

Canadian Postal Guide: Illustrated – P.17

BNA TOPICS

Official Journal of The British North America Philatelic Society

THE WORD

In looking over our last few advertisements in "Topics", the operative word in every one has been "BUYING". At this time, there is no reason to change this. "BUYING" is still the word.

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BNA TOPICS



OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Whole No. 409

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BNA TOPICS

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THE EDITOR'S PAGE

by MIKE STREET

ARE WE LOOKING AFTER OUR FUTURE?

NUMBERS TALK

The annual ritual of purging our mailing list of the names of those who have not had the courtesy to inform the Secretary that they are not going to renew their membership is a painful task. No editor likes to lose readers, certainly, but that is just a small part of it. The rest of my concern comes from a perception that not only is the society losing people, but also that philately as a whole is not attracting enough new adherents.

Not too long ago a writer in one of the US stamp newspapers pointed out that the circulation numbers of those publications had been dropping sharply over the past 10 or 12 years. The steadily diminishing size of the only similar publication in Canada seems to confirm that the phenomenon is not just a 'south of the border' one.

JUNIORS

"We'll get more from the youngsters," many will say. This used to be true, but no longer. Children are just not taking up stamp collecting in the same numbers as kids did when you and I were young. Let's face it, with television, music and sports alone, they have enough distractions to keep them busy until retirement.

How do we reach them? I asked member Denis Cottin, Editor of *Philatelic Quebec* and one of the driving forces behind the resurgence of philately in the Province of Quebec, for his opinion. His reply was simple, "Schools and teachers, especially the latter. For every teacher willing to run a stamp club, you get 15 to 20 young collectors."

The success of Father Lafleur in getting so many good Junior exhibits for CANADA '82 bears out this observation. It also points to what I think may be the 'hook' needed to attract, and hold, the interest of children — competition.

For many of us, as youngsters, putting

stamps in a book was our window on the world. Television supplies that today, with sound and flashing lights. Not every child is interested in sports, but given the opportunity, most children like to see how they stack up against their peers. Teaching philately from a strong exhibiting point of view may provide them with just that opportunity. It seems to have worked in Quebec.

ADULTS

When asked the same question, Ed Richardson gave a thoughtful reply which pointed to an area most of us have probably not considered. "We must go after people who are interested in history, especially those in their early twenties," he said. "Philately, stamps as well as postal history, could give many of them a practical outlet for their avocation. The schools are full of people who are working in this field, and we are missing a bet if we don't do some spade work there."

He's right, you know, and it goes beyond people *working* in history. I used to think that I was one of only a few people in scientific or professional careers who were interested in stamps. Getting deeply involved in BNAPS was like coming home, because a lot of our people fall into that very category. Many of them, I have found, were caught by some historical aspect of whatever it is that they now collect.

'UNCLE PHILATELY' NEEDS YOU

There is a tendency among collectors to let those who are already active in philatelic organizations do everything. This must change. Those of us heavily involved in organizations hardly have time to work on our own collections, let alone act as full-time missionaries. This is one area where the other members can help.

If there is a school near you without a

stamp club, why not offer to help run one? If you are involved in higher levels of education, or even in industry, perhaps you could provide a publication with an article that has a philatelic slant. A recent issue of *RNAO NEWS*, the magazine of the Registered Nurses' Association in Ontario, carried such an article, with a cover showing stamps which related to nursing.

Postal history articles in *TOPICS* and elsewhere might be of interest to small regional publications — getting permission to reprint is not difficult. Does your local paper have a stamp column? Does your town have a junior stamp club? There are lots of possibilities. Why not see what you can do? If we don't look after the hobby's future, no one else will!

Encourage Friends To Join BNAPS

DO YOU COLLECT POSTAL HISTORY?

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

This Month's Feature

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Ed Whiting



LEE BRANDOM

This year I seem to be losing a great many friends. This time I wish to acknowledge the passing of my very good friend Lee W. Brandom. As with most BNAPSers, Lee had a smile and a cheerful greeting no matter what adversity. It was a real pleasure and a privilege to have known such a great Texan.

CONVENTION ACTIVITY

By the time you read these lines, this year's convention will be a thing of the past. I hope that all of you who were in attendance had a really great time. From past experiences we know that Calgary can put on a first rate event. It is late in July as I write this, and I'm having a tough time waiting for the convention!

There are a lot of things in the mill that we hope to get ironed out in Calgary and then present to the membership, either as proposals or as one or more *fait accompli*. Some of our internal workings are being modified so that everybody will be able to have business with official BNAPS people conducted more smoothly.

At this point in time I do not feel that it is

appropriate to upstage the Board of Governors, so I will put off until my next column some of the items that I would like to share with you.

STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY

One thing that has concerned some of us recently is that we seem to be getting more away from stamps and further into postal history. I have been giving this some thought, and find that in my own mind these two aspects of philately are so mutually intertwined that it is often hard to delineate between them.

I have wondered if perhaps TOPICS hasn't devoted more time to postal history than to stamps, at the expense of the latter, but discussions with the Editor have revealed that the content of our journal is proportional to the material on hand. Mike tells me that for every page on stamps he receives, he gets ten or more on postal history.

Obviously, we cannot divorce one from the other, but I wonder what we can do to restore the balance. I know that Mike is working to get some material, but I would like to generate some discussion and get other points of view on this. What do YOU think?

LETTERS

Some years ago, when I mentioned to a BNAPS Officer that I was going to drop my membership in the society because funds were tight and I did not feel that I was getting

value for my fees, he wrote and convinced me that I should stay in. I did, and I'm not sorry, but the same old problem exists — money, or more correctly, the lack of it. I know I'm far from

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being alone in this problem.

Now I may not belong to as many organizations as some members do, but I belong to quite a few, in Canada, the USA, and abroad. My interest in the societies other than BNAPS runs just as strong, and in some respects, stronger than in BNAPS.

Having just retired after 49 years of Tool & Diemaking and now living on a pension, I'm finding that things are a bit tighter. This situation led me to wonder whether or not societies like BNAPS could establish a new membership rate, one aimed to make the burden a bit less,

for Senior Citizens?

I would like to put this idea forward as a suggestion for the consideration of the members.

Robert C. Ernst
Barrie, Ontario

At present the Society cancels dues for Emeritus members, those who have been members for 35 years or more and who have reached the age of 75. There is no provision of the sort you suggest. What do other members think?

NOTES

STANLEY GIBBONS LISTS 'STICK 'N TICK'

The 1986 edition of Stanly Gibbons' *Part 1 British Commonwealth Catalogue*, due for publication on 30 August last, carries notes and illustrations for the various British postage labels ('Framas') and Canada's 'Stick 'n Tick' experiment of 1983 and 1984.

A press release from the firm also states that a special effort has been made by the Catalogue Editor to provide prices for errors and varieties, which were previously left unpriced.

FOR THE BIRDS?

Bob Pratt has passed along the following item from *Wildlife Digest* which tells how one company solved a difficult mail problem.

"The Lockheed Corporation, known for missiles and airplanes, has found a profitable niche for a pigeon system at the firm's mountain-top facility near Santa Cruz, Calif. The birds are used to fly microfilm prints over the mountains from nearby corporate headquarters.

"The first reaction to using pigeons was just what you would think . . . laughter," recalls research chemist Werner Deeg, who volunteered to train the birds. But because the Santa Cruz facility is situated atop 50 miles of winding roads, there was no fast, inexpensive way to transport materials from one office to the other. "It cost \$10 a print to use a computer-linked machine, but the pigeons' cost amounts to only \$1," says Deeg."

HARMER'S SCHEDULES MAJOR BNA SALES FOR FALL

"With Part I slated for October 17, 1985 and Part II to be offered in October, 1986, the Gold Medal Collection of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, to be offered by Harmers of New York for an unidentified philatelist will be one of the finest offerings in this area to come to market in several years," stated a company press release.

"Encompassing some 150 lots with a total value in excess of a half-million dollars, the collection includes major pieces from such famous collections as those of Caspary, Dale-Lichtenstein and Argenti. Incredible covers, superb singles both mint and used and spectacular multiples will all be available to bidders, beginning with the Nova Scotia section to be offered on October 17."

"Covers in that section will include numerous Bisects as well as an extremely rare Quadrisect. The full-colour catalogue for this auction will be ready for distribution in September for \$5 by mail, including prices realized, as well as from the London and San Francisco galleries (addresses below), or free over the counter from Harmers of New York."

Harmers of London's next sale, encompassing BNA, scheduled for November 28, is expected to be devoted to British West Indies and British North America. Reference copies of the catalogue are available for £3 from Harmers of London, 41 New Bond St., London W1A 4EH, \$3US from Harmers in the United States, 14 East 33rd St., New York, NY 10016 or

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CANADA POST PROPAGANDA FOOLS COLLECTORS, MEDIA

The recent announcement that Canada Post had relocated (to 365 Laurier, at the corner of Kent) the National Postal Museum library and sales counter, and a portion of the national stamp collection, has been trumpeted in terms that give credit for this to the stamp collecting community's strong protests over the closure of the Museum.

Collectors, dealers and stamp publications have been quick to voice congratulatory pats on the back in terms of "Collective action gets results", "Making sure that the politicians know who's boss", and so on. At least one publication, *Canadian Stamp News*, reprinted Canada Post's press release, including the title ('NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM, REOPENS'), verbatim on their front page.

In all this apparent joy, the fact that the staff of the research and graphics arts sections, along with the guides, were fired and not rehired has been ignored. Only two publications have mentioned the fact that all the Museum's display cases were sold for salvage value in June. Many long-time observers feel that collector's protests have had absolutely no effect whatsoever on the Corporation's actions. The prevailing view is that Canada Post has, in fact, done exactly what they said they would do — no more and no less, with the exception of retaining the sales counter and its staff — in the February 4 press release which first announced the closure of the Museum.

NEW DRYING BOOK

Stuart Clark noticed the following item in *Stamp Collector* and suggested that it be passed on to members.

"SHOWGARD HOUSE'S VIDIFORMS CO. INC. has introduced a new stamp drying book, 'Desert Magic', according to an announcement from Showgard. The book contains six drying leaves, composed of a special paper that allows wetted stamps with full gum to be released from the page when dry, and seven blotting paper interleaves. Basic soaking hints are provided on the inside cover of the book,

which can be used many times over. 'Desert Magic' is available for \$3.95, plus \$1 shipping charge, from Vidiforms Co. Inc., 110 Brenner Drive, Congers, NY 10920."

WHERE ARE THE COVERS?

An America engineer, Richard Schill of Massachusetts, is reported to have moved his personal belongings to that state — from Hawaii — by mail. Schill estimates that he saved himself about \$6,000US. He mailed 131 packages, weighing an average of 64 pounds (29 kilograms) each, for \$2,500US. Included in the packages were a rocking chair and a lawnmower.

BNAPSERS WIN AT APS NATIONAL LEVEL SHOWS

The Awards lists at three APS accredited national level shows this spring included the names of many members of BNAPS.

At the April West Suburban Stamp Club show in Plymouth, MI, Gary Arnold received a Silver, and Gerald Carr a Silver-Bronze, for their exhibits.

The only APS show regularly held outside the United States is PIPEX, the annual exhibition of the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs. The show normally alternates between Canada and the USA, and this year's was held in Vancouver from June 7-9. Awards went to: Gold — Fred Fawn, David Sessions and Jack Wallace; Vermeil — Bob Bayes, Bill Robinson and Ian McTaggart-Cowan; Silver — Robert Lemire, Bob Lee and Dick Malott; Silver-Bronze — Ken Barlow and Ken Ellison.

On the same weekend, across the continent, most of the Mid-Atlantic group gathered in Washington, DC for NAPEX. Vermeils were received by John Burnett, Grace Carr, Bob Carr, Win Clatterbuck, Leo LaFrance and Jim Lehr, and Ed Whiting was awarded a Silver.

IMPERF SALE ENDS VERY ACTIVE SEASON FOR F.E. EATON AND SONS

Following a period of reorganization after the passing of the late Fred Eaton, F.E. Eaton and Sons of Vancouver have just completed what is probably their busiest season ever. Besides moving to their new 4500 square foot location at 960 Richards St., the firm is ex-

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Published in a strictly limited issue of 500 copies and obtainable only from the author, L.F. Gillam, F.C.P.S., at 66, East Bawtry Road, Rotherham, S. Yorks. England, S60 4BU. Price (including postage and packing): £12.00 (\$15.50 US)

perimenting with an office in Toronto, where an auction is planned for this fall, and has increased the frequency of its auctions generally.

According to President Dan Eaton, 'record' prices realized at their second June sale prove that collectors do not want the 'Buyer's Commission' which has begun to be charged by other auction houses.

One of the surprises of the sale was the high price paid for later Canadian imperforates, many of which have begun to appear on the market this year. According to an Eaton press release, "A pair of Imperf \$1.00 Parliaments realized \$1100.00; 1c 1935 #217A Imperfs cataloguing \$175.00 realized \$165.00; the 2c value realized \$170.00; the 3c and 4c brought \$145.00 and \$165.00 respectively; #244a, the 13c 1935 Imperfs cataloguing \$375.00 realized \$300.00; 50c Imperf #226A cataloguing \$375.00 brought \$350.00, while the \$1.00 Champlain Imperf pair with a slight soiling also reached \$350.00; 1938 \$1.00 Chateau Imperf pair brought \$400.00."

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FOLLOW UP — KIUSALAS CANADA PERFORATION EQUIVALENTS

The question from Kirk Liggett in the Jan-Feb ('85) TOPICS brought the following from a member. "Some collectors have had problems in using the Kiusalas gauge because they did not receive, or lost, the conversion table that went with it." The table is given below.

Spacing Inches	Actual Perf.	Specialist System	Scott Listing	Nearest ½ perf	Nearest ¼ perf	Nearest 1/10 perf
.063	12.49	12 ½ - 63	12 ½	12 ½	12 ½	12.5
.064	12.30	12 - 64	12	12 ½	12 ¼	12.3
.065	12.11	12 - 65	12	12	12	12.1
.066	11.92	12 - 66	12	12	12	11.9
.067	11.75	12 - 67	12	11 ½ or 12	11 ¾	11.7 or 8
.068	11.58	12 - 68	11 ½	11 ½	11 ½	11.6
.070	11.25	11 - 70	11	11 or 11 ½	11 ¼	11.2 or 3
.072	10.94	11 - 72	11	11	11	10.9
.083	9.49	9 ½ - 83	9 ½	9 ½	9 ½	9.5
.090	8.75	8 ½ - 90	8 ½	8 ½ or 9	8 ¾	8.7 or 8
.099	7.96	8 - 99	8	8	8	8

Editor's Note: We have had no response as yet to the question concerning current practice, specifically, are the stamps being produced today perforated on a Metric or on an Imperial basis (i.e. are the hole separations for the perforating machinery set in millimeters or in thousandths of an inch)? Can anyone answer this?

CALENDAR

CALENDAR lists exhibitions and bourses with significant BNA content, and BNAPS Regional Group functions. Information/prospectus must reach the Editor at least 3 months in advance.

OCTOBER 12, KITCHENER, ONTARIO — Annual OKTOBERFEST stamp show and bourse of the Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society. St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Queen & Weber Streets. Information: P.O. Box 8081, Bridgeport, ON N2K 2B6.

OCTOBER 19, GUELPH, ONTARIO — GUELPHEX '85, the annual show and bourse of the Guelph Stamp Club. St. James Junior High School, 59 Victoria Rd. Information: D. Odegard, 54 Lyon, Guelph, ON N1H 5C6.

OCTOBER 19-20, VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA — VANPEX 1985, annual show and bourse of the British Columbia Philatelic Society. Kensington Community Centre, 5175 Dumfries. Information: B.C.P.S., P.O. Box 2356, Vancouver, BC V6B 3W5

OCTOBER 26, LONDON, ONTARIO — MIDDPEX '85, annual show and bourse of the Middlesex Stamp Club. Dundas Street Centre United Church, 482 Dundas St. Information: Robert Nolan, P.O. Box 3262, Terminal A, London, ON N6A 4K3.

NOVEMBER 15-17, VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA — VAPEX '85, annual show and bourse of the Virginia Philatelic Federation. The Pavilion, Virginia Beach. BNAPS' Mid-Atlantic Regional Group Fall meeting. Information: BNAPS — Leo LaFrance (address on Regional Group page); VAPEX '85, P.O. Box 5367, Virginia Beach, VA 23455.

DECEMBER 7, STONEY CREEK, ONTARIO — The Stoney Creek Stamp Club annual exhibition and bourse, this year celebrating the club's tenth anniversary. Fiesta Mall, Hwy. 8. Information: P.O. Box 9343, Stoney Creek, ON L8G 4S1.

1986

MAY 22-JUNE 1, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS — AMERIPEX '86, FIP sanctioned International Exhibition, O'Hare Exposition Center. Canadian Commissioner: David Dixon, P.O. Box 1082, Oakville, ON L6J 5E9.

JUNE 13-15, VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA — PIPEX '86, the 1986 APS accredited show of the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs. Garth Homer Center, 813 Darwin Ave. Information: Dr. Don Shorting, P.O. Box 5164, Stn. B, Victoria, BC V8R 6N4.

AUGUST 28-SEPTEMBER 7, STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN — STOCKHOLMIA '86, FIP sanctioned International Exhibition. Stockholm Trade Fair Center. Canadian Commissioner: Peter Mann, 36 Sydenham St., Guelph, ON N1H 2W4. American Commissioner: Victor E. Engstrom, 2655 Pebble Beach Dr., Clearwater, FL 33519

BNAPEX '86 **AUGUST 29-31, BNAPS' annual convention.** Dearborn Inn. Chairman: **DEARBORN, MICHIGAN** Charles Firby, P.O. Box 208, Southfield, MI 48037.

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IN MEMORIAM

GEORGE B. LLEWELLYN, OTB

It is with deep regret that we learned of the passing of Bert, as he was known to his many friends.

Bert first became a BNAPSer in 1947, and he became an active member of the 'Philadelphia Group'. In 1953 he took on the job of Advertising Manager for *TOPICS* and filled this post until 1963. During the same period he was elected VICE-PRESIDENT, in 1955, and then he became PRESIDENT for 1957-58. First elected to the Board of Governors in 1959, he served through 1978, filling the job of CHAIRMAN of the BOARD from 1965-1975. Bert was honored by election to the 'ORDER of the BEAVER' in 1973.

Bert served as Host Chairman for BNAPEX in Philadelphia in 1957, and also served on several other BNAPEX HOST Committees.

Even after 'retiring' from active jobs in BNAPS, Bert still maintained his interest and was always available to offer helpful comments on various problems.

Best known for his collecting specialty, the 1859 10¢ Prince Consort, including shades, covers, usages and multiples, etc., his interests encompassed many other areas of BNA Philately and never flagged along the way. Bert did not miss many BNA conventions and his absence this year will be felt by his many friends acquired through the years of his active participation in BNAPS and his aid to other collectors of BNA. We'll miss you, Bert.

Leo J. LaFrance

MAX ROSENTHAL

Longtime BNAPS member and *TOPICS* contributor Max Rosenthal passed away suddenly, on 4 April 1985, at his home in Toronto. Max was a native of Toronto, but spent many of his early years living in smaller Ontario communities. There he developed his interest in the small post offices — particularly Owen Sound where, at the age of 10, he started collecting. He helped to found the Stratford Stamp Club while living there.

An indefatigable researcher and prolific

writer, Max tried to pass on the information he unearthed about the various post offices, first those in Ontario, then branching further afield until he had done work on post offices all across the country. He received the BNAPS award for best article in *TOPICS* many times, and in 1982 was the first recipient of the Stan Shantz award for the best article originally published in the Postal History Society of Canada's *PHSC JOURNAL*. Many of Max's other articles appeared in *Maple Leaves* and *The Canadian Philatelist*. Dr. Robert C. Smith has noted that in Cimon Morin's *Canadian Philately: Bibliography and Index* Max had a total of 146 citations.

As a result of his work and his willingness to share the results with others, Max Rosenthal will be remembered as the person who was probably most responsible for the recent (and current) amount of interest, across Canada and outside the country, in county and regional postal history. He was among the pioneers in Canadian Postal History.

LEE W. BRANDOM, OTB



After a lengthy illness, Lee Brandom passed away on 25 July 1985 at Mission, Texas. He was interred at McAllen, Texas, where in 1980 he had been Executive Secretary of BNAPEX. He is survived by his wife Dorothy, daughter Jeanette, son Cary and mother Elizabeth. He was retired from an oil exploration and drilling company, and was a veteran of the United States Navy in World War II.

Lee was the author of the *Catalogue of Tobacco Tax Paid Stamps of Canada and*

Newfoundland. The only contemporary listing of these stamps, it quickly became the standard for collectors in the field. In 1981 his efforts in the study of Tobacco stamps and his contributions to BNAPS, including two terms on the Board of Governors, resulted in his being elected to the Order of the Beaver at that year's convention in Ottawa. (The photo shows Lee receiving his Beaver medal from Ed Richardson.) Lee had a great interest in Newfoundland Postal Stationery, and also collected Canadian Postage Dues.

Lee was also honored by being chosen as a Distinguished Philatelic Texan by the Texas Philatelic Association. (The criteria for this honor are similar to those for BNAPS' Order of the Beaver, but there have been fewer recipients of the Texas honor.) Lee had served as a Director and as Secretary of the TPA, and had also been Secretary of the Texas Philatelic Foundation.

Besides his philatelic interests Lee was an avid photographer. In addition, he found time to be a 'ham' radio operator. He enjoyed all his activities greatly, and through them made many friends by whom he will be missed.

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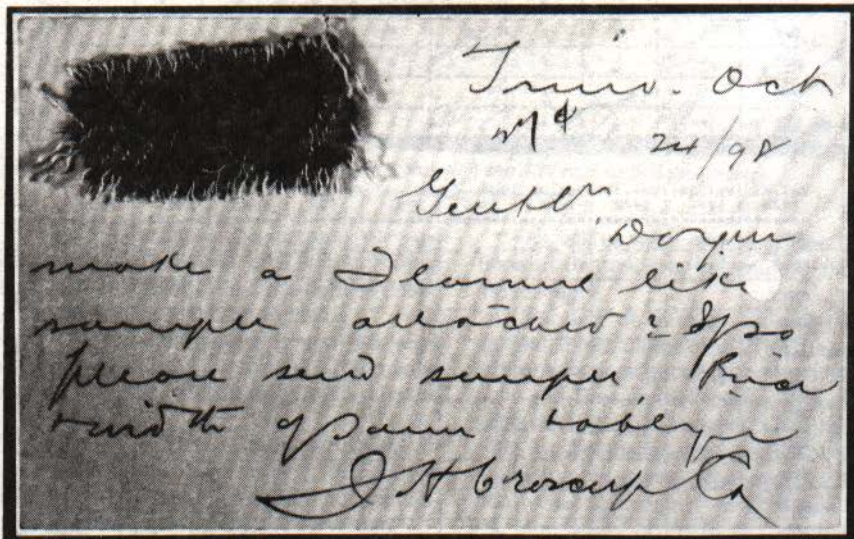
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Although the "sample attached" made this card unmailable as a postcard in 1898, it was delivered contrary to regulations and not sent to the Dead Letter Office. The piece of cloth was attached to a 1¢ Maple Leaf Postal Stationery card.

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by E.R. (Ritch) Toop

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FEB			*	*	*	*	*	*	*
MAR	*		*				*	*	*
APR	*		*		*	*			
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AUG			*			*	*	*	*
SEP	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*
OCT	*		*		*	*		*	*
NOV			*		*	*	*	*	*
DEC	*		*		*	*	*	*	}-

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JUL	}-	}-	}-	}-	}-	}-	}-	}-	}-	}-
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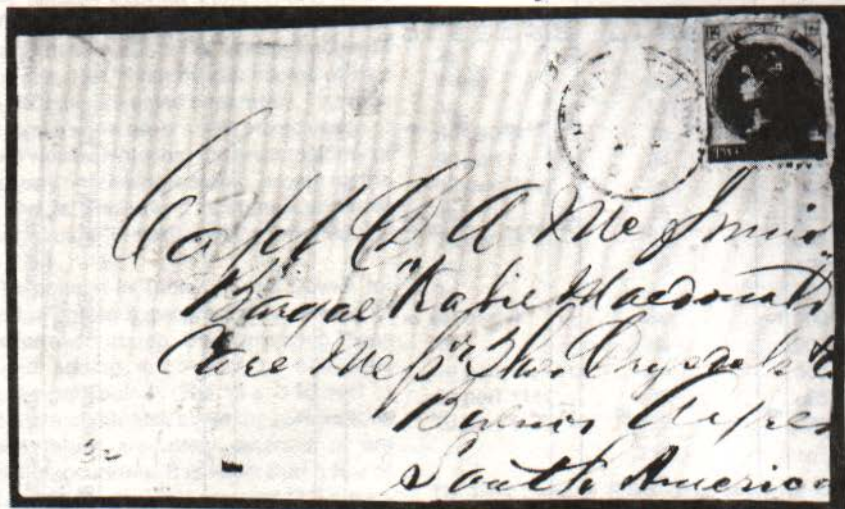
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HOW RARE ARE PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND COVERS?

by JAMES C. LEHR, OTB



The rarest of all P.E.I. covers, showing the 12d rate to South America via England (Carr Collection)

When examining the stamps of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island we immediately see major differences in comparing P.E.I. to N.B. and N.S.:

- 1) The 'pence' stamps of N.B. and N.S. were issued 10 years earlier than P.E.I., and were used for 10 years before being replaced by the cents issue.
- 2) The first P.E.I. 'pence' issue (perf. 9) was in use only one year before being replaced by pence stamps of a similar design but with different perforations and additional values.
- 3) The 'cents' issue of N.B. and N.S. was in use from 1860 until these provinces joined the Dominion of Canada in 1867.
- 4) The 'cents' issue of P.E.I. was in use only from January 1872 until July 1873, when P.E.I. joined the Dominion of Canada.
- 5) The 4½d engraved P.E.I. stamp was not issued until the 1 June 1870 rate decrease to Great Britain, and was thus in use only 1½ years, until it was replaced by the 'cents' issue on 1/1/72.
- 6) The high value 1 shilling stamps for N.B. and N.S., and the 2¢ and 12¢ values for P.E.I., met no single postage rate requirement and thus should have low usage.

As will be seen later, all these observations are reinforced by the results of the following research.

As part of a study to determine the earliest known usage of each P.E.I. stamp, the author examined about 300 covers in the Carr, Lehr and Brassler collections, and others in sales catalogues of large P.E.I. auctions since 1962. Most of these sales were by J.N. Sissons, but there were several large sales by other auction firms, particularly the 1976 sale by Earl P.L. Apfelbaum of the McNutt collection (66 covers) and the 1977 sale by Roger Koerber of the 'Cornwallis' collection (64 covers). Several of the earlier 'classic' collection sales, such as the Gibson (1944), Norris & Brophy (1950-51), Reford (1950), Moody (1951), Mackie (1962), Caspary (1956), and Dale-Lichtenstein (1968) were also covered. Based on these data, the author has identified a total of 823 different P.E.I. covers (including mixed stamp usage covers). The results of this study back up the earlier observations very well, showing that some P.E.I. covers are among the rarest of all B.N.A. covers.

It is often impossible to determine relative rarities by examining catalogue prices, since

TABLE I
NUMBER OF KNOWN P.E.I. COVERS WITH SINGLE OR MULTIPLE USAGE OF SAME STAMP

Stamp Value	One Stamp		Two Stamps		Three Stamps		Four Stamps		Total		Mixed Usage Covers (*)	
	Normal	Bisect	Normal	With	Normal	With	Normal	With	One Value	Normal	With	Values Used
				Bisect		Bisect		Bisect				
Perf 9												
2d	49	1	4	2	2		1		59	7		2d, 1d, 3d p11¼-12, 6d
3d	35		1						36	10		3d, 1d, 6d
6d	14			1					15	11		6d, 2d, 3d
	98	1	5	3	2		1		110	28		124 covers
Perf 11												
1d			9						9	3		1d, 2d
9d	12		1			1			14			
	12		10			1			23	3		24½ covers
Perf 11¼												
1d	19		50		5		1		75	25	3	1d, 2d, 3d, 4½d
2d	103	4	21	6	4	1			139	29	1	2d, 1d, 3d, 4d, 6d
3d	91		8	1	1		4		106	16	2	3d, 1d, 2d, 6d, 9d
4d	49	15	2						66	4		4d, 2d, 6d
4½d	10								10	1		4½d, 1d
6d	33	1	1		1		1		36	13		6d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 9d
9d	15	2	2		1				20	2		9d, 3d, 6d
	320	22	84	7	12	1	6		452	90	6	500 covers
Cents												
1c	3				9		1		13	19	1	1c, 2c, 3c, 4c
2c	1		3	2					6	8		2c, 1c
3c	48		6						54	10		3c, 1c, 4c
4c	32	2	1						35	3	1	4c, 1c, 3c, 6c, 12c
6c	27	11							38	2		6c, 4c
12c	3	1					1		5	1		12c, 4c
	114	14	10	2	9		2		151	43	2	173½ covers
Totals	544	37	109	12	24	1	9		736	164	8	
									-	82	4	duplications
									736	82	4	822 total covers

price depends on both rarity and demand. Such price relationships were usually set many years ago for the normal rate usage for which the stamp was issued. Multiple or combined rate usage is much rarer, although 1d or 1¢ Maritime stamps are more common in multiple usage than for the intended single rate. Table I lists the sixteen different P.E.I. stamps with the number of covers known to contain one, two, three or four copies of that stamp. Bisects are listed separately. The final two columns show covers with mixed usage of different values. Note that the great majority of covers carry only a single stamp, except for the 1d, 1¢ and 2¢. The 1d and 1¢ stamps are most commonly used in multiples for internal, i.e. within P.E.I., rates.

The column in Table I, 'Total Covers for One Value', gives a general rarity ranking of covers for each stamp. By rearranging these data and adding a column for catalogue prices, we get Table II. (The 1d and 9d perf 11 and 11¼ are combined, since the perforations of these values are rarely reported, or are reported inaccurately. It is likely that a few of the 1d and 9d stamps listed as perf 11¼ are actually perf 11. All reported perf 9 stamps have been checked by the author.)

Examination of Table II gives two immediate impressions: a) The present price structure of P.E.I. covers must be considerably revamped; b) The entire group of cents covers is grossly undervalued.

If we go back to Table I, a third impression also stands out. P.E.I. covers containing any multiple usage of one value (except for the 1d value) are extremely rare. In sixteen cases only a single example is known, while only two examples are known for another five values. Finally, Table I shows that except for the 4d and 6¢ stamps, where the bisect represented the local internal rate, all P.E.I. bisects are extremely rare. Considering only usage of one value on cover, no bisect is known for the 4½, 1¢ and 3¢ values. The 1¢ is known bisected on a mixed usage cover.

There are some other covers of extreme rarity which are not shown in Table II. Only one example is known of each of the following covers (all in the Carr collection):

- 1) The 2d perf 9 imperforate vertically
- 2) The 2d perf 9 imperforate horizontally
- 3) The Bedford Provisional, containing a perf 9 sheet margin square with a manuscript '3d' and 'No Stamps' and a red 3 on

TABLE II
RARITY OF P.E.I. COVERS CARRYING ONLY ONE STAMP VALUE

Stamp Value	Number of Known Covers	Present Catalogue Price, \$CDN
12¢	5 (2)	2000
2¢	6 (3)	750
4½d	10	2500
1¢	13 (3)	175
6d perf 9	15	2000
9d perf 11, 11¼	34	750
6d perf 11¼	36	500
4¢	35	100
3d perf 9	36	1000
6¢	38	125
3¢	54	30
2d perf 9	59	300
4d	66	200
1d perf 11, 11¼	84	300
3d perf 11¼	106	25
2d perf 11¼	139	125
	736	

(1) 1984 *Canada Specialized Postage Stamp Catalogue*.

(2) Two of these covers may be forgeries.

(3) One of these covers may be a forgery.

the cover

In addition, the Lehr collection contains some minor rarities such as the only known examples of the TWC error, and the 6¢ perf 12½ on cover. Certain paper, perforation and color varieties are also quite rare. The best known of these groups would be the Second Issue perf 11 stamps, the 1d brown-orange and the 9d blue-violet. Of the 151 recorded covers carrying 1d or 9d stamps, only 26 (17%) are presently known to be perf 11. This is another area where Xerox copies of collector's covers would help the author to improve our limited knowledge on this issue. The mixed value covers listed in Table I also have a number of examples where only one or two covers are known, including all covers with bisects.

Finally, an attempt was made to determine how the rarity of P.E.I. stamped covers would compare with those of the better known and researched neighboring provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. For this study Table III gives a comparison of the number of covers of the pence issue of N.B. and N.S.



This cover authenticates postal use of the part imperforate Perf. 9 stamps (Carr Collection)

(from the same auction sales, and the Carr and Slverts collections). Since the coverage of both N.B. and N.S. is not as complete as that for P.E.I., the totals for N.B. and N.S. are probably low.

TABLE III
NUMBER OF COVERS WITH ONE VALUE ONLY OF THE PENCE ISSUES OF N.B., N.S., AND P.E.I.

STAMP VALUE	P.E.I.*	N.B.	N.S.
1d	-	-	18
2d	50	-	-
2d bisect	2	-	-
3d	33	60	70
3d bisect	0	1	6
6d	16	22	43
6d bisect	1	19	27
1S	-	4	1
1S bisect	-	5	2
Total	102	111	167

Covers with mixed values
(Total)

24 25 58

*Perf. 9 only

As can be seen, P.E.I. is quite similar to N.B. in terms of cover rarity. The number of 1S covers (9 for N.B. and 3 for N.S.) is similar to the number of 12¢ (5) and 2¢ (6) P.E.I. covers.

How rare are P.E.I. covers? Covers with 1d nominal perf 11¼, 2d perf 9 and perf 11¼, 4d, and 3¢ stamps are often seen in auctions and are available. Covers with 3d perf 9, 6d perf 11¼, 9d, 4¢, and 6¢ stamps are difficult to obtain but do show up occasionally in auctions. The remaining covers vary from rare (4½d, 1¢ and 6d perf 9) to extremely rare (12¢, 2¢ and all bisects except 4d and 6¢). The author hopes that all collectors with P.E.I. covers will continue to send him Xerox copies (front and back please) of each cover they own. It would be helpful if dealers would do so also. Only if this is done will we be able to update Table I and determine the earliest known usage for each stamp and its varieties. Incidentally, the full size Xerox allows the author to double check perforations, which often are listed incorrectly.

One word of caution should be given here. Because of the early cheap price for mint stamps from the remainders, and the great lack of official postal records, there are many forged P.E.I. covers. As an example, I believe two of the 12¢ covers listed in Table I, and one of the 2¢ covers, are forgeries. This again illustrates the importance of knowing proper rates and the time of use for all cancellations and killers. The author hopes that the information reported in these first three articles on P.E.I. will increase the general knowledge on the philately of P.E.I. and encourage more col-



The only known 'cents' cover to England, showing the 8d rate by the Royal Mail steamers via the United States (Brassler Collection)

lectors to consider this area for collection and research. Anyone interested in joining a P.E.I. Study Group should contact the author.

Future articles on P.E.I. will depend on the results of studies underway and, of course, member interest in this subject.

NEWS

From The BNAPS Library

by Don Makinen

Members in good standing may borrow a maximum of two books or ten articles for thirty (30) days. Members pay postage costs **both** ways. Please note: Because U.S. banks charge large fees to cash non US cheques, the librarian's postage must be reimbursed, **only** by US cheque or money order, or by mint US postage stamps.

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Philatelic Tribune, 1885-1910
Popular Stamps, 1939-58

S.P.A. Journal, 1981-83
Stamp Collector Bulletin, 1947-50
Stamps, 1901
The Canada Stamp Sheet, 1900-05
The Canadian Philatelist, 1891-1894, 1928, 1954-77
The Collectors Magazine, 1930-31, 1934
The Columbian Philatelist, 1896-98
The Essay-Proof Journal, 1944-67
The Hobbyist, 1909-12
The Philatelic Gazette, 1913
The Stamp Herald, 1920-1928
The Stamp Reporter, 1898-99
The Western Collector, 1922-35

THE IMPERIAL MACHINE CANCELLATIONS

by Geoff Newman
with Anatole Walker

Part 7 — The Last of the Imperials



Ottawa F1 with Hub Z

Post Office Department, Canada,
Chief Post Office Inspector's Office
Toronto, 30th May, 1897

My dear Secretary:-

In my report No. 697, of 30th March last, announcing that an arrangement had been completed with J. Brooks Young for supplying Montreal, Ottawa, and Toronto offices with the Bickerdike Stamping Machines from 1st July next, it was suggested that the necessary measures be taken foreclosing the agreement, whatever it might be, with the American Postal Machine Co., who has had six machines in Montreal and one, I think, in Ottawa. With the particulars concerning the arrangement with that Company I am unacquainted; but I thought it advisable, in my report in question,

to suggest that whatever was necessary might be done to close matters with the American Postal Machine Company on 1st July next.

Yours very truly,

(signed M. Sweetnam)

W.D. Le Sueur, Esq.,
Sec'y Post Office Department
OTTAWA.

(National Archives of Canada)

There have long been questions about the association of the Imperial Mail Marking Machine Company and the American Postal Machine Company. The similarity of the actual Imperial machines to those of the A.P.M. Co. has led some researchers to suggest that the only difference between them was the manu-

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facturer's name plate affixed thereto. However, until the above letter came to light, there was no documentary evidence concerning their association. We are reluctant to accept Sweetnam's comments, in the above letter, which imply that the I.M.M.M. Co. was a subsidiary or associated company of A.P.M. Co. One of the co-patent holders of the machine was Martin Van Buren Etheridge, who was associated with the American Postal Machine Co. until late 1895 or early 1896. He left that company, taking with him ownership of some 42 mail marking machines located in Boston and Chicago. It is speculated that the machines used in Canada were from Etheridge's Boston machines. They were possibly reconditioned and/or modified before being sent to Montreal and Ottawa.

As mentioned previously, the Bickerdike machines replaced the Imperials in Montreal on 10 July 1897, not on the 1st as requested by Mr. Sweetnam.

As early as 9 August 1897 the old F1 obliterator replaced the Ottawa Jubilee flag. As you can see in the illustration, Hub type 'Z' was used during this period and not the older Hub 'X'. Note also in the illustration that the date is missing. The latest known use of any Imperial cancellation, in Ottawa, is 28 October 1897. The Bickerdike machine is known to have started service there on 30 October.

It would be easy to conclude that 1897 was the end of the Imperials, but this was not the case. In 1899 and 1900 an improved version of the machine was tested in Montreal while

the six Bickerdikes were in service.

The trials are known to have continued at least from 10 March 1899 to 5 July 1900. The machine was apparently used continuously during this period. The line obliterator is similar to other type M3s, but the die is definitely different; the ends of the wavy lines are higher than all other M3 dies. It has been assigned the designation die H, and is the most readily available of all the Imperial line type cancellations.

Although the trial of the modified machine continued over fifteen months, it did not result in the acquisition by the Post Office of any additional Imperials.

And so we come to the end of the Imperial Cancellations in Canada. Originally envisaged as a three part article, the Imperial story is a tale that grew in the telling. Our thanks must be expressed to Wally Gutzman, Raymond MacLean and Larry Paige who allowed their covers to be used as illustrations, and to Robert J. Payne for comments on the association of the Imperial and American companies.

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- Koontz, John W., *Canada Revisited, Machine Cancel Forum* No. 63, July 1979.

QUEBEC CITY POSTMARKS — 1763 to 1851

by Guy des Rivières

PART II

Under the French regime in Canada no official postal system existed. It was only after the treaty of Paris on 10 February 1763, with the end of the military administration and under pressure from the merchants, that an official postal system was organized under the direction of Hugh Finlay, the first deputy postmaster of Canada.

My monograph *La première route postale au Canada 1763-1851* covered this subject, so it will not be dealt with here.

It was during the summer of 1763 — the official date is imprecise — that, under the direction of Hugh Finlay, the post offices of Quebec, Three Rivers (Trois-Rivières) and Montreal were established. The oldest letter, with a manuscript mark 3 dwt (3 pennyweight, equal to 9 pence), is dated from Three Rivers, 25 August 1763, and is recorded in the Public Archives of Canada.

As these three post offices seem to have been opened at the same time, it could be assumed that they opened between the 10th of June, the date of the appointment of Finlay, and the 25th of August 1763. August is more likely.

From the beginning the Quebec post office did not receive any handstamp and the

first marks from Quebec are in manuscript, with only the rate in pennyweight preceded (or not) by the letter Q. Figure 1 shows the manuscript mark Q 8 dwt, the triple rate for 2 sheets being 8 pennyweight. These early pennyweight rated covers from Quebec are very rare.

In 1776 the Quebec post office started to use the *Bishop* mark, the first circular mark used in Canada. No other post office in Canada ever used such a mark (except Halifax, which was not part of Canada at that time). Quebec had to wait until 1778 to receive its first distinctive mark, a double circle with Quebec on the top and a triangle at the bottom. In the center, and sometimes aside, the *Bishop* mark was placed. Figure 2 shows the first distinctive Quebec mark on a letter dated 17 January 1783 to Montreal.

This mark was used from 1778 to 1790, although some letters during this period are seen with manuscript marks only. A modification was made in 1791, the triangle being replaced by the year date. It was modified once again in 1793, the double circle being enlarged and the year date replaced by Canada, thus becoming the first postmark to use the name 'Canada'. Finally, a last modification. In 1798

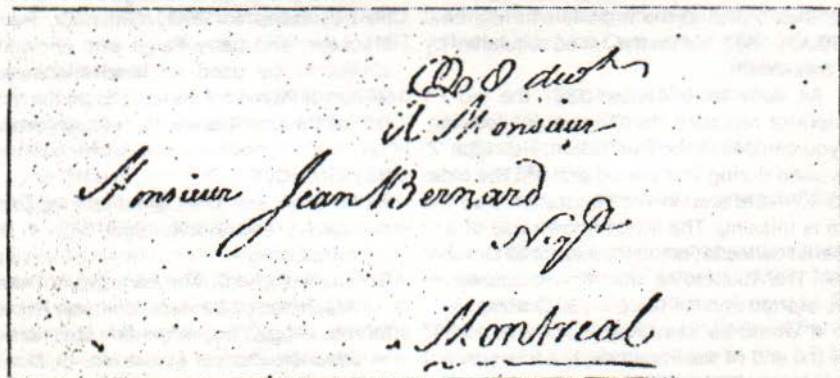


Figure 1



Figure 2

the year date was inserted between Quebec and Canada. This version was in use for only a short period in 1798 and 1799.

The middle of the year 1799 saw the end of the *Bishop* mark so characteristic of the Quebec post office. It lasted from 1778 to 1799, and was modified four times, but always the *Bishop* marks stayed in the center.



With the end of the *Bishop* mark the use of a straight line handstamp began. It seems

Quebec did receive earlier, probably around 1765, a straight line handstamp which was very rarely used, mostly with the *Bishop* mark. This Quebec straight line was somewhat similar to the straight line used by the post offices of Trois-Rivières, Berthier and Montréal.

The new hand stamp consisted of a line showing 'Quebec', and underneath, another line giving the complete date with the day, month and year. Figure 3 shows a Quebec



Figure 3





 1844

Figure 4

1832

600 in Biddard
 and a lot of land in Brighton



 Hon. W. B. Pitt
 Quebec
 W. Kayner

Figure 5



 1835

1/2
 Wm. C. Cartwright Esq
 Kingston
 W.C.

Figure 6



Bishop Mark alone
(1776-1778)



Similar to the previous mark
but year added (1798-1799)



Double circle Type 1
(1831-1834)



First distinctive Quebec
Mark with room for the
Bishop Mark in the center
(1776-1791)

QUEBEC
3. SEP 1802

Straight line (1799-1808)



Double circle Type 2
(1834-1839)



The next mark replaced the
triangle with the year date
(1791-1792)



The Quebec 'Fleuron'
(1808-1830)



Double circle Type 3
(1839-1854)



The first mark to contain the
word 'Canada' (1793-1798)



Quebec Paid (1815-1831)



Special Mark, Crown and
Paid (1842-1852)

THE QUEBEC POSTMARKS 1763-1851

straight line. Use of this mark ended with the arrival in 1808 of a new circular handstamp called the *Fleuron*, because of the two fleurons at the bottom. At least two and possibly three, different handstamps with this mark were in use. The distance between the Q and C of Quebec varies between 32mm and 28mm, and the size of the fleurons also varies. This mark was used until 1830. Until 1826 the mark is seen almost constantly in black; afterwards it is seen in red as well.

In 1815 Quebec received a new handstamp on which the fleurons were replaced by the word Paid. This instrument was in use until 1831. From 1815 to 1831 Quebec had two different handstamps that were in use, but rarely were both used together. Figure 4 shows an example of both marks on the same letter, addressed from Quebec to York (Toronto) dated 28 June 1820.

In 1831 Quebec received another new handstamp. This device was similar to those ordered in 1829 and distributed to several offices in Lower Canada and Upper Canada, but Quebec's had type set for the date.

The arrival of this handstamp meant the end for Quebec of two distinctive and unique postmarks. The letter (Fig. 5) dated Quebec 11 April 1832 shows the use of the new mark.

This mark lasted till 1834, when it was replaced on the arrival of a double circle handstamp similar to those distributed in numerous post offices, but with the distinction of that

Quebec's was the only one without identification of province. This mark was used from 1834 to 1840. Figure 6 shows an example of this mark dated 9 September 1835.

Quebec received, in 1839, a broken circle handstamp similar to those distributed to more than three hundred post offices. These handstamps arrived in Halifax on 16 March 1839, and were immediately delivered to the post offices, including Quebec. This Quebec handstamp was slightly modified in 1842, the diameter being reduced from 30mm to 29mm, and finally to 28mm and the letters reduced from 4mm to 3.5mm. This mark, the most common of all Quebec postmarks of the period under study, was used until 1854.

During a short period in 1841 Quebec had a very unique triangular mark, the only such mark ever used in Canada. It was a double line triangle with the letter Q at the top and, below, the date in manuscript (Fig. 7). Very few examples of this mark have been seen, and the



Figure 7



Figure 8

reason for it is very puzzling. Why a mark in a totally new format with a manuscript date in a large office like Quebec (which had a type set dater way back)?

I would appreciate hearing from any collector who knows about this mark with, if possible, a photocopy of any letter bearing such a mark.

In early 1842 Quebec received a very nice handstamp consisting of a circle surmounted by a crown, with the words 'Paid Àt' in the middle, just above 'Quebec L.C.' This handstamp was made in England and, according to the proof book, sent on 2 January 1842. It was in

use until 1852 but having no dater, was not used frequently — mostly in conjunction with the regular postmark on mail to the United States, although single use has been seen on letters to the United States and England. Figure 8 shows usage, on 30 October 1850, of both marks on a letter to New York.

Between 1776 and 1851 Quebec received 12 different major handstamps, not counting variations and the triangle mark mentioned above, or the Maritime marks described in Part 1.

(This article is a slightly revised version of one which appeared in Philatelic Quebec in 1982.)

SKETCHes of BNAPSers

SKETCH No. 207

by Dr. R. V. C. Carr

DR. BRIAN PLAIN

Up in Kelowna, British Columbia there is a philatelist by the name of Dr. Brian Plain, who is interested in the Territorial material of Western Canada. A native of Calgary, he took his pre-medical training there, and received his M.D. at Edmonton. He has been a general practitioner since completing his residency. At this writing, he is President of the medical staff at the Kelowna Hospital. (The picture of our doctor was taken for a recent medical conference in Singapore.) He is married and has three children.

Besides belonging to local stamp groups, he is also a member of the R.P.S.C. and the P.H.S.C. His philatelic interests are many: Canadian Military Mail, Squared Circles, Alberta Law Stamps, and the Postal History of the Yukon and N.W.T. He has written many articles for *Post West* and *The PHSC Journal*. Brian first caught my notice with his interesting article on my Barnard's area — the 'BX' cancel. His largest work has been on the Prairie Grid System. He is currently preparing articles for the *PHSC JOURNAL* and *TOPICS* on Canadian Military Mail. (This issue — Ed.)

Dr. Plain had a childhood collection, started by a priest who gave him the stamps



from missionaries and the Vatican. A Canadian specialist took him in hand when in high school. Going to Kelowna, he was influenced by postal historians George Melvin and Jack St. Laurent, followed by a half-dozen or so others in his region.

We will be looking forward to more of his writings in *TOPICS*.

JOIN A BNAPS STUDY GROUP

Comments on 'Letters Exchanged Via England Between British North America and France 1844-1875'

by Jack Arnell



In the May-June 1984 *BNA TOPICS*, Maggie Toms presented a new interpretation of the postage charged on letters from France to British North America in the 1860's, resulting from a study of G.P.O. correspondence on the subject which she has unearthed. As I have indicated to her by a letter, I am uneasy about her conclusions and, with her encouragement, am attempting here to offer a different explanation.

The period under consideration was one of transition from having the option of sending a letter either PAID or UNPAID to being subject to a fine on UNPAID letters. While it is well established that from 1 April 1859 all unpaid single letters between Great Britain and British

North America were subject to a fine of 6d. Stg., it is a question as to whether a fine was applied to UNPAID letters from France and, if so, on what basis it was assessed. In this connection, the Robson Lowe Encyclopedia on North America states: "1 April 1859. All letters addressed to British Colonies and Possessions beyond Sea and Foreign countries sent through England are to be Prepaid."

Before this question can be answered, it is necessary to clarify what the postage rate between France and Canada was at the time. The 26 December 1857 Hill-Banning letter quoted by Maggie Toms gives 6d. Stg. 1/4 oz. as the French/British charge, apparently made up of 5d. (50 centimes) French inland and chan-

TABLE

	French		British		Canadian		Total
Less than 1/4 oz.	5d.	+	1d.	+	4d.	=	10d. Stg. (21 cents)
1/4 oz. - 1/2 oz.	10d.	+	2d.	+	4d.	=	1/4 Stg. (34 cents)
1/2 oz. - 3/4 oz.	15d.	+	3d.	+	8d.	=	2/2 Stg. (56 cents)
3/4 oz. - 1 oz.	20d.	+	4d.	+	8d.	=	2/8 Stg. (67 cents)

nel postage and 1d. British transit fee, with an additional 4d. Stg./1/4 oz. Canadian packet and B.N.A. inland postage, for a total of 10d. Stg. (or 21 cents) 1/4 oz. In contrast to this, the *Robson Lowe Encyclopedia* states that in 1856 the postage on letters between Canada and France was reduced from 2/8 1/2 Cy. to 10d. Cy. (or 17 cents); a figure confirmed in *The Postal History of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick* (Jephcott, Greene & Young) and the 1863 *Canadian Postal Guide*.

In the face of this, it is possible to appreciate the real confusion among Canadian postal officials, illustrated by the letters quoted by Maggie Toms, as to the correct postage to be charged on UNPAID letters to France.

This discrepancy can be accounted for by recognizing that, while the French unit weight for letter postage was 7 1/2 grams (1/4 oz.), the British and Canadian was 1/2 oz. Thus it may be argued that, while the Canadian share of the postage on a less than 1/4 oz. letter was 4d. Stg., it was also the amount claimed on a less than 1/2 oz. letter. If this were the case, the postage on the two letter weights would be as shown in the first two lines of the table.

On the other hand, it appears that in calculating the unit postage the Canadian authorities halved the 1/2 oz. rate to give 8d. Stg. or 17 cents.

Carrying the first method of calculation to the next two units of weight gives the last two lines in the table,

and on the basis of the 10d, Cy. 1/4 oz. rate, the corresponding figures would be: 1/8 Cy. (34 cents), 2/6 Cy. (51 cents) and 3/4 Cy. (68 cents).

While Maggie Toms has shown double and quadruple weight covers, which can be explained by either method of calculation, illustrated herewith is a triple weight cover with a British claim of 1/6 Stg. (15d. + 3d.) and a Canadian postage due of 56 cents, supporting the proposition that the Canadian component of the postage, in at least this case, was calculated on the basis of 1/2 oz. increments. This letter was backstamped at London on 16 April 1867, carried by the Allan Line *Moravian* from Liverpool on 18 April, arriving at Quebec on 2 May, and was backstamped at Toronto on 3 May.

None of the covers illustrated in Maggie Toms' article or the triple weight cover shown here carries an UNPAID fine, so it must be concluded that there was an Anglo-French agreement not to fine UNPAID letters.

Although it is not directly related to the above discussion, for completeness I must note that I agree with Maggie Toms' explanation of the 44 cents postage due on the letters illustrated as Figures 33 and 33A in her article. There must have been many occasions when the carelessness of a postal clerk or the arrival of several large Mails from the United States resulted in confusion as to the route by which a particular transatlantic letter reached Canada through the United States, and hence the postage to be charged.

MINOR CORRECTIONS TO MARLER'S ADMIRAL HANDBOOK

by Hans Reiche

A minor correction is suggested for the table showing the numbers of the plates for Post Office sheets with or without lathework in the bottom margins, as listed in *The Admiral Issue of Canada*, by G.C. Marler.

The following changes should be made:

One Cent Green Lathework Type B, delete 144 and insert 141

Two Cents Carmine Lathework Type B, delete 144 and 147, insert 113-126 and 139-158

Lathework Type C, delete 145-146

One Cent Yellow Lathework Type D, delete 186-187

Two Cents Green Lathework Type D, this should read 188-189

Three Cents Carmine Lathework Type D, delete 117 and 121, insert 115-128

On page 226, Plates 27-128 and 29-130 should read 127-128 and 129-130.

On page 65, in the paragraph starting with, "From a careful examination of this table", change the word EIGHT to SEVEN.

The Study Group CENTERLINE

by Frank Waite

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

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1972-78 'CARICATURE' & LANDSCAPES D'FVES: D.B. Moore, Box 28, Aylesford, NS B0P 1C0

ON THE FRINGES

The nightmare of a columnist is a deadline to meet and no material about which to write. The input for this column comes from the newsletters of the study groups and only four have arrived since the last column was prepared. Help! (If I could do original work, Mike would let me be an author like the important people.) (*Applications are being accepted — Ed.*)

DUPLEX CANCELLATIONS

The Duplex group publishes tremendous newsletters. Their postage costs must be frightening. Not only are they huge, but the quality is also equal to the quantity. Bob Lee would make a good columnist for *TOPICS*. How about a column, *The Dealers Viewpoint*, Bob? Trends in auction, show and over the counter business from the dealer's side would be of interest to many of us.

The latest duplex newsletter has a listing of P.E.I. duplexes from Father Walker. There are also about twenty pages of illustrations of duplex cancellations on cover from across

Canada, including a strange Quebec unofficial duplex.

At the risk of appearing superficial, I have to admit that I am not a duplex fan. In spite of this I find their newsletters fascinating and am deeply impressed with the thoroughness of their research efforts. I visualize a book in the not too distant future.

POSTAGE DUES

When last heard from, Calvin Cole was expecting a good turn out at the organization meeting of the Postage Due Study Group at BNAPEX in Calgary. A report on the first Postage Due issue was ready for discussion at the meeting. Cal also reports that there is interest in a PD handbook.

SPECIAL DELIVERY GROUP FORMING

Study group coordinator John Burnett reports that he has received a letter from G.H. Davis, R.D. 1, Fawn Drive, Lebanon, NJ 08833 who is interested in forming a group to work on the stamps and postal history of Canada's Special Delivery issues. This is a field which

seems to have been ignored recently (with the exception of one well known Chairman of the Board, of course). I suspect that there are other 'closet' SD collectors out there. Why not get a letter off today?

John notes that if this group and the others get going, it will bring the total number of groups whose services are available to the members to an amazing total of TWENTY-ONE! That's definitely a feather in John's cap. (A certain person 'On the Fringes' has helped a bit too — Ed.)

P.E.I.

Jim Lehr has nine charter members in the P.E.I. group. The first newsletter details areas where information is needed. A tabular record of known P.E.I. covers indicates the rarity of these covers. An article is to appear in TOPICS concerning these covers. Jim recently took a trip to P.E.I. with his charming wife Elma. A vacation? Maybe. He seems to have spent considerable time at the archives. As a result, he has discovered some interesting data concerning P.E.I. postal rates. If the rest of the group shares Jim's enthusiasm, I see a book in their future too.

RPO

The RPO newsletter has an index to the volume and issue numbers of the newsletters where survey and hammer data is found for Newfoundland runs. This was provided by Jim Felton. John Hornsby has authored an article, complete with map, (I love maps) on the history of the Inverness Railway and Coal Co. Annex III of the *Catalogue of Canadian Railway Cancellations* is included. New runs, new dates and other information are being tabulated by Lew Ludlow to bring his masterpiece up to date. (I have known Lew for about a thousand years. He is one of the most industrious, painstaking and thorough researchers I have ever known.)

SMALL QUEENS

Don Fraser, Editor of the Small Queen group's newsletter, asks for input for the Calgary meeting and reports the time allocated to his study group. The last chapter of John Burnett's treatise on *Official Duplexes*

of the *Small Queen Era*, complete with illustrations, is enclosed.

SEMI-OFFICIAL AIRMAILS

David A. York of Akron, PA writes that he has volunteered (or is that has *been* volunteered?) to act as Chairman and Editor for this group, which is attempting to rejuvenate itself after three years or so of dormancy. The activity has been sparked in part by the great response to the booklet on the history of the various companies which was produced earlier this year by Haughton Sanguinetti (see review in last TOPICS — Ed.), and in anticipation of the major handbook, which is in preparation.

A bi-monthly newsletter is planned. Anyone interested in joining can contact David at the address above. Annual dues will be \$3US or \$4CDN.

TOPICS NEEDS STAMP ARTICLES

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.

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STAMP COLLECTIONS DON'T BELONG IN MUSEUMS

by Michael Laurence
Editor, LINN'S Stamp News

(TOPICS' Editor's Note: My Editorials on the National Postal Museum earlier this year were written from the point of view of someone who believed that Museums are a proper place for keeping things of historical and cultural interest. We wish to thank Michael Laurence and LINN'S Stamp News for permission to reprint the following article, which presents another point of view. It appeared in the 1 July 1985 issue of LINN'S.)

It's time for some plain talk about museums and stamp collections. The two don't deserve each other.

First, recent reports from the stamp museum front:

Item: The B.K. Miller collection, showcased for many years at the New York Public Library, has not been publicly displayed since 153 rare stamps were stolen from its frames eight years ago.

In the investigation that followed the theft, the library's resolute uncooperation was the source of considerable embarrassment to dealers and collectors alike.

Many observers concluded the library had no real interest in seeing the stamps recovered.

The terms of the Miller gift clearly stipulate that the collection is to be publicly displayed.

Nonetheless, the Miller material has not been available to the public for almost a decade. There is no indication that it will ever be seen again.

Item: At the B. Free Franklin postal museum in Philadelphia, as was reported in *Linn's* June 17, an imperforate sheet of 200 1¢ Project Mercury stamps, on loan from Postal Service archives, was sneaked from an exhibit — and no one missed it for almost a year!

When bits and pieces of the imperforate material began to appear on the philatelic market, members of the stamp community deduced that these items had to have been stolen from a postal exhibit.

By process of elimination, investigators finally concluded that the stamps must have come from the Philadelphia museum. When the FBI first called to inquire, museum officials didn't know anything was missing.

Item: In its day, the western cover collec-

tion of Ernest A. Wiltsee was the finest in existence.

Now on display in the history room of the Wells Fargo museum in downtown San Francisco, the Wiltsee collection is slowly self-destructing.

Before being put on display, every envelope was snugly wrapped in cellophane. Over the years, these coverings have shrunk, wreaking havoc with the paper objects they contain.

Collectors have repeatedly called attention to the deteriorating condition of the Wiltsee covers, but the wrappers remain, slowly strangling their contents.

Item: The Canadian National Postal Museum at Ottawa recently closed its doors, apparently because the Canadian government had more important uses for the space it occupied.

The closure was supposed to be temporary, but it was used as an excuse to permanently retire the most knowledgeable stamp people on the staff.

The director of the museum, no collector but obviously a seasoned civil servant, was quoted as saying she thought the closure was actually a positive development, because it would enable the surviving staff to concentrate on long-term planning.

Item: The Smithsonian Institute, in a fit of bureaucratic petulance, has declared the National Philatelic Collection won't participate in the once-in-a-decade AMERIPEX show to be held in Chicago next year.

The Smithsonian insists on bulletproof glass and 24-hour guards around its frames, extras that AMERIPEX can't provide.

Many exhibits at AMERIPEX will show philatelic material scarcer and more valuable than anything the Smithsonian could possibly

put up.

No other exhibitors (including the Queen of England, the prince of Thurn and Taxis and the Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum) have sought extra security.

The real reason for the Smithsonian withdrawal seems to be a petty squabble over who pays whose expenses.

Two weeks after the Smithsonian cited budget limitations for its prospective non-attendance at AMERIPEX, it announced the addition of three more bodies to the philatelic curatorial staff, a group whose crowning achievement in recent years has been to count the stamps in the national collection.

Item: The finest classic U.S. collection of its day was the Charles A. Hirzel collection, which won large gold medals at Vienna and at the SIPEX international exhibition in Washington in 1966.

Hirzel died shortly after SIPEX. Collectors expecting a once-in-a-lifetime auction were shocked to learn that he had bequeathed the entire collection to the Swiss government.

This loss hit home to me personally, because it entombed forever two items that I would have aspired to add to my specialized collection of the U.S. 10¢ 1869 stamp: the earliest known use and the only known cover to Portugal.

To this day, the collection reposes in the basement of the Swiss PTT museum in Berne.

The few U.S. collectors who have sought it out report that the collection is, indeed, available for viewing. It's best, however, to make an appointment in advance.

So far, none of the Hirzel material has been stolen, mishandled or otherwise abused — praises be for that.

Remarkably, a similar fate might befall the Ryohie Ishikawa collection. While it has never been exhibited in the U.S., Ishikawa's is doubtless the finest classic U.S. collection now in existence.

The Ishikawa collection currently reposes in Zurich, on consignment to a British stamp firm which is attempting to sell it intact for around \$16 million.

A principal in this firm recently told me he is holding talks with a possible "institutional" purchaser, understood to be a museum.

I find this incredible. No museum to my knowledge has ever paid for a major stamp collection. So long as wrong-headed collectors keep giving them collections for nothing, why

should they pay?

For a number of reasons, stamps simply don't belong in museums.

Rare stamps cannot be mounted like old master paintings, because stamps fade when exposed to constant light.

Museum collections of stamps thus tend to be hidden from public view.

The typical arrangement, first developed for the Tapling collection at the British Museum (which collection, incidentally, has been closed to public view for more than five years), is to house the material in sliding frames.

The viewer pulls the frames out of a wall, one at a time.

While such an arrangement might protect the stamps from light, it does not secure them from a determined thief.

Worse, this static sort of display is anathema to modern day museum directors, who prefer participatory multimedia extravaganzas that boost the door count by which an exhibit's success is measured.

As a result, at least after the acquiring curator has left the scene, the stamps invariably wind up in the basement.

If the hobby is lucky, they might slip back onto the market after a generation has passed and memories have faded.

If the hobby is unlucky (as is more often the case), the stamps are gradually destroyed through neglect or remain permanently removed from the marketplace.

The net effect of the removal of stamps from the marketplace is to increase the prices of the stamps that remain in private hands.

This makes it difficult for collectors of modest means (especially younger collectors) to participate in the hobby.

Even for senior collectors, the institutional internment of rare items lessens the thrill of the chase, because it means there's less out there to be collected.

No stamp collector is an island unto himself. Every time a collection is given to an institution, each collector dies a small death. The whole hobby is diminished.

The bequest of stamps to a museum is an act of misguided egotism comparable to the pharaoh's insisting that his pets and household staff be sealed up alongside him in the pyramid.

The best steward of a rare stamp is the individual collector who pays cash for it. He ap-

preciates that stamp. To a museum bureaucrat, it's just another tedious scrap of paper.

The best disposition of rare stamps, once a collector has turned in his tongs, is via the marketplace into the hands of other appreciative collectors.

Such transactions form a chain of stewardship that maximally ensures stamps' survival.

Here is an excerpt from the last will and testament of Frank Hogan, a prominent collector a generation ago who successfully resisted the blandishments of museum curators who

lusted after his material.

He was referring to his collection of rare autographs, but the same could be said of stamps:

"I do not deem it fitting that these friends of many happy hours should repose in unloved and soulless captivity. Rather, I would send them out into the world again, to be the intimate of others whose loving hands and understanding hearts will fill the place left vacant by my passing."

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SOME NEW FACTS REGARDING POSTCARDS

by Allan L. Steinhart

Recently, while cleaning out a pile of papers at home, I came across a copy of a post office document which had a few rules regarding postcards which I did not have before, and which were not included in my handbook *The Postal History of the Post Card in Canada, 1871-1911*. I hope that this new information will be of use to some of our members.

Dated September 1898, it was issued by the Post Office Department at Ottawa. Apparently only 100 copies were prepared, as there is a printing notation reading "100 - 6-9 -'98". The document is headed "Memorandum — of changes made in the Postal Union System and in its working details by the Convention of Washington (1897), which went into operation on the 1st January, 1899." It was also noted that the changes were extracted from a circular letter of the General Post Office, London, dated 1 July 1898. Some of these rules, which are of importance to a study of the postal history of postcards, are given below.

3 — "Unpaid post cards (private) are no longer to be treated as letters, but are to be charged double postage at the post card rate, i.e., 4 cents per single card, or for each half of a 'reply' card."

In a separate section, titled, "Changes of practice provided for in the Detailed Regulations subjoined to the Convention", other rules which are of interest to us appear.

2. "The new Article VI provides for the general use, as far as possible, of the same colours, blue, red and green, for the three typical

Union rates of postage, 5 cents, 2 cents, and 1 cent."

4. "It devolves upon the Post Office which first receives correspondence posted at sea to mark it, not only with a date-stamp, but with the word 'Paquebot'."

8. "The heading 'Post-Card' (or 'Carte Postale') is still required on the face of a post-card; but it is no longer a positive requirement that the heading should be a printed one. Although, therefore, the title 'Post-Card' will of course continue to be printed on official cards, private cards may pass with the heading written or printed."

9. "Engraving or advertisements may in future be painted on the face, as well as on the back, of a post-card."

10. "To be valid the reply half of a 'reply card' must not merely be addressed to the country of origin, but have been received attached to the corresponding half. Otherwise it is treated as an unpaid post-card, i.e. under the new regulation of Article V of the Convention, charged double the post-card rate."

11. "Post-cards (private) not in accordance with the regulations as to indications, size, etc., are still to be treated as letters."

12. "Inland post-cards may be sent abroad provided they are marked 'Post-Card', and may be redirected abroad as post-cards, if they satisfy the inland regulations of the country of origin, and do not exceed the dimensions prescribed in the international service."

REGIONAL GROUP RAMBLINGS

by Jim Goben

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94109

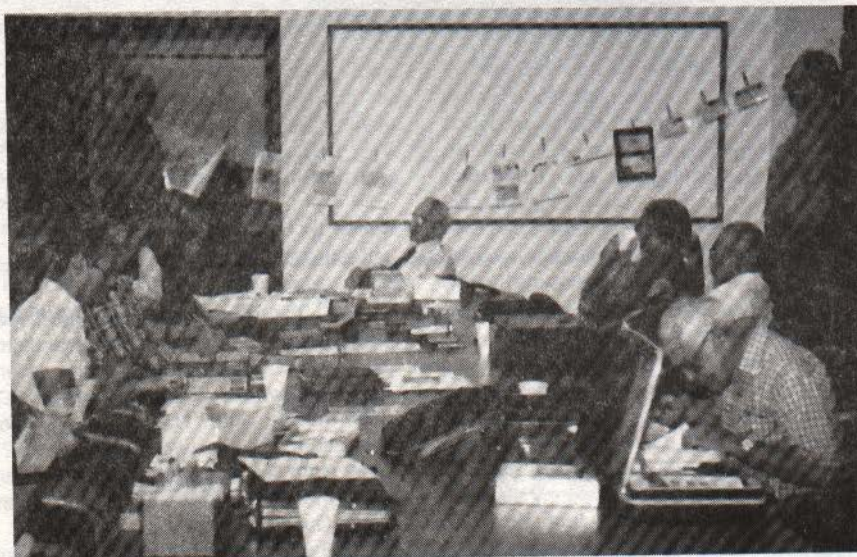
MID-ATLANTIC: Leo La France, 406 Glenheath Dr., Hendersonville, NC 28739

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

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

MANITOBA-NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO: Robert Lemire, P.O. Box 549, Pinawa, MB, R0E 1L0

PACIFIC-NORTHWEST: Brian Plain, 230 Robson Rd. W., Kelowna, BC V1X 3C8



Here's a photo of the Texas Prairie Beavers hard at work. Howard Twichell (left) is presenting a clothesline exhibit. Group Chairman Ed Richardson is at the head of the table. Harry Dingenthal is waiting his turn at right. Vic Willson, Jim Felton, Clint Phillips, Jeff Switt and Martin Hollenbeck are also seen in the picture.

ARE YOU GOING TO DEARBORN ?

BNAPEX '86

August 29-31, 1986

YES, EVEN A NOVICE CAN MAKE A FIND!

by Harry F. Dingenthal



Today one often hears collectors complain, "There are no finds to be made these days — I was born fifty years too late!" Nothing could be further from the truth. As recently as the spring of 1984, a West Coast dealer came up with a fantastic find, one such as we all dream might happen to us — he found nothing less than a 12 penny black!

In a talk given at the Johnson Space Center to the SPACEPEX '84 Awards Breakfast, Ed Richardson called attention to dozens of recent finds made by as many different collectors. The 'key' to each of the finds was the philatelic knowledge of the 'finder'. Ed pointed out that one of the 'lucky finds' was made by myself.

It all came about when a friend called and told me about a small lot of Canadian covers in the possession of a Dallas, Texas dealer. (Not the one I work for!) My friend wondered if I would be interested in buying the lot. Wasting no time, I called on the dealer, asked for the lot, and took two seconds to say "YES".

It turned out that there were ten covers in the lot. Two had caught my eye. One was a circular from a Montreal wholesale tobacco

dealer with a lovely 1¢ orange Large Queen tied with a target (or bull's-eye) cancel and dated 18 September 1869. The other was a cover bearing a 1¢ brown-red and a 2¢ green Large Queen, used from St. John, N.B. on 14 July 1869 and cancelled with the two-ring numeral '7'. The other eight covers were of little or no interest to me at the time — I bought the lot to get the two Large Queen covers.

When I finally got around to examining the other covers, they too were much better than I had first thought. There were two New Brunswick covers bearing the 5¢ green N.B. issue of 1860, a U.S. 2¢ carmine of 1903 used from Belleville, Ont., a 1¢ 1859 used to prepay the circular rate, and a 6¢ Small Queen on cover.

The three remaining covers were all 3¢ Small Queens, all dated 1870. Further examination revealed that I had made a find of not just one — but two, of the scarce perf. 12½. variety, each on a separate cover! This was confirmed at the April 1984 meeting of the Prairie Beavers by our guest, Jim Hennok of Toronto, and by BNAPSers Ed Richardson and Jeff Switt.



Mr. Thomas M. Gray
Portland
Saint John

The first cover was posted at St. John, N.B. 31 Aug. 1870, and cancelled with the 2-ring '7'. The cover is backstamped Harvey, N.B. SP 1, 1870 and Shediac, N.B., SE 2 1870. (Note the two different ways of designating September.)

The other cover was posted at Woodstock, N.B. 19 July 1870, the stamp being tied with a Woodstock duplex cancellation. It is backstamped St. John, N.B. 20 July 1870. On

this cover I found the original evaluation. Whoever did this (and they did the same for both covers) took them to be Scott's #25 — the 3c *Large Queen*. With such limited philatelic knowledge — no wonder the evaluator missed the perf. 12½!

Yes, there are still finds to be made out there — prepare yourself for the opportunities when they come your way.

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CANADIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE IN SIBERIA — A SCARCE CANCEL

by Brian C. Plain, MD

In the November-December 1977 *BNA TOPICS* (Whole number 362), on page 45, there is found the first report of a large rubber hammer which read: *FIELD POST OFFICE/CANADIAN(DATE)/Siberian Exp. Force*. The accompanying write up and photo indicated that this hammer was used on a registered cover to London, England, from a Lieut. A. H. Ramsay, R.A.O.C., who was probably with the British Expeditionary Force.

Recently, a second example of this strike has been found, this time on a piece of postal history inseparably connected to a Canadian in the Siberian Force. The item itself is a very tatty piece of brown wrapping paper some 62.5 cm x 25 cm. (25 in x 10 in), which has many creases and tears. In spite of its dog-eared appearance, however, it tells a very interesting story.

The paper and its markings are the result of an interesting two way trip from Canada to Siberia and back. The initial addressee was: 3111120/PTE. R.G. Holmes/20th MACHINE GUN Co./CANADIAN EXPD. FORCE/IN SIBERIA. (A) The item bears the return address: FROM/MRS. S.K. HOLMES/SIMCOE, Ont. (B)

Private Holmes' correspondence has been well documented by Edith Faulstich in her definitive work on the Canadian Siberian Expeditionary Force. Suffice it to say that most of the documented mail travelled from Siberia, where Holmes was stationed, rather than to him. Faulstich quotes a letter in which Holmes advises his parents that "letters may now be sent by registered mail". Unfortunately, the paper remnant is too tatty, and has been trimmed of all Ontario dispatch markings and Canadian transit marks to give a good picture of the first leg of the trip; it does, however, bear several strikes of the boxed *PASSED/BY/CENSOR/010* which is a known and listed Siberian censor marking. Dr. Robert Smith, writing in the Postal History Society of Canada *JOURNAL*, # 36, described his recent discovery that this hammer was received by the Canadians on 17 January 1919, and that it

was used at Gornasti Bay Barracks, 5 km outside Vladivostok, for a period of 30 days before being withdrawn. The Canadian unit listed by Smith for that location is the 20th Machine Gun Company.

From this point, conjecture increases and the item becomes more interesting. The same paper was obviously used to wrap an outward bound registered package. One may safely assume that wrapping paper was not a common commodity in Siberia in the winter of 1918-1919, and that some bartering must have gone on. Nevertheless, a Lieut. Keene scratched out the name, serial number and rank of the original addressee, and readdressed the wrapper to his father: Mr. C. KEENE/731 YONGE STREET/TORONTO/CANADA.

This address appears twice on the item, fairly close together, indicating that the outward mailing was of a small, possibly flat, parcel. It was very clearly marked 'ON ACTIVE SERVICE' and the notation 'Please Register' appears four times. The item is censored 'Louis Keene/Lieut.' (C) in ink, and the entire item is then liberally franked with the 010 censor mark, (D) leading one to believe that Keene himself was one of the users of this censor hammer.

The scarce marking, *FIELD POST OFFICE/CANADIAN/Siberian Exp. Force*, was struck in purple. (E) Although faint, it appears to read Feb (11) 1919. This would place it within the time frame mentioned by Smith.

The item then appears to have passed Canadian Customs, but time, date, and location are not legible. (F) The only other marking seen is the Toronto Registration Branch oval dated March (2) 1919, (G) in concert with a numbering machine-struck registration number, 85409. (H) The number is so large that it is assumed to have been struck in a post office such as Toronto, or another major Canadian city. The smaller circled and hand written number, '430', (I) may represent either a customs shelf file number or, less likely, a ledger number from a smaller post office.

The photocopy of the marking above is

SIBERIA

B-----H

PLEASE REGISTER

PASSED BY CENSOR 95 200

E

F-----C
D-----

PASSED BY CENSOR 07 200

PLEASE REGISTER

G-----

CANADA
TORONTO
731 YONGE ST
MCKEENE
OF THE SERVICE

PASSED BY CENSOR 01 200

PASSED BY CENSOR 07 200

PASSED BY CENSOR 07 200

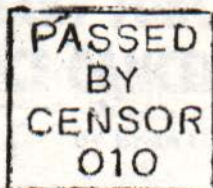
PASSED BY CENSOR 01 200

RESERVE SERVICE
MCKEENE
731 YONGE STREET
TORONTO
CANADA

PASSED BY CENSOR 07 200

430

A-----I



Censor Mark 010, received in Siberia 17/01/1919 and used for approximately 30 days.

Proof strike, courtesy National Postal Museum of Canada.

taken from the proof book in the Postal Museum in Ottawa. It represents the actual proofing date of the hammer seen in the illustration. Details of the strike can be seen very clearly. The date reported in the previous article in Topics is 11 March 1919. Coupled with the strike seen in this article, it is possible to establish a tentative range of use as FEB(1) 1919 to MAR 11 1919.

From the limited perspective of only two reported strikes, we may perhaps be allowed to speculate that use of this hammer was restricted to franking registered mail, and possibly packages not amenable to the use of a smaller steel hammer. If so, this may account for its relative scarcity in comparison to the other Siberian markings, that scarcity being enhanced by a known period of use (as of this writing) of only 30 days.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Special thanks to: J. Colin Campbell, K.V. Ellison and William Robinson.

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FAULSTICH, Edith M.: *The Canadian Expeditionary Force in Siberia, 1918-19*, *Postal History Journal*, Vol. 11, No. 1, 1968.

SMITH, Dr. Robert C.: *The Markings of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (Siberia)*, *P.H.S.C. JOURNAL*, No. 36, Page 4-11, Dec. 1983.

RICHARDSON, Edward A.: *Canadian Expeditionary Forces Mail—Siberia, 1918-19 A Study of its Markings and Stationery*, *THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST*, Vol. 24, 1973, pgs: 65-71, 179-183, 283-289.

B.N.A. Topics: November-December, 1977 page 45, Unacknowledged comments NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM: Ottawa (for proof strike)

(Editor's Note — Almost as fascinating as the information in this article is the story of the finding of the wrapper. Brian Plain was going through a dealer's box of covers when he noticed that the brown paper liner of the box carried Postal markings. On closer inspection, Brian recognized the square '010' censor strike as a Siberian force mark! The rest is history.)



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The RPO Cowcatcher

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Returning from Japan in early June, we were off June 7-9 for Vancouver and PIPEX, the annual convention of the Pacific Northwest Philatelic Federation, where our Editor, Mike Street, was a member of the jury. Although not a BNAPS function, there were many BNAPSers in attendance; Jim Goben reported in the last issue on the formation of the newest chapter in our society, the Pacific Northwest Chapter. From the R.P.O. point of view, Bill Robinson was awarded a vermeil — with felicitations — for a splendid ten-frame exhibit of British Columbia railway strikes. At a seminar on railways, Alex Price gave a marvellous informal talk on some of the history of the Canadian Pacific Railway in the West to the great delight of his audience. Also at the same seminar, this columnist discussed and distributed a ten page treatise on the 22 hammers of the WEST OF WINNIPEG listings (RR-27/RR-30 inc.). This paper has now been disseminated as a newsletter to all members of the R.P.O. Study Group; if you are interested in this analysis, including the various characteristics for the separation of all hammers, and are not yet a R.P.O. Study Group member, contact Bill Robinson, 5830 Cartier Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V6M 3A7, to obtain details about joining up. This is the fourth Study Group newsletter this year, including the complete Annex III update to the R.P.O. Catalogue which was published in June.

TRACK RETRIEVAL

This issue of the Cowcatcher is being devoted to a number of replies to questions that we have posed in previous columns. We appreciate the flow of correspondence being generated by the Cowcatcher, and presentations of some of these answers is our grateful acknowledgement of such efforts.

In our column for *TOPICS*, May/June 1984, we illustrated TOR. & MONT. M.C./ASST., O-367, and asked for the meaning of ASST. in

this cancellation. Ed Maloney of Massachusetts has written suggesting that ASST. means 'assistant'. It is Maloney's position that on the Montreal & Toronto mail cars there was a head railway mail clerk in charge with one, or more, assistants who would have used the cancellation device in question. While we are comfortable with a head clerk, plus aides, we personally have a problem with this explanation of the use of this hammer, although we still have nothing better to offer in lieu thereof. This listing, along with its counterpart, Q-167, are both quite rare; following the old axiom that juniors always work harder than their seniors, if Maloney's thesis is correct, then cancellations from the hammers of the assistants should be more common. Further, since O-367 was used concurrently with Q-165 (and Q-167 was used concurrently with Q-165) which had at least twelve or more hammers each, all common, it would seem that all of the lesser clerks were well taken care of with their own devices. We still welcome comments on the meaning of ASST.

In the March/April 1985 issue of *TOPICS* we illustrated C.P.R. overprints on British and Japanese stamps, and subsequently published comments from Joe Purcell in Kingston. We received a lovely letter from John Reynolds of England who confirms Purcell's comments on the fiscal use of these overprints on British stamps as receipts on company documents. Although he does not have our illustrated C.P.R. example, Reynolds sent several different overprints, including one overprint, "M. E. B.", on a Midlands Electricity Board receipt. Reynolds continues that this fiscal use can be identified by the required '2d' rate and, further, that a signature, lining or company chop on the stamp indicates the receipt of the funds specified on a particular bill or invoice.

Simultaneously we heard from Jon Johnson, our perfin specialist in Calgary.

Johnson quotes a paragraph from a book by Charles Jennings, *The History of British Security Stamps* (1968), which we cite in full:

"Government overprinting of Revenue stamps ceased in 1881 and, with the introduction in 1883 of stamps available for both Postage and Revenue, there was no further need for Revenue stamps and initial perforated stamps were generally adopted. The sole remaining exception was that stamps intended for receipt purposes might still be overprinted and many are to this day."

Finally, from West Yorkshire, Harry Hayes offered this clarification of a point in Joe Purcell's May-June submission. "British postage stamps used on receipts did NOT have to bear the firm's name. They had to be cancelled by writing across or ruling through the stamp. The Act did not specify any form of obliteration, but the stamp had to be made unuseable (for mail) by writing or by rubber stamp, or similar way. Firms printing their names or initials across the stamp had still to cancel the stamp by some other method, although many didn't trouble to. Not only firms but also organizations such as municipalities had their names or initials printed on stamps."

Our four submitted opinions have certainly tied this British C.P.R. overprint down to its fiscal receipt use. Reynolds adds, further, that it probably originated from Canadian Pacific Steamships in England, which seems a logical conclusion. I am satisfied to close the book on this one. Although neither are R.P.J. specialists, both Reynolds and Johnson are regular readers of the Cowcatcher and were glad to send their opinions.

It seems possible that the Japanese C.P.R. overprint may have had a purpose equivalent to a perfin. Bob Schwerdt of Poughkeepsie advises that, per the Japanese Perfin Catalogue, 1980 Edition, many companies used hand overprints to identify company stamps (and probably to prevent pilferage). This catalogue lists our previous unknown — C.P.R. in an oval — as one of two overprints, #B18, belonging to Canadian Pacific R.R. & Steamships. Since there is no C.P.R. Perfin listed, it would appear that our overprint was made in lieu of creating an equivalent perfin. Jon Johnson would certainly

confirm this position. He advises that he has C.P.R. perfins from Canada, U.S., England, Belgium, France and Germany, but says none are known from Japan.

George Arfken has written (in response to our Cowcatcher in the same issue with the C.P.R. overprints) on the question on Soper's cover to Liverpool, England. He advises that the 15¢ British Packet Rate was reduced to 8¢ in January 1870, and that this cover paid the eight cent rate with the two intact 3¢ Small Queens, plus a 2¢ Small Queen, now missing. (We knew something was missing!) We were unaware of this change in 1870 and would appreciate learning the source; Boggs, in his book on stamps of Canada, indicates (p239) that the 15¢ British Packet Rate was in effect until 1875, when it was lowered to 5¢. I feel that I should have known this prior change but could not reference it anywhere.

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CENTENNIAL DEFINITIVES STUDY GROUP

by Douglas C. Irwin

Booklets With Numbers On The Selvedge

It has now been four years since I first reported in TOPICS that some centennial booklets can be found with portions of numbers on the selvedge above the pane(1). At that time, it was only speculation that these were in fact numbers, but additional information has surfaced. Two of the recent 50¢ booklets were acquired from a booklet vending machine in Winnipeg, displaying complete (and consecutive) six digit numbers on the selvedge of the booklets. These have previously been shown in the newsletter of the Centennial Definitives Study Group. These numbers are apparently used by the British American Bank Note Company for accounting purposes. They appear on each full sheet of uncut booklet panes and are subsequently trimmed off when the booklets are assembled.

The centennial definitives were issued on 8 February 1967 as a set of 12 stamps printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company. Two 25¢

booklets containing centennial stamps were also produced in 1967 by the C.B.N.C. Shortly thereafter, the B.A.B.N.C. was awarded the contract to print postage stamp booklets.

The first centennial booklet produced by the B.A.B.N.C. consisted of one pane of twenty 5¢ stamps, issued in April 1968. This was the first centennial booklet found to show portions of numbers along the top edge of the selvedge. Traces of either 6 or 7 numbers can be found, with the best examples showing the top quarter or so of all the numbers.

On 1 November 1968 the first class postage rate was increased from 5¢ to 6¢, requiring the addition of a new 6¢ orange stamp to the centennial set. New 25¢ booklets were issued containing one pane of one 1¢ and four 6¢ orange definitives plus one printed label. A small quantity of these booklets were found to have traces of the top of six numbers along the upper edge of the selvedge (figure 1). The ma-





Figure 2

jority of these panes were printed on plain paper, while a small quantity was printed on a strong white fluorescent paper (hibrite), an experimental type of paper being used by the security printers at the time. A few copies of these 25¢ booklets on hibrite paper showing portions of numbers on the selvage have now surfaced.

On 7 January 1970 the colour of the 6¢ definitive was changed from orange to black. New 25¢ booklets were released in May of 1970, containing twenty-four cents worth of stamps (one pane of four 6¢ black definitives, perforated 10, dextrine gummed). Some of these panes show portions of numbers along the top edge of the selvage (figure 2).

The B.A.B.N.C. produced twelve different booklet pane formats during the period of the centennial issue (not including differences in paper fluorescence, perforations, gum or tagging). There have been no reports of centennial booklet panes with complete numbers on the selvage, and only three centennial booklet pane types have been found showing traces of numbers. I would be interested in learning of additional centennial booklets showing either partial or complete numbers (see Study Group page of this issue of TOPICS for address).

1. *Booklets of the Centennial Issue*, Douglas Irwin, *BNA TOPICS*, March 1981.

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REPORT

ON THE CANADIAN POSTAL CENSORSHIP OF 1914-1919

Continued from July-August 1984 TOPICS. Compiled by E. R. Toop from records in the National Postal Museum, Ottawa.

Communication With Enemy Or Enemy-occupied Countries

General Public

Although direct communication with Germany, Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire was prohibited in 1915 private letters, after having been duly censored, were allowed to be forwarded through an agent in a neutral country selected by the writer. The latter was obliged to make his own arrangements for procuring the necessary stamps, and was advised not to send correspondence in care of British or foreign Embassies, Legations, or Consulates. The message was to be brief, of a personal nature and written either in English or in the language of the country of destination. It was also to be in an open envelope, enclosed in a covering letter, and be sent through the usual postal channel to the correspondent or agency in the neutral country by which it was to be forwarded. To those who had no friends in a neutral country, the firm of Thos. Cook and Son was suggested as a possible intermediary.

In 1918 this firm was recognized as the proper channel for all private correspondence with enemy or enemy-occupied territory. A fee of twenty-five (later thirty-five) cents was charged to cover the expense of transmitting the letter to the neutral country, of forwarding from there to an enemy country and of transmitting the reply. Incoming correspondence was forwarded from the various branches of this agency in neutral countries to Ottawa, where it was examined and then forwarded to Thomas Cook and Son, Montreal, to be stamped and posted. Correspondence of this nature was not only permitted but was encouraged by the Government, since it proved to be a valuable means for obtaining significant information. Safe delivery of the letters, however, was not guaranteed.

REMITTANCES TO ENEMY, OR ENEMY-OCCUPIED TERRITORY

British Subjects

To assist British subjects in enemy territory, the Treasury granted general licenses, in the autumn of 1914, to Thomas Cook and Son and to the Swiss Bankverein, for remitting sums not exceeding £25 a month, and required for the daily necessities of life by the British subject for whom it was intended. For all remittances sent through other channels to enemy or enemy occupied territory, a special license, which as a rule imposed a maximum of £50, was required.

From British Colonies

A system of forwarding remittances from **British Colonies** to enemy, or enemy occupied territory was established in October 1916, and stipulated as follows:

- a) The remittances had to be made through a bank in England, which was required to furnish a list of the names of the persons for whom they were intended.
- b) No remittances exceeding £25, to any one person, in any one month, could be licensed.
- c) No general subscriptions to relief societies established in enemy or neutral countries and operating in enemy countries were allowed.
- d) The Director of Special Intelligence, the Foreign Office and the Treasury (Trading with the Enemy Branch) was

to be informed, in each case, of the bank in England which had been selected as intermediary.

- e) The recipients had to be persons of non-enemy nationality.

CHARITY REMITTANCES

1916 — General

The problem of dealing with **charitable remittances** from neutral countries arose in the spring of 1916, when distress in Poland became acute. A general license was thereupon granted by the Parliamentary Counsel to the American Express Company in London. It might pay, on instructions from its New York House, to needy British or Allied subjects in Russian Poland or in the occupied parts of Russia, sums not to exceed £25 to any one person in any one month.

On the recommendation of a specially appointed subcommittee of the War Trade Advisory Committee facilities were granted, in July 1916, to certain firms in the United States, for the transmission of charitable relief, through Great Britain to persons not of enemy nationality in enemy or enemy occupied territory. Such firms had to agree not to send: a) Any unlicensed trade message directly or indirectly to persons in enemy territory or on the Statutory List; or b) Any wireless or cable message in unauthorized code. The remittance could not exceed £25 to any one person in any one month, and had to be transmitted through a London Bank and agency.

In August 1916, however, after two agencies had been granted Treasury Licenses, attention was called to the fact that many remittances from America to Central Europe were charitable in name only. Instead of aiding a few destitute persons, they maintained a large section of the proletariat in enemy countries and thus were enabling the enemy to prolong the war.

Palestine also presented financial problems during 1916. In order to alleviate the direful need which followed the massacres of the Jews there, a relief agency under the name of the Jack Mosseri Fund was established in Cairo, Egypt. Administered and controlled by the Egyptian Government, it was opened with the National Bank at Cairo, to which remittances could be sent from neutral and allied countries.

1917 — Lithuanian Relief

Early in the new year (1917) the advisability of forwarding remittances to enemy or enemy-occupied territory was again questioned. An intercepted clipping from a Lithuanian newspaper stated that German officials in Lithuania were ordering persons who had relatives and friends in America to ask for financial aid. When in response to such an appeal money arrived, it was paid by the officials in Lithuanian money, i.e., paper money printed in German and Lithuanian, which had no value as real money and was not accepted by the Germans themselves.

Money intended for the President of the Comité Executif Lithuanian at Lausanne, intercepted in September 1917, called attention to the activities of this committee in the interest of the Lithuanian Relief Fund. There was no guarantee that any subscription would reach the person for whom it was intended. The French and Italian Governments, as well as His Majesty's, considered that the committee was working in the interests of the enemy, and, accordingly, decided not to allow such collections to go forward.

Since confidence in having American remittances for enemy countries dealt with according to the intentions of the sender was thus shaken, it was decided on 23 February 1917 to suspend the licenses which had been granted to Messrs. C.B. Richard and Co., and to the American Express Co. For several months after that no legitimate arrangements existed by which remittances could be sent from neutral countries to persons in enemy or enemy-occupied territory. Whenever any were intercepted in the mail, they were stopped by the censor.

1917 — Canadian Regulations

The following regulations were applied in Canada in March 1917:

- a) No general subscriptions to relief societies, established in enemy or neutral countries and operating in occupied territory, were allowed.
- b) Remittances intended for Polish Relief could be sent through the Polish Relief committee, London, England; while those intended for the relief of Jews in territory under enemy occupation were sent through the Canadian Jewish Relief Committee or the Canadian Jewish Alliance,

Montreal. Both organizations gave assurance that all funds would be remitted through the Jewish Relief Fund, London. The British Government treated as remittances for enemy countries all funds intended for Jewish relief which were not sent through the authorized channels in England.

c) In July 1917 funds could be sent to persons in enemy or enemy-occupied territory as follows:

1. to Palestine through the Jack Mosseri fund;
2. from the United Kingdom under special or general license from the Treasury;
3. from the colonies through a bank in the United Kingdom under a special license from the Treasury.

Remittances 2 and 3 could not exceed the sum of £50 to any one person in any one month and had to be destined for the maintenance of bona fide persons not of enemy nationality.

1917 — Exceptions

The following exceptions to the general regulations were made:

- a. Remittances from neutral to enemy countries in payment of fees necessary for the grant or preservation of patent rights were allowed to go forward. Similar remittances from the United Kingdom were permissible by virtue of general licenses issued by the Board of Trade on 23 September and 4 November 1914.
- b. Remittances to compulsorily repatriated enemy subjects out of funds left in the United Kingdom when such persons had resided there (U.K.) for a long time prior to the war (e.g. 25 years), and
- c. Remittances to destitute widows in enemy countries who, prior to their marriage, were British or Allied subjects, were permissible.

1917 — Thos. Cook & Son

In August 1917 the firm of Thomas Cook and Son, London, was granted a license by the British Government to act as intermediary in the United Kingdom for those who wished to remit money to persons resident in enemy or enemy-occupied territory. The Canadian Government empowered the Secretary of

State, on 3 October 1917, to issue a license to the Canadian branches of Thos. Cook and Son for the transmission to British allied or neutral subjects in enemy occupied territory, any sum not exceeding £25 a month.

1918 — Jewish Relief

When American Jewry launched a campaign late in 1917 to raise a Ten Million Dollar Life Fund in aid of Jewish war sufferers, Canadian Jews wished to contribute. To forward remittances for Jewish Relief from Canada other than through the authorized channels via the United Kingdom was, however, prohibited. It was therefore suggested that such remittances be sent direct to a recognized Jewish society in London, England, or through the medium of the Canadian Jewish Relief Committee or the Canadian Jewish Alliance, Montreal.

In March 1918 it was decided that, since such a small percentage of the money forwarded for relief purposes really effected the desired results, remittances to Jews would probably be permitted only in the case of those made through the Zionist organizations. The latter, represented at that time only by the Zionist Organization, London Bureau, Piccadilly, sent funds to Jews in those parts of Palestine still occupied by the enemy. For certain reasons it was considered advisable that this organization be supported.

During the following month, however, the Central Jewish Relief Committee took \$34,000 over the border into the United States for Jewish relief purposes. Since there was nothing to prevent such action, the ineffectiveness of this phase of the censorship work was apparent. The Canadian Jews attempted to justify their transaction by stating that none of the money which they had turned over to the Central Committee, New York, for the relief of Jews, went to enemy territory nor to any person not an ally. Although conscious of having gone contrary to instructions, they thought that since the United States had now entered the war, there would be no harm in dealing through New York.

When the Canadian Jewish Alliance desired to send more funds to the relief committee in New York, the argument was presented that, although the money could be sent via the Montreal and London Zionist Relief Committee, this organization was chiefly concerned with Zionist work and the

reconstruction of Palestine, with war relief operations being merely a secondary issue. The Jewish War Relief Committee in New York, on the other hand, devoted itself exclusively to Jewish war relief work, had hundreds of distributing stations throughout the various war zones, and conducted its work at a minimum of expense and a maximum of efficiency. Its operations, moreover, had the official sanction of the United States Government and, as far as the Canadian Jewish organizations knew, there had never been any criticism of its work by the British Government.

The United States Government, in the meantime, was limiting the amounts intended for Russia and Poland. By March 1918 they were restricted almost entirely to Poland and were sent only through certain authorized and thoroughly reliable societies, such as the Polish Victims Fund under Paderewski, and the Jewish Relief Fund. An unrestricted amount, however, was allowed to be forwarded to the British occupied section of Palestine, mostly through the Jack Mosseri Committee.

The only other relief permitted was that intended for Armenians, Syrians and Jews in the Ottoman Empire. All remittances for Jews were under the Administration of the War Trade Board and were distributed pro rate between the authorized societies. The total sum having been limited, money sent by, or for, an unauthorized society was returned.

1918 — Palestine Funds

In April 1918 the Treasury granted a license which authorized remittances to individuals in Palestine. Such payments had to be made either through the Post Office attached to His Majesty's Forces operating in Palestine, or through Messrs. Thomas Cook and Son, or some branch of the Imperial Ottoman Bank, or of the Anglo-Palestine Company, Ltd., for the time being authorized or on behalf of His Majesty's Government to carry on business in Palestine.

1918 — General

Funds for general relief purposes to enemy occupied territory in Europe were prevented transmission since the humane objects for which they were intended would, it was generally supposed, not be attained. Sufficient evidence was submitted to justify the deduction that the enemy profited both directly and indirectly from such relief, e.g., directly

paying the remittances in debased local paper currency and retaining the difference in value between such currency and the Reichsmark indirectly, by the fact that such relief alleviated local discontent on the one hand and, on the other, increased the local resources which afforded a pretext for the exaction of fines and levies upon villages and towns.

1918 — Remittances To Non-British or Non-Allied Persons

The suggestion was made in June 1918 that authority should be given, by Order in Council, to the Secretary of State to issue licenses under which remittances might be made to other individuals in enemy or enemy occupied countries. It was thought that the procedure in Canada should correspond to that followed in the United Kingdom. Since the Trading with the Enemy Proclamation No. 2, 9 September 1914, gave authority for granting licenses, it remained merely to have this authority delegated to some particular official. This had already been partially done in connection with the licensing of remittances to British and Allied subjects in enemy occupied territory, where authority was given to the Secretary of State for Canada to issue such licenses. On extending the authority for issuing licenses, the only financial transactions permitted were those which might be advisable and necessary for the purposes of protecting property or securities held by persons in Canada, or when such payments would accrue more to the benefit of this country than to the enemy country, or when the funds were for the relief of persons of British, Allied, and, in exceptional cases, neutral nationality in indigent circumstances and requiring such money for their maintenance.

On 19 July 1918, the Orders in Council of 3 October 1917, and of January 1918, were revoked. A new one was passed which authorized the Secretary of State of Canada to grant licenses which a) permitted the transmission of money to enemies, allies and neutrals in enemy or enemy occupied territory; b) which authorized communication or intercourse with enemies or persons in enemy or enemy occupied territory; c) the expenditure of money in Canada on behalf of, or for benefit of enemies or persons in enemy occupied territory; and d) carry out such financial transactions as may be advisable and necessary for the purpose of protecting property or securities held, or situated, in Canada.

LITERATURE REVIEWS

BNA Philately in Print

B.N.A. TRANSATLANTIC STAMPLESS MAIL — THE COLLECTION OF J.C. ARNELL: Hennok's Series of Postal History Collections -1; Jim A. Hennok Ltd., Toronto, 1985. Soft cover, 252 pp, \$18.

This is the first in a series of important BNA Postal History collections to be made available in book form to all collectors. Offset printed from photocopies of the actual album pages, the reproduction quality is generally good. Where markings have not reproduced well, the text gives enough description to help out.

Often, even if one is able to attend, there is not enough time to examine an exhibit properly at a show. This series is an excellent way for people to look at a whole collection - and sitting down at that!

NOTE: All volumes in Hennok's Series of Postal History Collections will be printed in limited numbers. Interested collectors should act accordingly.

POST OFFICES OF NEW BRUNSWICK 1783-1930; George E. MacManus; Jim A. Hennok Ltd., Toronto, 1985. 202 pp, \$30 (soft cover), \$40 (hard cover).

Finally! Every New Brunswick Post Office known before 1930 is listed, in columnar form, in one place. Also listed are the County, opening date, closing date if applicable, average revenue, names and terms of office of all postmasters, and types of hammers used with proof dates. A remarks column gives approximate locations, details name changes, and so on. An incredible amount of detail has been gathered.

As if that is not enough, every known type of cancel is clearly illustrated and coded for easy reference from the main listings. The author did not stop at circles and duplexes — there are rollers, slogans, registration and ship marks, and even directional markings (NO SUCH STREET IN ST. JOHN NB, etc.)!

The product of three years of painstaking

research, this book is definitely a labour of love. Anyone interested in the Post Office of New Brunswick can now relax. That 'If only we had a book' volume is here.

CELLO-PAQS AND SOUVENIR ARTICLES; C.F. Black; Canadian Stamp Handbooks, Michael Milos, Editor; Unitrade Press, Toronto, 1985. Loose leaf, 24 pp, \$3.95. Matching binders are available at \$4.95.

The fifth release in the Canadian Stamp Handbook series provides a detailed look at the Cello-paqs used for a short time in the 1960's in a merchandising experiment, as well as a new look at the souvenir articles which Canada Post has made available over the years for sale to collectors and others.

Information on the Cello-paqs includes technical information such as papers, gum etc., and a listing of the regular stamp issues and varieties. The listing of the souvenir items includes only those which were issued with genuine postage stamps included. Prices are given for both Cello-paqs and souvenir items.

Printing and illustrations are well done, as was the case for earlier releases in this series. Whether or not there is sufficient interest in these subjects to justify the costs is another question.

THE NOVA SCOTIA POST — ITS OFFICES, MASTERS AND MARKS 1700-1867; J.J. MacDonald, Ph.D; Unitrade Press, Toronto, 1985. Hard cover, 296 pp, \$29.95.

This book is not only a fine work of postal history, it is also, especially in the early chapters, a good read! The author has set out to build on the work of Jephcott, Green and Young, Robson Lowe and Frank W. Campbell, by listing and illustrating all known Nova Scotia pre-Confederation postal markings in one volume — something not previously done.

Not content to stop there, he also gives us a solid history of development of the postal

system in Nova Scotia. Earliest known letters are listed, with one being illustrated and two transcribed in the text. Even a receipt for payment for conveying mail, in 1769, from Halifax to Island St. John (PEI) is illustrated.

The fun begins when the story gets into the politics of the early post office. Transcribed letters and text describe how, very often, Postmasters and Way Office Keepers were appointed — or removed — only on the basis of their party loyalties. Footnotes are provided at the end of each chapter, instead of some place at the back of the book, making extra information readily available to add to the story.

After listing the first post offices — those established up until Confederation in 1867 — and their masters, the different types of postmarks are classified, listed and clearly illustrated. Where available, post mark proof or shipment date information is given. Ship marks, handstamped rate marks, 'Free' notations and delivery explanation markings, among others, are included. One section is devoted to what must be the earliest known 'Emergency' cancelling device to appear in British North America.

In the first Appendix, each of the first post towns are described in a brief sketch which also gives the population in the period, the post office opening date, and the first master(s). Reference numbers to the illustrations of the marks known to have been used in that place are also given. Appendix II rates the rarer markings according to the numbers known to exist.

Complaints about this volume are minor. Proofreading was not rigorous. While an alphabetical index would normally be expected in a work of this size, the listing of the contents of each chapter will, with a little searching, supply needed directions.

Dr. MacDonald is to be commended on a very fine addition to the bibliographies of both BNA philately and Nova Scotia history.

FOR NOVICE COLLECTORS

USBORNE GUIDE TO STAMPS AND STAMP COLLECTING: Judy Allen; **Usborne Publishing Ltd., London, England, 1981.** (Published in Canada by **Hayes Publishing Co., Burlington, ON;** in the USA by **Hayes Books, Tulsa, OK.** Soft cover, 32 pp, \$4.95.

The basics of philately are well covered in

this short book. How to start a collection, mounting and arranging, types of stamps, errors, thematic collecting, postmarks and printing are among the main topics described in short, sharp notes.

The section on handling and studying stamps is a good example of how a picture can be worth a thousand words. The steps in soaking stamps, the use of perforation and position gauges, colour guides, watermark fluid, envelope and stockbook storage are all shown. But that isn't all — legends arrowed to a 3" x 5" reproduction of a stamp are used to show the reader the most important terms used in relation to a stamp. All of this is done in only two pages.

It is hard to believe that anyone could touch so many philatelic bases in only 32 pages. The fact that it is all beautifully laid out in full colour is even more remarkable.

PHILATELIC CALENDAR

COLLECTING STAMPS 1985; full colour calendar; Tide-mark Press, P.O. Box 813, Hartford, CT 06142. \$7.95 US.

The colour plates opposite the monthly calendars show stamps or covers on a different theme, ranging from New Year's through flight to first stamps of different countries. The photos are well done, and many different countries are represented.

On the calendar side, each numbered square carries an historical note, many of them dealing with a philatelic event which occurred on that day in history.

While it is obviously too late for a 1985 calendar, there remains ample time for 1986's for those interested.

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Canada Electric Light Inspection Stamps

ELECTRIC LIGHT INSPECTION:

By 1894 the use of electricity had reached a level where there was a need to establish and enforce standards of measurement and safety. An Act establishing the authority became law on 23 July 1894, and a schedule of fees was included.

The first series of Electricity Stamps (van Dam #'s 1-7) was issued in 1895. Patterned after the 1875 Gas issue, they are red in colour and have blue control numbers.

The second series is said by Bond (1949) to have begun in 1900 with the appearance of 3 values (25¢, 50¢ and \$1) in a new design. Sissons 1969 catalogue first referred to the 'portrait' on these stamps as Victoria, which it is not. (Fig. 1) French, in his catalogue, referred to it as "La Canadienne crowned with a chaplet of electric lamps", which is a better description. It was intended to depict an allegory of electric light in the same way that many law stamps bear an allegory of 'Justice'. The background of each value is different. These stamps were also printed in red, but the values — 60¢, 75¢, \$2, \$3 and \$10 — have the number panels white.

It is most difficult to distinguish blue from purple ink used in applying the control numbers where the number panel is red. This applies to the three values stated above to have been issued in 1900. I have not seen a dated copy of any of these values used before 1917. The earliest copy I have is a 75¢ dated 1911, with purple controls. By 1917 the entire series (25¢ to \$10) had been produced by the American Bank Note Co. with purple control numbers. In 1917, also, the 25¢ (FG9) was produced in carmine by the British American Bank Note Co. using a plate loaned to them by the A.B.N. Co.

In 1923 five values (75¢, \$2, \$3, \$5 and \$10) were issued with blue controls. The general issue was on thin paper, but Bond lists the 75¢ and \$3 on thick soft paper. I have not seen them on thick paper; they are probably scarce.



1. '1900' Series — 'La Canadienne'



2. 1930 Series

ELECTRICITY AND GAS INSPECTION:

The two separate series for Gas Inspection and Electric Light Inspection were replaced in 1930 and 1935 by a new series of 11 stamps engraved by the Canadian Bank Note Company. Four values are in blue and seven in vermilion. They are all of the same design and

bear the portrait of George V. Control numbers are blue. The vermilion stamps were intended for electrical inspection, the blue for gas inspection. Even after the issuance of this series the older stamps continued in use for some years. I have copies of the \$10 gas stamp, FG # 29, dated to 1934.

COLLECTIONS

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From the Secretary

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Members are asked to note that two SIGNATURES on an application for membership hastens approval of new applications

REPORT DATE: 1 August 1985

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Objections MUST be filed with the Secretary IMMEDIATELY upon publication

- 4453 BLANCHARD, Frederick G., 3004 Piper Drive, New Port Richey, FL 33553
C Canada, Mint and Used. Coils
Proposed by H.W. Brice 3425
- 4454 MCGREGOR, Chris, 808-1550 Alberni St., Vancouver, BC V6G 1A5
C Eastern Arctic. Duplex Hammers. Canada before 1950
Proposed by W.G. Robinson L-2982, seconded by G.H. Churley L-2848
- 4455 WARR, Bertram C.J. Jr., c/o Warr's Pharmacy Ltd., Happy Valley, NF A0P 1E0
C Newfoundland, Mint — Airmails. Canada and Provinces. First Flight Covers
Proposed by Gary Lyon 2918, seconded by John M. Walsh 3499
- 4456 STURUP, Svend, 195 Poplar Plains Road, Toronto, ON M4V 2N3
C Small Queens. Proofs and Essays. Forgeries and Counterfeits
Proposed by E.H. Wright L-3898
- 4457 GABIAN, Walter I., 550 Scarboro Golf Club Road, Apt. 218, Scarboro, ON M1G 1H6
C Canada, Newfoundland and Provinces
Proposed by Secretary
- 4458 BABCOCK, Vera, P.O. Box 433, Stn. A, Hamilton, ON L8N 3H8
C Canada Mint. Trains
Proposed by Mike Street 3848, seconded by Kathy Ward 4331
- 4459 NASH, Jay A., 1912 Canterbury, Irving, TX 75062
C Canada and Newfoundland
Proposed by Harry F. Dingenthal 3602, seconded by Martin Hollenbeck 3968
- 4460 BURRELL, Basil S., 911 Huckleberry Lane, Glenview, IL 60025
C Canada: FDC, Precancels, Perfins, Revenues, Airmails, Semi Official and Literature
Proposed by Charles G. Firby 2664

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APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP PENDING

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| 4426 | POULIN, Michel | 4439 | GIGUERE, Andre M. |
| 4427 | FORBES, Harold M. Jr. | 4441 | BOUCHER, Jean-Louis |
| 4433 | O'CONNOR, Mary L. | 4444 | LAFORCE, Walter P. |
| 4435 | KOHL, Philip H. | 4449 | LARSEN, Layne R. |
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APPLICATION WITHDRAWN

4399 STEVENSON, Peter Gregory

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2805 SPENCER, Keith R., 5005 Whitemud Road, Edmonton, AB T6H 5L2
3498 STEELE, Mike, 4 Golfview Cres., London, ON N5C 5J7
3371 THOMSON, V.R., 8958 Adoko Valley Ct., Elk Grove, CA 95624
4425 BRACONNIER, Mike J., Box 572, Bathurst, NB E2A 3Z4
L2859 Mc GUIRE, C.R., Box 15881, Station F, Ottawa, ON K2C 3S8
4337 PERKINS, Clive M., Priory Gate, Friars Street, Sudbury, Suffolk, C010 6AG, England
4016 PEOPLES, Dennis, 763 E. 93rd Dr., Apt. E, Indianapolis, IN 46240

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STONEY CREEK CANCELLATIONS, on cover, card or stamp. Also picture postcards. Will buy/trade. Kathy Ward, 11 Rose Cres., Stoney Creek, ON L8G 3W6.

ANCASTER CANCELLATIONS on cover/card. Need split rings, corks, special markings and sub-offices. Will buy/trade. Mike Street, Box 7230, Ancaster, Ont. L9G 3N6.

1935-42 COVERS with Dated Dies or Mufti Issue. Will buy/trade. Please write first or photocopy. Gary Steele, 137 Taranaki Dr., Dartmouth, N.S. B2W 4X3.

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SECRETARY, MILITIA COUNCIL return address covers with or without enclosure. Official stationery with OHMS perfin, and private perfin covers. Send photocopy with price wanted. Jon Johnson, Box 6118, Stn. D, Calgary, AB. T2P 2C7.

MONTREAL NUMERAL and letter duplex cancellations on cover & card on the Admiral Issue. R. Bayes, Box 86456, N. Vancouver, B.C. V7L 4L1.

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Trimble, P.O. Box 532, Stn. 'A', Scarborough, Ontario M1K 5C3.

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