

THE FLAG POLE



Newsletter of the BNAPS Flag Cancel Study Group

Volume 4 Number, 1 June 1990

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Chairman John Robertson, 10 Pergola Road, Rexdale, ON, M9W 5K5.

EDITOR'S REMARKS

Welcome to the first issue of volume 4 of The Flag Pole. I am pleased to introduce three new members:

44. Richard E. Small, 3167 Dearborn Avenue, Palmdale, CA 93551.
Richard is also interested in Canadian Machine Cancels and is a Director of the Machine Cancel Society.
45. Bruce Kalbfleisch, 25 Commanche Drive, Nepean, ON K2E 6E8.
Bruce has an excellent collection of flag cancels and is missing only 45-50 of the scarcer ones.
46. Dr. Michael (W.M.) Russell, Glen House, 15 Rowlands Hill, Wimbourne, Dorset, BH21 2QQ.

Unfortunately I have to record the resignation of Walter La Force (#27), who has sold his collection of Flag Cancels.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

We have a major problem with the Flag Pole. As you have noticed each issue gets thinner and thinner and Tom is just not receiving enough material from our members. He cannot produce a newsletter without some input from you and I am proposing the following. We have 38 paid up members and if each of you sends in even one photostat of an interesting cover or a small article just once a year, we have no further problems.

Flag cancels are already well researched by Ed Richardson (and the members of this study group! Editor) and I know that it is difficult to produce unlisted material. But I know one of our members has an inverted WWI Flag on cover, possibly the only one known. How about a photostat of that for starters? (I will guarantee your anonymity if you desire it. Ed.)

GOOD NEWS FROM OUR TREASURER

Since the study group has about \$C300 in the bank, the Chairman and the Treasurer have decided to extend everyone's 1989-90 membership to December 31, 1990. The 1991 dues will be payable in January 1991. Any member who has prepaid 1990-91 dues will have the amount applied to 1991s. The Treasurer will not be preparing the 1989 and 1990 Financial statements until after December 31, 1990

THE NEW FLAG HANDBOOK Doug Lingard

Bill Robinson, Ron Kitchen, Doug Lingard and Ray Mclean had a brief meeting at ORAPEX'90. They reviewed the work that Larry Paige had done on updating the handbook and the survey that Fred Hollenbeck had asked members to complete (1937, 1939 and 1953 cancels). Most of the information on the cancels is now known, eg issue dates and return dates of WWI cancels, receipt dates of 1927 and WWII cancels (Tempting fate? see John Robertson's article below for some new complications! Editor).

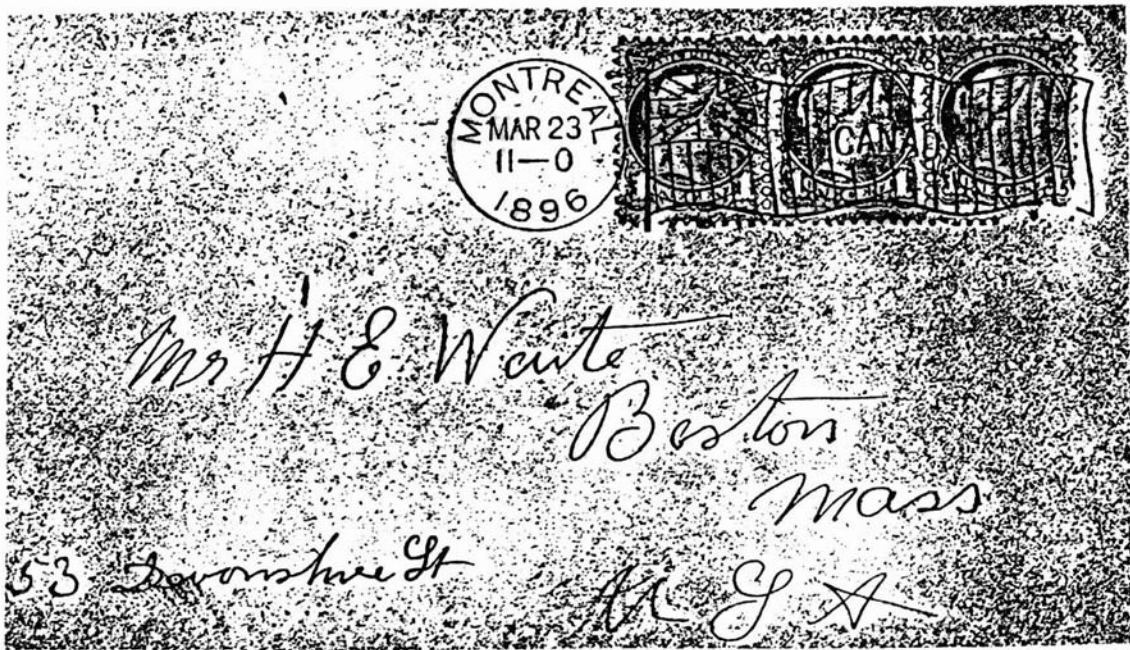
It was concluded that the study group should publish a complete new handbook. It was felt that there would never be enough new information to warrant a subsequent edition (especially as stamp clubs can no longer afford the price that the post office is now charging for the flag dies). Consequently, the new handbook should be a stand alone publication and not just an update of the Richardson Handbook. It was also agreed that we should publish in the Flag Pole the EKD and LKD and a revised value of each flag cancel, in order to give members an opportunity to supply previously unreported information and comment on the proposed values.

Apparently only 6 or 7 people have returned completed copies of the questionnaire that Fred Hollenbeck sent out last winter. It really is important that those of you who have not sent returns do so as soon as possible. There is little point producing an updated list in Flag Pole when it is known that there is significant information unreported.

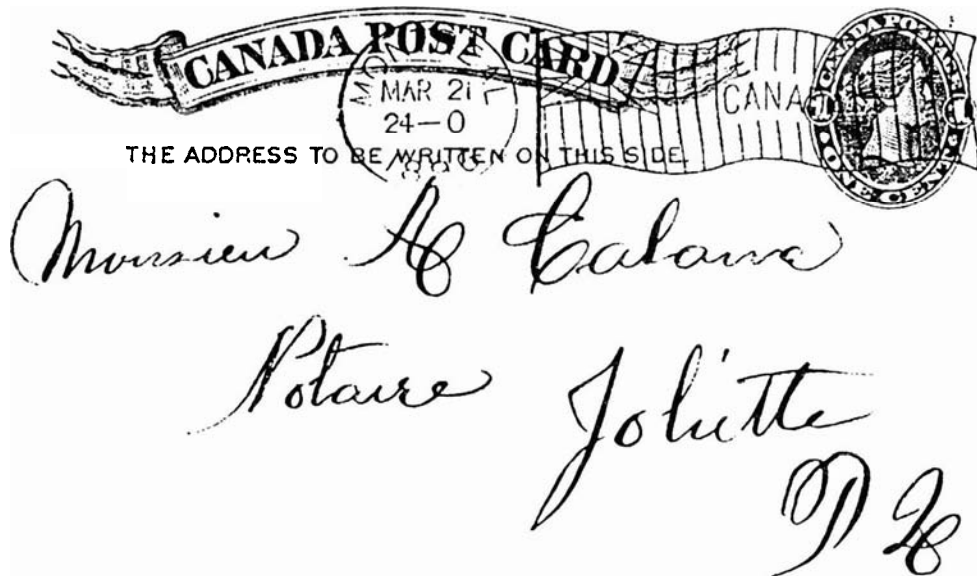
THE FIRST MONTREAL FLAG Tom Almond and David Sessions

Very few examples (6 covers/cards and 1/2 pieces) of Canada's first flag cancel, unlettered Montreal Type 1 have been reported. For many years the only known examples fell in the four-hour period between 1700 and 2100 on March 21 1896. Then along came the beautiful cover illustrated overleaf, This was cancelled on March 23 1896 at 1100.

The cover is addressed to Mr. H.E Waite of Boston, who was one of the inventors of the first Imperial cancelling machine and one of the owners of the Imperial Mail Marking Company. Perhaps John Brooks Young and Henry Waite were in the Montreal Post Office that day. The original (M1) having been deemed unsatisfactory, the testing of new dies F1 and M2 would have been critical to the acceptance of the Imperial machine, so it seems reasonable that the top people should have been in attendance. Perhaps Waite addressed the envelope to himself as a souvenir.

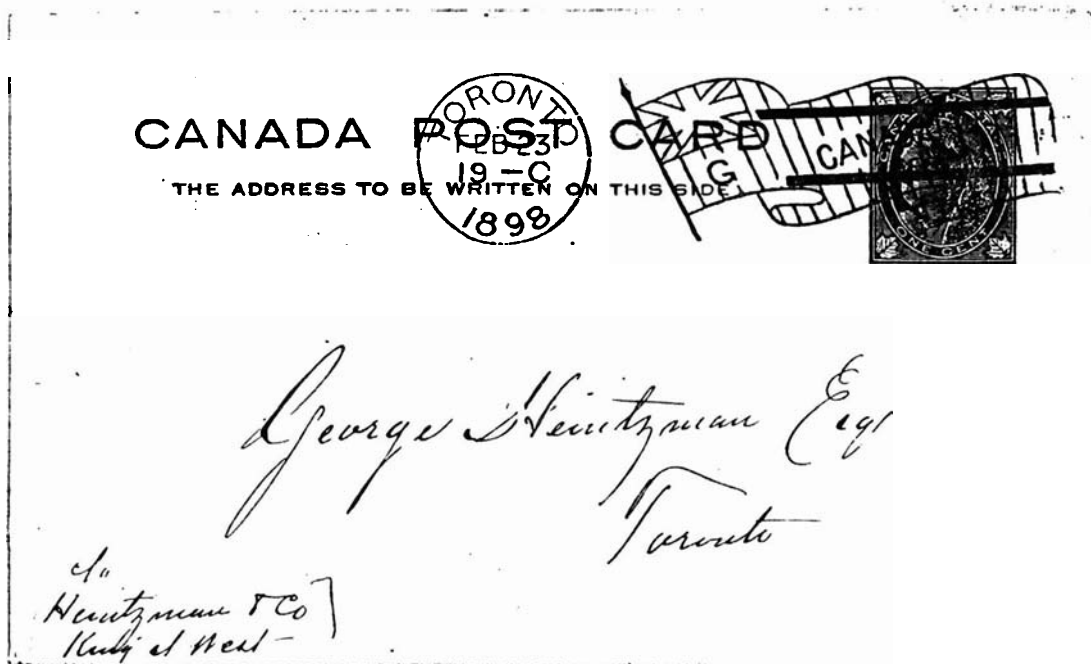
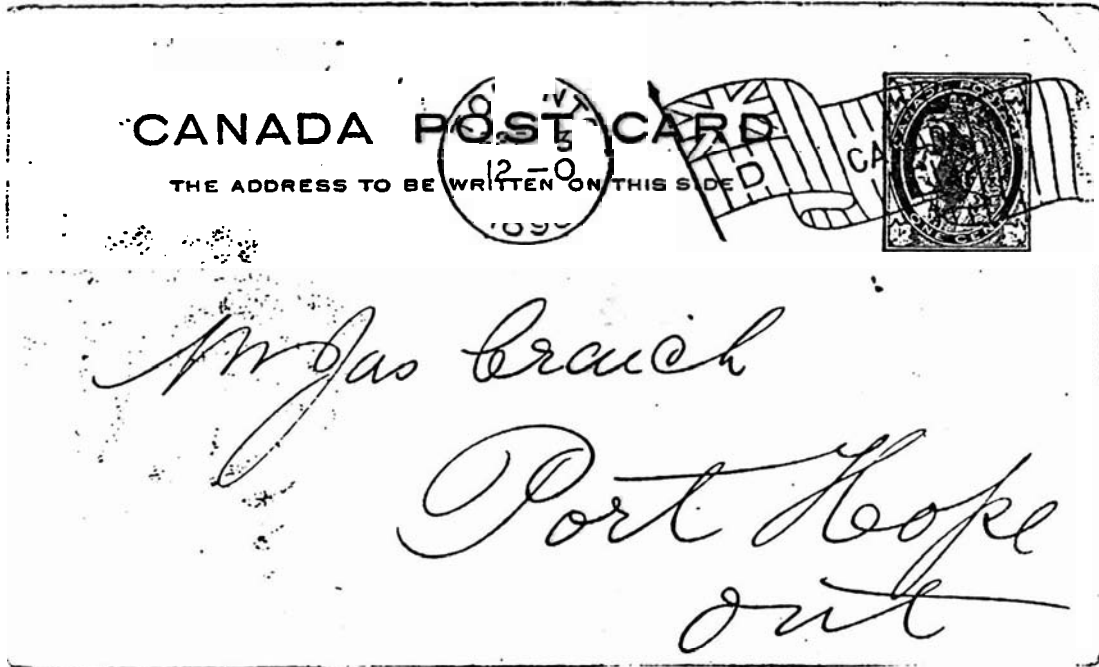


March 22 was a Sunday so the absence of reports for that date is not particularly significant. However, the postcard illustrated below is a recent find which bridges the gap to some extent, as it is timed at midnight on March 21. But it does bring its own little problems! Firstly, it is a little unusual to cancel mail at midnight on Saturday - but not impossible. Secondly, the card is dated March 22! The Joliette receiver is dated March 23 but no time mark is shown (Joliette is about 30 miles north of Montreal). The owner (no, it's not one of us) suggests that the card may have been written and posted on Sunday and then cancelled that day without the dater being amended. One assumes that in 1896 they still had Sunday collections in Montreal, at least from the main post office. Of course, it could be that the sender just got the date wrong, one must never overlook the simple solution!



ADDITION OF BARS TO TYPE 7 FLAGS IN TORONTO
Tom Almond

In 1982 it was reported that both the Toronto Type 7 and 8 die "D" were used on February 23 1897. It has been the belief of some collectors that this report was in error. Dual use of Dies "D" and "F" have now been confirmed. The two states of Die "D" and the single day usage of the scarce Die "G", presumably as a substitute while the modification was carried out, are illustrated below.



Toronto Type Foundry

44 BAY STREET.

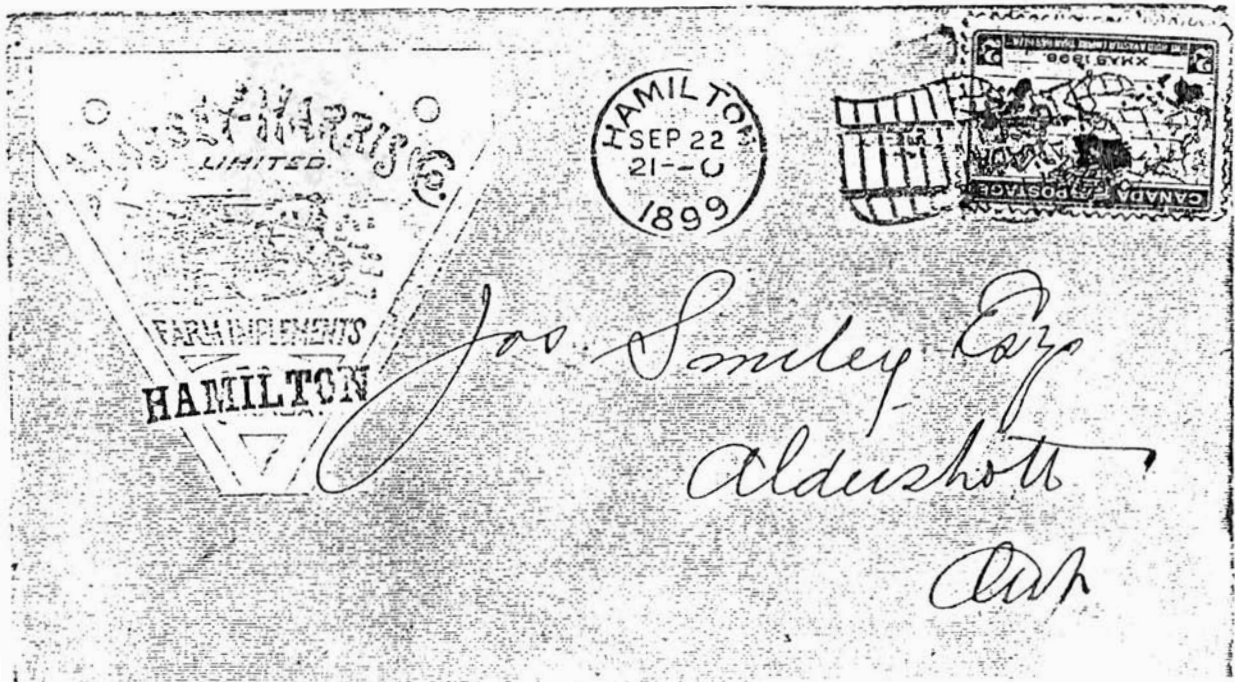
The ONLY House in Canada
equipped for supplying ALL
the Printer's Requirements.



Messrs Toronto Type Foundry
Montreal
Que

TYPE 8 INVERTED
Tom Almond

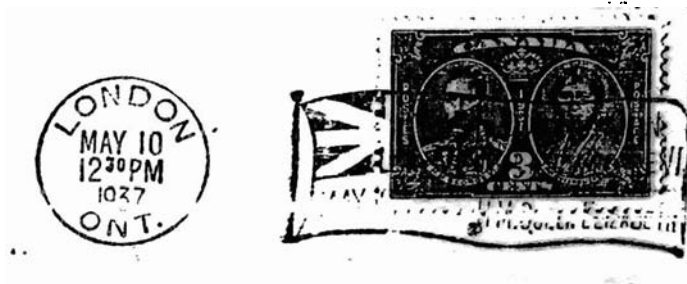
Die "B" Hamilton flags are reported inverted on September 22nd 1899 and March 27th 1900. As an added bonus the strike shown below is on an attractive Massey-Harris advertising cover. Are there any more inverts out there waiting to be reported?



HUB VARIETIES OF THE 1937 CORONATION FLAGS
John Robertson

Further to my note in the last Flag Pole I am illustrating below the different hubs I have found that are not illustrated in Richardson.

London 50-8

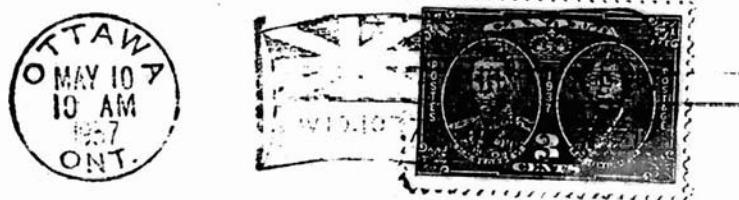


Hub I - Small ONT and LONDON is more compact.



Hub II - Large ONT and LONDON is wider

Ottawa 50-11



Hub I - Small ONT and small OTTAWA



Hub II - Large ONT and large OTTAWA

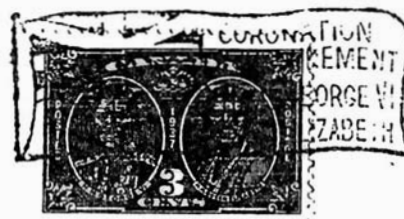
Montreal 51-1 & 51-1A. There appear to be 3 hubs rather than the 2 illustrated.



Die I, Hub I - Narrow P.Q.



Die II, Hub II - Short L



Die II, Hub III - Slightly curved L, long tailed Q, break in frame below Q.

Would members please check their collections and advise any other hub varieties in these or other towns direct to the editor. I suggest that you refer to Doug Lingard's article in Flag Pole Volume 1, Number 3 for illustrations of other possible hubs. One final comment, are these hubs known for all days of use?

POSTSCRIPT
Editor

Last March Doug Lingard appended a Membership Listing to BNA copies. This month I am adding the list to UK copies. Good hunting to you all!