

THE BNA PERFORATOR

Published by the British North America Philatelic Society – The BNA Perfin Study Group

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C3 Pattern Identified – Curzon Brothers

(International Tailors)

At last the identity of the C3 pattern in the Johnson & Tommason handbook is confirmed thanks to the efforts of Ron Whyte. He reports “I was looking at my British perfin collection and noticed the similarity between GB 0460.06 and Canada C3. When I placed my British stamp above the C3 pattern as depicted in the Canada perfins handbook, the pattern was a perfect fit. Using my copy of the Tomkins Catalogue of Identified G.B. Perfins I read that C0460.06 was produced by a perforator owned by Curzon Brothers (International Tailors) of London and Paris. The firm’s name encouraged me to look in the “Timbres Perforees” handbook for French perfins, where I found pattern CB28 also a perfect match. I contacted Bob Szymanski, President of the U.S Perfins Club, who kindly provided me with an image of one of his CB28 perfins with a Paris cancel. He contacted Robert Dedecker, editor of the French handbook, where CB28 was listed as being from Dole, in the French Jura. Robert Dedecker agreed that this was an error and that CB28 should be identified as coming from a firm in Paris. After receiving additional input from Jack Brandt and Jon Johnson in Calgary, Ken Masters in Kansas City the picture was complete. Curzon of Paris and London owned a perforator which they apparently used to perforate stamps from France, Britain, and Canada, the latter have been found with Montreal cancels. This was truly an international effort to discover an international pattern cut and perforated by an international tailor”.



Canada: C3 on 106 (From S. Koning) GB: C0460.06 on 128 (From S. Koning)



France: CB28 on 162 (From R. Szymanski)

Continued.....

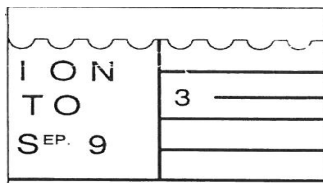
Editor’s Post

I am sure that everyone who received either an email or correspondence from Gary Tommason with the welcome news that he and Jon Johnson are about to embark on the final stages of finalizing the 5th edition of the Canadian perfins handbook, reacted in much the same way that I did— with a great sense of excitement and anticipation. The addition of a check list of the known issues for each perfin pattern and the inclusion of scans of A, B, & C rated perfins and covers & other covers will make this latest edition a perfin handbook of the highest rank.

This is the second issue in 3 months and I think that 3 issues a year, February, August and November, is a fair target. As much as I would like to maintain this pace it will not be possible without your help. I would encourage everyone who reads The Perforator to consider sending along a contribution to a future issue of the newsletter. It can be a comment, a question, the story about your favourite cover, a suggestion for a future issue, a request, etc., etc. I can be reached at the contacts listed under the masthead above.

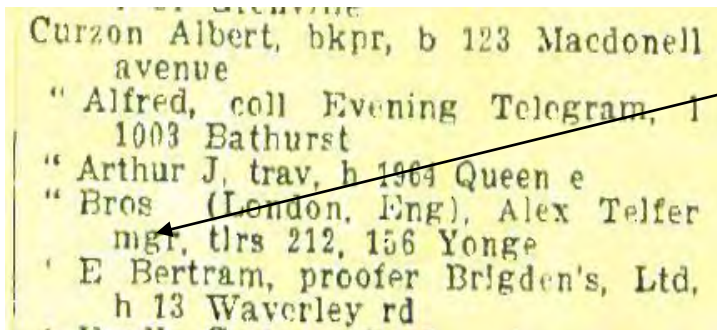
C3 Continued

In fact this pattern has also been found with Toronto cancels. The May 1990 issue of the Perforator has an article by the late Jack Benningen outlining the efforts he, along with Bob Traquair and Don Fraser had made to identify the C3 pattern from Toronto Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) slogan cancels. It started with this partial cancel on a #106.



1922 was a year when the Admirals issues changed colours and also when the CNE ended on September 9th. Unfortunately the font used in the CNE slogan cancel from the Proulx Slogan Handbook for that year did not match. Bob rechecked his C3 perfin and found a #106 with a cancel showing a September 8th CNE closing. The Proulx listing had a 1913 CNE slogan that matched the perfin cancel exactly.

The article left off with Bob Traquair having identified all of the companies operating in Toronto with the initials "CB" and the sleuths looking for a cover to confirm the user. Advances in the internet and associated technologies have now made this relatively easy. The 1912 Toronto City Directory is available on line through Archive.org. Here is a copy of an entry on Page 590.



The 4th line clearly identifies Curzon Brothers and their location at 156 Yonge Street. The work of the 3 study group members was certainly on the right track and Curzon Brothers were indeed "international" with offices in London, Paris, Montreal and Toronto. If someone could identify the slogan cancel that started Jack and his colleagues on the Toronto search the circle would be closed!

References

- The BNA Perforator Volume 11 Number 1 Whole Number 66 <http://bnatopics.org/hhlibrary/newsletters/n-perf.htm>
- 1912 Toronto City Directory <http://www.archive.org/stream/torontodirec191200midiuft#page/n0/mode/2up>

Identification of C31 with Missing Holes

Jim Graham

The scans below show a pair of Mufti 5¢ #235. The left hand stamp is missing C Holes "0" and "11" [using the established numbering system]. Without its right hand mate or a readable CDS cancel to go by, the left stamp in the right hand scan could be either a C31 from St. John or a C23 from Edmonton. These scans may be enough evidence for you to identify single stamps with the left hand pattern as C31 rather than C23.



In addition to the above, I have examples of the incomplete die on singles of #196, #217, #218, #252, #233(2) and #255(2).

New Study Group Members

Ken Lemke, kwlemke@sympatico.ca
Ken Copleston, ken@wiskeyminiatures.com Ken's interest is in semi officials: all CNR, CBC, LA, MD, ND, QLC, PEI, PS & WCB and he will make his want list available by email.

BNAPS

In addition the following individuals have joined BNAPS over the last 2 years and have expressed an interest in perfin

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Susan Whitehead | Marc Vermuellen |
| P.O. Box 2596 | Pienschelling 6B8, Wenduine |
| Easley, South Carolina | Belgium, B-8420 |
| 29641 | |

All those interested in increasing their knowledge of Canadian and Newfoundland perfin can do so at the following page of the bnaps.org website, where back copies of The Perforator are available to read and to download. Thanks go to Charles Livermore for posting these back copies. Steve Koning

Counterfeit Canada OHMS Perfins

I am indebted to Ken Masters editor of the Perfin Club newsletter, The Perfins Bulletin, for allowing me to reprint the following item from the November/December 2010 issue.

Warning!! Counterfeit Canada OHMS Perfins

It has recently come to our attention that probable counterfeit Canada OHMS perfins are being offered on eBay and elsewhere. The stamps in question in this current instance are higher value items, such as coil pairs from the King George VI issue (Scott #239-240) as well as from the Royal Visit issue (Scott #246-248). Genuine OHMS perfins in these two issues are pattern **08** as shown in the Canadian perfins catalogue, *Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials*. The counterfeits do not match pattern **08**, and in many cases it appears the **09** pattern was used. The old adage "Buyer Beware" has never been more true. Be very careful considering a purchase of ANY high value OHMS material. Counterfeiting of OHMS perfins is widespread and the counterfeiters do not limit themselves to these two issues.....

Ken asked for input from Study Group members and Jon Johnson responded as follows:

I am of the personal opinion that many/most of the fake OHMS (08) came on the market in the 1960's into the 1970's. Many are reasonably good (require some knowledge to spot) and some are very poorly done (and should be spotted by just about anyone but first one has to look). I have been able to spot some fakes on eBay from simply looking at the image and/or the postmark. As you say, "Buyer Beware" if the stamp is anything other than common or has an unusual position and even some common ones are faked to portray a collection. For those who wish to check OHMS perfins they should go to the BNAPS website (British North America Philatelic Society), go to the Horace W. Harrison Online Library link, search "Perforated Insignia" and read the article "A Perforated Insignia Coding System". Once the perforator is plated this system will allow the philatelist to confirm if any perfin is genuine or fake. For the 08 OHMS perfin the five dies are plated for you. The equipment and steps to check a perfins are explained, step by step, so anyone with time and patience can do it. The article was published in BNA Topics, September 1981 (Whole Number 385) by Jon Johnson and Gary Tomasson. The system is copyrighted and freely available for anyone to use.

A former Editor of The Perforator, Patrick Durbano also had a word of caution:*I have recently seen some 4-hole material (mostly Back of Book, Coronation and Royal Visit material) that have dangerous fake perfins. Many appear as mint pairs with 3 patterns covering 2 wide stamps. Of the 3 patterns, one pattern is a Fake type 09 (the other 2 are Fake type 08). As you may be aware, the Type 09 pattern was not introduced until 1947. The earliest known cancel is on a 10c Peace Issue dated April 21, 1947. Based on this date, Royal Visit, Coronation and Special Delivery issues should not exist with the 09 pattern. (The Perforator #99)*

The Scott #246-248 and #240 below were listed on eBay this past December. Here is a copy of the scans accompanying the listings:



For my eyes the first scan is too small and reproducing them to fit the newsletter no doubt has distorted them somewhat. The 2nd scan offers more opportunity for study and having do so, my mind is made up. Anyone truly serious about collecting Canadian OHMS perfins would do well to consider the [Pugh Reference Series on Forgeries](#) which has a section dealing with faked OHMS perfins.

References

<http://bnatopics.org/journals/1981/BNA%20Topics,%20Vol.%2038,%20No.%205,%20September-October%201981,%20Whole%20No.%20385.pdf>

<http://www.kenpugh.ca/PhilatelicMain.aspx>

Unidentified Perfins on Canadian Stamps

Steve Koning

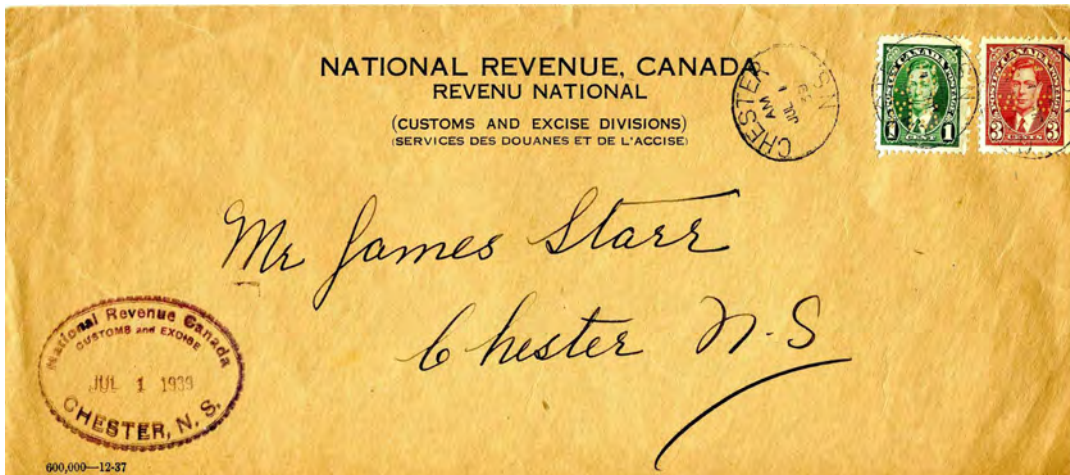
Every once in a while a stamp will come along with a perfin that has not been previously documented. Shown below are 2 examples found on Canadian stamps. The first has what appears to be "HIL" or "MIL" while the other is clearly "GL". The size of the perfin on the 3 cent stamp is larger than regulations would allow and this might indicate that it was a revenue cancellation of some sort. The perfin on the 1 cent stamp looks to be ok from a size standpoint but there is no record of it in the Canadian handbook. It has a split ring postal cancel dated Apr 18, 1917 from PR____, ONT. Can anyone help with any information on either of these patterns? Any help would be greatly appreciated.



A Different Sort of FDC

Gary Tomasson

This is a FDC of Federal OHMS stamps with both 4 and 5 hole. This would confirm that the Model 53 perforator which was ordered on May 31, 1939, arrived and the Post Office sent stamps to Chester NS for use on July 1, 1939.



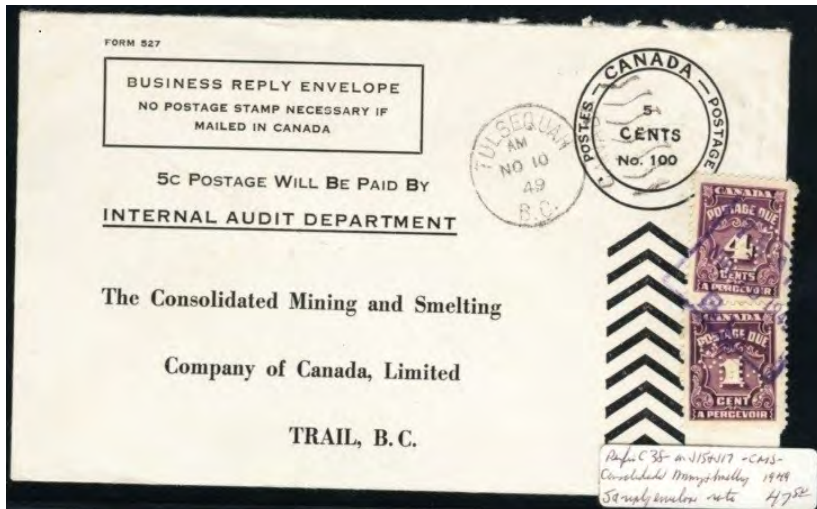
The Postage Dues of C38 – a Final Word

Last month's piece on the perforated postage due stamps of Canadian Mining and Smelting elicited feedback from Barry Senior, Jon Johnson and Michael Dicketts.

Barry Senior provided these comments and provided the 2 scans that follow:

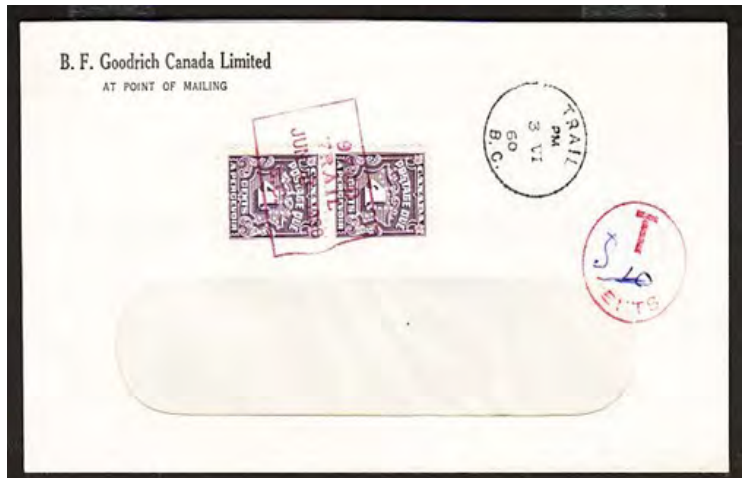


"It seems that CMS was allowed to use postage dues to pay for short paid mail to them. It appears as if they had some sort of agreement with the post office to do so. In most (all) cases they paid a 2 x penalty for the short paid mail. In your case 2 x 4 cents for a local letter and as you will see on one of the attached scans 2 x 5 cents for a letter from outside the local area.

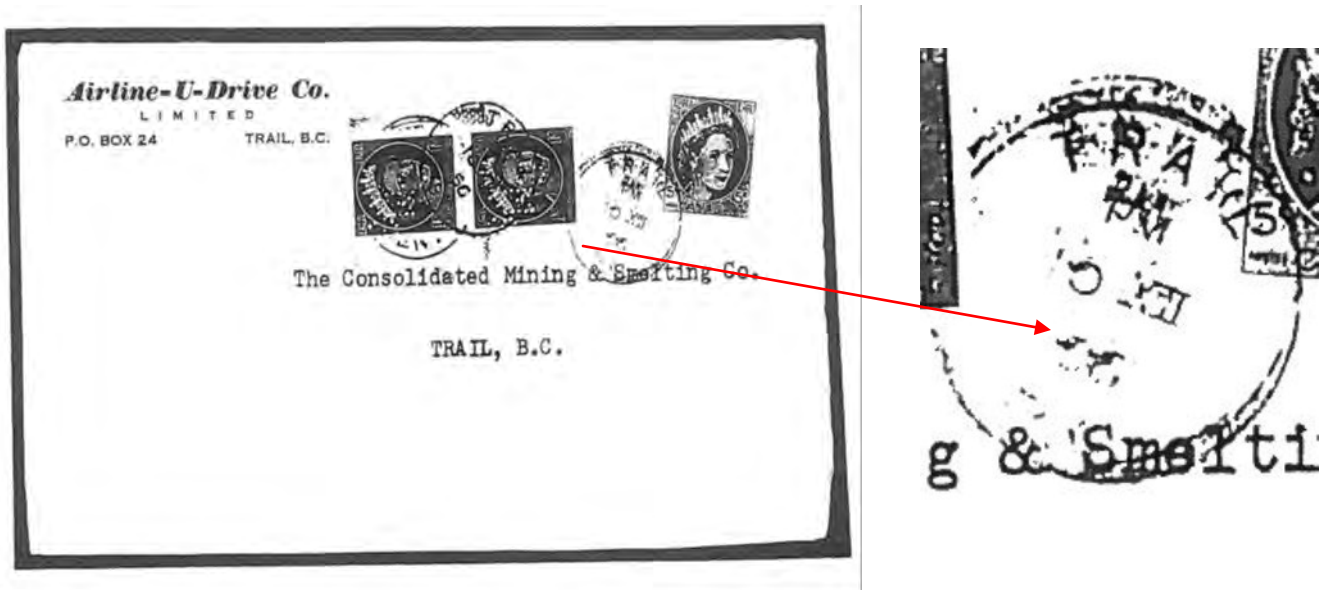


In some cases there was no penalty but a 1x rate was paid. .” Such is the case on the second scan where they paid the 5 cent fee for a Business reply card where the postage was guaranteed to be paid by the owner of the card, in this case CMS. Hope this helps a little. I believe these were all legitimate usages and not philatelic in nature. I’ve heard of large multiples of PD’s from CMS and it would support the idea of paying for large amounts of shortage penalty

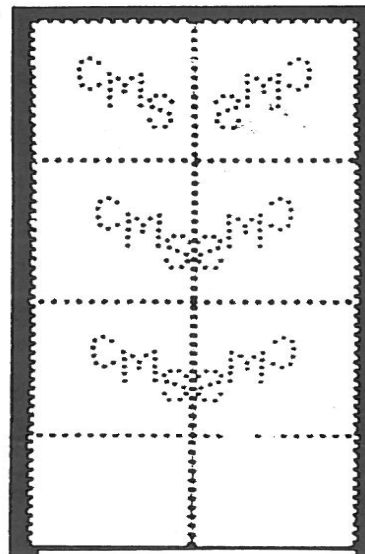
Jon Johnson offered the following: *“The B.F. Goodrich Canada cover was most likely mailed locally. CMS would have used a goodly number of tires in its operation so there probably was a local supplier who provided their needs. Without the enclosure, probably an invoice, there is no way to tell for sure. As mentioned, Trail was a company town. Collecting postage due was probably inconvenient so I believe the company pre-purchased postage due stamps, had them perforated to prove ownership then had them stored at the Post Office. If an arriving letter was underpaid the postal clerk simply put the correct postage dues on the cover after which it could be handled with the regular mail.”*



Michael wrote to say that a previous issue of The Perforator (# 118) contains a comprehensive article on the Consolidated Mining and Smelting operations in BC by Russell. [The web-links to all the publications mentioned here are given below]. He went on to say that he believes all C38's from 1956 onward are philatelic as "someone" entered the offices and used the perforator. Assuming he is correct that would put this cover in that category. The cancel appears to be "56" which if true may or may not place it within Michael Dickett's time frame. I think it does pose a question of how a pair of CMS per'f'd #338's were used as postage due as they surely would have been in the possession of the Company and not the local Post Office.



Michael Dickett's letter and the reference in #118 to the BNA Topics article on Consolidating Mining and Smelting prompted me to search the Perforator data base to see what else has been written and sure enough there is another article in issue #120 by Mark Fennell specifically dealing with the CMS postage dues. As best as I could, I have reproduced a couple of images from this article.



BACK
Mirror block 1¢

Barry Senior mentions multiples and these multiples, one with the partial cutting guide arrow at the lower right hand corner [I know its hard to see the perfins on this reproduction but they are there!] and the other a "mirror" block, are also from Mark Fennell. Would this the large block represent the payment of 2 X 32¢ for an underpaid parcel rate? Legitimately used or not, it does seem that someone in Trail, perhaps even an employee of Consolidating Mining & Smelting or of the Post Office, had a keen appreciation of what would be "philatelically" interesting and these covers and multiples do make a very nice addition to anyone's collection.