



A Postal History of British Columbia
and Vancouver Island

BNA TOPICS

Official Journal of The British North America Philatelic Society

GEORGE S. WEGG LIMITED
PHILATELISTS
"STAMPS OF THE WORLD"

WE BUY AND SELL
STAMPS — COVERS — POSTCARDS

ALSO . . .

- ▶ Specialists in B.N.A. and British Commonwealth.
- ▶ Over 500 Worldwide Counter Books and Set Books of stamps in our store for individual selection.
- ▶ Over 100 boxes Covers, Stationery and Post Cards of the world.
- ▶ Complete line of Philatelic Supplies and Literature
- ▶ Private Treaty services.
- ▶ Auction advisory and placement services (no charge to customer).
- ▶ Regular GM (General Mailings) of offers to interest collectors. Ask to be placed on our mailing list.
- ▶ Want List service by mail.
- ▶ Standing order New Issue services.
- ▶ In-store Specials and "Bargain Boxes".

WHETHER BUYING, SELLING, OR SEEKING INFORMATION AND ADVICE, PLEASE CONTACT US FOR ALL YOUR PHILATELIC NEEDS. WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO SERVE YOU.

George S. Wegg Ltd.

36 VICTORIA STREET
TORONTO, CANADA M5C 2N8
Telephone: (416) 363-1596-7





A SALE A DAY

Late February and early March in Toronto began to resemble New York City—a flurry of auctions (but no flurries of snow, thank goodness!)

At one point I was practically run off my feet showing lots from my March 3rd Auction to postal history collectors. This auction house has always had a particular place in its heart (and catalogue) for covers. No other area of philately has remained so viable in the recession and we continue to offer an excellent selection of covers, sensibly lotted and accurately described. I look forward to being of service to you and your collection.

**R**

ROBERT LAIRD STAMPS LIMITED

SUITE 310-20 VICTORIA ST., TORONTO, CANADA M5C 2N8

(416) 362-4323

BNA TOPICS



OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Whole No. 394

MARCH/APRIL 1983

Vol. 40, No. 2

3	The Editor's Page	Mike Street
5	The President's Corner	Mike Dicketts
5	Letters	
7	Notes	
12	A Postal History of British Columbia and Vancouver Island	James A. Pike
23	Newfoundland Revenue Stamps 1938-1970	Robert H. Pratt
28	Correspondence Between Hudson's Bay Company Personnel and the Smithsonian Institute	F. H. Chaffee
30	Calendar	
31	Postal Guide Illustrated	C. R. McGuire
34	Sketches of BNAPSers — Jim A. Hennok	Dr. R. V. C. Carr
35	Canada Adheres to the U.P.U.	George Arfken
40	Canadian Military Postal History	E. A. Richardson
47	A Word from the Circulation Manager	E. R. Toop
48	Centennial Definitives Study Group	Douglas C. Irwin
50	The RPO Cowcatcher	L. M. Ludlow
54	Literature Review — BNA Philately in Print	
56	BNAPS — The Business Side	
57	From the Secretary	Earle Covert
59	On the Circuit	Bob Jamieson
60	Classified	

BNAPS For officers, member services, study groups and regional groups see 'The Business Side' page listed above

BNA TOPICS

EDITORIAL BOARD: Chairman: Clarence A. Stillions; Hon. Chairman: V. G. Greene;

Members: Robert Carr, Derek Hayter, Mike Street, Jack Wallace

EDITOR: H. M. (Mike) Street, P. O. Box 7230, Ancaster, Ontario, Canada L9G 3N6

ADVERTISING MANAGER: Dave Dixon, P. O. Box 1082, Oakville, Ontario, Canada L6J 5E9

CIRCULATION MANAGER: E. R. (Ritch) Toop, P.O. Box 9026, Ottawa, Ont. Canada K1G 3T8

© 1983 by the British North America Philatelic Society

Published Bimonthly at Ancaster, Ontario by the British North America Philatelic Society.

Printed at Dundas, Ontario by Standard Forms. Opinions expressed are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent those of the Society or BNA TOPICS.

SUBSCRIPTIONS are available only as part of membership in the British North America Philatelic Society. For information contact the Secretary, Earle L. Covert M.D., P.O. Box 1070, Hay River, NWT, Canada X0E 0R0

MANUSCRIPTS should be double spaced - typewritten if possible, but legible handwriting is quite acceptable - and addressed to the Editor.

LITERATURE FOR REVIEW should be addressed to the Editor.

MISSED OR DAMAGED COPIES — contact the Circulation Manager (listed above).

CHANGES OF ADDRESS should be sent to the Secretary (see Subscriptions, above).

THE EDITOR'S PAGE

by MIKE STREET

ONE MORE THAN JACK BENNY

Len Woodward, our printer, and your Editor are among the very few members who pay much attention to the numbers at the top of the front cover.

If you look, you will see that this issue of TOPICS is Number 2 of Volume 40. This means, of course, that TOPICS has been running for 40 years. When you consider all the changes in philately—and in the world—in that time, and the fact that TOPICS is and always has been the product of volunteer effort, 40 years is quite an accomplishment.

Most people will automatically credit all Editors, past and present, for this feat. Speaking as one who spends an average of 3 hours a day working on TOPICS, any credit is welcome, but the Editor is only part of this. Without writers, there would be nothing to edit. Without officers and executives, there would be no organization to authorize and shelter the effort. Without members and advertisers, there would be no money to pay for it—or anyone to read it. TOPICS is, truly, a group effort.

So, congratulations to all of us. On to Volume 50!

THE NEW NUMBERING SYSTEM

In this issue's Literature Review, Fred Stulberg looks at the new version of the *Canada Specialized* catalogue. In Letters, Fred explains why he asked to do the review.

The reason behind this unusual way of doing things is that the people who produce *Canada Specialized*, BNAPS members Bill Maresch and Art Leggett, have introduced a completely new system for numbering the stamps of Canada and BNA. The change, which could have a profound philatelic effect on all of us, is bound to cause discussion—some of it possibly heated. What follows is an attempt to put the issues in perspective.

Is a new numbering system needed? Many people think so, for diverse reasons.

One reason for a new system, fortunately preferred by only a few, is that the others

presently in use were not 'made in Canada'. This is nonsense. If a product meets stated requirements, then its country of origin is almost totally irrelevant.

The most common objections to the current systems center on their inconsistencies—missing numbers, two numbers for what is essentially the same stamp, etc. Those who raise these concerns have a point, or points, and the new system certainly meets their requirements.

Unfortunately, many good ideas come to grief when they meet face-to-face with reality. In the case of the new Canadian Numbering System, the question which must be asked—and answered—is, "Will it fly?"

To change over from the old to the new system will involve a lot of work, especially for dealers. Will they make the effort? If collectors demand it they will go along, even if grudgingly. If there is no impetus from the customers, however, then only a perceived need for improvement and a requirement for uniformity will cause dealers to change over.

Basic human inertia, and active resistance to change, will also enter the equation. "We don't need a new system" is an easy way to avoid thinking about or even trying out an innovation. We should guard against this reaction and give the new system a try.

One way of ensuring that a fair test is made would be for the designers of the system to make available—quickly and inexpensively—a cross reference list which will allow one to go easily FROM the other systems TO the new Canadian Numbering System (the new catalogue gives a cross-reference in the opposite direction, which is not as helpful).

Will TOPICS adopt the new system? That is up to you, the members. In this situation, my personal opinion is only one of many. I urge you to examine the question carefully before making up your minds. We should give it a try individually and, perhaps around the end of the year, see what sort of consensus, if any, has been reached.

Plan Now To Visit

The most outstanding philatelic event of the season in Canada ...



Stampex

canada

June 3,4,5, 1983

The event takes place at The Sheraton Centre in Toronto and features:

- Exhibitions
- Outstanding International Bourse
- Seminars
- Many more attractions

Further information can be obtained against SASE from:

Stamp Exhibitions Canada Inc.

565 Alness Street
Downsview, Ontario
Canada M3J 2T8
(416) 661-5191

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Mike Dicketts



One of the pleasures one gets in this position is to know, at first-hand, how the many functions which make up the day-to-day operations of the society are being managed. Just take a minute to read through the list of officers that are published on the Masthead and Business Side pages of each issue of TOPICS. Count them and you'll see it takes thirty people to run BNAPS.

Our charming and efficient Treasurer, Marva Paige, after working so hard to make the Virginia Beach convention such a success, is now coping with the mysteries of making our finances function to our benefit. There's a tremendous amount of work involved in a job which has very little glory. Marva's current experience with the Bank of Virginia will serve us well in her many tasks.

Our second Vice-President, Bob Carr, in addition to compiling biographies of our members, will be making a number of appearances at shows around the country, encouraging mem-

bers and stimulating interest in BNAPS and its various activities. Bob has always been a keen exhibitor and sets a good example to others by demonstrating the benefits of showing material.

I know that John Burnett has been hard at work ever since assuming his position, writing many letters and formulating ideas to expand the growth of and interest in Study Groups. John brings a rare enthusiasm to an area all of us feel is a vital link among collections separated by many miles and international boundaries.

I've mentioned just three of the many officers who unselfishly devote much of their spare time to making our society function for the rest of us. All hold full time jobs, as well as having the demands of families and other interests, yet they give freely of their time. In acknowledging the volunteer spirit of all officers of BNAPS, I extend an invitation to other members who are interested in serving in some capacity to write to me. I'm sure we can find a place for you in the future.

LETTERS

NEW CATALOGUE NUMBERING SYSTEM

Last year I wrote an article concerning the incongruity, the inaccuracy, the irregularity and the inconsistency of the existing catalogue numbering systems for the stamps of Canada. Although it received reasonable coverage in the philatelic press, and widespread favourable response from many collectors, I was sure that no catalogue publisher would be brave enough to go against the established system no matter how illogical it was. To my surprise the authors of the *CANADA SPECIALIZED POSTAGE*

STAMP CATALOGUE have introduced, in their 1983 edition, a numbering system that brings order out of chaos.

So impressed was I with this new approach that I asked the authors to permit me to write a review for this edition of the publication. I feel that this change in the numbering system is so necessary and innovative that I ask you to present the review to your readers.

Dr. Fred Stulberg

See *Literature Reviews*, and also *The Editor's Page* for comments on this innovation. —Ed.

CANADA - NEWFOUNDLAND

QUARTERLY PUBLIC AUCTIONS
OF SPECIALIZED ITEMS



have to

Hundreds of collectors bid in our quarterly public auctions. Our carefully prepared and profusely illustrated catalogues offer a regular source of outstanding material to British North America specialists. Send in \$9.00 today for a subscription to our next four catalogues and prices realized.

CONSIGNMENTS WANTED CANADA, NEWFOUNDLAND AND PROVINCES

We offer a simplified service to make the disposal of your stamps an easy, pleasurable experience. Low commission rates and cash advances are available for better properties. Outright purchase can be arranged if you prefer. We are willing to travel to view larger holdings.

If you are not familiar with our operation, we put out a carefully produced catalogue to secure maximum realizations for your material. We have an international mailing list of active buyers. A copy of the catalogue with prices realized from our previous sale is available free on request to interested consignors.

We are now accepting material for our next auction. Please write or telephone me - Gary Lyon (506-546-6363) today for further details.

EASTERN AUCTIONS LTD.

P.O. BOX 250, BATHURST, N.B. CANADA E2A 3Z2

- Please send complimentary Catalogue
- \$9.00 Enclosed for Subscription Fee
- Please send previous Catalogue and Prices realized as I am interested in selling

Name _____

Address _____

LETTERS (continued)

STUDY GROUPS

TO ALL BNAPSERS:

May I take a moment to promote study groups? Of BNAPS' approximately 1,500 members, fewer than 25% belong to these groups! Why? Well, perhaps not all of us know what groups exist, and why they exist. A complete listing of study groups is shown on the 'The Business Side' page in each issue of TOPICS.

Below I have listed some of the questions most often asked, with their appropriate answers.

Q. What are study groups?

A. A group of five or more BNAPSers who share a common interest in a focused area of BNA philately (i.e., Small Queens).

Q. Who may belong to a study group?

A. Any BNAPS members in good standing.

Q. How do members communicate?

A. As BNAPSers are spread throughout the world, they normally communicate through a newsletter, or through columns in TOPICS, or both. Most groups have get-togethers at our annual conventions, where members can meet face-to-face and really go at their subjects.

Q. How much does it cost to be a member of a study group?

A. This varies from fixed annual dues (usually less than \$10 per year), to 'donations accepted', used to defray the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter.

Q. How do I start a new study group?

A. Simple, get four other BNAPSers who will commit themselves to joining your group, inform the Study Group Co-ordinator, and he will take it from there!

I hope this answers your questions. If not, drop me a note, and I will answer it. My address is on 'The Business Side' page also.

Now take a moment and ask yourself if you are getting as much out of our Society as

is available. If you are not a member of one or more of the groups listed, I think not! Why not join the groups that interest you? Why not do it now?

John T. Burnett
Study Group Co-ordinator

REGISTRY SYSTEM UPDATE

I have been under considerable pressure from numerous people to expand, update and rewrite the book on 'Canada's Registry System', which was published in 1970 by the American Philatelic Society and is long out of print.

I have decided to devote 1983 to the accomplishment of this project and am seeking the cooperation of many collectors who are interested in the registry material of Canada. I am looking for any information not currently found in the book on 'Canada's Registry System'.

Please write to P.O. Box 157, Stevenson, MD 21153. Thank you.

Horace W. Harrison

CORRECTIONS

Trelle A. Morrow's article on Canada's Postage Due stamps (Nov/Dec 1982 TOPICS) was most interesting.

There appears to be one very minor discrepancy in it. The section on the 1935 maple leaf issue mentions the 6 cent value as being added in 1957. However, the 'hidden date' in the scroll of this issue is 1956.

M. F. Painter
Vancouver, B.C.

Please point out to your readers that the caption for the cover illustrated on Page 41 of the November-December 1982 issue is misleading. While it is indeed a cover from the first month of use of cancelling machines, the cancellation shown is in fact the *second* machine cancellation used in Canada.

H. M. Street
Ancaster

(Gremlins!—Ed.)

NOTES

SMALL QUEENS GROUP MEETS

At BNAPEX '82 in Virginia Beach the Small Queens Study Group held an informal meeting, with eight members in attendance.

A financial report was given — as of September 17, 1982, there was a balance of \$113.48

in the account. Dues are to remain at \$3.00/year. Total membership stands at 58.

Bill Simpson and Ted Nixon are planning on writing a book or books on the Small Queens issues. The book(s) will cover Montreal and Ottawa printing, papers, perfs, shades, re-entries, etc.

BNA TOPICS / MARCH-APRIL 1983 / 7

BRITISH EMPIRE and BNA

We carry one of the largest stocks including specialists material. Want lists accepted. Why not drop us a line.

Peter Singer

Post Office Box 46138, Station "G",
Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6R 4G5

Members: A.S.D.A., B.P.A.,
P.T.S., etc.

CANADIAN COVERS

WANTED

Ontario towns, Squared Circles, Western, RPO's, Military, Flags, cards, rates, etc. (also better cancels on stamp). Individual pieces, accumulations, collections and larger lots wanted. Have same to offer.

SQUARED CIRCLE EXCHANGE AND
CORRESPONDENCE INVITED

GRAHAM J. NOBLE

P.O. BOX 80

KINGSTON, ONTARIO

BNAPS - CPSGB - RPSC - APS - PHSC

AUCTION AGENT

For over twenty-five years, Jim Hennok has been buying at major North American Auctions. His expertise is available to you at a surprisingly low rate. He is widely recognized as the most thorough and accurate "viewer" in Toronto. By employing him as an agent you can gain anonymity and prevent unsatisfactory purchases. Please phone or write to discuss your needs.

JIM A. HENNOK LTD.

43 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, Ontario
M5C 1J4

Phone (416) 363-7757
(24 hours)

EXPERIENCE

From before the Reford Sales of 1949-50 to the present I have been representing discriminating buyers at major sales in Toronto, New York, and London. Your enquiries welcome.

GEORGE WEGG

Box 68, Station Q,
Toronto, Canada.

M4T 2L7 (416) 489-4683

NOTES (continued)

What are the objectives of the Small Queens Study Group? A very good question which was put forth at the meeting. Since 1975, at BNAPEX in Toronto, I have been the editor for this Study Group and feel that we have done the gamut on Small Queens — from re-entries to Shoemaker and Studds articles. It was agreed that for the time being the Study Group would best serve as a clearing house of information. We would also encourage Bill and Ted in their writing.

The following articles in our newsletter during the past year were commended by all at the meeting: George Olson — Canadian Oval Cancels; Jack Weatherwax — Re-entry on 8¢ Small Queen; Wally Gutzman — The Dotted Inner Circle Cancels. Articles suggested for future newsletters were: Coloured Cancels and Postage Rates During the Small Queen Period.

—Don Fraser

FIRST MAP STAMP STUDY GROUP MEETING



The initial meeting of the Map Stamp Study Group was held on Saturday, October 9, 1982 at the BNAPS convention in Virginia Beach. About 10 — 12 collectors met to discuss plans for the group, especially a series of newsletters that will deal exclusively with items concerning this popular stamp. The group was formed in early 1982 with 8 members expressing interest in the project by mail. Total membership is now 18.

Plans were laid for the next meeting, in Winnipeg in 1983. Discussion centered on a topic for the 1983 Seminar, and the aims of the group for the future. These included: 1) A Register of Squared Circle, RPO, etc., Cancellations on the Map Stamp; 2) Historical

data on the stamp, 3) Items of interest about Sir William Mulock; 4) Specialties of each member; 5) Other possible types of cancellations; 6) Available literature on the stamp; and 7) Plating procedures.

The first Newsletter was issued in November '82, and others will follow as material is submitted.

It was reported that a series of articles on Plating procedures will start in TOPICS in 1983. The series is by W. L. Bradley, who organized the group.

Further information on the Study Group and a copy of the initial newsletter can be obtained by writing W.L. Bradley, 122 Sherwood Ave., Kitchener, Ontario, Canada H2B 1K1.

APS INTRODUCES 'MEDALS OF EXCELLENCE'

Three new exhibition awards have been introduced by the American Philatelic Society to replace the APS Bronze Medal. The new APS Medal of Excellence will be awarded, at the discretion of the judges at qualified shows, to exhibits in which the material is predominantly from one of three time period categories, and which impress them with the clarity of presentation, originality and research that sets the exhibit apart from the rest. Medals are to be awarded in three major philatelic eras: pre-1900, 1900-1940, and 1940 to the present.

Exhibits must be in the open competitive section to qualify for these new medals. APS membership is no longer a prerequisite for winning exhibitors. All other exhibition eligibility criteria, requirements, and conditions that applied to the APS Bronze Exhibition Medal remain unchanged.

The APS Silver Exhibition Medal will continue to be awarded at APS Spring Meetings to the best open competition entry, regardless of APS Membership. APS Spring Meetings will also be eligible for the new APS Medals of Excellence.

These new award criteria are designed to foster further research and to reward exhibitors with more modern material as well as those with the traditional classic material

DETROIT-WINDSOR REGIONAL GROUP

More than 75 members of our society live in Michigan and Southern Ontario (west of London). It is this area that the Detroit-Windsor Regional Group was formed to serve.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

All of the following items for an immediate cash settlement at very generous prices:

- 1) Stamp collections of any country (especially internationals and globals).
- 2) Postal history (covers) of the world pre-1900. Anything and everything wanted in early Canada.
- 3) Large post card collections (pre-1925 vintage).

If you have anything described above please contact us immediately or ship to our store registered mail. Larger lots preferred please.

WE OFFER:

- 1) A very large retail store well stocked with BNA material.
- 2) Regular mail auctions.
- 3) Mail order and want list service for B.N.A., U.S. and G.B. Stamps and Covers.

— PLEASE VISIT US SOON —

Ameri-Can Stamp Studio

6048 YONGE STREET

WILLOWDALE, ONTARIO M2M 3W5

TELEPHONE (416) 226-2622

HOURS: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Monday-Saturday

OWNER: SAM CASUCCIO

NOTES (continued)

In August, 1982 a meeting was held, at the Windsor home of Bruce Muirhead, to discuss the concept of this group. The approach was accepted by the six people in attendance. It was decided to invite others to another meeting, held September 17, again in Windsor, at the home of Sandor Beny. This meeting attracted seven BNAPSers and the group was started—Mike Barie was elected Secretary and Jerry Jarnick, Treasurer. Many ideas were discussed and assignments made. Some of the activities which are planned include:

Bi-Monthly meetings, currently slated for the second Saturday of each month, to be held alternately in Windsor and Detroit, at the home of a member. At these meetings, the host will give a presentation on his BNA specialty. Members are invited to bring items related to the talk

for open discussion afterward.

Periodically we will have guest speakers from out of town talk on their specialties (currently we have lined up Dr. R.V.C. Carr, from Youngstown, Ohio; Ed Richardson from Houston; and Allan Steinhart from Toronto).

One hour will be provided at the beginning of each meeting for members to sell or swap stamps.

We will hold an annual exhibition in conjunction with the West Suburban Stamp Club. In addition to the W.S.S.C. awards banquet, during the show we are planning a separate banquet where we will make the D/W regional group award presentations.

In July we will have a family Bar -B-Que.

Further information on the Detroit-Windsor Regional Group can be obtained at the address given on the Business Side page of each issue of TOPICS.

Encourage Friends To Join BNAPS

B.N.A. COVERS

We always have over 5,000 B.N.A. covers in stock

Selections gladly sent B.N.A.P.S members

on approval

NEW ENGLAND STAMP COMPANY

BNAPS

Established 1893

ASDA

643 FIFTH AVENUE SOUTH

NAPLES, FLORIDA, U.S.A. 33940

A POSTAL HISTORY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA AND VANCOUVER ISLAND

by James A. Pike

For many years the Hudson's Bay Company enjoyed the sole right to trade with the Indians in all of British North America. Fort Vancouver, built in 1825 on the lower Columbia River, later became western headquarters of the Company. As American settlers began to pour into the Oregon Territory the Company's hold on that portion of the country became more and more precarious.

By the early 1840's the Oregon Boundary dispute had continued for over 20 years. It now appeared to Hudson's Bay officials that the boundary line between American and British claims on the Pacific seaboard might not follow the Columbia River. In the event of the rumoured selection of the 49th parallel as the dividing line, the Company's posts on the Columbia River and Puget Sound, including Fort Vancouver, as well as all the forts in the interior to the south of that line, would come under the jurisdiction of the United States.

Sir George Simpson, Governor of the Company, decided to establish a new post to be used as western headquarters. One of his men, James Douglas, was sent to search for the best site available. The only place on the coast north of Puget Sound that in any way corresponded to the river lands near Fort Vancouver was the southern end of Vancouver Island. Although the amount of arable land was insignificant compared with the land in the Columbia Valley, it was the best available. In 1843 Douglas was sent to the site to construct a fort and trading establishment. So Victoria was born.

Settlement of the boundary dispute was agreed to in 1846 when the 49th parallel was named. Douglas, in a letter he wrote later, summed up his feelings essentially in two sentences:

"It appears that the Oregon Boundary is finally settled on a basis more favourable to the United States than we had reason to antic-

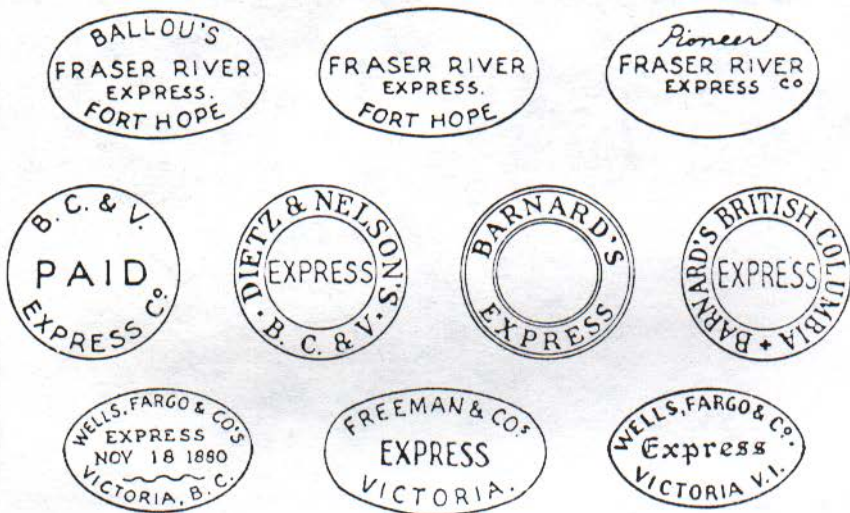
ipate. All things considered, the yielding mood of the British Ministry, and the concessions made, we (the Co.) have come off better than I expected. I looked for nothing short of an utter sacrifice of our interests."

On 13 January 1849 the Crown granted the Company a lease on the whole of Vancouver Island for a period of ten years, subject to the right of re-purchase and strictly for purposes of colonization. Then, on 28 July 1849, the British Government proclaimed Vancouver Island a new Crown Colony. A Governor was to be appointed, and a statute was passed providing for the administration of justice in Vancouver Island and abolishing some of the exclusive rights hitherto enjoyed by the Company on the Island. This was the beginning of Vancouver Island as a political entity.

In April 1858 Victoria was a sleepy village with a population of about 800 non-Indians. The discovery of gold in the bars of the Fraser River brought large numbers of miners from California, the first group arriving in Victoria on 25 April 1858. The British Government's reaction to the arrival of the hordes of men was to terminate the Company's lease on Vancouver Island and also to proclaim the new Colony of British Columbia at Fort Langley on 19 November 1858. James Douglas resigned his post with the Hudson's Bay Company and became Governor of the two separate Colonies.

EXPRESS COMPANIES

The Hudson's Bay Company brigades always carried the mail to and from inhabitants of the various forts, thus forming for many years the sole link with the outside world. These facilities were extended to non-employees without charge until 7 June 1845, when a charge of \$1.00 per half-ounce letter was made in the area west of the Rocky Mountains. Mail arrived either by the Company boat from England,



Express Company Markings

which came regularly once a year, or was picked up in Puget Sound by Company express canoes. These, manned by Indians under the charge of a Company man, would leave Victoria for Nisqually, near Olympia, with mail and dispatches, which were forwarded to Fort Vancouver, or wherever, to catch the mail steamer. The canoes would return with incoming mail and dispatches. Letters to and from England were usually from six weeks to two months in transit.

Because of the gold excitement in California which began in 1849, the United States Government organized a regular mail service, by way of the Isthmus of Panama, to Oregon and later to Puget Sound ports. Through the courtesy of the San Francisco postal authorities, a separate mail bag for Victoria was made up. This mail bag, which was looked after by the British Consul, was delivered to any ship going to Victoria which would carry it without charge. These unsatisfactory arrangements lasted for several years.

Rumours of the gold find on the Fraser River reached San Francisco in late 1857 and were heard by W. J. Ballou, commonly called Billy Ballou, one of the pioneer expressmen of the 1849 gold rush. During the winter of 1857-58 Ballou went to Victoria to see if there was any truth to them. When he obtained confirmation, he returned to San Francisco and made

arrangements to represent Freeman & Co. between Victoria and the Fraser River Mines, under the name of Ballou's Fraser River Express.

Kent & Smith started the second express service on 1 July 1858. The first agents for Wells Fargo & Co, they served the lower Fraser River, and also went through the canyon and along the Thompson River to Kamloops. Kent & Smith was taken over by Jeffray's Fraser River Express in 1859. Jeffray's, in turn, was taken over by Barnard's Express in 1861.

For the first few years Ballou's was the most viable operation, one which maintained regular communication with the mines at all times. It carried not only supplies and valuable parcels, but also the mail. In the early days mail handling was a crude and imperfect affair. The primary means of transport was either a canoe or the back of an Indian; the express office a corner in a trader's shack or a miner's log cabin; the chief source of gain, the sale of newspapers and the fee charged for handling letters and parcels.

F.J. Barnard entered the express business in 1860 and, by dint of hard work and enterprise, attained the lead in British Columbia. He started alone, on foot, covering the 760 miles from Yale to the Cariboo and return. Then he acquired horses and operated a pack-train. With improved facilities he increased his business and was soon noted for his reliability. He won



A cover carried by express and then processed by the post office at its destination in the days before stamps were generally available.

the mail contract from Ballou in 1862, and the latter was soon forced to leave the colony. Dietz & Nelson, once a subsidiary of Wells Fargo, arranged with Barnard to look after operations from Victoria to Yale or Lillooet, leaving the whole of the upper country entirely to Barnard.

Judging by the number of Wells Fargo covers in existence, one would expect that they had been particularly active in the field, but such was not the case. The company remained in Victoria, looking after incoming express service from the south, and only supervised express service up the Fraser River, this work being done by a subsidiary company or by contract. Wells Fargo did, however, supply many of the envelopes used to carry mail into the interior.

The express companies followed the crowds of miners into the Colonies, and on to the mining camps. Because of their reliability and superior service they were allowed to continue carrying the mail, as had been agreed to in the western United States. The Government postal tax and an express charge were collected on each item of mail. For example, a letter sent from Victoria to San Francisco would cost the sender: Colonial postage, 5d; U.S. postage to California, 3¢; and the Express charge, at least 25¢.

Express companies had handstamps, and some had envelopes with corner cards bearing

their names. Ballou's Fraser River Express, Freeman and Company, and Jeffray's Express covers are very rare. Kent & Smith may have used Wells Fargo envelopes from the start of their operation. Dietz & Nelson and Barnard's Express covers are not plentiful, but a fair number exist. Wells Fargo covers appear to be the most numerous and many different types are available. Wells Fargo covers with overprints of one or two different express company names are of particular interest.

By United States law, each letter carried by express had to be enclosed in a U.S. stamped envelope. As adhesive stamps were not allowed, nearly all Wells Fargo covers are U.S. stamped envelopes of the value of the full postage charge. In cases where the letter was already addressed, the express company pasted the stamped envelope to it back to back, a custom which explains the origin of many used express covers without addresses.

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

During the summer of 1858 the Hudson's Bay Company continued to charge \$1.00 per letter for mail to the miners (whose advent, by the way, was not welcomed by the fur traders). The express companies charged up to \$2.00 per letter, depending on how far up the Fraser River the addressee was. These charges were much resented, and the miners requested that the



VICTORIA.
PAID
V. I.



Post Office handstamps

Governor establish a postal service as a relief from them. On 26 November 1858 the Governor reported that he had arranged a postal system on a small scale, providing for mail to be forwarded from Victoria as far as Yale, the head of navigation on the Fraser, "by every favourable opportunity" for 5d per letter. Other rates quoted were simply amounts charged by the U.S. Post Office to various parts of the world, plus the colonial charge of 5d. This authorized

postal system was not legislated into existence, but was simply arranged as a temporary expedient. No government mail service was contemplated above Yale.

As no postage stamps had yet been issued in the colonies, it was necessary to provide hand-stamped franks to indicate pre-payment of postage. Several franks were used, five in Victoria and one each in New Westminster and Nanaimo. Impressions from these franks are of



The 2½d stamp of 1860 used to pay postage on a cover carried by two express companies

prime interest to collectors when used in lieu of postage stamps. In later years, some of them were also used for cancelling stamps. The Customs Seal, Victoria V.I. Post Office, Victoria Paid V.I. and Nanaimo hand-stamps are particularly rare.

During the summer of 1859 a request for postage stamps was sent to the Colonial Office in London. In order to lessen expenses, the Colonies suggested a stamp of one value, two pence half penny, which could be used in either colony. The first order was for 1000 sheets of stamps, with 240 stamps in each sheet. The stamp, which bears Queen Victoria's head in profile, under the heading British Columbia and Vancouver's Island, is well known (see cover illustration). It appears to be unique in that it bears the names of two separate Crown Colonies, and was available in each for prepayment of Colonial postage. There is no doubt, also, that the revenue derived from sales was retained by the Treasury of each colony. Without trained postal administrators however, accounting became hopelessly confused and postal relations between the two colonies were never quite straightened out during their separate existence.

Accompanying the order for stamps was a request for 'three dozen obliterating dies', which evidently relates to 36 numeral postmarks used later at the various post offices. These postmarks were similar to those used in England by sub-offices, and were numbered from 1 to 36. An interesting problem for the specialist has been to allocate the numerals to the post offices, because few records have been found in which these were recorded. I think it is safe to say that 22 of the 36 numerals have now been correctly allocated. It is interesting to note that when Deaville wrote his excellent book in 1928 he stated he could be sure only of four numbers: 1 (New Westminster), 10 (William's Creek), 35 (Victoria) and 36 (Nanaimo).

The adhesive stamps were available in each colony in July 1860, but the earliest-known use on a cover is 10 April 1861. The old hand franks were still permitted for the specific purpose of marking as prepaid envelopes used by the express companies.

VANCOUVER ISLAND

On 31 July 1860, the postal establishments of British Columbia and Vancouver Island were placed for the first time under separate administrative heads. The Vancouver Island Post Office

came under the charge of John D'Ewes, the popular Postmaster of Victoria. Only one other post office, Nanaimo, existed on the Island at this time. Proper postal arrangements still did not exist between the Colonies and the United States, and the Colonies were still dependent on the courtesy of the United States Post Office and the steamship owners for free conveyance of Colonial mail.

By the spring of 1861 however, when it was considered that most of the gold in river gravels had been recovered, the fleet of passenger steamers plying the route between San Francisco and Victoria had been reduced to one. The master of this boat suddenly decided that he would no longer carry the Colonial mail without compensation, so the colonists once more had to depend on haphazard delivery by occasional ships whose owners were willing to carry the mail either without charge or, at worst, at regular freight rates. Fortunately, the United States Government soon opened a new overland route from San Francisco, via Sacramento and Portland, to Port Townsend. From here it was a comparatively short boat trip to Victoria, but the Island Post Office had to pay for the delivery of the mail.

The final blow to the finances of the Island Post Office came in September 1861 when John D'Ewes, the Postmaster, absconded with all available funds, thought to be several thousand dollars. He had used handstamps almost exclusively, and of course, no records were kept of impressions sold. He left \$1.15 in the daily postage box. Postal affairs in Vancouver Island were in a bad state and the Governor had to reconsider the question of administration. Since the problem arose during an acute financial depression resulting from the subsidence of the first goldrush fever of 1858-59, and just prior to the revival caused by the startling Cariboo discoveries late in 1861, economy was the first consideration in decisions made. It was decided to abolish the Post Office as a separate department, and to combine the duties of the Postmaster with those of the Harbour Master.

The discovery that gold existed, in quantity, on bedrock deep down in Williams Creek and other nearby streams, resulted in a second period of expansion for Victoria. During 1862 and 1863 large quantities of gold left the Cariboo. Much of it was spent in Victoria. The volume of mail increased greatly and it again became necessary to assure delivery from San Francisco

by steamship. The owner of the ship was allowed \$250, per single trip, for conveying the mail every two weeks from San Francisco to Victoria and return.

Sir James Douglas' terms of office as Governor of Vancouver Island and British Columbia terminated in September 1863 and January 1864 respectively, and separate Governors were then appointed. Douglas had not passed any postal legislation in Vancouver Island, and had steadfastly refused to involve the two colonies in heavy expenditures for postal communications for a scattered and wandering population of miners.

Captain Kennedy, who became the new Governor of Vancouver Island in March 1864, tried twice to have proper postal legislation passed, but each time was refused by the Legislative Assembly. Production of gold in the Cariboo had fallen off in a most disappointing way and a second, more stringent, period of financial depression began. The elected representatives of the people were not about to vote any new bills that would result in further expenditures.



The higher value of the two Vancouver Island stamps received in June 1885.

Governor Kennedy became convinced, with some prodding from British Columbia, of the undesirability of his Post Office continuing to use the 2½ penny stamps. He ordered that the remainder of stamps in his possession be transferred to the mainland colony. Hand-franks were again resorted to, pending the arrival of the 5¢ and 10¢ Vancouver Island stamps in June 1865. (Vancouver Island, but not the mainland, had converted to decimal currency in 1863.) Demand for the stamps was not great. British Columbia would not permit their use for prepayment of postage in the Colony's interior, so their use was limited to prepayment of Colonial postage to foreign countries, inter-

colonial postage between Victoria and New Westminster, and internal Vancouver Island postage. This helps explain the scarcity of covers showing postal use of the stamps from the Island during its separate existence as a colony. It seems probable that several sheets of each denomination were purposely, or inadvertently, left unperforated because perforates and imperforates appear to have been used concurrently.

Discovery of gold by American prospectors at Wildhorse Creek in the East Kootenay, and the subsequent rush to the Big Bend of the Columbia River, brought another renewal of hope to the people of Victoria. The 1865 season was reasonably successful, but operations in 1866 proved to be an almost total failure. The people again insisted on retrenchment in public expenditures, and looked askance at the two Governors and separate corps of officials, the costs of which were helping to cripple both Colonies.

Demand came for union of the Colonies. This finally happened on 17 November 1866 with union under the name of British Columbia. Thus the Post Office Department of Vancouver Island came to an end. Its story is curious—a Post Office without laws or proper regulations and almost without stamps, whose letters were carried chiefly by express companies.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

W.R. Spalding assumed control of the Post Office establishment of the mainland colony of British Columbia in 1860. Improvement in service, particularly at outlying points, was certainly needed, but this was most difficult. No regular mail contracts were in operation and the Post Office largely depended upon private enterprise to carry the mail free of charge. Apart from Spalding, none of the postmasters were paid for their postal services and hence were probably not as attentive to their duties as they should have been.

Spalding emphasized, in a report, that the people were highly dissatisfied with the inadequate postal service and were angered by the exorbitant express company rates for letters. He recommended that the express companies be immediately stopped from carrying mail, and submitted a list of postal rates, from 2 pence to 1 shilling, which he believed would make the postal service self-supporting. The Governor-in-Council was not ready for such an experiment, so during 1861 and early 1862 the unsatisfactory and almost inoperative Government

mail service continued to function as best it could by means of the begrudged facilities of private industry.

The Cariboo gold discoveries of late 1861 brought a return of the early optimism. In July 1862 a mail contract was signed with F.J. Barnard for conveyance of mails throughout the colony. For the first time official mail bags were carried through the interior with more or less adequate guarantees of safety and dispatch. Half a dozen new post offices were opened, although their postmasters were civil servants with other duties. In November 1862 an agreement was signed for weekly conveyance of mail between New Westminster and Victoria. New postage rates, varying from 5 pence to 4 shillings depending on distance, were put into effect with the hope that they would provide sufficient revenue to pay the cost of the new contract with Barnard. Prepayment was compulsory in all cases.

The new rates made use of the 2½d stamps almost impracticable for inland postage. Their use was continued only for intercolonial postage, for prepayment of Colonial postage on letters leaving for foreign countries, and for the basic rate of 5 pence, which could be covered by pairs of the 2½d. Prepayment of all letters throughout the interior was made in cash, collected by trusted constables and other officials, and seems to have worked well.

Notwithstanding the increased postal facilities, the superior service afforded by the express companies continued, despite the exorbitant charges, to attract most of the mail. The post offices were not close enough to the mining camps, and the mails reaching the mines were invariably behind the expresses. The new postal service was not at all popular.

Late in 1862, Spalding was again instructed to prepare a report on how to place the postal system on a proper footing. He suggested a new set of postage rates, from 2½d to 2 shillings, about one half of the rates then in effect; but recommended that all mail, whether carried by express, private persons or the Post Office should pay these rates. The Governor gave careful thought to the proposals, but again decided that the express companies were serving a useful purpose, at least for the time being. Efforts were made, however, to enforce payment of the colonial tax on all letters carried by express. After May 1864 postal charges were paid by the express companies by means of Colonial stamps

affixed to each letter. The lower rates suggested by Spalding were finally put into effect, in response to popular outcry, on 1 November 1863.

For some years there had been agitation among the people of British Columbia for a separate governor and system of representative government. There is no doubt that Governor Douglas governed the Colony singlehandedly until a short time before he retired and that his true worth was not appreciated by the inhabitants. In June 1863 the Imperial Government ordered the formation of a Legislative Council, and the first meeting was convened in January 1864. Soon thereafter Governor Douglas retired, to be followed in office by Governor Seymour.

One of Seymour's first official acts was to proceed with the framing of a postal ordinance for British Columbia, which was passed in May 1864. Under its provisions, the Governor had full power to establish Post Offices, while powers were vested with the Postmaster-General for the appointment of Postmasters, preparing regulations, and completion of contracts for conveyance of the mails. This act required express operators and private persons to affix Colonial postage stamps on all letters carried by them.

The rate of postage on letters passing between points in the Colony was fixed at 6 pence per half ounce and the rate between New Westminster and Victoria at three pence per half ounce. To cover the new rates, the 2½d stamp of 1860 was provisionally increased in value to 3d, without surcharging, by Order in Council, and steps were taken to obtain a new supply of 3d stamps.

In the summer of 1864, there were about a dozen post offices in operation in the Colony. Only two, New Westminster and Williams Creek, had paid postmasters. Elsewhere, constables and other government officials continued to act as postmasters, but received no pay for their Post Office duties. F.J. Barnard obtained a renewal of his mail contract for a period of three years at a rate of 5,000 pounds per year. For his first contract, three years earlier, he had been paid at the rate of 1,500 pounds per year. The new arrangements were a distinct advance on the former service. Postal affairs were now on a proper footing, with facilities considerably improved, but it remained to be seen if there would be a sufficient increase in patronage to justify the large expenditure involved.

Unfortunately, the new arrangements were only just under way when it became apparent



The 3d stamp of 1865 on a Wells Fargo cover showing prepayment of US postage as required by the American Post Office.

that the days of easy placer mining in the Cariboo were over and a period of sharp decline set in. Miners left the Colony in droves. By June 1865 the population of British Columbia was about 8,000, and that of Vancouver Island about 4,000 persons. The great Cariboo gold rush was over and from now on both Colonies had to increase their borrowing to keep going. Fortunately, a fair number of miners returning from the interior decided to stay in the colony and, through hard work, became permanent settlers. The first Post Office to be established in a purely agricultural settlement came in July 1865 when a Post Office was authorized at Codville Landing, near Chilliwack.

The three penny stamps arrived at New Westminster, after many delays, in September 1865. The design was probably commissioned by the Agents General in London, though there are some who think that a member of the Royal Engineers had a hand in the design. This stamp also had a complicated life story. It was actually used as a 3d stamp for only two months, for after 1 January 1866 public accounts were conducted in dollars and cents instead of sterling. The 3d stamp was now sold for 6¼ cents, but for more than a year it continued to be used under the Postal Ordinance which still fixed postage rates at 3d and 6d. The initial supply of 3d

stamps, the pale blue variety, lasted about a year. Because the second printing was unaccountably delayed, another stamp famine ensued. The last of the 2½d stamps had to be used, and after the union of the two Colonies was effected in November 1866 the remaining Vancouver Island 5¢ and 10¢ stamps were put to use throughout the Colony.

In March 1867 a new Postal Ordinance was passed, fixing postage rates at 5¢, 12½¢ and 25¢, according to distance. The new rates were very confusing to the public and, to cap the confusion, the authorities in London, believing that many stamps would be needed because of the union of the two Colonies, sent over a million more of the 3d stamps. They had not been advised of the change of rates. This second shipment, a darker blue shade, arrived in June 1867. When they went on sale, pairs were used to cover the 12½¢ rate and strips of four to cover the 25¢ rate. These stamps continued to be sold until 20 August 1871 when the first supply of Canadian stamps was placed on sale, after which the large remainder of the 3d issue was burned.

The Postal Ordinance of March 1867 also provided for a 2¢ rate, to any point in the Colony, for newspapers. The lack of 2¢ stamps proved to be most inconvenient, and it was decided to save expense by overprinting the 3d

with the words TWO CENTS. Over two million stamps were printed in a light brown shade, with the surcharge in black. Most of these were destroyed when the Dominion Government took over.

After a great deal of bargaining, the express company agreed to deliver the mails throughout the interior, with a monthly winter service and a three times per month summer service, at the rate of \$16,000 per annum for the three years beginning 1 January 1868.

Earlier, in June 1867, a Postal Convention held by Great Britain and the United States resulted in agreement that Colonial postage stamps would fully prepay postage on letters to the United Kingdom. Letters to the United States, and those to Canada and Newfoundland which passed through American hands, still required payment of U.S. postage.



One of the overprinted stamps of 1869.

The use of Colonial postage stamps for compulsory prepayment of full postage on letters for Great Britain necessitated higher denominations of stamps than had been previously required. By November 1868 even the 5¢ Vancouver Island stamps had all been sold. An urgent request was made for replenishment of the 5¢ stamps, and other values up to \$1.00. Again, in order to save expense, it was decided to overprint the 3d stamp, this time with denominations of 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, 50¢ and \$1.00, and to print the stamps in different colours. The first shipment of 4800 stamps of each denomination was received in March 1869. These stamps were roughly perforated 12½ on a single line machine. The main shipment which arrived in May 1869 was comb perforated 14, but was otherwise identical with the perf 12½.

The overprinted stamps completed the issues of postage stamps for use in the Colony. Of the perf 12½ version, part of the 10¢ and

\$1.00 denominations were unsold and were subsequently destroyed. In the perf 14 issue the 10¢ and \$1.00 denominations were never issued and they, together with a large part of the main shipment, were also destroyed. The task of destroying the remainders was not an easy one, for nearly 4½ million stamps had to be burned. There is every reason to believe that all the remainders were destroyed in this manner, but complete documentary proof of this has not survived.

All the stamps of both Colonies were surface printed by Messrs. Thomas De La Rue & Co. Ltd. of London, England. They were in use from 1860 to 1871, but the number used was comparatively small. All issues of stamps were printed from a total of only four different plates — economy was the watch-word of the day!

Agitation for union with the Dominion of Canada reached considerable dimensions in British Columbia in 1868. Governor Musgrave, successor to Governor Seymour who had died in office, in 1869 gave assurance that the British Government favoured the union and suggested advantageous terms for the Colony. With this assurance there was a renewal of public confidence and a slow return to better times. Optimism increased when it became known that the Government of Canada also favoured union under the terms of admission, including the guarantee of a transcontinental railway and assumption by the Dominion of the heavy Colonial debt. Not the least of the considerations, however, was the understanding that the Canadian Government would take over the Colonial postal services, defray all expenses, reduce postage rates, improve communications to, from and within the Colony, and give British Columbians the advantage of Canada's postal conventions with other countries. The Dominion Government also undertook to maintain a regular mail steamship service between Victoria and San Francisco.

A transaction of major importance in Colonial Postal affairs was the conclusion of a postal agreement between the Colony and the United States of America. On 1 July 1870, British Columbia for the first time entered into proper postal relations with the United States. Colonial postage stamps were now accepted for prepayment of postage to the U.S., but it was still necessary to use U.S. stamps on letters to Canada, Newfoundland and P.E.I. (During the

whole Colonial period it had been necessary for the main post offices to keep U.S. stamps on hand to prepay postage on letters to or travelling through the United States.)

The three year contract to deliver mail throughout the Colony, held by Messrs. Dietz, Nelson and Barnard, expired in October 1870. On this occasion the Government and the Express Company were unable to come to terms for renewal. A new three year contract was signed, at a rate of \$40,000 per year, with Messrs. Gerow and Johnson of Victoria. Their service was not entirely satisfactory.

The British Columbia Post Office Department, during the closing days of the Colonial regime, showed steady growth and development, and several new post offices were authorized. By the time British Columbia became a province of the Dominion of Canada on 29 July 1871, it was able to turn over to the Post Office Department of Canada 25 Post Offices in active opera-

tion.

After Confederation the mail services of British Columbia were maintained by the Dominion Government at a heavy loss for many years, until the gradual increase in population and improvement of transportation enabled the service to pay its own way. So far as postal facilities are concerned, there can be no doubt that the people of British Columbia gained inestimably by joining the Dominion of Canada.

REFERENCE

1. *The Colonial Postal Systems and Postage Stamps of Vancouver Island and British Columbia, 1849-1871*, by A.S. Deaville. This volume, Memoir No. 8 of the British Columbia Provincial Archives publications, was published in 1928.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Author wishes to thank Dr. R. V. C. Carr for the photos of the covers used to illustrate this article.

Encourage Friends To Join BNAPS

MAY WE SEND YOU A COPY OF

HENNOK'S

MINT CANADA Wholesale List

- *From Scott #34 to date
- *Hinged and never hinged
- *Fine & Very-fine grades
- *Per 10 and per 50

JIM A. HENOK LTD.

43 Adelaide East

Toronto, Ontario, Canada
M5C 1J4

CANADA REVENUES

We have been revenue specialists since 1970. Our revenue stock is one of the largest in existence. Regular revenue sales and ReveNews bulletins. Latest fully illustrated revenue price lists \$1.00, refundable

E. S. J. van Dam Ltd.

P.O. Box 300

Bridgenorth, Ontario, Canada

KOL 1H0

COLLECTIONS

Disposing of collections to the best advantage can sometimes become a complex problem. I have the experience and ready access to the best markets for any type of collection. This includes the International British market as Canadian Agent for Robson Lowe Limited of London, England.

George Wegg

Box 68, Station Q,
M4T 2L7

Toronto, Canada
(416)489 - 4683

THE CANCELLATION CONNOISSEUR!



In the past year our firm has purchased over \$100,000. worth of individual rarities and collections in the cancellation field.

Please remember us when disposing of *any* type of Canadian or B.N.A. cancellations.

We would be pleased to make a *most* generous offer on all better cancellation collections.

CURRENTLY NEEDED:— Fancy cancels, Squared circles, 2 and 4 ring numeral cancels, N.B. numeral grids, P.E.I. lot numbers, B.C. numeral grids, Flag cancels, RPO cancels, Berri duplexes, Roller cancels, etc.

JIM A. HENOK LTD

43 Adelaide East
Toronto, Ontario

Canada M5C 1J4
Tel: (416) 363-7757

NEWFOUNDLAND REVENUE STAMPS

1938 – 1970

by Robert H. Pratt

WANTED

WANTED

WANTED

Any information leading to the identity, present location and mounting of the culprits shown herewith will be compensated with a suitable REWARD.



These guilty ones will, if not properly identified, forever plague the uninformed with their similarity to known and respected proofs. It is essential that they be identified, and promptly. All information must be sent, priority IMMEDIATE, to the:

Control Centre,
Inspectors Proof and Essay,
7912 North Beach Drive,
Milwaukee WI – 53217, U.S.A.

URGENT

URGENT

URGENT

Turn the page for more details

FOREWORD

On Wednesday 9 June 1976 at 10:30 hrs., Robson Lowe Ltd. held an important British North American auction. A great number of the lots came from the collection of proof material which had formerly resided in the archives of the Thomas De la Rue museum. While some duplication exists in the hands of collectors and in the British Postal Museum, many of the lots were unique, for instance.

LOT 1393T(E): 1940 Penny Black Centenary essay, 15¢ with vignette (different airplane and added inscription) and shape similar to the 1931 15¢, Custom Duty 1¢ and Inland Revenue 25¢ (Caribou head), head of K.G. VI 10¢ (3, two with different heads, one without head) and \$100 (3, two with different heads, one without head), photographic essays of part photographic, part hand-painted essays. (9) £50.

The lot realized £80.

PART ONE

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS

Relating to the Change in Suppliers of the Newfoundland Revenue Stamps of 1938

LETTER, 24 May 1937 — Crown Agents to W. E. Curtis, Head of Supply Division, St. John's:

Ref. letter 15 March requesting quotations for revenue stamps. Quotations have been received from De la Rue & Co. Ltd., Harrison and Sons Ltd., and Perkins Bacon and Co.

Three designs submitted by Perkins Bacon and two by each of the other firms.

With regard to the *quotation of De la Rue*, I enclose reproductions of the portraits of His Majesty the King which it is proposed to use, *the profile* in surface printed stamps and *the three-quarters profile* in recess printed stamps. These portraits have been approved for general use. It should be understood that *their designs etc. are shown in wash*. I recommend that the contract should be given to Messrs. Thomas de la Rue for 'surface' printed stamps.

LETTER, 28 June 1937—Crown Agents to W. E. Curtis, Head of Supply Division, St. John's:

A registered letter together with the designs of the revenue stamps in question was forwarded to you on the 24th May. We have been unable to obtain duplicates of the designs etc. which formed the other enclosures of our lost letter in time to dispatch by this mail, but hope to send you these by the mail of the 2nd July.

LETTER, 6 July 1937—Crown Agents to W. E. Curtis, Head of Supply Division, St. John's:

Re the Newfoundland revenue stamps, we forward herewith *the further design submitted by Messrs. Harrison & Sons Ltd.*

LETTERS, 8 July and 20 July 1937—Head of Supply Division to Secretary for Finance:

We enclose herewith copies of letters from Crown Agents, with designs of Newfoundland Revenue Stamps.

LETTER, 10 August 1937—British American Bank Note Co. Ltd. to Secretary, Finance Dept. (W. M. Marshall), St. John's:

You expressed a desire to have a new up-to-date Inland Revenue Stamp which would not bear the portrait of the Sovereign and therefore could be used for a great many years in the future. I am enclosing *alternative designs for the \$5 stamp, one bearing a vignette depicting the fishing industry, and the other showing the head of a Newfoundland dog*. This Dog's head was used in a slightly different form on a Tobacco Stamp for your Customs department, but none of these Tobacco stamps have been ordered for a great many years.

Bearing in mind the necessity for economy, we suggest that two (2) denominations should be engraved upon each steel plate, and thus in the future the stamps would be delivered 25-on instead of 50-on the sheet, but the ten (10) denominations would each be printed in a separate color as before.

LETTER, 17 August 1937—Acting Secretary to British American Bank Note Co. Ltd., Ottawa:

In connection with the suggested new designs which were the subject of discussion, I am to thank you for your suggestions and designs which you have submitted, and to inform you that a further communication will be addressed to you at a later date on this point.

LETTER, 8 September 1937—Commissioner for Finance (Mr. Penson) to Commissioner for

Justice (Mr. W. R. Howley):

It is necessary to consider the issue of a new set of Revenue Stamps, as the existing stamps bear the portrait of H. M. King George V. It has been suggested here that instead of having stamps bearing the portrait of the present Sovereign, we should adopt a pictorial design so that it may not be necessary to change the design with each new reign. The British American Bank Note Co. have submitted two alternative designs. Would you let me know:

(a) If you think that a change to a pictorial is desirable, and

(b) if you approve either one of the two designs submitted, or if you think neither of them is suitable and fresh designs should be called for?

LETTER, 8 September 1937—Commissioner for Justice to Commissioner for Finance:

Re new issue of Revenue Stamps. I think it is a good idea to have a permanent design instead of one that has to be altered from time to time.

(1) The present stamp is too large.

(2) I would suggest the inclusion of a stamp of the value of \$2.50.

LETTER, 13 September 1937—Commissioner for Justice to Commissioner for Finance:

I am much obliged for view of alternate designs for new revenue stamps, which I herewith return. I think the one *showing the Dog's head* is the more attractive one. I note the design shows a smaller stamp than heretofore used.

LETTER, 21 September 1937—Head of Supply Division to Secretary for Finance:

If you are willing to accept 'direct plate' method you will note that Perkins & Bacon are considerably cheaper, their price averaging \$1.50 per 1000 against British American Bank Note's at \$1.85 per 1000.

I suggest therefore, that after having settled the main features of the design, and the denominations, we should invite both the British American Bank Note Co. and the Crown Agents to quote simultaneously on a strictly

comparable basis.

LETTER, 28 October 1937—W. E. Curtis, Head of Supply Division to The Crown Agents, London:

I have to inform you that it has now been decided to print the Revenue Stamps from steel plates on plain paper. Watermarked paper is not required. The design to be used is to be standardized and will be common to all denominations, but each denomination is to be in a separate color. It has been decided to incorporate in the design some print of local interest, e.g. head of a *Newfoundland Dog* or *Caribou*, and a vignette of the reigning Monarch will be dispensed with.

As a further measure of economy it has been suggested that two denominations should be engraved upon each steel plate, necessitating delivery in sheets of 25-on, instead of 50-on as has been the practice in the past.

The approximate annual requirements are as follows:

25,000 @ \$.05 each
15,000 @ \$.10 each
12,000 @ \$.25 each
5,000 @ \$.50 each
9,000 @ \$ 1.00 each
4,000 @ \$ 2.50 each
2,000 @ \$ 5.00 each
250 @ \$ 20.00 each
250 @ \$ 50.00 each
250 @ \$ 100.00 each

I should be glad to know whether, if sufficient supply for say five years were printed in the first instance, you would be prepared to hold the stocks to our demand.

LETTER, 23 February 1938—W. M. Marshall to Mr. Penson, Commissioner for Finance:

As a result of inquiries that have been made it is apparent that we can effect substantial savings if we obtain our supplies in the United Kingdom. The prices have been obtained on a design common to all denominations and, in order to ensure long life in the printing plates, a pictorial die has been selected instead of a vignette of the reigning monarch.

Supplies Division have obtained the following quotations at \$ 5.00 to the £:

1. Perkins Bacon	£174
2. De la Rue	£241
3. Bradbury Wilkinson	£248
4. British American	£422

On the five year basis, Messrs. Perkins Bacon are the lowest tenders, but I am of the opinion that their work (sample herewith) is not up to the standard of the other firms and *the design has, also, a close resemblance to a recent issue of postage stamps, which is objectionable. This latter point appears also to Messrs. De la Rue.*

I suggest, therefore, that the contract be awarded to Messrs. Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd. (are they Harrison and Sons Ltd.?) at £248.0.7., and I favor *their design of a dog's head.*

Note by Mr. Penson—I think we should take the Perkins Bacon design—but *avoid a lilac stamp as it would be like the 5 cents postage stamp.*

LETTER, 28 March 1938—W. E. Curtis, Head of Supply Division, to British American Bank Note Co.:

I have also to inform you that your tender of the 14th October 1937 to the Secretary for

finance has not been accepted.

I shall also be pleased to receive a certificate stating that the blocks and any other printing material used in connection with them (the revenue stamps) have been destroyed.

LETTER, 6 April 1938—British American Bank Note Co. to W. E. Curtis:

We are in receipt of your letter of March 28th and naturally regret to hear that you cannot accept our tender for 1¢ Customs stamps, and that also our tender of October 14th 1937 has not been accepted. . . In the meantime we would be obliged if you would return the designs which we prepared for the 1¢ Customs stamp and also for the stamps required for the Department of Finance.

In a few days we will send a certificate certifying the destruction of the plates used for the printing of the revenue stamps. (They were destroyed 23 April 1938, 20 plates in all.)

(TO BE CONTINUED)

DO YOU COLLECT POSTAL HISTORY?

If so, why not drop us a line
with your needs?

This Month's Feature

STAMPLESS
GALORE!

D&D COVERS INC.

Dept. B
P.O. Box 1082
Oakville, Ont. Canada
L6J 5E9

We are always in the market
to purchase quality covers

Canada, Newfoundland

And Other B.N.A.

Public Auctions

Basutoland, Falkland Islands
and other British Common-
wealth. Mint, Used, On Cover,
Single Rarities, Collections, Ac-
cumulations Bought and Sold.

JOHN H. TALMAN

BOX 70, ADELAIDE STREET P.O.

TORONTO, ONT. M5C 2H8

PHONE (416) 863-1465

Visit our store at 35 Victoria Street,
Downtown Toronto



THE
1982 — 83
EDITION
is
NOW AVAILABLE

FROM
YOUR FAVORITE DEALER

or
Direct From The Publishers

introducing . . .

THE NEW CANADIAN NUMBERING SYSTEM
For the Stamps of Canada and their Provinces

138 FACT-FILLED PAGES

The only specialized Canadian stamp catalogue that lists and prices: CROWN CIRCLE POSTMARKS, BISHOP MARKS, SHIP LETTER POSTMARKS, STEAMBOAT POSTMARKS, STRAIGHT-LINE POSTMARKS, LEGISLATIVE POSTMARKS (new), rarity factors of the FOUR-RING NUMERAL CANCELLATIONS on the three pence and five cent Beavers (new), PLATE PROOFS OF THE PENCE ISSUE, and PLATE PROOFS OF THE FIRST DECIMAL ISSUE (new).

PLUS up-to-date and revised prices for ALL the stamps of CANADA, NEWFOUNDLAND, BRITISH COLUMBIA, NEW BRUNSWICK, NOVA SCOTIA, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND and Canadian SEMI-OFFICIAL AIRMAILS for mint, used, multiples, and single-franking covers, with QUALITY PERCENTAGES for VERY FINE, CENTERED and NEVER HINGED.

PLUS prices for PLATE AND INSCRIPTION BLOCKS (1927 to date) for ALL EXISTING PLATES AND POSITIONS. Prices for EXPERIMENTAL COILS, UNCUT COILS, BOOKLET PANES and COMPLETE BOOKLETS with ALL POSSIBLE VARIETIES.

PLUS all MAJOR and MINOR VARIETIES, PAPERS, PERFORATIONS, PRINTINGS, DIES, SHADES and MUCH, MUCH MORE NOT FOUND IN ANY OTHER SPECIALIZED CATALOGUE.

A Catalogue Every Collector Should Have

only \$5 Canadian Funds (postpaid in Canada)
or, \$5 U.S. Funds (postpaid in the U.S.)

order from your favourite dealer
or from

CANADA SPECIALIZED LIMITED
330 Bay Street, Suite 703, Toronto, Canada M5H 2S9

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY PERSONNEL and the SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

by F. H. Chaffee



A letter from George Barnston, Hudson's Bay
Company factor at Michipicoton Island

In a NOTE, 'Hudson Bay Letters Discovered at Smithsonian', (Vol. 38, No. 4) we stated that the article described gave no information about the philatelic aspects of these letters, and suggested that a follow-up might be of interest.

The letters are now in the archives of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. A brief perusal shows them to have great historical value. Parks Canada at Fort Garry, Winnipeg, has obtained photostatic copies of the correspondence. Unfortunately, all the envelopes of the original letters have apparently long since been thrown away. The only items of philatelic interest remaining are eleven folded letters which show postal markings.

We are indebted to Col. Frederick H. Chaffee, USA, Ret. (BNAPS 3206) for the informative article which follows.—ED.

The purpose of the correspondence was the collection of information on and specimens of flora and fauna from Northern Canada for the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. Most of the letters were from Hudson's Bay Company factors in northwestern Canada during the time that the Company was responsible for carrying what mail originated in that vast area.

How mail was carried, and by what routes, is indicated by the following extract from a letter dated 22 June 1859 to the Institution from

George Barnston, Company factor on Michipicoton Island: "The mail to Red River passes thru from the Sault to Fort William every fortnight, but without touching an intermediate place. After October it proceeds along the north shore above the Lake, carried by men on snowshoes—exposed to great delays if not obstructionary. The periods of delivery of letters at that season in Red River are very irregular and uncertain. In winter consequently the States mail, via St. Paul Minnesota, to Pembina

must be preferable for letters addressed to Fort Garry. I do not exactly know the rate of postage but I think it is about 1/3 say 25 cts for a single letter to Fort Garry by both routes."

There are four covers from Michipicoton Island through Sault Ste. Marie. Two were delivered to the U.S. mail, and the other two continued eastward in Canada. It seems that most of the correspondence from the Northwest was delivered by the HBC Company to the U.S. mail system at Pembina, Minnesota. Unfortunately the only postal markings remaining in the entire correspondence of over 500 letters are on covers which are an integral part of a letter—seven which went via Pembina and the four via Sault Ste. Marie mentioned above.

The covers from Michipicoton were as follows: 1) Letter, dated 23 June 1859, with partial postmark Sault St. Marie, Mich. J1 2, no franking shown; 2) Letter, dated 22 May 1860, with Sault Ste Marie, C.W. Ju 1, 1860 postmark and another unreadable postmark. Franked '10 cts' in script; 3) Letter, dated 24 Mar 1861, with four postmarks—Sault Ste Marie, C.W. Ap 11, 1861, Penetanguishene, C.W. May 6, 1861, Barrie, U.C. My 6, 1861, G.W R East My 7, '61, no franking shown (illustrated); 4) Mutilated cover, no date, with partial Sault St Marie (Mich

postmark and piece of one U.S. Stamp.

The seven covers with Pembina postmarks, all stampless, contained letters as follows: 1) Dated 25 July 1859, from Portage la Loche, with postmark Pembina M.T. (Minnesota became a state in 1858) Nov. 2, franked 'Paid' stamped in red and 3 cts in black script; 2) Dated 16 Sept. 1860, from Pembina, with postmark Pembina Min Sept 16, franked 'Paid' in black script; 3) Dated 24 June 1861, from Ft. Youcon, Youcon River, N.W.A. with postmark Pembina Min. Mar 21, franked 'Paid 3 cts' in red script; 4) Dated 1 Dec 1861, from Ft. Rae, Great Slave Lake, with postmark Pembina Min. (date unreadable), franked 'Paid 3 cts' in red script. 5) Dated 7 Dec. 1862, from Ft. Resolution, Great Slave Lake, with postmark Pembina Min. Mar 10, no franking; 6) Dated 12 July 1864, from York River (enroute) with postmark Pembina Min. Sept 13, no franking; 7) Dated 17 Nov. 1864, Ft. aux Liards, with postmark Pembina Min. (date unreadable), no franking.

Letters were received from all parts of Canada including one from Northwest River and one from Quebec. There are even two letters from Donald A. Smith (Lord Strathcona). Many of the letters have Smithsonian date of receipt stamps. The long times required in transit can be seen from the following sampling:

Origin	Date Sent	Date Received
Rigolet	28 July 1863	4 Nov 1863
Edmonton House	22 Aug 1863	13 Oct 1863
Fort Good Hope	10 Sept 1864	28 Mar 1865
Ft. Rae	3 Dec 1864	14 Apr 1865
Norway House	6 July 1865	14 Aug 1865
Northwest River	11 Aug 1865	17 Nov 1865
Ft. Simpson, McKenzie River	30 Nov 1865	22 Mar 1866
Moose Factory	10 Aug 1867	26 Oct 1867
Ft. Nelson, McKenzie River	1 Nov 1867	20 Mar 1868
Rupert House, Hudson Bay	2 Jan 1869	1 May 1869

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the assistance of Ms. Susan Bluhm and Mr. William Deiss of the Smithsonian archives, who made these materials available for examination by Col. Chaffee and by the Editor. In addition to the letters mentioned above, the Editor also noted two from Sir George Simpson, Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company for almost forty years.

SUPPORT TOPICS' ADVERTISERS

CALENDAR

This feature of TOPICS will list Exhibitions and Bourses, including FIP sponsored (International) exhibitions, which will have a significant BNA content, as well as BNAPS Regional Group Functions. Information/prospectus should be sent to the Editor as soon as available and at least 3 months before the event.

- APRIL 23—SPRINGPEX**, 2nd annual spring exhibition and bourse of the Hamilton Philatelic Society. Main Post Office, 10 John St. South, Hamilton. Information: Andrew Chung, P.O. Box 5071, Stn. E, Hamilton, Ont. L8S 4K9
- MAY 7-8 — ORAPEX '83**, The RA Stamp Club's annual exhibition and bourse, RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, Ont. Information: Arthur Guarda, ORAPEX '83, at above address. K1H 7X7.
- MAY 13-15 —** The Winnipeg Philatelic Society Spring exhibition, Winnipeg Convention Centre, Winnipeg Man. Information: Winnipeg Philatelic Society, Box 1425, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 2Z1.
- MAY 14 — STAMPFEST '83**, The Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society's annual exhibition and bourse. St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Queen & Weber Sts., Kitchener, Ont. Information: Leigh Hogg, P.O. Box 8101, Bridgeport, Ont. N2K 2G6.
- MAY 19-22 — OAKPEX '83**, 10th annual exhibition of the Okville Stamp Club, and 55th Annual Convention of the R.P.S.C. Information: D. Dixon, P.O. Box 1082, Oakville, Ont. L6J 5E9.
- MAY 21 — BNAPS' Centennial Definitives Study Group** will hold a meeting at OAKPEX '83.
- MAY 21 —** The Postal History Society of Canada will hold a meeting at OAKPEX '83.
- MAY 22 — BNAPS' Golden Horseshoe Regional Group** will hold a meeting at OAKPEX '83. Program: Ralph Trimble—Canadian Re-Entries. All BNAPSers welcome.
- MAY 20-22 — PAN PACIFIC EXPO '83**, spring meeting of the American Philatelic Society. A Western Canada section is planned. Information: Tom Current, P.O. Box 4056, Portland, OR 97208.
- JUNE 3-5 — STAMPEX '83**, annual National exhibition and bourse, featuring the annual meeting of the Postal History Society of Canada. Sheraton Centre, Toronto. Information: STAMPEX '83, 565 Alness St., Downsview, Ont. M3J 2T8.
- JUNE 9-12 — PIPEX '83**, 43rd Pacific International Philatelic Exhibition of the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs, Edmonton Convention Centre. Hosted by the Edmonton Stamp Club. Information: Keith R. Spencer, P.O. Box 399, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 2J6.
- JULY 8-10 — STAMPFEST '83**, exhibition and bourse, Sheraton Centre, Toronto. Information: STAMPFEST Canada, 127 Cartwright Ave., Toronto, Ont. M6A 1V4.
- JULY 29-AUGUST 7 — BRASILIANA '83**, FIP sanctioned International exhibition and bourse. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Canadian Commissioner: A. Cronin, P.O. Box 5722, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1P2.
- AUGUST 4-13—BANGKOK '83**, FIP sanctioned international exhibition. Bangkok, Thailand. Canadian Commissioner: Michael Millar, 192 Shanty Bay Road, Barrie, Ont. L4M 1E6. USA Commissioner: Frank Vignola, 105 22nd Ave., San Francisco, CA 94121.
- AUGUST 25-28 — STAMPSHOW '83**, major annual exhibition and bourse of the American Philatelic Society. David L. Lawrence Convention Centre, Pittsburgh, PA. Information: Stampshow '83, P.O. Box 8000, State College, PA 16801.
- BNAPEX '83:** **SEPTEMBER 1-3**, Westin Hotel, Winnipeg, Manitoba. Information: Beverlie Clark, 924 North Dr., Winnipeg Manitoba R3T 0A8.
- 1984-7
- SEPTEMBER 21-30: AUSIPEX '84**, FIP sanctioned International Exhibition, Melbourne, Australia. Canadian Commissioner: David Dixon, PO Box 1082, Oakville, Ont. L6J 5E9.
- BNAPEX '84 — San Francisco, California.** Chairman: Garvin Lohman
- BNAPEX '85 — Calgary, Alberta.** Chairman: Sam Nickle
- BNAPEX '86 — Detroit, Michigan.** Chairman: Chuck Firby

1. RESEARCH SOURCES A. FORERUNNER PUBLICATIONS

Prior to the publication of the first Postal Guide, post office regulations, postage rates, and other notices including opening and closing dates of post offices were officially publicized in the *Sessional Papers* (1860-1925); the *Quebec Almanac* (1780-1841); the *Canada Gazette* (1841 to date) and in its predecessor publications, the *Upper Canada* and *Quebec Gazettes*; by post office circulars and notices printed as broadsides and hung in public places; and in newspapers.

Post Office notices concerning a variety of matters regularly appeared in contemporary newspapers. These are a particularly good source of data of local interest—tenders for mail contracts, mail routes, frequency and times of service, names of personnel, incidents (e.g. robberies, complaints), etc.

When Benjamin Franklin was Deputy Postmaster-General for the Northern portion of British North America (1763-1774), Hugh Finlay served as his assistant, in addition to being Postmaster at Quebec. A handwritten 'plan humbly proposed by Hugh Finlay, Postmaster of the Province, for regulating the Post between Quebec and Montreal', dated 20 March 1766, is the earliest regulation concerning postal operations for what is now Canada of which I am aware. About 1770 Finlay arranged to print what is possibly the earliest publication resembling a postal guide, the *Instructions for Post-riders and the Maitre de Poste*. It was probably based on a similar document originating in Great Britain.

Some time between 1788 and 1793 William Moore, publisher of the *Quebec Herald* and *Universal Miscellany*, printed *General Instructions for Deputy Post-masters*. This sixteen page publication, based on the *Queen Anne Act of 1710*, included at the beginning of the book an 'Oath of Office' prefaced by this statement: "No Deputy Post-mastter, or Per^{so}n employed under him can act until he has taken this oath Before a Justice of the Peace for the Place

where he re^{fi}des" (—sic). One of the more interesting parts of this document refers to the existence of the equivalent of a modern letter carrier — "and you are to allow the Per^{fo}n Employed by you to deliver the Letters . . . one Englifh copper Half-penny . . . for each Letter, out of the Poftage charged thereon . . .".

PROVINCE OF CANADA

Under the terms of the Treaty of Paris signed on 10 February 1763, the territory known as New France was ceded to Great Britain and named Quebec (an Indian word meaning 'the narrows'). The Constitutional Act of 1791 divided Quebec into two administrative units — Upper Canada and Lower Canada. This division continued until 1841, when the Union Act united the two provinces as the Province of Canada, and they became known as Canada East and Canada West. The government of the Province of Canada became the basis of the federal system of government for all the provinces which joined to form a confederation — the Dominion of Canada. Thus the territory underwent a number of name changes before becoming what are today the provinces of Quebec and Ontario (also from an Indian word meaning 'beautiful lake') through the British North America Act of 1867.

In this introduction I will concentrate on the Province of Canada because its post office had the most comprehensive, as well as the largest number of, official postal-related publications. It also had a Post Office Act which served as the model for the later Dominion Post Office Department's Act.

In 1829, Thomas Allan Stayner, Deputy Postmaster General of British North America (1827-51) 'constructed' a 280 mm x 270 mm table which was given the designation 'A' and an impressive title — *Table of Post Towns in the British Provinces in North America, on the main post route: to which letters may be conveyed by the post, with the Distance and Rates*

of Postage for a single letter in Halifax currency. In the same year Table A was augmented by Table B, which had an equally descriptive heading — *Table of the Post Towns on the Bye and Cross Routes in the Canadas with the Distances and the Rates of Postage for a Single Letter in Halifax Currency*. This table consisted of three sheets, each approximately 300 mm x 250 mm.

Although it is not specifically designated as such, I believe Table C is *A List of the Post-Offices and Postmasters in the Canadas, alphabetically arranged, shewing the distance in miles (and the postage on a single letter) from the ——— post office in British North America*. While undated, I would guess it to be circa 1830. It may be an unpublished draft document.

Table D or the *Post Office Directory for the Canadas* exists, designated as a 'Second Edition', published by the General Post Office, Quebec 'Corrected to June 1835'. Stayner's 'Explanation of Table D', dated 1 November 1830, is included. It may be assumed that the first edition was published on that date, and that the same explanation was used for both versions. The Second Edition consists of thirty-six pages. The first twenty concern Lower Canada, while the remaining eighteen cover Upper Canada. It gives a list of Seigneuries, Townships, Villages, Parishes and/or settlements in the Canadas "with the names of Post Offices respectively to which letters for such places should be mailed in order to insure their ready delivery".

While on a holiday trip last December I located the first known copy of an eight page booklet entitled *Instructions to a Deputy Post Master, in Canada, upon his appointment*. After negotiation, the National Postal Museum acquired the document for its Library, where it will be available to researchers. It appears that Stayner sent a copy of this pamphlet to newly appointed postmasters. I think the 'letter' portion of the first page is worth repeating in full because it gives us an idea of the 'starter kit' each postmaster received, how they were to obtain their training, and what they could expect in the future. It reads as follows:

"Herewith you will receive your Commission as my Deputy at _____ together with Tables of Postage-Rates, a Post Office Directory called Table D,—a Book for "*Mails Received*,"—another for "*Mails Sent*," and a supply of Letter Bills one of which, filled up with an account of the *number* of Letters, and the *Postage* thereon, and signed by you, is to

accompany every mail which you despatch. I likewise send you blanks for your Quarterly Accounts, and whenever you require a fresh supply of Office Blanks of any description, you will take care to apply for them to me in due season. You will also receive herewith, several Circular Letters and Department Orders, issued by me at different times, to which I request your particular attention, as they contain instructions on many points of duty that it will be useful to you clearly to understand. You will further receive a Key for the Mail Bag.

"NOTE: Should the Post Master to whom these instructions are addressed, be succeeding another Postmaster, he will receive the above described Forms, &c. with other Post Office Property, from his Predecessor.

"As the Department is not yet provided with a full and complete Code of Instructions, in a condensed form, (a deficiency, however, which will shortly be supplied,) I shall now convey to you a few rules for your guidance upon the most material points of duty; and at the same time I recommend your taking an early opportunity of applying to some experienced Post Master in your vicinity, for such information relative to the application of the blank forms, &c. as you may stand in need of. One or two hours conversation on these matters with such a person, will be of more use in qualifying you for the practical details of a Post Office, than a great amount of written instruction."

Thirty four postal guide-like 'articles' of instruction follow. The only copy known to exist is addressed by Stayner to Robert More, his Deputy at Brompton, Lower Canada. Stayner made several hand-written changes on the document, added a thirty-fifth article, and signed and dated it "June 1837". This booklet also has a printed, revised, 'Article XII' tipped in, as well as an explanation of 'Article XVI' and 'Additional Instruction' for 'Article XXXI' and 'Dead Letters' glued to the last page (early postal guide supplements?). It may well be an example of the first real postal guide to be published by the Post Office in Canada, or at least a forerunner, as Stayner indicates in the last paragraph of his letter.

SOME MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS

First Report of the Committee on Finance Post Office Department, 1832, 1833, 1834. In addition to financial data the report has an

SIR,

Referring to the Circular letter which I had the honor of addressing to you, by direction of the Post Office Commission, on the 28th inst., the Commissioners conceive that the information they seek on certain points of the inquiry in which they are engaged may be best obtained through the medium of answers to the subjoined series of questions, to which they beg respectfully to request your attention. You would much oblige me by numbering your answers, to correspond with the questions to which they may severally refer.

In thus submitting to your notice the accompanying queries, I am particularly desired to add, that it is by no means intended to prescribe to you the precise form of reply which they suggest. The Commissioners will be happy to receive the expression of your opinion on any subject connected with their inquiry, in any form you may yourself prefer.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant,

Christian Dunkin (Signed)
Secretary to Commission.

QUERIES

1.—Have you any suggestions to offer, with a view to the improvement of the Internal Post Communications of these Provinces; or of the Post Intercourse between this Country and the United States?

2.—Will you be so good as to give your opinion as to the amount of Correspondence at present sent otherwise than by Mail; the routes on which, so far as your information extends, this practice is most prevalent; and the reasons which in your opinion induce persons to resort to such means of conveyance for their letters?

3.—What is your opinion of the present rates of Letter-postage in these Provinces? Do you think them reasonable or otherwise? If the latter, will you have the goodness to state your views on the subject of an improved scale?

4.—Are you of opinion that a reduction in the rates of Letter-postage would materially increase the amount of Correspondence by Mail?—If so, will you favor the Commission with your views on the subject, in such detail as you may think proper?

5.—Do you think that the system of charging letters by weight (as is now the practice in the United Kingdom) might here be advantageously substituted for the present mode of rating by single and double letters, &c.?

6.—Are you aware what are the charges at present made for the transmission of Newspapers and other Periodicals by the Post? If so, do you consider either the rate of charge, or the mode of payment, or both, objectionable? And will you state your opinions generally, on the subject?

7.—Are you of opinion that the proprietors of Newspapers or other Periodicals in British North America have a reasonable claim on the public service for the transmission of the same free of Postage?—If so, will you be good enough to state the grounds upon which you entertain such opinion?

8.—Are you acquainted with the usages which prevail in any foreign Countries, with respect to the transmission through the Post of Newspapers and other Periodicals; and if so, will you be pleased to state what they are?

Text of a questionnaire circulated by the Post Office Commission in December, 1840

alphabetic list of post offices, names of employees, salaries, commissions and much more.

Report (No. 73) of the Select Committee on Finance on the Subject of the Post Office Department, 29 March 1836.

Reports of Commission appointed by the Gov-

ernor-General of Canada, since the Union of the Two Provinces, to inquire into the State of the Canadian Post Office. ". . . Ordered by the House of Commons, to be printed 28 August 1846". The Commission conducted their investigations in 1840-41 and studied all aspects of the Post Office and its operation in detail.

The several hundred pages include hundreds of interviews with post office personnel and patrons (they record interesting and often amusing incidents), newspaper reports statistics, charts, all containing invaluable information for posterity and well that it does, for all records were lost in the General Post Office fire.

The General Post Office, London, presented Canada's National Postal Museum with a bound example of this report and its appendices, which was originally Thomas Allan Stayner's personal copy. It has Stayner's handwritten comments about various points made by the Commission. Since many are allegations critical of Stayner and his operation of the Post Office, his notes often refute the remarks. This volume

is indeed a unique postal history reference.

One of the major recommendations made by the Commission—that each colony be made responsible for their own postal affairs—was not implemented for a whole decade. Is this not typical of the speed at which government moves?

A report handwritten by T. A. Stayner to Sir Charles Bagot, Governor General of Canada, prepared 2 April 1843, refers to "... the fire which destroyed the General Post Office on the 29 November 1842, and with it, every document belonging to the Department . . ." Stayner records many things of contemporary interest and comments on the Commission Report. This document also exists in printed form.
Next: The Postal Guides

SKETCHes of BNAPsers

SKETCH NO. 193

JIM HENNOK

Jim Hennok, a well known Toronto stamp dealer, has been a longtime BNAPS supporter. A native of Estonia, he and his family left Austria for Canada, and Jim grew up in Toronto.

For twenty years, Jim was a photographer and instructor for the Canadian Armed Forces. He became a World class marksman and was in many tournaments, and he also coached Canada's 1968 Olympic shooting-skiing team.

After completing his service career, he became a philatelic dealer. He has found time to do a comprehensive study of the cancellations of Canada, and is now working with the Squared Circles. His latest venture is handbook publishing, to support and encourage development of our hobby.

A bachelor, Jim is able to do much traveling, and enjoys being a bit of a gourmet.



**Are you missing an easy opportunity to help BNAPS
meet its Membership Goals?
Propose a New Member Today!**

CANADA ADHERES TO THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

by George Arfken



1. Pre UPU rate from Quebec to Norway, 10¢ per 1/2 oz, via British packet 2¢ extra.
7 August 1876.

This project started as a study of the United States free delivery system. The research included going through volume after volume of the Reports of the US Postmaster General. On p. 26 of his 1878 report the US Postmaster General noted, "The Dominion of Canada, admitted (to the Universal Postal Union) from July 1, 1878". Then, in both the 1880 and 1882 reports, 1 August 1878 was given as the relevant date—a discrepancy, somebody goofed. Because of this one month discrepancy, the 'US Free Delivery' project became a 'Canada and the UPU' project, and this paper evolved.

In the early 1870's before the Universal Postal Union, Canadian letter writers faced a wide range of overseas postal rates. A letter to the United Kingdom was 6¢ via Canadian packet, 8¢ if carried by British packet. Canadian packet rates to the countries of continental Europe were generally 10¢ for the first 1/2 oz, except for France (10¢ for the first 1/4 oz) and Spain (16¢ for the first 1/2 oz). An additional 2¢ was charged for service to Europe via British packet. Postage on letters to countries in the western hemisphere, via the United States, showed an even wider range, for example 8¢ to Bermuda and up to 26¢ to Argentina. The existence of

the 10¢ international rates was probably a factor in the issuance of the 10¢ Small Queen in November 1874.

The major European nations and the US faced a similar chaotic situation—a variety of rates, generally high, which in some cases were dependent on the route the letter took. In sharp contrast to this was the success of the reforms for domestic mail introduced by Sir Rowland Hill in Britain. Other countries, among them France, Belgium, Switzerland, Russia, Spain, Prussia and the US, impressed by the British success, had made significant reforms in their own domestic postal systems. The next step required was postal reform on an international scale.(1)

In 1851, a decade after Hill's reforms, a private organization called the 'International and Colonial Postage Association' was established in London. Its purpose was to simplify international rates and to bring them down to a moderate level. In terms of public relations and education the association made a significant contribution.

In 1862 US Postmaster General Blair proposed an international conference to discuss common postal problems and to recommend

measures to overcome these problems. Blair's proposal led to an international conference in Paris in May 1863. Without authorization to sign a treaty, the conference delegates focused on the problems with the international mails and suggested changes in postal rates and practices. There was almost unanimous agreement on having a uniform weight for the basic rate, and the weight equivalent to fifteen grams ($\frac{1}{2}$ oz) was suggested.

In 1869, acting on a suggestion of Heinrich von Stephan, director of posts for the North German Confederation, the German postal administration proposed a conference to negotiate a binding postal treaty for international mail. There were delays caused by the Franco-Prussian war and other problems, but finally the conference convened in Berne, Switzerland, on 15 September 1874. Twenty-one countries sent delegations. A draft treaty prepared by the German postal administration was used as a basis for discussion. Broad agreement was reached on a basic letter rate of 25 centimes (5¢) for a basic unit of 15 grams. A surtax was permitted on letters going more than 300 miles by sea. Hill's reform of requiring letters to be prepaid was adopted. The conference drafted the Berne Postal Treaty and established the General Postal Union (the name was changed to Universal Postal Union in 1878) as a continuing international organization. The treaty signed on 9 October 1874 became effective 1 July 1875, establishing 5¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz as the basic postal rate between members of the Union.

Canada, as a British colony, was not invited to the Berne conference and was not initially a member of the Universal Postal Union.

The problems of postal rates and voting rights for overseas colonies were too complicated and too divisive to be solved at that first conference. Canadian overseas postal rates remained high. Figure 1 shows a 1876 letter to Norway paying the 10¢ pre-UPU rate with a pair of 5¢ Small Queens, and the British packet surcharge of 2¢ with a 2¢ Small Queen.

To relieve this perceived inequity the British government lowered the letter rate to and from its 'British North America' colonies to 5¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz, regardless of the route. The 2¢ British packet surcharge was eliminated. This 'preferred rate', which became effective 1 October 1875, was the primary factor responsible for the hurried introduction of the provisional 5¢ Large Queen on that day, and the 5¢ Small Queen early the following year. Figure 2 shows such a preferred rate cover to Scotland dated 3 November 1876.

Negotiations with Germany resulted in the establishment of a 5¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz rate to that country, effective 1 April 1877.(2) This was the 'special treaty rate'. Figure 3 shows a 8 February 1878 cover to Germany. The two 5¢ Small Queens paid the double rate for a letter weighing over $\frac{1}{2}$ oz, but not over 1 oz.

Agreement to permit Canada to join the UPU came in 1878. The 1878 Report of the US Postmaster General contained the following notice.(3)

Diplomatic Act.

By circular of 11 April 1876, the Swiss Postal Administration proposed to the other members of the General Postal Union to receive Canada upon the conditions of the Treaty of Berne of 9 October 1874.



2. 'Preferred rate' from Montreal to Scotland, 5¢ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. 3 November 1876.

By their letters of May 13, 1878, the contents of which are identical, the Postal Administrations of France and Spain have declared that they withdraw the objections they had made to the admission of Canada, within the term of 6 weeks stipulated by paragraph 6 Article 17 of the aforesaid treaty.

In view of the preceding circumstances, the undersigned, duly authorized for that purpose, establish by the present diplomatic act, the definitive adhesion from July 1, 1878, of the British Government for Canada, to the stipulations of the treaty concerning the formation of a General Postal Union concluded at Berne, October 9, 1874, as well as to the definitive stipulations of the regulations of detail for the execution of the said treaty.

Done at Berne, May 28, 1878.

For the Swiss Federal Council, in the name of the members of the Union:

The President of the Confederation,

SCHENK

For the Government of Canada:

The Minister Resident of Her British Majesty near the Swiss Confederation,

HORACE RUMBOLD.

France and Spain withdrew their objections. Canada became a member of the Union on 1 July 1878. Several other British colonies were also admitted to the UPU at this time. Britain assigned the voting right of the group to Canada.

Now to the problem of the date. The 1880 Report of the US Postmaster General listed the member countries of the UPU.(4) Opposite

Canada was the date 1 August 1878. August? How could that be? The first thing to do was to check Boggs. There was the wording—"Canada was admitted to be a member of the General Postal Union from the 1st July, 1878, and in consequence the rate of letter postage between Canada and all Europe became one uniform charge of 5 cents per half ounce." (5) Howes, the other reference giving a specific date, agrees —1 July 1878.(6)

The July 1-August 1 discrepancy was resolved by going to the basic Canadian references. First came the October 1878 Canadian Official Postal Guide. Under 'Principal Alterations During the Quarter' there appears the paragraph:

"The Dominion of Canada having been admitted into the General Postal Union, the exchange of correspondence between Canada and the countries comprised within the Union has, since the 1st of August, been governed by the stipulations of the Postal Treaty entered into at Berne, Switzerland, on the 9th October, 1874."

This confirmed that it was 1 August for postal rates. Then, though the courtesy of Mr. Cimon Morin of the National Postal Museum, a copy of Department Order No. 23 was obtained. It starts:

Post Office Department, Canada

Ottawa, 15th July, 1878

Correspondence between Canada and Undermentioned Countries.

The Dominion of Canada having been admitted into the General Postal Union, the ex-

CUSHING & CO.

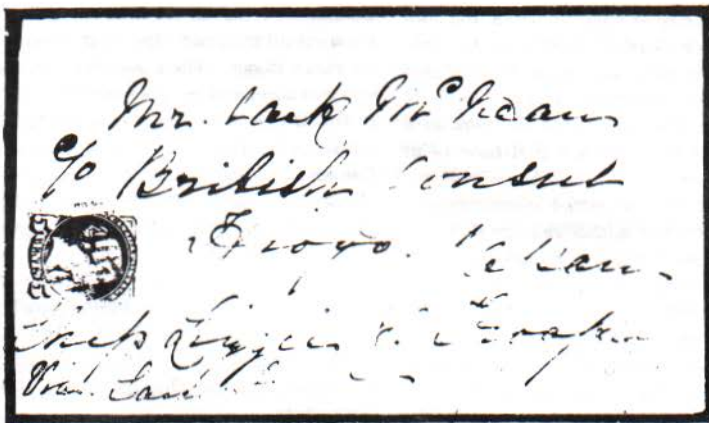
Small Wares and Fancy Goods,
WHOLESALE
MONTREAL.



*J. A. Meinhold Sohn
Klingenthal
Bachsee
Germany.*

3. 'Special treaty rate' from Montreal to Germany, 8 February 1878.

At 5d per 1/2 oz, this is a double rate cover.



4. UPU rate, Moncton, N.B. to Japan, 5¢ per 1/2 oz, 27 July 1885.

change of correspondence between Canada and the following countries A, B and C, which in addition to Canada and the United States, are comprised within the Union, will, on and after the 1st August, be governed by the stipulations of the Postal Treaty entered into at Berne, Switzerland, on the 9th October, 1874,

The U.S. Postmaster, Boggs and Howes were technically correct and are seriously misleading. Canada was indeed admitted to the UPU on July 1, 1878. But this date, while technically correct, from a postal history perspective is largely irrelevant. For postal historians concerned with postal rates, the significant date is 1 August 1878. That is the date on which the 5¢ per 1/2 oz UPU rate became effective. A careful rereading of the 1880 Report of the US Postmaster General showed that the table listing Canada and the August 1 date had very special wording.(4) The word 'join' was not used. Instead there appear the words "the dates upon

which the said countries and colonies adhered to the Union". The key word is "adhered". The US Postmaster General was interested in postal rates. The 1 July date of Canada joining the UPU had been discarded and the 1 August date of adhering to the UPU inserted.

Thus 1 August 1878 was the date of the overseas rate changes. The 5¢ per 1/2 oz rate was already in effect for letters to the United Kingdom, Germany and Newfoundland. For letters to all other overseas countries in the UPU, this change brought major reductions in the first class postal rates.

One final reference to the above quotation from Boggs is necessary. The quotation mentions all Europe, but the UPU rate from Canada was by no means limited to Europe. As Japan had adhered to the UPU on 1 June 1877, the rate from Canada to Japan also became 5¢ per 1/2 oz (Figure 4).

REFERENCES:

1. The Universal Postal Union, George A. Coddington, Jr. New York University Press (1964). The Universal Postal Union, M. William Tyrrell, Van Dahl Publication, Inc.
2. Canada Official Postal Guide April 1877.
3. Report of the Postmaster General of the United States, 1 July 1878, p. 373.
4. Report of the Postmaster General of the United States, 1 July 1880, p. 518.
5. Winthrop S. Boggs, The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada, Vol. II, (1945) p. 14A. Quarterman Reprint (1974) p. 778.
6. Canadian Postage Stamps and Stationery, Clifton A. Howes (1911), Quarterman reprint (1974), p. 108-109. According to Howes the quotation (5) from Boggs actually came from the 30 June 1878 report of the Canadian Postmaster General.

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FROM THE BNAPS BOOK DEPARTMENT

Ed Richardson	Canada - B.N.A. Philately (An Outline)	\$10.00
Ed Richardson	The Canadian Flag Cancellation Handbook (1896-1973)	\$5.00
Lee W. Brandom	Catalogue of Tobacco Tax Paid Stamps of Canada and Newfoundland	\$6.00
Brandom/Vilter	First Supplement to the Catalogue of Tobacco Tax Paid Stamps of Canada and Newfoundland (Lee W. Brandom) and A Study of the Liquor Bottle Seals of Canada (E.F.Vilter)	\$10.00
Hansen/Moffat	The Squared Circle Postmarks of Canada	\$40.00
BNAPS Perfin Study Group	Canadian Stamps With Perforated Initials Handbook (Reprint)	\$4.50
Day&Smythies	Canadian Fancy Cancellations of the Nineteenth Century (Reprint)	\$10.00

Please note that all orders must be prepaid. Prices shown are postpaid (book rate).

First class or registered post will be provided upon request

An extra 35 cents will insure your order.

Dealer discounts are available when ordering 10 or more copies of a single title

BNAPS BOOK DEPARTMENT

P.O. Box 1082
Oakville, Ontario
Canada L6J 5E9

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED !

With four active houses on three continents, the Harmer network covers the global philatelic scene. Close liaison between our Galleries in New York, San Francisco, London, and Sydney means that *your* stamps can be sold to maximum advantage in the proper market.

When selling – or buying . . . Harmers makes that important difference. Write or phone today for details.

HARMERS INTERNATIONAL

Philatelic Auctioneers To The World For More Than Six Decades

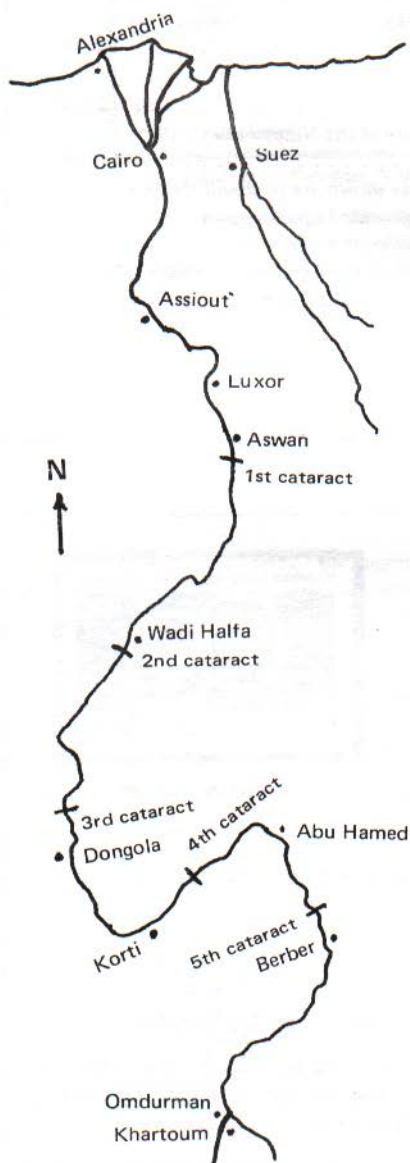
New York: 6 West 48th Street, New York, NY 10036 Phone: (212) 869-5400
San Francisco: 49 Geary Street, San Francisco, CA 94102 Phone: (415) 391-8244
Also in: London, England & Sydney, Australia



CANADIAN MILITARY POSTAL HISTORY

by Ed Richardson, OTB

Canada's Voyageur Contingent On The Nile — 1884 - 1885



In the truest sense, Canada's Voyageur Contingent on the Nile River 1884 - 85 is *not a part of Canada's Military Postal History*. Except for the Canadian Officers attached, Contingent personnel were civilians, not military. The 'voyageurs', or boatmen, were contracted to perform a special skilled service, wore no military uniforms -- and were not subject to normal military discipline.

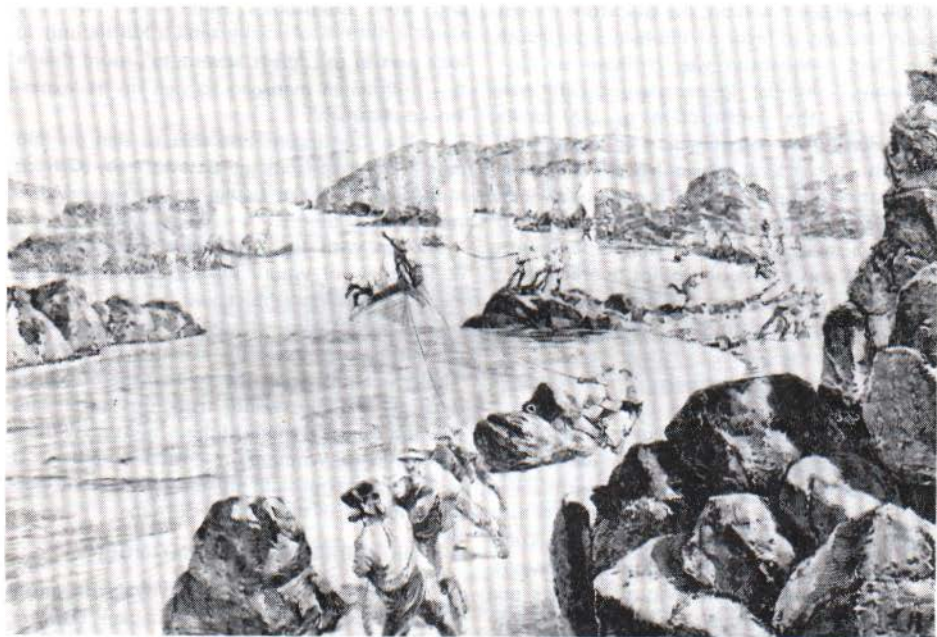
No unit of any Postal Corps accompanied the Contingent, nor were any special mail arrangements made.

MISCONCEPTIONS REGARDING THE CONTINGENT

During the twenty-odd years that I have been interested in the Postal History of this expedition, I have found that most collectors (including myself originally) hold many misconceptions about the Nile Contingent.

The first is that Contingent personnel were largely *experienced fur trade voyageurs*, like those who transported the troops and supplies of the Red River Expedition of 1870. The second misconception is that, except for the Officers, members of the Contingent were *illiterate*, thus making it virtually impossible that any covers from its members exist. Third, and last, that since Surgeon-Major Neilson was apparently the only member of the Contingent to have carried on any extensive correspondence, and that since this has been located and recorded, there are no opportunities remaining in this field of postal history.

None of these beliefs are true, or completely true. As for *Misconception #1* — by 1884 the true voyageur of the fur trade had all but disappeared. There were, however, expert rivermen of a different type available — from the lumbering camps, the boatmen of Manitoba and the shanty men of the eastern rivers. But as we will see later, the 'Voyageur' Contingent was not wholly made up of these hardy souls. Take



Working the whalers with Troops up
the Second Cataract on the Nile.

Misconception #2 — all illiterate? How about Alexander McLaurin, a 'voyageur' foreman who served as correspondent for the *Ottawa Free Press*; or William Robinson, one of the eight wheelmen who operated the steamers on the lower Nile towing the whalers to the 2nd cataract who was to become a prominent banker and businessman in Winnipeg. *Misconception #3* — no letter writers among them? If we were to know the truth, probably as many as a third of the 400 Officers and boatmen of the Contingent—say 125 to 150 of the personnel—wrote letters back to Canada. Since there were no special markings, many of these covers have gone unrecognized. It is time a better search was made by postal history buffs.

BACKGROUND

In April 1884, from Khartoum, Sudan, Major-General 'Chinese' Gordon sent a wire to Cairo reporting that the Mahdists—the revolutionary followers of Mohammed Ahmed, the self-proclaimed Mahdi (leader and prophet)—held he and his troops under siege and, further, that they had provisions to last for five months. Immediately the cry went out for the relief of Khartoum—the rescue of 'Chinese' Gordon! But

the question was—how?

Debate raged for months over the choice between two rescue routes. The first, the Nile River route, was favored by Adjutant-General Garnet Wolseley and his staff and cohorts. This is the same Wolseley who, as a Colonel, commanded the Canadian Red River Expedition to put down the first Riel Rebellion in 1870. He had not forgotten his experience with the Canadian Voyageurs on that difficult river navigation, and still had great admiration for that fine breed of men.

The other choice was to use the Red Sea port of Suakin as a supply base for a Suakin-Berber-Khartoum desert route. General Stephenson, Commanding Officer of the British garrison in Egypt, and the Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean fleet both favored the desert route. Both the Army (War Office) and Navy (Admiralty) intelligence departments contended that the Nile River route was impossible, in the upper reaches, due to extremely dangerous cataracts (rapids) and to the wide seasonal variations in the water depths. So they too supported the Suakin-Berber desert route.

After four of Gordon's five months' food

supply had been used up, the Gladstone government decided in favor of the Nile River route, and Gen. Stephenson was replaced by Gen. Wolseley. Almost immediately orders were placed for the construction of 800 boats, somewhat longer and perhaps a bit lighter than, but with the general appearance of, a 'whaler'.

Advertisements placed in various selected Canadian newspapers for 'BOATMEN WANTED' offered a six month contract at \$40 per month, plus food and a suit of clothes (workclothes). At first the call went out for 300 such men, but this was later raised to 500. Nearly 400 signed on.

THE CONTINGENT

While it was the voyageurs that Wolseley so warmly remembered—and wanted—for his Nile River expedition, the advertisements called for boatmen. What he got was a grand mixture, including about 100 Indians and Metis. There were bank and store clerks, politicians, lawyers, gamblers, drunkards, mechanics, farmers and laborers. But there were also a good majority of experienced rivermen—raftmen, loggers, shantymen—from Canada's great eastern forests

and from Manitoba's waterways. Because Canada did not officially send a Militia unit to take part in this 'great adventure', more than a few militiamen managed to sign up as 'experienced boatmen'.

The Contingent was able to sign up 386 men—159 were from the Ottawa area, 92 from Manitoba, 56 from Caughnawaga (near Montreal), and 79 others.

Also with the Contingent were 8 wheelmen, three of whom were U.S. citizens and Captains of Mississippi River boats. The men in this group, who were paid \$150 per month, were hired to operate the steamers on the Nile. Their first job would be to tow the 800 little whalers, in some twenty trips, up the Nile to the 2nd cataracts. One of these men was William Robinson of Winnipeg, mentioned earlier. It is likely that most of this group regularly corresponded with the folks back home.

OFFICERS OF THE CONTINGENT

In addition to the 386 'voyageurs' and 8 wheelmen, there were 8 Canadian Officers, making a total of 402 for the Contingent. The Canadian Officers were:



Manitoba Boatmen at breakfast near the Nile



Steamers pulled 40 whalers with troops up the placid waters of the Lower Nile to Wadi Halfa, at the 2nd Cataracts.

Lt. Col. Frederick C. Denison was placed in command of the Contingent. He was a Major, but was promoted when Kennedy was added to staff. A veteran of the Red River Expedition, he was a member of the Governor-General's Body Guard, Toronto Militia, and a Toronto Alderman and Barrister.

Capt. Telmont Aumond, of the Governor General's Foot Guards was a French-Canadian from Ottawa, experienced in river work.

Surgeon-Major John Louis Hubert Neilson, 'B' Battery, Canadian Artillery, was appointed medical officer of the Contingent. Another Red River veteran, he also acted as correspondent for the *Gordon Relief Expedition* for the *Toronto Star* and the *Trois Rivieres Nouvelliste*. Neilson, in 1898, became the first Director-General of Canada's Militia Medical Services.

Sergeant Gaston P. Labat, 'B' Battery, Canadian Rifles, was appointed hospital sergeant, assisting Neilson.

Abbe Arthur Bouchard was a Roman Catholic priest who became Chaplain to the 'voyageurs'. Well travelled, he spoke Arabic and was acquainted with conditions in the

Nile River valley. He was ranked as a Captain.

Lt. Col. William Kennedy, 90th Winnipeg Battalion Rifles was the second Mayor of Winnipeg. He had been instrumental in recruiting many of the Manitoba men, and himself signed up as a 'boatman'. It was not until they reached Cairo that he was given his rank and became paymaster to the unit. He too was a veteran of the Red River Expedition.

Capt. Egerton Denison did not get to sail with the Contingent. He wanted to go so badly, however, that he paid his own way to Egypt, where he persuaded Wolseley to add him to the staff of the Contingent. He was the younger brother of the commanding officer, Lt. Col. Frederick Denison.

Except for Chaplain Bouchard, all were Canadian Militia men.

OTHER CANADIAN OFFICERS

Also serving under Gen. Lord Wolseley, either with the various units of the British forces making up the Khartoum Relief Expedition or on his staff, were many other Canadians, a

natural result of his great admiration for Canadian Militia Officers while with the Red River Expedition of 1870.

Postal Historians wishing to seek further for the names of such Canadians should refer to Roy MacLaren's *Canadians on the Nile*, a most useful source.

THE CONTINGENT SAILS FOR EGYPT

To transport the Contingent to Alexandria, Egypt, the War Office chartered the British Temperley Line's *Ocean King*, a 2,449 ton steamer. The Contingent sailed from Montreal on 14 September 1884, with a brief stop at Trois Rivieres, and a somewhat longer docking at Quebec City.

The *Ocean King* sailed from Quebec City at noon, 15 September, and proceeded on a rough passage down the Gulf of St. Lawrence, putting in at Sydney, N.S. early on 18 September for a coaling stop.

In the early hours of the 19th the *Ocean King* and her 'voyageurs' left Sydney for the ocean crossing, bound for the Sudan—a place whose location was unknown to most of the contingent. On 29 September it made a stop at Gibraltar, to take on additional supplies of coal. After a few hours shore leave, the men were back aboard and the *Ocean King* was making its way along the Algerian coast on the smoother waters of the Mediterranean. They arrived at Alexandria, Egypt, on 7 October.

UP THE NILE

The first 550 mile stage of their journey up the Nile, with the steamers each pulling forty whalers in tow, was in sharp contrast to what followed. The 'voyageurs' had time to enjoy the sights as they passed up the river, and although they were not much interested in 'old ruins', they were interested in the native Egyptians. They arrived at Wadi Halfa, where their work was to begin, on 26 October.

Immediately they began to work the fully laden whalers up thru the second cataract, working nearly every hour of daylight. Progress was slow, and by mid-November only a part of the boats had gotten as far as Del. By mid-January the advance headquarters was set up at Korti, below the fourth cataract, but time was running out for the contracted 'voyageurs'. They had been engaged for only six months, and had to be back in Canada by 9 March.

CONTRACT EXTENSION OFFER

An increase in pay from \$40 to \$60 per month, plus a second issue of work clothes, plus a side trip to London, England on the return trip to Canada were offered as inducements to the 'voyageurs' to extend their contracts. Only eighty nine (89) volunteered to stay on—for as long as required, up to a maximum of another six months.

As the worst of the cataracts had been ascended, and with the advance base well established at Korti, Gen. Wolseley was in a position to press on his attack against Khartoum. So, late in January 1885, the 287 'voyageurs' who had not agreed to a second contract left for Cairo, under the command of Captains Telmont Aumond and Egerton Denison, and accompanied by Chaplain Bouchard.

In Cairo the British authorities arranged to entertain them with reviews, sightseeing tours and gifts before they left for Alexandria to board the British troopship *Poonah*, bound for Queenston, Ireland with a stop at Malta. With seven electing to remain in Ireland, the remaining 280 sailed for home on 20 February aboard the Allan Line 3,503 ton S.S. *Hanoverian*—arriving at Halifax 4 March 1885.

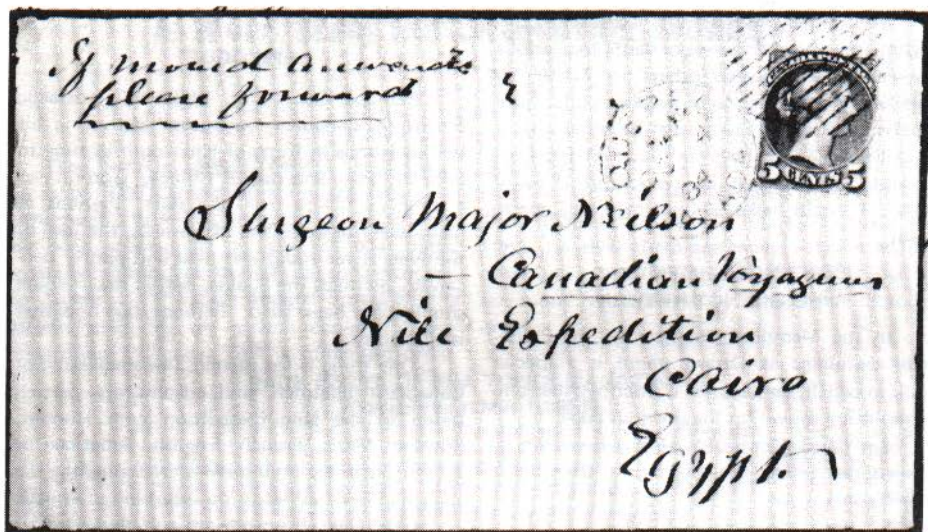
THE SECOND TERMERS

The work of the small group of second termers was soon cut short. Around 1 February Wolseley learned that Khartoum had fallen on 25 January and 'Chinese' Gordon killed. The Khartoum Relief Expedition had failed to reach its objective.

For a brief time the British War Office continued to have hopes of 'smashing the Mahdi', and 10 February saw the Battle of Kirbekan, near a small village held by the Mahdists to block the Expedition's way to Berber. Two weeks later they were still 25 miles north of Abu Hamed, well short of Berber. It was the furthest advance up the Nile made by the Canadian 'voyageurs'.

On 26 February they started their withdrawal, and soon reached Headquarters at Korti. The British had no intention of asking the 89 boatmen to remain until the end of their contracts so, together with Lt.-Col. Denison, they started on their return home, leaving Korti on 13 March.

Although they were unarmed, and did not take part in the fighting at Kirbekan, all the 'voyageurs' actually present at that battle were



Cover dated Quebec OC 4, 1884 to Surgeon-Major Neilson, medical officer with the Canadian Voyageur Contingent, from his wife.

awarded the Kirbekan clasp to the campaign medal.

And so the days of the Canadian 'Voyageurs' on the Nile were soon over.

KNOWN PHILATELIC MATERIAL

Covers from Egypt—Only four covers from Egypt are known. One is from Lt. Col. Fred. Denison, December 1884, to Toronto; one from C. Nofallum, Canadian boatman, 13 January 1885, to Winnipeg (probably written by Dr. Neilson); and two from Capt. Egerton Denison, both dated 22 November 1884, and both to Toronto.

Covers to Egypt—To date, twelve covers to Egypt have been found. All are addressed to Surgeon-Major Neilson, and all were mailed in 1884. One is from Winnipeg in October; two are from Neilsonville, Quebec—21 November and 27 November; four from Quebec City—two on 4 October, one on 1 November and one on 4 December; one from St. John (New Brunswick?)—2 December; and four from Kingston, Ontario—7 November, 27 November, 11 December and one on which the date is illegible. Four of the covers are in the author's collection—27 November from Neilsonville, one of the 4 October from Quebec, and 27 November and 11 December from Kingston.

IN 1884
CANADA
 FOR THE FIRST TIME
 TOOK PART IN A WAR
 OVERSEAS

FOUR HUNDRED VOLUNTEERS
 SKILLED IN RIVER NAVIGATION
 SERVED WITH DISTINCTION
 in
THE NILE EXPEDITION
 *
SIXTEEN
 of these
 GAVE THEIR LIVES
 *
 THEIR NAMES
 ARE RECORDED IN THIS BOOK
 in
 LASTING AND GRATEFUL MEMORY

With all the educated men in the Nile Contingent—many were correspondents for various newspapers, and several others are known to have written articles and books about their experiences—surely there must be other covers in existence which have just not yet been recorded! Wouldn't it be wonderful if some BNAPSer could make a 'find' of a half dozen or so?

CONTINGENT MEMBERS WHO DID NOT RETURN

In the Memorial Chamber of the Parliament Buildings at Ottawa there is a special book in which, on page 48, is inscribed the commemoration shown on the previous page.

On pages 50 and 51 of this book are inscribed the names of those sixteen Contingent members.

Died of Disease En Route to Egypt and Buried at Sea:

Burgess, Richard (known as Henderson), Manitoba Indian—26 September 1884.

Died Accidentally on the Nile River:

Capitaine, Louis, Caughnawaga—30 October 1884.

Morris, John, Caughnawaga—16 November 1884

Fletcher, George, Winnipeg—23 November 1884

Faulkner, John Edward, Peterboro—29 November 1884

Doyle, William, Ottawa—13 December 1884

Chatelain, Leon, Ottawa—18 December 1884

Died of Disease in Nile Valley (Initial contract period):

Brennan, Michael, Ottawa—21 November 1884

Bigneault, Soloman, Ottawa—17 December 1884

Armstrong, Alexander M., Winnipeg—3 January 1885

Died Accidentally in Egypt, while En Route Home:

O'Rourke, William James, Ottawa—4 February 1885

Pilon, Leon, Ottawa—4 February 1885

Died of Disease in Nile Valley (Second contract period):

Sherlock, John Andrew, Peterboro—26 March 1865

Leonard, Patrick, Winnipeg—10 April 1885

McLean, Daniel, Winnipeg—16 April 1885

Died in London, England En Route Home, of Disease contracted in Nile Valley:

Kennedy, Lt.-Colonel William Nassau, Win-

nipeg—3 May 1865

EPILOGUE

Perhaps Gen. Lord Wolseley's nostalgic dream of Canadian 'voyageurs' delivering his British troops in front of Khartoum in time to raise the siege and rescue 'Chinese' Gordon was a foregone failure from the start. Perhaps, as many were to complain afterwards, the idea of the Nile River route was mad and poorly conceived. Perhaps the Suakin-Berber desert route should have been tried. Perhaps, but now that is all history.

One thing is for certain, this small band of Canadians—boatmen and adventurers—participated in the Nile Expedition with Honour. Whether Metis, French, English, American or Indian, they did their duty—performing the job they had been asked to do—working their little boats through the most difficult and perilous rapids.

Great national pride was generated by this Canadian Contingent—a largely non-military unit—and as a result they did much to help Canada grow from a colonial outpost towards becoming a nation among nations, just 18 years after Confederation.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Canadians on the Nile 1882-1898, by Roy MacLaren. 1978. University of British Columbia Press, Vancouver. This is an excellent work, and any serious student of the Canadian 'Voyageurs' part in the Khartoum Relief Expedition should own a copy. It is not only a scholarly work, interesting to read, but it could be a valuable 'source' book for starting a philatelic search for additional covers of this Contingent.

Canada's Soldiers (The Military History of an Unmilitary People), George F. G. Stanley. Revised 1960. Macmillan Company of Canada Ltd., Toronto.

1884-1885 Campaign—The Canadian Voyageur's Contingent in the Gordon Relief Expedition, J. H. E. Gilbert. A paper read before the Royal Philatelic Society, London on 12 April 1962. Published in *The London Philatelist*, Vol. 73 Oct.-Nov. 1962. An excellent study, with a detailed listing of the covers known at that time.

Voyageur's Relief of Khartoum Expedition, an article in *Collect Canada Covers*, Ed Richardson. Published by the APS, 1978. Reprinted from the November 1958 *COVERS* magazine. A brief outline of the Expedition.

A Word From the Circulation Manager

by E. R. (Ritch) Toop

The Sep/Oct 1982 TOPICS listed back-issues of TOPICS available for purchase, together with ordering information. Response has been spectacular, to say the least, with orders being received from Texas to Vancouver to Australia. The most popular orders are the bargain price lot of random copies (of the Department's choice) with a minimum order

of \$10.00. The current list, up-dated to March 1, 1983 indicates a sell-out of copies prior to 1961, however there are many back issues of other years still available. Why not order a selection? I will be happy to take care of your order.

BACK ISSUES OF BNA TOPICS MAGAZINE

Available as at Mar 1 1983

	Vol. 17 1961	Vol. 19 1962	Vol. 20 1963	Vol. 22 1965	Vol. 23 1966	Vol. 24 1967	Vol. 25 1968	Vol. 26 1969
January		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
February	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓
March		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
April		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
May	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
June	✓		✓					
July	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
August						✓	✓	✓
September		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
October	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
November	✓						✓	✓
December	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓

	Vol. 27 1970	Vol. 28 1971	Vol. 29 1972	Vol. 30 1973	Vol. 31 1974	Vol. 32 1975	Vol. 33 1976	Vol. 34 1977	Vol. 35 1978	Vol. 36 1979	Vol. 37 1980	Vol. 38 1981	Vol. 39 1982
January	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
February	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
March	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
April	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
May	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
June	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
July	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
August	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
September	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
October	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
November		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
December		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

PRICES OF BACK ISSUES

\$2.50 per individual (requested) issue.

\$12.00 per volume of six issues, when available.

\$15.00 per volume of 11 issues, when available.

Bargain price of .50¢ each for random copies of Department choice, with a minimum order of \$10.00. If you wish to re-order another lot, another 20 copies will be mailed with a guarantee of no duplication.

All orders to be prepaid and mailed post paid.

SEND ORDERS TO THE CIRCULATION MANAGER

E.R. Toop, P.O. Box 9026, Ottawa, Ont. Canada K1G 3T6

CENTENNIAL DEFINITIVES STUDY GROUP

CONSTANT PLATE FLAWS

by Douglas C. Irwin

There have been a number of constant plate flaws on the engraved stamps of Canada. Many of these have received catalogue recognition, for example, the 'burr on the shoulder of Jacques Cartier' (208), the 'weeping Princess' (211), the 'dot in the water by the loon' (369) and the 'broken flower of the pitcher plant' (427). There are a number of constant plate varieties to be found on the Centennial definitives, but to date none of the catalogues have concerned themselves with listing these, even though some of the flaws are described in handbooks.

CONSTANT PLATE FLAWS ON SHEET STAMPS

The first class postage rate was increased from 7 cents to 8 cents, effective 1 January 1972. The British American Bank Note Company had the contract to print the first class definitives and the 8¢ Centennial library stamp (544) was released on 30 December 1971. This 8¢ slate Centennial was the current definitive until the end of 1973. During this time, it was printed from seven different plates. Stamps from plates 1 to 3 had only dextrine gum, while stamps from plates 4 to 7 had only PVA gum. The British American Bank Note Company bought their stock of stamp paper from the British security printer, Harrisons.

Three different constant plate flaws can be found on the 8¢ Centennial. All are on the stamps with PVA gum. The printing press of the British American Bank Note Company printed six panes of 100 stamps at the same time, arranged three panes horizontally by two vertically. The three upper panes of 100 had plate inscriptions in all four corners of each pane (in the upper and lower margins), while the lower panes had no plate inscriptions. All philatelic stock came from the upper three panes. The lower three panes were used exclusively for post office stock, along with some upper panes with the inscriptions removed.

A constant plate flaw can be found on the philatelic stock of plate number 4. A slate dot



1a. Dot on Chin

on the chin of the Queen (figure 1a) occurs on one of the three upper plate panes, at position 96 (R 10/6).



1b. Moon over Library

Two additional plate flaws occur on the same pane of post office stock. At position 36 (R 4/6), a circular slate dot appears above the left edge of the roof of the library. This flaw is commonly referred to as the moon over the library (figure 1b). Also on the same post office pane, but at position 57 (R 6/7), a smaller constant dot occurs on the arm of the Queen (figure 1c).

CONSTANT PLATE FLAWS ON COIL STAMPS

It does not appear that any examples of constant plate flaws on any of the Centennial coils have been reported in philatelic literature to date. However, I have found one on the 8¢



1c. Dot on Arm

coil stamp. These coil stamps, printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company in sheets of 1000 subjects, were subsequently cut into ten vertical rolls of 100 coil stamps each. As the press printed 250 stamps at one time, each sheet of 1000 coil stamps required four successive printings. Any constant plate flaw should therefore occur four



2. Flaw on Coil Stamp

times in one roll out of every ten. Figure 2 shows a flaw in the right eye of the Queen, appearing somewhat like a light-coloured stick in her eye. The stamps are Ottawa tagged, with PVA gum. The example illustrated is the first stamp in an imperforate strip of thirteen.

CONSTANT PLATE FLAWS ON BOOKLET STAMPS

As with the Centennial sheet stamps, constant plate flaws on the booklet stamps occur only on the British American Bank Note Company produced panes.

In January 1969 a booklet containing one pane of 25 of the 6¢ orange Centennial (459),



3. Flaw on Nose

plus two printed labels, was issued. Every full sheet of uncut booklet panes from the press produced one individual booklet pane with a flaw in the lower left stamp (R 7/1), in the form of a small oblong mark on the bridge of the Queen's nose. The colour of the 6¢ definitive was changed from orange to black in 1970. The same printing plate was used to print booklet panes of 25 of the black (460), plus two printed labels, perforated 12½ x 12. The same flaw can be found on some of these panes. Figure 3 shows the flaw on the Queen's nose on the 6¢ black booklet stamp.



4. 'Airplane in the Sky'

Continued on P. 55



The RPO Cowcatcher

Lewis M. Ludlow

Gamlen Japan, No. 303, No. 1 Iwata Bldg.

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

In the last two months, reports of new data have pyramided as the new catalogue has moved into wider circulation. We currently have over 40 new listings, plus another 15 that have moved from 'Only Proof Known' or 'No Report' to 'Confirmed' status. Additionally, we have about 90 new earliest and latest dates, and probably an equal number of new direction marks/train numbers. In our last Cowcatcher, we indicated that we would be giving a run-down on the new listings in this column. With the flow continuing unabated, we have decided to hold off on this until at least the summer of this year, by which time we should have most of the immediate changes reported and well in hand. This will give everyone time to finish a complete check of their R.P.O. collections against the new catalogue, and allow the updated information to be published in this first annex. It should be noted that this annex will be published only on an annual basis, or even less frequently depending on the new information available. As previously indicated, new listings will be published in TOPICS, while new dates, train numbers, and direction marks will appear in the R.P.O. Study Group Newsletter.

NEW TRACK

Just about the time that you think you have seen everything under the sun, the sun rises from a new horizon and discloses a brand new piece of turf. Clerk Alph Gingras has been known for almost 20 years for two very rare cancellations, Q-187A and Q-246, and I would have bet a fair amount of yen that nothing more would surface for this particular gentleman. I would have lost the bet. With an assist from Horace Harrison, Jim Lehr has come up with a third Gingras cancellation, which we have listed as follows: Q-230C QUE. & RICHMOND / ALPH GINGRAS / M.C.Q.D., Type 10, EAST, no date, RF500*, Reporter 137. The strike (April 26, 1???) has no year, and is on a 3¢ red cut square (Boggs PS-2). We are guessing that it is somewhere in the 1891-



Jim Lehr

1897 period. Congratulations, Jim, on this old and rare new listing.

MORE NEW TRACK



Bill Robinson

Just before leaving for Virginia Beach and BNAPEX '82, we received from Bill Robinson

a new Newfoundland strike which has now been listed as follows: N-38T LABRADOR NORTH / NEWF'D, Type 4J, 1891 - 1896, R.F. 500, Reporters 151, 199. Although Robinson's strike does not have the full year, backstamps on the cover confirm 1891. When we got to Virginia Beach, we checked this strike with Bob Pratt, and he was able to show us a second confirming strike dated September 9, 1896. Thus we have two known examples of this rare new listing.

AND STILL MORE NEW TRACK

Allan Steinhart stopped collecting R.P.O.s long before most of us ever started, and his discoveries of rare and unusual R.P.O.s are legend. Although he is no longer specializing in this area, Steinhart is still unearthing extraordinary railways. His latest has been listed as follows: W-211C WPG. & YORKTON R.P.O. / D. W. WATSON / WINNIPEG, Type 21K, Train 53, November 23, 1925, R.F. 500*, Reporter 107. We have photographed this singular strike and hope that it will reproduce for publication.



Allan Steinhart

The specific piece is a registered bank label from Bank of Canada, Ottawa to Bank of Canada, Edmonton franked by ten \$1.00 Admirals plus 1¢, 5¢, 10¢ and 50¢ Admirals, for a total of \$10.66 postage, all of which are cancelled by nine OTTAWA CANADA / R circular strikes. At some point short of Edmonton, the new clerk strike was superimposed. This is the first Type 21K that we have seen on stamp, Q-165A,

the only other known Type 21K—also discovered by Steinhart—is a facing slip strike.

A LOOK AT OLD TRACK



Lew Ludlow

We wonder how many of our readers have ever seen W-0, AGASSIZ & VANCOUVER / R.P.O., Type 17H, illustrated herewith? This elusive listing was reported to Shaw by Whitehead back in the 1950's. Today, at least 25 years later, we believe that less than a half dozen strikes exist. The life of this route must have been incredibly short, and traffic equally sparse. Our current spread is confined to the month of August 1933, with the earliest known on August 11 and the latest 19 days later, on August 30. (This should send some of our bird dogs back for a second look at their used Medallions.) Perhaps some of our Western specialists can clue us in on why this routing up the Fraser River to Agassiz should be so scarce.

ENGINEERING COMMENT

Over the years we have done a complete analysis of all the listings and hammers of both the Maritimes and Newfoundland Sections; in the process, we have developed a system of hammer identification based on 'chordal measurement'. For steel engraved hammers, this system is based on measurement of straight line chords between given points of lettering across the inner portion of the circular cancellation. Some of our specialists have become singularly adept at duplicating measurements given in our chordal charts. Others, however, have written to say that they cannot reproduce our results. In our investigation of the latter, invariably their efforts have fallen short because



of the measuring instrument.

All of our measurements are done with the Bridger and Kay Cancellation Gauge, which has splendid definition down to less than 1/2 mm. Being notoriously left handed, we use the horizontal axis of the left hand set of circles on this gauge, as illustrated. Here, the chordal measurement from the bottom of the left leg of the 'H' of HX to the bottom left corner of the 'B' of BR is exactly 6 mm. Please note that the starting and finishing points of any given chord are always chosen so as to give readings that are distinctly clear, in that they do not conflict with points where the circles cross the axis, which make readings more difficult. For those wanting to reproduce the results of our chordal charts, we recommend the use of the B. & K. Gauge for measurement.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The B & K gauge, also used by 'Barrel' cancel collectors, has been out of production for some time. Efforts are being made to obtain a new supply. It would help if any member wishing to obtain a gauge would notify either Dave McKain of the RPO group, or the Editor.)

NEW EXPLORATION

We are in the process of making a hammer analysis of the WEST OF WINNIPEG hammers, specifically RR-27 to RR-30 inclusive, and soon will be reporting the results in the R.P.O. Study Group Newsletter. If you have a strike showing

only the top, and not the bottom or lower right portion, it can be seen that the cancellation could be any one of these four listings. We believe that collectors will be equally interested to learn that there are at least 20 hammers involved in these four listings, with another two



hammers probable. To round out our investigation, we would appreciate receiving reports of any RR-28 strike with 'D' at the bottom; in over 250 strikes, we have had only one report of 'D' at the bottom. At the same time, for RR-29, with LOCAL 1 at bottom, we would appreciate receiving reports of any strikes; in almost 100 strikes the one illustrated is the only strike presently known.

MILESTONE

As we typed this page, we realized that we have reached a milestone of sorts. Since starting the Cowcatcher back in the December 1972 issue of TOPICS, this is the 400th page of copy that we have typed to keep the column moving along. It would be nice to say that in the ensuing eleven years we have never missed an issue; alas, however, such is not the case. What with the vagaries of business life and printing deadlines, we acknowledge some lapses along the way. Still and all, 400 pages of copy—a nice round number—gives a certain sense of accomplishment. On we go to 500! (*Only 500? —Ed.*)

Encourage Friends To Join BNAPS

Br. Commonwealth

K.G.V. — O.E.II Sets NH-LH
Most colonies well represented

— OUR SPECIALITY —

G.B. and Falkland Islands & Dep.

VISA Free Lists — Want Lists

B&J STAMP CO.

703 Market Street, Suite 303
San Francisco, Calif. 94103

MINT CANADA PRE-WAR

Specializing in
ADMIRALS
and

19th CENTURY COVERS

LESLIE GRAY

2250 CHANCERY LANE
OAKVILLE ONTARIO
L6J 6A3

BNAPS - CSDA - RPSC

CANADIAN POSTAL HISTORY & POST CARDS

GREENWOOD STAMP CO.

TEL. 1-613/257-5453

216 MAILEY DR.

CARLETON PLACE, ONT. K7C 3X9

POSTAL HISTORY AND OTHER FINE CANADA

are always featured in my
PUBLIC AUCTIONS

Free copy available on request.

John Sheffield

P.O. Box 3171, Str. A,
London, Ontario, Canada, N6A 4J4



COVERS AND STAMPS

Free Price List

CANADA AND
PROVINCES

J. C. MICHAUD

P.O. BOX 5176 - ARMDALE, N.S. B3L 4M7
Satisfaction Guaranteed

MAIL AUCTIONS EVERY TWO MONTHS

- ★ CANADA AND PROVINCES
- ★ UNITED STATES
- ★ BR. COMMONWEALTH
- ★ FOREIGN
- ★ LARGE LOTS

Subscriptions \$10.00 per year.

Write today for our next sale

VANCE AUCTIONS LTD.

Box 267H - Smithville, Ontario, Canada
L0R 2A0

The
STAMP

SHOPPE

Stamps of The World
AND COVERS

AUCTIONS

ALL WORLD AUCTION SALE

CLASSICS • MODERN RARITIES • COMPLETE COLLECTIONS, etc.

Inquiries Invited
CATALOG UPON REQUEST

NO 10% COMMISSION
TO BUY. ONLY 10%
COMMISSION TO SELL.

THE STAMP SHOPPE AUCTIONS
BOX 2637 STATION D.
OTTAWA, CANADA K1P 5W7

MONTHLY
SALE

LITERATURE REVIEWS

BNA Philately in Print

CANADA SPECIALIZED POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE: William H. P. Maresch and Arthur W. Leggett, Editors & Publishers. Canada Specialized Ltd., Toronto, 1983. Soft Cover. 139 pp. \$5.00.

With rumours prevalent in the philatelic community that the last (1981-82) edition of *CANADA SPECIALIZED* was indeed the last, I was delighted when the 1982-83 edition appeared to prove them unfounded. Since its inception this catalogue has been accepted as the best of its type.

In the previous edition six new sections were added, and this one has more. Now included are the 'Legislative Postmarks'—a very interesting area of collectible markings ignored since the Jarrett Catalogue of 1929; the 'Plate Proofs of the Decimal Issues'; and the 'Four-Ring Numeral Cancellations' for both the three penny and the five cent beaver—with rarity expressed as a numerical factor, rather than by dollar value. The listing of 'Ship Letters and Steamboat Postmarks' has been corrected and updated, and the already comprehensive listing of 'Straight Line Postmarks' has seen some additions.

The most startling innovation in the 1982-83 edition is the new numbering system for the stamps of Canada (and Provinces). As a Canadian I have never been comfortable with the existing ones. For example, the British system by Gibbons lists stamps that do not exist; and the American system, by Scott, besides being inconsistent, tends to treat Canada as it does some secondary stamp issuing countries. However, the new numbering system of the *CANADA SPECIALIZED POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE*, by a logical and simplified approach, corrects the mistakes and incongruities built up by a plethora of publishers and authors who have been unable or unwilling to make changes in the established, albeit incorrect, order. Let us examine and assess this new system.

All Canadian stamps which could be used by the public are numbered consecutively from #1 to #863 (for Canada). This eliminates at once designations such as 'B' for Semi-Postals,

'C' for Airmails, 'CE' for Airmail Special Delivery, etc. These are now listed in chronological order, as issued, and bear one number without a suffix. Only those stamps not available for use by the public—the Officials, Postage Dues and Officially Sealed—are relegated to the 'back of the book'. (Scott has no Numbers 6, 546, 801, or 05, among many others) and there are no 'A' or 'B' suffixes (Scott has eight for major stamps). The 52 numbering gaps in Scott have now been eliminated. Also, a number of stamps which have two numbers in Scott, such as the 15¢ Large Queens, the 10¢ Prince Consort of the Decimal Issue, and many of the Small Queens, now only have one major number. Different printings (such as Ottawa and Montreal Small Queens) of the same basic stamp are now sub-numbers, as they ought to be. This has also been carried through to the Provinces. For example, the Nova Scotia 3d Blue, which had two major numbers for two shades often seen se-tenant on large multiples, now has only one number.

The numbering system has also a nice refinement as it pertains to both Coils and Booklet Panes. These are not given consecutive numbers as in Scott (for coils), but are immediately recognizable for what they are by a suffix 'C' for coils and 'BP' for booklet panes. The number used is the same as for the basic stamp. For example, the 1¢ War Issue is No. 221 in the new Canadian Numbering System. This stamp was issued in two coils; perforated 8 or 9½ vertically. The former is 221C1, the latter 221C2. This stamp was also issued in three different booklet pane formats: The pane of 3 is now 221BP1; the pane of 4 is 221BP2; and pane of 6, 221BP3. Simple, and informative. If no number follows a 'C' or 'BP', it becomes obvious that only one format of coil or booklet pane exist.

Scott numbers, and the lower case Roman numerals, (i, ii, iii etc.) previously used in *CANADA SPECIALIZED*, are shown adjacent to the new 'Canadian' numbers for easy cross-reference.

There are a number of other changes that

are well worth mentioning. The new edition seems much easier to read, compared to the 1981 edition. Due to the use of bold-face type Airmails, Special Deliveries, Coils and Booklet Panes are easier to find, as are the different perforations. There are also neat and informative little footnotes in fine print. The cross references for the various Native Peoples and Airplane issues should be appreciated by those who have had trouble locating them before. The listing of Plate Blocks has also been completely, and logically, revised. Die I (the original die) stamps are now listed before Die II. Many stamps have been placed where they should be, for example the 13¢ violet

Quebec, which traditionally has been listed as a Medallion stamp, is now listed after the 12¢ gray.

Many price changes are also a feature of this catalogue. The editors have analysed the market, and have lowered and raised prices according to their findings. The Canadian Numbering System, as published in this catalogue, is without question an excellent one. The editors who devised it, two of Canada's most respected, senior professional philatelists, are to be congratulated for a difficult job well done. It deserves serious consideration.

FGS

CENTENNIAL DEFINITIVES—Cont'd from P.49

Two very similar flaws can be found on the 25¢ booklets containing the 8¢ Centennial definitive. On one of the 1¢ stamps (R 2/2) in some of these booklets a constant brown ink spot can be found in the sky above the mountain. The shape of this spot resembles an airplane, and can be seen in figure 4. Also, on the same 1¢ stamp (R 2/2) in other examples of the same type of 25¢ booklets, a smaller ink spot can be found in the sky. This flaw, also constant, occurs slightly to the right of the location

of the 'airplane in the sky'. Both of these flaws can be found in any booklet with one of the ten different cover designs (in brown) that were printed for these panes.


Additional examples of constant plate flaws are discussed in the regular newsletter of the Centennial Definitives Study Group. More information on the study group can be obtained by writing us at the address listed on the Business Side page of this issue of TOPICS.

ADVERTISING RATES

Effective with Sept.-Oct. 1981 Issue

	one-time insertion	six consecutive insertions
Outside Back Cover	---	600.00
Inside Covers (front or back)	---	500.00
Full page	75.00	375.00
Half page	50.00	250.00
Quarter page	30.00	150.00
Eighth page	20.00	100.00
Specified pages (when possible)		25% Extra

Send all copy to: The Advertising Manager, BNA TOPICS
P.O. Box 1082, Oakville, Ontario, Canada L6J 5E9



Canadian Auction


features BNA POSTAL HISTORY
STAMPS, FREAKS, VARIETIES

Send for FREE copy of our deluxe Auction Catalog.

Robert A. Lee

(604) 542-5169
P.O. Box 937, Vernon, BC,
Canada V1T 6M8

Member
ASDA, BNAPS, CSDA, RPSC



BNAPS: THE BUSINESS SIDE

BNAPS ELECTED OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	Michael Dicketts, 61 Alwington Ave., Kingston, Ont. K7L 4R4
PAST PRESIDENT	James C. Lehr, 2918 Cheshire Road, Wilmington, DE 19810
VICE PRESIDENT	Edward J. Whiting, 25 Kings Circle, Malvern, PA 19355
2nd VICE PRESIDENT	Dr. Robert V.C. Carr, 117 Robin Hood Way, Youngstown, OH 44511
TREASURER	Marva A. Paige, 1145 Shillelagh Road, Chesapeake, VA 23323
SECRETARY	Earle L. Covert M.D., P.O. Box 1070, Hay River, NWT X0E 0R0

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Ten sittings: Five elected in the even numbered years for four year terms

Serving until Dec. 31, 1984

Leo LaFrance (Chairman of Board)
C. Ronald McGuire Wilmer Rockett
William Simpson Harry Sutherland

Serving until Dec. 31, 1986

E. A. Harris
Robert H. Pratt John Siverts
Allan L. Steinhart Jack Wallace

COMMITTEES & APPOINTED OFFICERS

MEMBERSHIP: Chairman: Norm Brassler

CONVENTIONS: Chairman: C. Ronald McGuire

HANDBOOKS: Chairman: Allan L. Steinhart

SALES CIRCUIT: Manager: R.H. Jamieson, P.O. Box 2, Sta. A., Islington, Ontario M9A 4X1

BOOK DEPARTMENT: Manager: Dave Clare, P.O. Box 1082, Oakville, Ontario L6J 5E9

LIBRARY: Librarian: Don Makinen, RT. 2, Box 38, Freeport TX 77541

HISTORIAN: Edward J. Whiting

BNA TOPICS: See Page 2

ASS'T. SECRETARY: John Graper

STUDY GROUPS

STUDY GROUP COORDINATOR: John T. Burnett, 757 Parkwood St., Sidney, OH 45365

CANADIAN REVENUES: Wilmer C. Rockett, 2030 Overlook Avenue, Willowgrove, PA 19090

R.P.O.'s: David L. McKain, 5 Meadowcrest, Parkersburg, WV 26101

CANADIAN MILITARY MAIL: Ken Ellison, Oyama, B.C. V0H 1W0

SQUARED CIRCLES: Dr. W.G. Moffat, RR 3, Ballston Lake, NY 12019

FLAG CANCELS: Larry R. Paige, 1145 Shillelagh Road, Chesapeake, VA 23323

SMALL QUEENS: Don Fraser, 1183 Warsaw Avenue, Winnipeg, Man. R3M 1C5

PERFIN STAMPS OF B.N.A.: Joe Purcell, 6 Richardson Drive, Kingston, Ont. K7M 2S6

CENTENNIAL DEFINITIVES: D. Irwin, 2250 Lawrence Ave. E., #406, Scarborough, Ont. M1P 2P9

CANADIAN RE-ENTRIES: Ralph E. Trimble, P.O. Box 532, Stn. A, Scarborough, Ont. M1K 5C3

POSTAL STATIONERY: Robert Lemire, P.O. Box 549, Pinawa, Man. R0E 1L0

MAP STAMP: W. L. Bradley, 122 Sherwood Ave., Kitchener, Ont. N2B 1K1

PROVINCE OF CANADA: Charles Firby, P.O. Box 208, Southfield, MI 48037

REGIONAL GROUPS

REGIONAL GROUP COORDINATOR: Robert V. C. Carr (Address—See Executive)

PRAIRIE BEAVERS: E.A. Richardson, P.O. Box 939, League City TX 77573

CALGARY: Philip Wolf, 10515 Shillington Cr. S.W., Calgary, Alta. T2W 0N8

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA: W.L. Wright, 2724 Doris Court, Carmichael, CA 95608

MID-ATLANTIC: Richard A. Colberg, 1050 Helen Ave., Lancaster, PA 17601

EDMONTON: Stewart Kenyon, P.O. Box 5152, Sta. E, Edmonton, Alta. T5P 4C1

GOLDEN HORSESHOE: Andrew Chung, P.O. Box 5071, Stn. E. Hamilton, Ont. L8S 4K9

DETROIT-WINDSOR REGIONAL GROUP: Mike Barie, P.O. Box 1445, Detroit, MI 48231

REPORT DATE: 1 February 1983
APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Objections MUST be filed with the Secretary IMMEDIATELY upon publication

- 4214 MYERS, John H., 69 Grand St., Middletown, CT 06457
C Reinstatement of former #3024
- 4215 PROCTOR, Jack M., 185 Jane St., Apt. H., Toronto, Ont. M6S 3Y8
C Canada Small Queens, Air Mails.
Proposed by R. H. Jamieson 2118, seconded by M. Bednar 3873.
- 4216 PETERSON, James W., 4110 Bathurst St., Apt. 301, Downsview, Ont. M3H 3P2
C Canada general, mint singles, varieties.
Proposed by T. W. McMahon 3564, seconded by W. H. Wesingi 2616.
- 4217 STRALEY, 'Sherry' Jane C., 3949 Teale Ave., San Jose, CA 95117
D Canada general; Provinces; Plate Blocks.
Proposed by A. V. Mifsud 1590, seconded by G. F. Lohman 3495.
- 4218 QUEEN, Pamela P., 10919 No. Wolfe Rd., Cupertino, CA 95014
D Canada general; Postal history; Fakes & Forgeries.
Proposed by A. V. Mifsud 1590, seconded by G. F. Lohman 3495.
- 4219 SANGSTER, George, 14 Pine Ave. North, Mississauga, Ont. L5H 2P8
C Canada used—varieties, precancels, perfins, '67 Centennial definitives; tagged/lum.
Proposed by D. Irwin 3761, seconded by M. Bednar 3873.
- 4220 YARMAN, Paul M., 5153 Johnnycake N.E., Canton, OH 44705
C Small Queens, Newfoundland, Canada.
Proposed by G. J. Noble 3227, seconded by K. M. Robertson 1535.
- 4221 WAINWRIGHT, Donald W., 127 Cartwright Ave., Toronto, Ont. M6A 1V4
D Unitrade Associates.
Proposed by M. Street 3848, seconded by Dave Clare 3924.
- 4222 PORTER, Leslie H., 231 Glengrove Ave. West, Toronto, Ont. M4R 1P4
C Nova Scotia.
Proposed by M. Bednar 3873, seconded by R. Bradbury 3831.
- 4223 ENGEL, Prof. S. Morris, 6417 W. 6th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90048.
C Provinces; mint, cancellations, postal history and literature.
Proposed by E. Covert 2698.
- 4224 STEELE, Gary W., 5572 Northridge Road, Halifax, N.S. B3K 5K2
C King George VI Mint, plate blocks, coils, precancels, booklets, varieties, O.H.M.S.
Proposed by E. Harris 729, seconded by K. C. MacDonald 3300.
- 4225 COVERT, Audrey M., Box 1070, Hay River, N.W.T. X0E 0R0
C Postcards.
Proposed by M. Street 3848, seconded by J. Lehr 1856.

NEW MEMBERS

- | | | | |
|------|-------------------|--------|-------------------|
| 4192 | WHEELER, John B. | 4196 | FIEDLER, Brian C. |
| 4193 | LACELLE, David F. | 4197 | WALLER, Chales R. |
| 4195 | WELSH, Stephan T. | L-4198 | PEANO, August J. |

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP PENDING

Applications previously published and awaiting concurrence of the Membership Committee

4182	ELLINGBØ, Ola	4205	DESJARDINS, Debra L.
4185	YOULL, Rev. Cyril T.	4206	DYKEMAN, Robert J.
4194	FERRY, Jack A.	4207	HAMM, Dr. D. C.
4199	GUPTILL, Phil	4208	ESCOTT, Dr. Nicholas G.
4200	WALKER, A. Ross	4209	BROWNING, Geoffrey R.
4201	CODERRE, Earl Wm.	4210	KENWOOD, Mrs. Claire R.
4202	SKAZIN, Paul A.	4212	COTTIN, Denis C.
4203	BUTLER, Edward B.	4213	HARGRAFT, Michael A.
4204	McHUGH, Leslie M.		

RESIGNATIONS

3389	SCACE, Margaret E., Calgary, Alta.
3787	BASSETT, Steven, Madison, WI
2814	GROTEN, Dr. Arthur H., Fishkill, NY
3869	JOSEPHSON, Dr. Robert L., Toronto, Ont.
3820	ADAMS, Ms. Jeanette, Indianapolis, IN
4052	CRAIG, Robert J. A., Richmond, B.C.
3272	COMEAU, Robert, New Germany, N.S.
4123	MOYSEY, Mrs. Mary Jean, Saskatoon, Sask.

CHANGE OF STATUS

From Dropped to Resigned

1765	EGNER, Robert J., Hohokus, NJ
------	-------------------------------

DECEASED

E-379	HUMBY, Harold T., Burlington, Ont.
-------	------------------------------------

CHANGES/CORRECTIONS OF ADDRESS

Notice of change MUST BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY. Any other office causes delay.

4056	NAVARY, James T., GSMC, Stuttgart Area CPO, APO NY 09154
4096	ELLWOOD, Andrew W., General Delivery, Ramsayville, Ont. K0A 2Y0
3468	EMERY, Charles Owen, R. R. #1, Box 1773, Clearwater, B.C. V0E 1N0
3649	LEITCH, Malcolm Fraser, 1486 Glenview Ave., Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 3P6
4178	HARRIS, John S., 102 536 - 58 Ave., S.W., Calgary, Alta. T2V 0H6
2916	KASSEL, Thomas, R.P. Box 27166, Milwaukee, WI 53227
3903	SIRETT, Cynthia M., R. R. #1, Smiths Falls, Ont. K7A 5B8
2948	MOSS, J. Stephen, 8 Athens Dr., Essex Junction, VT 05452
2534	GIBBARD, Glen A., 5760 Malvern Ave., Burnaby, B.C. V5E 3E4
2376	BLAIR, Charles D., 402 E. Circle Dr., North Muskegon, MI 49445
4003	LYNE, John (Grizzly) F., 302/7840 Lockside Dr., R. R. 1, Saanichton, B.C. V0S 1M0
L-4055	CORMIER, Merv J., P.O. Box 4041, Sta. B., Saint John, N.B. E2M 5E6
3564	McMAHON, Thomas W., c/o The Stamp Den, 78 Richmond Street West, Toronto, Ont. M5H 2A3
3307	BUSTIN, Dr. John, P.O. Box 700, Berwick, N.S. B0P 1E0
3569	LAFLIN, Daniel J., 716 Sea Palm Lane, Satellite Beach, FLA 32937
2835	McGUINNESS, Robert M. 1170 Kings Ave., West Vancouver, B.C. V7T 2C3
2531	SOANES, Dr. S. V., 64 Airdrie Rd., Toronto, Ont. M4G 1M2

3043 MURRAY, Rev. Thomas Barry, Erie Beach, R.R #3, Blenheim, Ont. NOP 1A0
 4179 BAKER, James C., P.O. Box 11895, Edmonton, Alta T5J 3L1
 2955 ERNST, Robert C., 347 Yonge Street, Barrie, Ont. L4N 4C9
 3322 ROLING, Paul F., 4323 Cheestergate, Spring, TX 77373
 4026 CHERNOFF, Dr. Amoz I., 9417 Copenhaver Dr., Potomac, MD 20854
 2977 McCANN, William J., 170 Dixon Road, Weston, Ont. M9P 2L8
 4149 HASLER, A. H. 37 Holborn St., Brantford, Ont. N3R 6Y4

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

Total Membership as of 1 December 1982		1460
New members added 1 February 1983		<u>6</u>
		1466
Deceased	1	
Resigned	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>
Total Membership as of 1 February 1983		1457
Applications Pending		17
New Applications		<u>12</u>
		1486

ON THE CIRCUIT

by Bob Jamieson
 BNAPS Sales
 Circuit Manager

To all members, particularly NEW MEMBERS. If you are not now enjoying the benefits of the Sales Circuit, fill in the file reference card enclosed in last September's TOPICS and send it along. Circuits are moving out daily—there are over 30 circuits now in circulation to almost 300 members.

WANTED: We need more books in the following classifications: Stampless; Square Circles (stamps and covers), RPO's (stamps and covers); Plate Blocks of the War Issue and earlier; used blocks (most early), Revenues from all Provinces as well as Federal issues; Small Queens with Corks, Fancy and SON cancels, as well as shades, varieties and re-entries; Large Queens; Early Advertising Covers; Booklets and Panes (mint and used); specialized Centennial issues, i.e., varieties.

NOT WANTED AT THIS TIME: Modern Mint or Used of the last 40 years (specialized Centennial issues are the exception, especially if priced competitively), Plate Blocks after the War issue, modern First Day Covers. Please write if in doubt. I usually answer the same day

PAYMENT: U.S. members please note that the most satisfactory way for the circuit is by US POSTAL MONEY ORDER PAYABLE IN CANADIAN FUNDS. Next best is your personal check, in US FUNDS, with a discount of 18% plus 50 cents a check. Difference on exchange will be credited or debited on your next circuit.

PREPARING BOOKS FOR CIRCUIT: Keep books in related classifications, i.e., Revenues, RPO's; Squares; Pre-Cancels; Perfins; Mint or Used, 'Back of the Book' material, such as Dues, Registration, Special Delivery. Books with extensive use of white correction fluid cannot be accepted. If an error is made in marking up books, it is better to leave the space blank and indicate no stamp.

USE OF PHILATELIC FRANKING: Nothing turns your fellow members off more than receiving a circuit with metered mail. Make the extra effort to use stamps. Write to me today for any further information required. Blank books are available at 5 for \$3.25 CDN, post paid. Write to: BNAPS Sales Circuit, Box 2, Stn. A, Islington, ONT M9A 4X1

Encourage Friends To Join BNAPS

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

RATES: 25 words for \$3.00; 10¢ per extra word. Discount of 25% for 4 or more consecutive inserts of the *same* ad. Full payment must accompany ad copy. Copy and cheque or money order, payable to BNAPS, should be sent to the Advertising Manager: Dave Dixon, P.O. Box 1082, Oakville, Ont. Canada L6J 5E9.

Receipt of advertising copy does not constitute acceptance.

FOR SALE

EARLY CANADIAN AND FOREIGN picture postcards sold and bought. Send want lists and also ask for our Centennial Postal Stationery, Canada and Foreign mail bid sales and lists. Joy Stamps, P.O. Box 2394, Kitchener, Ontario N2H 6M3.

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH—Regular price-lists containing KGVI-QEII MNH complete sets. Occasional miscellaneous lists also. Immediate free sample. Lark Family, Box 266 Prince George, B.C. V2L 4S1

COLLECTOR CANADIAN PLATE BLOCKS NHFV 277 to 504. Send SASE for list of lots at 50% Lyman's. G. A. McInnes, 514 Piccadilly Ave., Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 0H8

APPROVALS FOR NEW COLLECTORS of Canadian Precancels, Perfins, Postmarks including RPO. Available from Pastor Simons, Box 159, McAdam, N.B. E0H 1K0. No want lists please.

CANADA MAPS 1839-1910 for sale. Excellent for postal history. Write for price list, V. L. Willson, 2818 Pierre Pl., College Station, TX 77840.

WANT LISTS FILLED for better Canada used, mint, also squared. Tatra Stamps, 5423 Earncliffe, Montreal, Que. H3X 2P8. Members BNAPS No. 1806, APS, PTS.

BUY, SELL, EXCHANGE

WHILE IN BRUCE COUNTY, drop into the "Queen's Bush", where your search usually adds to your collection. Holyrood, Ontario. Tel: (519) 395-3545.

CANADIAN POSTAL STATIONERY—wanted to buy or trade, including special order envelopes, railway express cards and pre-cancelled cards. Dick Staecker, 384 Regal Drive, London, Ontario N5Y 1J7

WANTED

SWEDISH PERFIN ON COVER. Especially Trans-Atlantic. Please send material and state your price. Gordon Veith, P.O. Box 51011, New Orleans, LA 70150.

CANADIAN PRECANCELS, collections, accumulations, everything but the cheaper bar types. Selling 100 different for \$5.00. Approvals also available. Pastor Simons, Box 159 McAdam, N.B. E0H 1K0.

SUNNY ALBERTA—Still looking for anything in Alberta Cancels and Postal History—Territorial forward. Keith R. Spencer, Dept. of Sociology, 5th Floor Tory Bldg., Univ. of Alberta, Edmonton, Alta. T6G 2H4

TRADE GENERAL CANADA COLLECTION for P.D. covers, wrappers, M & U, singles, blocks, PL #s. Need P.D. imperf. pairs, etc. Reply to C. L. Cole 3839 Ezie St., San Jose, CA 95111.

TO BORROW — Postal Guide Supplements 1944 to 1953. Postage paid both ways, prompt return. Mike Street, P.O. Box 7230, Ancaster, Ontario. L9G 3N6

BETTER CANADIAN REVENUES, precancels, and Tobacco Tax Pairs. Will buy or trade. D. Marasco, 34047 McCrimmon, Abbotsford, B.C. V2S 2V6.

LONDON THIN BAR SQUARED CIRCLES, time marks AM and 1 thru 5 only. Fully dated on stamp, piece or cover. Jeff Switt, 3962 Belford Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76103 USA

CANADA PEACE ISSUE (268-273) on cover, especially high values and officials. Send material, state price/trade wanted. Mike Street, Box 7230, Ancaster, Ont. L9G 3N6.

YOUR CLASSIFIED AD

COULD BE IN THIS SPACE

Contact the Advertising Manager

MARESCH

WHERE THE BNA ACTION IS

With a minimum of four Auction Sales a year, we probably sell more proofs, stamps, and postal history of British North America than any other auction house.

As a collector of this material you should be on our mailing list (Canada \$10, U.S.A. \$15, Overseas \$20 per year including realizations).

If you are thinking of selling your treasures, we will put as much love and care into presenting them as you did in collecting.

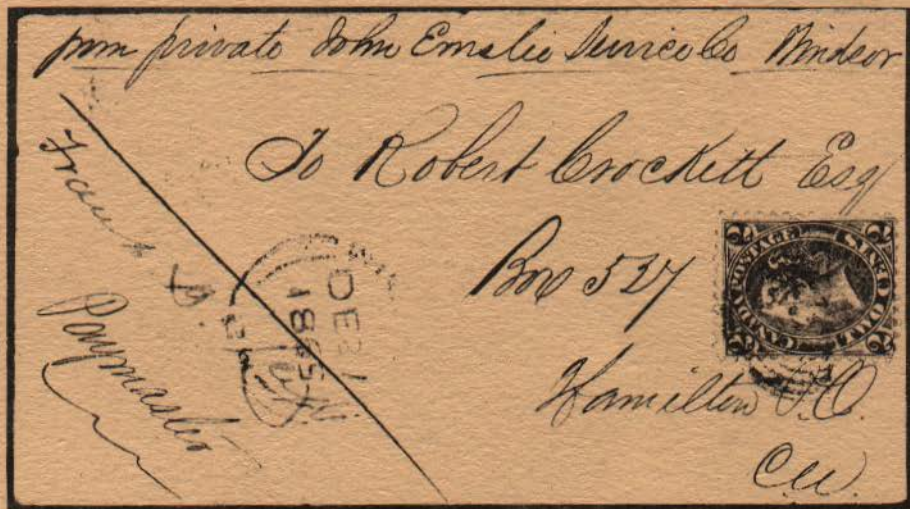
We would be delighted to send any reader a sample catalogue including prices realized.

r. maresch & son

330 BAY ST., STE. 703 • TORONTO, CANADA M5H 2S8 • (416) 363-7777

**DEALERS IN
RARE STAMPS
SINCE 1924**

STILL THE ONE!



For Better B.N.A.

J.N. SISSONS INC.

Suite 103 (Mezz.) The Sheraton Centre

100 Richmond St. W., Toronto

Canada M5H 3K6

Telephone: (416) 364-6003

