



CANADIAN REVENUE NEWSLETTER

A publication of the Canadian Revenue Group of BNAPS

Editor: Fritz Angst
Circulation: Bill Rockett

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1994

No. 7

APPENDICES TO CHRIS RYAN'S BNA TOPICS ARTICLE ON CANADA'S BILL STAMPS

This edition of the *Canadian Revenue Newsletter* contains a wonderfully researched follow-up by Chris Ryan to his Fourth Quarter 1994 article in BNA Topics on Canada's First Bill Stamps. These materials set forth the dates and denominations of the first shipments of the 1864 issue to the primary vendors of the bills stamps -- the Banks and the Post Offices. And, as a bonus, Chris shares his discoveries regarding the end of the Second Bill Stamp era and the beginning of the Third -- including the possibility that Third Issue Bill Stamps may have been available as early as late January, 1868. See related article on next page by R.A. Johnson of Winnipeg regarding a recently discovered "9 Jany 1868" cancel on FB37. This discovery adds support to Chris' analysis.

STUDY GROUP MEETING AT BNAPEX '95

The Revenue Study Group Meeting at BNAPEX '95 in Edmonton is scheduled for Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Nick Sheklian has agreed to show his British Columbia collection. I hope many of you can attend.

SUPPORT THE DEALERS WHO SUPPORT US

The dealers listed below support the Revenue Group and Newsletter. **Why not contact them for your philatelic needs?**

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EARLIEST REPORTED USAGE OF THIRD ISSUE BILL STAMP

R.A. Johnson submitted this extremely interesting photo and report:



"The cancellation, which has been digitally enhanced for reproduction, reads "9 Jany/ 1868", a date that is almost a full month earlier than any cited by the Duckworths or Harry Lussey in earlier Newsletters. It is quite legible on the stamp itself. The question is whether this was the actual date of use or an error in recording 9 Jany, 1869. The paper has been confirmed by Dr. H.E. Duckworth as the early, thin, hard, semi-transparent paper sometimes called "pelure". That would favour 1868. The days of the work are inconclusive: 9 Jan. 1868 was a Thursday and in 1869 a Saturday. If either had been a Sunday, that would have weighed heavily in the choice."

1995 CANADIAN REVENUE STAMP CATALOGUE

Erling van Dam reports that the "25th Anniversary Edition" of the Canadian Revenue Catalogue. This edition has been expanded and now contains a fully illustrated and priced section featuring Canadian conservation, duck and wildlife stamps and a listing of all known Canadian revenue meters. I recommend spending a couple of extra dollars and getting the spiral bound version. Because it lays flat when opened, it is so much easier to work with.

THE NATURE OF, AND CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE PRINTING OF, THE FIRST ISSUE OF CANADA'S BILL STAMPS

Christopher D. Ryan

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NOTE: The main text of this article appears in the Fourth Quarter, 1994, issue of BNA Topics (Vol 51, #4).

Appendix A: Details as to the First Shipments of the First Issue from the Receiver General's Office.

Vendors of Bill Stamps

The primary vendors of the bill stamps were Banks and Post Offices. On July 14th, 1864, the following notice was sent to fifteen banks:

Sir, It is provided by the regulations sanctioned by Order in Council for the Issuing of Bill Stamps that all persons appointed by the Minister of Finance as distributors, or authorized by him to purchase at a discount to sell again, shall secure a license which is to be exhibited in some conspicuous situation at the place where the stamps are sold. As the Banks will no doubt come under the latter designation, purchasing in large quantities for their own use and for the accommodation of their customers, it will be necessary that there should be a license for each branch of the Bank where Stamps are so furnished. You will therefore be kind enough to furnish me with a list of the branches for which you will require licenses, in order that they may be prepared.

Applications for Stamps in quantities above 100 dollars worth, at a discount of five per cent should be directed to the 'Chairman of the Board of Customs, Excise and Stamps,' & requisition will then be made by the Board to the Receiver General who will deliver the stamps applied for upon receiving a certificate of deposit of the amount less by the discount.

The denominations will be 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 cents and 1, 2, 3 dollars. It is possible that all the denominations may not be ready before the 1st of August, but those which have not been received will be ready for distribution within a few days after that date.

John Langton[56]

The recipients of this notice were: the Bank of Upper Canada, the City Bank, the Commercial Bank, the Eastern Township Bank, the Gore Bank, the Jacques Cartier Bank, the Molson's Bank, the Bank of Montreal, the *Banque Nationale*, the Niagara District Bank, the Ontario Bank, the *Banque du Peuple*, the Quebec Bank, the Bank of Toronto, and the Bank of British North America.[56]

The First Shipments to Banks

The dates of the first shipments to the banks as listed below are based on advice slips recorded in a letterbook from the Office of the Receiver General. Included in this listing is an 'Exchange Broker' in Montreal who had also been appointed as a vendor. In most instances an account statement was appended to the advice slips issued at the end of August. From the dollar amounts given in these statements it has been possible to determine if all shipments up to that point were recorded in the letterbook. For most vendors all shipments were indeed recorded. The few exceptions are as noted below.

CITY BANK, Montreal, L.C.

28 July 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40
1 August 50, \$1, \$2, \$3
15 August 2, 7, 8
29 August 4, 5
All values shipped as of August 29th

COMMERCIAL BANK OF CANADA, Kingston, U.C.

27 July 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 20, 30
1 August 50
16 August 2, 7, 8
30 August 4, 5
Values not requisitioned/shipped as of August 31st
40, \$1, \$2, \$3

GORE BANK, Hamilton, U.C.

3 August 3, 6, 9, 20, 30, 40, 50, \$1
17 August 2, 7, 8
18 August 10
30 August 4, 5
31 August 1
Values not requisitioned/shipped as of August 31st
\$2, \$3

MOLSON'S BANK, Montreal, L.C.

3 August 3, 6, 20, 50, \$1
17 August 2
18 August 10
30 August 5
31 August 1
Values not requisitioned/shipped as of August 31st
4, 7, 8, 9, 30, 40, \$2, \$3

LA BANQUE NATIONALE, Quebec, L.C.

28 July 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40
1 August 50, \$1, \$2, \$3
16 August 2, 7, 8
29 August 4, 5
All values shipped as of August 29th

BANK OF ONTARIO, Bowmanville, U.C.

27 July 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40
1 August 50, \$1
17 August 2, 7, 8
29 August 4, 5
Values not requisitioned/shipped as of August 29th
\$2, \$3

LA BANQUE DU PEUPLE, Montreal, L.C.

1 September 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 20
This was the first shipment. Details as to
later shipments not available

CITY BANK, Toronto, U.C.

29 July 1, 3, 6, 9
8 August 2, 20
Values not requisitioned/shipped as of August 29th
4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 30, 40, 50, \$1, \$2, \$3

EASTERN TOWNSHIP BANK, Sherbrooke, L.C.

28 July 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40
1 August 50, \$1
16 August 2, 7, 8
30 August 4, 5
Values not requisitioned/shipped as of August 30th
\$2, \$3

JACQUES CARTIER BANK, Montreal, L.C.

29 July 6, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40
1 August 3
15 August 2, 7, 8
30 August 1, 4, 5
Values not requisitioned/shipped as of August 30th
50, \$1, \$2, \$3

BANK OF MONTREAL, Quebec, L.C.

27 July 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 20, 30
1 August 50, \$1
16 August 7, 8
29 August 4, 5
One or more large shipments are not recorded
valued at \$2045 or 19.5% of the total requisition.
(Perhaps the missing 2, 40, \$2 and \$3 values.)

NIAGARA DISTRICT BANK, St. Catharines, U.C.

27 July 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40
1 August 50, \$1, \$2
16 August 2, 7, 8
30 August 4, 5
Unable to determine if requisitions are missing as
no balance is given at the end of August. (\$3 value?)

BANK OF ONTARIO, Montreal, L.C.

28 July 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40
1 August 50, \$1
15 August 2, 7, 8
22 August \$2
29 August 4, 5
Value not requisitioned/shipped as of August 29th
\$3

BANK OF QUEBEC, Quebec, L.C.

28 July 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40
8 August 2, 50
15 August 7, 8
30 August 4, 5
One or more small shipments are not recorded;
valued at \$126 or 5% of the total requisitioned.
(Perhaps the missing \$1, \$2 and \$3 values.)

BANK OF TORONTO, Toronto, U.C.

27 July 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 20
1 August 50, \$1
9 August 2, 40
16 August 7, 8
29 August 4, 5

Values not requisitioned/shipped as of August 29th
30, \$2, \$3

BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA

Stamps sent via Quebec branch:

There was also one or more small shipments not recorded; valued at \$199.50 or 6.8% of the total requisition.

Ottawa 27 July 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40
1 August 50, \$1, \$2, \$3
25 August Possible date for 2, 7, 8
31 August 4
Value not requisitioned/shipped by August 31st: 5

Montreal 27 July 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40
1 August 50, \$1, \$2
15 August 2, 7, 8
31 August 4, 5
14 September Possible date for \$3

London 27 July 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40
1 August 50, \$1, \$2, \$3
15 August 2, 7, 8
31 August 4, 5
All values shipped by August 31st

Brantford 27 July 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40
1 August 50, \$1
15 August 2
25 August Possible date for 7, 8
31 August 4, 5
14 September Possible date for \$2, \$3

Quebec 27 July 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40
1 August 50, \$1, \$2, \$3
15 August 2, 7, 8
31 August 4, 5
All values shipped by August 31st

Hamilton 28 July 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40
1 August 50, \$1, \$2, \$3
15 August 2, 7, 8
31 August 4, 5
All values shipped by August 31st

London 28 July 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40
1 August 50, \$1, \$2, \$3
15 August 2, 8
25 August Possible date for 7
31 August 4
14 September Possible date for 5

Toronto 28 July 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40
1 August 50, \$1
15 August 2, 7, 8
31 August 4, 5
14 September Possible date for \$2, \$3

LOUIS MARCHAND, Exchange Broker, Montreal, L.C.

3 August 3, 6, 9

8 August 1, 20, 30, 40, 50, \$1, \$2, \$3

1 September 2, 10

Values not requisition/shipped as of September 1st

4, 5, 7, 8

The shipment records for the following vendors are woefully incomplete and as such the noted dates (except for the 2, 7 and 8 cent stamps) are not those of the first shipments:

4, 5,

BANK OF UPPER CANADA, Quebec, L.C.

15 August 2, 6, 7, 8, 9

14 September 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, \$2, \$3

MERCHANT'S BANK, Montreal, L.C.

15 August 7, 8

31 August 4, 5, 10

(Source: National Archives, RG 19, Office of the Receiver General Letterbook, Vol 1178, p169-186, Letters 366-406; Vol 1166, Letters 411-498.)

The First Transfers to The Post Office Department

The Post Office Department's first requisition for bill stamps was issued by the Deputy Postmaster General on July 25th, 1864, and read:

*R.S.M. Bouchette, Chairman
Board of Customs, Excise & Stamps*

Sir, To enable this Department to make a first distribution of Bill Stamps to selected Post Offices in the interior, I have the honour to request that the Receiver General be authorized to transfer to me of the Bill Stamps recently received from the Manufacturer.

*250 sheets of one cent
700 " three cents
700 " six cent
700 " nine cent
150 " ten cent
150 " twenty cent*

W.H. Griffin[57]

It can be inferred from this requisition that its primary intent was to supply post offices in smaller centres which would not have had ready access to banks. However, a subsequent letter indicates that Post Offices in large centres were also supplied at this time. The first requisition was evidently filled on July 27th or 28th. The first date is inferred from the July 26th comment by the Receiver General's Office that they had not yet received any requisitions from the Board of Custom, Excise and Stamps, as was required by the regulations. The second date is derived from a reference in a letter dated July 29th as recorded in a Post Office letterbook:

*John Leslie, Esq.
Postmaster, Toronto.*

Sir, I beg to transmit herewith Licences for certain of the Postage Stamp Agents connected with your office to enable them to sell Bill Stamps.

With the Licences you will be so good as to deliver to the persons named a portion of the Bill Stamps already supplied to you. A further supply will be sent in a few days, and further licenses also so far as may be necessary.

The Agents will, under the Statute, receive the 5 per cent allowed on the sale of these stamps.

You will receive 5 per cent on such Bill Stamps as you may sell directly from your office to the public.

W.H. Griffin

A similar letter addressed to the following Postmasters.

Montreal 2. Quebec 4. Hamilton 1. London 1. Kingston 1.[58]

On August 1st, 1864, the Post Office Department issued its second requisition:

R.S.M. Bouchette

Sir, I have to request that a further supply of Bill Stamps may be issued to me for the distribution of this Department viz — 500 sheets of each value from 1 cent to 20 cents inclusive,

*100 sheets of 30 cent
100 " of 40 "
100 " of 50 "
50 " of \$1
50 " of \$2
50 " of \$3*

W.H. Griffin[59]

This second requisition was only completed on September 3rd with a transfer of: 100 sheets of the 1 cent, 250 sheets of the 2 cent, 70 sheets of the 6 cent, 400 sheets of the 20 cent, and 500 sheets of each of the 4, 5, 7, 8 and 10 cent stamps.[60]

Of great significance is the obvious priority given to bank requisitions over those of the post office. While the former received their supplies of the 7 and 8 cent stamps on August 15th and 16th and the 4 and 5 cent stamps on August 29th, 30th and 31st, it was not until September 3rd that the post office received their supply of these stamps. Shipments to the banks of the 30 and 40 cent stamps began on July 27th whereas the Post Office Department did not even requisition these values until August 1st. It is thus probable that the initial quantities of the 2, 50, \$1, \$2 and \$3 denominations were not transferred to the Post Office prior to those destined for banks. At the very least, given the August 1st date of the Post Office's second requisition, the initial quantities of these last values were shipped to post offices at the same time as those to the banks.

Appendix B: The End of the Second Issue and the Beginning of the Third.

The last shipment of the Second Issue of bill stamps by ABN was acknowledged by the Deputy Receiver General by way of a December 23rd, 1867, letter:

C.L. Vanzandt, Secret., ABN Co.

Sir, I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 30th ult. and 16th instant transferred by Mr Auditor Langton to this Department, and also the Bill and Law Stamps for which invoice was enclosed, and I now forward in payment thereof Bank Draft No.18690/1480, drawn by Bank of Montreal on Bell & Lundy at sight, and dated the 21st instant.

T.D. Harington[61]

Three days later, on December 26th, 1867, what appears to have been the first printing order for the Third Issue was placed with BABN:

W.C. Smillie

Sir,

The following is a statement of the probable years consumption of Bill stamps--

<i>× 1 cent</i>	<i>400,000</i>	<i>× 10 cents</i>	<i>50,000</i>
<i>× 2 "</i>	<i>200,000</i>	<i>20 "</i>	<i>50,000</i>
<i>× 3 "</i>	<i>300,000</i>	<i>30 "</i>	<i>50,000</i>
<i>4 "</i>	<i>10,000</i>	<i>40 "</i>	<i>20,000</i>
<i>5 "</i>	<i>50,000</i>	<i>50 "</i>	<i>20,000</i>
<i>× 6 "</i>	<i>200,000</i>	<i>× \$1</i>	<i>10,000</i>
<i>7 "</i>	<i>10,000</i>	<i>\$2</i>	<i>5,000</i>
<i>8 "</i>	<i>10,000</i>	<i>\$3</i>	<i>5,000</i>
<i>× 9 "</i>	<i>150,000</i>		

Those marked with a cross should be the first prepared, & then there will be no great hurry for the others.

The Nova Scotia stamps would be about 1/10 of the above denominations in addition to the numbers given above. There should be the requisite number of all the denominations marked with a cross for N.S. but it may hardly be necessary to have any of [illegible word] those which are not much required. The decision in this respect will very much depend upon the manner in which it is proposed to mark them N.S.

John Langton[62]

This letter is significant in that it shows:

1. The Third Issue was ordered prior to the signing of the contract with BABN in February of 1868.
2. The first denominations of the Third Issue were potentially available in the first month or two of 1868.
3. The option of having all of the denominations overprinted for use in Nova Scotia was under consideration in late 1867. However, the original intent was to overprint only the commonly used denominations.
4. The N.S. overprint was instigated by government officials in Ottawa and printed by BABN.

The December 26th order for the Third Issue and the Nova Scotia Bill Stamps was made shortly after the December 21st assent to the Dominion's first Bill Stamp Act. This Act, which took effect on February 1st, 1868, specified:

Provided, that as regards any Promissory Note, Draft or Bill of Exchange on which the duty is payable in Nova Scotia, the amount on which the duty is payable under this Act, and the amount of such duty, shall be reckoned in the currency of that Province, and the stamped paper and stamps to be used there shall be marked accordingly, and shall not be used in any other part of Canada.[63]

Thus the use of the special Nova Scotia Bill Stamps was mandated by the legislation and as such these stamps must have come into use on February 1st, 1868. A notice of the availability of Bill Stamps was issued by the Halifax office of the Inland Revenue Department on January 18th, 1868. It read:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That BILL STAMPS will be supplied at this Office, and different Post Offices, in accordance with the requirements of the Act imposing Stamp Duties, which comes into operation on the first of February.[64]

The late January availability (and the February 1st use) of the Nova Scotia Bill Stamps implies that selected denominations of the regular Third Issue stamps were likewise available in late January of 1868. The most probable region for the release of the regular Third Issue is New Brunswick. As with Nova Scotia, the stamp tax was new to New Brunswick and as such this province should have been the first area to receive the new stamps for use on and after February 1st. Use of the Third Issue outside of the maritime provinces probably did not begin until existing supplies of the Second Issue were exhausted by stamp vendors. It is possible that this depletion may, in some instances, have occurred prior to February 1st of 1868.

NOTES

[56] Langton, J., National Archives, RG 58, B, Vol 4, Folios 358-359, Microfilm Reel T2280.

[57] Griffin, W.H., National Archives, RG 3, B.2.I, Vol 378, p85.

[58] Griffin, W.H., National Archives, RG 3, Vol 566, p464-465.

[59] Griffin, W.H., National Archives, RG 3, B.2.I, Vol 378, p88.

[60] Harington, T.D., National Archives, RG 19, Vol 1166, Letter 475.

[61] Harington, T.D., National Archives, RG 19, Vol 1178, p615, Letter 1349.

[62] Langton, J., National Archives, RG 58, B, Vol 5, Folio 123, Microfilm Reels T2280-2281

[63] Canada, Statutes, 31 Vic., Chap. 9.

[64] Patterson, A., Department of Inland Revenue Notice of January 18th, 1868, Halifax British Colonist, January 21st, 1868, p3.