

The Twelve-Penny Black covers, p. 8

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## Cover Illustration:

A Twelve-Penny Black on an 1855 cover, from Toronto to New York, p. 8
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## BNA Topics-the future

Robert Lemire

IN my last editorial in BNA Topics (2009Q2), I outlined some of the useful features available on the BNAPS website. Fifteen years ago, use of the "web" and the "Internet" were unknown to most of our members. Even those of us who used a computer on a regular basis struggled to prepare fairly simple electronic documents. Certainly incorporation of illustrations was difficult, and I remember doing final layout of issues of BNA Topics in the mid-1990s using bad photocopies, scissors, and with a glue stick at hand. Use of colour was a far-off dream-much too expensive to contemplate seriously.

If you have read George Dresser's column in the latest issue of BNAPortraitS, you will have learned that, given the financial situation of the Society, the BNAPS Board of Directors has decided that we will cease to publish BNAPortraitS. That publication costs BNAPS $\sim \$ 10,000$ annually-roughly $\$ 10$ per member each year (BNA Topics costs $\sim \$ 30,000$ annually). At the moment, for rather esoteric reasons related to the printing process used by our printer, we cannot simply add a few pages to each issue of BNA Topics without incurring costs that would cut deeply into any potential saving. We will continue to investigate this possibility.

In 1993, BNAPortraitS was created to "provide ... the Society's administrative news and information of interest...". Thus, more pages of BNA Topics were freed up for "in-depth" philatelic articles. Now, however, much of the material that appears in BNAPortraitS is also available on the BNAPS website or, strangely enough, also appears in BNA Topics (lists of officers, book-release notes). Nevertheless, elimination of BNAPortraitS will require redistribution of a portion of its contents into BNA Topics. Information on the running of the Society must be supplied to members, and supplied in a way that does not exclude the large minority who still do not use computers and the Internet on a regular basis. The challenge for your Publications Committee is to do this without substantially cutting back on the philatelic content of BNA Topics.

We will be experimenting. Starting with the next issue, Topics' appearance may change slightly. We will make mistakes. Information concerning preparation for our annual conventions, previously included in BNAPortraitS will henceforward be provided as inserts in BNA Topics, as will the Secretary's report. We are currently looking into ways we can best distribute news on Regional Group activities.

When the changes take place, starting with the 2010Q1 issue, it is important for us to receive your feedback so that we can adjust the appearance and content of BNA Topics to optimize its usefulness, but within our budget.

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## Victoria, British Columbia September 3-5, 2010

## Readers write



Christmas: Earle Covert's "Postal potpourri" article showing post office items with a Christmas theme (BNA Topics, July-September 2008, p. 5), and David Whiteley's Dunsterforce article (BNA Topics, April-June 2009, p. 30) prompted Colin Pomfret to submit this WWI military Christmas card, sent in 1918 by the members of the Sergeant's Mess of the Canadian Mobile Force, North Russia, "The Malamutes". The names of all the Sergeants were listed in the card.
Input: CR McGuire's articles continue to bring input from readers. In response to the second instalment of Ron's "Communications across the Atlantic from the 1860s to the end of an era, part 2" (BNA Topics, January-March 2009, p. 23) Bob Heasman wrote: "The super cover illustrated at Figure 42 is, in fact, not underpaid. The Post Office seems to have had a closely guarded secret-the fact that Canada and France had a bi-lateral Treaty, signed 23 May 1929 which remained in force for 60 years, by virtue of which "Letters and post-cards despatched from Canada to France shall enjoy the benefit of the rates applicable to similar articles addressed to countries forming part of the British Empire." France provided a similar concessionary rate on mail to Canada. At the date of your cover, the Empire surface letter rate was indeed 5 cents, so I think the postage was correctly paid. (By coincidence, the October 2009 Maple Leaves carries an article, written by Mike Street, on this special rate.)

Judith (Edvards) Viney sent a very interesting supplement to Ron McGuire's "Post-Confederation sales of Newfoundland stamps by the Canada Post Office", (BNA Topics, July-September 2009, p. 21), a copy of a Canada Post Office Department Financial Branch letter dated 9 September 1957. The letter advised a correspondent that a notice published in the Canada Gazette of 16 April 1949 was still in effect, and quoted the text: "Public notice is hereby given that unused
postage stamps and other items bearing imprest [sic] postage, issued by the authority of the Government of Newfoundland prior to the union of Newfoundland with Canada, shall be accepted as postage of the Dominion of Canada after this Act of Union becomes effective."
Kudos: David G Jones writes: "I am a long time and well-satisfied reader of BNA Topics. Like any publication, it has had highs and lows, but essentially has done yeoman service to the membership. I'm moved to write today because the 3rd quarter 2009 issue has established-in my view-a new level of publishing excellence. It is the first issue that I have read cover to cover.
"I think the success of this issue emanates from diligent and careful editing that ensures good and clear writing. Importantly, the content is neatly positioned between the poles of detail and generality. In other words, the editors seem to have made it both academically disciplined and of interest to the general reader. Articles are succinct and do not ramble. None of this is easy to achieve. There were many interesting articles, all backed by sound research and illustrated by marvelous colour as well as $\mathrm{B} / \mathrm{W}$ scanning, I was quite taken with the Lost Villages essay and very much appreciated the historical and geographical entrance before getting into its postal history.
"All in all, this edition was very attractive and readable. Topics' editors need to be congratulated. You have outdone yourselves." (We appreciate kind words but must say that the material received from our members is what makes an issue $-E d s$.)

Corrections 1: There was an editorial error in the References in "PostConfederation sales of Newfoundland stamps by the Canada Post Office" (BNA Topics, July-September 2009, p. 26). The second reference should have read: [2] Gary Dickinson, "Philatelists adapt as Newfoundland joins Canada-Reflections on a Diamond Jubilee", BNA Topics, Vol. 65, No. 2 (pp 72-76) and No. 3 (pp 64-71).
Corrections 2: David McLaughlin advises that Charles Verge and Colin Cutler have supplied new information relating to "The Lost Villages of the St. Lawrence Seaway" (BNA Topics, July-September 2009, p. 8):

- Aultsville closed 19 September 1957, not 18 September 1957.
- Mille Roches closed 15 January 1958, not 11 September 1957. Note: Mille Roches is listed as Mills Roches in the Library and Archives Canada (LACBAC) database.
- Dickinson's Landing closed 15 June 1957, not 28 June 1957. The closing date is listed as 28 June, but the last Postmaster vacated the office on 15 June, and no later covers are known. Note: Dickinson's Landing is listed as Dickenson's Landing in the LAC-BAC database.
- Wales closed 26 December 1957, not 12 December 1957. The vacancy date for the last Postmaster is given as 22 December, but a cover dated 26 December shows that the office was open for at least a few more days.


## BNAPS Honours and Awards 2009

AT BNAPEX 2009 in Kingston the following honours and awards were announced:

Order of the Beaver: Peter J McCarthy was inducted into the Order of the Beaver, the Fellowship of BNAPS. Since joining BNAPS in 1986, Peter has made many important contributions to the Society. Between 1991 and 1996, he was the Study Group Centreline Reporter. In 2003, he chaired the very successful BNAPEX London, ON. Peter has been a very active co-leader and secretary of the BNAPS Golden Horseshoe Regional Group, for which he received the Jack Levine Fellowship Award in 2007. He has also been a regular contributor to the RPO study group's newsletter over the years, has contributed several articles to BNA Topics, and won both BNAPEX and national level gold exhibiting awards.
Order of the Beaver Lifetime Achievement Award: Ross D Gray was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award by the members of the Order of the Beaver. Ross has been a major contributor to the studies of the Railway Post Office (RPO) study group. Since he became Editor of the RPO newsletter in 2001 it has twice received the prestigious John S Siverts Award as the best study group newsletter. In addition to articles on RPOs in BNA Topics, in 2000 he wrote Railway Postmarks in the Maritimes, a Study of the Cancellation Devices 1866-1971. Ross's most important contribution to the hobby to date has been the just-released, 316-page Catalogue of Canadian Railway Cancellations and Related Railway Postmarks Including Selected Waterway Postmarks, which completely revised the 1982 Ludlow RPO catalogue. One of only a few collectors to exhibit Canadian RPOs at the international level, Ross has shown an unfailing generosity in sharing his prodigious knowledge of Canadian RPOs.
Vincent G Greene Award: Presented annually to the author of the best article or series of articles appearing in BNA Topics in the previous year, the Vincent $G$ Greene Award for 2008 was won by C R (Ron) McGuire for his two-part article "Communications across the Atlantic from the 1860s to the End of an Era". A well -known postal historian, prolific author, and member of BNAPS since 1972, Ron has served BNAPS as a Director and very successful Chairman of the Convention Committee. He has won the VG Greene Award twice before, in 1982 and 2002.
John J Siverts Award: Presented annually to the Editor of the best Study Group Newsletter in the previous year, the John J Siverts Award for 2008 was presented to Leopold Beaudet for his work on the Admiral Study Group's The Admiral's Log. This newsletter deals with all aspects of the Canadian Admiral Issue, but with a primary focus on the stamps (re-entries, plate flaws, and relief break, printings and die
(continued on p .23 )

## The Twelve-Penny Black covers

Charles G Firly and George B Arfken

IN the 1840s, countries to which Canadians sent mail started issuing postage stamps: Britain, the One-Penny Black in 1840; the United States, the 5¢ Franklin and 10¢ Washington in 1847; and France the $10 ¢$ Ceres in 1849. Canada took control of her own Post Office system on 6 April 1851, and the production of Canadian stamps was a high-priority matter. The Legislative Assembly of Canada authorized the creation of Canadian stamps on 25 May 1849 [1, p. 119] and, in early 1851, Canadian postal officials were negotiating with Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson (RWHE), the US printing firm that had printed the two US stamps of 1847. The contract, signed in June
 and July 1851, is reproduced in [2, p. 347].
Canada ordered stamps of three denominations to pre-pay the following rates: 3d per $1 / 2$ ounce domestic letters

6d per $1 / 2$ ounce
12d per $1 / 2$ ounce
letters to US, double rate domestic
letters to Newfoundland, Bermuda, British West Indies (sent via Boston through Halifax).

The Queen's head, from the portrait of the Queen by Alfred E. Chalon, was chosen for the vignette of the 12d stamp. Chalon had sketched the young Queen Victoria in 1837, wearing her Robes of State on her first visit to the House of Lords. He captured her freshness and beauty along with the proper dignity of her estate. A steel engraving was made the next year, and the Queen's image was spread throughout the Empire. In the nineteenth century, some 300 different postage stamps were issued showing the Queen's head from Chalon's portrait. This was the means by which most of the people of the British Empire became familiar with their Queen's visage.

The 12d die was engraved by the English engraver, Alfred Jones [3, p. 33]. Shown above is the final stamp as issued. The stamp was clearly labeled 12 pence, with a " 12 " in each corner for emphasis. But 12 pence is equal to one shilling. The Canadian Post

Keywords \& phrases: Twelve-Penny Black covers, Pence, Queen Victoria

Office and the printers referred to this stamp as the shilling stamp. So why wasn't this stamp labelled one shilling? Howes gave a plausible explanation [3, p. 33]: There was a British shilling, also a Halifax shilling. Adding a Canadian shilling would have resulted in three different shillings with three different values. Confusion would have been inevitable. So, to avoid such confusion, the Canadian shilling stamp was clearly labeled "12 pence" representing Canadian Currency, thus avoiding confusion with the British Sterling.

The siderographer of the 12d printing plate had serious problems. An examination of the contemporary plate proofs shows that nearly every stamp had been re-entered. The plate was subsequently defaced by strong scratching/gouging of each design. This plate presently resides in the permanent collection of the Canadian National Postal Museum (Figure 1).


Figure 1. Defaced 12d Black plate in Canadian National Postal Museum.
The Post Office ordered 50,000 12d stamps. A proof of the 12 d plate was sent on 8 May 1851. On 14 May, 51,000 12d stamps were shipped to PMG James Morris [1, p. 123]. (Howes lists 4 May [3, p. 37]). The extra 1,000 stamps were sent by the printers to compensate for any defective stamps in the 50,000 ordered. Boggs [1, 135] and Howes [3, p. 37] have each given a table of the distribution of these stamps. Each quoted the Metropolitan Pbilatelist [4]. Table 1 is adapted from these sources.

Clifton Howes quotes the 1902 article in the Metropolitan Pbilatelist that states that the 12 d period of use ended on 4 December 1854 [3, p. 37]. This is presumed to be the
date they were withdrawn. A letter from WA Smith of the Canada Post Office Department, dated Ottawa, 28 October 1869, states that the 12d stamps "... did not find favor: and so few were sold only a few bundred altogether in 3 or 4 years they ceased to be issued in 1855" [5, Vol. II, Appendix O, 3-0 \#7].

Table 1. Distribution of the Twelve-Penny Black stamps.

| Date | Post Office | Number of Stamps |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| 14 June 1851 | Hamilton | 300 |
| 17 October 1851 | Chippewa | 100 |
| 13 November 1851 | Thorold | 20 |
| 25 November 1851 | Toronto | 200 |
| 8 March 1852 | Montreal | 200 |
| 14 September 1852 | Ingersoll | 100 |
| 5 April 1853 | Bytown (Ottawa) | 100 |
| 20 October 1853 | Sherbrooke | 15 |
| 13 January 1854 | Smith's Falls | 50 |
| 20 January 1854 | Bytown | 100 |
| 8 February 1854 | L’Islet | 15 |
| 27 February 1854 | Ingersoll | 20 |
| 22 March 1854 | Sault St. Marie | 25 |
| 15 May 1854 | Port du Fort | 15 |
| 21 October 1854 | Rowan Mills | 50 |
| 26 October 1854 | Melbourne | 50 |
| 27 October 1854 | Montreal | 100 |
| 4 December 1854 | Smith's Falls | 50 |

Total number of 12d stamps distributed: 1,510
Table 2. Numbers of Twelve-Penny stamps ordered and issued.

| Total ordered | 50,000 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Sent by RWHE | $50,000 / 1000$ extra |
| Total sent | 51,000 |
| Remainders destroyed | 49,490 |
| Returned and destroyed | 60 |
| Net number issues | 145012 d stamps |

With so little demand for the 12d stamp, it was withdrawn, but the vignette of the Queen's head was not forgotten. When a stamp was needed in 1857 to pay the $71 / 2 \mathrm{~d}$ Allan Line's packet postage rate to Britain, the Chalon design of Queen Victoria was resurrected. When cents replaced pence in 1859, the Allan packet postage became $121 / 2 \mathbb{C}$ and the Chalon Queen's head was once again selected for the stamp design.

The tables below include all of the genuine 12d covers that have been reported and a number of those that have received certificates of non-genuineness. The tables are separated according to the destination of each cover. The genuine covers are listed by a number, 1 to 8 . The non-genuine covers are listed by a letter, $A$ to $F$.

Table 3. Twelve-Penny Black domestic covers used within British North America - both good and bad certificates.


Figure 2. Cover No. 1 of Table 3. Mailed in Galt, the cover was addressed to Mathew C. Cameron, Esq., Barrister at Law, Toronto. Photo in Popular Stamps, May 1948. Ex Brouse.

Charles Verge [6] reported to us the existence of the Brouse cover and its date of 2 May or 2 March 1852 or 1854. The cover was disposed of when Brouse died in 1925 and, to our knowledge, has not surfaced since. It is quite distinct and the only cover with a 12 d used with another stamp. The stamps are tied to each other, but not to the cover, and the manuscript markings appear to represent $1 /$ ??/. These markings may represent the rate marking found on stampless covers. The fact that the cover is from a town that was not provided 12d stamps is also of interest. Mr Verge stated that it had an RPSL certificate but we are unaware of its content. Further examination is essential before passing final judgment on this cover's genuineness. It does however appear to be genuine and is listed as such.

Cover A. A stampless folded letter addressed to Thomas Killam Esq. (a member of the Nova Scotia Parliament), Yarmouth, Nova Scotia. The cover bears circular Paid 3d and faked oval $R$ handstamps and bears ms Reg 573. The rebacked proof is tied by fake 4-Ring cancellation.

Cover B. A folded letter addressed to Saml Tyler Esq., Manager, Kingston. The proof is placed sideways and is tied by a crisp target cancellation.

Table 4. Single-usage Twelve-Penny Black covers to the US.

| 2. | JY 19 1852 | Hamilton | N.Y. | RPSL \#43133 certificate - genuine |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 3. | JY 21 1852 | Montreal | N.Y. | BPA certificate \#44620-genuine |
| 4. | JA 8 1853 | Hamilton | N.Y. | RPSL certificate - genuine |
| 5. | NO 23 1853 | Hamilton | N.Y. | Not seen since 1911, may no longer exist - <br> genuine |

6. DE 81853 Hamilton N.Y. 1984 PF certificate \#132339 - genuine
7. DE 191855 Toronto N.Y. RPSL certificate \#161323- genuine VG Greene 1993 certificate, limited opinion presumed genuine

Table 4 lists six genuine 12d covers to the US, including one cover that has not been seen in almost a century. Cover No. 4 is in the Queen's collection, so the number of genuine 12 d covers, paid the exact rate, available for private collectors, is effectively reduced to five (assuming No. 5 is still around). With this very limited number, auction prices have risen to well over $\$ 100,000$ in the recent past.

The most recent cover to sell at auction was the Wilkinson cover (No. 6) which realized US $\$ 184,000$ in 2007. Cover No. 3 was sold in 1996 at US $\$ 253,000$, then again
in 2004 at US $\$ 209,000$. These prices tempt fakers to put a genuine 12 d stamp or proof on a genuine stampless Canadian cover to the US and then try to sell their product for all they can get.

Most collectors ready to spend $\$ 100,000$ or more on a 12 d cover want assurance that the cover is genuine in all respects. The best assurance comes from expertization committees whose members can examine and test the cover and can issue a certificate stating whether the cover is genuine or not. So, in the tables, we list the expertization certificates written for the individual covers. The four expertization committees whose certificates are listed here are:

| RPSL | Royal Philatelic Society of London |
| :--- | :--- |
| BPA | British Philatelic Association (London) |
| PF | Philatelic Foundation (New York) |
| VG Greene | Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation (Toronto) |

When known, the date on which each cover was certified is shown.


Figure 3. Cover No. 2 of Table 4. Addressed to D.S. Kennedy Esquire, New York. The 12d stamp paid the double 6d rate. A folded letter. Photos in [1, p. 137], CAPEX 1978 program p.63, [1, p. 190]. The stamp is not tied. Ex Dale-Lichtenstein (1956 sale), Geldert, Lea, "Foxbridge" (11/89 \$133,000.00).


Figure 4. Cover No. 3 of Table 4. This cover was addressed to Thomas Paton (Esq.), [Mss. Babs and Darlow?] Wall St. New York. The red postmarks have faded. They show up strongly in [3] and [1]. Photo in [3] Plate VI, [1, p. 137], [2, p. 54]. Ex Worthington, Jarrett, Dale-Lichtenstein, Nickle, Dr. Chan, Robertson. This cover holds the record for the highest auction realization of any 12d Black cover.


Figure 5. Cover No. 4 of Table 4. Addressed to Wall St., New York. The address has been cut out. (Undoubtedly to D.S. Kennedy) The date was listed incorrectly as JA 13 by Wilson [7]. It is definitely not the cover illustrated in Howes' [3] plate VI bottom. This cover is in the collection of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

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Figure 6. Cover No. 5 of Table 4. Addressed to Wall St., New York, this cover is similar to covers No. 4 and 6, which also had the addressee's name cut out but are undoubtedly Kennedy covers. Photo in Howes [3] Plate VI. Ex Seybold, Pack. This cover has not been reported since 1911 when Howes' book was published; it may no longer exist.


Figure 7. Cover No. 6 of Table 4. Addressed to D.S. Kennedy Esq., Wall St., New York. Mentioned in Howes. Ex Seybold, Greene, Wellburn, Rose, Siegel, Wilkinson. The address had been cut out but has been professionally restored. Colour photo in Firby June 2007 catalogue. The cover realized US $\$ 184,000$.

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Figure 8. Cover No. 7 of Table 4. Addressed to James K. McMaster, Care of W.G. Lane \& Co., 194 Broadway, New York. Photo in Boggs [1, p. 138], [2, p. 190]. Ex Denton, Pipkin, Bett ("Lindemann"), Brigham. The approving RPSL certificate states:
"12d Black laid paper imperforate, S.G. 4 marginal copy, used on cover to New York. The cover has been extensively repaired and the stamp washed and replaced. The stamp is genuine but has pinholes and has been lifted, cleaned and repaired but is believed to have originated on this cover."

## Table 5. REJECTED single-usage Twelve-Penny Black covers to the US.

| 16 March 1852 | Montreal | NY | 2003 VG Greene certificate \#2788 as a genuine <br> Stamp, 1 damaged LL and tear UL with traces of <br> earlier cancel. Does not belong to SFL on which <br> it is placed. 2003 Brandon certificate as good. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 14 April 1853 | Montreal | NY | A previous report verbally stated that the RPSL <br> turned this cover down? |
| 11 October 1853 | Kingston | NY | PF certificate \#10170 states Manipulated Proof. |

13 January 1852 Hamilton NY

Cover C. A folded letter, undoubtedly stampless and rated with ms $1 /$ marking ( 1 shilling) on the envelope before the 12 d was added. In 2003 , it sold at auction for $€ 54,000$.

Cover D. This cover was reported to be in the Lees-Jones collection. Further examination is required as we have no record of it. No mention of this cover was recently relayed to us from the RPSL.

Cover E. This cover has been illustrated and described by Narbonne, BNA Topics, Vol. 64, No. 3, July-September 2007, p. 16.

Cover F. Photo in [1, p. 136]. This is the Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson cover bearing "a "thick wove 12d" (Boggs' description). It was illustrated in Harmer's November 1968 Dale-Lichtenstein catalogue on the colour page that was noted "to be offered later". It never was.

## The other pre-destined usages of the Twelve-Penny stamp

The 12 d stamp was ordered and issued to pay the 12 d per $1 / 2$ ounce postage rate for letters to Newfoundland, Bermuda, or the West Indies when sent via packet through Boston and Halifax. No 12d covers to any of these destinations are known. The bare handful of stampless covers known to these destinations during the period of 1851-1859 (while the Pence issue was in service) shows the total lack of need for this denomination.

## Table 6. Twelve-Penny Black cover to the UK.

|  | Date | From | To | Comments |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 8. | SP <br> 1856 | 1 | Hamilton | England | | On the basis of a 1978 VG Greene certificate |
| :--- |
| that was based solely on dating the age of the |
| postmark's ink - genuine. |

The cover on the next page was first discovered and brought to the philatelic market by Robson Lowe in the late 1970s in his Bermuda auction. An elaborate story about the writer was also presented along with a daguerreotype of the sender. It is interesting to note that the stamp was first submitted to the VG Greene for certification as a stamp. After receiving a certificate of "genuine with a crease" for the stamp, R Lowe submitted the cover to the VG Greene Foundation for further certification as a genuine cover. Why?


Figure 9. Cover No. 8 was addressed to Mr. Bevis, No. 2 Kings Head Ct., Brockhurst, Near Gosport, Hants, England. In 1856, the Cunard rate was 10d, so the cover was overpaid 2d.

This could be as a result of previous submissions to two other Committees that had presented divergent opinions on the cover. One had stated "The committee is unable to pass the stamp as genuine or to certify its use on cover." The other stated that "It is a proof from which the overprint SPECIMEN bas been removed and it does not belong to the entire to which it is affixed and is tied by fakeed cancellations."

To be fair, after receiving these two negative reports, R Lowe stated [8] that he showed it to others: a dealer who is said to have handled "over a dozen" 12d and a collector who possessed three copies at the time. All three believed it to be genuine.

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Not a cover but still of interest as it is dated.
Figure 10. Twelve-Penny Black tied to small piece with proper postmark.


## Table 7. Twelve-Penny Black Tied To Small Piece with proper postmark.

Date From To Comments
4 May 1852 Dundas not RPSL \#42375 \& 1978 Friedl certificate as genuine.

## Acknowledgements

We recognize that searching out the information needed for this paper by representatives of the societies was a tremendous task. We are very grateful and pleased to acknowledge the great time investment in searching their organization's records put forth by the following experts and their staffs, well above and beyond their appointed tasks. Kudos to:

| Mr Mercer Bristow | American Philatelic Expert Service |
| :--- | :--- |
| Mr Lewis Kaufman | Philatelic Foundation |
| Mr Adrian Myer | British Philatelic Association |
| Mr Ted Nixon, | Vincent Graves Greene Foundation |

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Mr Patrick Pearson Royal Philatelic Society of London
Mr Michael Sefi Keeper of the Royal Philatelic Collection
Mr Charles Verge Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

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## 1\$ QEII Centennial bookletA possible re-entry

Arnie Janson

DOUBLING of the vertical frameline in the lower right corner has recently been found on various examples of the $1 申$ QEII Centennial stamp (Sc \#454) printed in booklets. This doubling bears a strong resemblance to a re-entry, but re-entries on these booklet stamps have not previously been recorded.


Figure 1. Sc \#454 without re-entry


Figure 2. Sc \#454 with re-entry.

Figure 1 shows a normal Sc 454. In Figure 2, not only is a second right vertical frame line clearly visible, but the diagonal hatch marks are also consistently heavier, with some hatch marks showing doubling as well.

Keywords \& phrases: $1 \subset$ Centennial, stamps, re-entry

The investigation continues, but initial results indicate that the possible re-entry:

- Is most common on Booklet Sc BK 69; a pane of 6 stamps with $3 \times 1 \not \subset, 1 \times$ $6 ¢$ and $2 \times 8$. .
- Has been found on some but not all copies of the following booklets: Sc BK 69a, c, d, e, f, \& j and an unlisted variety (Types I \& II on LF paper). These examples include variations in tagging (untagged, OP2, OP4), fluorescence (LF\& HF) and booklet sealing strips (black \& clear).
- Has also been found on Booklet Sc BK 70a, a pane of 18 stamps with $6 \times$ $1 \mathrm{c}, 1 \times 6 \mathrm{c}$, and $11 \times 8$.
- Appears on all three $1 \not \subset$ stamps in booklet Sc BK 69. In booklet Sc BK 70, the degree of doubling varies and doubling may not be on all 1 c stamps.
It has also been noted that, on stamps with the doubling, the Queen's shoulder extends past the margin, suggesting that this too is part of the re-entry. A final observation is that the bottom frameline near the corner may also be redrawn.

The author would appreciate comments or further information by mail through the Editors of BNA Topics, or via email at: 6jansons@sympatico.ca.

BNAPS Honours and Awards 2009 (continued from p. 7)
proofs) rather than the postal history. Leo has a large number of knowledgeable contributors, and each newsletter contains new information on nearly every Admiral Issue stamp.
Hall of Fame Award: BNAPS Hall of Fame Awards, intended to honour members who have made a significant general or specific contribution to the Society which should not go unrecognized, were awarded this year by President George Dresser to Artbur Klass and Robert A Lee.

A BNAPS Director from 2001 and Chairman of the Board from 2004-2008, Art Klass' award is being given primarily for his dedicated service as Finance Committee Chairman from 2002 to 2008. The committee was reconstituted in 2002 after the Society received a sizeable financial bequest from the estate of the late BNAPS member and president, Horace W Harrison. Art took the lead in managing this bequest in good and not-so-good financial times. Because of Art's leadership, the BNAPS portfolio came through the most difficult 2007-2008 financial period with its capital intact, thereby keeping the Society in sound financial condition.

This is the second Hall of Fame Award for Bob Lee, who also received the award in 1995. Bob was First Vice President from 2000-2002, President from 20022004, and Treasurer from 2005-2009. He has provided exemplary service to the Society over many years. Being treasurer is a demanding office requiring much time and attention to detail. It also requires interacting with many members to ensure that funds are being used in accordance with the procedures established by the Board of Directors. Bob has done his work well. He has been particularly helpful to the current president, who was very pleased to select Bob for this award.

## Newfoundland's trial surcharges, 1918-1929

Norris (Bob) Dyer

THIS brief article provides a summary table and photographs of the seven trial surcharges issued by Newfoundland. They are catalogued as "TS 1 - TS 6 \& TS 3a" in the Nenfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue (NSSC) [1]. Trial surcharges were made in conjunction with the stamp shortages of 1918-1919, 1920, and 1929. Only NSSC lists all seven, although the Scott Classic Catalogue now shows five of them in footnotes, with prices [2].

My 2003 BNAPS Exhibit Series book No. 19, Postal Shortages and Surcharges Issues of Nenfoundland [3], provides more details about these trials and shows four of the seven. By the time my exhibit was at Washington 2006, I had added a fifth. Since then, I finally have found suitable copies of the two missing trials.

The table suggests why the search can be long-printed quantities were quite low. Although some of these numbers are in dispute, they are based upon my research over the years. In my experience, the toughest to find is TS 4, the TWO CENTS in a red surcharge on the 30\& Cabot from 1920.

Collectors chasing this trial should be careful as I have seen several damaged copies. Forged trial surcharges may exist, but I have not seen any. On TS 3a, the surcharge exists doubled, and this varies. On the copy shown below, look at the doubling on the 2 and its serif. The photographs are in order according to issue date.

Surcharges of 1918


Keywords \& phrases: Newfoundland, stamps, trial surcharges

## Surcharges of 1920



Surcharges of 1929


Table 1. Trial surcharges.

| NSSC | YEAR | DESCRIPTION | QUANTITY |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| TS 1 | 1920 | THREE CENTS (red) on 6¢ Cabot | 25 |
| TS 2 | 1920 | THREE CENTS (black) on 6¢ Cabot | 25 |
| TS 3 | 1918 | 2 CENTS (red) on $60 ¢$ Cabot | 50 |
| TS 3a | 1918 | 2 CENTS (red) doubled, on 60¢ Cabot | 50 |
| TS 4 | 1920 | TWO CENTS (red) ON 30¢ Cabot | 25 |
| TS 6 | 1929 | THREE CENTS (black) on $6 ¢(1923$ ), 5 mm above bar | 50 |
| TS 7 | 1929 | THREE CENTS (black) on $6 ¢(1923$ ), 3 mm above bar | 50 |

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## Cover stories (16) Intercepted mail - Part 1

Mike Street

Sixteenth article in a series presenting unusual, rare, or otherwise interesting postal history.


Figure 1 . June 1942 cover mailed from Ottawa to Peru, returned by the Canadian Postal Censorship.


Figure 2. Oversize OHMS envelope that contained the official explanation why the letter to Peru was returned.

Keywords \& phrases: Intercepted mail, Civil Censorship, World War II

IN response to "DLO Mail - Anything but dead!" [Cover Stories 13 \& 14, BNA Topics, Vol. 65, Nos. 1 and 2, 2008], John Wright of England sent photocopies of two World War II covers with DLO marks, as well as a cover returned to the sender without DLO marks and a letter that accompanied it. Little did John know that the latter items would open up a new story line in this series!

We are all familiar with letters returned to the sender because they could not be delivered; what John submitted was a letter that had been mailed and even postmarked, but before going into the mail stream was intercepted by the authorities and returned to the sender.

The letter in Figure 1, to Lima, Peru was postmarked in Ottawa on 7 June 1943. The $20 ¢$ and $50 ¢$ War Issue stamps (Sc \#260, 261) paid double the $35 ¢$ per $1 / 4$ ounce rate to Peru. On 21 June 1943, it was returned in the envelope in Figure 2, with an explanatory letter signed by the Chief Postal Censor, FE Jolliffe (Figure 3).


Figure 3. Letter from the Chief Postal Censor explaining the return of the letter shown in Figure 1.

Dated 19 June 1943, the Chief Postal Censor's letter read:
Herewith is a letter bearing your return address, addressed to -
Messieurs A.N. Amemiya y Cia
Sinchi Roca 525
Lima, Peru
which was intercepted as the addressee is on the Canadian List of Specified Persons.

Please be advised that it is not permissible to correspond or trade with persons or firms on the Canadian List of Specified Persons, either directly or indirectly.

Yours truly,
(signed)
F.E. Jolliffe

Chief Postal Censor
Jolliffe's letter is headed "DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL WAR SERVICES/ DIRECTORATE OF CENSORSHIP". The OHMS envelope in Figure 2 has "DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL WAR SERVICES" printed at the lower left and, just above that, the words "POSTAL CENSORSHIP" were added with an inked handstamp. The most likely reason for the addressee, Messieurs A.N. Amemiya y Cia, to be on the Canadian List of Specified Persons is that the company was known to trade, or suspected of trading, with Germany.

By coincidence, within a few days of John's material arriving, Arnie Janson sent a scan of a 1920s letter intercepted for a different reason. Queries to friends brought more material from Ken Lemke and Ron McGuire. All will be included in the next one or two instalments of this series. My thanks to everyone who has helped.

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## George Eppstadt's cachet

Gary Dickinson

IN 1927, George Eppstadt of Maxville, Ontario produced and distributed a first day cover (FDC) that has captured the imagination of many philatelists over the last 80 years. This cachet, the first and last one Eppstadt ever made, was a major project for him and a significant achievement for its day. It was the first produced for a Canadian stamp issue-stamps honouring the sixtieth anniversary of Confederation. Although portions of the Eppstadt story have been recounted by several different philatelic writers, much of their information is outdated or inaccurate, or it appeared in obscure publications that are not easily obtainable. This article presents a detailed description and analysis of Eppstadt's cachet and its distribution, based upon a review of the literature as listed in the references, and an analysis of 89 covers bearing the Eppstadt cachet using scans obtained from the literature, from recent auction catalogues, and from material provided by collectors.

## Biographical note

George Eppstadt (Figure 1) was born in Hanover, Germany in 1895. In 1910, he immigrated to Canada, a 16 -year-old in search of better employment opportunities. He lived and worked for five years first in Manitoba and then in British Columbia before settling permanently in Ontario. His community of choice was Maxville, a town of fewer than 1,000 people, located some 70 km east of Ottawa. The town's name was derived from the high percentage of Scottish immigrants in the area whose surnames started with "Mac": hence "Maxville".

Eppstadt married in 1921 and opened a retail store in Maxville that same year. It has been identified variously by writers as a candy store [13], grocery store [11], and general store [3]. Eppstadt and his wife had two children and 12 grandchildren. He died circa 1972 and was buried in Maxville.


Figure 1. Portrait of George Eppstadt (from Markovits) [11].

George Eppstadt was a stamp collector from the age of seven. He reportedly brought a stamp album with him when he immigrated to Canada and retained it thereafter [11].

Keywords \& phrases: George Eppstadt, cachets, first day covers

## The 1927 issues

On 29 June 1927, just three days before the sixtieth anniversary of Confederation, nine stamps were issued. Five of them (Scott 141 to 145) were designed specifically to celebrate Confederation: a $1 \not \subset$ orange honouring John A Macdonald, a $2 ¢$ green showing the Fathers of Confederation, a $3 ¢$ brown carmine featuring the Parliament Buildings, a $5 \not \subset$ violet showing a portrait of Wilfrid Laurier, and a $12 \phi$ blue showing a map of Canada. A $20 \not \subset$ orange value (E3) Special Delivery stamp pictured various forms of transportation. A set of three stamps also issued that day, called the "Historical Issue" by philatelists, featured five early political leaders, including Thomas D'Arcy McGee on a $5 申$ violet stamp, Laurier and Macdonald on a $12 \phi$ green value, and a $20 ¢$ brown carmine showing Robert Baldwin and LouisHippolyte Lafontaine. This set of three stamps (Scott 146 to 148) had been prepared for release the previous year but was held back until 1927.

George Eppstadt's project required the production and distribution of hundreds of FDCs, and demonstrated that he must have been aware of the issue dates of major releases a considerable length of time in advance. The cachet he designed made specific reference to "Canada's Jubilee of Confederation" and contained numerous symbols of the country and its provinces. It seems likely, then, that he was seeking to pay homage to his adopted country and that he may have viewed the cachet as his personal gift to Canada. He may also have intended to generate some additional income for his family, but any such hope was unrealistic and, in fact, would not be realized.

## Eppstadt's cachet

George Eppstadt's design was a four-colour, all-over cachet that was considerably more colourful and detailed in comparison with other FDCs being produced elsewhere in the 1920s. It was printed in red, green, blue, and yellow, and the design featured an outer border of green maple leaves on a blue background, with eleven pairs of curved red and white stripes interspersed. There was a blue-lined inner border within the more complex outer one. Blue-boxed text with blue lettering at centre left read "1867-1927/ CANADA'S JUBILEE/ OF CONFEDERATION." A shield in the upper left portion of the cachet showed portions of the then nine provincial coats of arms. A crown sat atop the shield.

Two thousand envelopes were printed with the cachet, although only about 900 were ultimately stamped and mailed as FDCs. The printing was done from engraved plates by a Montreal firm, at a cost to Eppstadt of $\$ 250$. He may have been deterred by the high cost of publishing and distributing his cachet, or it may always have been his intention to do just the one. In any event, he did not produce any further cachets.

Eppstadt's work shares the distinction, along with a much simpler cachet published by the Century Stamp Company of Montreal, of being the first commercially produced FDC cachet for a Canadian stamp issue [6]. The Century cover's design only had text in red, at upper left, reading "FIRST DAY RUN/ CANADIAN CONFEDERATION JUBILEE." It had no graphic elements, and far fewer copies were produced than of the Eppstadt cachet, "probably less than 100" according to Ethier [9].

## Distribution of the covers

The legend recounted in the philatelic literature [3,11] is that George Eppstadt began his day on 29 June 1927 by purchasing a supply of the new stamps at the Maxville Post Office, applying them to some of his covers, and mailing them. This batch included covers that were postmarked on the Montreal, Coteau, and Ottawa Railway Post Office as well as at Maxville itself (Figure 2).


Figure 2. Eppstadt self-addressed cover with \#141 pair and Maxville circular date stamp cancellations.

He engaged a taxi that took him to Ottawa where he mailed the majority of his covers. He is said to have then taxied to Toronto where more covers were serviced. Finally, he returned to Maxville via the same taxi, arriving home at 6 p.m. Some elements of this legend may be apocryphal, as the round trip from Maxville to Toronto is approximately 1,050 kilometres even today, and the maximum speed
possible for automobiles of 1927 would have been about 60 kph . Travel time alone would have been well over eighteen hours, at best.

In addition to the covers that Eppstadt hand-delivered to post offices, he said that he also mailed about 20 each to the Postmasters at Vancouver, Edmonton, and Winnipeg, together with funds to cover the costs and instructions about mailing them back to him on the day of issue.

An analysis of the 89 different scans and photocopies of covers obtained for this study $(10 \%$ of the total FDCs posted) indicates that the largest number (38, or $43 \%$ ) were postmarked Ottawa while 29 ( $33 \%$ ) were cancelled in Maxville and eleven $(12 \%)$ on the RPO noted above. Other towns represented were as follows: Vancouver with four, Winnipeg with three, and Edmonton and Toronto with two each. Although Ottawa did have the largest number of observed postmarks, the total was far short of the "at least $80 \%$ " stated by Markovits [11] based on information he obtained from Eppstadt. Conversely, more covers were observed for Maxville than would have been expected if Markovits' information were correct. The number of observed town cancellations was approximately as expected for Vancouver, Edmonton, and Winnipeg, but fewer than would be anticipated for Toronto if Eppstadt had actually travelled there to mail his covers. The observed data raise the possibility that Eppstadt may have mailed 20 copies to the Toronto Postmaster, just as he did in the case of the three western cities, rather than travelling there.

One hypothetical reconstruction of where Eppstadt mailed his FDCs and the postage they may have carried is shown in Table I. This distribution assumes that he did not travel to Toronto, and the totals are based on reports in the literature, tempered by a review of the 89 covers examined. The column totals suggest that some 555 covers ( $62 \%$ ) were posted in Ottawa while 265 ( $29 \%$ ) were mailed in Maxville, including those cancelled on the RPO, estimated at about 100. In addition, 20 FDCs $(2 \%)$ would have been mailed at each of Toronto, Vancouver, Edmonton, and Winnipeg, for a grand total of 900. If Eppstadt did somehow manage to travel to Toronto to hand-deliver the covers postmarked there, the total for Ottawa might be 45 or 50 covers fewer than is indicated in Table I.

Another complicating factor is that the one-page summary inventory prepared by Arthur Bernier for his sale of 307 covers to Steve Ritzer in 1970 included a line indicating that 81 covers with pairs of \#141 were postmarked with Vancouver flag cancellations. Although such a quantity is possible, it is considerably different from other reports, including Eppstadt's own, which indicated that no more than 20 covers were posted in Vancouver.

The latter number is used here. It should be underscored that the data shown in Table I are hypothetical and based on information from the literature and from a $10 \%$ sampling of the total number of covers thought to have been circulated.

Especially likely to be in error are the smaller numbers in the table. The hypothetical distribution does, however, give a first approximation of the likely relative scarcity of the various combinations of postage and points of mailing.

## Table 1. Hypothetical distribution of Eppstadt cachets by postage and point of mailing.

| Scott | Ottaw | Maxvill | Toront | Vancouve | Edmonto | Winnipe | Tota |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| No. | $\mathbf{a}$ | $\mathbf{e}$ | $\mathbf{o}$ | $\mathbf{r}$ | $\mathbf{n}$ | $\mathbf{g}$ | $\mathbf{1}$ |
| 141 | 55 | 25 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 92 |
| 142 | 300 | 75 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 403 |
| 143 | 120 | 75 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 215 |
| 144 | 10 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 19 |
| 145 | 30 | 10 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 48 |
| $146-$ <br> 148 | 0 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 50 |
| Comb <br> Incl. <br> E3 | 40 | 25 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 73 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 555 | 265 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 900 |

The correct letter rate of postage for most of the covers Eppstadt mailed was two cents, which covered local mailings as well as letters to the rest of Canada and the United States. The $2 \phi$ value was indeed used most frequently according to one published report [3], and it also appeared most frequently in the sample of 89 covers studied. Two-cent stamps were used on $42 \%$ of the sample FDCs, followed by $24 \%$ with the $3 \phi$ value. Two or more $1 申$ stamps were affixed to $9 \%$ of the covers examined, while $12 \phi$ and $5 \phi$ values were each used on three covers. According to Markovits [11], no plate blocks were used, and multiples were used only for the 1申 value. Among the 89 covers studied, however, pairs of both the $2 \notin$ and $3 \notin$ stamps were found.

Combination covers accounted for about one-fifth of the FDCs studied, and the three values of the Historical Issue (Scott 146-148) were found ten times (11\% of the total covers) while various other combinations only occurred once each. Most noteworthy was a single cover with \#141-145 and E3, but seven other combinations such as \#143-144, 141-142, and 142-E3 were also represented once each. The row totals shown in Table I are based primarily on the distribution found in the sample of 89 covers, as there was little guidance in the literature about the postage Eppstadt applied to his FDCs.

There are no known covers bearing all of the stamps issued on 29 June 1927. In only one case among the 89 covers studied was there a crossover, where one or more stamps from the Historical series and the Confederation Anniversary series were used on the same cover. In that instance, a self-addressed cover postmarked in Maxville had a $1 \phi$ stamp from the Confederation series and a $5 \phi$ stamp from the Historical issue.

Scott \#E3 was likely used only in combination with other stamps, as was the case on the three known covers, and it is likely that no more than 10 such covers exist. All known covers were postmarked Ottawa. Only one cover is known with all of \#141-145 and E3, so it may be a rarity.

## Postal markings

The following postal markings were documented for the cover fronts of the Eppstadt FDCs, and they are listed here in descending order of frequency of appearance based on published reports and the covers examined.

1. Ottawa flag, Richardson's Type 43-4.
2. Maxville circular date stamp.
3. Mont. Coteau \& Ott. R.P.O., Ludlow's Type Q73.
4. Ottawa rectangular box registration
5. Ottawa circular date stamp
6. Vancouver flag, Richardson's Type 43-7.
7. Winnipeg flag, Richardson's Type 43-43-8.
8. Toronto Terminal A slogan, Rosenblat \#6730 (Open Air Horse Parade July 1st).
9. Vancouver circular date stamp.
10. Edmonton slogan, Rosenblat \#2725 (Edmonton Exhibition July 18 to 23.)
11. Edmonton circular date stamp.
12. Vancouver rectangular box registration.
13. Maxville rectangular box registration.
14. Ottawa orb cancellation.

## Addressees

The great majority of Eppstadt's covers were self-addressed, simply sent to "Mr. George Eppstadt,/ Maxville,/ Ontario, Canada." Some 86\% of the 89 covers inspected were thus addressed, and it is apparent that his address was printed at the time the cachet was produced. Seven covers with handwritten addresses have been documented, including two to Mr. Arthur Eppstadt in Hanover, Germany, and one to Señor Gabriel Ferrer in Cuba. The remaining four hand-addressed covers were to A.C. Roessler in New Jersey, Century Stamp Company in Montreal, Stanley Gibbons Ltd. in London, England, and Scott Stamp and Coin Co. in New York. That the latter group comprised four stamp dealers indicates that Eppstadt was attempting to make his product known to the field. The covers to Hanover, one of which is shown in Figure 3, reflect a connection with a relative in Eppstadt's place
of birth, which he had left some 17 years earlier. This cover is also noteworthy for its unique combination of stamps, with \#143 and 144 from the Confederation series paying the $8 ¢$ international letter rate, and as one of the few documented FDCs that Eppstadt sent to an address outside of North America.


Figure 3. Eppstadt cover addressed by hand to Mr. Arthur Eppstadt in Hanover, Germany, with one \#143, one \#144, and Ottawa flag cancellation. (Image courtesy of Bruce Perkins).

The cover sent to Century Stamp Company was registered, and it was sent from Maxville to Montreal to the company that produced the only other reported cacheted cover for this issue. In interviews and an exchange of correspondence between Markovits and Eppstadt in 1972, Eppstadt was asked if he knew whether anyone else had prepared cacheted FDCs for this issue. He replied firmly, "No, since I would have sent for them to see how they compared to mine." [11] It seems to be stretching coincidence, however, for Eppstadt to have sent one of his covers to the company that had produced the only other cacheted FDC in Canadian history without his having any knowledge of its intentions. One collector also reported owning a registered Eppstadt cover with a penned address- also to Century Stamp Company and dated 2 September 1927-that may have signified some further correspondence about the two different cachets.

The connection with Roessler is especially intriguing. Several authors [1, 10, 11] reported the existence of a single cover addressed to A.C. Roessler, the pioneer cachet-maker and dealer who operated in New Jersey in the 1920s and 30s, but

Eppstadt indicated to Markovits that he had sent " 20 to 30 " covers to Roessler, who had returned them because "it appears that Roessler was not active in the Canadian field" $[11,12]$. Of the 89 covers reviewed for this study, however, 12, or $13 \%$ of the total were addressed to Roessler, so the number actually sent to him might have been several times the estimate that Eppstadt gave some 45 years later, after the fact, possibly 100 covers in all. Roessler's address was apparently printed on these cachets during the production process (See Figure 4), as it appears in the same font as the self-addressed covers and in the same position on every example inspected. The similarities may be confirmed by comparing the addresses in Figures 2 and 4.


Figure 4. Eppstadt cover addressed to A.C. Roessler with \#142 and Mont. Coteau \& Ott. R.P.O. cancellation.

Eleven of the 12 documented FDCs addressed to Roessler were mailed in Maxville and postmarked with the RPO noted above. The one exception is a handwritten cover, postmarked at Ottawa, with Eppstadt's complete return address handwritten on the back flap (George Eppstadt, Box 266/ Maxville Ont./ Canada). One collector reported a small envelope from Roessler to Eppstadt dated 19 September 1927 and postmarked at Springfield, Massachusetts that may reflect some further correspondence on the subject of Eppstadt's covers.

## Financial considerations

The $\$ 250$ expense that George Eppstadt incurred for printing 2,000 copies of his cover was not his only cost for the project. Markovits [11] estimated his total costs at $\$ 500$, including $\$ 200$ for postage and $\$ 50$ for travel expenses. The postage cost
may be an overestimate, as multiplying out the data in Table I results in total postage costs of about $\$ 65$. Nonetheless, Eppstadt's expenses were substantial, given that a decent wage in 1927 was about $\$ 5$ per day, a gallon of gas cost 15 cents, and a man's suit with two pairs of pants and a vest sold for $\$ 15$. His total project cost would have been in the range of the price of a new 1927 Model T Ford in its last year of production, or between $\$ 300$ and $\$ 600$.

Eppstadt's cachet was not an active seller, with only about 50 sold as a result of a single advertisement placed in a philatelic publication. He told Markovits [11] that "it was a poor investment on my part." Cool [3] reported that Eppstadt sold the remainder in bulk in the early 1970s. Cool [7] also noted that a Montreal stamp dealer, Arthur Bernier, had offered the covers at three for $\$ 5$ in early 1970 but sold only one set. Bernier later sold 307 covers to US dealer Steve Ritzer. Robert Markovits also made bulk purchases from Eppstadt totalling an estimated 150 covers, including some 50 that were unaddressed. These were offered in 1977 "at only $\$ 59.95$ each, regularly a $\$ 100$ value" by Markovits' company, Philatelic Gems.

In 1985, Marcel Cool [8] published what he termed a "price list" of 35 Eppstadt FDCs, although he did not actually offer the covers for sale, and the list appeared to be more in the nature of a catalogue. The list included all of the known varieties based on the stamps affixed and the postmarks. The values assigned ranged from $\$ 150$ for the more common covers (e.g., $2 \notin$ stamp with Maxville CDS) to $\$ 500$ for the rarer items (e.g., Historical set with Maxville CDS cancellation), with an average assigned value of approximately $\$ 250$. These estimates were probably unrealistically high for 1985, as prices realized at auction more than 20 years later tend to range from $\$ 100$ to $\$ 200$ + per cover.

Given that scarcity is a key factor in determining the value of a good, the quantities shown in Table I would be helpful in estimating the market prices for various Eppstadt cachets. Thus, the most common covers would have a $2 \nless$ stamp (\#142) and would have been mailed either at Ottawa or Maxville. These would account for some $40 \%$ of all Eppstadt-cacheted FDCs. At the other extreme, a cover posted at Toronto, Vancouver, Edmonton, or Winnipeg, and stamped with anything other than \#142 or 143 would be rare and consequently very valuable. Such covers would account for 20 of the 42 cells ( $47 \%$ ) in Table I, but for only 32 covers ( $3 \%$ ) of the 900 total. Also highly valued would be the covers that were hand-addressed by Eppstadt himself and those with E3 as part of the postage used.

## Later uses

The Eppstadt cachet has resurfaced from time to time since its initial use in 1927, which is to be expected given that some 1,000 of the envelopes printed were not used as FDCs at the time. Markovits [11] indicated that the cachet had been used for the 1955 Eskimo Hunter issue (Scott 351), although no documented examples have been reported. In 1985, Fleetwood used Eppstadt's postmarked FDCs in a BNA Topics, Volume 66, Number 4, October-December 2009
presentation folder marketed to its customers as a tribute to the cachet-maker. When opened, the top half of the folder contained a four-paragraph description of Eppstadt's cachet and its genesis, while the bottom half contained the FDC. Neither the current nor former distributor of Fleetwood cachets were able to provide any information about the quantities sold or the background of its production.


Figure 5. Eppstadt cachet used as a FFC for the Halifax-Saint John Route on January 28, 1929.

A highly unusual use of the cachet occurred in 1929, when one of Eppstadt's self-addressed covers was used as a First Flight Cover (Figure 5). The flight was from Halifax, NS to Saint John, NB and was forced down at Folleigh Lake en route. The cover was postmarked with a Halifax machine cancellation on 28 January 1929. The recovered mail was delivered to Saint John on 2 February, and the cover is so backstamped. The cover was also backstamped "Maxville" on 4 February, which confirms that Eppstadt had indeed posted it to himself. The postage was underpaid with a $2 ¢$ Scroll issue stamp (Scott 150) placed carefully to obscure the cachet first day text, rather than in the upper right corner of the cover.

## Conclusion

Considering that George Eppstadt's cachet was the first ever prepared for a Canadian stamp issue, its production and distribution was a monumental achievement for its time. The cachet's design was original and extraordinary for 1927, and its distribution appeared to follow a well-thought-out plan. Although Eppstadt may have expected he would obtain a financial return or at least recoup his
investment, it seemed unlikely from the outset, as his costs were high and sales were low. As a contribution to Canadian philately and to his adopted country, however, his cachet has stood the test of time and continues to attract those with an interest in postal history generally and first day covers in particular.

## Acknowledgements

I am most grateful to the following collectors for sharing their scans, photocopies, and other information about George Eppstadt's cachet: George Basher, Ivan Hebert-Croteau, Harold Houston, Maurice Malenfant, Bob Markovits, Rob McGuinness, and Bruce Perkins. An anonymous collector provided a copy of the Ritzer purchase inventory and other pertinent information.

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[10] Roy Houtby, Eppstadt Cachets on 1927 Jubilee Series, Canadian Stamp News, Vol. 24, No. 1 (May 25 1999), p. 13.
[11] Robert L Markovits, Canadian Cachet Pioneer George Eppstadt, First Days, Vol. 17, No. 2 (1972), pp. 10-13.
[12] Robert L Markovits, George Eppstadt Follow-Up, First Days, Vol. 17, No. 5 (September-October 1972), p. 39.
[13] Kimber Wald, George Eppstadt: King of Canadian Cachets, Canadian Pbilatelist, Vol. 54, No. 5 (September-October 2003), pp. 282-283.

## New book releases from BNAPS

THE latest releases from the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) Book Department are the $56^{\text {th }}$ volume in the BNAPS Exhibit series, a new stamp-plating book by Ken Kershaw, a handbook on Perforations and perforating machines, and the long-awaited revision to the Railway Post Office (RPO) Cancellation Catalogue.

Canadian Interrupted Flight Covers, Richard K Malott, 138 pages, $8.5 \times 11$. BNAPS Exhibit Series \#56. ISBN: 978-1-897391-52-5 (Colour), 978-1-897391-53-2 (B\&W). Stock \# B4h923.56.1 (Colour) - \$C105.00; B4h923.56 (Black \& White) - \$C39.95

From the very beginning of manned flight, the ability of aircraft to carry mail faster than other methods of conveyance has been recognized and utilized. Inevitably, some of these airplanes, and the mail they were carrying, did not reach their destination, or did not arrive intact. Over the last 30 years, Richard K (Dick) Malott has developed a postal history exhibit, "Canadian Interrupted Flight Covers", of mail carried on planes within, to, or from Canada, which crashed at some point during the
 flight. This exhibit is the subject of the newest book in the BNAPS exhibit series. Included in the collection, among many others, are examples of mail salvaged from interrupted flights at Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Toronto, Ontario, Tokyo, Japan, and Prestwick, Scotland.

Major Richard K (Dick) Malott, CD, Retired, was born in Windsor, Ontario and grew up in nearby Kingsville. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Western Ontario and a Master of Science from the United States Air Force Institute of Technology. Dick joined the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1950 and served as a navigator and logistics officer. He retired from the military after 24 years of service and assumed the position of Chief Curator of Collections at the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa. In 1992, he retired from the Canadian War Museum after 42 years of government service.

Dick Malott has specialized in Canadian aerophilately and was the moving force in the formation of the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society, serving for many years as its President. He has exhibited extensively at the national and international level, winning numerous Gold and Large Vermeil medals for his air mail exhibits. Dick was the Coordinating Editor of The Air Mails of Canada and Nenfoundland volume of the 1997 catalogue of the American Air Mail Society (AAMS).

Among other awards, Dick's efforts on behalf of Canadian philately in general, and aerophilately in particular, were recognized in 2006 when he was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award by the members of the Order of the Beaver of the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS). He was elected to the American Air Mail Society's Aerophilatelic Hall of Fame in 1996.

Dick's "Canadian Interrupted Flight Covers" exhibit, the subject of this book, first shown internationally at ITALIA '85, has progressed from winning Large Silver to Large Vermeil awards at FIP exhibitions, including the most recent, China 2009. It also received a Gold and the Grand Award at ORAPEX 2006 in Ottawa.

Plating the 10ф Prince Consort - Scott \#17, 2009, Kenneth A Kershaw. Spiral Bound, 382 pages, $8.5 \times 11$, colour. ISBN: 978-1-897391-49-5. Stock \# B4h040.1; \$225.00


Continuing to apply his computer skills to the Cents issue of 1859, Ken Kershaw has now turned his attention to plating the $10 ¢$ Prince Consort, Scott \#17. In this latest work, Ken has again used today's technology to develop a new approach to this stamp, in the process taking the earlier work of Geoffrey Whitworth and Steve Menich to an entirely new level. In highly magnified colour, Ken shows how each position can be identified through the location of guide dots and other consistent marks in particular areas of the stamp, and it illustrates both previously known and many newly discovered varieties.

Ken Kershaw was born in England and became fascinated by plants at an early age. He graduated from Manchester University with a BSc degree in Botany in 1952. After military service, he went on to a PhD , working on pattern in vegetation and was appointed lecturer in Plant Ecology at Imperial College London in 1957. He was seconded to Ahmadu Bello University in northern Nigeria for two years.

On his return to Imperial College, he became involved with lichen ecology, particularly in alpine and arctic areas, in addition to his work on computer modelling and data analysis. He obtained his DSc in 1965 and was appointed Professor at McMaster University, Hamilton, in 1969. His research was then devoted heavily to the ecology of the Canadian low arctic and northern boreal forest areas. In 1982, he was elected a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. He is the author of several university texts and many articles.

Ken's passion for wild plants has been transferred to Canadian philately. He sees his plating work simply as the "taxonomy of bits of paper" and, after a lifetime of plant taxonomy, finds it a fairly straightforward and fascinating hobby.

Stamp Perforations with Particular Emphasis on Canadian Stamps, Richard A Johnson, 100 pages, $8.5 \times 11$, spiral bound. ISBN: 978-1-897391-48-8. Stock \# B4h039.1 \$C56.95

Dick Johnson's Stamp Perforations with Particular Emphasis on Canadian Stamps presents a history of stamp perforation methods and the results of studies on how various perforation varieties have been produced. The design and operation of early perforation machines are described based on primary reference material, and the evolution of perforating machines through to the highspeed perforators used in the late twentieth century is discussed. He shows how a lack of understanding of the methods used for perforation during the stamp-production
 process, especially in a Canadian context, has led to ambiguities and inaccuracies in perforation gauges and consequently in stampcatalogue listings.

Richard A (Dick) Johnson retired in 1997 as Professor of Electrical Engineering and Vice-Provost of the University of Manitoba; he continues on its staff as a Senior Scholar. Amongst other philatelic interests, for over 20 years he has pursued the history and development of perforating machines used in North America, as well as perforation gauges and the measurement of the perforations themselves, with the primary objective of distinguishing the facts from the speculations. His current research includes study of the "Jusqu'a" and Postage Due markings of mail to and from Canada. He is a member of the British North America Philatelic Society, the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain, the Postal History Society of Canada, and the Winnipeg and Vancouver Island philatelic societies, and is a frequent contributor to BNA Topics and Maple Leaves. He also is a member of a volunteer group that mounts annual sales of stamps and other philatelic material in support of the Winnipeg Art Gallery.

Catalogue of Canadian Railway Cancellations and Related Railway Postmarks including Selected Watervay Postmarks, 2009, Ross D Gray. Spiral Bound, 336 pages, $8.5 \times 11$. ISBN: 978-1-897391-54-9. Stock \# B4h041.1; \$67.75

The much-anticipated successor to the 1982
 Ludlow RPO catalogue, is now available. At 336 pages, it is packed with almost 30 years' worth of additions to the database of Canadian RPO knowledge, including many new listings and new dates.

In his Preface to the book, WG (Bill) Robinson, OTB, Chairman of the Canadian RPO Study Group, writes, "Lew Ludlow's 1982 Catalogue of

Canadian Railway Cancellations and Related Transportation Postmarks has been in use now for 27 years. Lack of space to insert new listings into the numbering sequence meant that train runs were no longer grouped together in alphabetical or chronological order. It was becoming increasingly difficult to insert new listings in any logical order and equally difficult for users to find things after new listings were numbered."

The major change is that all listings have been renumbered, with the old catalogue number shown in the right-hand column of the page. Because the old listings were usually sequential, in many cases it is relatively easy to go down the right column to the old number, then across to the new one. Among the many other improvements are listings that have been reorganized chronologically within each run to present a more historical perspective, Registered cancellations now listed with the contemporary regular postmarks, and the Rarity Factor changed from a numerical format to an alphabetical scheme. Separating listings with headers identifying the run will make it easier to find a particular postmark in the larger sections. The Steamer section has been removed because it is being included in a volume being prepared by others.

RPO collectors and the dealers who help them find material will be very pleased to see the new catalogue. They all owe a great deal of thanks to the members of the RPO Study Group Committee who made this book happen this year and, especially, to Ross Gray, who pulled together thousands of new pieces of information and blended them all into the new volume.

All BNAPS books are available from: Ian Kimmerly Stamps, 62 Sparks Street, Ottawa, ON K1P 5A8, Canada. Phone: (613) 235-9119. Internet orders can be placed at www.iankimmerly.com/books/. (Click on the price at the end of the book description and you will be taken to the check out page.)

Prices given above are the retail prices in Canadian Dollars. BNAPS members receive a $40 \%$ discount from retail prices. Shipping is extra. Credit card orders (Visa, MasterCard) will be billed for exact amount of shipping plus $\$ 2$ per order. For payment by cheque or money order, add $10 \%$ in Canada, $15 \%$ to the US, $20 \%$ overseas (overpayments exceeding 25 cents will be refunded in mint postage stamps). GST is payable for Canadian orders. No Provincial Sales Tax applies.


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## Postal potpourri 19. And still more Post Office Christmas

Earle L Covert A series about items that can be purchased or found at post offices in Canada, with an occasional side-trip back in time.

THE Christmas theme of Postal potpourri 11, 14, and $16[1,2,3]$ continues to be popular, with more items, both old and new, turning up all the time. This instalment includes pages from a 1998 Canada Post Christmas-time sales brochure, and a 2007 Christmas postmark from Peace River, Alberta.


Figure 1. Pages from a 1998 Canada Post Christmas sales brochure.

Keywords \& phrases: Post Office Christmas, flyers, posters


Figure 2. (left) The 1998 CPC Christmas brochure also included an invitation to children to write to Santa Claus at postal code HOHOHO , with a promise that he would write back.

Figure 3. (above) Special Peace Dove handstamp postmark used at Peace River, Alberta, during the 2007 Christmas season. (Courtesy Lindsey Sparkes)

## Acknowledgement

Thanks to Mike Street for obtaining the illustrations in this article.

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[2] Earle L Covert, Postal potpourri 14, BNA Topics, Vol. 64, No. 4, (October-December 2007).
[3] Earle L Covert, Postal potpourri 16, BNA Topics, Vol. 65, No. 3, (July-September 2008).

## La Société d'Histoire Postale du Québec (The Postal History Society of Québec) invites applications for membership

The SHPQ publishes (en francais) an award-winning quarterly journal.
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## New issues

William JF Wilson

## Captain Bob

Aman, who is perhaps the greatest of the twentieth-century Arctic mariners, has been honoured by Canada Post on a stamp released July 10. Born and raised in Brigus, Newfoundland, and son and grandson of prominent sea captains, Robert Abram Bartlett took leave of his father's fishing schooner in the fall of 1893 at the age of eighteen to set off on his first deep-sea voyage as ordinary seaman on the three-masted barquentine Corisande, bound for Pernambuco. The voyage proved a truly unforgettable experience when it ended in shipwreck on the return voyage, driven by storm onto the rocks below the cliffs of Devil's Chimney near Cape Race, on the south coast of Newfoundland.

Twenty years later, "Captain Bob" embarked on perhaps his best-known adventure, as captain of the Karluk on Vilhjalmur Stefansson's 1913 Canadian Arctic Expedition. Although he accepted command of the Karluk, Bartlett felt neither the ship nor the crew were well suited for an Arctic expedition. In particular, the Karluk wasn't designed to withstand sea ice.


The winter of 1913-14 was both early and severe. The Karluk left port in British Columbia on 17 June, and less than two months later was locked fast in the ice. Over the next several months, the Karluk gradually drifted towards Siberia until, on 11 January, about 150 km north of Wrangel Island, it succumbed to the ice and sank. Bartlett carefully moved the crew and supplies over the ice to the desolate and uninhabited island, arriving on 12 March. Six days later, Bartlett and Kataktovick, an Inuit companion, set off by dog sledge for the mainland, a journey of more than 300 km across ice and around open leads. Another 600 km trek eastward brought them to the Bering Strait, where on 21 May they caught a ship to Alaska and wired Ottawa of the sinking. The castaways were rescued on 7 September. Twenty-one people survived the disaster, eleven died.

The stamp itself marks the 100th anniversary of Bartlett's 1909 assault on the North Pole as captain of Peary's ship, the Roosevelt, and then as Peary's trailbreaker over the Arctic ice. Although left behind for the last $240-\mathrm{km}$ dash to the pole, it was Bartlett's skill and determination that got Peary to where he could do this.

Table 1. 2009 Commemorative Stamps

| Stamp | Roadside <br> Attractions <br> Souvenir Sheet | Robert Bartlett | Sports | Mental <br> Health |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Value | $4 \times 54 \not \subset$ s-t | $54 \not \subset$ | $4 \times 54 \not \subset$ | P+10¢ |
| Issued | 06 July | 10 July | 10 Aug | 14 Sep |
| Printer | L-M | L-M | L-M | L-M |
| Pane | 4 | 16 | 8 (Booklet) | 10 |
| Paper | C | C | C |  |
| Process | 8 CL* | 7 CL + varnish | 6 CL** | CCL |
| Qty | 0.25 | 1.75 | 2.5 | 3.75 |
| (million) | G4S | G4S | G4S |  |
| Tag | G4S | PVA | P-S | P-S |
| Gum | PVA | $40 \times 30.5$ | $24.75 \times 32.25$ | $25 \times 35^{* * *}$ |
| Size, mm | $36 \times 42$ | $13.0 \times 13.1$ | Simulated | Simulated |
| Perf | $12.8 \times 12.9$ | $26 \times 20$ | Simulated | Simulated |
| Teeth | $23 \times 27$ |  |  |  |

* Listed as 7CL by Canada Post.
** Listed as 4CL by Canada Post.
*** Listed as $24.75 \times 35.25$ by Canada Post.
ABBREVIATIONS: numberCL $=$ (number of colours) colour lithography; $\mathrm{C}=$ Tullis Russell Coatings (coated paper); G4S = general tagging (four sides); L-M = Lowe-Martin; s-t setenant, $\mathrm{P}=$ permanently equal to the domestic rate; $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{S}=$ pressure-sensitive.

On the stamp, Captain Bob is taking a sighting of (presumably) the Sun through a sextant while beyond him the Roosevelt rests in an Arctic landscape dominated by an iceberg. The sextant illustrates Bartlett's navigational skills, while the Inuit in the middle ground symbolizes the indispensable help they provided those living and working in Arctic conditions. The image of the Roosevelt is superimposed on a

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modern Arctic photograph because, in designer Karen Smith's words, "the vivid colours capture the cool, harsh conditions of the region." I agree and think the stamp is very appealing.

The Mental Health stamp is a semi-postal, with a $10 \notin$ donation to the Canada Post Foundation for Mental Health added to the cost of the stamp. Canada Post's website reports that they have raised $\$ 1.2$ million for the Foundation over the past year, more than $\$ 300,000$ being from the sale of the 2008 stamp.

The information in the accompanying table is from the Canada Post website, http://www.canadapost.ca/cpo/mc/personal/productsservices/ collect/stamps/default.jsf
and from philatelic inscriptions on the stamps. Where the number of lithographic colour dots on the stamp selvedge differs from that published by Canada Post, the selvedge is taken as correct. Perforations and number of teeth are my own measurements, and are given as (HORIZONTAL) $\times($ VERTICAL $)$.


## The Postal History Society of Canada invites applications for membership.

The Postal History Society of Canada promotes the study of the postal history of Canada and its provinces. It publishes the award-winning quarterly PHSC Journal, whose contents range from fully-researched feature articles to items of current interest - from the pre-stamp era, postmark specialties, and regional histories to modern mail mechanization.

Six different study groups are devoted to the detailed examination of various specialized aspects of postal history. Visit our website at www.postalhistorycanada.org for more information on the Society and study groups. Don't miss the Specialized Interests section currently featuring Shipping Tables for Canada's Pacific Maritime Mails, a listing of New Post Offices in Canada since November 2001 and our new sister site www, postalhistorycanada.net where you will find postmark databases, post office listings and study group publications.

Membership dues are $\$ 25.00$ per year in Canada. For a membership application form please visit our website or contact the Secretary, Stéphane Cloutier, 255 Shakespeare St. Ottawa, ON K1L 5M7 Canada. Email: cloutier1967@sympatico.ca


## An incoming PEl stampless covertwo different rate hand stamps used to denote postage due

Steve Mulvey

RECENTLY [1], Derek Smith updated the previous BNAPS Transatlantic Study Group census [2] of covers bearing hand stamps denoting postage due on mail between the United Kingdom and PEI. As background, he described the history and use of each rate hand stamp. This article will describe yet another cover, apparently the first recorded cover bearing two different rate hand stamps to indicate the postage due-namely the "9" (Lehr P106a) and the " $1 \mathrm{~s} / 6 \mathrm{Cy}$ " hammers (Lehr P105). Also of interest: This incoming unpaid cover should have been quadruple rated at the Charlottetown Post Office, but instead it was triple rated, a rate that did not exist under the British rate progression for packet letters.


Keywords \& phrases: Prince Edward Island, rate hand stamps

The mourning cover, shown in Figure 1, contains a letter written by the addressee's son concerning his uncle's death by stroke and his aunt's poor state of affairs. The edge wear of the cover would seem to indicate other bulky contents, now missing. The addressee, John McGill (1786-1865), was a Charlottetown merchant who was also involved in shipbuilding.

The letter was mailed from Blackburn, Scotland on 22 October 1858 (back stamp) and was carried on the Cunard Line steamship America (by closed bag to PEI) departing Liverpool on 23 October (Liverpool transit and packet office back stamps). After arriving at Halifax on 4 November, it was sent by mail coach to Pictou, Nova Scotia to be picked up by the PEI Mail Steamer Packet Westmorland, arriving on 5 November at Charlottetown [3], where a same day back stamp was applied.

The post office in Charlottetown then applied a black, manuscript $1 / 6$ sterling mark representing the amount to be collected from the addressee for an unpaid packet letter under $1 \frac{1}{2}$ ounces (triple the 6 d sterling rate per $1 / 2$ ounce rate for mail via Halifax). There are no British accountancy marks, as bulk accounting was in force after 1 January 1857 [4]. The " 9 " and " 1 s/6 Cy" hand stamps represent the conversion of the $1 / 6 \mathrm{~d}$ sterling into $2 / 3 \mathrm{~d}$ PEI currency discounted at $50 \%(1 / 6 \mathrm{~d}=$ $18 \mathrm{~d}, 2 / 3 \mathrm{cy}=27 \mathrm{~d}$ cy). Unfortunately, the clerk erred, as the British rate progression for packet letters was $1 / 2$ ounce, 1 ounce, 2 ounces-there was no $1 \frac{1}{2}$-ounce triple rate. Triple packet rates were only established after January 1866 with a change to a half-ounce progression [5]. One must surmise that the postal clerk confused the British packet rate progression with other PEI internal and external rates, which were based on half-ounce progressions [6]. On the other hand, the clerk may have been sympathetic to a leading citizen during a time of mourning.

## References and endnotes

[1] Derek Smith, Newly recorded Prince Edward Island rate hand stamp covers, BNA Topics, Vol, 65, No. 4, (October-December, 2008), pp. 8-11.
[2] Newsletter of the BNAPS Transatlantic Study Group, No. 66, December 1998.
[3] English Mail Column, The Prince Edward Islander, 5 November 1858.
[4] Accountancy marks were originally introduced after the May 1851 Post Office Act formally passed control of the post offices to PEI authorities from the General Post Office in London. All underpaid letters were required to be individually rated with an accountancy mark indicating the sum claimed by the country of origin for its share of the rate. Subsequently, to cut handling times and costs, bulk accounting was introduced on 1 January 1857 for mails to PEI, Canada, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland (and to New Brunswick on April 1857). Accounting marks reappeared after compulsory prepayment with fines was instituted in June 1860 for PEI.
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## Modern military postal history 1985 to 2000

Lieutenant-Colonel (Retired) Gordon McDermid, CD, BCom

Irecently read an article, "The evolution of the postal corps" by WJ Bailey, in the BNAPS publication, A Canadian military postal bistory anthology. It seemed only appropriate that I should add to it from my personal involvement as a longserving Canadian Forces Postal Officer and past Director of Forces Postal Service from 1989 to 2000.

I was posted to the position of Deputy Director in July 1985, and among the ongoing activities were plans for the celebration of the Postal Service's $75^{\text {th }}$ Anniversary, which would occur on 9 May 1986. The military postal family had retired the RCPC (Royal Canadian Postal Corps) badge some years earlier, and was designated to wear the Administration Branch badge, and to be part of that group. Naturally, the "Posties" wanted to have their own postal badge again, a badge which would better define them and the work they did in support of the Canadian Forces (CF). It seemed to always be a point of discussion among the troops, and it was not easy for them to understand the complications, controls, and necessary guidelines governing the creation of a separate postal badge. In any event, we decided to pursue approval of a new postal badge and hoped it could be finalized in time for the $75^{\text {th }}$ Anniversary.


Figure 1. 75 th Anniversary special cover, cancelled at MPO 303 in 1986, featuring an unofficial post horn picture made for use during the Anniversary and prior to final approval of the new Postal Branch badge.
To have its own badge in the Canadian Forces, a group must have a discrete function and group with a viable career-and-training-and-postings plan acceptable to CF norms of the day. After seeking and receiving approval to proceed, and writing

Keywords \& phrases: military mail, Canadian Forces postal service
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and working the necessary documents by hand through the maze of the system (including the Commands and National Defence Headquarters), the Vice-Chief of Defence gave us final approval with an effective date of 1 January 1987. The creation of the new Postal Badge followed in due course; it was officially approved by Queen Elizabeth II and became available in 1989.


Figure 2. Set of special covers cancelled at MPO 303 in 1989 showing new Postal Branch Badge on Day of Issue for commemorative World War II stamps.
An interesting consideration, which was one factor relevant to support and approval by higher authority for creation of the Postal Branch (with its own badge), was the discussion within the Government of the day about expanding Canadian military operations in Europe as a member of NATO. A larger number of soldiers at NATO bases overseas would mean more Posties would be required to provide mail services, and thus the formation of the Postal Branch was a realistic and acceptable proposal in 1986.

However, after the new Postal Branch was formed, the world changed suddenly with the end of the Cold War in 1991, and the chances of any increase to the military ended. The Postal Branch underwent some very tough times; even its continued existence as a part of the Canadian Forces throughout the 1990s was in question. All trades in the CF were subjected to intense review. The aim was to reduce numbers, eliminate trades and, wherever possible, to outsource the work to the private sector. Postal was a small group, numbering just over 100 troops within the total force strength of over 55,000 and, in the 1990 s, it was a constant uphill battle just to survive the times.

Some senior military personnel proposed that that the Canadian Forces should attempt to contract postal services from the US Forces or the British Forces. Of
course that was ludicrous, because those military postal services were going through the same tense reviews as in Canada to attain end-of-the-Cold War "guns-toploughs" dividends. Other national and technical complications also made such a proposal unacceptable and unrealistic.

Another common view held by some higher military authorities was that Canada Post should provide postal services for the CF, and that there should be no requirement to have military postal people. As Director and Senior Technical Advisor, it was apparent to me for various reasons that Canada Post Corporation was not responsible for, nor was it interested in, taking over military postal operations and requirements for the CF. Actually, it was my impression that there were plenty of problems within Canada Post, and that they certainly did not want to take on the additional headaches that would result from operating the CF postal service, especially when it was not part of the official mandate assigned to Canada Post Corporation by Order-in-Council.

The CF Postal Service provided an essential military operational support service, and it was not possible to meet such a requirement in combat theatres outside Canada without military postal people. For example, military postal services are often required in countries that are under an international postal embargo due to war conditions, and civilian postal systems under those circumstances can be essentially non-existent. Also, when providing international mail service to deployed troops, there are often many advantages to working with other Allied military postal groups, such as the British and US Forces. Such joint efforts probably would not be feasible without a country having its own military postal people.

Finally, it was accepted that the CF Postal Service basically operated on a shoestring budget, and that the cost of the small numbers in relation to the essential service provided to the troops was minimal in the larger picture of total CF numbers and the Defence Department budget.


Figure 3. Special CF Postal Unit Change-of-Command cover, cancelled at MPO 303 on 23 June 2000, showing the four postal badges used since 1911, with the most recent Postal Unit badge in the centre. The postal badge dated 1989 was retired at the end of 2000 when the Postal Branch was subsumed within the larger Logistics Branch.

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Ultimately the options were either to accept the necessity for a military postal service basically as it existed, or to eliminate it as a function of the CF and have the troops take their chances with the international postal services provided to civilian populations by Canada Post and the postal services of other countries. The decision was taken to continue the military CF Postal Service, but to focus on how to fit the postal people into a future of lean-and-mean essential CF support service military members.

It was eventually decided to merge the Postal Branch into the larger Logistics group, which brought about another change of hat badge - to that of the Logistics Branch, effective 1 January 2001. The idea was that the merger with the Logistics group allowed the essential military postal service to continue, while better enabling the postal members and, in particular, their small number of officers to have the opportunity for an enhanced career of training, promotions, and postings. It was also an essential change if the postal family was to survive the times.

In late 2000, I retired from the CF and, so far as I am aware, the function and standing of the CF Postal Service as an essential Logistics Branch activity continues to date. I believe that what is changing is the type of postal service used by today's deployed forces. Although letter mail remains a substantial part of the service, large volumes of letter mail have been replaced by electronic mail, and parcels constitute the bulk of the mail delivered by the military postal service.

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## Study group centreline

Derek Smith

THIS column is meant to bring to the attention of BNAPS members some of the fascinating and important specialist work being done within each of the BNAPS study groups. Highlights are provided from newsletters that arrived in my mailbox during the third quarter of 2009.

A number of editors are distributing a full-colour PDF version of their newsletters. They can be really impressive, allowing for a visual presentation of colour/shades of stamps and postal markings, as well as making everything "just look better". Also, the Editor of the Nenfie Newsletter's comments that contributors seem to be making an extra effort to use this added potential of this format. There is of course a drawback-not all study group members use computers, and the cost of printing hard copies has to result in increased annual dues for some groups. I do hope that each study group can put a copy of at least one recent issue of its newsletter on the BNAPS site-free to all comers, colour or not. There is nothing like a peek to pique interest. I personally think that this could draw new members and, at the "nil" cost, it is perhaps worth a try. Your Reporter is certainly learning a great deal about BNA philately from the newsletters.

## Dead Letter Office

Brian Plain and Gary Steele are spearheading a renewal of the Dead Letter Office study group. In Newsletter \#1, Gary illustrates uses of the Superintendent's Oval DLO handstamp, used from 1892 until 1898. There is no known proof strike. One example was on a cover mis-addressed to the US, which thus had to pass through both the US DLO/Inspection Division into Canada via the Ottawa DLO Superintendent's Office on 19 January 1892. This is the earliest-recorded date for this hammer. A second example bore a previously used $3 \phi$ Small Queen postage stamp, and thus was sent to the DLO where it was marked "RETURNED - FOR DEFICIENT POSTAGE 3c"(ents). On such envelopes, a small circled " $x$ " was written in manuscript.

Brian Plain submitted a "Returned Letter" wrapper, used from the Montreal GPO in 1850 , requiring the recipient to pay $41 / 2 \mathrm{~d}$. The wrapper is unique in citing three British postal statutes regulating such handling.

The Dead Letter Office study group contact is: < gary.steele@ns.sympatico.ca>.

## Elizabethan II

Issue \#103 congratulates Walter Krasowski on receiving the White Queen Award at the Royal in June for his Glen Loates 1968-69 Bird Variants exhibit.

A thirteenth Lowe-Martin die-cutting pattern has been used on the Permanent Olympic rolls of 100 coils. It differs substantially from earlier types in having only three "nibs" between each stamp rather than the four on previous mats. The plating of the new type is shown.

John Aitken submitted two covers. One was mailed in 1959 from Gander to England. It was sent to the Undeliverable Mail Office in Ottawa, and given a "Non-transmissible" hand stamp. The letter concerned a lottery, and therefore was not permitted in the mail. John's
other submission was a post card featuring a "comedy of errors". The card from France was properly stamped 35F air mail to Canada in 1956; but the French Post Office treated it as if it were going to the US, which required an extra 6 F . For the shortfall, the letter was marked T 0.17 as 17 gold centimes $=12 \mathrm{~F}$ (double deficiency) due. The Canadian Post Office misread the 0.17 as 0.12 , and rated the card $4 \not \subset$ due. And since there was no one at home to pay that amount, one Mr. Hunt had to go to the post office to pay a charge that should never have been levied.

The continuing series showing printing-press sheets features four items: a sheet of 400 of the $1 \subset$ Karsh in four panes; another for the $1 ¢$ Karsh booklet pane of three stamps (19 rows of six columns); a press sheet of 120 of the four $39 ¢$ Majestic Forests of Canada types printed in six panes of 20 ; and another for souvenir miniature panes of the same issue used for a special promotion by Petro-Canada.

Editor Robin Harris has tried to find all of the unique positional pieces of self-adhesive booklet "covers"/backing papers for the six issues in the 1Q/2008 packs. He examined the stamps in 35 packs bought at the same Winnipeg post office and 11 packs purchased at various other outlets. Not all positions could be found based on the contents of the 46 packs, but Robin had a better percentage result with the 11 lots bought at various outlets. The biggest surprise was that all 46 strips of five of the Flag-over-Lighthouse booklets came from only one of two possible positions! Robin surmises that only one strip was removed because the cutting equipment could not remove so much "material" from the booklet.

An "Elizabethan period stamp count" to the end of 2008 indicates that there have been 1971 commemoratives, 351 definitives, and 48 back-of-the book stamps issued-over 2,350 basic stamps. Add in varieties of tagging and perfs, as well as changes of paper manufacturers and printers, and the total rises to 2,777. And that excludes errors!

## Fancy Cancels and Miscellaneous Markings

Issue \#51 reminds us that this study Group is now 20 years old, that it is still attracting new members, and that interest is high, as attested by contributions in this issue from 17 members.

Editor Dave Lacelle devotes an article to "Fake", "Bogus", and "Spurious" cancellations. Fakes are created to mimic genuine fancy cancels. Bogus items are new creations, often described as newly discovered or rare to increase their valuations. Spurious cancels are genuine errors in descriptions of (usually) partial, worn or poorly inked examples of genuine original hammers. He illustrates each type.

Also discussed in this issue are modifications made to 2-Ring hammers to create fancies. He finds cancels emanating from Halifax to be fascinating due in part to the "cooperation" between Henry Hechler and the postmasters.

Newly discovered strikes of a number of listed cancels were submitted, in a few cases permitting proper dating. Darrel McNally sent a June 1896 cover from Avonport Station, NS bearing a 10 -point sectional cork-unusual in that most have eight or 16 points due to easier cutting. The metal collar of the hammer into which the cork was fitted can be clearly seen. Mike Street submitted a dated 1871 example of a Toronto fancy radial cork. Although the strike was previously known, the date wasn't. John Burnett sent an Ottawa cork used in February 1873. Dave feels that it was a replacement for an earlier, similarly cut cork, which
was illustrated in his book but whose location could not heretofore be identified. Hugo Deshaye sent a geometric cancel from Toronto, dated March 1873, which appears to be a recut of an earlier strike. Dave notes that, in both Toronto and Ottawa, so many corks were used by so many clerks that with re-cutting, cleaning, and uneven wear they are difficult to list. Bill Burden submitted a fancy on a map stamp-not common on that issue because of its short period of use and because the cork cancel era was mostly passé. Dave closed his newsletter with a listing of Canadian stamp collectors and dealers from Halifax to Kamloops. It was produced in 1892-but it omitted Hechler!

## Newfoundland

Newfie Newsletter \#136 begins by congratulating Brian T Stalker on winning the Collectors Club of Chicago's 2009 Robert H Pratt Award for his Travelling Post Office Postmarks of Nenfoundland \& Labrador.

This issue features two major articles. Jean-Claude Vasseur wrote on the "Guy" issue of 1910-1911. These stamps were greeted unkindly by the philatelic press and, Jean-Claude notes, for good reason. He details, with illustrations, historical inaccuracies in the design of some values, design errors on others, and printing varieties on many. The initial stamps were lithographed, and a later engraved printing of some values wasn't much better overall. The issue was quickly replaced by the Royal Family issue in June 1911.

Sammy Whaley examined "The Pictou Mail". For a short time, Newfoundland's transatlantic mail was carried from St. John's to Pictou, then on to Halifax to connect with the service to Liverpool. This St. John's-Pictou routing lasted only from 8 May until early November 1872. There were 13 voyages, the first by the Georgia. Covers from 11 of the voyages have been recorded. All bear a $12 \phi$ First Cents stamp and are addressed to Messrs. Wm. Waterman \& Co. in Poole, England.

Carl Munden continues his depictions of covers from small, now-closed post officesthis time, Oderin (1891-1966) and Spencers Cove (1912-1964). Barry Senior displays a cover with AN/D (Anglo-Newfoundland Development Co.) perfin on a strip of the wartime $3 \not \subset$ Queen Alexandra and a $2 \not \subset 1911$ Royal Family stamp—possibly a quintuple weight cover $+1 \phi$ war tax?

George McGowan submitted another article on slogan cancels, this time DRIVE SLOWLY / DRIVE RIGHT / DRIVE SAFELY. Different lettering resulted in two versions. It had only a brief period of usage: April to November 1947. Chris Ryan updated his list of 1933 Balbo Flight Crew mail, adding three items from Clarenville. Now 18 of the approximately 20 covers cancelled there are recorded.

## Postal Stationery

In the August issue of Postal Stationery Notes, Bill Walton responded to comments about (and examples of) Victorian official, meteorological postal stationery from Earle Covert, Bill Longley, and Pierre Gauthier, by deciding that such items should be listed in the next Webb's Catalogue. He has made a start by identifying and illustrating five types used between 1878 and 1895, and he expects members will discover more.

Robert Lemire discusses changes on many types of Postcard Factory® cards, including the use on some items of two bar codes, one located in the lower left corner. A large number of views with the latest indicium are reported, as are four new postage prepaid Toronto viewcards.

Notes were made on new postal stationery envelopes, and on two new series of postal cards for international mail-"Roadside Attractions" and "Canadian Recording Artists", each series containing four cards.


Bill Walton continued his series of unusual postal stationery uses, this time illustrating a 1¢ Edward card addressed to a lawyer in Walkerton, ON, in 1905. The card was entered into a litigation matter in the Ontario court system, noted by the later application of a $10 ¢$ Ontario Law Stamp from the 1870 series. There are a few such covers known, but this is the first card he has seen.

Pierre Gauthier shows a scan (compliments of Michael Sagar) of a private order Reader's Digest envelope from the multicoloured Flag Issue that had not previously been confirmed. Pierre also submitted a picture of a new Thomas Robertson padpost, dated 1920, showing a garden hose and rack. Robert Lemire discussed printing records for the Eaton's private order card that Dick Staecker reported in the previous issue of Postal Stationery Notes. Reasons were given why the later Summer 1965 Sale catalogue card probably was prepared using a regular-issue card, and was not a private-order printing.

## Revenue

Issue \#65 starts by congratulating medal winners in recent shows. Golds were taken by David Bartlett for his display of Newfoundland War Savings Stamps in Edmonton, and Peter de Groot at ORAPEX for his Effigy Light Inspection Stamps of Canada.

Dave Hannay discusses varieties on revenue stamps. He displayed two versions of a deformed " 1 " found on the $\$ 1$ Federal Consular Fee stamp. He also notes an inverted red "Honoraires/Fees" overprint on a $20 ¢$ Quebec Law Stamp. A second Hannay article illustrates labels attached to packages of 50,000 Quebec Unemployment Tax Stamps, each label in the colour of the issued stamp-5 $¢$ orange, $10 \phi$ green, and $15 \phi$ violet. The three he shows all have the letter " Q ". A version seen elsewhere has an " M "-could these letters stand for Quebec City and Montreal?

In Chatelaine's eightieth anniversary issue, Brian Peters found an article reproduced from its first issue in 1928. It featured a picture of a $\$ 1,000$ cheque to the winner of a contest to name the magazine. It bears an embossed Excise Tax Paid stamp with a previously unrecorded license number, "A283", which now can be attributed to MacLean Publishing Co. Chris Ryan displays three cheques, each bearing a different value of the 1939 Royal Visit issue in partial payment of the applicable excise tax. Chris' second article details the whys and uses of Excise stamps to pay the Entertainment Tax introduced in 1942. This was levied on customers of establishments supplying any two of three services-sale of alcoholic beverages, a place where patrons could dance, or entertainment by paid performers. Initially, the rate was set at $20 \%$ of the total tab, but as of 3 March 1943 that was raised to $25 \%$. There are many illustrations.

Fritz Angst produced a comprehensive list of Ontario Fishing Stamps for Non-Resident Sport Licenses issued from 1988 to 2008. They have been discontinued as of this year.

## Squared Circles

Issue \#116 continues to add new Earliest- and Latest-Recorded Dates of use. Included ERDs are Ottawa (a second report for JA 19/92) and Brantford (AM/AU 2/93). LRD reports include L'Orignal (DE 21/01). We also have new dates for time marks: Hamilton precursor, A11, used on JY 5/92; St. John, NB 1, used on JU 24/96. New earliest usage dates for AM time marks are reported for Port Arthur (JY 24/99) and Prescott (AU 23/93). Evidently, the time mark on the first use of the Winnipeg II hammer on JA $1 / 94$ was a " 5 ".

Varieties in the form of inverted dates or times are reported for Charlottetown, Brantford, Merrickville, Picton, Toronto, Nanaimo II, Victoria I, and Victoria III. Finally, strikes on unusual stamps are noted: Levis on a $5 ¢$ registered letter stamp, Ste-Anne-deBeaupré on a $10 \not \subset$ special delivery and, as a backstamp receiver's mark, a Vancouver squared circle on a letter from Hawaii in 1894. The Group continues to have a goodly number of contributors-ten in this issue. Among those without code names, we note Rick Hills, Bill Radcliffe, Aaron Gulliver, Dave Robinson, and Chairman Joe Smith.

## World War II

In Issue \#45, Bill Pekonen concentrates on the blackout cancels of Quebec (City). Quebec had two Perfect machines before the blackout period, using three distinct single-ring CDS hammers. Two pre-blackout daters are illustrated, the last use being 23 December 1942. The earliest-known blackout cancel is dated 28 December. Almost all Quebec obliterators during the War were bilingual (except for "Jour de Souvenir" and the "V ...") slogan types. The use of wavy lines instead of slogan cancels was uncommon in combination with the blackout daters. Many examples of the blackouts were poorly inked. Some daters, however, were damaged. The items are well described and illustrated.

Cec Coutts opines and Bill accepts that the three blackout cancels illustrated on page 588 (of the previous issue) were indeed all from Halifax. None were used in Saint John. Doug Lingard corrects some assumptions made regarding Colin Pomfret's cover to Egypt discussed on page 580. The $5 ¢$ stamp probably paid the $3 ¢$ rate for the first ounce, and $2 \phi$ for the next. In addition, one of the reverse cancels is FPO 717 (not 77) which, from 1943 until 1945, was assigned to Egypt.

Bill reviewed the legitimacy of a rubber stamp reading MERCHANT SHIPS FREE MAIL, citing and reproducing P.C. 4179 Order-in-Council of 7 August 1945 confirming free-franking authorized in 1939 for the Army and Navy on mail (up to an ounce) sent overseas. This privilege was extended to the Merchant Marine when it was placed under Navy control in 1941.


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# Stamps, sculptures, and service: The XXI Olympiad 

David G Jones

IN a previous article [1], I gave an overview of Canada Post Corporation's (CPC) activities at the 1978 Edmonton Commonwealth Games. That report was complimentary of the effort put forward by Canada Post as a Games supporter and service provider; however, that effort hardly compares to what Canada Post rolled out before and during the 1976 XXI Olympics in Montreal.

CPC issued 35 stamps for the Montreal Olympics, starting with the "COJO" issues of September 1973 and ending with the Olympic Sites set in March 1976. It was an impressive collection. It included some of the largest stamps ever produced in Canada; some of the most attractive (the Sites, Ceremonies, and Team Sports are exceptional); as well as the "Olympic Action Stamps"-Canada's first "semipostals", of which four sets were issued (Figure 1). Each stamp carried a surcharge to "... give the public a convenient opportunity to support the Games on a voluntary and personal basis ...", according to CPC. The Corporation itself gave 3\% of the net revenues from Olympic stamp sales to athlete training.


Figure 1. Canada's first semi-postal stamps, issued for the 1976 Montreal Olympic Games.

Keywords \& phrases: Olympic Games, Montreal

In an interesting sidebar, CPC observed that its first semi-postal set replicated the design of the COJO set, but on stamps of smaller dimensions. Such a replication, said Canada Post, "is rare in Canadian philatelic history. The bestknown example of this is the 'Large Queens' and the 'Small Queens' of the nineteenth century." [2] Our Post Office does not often link its activities to a long and proud philatelic history.

CPC knew early on that collectibles would be important, and that collectors had to be engaged. At the Interpex stamp show in New York in March 1975, the Corporation provided a first-day-cover service for the Olympic Sculpture stamps. Covers were stamped in New York with the cachet "Post Canada Postes Interpex," and then taken to Ottawa for first day cancellation if the customer so wished.

It's likely that collectors at Interpex were dazzled by what they were seeing and what they were told would soon be available. Over the course of three years, CPC distributed many, many posters, flyers, press releases, and brochures extolling Olympic collectibles. CPC marketing told us about Action Stamps; a two-volume souvenir collection; Olympic postage meter dies; an Olympic Stamp Souvenir Case; the Olympic stamp collection; and a series of "Precious Metal Olympic Stamp Sculptures." (Figure 2) Combined with a large souvenir poster that showcased Olympic gold medal winners and


Figure 2. CPC brochure announcing the release of the Precious Metal Olympic Stamp Sculptures. Olympic stamps since 1896, the industrious collector had his / her stamp den full.

Let me do a little segue to chat about a strange thing. There were five series of sculptures. Series I featured semi-postals B1-B3; II was B4-B6, III had B7-B9, IV was B10-B12, and V, the last, was the Ceremonies issue. All were in gold, silver, and bronze. In the promotional documents for these souvenirs we see no mention of any other agency involvement beyond Canada Post, until Series III. Then it is noted that the sculptures carry "the Mint's hallmark". In series IV, that mention becomes "the mint's hallmark". The lower case use continues into the documentation about

Series V. Were these produced by the Royal Canadian Mint, or by some other organization? We are told only that these souvenirs were "commissioned" by CPC.


Figure 3. Royal Canadian Mint Philatelic-Numismatic Cover (PNC) issued for the 1976 Olympics.

I mention this because we see an extraordinary demonstration of collaboration -or perhaps competition-by the Royal Canadian Mint's concurrent release of a series of "Olympic commemorative covers in silver and gold" (Figure 3). Now, these look postal. The covers carry one of the sculpture stamps, SC \#656 or \#657, as well as an affixed metal version". They are cancelled "Philatelic Canada Philatelique/ 31 XII 76/ Ottawa". Though struck by the Mint and "authorized by the Canadian Government Post Office" [sic], these covers were sold through a license held by a Venezuelan company, Italcambio, which marketed these products as "Tait McKenzie Precious Metal Stamp Covers". The advertising flyer I received at home came from Woodward Stores of Vancouver.

My question here for posterity is this: "Why was Canada Post selling boxed metal sculptures (normally a Mint enterprise), while the Mint was partnering with an offshore company to sell covers?" A second question to fellow philatelists: "Are metal stamp replica covers philatelic?"

Before I leave this subject, might I just mention that the Series V gold sculpture contained 23.33 grams ( 0.75 troy ounces) of 24 karat pure gold? It sold for $\$ 250$. My local foreign exchange tells me that their value has more than tripled. Not bad for a collectible.

At the Games, CPC provided a cancellation service that used marks based on "43 ideograms representing different aspects of the Olympic Games" [2]. The
ideogram set included all the Olympic sports, as well as opening and closing ceremonies, venue cities and facilities, press services, and the International Olympic Committee (Figures 4-6). While collectors could buy five pre-packaged sets of some cancellations (only 25 of the 43 were available in this form), they could also travel from venue to venue, where specific cancellations were available, and have their own covers cancelled. As the dates changed regularly, the number of possible cover cancellation permutations and combinations is astronomical.

Attractive portable booths similar to those seen in Edmonton during the Commonwealth Games made their appearance. CPC advised that after the Games they would be moved to various locations in Quebec, where they would become permanent post offices. It would be interesting to know whether any of them still exist.

Bryce Mackasey was Postmaster General during the Games. He oversaw the establishment of eighteen Olympic Postal Stations in Quebec, while Olympic postal services-including Olympic cancellations-were also provided in Kingston, Ottawa, and Toronto.


Figure 4. 1976 Olympic cancellations 1-18.


Figures 5 and 6. 1976 Olympic cancellations 19-36 (above) and 37-43 (below).
CPC's stamp production and financial contribution to the Games was highly significant. Their efforts to inform and engage collectors were without precedent and will not likely be matched any time soon. The level of service to Games’ participants, audiences, and philatelists was really quite exceptional. In the process, the XXI Olympiad left significant marks on the philatelic history of Canada, and on the Olympics themselves.

## References

[1] David G Jones, Canada Post at its best; the 1978 Commonwealth Games, BNA Topics, Vol. 65, No. 4, (October-December 2008).
[2] The Canada Post quotations in this article
 come from CPC press releases, PS14 stamp issue notices, and newspaper articles of the period.

## The Stanstead, Shefford \& Chambly Railroad

Peter McCarthy

THE Stanstead, Shefford \& Chambly Railroad (SS\&C Figure 1) received its name from an original charter requesting that a railroad be constructed to connect the St. Lawrence \& Atlantic Railway near Montreal with the Passumpsic \& Connecticut Rivers Railroad.

The route as originally planned would have passed through Chambly County to Granby, then on to Magog in


Figure 1. The steam locomotive "Governor Smith", sold to the SS \&C in 1884. Shefford Township and down to the Quebec-Vermont line in Stanstead County (Figure 2).


Figure 2. Planned route of the Stanstead, Shefford \& Chambly Railroad.

Keywords \& phrases: Railway Post Offices, railways, Quebec
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By the time construction started in 1857, the plan had been amended such that the route began in St Athanase (later named Iberville), on the east side of the Richelieu River across from St Johns, to West Farnham, a distance of twelve miles. This first section opened to traffic on 28 December 1858. By then the trestle bridge across the Richelieu River to St Johns had been completed, allowing connection with the Montreal \& Champlain Railroad unit of the Grand Trunk Railway (GTR). The second section from West Farnham to Granby, a stretch of fifteen miles, opened a little more than a year later on 3 January 1860. While the land between St Johns and Granby is relatively good, flat farmland with plenty of streams and brooks, the fourteen miles to Waterloo from Granby took almost two years to complete because the route was modified to go around, instead of over, Shefford Mountain. The only engineering feat involved was the building of a trestle bridge over the north branch of the Yamaska River at the outlet of Waterloo Lake to enter Waterloo itself (Figure 3).


Figure 3. Post card showing the trestle bridge on the Yamaska River near Waterloo.
By 1858, the Vermont Central Railroad (VCR) had financial control of the SS\&C and operated all train services. In 1864, the VCR acquired control of the Montreal \& Vermont Junction Railroad. (M\&V Jct. R.R.), including the line between Fonda Junction and St. Johns that ran on the eastern shore of the Richelieu River. It gave them a direct connection with the SS\&C and also access to the trestle crossing the Richelieu River. That and dried-up coffers dashed the dreams of the SS\&C
continuing as planned to the Quebec-Vermont line, although they did manage to continue another two miles to the Stukely Township line east of Frost village. When completed, the line between St. Johns and Waterloo was 43 miles long (Figure 4).


Figure 4. Actual route of the SS\&C between St. Johns and Waterloo.
The Stanstead, Shefford \& Chambly Railroad issued its first official timetable on 13 February 1862. It is presumed the Railway Post Office was established shortly thereafter. The earliest date known for a cancellation (RY-176.01 -STANSTEAD, SHEFFORD \& CHAMBLY RAILROAD / No 1) is 13 October 1862. The latest known date for hammer 1 is 4 February 1865, shown in Figures 5 and 5a.


Figure 5. Latest-known example of hammer 1.


Figure 5a. Latest-known use of RY-176.01, hammer 1.


Figure 6. Earliest-known use of RY-176.02, hammer 2.

The cancel and cover in figures 6 and 6 a show the earliest-known date of use for hammer 2, 15 October 1863. The latest-known date of use for hammer 2 is 17 January 1865. An interesting element of this cover is the name of the addressee. The family of Dr John Meigs of Stanstead County was prominent in the area. Later, when the SS\&C had abandoned its track between Iberville and Farnham in favour of using the Canadian Pacific Railway line, the junction point at Farnham connecting to the Farnham-Granby section was named Meigs.


Figure 6a. Earliest-known use of RY-176.02, hammer 2, dated OC 15/1863.
The gem of the RPOs for the later line is RY-177.01, SHEFFORD RY. / M.C. (Figure 7). This cover, dated MR 28 / (18) 85 carries the only strike known to date of hammer 1, which has no hyphen before ' RY ' and a full ' Y '.


Figure 7. Earliest-known RY-177.01 cancellation, dated 28 March 1885. (Courtesy Winona Matthews)

The proof book shows a hammer reading SHEFFORD RY / M.C., with a hyphen before "R?" and a superscripted " Y " over the period, dated AU $1 /(18) 89$ (Figure 7a). This is hammer 2, RY-177.02.

In 1990, Winona Matthews, a fellow member of our local writer's club, was in the midst of preparing an anecdotal history of the town of West Shefford and asked if I would explain a little about RPOs. She showed me the cover in Figure 7 and its enclosure. Although I tried to acquire the piece on several occasions, it was not to be. It belonged to her elder sister and was returned to her. All that can be shown is a copy


Figure 7a. Proof strike of RY-177.02 cancellation, AU 1/89. from the book, but thankfully we at least have that.

There is a challenge here. The latest-known date of use for RY-176.01 is February 1865, while the earliest date for either hammer of RY-177 is 1885, a gap of 20 years without an example of either marking. Is 1865 really the latest for RY176.01? If so what is the earliest date for RY-177.01/02?

Three more cancellations were made for this line. QC-359, MONTREAL \& WATERLOO / M.C. (Figure 8), was proofed 29 October 1891. The latest-known date of use is 10 May 1900. Only one hammer is known.


Figure 8. (above) QC-359 cancellation dated OC 29/91

Figure 9. (right) QC-360 cancellation dated FE 18/05.


There is no proof date for QC-360, MONTREAL \& WATERLOO RPO (Figure 9). The earliest-reported date is 17 January 1901, the latest-reported date 7 September 1913. The last RPO cancellation to make an appearance on this line was QC-554, WATERLOO \& MONTREAL RPO. Two hammers were made. The first was proofed 16 September 1913 (QC-554.01, Figure 10). Hammer 2 (QC-554.01, Figure 11) has a proof date of 6 December 1918. The latest-known date of use for this cancellation is 13 October 1925, marking an end to RPO service on the SS\& C railroad.


Figure 10. (left) QC-554.01 cancellation, hammer 1, dated JAN 6/19.

Figure 11 (right) QC-554.02 cancellation, hammer 2, dated SP 16/13.


Although the Stanstead, Shefford \& Chambly Railroad was controlled by other railways for most of its life, it kept its identity until June 1956 when, along with the restructured Vermont Central Railway, it was sold to the Canadian National Railway. Today, like so many railways of the past, all that remains of it is a memory and a bicycle path.

Editor's note: The RPO cancellation numbers used in this article are the first application of the new numbering system introduced in the Catalogue of Canadian Railway Cancellations and Related Railway Postmarks including Selected Waterway Postmarks, edited by Ross Gray and published by BNAPS, which was released for sale on 11 September 2009.

## Acknowledgement

The author wishes to thank Ross Gray for so willingly making available his up-todate railway postmark data.

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## Overlooked re-entries in the 10\$ Prince Consort stamp

Kenneth A Kershaw

DURING research on the plating of this stamp [1], it became apparent from single positional scans at high resolution that both frames, and particularly the spandrel hatch work, had been re-entered in a number of positions. The quality of the paper used in the printings of this stamp was not terribly good, and the images are rarely clear and crisp, obscuring these re-entries. They are, however, visible when each position is scanned in at 1200 dpi. This detail in the final image is retained when it is reduced to 300 dpi for printing. The following positions have been found to have overlooked re-entries:

Position 21


Keywords \& phrases: $10 \not \subset$ Prince Consort, plating, re-entry

## Position 30



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Position 39


Position 40 TR


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Position 40 TL


## Position 91




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## Position 97



## Reference

[1] Kenneth A Kershaw, Plating the 10¢ Prince Consort Scott \#17, British North America Philatelic Society, 2009.

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(continued from page 2)
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