

CANADA POST

BNAPS President Jim Lehr and Postmaster General André Ouellet unveil the Fred Jarrett plaque at the National Postal Museum

BNA TOPICS

Official Journal of The British North America Philatelic Society

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BNA TOPICS



OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Whole No. 386 NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1981 Vol. 38, No. 6

BNAPS

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See listing under
"The Business Side"

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Manuscripts should be double spaced - typewritten if possible, but legible handwriting is quite acceptable. Literature for review should be addressed to the Editor.

Opinions expressed are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent those of the Society or BNA TOPICS.

THE EDITOR'S PAGE

by MIKE STREET

OTTAWA

Jim Kraemer and his Ottawa crew deserve all the accolades that are coming their way after BNAPEX '81. Having been General Chairman of a National Exhibition and Convention myself, I have a pretty good idea of the tremendous amount of work required to make sure that the 1001 details all come together in the right way, at the right time and at the right place.

The quality of the event was embodied in the beautiful multicolour design on the program cover and the souvenir envelope. (The design is illustrated elsewhere in this issue. If you don't have one of each yet, they are well worth the price.)

Getting the opportunity to meet and talk to the members of the Board of Governors and the Executive, most of whom I'd never met, as well as to many of the members at large, was an advance guarantee that BNAPEX '81 would be a most enjoyable experience for me. I wasn't disappointed.

Somewhat to my embarrassment, I found that most members — especially those in Western Canada and the USA — had not received their July-August TOPICS, even though the issue had been mailed one month before. This didn't stop members from offering many good wishes and even some articles. Not only were articles offered, a few were actually delivered! TOPICS' backlog is a long way from where I'd like to see it, but it is definitely better than it was before the convention.

One member I spoke to commented that it was difficult to get to talk to the Board Members, Executives and Appointed Officers of the Society — they were all too busy talking to each other. He had a point. Despite an all day board meeting the day before the convention opened, much business remained. Socializing takes time too, and the three days go very quickly.

Perhaps Board Members, Executives and other Officers could be assigned to different tables at the receptions and dinners. Another suggestion would be to have a cash-bar type social after dinner on the night before, and the first one or two evenings of, the convention.

This would give people lots of opportunity to mix and meet. For their part, members should not be too timid — if you want to talk to one or more of the Officers don't expect someone to read your mind, go up and introduce yourself. One good place to put faces together with names is the annual general meeting.

While in Ottawa I talked extensively with the people who are looking after next year's convention, and I know that they intend to equal or better the standard set this year, with southern hospitality, yet. Virginia Beach, here I come!

GREMLINS

Every publication suffers, from time to time, from little beasties called gremlins. TOPICS is no exception. In the last issue the little B's ate up much of the ink on some people's copies. They also got into the camera used to take the photos for the Centennial article, and efforts to enhance these pictures didn't work. Bear with us, please.

DELIVERIES

Please continue to let us know the exact date you receive your TOPICS, particularly you folks out west. An interesting pattern is developing, and we need a little more information. We hope to let you (and Canada Post and the USPS) see the results in the next issue.

WELCOME

In the last issue Jim Lehr talked about Study Groups and Regional Groups. I'm very pleased to report that we have three new study groups — Centennial Definitives (not exactly new, but now official), Re-Entries, and Postal Stationery.

Starting with this issue, addresses of the contact person for all Study Groups, as well as all Regional Groups, will appear in the 'Business Side' section, following the list of Executives and Members of the Board.

Another Study Group is Proposed in this month's LETTERS, and I hear talk of a Regional Group starting up in Toronto. I hope that both plans work out, and soon.

Season's greetings everyone!

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Jim Lehr



The 1981 convention in Ottawa is now history, and all of you who weren't there missed one of the best. It was also our largest ever, with over 240 registrants. Jim Kraemer and his crew did a wonderful job and have put real pressure on the 1982 convention committee to hold up the same high level. Why don't you plan now to be sure to make the 1982 convention in Virginia Beach.

Next year I would like to concentrate on visiting as many regional and local BNAPS groups as possible. This seems like the best way to learn first hand the interests, concerns, etc. of a wide range of members. I would plan to fly (probably) out and back. It would then be up to the host group to pick me up, cover meals and bed for one or two days and deposit me back at the airport. At least one evening would cover a meeting with as large a group of members as possible. I would be prepared to talk on some area of stamps and/or have a general discussion with the group. If you would like me to cover any specific area of concern, let me know and I'll be especially prepared to cover that area in detail. So, at this point, it's up to you. I'm interested and willing.

We are still having growing pains with some of our operating services, so please bear with us while we complete our reorganizing. This is particularly true for the Book Department and Sales Division. Both of these departments have been moved, with the Book Department particularly suffering from the recent mail strike.

The Secretary's job has grown, over the years, to be an unacceptable work load for one person. For that reason we have been working at separating as many "one time" jobs as possible which could be turned over to someone else. To handle this part of the job I have appointed John Graper of Wilmington, Del. as Assistant Secretary. John has already handled his biggest single responsibility by preparing and mailing the recent annual dues notices. He will, of course, work closely with the Secretary to help in many other ways. We are now working with the retiring Circulation Manager, Bob Boudignon, to redefine this job and shift additional work from the Secretary.

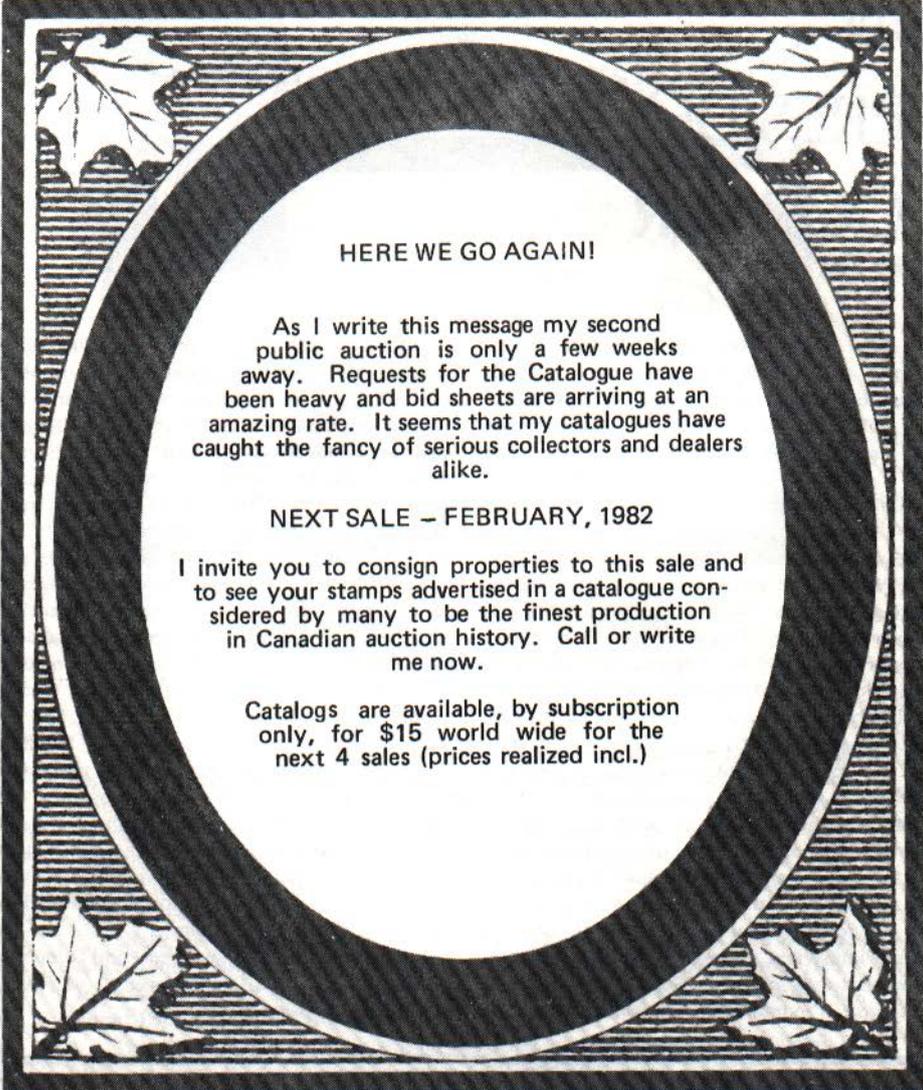
On behalf of all the officers and Directors of BNAPS, I would like to wish all of you a most happy holiday season.

LETTERS

I have just returned from the 1981 Convention of BNAPS in Ottawa, and I must say how much I was impressed by the quality of the meeting and, particularly, by the study groups. The local committee, headed by Jim Kraemer, did a tremendous job!

My main interest is in the Canadian Map stamp, and I was happy to see that it formed part of the discussion at both the R.P.O. and

Squared Circle study group meetings. During BNAPEX I met, and was able to talk to, several other philatelists who share my enthusiasm in the Map stamp. We all agreed that perhaps there were enough of us to form a separate study group. Topics for discussion would include all facets of the stamp such as essays, printing methods, plates, cancellations, re-entries, plating, rate usage, etc. There may be enough information to warrant the production of a newsletter periodically. Certainly those of us who happen to be at the annual convention



HERE WE GO AGAIN!

As I write this message my second public auction is only a few weeks away. Requests for the Catalogue have been heavy and bid sheets are arriving at an amazing rate. It seems that my catalogues have caught the fancy of serious collectors and dealers alike.

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LETTERS (Continued)

each year could meet and discuss the various items.

I would be happy to act as an initial contact. Any interested member is asked to write to me at the address below and tell me of his or her fields of collecting. During the interim period, till next year when we will be meeting in Virginia Beach, I will be in contact with each person who responds. The constitution says we need only 5 signatures—so write now. Larry Paige, the study group coordinator, has indicated an interest in this new field, and has promised his support.

W. L. Bradley
122 Sherwood Ave.
Kitchener, Ontario
N2B 1K1



POSTAL MUSEUM IN NEED OF
PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS

The National Postal Museum Library is striving to complete its philatelic collections and is seeking donations of various philatelic literature and publications.

While emphasis is placed on the acquisition of material on Canada, the Library also collects material relating to the subject of philately and postal history from all areas of the world. Publications being sought include: handbooks, pamphlets, specialized catalogues, auction catalogues, exhibition catalogues, periodicals, Post Office publications, etc.

As an example the Library is lacking the following periodicals:

American Journal of Philately, 1868-1906

American Philatelist, 1887-1938
BNA TOPICS, 1944-1952
Balasse Magazine, 1936-1975
Chronicle, 1948-1963
Collectors Club Philatelist, 1922-1944,
1951-1954
Congress Book, 1935-1979
Documents philatéliques, 1959-1979
Journal of the Philatelic Literature
Society, 1908-1918
London Philatelist, 1892-1955
Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, 1891-
1968
Philatelic Literature Review, 1942-1949
1955-1963
Philatelic Record, 1879-1914
Philatelist (R. Lowe), 1866-1876, 1934-
1944, 1957-1967
Postal History Society Bulletin, 1936-
1947, 1953-1974
Stamp Lover, 1908-1966
Timbre-poste, (J. B. Moens), 1868-1900

Any specialized handbooks and periodicals are always needed. Old or new Canadian philatelic exhibition catalogues and Stamp Club newsletters are of particular interest.

Should philatelists wish to dispose of any of their literature, they should notify the Librarian and provide a general outline of the proposed donation. Where the material is of commercial value, it will be evaluated and a tax receipt provided by the Museum.

Thank you for printing this letter. If anyone would like to assist the Museum, please write to:

M. Cimon Morin
Librarian
National Postal Museum
180 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ont., Canada
K1A 1C6

CONGRATULATIONS!

Well, the Ottawa show is now history but I must write and laud Jim Kraemer and his crew. What a show! What exhibits! And two great dinners, especially the banquet with 2 excellent wines (which is a twist).

Apparently this was our largest show. It was second to none in quality. You who were not there—you really missed a gem. So why don't we try to top Jim Kraemer and his crew next October with an even greater attendance at Virginia Beach?

Dr. Robert V. C. Carr
Youngstown, Ohio

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Selling Your Stamps

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NOTES

RE-ENTRY STUDY GROUP FORMED

An item in the July-August issue and lots of legwork has resulted in the formation of the Canadian Re-Entry Study Group of BNAPS. The first issue of their newsletter is already out. More members are wanted. For further information write to: Ralph Trimble, P.O. Box 532, Station A, Scarborough, Ont. M1K 5C3.

APS Publishes Information Brochures On Selling, Appraising and Estate Advice and on Burglary Resistant Safes

Thinking of selling part of your collection? In need of advice on estate appraisals? The American Philatelic Society has published a new information brochure which outlines information available to heirs of APS members through the Society's Estate Advisory Service. The brochure describes the four basic methods of selling: outright purchase, private treaty, public auction, and through the sales divisions of numerous philatelic societies. It also describes how to arrange for an appraisal and what information may be expected from a formal appraisal.

According to data compiled by Horace W. Harrison, Insurance Plan Manager for the APS, over 80% of all stamp losses are the result of home burglary. The majority of burglaries take place when homes are unoccupied during vacations or regularly scheduled absences. A second brochure provides a guide to appropriate burglary resistant safes approved under the APS stamp insurance plan. The guide, reprinted from "The American Philatelist," describes the difference between burglary resistant and fire resistant safes and warns against the use of the fire resistant type.

A copy of either brochure may be obtained by sending a large stamped, addressed envelope to: The American Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 800, State College, Pa. 16801. Information about membership in the Society and numerous services offered to members may also be obtained from the same address.

POSTAL STATIONERY STUDY GROUP

A new BNAPS study group, the Postal Stationery Study Group, was formed on September 26, 1981 during the annual meeting. The purpose of this group is to encourage the study of, and to exchange information about, the postal stationery of Canada and Newfoundland. All members of BNAPS who are interested in this fascinating area of philately are invited to join. We expect to distribute six newsletters each year. Annual dues are \$5 (Canadian funds or US equivalent). For more information write to: Robert Lemire, Box 549, Pinawa, Manitoba ROE 1L0.

GUTHRIE AEROGRAMMES TO BE LIQUIDATED

The heirs of Walter R. Guthrie have engaged Classic Philatelics, P.O. Box 5637, Huntington Beach, California, 92646 to liquidate the aerogramme stock formed since the late 1940's. Mr. Guthrie was an expert and prominent dealer in aerogrammes and aerophilately of the world. He was an associate editor of Kessler's "Catalog of Aerogrammes" and a major contributor to other air mail catalogs. The stock is comprehensive and contains almost 50,000 items including a number of early items — in some instances in quantity.

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To do occasional work on assignment, or on your own initiative, in all areas of Canada and the USA. Experience helpful, but not essential. If you would like to volunteer your services, write to:

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BNAPEX '81



SIGN IN PLEASE -- Jim Kraemer, Margaret Mackenzie and Dick Malott register John F. Ayre.



**BNAPS CONVENTION OTTAWA
24-26 SEPTEMBER, 1981**

Visitors to BNAPEX '81 were greeted by a beautiful multicolour cachet prepared especially for the exhibition. The design was featured on both the souvenir program and cover. Programs and covers are still available at \$2.00 each from Ian Kimmerley, Suite 200D, 350 Sparks Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1R 7S8. Cacheted covers (without the BNAPEX Flag Cancel) are also available from Ian at 3 for \$1.00.

REMARKS BY JIM LEHR, PRESIDENT OF BNAPS
AT THE DEDICATION OF THE FRED JARRETT PLAQUE
OTTAWA, SEPTEMBER 24th, 1981

Mr. Chairman, Postmaster General, Mr. President-Elect, Mrs. Jarrett, fellow BNAPSERS and guests. It is both a pleasure and an honor to be here today. A pleasure because I always enjoy visiting the National Postal Museum, certainly one of the top such museums in the world. An honor because we are here in memory of one of the great Canadian philatelists. Fred Jarrett's publications during the 1923-1929 period represented the most comprehensive work on Canadian philately at that time. His emphasis on cancellations, almost totally ignored previously, is one aspect which gives his 1929 book an enduring value. After fifty plus years his book is still consulted by students of Canadian philately.

Like most active creative people, Fred was interested in many things besides philately. A one time champion speed typist of Canada, he was also private secretary to Sir Edward Kemp, Minister of Canadian Overseas Military Forces in London during the First World War. When the British North American Philatelic Society was founded 38 years ago by Jack Levine, Fred was a strong supporter of this new group and served on the Board of Directors for a number of years.

Mr. Postmaster General, I would like to present to you, for permanent installation in the National Postal Museum, this plaque, which reads as follows:

FRED JARRETT O.C., R.D.P.

1889 - 1979

THIS PLAQUE HAS BEEN PLACED TO
HONOUR FRED JARRETT, DOYEN OF
CANADIAN PHILATELY, PHILATELIC
AUTHOR, SIGNATORY OF THE ROLL
OF DISTINGUISHED PHILATELISTS,
MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF CANADA.

ERECTED BY THE
BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
SEPTEMBER 1981

POSTMASTER GENERAL'S SPEECH

Pleases BNAPS Members

It is not often that an elected official speaks in public about philately or philatelists.

When an official of Cabinet rank speaks kindly about two prominent philatelists and the hobby in general, and then makes a policy pronouncement concerning Canada's National Postal Museum, the speech is significant.

On September 24, in Ottawa, the Honourable Andre Ouellet, Postmaster General and Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, unveiled the BNAPS plaque honoring the late Fred Jarrett at the National Postal Museum. The full text of Mr. Ouellet's remarks follows:



CANADA POST

Mr. President, Mrs. Jarrett, Members of the British North American Philatelic Society, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am deeply honoured that the British North American Philatelic Society has selected the National Postal Museum of Canada as the place where the plaque in honour of the late Fred Jarrett will be placed on exhibit.

I am also delighted that you, Mrs. Jarrett, are able to be here on this important occasion to share in the recognition of the reputation and achievements of your husband. We are pleased to have you with us.

The hobby of philately attracts people from all walks of life: From the eight year old, fascinated by foreign stamps to the serious specialist such as Fred Jarrett, it is fitting that the first philatelist to be honoured here should be Fred Jarrett. His pioneer books and research are still in use today more than fifty years after their publication.

I would like to add a word of recognition for another specialist, the late George Marler, a gentleman of great ability who distinguished himself in many fields including one in which I have some interest: politics. In fact many politicians have been serious collectors, such as Franklin Roosevelt, King George V and my good friend Henry Hicks who I understand will be your guest speaker Saturday night.

I am delighted that this convention of the British North American Philatelic Society is taking place in our national capital and I am proud to receive you from as far away as Japan, England, and of course all over North America. Welcome to our National Postal Museum.

As you know, a new Postal Crown Corporation will very shortly be proclaimed. When that changeover becomes effective, several links between the politicians and the post office will be cut, but there are two important functions in the post office that will continue under the Minister's responsibility — the stamp program and the Postal Museum.

Every year the stamp advisory committee sifts through many hundreds of suggestions, carefully considers design, and prepares a program of new issues which does credit to Canada's history, heritage, achievements, and anniversaries. The diversity of new stamp issues is a reflection of the dynamism of our country.

The existing stamp advisory committee will continue virtually without change and will report directly to the Minister responsible for the new Crown Corporation. The success and respect which the stamp advisory committee has earned with philatelists and the general public has assured its continued function.

Similarly our National Postal Museum is developing a solid and positive reputation. Although we do not have the long history of the Swiss postal museum nor the 7 storey building, 65 employees and budget of the French postal museum, I believe that Canada's Postal Museum ranks

with the best in the world in many respects. It has grown considerably since it was first opened just seven short years ago.

For this I am particularly grateful to the museum advisory committee. These people do a marvelous job and I want to thank them publicly for their invaluable advice.

A National Postal Museum should be an exciting place; a place where people go to learn something of their history, geography, culture, heritage, and way of life. I want our Museum to reach out to the general public; to be a place where everyone feels comfortable and at ease; a place where assistance is offered; a place to return to because of its atmosphere and because of what it offers.

The dioramas, models, photographs, and artifacts tell a fascinating story. But I think we can do even better to really communicate the excitement that philatelists feel when they come to the museum. The attractive sales counter at the museum provides a service to visitors but the sales of postage stamps should not infringe on the main purpose of the museum.

The National Postal Museum has an important role to play in helping to promote philately. I am thinking of such activities as encouraging world junior exhibitions, representing Canada at international exhibitions, speaking at stamp clubs, assisting the publication and effective distribution of philatelic works, co-operating with the marketing branch of the Crown Corporation, judging exhibits, and publishing research articles.

The research staff and the library are an important and integral part of the museum, part of its 'raison d'être'. Outside researchers from all disciplines must be given assistance and reasonable access to the records and documents of the museum. However, important as research is, we must not neglect the eight year old standing in awe in front of the exhibits. The museum should provide and encourage a wider interest in philately.

To do all this and to offer it in a fun and stimulating package, the National Postal Museum needs a chief curator who has three essential qualifications: someone who thoroughly understands philately, someone who understands museums and their role and someone who is a good publicist for the Museum.

The staff of the Postal Museum are doing a fine job under somewhat unusual circumstances. But I want to say that a decision on staffing will be made in the coming weeks. Decisions on the structure and reporting relationship of the National Postal Museum will also be made soon. It is my belief that although the Postal Museum should not lose its important links with the operational aspects of delivering the mail, the overall interests of the Museum would be best served by having it report to the Minister responsible for the Crown Corporation via the Chairman of the Board of the new Corporation.

It has been a pleasure to welcome you to this convention and to have you visit the National Postal Museum. I look forward to your continued interest in and support for our stamp program and the Museum in the days and years ahead.

I know you will enjoy your convention and your stay in Ottawa. Do come back again, soon. Thank you.

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BNAPLEX PHOTOS



Ethel Mae Wellburn cuts the opening ribbon as husband Gerry and BNAPLEX Chairman Jim Kraemer look on



CANADA POST

Michael Warren President-designate of the Canada Post Corporation, presents BNAPS President Jim Lehr with a souvenir cover of the new Postal Museum Flag cancellation



Vinnie Greene congratulates Maggie Toms on winning the Vincent G. Greene award for the best article or series of articles in BNA TOPICS



Ed Richardson presents Lee Brandom, the newest member of the Order of the Beaver, with his medal

BNAPEX '81 EXHIBIT AWARDS

BRONZE

'Helray'
Jon Johnson
Trelle Morrow
Thomas Murray
Ronald Ribler
'S. Pound'
Gary Tomasson
Jeffrey Switt

SILVER BRONZE

Colin Banfield (2)
Lola Caron
Lee Brandom
Earle Covert
George LeMesurier
Guy des Rivières
William Robinson
Joseph Shelton
Edward Zaluski

SILVER

John Ayre
Robert Jamieson
Richard Malott
Wilmer Rockett
John Siverts
Howard Twichell

VERMEIL

Dr. Norman Boyd
Dr. Robert Carr
Joseph Di Ciommo
William Lea, Jr.
'Longland'
Kenneth Rowe
Ray Simrak



BNAPS CONVENTION OTTAWA
24-26 SEPTEMBER, 1981

GOLD

Lewis Ludlow
Julian Smith
Allan Steinhart

GRAND AWARD

Julian Smith



Grand Award winner Julian Smith (left) with fellow Gold award winners Alan Steinhart and Lew Ludlow. In the background, Ed Richardson, Jim Lehr and Mrs. Jim Kraemer

A Glimpse of Life With Fred Jarrett

OR How I Became a Packrat

by Elsie N. Jarrett

It all started when I married Fred Jarrett, Philatelist. Just what a philatelist was I did not really understand except that this man seemed almost obsessed with something he referred to as his stamp collection. I soon learned that a philatelist, unlike those who tear stamps off every letter they receive and tuck them away in shoeboxes, is an enthusiast of these small art works. Armed with various instruments such as tweezers, magnifying glasses small and large, wierd measuring sticks, little black dishes for soaking bits of paper, a philatelist examines each line and dot for some irregularity, such as the 'rock in the waterfall', or whatever. This activity includes every known publication on the subject arriving regularly at the house, memberships in national and international clubs composed of similarly minded enthusiasts; and attending large conventions in different parts of the world, where these people show their own beloved stamps and view enviously, or indifferently, the collections of others, and trade, buy and sell. How they trade, buy and sell. As someone has said, "Every stamp collector is a dealer at heart". This fascinating hobby appears to have attracted the great and the not so great, the rich and the not so rich, doctors, lawyers, merchants and even chiefs. It was firmly impressed upon my ignorant, small-town person that philately was indeed the King of Hobbies and the Hobby of Kings.

To my amazement and delight, I discovered that this gentle, unassuming man I had married was not only a collector of postage stamps, but of medals — his own and those of others, Indian relics, old spectacles, old books, old mill wheels, pioneer log cabins and even the private museum one of these cabins contained.

Obviously one must become very clever about stashing away the innumerable possessions so it won't be too obvious to friends and relatives that though you may be unusual, you are not as absolutely crazy as they really suspect. Glass, silver, old shoemaker's tools and samples, primitive farm tools, moustache cups, cracked china of all periods — all very precious of course — must be taken care of. Soon I found that I possessed an unusual talent — I was able to pack away more stuff in a given space — without breakage or one wasted inch — than any other human being I have ever met. In our family this was known as 'packratting'. None of us had ever seen a packrat. We just assumed they were tiny creatures who spent their lives dragging anything they could get their little paws on to some secret hiding place, after which the items would probably never be seen again.

I hesitate to mention attendance at practically every auction sale in the countryside. How about getting three school-houses in one day, or a magnificent old wooden threshing machine all decorated with huge scrolls of pink and green? Just the thing to set up beside one of our school-houses — provided of course we could find someone to move it. We could not, and were forced to let it go to the next highest bidder. Of course there were other set-backs, for instance, finding that our \$125 walnut wash-stand had formerly been the residence of a colony of termites

I never collected anything before I met Fred. I soon caught on, believe me, but it got very expensive when I started in on houses — the log cabins were Fred's doing, but the schoolhouses were mine and so was the threshing machine. (I'll never forget how gorgeous it was, and my disappointment that there seemed no way to get it moved.)

Name it and we probably had it. Have you, for instance, a buggy-whip holder from an old country store, an iron bank that eats pennies as small children watch in awe; a doll with a wax head, but no legs; a doll with china legs, but no head; old lanterns; huge iron potash-pots; eleven iron horses; an iron drinking trough for real horses; a small skull of Shakespeare when a boy; or a larger one of Shakespeare when a man?

Fred Jarrett collected all these things, but his most prized collection was his collection of friends.



Elsie and Fred Jarrett in 1977

EXHIBITION and BOURSE CALENDAR

This feature of TOPICS will list Canadian, American and FIP sponsored (International) exhibitions and bourses which will have a significant BNA content. Information/prospectus should be sent to the Editor as soon as available and at least 3 months before the event.

1982

- FEBRUARY 6** -- First exhibition and bourse of the Burlington Stamp Club. Appleby Mall, Burlington, Ont. Information: Frank Haller, P.O. Box 366, Burlington, Ont. L7R 3Y3
- FEBRUARY 27-28** -- **APEX '82**, exhibition and bourse of the Ajax Philatelic Society. St. Andrews School, Exeter Rd., Ajax, Ont. Admission free. Information: Michael Hovey, P.O. Box 266, Ajax, Ont. L1S 3C2
- MARCH 13** -- **OAKPEX '82**, annual exhibition and bourse of the Oakville Stamp Club. Trafalgar Hall, Trafalgar Rd. at Hwy. 5. Information: OAKPEX '82, P.O. Box 524, Oakville, Ont. L6J 5B4.
- MARCH 27** -- **OXPEX '82**, annual exhibition and bourse of the Oxford Philatelic Society, College Ave. Secondary School, Woodstock, Ont. Information: Art Williams, Embro P.O., Embro, Ont. N0J 1J0.
- MARCH 27-28** -- Annual exhibition and bourse of the North Toronto Stamp Club. North Toronto Memorial Gardens, 180 Eglinton Ave. W., Toronto. Information: Jim Rayner, Beeton, Ont. L0G 1A0.
- APRIL 2-4** -- **STAMPFEST '82 (SPRING SESSION)**, dealers bourse. Sheraton Centre, Toronto. Information: STAMPFEST, CANADA, 127 Cartwright Ave., Toronto, Ont. M6A 1V4.
- APRIL 2-4** -- **SPRING SHOW '82**, annual exhibition, auction and bourse of the Edmonton Stamp Club. Executive Inn, Edmonton, Alberta. Information: Keith Spencer, P.O. Box 399, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 2J6.
- APRIL 24** -- **PEMEX '82**, annual exhibition and bourse of the Pembroke Stamp Club. Canadian Legion Hall, Pembroke, Ont. Information: PEMEX '82, 522 Centre St., Pembroke, Ont. K8A 1K3.
- The logo for the Canada 82 International Philatelic Youth Exhibition. It features a stylized map of Canada with a maple leaf on the left and a heart on the right. The text "Canada 82" is at the top, "INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC YOUTH EXHIBITION" is on the right, and "L'EXPOSITION PHILATÉLIQUE MONDIALE DE LA JEUNESSE" is at the bottom. The date "1982 05 20-24 TORONTO" is at the very bottom.
- MAY 20-24** -- **CANADA '82**, International Philatelic Youth Exhibition, Queen Elizabeth Bldg., Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, Ont. Co-sponsored by the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and Canada Post, under the patronage of the F.I.P. Information: CANADA '82, P.O. Box 204, Postal Station Q, Toronto, Ont. M4T 2M1.
- JUNE 3-6** -- 54th Annual Convention of the R.P.S.C. at VICTORIA 82, Empress Hotel, Victoria, B.C. Sponsored by the Greater Victoria Philatelic Society and the Vancouver Island Philatelic Society. Information: George Freeman, 3963 Cumberland Rd., Victoria, B. C. V8P 3J7.
- JUNE 11-21** -- **PHILEXFRANCE '82**, F.I.P. sponsored International Philatelic Exhibition, Paris, France. Information: Canadian Commissioner, Mr. Guy des Rivières, C.P. 245, Station B, Quebec, Quebec, G1K 7A9.
- JULY 2-4** -- **STAMPEX '82**, annual National exhibition and bourse. Sheraton Centre, Toronto. Information: STAMPEX '82, 565 Alness St., Downsview, Ont. M3J 2T8.
- SEPTEMBER 1-5** -- **SAN MARINO '82**, International Exhibition of Postal Stationery. Republic of San Marino. Information: Dr. G. A. Vanderburgh, P.O. Box 204, Shelburne, Ont. L0N 1S0.
- OCTOBER 7-9** -- **BNAPEX '82**, BNAPS own annual convention, exhibition and bourse. Cavalier Resort, Virginia Beach, Virginia. Information: Larry Paige, 1145 Shillelagh Road, Chesapeake, VA. 23323.
- DECEMBER 11-19** -- **BELGIA '82**, International exhibition of postal history, postal stationery and aerophilately. Brussels, Belgium. Sponsored by the FIP. Information: Canadian Commissioner, A. H. Hinrichs, 225 Davisville Ave., Apt. 1118, Toronto, Ont. M4S 1G9.

The 1/2 CENT SMALL QUEEN: NEW INFORMATION

by W. G. Burden

Mr. John Hillson in his excellent booklet, *THE SMALL QUEENS OF CANADA*, states (page 13) that the 1/2¢ plate was re-entered at least once. The ease of acquiring many different re-entries on this value led me to believe that re-entering of the plate could not have occurred on only one occasion.

I recently purchased a second upper inscription corner of the left pane of the 1/2¢. This material turned out to be very interesting, and I believe that it can now be reported that the left pane of the 1/2¢ plate of the Small Queen issue was re-entered at least twice. I have not been able to find any indication that this information has been previously published, although I feel other students have suspected it for some time.

I assume that, when first laid down in 1882, the new plate would show very few, if any signs of "re-entry". (In most cases re-entries occur after parts of the plate become worn and need the lines of the designs strengthened.) I shall call the plate, in this condition, State 1. I have no inscription material from this earliest state. I can only assume, correctly, I hope, that this state existed.

The first re-entering leaves the plate in what I call State 2. My material showing this state is an upper inscription from the left pane. It is a light grey shade, which indicates that a fair amount of plate wear had taken place. Minor re-entries are noticeable on stamps 1, 4, 6 and 12. Near the edge of the circle at left centre of stamps 1-7 and 13-17, guide dots are visible.

My material showing what I call State 3 is the recently acquired block. It is a much darker shade of grey-black, which indicates that it was printed shortly after re-entering of the plate. Re-entries are apparent at positions 1, 4 and 12. (The re-entry at position 6 of State 2 is very minor, and is not noticeable in State 3). Positions 1 and 12 of State 3 show re-entries identical to those of State 2, but much worn. The re-entries of position 4 are quite different.

Position 4, State 2 shows re-entering only in the horizontal and vertical lines of the extreme upper right. This position also shows 3 guide dots at the center left near the circle.

Position 4, State 3 shows the re-entering mentioned for State 2 at the upper right, again with considerable wear indicated. It also shows a good re-entry at the upper left, and some thickening of the lines at the lower left. Further proof of the third state is the fact that the guide dots at the center left are now barely noticeable, even though the impression is much darker.

I hope that this information is useful to students of the 1/2¢ and that it helps to explain the large number of re-entries to be found on the 1/2¢.



Inscription block showing State 2



Position 4, State 2, with re entry at upper right and guide dots at center left.



Position 4, State 3, with worn re-entry at upper right, fresh re-entry at upper left and thickening at lower left.

CANADIAN MILITARY MAIL STUDY GROUP

Postal Branch, Canadian Section, G.H.Q. 3rd Echelon

by Bill Robinson and Colin Campbell



Canadian Section GHQ, 3rd Echelon, July 1918.

The first administrative unit of the Canadian Army to be established in France was the Canadian Section, G.H.Q., 3rd Echelon, which began functioning in March 1915 as a section of the Deputy Adjutant General's Office at the British base at Rouen. The unit was responsible for the preparation in the field of Part II Orders, embracing all Officers and men serving in France, and for the reception of official war diaries and other historical documents. Included in Part II orders were records of personnel, casualties, appointments, postings, promotions, awards and matters of discipline. The section provided an essential link between units in the field and the Pay and Records Office in London. It is believed that Lt. Col. G. T. Hamilton was D.A.A.G. at this time.

It was also decided to attach a member and staff of the Canadian Postal Contingent to the office of the D.A.A.G. (Canadian Section) at 3rd Echelon. The official address was Postal Branch, Canadian Section, G.H.Q. 3rd Echelon. The staff of the Postal Branch consisted of 1 Lieutenant, 1 Sergeant, 2 Corporals and 23 men, although the strength varied considerably. Their task was to handle all undeliverable mail, and maintain daily records of men admitted to hospital. Undeliverable mail included mail endorsed Killed, Wounded, Missing, Hospital, Location Unknown, etc. They began their duties about May 15, 1915. As an example of the quantity of mail handled, the 1917 record is as follows: 1,783,195 letters, 386,206 parcels and 29,098 Registers.

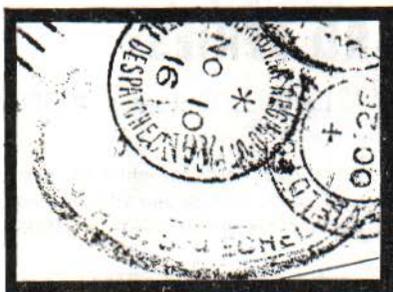


*Actual Strike
applied at
3rd Echelon*

Illustrated is the type of postmark used at the Postal Branch, 3rd Echelon. We request readers to advise dates of any examples from their collections. Indicia noted thus far are +, x and B. It appears that mail passing through 3rd Echelon may or may not bear the cancel shown. Frequently the re-addressing action will appear in red so watch for this. Look also for a Canadian Record Office (London) handstamp which might have been added on dispatch from that office.



*Proof Strike
of type applied
in London*



The oval marking shown was found as a backstrike on a cover. The portion of the inscription which is missing would probably read 'CANADIAN SECTION RECEIVED' but the help of readers is sought to verify this. It is the only example so far reported.

A recent revelation is the 2 line handstamp, illustrated, which reads CANADIAN SECTION G.H.Q. 3rd ECHELON DEC 1916. Like the oval handstamp it served as a receiver's mark.



NOTES:

- 1) *The principal reference for this article is: Historical Memorandum of the Canadian Postal Service with the Armies in France, Belgium and Germany 1914-1919, BNA TOPICS 1964-1965 (Part 7).*
- 2) *This article originally appeared in newsletter #41 of the Canadian Military Mail Study Group.*

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PATRIOTIC POSTCARD SERIES

by W. L. Gutzman (1300)

Help! Help! Help! This time we are illustrating three series of cards for which we need further information. They were all published by Young Bros., Toronto, Canada and all have identical markings on the address side. All are divided backs although usage was mostly in 1906, which was relatively early for this type of back.

A similar type of card, also by Young Bros., and with the same address side was "The Original Owners of Our Country", illustrated in TOPICS in March-April, 1979. If anyone can add to my lists of views with the designs shown, or can add other designs by the same publisher, and with the same address format, please be sure to contact the writer, c/o the Editor, with details and xerox copies if possible.

Known views for the designs illustrated are:

CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

Depot, Red Deer

Government Buildings, Winnipeg, Man.

Scene in Coulee, near Lethbridge

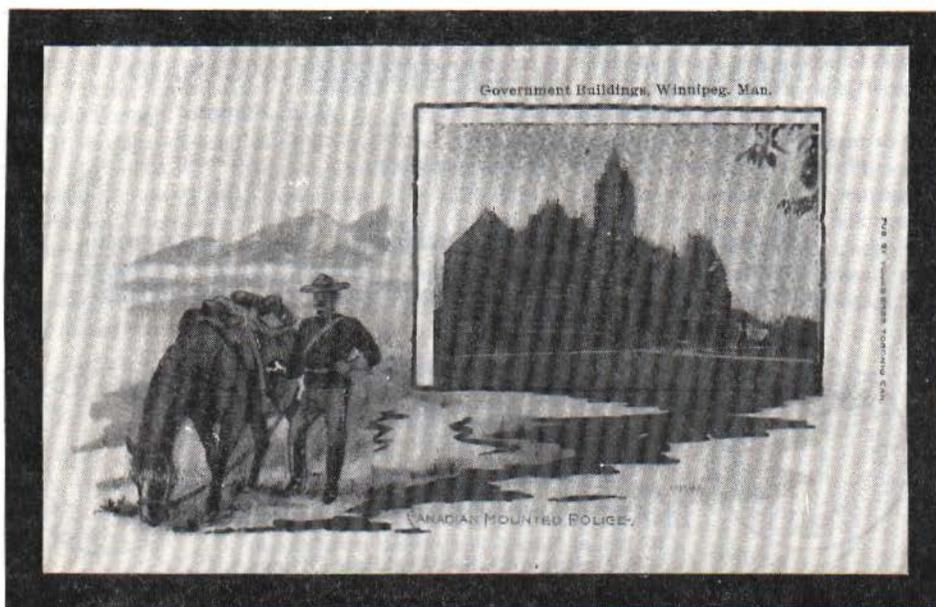
St. John's Church and Bishop's Court, Indian Head, Sask.

CANADA, THE GRANARY OF THE EMPIRE

Broadway, South, Deloraine, Man.

FIRST LORD OF THE PLAINS

Experimental Farm, Indian Head, Sask.

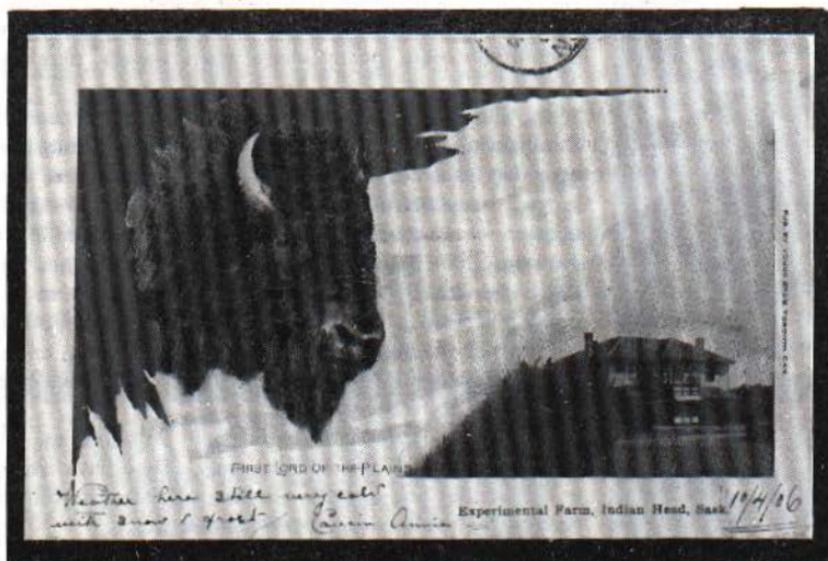


Canadian Mounted Police design

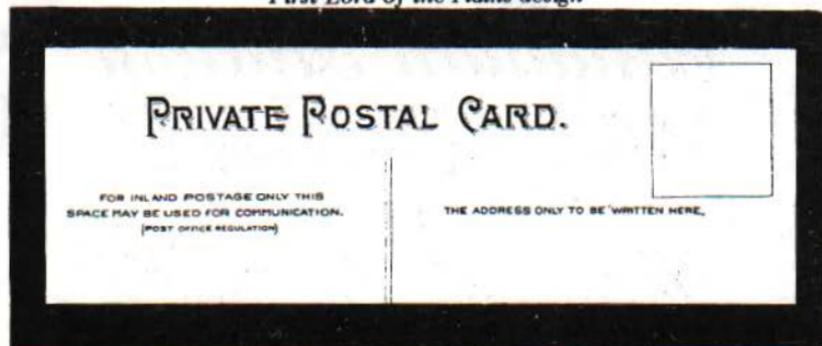
Broadway, South, Deloraine, Man.



Canada, the Granary of the Empire design



First Lord of the Plains design



Common address side

SKETCHes of BNAPSers

by Dr. Robert V. C. Carr

Recently, Grace and I had the pleasure of a visit in our home by the Jim Lehrs. Jim asked me to again take up the column, SKETCHes of BNAPSers, which I gave up some years ago. When the President speaks, you do his bidding!

This column was started by our own Vinnie Greene who did the first one hundred. I am resuming at number 185.

If anyone feels neglected and wants to be SKETCHed, I would be only too happy to do one. Just send me a personal AND a philatelic biography, plus a recent photo, and I'll do my best.

Dr. Robert V. C. Carr

SKETCH No. 185

WILLIAM H P. (BILL) MARESCH



Bill Maresch, a native of Vienna, is the son of the late Dr. Richard A. R. Maresch, an expert on classic stamps and a leading stamp dealer. After finishing his education at Pickering College in Ontario, Bill entered his father's business as a full partner in 1944. He is still the 'Son' of R. Maresch & Son. His collecting interests are tiny covers of the 19th Century, Canadian Valentines and decorated covers, postal scales, stamp boxes, plus seals and post offices.

Bill's involvement with stamps is total. He has been the Canadian Commissioner at over twenty international exhibitions, and has attended close to forty. He is an International judge and has judged many BNAPS shows. Most BNAPSers know Bill from his auction catalogues of the past 25 years, handling more BNA material than any other auction house. He has authored the CANADA SPECIALIZED Catalogue, and adds to it each year, making it into a handbook of B.N.A. philately. He is also a member of the Association of Philatelic Experts, and the Vincent Greene Philatelic Foundation. Bill also belongs to most of the prominent philatelic societies.

Bill's wife Rose-Marie, will usually be found at exhibitions — certainly at all of the BNAPS ones. They have two sons, and it is hoped that one or both of them will soon be the third generation of the house of R. Maresch & Son(s).



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THE FLAG CANCEL STUDY GROUP

Type 4—Montreal and Ottawa

by Larry R. Paige

The Type 4, 5, and 6 flag cancels were designed to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. Each of the three designs embodies the dates 1837-1897, the crown and VR, or a combination of symbols. Type 4 has, over the years, been considered by collectors to be the most beautiful and elaborate design of all Canadian flag cancels.

The Type 4 may have derived from a suggestion to the Post Master General of Canada by J. Brooks Young, President of the New England Paper Co. of Montreal, who also represented the Bickerdike Cancelling Machine Co. In the letter to the Post Master General, he mentioned rumors of a new issue of stamps to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee. Young's suggestion was that it would be a better idea to have dies in the new cancelling machine to honour the Diamond Jubilee year. The dies, being made of steel, could have any design engraved upon them at very little, if any, expense. He also suggested that if all the major cities were equipped with the Bickerdike machines and new dies, Canada would be well represented during the Diamond Jubilee celebration. Since this was soon after the successful experimental use of the Bickerdike machine at Montreal, Young was probably looking for a good size order for the Bickerdike machines. The new stamps were issued, as well as a newly designed flag cancel, the Type 4. Unfortunately for Young, the new cancel was used on the old Imperial machines which were still in service at Montreal and Ottawa.

TYPE 4 MONTREAL

The Type 4 flag cancel was only in service at Montreal and Ottawa. The Jubilee stamps were issued on 19 June 1897 and first day covers are reported for some of the set, but no flag cancels have been reported on the first day of the stamp issue.

Three different dies of the Type 4 flag cancel were used at Montreal. They can be identified by the strokes or straight lines in the first furl at the bottom left of the flag. The illustration shows an enlargement of the furl. These three dies are identified by the number of strokes in the furl, i.e. 5-strokes, 6-strokes, and 7-strokes.



The three different dies of the Montreal Type 4 are determined by the number of strokes in the bottom left furl.

Montreal, besides having three dies of the flag design, had three different dater dials as well. These are identified as X, Y, and Z. The difference between dater dial Y and Z is that the "7" in 1897 of dater dial Y is seriffed, and the "7" in Z is not. The three dater dials are illustrated.

There are different flag die and dater dial combinations. Some of these combinations are reported postally used and some are known only on souvenirs, philatelic covers, and cards that have never been through the mail and are not backstamped. The earliest reported date of use for all three dies is 21 June 1897.



Type 4 Dater Dials



The three different dies used with dater dial "X". Date dial X, 6 strokes is only recorded as Philatelic use.

When the Jubilee stamps were issued on Saturday, 19 June, the Type 1, indicia A-F, flag cancels were still in service. Indicia E and F are reported used until 17 and 18 June. A new date, on a cut square, for indicia A, used on 19 June 1897 21-0 (9 p.m.), leads me to believe that the Type 1 indicia A, E, and F remained in service until 19 June, at which time they were replaced by the three dies of Type 4, to be used the next business day, Monday 21 June 1897. Montreal had six Imperial cancelling machines, so with three machines using Type 1 indicia B, C, and D, the discontinuation of indicia A, E, and F, and use of the three type 4 dies, the six machines are accounted for. June 20 being a Sunday, no proper use of the Type 4 will probably ever be reported, though this is possible. 20 June 1897 dates known are strictly philatelic or souvenirs. They never went through the postal system and are not backstamped. These were probably made by a postal employee for early stamp collectors and friends. 20 June 1897 was a reasonable date to put on souvenir covers as it was the actual anniversary of Queen Victoria's coronation.

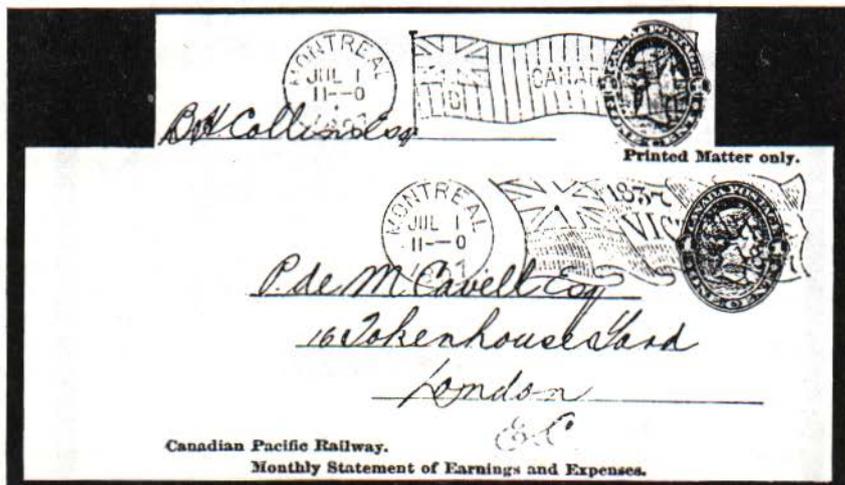
A new variety reported is the combination of date dial X, 5 strokes, reported used properly for a couple of dates in June. I have never seen a cover with this variety, but do have a cut square in my collection. Only two or three covers and two cut squares are recorded. Maybe more will be reported in the future.

I believe the actual use of the Type 4 at Montreal was from 21 June — 10 July 1897. Dates after 10 July are probably souvenir cancels and should be checked to see if they are properly backstamped. I would appreciate photo copies from anyone who may have dates, after 10 July, that are backstamped

Flag #	Date Dial & Die	Earliest Date	Latest Date
4-1	Y - 5 Stroke	June 21	July 31
4-2	X - 6 Stroke	June 20	August 5
4-3	Z - 6 Stroke	June 21	July 13
4-4	X - 7 Stroke	June 21	July 10
4-5	Y - 5 Stroke	June 20	July 5
4-7	X - 5 Stroke	June 25	June 29

Examples of the Montreal combinations I can report from my collection:

X-5 Proper Use	Y-5 Proper Use
X-6 Philatelic Use	Y-6 Philatelic Use
X-7 Proper Use	Y-7 Philatelic Use
X-7 Philatelic Use	Z-6 Proper Use



Canadian Pacific Railway lettersheet with Type 4 dater dial X, 7 strokes used same day and hour as Type 1 indicia D.



Flagless dater dial "Z" used as a receiving mark.

TYPE 4 OTTAWA

Type 4 was in service at Ottawa at the same time as at Montreal. Ottawa used only one Type 4 flag die, with date dial Z. The earliest reported date of use at Ottawa is 21 June 1897, the same as Montreal. This leads me to believe that 21 June was the official first day on which this cancel was put into service. There may be philatelic or souvenir cards or covers from Ottawa, but I have none of these in my collection, nor have I ever seen any.

The use of the Type 4 at Ottawa is reported in the handbook as 21 June–17 August 1897. The later August dates are suspect, because the Type 1 flag cancel was put back into service by 6 August, to be used with the dater dial Z from the Type 4. Is it possible that the Type 1 and Type 4 flag dies both were used during early August until on or about 17 August?

Whatever the reason, there are overlapping dates of use of the Type 4, dial Z and Type 1, dial Z at Ottawa during the period of 6 August–17 August, 1897.

Flag #	Date Dial	Earliest Date	Latest Date
4-6	Z	June 21	August 17



Only the six stroke flag die with the dater dial Z was in service at Ottawa

BNAPS SALES CIRCUIT READY TO GO!

Rather than dwell on past problems of the Sales Circuit, I would prefer to look at the future. It is my intention to start circuits moving as soon as sufficient material is on hand. The first circuits should be on their way early in the new year. Some necessary policy changes have been made. These are:

1. All sales, receipts, and payments will be in Canadian funds. This will be of benefit to buyers on both sides of the border
2. Commission on Sales will be 10%, plus 2% for insurance. (Previously the commission rate was 8%)
3. Circuits will now be circulated within one country at a time, thus reducing cross-border problems
4. If possible, the sales circuit will be available for limited periods at future BNAPS conventions, as well as at Regional meetings and conferences

The above are a few of the more important changes to be made. Others, such as the development of a larger book similar to the

RPSC and APS are now being studied. I believe more sales of Postal History from all areas of B.N.A. collecting will be a growth area. The larger book will enhance cover sales. Value limits are being studied by your executive as they relate to our insurance coverage. For owners who would like to have higher limits we may have to set up a co-insurance plan. Owners of books should make a careful review of the Philatelic market. If you wish to have a high sales volume, price your material to sell.

I welcome all suggestions and material from all members in good standing. If unsure about your submission of material, please write before sending. I would particularly like to have coordinators from the various study groups and regional groups to establish immediate contact and provide your groups with circuits as soon as possible. Serving the collector who is some distance from the philatelic market place will be a top priority.

Write to R. H. Jamieson, BNAPS Sales Circuit Manager, P.O. Box 2, Station A, Islington, Ontario, M9A 4X1

The PERFIN STUDY GROUP

The Perfin Study Group held its second annual seminar at the BNAPS convention in Ottawa, and demonstrated to those in attendance the strong appeal perfin have for the specialist.

The group was formed three years ago by Jon Johnson, and its main purpose is to assemble information in order to publish a brand-new and greatly expanded handbook. In 1955 a similar group of collectors united to create the first published listing of Canadian perfin, and Bob Woolley continued to write a column in TOPICS until lack of interest caused this to cease.

Michael Dicketts brought back the perfin column in TOPICS in 1977 to re-ignite interest, and from this hesitant step our study group was born. Current membership numbers fifty-five

and includes two founding members of the old group, Maurice Decarie and Wally Gutzman.

In keeping with our principal objective, membership is limited to those who mail in survey forms concerning their collections. We are fortunate in having a most enthusiastic group who regularly provide the information essential for any project of this nature. As a result of our activities, we expect to publish the new handbook in the fall of 1982.

Our newsletter, the BNA PERFORATOR, published eleven times a year, contains news of new designs, locations of perforating machines and items of research by our members. Anyone interested in joining should contact Michael Dicketts, 61 Alwington Avenue, Kingston, Ontario K7L 4R4.

The POSTAL STATIONERY STUDY GROUP

Canadian Envelope Stamp Sizes and Designs

1922-1952

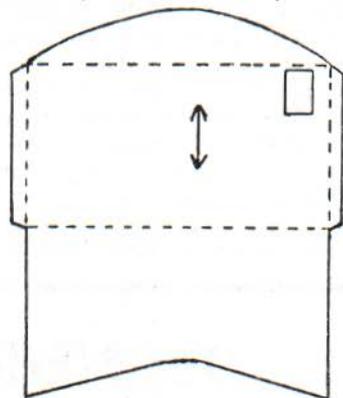
by Dr Earle L. Covert

In *Postal Stationery, Vol. 21, No. 6*, Mike Anderman raised the question of why there are different sizes of stamps on the 1938 envelopes. Six years ago Bill Walton explained the stamp size variations in the 1922 to 1952 envelopes to me. His explanation has thus far held up to critical examination.

From 1922 until 1952 Canada's postal stationery envelopes were produced by two printers, The King's Printer — The Department of Public Printing and Stationery — and a private firm in Toronto, Dominion Envelope & Cartons Limited (Dominion Envelopes Limited or Dominion Envelope Co. Ltd.).

The regular envelopes available from the Post Office during this period were produced in two sizes of the cross flap format by the Department of Public Printing and Stationery, except for the large size envelopes (#10) of 1922 which were produced by Dominion Envelope & Cartons Limited in a side seam format.

Special order envelopes could be obtained from the Post Office in two ways. The user could supply finished envelopes to the Post Office, who would have the Department of Public Printing and Stationery print the stamp design on them. An example of this method is the Gage Self Seal Envelope. Alternatively, the user could order envelopes of a specific size, type and color with the required printing on them. In this case the Post Office obtained cross flap and center seam envelopes from the Department of Public Printing and Stationery, or side seam tab or the patented *pennysaver* envelopes from Dominion Envelope and Cartons Limited. The stamps were printed by either printer before folding the envelope.

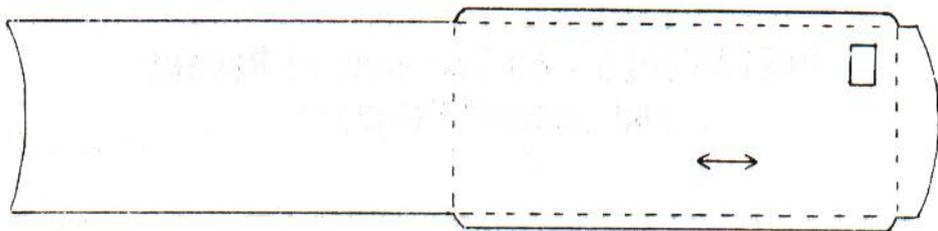


SIDE SEAM ENVELOPE

The Department of Public Printing and Stationery had the capability of printing on either finished envelopes or unfolded sheets, while Dominion Envelope & Cartons Limited printed only on unfolded sheets. The Department of Public Printing and Stationery embossed, prior to folding, the regular issues of 1922, but this was a slow process. Initially, to produce special order envelopes, they embossed stamps on finished envelopes, which would thus show the embossing through both layers of the envelope. They then switched to typography for special order envelopes.

Except for this embossing, all special order envelopes were typographed by both printers. The envelopes produced by either printer with the "George V" oval die are easily told apart by the different typographed dies. The Department of Public Printing and Stationery used an "inked hair" die, while Dominion Envelope & Cartons Limited used a die with no hair or facial lines.

In order to separate other printings done by both printers, it is necessary to examine the printing methods used. Both printers used typography, but the Department of Public Printing and Stationery used a flat plate, while Dominion Envelope & Cartons Limited used a rotary press with a curved plate. When a stamp is printed from a curved plate it is elongated in the direction of the curve of the plate. With rotary printing, each different style or size of envelope would require a curved plate with different spacing or layout of the stamp. The layout was determined by the most economical use of paper, considering the size capability of the press.



TAB TYPE ENVELOPE

The side seam and *pennysaver* envelopes were usually under 11 inches wide and 9 inches high when unfolded. The tab envelopes were generally 9½ inches or longer, which would make the length of paper necessary to produce them about 20 inches. The height of the unfolded tab envelope rarely exceeded 10 inches.

The arrows on the illustrations show the direction of the curve of the plates used by Dominion Envelope & Cartons Limited when the envelopes were printed in the most economical layout. The side seam and *pennysaver* envelopes, therefore, had stamps elongated vertically, and the stamps on the tab envelopes were elongated horizontally. Thus, the direction of elongation was a function of economical layout with different formats.

Two sizes of stamps on one envelope occurred when Dominion Envelope & Cartons Limited printed prior to folding, by rotary press, the first stamp (elongated on one direction), and the second stamp, of the "standard" size, was added by Department of Public Printing and Stationery, which could print on finished envelopes.

A basic understanding of the foregoing will explain most of the variations in stamp sizes. Some unusual types are found, such as a side seam envelope with a 1932 flat plate size stamp. This could have been an envelope which a customer brought to the Post Office and had the Department of Public Printing and Stationery print the stamp on it.

Please remember that in measuring stamp sizes, variations of less than 0.25 mm. are of no significance. Slight variations can be expected because of the ink squeeze characteristic of printing by typography.

The writer invites correspondence on this subject. Write to him at P.O. Box 1070, Hay River, N.W.T., X0E 0R0.

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The PRECANCEL SPECIALIST

PRECANCELS — An Overview of Recent and Current Projects

by Hans Reiche

In October 1968, in *Maple Leaves*, Fred Keane of Victoria, B. C. and H. Hetherington of England started a series of articles dealing with precancels on the Admiral issue. In 1977 Bob Cheshire and Hans Reiche took on the task of continuing the research started. Instead of limiting their work to the Admirals, their research covered the entire precancel area, including all stamps and stationery. The first Cheshire/Reiche articles appeared in *Maple Leaves*. The series then moved to TOPICS, under the headline 'The Precancel Specialist'.

The initial task was the development of suitable guidelines for the clear identification of the types of Admirals used for precancels. The Admiral books by Marler and Reiche were used as the base. A complete set of master notes which identified all types of Admiral stamps known with precancels was prepared. With the great help of Geoff Walburn and George Manley, a large number of new additions were made to these notes. Though much remains to be done, a substantial part of all existing types have now been recorded.

To carry out the research a close examination was made of the limited information available from old Post Office files. The Postal Museum provided assistance with this, with the result that much interesting data was extracted. Unfortunately, files prior to 1923 had been destroyed, and very little was found in the existing files dealing with matters prior to 1923.

One of the early studies discussed the interesting Montreal '21' roller precancel. Four different types were identified. These were manufactured in the same manner as the early bar types, using a roller which had four subjects. Multiples clearly show the method used, but only a few such pieces have survived. The next study concentrated on the overprinting plates which were laid down for precancelled stamps in the 1928 to 1932 period. Here it was noted that some plates were made but never used, for example: Port Arthur, Trois Rivieres and Gardenvale. Another interesting fact was that the issue dates for precancels were entirely different from the issue dates of the stamp which was overprinted. For example, the 20¢ Admiral, which was issued in 1911, was not precancelled until around 1919. This became evident from the typing of each value and the statistics collected. In 1952 the Post Office decided to stop issuing precancels with numbers as it was becoming too expensive to lay down quantities of different plates. In 1953 the multiple bar type we know today made its appearance.

One of the more fascinating aspects of precancels is the large number of constant overprinting varieties which can be found. To determine if a variety is constant a large sample is needed. In some cases many thousand stamps were studied before reports of some of the initial finds were made. These varieties are in the form of 'nail heads' (large dots), cut off or broken letters, bent or broken bars and missing letters. An interesting pattern developed in that certain varieties occurred not only on several values of one issue but also on different issues. In addition, one could find constant varieties on precancels from two different cities. For example Montreal, Quebec, with two heavy lines between, shows a damaged pair of lines with a peculiar sliver. This comes from the last row in the sheet. Exactly the same sliver can be found on Quebec, Quebec precancels, indicating that the same plates, with changed city names, were used.

During the study of varieties it became evident that inconsistencies occurred on the positioning of the overprints. A number of city types have been found where the location of the overprint changes from one stamp to the next — for Vancouver Type 2, for example, four different positions are known. More information will be reported once fuller facts become known.

An introduction to precancelled postal stationery post cards was written as part of the research study. This field is still wide open and much more could be published. The number of different items which have been found, and which may still exist, is large. Help is needed here.

Identification of the early bar types still presents a problem. A number of articles have been written on this subject, particularly by George Manley and Walter Bileski. Finds of large multiples (half or full sheets) have made it possible to clarify some points. This field is difficult, but research continues with the limited material available.

A trend for Admiral precancel types developed. The trend clearly indicated the time span and the number of different Admiral values used for each type. Type 1, for instance, started in 1912 but decreased in usage to about half by 1918, and almost disappeared in 1925. This statistic is of value because it allows identification of the various Admiral dies used for certain precancel periods. A most astonishing fact emerged. The majority of all double inverted Admirals came from the 1920 period — plates used for most of them were not available prior to 1919.

Another difficult area is determining the date when certain stamps were issued in precancelled form. Post Office files have little information, so the only solution to this problem is to work from a large statistical sample. In some cases many thousands of more common precancels were studied, and the data analysed to determine the types, plates and usage. An interesting pattern emerged from this, and the year of issue could be established for a number of precancel types. The 3¢ brown Admiral, issued in 1912, is one example where it was easily determined from the overprinting plates used that the precancel was issued in 1918. A trend matrix was developed to show the actual plates which were used for precancels of certain stamps for 15 cities. Here the search goes on, and it will probably never be completed.

An interesting sideline is the study of actual users of precancelled stamps. In a few cases only one user exists, but in most cities a large number of companies made use of precancelled stamps. Not many covers with return addresses have survived, but an attempt has been made to list those covers which have been found. This is a wide open field and will require lots of patience and much more input.

The 10¢ brown Admiral exists in a yellow bistre and dark bistre shade. The study is attempting to list which shade was used for each city.

Because some plates which contain major plate varieties have been used to print precancels, a list of these has been started. For example the well known major re-entry on the 1¢ Arch issue exists in precancelled form. Although no 'Weeping Princess' has been reported precancelled, it is very possible that this exists.

This article has briefly outlined some of the present efforts being made in precancels. It is hoped that this may stimulate some discussion and further input.

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The CENTENNIAL DEFINITIVES STUDY GROUP

A Double Printed Centennial Curiosity

by Douglas C. Irwin

The stamps of the Centennial issue were printed by single colour steel engraving. Some of the stamps of this issue can be found with portions of the printed design doubled. This is particularly evident in the 4¢ and 5¢ coils (467 and 468) where portions of CANADA and the value seem to have been printed twice.



A very interesting item, shown to a number of dealers at TOREX last spring, left many of them gasping with excitement. The item, illustrated above, is a block of four of the 6¢ black Centennial definitive (460-i), where the black ink has apparently been printed twice. The second printing has been misregistered slightly but only portions of the design are doubled. While at first glance this item commands attention, closer inspection reveals that the item is a fake.

The black ink of the doubled images is not as sharp as the original engraved printing and it also tends to rub off. The original engraved inking also tends to be finer than the doubled portions. This item, and others like it, were probably created using a dry photocopying machine. The second illustration shows corner blocks in various states of mis-registration.

This type of fake is bound to increase in the future. Photocopy machines are now at the point where they can reproduce an image as good as the original on any type of paper. This makes it possible to use a sheet of stamps (or a portion of a sheet) as the paper one wants the image to be copied onto. The 6¢ black Centennial definitive was the last engraved black stamp produced by Canada Post, but there are other black engraved Canadian stamps which have the potential of being faked in this manner.

By photocopying the stamp impression of pre-stamped postal stationery onto an envelope, it is possible to create postal stationery items. The 6¢ black Centennial pre-stamped postal stationery design would be a very easy item to reproduce. It probably will not be long before multi-coloured photocopying machines become as common as the present black photocopy machines, thus creating an endless number of possible fakes which may be produced. *Buyer beware!*



MARESCH AUCTION TOPS \$650,000

The following article arrived in the form of a press release from R. Maresch & Son's. TOPICS' policy is not to print press releases without extensive editing and/or rewriting. An exception is being made in this case because the information contained in the article illustrates three points of importance to collectors — a) The market for fine BNA material is quite active; b) The 'good stuff' DOES become available from time to time; c) Collectors must buy when material is available, not when they want to buy.

The international appeal of fine stamps was amply in evidence at R. Maresch & Son's Silver Anniversary Sale on September 29 and 30. Bidders from 5 continents eagerly pursued a wide range of scarce and attractive items by mail, in person or through agents.

The first 2 sessions, devoted entirely to the Dr. Groten collection of Canada's 1859 Decimal Issue, opened with a fine stampless cover mailed June 30, 1859, the last day of the Pence Issue, and backstamped July 1 at Windsor, the first day of the Decimal issue. The cover brought \$325 against an estimate of \$150. Goodall Die Proofs of the 1¢ in the 5 known colours fetched \$5,000, while a very fine mint block of 4 with the "Q" flaw reached \$1,050 and a similar block with the scarred "E" sold for \$800. A used block of 4 with the scarred "E", estimated at \$150, brought \$775. A right mint margin block of 8, ex Jarrett, sold for \$1,300, an even larger mint margin block of 9, ex Hart, was hammered down at \$1,350, and a very fine Soldier's Letter, ex de Volpi, sold for \$1,850.

Large mint multiples of the 2¢ all sold above estimate, with a margin block of 6 bringing \$1,700, an unused block of 8 reaching \$2,100, and the famous block of 12, ex Jephcott, selling for \$4,250. A set of used stamps, showing the 8 imprint positions, was knocked down at \$1,600.

The afternoon session concluded with more than 90 lots of the 5¢ Beaver. A fine unused block of 4, ex Dale-Lichtenstein, brought \$725 while a full original gum block of 4 showing re entries went for \$1,300. The magnificent never hinged block of 9, ex V.G. Greene, was finally hammered down for \$4,000 — \$1,000 above estimate. A very fine used block of 6 earned \$875, while 2 covers with the major re-entry sold for \$1,250 and \$1,600. A regis-

tered cover, with the unique 15¢ franking, also sold above estimate at \$3,750.

A slightly faulty copy of the Compound Die Proof (showing both the 10¢ Prince Consort and the 12 Penny), in red, estimated at \$3,000, opened the final session of the Groten Sale with a \$4,250 realization. The set of Goodalls, in all 5 colours, brought \$4,500, while the block of 42, the largest recorded block of 10¢ Plate Proofs, reached \$8,250. Another Plate Proof block of 4 showing the "Double Epaulette" variety was sold for \$1,250, and a similar block of the "String of Pearls" fetched \$1,300.

A used collection of 64 stamps, showing each of the Printing Orders from 1A to 26C, was knocked down for \$4,750 while a very fine used copy of the deep chocolate shade was sold for \$2,200. A fine mint block of 4 (Printing Order 1B) went for \$3,250 (est. \$2,500) and an imprint margin strip of 5 sold for \$4,250 (est. \$3,000). A used block of 4, the only known block of the deep reddish purple, quadrupled its estimate with a hammer price of \$6,250. The largest mint multiple of the 10¢, a margin imprint block of 8, ex Jephcott, was sold to an overseas bidder for \$9,250. Other features of this sale were a used block of 4 showing the "Double Epaulette" at \$4,250 (est. \$1,500), a strip of 6 on cover selling at \$2,750, and a spectacular cover, ex Payne, with 10 copies of the deep reddish purple which tripled estimates with a final hammer price of \$7,750.

A beautiful mint block of 4, also ex Dale-Lichtenstein, of the 12½¢ fetched \$1,600, while the corner margin imprint strip of 3 plus single was finally sold to a British buyer for \$1,950 (est. \$1,250). A used block of 8 realized \$925 and a fine used block of 4, one of two known on cover, went for \$1,900 (est. \$1,250). A 40¢ rate cover to New Orleans brought \$2,100, and another ex de Volpi cover

with thirteen 12½¢ stamps, including the major re-entry, exceeded estimate at \$2,700.

A used block of 6 of the 17¢ Cartier reached \$2,800 (est. \$1,000). The major re-entry in a Plate Proof block of 4 sold for \$1,550, while the same stamp on a 3-colour franking to Gibraltar sold for \$5,750 against a \$2,500 estimate — a fitting climax to a sale that realized more than \$250,000 for an issue of only 6 stamps.

The sale continued with Canada, Provinces, foreign, large lots and various. Revenues continued to attract attention. Newfoundland was strong, with a full sheet of the six penny rose bringing \$425 on a \$300 estimate. An interesting pair of Labrador Dog Team Covers brought a surprising \$260 (est. \$100), and a lot of modern Newfoundland Plate Proofs brought double estimate at \$525.

A fine Canada six penny laid paper on cover sold for \$1,500, while a 16 pence rate cover with a pair of the six penny, ex Dale-Lichtenstein, reached \$4,700 (est. \$2,500). A used pair of the three penny wove sold at \$850, while a single in the orange-red shade on an R.P.O. cover achieved \$2,400 against a \$750 estimate. The six penny wove on cover brought \$725, while a fine ten penny cover went for \$2,100. A second ten penny on cover to Jersey in the Channel Islands reached \$3,500 (est. \$2,000) and a very fine seven and a half penny cover to Glasgow reached \$5,000.

A lovely Large Queen cover with six ½¢ tied by green Rock Island bars, sold for \$875, while 2 copies of the 12½¢ on cover to St. John's, Newfoundland, went for \$1,050 in spite of the fact that one was creased.

Small Queens, including the Dr. Stulberg Specialized Collection of the Half Cent, were a particularly active feature of the second afternoon session. An immaculate mint, never hinged, set brought over 9 times catalogue at \$1,900. A bottom margin imprint strip of the ½¢, imperforate between, ex Dale-Lichtenstein, reached \$1,550, while another superb, never hinged block of 6 of the 1¢ yellow-orange sold for \$675 (cat. \$280). A sheet margin pair of the 2¢ light green achieved \$375 (cat. \$60), a block of 4 of the 3¢ orange-red went for \$675 (cat. \$220), and an imprint strip of 7 of the 6¢ yellow-brown sold at \$1,700 (cat. \$1,225).

A lovely block of 8 of the 10¢ Montreal Printing fetched \$3,250 (cat. \$1,200), while a block of 4 of the Ottawa 3¢ orange-vermilion went at \$325 (cat. \$70). An imperforate block

of 4 of the 10¢ Ottawa Printing reached \$1,900, while a superb mint block obtained \$2,100 (cat. \$600). The 20¢ Widow Weeds, never hinged, extremely fine, sold for \$775 (cat. \$190). A highlight of the ½¢ Collection was a full double pane of 200 which reached full estimate of \$2,000. A lovely Dale-Lichtenstein cover, with a pair of the ½¢ and 10¢ U.S. Special Delivery, doubled estimate at \$825.

The final session opened with another lovely lot — the Jubilees from ½¢ to 50¢ — in superb, never hinged, condition which finally sold for \$3,000 (cat. \$847). A large Die Proof, in black, of the 1898 Map Stamp was sold for \$5,750, while a full set of the large Die Proofs, in black, of the King Edward VII Issue brought \$19,500. A similar set of Quebec Tercentenary Die Proofs sold for \$17,000.

A very fine copy of the 10¢ plum Admiral, never hinged, sold for \$260 (cat. \$110), and 2 pretty advertising covers brought triple estimate at \$325 (cat. \$110). Three lots of particular interest in the sale were a group of previously unreported imperforate multiples. A mint strip of 3 of the 1¢ orange Leaf and Pictorial Issue went for \$2,300. Two lots of the 2¢ green from the same issue brought \$2,700 and \$3,250 respectively, while a block of 4 of the 3¢ Medalion went for \$2,600. An imperforate pair of the Loyalist commemorative brought \$1,400, while a similar pair of the UPU went for \$975.

Interest in the modern period was generally less strong and prices did not pick up until the final section of the sale, with strong interest in the early Postage Dues. A full set of small Die Proofs of the first set of Postage Dues sold for \$2,700. A Plate 1 block of 12 of the 1¢ doubled estimate at \$400, while similar blocks from Plates 2 and 3 reached \$475 (est. \$200). A group of 3 plate blocks of the second issue, with "1" inscribed in the margin, sold for \$650, and a set of large Die Proofs went for \$4,000.

Maresch's Silver Anniversary celebrations will continue with 3 spectacular sales through the winter. A sale in late January will be devoted exclusively to the Small Queen Issue of Canada and will feature the outstanding collection of John Ayre of St. John's, Newfoundland. This will be followed by a specialized sale of Western Canadian Postal History, from the Hudson Bay period through to the Riel Rebellions, formed by the doyen of Canadian Postal History, Charles P. de Volpi. A general Sale with many intact collections is also scheduled.

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NOVA SCOTIA'S 12½¢

The Other Twelve Penny Black

by Jon Rose

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Every lover of classic stamps knows of the rare 12-pence black Victoria of Canada — now out of the price range of most collectors; but there is another black charmer from the Canadian area, which anyone can acquire and appreciate. I refer to the 12½-cent Victoria of Nova Scotia, Scott's # 13.



The bust of Queen Victoria on the 12 Canada is derived from the famous portrait painted by Alfred E. Chalon. The 12½¢ Nova Scotia shares its overall design with no other stamp from that province. The authoritative *Encyclopedia of British Empire Postage Stamps* (Vol. V, Robson Lowe, Ltd., London, publisher) says this about the design of the 12½¢ and those of the 8½¢ and 10¢ stamps: "The engraver of the higher values (8½¢ - 12½¢) and designer of the issue is unknown, but no doubt they were employees of the American Bank Note Co."

The now dated *Holmes Specialized Philatelic Catalogue of Canada and British North America* (11th edition) agrees, noting simply, "Engraved and printed by the American Bank Note Co., New York." Even the definitive (also outdated) Argenti work, *The Postage Stamps of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia*, has little to say about the origin of the design.

The 12½¢ was printed on unwatermarked paper from plates of 100 subjects, arranged 10x10. The first printing (200,000) was delivered

early in 1860. Perf 12 according to the catalog, it actually varies from 11.60 to 11.75. Stamp perforating was then in its rudimentary stages, the first perforated issues of Canada proper having been produced in November 1858.

Over the years, controversy has raged concerning the paper used to print the 12½¢. No official record exists, says Argenti. Experts today agree that the paper was machine-made rather than handmade. Arguments have focused on whether a white paper or a yellowish, toned, paper was used, or both.

According to Argenti, Bertram Poole concluded, "The difference in the papers is due to climatic conditions, aging, or chemical action of the gum, or a combination of all three ...". With the help of a chemist, Argenti experimented, using isotope photography, and concluded that both toned and white papers were used to print the 1860-63 cents stamps, including the 12½¢. In fact, Argenti maintained that two toned types were utilized, a slightly toned and a deeply toned yellowish paper. Scott's Volume I lists both white and yellowish paper varieties. So does Stanley Gibbons.

Each sheet of 100 had 10 imprints. Besides the six side imprints—three left and three right—each sheet had two imprints at the top and two at the bottom.

We have seen that the first batch of 12½¢ stamps (200,000) was printed in 1860. The second and last (400,000 copies) was printed during fiscal 1862—Oct. 1, 1861, to Sept. 30, 1862. This was the same quantity as the 8½¢ value, which had a similar printing schedule.

You may ask, if only 600,000 12½¢ stamps were printed—and given the ravages of time—why does Scott price a copy at just \$18? The reason is that there are sizable quantities of remainders around—stamps not needed and later sold for revenue to commercial sources. This is especially true of the 12½¢ on deeply toned paper.

The remainders of the cents issues didn't include the 5¢ blue. Stanley Gibbons obtained

some of the remainders and offered them for sale in "wholesale" lots. The largest lot, 1200 stamps, consisted of: 1¢ black, 320; 2¢ mauve (lilac), 320; 8½¢ green, 320; 10¢ vermilion, 160; and 12½¢ black, 80. It is obvious that the 12½¢ was the least common, numbering roughly one-half the 10¢ and one-quarter of the others.

The premier of Nova Scotia stated in an 1895 budget speech that the remainders of the Nova Scotia cents issues had been sold for \$18,000. Thus, if the stamps were sold at face and in quantities proportional to the Gibbons lot, there would have been approximately 23,000 12½¢ stamps. Not so many, really.

Later information indicated that there might have been more of the 8½¢ value than the proportions would suggest, which could reduce the estimated number of 12½¢ stamps. However, John H. Young, writing in the January 1960 *BNA Topics*, estimated that there were 150,000 12½¢ stamps as remainders. His conclusion was somewhat theoretical, but was based on official figures. Some stamps were no doubt lost in storage between 1867 and 1895.

The answer to the question of how many 12½¢ stamps were sold as remainders lay in records kept by the syndicate of Arthur Bartlett and Donald A. King, of Prince Edward Island and Halifax, N.S., respectively, which purchased the entire stock of remainders from the government. Unfortunately, these records seem to have been lost or destroyed.

Forgeries of the 12½¢ stamp exist. Some were made by the infamous Francois Fournier, and others by the Spiros of Hamburg. These were printed by lithography. It was reported in *Album Weeds* some years ago that two engraved forgeries of the 12½¢ exist.

The 12½¢ black on cover is quite scarce, although not as uncommon as the 8½¢ green. The 12½¢ on cover seldom appears at auction, except when great British North America col-

lections are sold. One such occasion was the Harmer's (New York) sales of the Louise Boyd Dale holdings. The Dale aggregation of 12½¢ covers was inspiring.

The most common usage of the 12½¢ was to pay the single (up to half-ounce) rate to the United Kingdom. Usages to Scotland (rather than England) are less common and those to Ireland are rare. Included in the Dale collection were five covers to the UK, one of which had a 12½¢ tied to cover by the rare "A95" Atlantic Mail Boat cancel.

Another Dale cover was franked with the 12½¢ and a diagonal bisect of the 1¢ to short pay the 13½¢ rate to Newfoundland from the interior of Nova Scotia. Other destinations for this rate include the US and the British West Indies. The normal rate (from Halifax) was 10¢. There were also two covers to Harbor Grace, N.S., one bearing a 12½¢ and a bisected 2¢, and the other a 12½¢ and a 1¢ black.

The double rate of 20¢ from Halifax to the US was almost paid on another striking cover, with a 12½¢ black and a covey of seven copies of the 1¢ black (vertical strip of three, vertical pair, and two singles). Even more exotic was a cover with two copies of the 12½¢ black overpaying by 2¢ the 23¢ rate to Kandy, Ceylon. Finally, a horizontal pair of the 12½¢ black paid the 25¢ double rate to the UK. Used multiples of the 12½¢ stamp are most rare and used blocks almost unknown.

A great deal more could be said about the 12½¢ black, about plate varieties, covers, and about counterfeits, for example. The two questions demanding answers, to my mind, are:

1) Where did the artists and engravers at the American Bank Note Co. derive the idea for the stamp's portrait medallion?

2) Just how many unused copies are available to collectors today? This depends on how many remainders were sold.

Any answers?

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CANADA POST OFFICE

Domestic Rates and Postmarks

TOO LATE LETTERS

by Charles P. de Volpi

A directive went to postmasters January 11, 1833 with regards letters received TOO LATE for a mail:—

Should a letter be posted on the day of departure of a mail, but not in time to be forwarded by it, the words "TOO LATE" are to be written or stamped upon it in red ink.

The order was apparently being disregarded and Department order number six of March 14, 1844 was issued from the General Post Office:—

No. 6. At some offices Post Masters appear to defer Postmarking letters until the day on which such letters are despatched without regard to the date of posting. This practice is contrary to the regulations and must be discontinued. Every letter should be stamped or post-marked immediately that it is despatched in an office — even though it may afterward remain several days waiting for the Post — a contingency which will frequently arrive at offices serviced by a Mail passing but once or twice a week. Should however a letter be posted on the day of departure of a Mail, but not in time to be sent forward by it, the words "Too Late" are to be stamped or written in red ink, in addition to the Post-mark, to explain why the letter did not go forward by the Mail of the day of which it bears the Post-date.

T. A. STAYNER
Deputy Post Master General



Fig. 1 — From Niagara U.C., March 2, 1835. Free addressed to Post Master
TOO LATE in manuscript in black

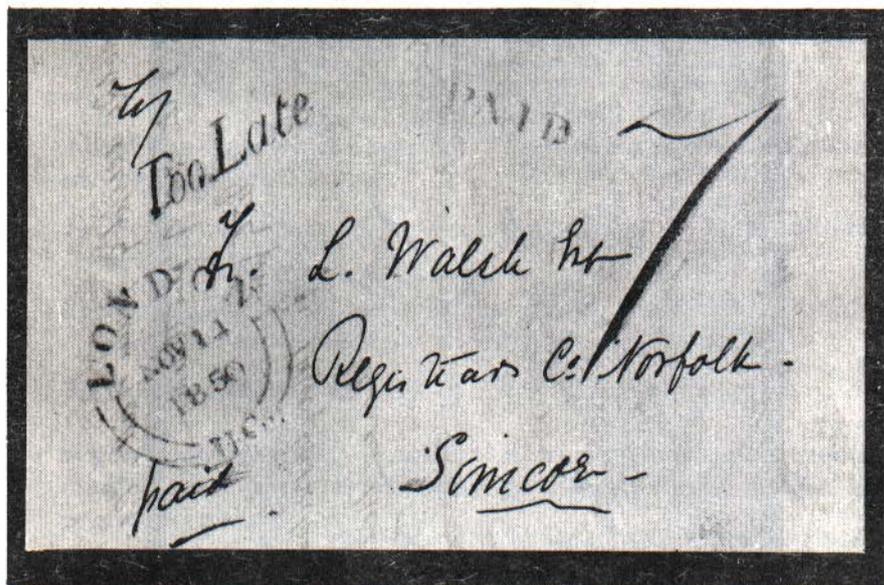


Fig. 2 - From London U.C., November 11, 1850. Rated Paid 7 - single rate for distance of 61 to 100 Miles. TOO LATE handstamp in red.



Fig. 3 - From Thamesville C.W., August 28, 1872. TOO LATE handstamp in black

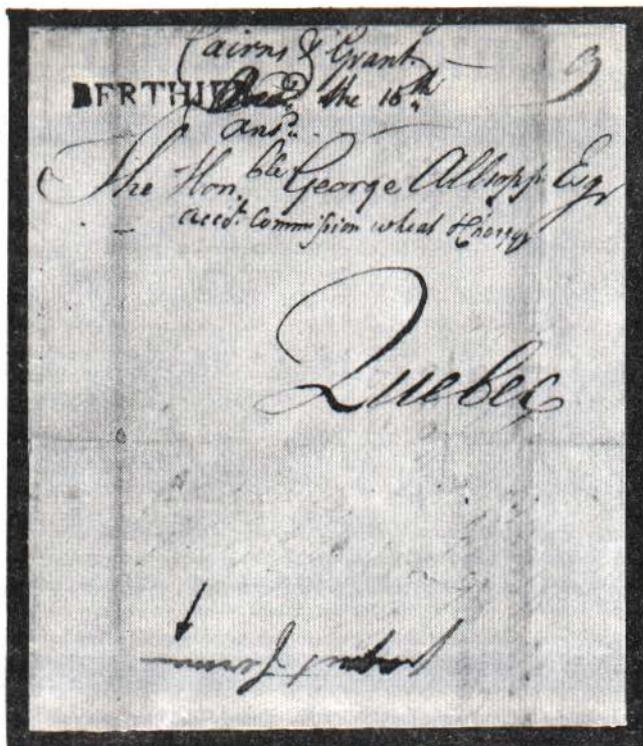


Fig. 4 - From Berthier, February 13, 1783.

This is a very early example of a letter received TOO LATE to be put in the mail that day - the postmaster marked it in red 'PACQUET FERME' - Mail Closed.



Fig. 5 - From three Rivers, 16 July, 1802.

Also a predecessor of TOO LATE - in this case the postmaster inscribed "AFTER CLOSING"

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LITERATURE REVIEWS

BNA Philately in Print

THE SQUARED CIRCLE POSTMARKS OF CANADA; Glenn Hansen and Dr. Wm. G. Moffatt; BNAPS, 1981, 485 pp. \$40.00

Publication of this mammoth Fourth Edition will be greeted with delight by those whose appetite for collecting the squared circle cancellations of Canada was whetted by the late Dr. Alfred Whitehead's early writings and Third Edition handbook which appeared in 1964.

This book has been beautifully printed in a type face which is easy, and therefore a joy, to read. It commences with a complete listing of all the squared circles known to have been proofed, including the precursor of 1880, the barred circles of 1892, and the Types I and II which made their appearance in 1893. At least a half page is given over to each cancellation. Here the reader will find not only an illustration of a proof or appearance strike, but information on location of town and population, the Postmaster in charge, earliest and latest recorded dates, number of strikes reported, time marks, errors and rarity factors, and informative comment. In addition, there are charts for each town showing continuity of use and recorded strikes on special stamps, enabling the book to be used as a checklist. This section also includes illustrations of strikes on covers and stamps, together with maps showing the location of all the offices using the squared circle. The town listings are followed by a further fifteen chapters of information and appendices. Chapter 1 deals with Squared Circles of the world. Chapter 2 covers the precursors, while Chapter 3 explains the Type I and Type II hammers with sub-types, how the cancelling instruments were made up, and those towns where more than one hammer was in use. Chapters 4 to 8 cover, in amazing depth, together with a profusion of detailed illustrations, how to identify partial strikes of same name towns in different provinces, separation of hammers for multi-hammer towns, and of towns where only the beginning or ending letters are visible. Chapters 9 to 12 deal with damaged hammers, nude strikes, bogus cancels and how indicia and date errors occur. Chapter 13 dis-

cusses rarity factors which have been revised in the light of information gained from the most recent roster reports. Market values are also discussed.

Chapter 14 takes us into the area of collecting squared circles on special stamps, and it is here that the four charts contained in the appendices are of immense value. Included in the first chart are the old and new rarity factors, counts of strikes on the 3 cent Jubilee, the 2 cent Map stamp, and on other stamps. The second chart gives the various hammers as found on specific stamps including those just mentioned, the 2 cent and 5 cent Registration stamps, the 15 cent Large Queen, the 10 cent Special Delivery, any Admiral stamp and any issue later than the Admirals. The third list indicates years for which strikes have been reported for each hammer. From this can be seen certain patterns of usage over a period of time.

The final list has fifteen columns. These indicate which towns had cancellers where such things as hammer and indicia damage occurred; or where missing, misplaced, inverted, incorrect or borrowed indicia and incorrect year dates appeared. There are also columns indicating where coloured cancels and nude strikes appear.

The last chapter tells of the proof impressions, and of the nine squared circle cancellation devices which reside in the National Postal Museum's collection in Ottawa, and also relates how they came to be acquired.

Finally, a 200 year calendar index is shown in the appendices, enabling students to readily identify such dates as Sundays and public holidays.

It is inevitable that in a work of this magnitude printing errors will occur but very few have appeared so far, the most obvious errors being the use of an incorrect illustration for the Montreal hammer V precursor and an error in the calendar for the year 1900.

The authors have, with the acknowledged help of many fellow collectors, collated everything known to date about these fascinating

cancellations, but they do not pretend that it is "the be all and end all" of the subject. They are to be congratulated on the production of a first class work. It can only give encouragement to existing and potential collectors of these postmarks alike.

—CB

THE POSTAL HISTORY OF THE CANADIAN CONTINGENTS IN THE ANGLO BOER WAR 1899 - 1902; Kenneth Rowe, The Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation; 1981, 104pp., \$30

Some people believe that a philatelic book should stick strictly to the topic, i.e. "X stamps issued, Y known colour variations, Z listed varieties", and on to the next item. Fortunately, Ken Rowe is not one of these people. In this handsomely bound volume he tells his philatelic story by framing it with brief accounts of the world events which caused there to be a postal history of the Canadian Contingents in the Boer War in the first place, and the local occurrences which produced variety in the history.

The reader is introduced to the different military formations which made up each of the three contingents sent to South Africa during the conflict. A chronological table gives locations for each group beginning with its depar-

ture from Canada and ending with its return. Through these charts most collectors will be able to get a good idea of whether or not a given cover is actually contingent mail, the regiment or other formation to which the sender or recipient belonged, and so on. In short, this book is a valuable reference tool.

Not content with the official military parties, the author goes on to describe the activities of Canadians who formed or joined irregular units, the Canadian Postal Corps, the Canadian Nursing Service and the Canadian YMCA. Chapters discussing Contingent and Regimental Stationery, Canadian Postage used in South Africa and Canadian Patriotic Stationery follow. The latter chapter goes into detail on the famous Boer War patriotic postcards, bringing together information from articles previously published.

\$30 is a lot to pay for such a small volume, but collectors should keep in mind that only 500 copies of the hardbound first edition were printed; that the information contained in it is not available, in one location, anywhere else; and that the proceeds are going to a worthy philatelic cause.

A most welcome addition to the growing list of BNA philatelic literature.

—MS

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<i>On lots selling.</i>	<i>Up to \$1000</i>	<i>- 10% Consignors Commission</i>
<i>Balance over \$1000 - \$10000</i>		<i>- 5% Consignors Commission</i>
<i>Balance over \$10000</i>		<i>- 0 Consignors Commission</i>

We are always happy to travel to pick up larger consignments

J. N. SISSONS INC.

SUITE 103, MEZZANINE (SHERATON CENTRE HOTEL)

100 RICHMOND STREET WEST

TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA M5H 3K6

(416) 364-6003

MEMBER: C.S.D.A., A.S.D.A.