

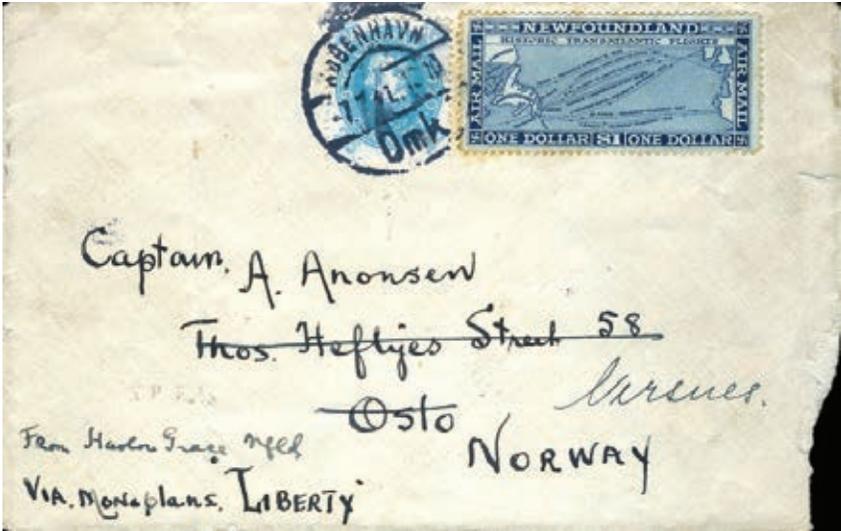
2012 fourth quarter

BNA Topics



Whole number 533

Volume 69 Number 4



Previously unreported FFC from the *Liberty* Flight, p. 8

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BNA pics

Volume 69 Number 4 Whole Number 533

The Official Journal of the British North America Philatelic Society Ltd

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... continued on page 3 ...

Crunch time for *BNA Topics* – Editor(s) needed

Norris (Bob) Dyer, President, BNAPS

AT BNAPEX in Calgary Robert Lemire and Mike Street advised the Board that they will not be available as co-Editors of *BNA Topics* after December 2013. Between them, they have, to-date, produced a total of 85 issues of our journal. Mike was Editor from 1981 to 1989, Robert from 1996 to 1999. They stepped in as co-Editors for three issues in 2006 and again from the third issue of 2008 to the present. In addition, among other BNAPS activities, during their two co-Editor periods Robert has been Chairperson of the BNAPS Publications Committee and Mike has looked after publishing BNAPS books. Everyone will agree that they have earned a rest.

So, we need an Editor or Editorial Team to take over *BNA Topics*, and we have a year to sort things out. That's not a long time. The Editor's primary tasks are to seek out and receive submissions, maintain the list of articles on hand, decide which are going in the issue, edit and do a preliminary layout, and then determine what goes where in the issue. The Editor needs a good command of the English language, writing skills, editing ability—because not all writers are good at putting their ideas on paper—and the organizational know-how to keep things flowing.

BNA Topics is produced by electronic means, so the minimum technical requirements for an Editor are a working knowledge of MS Word™ or Corel WordPerfect™ and a firm grip on the use of e-mail. Knowledge of Adobe Acrobat™ would be helpful. Assuming that the current method of producing our journal is continued, the new Editor(s) will be able to call on Lorraine Street to prepare the basic files for printing, at least for a time. Robert and Mike will assist with preparation of the first few 2014 issues and are willing to prepare individual articles for publication after that. Their current assistants will be asked to continue doing this as well.

What happens if no one comes forward to take over *BNA Topics*? In the worst case, it will cease publication after 70 years. None of us want that, but the journal cannot continue to sail without a captain at the helm. If you are interested and would like to find out more about this, please e-mail me, Robert, or Mike. You will be welcomed with open arms, and if you take on the task you will have lots of support. Our e-mail addresses are on the last two pages of each issue of *BNA Topics*. Thank you.

Change of address: Notify the Secretary (address on p. 75).

Missed or damaged copies: Contact the Circulation Manager, Wayne Smith, 20 St. Andrews Road, Scarborough ON M1P 4C4 (waynesmithtor@yahoo.ca).

Manuscripts may be submitted to the Editor in these formats: (1) electronic, preferably with paper copy, or (2) typewritten (double-spaced), or (3) neatly handwritten. Acceptable electronic formats include Macintosh- or IBM-compatible formatted diskettes or CDs.

Illustrations must not be embedded in Word™ or WordPerfect™ files! PLEASE do not format text files other than for normal paragraphing, italicization, bolding, or underlining. If tables are required, please consult the Editor before preparing a file in WordPerfect™. Illustrations MUST be sent as separate files from text files. (Scans at 300 dpi in .jpg format are preferred for illustrations sent as attachments). Until a new Editor is found, articles and letters may be submitted by e-mail to Mike Street (mikestreet1@gmail.com) or by mail to 73 Hatton Drive, Ancaster ON L9G 2H5.

Publications Committee: Robert Lemire (Chairperson), Mike Street, Charles Livermore.

Readers write

Correction: In “The bulk newspaper stamp receipt books”, by George B Arfken and William S Pawluk, *BNA Topics*, Volume 69, Number 1, January–March 2012, p. 18 there was a mix-up in Figures 6 and 7. The image shown as Figure 6 was the image that should have accompanied the caption for Figure 7. The image shown as Figure 7 was a duplicate of the image shown correctly as Figure 8. Figures 6 and 7 are shown below as they should have been. Our apologies for the mistake.



Figure 6. The postal charge for mailing 180 pounds of newspapers was paid with 50¢ and 20¢ Widow Weeds and a 10¢ Small Queen.
(Courtesy of Weeda Stamps and the Postal History Society of Canada)



Figure 7. Eight 20¢ Widow Weeds, a 15¢ Large Queen, and a 1¢ Small Queen paid for 176 pounds of newspapers being mailed.
(Courtesy of Weeda Stamps and the Postal History Society of Canada)

BNAPEX 2013

CHARLOTTETOWN, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Rodd Royalty Hotel, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

BNAPS will return to Prince Edward Island in 2013, with the convention being held on Labour Day weekend, August 30 – September 1 (Friday, Saturday, Sunday), at the Rodd Royalty Hotel in Charlottetown. BNAPS members are invited to plan for a visit to Canada's smallest province, home of red earth scenery (and Anne of Green Gables Heritage Place), and with miles of sandy beaches.

History buffs can look forward to getting a year's head start—2013 is the *149th* anniversary of the 1864 Charlottetown Convention, an event that laid the foundation of Canada.



In addition to the usual philatelic events there will be island tours. A lobster dinner also is being arranged.

Plan an extended holiday around the show. We hope to see you in Charlottetown!

For further information please contact

Robert Lemire, PO Box 1870, Deep River, ON, K0J 1P0
 rlemire000@sympatico.ca 613-584-1574

Information about submitting exhibits (130-140 frames maximum) will be enclosed with the 2013 Q1 issue of *BNA Topics*. Details about accommodations are on the BNAPS website, and also will be enclosed with a registration form in the 2013 Q2 issue of *BNA Topics*.

Importance of keeping research material: *Charles Verge*, Secretary of the Greene Foundation, writes, “Further to the Editorial in *BNA Topics*, Volume 69, Number 1, January–March 2012, p. 3, “References—are they accessible?” The anonymous author makes eminent sense and I agree with all the points raised. As a researcher and a writer of several books and hundreds of articles I find that primary and secondary research information is extremely important to an excellent result—be it for a presentation, an article, a book or even for one’s own collection. Unfortunately, from personal experience, I know too well how much philatelic research material has been destroyed or thrown out.

Some miraculously survives for years to be enjoyed by current and future researchers. An example of that is the Charles de Volpi material and manuscript Mike Street was instrumental in acquiring and which the Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation (Greene Foundation) is currently conserving and will eventually publish. BNAPS’ major participation in preserving the papers of stamp dealer Charles G. Firby—who for more than 25 years kept meticulous files and copies of BNA material he sold—is also a very commendable effort on the Society’s involvement in the hobby. As a result of these two Fonds and of other material spread around the Harry Sutherland Philatelic Library at the Greene Foundation, the Foundation has decided to build up a series of research files on the stamps and postal history of BNA and on the history of our hobby in this country.

In addition to the two Fonds mentioned above we are integrating Ralph Mitchener’s and my own research files in the mix. Our combined files cover resources and material gathered over the last forty or more years. In addition, the extensive Mitchener/Verge collection of the history of the hobby will be added to by that of Kenneth Rowe. Mr. Rowe pioneered the collecting of this type of material as early as the 1960s. His collection is particularly strong in 19th Century and early 20th Century philatelic periodicals; Mr. Mitchener specialized in documents and photographs while I concentrated on philatelic material related to the hobby and a collection of Show and Exhibition programmes.

The primary role of the research files library we are creating is to help the Greene Foundation’s expertizing committee in their work. However, a major benefit will be the availability of these resources to serious researchers who will be able to view the files by appointment. The Greene Foundation expects the work of integrating all the Fonds to be completed by late Fall 2012. In the meantime, readers should consider the Greene Foundation’s Harry Sutherland Research Library as a depository for their research files, historical philatelic documents and important three-dimensional philatelic artefacts when they no longer need them. The Foundation reserves the right to accept or refuse the offered material or to dispose of that which is duplicate to the needs of the Foundation and researchers. A detailed listing of material that is to be transferred should be sent by e-mail to my attention at cjgverge@rogers.com.

1¢ Admiral major re-entry: Ralph Trimble is trying to help Leopold Beaudet, Editor of the BNAPS Admiral Study Group Newsletter, who is trying to document all known copies of the major re-entry on the 1¢ green Admiral from Plate 12, Lower Right Pane, Position #35 (12LR35). Ralph writes, “So far, Leo has recorded a total of 30 copies, including the unique copy on a sidewise coil. If you have a copy (in any condition) that has not been documented, we would love to hear from you! Please send a 300 dpi or better scan to me and note clearly whether you wish to be credited or wish to remain anonymous. Anyone who contributes

will receive a copy of Leo's upcoming article in PDF form. While these re-entries do show up once in a while in auctions, they are surprisingly extremely scarce and collectors have been curious for years as to where they all are." Ralph's e-mail is: <retrimble@rogers.com>

Postmark questioned: Figure 3 in "The colours of the New Brunswick and Nova Scotia 6d stamps," by George B Arfken and Charles G Firby, *BNA Topics*, Volume 69, Number 31, July-September 2012, p. 59, caused *Don Ecobichon* to ask, "The caption for Figure 3 says that the cover shown comes from Chatham, NB but the cancel on the cover is a split two-ring from BEND-OF-THE-PETICODIAC" (River), which in 1865 became Moncton. *George Arfken* replied, "The back of the envelope shows a Chatham NB 19 September 1853 backstamp, in blue. The Bend of Peticodiac (Moncton) SE20 postmark is a transit stamp. The route was Chatham–Moncton–Halifax. It was customary in New Brunswick at this time to put postmarks on the back of the cover, I suppose to avoid confusing the address. Other than the oval barred cancels, this Bend of Peticodiac mark appears to be the only New Brunswick postmark on the front of the six covers shown. The large postmark on Figure 2 is San Francisco."

Short Paid Mail: *Alison Street*, ever mindful of her father's interest in things postal, saved the label shown at right when an envelope she had mailed was returned. The label indicates that the article was oversize, requiring \$1.29 in postage, 68¢ more than the 61¢ originally applied. After the 68¢ was added, the letter was reposted and reached its destination. The sideways postmark in blue reads:



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Postal and e-mail addresses for both are on p. 79 of *BNA Topics*.

Unique Newfoundland *Liberty* first-flight cover found

John M Walsh

DALWICK and Harmer's handbook, *Newfoundland Air Mails 1919–1939* [1], contains a great deal of information, but does not mention any covers from the flight of the *Liberty*. The trans-oceanic leg of a flight to Copenhagen (Kobenhavn), Denmark that originated in Liberty, New York, USA was to start from Harbour Grace, Newfoundland. The intrepid flyers were pilot Holgar Hoiriis, photographer Otto Hillig, and mechanic Robert Moffat. They had named their Bellanca monoplane, *Liberty*, after Hillig's hometown.

After various flight segments, they finally arrived at Harbour Grace on 22 June 1931. Very early in the morning on 24 June, at 03:24 to be precise, *Liberty* took off for Copenhagen. On their flight path they encountered poor weather, which drove them off course, causing them to land at Krefeld, Germany. The flight then continued, reaching Copenhagen in another two segments.

It is known [2] that mail to be carried by the crew was being prepared in Harbour Grace. The quantities identified are 227 pieces; 192 were franked with the previously issued brown airmail 15¢ stamp [3], 35 items with a 5¢ value. Exactly when the stamps were applied to the flight envelopes is not stated.



Figure 1. Cover placed aboard aircraft *Liberty* for Capt. Anonsen.

According to family members, Captain Amund Anonsen, a Norwegian whaling master, and partner in several whaling companies he helped set up in Newfoundland, became acquainted with the *Liberty* flight crew during their layover at Harbour Grace. Apparently Anonsen gave a letter, shown in Figure 1, to pilot Hoiriis to be carried to Denmark and then mailed on to Norway.

Keywords & phrases: Newfoundland airmails, first flight, aircraft *Liberty*.

As Figure 1 illustrates, Captain Anonsen franked his envelope with the required airmail fee of \$1, using the blue Newfoundland airmail stamp of that value. Anonsen's \$1-franked envelope was addressed to Oslo, Norway and carried the manuscript endorsement "From Harbour Grace Nfld / Via Monoplane Liberty." The intent was to place this cover in the bag with the mail prepared by the Harbour Grace post office; however, Hoiris and his crew decided to leave very early, at 03:24 on 24 July.

We know that the *Liberty* flight mail being held at the Harbour Grace post office was not processed until the start of business on 24 June [4], several hours after the plane left. As Anonsen's mail was already with the crew, it was carried on the flight, but without the despatching town's post office cancel. With no plane on which to put the mail, the *Liberty* mail was cancelled in Harbour Grace and forwarded to St. John's, where another cancel, dated 26 June 1931, was applied to the back of each cover. This mail was then despatched to Denmark and other addresses by regular surface means.

Anonsen's letter must have reached Denmark, because a Danish 20 øre stamp was added to the cover and tied by a Kobenhavn (Copenhagen) 7.7.31 cancellation. The Danish cancel also tied the Newfoundland \$1 stamp to the envelope, proof it had been on the cover before the Danish stamp and cancellation were added. The addition of the stamp enabled it to be forwarded to the address in Norway, where it received a clear Oslo 8.7.31 arrival backstamp (Figure 3).

Had this envelope been mailed in the Harbour Grace post office, it would carry a Harbour Grace cancellation, a St. John's backstamp, a Kobenhavn backstamp, possibly a Kobenhavn forwarding cancel, and an Oslo receiving backstamp. The absence of the first three cancellations means that the envelope had to have been carried by the intrepid *Liberty* flight crew, who then placed it into the Danish postal system to be forwarded to Norway. This cover, which has a 2010 VG Greene Foundation certificate of genuineness, was offered in the 22 October 2011 Eastern Auctions Limited public auction in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

References and endnotes

- [1] RER Dalwick, *Newfoundland air mails, 1919-1939*, with additional notes on subsequent flights and air stamps by RER Dalwick and CHC Harmer, London, HR Harmer, 1953, pp 114-115.
- [2] *ibid.*
- [3] Dalwick and Harmer state it is the watermarked version.
- [4] RER Dalwick, *op. cit.*



Figure 2. Enlargement of UR corner of envelope showing Danish cancellation tying \$1 Newfoundland stamp to the cover.



Figure 3. Oslo, Norway backstamp on Anonsen cover.

www.bnaps.org



A double-printing variety of the 1969 6¢ Canada Games commemorative

Russell D Sampson

THE stamp illustrated in Figure 1, found in the author's collection of slogan cancels, appears to be the first identified example of a double-printing [1] or double-impression [2] variety of the green "C" in the 6¢ Jeux Canadiens/Canada Games Commemorative, Sc #500.



Figure 1. Canada Sc #500 cancelled on 15 September 1969 in Edmonton, on a 2 x 4-inch cut piece, favoured by many cancel collectors.

The stamp, issued on 15 August 1969, was printed in two separate processes, a steel engraved plate for the blue ink and photolithography for the green and red inks [3]. The example in Figure 1 was cancelled in Edmonton on 15 September 1969.

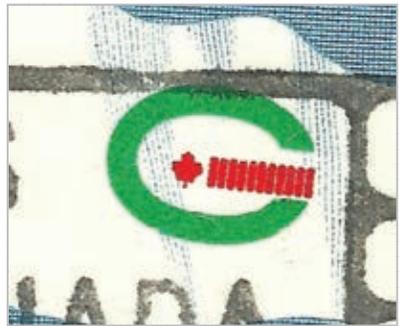


Figure 2. Comparison of the variety stamp, left, with a normal copy, right, of the 6¢ Jeux Canadiens/Canada Games Commemorative Sc #500.

As can be seen in Figure 2, the green 'C' in the left image shows clear double-printing compared to the normal printing on the right. By counting the pixels of a 600-dpi scan of the stamp, it appears the offset of the double impression is about .70 mm.

Could the stamp have gone through the printing press twice? A comparison of the variety (Figure 2, left) and a normal stamp (Figure 2, right) appears to show that the area of

Keywords & phrases: Printing variety, 6¢ Canada Games commemorative

overlap of the two 'C's in the variety produced the same saturation of the green ink as seen in the normal stamp. This suggests that the stamp did not accidentally go through the normal printing process twice. If it had, the green colouration of both 'C's of the variety would most likely show the same saturation as the normal stamp. It is more likely that the paper and or the plate accidentally moved ("stuttered") slightly during its single pass through the printing press [4]

In correspondence with Geoff Grant of the Saskatoon Stamp Centre, he wrote "... we have not had one of these in stock, as a matter of fact we have not had any variety listing for the Scott #500 in stock." [5]

References

- [1] United States Stamp Society, *A Glossary of Terms for the Collector of United States Stamps*, <http://glossary.usstamps.org>.
- [2] James MacKay, *Philatelic Terms Illustrated*, Stanley Gibbons Publishing, 1987, p. 50.
- [3] Library and Archives Canada, *Canadian Postal Archives*.
<www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/archivianet/02011703_e.html>.
- [4] John M Hotchner, *Errors, Freaks and Oddities*.
<http://www.efocc.org/Resources/Hotchner_EFOs/AA_Cover.php>.
- [5] Private email correspondence, 21 March 2012.

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Parcels mailed to WWII German prisoners of war in Canada

Robert Henderson

DURING the course of World War II, Canada held 33,798 German prisoners of war (PoWs) scattered across the country in twenty five major camps. Numerous small projects housed many PoW volunteers working on farms, in lumber camps, and on road maintenance [1]. Needless to say, the large number of PoWs meant a great flow of parcels sent to them by relatives, friends, PoW aid groups, or other individuals around the world.

Canadian mail censors fulfilled a double mandate: the negative one, to prevent transmission of information potentially of use to the enemy; the positive one, to extract—directly or indirectly—from incoming mail any information of value to the Allied war effort. Specific censorship units were designated to look after mail addressed to enemy Army, Navy, Air Force, and Merchant Navy personnel, as well as civilian internees, including refugees.

Strict regulations and policies applied to the handling of the incoming civilian mail, regardless of its apparent source. For example: “No mail may be taken from one (censor) room to another within the building unless the supervisor’s permission to do so has been obtained. Mail in the Postal Censorship office is stated to be ‘In course of post.’ Evidence of theft, wilful damage, delay, secretion or abstraction of mail in the course of post constitutes an indictable offence under the Criminal Code of Canada. A memorandum setting forth this matter in greater detail is to be signed by new examiners.” [2]

Needless to say, regulations pertaining to the handling of PoW mail were as strict, or even more so. Military orders set out [2] that parcels were to be unwrapped in front of the individual PoW recipient. The wrappings were destroyed by burning, after they were examined, in order to prevent messages secreted under labels or in secret ink reaching a prisoner. This explains why so few parcel wrappings from any source to enemy PoWs have ever been reported.

For some reason, however, one censor from Camp 133 at Lethbridge, Alberta chose to save seven varieties of packaging from destruction. After the war ended, they were donated to a private museum in Lethbridge. When the contents of this museum were dispersed, the seven wrappings remained as a group, ending up in the privately owned Altamont Museum at Coutts, Alberta.

In due course, the Altamont Museum closed, due to the poor health and age of the owner. The museum’s contents, including all the PoW parcel wrappers, were sold. Various PoW related items were purchased by the privately owned Homefront Archives and Museum in Regina, Saskatchewan [3]. There they were encapsulated, complete with original hand written labels from the original Lethbridge Museum, and are on display.

These examples are unique and extremely rare. Certainly the individual who originally salvaged them took considerable personal risk with his or her own future, including the risk

Keywords & phrases: Prisoner of War mail, parcels

of a potentially lengthy time in jail. How fortunate for history that he or she saved the wrappers!

Shown below are the surviving samples: waterproof paper (Figure 1), cloth wrapping (Figure 2), twine sacking (Figure 3), cloth sacking (Figure 4), heavy paper wrapping (Figure 5), a plywood box lid (Figure 6), and a box closed with light fibreboard (Figure 7). Volumes of mail to the PoW camps at Christmas season often overwhelmed the censors, who called in other military personnel to cope with the task of sorting, checking, and with the initial distribution. Postage to PoWs of all sides in the war was free, so no postage stamps were required on the parcels.



Figure 1. An attractive 1944 German Red Cross label was glued to a waterproof type of paper. It was directed to the German “Man of Confidence” (*Vertrauensmann*) [2] or Steward at Lethbridge.



Figure 2. Paper labels were applied to a red-and-white cloth wrapping material. Directed to a member of the German Luftwaffe held at Camp 133, Lethbridge, the piece measures 31.5 × 19.5 cm.



Figure 3. Twine sacking was also used to wrap packages. This example appears to have originated from a commercial source, as the label was machine-printed on cloth. Two additional paper labels are attached. This piece measures 19 × 20 cm.



Figure 4. Handwriting in ink on a light blue cloth sack was another method of packing. An original label was glued to the 36.5 × 24.5 cm piece of fabric.

Figure 5. This heavy paper wrapping was redirected from Cairo, Egypt, forwarded to England and finally to Lethbridge. It measures 25 × 30 cm.

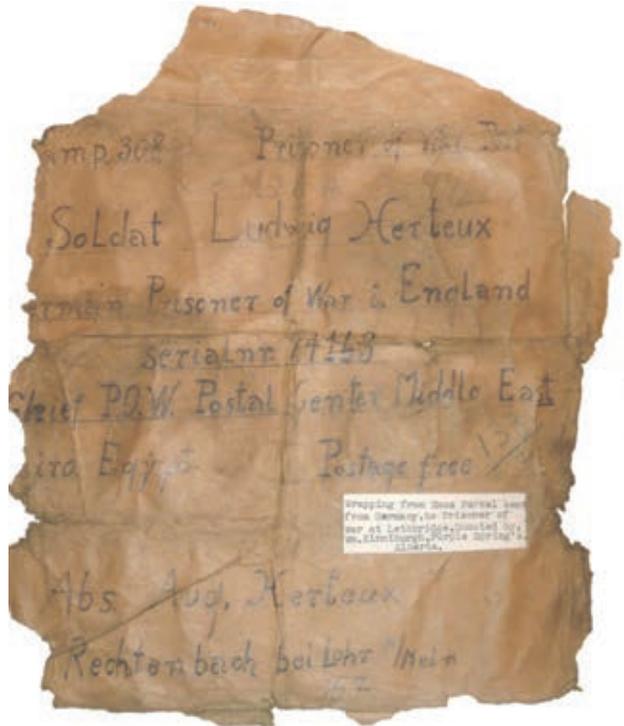




Figure 6. A plywood box lid measuring 36×23.5 cm, with address written in ink and two paper labels from the original mailing still attached. Mailed from Germany to ME21295, Gefreiter Hugo Kortmann at Camp 133. A note on the box added after the war by the previous owner indicates it contained Christmas gifts.

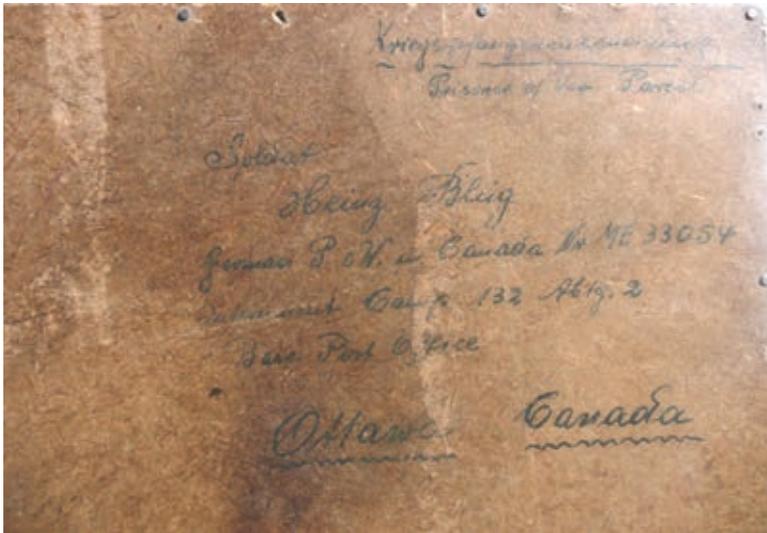


Figure 7. Light masonite was used for the lid and bottom of a wood box addressed to a PoW at Camp 132, Medicine Hat, Alberta. It measures 35.5 × 22.5 cm. The lid is hinged, a revision probably made by the PoW who received the box.

References

- [1] Erich Maschke, ed. *The History of the German Prisoners of War in the Second World War*, published by Ernst and Werner Gieseking, 1962, 1974. Helmut Wolff, *German Prisoners of War in British Hands, An Overview*; Bielefeld, Munich, 1974, vol XI/1, p 97. The number of PoWs stated represents only combatant prisoners (Class I). It does not include civilian internees, merchant seamen, refugees, or "protected personnel."
- [2] Quotes in the text are based on the contents of a 102-page, military-type manuscript that has no heading, no author, and no reference number. It is marked "Confidential" in handwriting on the front page. This originally was sent by a member of the Canadian Postal Corps to a collector (both are now deceased), and a copy was passed to the author. Numerous headings set out the rules, regulations, policies, and procedures to be followed when censoring all types of PoW mail. Examples of such headings include: Examination of mail; purpose of examination; the type, order, and process of examination. It sets out all the details, explicitly and fully, including forms to be used for making specific reports, what information should be documented; and the controls for censoring or seizing suspicious mail.
- [3] Homefront Archives and Museum is owned and operated by the author.

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Two new trans-Atlantic-rate handstamps—time for a complete update!

Malcolm B Montgomery

IN 1987, the BNAPS Trans-Atlantic Mail Study Group, chaired at the time by Jack Arnell, published a *Handbook on Transatlantic Mail #1*. It included a list of handstamps that had been found on letters between British North America and the United Kingdom. Many years have passed since its publication, and it is proposed that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the original work be celebrated with a revision, which would be the third of a trilogy of new BNAPS publications on transatlantic mails. The first of the three is *Fines on Trans-Atlantic Mail between Canada and the United Kingdom, 1859–1899*, released in August of this year. The second will be a BNAPS Exhibit Series book, *A History of Trans-Atlantic Mail between Canada and the United Kingdom, 1759–1851*, planned for summer 2013. The revision of the BNAPS *Handbook on Transatlantic Mail #1* is planned for 2014. The purpose of this article is to encourage participation and contributions by BNAPS members who own letters or have information that could be included in the revision.

At present, the focus is to expand and, if necessary, correct the catalogue of trans-Atlantic handstamps, but the scope has yet to be determined, and readers' views on the direction that the work should take would also be welcome. As an *hors d'oeuvre*, two letters with previously unrecorded trans-Atlantic handstamps, recently uncovered, are offered to illustrate the need for further thought and research, and to invite comment.



Figure 1. A handstamp “7½ Cy” used on an 1858 letter from Whitty, CW to England.

Keywords & phrases: Rate handstamps, trans-Atlantic

1859, the rate by Canadian Packet, sixpence Sterling, was charged as twelve-and-a-half cents in Canada [7].

Again, it would be tempting to attribute the handstamp to the office of the letter's origin. Although use of the box number for payment suggests reasonably regular use by at least one correspondent, in 1862 Saugeen was a relatively small office [8]. However, since there is an Owen Sound handstamp on the back, the possibility that the letter may have been included in mails made up at Toronto, Hamilton, Quebec, or offices in between, cannot be ruled out until mail routes and exchange offices are identified with some certainty. For the record, this letter was forwarded for the Canadian packet, the Allan Line *North American* for Liverpool [9].

Proposed revision to Handbook on Trans-Atlantic Mail #1

It is suggested that the following be included in the scope of the revision:

- Handstamps discovered since publication of the original Handbook.
- Conclusions on use, dates and attribution drawn from a larger sample than in 1987.
- Additional detail on sources and a rationale supporting conclusions.
- New illustrations of marks prepared using computer software, with detailed explanation of variations.
- A discussion of rarity factors.
- Explanations of British handstamps found on the letters.
- Illustrations of letters and explanation of their context.

Any member who is interested in trans-Atlantic mail and can help with this project is asked to contact Malcolm B Montgomery; Cae Glas, Hendre Road; Conwy, LL32 8D; United Kingdom; phone 44-1492-573445 or by e-mail at m0bmontgomery@aol.com (Note: that the second character in the e-mail address is a zero (0).)

References and endnotes

- [1] Rated in accordance with GPO London Notice effective 23 March 1854: a letter weighing less than $\frac{1}{2}$ oz by British packet out of New York or Boston, 8d Stg., including 2d U.S. transit; by Canadian packet out of Quebec or Portland, 6d Stg., no US transit under reciprocal arrangements.
- [2] JC Arnell and KS Mackenzie, *Atlantic mails - a history of the mail service between Great Britain and Canada to 1889*, Ottawa, National Postal Museum, 1980-1982, 411pp., p. 331: *North Briton*, 18 December 1858; the next sailing would have been *North American* 22 January 1859.
- [3] Winthrop S Boggs, *The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada*, Chambers Publishing Company, Kalamazoo, MI, 1942. 2 vols, 750pp, Vol. I, p. 599: "37" allocated to Quebec, C.E.
- [4] JC Arnell and KS Mackenzie, *op cit*, p. 315: *Persia* out of New York, 22 December for Liverpool, 1 January 1858.
- [5] JC Arnell (Editor), *Handbook on Transatlantic Mails, #1*, BNAPS Trans-Atlantic Mail Study Group, 1987, 69pp., p. 65: E.4, Quebec, C.E., 1858–63.
- [6] *ibid*, p. 65: only two decimal handstamps of this rate are recorded, both from the Maritime Provinces.
- [7] Decimal currency was introduced on 1 July 1859.
- [8] Frank W Campbell, *Canada post-offices, 1755-1895*, self-published, Royal Oak, MI, 1958, 191pp, p. 157: Saugeen (Bruce, Ont.) opened 1851, later Southampton.
- [9] JC Arnell and KS Mackenzie, *op cit*, p. 337: *North American* out of Quebec 21 June for Liverpool, 2 July 1862; the letter arrived in Dublin on the second, suggesting that the letter may have been landed at Londonderry.

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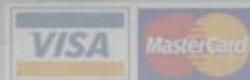
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More 9d and 15¢ rate covers to the west coast

Victor L Willson and Bill Radcliffe

ARFKEN and Firby [1] discussed covers to California in the surcharge period for US mails, in effect from 1851 to mid-1864. A new correspondence we recently purchased adds some interesting new items to their documentation. In addition, we illustrate a cover obtained by Vic Willson a number of years ago and add a discussion of the topic of registration to the mix.

Figure 1 shows a stampless cover sent from Belleville, UC on 29 September 1851. The franking is shown by both a “9(d)” and “15” in manuscript, as well as by two different “PAID” handstamps and the “CANADA” in an arc, all three in red ink. The Belleville dater shows SEP 2x\ (185)1. The date inside the letter, 29 September 1851, can be seen in Figure 2. This is from the same correspondence as the double rate 18d cover shown in Arfken and Firby [1], a cover sent three days prior to this one. Both were addressed to James Fidler in San Diego.



Figure 1. 1851 letter from Belleville, UC, to California.



Figure 2. Date line inside the letter in Figure 1.

Keywords & phrases: West Coast (USA) rate; Pence & Decimal periods.

Next, we show four new West Coast covers, but to Oregon rather than to California. Two were sent in the Pence-rate period, one in 1857, the second in 1858. Both are to Territorial Oregon, which did not become a state until 14 February 1859. The other two were sent in the Decimal period, both in 1863. These four represent the first West Coast US covers, other than to California, recorded in these periods.

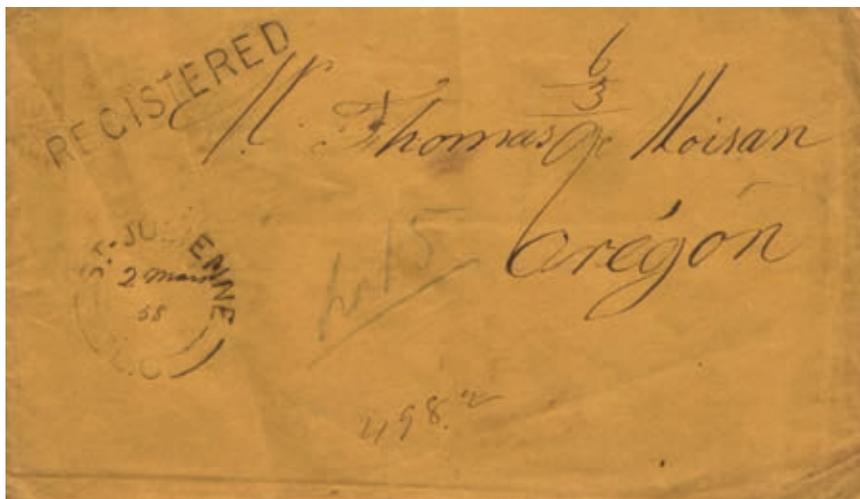


Figure 3. 1858 cover from St Julien, UC, to Oregon.

The cover in Figure 3 is of particular significance because it was intended to be registered. Paid at 9d, the 6d rate to the US plus 3d for the registration fee, it appears the fee was credited as the 9d rate to the West Coast while forgoing the registration in the US. While this is not conclusive, there did not seem to be registration available to the US West Coast through the available routes (Panama, Nicaragua, or Overland) until after the end of the Civil War because of the lack of security. The cover entered the mail at St. Julien, LC, 2 March 1858, and has a 4 March Montreal transit on the back. The route at this time would have been via New York to Nicaragua or Panama, then overland to the Pacific to catch a steamer up the west coasts of Central and North America to San Francisco, followed by another steamer to Portland and then by stage to Salem. While only designated “Oregon” on the cover, both the earlier 1857 cover (Figure 4) and later 1863 cover (Figure 6) indicate Thomas Moisan resided in Salem over that period.

The only other registered item in the Pence period is the marvellous 7/9d cover to Vancouver Island via Olympia, Washington, in 1856, paid $7/6 = 10 \times 9d + 3d$ registration. Directed via New York and Panama, it did not have any US registration indications either. That cover is shown as Figure 144 in Arfken, Leggett, Firby & Steinhart [2].

The second Pence cover shown in this article, Figure 4, was sent from St. Jacques, LC, 20 April 20 1857. It has a Montreal 27 April transit, and a notation “*Recus 12 Juin*,” (Received 12 June). Given a day to reach New York, perhaps a lucky quick mailbag aboard ship, this is still only 45 days. Travel time by the early 1860s was about a month to San Francisco, based on Sacramento newspaper accounts of the period. After the telegraph had been invented,

agents in New York reported sailings of ships along with passenger lists to California newspapers, so the additional time probably reflects the intermittent nature of steamers northward to Portland and Olympia.



Figure 4. Earlier letter from Lower Canada to Oregon.

Two later covers to Oregon were both sent in 1863, in the Decimal period. The letter in Figure 5 was mailed 30 March from Millhaven, UC, to Portland. A “PAID” handstamp and “15” in manuscript, the decimal equivalent of the old 9d rate, indicate that it was paid in cash.

A Kingston 31 March transit appears on the back. All mail in this period was directed to New York and the Isthmus of Panama route [3].

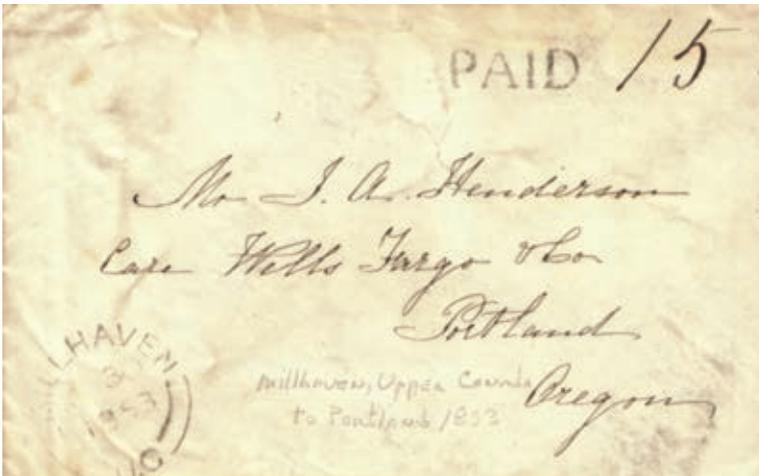


Figure 5. Cover mailed from Millhaven, UC to Oregon in 1863.

The last cover, Figure 6, was sent 27 October 1863 from St Julienne, LC to Salem. It has L'Assomption, LC, 28 October, and Montreal 29 October transit strikes on the back. This cover would also have gone to New York and by steamer to Panama.

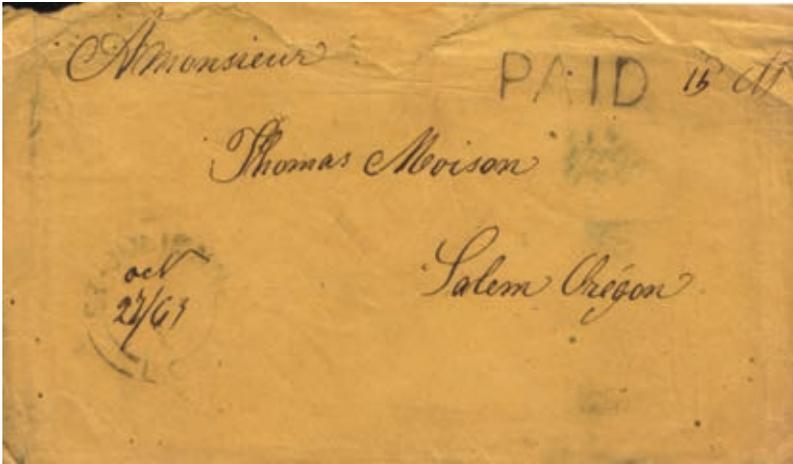


Figure 6. 1863 Letter to Oregon from St Julienne, LC.

While at least four Decimal-franked covers to California were recorded by Arfken and Leggett [3], with an unknown but likely similarly limited number of stampless covers, these are the first stampless covers we are aware of to Oregon. Another similar cover was offered for auction by the same seller, but someone had placed over the “Paid” manuscript a 17¢ Decimal stamp, not tied and clearly not belonging, and we did not pursue it. The dates were not discernible from the picture. The current owner contacted us, noted that he had removed the stamp and that the cover had a manuscript “Pd” underneath along with “15 cts,” also in manuscript. The date on his cover is given by a L'Assomption manuscript, “Mar 23”, 1860”; it too was sent to Salem, Oregon.

References and endnotes

- [1] George B Arfken and Charles G Firby, *The Pence Covers of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, 1851–1860*, VG Greene Philatelic Research Foundation, Toronto, 2006, 344pp.
- [2] George B Arfken, Arthur W Leggett, Charles G Firby and Allan L Steinhart, *Canada's Pence Era: The Pence Stamps and the Canadian Mail 1851–1859*, Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation, Toronto, 1996, 421pp.
- [3] George B Arfken and Arthur W Leggett, *Canada's Decimal Era, 1859–1868*, Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation, Toronto, 1996, 303pp. (p 114).

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My favourite stampless covers

9. Historic Canadian Figures: William and James Morris & William Hamilton Merritt I and III

CR McGuire OTB FRPSC A series featuring some of Ron McGuire's favourite covers from the stampless era. This article is a sequel to instalments 8 and 8a of the series.

MY previous two articles on Sandford Fleming talked about his many accomplishments. In this instalment of the series we meet more prominent Canadians, the Morris brothers, William and James, the latter having a very close “philatelic” connection to Fleming, William Hamilton Merritt, a Canadian very famous in his own right, and his grandson William Hamilton Merritt III, who married Morris' daughter, and was very active in Canadian mining and military affairs [1].

William and James Morris

William Morris [1786-1858] was one of three brothers who came to Upper Canada from Scotland. He and his older brother Alexander established a store in Elizabethtown, renamed Brockville for General Sir Isaac Brock [1769-1812] who on 13 October 1812, early in the War of 1812, had been killed on the battlefield at Queenston Heights.

William Morris also fought in that war as an Ensign with the 1st Leeds Militia. By 1822 he had risen to the rank of Lt Colonel, commanding the 2nd Regiment of the Carleton Militia. In 1816 William opened a store in a newly established military settlement, now Perth, left Alexander to run the Brockville store. William prospered, eventually going into politics as a Member of the Legislature of the Province of Canada, initially for Carleton and later, Leeds, counties. He was appointed Receiver General in 1844. As an astute and successful businessman he was ideal for the post. He would later boast that he had streamlined his Department, introduced new procedures and earned the government £11,000 in interest on the deposits of public money. In 1846 he accepted a second post, as President of the Executive Council, and held them both until May 1847 when he persuaded John A Macdonald, the future Prime Minister, to become the Receiver General. James Morris [1798-1865], William's and Alexander's younger brother, also had a successful career in business, government and the militia. Like William he rose to the rank of Lt Colonel in 1828, commanding the 3rd Leeds Light Infantry, and later, in 1846, the 1st Battalion of Leeds Militia.

When I acquired the cover shown in Figure 1, thinking it was addressed to “Jas” (James) Morris and wanting one to or from him for this article, I could not recall whether James Morris had been the Receiver-General. I soon learned that he had not been, and then realized the “Jas” was - now clearly—“Wm”, a classic example of initially seeing something as you want it to be and finding it isn't. Nevertheless, I am pleased to have the cover, in such pristine condition and with interesting content. It was mailed “OHMS”, rated 9 pence collect

Keywords & phrases: Stampless covers, William & James Morris, William Hamilton Merritt I & III



Figure 1. 1846 letter to William Morris from the Captain of the Prescott, Ontario to Ogdensburg, New York ferry.

in black manuscript, at PRESCOTT / UC on JA 28 / 1846, TOO LATE for that day's mail, and received in Montreal on 30 January. The writer, J Plumb, Jr, Captain of the Ferry, informed Morris that he had deposited 25 pounds currency in the Commercial Bank of Brockville for the rent of the Prescott and Ogdensburg ferry for six months, and requested that William Morris "have the kindness to acknowledge the receipt of the enclosed", presumably a receipt certificate from the Bank, unfortunately no longer with the cover.

After serving in the Legislative Assemblies of Upper Canada and the Province of Canada for more than 15 years, James Morris was appointed Postmaster General of the Province of Canada on 22 February 1851. Two days later he met Sandford Fleming to request that Fleming design a postage stamp. Fleming moved quickly and Canada's first stamp, the 3d Beaver, was issued on 23 April 1851. Shown in Figure 2 is the first plate proof of the stamp [2].



Figure 2. First plate proof of the 1851 3d Beaver stamp, contained in Sandford Fleming's personal scrapbook. (Courtesy Library and Archives Canada.)

The proof was

found in Fleming's personal scrapbook, now held by the National Postal Archives in Ottawa. The handwritten text under the proof is included in a 2 January 1888 letter Fleming wrote to Morris' son, also James:

"I duly received your note enclosing one of the early three pence postage stamps which you have so kindly forwarded for my collection. I think I mentioned to you that I have in my possession the proof of the first postage stamp issued in Canada. It is now before me in my scrap book and I shall copy ... the explanation written with it.

"This is the first proof from the plate of the first postage stamp issued in Canada designed by Sandford Fleming for the Post Master General, the Hon. James Morris, Toronto February, 1851."

"You ask me to inform you of the circumstances. I was then a young man about 24, ready for anything whatever. I had been making designs of some sort for Sheriff Rutten an intimate friend of your father. Your father had, in conversation, mentioned what he had in view with the issue of three pence postage stamps. The Sheriff referred him to me as a person who would make a design. I was sent for and was introduced to your father (PMG Morris) one morning at Stone's Hotel (actually Ellah's Hotel, ed) on King Street, now occupied by the Romain Building. According to my recollection you were present, 37 years younger than you are now. The design was made, engraved approved and used for years. The first proof taken from the plate by the engraver, is as I have stated in my collection of scraps.

*Wishing you a happy new year and all other good things. Yours Very Sincerely
Sandford Fleming."* [3]

A related artifact, Figure 3, sold for \$US17,000 as Lot 45 in Spink (London) Sale 12001 on 25 January 2012, was:

"A seven page hand-written contract between the Province of Canada, represented by the Provisional Post Master General, James Morris, and the New York engraving firm of Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson. The contract spells out which stamps are to be printed: "three (3d.) pence, six (6d.) pence and shilling (1/-)" and that the stamps should be "on suitable paper of the best quality, prepared for use with gum, at the rate of Twenty Cents per thousand stamps". The contract also stipulates that the dies and plates will remain "the exclusive property of Her Britannic Majesty for the use of Her Provincial Government of Canada" and details security arrangements for said dies and plates when not in use.

Signed and sealed by Post Master General Morris on June 21, 1851; signed and sealed by Freeman Rawdon, Neziab Wright, George W. Hatch and Tracy R. Edson on July 7, after adding a clause providing for destruction of the dies and plates "in the event of this agreement being annulled"; and finally, signed again by Morris on July 12, agreeing to the destruction clause." [4]

Collateral to Figures 2 and 3, Figure 4 shows a plaque commemorating the design of the 3d Beaver, unveiled on 26 September 1951 during the CAPEX 1951 International Philatelic Exhibition by Sir John Wilson, Keeper of the Royal Collection. After CAPEX 1951 the plaque was affixed to a building at 112 Yonge Street, believed in error to be the location of Ellah's Hotel, where Fleming met with Morris. In 1851 Ellah's Hotel was actually located at 72 King St. West, as stated above by Fleming in his 1888 letter to James Morris Jr. The plaque is currently located at 110 Yonge Street. [5]

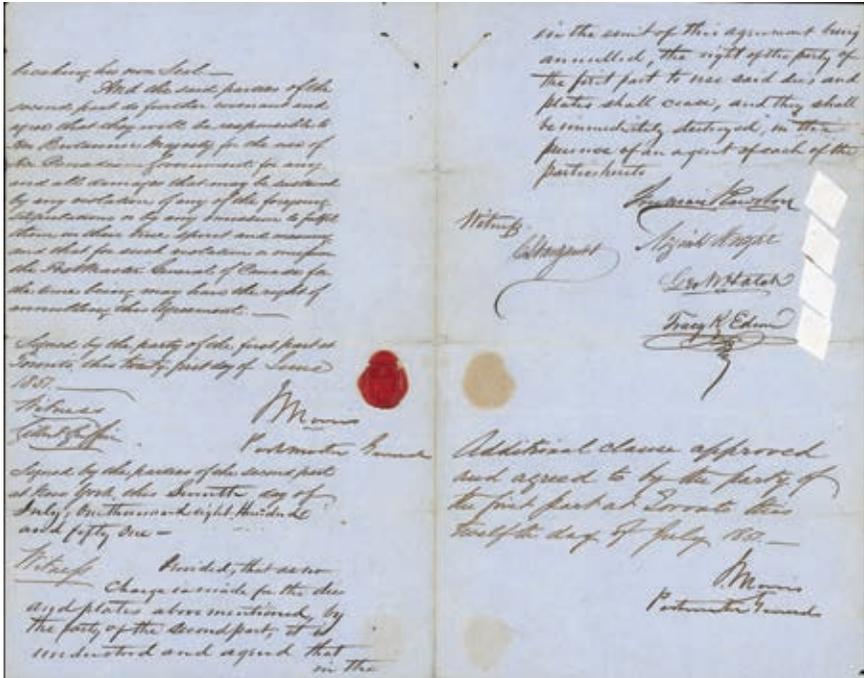


Figure 3. Signature page of the contract for printing of the first stamps of the Province of Canada. James Morris' signature is at lower right. (Courtesy Spink & Son, London)



Figure 4. Plaque commemorating the design of Canada's first postage stamp, the 3d Beaver. (Courtesy Alexandra Avdichuk, City of Toronto Museum Services)

William Hamilton Merritt I and III

Among James Morris' close friends was William Hamilton Merritt [1793-1862], a businessman and politician best known for promoting the construction of the Welland Canal linking Lakes Ontario and Erie, and other projects related to transportation [6]. Figure 5 shows the envelope that carried a three page letter written and signed by Merritt, datelined "St. Catherines [sic], July 12 / 56" to Philip Vankoughnet. The envelope is initialed "W.H.M." at lower left [7]. In the letter Merritt, the Member of the Legislature for Lincoln, was asking Vankoughnet, the Member for Rideau and President of the Legislative Council and Attorney General, for assistance with a complex legal matter.

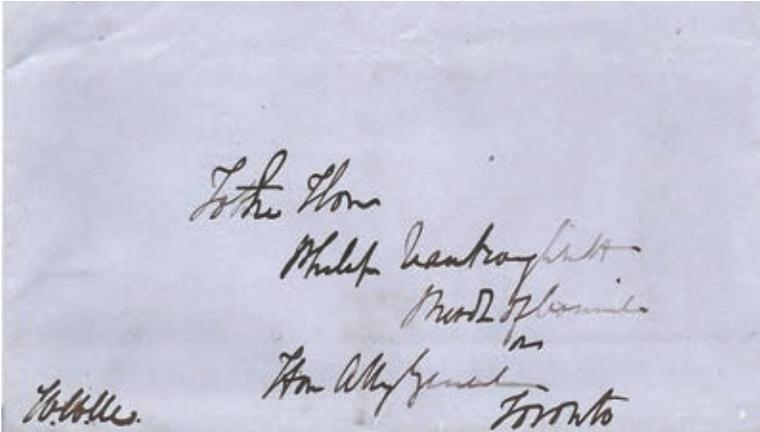


Figure 5. 1856 favour letter from WH Merritt I to Philip Vankoughnet.



Figure 6. First Day cover of William Merritt stamps issued 29 November 1974, prepared and mailed by Abitibi Provincial Paper and postmarked at St. Catharines, Ontario.

Among my many interests is a collection of what I refer to as “promotional First Day covers”, envelopes with appropriate cachets prepared by firms [8, 9] and posted on the Day of Issue of Canadian stamps to clients as souvenirs and, incidentally, to promote their products. On 29 November 1974 Merritt's role in the building of the Welland Canal was recognized on a Canadian stamp, Sc #655. Figure 6 shows a first day cover prepared by Abitibi Provincial Paper, a division of Abitibi Forest Products Ltd. for this stamp. By coincidence the Merritt stamps were printed on paper made by Abitibi in a mill located on the original site of the Welland Canal's Lock 23 [10].

The cancellation on the cover in Figure 6 was applied at “St Catharines Canada”, as were all other Canada Post Office First Day covers (FDCs). Only some 35 years later did a Merritt FDC with the same design but cancelled at Ottawa surface (Figure 7). All FDC collectors should be watching for one cancelled at Ottawa [11].

James Morris' daughter Janet married Merritt's son William II in 1854. Their only son was also named William Hamilton Merritt [1855-1918]. Merritt III had distinguished careers as a mining engineer, teacher, author and, his first preference, the Canadian Militia. Merritt saw action in the North West Rebellion in 1885 and was later seconded to the British Army with which he served in Egypt and in South Africa during the Boer War. While too old for active service in the First World War, Merritt contributed significantly on the Home Front. He saw the potential of the airplane and founded the Aero Club of Canada in 1916, serving as its first President. Collectors of semi-official air mail issues will be familiar with the Aero Club's three stamps, CS #CLP1-3 and their two rather spectacular designs, issued to promote the Club and finance its activities. Aero Club stamp CLP1 is shown in Figure 8.

Merritt III also founded the Canadian Aviation Fund to raise money to buy airplanes for the war effort. The United Empire Loyalists issued a “Donation Stamp”, Figure 9, to promote the cause. By May 1918 the fund, which was launched by Merritt in 1915 under the patronage of the Duke of Connaught, had raised over £33,000. This was used to purchase 17 fighter planes, of which 10 were retained in Canada for pilot training [12].



Figure 7. Ottawa cancellation on Merritt stamp First Day cover.



Figure 8. Aero Club of Canada stamp CLP1.
(Courtesy Sparks Auctions)



Figure 9. United Empire Loyalists Donation stamp.
(Courtesy Bird Bear Press)

References and endnotes

- [1] Information about individuals discussed in this article was taken from their entry in the Canadian Dictionary of Biography and/or Wikipedia, both online. Please refer there for more information about their respective lives.
- [2] As Postmaster, General Morris went to Washington to negotiate a new postal treaty with the United States. He also opened many new post offices throughout the Province of Canada. While he only remained in the Postmaster General's position until 16 August 1853, Morris accomplished many things of importance to improve the postal system. Morrisburg, Canada West was named in his honour because he also played an important role in canal building in the area.
- [3] Charles G Firby, *The Sandford Fleming 3 Pence Essay*, Firby Auctions, Waterford, Michigan, 1996.
- [4] Courtesy Spink Auctions (London) and Rick Penko, Spink Shreves Gallery, Dallas.
- [5] I am most grateful to the following people who helped me to locate where the Fleming plaque can be seen today: Jessica Ehrenworth, City of Toronto Archives; Janet Walters, Toronto's First Post Office; Kaitlin Wainwright, Heritage Toronto; Bruce Bell, Toronto Historian; and especially Alexandra Avidichuk, City of Toronto Museum Services, who found and provided all locations of Ellah's Hotel while it existed, and also took the photo of the plaque.
- [6] Merritt envisioned a canal system that would have access to the Atlantic Ocean. This was finally realized in 1959 with the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway.
- [7] Merritt begins the letter with, "...Wm Hamilton Merritt the younger goes over this morning on purpose to see you on the subject of referring the Petition of Eight to a legal tribunal..."; indicating his son had hand delivered the letter, thereby making it a favour cover. This is one of several such covers of interest I have seen, and believe that covers carried courtesy of someone other than the postal system have a place in a collection of postal history.
- [8] Promotional First Day covers usually contain a letter, form or card of explanation that also promotes the sender's products. The Merritt insert is printed on Abitibi's "Paragon offset 160m" paper, which contains recycled de-inked fibre", confirming that such methods were in place as long ago as 1974. This cover also fits into another one of my side-line collections: envelopes, postcards or enclosures mailed as "samples". I particularly like those that were mailed at the 'sample' postage rate. Like all the other "special" rates that saved the public money, they are no longer offered by Canada's Post Office.
- [9] CR McGuire, "There are first day covers, and there are first day covers!", *BNA Topics*, Vol. 44, July 1987, Whole no. 420, p. 40-2; "There are first day covers---then there are first day covers!" *PHSC Journal*, No. 88, 31 December 1996, p. 2; "Newfoundland Illustrated #5; The MacPherson Family, Part 2c", *PHSC Journal*, NO. 110, 30 June 2002.
- [10] Titled "History is a record of facts and coincidence", the insert for Abitibi's Merritt FDC shows an engraving of a horse drawn canal boat moving along the Welland Canal, and tells how the paper for the Merritt stamp was made at their mill at Thorold, Ontario, built on the site of the canal's original Lock 23, and gummed at their facility in Georgetown, Ontario. The Thorold mill was built in 1909. The insert concludes, "The William Hamilton Merritt issue is being mailed to employees of Abitibi Provincial paper in Thorold and Georgetown, in recognition of those who developed and manufactured this quality fine paper grade and to all our valued fine paper customers."
- [11] Andrew Chung, *personal communication*.
- [12] Ron Lafreniere, *Field Guide to the Cinderella Stamps of Canada*, 2012, 234 pages. Bird Bear Press, Verdun, QC, p 135.

Acknowledgments

Sincere thanks to Brian Murphy and Mike Street for their assistance with the preparation of this article.

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Update on Northwest Territories Hunting Permit Stamps

Clayton Rubec

PREVIOUSLY I have reported on Northwest Territories Hunting Permit Stamps used for twelve different wildlife species [1]. This article is a summary of information presented in my book, *The Hunting, Fishing and Conservation Stamps of Canada* [2], prepared with the assistance of my generous colleagues, Earle Covert and Dale Stover. The table in the Appendix lists the seventy-nine known or observed Northwest Territories (NWT) stamps in our three collections, including limited data on control numbers reported.

The Wildlife Service of the NWT Department of Renewable Resources issued Wildlife Certificate booklets to hunters from 1979 through 1981. In 1982, the stamps were eliminated in favour of a written licence format. There were two 1979–1981 Wildlife Certificate booklet covers, one for “Resident” and one for “Non-Resident.” Each booklet had a cover and four pages. Three pages accommodated four 64 × 25 mm stamps each, thus giving space for a maximum of twelve different permit stamps. Resident booklet covers were yellow with green type in 1979 and 1980, and white with green type in 1981. The 1981 Non-Resident booklet is yellow with green type, so it was likely white with green lettering in the other two years. The interior pages all three years were white with green type, with a 10 mm territorial crest repeated in the background. Each stamp booklet has a five-digit red serial number on its cover. There was no fee for the Wildlife Certificate booklet itself. No distinction was made on the stamps between Residents, Non-Resident Canadians, or Non-Resident Aliens.

NWT Hunting Permit stamps were distributed to Wildlife Service offices in books stapled at the left side, with four sheets of 20 stamps numbered from upper left to the lower right in a 4×5 format. A final page was a pink copy sheet covered by a carbon paper. A back cover was folded inward to provide a hard surface page to write upon. The stamps were printed (Figure 1) on white paper, perforated, with red control numbers and green text, surrounded by selvedge. The lower selvedge has text that reads “PLEASE BE SURE THE DUPLICATE COPY IS LEGIBLE,” while the selvedge at the top has text that reads “PLEASE: SELL STAMPS IN NUMBER ORDER—(FIRST 0001, THEN 0002, ETC.)”

In the centre background of each stamp is a brown territorial crest. Stamp usage required manually writing in the hunter’s certificate number, the date it was issued, and one (Figure 2) or more (Figure 3) tag numbers [3] if appropriate. Separate fees to validate a hunting licence (with an appropriate stamp) and for export of animals (called a “trophy fee”) were charged. In 1980, Small Game and Wolf stamps sold for \$5 and \$10 respectively. Barren-ground Caribou sold for \$10 with five tags. Stamps for Polar Bear and Musk-ox could not simply be purchased but were issued by special permit. Trophy fees for all species except Small Game (free) ranged from \$50.00 (Black Bear, Wolf and Wolverine) to \$500.00 (Musk-ox and Polar Bear). The cover of a Resident booklet is shown in Figure 4.

Keywords & phrases: Revenues, Northwest Territories, hunting stamps

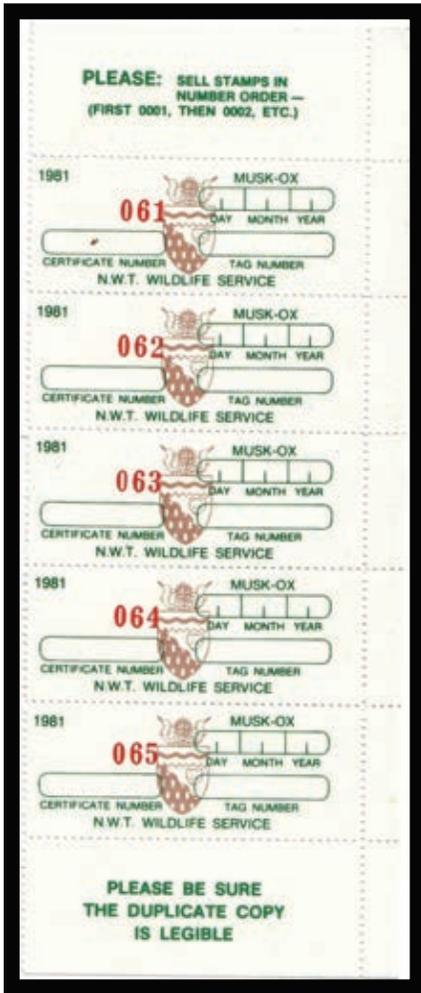


Figure 1. Vertical right margin strip of five 1981 Musk-Ox stamps with numbers.

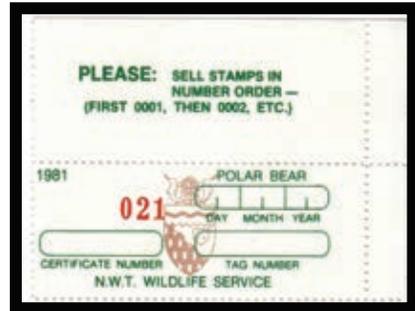


Figure 2. 1981 Polar Bear Stamp with space for tag number in box at lower right.

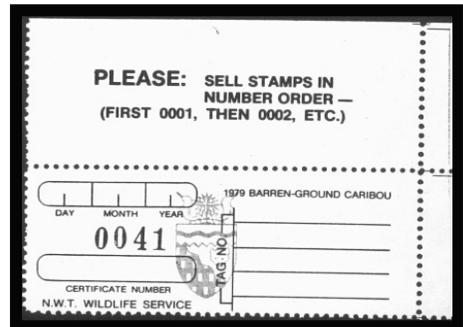


Figure 3. 1979 Barren Ground Caribou stamp with lines for multiple tag numbers on right hand side.

In each of the three years stamps were issued for 12 species of wildlife: (i) Barren-ground Caribou, (ii) Black Bear, (iii) Dall's Sheep, (iv) Grizzly Bear, (v) Moose, (vi) Mountain Goat, (vii) Musk-ox, (viii) Polar Bear, (ix) Small Game, (x) Wolf, (xi) Wolverine and (xii) Woodland Caribou. There are thus 36 different stamps. Very few Polar Bear or Musk-ox permits were issued; it is possible that only a few full sheets of 20 of these stamps were ever printed. In the 1979/80 fiscal year, only about eight Polar Bear licences were reported to the author as having been issued throughout the NWT. Like all Canadian jurisdictions, the

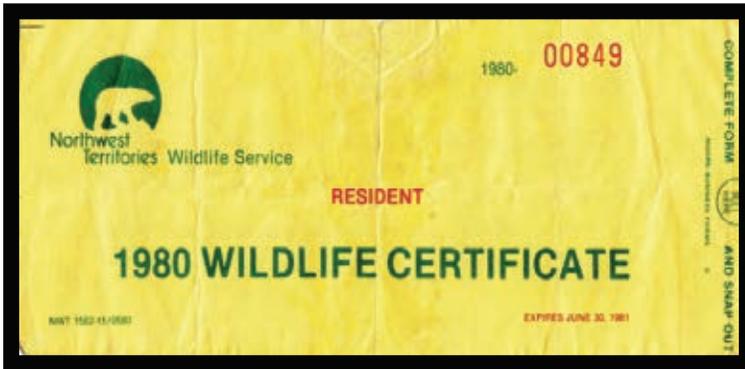


Figure 4. Cover of 1980 Northwest Territories Resident Wildlife Certificate.

government of the NWT still manages a regulatory regime for fishing and hunting of wildlife, but without validation stamps for permits.

Until publication of my book [2], these territorial revenue stamps had not been listed in any catalogue or other publication. All are very difficult to find. Except for three liquor seals, they are the only revenue stamps ever issued by the government of the NWT. For future cataloguing purposes, the following (Table 1) is proposed:

Table 1. Proposed catalogue numbers for Northwest Territories Hunting Stamps

Species	All stamps are 64 × 25 mm on white paper with green type, red control numbers and a brown crest; perforated, unwatermarked.		
	1979	1980	1981
Barren-ground Caribou	NWH1	NWH13	NWH25
Black Bear	NWH2	NWH14	NWH26
Dall's Sheep	NWH3	NWH15	NWH27
Grizzly Bear	NWH4	NWH16	NWH28
Moose	NWH5	NWH17	NWH29
Mountain Goat	NWH6	NWH18	NWH30
Musk-ox	NWH7	NWH19	NWH31
Polar Bear	NWH8	NWH20	NWH32
Small Game	NWH9	NWH21	NWH33
Wolf	NWH10	NWH22	NWH34
Wolverine	NWH11	NWH23	NWH35
Woodland Caribou	NWH12	NWH24	NWH36

References and endnotes

- [1] Clayton Rubec, "Northwest Territory Game License Stamps 1979-1980." Letters and Announcements, Canadian Revenue Study Group. *BNA Topics* 38(3):40, May/June 1981.
- [2] Clayton Rubec, *The Hunting, Fishing and Conservation Stamps of Canada*, 2011, British North America Philatelic Society. 436pp.
- [3] A hunting stamp came with a numbered tag to be affixed to the animal. Depending on the species, a stamp entitled the bearer to take up to a specific number of animals. For some species,

Polar Bears for instance, only one animal was allowed. For others, such as Barren Ground Caribou, up to five animals could be taken. No extra fee was payable for each animal after the first.

Appendix

Northwest Territories hunting permit stamps with known control numbers [2]

Licence Type	1979 Control Numbers Reported	1980 Control Numbers Reported	1981 Control Numbers Reported	# of Stamps in Hands of Collectors (1979 to 1981)
Barren-ground Caribou	#0041 (photocopy, included in count); #2704	#4385-4396 (photocopy of full sheet of 20) (not included in count); #4603	#2050; #2217; #2661-2665 (not used)	10
Black Bear	#0026 (photocopy, included in count)	#1001-1020 (photocopy of full sheet of 20) (not included in count); #1142	#0834	3
Dall's Sheep	#0173; #0266 (photocopy, included in count)	#0801	#0305; #0506	5
Grizzly Bear	#1792-1793 (unused pair, #1792 damaged)	#0601	#0302; #0401-0405 (not used)	9
Moose	#0126 (photocopy, included in count); #2118	#1783	#1919	4
Mountain Goat	#0058 (photocopy, included in count)	—	#406	2
Musk-Ox	#0046 (photocopy, included in count)	#801	#061-065 (not used)	7
Polar Bear	#0021 (photocopy, included in count)	—	#021-025 (not used)	6
Small Game	#0066 (photocopy, included in count); #10884	#3992	#3325; #4101-4105 (not used)	9
Wolf	#0415; #1006 (photocopy, included in count); #2441-2460 (colour photograph of full sheet of 20) (not included in count)	#0882	#0274; #0521-0525 (not used); #0604	10
Wolverine	#0121 (photocopy, included in count)	#0221	#262; #321-325 (not used)	8
Woodland Caribou	#0128; #3370 (not used); #3376 (photocopy, included in count)	#1521	#1994; #2383	6

New book releases from BNAPS

THE work of documenting the many and varied aspects of BNA philately continues! Four new books released by BNAPS are described below, followed by reviews of two volumes, one by the late Allan Steinhart, recently published by sister societies.

Fines on Trans-Atlantic Mail between Canada and the United Kingdom 1859–1899, 2012, by Malcolm B Montgomery. 230pp, 8.5×11, Spiral bound, 2012. ISBN: 978-1-927119-09-9 (colour), 978-1-927119-10-5 (b&w). Published by BNAPS. Stock# B4h059.1.1 (colour) - \$C75, B4h059.1 (b&w) \$C44.95

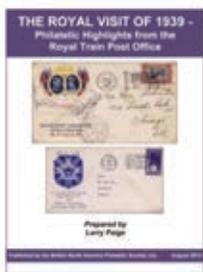


In the period from 1970 through 2000, many BNA philatelists—notably the late Jack Arnell, the late Allan Steinhart, and Malcolm Montgomery—studied the many aspects of nineteenth century mail to and from British North America and England. This latest BNAPS handbook, *Fines on Trans-Atlantic Mail between Canada and the United Kingdom 1859–1899*, is the first of a planned trilogy. The second volume will feature Malcolm’s exhibit, “Transatlantic Mail between the United Kingdom and British North America 1759–1851,” awarded an International Gold at the London 2010 exhibition, as well as Gold and the Allan Steinhart Reserve Grand Award at BNAPEX 2010 in Victoria, BC. The third volume will be an update of Jack Arnell’s 1987 *Handbook on Transatlantic Mail*, needed in view of the large amount of information that has been collected since its publication, and especially since both Jack Arnell and Allan Steinhart passed away close to fifteen years ago.

Fines on Trans-Atlantic Mail between Canada and the United Kingdom 1859–1899 has been prepared in the same format as Malcolm Montgomery’s and the late Dr. Dorothy Sanderson’s 2010 book on cross-border mail, with separate sections on rates and markings, plates showing covers with full explanations, and text of legislative acts and post office regulations governing trans-Atlantic mail. While the rates paid and routes taken by many, if not most, trans-Atlantic covers are straightforward for students of the subject, this is not the case for letters that accrued additional charges because they were underpaid for one or more of several possible reasons; in *Fines* Malcolm treats this aspect of the study exclusively.

Malcolm Montgomery is a retired British Army officer who served in the Middlesex Regiment, who served tours of duty, during his latter years in the Army, at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe and the UK Ministry of Defence, identifying users’ requirements for computer support in Command and control. For his Army service to his country he was made a member of the Order of the British Empire. While a schoolboy in Austria, where he lived when his father was stationed there, Malcolm formed a collection of stamps, first Austrian, and then Canadian.

Later, the stamps of Canada became his main interest, until he realized that, on an Army Officer’s salary, he would never complete his collection. He began to study postal history instead, mainly the postal history of the trans-Atlantic services between the UK and British North America. His interest led to his becoming the Editor of the newsletter of the TransAtlantic Mail Study Group of BNAPS during the 1990s.



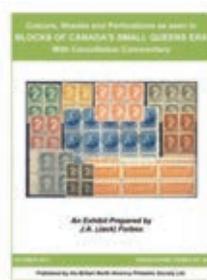
The Royal Visit of 1939: Philatelic Highlights from the Royal Train Post Office, by Larry R Paige. 60 pages, 8.5×11, Spiral bound, Colour, 2012. ISBN: 978-1-927119-11-2. Published by BNAPS. Stock# B4h058.1–\$C42.

Larry Paige's *The Royal Visit of 1939: Philatelic Highlights from the Royal Train Post Office*, is an offshoot of his Canadian Flag Cancellation collection. While working with the flag cancellations prepared for the 1939 visit of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth to Canada, the United States, and Newfoundland, Larry became interested in the non-flag philatelic aspects of the Royal Train Post Office. He began to acquire some of these items and quickly built a small collection that included some of the rarities of the field, notably the purple hand and machine cancels. He started to prepare an exhibit built around these items and was still working on it at the time of his death. Many of the sheets had only handwritten text and captions, while others that had been test-printed carried additional handwritten notes. With the agreement of Larry's wife Marva, BNAPS has had all the pages typed or retyped for this book. Since Larry's accumulation did not include many of the elements that would have made a full-fledged Royal Train exhibit, such as train locations as determined from cancellation time marks, it was decided to publish this book as "Highlights" and not as a volume in the BNAPS Exhibit Series.

A regular attendee at philatelic conventions, exhibitions, and bourses in both Canada and the United States, especially in the mid-Atlantic region, Larry was always looking for elusive rates and dates, the best postal markings and undiscovered material. He was generous in his support of philatelic organizations and individuals and his knowledge, which he freely gave, was sought by both dealers and collectors. A Licensed Surveyor by profession, Larry worked in the US, Puerto Rico, Bermuda, and the US base in Cuba. He passed away in October 2009.

Colours, Shades and Perforations as seen on Blocks of Canada's Small Queens Era, with Cancellation Commentary, by JA (Jack) Forbes. 170 pages, 8.5×11, Spiral bound, colour, 2012. ISBN: 978-1-927119-14-3. BNAPS Exhibit Series #68. Published by BNAPS. Stock # B4h923.68.1.1 \$C109.

The purpose of the "Colours, Shades and Perforations as seen on Blocks of Canada's Small Queens Era, with Cancellation Commentary" exhibit is to provide a comprehensive and factual record of the stamps of the Small Queen era, based on colour and shade. Colour is a vital determinant to proper identification of printing periods: most denominations have very distinct colours separating the First Ottawa, Montreal, and Second Ottawa releases. The myriad shades found within the different printings further delineate the chronology of each issue. Data on the perforations and cancellations found add confirming evidence as to the respective printing periods. Two values of the Large Queen issue, the 12½ cents and 15 cents were in use throughout most of this time. Canada's Registered Letter Stamps and the Officially Sealed Labels of the Dead Letter Office also came into use during the period. Both are included in the study.



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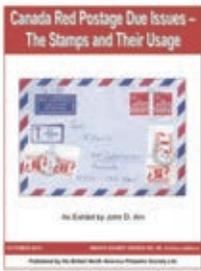


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Why blocks? In addition to creating a significant collecting challenge, blocks of stamps provide a larger surface area, making the determination of colour and, more particularly, shades, much more apparent. When dealing with perforation measurements, the longer measuring space allows full use of the gauge for more accurate information. With the larger blocks, cancellations are frequently complete and are much easier to identify.

Because the exhibit is all about colour, the pages in this volume were printed in a one-off production process. Scans of each page were made and adjusted until the colours were as true as possible, then 50 copies were printed. Once dry, the paper was turned over and the process repeated for the next page in sequence. The process has inevitably made the cost of this book higher than books printed the normal way. Once the initial 50 copies are sold no additional copies will be available.

A long-time member of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club, Jack Forbes has served in many capacities, including Co-Chair of BNAPEX 2008 NOVAPEX. In national and international circles, Jack currently serves on the Executive of BNAPS and belongs to the RPSC, PSSC, PHSC, APS, AAPES and the Cyprus Study Circle. Several of his articles have appeared in publications of these organizations.



Canada Red Postage Due Issues: The Stamps and Their Usage, by John D Arn. 170 pages, 8.5×11, Spiral bound, 2012. ISBN: 978-1-927119-12-9 (colour), 978-1-927119-13-6 (B&W). BNAPS Exhibit Series #69. Published by BNAPS. Stock # B4h923.69.1.1 (Colour) - \$C66.00; B4h923.69.1 (Black & White) - \$C41.95

John Arn's *Canada Red Postage Due Issues: The Stamps and Their Usage* was first exhibited at BNAPEX 1996 in Fort Worth, TX, where it received a Silver award with Felicitations of the Jury. It was shown again and received a Vermeil at BNAPEX 2002 in Spokane. While he continued to add to his Red Dues collection in the years

since, the exhibit shown in this volume is that displayed in Spokane in 2002.

Partly due to a large number of increases in postal rates, during the eleven-year production period of the Red Dues—1967 to 1978—there were many changes, resulting in four distinct series of stamps. The exhibit shows the thirty-one different stamps produced, with a focus on six different levels of paper fluorescence identified by John and other collectors. Inscription blocks from all four sheet corners are shown for all thirty-one stamps.

There are many examples of use for each stamp, occasionally alone, often in combination with other Red Dues, and occasionally with earlier postage-due stamps. Commercial usage is emphasized throughout the exhibit. These covers and cards show the practices and rating of unpaid, shortpaid, redirected, and undeliverable mail during their period of use. The Red Dues were withdrawn from philatelic sale in mid-1982. In the field, they were used until stocks ran out, generally by the end of 1984. Because of changes in how postage-due was assessed and indicated, the Red Dues were not replaced with a new series.

John Arn founded and was Chairman and Editor of the BNAPS Queen Elizabeth II Study Group from 1992–2000. He was awarded the John Siverts Award three times (1994, 1996, 2000) for the study group's newsletter, *Corgi Times*, received the BNAPS President's Award in 1993, and was Chairman of BNAPEX 2002. He also served on the Committee of the Inland Empire Philatelic Society of Washington, chairing their annual “Apple Harvest”

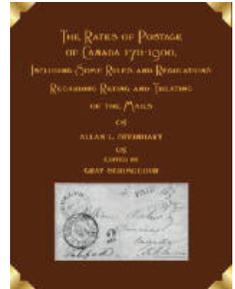
stamp show in 2001 and 2002, and he was a member of the PIPEX 2001 host committee. For nineteen years, he coordinated an annual philatelic weekend for more than 50 collectors at Lake Moses, WA. He passed away in Colbert, WA, on 21 April 2012.

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/. (Click on the price at the end of the book description, and you will be taken to the checkout page.)

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Book reviews

The Rates of Postage of Canada 1711 to 1900, Including Some Rules and Regulations Regarding Rating and Treating of the Mails; Allan L Steinhart, edited by Gray Scrimgeour. Published by the Postal History Society of Canada (PHSC). 444 pages, 8.5×11, perfect bound (soft cover). ISBN 978-0-919615-40-3. \$C39 plus shipping (for orders and shipping costs, contact J Knierim, PO Box 3044, Station C, Kitchener, ON N2G 4R5; e-mail <knierim@bmts.com>. Cheques payable to J Knierim accepted, as are PayPal payments at the above e-mail address.



review by Larry Goldberg

The late Allan Steinhart compiled a typescript based on archival information relating to the rating and delivery of Canada's mails, from the earliest times until the end of the nineteenth century. After his death in 1996, only a partial copy of the work was found. By a lucky coincidence, a complete copy of the book was located in a donation to BNAPS by Charles Firby. After a quick transfer to the PHSC via the VG Greene Foundation, and after much work by Editor Gray Scrimgeour, the full volume is now available.

The Rates of Postage of Canada 1711 to 1900 starts with a discussion of the 1711 Act of Queen Anne, which established Canada's first postage rates after the start of British rule, and extends far enough to include special delivery and the Imperial Penny Post— and almost everything in between. In style, this book resembles Allan's well-known books on Admiral Rates and World War I censorship. By chronologically laying out rules and regulations as found in pertinent government or other contemporary sources, it provides a basis for understanding today's mail system by showing its early development in great detail. Allan used the information in this book to research (and price) early Canadian covers and to build his award-winning exhibit of Canadian mail to 1865.

Gray Scrimgeour has edited the typescript and added short transition paragraphs at the start and end of most chapters. He also completed the documentation from 1865 to 1900, replacing missing text. He has also compiled a twenty--page index.

With the publication of this book, the descriptions of the rates of Canadian postage are now fully available. This book belongs on the physical or electronic bookshelf of every

serious Canadian postal historian. Available in printed form, it is also available to PHSC members at the PHSC web site:

<www.postalhistorycanada.net/php/Library/Books/index.php>

Post D-Day Swiss Mail To/From Great Britain and the Americas, by Charles J LaBlonde. 2012. Published by the American Helvetia Philatelic Society, colour, 8.5×11, perfect bound, 134 pp. \$C29. Available from Ian Kimmerly Stamps (contact information above). Stock # B4h032.0 (NB: Not eligible for BNAPS member discount.)

review by Mike Street

Post D-Day Swiss Mail To/From Great Britain and the Americas is a follow-up to Charles J LaBlonde and John Tyacke's 2008 *The Postal History of World War II Mail Between Canada and Switzerland*. In this profusely colour-illustrated volume, Charles LaBlonde focuses on mail service to and from Switzerland in the critical period after the Allied D-Day invasion of France on 6 June 1944.

Following an introductory section covering the months of January through May 1944, separate sections discuss postal activities in each of the remaining seven months of that year. A brief epilogue discusses 1945 events to the end of May, and five Appendices cover aspects such as Swiss ships used to carry mail, the Swiss diplomatic courier service, and the German Censorship Office in Berlin.

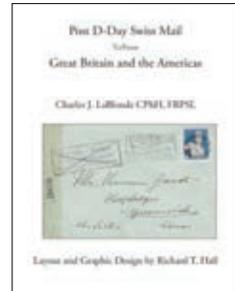
Each section looks first at mail outbound from Switzerland to Great Britain, the United States and Canada, and occasionally other countries, with surface, air mail, and parcels discussed separately. The text then moves to mail inbound to Switzerland from Great Britain, Canada, and a few other countries, but not from the US because mail from the US was banned between August 1942 and November 1944. On this point, the author makes several references to the Swiss “whining” or “grousing” about the lack of mail from the US. He does not seem to consider the fact that much of the Swiss economy was almost entirely dependent on mail to and from the rest of the world. Although one doesn't often think that a book on postal history could be a “good read,” this is exactly what this writer found *Post D-Day Swiss Mail* to be. Just because the Allies were sweeping their way to Berlin didn't mean that mail flowed freely after D-Day, and it is very interesting to see how things worked out.

Two items specific to Canada deserve mention. The book indicates that there was a “ban” on mail from Canada to Europe just before D-Day. This was not true. In fact, the War Office ordered the Canada Post Office to quietly hold some mail for specified periods and to discontinue airmail to POWs and internees.

The other item involves International Reply Coupons sent with letters to the International Red Cross in Geneva. Canadian postal historians generally report that the Red Cross required the coupons with letters asking for information about civilians in the war zones, but not with mail concerning Prisoners of War. It now appears that there is some question about whose requirement this actually was. It is possible that it was a requirement of the Canada Post Office to help defray the cost of handling postage-free surface replies issuing from the Red Cross in Geneva back to writers in Canada. Further research into the question

is

needed.



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Postal history of Okotoks, Alberta

Dale Speirs

Introduction

Okotoks straddles the Sheep River, a half-hour's drive south of Calgary on Highway 2, the main north-south highway in Alberta. It is on the flatlands of the first steppe of the prairies descending from the Rockies. Whereas many villages in southern Alberta are slowly withering away, Okotoks has grown steadily. Not only is it on the main highway and the railroad, but its ease of access to Calgary has made it popular with commuters who want to raise their families in a small town but still keep their jobs in the big city. In 1911, the population of Okotoks was 511, and it remained stagnant for decades, slowly creeping up to 767 people by 1951. The oil boom of the late 1970s pushed the population to 3,847 by 1981, but it wasn't until the more recent oil boom that town growth took off. In 2011, Okotoks had about 24,000 inhabitants. The original post office is now supplemented by two retail postal outlets, and the town's suburbs are sprawling across the prairie. Okotoks is trying to hold on to its pioneer character in the central old town, but by and large it resembles any suburb of any large Canadian city, with the same strip malls and big-box stores.

The name "Okotoks" comes from the Siksika language and means "big rock." It refers to a giant monolith, carried down from Jasper National Park on the continental ice sheet that covered Canada during the Pleistocene Epoch. To get a sense of its size, note the pedestrian in the lower right corner of the photo. When the ice sheet withdrew, the rock was deposited on what is now the prairie, just west of where the town now lies. As it settled, the rock cracked into two pieces.



Figure 1. "Big Rock," just west of Okotoks, Alberta, and for which the town is named. Photo by Dale Speirs, 2011.

Okotoks is located at an easy ford across the Sheep River. Native tribes traveling across the flatlands used the glacial erratic as a navigational landmark on the featureless prairie. They would spot it from a distance, head east of it down to the river ford. The Big Rock is now a protected historic site on the western fringe of Okotoks.

Keywords & phrases: Alberta post offices, postal history, postmasters

Pioneer Post Office

The first trading post opened in 1874 at the river ford, under the name of Sheep Creek. This stream was later upgraded to a river, probably because it flooded the town site several times, since people—then and now—refuse to understand that you should not build on a floodplain. In 1884, the Okotoks post office was opened, but its name was changed to Dewdney in 1891 to honour Sir Edgar Dewdney, then Lieutenant-Governor of the

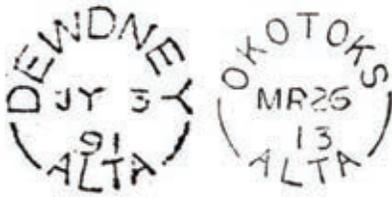


Figure 2. Proof strikes of Dewdney and Okotoks split circle.

office—elsewhere in Alberta and unrelated to Okotoks—named Lineham. It operated from 1895 to 1931.

Prior to the arrival of the CPR transcontinental railroad at Calgary in August 1883, any mail not favour-carried would have arrived via Fort Benton, Montana, which was the main supply depot for what is now southern Alberta. The Mounties brought the mail up from Montana on their re-supply trips and distributed it along the way as a courtesy. Okotoks residents expecting mail from “Back East” would therefore have received it from the south. After the arrival of the CPR, supply lines in southern Alberta changed, and mail began flowing in the opposite direction. There was no complete route between Calgary and Fort Macleod until July 1889, when mail contractors were hired. Mail service to the towns in between was poor until then [2].

JA McMillan opened the Okotoks post office on 1 February 1884 in his general store [3]. Ill health forced his resignation in 1891, and Herbert Bowen took over, about the same time that the town’s name was changed to Dewdney. The railroad, however, retained the name Okotoks. It must have been a confusing time for travelers.

John Paterson took over the post office on 1 June 1892 and ran it until his death on 2 May 1909. He was succeeded by his son George, who held the post until his death on 16 April 1942. Figure 3 shows the post office during his time. It seems to have been a busy place, as it had no fewer than three duplex cancels proofed (Figure 4). George was Okotok’s second mayor,



Figure 3. The Okotoks post office in a 1921 photograph [4].



Figure 4. Proof strikes of Okotoks duplex cancels.

elected in 1906. He helped organize the Alberta chapter of the Canadian Postmasters and Assistants Association, and served on its national executive (Figure 5).

During the 1918 influenza epidemic, the Okotoks Board of Health banned children under the age of sixteen from entering the post office, and it ruled that no more than ten people at a time could be in the building [4].



Figure 5. Stamp honouring the Canadian Postmasters and Assistants Association, formed with the assistance of Okotoks Postmaster George Paterson.

Modern Post Office

After George Paterson's death, Miss Kathleen Marie Holmes was a placeholder for a few months until Charles Wellington Stagg took over on 31 January 1943. He stayed fifteen years, retiring on 5 January 1958. Herbert Stephenson took over until 1979. In 1969, the post office moved into a new purpose-built building. The main reason for expansion was the need for more and more box numbers, since Okotoks did not have letter-carrier service. Figure 6 shows that building, photographed in 1988, and Figure 7 shows the standard machine cancel it used. Figure 8 shows a cash receipt with the main post office's POCON cancel.



Figure 6. Okotoks post office built in 1969, photographed in 1988. The late Betty Speirs (the author's mother) is seen posting some covers. One of the covers was returned to her with the machine cancel shown in Figure 7.



Figure 7. Okotoks machine cancel.

Date Stamp	Number & date	Received in payment for Postage Supplies	Reçu en paiement d'articles d'affranchissement
577030	JUN 4 1994	Sub Total \$ 10.75	
		GST TPS \$ 75	
		PST TYP \$	
		Total Amount \$ 11.50	

Figure 8. Okotoks POCON cancel, used on a cash receipt.



Figure 9. The current Okotoks post office in 2011. Photo by Dale Speirs.

By the end of Stephenson's tenure, Okotoks was starting to grow as a dormitory community of Calgary. The main post office was relocated into bigger quarters in 1999. Figure 9 shows the new facility, seen in 2011, located in a strip mall across the street from the previous building. Figure 10 shows some pictorial postmarks I obtained in person; the clerk was friendly and helpful. As with many larger towns and cities, retail postal outlets (RePOs) have also been established. A RePO in a Neighbours convenience store opened in 1990 but closed several years later (Figure 11). As of 2011, two retail outlets share the workload with the main post office; one is in a Rexall drug store and the other in a Sobeys supermarket (Figure 12).



Figure 10. Current Okotoks pictorial postmarks from the main post office.



Figure 11. Postmark of defunct RePO in Neighbours store.



Figure 12. Current RePO postmarks.

References

- [1] Harry Sanders, *Alberta Names*, The Red Deer Press, Alberta, 2003, pp 233-234.
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- [3] Website of Library and Archives Canada Post offices and postmasters. (accessed 17 May 2011), <<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/post-offices>>.
- [4] *A Century of Memories*, The Okotoks and District Historical Society, Alberta, 1983, pp. 6 and 8.

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New Titles

C\$ Retail

	<p>Post D-Day Swiss Mail To/From Great Britain and the Americas, 2012 by Charles J. LaBlonde. A valuable follow-up to the author's previous book about WWII correspondence between these two countries, published by the American Helvetia Philatelic Society, colour.</p> <p>[NB: Not eligible for BNAPS member discount.]</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$29.00</p>
	<p>The Royal Visit of 1939 - Philatelic Highlights from the Royal Train Post Office, 2012 by Paige, Larry R. Philatelic rarities arising from the 1939 Royal Visit to Canada and the USA. Colour edition. Spiral, 60 pp.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$ 42.00</p>
	<p>Canadian Patriotics -- J.C. Wilson & Company, 2012 by Paige, Larry R. The most beautiful envelope and post card designs ever used with Canadian stamps. BNAPS Exhibit Series #66. Colour version. Spiral, 82 pp. (also available in black & white edition at \$34.95).</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$49.00</p>
	<p>Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia: Communications of the 1700s and Postal Markings of the 1800s, 2012 by Rathbun, Hugh. Postal history and postmarks from the second two hundred years of Canada's oldest settlement. BNAPS Exhibit Series #67. Colour version. Spiral, 78 pp. (also available in black & white edition at \$35.95).</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$50.00</p>
	<p>Fines on Trans-Atlantic Mail between Canada and the United Kingdom 1859 - 1899, 2012 by Montgomery, Malcolm. A full study of the treatment of letters between Canada and England short paid for one of several reasons, based on the covers in the author's collection, with rates, markings and source references. Black & white edition. Spiral, 230 pp. (also available in black & white edition at \$44.95).</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$75.00</p>

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More New Titles (See website for full list)

C\$ Retail

	<p>A Postal History of Marks Stamp Company, 2012 by Dickinson, Gary. History and output of one of the major Canadian philatelic dealerships of the twentieth century. Spiral, 54 pp. \$35.95</p>
	<p>"Til Death Do Us Part" -- Usages of the Caribou Revenues in the Lives of Newfoundlanders, 2012 by de Groot, Peter. A fiscal history treatment showing Newfoundland's Caribou Revenues on documents and covers during their 49-year period of use from 1938 to 1986. BNAPS Exhibit Series #65. Colour version. Spiral, 92 pp. (also available in black & white edition at \$35.95). \$51.00</p>
	<p>Canadian First Day and other Philatelic Covers by Joseph C Rosenbaum, 2012 by Dickinson, Gary. The story behind the numerous designs of JCR and Rosecraft First Day and other covers. Spiral, 88 pp. \$43.95</p>

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Study group centreline

Derek Smith

CENTRELINE presents a brief summary of the extensive research done by BNAPS study groups, as published in their newsletters. Included in this column are reviews of those newsletters received during the quarter, to the end of August 2012.

British Columbia

In Issue #82, Editor Bill Topping reviews the lack of progress in upgrading the Vancouver Mail Processing Plant, which was opened in 1958.

Bill describes the history of the North Arm Post Office, which was opened on 1 January 1882 and renamed Eburne ten years later, when it was moved to the Eburne Store. It remained there until it was closed in May 1947. Jim Miller illustrates a cover mailed 5 September 1941 with a green MOTO strike, from the short-lived Deltaero post office located on the RCAF Station Boundary Bay. It opened on 23 August 1941 and closed 30 April 1942.

Elizabethan II

Corgi Times. In Issue #120, the Group mourns the death of its founder, John Arn.

A number of members have written strongly worded opinions as to whether a pane, cut by hand from an imperforate sheet, can be considered a genuine booklet pane, and this led to a wider, worthwhile discussion.

Editor Robin Harris outlines an error in the UR stamp from the uncut Titanic press sheet of twelve stamps—it is missing the four colour dots/stars. This does not occur on the souvenir sheets as they are from a different plate. Robin also discusses a number of other errors. Pierre Lueders' name is misspelled on every 2012 Bobsled stamp and on a booklet cover. On the latter, the "PERMANENT" value is improperly spelled as "PERMANANT". There are mistakes on printings of the 3¢ Golden-eyed Lacewing and the 6¢ "Assassin bug," an inverted image was used for the "Flag over Lighthouse" (Scott 2253), and a spelling error of the photographer's name—Newfeld should have read Neufeld—on the \$1.70 "Grass Pink" flower.

Issue #121 announced that henceforth the Group's White Queen Award will be the "The John D. Arn White Queen Award."

Leopold Beaudet discusses a corner fold on a Titanic Souvenir sheet. Leopold also details a new stamp technology developed in New Zealand, which was used to produce the 2009 booklet and souvenir sheet for the 100th anniversary of the Montreal Canadiens.

The Post Office is celebrating the Canadian Football League with issues showing the logos of the eight current teams, stamps featuring a star player from each team in a memorable game, and another issue honouring the 100th anniversary of the Grey Cup.

Robin Harris details two new Lowe-Martin die cutting patterns, #17 and #18, for coil-stamp separation. Robin was sent an email that included a scan of two Permanent "Island Red" flower stamps without the yellow and one of the red colours, used in Toronto.

A warning—a copy of the GREEN 48¢ Cradle stamp (Scott 929) has appeared again on the Internet. Richard Gratton has used the item in an exhibit of forgeries, and John Jamieson supplied a scan of a partial sheet. These items were in the estate of Kasimir Bileski.

Fancy Cancels

Issue #160 includes a number of new reports. Labron Harris has sent a picture of the first new Toronto “2” cover reported in over ten years (shown below). It is dated 1869, which overlaps the usage period of another Toronto “2” fancy. Bob Turkowski submitted an illustration of another Toronto “2” in a leaf. Ron Smith sent in pictures of various strikes, one of which establishes the L 1045 cancel as being from Yarmouth, NS in 1880. Another item is an exceptional strike of the L 1277 crown. Ron also shows a Fraternal Order cover with an 1877 strike of a long-used canceller from Napanee, ON.



The Toronto oval parcel-post canceller had internal numbers, from 1 to 6. The first four have been identified. Numbers “5” and “6” have been assumed to be Riverside and Brockton POs. Editor Dave Lacelle asks for any confirmation on cover or piece.

Two recent auctions have illustrated items that augment available Fancy Cancel data. Eastern Auctions’ upcoming sale of “Libra” material will include the second reported cover with a Legislative Council Canada crown date stamp (1860). Among interesting items in a recent Ron Leith auction were several LRD additions. Included was a cancel used at Bridgewater, CW, seventeen years after Confederation!

First Day Covers

First Impressions. In Issue #12, John van der Ven, Gary Dickinson, David Hanes, and Bob Vogel collaborated to detail the cachets produced by Victor Brosz over the eight years from 1961 to 1968. Some seventy-three are known, each of which they catalogue and illustrate.

Harold Houston obtained a 1967 cachet by George Eppstadt to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Confederation—Eppstadt is the man who produced Canada’s first cacheted FDCs for the 1927 Confederation issue. Enclosed with the later version was a letter from Eppstadt to a customer noting that he still had the 1927 covers (and others) for sale at \$2!

Bob Vogel shows a cachet for the 1969 Sir Isaac Brock FDC with the black printed properly, the red upside down on the right side of the envelope, and the blue missing.

King George VI

Post & Mail, Issue #26. Editor Ken Lemke celebrates the 75th anniversary of the Coronation of King George VI with a special edition.

In part VIII of his study of the War Issue, Donald J LeBlanc details the design process for the 1¢ to 8¢ values, especially for the values showing the King in the uniforms of the three services. He illustrates the three photographs of the King and details of the cap and badges used by Herman Herbert Schwartz, CNBC’s chief stamp designer.

Gary Dickinson illustrates the AC Roessler designs for first day covers of the low values of Canada’s Mufti issue, as well for the Coronation issues of Canada and Newfoundland, and

for some covers prepared for the Empire's omnibus issue. John Burnett illustrates two scarce single usages for the 4¢ Mufti stamp.

Gary Steele presents an article on "Mail Service Suspended," treatment of and markings on letters bearing the Mufti issue stamps mailed to Axis and over-run countries, but stopped in transit due to the outbreak of the war. Derek Smith studies, with maps and covers, the routes and rates for mail bearing War Issue stamps to Africa, the Middle East, and northeastern Asia during the period 1942–1945.

Eldon Godfrey begins a major study of the operating procedures and markings used to denote compliance with the "Foreign Exchange Control Board" regulations governing the remittance of money, *etc.*, sent abroad from 1939 to 1946.

After more than 30 years of searching, Mike Street has obtained the only (so far) known cover bearing Peace Issue stamps mailed to the USSR (in 1950). He presents scans of both sides.

Military Mail

Issue #204. Ron McGuire discusses correspondence from a soldier, mailed in 1942 at Littlehampton, UK, to Winnipeg, in which he detailed mistreatment of a fellow soldier. Given its contents, it was not passed by the Military Intelligence Censor. Ron has acquired the cover, letter, and a very rare copy of a censorship form, all of which he illustrates.

In the course of pursuing his active interest in Egyptian artefacts, guest contributor Mark Trumpour came across the biographies of three Canadians who served there and brought items back. Capt James Harris served in India in the 1850s (Egypt was a stopover point). JF Wilson fought in the Sudan in 1884, becoming the first Canadian to become a Major-General. Lt-Col GE Kidd was in the medical service in Egypt during WW I.

George Sawatzki has acquired the first reported cover registered at RCAF Station Armstrong, ON (a NORAD surveillance point that operated from 1952 to 1974). Bill Pekonen illustrates a 1938 OHMS cover from the British War Office to the Department of National Defence in Oakville, ON with boxed initials "D.P.R." He asks: What office is this? and What do the initials stand for?

Issue #205. Paul Binney presents a study of the two circular army censorship markings used in Newfoundland during WW II.

Hal Kellett illustrates two hand-drawn Boer War Patriotic covers from South Africa to Halifax. Henk Burgers shows two 1918 First World War covers addressed to the Canal Guards at Sault Ste Marie. David Collyer shows an air mail cover from Australia written in 1941 to L/C Gatacre in Halifax. It was carried by Tasman Empire Airways to New Zealand, and from there by Pan Am Clipper to San Francisco, then by domestic services to Halifax. David details L/C Gatacre's service record.

Newfoundland

The Newfie Newsletter. In Issue #148, Gary Dickinson illustrates thirty-two cacheted first day covers, by W Crosby, H Ioor, L Staehle, and "unknown," for the 1939 Royal Visit issue, and he assigns numbers to each type.

Editor Norris (Bob) Dyer presents page 10 of his 1897 Postal Shortage display, showing an improbable date—5 October—two weeks before the first recognized usage, as well as the

same stamp on a St John's wrapper. He is initiating a census of the 1¢ green stamp of 1888-1890 on covers and post cards.

Bob and Jean-Claude Vasseur have created a census of the twenty-five known covers with the Handley-Page Flight cachet, dated 14 June, 3 July, and 7 July 1919. They report a discovery—a single cover with the 14 June cachet postmarked JU 12 at Island Cove and Spaniard's Bay, and then at Harbour Grace on 13 June.

Ron McGuire illustrates what is probably Newfoundland's only flag cancellation, struck at Whitbourne. A full strike is on a cover dated JA 21 98, and two other partial hits are known. Barry Senior shows a 4¢ Coronation stamp on a Christmas catalogue cover from Ayer & Sons. Rob Moore provided illustrations of two more outport "POSTAGE PAID" handstamps, one type used in 1918, the other probably in 1937.

Railway Post Offices

Issue #220 features a cover from North Bay to Toronto with two previously unreported clerk transit backstamps, carried on the Toronto & North Bay RPO on 30 March 1909. Ross Gray has discovered a new late date of 1905 for a CPR "West of Winnipeg" hammer with a slight modification.

Doug Hannon has reported a 1¢ post card addressed to RG Reid of the N.N.&W. Railway and a pre-printed reverse asking for confirmation by Jos. McLellan that he had received wages. The card was not signed, and it has no postal markings.

Brian Stalker has completed a definitive study of four Northern Railway/No. 2 hammers used 1882-1892. New ERD, LRD, train numbers, and clerks' stamps have been reported by Jack Brandt, David Marasco, Peter McCarthy, and Editor Ross Gray.

Issue #221. Marc Beaupré and Hugo Deshayé report three new Quebec railway mail clerk handstamps used in the 1890s—DC Dagneau, R O'Dowd, and L Furois. Marc also provided a listing of Quebec RPO clerks in 1889-1890 and in 1907, the latter with their roster numbers. He illustrates a number of various styles of markings used by them. Several covers were prepared by S Tanner Green, who rose from clerk in 1890 to District Superintendent of Quebec Postal Services in 1925. He produced many favour covers, some with rare RPO postmarks. Editor Ross Gray shows two of these with 1925 RIVIERE A PIERRE & GARNEAU JCT. cancels. Marc has also found two clerk handstamps used in 1956.

Brian Stalker, with input from many members, has updated his roster of Newfoundland & Labrador TPO hammers—ERD, LRD, and indicia. New "mainland" updates come from Ron Barrett, Jack Brandt, and the Editor.

Revenues

Issue #77. Clayton Rubec has updated his list of the three types (twenty-seven known versions) of British Columbia Angling Stamps issued from 1987 to 2012. Their uses are detailed, with ample illustrations. He also writes about a form of Cinderella stamp, based on George Shaw's collection of "Radio Stamps" sent in the mid-1920s to listeners who reported receiving signals from various radio stations in the US and Canada. The "stamps" were printed by two printers—EKKO and PM Bryant, both based in Chicago. Clayton identifies stations and call letters of forty-seven Canadian stations.

Editor Chris Ryan discusses the (so far incomplete) details of the pane formats of the red Weights & Measures stamp. He has so far only been able to place the BABN imprint in the bottom selvedge.

World War II

War Times. In Issue #49, Editor Bill Pekonen concentrates on the “corner cards” of various federal “War Boards.” He outlines their enactment dates, functions, and operations with illustrations of covers from “The War Risks Insurance Act, 1942,” “Wartime Housing Limited,” “National Housing Administration,” “Wartime Merchant Shipping Limited,” and “The Shipping Priorities Committee.” There are few recorded covers from each, and he requests additional reports from BNAPS members.

Bill also mentions a 2008 book, *Posters of World War II*, by Peter Darman. It includes illustrations of ten covers from Canada, among which is a letter (reproduced) from Prime Minister Mackenzie King encouraging the purchase of bonds of Canada’s 1941 Victory Loan. Bill tabulates the purchases from 1940 to 1946.



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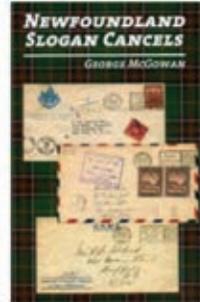
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New issues

William J F Wilson

Tommy Douglas

TOMMY Douglas, known as the father of Canadian medicare (among his many other accomplishments), is featured on a stamp released on 29 June. The stamp features a portrait by Yousuf Karsh, showing Douglas surrounded by images representative of medical care.



Tommy was born on October 20, 1904, in Falkirk, Scotland, and he arrived in Canada with his parents in 1910. Shortly before leaving Scotland, he fell and injured his knee. Osteomyelitis set in and, although operated on in Scotland, it flared up again in Winnipeg. The Douglas family were unable to afford proper surgery, and the doctors recommended amputation. Fortunately, his leg was saved by an orthopaedic surgeon, who offered to operate for free if his medical students could observe. This event set him on a life-long course of social action; as he commented later, “I felt that no boy should have to depend either for his leg or his life upon the ability of his parents to raise enough money to bring a first class surgeon to his bedside” (Lewis H. Thomas, ed., *The Making of a Socialist: The Recollections of T. C. Douglas*, University of Alberta Press, Edmonton, 1982, p. 7).

There are many paths to social reform: Tommy chose politics. He ran as the Farmer-Labour Group (FLG) candidate for Weyburn in the 1934 Saskatchewan provincial election and lost, coming in third after a Liberal (the party that won) and a Conservative. After the election, the FLG became the Saskatchewan section of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF). Tommy then ran in the 1935 federal election as the CCF candidate for Weyburn and won, becoming one of seven CCF MPs in the 245-seat House. Mackenzie King’s Liberals formed the government, taking over from RB Bennett’s Conservatives.

Tommy was elected leader of the Saskatchewan CCF in 1942, and he resigned his federal seat two years later to contest the provincial election. The result was a 47-seat victory for the CCF over the Liberals in the 53-seat Legislative Assembly. As Premier of Saskatchewan for the next seventeen years, he introduced a number of reforms, including the first public automobile insurance program in Canada, improved workers’ compensation and minimum wage, and the *Saskatchewan Trade Unions Act*. The one that proved most difficult to implement was the one that had started him on the road to social reform. He introduced the Saskatchewan Medical Care Insurance Bill to the Legislature on 13 October 1961. It was

passed and received royal assent the following month, on 17 November. Tommy retired as premier on 7 November 1961, in order to lead the newly-formed New Democratic Party (NDP) into the next federal election. His successor, Woodrow Lloyd, carried the bill forward. Although the idea of medicare was supported by many people, the province's doctors opposed it and were supported by many "Keep Our Doctors" (KOD) committees. When the bill came into force on 1 July 1962, some doctors packed up and left the province. Most of the others went on strike, still supported by KOD committees. Support for the strike gradually waned, and the two sides reached an agreement on 23 July. Several amendments to the bill were passed on 2 August; they at least partially satisfied most people. When a survey was conducted in 1965, most doctors favoured keeping medicare.

While the storm was raging, Tommy ran as the NDP candidate for the Regina City riding in the 18 June 1962, federal election and lost, largely because of the backlash to medicare. The elected NDP candidate for Burnaby-Coquitlam stepped aside in his favour and, after winning the by-election, Tommy re-entered Parliament in October. He led the NDP for the next ten years and remained an MP for a further eight, still championing medicare and social reform. In 1962, John Diefenbaker's Conservative government set up a Royal Commission to examine universal medicare for Canada. Its 1964 report recommended adoption, and Lester Pearson's Liberal government brought the program into effect in 1966, based in large measure on the Saskatchewan example.

Canada Post's *Details* publication describes the stamps as having been "issued on the 50th anniversary of the passing of Saskatchewan's 1962 Medical Care Insurance Act;" but, as seen above, the Act was passed on 17 November 1961. The anniversary is actually that of the Act's coming into force (Friday, 29 June, is the latest weekday before the true anniversary on 1 July).

Canada Post has released the first stamps in a new series on the War of 1812, a se-tenant pair honouring Isaac Brock and Tecumseh. Brock was born in St. Peter Port, Guernsey, and the stamps are a joint issue with Guernsey Post. Although the images are the same, the denominations are quite different: the Canadian stamps are permanent rate (currently 61¢), while the Guernsey stamps are £1 (\$1.57 Cdn at the time of writing). For comparison, the single letter rate is 39p (£0.39) within Guernsey and 53p to the UK (both up to 100g), and 59p internationally (up to 20 g). The War of 1812 inscription on both pairs is bilingual, with the Guernsey stamps in Guernsey French, "*La djère dé 1812*", compared to "*La guerre de 1812*" on the Canadian stamps.

The information in the accompanying table is from the Canada Post website, <http://www.canadapost.ca/cpo/mc/personal/collecting/stamps/2012/index.jsf> from Canada Post's *Details* publication 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. Stamp size, perforations and number of teeth are my own measurements, and are given as (HORIZONTAL) × (VERTICAL).

ABBREVIATIONS used in Table 1 are as follows: *number*CL = (*number of colours*) colour lithography; Bk = booklet; G3S = general tagging (three sides); G4S = general tagging (four sides); s-t = se-tenant; P = permanently equal to the domestic rate; P-S = pressure-sensitive; PVA = polyvinyl alcohol; SS = souvenir sheet.

Table 1. 2012 Commemorative Stamps (all are printed by Lowe-Martin on Tullis Russell coated paper)

Stamp	1812 War	London 2012	CFL Teams	Tommy Douglas	Zodiac	100 th Grey Cup
Value	2 × P s-t	P	8 × P (s-t on SS)	P	4 × P (s-t on SS)	9 × P (8 s-t on SS)
Issued	15 June	27 June	29 June	29 June	23 July	16 August
Pane	16	Bk: 10	Coil: 50 each team SS: 8	16	Bk: 10 each sign SS: 4	Bk: 10 each team SS: 9 Bk: (e)
Process	6CL ^(a)	7CL + spot varnish	Coil: (e) SS: 9CL	7CL + varnish	7CL	SS: 5CL + spot varnish + embossing
Qty (million)	1.5	4	Coil: 2 each team SS: 0.2 SS	1.6	Bk: 3 each sign SS: 0.175 SS Gutter Bk: 0.004	Bk: (e) SS: 3.6
Tag	G-3S	G-4S	G-4S	G-4S	G-4S	G-4S
Gum	PVA	P-S	Bk: P-S SS: PVA	PVA	Bk: P-S SS: PVA	Bk: P-S SS: PVA
Size, mm	39.5 × 32 ^(b)	40 × 24	24 × 20	40 × 32	32 × 32	32 × 40
Perf	13.2 × 12.5	Simulated	Coil: Simulated SS: 13.3 × 13.0 Coil: Simulated	12.5 × 12.5	Bk: Simulated SS: 12.5 × 12.5	12.5 × 12.5
Teeth	26 × 20	Simulated	SS: 16 × 13	25 × 20	Bk: Simulated SS: 20 × 20	20 × 25

(a) Listed as 7CL in April-June *Details*, but corrected to 6CL in July-September issue.(b) Listed as 40 × 32 in April-June *Details*.

(c) Lions, Eskimos, Stampede: 2CL; Roughriders, Blue Bombers, Tiger-Cats, Argonauts: 3CL; Alouettes: 4CL.

(d) Lions, Roughriders, Grey Cup: 5CL + spot varnish; Stampede, Tiger-Cats: 6CL + spot varnish; Eskimos, Blue Bombers, Argonauts, Alouettes: 7CL + spot varnish.

(e) Lions, Blue Bombers, Argonauts: 3.5; Eskimos, Stampede, Tiger-Cats: 3.0; Roughriders, Alouettes, Grey Cup: 4.0.

A re-examination and classification of the GPO Triangles on naval mail from HMCS *Avalon*, St. John's, Newfoundland—Part 2

Paul Binney

Alterations and variations

IN my previous article on the GPO triangles (*BNA Topics*, Vol. 69, No. 2, (2012)pp. 29-35), I described five basic types of markings and suggested reasons for the discrimination between these devices. In this article, I will show some of the systematic variations in the GPO triangles seen in my collection, as well as those of Doug Sayles and Colin Pomfret, and the stock of a number of dealers. Systematic variations of the five basic types of GPO markings are illustrated and described, with dates of use shown where available.

The variations take two forms. The first are cuts in the triangular frame of the marking. It is suggested that the cuts were deliberate alterations, not caused by wear. The second type of variation is the presence or absence of dots after the letters in GPO. These “dot variations” are most likely a function of quality-control issues in the original mold construction or in the creation of the rubber casts from these molds. Furthermore, an analysis of known dates-of-use, for the varieties showing concurrent use of original and modified markings, demonstrates that multiple hammers of at least three of the designs (GPO2, GPO4, and GPO5) existed. All markings are shown full size except where noted.

First, I would like to discuss the cause of the variations in the cancelling devices. None of the variations I am discussing is due to wear. They all appear to be sharp-edged cuts (Figure 12) rather than some slow degradation due to wear. In contrast to these sharp cuts, an example of wear in a marking is shown in Figure 13, with thickening of lines, poor inking, and infilling of letters due to ink spread. The cuts in the triangular frame of Figure 13 still show clean boundaries typical of a knife cut made to remove a part of the rubber surround.

In the variations I am presenting, not only are the “cuts” sharp but, in the case of the GPO2 and GPO4 hammers, they are symmetrically placed about the rim of the impression. For me, this is just too much of a coincidence to attribute to wear or breakage.

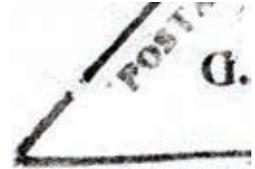


Figure 12. Harp-bounded cut in triangular surround. Enlarged 1.5 ×.



Figure 13. Impression from “worn” hammer with infilled letters, thickened lines. Enlarged 1.5 ×

Keywords & phrases: World War II, GPO Triangles, HMCS *Avalon*

GP01 triangles

The use of triangles in pre-war wrappers and third class mail that did not require stamps has been discussed. With the need for wartime markings to show payment but not to divulge the point of mailing, the pre-war triangles were simply mutilated by cutting away some of the raised rubber that indicated St. John's, NF. At least two styles of “erased” states exist on Naval Mail, as illustrated below.

GP01 Partial Erasure

Known Use: October 1941 to May 1942



(Figure, left.) Defacing of hammer minimal, and focused on left part of frame.

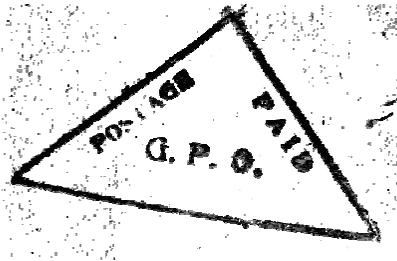
(Figure, right.) Defacing more thorough (worn?) and original extent of “St. John's, NF” text is visible.



GP02 triangles

GP02 Initial State, complete device with no alterations

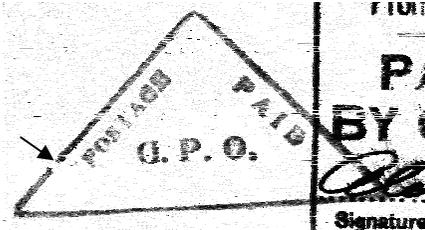
Known Use: September 1941 to June 1943



GP02 triangle, complete frame. Full size. On cover from 18 August 1942. Type IA2 of Frith.

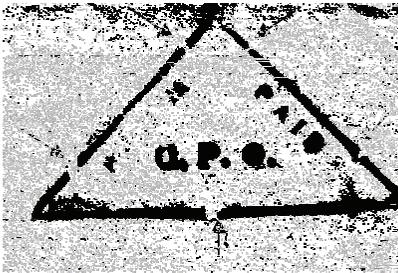
The GP02 triangles illustrate progressive modification of a postal marking device by placement of a number of cuts on the perimeter. These are sharp cuts, placed with mathematical precision about the margins of the triangle. The modifications to GP02 triangles are easier to track than are those in later devices, as this was a period of HMCS Ship censorship at Avalon. Many covers from this period have dates accompanying the censor markings.

GPO2a First modification, single cut in left frame line
 Known Use: January 1942–January 1943



Triangle cut in left frame to left of P in POSTAGE. Full size. On cover from 20 December 1942. Type IA3 of Frith.

GPO2b Second modification, two cuts in each of right and left frame lines, single cut in centre of base
 Known Use: February 1943–June 1943



Triangle with cuts in left and right frame and centred cut in base. Full size. On cover from 9 February 1943. Type IA4 of Frith.

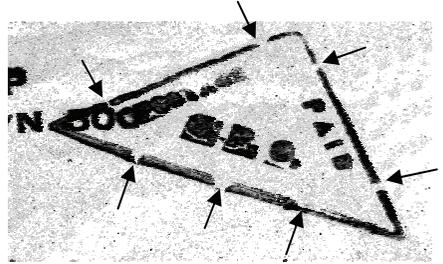
Note how each new state of the modified triangle is additive to the previous modification. Of further interest, *unmodified states of the GPO2 triangle occur until at least June of 1943* (registered cover from FMO Avalon). This conclusively demonstrates that multiple examples of the GPO2 hammer existed at St. John's and were used simultaneously.

Of greater interest is the “why” of such modifications. Was this the work of one particular postal clerk who, through boredom, or a desire to identify “his” marking, deliberately cut into the frame with his penknife?

Was the late, unmodified hammer a replacement for the altered hammer, or just another “pull” from the original mold that had not been used during the period December 1942 to May 1943?

GPO2c Third modification, two cuts in each side of right and left frame lines, three cuts in base
 Known use: July 1943

Triangle with cuts in left and right frame and three spaced cuts in base. With wear, the cuts tend to fill in with ink (left side lower). Full size. On cover from 28 July 1943. Not noted by Frith, but this is most likely the final state of this “modified” hammer.



GPO4 triangles

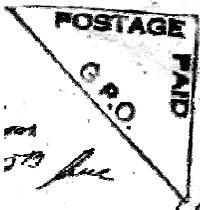
GPO4 triangles show four distinct altered states, generated by two variables. The first variable is the presence or absence of cut corners on the triangle, while the second variable is the presence or absence of a dot after the G of GPO. A further variety, with a longer bar on the G of POSTAGE, has been identified but not illustrated by Frith [12]. Whitehouse, in his collection write-up [13], illustrates a “G” with an extended elliptical top. Neither of these latter variants is conclusively illustrated to be distinct, repeatable variants of the marking; they will not be illustrated in this article.

GPO4a Triangle surround has full boundaries, dot after G in GPO
 Known use: May 1944



Type II of Frith.

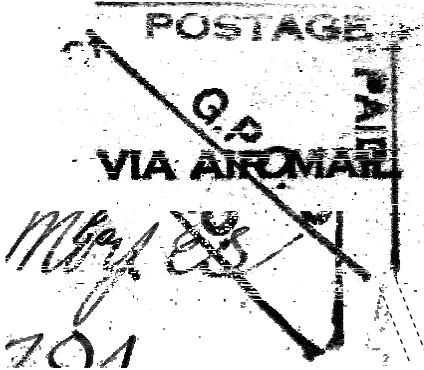
GPO4b Triangle surround has full boundaries, no dot after “G” in GPO
 Known use: September 1943, after April 1944



This marking is similar to the GPO4a with a similar style and placement of letters. The only difference is the lack of a period after the G of GPO. It is suggested that this is not a “modified” or “worn” version of GPO4a, but is a separate marking produced from the original mold for the rubber casting. It could be a bit of dirt in the mold lead to the hole for the period being blocked when it was re-used. Type IIB of Frith.

GPO4c Triangle surround has cut corners, dot after G in GPO

Known use: October 1943 to May 1944



The common feature of this variant is the cuts on all three corners. The cut angle of the lower right corner of the upper marking is distinctive by being sub-parallel to the lines. The lower marking (partial illustration) apparently shows a cut across the lines, but this could be an artifact due to inking and wear. Each of the dot and non-dot markings shows both types of cut corners, suggesting a number of GPO4 triangles were in use at St John's.

GPO4d Triangle surround has cut corners, no dot after "G" in GPO

Known use: October 1943



Marking is similar to GPO4c. The triangle is cut "across" the termination of the sides as shown by the dashed line. This variation has no dot after the "G" in GPO, but is otherwise similar in most respects to type GPO4c.

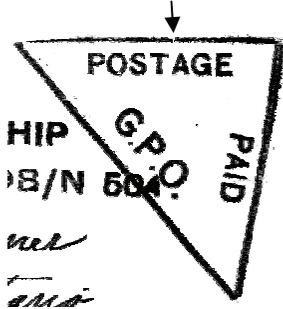
The dates known for covers with type GPO4 triangles suggest that their use began at least as early as September 1943 and continued through at least until May 1944. The fact that modified, unmodified, dot, and non-dot markings are all seen within a relatively short period, and that overlapping dates are known for at least some of the markings, indicates that a number of hammers were in use and that the variations are not due to alteration of a single device.

The lack of corners is not due to wear but, like the GPO2 triangles, the modifications are caused by deliberate cutting of the device. My argument for this is that the cuts are sharp. If they were due to wear, it would be unlikely that all three corners would "fail" simultaneously and at similar distances back from the apex.

GP05 triangles

The last style of the GPO triangles commonly used at St John's are the small, equidimensional GP05 markings, noted from late 1944 through to the end of war in the Atlantic.

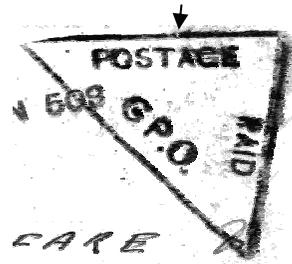
GP05a Triangle surround has full boundaries, dot after G in GPO
Known use: September 1944–January 1945



Triangular surround has a small, consistent casting flaw between the "T" and the "A" of POSTAGE. It appears in all versions of the marking when it is clearly inked. Periods appear after all letters of GPO Type IIIB of Frith.

GP05b Triangle surround has full boundaries, no dot after "G" in GPO
Known use: December 1944

A marking that Frith suggests as Type IIIA, but he had not seen any examples. This cover has a date of 8 December written on the front by either the receiver or the sender. The year would have been 1944. This marking is pulled from the same original mold as all others, as a small break occurs in the frame between the "T" and the "A" of POSTAGE.

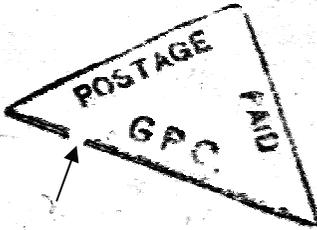


GP05c Triangle surround has break in base, dot after G in GPO
Known use: none dated



A worn later marking, showing a clear cut in the base of the triangle and the dot after the "G." No date on cover. Type IIIB1 of Frith.

GPO5d Triangle surround has break in base, no dot after G in GPO
Known use: March 1945



Triangle marking with no dot after the “G” (and no apparent dot after the “P” either) showing a clear break in the base of the frame. This marking was type IIIA1 of Frith.

The varieties of the GPO5 triangles are simple and, in part, produced by poor casting of the rubber resulting in varieties with and without dots. An early cover with clear imprints of the triangular marking shows no periods after either the “G” or “P” and no break in the base (Figure 14).

These are not truly major varieties in the sense that cuts and other modifications are, but they arise because the mold was most likely not cleaned properly before the rubber cast was made, or because the holes in the mold were not large enough to allow the rubber to flow into them.

They do serve to confirm that a number of triangles were manufactured for use in handling the voluminous mails from Avalon.

An uncommon use

Most covers with GPO triangles were used on registered or air mail letters from HMCS Avalon. The covers shown below were collected by Wilf Whitehouse [14] and show an undocumented use of the GPO triangles on US military mail.

I would first point out that these letters were censored by American military censors and were not errantly mailed at Avalon by “visiting” personnel. They contain no markings that could be ascribed to mail handled in any way from Avalon. The covers therefore demonstrate that the triangle markings remained at the General Post Office in St. John’s and were not somehow transferred to the Fleet Mail Office on the base to postmark the high volume of American air mail letters at their source.

The first cover (Figure 15) originated with a serviceman in the 71st Battalion HQ & Airbase Squadron(?) US Army Air Base, Gander. The correspondence was passed by US Army Examiner 529 and struck with a strong marking showing that it was VIA AIR MAIL. The pencil “7” in the upper corner may have referred to the airmail fee to Canada.

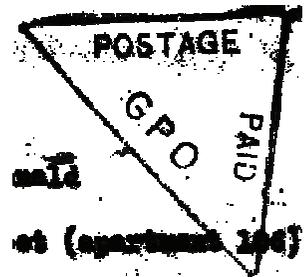


Figure 14. Clear strike of GPO5 triangle with no dots after the “G” or “P” of GPO.

One way or another, the letter found its way to the St John's post office, where it was struck in red with a clean, (new?) GPO2 triangle. The Gander airbase had a US Army Post Office APO 801-C, and later APO 865 but no markings from it are seen on this cover.



Figure 15. Cover from US Army Air Base at Gander, censored and stamped by US Army Examiner 529, denoted VIA AIR MAIL with rubber stamp, and handled through GPO St. John's. Pencil "7" in upper corner may refer to 7 cent airmail rate to Canada (as of 1 June 1943), the fee to be paid to the GPO.

On the second cover (Figure 16), the return address of APO 862 refers to Ft Pepperell in St John's. This office was opened on 15 January 1941 and transferred to the US Army as of 15 November 1942 [15]. A deciphering of the return address might suggest Battalion D, 24th Coast Artillery. Passed by US Army Examiner 556, A.B. Lynch 1st Lt, this envelope also found its way to the GPO in St John's, where the Postage Paid triangle GPO2 was struck in black. This letter also was destined to Montreal and would have required payment of the ground mail fee to Canada of 5¢ (no free franking for US personnel through post sent to Canada).

The covers share many common features. They originated with US military sites; they were censored by American Army Examiners; and they were destined to Canadian addresses (both Montreal). They also were both mailed when GPO2 triangles were still in use (January 1942 to July 1943), although the cover struck in red appears to be a newer (cleaner) hammer. Was this a temporary arrangement of the US military and the St John's GPO, or do more covers exist?



Figure 16: Surface mail from APO 862, Fort Pepperell to Montreal. Censored and stamped by US Army Examiner 556, the mail was handled through the GPO St. John's. Partially erased 5¢ in upper right would pay the ground rate from Newfoundland to Canada.

Conclusions

Five different types of GPO rubber hammer markings were used in St. John's during World War II, to denote payment of postal fees for "extra service" on correspondence from HMCS Avalon and a limited amount of mail from US military bases in Newfoundland. These markings are easily distinguished by typeface, placement of lettering, and overall size of marking, and have been denoted GPO1 to GPO5 in this study.

A number of variations in the markings, including cuts in the frame line and missing periods in the text are documented. Cuts in the frame result from deliberate mutilation of the hammer and were not caused by wear. The presence or absence of dots after the letters in "GPO" creates minor varieties that were a function of quality control issues in the original mold construction or the creation of the rubber casts from these molds.

An analysis of known dates of use for the varieties demonstrates that multiple copies of the same style hammer were in use at the General Post Office for at least three of the designs (GPO2, GPO4, and GPO5).

As with any study of this type, additional information is needed, especially covers with dates of use. Of particular interest are all covers from mid-1943 to the end of the war, and covers originating at US military facilities in Newfoundland and handled by the General Post Office in St. John's. Little is known about the transfer of US military mail to the GPO.

References

- [12] John Frith, "The Royal Canadian Navy in Newfoundland—World War II," *PHSC Journal*, No 50, 30 June 1987, pp. 123–128.
- [13] Wilf Whitehouse, *Write-up of personal philatelic collection on Avalon*, author's collection.
- [14] Wilf Whitehouse, *Ibid.*
- [15] Russ Carter, *Numbered Army & Air Force Post Office Locations*, 7th Ed., Vol. 1, BPOs, PRSs, & Regular APOs, 1941–1964, Military Postal History Society, 2001, 327pp.



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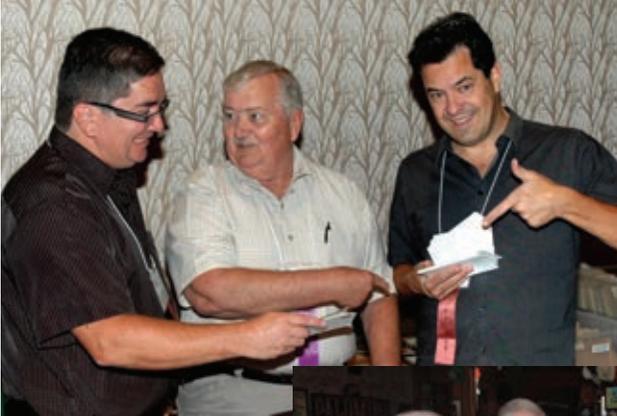
Sec'y Christine Faucher, 265 du Chalutier #306, Québec QC G1K 8R3
chrisjac@megaquebec.net www.shpq.org

www.bnaps.org



Pictures from Calgary (BNAPEX 2012 CALTAPEX)

(all BNAPEX pictures courtesy of Charles Livermore)



**At the bourse.
Bill Longley, John Cooper
and Tom Watkins**

**At the "Western
Night Out".
In the foreground,
from the left: Jon
Johnson, Vic Willson,
and Jim Taylor**



**Reception line prior to the banquet.
From the right: Eldon Godfrey, James Taylor, Walter Herdzig, Peter Fleck (CPS President),
Mike Street, Victor Willson, Earle Covert, Charles Livermore**

BNAPS business and reports

President's column

Norris (Bob) Dyer



It's an honor to serve you as the new BNAPS President, but it is challenging to pick up the reins from Robert Lemire as he served you so well during the past two years, while also producing *BNA Topics* with Mike Street. We are a society without paid staff which can only continue to be successful with your generous help as volunteers. A critical example is that of Editor of our quarterly magazine. Please see Page 3, for details.

The President, along with the Board of Directors, is responsible for the overall management of the society. Several new members have been added to the Board for the 2012-2016 term—Eldon Godfrey of Alberta, Kevin O'Reilly of the North West Territories and Ken Lemke of Ontario. Ronald (Ron) Majors of Pennsylvania has moved up from a Board member to First-Vice President. Under our Policy and Procedures, the new Board has selected Mark Berner of Quebec to fill the vacant position. I welcome them all.

I recently returned from BNAPEX 2012/CALTAPEX in Calgary. The weather was marvellous and the convention a success thanks to the hard work of the Calgary Regional Group of BNAPS and the Calgary Philatelic Society. Jim Taylor chaired the convention. Not only did he seem omnipresent at the show, but also took time to give a lecture on "Mail from the French Shore, Newfoundland" which I attended. As many of you know, I specialize in Newfoundland philately. This presentation, however, was all new to me, and typifies the quality of information one can glean at our annual conventions. I also attended a number of workshops, where (again) I was astounded by the opportunities to learn so much more about BNA philately.

At the Board meeting we approved a budget for 2013 which continues to ensure all member services including support for our regional and study groups. There will be new projects looking at increasing membership, creating a modern electronic data base, as well as enhancing our website, but there *will not be a dues increase!*

We are a gathering of philatelists under one umbrella with a common purpose. Additionally, we have heroes among us. I was recently sent a news item about Ron McGuire of Ottawa, for example. You should be familiar with Ron from his articles in *BNA Topics* which have won a number of awards. Ron recently was given a Commendation from the Honourable Minister of Veterans Affairs in Canada, Steven Blaney. Here are a few lines from the commendation:

"Mr. McGuire is a military postal historian who has worked tirelessly since 1978 on behalf of Canada's Hong Kong Veterans. He has been the Hong Kong Veterans Commemorative Association's Regional Representative since 1999 and is one of their unofficial historians...From 1974 to date, his articles on Canada's military postal history from 1837 to the Second World War have appeared in more than a dozen periodicals."

Ron McGuire deserves our commendations as well. In honor of his contributions to BNA philately he was awarded the Order of the Beaver in 2011.

Announcements

Vincent G Greene Award for 2011 goes to Christopher Ryan

The Vincent G Greene Award is presented annually to the author (or authors) of the best article or series of articles appearing in *BNA Topics* in the previous year. It is based on a vote of members of the Publications Committee and designated members of the BNAPS executive. As announced at BNAPEX 2012 in Calgary, the award (engraved mug and certificate), for the publication year 2011, was made to Christopher D. Ryan for his article “Semi-official Distribution of Federal Revenue Stamps in the 1890s” (*BNA Topics* 68#4, pp. 19-32)

The article discusses the philatelic exploits of Fabien René Édouard Campeau who was a senior accountant, and later Chief Accountant, in the head office of Canada’s Inland Revenue Department. In the 1890s he was trading and selling unused federal revenue stamps—not only obsolete items, but also some current copies. For a short time the latter even included unused copies of certain Inspection revenue stamps otherwise unavailable to collectors. As M. Campeau used his departmental address and letterhead on several pieces of his philatelic correspondence, it would appear that these activities had at least some sort of tacit approval from his superiors.

Chris, a member of BNAPS for almost 20 years, is a meticulous researcher and author. He has been the editor of the BNAPS Revenue Study Group newsletter since the mid-1990s. Three of his earlier articles in *BNA Topics* (from 1994, 2000 and 2005) also received the Vincent G. Greene Award.

John S Siverts Award for 2011 goes to Bob Dyer for the Newfie Newsletter

The John S. Siverts Award is given to the Editor of the best Study Group newsletter published during the previous calendar year as judged by a five-member selection committee that includes the President of BNAPS; the Vice President Study Groups; the Editor of *BNA Topics*, and the Centreline Reporter. Congratulations to Norris (Bob) Dyer, editor of the Newfie Newsletter, who received the award for 2011 at BNAPEX 2012 in Calgary.

2012 Hall of Fame Award (*Robert Lemire*)

The purpose of the award is to recognize members who have made a significant and highly visible general or specific contribution to the work of the Society. The contributions may have been made by a member in an elected or appointed position or by a member acting on their own initiative. It also may be for less visible, behind the scenes, contributions made to the work of the Society generally over a period of time, not by an elected member.

I was pleased to be able to recognize the contributions of three members who have made substantial contributions to our Society over many years. During my term as President I knew that I always could rely on them for sage advice on a wide range of issues. These members were honoured at the BNAPEX 2012 banquet in Calgary: Earle Covert, Jerome (Jerry) Jarmick, and Michael (Mike) Street.

Earle Covert served as BNAPS Secretary for six years in the 1980s, was a member of the Board of Directors for two terms (including one term as Chairman), and then became Vice President and President of the Society. He also served on the Awards Committee and the Editorial Board for *BNA Topics*. More recently he has chaired the Convention Committee, and has prepared the printed programs for three BNAPEX shows.

Jerry Jarnick also was the BNAPS Secretary, for five years in the 1990s, then served two terms on the Board of Directors, and was Chairman of the Board for several years. Furthermore, he carried out revisions to the Policies and Procedures Manual and served on the Publications Committee. From 2008 to 2012 he was the Publicity Officer for the Society.

Mike Street previously received the Hall of Fame Award in 2005, but since then our “Past President for Life” has served on the Publications Committee, continuing to lead and guide our book publication program (putting in hundreds of hours of work on that project each year), and has been the lead “interim co-editor” of many issues of *BNA Topics*. As a member of the Convention Committee he has been deeply involved in background and foreground organizational activities for several BNAPEX shows. He continues to monitor many other aspects of BNAPS activities, and provides much helpful advice. His work, energy and enthusiasm on behalf of BNAPS are unrivalled in the Society.



Hall of Fame Award Recipients:
(left to right Mike Street, Jerry Jarnick and Earle Covert)

BNAPS Annual Reports

The annual reports submitted by BNAPS officers at BNAPEX (Calgary) are available online at <<http://www.bnaps.org/reports.htm>>, and the draft report of the 2012 Annual General Meeting will also be available there. Paper copies of specific reports can be obtained from the Secretary, David G Jones, 184 Larkin Drive, Nepean, ON, K2J 1H9, Canada. e-mail <shibumi.management@gmail.com>, Tel. 613-825-5062 (winter), 902-825-4091 (summer).

Order of the Beaver (BNAPEX 2012) (*William C Walton*)

Two new members were inducted into The Order of the Beaver at the North Bay 2011 BNAPEX.

George Dresser—a BNAPS member since 1975—served BNAPS as a Board Director (2002-2006), First Vice President (2006-2008), and President (2008-2010). He has served on the Finance Committee since 2006, and as Chairman of the Committee since 2008, shepherding the Society through a difficult financial period. George has long been active in local Texas and youth philately. His collecting interests are centered on the Edward issue, and on Canadian Air Mail, chairing Air Mail Study Group seminars at BNAPEXes and serving as its newsletter editor.

John Jamieson joined BNAPS in 1969, and is known to many BNAPSers as the owner of Saskatoon Stamp Centre. He served on the board for two terms (2004-2012) as a Director, and is a past BNAPS bookseller. He has promoted BNAPS awareness and membership through his business for many years. He published the 7th Edition Webb's Catalogue and arranged for its sale through Canada Post. John has exposed modern fakes and spoken out against dealer chicanery. His articles include information on fake double perfs, and an exhaustive article on the St. Lawrence Seaway inverts. He maintains and shares an extensive database of BNA material. He has focused his collecting on Newfoundland's Guy Issue, winning a Gold and Grand Award at the 2010 Spring Edmonton National.

From the Secretary—Report date: October 2012

David G Jones

(184 Larkin Dr, Nepean, ON K2J 1H9, e-mail: <shibumi.management@gmail.com>)

Membership fees

Annual membership fees are \$C35 or equivalent in US dollars, C\$40 for members from outside North America. Membership applications submitted during the second or third quarter of the year should be accompanied by 75 or 50 percent, respectively, of the annual fee. Applications submitted in the fourth quarter of the year should be accompanied by 25 percent of the annual fee plus the full fee for the coming year. Three-year memberships can be obtained at a 10 percent reduction in cost. Send application form and cheque or money order to the Secretary.

Applications for membership

After receipt of an application, the New Applicant's name and membership number are printed in the next issue of *BNA Topics*. If no objection from any other BNAPS member is received within approximately 60 days, then the applicant is listed as a "New Member" in the next issue of *BNA Topics*. Collecting interests of New Applicants follow the "C" at the end of the initial listing so that members can get in touch (through the Secretary) with collectors sharing similar interests.

- 6675 Vernon von der Heydt, St. Louis, MO. C: WW II censored and military mail, Germany, Cuba, Fr North Africa
- 6676 Tom Trigsted, Seattle, WA. C: Newfoundland, Canada and Gr Britain used
- 6677 Neil Somersset, Calgary, AB. C: Canada plate blocks, margin imprints and varieties
- 6678 Dr JH Plouffe, San Juan Capistrano, CA. C: Canada and Danzig
- 6679 Bradley Fallon, Mississauga, ON
- 6680 James Allen, Midland, MI. C: Classic USA, Canada Postal History
- 6681 Bert Woodruff, Jr, Santa Monica, CA. C: George VI, Mexico, British West Hemisphere
- 6682 Wayne Schnarr, Toronto, ON. C: Centennials, RPO, Military (WW I and II)
- 6683 William R Beck, Woodacre, CA. C: USA 20th Century, Canada, East Asia, Pacific Islands
- 6684 Richard Belec, Lachine, QC. C: FDC, corner blocks, uncut press sheets
- 6685 James D McLeod, Armstrong, BC. C: Royal Train, Yukon postal history
- 6686 Brainard D Fitzgerald, Port Williams, NS. C: Canadian covers, 1939 Royal Tour, Imperial Oil
- 6687 Daniel D Whiting, Calgary, AB. C: general
- 6688 Lane Robson, Calgary, AB. C: Jubilee, Tercentenary
- 6689 Stephen L Dunn, Victoria, BC. C: Small Queens
- 6690 Jason Moisan, Gatineau QC. C: Newfoundland, 3rd Reich, Canada pre-1950
- 6691 Doreen Fitzgerald, Port Williams, NS. C: Nova Scotia postcards

New members

All applicants 6662-6674 have been confirmed as full members of BNAPS.

Address changes/corrections (current town of residence is noted)

6610 Rocky Longshaw, Scarborough, ON
 4732 John G Beddows, North Bay ON
 4386 Ronald E Majors, 253 Caleb Dr, West Chester, PA, 19382

Reinstated

4256 Robert W. Smith
 6209 Edward N. Onyon
 5611 Robert G Stanley

Total active membership, including new applications, as of 4 October 2012 1094

Election Results

Elected to serve from 2012-2016 on the BNAPS Board of Directors

Eldon Godfrey	William W Radcliffe
Kevin O'Reilly	Victor Willson (also re-elected Chairman)
Ken Lemke	

Executive (all elected by acclamation)

President: **Norris (Bob) Dyer** First Vice-President: **Ronald E Majors**
 Secretary: **David G Jones** Treasurer: **Jean-Claude Michaud**
 Vice-President Regional Groups: **J A Forbes, Jr.**
 Vice-President Study Groups: **Peter R MacDonald**

Classified advertisements

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LITERATURE

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BNAPEX 2012: Exhibit awards

At BNAPEX 2013 the Horace W. Harrison Grand Award was presented to **Gary Steele** for his exhibit: **1937-1938 Definitive Issue**.



Gary Steele, 2nd from the left, receives the Horace W. Harrison Grand Award from judges: Mike Street (left), Ken Lemke (2nd from right) and Bill Longley (right).

The Allan Steinhart Reserve Grand Award was presented to **Richard Fleet** for his exhibit: **The Law Stamps of British Columbia – The Early Printings**

Richard Fleet, 2nd from the right, receives the Allan Steinhart Reserve Grand Award from the Judges.



Other Multiframe Exhibits

- Gold:* **Robert J. Elias** (Ed and Mickey Richardson Award; Elizabethan II Study Group Award), **Hendrik Burgers** (Sam Nickle Award), **John Cooper**, **P. Charles Livermore**, **Joseph M. Smith**, **Richard P. Thompson**
- Vermeil:* **Jeffrey Arndt**, **David Piercey**, **W.E. Topping**, **Joel Weiner**
- Silver:* **Iain Stevenson** (Order of the Beaver Novice Award), **Earle L. Covert** (with Felicitations of the Jury)
- Bronze:* **Jack Wallace**

Single Frame Exhibits

- Gold:* **Victor Willson** (Herb McNaught Memorial Award), **David Bartlet**, **Earle L. Covert**, **Ronald E. Majors**, **Joseph M. Smith**
- Vermeil:* **Jon Johnson**, **Steve Johnson**, **Brian Plain**
- Silver:* **Richard P. Thompson**
- Silver-Bronze:* **H. Peter Jacobi**
- Bronze:* **Matthew Gaiser** (with Felicitations of the Jury)

The full palmares is available on the BNAPS website.

Regional group rant

Jack Forbes

OVERVIEW: This column is being prepared a bit ahead of the normal time, so meeting reports are somewhat sparse. It appears, however, that BNAPS members are in for a busy Fall/Winter season, as I'm receiving schedules for a series of meetings from a number of regional group coordinators. Please check the BNAPS website, and if you're not a regular attendee at our regional meetings, why not resolve to get more involved! It has been regularly stated that the wider the participation in our regional group network, the greater the benefits for all our members. A number of the Regional Group representatives gathered for an informal session at the recent Calgary Convention, and some of the suggestions put forth at that meeting will be listed below.

Following are details of recent activities of various groups, and again, I would like to remind our reps to advise both myself <JAFRBS@aol.com> and our website coordinator, Dave Bartlet: <dave.bartlet@shaw.ca> of the dates of up-coming meetings, with agendas if available, and any other events in each of your areas, along with copies of your meeting reports.

BNAPEX 2012—Calgary Regional Group Reps Meeting

Firstly, a thank you to Gary Steele for “hosting” this session which saw nine reps gather to exchange thought and ideas relating to the operation of the Regional Group program.

Among the topics explored were two dealing with membership promotion—getting collectors to join BNAPS, and getting new members to embrace the regional group philosophy. It was felt that any meeting of a regional group should be opened up to non-BNAPS collectors as guests. Firstly, this might encourage them to join, and secondly, it would demonstrate the regional group attitude, and thus lead them to be more receptive to participating should they become members.

It was stressed that regional groups should work closely with organizers of stamp shows in all areas of their particular region, to maybe hold a group meeting at those particular shows, and get permission to promote BNAPS by having informational literature and membership applications available for those attending the bourse/exhibition. If possible, have the organizers of these shows include a spot in the programmer's agenda to publicize the BNAPS meeting time and locale.

The thought was expressed that maybe there was too much "territory" involved in the current make up of the Groups, and that a larger number of groups could be implemented with a resultant reduction in the physical size of the area covered.

It was stressed that it is important to send out notices of meetings to all the BNAPS members in a given region **whether or not they are regular attendees** at the group's meetings. It was felt that receipt of a meeting notice confirmed that the group was active, and at the same time, kept everyone "in the loop".

Keeping meetings interesting through an organized program, speakers, etc., was considered to be an important factor in ensuring good attendance.

Your thoughts on any of the above would be appreciated!

British Isles Regional Group

Greg Spring had been attempting to form a group based in that area, but has had to back away from some of his BNAPS activities. Is there anyone else out there who would be willing to take on this task?

Regional Group Reports

(Note that, as usual, only brief outlines of the meetings will appear in this column; please check out the BNAPS website for further details.)

The *Golden Horseshoe Group* held a spring wrap-up meeting which was held at the usual location—the Rousseau House Restaurant—in Ancaster, where stamp conversation, and food offerings mingle to make up an interesting event. In keeping with standard procedures, a successful auction started off proceedings, with the featured speaker's slot saw Larry Cherns provide "An overview of Royal Train Mail—1939". As is often the case, the presentation led to much discussion, with a back-and-forth exchange of information, which provided the guest speaker with further knowledge of the subject

The 2102-13 schedule of meetings for this group has been prepared, and it looks like they're going to have another great season!

A two page printed report of the *Pacific Northwest Group* details the very successful annual meeting for this organization. Held from May 4th to 5th at Vernon, BC, the program was packed with activities which kept collectors and their companions busy throughout the event. A total of five speakers dealt with a variety of topics at the regular sessions, and a gourmet buffet dinner complete with guest speaker was a highlight of this get-together. Provision of the detailed newsletter report is a credit to the organizers and executive of the P/W Group!

The *Golden West Group* was again active at the APS National Show held in Sacramento, California this past August. Twelve people attended the regional group meeting, including one of the recipients of the BNAPS youth activities donations. She was very appreciative of our organization's efforts and the work done by our new President, Bob Dyer in this

important facet of collector recruitment. The program also featured a power point presentation on “finding fly-speck varieties” by Bob Turkowski.

The *Calgary Group* continues with their very active schedule of monthly meetings—check the website for the dates.

HELP! HELP!—Midwest Regional Group—HELP! HELP!

We’re still trying to find representation in this area of our membership. Could we please have a BNAPSer from the U. S. Midwest volunteer to take on this responsibility? We seem to be missing a significant opportunity to have a regional group meeting in conjunction with this coming year’s COMPEX (or other occasions) unless this vacancy is filled. Please consider taking this on! Drop me an email to volunteer, or to nominate someone else who would be willing to serve: <JAFRBS@aol.com>.

Executive, directors and officers

British North America Philatelic Society Ltd

Society Home Page: <http://www.bnaps.org>

Young Philatelists’ Page: <http://www.bnaps.org/stamps4kids>

Elected officers: Executive

President Norris R (Bob) Dyer, 1708 Granada Ct, Petaluma, CA 94954-4531 <nrdyer@comcast.net>

First Vice-President, Ronald E Majors, 253 Caleb Dr, West Chester, PA, 19382

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