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Featuring

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by Brian R Murphy

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# BNA**T**opics



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BNA**T**opics, Volume 57, Number 2, April–June 2000

# Editorial: Holey wars

“AND now, lady & gentlemen, the *pièce de résistance* of tonight's auction, the rare perf 12.097543 eleven cents medium queen of 1869; the only known example—all others are perforated 12.097539. I can start it at \$575 ...”. We haven't quite reached this stage, but with increasingly precise measuring devices, there has been a tendency to give perforation measurements “accurate” to two decimals. The problem is that a difference in perforation of .1 (or even more) need not be meaningful.

There have been numerous recent articles on perforation measurements in BNATopics, as well as some of the study groups' newsletters, especially *The Confederation* (for the large and small queens group). A recent article by John Jamieson described how one dimension of a (wove) stamp was altered by about 1% or more; this was discovered accidentally, but was reversible. For a stamp of about perf 12 (as most 19th century Canadian stamps are), this will change the perforation gauge (number of perforations per 2 cm) by more than .1.

Leaving aside human errors in measuring perforations, there are many factors, individually small, but possibly cumulative, which will affect the gauge of an individual stamp. Perforation machines, especially the earlier ones, did not have their pins evenly spaced; hence stamps from the same sheet need not have the same gauge. Expansion due to long years of exposure to high humidity, or to a century of storage under pressure, are bound to contribute to a change from the original dimensions of the stamp (although, as far as I know, controlled experiments have not been performed). Stamps on covers may be affected by the envelope they are attached to, and mint stamps by their gum. The reader can think of many other effects.

For the vast majority of copies of a single printing of a stamp, these minor effects tend to cancel out. However, for a small number, the effects will be cumulative. We expect to see a bell curve (normal/Gaussian distribution) with almost all perforation gauges very close to each other. The small number of outliers (for which the effects were cumulative, rather than cancellative) are likely to be mistaken for genuine varieties, when in fact, they are artefacts of the numerous conditions stamps are exposed to.

So, instead of specifying perforations such as 11.75, 11.85, etc., a range should be given. For example, the “perf 11½×12” 3¢ small queen exists—it might be described as perf  $(11\frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{1}{6}) \times (12 \pm \frac{1}{8})$ . (Note the use of fractions—not decimals—the latter suggest higher accuracy than is meaningful.) For a specific stamp, the ranges, horizontal & vertical, could be large or small (and different from each other), and would have to be determined statistically.

# Lawrence A Walker, omi (1911–2000)

**F**ATHER Lawrence Anatole Walker died 28 April 2000. He was born 8 June 1911 at Côteau Station, QC. He was a priest of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, and was professor and later Bursar of the University of Ottawa. Always interested in philately, he had a general collection of stamps while at the same time specializing in Canadian material. He had become known, particularly in the past 30 years, as a result of his interest in Québec postal history.

Father Walker was a pioneer in recording the postal history of Québec. He was the first to publish articles and books on its postal history in a systematic fashion. He wrote more than 28 studies and compilations, including the series entitled *Philathèque* (six titles), the counties of Québec, also grouped by larger regions (nine titles), particular postmark types (five titles), photocopies of his collections (seven titles), and his best-known work, *Les bureaux de poste du Québec*, published in 1987. In addition, he published more than one hundred articles on the postal history and the postmarks of Québec in periodicals such as *Philatélie Québec* (FQP), the *Cahiers de l'Académie* (AQEP), the *Bulletin d'histoire postale et de marcophilie* (SHQP), *Reflets de la philatélie au Québec*, and the *PHSC Journal*. He was a founding member of the *Société d'Histoire Postale du Québec* (SHPQ), and until recently was a member of all the important philatelic societies of North America.

Over the past thirty years, he participated actively in the diffusion of knowledge on postal history through his publications, lectures, and his participation in local, national, and international exhibitions. He regularly took part in exhibitions at the Lakeshore Stamp Club (Montréal), at Orapex (Ottawa), and at international exhibitions, including *PhilexFrance* in 1989. In 1995, he bequeathed his Québec postal history collections, containing more than 50,000 items, to the National Archives of Canada, with the wish that they be accessible to all researchers.

He has been honoured on several occasions by different philatelic organizations, including the *Fédération québécoise de philatélie* in 1994 and the *Salon des collectionneurs de Montréal* in 1995. He received the *PHSC's Stan Shantz Award* in 1984 for his joint authorship of a series of articles on Canadian duplex cancellations, and was named an honorary member of the *SHPQ*. He was named a fellow of the *Royal Philatelic Society of Canada* just before his death.

—Cimon Morin

# Dyer & Walsh share Pratt Award

*The Editor*

**T**HE following press release from the Collectors Club of Chicago was sent to me by member Jerome Jarnick (the editor is always the last to find out, except in this case—the award-winners found out from me!).

14 May 2000

The Collectors Club of Chicago is proud to announce that this year's Pratt Award winners are Norris R Dyer of Petaluma, California and John M Walsh, of St. John's, Canada. Each co-winner wrote outstanding Newfoundland articles in 1999 and 2000 in *BNATopics*, the publication of the British North American [sic] Philatelic Society. The Pratt Award consists of \$1,000 cash and is named after the late Newfoundland collector, researcher and author, Robert H Pratt.

Congratulations to both winners. This is not new for either one of them—winners in recent years have been Dyer (1997), John Butt & Walsh (1998), and Dyer (1999). Norris & John, don't spend your prize all on one cover!

## The Postal History Society of Canada invites applications for membership



The PHSC publishes an award-winning quarterly journal, sponsors seminars on Canadian postal history, awards prizes for postal history exhibits at philatelic shows across Canada, and publishes important books and monographs relating to Canadian postal history.

In addition to recent publications, such as *Allan Steinhart, Postal Historian* (a limited number of copies remain @ \$29.69ppd to Canada), and the newly-published *Ontario Broken Circles* (@ \$35ppd to Canada), there are still a few copies left of the 200-page CAPEX '87 Fifteenth anniversary issue (cheap at \$15ppd). More monographs and books are planned for the near future.

For more information or membership forms, please contact the Secretary,

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# Strange proofs of the American Banknote Company

JJ MacDonald

**I**N the philatelic world, proofs have served a number of purposes. First and foremost, they were taken from the plates or dies used to print stamps, *pulled* as the jargon goes, to ascertain the nature of the finished engraving. At various stages of the design they are used to see if the original picture was correctly reproduced and had survived the transfer of an idea to a small size on paper. Proofs were also used in determining the “best” colour and paper on which to put the impression; both had an influence on the final visual impression of the stamp.

Another purpose for proofs, entirely different from the first, was to provide examples of the fine craftsmanship of the printing company. The American Bank Note Company (ABNCO) used proofs as advertisements very freely. They were often overprinted *Specimen* before being given to the salesmen of the Company to use as samples when dealing with prospective clients around the world. On rare occasions, a number of dies would be assembled from which small sheets were pulled. These showed different items, which better displayed the quality and colour available. These *Trade Sample Sheets*, as they are called, are now very rare. One is shown in Boggs [1] and many other publications. It contained examples of the stamps of Canada (3), Nova Scotia (2), New Brunswick (1), Newfoundland (5), Mexico (1), Chile (1), Nicaragua (1), Salvador (1), Costa Rica (1), Peru (1) and Brazil (2), eleven countries for which the ABNCO was then the official printer. There were nineteen impressions in total, including one of a Canadian bill stamp. It was likely made in 1868.

There were yet other uses for proofs. They were given as gifts to visiting dignitaries or post office officials. They were a part of displays at official international exhibitions, again to show off the company's talents at design quality. This was the case at an Australian exhibition at the turn of the last century. The reader is referred to N Boyd's description of ABNCO proofs [2].

More practically, proofs were also used to experiment with the characteristics of the printing paper used and to determine its ability to withstand attempts to remove the regular postal cancellations—a not uncommon practice in the nineteenth century stamp and postal world. Thus it is not unusual to find proofs in horrible paper colours, with widely varying thickness, and printed in different colours. Apparently, trade sample sheets

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Keywords & phrases: proof

were often used for this purpose. The Nova Scotia 1¢ and 8½¢ proofs exist in varied colours and shades as do the Newfoundland items and others on the sheets. No pairs nor multiples have ever been found, and it is safe to assume that this single sheet is their source.

Now we come to the *strange* proofs as the author prefers to call them. The uses for proofs described above do not require them to be perforated—yet the trade sample sheet was on rare occasions perforated 11.75 and gummed besides. Perforating could not have been a simple job as the sheet was smaller than the usual stamp panes and the stamps therein were not all perfectly aligned. This may explain why the Newfoundland 13¢ is not found perforated, as it projects above the other two in the top row. The gum on these perforated proofs is often very irregular and thick, as if applied by hand.

These gummed and perforated proofs are very rare. In fact, despite the proliferation of print colours, the author believes that only *one* sheet of any colour and paper combination exists, i.e., all are unique. The Essay-Proof Handbook [3] fails to mention them, but Holmes, in the 1963 edition of his catalogue briefly refers to them [4].



Figure 1a. Proofs

This and the next figure show ten examples from the trade sample that were perforated, gummed, and pen-cancelled.

There is yet another and even rarer group of these proofs, perforated and gummed, for whose production there is no logical explanation. These are

found pen cancelled in black ink, generally by three diagonal strokes running from top right to bottom left (Figures 1a & b). The pen strokes all appear to be the product of the same hand. Why they were made as yet escapes me.

Boggs speaks of these proofs briefly [5], and the author has found only two informative reference to them in the auction catalogues of the past sixty years [6]. The Robson Lowe catalogue of 1948 offered these cancelled proofs, in lots 388–394 (New Brunswick), lots 400–408 (Newfoundland), and lots 435–445 (Nova Scotia). The catalogue stated

... they are from a series of perforated die colour and paper trials which we have not previously offered. ... comprise the only examples that we have seen. ... they are all different and the only examples that we have had to offer in twenty-five years.



Figure 1b. More proofs

The dark papers of the four on the left and the centre do not lend themselves to good grey scale images.

In the Earl Palmer Sale (Sissons Auction Sale # 489, 5 December 1989), some of these were offered again, and for the first time, the New Brunswick 12½¢ was included. A list of those seen by the author is given in Table 1. Ten examples, shown in Figures 1a & 1b, are in the author's possession.

No South American items from the trade sample sheet have been seen pen cancelled nor had any dealer at *Stamp World London* 1990 seen any. Does this signify that only those from BNA were of sufficient interest to produce? The absence of other such items also raises the question of their authenticity.

Are they simply fantasies produced for the stamp trade of the 1890s? If so, why produce so few? When and how did they come on the market?

Table 1. Gummed & perforated proofs

Prov	denom	colour	paper colour
NB	12 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> ¢	black	blue toned
NF	2¢	black	slate blue
NF	2¢	green	deep blue
NF	5¢	black	yellow green
NF	5¢	green	deep blue
NF	10¢	black	light pink
NF	10¢	black	yellow green
NF	13¢	blue	mottled blue
NF	13¢	black	light pink
NS	1¢	black	deep blue
NS	1¢	black	light pink
NS	1¢	black	yellow green
NS	1¢	very deep blue	deep blue
NS	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> ¢	black	deep blue
NS	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> ¢	black	blue toned
NS	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> ¢	black	light pink
NS	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> ¢	black	yellow toned
NS	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> ¢	black	yellow green
NS	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> ¢	very deep blue	deep blue
NS	12 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> ¢	black	yellow green
NS	12 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> ¢	black	grey toned

Unfortunately, we may never know the answer to these questions; the archives of the ABNCO have never been made available, and may not be of help in any event. At the time of the great sell-off of Company proofs in 1990 [7], no examples of such proofs were included. Since 1990, there have been rumours that the files and papers of the Company have been destroyed. One can only hope that this is untrue and that the records will yet appear. The former archivist of the company, Ms Aurelia Chen, was not able to provide any information when questioned in 1990.

It should be mentioned that proofs from the trade sample sheets not perforated nor gummed can be found in at least six paper colours and with fifteen or sixteen print colours.

The author most welcomes the views of others and other information that exists on these *strange* and very rare proofs.

## References

- [1] W S Boggs *The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada* Vol 1, p 175, Chambers Publishing Company, Kalamazoo, Mich. USA (1945).
- [2] Norman Boyd *Specimen overprints of British North America* private publication, Windsor ON, May 1990, pp 3-8.
- [3] The Essay-Proof Society of Canada *Essays and Proofs of British North America* K. Minuse & R H Pratt compilers, J.W. Stowell Printing Co Inc, Federalburg, MD (1970).
- [4] L S Holmes, *Specialized Philatelic Catalogue* tenth edition (1963), Ryerson Press, Toronto, pp 235, 239, 275.
- [5] — p 175
- [6] Robson-Lowe Auction Catalogue, London England, 21 July 1948 pp 32, 34 & 35 and Sissons Auction Sale # 489 of 5 December 1989.
- [7] Christies, Robson Lowe, The American Banknote Company Archives—BNA, 13 September 1990, New York.

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# BNA covers to & from Oceania, 1849–1898

Brian D Murphy

**S**EVERAL articles on Canadian transpacific mail have appeared in the philatelic press in recent years. David Whiteley [w1, w2] has written a series on the Canadian Pacific Steamship Company's service to eastern Asia from 1887 onward; Alec Unwin [U1, U2] has described covers through Victoria and Vancouver to the Far East and to Australasia; at least two of George Arfken's many articles describing Canada's international mail during the small queen era and earlier have focused on Australia [A1, A2], and two in his series on accounting marks have discussed pre-UPU covers to east Asia [A3, A4].

Two of eight articles by Matthew Carstairs [C] focused on transpacific routes. His Route N was from San Francisco to east Asia; his Route O was Vancouver to east Asia; his Route L was San Francisco to Sydney. Carstairs barely considered Canadian mail to Pacific islands, lumping them with Australia and New Zealand. He ignored the Vancouver–Sydney route.

Figure 1 shows the Pacific islands that had issued stamps by 1898.

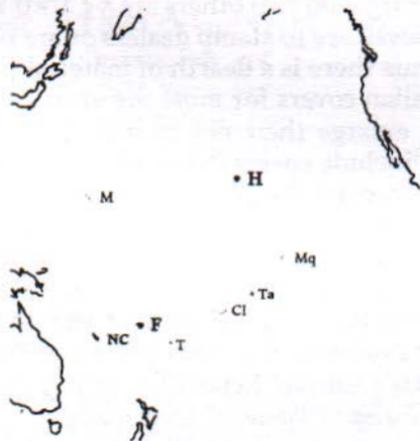


Figure 1. Map showing the islands

With year of first postage stamps: CI Cook Islands (1892); F Fiji (1870); Mq Marquesas (1892); M Marshall Islands (1897); NC New Caledonia (1859); S Samoa (1877 & 1887); T Tonga (1886); Ta Tahiti (1882).

Keywords & phrases: transpacific, Australasia, Hawaii, Fiji, Samoa

With the increasing popularity of covers to overseas destinations, nineteenth century covers have been lotted individually and illustrated in auction catalogues. The most extensive collections have been exhibited, photocopied as reference books, and described in philatelic literature. This record allows one to more precisely investigate relative rarity.

If one considers the period 1851 to 1898—from the first issue of postage stamps in both Oceania (Hawaii) and BNA, until the end of Hawaiian independence and the introduction of Imperial Penny postage—at least 25 letter rate covers from Canada to Hawaii, Fiji, or other Pacific islands have survived. This is barely enough for collecting or description, especially since only four of the covers are pre-1893. However, a more diverse group of 49 covers from Oceania to BNA has also survived, and their inclusion permits more varied collections. Their significance for BNA collections is argued below in the individual sections.

## Hawaii

As can be seen in Table 1 below, at least 16 covers have been recorded from Canada to Hawaii prior to the introduction of Imperial Penny Post; these are mostly taken from Toronto auction catalogues. Undoubtedly there are others, likely including some 5¢ rates, which have not been recorded here.

All but one of the covers are dated in the 1890s. Eleven are 5¢ UPU rates in the period 1893–1895, and two others are 5¢ UPU rates in 1897. Many of these 5¢ rates to Hawaii are to stamp dealers or are philatelically franked. Others are stained. Thus there is a dearth of material. This is as expected—we lack stamped Canadian covers for most pre-UPU overseas rates.

Rate collectors can enlarge their net to include inward, stampless, and provincial covers. We include covers from Hawaii to Canada and the rest of BNA. For this purpose, we list the postal rates from BNA to Hawaii.

The Government of Canada published annual “Tables of Rates of Postage” over the period 1868–1874, and then the quarterly *Canadian Official Postal Guide* from October 1875. From New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, numerous rate tables have survived for 1851–1868, and were published in the early 1960s [AG, JGY]. The Province of Canada produced Postal Guides in 1852 (reproduced in the PMG’s Annual Report for 1852), in 1863, and in 1867, and annual “Tables of Rates of Postage” from 1865.

Postal information also appeared in city directories; these were published almost annually beginning in the 1840s, especially for Montreal and Quebec City. The Canadian Directory for 1857–58 was particularly useful for the details of postal rates, regulations, and schedules, and has been reprinted in BNATopics. The table “Rates for other Foreign Destinations” listed Hawaii and destinations in the Americas (“other” refers to destinations for which mail was not sent via the United Kingdom). Although the directories in-

cluded this “other” table annually from 1860, Hawaii was not listed until 1866. Since it had been listed in the 1863 guide, we know that the Canadian Post Office had made arrangements with the US Post Office to forward its mails to Hawaii. Perhaps the omission was an oversight, or perhaps the Post Office decided that public interest and the quantity of mail was too low. The various rates from these sources, together with the US rates, are shown below in Table 2.

Table 1. Canada to Hawaii (pre-1899)

#	date (dep)	origin	address	franking	backstamps
1	10 Apr 78	Victoria	Rev A Macintosh	5¢, 2¢ × 2 (1)	SF 24/4
2	8 Feb 90	Victoria	Haw'n Pac Cable	5¢ × 4	Honolulu 8/3
3	13 Mar 93	Stanstead		(2) 5¢	Windsor, Honolulu
4	6 Aug 93	Toronto	Honolulu	5¢	SF 13/8 Hon 28/8
5	10 Oct 93	Stanstead		(2) 5¢	
6	30 Nov 93	Fredericton	Haw'n Stamp Co	2¢, 1¢ T	Mon, W, SF, H 22/12
7	22 Mar 94	Toronto	Haw'n Stamp Co	3¢, 1¢, 1/2¢ pr	Honolulu
8	Apr 94	Toronto		(2) 5¢	
9	16 Oct 94	Askin	Haw'n Stamp Co	3¢, 1¢ pr	SF, Honolulu
10	94	Toronto		(2) 1/2¢ × 10	
11	27 May 95	Esquimalt	A F Judd, Ch Just	1/2¢ blk, 1¢ × 3	Honolulu
12	29 May 95	Stanstead	C Clemans, Hon	5¢	
13	10 June 95	Victoria	A F Judd, Hon	5¢	Honolulu
14	10 Jul 95	Little Metis	A J Judd, Ch Just	5¢	(3)
15	12 Sep 97	Vancouver	H W Relley, Hon	5¢	Honolulu 24/9 (4)
16	13 Oct 97	Victoria	Honolulu	5¢ Jubilee	Honolulu

(1) Accounting mark “G”; upper left of front torn away.

(2) Covers 3, 5, 7, & 9 stained.

(3) Endorsed *via San Francisco*.

(4) Endorsed *Per Warrimoo, from Vancouver, 16 Sept.*

*Abbreviations.* SF: San Francisco; H or Hon: Honolulu; Mon: Montreal; W: Windsor; Haw'n: Hawaiian; Ch Just: Chief Justice

*Sources.* S: Sissons Ltd auction catalogues c 1960–1990 (lot number followed by d/m/y date); M: R Maresch & Son auction catalogues c 1960–1990; F: Charles Firby auction catalogues; Hk: Jim A Hennok auction catalogues; MR: Michael Rogers Inc.

*References.* Cover 3: S lot 572 20/2/90; 4: F lot 93 21/9/94, M lot 453 14/6/95; 5: M lot 536 2/10/85; 5: MR lot 1414 24/9/99; 7: M lot 357 26/10/83, F lot 279 29/4/85, F lot 772 18/3/86; 8: S lot 64 26/1/66, S lot 342 16/6/66; 9: LCD lot 209, 7/6/78, M lot 557 4/2/82, S lot 573 20/2/90; 10: S lot 65, 26/1/66, S lot 342, 16/6/66; 11: M lot 358, 26/10/83; 12: M lot 828 9/10/92; 13: M lot 365 26/10/83; 14: M lot 255 22/9/83; 15: [As, 202], [Au, 28], F lot 1123 15/5/97; 16: Hk lot 863 25/9/93.

From 1866–1882, the Canadian rate could more or less be calculated as the US rate from its east coast plus the Canadian domestic rate. The pre-UPU Canadian rates were determined by the US rates to Hawaii because (with one or two exceptions), mail to Hawaii was sent through the US Post Office. In addition, the Hawaiian Post Office charged 5¢ on both incoming and outgoing letters until 1 July 1870.

Table 2. Postage rates to Hawaii

Date	Canada	NB	E Coast of us
1 Apr 55			12¢
Nov 57	2/10 stg		
12 Jan 59		2/9 stg, 3/5 cy	
Jul 60	not listed		
1 Jan 63	20¢		
1 July 63			5¢ (1)
1 Jan 66	10¢		5¢
26 Sep 67		—	
1 July 68		—	
1 July 70		—	6¢
Oct 70	9¢ (2)	—	
Aug 78	6¢	—	
Apr 79	8¢	—	
Jan 82	5¢	—	5¢

(1) The US 5¢ rate effective 1 July 1863 was interrupted 17 September 1864 and restored 2 December 1864.

(2) Although issued October 1870, this rate table was dated 1 July 1870.

*Canada* refers to the Province of Canada until Confederation, when it became Canada, and subsumed New Brunswick. A blank space indicates the rate was not available.

*References.* For the New Brunswick rate, see [AG, p 53].

For the Canadian rates, see John Lovell (pub), *The Canadian Directory for 1857–58*, November 1857, p 897, reprinted in *BNA Topics* #459 (1994), 6–18; *Rates for other Foreign Destinations*, in GH Cherrier (ed), *The Quebec Directory for 1860–61*, July 1860, p 404 (also *ibid* 1861–62, July 1861, p 444; *ibid* 1862–63, July 1862, p 419, *ibid* 1863–64, July 1863, p 429, and *ibid* 1864–65, July 1864, p 472), and in Mackay's *Montreal Directory for 1866–67*, corrected to 21 June 1866, p 435; "Tables of Rates of Postage" in *Lists of Post Offices, 1865–1874*; *Canadian Postal Guides for 1863, 1867*; and *Canadian Official Postal Guides for October 1875 to January 1882*.

For the US rates, see Charles J Starnes, *United States Letter Rates to Foreign Destinations 1847 to GPU-UPU*, Revised Edition, Louisville Ky (1989), pp 21, 53; Robert A Siegel Auction Gallery, "Table C—Summary of US–Hawaiian rates and Postmasters" in *The Honolulu Advertiser Collection*, auction catalogue #769, 7–11 November 1995.

The first listings of Hawaii in BNA rate tables occurred in 1857 (Canada)

and 1859 (New Brunswick). These rates were too high for the US transcontinental route, and both rates applied to mail via England. The Mowbrays [M, p 425] list a 2/4 stg rate from Britain to Hawaii from 1853 to 29 October 1865, apparently via San Francisco, and at least one such cover, posted December 1853, exists (Maresch Auction Sale # 70, August 1973, lot 939). This may have been based on the 2/- rate to Chile (and other points on the Pacific coast of South America) with the 4d port to port rate to Hawaii.

Before the opening of the San Francisco route in 1849, some Hawaiian letters were carried to the Mexican Post Office, to be sent overland to its Caribbean port—Vera Cruz—which was a port for British packets. Other Hawaiian mail was carried to post offices at Panama or even Valparaiso (Siegel Auctions, sale 769, November 1995, eleven lots among lots 2033–2062). Perhaps some British mail was carried from those ports to Hawaii at the 4d sea postage rate, after coming by British packet from England to Vera Cruz or Panama. The resulting 2/4 rate from Britain to Hawaii, when combined with the 6d stg transatlantic rate from BNA to Britain resulted in the 2/10 stg rate from Canada in 1857. In 1859, after Britain had effectively reduced its double transit charge on colonial mail, the combination resulted in the 2/9 stg integrated rate in the New Brunswick table. Neither of these rates, equivalent to about 65¢, nor the route—twice across the Atlantic—were competitive with the American transcontinental service. No covers by this service have been recorded.

Two 1849 covers from Hawaii to New Brunswick have survived. Both were in the John H M Young collection, and were described in 1968 [Y]. Both entires (together with a third posted in late 1847 from Boston) were to Colin Allan in Fredericton, from his namesake.

Young gave the full text of the three letters so we know that the writer was a New Brunswick lawyer who joined a New Bedford whaling expedition, and by 1849 was practising law in Hawaii. Since the Hawaiian post office was not created until 1850, these two covers were carried privately to a US post office. The first, dated 21 February 1849, was put into the post at Boston 27 August 1849. The second, dated 23 September 1849, was mailed at San Francisco 1 November 1849, and rated 42¢ made up from the 2¢ ship letter fee and the 40¢ US transcontinental rate to New Bedford. This 40¢ rate was in effect 1847–1852. The 42¢ was later converted to 2/3. When the cover re-appeared in the V G Greene sale in 1975, auctioneer Jim Sissons added that it was backstamped 27 March 1850 at St Andrews, New Brunswick. Both of these covers are listed in the Appendix.

Hawaii first appeared in the Provincial Canadian rate tables in 1863. One would expect that the Canadian Post Office would have charged 17¢, made up of the 12¢ US rate plus the 5¢ domestic fee. However, it set the rate at 20¢, giving itself an extra 3¢. No cover to Hawaii from Canada—stamped

or stampless—has been reported from this era. However, five covers from Hawaii to BNA are known to exist: three to Vancouver Island, 1861–1864, and two to Nova Scotia in 1865. (See the Appendix.) The first three covers, to J Hardisty of the Hudson's Bay Co at Victoria VI, were in a Maresch auction in 1973; two of them re-appeared in his sale (# 140) of the de Volpi fur trade collection in 1982; the same two covers were exhibited by Allan Steinhart at CAPEX '96. They are illustrated in Figure 2.

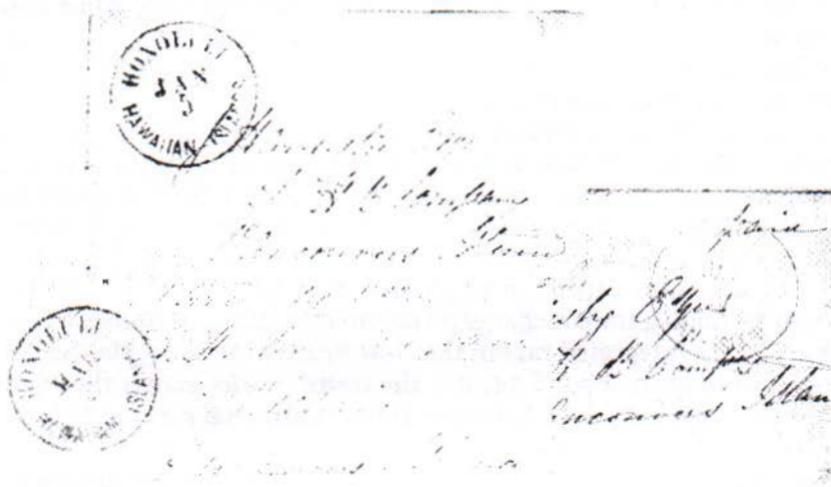


Figure 2. Honolulu–Victoria VI (1861–1864)  
Numbers 3–5 of Table 6a (in the Appendix).

All three were posted in Hawaii and have strikes of the Honolulu despatch postmark; none have San Francisco transits, or any other postmark. Therefore it is unlikely that they were sent by San Francisco, the usual route. Probably they were carried directly to Victoria, perhaps by Hudson's Bay Company ship, and not turned into the Victoria Post Office.

One of the two 1865 covers to Nova Scotia is illustrated in Figure 3. It was posted at Honolulu on 27 December 1864 with the 5¢ Hawaiian postage paid in cash, and the 17¢ US postage (2¢ ship letter fee and 15¢ from California to Nova Scotia) paid in US stamps. It arrived in San Francisco on 23 January, and there are no backstamps—unusual in that Nova Scotia postmasters almost always applied receivers.

Since US transcontinental postage had been reduced from 10¢ to 3¢ on 1 July 1863—eighteen months earlier—it is surprising that this cover had 17¢ and not 10¢ US postage. However, the other 1865 Hawaiian cover to Nova Scotia paid the same postage, so the rate may be correct. Canada did not reduce its rates through the US transcontinental routes until 1 July 1864,

a year after the US Post Office had, and perhaps Hawaii was even slower. Or perhaps after the US reduced its transcontinental domestic rate to 3¢, it continued the 10¢ transcontinental charge to the Canadian, Hawaiian, and other foreign post offices.



Figure 3. Honolulu–Halifax (1864)

Number 6 of Table 6a.

By January 1866, the Provincial Canadian rate had been reduced to 10¢, which is consistent with the 5¢ US rate to Hawaii plus 5¢ domestic Canadian postage. This 10¢ rate was repeated in the January 1867 Tables of Rates of Postage in the *List of Post Offices*, but not in the January 1867 Canadian Postal Guide. Indeed, the entire “By United States” table that included Hawaii and North American destinations was dropped from that guide. No cover (stamped or stampless) from BNA has been reported; however, one from Hawaii to Victoria VI in August–September 1866 illustrates the rates of this period. (See the Appendix.)

Contract monthly service from San Francisco to Hawaii began 26 September 1867, and the US Post Office increased the letter rate to Hawaii to 10¢. The ships that carried out this contract and their sailing dates are known [G]. The Canadian Post Office continued the 10¢ rate. One might have expected a 13¢ rate—the US 10¢ plus 3¢ domestic Canadian postage. At the time, other Canadian overseas rates for service through the US were identical to the US rates. The Duckworths [D, p 305] have noted that the currency exchange rate worked to the Canadian Post Office advantage. They cite, as does Boggs, an example from March 1869 when the Canadian Post Office thought that 73½¢ Canadian was worth \$1 US. This exchange rate allowed the Canadian Post Office both to meet its internal 3¢ rate and to pay 10¢ US from 10¢ Canadian. No covers between Hawaii and BNA have been recorded

for this three year period 26 August 1867–30 June 1870.

When a postal treaty, effective 1 July 1870, between Hawaii and the US created a 6¢ rate, the Canadian advantage in the exchange rate was only 10–13%. The Canadian Post Office therefore set its rate to Hawaii at 9¢, made up of the US rate plus the domestic Canadian charge. This rate was listed in the Canadian Official Postal Guides from October 1870 until April 1878. A cover from Canada at this 9¢ rate is shown in Figure 4.



Figure 4. Victoria–Hawaii (1878)

Number 1 in Table 1. A somewhat damaged cover displaying the possibly unique 9¢ rate.

The cover was posted at Victoria on 10 April 1878 with the 9¢ fully prepaid by a 5¢ and two 2¢ small queens. Before forwarding the cover to San Francisco, then the only connection to Hawaii, the Canadian Post Office credited 6¢ to the US Post Office with a “6” accounting mark on the front.

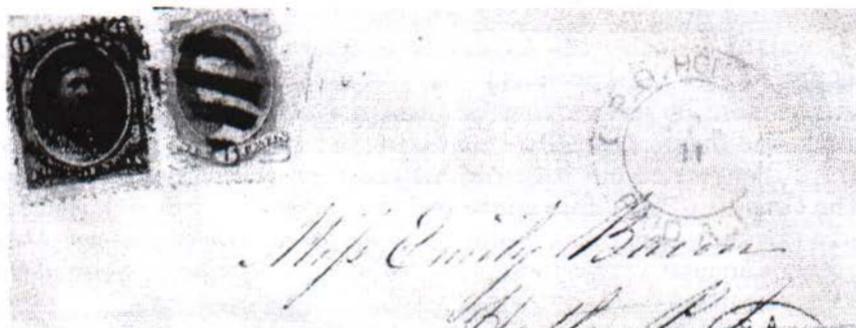


Figure 5. Honolulu–Hatley (1873)

Number 11 in Table 6a. Showing the upper half of the cover; a San Francisco cds dated APR 22 appears at the bottom right.

The American-Hawaiian postal treaty did not include arrangements for Hawaii to credit money to the US Post Office to forward its letters beyond the US. Thus Hawaiians franked covers with 6¢ in Hawaiian stamps to the US, and with US stamps to pay the onward US postage. At least eight such mixed franking covers to Canada have survived, and are listed in the Appendix. Six of these eight covers were mailed before 1 February 1875 when the US rate to Canada was 6¢, and so they were franked with 6¢ US (or were overpaid or were multiples) together with 6¢ Hawaiian. One is illustrated in Figure 5. The other two covers date from 1876 and 1880—after the US rate to Canada had been reduced to 3¢—so one was franked with 6¢ US in addition to the 6¢ Hawaiian; the other was a five times rate, and so was paid 15¢ US and 30¢ Hawaiian.

When Hawaii joined the UPU on 1 January 1882, the letter rate from Canada was reduced to 5¢. One of the UPU covers is shown in Figure 6. It is notable both as the earliest recorded UPU cover to Hawaii, and as the only multiply rate—a quadruple. It was posted at Victoria on 8 February 1890, prepaid with a strip of four 5¢ small queens. Although it does not have a San Francisco transit, it must have gone by that route. There was no regular Vancouver–Hawaii service until 1893, and no mention of a special direct mail in the Vancouver or Victoria newspapers in early February 1890. The cover has a Honolulu receiver of 8 March 1890.



Figure 6. Victoria–Honolulu (1890)

Number 2 in Table 1.

A cover with postage due is shown in Figure 7. After 1898, when the United States took over Hawaii, the Canadian letter rate to Hawaii would be the same as the that to the US; however, this was not the case in 1893. This cover was prepaid only the 3¢ domestic rate, instead of the 5¢ UPU rate; thus it was 2¢ shortpaid, and so marked T10 (centimes). The Montreal post

office sent the cover to Windsor for the San Francisco route, even though a Canadian-Australian Line ship would leave Vancouver a few days later. Perhaps the Montreal post office was aware that their ship *Warrimoo* had run aground in Hawaii earlier, and assumed that there would be no Vancouver sailing. However, the line leased the *Awara*, which arrived at Vancouver on 12 December 1893, and probably left a few days later.

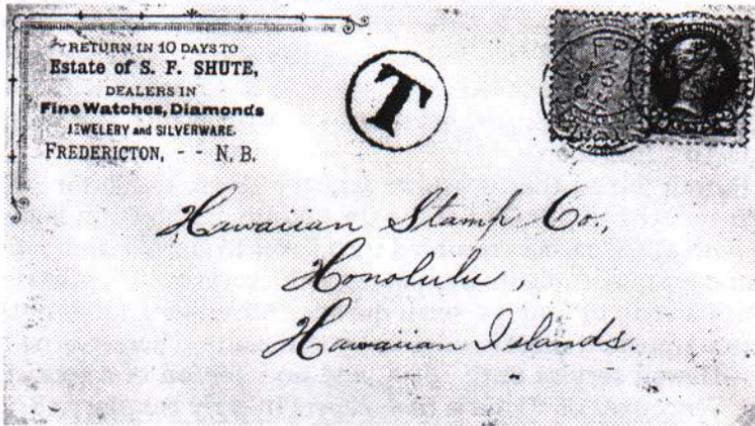


Figure 7. Fredericton–Honolulu postage due (1893)  
Number 6 in Table 1.

Cover #14 in Table 1 has been illustrated and briefly discussed twice by Arfken [AS, 202; AU, 28]. It was posted at Vancouver on 12 September 1897 and endorsed *Per Warrimoo from Vancouver, Sept. 16*. This is one of the few covers in Table 1 that went via Vancouver. However, one or two covers from Hawaii to Canada came by San Francisco and were then returned to Hawaii through Vancouver. (See #26 & 27 in Table 6 in the Appendix.)

Cover #14 was carried by the steamer *Warrimoo*, which belonged to the Canadian-Australian Royal Mail Steamship line. The latter ran between Vancouver and Sydney via Honolulu and Suva. This line was an important postal link to the world for Fiji, and is part of the story of Canada's postal relations with Fiji.

## Fiji

Fiji appeared in Canadian rate tables in 1874, four years after issuing stamps. It was on the ocean lane to Australia, and the rates from Canada were the same as those to Australia. Like the smaller western Australian colonies, Fiji did not join with New Zealand and New South Wales to support us service to Australia. As with the smaller western Australian colonies, the

rate from Canada to Fiji was 10¢ until about July 1875, 8¢ until April 1879, and then 7¢ until Fiji and the other Australasian colonies joined the UPU on 1 October 1891. Covers to Fiji are rare. Six are listed in Table 3 below.

Table 3. Canada to Fiji (pre-1899)

#	date (dep)	origin	address	franking	backstamps
17	11 Jul 87	Halifax	Hedstrum, Suva (1)	2¢ <i>printed matter</i>	W 14/7, SF 20/7, DLO 29/7
18	10 Mar 98	Vanc'r	Sturt, Ogilvie; Suva	5¢ sq	(2)
19	11 Mar 98	Vic	Sturt, Ogilvie; Suva	3¢ sq × 2, 5¢ ml	Suva 29/7
20	98		Sturt, Ogilvie; Suva	2¢, 3¢ ml	Suva
21	98		Sturt, Ogilvie; Suva	2¢, 3¢ ml	Suva
22	98		Sturt, Ogilvie; Suva	5¢ ml	Suva

(1) Endorsed *Contains correspondence subject to letter postage*, apparently at San Francisco and sent to Canadian DLO.

(2) Endorsed *Per Aorangi /ss/*

*References.* (See Table 1.) Cover 17: Wellburn, Leggett; 18: F lot 1061 15/5/97 Arfken; 19: M lot 686 4/2/82 Ayre; 20: McGuire, Jacobsen; 21: [F].

*Additional abbreviations.* (See also Table 1.) ml: maple leaves (the stamps); sq: small queens.

Only one of these covers is pre-1898. The other (1898) covers are part of a small commercial correspondence from 1898–1902. Unfortunately, only one cover from Fiji to Canada has been recorded (see the Appendix).

However, eight covers from Fiji to other destinations via Vancouver—with Canadian backstamps—are known: three to Scotland, two to Bermuda, and three to the United States. Additionally, one cover to Fiji from Britain and endorsed *Via Vancouver*, and another to Fiji from the United States via Vancouver—with a Vancouver backstamp—exist. These ten covers are listed in the Appendix, and the last one is illustrated in Figure 8. It is from the same commercial correspondence as the five 1898 Canadian covers.

The endorsement “per AORANGI via Vancouver” is typed in the lower left. With the Vancouver backstamp of 21 August 1898, we obtain Canadian content. There is also a GPO Suva receiver of 11 September 1898. All ten covers were carried by the Canadian-Australian Royal Mail Steamship line which began (with Sydney–Vancouver service) 18 May 1893, when the *Miowera* left Sydney for Vancouver, via Hawaii [*two Australian covers to Canada are known from this initial voyage*—ed]. In October 1893, Fiji had been added to the route and the first Fijian mail via Vancouver reached London in 35 days, at least two weeks faster than previously [PMG, xv]. This became an important route to the rest of the world for Fiji [E1]. However, the line stopped calling at Suva at the end of 1895, resuming the stops during the period August 1897 to August 1899, and again from March 1902 until

about 1950. It may be that the three covers in the period November 1896 to February 1897 did not go via Vancouver.



Figure 8. San Francisco–Suva via Vancouver (1898)  
Number 40 in Table 6b. Endorsed in typescript.

## Samoa

Samoa, Tonga, and the Cook Islands do not appear in the Postal Guides, although the Society Islands (Tahiti) are mentioned. No nineteenth century Canadian cover to Samoa has been recorded. Thus for philatelists of Canada, the covers from Samoa to Canada are important, and at least five exist. Before 1886, only informal and then private postal arrangements—the “Samoa Express” of 1877–1881—had existed.

A German postal agency was established on 21 September 1886, and three months later, a Samoan post office was established to serve foreigners. Two months later the German post office on Samoa joined the UPU. Although Samoa never joined the UPU, its stamps were accepted internationally. On 1 March 1900, Samoa was divided between Germany and United States, and the stamps and post office replaced with their colonial systems.

In 1978, 273 Samoan stamped covers in the period 1887–1900 were listed [O], including three to Canada in 1895 and 1897. (There was also an 1899 cover outside our period.)

Two Samoan covers are illustrated in [BU] (see the Appendix). Both are remarkable. One was written in Samoa on 29 December 1868, and carried privately to Sydney NSW where it was stamped and put into the post 2 March 1869; it arrived in Oakville (ON) on 2 June 1869. (The return cover would have had 23¢ payable in large queens, to Samoa, in care of an agent in Sydney!). The second cover is a Samoan bisect.

One collection of Samoa/US mixed frankings includes twelve covers 1888–

1896, and another Samoa collection contains about a dozen similar covers 1885–1901. Both collections include covers to Europe, but none to Canada.

Figure 9 shows an 1897 cover from Samoa to Canada. The 2½d Samoan postage was accepted by both the American and Canadian post offices. The stamps were cancelled at Apia Samoa 6 October 1897, although the cover has a backstamp dated 2, from the New Zealand ship *Alameda*. The cover was mailed on the ship, and put into the Samoan Post Office four days later. It arrived at Windsor from San Francisco on the 26th and at Montreal on the 27th. It has four Montreal postmarks, and no sign of postage due. Non-UPU Samoa was treated as a UPU member.

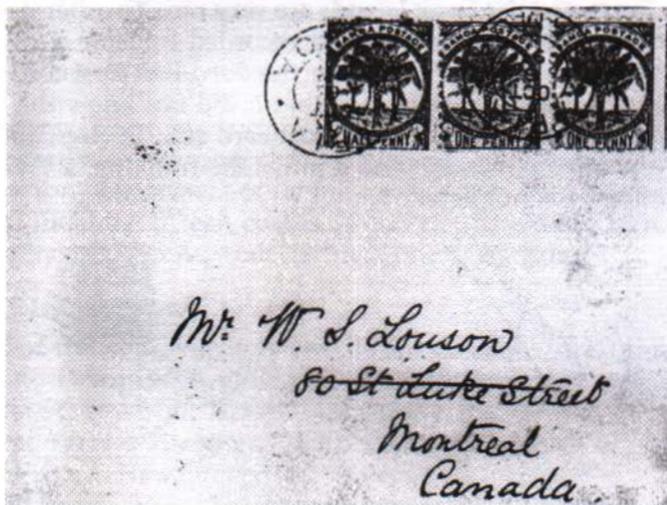


Figure 9. Samoa to Canada (1897)

Number 47 in Table 6c. Mailed on board the *Alameda*. Back-stamped New Zealand Marine Post Office 2 Oct 1897, Windsor 26 Oct 1897, and Montreal 27 Oct 1897

## Other Islands

Other Pacific islands appear in the Postal Guide in 1877—nine colonies of France (routed via San Francisco)—New Caledonia and two dependencies (Loyalty Islands & Isle of Pines), Tahiti, the Marquesas, and smaller islands.

Canada Official Postal Guides of the late 1880s mention German colonies: northern New Guinea and the Marshall Islands. Shipping service to them was begun by Nord-Deutscher-Lloyd on 16 September 1886 from Bremen & Antwerp via the Mediterranean & Sydney. Mail was sent via Brindisi. The Marshall Islands joined the UPU on 1 October 1888 [WH, 315].

Table 4. Canada to other islands (pre-1899)

#	date (dep)	origin	address	franking	backstamps
23	5 Jul 89	Quebec	Roulet, Paris, fwd NC	5¢	Hye NC 14/9
24	24 Jan 96	Toronto	J Scard, CI	2¢ ps, 3¢, 1¢, 2¢, ½¢ × 2	UK&NZ Rar 16/4
25	28 Jan 97	Montreal	J Scard, Rarotonga CI	2¢ ps, ½¢ × 6	Rarotonga 24/3

References. Cover 24: [AS, p 379], [AU, p 73], F lot 1049 15/5/97; 25: [AU, p 23], F lot 1048 15/5/97.

Additional abbreviations. CI: Cook Islands; NC: New Caledonia; Hye: Hyenghene (New Caledonia); Rar: Rarotonga (Cook Islands).

Covers to Tonga and the Cook Islands are very rare; to other destinations, they are non-existent. Three covers are recorded in Table 4. At least two of these were sent via Europe. Perhaps the Canadian Post Office handled so little mail for some of these islands that it did not know the best route. Another cover—a stained 1¢ numeral post card sent in December 1898 to Tahiti with a philatelic message and a philatelic franking, a ½¢ maple leaf and a ½¢ numeral—is not listed.



Figure 10. Québec–France, forwarded to New Caledonia (1889)  
Number 23 in Table 4.

Cover # 23 is illustrated in Figure 10. At first glance, it appears to be an ordinary cover to Paris. A closer look reveals that in Paris, the cover was endorsed on the back: *en mission, a Noumea, Nouvelle Calédonie* (the accents are not present in the endorsement), then forwarded eastward the full length of France's sea route "T" by Messageries Maritimes, to Nouméa (New Caledonia), in French Oceania [s, pp 45, 106, 108–109] & [κ, 73 ff & 83 ff]. In New Caledonia, the cover was forwarded to (H)Yenguene, as marked on the

front upper left, and backstamped Hyenghene, New Caledonia 14 September 1889. Curiously, no postage beyond the 5¢ Canadian was necessary. Table 5 contrasts the rates by this route with those by similar British routes.

The British rates increased with distance from 10¢ to 15¢ to 19¢ as one went eastward; the French rates were similar, until suddenly at the route's greatest distance, the rate dropped to 5¢!

**Table 5. Canadian letter rates, Oct 87–Dec 91**

Destination 	Aden	Seychelles & Réunion	India	W Aus	e Aus	Oceania
British routes	10¢	10¢	10¢	15¢	19¢	–
French routes	–	10¢	10¢	–	–	5¢

*Source.* Canadian Official Postal Guides, October 1887 to December 1891.

Only four covers to Canada from Pacific islands other than Hawaii or Fiji have been recorded—two from the Cook Islands, and two from Samoa. One collection of Tonga (Harmers of Sydney, sale # 292 on 30 June 1983, lots 1252–1271) included fifteen covers 1892–1898, nine to Europe and the United Kingdom, five to Australasia, but none to Canada.

## Conclusion

Almost half of the approximately two dozen Canadian pre-Imperial Penny Post covers to Oceania are philatelic or are damaged 5¢ rates to Hawaii. However, the covers from Hawaii—especially the 16 pre-UPU to BNA—display varied rates and routes. With these, philatelists of BNA material can document BNA-Hawaiian postal relations.

Only a few covers from Canada to Fiji prior to 1899 have survived, and just one cover in the reverse direction has been recorded. At least eight Fijian covers to other destinations via Vancouver exist, as well as another to Fiji via Vancouver. These covers, carried by a shipping line that was an integral part of Canadian postal relations with Oceania, add to the diversity of material for Canadian collections.

Despite the dearth of covers from Canada to Oceania, collectors can form diverse collections by including incoming, stampless, or provincial covers.

## Appendix. Covers from Oceania to Canada

Four tables of covers Oceania–Canada are presented here. The two largest sources for them are the Honolulu Advertiser collection of Hawaii (Siegel, 1995), and the de Volpi collection of pre-1901 covers to Canada (Sissons, 1966). Postcards, as well as a few philatelic or damaged covers are not listed.

Table 6a. Covers Hawaii-B N A (pre-1899)

#	date (dep)	origin	address	franking	backstamps
1	21 Feb 49	Honolulu	Allan, Freder' ton		Boston, SJ
2	23 Sept 49	Lahuana, Maui	ditto	ship 42¢, 2/3 collect	SF, SA
3	14 May 61	Honolulu	Hardisty, Vic	none	none
4	21 Mar 67	Honolulu	ditto	none	none
5	5 Jan 64	Honolulu	ditto	none	none
6	27 Dec 64	Honolulu	Halifax	12¢, 5¢ US	SF 23/1/65
7	14 Oct 65		Yarmouth	ditto	SF 15/11/65
8	15 Aug 66	Honolulu	HBC, Victoria	10¢ US, "10" collect?	SF 18/9
9	1 Feb 71		Kentville	5¢, 1¢ Haw, 3¢ × 2 US (1)	SF
10	1 Aug ?	Honolulu	Toronto	6¢ Haw, 10¢ US	SF 14/8
11	11 Apr 73	Honolulu	Hatley QC	6¢ Haw, 6¢ US	SF, Mon
12	7 Jul 74	Honolulu	ditto	6¢ Haw, 3¢ × 2, US	SF 77/8
13	24 Sep 74	Honolulu	ditto	6¢, 5¢, 2¢ Haw, 6¢ × 2 US	SF, Mon
14	74			US #158 × 2	SF?
15	late 76	Honolulu	Winnipeg (b/s)	6¢ × 5 Haw, 3¢ × 5 US	SF 13/12
16	29 Oct 80	Hilo	Hatley QC	6¢ Haw, 1¢ × 3 US	H 2/11, SF 2/11
17	1 Feb 84	Honolulu	Toronto	10¢ Haw	"Late Letter Mail"
18	1 Oct 84	Honolulu	Esquimault	15¢ Haw, Late fee?	SF, Victoria
19	12 Apr 85	Honolulu	Montreal	5¢ Haw	
20	10 May 88	Hiloa?	Charlottetown	5¢ Haw (damaged)	Honolulu cds
21	7 Dec 92	Honolulu	Bowmanville	2¢ × 5 Haw	
22	15 May 94	Honolulu	Comm'l Cross PEI	5¢ Haw	
23	3 Nov 94	Honolulu	Toronto	2¢ × 4, 5¢ Haw	
24	2 Dec 95	Honolulu	Sweden	10¢ Haw	Victoria 10/12
25	Mar 96		(2)	5¢, 2¢, Haw	Victoria 23/3
26	19 Oct 96	Honolulu	Stanstead QC	5¢ Haw	SF, Van, Hon
27	18 Dec 96	Honolulu	Bickel, Bavaria	10¢ PS Haw	Vic, Bavaria
28	31 May 98	Honolulu	Toronto	5¢ Haw	SF, DLO, Hon
29	26 July 98	Honolulu	Stanstead (b/s)	5¢ × 2 Haw	Van, Hatley
30	6 July 98	Honolulu	Toronto	5¢ Haw	
31	94-99		BC	"unremarkable"	

(1) The 1¢ is paid by a rare bisected 2¢; the description mentions another similar cover to Nova Scotia, which is not listed here.

(2) Rottach-Egern, Germany.

*Additional abbreviations.* SJ: Saint John; SA: St Andrews NB; Haw: Hawaii.

*Additional sources.* Ca: Cavendish Philatelic Auctions Ltd, Derby England; C (NY): Christie's New York; C (RL): Christie's Robson Lowe, London; R Laird, Toronto; Sg: Robert A Siegel Auction Galleries, New York (especially The Honolulu Advertiser Collection (HA)), auction catalogue 769, 7-11 November 1995); SI: Steve Ivy Philatelic Auctions, Dallas Texas;

So: Sotheby's, New York; rw: Richard Wolffers, San Francisco.

*References.* 1: JHM Young, S lot 1054 3/12/64, Topics 264 (Mar 68); 2: JHM Young, S lot 1055 3/12/64; Topics 265 (Apr 68), VG Greene S lot 6 10/7/75; 3: M lot 941 26/4/73; de Volpi, fur trade M lot 98 26/5/82, Allan Steinhart; 4: M lot 942 26/4/73; 5: M lot 943 26/4/73; de Volpi, fur trade M lot 99 26/5/82, Allan Steinhart; 6: HA Sg lot 2213 7/11/95; 7: si lot 2113 28/10/93; 8: Sg lot 53 12/11/98; 9: Ryohei Ishikawa C NY lot 633 28/9/93; 10: HA Sg lot 3277 7/11/95; 11: HA Sg lot 3270 7/11/95; 12: de Volpi S lot 71 15/6/66; 13: HA Sg lot 3254 7/11/95; 14: So lot 130 23/3/94; 15: Sg lot 447 12/11/98; 16: HA Sg lot 3272 7/11/95; 17: Sg lot 679 7/5/97; 18: de Volpi S lot 112 15/6/66, HA Sg; 19: de Volpi S lot 111 15/6/66; 20: Sg lot 677 7/5/97; 21: de Volpi S lot 113 15/6/66; 22: HA Sg lot 3513 7/11/95; 23: de Volpi S lot 114 15/6/66; 24: HA Sg lot 3503 7/11/95; 25: HA Sg lot 3509 7/11/95; 26: rw lot 1619 3/5/94; 27: R Laird 8/7/82; 27: [u2, p 91]; 29: Sg lot 539 12/11/98; 30: M lot 475 25/6/97; 31: Sg lot 549 12/11/98.

## Table 6b. Covers Fiji–BNA (pre-1899)

#	date (dep)	origin	address	franking	backstamps
32	14 Feb 87	Suva	Galt ON	2d × 2, 4d/2d × 2	
33	6 June 95	Suva	Hamilton Bermuda	2½d	Victoria, NY
34	24 June 95	Suva	Mrs Hunter, Scotland	2½d (1)	
35	21 Nov 95	Suva	Hamilton Bermuda	2d × 2, 1d/5d	Victoria, NY
36	95	Levaka	us	2½d	Suva, Victoria
37	14 Nov 96	Suva	Mrs Hunter, Scotland	5d, 2½d (1)	London 19/12
38	16 Dec 96	Chelmsford UK	Sheaf, Fiji	2½d CB (1)	Suva 29/1, Levaka
39	15 Feb 97	Suva	Mrs Hunter, Scotland	4d, 2½d (1)	L'pool 23/3
40	18 Aug 98	SF	Sturt, Ogilvie, Suva	2¢, 3¢ us (2)	Van 21/8, Suva
41	13 Dec 98	Suva	Connecticut	2½d (3)	Victoria 29/12
42	5 Apr 98	Suva	Fremont, Nebraska	2½d Vic	Seattle, Fremont

(1) Endorsed *Via Vancouver*.

(2) Endorsed *per AORANGI via Vancouver*.

(3) Endorsed *per Warrimoo via Vancouver*.

*References.* 32: CAPEX '96 frame 2243; 33: C (RL) lot 851 7/6/88; 34: CAPEX '96 frame 2245; 35: CAPEX '96 frame 2245; 36: Ca lot 3469 12/9/98; 37: [u2, p 99]; 38: [u2, p 92]; 39: CAPEX '96 frame 2242; 41: C (RL) lot 176 3/6/92. 42: [u2, p 98];

## Table 6c. Samoa–BNA (pre-1899)

#	date (dep)	origin	address	franking	backstamps
43	29 Dec 68	Malua, Samoa	Nisbet, Oakville	6d + others - 11d NSW	Sydney NSW, Lon
44	22 May 95	Apia	Bullman, W'peg	1/- bisected	SF 8/6
45	11 Aug 97	Apia	Nova Scotia	6d + us #272, reg'd	
46	6 Oct 97	Apia	Lousen, Montreal	½d, 1d, 2d, 2½d, reg'd	
47	6 Oct 97	Alameda	Lousen, Montreal	1d × 2, ½d	Apia, W, M

*References.* 43: rw 17/6/77 [BU, p 34]; 44: [BU, pp 92–93].

Table 6d. Other islands—B N A (pre-1899)

#	date (dep)	origin	address	franking	backstamps
48	13 Mar 94	Rarotonga	W E Muir, Mon	1½d, 2½d, 5d	Auckland, Wi
49	10 Dec 97	Rarotonga	Montreal	1½d, 1d, 2½	Auckland, Wi

References. 48: M lot 1414 7/10/97; 49: CAPEX '96 frame 2271.

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- [AU] ——— *Canada and the Universal Postal Union*, Unitrade, Toronto (1992).
- [A1] ——— *The mystery of the red 45—resolved*, PHSC Journal, 73 (1993) 9-12.
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#### U P U postcard, Honolulu–Port Hope (1895)

Brian's article does not cover post cards. This one is addressed to CJS Bethune, father of Norman (known as a hero to more people in the world than any other Canadian). Mailed on board the *ss Mariposa* of the Oceanic Steamship Co, docked at Honolulu. Stamped with a San Francisco transit mark on reverse. —ed

# The ten cent small queen

*Paul Barker*

**O**N 20 November 1874, the American Journal of Philately announced a new denomination of small queens, namely the 10¢. Since the earliest recorded usage of this issue is 2 November 1874, it is generally assumed that this stamp was released on 1 November.

A total of 2,543,250 stamps were issued to postmasters from Montreal printings and a further 1,724,200 were issued from the Ottawa printings. The total number was 4,267,450 over the years 1874–1897. Stamps of the Montreal printings were issued 1874–late 1888, and those of the Ottawa printings 1888–1897.

*Shades* One of the main attractions to philatelists of the 10¢ is the wide range of colour and shades to be found. Each time that we think that every shade has been identified, a new crossover shade is found; this shows how many shades exist. Many exist, since in those days the printers ink components were measured by the pound at the whim of the printer. Now we are graced with an amazing array of shades.

The first two 1874 printings were printed in a delicate pale milky pink and milky rose shade. There are stories of dealers who sold these stamps cheaply in the past, thinking they were faded or cataloguing them as the much cheaper dull rose.

Shades of the Montreal printings range from pale milky pink and rose to pale lilac, magenta, dull rose lilac and deep lilac, in varying degrees of brightness and intensity. There is always a lilac shade present, with none of the warm fleshy red brown of the Ottawa printings.

Ottawa printings, on the other hand, tend to range over rose carmine, salmon pink, deep salmon red, brownish rose, orange brown, brown red and deep brick brown. Ottawa shades differ from the Montreal shades in that there is a fleshy red or orange throughout the entire printings, while the Montreal printings have a lilac influence.

The rose carmine shade of Ottawa is often confused with the Montreal printings by the novice, since this Ottawa shade most closely resembles the Montreal dull rose shade, but closer inspection of the gum and shades readily shows the differences. Of course collectors always want to try and increase the value of their holdings by identifying their stamps as a more valuable Scott listing, so it is understandable that Ottawa #45s are sometimes listed as the more valuable Montreal #40. The same can be said for listing more common lilacs with respect to the more valuable magentas.

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Keywords & phrases: 10¢ small queen

While on the subject of the Montreal magenta shades, there seems to be general confusion among collectors and dealers as to what this shade actually looks like. I belong to the Maresch school of thought and adhere to the colour chart they produced during the Simpson sales. In my opinion, the magenta shade is a specific dull purple that is found on some of the early perf 11.6×11.9 stamps of the mid- to late 1870 stamps, and on some of the perf 12 printings of 1880.

However many collectors and dealers, including some noted experts, continue to confound lilacs and magentas. This is a matter of opinion, and no one can say who is correct. However, for correct catalogue descriptions and identifications, the philatelic community should try to agree on one standard. Perhaps the Maresch colour chart should become that standard.

*Perforations* In the first two years the early printings were perforated with a gauge of 11.6×11.9; about 250,000–300,000 were printed. It has been reported by the respected Ted Nixon, that in late 1876, a perf 12.1×12.1 was issued [*let's call it perf 12—ed*]; this is right in the middle of the 11.6×11.9 period. After 1876 all printings are perf 12.

Robson Lowe auctioned an early lilac magenta in January 1974 of perf 12.5 perforation, but with a slightly smaller pitch than the perf head used on the 1870 perf 12.5 3¢ small queen. No other specimens with this perforation have been found, so it must be assumed that an experimental or seldom used perf wheel was used for a very small number of sheets or a single sheet.

Two blocks of early magenta stamps with compound vertical small and large hole perforations from the 11.6×11.9 period were featured in the Don Bowen Auction on 17 June 1995 (lots 2086 & 2087).

Imperforate stamps exist only with the late Ottawa brown red shade.

*Gum* Knowing which gum to expect on a mint stamp can greatly assist in determining whether a stamp is a Montreal printing, an Ottawa printing [*or a fake—ed*]. The gum on perf 12 Montreal printings tends to be flat, white and smooth. The perf 11.6×11.9 issues have notoriously streaky, bubbly and flat white gum. The gum on the Ottawa printings tends to be shiny and yellowish in colour.

*Plates* A single 100-subject plate was made and it is believed to be the first to be given the Montreal type V imprint. A counter, 10, is located above the second stamp on the sheet, and TEN in serified shaded letters is situated above the ninth stamp. There is one fresh entry on stamp 9 in the ninth row. While the plate never needed repairs, a slight pitting developed in the right hand zero of stamp 1 of the third row. Stamps from this position showing this pitted zero are known as the pitted zero variety.

The only other constant plate variety recorded is a scratch that developed c1885 through the 1 of the right hand 10 in stamp 8 of row 9.

*Usage* The 10¢ small queen was used *inter alia* for the following:

- ☒ single letter rate to Germany until 31 March 1877 and to Belgium, the Netherlands and Switzerland via Belgium until 31 July 1878; after this, UPU rates apply
- ☒ double letter rate to each of the United Kingdom from 1 October 1875, to Newfoundland from 1 January 1877, and to Germany from 1 April 1877, and to most members of the UPU after 1 August 1878
- ☒ prepayment of patterns and samples to the US from 1 January 1875
- ☒ single letter rate to UPU members deemed *remote* (i.e., no direct route) after 1 August 1878 (remote meant that there was no direct route)
- ☒ From 1 August 1878, combined single letter rate and registration fee to most UPU members.

[For a list of known covers franked with one or more 10¢ small queens, and a detailed discussion of their uses, see [A]—ed]

*Relative scarcity* Overall, the Montreal printings (Scott 40) are much more difficult to find than the Ottawa printings (Scott 45). The first Montreal printings, namely the pale milky rose shades (Scott 40c) are rare—the largest recorded mint multiple is a pair.

Mint multiples of the issue are extremely scarce, and multiples from the Montreal printings are scarcer than those of the Ottawa printings.

All the early perf 11.6 × 11.9 stamps are very scarce, and all Montreal and Ottawa never hinged mint stamps are very scarce, particularly never hinged Montreal printings.

Among the Ottawa printings, the deep brick brown shade of 1896 is very scarce, but the scarcest Ottawa shade is true pink (Scott 45b), which is seldom seen. Most common of the Ottawa printings is rose carmine (Scott 45a), which is often confused with the Montreal dull rose lilac (Scott 40).

*Summary* The 10¢ small queen offers the collector a fascinating challenge to the collection, in part due to the range of shades (resulting from different locales and long period of printing).

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# Another funny fable

Horace Harrison OTB

[Horace Harrison relates this wonderful story about the 2¢ large queen block of eighteen that shows the complete Bothwell watermark.]

JIM Sissons wanted Gerald Firth to start collecting cancellations, since there were many wonderful ones in the Jarrett sales that he was conducting at the time. Jim knew that I was an enthusiastic cancel collector, so he introduced me to Firth at one of the early sales. As I was as interested in the first Dominion issue as Firth, we hit it off at once. He asked me to accompany him on his drive back to Pittsburgh, spend two nights in his home, and fly back to Baltimore from Pittsburgh on Sunday rather than from Toronto on Friday. I accepted at once.

Following the sale, we set out for Pittsburgh on Friday morning, with Gerald driving. By now we were on a first name basis. On the way, he recounted his troubles at the border on one of his return trips. He was still a British citizen, even though he had been resident in the US since about 1910, except for the years of the Great War. (He had returned to England to join his regiment and lost his leg in the 1915 Battle of the Somme.) The immigration officer had asked him where he was born, and his reply had been England. Despite his driver's license, automobile title, and Pennsylvania license tags, he was detained as a potential illegal immigrant for a day or so. As I had to get back to work on Monday morning, I became concerned as we neared the Buffalo border crossing. When we stopped at the Immigration Officer's station, he asked Gerald where he lived, and he replied Pittsburgh. He then asked me where I was born, and I replied Baltimore, and he waved us on through to Customs. I heaved a sigh of relief. I wonder what the result would have been if the questions had been reversed!

Saturday morning, I finally asked Firth if he had ever accumulated any covers. He admitted that he had neglected postal history, but that he did have a few somewhere. He began a search of his large desk and near the end, asked me to pull out the bottom righthand drawer next to the wall. In back of the drawer was an open box that had once contained formal note paper from a prestigious Pittsburgh stationer. It now contained large queens covers to various destinations, including two to Australia that had circumnavigated the globe, one via England and the other via Panama! They appear on page 26 of Gerald's book on the 15¢ large queen. Most of the covers in that book were in that box. If I hadn't asked, they might have remained in the back of that desk drawer until his death.

But I digress. After he had purchased the storied block of eighteen (Boggs says twenty in error and illustrates only sixteen) with the complete Bothwell watermark (\$6,000 at the third Jarrett sale, February 1960), I asked him if I could check my plating of the bottom row of the 2¢ against the block to see if it might be from that position in the plate. He assented, and much to our amazement, the bottom row of the block was the tenth row of the pane. I had established the position of my platings by large multiples left and right. I began to check my plating at once. I checked off the bottom row of the block against my plating as follows: 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 91!! How could I have been so wrong? It was not possible.

As you can see from the illustration in the auction catalogue, there has been some perforation reinforcement. Close examination disclosed that the end pair had been reattached. At some time, this pair had become separated and, since it bore no part of the watermark, inadvertently it had been reattached on the wrong end of the block. If you look closely at the Sissons illustration, you can see that the horizontal perforations at the top, centre, and bottom of the righthand vertical pair do not quite line up exactly with those of the adjacent pair. We moved the righthand pair to the left side of the block photographically and, lo and behold, the perforations matched perfectly and my plating was vindicated! Gerald now worried if he should move the pair back to where they belonged, but I think I convinced him to leave well enough alone.

I understand that the block was once separated into two blocks in order to increase the number of potential buyers. Perhaps two could afford to each own half of it. I understand that the current owner has rejoined it, but I do not know if he has moved position 91 back to where it belongs, or if some prior owner may have done so.

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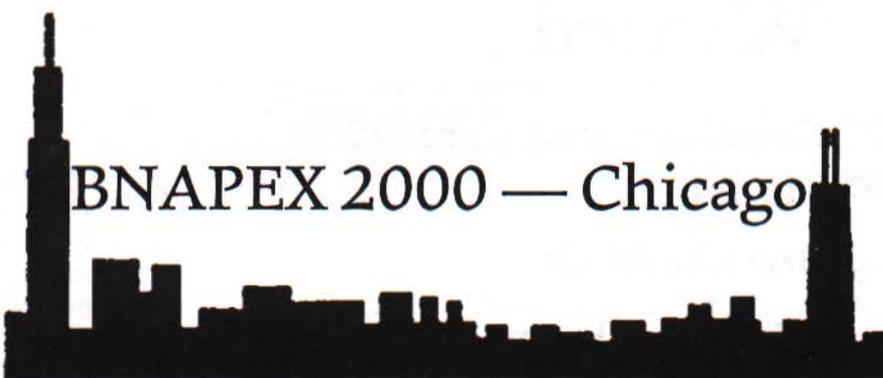
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# Do-it-yourself cover expertization

Richard Frajola

[The following article was first presented at a seminar of the Western Postal History Society in Tucson, Arizona in January 1989. It was later edited and published in the fifth edition of Linn's World Stamp Almanac (1989). It is presented here with the permission of the author in its form revised 15 May 2000. Although originally intended for United States material, it applies almost equally well to that of BNA. For details of covers that the author has exposed, go to his website, <http://laplaza.org/~covers/> ]

IT has been my experience that a simple process readily exposes the majority of fake covers. If you ask yourself the right questions regarding a cover or folded letter, the answers often lead to conclusions that either reveal it as a fake, or support its authenticity. The steps in the process of determining fake covers and the questions to be asked are basic and simple. It is almost as if you are inside the cover trying to understand what is happening to you.

☒ To begin with, what is the actual *date* or probable period of the cover? Sometimes no precise date is available from a date stamp, a dateline, the contents or a docketing indication. If all of these are unavailable, the period can still be narrowed down by determining the period of usage of the stamps, the postal rate indicated and any other markings that appear on the cover. Narrow down as much as possible the period during which the cover could have been used. Subsequent steps in establishing the authenticity will rely heavily on accurately determining this period.

☒ The next step is to determine if all aspects of the cover are internally *consistent* with the date or period established. The paper, the ink, the stamps, the markings, even whether the item is an envelope or a folded letter, should all be consistent with the period of use you have established.

☒ Where did the item *originate*, and where was it *sent*? Decide if the cover is consistent with the kinds of mail service and the usual methods of handling mail between these two points during the period you have established.

Sometimes the point of origin is unknown, as is frequently the case with steam, route agent, and other classes of mail. Even without knowing the exact point of origin, the most likely area or region of origin can be determined. Contents, if present, may provide useful clues via internal references.

The address may hint at the origin. A letter addressed simply to a town will usually have originated in the same state, province, or territory. Letters

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Keywords & phrases: fake covers

sent from abroad are usually so inscribed, while those originating within the country seldom are.

If the letter was forwarded, returned or not delivered as originally addressed, try to determine why this may have been the case. If the letter is from a known correspondence, comparing the stamps and markings with others found in the same correspondence may prove fruitful. This point was one of the keys I used in determining that the famous US Consul Klep cover with a strip of three 5¢ 1856 issue in the recent Zoellner sale was a fake (lot #68; it was withdrawn).

Some items, such as ship and steamship usages, almost invariably originated at a point different from that at which they entered the mails. They may have been carried by an independent mail carrier, a ship captain, a friend, or by any other method of private carriage.

☒ Attempt to determine what other kind of *service* may have been involved. This may be signaled by non-government rates or pencil notations on the cover that may indicate handling by an express service or a 'favored by' notation indicating private carriage.

☒ For the period, the method of handling, the point of origin and the destination of the cover, what should the postal *rates* have been? Prepayment in whole or part was mandatory for some items and impossible for others. Knowing which is the usual, as well as noting the presence of stamps or paid markings on a cover, becomes an important part of the evidence.

In the early adhesive period not all prepayment was by adhesive postage stamps. Some mail went to those who had the privilege of receiving it free, or part of the postage free. Also mail could be prepaid by combination of stamps and cash. [*For Canada, this last applies only to registered mail, and then only partially—ed*]

Determining the correct rate for a given item is crucial. Although there were errors by postal clerks (especially where calculations were complicated by compound rates), the vast majority of covers are correctly rated. Overpayments, however, occur frequently in mail to foreign countries, particularly if the rate depended on the routing, and a sender may have paid the higher rate to make sure that the cover would be sent by the first opportunity, no matter what the routing.

☒ Were postage *stamps* required, optional or exceptional during the period for the type of service the item received? Some stamps [*e.g., Canadian registered letter stamps*] were limited in the kinds of mail they could prepay. This information can be important in learning whether a cover is genuine.

If a cover with a postage stamp was sent during a period when use of stamps was optional, check to ensure that its markings are consistent with stamp use rather than postage due or prepayment in cash. Markings on a stamped cover that would appear on it if it were posted without a stamp

should have a plausible explanation. Otherwise, they suggest that it is a stampless cover to which a postage stamp has been fraudulently added to increase its apparent value.

If stamps were required during the period indicated by a cover that lacks stamps paying the full rate, check for signs that a stamp has been removed or has accidentally come off. Some such covers originated at US territorial post offices, where stamps were often unavailable, and may have been prepaid in cash rather than stamps [*this also occurred in Newfoundland in late 1897*].

☒ Does the item bear *markings* consistent with its usage? It should be possible to account for all rate markings and hand stamps on a cover. Date stamps should reflect a logical or explicable progression from the cover's point of origin to its destination.

The markings on the cover should match other known genuine examples in appearance. The inks of the markings should also match. Cancellations and other postal markings are subject to alteration. They can also be fraudulently added to an item carried outside of the government mails.

If possible, check to see that markings applied at the same post office are consistent with other known genuine examples of the period. For example, some offices routinely used one color of ink for the postmark and another for the cancellation. If both are in the same colour, check to see if the inks match. If the stamp is tied by the cancel to the cover, check to see whether the tie has been enhanced or added.

☒ Has the item been *altered* in any way that might conceal manipulation? If a dateline has been removed, or differs from the remainder of the contents, determine if the markings on the cover could be explained by a different point of origin than the apparent one. Sealing a cover closed also sometimes hides repairs.

☒ Finally, has a *consistent and logical* explanation been developed for the markings on the item? If any inconsistencies exist, it is always possible that they can be explained by restarting your analysis with different assumptions.

Assume, for example, that a different stamp was originally on the cover, or that the cover was originally a stampless cover. If either premise explains all the markings, you may have good reason to suspect fakery.

If there is more than one logical explanation for the item, carefully review the rates and regulations of the period. If that fails, you may seek information about additional or similar covers that would tend to favour one explanation.

If you go through these steps on several troublesome covers, you will find that you have spent a lot of time reading and studying postal regulations. The more you know about these, the less likely you are to be deceived. Proper reference materials will make your task easier.

# A glimpse of the past

Mike Street

**A**s part of its Year 2000 celebration, the *Hamilton Spectator* reprinted items of interest which had appeared in the newspaper since it began in the early 1800s. An article on the front page of the 15 July 1846 paper—then called the *Hamilton Spectator & Journal of Commerce*—caught my eye, and proved to be a fascinating glimpse into this aspect of contemporary Canadian life. The first paragraph is a commentary by the Spectator on what follows, an “address” from the Provincial Parliament to Queen Victoria concerning the high postage rates of the time. Some things never change! [However, in 1846, the postage on a quarter ounce letter between Toronto and Montreal was 1/1 cy, very roughly an hour's wages—ed]

A few spellings have been modernized; punctuation is exactly as in the original. The exact date that the address was prepared and sent to the Queen is uncertain.

## THE PROVINCIAL POST OFFICE

Although somewhat late, we cannot resist the opportunity of inserting the following excellent address on the state of the Post Office Department in this Colony, adopted by the House of Assembly at its recent sitting. The burdens and annoyances to which the people, and particularly the Press, in this portion of the British dominions, are compelled at present to submit, are so grievous, that no means should be left untried to have this most important office placed under the control of the Provincial Government.

## TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY,

May it please Your Majesty:—We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled, sensible of the desire of Your Majesty at all times to listen favorably to every suggestion, which may have for its object the convenience and welfare of your subjects, in every portion of Your Majesty's widely extended dominions, beg leave to represent to Your Majesty, that while we thankfully acknowledge the great benefit that has been conferred on the inhabitants of the North American Colonies, by the establishment of a regular conveyance by steam, of the mails between Great Britain and America, we would respectfully call the attention of Your Majesty's Imperial Government to the necessity of providing for their more frequent transmission during the winter months.

We need scarcely remind Your Majesty, that mainly depending, as the inhabitants of these Colonies do, on the intercourse with the Mother Country, for their social happiness, and commercial and agricultural prosperity, it is an object of the greatest importance to them, that every facility should be afforded to it; and that between the first of December and first of April, when but one mail per month is dispatched to and from the old countries, the necessity of a more frequent communication is particularly felt. It is during that period all the surplus produce of the country is purchased and prepared for the British

markets, and the prices here of our staple commodities being regulated entirely by those of Britain, both buyer and seller require the earliest notice of any change that may take place in the markets of Europe, to prevent in many cases the serious losses to the one or the other.

We would also urge as a further reason for the favorable consideration of our request, the fact that, during the winter both Your Majesty's Imperial Parliament and Colonial Legislatures, are generally in Session, and that it is highly desirable in many instances, that more frequent intercourse should take place between them than once a month. [*Many married couples feel the same way—ed*]

Taking these circumstances into consideration, and many others, which, if necessary, might be mentioned, we humbly hope that Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to cause the necessary measures to be adopted for insuring to your loyal subjects in these Provinces the transmissions of the mails at least once a month.

Intimately connected with the foregoing is the excessive high rates of postage which your Majesty's obedient servants are compelled to pay by the Imperial Government, without any reference to the Local Legislature; and they deem it imperative on them to beseech Your Majesty promptly to take the same into your gracious consideration.

We feel assured that Your Majesty will at once admit the hardship of British subjects in one portion of the empire being compelled to pay extravagantly for that which by others is enjoyed at a merely nominal charge; while in Britain a letter may be sent to any portion of that country for one penny, the inhabitants of Canada are forced to pay from four pence half-penny to one shilling and four pence Provincial currency for a single letter within the limits of the Province, although, at the same time, they can send a letter from any part of Canada to Britain, by Your Majesty's Royal Mail Steamers, for the last mentioned sum.

The Government of the United States, anxious to relieve their citizens from so vexatious a burden, have, within the last year, reduced the rates of postage in that country from a standard similar to that still imposed on us to the more moderate charge of two pence half-penny sterling on a single letter, for a distance of 300 miles, and five pence for any distance beyond that. We can assure Your Majesty that so great a boon enjoyed by a people living in their immediate vicinity, causes the inhabitants of Canada to desire, with earnestness, the favorable consideration of Your Majesty's Government on a question of so much importance to them.

We, therefore, humbly pray, that Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to direct that a reduction in our rates of Postage may take place without delay; and if not to the extent enjoyed in the Mother Country, at least not exceeding the charge made in the United States.

We state with confidence that the high rate of Postage, now exacted, is a serious charge on the social and commercial intercourse of the Colonies, and that in order to evade it, much of the correspondence is conveyed by private individuals, to the serious loss of the revenue.

We are prepared to hear it objected, that the reduction asked for will cause such diminution in the revenue of the Post Office, as might seriously impair the efficiency of that Department. But when it is considered, that large sums

are now annually paid for postage on account of the public service, we respectfully submit to Your Majesty, that both the Imperial and Colonial Governments might, with justice, be called upon to pay their proportion of any deficit that may be caused by a reduced rate, believing that the revenue from the great increase of letters sent by mail, will in a short time, be found sufficient to meet the expenses of the Department.

We would also suggest the propriety of relieving the Press from charges which bear heavily upon it, by allowing exchange Newspapers to be sent by mail free of postage, and remittances to Editors, in payment for their papers, to be transmitted by Postmasters without charge, as is the case in the United States.

We take this occasion to renew to Your Majesty the assurance of our sincere attachment to Your Majesty's person and Government.

[In 1851, the Province of Canada was given control of the Post Office, at which time domestic rates dropped substantially, and there were some reforms in the postal handling of newspapers. Does anyone know if this petition, or others like it, had any influence on the decision to grant this autonomy?—ed]



#### UK to NS (1888)—via Rimouski?

This routing (suggested by the sender) seems ridiculous, and in fact the cover is backstamped only at Truro en route to Digby. Either the sender made a geographic error which was ignored, or there was a transatlantic ship named the *Rimouski*. Which is it? Postage of 2½d, the UPU rate, from Bath (with 53 duplex, common according to Whitney's *Collect British Postmarks*). —ed

# Postal problems at the Upper Canada Department of Education

*The Editor*

**I** recently came upon a circular letter (unfortunately without the covering wrapper) dated 5 June 1860 from the Department of Public Instruction for Upper Canada. It is entitled "The New Postage Law", and the top is illustrated in Figure 1.

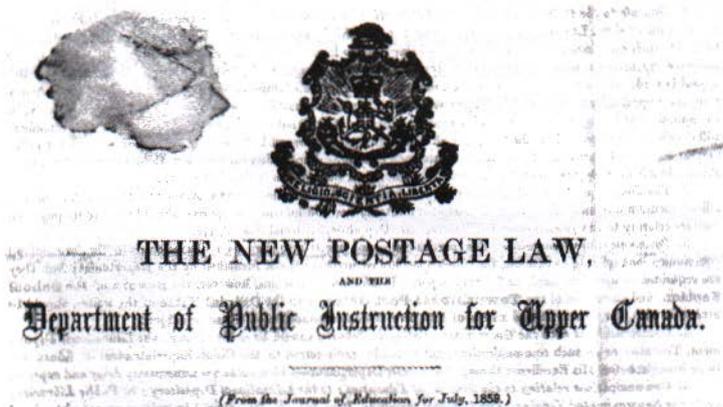


Figure 1. Top of circular

Printed on blue-white paper. The blob in the upper left is the remnant of an adhering piece of paper, where the circular was presumably stuck down. The text on reverse shows through the thin paper (see the comments on thick paper, below).

I thought the circular interesting, in that some postal practices and rates are described or explained. The circular is a notice to correspondents. Its main thrust is a complaint that letters to or from the Educational Department of Upper Canada do *not* go free of postage, and gives advice on how to avoid expensive mailings. (Although the circular is from the Department of Instruction for Upper Canada, it refers to the Educational Department; I presume that the titles are interchangeable.) It also gives a synopsis of the rate "changes" necessitated by conversion to decimal currency in 1859.

The circular observes that indistinct postmarks cause difficulties, with which philatelists will doubtless agree. An interesting point is discussed in the paragraph labelled . . . *trustees' returns*. Partially filled in printed documents (such as returns) could be mailed at the printed matter rate; this was

a recent ruling, I believe, as before 1859, such items had to be sent at the domestic rate. An example is illustrated at the end of this article.

The punctuation and spelling are modernized; italics are as in the original. Long paragraphs have been broken up to increase readability.

As but few parties in correspondence with the Educational Department comply with the new postage law in the in the prepayment of their letters (thereby increasing the postage charge by nearly *fifty per cent*), the effect has been to swell unduly this item of the contingencies of the Department. It may be that this omission arises from the impression that the official correspondence of the Educational branch of the public service, like those of the Cabinet Executive Departments, go free.

But this is an entire mistake; as the Educational Department forms an exception, and its contingent expenses are proportionally increased by a charge from which the other Public Departments of a similar character are, exempt, we would suggest, therefore, in future, that all correspondence with the Department be prepaid (as it is on letters &c, going *from* the Department), and that thinner paper be used in all cases. Several letters occupying but one page have been lately received written on large, thick paper, and embracing four pages. Foolscap paper should be used where practicable; and only such portions of it sent as may be written. All other portions have to be cut off when the letter is filed in the Department.

*Pre-payment of postage on books* From the synopsis of the new postage law on the next page, it will be seen that the postage on all *books*, printed circulars, &c sent through the post, *must be prepaid by the sender* at the rate of one cent per ounce. Local Superintendents and teachers ordering books from the Educational Depository will therefore please send such an additional sum for the payment of this postage, at the rate specified, as may be necessary.

*Regulation in regard to school returns* All official returns to the Chief or Local Superintendents which are made upon the printed blank forms furnished by the Educational Department *should be prepaid, and open at each end*, so as to entitle them to pass through the post as printed papers. No letters should be enclosed with such returns. See the following:

*Postage reduced on trustees' returns* The Hon Postmaster General has recently issued the following circular notice to Postmasters in Upper Canada: "The Half-Yearly School Returns made by School Trustees to the Local Superintendents of schools may, though the printed form be partly filled up with the names of the pupils and the days of attendance, in writing, be transmitted by Post, in Canada, as printed papers, at one cent, *to be prepaid by stamps*." These returns, when sent through the Post, should be in wrappers and open at both ends.

*Delivery of the journal of education—suggestions to local superintendents* Numerous complaints having reached this Department of the non-receipt at various Post Offices of the *Journal of Education*, application has been made to the Postmaster General's Department to have the evil remedied. The Post Office authorities express, their willingness to cooperate in the matter, and a circular notice has been issued on the subject.

As several Postmasters are at a loss how best to facilitate the delivery of the *Journal* to the School Corporations to which they are addressed, we would suggest

to the various Local Superintendents that it might be well for them to confer with the several Postmasters in their neighbourhood, and afford them every information in their power as to the proper localities and parties to whom the *Journal* should be delivered. It will still go free of postage.

*Indistinct postmarks* We receive, in the course of the year, a number of letters on which, postmarks are very indistinct, or altogether omitted. These marks are often so important that Postmasters would do well to see that the requirement of the Post Office Department in relation to stamping the postmark on letters is carefully attended to.

The next several paragraphs refer to appeal procedures and methods of communicating with the Department of Education that are not relevant to postal service. The final half page is a synopsis of postal rates in place as of 1 July 1859. Although these rates are available in many sources, a summary of the synopsis (including my comments) is presented.

Canada introduced decimal currency on 1 January 1859, but it was not until six months later that postal charges were to be collected in decimal currency, and stamps issued for that purpose. In many cases, the rates were simply translated to decimal from currency;  $\frac{1}{2}$ d cy became 1¢, and the single domestic rate of 3d became 5¢.

In what follows, "Canada" refers to the Province of Canada, which consisted of small parts of what are now known as Ontario and Québec, then called Upper and Lower Canada respectively. Of course, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland were separate colonies.

Postage within Canada was 5¢ per half ounce if prepaid (either in cash or by stamps, but not a mixture of the two) and 7¢ per half ounce if not prepaid (part payment was considered non-payment, with the amount paid credited towards the postage at 7¢ per half ounce). Letters to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island were charged 5¢ per half ounce, with prepayment optional.

Letters to the United Kingdom were charged  $12\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per half ounce if by Canadian steamer, and 17¢ per half ounce by Cunard; if not prepaid, a charge of 6d sterling was levied on arrival in England.

Letters to the US (except California and Oregon Territories) were charged 10¢ per half ounce; to California and Oregon, the rate was 15¢ per half ounce. Prepayment was optional. Rates to other foreign countries were extremely complicated, and the circular simply says to translate the rates in currency to decimal, but does not give the *exact* rate of conversion.

Registration was 2¢ to any part of BNA; to the US, it was 5¢, and to the United Kingdom, it was  $12\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. The registration fee must be prepaid, and all postage must be prepaid on registered letters destined outside BNA.

"Drop or Box letters, and all minor rates of a like character, to be charged 1¢ for every  $\frac{1}{2}$ d now charged." This means that the generic drop letter rate

became 1¢—however, there were a few other rules relating to nearby offices, and to centres that had delivery, that are not mentioned in the circular.

On newspapers published in Canada and sent from the office of publication, the postage, if not paid in advance (per quarter), was 1¢ each or 3¢ per five (in fact, the circular gives the rate per five as 3d, but this is likely a misprint). Transient newspapers must be prepaid 1¢.

Newspapers from England via Canadian steamer have free postage; via Cunard, they are subject to 2¢ each, "that being the American transit charge." Newspapers from the US are charged 1¢ on delivery.

Periodicals not exceeding three ounces (about 85g) are charged 1¢, and over three ounces are charged 4¢; but if prepaid by stamp and published in Canada, the rate over three ounces was 2¢. Periodicals devoted exclusively to education (capitalized and italicized in the circular!), agriculture, temperance, or any branch of science passed free from the office of publication.

Printed circulars, books, &c sent from Canada to any place in Canada, BNA, or the US, were charged 1¢ per ounce; but this must be prepaid in stamps.

Parcels sent to any place in Canada were charged 25¢ per pound, and registration was available on parcels at 5¢.

The circular then observes that decimal stamps have been issued and "The old stamps in the hands of the public will be allowed to pass for a time after the first of July 1859." No Canadian stamps (even pence issues, which are what the circular refers to) have ever been demonetized (with the arguable exception of the diagonally overprinted Admiral War Tax stamps). Finally, the circular concludes with a warning.

The act [*the New Postage Law*] declares that any of the following offences shall be considered a misdemeanor:

To delay, damage, or destroy any parcel sent by the parcel post; to enclose a letter or letters, or writing to serve the purpose of a letter in a newspaper, except in the case of accounts and receipts sent by newspaper publishers to their subscribers, which are allowed to be folded in the papers.

Figure 2 below illustrates the 1¢ rate for forms that were filled in. Fortuitously, it is from the Department of Public Instruction, and is a school form. Note the O.H.M.S. together with the "POSTAGE ONE CENT, payable in advance" that are both printed on the envelope—indicating that the former does not mean that the postage is free, simply that the letter is to be carried by the post office, and not by other means.

The envelope is not sealed, and there are explicit instructions to that effect on the back flap:

**This envelope is not to be sealed:**

Nor is any thing to be enclosed in its but this Form. After putting in this form, the flap of the envelope should be put inside, so as to render the enclosure more secure. Letters to the Department are to be prepaid.

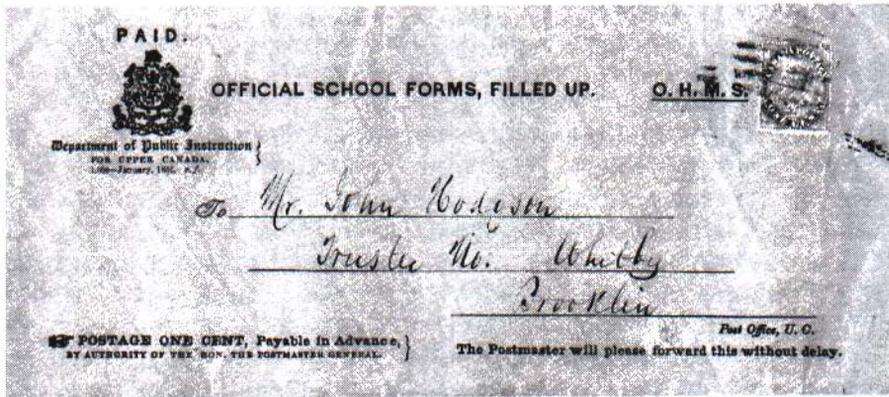


Figure 2. Envelope for filled-in forms (1866-67)

Charged the 1¢ printed matter rate as described above, postage paid with 1¢ cents issue. The form was printed January 1866 in a quantity of only 1,000 for the Department of Public Instruction of Upper Canada. The envelope is backstamped with an orange Brooklin UC double broken circle handstamp dated SP 17 1867.

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Grow with the Royal

# The Steinhart Legacy



Allan L. Steinhart

**T**HIS item is the reply half of a United States paid reply postal card (Scott UY1), the first US reply card, issued 1892. It bears a preprinted address in Chicago. On the reverse is a Tavistock (ON) squared circle dated 17 August 1895, a receiving cancel which was applied to the as yet unsevered message and reply card. The 1¢+1¢ US reply card was proper for use to Canada as well as for domestic usage.

On receipt in Canada, the reply half was detached, a message written, and the card mailed back to the United States. It received a Tavistock squared circle dated 17 September 1895 squared circle cancel and a Chicago receiver.

This card is a good example of foreign postage being correctly used in Canada paying the 1¢ post card rate to the US, the same as to Canada, on a reply card.



A US reply card used in Canada (1895)  
Returned from Tavistock (faint squared circle).

[This note is part of a series of short notes and longer articles that had been submitted by Allan prior to his sudden death in September 1996.—ed]

Keywords & phrases: UPU, post card

# Stories behind my covers (41): An Isle of Man packet charge

Jack Arnell†

**T**HE illustrated cover was dated 30 June 1823 in Montreal and entrusted to the *Grace*, a private trader sailing for Scotland. It was landed at Greenock, where it was backstamped SHIP LETTER GREENOCK and rated 2/2 stg postage due. It was backstamped at Glasgow on 20 August, where the half-penny Scottish road toll was added to the charge.

The postage due was made up of 8d ship letter fee, 1/- inland postage to Liverpool and 6d packet postage to the Isle of Man. The latter charge is rare on transatlantic letters, as very few letters would have travelled there.



## Montreal to Isle of Man (1823)

Via Glasgow, hence the ubiquitous Scottish half-penny charge (begun in 1813; it applied "to all letters carried by four wheel conveyances"), the squiggle to the right of the 2/2.

Keywords & phrases: transatlantic, Isle of Man

† Dr Arnell died on 15 April 2000

# The presentation booklet for the fourth P U A S congress, 1936

*Jerome C Jarnick*

**T**HE continued success of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain (PUAS) resulted in the fourth congress being held in Panama City, Panama, in October 1936. The Canadian Post Office prepared an issue of 165 booklets for presentation to the delegates attending this conference. The booklets, measuring 148 mm × 122 mm, were bound in red fine-grained leather. The cover (Figure 1) has the Canadian Coat of Arms in the centre and CANADA in the lower right corner, stamped in gold. The title page is shown in Figure 2.



Figure 1. Cover of presentation booklet

The stamps are placed in white satin ribbon pockets on three pages with three rows of pockets to each page. The first page (Figure 3) has CANADA POSTAGE STAMPS 1935 at the top and JUBILEE ISSUE at the bottom. The second and third pages have the same printing at the top but read REGULAR ISSUE at the bottom. The booklet contains the Silver Jubilee issue of 1935 and the 1935 King George V definitive issue from the 1¢ through to the \$1 denominations, including the 6¢ air mail and 20¢ special delivery stamps.

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Keywords & phrases: PUAS

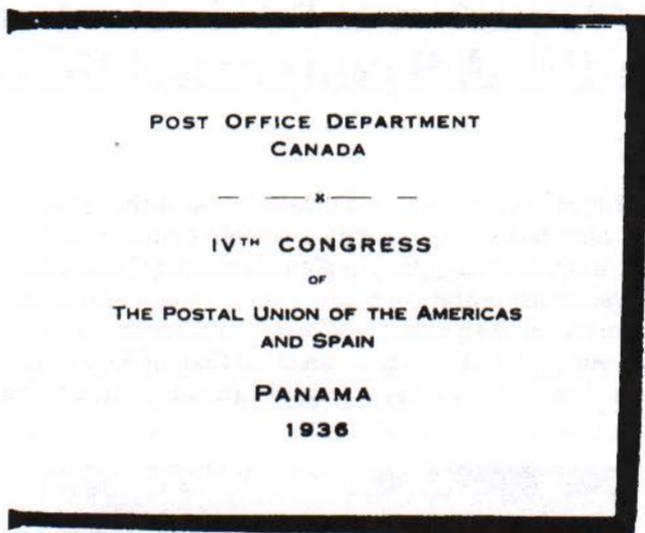


Figure 2. Title page of presentation booklet



Figure 3. First page of presentation booklet

In addition to the leather bound booklets presented to Congress delegates, 50 booklets, bound in dark maroon moiré cloth, were manufactured and

given to members of the diplomatic corps at Panama City. The contents of these booklets were identical to those presented to the delegates.

## References

Reg. Barraclough *An initial listing of the presentation booklets of Canada* BNATopics, Vol 6, #6 (1949) 136.

L Seale Holmes *Official booklets and portfolios of Canadian postage stamps* Specialized Catalogue of Canada and British North America, eleventh ed, Ryerson Press, Toronto (1963) p 201.



Defense department of El Salvador to Canada (1956)

Under PUAS treaty terms, most postal charges on letters from diplomats or government departments between members were free. In this case, the sender had to pay 10 ctm to cover the difference between airmail and surface, but registration was free.—*ed*

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**F**ROM time to time, many Canadian auction houses sell steamer markings stated to be "Unlisted"—as if they were new discoveries, extremely rare, to be listed as soon as they are brought to light. In most cases these are not postal markings—but are either cachets, purser's or other administrative or accounting hand stamps.

Below is a list of some markings from vessels which were *not* authorized to carry mail; thus, their markings cannot be classified as postal. These are grouped by shipping company, and show the vessel, year, Ludlow type of the marking, and the originator, if cancelled to order.

## Canadian Government Ships

<i>John A MacDonald</i>	1977	Type 23B	Hogan
<i>CCGS Montcalm</i>	1978	23B	Hogan

## Canadian National Railways

<i>Car Ferry PEI</i>	1946	Type 1E	Lusher
<i>Charlottetown</i>	1937	1E	Vestal
<i>Steamship Pentowna</i>	1948	1E	Wilson

## Canadian Northern Navigation Co

<i>ss Hamonic</i>	1936	Type 1E	Vestal
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## Canadian Pacific Railway Co

<i>ss Princess Elizabeth</i>	1954	Type 221	Chamberlain
<i>ss Princess Victoria</i>	1949	22	Morant

## Hudson's Bay Transport

<i>Athabaska River</i>	1938	Type 22	Garner
<i>Fort James</i>	1938	22	Garner
<i>Pelly Lake</i>	1938	3	Garner
<i>Gasboat Weenusk</i>	1938	1	Garner

## White Pass & Yukon Route

<i>Aksala</i>	1947	Type 3	Lusher, Reagan
<i>Klondike</i>	1947	22	Ardiff, Reagan
<i>Steamer Tutshi</i>	1938	1A	Garner, Heim
<i>Whitehorse</i>	1938	1A	Garner
<i>Steamer Yukon</i>	1938	1A	Matsuo

Such markings may be shown in a subsidiary list in the next edition of the Catalogue. As always, I can be contacted at 5830 Cartier St, Vancouver BC V6M 3A7.

Keywords & phrases: steamer

# Rounding up squared circles



John S Gordon

**C**ONTINUING the listing of earliest and latest recorded dates and years of no recorded use (NSR: no strikes reported), in preparation for a possible fifth edition of the Handbook. Please report any new data to me at 2364 Gallant Fox Ct, Reston VA 20191 (e-mail: jkgordo@hotmail.com).

## Type II, Québec (continued)

St. Grégoire 2 FE/95-00/JA29/- (style changed late DE 95)

St. Hyacinthe PM/NO 9/93-7/AP19/99 75% of strikes are PM, rest AM, with a few blanks; abnormal: AM inverted, PM inverted, MR, inverted MR; many strikes in FE are missing the month; hammer damaged on right side after MR 97

St. Polycarpe AU 8/93-JU14/97 two reports of PM in 94, rest are blank above Sherbrooke Hammer I ?/JU22/93-1/JY 17/00 most strikes 1 above with a few PM (circular date stamp usually found with PM)

Sherbrooke Hammer II three strikes reported with 1934 or 1955 dates

Stanstead AP 2/94-NO 4/94 reports are AP, MY, NO 94 only

Sutton OC25/94 to DE24/02 NSR: 97, 99, 00, 01

Victoriaville JA 5/94-PM/JA 31/00 second latest report is JA 9/99; all strikes but the latest are blank above. occasional date month/year arrangement

Waterloo OC18/93-MY 19/01

Windsor Mills FE17/94 to JU29/97

## Type II Ontario, A-C

Acton Hammer I OC 9/94-DE15/94 four reports

Acton Hammer II DE18/94 to DE26/02

Alma State I OC 11/93-FE 4/94 eight reports

Alma State II MR19/94-MR28/09 NSR: 00, 02

Almonte AU21/93-MR 8/01

Angus JY28194-DE19/98 NSR: 97; in 98, year error 89 during SP 12-OC 20

Amprior JA 5/94-JA18/09

Athens PM/JY 18/94-AM/JA 7/99 Mostly AM; in 94, occasional blank above

Aurora OC 12/94-JU2 1/00 scarce after JY 97 (circular dater became common)

Aylmer West PM/NO 30/93-7/MR 27/99 with isolated AM/JA 23/01; AM, PM above

Beamsville DE 18/94-AM/FE 16/98 blank above until AU 96, then AM, PM

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Keywords & phrases: squared circles

- Belleville Hammer I ?/JU 15/93-2/FE 5/95 2,3,4 above date; gap OC 93- FE 94  
 Belleville Hammer II ?/JY 7/93-?/JY 27/98 2, 3, 4 above date (2 least common)  
 Belleville Hammer III 3/JU 14/93-2/MR 25/99  
 Berlin SP 7/93-JY 22/95 (rare after JA 94)  
 Blue Vale 6 AU/93-AU 9/95 (note variation in date arrangement)  
 Blyth NO 5/93-DE 26/95 (very rare in 94)  
 Bobcaygeon State I (indicia bars intact) DE 13/93-FE 26/94 four strikes  
 Bobcaygeon State II (indicia bars removed) MY 18/94-JA 20/09  
 Bobcaygeon State III (surround cut down) AM/JU 26/59-AM/13 II/61 most strikes  
 PM above  
 Bowmanville DE 6/93-PM/MR 5/97 PM above beginning DE 15/93; AM scarce  
 Bracebridge FE 13/94-OC 4/99 with isolated AM and handwritten PM above  
 Brampton SP 7/93-MY 20/97  
 Brantford PM/AU 10/93-13/MY 9/10 NSR: 99, 01, 04, 05, 06, 07; about 80%  
 of strikes PM; strikes after 1900 have numeral time marks  
 Burford DE 25/93-DE 14/98  
 Cache Bay OC 29/94-JUL 4/5 (for 05)  
 Cardinal FE 9/94-DE 28/98  
 Cheltenham AU 31/93-MR 10/26 NSR: 01, 12, 13,16, 17, 19  
 Chesley AP 13/94-AU 20/96 strikes in blue OC 95  
 Chesterville AP 10/94-SP22/98  
 Cobden FE 5/94-FE 5/03 very rare after 1900  
 Cobourg SP 6/93-NO 7/97  
 Comber SP18/93-OC25/95 with isolated JU 14/96

The listing will be continued next issue.

There may have been some doubt whether the first year of the new millen-  
 nium was 2000—that doesn't matter! What *does* matter is that in 2000,

**BNAPLEX is in Chicago**

**31 August-2 September 2000**

at the Schaumburg Marriott—make your reservations NOW  
 Be there!

# What's new?— National Archives of Canada Philatelic Collections

Cimon Morin

This column is provided on a regular basis in order to publicize new acquisitions and activities within the philatelic area at the National Archives of Canada (NA). Researchers who wish to use the NA facilities should contact, in writing, the National Archives of Canada, Reference Services, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa ON K1A 0N3 [fax: (613) 995-6274; e-mail: [reference@archives.ca](mailto:reference@archives.ca); Internet web site: <http://www.archives.ca>]

## Recent acquisitions

*Canada Post Corporation fonds* [philatelic records] 1999. 357 items. Acquisition contains 164 postal covers, 96 panes of postage stamps, 48 postage stamps, 28 postage stamp booklets, 12 sheets of postage stamps, 9 blocks of postage stamps. Accession contains Canadian philatelic material for postage stamps issued January–June 1999. Finding Aid CPA-226. National Archives Accession Number 1999-00230-x.

*J Ronald Saint collection* [philatelic records] 1862–1870. Three items. Collection consists of two panes and one block of postage stamps for Prince Edward Island being, respectively, one mint pane of 30 of the 1862 one penny yellow orange, one mint pane of 30 for the 1867 nine penny violet, and one block of 12 (two rows of 6) for the 4½d brown of 1870. National Archives Reference Number: R1376-0-9-E.

## Former acquisitions

*RA Jamieson fonds* [textual records, philatelic records, graphic] 1863–1960. 11 cm of textual records, f ve labels. The fonds consists of material collected and created by RA Jamieson while pursuing his hobby of philately. The records consist of correspondence, early philatelic publications, bogus promotional labels, Samuel Allan Taylor items, clippings, and a philatelic census. The records were acquired from RA Jamieson and D Gordon Campbell. Finding aid CPA-222. National Archives Reference Number: R669-0-X-E

*Frank W Campbell fonds* [textual records] 1940–1966. 10 cm of textual records, six volumes. The fonds consists of items and material created or used by Frank W Campbell when he researched Canadian postal history. Materials include research notes for his publication *Canada Post Offices 1755–1895*;

the transcript for *Opening and Closing Dates of Canadian Post Offices*; five publications written by Mr Campbell during the years 1958–1962; and correspondence between Frank Campbell and fellow philatelists, 1944–1966. Material from various sources, transferred or given to the Canadian Postal Archives during 1975–1997. National Archives Reference Number: R698–0–7–E.

*Proprietors of Kaulbach Island Ltd fonds* [philatelic records] 1971–1974. eight se-tenant sheets (204 labels), 19 postal covers. The fonds consists of labels and first day covers issued by the Kaulbach Island Local Carriage Service and a cover collection created by the Proprietors of Kaulbach Island. The labels and first day covers were issued in the period 1971–1974. The issues represented include: Birds (1971—sheet only), Canadian paintings: Cullen, O'Brien, Beaumont, Krieghoff (1972); Todd, Raphael, Davies, Berczy (1973); birds with BOSTON SHOW/1974 overprint (1974—first day cover only), and animals (1974). National Archives Reference Number: R983–0–X–E.

*K M Robertson Ltd fonds* [philatelic records] 1974–1975. 23 sheets se-tenant (115 labels), one postal cover. Fonds consists of mint sheets of labels and one postal cover for the Juan de Fuca Despatch Service. National Archives Reference Number: R1013–0–0–E.



#### Nigeria–Kansas City, Canada (April 1948)

A refreshing change from the usual cover addressed to Saskatoon, USA. Unfortunately, it never passed through Canada. The 9d postage is not consistent with either country (registration fee was 3d; the surface rate to the US was 4d first weight, 3d each additional; that to Canada was much less. There is no evidence that a stamp is missing.

—ed

# Book Reviews

☞ *Color guide system for large and small queens & widow weeds & registration stamps of Canada* by Richard M Morris. Published by Pittsboro Philatelics, 7 Malcolm Street, Norfolk MA 02056. Price: Hardcover three-ring binder or spiral bound, \$US58 postpaid; for those who already have the small queen Guide, with hardcover three-ring binder, \$US30 postpaid.

**T**HE colour guide for the large and small queens and their associates, registered stamps and widow weeds, is sorely needed by collectors and dealers who want to classify accurately shades of these issues. I had seen the small queen guide, published about two years ago, and along with a number of other BNAPS members, assisted in some capacity in the development of this guide. I did not have an opportunity to use the system in any detail then, so that when Dick Morris asked me to review his new product, I was eager to investigate it. I am happy to report that overall the product works well and fulfills its basic purpose.

The Guide begins with a brief summary of the printings of the large and small queens. A bar chart is provided that shows the timeline of availability of the various stamps. A minor quibble is that the years associated with various vertical bars of the chart appear to be shifted left, so that the line associated with a year must be interpreted as the end of the year, making it somewhat awkward. This ought to be improved; it should be easy to do so, given current printing conditions. A section is devoted to perforations on the small queens based on several different collections and sources.

This is followed by a page on papers that is not particularly satisfying; it seems to indicate one cannot say much about papers. Paper-making is discussed in a section by Alex Hutton, a former Vice President for Research of a paper company. Paper certainly *can* be used to sort out major categories, such as the small queens second Ottawa printing, or to distinguish thin paper large queens from later printings. At one time, I had over 500 large queens, not huge by old-time standards, but still sufficient to look at papers. I agree that the nuances of the Duckworth & Duckworth paper classification are best left to specialists, but for the small queens, the paper is a major element of classification, and I wish a bit more had been said about it.

After the perforation and paper sections, the guide focuses on its major emphasis, colour. Morris has painstakingly clipped Munsell colour chips into small rectangles to be compared with stamp colours. In the 1980s, I had access to the complete Munsell colour chip book, which is used in scientific work and is based on three measurable properties of colour (chroma,

hue, and saturation). The three values distinguish colours well enough to permit their classification for problems in chemistry, biology, and physics.

At the time, I was focusing on the 3¢ small queen, and was able to use the Munsell book with great success to separate the various shades. I had sufficiently many dated copies to collate the results well with Shoemaker's listing (which Ron Ribler recently updated in *BNATopics*). Morris's guide was not novel to me, but led to a reprise for an enjoyable activity. In the Munsell book, the chips are a lot larger than those Morris has placed in the guide. This is for practical reasons, as the chips are quite expensive. A black cardboard with various punched holes of two sizes ( $\frac{1}{8}$ " or  $\frac{1}{4}$ ") is provided to place over a chip and the stamp simultaneously. Separation is about 1.25", which is actually a reasonable distance for stereoscopic viewing by the eyes. I used only the  $\frac{1}{8}$ " holes and am not sure why the larger holes are present, as very few stamps would provide an area of colour that size.

I took about two thousand 3¢ small queens, including all printings, and used the Guide to select examples for each colour chip. Other than a distressing paucity of # 41a, the process worked well. Even in less than perfect light, I could separate out the various Montreal printings (Ottawa printings pose no problem in any case). I did the same thing with a smaller selection of 1¢ small queens I had, and again had little trouble except for the "middle colours": deep yellow orange, orange yellow, and dull orange.

While the chips are clearly different, there appear to be many intermediate shades that prove difficult. The 2¢ small queen was hopeless for me, and I suspect will be so for most collectors. The 5¢ small queens are difficult to distinguish, but then who cares? The 6¢ Montreal and Ottawa printings are easily differentiated. Morris notes that the standard line is that the first printings were yellow brown, but I have owned at least five covers in the first month of issue, and all were light brown, as Morris comments. Simpson denied that my 18 January 1872 cover was correct because of this, even though both the dater and the enclosure had clear 1872 marks—the stamp was light brown (Morris's light yellow brown). The 8¢ colour chart should provide some interest as there is enough variation to allow more careful classification than has typically been promoted. Allan Steinhart's box of 8¢ covers might be a useful resource now—see Bill Longley if interested.

The 10¢ chip set is a wonder—there are nine chips for the Montreal printings. I used it to verify that my pale milky rose lilac 10¢ on cover is indeed that stamp, not a later shade. I hope the "experts" at the various expertizing venues see it that way. Nine more chips are given for the later Ottawa printings; this ought to stimulate collecting the shades of this issue.

I deliberately started with the small queens, because they remain the biggest challenge in colour identification. By comparison, the large queens' colour classification is straightforward—with the exception of the 15¢. Mor-

ris provides sixteen different chips, and that ought to keep specialists busy. I am not sure we needed deep reddish purple, pale reddish purple, red lilac, and purple (shades) to sort out the non-grey early printings. For the later printings, however, the colour range is breathtaking, as anyone who has studied the 15¢ issue knows. I can see the value of the chips immediately. This ought to sort out much of the argument about shades, except for turquoise. Firth was never convinced it was a true printing colour, nor am I, although the colour chips show the possibility of a batch of ink from grey blue or slate blue having been improperly mixed with the turquoise the result. [*But what about colour changelings?*—ed]

The other intriguing addition to the Guide is the set of registration stamp chips. Morris quite properly points out that for most of the printings of the 2¢ registration stamp one merely consults the 3¢ small queen colour chart. There are several additional shade chips here that not provided for the 3¢ small queen: scarlet, crimson red, and deep rose carmine. Morris bases this on his examination of thousands of examples. Horace Harrison also lends his name to the colour scheme in this section. The 5¢ colours mirror those of the 2¢ small queen with the addition of four colours: green (yellowish), blue green, pale yellow green, and pale green. I am not sure why Morris reproduced blue green in the registration stamp section when it is available in the 2¢ small queen section.

Next, the 8¢ registration stamp is lumped in with the 12½¢ large queen for colour. This makes sense, as the printings overlapped. The three blues of the 50¢ widow weeds, dark blue, deep blue, and indigo, are slightly darker and are separately represented, as are the three colours of the 20¢ widow weeds: vermilion, brown orange, and deep orange red. A perf table for the 2¢ registration stamp is given, based on a collation of the colours with Harrison's perforation study, and includes a rarity estimation.

Finally, there is a page of chips for the first post cards. For the 1¢ blue of 1871, the user is referred to the 12½¢ large queen page, while for the 1877 2¢ UK card, a set of five chips is given. Collectors of these cards will recognize the shade variations shown on the chips: green, yellow green, pale blue green, olive green, and olive yellow. This was a nice surprise.

Where does this guide lead? There is still plenty of work to do on the 5¢, 10¢, and 12½¢ stamps regarding colour. Another direction is collation with contemporary revenue stamps. It has long been standard among revenue collectors to examine postage stamps and revenues of the early 1870s together, in order to determine colour, paper, perforations, etc. Those with plenty of early revenues will want this guide. The Admirals are yet another direction in which to go. After the small queens, there is no issue as varied in colour, particularly during the war years.

I highly recommend this work for collectors serious about colour in the

large and small queen periods. We should not have to resort to small queen stocks for the unknowledgeable—who merely think we are trying to gouge them out of valuable stamps by turning a 37 into a 41. Every dealer should have a copy of this book. [*That would be dreaming in colour*—ed]

—Victor L Willson OTB

☞ *Ontario Broken Circles* by W Bruce Graham. Published by the Postal History Society of Canada (1999). Editor: David Handelman. Wire-O binding, 246 + iv pages with illustrations. Prices (ppd): \$C35.00 (Canada); \$US27.50 (US); \$US30.00 (rest of the world). Available from David Handelman, Mathematics Department, University of Ottawa, Ottawa ON K1N 6N5, or Saskatoon Stamps.

**T**HIS is an important new work for those who collect any aspect of Ontario postal history. The book provides an alphabetical listing of the broken circle postmarks, and includes smaller sections on straightline, double circle, double oval and “big” circle cancels. For each cancel, a description (type, diameter), proof date, and earliest and latest recorded dates are provided; the opening and closing dates for the office, and the county in which the office was located are also listed.

The preparation of this volume was no small task. The listings have been prepared with great care; however, typographical errors (Porquois Junction as an example) are almost inevitable in a work of this size. The editor claims approximately 12,000 cancels are listed (I certainly did not count them), and it is likely there are only a few collectors who will attempt to collect the entire group. Many more collectors work with cancels or postal history for specific cities, towns or counties. This book shows that their task, even restricted to broken circle cancels, is daunting. I note, for example, that the small office of Mackeys Station (also as Mackey’s Station) probably used at least four different broken circle hammers between 1880 and 1934.

The book is designed more as a check-list than a research tool. There is even a place to “mark off” items. There is a careful discussion of the classification system and the abbreviations used. The classification system is quite good once you do a little work using it. A lovely selection of (generally scarce) strikes is reproduced throughout the volume. However, it is unfortunate the author did not try to provide clear illustrations of the main cancel types at the beginning of the book. Instead, what we have is a quiz that is perpetrated on the reader, who is asked to classify nine different cancels (answers are provided). I found this an interesting exercise, but it is not an adequate replacement for a proper set of examples. There are some cancel

types that are not even shown in the exercise. It is also a pity that there is not more information on the history of the hammer types, and discussions of when changes in style occurred. There are references to some of the relevant articles and books, but an opportunity to pull together what is known has been missed.

The book opens flat and is easy to work with. The small type is crisp and relatively easy to read, and the paper is sufficiently thick that text showing through from the opposite side of the page does not hinder the reader. Great pains were taken to identify round and oval "O"s in the wording in cancels for which this is a distinguishing feature—an effort well spent. There are some minor problems. I found the placing of a "broken circle" around the page numbers (on odd-numbered pages) a distraction that made the number difficult to read. Typeface for the chapter titles is (deliberately, but obtrusively) not standardized. Also, after I had been using the book for only a few hours, the plastic coating on the inside cover of my copy detached itself from the paper.

This is not a book that will be tucked away for occasional reference. It is a book to be used regularly as a working document, and deserves a prominent place on the shelf of anyone who collects these cancels or the postal history of Ontario, Canada West or Upper Canada.

—Robert Lemire

[All aspects of this review, including choice of reviewer, were left in the hands of my predecessor—ed]

☞ *Canada Domestic and International Postal Rates and Fees 1870–1999* by Drs RC Smith & AS Wawrukiewicz. Published by Worldwide-Postal-Rates.com (1 March 2000). Editors: Jay Smith & Bonnie Smith. Three-ring binder, 44 + xiv pages with illustrations, 8½"×11". Price from the US: \$US24.95 plus postage (shipping free in the US); available from the publisher, PO box 650, Snow Camp NC 27349–0650 USA, and George Wegg, Bill Longley.

**T**HIS work is the initial publication in an anticipated series of rates' books country by country. It follows the extremely important two volume set of US postal rates by Wawrukiewicz & Beecher (W & B), *US International Postal Rates 1872–1996* and *US Domestic Postal Rates 1872–1999*, both available from the publisher of the reviewed work. The volume on British rates has just appeared.

The authors are extremely well-known: Wawrukiewicz (pronounced va'-vrookayvich, the first "a" sound being flat, and a long "oo") updated the orig-

inal Beecher rates books and created the standard and encyclopædic references on US postal rates, and Smith (pronounced Psmythe with silent "P" and "e", and "y" as in physhe) of course, is the long-time editor of our sister periodical, the PHSC Journal, and has written innumerable articles on many aspects of Canadian postal history.

The publication is rather slim but does contain a lot of rates information. The aim was to cover "commonly found" rates, domestic and foreign, omitting the "more obscure rates" as well as parcel post, COD, and also some of the heavier weight categories. The rates are given in tables similar to those of *W & B*, and in general are easy to follow. The dates of rate changes are across the top, the rate description along the side, and the corresponding entry in the matrix gives the rate, with footnotes below the table.

There are numerous illustrations throughout the work; unfortunately, almost every single one is of a mundane item. For example, the first page of illustrations includes domestic surface single rate (1908; the second earliest cover illustrated in the book), a common AR card (here called a *return receipt*—this is a US term), and a (1931) Hamilton drop letter. There are also plenty of blank spaces which could have been filled with covers or parts of covers, or registration receipts, . . .

As a work for the neophyte rates enthusiast, this is a good compilation of most of the common rates, there being no other publication that deals so extensively with Canadian postal rates over this period. However, the more advanced collector will be disappointed.

The omission of some topics is serious for some collectors. One can understand why the Byzantine modern parcel post rates were omitted, but the nineteenth and early twentieth century parcel post rates are straightforward, as are all COD rates. Although Canadian postal historians and postal guides refer to mail by classes (first class: regular mail, second: periodicals of some types, fourth: parcel post, third: everything else; a fifth class existed briefly), the reader will not find this terminology here. The US date system (month day, year) is employed.

There are a few obvious omissions and errors that are worth pointing out. Extra insurance on registered mail (1904–1909), the precursor to extra indemnity, is omitted, despite it being a very well-known rate (even if covers showing it are rare). (In contrast, the obscure registration rates to foreign countries in 1878 are included; covers bearing such rates are practically non-existent.) The list of dates of adherence to the Imperial Penny Post scheme is incomplete, missing the Australian states, Rhodesia, . . . Some of the dates in the China Clipper service rates are incorrect (e.g., all service beyond Hawaii ceased temporarily after the attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941). All of this can be found in standard works, but the point is to have a single coherent reference book.

The start-up year of 1870 is inexplicable. Obvious start-up dates include 1868, 1859, or 1851 (quiz to the reader—explain why these are important years in Canadian postal history).

The table of contents is very detailed and helpful. It could have been made more readable by eliminating the dot leaders and moving each page number so that it is adjacent to the topic to which it refers (as in the table of contents of this journal!).

The three-ring binder format has both advantages and disadvantages. Updated versions (which are anticipated to come out about every two years) can be inserted without any problem. However, the large size is inconvenient for carrying around at shows and bourses (perhaps a “pocket edition” could be made available?). Although the pages are of good quality paper, frequent page-turning will erode the area around the punch holes—I suggest putting reinforcements on all pages immediately on purchase.

The typography is not bad (better than that of the average word-processed document, but not as good as if it had been typeset properly), and the printing is quite readable. The images of the covers came out very well. (Unfortunately, most of them could be found in Canadian dealers’ dollar boxes.)

An interesting aspect to this work is that the publisher solicits contributions to rates data, and has established a website ([www.Worldwide-Postal-Rates.com/](http://www.Worldwide-Postal-Rates.com/)), which is supposed to maintain updates to their publications, incorporate information from readers, and include quizzes and news on worldwide rates. The website is (as of June 2000) a work in progress—however, it is a very good idea, potentially a very useful resource, and I hope people will participate in it.

Now we come to the price. At about \$c37.50 plus around \$c7.50 for shipping to Canada, the cost seems high for a publication of under 60 pages (including a lot of blank space), especially since no binding is involved. There is a blurb at the back (not included in the page count) advising of the advantages of “on demand” publication, one being low price of production. My experience with two publications (*Allan Steinhart, Postal Historian* and Bruce Graham’s *Ontario Broken Circles*, both published by the PHSC, production cost about \$c8–10 per copy, 200+ pages in runs of 300–500 with heavy-duty wire binding and high quality paper), suggests to me that the price is exorbitant. Of course, this is true of almost all current philatelic publications.

—The Editor

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*Next issue* A review of the important (but not cheap) Arfken-Plomish book on early Canadian airmail rates & routes (*Air Mails of Canada* • 1925–1939, published by Chas Firby).

# New Issues

William J F Wilson

**T**HE final issue of the Birds of Canada stamps for the second millennium (but we hope not the final issue!) features Osprey, Blue Jay, Canada Warbler and Pacific Loon. Not the loon on the Loonie or the \$20 bill, nor the loon whose yodelling laugh haunts forested lakes in southern Canada (these are all Common Loons), the Pacific Loon breeds mostly north of 60° latitude from Alaska to southern Baffin Island and the west coast of Hudson's Bay. It used to be called Arctic Loon, with a more-or-less circumpolar breeding range; but, although they are almost identical in appearance, the Pacific Loon of North America is now considered a separate species from the Arctic Loon of Europe and Asia (also called Black-throated Diver in Britain). Pacific Loons winter along the coast of British Columbia and south to Baja California, and I saw several swimming just off the beach at both Qualicum and Mill Bay on Vancouver Island last February.

The bird stamps come in the usual range of formats for this series: panes of 20, sealed and unsealed booklets of 12, unsigned uncut press sheets of six panes for \$55.20, and signed uncut press sheets for \$89.95.

As promised, Canada Post has released the Millennium Collection as souvenir sheets at a rate of four sheets of four stamps on the 17th of every month from December to March (five sheets on February 17). The stamp specifications are the same as for the Millennium Collection, except that the number of copies of each stamp is one million (of each souvenir sheet), compared to 200,000 of each stamp in book format.

*Canada's Stamp Details* (Vol 9, #1 January/February 2000) lists the Millennium Partnership Program stamp as four-colour lithography, but the selvedge of the stamp shows only three colour dots, and there appear to be only three colours on the stamp. I have listed the stamp as 3CL in the table, in agreement with the selvedge.

The Year of the Dragon stamps are very popular, with the panes and official first day covers—as well as the \$88.88 stamp-and-coin set—being sold out at the philatelic bureau within two months of issue. The souvenir sheet is listed in *Canada's Stamp Details* (op. cit.) as ten-colour lithography, compared to only nine for the 46¢ sheet stamp. The latter number is correct according to the colour dots in the pane selvedge, but there are no colour dots on the souvenir sheet to check the former number. There is no discernable difference in colours that I can see between the 46¢ and 95¢ stamps, so if the *Details* booklet is correct, then the extra colour may be in the design

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Keywords & phrases: new issues

on the souvenir sheet outside the stamp. The 95¢ stamp has also been released as an uncut press sheet of twelve souvenir sheets (\$11.40 face value), costing \$24.95. It is not clear why uncut press sheets cost face value for the Birds of Canada, but more than twice face value for the Chinese New Year series.

The information in the accompanying table came from Canada Post's booklet *Canada's Stamp Details*, from the Canada Post website,

<http://www.canadapost.ca/cpc2/phil/stamp/other.html>

and from philatelic inscriptions on the stamps. Size, perforations, and number of teeth are my own measurements, and are given as horizontal × vertical.

## Table

Stamp 	Millen'm P'p	Year of the Dragon	All-Star Game	Birds (pane)	Birds (booklet)
Value	46¢	46¢ & 95¢	6×46¢	4×46¢	4×46¢
Issued	1 Jan 00	5 Jan 00	5 Feb 00	1 Mar 00	1 Mar 00
Printer	CBN	A-P	CBN	A-P	A-P
Qty (10 <sup>6</sup> )	7	46¢, 16.28 (1)	36	8	16
Paper	C	C	C	C	JAC
Process	3CL	46¢, 9CL; 95¢, 10CL	6CL	5CL	5CL
Pane	16	25; SS 1, UPS 12	6	20	12
Tag	G4S	G4S	G4S	G4S	G4S
Gum	PVA	PVA	PVA	PVA	P-S
Size (mm)	26×32	46¢, 48×30 (2)	42×42	40×32	40×32
Perf	13.1×12.5	46¢, 12.5×12.7 (3)	12.9×12.9	12.5×13.1	11.5×11.25 (4)
Teeth	17×20	46¢, 30×19 (5)	27×27	25×21	23×18

(1) Quantities for the for the 95¢,  $4.1 \times 10^6$  ss; for the 95¢ UPS,  $6 \times 10^5$

(2) Sizes: 95¢,  $57 \times 30$

(3) Perforations: 95¢,  $13.7 \times 13.3$

(4) die-cut

(5) Teeth 95¢,  $39 \times 20$

*Abbreviations.* 3 (5, 6, ... ) CL: three (five, six, ... ) colour lithography; A-P: Ashton-Potter; C: Tullis Russell Coatings (coated paper); CBN: Canadian Bank Note Company; G4S: general tagging (four sides); JAC: Canadian Jac; M: thousand; P: Peterborough paper; P-S: pressure sensitive gum; SS: souvenir sheet; sh: sheets; UPS: uncut press sheet.

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# Study group centreline

David H Whiteley

ANOTHER winter has passed and many collectors will be putting their collections away until the fall. Since the last column many of you like me will have attended many of the shows and hopefully filled in some of those gaps. Judging from the mailbag, the study groups have been busy, so I will get down to business.

The Spring issue of the newsletter of the registration study group contains a number of items from David Handelman, "A very early registered cover to Canada from the UK" (August 1856); an item on a cover received too late, an example of a large registered cover paid in cash, a dotty Montreal dater, a *lettre d'argent*; "Quasi-, semi- and philatelic mail", and an early AR cover to Canada from the US. Earle Covert submitted an item on modern Canadian registration 1989-1999. The *Canadian Revenue Newsletter* for March 2000 contained the start of a new series by Chris Ryan "An illustrated chronicle of Canada's excise stamp tax on matches" (part 1). Mervin Woike asks the question "Are these Canadian telephone franks?" in an illustrated article. Finally there is an up-date on airport departure tax fees by Chris Ryan.

*Postal Stationery Notes* for the April 2000 edition contains an article on "What's new in postal stationery", an item by Bill Walton on "CNR back view title errors: new discoveries and hypotheses". Also by Bill Walton was an article on the "Canada Atlantic Railway". There was also a piece on "The Canadian Express Company" (part 11) by Chris Ellis and Dick Staecker.

Two issues of *Post card matters* have been received; the March issue contains an item by J C Campbell on Stedman Bros fancy greeting cards and another on Canadian pennants. There was an item by Dean Mario on Canadian Great War memorials; another piece by Dean on Christmas Greetings—1945 from Macleans. Dean also submitted an item on Saskatoon bridges; and there was a follow up piece by Maggie Toms on the *Titanic*. The May 2000 edition contain an item by Peter McCarthy on a train wreck near Richmond QC in 1914. Dean Mario presented a brief history of post card types. Maggie Toms submitted a piece on the Canadian armed yacht *Grilse*.

The *RPO Newsletter* for January 2000 contained items from Peter McCarthy's collection, an early date for a Quebec & Montreal RPO; a late date for a Rousses Pt & Albany RPO duplex and a continuation of his article from the Smithsonian Institution's division of postal history, "The railway mail car". From Ken Ellison's collection were examples of British Columbia ship markings. Finally, there was a synopsis of the study group's one-frame entry at Vernon, "Railway mail through Vernon".

The *Nautical Times* for March 2000 contained examples of mail sent from the Quebec North Shore to Nova Scotia via Newfoundland, and other North Shore steamboat cancellations by Bill Walton. An example of a pass issued to Cornelius Van Horne by the St Lawrence Steamboat Co was illustrated. Bruce Graham sent in illustrations of covers with the Port Colborne, Ontario Marine Post Office CDs. Bill Walton also sent in a number of copies of the same cancellation, and examples of the Thorold Marine Post Office cancellation. David Sessions sent along a postcard showing the first Sault Ship Canal, Ontario circular date stamp (8 June 1933).

The April issue of the newsletter of the airmail study group contained a recap on the bogus Canadian Airways Stamp. Trelle Morrow submitted an article on BC Airways major variety (dot in the tail of the 5 on stamp number four, upper left pane). A query regarding airmail rates to the United Kingdom in early 1930 was raised. Chris Hargreaves sent along an article by Pierre Vachon on mail drops on the North Shore (of the St. Lawrence River). The Mystery cover of the month is a second World War Cover with the endorsement CAAF in which a number of questions are posed. [Answers from yours truly: CAAF for Canadian Army Active Force. i.e., forces actually engaged as opposed to the more common CAOOF. Canadian Army Overseas Forces. Postage was free and the postmark was from the Canadian forces post office in London SC2.]

The April 2000 newsletter of the British Columbia postal history research group contained an item by Bill Topping "When is a 'Paquebot Cover' not a Paquebot Cover?" There is an item on the origin and use of RC numbers on modern mail. The *Newfie Newsletter* for January/February 2000 contained an item from Dean Mario on the 1/4 1897 Royal Family issue. There was also an item on the Goose Airport Sub Office A. Colin D Lewis submitted "A postcard to Jamaica" dated January 1899.

Three issues of the military study group's newsletter have been received. The January 2000 edition contained an article by Ken Ellison on "New rules and reg's for correspondence" during World War II. Jon Johnson discussed a CAMC nursing sister in Russia in 1917. JC Campbell contributed a piece on NPO 504 during World War II. Doug Sayles sent a report of the Toronto internment camp during World War I. Susan Sheffield wrote about POW Camp 20 in Gravenhurst ON during World War II. Colin Pomfret sent along an illustration of a Canadian internee letter from Switzerland. Ken Barlow and Wilf Whitehouse provided an updated list of BC MPOs & NPOs during World War II.

The March edition contained an item by Colin Pomfret on CAF Halton Camp number 123 Squadron 1918-19. Kevin O'Reilly sent along a follow-up on the emergency RPO at Prince George. A D Hanes submitted an article on "Postage paid markings, part 1". Robert Toombs has contributed another

another piece on Canadian peacekeeping operations. C D Sayles submitted the first part of an article on Z force, the Canadian Army in Iceland, 1940–41. The May edition contained the second part of this article. It also contained the second part of Robert Toombs' peacekeeping article. J C Campbell submitted an item on Gaspé Military Hospital. L G Clinton provided some illustrations, "Happy Mother's Day from the Red Shield Service!"

The February 2000 edition of the *War Times* contains information on civil censorship (internees and prisoner of war censor marks) by Peter Burrows. Bill Pekonen included excerpts from H E Guertin's book on patriotic, propoganda, and slogan cachets. Chris Miller supplied a review of Lawrence Sherman, United States Patriotic Covers of World War II.

The Canadian re-entry group's January–February newsletter contained items on re-entries on c9, the ½¢ maple leaf and the 1¢ green numeral issue. From the newly formed pre-cancel study group came their second newsletter, with an article by Hans Reiche on shades of the Admirals that are precancelled. He also submitted items on the Admiral 10¢ bistre brown pre-cancel and on precancel bar identification. Andy Ellwood sent in a progress report of the study group and Duncan MacDonald discussed the lathework inventory on precancelled Admirals. He also submitted short items on a Quebec major re-entry and on doubled towns. Andy Ellwood has presented Admiral sheet of Brantford precancels on the (1¢ Admiral). In the *Admiral's Log* for April 2000 was a piece by John Watson displayed further examples of covers with errors in usage. Hans Reiche submitted an article on the 1¢ green on greyish paper. Letters were received from Sandy Mackie, Tom Arnold, and Robert Bayes commenting on various aspects the previous issue and suggesting areas of for future study.

The April 2000 edition of *The Confederation* was received. It contained items by John E Milks on further discussion on inks and oxidation, by John Jamieson, "Paper expansion and shrinkage and the effects on perfins and perforations". John Hilson in his commentary continues to discuss pigments used in the production of the large & small queens and the effect of ambient temperature on perforation measurements. T R Morgan sent along an illustration of his favourite cover. Ron Ribler reviews Richard Morris' new "Color guide system for large & small queens & widow weeds & registration stamps of Canada". Roy Sass presented a number of collectible areas open to collectors of large & small sueens, and the lively discussion regarding the printing of the Small Queens. He also published an interpretation of printing terms taken from the Encyclopædia Britannica.

The fancy cancel group's newsletter for May 2000 contains illustrations of cork cancels (by Jonathon Cable) and of legislative and regulatory fancy cancels. The *Round-Up Annex* for April 2000 contained a number of new reports, including comments on the up-date to the Roster project, and Jim

Miller continued his series of articles on the orbs, this time from Winnipeg. The *BNA Perforator* for March 2000 contained a report by Mark Fennell on BNA PSEX '99. RS Traquair submitted the "Saga of the creation of four companies who used perfins and the involvement of one of Canada's renowned philatelic personages". The companies were the Canada Cement Co, Canadian Car & Foundry Ltd, Steel Company of Canada, and Canada Foundaries & Forgings Ltd. The personage was a crabby Sir Sanford Fleming.

The spring edition of the *Slogan Box* contains items by Jean-Guy Dalpé on "Visit—Visitez 67 Montreal, P.Q. 1967" and "Air Parcel Post for Speed Le Colis—Avion Est Rapide". There was also an item on "Armed Force Day Journée Des Forces Armées" in 1966 and 1968. Steven A Friedenthal submitted an item on Christmas-related meter slogans. A special memorial edition of the *Slogan Box* was issued in honour of the late Daniel G Rosenblat, whose eulogy will be written by better writers than I.

The *Corgi Times* for January–February 2000 has been received with items by Dean Mario, "Elizabethan market report" and Harry Machum on "Exhibiting made easy—Wilding definitives". John Arn wrote on "Unexplained rates during the cameo period". Joseph Monteiro discussed partially imperforate errors of the Millennium issues. Earle Covert presented an article on request for additional delivery of registered letters, and John Aitken wrote "More than the minimum registration fee". The *Centennial Definitive Newsletter* for March 2000 contains a classification for the low denominations to the 8¢ of the centennials, compiled by Sam Rock. Feedback on previous articles was received from Leopold Beaudet, Ray White, and Mike Painter.

This completes the mail bag for this quarter. I hope everybody has an enjoyable summer and I hope to see many of you at Chicago in September.



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---

Recent publications arising from our Study Groups include J Weiner *Canada Ink Jet Cancels* 1992-1999 and D Lacelle *Fancy Cancels on Canadian Stamps*; the latter is the long-awaited update of Day & Smythies. Both of these are available from the BNAPS Book Department, Saskatoon Stamp Centre (see the two-page ad). Another book on the verge of publication is R Ribler *The 3¢ small queen*.  
—ed

# Readers speak

A column for readers to express their views, ask questions, or add information to previously published articles.

*From John Walsh (St. John's) with more on the Watermarks on the Newfoundland officially sealed stamp—revealed! (BNATopics vol 57, pp 35–38) You did a fine presentation of my research article; I thank you [blush—ed]. Now for extra news to add to my article.*

More information has just come to light. It is reported to me by stamp dealer, Gary Lyon, that he has a block of four from the ABN Co archive find that has the complete word LINEN. Also, from the dean of BNA stamp sellers, Mr Kasimir Bileski (who has been selling stamps for nigh on to a century), comes a large multiple. This is from the same ABN Co archives find.

On this multiple, there is more of the watermark. As indicated in op cit, the top line of the watermark has a word which resembled OICIV, with parts of the first and last letters appearing. The stamp with these letters came from William P Barlow. Originally it was described (by various auction houses) as DOHC. At the time it was not known or suspected in what direction these letters flowed.

Now we know what it is. On this large multiple from Bileski, no watermarks are found on the row of stamps above or below this word. The letters are sans serif and in outline, as in the article. The newly-revealed word makes sense when one realizes why they were intended. The word is JUDICIAL. The complete watermark is:

**JUDICIAL  
SPECIAL LINEN BOND  
CUSTOM FINE**

*[Next issue: a remarkable connection between watermarked Newfoundland revenues and Canadian AR forms—ed]*

---

*From Ivan MacKenzie (Ottawa) To celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary, another organization of which I am a member, the Heritage Canada Founda-*

tion, in cooperation with the Canada Post Corporation, produced a special first day cover in an edition limited to 3,000 copies.

The cover features three postage stamps (Scott #1755d,e,f) from the series on the history of housing in Canada, together with a nice cachet consisting of the anniversary logo and cancelled with a special anniversary cancel dated at Ottawa ON 1998.09.23. A Heritage Canada Foundation explanation is printed on the reverse. These covers are available only from the Heritage Canada Foundation, at a cost of \$5.00 each, GST and postage included. Please indicate the quantity desired and send your cheque or money order to Heritage Canada Anniversary Cover, P.O. Box 1358, Station B, Ottawa ON K1P 5R4.

Brickbats or roses—the Editor needs more letters! And a *lot* more articles. Much of the delay in this issue was due to a dearth of material.

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# Corrigenda & Addenda

[An irregular column devoted to amending and emending previous issues]

**I**N Horace Harrison's article *The 5¢ registered letter stamp—Lussey's plaign corrected* (BNA**Topics** 482 (2000) 45–53—lasts issue), Figure 5 was incorrectly shown as a copy of Figure 2. This should have appeared:

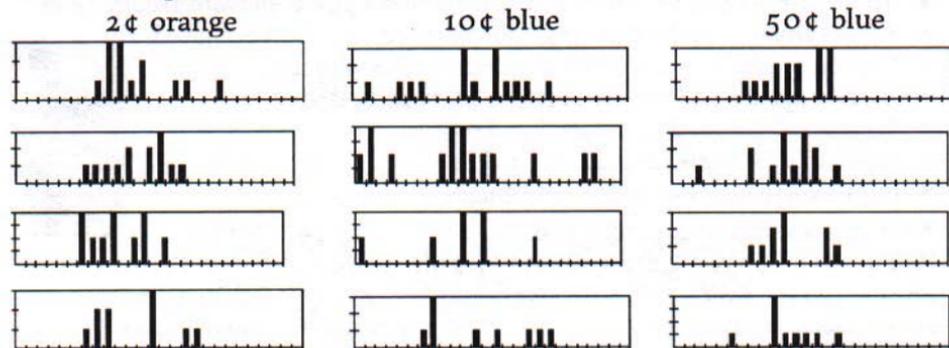


Figure 5. Position 55

Two protuberances inside the s and one inside the t.

Concerning Richard Johnson's article (last issue) *More about perforations—than you ever wanted to know*, p 27–30, there a few things to be added.

Each of the twelve bar graphs below represents frequency (going up to three or four on the left) versus measurements of the perf spacing, given in hundredths of a millimeter. (Refer to Table 1 in *op cit.*) Each mark on the horizontal axis represents a difference of .04 mm, beginning with 1.48 at the extreme left. Each column contains the graphs for the left, right, top, and bottom perforations, in that order.



The missing reference is

- [1] R A Johnson *Perforations revisited: the Kiusalas gauge and the third bill issue*, BNA**Topics** 52 #1 (1995) 15–26.

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Keywords & phrases: errors & omissions

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For electronic text, do not worry about multiple spaces after a period at the end of a sentence (leave at least one space), or about indents. Please leave a blank line between paragraphs. Please do not use special characters for italics (show this on hard copy in pen or pencil). Names should be written with initials (or full given names) *first*, and without periods (as in, I P Freely, not Freely, I.P.). Preferred format for dates is day month year, as in 17 Sept 1752. Avoid use of all-caps, footnotes, or underscoring unless absolutely, positively NECESSARY. Potential contributors familiar with T<sub>E</sub>X should consult the Editor about preparation of files.

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# Our vendors speak

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April 25, 1997

Dear Bill,

Although this letter is overdue, I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the manner in which you handled the sale, last October, of my postal history material & Nova Scotia proofs. Everything went smoothly and without problems right from the time we first spoke about the possibility of the sale, over two years ago. You & your staff made it all very easy.

I was most impressed by the wonderful catalogue and the advance publicity. But most of all you produced a wonderful floor—where the bidding was spirited and many lots exceeded even my best hopes. I do not believe even one lot was left unsold. Your lotting also showed a sensitivity to my collecting themes and kept much material in groups that will allow buyers to build on what was started. Finally, your computer system worked like a charm. I was amazed to receive, just 30 minutes after the auction, both the complete record by lot with prices realized and a good cognac. Bravo!

I am slowly gathering the rest of my material and look forward to its sale sometime soon. You know, it gets harder and harder to sell your children of the post. As more of them go, I seem to be working more slowly than previously.

Thank all the staff. I look forward to our next joint venture. Best regards, and thanks again.

Sincerely,

J. J. MacDonald

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