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(continued on page 84)

MEASUREMENT IN PHILATELY

In the last issue of TOPICS, I discussed logical validity requirements in philatelic research. There are related requirements with regard to the various measurements that are taken. Behavioral scientists generally have considered two conditions: reliability and validity of measurements. Reliability is an indicator of the consistency of measurement: how much variation can we expect from one measurement of the same phenomenon to the next? Validity is concerned with the conceptual adequacy of the measurement: are we measuring on target? Each has its own details and issues.

RELIABILITY OF MEASUREMENT IN PHILATELY

A basic measurement taken in philately is figuring out perforations of stamps. We have had several recent discussions of measurements using different gauges and techniques. Bill Wilson wrote a letter to Readers Speak that I take the liberty of publishing instead here:

"This letter is in response to Jeffrey Switt's question (TOPICS, Vol. 51, No. 3) regarding perforation measurements obtained using a gauge which expands with increasing temperature.

One measures the perforation of a stamp by sliding it up or down the gauge until the perforation holes match the dots or lines on the gauge. Suppose a match is obtained (say, at perf. 12), and then the temperature increases. The gauge expands, moving the dots or lines further apart and destroying the match at the 12.0 position. Therefore, to restore the match and obtain a perforation measurement at the new temperature, the stamp has to be moved to a position where the dots or lines are closer together than at the 12.0 position, i.e., to a higher perforation number on the gauge. Thus, the measured value increases as the temperature increases.

William F. Wilson, Calgary, Alberta"

What Bill has done is demonstrate logically how the reliability of measurement is reduced by a specific type of change, environmental in this case, that changes the measuring device. Of course, this assumes that the operator correctly or reliably operates the gauge. Some operators may be more reliable than others.

Two centuries ago the Royal Astronomer at Greenwich fired his assistant because the assistant did not produce the same astronomical observations as the RA. This led to an examination of humans as observers and to the discovery of typically normal or Gaussian distribution of observations across observers. That

it is usually irreducible indicated fundamental limits to the reliability of human senses, and also led to physiological psychology. Scientists such as Fechner and Weber studied just noticeable differences, or JND's, in humans. They varied physical phenomena such as light and sound in very small increments and determined when humans could detect the change. JND's were typically normally distributed in humans. Just because we may have quite good instruments does not automatically lead to reliable observations if humans must interpret or judge some aspect of the measurement.

Recent psychometric (psychological measurement) theory has focused on sources of variation, and a sophisticated statistical theory is in place both to estimate various sources and to compute coefficients to reflect the magnitude of relative variation. The sources of variation can be categorized thusly: within-person, between-person, across occasion, and across environmental conditions. Between-person variability is further refined into status and manipulable variability. Status conditions are those which we can observe but do nothing about. For example, there may be overall age effects in measurement. Older persons may be more variable than younger. This does not mean that an individual older person cannot be quite reliable, but as a group we might find older persons more variable. Manipulable effects are those which we can change by training or experimental manipulation. Judging is an example of the latter.

It is interesting that philately has just begun to acknowledge what has long been known in other fields such as gymnastics or ice skating: within-person and between-person variability can lead to distortions in measurement unless they are dealt with. Thus, we begin to see judging seminars, judging criteria and requirements, and point systems designed to reduce unwanted within-and between person unreliability. While this is not the forum, there is much to be learned from psychology about such training. None of the arguments made against such standardization hold much water when the issue is pressed: do we want consistent measurement as a basis for valid outcomes?

Measurement occurs in a variety of situations in philately besides those already discussed. Physical measurements are more straightforward, although we have generated plenty of discussion around a supposedly straightforward measurement of perforations. Quality measurements such as superb versus very fine cause great conflict upon occasion, usually because of between-person and environmental effects. We cannot ignore the psychological and social conditions that lead a describer to call something superb that a buyer defines as very fine. Who is right often results in hard feelings or even litigation. Heaven help us if the courts are used to define measurement. Sometimes we use philatelic referees such as foundations for the measurement, but we know that they can also be unreliable. Overall, we accept their work because it is expected that they will be more reliable than other persons or groups. Also, they are expected to produce valid measurements.

MEASUREMENT VALIDITY IN PHILATELY

As I discussed earlier, validity is hitting the target, or measuring what we are supposed to measure. While this seems obvious, there are many areas in philately that are not so clear cut as we suppose. The most obvious case is in judging. Having had my own offerings judged, and having listened to the post-mortems by the judges, I am convinced that validity in the awarding of medals is a complex process that has many dimensions. The aesthetic dimension is clearly time-dependent. That is, standards for presentation effectiveness change over time. What was emphasized five decades ago is now often ignored. The quality dimension has greater stability to it in well-understood and long-shown material, but is not at all clear for new fields. My impression is that there is a tendency to over-rate new topic exhibits in relation to what is known about them. Again, that is simply a subjective opinion. How do we assess validity for such measurements?

One process that would work well if it were possible would be the triangulation from different shows. Experienced exhibitors know that their offerings should not vary more than one level up or down from show to show. What taints this process is the communication that "this exhibit got a gold at NONAMEPEX, how can we give it a silver?" by judges. This is reification of the award rather than independent judgment. I know of no way to circumvent this, since some collections make the rounds and the results are communicated by the philatelic press. FIP is rather self-serving about this also. It is virtually impossible to get an independent assessment of an exhibit at an international show because of the arrangements. It is basically rigged from the start. That is not all bad, but the halo effect carries some exhibits beyond their true level by virtue of their earlier award somewhere.

Validity in physical measurements is always dependent on the theory and experimentation that support it. We have had articles on x-ray diffraction. The validity of the measurements is hardly an issue, and reliability is one only with respect to calibration of the instrumentation used. Most physical scientists don't even consciously think about this issue, because it is so bound up in their method and built upon so much confirmable evidence from many sources. This is where the definition of reliability given above and validity begin to merge. Controlling the sources of variation, or at least measuring them, provides limits to the validity of the measurements by telling us what will happen to the measurements under various conditions.

The issues raised here are less critical to understanding than those raised in the last editorial, because measurement occupies a less prominent role in philatelic research than assessment of cause or relationship. I expect that these two discussions bored some readers to tears, because for many all this is just a hobby to enjoy, without the academic trappings I have presented. My best defenses in support of these pieces are that when money is involved, the arguments should be coherent and scientifically acceptable, and that even in a hobby truth is preferable to fiction. Happy holidays.

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The RPO Cowcatcher

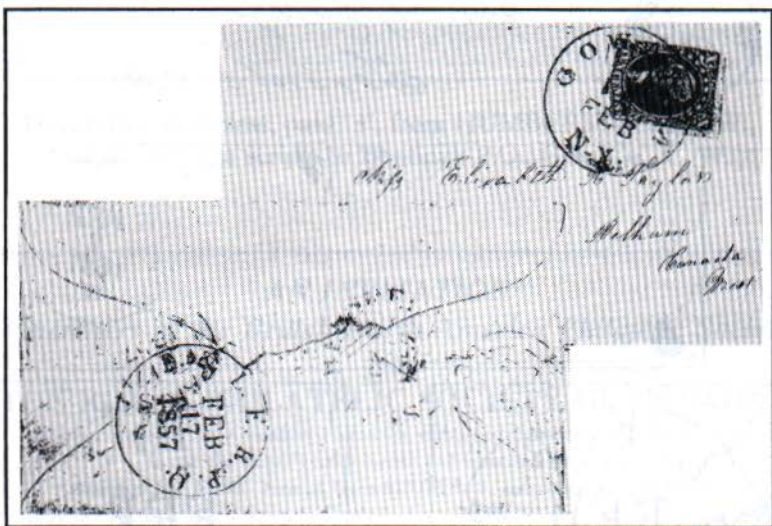
A Guest Column by Ross D. Grey
P.O.Box 174, Lindsay, Ontario, K9V 4S1

RR-7 B. & L. ? R. P. O.

Lewis Ludlow discovered RR-7 and originally listed it as reading "B. & L. H. R. P. O." His cover (Robert A. Lee Auction #68, Lot #247 and Fig. 44, page 119 in "Canadian Mail by Rail, 1836-1867" by L. F. Gillam) has the cancellation as a light transit backstamp, dated FEB, 14, 1857.

The letter between the L and the R is illegible but he naturally assumed that it was an H, standing for HURON of the Buffalo & Lake Huron Railway.

Gillam also shows a second example dated FEB, 17, 1857 (Fig. 45, page 120) in which the letter between the L and the R is clearly an E but speculates that it might be suspect. Based on this item, the catalogue listing was changed to read, "B. & L. E. R. P. O."

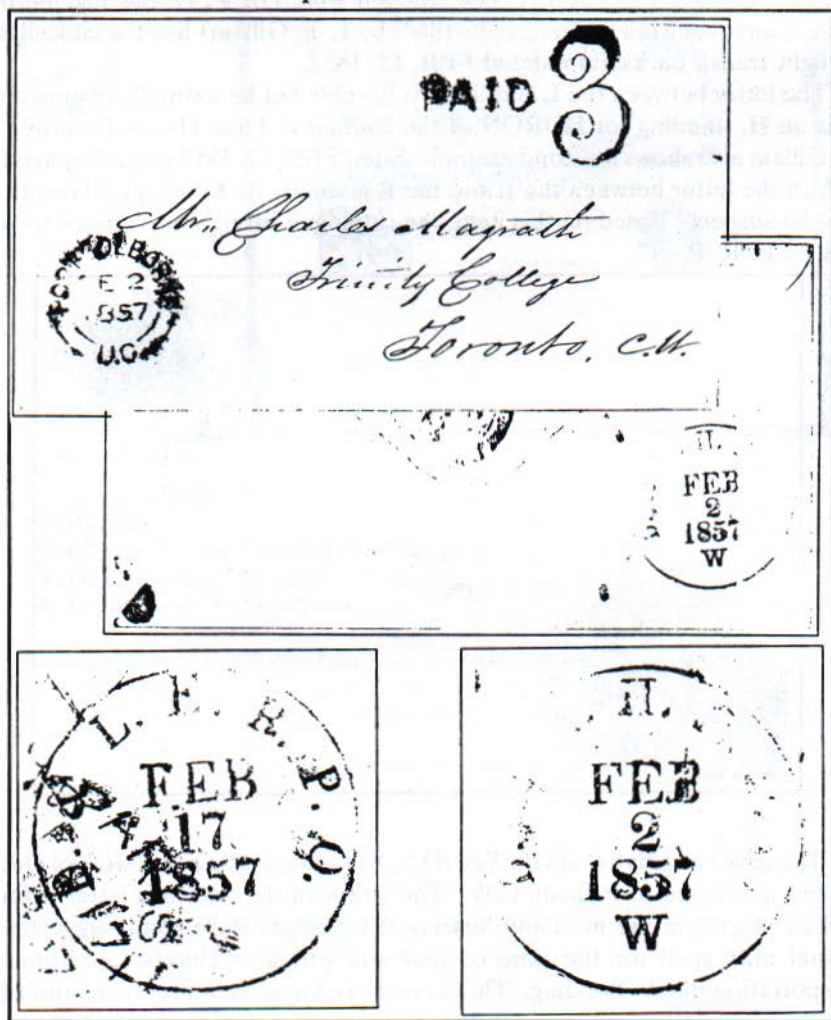


The cover originated at GOWANDA, N.Y., just to the south west of Buffalo and was addressed to Pelham, C.W. The writer of the enclosed letter refers to children playing in the mud and hearing that bridges were gone, suggesting an unusual mild spell for the time of year and probable chaotic conditions for transportation due to flooding. These conditions may account for the out of the

way routing evident from transit backstamps. First it was placed aboard the B. & L. E. R. P. O., FEB 17, 1857 in Fort Erie and travelled well past its destination to PARIS, FE 17, 1857, where it was probably transferred to the Great Western Railway for St. CATHARINES, 18 FEB, 1857. From there it went to PORT ROBINSON (barely decipherable) and FONTHILL, FE 18, 1857 before, presumably, reaching Pelham.

Now a third example of this rare early cancellation, dated FEB, 2, 1857, has been discovered. It clearly shows an H not an E. In addition there is also a clear "W" direction marking.

This cover originated at PORT COLBORNE, U.C. FE 2, 1857 and was addressed to Toronto. There is transit backstamp which is illegible and a TORONTO arrival backstamp dated FEB 2.



Although the E of Gillam's cover is slightly larger and closer to the hammer rim than the other letter, it is convincing and does not appear to be "improved".

Was the hammer damaged and erroneously repaired or was there more than one hammer? The quality of the newly discovered strike is poor, making precise measurements difficult, however, it is very similar to Gillam's.

Should the listing be changed again?

THE BUFFALO & LAKE HURON RAILWAY



Decorative stampless, paid "3", from HUMBERSTONE, C.W.,
14 Feb, 1857 (in script) to Bentinuk P.O., Grey Co., C. W.

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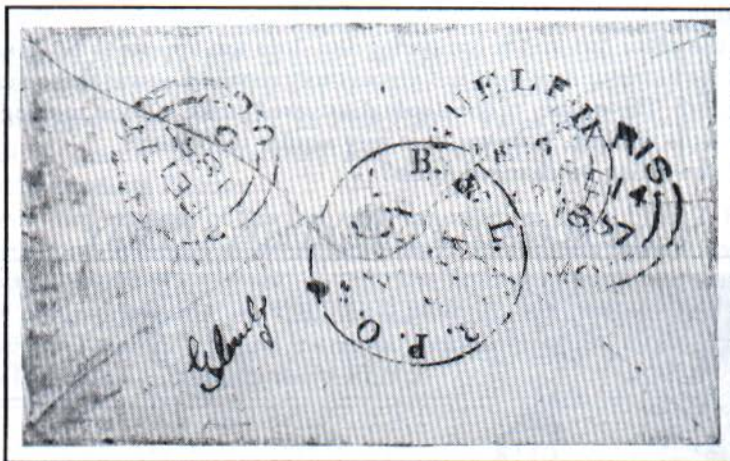
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FEB 14, 1857

Transit marks - PARIS / U.C., FE 14, 1857 and GUELPH / U.C., FE 15, 1857
receiving mark - BENTINCK / U.C., FE 17, 1857 / "0" (in blue)

February 14, 1857 is the earliest of the two recorded strikes of this cancellation
Listing # RR-7



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The Nature of, and Circumstances Surrounding The Printing of, The First Issue of Canada's Bill Stamps

Christopher D. Ryan

It has been widely reported in philatelic literature that Canada's First Issue of bill stamps (Figure 1) was a regular issue. It has also been reported that this issue was stereotyped (a form of typography or relief printing) by the American Bank Note Company of New York (ABN), or by an unspecified printer from plates produced from dies prepared by ABN. None of these assertions are true. The First Issue bill stamps were, in reality, a lithographic product of the firm, *Burland, Lafrcain and Company*. These stamps were also intended to serve merely as a stop-gap or provisional issue pending the arrival of ABN's recess printed (intaglio) stamps (Figure 2). This Second Issue of bill stamps was ordered in July and released in December of 1864, just 4½ months after the release of the First Issue.

The circumstances surrounding the production of these stamps lead to the conclusion that prior to 1868 the government did not have an all-inclusive contract with ABN. This conclusion is supported by other security printing done for the Canadian government in this period.

PART 1: The Apparent Provisional Nature of the First Issue.

The stamp tax on drafts and bills of exchange was first announced in the Finance Minister's budget speech of May 10th, 1864. The tax was described as a relatively painless duty with a potential for raising increased revenue in the future.[1]

The bill imposing the new stamp duties was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on June 8th, 1864. The final Act imposed the tax as of August 1st. Passage of the Act occurred on June 24th, with approval by the Legislative Council and royal assent granted on June 27th and 30th, respectively.[2] This left one month to prepare and distribute stamps against an August 1st deadline.

Around or shortly after the end of June, it appears that inquiries were made with one George Matthews (a commercial engraver, printer, and lithographer based in Montreal) regarding the production of the requisite stamps. The exact nature or content of these discussions is not known but it is hypothesized that:

1. The government, as would be expected, requested high quality, recess printed stamps to be available by August 1st. These would have been the sort of quality found in the postage stamps which had been current in Canada since 1851.

2. Matthews replied that such a deadline could not be met and suggested the use of a simple lithographed set of stamps until the recess printed version could be prepared.

The basis for these hypotheses and the concept that the First Issue was solely a provisional is a series of letters from the government to George Matthews, internal government memos and a number of Orders in Council. These will show that the First and Second Issues were in fact in simultaneous planning, before the issuance of any of the stamps, and will strongly suggest that the sole reason for the First Issue was that only a set of lithographed stamps could be prepared in time for the August 1st implementation of the Act.

The first of these documents indicates that the Second Issue of bill stamps was ordered by the government on July 19th, 1864:

G. Matthews, Esq., Engraver, Montreal

Sir,

I am instructed by the Minister of Finance to request that you will at once put in hand a set of steel plates for Bill stamps of the denominations which you have already prepared by lithography. The only alterations will be these

- (1) The several denominations of dollars will be in two colours.*
- (2) The figures of the number of cents in the two upper corners will be upright & not slanting; 3 cents 3.*
- (3) The colour when the steel plates are used to be violet, & for the dollars a foundation of violet with any second colour which you may think suitable.*

I will send you the pattern of the Law Stamp in a few days.

The Minister of Finance also [directed] me to state that I must be distinctly understood that our contract for this stamp, both those formerly ordered & the present one, is with yourself, whom alone we recognize in this transaction.

J.M. Langton[3]

This clearly shows that the Second Bill Issue was in fact ordered before the use of any bill stamps began on August 1st.

The First Bill Issue was probably ordered, but not finalized, prior to July 15th. This is evidenced by details from an Order in Council of that date:

The stamps for Promissory Notes & Bills of Exchange shall bear as a device a head of the Queen surrounded by a ribbon with the words "Bill Stamp Canada", & they shall be of a pale blue colour.

The denominations shall be in words below the head & in figures in the two upper corners. The figures for the cents shall be in Arabic & those for the dollars in Roman numerals.

The stamps for the several denominations of dollars shall be a size larger than those for the several denominations of cents.

The denominations shall be 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40 & 50 cents, and 1, 2 & 3 dollars.[4]

The replacement of the Roman numerals in the issued dollar value stamps indicates that the final approval of the design possibly occurred only sometime after the 15th. The July 19th letter quoted above speaks of the First Issue stamps as "*already prepared*," but in view of this July 15th Order it seems likely that it was perhaps a basic model that was approved by the 19th.

Further indication of a July date for the arrangements regarding the first bill issue is a July 14th notice sent to banks. This letter informed the banks of the impending availability of the stamps and gave details of the licensing and requisitioning requirements. The notice also stated:

The denominations will be 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 cents and 1, 2, 3 dollars. It is possible that all the denominations may not be ready before the 1st of August, but those which have not been received will be ready for distribution within a few days after that date.[5]

The suggested timing of the arrangements regarding the First Issue would have left only a very short time for the preparation of the necessary quantities of stamps, even by lithography. Evidence of the haste with which the stamps were produced is given by the a comment made by the Deputy Receiver General in a September 19th, 1864, letter to Matthews:

Some of the sheets have fallen into pieces, and many have adhered so closely that it is not possible to separate them & so they are not available for issue, but this may be imparted to the hurray [sic] & the gum being damp on despatch.[6]

The short time allowed to the printer would also account for the numerous design varieties found in this issue. One highly significant and hitherto unreported variety was described in an August 20th, 1864, letter:

George Matthews Esq., Engraver, Montreal.

Sir,

I take advantage of your presence here to hand you a spoiled sheet of 1000[sic] Ten Cent Stamps (cancelled) for which I require a correct sheet. I also call your attention to the mistake in the 40 cents sheet -- 4th Row -- 5th Stamp is 30 cents. I telegraphed to you on the 5th Inst. to make the necessary correction. Have the goodness to give the stamps an overlooking before mailing, for they require much careful attention, and the Government holds you solely and personally responsible, and will look to you for security. Our printers continue to forward parcels, and the Stamps appear all right as far as examined, except that once or twice they have adhered to the outside cover, and have been separated with difficulty.

T.D. Harington[7]

The first shipment of the First Issue was received by the government on the 25th of July. However, as indicated by the following correspondence of that date from the Office of the Auditor General, not all of the denominations were received:

The Hon. Receiver General

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a box or parcel received by mail and stated to contain the following Bill stamps:

500 sheets of 1 cent

1000 " 3 "

1000 " 6 "

1000 " 9 "

400 " 10 "

400 " 20 "

They should have been forwarded direct to you & I have given instructions that for the future this will always be true. The Order in Council makes you the custodian of the Stamps which you will deliver upon requisitions [illegible word] Board of Customs, Excise & Stamps.

[Signature not legible][8]

G. Matthews, Montreal

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of the box and parcel containing stamps which you informed me in your letter of the 22nd inst. would be forwarded to me. For the future I wish you to forward all such parcels direct to the Hon. Sir Etienne Tache, Receiver General.

To him be prepared to send a [illegible word] of the law stamps required upon receiving [illegible word] to my note suggesting a [illegible word] of distinguishing them.

J.M. Langton[9]

As alluded to in the first of the July 25th letters, the Receiver General had been designated in the July 15th regulations as the official custodian of the stamps.[4] Shipments from this office to the official vendors of the stamps began on the 27th. By that time the 30 and 40 cent stamps had apparently been received, as these values (along with the 1, 3, 6, 9, 10 and 20) were included in the first shipments to vendors.[10] The letter accompanying one of the first such shipments was numbered 368 in the official letterbook and read as follows:

W. Woods, Manager, Bank B.N. America, Quebec,

Sir,

I beg to send you herewith "Bill Stamps" for the undermentioned branches of your Bank on account of requisitions received by the Board of Customs, Excise & Stamps. The supply from the engraver not answering the demand precludes our being able to complete all requisitions; this however will be done as soon as the Dept. is fully supplied.

Geo. C. Reiffenstein[11]

The proof that these were indeed the first shipments is provided by letter 366 in the same letterbook. This item, addressed to the Auditor General and dated the 26th, read:

John Langton,

Dear Sir,

I am receipt of a letter since yesterday and a deposit this morning from Bank Toronto, advising a requisition for stamps being sent to the Board of Customs & Excise [and] requesting this Office to forward the stamps for circulation immediately. There is certainly no time to spare and I have no requisition yet from the Board for any stamps at all for any body.

Geo.C. Reiffenstein
Chief Debre Clerk
Receiver General's Office[12]

This requisition from the "*Board of Customs, Excise and Stamps*" was required before any stamps were to be shipped by the Receiver General's Office. The regulations stated:

The stamps as received from the manufacturer shall be in the custody of the Receiver General who shall give them out as they may be wanted upon requisitions from the Board of Customs, Excise & Stamps, and shall keep a record of the number of the stamps so deposited with & given out by him.[4]

Later correspondence indicates that the other denominations of the First Issue were first shipped by the Receiver General's office on the following dates[10]:

50¢, \$1, \$2, \$3	August 1st
2¢	August 8th
7¢, 8¢	August 15th
4¢, 5¢	August 29th

Details of the exact dates on which the denominations were shipped to the various vendors are given in an Appendix to be published in the Canadian Revenue Newsletter. In each instance the actual dates on which the stamps first became available to the public in each location could have varied from the shipment date itself to a few days thereafter. The availability dates would have depended on the distance from the government seat at Quebec City, the means by which the stamps were shipped and the time taken for redistribution to branch offices by the central office that received the stamps.

The final, confirming evidence for the provisional nature of the First Issue of the bill stamps is provided by their recall when the second issue became available in December of 1864. This was initiated at a December 7th meeting and formally sanctioned by a December 12th Order in Council:

On a memorandum from the Board of Customs, Excise and Stamps, dated 10th instant, submitting the following Resolution adopted at their meeting of 7th December, and concurred in by the Hon. the Minister of Finance:

The Steel Plates of Bill Stamps intended to replace the lithographic ones at present in use, being now ready, and the supply of one of the denominations of the old Stamps being already exhausted, the Board recommend that the new Stamps be approved of by his Excellency in Council, and issued, and that all the old Stamps in the hands of distributors on the 31st December next be called in and destroyed.

The Committee advise that the new Stamps alluded to be approved and issued, and the old stamps called in as recommended.[13]

It now seems a clear and unavoidable conclusion that the First Bill Issue was nothing more than a stop gap or provisional issue. This explains why the Canadian government, having used high quality recess printed postage stamps since 1851, would use as its first bill stamps an issue so visibly crude in appearance and so frequently flawed in its production.

One thing that has probably helped to hide the provisional nature of the First Issue is that it appears to have remained in use well beyond the 31st of December. Compounding this is the appearance that the Second Issue did not come into use until well into 1865. The Order just quoted sheds additional light on this. Of great significance in this Order is the use of the word "*distributors.*" This term had a very specific meaning with respect to those who sold bill stamps on behalf of the government. Regulations did not permit the government to sell stamps directly to the public and classified those who did into two groups:

- "*Distributors,*"
- "*Persons purchasing to sell again.*"[4]

With respect to the first of these groups the regulations specified:

The Postmasters, or such of them as may be appointed by the Minister of Finance shall be distributors of stamps, and the Postmasters shall be furnished with stamps & shall account for the stamps furnished to them through the Post Office Department. They shall be required to render an account monthly & to deposit monthly or oftener the amount received less their commission of five percent, and the Post Office Department shall keep an account with each distributor of the denominations & amounts transmitted to him, & shall render an account monthly to the Auditor of Public Accounts & shall deposit the receipts to the credit of the Receiver General.[4]

With respect to persons who resold stamps bought by themselves the regulations specified:

Whenever the Minister of Finance shall have authorized any person to buy stamps at a discount in order to sell again, the Board shall issue a requisition to the Receiver General for the number of stamps required in favor of the person authorized, and the Receiver General shall deliver them to such person or his authorized agent upon a deposit being made of the value of the stamps less the 5 per cent discount.[4]

The stamps held by the latter group were not recalled. This would have included the stocks held by banks as noted by letter 366 quoted earlier and the July 14th notice sent to the banks. As these institutions would have logically used

or sold the largest volume of stamps then it may have been sometime after December of 1864 before the Second Issue was in widespread use.

PART 2: Evidence as to the Printer of the First Issue.

The printer of the First Issue of bill stamps was Burland, Lafricain and Company of Montreal. This newly formed firm consisted of former employees of Matthews and was in fact the direct successor to Matthews' own printing and lithographing firm.

Burland, Lafricain's role as the printer of the First Issue was something of a surprise to the government as noted in a September 19th letter to Matthews:

George Matthews Esq., Montreal.

Sir,

Having communicated with Mr Langton the account sent in by you for printing and also as to the quantity of Stamps ordered, it agrees with the Minute Book of the Board of Excise etc. but, after very careful counting of the number sold and on hand in this Department, I find that the Two and Three cents must have been as I marked in red ink. I am obliged, however, to return the account, which is made out in the name of Burland Lafricain & Co. but even if this was right, your Certificate is not affixed as to the correctness of the charge.

The Government does not know that Firm, but having ordered from, and look for the execution and supply of the stamps to you alone, you are held solely and entirely responsible, and the account must be rendered in your name, and to you payment will be made. The absolute security, required in a matter of so much importance as this, cannot be overlooked, which is the more imperative as there is no signature and the Stamps are simply lithographed pieces of paper & therefore the Government employs one agent, as a matter of safety, and you are that agent, to see to the work. The printing is well done, but the mistake in the 40 Cent plate has given some trouble...

T.D. Harington, Deputy R.G.[6]

The second paragraph of the above letter and, in particular, the last paragraph of the July 19th letter to Matthews (quoted earlier) indicates that he had been contracted by the government as their sole agent with respect to the production and supply of both the First and Second Issues of bill stamps. By extension it then appears that Matthews then subcontracted or otherwise redistributed the work to Burland, Lafricain and American Bank Note.

Matthews' holding of the contract is also reflected in the payments made for the bill and law stamps as recorded in a government ledger held by the National Archives in Ottawa:

- Oct 13/64 *Matthews, George -- Engraver etc., Montreal. In payment of his acct for lithographing & printing bill stamps for the Excise & Customs etc.* 2,512.11
- Oct 14/64 *Matthews, George -- Engraver etc., Montreal. In payment of his acct for Lithographing, Engraving, & Gumming &c. Stamps for the Customs Branch of the Finance Department to 13th Oct., 1864.* 146.40 [14]
- (Note: This entry covers a second, August 8th, order to Matthews for additional supplies of the 1 through 20 cent values of the First Bill Issue.[15])
- Nov 21/64 *Matthews, George Engraver, Montreal. In payment of his acct to 16th Nov. Inst. for Engraving & Printing Law Stamps as per 27 & 28 Vic: cap.5.* 6,775.50
- Nov 22/64 *Matthews, George Engraver, Montreal. To cover his acct to 18th Nov 1864 for Engraving Steel Plates for Bill Stamps as ordered & authorized by 27 & 28 Vic: cap.4.* 5,550.00 [14]

The above figures correspond with the following from the Public Accounts for 1864/65:

Geo. Matthews.	For lithographing and printing Bill Stamps.	8,208.51
"	For engraving and printing Law Stamps.	6,775.50 [16]

Note that the \$8,208.51 entry in the Accounts includes the \$5,500 paid for the recess printed Second Issue although the former mentions only the printing and lithographing of bill stamps.

With respect to Burland, Lafricain, it appears that their position as a "sub-contractor" to Matthews had just recently emerged. Prior to 1864, George Burland was an employee of Matthews. Burland testified to this in an 1899 court case when he himself stated that he "*was in the employ of George Matthews.*"[17]

Burland's employment with Matthews ended in February of 1864 with the sale of Matthews' establishment to the newly formed firm of Burland, Lafricain & Co. A notice of this event appeared in the February 27th issue of the Montreal Gazette:

NOTICE.— *GEORGE MATTHEWS, Engraver, Lithographer, and Copper-Plate Printer, hereby informs the Public that he has disposed of his Business to Messrs. BURLAND, LAFRICAINE & Co., who have been connected with his Establishment for a great many years, and whom he most respectfully recommends as his Successors, believing them in every way worthy of confidence, both as men of strict integrity, and*

as workmen of the highest order.

Montreal, February 27, 1864

NOTICE OF CO-PARTNERSHIP.— Notice is hereby given that the undersigned have entered into a Co-Partnership as ENGRAVERS, LITHOGRAPHERS, and COPPER-PLATE PRINTERS, under the name and style of BURLAND, LAFRICAÏN & CO., and will carry on their Business, in all its branches, at the Old Stand, No.66 St. Francois Xavier Street (opposite the Post Office), formerly occupied by G. MATTHEWS, Esq.

GEORGE B. BURLAND

GEORGE LAFRICAÏN

NATHANIEL BARBER

Montreal, Feb. 27, 1864.[18]

It also appears that the Canadian and British North American patents on the "Canada Bank Note Printing Tint" were included in this sale. Matthews had been issued this patent on April 1st, 1857.[19] However, the text of BABN's August 7th, 1866, tender to the government indicates that Burland, Lafricain had, by that time, acquired the rights to the tint:

To that end [we] propose to use on Debentures and other work of a like kind, as also for cancelling Postage and others stamps, the patent colours, for the use of which in Canada and the other British North American Provinces, Messrs. Burland, L'Africain [sic] & Co. have the exclusive right reserved by Letters Patent, this being the only absolute protection against counterfeiting and altering Notes, Postage Stamps, Debentures and other Documents.[20]

The sale of his firm to Burland, Lafricain may have also precipitated a change in Matthews' situation with respect to ABN. Prior to the sale, his association with this company with regards to government work appears to have been more in the nature of a commercial agent. After the sale, Matthews subcontracted government work to ABN. Matthews pre-sale position as an agent probably also extended to private sector work. It is not known if post-sale subcontracting also occurred with the private work.

Matthews' affiliation with American steel engravers may have begun in 1852 or 1853 as the Montreal directory for 1853 contains the following entries:

ENGRAVERS AND LITHOGRAPHERS

Matthews [sic], George, 6 St. Francois Xavier.

*Toppan, Casilear, Carpenter & Co., bank note engravers,
6 St. Francois Xavier.*[21]

The latter is described in Boggs as an American firm based in Philadelphia and New York City.[22]

George Matthews had established his firm in 1840. The Montreal Directory for 1842/43 gave his address as "10 St. Francois Xavier", this became 11 in the 1843/44 directory. From 1844 through 1846 his address was listed as "12 St. Francois Xavier" and from 1847 through 1852 a "19 Great St. James" address was given. Prior to 1853, entries for Matthews in the Montreal directories do not make any mention of an affiliated American firm. However, the Canada Directory for 1851 lists engraving on steel as one of Matthews' capabilities. This may be an indication of a pre-1852 connection with an American firm. In the 1854 Montreal directory the street number for both Matthews and his American affiliate becomes 66 and in 1856-57 the American firm is entitled Carpenter, Casilear & Co.[23]

Beginning with its 1857-58 edition the Montreal Directory no longer lists Matthews' affiliation. However, the Canada Directory for that same year contained a full-page advertisement which indicated that Matthews was now affiliated with the New York steel engraving firm of Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson (RWH&E). With the exception of this advertisement, RWH&E does not appear in the directory. Instead, Matthews' entry appears under two separate headings, namely: "Bank Note Engraver" and "Engravers and Copperplate Printers." [24]

A document presented by Boggs on pages 101 through 107 of his 1945 work, "The Postal Stamps and Postal History of Canada", indicates that when RWH&E became part of ABN on May 1st, 1858, Matthews was given the option of joining the new company. Apparently, Matthews did not join ABN and remained merely its Canadian agent. This is indicated by a September 1st, 1858, document which Boggs paraphrases on page 107:

George Mathews [sic] in charge of the Montreal Branch agreed to a modification of his contract permitting the Company 'to meet any competition which may arise' — 'particularly in Canada West provided his rights as Patentee of the Green Tint are respected.'

Evidence of Matthews' status as ABN's agent is given by correspondence and the payment made in respect of the 1862 printing of Province of Canada treasury notes (a type of debenture). As with the 1864 bill and law stamps these notes were ordered through Matthews in October of 1862 and delivered to the Government by Matthews at the end of November.[25] However, unlike the bill and law stamps, the payment for the treasury notes appears to have been made out in the name of ABN rather than to Matthews:

Quebec, 12 January 1863

George Matthews, Engraver, Montreal

Sir, I am directed by the Receiver General to enclose you a cheque for \$1435.38/100, being in payment of the account of the American Bk. Note Company for printing the Provincial [Treasury] Notes for which please to send receipt.

T.D. Harington[26]

This is corroborated by the Public Accounts for 1863 which gave:

Receiver General.

To enable him to pay the American Bank Note Company for plates and printing Provincial Debentures. 1,435.38 [27]

In November of 1863, this pattern was once again repeated with the government ordering provincial debentures through Matthews. The plates for these debentures were produced by simply modifying those used for the 1862 treasury notes.[28]

Given the insistence displayed by officials with respect to the bill and law stamp payments to be made to Matthews in 1864, the phrasing of the 1863 payment would imply that American Bank Note held the printing contract for the treasury notes directly from the Canadian government. An analogous situation occurred in 1864 where, at the same time as the government insisted quite strongly that Matthews be the sole recipient of the monies due for the bill and law stamps, American Bank Note continued to be paid directly for the production of postage stamps. The relevant entries in the Postmaster General's Report for 1864/65 and 1865/66, respectively, were:

American Bank Note.

Manufacturing letter and newspaper stamps for the P.O.D. 2,743.78

American Bank Note Co. Postage Stamps. 2,630.11 [29]

By extension, these entries imply that American Bank Note continued to hold the postage stamp contract whereas the new law and bill stamps had been contracted out to Matthews.

Matthews position as intermediary between the government and ABN began in late 1859 or early 1860 following the removal of the government to Quebec from Toronto. A search of the letterbooks held by the National Archives indicates that up until late 1859 the Receiver General's Office dealt directly with ABN, or its predecessor RWH&E. The latest of these letters were dated October 3rd and 19th of that year.[30]

In keeping with these communications, payments for the work were made directly to ABN rather than through Matthews, as had been done for the 1862 treasury notes.[31]

Subsequent to the October 1859 letters, the responsibility for the arrangements regarding the Receiver General's work was transferred to Matthews. The earliest discovered indication of this is given by a June 13th, 1860, letter in which the Deputy Receiver General ordered the printing of "*a further supply of the new bonds*" to be taken to London, England by the Finance Minister.[32]

Matthews' role as intermediary appears to have been limited to work of the Finance Department and did not extend to that of the Post Office. The latter continued to deal directly with ABN in New York. This is evident from numerous letters from the Post Office Department, examples of which include:

21 November 1863

W.R. Bliss, Secry, ABN

I am directed by the PMG to request that you will be so good as to prepare and forward to this Dept. a further supply of Postage Stamps of the following denominations, viz.

<i>Five hundred thousand</i>	<i>One cent stamps</i>
<i>One million</i>	<i>Five " "</i>
<i>Two hundred thousand</i>	<i>Ten " "</i>
<i>Two hundred thousand</i>	<i>Twelve & a half cents "</i>

Wm. White[33]

16 February 1864

W.R. Bliss

I am directed to enclose herewith Dft. No.149 on the Bank of Commerce N.Y. for \$479.50 in payment of your accounts for postage stamps. Please be so good as to acknowledge receipt.

Wm. White[34]

Despite the sale of his firm to Burland, Lafricain, Matthews appears to have continued as ABN's Canadian agent. This status continued through 1864 and possibly sometime into 1865. The Montreal directory for 1864-65 (current as of July 1st, 1864) continued to list Matthews as a "*Bank Note Engraver*" whereas Burland, Lafricain had replaced him in the "*engraver*" category.[35] All references to bank note engravers of any description were eliminated in the 1865-

66 Montreal directory (June 21st, 1865) and Matthews appeared merely as a resident of the city.[36] However, the 1865-66 Canada Classified Directory contained the following:

Agents, American Bank Note Company:

Burland, Lafricain & Co. 117 St. Francois Xavier.[37]

A comparison of the 1864-65 and 1865-66 Montreal directories indicates that this "new" address was merely a result of the renumbering of St Francois Xavier Street.

The transfer of the ABN agency from Matthews to Burland, Lafricain did not apparently include the transfer of the revenue stamp contracts. Instead, the government now dealt directly with ABN in New York, as it was already doing so with respect to its supply of postage stamps. The earliest indication of this is given by a March 1st, 1865, letter from the Auditor General:

Secretary, American Bank Note Co., New York

Sir, I have the honor to request that you will strike off & forward to the Receiver General Bill stamps of the following denominations.

<i>1 cent</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>2,000 sheets of 100</i>	
<i>2 "</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>1,500</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>3 "</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>3,000</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>4 "</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>1,500</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>5 "</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>1,500</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>6 "</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>3,000</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>7 "</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>1,500</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>8 "</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>1,500</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>9 "</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>2,500</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>10 "</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>1,500</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>20 "</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>1,500</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>30 "</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>40 "</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>500</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>50 "</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>500</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>\$1 "</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>\$2 "</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>\$3 "</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>"</i>

Also Law stamps of the following denominations....

I have also to request that you will prepare a plate of 70 cents & one of 90 cents and strike off 200 sheets of each and of all the four descriptions of lettering. We are

not particularly pressed for any of these excepting for Bill stamps of 1 & 6 cents of which the supply is running low. It would be well to strike these off first & to complete the order for Bill stamps before you begin sending any Law stamps.

John Langton[38]

Burland, Lafrcain's status as agent for ABN ended with their 1866 involvement in the formation of BABN.[39] Details regarding the formation of this Canadian steel engraving company will be presented in a future paper.

PART 3: The Piecemeal Nature of Pre-1868 Government Security Printing Contracts.

The implication of the events described previously is that no all-inclusive contract existed between American Bank Note and the Canadian government. Rather, it seems that separate, distinct contracts or agreements were drawn up for individual items or groups of items as the need for them arose. The first motions for the signing of an all-inclusive security printing contract with a Canadian printer were made in 1866. However, as will be discussed in a subsequent paper, such a contract did not materialize until 1868.

In the year 1866/67 both ABN and BABN did security printing for the Canadian government. The most unusual of the items produced in this year were the provincial currency notes, as authorized by 29-30 Victoria, 1866, chapter 10 (Figure 3). In anticipation of this Act, arrangements were made with ABN in New York for the preparation of the required steel dies and plates.[40] However, following an August 17th acceptance by BABN of a government proposition for the terms of a contract, John Langton, the Auditor General travelled to New York to arrange for the final preparation of the plates and their transfer to Canada.[41] The terms of the agreement between ABN and the government regarding this transfer specified that:

—"The plates will always be in the custody of an officer of [the] Government,"

and that,

—"No use shall be made of the plates excepting to take off impressions, and that any additional copies of the plates which may be required for this issue beyond those now to be furnished, shall be furnished by the American Bank Note Company."

and finally,

—"That all plates heretofore engraved by this Company for the use of the Government of Canada, are to remain in the possession of this Company, and all work required

from the same is to be executed by this Company, until the proposed Confederation of the Provinces shall take place, at which time all of said plates are to be cancelled.[40]

This last point of the agreement clearly relates to plates of all types, including postage and other stamps. However, this provision was obviously not fully acted upon as the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario continued to use the Province of Canada law stamps until 1869/71.

The plates for the new provincial currency were shipped to the Receiver General's Office and not to BABN. Acknowledgements of the receipt of a total of thirty-four plates were sent by the Deputy Receiver General on September 11th, October 12th, 19th and 27th, 1866.[42]

These currency notes were probably the first printing done by BABN on behalf of the Canadian provincial government. The government was in such a dire need of the notes that it authorized its distributor, the Bank of Montreal, to overprint newly printed supplies of their own bank notes as provisional provincial notes.[43] The issuance of these provisional notes was authorized by Order in Council to commence on September 15th, 1866.[44] However, a government "*Issue Account*" statement lists the first weekly return of "*Notes Issued by the Bank During the Week*" as occurring on October 10th, 1866. This last item would imply that the provisionals may not have been issued until October.[45]

The first regular provincial notes, as printed by BABN, were shipped to the Bank of Montreal by the Receiver General's Office on October 30th, 1866.[46] While the ABN plates were used by BABN for the \$1 through \$20 notes, the Canadian company engraved its own tint plates for these denominations and complete plates for the \$50, \$100 and \$500 notes.[47] More details regarding these currency notes can be found in **The Charlton Standard Catalogue of Canadian Government Paper Money.**

At about the same time as BABN was printing the currency notes it also produced a new issue of debentures. This is noted in the **Public Accounts** for 1866/67.[51] These debentures were intended to be issued on September 10th, 1866, but, as in the case of the currency notes, they were delayed. This situation is evidenced by the August 10th, 1866, advertisement of the sale of these debentures. This advertisement noted that: "*Deposit receipts will be given by the Receiver General, countersigned by the Minister of Finance, to be held by the purchasers until the debentures are ready for delivery...*"[48]

With respect to the Lower Canada Registration stamps no printer is specified in the **Public Accounts**. However, this appears to have been an omission made in the transfer to the Accounts from the original ledgers as one of these ledgers contained the January 4th, 1867, entry:

The British American Bank Note Co.

Being on acct for Printing & Engraving Stamps, Notes & Debentures. \$20,000.00 [49]

The reference to stamps could only be to the registration stamps as the BABN versions of Canada's bill and postage stamps were not produced until 1867/68. In the Public Accounts the ledger entry is merged with several others into two entries for notes and debentures respectively, without any mention of stamps.[50]

BABN's production of these stamps is confirmed by the imprint piece illustrated in Figure 4. Provision for the production of stamps (of unspecified form or purpose) was included in the October 22nd regulations governing the supervision of BABN's work.[51] Use of the registration stamps were prescribed by a November 3rd, 1866, Order in Council. This Order stated that these stamps:

.....will be ready for distribution and sale before the close of the present year, His Excellency in Council was pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered that on, from and after the first day of January next, the duties imposed by the above Order in Council of the 17th August last shall in all the Registration Counties or Registration Divisions of Lower Canada be paid in stamps only.[52]

At the same time as the currency notes, debentures and registration stamps were being produced by BABN, the American Bank Note Company continued to produce Canada's postage, bill, and law stamps, with the exception, of course, of the first or provisional bill stamps. The Report of the Postmaster General for 1866/67 noted:

American Bank Note Co.

Engraving postage stamps for P.O. Department. 1,699.03 [53]

The Public Accounts for 1866/67 and 1867/68, respectively, noted:

Hon. Sir N.F. Beileau.

To enable him to pay the American Bank Note Company, for bill stamps furnished. 467.00

Hon. Receiver General.

To enable him to pay the American Bank Note Company for Law and Bill Stamps furnished. 622.22 [54]

Correspondence gleaned from letterbooks held by the National Archives indicate that between October 1866 and December 1867 a total of four shipments, each comprising both bill and law stamps, were made by ABN. In each instance the payment by the government was sent directly to ABN in New York.[55]

It is obvious from the foregoing discussion that the Canadian government did not have a single, all-encompassing security printing contract with a steel engraving company prior to its 1868 contract with BABN. Rather, work was assigned on a piecemeal basis to satisfy needs as they arose. This is summarized

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Table 1:

Summary of Some of the Major Pre-1868 Holders of Canadian Government Security Printing Contracts

Debentures and Treasury Notes	? ----> 1859 RWH&E/ABN	1860 ----> 1863 ABN (Matthews as Agent)	1866 ----> BABN
Provincial Currency			1866 ----> ABN (Plates) BABN (Plates & Printing)
Postage Stamps	1851 ----> 1858 RWH&E	1858 -----> 1868 ABN	
Law Stamps		1864 George Matthews (Subcontracted to ABN)	1865 ----> ABN
First Issue Bill Stamps		1864 George Matthews (Subcontracted to BurLaf)	
Second Issue Bill Stamps		1864 George Matthews (Subcontracted to ABN)	1865 ----> 1867 ABN
Lower Canada Registration Stamps			1866 ----> BABN

**Examples of the First Issue of Bill Stamps
(courtesy of W. C. Walton).**

Figure 1

Figure 2



**Figure 3: Die proof of the two dollar provincial currency note, issued 1866.
Note the BABN imprint at left and the ABN imprint at bottom centre
(courtesy of W. D. Allan).**



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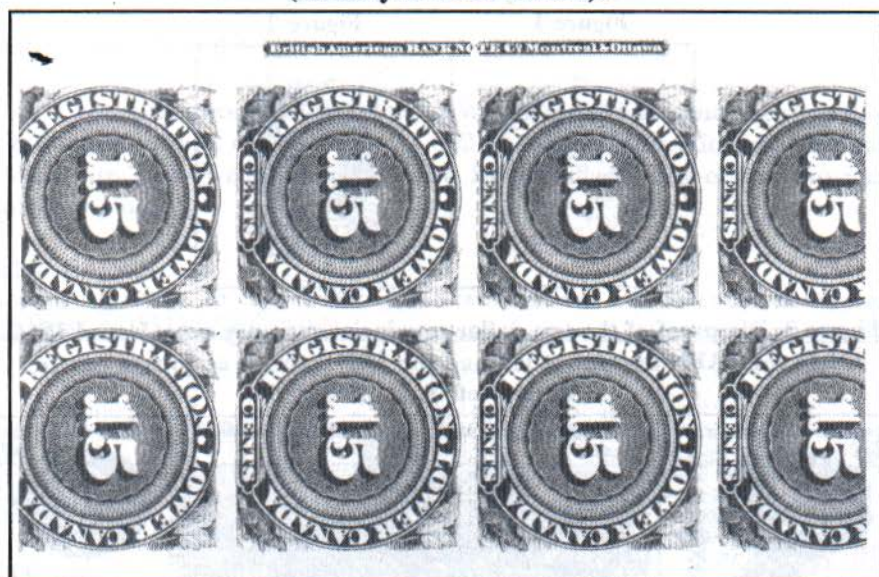
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- Since 1962 -

GREENWOOD STAMP COMPANY

216 Mailey Drive, Carleton Place, Ontario K7C 3X9

Figure 4: Imprint block of the fifteen cent Lower Canada Registration stamp (courtesy of W. C. Walton).



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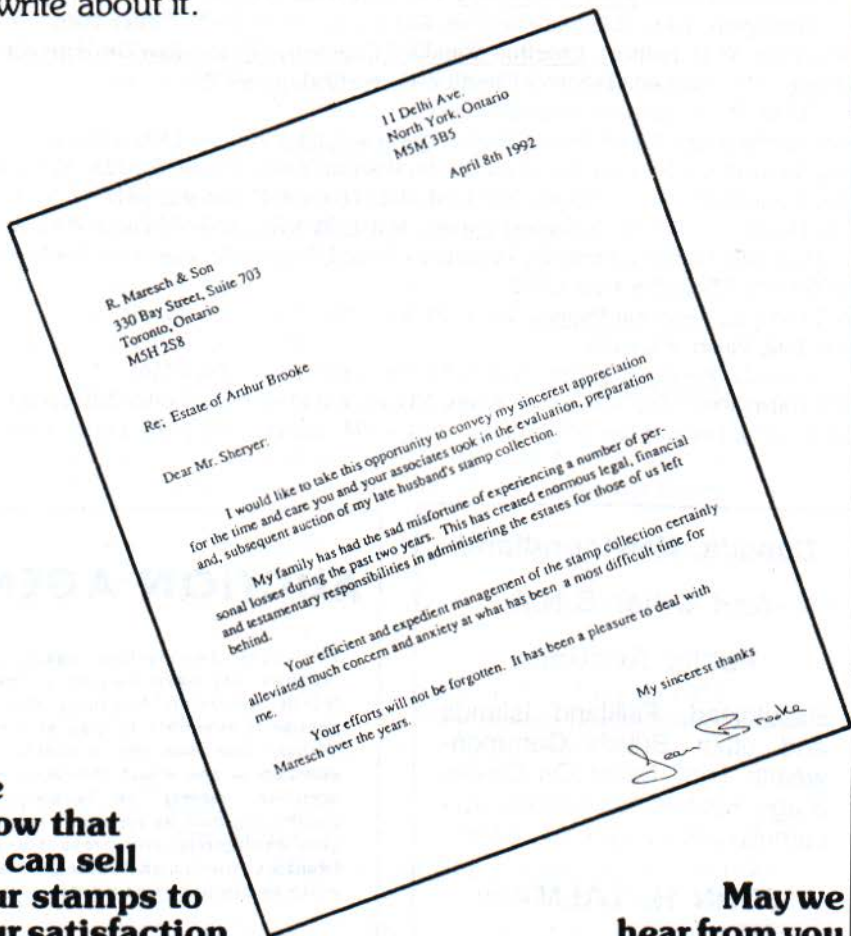
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Postal Usage during Canada's Decimal Period

Part 7 - Letters to the U.K. - Registered

George B. Arfken and Arthur W. Leggett

Registration - 8¢. The 12¢ registry fee ended in January 1866. Post Office Department Order No. 66 [1, 26-B], January 12, 1866, announced that the registry fee on letters to the U.K. would be reduced to 8¢ effective February 1, 1866. (The Order actually described the reduction as "from six pence to four pence sterling, equal to eight cents.") The Department Order also stated "*No Letter can be received for Registration unless both Postage and Registration fee are fully prepaid.*" (Italics in original.) The Decimal era continued only 26 months after the introduction of this 8¢ registry fee, a relatively short time interval. Decimal covers to the U.K. paying this 8¢ registration rate are rare.

The new 8¢ registration rate is illustrated in Figure 1 with a registered cover addressed to Dublin, Ireland. The cover was posted in Port Rowan, NO 26 1866. Endorsed "By Canadian Line," the 12½¢ Canadian packet postage was paid with a 12½¢ Decimal. The 8¢ registry fee was paid with 1¢, 2¢ and 5¢ Decimals. The Firby Recording [2] lists only six single rate Canadian packet covers paying the 8¢ registry fee with stamps and a seventh cover paying the 8¢ registry fee in cash. This seventh cover was illustrated by Whitworth [3].

The new, reduced registry fee also applied to covers going to the U.K. by Cunard packet. Figure 2 shows a registered cover from Montreal, OC 29 66, addressed to Edinburgh, Scotland. The double Cunard rate (for not over 1 oz.) was paid with two 17¢ Decimals. The 8¢ registry fee was paid with a 5¢ and three 1¢ Decimals. The cover was carried on the Cunard "Scotia" from New York.

This cover received three straight line REGISTEREDs, stamped in Canada. There is also a curved REGISTERED and a crown, stamped in red in Scotland. The Firby Recording [2] lists only two Cunard rate Decimal covers registered at the 8¢ rate. The cover shown in Figure 2 is the only cover with the 17¢ rate postage fully paid and the only 17¢ rate cover with the registry fee paid by stamps. This 8¢ registration rate for covers to the U.K. continued through 1877. On January 1, 1878, the rate was reduced to 5¢.

A New Weight Scale. Department Order No. 66 also announced that the weight scale had been changed, effective eleven days earlier! Instead of requiring that letters to the U.K. be paid for not over ½ oz., 1 oz., 2 oz., 3 oz. etc., letters were permitted to be paid one rate per half ounce, including 1½ oz., 2½ oz. etc. Previously a letter just over 1 oz. was required to pay four times the ½ oz. rate postage (not over 2 oz.). As of January 1, 1866, that same letter would be charged triple rate (not over 1½ oz.)

In 1963, C.M. Jephcott illustrated an 1862 registered cover to England franked with four 12½¢ Decimals [4]. There are two interpretations of this cover. (1) The four stamps paid a 4-fold rate, not over 2 oz. The 12½¢ registry fee was paid in cash. However, there is no marking on the cover to show that cash was paid. (2) One stamp paid the registration. The remaining three stamps paid for over 1 oz., not over 1½ oz., contrary to regulations. For a cover over 1 oz., not over 2 oz., the required postage was 50¢ or four 12½¢ Decimals. Did the cover get by? There is a "9" in the upper left corner of Jephcott's cover. This might just be a notice of the amount due Canada, 9 pence, for the short payment.

Also, on his President's page [4], Jephcott shows a beautiful double rate 1868 cover to Ireland with the 8¢ registry fee paid with four 2¢ Decimals!

Mandatory Registration. With a circular dated Sept. 24, 1867, the Postmasters of Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, Kingston, Toronto and Hamilton were notified that letters to the U.K. containing coins must be registered [1, 31-C]. If not registered in Canada, such letters would be registered in the U.K. and charged double the registry fee. The effective date was Oct. 1, 1867. The authors do not know of any examples of this mandatory registration (in the U.K.) during the last few months of the Decimal Period. Several examples of Small Queen covers registered in England (and charged double rate) have been reported.

The authors are grateful to Horace W. Harrison for letting us use his rare covers to illustrate this 8¢ registry fee in the Decimal era. The two covers shown here are also illustrated in Canada's Registry System [5].

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[3] "The First Decimal Issue of Canada, 1859 to 1868," Part 2, Geoffrey Whitworth, Maple Leaves vol.20, pp. 303-308, October 1987.

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Figure 1. Posted in Port Rowan, NO 26 1866 and addressed to Dublin, Ireland. The cover was endorsed "By Canadian Line" and paid the proper 12½¢. The cover was registered and paid the 8¢ registry fee in stamps. Carried on the Allan "Hibernian" out of Portland, Me. (Courtesy of Horace W. Harrison.)



Figure 2. A registered double Cunard rate cover from Montreal, OC 29 66, addressed to Edinburgh, Scotland. The 8¢ registry fee was paid in stamps. Carried on the Cunard "Scotia" out of New York. (Courtesy of Horace W. Harrison.)



Part 8 - Soldier's Letters

George B. Arfken and Arthur W. Leggett

In 1795, a British Act of Parliament granted a special 1d letter rate to British soldiers and seamen [1]. The basic features of the British Act were:

1. postage of one penny prepaid and limitation of ½ oz. weight, on letters to or from soldiers and seamen,
2. certification by commanding officer on letters from soldiers or seamen,
3. commissioned officers NOT eligible for this rate.

Figure 1 shows a Soldier's Letter from R. Hunns, a Sergeant Major in the 30th Regiment. The cover, a mourning cover, was properly certified and franked with two 1¢ Decimals. The posting date is illegible but a London receiving backstamp of JULY 30 62 indicates that the cover was carried by the Allan "*Hibernian*." The "*Hibernian*" sailed from Quebec July 19 and arrived at Liverpool July 29. It should be noted that the 2¢ Soldier's Letter postage did not cover any U.S. transit fee. These Soldier's Letters went by Canadian packet.

Firby's Recording [2] shows 25 Soldier's Letters to the U.K. franked with two 1¢ Decimals and three letters franked with a 2¢ Decimal. In addition there was one registered Soldier's Letter. The 2¢ postage and 8¢ registration were paid with a 10¢ Prince Consort.

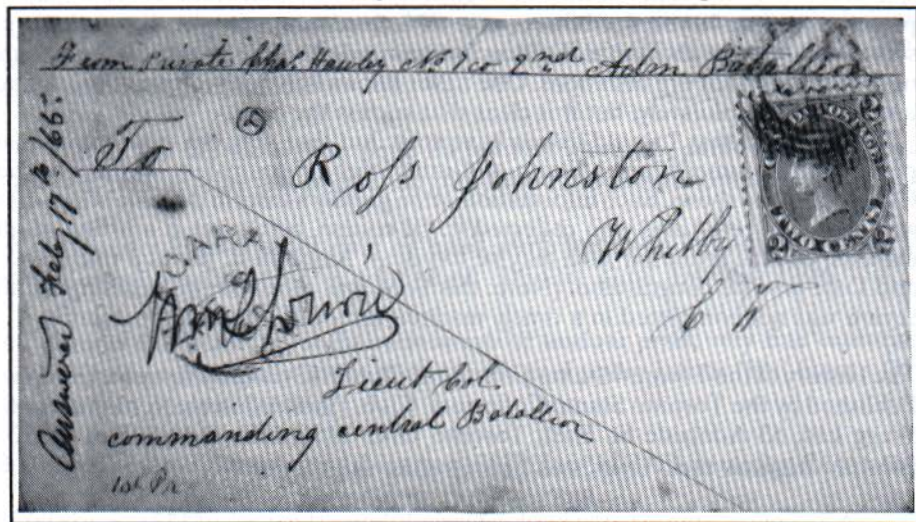
Canada's Department Circular No. 60, January 1, 1865 [3] extended the Soldier's Letter rate to "letters to and from volunteer militia employed on active service." The Circular was written to match the conditions set forth in British regulations for the British troops. There was one additional condition. For the volunteer militia, the 2¢ Soldier's Letter rate applied only to "letters addressed to, or sent by, them *within the Province of Canada*." (Italics in the original Circular.) A Soldier's Letter from Private Charles Hawley, No. 7 Company, 2nd Adm. Battalion is shown in Figure 2. Properly certified and franked with a 2¢ Decimal, the letter was posted in Niagara, C.W. on FE 9 65. There is a Whitby, C.W., FE 10 65 receiving backstamp.

The 2¢ Decimal shown here had been issued August 1, 1864. Referring to domestic Soldier's Letters, Firby had recorded four letters from a soldier franked with two 1¢ Decimals and 13 letters franked with a 2¢ Decimal. Soldier's Letters included letters to soldiers. Of these, Firby recorded four franked with two 1¢ Decimals and three franked with a 2¢ Decimal.

Figure 1. A Soldier's Letter posted in Toronto by Sergeant Major R. Hunns. The required 2¢ postage was paid with two 1¢ Decimals. The letter was carried by the Allan "Hibernian" out of Quebec July 19. London JULY 30 62 backstamp.



Figure 2. A Soldier's Letter posted in Niagara, C.W., FE 9 65 by Private Charles Hawley. The cover was properly certified and franked with a 2¢ Decimal. Whitby, C.W., FE 10 65 backstamp.



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BOOK REVIEWS

by Victor Willson

History of the Calgary Philatelic Society by Dale Speirs. Published by the Calgary Philatelic Society, 1992. CAN\$2 plus CAN\$2 postage from the Calgary Philatelic Society, Box 6830, Calgary, ALTA T2P 2E7. ISBN 0-9695986-0-2.

This work of 64 pages traces the Calgary Philatelic Society's history from 1922 to the date of publication, 1992. The quality of the paper is excellent and the illustrations and photos good to excellent. The basic text is chronological, with appendices of important dates, officers, awards, a biography of the founder, membership totals, and a summary of BNAPS affiliations of the CPS. The cover size is 7.5" by 5.5". The work is thoughtfully written and does well its job, to preserve the first 70 years activities of the CPS. Small monographs such as this one serve an important and useful function in organized philately, to archive the names of collectors and of organizations. One never knows how such information can be used to further philately, but it is clear that such is the case.

One aspect that I would like to have seen, but that may not even have been possible to document, was a listing of Grand Prize or equivalent winners at the CPS-sponsored shows. Such information often greatly assists in documenting what was being collected and who collected it. Of course, better yet is a listing of all exhibits, but the space for such may be too dear. Regardless, this is a fine effort, and Dale is to be congratulated. (Note: this book was received two years ago, and review was not completed in a timely manner; the editor regrets the delay.)

The History of the Toronto Stamp Collectors' Club 1892-1992 by Gray Scrimgeour. Published by the Toronto Stamp Collectors' Club, 1994. Available from George S. Wegg Ltd, 53 Adelaide St. East, Toronto ONT M5C 1K6. CAN\$25 or US\$20 (postpaid) softcover, CAN\$45 or US\$32 (postpaid) hardcover. ISBN 0-921641-02-8

A companion piece to the book reviewed above, this work of 153 pages in large 10.5" by 8.5" format must cover more history than the Calgary Philatelic Society's. A lovely multicolour cover makes a fine first impression. The paper is a good quality unsurfaced medium weight stock, upon which a desktop published
(continued on page 43)

The Half Cent Large Queen Watermark - How Many are there?

Wayne Smith

In the past several years, only a few copies of this elusive stamp have been offered on the market. In some of the auctions, the auctioneers has noted the quantity he felt represented the total known, always being 12 or less. This article will describe the 15 copies the author has recorded. The fact that 5 of the 15 are unused is quite unexpected. The ½¢ on watermark paper was likely printed and sold around the same time as the other Large Queens on watermark paper, yet unused copies represent less than 5% of the total recorded for each of the other values.

The history of when offered for sale for each stamp is given under its description. The dealer codes are:

D1 = J.N.Sissons, D2 = R.Maresch and Sons, D3 = H.R.Harmer, D4 = Steve Ivy, D5 = R.A.Siegal, D6 = F.E.Eaton, D7 = Saskatoon Stamps, D8 = Christie, D9 = Ron Leith, D10 = Art W. Leggett.

Unused

- 1) Letter 'C', very fine centered, little gum, one short perf on left side behind Queens head. D1-Nov 17/71 Firth collection, D1-Nov 1/73 Hussey collection, D2-Oct 23/86 Smith collection.
- 2) Almost full 'S', some short perfs on left side near top, perfs in on right and close on bottom, tiny pin point thin. D2-May 17/89 Siverts collection.
- 3) Letter not known, small stain on head, perfs just in on left and very close at top, a couple perfs at bottom a bit blunt. D3-Oct 27/68, D4-May 19/86.
- 4) Almost full letter 'B', slight surface rub or unclear print, very fine centering with right margin slightly larger than others, perf under letters 'EN' blunt. D2-Aug 27/80 Lussey collection.
- 5) Letter 'S', upper left corner added, small tear, perf close at right. D1-Feb 11/75 Green collection, D1-Oct 6/76, D2-Jan 27/88.

One other watermark copy was offered in a November 1983 private treaty sale. It was fine to very fine centering, a bit close on right. This stamp had been given

the wrong catalogue number on an expertation certificate and was really just an unused thin paper variety. I have been told the dealer tried to sell it as watermarked over a lengthy period but was unsuccessful.

Used

- 1) Letter 'MI' and part 'L', very fine centered, tiny tear, small thin and a short perf near center on both sides, smudgy cork cancel in both upper corners and area around Queens chin. D1-Nov 17/71 Firth collection, D2-Jan 27/88.
- 2) Large part 'LU', perfs well clear all around but larger margin on right than left, some short perfs on left side near bottom, duplex grid type cancel covering most of the Queens head and upper left part of stamp, cancel is nearly horizontal. D3-Mar 1/50 Reford collection, D5-Nov 27/67 Bingham Jr. collection, D2-Jul 77 private treaty.
- 3) Letter 'A', small tear, nicely centered with even margins all around, short perfs in top and bottom margins, a light thin bar duplex type cancel over center of stamp with part of a CDS. D9-Mar 16/90 (withdrawn - no note of tear), D6-May 25/90.
- 4) Letter 'H', perfs in at right, most perfs blunt on top, light crease, CDS cancel in lower left quarter of stamp with date and city unclear. D6-Dec 7/87.
- 5) Letter unknown, perfs just touch at left and are in at top, minor foxing, segmented cork cancel in upper right quarter of stamp. D3-Oct 27/83.
- 6) Almost full 'S', reperf at top, very light diagonal crease, couple blunt perfs at bottom, perfs in at right, duplex type grid cancel covers almost all of the stamp except lettering at bottom. D2-Jun 10/81, D7-fall 81 private treaty.
- 7) Rejoined pair - right stamp with 'C' and part 'L', small tear on wmk stamp, margins clear all around, besides being watermarked the paper is described as thick white blotting paper, the pair has two partial strikes of Montreal duplex cancel dated MY 2/70. D3-Oct 3/50 Reford collection, D3-Nov 1/71 Hudson collection, D2-Apr 9/87.
- 8) Letter unknown, perfs in at left and just in at top, light duplex type grid cancel angled to lower right covers face and lower right corner. D3-Oct 3/50 Reford collection.
- 9) Almost full 'S', perfs in at right and just touch at bottom, stamp originally had many short perfs in top and bottom but has been reperfed, wide left margin,

crease, has light cds cancel - unclear date in lower left and bars covering face and upper right. D1-Dec 4/74, D2-Sep 29/76, D2-Jul 83 private treaty, D2-May 30/84, D10-stock Nov 85, D7-1986 stock.

The stamp was reperfed between the 1974 sale and the 1976 sale but was not noted until the 1984 sale.

10) Part 2 letters, couple blunt perfs on right, margins just touch at top, a rather heavy horizontal grid cancel covers almost all of the stamp except lower left corner. D8-Mar 19/93 - stated to be ex Keene collection.

The BNA Topics of Jan 59 notes that a ½¢ Large Queen watermark was sold by Canada Stamp Co. of Willowdale, Ont. in a Oct 1958 auction for \$510. I have no other information on this auction. If anyone can provide help with additional information on this stamp or any of the stamps listed above it would be much appreciated as would details on any examples not listed above.

Wayne Smith
P.O.Box 104,
Don Mills, Ont.,
Canada M3C 2R6

(continued from page 40)

manuscript has been carefully put together. The text is liberally laced with photocopies of mementos and covers related to the Toronto Club's development, along with a few photos. Some of the latter suffer a bit from not having been half-toned, but that is a minor consideration in the overall pleasing effect of the work. Most of the well-known Canadian philatelists of the last century grace the pages somewhere, and the reading is engrossing, particularly for those who have some connection to members past and present. Information about auctions, collections, collectors, and even stamps are provided as samplers of what was of concern to members throughout the century. For many years the programs are summarized, with names and collections that were discussed. The appendices are loaded with club historical information, including winners of the Bayley Trophy, awarded for sideline collections, with the collecting topic. A selection of membership rosters for about 10-25 year intervals gives a nice flavor of who belonged.

As commented upon earlier, works such as this are important to Canadian philately. Santayana's dictum about forgetting history is important, but equally important is the necessity to remember our past as a basis for culture. We share the traditions and interests of our collecting forebears to a great extent, and remembering where we have been is essential to know who we are and where we might go.

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Some Interesting Conclusions about RG-17 & RG-19

Horace W. W. Harrison, OTB, FCPSGB, PHSC

I acquired the two hexagonal Hamilton & North Western Rail Road R.P.O. (RG-19 in the Ludlow Catalogue) in the September 1993 Jim A. Hennok Auction in Toronto. These were part of the huge Dr. Moulton R.P.O. accumulation. I have long had a nice strike of RG-19 on a cover from Port Rowan, via Simcoe, to Selkirk with a c.d.s. of HAM & NOR WSTn R.R with indicia set "NORTH, AP 29, 81". (Figure 1) Since this cover seemed to have traveled over the Hamilton & Lake Erie Railway for a short distance from Simcoe to Port Dover, I went after the two covers which seemed to have certainly traveled over the original trackage of the Hamilton & North Western Rail Road, one North and one South bound, to and from Manitowaning on Manitoulin Island.

Imagine my surprise when, upon examining the covers prior to mounting in my exhibit of "REGISTERED POSTMARKS OF CANADA'S RAILWAY POST OFFICES, 1869-1951", I discovered that neither cover had traveled over the original Hamilton & North Western trackage. Both had traveled to Toronto, where the Hamilton & North Western had never gone. The Northbound cover had left Garnet in Haldimand County on the 16th of August, 1878, traveled up to Hamilton on the H & L. E. R. trackage, now owned and operated by the H & N.W.R.R. and marked with RG-19 plus RR-82 dated North, AU 17, 78 and received in Toronto the same day over the Great Western's Hamilton & Toronto run. There it was transferred to the Northern Railway for the run to Collingwood where it was received on August 19, 78. The cover is further backstamped at Manitowaning, Lake Huron AU 21, 1878. (See Figure 2)

The next cover, (see Figure 3), dated at Manitowaning, Ont. JU 14, 79, and addressed to Caledonia, near Seneca on the Grand River in Haldimand County, arrived in Collingwood on June 16, dispatched the same day via the Northern Rwy. to Toronto where it arrived and must have been sent by either the Great Western or Grand Trunk to Hamilton where, the next day it went into the R.P.O. of the Hamilton & Lake Erie Division of the Hamilton & North Western R.R., moving South and dropped off at Seneca, the closest Post Office to Caledonia.

I proceeded to check the Robert A. Lee sales of the Lewis Ludlow Collection and was able to pinpoint two covers, one of which is photo-copied in the BNAPS Library edition of the Ludlow Collection.

Lot 310 from Sale #68 is from Toronto on Ja 18, 80 to Caledonia and could only have received RG-19 strike between Hamilton and Seneca. Sale #70's Lot 922 is also in the exhibit collection photo-copied in the BNAPS Library and was

mailed at the R.P.O., since there is no originating postmark, and was carried NORTH on JU 21, 80 to Caledonia. There is a cover in the Ludlow exhibit photo-copies (page 3-8) which originates in Toronto on NO 12, 80 to Caledonia which has a strike of RG-19 and a Caledonia, Ont, Canada c.d.s. dated NO 13, 80 in purple.

I have now checked the Ludlow, Moulton, and Harrison collections for late dates for RG-17. None overlap with RG-19, which was proofed, according to Hughes, in Volume XVII, "Proof Strikes of Canada, Transportation Part 2 etc.", page 269, in July of 1878. It is my belief, based on this research, that RG-19 and associated c.d.s. were ordered from Pritchard & Andrews to replace the RG-17 and associated hammers after the amalgamation of the Hamilton & Lake Erie into the Hamilton & North Western Rail Road. It would appear that very little mail was carried over the original trackage of the Hamilton & North Western Rail Road, which accounts for the great rarity of RG-18, which was proofed in April of 1879, but for which there is but one known strike recorded on a cover dated January 18, 1882 from Toronto Headquarters of the Ontario Board of Education to a teacher at Boston Mills, where it was received the next day.

It seems to me that the service between Hamilton and Collingwood must have been pretty slow for the Post Office to have sent the mail between Manitoulin Island and Haldeman County via Toronto when there was a direct line from Hamilton to Collingwood over the H & N.W.R.R.

References:

- "Catalogue of Canadian Railway Cancellations..." by Lewis M. Ludlow, OTB, FCPSGB, FRPSL, 1982.
- "19th Century Railway Registration Marks" by Lewis M. Ludlow; Exhibition page photo-copies in BNAPS Library, 1988.
- "A Canadian Railway Postal History Anthology" pp 136-146, Published by the BNAPS Canadian R.P.O. Study Group, 1993.
- "A History of Canadian R.P.O.s" by Lionel F. Gillam, FCPSGB, pp79 & 80, 1967; reprinted by A.P.S. 1979.
- "The Canadian Almanac and Repository of Useful Knowledge for the Year 1871" published by Copp Clark & Co., Toronto, 1870; list of Post Offices in Canada on the 1st September 1870, pps 70-91.
- "Volume XVII, Proof Strikes of Canada, Transportation Part 2 ..." edited by J. Paul Hughes; published by Robert A. Lee Ltd. 1992 see pages 266, 269, & 270.

Figure 1.



Figure 1a. (back of Figure 1)

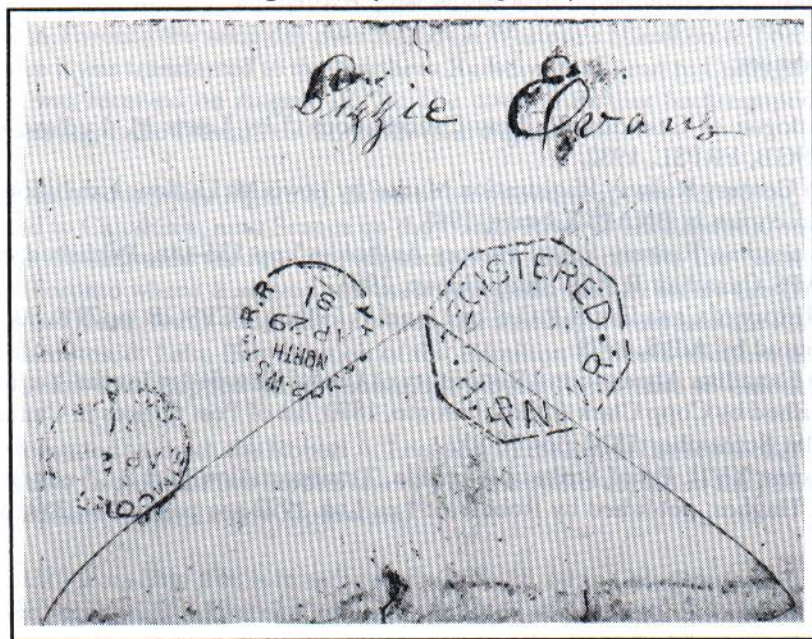
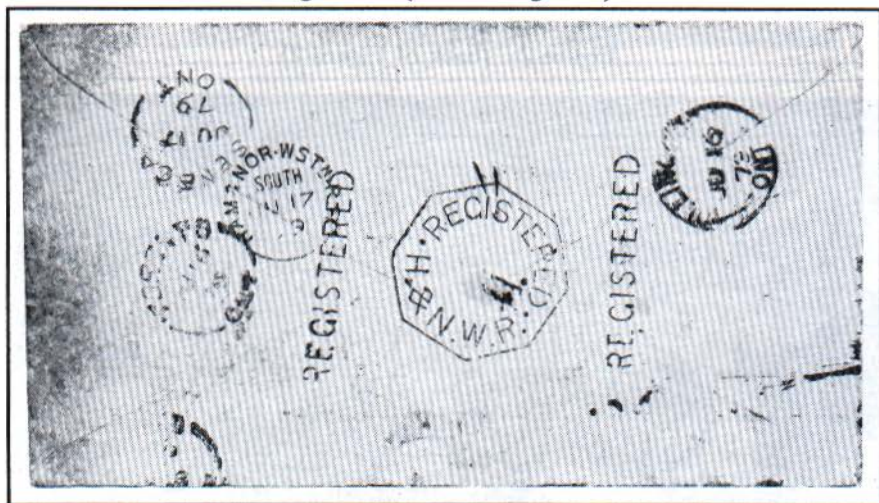


Figure 3.



Figure 3a. (back of Figure 3)





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Collecting Canada

John Burnett

6 Cent Bisect of 1893

As many of you know my largest holdings in Canada are the Small Queens, one of the truly difficult areas of Canadian philately in which to become an expert. I've been a serious student of the Small Queens for the past 25 years and continue to amaze myself about how little I know on the subject.

Our subject this month is a bisect of the six cent, my article is inspired by a page from Ed Richardson's *Collect Canada Covers* published by the A.P.S. in 1978.

Back in 1893 there was a young lady who had her "eye on" and her "cap set" for a young man, whom she later married. The young man lived in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, and our young lady lived in the small town of Gaspereaux, some four or five miles to the south. With rather limited postal facilities, the young lady prevailed upon a friend traveling to Wolfville to hand carry an invitation to a special party and post it there (figure 1). Not having a 3 cent stamp she followed the common practice of the day in rural communities of cutting a 6 cent stamp in half to pay the 3 cent rate. Although unauthorized, the practice continued into the mid 1880's and is very rare on covers dated in the 1890's.

Our young lady also took the time to write a "love letter" on which she placed the other half of the bisected 6 cent Small Queen.

Now we come to the "HITCKCOCKIAN" end of this story. I'm extremely happy that the young lady was successful in her campaign to catch her young man. I'm glad the young man was sentimental and saved his young ladies correspondence, even more happy they had a son who would move to Texas and meet Ed Richardson, would trade the cover in figure 1, that Ed would sell it to a friend on mine who knew the "young man", at that time an "old man", who would pull out from his collection the matching bisect (figure 2) and give it to my friend, Victor, who would eventually trade it to me.

Not many covers like this turn up in a search of old family correspondence, but they do just often enough to keep us all searching.

Figure 1.



Figure 2.



Salved From The Sea

The great attraction to me of collecting covers and collecting stamps in general is the individual history that is involved in their background. Each is to some degree unique. Each has its own story to tell. Each has its own special attraction and some as is the case with this month's subject, leave a lot of unanswered questions as it's impossible to piece together the history of this envelope beyond a lot of supposition.

Sometime ago Ed Richardson gave me the illustrated cover as a gift because he knew that I would pursue the story (also because he had two examples). This cover has a history, but so far only a part of it is known. Perhaps one of my readers can shed some light on my problem with additional information.

This cover was originally franked with Canadian postage stamp(s) which were lost when the envelope became submerged in seawater. It was mailed from Aquadell, Saskatchewan on May 24, 1940 (Ed's copy was mailed from Moose Jaw, Sask. on May 23, 1940), in the early and distressing days of WW II. Somewhere enroute this letter became 'interrupted' and ended up in the sea. Was it due to a plane crash? Was it due to the sinking of a ship by enemy action?

Recently another similar cover has turned up, owned by a Mr. Sloan of Toronto. His cover originated from Toronto on May 28, 1940 - just four days after my cover was put in the mails. The Sloan cover is addressed to France, and since France had fallen to Hitler by the time the cover arrived overseas, it was returned to the Dead Letter Office at Ottawa, where it was received on August 14, 1940.

All three covers bear the handstamp "SALVED FROM THE SEA" in one line in black, measuring 62 x 5mm on both the front and back on the Richardson and Sloan covers while mine is only stamped on the front.

Since none of these covers bear any evidence of being sent by airmail, I've concluded that they were dispatched by sea mail. This was a period when submarines were particularly active around the Irish and British coasts. Very likely the sinking took place in that general area. The mail being salvaged sometime later.

This is all that is known about these particular covers. There is much that is still unknown. If only they could talk! As it is, I have to depend upon the possibility that one of you will be able to shed some light on their interesting history.



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TRANSVAAL USED IN CANADA

The 1899 Canada Official Postal Guide under the heading Post Cards noted "Reply halves of British and foreign reply cards are recognized as post cards when posted in Canada." In the foreign section of the same guide it was again noted that the reply halves of Postal Union Reply Cards may be posted in Canada addressed to the country in which the card originated. The card shown here is the reply half of a Transvaal U.P.U. reply card properly used from Montreal to the Transvaal. This is a proper and correct usage of such a card. It also illustrates the proper use of foreign postage in Canada.



The Provisional Issues of the Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, Law Stamps

Harry W. Lussey

The Bar Association authorized the issuance of these 25¢ & 50¢ stamps as a means of offsetting the expenses of the Law Library in Sydney. The First Issue was inscribed "Bar Library". The Second & Third Issues carried "Law Stamp". The Fourth Issue included "Bar Library", "Law Library" as well as "Law Stamp". The Fifth Issue reverted to the "Law Stamp" inscription.

It is doubtful if more than five examples of any of these scarce stamps are in the hands of collectors. Only one or two specimens are known of nine of the thirteen recorded varieties. The catalog listing of these stamps leaves much to be desired but any revision designed to show the various issues in chronological order require the renumbering of all but three items. Catalogues are understandably reluctant to undertake such changes. However, a complete orderly listing of these rare stamps is something which should be made available to Revenue collectors.

Based upon my collection, and with very valuable assistance from Wilmer Rockett, it is possible to illustrate every known variety. These stamps all bear the date of usage thus making it possible to determine the order in which each individual issue was placed in use. Details regarding the number of each variety recorded to date is included. This will assist collectors in estimating the relative scarcity of this material. This article is also designed to bring to light additional specimens which, no doubt, exist in collections but have never been reported to the Revenue Group or the Editor of the Revenue catalog.

The Fourth Issue is particularly interesting as regards 'new discoveries'. It will be noted that both the 25¢ & 50¢ values exist with "Law Stamp" and "Law Library" inscriptions but in the "Bar Library" category only the 25¢ value appears in the Catalog. There is a possibility therefore, remote perhaps, that a 50¢ "Bar Library" may have been prepared. So far there have been no reports of such an item having been located by collectors.

First Issue



Sept. 10, 1903

Lussey Collection

Five copies recored (2 on Doc)
a second 9/10/03, 8/21/03



Sept. 10, 1903

Rockett Collection

Two copies recorded
Second 9/25/03

Second Issue

Inscribed Wm A H G Secy.



Sept. 17, 1903

Lussey Collection

Only recorded example.

Third Issue
 Inscribed Wm A H G
 Measures 37mm x 28mm.



Oct. 23, 1903
 Lussey Collection
 Two copies recorded



Dec. 28, 1903
 Lussey Collection
 Only recorded example



Dec. 14, 1903
 Lussey Collection
 Only recorded example

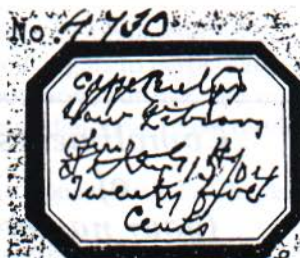
Fourth Issue



Jan. 27, 1904
 Lussey Collection
 Four copies recorded
 second 1/27/04, 1/29/04,
 2/10/04



Feb. 2, 1904
 Lussey Collection
 Two copies recorded
 Also 1/26/04



Feb. 15, 1904
 Lussey Collection
 Only recorded example



Feb. 9, 1904
 Rockett Collection
 Only recorded example



Feb. 12, 1904
 Lussey Collection
 Four copies recorded (1 on Doc)
 1/20/04, 2/17/04, 2/18/04

Fifth Issue

These measure 46mm x 36mm.



April 6, 1904
Lussey Collection
Three copies recorded
3/16/04, 3/31/04



March 21, 1904
Rockett Collection
Only recorded example

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Y.M.C.A. Service Covers

Robert Bayes

The Y.M.C.A. was founded in England in 1844 by Sir George Williams for which he was Knighted. Initially it provided Marquees for the troops use for reading, writing, and recreation centres and also as meeting places for religious services.

The Marquees provided a place where the men could write letters - usually it was the Official Post Office and could also be used to purchase tea, coffee, and light refreshments.

When the War began, the experiences gained from the Boer War were the motivating factor in establishing similar services for the new Army. Everything was ready since it had been used with the volunteers and Territorials and the results were confidently predicted. Relations were established with the volunteer during the fourteen days of training in the summer camps.

A general appeal for funds was launched by a special War Committee, even the King contributed, with many huts and funds being given as gifts to perpetuate the memory of a son or brother. Cigarettes, matches, boot-laces, buttons, and other sundries could be obtained at the Y.M.C.A. counter. Interdenominational services were arranged in the evenings.

The Y.M.C.A. placed their huts at the service of the Roman Catholic Chaplains and men for spiritual as well as recreational activities.

Wet conditions and high winds of the autumn of 1914 wrecked many of the Marquees and the erection of huts, costing an average of £600 was undertaken, with the Canadian troops just arrived in England being the first to use them. In large camps a double hut was built; this provided a separate room for concerts, lectures, and services apart from the common area. The wet weather brought about a heavy demand for cough mixtures and oil stoves.

From its commencement, newspapers and envelopes were supplied free in order to encourage the soldiers to write home. The distribution also included millions of sheets of paper. A method of random selection must have been in place since there doesn't seem to be any correlation between stationery and covers. The Y.M.C.A. proved more important to the Commonwealth countries than to the English at home in England. Y.M.C.A. arranged and conducted tours which avoided the dangers to one's health that might have occurred otherwise for soldiers of the Commonwealth.

In November 1914, the Y.M.C.A. was permitted to open camps in France on a trial basis. The first hut built in France was named "Queen Mary Hut" and was only a few yards from their landing place. The Salvation Army and Church Army followed soldiers to France on similar provisions to the Y.M.C.A. but they were the first to start it all.

In 1916, there were 180 centres established, the majority being pre-fabricated huts built in five foot sections so they could be moved easily. When the 1st Division went to France in 1915, it was accompanied by five secretaries, the 2nd Division six, but only five went to France, the 3rd had five secretaries making a total of fifteen secretaries with the Canadian Divisions in France. Later, more secretaries arrived from Canada. Fifty Y.M.C.A. centres were retained in Canada for troops still under training.

There would seem to be ten major types of Y.M.C.A. Auxiliary Service Covers. I have grouped the various types where possible according to type setting and envelope colour. Other types used by the various secretaries have been placed as one type but each could be separated according to secretaries named if so desired. No attempt has been made to classify them as to scarcity.

I have a date of 30 September 1914 which should make it the earliest date of use of a service cover of WW I.

YMCA Service Cover Types

TYPE I

"ON ACTIVE SERVICE." in Bold type 35½mm in Length

Y.M.C.A. Panel is 24mm in Length & 2mm in Height

"ON ACTIVE SERVICE." in Bold type 2mm in Height followed by a period

TYPE Ia

"ON ACTIVE SERVICE" in Thin type 2½mm in Height & 35½mm in Length

Y.M.C.A. Panel is 25½mm in Length

No period following "ON ACTIVE SERVICE"

TYPE Ib

"ON ACTIVE SERVICE." in small Bold type 1½mm in Height

Y.M.C.A. Panel is 24½mm in Length

"ON ACTIVE SERVICE." is 29½mm in Length followed by a period

TYPE Ic

"ON ACTIVE SERVICE." is 33¾mm in Length followed by a period

Y.M.C.A. Panel is 26mm in Length

"ON ACTIVE SERVICE." in Thin type 2mm in Height

TYPE II

No lettering on the face of the cover

Small Triangle measuring 22mm by 23mm on the sides

Y.M.C.A. Panel measures 21½mm in Length

TYPE III

Y.M.C.A. Panel is 24mm in Length with no lettering
Sides of the Triangle measure 26mm at Top & 27mm on Sides
on white paper

TYPE IV

Sides of Triangle measure 38mm at Top & 31½mm on Sides
Association is Abbreviated

TYPE IVa

Similar to Type IV but the lines of Legend are slightly different
ASSOCIATION is Printed in Full
Sides of the Triangle measure 27mm

TYPE V

Y.M.C.A. Panel is 20mm in Length within a Large Maple Leaf

TYPE VI

Y.M.C.A. Panel is 14½mm in Length within a Small Maple Leaf

TYPE VII

"CANADIAN" Printed in Thin Letters 21mm in Length
Y.M.C.A. Panel is 32mm in Length

TYPE VIIa

Same as Type VII but has "MOTHERS DAY FRANCE, May 12, 1918"
on face

TYPE VIII

"CANADIAN" in Small Type 17mm in Length
Y.M.C.A. Panel is 24mm in Length

TYPE IX

"CANADIAN" in Small Type 13½mm in Length
Y.M.C.A. Panel is 15mm in Length

TYPE X

"CANADIAN" in Small Type 17mm in Length
Y.M.C.A. Panel is 15mm in Length

SPECIAL TYPES OF Y.M.C.A. COVERS

NATIONAL COUNCIL COVERS:

Found with the Legends in various colours in the upper left corner and are printed in lines of from two to six

PATRIOTIC COVERS

Printed in the upper left corner in Brown or Black

Y.M.C.A.

With his Majesty's

Canadian Forces

On Active Service

SPECIAL TYPES

SPECIAL TYPE I Small Insignia at the top of the Maple Leaf. Inscription within the Maple Leaf.

SPECIAL TYPE II Inscription the same as Type I but under Maple Leaf. Larger Insignia at the top of Maple Leaf.

SPECIAL TYPE III Canadian Y.M.C.A. in Panel at top of Maple Leaf. Small inscription the same as that of the first Two Special Types written in Black within the Maple Leaf. Each secretaries' name under the Maple Leaf.

SPECIAL TYPE IV Y.M.C.A. Motto on three sides of the Triangle inside Maple Leaf.

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AUXILIARY SERVICE COVERS OF THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

Since the Red and Orange Triangles were printed first, and the lettering added later along with the Black coloured Y.M.C.A. Panel, the Logo and Triangle appears in various positions on the envelopes.

Figure 1 (Type I)

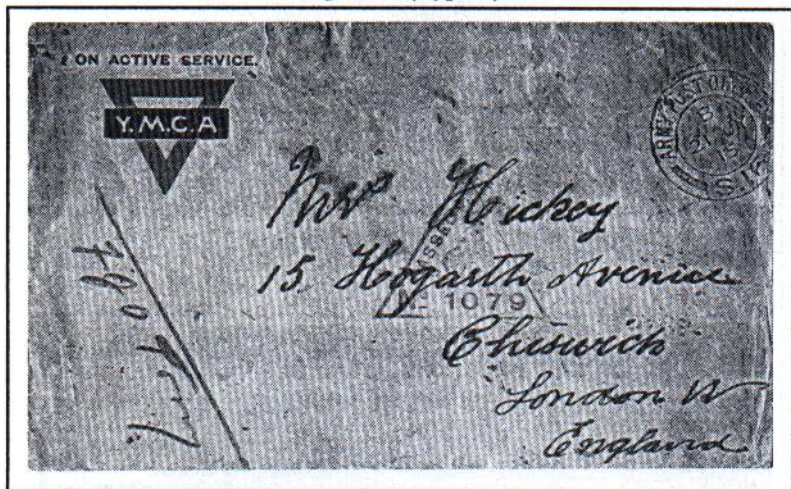


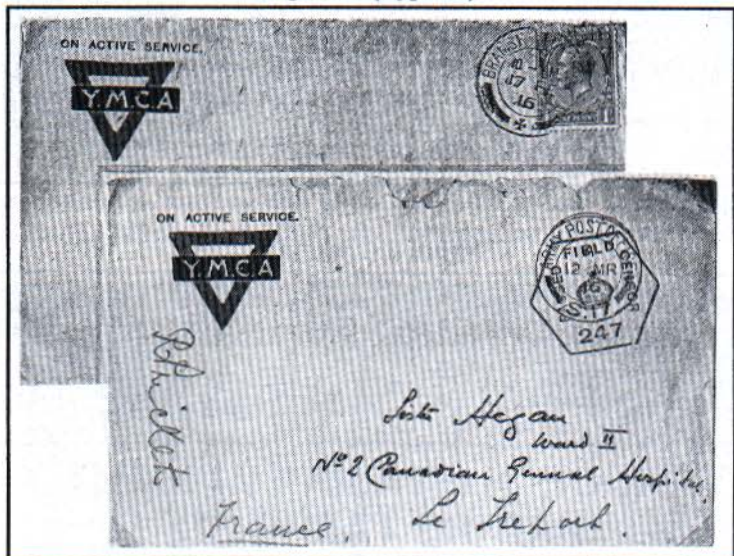
Figure 2 (Type Ia)



Figure 3 (Type Ib)



Figure 4 (Type Ic)



Types I, Ia, Ib, & Ic were used extensively in France & Belgium by all Divisions, Lines of Communications, and Base Troops. Triangles were printed over the black printing.

Figure 5 (Type II)



Figure 6 (Type III)



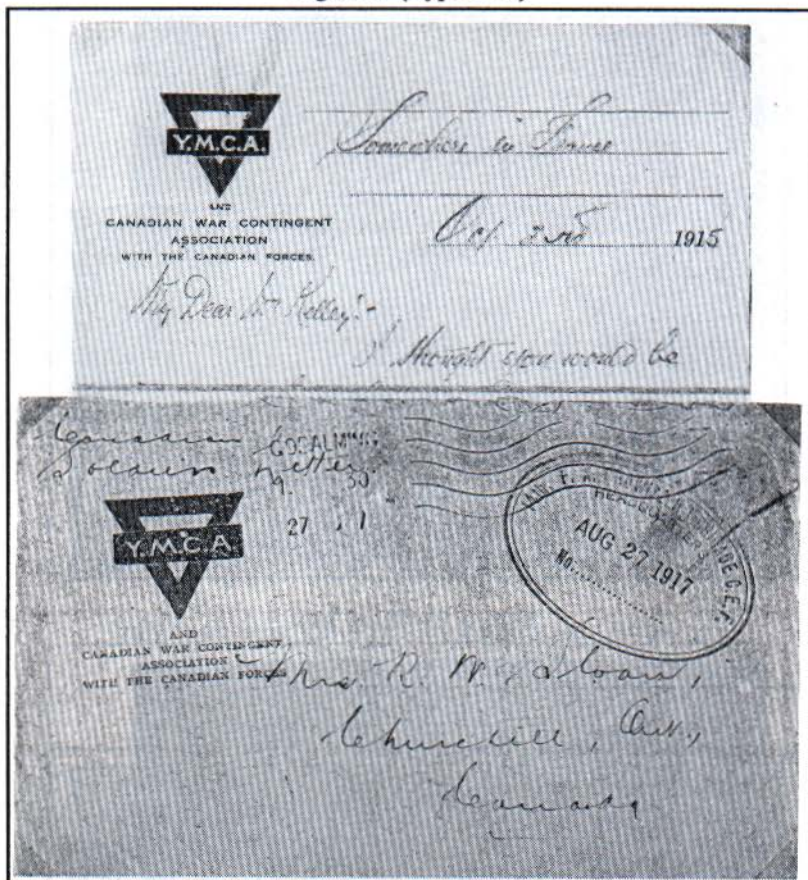
[Type III extensively used in France and U.K. Camps.]

Figure 7 (Type IV)



Possibly introduced in France almost a year before it appeared in U.K. Camps.

Figure 8 (Type IVa)



There would seem to be no correlation between stationery and covers. This would seem to indicate a random method of selection. Perhaps the stationery was on shelves and the covers in drawers and the soldiers mixed and matched as they wished.

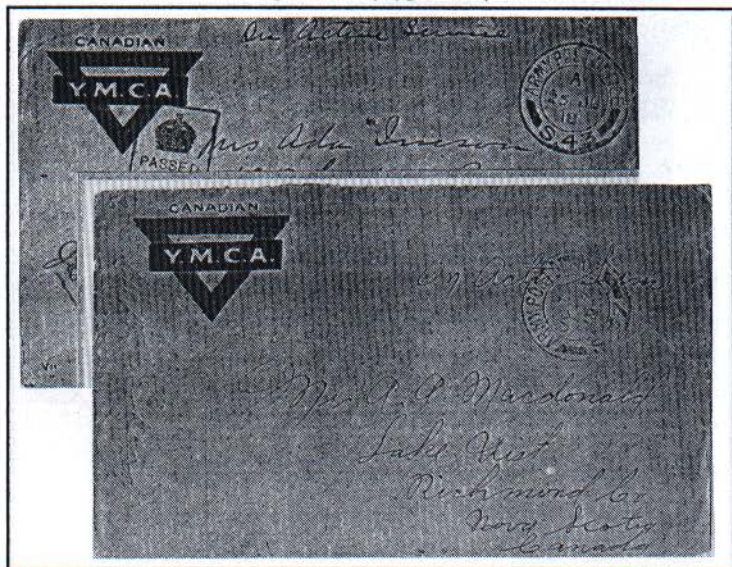
Figure 9 (Type V)



Figure 10 (Type VI)



Figure 11 (Type VII)



Only used from Lines of Communication Offices or
Leave Centres in Large Cities.

Figure 12 (Type VIIa)



Figure 13 (Type VIII)

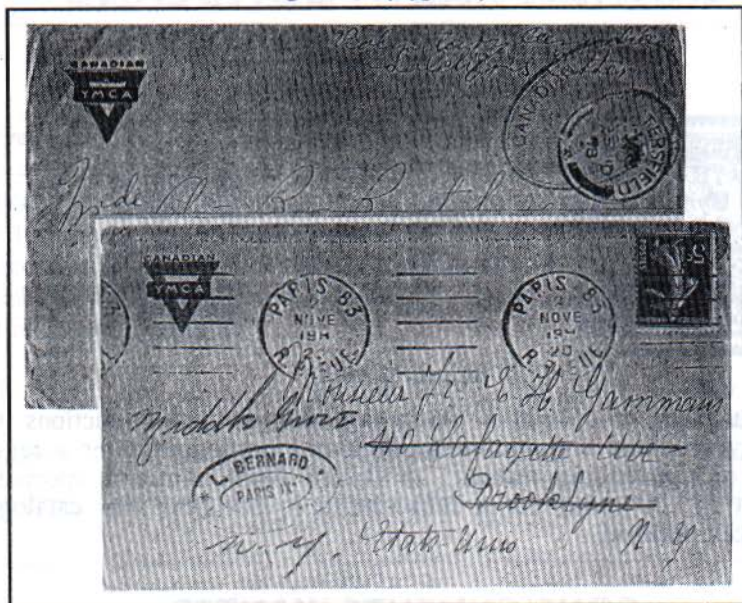


Both Red & Orange Triangles, extensively used.
The quality of printing runs from very good to very bad.

Figure 14 (Type IX)



Figure 15 (Type X)



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The 1994 Canada Precancel Count

Hans Reiche

Every few years the Canadian Precancel Count is up-dated. This listing represents a valuable addition of precancel information to collectors of Canadian precancels. Once again we would like to hear from you as to what your count is of the different types of Canada precancels in your collection. Some precancels have been discovered since the last precancel count. If you have any of these in your collection, report them in the designated column. Please make up your report as follows:

No. of Bar Precancels	No. of City Precancels	No. of Numeral Precancels	No. of Third Class	No. of Unlisted Precancels
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Total of the above _____

The new 3rd edition of the Standard Canada Precancel Catalogue will include many price increases and adjustments. The two dies of the Admiral stamps will be in the next edition as a separate listing. Please send your report before September 15, 1994 to,

Precancel Count Coordinator
Hans Reiche
22 Chapleau Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario,
Canada K1M 1E2

William J. F. Wilson

Leigh-Mardon has produced the souvenir sheet for the International Year of the Family using a fluorescent coated paper in place of the standard four-sided general tagging. This is the first time in Canadian stamps that tagging has been applied by making the entire stamp fluorescent. Time will tell whether fluorescent paper will become the new standard.

Canada Post has issued 27 individual stamps in the three months since the last column. These are not hard to collect mint, since so many are se-tenant, but finding them all used is a bit of a challenge.

There is a correction to the prestamped envelopes in the Apr-May-Jun 1994 column; the Regina and Halifax envelopes were in fact printed by Innova, not CBN. The eight envelopes issued so far in the Capital Cities series (including the two most recent) are:

No. 8	No. 10	Issue Date
Charlottetown	Victoria	30 Dec 1992
St. John's	Toronto	2 Jul 1993
Regina	Halifax	7 Jan 1994
Whitehorse	Fredericton	5 Jul 1994

All eight are printed by Innova on No. 2 Offset White Wove paper using lithography in five colours, with one vertical bar tagging. Four more should be issued in 1995 to complete the series.

The following information is from Canada Post's booklet Canada's Stamp Details. Size, perforations and number of teeth are my own measurements, and are given as (HORIZONTAL) x (VERTICAL). All stamps are commemoratives with PVA gum.

Data for the Public Service Vehicles souvenir sheet are listed after the table.

Issue	Year of the Family	Canada Day Maple Trees	Commonwealth Games	Billy Bishop Mary Travers
Value	5 x 43¢	12 x 43¢ s-t	2 x 43¢ s-t 50¢, 88¢	2 x 43¢ s-t
Issued	2 Jun 1994	30 Jun 1994	5 Aug 1944	12 Aug 1994
Printer	L-M	CBN	L-M	CBN
Quantity	7.5MM stamps	15MM stamps	15MM *	15MM
Size (mm)	30 x 48	40 x 34	40 x 30	36 x 30
Paper	CP	P	CP	P
Process	5CL	6CL	5CL + 1CF	6CL
Pane	5 (SS)	12	25	50
Tagging	FCP	G4S	G4S	G4S
Perf.	14.0 x 14.6	13.0 x 13.5	14.0 x 14.0	13.3 x 13.3
Teeth	21 x 35	26 x 23	28 x 21	24 x 20

Public Service Vehicles souvenir sheet: 6 stamps s-t as follows: 2 x 43¢ s-t, 40 x 27.5 mm, 25 x 18 teeth; 2 x 50¢ s-t, 48 x 27.5 mm, 30 x 18 teeth; 2 x 88¢ s-t, 56 x 27.5 mm, 35 x 18 teeth; 19 Aug 1994; CBN; quantity 800M*; P; 7CL; G4S; all stamps perf. 12.5 x 13.1.

* For the Commonwealth Games stamps, it is not clear from Canada's Stamp Details whether 15MM refers to the total number of stamps (43¢, 50¢ and 88¢ combined), or individually to each denomination. Likewise for the Vehicles it is not clear whether 800M refers to the number of stamps or to the number of souvenir sheets.

ABBREVIATIONS: 1CF = one-colour foil; 5(6,7)CL = five (six, seven) colour lithography; CBN = Canadian Bank Note Company; CP = Coated Papers; FCP = flourescent coated paper; L-M = Leigh-Mardon; M = thousand; MM = million; P = Peterborough; SS = souvenir sheet; s-t = se-tenant.

Readers Speak

This is a new column where the readers of TOPICS can express their views, ask questions, and add information to previously published articles.

A Comment: I just received BNA *Topics*, Vol 51, #2, and read Vic Willson's editorial with much interest.

To my way of thinking, his insights are right on target in regard to future collecting habits. However, the reason I bring this to your attention is in regard to his statement that many of BNA's important classics are not being held in traditional BNA collections.

He is absolutely right. I know of many collections in which important BNA covers are included only as an adjunct to the collection's theme, be it Topical or new BNA Postal History.

This fact has never been totally unknown to the BNA collector but does appear to be more obvious at present. Much of this *migration* has to do with recent pricing. For example: The past 6 years (a very short time in philately) has seen the vast majority of great BNA Pence material come to market. This included the magnificent collections formed by Clifford-Jones, "Foxbridge" (one of only 3 exhibits to ever win all three Grand Prix awards), Lubke, Nickle, Pratt, Richardson, etc. The fact is that the vast majority of the important pieces from these collections were purchased by dealers: Quite often at realizations well below what was anticipated. This market softness had permitted an easy acquisition of BNA material by collectors of other specialties.

The fact that all of the above listed collectors were no longer buying also had an obvious downward impact on the pricing. (Traditionally this fact has been shown most dramatically in the classic area since pricing is determined by participation of fewer collectors than those that participate in the collecting of material in a less expensive area.) Opportunity knocks once again for those collectors looking for a new area.

Bill Maresch stated in his last auction catalogue "*Now is the time to buy*". The economy has turned and stamp interest is increasingly becoming stronger. I agree with Bill and believe that no where in philately is this fact more obvious than in the BNA classics area.

This recently soft market does not however mean that classic BNA philately is dead. It does however illustrate the normal cycle of value fluctuations that runs

perpetually through all of the collectible markets. These changes are often the result of economic needs as well as the collector's changing interests, health, death, etc.

The near future of BNA philately appears bright.

Charles G. Firby

Dear Sir,

A review of BNA Topics, Vol 43, No 1, Whole No 411, Jan/Feb 1986, page 39, Question Box, indicates a similar question relating to the two enclosed MAP stamps. One with a single horizontal precancel bar and the other with a double imprint vertically. Can anyone assist? Dave Lacelle tells me its not a Fancy Cancel. Is it part of a roller precancel of even a forgery? Thank you.

L. Ray Horning
515 Denbury Ave.
Ottawa K2A 2N8



Dear Mr. Willson,

Enclosed is a photograph of the 1/2¢ leaf with a major plate variety. The 6¢ leaf has long been listed with an engraver's slip, but nobody listed the 1/2¢. The photo shows a lovely 1/2¢ leaf "engraver's slip" which is 5mm long. Ten years ago I went through back-up stock at George S. Wegg Ltd and observed two blocks of four and a lovely mint block of nine. I bought them all. Whoever assembled these knew a lot about varieties and remains an unknown (probably deceased) collector.

[That is not all - I also found the "Weeping George" and the "String-of-pearls" on the 1/2¢ Quebec! I have several blocks of the latter - but that's another story!]

Well, I was pretty slack and threw them in a stock book for over a decade. (You can tell my interest was lukewarm.) However, as a prelude to the Reiche -

Sendbuehler book that is forthcoming, I sent photos to Hans Reiche. I'll not describe them here as many will be discussed in the book. However, I thought this variety description will be a nice "warm-up" to the forthcoming anticipated book.

Photo 1 shows the "engraver's slip" originally discovered by the unknown collector and rediscovered by myself. Hans gets credit for plating it from the Ottawa archives. It's Right Pane Positions 5 and 6.

Photo 2 shows the LR corner frame re-touch without the variety which is on several positions in the sheet.

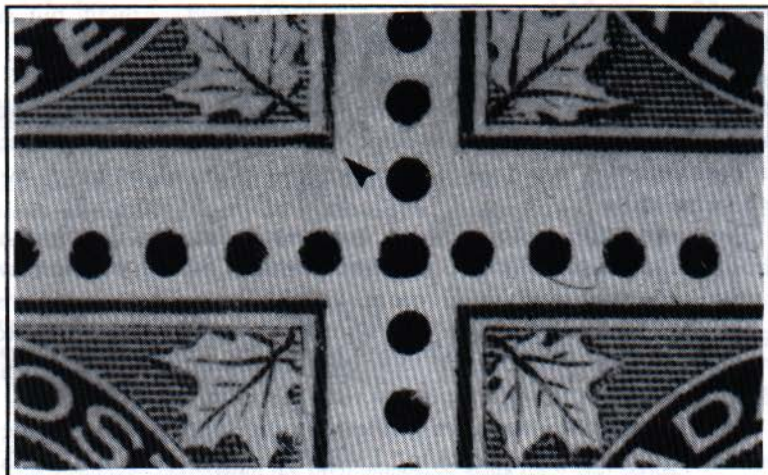
In conclusion, I predict that the once ignored leaves plus numerals will enjoy an increasing following. They are nice looking engraved stamps and with the present Post Office proliferation and less-than-stellar cancellations, interest will likely increase. Besides, is a collector with only a lukewarm interest can make such an interesting rediscovery - just think what else remains to be found.

The author, after being the unsuccessful under bidder for PP #83 fully expected to wait another 15 years. I couldn't believe my eyes when not two weeks later Bill Coates showed me another PP #83 he acquired. He graciously let me acquire it for his costs. Thus, thanks to Mr. Bill Coates, this collector now has acquired both of the "upper triangle flaws" - a feat not achieved (at least not knowingly) by Jarrett, Nickle, Gates, or Lichtenstein! Moreover the stamp is even better appearing than the one I passed up. Now how's that for filling a want list - thanks again Bill!

Dr. Jim Watt, Hamilton, Ont.

Photo 1





Hi Victor L. Willson,

Have found these two examples of the Columbia River 43¢ stamp with what appears to be a shift in the perforations. These two do not match-up so must be from two different booklets (Rivers). The perforations shift halfway across the top of one stamp and across the bottom of the other. Has anyone found a booklet, thus having a mint example?

Gerry Churley

Dear Vic:

Having recently read TOPICS, Vol. 51, No. 1, I have some observations to make. Firstly, any delays which have occurred, are in my opinion, growing pains. Given the tremendous changes over the past year, all for the better, is something I feel all members should be very positive about. Credit is due to Jack Schmidt, and others involved in mastering these "electronic beasts" called computers. Having recently updated my own programs I have great respect for anyone able to master the more complex desktop publishing. I for one wouldn't feel capable in taking on the job under such deadlines. Anyway, I think it's a super job, nicely laid out, readable and with a good mix of articles. I'm sure there will be additional minor cosmetic changes to be made as experience and feed-back occurs.

My second observation deals with **Constructive Criticism** on the Editorial

page as it relates to publishing the same article in two different places. While I have no problem with this generally, I feel it should be used sparingly, but, subject to the discretion of the Editor. Factors which might be considered are: 1) is the article of value to the membership at large, given the possibility of being specialized data only; 2) where was the same article published previously and what time-frame is involved; 3) does the second published article have BNA content which is considered of more value than perhaps material on-hand, awaiting suitable Journal space?

There are other factors indeed, however, I defer to the Editor. My preference is that older TOPICS articles perhaps should be reprinted in preference to something much more recent and with less value content. In saying this, I speak of older articles (perhaps 15 years ago) reprinted from time to time which would be considered of interest to an entirely new range of members, many of which have not had the opportunity to read the older Journals.

My third observation relates to alternative interpretations, whether on a cover or a statement within an article. I would be pleased to see my favorite cover or article published with data or comments which would enhance the publication of such to the membership. I feel this is what it's all about; getting the biggest bang for our buck. Constructive criticism is good, but, ongoing combatant submissions to the Editor leaves a lot to be desired. Here again, I defer to the Editor and his wisdom. I realize it's a thankless volunteer job and hope Editors aren't intimidated to the point of exclusion of the majority's viewpoint and interest.

Sincerely,
Ritch Toop
BNAPS #3400

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(continued from page 2)

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