

Domestic Rates and Postmarks — page 57

BNA TOPICS

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FOR ELECTED OFFICERS SEE LISTING UNDER
"TOPICS: THE BUSINESS SIDE"

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Newfoundland - The Postage Stamps of 1897

A tale of two secretaries The Cabot and Royal Issues

by ROBERT H. PRATT

PART TWO

There was no mention of the 1 cent. Its color was a brilliant RED, not a U.P.U. specification. During the investigation of the Post Office in 1900 the Postmaster General commented on the mysterious disappearance of the RED 1 cent stamps. The unusual color must have attracted attention to the stamps and increased their sale, 400,000 stamps could not slip away so easily. As we have seen, the 2 cent stamps were 'off' color too, they should have been red but turned out yellowish-orange. The earliest date I have seen of the 1 cent and 2 cent stamps on cover is December 4th, and this must be the 'first day of issue'. The *Evening Telegraph* of December 6th, 1897 carried the following exclamation in its 'ECHOS & EVENTS' column.

"The postal Officials were kept busy Saturday (Dec. 4) rushing out the new issue of 1 and 2 cent stamps. Several hundred dollars worth were disposed of for the 'PORTIA'S' mail, while not a few were purchased up to closing time to send by the 'BRUCE'S' mail this morning. This could be quite a source of revenue to the Colony."

The "PORTIA" sailed the afternoon of December 4th for New York and the "BRUCE" was to leave Placentia on the 6th for North Sydney. Advertisements in the daily papers stated that Late Letters for the "BRUCE" could be posted at the General Post Office up to 4:00 A.M. on Mondays (the 6th) and Thursdays to make the 5:00 A.M. departure of the "Special" to Placentia. Some enthusiasts must have stayed up all night! The *Daily News* confirmed this excitement on December 6th.

STAMP NOTES

"We learn the four cent Newfoundland stamp (Cabot) is in great demand in the Old Country.

"Surcharged 3 cent Newfoundland

stamps are being bought up at \$12.00 per hundred in the city.

"A craze for the last issue of stamps has made itself apparent and in all likelihood there will be another run on the G.P.O. (is this how the RED 1 cent evaporated?)

"It is said that between two and three thousand of the new 1 and 2 cent stamps were disposed of on Saturday.

"The two cent stamp of the last issue is said to be the prettiest we have ever had in Newfoundland."

Fraser had resorted to a specially prepared Post Card to assist him in selling the excess stamps and sets in his office to collectors who wrote in requesting information on availability of stamps. The Secretary's office took note of it and Robinson dispatched the following letter to the PMG on February 18th, 1898.

"Sir:

"An advertising card, apparently issued under your direction, has come to my notice. I beg to remind you that the sale of stamps for other than postal purposes is not the province of, but only incidental to your department, and the Government are not ambitious to place themselves in rivalry with stamp dealers. Already the reputation of the Colony is suffering from speculation in stamps and silver, and the inevitable results are being experienced. I have to request that you will immediately withdraw these cards from circulation, and for the credit of the Colony, I can only hope that they have not already received a circulation abroad.

"Pardon me for reminding you that the Post Office was established for the convenience of the people, and not as a stamp speculating concern, nor as

an emporium for the sale of pictures.

"J. Alex Robinson"

The cards did go abroad as several in collections attest. This was the first disparaging remark made about Bond's Cabot issue and illustrates Robinson's liking for orthodox stamps bearing the likeness of the Royal Family. We shall hear more from him on this subject and the multiplicity of issues later on. We shall also see how, as time progressed, he seems to have become equivocal in his demands. The next order was an interesting one. Written March 25th, 1898, it said:

"You will please forward as early as possible one million one cent stamps and five hundred thousand two cent stamps from the dies prepared for this Colony and at present in your possession. Our stock of ones will be exhausted in about six weeks, and it is therefore imperative that there should be no delay.

"I should be pleased if, in connection with the present series of medalion stamps you would forward a design on similar lines for a half-cent stamp with the portrait of the infant heir of the Duke of York.

"signed: Robinson"

"10,000 sheets 1 cent stamps
5,000 sheets 2 cent stamps."

Notice that there is no mention of the error of color in the 1 and 2 cent stamps. It would seem plausible that some comment should have directed a change to green and red. This must have been taken care of verbally, or the Bank Note Co. (which was certainly aware of U.P.U. requirements: 1 cent, GREEN; 2 cent, RED; 3 cent, BLUE; 4 cent, BROWN) realized its mistake. The stamps which arrived on the "PORTIA", Sunday, May 8th, were pale green and vermilion in color. The Company had complied speedily, as a letter to them on May 9th confirms.

"I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, enclosing an account for \$539.79. The 1 and 2 cent stamps arrived by the 'PORTIA', but have not yet been opened. I shall be obliged if you will, as quickly as possible, forward the 3's and 5's which we shall require almost immediately.

"The amount of your account will

be paid in a few days.

"(Robinson)"

This is the first mention of these new values. The stamps must have been prepared beforehand, as the answer was most prompt. Robinson acknowledged receipt of a letter of the 19th, enclosing a proof of the half-cent stamp, on May 27th. He accepted the design by ordering a printing of 10,000 sheets (1,000,000 stamps). The letter noted that the 3 and 5 cent stamps had been shipped on the "ROUMANIAN" and would arrive soon. Shipping Notices related that the "ROUMANIAN", although delayed by fog, departed for Glasgow on the 27th. As will be seen later, this establishes the basis for the mysterious appearance of the 5 cents Royal in 1899. It took a long time to remit for these stamps. The draft was not sent to New York until August 6th. It paid for both dies and for the stamps.

Robinson's clean up operation began in early 1898 with instructions to the *British American Bank Note Company* to destroy the dies and plates in their possession. The following Notice indicates the success of that desire.

"Ottawa, May 27th, 1898."

"I hereby certify that I was present with the Auditor General of Newfoundland (Mr. Berteau) and did see the following plates of Newfoundland Postage Stamps destroyed this day: One plate, 1/2 cent postage; one plate, one cent postage; two plates, 3 cent postage; one plate, 5 cent postage; one plate, 10 cent postage.

"G. B. Burland

"President, British American Bank Note Co., Ottawa.

"F. C. Berteau

The intercourse between Fraser and Robinson was uneventful until November 24th, 1898. Evidently some conversation had developed about the release of the 5 cent stamp. Robinson replied to a letter from Fraser of the 23rd as follows:

"Sir,

"In reply to your letter of the 23rd. I can only repeat what was previously decided upon, that no new stamps are to be issued until the old issue is exhausted. When the old five cents are out the new five cents should come into circulation, but not before. Our Postal speculations have become a by-word

already, and it will be a very serious thing if we attempt any more double issues. I shall be very pleased to hear of a recommendation from you to destroy all the remainders at present in the office, so that we may place the whole stamp system on a sound basis.

"I note what you say relative to the issue of a new stamp in commemoration of PENNY POSTAGE, and will lay the matter before the Council. Personally I very much disapprove of the idea. I consider that the Colony has gone so far in this sort of thing as to be past losing its reputation amongst philatelists."

Canada however responded with its multi-colored MAP stamp showing the British Empire, issued December 7th, 1898 for the rates which became effective on the 25th. Fraser's retort is unknown. However it can be inferred that some reference to the Cabot series was made. It should be realized that when Robinson was Editor of the *Daily News* and was shown an advance copy of the presentation card for that issue on June 18th, 1897, he congratulated (as designer and instigator of the stamps) the then Colonial Secretary the Hon. Robert Bond "for their very tasty, creditable and pleasing appearance". Read what follows:

"Sir,

"Your letter of the 28th, it is hardly necessary for me to say, entirely misinterprets a remark made in a recent letter. I did not refer to the CABOT stamps, but I did emphatically refer to the number of remainders at present in the Post Office. Newfoundland is, I presume, the only country in the world which can boast of three sets of 3 cent stamps on sale at the same time.

"I observe what you remark as to the interests of the public being sacrificed, and am entirely in accord with you. At the same time I would remind you that there are 3,000,000 stamp collectors in the world from whom we can make a very legitimate revenue, so long as we do not permit the Colonial Post Office to be transformed into a picture shop."

Shades of February 18th, 1898—the thought is familiar, however something seems to have changed. On December 7th the American Bank Note Company was advised to print and forward to the Post-

master General at St. John's 5,000 sheets of 3 cent stamps. The design and color were to be the same as the last order (9 May) viz:—"Princess of Wales and Orange (not BLUE?) respectively." Receipt of this order was not acknowledged until February 28th, 1899. Question—if there were so many other issue 3 cent stamps available, why were these ordered?

In late December Robinson requested Fraser to send him samples of the stamps for which the American Bank Note Company still retained the dies and plates. He was evidently sincere in his desire to clean up the mess. The day before Christmas he wrote the Company:

"Sirs,

"From the Postmaster General of the Colony I learn that the following Dies are held by your Company all of which are, or will become obsolete at an early date.

"They are the Dies of our old issue of 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 12, 13 and 24 cent Stamps. The Twos, Fives, Tens, Twelves, Thirteens and Twenty-fours were issued first in 1865, and the Ones in 1868: the Threes and Sixes in 1870, and the Ones, Twos, Threes and Fives were issued in 1876, but may have been printed from the old Dies.

"I am desirous of having these Dies destroyed immediately, as I am anxious to place the Postal affairs of the Colony on a satisfactory basis. (***) The Royal series commenced by you, and which has gone up as far as the 5 cents, is giving entire satisfaction. (***) Previous issues we wish to have not merely withheld but the Dies destroyed.

"I shall be obliged if you will have their destruction immediately undertaken in the presence of witnesses, and I am writing to Messrs. Bowring and Archibald, of No. 18, Broadway, New York, requesting them to act on behalf of the Colony.

"Will you be so good as to communicate with them."

This caused the destruction of the Dies and Plates early in 1899, however it did not relieve the overage of stamps in the Post Office till. The 5 cent stamp, was acknowledged, but was still unissued. Funnily enough Robinson autographed a large die proof of that stamp on February 19th,

1899 certifying it as the "Original Die". Other authors have stated that the stamp finally saw use in June of that year, however verification has not been made.

"The *Daily News* — March 13, 1899

"POST OFFICE NOTICE

"In accordance with instructions from the Government of Newfoundland the following Plates, Dies and Rolls used in the preparation of Postage Stamps for Newfoundland were destroyed at New York on the 16th January 1899 in the presence of Charles W. Bowring, Esq. and of T. H. Freeland Esq., Secretary and Manager of the American Bank Note Company: One Plate each 1c, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 10c, 12c, 13c, and 24c.

"Original Dies of above stamps, 5 Rolls, containing the same, which comprises the whole of the Dies and Rolls engraved by the Company named for Newfoundland, excepting only those of the current issue of Postage stamps, that is to say — ½, 1, 2, 3, and 5 cents issue of 1897-98.

"By order of J. O. Fraser

"POST OFFICE

February 24th, 1899"

It is not strange that two 1c plates were destroyed. The National and American Bank Note Company's consolidated on Jan. 31st, 1879 and the surviving American now had both plates. During mid-April a stamp dealer from Halifax, J. Foster Rood, ran many newspaper ads offering to purchase used Royal stamps. The 5 cent value was not listed. The RED 1 cent would bring 2 cents each, the yellow 2 cent at 1 cent each, and the rest at prices from 40 cents to 75 cents per hundred. At this time then, the 5 cent stamp was still not available. I have not seen an actual cover with stamps used until August 15th, when a letter was sent by a stamp company, owned in part by the chief clerk and accountant of the Post Office, to a known collector of first day covers. There were still other 5 cent stamps available.

The clean up operation dallied until November. The Governor and Council had not given their consent toward disposing of the remainders until then. A series of letters illustrates the course of the project. Fraser by this time seems to have become somewhat timid. On November 6th he was advised:

"Sir,

"I have the honor to enclose herewith certified copy of a Minute of Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor on the 4th day of November. I am also to request that you will cause a Public Notice to this effect to be issued in tomorrow's *Royal Gazette*, and at least once a week in the "*Daily News*" and the "*Evening Herald*."

"I am also to say that after the publication of the notice all restrictions on the sale of postage stamps are to be removed.

"The last three paragraphs of the Minute commencing 'The Postmaster General shall be instructed, etc.' have, of course, nothing to do with the Public Notice. You can couch your notice in words which seem most fitting to yourself. It will not be necessary to say anything about the 'Royal' series following the 'Cabot' series as the latter becomes exhausted. Just a bare statement of the destruction of all obsolete stamps, and an enumeration of those stamps which will alone be for sale on and after the 2nd day of January, is all that is required.

This was followed by Fraser's Notice in the papers of the 7th.

"PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

"Notice is hereby given that on the 2nd day of January, 1900, all obsolete postage stamps will be destroyed and after that date the only stamps that will be on sale by the Postal Department will be the ½, 1, 2, 3, 5 cent of the Royal Issue and the 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 15, 30, 35, and 60 cent of the Cabot issue.

"J. O. Fraser"

Fraser sent a proof of his next announcement to Robinson before it was to be published on November 8th:

"GENERAL POST OFFICE

St. John's Newfoundland
November 8th, 1899.

"Dear sir,

"It has been ordered that on the 2nd of January next, the remainder of all stamps issued before 1897, and comprising ½ cent, 1 cent, 2 cents, 3 cents, 5 cents, 6 cents, 10 cents, 12 cents, and

24 cents, shall be destroyed: meantime these stamps are for sale without restriction.

"It is further ordered that 1 cent, 2 cents, 3 cents and 5 cents of the Cabot Series will be disposed of only in full sets until the 26th of December next, when all restrictions respecting the sale thereof will be removed, and the remainder, if any, of the 1 cent, 2 cents, 3 cents, and 5 cents Cabot stamps, will also be destroyed on the 2nd January next.

"J. C. Fraser."

Now Robinson became detailed. This series of letters to the PMG while it seems to delegate authority, also strictly supervises. Perhaps the explanation lies in the fact that Robinson had a Doctorate degree.

"19 December 1900

"Sir,

"Referring to your letter of the 18th, respecting the sale and destruction of obsolete stamps.

"(1) Kindly carry out the terms of the Minute as rigidly as possible, viz:— Free sale after the 26th: destruction on the 2nd.

"(2nd) As regards free sale, that must be arranged entirely as justice and the fitness of things dictate to you. I have confidence in your judgment, and have no intention whatever of interfering directly or indirectly."

"26 December 1899

"Sir,

"Referring to my letter of December 19th, the instructions thereunder are sufficiently clear to guide you in regard to the sale of the stamps.

"The Postmaster General is beyond question the person who is or should be acquainted with such methods as should be adopted with regard to this sale which would be satisfactory to the public and in the interests of the Department.

"29 December 1899

"Sir,

"The destruction of obsolete stamps will not take place until Wednesday. Be so good as to have the stamps carefully packed and under the care of reliable officials removed to the Press Room of the *Royal Gazette* before 10 o'clock. At 10 o'clock the press will

commence defacing and numbering the various sheets, and when defaced they will be done up into bundles, sealed, and all ready for return to the Post Office for destruction on the following day. You will oblige by forwarding to Mr. Wills a sheet of stamps, of any denomination, defacing it first, in order that he may prepare the bed of the press and the size of the form for defacing purposes. This sheet will be counted in as the first when defacement takes place. Perhaps the simpler way would be to send him up a sheet of paper the exact size of a sheet of postage stamps, and then defacement would be unnecessary. It is desirable that you make such arrangements at the Post Office as will enable you to be present throughout the entire proceedings."

"5 January 1900

Sir,

"Referring to your letter of January 4th, in which you intimate that there was a clerical error of 8,944 5-cent stamps, permit me to say that the discrepancy to which you refer came to my notice about 48 hours ago. The Stock Sheet which I hold in my possession is signed by yourself, the Accountant Mr. G. W. LeMessurier, Mr. A. E. Payne, and Mr. Wm. Campbell. That an error of this size could have crept in without being detected by you for over six months, and that responsible officials should certify as correct what is palatably not correct, does not—to put the most favorable construction upon it—reflect creditably upon the organization of the Department or on the ability of its officers. This, I may observe, is I fear, not the only discrepancy in the list. I do not quite understand how it is possible for a larger number of stamps to be in stock on June 30th, 1899 than there were some months previously, when no new importations were made, and the stamps could not have been returned from the outport offices. That however, is a matter which may be discussed later on. The loose manner in which officials of your Department sign their name to documents calls for censure if not immediate inquiry.

The *Royal Gazette* published the following:

St. John's, Newfoundland
4th January 1900

We hereby certify that we were present on Wednesday the 3rd inst. at the *Royal Gazette* Office, and did see the following obsolete stamps first defaced by the printing press, and afterwards destroyed by fire:

Number	Denomination	Face Value
49,717, orange	2 cent, fish	\$ 994.34
40,638, slate	3 cent, queen	1,219.14
104,569, blue	5 cent, seal	5,228.45
34,422, deep pink	6 cent, queen	2,065.32
92,966, black	10 cent, ship	9,292.60
27,162, blue	24 cent, queen	6,518.88
69,653, pale brown	12 cent, queen	8,358.36
2,658, (Cabot Issue)	3 cent, Bonavista Cape	79.74
13,342, (Cabot Issue)	5 cent, Mining	567.10
		34,327.93

ARTHUR MEWS,
Deputy Colonial Secretary

GEORGE COEN,
Deputy Minister Finance

GEO. W. LeMESSURIER,
Acct. General Post Office

E. DEVEREUX,
Post Office Inspector

WILLIAM CAMPBELL,
Stamp Clerk, G.P. Office

We hereby certify that we were present at intervals on Wednesday the 3rd inst., at the *Royal Gazette* Office during the defacing of the Postage Stamps enumerated in above certificate; and that on Thursday the 4th inst., we were present and did see the aforesaid stamps destroyed by fire at the General Post Office.

J. ALEX. ROBINSON,
Colonial Secretary

J. A. McLEOD,
Manager, Bank of Nova Scotia

F. C. BERTEAU,
Comptroller and Auditor General

Volume IX, *The London Philatelist*, of March 1900, Page 75, contained the following information, which is most interesting.

	Stock	Destroyed	Sold
	Nov. 30, 1899	Jan. 4, 1900	Interim
1c, pale yellow-green, A17	64,000	None	64,000
2c, orange, Type A19	74,000	49,717	24,283
3c, Type A23 (lilac Shades)	51,000	40,638	10,332
5c, blue, 1887	109,000	104,569	4,431
6c, deep pink, 1890 (??)	42,000	34,422	7,578
10c, black, 1887	96,000	92,966	3,034
12c, puce brown, 1890 (??)	73,000	69,653	3,347
24c, blue, 1866	29,000	27,162	1,838

The *Daily News*, for some unknown reason, began to champion the Postmaster General while the destruction was underway. Their lengthy editorial series, which began on December 30th, and lasted until January 5th, 1900 clarifies some of the statements in Robinson's letters of December 19th and 26th. The *Evening Telegram* happily welcomed the *News* to its side of the fence. The initial Editorial, verbose though it may be, is related here because it appeared in the paper where Robinson once was the proprietor.

Daily News, Saturday, December 30th, 1899.

ALL ABOUT STAMPS

"We are informed that the *Herald's* statement of alleged 'facts' published under the above title, is very erroneous and misleading. The truth about the matter referred to is as follows: All obsolete stamps were offered for sale, by advertisement dated November 7th last, and immediately upon the publication of the first copy of the *Gazette* Mr. E. W. Pilot applied for \$200 worth of 1, 2, and 3 of the 'Cabot' issue, only to find that Mr. J. H. Montgomery had applied 20 minutes earlier for \$1200 worth, more than the entire stock of those particular kinds. The question is, how did Mr. Montgomery know they were to be put up for sale? Discussion arose, and thereupon a second advertisement was published dated November 8th last, offering the Cabot stamps for sale in 'sets' only, until the 26th of December, when their sale was to be unrestrained up to the 2nd of January next, when the surplus is to be destroyed by fire, thereby increasing the value of all stamps held by collectors. Consequently on Tuesday morning last (Dec. 26th) there was a run upon obsolete stamps, especially the 'Cabot' issue, and the results, that demand for the latter was very much greater than the supply. It was then announced that the application of Mr. Montgomery, made before the publication of the advertisement dated November 7th, would be regarded as ranking before application made on Tuesday last, and consequently that Mr. Montgomery would get all the ones and twos of the Cabot issue.

"Mr. Pilot thereupon took legal steps to protect his right to the stamps, applied for by him in regular manner in due course on Tuesday. He was acting for himself alone, not for any other person. The matter has not yet been settled and may not be without trouble. It smacks of an attempt to give one man a monopoly. One other error of the *Herald* requires correction.

"That Journal says: 'ALL THE CABOT STAMPS to be destroyed have been applied for five times over.' Those applied for will be sold to speculators while those unapplied for will be burned, thereby increasing the value of the stock held by speculators, and destroying thousands of dollars worth of stamps that the Colony might otherwise sell. The whole scheme is an outrage—a job in the interest of collectors, though put up probably without any such intention on the part of the Government, but with that result nevertheless. It must also be remembered that beside the 'Cabot' stamps, there are thousands of dollars worth of other issues to be destroyed. It may not be amiss to say that the stamps to be burned would net Ten Thousand dollars if sold by the Post Office, and that this vast sum is to be sacrificed to the folly and obstinacy of the COLONIAL SECRETARY. For the Postmaster General has been ignored and overruled in the whole matter and treated without respect for his age, experience or service. The members of the Governor's Council did not concur with the success of the proposal, if their outside talk can be relied on, but inside the Council are as mute as mice and meek as Moses in the presence of their Master the Colonial Secretary. The greater the consideration given to the reasons afforded on behalf of the Government for the intended destruction, the more absurd and insufficient they seem. To say 'we cannot audit them, therefore destroy them' is worse than childish folly. There are reasons for exercising care and vigilance but NOT warranting destruction, and we say again the proposed burning can only benefit speculators and can only be for that purpose. If the course now proposed be adopted several acute dealers, friends of the Government and

otherwise, will make their "Pile" and a number of private collections of stamps will be doubled in value, but the Public Treasury will lose thousands of dollars. The whole matter demands investigation in the Assembly when it meets, and doubtless will receive it.

Daily News, Tuesday, Jan. 2nd, 1900

**"POSTMASTER GENERAL
OVERRULED**

"The editorial on this day carried on in the same vein however stressing the fact that the poor Postmaster General was constantly overruled, ignored and otherwise belittled by the dominant Colonial Secretary."

To be continued

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62	4.00	187	2.00
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80	6.00	189	1.50
81	5.50	192	12.00
115	2.25	208	2.50
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BON MARCHÉ

The following are a few of the fabulous prices obtained at the Specialized British North America auction held on October 28th at Harmers' New York Gallery:

	Cat. Value	Realization
CANADA		
1851 Beaver 3p red on Laid Paper, used	\$ 550.00	\$1400.00
Prince Albert 6p grayish purple on Laid Paper, used	700.00	1800.00
6p on cover	700.00+	3750.00
1852-55 Wove Paper Beaver 3p deep red, used	165.00	475.00
3p, the Major Re-entry (47L1), extremely fine	165.00+	950.00
3p, vert. pair, upper pane Re-entry, used	330.00+	1250.00
3p, on Thick Hard Wove Paper, superb	165.00	1150.00
3p on Ribbed Paper, used	275.00	1150.00
3p on Thin Paper, used	165.00	340.00
Prince Albert 6p slate gray, lightly cancelled	600.00	1600.00
6p greenish gray, very lightly cancelled	600.00	1550.00
1857 Queen Victoria ½p rose, used	350.00	1450.00
1857 7½p green, lightly cancelled	1500.00	2100.00
1868-76 Large Queen 5c olive green, small part og.	500.00	1000.00
1897 Jubilee Issue 6c yellow brown n.h.	150.00	450.00
\$2 dark purple, o.g.	1450.00	2100.00
\$4 purple, n.h.	1600.00	5000.00
\$5 olive green, o.g.	1600.00	3000.00
6c yellow brown, block of four, n.h.	600.00	1500.00
10c brown violet, top Plate block of ten, n.h.	750.00+	2700.00
The complete set on pieces with Jul 19 1897 and Flag cancels, despite minor faults	4619.25	6250.00
\$4 purple, used	950.00	1600.00
1c orange, used on cover to Mexico		475.00
2c green, used on cover to Budapest, Hungary		360.00
6c yellow brown, on cover used locally	151.75+	550.00
8c dark violet, used on envelope Registered to Bremen, Germany	57.00+	1050.00
15c steel blue, on cover to Bremen, Germany	210.00+	1000.00
1949-50 Ovptd. "O.H.M.S." 50c dark blue green, block of four	1200.00	1600.00
NEW BRUNSWICK		
1851 Imperf 1sh bright red violet, used	2500.00	4500.00
NOVA SCOTIA		
1851 Imperf 3p blue, used	100.00	260.00
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THE CENTENNIAL DEFINITIVES STUDY GROUP

Booklets of the Centennial Issue

by DOUGLAS IRWIN

The booklets of the Centennial definitives have been found to contain many interesting varieties and errors. While there are catalogues available which have a good list of the basic booklets of this issue, many of the errors and varieties are not listed or described and those that are, appear in many different catalogues, price lists and reference material. This article will attempt to give a relatively complete listing of varieties and errors in Centennial booklets, as found by the Centennial definitives study group.

CS Bk 54, 25c booklet containing one pane of 5 x 1c + one pane of 5 x 4c + labels, issued February 1967.

The 4c stamps in this booklet have been reported¹ to come in regular and fluorescent red ink. It is our opinion that there is no fluorescent ink in this booklet issue. The 4c stamps are printed (in the same ink) on a cream coloured paper under UV light and on a rather dark grey paper under UV light. It is this latter, darker paper which makes the ink appear darker red and to some people fluorescent red.

A variety with the above centennial cover but containing one pane of 5 x 1c Cameo and one pane 5 x 4c Cameo Queens was listed in some catalogues.² We have never seen a copy of this variety and wonder if it does exist? If anyone has a copy, we would certainly like to hear about it.

The 25c booklet with the proper Centennial stamps inside can be found with the wax paper interleaf between the panes missing.

As all Centennial definitive booklet panes seem to exist on a variety of fluorescent grade papers under UV light, we will not mention this under all individual booklet listings.

CS Bk 55, 25c booklet containing one pane of 5 x 5c + label, issued March 1967.

A variety definitely occurs with a blue centennial cover but containing a pane of 5 x 5c blue cameo definitives. Legitimate

intact copies of this variety have a rubber gum seal along the stapled edge of the booklet (left edge) providing a quick and easy method of distinguishing between a real and faked copy (as the seal must be broken to remove a pane from the booklet).

CS Bk 56, 25c booklet containing one pane of 5 x 1c + 5 x 4c se tenant.

This marked the start of the British American Bank Note Company printed booklets. A new feature to appear on these booklets is an oblong mark (in the same colour ink as the cover) across the fold of every fiftieth booklet (referred to as counting marks for the remainder of the article).

CS Bk 57, \$1 booklet containing one pane of 25 x 4c stamps.

No significant varieties other than the counting mark on every fiftieth booklet.

CS Bk 58, \$1 booklet containing one pane of 20 x 5c stamps.

Overinking of the printing plate resulted in a variety commonly referred to as the "inlet variety", which takes the form of a blue line extending into the left margin about midway along the left edge of the stamp. Overinking is also evident along the shoulder strap on the Queen. The extent and locations of the stamps showing signs of overinking vary throughout the pane. Booklets with this overinking are almost as common as booklets inked properly. Counting marks can be found on the overinked booklets.

Some booklets have been found with a break in the necklace of the Queen, probably resulting from a foreign particle on the printing plate temporarily interfering with the inking. This variety occurs on the third stamp down the right column of the pane.

The amount of selvedge above the pane (attached to the cover) seems to vary slightly. In some instances, where the panes have a large selvedge, traces of the top of six numbers (inverted with respect to the stamps) can be seen along the top edge of

the selvedge in black ink. There appears to be at least two different sets of six numbers, but we have not seen copies where more than one-quarter of the number is showing, and hence we are unable to distinguish between a 2 and a 3 or an 8, 9 and 0. We would appreciate hearing from anyone who has a copy of this variety where the actual numbers can be identified.

CS Bk 59, 25c booklet containing one pane of 1 x 1c + 4 x 6c orange + label.

The majority of these booklet panes are printed in a non-fluorescent ink on a non-fluorescent paper (slight differences in paper colour under UV light are evident).

Some booklets can be found printed with a fluorescent orange ink. It is our opinion that there is only one shade of fluorescent ink. Since the paper colour varies from a cream to a dark grey under UV light, there appears to be different shades of fluorescent ink. The resultant shade of orange on white paper will be orange whereas the resultant shade of orange on grey paper will be more reddish than orange. Thus we feel that only one shade of fluorescent ink (orange) was used but on different coloured papers.

Some panes of these booklets were printed in non-fluorescent ink on strong white fluorescent paper (hibrite). Counting marks can be found on all three of the above varieties.

A fourth and rather scarce variety is shown in the photo. This booklet may have been used by Postal authorities to test postal machines. The cover has been stamped CANCELLED in black ink and the stamp pane inside has likewise been stamped CANCELLED in black. The pane has been cut off between the two rows of 6c orange stamps above the horizontal perforations (the reason is a mystery to us). The paper and ink are non-fluorescent.

CS Bk 60, \$1.50 booklet containing one pane of 25 x 6c orange stamps + label.

The panes of this booklet can be found on slightly different grades of fluorescent paper under UV light, some having fluorescent specks throughout the paper. Partial offsets on the gum have been found.

1. Canada The 1967-1973 Definitive Issue by Keane and Hughes, page 49.
2. Canada Specialized Catalogue, 1978, page 109 and Canada 1980 Booklet Catalogue by de Rooy & Hali, page 24.

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Re-perfs fooled Experts - for a time

by IAN ROBERTSON

Kingston Whig-Standard, Kingston, Ontario

A Canadian stamp dealer found it difficult to believe that anyone could have the effrontery to return so nonchalantly to the scene of a crime.

But when Harold E. Conyers walked into an Ontario shop this autumn—just over a year after being convicted of fraud in one of the strangest philatelic cases of recent years—he remembered the words of a letter written three days after his conviction.

"Hopefully," Conyers wrote to the dealer, "I will be able to send you some authenticated ones at some future date."

Conyers, a Montreal businessman, had been a customer at the dealer's shop. They had established a feeling of trust. But in 1979, that dealer was one of several in Ontario who fell victim to his fraud.

After being convicted of a Canadian Criminal Code charge of defrauding stamp dealers by re-perforating expensive mint stamps, Conyers was still corresponding with his victims and acting as if nothing serious had happened.

"I couldn't believe that letter," the dealer said. He never thought the ominous suggestion made in the letter, for future deals, would be followed by a visit to his store. When Conyers walked in, the dealer was "surprised all right. He indicated that he had some material that he had sent away for expertising. There was no mention of the previous incident. He seemed to indicate there was some problem with the stamps."

Conyers' case was bizarre. In fact, he had to prove to a police investigator that he had actually committed the crime. Detective Sergeant John Harrison, of the Ontario Provincial Police anti-rackets branch in Toronto, confronted Conyers in his home in the spring of 1979.

The quiet-spoken, middle-aged investment counsellor who had asked the officer during their initial telephone conversation to represent himself as a stamp collector when he arrived in Montreal, admitted re-perforating more than 200 stamps using an X-acto knife.

"When he told me how he did it," Det.-Sgt. Harrison said in an interview, "I didn't believe him. I told him, 'you'll have to show me'."

Conyers sat down at a table, picked up a magnifying glass and his cutting tool, and painstakingly began to cut tiny holes along the margin of an ordinary stamp. The officer, who had originally thought he was dealing with a case of counterfeiting, was convinced.

On June 12, 1979, Conyers, 59, was convicted in a Toronto courtroom. The provincial court judge took the philatelic fraud man's unblemished record and his display of remorse into consideration. Conyers was granted an absolute discharge, which under Canadian law, leaves him with only a record of a discharge, not with a record of criminal conviction. The key point to the judge's decision was Conyer's complete restitution to his victims, made prior to his court appearance.

The police handled the case with a summons rather than arresting Conyers.

Between January and April, 1979, Conyers spent £5,673.84 (\$15,886 Cdn.) during his purchases of 231 stamps from several dealers in Canada's largest province. Sometimes he bought in person, sometimes through mail auctions. He sold 67 of the re-perfed stamps, for which he paid £2,417.50 (\$6,769.10), for £4,236.79 (\$11,863) a £1,819.29 (\$4,863) profit.

According to the police, the Montreal collector kept three of the stamps he altered, for his own collection, sending 151 to 11 Ontario dealers on consignment for auction, on approval or for direct sale.

His scheme was exposed by members of the Vincent G. Greene Foundation in Toronto. For a £3.55 (\$10) fee, members of the volunteer organisation will examine a stamp to determine its quality, authenticity and condition. A certificate is then issued by the members, who consist of top collectors and dealers in the Toronto area.

John Talman, president and former secretary of the Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association, warned dealers about the re-perfed stamps. Conyers "figured if he got a certificate, he could sell them", Mr. Talman said in an interview at his Toronto shop.

One of the stamps, a mint, never-hinged \$1 Parliament (Gibbons No. 285), had been purchased from Talman, who recalled it

Conyers sent it to another dealer, with an asking price of just over £178 (\$500). That dealer took the stamp to John Young, vice-president of the Universal Stamp Corporation—regarded as a key figure in discovering Conyers' game. Talman had sold the stamp for approximately £107 (\$300), but had retained a photograph—which revealed the perforation differences along the re-done portion.

Talman's March 13, 1979, mail auction also provided another clue in the case. A photograph from the catalogue (Fig. 1) illustrated a mint, never-hinged 20-cent Quebec Tercentenary in fine condition. Conyers paid £46.43 (\$130) for this stamp (Gibbons No. 195), part of the 1908 series known for poor quality paper and poor centring. The police photographed the stamp (Fig. 2) showing the improved centring.

A second catalogue sale, by William R. Maresch, of R. Maresch & Sons, of To-

ronto, on March 22-23, 1979, provided police with another clue. A pair of mint, never-hinged \$1 Champlain monuments (Gibbons No. 351) in fine condition, was sold to Conyers for £107 (\$300). He separated the pair (Fig. 3), reperforating the edge of the bottom stamp, offering it for sale (Fig. 4) in a lot of 22 stamps sent to Toronto dealer Thomas Knox.

Knox bought three stamps, and sent the Champlain to the Vincent Greene Foundation. Maresch, a member of the board, recognised Conyers' name. When he checked his records, he found the Champlain pair. Closer examination showed the single stamp had been reperfed through the margin, but in a slightly wavy pattern. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police were contacted. They in turn, called in the OPP, who conducted counterfeit investigations in



Fig 1



Fig 2.



Fig 3.



Fig 4.

Ontario, and with whom responsibility rests for investigating fraud.

Conyers' activities were not limited to Toronto. Glenn McIntyre, owner of Glenn McIntyre Ltd., in the historic small city of Kingston, also knew Conyers.

"Collectors," McIntyre said, "have always tried to get well-centred stamps. Gum is a more recent thing." He said when he and his manager, John Meiboom, examined one of 11 stamps bought from Conyers, "we noticed a whitish tinge around perf holes, which suggested the perf holes were fresh". It was one of the infamous 1908 Tercentenary stamps. The stamp also appeared to be too small, although this series varies drastically because of poor quality control at the time they were printed.



1908 Tercentenary Stamp.

Conyers had dropped into the store from time to time over the years. The Kingston dealers were not immediately suspicious — until they read Talman's warning circular. McIntyre and Meiboom were lucky. They were able to order their bank to stop payment on their cheque for \$1,319.50 (£471) before it was cashed. According to the police, five of their 11 stamps could be proven to be reperfored — representing a potential £216 (\$636) loss.

Gaston St. Amour, another Toronto dealer, sustained a £344 (\$964) loss when seven of the eight stamps he bought from Conyers, were found to be reperms.

What drove Conyers to do it? According to his story to police, he had been collecting stamps for many years. Some were regummed, and from what he said in his letters to victims, some were reperfored. Because he kept three reperms for his own collection, it does not appear he was worried about having them.

Det.-Sgt. Harrison said if Conyers had reperfored the stamps and advised the buyers before they were sold, there would have been no crime. But as many opponents of so-called early "specimen" and "facsimile"

artists said, the cheaply-sold forgery could find itself into a collection quite easily as a legitimate stamp if the buyer was unscrupulous or if his collection was sold after his death, without his having noted the difference.

In an April 18th, 1979, letter to one dealer, Conyers wrote: "As far as I know, these are all fine quality stamps though we have been fooled from time to time. I have several times with reperf stamps which I can't tell."

He offered slight discounts from the catalogue prices — for bulk purchases. "There is a crying need for NH stamps, well centred, for 1930 issues and earlier," he wrote in an April 27, 1979, letter.

But three days after his conviction in court, he tried to cover his tracks and his reputation. "I am having a number of stamps inspected as I appear to have bought a number which may have been reperf which are about impossible to tell," he wrote on June 15th, 1979.

According to Det.-Sgt. Harrison, terms such as "these are all fine quality stamps though we have all been fooled from time to time" and "as far as I know" go a long way to suggest that Conyers was trying to lay the groundwork for protecting himself from guilt, if he were caught.

Talman objected to the court's leniency. "I think the judge took it lightly. I don't think he weighed the consequences of the evidence at all seriously."

He recommends that collectors and dealers can guard against being caught by such tricksters by dealing with reputable dealers, knowing the stamps, and paying for an expertising service. But another dealer said cases such as this jaundice both collectors and dealers. "It's taught me to distrust anybody." He felt he had built up a trust with Conyers, over a period of time.

But it is difficult for anyone to believe that Conyers did not know what he was doing — and proceeding with a profit motive in mind. Someone might reperf a straight-edge or poorly centred stamp for his own collection. But reperfing more than 200 stamps is a business, not a hobby, when only three were kept for his own collection.

This article was picked up from 'Philately', journal of the British Philatelic Federation. It was put in Topics at the last minute, so that neither the editor nor the proofreader had an opportunity to read the galleys. — Editor.

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February 1, 1981

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

- 4055 CORMIER, Merv J., 2 Rosedale Cr., St. John, N.B. E2J 3G4. C—Perfins, 1967 Centennial issue, Admirals. Proposed by E. J. Whiting, L-61.
- 4056 NAVARY, James T., P.O. Box 15278, Chesapeake, VA 23320. C—BNA mint singles, covers, postal history. Proposed by E. J. Whiting, L-61. Former member No. 3744.
- 4057 TRAQUAIR, R. Scott, 202—2000 Main St. W., Hamilton, Ont. L8S 4M9. C—Canada used singles; '67 Centennial definitives; Post Cards. Proposed by E. J. Barnett, L-3496, seconded by R. S. Traquair, 1046.
- 4058 VEINOTTE, Graydon H., 266 Kenilworth Ave., Toronto, Ont. M4L 3S9. C—Canada general mint and used singles, varieties, philatelic literature. Proposed by E. J. Whiting, L-61.
- 4059 SCHWEIZER, Dietrich H., 611—1285 Lakeshore Rd. E., Mississauga, Ont. L5E 1G4. C—Canada general, Nos. 586-593A, 603, 604. Proposed by A. Chung, 3814, seconded by A. L. Steinhart, 2010.
- 4060 MASCIERI, Russell S., 800 Kings Hwy. N., Ste. 304, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034. D—Canada Pence issues, Large and Small Queens. Proposed by J. S. Siverts, 59.
- 4061 HAMPTON, David J., Box 449, Quinnesec, MI 49876. C—Canada tagged/luminescent, Newfoundland, varieties. Proposed by U. H. Wesengi, 2616, seconded by N. A. Hayne, 2650.
- 4062 BUCKLER, Eugene J., 228 Hillhurst Blvd., Toronto, Ont. M5N 1P4. C—Squared circle postmarks, Century fancy cancels. Proposed by J. A. Hennok, 1969, seconded by R. F. Narbonne, 2415.
- 4063 GERRY, Miss Jo-Anne M., R.R. 3, Komoka, Ont. N0L 1R0. C—Canada Pence Issues; Large Queens; Jubilees; dated cancels. Proposed by R. W. Cuthbert, 3799; seconded by D. I. Jorgensen, 3373.
- 4064 HALLETT, Crispin J., 689 Carney St., Prince George B.C. V2M 2K5. C—Canada Large Queens; Small Queens; Cents Issues. Proposed by L. G. Killeen 3895.
- 4065 BINNEY, W. Paul, P.O. Box 1152, Truro, N.S. B2N 5H1. C—N.S. and N.B. stamps and postal history. Proposed by C. Smith, 3181; seconded by D. Hollingshead, L-2622.
- 4066 MACKENZIE, Margaret P. J., 40 Simcoe St., Ottawa, Ont. K1S 1A4. C—Newfoundland; Medical History on Stamps. Proposed by J. E. Craemer, 774; seconded by C. R. McGuire, L-2859.
- 4067 SIDOR, Alex., 50 Greyabbey Tr., West Hill, Ont. M1E 1V7. D—(Guildwood Philatelics) Newfoundland blocks, varieties, literature. Proposed by C. A. Stillions, 2495; seconded by A. G. Burrows, 2741.
- 4068 ROSS, Lewis N., 1500 Howard Ave., Burlingame, CA 94010. C—Admirals; Coils of Canada; Canada general. Proposed by E. J. Whiting, L-61.
- 4069 BEHM, Michael, No. 32, 201 Erb St. W., Waterloo, Ont. N2L 1V6. C—Canada and Newfoundland mint and used 19 and 20 Cent Perfins. Proposed by C. L. Hogg, 3404.
- 4070 McINTOSH, James D., 246 Slater St., Ottawa, Ont. K1P 5J1. D—(J. D. McIntosh Philatelist Ltd.) B.N.A. Proposed by Ian Kimmerly, 3314, seconded by P. L. Fournier, 2296.

- 4071 DAVIS, Jack, P.O. Box 1839, Peterborough, Ont. K9J 7X6. C—Military Mail; Registered stamps, covers, cancellations, literature; Perfins. Proposed by J. C. Campbell, 2986.
 4072 WARREN, Lewis E., 82 Cleveland Rd., Worthing, Sussex BN13-2HE England. C—Canada general, Cents issues, Large Queens. Proposed by C. G. Banfield, 2923.
 4073 BAKE, Doug. J., 1854 Byng Rd., Windsor, Ont. N8W 3C9. C—Canada general, George V, Small Queens, Proposed by P. A. Muirhead, 2991, seconded by R. Simrak, 3046.
 4074 MORGAN, Charles W., 1312 Stafford La., Sarasoa, FL 33582. C—Canada Officials; Tagged/Luminescent; R.P.O. Cancels; Perfins. Proposed by E. J. Whiting, L61.

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 3940 Hoffman, Herbert D., 204—15 Foothill Ave., Hollis, NY 11423
 2557 Hughes, Dr. Harley J., 5th Floor, West Arthur Pl., Thunder Bay, Ont. P7E 6E7
 2855 Kalbfleisch, James G., 140 Manchester Rd., Kitchener, Ont. N2B 1A2
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 3655 Trimble, Ralph E., P.O. Box 532, Station A, Scarborough, Ont. M1K 5C3
 3983 de Rooy, Walter M. A., Peolland 1, 5144 EP Waalwijk, Netherlands
 3394 Schmidt, John G., 81 McMaster St., Owego, NY 13827
 3272 Comeau, Robert, Box 129, New Germany, Lunenburg County, N.S. B0R 1E0
 3573 Hadden, J. Alex, 1160 W. 13th Ave., Apt. 103, Vancouver, B.C. V6H 1N3
 3071 Hodges, Dr. D. M., Box 12, SS No. 3 Carmel, Prince George, B.C. V2N 2S7
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Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The British North America Philatelic Society

Held at McAllen, Texas on November 8, 1980.

The meeting was called to order by President des Rivieres at 10.03 a.m.

There were 58 members present.

Reading of the previous meeting's minutes was dispensed with since they have been published in "BNA Topics" and no changes or corrections have been offered.

There were no communications to be presented.

President des Rivieres made a very brief report thanking all those who had worked with him and especially the Texas Prairie Beavers for hosting such a fine convention.

Chairman of the Board of Governors, Bob Pratt made his brief remarks outlining the Board's activities during the past year and echoing the thanks of Guy des Rivieres.

2nd Vice President Will Rockett urged us to increase the number of Regional Groups as they are the real "grass-roots" of the Society. That is where most friendships are made and developed along with philatelic specialization.

Secretary Ed. Whiting reported our membership statistics*. He also reported that this year's Emeritus Members are: Walter R. Hoffman, No. 10, Arthur B. Moll, No. 68, and J. F. Wilson, No. 196. The winner of the President's Certificate for proposing the most new members during the year 1979 is Guy des Rivieres. The winner of the V. G. Greene Award for the best article, series of articles, column or series of columns authored by a member or members of BNAPS and which was originally published in "BNA Topics" during 1979 is Charles de Volpi.

Reports were presented by or on behalf

of Treasurer Ed Harris* Advertising Mgr., Dr. Art Groten*, Sales Circuit Manager, Charles W. Aubin*, Membership Committee Chairman, C. A. Stillions*, Editor, Derek Hayter*, Editorial Board Chairman*, Handbook Committee Chairman, Mike Dicketts*, and are appended at the end of these minutes.

The Canada West Regional Groups Co-ordinator, Trelle Morrow reported verbally on the activities in his area. His plea for an increase in Regional Groups was echoed by Ed Harris, N. N. Sheklian, and Ed Whiting.

The report by the new chairman of the Permanent Convention Committee, Ron McGuire, indicated that we are all set for 1981, 1982 and 1983 with conventions scheduled for Ottawa, Virginia Beach and Winnipeg respectively. There is a suggestion for a possible 1984 convention in Bermuda. Calgary put a bid in for 1985, San Francisco bid for 1986 with Carmel, California as a possible site. St. John's, Newfoundland bid for a year that was already committed and they will be offered 1987 as the next open date unless other arrangements can be effected.

On behalf of Henri Reinhard, Chairman of the Talley Committee, Ed Whiting read the report on the result of the 1980 elections of officers for the Society.

It was requested, and Ed Whiting said he would endeavour to have the several Regional and Study Groups listed in the "Official Section" of "BNA Topics" with as much information as possible.

The meeting adjourned at 11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Edward J. Whiting, Secretary

MEMBERSHIP AND CIRCULATION RECAP

As of November 8, 1980 — BNAPS

Stated membership as of the 1979 convention	1,537
Additions during 1980:	
Replaced on the Rolls	9
Resignation Withdrawn	1
New Members	77
New Life Members	7
	<hr/>
	1,631

Deletions during 1980:			
Deceased	19		
Resigned	42		
Dropped from the Rolls	74	—	135
Error in 1979 count	9	+	9
Total membership as of November 8, 1980			1,505
Applications OK'd pending publication	22		
Applications pending publication and acceptance	13		
Published applications pending acceptance	8		
Published and accepted applications to be added to the Rolls	2	+	45
Membership circulation for "Topics"			1,550
Administrative circulation:			
Advertising Manager	3		
Circulation Manager	75		
Editor	15		
Librarian	5		
Secretary	5		
Treasurer	2	+	105
Subscription circulation:			
Archives of Ontario	1		
BABNCo	1		
CBNC (Moody & Flemming)	2		
Canada Post Marketing	1		
Philadelphia Free Library	1		
Robson Lowe Ltd.	1		
University of B.C.	1		
Vancouver Public Library	1		
Wisc. Historical Society	1	+	10
Exchange circulation:			
APRL	1		
CPS-GB	2		
CCNY	1		
H. R. Harmer	1		
Ice Cap News	1		
Maple Leaves	1		
NPS	1		
RPSC	2		
SPA Journal	1		
Stanley Gibbons — London	1	+	13
Total "Topics" circulation			1,681

**BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES**

as at June 30, 1980
(with comparative figures for June 30, 1979)
(United States Dollars)

ASSETS

Current Assets

	Year Ended	
	June 30/80	June 30/79
Cash in Bank	1,156	12,188

Cash held by Dept. Heads	2,390	1,717
Petty Cash	—	193
Term Deposits	33,554	23,230
Accounts Receivable	3,134	
Less Allowance for Doubtful Accts.	144	2,990
Inventory — Books	—	1,970
Prepaid Expenses	609	1,431

Restricted Funds

Marketable Securities — at cost	2,466	2,466
	<u>45,135</u>	<u>45,401</u>

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	8,752	3,214
Due Owners on Sales Circuits	938	1,209
Prepaid Dues	6,016	6,797
	<u>15,706</u>	<u>11,220</u>

Fund Balances

 General Funds

Appropriated — Convention Funds	410	916
— Insurance Fund	4,775	4,529
— Life Membership Fund	1,451	1,288
	<u>6,636</u>	<u>6,733</u>
Unappropriated — Members Equity	15,892	20,547

Total General Funds	22,528	27,280
Restricted Funds		
BNAPS Foundation	6,901	6,901
	<u>45,135</u>	<u>45,401</u>

**BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF OPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
for the year ended June 30, 1980**

(with comparative figures for the year ended June 30, 1979)
(United States Dollars)

	Year Ended	
	June 30/80	June 30/79
Revenues		
Dues	13,631	14,286
Fees	85	146
Book Department (Schedule I)	274	287
Interest	2,603	1,745
Dividends	180	180
Gain on Foreign Exchange	1,680	39
Sales Circuit Dept. (Schedule II)	713	(6)
	<u>19,166</u>	<u>16,677</u>

Expenditures

BNA Topics (Schedule III)	15,532	10,943
Library and Circulation Dept. (Schedule IV)	133	193
Stationery and Supplies	(31)	465
Postage	478	611
Bad Debts	45	547
Insurance Expense	476	147
Membership Roster	2,826	—
BNAPEX '80	1,543	—
Handbook Expense	1,190	—
Bank Charges	34	—
Other Expense	26	45
	<u>22,252</u>	<u>12,951</u>
Excess of Expenditures over Revenues	3,086	(3,726)

**BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
SCHEDULES
for the year ended June 30, 1980
(United States Dollars)**

June 30/80 June 30/79

SCHEDULE I**Book Department**

Sale of Books	1,169	1,173
Cost of Books Sold	773	821
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Gross Sales Revenue	396	352
Less Expenditures	122	65
	<u>274</u>	<u>287</u>

SCHEDULE II**Sales Circuit Department**

Commissions	682	85
Less expense	(31)	91
	<u>713</u>	<u>(6)</u>

SCHEDULE III**BNA Topics Revenues and Expenditures****Expenditures**

Printing	14,663	11,554
Mailing and Postage	3,591	2,758
Other	86	329
	<u>18,340</u>	<u>14,641</u>
Advertising Revenue	2,808	3,698
	<u>15,532</u>	<u>10,943</u>

SCHEDULE IV**Library and Circulation Departments**

Miscellaneous Sales of Topics	215	100
Donations to Library	—	—
	<u>215</u>	<u>100</u>
Library Expense	165	139
Circulation Department Expense	183	154
	<u>(133)</u>	<u>(193)</u>

**ANNUAL REPORT
ADVERTISING MANAGER
BNA TOPICS — 1980**

This year's advertising billings totaled \$3,291.80, \$6.75 less than last year. This stability is due to our contract advertisers since transient display ads and classified ads accounted for only 10% of the total. We owe those advertisers our thanks for their continued support despite renewed production problems.

An increase in advertising rates is currently under consideration, our last having been made four years ago. Details will be published in *Topics* when available.

Respectfully submitted,
Arthur H. Groten, M.D.

SALES MANAGER'S REPORT

October 31, 1980

Mr. Robert H. Pratt
Chairman of the Board of Governors
British North America Philatelic Society

Dear Sir:

When I first received your instructions to discontinue the circuit, I was shocked to say the least, but after some deliberation I realized it was the only reasonable thing to do.

I had lulled myself into believing the circuit was doing well due to increased sales when in reality, the increase was due almost totally to one exceptional collection of 26 books of mint never hinged and mint hinged material, very reasonably priced, from one member. The bulk of this material was purchased by dealer and part time dealer members and a fair amount of the provincial material and remainders by myself.

It is perhaps a sign of the times that we are unable to get members to submit good specialized material. This type of material is generally being sold through auction or private treaty, where the turn around time is very short. The old sources of massive amounts of material seem to have either dried up or the members are deceased.

Only a handful of members supply books to the circuit. At the best of times, with the bulk of the stamps being general used, older and current low value definitives with a scattering of better and specialized stamps. A fair portion of the books should not even have been accepted for distribution, but we had to have something to circulate.

During the three years I have handled the circuit, only eleven members submitted more than ten books in total, and only two of these more than twenty. One member, in fact, owned more than half the books that I had on hand, and as each book was almost an exact duplicate of the next, covering the same period of time, with almost the exact same stamps. There were insufficient different books to send them all on circuit.

It is extremely discouraging to send ten books on circuit to ten members, have them take from two and one-half to three and one-half months to return, with sales of less than \$50.

Due to lack of material, poor postal service, membership abuse and generally poor sales, most books were over-extended just to keep the circuit functioning, although poorly. I offer my sincere apologies for any embarrassment I may have caused the society by doing so. What I should have done was recommend termination of the circuit at least a year ago.

Although I appealed to the membership on several occasions through *Topics*, it was not very successful. With the exception of Mr. Rockett and Mr. Pike, even the members of the society executive, knowing of the problem, did not enter one single book, thus you can see what I was up against.

(Here Mr. Aubin describes major illnesses among several members of his near family.—*Ed.*)

I had intended to go to Texas for the convention but my entire four weeks holidays were taken up with the above family problems. As you can see, my time has been severely limited, so much so, that even my personal income tax which was due in April was not forwarded until September.

I am presently in the process of returning all books to their owners. This will be completed by mid-November. I am still trying to solve the problem of a missing circuit in Victoria, B.C. The member sending the circuit to another member in Victoria, has been unable to receive any satisfaction from the post office in Victoria and I have tried with no avail to reach the member to whom it was forwarded. As a last hope, we are going through the main post office in Vancouver. If they cannot come up with anything, we will have to approach our Insurance Company. When this is solved, the Bank Account will be closed out and all books turned over to the treasurer.

May I offer my sincere wishes for a successful convention.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles W. Aubin
Sales Manager

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1979-80

During the past year the Secretary forwarded 67 applications to the Membership Chairman for investigation. The investigation consisted mainly of checking the applicant's references. All applicants not proposed and seconded by BNAPS members are automatically referred to the Membership Chairman for checking of references. Of the 67 applicants referred to the Chairman, 54 have been approved, 2 rejected, and the remaining 11 are in various stages of investigation. One applicant was rejected because he failed to provide references. This is the most common cause for rejection. The second was rejected for failure to discharge philatelic obligations to a BNAPS member.

Because of the early deadlines and the long time required to distribute "Topics", the Chairman's check of an applicant's references is usually completed by the time an applicant's name becomes known to the membership at large. Any member who has an objection to any applicant is strongly urged to communicate that objection to the Secretary or to the Membership Chairman as soon as the member knows of the application.

This report is respectfully submitted,
Clarence A. Stillions,
Membership Chairman

EDITOR'S 1980 REPORT

We have continued to strive for a more realistic publishing schedule; the ideal would be the midway point of each two-month period. Snags to achieving this goal have been the availability of the editor and proof reader, both of whom are frequently preoccupied with other matters which sometimes involve extensive travel. The antics of the Canadian Post Office have also led to delayed delivery, as has the slowness at many times of the printer.

It's been a good year for contributing writers, with several authoritative articles published. Our thanks are due to the

authors of these stories, and also to authors of regular columns.

If we were able to build up a bank of manuscript material, it would be possible to make an earlier start on the issues. In this way a more realistic publishing schedule could be achieved.

Respectfully submitted,
Derek Hayter

EDITORIAL BOARD CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Constant delays have plagued Topics this past year. Mail strikes, printing delays, proofreader problems and editor travelling absences have caused us no end of problems. Supervision and discussion was always taking place with an attempt to have the magazine printed before the end of the two month publication period. The Sept.-Oct. issue went back to the printers two-three weeks ago and will be in the mailers' hands shortly. The problems persist.

Attempts to rectify the difficulties will continue.

I have no further comment.
John H. M. Young,
Chairman,
Editorial Board

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

The Society is fortunate in having Harry Machum take over the job as Librarian for the BNAPS as he lives in Lively, Ontario where the library was formerly housed by Mike Squirell. Mike turned over the library the start of the year and the Society is indebted to Mike for doing such a good job over the last few years.

The Librarian's report has been sent to the Chairman of the Board of Governors.

Respectfully submitted,
V. G. Greene

HANDBOOKS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

8 November 1980

I'm pleased to report that there has been a lot of activity in the field of BNA publishing within the Society since last September.

The Board gave approval in Quebec to reprinting the Perfin Handbook, and to

publishing the Tobacco Tax paid supplement. Further, approval was given to publishing Bob Pratt's Newfoundland Revenues and Postal Stationery.

Sales of the Perfin reprint are acceptable since its publication of 500 copies last November. Lee Brandom encountered delays in finalizing his work. I have Bob Pratt's manuscript and quotations are under consideration. Bill Simpson has not yet come through with his promised work on Small Queens.

Correspondence with Trelle Morrow concerning a planned Semi-Official Airs book has resulted in the promise of an interesting addition to our future publications list. Of great importance is the long-awaited news on the Squared Circle handbook, and we are all indebted to Glenn Hansen for his perseverance in getting this underway.

Correspondence with Lee Brandom over Fred Vilter's manuscript on Liquor Tax Stamps; with Gary Scrimgeour on a book about broken circle cancels; with Lew Ludlow on R.P.O.'s and with Wally Gutzman on patriotic post cards, not only indicate I'm earning my keep, but suggest some interesting subjects for future publications.

(Report received unsigned — Ed.)

REPORT OF THE TALLY COMMITTEE

8 November 1980

Following is the tally of ballots for the contested positions in the 1980 election of officers and board members:

Treasurer:

Edmund A. Harris	439
Marva A. Paige	150

Board of Governors:

Russell B. Allison (U.S.)	271
Leo J. LaFrance (U.S.)	427
Wilmer C. Rockett (U.S.)	340
John S. Siverts (U.S.)	335
C. Ronald McGuire (Can.)	465
William L. Simpson (Can.)	503
Harry Sutherland (Can.)	484

Due to the close count between Rockett and Siverts, and the fact that the lead has changed several times, I will notify you should there be any further change.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Henri E. Reinhard, No. 298

(Report received unsigned — Ed.)

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

ISSUE No. 2

I would like to discuss in some detail two recent changes in the Society's operations affecting *Topics* and the Sales Department. When I joined BNAPS in 1960 John Young and Vinnie Greene were already active in publishing *Topics*. Twenty years later John is still active as Chairman of the Editorial Board, working with Derek Hayter, the Editor for a number of years. Putting out *Topics* is a tough, demanding job — a time consuming job — and BNAPS members owe John and Derek a real vote of thanks for these many years of service. However, they have now requested us to accept their resignations, since they no longer have the time required to do the job the way they would like it done. They have agreed to continue through June, so that we will have time to find a new Editor and Editorial Board and have an orderly transition. Mike Street has agreed to become Editor effective 7/1/81 and will begin to develop some background from Derek and start planning for the July/August issue. More on this later.

Over the last several years there have been many complaints about the operation of the Sales Department, particularly from members contributing material for sale in the sales circuits. Thanks to some hard work by Ed Harris and others, we can now report that all books in the Sales Department have been retired and returned to their owners except those in a circuit which was lost. We are working on this circuit and should be able to settle those books shortly, perhaps by the time this column is published. If anyone has not received all his books, please write immediately to Ed Harris.

We have been fortunate in getting Bob Jamieson of Islington, Ontario to become the new Sales Circuit Manager. With the final wrapup of the previous operations, Bob is now ready to start a new program. He has some excellent new ideas for working with groups and we plan to make some previous practices official again. For example, all books will be retired no later than one year after submission. We used to service over 400 members some years ago in the Sales Department and our aim is to get back to that level. Bob will be after many of you for help, but don't wait until he contacts you. Start sending him material now!!

— Jim Lehr

Letters and Announcements

Revenue Find

At the BNAPS Convention in McAllen I exhibited a new discovery in connection with R258, the \$5.00 Excise stamp. There was an erroneous report on this in the Canadian Revenue Newsletter.

The correct description is mint, never hinged, single \$5 value in Orange rather than Vermilion—the normal color. It matches the shade of the \$3 value perfectly.

With the similarity of a 3 and a 5 in a relatively small print, I suspect that the wrong plate may have been selected to print some of the \$3 stamps. In all probability the error was discovered almost immediately, and the sheets printed in error were destroyed with the exception of perhaps only one pane which avoided detection. This is pure conjecture on my part. But if it has taken 60 years for an example to come to light perhaps not many got into the hands of the public.

The stamp was given a certificate by the Vincent Graves Greene Foundation.

—Harry Lussey



I've noticed your plea to the members that *Topics* needs more letters, comments, manuscripts, etc. So here's a letter pleading for more articles—not new ones but some of the goodies that appeared in *Topics* long ago. That's right, I'm asking you to recycle some of the best articles—"The Best of *Topics*!"

I wonder how many members who have

quit BNAPS, quit because they lost interest in *Topics* since it had few, if any, articles on their area of interest. I've contemplated quitting myself for this reason. Perhaps worse than turning people off *Topics*, we could be turning people away because they see little in *Topics* for them. I strongly feel that a 'Best of' series would attract new members, about-to-quit members would reconsider, and that the tired blood of the faithful would be rejuvenated.

—Peter de Groot

We welcome a worthwhile suggestion which will be put before the Editorial Board for consideration. —Ed.

Postage Meter Study Group Takes Off

Describing itself as "an informal avenue of information exchange," a number of postage meter collectors invite people with the same interest to join the Canadian Postage Meter Study Group.

The group plan to publish brief articles, identify new varieties and trade Canadian meter material. Initially, the Canadian Meter Study Group will be affiliated with the Postal History Society of Canada.

Contact:

Clay Rubec, 2473 Huntley Avenue, Ottawa, Ont., Canada K1V 8E7

Ross Irwin, Box 1263, Guelph, Ont., Canada N1H 6H6.

Canada \$2 Plate 2

Canada Post released for sale in Ottawa on 4 February Plate 2 of the Kluane National Park stamp.

—R. K. Malott

WHY NOT SEND US AN ARTICLE
OR A LETTER FOR PUBLICATION
IN BNA TOPICS?

Cachets

Can any member identify these cachets or the maker. The Alouette is in blue, thermographic printed.

— Stuart A. Clark

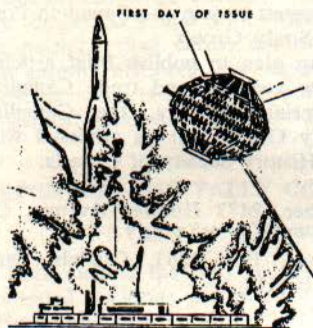
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BNAPEX '81

SKYLINE HOTEL - OTTAWA, ONTARIO
SEPTEMBER 24-26, 1981

Here are the exhibition rules and entry forms,
plus the official hotel reservation

EXHIBIT RULES: BNAPEX '81

Who May Enter — The Exhibition is restricted to members of BNAPS in good standing.

What May Be Exhibited — The Exhibition is restricted to British North America material, as outlined in the classification.

Entries Are Limited — No exhibitor may show more than one entry in any group or sub-group.

- All entries shall be the bona fide property of the exhibitor.
- The Host Group may have the right to restrict the number of frames for any one entry, but in no case will the restriction be less than four frames. It is suggested that entries not exceed eight frames.
- Entries must consist of at least two frames.
- No entry, having been awarded the Grand Award at a previous BNAPEX may compete in open competition again. The exhibitor is restricted however **only** in that group or sub-group where the Grand Award was won.

Type Exhibition — Open Show basis.

Judges — Three experienced judges, all members of BNAPS, have been selected by the Host Group.

No judge may enter the competition.

AWARDS

The classification is for purposes of properly organizing the exhibition, and also for the purpose of restricting the Grand Award winners. **They have no other purpose in determining awards.**

The Exhibition is to be judged on an open-show basis, using modified International Show standards.

The number of awards in total, and by grades, shall be determined only by the quality of the exhibits on display.

In no way should it be interpreted that any given number of awards must be given to any group or combination of groups.

BNAPS EXHIBITION CLASSIFICATION

CLASS I — COURT OF HONOUR

This classification is reserved for exhibits "by invitation only," and includes:

- Postal administrations and museums
- Outstanding private collections

CLASS II — COMPETITIVE GROUP

A—PRE-ADHESIVE AND/OR STAMPLESS COVERS OF CANADA, NEWFOUNDLAND, AND/OR ANY BNA PROVINCE(S).

- B—Covers of Canada, Newfoundland, and/or any BNA Province(s)
- B1—19th Century to (1897)
- B2—20th Century (from 1897)

C—PROVINCES

- C1—British Columbia and Vancouver Island
- C2—New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island

D—CANADA (Victorian Issues)

- D1—1851-59, the Pence and Decimal Issues
- D2—1868-92, Large and Small Queen, Widow Weeds and Registration Issues
- D3—1897-02, Diamond Jubilee, Leaf, Numeral and Maps

E—CANADA (Early 20th Century)

- E1—King Edward and Quebec Issues
- E2—Admiral Issues and War Tax
- E3—George V, 1927-35

F—CANADA (Modern Issues)

- F1—George VI
- F2—Elizabeth II, including Semi-Postals
- F3—Officials, Overprinted or Perfin
- F4—Special Delivery, Postage Due, Officially Sealed

G—Airmails

- G1—Newfoundland Airmails and/or Covers
- G2—Canadian Semi-Official Airmails and/or Covers
- G3—Canadian Government Issues and Flights

H—POSTAL SPECIALTIES

- H1—Canadian and Newfoundland Booklets and Panes
- H2—Canadian Coils, Miniature Sheets, Souvenir Cards, Plate Numbers and imprint studies

J—CANCELLATION STUDIES (on or off covers)

K—PRECANCELS, INCLUDING PRECANCELLED POSTAL STATIONERY

L—POSTAL STATIONERY OF CANADA AND NEWFOUNDLAND

M—POSTAL HISTORY SPECIALTIES

N—REVENUES

O—NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED

NOTE: Proofs and Essays should be entered in the group to which they belong; thus pence and decimal Canadian proofs would be entered under D-D1. However if showing all 19th century proofs then enter merely as II-D.

Freaks, plate varieties, etc., should be entered in accordance with the above instructions.

Specialized collections of single stamps should be entered in the group or sub-group for that particular issue. It is not necessary to exhibit all the material listed in the sub-group.

CLASS III—NOVICE

This special section has been allowed by the Board of Governors with the intent to encourage new exhibitors at the show and is open to any member who has not previously exhibited at a BNAPEX show. This section is non-classified.

GENERAL

Insurance shall be the responsibility of the exhibitor. While the Host Group shall take every reasonable means to provide security for the exhibition there shall be no responsibility or liability attached to the Society, its officers, committees, members, host, for any loss or damages to any exhibit or part of any exhibit for any reason whatsoever.

The exhibitor, by reason of his signature on this application agrees to the acceptance of these rules and regulations.

The BNAPEX '81 Committee recommends that exhibits be personally delivered rather than be sent through the mails.

PLATING CANADA'S
2c STAMP
OF 1864

by ARTHUR H. GROTEN, M.D.



BNAPS HANDBOOK — \$1.50

Plating Canada's 2c Stamp of 1864

by ARTHUR H. GROTEN, M.D.

To date, only two significant studies of this stamp have appeared. Sen. James A. Calder's appeared in *The Collectors Club Philatelist* (Vol. 38, No. 1). He described frameline extensions in the corners and 10 constant varieties. He made a number of ascriptions of the former to given plate positions but only 3 of the latter.

Geoffrey Whitworth, in his book *The First Decimal Issue of Canada*, reiterated Calder's findings and added a few comments based on his own studies.

This article will report all known information and is divided into two parts. The first considers the use of the frameline extensions as the key to plating this stamp. It also presents the imprint positions. The second collates the previously noted flaws with new ones. Both sections derive much of their information from close study of a complete sheet of plate proofs, in green, with imprints. The imprints date the sheet to early 1865, corresponding to stamps printed to fill order 2.

Part 1: The Plating

Except for a SW corner guide dot, there are no marginal guide dots to aid plating. However, examination of the proof sheet has enabled a methodology for plating the 2c to be developed.

The illustrations below (figs. 1 and 2) demonstrate the corner frameline extensions that occur, in various combinations, at many positions. Some positions have none. The lack of consistency of these extensions and the presence of numerous frameline recuts (see Part 2) suggest that the extensions are not transfer roll flaws but rather the result of considerable reworking of the plate by hand. Flaw E, in the SE2, is probably a transfer roll flaw, although, contrary to Whitworth's statement in his book, it varies in location from position to position, sometimes quite markedly. This variability is quite helpful for plating. To date, there has been no satisfactory explanation of the cause of Flaw E.



FIG. 1 VERTICAL
FRAMELINE EXTENSIONS
AND FLAW E IN SE 2



FIG. 2 HORIZONTAL
FRAMELINE EXTENSIONS

The key (fig. 3) shows many positions which can be plated on the basis of a characteristic distribution of these extensions. Well centered copies showing all 4 margins could be plated in this manner; unfortunately, the 2c is notorious for its poor centering. Multiples are somewhat easier to plate.

Each position in the key is divided into

upper and lower sections. The upper section pertains to vertical frameline extensions (Boxes 1-4) and Flaw E (Box 5), while the lower pertain to horizontal extensions (Boxes 6-9). An X in the appropriate box indicates the presence of that extension or Flaw E while a dot indicates only a slight extension or flaw. The extensions are coded as follows:

1	2	3
4	5	
6	7	8
9		

- Extension A in upper left corner — vertical Box 1
- horizontal Box 6
- Extension B in upper right corner — vertical Box 2
- horizontal Box 7
- Extension C in lower right corner — vertical Box 3
- horizontal Box 8
- Extension D in lower left corner — vertical Box 4
- horizontal Box 9
- Flaw E: dash in Southeast 2 Box 5

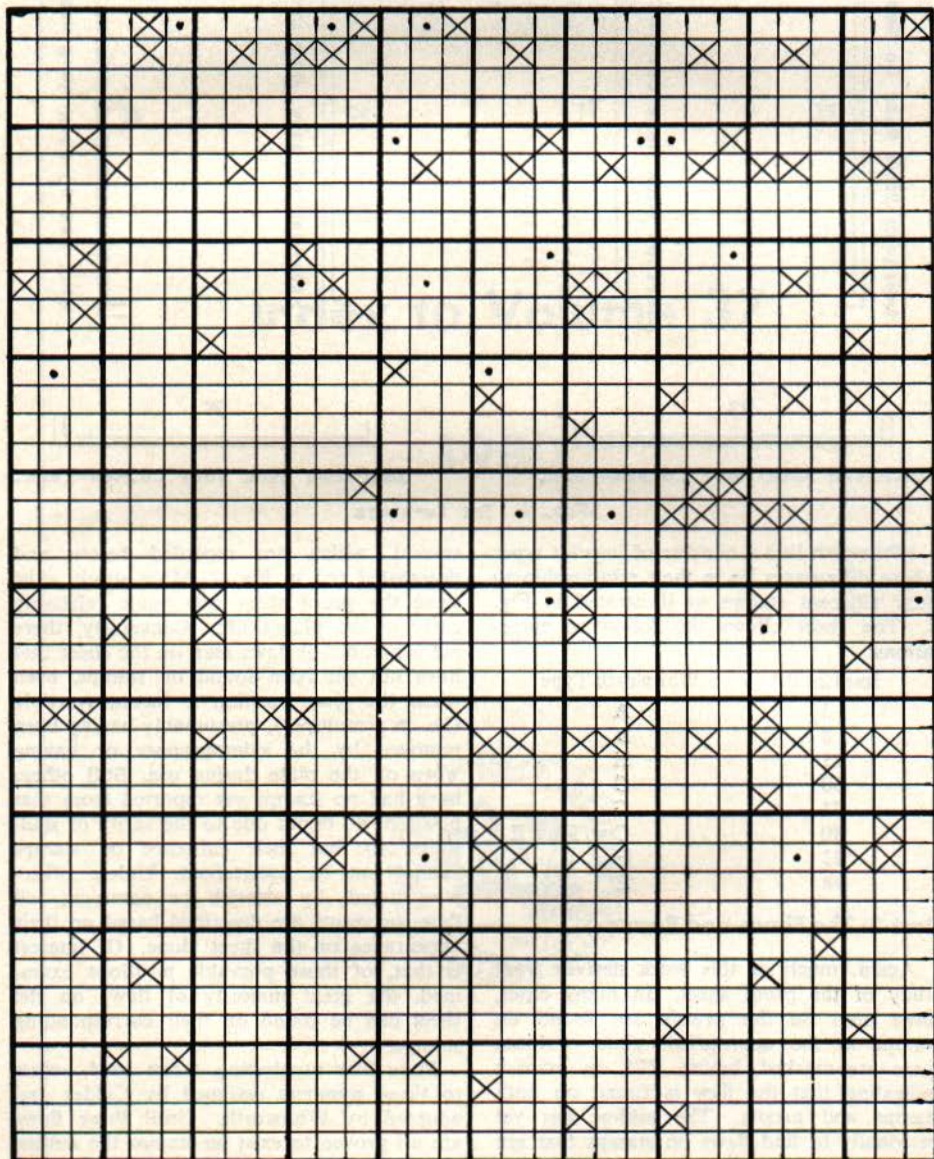


FIG. 3 KEY TO PLAYING THE 2^d 1864

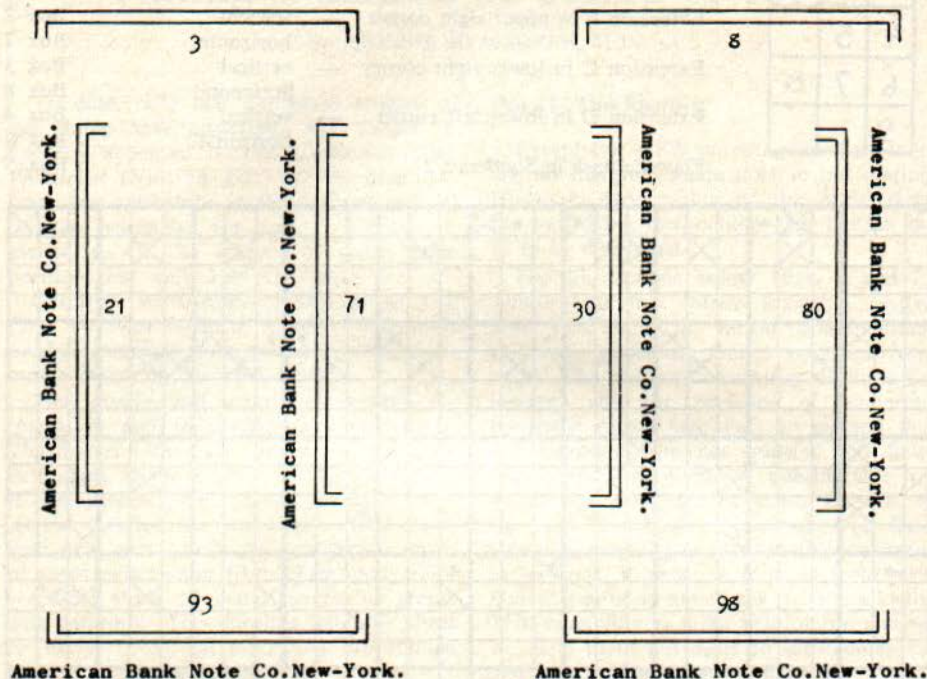


FIG. 4 THE IMPRINTS

Whitworth lists a number of imprint types whose differences lie in their relationship to their adjacent stamps as illustrated in Fig. 4. The sheet allows the following correlations:

Imprint PP	Whitworth Type
3	A
8	B
21	H
30	C
71	G
80	C w/Flaw E
93	F
98	E

Part 2: The Flaws and Recuts

Again, much of this work derives from study of the proof sheet. In many cases, flaws seen on the proofs are found on stamps at the appropriate plate position; these are marked, below, with an asterisk indicating that the flaw is found on both stamps and proofs. The author has yet personally to find flaws on stamps that are not on the proofs, although Calder reported

several, which are recorded below and designated (c) in Fig. 7. More surely exist since the proof sheet was made relatively early in the plate's life. Conversely, there are a number of flaws seen on the sheet that have not yet been found on stamps, even when the plate position is incontrovertible (i.e. in a multiple), presumably having been removed by the siderographer or having worn off the plate during use. Still others have had no stamps yet reported from that position, no doubt due to the rarity of multiples, so that their existence on stamps cannot yet be ascertained. Unless otherwise noted, by asterisk or comment, all flaws or recuts are described based on their appearance on the sheet alone. Of interest is that, of those provable positions examined, the great majority of flaws on the sheet can be found on their corresponding stamps.

Plate flaw numbering, when used, refers to those numbers assigned by Calder and adopted by Whitworth. Until these flaws are all proven to exist on stamps the author feels that no new numbering system should

be put forward. Since almost all flaws and recuts reported here are ascribed to a given plate position, reference to that position should be adequate to identify the flaw.

Constant transfer roll flaws that occur at all positions are shown in Fig. 5.



FIG. 5 CONSTANT TRANSFER ROLL FLAWS

For simplicity, the frameline recuts are listed and illustrated separately (Fig. 6). Note that these are hand recuts and not re-entries.

No true re-entry has been found on this stamp.

North frameline recuts are found at pp. 8* and 37*.

East frameline recuts are found at pp. 1, 4, 21, 25*, PF 5 at pp. 32*, 35, 61 and 82.

South frameline recuts are found at p. 94.

West frameline recuts are found at pp. 2*, 27*, 29, 51, 59*, 78 and 87. PF 1 type at pp. 19*, 20* and 55.

The plate flaws are arranged by quadrants, from NE clockwise, within the following subgroupings (Fig. 7):

I: Margins around stamp

II: Frames

III: Spandrels

IV: Wording

V: Central vignette

GROUP I FLAWS:

PF 6=imprint guide dot at pp. 4 and 9.

East margin imprint guide dot at pp. 40 and 90.

Dot in E mgn opp. & sl. above S of cents at pp. 68*.

Dot in mgn below SE 2, 1½ frameline gaps (flg) at pp. 63 and 83, and 1 flg below at pp. 73, a transfer roll flaw.

Dot just below outer frameline under SE 2 at pp. 86*.

PF 3=imprint guide dot at pp. 11 and 61. Calder: dash in oval W of SE 2, not on proofs.

Dot abutting outer W frameline opp. Queen's nose at pp. 38.

GROUP II FLAWS:

Dot bet. framelines near top of NE 2 at pp. 5.

Dot bet. framelines midway bet. NE and SE 2's at pp. 3.

Scratch across framelines above SE 2 at pp. 12*.

Dot bet. framelines below E of cents at pp. 64*.

GROUP III FLAWS:

PF 8 at pp. 42. Calder: dot over S of Postage, not on proofs. Proofs show cap over SW at pp. 42-52-62, a transfer roll flaw strongest at pp. 62 and weakest at pp. 42.

Dot in tail of NW 2 at pp. 13*.

GROUP IV FLAWS:

PF 7, dash below P of Postage, not on proofs, seen by Calder.

Dot over E of Cents at pp. 93*

Dot in upper part of C of Cents at pp. 38. PF 10 at pp. 41*.

PF 9, dash in O of Two, not on proofs, seen by Calder.

PF 4 at pp. 71*. Calder: dots near SW 2, above E of Cents and near SE 2, none seen on proofs or stamps available.

GROUP V FLAWS:

PF 2 below bust, not on proofs. Calder: at pp. 77 and 87.

Scratches across face seen at pp. 77 on proofs only, to date.

Acknowledgement

In addition to the works cited in the text, the author would especially like to acknowledge the help of Mr. Henry Gates in the conceptualization of the plating key.

NORTH MARGIN



8*



37*

EAST MARGIN



1



4



21



25*



32*
PF 5



35



61



82

SOUTH MARGIN



94

WEST MARGIN



2*



27*



29



51



59*



78



87



19*



PF 1 TYPE
20*



55

FIG. 6 THE FRAMELINE RECUTS

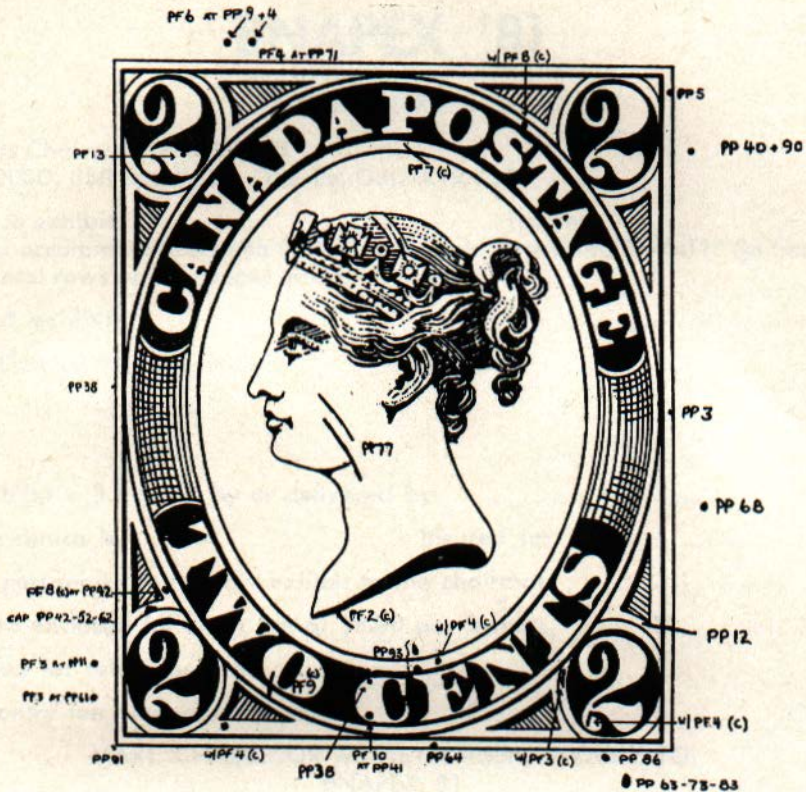


FIG. 7 THE PLATE FLAWS

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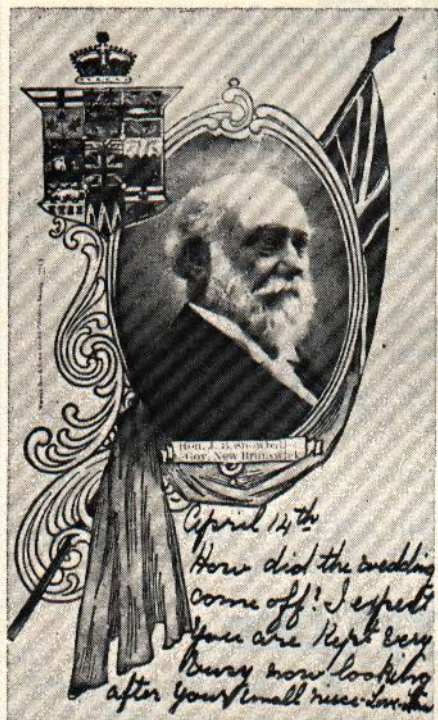
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Famous Statesmen of Canada (WBR 24)

The Canadian Flag is draped around a vertical oval picture which contains a black and white photograph of various Canadian statesmen of the time. The base of the flag is produced in a pink colour. At the upper left is the Coat of Arms topped by the crown. An elaborate golden scroll decorates the left side of the frame.

The publisher's name, Warwick Bros. & Rutter, is in small print reading upwards to left of picture.

The backs were undivided, as these were early cards, which appeared in the later months of 1904. The earliest reported date of cancellation is November 8, 1904.

The printing on the address side shows "Canadian Souvenir Post Card," in red, in the central section of a three-part golden frame. The LHS shows a golden coat-of-arms and the RHS (stamp) a standing golden bear.

- 130 The Earl of Minto, GCMG, Governor-General of Canada
- 132 Sir Wilfred Laurier, Prime Minister of Canada
- 134 Hon. George W. Ross, Premier of Ontario
- 135 J. P. Whitney, MPP
- 161 Earl of Minto, Governor-General (see also 130)
- 162 Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal
- 163 Hon. Clifford Sifton, Minister of Interior
- 164 Hon. W. S. Fielding, Minister of Finance
- 186 Hon. George W. Ross, Premier of Ontario (see also 134)
- 187 J. P. Whitney, MPP (see also 135)
- 188 Hon. C. S. Hyman
- 189 Hon. R. Prefontaine, Minister of Marine
- 224 Sir Wilfred Laurier, Prime Minister of Canada
- 225 Hon. Wm. Patterson, Minister of Customs
- 226 Sir William Mulock, Postmaster General
- 227 Hon. J. Sutherland, Minister of Public Works
- 256 Sir R. Borden, Minister of Militia
- 257 Sir Richard Cartwright, Minister Trade and Commerce
- 258 Hon. Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture
- 259 Hon. S. N. Parent, Premier of Quebec
- 290 Hon. J. B. Snowball, Lt.-Gov. of New Brunswick
- 291 Hon. R. R. Emerson, Minister of Railways
- 526 The Earl of Minto, Governor-General (see also 161)
- 616 C. Kloepper, Guelph. Election card for South Wellington
- 630 Hon. A. B. Aylesworth

The Holly and Bells Greetings (WBR17)

Apparently issued in time for Christmas 1904, these colourful cards indeed provoke a Christmas spirit. They are gaily decorated with holly leaves and red berries. All have golden bells and red ribbons with the word "Greetings" printed. A very deco-

rative golden frame surrounds a black and white picture.

Backs are undivided and printed in gold with green writing "Canadian Souvenir Post Card".

Although most cards in the series show the publishers name, Warwick Bros. & Rutter, at the upper left of the picture, a considerable number indicate the name of the distributor. Some of the latter have been shown in brackets in our listings.

Although the earliest postmark is Dec. 20, 1904, the cards still seemed to be in use as late as 1909.

626 Greenock Church, St. Andrew's N.B.

(Wren's Drug Store)

627 All Saints' Church, St. Andrew's, N.B.

659 Viaduct, Port Hope, Ont.

674 Old Fort Garry Gateway, Winnipeg

679 Columbia Ave., Looking East,
Rossland, B.C.

696 Low Water, Reversing Falls,
St. John, N.B.

697 Tide Running up Reversing Falls,
St. John, N.B.

698 St. John Harbour from Fort Howe

699 Martello Tower, St. John, N.B.



- 701 Beacon Light, St. John Harbour, N.B.
 717 "Kawartha Lakes," Lakefield, Ont.
 720 Victoria Square, Amherst, N.S.
 747 Mt. Allison Academy, Sackville, N.B.
 754 Meduxneiceag River, Woodstock, N.B.
 763 Victoria Park, Brantford, Canada
 773 City Hall, Stratford, Ont.
 779 Yarmouth Light, Yarmouth, N.S.
 (E. J. Vickery, Pub)
 791 Changing Guard at Citadel, Halifax,
 N.S. (Vert — Hebb Series)
 792 Kawartha Lakes, Lakefield, Ont.
 794 Martello Tower, Halifax, N.S.
 797 Howe Monument, Halifax, N.S.
 (Hebb Series)
 803 Pumping and Shipping Oil,
 Petrolea, Ont.
 815 Bear River Looking South, N.S.
 823 Ste. Anne de Beaupre Church, Quebec
 825 Tobogganing in Montreal
 826 Dominion Square, Montreal, Quebec
 830 Chateau de Ramezay, Montreal, Que.
 835 A Caleche, Quebec
 875 Union Bank, Winnipeg
 (Season's Greetings)

Flag of Ireland or Scotland (WBR22)

In those early years of the twentieth century, the flags of Ireland and Scotland were also used as background to black and white Canadian views. This was understandable in view of the especially large number of Nova Scotians who were of Irish or Scottish descent.

Divided backs were decorated by the elaborate Warwick Bros. & Rutter design in gray-green, with "Canadian Souvenir Post Card" in three frames. The publisher's name appeared at the upper left, reading upward.

Scotland:

Entrance to Victoria Park, Truro, N.S.
 Point Pleasant Park, Halifax, N.S.

Ireland:

Niagara River below the Falls
 3788 I.C.R. Station, Truro, N.S.
 3798 View from Citadel, Halifax, N.S.
 3800 North West Arm, Halifax, N.S.
 3802 British Soldiers at Halifax, N.S.
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THE PRECANCEL SPECIALIST

by R. S. CHESHIRE & H. REICHE

Although the first articles for this column were not published in this journal it should be of interest to all that much effort has been spent on the identification of printing types of precancels on the Admiral issue. The background for the types were taken from Canada Notes on the 1911-1926 Series by G. C. Marler and Canada The Admiral Stamps of 1911 to 1925 by H. Reiche.

For each city a special record sheet was prepared which was used to enter any information available. The various types were listed and entry was made by using n for normal, a for invert, b for double, c for double invert, etc. Two examples of such

record sheets are shown here.

One can notice that although a large number of types have been identified with certain values, many gaps still exist. For example Calgary 1c yellow original die retouched wet printing exists for n, a and b. Does a and b also exist for the original die retouched, dry printing? or the New die, dry printing? This kind of data is needed to determine more accurately the time period certain types have been used or printed.

The authors would greatly appreciate any help here from anyone having Admiral precancels.

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 TOWN Calgary

		Precancel		
		1	2	3
1 cent green	Original die. 1912	na		
	Original die retouched. 1913	nabc	nabc	
1 cent yellow	Original die retouched, wet. 1920	nab		
	Original die retouched, dry. 1926	n		
	New die, dry. 1925	n		
2 cents red	Original die. 1912	na		
	Original die retouched. 1913	nab	na	
2 cents green	Original die retouched, wet. 1922			
	Original die retouched, dry. 1924	na		
	Original die re-engraved, dry. 1925	n		
	Thin paper. 1924	n		
3 cents brown	Original die, wet. 1918	n	na	
	Original die retouched, dry. 1922	na	n	
3 cents red	Original die retouched. 1923	na		
	New die. 1924	n		
4 cents bistre	Wet. 1922...	na		
	Dry. 1925...			
5 cents blue	Marler Type 1: Reiche Type 1. 1912			
	Marler Type 1A: Reiche Type 1a. 1913 (?)			
	Marler Type 2: Reiche Type 2. 1914			
	Marler Type 3: Reiche Type 3. 1916	na	na	
5 cents violet	Marler Type 4: Reiche Type 1. 1922	n		
	Marler Types 5, 7: Reiche Types 2, 4. 1922-24	na		
	Marler Type 6: Reiche Type 3. 1923	na		
	Marler Type 8: Reiche Type 5. 1925	n		
	Thin paper. 1924	n		
7 cents red-brn	Wet. 1924...	n		
	Dry. 1926 (?)	n		
10 cents plum	Marler Type 1: Reiche Type 1. 1912		na	
	Marler Type 2: Reiche Type 2. 1920			
10 cents blue	Wet. 1922...	na		
	Dry. 1925 (?)			
20 cents olive	Marler Type 1: Reiche Type 1: wet. 1912			
	Marler Type 1: Reiche Type 1: dry. 1924			
	Marler Type 2: Reiche Type 2: dry. 1925			
50 cents black	Original die, wet. 1912			
	Retouched die, dry. 1925			
\$1 orange	Wet. 1923...			
	Dry. 1925 (?)			

PRECANCELS ON THE ADMIRAL ISSUE

TOWN Edmonton

		Precancel		
		1	2	3
1 cent green	Original die. 1912			
	Original die retouched. 1913	nac	n	nac
1 cent yellow	Original die retouched, wet. 1920	n		na
	Original die retouched, dry. 1926	n		n
	New die, dry. 1925	na		n
2 cents red	Original die. 1912	a		
	Original die retouched. 1913	na		nac
2 cents green	Original die retouched, wet. 1922	n		n
	Original die retouched, dry. 1924			na
	Original die re-engraved, dry. 1925	n		
	Thin paper. 1924			
3 cents brown	Original die, wet. 1918			
	Original die retouched, dry. 1922			na
3 cents red	Original die retouched. 1923	n		na
	New die. 1924			
4 cents bistre	Wet. 1922... ..			na
	Dry. 1925... ..			
5 cents blue	Marler Type 1: Reiche Type 1. 1912			a
	Marler Type 1A: Reiche Type 1a. 1913 (?)	n		
	Marler Type 2: Reiche Type 2. 1914			
	Marler Type 3: Reiche Type 3. 1916	ac	n	na
5 cents violet	Marler Type 4: Reiche Type 1. 1922			na
	Marler Types 5, 7: Reiche Types 2, 4. 1922-24	n		na
	Marler Type 6: Reiche Type 3. 1923			na
	Marler Type 8: Reiche Type 5. 1925	n		na
	Thin paper. 1924			n
7 cents red-brn	Wet. 1924... ..	na		
	Dry. 1926 (?)			
10 cents plum	Marler Type 1: Reiche Type 1. 1912	na		n
	Marler Type 2: Reiche Type 2. 1920	a	n	na
10 cents blue	Wet. 1922... ..	n		na
	Dry. 1925 (?)	n		
20 cents olive	Marler Type 1: Reiche Type 1: wet. 1912	n		n
	Marler Type 1: Reiche Type 1: dry. 1924			
	Marler Type 2: Reiche Type 2: dry. 1925			
50 cents black	Original die, wet. 1912			
	Retouched die, dry. 1925			
\$1 orange	Wet. 1923... ..			
	Dry. 1925 (?)			

PRECANCELS ON THE ADMIRAL ISSUE

TOWN Edmonton

		Precancel		
		1	2	3
1 cent green	Original die. 1912			
	Original die retouched. 1913	na c	n	na c
1 cent yellow	Original die retouched, wet. 1920	n		na
	Original die retouched, dry. 1926	n		n
	New die, dry. 1925	na		n
2 cents red	Original die. 1912	a		
	Original die retouched. 1913	na		na c
2 cents green	Original die retouched, wet. 1922	n		n
	Original die retouched, dry. 1924			na
	Original die re-engraved, dry. 1925	n		
	Thin paper. 1924			
3 cents brown	Original die, wet. 1918			
	Original die retouched, dry. 1922			na
3 cents red	Original die retouched. 1923	n		na
	New die. 1924			
4 cents bistre	Wet. 1922... ..			na
	Dry. 1925... ..			
5 cents blue	Marler Type 1: Reiche Type 1. 1912			a
	Marler Type 1A: Reiche Type 1a. 1913 (?)	n		
	Marler Type 2: Reiche Type 2. 1914			
	Marler Type 3: Reiche Type 3. 1916	a c	n	na
5 cents violet	Marler Type 4: Reiche Type 1. 1922			na
	Marler Types 5, 7: Reiche Types 2, 4. 1922-24	n		na
	Marler Type 6: Reiche Type 3. 1923			na
	Marler Type 8: Reiche Type 5. 1925	n		na
	Thin paper. 1924			n
7 cents red-brn	Wet. 1924... ..	na		
	Dry. 1926 (?)			
10 cents plum	Marler Type 1: Reiche Type 1. 1912	na		n
	Marler Type 2: Reiche Type 2. 1920	a	n	na
10 cents blue	Wet. 1922... ..	n		na
	Dry. 1925 (?)	n		
20 cents olive	Marler Type 1: Reiche Type 1: wet. 1912	n		n
	Marler Type 1: Reiche Type 1: dry. 1924			
	Marler Type 2: Reiche Type 2: dry. 1925			
50 cents black	Original die, wet. 1912			
	Retouched die, dry. 1925			
\$1 orange	Wet. 1923... ..			
	Dry. 1925 (?)			

PRECANCELS ON THE ADMIRAL ISSUE

TOWN _____

		Precancel		
		1	2	
1 cent green	Original die. 1912	na		
	Original die retouched. 1913	nabc	nabc	
1 cent yellow	Original die retouched, wet. 1920	nab		
	Original die retouched, dry. 1926	n		
	New die, dry. 1925	n		
2 cents red	Original die. 1912	na		
	Original die retouched. 1913	nab	na	
2 cents green	Original die retouched, wet. 1922			
	Original die retouched, dry. 1924	na		
	Original die re-engraved, dry. 1925	n		
	Thin paper. 1924	n		
3 cents brown	Original die, wet. 1918	n	na	
	Original die retouched, dry. 1922	na	n	
3 cents red	Original die retouched. 1923	na		
	New die. 1924	n		
4 cents bistre	Wet. 1922	na		
	Dry. 1925			
5 cents blue	Marler Type 1: Reiche Type 1. 1912			
	Marler Type 1A: Reiche Type 1a. 1913 (?)			
	Marler Type 2: Reiche Type 2. 1914			
	Marler Type 3: Reiche Type 3. 1916	na	na	
5 cents violet	Marler Type 4: Reiche Type 1. 1922	n		
	Marler Types 5, 7: Reiche Types 2, 4. 1922-24	na		
	Marler Type 6: Reiche Type 3. 1923	na		
	Marler Type 8: Reiche Type 5. 1925	n		
	Thin paper. 1924	n		
7 cents red-brn	Wet. 1924	n		
	Dry. 1926 (?)	n		
10 cents plum	Marler Type 1: Reiche Type 1. 1912		na	
	Marler Type 2: Reiche Type 2. 1920			
10 cents blue	Wet. 1922	na		
	Dry. 1925 (?)			
20 cents olive	Marler Type 1: Reiche Type 1: wet. 1912			
	Marler Type 1: Reiche Type 1: dry. 1924			
	Marler Type 2: Reiche Type 2: dry. 1925			
50 cents black	Original die, wet. 1912			
	Retouched die, dry. 1925			
\$1 orange	Wet. 1923			
	Dry. 1925 (?)			

A Postal History of Rat Portage, Keewatin with some reference to the Province of Keewatin, its own postal and railway history. 1876-1886

by G. F. HANSEN

Adapted from material found in *The Kenora Daily Miner and News*, Friday, April 25, 1980; an article written by Reg. Reeves, with pen and ink drawings of historic buildings of old Rat Portage and Ken-

ora, also by Reg. Reeves. With some reference to material by Gray Scrimgeour and Frank Campbell. P.H.S.C. Journals 20 and 23.

In the early days of western Canada, and the Lake of the Woods area is considered by many to be an integral part of the west, the only means of personal contact with loved ones at a distance was by mail. When the bustling community of RAT PORTAGE was a mere settlement the mail was brought over the famed Dawson Trail, through a series of lakes and rivers, by canoe as well as on foot, to its final destination.

The original RAT PORTAGE was located at the west outlet of the Lake of The Woods and was the location of a lumbering operation founded by a Mr. John Mather in 1879. This is now the site of KEEWATIN, ONTARIO, just two kilometers from modern KENORA. The lumber mill was known as The Keewatin Lumber Company as the Province of Keewatin had been established in the area only a few years before.

In the late 1870's the mail was brought directly to the local Hudson's Bay Company post to be distributed. Sometimes the mail took months to reach the tiny community and, since life was lonely, the few letters from friends and loved ones far away were greeted joyously. These letters were often passed from hand to hand among neighbors, the letters often being the only source of news and reading material available.

Late in the 1870's, as well, the railway was advancing on its long and tortuous journey to the Pacific to create a unified Dominion, linked from sea to sea. A post office was required by the railway contractors closer to the actual rail line and so the RAT PORTAGE post office was moved away from its original location to

the east where a new community was rapidly coming to life. It was then necessary for the settlers of the earlier RAT PORTAGE to travel to the new location to pick up their mail.

As a result of the ensuing inconvenience John Mather applied to the Postmaster General for a new post office and on September 1, 1879 two sets of postal seals arrived in the district, evidently addressed to Mather. The seals were for a RAT PORTAGE, KEE. post office and for a KEEWATIN MILLS, KEE. one as well. It is possible that Mather had intended from the beginning to take the name of KEEWATIN for the little community where his lumber mill was located so that the old myth that the seals were stitched by someone, likely Mather, may not be entirely true.

Muskrat Portage was, in any event, the correct name for the area as it was at the north-west end of the Lake of the Woods that the muskrats, and the explorers of the west later on, transferred from the Lake of the Woods to the Winnipeg River over a short portage. The explorers went down the river to Lake Winnipeg and from there, by the Red River and the Assiniboine River, to Winnipeg and points beyond.

The first post office in RAT PORTAGE, KEE. (now KENORA) was located in a small log building close to where the Kenora Historic Museum now stands. Around the post office a wild and western community grew rapidly to serve the rowdy railroaders, lumbermen, fishermen and miners of the area.

The post office was too small from the start and in 1885, after a number of moves,



The Hilliard House as it appeared after renovation and remodelling in 1895. This cover with corner card is dated MR 3-02 and is addressed to the Postmaster General at Ottawa. This was almost two years after the Rat Portage post office had been moved into its new building on Main Street on land given to the community by Dr. and Mrs. S. S. Scovil.

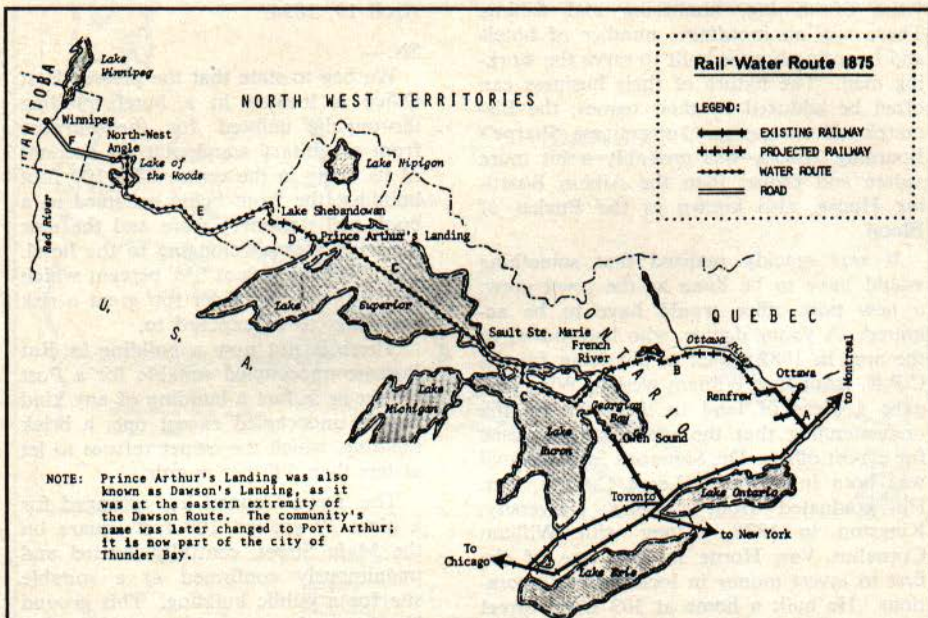


Some Squared Circle Cancels from Rat Portage. Note the 64 error for 94. The hammer was proofed — /AP 28/93, earliest recorded strike — /MY 8/93. Latest recorded strike— MY /21/97.

the post office found itself in The Hilliard House, a hotel with some pretensions towards culture as it was soon known as The Hilliard Hotel and Opera House. This edifice was built on the site of the present Kenricia Hotel and, at the northwest end of the hotel, in space also occupied by Campbell's Dry Goods Store, the post office found a home it was to occupy for fifteen years. The space given over to the post office was small, just a corner at the back of the store.

From the first day of its operation the post office in the hotel was grossly inadequate. People were swarming into the area on the recently completed railway and many of these were Scandinavians, Swedish and Norwegian, attracted to the area because it reminded them, physically, of their homelands. Mail was often so heavy that the mailbags were left piled on the boardwalk in front of the hotel awaiting sorting.

The community was a wild one, in the early years of the railway and the boom



This map shows the piecemeal approach of the Mackenzie government to the commitment for a Pacific railway. The rail network of the central provinces would be connected with Manitoba as follows:

A: Canada Central Railway as far as Renfrew, Ontario,

B: Extension of the CCR from Renfrew, via Lake Nipissing to the mouth of the French River.

C: Steamer on Lakes Huron and Superior between French River mouth and Prince Arthur's Landing, via Sault Ste. Marie.

D: A railway replacing the Thunder Bay section of the Dawson Road.

E: Steamers on deepened and canalled waterways between Lake Shebandowan and the Lake of the Woods.

F: Road from the North West Angle of the Lake of the Woods as far as Winnipeg.

(cont)

North-West Territories

After the 25th day of June next, Emigrants will be sent to Fort Garry at the following rates:

TORONTO TO FORT WILLIAM.

Adults, \$5.00. Children under 12 years, \$2.50. 150 lbs. personal baggage, free. Extra luggage, 35 cents per 100 lbs.

FORT WILLIAM TO FORT GARRY.

Emigrants, \$15.00. Children under twelve, \$8.00. 150 lbs. personal luggage, free. Extra luggage, \$1.00 per 100 lbs. No horses, oxen, wagons or heavy farming implements can be taken.

THE MODE OF CONVEYANCE.

96 miles by Railroad from Toronto to Collingwood.
 532 miles by Steamer from Collingwood to Fort William.
 45 miles by Wagon from Fort William to Shebandowan Lake.
 310 miles broken navigation in open boats from Shebandowan Lake to North-West Angle of the Lake of the Woods.
 95 miles by Cart or Wagon from North-West Angle, Lake of the Woods to Fort Garry.

Between Fort William and Fort Garry, huts and tents will be provided for the accommodation of Emigrants on the Portages. Passengers should take their own supplies. Provisions will, however, be furnished at cost price, at Shebandowan Lake, Fort Frances and the North-West Angle, Lake of the Woods.

THROUGH TICKETS TO FORT GARRY VIA FORT WILLIAM

Can be had at all the stations of the Northern Railway.

Emigrants are requested to take notice that packages are limited to 150 lbs. weight for convenience of transport on the Portages, and that baggage and supplies must not exceed 450 lbs. for any one Emigrant.

After the 1st of August next, the RED RIVER route will be in a condition to admit of the transport of heavy articles.

By direction, **F. BRAUN,**
 Secretary.

Department of Public Works,
 Ottawa, 30th April, 1872.

RAT. PORTAGE. KEE.
 DE 69
 .79
 CANADA.

RAT. PORTAGE
 JA 3
 83
 KEE.

years of mining, lumbering and fishing. There was an inordinate number of hotels and boarding houses built to serve the working men. The nature of their business can often be adduced by their names; the Bismarck House, also known as Sharpe's Boarding House, was probably a bit more sedate and proper than the Albion Boarding House, also known as the Bucket of Blood.

It was quickly realized that something would have to be done as the town grew; a new post office would have to be acquired. A young doctor, who had moved to the area in 1882 to act as physician for the C.P.R. from Fort William west to Winnipeg, gave a piece of land to the town on the understanding that the site would be used for a post office. Dr. Simmons Stuart Scovil was born in Portland, Leeds County, Ont. He graduated from Queen's University, Kingston in 1878. Along with William Cornelius Van Horne he was one of the first to invest money in local mining operations. He built a home at 303 Main Street (the red brick house on the corner) shortly after his arrival and used a portion of the building for his offices. Scovil died in 1927 but his widow stayed on in the home until her death in 1940.

The offer of property for the post office from Dr. Scovil prompted lengthy negotiations which commenced when the local council accepted the gift. In a lengthy letter to the Honourable J. A. Ouimet, Minister of Public Works, Ottawa, Mayor J. M. Savage set out the town's claim to a new post office.

April 19, 1894.

Sir:—

We beg to state that the present Post Office is located in a hotel building thoroughly unfitted for the purpose from a sanitary standpoint on account of its being in the centre of a 100 foot building, the front being occupied as a book and stationery store and the rear by small rooms belonging to the hotel. The fire hazard is at 3½ percent which we as citizens consider too great a risk for mails to be exposed to.

There is not now a building in Rat Portage unoccupied suitable for a Post Office, or in fact a building of any kind that is unoccupied except one, a brick building, which the owner refuses to let at less than \$40 per month.

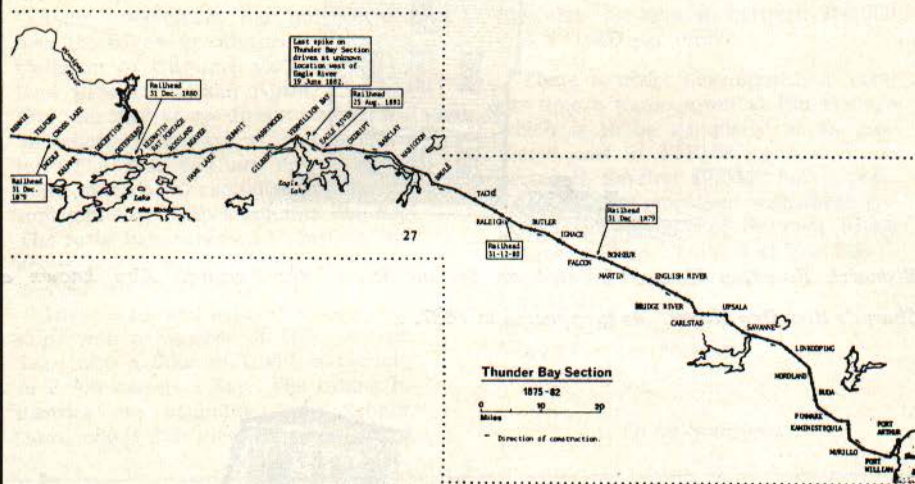
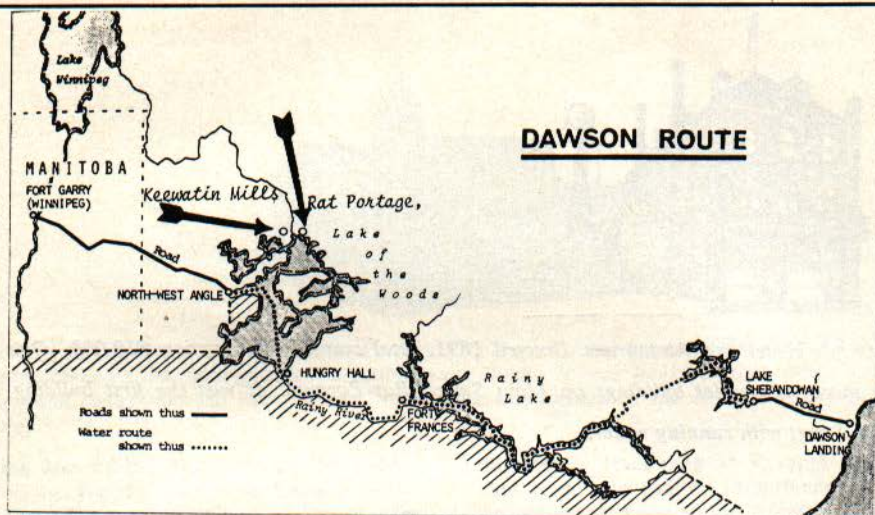
The Town Council has arranged for a piece of ground 100 feet square on the Main Street, centrally located and unanimously confirmed as a suitable site for a public building. This ground has been given on the condition that the public building be built during the current year. We estimate the acceptance of this location to be a saving to the Town of at least \$2000 as well as doing away with the friction that would be sure to arise from local jealousies if the matter is delayed and the site purchased at a later date.

Rat Portage, as you are aware, is the distributing point for the whole Rainy River District, and is the chief place of supply for the lumbering, milling, min-



Rat Portage's hard won pride and joy. As it appeared after 1928, complete with its clock and silent bell.

DAWSON ROUTE

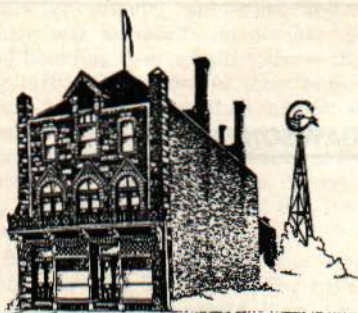


Tracklaying began in 1876 on the Thunder Bay Section. A decision having been made to abandon the Dawson Route completely and build the railway through to the Red River, the terminus of the initial Contract 13 was changed from Lake Shebandowan to Sunshine Creek. Other contracts were awarded subsequently for succeeding sections, as follows:

- Contract 13—Fort William to Sunshine Creek 32½ miles
- Contract 25—Sunshine Creek to English River 80 miles
- Contract 41—English River to

Eagle River	118 miles
Contract 42—Eagle River to Keewatin	67 miles
Contract 15—Keewatin to Cross Lake	36½ miles
Contract 14—Cross Lake to Selkirk	77 miles
Total	411 miles

The work on this first substantial section of the Pacific railway took more than seven years following the sod-turning at Fort William.



Drewry's Hotel and Restaurant. Erected 1891, total cost of construction \$10,000. One of the more substantial buildings on Main Street, Rat Portage. It was the first building on Main Street with running water.



Bismarck Boarding House. Located on Second Street, Rat Portage. Also known as Sharpe's Boarding House. As it appeared in 1887.



Albion Boarding House. As it appeared in 1895. Also known as the Bucket of Blood. Now part of the Lake of the Woods Hotel complex, Matheson Street, Kenora.



Hilliard Opera House and Hotel, Rat Portage. As it must have appeared before 1895 when some extensive remodeling and renovating were done. It was likely in the corner under the small tower that the Rat Portage Post Office was located in the back of a dry goods store.

ing and fishing industries on the Lake of the Woods, as well as being a support of entry and end of a division of the C.P.R.

Your government has now located here the following officials: Postmaster, Collector of Customs, Collector of Inland Revenue, Indian Agent, Fisheries Overseer and at no distant date it will be necessary to have a Harbour Master. The rent you are now allowing these officials, if capitalized, would be sufficient to put up a suitable building. The town has increased so rapidly that about 1/20th of the C.P.R. revenue is derived from this vicinity.

There is located here seven large saw mills with a capacity of 1000 feet per year, also a flour mill with a capacity of 2,000 barrels a day. The fishing industries are assuming large proportions, about 300 men being employed.

Mining is developing at a rapid rate and at no late date its importance will be second to none in the country. The amount paid in wages by these several industries amounts to between \$60,000 and \$70,000 per month.

There is under development at present time a water power at Rat Portage which is to be completed at an estimated cost of \$250,000 and it is expected to develop 40,000 horsepower. There is now employed with these improvements upwards of 100 men, which number will be increased at least 200 during the present summer.

I have the honor to be,
Your Obedient Servant,
J. M. Savage, Mayor.

To be continued



Revenue Study Group

by WILMER C. ROCKETT

Collecting Canadian revenue stamps. Many collectors of revenue stamps enjoy the hobby of stamp collecting for their personal satisfaction, and not as an investment. Many, like postage stamp collectors, limit or specialize in a certain period, classification or even a specific issue.

The first issue of Canadian bill stamps could very well fit into one of these cate-

gories. These stamps issued in 1864 were the first Canadian revenue stamps. They are blue, and the values are 1c to \$3. They were stereotyped and printed by the American Bank Note Co., New York, in sheets of 100 (10x10).

There were four different perforations and many, many constant varieties can be found.

Of course, you can also save these on cover, such as checks, promissory notes, and sight drafts, bills of exchange and interest payments. The rates of taxation were 1c on documents under \$25; 2c up to \$50; 3c up to \$100, and 3c per \$100 thereafter.

Duplicate documents were taxed at 4c per \$100 and additional copies at 1c. Gov-

ernment documents were tax free. This issue provides a collector with a great many outlets for his collecting interests. BNAPS has a Revenue Study Group with a monthly newsletter. If you are interested contact W. Rockett, 2030 Overlook Ave., Willow Grove, Pa. 19090.



The Canadian Revenue Study Group

by WILMER C. ROCKETT

The Canadian Revenue Study Group was a direct outgrowth of the Canadian Revenue Society, formed in March 1938. Starting with a few collectors and students of Canadian and Newfoundland revenues and Tax Pairs for the mutual assistance and exchange of information. During this period the C.R.S. published a monthly bulletin and quite a few special catalogs and lists. Many of these are still the best reference works available. The large number of such lists and catalogs were the results of studies made by such students as Dr. DeL. French, R. A. Odell, Nelson Bond, E. L. Piggott, C. Armstrong, and many others.

The C.R.S. published 142 Newsletters and 25 other publications, quite a feat for their 16 years of operation.

In early 1954 the Board of Governors of C.R.S. decided that the Society should become a study group of the British North America Philatelic Society. *BNA Topics* had a monthly column, "Revenue Group News". The first editor of this column was Dr. French. He edited it until his death in 1956. From 1956 through 1961 the column was edited by Ed Richardson and after 1961 it has been edited by various Revenue Group members.

From 1954 until 1961 there was no effort to formally organize the study group. In 1961 Richardson and Rockett undertook to

remedy this situation. It was felt there was a need for a Directory of Canadian Revenue collectors. It was also felt there was a need for a number of Newsletters per year, and for an annual round table discussion at each annual BNAPS Convention.

In June 1962 Ed Richardson published the "Canadian and BNA Revenue Year Book" listing charter membership in the Revenue Group.

In April 1971 Bill Rockett took over as editor of the present Canadian Revenue Group Newsletter. At present he has issued 104 Newsletters. The present Revenue Group is going great and we continue to operate for the benefit of the exchange of information in the Revenue Group. We have a revenue seminar at each of the BNAPS conventions and we have our own annual mini-convention each year. Also, interesting to note, we have six active members who were listed in the first 100 members of the original C.R.S.

If you wish to join the Canadian Revenue Group of BNAPS we would be happy to welcome you. All members of BNAPS interested in Canadian Revenues are eligible. We do have a nominal fee to take care of publishing 10 or 11 Newsletters per year. Write Bill Rockett, 2030 Overlook Ave., Willow Grove, Pa. 19090.



The RPO Cowcatcher

Lewis M. Ludlow

Gamlen Far East, No. 303, No. 1 Iwata Bldg.

10-18 Higashi Gotanda 5-chome, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo 141, Japan

Backstamp Bonus

In our last column, we gave some commentary on backstamps, and illustrated an 1875 cover with nine strikes of five different

R.P.O.s, all from the Railroad Section, two of them registered; now Dave McKain has come in with an even nicer cover—ten strikes of seven different R.P.O.s, four of them registered, as follows (Fig. 1)

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. R-6, B. & L. H., Type 4D | WEST, September 8, 1876 |
| 2. R-120, REGISTERED/B. & L. H. R., Type 24G | Two Strikes |
| 3. R-55, G. W. R./ACCOMDn, Type 4B | EAST, September 8, 1876 |
| 4. R-127, REGISTERED/G. W. R. ACCOMDn, 24G | Two Strikes |
| 5. R-128A, REGISTERED/G. W. R. EXPs, 24G | One Strike |
| 6. R-61A, G. W. R./MAIL · LINE, Type 4B | WEST, September 8, 1876 |
| 7. R-142A, REGISTERED/T. G. & B. EX, 24B | September 9, 1876—Two Strikes |

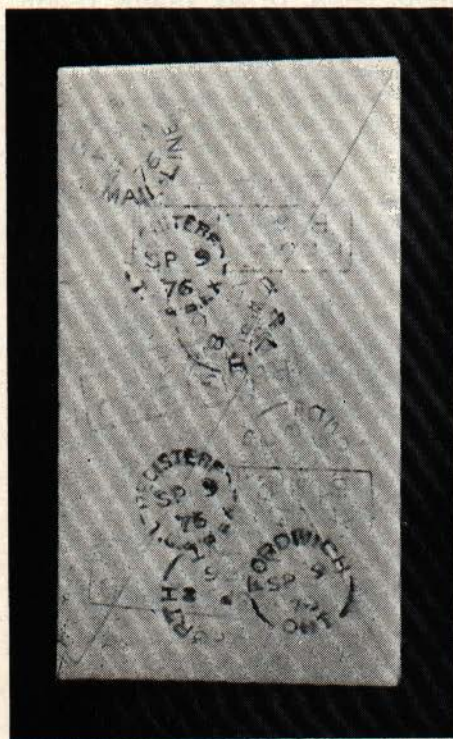


Fig. 1—David McKain

All of the above are backstamps on Dave's lovely cover from St. George Brant, C.W., to Fordwich, Ontario; in addition to the R.P.O.s, there is also a c.d.s. transit mark of SEAFORTH, ONT., September 8, 1876 and a receiving mark, c.d.s., of FORDWICH, ONT., of September 9, 1876. Not bad for a two day trip. Now, can anybody put a topper on this one?

New Ground for Newfoundland

For the past year, in the R.P.O. Study Group *Newsletter*, we have been doing a hammer analysis of the Newfoundland listings, and earlier we had reported on three different NORTH hammers of N-16. Joe Purcell sent in a NORTH strike that did not correspond to any of the three we had identified. Close examination of Joe's strike (Fig. 2) revealed a major error in this hammer in that between COASTAL and NORTH there is an extra line, appearing as an "I". At first we thought it was an optical illusion, but since it did not go away, we reported this error out in the *Newsletter*. By almost return mail, we received confirmation from Palmer Moffat out in Arizona with a slightly earlier strike confirming this error, (Fig. 3). So much for optical illusions. The previous N-18

having been delisted, we have established this error as a major listing, N-18, with the earliest date of December 14, 1911 and the latest date of June 29, 1912. Since N-16 is not at all so uncommon, we wonder if there are other N-18s out there waiting to be found.



Fig. 2—Error N-18 for N-16, Joe Purcell



—Error N-18 for N-16, Palmer Moffat

Comments on Rubber Hammers

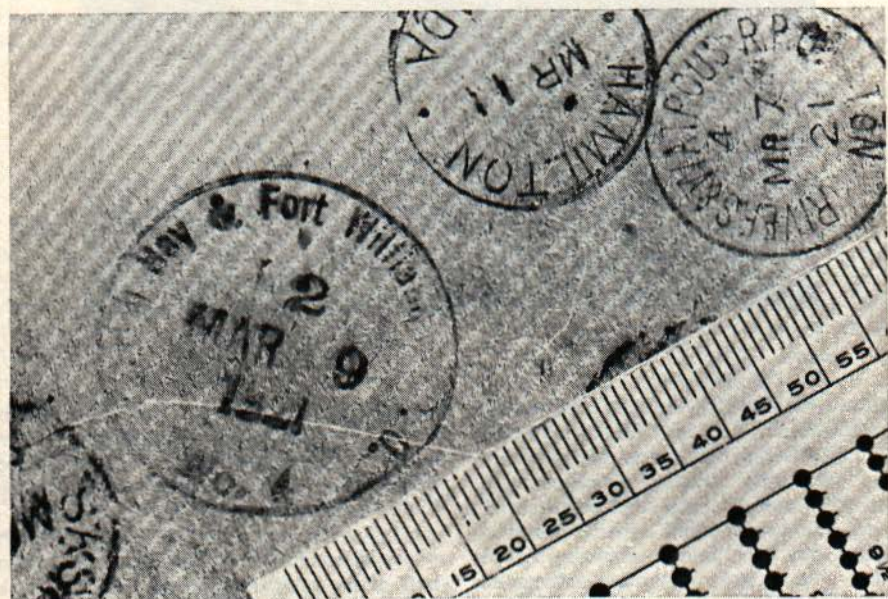
About ten years ago, Allan Steinhart reviewed the Pritchard and Andrews Proof Books in Ottawa and reported to Shaw on the existence of a number of rubber hammers, similar in lettering to many of our common R.P.O.s, but much larger in size, average diameter fully over 30mm, in contrast to the smaller steel hammers which are usually in the 24mm range of diameter. In 1972, in our examination of the proof books, we were able to confirm Steinhart's work and determined that there were at

least 113 different strikes illustrated in these proof books, represented by 332 strikes. In the preparation of the 1975 catalogue, there were so few of these known to have existed in postal use that the decision was made not to list all in the proof books, but only those which had been discovered in some form of postal use. As of this year, only nine have since been discovered and reported, specifically, M-11I, M-37B, M-52B, M-60A, Q-6A, O-355G, W-27C, W-146A and R-101B. Now, we are pleased to confirm that another of these proof strikes has been recorded and then confirmed in actual use. Graham Noble first reported O-297B, PRESCOTT & OTTAWA R.P.O., Type 5, May 21, 1922, on a Smith Belting C.O.D. cover, (not suitable for photograph); as per Fig. 4, this has now been confirmed by Ross Gray with two strikes on piece dated M.P., April 21, 1921. In addition to the 113 different proof strikes, and the ten listings therefrom that have been confirmed, we have also confirmed and listed 14 of these rubber hammers for which there are *no* proof strikes. These are Q-46D, Q-68A, Q176G, Q-205B, Q-263B, Q-274A, Q-282A, Q-305B, Q309A, O-207A, O-398A, O-412A, W-27D and W-195M. (As we know, the proof books are not complete.) Now, we are able to add another to this group to make the total fifteen; as illustrated in Fig. 5, North Bay & Fort William R.P.O./No. 4, Train 2, March 9, 1921, has also been recorded from Ross Gray. This has been temporarily listed as O-192C, but will be renumbered in the new catalogue. We note for the record that within the 113 proof strikes, there is one similar to O-192C; however, it has No. 6 at the bottom, rather than No. 4, and there is only the single proof strike.

As illustrated in Fig. 6, Don Wilson has sent in a lovely cancellation reading S.S. OTHAR/JUL 13, 1915, a probable new steamer listing; however, we have been completely unable to get a fix or an identification on the OTHAR which would pinpoint it as a vessel operating under Newfoundland control in Newfoundland waters, which would be required for listing. To date, we have listed from known reports or examples, N-55, S.S. BAR HAVEN, S.S. HOME and S.S. SAGONA; N-55C, S.S. CLYDE; and N-55F, S.S. GLENCOE. Also listed as N-81, N-103 and N-104 is the S.S. NORTHERN RANGER. In consulting the



Fig. 4 — Unlisted Prescott & Ottawa R.P.O. P.M. April 14, 1921 (black)



property Ross Gray



Fig. 6—Property Don Wilson



Fig. 7—N-55A GLENWOOD property Bob Soper



Fig. 8—N-A6 Nov 23, 1924 property Don Wilson

literature, we find that the S.S. BACALIEU, S.S. BURGEON, S.S. KYLE, S.S. PORTIA and S.S. PROSPERO were also in Newfoundland service although no cancellations from these vessels have been reported. In all of our investigation, no reference to OTHAR has been found. Can any of our readers give us any background data on the S.S. OTHAR which apparently was in Newfoundland waters in mid-1915?

Help Received

In recent issues of the Cowcatcher we

presented several unknowns that offered good opportunity for identification. Dave McKain has nailed down one of these, specifically Fig. 7, page 21, of the Sept./Oct., 1980 issue of *Topics*. Dave submitted a partial strike (not suitable for photograph) which ties with and completes the bottom half of the previously unknown strike; what we now have is a new clerk for Q-52A. The complete strike reads JOS. BEAULIEU/ LEVIS & SHERBROOKE, Type 6G. Neither strike has a complete date; however, our original unknown was on a 2c Edward while Dave's strike is on a 2c Admiral. Many thanks, Dave.

More New Ground for Newfoundland

In our 1975 catalogue, we listed two towns for the Ticket Stamps of N-55A, specifically GAMBO and MILLERSTOWN/JUNCTION. Since that time, we have announced here in the Cowcatcher the discovery of the additional towns of ARNOLD'S COVE and CARBONEAR. These were just the beginning. Since our last reports, several additional towns have been reported for the first time. Bob Soper and Bill Robinson have both submitted confirmed strikes of N-55A for LEWISPORTE and CORNER BROOK. Dave McKain and Soper both have confirmed strikes of CURLING, while McKain and Ludlow have identical strikes of CRABBS. Ludlow has a confirmed strike of BISHOP FALLS, while Soper has a confirmed strike each of AVONDALE and GLENWOOD (for latter, see Fig. 7). Robinson has also submitted a strike which tentatively has been identified as DEER LAKE, but needs confirmation. All of the foregoing fall under N-55A. Additionally, Soper has a confirmed new town for N-55D, namely

DOYLES. Finally, we have two more strikes from Soper, GRAND FALLS and STEPHENVILLE / CROSSING, for which the top of the strike is not visible and thus we do not know if these are N-55A, B, C, D, E or F; hopefully, some of our readers can match up and identify these partial strikes.

First Report

As illustrated in Fig. 8, Don Wilson has submitted the first report confirmed by us of N-46, a lovely full strike dated November 23, 1924; interestingly enough, this is the only date that was reported by Meyerson. Is this then the only known strike of N-46? This issue of the Cowcatcher has been replete with information on Newfoundland strikes, since it is this area currently undergoing hammer analysis in the R.P.O. Study Group *Newsletter*, available to all members of the R.P.O. Study Group. Those interested in the Study Group, but not yet members, should contact Jim Lehr, 2918 Chesire Road, Devon, Wilmington, Delaware 19810, U.S.A.

Charles G. Firby wins Grand Award at BNAPEX '80

Charles Firby of Southfield, Michigan won the Grand Award at BNAPEX '80 held at McAllen, Texas—with his outstanding study of "Canadian Postal Rates 1859-68, and shown on covers bearing the 1859 Decimal Issue". He had terrific competition as other Gold Medal winners were *Allan Steinhart* "Stampless to and From Canada"—*Art Leggett* "Leafs and Numerals, 1897-1902"—*Ed Richardson* "4-Ring Numeral Cancellations on the Pence and 59s"—*Robert Pratt* "1910 Guy Issue of Newfoundland".

Winners of VERMEIL Medals were *Jack Wallace* "British Columbia and Vancouver Island"—*Larry Paige* "Flag Cancellations, 1896-1902"—*Joe DiCiommo* "Canada Large Queens of 1868" and *Bill Rockett* "Western Provinces and Territorial Revenues."

SILVER medals were won by *Lee Brandon* "Newfoundland Postal Stationery"—

Earl Corvet "Queen Victoria Postal Stationery"—*Mickey Richardson* "Anglo-Boer War Patriotics"—*Lee Brandon* "Canada Postage Booklets and Panes"—*Clarence Stillions* "Newfoundland Coronation Issue, 1937."

The SILVER-BRONZE winners were *Jack Myers* "Semi-Official Airs"—*Ed Christman, Jr.* "Semi-Official Airs"—*Barry Shapiro* "Exhibition & Celebration Covers"—*David McKain* "Maritime R.P.O. Cancels"—*H. G. Walburn* "Canadian Precancels"—*John Siverts* "Federal Revenues" (also won the NOVICE Award)—*Guy des Rivieres* "Money Letters" and *Barry Shapiro* "King Edward Postal Stationery".

The BRONZE awards went to *Jonathan Johnson* "Canadian Railway Postal Perfins"—*Erick Middleton* "C.P.R. Railway Adv. Postal Cards"—*Jeff Switt* "Type I Squared Circle Cancels"—*Don Makinen* "Imperial Penny Postage" and *Clinton Phillips* "Type II Squared Circles of the Maritimes".

The Court of Honor was made up of an exhibition by the *National Postal Museum of Canada* "The 1927 Historical Issue of Canada" — the 1976 BNAPEX Grand Award winning exhibit, *Art Groten's* "1859 Decimal Issue of Canada" and the 1978 Grand Award winning exhibit, *Ed Richardson's* "1868 Large Queens Issue of Canada".

With the frames holding 18 pages of material, and with 164 frames on exhibit — BNAPEX '80 was the largest showing of BNA material yet shown at any BNAPS or Royal show — in fact larger than many BNA exhibits in internationals. Among the Non-Competitive Exhibits was one by *Harry Lussey* — "Revenues" showing a new Revenue rarity.

Approximately 125 BNAPSers and their spouses registered for the three-day affair, which included several well attended seminars including:—"Prince Edward Island", *James Lehr*, Ch.—"Perfins", *Jonathan Johnson*, Ch.—"Revenue Study Group", *Bill Rockett*, Ch.—"Squared Circle Cancels", *Glenn Hansen*, Ch.—"R.P.O. Cancels", *David McKain*, Ch.—"Canadian Officials", *Trelle Morrow*, Ch.—"Semi-Official Airmails", *Bob Jamieson*, Ch.—"Military Postal History", *Kenneth Ellison*, Ch.—and "National Postal Museum", *Ron McGuire*, Ch.

Social events included a "Border Butter-milk" Party and "Get Acquainted" Dinner, Thursday evening, the Past President's Reception (8 out of 14 living Past Prexies were present including No. 1 and No. 2), Friday night, a six hour bus tour to Mexico just 8 miles away, the Annual Meeting Saturday morning, and the Awards and Recognition Banquet Saturday night. The highlight of the Banquet was the presentation of the new ORDER of the BEAVER MEDALS to the 10 (of 15 living) members present, and the induction into the Order of *Guy des Rivières*. Each guest was given a well printed booklet containing short philatelic sketches of the 15 living and 4 deceased members of the Order of

the Beaver, the Honorary Society of BNAPS.

Another booklet of similar size given all registrants was the program. Containing no advertising — this handbook was a real guide to the convention, and contained a great deal of historical data about past officers, past BNAPEX conventions and Grand Award winners.

The Judges of the Exhibition were *Bill Maresch*, Chairman, *Harry Lussey* and *James Kraemer*.

Each registrant was given a very large heavy duty briefcase as a souvenir of his visit to BNAPEX '80. And all registrants received a mixed bag of Texas oranges and ruby-red grapefruit. These were gifts from members of the Host group — The Prairie Beavers of Texas, and not included in the registration fee. The hotel arrangements were perfect for a convention like BNAPEX — small, friendly — we just about had all the facilities to ourselves.

If we were to list all the members who worked to make this a success we'd have to list almost all the members of the unit, they were almost all there, they came early, worked hard, and thoroughly enjoyed having BNAPS as their guests. The Executive Committee was made up of:

Chairman, *Barry Shapiro*; Exhibits, *Ed Richardson*; Registration, *Woody Poore*; Exec. Vice-Ch., *Lee Brandom*; Arrangements, *Don Makinen*; Special, *Vic Drozd*.

Lee Brandom was awarded the Richardson BNA Award for permanent keeping, having earned this in exhibit competition over the past three years, among the Beaver Unit membership.

Jim Kraemer invited everyone to BNAPEX '81 at Ottawa this next September.

If you made it — we were glad you were there.

If you missed it — sorry, but we can't promise to duplicate it again!

— *Edward A. Richardson*

TOPICS NEEDS ORIGINAL MATERIAL

FOR PUBLICATION

Canada Post Office - Domestic Rates and Postmarks

by CHARLES P. DE VOLPI
Charge Account Letters

Charge accounts were established with postmasters by business concerns, provincial and municipal offices and private individuals to charge both prepaid and collect postage.

These accounts were not forbidden by the postmaster general, but postmasters were regularly advised that they were personally responsible for any defalcations.

From instructions to postmasters — ART. XXIII. Payment of postages. Nothing but specie or its equivalent should be received

in payment of postage. No credit is to be given except at your own risk. In this country an exception to this rule exists, in the cast of accounts kept against the public, civil and military departments, for the payment of which the government is, of course, responsible.

Handstamps originated by these charge accounts are of no standard pattern, size or wording, they are interesting and intriguing and a very important part of Canadian postal history.



Fig. 1 — From Sherbrooke, July 25, 1834
4½ Pence Collect Charged — Leonard Benton Dy P.M.
James Baxter had charge account at Stanstead Post Office,
to which his outgoing and incoming postage was charged



Fig. 2 — From Sherbrooke, September 30, 1834
4½ Pence Collect — CHARGED — L.K.B.
Same correspondence but note handstamp CHARGED

New instructions to postmasters effective August 1, 1852 Part XIX.

Section 199. — Postmasters are not authorized to give credit — for postage, and if they do so, it is at their own risk, and cannot be admitted as excuse for failing to remit the balance of postage due from an office at the prescribed periods.

Section 200 — If credit has been given by a postmaster, he cannot detain a letter or paper addressed to the person credited which is free, or paid, or for which the postage is tendered to him, because there may be an unsettled account for postage due by that person.

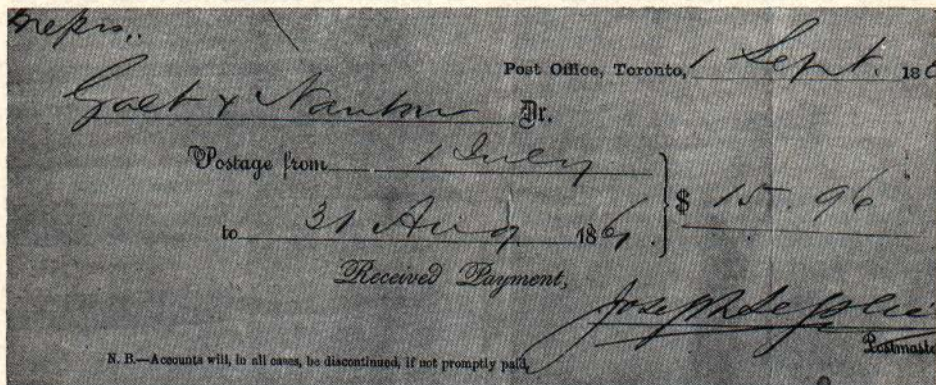


Fig. 3 — Receipt for charge account postage dated Toronto, September 1st, 1861, for period from July 1st to August 31st, 1861



Fig. 4 — From Hamilton, May 18, 1855.
Paid by charging to ACCOUNT 140. 140 was charge account number of
The Great Western Railroad

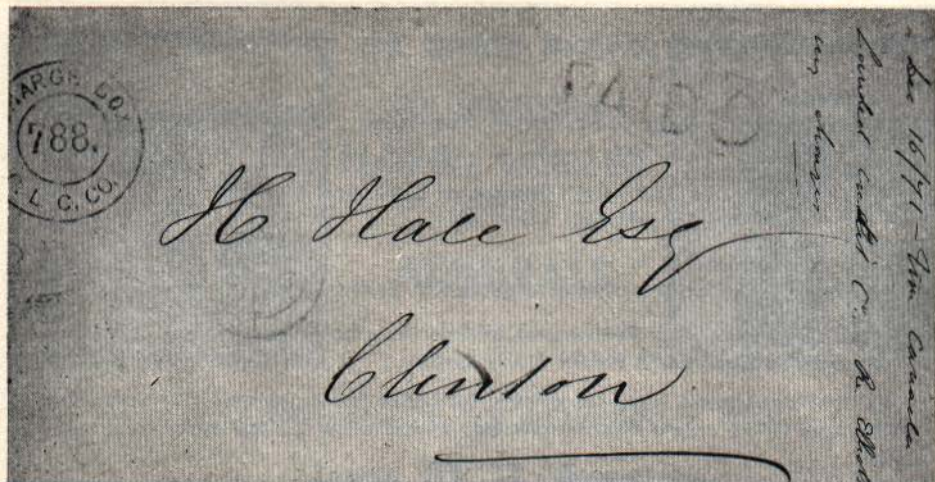


Fig. 5 — From Toronto, December 16, 1871
 Paid by charging to Box 788 — C.L.C. Co. (Canada Landed Credit Co.)

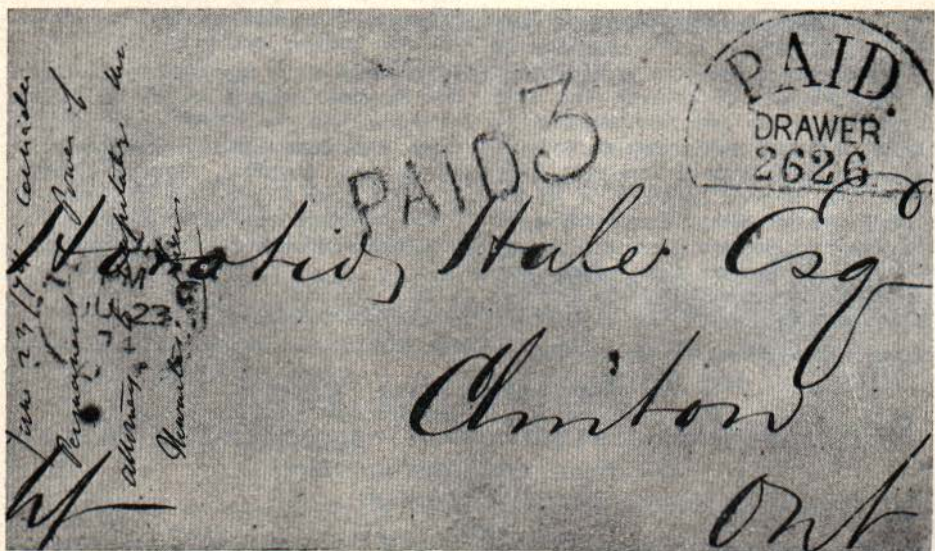


Fig. 6 — From Toronto, June 23, 1874.
 Paid by charging to Drawer 2626

Compulsory payment of postage by adhesive stamps became effective October 1, 1875, and another interesting phase of postal history came to a close.

THE FOLLOWING BOOKS ARE ON HAND

Richardson:

The Canadian Flag Cancellation Handbook, 1896-1973.....Price \$5.00

Brandom:

Catalogue of Tobacco Paid Stamps of Canada
and Newfoundland.....Price \$6.00

Day and Smythies:

Fancy Cancellations of the Nineteenth Century.....Price \$7.50

Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials Handbook Reprint

prepared by BNAPS Perfin Study Group.....Price \$4.50

The Book Department is not responsible for books lost in the mail. An extra 35c will insure it. All orders must be prepaid. Please allow 6-8 weeks for book rate mail.

BNAPS BOOK DEPARTMENT

65 HOWE AVENUE - HAMILTON, ONTARIO CANADA L9A 1X2

BOOK REVIEW

A new revenue handbook has been published by BNAPS. It is a combination of two handbooks in one; first, a Supplement to the Catalogue of Tobacco Tax Paid Stamps of Canada and Newfoundland by Lee W. Brandom and second, A Study of the Legion Bottle Seals of Canada by E. F. Vilter. The 80-page handbook is in the 8½"x11" format of the former publication. The Tax Paid Tobacco stamp section lists a number of tax paid items which have come to light since publication by Brandom of the first handbook.

The Legion Bottle Seal section of the book is in three parts. It deals with Federal seals, Provincial seals and miscellaneous data such as lock seals, etc.

The handbook is sponsored by the Canadian Revenue Group of BNAPS, and is now available from the BNAPS book department, c/o Mrs. Doris Hollingshead, 65 Howe Ave., Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, L9A 1X2, price \$10.00 Canadian funds.

If you collect Revenue or literature, this is a good addition to your philatelic library.

—Alan Steinhart
(Handbook Committee)

A COMBINATION BOOK

*First Supplement to the Catalogue of Tobacco Tax Paid Stamps
of Canada and Newfoundland*

by LEE W. BRANDOM

and

A Study of the Liquor Bottle Seals of Canada

by E. F. VILTER

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