

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

Newsletter of the BNAPS

First Day Cover Study Group

Issue No. 23, April-June 2015

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Editor's Notes

Our honorary member Robert L. Markovits recently forwarded to me some of his working papers from the 1969-1970 period when he was seeking pre-1940 first day and early use covers for Melvin Baron to include in his many articles. These papers are stopping over briefly with me en route to the American Philatelic Research Library so that I can publish some items that might be of interest to our members. The first of these, a letter and covers from Robert Cole, appears in this issue and other articles and exhibits will follow in subsequent issues.

Issue 23 also includes the second part of Bob Vogel's review of some FDCs displaying errors, freaks, and oddities and the final group of T.G. Wolstencroft cachets from the early 1970s. Two ending notes briefly describe a pair of recent BNAPS publications by Study Group members, and ask for information about a cachet that has cropped up under several different guises over a 40 year period.

Doug Holmes has forewarned that our current website software is about to be discontinued, so he is working on a replacement package that will carry forward all of the material now in place and hopefully make it easier to add new items. Stay tuned!

Submitting Articles to First Impressions

Articles may be submitted in writing or MS Word, and scans should be in JPEG format at 300 dpi. E-mail submissions should be sent to Gary Dickinson at gandbdickinson@shaw.ca or mailed to Gary at 648 San Michelle Road, Kelowna, B.C., Canada, V1W 2J1.

FIRST DAY COVER ERRORS, FREAKS, AND ODDITIES: PART II

by Bob Vogel

Part I of this study presented a number of printing errors that were committed by some outstanding cachet makers such as Cole Covers, Rosecraft, Personal Stationery Company, Al Van Dahl, and others. Part II also shows a couple of printing errors plus other types of EFOs such as missing stamps and cancellation errors.

Shown first are three examples of covers that could have made FDC status if only someone had put a stamp on them. First is a George Mercer cachet for the CAPEX 51 issue (Figure 1). The “4” near the top right corner suggests that it should probably have been franked with the 4 cent denomination, Scott #311.

The Jean Talon commemorative, Scott #398, was obviously intended for the cover by Rosecraft shown in Figure 2, but it somehow missed the boat.

The third entry in this group was a Cole Cover cachet (Figure 3) used for the Christmas, 1970 issue (Scott #519-530).

Another Cole Cover cachet was used for the Manitoba Centennial issue (Scott No. 505). This example (Figure 4) featured a faint double impression of the cancellation. An enlarged version is shown in Figure 5. The “shadow” cancellation appears slightly to the right of the original postmark.

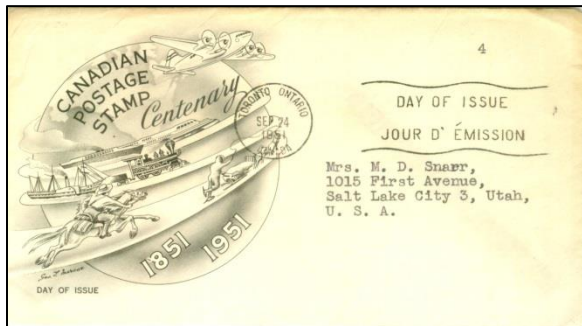


Figure 1.



Figure 2.

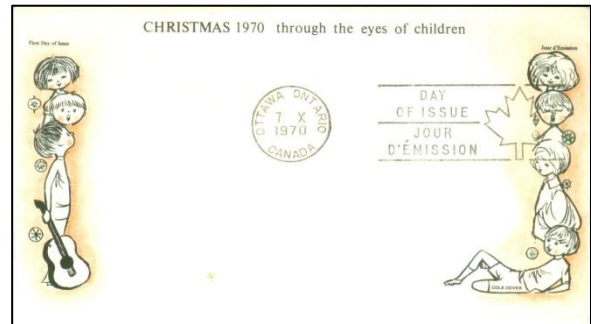


Figure 3.

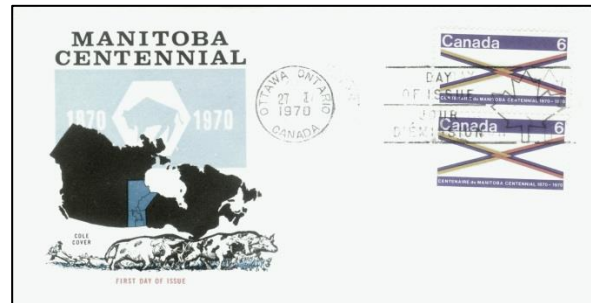


Figure 4.



Figure 5.

The official CAPEX cachet for #313 is shown in Figure 6. In this instance the back flap of the second cover is stuck to the first and cancelled.

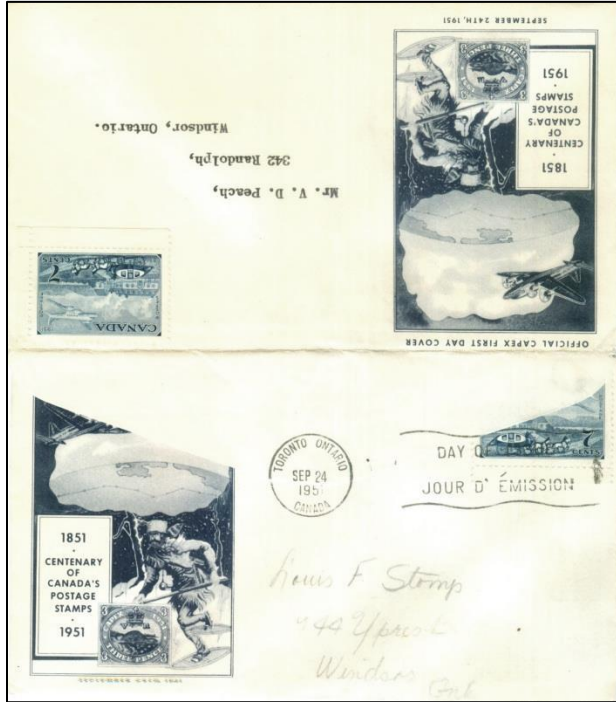


Figure 6.

The Lacrosse issue (Scott #483) was issued on July 3, 1968 and the appropriate presentation or replacement cachet that should have been used by Canada Post was Type 4as is the case with the presentation cover shown in Figure 7. However, the Type 3 cachet as shown in Figure 8 was also used for this replacement cover for the lacrosse issue although its use should have been restricted to the centennial year.



Figure 7.



Figure 8.

The pair of Rosecraft FDCs for the Education issue (Scott #396) illustrates how a portion of the cancellation from Figure 9 was applied to the cover in Figure 10 at the left side. This overlap occurred when the upper cover was pulled through canceller underneath the lower cover leaving part of the cancellation on the lower cover.

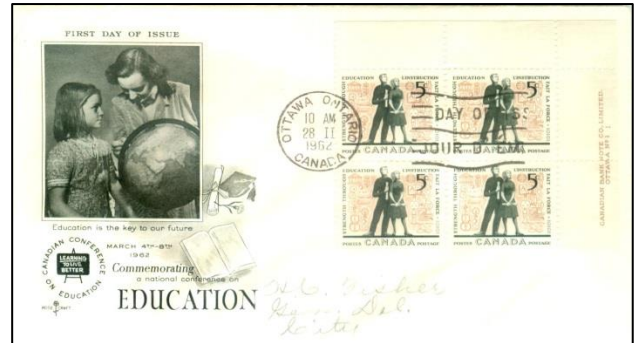


Figure 9.

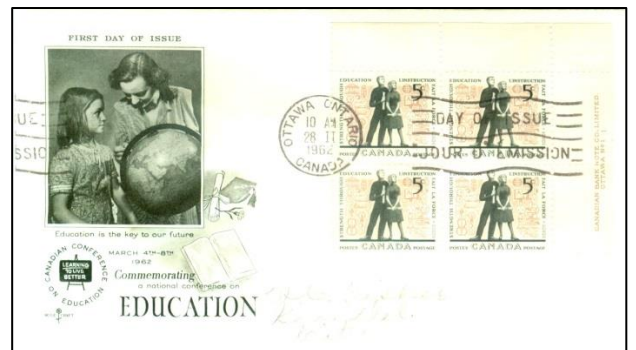


Figure 10.

Another error by the post office is demonstrated in the next set of three FDCs. The first shows the usual Type 4replacement

cachet with a pair of Northwest Territories Centennial stamps (Scott #506). In an unusual circumstance, however, a Cole Cover shown in Figure 12 was used as a replacement cachet whereby the usual Postmaster's message about the damage done to the owner's original cover was enclosed.



Figure 11.



Figure 12.

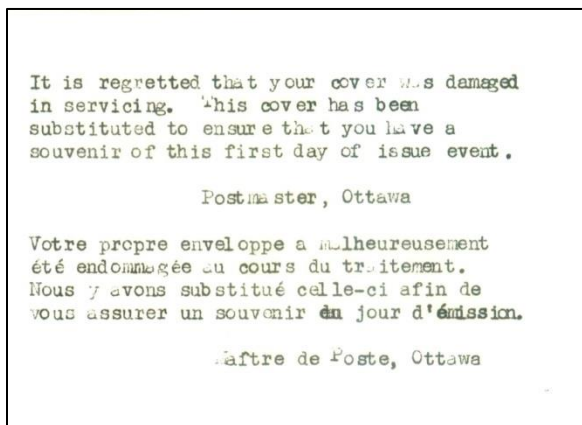


Figure 13.

Closing out this article is a pair of printing errors I've recently acquired. Figures 14 and 15 show two Cole Cover

FDCs for Scott #460, one with and one without the red printing. A normal cachet for #465A by an unknown maker is shown in Figure 16 while Figure 17 has the red printing inverted.



Figure 14.

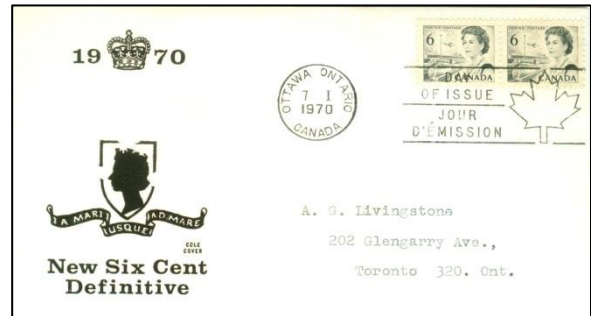


Figure 15.



Figure 16.



Figure 17.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM ROBERT COLE

A treasure from the Robert L. Markovits archives is a response from Ottawa cachet maker Robert Cole to Markovits's request for information about his stock of FDCs and his business generally. Cole's letter is reproduced in Figure 1, and his business advertising cover is shown in Figure 2. He was not able to meet Markovits's request for pre-1940 FDCs but referred his inquiry to a part-time dealer. He also identified Rosecraft and H & E as local competitors.

Cole enclosed what he referred to as "our first commercial covers," adding that the normal printing was 12,000 copies. These covers are shown in Figures 3 and 4, with Figure 3 being unstamped and self-addressed to Cole and Figure 4 being postmarked but unaddressed.

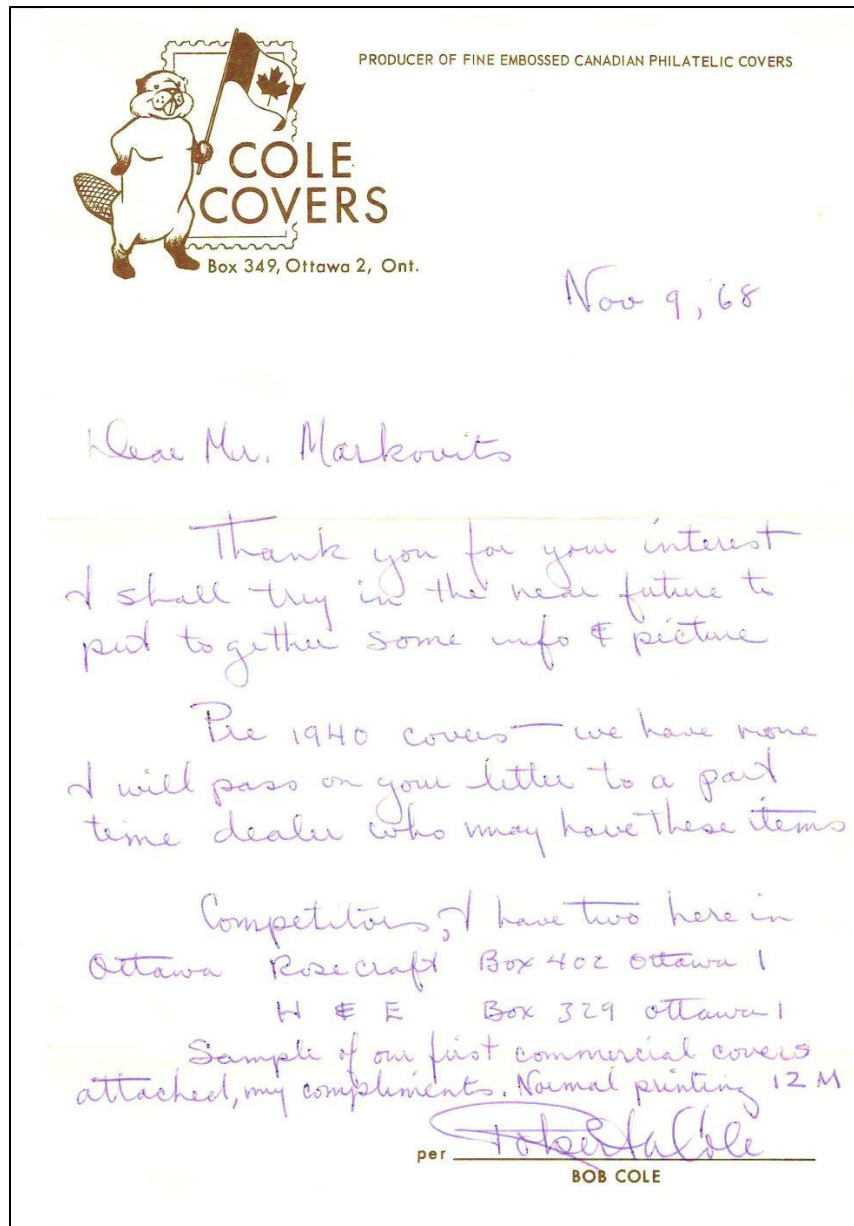


Figure 1.

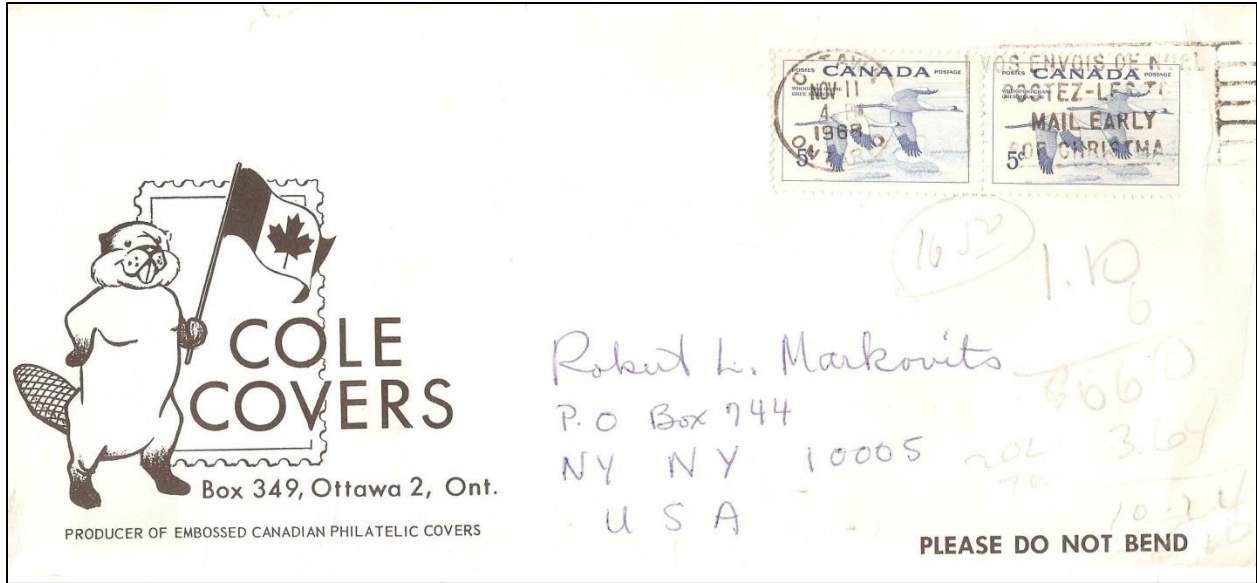


Figure 2.

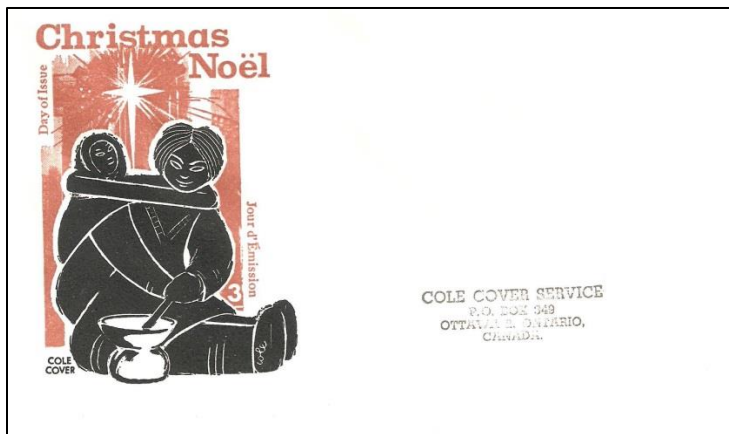


Figure 3.

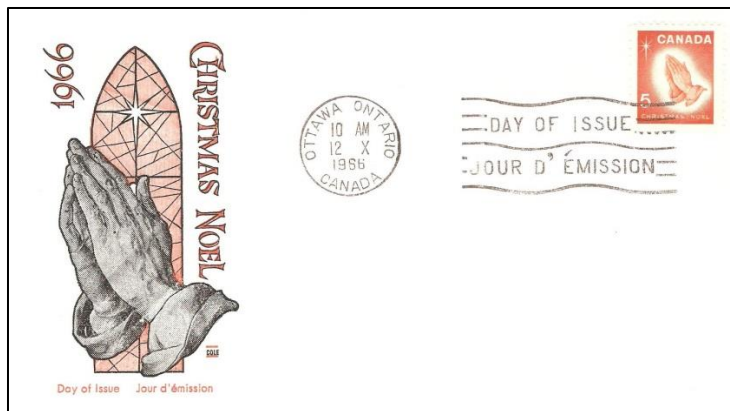


Figure 4

T.G. WOLSTENCROFT CACHETS

PART VI—THE LAST OF THE WOLSTENCROFTS

by John Van der Ven

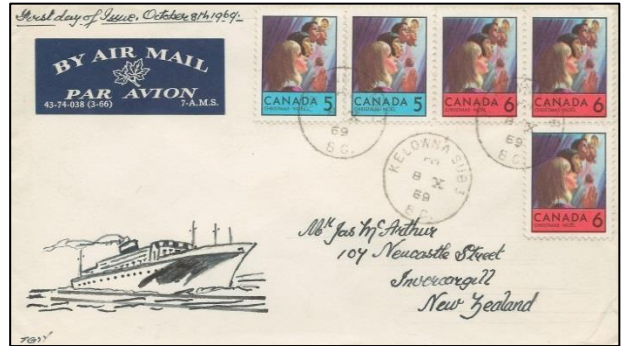
Previous issues of First Impressions have presented 115 different FDCs with cachets by T.W. Wolstencroft of Kelowna. All of them appear to have been produced in limited quantities, perhaps in the 20 to 25 range for each stamp issue covered. The 18 scans presented here represent the last of the known Wolstencroft cachets. They range from Scott #460 to #655 plus two from the Montreal Olympics semi-postal series, and in date from 1970 to 1975. All of them are addressed to the same correspondent in New Zealand and have airmail etiquettes attached, so in most cases they have multiple stamps affixed.



488



460



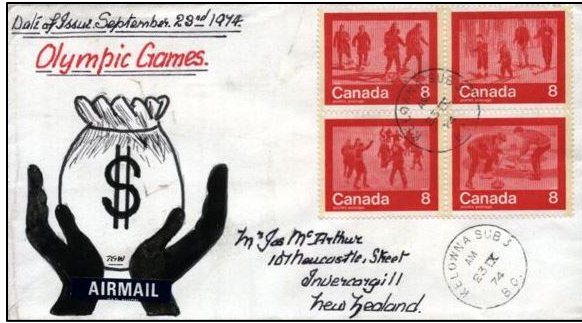
502-503



465



507



644-647



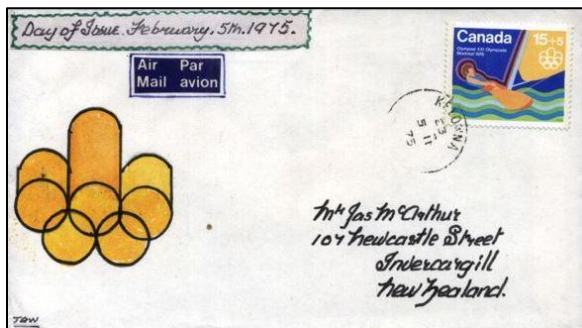
648-649



655

Coda: Many thanks to John for sharing his collection of covers and scans with us over the last couple of years. Wolstencroft would probably have been unknown to us if he hadn't done so, and the cachets represent useful and colourful additions to our hobby.

Editor



B7-B9



B1-B3

TWO RECENT HANDBOOKS BY FDCSG MEMBERS

Two recent publications in the BNAPS handbook series by FDC Study Group members have appeared since Issue 22 of First Impressions.

Jan van der Ven and Mark Lerner collaborated on a catalogue of Canadian FDCs made by Overseas Mailers. A dozen pages of introductory material deal with types and styles of OM cachets and the history of the firm and its central figure, Jay Leach.

Of particular interest to collectors is the effort of the authors to derive and apply a method of estimating market pricing levels in five categories ranging from 1 (\$5-12) through 5 (\$60-100).

The catalogue then goes on to illustrate all of the OM FDCs for Canadian stamp issues from Scott #335 (April, 1954) through #611 (November, 1972). Each page follows a standard format of showing a base cachet (if applicable), the OM cachet, and the OM insert. Cataloguing information is shown in a table at the bottom of the page.

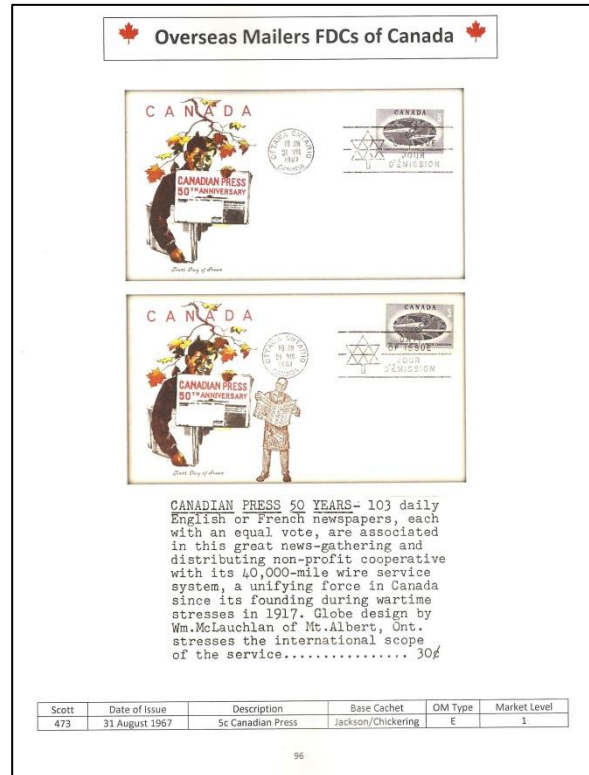
Gary Dickinson, with assistance from David Hanes, reported on the variety of FDCs produced for the 1971 series of four stamps showing maple leaves in season. The products of some 40 different cachet makers are illustrated. The emergence of the Canada Post Office as a significant force in cachet production is given particular attention.

A sample page from each publication is shown in the opposite column.

Both publications are obtainable from Sparks Auctions at the following site:

<http://sparks-auctions.com/bnapsbooks/>
 Scroll to the bottom of the page and enter either “van der Ven” or “Dickinson” in the search box at the bottom of the page.

BNAPS members receive a 40% discount on the listed prices.



WHAT'S THE STORY?

by Gary Dickinson

The cachets discussed on these pages span a period of almost 40 years, from 1966 to 2015. Their use has been as general purpose cachets that were appeared with a variety of stamp issues. I've been puzzled as to their origin and continued use, and wondered if any of you could help to clarify this.

The first appearance I've found of the cachet featuring Canada's coat of arms with a red leaf background was on June 30, 1966 with the last stamp (Scott #429A) in the provincial flowers and coats of arms series (Figure 1).

Van der Ven and Lerner's recent handbook on Overseas Mailers FDCs identified it as a Jackson Cover Service base cachet with an OM insert as shown in Figure 2.

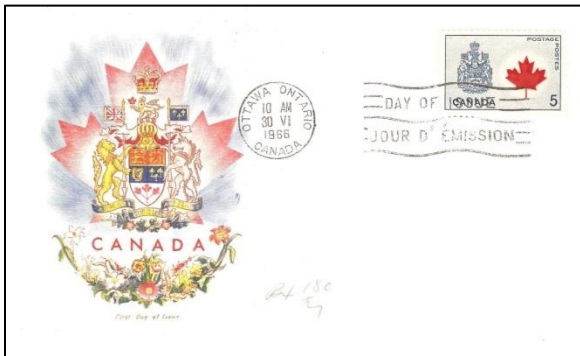


Figure 1

CANADA RED-MAPLE LEAF & ARMS- Appropriately issued on eve of Dominion Day this simple, bi-colored stamp shows the red-maple leaf taken from the new Canadian flag, symbolizing the unity of French- and English-speaking population, plus a too-small coat-of-arms of Canada. Striking cachet depicts the arms in full color, with maple leaf background clearly showing the most minute details of crown, flags, heraldic animals, harp, French and British emblems that cannot be perceived on the stamp without strong magnification, thereby once again emphasizing the advantage of collecting stamps on cacheted first-day covers.....30¢

Figure 2

The identical cachet, but without an insert, is shown in Figure 3. This was used for the Royal Visit issues of June 30, 1967 (Scott #471). At this point it would have been a Jackson FDC without any OM augmentation.

Figures 4 and 5 show the same cachet re-incarnated in 2005 and 2007 with souvenir sheets #2091 and 2206. These were attributed to "RGS" with the notation shown in Figure 6, indicating that the number produced was quite limited. The cachet in Figure 4 was #7 of 17 while Figure 5 was #9 of 15.

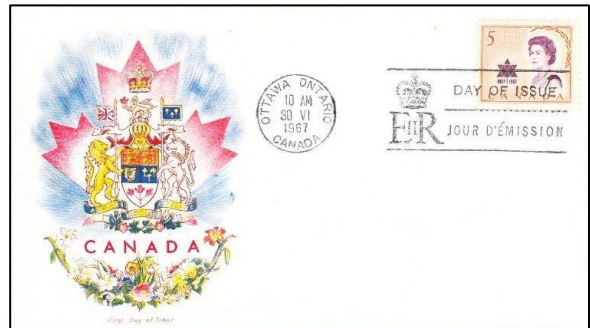


Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5

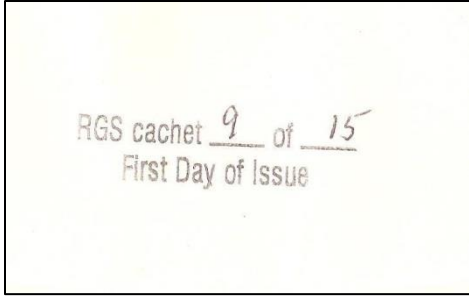


Figure 6

The same basic design appeared more recently with the cover shown in Figure 7. This is not a FDC but it was posted at Lantzville, BC in 2013 with franking mostly from the Centennial issue. There are no markings to indicate its origin. The cachet design is identical with the covers shown earlier, but the colours used in the printing process are darker.



Figure 7

Finally, the Ron Leith Auction of February 22, 2015 featured six large lots totalling 172 FDCs between 2004 and 2014, all with this same cachet. These were attributed to "Sharpe" and most were postmarked at Kelowna, BC.

So, can anyone elaborate on this story?