

2002 • first quarter

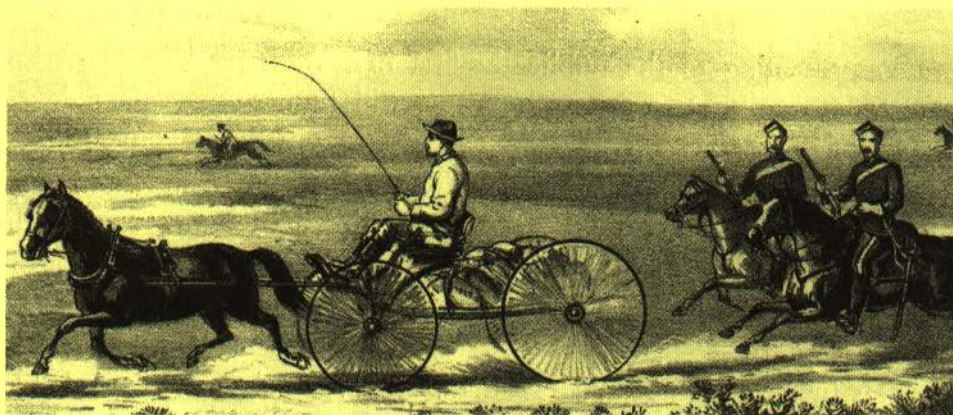
BNA Topics



Whole number 490

Volume 59

Number 1



Conveying the mails

The official Journal of BNAPS—
The Society for Canadian Philately

\$6.95

**STAMPS
LITERATURE
POSTCARDS
POSTAL HISTORY**

We buy and sell all of the above, from single items to large collections. Please contact us whenever you feel that we may assist. Our experience and facilities are always at your disposal.

GEORGE S. WEGG LTD.

53 Adelaide Street East
Toronto Canada M5C 1K6
Telephone (416) 363-1596

TRADE INQUIRIES WELCOME



EASTERN AUCTIONS LTD.

Canada's Most trusted Auction House



For over twenty five years, we have been offering philatelic buyers the opportunity to acquire some of the *best* BNA material on the market, as well as top quality Commonwealth, United States and Worldwide.



You've built your collection over many years. When the time comes to sell, you need an Auction House that will spend the time and has the resources to give your collection the attention it deserves. Let us achieve your maximum result for you.

For a **complimentary catalogue** or to inquire on how to consign to our public auctions, please call or fax toll-free in North America.

Tel 1 (800) 667-8267

Fax 1 (888) 867-8267



Eastern Auctions Ltd.

P.O. Box 250, Bathurst, NB, E2A 3Z2, Canada

Web Site: www.easternstamps.com

Tel: 1 (506) 548-8986 • Fax: 1 (506) 546-6627



BNATopics



The Official Journal of the British North America Philatelic Society Ltd
Volume 59 Number 1 Whole Number 490

Contents

Editorial: Canada Post ● 3 ●	David Handelman The Editor
Dyer, Mario, & Whaley share Pratt Award ● 5 ●	Victor Willson, OTB The Editor
Initiation of the circular rate—a proposed early date item ● 6 ●	John Hillson FCPS Robert Lane
Complements to: Initiation of the circular rate ● 9 ●	Victor Willson, OTB C D Sayles
The 6¢ small queen essay ● 13 ●	The Editor Dale Speirs
Vignettes of the Old West: Boulton's mounted scouts ● 16 ●	Gray Scrimgeour Dale Speirs
First day of use—US—Canada special delivery reciprocity ● 22 ●	J Randall Stamp Jr C R McGuire
Concessionary rates for Canadian Forces in Jamaica ● 24 ●	William J F Wilson Cimon Morin
Top secret—Operation Tabarin ● 31 ●	Robert Lemire
Design errors: the left-handed plough & the unsafe lumberjack ● 37 ●	British North America Philatelic Society Ltd
Canadian-related commercial mail to Tonga ● 42 ●	
Long may she reign—but what about the stamps? ● 46 ●	
Nigerian scam covers ● 53 ●	
(32) Canadian Postal Guide ● 55 ●	
New issues ● 61 ●	
What's new?—National Archives of Canada Philatelic Collections ● 64 ●	
Readers speak ● 66 ●	
Book Reviews ● 74 ●	
With the study groups ● 75 ●	
Executives, Directors & Officers ● 79 ●	

Prepared by the Editor in the typesetting language \TeX (Greek, \TeX ; pronounced 'tek', or for the purists, 'tech', ch as in the Scottish 'loch'). LaserWriter output (600 dpi) is sent to the printers as hard copy for reproduction.

Publication date 30 April 2002

Editor David Handelman, Mathematics Dept, University of Ottawa, Ottawa ON K1N 6N5; e-mail: dehsg@uottawa.ca

Advertising manager Hank Narbonne, 216 Mailey Dr, Carleton Place ON K2C 3X9

Published quarterly by Philaprint Inc, 10 Summerhill Ave, Toronto ON M4T 1A8,

© 2002 by Philaprint Inc

Printed by Publishing Plus; Canadian Publications Agreement 590819

ISSN 0045-3129

... continued on last page ...

BNATopics, Volume 59, Number 1, January–March 2002

Editorial: Canada Post

EVERY philatelic editor (eventually) comments on the post office, usually highly critically. I would like to issue a report card on the two most important issues.

Postal service This is the primary purpose of the post office. My impression of how well the mail gets through is that it does so very well (generally). Air-mail service to Europe is extremely fast (occasionally, I receive a *reply* within a week of mailing); domestic despatch is usually quite fast, but between the US and Canada, first class mail sometimes takes three or more weeks (how much of this is due to the USPS is unclear; moreover, this tardiness occurred frequently before 11 September as well as after). I have had occasional losses, but these might be attributable to foreign handling.

I usually deal with a postal station; the clerks are helpful and knowledgeable. For a while, I had to pick up registered mail at a retail postal outlet about four kilometres away (even though the postal station was four blocks distant). The service at the RPO was very poor—the clerks frequently did not know what they were doing, they were obviously overworked, underpaid, and consequently not terribly courteous, registered letters were often misplaced,

Philatelic treatment Far, far too many new stamps are issued (surprise). However, a number of them are absolutely beautiful (the 2002 Year of the Horse stamp comes to mind, particularly the \$1.25 souvenir sheet; my philatelic correspondents abroad appreciate its use). Some are dreadful—the commemorative Queen Elizabeth stamp makes the Queen look like a character on *Coronation Street*.

The themes of the stamps are largely trivial, the connections to Canada often tenuous. When will we have stamps devoted to the basic sciences? (A stamp honouring John Charles Fields, a Canadian, after whom the most important award in mathematics is named, is long overdue. Fields medals are awarded less frequently than Nobel prizes in their disciplines.)

Particularly irritating is the use of ink jet cancels to maim stamps. Moreover, the information in the cancel is difficult to impossible to read. If Canada Post wishes to continue to milk the philatelic market, it should at least try to ensure sure that the used stamps are attractively cancelled—although used stamps do not contribute directly to CP's coffers, they are an important gateway to interest in Canada's stamps. In many European countries (including larger ones, such as Germany), care is taken to cancel the stamps neatly.

ROBERT A. LEE AUCTIONS

is pleased to announce the sale at Public Auction of the "JOHN J. GAUDIO" CANADIAN REVENUE COLLECTION

One of the finest ever formed.

Offered in two sales – April and June, 2002



FG 17



FWS 3



BCT 1

AMONG THE MANY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Federal and Provincial collections
- Extensive selection of Essays and Die proofs
- Many items featured in Capex '96 "Gems of Philately"
 - Many rare documents
 - Telephone and Telegraph Franks
- Duck and Wildlife Conservation stamps

Write, call, fax or email to reserve your catalogue today.



Robert A. Lee AUCTIONS

#203 - 1139 Sutherland Avenue
Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 5Y2 Canada
Tel: 1-800-755-2437
Fax: 1-888-783-9888
Email: revenues@stamp-bids.com
www.stamp-bids.com

Dyer, Mario, & Whaley share Pratt Award

The Editor

THE Collectors Club of Chicago has announced this year's winners of the Pratt Award, given to the author or authors of the year's best philatelic articles dealing with Newfoundland. The \$1000 (US) prize is divided among **Norris Dyer** (for his article *Newfoundland's provisional postcard and those who exploited it*, in *Topics* vol 58, # 4), **Dean Mario** (for *Newfoundland's Paid All & Postage Paid markings 1897-1948* in *Topics* vol 58, # 3), and **Sammy Whaley** (for *The Newfoundland ((235)) cancel* in *Topics* vol 58, # 2).

The award is named for Robert H Pratt, the eminent Newfoundland collector, researcher, and author. While not a member of the Collectors Club of Chicago, he left a large portion of his philatelic library to the Club. In appreciation, the Club initiated the annual *Pratt Award*.

Congratulations to the winners. (It's a good thing the prize is in American dollars, not Canadian, or else there wouldn't be much to divide.) I can't help mentioning that all three prizewinners' articles appeared in *Topics*.

Help! Help! Help! Help! ...

The Editor needs:

articles!

letters to the editor (e-mails are OK)!

fillers!

literature for review!

more articles!

still more articles! ...

Keywords & phrases: Newfoundland, Pratt Award

BNA**Topics**, Volume 59, Number 1, January-March 2002

Initiation of the circular rate— a proposed early date item

Victor Willson, OTB

IN putting together my collection of nonletter mail of Canada in the nineteenth century, I initially focused on post-1851 material. Having seen an item in an auction dated about 1848 led me to investigate the origins of the circular or printed matter rate in Canada. Chuck Firby graciously photocopied the relevant early post office circular material that he had, and I dug into a few of my own sources. They all seem to point to 1844 as the initiation of a special rate for printed matter available to the public. There was an earlier rate, however.

A Quebec GPO circular of 31 March 1840 noted:

Printed Votes and Proceedings of the Colonial Legislatures may be forwarded by the Post between these Provinces and places in the United Kingdom, by Her Majesty's Packets, via Halifax, subject nevertheless to all the regulations and restrictions in force, under the Act of the 1st Victoria, Cap 34—which Votes and Proceedings shall be charged with the rates of postage following—that is to say: If not exceeding two ounces in weight, 1d sterling . . .

with an additional penny for each two ounces in weight. This apparently applied to these items being sent to the UK, *not* to domestic items.

From a Post Office Notice of 9 May 1843:

And we further direct, that such printed newspapers, printed prices current, printed commercial lists, and printed courses of exchange as are hereinafter mentioned, may be sent by the post free of postage, or liable to postage according to the regulations and rates hereinafter set forth (that is to say): . . . Printed colonial and foreign prices current, commercial lists, and courses of exchange, to France, and the colonies of France, one penny each . . .

It appears at this time that there was no charge on printed matter generally within the UK, or within the colonies.

Post Office Notice No 74 of 3 August 1843 noted that proceedings of the Colonial Legislatures could be sent at one penny per four ounces, limiting weight to 16 ounces, except as the Governor or Deputy Governor of each colony directed to exceed the weight and charge one penny per four ounces.

A Post Office Notice of 11 October 1843 made major changes. The Proceedings rate remained at one penny per four ounces subject to a six pound weight limit. Then,

Keywords & phrases: circulars, printed matter

And we further direct, that on all printed pamphlets and publications printed in British North America, or in the British West Indies, or in the United States and forwarded by the post between the United States and British North America, or the British West Indies, or between any place in British North America and any place in the British West Indies (without, in any such cases passing through the United Kingdom), there shall be charged and paid an inland colonial rate of one penny for every ounce weight thereof (in addition to any rate payable for the sea conveyance thereof), and any lesser weight than one ounce shall be charged as one ounce; but so that any such pamphlet or publications, if printed in the United States, shall, in order to be entitled to pass by the post at such reduced inland rate, be posted within the United States, and if not so posted, the same shall be liable to the like rates of postage as would have been chargeable thereon if the same had been a letter so conveyed by the post.

The same rate was then listed for such material between BNA and UK. The Notice went on to require that all such materials be sent without cover or with cover open at the ends to permit inspection. No writing or marks except the name of the person to which the material was being sent could be included on the material. The rating was in sterling, and the regulations came into effect 5 January 1844.

A clarification, Department Circular dated at Quebec 27 February 1844, noted that pamphlets or other printed publications to the UK had to be rated at full letter rate, proceedings excepted. This was changed in a Department Circular from Montreal, 1 November 1845, so that such prices current and printed commercial lists could be sent to and through the UK to other British colonies for 3½d if through the UK and 2½d if not. No weight was stated, but it was likely understood that these would be lightweight.

Finally, a Department Circular from Montreal of 29 December 1847 stated that pamphlets published in the UK could pass by the internal Canada post at 1d per ounce, the same as colonial material.

Over the last couple of years I made two e-Bay purchases of circulars pre-dating the 1851 transition of the post office from British control. A cover from prior to this event is shown in Figure 1 and has a Toronto double circle cancel dater dated 29 August 1846, a Hamilton receiver in red dated 1 August, and a Guelph receiver of the same date. The rating is a manuscript 1, and there is a TOO LATE marking. I propose this to be the earliest yet recorded circular under these regulations.

The contents are from the Medical Superintendent of the Toronto Temporary Lunatic Asylum indicating to the Clerk of Peace in Guelph that bed space was limited and if a patient was to be considered for admission, his particular presenting symptoms needed to be stated; the Asylum might be able to handle one kind of patient and not another in any particular month:

Toronto Temporary Lunatic Asylum August 1846

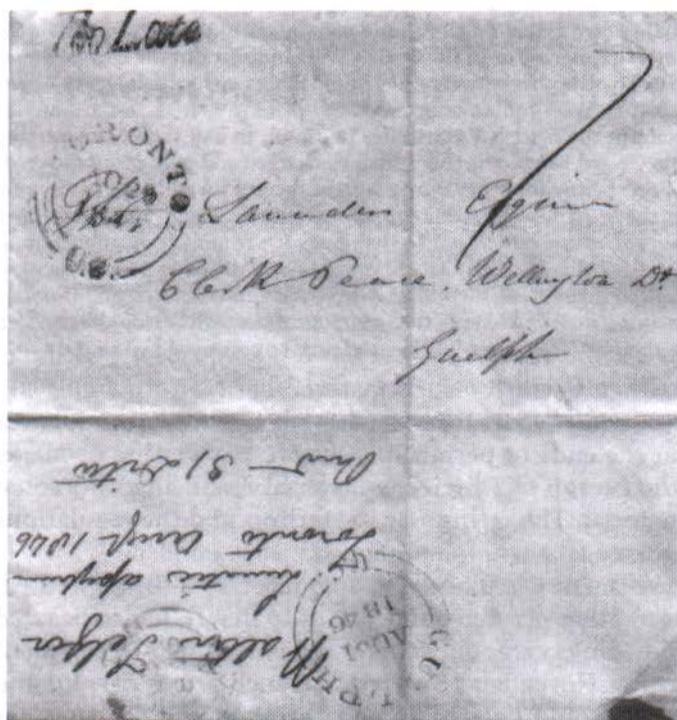


Figure 1. Early circular (1846)

Toronto to Guelph. [It is possible that the manuscript rate marking is a seven—not a one—which would be the correct rate for an ordinary single rate letter between these two points. However, the item was open for inspection.—ed]

Sir, As the patients in this Institution have of late greatly increased in number, both the buildings appropriated to their accommodation are now nearly full; fresh admissions, therefore, can only take place as vacancies occur at an average of about Four per month. It is requested that application for admission be in future made to the Medical Superintendent, stating whether the patient is quiet, violent, suicidal, filthy in his habits, or epileptic, as there may be room for patients of one class, and none for those of another.

By order of the Board of Commissioners,
WALTER TELFER Medical Superintendent

My second circular, incidentally, was sent from London, England, to Montreal, where it received a DE 17 1846 double cirsel receiver. It has a manuscript 1. As it predates the apparent penny postage date from the United Kingdom to Canada, I speculate it was carried out of the mails and posted in Montreal [possibly as a drop letter?—ed] It is a price list of goods from a London merchant.

Complements to: Initiation of the circular rate

The Editor

CHECKING my files, and in particular Allan Steinhart's unpublished rates notes, I found some other references to early rates on printed matter and newspapers. We are not so much concerned with the latter as with the former, as very often newspapers travelled free, while other printed matter did not.

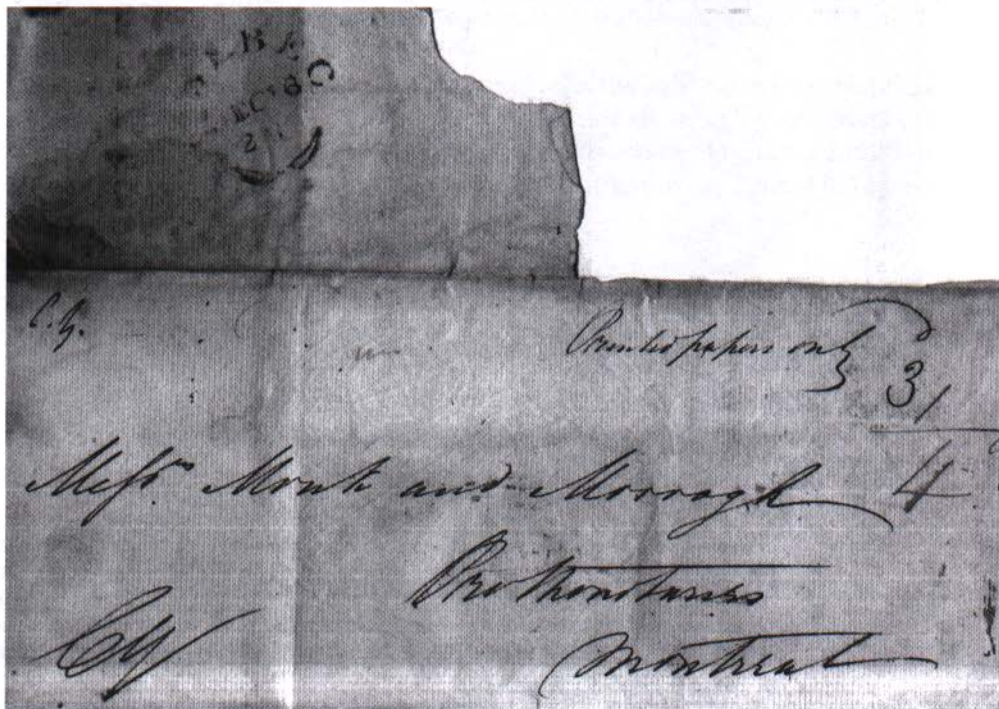


Figure 1. Printed matter (December 1826)

From Quebec to Montreal; charged triple printed matter rate (in this case, 1d cy each) plus 1d local delivery fee in Montreal. The regular postage from Quebec to Montreal would have been 9d cy per enclosure. The Quebec fleuron cancel is dated 16 December 1826.

Keywords & phrases: printed matter

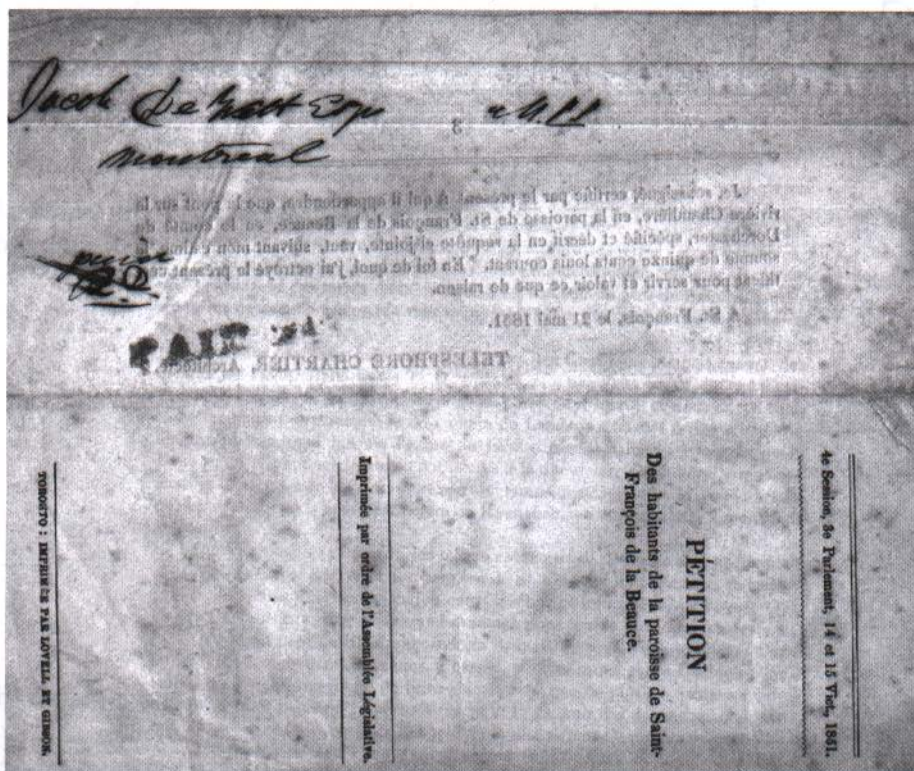


Figure 2. Printed document from Provincial Parliament (May 1851)
 From Toronto to Montreal; the postage was (prepaid) 2d cy, which is mysterious.
 The ratestamp PAID 2d (heavily overinked orange) is quite scarce.

An 1826 notice reads as follows:

The following regulations with respect to newspapers and pamphlets forwarded through the post, in these provinces, are published for the information of post-masters. . . . Newspapers can be sent through the post by other persons than printers, upon payment of one penny each, at the time they are put into the post office, and so may other periodicals, such as pamphlets, etc, upon payment at the time of posting of one penny a sheet.

There is no mention of circulars per se, although prices current and similar lists are often mentioned in such documents. Figure 1 shows an item from the same year as the notice. Vic's cover in the previous article is still the candidate for the earliest item designated a circular, at the circular rate.

From the Toronto Almanac of 1839:

Newspapers, Magazines, and other printed papers, not subject to letter postage, must be paid at the time of mailing, at the rate of one penny per sheet . . .

Prices current and commercial lists, published within these Provinces, may be forwarded to the United Kingdom by the Government Packets, via Halifax, at the reduced charge of one penny each, paid at the time of posting. These publications are subject to all regulations that apply to Newspapers.

Colonial Newspapers may be sent to the United Kingdom, either by the way of Halifax or New York. By the way of Halifax they are free of Postage to sender and receiver. By New York the sender must pay 2d on each paper, if by the old lines of Packets, but if by Steam Ships 4d. The receiver in England by the latter route, pays 3d.

All Newspapers received from Europe, via New York, are chargeable with 2d each. Newspapers, via Halifax from the United Kingdom, are free of Postage to sender and receiver, if sent within seven days from the date of publication; if mailed after that period, they are charged with full letter postage. Newspapers intended to go free, via Halifax, must have no mark, initials or date on the envelope, or paper, nothing More than the address, otherwise they will be charged with full letter postage.

Again, the word circular does not appear, although “prices current and commercial lists” are obviously of this type. A remarkable 1839 example of a free newspaper (wrapper) from Prince Edward Island to the United Kingdom is illustrated in [S, 71]; according to the preceding notice, it must have been sent via Halifax.



Figure 3. Cross-border circular (1850)

From Boston to Montreal; there is a Montreal datener on reverse. In the US, it was charged the circular rate, 3¢ (as indicated by the “3” at the base of the Boston datestamp), which was prepaid. However, in Canada, it was treated as an ordinary letter, and charged the rate under 60 miles (from the border to Montreal), 4½d cy collect. In fact, this was a circular, with no writing, so should have been charged the circular rate in Canada. The circular concerns a recent ruling in Washington requiring prepayment of duties on goods sent to Canada, and the consequent problems for exporters and importers. Ex-Switt.

The (London) GPO notice of 1840 concerns the postage on printed votes and proceedings of the Imperial and Colonial Parliaments and Legislatures—1d sterling per four ounces, even if sent between the UK and the Colonies, and is basically the same as the Quebec notice cited in Vic's article. It was difficult to dig up an example of such item prior to the Province of Canada taking over the postal administration, but I found a close approximation—in my collection, Figure 2 (dated May 1851, it is actually after Canada took over the post office). It is a printed petition addressed to a member of provincial Parliament (MPP) in Montreal from the Legislative Assembly in Toronto, dated May 1851.

Finally, Figure 3 shows a circular letter from the United States which was charged in Canada as if it were an ordinary letter, although in the US it was charged as a circular. Presumably this is a result of not marking the word *Circular* on it.

References

- [1] David Handelman & Gray Scrimgeour (editors) *Allan Steinhart, Postal Historian* PHSC, Ottawa (1997).

To BNAPS members—
an invitation to join the



ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA

Members receive the *Canadian Philatelist*, published bimonthly, and are entitled to use the Royal's sales circuit and insurance programme.

Membership by itself \$10; *Canadian Philatelist* \$20; membership & the *Canadian Philatelist* \$30, including a one-time \$5 admission fee. For Canadian residents, the fees are in Canadian dollars, otherwise in US dollars.

Write to the RPSC, Box 929, Station Q, Toronto ON M4T 2P1 for a membership application form.

Grow with the Royal

A continuing feature The late Hans Reiche compiled a number of interesting short philatelic stories. These will be used to fill the white space on the last page of articles. They will be marked **HR**. Unfortunately, we cannot verify these anecdotes—they are presented here for entertainment only!

The 6¢ small queen essay

John Hillson FCPS

IT is some ten years since an article by Messrs Simpson & Arfken appeared in *Topics* on the subject of the title (May–June 1991), so it seems appropriate that somewhat belatedly I should comment on it. In my opinion, the whole article is based on a false premise, namely that this so-called “Essay” and its 2¢ companion, listed by Pratt & Minuse as 39E–B, is the work of the British American Bank Note Company.



Figure 1. Essay die proofs of the 6¢ small queen

The one on the right was the accepted design. The one on the left is the subject of this article. The illustrations are from the the 1991 *Topics* article cited above.

When the decision was taken in mid-1869 to reduce the size of the postage stamps from that of the large queens, it would have been feasible for a new vignette to have been commissioned. It was not. The printers already had the vignette die used for the half cent large queen; it is clear that this had been made by taking an impression from the large queen vignette master die, and reducing its circumference, slightly off centre as it happens, so that just the tip of the portrait's neck is cut off.

As far as I am aware, proofs of the large queen have not been recorded, but the recent Simpson sales by Maresch revealed that Bill Simpson had what I think was one of the only two in existence, a proof of the small queen vignette—the other was sold in the Glassco 1969 sale and I haven't seen any

Keywords & phrases: essay, forgery

resale since, though it may well have changed hands in the last three decades. I do however know the whereabouts of the Simpson copy, which Pratt & Minuse did not record. Be that as it may, the printers had an approved vignette, so why on earth would they go to the trouble and expense of having a try-out for another one. After all, they were and are a commercial concern trying to make the odd penny.

Before going on to examine in detail the "Essay", I would like to make one or two other points raised in the original piece. First, the 3¢ small queen essay with "minor variation in scrollwork from issued" mentioned in *The Small Queens of Canada* (second revised edition) refers to the example in lot 351 in the 1980 Gibbons Sale of Simpson's earlier collection. It has the usual issued vignette. It has nothing to do with Pratt & Minuse 39E-B. The reference to the 2¢ and 6¢ with "the same description" in my work (op cit), I have to put my hand up and confess I was relying on the accuracy of Dr L Seale Holmes' catalogue. At the time the book was written, I had not seen examples of either.

When one examines the "non-serious vignette essay" as described in the article, the first point to note that the style of the lettering is quite unlike anything produced by the printers during their thirty years tenure of the contract. If anything, it resembles the lettering used by the American Bank Note Company in the 1859 issue. It is not of course the work of that Company, who like all the British and North American security printers involved in the production of adhesives for various governments, were capable of producing vignettes of Queen Victoria that had certain points of resemblance, from the Penny Blacks on—look at the profile vignette of the 1860 Nova Scotia lower values as the example of ABNC work.

What these vignettes all had in common was an elegant head, a fullish lipped profile, with a thin, slightly aquiline nose, and a softly rounded chin. What does one find with the "non-serious vignette" (a misnomer if ever there were one)? The neck is chopped off at the back, the nose is blunt, the chin square, and the lips what I believe in the roaring twenties was called "bee-stung". The top ornamentation is based on that of the issued 3¢, while the lower ornamentation resembles nothing issued. The unprinted area round the vignette is larger than that of the issued stamps as it is slightly smaller than the issued vignette, Finally the engraving is heavier in all respects than those of the issued stamps.

Simpson and Arfken nevertheless suggest that the printers could have produced this work and used it, after it was allegedly rejected in 1871 (this is speculation on their part) to be used for the values which appeared in 1872, for experimenting with different ornamentation. May I repeat, why

on earth should they? There are quite a few examples of both large and small queen essays which were not accepted, but where the issued vignette was always used.

Since they say in their article they "have no information about any essay of the 1¢ small queen", attention can be drawn to lots 220–222 of the 1980 Simpson sale, and in addition, a crudely perforated one—lot 223. Some of these, including the last, appeared again in the Maresch Simpson sale of 19 March 1996. Collective amnesia perhaps!

Well, what really is the status of Pratt and Minuse 39E–B proofs, which incidentally are on gummed paper—the British American Bank Note Company did not gum die proofs; plate proofs, yes, die proofs, no. They do not seem to be the work of any recognized security printer, so what is their provenance? If these had been perforated, there never would have been any doubt about what I believe to be their true status—out and out forgeries, designed to bamboozle the innocent and gullible and part them from their cash—at which so far in their career they seem to have been most successful.

Get another perspective on Canadian philately

Nearly half our members come from the other side of the pond.

They enjoy our quarterly award-winning magazine, *Maple Leaves*.

Some of them come to our **annual convention**
(to be held this year in Dumfries, 9–12 October).

Are you missing out?

For a complimentary copy of *Maple Leaves*
and further information, write to the Secretary:

J M Wright
2 Normandale House, Normandale
Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex TN39 3NZ
United Kingdom

Subscriptions payable in Canada



Vignettes of the Old West: Boulton's mounted scouts

Robert Lane

ON 6 April 1885, Major Charles Boulton led two troops of mounted infantry from their homes in Birtle and Russell (MB) to assist in putting down the Northwest Rebellion. Some months later, Louis Riel surrendered to members of these troops. There are many marvelous exhibits of the postal history of the Northwest Rebellion, and this essay touches on one small aspect—the troops from Birtle.

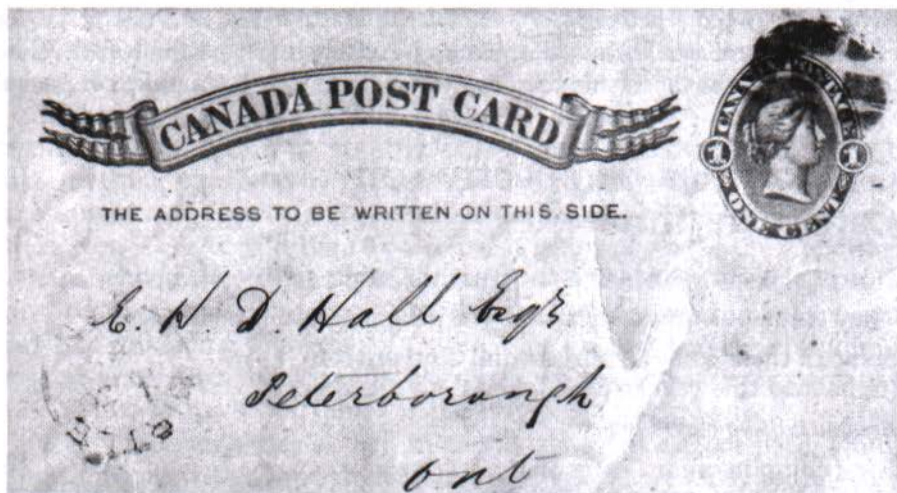


Figure 1. Front of card from Major C Boulton 1885
Birtle MB broken circle.

Boulton resided in Birtle in 1885. A post card from Boulton addressed to Peterborough on 28 January 1885 is shown in Figures 1 & 1B. His roles in both of the Riel rebellions (in 1870, he witnessed the execution of Thomas Scott, which Riel directed) are described in his book, *Reminiscences of the Northwest Rebellion* [1].

Louis Riel's place in the history of the West is still debated. The first rebellion he led in 1870 led to the formation of Manitoba, but his methods

Keywords & phrases: Northwest Rebellion, Riel, Boulton

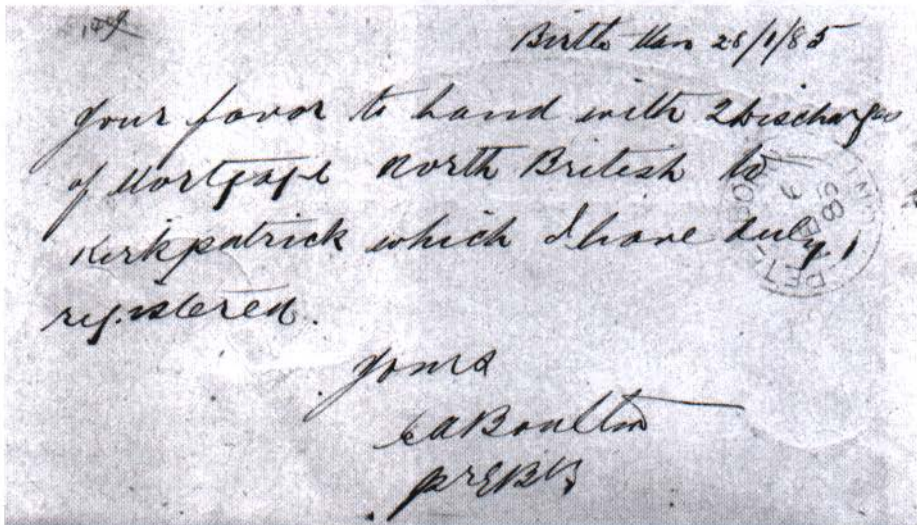


Figure 1B. Reverse of card in Figure 1
Peterborough broken circle in circle datestamp.

and state of mind resulted in his banishment to the United States, where he became an American citizen. He returned in 1885 to Canada from Montana to lead the Metis and Indians in presenting their grievances, and was ultimately tried and executed for treason. The certificate in Figure 2 is a photograph of Riel, verified in early 1886 by members of his family in St Vital (MB) as a photograph of him.

When Riel's demands turned to violent confrontation, Boulton offered his services (in late March 1885) to General Middleton, the commander of the government army. This resulted in the formation of the two mounted troops. Members of the troupes were paid 75¢ per day, outfitted with clothing purchased at Hudson's Bay stores and equipped with 1876 Winchester carbines, a model made for the RNWMP. They joined the thousands of other militia and police that Middleton commanded, and operated as "scouts". Boulton's troops fought at both Fish Creek and at Batoche, where the final battle occurred.

Birtle was, and is, a small farming community located on the Birdtail River, north and a bit west of Brandon. A scene of the local countryside some years later is shown in the Canada Post Card in Figure 3.

Once in the field, Boulton's troops engaged the first action of Middleton's campaign, en route to Fish Creek. At the time they were under the direct command of Lord Melgund, Middleton's Chief of Staff, who later became



CERTIFICATE.

Figure 2. Louis Riel (1886)

Certificate verifying that the photograph is of Louis Riel, as attested by members of his family, dated 12 January 1886 in St Vital, Manitoba. [*The printed details were too small to show properly.—ed*]



Birds eye view of Birtle

Figure 3. Turn of the century post card showing outskirts of Birtle

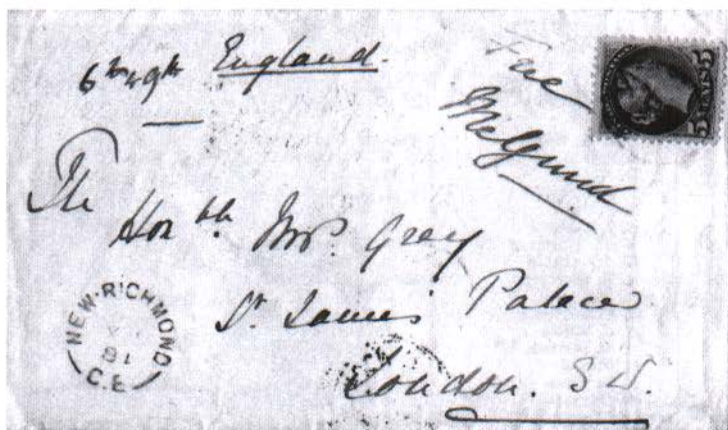


Figure 4. From Lord Melgund to Earl Grey in London (1884)
Postage of 5¢ (UPU rate); the *free* did not apply to international mail.



Figure 5. Conveying the mails (1885)

How Her Majesty's Mails Were Conveyed From Touchwood to Clarke's Crossing. Touchwood Hills post office was open 1882 12 07–1905 09 01. Cropped from an image in Souvenir Number 1 of the Illustrated War News, published 4 July 1885, by the Grip Printing & Publishing Co of Toronto [which of course published the Grip. The Grip was an important satirical magazine, almost completely written by the cartoonist Bengough. The cartoon “These hands are clean”—showing John A and referring to corruption in the building of the railway—is one of many familiar political cartoons that he drew.—ed]

Lord Minto, and then Governor General of Canada. As an aside, a cover sent prior to the rebellion from Melgund to Earl Grey (Figure 4), includes the names of persons who later donated the Minto Cup (Canadian lacrosse championship) and the Grey Cup (Canadian football championship).

APPENDIX.

501

"Boulton's Mounted Infantry"—No. 2 Birtle Troop.

Capt. J. A. Johnston	Trooper G. Hall	Trooper H. B. Bied
Adj't. H. Gough	J. Bolton	W. Crawford
Colour Serg't. H. Wood	D. McLean	R. Lane
Serg't. E. Dalton †	P. Roberts	J. B. Pentland
W. Ball	C. Roberts	J. Richardson
Corp. T. Selby	G. Robertson	H. B. Savin
T. Logan	W. M. Morrison	J. Thompson
Trooper G. King †	D. Johnstone	A. Walker
J. M. McNeil	R. K. Claringer	Serg't. J. Anderson
Joseph Barrett	H. Hay	H. Travis
R. Mahaffy	C. E. Bagshaw	J. Y. Ormsby
W. Doig	A. J. Spiers	D. Melvor
J. Flynn	W. C. Stewart **	H. B. Mitchell
T. Neil	G. Bristol	E. DeBalinhard
C. T. Moyle	A. D. Price	S. McKenzie
G. Lyons	W. Taylor	J. Pocha
G. Fisher	H. Gibson	B. Reid
H. Winearis	W. Green	M. McLoughlin
W. S. Ashe	E. O. G. Head	

Figure 6. Roster of Boulton's mounted infantry (1886) (Boulton, p 501.) One was killed in action, and two were wounded. The author's grandfather appears in the third column.

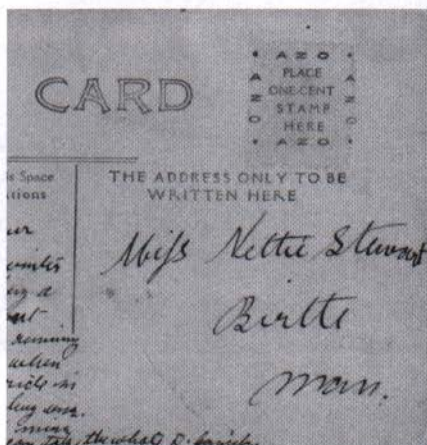


Figure 7. Front of Robert Lane's personal postcard (undated) Addressed to a cousin in Birtle (right side; stamp removed).

The 1885 rebellion was naturally of great interest in eastern Canada, which relied on the mail and the telegraph for information. News reporters accompanied the army and prepared sketches to convey the events of the war. The sketch in Figure 5 portrays how the mail was delivered under guard to and from the troops.

One of the Birtle troopers (Figure 6) was Robert Lane, father and grand-



Figure 7B. Reverse of card in Figure 7

father of members of BNAPS. His connection with Birtle lasted long after moving to Brandon; the card in Figure 7 & 7B shows Lane in his beaver hat on the front and a message regarding the purchase of the family Reo automobile on the back.

It seems very odd to be writing a small vignette about Robert Lane.

References

- [1] Charles A Bolton *Reminiscences of the Northwest Rebellion* (1886).
- [2] *Souvenir number 1 of the Illustrated War News* Grip Printing & Publishing Co, Toronto 4 July 1885.
- [3] William G Robinson & William E Topping (editors) *Territorial postmarks of Canada* Vancouver (1990).

HR *What's the right quantity?* Fred Jarrett was convinced that the 3¢ Admiral part perforated (#130a) existed in only a very limited quantity. He believed that 800 copies were issued. Catalogues indicated that the number was 2,200. For many years I collected illustrations of this stamp from auction catalogues and sales lists. Putting these together, a total of 513 can be accounted for. Some of these are in pairs, and others in larger multiples. Of these, some have appeared more than once on the market, others only once. The question remains: where are all these 2200 stamps? (*Hans Reiche*)

First day of use—US—Canada special delivery reciprocity

Victor Willson, OTB

A recent fortunate e-Bay purchase allows me to present what I believe to be the first recorded first day cover of the special delivery reciprocity agreement between Canada and the US, paid with the stamps of the originating country. Steinhart [2, 81] recorded the wording of a postal convention effective 1 January 1923:

Letters bearing in addition to ordinary postage, a Canadian special delivery stamp or bearing Canadian postage stamps to the value of twenty cents additional to the ordinary postage, and the words "Special Delivery" legibly written across the upper left hand corner of the address, will be accepted for special delivery at places in the United States.

Steinhart observed that it is assumed the same was true for the US, although covers continued to be sent each way with the special delivery stamps of the other country, as had customary for almost thirty years prior. Bill Radcliffe has the earliest Canada to the US cover having a US special delivery stamp, Scott E4, dated 4 July 1895. Similar items are known throughout the later 1890s, the Edward period, and the Admiral period. The Radcliffe item will be the subject of another article in the near future.

The cover in Figure 1 was mis-headed on e-Bay as 1926, corrected in the text as 1923, but the seller did not state the exact date. Fortunately, the back of the cover was shown, which has the notation *Rec'vd under cover To Postmaster Hamilton 9:55 Jany1st, 1923*. That rang a bell for me and I check both Davis' book [1] and Steinhart's [2]. The CDs on the front was quite indistinct in the e-Bay photo, but I took a chance and e-sniped the lot.

There are two Hamilton strikes on the front, a machine slogan tying the 20¢ special delivery stamp (E2) and 2¢ red Admiral to the cover with date 10 AM JAN 1 1923, and a free strike of an indistinct Hamilton hammer HAMILTON ONT CANADA with dot separators between the C and H at 8 PM and 4 PM clock-face locations. The latter is dated 10 JAN 1 1923 in three lines. There is no indication on the front that the cover went special delivery, but on the back there is a WASHINGTON (DC) SPECIAL DEL(IVERY) with JAN? 8 AM within the CDs and a duplex horizontal bar oval with inverted 2.

Keywords & phrases: special delivery, reciprocal payment

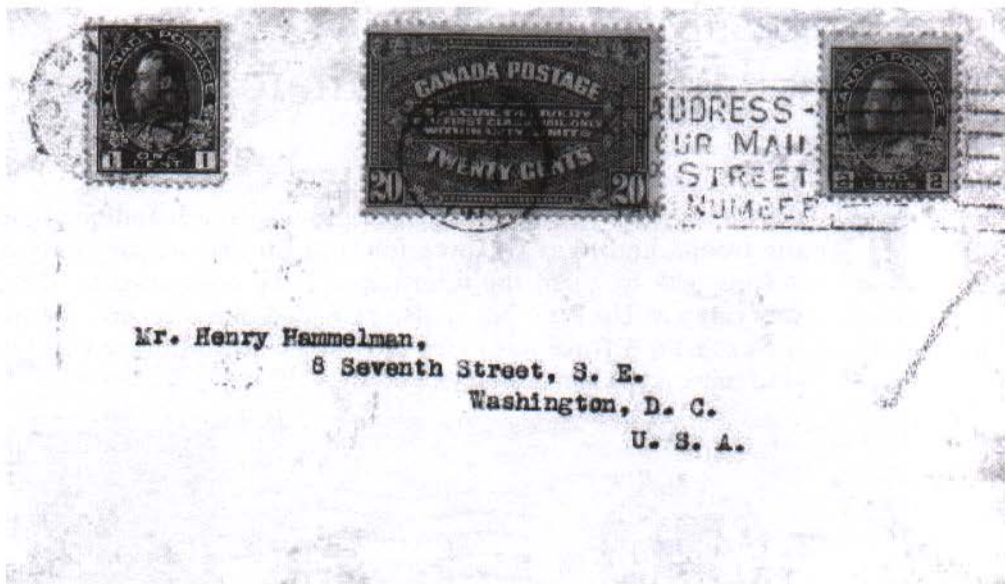


Figure 1. US—Canada special delivery (1 January 1923)

Postage of 20¢ special delivery fee, 2¢ postage to the US, and 1¢ war tax.

References

- [1] G H Davis *Canada special delivery* Unitrade, Toronto (1991).
- [2] A L Steinhart *The Admiral era: a rate study* Mission Press, Toronto (1981).

www.canadacovers.ca



Concessionary rates for Canadian Forces in Jamaica

C D Sayles

DURING the years 1940–1946, Canada provided one battalion of garrison troops, known as “Y” Force, for Jamaica. The primary duty of the Force was to guard the internment camp co-located with the British Army camp at Up Park, but it also provided one company for the garrison at Newcastle. Y Force was never provided with a Military Post Office, so had to rely on the Jamaican civil posts.



Figure 1. Before the concessionary rates (18 December 1941) Surface-rated letter from a member of Y Force, paying 2d. It was mailed at Kingston, Jamaica after examination by Military Censor #5. If the 29 December date on the front indicates the date received, the service was still quite good—only 11 days in transit.

Keywords & phrases: Y Force, Jamaica, military concession rates



Figure 2. Concessionary rates (April 1942)

Early example of free surface mail to Canada; concessionary rates were introduced 1 April 1942. As required to qualify for the concession, it has the Canadian Army legend on front, and the Orderly Room stamp on the back. It would have been placed in the special bag for free mail in the unit's Orderly Room.

A. & S. H. of C. (P.L.)

APR 13 1942

ORDERLY ROOM

Figure 2B. Backstamp on cover in Figure 2

The Orderly Room stamp of the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders on reverse, as required to qualify for the free postage concession.

Until the beginning of 1942, members of Y Force had two options when sending letters home. They could use airmail at a cost of 1/- per ounce (24¢ Canadian), or surface mail at a cost of 2d per ounce. Airmail was flown to Montreal via Miami; surface mail traveled on the weekly United Fruit Company ship to New York, and thence by rail to Montreal. With the entry of the United States into the war in December 1941, the United Fruit Company ships were taken up by the US government. The vessels could not be replaced, and surface postal service to and from Jamaica became very erratic; a month sometimes passed between opportunities to receive and dispatch

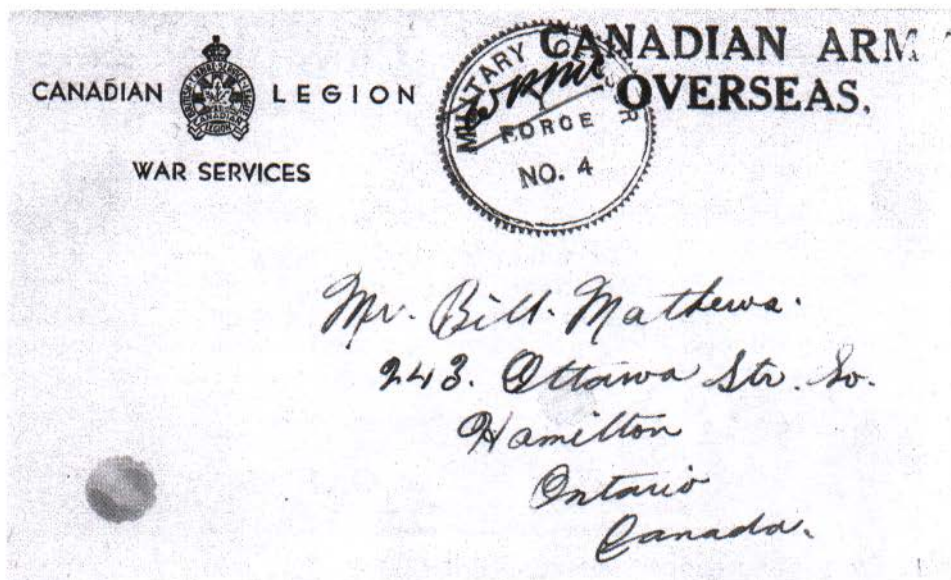


Figure 3. Concession cover on Canadian Legion War Services stationery With the qualifying Canadian Army legend on the front of card and the Orderly Room stamp on the back. The date cannot be later than 20 May 1943, when this unit left Jamaica.



Figure 3B. Reverse of cover in Figure 3

The Orderly Room stamp of "B" Company of the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders on the back of the letter, as required for the free postage concession.

surface mail. A contemporary letter relates that only *Lady Rodney* and *Cavaliери* continued to serve Jamaica.

The 1/- cost of airmail was very high for soldiers earning only \$1.50 per day, but still became the only practical way for troops to correspond with friends and relatives in Canada. This explains the relative scarcity of surface-rated covers during this period. See Figure 1 for an example of surface mail sent less than two weeks after the USA entered the war.

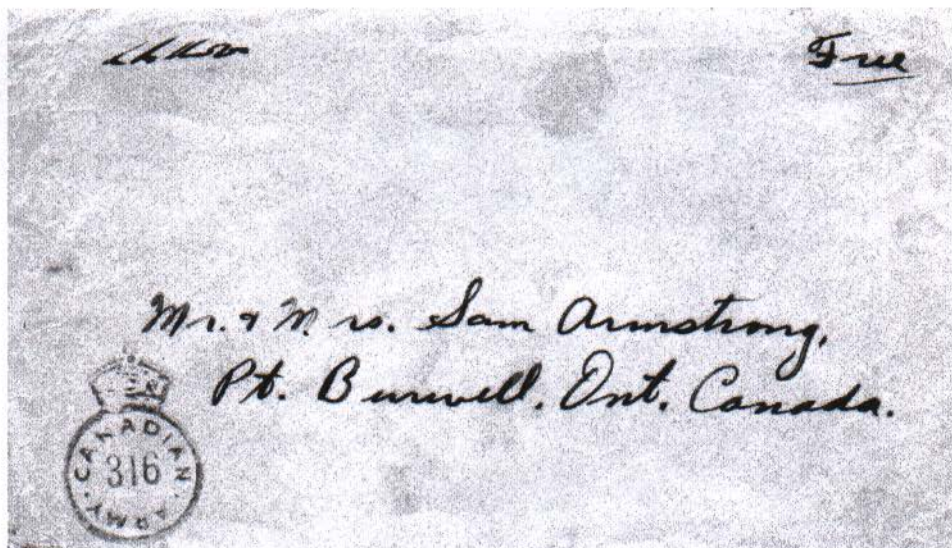


Figure 4. Slackness

Two years after the concessionary rates were initiated. An example of a letter given free handling, even though it has neither the qualifying Orderly Room stamp nor the Canadian Army legend. Such slackness brought the Commanding Officer a stiffly worded reminder about the postal concession rules. This letter must date later than April 1944, the date the small crown over circle censor handstamp was introduced.

As a result of the “destroyers for bases” deal in August 1941, the United States gained basing rights in Jamaica. By January 1942, the Americans had negotiated with the Jamaican post office, and been granted a very favourable airmail concession rate for their troops—6¢ per ounce. Naturally, this seemed unfair to the Canadian troops of the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders, and official notice was taken of their unhappiness. The commanding officer—Lt Col Sinclair—wrote to Ottawa stating the circumstances, and asking for a similar concession to be sought for the Canadian troops. Negotiations between the postal administrations followed, and resulted in two postal concessions for the Canadian troops.

Effective 1 April 1942, Canadian soldiers were granted free surface mail to Canada. This concession was limited to ordinary letters and postcards to Canada weighing less than two ounces. These cards and letters were required to have the words *Canadian Army Active* on the face near the top, and to bear the handstamp of the Orderly Room on the back. The concession letters had to be put in a special bag in the unit Orderly Room, which was



Figure 5. Concessionary airmail (24 October 1942)

Paying the airmail concession rate of 6d. The letter has been self-censored by Lt J M McLean (officers' privilege!), but unusually bears the censor stamp of the British Base Censor.

delivered to an officer of the Jamaica post office. There the free mail bag was placed in an outside bag, and dispatched to Montreal in the usual way. Because of the problems noted above, this concession was initially of little practical value to the troops, and early examples are difficult to find. See Figures 2, 2B, 3 & 3.

Over time, observation of the rules for marking free surface mail fell into abeyance. In March 1945 the Quartermaster-General found it necessary to remind the Officer Commanding in Jamaica of the rules, citing a specific despatch in which no letter had the Orderly Room stamp, and only a few had the Canadian Army legend. Such a cover is illustrated in Figure 4.

An airmail concession quickly followed. On or before 21 May 1942, a reduced airmail rate of 6d per half ounce was granted. You may wonder how 6d per half ounce is a concession from the regular rate of 1/- per ounce. The answer is that most letters weighed less than half an ounce, and hence most letters attracted the 6d charge. Even so, 12¢ per ounce compares very unfavourably with the American concession rate of 6¢ per ounce, and one wonders why the Canadian postal administration was not able to negotiate a comparable rate. Figures 5 & 6 show airmail concession rate covers.



Figure 6. Concessionary airmail (1 June 1942)

Paying the airmail concession rate of 6d. It is not uncommon for the airmail etiquette to be missing from letters in this period.

References

- [1] A P D Sutcliffe *The Military Mail of Jamaica* Roses Caribbean Philatelic Handbook # 5, Harrowgate UK, (1982).
- [2] Anonymous *Y Force: The Canadian Army in Jamaica* BNAPS Canadian Military Mail Study Group Newsletter # 51, (1983).
- [3] Memorandum, Lt Col I M R Sinclair to Dept of National Defense in Ottawa *Postal rates Jamaica to Canada* 15 January 1942, NAC RG 24, Vol 6661.
- [4] Memorandum, Lt Col E J Underwood to Quartermaster-General *Free postage on letter mail posted by members of Y Force* 19 March 1942, NAC RG 24, Vol 6661.
- [5] Post Office Department *Air mail posted by Canadian troops in Jamaica* Post Office Weekly Bulletin # 1108, 30 May 1942.
- [6] Memorandum, Major General H A Young to Officer Commanding Y Force *Free postage on letter mail posted by members of Y Force* 10 Mar 1945. NAC RG 24, Vol 6661.

We can sell your
Canadian or foreign
cover & stamp collections
or accumulations
on consignment
for the nominal fee of 10%

No collection too small
Cash advance available
(Please enquire before forwarding material)

R F NARBONNE

Telephone: (613) 257-5453

Toll-free: 1 (800) 247-5619 (only in Canada)

GREENWOOD STAMP COMPANY

216 Mailey Drive

Carleton Place ON K7C 3X9

Since 1962

Top secret—Operation Tabarin

The Editor

THE 1944 cover illustrated in Figures 1 & 1b has a number of interesting features. It is a registered cover from Dauphin (MB) to one of the most obscure destinations imaginable—Grahamland in the Antarctic (more about this later), routed via the Falklands. It is a partly flown air mail (manuscript endorsement *To N.Y. only* at lower left), taking almost seven months to get to its destination. It is addressed to a Captain A Taylor (so has a military connection) from his wife.



Figure 1. Registered letter to Grahamland (1944)

Postage of 10 ¢ registration plus 7 ¢ partial airmail—to New York only. With a large purple oval Dauphin registered datestamp, addressed to Captain A Taylor Royal Canadian Engineers, British Bransfield Expedition.

The *British Bransfield Expedition* in the address suggests some sort of exploration, and naturally some military officers would be involved. But this

Keywords & phrases: registered, Antarctic, Bransfield Expedition



Figure 1b. Reverse of the cover

Mailed by Mrs A Taylor on 16 May 1944. Postmarked at the Winnipeg & Kamloops RPO, Montreal (Distributing Division), Montreal (AMF), Miami (just three days after mailing), and Graham Land (Falkland Islands Dependency), over six months later.

was 1944—during the War, it hardly seems feasible that the British Government would sponsor an expedition to such a desolate area of the world. Presumably (as everyone who has seen the cover says), there was a military goal behind the expedition. And indeed there was.

This cover was part of a lot of Grahamland material found by Ottawa dealer Ian Kimmerly. Ian sold a few covers locally, then despatched the rest to another dealer. This was the only registered non-philatelic cover in the batch. It has been mounted in my collection for some years. A number of people have seen the cover, and all agreed that there must have been some military connection, but no one had heard of the Bransfield Expedition.

As usual, I was desperate for articles for *Topics*, so it occurred to me that it might be possible to find some relevant information about the cover on the Internet. This turned out to be spectacularly successful. I even turned up an autobiography by Andrew Taylor (the addressee) himself. I have put together the story from the various sources I found (given in the references). For more complete details, go to the Web sites themselves.

Why?

In 1943, Britain decided to undertake an operation in the Antarctic. It was known as *Operation Tabarin*, described by Taylor [1] as “supersecret”. The purpose of the operation varies with the source. One reference [2] merely says its purpose was “to establish meteorological and reconnaissance stations in Antarctica.” [3] says it was undertaken to provide reconnaissance (listening for German U-boats) and meteorological information.

According to [4], the “objective of the Operation was to build up British presence on the Peninsula through the establishment of Hope Bay as the main base of activity for the eastern Antarctic Peninsula.” Reference [5] says the purpose to make sure that the Antarctic did not fall into German hands (there had been pre-war explorations by Germany in the region).

A different take is given in [6]: In 1942, Argentina tried to annex South Orkney (after Chile had made claims in the Antarctic in 1940), and “the British, claiming security concerns, mounted *Operation Tabarin* and set up a number of permanent scientific stations, the most important being Port Lockroy (1944)” —the point was to establish sovereignty in the area, and reinforce sovereignty of the Falklands. This is confirmed to some extent by the Falkland Islands Philatelic Bureau (!) [7]:

This wartime naval operation was set up to discourage the use of Antarctic anchorages by enemy commerce raiders and to strengthen British claims to sovereignty over the Falkland Islands Dependencies. The organising committee appreciated that bases established for political reasons could also provide a platform for useful scientific research and provide valuable meteorological data for naval operations.

The Internet is not the most reliable source of information, and most of these references are secondary or tertiary, but [7] has a ring of authority.

When, where and how

Operation Tabarin began in 1943. The British Admiralty chartered a Norwegian sealing vessel, the *Veslekari*, renamed the *Bransfield*, to transfer cargo and men to the Falklands from the UK. This explains the name of the expedition. However, the *Bransfield* turned out to be unseaworthy, and did not make it beyond Portsmouth (UK)! It was replaced by the troop ship HMS *Highland Monarch*. The SS *Fitzroy* and the HMS *William Scoresby* provided transport between the Falklands and the base [7].

The base for the operation was on the location of a turn of the century whaling station [8]. Port Lockroy was established 16 February 1944, and is located on northern side of the peninsula, relatively near the southernmost point of South America, as shown in the map (Figure 2).

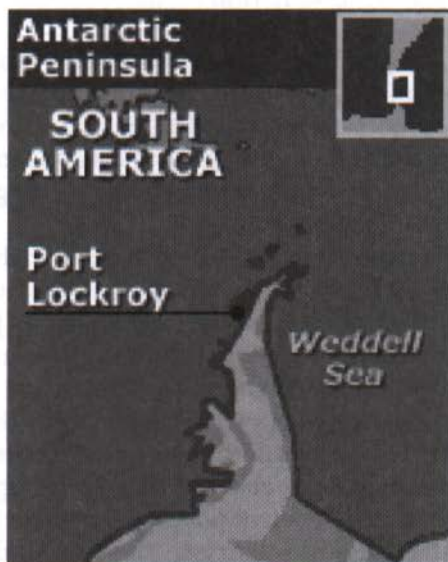


Figure 2. Location of Port Lockroy [9]
Base of Operation Tabarin.

One of the few surviving members of the expedition, Gwion Davies, mentioned that keeping warm, not fighting the Germans, was their priority [9]:

If they [*the Germans*] had come, we couldn't have done much about it. If they'd come in a battleship, we'd have been helpless. We didn't have a lookout or anything like that and if they'd turned up, we'd have offered them a cup of tea I think. They'd be cold too.

After the war, it reverted to a research station, but was abandoned in 1962. Subsequently, it was revived and is now operated by the British Antarctic Survey; there is a considerable tourist industry there.

Who

Most of this biographical information is from the Andrew Taylor Fonds at the University of Manitoba [10]. Andrew Taylor BSc, MA, Ph D, D Sc, Order of Canada (1907–1993) was born in Edinburgh, and obtained an engineering degree from U Manitoba in 1931. He was a provincial surveyor until 1933, when he became Town Engineer in Flin Flon. In 1939, he joined the Canadian army and travelled to Britain.

In 1943, he was transferred to the British Navy as part of Operation Tabarin, which was initially named “Naval Project 475”. He was the senior colonial officer (Captain). With the illness of the commander of the

expedition, he became leader—“He earned the distinction of being the only Canadian to have ever commanded an expedition in the Antarctic.” [10]

In 1946, he returned to the Canadian Army, was promoted to Major, and posted to the Directorate of Engineering Development in Ottawa. He travelled extensively through the far north. In 1950, he enrolled at the Université de Montréal, despite zero knowledge of French (his efforts to learn French, which never really succeeded, are amusingly described in the autobiographical [1]), and earned his master’s degree.

He retired from the Army in 1952, and went into private research contracting, and later established an engineering consulting firm. He obtained a doctorate on the physiography of the Queen Elizabeth Islands, where he had been travelling after returning to Canada. Late in his life, he was joint proprietor of the *Antiquarian Book and Art Gallery*. Ironically, one of seven copies of a photocopied typed manuscript of his experiences sold for US\$550 at auction in 1996 [4].

About the letter writer, his wife. Taylor met his wife, Martha Porter, in Flin Flon. They were married in 1939. She died in 1963. (I could not find any further information on her.) He subsequently married Pauline Hudson, who died in 1979.

There are other Canadian connections to the Expedition. One of the participants was Ivan Mackenzie Lamb (1911–1990) a well-known botanist specializing in mosses and lichens. He was born in London (UK), and worked in the “Canadian National Museum” [11] in Ottawa 1950–1954, before going to Harvard. Interestingly, he had a sex change operation in 1971 and became Elke Mackenzie.

There is far, far more information available, particularly in Taylor’s reminiscences [1] and the fonds [10]. For information about post-war operations at Port Lockroy, consult the references.

References

- [1] <http://www.umanitoba.ca/libraries/units/archives/arcticbb/rattails.shtml> *Blue Books & Rat-Tails* (British Parliamentary Papers Relating to Canadian Arctic Expeditions) by Andrew Taylor (1991).
- [2] http://home.sol.no/wiencke/wi_isle/wi_isle.htm
- [3] <http://www.davidmgonigal.com.au/log.htm>
- [4] <http://www.anta.canterbury.ac.nz/Subfolder/news/montreal/issue5/cool-reading.html> Review of the book *ss Eagle—The Secret Mission 1944–45* by Harold Squires (Jespersion Press, 1992); the book describes the role played by Newfoundlanders in British Antarctic operations.
- [5] <http://www.scom.org.uk/newsletter/y2000/06/Antarctic.html>

- [6] http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/Rotunda/2209/Falkland_Dependencies.html
- [7] <http://www.falklands.gov.fk/pb/bat/definitives93.htm> Falkland Island philatelic Bureau, British Antarctic Territory
- [8] <http://www.heritage-antarctica.org/ahtuk/restoration/portlockroy.htm> A brief history of Port Lockroy.
- [9] http://news.bbc.co.uk/hi/english/sci/tech/newsid_1726000/1726549.stm BBC report
- [10] http://www.umanitoba.ca/libraries/units/archives/collections/mss_finding_aids/taylor.shtml Andrew Taylor fonds
- [11] <http://www.huh.harvard.edu/libraries/archives/LAMB.html> Farlow reference library of cryptogramic botany

CANADA REVENUE STAMP ALBUM

449 pages printed on high quality, acid-free watermarked paper with four custom-imprinted binders. *Introductory special:* to Canada \$C199, to USA \$US149 ppd

ESJ van Dam Ltd

PO Box 300B

Bridgenorth ON K0L1H0 Canada

phone: (705) 292-7013

fax: (705) 292-6311

website: www.esjvandam.com



La Société d'Histoire Postale du Québec

(The Postal History Society of Québec)

invites applications for membership

The SHPQ publishes (*en français*) an award-winning quarterly journal.

Annual membership fee is \$18.

Sec'y: Christiane Faucher, 265 du Chalutier # 306, Québec QC G1K 8R3
chrisjac@total.net

Design errors: the left-handed plough & the unsafe lumberjack

Dale Speirs

DURING the 1946 budget debates, on 6 August, Tory MP Gordon Graydon raised a concern in the Canadian House of Commons about the forthcoming Peace issue stamps [1]. An extract from Hansard tells the story.

Mr Graydon: I cannot find any other item in the estimates on which to raise this important point, and so I take this opportunity of raising it on the administration item. I understand from outside sources that the Post Office Department is about to issue new postage stamps, and I am told that there are seven new designs to be issued.

Mr Bertrand (Laurier): I made a statement in the House about the matter last week.

Mr Graydon: That is what I was coming to. Before the Minister made his statement in the House and before the members had an opportunity of seeing these exhibits of beauty, a storm was brewing over the new designs, and I want to get the Minister's point of view because it is essential that we should have both sides. One of the designs I understand shows a ploughman with his furrow being turned on the wrong side of the plough. I have not seen the stamp myself. I think the members of the House should have been given a preview of these new designs.

Mr Gibson (Hamilton West): A left-handed plough..

Mr Graydon: If the Minister ever attempted to plough he would certainly take the wrong side of whatever he was doing. Perhaps he would be a left-handed ploughman.

Mr Mackenzie: Cinninnatus.

Mr Graydon: Another stamp depicts a logging scene. I am not prepared to express an expert opinion on this. No doubt my good friend the hon member for Comox-Alberni and others will be able to do that. But the way we hear it is that this new stamp shows two loggers turning their backs upon a falling tree, which from the expert's point of view indicates that these two men are in great danger because of their lives. Other criticisms as well have been made of the new stamps that are being issued. I should like the Minister to indicate who was responsible for these stamps, who were the designers, and would he also indicate whether any changes are to be made? Perhaps in the end these stamps will provide additional money for the department. I certainly am not going to object to that. One paragraph I read in the newspapers indicates that

Keywords & phrases: design errors

these new stamps will incidently make money for the department. I quote one paragraph: "In all this, whatever the technical criticism, there is profit and enjoyment."

Mr Mitchell: What paper is my hon friend quoting from?

Mr Graydon: It is the paper that always supports my hon friend, the Toronto Globe and Mail. It goes on: "Canadian stamps enjoy a world-wide reputation for their quality and a new issue almost always pays for itself three times over due to the demands of collectors. Philatelists"—I may have the pronunciation wrong—"are a peculiar brew who draw unbounded satisfaction from such things as inverted centres, over- impressions, and double transfers. To them a left-handed plowman or a foolish woodsman is a thing of beauty and a joy forever."

I would ask the Minister to enlighten the committee about these new objects of beauty which are shortly to adorn our letters.

Mr Bertrand (Laurier): As everyone knows, I am almost new in the office of Postmaster General. I never thought there were so many philatelists in the world, but long before this issue came out we received hundreds of letters asking us to reserve a certain number of postage stamps for the writers. . . . About the farmer in eastern Ontario, it is true that the gentleman who is ploughing the field there does it on the left. My attention has been drawn to that, but I am told that there are reversible ploughs; if somebody has to plough on the down hill he ploughs in such a way that the fallow falls downhill, not uphill.

Mr Graydon: Does that mean the government is going downhill?

Mr Mackenzie: All the Tories are going downhill.

Mr Bertrand (Laurier): It is that way on this eight cent stamp. I did ploughing myself when I was much younger, but I do not remember whether I was ploughing on the left or the right. However, according to the philatelists, the picture of this plough turning on the left is more valuable than if it were on the right side. There is no error; it is a very fine and well designed stamp.

Now about the 50¢ stamps; this issue shows lumberjacks working on fir and pine in British Columbia. I do not think there is any danger for these two men, because one is behind a tree the tree is falling on the right and the man is behind it and the other gentleman is cutting a tree which seems to be at least 150 feet on the right. The tree is falling to the rear, so that there is no danger at all. I do not think that stamp will have the value of the one which shows the plough working on the left.

After the debate, Tory leader John Bracken was seen in the halls of Parliament demonstrating to Graydon the differences inherent in operating a left versus right furrowing plough [3]. Bracken had been an agriculture professor in his pre-political life.

Are They Really Errors? The Ploughman Plods His Weary Way

I have a particular interest in these two supposed errors because of my personal background. As a teenager, I learned to drive a tractor before a car,



Figure 1. The 50¢ lumbering stamp (1946)



Figure 2. The 8¢ ploughing stamp (1946)

since my father felt fairly safe letting me putter around the grain fields where I couldn't hit anything, compared to out on the highway. In the central Alberta district where I grew up, as in most of the prairies, ploughs are not commonly used. Duckfoot cultivators or Nobel blades do a better job in drier climates than ploughs. I spent many hours driving around and around in circles on our grain fields, tilling under stubble or cutting weeds before seeding. However, we only used duckfoot cultivators, which have a V-shaped blade that travels horizontally just under the soil to cut the roots of the weeds, and are followed by disk blades, which chop the soil vertically. Furrows don't enter into it.



Figure 3. Definitive showing antique plough (1983)

Notice that the plough will turn the furrow to the right.

In the middle 1970s, as a horticulture student at the University of Alberta, I worked one summer for their Soil Science Experimental Farm, with two locations near Edmonton, one at Ellerslie and the other at Breton. Research test plots tend to be long and narrow, and in the case of the Breton plots where I ploughed, too long to travel around and plough a new row from the far side. Therefore we used a *boustrophedon* (more commonly called *two-way*) plough, which is a right-hand plough with a mirror-image plough stacked on top of it upside-down. I would plough across the plot in the usual way. At the far end, the tractor hydraulic three-point hitch would lift the plough, causing it to flip over. Going back across the plot, the mirror-image plough would then tilt the furrow to the left, which, because it was going in the opposite direction, meant that the furrow was falling the same way as the right-hand plough.

A boustrophedon plough is very distinctive looking, with one plough inverted upon another, and there is no possibility of mistaking it on a stamp design. The farmer on the Peace stamp is not using such a plow, especially since he is pulling his plough with horses. Since the furrows are to the left, the plough is shown incorrectly. Moldboard ploughs tip the cut soil to the right [2, 130–133]. The obvious reason for such an error is that the photograph on which the scene was based had been flipped over at the negative stage and was a mirror image.

Are They Really Errors? Timberrrrr!

After graduating with a BSc in Horticulture, I eventually ended up working for the City of Calgary Parks Department, and still am. My job includes tree pruning and occasionally felling dead or decrepit trees. Safety regulations

for arbouriculturists are much the same as for lumberjacks. Always face a falling tree so you can react quickly. Turning your back is dangerous if the tree twists on the stump or catches on something and then suddenly comes round at you. Always have a clear escape route. Never stand directly behind a falling tree in case it kicks back as it falls (and it usually will). Never work within range of anyone else also falling trees. Never leave a snagged tree leaning. A look at the 50¢ Lumberjack stamp shows one obvious error, for the lumberjacks have their backs to a falling tree and each other. While they are dropping the trees in opposite directions, that does not excuse them from ignoring each other, for any tree could go out of control and fall the wrong way. The lumberjack at left rear of the stamp has his back to a large tree that is falling into other trees and will, if it hasn't already, snag on background trees to the right. If the errant lumberjack is lucky, the snag will catch and hold onto other trees. If not, the falling tree will recoil against the other trees, and its base will kick back hard over the top of the stump, possibly hitting him.

Although the Minister replied to the Opposition member in 1946 that the trees were 150 feet [*just under 50 meters—ed*] apart, I cannot accept this difference on viewing the stamp. The lumberjacks are obviously within range of each other. I would guess they are about five paces from each other. If they were a greater distance, then the rearmost lumberjack would appear much smaller from perspective.

I concur that this stamp is also a design error. The likely reason is that it is prepared from composite photos and the artist got the perspective wrong. The distances appear too close, as if viewed through a telephoto lens. One thing that strikes me about the design in general is that the subject matter is vertical but the stamp is horizontal. This is suitable for a ploughman plodding across an open field, but a lumberjack stamp would have been better as a vertical design. In that case, only one lumberjack need be shown, and there would be a better view of the trees.

References

- [1] G Graydon *Debates of the House of Commons* Session 1946, 4392–4393.
- [2] R A Kepner, R Bainer, & E L Barger *Principles of farm machinery* second edition Avi Publishing Co, Connecticut (1972).
- [3] Anonymous *Case of the left-handed plow on stamp brings chuckles in House* Ottawa Journal, 7 August 1946, p 20.

Canadian-related commercial mail to Tonga

Gray Scrimgeour

THE island Kingdom of Tonga is in the South Pacific, east of Fiji and south of Samoa, about two thirds of the way between Hawaii and New Zealand. Just west of the international dateline, Tonga has four main groups of islands. Vava'u is the main island of one of these island groups, with Neiafu the main town on the island of Vava'u. Canadian-related commercial mail to Tonga is scarce.

Recently, a large correspondence of inward Tonga mail was sold. The covers, some of which contained letters, are all addressed to Vava'u. I was able to purchase three covers to Tonga written on board the *RMMS Aorangi*, the last passenger ship operating on the regular Vancouver–Sydney service provided by the Canadian Australasian Line [1]. All three envelopes are *Aorangi* stationery, with the ship's name on the reverse. The letters were written by a New Zealand passenger on the ship who was making a visit to the United States. They are addressed to the wife of a doctor at Vava'u. The first two items discussed are paquebot mail, posted on board the ship.



Figure 1. Tonga to the Friendly Islands (1949)

The first cover (Figure 1) bears an Australian 2½d stamp cancelled in Hon-

Keywords & phrases: Tonga, South Pacific

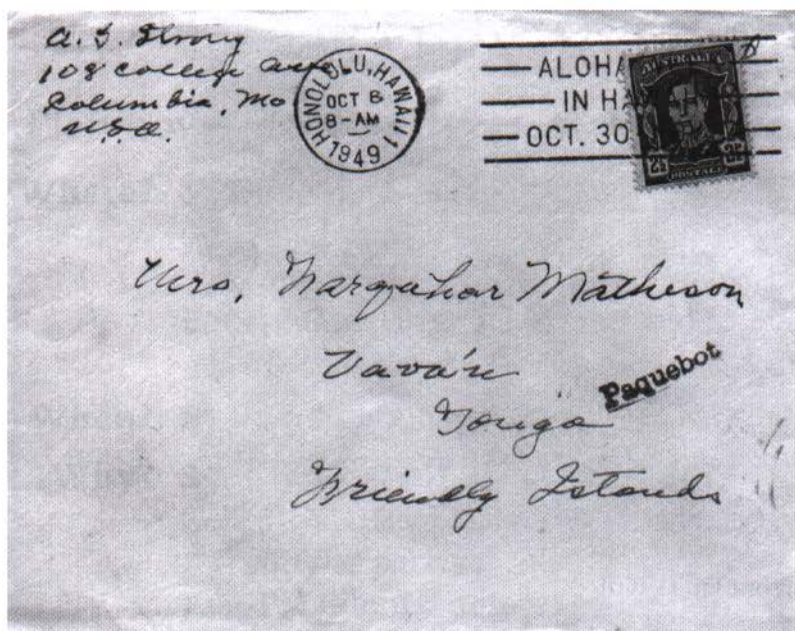


Figure 2. Victoria paquebot (1949)

olulu on 8 October 1949. There are backstamps of NUKUALOFA TONGA (23 NO 19 11AM) and VAVAU TONGA (25 NO 49 9-AM). A purple "Paquebot" marking of diameter 19.5 mm (Hosking No 799, early date) was applied at Honolulu. On this trip, the *Aorangi* left Sydney on 22 September, Auckland on 27 September, and Honolulu on 7 October. The enclosed letter is dated 2 October 1949, and begins, "Here I am on the *Aorangi* nearing Honolulu." The writer had planned to get off the ship at Honolulu and fly to San Francisco, but her luggage could not be shipped on to Vancouver for forwarding to Missouri without her being present, so she changed her plans and was staying on the ship all the way to Vancouver.

The second cover (Figure 2) is also franked with an Australian stamp, and is postmarked with both a PAQUEBOT / VICTORIA / POSTED AT SEA / RECEIVED circular stamp (Hosking No 1070, undated) and a Victoria (BC) machine slogan cancel (13 October 1949, 4 PM). The reverse has the same Tonga postmarks as the cover in Figure 1. The *Aorangi* arrived in Victoria just after 11 AM on 13 October; the 4 PM postmark shows the mail was dispatched quickly. This letter, written between Honolulu and Vancouver, comments that the weather is getting cooler.

The third cover (Figure 3) is another RMMS *Aorangi* envelope, written by



Figure 3. From Fiji (1950)

the same writer to the same recipient, this time almost a year later, on the trip back to New Zealand. It bears a 5d Fiji stamp, and is postmarked 16 September 1950 at Suva. The *Aorangi* departed 1 September 1950 from Vancouver and arrived at Suva on 15 September. This cover probably was mailed in Suva while the ship made its brief stop there.

The backstamps at Nukualofa and Vava'u appear to be 21 & 24 September, respectively. Ships of the Union Steam Ship Co of New Zealand Ltd operated between Fiji and Tonga. The next ships were scheduled to sail from Suva to Tonga on 27 September and 3 October. However, this cover was undoubtedly carried by air, on the flight of the New Zealand National Airways Corporation DC-3 that left Nausori, Fiji for Tonga on 21 September.

These three covers are an excellent record of the mail service performed by the *Aorangi* (11) on the Canadian mail route between Canada and Australia. The two 1949 covers illustrate the proper use of paquebot markings for mail posted on board the ship. While not rare, covers showing paquebot postmarks from the Pacific Ocean are much less common than those from the Atlantic.

References

- [1] A Unwin *Canada's Pacific maritime mails* *The American Philatelist*, June 1996, 522–539.

BNAPEX 2002

Plan now to attend the 2002 convention.

Where? Spokane, Washington

Convention Hotel:

Doubletree Hotel, Spokane City Center

Bourse, Meetings, Exhibits:

Spokane Convention Center (next door)

When? 27–29 September 2002

Why? 22 BNA & worldwide dealers

Complimentary hotel/airport transportation
also free parking

Past Presidents' dessert reception

“Grab the brass ring”

Spokane's famous Looff Carousel

Convenient shopping—downtown location
and much more

Help? Opportunities in the Great Northwest
Spokane Convention & Visitors Bureau

801 West Riverside, Suite 301

Spokane WA 99201

www.visitspokane.com

Info? John D Arn

N 17708 Saddle Hill Rd

Colbert WA 99005

Tel: 509 467 5521

Fax: 509 467 2282

johndarn@aol.com

The convention is hosted by the Inland Empire Philatelic Society in connection with their annual *Apple Harvest Show*—200 Ameripex-style frames of exhibits for both BNAPS and Apple Harvest.

Long may she reign— but what about the stamps?

Dale Speirs

WHEN Canada Post announced its 2002 stamp programme, initially there was indignation from monarchists because no Queen Elizabeth II definitives were announced. However, a follow-up indicated that there would be a stamp to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the accession of the Queen to the throne in 1952. It was not the first time there were squawks about a lack of QE II stamps. Beginning in 1977, during the Trudeau era, monarchists kept themselves in continuous uproar about what appeared to them to be unjust neglect of the Queen.

The 1977 commemorative

On 4 February 1977, the subject of a QE II commemorative for her twenty-fifth anniversary on the throne was brought up in the House of Commons by WG Dinsdale, member for Brandon-Souris[1]. During Question Period, he asked Postmaster General Jean-Jacques Blais about the stamp, but prefaced his question with a sly dig at the Post Office: "I congratulate him for issuing a commemorative stamp honouring the Queen and also for the ceremony which was held this morning at which the Minister upheld the reputation of the Post Office by arriving slightly late." After a pause for the usual *Some hon. Members*: "Oh, oh!", Dinsdale went on to ask: "In view of the high denominational value of the stamp and the popularity of the monarch, is the Postmaster General planning to use this stamp to retire the deficit of the Post Office?" The PMG was quite unperturbed and calmly replied,

Well, Mr. Speaker, that would be desirable, and I appreciate the remarks of the hon gentleman. I would like to add that if there was a slight delay, it had nothing at all to do with the Post Office. I was relying on the Ministry of Transport to bring me there. . . . However, with reference to the high value of the stamp, we felt that a 25¢ issue would coincide with Her Majesty's twenty-fifth anniversary very well. I would like to indicate also that the silver foil which was used in that stamp was not the result of any melting of silver coins left over from the coin programme, in case the hon gentleman might ask.

The storm arrives

That was but the prelude to a greater storm, for several weeks later, on 25 April, John Diefenbaker raised a question about why the recently issued

Keywords & phrases: Queen Elizabeth

12¢ definitives depicted the Parliament buildings instead of the Queen. He was reacting to a Canadian Press report which had appeared in the newspapers two days earlier announcing the lack of a QE II stamp, and which quoted Post Office spokesman John Blenkiron as saying he could give no reason for the change [2]. This amounted to waving a red flag in the faces of unreconstructed monarchists such as Diefenbaker, who unsuccessfully sought a motion [3]

... in condemnation of the Government of its latest step in the surreptitious downgrading of the Monarchy by replacing the Queen's head from the 12¢ stamp, this being the first time in history that the definitive stamp does not bear the Monarch's likeness.

After this motion failed, another opposition member, Donald Munro, took up the challenge. PMG Blais told him the whole thing was based on an erroneous report by the Canadian Press agency, and that there would be both Parliament and QE II 12¢ definitives [4]. In response to a supplemental question by Munro, Blais defended the two types of definitives, saying that: "... we are not the only country which issues more than one definitive stamp of main denomination."

At this point, Diefenbaker jumped back into the argument [5].

Mr. Speaker, I listened to the alibi of the Minister with some interest. Did he not read that one of his officials was asked why the change? Did he not read that the official said "I cannot understand why it was made." The stamp was shown with the Queen entirely removed and when he was asked why it was done, he said "I don't know why they did it"

Blais repeated that the postal official had been misquoted. At this point the debate veered off into the Prime Minister's antipathy to the monarchy, and Diefenbaker dropped the stamp issue in favour of Trudeau-bashing.

Has anyone seen The Queen?

The topic of the QE II stamp re-surfaced on 19 December 1978; not surprisingly, Diefenbaker was the one who revived it [6]. This time, he went directly after Trudeau.

I have said on a number of occasions that this government is endeavouring to downgrade the monarchy. I need only point to what the Prime Minister said. He said he had no more use for the Queen than he had for snowshoeing or skiing.

After a bit of did not—did too between Diefenbaker and Trudeau, interspersed with frequent *Some hon Members*: "Oh, oh!", Diefenbaker finally got down to his point.

On this very date, neither in the House of Commons post office nor in the Senate post office can one purchase any stamps with the Queen's head thereon.

Why is that? I asked specifically for them and I was told there were none. Was that coincidence?

This brings to mind a rather interesting mental picture of Diefenbaker downstairs at the post office, looming over the counter (he was a tall man) and spluttering at some hapless postal clerk, who probably wished she had phoned in sick that day. One can imagine heads turning in the post office lobby as Diefenbaker boomed out loudly and indignantly at the lack of QE II stamps.

The Postmaster General, Gilles Lamontagne, calmed Diefenbaker down in the House by promising to personally see to it that the stamps were put into stock by the next day. "That is fine", Diefenbaker said, and subsided back into his seat, as the House then went on to consider the Alaska pipeline. (When you read through Hansard, you will notice that the members jump randomly from one item to the next, and apparently have the attention span of a fungus gnat. The importance of a subject is not correlated with the amount of time spent discussing it in the House.)

You shall hear of rumours

The next philatelic outburst in the Commons began on 30 October 1981, when opposition backbencher DM Collenette queried Prime Minister Trudeau about rumours that in 1982 there would be no postage stamp with the Queen's portrait [7]. Again, the whole thing was touched off by an inaccurate report in the newspapers. Trudeau used the opportunity to get in a few ironic digs at the Tories about the monarchy, but after the usual to-and-fro subsided, he confirmed unequivocally that there would be a QE II definitive in the forthcoming year. The matter reappeared a week later on 3 November, when backbencher Bud Bradley looked further ahead to the future and asked the Minister Responsible for Canada Post (there no longer being a Postmaster General) about 1983 and subsequent years [8]. André Ouellet, the Minister, pointed out that stamp programmes were not decided that far ahead, and added, "I think somebody, somewhere, is really trying to create a problem that does not exist."

Where is she?

The 36¢ QE II definitive was a short-lived one, and its delay in appearing raised concerns among monarchists. Backbencher Reginald Stackhouse asked on 29 May 1987, about where it was [9]. In between a question about a shortage of dairy herdsmen and another about Via Rail maintenance shops, he put the question:

Mr Speaker, is Canada Post going republican? When the new 36¢ stamps were issued in April, many were disappointed to discover that there was none bearing the Queen's portrait. This stamp was promised twice for dates in May but

still has not appeared. Many Toronto customers have been told by post office workers there that it might never be issued. If this were an isolated incident, it might be accepted as only an inconvenience. However, it impresses many from experience that it is a part of a pattern. It is a serious grievance to all Canadians who esteem the Queen as Canada's head of state.

Stackhouse came back to the matter on 31 August, since the 36¢ stamps still had not appeared [10]. Harvie André, the Minister Responsible explained that:

Apparently there have been some production problems with the supplier of those stamps. I was hoping they were working on a stamp with my picture on it but this is apparently not the case.

Some hon members: Oh, oh!

Mr André: I am told that on 1 October there should be fifteen million such stamps available for Canadian consumers.

That stamp finally did appear on 1 October, but had a brief life, as the postal rate was raised to 37¢ shortly thereafter (Figure 1). Genuinely-used non-philatelic covers with this stamp in correct time of use will therefore be scarce. Canada Post moved a bit faster with its replacement, and the 37¢ QE II definitive was available on 30 December 1987.

Keeping the Queen in stock

In subsequent years, complaints about QE II stamps concerned post offices not keeping them in stock for customers. Backbencher Cyril Keeper complained to the Commons on 7 July 1988, that his constituents couldn't find the stamps in Winnipeg post offices [11]. Later in the day, Harvie André responded to the question by reporting that Station A had 10,000 in stock. Evidently someone had made telephone calls from Ottawa to Winnipeg in order to advise the Minister. Ten years later, the situation did not appear to have changed much. John Aimers, the Chairman of the Monarchist League of Canada, was testifying before a Senate committee and mentioned in passing a conspiracy theory popular among monarchists [12]. He said:

Some years ago, Canada Post decided to allow an option vis-a-vis the purpose of definitive postage stamps. It offered the Canadian flag as an option to the definitive bearing the portrait of Her Majesty. I should add that a loyal, constitutionally-minded Crown corporation might never have forced Canadians to make that choice. By squirreling away the Queen stamps into the bottom of obscure drawers and by making the flag stamps easily available in a variety of formats, the option very nearly became the rule.

Canada Post denied this was the case and said that flag stamp booklets out-sold QE II booklets by a four to one margin. It had therefore discontinued the Queen booklets but would still be selling those stamps in sheet form [13]. Notwithstanding this, a fuss about the Queen stamps in Ottawa postal



BLACK & DECKER CANADA INC.

**BAG NUMBER 1040
SAC DE POSTE 1040
BROCKVILLE, ONTARIO
K6V 5W6**

Figure 1. Short-lived 36¢ rate (19 October 1987)

Showing a commercial in-period use of the 36¢ Queen Elizabeth stamp, issued 1 October 1987, paying the first class rate (the postcard rate had this time been incorporated into first class). The rate lasted only a few months. The postmark is a large Cardiff ON steel 30 mm big circle. On a Black & Decker "warranty" card (in quotes because the real purpose to having people send in warranty cards is to build a cusotmer database).

Courtesy of Danny Handelman

outlets prompted Canada Post officials to tour all 61 outlets to enforce stocking the stamps [14]. One monarchist pointed out that people had to ask for the stamps, which, if in stock at all, were usually in a back room. He then pointed out that if despite this handicap the Queen stamps still sold one for every four of the touted flag stamps, then there must still be a demand for Queen stamps [15].

References

- [1] W G Dinsdale *Debates of the House of Commons* Second Session, 30th Parliament, 3:2723.
- [2] Anonymous *House replaces Queen on new 12¢ stamp* *Globe and Mail*, p1, 23 April 1977.
- [3] John G Diefenbaker *Debates of the House of Commons* Second Session, 30th Parliament, 5:4936.
- [4] D W Munro *Debates of the House of Commons* Second Session, 30th Parliament, 5:4942-4943.
- [5] John G Diefenbaker *Debates of the House of Commons* Second Session, 30th

Parliament, 5:4943.

- [6] ——— *Debates of the House of Commons* Fourth Session, 30th Parliament, 3:2256–2257.
- [7] D M Collonette *Debates of the House of Commons* First Session, 32nd Parliament, 11:12344.
- [8] Bud Bradley *Debates of the House of Commons* First Session, 32nd Parliament, 11:12438–12439.
- [9] Reginald Stackhouse *Debates of the House of Commons* Second Session, 33rd Parliament, 5:6527.
- [10] ——— *Debates of the House of Commons* Second Session, 33rd Parliament, 7:8612.
- [11] Cyril Keeper *Debates of the House of Commons* Second Session, 33rd Parliament, 14:17237,17242.
- [12] John Aimers *Proceedings of the standing Senate Committee on legal and constitutional affairs* Examination of Bills–15, First Session, 36th Parliament, 29:27.
- [13] Ian Robertson *Booklets drop Queen* Canadian Stamp News 23(3):1 (1998).
- [14] D Rogers *Stamping out dissent* Ottawa Citizen, 3 June 1998, p B8.
- [15] John Taylor *Must be a big demand for Queen stamps despite unfair marketing* Ottawa Citizen, 6 June 1998, p A16.

Your ad can be here!

Very reasonable rates.

Contact the Advertising Manager,

Mr R F (Hank) Narbonne

216 Mailey Dr, Carleton Place ON K2C 3X9



HR *Sissons called them "junk"* When the OHMS overprinted Peace Issue stamps were released (1946), few collectors knew about an interesting variety—missing periods—that occurred in the lower left plate blocks. I called Jim Sissons and asked him if he could just sell these lower plate blocks. He wanted to know why anyone would be interested in such junk, especially since one could not use such stamps on mail. The price for blocks of all the stamps, from the 7¢ to the \$1, was just double face value. Today, the catalogue valuation for these blocks is close to \$5000. (*Hans Reiche*)

Simply The Best Stamp Collectors Insurance For All BNAPS Members

- No complicated forms to fill out.
- Always highly competitive rates, as low as \$12 per year.
- Personalized Service
- No itemized inventory of your collection is required.
- Prompt, fair and expert claims handling.
- 12,500 collectors and over 1,500 dealers insure with us.
- 24-Hour-A-Day Service with our Toll Free "888" Number (1-888-837-9537) and Internet Web Site.

We're proud to be the official insurer for BNAPS members.

Experience

Insure your stamp and/or cover collection with the most experienced collectibles insurance agency in the world. Collectibles Insurance Agency has been the #1 insurance choice for America's philatelists for 34 years. **Note:** Normal homeowners' insurance cannot give you the

comprehensive insurance you need to fully cover your wonderful collectibles (we can insure *all* your collections, from stamps to many other hobbies). Protect your collection with the *only* American-owned stamp insurance agency, and do it at highly attractive rates, too!



Life
Member

www.collectinsure.com

Call, write, e-mail or fax us today for our rates and FREE brochure.



Reputation

Scores of BNAPS members already insure their collections with us. Our reputation for prompt and personal service is a key reason why your BNAPS board selected us as your official insurer.

Official insurance provider for BNAPS, AAPE, AFDCS, ARA, and ATA.

Collectibles

Since 1966

Insurance Agency

P.O. Box 1200-BN • Westminster MD 21158
Phone: 1-888-837-9537 • Fax: (410) 876-9233
E-Mail: collectinsure@pipeline.com
Website: www.collectinsure.com

Nigerian scam covers

J Randall Stamp Jr

FOLLOWING up on Bill Longley's article on the 45¢ flag forgery (*Topics* # 488, pp 62–63), here is something that may look familiar (Figure 1). It is a cover from Nigeria, early to middle 1990s(?), addressed to North Bay. The first thing a stamp collector observes is the stamp, and the postal historian, the cancel. Both are likely to think they have eye problems when they examine this.

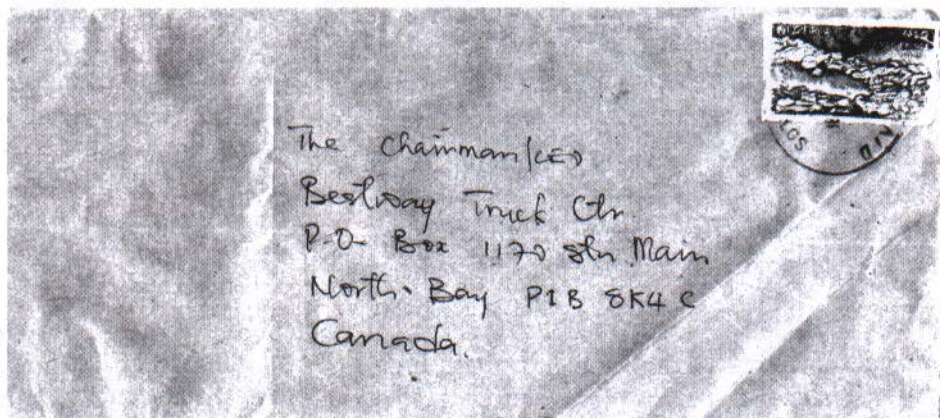


Figure 1. Nigerian letter to North Bay ON (1990s)
On dull brown paper, with no backstamps.

The stamp is badly printed but I speculate that it pictures a small settlement around a lake. The stamp is multicoloured; unfortunately, the colours run into each other, so that the outlines of images are not well-defined. The perforations (if you can call them that) are extremely poorly done, in fact they resemble those of the counterfeit in Bill's article.

The cancellation is in purple, but again rather crudely done. All I can make out are LGS at the lower left, possibly an abbreviation for Lagos, and PAID at the right (the P is barely visible).

I found this item in one of John Beddow's *junque* boxes, and recognized it immediately. The original contents (unfortunately not in the envelope) consisted of a letter suggesting that the recipient could participate in the freeing of millions (or tens of millions) of dollars from frozen bank accounts—all

Keywords & phrases: counterfeit, scam



Figure 2. Close-up of the stamp and cancel

It is very difficult to obtain a good image of this item, as it was so poorly printed.

that was required was an advance from the victim (usually in the thousands, sometimes tens of thousands) to show good faith, or some other nonsense.

I recall receiving one of these, noted with amusement the obviously counterfeit stamp (they could hardly have made it more obvious), and discarded it. I remember thinking who would be greedy and stupid enough to fall for this scam? Apparently many people were, because somewhat later, the RCMP requested that recipients of the letter should contact them.

Cynic that I am, I wasn't surprised that a grotesquely fake stamp, likely with a fake cancel, should have made it from Nigeria to Canada. I am not even surprised that Canadian authorities didn't notice it, although there must have been tens of thousands of these letters sent. Of course, this is another example of a counterfeit stamp, made to fool the postal authorities, in order to defraud them of postage.

Later on in the decade, the scammers hit upon a much cheaper method of disseminating their scam—e-mail. I continue to receive e-mails from people purporting to be close relatives of Nigerian officials who put away tens of millions of dollars, and now it requires a few thousand to loosen the bank's grip, etc. This has become a major source of foreign currency for Nigeria (an estimated \$5 billion per annum!).

(32) Canadian Postal Guide **ILLUSTRATED**

C R McGuire

One of a series (initially 1983–89, and recommencing in 2001) illustrating points from Canada Postal Guides.

SECOND class matter consists of printed matter sent as part of a subscription, e.g., newspapers and periodicals. To encourage publishers, the rates have always been very low. In the mid–late 1890s, the bulk rate for these items was 1¢ per pound. Presumably, these were mailed to local distributors. When mailed for local letter carrier delivery where the latter was free, the cost was 1¢ per four ounces.

Figure 1 shows the front and back of a booklet to record the postage on newspapers. (The dark strips on the left and right are part of the binding.) On the back are the rates and regulations. The *Watchman* was an independent-liberal weekly newspaper established in 1890 based in Charlottetown which ceased publication in the 1920s.

The text on reverse is worth recording, as the criteria, rules and rates are given. Note that the for the 1¢ per four ounces rate, the postage was to applied to the package, not in the booklet.

Record of postage collected on British and foreign newspapers and periodicals brought into Canada and posted by booksellers or news agents for transmission to regular subscribers in the Dominion; or specimen copies of newspapers and periodical printed in Canada, published not less frequently than once a month and posted at the office of the place of publication for delivery in Canada, the United States, or Newfoundland, and all periodical publications printed and posted as above but published less frequently than once a month.

This matter is subject to the bulk rate of 1¢ a pound or fraction thereof, which must be prepaid by postage stamps in the following manner. The clerk receiving the matter will weigh it and enter the weight at the head of the page and initial the entry. The person posting will then attach stamps of the value of the required postage below this entry and return to the clerk who will cancel the stamps with a clear well inked impression of the dated and cancelling stamp of the office and return the book to the sender. The above matter posted for local delivery where there is a free delivery by letter carrier must be prepaid by stamps affixed to each package at the rate of 1¢ per four ounces.

Post Office Department
Ottawa, Canada

William White
Deputy Postmaster General

Keywords & phrases: second class matter

POSTAGE ON NEWSPAPERS.

This book is the property of the Canada Post Office. When it is filled in it must be returned to the Post Office where issued and it will be replaced by a new one. The used copy must then be at once forwarded to the Post Office Department enclosed with the Cash Account.

The Watchman

(Name of Bookseller or News Agent, or Publication.)

Chas. A. Tolson

(Name of Post Office.)

P. E.

(Province.)

Rev. 23 P. 25—26 (14-2-94)

Record of postage collected on British and Foreign newspapers and periodicals brought into Canada and posted by booksellers or news agents for transmission to regular subscribers in the Dominion or, specimen copies of newspapers and periodicals printed in Canada, published not less frequently than once a month, and posted at the office of the place of publication for delivery in Canada, the United States or Newfoundland, and all periodical publications printed and posted as above but published less frequently than once a month.

This matter is subject to the bulk rate of 1 cent a pound or fraction thereof, which must be prepaid by postage stamps in the following manner. The clerk receiving the matter will weigh it and enter the weight at the head of the page and initial the entry. The person posting will then attach stamps of the value of the required postage below this entry and return to the clerk who will cancel the stamps with a clear well inked impression of the dated and cancelling stamp of the office and return the book to the sender. The above matter posted for local delivery where there is a free delivery by letter carrier must be prepaid by stamps affixed to each package at the rate of 1 cent per 4 ounces.

Post Office Department,
Ottawa, Canada.

WILLIAM WHITE,
Deputy Postmaster General.

Figure 1. Booklet recording newspaper postage (c1895–1900)

Consists of 32 double-sided pages, some of which will be shown below; some have already appeared in # 31 of this series (previous issue). One of 200 with print-order date of 14-11-1894. The pages are laid paper watermarked with a large crown and the words "Crown Linen". The majority of subscribers were local and received their papers free. Larger publishers would normally use a page per day, and fill a book in two months.

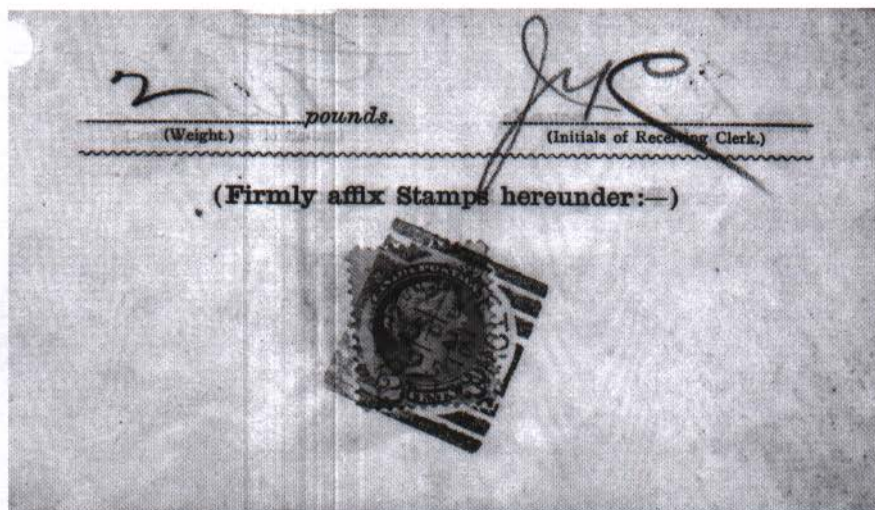


Figure 2. Booklet page (1895)

Indicating a weight of 2 pounds, and the postage accordingly paid with a 2¢ small queen cancelled with a Charlottetown squared circle.

Figures 2, 3 & 4 show pages from the booklet.



Figure 3. Booklet page (c1898-00)

Indicating a weight of 1 pound; the postage of 4¢ pays the letter delivery rate, which is not consistent with the regulations—the postage was supposed to go on the package in this case. Presumably, applying the stamps in the booklet was more convenient.



Figure 4. Booklet page (October 1900)

A weight of 32 pounds, the postage is made up of a 20¢ Widow Weeds, a 10¢ numeral, and a 2¢ numeral. The 20¢ numeral was not issued until 24 December 1900; thus the Widow Weeds were current with the numeral issue.

In July 1901, the rules changed—from that date on, the postage on bulk newspapers and periodicals was to be paid in cash instead of stamps. In particular, the use of the stamped booklets was for a very short period. The form letter announcing the change is transcribed below.

Ottawa, 1 June 1901.

The postmaster

at

Sir:

By direction I have to inform you that postage on newspapers and periodicals mailed as second class matter must, on and after the 1st July next be prepaid in *cash* (instead of in postage stamps as heretofore), and to request you to so inform the publishers who are patrons of your office.

You will be good enough to see that postage on second class matter is prepaid at the rates specified in the official Postal Guide; and that the terms and conditions therein which govern the admission of such matter to the mails are strictly adhered to.

A Book of Receipts (Rev 55 PM) and a supply of Forms (Rev 56 PM) for use in the collection of newspaper postage will be sent you shortly from the Postal Stores Branch.

The receipts must be made in duplicate by inserting carbon paper between the

leaves, and must contain details of the weight of each shipment and the charges thereon. The original receipt (on thin paper) is to be handed to the publisher, or his representatives; and the duplicate (carbon copy) is to be forwarded to the Department as explained below. The particulars of each receipt must be copied into the corresponding stub and the latter must be initialed by the person who receives the cash.

The amounts in the stubs are to be added together so as to show the total amount collected during each term (or day, in the case of a daily reporting office).

At the close of each term (or day, as the case may be) a statement must be prepared on Form Rev 56 PM, showing the amounts paid by the publishers of each of the newspapers &c, mailed at your office. The total amount of this statement must be carried to item No 9A in the Cash Account, and this entry must be compared with the total in the stub of the receipt book. If item 9A is not printed in the form of Cash Account in use, write the entry between items 9 & 10 as follows: "9a Newspaper postage" and make a corresponding entry in the stub of the account.

The particulars of the statement on Form Rev 56 PM must then be transcribed into the monthly statement of newspaper postage collected—Form Rev 50 PM. The statement on Form Rev 56 PM and the duplicate receipts (carbon copies) relating thereto must be enclosed to the Department with the Cash Account in which the entry thereof is made. The receipts must be securely fastened to the statement.

Under the new system, the following forms &c, will be superseded:

Form Rev 39—Book, postage on specimen newspapers, periodicals, &c

Form Rev 49 PM—Certified statement of newspaper postage collected

Form Rev 48 PM—Envelope for enclosing same

Form Rev 54 PM—Envelope for enclosing same

and I would ask you to be good enough to return to the Postmaster General for Controller of the Postal Stores any of such forms which you may have in your possession on the 1st July. All forms, Rev 39 PM, books of postage on specimen newspapers &c, which are now in use must be recalled and forwarded to the Accountant Post Office Department immediately after the date mentioned.

Your obedient servant,

R M Coulter
Deputy Postmaster General

As a result, in late June 1901, postmasters sent the following form letter to mailers of second class material.

I have to inform you that postage on newspapers and periodicals mailed as second class matter must, on and after the 1st July next, be prepaid in cash instead of in postage stamps as heretofore and I therefore request you to be so good as to return to me after that date all forms Rev 39 PM, remaining in your possession.

These booklets were in use for only about seven years and since they were to be returned to the Post Office for destruction, few have survived.



Figure 5. Corner cover to the *Watchman* (1901)

With a Toronto flag, paying the domestic rate.

Figure 5 shows a lovely 1901 corner cover from the *Central Press Agency* addressed to the *Watchman*.

HR *Want a Seaway invert?* A clerk in my office once produced a postcard with the inverted Seaway on it. He asked me if this was of any interest. This card was slightly worn from being carried around in his pocket. I was able to purchase it for \$100, and thought this was a very high price. This card is presently worth about \$15,000. (*Hans Reiche*)


HR *Collecting under fire* An Army officer who was a stamp collector noticed a large album in a house in Germany that had been taken over by the advancing troops. The album contained large quantities of the stamps of the Old German States. The house was still under attack, and the officer did not know what to do, but soon concluded that his life was more important than the stamps. Five years later, when he was posted back in Germany, he located the house again. It was mostly in ruins. In the basement he found the stamp album, intact but soiled. The stamps in it catalogued DM 8300. (*Hans Reiche*)

New issues

William J F Wilson

UNLIKE many countries, Canada achieved independence gradually. The dominating event was perhaps the BNA Act (or the Constitution Act) of 1867, establishing the Dominion of Canada; but the granting of independence began earlier, and many institutions still remained tied to Britain after 1867. For example, the right to declare war remained with Britain until the Statute of Westminster in 1931, and there were no Canadian citizens (only British subjects) until the Citizenship Act of 1947.

Table 1. Definitives and Queen (2002)

Stamp 	Queen	Flag	Maple Leaf	Traditional trades
Value	48¢	48¢	48¢	65¢, 77¢, \$1.25
Issued	2 January	2 January	2 January	2 January
Type	COMM	DEF	DEF	DEF
Printer	AP	AP	AP	AP
Pane	16	bklt,10;3-bklt,30	100 (coil)	50 (coil);bklt,6 (65¢,\$1.25)
Paper	C	C	C	C
Process	8CL	5CL	5CL	5CL
Qty (10 ⁶)	15	cont	cont	cont
Tag	G4S	G4S	G4S	G4S
Gum	PVA	S-A	S-A	S-A
Size (mm)	37.9 × 32 (1)	24 × 20	24 × 20	24 × 20
Perf	13.2 × 12.5	die cut	die cut, sim'd perf	die cut, sim'd perf
Teeth	25 × 20	21 × 25	40 × 20	NA

(1) Listed as 37.5 × 32 in *Details*. This would produce a horizontal perforation of 13.33, whereas my Instanta gauge gives a perforation of almost precisely 13.20, consistent with the measured 37.9mm width.

The office of Governor General has mirrored this process, with all Governors General who were appointed before the 1947 Citizenship Act being men of title drawn from the upper levels of British society, and all those appointed after being Canadian citizens. To mark the fiftieth anniversary of the appointment Vincent Massey as Canada's first Canadian Governor General in 1952, Canada Post has issued a very effective stamp showing the crest of office and a line drawing of Rideau Hall, the Governor General's residence.

Keywords & phrases: new issues

Also shown is a list of all nine Canadian Governors General in order from Vincent Massey to the present Governor General, Mme Adrienne Clarkson.

Even more striking are the Chinese New Year stamps marking the Year of the Horse. In a series that has consistently maintained truly excellent standards, this year's images stand out in their simplicity and strength.

Table 2. January–February 2002

Stamp # ³	Horse	NHL All-Stars	2002 Olympics	Gov-Gen	U Manitoba
Value	SH, 48¢; SS, \$1.25	6 × 48¢ (1)	4 × 48¢ s-t	48¢	48¢
Issued	03 January	12 January	25 January	1 February	28 February
Printer	AP	CBN	AP	AP	AP
Pane	25	6 (ss)	16	16	8 (bklt)
Paper	C	C	C	C	C
Process	8CL (2)	7CL	8CL	7CL	5CL
Qty (10 ⁶)	SH, 11; SS, 2.12	4	5	4	3
Tag	G4S	G4S	G4S	G4S	G4S
Gum	PVA	PVA	PVA	PVA	PVA
Size (mm)	33 × 37.5	NA × 39.7	29.9 × 39.9	40 × 40	44 × 35 (3)
Perf	13.3 × 13.3 (4)	12.5 × 13.1	13.4 × 13	13.0 × 13.3	13.6 × 13.7
Teeth	SS, 22 × 25 (5)	NA × 26	20 × 26	26 × 32	30 × 24

(1) Two sets of three, setenant.

(2) Red and gold foil; the stamp sheet and souvenir sheet are both 8CL, including the wide selvage; fewer colours appear to be used on the stamp itself. The red foil is used for the horse on the stamp; the gold foil is used only in the selvage. Eight colour dots and two foil dots are shown in the selvage of the sheet stamps, but there are no dots on the souvenir sheet.

(3) Listed as 33mm in height on the Canada Post website.

(4) The 48¢ sheet stamp has angled corners that are perf 11.9.

(5) Sheet stamps are 15 × 17.

Abbreviations. 5 (6, 7, . . .) CL: five (six, seven, . . .) colour lithography; BKLT: booklet; AP: Ashton-Potter; C: Tullis Russell Coatings (coated paper); CBN: Canadian Bank Note Company; DC: die cut; G4S: general tagging (four sides); JAC: Canadian Jac; NA: not applicable (straight-edged stamp, or width depends on how booklet was trimmed); P: Peterborough paper; P-s: pressure sensitive gum; s-t: setenant; ss: souvenir sheet; sim'd: simulated.

New rates came into effect on 14 January 2002, with the single domestic rate rising one cent to 48¢, the single rate to the United States rising five cents to 65¢, and the single international rate rising twenty cents to \$1.25. Although the increase did not come into effect until 14 January, all stamps issued since the start of the year have been at the new rates.

The definitives have undergone several changes. The new flag stamp is in

a horizontal format, compared to the vertical format that has been familiar for several years. It is still sold only in a peel-and-stick booklet, but simulated perforations now replace the straight edges of the 2001 issue. The previous booklets of 10 and 30 have been consolidated into a booklet of 30 that is perforated into three separable booklets, each individually labelled as a booklet of 10. In this way, one still has a choice of buying a booklet of 10 or of 30.

The new stamp showing Queen Elizabeth, released with the definitives on 2 January, is actually a commemorative, honouring fifty years on the throne. No new Queen definitive has been announced up to the present time, to my knowledge. The large mammals theme of the 2001 medium-value stamps has been replaced by designs showing the traditional trades of jewellery-making, basket weaving, and sculpture, which is consistent with the low-value series.

The information in the tables is from Canada Post's *Details* booklet and the Canada Post website,

<http://www.canadapost.ca/personal/collecting/default-e.asp?stamp=stamps> and from philatelic inscriptions on the stamps. Size, perforations, and number of teeth are my own measurements, and are given as horizontal×vertical.



Year of the horse souvenir sheet

What's new?— National Archives of Canada Philatelic Collections

Cimon Morin

This column is provided on a regular basis in order to publicize new acquisitions and activities within the philatelic area at the National Archives of Canada (NA). Researchers who wish to use the NA facilities should contact, in writing, the National Archives of Canada, Reference Services, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa ON K1A 0N3 [fax: (613) 995-6274; e-mail: reference@archives.ca; Internet website: <http://www.archives.ca>]

Former acquisitions

J B Irvine collection [philatelic records] 1940–1976, predominantly 1940–1945. Philatelic material, World War II era covers sent by Serg't J S Irvine, Canadian Army Postal Corps Overseas, to Mrs H G Clark, bearing various postal markings. Philatelic material, Canadian Postal Corps Overseas Christmas greeting cards issued 1941–1943. Philatelic material, #9 Canadian General Hospital & Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps Christmas greeting card issued in 1944. Manuscript material, Royal Canadian Postal Corps Veterans' Association reunion dinner programs for the years 1967, 1970 & 1976. Manuscript material, World War II era, His Majesty's and Allied Forces on Leave Day Ticket, London Transport, England. Philatelic material, cancelled Canadian postage stamps: 3¢ 1897 Queen Victoria diamond jubilee issue, 1¢ & 2¢ 1898 Queen Victoria numeral stamps. (R1993-075).
Ross W Irwin fonds [1932–1988]. 185 postal covers and other philatelic records. Two centimetres of textual records. Fonds consists of a collection of Canadian metered mail and research material, including correspondence, notes, brochures, leaflets and postal covers relating to the following events: World War II patriotic advertising, Canadian Centennial, Expo '67; sports and olympic games in Canada. The correspondence, 1932–1962, is between Lindsay M McLennan of Hamilton; Tony Keller of Woodstock (ON); and Ross W Irwin of Mississauga, prominent philatelists of the period, collectors of postage meter impressions. Fonds also contains a collection of six Pitney Bowes metered mail covers, four of which are limited to 1000 meter im-

Keywords & phrases: National Archives of Canada

pressions each. All of these covers bear examples of various special commemorative (metered mail) markings prepared by Pitney Bowes to publicize special events and to advertize their products. The events commemorated were: CAPEX'51, 21 September 1951; first day of use for United Nations metered mail, 24 October 1951; the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II; the fifteenth UPU Congress held in Ottawa, 11 September 1957; the opening of Parliament by Queen Elizabeth II, 14 October 1957; the opening of the St Lawrence Seaway by the Queen, 26 June 1959. (R3848)

William C Kenyon fonds [1880–1992]. 50 leaves of textual records various formats; one album of photographs and philatelic records, black and white prints; four black and white photographs; two audio cassettes (110 minutes). Fonds consists of materials which document William C Kenyon's career and the railway mail service 1942–1970. These include a scrapbook compiled by William C Kenyon, c1950–1972, who kept the book in the railway mail clerk's room where his colleagues were invited to contribute photos of themselves. The scrapbook contains railway mail service memorabilia, 1880–1980, for the Winnipeg Division, consisting predominantly of photographs, but also including postal covers, postcards, postal markings, postage stamps, postal forms, and miscellaneous documents. Fonds also contains ephemera and memorabilia pertaining to the Canadian railway mail service, retained by Kenyon during his service as a railway mail clerk. These materials, 1942–1970, include 25 varied post office department or railway mail service forms, as well as a series of 23 Railway Mail Clerk's Association membership cards and two Civil Service Commission training course documents—an information card and a course certificate.

Fonds also contains photographic materials. One is a copy of a photograph, 1934, taken from an original photo-montage depicting railway mail clerks for the Winnipeg Division. Three group photographs, 1948–1977, depict Canadian railway mail clerks from the Winnipeg Division, taken by Kenyon at various retirement and reunion parties. Fonds also contains two audio cassettes, 8 April 1981, October 1992, one contains an unedited, pre-broadcast interview of William C Kenyon and other former royal mail clerks, and the other an autobiographical sketch by Kenyon about his postal career, made on the occasion of his retirement. (R3825)

C J Kilduff fonds [graphic material]. [c1978]. Twenty colour photographs 9cm×9cm; 54, 35mm photograph negatives. Consists of photographs and negatives taken by C J Kilduff. They depict southern Saskatchewan post offices, including Esk, Dofoe, Creelman, Congress, Ardill, Guernsey, Griffin, Heward, Indian Head, Lajord, Moosomin, Mazenod, Osage, Pangman, Quinton, Sedley, Sintalula, Summerberry, Trossachs, and Tyvan. (R4798)

Readers speak

A column for readers to express their views, ask questions, or add information to previously published articles.

From John Aitken (Oshawa) on Money Packets (Topics # 489, p7-15) by the Editor

I was sitting in Tim Horton's tonight reading Topics instead of playing duplicate bridge as I usually do Thursday evenings. Your article on money packets was a pleasure to find and read; so much so that I eschewed a second donut and hurried home to check my US rates book and my cover collection. I have a few timbits for you.

- (i) *Money packets to the US.* I saw one at a dealer's table at CAPEX '96 in Toronto. It was the booth shared by Jim Forte, Triple S and one or two others whose names I've forgotten. It was from the '30s. The price was over US\$200 and I remember thinking that it was a very scarce item, but I wasn't in the mood to buy big ticket items that day, so I passed. Who knows? it might still be in his stock.
- (ii) *New money packet regulations (1964).* There was a change in the money packet regulations effective with the new rates from 10 August 1964. At that time, for the purposes of handling, money packets were divided into two categories:
 - (1) Bank notes, gold bullion, gold dust, coin when valued at more than \$100.
 - (2) Precious stones, jewels and precious metals, manufactured or not, stocks, bonds, coupons and other securities negotiable by bearer when valued at more than \$100.

This is taken from an announcement of 3 September 1964 by Toronto postmaster J D O'Connell. It was provided by Scott Traquair. It goes on:

In order that maximum security may be afforded to money packets, the following regulations will apply:

Money packets defined in category 1 will not be accepted for mailing or delivery through Postal Stations but will only be accepted and delivered at the main Postal Terminal.

Money Packets listed in Category 2 will no longer be treated in the same manner as ordinary registers. Category 2 money packets may be accepted and delivered at Postal Stations but under no circumstances will they be handled at Sub Post Offices or delivered by Letter Carrier. Category 2 money packets for delivery must be picked up by the addressee at the Postal Station serving his area or at the main Post Office.

Apparently there was quite a bit of resistance to the increase in price, particularly in the case of the bond and coupon mail. Scott also provided me

with a copy of a letter from Mr O'Connell to the manager of the securities department at the National Trust. The letter is dated 12 August 1964 and refers to a telephone call that had taken place two days earlier. I found this of interest:

As explained to you, registered items are given security handling in a separate secure Section of each Post Office. Money Packets, however, are given even greater security in the Registration Branch. They are given a hand-to-hand transfer and stored in a separate secure area in the Registration Section. This handling applied under the old rate and will, of course, continue. In addition, however, to give added security the Post Office Department has now in several centres commenced to use an armoured car service for transfer of money packets to Railway Stations, etc.

Furthermore, in the interests of security and also in the interests of our own delivery personnel, Category 1 money packets were never delivered by Letter Carrier and under the new regulations neither Category 1 nor Category 2 money packets will be delivered by Letter Carrier.

In the Canada Gazette Part 2 for 15 February 1977 the distinction between categories 1 & 2 money packets is removed.

- (iii) You were puzzled by the rate on the US item (\$17,800) registered to Canada. According to the standard reference, *US international postal rates 1872-1996* (Wawrukiewicz & Beecher), page 322, table 3 "Canada (air-mail letter rates to)", the rate for airmail to Canada up to 60 pounds was 8¢ cents per ounce in the period including 1966. This means that the postage is likely made up of 75¢ registration and \$7.92 for 99 ounces, totalling \$8.67. [*This is undoubtedly the correct explanation of the rates. Presumably, the Canadian post office treated it as a money packet because of the valuable enclosure, but did not charge extra for this service.—ed.*]

I haven't got a money packet item in my collection after April 1979 and I don't recall seeing one. Have any readers seen one?

From Ken Pollock (Little Rock, Arkansas) on colours of Newfoundland stamps. I realize that this inquiry might be old hat to many members of BNAPS. As an American with only recent exposure to BNA stamps, I have spent much of my time building a basic collection for Newfoundland as a special interest.

In the last year or two, I feel that my knowledge of Newfoundland's stamps has evolved from the novice level up a notch or two, as the collection has taken focus. Throughout this process, colour has been a stumbling block in the identification of many items. For this letter, I have selected a relatively common example that collectors of Newfoundland will confront: the 8¢ Prince George from the Royal Family issue of 1911. I call it a "Royal pain".

The *Unitrade Specialized Catalogue* lists two types: #110 on "aniline blue

paper", and #110a, described as "peacock blue". The fourth edition of the *Newfoundland Specialized Catalogue* by Walsh & Butt [*rumours of a fifth edition to have hit the stands are rife—ed*] lists the peacock blue stamp first, followed by the second variety, described as "aniline ink"—with no mention of paper.

I discussed the "peacock blue" designation with respected BNAPS member and stamp seller David Eisenhauer last summer. He remarked:

Why they call the color *peacock blue* is beyond my comprehension—it doesn't look like any kind of special blue color that might be unique to a peacock (and I know what a peacock looks like—[I have a] Master's in wildlife biology, specializing in ornithology). I cannot find a single reference to this color in any of my color charts.

While I do not have a Master's degree in ornithology, I do have a peacock tail feather, and alas, no shade of blue in my feather is even close to the ink colour on the so-called peacock blue stamp. [*I have seen a number of peacocks in full display—mainly on visits to Warwick Castle near Coventry—and their colour(s) also don't approximate those of the stamp. Furthermore, when I was in school, I used a fountain pen ink that was called peacock blue; it was very bright, and again doesn't resemble the colours of the stamps.—ed*]

David cited Boggs:

... the 8¢ was printed in two distinct inks, one aniline and striking through [penetrating] the stamps, giving them a distinctly greenish-blue back. The other ink did not penetrate at all, and the back of the stamp is quite white.

Boggs does not mention peacock blue, or blue paper.

Robson Lowe suggest the following as a reason for the two different types:

The so-called 8¢ aniline blue was made by holding a sheet of normal stamps in front of a steaming kettle.

So, according to Lowe, if I take my #110a "peacock blue" stamp and expose it to steam, it will magically change to a #110!

Boggs and Lowe are not in agreement about the reasons for the different types of the stamp, nor do they shed any light on the origin of the peacock blue description for 110a. I have often wondered if this is just a "British thing"? [*Perhaps our British members would care to comment?—ed*]

In my collection, I have *three* (not two) different varieties of the 8¢ Prince George. None of the stamps are printed on blue paper as the Unitrade catalogue suggests (for 110). To my eye, it appears that Boggs is correct, and it has to do with different inks used (but nothing to do with peacocks or coloured paper). If a tea kettle was used to make the aniline variety, I will leave this for experimentation at tea time.

So here is what I have in front of me. [*Mr Pollock included in his letter colour images of three stamps front and back; even if we could print in colour, I doubt that*

the differences could be duplicated reliably in print without great expense. However, I can see three quite distinct shades of blue, varying from almost grey to bright; on the intermediate shade, the colour has bled through to the back, while there is minor bleeding on the bright shade.—ed]

- * A #110a, the so-called “peacock blue”; it is medium greyish turquoise, according to colour charts. The gum is white, without colour bleeding.
- * A #110 that is a *medium Prussian blue*, matched carefully with several colour charts, including Michel’s *Farbenführer*. The gum has been coloured through the paper over the entire stamp impression [*but not outside the frame of the design.*]
- * A #110 that is not blue, but very dark greenish blue [*This is what I called bright.—ed]*

I hope that future issues of BNA**Topics** will address (if it hasn’t already) the disparities in colour description for those who wish to build a basic collection, and to convince the catalogue publishers to adopt a uniform language for colour.

As a new member of BNAPS, I was impressed with the first two copies of BNA**Topics** that I received. However, I would like to see more written on the basics of stamp collecting. Most of what I have read so far is for the very advanced scholars of BNA postal history. In any event, I look forward to the next edition.

[I encourage people to submit “basic” articles on any aspect of BNA philately. How about it?—ed]

From Dean Mario (Saskatoon) on Z force: Canadian Army in Iceland 1940–41 in (Topics # 484, p 10–19) by CD Sayles

Here is a transcript of the “Routine Orders” for Z force in Iceland, dated 19 September 1940; it first appeared in the newsletter of the Canadian military mail study group (March 2001). It is from Appendix III, *Routine Orders*, RG24, C-3, Volume 13813, National Defence War Diaries, WW II, 1939–46, HQ Z force, Iceland. Note item 545, and the reason for runway damage at Reykjavik’s landing ground!

Routine Orders #93

Major-General H O Curtis, CB, DSO, MC, commanding, Alabaster Force

In the field, 19 September 1940

General Staff.

543. **Move.** Force HQ will close at Midbaejarbarnaskollin at 1800 hours 21:9:40 and open at Artun at the same hour.

544. **Censorship.** All officers are reminded of the following regulations regarding censorship.

Censorable matter which should always be deleted includes:

1. References to the location, strength or movements of naval, military and air force units.
2. References to armaments, equipment or communications.
3. Rumours, plans and forecasts of future operations.
4. Defeatist views, or unduly pessimistic opinions on local conditions likely to cause despondency at home, and to encourage the enemy.

Routine censorship regulations.

1. Each letter must bear the sender's name, rank, number and unit, but this must not be written on the back of the envelope.
 2. The Censoring Officer must sign his name at the end of each letter, and also on the bottom left hand corner of the envelope. He must not put his rank or unit.
 3. The unit censor stamp should be treated as a secret document, and only entrusted to a responsible person. Before stamping letters with it, he should satisfy himself that the envelopes have been correctly signed, and the signatures are genuine.
 4. Units not in possession of a censor stamp should, if possible, arrange for their correspondence to be stamped by another unit. If this is left to post office officials, uncensored mail may easily be included which the post office staff have no means of identifying.
 5. Photographs may only be sent if they show no recognizable background, and give no indication of the unit or place. Each photograph must be signed on the back by the Censoring Officer.
 6. Picture postcards may be sent provided that they give no indications which may assist to located units and that they are enclosed in an envelope.
545. **Reykjavik landing ground—use of by MT.** Reykjavik landing ground has been prepared recently to take light aircraft belonging to 98 Squadron R.A.F. Wooden runways have been prepared but these runways will take two ton loads only. No 30cwt lorries will be driven on to any part of the landing ground, as their weight destroys the runways. Damage has already been caused by 30cwt lorries taking football teams etc., on the grounds.

Administrative staff

546. **Locations.**

- 1(a) Force HQ is moving to Artun on 21st and 22nd September—'G' with Cipher and CRA staffs on 21st September and A/Q Staff, Control Room and DAPM on 22nd September.
- 1(b) The following are remaining in their present offices: DSTO, ADMS, 'Q'(M) and Movement Control.
- 2(a) Correspondence for 1(a) will be addressed to Force HQ Artun, except Traffic Accidents which will be addressed to Q(M) and *original* requests for Hirings will be addressed above, but all subsequent correspondence of this nature to Hirings.
- 2(b) Correspondence to 1(b) will continue to be addressed as at present.

[The long Icelandic name means "children's school"; it was subsequently used as a school for adults—thanks to Frida Kalbfleisch for this information. The abbreviation cwt means hundredweight; a 30 cwt "lorry" weighs 3,000 pounds.—ed]

CANADIAN STAMPS

Choice Early Classics to Modern Varieties



WANTED CANADIAN ERRORS

CANADIAN ERRORS — BOUGHT * SOLD * TRADED

- ◆ IMPERFORATES ◆ MISSING COLOURS ◆ INVERTS ◆ MISPERFS ◆
- ◆ COLOUR SHIFTS ◆ PRINTED ON GUM ◆ BETTER VARIETIES ◆

TOP PRICES PAID



Look through our large Canada and BNA stock, offered at market prices in our free, illustrated price list. Or see it on our web site at:

www.saskatoonstamp.com

Internationally Recognized as a Leading Dealer in Canadian Errors and Varieties

Enjoy the many books we have to make your stamp collecting a far more rewarding experience. Ask for a free copy of our Canadian/BNA Literature price list or see our web site for our most current listings.

SASKATOON STAMP CENTRE



P.O. Box 1870, Saskatoon, SK, S7K 3S2 CANADA

Call TOLL FREE 1-800-205-8814 in North America

Ph: (306) 931-6633 Fax: (306) 975-3728

E-mail ssc@saskatoonstamp.com Web site: www.saskatoonstamp.com



BNAPS Book Department

c/o Saskatoon Stamp Centre

PO Box 1870, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3S2 Canada

Ph: (306) 931-6633 Fax: (306) 975-3728

E-mail: ssc@saskatoonstamp.com

◆ NEW title

BNAPS Member's Price

C\$12.95 / US\$ 8.55

The Bickerdike Machine Papers [Newman]

BNAPS Exhibitor's Series

- # 1: Canadian Participation in the Anglo-Boer War, 1899-1902 [Robinson] C\$16.95 / US\$11.20
- # 2: Early Express Company Operations in Canada Competing
with the Post Office in Quebec & Ontario [Harrison] C\$10.75 / US\$ 7.10
- # 3: British Columbia Express Covers From 1858 to 1900 [Carr] C\$14.95 / US\$ 9.85
- # 4: Dr. Robert Bell of the Geological Survey of Canada [Scrimgeour] C\$16.95 / US\$11.20
- # 5: Eastern Arctic Mails 1876 to 1963 [Mowat] C\$15.25 / US\$10.05
- # 6: A Pre-Confederation Postal History of Labrador [O'Reilly] C\$10.95 / US\$ 7.20
- # 7: Cross-Border Mail: Canada - USA America 1800-1860 [Sanderson] C\$15.95 / US\$10.50
- # 8: Force "C" The Canadian Army's Hong Kong
Story 1941-1945 [Ellison] C\$12.50 / US\$ 8.25
as above, on CD (Win95 or NT4.0 SP2) C\$12.50 / US\$ 8.25
- # 9: Registration Markings & Registered Letter Stamps [Lussey] C\$21.95 / US\$14.50
- #10: Money Order Office Datestamps (MOOD) 1928-1945 [Narbonne] C\$15.95 / US\$10.50
- #11: Mining: British Columbia's Heritage [Jacobi] C\$19.95 / US\$13.15
- #12: A Canadian In Siberia 1918-1921 [Smith] C\$14.95 / US\$ 9.85
- #13: Untold Wealth: Canada's Mineral Heritage [Kutz]
as above, Hardbound C\$18.95 / US\$12.50
C\$169.50 / US\$111.85
- #14: Canadian Postal Rates and Routes to North
American Destinations [Willson] C\$15.95 / US\$10.50
- #15: Canada: Postal Regulations, Rates & Usages: Domestic
and International Mail, 1897-1911 [Pawluk] C\$24.95 / US\$16.45
- #16: The Broken Circle Postmarks of Canada [Scrimgeour] C\$19.95 / US\$13.15
- #17: Via Vancouver: Canada's Transpacific Maritime Mails [Unwin] C\$12.95 / US\$ 8.55
- #18: Newfoundland Postal Stationery 1873-1941 [Harrison] C\$16.95 / US\$11.20
- #19: Postal Shortages, and Surcharged Issues of Newfoundland [Dyer] C\$14.95 / US\$ 9.85
- #20: The First Four Suppliers of Canadian Postal Stationery and
its Usages 1860-1910 [Harrison] C\$16.95 / US\$11.20
- #21: Internment Mail in Canada 1914-1919 & 1939-1946 [Luciuk] C\$13.95 / US\$ 9.20
- #22: Canada's Business Postal Cards [Harrison] C\$17.95 / US\$11.85
- #23: Postmarks of the District of Assiniboia [Fraser] C\$10.75 / US\$ 7.10
- #24: Official Air Mail Rates to Foreign &
Overseas Destinations [Whitely] C\$12.95 / US\$ 8.55
- Set of all 24 exhibit books ◆ C\$349.50 / US\$230.65
- Canada and the Universal Postal Union 1878-1900 [Arfken] C\$16.95 / US\$11.20
- Canada InkJet (Jet Spray) Cancels 1992-1999 [Weiner] C\$16.95 / US\$11.20
- Canada Post Office Guide - 1852 [Steinhart] *reduced* C\$16.95 / US\$11.20
- The Canada Precancel Handbook [Walburn] *reduced* C\$ 9.85 / US\$ 6.50
- Canada - BNA Philately (An Outline) [Richardson] C\$ 8.95 / US\$ 5.90
- Canadian Fancy Cancellations of the Nineteenth Century [Day/Smythies] C\$ 8.95 / US\$ 5.90
- The Canadian Map Stamp of 1898 - A Plating Study [Bradley] C\$34.95 / US\$23.05
- A Canadian Military Postal History Anthology [CMMSG] C\$26.95 / US\$17.80
- The Canadian Patriotic Post Card Handbook 1904-1914 [Gutzman] C\$16.95 / US\$11.20
- Canadian Permit Postage Stamps Catalog [Staecker] C\$11.95 / US\$ 7.90
- A Canadian Railway Postal History Anthology [CRPOSG] C\$26.95 / US\$17.80
- Canadian Re-entry Study Group Newsletters #1-85 [CRSG] C\$79.95 / US\$52.75
- Catalogue of Canadian Railway Cancellations and Related
Transportation Postmarks [Ludlow] C\$24.95 / US\$16.50
as above, Supplement No. 1 [Ludlow] C\$14.95 / US\$ 9.85
as above, Supplement No. 2 [Ludlow] C\$14.95 / US\$ 9.85
- Civil Censorship in Canada During World War I [Steinhart] C\$12.95 / US\$ 8.55
- Constant Plate Varieties of the Canada Small Queens [Reiche] C\$ 4.45 / US\$ 2.95

	BNAPS Member's Price
The Cumulative Index to BNA Topics 1944-1997 [Livermore]	C\$26.95 / US\$17.80
Fancy Cancels on Canadian Stamps 1855 to 1950 [Lacelle]	C\$21.95 / US\$14.50
Hand Stamp Slogan Postal Markings of Canada [Friedenthal]	C\$21.50 / US\$14.20
as above, Supplement #1 [Friedenthal]	C\$ 7.15 / US\$ 4.70
as above, Supplement #2 [Friedenthal]	C\$10.75 / US\$ 7.10
The Handbook of Air Mail Slogan Cancels of Canada [Coumts]	C\$17.55 / US\$11.60
John Boyd and Cottonwood, B.C. [Scringecour]	C\$16.95 / US\$11.20
The Major E.R. Toop Collection of Canadian Military Postal History (2 volume set) [McGuire/Narbonne]	C\$44.95 / US\$29.65
as above, Volume One: to the end of the Second World War	C\$24.95 / US\$16.45
as above, Volume Two: Post-Second World War	C\$17.95 / US\$11.85
Northwest Territories Postal Cancellations 1907-1986 [O'Reilly] <i>reduced</i>	C\$16.95 / US\$11.20
Ontario Post Offices (2 volume set) [Smith]	C\$64.50 / US\$42.55
as above, Volume 1: Alphabetical listings	C\$32.25 / US\$21.30
as above, Volume 2: Listings by County & District	C\$41.25 / US\$27.20
The Post Office Department and the Parliamentary Record in Canada (Ontario and Quebec) From 1780 to 1925 [Hillman]	C\$11.55 / US\$ 7.60
Postage Stamps and Cancellations of Prince Edward Island, 1814-1873 [Lehr]	C\$21.95 / US\$14.50
The Postal History of the District of Assiniboia 1882-1905 [Kell] <i>reduced</i>	C\$11.55 / US\$ 7.60
Privately Rouletted Post Cards of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company [Klass]	C\$ 9.85 / US\$ 6.50
Railway Postmarks of the Maritimes 1866-1971 [Gray]	C\$13.95 / US\$ 9.20
The Slogan Box (Newsletters of BNAPS Slogan Cancel Study Group)	
3-hole punched	<i>reduced</i> C\$89.95 / US\$59.35
as above, hardbound (3 volumes)	<i>reduced</i> C\$179.95 / US\$118.75
Slogan Postal Markings of Canada in the Period from 1931 to 1940 [Rosenblat]	C\$ 7.95 / US\$ 5.25
Slogan Postal Markings of Canada in the 1941-53 Period [Rosenblat]	C\$ 7.95 / US\$ 5.25
Specimen Overprints of British North America [Boyd]	C\$16.95 / US\$11.20
The Squared Circle Cancellations of Canada - Fifth Edition [Gordon] ♦	C\$32.95 / US\$21.95
The Squared Circle Postmarks of Canada [Moffat/Hansen]	C\$12.95 / US\$ 8.55
Transatlantic Study Group Handbooks [Arnell]	
Handbook #1: Handbook on Transatlantic Mail	C\$ 8.95 / US\$ 5.90
Handbook #2: Transatlantic Stampless Mail To and From British North America	C\$14.95 / US\$ 9.85
Handbook #3: The Transitional Decade From Sail to Steam on the North Atlantic	C\$12.95 / US\$ 8.55
Handbook #4: Transatlantic Mail To and From British North America From the Early Days to U.P.U.	C\$26.95 / US\$17.80
Set of all 4 handbooks	C\$44.95 / US\$29.65

Postage is extra on *all Book Orders*: Within Canada add 10% (min. \$5); to USA add 15% (min. US\$5.50); Overseas add 20% (min. US\$8).

For full descriptions, cover illustrations, and independent book reviews of these BNAPS-published works, please see the Saskatoon Stamp Centre *Canadian & BNA Philatelic Literature* price list or visit our web site:

www.saskatoonstamp.com

We have listed the BNAPS-specific titles on a single web page for your reference, at:

www.saskatoonstamp.com/lit_bnaps.htm

All orders should be sent to the Saskatoon Stamp Centre. Any of the other titles offered by the Saskatoon Stamp Centre, as advertised in their *Canadian & BNA Philatelic Literature* price list, supplement or internet web site can be ordered at the same time.

Cheques must be made payable to:

SASKATOON STAMP CENTRE

Your BNAPS member number is required at the time of order to receive the prices listed here.

Book Reviews



☞ *The money order office number (MOON) cancellations of Quebec 1950–1973* by Michael Sagar (2001), French translation by André Rondeau; soft cover, spiral bound, 8½"×11", 162 pages. Published by the author (208–611 West 13th Avenue, Vancouver BC V5Z 1N8)

A MOON cancel is a rectangular datestamp containing the post office's money order office number (eventually assigned to every Canadian post office). This style of postmark was used 1950–1973. They were originally intended for cancelling money orders and accounting paperwork. However, they were used for almost everything else, e.g., registered mail, first class mail, parcel post, reply coupons, PO Savings Bank books, . . . They were ultimately replaced by the now-familiar POCN (post office computer organization number) cancels, and coexisted with the MOTOs, which had succeeded the earlier MOODs. (Don't you love these acronyms? I can never remember which is which.)

This volume is the sixth in a projected series of eight covering MOON cancels across Canada; this one deals with Quebec MOONS. The bulk of it is devoted to an alphabetical listing of the hammers, their office number, proof date, early and late recorded dates, type (according to a uniform classification scheme), and comments (usually dealing with colours of strikes). There is a separate list (Appendix A) arranged by office number. The introduction contains a brief history of the cancellations, and also includes the classification scheme.

The author points out that new discoveries will be made regularly, and he encourages people to send in reports. The MOOSE (another acronym) is a very active PHSC study group dealing with these and related postmarks.

As someone with a casual interest in these cancels, I would have liked to have seen more emphasis on their varied uses, with illustrations. The uniform weight nonserif all-caps font makes searching in the list tiring.

However, this and its counterparts for the other regions are the state of the art, and enthusiasts will refer continually to this book. *The Editor*

HR *The 3d beaver pair* Robbie Lowe, an honorary member of the Ottawa Philatelic Society, attended one of their auctions. A pair of the 3d was for sale. It had nice margins all around, but was pen-cancelled. At the time, no one was interested in pen-cancelled stamps. Robbie bought it for \$5. Why? It happened to be a defaced plate proof. Lots of red faces. (*Hans Reiche*)

With the study groups

Robert Lemire

THE purpose of this column is to bring to the attention of BNAPS members the fascinating specialist work being done within each BNAPS study group. My apologies in advance to authors and contributors whose articles are omitted; it is impossible to discuss the entire contents of every newsletter. Even with the help of the newsletter editors I can select only a few highlights. Some recent newsletters may have been misdirected during the transitions from David Whiteley and Herbert Trenchard. The summaries below represent what has arrived in my hands to the end of February 2002.

Canadian Military Mail Study Group Canada's Nile Voyageurs, recruited to help transport soldiers and supplies for the relief of Khartoum in 1884–85, are the subject of articles in newsletters #152 & 153. Colin Campbell and Mike Street provided a background article. This was followed with illustrations of several covers from the exhibit of the late John Firebrace, and from a 1968 monograph by Ed Richardson. Doug Sayles reported a WW II Field Service Post Card. He wonders why usage of such cards by Canadian troops seems scarce, whereas WW I usage was fairly common. Doug also shows covers that indicate the Royal Canadian Navy censor handstamp was first used in April 1915. An index for newsletters #101–150, compiled by Hendrik Burgers, was also distributed.

World War II Study Group The November 2001 issue of *War Times* contains the final section of David Whiteley's summary of the development of censorship, as well as part 3 of Bill Pekonen's listing of the many war boards that operated during the period. Shorter articles, primarily by editor Chris Miller, present illustrations of WW II covers, and requests for information.

Newfoundland Issue 91 of *The Newfie Newsletter* features excerpts from Terry Harris' award-winning exhibit of Newfoundland fiscal stamps. In issue 92, Barry Senior shows a mourning cover that contained a notice announcing the death of the Chairman of Ayre & Sons Ltd. The unusual feature of this item is that the postage was paid using a perfin copy of Scott #187. Both issues of the newsletter include further illustrations from Horace Harrison's Newfoundland postal stationery collection.

BNA Perfins Study Group The November issue of the *BNA Perforator* features Part 2 of RS Trahquair's article on "mismatched" perfin covers. These are covers on which the printed corner card appears not to match the perfin. Most of the examples shown involve partially-owned subsidiaries using the

perfins of a parent organization. For example, CNR perfins were used by TransCanada Airlines, by the Macdonald Hotel in Edmonton, by *The Charlottetown*, and by Canadian National Steamships.

Postal Stationery Study Group Volume 17, # 3 of the *Postal Stationery Notes* contains the conclusion of Earle Covert's article on prepaid parcel labels. These can be regarded either as postal stationery or as stamps; in either case, it is important that such a list be assembled while the labels are still close to being current. Volume 17, # 4 contains a discussion and colour illustrations of the (Admiral era) Sir Adam Beck reply post cards. There are also listings of what varieties are known for the private order flag issue envelopes of the early 1990s (Dick Staecker) and the "official" Canada Post test envelopes from the early 1980s (Robert Lemire).

The BNAPS Post Card Study Group In the November 2001 issue of *Post Card Matters*, there are illustrations (including a page in colour) of several interesting cards. For example, there are two Yukon cards. One, submitted by Joe Smith, shows a dog sled team (the card probably dates from 1904–1908); the other, supplied by Dean Mario, is a 1915 card promoting the agricultural possibilities of the Yukon(!).

Registration Study Group There are several back issues on hand of *The Registry*, edited by David Handelman. Somehow these evaded Herbert Trenchard, and some date back almost a year. They show a fascinating selection of registered covers of all eras, and the following represent only a small selection. There is a cover from Vancouver to Manchuria, mailed in 1946, which was initially registered, but was later marked *no registration service*, and the registration handstamp marking was struck through with pen strokes. There is a puzzling free registered airmail military cover (1944, Avalon Fleet Mail Office in St. John's) with enough interesting markings to keep several specialists happy. In Volume III # 1, three AR covers (i.e., covers for which an acknowledgement of receipt was prepaid) from the late 1970s are shown. At least two of the covers had extra postage added to pay for additional indemnity if the item was lost. There is also an 1856 cover with a Brant marking, with a REGISTERED handstamp. (The marking was discussed by Horace Harrison in a previous newsletter, and David indicates that as he sees more of these he is becoming skeptical about whether the marking is genuine). It is clear that the interests of the study group members range from the stampless period to the present.

BNAPS Fancy Cancel Study Group Newsletter # 28 of the Fancy Cancel Study Group has an article by editor David Lacelle in which the important issue of cancel authenticity is discussed. Some of the basic considerations that might suggest a cancel is bogus or fake are described.

Squared Circle Study Group Volume 23, #3 of the *Round-Up Annex*, features a list showing month-by-month usage of the five different barred-circle Montreal hammers (1892–1904). Readers are challenged to help fill in the gaps! There also is a list of new squared-circle reports (yes, new earliest and latest dates are still being reported for this well studied group of hammers).

RPO Study Group Three issues of the newsletter of this study group have arrived. Volume 30, #1 contains a history of the story of Depot Harbour by Chris Anstead. Depot Harbor was the terminus (near Parry Sound) for a rail line that ran from Ottawa, through Algonquin Park, to the shore of Georgian Bay. Several proof strikes of RPO cancels related to this line are shown, as is a large rubber handstamp strike of the Ottawa & Depot Harbor RPO on the back of a 1920 registered cover. In Volume 30, #2 is a study of the railway post office services on the Temiskaming & Northern Ontario Railway. The article, inspired by John Beddows, illustrates cancellations on covers carried by several branches of this rail line. In Volume 30, #3, the feature article is *Travelling post offices on boats—why?* This article, focussed on mails on the waterways of the interior of BC, was written by retired post office clerk RF Marriage. Colin Lewis reported a strike of a previously unreported 1887 Kingston & Pembroke Railway cancel.

Air Mail Study Group Volume 9, #1 of the newsletter carries several articles on the early air mail flights, pilots and aircraft. Most of these items have been adapted from other sources. One particularly interesting piece (originally published in the February 1954 issue of *The Postmark*), describes handling of the mails in the north in the early twentieth century. The article includes a description of a 1921 flight between Hudson Bay posts at Fort Simpson and Peace River Crossing.

Canadian Re-entry Study Group Several nice re-entry items are shown in the May/June 2001 newsletter of this study group. Re-entries are difficult to show, and the authors and Ken Hallett are to be commended for the excellent illustrations. Particularly spectacular is a major “misplaced” re-entry on a copy of the 1¢ numeral issue stamp. Apparently, the wrong master die was used to correct an error or an attempt was made to burnish clear a plate originally used for the 10¢, but part of the image of the 10¢ remained on the plate. Bob Tomlinson provided a good discussion (and some wonderful pictures) of the “relief break” variety on Scott #1 & 4, and explains how this variety probably came to be.

Map Stamp Newsletter These newsletters contain a considerable amount of information on the activities of the members as well as several key articles. In the September issue, there is discussion by John Milks (based on his presentation at BNAPEX 2001) of some of the chemistry that may un-

derlie the “muddy waters” map stamp variety. In the December issue, Harry Voss showed two stamps from previously unreported positions of plate 5 in state 1, before it was reworked. The illustrations are clear and informative.

The Admiral Study Group Volume 5, # 2 of *The Admiral's Log* has several interesting articles. Three of these, the first and third by new editor Leopold Beaudet, the second by John Cooper, provide information on the Admiral booklet panes. The first article is a primer based on Marler's books. The second is a proposed catalogue list of the panes. The third illustrates some varieties that appeared in auction catalogues at the time the Cook and Ure collections were sold (1989 and 2001, respectively). The articles are a must for collectors of these booklet issues. The study group has also published a small, 20-page booklet to provide “a simplified introduction to Marler's classic book—*The Admiral Issue of Canada*.”

Centennial Definitive Study Group Newsletter Volume 19, # 2 contained a number of articles inspired by Robin Harris' recent book. The top row of the (25×6¢) pane of the \$1.50 booklets normally has the format label-label-stamp. On the 6¢ orange booklets a few booklets had been miscut, so that the top row is label-stamp-label. Now Doug Karns reports the 6¢ black booklet (BK64) with the pane miscut so that the top row is stamp-label-label. Spectacular! Also, Nick Fedorchuk reports on some copies of the \$1 booklets (11×8¢, 1×6¢, 6×1¢) in which the one of the 8¢ impressions was only partially printed.

Elizabeth II Study Group Robin Harris has been busy, as three issues of the *Corgi Times* have been received. Regular contributor Joseph Monteiro shows a number of different types of miscut booklets of the 47¢ self-adhesive flag stamp in Volume 10, # 2. Some of the varieties are quite spectacular—stamps cut through the middle in one case, different size stamps with consequent tagging shifts in another. In Volume 10, # 3, Joseph discusses what can be learned from perforation errors on the 43¢ & 45¢ Queen Elizabeth definitives. In Volume 10, # 4 Leopold Beaudet provides a summary of distribution dates of the different plate number blocks from the latter part of the Wilding period. In each newsletter, there are short articles on new (often unannounced) varieties of the current definitives.

The list of study groups and their officers will appear in *alternate* issues.—ed

HR *Watch the spelling* Have a good look at the 1972 Krieghoff stamp. All plate inscriptions have the name misspelled as “Kreighoff”. I wonder why this error was never corrected during printing. (*Hans Reiche*)

Executives, Directors & Officers *

British North America Philatelic Society Ltd

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

Kids site: <http://www.bnaps.org/stamp4kids>

Elected officers: Executive

President Horace W Harrison "El Supremo", 1802 Indian Head Road, Ruxton MD 21204-6428 (horharrison@aol.com)

First Vice-President Robert A Lee, # 203-1139 Sutherland Ave, Kelowna BC V1Y 5Y2 (bob@stamp-bids.com)

Vice-President Regional Groups Tracy Cooper, 60 Fairview Drive, Williams Lake BC V2G 3T1 (Tracy.Cooper@gems3.gov.bc.ca)

Vice-President Study Groups Douglas Lingard, 2425 Blackstone Cr, Ottawa, ON K1B 4H3 (lingardd@istar.ca)

Treasurer James (Jim) Hansen, 117 Village Road, Newbury NH 03255 (j.hansen@conknet.com)

Secretary Peter Jacobi, 5295 Moncton St, Richmond BC V7E 3B2 (beaver@telus.net)

Immediate Past President Earle Covert, 187 W 200 S Ave, Raymond AB T0K 2S0 (ecovert@telusplanet.net)

Elected Officers: Board of Directors

(Ten sitting members; five elected in the even numbered years for four-year terms.)

Serving 1998-2002:

Basil S Burrell, 857 Pembridge Dr, Lake Forest IL 60045-4202 (bsburrell@hotmail.com)

Charles G Firby, 6695 Highland Rd, # 108, Waterford MI 48327 (firbystamps@prodigy.net)

Jerome C Jarnick (Chairman), 108 Duncan Drive, Troy MI 48098-4613 (jcyjarnick@cs.com)

Jonathan C Johnson, 9604 Kalamalka Road, Vernon BC V1B 1L3 (jcperfins@hotmail.com)

RF (Hank) Narbonne, 216 Mailey Dr, Carleton Place ON K2C 3X9

Serving 2000-2004:

John T. Burnett, 4515 Arrowhead Dr SE, Decatur AL 35603-3141 (jb45855@aol.com)

Art Klass, 143 Woodridge Court, Parkersburg WV 26101-9215 (artkl@msn.com)

Harry W Machum, PO Box 123, Little Current ON P0P 1K0 (machum@vianet.on.ca)

Susan M G Jamieson, PO Box 1870, Saskatoon SK S7K 3S2 (ssc.susan@saskatoonstamp.com)

J Don Wilson, 11 Elm Place, St John's NF A1B 2S4

Committees and Appointed Officers

Awards Coordinator William Geijsbeek, 6616 140th Place NE, Redmond, WA 98052-4649 (e-mail: geijsbeek@attglobal.net)

BNAPortraitS Editor Robert Lemire, PO Box 1870, Deep River ON K0J 1P0

BNAPS Book Department Saskatoon Stamp Centre, PO Box 1870, Saskatoon SK S7K 3S2

BNATopics Editor David Handelman, Math Dept, University of Ottawa, Ottawa ON K1N 6N5 (dhandelman1@email.com [home], dehsg@uottawa.ca [office])

BNATopics Editorial Assistant Audrey Covert, 187 W 200 S Ave, Raymond, AB T0K 2S0

Board of Examiners Chairman Art Klass, address above (director)

Circulation Manager (BNAPortraitS/BNATopics) Wayne Smith, PO Box 104, Don Mills ON M3C 2R6 (wsmith1@joica.jnj.com)

Convention Committee Chairman Earle M Covert, address above (immediate past president)

Dealer Liaison & Advertising Manager Hank Narbonne, address above (director)

* The listings of study groups and officers will appear in alternate issues.

Donations Advisor—Canada Richard M Lamb, PO Box 573, Kitchener ON N2G 4A2

Donations Advisor—USA Horace W Harrison, address above (president)

Elections Committee Chairman Don Ure, 6706 Emerald Lake Drive, Troy MI 48098

Ethics Committee Chairman William C Walton, 125 Turtleback Rd., Califon NJ 07830
(jwalton 971@aol.com)

Exchange Circuit Manager Andy Ellwood, PO Box 83004, Vista Centre Ottawa ON K1V 1A3
(Andy_Ellwood @msn.com)

Finance Committee Victor L Willson, PO Box 10026, College Station TX 77842-0026
(v-willson@tamu.edu)

Historian P Charles Livermore, 100-08 Ascan Ave, Forest Hills NY 11375
(livermop@stjohns.edu)

Judging Committee William C Walton, address above (ethics committee)

Nominations Committee Chairman William C Walton, address above (ethics committee)

Policy & Procedures Manual Editor Jerome C Jarnick, address above (director)

Publicity Officer Dean Mario, PO Box 342 MPO, Saskatoon SK S7K 3L3

Publications Committee William G Robinson, #301-2108 West 38th Ave, Vancouver BC V6M 1R9

Speakers/Ambassadors Coordinator Norris R (Bob) Dyer, 1708 Granada Ct, Petaluma CA 94954-4531 (nrdyer@attbi.com)

Webmaster Robert Lane, 12 Gilchrist Place, St Albert AB T8N 2M3 (webmaster@bnaps.org)

Membership fees

Annual membership fees are \$ C 25, \$ US 17, or £10 sterling. Membership applications submitted during the second or third quarter of the year should be accompanied by 75% or 50%, respectively, of the annual fee. Applications submitted during the fourth quarter of the year should be accompanied by 25% of the annual fee plus the full fee for the coming year. Family memberships are available for 50% more than the individual membership fee. Three-year memberships can be obtained at a 10% reduction. A one-time application fee of \$ C 5 or \$ US 3.50 is payable in all cases. Send application form and cheque or money order to the Secretary, Peter Jacobi, address above.

Subscriptions: For members of the Society, \$12.50—included in membership fees; members automatically receive the journal. Non-members: \$20.00. For information contact the Secretary, address above.

Changes of address: These should be sent to the Secretary.

Missed, damaged, . . . , copies: Contact the Circulation Manager, Wayne Smith (address above).

Manuscripts can be submitted to the Editor in these formats: (1) electronic, preferably with paper copy, or (2) typewritten (double-spaced) or neatly handwritten. Acceptable electronic formats include MacIntosh- or IBM (compatible)-formatted diskettes, or Zip disks. Preferably, text files should be *ascii* (i.e., text with no formatting). Letters or articles may be submitted by e-mail (jpg or jpeg is the preferred format for illustrations sent as attachments or on diskette). Illustrations should be sent as separate files from text files. If in doubt, consult the Editor.

For electronic text, please leave a blank line between paragraphs. Names should be written with initials (or full given names) *first*, and without periods (as in, I P Freely, not Freely, I.P.). Preferred format for dates is day month year, as in 13 Sept 1752. Avoid use of all-caps, footnotes, or underscoring unless absolutely, positively NECESSARY.

Literature for review: Send to Literature Reviews, c/o David Handelman, Editor. Please note that unless prior agreement is obtained from the Editor, literature for review *must* be sent to the Editor, who will select an arms-length reviewer.

Publications Board: Chairman: Bill Robinson; Robert A Lee, Robert Lemire.

Opinions expressed are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent those of the Society or publisher.



Public Stamp Auction

Next auctions: 25 May & September 2002

Jim Hennok

Licensed Auctioneer

will sell at public auction without reserve

**Canada, Newfoundland & Provinces
British Commonwealth & Foreign**

Featuring

Stamps, covers, proofs

Collections, large lots

Wholesale used Canada

To be held in our auction galleries
Free introductory catalogue

JIM A. HENNOK LTD.

185 Queen St East
Toronto ON M5A 1S2 Canada
Tel: (416) 363-7757
e-mail: hennok@sympatico.ca

Our vendors speak

R. Maresch & Son
330 Bay Street, Suite 703
Toronto, Ontario
Canada, M5H 2S8

June 11, 1997

Dear Bill,

The modern amateur collector needs two things in order to build a significant and satisfying collection: (1) determination, persistence, and judiciousness in assembling it, and (2) the guidance of professional experts of absolute integrity whose knowledge and experience in the field can supplement the collector's own. Likewise, the eventual dispersal of a collection requires similar dependability and assistance from professionals.

Since much of modern stamp collecting is necessarily channeled through auctioneers and/or dealers whose business interests are involved, it is crucial that the professionals involved are scrupulously honest.

Over many decades, I have placed primary responsibility in your firm for counsel in buying and selling. I have never been disappointed and have developed full faith and confidence in your direction and judgement. Every member of your staff has been cooperative, helpful, and considerate and I am delighted to recommend you unreservedly to all collectors in whatever field of interest or wherever their geographical location.

Reputation cannot be purchased; it must be earned. The reputation of R. Maresch and Son is pristine.

Sincerely,

Jim Bloomfield
JB/ab

Dealers in fine stamps since 1924

r. maresch & son

330 BAY ST. SUITE 703 TORONTO ON M5H 2S8 CANADA

☎ (416) 363-7777 peter@maresch.com Fax (416) 363-6511

Visit us at our website <http://www.maresch.com>