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# Tpics



Whole number 512

Volume 64 Number 3

1932



Rev. E.A. Butler, the man from Sandy Point p. 4

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# BNA pics

Volume 64 Number 3 Whole Number 512

## The Official Journal of the British North America Philatelic Society Ltd

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## Readers write

*From* Bill Sutherland, some words of appreciation for Messrs Watt and Kershaw.

As one who collects threepenny (3d) Beavers and who is particularly interested in being able to accurately plate them, I am delighted to hear that Huff's research has been found. That said, I would encourage and ask Messrs Watt and Kershaw to consider periodically publishing portions of their work as they make their way through Huff's research. Their article in the most recent *Topics* was eagerly read and much appreciated.

*From* Bob Cumming, some information on earliest use of the 8c Small Queen.

The Arfken and Pawluk article on Single Stamp for Postage and Registration needs updating with respect to the earliest use of the 8c Small Queen. The earliest published date is now 26 August 1893. This was mentioned with respect to an item in an auction catalogue of Maresch and Son a few years ago, and the stamp is now in my possession. The post mark is Souris, Manitoba. There is another stamp, very difficult to read, that could be August 27, from Fort Saskatchewan, and a third dated 24 August from an unknown location. The two western stamps are dark green, while the other is the familiar grey-blue. It is likely that the 8c was used earlier than the 24th, but probably not by more than a day or two.

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# The man from Sandy Point – Part 1

“...I have supplied Newfoundland stamps to over ten thousand persons”

Rev. E. A. Butler, 1932

Norris (Bob) Dyer

## Introduction

Reverend Eleaser Alfred Butler served collectors of Newfoundland stamps for thirty years and the families of his Anglican parish almost 40 years! Can you think of any current stamp dealer who is a man of God? Please, no smirks!!! And is there any collector of Newfoundland postal history who has not owned at least one Butler cover? Even now, almost sixty years after he retired from the hobby you are likely to find at least one Butler cover on eBay, every few days.

I have been aware of Butler since my early days collecting Newfoundland but was inspired to learn more about him by C. R. McGuire’s article in the PHSC Journal 50 with the enviable title *Newfoundland Means Rev. Butler*.<sup>[1]</sup> After more research and with the essential help of members of the Newfoundland Study Group, I have finally reached the point where I feel I can add to the Butler story.

The good reverend deserves attention as he was the main source of Newfoundland issues for many thousands of collectors all over the world in the 1920’s, 30’s & 40’s. From all accounts, he was as courteous and thorough in filling the \$1 orders as he was with larger sales.

His price lists were accurate and more detailed than any standard catalogue of the day. Truly, during his time, to collectors Newfoundland *did* mean Rev. Butler.

## Sandy Point and Anglican Rector Butler

“Sandy Point is a near island in St. George’s Bay on the west coast of Newfoundland. It is really the permanently exposed tip of a long sandbar that separates Flat Bay from the Gulf of St. Lawrence.....[It] is now completely uninhabited except for herds of cattle and horses that are pastured there every summer and the colonies of birds that nest on its gravel beaches. Everywhere there are cleared fields and fencerows, foundations and cellar holes, garden ridges and crumbling wells, as well as three wharves, several deteriorating breakwaters and three cemeteries.” [2].

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Keywords & phrases: Newfoundland, Butler, stamp dealers



Figure 1. Rev. Butler. Although published in 1932, the photo likely was taken much earlier.

of St. George. Figure 1 is a photo of Butler from his 1932 retail list. He would have been 60 then, but I feel the photo is from a much earlier time and closer to what he looked like at 39.

*Turbulent Tides* [3] says that Butler had a keen interest in education within his parish. At this time in Newfoundland all schools were operated by the churches. Butler made changes right away to the Sandy Point Anglican school. He converted the separate boys' and girls' entrance to a single one and added new windows to improve the ventilation. He sought to ensure that only the best teachers taught in his parish schools, but retaining good teachers was difficult as the town lost population and services. Eventually his oldest daughters, Jean and Mollie would become teachers there.

The original St. Stephen's Anglican Church burned to the ground in 1914 and Butler was instrumental in its replacement.

After their arrival, the Butler family had three more children and all seemed to enjoy happy years on the somewhat barren peninsula. Sometimes the kids got into trouble, like kids everywhere – Bill for swearing at a neighbour (Shame! A preacher's son??), and Temple for smoking out the small school by plugging up its stove pipe.

When E.A. Butler moved to Sandy Point in 1911, with his wife Caroline and four young children, the town had already passed its prime (750 residents in 1855) and was already down to 465 (336 by 1935). Causes for this decline included a shift in industry to larger communities in the area, including Stephenville, and periodic storms that tore away at the center of the narrow peninsula that connected the town to the mainland. Substantial depletion of salmon reserves, over the years and the easier access to outside markets through the railroad at St. George's on the mainland also seriously hurt the local economy.

Butler was born at Killigrews in 1872 and educated at Queen's College in St. John's. He was 39 when he moved to Sandy Point to succeed Rev. Charles Jeffrey as Rector of the Parish

While he was a lifelong stamp collector, we don't know when he decided to augment his meagre income and complicate his already busy schedule, by becoming a mail order stamp dealer but he did.

Another reverend, and BNAPS member John S. Bain, provided some insight as to *why* Butler got into the stamp business, in a 1949 article in BNATopics [4]:

“...he had three sons and four daughters for whom to provide college educations, and since the average ministers' salaries do not permit this, he decided to raise funds through the sale of Newfoundland stamps of which he has made a special study for about 25 years. The children are now grown, and thanks to philately, their educations accomplished “

## Rev. Butler and the Alcock stamps

In *Settings of Newfoundland Surcharges* (BNA Topics, first quarter, 2007) I wrote of Butler's apparent purchase of the remainders of the Alcock stamps [5]. Now with more information, I can posit that it may have been pivotal in Butler's career as a stamp dealer, the sale of these stamps helping to subsidize the time and effort he spent filling thousands of low-margin orders of \$1-5, especially in the early years of his career. It would help keep the furnace blazing during frigid Sandy Point winters, as well as pay for the children's education.

Only 455 of the 10,000 stamps produced for early Atlantic crossings were used on flights. The stamp was \$1 surcharged on surplus 15¢ Cabot's. C.H.C. Harmer (*Newfoundland Air Mail Stamps*) wrote that:

“Late in September, a clergyman living in Newfoundland wired for 1,200 copies. and, a few days later walked into the St. John's Post Office to buy an additional 5,000! No such quantity was then available but the existing balance (minus 500 for orders on hand) was handed over: probably just over 4,000 copies.” [6].

All subsequent evidence suggests this was E.A. Butler, but how did an Anglican Rector in a poor parish come up with so much money? Butler spent \$5,200, and apparently was willing to spend as much as \$6,200. Remember, Butler had his large family to support, including a baby about one year old. This is the most significant mystery surrounding the reverend. Where did this large amount of cash come from? Did someone else stake him? In any case, all evidence points to Butler being the clergyman who left the post office in 1919 with around 208 settings of 25 of the Alcock stamp.

## Rev. Butler becomes a mail order stamp dealer

Although we have a good idea *why* Butler became a dealer, it's not clear *when* he started to sell stamps. His own testimony is contradictory. In his 1932 retail list he states:

“...during the past 16 years [ since 1916?] I have supplied Newfoundland stamps to over ten thousand persons.”

On the other hand, in a letter of November 23, 1945 to a customer in the U.S. he writes:

“I have been selling Nfld stamps here since 1920...”

I tend to believe the 1920 date is more accurate, as we have no written record of his activities pre-1920.

Butler had been a collector since 1889. Over the years we can assume he amassed thousands of low-value stamps from correspondence. It's also a high percentage guess that many of the 300 families in his parish clipped stamps from envelopes for him for many years, so he must have accumulated a hoard of inexpensive Newfoundland stamps for which he had paid nothing when he started dealing. With the Alcock stamps he now had “wheat” to leaven his philatelic chaff.

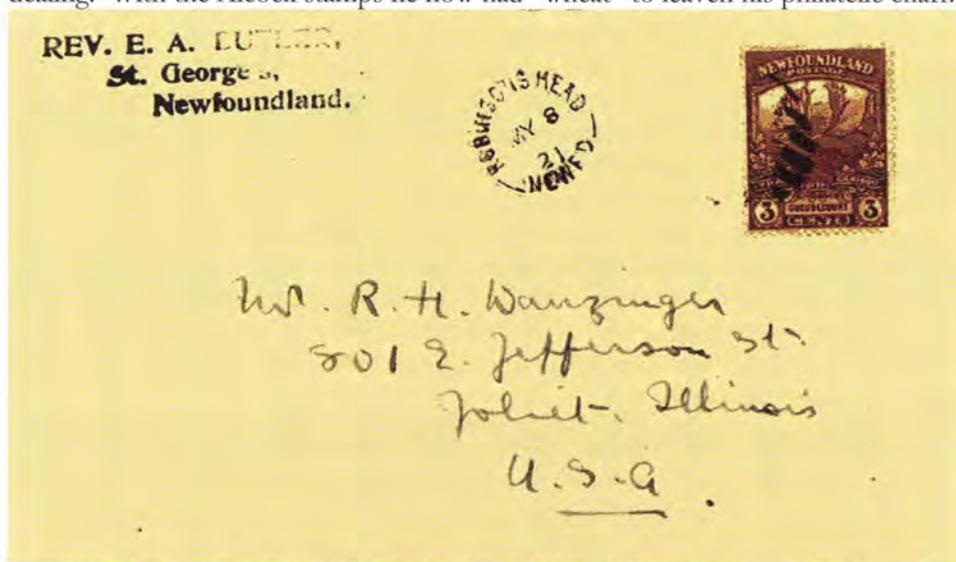


Figure 2. An early letter from Rev. Butler mailed 8 May 1921 at Robinsons Head



Figure 3. 1921 fantasy label.

The earliest probable Butler philatelic record I have seen is a cover from him on May 8, 1921 to the U.S. (Figure 2). I have seen a similar one of the same day to another U.S. party. Both were postmarked at Robinson's Head, 15 kilometres or so south of the peninsula, where Butler was probably visiting on church business at the time. This rubber-stamped corner card was used in 1921 and 1922. (In Part II of this article I will discuss Rev.

Butler's out-going "paper" more fully.) A group member has found ads from September and October 1921 in Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News (Figure 4). That Christmas he used his own fantasy label (Figure 3) with a faux cancel – an early indicator of a lighter-spirited Butler.

Newfoundland Wholesale — 20 varieties:—  
 1 set, 50c; 3 sets, 85c; 10 sets, \$2.85. Rev.  
 E. A. BUTLER, St. Georges, Newf'd'd. 108\*

---

Newfoundland—very scarce set, used:—Caribou (12), \$3; 1920 Provisionals (3), \$2.70. (M. O. on New York.) Rev. E. A. Butler, St. Georges, Newfld. 108\*

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Newfoundland—"Rock-bottom" prices:—10 varieties, 100 of each, cat. \$30, for \$3.50. REV. E. A. BUTLER, St. Georges, Newf'd.

Figure 4. Butler ads in 1921 in Meekels Weekly Stamp News.

In his second wholesale list from late 1922, we see the first mention of Alcock stamps (Figure 5) for sale, in this extract from the list. Somewhat curiously, he added ten copies of the Alcock stamp to Mixture 4. (Scott numbered it "202" at that time). This is curious since these mixtures are obviously of used stamps – "all cleaned off paper". It was highly unlikely that Butler added ten *used* Alcock stamps to the mixture, as where would he have possibly obtained them? The flight covers were already esteemed and Newfoundlanders were traditionally frugal, so no one was using \$1 stamps on mail. These were mint stamps added to a used mixture to give it some zest. In fact, it is not until 1938 that Butler even offers used Alcock's in his price lists. Consequently, Mixture 4 sold for \$28, or over 30% of catalogue while Mixtures 1-2 sold for less than 10%. The mixture otherwise contained a lot of low value and easily obtained stamps.

MIXTURES—all cleaned off paper, and put up in separate lots.

1. Scott's Nos. 115, 116 and 117; 1000 stamps, Cat Value **\$34.00** for \$3.00
2. Scott's Nos. 81, 83, 88a, 104 and 105, and 117; 1000 stamps Cat.value **\$26.75** for \$2.00
3. Scott's Nos. 81, 83, 87a, 88a, 104, 105, 115, 116, 117, 119; 1000 stamps, Cat Value **\$37.20** for \$3.50
4. Special Mixtures of 25 Varieties, as follows:—  
 10 each of Nos. 45, 46, 47, 51, 52, 68, 69, 79, 84 and 202. **\*ALCOCK STAMPS**  
 20 each of Nos. 81, 82, 83, 86, 91a, and 108.  
 40 each of Nos. 118 and 119,  
 50 each of Nos. 87a and 88a.  
 100 each of Nos. 104, 105, 115, 116 and 200 of 117.  
 1000 Stamps, Cat. Value **\$90.80** for \$28.00
5. Nos. 115, 116, 117, 118 and 119—100 of each for \$450.

The 10 copies of No 202 include 5 Normal and 5 no comma and these alone retail are worth the \$28.00.

N. B. Cash with order, by ~~Draft~~, or money order. on St. George's Nfld. *or send for*

Figure 5. Rev. Butler's 1922 wholesale list.

**PREMIUMS**

Select One (1) Premium with a 50c subscription.  
 Select Two (2) Premiums with a \$1 subscription.

Austria, 100 all dif.	French Col., 25 different	New Europe, 100 all dif.
Bavaria, 1911, 2 var.	Germany, 100 all different	Newfoundland, 12 all dif.
Danzig, 15 different	Hungary, War Provinces	Air Mail Stamps, 10 dif.

**If no premium is desired send \$1.00 and you will receive Stamp Topics for 14 months.**

I will send 10 different  
 Newfoundland stamps to all  
 who order

**“Stamp Topics”**

for one year--THE BEST  
 Monthly Paper that I know.

**REV. E. A. BUTLER**

**ST. GEORGE'S**

**NEWFOUNDLAND**

---

(See other side)

Figure 6. Rev. Butler's offer of free Newfoundland stamps to new subscribers of Stamp Topics

His 1924 list was followed in October of 1927 by a much more annotated and *illustrated* list.

## Reverend Butler's Later Price Lists

Reverend Butler's price list in late 1927 for 1928 included a photo of the Reverend on its front page (Figure 7). Butler photos are rare, but here he looks about his age which would have been 55 at that time (“spot on”, our friends in the U.K might

Butler joined the A.P.S. in June of 1923, and become a number of four other philatelic organizations (including the A.S.D.A.) by 1927. He appeared in the 1924 Canadian Philatelic Yearbook, Who's Who in Philately. By the mid-1920's he had greatly expanded his outreach to collectors through free stamp promotions contained in solicitations by Weekly Philatelic Gossip, Stamp Topics as well as Mekeel's. Note, for example, the front of one for Stamp Topics (Figure 6) wherein he offers stamps gratis to new subscribers, while throwing in a compliment for the newspaper to boot.

Business was picking up and I have seen a number of Butler covers from 1922-1924, with in-coming mail from as far away as Fiji! His first *retail* price list for the general collecting public I am aware of was issued in mid-1924. In this list he offers Alcock singles for \$2.50 and up, and position blocks of four for \$15 (positions 15, 16, 19 & 20), but no complete settings. The Alcock block was the most expensive item offered. Blocks and complete settings would continue to be offered in later lists as we will see as high-end items, with a large profit margin for Butler.

say). One wonders if the book before him is a book on stamps or a religious tome - I suspect the latter.

Butler's coverage of the colony was quite good for unused and used, lacking only the rarer pence issues and the Hawker air mail. Only three stamps were over \$10 unused - the 5¢ brown seal, 5¢ black seal and the 1897 Type C surcharge. The Alcock position block came in at \$25. I have a "Buying List" from July of 1927, so it gives us an idea of Butler's mark-ups on two of these items. He offered the brown seal for \$20 but paid \$5. The 5¢ black seal was wanted at \$3 against a retail of \$12. He did not advertise for the 1897 Type C surcharge which he listed at \$13. The retail list also included a section on slogan cancels.

Here are a few of his requirements for buyers:

- All stamps are priced net but on orders above \$50.00 I allow my wholesale discount of 20 per cent.
- Postage (4¢) must be sent on all orders under \$1.00 and 10¢ extra if registration is required.
- Collectors who are not already my customers must send first class references such as a Society membership, or cash with order.
- Payment should be made by Money Order or Draft.

The second "1928" list would come out in May of that year. Butler raised many prices by significant amounts. For example, the 5¢ brown seal went from \$20 to \$30, the 5¢ black seal from \$12 to \$15, and the Type C surcharge from \$12 to \$15. It is unclear to me what motivated the reissued list, only seven months after the initial one. Was demand such that he could do that?

A positive thing about the second list was the expansion of Butler's comments after each set. Not only did it reflect an advanced knowledge of Newfoundland varieties but also a light and folksy approach. See the page "Reverend Butler, the

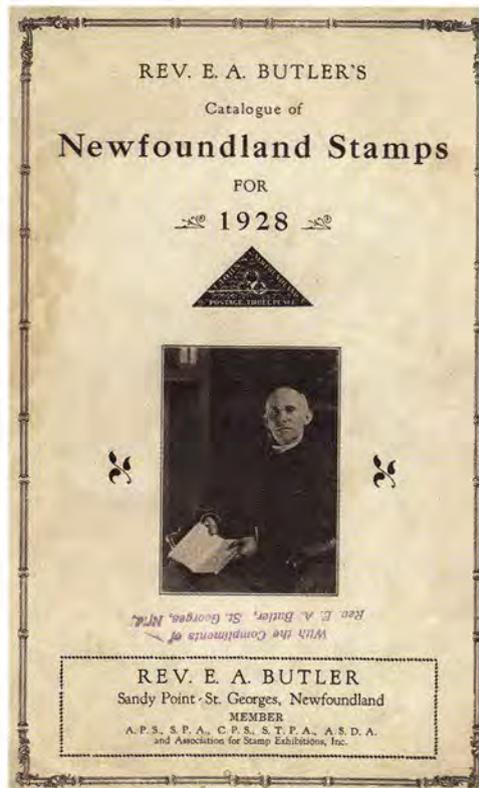


Figure 7. Although dated 1928, this list was actually issued late in 1927.

Philatelist, Patriot and Tourist Promoter – 1928” where I have provided snippets of Butler at his most relaxed.

Butler expanded his listings at this time, now including postal stationery. Although he could offer no mint De Pinedo’s he does add that he can “supply a few on covers and would be glad to quote a price to collectors who may be interested.”

The second 1928 list included a big pitch for the Alcock position blocks, I mentioned earlier: “Of the “Alcock” Air Post (No. 202) there are four varieties found in each sheet of 25 stamps and collectors can get these in a unique block of 4. Only 400 sheets were printed and these contain 16 normal, 7 [no] comma, 1 thin comma and 1 no stop nor comma. More than half of these sheets have been broken up and only about 150 four-variety-blocks exist. I consider these as being worth \$50.00 at present and wise collectors will get them before the price goes above that.”

Table 1 shows the prices Butler charged for selected items over the years, including the much vaunted Alcock blocks and complete settings, in ten lists from 1924-1947. It was only in 1947 that he no longer offered Alcock multiples.

**Table 1: Rev. Butler’s Prices for Selected items 1924-1947**

Item Scott #	Harp Seal 25	Cabot set 61-74	Caribou set 115-126	Alcock B C2	Alcock S C2	1920 S 128
1924*	\$10.00	\$4.68	\$3.30	\$15.00	---	\$2.50
1928**	30.00	7.96	5.00	35.00	---	4.00
1930	15.00	12.27	7.95	75.00	---	3.60
1932	12.50av	7.70	4.25	60.00	200.00	3.60
1934	18.00	6.60	4.80	50.00	180.00	4.00
1936***	24.00	9.27	6.90	150.00	450.00	6.00
1938	16.00	10.40	6.91	100.00	---	4.50
1940	18.00	10.73	6.75	55.00	180.00	4.20
1944	23.50	14.72	12.12	60.00	---	8.00
1947	48.00	26.00	26.00	---	---	16.00

Prices are for “unused” O.G. and some stamps may have been hinged.

“Alcock B” is a position block with four types. “Alcock S” is full setting of 25.

\* 1924 He offered a 10 per cent discount on orders over \$20.00.

\*\* 1928 Butler issued two “1928” price lists. This is the second one, issued in May.

\*\*\* 1936 Orders of \$10 or more got a 10% discount on future orders, \$20 or more, 20%.

Butler’s price lists would become very popular. I have copies of or a record of subsequent lists for all years through 1947, except for 1929, 1931 and 1941 – although I would imagine they were also issued. His earlier lists were 9” X 5.5” until at least 1931. Then he went to a smaller 6” X 3.5” size that would fit in a

standard envelope which he sent at the printed matter rate of 1¢. With the more constricted space in the smaller formats he unfortunately had to drop off his often sage comments. All lists through at least 1940 were printed by Owl Publishing Company.

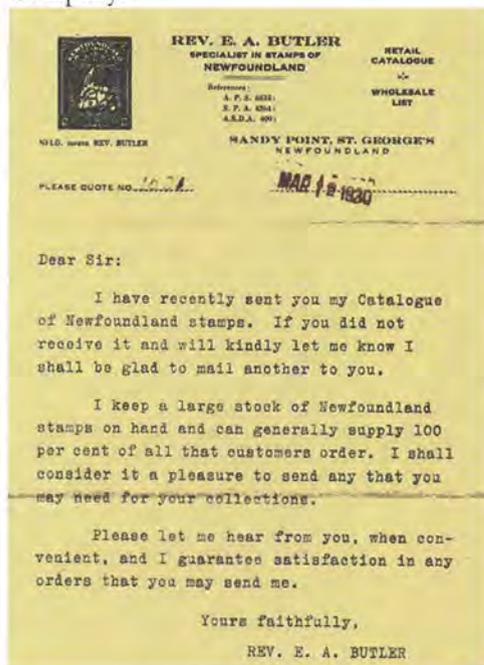


Figure 8. An example of a follow-up letter from Rev. Butler.

for example, he writes: “Wish I could visit your garden spot of the world for a supply of oranges, etc.” Enclosed was a printed order blank for a rubber stamp “Special Offer (Good for Three Months). Fine for the price of Average. Better order at once!”

Butler continued to promote bulk sales (he must have had an almost inexhaustible supply of cheap low values). Even at that point he offered “1,000 NFLD MIXTURE – at least 12 varieties (a bargain).....\$1.50.” His 1932 list also offered a number of first flights, including those from the “Bremen Relief Expedition” for \$25. Of this, Harmer wrote:

“The letters [reported as only ten] were not posted until a month later [after a crash-landing in Labrador], possibly after a reminder by Rev. E.A. Butler, a keen stamp collector who organized the mail [a Newfie Roessler?]. The letters prepared for this flight each bear U.S., Canadian and Newfoundland stamps and an air mail label. They were belatedly posted from Washington D.C. and where

As we will see, Butler continued to expand his coverage of Newfoundland philately. Only in recent editions of the Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue do we find more detail. Consequently, we can only imagine the excitement of many collectors when a letter from St. Georges, Newfoundland popped into the mailbox. It promised an enjoyable few hours checking new listings and also finding out how one’s holdings were doing on the retail market.

Butler was always busy promoting his business. Figure 8 shows a typical Butler follow-up to test whether the free 1930 catalogue he sent had generated any interest. Note some of his memberships on the stationery and his accounting number on the correspondence. A sharp salesman, his notes were often personal. In a March 1930 letter to a customer in California,

addressed to Butler have the receiver at Sandy Point, Newfoundland. These undoubtedly rare covers are highly prized despite their unofficial status.”[6].

Butler had customers worldwide. In this list he boasts that he added over one thousand new customers in 1931. Figure 9 is a post card from Australia in response to an ad in *Stamp Collecting* offering a “catalogue” (price list).

Butler assigned customer numbers and sometimes inscribed them on the front of the lists he sent out – for example my copy of the 1932 list has “3263” on it.



Figure 9. A post card from Australia responding to an advertisement in *Stamp Collecting* offering Rev. Butler's list.

Additionally, regarding full settings of the Alcock settings, he mentions that “Only 100 exist” - further evidence of his control of the remainders, purchased in 1919.

## Rev. Butler, - philatelist, patriot and tourist promoter

Of all the Butler price lists I have seen only in the larger formatted 1928 versions does the Rev. add text after each Newfoundland set. Later he went to a smaller 6” X 3.5” list that was more easily mailed but with little room for the type of interesting comments which he provided here.

*After the 1887-1894 issues:*

Everyone has heard of the “Newfoundland Dog.” His natural colour is black but from 1887 to 1896 he made his appearance in both red and orange as well as black.

They put a mighty small value on the poor chap and even now you can get him at a low price...

*After the 1897 Cabot set:*

Now we come to "John Cabot" and the miserly King who paid him such small wages for finding the NEW-FOUND-LAND which has since become the "corner-stone" of the great British Empire.

The same good old Queen reigns and we celebrate her Jubilee with a special issue of 14 stamps. Icebergs are common in Newfoundland during each Winter and Spring but the one pictured on the 35¢ of this issue has nearly melted and will soon be worth its weight in gold. The 5, 6, 8, 10 and 12¢ are also getting very scarce unused and prices will advance rapidly soon.

*After the 1919 Caribou set:*

Newfoundland is a small colony but we did a big "bit" in the Great War, and our sailors and soldiers were among the first to offer their services. We lost more sailors in the War than all the rest of the Colonies and Dominions put together! And our soldiers were equal to the best. I have a parish of about 300 families, and from these 75 young men took part in the fighting on land and sea. Of these 22 laid down their lives, and many of the others came back crippled for life. Our Caribou Issue of stamps shows to the world something of what our Newfoundland boys did. It is a popular set and increasing in value each year.

*After the 1923 Pictorial set:*

Here is our "picture gallery" showing some of the scenery for which Newfoundland is famous. The 4, 6, 10 and 15¢ stamps all show views on the Humber River situated on the West Coast

-the most beautiful and fertile part of the country - and only about 50 miles from St. Georges...

The picture shown on the 9¢ stamp is one to delight the eye of any sportsman and it is a common sight to view caribou crossing one of the Nfld West Coast lakes. The "Humber" is one of the largest rivers but within a radius of 20 miles from my home there are nine small rivers and during the months of June, July and August these simply teem with salmon and trout. Scores of sportsmen visit us each season but there are pools enough for hundreds and salmon enough for thousands. I have known one person to catch a ton of salmon in one season with a single rod. If any of my customers are sportsmen I would advise them to try a Summer holiday in the West of Newfoundland.... Those who come once return regularly year by year for like the "Queen of Sheba" they say "I believed not until I came, and mine eyes had seen and, behold, the half was not told me."

## References

- [1] C R McGuire, "Newfoundland Means Rev. Butler", PHSC Journal, No. 50 & 51, 1987.
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- [5] Norris R. Dyer, "Settings of Newfoundland Surcharges", *BNATopics*, No.510, Vol. 64, No. 1, January-March (2007).
- [6] C H C Harmer, *Newfoundland Air Mails*, American Air Mail Society, 1984.
- [7] C R McGuire, email of April 4, 2007 to author.
- Also quoted are various price lists of Reverend Butler.

*In Part II I will describe Butler's later price lists and his covers. The demise of the town of Sandy Point will also be examined.*

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## Another 12d cover (sort of)

R.F. Narbonne (OTB)

**T**AKE a look at and enjoy this striking cover. Twelve pence cross-border covers are rare and verge on exotic. Unfortunately, this one has some problems. Can you spot what they are before reading on?



The first problem is that the small Kingston, U.C. broken circle was not issued until 1858 – five years after the date on this cover. The second is that the four-ring # 18 numeral cancellation (Kingston) was not issued until 1857 - four years after the date on this cover.

On the positive side, the stamp is genuine, although it has faults. Examination under black light reveals a pronounced rectangular discolouration in the middle of the stamp.

*(Editor's note: I do not doubt that the criminal responsible for this creation will read Hank's article, and learn enough to do a much better job next time. This class of material should be bought only from a reputable dealer whose integrity and knowledge you trust; or in auction "on extension", followed by immediately sending your new cover to the expertising committee of your choice. Well-documented provenance is valuable, but can only reduce – not eliminate – the level of concern about forged and faked covers).*



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## Two new outstanding 5¢ beaver varieties found in plate proofs

*Kenneth A. Kershaw*

THE philatelic community owes a considerable debt of gratitude to Geoffrey Whitworth for his remarkable book, *The Five Cents Beaver Stamp of Canada*. Published in 1985, it has remained the standard book for identification and plating of this stamp ever since. With the enormous recent advances in technology, particularly the desk top computer and scanner, it occurred to me how much easier it would be to work from colour scans rather than the hand drawn sketches of the 5¢ Beaver used by Whitworth. An initial attempt to try to update Whitworth emphasized the enormity of the task, and frustration over finding good material overtook me quite rapidly. I abandoned the task as impossible without a lifetime's devotion just to this one stamp. My interest was rekindled, however, when I received a most generous offer of the loan of two plate proofs for scanning. These two proof sheets turned out to be the last two printings of the 5¢ Beaver (Figure 1), states 10 and 11, and they provided a great stimulus resulting in my returning to an extensive revision of Whitworth's work. This task is now largely complete and will be published this fall by BNAPS.



Figure 1 .. The 5¢ Beaver stamp.

In this article I would like to illustrate two new, apparently previously unrecorded, varieties and additionally emphasize the importance of the complete scans of the proof plates states 10 and 11. Whilst working so extensively with Whitworth's drawings and notes it slowly became evident that he often provided no information at all on states 10 and 11 for many positions, and for others simply a comment or even just a pair of question marks. It seemed as if Whitworth never had access to these two plate proofs, scans of which are particularly important in that they provide for the first time exact information on the varieties and re-entries in the two final states of the 5¢ Beaver. What information Whitworth did provide on positions of these two states is often although not always correct, but a complete set of scans does finally give us the definitive account necessary for the accurate plating of the two final states. Volume I of my coming book includes marked-up scans of each stamp in state 10 and 11, position by position. Volume II offers more detailed scans, providing as complete coverage of specific varieties and re-entries as I have been able to access.

The first task with the two plate proofs was to interpret which flaws were fundamental to the plating task in hand, and which had been introduced accidentally during the long period these plates were in storage. Fortunately this problem turned out not to be serious; additional flaws are few and can be easily eliminated by comparing the two sheets with Whitworth's drawings as well as comparing them together. (In the earlier Pence issues, though, this is not the case, and extensive cross-checking with stamp material becomes essential.)

Each position of each plate proof has been scanned at 1200 dpi, using a Hewlett



Figure 2. The position 59 scratch

Packard Scanjet series 8200, and an archived image stored at 300 dpi. This reduction to a standard printing resolution retains enough of the integrity of the image and allows easy enlargement and management of very numerous specific small segments to provide more definitive clarity where required.

The scanning results show that many positions in the plate proofs of states 10 and 11 are identical, but some are slightly different, largely as a function of plate wear, so there were no really significant changes made to plate 11. However, numerous

flaws invaluable for plating a position, which were not recorded earlier by Whitworth, have been detected. Particularly outstanding are positions 59 and 81. The quite remarkable and unique flaws found in both states, Figures 2 and 3, completely define the state and position of these stamps. That they are so clear cut but were not recorded by Whitworth indeed confirms that he *did not have access to these plate proofs*:

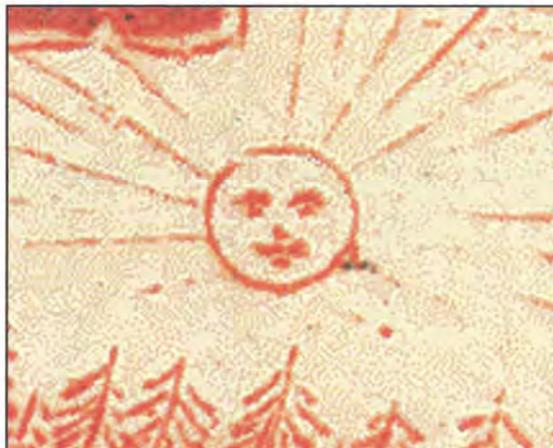


Figure 3. Position 81 – ‘One-eared’ Sun’

**From BNAPS Book Department:** Ken Kershaw’s 5¢ Beaver Plates 10 and 11 book will be available this fall in two spiral bound volumes totaling approximately 525 pages, at an estimated total member price of \$200. A single volume hardbound edition containing all 370 pages at an estimated member price of \$240 is possible if there is demand. If you are interested in a hardbound edition of this book, contact Mike Street as soon as possible please by regular mail at: 73 Hatton Drive, Ancaster, ON L9G 2H5 or email at: <mikestreet1@gmail.com>

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SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE IN CANADA

# Short paid overseas mail during Canada's centennial stamp period

*Doug Irwin*

**M**ODERN postal history has many interesting aspects and challenges. Unlike covers from the 19<sup>th</sup> century, modern covers are frequently discarded by the recipient. Family and business correspondences no longer keep every envelope received. In many instances, the challenge is simply to find the material sent to overseas destinations.

Short paid international mail provides an interesting study. Mail from Canada to overseas destinations had the option of being sent by surface mail or by airmail during the first half of the Centennial stamp period (1967 to June 30, 1971). When airmail was shortpaid, the post office had interesting options. Short paid airmail could be forwarded to destination with postage due to be collected by the receiving country, relegated to surface mail transmission or forwarded by airmail with the deficiency collected from the sender.

## Short paid international airmail letter rate

The airmail letter rate to Europe from 1967 to June 30, 1971 was 15¢ per half ounce. On July 1, 1971, the rate went to 15¢ per ounce. Many short paid airmail letters resulted because the sender applied only the first class domestic letter postage to letters going by airmail to Europe. Postage due collected in the receiving country meant that Canada Post lost revenue. When a return address was included on short paid airmail, Canada Post would forward the letter onto the destination without indicating any postage due. Instead, they would handstamp the letter "PORT PAYÉ" to indicate that the full postage had been paid. Canada Post would then send a card to the sender indicating that short paid letter had been forwarded onto its destination and that further postage was owing from the sender.

Figure 1 shows a single weight airmail letter to England, short paid 7¢. The "CANADA PORT PAYÉ" handstamp indicates that the letter was forwarded to destination without charging the recipient postage due. A card, similar to that in Figure 2 would be forwarded to the sender requesting additional postage. In this case, the sender posted a ½ ounce letter to Argentina, paying only 8¢. At this time (after June 30, 1971), all international letters went airmail. There was no longer an overseas surface mail rate. The card indicates that 7¢ additional postage was owing from the sender. The reverse side of the card bears seven 1¢ centennial definitives remitted by the sender.

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Keywords & phrases: postage due, rates, centennial era rates

BNA Topics, Volume 64, Number 3, July-September 2007

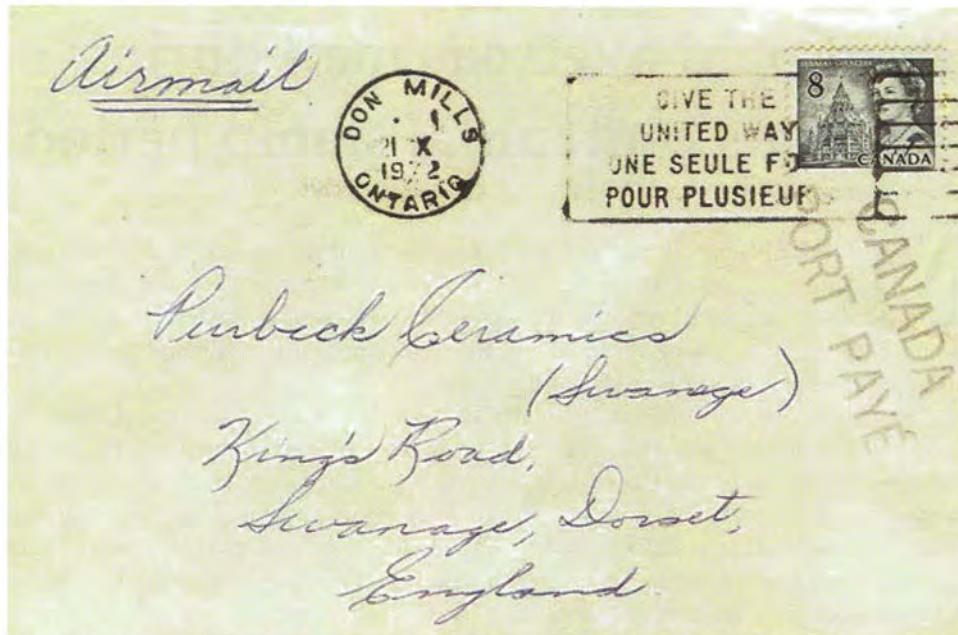


Figure 1. A shortpaid letter where the deficiency was collected from the sender.

<p>An item of mail</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Letter / Postcard</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Surface / Air Parcel</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Printed Papers</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Small Packet</p> <p>Mailed by you and addressed to</p>	<p>Un objet de correspondance</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Lettre / Carte postale</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Colis de surface/avion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Imprimés</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Petit paquet</p> <p>Déposé par vous-même et portant l'adresse suivante</p>	<p>Weight - Poids</p> <p>..... lbs..... <math>\frac{1}{2}</math> oz.</p>
<p>R. Arthur R. Mc Cormick  <i>aff. S. A. Johnson, Argentina,            San Martin, Cap. Fed. Argentina</i></p>		<p>Postage required            Affranchissement requis</p> <p>..... 15</p>
<p>did not carry enough postage</p> <p>Rather than delay the item or send it forward with postage due, to be collected from the addressee, we have advanced the necessary postage and sent it on its way</p> <p>To pay the postage due please see details at right</p>		<p>Postage prepaid            Affranchissement payé</p> <p>..... 8</p>
<p>Plutôt que de retarder l'objet ou de l'acheminer malgré le port dû à percevoir du destinataire, nous y avons apposé l'affranchissement nécessaire, puis nous l'avons acheminé.</p> <p>Pour le remboursement de l'affranchissement manquant, veuillez vous reporter aux détails qui figurent à droite.</p>		<p>Postage due            Affranchissement manquant</p> <p>..... 7</p>
<p>Please place postage for the amount due in the space provided on the other side of this card and mail it.</p>		<p>Veuillez apposer l'affranchissement manquant dans l'espace prévue à cette fin au verso de cette carte et l'expédier par la poste.</p>

Figure 2. A short payment notice sent by Canada post to the sender. Note that only the deficiency is collected, rather than the more normal double deficiency. It was paid by affixing stamps to the required value on the opposite side and returning to the postmaster.



**PAYÉ**". With no return address, Canada Post was not able to collect from the sender.

Figure 5 shows a single weight airmail letter to Jersey in the Channel Islands. It is paid 7¢ (the domestic letter rate at the time) instead of 15¢ per ounce. There is no return address on the envelope and so the letter is forwarded with postage due indicated. The "T 16/15" denotes the postage due owed (8¢ deficiency X 2 = 16) over the standard airmail letter rate for the first weight increment (15). In England, it received the "5p TO PAY" handstamp and the postage due collected in Jersey.



Figure 5. A short paid letter to Jersey



Figure 6. Short paid airmail letter to England.

Figure 6 shows a single weight airmail letter to England, with 12¢ paid (the surface mail letter rate) but directed to go airmail. Consequently, the letter is short paid 3¢ and received the "T 6/15" handstamp in Canada. The 6 denotes the double deficiency postage due (3¢ X 2 = 6¢) while the 15 indicates the standard letter rate for the first weight

increment (15¢). The "2p TO PAY" handstamp was applied on arrival in England.



Figure 7. A letter from a serviceman at Werl, Germany is shortpaid by 10 cents.

Germany back to Canada. The 5¢ stamp short pays the airmail rate by 10¢ and the letter is assessed (double deficiency) 20¢ postage due, denoted by the "T 20 CENTS" handstamp.

## Short paid international airmail postcard rate

Throughout the Centennial period, the rate for an airmail postcard rate to Europe was 10¢ each. Prior to July 1, 1971, postcards could also be sent to Europe by surface mail. From July 1, 1971 onward, all postcards to overseas destinations had to go airmail. A postcard to Hungary, stamped with the current 8¢ domestic rate definitive is shown in

Figure 8. The post card is short paid 2¢ and recipient is charged double deficiency of 4¢ postage due. The handstamp indicating the amount of postage due is under the Hungarian postage due stamp.

A 4¢ postal stationery card with an added 4¢ Centennial stamp short pays the 10¢ airmail postcard rate to



Figure 8. No surface mail was available at this date, so this card was shortpaid by 2 cents.

Japan by 2¢ in Figure 9. The “T 4/10” handstamp denotes the double deficiency of 4¢ postage due (4) and the standard international airmail post card rate (10). The “20 YEN (Postage) DUE” handstamp was applied in Japan.



Figure 9 Postal stationary card short paid by 2 cents.

## Short paid for air conveyance

Up until July 1, 1971, first class letters could be sent to overseas destinations by either surface mail or airmail. In some instances where the sender short paid the airmail rate, but used sufficient postage to cover the surface mail rate, Canada post forwarded the letters to the addressee via surface mail. Figure 10 shows a single weight airmail letter, underpaying the 15¢ rate to England by 7¢. Rather than charge the addressee postage due, or forward the letter “POSTAGE PAID” and try to collect the single deficiency from the sender, Canada Post handstamped the letter “SHORT PAID FOR AIR CONVEYANCE” and forwarded it by surface mail to England. The 8¢ stamp more than covered the 6¢ surface mail rate at the time to the US, the Americas, the British



Figure 10. Undeliverable because it was short paid for airmail and therefore sent by surface.

Commonwealth plus France and Spain.

In late 1968, airmail to Australia was 25¢ per ½ ounce while surface mail was only 6¢ for the first ounce. A single 15¢ Centennial stamp short pays the airmail letter rate to Australia by 10¢ in Figure 11. Canada Post handstamped the letter “**SHORT PAID FOR AIR CONVEYANCE**” and forwarded by surface mail (the 15¢ more than covering the 6¢ rate).



Figure 11. The air rate to Australia required 25 cents postage. Canada Post elected to forward this letter by surface mail.

## Short paid international surface letter rate

From the start of the Centennial Issue in 1967 until October 31, 1968, the surface letter rate to Great Britain, Ireland, France, Spain, the Commonwealth and the Americas was 5¢ for the first ounce. Surface mail to all other overseas destinations

was 10¢ for the first ounce.

Many senders of letters to European destinations would only affix 5¢ postage and these letters would be assessed postage due. Figure 12 shows a single weight letter to Switzerland, short paid by 5¢ and assessed double deficiency of 10¢ postage due. The “**T 10/10**” handstamp denotes the



Figure 12. Surface mail to Switzerland shortpaid by 5 cents.

double deficiency of 10¢ postage due (10) and the standard surface mail letter rate for the first weight increment (10). The postage due is paid by a single 50 centime Swiss stamp. A similar short paid single weight letter to Belgium has the same postage due assessment (figure 13) and the additional postage is paid by the two Belgian postage due stamps.



Figure 13. Underpaid by 5¢, with the double deficiency collected in Belgium.

On November 1, 1968, the surface mail letter rate increased to 6¢ for the ounce to Great Britain, Ireland, France, Spain, the Commonwealth and the Americas and 12¢ for the first ounce to all other overseas destinations. Figure 14 shows a single weight surface mail letter to Israel, short paid by 6¢. The "T 12/12" handstamp denotes the double deficiency of 12¢ postage due (12) and the standard surface mail letter rate for the first weight increment (12). It is interesting to note that most of the "T" handstamps had the deficiency portion blank (T /12) and the postmaster would write in the double deficiency



Figure 14. Postage due collected in Israel.



# For a Penny or Two...#5

## Post Card to Western Canada through the US

*Victor Willson, OTB*

The lack of convenient access to the Canadian western interior via Canadian routes was a continual concern to the Dominion government after the Hudson's Bay Company turned over its vast land holdings in 1870. The Riel Rebellion of that year required sending Canadian troops by rail via St. Paul, Minnesota. The Royal Northwest Mounted Police in Assiniboia received mail via Ft. Benton, Montana, using U.S. mail up the Missouri River and contracts with traders who sent goods up the Whoop-Up trail to the Bow River area. Shown below is at present the only post card having followed that route to the Bow River area. The route went from eastern Canada via Windsor to Chicago, to Sioux City or Omaha and up the Missouri during navigable periods or as far as trains would take the mail before stage coach or oxen-drawn wagons furthered the mail. In this case the card went from Montreal April 14, 1882, through the U.S. to St. Paul and up to Winnipeg, received April 18, and then to Emerson, probably by stagecoach westward from there. Interestingly, there was a direct rail link from St. Paul to Emerson by 1881, but closed mail via the U.S. apparently went to Winnipeg. This probably did not probably slow things down much. The CPR did not reach Calgary until August of 1883. Presumably by the time the railroad reached Moose Jaw mail was sent by an all-Canadian route, but I do not have information on the specifics.



The Cochrane Ranch was managed by James Walker, former Superintendent of the Northwest Mounted Police. Some eight covers to Walker at the ranch are available to the philatelic community in the pre-railroad period. I showed two of these in my exhibit of Canadian mail in

North America in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, which is available from BNAPS as Volume #14 of the exhibition series.

# A single stamp for postage and registration - Part 2

*George B. Arfken and William S. Pawluk*

## Registered letters, domestic and U.S.

**P**ART 1 of this study ended with domestic use of the then new 8 cent Small Queen paying 3 cents postage and 5 cents for registration. The rate for letters to the U.S. had been the same as that for domestic letters since February 1875. On May 8, 1889, registration for domestic letters went up to 5 cents, the same as registration on a letter to the U.S. We start Part 2 with an 8 cent Small Queen cover to the U.S.



Figure 12. Posted at Minnedosa, Man., 16 December 1896 and addressed to Santa Barbara, California. An 8¢ Small Queen paid the 3¢ postage and the 5¢ registration. Delivery failed and the cover was returned to the D.L.O., Canada, 23 Feb 1897. Courtesy of Charles G. Firby Auctions, Menich collection.

The American Bank Note Co. took over the printing contract on 19 March 1897. The Small Queens were dropped but the Jubilees, Maple Leaves and Numerals followed in quick succession. Examples of the 8 cents stamps are shown in Figures 13 – 16.

Keywords & phrases: Registration, Rates



Figure 13. Registered in Ottawa, with a Senate Post Office registration dater, 18 March 1898 and addressed to Montreal. An 8¢ Jubilee paid the 3¢ postage and the 5¢ registration. Courtesy of Jean and Bill Walton, Harrison collection [1]

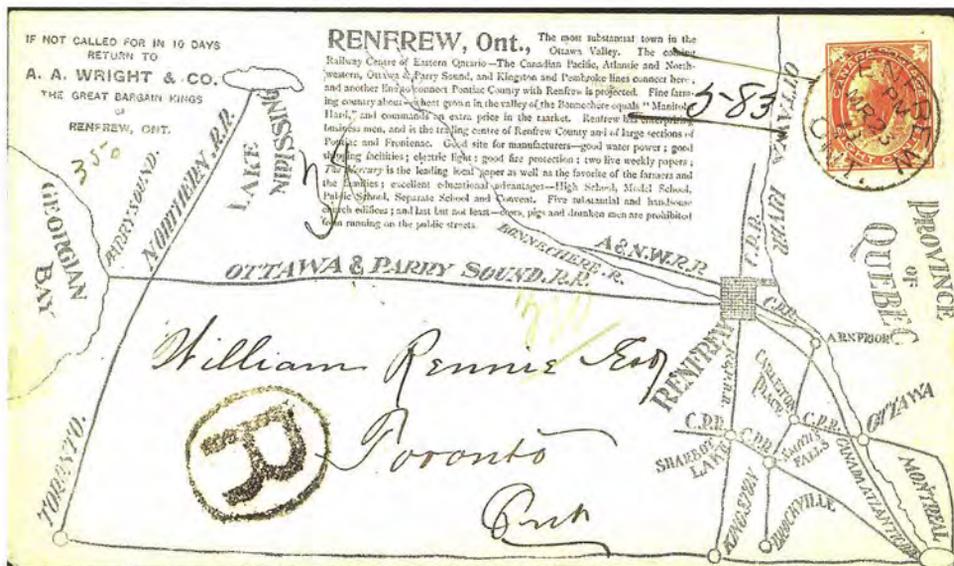


Figure 14. Mailed in Renfrew, Ont., March 23, 1898 and addressed to Toronto. An 8 cent Maple Leaf was used to pay the 3¢ postage and the 5¢ registration. [2]

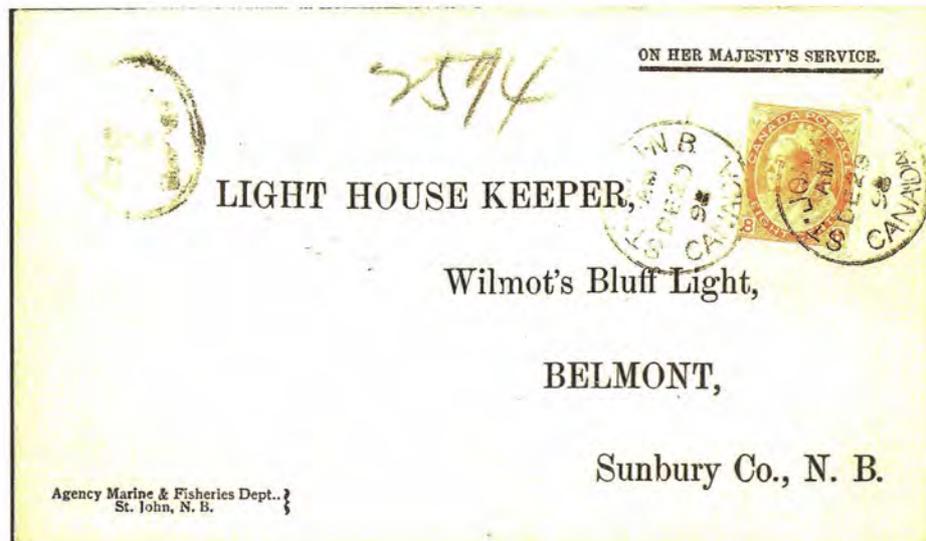


Figure 15. Registered in St. John, N.B., 29 December 1898 and addressed to Belmont, N.B. An 8¢ Numeral paid the 3¢ postage and the 5¢ registration.



Figure 16. Posted at the Pearl Street Post Office in Hamilton, Ont., 28 December 1898 and addressed to New York (city). An 8¢ Numeral paid the 3¢ postage and the 5¢ registration. The postal and registry charges on a letter to the U.S. were the same as for a domestic letter.

On 1 January 1899, the domestic letter rate dropped to 2¢ per oz. The rate was the same for letters to the U.S. The combined 2 cents postage and 5 cent registry fee thus dropped to 7 cents and there was no 7 cent stamp! Figure 17 shows an example of what people had to go through with no 7 cent stamp!

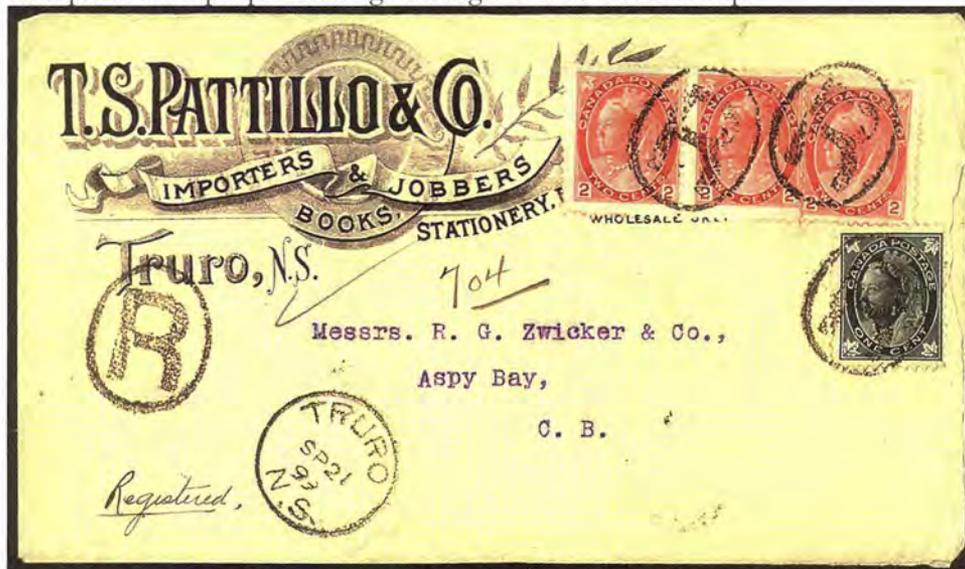


Figure 17. Registered in Truro, N.S., 21 September 1899 and addressed to Aspy Bay, C.B. (Cape Breton, N.S.) Lacking a 7¢ stamp, the Pattillo Company clerk used three 2¢ red Numerals and a 1¢ Maple Leaf.

The letter rate to the U.K. and to much of the British Empire had been reduced to 2¢ per half oz. on Christmas Day 1898 [2, 171]. The domestic letter rate and the letter rate to the U.S. was reduced to 2¢ per oz. a week later, on 1 January 1899. All of these rates called for a 7¢ stamp just as the earlier 3¢ rates had called for and finally got the 8¢ Small Queen as illustrated in Figures 6 and 12. But 3 years went by and no 7¢ stamp appeared until 23 December 1902, only nine days short of a full four years after the rate change. The 7¢ Numeral is shown left. In Part 1 the 8¢ Small Queen was referred to as a provisional issue. Since the 7¢ Numeral was issued more than 3 years later than the 5¢ Numeral, more than 4 years later than the other low values [2, 8], and almost 4 years after Queen' death it might also be called provisional.



To illustrate the use of the then new 7¢ Numeral, Figures 18 and 19 show 7¢ postage registered covers, both domestic and to the U.S.A.

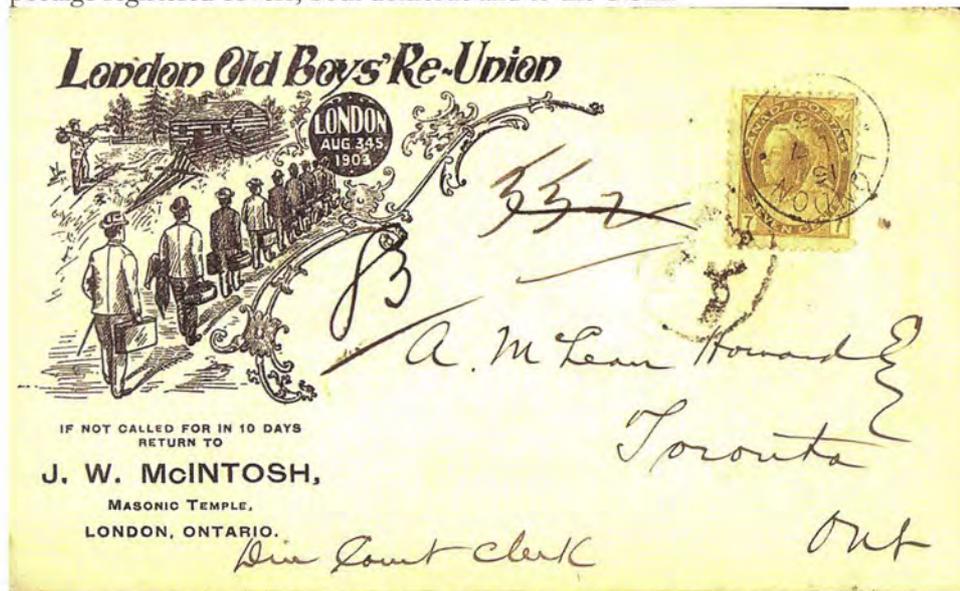


Figure 18. Posted in London, Ont., July 7, 1903 and addressed to Toronto. The 7 cent Numeral paid the 2 cents postage and the 5 cent registry fee.

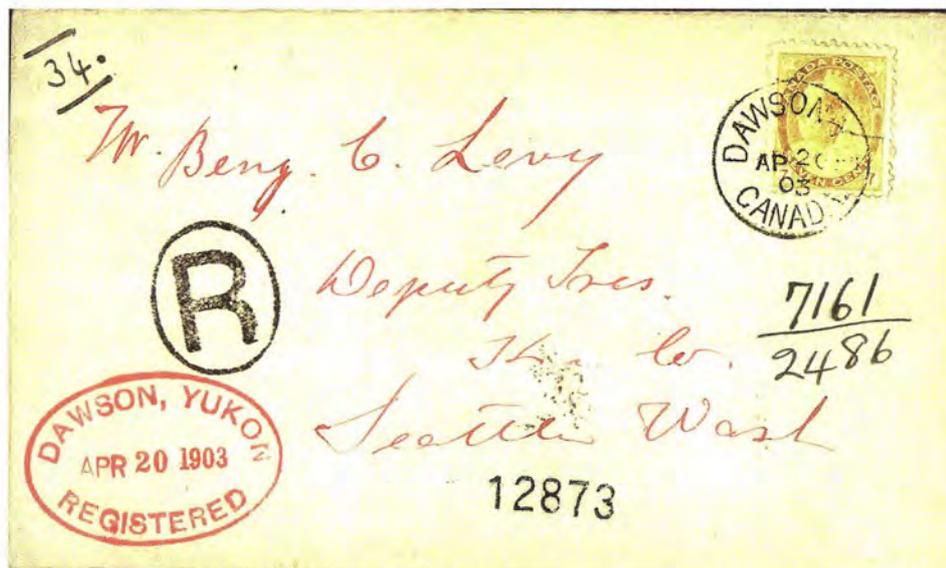


Figure 19. From Dawson, Yukon, 20 Apr 1903, this cover went to Skagway, Alaska, May 7, 1903 and then by ship to Seattle, Wash., received May 12, 1903.

The 7¢ stamps continued to pay for 2¢ registered covers using a 7¢ King Edward or a 7¢ Quebec Tercentenary, and later a 7¢ Admiral (yellow ochre and shades), as illustrated in Figure 20. Single stamp payment was interrupted if not stopped on 15 April 1915 [3] when the postage rose to 3¢ with the 1¢ war tax on the first ounce. No 8¢ cent Edward was ever issued and there would be no 8¢ Admiral until 1925. Single stamp payment with 7¢ stamps became impossible when the registry rate was raised to 10¢ on 15 July 1920 [3].



Figure 20. Posted in Toronto, 9 October 1913 and addressed to Detroit, Michigan. There is a Detroit 10 Oct 1913 backstamp. The 7¢ Admiral paid both the 2¢ postage and the 5¢ registration. The R-in-oval is extra large and extra bold.

## Registered drop letters



As illustrated in Figure 9 of Part 1, the 1¢ drop letter postage and the 5¢ registry fee could be conveniently paid with a 6¢ Numeral. Single stamp usage of the 6¢ Numeral is scarce.

Figure 21. A registered drop letter at Yarmouth, N.S., 10 July 1899. The 1¢ postage and the 5¢ registration were paid with a 6¢ Numeral.

## Registered international letters

### UPU and Imperial Penny Postage

The Universal Postal Union rates of 5¢ postage and 5¢ registration were still in effect until 1920. So there was an opportunity for single stamp usage of any of the 10¢ values of the 1897 - 1920 stamps, Jubilees through Admirals. Figure 22 starts the possible sequence 10¢ stamps with a 10¢ Jubilee.



Figure 22. Registered in Toronto, 6 September 1897 and addressed to London, England. Received 15 September 1897. The 10¢ Jubilee paid 5¢ UPU postage and the 5¢ registry fee.

Until Christmas 1898, the British Empire was still under UPU rates and regulations.



Figure 23. Registered in Ottawa, February 10, 1898 to Birmingham, England. There are Liverpool and Birmingham 19 FE 98 backstamps. The 10¢ Maple Leaf paid 5¢ UPU postage and 5¢ registration. Courtesy of Jean and Bill Walton, Harrison collection.

On Christmas Day 1898, much of the British Empire adopted Imperial Penny Postage for letters, 2 cents per half oz. [2, 171]. This meant that for single rate letters, the postage and registration were 7¢ and the 7¢ value stamps, Maple Leaves through Admirals, could be used. Figure 24 shows this s7¢ single stamp use with a 7 cent Edward.



Figure 24. Posted in Ashcroft, B.C., 23 May 1910 and addressed to Hong Kong, China. There are Vancouver 24 May 1910 and Hong Kong 16 Jun 1910 backstamps. Delivery failed and the cover was returned to Canada, Vancouver 6 Aug 1910 backstamp. A 7¢ Edward paid the 2¢ IPP and the 5¢ registry fee. Courtesy of George Dresser.

## References

- [1] Jean and Bill Walton, *Registered Covers: 1875 - 1911, Horace Harrison Exhibits*, BNAPS Exhibit Series No. 30, 2003.
- [2] Part 2 was adapted from Arfken and Pawluk, *A Canadian Postal History, 1897 - 1911*, BNAPS, 2006.
- [3] Smith and Wawrukiewicz, *Canada, Domestic and International Postal Rates and Fees, 1870 - 1999*, The Press for Philately, 2000.

## New book releases from BNAPS

THE latest releases from the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) Book Department feature three books on very diverse subjects.

*Just Perfect: The Patents and Postal Markings of Machines Invented by Joseph O. Lamoureux and Omer Francois Lefebvre 1912-1980*, 2007 by Reg Morris and Robert J. Payne. 8.5x11, Spiral Bound, 260pp. ISBN 978-1-897391-12-9. Stock # B4h030.1 \$C49.95



The latest BNAPS handbook, *Just Perfect*, is different from any other BNAPS has published before in that it is largely a narrative telling the story of two inventors who developed cancelling machines in early twentieth century Canada, how they fared, and how their efforts came to take a now recognized place in the postal history of Canada.

In the 1980s collectors of Canadian machine cancellations noticed a number of postmarks that looked like roller cancellations, but something didn't fit. By 1998 research had identified the cancellations as having been made by a machine created by Montreal inventor Joseph Omer Lamoureux, who for

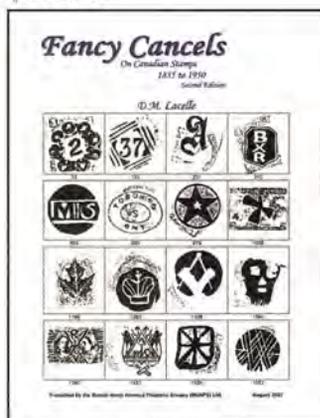
close to 20 years tried to develop a rapid cancelling machine that he could sell to the Canada Post Office. On the edge of success, failure. A production order of 25 Lamoureux machines failed to meet the Post Office's expectations and was rejected. Enter a new player, Omer Levebvre, also a Montreal based inventor. In 1927 a machine of Levebvre's design was rushed into production to fill the still open order for the 25 Lamoureux machines. The Levebvre offering was accepted by the Post Office and, as the 'Perfect' machine, continued in use in diminishing numbers in Canadian Post Offices until at least 1980.

*Just Perfect* tells the story of Lamoureux and Lefebvre, with many diagrams of the machines and mechanisms required to move letters and cards through the cancelling process. The nine distinct types of Lamoureux cancellations – one discovered only in May 2007 – are illustrated and described, as well as being listed with known quantities in a summary table. During their many years of service Perfect machines took part in some interesting events that are covered in *Just Perfect* including the Royal Visit of 1939 and the Advance Posting Service years, when at Christmastime letters mailed ahead of time were cancelled in red ink and held by the post office for delivery one or two days before the holiday.

The reduction of numbers of Perfect machines in service is followed through the years, again with more information about the people and activities involved. The last chapter is a massive compilation of data in table form. Two tables cover the installation and removal of machines across the country over time, and two more tables give Earliest Known Use (EKU) and Latest Known Use (LKU) dates of known Perfect cancellations. Both sets of tables are sorted first by machine number and then alphabetically by city/town of use. Since slogan cancellations have been well covered in other philatelic books, individual slogan use is not tabulated.

With such diverse information as personalities, design, development, use and to some extent, serendipity, accompanied by more than 120 illustrations and seven informative appendices, *Just Perfect* is not just a handbook, it is a 'good read'.

*Fancy Cancels on Canadian Stamps 1855 to 1950 – Second Edition*, 2007 by D. M. (Dave) Lacelle. 8.5x11, Spiral Bound, 220pp. ISBN 978-1-897391-09-9. Stock # B4h333.1 \$C39.95



The continuing interest and input from the BNAPS Fancy Cancel and Miscellaneous Markings Study Group has resulted in the Second Edition of Dave Lacelle's *Fancy Cancels on Canadian Stamps 1855 to 1950*. This area of stamp collecting remains very popular for many reasons, not the least of which is the personal touch of the former Postmasters who actually hand carved the fancy cancels. Lacelle writes, "Fancy cancels can be considered as something that exists between graffiti and folk art."

The Second Edition has several improvements over the first. The 2000 version was prepared over a 15 year period, bringing the original 1960s Day and Smythies Fancy Cancel listings right up to date at that time. Preparation of the Second Edition took about eight months, making it much more consistent in terms of style; while the numbering sequence and (most) illustrations were retained, all individual cancel descriptions have been retyped. Over 60 previously non-located fancy cancels have now been attributed to specific Post Offices, almost 100 have had their dates of use expanded, over 20 new fancy cancels have been added and the 'Deletions and Miscellaneous' section has 60 new entries.

There are three major additions in the new volume. The first is a 'rate factor' for each cancel which allows comparison of relative value between different fancy cancels. A very helpful appendix lists Day and Smythies numbers and corresponding Lacelle catalogue numbers. Finally, each illustration page in the second edition has a five cm scale bar to give some indication of scale change due to the printing process.

# MAPLE LEAVES

Journal of

THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

INCORPORATED 1946

Founder:

A. E. Stephenson, FCPS

## AN INVITATION TO JOIN THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Many BNAPS members are already enjoying the benefits of belonging to your sibling organisation in the 'old country'.

The Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain was formed in 1946 and caters for all those interested in the stamps and postal history of British North America. Whilst the majority of members are based in the UK, the society has a large number of members based in North America as well as Europe, South Africa, the Far East and Australasia.

Members receive the award winning journal 'Maple Leaves' four times a year. Amongst other benefits, they can also participate in twice yearly auctions which offer over 3000 lots of specialised BNA material with no buyers premiums. These auctions also offer members a great way of selling surplus material. The Society holds annual Conventions which rotate around the UK regions and offer overseas members a great opportunity for a holiday trip combined with some convivial company and great stamps.

Our membership year runs from 1 October to 30 September and membership currently

costs \$CAN 39 or \$US 34 per annum but if dues are paid before 1 January a reduced rate of \$CAN 32 or \$US 29 applies. Dues can be paid in local currency to our agent in Canada.

To let you see the kind of things membership of the CPSGB can offer, extracts of some current Maple Leaves articles are included in this supplement. If you want to see the full articles you will have to join up!

If you are interested in joining the Society or would simply like more information please contact our Secretary; John Wright at 12 Milchester House, Staveley Road, Meads, Eastbourne, Sussex, BN20 7JX, England or our North American agent; Mike Street at 73 Hatton Drive, Ancaster, ON L9G 2H5, Canada

Alternatively visit our website at [www.canadianpsgb.org.uk](http://www.canadianpsgb.org.uk) where you can download an application form directly.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain.

# A CENTENNIAL PUZZLE

## The Yellow Peril

Illustrations by Susan So

To any member who enjoys a mystery or solving puzzles, the following circumstances should prove entertaining.

On 29th January 1975, George Wegg or a member of his staff mailed this letter to Brazil (see fig 1) at the Adelaide Street Post Office in Toronto. The letter is franked with eight 8 cent Centennial coils and a 1972 1 cent MacDonal stamp to make up the combined 50 cent registration fee and 15 cent International Airmail postal rate of 65 cents. The letter was allocated the registration number 00291. The stamps are cancelled with four large "Adelaide St. Postal Stn. 29 I 1975 Toronto, Ont. M5O 1J0" circular date stamps. The cover is also backstamped twice with this cds.

The back of the cover is shown in fig 2 and it shows that the letter arrived in Rio de

Janeiro on 5th February 1975. It was returned to Canada on 15th March via Montreal (25th April) and arrived back in Toronto on 28th April 1975.

Seemingly, after 9 months of waiting and not receiving any reply, the sender put out a tracer on 5th November. A month later, on 3rd December, Canada Post sent Geo.S. Wegg Ltd. a form letter (see fig 3) which states that the Postal Administration of Brazil had delivered registered letter 00291 to the proper person on 17th March 1975.

However, according to the back stamps (fig 2), registered letter 00291 was on its way to Montreal on 15th March – just two days before it was delivered!

I wonder what really happened to registered letter 00291?



Fig 1 An airmail registered letter to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

# A SHORT-PAID, UNPENALISED REGISTERED POSTCARD

John Wright

Starting with the reasonable assumption that Registered Postcards are not common, it would follow that a Registered Postcard from Canada to the UK will be hard to find, and, further, that one which was short-paid and passed unpenalised will be at least scarce. Below is illustrated one such card.

Canada, the first non-European country to do so, issued its first postcard on 1st June 1871, a rate to the U.K. of 2 cents being established on 1st January 1877. This remained in effect until the imposition of a 1 cent War Tax on 15th April 1915. Registration was initially permitted (on the addition of a 2 cent Registered Letter Stamp) but was then forbidden on 11th April 1882 before being again permitted on 8th May 1889 when the registration fee was raised to 5 cents.

Sent on 18th January 1902 by stamp dealer Ch. Louis van Brabant (the firm is

still trading according to Richard Lamb, from whom the card was purchased), this card queried the non-receipt of an order for stamps sent on 25th November 1901. Brabant's serrated oval is at top left and his private 'REGISTERED' is at lower left, both in deep mauve. The card is a 1 cent QV postal stationery card (Webb # P17), to which a 5 cent QV Numeral has been added to pay the registration fee. The face has a strike of "ALPHONSE MAN JA 13 02" (two on the back). The back also has transit marks of "MARIAPOLIS MAN JA 13 02" and "C.N.R. W'PEG & BRANDON No 1 W JA 13 02". The "R in oval" is struck four times on the face and twice on the back. An oval receiver "REGISTERED S.W.D.O. 7:15 AM JA 27 02" is on the front as is what appears to be a violet hooded circular "REGISTERED LONDON 27 JAN 02", the date being extremely clear.

The card is thus 1 cent short-paid but was not penalised.



# STREET CANCELS 1886 - 1918 (PART 1)

Graham Searle

## THE PERIOD UP TO 1890.

By the start of 1887, Toronto had six 'Street' post offices. Three were those mentioned above; the re-named branch offices. The other three were at Bleecker Street, Dundas Street and Spadina Avenue. In May 1888, a seventh office was opened at Peter Street.

### Bathurst Street:-

This sub-office remained open for a long time. Indeed, it was not re-named until 1942 when it became 'Toronto Sub # 14'. Three different CDS cancels have been seen from this office in the period up to 1918. The first and earliest type is shown in fig 8.



Fig 8 Bathurst Street CDS cancel earliest type

This has a 24mm dater and I have only seen it with blank indicia. The two later types are shown in the Proof Books (3) but I have not seen examples on stamp or cover. These are illustrated in figs 9 and 10; maybe our members can confirm the existence of these cancels in use.

In addition to the CDS cancels there are three different duplex cancels (figs



Fig 9 Bathurst Street CDS cancel - second type

11, 12 and 13). The first of these has 10 bars in the killer, a 24mm dater and a known period of use up to 1889. The second has 9 bars in the killer a 25mm dater and was used from 1889 up to 1901. The third type also has 9 bars in the killer but a much smaller dater (22.5mm). This type is known used only in 1900 and 1901. All of these duplexes show AM or PM indicia.

Bathurst Street also used a roller cancel. I have only ever seen one example of this cancel which is shown in fig 14. There is also a parcel post oval cancel reading 'TORONTO ONT. B' which is believed to come from this office (see fig 15).

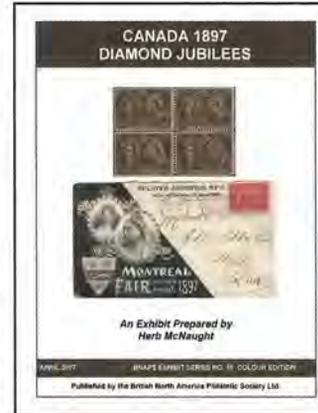


Fig 10 Bathurst Street CDS cancel - third type

It is hoped that these additions will add to the book's utility in terms of pricing and cross referencing.

*Canada 1897 Diamond Jubilees*, 2007 by Herbert McNaught. ISBN: 978-1-897391-11-2 (b&w), 978-1-897391-10-5 (colour) BNAPS Exhibit Series #44. 8.5x11, Spiral Bound, 186 pp. Stock # B4h923.44 (B&W) \$34.95, B4h923.441 (colour) \$120.00

The sixteen stamps of the 1897 Queen Victoria Jubilee set, up to that time the most ambitious and definitely most expensive on a face-value basis adhesives ever issued by Canada, were released on 19 June 1897. Although the lower values were replaced relatively quickly by the stamps of the Maple Leaf set, the 'Jubes' have given many collectors much pleasure over the intervening 110 years. A number of very good exhibits have been prepared on specific values, notably the three-cent, as have several more extensive and ambitious exhibits that cover the main philatelic aspects of all sixteen values. One of these, Herb McNaught's award winning *Canada 1897 Diamond Jubilees*, has received many Gold awards and other honours for its extensive coverage of the subject.



In *Canada 1897 Diamond Jubilees* the viewer/reader will find a visual feast of proofs and die proofs, specimens, singles and blocks of four as well as plate blocks and pairs. In the postal history area are perfins, precancels, bisects, forgeries, cancellations of all types including Squared Circles and particularly Jubilee and other flag type machine cancels and Jubilee postal stationery, not to mention rate, patriotic and advertising covers to many destinations, including foreign countries. The stamps and many of the covers show how things were done at what was perhaps the peak of the British Empire. This volume is definitely one to peruse in a quiet, comfortable chair with a cup of coffee or other libation.

All BNAPS books are available from: Ian Kimmerly Stamps, 62 Sparks Street, Ottawa, ON K1P 5A8, Canada. Phone: (613) 235-9119. Internet orders can be placed at [www.iankimmerly.com/books/](http://www.iankimmerly.com/books/) Prices given above are the retail prices in Canadian Dollars. BNAPS members receive a 40% discount from retail prices. Shipping is extra. Credit card orders (Visa, MasterCard) will be billed for exact amount of shipping plus \$2 per order. For payment by cheque or money order, add 10% in Canada, 15% to the US, 20% overseas (overpayments exceeding 25 cents will be refunded in mint postage stamps). GST is payable for Canadian orders. No Provincial Sales Tax applies.

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# Study group centreline

*Robert Lemire*

The purpose of this column is to bring to the attention of BNAPS members some of the fascinating specialist work being done within each BNAPS study group. Highlights are provided for newsletters that have arrived in my mail box from April through June 2007.

**RPO Cancels:** In Volume 34, #3 of the newsletter, the postmarks of the Montreal-North Bay railway post office run, via Ottawa, over the Canadian Pacific Railway between 1926 and 1955 are described. These are followed by the markings from the more southerly parallel run over the Canadian National Railway (through Algonquin Park) from 1965 until 1971. In the same issue, the railway post office cancellations of the Brockville and Ottawa Railway, Canada Central Railway and the successor sections after merger with the Canadian Pacific Railway are examined. Examples of the 'Brockville and Carlton Place' hammers are also shown.

**British Columbia Postal History:** Two issues of the newsletter have been received. The first features a history of the Langley post office, later known as Langley Fort, and still open today as Fort Langley. A photocopy of a cover with the earliest reported postmark, June 5, 1874, is shown. There is a list of BC post office openings and closings for 2006—over 30 openings and 40 closings, mainly for retail POs. (However, some entries in the list simply reflect a change in ownership of the retail PO venue.) There also are illustrations of more than twenty recent BC non-standard hand cancels (*e.g.*, "INSIDE ASSISTANT / LETTER CARRIER DEPOT 74" and "DIRECTORY / Surry Depot 1"). Newsletter #62 is mainly devoted to the study of British Columbia coastal ship markings. A new identification system is proposed for the ship cancellations, and the major types are illustrated. This system would replace the hard-to-use "Ludlow" system, which is much better suited for distinguishing railway post office markings. There is also an article on cancels used at the Vancouver Pacific National Exhibition sub-office from 1911 until 1973.

**Queen Elizabeth II:** The March issue of the *Corgi Times* notes newly reported varieties on current issues from Canada Post. Also, more copies of the 52¢ Year of the Pig stamp missing colour error have been found. Some spectacular 2¢ Caricature perforation varieties and errors (from the John Hillmer collection) are shown, and Georg Gerlach provides details on the two different printings of the 1998 "Birds of Canada" press sheets. In the May-June newsletter there is a

preliminary outline of the 2008 stamp program. Leopold Beaudet describes two perforation varieties on the 1987 37¢ Heritage definitive, and ties the varieties to specific papers and perforation methods used by the printer, Ashton Potter, Ltd. Robin Harris provides more information on the separation varieties on the current flower coils. In both newsletters, Joseph Monteiro reports on perforation errors offered in recent auctions.

**Postal Stationery:** In the April 2007 issue of *Postal Stationery Notes*, Chris Ellis and Dick Staecker describe the series of illustrated post cards used by the Gutta Percha & Rubber Company. The scarce large size ½¢ private order card is shown in colour. Pierre Gauthier reports a new earliest date of use (six months earlier) for the second die of the Admiral issue 2¢ UPU card. In the July newsletter, several different paper types used on private order envelopes are illustrated in colour. Pierre Gauthier describes a George VI reply card with an error in the ink colour used for one of the headings. Recent changes to the “official” Xpresspost envelopes used by the passport office are described by Dick Staecker, while John Grace augments the list of varieties for the WWII Imperial Tobacco cigarette order cards. In both newsletter issues, the latest findings of Postcard Factory® cards are noted.

**Military Mail:** In newsletter No. 179, Colin Pomfret provides an updated list of the (WWI) type 2 censor marks. Dean Mario then shows how this list helps to identify a cover to a specific unit. Colin also shows two post cards mailed from military post offices (MPO) with unusual frankings. One, mailed at the Niagara MPO, bears a special delivery stamp. The second was mailed at the 6¢ airmail rate from the Derbert MPO. Dave Hanes shows a cover (with dater and censor markings) mailed in November 1944 from the Canadian Fleet Mail Office, Londonderry, Northern Ireland to Niagara Falls, Ontario. He also supplies pictures of two modern covers with cancels related to Canadian forces mail from Khandahar, Afghanistan. Other items were contributed by Colin Pomfret, Steve Luciuk, Dave Hanes and editor Dean Mario.

**Fancy and Miscellaneous Cancels:** Newsletter 44 features an article on the Toronto “lace-like” cork cancels. Ron Leith has provided considerable new information and tracings of many examples. Editor David Lacelle has used these, and his own material, to put together a full page illustrating these markings (36 total), along with background notes and comments. Other fancy-cancel reports are from Graham Searle, Bill Burden, Ron Leith, Garfield Portch, Peter Geoffrey, George Pond and editor Dave Lacelle. Peter Geoffrey also contributed a photocopy of an early WWII “MAIL SERVICE SUSPENDED” cover, which, in

addition, has several related handstamp markings. David Dawes submitted pictures of some recent ink-jet cancel oddities.

**Large and Small Queens :** The March 2007 issue of *Confederation* features Wayne Smith's census of two-ring numeral cancels on stamps of the Large Queens issue. Quantities are recorded for each stamp, for each cancel number, along with the earliest known date on cover for each cancel. Vic Willson shows a short-paid Large Queen cover to England bearing a strip of three of the 2¢ stamps. Glenn Archer provides a discussion of two papers found on the 1875 5¢ Large Queens. John Burnett discusses a fancy cancel on a 3¢ Small Queen stamp, and another copy that appears to have been cancelled through cloth.

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



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

Recent publications include *Allan Steinbart, Postal Historian* (\$29.69 ppd to Canada, few copies remain—get yours *now* before this goes out of print). More monographs and books are planned for the near future. Manuscripts are solicited

**Hot off the presses:** *Memoirs of Fred Jarrett* by M Jarrett & G Scrimgeour (216 p. hard-bound) \$45.69+postage; also *AR—Avis de réception* (164 p. 180+ illustrations, wireO bound, deals with worldwide AR), see reviews in *American Philatelist*, *Canadian Philatelist*, and elsewhere. \$25.69+postage. Available from the PHSC is Eric Manchec's *Ontario post office atlas*.

For more information or membership forms, contact the Secretary, Stéphane Cloutier, 255 Shakespeare St, Ottawa ON K1L 5M7 Canada, e-mail: [cloutier1967@sympatico.ca](mailto:cloutier1967@sympatico.ca)

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# New issues

*William J. F. Wilson*

## Two perfs for Vancouver stamp.

ON June 22, Canada Post released a stamp commemorating the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Captain George Vancouver, and his exploration of the northwest coast of North America in 1792-94.

Vancouver's voyage was part of a larger chain of events. By 1789, Spain and Britain both claimed the northwest coast, as did Russia. Spain's claim rested on the papal bull of 1493 that, as it turned out, gave Spain all of the Americas (modified a year later by the Treaty of Tordesillas that gave Portugal a foothold in South America), whereas Britain claimed to be the first to take possession by actually landing on the coast: Sir Francis Drake in 1579, and Cook in 1778. Confusing the issue were the fact that Britain had kept Drake's landing sites north of Spanish-occupied territory secret, and his logs and charts had been lost in a fire in 1698, so by 1789 Drake's landing sites were unknown; Juan Josef Perez Hernandez had sailed as far as the Queen Charlotte Islands in 1774, but did not land; and Captain Juan Francisco Bodega y Quadra had sailed from California to Alaska in 1775, landing once on the return voyage to claim everything for Spain.

Vancouver's voyage was a response to the Nootka Crisis that began in 1789, when Spain defended its claims by establishing a base on Nootka Island on the west coast of Vancouver Island, expropriating land and buildings belonging to the British trader, John Meares, and seizing British ships. Spain took the British presence as an affront to its claim of sole possession, Britain took the seizure of the ships as an affront to its military might, and by 1790 both countries were arming for war. However, the French Revolution was on in France, Spain's major ally, and the National Assembly voted to stay out of the conflict. With the loss of its ally, Spain's naval position became untenable; war was averted by negotiation, and in the first Nootka Convention of October 28, 1790, Spain and Britain recognized each other's rights in the Pacific Northwest.

Vancouver's primary mission to Nootka was to negotiate the details with Quadra, his Spanish counterpart. New developments in Europe, however, drew government attention away from the area (by 1793, Britain and Spain had allied in a war against France), a lack of instructions from the homeland interfered with negotiations, and despite considerable effort on their parts, both men felt they had to refer matters back to the home countries. Meanwhile, Vancouver spent 1792-94 making thorough charts of the coast from Puget Sound to Alaska, and established once and for all that the Northwest Passage did not exist anywhere along this

coastline. Unfortunately for him, his discovery that getting to the Pacific would never be easy generated even more indifference, and his accomplishments were largely ignored until after his death in 1798, at the age of 40.



Designed mostly in blue, the stamp shows Captain Vancouver from the back, standing at the ship's rail and gazing across the water to a stylized horizon studded with islands. Vancouver's image is raised slightly by embossing to give it prominence. Stamp designer Niko Potton of Fleming Design in Vancouver says (quoted here from Canada Post's website), "I wanted to create a design that focused on the man himself and captured the solitary and isolated position in which he found himself, geographically and personally." The resulting stamp is very attractive, and accomplishes Mr. Potton's intentions admirably.

According to Canada Post, this is Canada's first stamp to not show the face of the person depicted. There are two varieties, separable by perforation: 13.1 x 12.5 on the pane and 13.1 x 13.0 on the souvenir sheet.

In July, Canada Post issued two commemorative stamps honouring Terra Nova and Jasper National Parks. In addition to individual booklets of ten stamps, they were also released in a combination booklet with a column of five of each stamp, the two columns separated by a decorative gutter. Being self-adhesive stamps, however, they don't form traditional gutter pairs; i.e., the gutter does not attach the two stamps to each other.

The information in the accompanying tables is from the Canada Post website, <http://www.canadapost.ca/personal/collecting/default-e.asp?stamp=stamps>, and from philatelic inscriptions on the stamps. Where the number of lithographic colour dots on the stamp selvedge differs from that published by Canada Post, the selvedge is taken as correct. Size, perforations, and number of teeth are my own measurements, and are given as (HORIZONTAL) x (VERTICAL)

**Table Abbreviations:** numberCL = (*number of colours*) colour lithography, CBN = Canadian Bank Note Co., G4S = general tagging (4 sides), N/A = not applicable, P-S = pressure sensitive, s-t = se-tenant, SS = souvenir sheet

**Table 1: 2007 Commemorative Stamps**

Stamp	University of Saskatchewan	Ottawa	Royal Architectural Inst. of Can.	Captain Vancouver
Value	52¢	Booklet: 52¢ SS: 52¢, \$1.55 s-t	4 x 52¢ s-t	\$1.55
Issued	03 Apr	03 May	09 May	22 Jun
Printer	Lowe-Martin	Lowe-Martin	Lowe-Martin	Lowe-Martin
Pane	8	Booklet: 8; SS: 2	8	Sheet: 8; SS: 1
Paper	C	C	C	C
Process	6CL	Bk & SS: 7CL embossing & foil stamping	9CL	7CL + embossing
Qty (Million)	2.5	SH: 3; SS: 0.3	3	SH: 4; SS: 0.4
Tag	G4S	G4S	G4S	G4S
Gum	P-S	Bk: P-S; SS: PVA	PVA	PVA
Size, mm	36 x 45	58 x 32	52 x 32	26 x 40
Perf	simulated	Bk: simulated SS: 13.1 x 13.1	13.1 x 13.1	SH: 13.1 x 12.5 SS: 13.1 x 13.0
Teeth	N/A	Bk: N/A SS: 38 x 21	34 x 21	SH: 17 x 25 SS: 17 x 26

**Table 2: 2007 Commemorative Stamps**

Stamp	World Cup	Recording Artists	Terra Nova	Jasper
Value	52¢	4 x 52¢ (s-t SS)	52¢	52¢
Issued	26 Jun	29 Jun	06 Jul	20 Jul
Printer	CBN	Lowe-Martin	Lowe-Martin	Lowe-Martin
Pane	16	Bk: 8; SS: 4	Bk of 10	Bk of 10
Paper	C	C	C	C
Process	8CL	9CL	6CL	6CL
Qty (Million)	3	SH: 6; SS: 0.3	3	3
Tag	G4S	G4S	G4S	G4S
Gum	PVA	Bk: P-S; SS: PVA	P-S	P-S
Size, mm	56 x 30.5	32 x 32	47.25 x 26.25	47.25 x 26.25
Perf	12.5 x 13.1	Bk: simulated SS: 12.5 x 13.1	simulated	simulated
Teeth	35 x 20	Bk: N/A SS: 20 x 21	N/A	N/A

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### New Titles

### C\$ Retail



**Plating Studies on Prince Edward Island Stamps II. The Three Pence Issue - Scott #6**, 2007 by Kenneth A. Kershaw. The second of three books in this series reveals a most interesting discovery relating to the very structure of the plate material and how this affects the stamps printed from the plates. In colour. Spiral bound, 76 pp. **\$67.00**



**Plating Studies on Prince Edward Island Stamps III. The Four Pence Issue - Scott #9**, 2007 by Kenneth A. Kershaw. The third book in the series, illustrating how the actual structure of the plate material affects both the white and yellow paper printings of this stamp. In colour. Spiral bound, 156 pp. **\$106.00**



**Blue Opaline -- The Exceptional Plate One of the Canada Five Cent 1898 Numeral Issue**, 2006 by Peter Spencer. The first plate of the Five-cent Numeral issue offers enough varieties to fill a book on its own. The third of three books in this series. Spiral Bound, 226 pp. **\$144.00**



**Canadian Permit Postage Stamp Catalogue, Third Edition**, 2007 by Dieter (Dick) Staecker. A greatly expanded listing of all types of Postage Paid in Cash & Business Reply Permits. A neglected area of Canadian philately. Spiral Bound, 178 pp. **\$22.95**



**A Postal History Of Labrador Before Confederation**, 2007 by Kevin O'Reilly. A completely revised version of this award winning exhibit, printed from electronic files, this book contains much useful information otherwise unavailable about this region. BNAPS Exhibit Series #6. Colour version (also available in black & white **\$32.95**). Spiral bound, 108 pp. **\$80.00**

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The biggest change you might notice from prior years is that most BNAPS Book lists will now be published with only a Canadian retail price shown. BNAPS members receive a forty percent discount from this price, which makes all new prices almost exactly equal to the old members' price. There are three reasons for doing this. We want to have greater market penetration, outside traditional BNAPS venues. Showing only retail prices helps in this effort. Secondly, with the fluidity of currency markets quoting US\$ prices can lead to inequities either for BNAPS or the purchaser. Finally, quoting only one price reduces the likelihood of mistakes.

### Selected Titles (see website for full list)      C\$ Retail

<i>Plating Studies on Prince Edward Island Stamps I. The Two Pence Issue - Scott # 1 and #5</i> , 2006 by Kenneth A. Kershaw	\$105.00
<i>Newfoundland 1897 Royal Family, Dead Letter Seal and Map Stamps</i> , 2006 by John M. Walsh. (B&W \$33.95)	\$90.00
<i>Newfoundland Postal History 1857-1899</i> , 2006 by Colin D. Lewis (B&W \$35.95)	\$100.00
<i>Canadian Postal Rates 1851-1859, The Warren S. Wilkinson Collection</i> , 2007 by Charles G. Firby Publications	\$175.00
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## Silvery Slocan Part 2

*P. Jacobi*

### **Cody** (May 1, 1897 – Oct. 31, 1901)

LOCATED one mile up Carpenter Creek from Sandon, Cody is named after early prospector Henry Cody and owes its existence to the Noble Five Mining Co. The Noble Five claims group was staked by 5 prospectors on Sept. 28/91 and was being worked successfully right from the beginning with shipments of hand-sorted high-grade lead-silver ore. By 1897 mine development had advanced sufficiently that a mill was built to treat the ore, which gave rise to the establishment of a townsite to house the extra workforce. The town had a population of about 100 people, 3 hotels, livery stable, blacksmith shop, 3 laundries etc. A.B. Dockstader owned and operated the general store and post office. A split-ring is the only cancel type known for Cody. It is not clear why the post office had such a short life since the mine had a relatively long life.



Figure. 15: The front of a No. 10 cover with the back markings inset upper left. The cover originated from the Kaslo office of Wheeler & Martin, Barristers & Solicitors and is addressed to the "American Boy Mining & Milling Company (foreign)" at Cody, BC. Sent from Kaslo on May 2/99 franked with a double 2¢ paying the overweight letter rate that presumably applied as it contained a writ of summons. The Cody arrival cancel shown on reverse on the following day is dated May 3/99. After a 3-day interval the letter was redirected to Spokane and a Cody dispatch cancel applied on the lower left front of the cover dated May 6/99. It travelled via Kaslo, arriving in Spokane on May 8/99.

Keywords & phrases: BC post offices, Slocan, mining

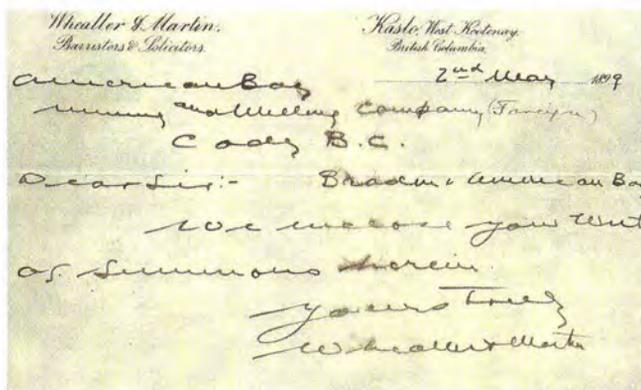


Figure. 16: Insert of the Cody cover. Message reads "Dear Sir, We enclose your writ of summons herein. Yours truly, Wheeler & Martin". Note the address shown as Kaslo, West Kootenay, British Columbia. Lawyers prospered on the numerous disputes arising out of overlapping claim boundaries.

The history of the Noble Five Mines, Ltd. dates back to the early days of the Slocan. Located high above Cody, it began shipping high grade lead-silver ore in 1894 and like most of the Slocan properties, went through a variety of owners and leasers before the Hon. James Dunsmuir acquired control in 1919. He spent much money on its development, including construction of a 100 ton per day concentrator but died shortly after the mill went into operation in 1920. This caused the mine to close down and to lie dormant until a new consortium took control in 1927. Further underground work produced unexpected good fortune with the discovery of previously unknown high-grade ore veins. This brought the company back into the ranks of the major producers until December 1937, when the mine finally ran out of economic ore.

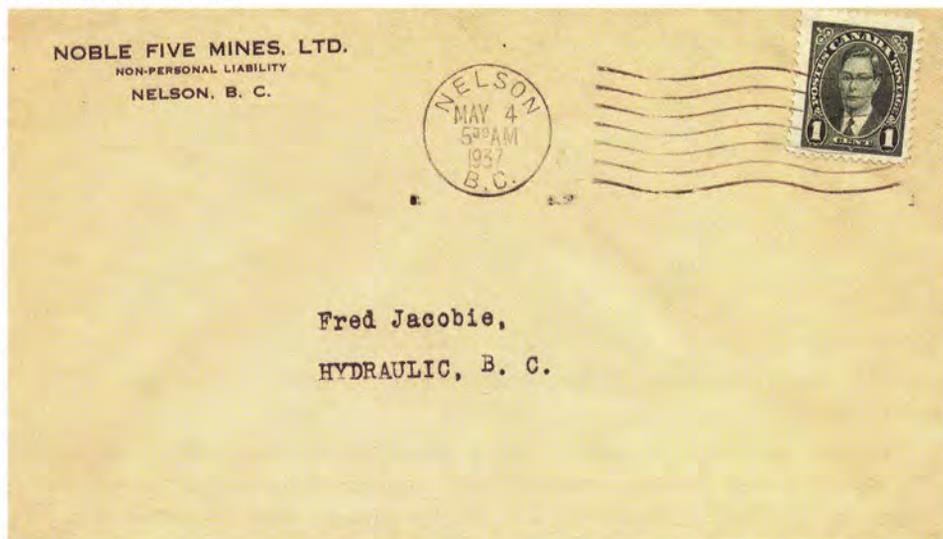


Figure. 17: Cover is posted from head office in Nelson, the postage of 1¢ pays the printed matter rate for the first 4 ounces. (Back flap gum is still intact.)

**McGuigan** (May 1, 1897 – Sept. 30, 1904)

(Jan. 1, 1906 – July 19, 1910)

Located 3 ½ miles NE of Three Forks or 5 miles E of New Denver, the locale was a siding on the Kaslo & Slocan Railway and a shipping point for the Antoine, Best, Dardanelles, Rambler-Cariboo, Surprise and Washington mines. A small townsite was established and a post office was located in Gintzburger's general store. The post office had two periods of operation as shown above. The cause of the 15 month gap in postal service in 1904 and 1905 is not known. During the summer of 1910 a major forest fire wiped out the major portion of the railway line between Whitewater and McGuigan and without the railroad it was not possible to transport the ores so mining had to shut down as well. Only a split-ring cancel is known for both periods.



Figure 18: Post card showing the McGuigan split ring cancel from the first open period dated 26 March 1903.

The Rambler – Cariboo claims group is situated at an altitude of 6000 ft. in the McGuigan basin and has been one of the large shippers in the district. It was acquired by Rambler Cariboo Mines Ltd. in 1904 who immediately started on a heavy development program. The company had its head office in Kaslo. The property continued to ship ore through 1916 after which a leaser took over.



Figure. 19: A postal stationery envelope used by the head office of Rambler Cariboo Mines Ltd in Kaslo. Cover is cancelled with the Kaslo duplex , dated 27 February 1902.

### Zincton ( Feb. 1, 1915 – May 15, 1932)

Figure. 20. Cover from Zincton dated 2 February 26. It has a Kaslo arrival backstamp dated 4 Feb. 1926. (All of the Garlands always noted the nature of the business of his correspondence, its receiving date and its reply date.)



Zincton was located 6 miles east of New Denver and was the shipping point for the “Lucky Jim” mine, one of the largest producers in the Slocan. It was staked in 1892 and was one of the longest producing mines in the region, operating until the 1950’s. The town’s name refers to the zinc ores found in the district. In 1910 a

major forest fire wiped out the total camp but it was rebuilt and by 1915 Zincton was large enough with a population of 200 to have its own post office, which for the sake of economics and convenience, was located in “Scotties Hotel & General Store” at Giegerich on Bear Lake, approximately 1 mile east of the Zincton camp. Only a split-ring cancel is known.

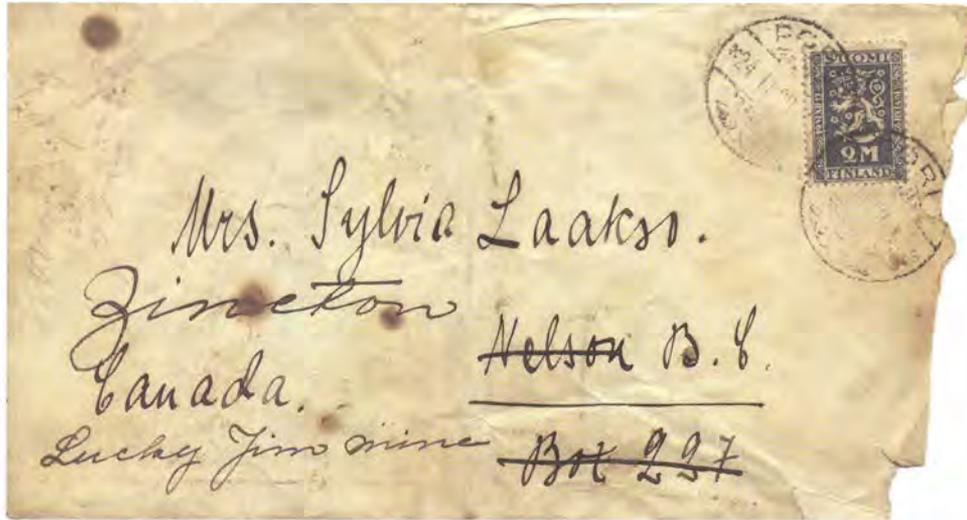


Figure. 21: Incoming mail Pori, Finland and re-directed to Zincton. It has a Nelson arrival cancel on the back, and second cancel backstamp that is impossible to read but is most likely Zincton.

### **Whitewater** (May 1, 1897 – Jan. 15, 1908)

Located 14 miles northwest of Kaslo on the Kaslo River, the original Whitewater mineral claims group was staked in 1891 and become one of the largest ore shippers in the Slocan. Production of the rich lead–silver ore started early, increased every year and slowly a townsite developed out of the mining camp. On May 1, 1897 the post office opened and the following year an English company purchased the Whitewater mine. Mining activity then and now is dependent upon metal prices. From 1900 onwards, mining activity level dropped and leasers maintained the workings. As a result, on Jan. 15, 1908 the post office was shut down and mining activities remained in a slump until the mid twenties. In the summer of 1910 a massive forest fire destroyed the concentrator and other mine buildings and sealed the town’s fate. Only a split – ring cancel is known.

*Whitewater Mines, Limited* Two existing companies, *Whitewater Mine* and *Whitewater Deep Mines* were neighbours in their mining properties 14 miles NW of Kaslo. Both companies had years of sporadic small-scale production and were amalgamated in 1924 to form *Whitewater Mines, Limited*. Operations were

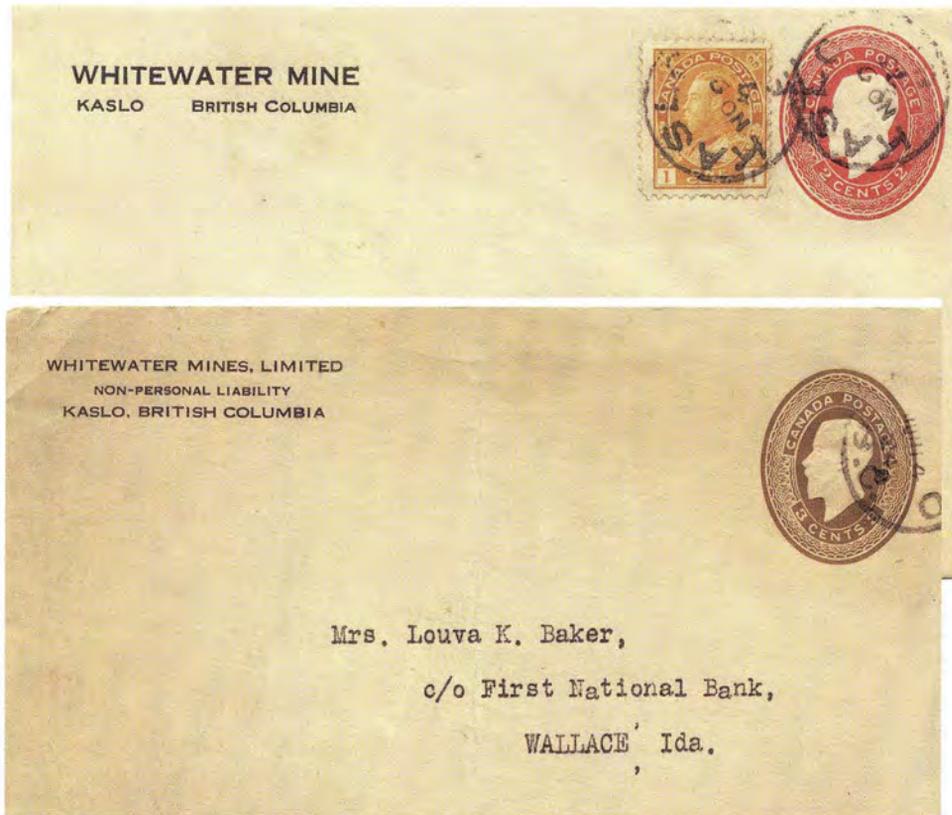
modernized, a new mill installed in 1927, production soared in 1928 and operations were suspended on Aug. 1, 1929 due to running out of high grade material. Thereafter the property was operated by leasers until 1943, when *Kootenay Belle Gold Mines Ltd.* acquired majority control.



Figure 22. This cover mailed at Whitewater 13 Dec. 1904 pays the 2¢ first class letter rate.



Figure 23. The original Whitewater concentrator (circa 1900) destroyed by a massive forest fire in 1910. (Provincial Archives Photo)



Figures 24 & 25. The top cover shows one of the original companies with a 9 Nov 23 Kaslo dater just before the amalgamation. The lower cover shows the corner card of the amalgamated company cancelled at Kaslo on 14 June 24, just after the amalgamation.

*Kootenay Belle Gold Mines Ltd.* This company was incorporated under B.C. charter on 14 Feb 1933 and got its start through ownership and operation of the 'Kootenay Belle' claims in Salmo's Sheep Creek district, shipping high-grade siliceous gold ore to the Trail smelter. A mill was built in 1934 to operate at about 100 tons per day for concentration of gold and silver. The property operated until late in 1941 at which time the mine ran out of economical ore reserves. In 1943 the company acquired control of the Whitewater lead-zinc-silver mine at Retallack / Whitewater and shipped a considerable portion of the physical plant left at Sheep Creek, including bunk-houses, cookhouse, crusher etc. to Retallack. The remnants of the Sheep Creek property were leased out to individuals. The Whitewater property was operated intermittently due to a shortage of water to run the hydro-electric plant

and was closed down completely from September 1945 until 1952 when limited mining activity again started. The mill supplemented the partial production from the Whitewater mine with customs ores from smaller surrounding properties. Lead and zinc concentrates were shipped under a contract with Metals Reserve Corporation to the American Smelting & Refining Company. All operations were suspended in December 1952 and all assets of the company were taken over by the Canada Trust Company. The company surrendered its charter in June 1959.

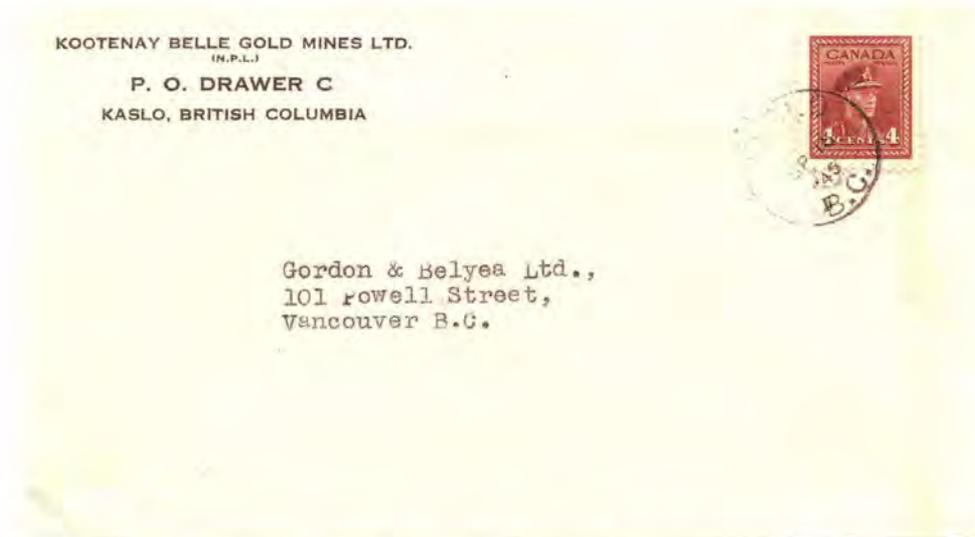


Figure. 29: Cover of Kootenay Belle Gold Mines Ltd. shows the location of the mine office as Kaslo, B.C. Dater is Kaslo CDS with large letters dated Sept. 15, 1945

To be continued



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## The P18b advertising card

*Robert J Lemire, Pierre Gauthier*

In a recent article [1], Arfken and Pawluk described usages of the 1¢ red Queen Victoria advertising post card, Webb's P18 [2], and mentioned the existence of Webb's P18b, a variety with a different setting of the heading "THIS SPACE BELOW IS RESERVED FOR ADDRESS ONLY". The heading on the normal P18 card is 83 mm long, whereas the heading on P18b is only 75 mm long, and the letters are taller and thinner. See Figure 1.



Figure 1: Showing the two different headings on the 1¢ red Queen Victoria business card. P18, (83 mm long), and P18b (different font & 75 mm long).

The earliest reference in the literature to the card with the 75 mm heading seems to be in the 1965 catalogue of Charles Arnold [3]. A copy of the card was illustrated by Mark Arons [4], but a lack of comparison copies led to the incorrect assumption that the heading had been printed to private order on blank cards. The same assumption was made in the second edition of the Higgins and Gage catalogue [5]. There was no mention of the item in the Webb's catalogue until the 1978 edition [6]. In a 1983 article [7] based on notes from W. Walton, the card was identified as a scarce regular-issue, and was listed in Webb's 1987 5th edition [8].

Bill Pawluk provided one of us (RL) with a photocopy of the American Bank Note Company (ABN) order ledger [9] related to postal stationery orders.

Keywords & phrases: Postal stationery, advertising card, ABN Co

Work on the first order to ABN for these 1¢ business cards seems to have started on 18 Jan. and was completed 3 Feb. From this order 58,000 single cards, 160,000 cards in sheets of eight (8-on) and 32,000 cards in sheets of sixteen (16-on) were produced. The 8-on and 16-on sheets were convenient for private printers to add advertising requested by business clients.

A second order was placed 4 Feb. 1898 and delivered on 14 & 15 Feb. (50,000 1-on; 100,000 8-on; 60,000 16-on). Then, output became quite regular from April 1898 onward. Between January 1897 and 1903, more than 6,000,000 of the 1¢ business card (mainly Webb's P18) were printed.

**Table 1: Delivery dates for the first order of P18 cards (1898)**

Date	Qty 16-on	Qty 8-on	Qty single
19 Jan	10,000	5,000	-
20 Jan	16,000	6,000	3,000
21 Jan	6,000	15,000	3,000
24 Jan	-	64,000	10,000
25 Jan	-	70,000	6,000
27 Jan	-	-	15,000
28 Jan	-	-	1,000
1 Feb	-	-	10,000
3 Feb	-	-	10,000
Total	32,000	160,000	58,000



Figure 2: A cut down piece from a larger sheet of P18b cards

So, which cards were the “75 mm” heading cards, and why are they so hard to find? The earliest reported postmarks for the cards with the 83 mm and 75 mm headings are February 10, 1898 and January 28, 1898, respectively, so it would appear that both varieties were prepared at about the same time, in early 1898. If the ledger information is correct, it is clear that *both* P18 and P18b cards were delivered in the batches of cards prepared to satisfy the initial January 18, 1898 order.

The P18b 1¢ red 75 mm-heading cards are very scarce, and Harrison contended [10] that less than ten copies are known. There was a mis-cut card in the Harrison collection that likely came from *field* sheet stock, and the cut-down pair in Figure 2 also is evidence that the

75 mm heading was used on cards sold in sheets. Thus, perhaps the cards with the 75 mm heading came from the first shipment(s) of 16-ons or 8-ons. Their scarcity certainly suggests that the cards with the 75 mm headings were only a small part of those cards (primarily sheet stock) provided in the early shipments to the Post Office Department against the January 18, 1898 order. Not surprisingly then, most of the known 75 mm cards appear to have been used as advertising cards, and a lovely used example is shown in Figure 3.

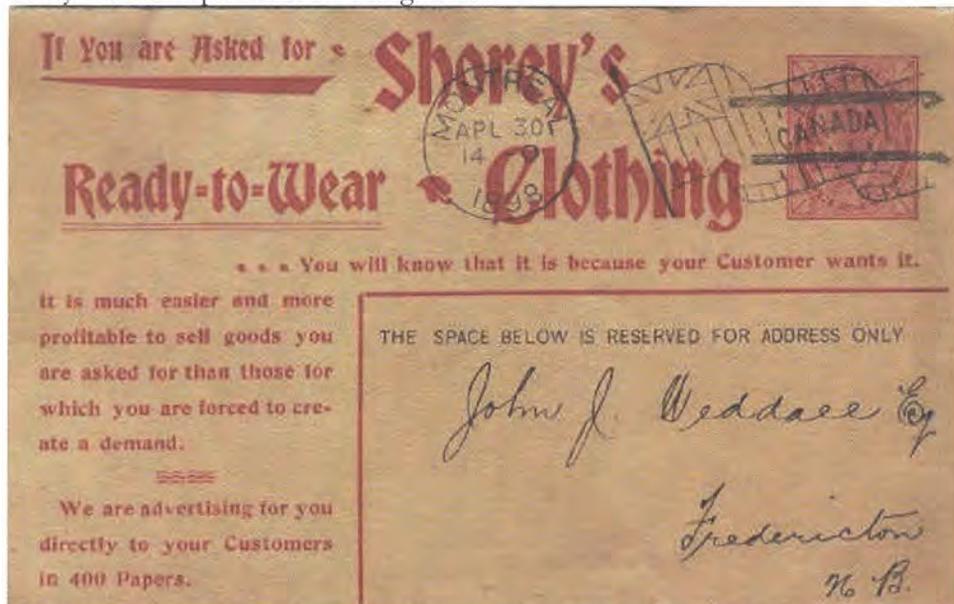


Figure 3: Webb's P18b postmarked Montreal, April 30, 1898 with no period at the end of the header line.

While examining material for this article, it became apparent that P18b holds a further mystery. Several of the known copies, such as the example in Figure 3, do not have a period at the end of the heading text. However, the heading on the cut-down pair (and on the mis-cut card shown by Harrison [10]) is followed by a period. Used copies with the period are also known (*e.g.*, Figure 4). It would appear that either the plate used for the black printing had headings both with and without a period, or that there were separate early printings with and without the period. As seen in Figure 1, the heading on the common P18 card does have a period.

Note that the order book does not seem to indicate any specific order for cards with "no heading". Therefore, it is not known how many cards were set aside for the printing of the private order 1¢ red "Hospital for Sick Children" cards, Webb's [2] SKP18aS1 (shown in Figure 4 of Arfken and Pawluk [1]) and SKP18aS2. These cards are known used from 1901 on.



Figure 4: A copy of Webb's P18b postmarked Montreal, May 2, 1898—with a period at the end of the header line (courtesy of W C Walton).

Help from W S Pawluk and W C Walton in the preparation of this article is gratefully acknowledged

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- [9] Library and Archives Canada, American Bank Note Co. Order Book No. 1, 1897-1902 (photocopy supplied in the 1980s by W. S Pawluk from the National Postal Archives of Canada). Now probably linked to the Cdn Bank Note Co. Ltd. Fonds (R1425)
- [10] H W Harrison, 'Canada's business postal cards', B.N.A.P.S. Exhibits Series No. 22, British North America Philatelic Society (2000), pg 3.

# What's new?

## Library and Archives Canada Philatelic Collections (32)

*Cimon Morin*

This column is provided regularly to publicise new acquisitions and activities within the Philatelic Collections of Library and Archives Canada (LAC). Researchers who wish to use LAC facilities should contact Library and Archives Canada, Reference Services, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa ON K1A 0N4. Telephone: 1-866-578-7777 (toll free in Canada and the United States). Fax: (613) 995-6274. Internet: [www.collectionscanada.ca](http://www.collectionscanada.ca). For reference enquiries, please use the Reference Enquiry Form ([www.collectionscanada.ca/services/005-2021-e.php](http://www.collectionscanada.ca/services/005-2021-e.php)).

### Previous acquisitions

*Newfoundland 1860-1861 stamp issues* [philatelic record]. Five and eight pence imperforate issues [philatelic record] 1860-1861. Contains 5 sheets of stamps. Complete mint sheets, each comprised of 40 postage stamps, showing the various "Five Pence" denomination colour types, from the 1860 and 1861 imperforate issues, by the Dominion of Newfoundland. Colour types represented are: 5d violet brown (1860), 5d reddish brown, and 5d orange brown (1861). Provenance: Dale-Lichtenstein. Complete mint sheet, comprised of 20 postage stamps, for the "Eight Pence" rose denomination, from the 1861 imperforate issue, by the Dominion of Newfoundland. Complete mint sheet comprised of 80 postage stamps for the "Three Pence" green (Triangular) denomination, from the 1860 imperforate issue, by the Dominion of Newfoundland, showing a portion of the "Stacey Wise 1858" watermark [Accessions 1992-292 and 1992-293]

*David Nethercott & Associates, Ltd. fonds* [graphic material] 1988. 9 drawings. The fonds consists of 9 drawings, including 1 rough pencil design, 2 disposition studies, 1 disposition study with overlay, 3 rough, semi-final drawings (not adopted), and 2 designs of lettering. The material was created by David Nethercott & Associates, Ltd. in the production of a Canada postage stamp (Scott no. 1227) commemorating Canadian painter, Frances Ann Hopkins [R4670]

*Jeanne M. Dillon collection* [graphic material] between 1892 and 191-?. 2 photographs: b&w; 28 x 36 cm and 26 x 31 cm. Collection consists of 2 photographs.

One photograph depicts a group of Toronto Post Office letter carriers (ca. 1892). The other photograph depicts the Canadian government Royal Mail Steamer, Earl Grey, at sea [R4865]

*Stirling, Alberta Post Office* [graphic material] between 1902 and 1912, Copied 1982. 1 photograph: b&w. Item is a copy photograph depicting the first post office building in Stirling, Alta. The two men in the image are George Oler (l), postmaster and an unidentified postal inspector (r). Oler built the structure in 1902 and served as Postmaster from 1908 to his death in 1929 [R4720]

*Edwin Gardner collection* [philatelic record, textual record] 1856-1860. 2 postal covers. 1 leaf. Collection consists of 2 postal covers and 1 manuscript letter. One cover is addressed to James McGillivray, Smiths Falls, Canada West and bears free frank and Legislative Assembly Canada, May 31, 1856 postmarks. The other cover, also addressed to McGillivray at Smiths Falls, bears a PAID hand-stamp and a Montreal & Kingston Grand Trunk Railway Post Office No. 2, October 17, 1860 postmark. The letter is a brief personal account [R4822]

*Pierre Gauthier collection* [philatelic record] 1932 70 postal stationery items: postal cards. Collection consists of 70 official pictorial postal cards issued by the Canadian Post Office in the 1930's. The postal cards depict various pictorial views from across Canada. They are sepia with numbers and title clearly in the lower margin. The titles are in English only except #251-259 which is also in French [R5313]

*E.R. Gauvin fonds* [philatelic record] 1939. 2 postal covers. Fonds consists of a two postal covers. One is a cacheted private-issue first day cover bearing cancelled (Ottawa, May 15, 1939) 1 cent "Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret", "1939 Royal Visit" postage stamp. Mrs. Gauvin prepared this cover and had the postage stamp cancelled. The other is a cacheted private-issue commemorative cover prepared on the occasion of the 1939 Canada/U.S. visit of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, bearing cancelled (May 15, 1939 Royal Train/Flag) three cent "King George VI & Queen Elizabeth", "1939 Royal Visit" postage stamp. Mrs. Gauvin worked for the Post Office Department during the Royal Visit of 1939 [R7120].

[www.canadacovers.ca](http://www.canadacovers.ca)



# Postal potpourri

## 13. Pretzels and Money Exchange

*Earle Covert* A series about items that can be purchased or found at post offices in Canada, with an occasional side-trip back in time.

**W**E have grown accustomed to going into a Canada Post corporate post office, i.e. one operated by the company and not by a franchisee, and seeing a wide variety of items for sale including wrapping materials, Hallmark cards and of course Post Office souvenirs such as bears, plates, playing cards, trucks and even T-shirts. But PRETZELS??? Yes, pretzels. One day, three to four years ago, I visited several post offices and found free samples of Nestle's 'FLIPZ' White Fudge Covered Pretzels (Figure 1). This definitely qualifies as one of the most unusual items bearing the Canada Post corporation logo that I have ever come across. We won't go into the health implications of the product.



Figure 1. Sample package of pretzels, and below it the sign for a free sample. Note the Canada Post wing logo at the lower right of the sign.

Échantillon **GRATUIT**  
courtoisie de **Nestlé**

**FREE** Sample  
courtesy of **Nestlé**



Keywords & phrases: Canada Post products, pretzels, Currency Exchange Service

## Currency exchange service

Around 2003 Canada Post Office corporate offices offered a 'Currency Exchange Service'. At the wicket you could order and pay for a number of currencies which would then be supplied from a central office. I did not use the service but only saw the leaflet advertising it. The front and back of the leaflet are shown in Figure 2.



Figure 2. Both sides of an Exchange Your Money Here leaflet

As far as I can tell the Currency Exchange Service ended fairly quickly. It is not mentioned in the Canada Official Postal Guides for 2006 or 2007. Today the only type of money exchange service offered is an old standby – you can still purchase Money Orders in Canadian or US dollars or UK pounds. The maximum amount of a Money Order in Canadian or United States currency is \$999.99. The maximum amount of a Money Order in Great Britain (United Kingdom) sterling currency is £100.00.

In the next instalment of Postal Potpourri we will look at some additional Christmas related items, one from 1967, another from the early 1980s and a third from 2006.

# Vignettes of the (wild) old west

## 13. Cariboo stage hold-up

*Cimon Morin and Pascal Leblond*

**I**N the *What's new?* Column in *BNA Topics* 2007Q1, Cimon Morin mentioned that Library and Archives Canada Philatelic Collections had acquired the: “*Campbell family fonds [textual record, philatelic record] 1909. 1 postal cover, 2 p. Fonds consists of a letter addressed to G. [Glen] Campbell of Vancouver, B.C. dated 29 October 1909. The registered postal envelope carries a Post Office Inspector, Vancouver, B.C. cancellation. This letter and envelope were recovered from a load of mail stolen in the robbery of the Cariboo Stage Southbound, about four miles south of 150 Mile House, B.C. [R4309]*”

If that isn't the old west - the wild old west - what is? Your Topics editorial team thought this piece of our history deserved to be illustrated, and went to work. Cimon and Pascal Leblond helped us obtain the images reproduced here.

The text of the letter that was in the envelope in Figure 1 is brief:

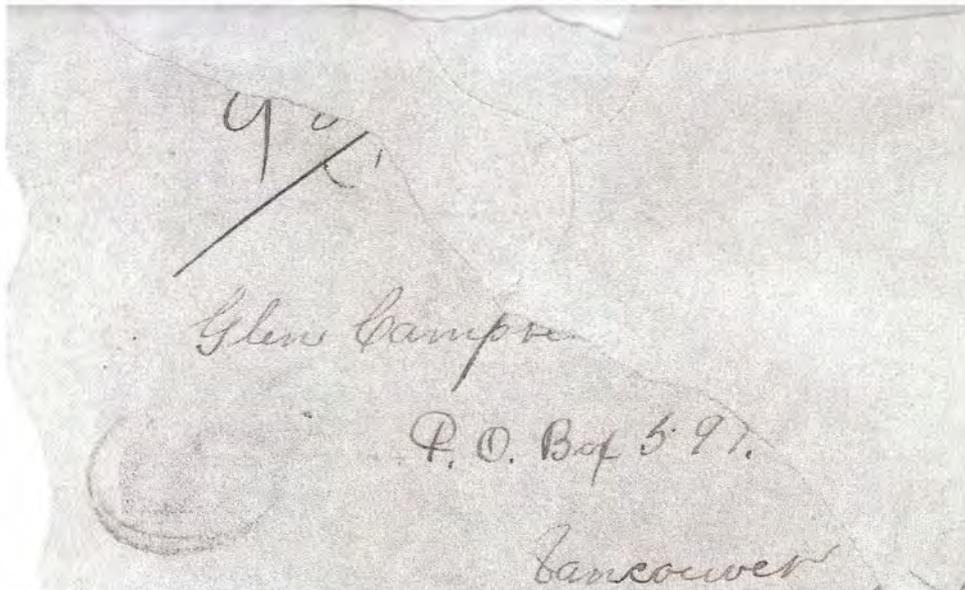


Figure 1. Front of letter to Dr. Glen Campbell, stolen in the Cariboo Stage hold-up. The registration marking presumably alerted the robbers to potential loot.

*Cariboo District Morebed Lake B.C.  
Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> 1909*

*Dr. Glen Campbell:*

*Dear Sir:*

*I herewith enclose \$70.00 for which kindly receipt the enclosed bill.  
Louis is getting along very well.*

*Yours very truly,  
Mrs. J. Ebbalt*

Ivan Glen Campbell was born in March of 1869. He graduated from McGill University in 1897, becoming an ophthalmologist, and moved the following year to British Columbia. He was among the first to practice ophthalmology in the western provinces.

The covering letter tells the rest of the story. The Post Office Inspector's back stamp is shown in Figure 2.

*Postoffice Inspector's Office  
Vancouver, B.C.  
7<sup>th</sup> Nov. '09*

MEMORANDUM

*The enclosed regd letter to your address was contained in the mail stolen in the 'hold-up' of the Cariboo Stage Southbound about four miles south of 150 Mile house, B.C. early on the morning of the 1<sup>st</sup>. inst., and subsequently recovered in its present condition.*

*If any loss has occurred please send me the cover of the letter and full particulars of the loss together with the name and address of the sender.*

*JOHN R. GREENFIELD,  
Postoffice Inspector.*



Figure 2. Post Office Inspector's stamp.

We do not know if Dr. Campbell responded to this memorandum, or whether he was ever able to get compensation for the stolen \$70.

# Postal history during the King George VI 1937 - 42 "mufti" era

## Postage rates to destinations in Africa

*John Burnett*

A summary of the rates and fees applicable for Canadian mail dispatched to African destinations is shown below. The rates for First Class Letters and Postcards conveyed by surface means were similar to those applicable to Canadian mail sent to Empire and non-Empire UPU destinations in the Americas. Rates for airmail letters however varied considerably during the early part of the George VI reign, in particular for letters sent by airmail to British Empire destinations in Africa, Asia and Australasia.

With its far-flung empire, Britain had a particular interest in promoting airmail services. Various air conveyance services had developed between key dispatch points in the Empire by the early 1930's and this naturally progressed to initiatives to establish a formal Empire wide airmail delivery service.

The aim of the Empire Air Mail Scheme (EAMS) was to provide regular connections between the countries of the British Empire at the very low postal rate of 1½d per half oz. The first stage of the EAMS between the UK and South Africa started on 29 June 1937, the second stage to Singapore on 23 February 1938 and the third stage to Australia and New Zealand on 26 July 1938. At its peak in mid-1939, the EAMS covered almost all British Empire destinations in Africa, Asia and Australasia but not British Empire destinations in the Mediterranean, the Americas and the Atlantic Ocean.

First class letters leaving Canada for EAMS destinations were forwarded via the scheme as of February 23, 1938. This "All Up" service entailed surface transport to the UK by sea, followed by air service to the EAMS destinations. The cost for first class letters sent via the EAMS was 6 cents per ½ oz.

Empire Air Mail Scheme destinations listed in the October 1939 Post Office Monthly Supplement were:

Aden, Australia, Basutoland, Bechuanaland, British India Post Offices in the Persian Gulf, Brunei, Burma, Ceylon, Cook Norfolk & Fanning Islands, Egypt, Gilbert & Ellice Islands, Hong Kong, India, Iraq, Kenya, Kuwait, Malaya States, Mauritius, Nauru, New Guinea, New Hebrides, New Zealand, North Borneo, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Palestine, Papua, Samoa (Western), Sarawak, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South West Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Straits

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Keywords & phrases: Rates, Africa, King George VI

Settlements (Singapore), Sudan, Swaziland, Tanganyika, Trans-Jordan, Uganda, Zanzibar.

**Table 1. Canadian Postage Rates and Fees for Mail to Africa (1937 - 42)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Rates</b>	<b>Effective Periods</b>
<b>Letter (First Class)</b>		
-British Empire	3¢ first oz., 2¢ per add oz.	1 Jul 1931 through the entire Mufti period
-Other UPU Countries	5¢ first oz., 3¢ per add oz.	<i>ibid</i>
<b>Air Mail Letters</b>		
-British Empire		
Atlantic surface to UK	25¢ each ½ oz.	1 Jul 1935 to 22 February 1938
	6¢ each ½ oz.	23 Feb 1938 to Sept 1939 (EAMS)
- Other UPU Countries	25¢ each ½ oz.	1 Jul 1935 to Sept 1939
<b>Other rates to Africa</b>		
- Surface to UK then Air	30¢ each ½ oz.	Oct 1939 for balance of Mufti period
- Atlantic Air conveyance	60¢ each ½ oz.	<i>ibid</i>
- Via Miami to W. Africa	75¢ or 90¢ each ½ oz.	Effective Dec 1941
<b>Post Cards (Surface)</b>		
-British Empire	2¢ each	1 Jul 1931 through the entire Mufti period
-Other UPU Countries	3¢ each	
<b>Post Cards (Air)</b>		
-Empire Air Rate	4¢ each	
<b>Third Class Matter</b>	1¢ per each 2 oz.	1 Jul 1930 through the entire Mufti period
<b>Registration</b>	10¢ for \$25 indemnity (only)	15 Jul 1920 through the entire Mufti period

The Empire Airmail Scheme was suspended at the onset of hostilities in Europe in September 1939. The October 1939 edition of the Canadian Post Office Monthly Supplement noted this development and advised Postmasters that first class mail to EAMS destinations would be conveyed by surface means at the former rate of 3¢ for the first ounce and 2¢ for each ounce thereafter. The rates to Iraq, Kuwait and Trans-Jordan would revert to the 5¢ first oz, 3¢ each additional oz. rate for other U.P.U. countries.

However, the same Supplement goes on to indicate that a restricted surcharged airmail service beyond the United Kingdom to former EAMS destinations would be maintained at an air postage rate of 30¢ per one half ounce or fraction thereof. If

Trans-Atlantic air conveyance was required, a fee of 60¢ per one half ounce was charged for airmail letters sent from Canada to all places in Africa.

One rate that deserves special mention is the 4¢ rate for postcards sent from Canada to EAMS destinations. Examples showing this rate are very scarce. In fact, so far I have not seen any example of such a postcard. I am sure that at least few must have been sent in the 19 month period that Canada Post forwarded mail to Empire Air Mail Scheme destinations. If you can demonstrate this rate, a letter to the editor with a scan would be very welcome.

## First class surface letter (registered)

First class letters sent surface to British Empire countries within Africa traveled under the Empire rate structure of 3¢ for the first ounce and 2¢ for each additional ounce. The cover below is addressed to Ladysmith, Natal in South Africa and has the added service of registration. The 13¢ rate was 3¢ for the first ounce and 10¢ for registration. It also carries an interesting transit strike from Toronto. This cancellation with the notation "E. C." at the bottom indicates that the letter passed through "Export Control". Note also the hand-stamped straight-line "Passed for Export".



Figure 1. Registered letter mailed July 1, 1942 from Ingersoll, Ontario to Ladysmith, Natal, South Africa franked with one each of 2¢, 3¢ & 8¢ Mufu stamps to pay the registered first class letter rate to South Africa. Like most letters of this period addressed to foreign destinations, this one was checked by Export Control to ensure that there was no leakage of Canadian currency.



The cover is addressed to L. H. McGyn, the only Canadian known to be held prisoner at Laghouat, and how he got there is where the story lies. McGyn was serving onboard the British Cruiser HMS Manchester at the time. In August 1942, Malta was on the verge of collapse due to lack of oil and food supplies. Operation "Pedestal" was mounted and a convoy of fourteen merchant ships protected by a large fleet of Royal Navy vessels including aircraft carriers, battleships, cruisers and destroyers, sailed toward Malta via the Gibraltar Straits, hugging the North African coast. Here they were met by a naval support group from Malta composed of another aircraft carrier, more cruisers (including the HMS Manchester) and a flotilla of destroyers.

Off the north-eastern coast of Tunisia, the HMS Manchester was struck by three torpedoes, all in her propeller shafts. She lost three of her four propellers, which caused her to cruise uncontrollably in a large circle. Some of the crew were transferred to a destroyer, but subsequently, fearing the Manchester might fall into enemy hands, Captain Drew decided to scuttle her. The remaining members of her crew made it ashore at Cap Bon, (a mere fourteen miles away), and were there captured by Vichy troops. They were incarcerated at the POW camp at Fort Laghouat located some two hundred and fifty miles south of Algiers.

By the time the letter had arrived, the camp had been liberated (late 1942) and the letter was returned to the sender in Canada as not deliverable.



Figure 3. First class letter mailed for surface conveyance August 26, 1941 from Montreal, Que. to Leopoldville, Belgium Congo franked with a single 3¢ Mufti stamp which short paid the 5¢ UPU letter rate to a non-Empire destination in Africa. Apparently, the short payment was not detected and the letter delivered without being taxed.

## First class surface letter to Nigeria (and forwarded to Niger)

Figure 4 shows a letter franked with a 3¢ Mufti stamp, the proper Empire surface rate to Nigeria. The letter was addressed to Minna in Nigeria, but was redirected via Lagos to Tibiri in southern Niger via Niamey and Maradi. Niger was a French colony in central Africa which, together with Chad, declared their alignment with the Allies of Free France in November 1940. If the letter had been addressed directly to a recipient in Niger, it would have required a 5¢ cent stamp to pay the non Empire UPU rate. The cover has numerous censor and control markings including transit through Cameroon.



Figure 4. First class letter mailed November 23, 1941 from Vancouver, B.C to Minna, Nigeria & redirected to Tibiri, Niger. It is franked with a single 3¢ Mufti stamp which paid the first class letter rate to a British Empire destination in Africa.

## The 25¢ Air Mail Rate to South Africa

The letter below was franked at the 25 cent rate applicable in the early part of the George VI reign for airmail letters weighing up to ½ ounce mailed to destinations in Africa. This letter would have been conveyed to Britain by sea and then flown to South Africa on the Imperial Airways route through Egypt, Sudan and former British colonies further south in East Africa. The letter was mailed 1 June 1937 so the two 10¢ “Mounties” stamps of the 1935 Pictorial issue were still in current use. The 25¢ rate remained in effect until February 23, 1938 when the new rates for the Empire Air Mail Scheme came into effect.



Figure 5. Air Mail letter forwarded 1 June 1937 from Toronto, Ontario to Johannesburg, South Africa franked with a 5¢ Mufti and two 10¢ 1935 Pictorial stamps to pay the 25¢ air mail rate to British Empire destinations in Africa.

## The Empire Air Mail Scheme

### (1) 6¢ Rate to South Africa

Figure 6 shows another favourite cover of mine. The Canadian 6¢ per ½ oz. Empire Rate to South Africa has been short paid by 3¢. The envelope has a large circular T/3<sup>D</sup> (30 centimes) and a message “PLEASE ADVISE YOUR CORRESPONDENT THAT THE LETTER RATE IS 6 CENTS PER HALF OUNCE”.

The letter carrier applied a South African 3d postage due stamp cancelled it with a Johannesburg circular cancel but he was not able to collect the 3d fee and so marked the front in red manuscript “unable to obtain surcharge”. The postage due stamp has been crossed out and the envelope hand-stamped “CHARGE NOT COLLECTED”. A few days later a second and seemingly successful attempt to

deliver the letter was made, and the 3d due collected. To document this, a second 3d postage due stamp was affixed and cancelled with a Johannesburg canceller.



Figure 6. Air Mail letter forwarded 1 February 1939 from Toronto, Ontario to Johannesburg, South Africa franked with a 3¢ Mufti stamp which short paid the 6¢ Empire Air Mail Scheme rate to British Empire destinations in Africa



Figure 7. Air Mail letter forwarded 9 February 1937 from Montreal, Quebec to Port Elizabeth, South Africa franked with three 2¢ and two 3¢ Mufti stamps to pay the 12¢ double Empire Air Mail Scheme rate to destinations in Africa

This letter was mailed to South Africa during the February 1938 to September 1939 period that Empire Air Mail Scheme rates applied to airmail letters from Canada to destinations in Africa. The rate was 6¢ per ½ ounce or fraction thereof so this letter must have weighed between one-half and one ounce thus attracting the 12¢ “double” rate. The letter traveled by surface mail to New York, on to Britain by sea on the S.S. Queen Mary, and was then flown to South Africa by Imperial Airways.

### Third class (printed) matter

Canadian mail other than first class posted to Africa during the Mufti period is hard to find. The cover below, while posted outside the 1937-42 Mufti period, is the only example of third class mail to Africa that I have been able to find to date. The letter was sent from Toronto on 22 April 1943 to Bugondo, Uganda, franked with an overprinted “4530” (Toronto) precancelled 1¢ Mufti stamp to pay the printed matter rate for items weighing up to two ounces.

There is an “OROTI UGANDA” transit strike dated 24 August 1943 on the back of the envelope and a “BUGONDO” receiving strike dated 25 August, so this envelope was over four months in transit. There were restrictions on the length of written messages on items mailed at third class rates and envelopes had to be mailed unsealed for easy inspection by postal authorities. Perhaps this restriction coupled with slow delivery lead people to favour first class letters thus making examples of third class mail to overseas destinations scarce, to say nothing of the fate usually suffered by today’s equivalent to 1940’s printed matter - junk mail!



Figure 8. Third Class (Printed Matter) letter posted April 22, 1943 from Toronto, Ontario to Bugondo, Uganda franked with a 1¢ Mufti stamp to pay the third class rate to destinations in Africa for printed matter items up to two ounces.

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(Continued from page 2)

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