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BNA TOPICS

Official Journal of The British North America Philatelic Society

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ARTICLES

OTTAWA TAGGING

The full story of the bright-green
fluorescent stripes, the printers
and their problems — by the editor 4

THE 15c CANADA GOOSE AEROGRAMS

15 varieties have been discovered
by Major R. K. Malott 8

PRE-CANCEL ODDITIES

by Hans Reiche 10

COLUMNS

Tagging Along 11
The RPO Cowcatcher 12
Perfin Study Group 14
Rounding Up Squared Circles 15
Topics: The Newsfront 16
Further Sketches of BNAPSers 20
Mail From Our Members 21

TOPICS: THE BUSINESS SIDE

From the Secretary 18
Classified Advertisements 22

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Ottawa

now national
or general

Tagging

by E. H. Hausmann



September, 1972: Canada Post has just announced that *all* stamps to be produced from that time will be Ottawa tagged, with the exception of a few which will continue to be given Winnipeg tagging. Since November 1971 the Ottawa tagging has been applied on certain stamps sold only in the area of the capital city, but now the tagging will appear nationally and henceforth be known as national, or general, tagging.

The announcement comes as a surprise to many collectors, who have known since the spring that Ottawa tagging has the annoying habit of "bleeding," or migrating, onto adjoining paper and can even penetrate several layers of light cardboard. Furthermore the fluorescence migrates to the gum, which then comes off on the tongues of people licking the stamps.

The bright eerie-green stripes on each side of the stamps when held under an ultra-violet light are spectacular — but the prospect of a nation of people with tongues that could glow equally bright is positively alarming. The post office has received several urgent inquiries about the safety of the fluorescent substance being used, and many collectors say they will stop collecting anything with Ottawa tagging because of the damage it could do to other stamps in their collections.

Early October, 1972: As environment-science editor of the *Toronto Star* I explore Ottawa tagging as a project to be carried out between more urgent assignments. What, I set out to find, are the long-term effects of the fluorescent material on human health? How extensive are the tests that, presumably, had been carried out by the post office? Is there any truth to the stories that several fluorescent and phosphorescent materials are carcinogenic? Is the post office aware of the migration problem, and what is it doing to correct it? Even if the migration can be prevented, will this be enough to contain any possible health hazard?

Mid-December, 1972: A dozen experts, in and out of the post office, have declared that the fluorescent substance is safe, with one theoretical qualification. My research included interviews, in person or by telephone, with three PhDs at the University of Toronto and another with the federal Department of Health and Welfare and yet another with General Electric in Cleveland, Ohio (which manufactures the fluorescent material) — as well as two ink technicians and officials at two security printers. There were also long conversations with Frank Flatters, the chief of the postage stamp division for Canada Post, who was most obliging and free with whatever information he had. I also carried out some tests of my own on migration, using three of the four types of fluorescent inks used.

During the period of the investigation the post office realized that the September order to have all stamps tagged was based on a false hope that a new ink mixture, used by one of the three printers, would end the migration problem. It didn't work that way, and more tests had to be done. But by late November the problem was finally resolved, and once again the order was given that all stamps printed from then would be tagged.

What it is

The fluorescent tagging is printed in near-invisible ink as two stripes on each side of certain postage stamps. It glows a bright green under both long and short wave ultra-violet light and, unlike Winnipeg tagging, has no afterglow. It is used with the new facer-canceller machines now being installed across Canada; the machine seeks out the stamps on the envelopes because of the fluorescence, and applies a cancel.

Application

The ink is applied by one of two methods, gravure and lithography, depending on the printer's equipment. It is usually applied before the stamp impression; this depends on the stamp design and printing method.

The printers and their inks

The Canadian Bank Note Co. of Ottawa (CBNCo) and Ashton-Potter Ltd. of Toronto (APL) both use lithography. Their ink is composed of about a fifth OP-2, an inert fluorescent material manufactured by General Electric at Cleveland. The OP-2 is used in the same way as the powdered dyes in regular inks—mixed with a group of chemicals which serve as a medium, or vehicle. In the end it is a heavy, greyish paste.

APL's inks are mixed for them by Canada Fine Color Ltd., a sister firm, as follows: 20% OP-2 combined with a resin solution of vinyl toluene (styrene copolymer in high boiling-point aliphatic hydrocarbon solvents) together with small amount of natural and synthetic waxes, cobalt octoate, manganese octoate, tung oil and N-methyl 2-pyrrolidone, plus about 5% of a proprietary anti-offset compound. CBNCo's mixture is mixed at the plant using similar chemicals.

Both printers used lithography from the beginning of Ottawa tagging, with complete success; their stamps have *not* migrated, and they are continuing this process in the future.

British American Bank Note (BABNCo) uses the gravure method of application. Until mid-November they used a similar fluorescent material, OP-4 (also made by General Electric) mixed with acrylic resins. It is a thin transparent compound resembling salad oil. And it migrates.

After a summer of testing it was found that OP-2 could be used instead of OP-4 by simply reducing the fluorescent material and acrylic resins with alcohol. The new mixture looks like slightly-thinned mayonnaise.

It sounds simple, but before it was discovered several false hopes had been raised; one mixture didn't migrate but turned to jelly; another rusted the ink-feed systems in the presses. One formed hydrochloric acid. The final OP-2 gravure mixture was declared suitable in early November and adopted by BABNCo after further tests; it goes smoothly through the presses and doesn't migrate.

Of the 37 types of stamps with Ottawa tagging issued so far (as described by *Tagging Along* columnist Ken Rose on page 11), 15 were printed with the OP-4 migrating ink. In all about 100 million such stamps were released, and many are still in stock at post offices; it will be several months before new, non-migrating, stocks have replaced them.

Winnipeg tagging

First used 11 years ago for stamps sold in the Winnipeg area, the phosphorescent ink used (which has an afterglow) is supplied by a British firm and called Letrolite. It has a dim glow and is more visible under short-wave ultra violet than long wave.

The stamps are used with the Sefacan cancelling machines, and will continue to be issued so long as the Sefacan machines

THESE OTTAWA-TAGGED ISSUES MIGRATE (the others don't):

- 8c Definitive in sheets of 100
- 25c Vending Booklets
- 50c Vending Booklets
- 8c Frontenac
- 8c World Health Day — Heart Disease
- 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c and 50c Medium Value Definitives
- 8c Plains Indians — Costume and Graphic Symbolism only

(FOR A FULL LISTING OF ALL OTTAWA TAGS TO DATE SEE CHARTS PAGE 11)

are operating in Winnipeg. How long that may be is now under a cost-benefit analysis by Canada Post; Flatters points out that the machines are getting old, but there's the possibility of adapting them to "read" the Ottawa-type tagging instead, thus making Winnipeg tagging unnecessary. Or the machines may just be retired, and replaced by the new facer-cancellers. "At this point," says Flatters, "we can't give a yes or no answer. But eventually Winnipeg-tagged stamps will certainly be phased out."

The GE materials

"We're in the business of anything that produces light," GE's fluorescent expert Dr. L. Voght told us, adding that GE makes five basic types of fluorescent dyes for use in printing; four are similar, which include the OP-2 and OP-4 types that glow green; the others have different colors. A fifth type is a pigment, and others are made on special order. (See page 524 of the *National Geographic* magazine for October, 1972.)

The OP-2 and OP-4 types are all aromatic heterocyclic compounds basically differing only in molecular weight, containing no fluorines at all, but Voght could say no more since the compounds are secret. But they are inert, won't change chemically by the addition of the vehicles used to make the inks, and exist as a yellowish-green powder.

The aromatics are organic chemicals similar in properties to benzene rings or to compounds containing it; the term is used particularly in relation to some unsaturated heterocyclic compounds, such as thiophene and pyridine. The heterocyclic compounds are those relating to or being an atom or element other than the predominating or significant one (as a carbon), especially in a ring of a molecular or compound relating to, or characterized by, or being, a ring composed of an atom of different elements. Or, as Dr. Arnis Kuksis of the U of T put it, "aromatic hydrocarbons."

Migration control

On the now-obsolete OP-4 type material, Voght said fluorescence that had migrated to other materials would not lose its effect or change appreciably in time—but other writers say that by leaving the materials in the air the effect is slowly lost. Voght said it will not penetrate non-porous materials such as acetate, cellophane and similar plastics.

Topics tests were done on three inks: the outmoded OP-4, the new OP-2 for gravure, and a litho mixture used by Ashton-Potter using OP-2. Liberal samples of each were applied to bond paper—probably a hundred times the thickness that would be ap-

plied to a typical stamp—and each small square of the bond paper was placed against porous newsprint. One set was placed in direct contact; another separated by a layer of glassine paper, another by the clear portion of a Showguard mount, and the fourth by a black portion of a Showguard mount.

After two weeks, only the OP-4 type migrated to the newsprint—heavy migration when in direct contact, but reduced by about a third by the glassine. The plastic Showguard, both black and white sides, allowed no penetration. The experiment will be continued for several more months; if the trends show a change, i.e. the plastic mounts eventually allow penetration, it will be reported on these pages.

Solid chunks of the dried OP-4 type ink were similarly tested, with similar results.

Health studies on OP-2 and OP-4

Voght said that Canada Post first approached GE over two years ago. "There are over 300,000 aromatic heterocyclic compounds," Voght said, "and only a handful are possibly carcinogenic. Our materials certainly aren't." He gave full chemical details to the Department of Health and Welfare, which carried out a series of tests on the fluorescent materials, the last report of which was issued in a letter last July to Canada Post.

The health department tests were carried out under Dr. H. Buchwald of the hazardous products section of the division of toxicology, a section of the food advisory bureau. Bio-Research Laboratories Ltd. did animal studies as follows:

Tests for acute toxicity, intraperitoneal and oral, in mice and rats; tests for primary irritation of the eye and skin in rabbits; tests for photosensitization potential in mice and guinea pigs; skin absorption in rabbits and rats; and a 12-week study of oral toxicity in the rat.

"These studies demonstrated that both OP-2 and OP-4 have a low order of toxicity if taken by mouth, they do not irritate the skin or eyes, they do not appear to cause any allergic reactions when applied to the skin and they are not absorbed through the skin," Buchwald said in his July 27 report.

"From the 12-week feeding study we can interpolate that in the experimental rats the daily oral dose which would not give rise to any deleterious effects is in the region of 100 mg/kg. Bearing in mind that only the rat was studied, it is necessary to allow safety margins when extrapolating the results in humans. Allowing a factor of 10 for the interspecies variability and a safety factor of 10 for human sensi-

OTTAWA TAGGING: A CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

1970: Decision to adopt new facer -canceller machines taken, requiring new tagging type on stamps. Area chosen for tests: Ottawa. BABNCo, CBNCo, APL and General Electric consulted by post office; Department Health and Welfare called in to handle tests for public health. Interim reports show materials to be safe.

November 1971: First Ottawa tagged stamps appear in the Ottawa area, according to columnist Ken Rose. BABNCo uses OP-4 in gravure ink; CBNCo and APL use OP-2 in lithograph ink.

Spring, 1972: Migration discovered. "No one ever thought migrating would occur — then all of a sudden a very observant collector noticed it, to our horror," said Canada Post's Frank Flatters. Tests begun to correct migrating on the BABNCo's gravure-printed OP-4 inks.

Summer, 1972: Tests continue; difficulty found to be in the fluorescent material, not the gravure process or the ink vehicle used: a switch to OP-2 type is called for. Stamps tagged by CBNCo and APL prove satisfactory throughout trial.

July 27, 1972: Health and Welfare Department report issued, summing up previous reports and calling both OP-2 and OP-4 safe.

September, 1972: Problems with litho application apparently solved; Flatters announces that all stamps issued from this time will be tagged — mostly Ottawa. Problems develop at BABNCo, calling for further experiments; Ottawa tagging held off.

November, 1972: Discovery of another formula for mixing litho ink proves suitable; order for all stamps to be tagged is reinstated. (The holdup in finding a satisfactory ink causes delays in the medium-value definitive printing of the stamps issued in early September.)

tivity, it can be predicted with reasonable assurance that 1 mg/kg eaten daily by humans could have no harmful effects. In terms of public health it recommended that a daily intake of 1 mg/kg should not be exceeded. On the basis of a 50 kg (112 lb.) human this would mean not more than 50 mg per day or 10 mg for a 10 kg child.

"In summary, on the basis of the tests which have been carried out, we can see no objections, from the public health standpoint, to the widespread use of the phosphors OP-2 and OP-4 on postage stamps."

The statement was examined by John R. Brown, PhD, DSc, MD, FRCP, a professor of environmental health at the University of Toronto's school of hygiene.

These studies, he declared, were logical and reasonable — but would give results only for acute symptoms, rather than chronic. For the long-range chronic evi-

dence, more prolonged tests would have to be carried out.

Dr. Buchwald was asked about this. He maintained that the margin of safety was so great when the test results were interpolated into human terms, quite unreasonable amounts of the GE product would have to be consumed before any dire results might show up.

"I want to stress the wide margin of safety," he said. He added that there was no tendency in the 12-week study for the substance to accumulate in the kidney or other organs of the animal tested. Had there been even the slightest tendency, he said, it could have indicated that further tests, such as those recommended by Dr. Brown, be carried out. "We can read the

(Continued on page 22)

The 15c Canada Goose Aerograms

MAJOR RICHARD K. MALOTT

On July 22, 1971, Canada Post issued a new format for a 15c aerogram. The format, 215mm in depth and 314mm in width, open at the widest point, is composed of three panes, the top one blank; the middle one blank (later a rectangle or panograph 55mm depth and 130mm width was added) with instructions at the top *first fold—plier d'abord* and at the bottom *no enclosure permitted—ne rien inserer* and *second fold—plier ensuite*; and the bottom section with a Canada goose in flight taking almost the full section.

The size of the aerogram folded is 100mmx175mm. At the upper left side are three white lines 1 7/8" in length for the return address and at the upper right hand side is a blue maple leaf with "Canada"

printed in blue to the left of the maple leaf and "15" in blue imprinted on the maple leaf. In the bottom half of the lower section are four dark blue lines across the whole front of the aerogram for the address.

At the lower right are the printed words in red *Aerogramme Air Mail Par Avion*. On each of the three flaps on the bottom section are the words in lower case—*to open cut here—pour ouvrir couper ici*. Gum for sealing is on the back of the three flaps. This is the basic description; variations in paper color, gum, middle-section design, and errors of printing make a total of 15 varieties of the aerogram. Data on each of the 15 varieties are as follows, based on personal knowledge and the cooperation of Canada Post.

No. 1 Paper: Light grey; 32M paper size 17"x22". (The 32M refers to the weight of 1000 sheets of a standard size of paper 17"x22".) The standard size used by the printers was supplied in packages of 500 sheets.

Printer: British American Bank Note Co., Ottawa (BABNCo).

Method: Gravure—3 colors applied in this order: light blue, dark blue and red.

Gum: PVA. The gum is added after the colors.

Design: Goose on bottom pane; no panel on middle pane.

Quantity: See no. 2.

Date of Release: July 22, 1971, Ottawa (no official date given).

The aerograms are produced four to a sheet. There are two on the right and two on the left facing the opposite direction for each segment of the sheet. These aerograms are diecut with sharp corners (fig. 3).

No. 2 Paper: Light medium grey; 32M Paper size 17"x22".

Printer: BABNCo.

Method: Gravure—3-color applied in the order above.

Gum: PVA.

Design: Goose on bottom pane; no panel on middle pane.

Quantity: 1,940,000 for types 1 and 2.

Date of Release: July 22, 1971, Ottawa (no official date given).

Note: The shade of the paper is the only difference between types 1 and 2 with type 2, the darker shade, being the most common.

No. 3 Paper: Light grey; 32M Paper size 17"x22".

Gum: Sky Blue PVA.

Design: Same as for types 1 and 2.

Quantity: 60,000 (in addition to the 1,940,000 printed for types 1 and 2).

Date of Release: Unknown: after July 22, 1971 and before Oct. 16, 1971.

Note: Type 3 differs from type 1 only by the color of the gum; the sky-blue color is very noticeable when compared to the normal light shade. The location of distribution of these 60,000 aerograms is unknown.

No. 4—Revised type with panel (panograph) approximately 55mm x130mm on the back of the middle pane. This panel was added so that users could more readily identify the exposed back of the aerogram. Any message on this panel would be exposed.

Printer: Light medium-grey 32M Paper, etc.

Printer: BABNCo.

Method: Gravure—3 colors applied in the same order.

Gum: PVA; light turquoise color.

Design: Same as type 1 and 2 plus the panel approximately 55mmx130mm added on the back of the middle pane.

Quantity: Total of all types (no. 4 and no. 10 inclusive) with panel 3,015,000.

Date of Release: October 16, 1971 (no official date given).

No. 5—Same as type no. 4 except for the color of the paper.

Printer: Light grey paper, etc.

No. 6—Same as no. 4 but width of gum on the side flaps was narrowed from 18mm to 15mm.

Date of Release: Oct.-Nov. 1971.

No. 7—Same as No. 6 but with revised die cut. This type has longer enclosure flaps and a double angle caused by a section being removed to facilitate the opening of the aerogram. See fig. 1, 2 and 3.

Date of Release: Unknown; between mid-October and mid-November 1971.

No. 8—Same as type no. 6 except for color of paper.

Printer: Light grey paper, etc.

No. 9—Same as type no. 7 except for color of paper.

Printer: Light grey paper, etc.

No. 10—Same as type no. 5 except dark blue color is missing.

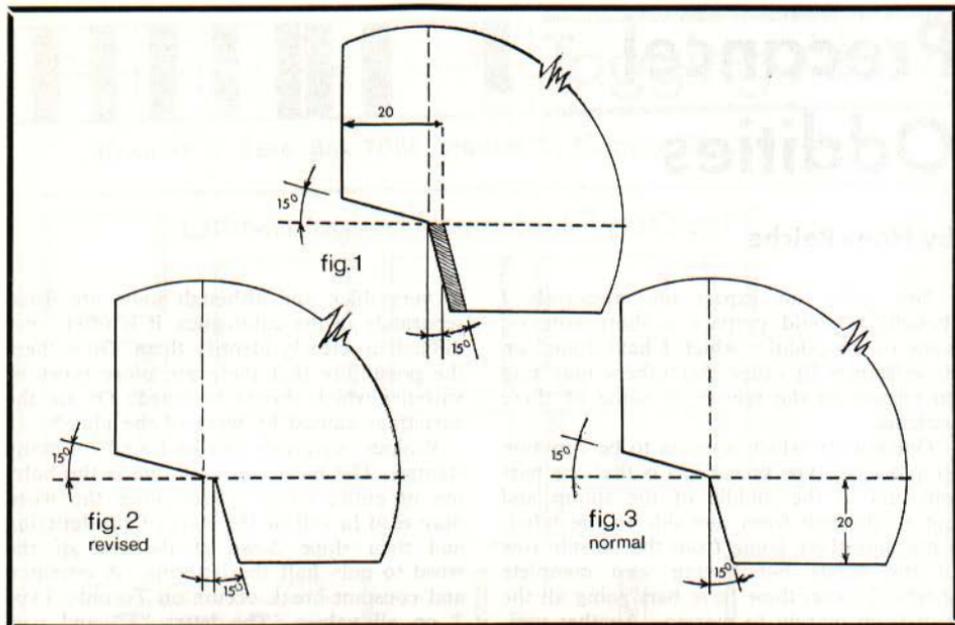
Printer: Light grey paper, etc.

Printer: BABNCo.

Method: Gravure; only two colors: light blue and red. The dark blue color is missing—i.e. lines, instructions, address lines and Canada 15 missing.

Gum: PVA Light turquoise color of gum.

Design: Same as type no. 7 with printed panel on back of middle pane.



Quantity: Unknown; at least one was used for overseas correspondence.

Date of Discovery: Early February 1972; from the same production lot as type no. 5.

No. 11—Paper: 32M Light grey paper. Size of sheet 26"x36". These were produced eight per sheet in two rows of four across in horizontal format. The aerograms are diecut with rounded corners.

Printer: Ashton Potter Ltd., Toronto.

Method: Lithography, 3-color applied in same order.

Gum: A mixture of PVA and Dextrin.

Design: Same as type no. 4 with panel on back, flaps are rounded, in lieu of square cut.

Quantity: See type 12.

Date of Release: November 22, 1971 (no official date given).

No. 12—Same as type no. 11 but tagged.

Paper: Light grey paper, etc.

Printer: Ashton - Potter Ltd., Toronto.

Method: Lithography, 3-color applied in above order.

Gum: PVA-Dextrine mixture.

Design: Same as type no. 4 with the addition of a single vertical bar of phosphor tagging 1mmx20mm located 1mm to the right extremity of the maple leaf insignia.

Quantity: A total of 5,007,000 from first printing. This includes both type 11 and 12.

Date of Release: Not available.

No. 13—Same as type no. 12 tagged except for two blue dots at bottom flap on either side of opening instructions.

Paper: Light grey paper, etc.

Printer: Ashton Potter Ltd., Toronto.

Method: Lithography, 3-color applied in above order.

Gum: PVA-Dextrine.

Design: Same as type no. 12 tagged. Second printing of tagged aerogram from a new plate.

Quantity: Second printing, 2-050,000 (includes tagged and untagged aerograms types no. 13 and no. 14).

Date of Release: Sent to 3 depots on July 12, 1972 for random distribution. Release from the philatelic section was September 5, 1972.

No. 14—Same as type no. 11 except not tagged; all data the same except date of release. Release from philatelic section was September 19, 1972. Release date to depots not known.

Date of Release: Sept. 15, 1972.

No. 15—Completely blank die cut aerograms of type no. 11 have been reported. Anyone finding blank die cut aerograms are asked to communicate with the writer so that a determination of scarcity can be recorded.

In order to improve the 15c aerograms Canada Post has recently released a new, most interesting designed aerogram. Philatelists have determined that this new style aerogram went on sale in Ottawa on November 7, 1972. The proposed 8c postettes to be used in Canada as first class mail are yet to be issued. When this is done the collecting of postal stationery in Canada will certainly be an interesting challenge.

Further data concerning the 16 varieties will be released when available. Collectors having further data are requested to contact Major R. K. Malott, 16 Harwick Crescent, Ottawa, Ontario, K2H 6R1. Nine of the 15 aerograms should be readily available after a hunt. Types number 3, 5, 10, 12 and 15 are difficult to locate or extremely scarce.

Precancel Oddities

by Hans Reiche

Not being an expert on precancels I thought I would prepare a short note on some of the oddities which I have found on these stamps in order that others may find an answer to the reason of some of these varieties.

One variety which appears to be common to many bar-type precancels is that the bars will end in the middle of the stamp and not go through from one side to the other. I presume these come from the outside row of the sheets but having seen complete sheets of some, these have bars going all the way from margin to margin. Another variety on both the city and the bar types has the overprint end near the middle as be-

to very thick and although some are listed separately in the catalogues, it is often very difficult to clearly identify them. Or is there the possibility that there are more types or varieties which should be listed? Or are the variations caused by wear of the plate?

Broken overprints can be found on many stamps. The most common one is the halving of entire letters. Sometimes the word may read in full at the start of the lettering and then slope down at the end of the word to only half the lettering. A common and constant break occurs on Toronto Type 7 on all values. The letter "T" and partially the letter "O" is missing and the bottom bar above the "O" of ONT shows



fore, but in addition two large dots (sometimes one) can be found close to the lines at the end of the overprint. These look like nailheads, and they have been described by others as such.

Amongst the precancels with the city number between two double bars one can find a variety which may be a setting fault. The spacing of the double bars either below or above the number show different settings. One may find the top bars spaced 1.5mm apart and the bottom bars only 1mm. A number of such oddities exist on various stamps. Similarly the number may be shifted between the bars to the top or bottom.

I have always puzzled over the thickness of the bars. The bars may vary from thin

left of the bar short continuations of the broken bar. Again in Toronto Type 5 the last "O" is broken on the left side of the letter. On the Montreal Type 6, 1c yellow Admiral two constant varieties exist: one shows the letter "M" broken at the bottom, the other has a break in the letters ONT running from the bottom of the letter "O" to the top of the letter "T". Many more could be listed here.

A curious oddity is the complete shift of some overprints. Instead of city—bars—province only the city and bars will appear. Or instead the city name appears below the bars, or there will be bars on top, then the province, then the city and again some bars. Another odd one, which may

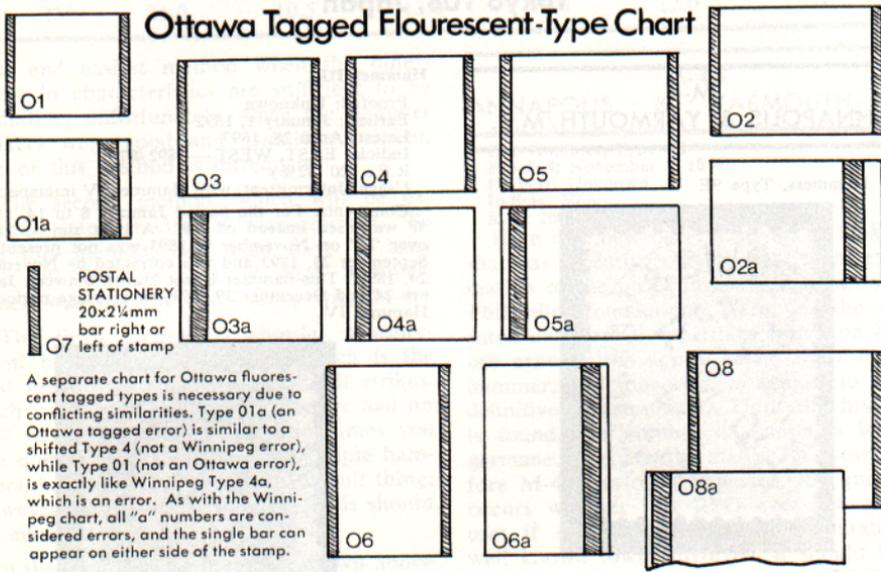
(Continued on page 25)



Tagging Along

Kenneth G. Rose, Box 7086, Station 'E', Calgary T3C-3L8, Alberta

Ottawa Tagged Fluorescent-Type Chart



POSTAL
STATIONERY
20x2¼mm
bar right or
left of stamp

A separate chart for Ottawa fluorescent tagged types is necessary due to conflicting similarities. Type 01a (an Ottawa tagged error) is similar to a shifted Type 4 (not a Winnipeg error), while Type 01 (not an Ottawa error), is exactly like Winnipeg Type 4a, which is an error. As with the Winnipeg chart, all "a" numbers are considered errors, and the single bar can appear on either side of the stamp.

OTTAWA FLUORESCENT TAGGED VARIETIES

corrected as of November 1972

	Normal	Error Var.		Normal	Error Var.
1967 1c Brown PVA dull	01	01a-C	1972 new 20c*	04	
1971 6c Black die 3			1972 new 25c*	04	
PVA dull	01	01a-D	1972 new 50c*	04	
1971 8c Slate (dull)*	01	01a-C	1972 Indian (Buffalo)	05	
1967 Slate (dull) coil	01		1972 Indian (Artifacts)	05	
1967 10c Olive (fluo)	02		1972 Ontario Cards	07	
1967 15c Purple (dull)	02		1972 Air Letter Sheet	07	
1971 25c Booklet	01		1972 Indian (costume)*	06	06a-B
1971 \$1 Booklet	01		1972 Indian (symbolism)*	06	06a-B
1971 8c Slate*			1972 6c Christmas (dull)	04	
(ex booklet)	01	01a-A	1972 6c Christmas (fluo)	04	
1972 25c Booklet with 10			1972 8c Christmas	04	
scenes on cover*	01		1972 10c Christmas	02	
1972 8c Heart (dull)*	02		1972 15c Christmas	02	
1972 8c Heart (white)*	02		1972 8c Krieghoff	08	
1972 Frontenac (dull)*	02				
1972 Frontenac (med. dull)*	02				
1967 10c Olive (dull)	02				
1972 50c Booklet with 10					
scenes on cover*	01				
1972 15c Cartography	03				
1972 15c Photogrammetry	03				
1972 15c Geology	03				
1972 15c Geography	03				
1972 new 10c*	04				
1972 new 15c*	04				

*fluorescent ink — which migrates

Small "a" refers to error type on chart.

Capital Letters refer to rarity factor below.

Rarity Factor

A—1-5, B—6-25, C—26-100, D—101-500,
E—501 up



The RPO Cowcatcher

Lewis M. Ludlow, 6 - 17, Shibaura 4-chome, Minato-ku,
Tokyo 108, Japan

M-4 ANNAPOLIS & YARMOUTH/M.C.

Four Hammers, Type 9E



Hammer I

Proofed: March 6, 1882
Earliest: January 7, 1885
Latest: May 9, 1889

Indicia: EAST — 1885/89
Usage: Apparently continuous, without overlap
R.F.: 120 (9%)

Comments: This hammer is relatively scarce considering its known life of at least seven years.

Hammer II

Proofed: March 6, 1882
Earliest: Unknown
Usage: Unknown
R.F.: 120 (0%)

Comments: With two hammers proofed on the same day, why do we only have evidence of one being used? Will Hammer II show up?



Hammer III

Proofed: Unknown
Earliest: January 1, 1892
Latest: April 28, 1897
Indicia: EAST, WEST — 1892/97
R.F.: 120 (82%)

Usage: Intermittent, with Hammer IV interspersed.

Comments: For the period January 8 to 14, 1896, '6' was used instead of '96'. A bent rim at 11:00 over 'LI' on November 9, 1893 was not present on September 23, 1893 and was corrected by November 24, 1893. This hammer is not known between January 24 and December 29, 1896; note usage period of Hammer IV.



Hammer IV

Proofed: Unknown
Earliest: March 18, 1896
Latest: December 14, 1896
Indicia: E, W—1896
R.F.: 120 (9%)

Usage: Continuous, inside Hammer III

Comments: A nice clean hammer with sharp clear strikes appearing in the midst of Hammer III usage. Why the short life?

In 'A-A' in chart, 'A' is the second in ANNAPOLIS; in 'L-A', 'A' is one in YARMOUTH; in both cases, 'R' is from YARMOUTH. Hammer differentiation of RPOs is considerably more difficult than with squared circles; this is due primarily to lack of fixed reference points.

* * *

In this and future columns, three basic methods will be used, either singly or in combination, to differentiate RPO hammers.

The first method is that of distinctively different hammer characteristics. This is the

HAMMER DIFFERENTIATION

HAMMER	Dia	A - I	P - R	L - A	Y - H	R - H
I	24.0mm	12.5mm	14.0mm	10.5mm	14.0mm	10.5mm
II	25.5	12.0	14.0	11+	14.0	10.5
III	24.5	12.0	14.0	11+	14.5	11.0
IV	25.0	10.5	13.0	10.5	12.0	9.0

best and easiest method when the differences in characteristics are sufficient to be definitive; unfortunately, since the hammer makers were good and usually consistent, use of this method is infrequent.

The second method, which will be explained later, is circular measurement. To use this method, one must have at least one full distinct strike of each hammer. (Such was not the case above with M-4.)

The third method is chordal measurement between specific letters which is the best method in the absence of full strikes. Such was the case in M-4, where we had no full strikes of Hammer II. Sometimes you are quite sure that a run has multiple hammers, but proving it can be a difficult thing; however, one of these three methods should be effective.

In the chordal measurements shown above for M-4, we have given the exact straight-line distance between the inner points of the designated portions of the indicated letters on clear strikes; under these conditions, strikes of each hammer were reproducible and differentiation complete.

There are no proof impressions of Hammers III and IV. Perhaps Hammer III was struck during the missing period of proof books — 1884/86, and it may be that Hammer IV was proofed after the end of the first proof book, April 30, 1895.

This run, M-4, has been reported as early as 1879. We do not believe this is possible in view of the proof date. We are hopeful that for this comparatively well-known run, collectors can fill in many of the missing gaps.

The proof impression book in the Philatelic Foundation is missing some sections. The first RPO strike is February 26, 1876 and the last is April 30, 1895; however, there are pages missing which cover the periods August to September 1878; January 2, 1884 to April 30, 1886; and November 1892.

M-4A

ANNAPOLIS · & · YARMOUTH/M-C.

One Hammer, Type 4G
 Proofed: November 3, 1879
 Earliest: Unknown
 Indicia: None
 R.F.: 200

Here is a new one for us all to look for that has recently come to light from examination of the proof impression book in the Philatelic Foundation. Here, on the indicated date, are three strikes which on cursory examination appear to be all from one hammer; this, however, is subject to more definitive measurement. Until the first use is found, the number of hammers is less germane. Apparently made 2½ years before M-4, previously reported, the question occurs whether this RPO ever saw actual use; if so, because of the comparatively well known towns involved, it should have surfaced before now.

M-5

BRIDGEWATER & MIDDLETON R.P.O. /.



One Hammer, Type 17
 Proofed: March 9, 1923
 Earliest: March 22, 1926
 Latest: January 20, 1932
 Indicia: N, S — 1926/28, 253 — 1931/32
 Usage: Probably continuous, but 1929/30 strikes are yet to be reported
 R.F.: 130

This is a straight-forward non-controversial run; however, it will be interesting to fill in the date of the indicia change.



Perfin Study Group

R. J. Woolley, secretary, 1520 Bathurst Street, Apt. 206, Toronto

Newfoundland

Most of these notes are a result of attending the BNAPS convention at St. John's, Newfoundland, in September.

Our C11 and C 38 were both confirmed as being used by the customs house at St. John's and were used on Newfoundland Inland Revenue stamps.

One exhibit had C11 punched on the 1898 issue Inland Revenue 50c orange and the \$1 green (Sissons R4 and R6). When first reported this design appeared on the 10c salmon of 1932 (Scott 193) but as there was no postal cancellation it had probably been used for fiscal purposes.

Another frame had the same two Inland Revenue stamps punched with the small CH design (C38). Perhaps the two machines were in use simultaneously or the smaller design replaced the larger during the period of the Queen Victoria head stamps.

I suggest that the change in size may have been due to the first machine having been supplied by the Sloper Company of England and the later one by an American manufacturer where there was a limit of one half-inch square on the size of perfin designs.

* * *

In at least two previous articles I have illustrated and asked for information about the cancellor illustrated here.



This strike was shown on documents

indicating its use to cancel Inland Revenue stamps at the colonial secretary's office. Stamps on the documents were the 1898 Inland Revenue: 5c red, 10c brown and 50c orange, the 1903 King Edward VII \$5 lilac and the 1910 King George V issue 10c olive green.

Previously I have contended that as this was a cancelling device and have refrained from including it in the catalogue. This contention also appears to be true of both the CH machines, although C11 did first appear on a postal issue and is since thought to have been used fiscally.

Perhaps a catalogue-listing for identification, with a note "cancelling device", would meet the situation.

* * *

Ed Richardson's exhibit of Newfoundland Inland Revenue stamps had two cancelling devices of interest: one a solid cut PAID in very small letters, possibly 2mm to 3mm which I have not previously seen. This was punched on the 1898 Queen Victoria \$5 red-violet and used on a boiler inspection certificate.

The other was on a 50c orange of the same issue and is here illustrated by courtesy of Ed — a very interesting geometrical design:



New Listing

C39	CANL'D	2H5½	Colonial Secretary's Office 1898/ C.S.O. (cancelling device) St. John's Newfoundland	Nfd. IR	75
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Rounding Up Squared Circles

Dr. W. G. Moffatt, Hickory Hollow, RR-3, Ballston Lake, N.Y. 12019



The illustration for this month's column is provided through the courtesy of Dr. Robert Chaplin, who has gathered together what I believe to be the most extensive collection of Squared Circle postmarks on Admiral issues. Late strikes — dates well beyond the normal span of use of the Squared Circle hammers — have been recorded for some towns, but in most cases it is not at all clear whether the hammer saw more-or-less continuous use up through the latest date, or whether there were one or more well-defined, brief revival periods.

I have hopes that the illustration may catch the eye of other collectors of Admiral issues who may be able to add to our information about the late period of use of some of these hammers. The listing which follows is based largely on information supplied by Dr. Chaplin, but augmented by other information available to me. The listing, in Handbook order, is of towns definitely known on Admiral issues, or known with dates in the Admiral period, or for which strikes in the Admiral period are a good possibility; the specific case is stated in the listing.

* * *

DUTTON — not known on Admiral, nor in Admiral period; but present late date, JA 17/11, suggests this town as a possibility.

OTTAWA — several "nude" strikes known on Admiral issues.

NEWPORT LANDING — known on Admirals, OC 28/13 to JU 28/16 (six copies, one 1913, three 1915, two 1916).

BAJE-VERTE — same comments as DUTTON; present latest: OC 18/11.

INDIANTOWN — same comments as DUTTON; present latest: MY 1/11.

RIVER LOUISON — latest date, MR 23/13, lies in Admiral period, but records do not indicate whether this strike is on Admiral or Edward VII. After MY 24/00, I have only a single date recorded for 1906, 1907, and 1909, followed by the lone late date above.

DANVILLE — known on Admirals, JA 31/14 and FE 5/14 (two examples only); this hammer saw continuous use from April, 1907 through November, 1911, followed by the above two dates on Admiral.

FARNHAM — not known on Admiral, nor in Admiral period; latest dated example is NO 23/07, but "nude" strike known on 1935 KGV; the hammer may have seen some use between those dates.

IBERVILLE — known on Admirals, DE 11/12 to JU 25/14, the latter being the latest known date for this town; four copies reported.

LAURENTIDES — known on Admirals, FE 13/17 to SP 9/18, the latter being the latest known date for this town; four copies reported.

MELBOURNE — Handbook late date is MR 3/17; presumably, this is on Admiral issue but I have no records to substantiate that, nor do I have record of any date between OC 24/04 and MR 3/17.

RIVIERE DU LOUP STA. — not known on Admirals, nor in Admiral period; I have record of dates through AU 13/00, followed by four dates in the period SP 16/46 to OC

(Continued on page 23)

TOPICS: THE NEWSFRONT

Any day now: the Robson Lowe Encyclopedia A flawless Large Queen at 23 times catalogue . . . almost!

The fifth volume of Robson Lowe's *Encyclopedia of British Empire Stamps* has been in the works since the 1950s; this is the volume dealing with BNA.

On July 14 Lowe said that 98 per cent of the book had been written and a small part was in page form. "By October we hope to start printing and some time in 1972 the baby will be born. So far we have spent over \$60,000 on the preparation and production and by the time your volume reaches you it will have cost twice this sum. . . ."

That means the book should be available now, or at least very soon. The book will be in four parts; British colonies which later formed the U.S.A.; BNA; British possessions in the Atlantic and Central America; and British Postal Agencies in North and Central America.

Post Office Department **NEW ISSUES**

Canada Post announced the dates of issue for the special and commemorative stamps for 1973; there is a total of 19:

January 31: 350th anniversary, birth of Francois-Xavier de Montmorency — Laval de Montigny.

February 21: Algonkian Indians (two stamps).

March 9: 100th anniversary, founding of the RCMP (three stamps).

April 18: 300th anniversary, death of Jeanne Mance, founder of the Hôtel-Dieu in Montreal.

May 16: 100th anniversary, death of Joseph Howe.

June 8: 100th anniversary, birth of painter J. E. H. MacDonald.

June 29: 100th anniversary, entry of Prince Edward Island into confederation.

August 15: Algonkian Indians (two stamps).

October 10: 100th anniversary, birth of Nellie McClung.

November 1: Christmas issue (four stamps).

November 28: Pacific Coast Indians (two stamps).

The Canada Post Office announced recently that it planned to issue a special commemorative stamp marking the 100th anniversary of the death of Cornelius Krieghoff. The design is the artist's painting *The Blacksmith's Shop* and went on sale to the general public on November 29.

However because the reflective quality of the stamp's colors causes severe problems in the Post Office's Mark Two facer-canceller automatic machines, the sale of these commemorative stamps is limited to where these machines are in use — Scarborough, Hamilton and Toronto Post Offices. Sales are restricted to 263,000 in Hamilton, from 200,000 to 300,000 in Scarborough and about one million in Toronto. The bulk of these are available at Postal Station "A", 17 Front St. West, which was issued about 100,000; about 150,000 are available at the Adelaide St. East Post Office.

In these areas the Krieghoff stamps will be available at Postal Stations only. No issues are made to sub-Post Offices nor are orders being accepted from these facilities.

Auction News

At J. N. Sissons' November 1 auction in Toronto a superb 5c olive-green Large Queen (cat.: \$100) was knocked down for \$2,300 but not claimed afterwards by the buyer. Sissons has since issued stiffer "terms of sale" for future auctions to prevent a repeat of what he called "a frivolous and irresponsible bid" but said he would not take legal action.

The 1d mint reddish-brown Newfoundland with certificate sold at \$700, and a 1930 Columbia mint, slightly off-centre, sold at \$950 while the same stamp on cover sold at \$1,300 (lots 193, 256 and 257).

A Canada ½d rose, o.g. VF and well centered sold at \$420, a NH 3c rose-carmine Small Queen fetched \$150, and a 6c chocolate from that set, VF mint, sold at \$80 (lots 325, 410 and 418).

In the Jubilees, a block of mint 6c NH and VF sold at \$210; a NH \$1 at \$170, a \$3 NH and VF at \$420, and a \$5 NH at \$460. Most notable was a superb NH \$4, which fetched \$775 (lots 438, 448, 458, 571 and 463).

A NH 20c Edward sold at \$125, and a jumbo-margined 50c at \$340 (lots 519 and 522).

Horizontal pairs of the Quebec, superb, in a set, went for \$825, and blocks of the first printing set of part-perfs of the Admiral sold at \$420.

A block of superb inverted Seaway sold at \$5,250, and a mint Officially-Sealed on the heavy-blue paper sold at \$145. Sets of Bogg's *Canada* sold at \$125, with Howes *Canada* at \$105.

* * *

R. Maresch and Son's auction on November 29, also in Toronto, saw a Scott 10, the 6d reddish-purple used fetch \$675. A large group of the 2c 1864 were offered (Scott 20) with many items selling from two to three times catalogue: a proof with cheek flaw sold at \$115; a mint with imprint \$150, one with stitch watermark at \$130, and one with large margins at \$135 used (lots 121, 122, 128, 135).

A brilliant fresh mint 1c Large Queen, full OG with watermark sold at \$575. A Jubilee 6c corner block of four, NH and centered, sold at \$240, and a \$3 NH VF single at \$450. Two Admiral sets, mint, cataloguing at just under \$100 sold at \$190 and \$185 (lots 258 and 259); a block with double overprint Admirals sold at \$340, while a double overprint, one inverted, in a block sold at \$450 (Scott 139b and 140b).

SOME RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Canada: Stamps and Stories; \$2, 232 pages, 4¼x7 inches; half English and repeated in French (or vice versa) and published at the request of *Canada Post* by Scott Publishing Canada Ltd., and available through many post offices and dealers in Canada.

Here's a Canadian version of a similar book published by Scott's New York head office for the U.S. post office. Every page is in glorious color and most have little drawings to embellish them, drawings that would do credit to any teen-age art student. Basically, the book is a color catalogue of BNA with the listings broken up with short items about former prime ministers, the CPR, the provinces and cities, Canadian sports, explorers, wildlife and other stories aimed at younger collectors.

"The Canadian heritage through the fascinating world of stamps" reads the subtitle, but the post office apparently hasn't heard that there's also a Canadian heritage in book publishing — an industry that's been chronically ill for some time because, say the publishers, it's not given proper support. Last year book publishing in Canada was the subject of a public inquiry.

No doubt a case could be made that Canadian book publishers lack entrepreneurial initiative, but one would be hard-pressed to find the justification in Canada Post's throwing open its doors to a U.S. publisher once it had decided to embark on this project. The format follows that of the U.S. post office book by Scott, and indeed uses the same editor. The device of having Scott open up a Canadian branch to print this particular book is hardly likely to appease Canadian publishers, to say nothing of Canadian artists and writers.

The book is issued in conjunction with a "Stamp Starter Kit" which also sells for \$2 — with an illustrated storybook, used Canadian stamps, an album, and a how-to-do-it book plus a miniature catalogue of recent issues which can be ordered from the philatelic department.

Lyman's 1973 British North America; \$1.10; 64 pages, published by Robert W. Lyman (Canada) Co., and available from most dealers.

Probably the most-widely sold soft-cover catalogue of Canadian stamps is Lyman's, which this year proudly proclaims 3,754 price increases in what is its biggest issue and largest printing to date. The format remains the same except that some advertising has been added. J. K. MacRory, the sole owner of Lyman Canada, points out that he spent \$1,350 to replace worn half-tones, and that over five tons of paper were used to print the 42,000 copies run off this year.

TOPICS: THE BUSINESS SIDE

BNAPS: ELECTED OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Alfred P. Cook, Coy Glen Road, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850
VICE-PRESIDENT	James A. Pike, 945 Marine Drive, Apt. 1110, West Vancouver, B.C.
SECRETARY	Jack Levine, 2121-G North Hills Drive, Raleigh, N.C. 27610
TREASURER	Leo J. LaFrance, Box 229, Ossining, New York 10562
BOARD OF GOVERNORS	Nine sitting; three elected each year for a three-year term: 1971-1973: James C. Lehr, E. H. Hausmann, Robert H. Pratt 1972-1974: G. B. Llewellyn (chairman), C. R. McNeil, D. G. Rosenblat 1973-1975: Ed Richardson, Wilmer C. Rockett, S. S. Kenyon

From the Secretary

JACK LEVINE
Raleigh, North Carolina

- 2885 Beatty, Richard H., 70 Delisle Avenue, Apt. 107, Toronto 7, Ontario
2886 Crocker, David Graham, P.O. Box 482, Florida, Transvaal, South Africa
2887 Gibson, Robert F., 890 Oakwood Avenue, Apt. 165, Rochester, Michigan 48063
2888 Hayhurst, John B., 15212 N.E. 16th Place, Apt. 3, Bellevue, Washington 98007
2889 Max, Harry, 793 McEwan Avenue, Windsor 11, Ontario
2890 Morrow, Trelle A., 1370—7th Avenue, Windsor 11, Ontario
2891 Newman, Skeith J., 15 Vicora Linkway, Apt. 914, Don Mills, Ontario
2892 Piotrowski, Alojzysius, 1521 Sixth St., Moundsville, West Virginia 26041
2893 Perry, Ronald, 13 Gardiner Crescent, Cobourg, Ontario
2894 Rink, J. K., Box 384, Kelowna, British Columbia
2895 Webber, Ward, No. 9, 1366 West 13th Avenue, Vancouver 9, British Columbia
2896 Young, William, 1915 Finlay Drive, Prince George, British Columbia

Life Member

- 2489 Hausmann, Edward H., 117 Alcorn Avenue, Toronto 190, Ontario

Applications Pending — "A" Group

(Applications shall be pending in two successive issues of the magazine)

- DeGroot, John, 15 Richmond Avenue, Apt. 301, Kapuskasing, Ontario
Gittis, Samuel, P.O. Box 1617, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19131
Goto, Edwin, P.O. Box 2305, Gardena, California 90247
Kezys, Mindy, 152 Ferrie Street East, Hamilton 21, Ontario
Moir, Brian M., 2632 Derbyshire Way, North Vancouver, British Columbia
Montague, Charlotte G., 1334—100 N.E., Bellevue, Washington 98004
Morrison, David, 3021 Linton Road, Ottawa, Ontario K1V 8H1
McGill, John H., P.O. Box 301, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138
McIntosh, Douglas F., 1633 Sunnycove Drive, Mississauga, Ontario
Penny, Fred, 28 Coady Avenue, Toronto 252, Ontario
Piton, John F., 2 Oberon Street, Ottawa, Ontario K2H 7X7
Simons, Gordon C., 115 Rosewood Avenue, Apt. 3, Ville St. Pierre, Quebec

Applications Pending — "B" Group

- Abrams, Gerald M., 384 Lealma, Claremont, California 91711
Ayre, John Frederick, 71 Circular Road, St. John's, Newfoundland
Banner, Susan, Banner Lodge, Moodus, Connecticut 06469
Berg, Charles Jr., 4850 South Lake Park — 1311, Chicago, Illinois 60615
Brown, Robert W., 232 Shady Lane, Downers Grove, Illinois 60515
Cohen, G. D., 631 Lansdowne Avenue, Westmount, Montreal 217, Quebec
Dowsley, Neil Frederick, 2 South Street, Apt. 5, Trenton, Ontario K8V 2N5
Kassel, Thomas, P.O. Box 130, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201
Lowe, O. D., 402—159 Prospect Street South, Hamilton 22, Ontario
Lyon, Gary J., 220 Demeresque Street, Bathurst, New Brunswick
Mackie, Richard A., One Meadowbrook Road, Braintree, Massachusetts 02185
MacLeod, I. C., P.O. Box 385, Seroe Colorado, Aruba, Netherlands Antilles
Simpson, William L., 20 First Street, Chatham, Ontario
Westhaver, C. David, 11 Winthrop Street, Milton, Massachusetts 02187

Applications for Membership

(Objects must be filed with the Secretary within 30 days after month of publication)

(C—Collector D—Dealer DC—Dealer-Collector) (C—correspond X—exchange)

- BANFIELD, Colin Geoffrey, 32 Coolgardie Ave., Chigwell, Essex, Eng. (C-cx) Proposed by R. J. Woolley (359). Seconded by C. R. Guile (2124).
BARDWELL, H. F., P.O. Box 62, Sarnia, Ont. N7T 7H8 (C) CAN — Postal History. Proposed by M. B. Dicketts (2115).
CALIVOCAS, Stamatios, P.O. Box 864, Sta. B, Montreal 110, Que. (D-cx) CAN, NFD, PROV — 19th century mint and used postage and mint blocks. Pre-stamp, stampless, 1st Flight covers. Seals. Mint, used, semi-

- official Airmails and oncover. Postal Stationery entires. Literature. Proofs and Essays. Squared Circles, Balloon, Zeppelin and Ship covers. Proposed by S. Beny (2712).
- CLARKE, A. Roy, 51 Fidler Ave., Winnipeg, Man. R3J 2R6 (C) CAN — Mint postage and blocks. SPECIALTY — Small Queens fancy cancellations. Proposed by J. Levine (L1).
- DOLGOY, M., M.D., 10233—125 St., Edmonton, Alta. T5K 0K4 (C-c) CAN—Mint postage. Illustrated covers pertaining to music. Proposed by F. N. Harris (1047). Seconded by W. A. Walker (2403).
- FELTON, James W., 511 Washington St., Tiffin, Ohio 44883 (C-c) CAN, NFD, PROV—19th and 20th century mint postage. Stampless, 1st Day and 1st Flight covers. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint booklet panes. Precancels. Mint Airmails. Postal Stationery entires. Straight-edged Canada. SPECIALTY—Q.E. II printing varieties. Proposed by J. Levine (L1).
- GALLANTER, Justin, 33 S. Munn Ave., East Orange, N.J. 07018 (C) CAN—20th century mint postage. Coils. Mint booklet panes and complete. Proposed by R. B. Boudignon (2526).
- HIGGS, Roger J. E., 10 Mandel Cres., Willowdale, Ont. (C-cx) CAN, NFD, PROV—19th and 20th century mint and used postage. Pre-stamp, 1st Day and 1st Flight covers. Plate Blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint booklet panes. Mint and used Airmails. Literature. Proposed by G. F. Hansen (2203).
- HOWES, W. H., P.O. Box 609, Kindersley, Sask. S0L 1S0 (C-cx) CAN, NFD—Precancels. Seals. Tobacco stamps. R.P.O. and Western Canada Town cancellations. Proposed by D. M. Verity (2312).
- KELLY, W. M., 44 Rosewood Rd. N.W., Calgary, Alta. T2K 1N1 (C-x) CAN—Federal, Provincial and Tax-Paid Revenues. Proposed by W. C. Rockett (249).
- MATHESON, Bruce, 408 West 3rd St., Aberdeen, Wash. 98520 (C-c) CAN—Mint and used postage. 1st Day covers. Mint and used Airmails. Tagged, fluorescent paper. Proposed by J. Levine (L1).
- McGRATH, John G., 2077 Baseline Rd., Apt. A, Ottawa, Ont. K2C 0C8 (C-cx) CAN, NFD, PROV—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and blocks. Stampless, 1st Day and 1st Flight covers. Plate Blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint, used booklet panes and complete. Precancels. Literature. Proofs and Essays. Mint, used, semi-official Airmails and on cover. R.P.O. and territorial cancellations. Proposed by G. F. Hansen (2203).
- PLAIN, Brian Charles, M.D., Box 2190, Rutland, B.C. (C-cx) CAN, B.C., V.I.—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint and used Airmails. Postal cards. SPECIALTY—Assiniboia, B.C., V.I. Proposed by D. B. Crane (1139). Seconded by H. G. Walburn (243).
- RIFKIN, Matthew D., 1579 Rhinelander Ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10461 (C-cx) CAN, NFD, PROV—19th and 20th century mint postage and blocks. Plate Blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint booklet panes. Federal, Provincial and Tax-Paid Revenues. Mint Airmails. Postal stationery entires. Literature. Proofs and Essays. Proposed by G. F. Hansen (2203).
- SYMCHYCH, B. E., 6821 West Shore Dr., Minneapolis, Minn. 55435 (C) CAN, NFD—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and blocks. Plate Blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint and used booklet panes. Mint and used Airmails. Proposed by G. F. Hansen (2203).
- VASSILAKI, John, 769 Winnipeg St., Penticton, B.C. (DC-x) CAN, NFD, N.S., N.B.—19th century mint and used postage and blocks. Plate Blocks. Coils. OHMS-G. Mint booklet panes and complete. Mint and semi-official Airmails. Proposed by A. E. Kreger (1931).
- WILSON, Ronald, 106D Du Rhu Drive, Mobile, Ala. 36608 (C-cx) CAN, NFD—19th century mint and used postage and blocks. Mint and used Airmails. Postal Stationery entires and cut-squares. Proposed by J. Levine (L1).

Changes of Address

(Notice of change MUST BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY. Any other office causes delay)

- 2872 Barnes, H. L., P.O. Box 661, Marystown, Nfld.
 2809 Brace, L. Stephen, H-4 University Gardens, Charlottesville, Va. 22903
 2538 Brown, James, 1027 Sydenham Road, Calgary, Alta. T2T 0T3
 2742 Hawley, James Earle, 47 Maple Blvd., Bible Hill, Truro, N.S.
 2720 Machin, John A., Box 424, Yellowknife, N.W.T.
 2451 McCulloch, J. Douglas, 552 Rivershore Crescent, Ottawa, Ont. K1J 7Y7
 2511 Switt, Jeffrey A., 6001 Craig Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76112
 2312 Verity, David M., P.O. Box 849, Burlington, Ontario
 2431 Walton, Wayne J. A. Jr., 754 Euclaire Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43209
 2661 Wonnacott, J. B., M.D., P.O. Box 150, Stemon Park, P.E.I.
 2869 Anderson, Leon S., P.O. Box 1069, Stamford, Conn. 06904

Resignations Accepted

Arthur, William E.

Snure, Howard F. Jr.

Wilson, J. A.

Deceased

1796 Heisz, George M., Formosa, Ontario

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, November 1, 1972	1273	
NEW MEMBERS, December 1, 1972	12	1285
RESIGNATIONS, December 1, 1972	3	
DECEASED, December 1, 1972	1	4
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, December 1, 1972		1281

BNAPEX '73

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*The Patricks,
Doug and Mary*

One of our earlier members is Douglas A. Patrick of Mississauga (love that name), Ontario. It was back in 1949 that he submitted the idea of a stamp club on the radio. The CBC Stamp Club went on the air Feb. 4, 1950 with Doug as its host.

Two hundred and fifty wrote in to join the club; today there are over 60,000 members from over 60 countries — most are Canadians with some 5,000 being from the United States.

Doug has been collecting for over 50 years and has answered questions from collectors for most of this time. Sixteen years

ago he started his stamp column in the *Toronto Globe and Mail* — now it appears in five other papers.

He has just published his eighth philatelic book (with a foreword by our Vincent Greene), *The Hodder Stamp Dictionary*.

Doug is a BNAPSer, a Fellow of the Royal of London, and the APS (the only foreign member of its Council).

He looks after the philatelic material at the Royal Ontario Museum and the Academy of Medicine.

His collecting consists primarily of the Pioneer airmails and Indian postmarks and cancels.

His wife Mary has been his faithful secretary all these years for the heavy mail that they still receive.

You know, I think he really does enjoy this program and all the good it does for our hobby!

— Dr. R. V. C. Carr

...and some doodles by The Editor

What better a time than the New Year to wish all BNAPSers well — and to give special greeting to the many who help fill the pages of this little magazine 11 times a year.

A big hug to my wife Marion, who manages to come through smiling each month after doing all the proofreading, but who remains convinced that the Squared Circles column is really a secret code understood only by hand-picked agents. And a hearty thanks to the printers at Mission Press, who suffer my nit-picky ways so willingly.

Greetings to Ken Rose and Bill Moffatt, those columnists whose unflagging devotion to their specialty continues to evoke my admiration; and to those equally-reliable regulars whose copy is never (or only rarely) late: Ed Whiting, Jack Levine and Bob Carr. And a special Happy New Year to our new regulars, Lewis Ludlow and Ed Richardson — both veterans who are back again at their typewriters on *Topics'* behalf.

Greetings, too, to our many other contributors — Dick Malott, Hans Reiche, Michael Dicketts, Max Rosenthal and many, many more — and to the other officers of BNAPS, with an extra squeeze on the handshakes to Russ McNeil and Leo LaFrance, Mike Squirell, in Lively, Ontario, and Bob Boudignon, to Dave Verity and to Vinnie Greene and Bob Woolley and the others on the editorial board, and to the board of directors, and to the many others I've missed — including those who promised they would write stories but haven't got around to it.

A Happy New Year to everyone!

MAIL FROM OUR MEMBERS

Those flag cancels — again!

Recent issues of your journal have carried notes on these postmarks by John F. Wilsdon (p. 148) and M. B. Dicketts (p. 213). Both notes contain inaccuracies. Since it is desirable to publish the facts of the case and because I was chairman of the BYPEX — '67 Committee and also the person who arranged for the use of the "BYPEX — '67" cancel, I am sending you the following facts:

"BYPEX — '67" was the name of the 1967 Convention of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and was held in Ottawa from September 28-30, and was sponsored by two Ottawa stamp clubs, the Ottawa Philatelic Society and the RA Stamp Club. All arrangements were made by the local Convention Committee consisting of representatives of these clubs. The decision to use a flag cancel was made by the Committee.

We of the Committee considered that it was time for another flag cancel, and we felt that collectors would welcome a new one. The Post Office Department was therefore asked to provide and use an appropriate slug in the Ottawa cancelling machines through the month of September and a drawing of the required design was submitted to the POD. This showed a flagpole with attached flag, the free end of which was open, with the words BYPEX 67, the date Sept. 28-30 plus, as a gesture to Canada's Centennial Year, the Expo 67 symbol.

Unfortunately the POD took a very long time to decide whether we would get our wish and the slug carrying the cancel was received by the Ottawa Post Office late in August. It was put into use on September 1 when, to our disgust, we found that the flagpole had been omitted in the make-up of the slug.

We therefore asked to have a second slug made, but much time was wasted in argument with the POD as to whether in fact it was possible to include a flagpole; and it was only after the writer confronted department officials with examples of the Fredricton (1948) and Smith's Falls (1950) flag cancels, both of which contained flagpoles, that the corrected slug, with flagpole, was approved and duly "proofed" on September 26. (Figure 3).

From September 1 to 26, during which time the incorrect (no flagpole) slug was used, two different postmarks comprising the slug-plus-dater were used. These both made use of the incorrect slug but used two different daters — one with the words OTTAWA — ONTARIO — CANADA and the other reading OTTAWA — ONTARIO, with the dates set as usual in both. (Figures 1 and 2).

The putting into use of the correctly-made slug on September 26 would, presumably, mean the discontinuing of the postmark containing the earlier slug. Insofar as I know the postmark containing the corrected slug seems to have used one type of dater only; viz. the OTTAWA —

(Continued on page 24)



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TAGGING *continued*

signs," he said, "and there just weren't any. One really knows from experience, after many such tests, whether further tests are warranted. And they weren't. We're quite satisfied the material is safe, though I appreciate Brown's theory."

GE, he said, didn't provide a great deal of its own test data, other than to say the material was non-toxic and no ill-effects had been observed among its workers after many years. "That's a good sign, because GE is a reputable firm which couldn't afford not to be careful," he said.

Flatters said, "The adverse effect of migration of these materials is related to postage stamp collectors and to a reduction in shelf life of tagged stamps, not to personal safety or health. The production of stamps with the migrating OP-4 phosphor was suspended for these reasons. . . . You will understand the nature of these developments and will appreciate that our activities are carried out with the fullest sense of responsibility and concern for our customers and the public at large."

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10/46. Can anyone report use of the hammer during the intervening 46 years?

CHELTENHAM — known on Admiral card, MY 9/21; I have record of dates through AP 5/04, followed by the above; then JA 23/24 to MR 10/26.

GORE BAY — known on Admirals SP 12/13; MR 31/19; and MR 2/26. Can anyone report other examples on Admiral, especially '14 to '18?

HAMILTON—known on Admirals MR 11/13 to NO 18/15 (31 examples).

LONDON, TYPE II—known on Admirals JY ?/15 to NO 1/20 (8 examples); followed by dates of MY 25/47 through IX 17/54 (many copies).

MOUNT BRYDGES—known on Admirals, AP 6/12 through JA 19/14 (6 copies); latest date for this town is MR 26/25—can anyone report dates between '14 and '25?

PORT ARTHUR — known on Admirals JY ?/16; OC 9/17; NO 4/18 and four others with unreadable year dates.

ROCKTON—not known on Admiral, nor during Admiral period, but present late date is JU 7/11; may yet be found on Admirals.

ROSENEATH—known on Admiral cover, JA 11/13 (also, latest known date).

WATERLOO, ONT.—known on Admirals AP 4/12 to AP 20/12 (4 examples; also, MY 17/14; AU 18/17; JY 7/22; JY 12/22; also, known nude on 1c Admiral and on 1c War Tax.

WOOLER—known on Admiral; I have record of dates FE 20/12 to JU 13/12 (total of 4 strikes), but only the last is definitely recorded as being on Admiral; one or more of the others might be Edw. VII.

HARTNEY—not recorded on Admiral, but Handbook latest date is —/12; this town is thus a possibility on Admiral.

SELKIRK—Handbook late date is DE 10/19 which is likely on Admiral issue although not documented.

PRINCE ALBERT—known on Admirals, MR ?/16 to OC 1/17 (eleven strikes); no dates recorded between DE 28/98 and MR ?/16; nor between OC 1/17 and the last period of use, MR 19/55 to DE 15/55.

NANAIMO, Second State—known on Admirals FE 5/14; FE 1/22; JY 1/28 (on a 3c brown Admiral in my collection), plus an additional copy with unreadable year date. The next recorded period of use is NO 4/48 to AP 8/52.

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"GROW WITH THE ROYAL"

LETTERS *continued*

ONTARIO type; (figure 4) which shows the new slug used on the day of proofing (September 26). The corrected slug, showing the flagpole was thus in use for five days (September 26-30) and not four, as stated by Mr. Dicketts. I have examples of this postmark used on the five days of use.

Regarding Mr. Wilsdon's comment that our Committee did not appreciate the potentialities of a flag cancel; on the contrary, we were keenly aware of this. But there were other factors which had the effect of dulling the full impact of our flag. These were, first, the issuing of the Toronto Centennial Stamp (Scott 475) during the show, with consequent use of the regular official first day cancel and also the use of the general EXPO '67 cancel which was being widely collected as well. Many orders for covers (see below) requested two or three of these types of cancels.

It is also incorrect to say that we did not provide cover servicing. We had designed a very attractive cover showing an "overall" reproduction of one of Bartlett's engravings (1840) of the Locks of the Rideau Canal at Bytown (Ottawa) and it was much admired. We serviced and sold hundreds of these showing the corrected flag.

We were not able to publicize our flag cancel before the show since the delays with the POD, mentioned above, used up our time and in any case it would have been unwise to publicize something that you were not sure of getting!

At all events, we ended up with less than 100 unaddressed cancelled covers and these were sold locally.

I find the collecting of flag cancels and postmarks a fascinating sideline and believe that if collectors would use their influence to get flag designs used in slogan slugs advertising various events in their communities, we may get back to something approaching the "good old days" when a flag was the preferred medium on which to sell something through slogan advertising.

— *Colin H. Bayley*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

should be addressed:

E. H. HAUSMANN
c/o V. G. Greene, 77 Victoria St.
Toronto M5C 2B2
Canada

be a shift or could be a break is when the city name only appears correctly in the middle of the stamp but no sign of the province name. One margin piece one can find the precancel partially printed in the margin instead of on the stamp.

A look at the back of precancels can reveal a few nice offsets. They almost look like printed on the back in reverse. Are there any printed-on-the-back precancels?

The coils can be collected with the starter strip which often show an inscription such as "1c Precancelled". The recent 6c black precancelled by bars has an interesting story. A few sheets must have been shipped once to *Fortune* magazine which were imperforated horizontally. When mailing out some advertisement from *Fortune* which was prepared in New York and mailed in Canada, non-philatelic clerks cut the imperforated sheets apart and then stuck these stamps on the envelopes. These stamps show the top and bottom with a straight edge. How many such covers survived we do not know, but a few turned up in Ottawa.

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