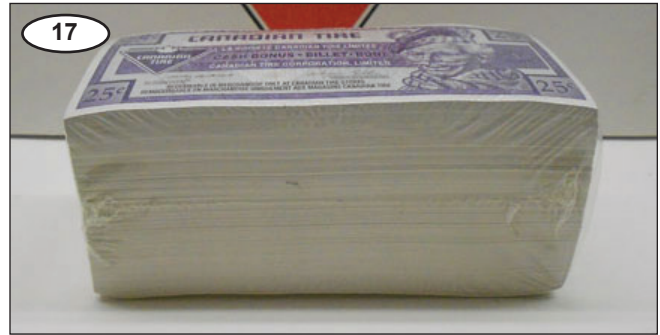
15

A bundle of CTC S27 10¢ notes with no white bands.



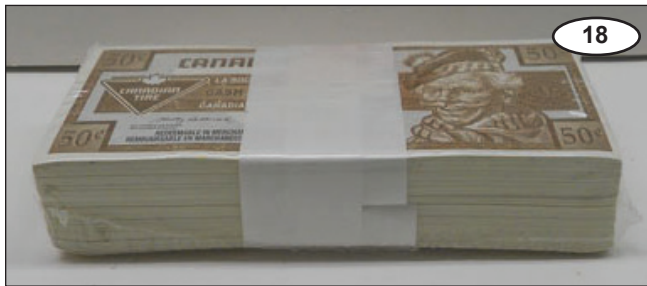
16

A bundle of CTC S27 25¢ notes with the white bands.



17

A bundle of CTC S27 25¢ notes with no white bands.



18

A bundle of CTC S27 50¢ notes with the white bands.



19

A bundle of CTC S28 50¢ notes with no white bands.



20

A bundle of CTC S28 \$1.00 notes with the yellow separators.



22

Two bundles of CTC S31 10¢ notes, one with the white bands and one without. Both with yellow separators.



21

A bundle of CTC S28 \$2.00 notes with the white bands.