

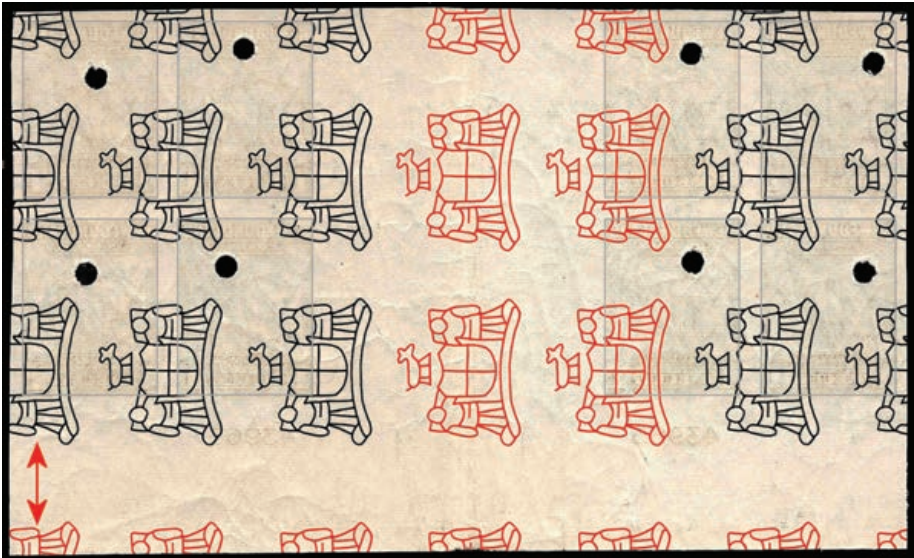
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BNA Topics



Whole number 526

Volume 68 Number 1



Newfoundland's Industrial issues and the "Coat of Arms" Watermark, p. 6

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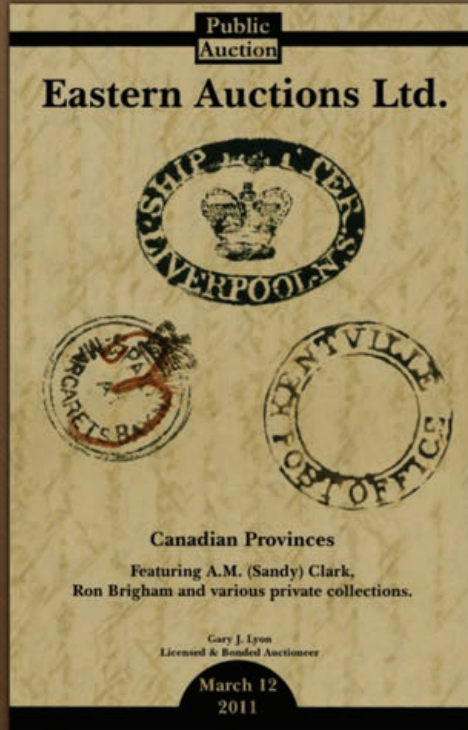
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Cover Illustration:

Waterlow printing layout of the Newfoundland "Coat of Arms" watermark, p. 6

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A new approach to BNAPS conventions - 2

Mike Street

AFTER the Victoria convention, a member asked me, somewhat indignantly, “I’m a paid-up member of BNAPS. Why should I have to pay to get into the BNAPEX show?” My answer, “Fairness,” surprised him. I explained how conventions work.

The main expenses are (a) rentals: show and seminar rooms, security services, frames, frame transport vehicle (including fuel), audio-visual equipment (including an operator); (b) support and consumables: advertising, exhibit (jury, medals, ribbons, grand awards), hospitality room snacks and pop/juice, liability insurance, postage, printing (banquet menu, convention program, name tags, palmars, signs, tickets) and souvenirs; (c) entertainment: Past President’s reception, evening out, and banquet. BNAPS pays for the meeting and seminar rooms, insurance, jury honoraria, medals, ribbons, and grand awards. Bourse and frame fees, souvenir sales, and donations, if any provide additional revenue. All entertainment costs and remaining expenses are paid for by members and spouses/partners in their convention registration fees. (Tours are completely paid for by the participants.)

Conventions are structured on a break-even basis. BNAPEX registration fees are kept to an absolute minimum, but they always cover the reception, banquet, and evening out, with an extra amount added to pay expenses not covered by other revenue. If people who do not register, i.e., those who come only for the exhibits, bourse, and/or seminars, do not contribute financially, then registrants have to shoulder all additional costs. The member agreed that this was not fair to registrants, but then asked, “Why can’t BNAPS pick up the extra costs?” He was very surprised that the answer was the same, again, “fairness.” The Society cannot, of course, pay for entertainment costs for individual members. Similarly, while exhibits are a significant part of “what we do,” since only a proportion of members take part in the exhibition, the Society can only shoulder part of its costs.

Where does this lead? More than 150 day passes were sold at Victoria, while the number of registrants dropped—a lot. BNAPS wants to reverse this by encouraging more members to take part in the whole convention, not just spend a day. Making sure that “day trippers” pay a reasonable share of the costs will keep registration fees down; it is hoped that more members will take advantage of this lower cost and register for the entire event.

Change of address: Notify the Secretary (address on p. 75).

Missed or damaged copies: Contact the Circulation Manager, Wayne Smith, 20 St. Andrews Road, Scarborough ON M1P 4C4 (waynesmithtor@yahoo.ca).

Manuscripts may be submitted to the Editor in these formats: (1) electronic, preferably with paper copy, or (2) typewritten (double-spaced), or (3) neatly handwritten. Acceptable electronic formats include MacIntosh- or IBM-compatible formatted diskettes or CDs.

Illustrations must not be embedded in Word™ or WordPerfect™ files! PLEASE do not format text files other than for normal paragraphing, italicization, bolding, or underlining. If tables are required, please consult the Editor before preparing a file in WordPerfect™. Illustrations MUST be sent as separate files from text files. (Scans at 300 dpi in .jpg format are preferred for illustrations sent as attachments). Until a new Editor is found, articles and letters may be submitted by e-mail to Mike Street (mikestreet1@gmail.com) or by mail to 73 Hatton Drive, Ancaster ON L9G 2H5.

Publications Committee: Robert Lemire (Chairperson), Mike Street, Charles Livermore.

Readers write

Labrador Winter Mail: Ernest B Doane's Crossings of the Strait of Belle Isle: (*BNA Topics*, April-June 2010) brought e-mail from the Doane family and a neat postscript to the story from Kevin O'Reilly.

Ernest Doane's granddaughter, Carolyn Pieroway, wrote: "I enjoyed the story about grandfather immensely. My mother and I have traveled to Labrador several times over the past years and needless to say I heard so much about him. I am impressed with the research efforts you made to document his life and exploits. He is certainly more real to me now than ever. I will be reading it to my mother when I go home later this month. It will certainly be a bright spot for her. Well done and thanks again!!" Carolyn's brother, Roy Pieroway, added: "You did a great job on the article about grandfather. He certainly appears to have been a very courageous and interesting individual. I was only an infant when he died and have no memories of him. However, it is a pleasure to be able to read about some of his adventures."

Kevin O'Reilly sent along a scan of this cover.



1931 letter from Ernest Doane to the Field Museum in Chicago.

Readers will remember that the article refers to Ernest Doane's taxidermy skills and that he collected specimens for the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC. Kevin's cover, dated SP 5/(19)31, was mailed by Ernest Doane to the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, one of the three primary natural history repositories in the United States, along with the Smithsonian and New York's American Museum of Natural History.

BNAPLEX 2010 Victoria: Malcolm Montgomery writes: "I received two packages this week both of which demand a reaction. The first was *BNA Topics*, with Mike Street's recommendation that BNAPS Conventions provide an excellent opportunity to combine hobby and holiday. The second was a parcel from John Keenlyside enclosing medal, certificate and a beautiful silver spoon, engraved with a First Nations-style hummingbird, the [Allen Steinhart Reserve Grand] Award for my [Transatlantic Mail] exhibit in Victoria.

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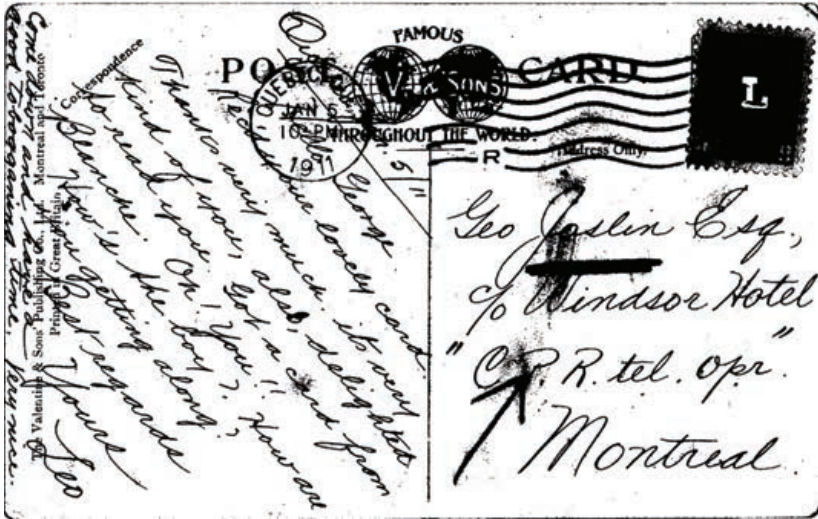
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While I was in Victoria I spent a great deal of time discovering First Nations art and symbols, and appreciating the quality of the craftsmanship. Coincidentally, I bought a hummingbird bracelet as an anniversary present (at the time a secret) for my wife Kathy while there; you can understand how pleased I was to open the parcel and see the hummingbird spoon. There is also a nice parallel, not lost on me, between the hummingbird as messenger and postal history, and I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Society, to the judges, and not least to the unknown person who chose the award [*Take a bow Neil Donen – Ed.*] for the gift. It is beautiful and greatly appreciated.

Victoria was a great success - the meeting, the arrangements, the location. Kathy and I thoroughly enjoyed ourselves, before, during and after the meeting. Which brings me to my second point—the convention provided an excuse for us to visit Victoria and extend our visit to explore Vancouver Island and, briefly, the Rockies; after the meeting we also visited friends in Ontario. Had it not been for the convention we might not have done any of these things. Mike is right ... it is possible to combine the convention with a holiday and, with a little planning, the total will be greater than the sum of the parts. Again, many thanks everybody.”



Unusual Hole in 1¢ Edward stamp: Jon Johnson, Co-Editor of *Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials* submitted the image above and asks, “This 1911 postcard from Quebec, PQ to Montreal, carries a tied 1¢ Edward stamp which is punched with the letter “L”. The writer of the postcard was “Leo”. Does anyone have any idea as to the type of punch that was used on this stamp? Jon good-humouredly received suggestions from the Editor that this item might be called a “BIG one-hole perfin” or, possibly, a “Punchin”. Jon advises that, after a 25-year hiatus, he and Gary Tomasson are hard at work on the fifth edition of *Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials*. He indicates that the new edition will be in a larger format and have greatly expanded information on known uses of all Canadian perfins.

(Continued on p. 72)

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Newfoundland's Industrial issues and the "Coat of Arms" watermark layout

AB Thompson

THE printing contract for the Newfoundland definitive Industrial [1] issue was awarded, in 1932, to Messrs John Dickinson & Co Ltd, who used Perkins, Bacon & Co and WW Sprague & Co (collectively called Perkins Bacon hereafter) in England to print the stamps, from 1932 until their Southwark Bridge factory was destroyed in wartime action in 1941 [2, 3]. Waterlow & Sons Ltd took over the printing from 1941 to 1949 [4-7]. The paper used for the printing of Newfoundland stamps by Perkins Bacon was supplied by Dickinson's Croxley Mill and, with the exception of the unwatermarked 1929-1931 Pictorial issue, were on paper watermarked with the "Coat of Arms". An identical watermark is also seen on the Newfoundland stamps printed by Waterlow from 1941 to 1949 and the 10¢ Postage Due lithographed by John Dickinson in 1949. This watermark is illustrated in many catalogues, though few seem to be accurate representations. The "Coat of Arms" watermark is sideways on the low-value, vertical-design stamps (1¢-7¢, Scott #183-192 and 253-258) and upright on the high-value, horizontal-design stamps (8¢-48¢, Scott #193-199 and 259-266). The watermark shows no differences in design or size throughout the Industrial issue printings, although reversed and inverted watermarks are found [8]. The sideways watermark measures 19×23 mm and, with some exceptions, is repeated every 23 mm horizontally and every 30 mm vertically for both the Perkins Bacon and Waterlow printings. These measurements coincide with those of the printed stamps; hence, each stamp would have one watermark [2].

The basic watermark layout on stamp paper used by Perkins Bacon, as used for the first Industrial issue (Scott #183-199) printed from 1932 to around 1941, is four panes of 10×10 blocks separated by 46 mm-wide gutters and showing "cross" guidelines positioned centrally at the gutter intersections [9, 10]. Owing to the gutters, watermarks are rarely seen in the selvage of the perforated printed sheets of the first Industrial issue. The main difference in the watermark layout of the second Industrial issue (Scott #253-266) printed by Waterlow from 1941 to 1949 is that watermarks occur in the selvage. Hence, there are marked differences in the overall watermark layout used for the first and second Industrial issues.

There appears to be no previously published description of the watermark layout of the second Industrial issue. New evidence presented here suggests that the dandy roll used to impress the watermark layout was actually modified around 1941-1942 to overcome deficiencies with the pane design and to accommodate Waterlow's requirements, following the change of printers in 1941. Therefore, it is proposed here that all the stamp paper watermarked with the "Coat of Arms" was manufactured on the same machine at Croxley Mill. The complete watermark layouts used for the wide rolls of stamp paper for both printings as shown, and it is suggested that the "key" style guidelines recorded by Stillions [7] occur at the edges of the rolls of paper.

Keywords & phrases: Newfoundland, Industrial issue, watermarks

The conclusions in this paper are drawn mainly from a study of the 1¢ grey values from the first (Scott #184) and second (Scott #253) Industrial issues, and it is assumed that the same watermark layouts were used for the other values in each issue. It is likewise assumed that the other watermarked Newfoundland issues printed by Perkins Bacon from 1931 to 1938 used the same watermark layout as on the first Industrial issue; this seems to be confirmed from the other stamps examined.

Orientation

It may be helpful to define some orientation terminology. The terms horizontal (rows, width) and vertical (columns, length) are used relative to the machine and grain direction of the paper (Figure 1; see [11, 12]) for good discussions of grain). In the Industrial issues, the design of the stamps is vertical on the 1¢–7¢ stamps and horizontal on the 8¢–48¢ stamps. When viewing stamps with the design upright, the watermarks appear sideways on the lower values and the right way up on the higher values. However, for all values, the long axis of the stamp aligns with the paper grain, and the "Coat of Arms" watermark is always sideways to the grain. In this article, the main reference stamp is the 1¢ "codfish" (Scott #184 and 253) that was printed in a vertical format with the watermark sideways. The four terms used to describe watermark orientation, normal (as shown in Figure 1), reversed (mirror image), inverted (180° rotation), and reversed inverted, are again relative to the grain and not the stamp image. This terminology will be used consistently in relation to all values. Measurements are given here as horizontal × vertical.

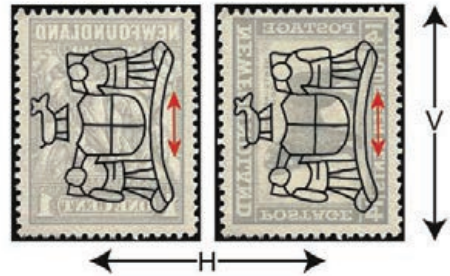


Figure 1. Image of back of the 1¢ (vertical design) and 14¢ (horizontal design) stamps showing orientation of the normal watermark. The black arrows identify the direction of horizontal (H) and vertical (V) used in this paper, and are relative to the direction of the paper grain (red arrow).

During the 1930s, Perkins Bacon used primarily the wet printing method on flat-bed printing presses [3]. These machines would have been adapted to accept a certain size of paper, which, if cut correctly, would produce one watermark per stamp. Stamps without watermarks have been reported, but these are uncommon, and likely little attention was given to this by the printers or postal authorities in Newfoundland. The watermark layout described above has a certain elegant and artistic beauty and the unwatermarked selvage would have framed the sheets of printed stamps nicely (not that watermarks are that visible in the selvage).

Perkins Bacon and the first Industrial issue

During the 1930s, Perkins Bacon used primarily the wet printing method on flat-bed printing presses [3]. These machines would have been adapted to accept a certain size of paper, which, if cut correctly, would produce one watermark per stamp. Stamps without watermarks have been reported, but these are uncommon, and likely little attention was given to this by the printers or postal authorities in Newfoundland. The watermark layout described above has a certain elegant and artistic beauty and the unwatermarked selvage would have framed the sheets of printed stamps nicely (not that watermarks are that visible in the selvage).

Four panes, gutters, crosses, and lines

Perkins Bacon first used watermarked stamp paper in 1931 for the printing of the Pictorial issue (Scott #172–182, referred to as Publicity issue below and by SG). Perkins Bacon also printed an airmail set in 1931 consisting of 15¢, 50¢, and \$1 values on the same watermarked paper (Scott #C9–C11). The watermark is sideways on these three values (Figure 2).

“The watermark itself, measuring 23×19 mm., was made up in four panes of 100 subjects (10×10) separated by horizontal and vertical “gutters” which bore no watermark. This make-up of paper and watermark was intended for the “Publicity” series of stamps. When used for the unorthodox sizes of the air stamps considerable wastage occurred and copies may be found without watermark, caused by a stamp or stamps being printed on the “gutters.” and “At the centre where these gutters crossed, a cross watermark occurs and this has been found on only the 15c. value.” [9].

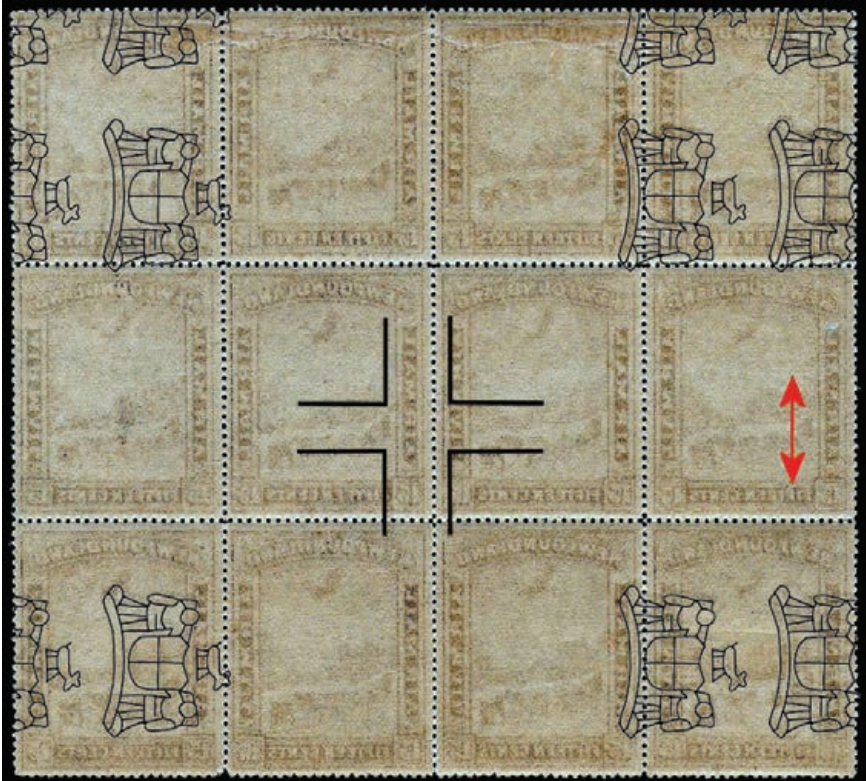


Figure 2. The “cross” watermark at the intersection of the gutters separating the four 10×10 watermark panes, of which only four corners are seen, from the 15¢ 1931 airmail issue. (Courtesy Peter Motson.)

Later, Walsh [10] described in more detail the watermark layout on unprinted watermarked stamp paper, as determined from two important sample pieces. One piece is a vertical edge strip showing the complete marginal two rows of watermarks from two panes as two 2×10 blocks along with “cross” guidelines and measures overall 81×675 mm (Figure 3a). A second piece is from the centre of four panes showing 2×2 watermark blocks from three of four panes and a half-segment of a guideline. The upper corner portion is missing from the piece, which measures overall 138×153 mm (Figure 3b). The thickness of this unprinted watermarked stamp paper measures 0.003–0.0035 inch (0.08–0.09 mm), and this corresponds to that used for the 1¢, 2¢, and 4¢ new colours issued on 15 August 1932 (Scott

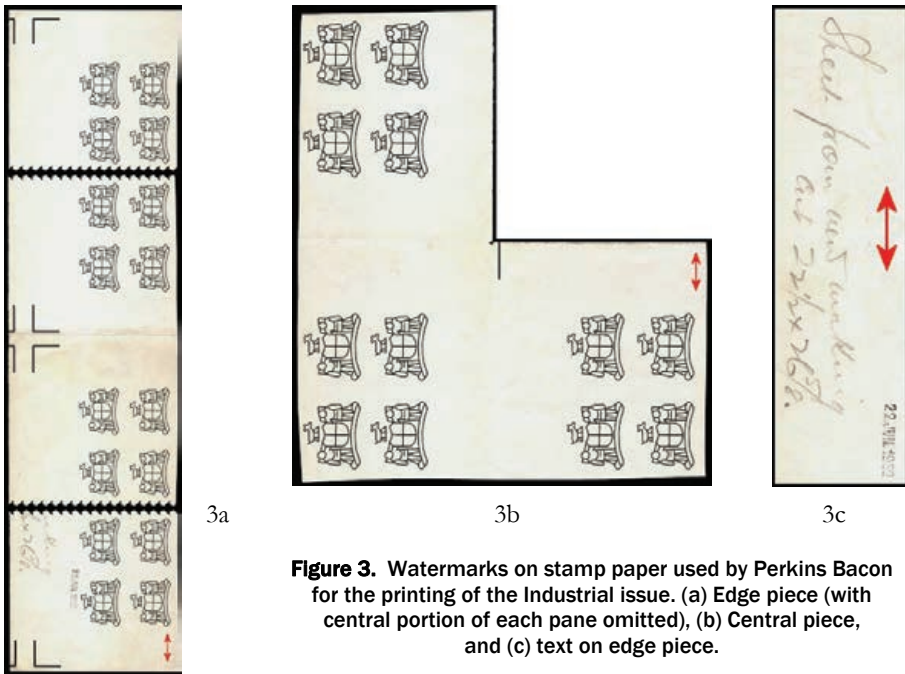


Figure 3. Watermarks on stamp paper used by Perkins Bacon for the printing of the Industrial issue. (a) Edge piece (with central portion of each pane omitted), (b) Central piece, and (c) text on edge piece.

#s 184, 186, 189). The stamps issued on 2 January 1932, at least for the 1¢ green (Scott # 183) and the 2¢ rose (Scott # 185) are on thicker paper measuring 3.7–4.3 thousandths of an inch (0.09–0.11 mm) thickness. (Note that absolute values may vary according to the measuring device.) Walsh's [10] reconstructed sheet had four panes of 10×10 watermarks separated by 46 mm gutters. Written in pencil on the edge piece is the text "Sheet from new making" and "cut $22\frac{1}{2} \times 26\frac{5}{8}$," along with a printed date stamp "22 JUN. 1932" (Figure 3c). The reference to "new making" (not "new working" as stated by Walsh), may refer to the thinner paper used to print the stamps issued on and after 15 August 1932 or simply to a new batch of paper. It seems likely that this particular sheet was a reference sample to either identify a batch of paper in the *salle* at Croxley Mill, where the paper stock is sorted and counted, or kept as a file record, perhaps even in the Perkins Bacon archives.

There are watermarked lines, each 13 mm long, laid down at the corners of the four panes. They appear like a "cross" or "street intersection" (Figure 3a) and presumably served as guidelines to aid in the cutting of the paper. There is also a single vertical "line" watermark—not reported by Walsh [10]—at the centre of gutters separating the four panes (Figure 3b)]. This, if it extended equally into the cut area, would measure 20 mm in length.

Rarely, these "cross" or "line" guidelines can be seen on the Newfoundland airmail stamps printed by Perkins Bacon or in selvaige at the corner of stamp sheets. Examples of the "cross" guidelines are shown from the 15¢ airmail stamp (Scott #C9, Figure 2) and from the 1¢ Industrial stamp (first Waterlow printing made on Perkins Bacon style paper, Scott #253, Figure 4c). Examples of the "line" watermark are shown from the 1¢ grey (plate 5, Scott #184) where part of the "line" can be seen and the full "line" in the 15¢ claret value of

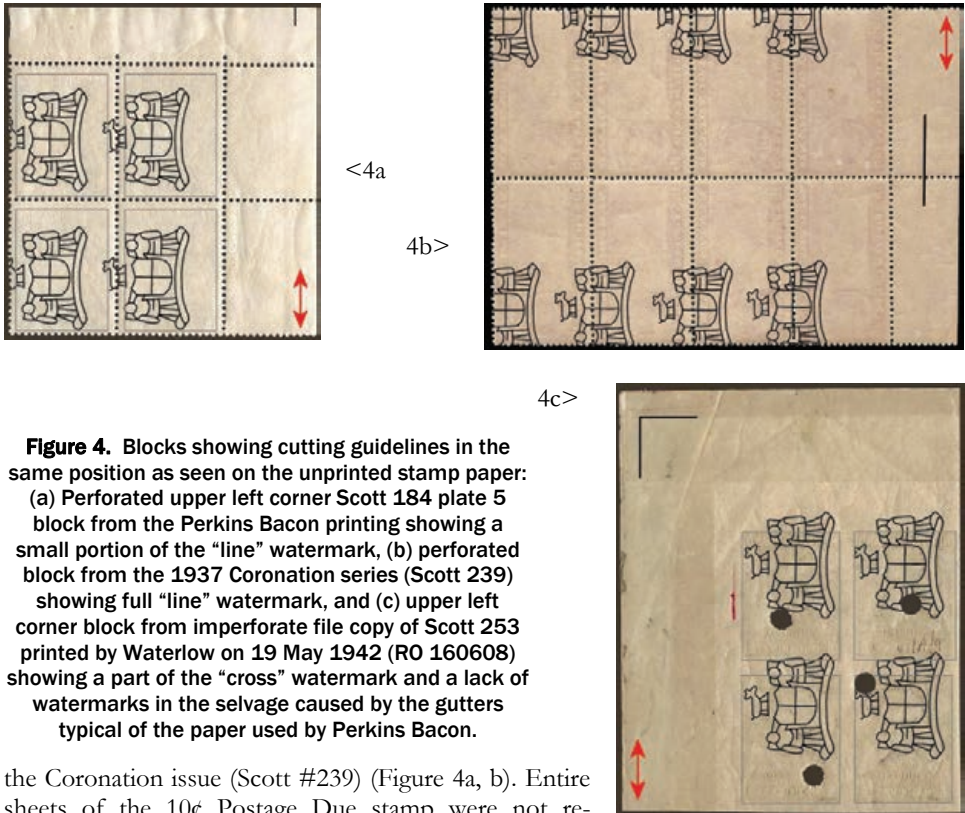


Figure 4. Blocks showing cutting guidelines in the same position as seen on the unprinted stamp paper: (a) Perforated upper left corner Scott 184 plate 5 block from the Perkins Bacon printing showing a small portion of the “line” watermark, (b) perforated block from the 1937 Coronation series (Scott 239) showing full “line” watermark, and (c) upper left corner block from imperforate file copy of Scott 253 printed by Waterlow on 19 May 1942 (RO 160608) showing a part of the “cross” watermark and a lack of watermarks in the selvage caused by the gutters typical of the paper used by Perkins Bacon.

the Coronation issue (Scott #239) (Figure 4a, b). Entire sheets of the 10¢ Postage Due stamp were not re-trimmed and measured $11\frac{1}{8} \times 13\frac{1}{4}$ " (281×335 mm). Therefore, the “cross” and “line” guidelines can normally be seen in the corners. An examination of four entire sheets showed the complete “L” part of the “cross” at two corners, half of the “line” at another corner, and nothing at the fourth corner.

The horizontal cut of $22\frac{1}{2}$ " (572 mm) matches the distance between the guidelines covering two panes estimated at 574 mm. The horizontal size of a printed perforated sheet with selvage is 257 mm, which, allowing for trimming, agrees with the estimate of the guideline measurements. The vertical cut of $26\frac{5}{8}$ " (676 mm) matches well with the length of the sample piece at 675 mm and with the distance between the “cross” guidelines spanning two panes of 674 mm (Figure 3a). The size of a perforated printed sheet with selvage in this direction is 317 mm, which is 20 mm less than the guideline measurements and would allow for trimming prior to perforation (Table 1).

“Key” watermark

For completeness, it is pertinent to mention the “key” watermarks noted by Stillions [7] in the 1937 Long Coronation issue (Figure 5). The “key” watermark shows two parallel lines 20 mm long and 7 mm apart starting with 4 mm diameter circles. This was taken as evidence that stamp paper was produced using two different dandy rolls. However another

explanation is possible, in that the "key" guidelines could occur at the edges of the dandy roll, hence the edges of the manufactured paper, where a "cross" guideline would be inappropriate. They are seen on the Long Coronation issue as

the size of the printed sheets means that the 46 mm gutter occurs on every sheet, so only a shift in one direction is needed for the "key" to be seen. Observing the gutter on the Industrial issue would be rare, and to get a two-way shift sufficient to observe the whole "key" is very unlikely in the printed stamps.

Cutting the sheets

Cutting along the centre of these "cross" guidelines would produce sheets measuring $22\frac{1}{2} \times 26\frac{3}{8}$ " (572×676 mm). The "crosses" or "key" watermarks could be further used to divide the sheet horizontally into two equal sheets of $22\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{4}$ " (572×337 mm) containing two 10×10 panes. Division vertically into the sheet size required for printing stamps appears to be less well guided by watermarks, as there are no "crosses" here and only one "line" as the other corner is blank.

Waterlow and the second Industrial issue

The destruction of the Perkins Bacon factory meant that John Dickinson and Perkins Bacon had contracts to produce stamps, but no printer to print them. Waterlow took over the printing of the Industrial issue and produced a new set of stamps perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$. No large pieces of unprinted watermarked sheets have been found for the Waterlow printings. However, it is possible to determine the overall pattern from an examination of the 1¢ printed stamps and imperforate file copies (here mainly Scott 253, 253i). Most noticeable is that the "Coat of Arms" watermarks look identical to those used in the Perkins Bacon printings of the first Industrial issue. They are the same design, shape, and size, and they are arranged in regularly spaced rows and columns with the same horizontal and vertical spacing.

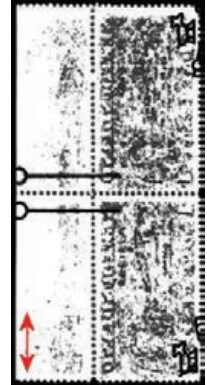
Missing gutters

The first striking difference is that there is no evidence of the pane and gutter layout, and the watermarks extended into the horizontal and vertical selvage (Figures 6a, b, and 7a).

Selvage without watermarks and gum

Occasionally, in the selvage of the stamps, and seen more commonly in the wide selvage of the imperforate file copies, the watermarks and gum do not extend to the very edges on the right or left side of the sheet (Figure 6c, d). It is assumed that these unwatermarked and ungummed areas are at the very edges of the manufactured rolls of printing paper where the watermarks do not extend to the very edges of the dandy roll. This area is normally trimmed off during the printing and perforating process. In one marginal perforated block, the watermarks went to the edge but the gum did not (Figure 6b).

Figure 5. Marginal pair from the 1937 Coronation issue showing the "key" watermark guidelines set 7 mm apart and the elk/caribou from the top of two "Coat of Arms" watermarks. Reproduced with permission [7]; watermarks emphasized with the aid of a similar stamp pair owned by the late Peter de Groot.



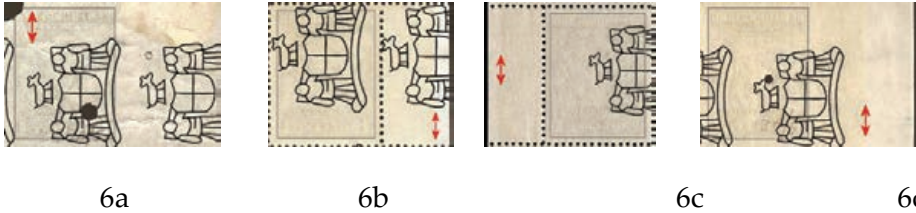


Figure 6. Examples showing watermark positions and gum in marginal 1¢ codfish stamps (Scott 253 and 253i) printed by Waterlow. The position of the stamp is shown by a grey rectangle and the selvage is on the right side. Areas with gum appear darker than areas lacking gum, with the gum/no gum boundary indicated by an arrow (b-d). The arrow also indicates the direction of the grain. The watermarks have been drawn in their correct position and are reversed when viewed from the back. (a) Archival file sheet with full gum and watermarks to the edge, (b) stamp with watermark to edge but lacking gum on the right edge, (c) stamp with watermark and gum missing from left side, and (d) archival file sheet with watermark and gum missing from right side.

Row spacing anomaly

There is an anomaly in the spacing of one of the rows of watermarks. There is usually a 7 mm space between the rows of watermarks. However, two of the rows have an 11.5 mm space between the rows of watermarks (Figures 7a and 8). This feature occurred in all six of the 1¢ codfish sheets from my collection (four sheets from plate 42430 and two sheets from plate 43965) and would be caused by a change in the spacing of the rows of watermarks around the circumference of the dandy roll. There is a 4 mm space between the columns of watermarks with no irregularities observed.

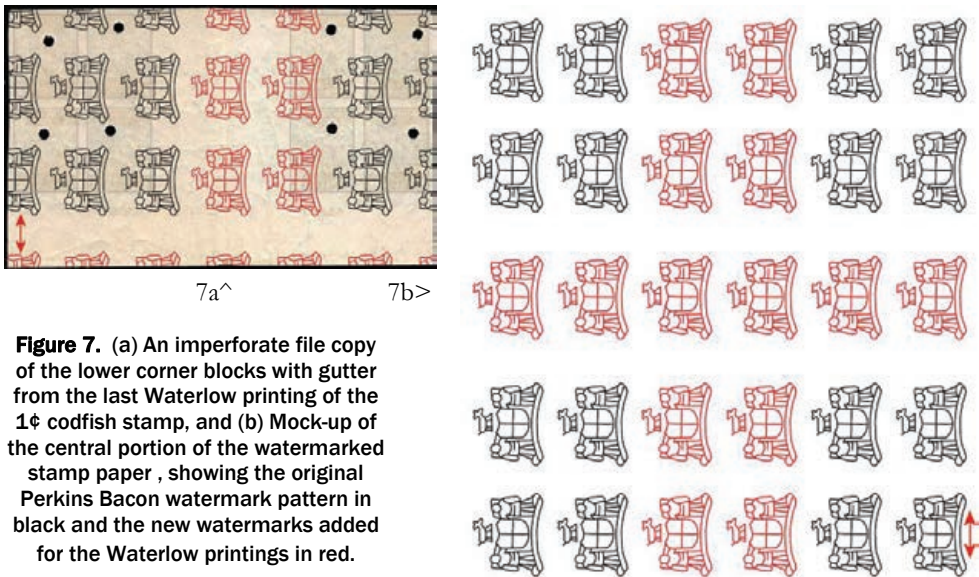


Figure 7. (a) An imperforate file copy of the lower corner blocks with gutter from the last Waterlow printing of the 1¢ codfish stamp, and (b) Mock-up of the central portion of the watermarked stamp paper, showing the original Perkins Bacon watermark pattern in black and the new watermarks added for the Waterlow printings in red.

Lack of guidelines and sheet cutting

No watermark guidelines have been seen on the stamps and imperforate file copies produced by the second and subsequent eight printings of the 1¢ value by Waterlow from July 1942 to August 1948. Owing to the full watermark layout, there was no requirement to align the cutting with the watermarks, so guidelines on the paper would no longer be required.

First printing and unwatermarked stamps

The first Waterlow printing was on "Perkins Bacon"-type paper. This is supported by "cross" guidelines seen on an upper left corner block of the first Waterlow printing of the 1¢ stamp dated 19 May 1942 (Plate 41711, RO 160608, [13, 14]) showing a full guideline and no watermarks in either selvage (Figure 4c). In my collection, I also have a corner block of 36 perforated stamps from plate 41711 that lacks watermarks in the selvage and was clearly printed on paper with the "panes" watermark layout used by Perkins Bacon.

The use of Perkins Bacon paper for the first printing of Waterlow accounts for the occasional finding of unwatermarked stamps. This was recorded for a block of 2×8 1¢ codfish [10] and for 2×2 blocks of the 1¢ codfish (NSSC 239b), 2¢ King George VI (NSSC 240b) and 5¢ caribou (NSSC 243b) and for with-and-without watermark pairs [15]. Thereafter the watermark layout was changed, probably because Waterlow found it too inefficient to have to trim the paper and align the sheets in the press to allow for correct placement of the watermark. Other postal administrations had long before moved to the use of multiple watermarks, which made such inefficient paper-handling unnecessary.

Last printing

The last printing of the Industrial issue in August 1948 (*e.g.*, plate 43965 for the 1¢) was as two panes of 100 stamps. The imperforate example from the lower central portion of the two-pane sheet of the last printing shows the watermarks extending all the way across from one pane to the other (Figure 7a; NSSC 239aa, ab). This piece also shows the wider horizontal spacing and the positions where additional watermarks have been added to remove the gutters. The paper required for this would have been approximately 22½" wide, which was the cut size used for the Perkins Bacon printings (Table 1).

Modified dandy roll

It is noteworthy that the spacing of the watermarks is the same for the Perkins Bacon and Waterlow printings, with the exception noted above. Clearly the unwatermarked 46 mm gutter between the watermark panes of the Perkins Bacon printing paper would not be acceptable on a rotary press if the paper was cut to a different size or roll fed, since stamps could be printed in the unwatermarked gutter. Unwatermarked stamps have been recorded for the Waterlow printings (*e.g.*, NSSC 239b, Scott 254iii, etc), and this would negate the security feature afforded by the watermark. Clearly this is undesirable.

Figure 8. A vertical strip of four 1¢ codfish stamps from the Waterlow printing (Scott 253) showing the wider spacing between two of the rows of watermarks, highlighted by two arrows that show the grain direction.



What appears to have happened is that the dandy roll was modified to accommodate the needs of Waterlow. One extra line of watermarks was added along the length of the dandy roll, and this removed the horizontal gutter and resulted in a wider space either side of this newly added row (Figure 7b). The measurements support this, as the 46 mm gutter has been replaced with a 23 mm long watermark and two 11.5 mm spaces. In addition, two extra lines of watermarks were added around the circumference of the dandy roll either side of the panes, and this removed the vertical gutters. But this time the normal column spacing of 23 mm fit exactly twice into the 46 mm gutter and so no changes in column spacing is observed in the second and subsequent Waterlow printings. In all probability, Croxley Mills supplied all the watermarked stamp paper used for the printing of the Industrial issues from 1932 to 1949, and the dandy roll was modified in late 1941 or early 1942 to allow for more efficient paper-handling.

The diameter of the dandy roll can be calculated from the repeat pattern of the watermark panes, which was 337 mm between the guidelines. This gives a diameter of 107 mm ($4\frac{1}{4}$ ") or some exact multiple of this if there was more than one row of watermark panes on the dandy roll.

The rolls of paper

Paper is manufactured in wide rolls, and it is noteworthy that two new machines were installed at Croxley Mills in 1933 to produce paper of 110" and 145" trimmed width [16], though it seems unlikely that stamp paper would be required in such quantities as to justify such wide rolls. It is worth noting that a letter written in 1929 states that the size of Croxley Special Postage Paper is 34×26" [3]. This corresponds to the traditional inch-based paper size of "atlas" and was likely a standard size used by Dickinson's for unwatermarked stamp paper. This size would not have met the actual later requirements of the printers. However, if we use this basic size as a guide, then it seems reasonable to assume that a roll of stamp paper could have been 68" wide. On the basis of the information presented above, it was then possible to draw a mock-up of the watermark pattern layouts used by Perkins Bacon and Waterlow (Figures 9 and 10). The paper used by Perkins Bacon for the first Industrial issue would have been cut from the roll to $22\frac{1}{2}\times 26\frac{5}{8}$ " at Croxley mill, and transported to the printing factory where it would have been subsequently cut to $11\frac{1}{4}\times 13\frac{1}{4}$ " for use in the printing press. The paper used for the Long Coronation issue could have been cut to the same width of $22\frac{1}{2}$ ", but it is likely the length would have been either 18" or 36" to match the size of the wide stamps of this issue.

Little can be deduced about the sizes of paper used by Waterlow. The use of "Perkins Bacon"-style paper for the first printing may suggest that their presses could at least be adapted to take the size of paper used by Perkins Bacon. Changes to the watermark layout likely occurred to make the pre-printing process quicker by making it unnecessary to cut the sheets so carefully as to ensure correct registration of the watermarks and the stamp image.

Sheet sizes and unwatermarked gutters

The 10×10 watermark panes used by Perkins Bacon measured 227×293 mm and had 46 mm gutters between panes. In general, the size of the stamp matched the watermark layout of each pane such that each stamp was printed over each watermark, though this was not always the case (Figure 9). Most stamps printed by Perkins Bacon measured 23.6×29.8 mm

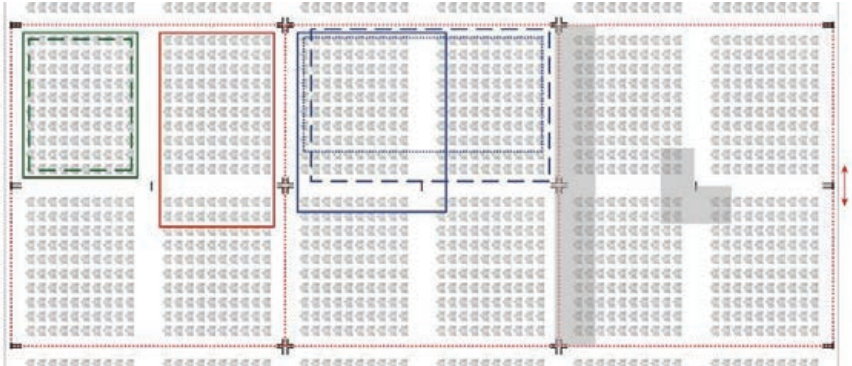


Figure 9. Mock-up of the watermarks and guidelines, from a portion of stamp paper used by Perkins Bacon from a roll measuring 68" wide. (The actual width could have been any whole multiple of 34", e.g., 34", 68",) Two sheets of Croxley Special Stamp Paper (34×26") could be cut from this width. The roll has six panes of 10×10 watermarks across and can be divided into three equal size sheets of 22½×26⅝" each with four panes (dotted red lines). The solid green rectangle shows the size of a printed sheet of 100 stamps (236×298 mm excluding selvage, stamp size 23.6×29.8 mm) from the first Industrial issue (and Gilbert and Royal Family issues) of Perkins Bacon. As is seen here, this fits perfectly on top of the watermarks with one watermark per stamp. Other sheet sizes (excluding selvage) and orientations are shown as a dashed green line for the 2¢-20¢ values of the 1931 Pictorial issue; a solid red line for the 1937 Long Coronation issue; and as solid, dashed and dotted blue lines for the 15¢, 50¢, and \$1.1931 airmail issue, respectively. The shaded area represents the likely positions of the two samples of stamp paper shown in Figure 3a, b.



Figure 10. Mock-up of the watermarks and guidelines from a portion of stamp paper used by Waterlow from a roll measuring 68" wide. (The actual width could have been any whole multiple of 34", e.g., 34", 68",) Watermarks are continuous and equally spaced across the width of the roll. Along the length of the roll, the watermarks are equally spaced, except for one row that has wider spacing either side (the arrow identifying the grain direction is at the right side of this wider row). The solid green rectangle shows the size of a printed sheet of 100 stamps (240×304 mm excluding selvage) from the second Industrial issue (each stamp measure 23.9×30.4 mm); as drawn, this sheet would not show watermarks in the left selvage. The larger, dashed green rectangle was used for the printing of the last plate, 43965, when two panes of 100 stamps separated by a gutter were printed each "pull" (526×304 mm excluding outer margins). The sheet size and orientation for the 5¢ Cabot stamp is shown as a solid red line.

and this produced a sheet size (excluding selvage) of 236×298 mm. The long axis of the stamp aligned with the long axis of the watermark, and this produced a sideways watermark on vertical stamps and an upright watermark on horizontal stamps. This was the case for the 1¢ and 30¢ of the 1931 Pictorial issue, the 1932 first Industrial issue, the 1933 Gilbert issue, and the 1938 Royal Family issue. Two minor differences in size occurred, but they were not large enough to significantly affect the watermark positioning. The stamps in the 2¢–20¢ values of the Pictorial issue were slightly smaller at 21.5×27.5 mm with a sheet size (excluding selvage) of 215×275 mm, and the 1941 second Industrial issue and 1947 Birthday issue printed by Waterlow were slightly larger, at 23.9×30.4 mm, with a sheet size (excluding selvage) of 239×304 mm (Figure 8).

The 1931 Pictorial airmail issue and the 1937 Long Coronation issue were significant exceptions to the above. The size of the stamps was dramatically different from the basic size described above, and the sheets no longer matched the watermark pane layout. Moreover, the sheet size no longer matched the size of the manufactured printer's sheet, so that it was not possible to get four sheets from the standard four-pane printer's sheet. The problems were solved at the expense of paper wastage, as reported for the airmail printings [9], and/or possibly by ordering non-standard, manufactured paper sizes.

The three values of the airmail set were completely different sizes from one another, but all were printed with the watermark sideways. The 15¢, 50¢, and \$1 stamps measure 31×37.5 mm, 50×32 mm, and 50×24 mm, giving sheet sizes (excluding selvage) of 310×375 mm, 500×320 mm, and 500×240 mm, respectively. This mismatched the pane watermark layout in both directions. The reason for the appearance of the “cross” on the 15¢ value is clearly seen, as the printed sheet was large enough in both directions to extend over the gutters and into all four watermark panes. The Long Coronation stamps measure 24.0×40.2 mm, producing a sheet size (excluding selvage) of 240×402 mm. The long axis of these stamps aligned with the panes-watermark layout, unlike the 50¢ and \$1 airmail stamps, and there was only a mis-match with the watermark panes in one direction. Paper wastage would be avoided if the stamp paper could have been cut to the non-standard size of 863×c.450 mm or 863×c.900 mm. This would have only required adjusting the cut of the sheets as they came off the roll, and so might have been achievable with little effort. If this “special” order was not possible, then considerable wastage would again have occurred. In any case, it seems likely that the size of the watermarked printer's sheet at 22½×26⅝” was a deviation from the standard size of the Croxley Special Postage Paper of 34×26”, so non-standard size orders seem plausible (Figure 9).

The above explains why printing on the gutters is unnecessary for the basic stamp sizes, but occurs on every sheet for the non-standard stamp sizes. What is not clear from the above is why the regular-size stamps were ever printed on the gutters. As has been seen, however, the appearance of the with-and-without watermark pairs clearly demonstrates that this did occur.

The Newfoundland stamps printed by Waterlow were all of the same size, with the exception of the 1947 5¢ Cabot stamp that measured 38×25.6 mm, giving a sheet size (excluding selvage) of 380×256 mm, that was printed with the watermark sideways (Figure 10). The stamp paper used by Waterlow had no unwatermarked gutters. Therefore one would not expect these stamps without watermarks and, indeed, none have been reported.

Table 1. Average measurements relating to dimensions of paper, stamps and watermarks used by Perkins Bacon and Waterlow Industrial issues (see Figures 9 and 10). Measurements are horizontal × vertical (see "Orientation").

Piece	Measurement (mm)	
	Horizontal	Vertical
DICKINSON (contractor and paper maker)		
Croxley Special Postage Paper¹		
Size 34×26"	863	660
Printer's sheet (Perkins Bacon: first Industrial issue)		
Size from written instruction 22½×26⅝"	572	676
Between guidelines (per pane) 11¼×13¼"	287	337
Printer's sheet (Waterlow: second Industrial issue)		
Size ²	572	676
Between guidelines (per pane)	No guidelines found	
Perkins Bacon (printer): First Industrial issue		
Stamps		
Sheet overall (including selvage)	257	317
Sheet overall (excluding selvage) ³	236	298
10×10 watermark pane	227	293
Stamp size (to outer edge of perfs)	23.6	29.8
Watermark		
Size	19	23
Space between watermarks ⁴	4	7
Watermark repeats interval	23	30
Waterlow (printer): Second Industrial issue		
Perforated stamp sheet		
Overall (including selvage)	267	332
Overall (excluding selvage) ³	239	304
Stamp size (to outer edge of perfs)	23.9	30.4
Watermark		
Size	19	23
Space between watermarks ⁵	4	7 (11.5) ⁶
Watermark repeats interval	23	30 (34) ⁷

¹ Probably unwatermarked and used for the 1929–1931 Pictorial issue [3].² Assumed here to be the same as provided to Perkins Bacon.³ Between outermost perforations.⁴ Gutter of 46 mm between panes of 10×10 watermarks.⁵ The watermarks are not arranged in panes.⁶ The space between 10 rows of the watermarks is 7 mm; the space between the next two rows is 11.5 mm.⁷ The repeat interval is 4.5 mm more for two rows, owing to the 11.5 mm spacing between two columns.

Watermark orientation varieties explained

The paper used to print the Industrial issue stamps was rectangular; hence there are four possible watermark varieties. All four varieties have been found for the Perkins Bacon printings, with the following frequency of occurrence: normal (97%), reversed inverted (2.3%), reversed (0.6%), and inverted (<0.1%). On the other hand, only two varieties have

been recorded from the Waterlow printings: normal (97.4%) and inverted (2.6%) [orientation relative to grain, 8, 17]. The varieties relate to the production process. Perkins Bacon used the wet printing method, where the paper was ungummed at the time of the printing. Hence, the paper could be placed both rotated to produce the inverted watermarks and upside-down to produce the reversed watermarks. Waterlow used pre-gummed paper, so placing the paper upside down in the press and printing on the gummed side would have been so obvious as to have been virtually impossible, and the stamp certainly could not have been used to mail letters as the adhesive and image would have been on the same side! The occurrence of inverted watermarks on the Waterlow printings does imply that they sheet-printed their stamps. If stamps were printed directly from uncut rolls of manufactured stamp paper, then watermark varieties would not occur.

Acknowledgements

I thank Eric P Yendall, Clarence A Stillions, John Jamieson, and the late Peter de Groot for their support, interesting discussions, and suggestions for improvements to this paper.

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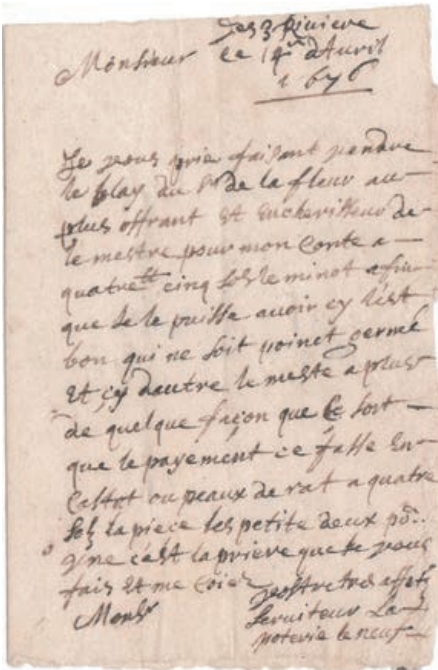
Letter noting the use of furs as currency in New France

RF Narbonne OTB, FRPSC

JACQUES Leneuf de la Poterie (1606-c.1685), a member of the first French noble family [1] to settle permanently in New France, was Seigneur of Portneuf [2] and, intermittently, Deputy Governor of *Trois-Rivières* between 1645 and 1665. For a short period after the death of Governor Saffray de Mezy in 1665, he assumed the title of Acting Governor of New France. Leneuf de la Poterie was an active member of the *Communauté des Habitants*, an association of colonial merchants that held the monopoly on the fur trade in New France between 1645 and 1663. He was also known to traffic in spirits, for which he had many brushes with the law.



Figure 1. The letter discussed in this article, written on a 6" × 8" sheet that was folded to 1.5" × 3" and closed with a wax seal.



The letter shown in Figures 1 and 2, dated 14 April 1676, was written at “*Les 3-Rivieres*” to Antoine Adhemar de Saint-Martin (c.1639–1714), Royal Notary at Sorel and Royal Process-Server and Sergeant-at-Law (bailiff) for all of New France. In the letter, Leneuf de La Poterie requests that Adhemar sell a quantity of wheat on behalf of Guillaume Richard Lafleur (1641–1690), a soldier of the Carignan-Salières Regiment and first commandant of Fort Frontenac, located at what is today Kingston, Ontario.

Sir, I beg you to sell the wheat ... to the highest bidder and to credit my account at 4 livres and 5 sol per minot [3]. If others bid higher in one way or another, that payment be made in beaver or muskrat at 4 sols each skin, the small skins two for the price of one.

Figure 2. Leneuf de la Poterie letter to Adhemar Saint-Martin.

Keywords & phrases: French regime postal history, furs

As cash was always scarce in New France, fur pelts were commonly used as a medium of exchange in place of currency. The official values of beaver and other furs were set by the government bureau at Quebec, but merchants and other private buyers often set their own buying prices. This is the second-earliest-known letter from the French regime and the first-known written mention of an exchange rate between furs and another commodity.

References and endnotes

- [1] <<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~havens5/p14409.htm>>
 [2] <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portneuf,_Quebec>
 [3] The *minot* was a unit of volumetric measurement approximately equal to 39 litres. (E Clifton and J McLaughlin, *A New Dictionary of the French and English Languages*, David McKay Company Inc, New York, 1904.)



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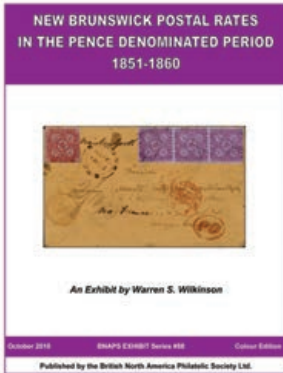
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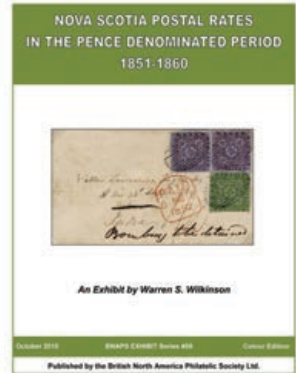
TWO postal history exhibit books and two volumes on plating stamp issues are the latest releases from the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) Book Department. Also covered in this installment is another interesting book published recently by our sister society, *La Société d'histoire postale du Québec*.

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After selling other collections, at CAPEX '96, Warren Wilkinson extended a previous interest in the philately of Canada and British North America with the purchase of the Charles Firby collection of Canadian Pence covers. Developing the Pence collection led him to expand into other BNA areas, including New Brunswick, Nova Scotia

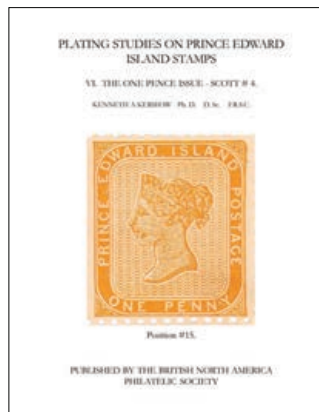


and Prince Edward Island, as well as British Columbia and Vancouver Island. He proceeded to win an unprecedented three consecutive Grand awards at the annual British North America Philatelic Society BNAPEX exhibition. His “Postal Rates of Canada 1851–1859” won at Ottawa in 2001, while “Postal Rates of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia”—the Decimal era (parts of which are illustrated in these new books)—received the honours at Spokane in 2002. In 2003, Warren won again at London, Ontario with “British Columbia and Vancouver Island Postal History: 1850–1871”.

Warren’s *British Columbia and Vancouver Island Postal History* and *Prince Edward Island Postal Rates* were previously published in the BNAPS Exhibit Series as books 37 and 55. The just-released volumes on New Brunswick and Nova Scotia postal rates in the Decimal period become numbers 58 and 59 respectively in the series. It is hoped that Warren’s collections of the postal history of both these provinces in the Cents era will be published in the not-too-distant future.

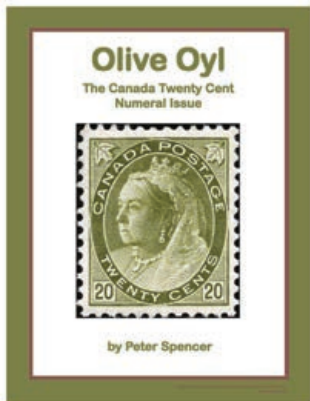
Plating Studies on Prince Edward Island Stamps VI. The One Pence Issue—Scott #4, 2010, by Kenneth A. Kershaw. Spiral bound, 88 pages, 8.5 x 11, colour. ISBN 0-919854-63-1 (Colour); Stock # B4h044.1 \$C62.00

In *Plating Studies on Prince Edward Island Stamps VI. The One Pence Issue—Scott #4*, Ken Kershaw continues his phenomenal output of plating information and new discoveries. After books on plating Canada's Half Cent Maple Leaf and 1898 Christmas Map stamps, he prepared five more on the Pence and Cents issues of Prince Edward Island, then devoted his efforts to a pair of books on Canada's 5¢ Beaver, a trio on the high value stamps of the 1859 Cents issue, and a five-volume set on the 3d Beaver! Now he is back with his sixth, and likely final—“Because of lack of material, not lack of interest,” he says—book on a PEI stamp, the One Pence issue of 1862. The new volume is in the style and format of the previous PEI books.



Ken Kershaw was born in England and became fascinated by plants at an early age. He graduated from Manchester University with a B Sc degree in Botany in 1952. After military service he went on to a Ph D, 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 modeling and data analysis. He obtained his D Sc 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 and, in 1982, he was elected a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. He is the author of several university texts. 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 but fascinating hobby.

Olive Oyl The Canada Twenty Cent 1898 Numeral Issue, Peter Spencer, 2010. Spiral bound, 108 pages, 8.5 x 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-897391-69-3. Published by the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS). Stock # B4h045.1; C\$72.00



Olive Oyl The Canada Twenty Cent 1898 Numeral Issue is the fifth volume in Peter Spencer's series on the plating of Canada's Queen Victoria-era Numeral issue. Using today's technology to produce scans of vivid clarity, the author has closely examined the Twenty Cent value to advise readers how to determine the plate position of individual copies of this popular stamp. *Olive Oyl* is a companion to the author's previous Numeral volumes on the Two Cent (2005), the One Cent (2006), the Five Cent (2007) and the Ten Cent (2008).

As with the earlier books in the series, Olive Oyl is the first major plating study of the Twenty Cent value. It will provide an excellent basis for further studies of this stamp and possible discoveries which readers may make as they examine their holdings. Peter notes that, according to records, all copies of the Twenty Cent value were printed in one operation, thus making re-entries and retouches unlikely. Nevertheless, he was still able to find enough varieties to satisfy anyone interested in plating the issue.

Peter Spencer began stamp collecting in the 1950s. After schooling in his native Alberta, he received degrees in Physics from Queen's University at Kingston and the University of Waterloo. He taught Physics for a third of a century and was privileged to be the Head of Science at Leacock Collegiate in Agincourt, Ontario during the years when it was one of the top twenty science schools in North America. He was co-author of a physics text one of whose editions was used in the majority of the high schools in Ontario.

On retirement, Peter quietly metamorphosed into a full-time philatelist interested in stamps from across the world—preferably used, pre-1900, engraved, colourful, odd and unusual stamps—preferably all five. His interests ranged widely, from Afghanistan, to the Bomba Heads of Sicily, to Zaire. In 2003, he and Bill Dixon co-taught the “Detecting Fakes and Forgeries” APS Summer Seminar in State College, Pennsylvania.

All BNAPS books are available from Ian Kimmerly Stamps, 62 Sparks Street, Ottawa, ON K1P 5A8, Canada. Phone: (613) 235-9119.

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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. To pay by cheque, please contact Ian Kimmerly Stamps directly for a total. For US\$ or £ cheque payments, amounts will be calculated at the current rate of exchange. Applicable taxes are payable for Canadian orders.

L'histoire du bureau postal de Berthierville, 1772-2010 by Jacques Nolet. La Société d'histoire postale du Québec, 2010. 700 pages. ISBN 978-2-920267-43-5, perfect bound, \$70.

This exhaustive study includes a history of the different postmasters at Berthierville, the different locations of the post office in the course of time, and the postmarks used there over the years. With nearly 200 illustrations and numerous bibliographical references, this work is a reference for historians, postal history buffs, and postmark collectors alike.

In the preface, Cimon Morin, President of the SHPQ, writes: “This book on the history of the Berthierville post office enables us to understand better the beginnings of the postal system and its development through the years using an example so representative of many others like it in Québec, and shows the importance of the people involved in the postal system as well as the postmasters themselves.”



A retired history professor from the Collège Notre-Dame in Montréal, Jacques Nolet now spends much of his spare time researching Québec postal history. A native of Trois-Rivières, he has published over a hundred philatelic articles on postal history and the designs of Canadian postage stamps. Past-President of the SHPQ and founder of the Académie québécoise d'études philatéliques (AQEP), he is now working on reference books on the history of the first post offices of the lower St. Lawrence Seaway Valley.

L'historique du bureau postal de Berthierville, 1772–2010 is the second volume in the SHPQ's new series titled *Collection du bicentenaire*. Author Nolet has promised many more titles, including books on Montréal, Trois-Rivières, and Québec, all due out by 2013, the 250th anniversary of the creation of the first postal route in Canada, the basis of today's postal system.

SHPQ books can be obtained from the distributor: Fédération québécoise de philatélie, 4545, avenue Pierre-de-Coubertin, Case postale 1000, Succursale M, Montréal H1V 3R2 or <fqp@philatelie.qc.ca>. For further information on the Société d'histoire postale du Québec and its publications, please visit their website at <www.shpq.org>.

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An outline of a philately of Canadian philately

Gary Dickinson

IN the last three decades, BNAPS has published two significant outlines of the field of Canadian philately. Unmentioned in either publication, however, is that Canadian philately appears to have its own philately, in that many stamps and covers refer to other stamps and covers. It is suggested here that these items form a distinct sub-field of study within the larger field of Canadian philately. This article describes that sub-field by identifying its parts and illustrating some of the stamps and covers that would be included in it. Taken together, these elements comprise an outline of a philately of Canadian philately.

Canadian philately

Ed Richardson's 64-page handbook, published in 1981 [1], was the first to approach systematically the task of describing the broad field of Canadian philately. His focus was on two questions: "What exists?" and "What is available to collect?" The underlying concept was that of specialization, which he considered the basis for building collections. Richardson identified 169 different specializations within Canadian philately. His handbook served as the main descriptor of the field until 2008, when John Burnett, Gray Scrimgeour, and Victor Willson published their 96-page update and expansion [2] of Richardson's work, following his style but to some extent reversing his sequence of topics.

The term "philately" was not defined by Richardson or Burnett et al; however, many definitions may be found in the literature and many of them are accessible on the Internet by searching key words. A Google search of "'philately' definition," for example, identified more than 225,000 entries. Many definitions include both the collection and study of postage stamps, although Wikipedia does point out that stamp collecting doesn't necessarily involve only the study of stamps. One can, in fact, be a philatelist without owning any stamps. Beyond collecting and studying postage stamps, definitions often include additional aspects such as postmarks, stamped envelopes, postal history, and postal stationery.

The following simple definition was adopted for purposes of this discussion: *Philately is the study of postage stamps and related materials*. Canadian philately would therefore be the study of Canadian postage stamps and related materials, while *the philately of Canadian philately is the study of postage stamps and related materials which are based upon or refer to other Canadian postage stamps and related materials*.

For purposes of discussion, the materials comprising a philately of Canadian philately may be divided into two general categories: philatelic objects and people. They may be further divided into ten sub-categories, with five in each general category.

Keywords & phrases: Canadian philately, stamps on stamps, souvenir sheets

Objects

The five types of philatelic objects included in this outline are stamps on stamps, souvenir sheets, stamps as cachets, maximum cards, and slogan cancellations.

1. Stamps on Stamps

The first Canadian stamp reproduced on another Canadian stamp was the 3d Beaver of 1851 (See Table I). It appeared on the 15-cent value of the CAPEX issue of 1951. Scott No. 1 was also reproduced on two later issues, the 30-cent International Philatelic Youth Exhibition of 1982 (No. 909), and the 47-cent value marking the one-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of Canadian Post (No. 1900) in 2001. The only other Canadian stamp that has appeared more than once on a later issue is the 50-cent Bluenose (No. 158) of 1929, which was used on the 60-cent value in the IPYE group (No. 913), as well as in the background on a 1998 stamp honouring the designer of the famous schooner (No. 1738).

Table 1. Canada's Stamps on Stamps

Stamp on Stamp			Original Stamp		
No.	Year	Description	No.	Year	Description
314	1951	15¢ CAPEX '51	1	1851	3d Beaver
399	1960	5¢ Victoria Centenary	BC 1	1860	2.5d Queen Victoria
753	1978	12¢ CAPEX '78	3	1851	12d Queen Victoria
754	1978	14¢ CAPEX '78	7	1855	10d Jacques Cartier
755	1978	30¢ CAPEX '78	8	1857	.5d Queen Victoria
756	1978	\$1.25 CAPEX '78	5	1855	6d Prince Albert
909	1982	30¢ Int'l Youth Exhibition	1	1851	3d Beaver
910	1982	30¢ Int'l Youth Exhibition	102	1908	15¢ Champlain Departs
911	1982	35¢ Int'l Youth Exhibition	223	1935	10¢ RCMP
912	1982	35¢ Int'l Youth Exhibition	155	1928	10¢ Mount Hurd
913	1982	60¢ Int'l Youth Exhibition	158	1929	50¢ Bluenose
1722	1998	45¢ Penny Post	85	1898	2¢ Christmas
1738	1998	45¢ Bluenose Designer	158	1929	50¢ Bluenose
1900	2001	47¢ Canada Post 150 years	1	1851	3d Beaver
1956	2002	48¢ Canada Postmasters	77	1899	2¢ Queen Victoria
2119	2005	50¢ Acadian Deportation	178	1930	50¢ Grand Pré

The sixteen stamps honouring other Canadian stamps are all quite inexpensive and widely available, both as stamps and on cover, as none of them is even 60 years old. In addition to honouring some of the more noteworthy Canadian stamps, these issues help to increase general awareness amongst the public about Canada's stamp history.

2. Souvenir Sheets

Canada's first souvenir sheet with a philatelic theme appeared during the CAPEX 1978 exhibition in Toronto. It showed the three stamp-on-stamp issues of 10 June 1978, omitting the 12-cent value that had been issued six months earlier. This was followed by a second souvenir sheet on 20 May 1982, which included two stamps issued on 11 March and three from 20 May, all commemorating the International Philatelic Youth Exhibition.



Figure 1. Souvenir sheet No. 756a (CAPEX 78), shown on a Cole first day of issue cover and postmarked with SON Winnipeg, MB cancellations dated 10 June 1978.

In the late 1970s, Canada Post also began to produce and market a range of products including domestic international philatelic exhibition cards and special event covers. For the most part, these souvenir products are readily available at low prices and do not hold a great deal of challenge for philatelists and collectors other than in relation to a few cacheted FDCs that may be relatively scarce.

3. Stamps as Cachets

Facsimiles of stamps have also been used as cachets, especially on first day covers (FDCs) such as the one shown in Figure 2. This cachet is for the Canadian Citizenship issue of 1947, and the cachet and the stamp design are very similar. The main differences are the facial features of the citizen figures and the placing of “Postes-Postage” under “Canada” on the actual stamp, whereas it is above and below the value on the cachet. Stamps issued during the 1940s were usually featured on several of the FDC cachets for each issue and, during the 1930s, the US dealer AC Roessler used stamp designs as cachets, including Canada No. 202, C3, and C4. In one instance, he showed a Straits Settlement stamp on his Canadian FDC for No. 211-216, the King George V Silver Jubilee issue (See Figure 3). Similarly, a cover mailed on 6 May 1940, the one-hundredth anniversary of the first postage stamp, included an illustration of Great Britain's Penny Black as part of its cachet. Tracing the full extent of the use of Canadian stamps as cachets would be a challenging undertaking but would not be inordinately expensive as most of the material is not uncommon.

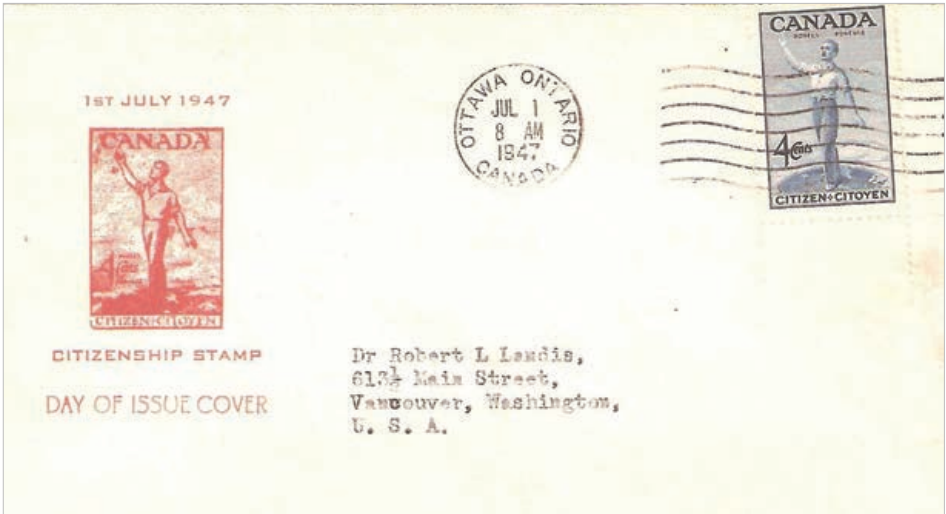


Figure 2. FDC from the Canadian Citizenship issue of 1 July 1947 (No. 275), with minor differences between the stamp and the cachet, addressed to Vancouver, Washington and postmarked Ottawa on the day of issue.



Figure 3. A C Roessler cachet on FDC for #211-216 postmarked Ottawa on 4 May 1935 and addressed to a regular Roessler customer in Nebraska.

4. Maximum Cards

Maximum or maxi cards are post card-sized, near-reproductions of actual stamps or cards whose designs have a close thematic relationship with that of the stamp. Figure 4 shows one such card, issued for Expo '67 in Montreal.

The stamp and the card share a common design, with a heightened impact in this example deriving from the stamp being placed on the design side of the post card rather than on the reverse where it would normally be found. Maximum cards tend to hold some interest for collectors, but not a great deal of interest for philatelists as they are regarded basically as souvenirs.



Figure 4. Maximum card for Expo 67 showing Katimavik, the Canadian Pavilion, and No. 469.

5. Slogan Cancellations

Slogan cancellations with philatelic themes first appeared in the mid-1920s. Coutts [3] lists some 200 of them, virtually all of which were designed to promote philatelic exhibitions. One of the earliest examples is shown in Figure 5.

The Third Canadian Philatelic Exhibition was held in Montreal from 5–9 October 1925 and the slogan cancellation shown was struck on 3 July 3. The other example shown was used to celebrate BYPEX, held in Ottawa from 2–4 May 1957. The cancellation shown was applied on the final day of the exhibition. The sizeable number of slogan cancellations with a philatelic theme available would provide an interesting challenge to the collector. Most of them are relatively inexpensive and obtainable, though they are scattered.



Figure 5. Slogan cancellations dated at Montreal on 3 July 1925 on a pair of #66 (Slogan T270) and at Ottawa on 4 May 1957 on #365 (Slogan B805)

People

Included here are five categories of Canadian philately pertaining to people: individual philatelists, stamp dealers, government (Canada Post), clubs and other organizations, and philatelic exhibitions.



Figure 6. Cover from Allard F. Brophey to Ed Richardson, postmarked Montreal with four, 1¢ Arch issue (Sc#162) stamps.

7. Dealers

One of the more complex and interesting aspects of the philately of Canadian philately consists of covers sent by stamp dealers to their customers. This group encompasses a variety of postage rate classes, stamps used in and out of their appropriate period, and a wide range of destinations and postal markings. If the dealer was in business for an extended period of time, there is likely also a variety of printed envelopes that presents a challenge to collect and study. Many items are ephemeral and difficult to identify, as dealers might have gone into and out of business in relatively short periods of time. There appears to be no complete census of Canadian stamp dealers, although McGowan [4] did publish a list, based on a number of personal accounts and reference sources, of 37 dealers in Newfoundland.

A few of the dealers whose envelopes and other materials would deserve collection and detailed studies include K Bileski of Winnipeg, Cartier Stamp Co of Montreal, Emily King of Halifax, and JN Sissons of Toronto. Marks Stamp Co of Toronto had a particularly varied history of covers and wrappers encompassing three different addresses, printed matter for their newsletters, post cards with advertising material, registered mail both within and outside of Canada, and regular business correspondence. A well-travelled and much-marked cover is shown as Figure 7.



Figure 7. Marks Stamp Co. registered cover from 1916 with 10 cents total postage made up of #53, 68, 78, and 87 with rubber stamps including “Returned to Writer,” “Registered” (two types), “Passed Free of Duty,” “Sender Notified/ Oct. 18, 1916”, and “Second Notice/ Oct. 19, 1916”, and three different registration numbers. Backstamps include Toronto on Oct. 11 and Oct. 24, Boston on Oct. 13, and Lawrence, Mass. on Oct. 13 and 23.

8. Government

Government participation in philately began gradually with Canada Post’s production and distribution of FDCs through its Philatelic Section. Melvin Baron and Stan Lum documented some of the early material prepared by TR Legault of the Post Office Department beginning in the mid-1920s in their sixteen-part series under the general title,

“First Day Covers of the Classic Issues of Canada,” which appeared in *BNA Topics* from 1992 to 1997. The Department generated uncacheted FDCs such as the one shown in Figure 8. It began recording the number of FDCs for each issue in 1949, then began producing cacheted FDCs in 1971 followed later by a variety of products intended to attract purchases by stamp collectors. The earlier material produced by the Post Office Department is valued by collectors and philatelists, and generally obtains good prices. The later material is less valued because of its abundance.



Figure 8. FDC from the Philatelic Section of the Post Office Department to Havana, Cuba for No. 208-209 issued on 1 July 1934 and postmarked with SON cancellations.

9. Organizations

A plethora of clubs and societies exist in Canada to further the interests and goals of stamp collectors and philatelists, from smaller local or specialized organizations to larger national bodies. Over the years, they have produced a substantial number of souvenir covers and cards as well as FDC cachets, all of which are collectible items. Figure 9 shows a souvenir sheet distributed by the Westmount Stamp Club in Quebec in 1944.

It shows four panels highlighting some key numbers related to the club’s activities. Figure 10 announces to “The Householder” a change in the household letter rate. Printed by the Canadian Philatelic Society, the text traces changes in the rate from ½ cent to 1-½ cents over the years, and uses a ½ cent stamp from the Quebec Tercentenary issue of 1908 (#96) along with a current stamp from 1950 (#289) to illustrate the theme of the cover.

Covers and souvenirs produced by stamp organizations tend to be readily available and inexpensive given that they focus on a small audience consisting primarily of members. They have been subjected to some philatelic study, such as Bruce Perkins’ discussion of the cachets produced by the Ottawa Philatelic Society [5].

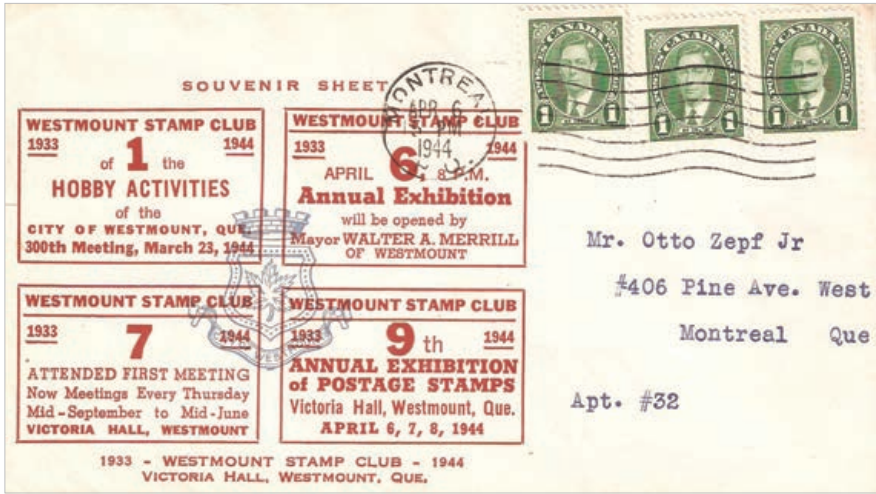


Figure 9. Westmount Stamp Club souvenir sheet with 3 x #231, postmarked with a Montreal machine cancellation on 6 April 1944 addressed to a Montreal resident.

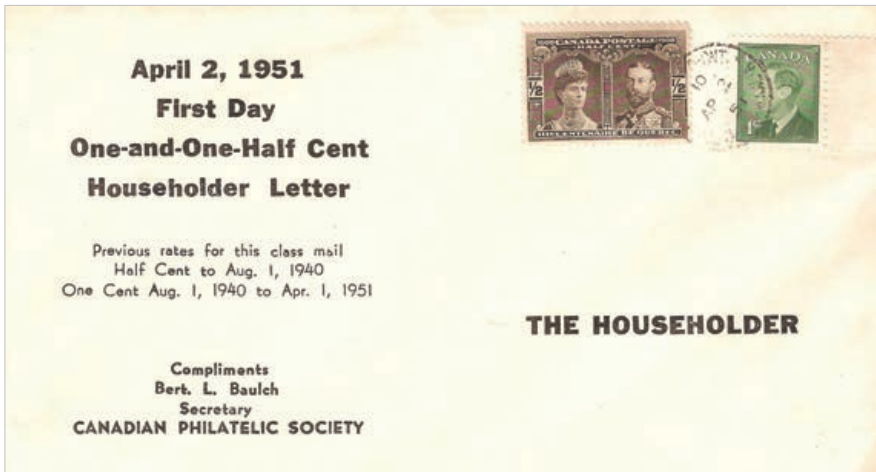


Figure 10. Canadian Philatelic Society “householder” rate change announcement cover postmarked with a Toronto CDS cancellation dated 2 April 1951.

10. Exhibitions

Philatelic exhibitions bring together all the major elements of philately, including collectors, exhibitors, dealers, government representatives, and organizations as well as casual observers. Philatelic material associated with exhibitions includes souvenir covers and business correspondence. An example of the latter is shown here as Figure 11. It is a post

card from the Third Canadian Philatelic Exhibition described earlier and was mailed some two months prior to the event to a stamp company in Boston as a “last call” to submit advertising material for the exhibition program. For the most part, material related to philatelic exhibitions tends to have a limited audience and modest prices.



Figure 11. Postcard to The Hub Postage Stamp Co. in Boston, Mass. calling for material for publication in the Third Canadian Philatelic Exhibition catalogue, with Montreal slogan cancellation T270 dated 21 August 1925.

Conclusions

The two general categories noted herein, along with the ten sub-categories, should not be considered definitive but rather indicative of what an outline of a philately of Canadian philately might look. Other philatelists would undoubtedly have different perspectives, and I hope they will present their viewpoints. The main point, however, is that the field of philately does indeed have its own philately worthy of further examination and analysis. Some sub-fields, such as dealers and organizations, will likely prove to have greater content than others such as souvenir sheets and maximum cards, but this can only be confirmed through collection and study. Richardson’s [1] notion that specialization was the basis for building the field applies to the development of this sub-field just as it does to others.

References

- [1] Ed Richardson, *Canada--BNA Philately (an Outline)*, BNAPS, 1981.
- [2] John Burnett, Gray Scrimgeour, and Victor Willson, *Canadian Philately – An Outline*, BNAPS, 2008.
- [3] Cecil C Coutts, *Slogan Postmarks of Canada*, Third Edition. Agassiz, BC, Agassiz-Harrison Printers & Stationers Ltd., 2007.
- [4] George McGowan, “Newfoundland Stamp Dealers” *The Newfie Newsletter of the Newfoundland Study Group of BNAPS*. No 88 (May-June 2001), p.6.
- [5] Bruce Perkins, “Ottawa Philatelic Society FDCs” *First Days*, Vol.38, No.6 (September 1993), pp. 476-477.

The Kingston B2S hammer: Unusual numeral indicia

Donald J Ecobichon

ERRORS are commonly found in CDS and Squared Circle cancellations whenever the letters and numbers must be inserted manually as “slugs” into the appropriate slots in the hammer. It is easy to place these upside down or backwards, giving rise to aberrant or unusual indicia. Examples are found among many RPO cancels, and there is the famous inverted year in the Rat Portage squared-circle cancel, the “64” rather than “94”, which mistake continued from April to November 1894 before someone spotted it [1]. In developing a collection of early Kingston, Ontario cancels, I encountered an interesting anomaly. On 31 May 1842, a new, double, broken-circle hammer (B2S, 29-mm diameter) was proofed and shipped to Kingston. It is known used from October 1842 until August 1857 [2]. The earliest-recorded date of use is 11 October 1842 [2]. Some time between FE 9/1844 (see Figure 1a) and AP 24/1844, a numeral “4” slug for that particular hammer was lost or misplaced, and someone substituted another slug. While the replacement slug fit the year slot, the number was smaller and was displaced slightly lower and to the right in the third position of the year (Figure 1b).

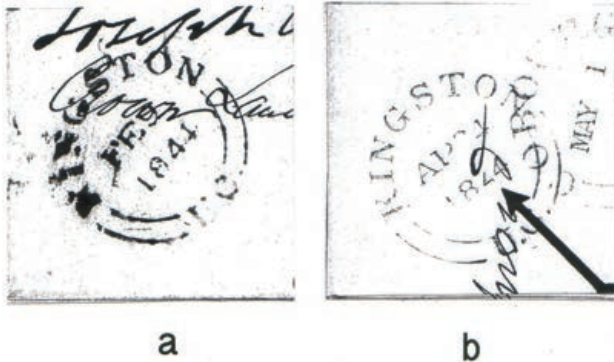


Figure 1. Early 1844 Kingston cancellations showing original and replacement “4”.

The dimensions of the letters and numerals for the B2S hammer are 3.0 mm (height) and 2.5 mm (width). The height and width of this abnormal “4” are both 2.0 mm, although the foot and tail of this “4” appear to be worn down, leaving a poor ink impression. This aberrant “4” persisted throughout the 1840s, occurring always in the same position every year until 1850 (Figure 2). This smaller “4” reappeared in 1854, in the last position of the year line. Examples of cancels early in 1854 are shown in Figure 3, but I have been unable to locate a late-in-the-year cancel to confirm the continued use of this “4”.

Keywords & phrases: Kingston, postal markings, indicia

Has anyone seen an example from OC/1854 or DE/1854? An in-depth examination of a stock of Frontenac County and Kingston letters of this period has not been productive.

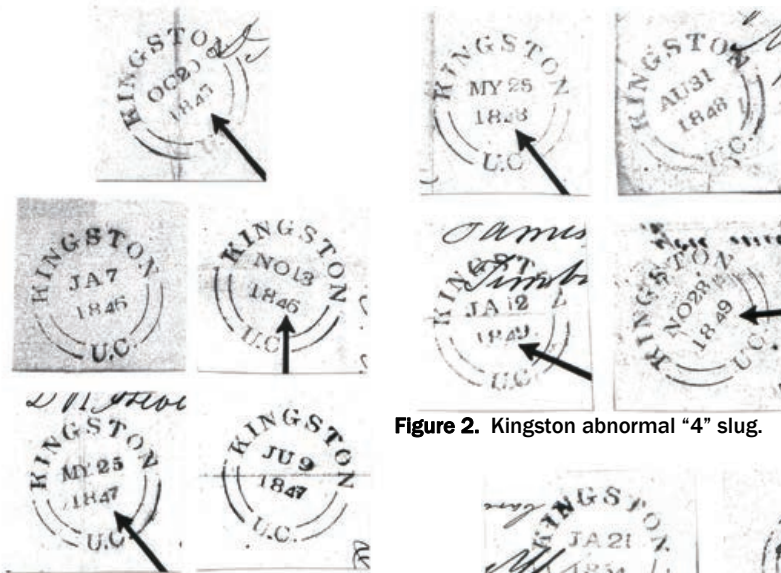


Figure 2. Kingston abnormal “4” slug.

Where did this small “4” come from? It was not something “on hand” since the hammer used between 1830 and 1842 (CDS, 31-mm diameter) had larger letters and numerals (3.5 mm high, 3.0 mm wide). It was not from the B2S hammer since use from 1842 until early 1844 showed a normal-sized “4” in cancels (Figure 1a).

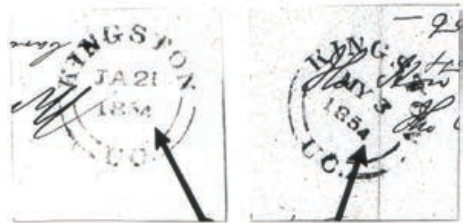


Figure 3. Kingston 1854 cancels.

Was it a locally manufactured replacement? This is possible since, while the slug fits the dimensions for that slot, the number is not aligned with the others. If the slug was loose, one would expect variations to be seen in the position of the number in cancels. The aberrant “4” appears to be worn even when used as early as AP/1844 (Figure 1b).

Acknowledgements

My thanks to Hank Narbonne of Greenwood Stamps, who allowed me to troll through his stock to confirm the constant use of this anomaly.

References

- [1] GF Hansen, “A Postal History of Rat Portage, Keewatin, with some reference to the Province of Keewatin, its own postal and railway history 1876–1886”, *BNA Topics* Vol. 38 No. 2, (1981), pp. 43–49.
- [2] WB Graham, “Ontario Broken Circles”, *Postal History Society of Canada*, 1999.



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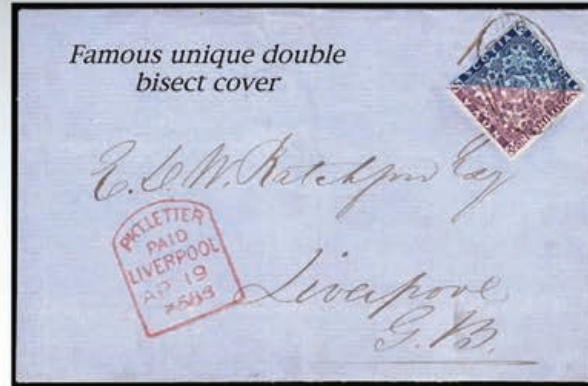
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ADDENDUM III—A 5¢ Beaver fake!

Kenneth A Kershaw

BECAUSE of reservations about its authenticity, I was recently asked to help determine whether a 5¢ Beaver stamp with a re-entry, on cover, was or was not genuine.

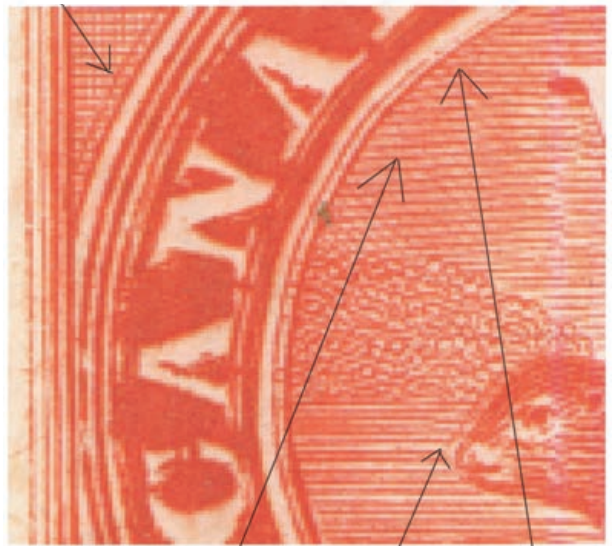
As a result, it is now evident that there is—or has been in the past—someone out there with considerable artistic talents, adding **superb, and DIFFERENT**, re-entries to used 5¢ Beaver stamps. They are **so good** I was myself fully deceived when I was preparing my books on the 5¢ Beaver [1]. In my introduction to the major section on recorded varieties and re-entries, I listed three different re-entered stamps from “unknown” plate positions, each of which I compared with position #28, the well-known and well-documented “major” 5¢ Beaver re-entry. It appears now that these three re-entries, and the new one being discussed here, are all the work of our faker.

Closer examination reveals that these re-entries lack a few of the critical **patterns** in the detailed doubling. This becomes evident when the questionable stamp is contrasted carefully with an original plate proof version of position #28. These plate proof scans, which formed the basis of my original study, offer a classic determinate of all the patterns of both the varieties and the re-entries of the 5¢ Beaver.

In my earlier work on the 5¢ Beaver, I never suspected such reprehensible behaviour might be demonstrated in Canadian philately! The immediate “dead giveaway” in the fakes is the complete lack of doubling at the Beaver’s nose, always present in a real position #28 stamp. Once fakery is recognized as a possibility, this lack of doubling at the nose becomes startlingly evident. In addition to this lack of doubling at the Beaver’s nose, a corresponding lack of doubling of the neat line that defines the limits of the upper and lower left-hand spandrels also then becomes extremely obvious.

Figure 1 (right) shows the “real” stamp and Figure 2 (opposite page) shows the fake.

Figure 1. The “real” Position #28



Neat Line doubled

Faint doubling

Beaver's nose

Real doubling fades gently away and narrows distinctly

Keywords & phrases: 5¢ Beaver, re-entry, fake

The style of the fakery appears so similar that I have few doubts that all the items, (now four), are the work of one person. It certainly raises the question: How prolific has this person been, i.e., how many faked re-entries are out there undetected?

It is thus recommended that collectors who have examples of the 5¢ Beaver stamp with an extensive re-entry pattern check their authenticity. Position 28, where the re-entry is very extensive, offers, by far, the best “type” of comparative image. It is ideal for such a comparison because virtually the whole of this position was re-entered.

Reference

- [1] Ken A Kershaw, *The Five Cent Beaver I. The Plate Proofs of States 10–11 and The Five Cent Beaver II. Plating the More Notable Varieties and Re-entries*, BNAPS, 2007.

No doubling Doubling ceases abruptly and does not narrow



Figure 2. The fake Position 28.



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“B” Force—Bermuda

Hendrik Burgers This is the tenth in a series devoted to Canadian military philately. Each column will be from one to five pages long, focusing on a single subject. It will appear as often as material is available. If you have an interesting military story, why don't you tell it here?

DURING the Second World War, Canadian forces served in many locations. Some of these were special forces stationed in locations where a Military Post Office operated. For instance, most *Topics* readers will know of “W” Force in Newfoundland (CAPO 1 to 5), “G” Force in Labrador (CAPO 10), or the force sent to the Aleutians and Kiska (CAPO 51). However, a number of units were sent outside North America, and most of these had no military postal arrangements. Consequently, they had to rely on the civilian mails. One of these was “B” Force, which served in Bermuda.

There was a precedent: Canada had provided military units for Bermuda during the First World War [1]: the Royal Canadian Regiment (RCR) (September 1914–August 1915), which was relieved by the 38th Battalion Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) (Royal Ottawa) when the RCR departed for England to join the 7th Brigade. The 38th, in turn, left for France on 30 May 1916 to join the 12th Brigade. The last Canadian unit to serve in Bermuda was the 163rd Battalion, which left for France by the end of 1916 [2].



Figure 1. “A” Company of the Winnipeg Grenadiers on parade in Bermuda.

In May 1940, the British government asked the Canadian government to send Canadian troops to the West Indies. On 1 June 1940, one company of the Winnipeg Grenadiers (about 100 strong) was ordered to Bermuda, where it relieved a company of the King's Shropshire Light Infantry [2]. They performed ship guard duties there, while the main body of the regiment was sent to Jamaica.

The Bermuda detachment was there for 2½ months, boarding ships to check manifests and ships' crews.

Keywords & phrases: Second World War, Bermuda, “B” Force, Military mail

On 27 August, it was relieved by British troops [3]. The detachment was then sent to join the rest of the regiment in Jamaica, arriving on 31 August. They stayed there for a year guarding POW camps, in addition to regular garrison duties. The unit was recalled to Canada on 27 August 1941, because it had been decided to send one battalion of the Winnipeg Grenadiers and one of the Royal Rifles of Canada to Hong Kong—but that’s a story for another article.

Toward the end of 1941, the British government again asked Canada to provide a company-size force for Bermuda. At first (on 7 January 1942), the Cabinet War Committee agreed to send a company of the battalion already in Jamaica (by then the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders of Canada (Princess Louise’s) from Hamilton). After some reflection, this was not done, but on 4 September the War Committee approved sending troops from Canada, and a company of the Pictou Highlanders arrived in Bermuda on 12 November. Known as “B” Force, these troops remained in Bermuda until the spring of 1946, when they were relieved, as were the Canadian units serving in Jamaica and the Bahamas.

Naval presence in Bermuda

The Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) established a temporary training base in Bermuda during the latter part of World War II [4]. From 1944 to 1945, the RCN operated from Convict’s Bay, St. George’s, Bermuda, using a shore facility named HMCS Somers Isles, a former Royal Navy base. HMCS Somers Isles closed in 1945 following the end of World War II although Canada later had another base in Bermuda. Naval Radio Station (NRS, which became CFS after unification). Bermuda was a Signals Intelligence (SigInt) station, operating from 1963 to 1992 [5]. I can tell you from personal experience that there were many unhappy people when the government of the day decided to close the station.



Figure 2. An airmail letter from Stewart Reagh Moose, a soldier in “B” Force (Pictou Highlanders) to his father in Summerside, PEI, dated 31 March 1944. The return address is “B-Force, Base Post Office, Ottawa, C.A.O.S.” There is a PC 90 Censor tape at left from Examiner C/8167.

Postal arrangements

All mail to and from "B" Force was sent via civilian post as there was no military post office [6]. The surviving number of covers from "B" Force members is extremely small. One of these is shown in Figures 2 and 3.

At first, mail from Canada was shipped in by sea from the Base Post Office in Ottawa. Outgoing mail to army personnel was addressed c/o Base Post Office, while mail for naval personnel was addressed c/o Fleet Mail Office. Bermuda was not part of the Airgraph system but, in 1944, the "Mailcan" squadron flights were expanded to include Bermuda, and mail was then shipped by air [7].

Although the cover in Figure 2 is cancelled by a Hamilton, Bermuda CDS, the Special Infantry Company was actually stationed in Warwick. The 7½d franking pays the airmail rate to Canada. The addressee, John Henry Moase, was born in 1880 in Upper New Annan, PEI, and died in 1966. Stewart was born in 1902 and died in 1980. The Moase family still runs a funeral home in Summerside, PEI.



Figure 3. Reverse of Moase letter, showing the return address and the PC 90 Censor tape.

Units

The units that served in Bermuda, and their operational dates, are as follows:

Dates	Unit
13 Jun 1940–27 Aug 1940	"A" Company, Winnipeg Grenadiers
12 Nov 1942–xx 1946	Special Infantry Company (Pictou Highlanders)

“B” Force unit history

The Pictou Highlanders trace their history back some two hundred years and take pride in their participation as Seaforth Highlanders at the Plains of Abraham in 1759. In more recent years the 78th Colchester, Hants and Pictou Highlanders were gazetted in 1871. In 1910 the Battalion was recognized and renamed the 78th Pictou Highlanders Regiment. Members of this regiment formed the nucleus of the 17th Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Forces of World War I. In 1920 the Battalion was again recognized under the name of the Pictou Highlanders. In 1939 the Pictou Highlanders were mobilized and during the early days of World War II, companies of this Battalion were drafted to other units – the West Nova Scotia Regiment received a company in 1939: the North Nova Scotia Highlanders, a company in 1940: another draft supplied personnel to the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps and still another group proceeded to the Royal Canadian Artillery. In later years members of this unit were on the Canada Loan Draft. During World War II, a 2nd Battalion, Militia, was formed and supplied reinforcements for overseas battalions [8, 9].

In November 1954, the Pictou Highlanders and the North Nova Scotia Highlanders were amalgamated and renamed the 1st Battalion, the Nova Scotia Highlanders.

References and endnotes

- [1] CD Sayles, Matters Military 9. Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) in the sun, *BNA Topics*, October 2010, no 525, p. 27
- [2] <<http://www.bermuda-online.org/britarmy.htm>>
- [3] <<http://www.hkv.ca/historical/accounts/williambell/chapter1.htm> >
- [4] H.Q.S. 8962-3. H.Q.S. 8962-4, vol. 1. H.Q.S. 20-1-27, vols. 1-5
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- [6] *Canadian Military Postal Markings, 1881-1995*, WJ Bailey and ER Toop, Charles G. Firby Publications, Waterford MI, 1996
- [7] *History of the Canadian Forces Postal Service*, WO L. Dawson (Ed.), Ottawa, March 1992
- [8] <http://www.army.forces.gc.ca/1ns_highlanders/history.asp>
- [9] H.Q.S. 20-1-16, vols. 1-3. W.D., "B" Force, November 1942.

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Study group centreline

Derek Smith

THE aim of the Centreline column is to keep members of BNAPS abreast of the extensive research being carried on within each of its specialist Study Groups. The following reports were received in the three months to the end of November.

The Reporter has a bit of room this quarter. In retrospect, he can note that he has learned a ton about BNA stamps and postal history after having done the truly pleasant job of reading and reviewing Study Group newsletters over the last two years. A number of the Groups are putting their earlier newsletters on the BNAPS website—try those. When you see the connection with your interests, join the Group, for which the fees are indeed reasonable. You probably will find that you, too, sooner or later will have something to add to the accumulated knowledge already published—note how many “finds” still are being made as you go through even the most recent newsletters. There is always much to be discovered and *reported*.

British Columbia Postal History

Editor Bill Topping produced two major articles in issue #75 of the BCSG newsletter. The first studies the post offices of the Nicola Valley. Over the period 1872–1979, 21 post offices were opened: five of them are still operating. The inspiration came from a copy of an article from the *Nicola Valley Historical Quarterly*, submitted by Don Crawford. Illustrations of postal markings come from the Editor’s collection. This first of a series of articles covers five post offices: Nicola Lake, changed in 1905 to Nicola, Douglas Lake, Lower Nicola, Quilchena, and Coutlee.

Bill’s other article details the postal history of Keremeos with an abundance of reproduced covers. It was opened in 1887, in a Hudson’s Bay store adjacent to the local grist mill. After splitting into two branches and re-amalgamating, it still operates today. Mary Scott helped with this article.

Elizabethan II

Issue #110 of the *Corgi Times* notes that Bob Elias has assumed the ESG Chairmanship from Harry Machum. Major improvements to the website are discussed.

Robin Harris has obtained an uncut press panel of the Lowe-Martin Pattern #14 cutting of the Permanent™ Striped Coralroot stamp, and he has produced a diagram of all 100 positions. Bill Robertson reports having seen that cutting pattern on the \$1 and \$1.22 values.

Dr. Jim Watt suggests that the missing blues on the 47¢ Leaf (Unitrade 1878ii) may not be a printing error at all, but rather chemical doctoring—thus that it is fraudulent. He proposes a serious investigation and discussion of the subject. Various contributors added to the eight repeating flaws on the 1971 BC Centennial stamp, bringing the listed total to 11 flaws.

Richard Hautala pictures a 1981 “A” stamp used this year. Andrew Chung notes that its postal value is still worth 30¢, and that postal deficiency and fines should have amounted to 84¢ (27¢ short payment and 57¢ “fine”)!

Robin Harris discusses details of the Mental Health stamp donation campaign, and illustrates die cuttings which enable partial plating of the 10 booklet-pane stamps for the three semi-postal values. Robin also notes the very different marginal treatments accorded to recent commemorative panes of the Cupids and Home Children issues, mainly in the amount of “information” about the subject and the UPC barcodes.

King George VI

In issue #20, Donald J LeBlanc presents Part 2 of his study of the War Issue, discussing the production of the stamps. The original 1942 issue was done under one Control or Order number, #1055, with a letter following to denote each value (e.g., 1055AA for the 1¢ value). A listing of Plate Numbers for all values and illustrations of Inscription formats for the 1¢ to 8¢ are provided. Donald also shows a spectacular double fold-over on the 3¢ War Issue value.

Gary Dickinson has studied FDCs of the 1951 CAPEX Issue and provides pictures of a number of the 70 known cachets.

Eldon C Godfrey presents an illustration of an insufficiently prepaid cover to Switzerland. The Swiss assigned the postage due, but since the letter had to be re-directed, additional postage was required, and the amount due was recalculated. Gary Steele presents a short-paid cover to South Africa, interest enhanced as it bears a “Crease on the Collar” variety of the 3¢ Mufti. John Burnett displays a 1942 cover to a Canadian soldier captured in Hong Kong and detained in a Japanese POW camp. These covers are quite scarce.

Military Mail

With issue #197, Editor Dean Mario celebrates 15 years at that post. He notes that Robert Henderson presents two Christmas greeting items. One (as shown at the right) was mailed in 1944 from 21 B^{TY} Royal Canadian Artillery serving in France, Belgium, and Holland. The other showed a special cover with an enclosure from the office of Prime Minister Mackenzie King, routed *via* the Japanese Red Cross to Canadian prisoners in Japanese POW camps. Even when delivered, such covers were delayed, often by months. The Christmas dinner menu from the Officers’ Mess in Nassau, Bahamas in 1944 was submitted by Colin Pomfret.



Robert Toombs exhibits various postmarks related to the Canadian Forces support services at the 2010 Winter Olympics under Operation Podium. Jerome Jarnick reviews postal arrangements for Canadian Forces involved with DART assistance provided to Haiti after the 2010 earthquake—2,050 Canadian personnel served at Jacmel and Lèogâne as well as at Port-au-Prince. AD Hanes shows samples of 2007 mail from Operation AUGURAL-SAFARI in Sudan. Colin Pomfret submitted a photocopy of an unusual cover with two

censor stamps: Type 4 associated with the 54th Infantry Battalion, and Type 5 connected with the 4th Division with an “F.P.O. D.W.5/X/ NO 21/16” date marking.

Newfoundland

Issue #141 of the *Newfie Newsletter* features a long overdue compilation of inverted watermarks on Newfoundland stamps, from the 1931 third Publicity Issue until Confederation.

Editor Norris (Bob) Dyer continues with his exhibit study of overprints required to replace the exhausted supply of the 1¢ value of the 1897 issue. This time, he discusses “PAID ALL” hand stamps used at St. John’s as an interim measure.

Carl Munden finishes his fine series on closed small post offices, this time Pass Island, which opened as a Way Office in 1878, became a Post Office in 1891, and closed in 1974. Barry Senior reviews the use of the A9 Ayre perforator on the Sir Humphrey Gilbert issue, illustrating four items of which only one copy is known.

Jean-Claude Vasseur comments on two additions to the Balbo Crew Mail covers listing, one from Rome to Chicago, and the other from Clarenville, Nfld to Rome. This is the only known cover/(post card) dated 8 August, the day of the departure to the Azores. He updates the list crew member mailings at Clarenville and Shoal Harbour. Gregory Pope illustrates a Botwood–Halifax flight cover with a receiver-date of 5 February, 1922. All others are dated the 4th.

Perfins

Under the new editorship of Jim Graham, the Perfins Study Group has resumed its publications after a two-year hiatus, with issue #130. Jim himself has contributed three articles. The first concerns finding CMS (Consolidated Mining & Smelting) perfins on postage due stamps both off cover and on a June 1960, Trail, BC cover. There are no other company perfins on dues from any other post office. The reason? The company operated the post office in Trail, BC. A second article adds to a detailed checklist of two basic types of CPR perfin patterns used in Great Britain from 1895 up to 1975. In a third opus, Jim has updated the Tremblay checklist of CIH (Canadian International Harvester) perfins list. There are at least 3321 CIH patterns, issues, and positions, including two Newfoundland stamps with Hamilton and Regina CIH perforations.

Barry Senior reports two new finds. The first is the JB/S pattern on a 3¢ brown Admiral. It was used by JB Shur, a US company. The other is on a cover confirming pattern P16 PvS as having been used by P van Snellenberg of Vancouver.

Postal Stationery

In issue #4 of Vol. 23 of *Postal Stationery Notes*, Pierre Gauthier presents a number of additional padpost and adpost cards with Francophone advertising. (Definitions—compliments of Jean Walton—are in order. The former is an acronym for Pictorial Advertising on Postal Stationery with an illustration, the latter with text advertising only, both on stamped postal cards.) His seven illustrations include cards from charities as well as businesses, and run from the Victorian to the George V era. Pierre also shows an unmailed US postal stationery envelope to contain a CPR proxy, used between 1911 (probably) and 1916, addressed to the company’s Secretary.

Gary and Mike Sagar include Part 1 (of 2) on WWII patriotic cachets on postal stationery. This instalment deals with those made by Angus MacMillan, a stamp dealer in Ladysmith, BC, issued between 1944 and 1946, each commemorating the fifth anniversary of a major event (not necessarily involving Canadians) during the war. Of a total of 172 different cachets, only seven are known to have been used on postal stationery—all are pictured.

Robert Lemire reports on new PCF cards released since the end of June.

Railway Post Offices

Issue #210 highlights items from scrapbook pages obtained by Editor Ross Gray, which include cut-outs of markings from the Montreal and Quebec RPO that had been pasted onto the pages. Among them were 1923 CDS markings, Superintendent strikes at Montreal and Quebec, a wax seal QUEBEC & MONTREAL CPR/MC impression from *circa* 1925, a Viger Station 1927 oval as well as a 1932 CDS, and a MAIL TRANSFER AGENTS /WINDSOR STATION marking of 1927. Ross successfully removed the pasted-down items from the pages, without damage, using “Stamp Lift” fluid.

Numerous new train numbers and direction markings, ERD and LRD strikes and postal clerks’ hammers have been reported by Ross, and by Jack Brandt, Ron Barrett, Colin Lewis, Peter McCarthy, and FVH Stamps.

In Issue #211, Doug Lingard illustrates a new discovery—a figure “7” attached to, but outside, the hub of a YORKTON & SASKATOON R.P.O. /N^o 1 hammer. It was used three times on a post card with the date OC 20 / 16. It probably is a clerk roster number.

Brian Stalker shows a transcript of a letter from the Post Office Inspector’s Office in Charlottetown, which describes the handling of mail between PEI and the mainland in the 1915 era, before rail cars were loaded directly onto the ferry. The routine was to carry the mail by Postal Car to the ferry, unload the car into a special mail room on the boat, then transfer it back to an RPO. The system operated as the Charlottetown & Tignish RPO, and produced a date stamp “P.E.ISLAND R.M.C./BOAT” for the ferry leg.

Brian, Murray Smith, and Doug Lingard added many new ERD, LRD and time marks for Newfoundland & Labrador RPO strikes. Numerous Canadian RPO reports came from Peter McCarthy, Colin Lewis, Ron Barrett and Ross Gray, and again Doug Lingard. Richard Hautala reported five strikes adding to data on the CP Railway Port Arthur & Winnipeg hammers, including ERD and LRD strikes of a hammer used in 1894–1895.

Revenues

In issue #70 of the *Canadian Revenue Newsletter*, Christopher Ryan describes the new Tobacco Excise stamps (yet to be issued), with particular attention to layout and new CRA-mandated security features.

Christopher also discusses designs and formats for User-Pay Garbage Tags and Bags for a number of municipalities in Ontario, with emphasis on those used in Toronto since 2002. Finally, he has conducted extensive research into the development and issue of the Violet \$1 Three-Leaf Excise Tax stamp of 1937 featuring correspondence between the Office of the Commissioner of Excise and the printers, BABN.

John Harper sent to Christopher illustrations of a collection of unfinished “Series C” tobacco stamps in both long and short strip formats for various weights, all without serial

numbers. They came from the Chief Inspector of Customs & Excise to a Mr Sim, in trade for two pounds of sugar!

Dave Hannay has reported a proof of the Ontario Law Stamp with a missing dot after the "S" on the \$3 value. Dave also illustrates a 1915 order form of a Winnipeg dealer in wines and spirits, who offered to absorb the required war tax on his shipments of orders over \$10! Erling van Dam submitted a picture of a 5¢ Alberta Telephone Frank with a previously unreported red colour variety.



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	<p>Plating Studies on Prince Edward Island Stamps VI. The One Pence Issue—Scott #4, 2009 by Kenneth A. Kershaw. The sixth book of a series illustrating previously unknown plating varieties in the earliest stamps of Prince Edward Island. Colour. Spiral Bound, 88 pp. \$62.00</p>
	<p>Olive Oyl -- The Canada Twenty Cent 1898 Numeral Issue, 2010 by Peter Spencer. The high value of the issue receives the same careful treatment as the other four values in the Numeral series. Spiral Bound, 108 pp. \$72.00</p>
	<p>New Brunswick Postal Rates in the Pence Denominated Period 1851-1860, 2010 by Warren S. Wilkinson. Classic New Brunswick postal history of the decimal period, 1851–1860. BNAPS Exhibit Series #58. Spiral, 86 pp. Colour edition (also available in black & white at \$35.95). \$62.00</p>
	<p>Nova Scotia Postal Rates in the Pence Denominated Period 1851-1860, 2010 by Warren S. Wilkinson. Classic Nova Scotia postal history of the decimal period, 1851–1860. BNAPS Exhibit Series #59. Spiral, 106 pp. Colour edition (also available in black & white at \$36.95). \$68.00</p>
	<p>No Englishmen Need Apply, by Gordon Mallett. A detailed study of the career of Major R. W. (Walter) Hale, the Canada Post Office Department's 'flying postal inspector,' who helped develop most of the mail routes in northern Alberta and the Northwest Territories in the 1930s and early 40s. Colour edition. Spiral Bound, 160 pp. (also available in black & white at \$49.95). \$99.00</p>

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More New Titles (See website for full list)

C\$ Retail

	<p>A History of Cross-Border Postal Communication between Canada and the United States of America 1761-1875, 2010 by Sanderson, Dorothy & Montgomery, Malcolm. A full study of Canada-USA cross-border mail, based on the covers collected by the late Dorothy Sanderson and supplemented by key covers from other major collections; with rates, routes, maps, markings and source references. Colour edition. Spiral Bound, 410 pp. (also available in black & white at \$62.95). \$175.00</p>
	<p>Postal Service in the Bathurst District of Upper Canada (Upper Ottawa Valley), 2009 by R.F. (Hank) Narbonne. This exhibit of the postal history of the Bathurst District of Ontario, now the counties of Carleton, Lanark and Renfrew, won the BNAPEX 2009 Reserve Grand award, a high honour for a county/regional exhibit. BNAPS Exhibit Series #57, colour edition. Spiral, 132 pp. (also available in black & white at \$39.95). \$105.00</p>
	<p>Catalogue of Canadian Railway Cancellations and Related Railway Postmarks including Selected Waterway Postmarks, 2009 by Ross D. Gray. The much-anticipated successor to the 1982 Ludlow RPO catalogue. 8.5x11, spiral bound, 336 pp. \$66.50</p>

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The RPO Cowcatcher

NL-191 - STRAITS & N.E. COAST / NEWF'D (Ludlow N-116)—an update

Brian Stalker

WHEN Lew Ludlow undertook his Newfoundland RPO / TPO analysis 30 years ago he was aware of four strikes of this elusive TPO date-stamp; a fifth strike was reported later. Currently, I am aware of fifteen strikes on twelve dates between 27 July 1912 and 24 December 1915.

My interest was renewed after reading the *Postmaster General's Report* for 1912/13, which stated:

The Straits of Belle Isle Service was re-arranged, two Steamers being engaged, one to leave Bay of Islands on the West and the other to leave Lewisporte on the North weekly, visiting ports in White Bay and on the North East Coast of St. Barbe District, which, up to that time, had no Steamer Service.

Subsequent research revealed that, for 1912 only, the Strait of Belle Isle mail steamer *SS Home* worked jointly with *SS Duchess of Marlborough* between Humbermouth and Lewisporte. Amongst a batch of miscellaneous cuttings that I acquired from Lionel Gillam was a partial copy of a Reid Newfoundland Company Schedule for 1912, giving details of the Humbermouth–Lewisporte TPO's ports of call (Figure 1).

1912 - Humbermouth to Lewisporte			
Distances in miles			
Humbermouth	0	Pleasure Hbr	356
Lark Harbour	24	or Chimney Tickle	
Trout River	51	Cape St. Charles	364
Bonne Bay	64	Battle Harbour	374
Rocky Harbour	70	Cook's Harbour	414
Cow Head	94	Quirpon	429
Daniel's Harbour	111	St. Leonard's	444
Port Saunders	144	St. Anthony	454
Hawk's Harbour	149	Goose Cove	462
Old Port au Choix	161	Conche	495
Bartlett's Harbour	176	Englee	508
or New Ferrole		Canada Harbour	511
Brig Bay	194	Williamsport	527
Current Island	203	Big Harbour Deep	541
Flowers Cove	212	Fleur-de-Lys	565
Bonne Esperance	248	Coachman's Cove	570
Salmon Bay	251	Harbour Round	588
Isle au Bois	268	La Scie	595
Blanc Sablon	269	Tilt Cove	609
Bradore	274	Nipper's Harbour	621
Forteau	280	Little Bay	633
Lance-au-Loup	287	Little Bay Islands	640
West St. Modeste	296	Leading Ticksles	658
Red Bay	310	Fortune Harbour	673
Chateau	340	Exploits	684
Henley Harbour	342	Lewisporte	706

Figure 1. TPO Distance chart.

Keywords & phrases: RPO, Newfoundland Straits & Coast

Two steamers clearly necessitated two date-stamps; so, in the absence of any other potentially relevant strikes for 1912, I suspected there must have been two hammers of the newly introduced “STRAITS & N.E. COAST” date-stamp. I had one good strike on the picture side of a “Grenfell Mission” picture post card (Figure 2) but other strikes in my collection were partial and inadequate for hammer analysis, hence my appeal for data in Cumulative Update #4 to “Travelling Post Office Postmarks of Newfoundland & Labrador.”

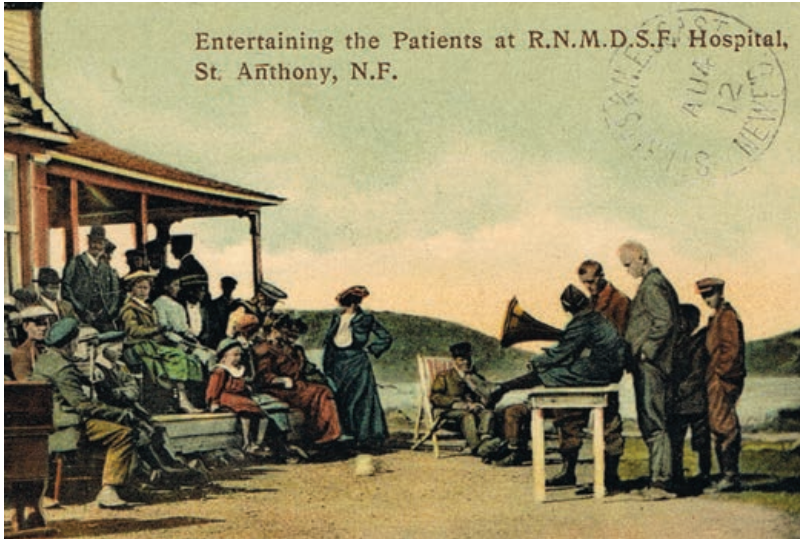


Figure 2. Grenfell Mission post card showing new “STRAITS & N.E. COAST” date-stamp.



Hammer	Proof Date	ERD	LRD	Indicia	a	b	c
NL-191.01	Unknown	1912/07/27	1912/12/03	PM*	8.5	11.8	5.2
NL-191.02	Unknown	1912/07/29	1915/12/24	blank	8.0	11.0	6.2

* In view of the small number of strikes examined, it may not be sufficient to rely upon the absence or inclusion of the indicium “PM” for hammer identification.

Hammer 1 - left
Hammer 2 - right



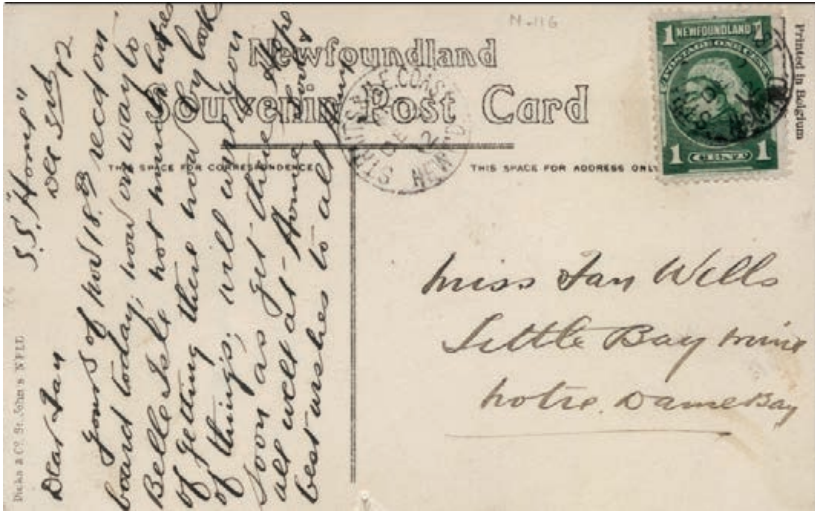


Figure 3. Post card showing Hammer 1 of STRAITS & N.E. COAST date-stamp used on *SS Home*. (Courtesy Bill Walton)

Bill Walton provided a superb post card (Figure 3), which identified that Hammer 1 was used on *SS Home* during 1912. Thus, for 1912, it is known that Hammer 1 was used by Mail Officer Jacob Poole on *SS Home* and, by inference, Hammer 2 was used on *SS Duchess of Marlborough*. John Collins was her Mail Officer during 1913, but it has not yet been established if he was in the post during 1912. Interestingly, circa 15 July–10 August, which includes the earliest-recorded date, Jacob Poole was temporarily assigned to *SS Glencoe* on the South Coast TPO, replacing John Dunphy, who had been suspended from duty pending investigation of drunkenness and neglect of duty, behaviour for which he was later dismissed. It may be that *Home*'s purser acted as Mail Officer during Poole's absence.

SS Home's 1912 season ended in mid-January 1913, so Hammer 1 strikes might exist up until then. *Home* was reported as having difficulty negotiating a passage through ice in the Bay of Islands on January 10/11; she would then have returned to St. John's along the south coast route.

For completeness, a list of all dated strikes known to me is as follows:-

Hammer 1	Hammer 2	Unidentified
1912/07/27	1912/07/29	1912/07/29*
1912/08/01	1912/08/04	
1912/08/31	1912/10/14	
1912/12/03		
		1913/05/29*
	1915/06/10	1915/10/09*
	1915/12/24	

*Strikes recorded by Ludlow. He makes no mention of any indicium, so all three strikes are likely to be from Hammer 2.

After the navigation season of 1912, the Straits & NE Coast service was abandoned, prompting the question “Where were the Straits & NE Coast hammers used from 1913 up to close of navigation at the end of 1915?”

Few covers and post cards from the Great War period appear to have survived; so, faced with a lack of relevant postal material, we move from substantiated evidence to the realm of hypothesis and speculation.

Hammer 1: No positively identified strikes of Hammer 1 are known after 1912; perhaps it was withdrawn when *Home* returned to St. John’s in mid-January 1913. She spent 1913–15 on a new Green Bay TPO (Notre Dame Bay North) service. A “GREEN BAY T.P.O.” hammer (NL-129) was proofed in July 1913 but is not recorded in use until June 1914. In the meantime, one of the “NOTRE DAME BAY T.P.O.” hammers (NL-147.01/.02) was probably used early in the season, followed by “NOTRE DAME BAY NORTH” (NL-149) later in 1913. Incidentally, “GREEN BAY T.P.O.” and “NOTRE DAME BAY NORTH” date-stamp strikes are even more elusive than the “STRAITS & N.E. COAST” hammers.

Having discounted *SS Home* from further consideration for the 1913–15 seasons, we consider the separate Strait of Belle Isle and North East Coast TPOs.

Strait of Belle Isle: *SS Meigle* took up the pre-1912 Humbermouth–Battle Harbour Straits TPO route for 1913–15 and the early months of the 1916 season, but it is not known which date-stamp was used by her Mail Officer, John T Evans. A post card written on *Meigle* during 1913 is without any TPO postmark, and I have not seen any TPO markings for that route from any of those years. Hammer 1 of the “STRAITS T.P.O.” (NL-190.01) has a latest-recorded date of 5 June 1916, but I am not aware of any other strikes dated after 28 May 1911. It seems, however, that it might have been used on *Meigle* during the period 1913–16. **(Readers: please advise of NL-190.01 strikes after 28 May 1911).**

Hammer 2 and the North East Coast: For 1913 *Duchess of Marlborough* took up a new “White Bay” service operating between St. John’s and Cape Norman. An “N.E. COAST - T.P.O.” date-stamp (NL-144) proofed in July 1913 has yet to be recorded in use, so perhaps Mail Officer John Collins used “STRAITS & N.E. COAST” Hammer 2? Only one strike has been reported from 1913, MY 29 13, pre-dating the new “N.E. COAST” hammer, and no firm conclusion can be drawn. At some point in 1913, *Duchess of Marlborough* was lost and she was replaced by *SS Fogota*.

No strikes of the “STRAITS & N.E. COAST” hammers are recorded from 1914. *Fogota* left St. John’s on 9 May 1914, the first north-bound coastal boat of the season. By mid-July she had been replaced on the White Bay & NE Coast TPO by *SS Sagona*.

On 31 May 1915 the *Newfoundland Executive* noted “*SS Earl of Devon to be accepted for the service on the NE Coast, making two trips a month, subsidy \$850 per trip. Steamer to leave St John’s on Wednesday in alternate weeks with the Coastal Company (Bowring Brothers’ SS Prospero on the Coastal North TPO). It being a fortnightly instead of a ten day service, additional ports to be called at as may be arranged.*” It seems likely that “STRAITS & N.E. COAST” Hammer 2 was used on *SS Earl of Devon* during 1915.

This concludes (for now) the review of NL-191, “STRAITS & N.E. COAST”, confirming that two hammers were produced and used. Speculative suggestions concerning

their use after 1912 illustrates the fascinating challenge of studying Newfoundland & Labrador's Travelling Post Offices. A "definitive" postal history of the twentieth century is unlikely ever to be produced ... in the meantime I continue searching and speculating!

Please provide feedback and comments by e-mail to <brianstalker63@sky.com> or by regular mail addressed to 7 Larch Close, Heathfield, East Sussex UK TN21 8YW.

Acknowledgement

Thanks to Messrs Albert Govier, Kevin O'Reilly, and Bill Walton for their input, which enabled me to undertake this analysis.

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Mail mystery solved after 111 years

Cecil C Counts

YOU are invited to refer to *BNA Topics*, Vol. 51, No. 3, Whole No. 460, Third Quarter 1994. Starting at page 47 is a story about mail lost in the Fraser River in 1899. The cover (Figure 1) was fished out of the river and forwarded from Vancouver to the intended addressee in Connecticut, a Miss Lobdell. That water-soaked cover eventually ended up in the hands of a Seattle resident. The envelope did not carry a return address or an original dispatch postal marking. The sender at this stage remained a mystery. End of story—or so it seemed!

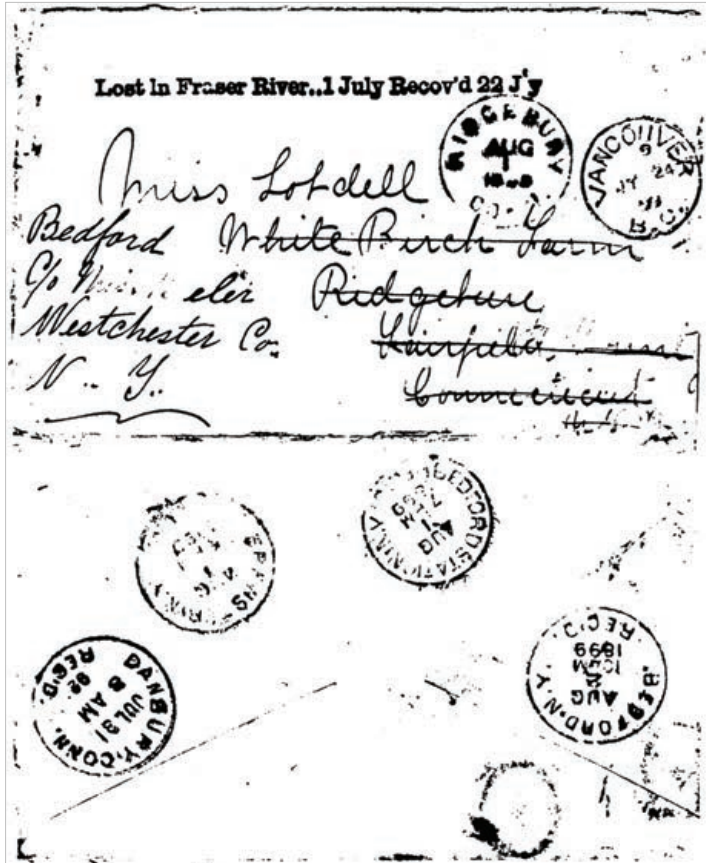


Figure 1. 1899 letter recovered from Fraser River and delivered to addressee.

Keywords & phrases: Fraser River, interrupted mail



Figure 2. The 1905 Higginson mourning cover that led to a resolution of the mystery.

Fast forward to May 2010. The 1905 mourning cover shown in Figure 2, mailed in Vancouver to Mr. JA Higginson of Sardis, BC, came into my possession at an Abbotsford Stamp Club meeting. Seeking further information about it, I set off for Sardis to interview living relatives of Higginson. I met first with Heather and Don Forbes, who live in the original Higginson house, built in 1905. Heather is a Higginson relative. She viewed the Higginson cover and advised that letters and other papers from her grandmother Jessie (DeWolf) Higginson were in the Chilliwack Archives. She also said that a piece of that archival material had been in the Fraser River. For more information, she suggested that I visit her dad, Archie Barr—87 years young—who lived quite close.

I arranged to meet with Archie another day and brought a copy of the Lobdell cover with me. I first showed Archie the 1905 mourning cover. He immediately advised that the sender's handwriting was that of Jessie DeWolf, his (future) mother-in-law. Jessie was a Vancouver resident at the time, who married JA Higginson in 1905: All well and good. Archie could sense my keen interest in postal history and our discussion eventually got around to the DeWolf *fonds*, which included an old paper that he said was fished out of the Fraser River. On hearing this, my curiosity was naturally piqued, but with no thought that *this* paper was connected to the Lobdell cover. I then presented the copy of that cover. Archie took one look at it and calmly said, "Yes, that is also Jessie's writing." Archie was also familiar with the Lobdell name. Well, the silence was deafening! Was I dreaming? What were the odds of connecting the Lobdell cover with Jessie DeWolf through the seemingly unrelated mourning cover?

I wasted no time getting over to the Archives, which holds eighteen of Jessie's files[1]. One by one, I searched them for the mystery correspondence. Yes, there it was—a single-page question-and-answer lesson, written on both sides, with Jessie's name at the top and

dated 29 June 1899. The document had indeed been soaked at one time—water stains were quite evident. Jessie was taking correspondence courses for a Kindergarten Teaching Certificate from Miss Lobdell’s School in Connecticut.

After being removed from the river, the envelope with the lesson enclosed did reach Miss Lobdell, who marked the paper and returned it to Jessie in a separate cover, postmarked Bedford, NY,? August 1899. The following notation in Lobdell’s hand was placed on the document, “This paper reached me after lying three weeks in the Fraser River. The questions were unreadable, this ink stood the test well, but the red ran!! This paper is as good as all the others were.” Signed JC Lobdell, August 1899.

I believe there was only one Queen Victoria two-cent postage stamp on the Lobdell cover, and that it probably received a sock-on-the-nose cancellation at the Chilliwack Post Office. Lobdell was visiting relatives in Bedford, NY during July/August, which is why the envelope was redirected. And, now, you know the rest of the story!

Reference

[1] Chilliwack Archives, ADD MSS 636, Files 1-18.

Self-adhesive stamps: How are they made? And a rare find

Arnold Janson

THIS article on self-adhesive stamps and how they are printed is presented as a contribution to philatelic knowledge. A rare “non-postal issue” find is presented that helps illustrate the printing procedure.



Mint copies of Canada Sc# 1878, the 47¢ Maple Leaf self-adhesive coil stamp have been found in the unusual format shown above:

- **Horizontal** diecut strip of three stamps (should have been issued as vertical coil)
- **Without** the pressure sensitive adhesive
- **With** the PVA water-soluble release agent

Keywords & phrases: Self-adhesive stamps, production process error

BNA Topics, Volume 68, Number 1, January–March 2011

The best way to illustrate how these came to exist is to describe the process of how self-adhesive stamps are made. A finished stamp requires four elements:

- (1) Stamp paper.
- (2) A water-soluble “release agent” applied to the back of the paper, which permits removal of used stamps from an envelope; on # 1878 it is a PVA gum.
- (3) Pressure-sensitive adhesive to attach the stamp to an envelope without water being required.
- (4) Silicone-coated backing paper, which serves as the carrier for the stamp.

The sequence of events to produce this four-layer construction is:

- (1) The PVA “release agent” is applied to one side of the stamp paper.
- (2) A thin layer of pressure-sensitive adhesive, an aqueous emulsion, is applied to the surface of the silicone-coated backing paper, which is then fed into an oven to remove the water, leaving only the adhesive on the backing paper.
- (3) The stamp paper with the release agent is laminated to the cured adhesive on the backing paper, producing the final “four-layer” product.
- (4) The stamp image is printed on top of the stamp paper layer.

Most pressure-sensitive stamps are printed on sheet presses with very heavy backing paper (80 lbs per ream). The printed sheets are then diecut and folded into booklets. The reverse side of the backing paper is also printed and serves as the booklet cover.

Coil stamps are produced on a lighter backing paper (40 lbs per ream) because the heavier backing cannot be rolled into tight reels. These 47¢ coil stamps were printed by Ashton-Potter in late 2000 or early 2001 on their Web Offset Litho press (which has an Intaglio print station that was not used on this stamp). These stamps were printed in a web (or roll) format because they were destined for use as coil stamps. The pressure-sensitive adhesive was applied to the backing paper, and the final diecutting was done at Ashton-Potter’s Buffalo, NY facility. The printing of the stamp image was also done at Ashton-Potter’s Buffalo, NY facility.

Ashton-Potter produced these stamps on a web that was approximately 20" wide. Five strips of three stamps each were printed across the web, which was then slit into five smaller webs, each approximately 3.5" wide. The narrower 3.5" webs would then be diecut to create the perforations, as shown in the photo in Figure 1 above, after which the excess on the sides of these rolls would be removed and the rolls slit to produce three coil strips, each one stamp wide by 100 stamps long, ready for the consumer.

Three examples are known to exist. These are rare because: (a) They have the PVA water-soluble release agent but are missing the pressure-sensitive adhesive. During the manufacturing process, during step (3) described above (20" wide web), the pressure-sensitive adhesive was not applied correctly, and some localized areas of the backing paper did not receive the adhesive. When the 20" wide roll exited the final lamination step of the four-layer process, all appeared to be correct, but as the 20" wide roll was cut into five strips of three stamps and then diecut, the smaller diecut pieces that did not have pressure-sensitive adhesive to hold them onto the backing paper fell off the web. (b) They are in horizontal strips of three instead of single stamps in a vertical strip. The strip of three shown here has been certified as genuine by the VG Greene Philatelic Research Foundation, via certificate 14351, issued 14 February 2007.

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New issues

William J F Wilson

Leviathan

THE largest denomination stamp ever issued by Canada Post features the largest animal ever known to have lived on Earth, engraved on the largest Canadian stamp ever printed. At slightly under 13×5 cm, the \$10 Blue Whale definitive is the same height and twice the length of the previous record-holders, the 1997 \$8 Grizzly Bear and the 2003 \$5 Moose. The large format (Figure 1) shows off the work of master engraver and Vice-President of Design for Canada Post, Jorge Peral, who has engraved almost all of the high-value Canadian Wildlife definitives (Martin Mörck engraved the \$2 Polar Bear stamp of 1998) and many other Canadian stamps.



Figure 1.

Reaching a length up to 33 m and a mass up to 180 tonnes, the Blue Whale is the largest animal known (with certainty) to have ever lived on Earth. For comparison, the largest dinosaur yet discovered appears to be the sauropod *Argentinosaurus*. Although known only from several vertebrae and tibiae, comparisons with complete skeletons of smaller sauropods suggest a length in the range of 22–30 m and a mass in the range of 60–90 tonnes.

In Canada Post's *Details*, Vol XIX, No 4, Alain Leduc, Manager of Stamp Design and Production, comments: "Due to the stamp's high value, we wanted to introduce as many security features as possible in order to prevent fraud." Most of these security features are being kept secret, but a few can be relatively easily seen. The dark lines in the water near



Figure 2a.



Figure 2b.

the head and tail of the whale consist of continuous repetitions of the generic and specific names of the Blue Whale, *Balaenoptera musculus*, in microtype that can be produced only by intaglio. (One of the lines leads off with the copyright symbol and year.) The same lines are repeated, but shifted upward, printed in tagging inks that can be seen only with a UV light. The same is true of a UV image of a diver swimming that appears in the top centre of the stamp. The *Details* article mentions a UV cluster of krill, but unless this refers to the UV microtype lines, I don't see the cluster on my stamps. Another probable security feature is the rather sparkly "\$10" used for the value. It looks red when illuminated and viewed from directly above (Figure 2a), but gold when illuminated and/or viewed at an angle (Figure 2b).

Table 1. 2010 Commemorative and definitive stamps

Stamp	Blue Whale	Beneficial Insects	Madonna & Child	Ornaments
Value	\$10.00	4¢, 6¢, 7¢, 8¢, 9¢	P	P, \$1.00, \$1.70
Issued	04 October	19 October	01 November	01 November
Printer	CBN	CBN	L-M	L-M
Pane	2	Sh: 50 SS: 5 s-t	Bk: 12	P: Bk 12 \$1, \$1.70: Bk 6 SS: 3 s-t
Paper	C	C	C	C
Process	4CL, silkscreen & intaglio	5CL	7CL + varnish	Bk: 5CL+varnish SS: 8CL+varnish
Qty (million)	1.5	Sh: continuous SS: 0.4	8.5	P: 23 \$1, \$1.70: 3.72 SS: 0.2
Tag	G4S	none	G4S	G4S
Gum	PVA	PVA	P-S	Bk: P-S SS: PVA
Size, mm	128 × 48.7†	20 × 24	24.75 × 32.25	32 × 32
Perf	12.5 × 13.1	13.0 × 13.3	Simulated	Bk: Simulated SS: 12.5 × 12.5
Teeth	80 × 32	13 × 16	Simulated	Bk: Simulated SS: 20 × 20

† Listed by Canada Post as 128 mm × 49 mm.

ABBREVIATIONS used in Table 1 are as follows: *number*CL = (*number of colours*) colour lithography; C = Tullis Russell Coatings (coated paper); G4S = general tagging (four sides); CBN = Canadian Bank Note Company; L-M = Lowe-Martin; s-t = se-tenant; P = permanently equal to the domestic rate; P-S = pressure-sensitive; PVA = polyvinyl alcohol; Sh = sheet stamps; Bk = booklet; SS = souvenir sheet.

The information in the table is from the Canada Post website:

<<http://www.canadapost.ca/cpo/mc/personal/collecting/stamps/index.jsf>>

and from philatelic inscriptions on the stamps. Where the number of lithographic colour dots on the stamp selvage differs from that published by Canada Post, the selvage is taken as correct. Stamp size, perforations and number of teeth are my own measurements, and are given as (HORIZONTAL) × (VERTICAL).

Private use of Official postage stamps

Bill Pekonen

MOST collectors are aware of Official postage stamps, those overprinted or perfined “OHMS” or overprinted “G”, which were issued to many government departments and offices. Their purpose was to prevent the use by employees of government-purchased postage stamps on private mail.

At first, as a further control measure, Official stamps were not sold to the public nor even to stamp collectors. This rule was relaxed during the late 1930s, when plate block comers were sold to stamp dealers and collectors by the Canada Post Office Philatelic Branch, but only on condition that the stamps could not be used on private mail.

Like every rule, there were exceptions, of which many cover collectors are unaware. Illustrated in this article are two examples of a legitimate use of the Official stamps by the public. In the 1950s, Unemployment Insurance recipients, who were required to mail a weekly report in order to claim payment, received a report form each week accompanied by

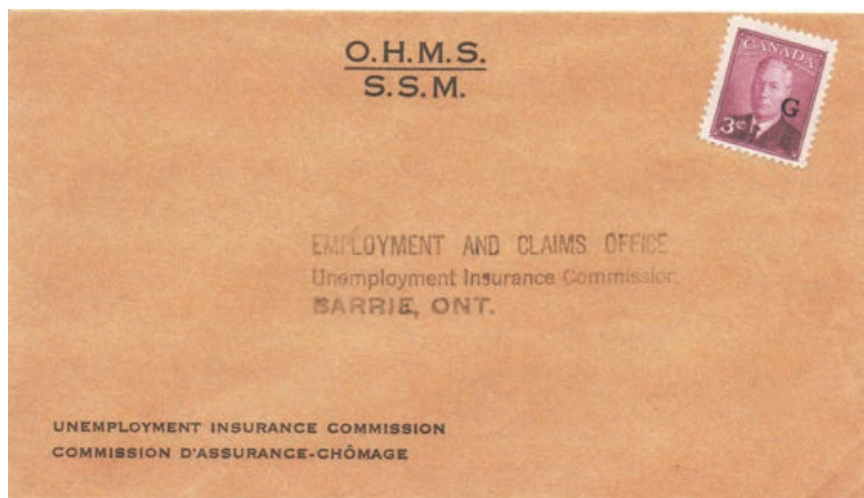


Figure 1. Unemployment Insurance report envelope sent to clients by the Barrie office.

Keywords & phrases: Unusual use of Official stamps

a pre-stamped, addressed reply envelope in which to mail back the form. These envelopes carried either a postage-meter imprint when issued by an office that had been issued a postage meter, or overprinted Official stamps for other offices.

Figure 1 above shows an envelope, addressed to the Barrie, Ontario office of the Unemployment Insurance Commission (UIC), and franked with an unused Sc #018, which would have paid the drop letter rate for a report mailed in Barrie. Even though the envelope has “O.H.M.S./S.S.M.” at the top, a stamp was required because the envelope was being mailed by an individual, not by a government office. Figure 2 shows a copy of Sc #O20, used to pay for an out-of-town report mailed back to the Hamilton office in 1954. These are legitimate examples of private use, even though on official business. The author also has other examples of UIC envelopes franked with Sc #s O36, O37, O40 and O44. Other examples of private use on official business can be found on envelopes submitting contract bids for the supply of goods and services. Very few examples of this type of private use have been seen. All are an important addition to every Official collection.

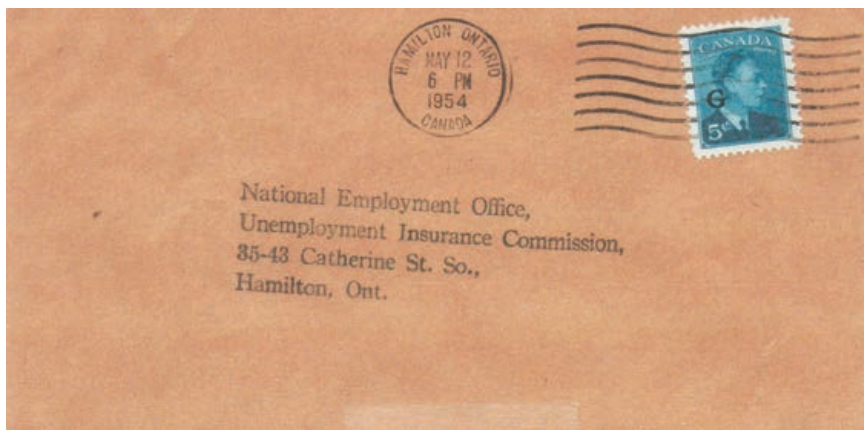


Figure 2. Unemployment Insurance report envelope returned to the Hamilton office.

Incorrect uses also exist. One example (not illustrated) is a government envelope with “G” overprint stamps, but the return information is the name of an individual and his home address. This type is very scarce and can only be identified by a private return address.

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Earliest Canada Paquebot cover?

Victor Willson

THE cover shown in Figure 1 is extraordinary in that the 5¢ Small Queen paying the UPU rate to Japan is cancelled with a Yokohama, Japan, 5 May 5 1895, circular date cancel. The Kobe May 6 receiver is shown as Figure 2. Figure 3 shows the boxed “PAQUEBOT” cancel.



Figure 1. 1895 Small Queen cover accepted as Paquebot mail at Yokohama, Japan.

At the Vienna Universal Postal Union conference in 1891, procedures for mailing letters at sea were codified [1]. Basically, letters “mailed” at sea were given to a ship’s officer to be held until the ship reached a port at which they could enter a UPU mail system. The letters were supposed to be franked with stamps of the country of registry of the ship and whose flag the ship flew, but the accepted custom seems to have evolved into use of stamps from the country of any recent port of call. Covers received from ships were to be handstamped with the word “Paquebot,” from the French for “mail boat.” Several countries used their language’s version of the word, such as “Packetboat.” Packet boats historically were skiffs or small vessels used to transport letters, small goods, and passengers between land and a ship lying offshore, when the harbour was not suitable or weather prevented landing.

Keywords & phrases: Paquebot, Small Queens

While Canadian Paquebot covers are relatively easy to find from the 1920s onward, I do not recall seeing any from the nineteenth century prior to the one shown here. The straight line “PAQUEBOT” was specific to the ship on which the letter originated, although it appears likely ship’s pursers or those charged with handling mail ordered such a handstamp from a supplier, as this appears similar to others found on both nineteenth century and later covers. A variety can be seen in articles on this topic.

The cover was probably posted aboard one of the Canadian Pacific Railway “Empress” ships: *Empress of India*, *Empress of Japan*, or *Empress of China*. These were in service as of 1891, and all continued at least until 1914, the *Japan* serving much longer (Unwin, 1999). If someone has the sailing and arrival dates for these ships, then this cover can be assigned to the ship.

Anyone else possessing paquebot covers or cards from the nineteenth century, please correspond with me at my address in *TOPICS* or <lloydwill@aol.com>.



Figure 2. Kobe receiver.

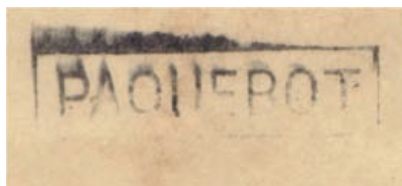


Figure .3 Yokohama Paquebot mark.

References

- [1] John Burnett, *Paquebot Covers: Mailed on the High Seas*. British North America Philatelic Society, 2006–2007. At <<http://www.bnaps.org/education/eph6.asp>>
- [2] Alec M Unwin, *Canada’s Transpacific Maritime Mails*, BNAPS Exhibit Series #17, 1999. British North America Philatelic Society.

Readers write (cont’d from p. 6)



Nova Scotia Commemorative Cancellations: During a recent trip east CR McGuire and Brain Murphy sent a postcard to the Editor postmarked with the cancellation at left. Apparently many small Nova Scotia post offices have acquired this type of postmark to mark the 250th year of British settlements in Nova Scotia.

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IN MEMORIAM —

WILLIAM G (BILL) ROBINSON OTB, FRPSC, FRPSL 1926—2010

WE regret to report that William George (Bill) Robinson passed away in Vancouver, British Columbia on 4 December 2010 at the age of 84. He is survived by his wife, Megan, their two daughters and five grandchildren. A graduate of the University of British Columbia (Civil Engineering), he worked for Parks Canada and the Department of Indian Affairs. He spent 30 years in the Canadian militia and attained the rank of Colonel.

Bill joined BNAPS in July 1973 and quickly became very active in the Society. His primary philatelic interest was in cancellations of the Railway Post Offices of Canada. Over the years he served the BNAPS RPO Study Group as Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor (1985–2000), Database Manager, and Honorary Chairman. After Lew Ludlow's stroke in April 1990, Bill also took over management of the RPO database and writing the RPO Cowcatcher column in *BNA Topics*, continuing it bi-monthly until 1994, and then quarterly until 2001. His management was critical to the publication (2009) of the *Catalogue of Canadian Railway Cancellations and Related Railway Postmarks*, edited by Ross D Gray.



His strong interest in Canadian military postal history was fed by his militia background. A charter member of the BNAPS Military Mail Study Group, he contributed often to its newsletter. His exhibit of the postal history of Canadians who served in the Anglo-Boer War was published in 1996 as the first volume in the BNAPS Exhibit Book series. BNAPS was recently able to have the updated exhibit scanned in digital colour for a new edition to be released in January 2011.

Bill served on the Board of Directors of BNAPS (1985–1988), as First Vice-President and then acting President (1989–1990), and as President (1991–1992). He belonged to many BNAPS study groups and is credited with authorship of 57 articles in *BNA Topics*. In association with Bill Topping, he edited five books on the post offices and postmarks of Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and the pre-Confederation territories from northwestern Ontario to the Pacific Ocean. Regardless of the subject, he was always willing to help a fellow philatelist with information.

Often exhibiting at BNAPEX shows, he also served on or chaired six BNAPEX juries and was on the organizing committee for BNAPEX '91 at Vancouver, BC. Bill was a member of the Order of the Beaver and a Fellow of both the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) (1986) and the Royal Philatelic Society of London (1997). He also served as an Officer of the RPSC from 1984 to 2006.

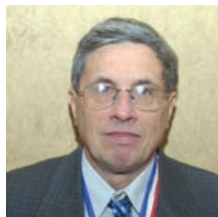
—Mike Street, with assistance from John Burnett, Ross Gray,
John Keenyside, and Garfield Portch

BNAPS business and reports

President's column

Robert Lemire <rlemire000@sympatico.ca>

BEST wishes for 2011. Yes, it is *well* into 2011 already! Preparations for the North Bay BNAPEX convention on the Labour Day weekend are well underway. An Exhibit Entry Form (along with a description of new frame limits and process for frame allocation) and the Exhibition Prospectus are enclosed in this issue of *BNA Topics*. Plan to attend this year's study-group sessions, exhibition, bourse and social events.



Time seems to pass very quickly these days. Most of us are left wondering whatever happened to all the extra leisure time that was to going be available because our new electronic devices would make work more efficient—the time that we planned to spend on our hobbies. Nevertheless, there are people such as presidents of organizations like BNAPS who will ask you to spend some more of your precious time to help the group. I am only well aware that, when I ask you to take on a task, this is cutting into a scarce resource that you already have in short supply. However, without volunteers to do the work, the organizations you enjoy may cease to exist. That said:

Help wanted: Is there a BNAPS member in the US or Canada who is a Chartered Accountant and who is willing to spend a few hours each year to help the Society?

On page 23 of this issue of *BNA Topics* there is an advertisement concerning availability of back issues of *BNA Topics* and *BNA PortraitS*. BNAPS is planning to dispose of most of its hard copies of back issues. If you need copies to fill holes in your collections, the time to obtain them is *now*. Stocks of pre-1967 *BNA Topics* are limited, but from 1968 onwards most issues are available. By mid-2011, only a limited supply will be retained. Of course, all issues of *BNA Topics* through 2005 are available on-line at the BNAPS website (Horace W. Harrison Online Library).

Leopold Beudet has now prepared a detailed plan for his Education Committee. Over the next three months, Leo and his team will be assessing the education content currently on the BNAPS website. Then, in conjunction with the webmaster, they plan to restructure and reorganize this content. Later, they will be soliciting new material. Watch for developments.

How many members realize that BNAPS still has an “Exchange Circuit” for BNA material? The Circuit has not received much attention in recent years, despite the large amount of time devoted to it by Manager Andy Ellwood. Over the last few years, as it has become easier for dealers to establish websites, and with this and the advent of eBay, there are fewer stamp shops, and dealers at shows are tending to shy away from bringing extensive stocks. However, the Exchange Circuit is another way for members to buy and sell items. The available material can be seen on the BNAPS website (BNA Circuits). In the past, the material was circulated by the Exchange Circuit Manager to members who kept what they wanted and returned the balance. While this approach is still available, it is being rapidly replaced through the use of the BNAPS website. Check it out! (Andy's contact information is on page 79 of this issue of *BNA Topics*).

From the Secretary—report date: 1 January 2011

David G Jones

(184 Larkin Dr, Nepean, ON K2J 1H9, e-mail: <shibumi.management@gmail.com>)

Membership fees

Annual membership fees are \$C 30 or equivalent in US dollars. Membership applications submitted during the second or third quarter of the year should be accompanied by 75% or 50%, respectively, of the annual fee. Applications submitted in the fourth quarter of the year should be accompanied by 25% of the annual fee plus the full fee for the coming year. Family memberships are available for 50% more than the individual membership fee. Three-year memberships can be obtained at a 10% reduction. Send application form and cheque or money order to the Secretary.

Applications for membership

After receipt of an application, the New Applicant's name and membership number are printed in the next issue of *BNA Topics*. If no objection from any other BNAPS member is received within approximately 60 days, then the applicant is listed as a New Member in the next issue of *BNA Topics*. Collecting interests of New Applicants follow the "C" at the end of the initial listing so that members can get in touch (through the Secretary) with collectors sharing similar interests.

6590 Eigil Trondsen, Nassau Bay, TX. C: Transatlantic Mail to 1875; Cunard Line. General Canada early 20th, Jubilees

6591 Stuart Packard, Bloomfield Hills, MI. C: BNA

6592 Iain Hallam, Vancouver, BC. C: Fancy cancels, ½ cent Small Queen

6593 Michael Smyth, Victoria, BC. C: Canada stamps and covers

6594 Dennis Madden, St. John's, NF. C: Newfoundland

6595 David Brown, Winchester, VA. C: Canada, Newfoundland

6596 Glen Lundeen, Calgary, AB. C: Small Queen, Western, Territorial, Newfoundland

6597 Gerald Baker, Whitby, ON. C: Not specified

6598 Peter Petrov, Winnipeg, MB. C: Newfoundland

6599 Robert Cagna, Dunbar, WV. C: USA, Canada postal stationery, postal history, postal museums

6600 Karl MacKinnon, Hinton, AB. C: Canada (specialized), West Indies

6601 Iain Stevenson, Bishops Stortford, Herts., UK. C: Revenues, BC, special deliveries, postal stationery, post office ephemera, Map Stamp

6602 Michael Graf, Toronto, ON. C: Canada used, 1859 cents issue, New Brunswick

6603 Allan Gauthier, Saskatoon, SK. C: Used Canada, re-entries

6604 Jack Heath, Markham, ON. C: Canada FDCs, Canada pre-1977, Newfoundland

6605 Evan Jenkins, Blackburn, Lancs., UK. C: QE II

99125 Morrell Stamps, P.O. Box 5241, Station B, Victoria, BC. C: Not specified

New members

All applicants 6580 to 6589 have been confirmed as full members of BNAPS.

Address changes (current town of residence is noted)

6539 Bill Bergstrom, Abingdon, MD

2144 Art Brooker, Toronto, ON

5165 John Furlong, Lakeway, TX

5240 Paul Hurtubise, Lauderdale Lakes, FL

6182 Michael Krasnovitch, Hamilton, ON

5480 FF Livermore, Cape Coral, FL

6518 Douglas Moss, Dallas, TX

4559 Gary Paul, Cornwall, ON
 4625 Rick Penko, Dallas, TX
 4400 Brian Stalker, Heathfield, East Sussex, UK
 6379 Simon Taylor-Young, London, UK
 6532 Eric Yendall, Ottawa, ON
 6164 Nick Zevos, Athens, GA

Reinstated

6465 Allan Maki

Did not renew/resigned

3092 LW Martin Jr.
 3705 EB Manchee
 4753 John Gaudio
 6049 Richard Knowles
 6201 Norbert Hobrath
 6408 John Gehrig
 6422 Brock Short
 6559 Philip Boatright

Deceased

Peter de Groot
 Marc Eisenberg
 Paul Estok
 Steve Luciuk
 Harry Machum
 William (Bill) McCann
 Allen Miller
 William (Bill) Robinson

Total active membership including new applications as of 1 January 2011 1187

Regional group rant

Jack Forbes

OVERVIEW: 2010 seems to have gone out with somewhat of a whimper relative to Regional Group meeting activity—possibly a result of the heightened involvement of many at the Victoria Exhibition and Convention, and consequent “overload.”

REMINDER: Potential new region

As discussed in this column in the previous issue of *BNA Topics*, it has been suggested that we consider removing Florida from the Dixie Beavers and setting that state up as a region of its own. There seems to be a concentration of BNAPS members there and, with a number of people from other regions spending a portion of the winter season in that area, there could well be a basis for a strong new region. Mark Isaacs has volunteered to spearhead this effort, citing a couple of local stamp shows as possible meeting places to get things rolling. Mark can be reached at: PO Box 5245, Sarasota, FL 34232.

The annual Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition, being held this year between 4 and 6 February at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, was one of the events suggested as a meeting point for those interested in this concept.

New Webmaster contact for regional group matters

Dave Bartlet <dave.bartlet@shaw.ca> has been chosen to handle Regional Group items for our website, so please send information about upcoming meetings, as well as meeting reports and photos, directly to him.

New mailing address—Jack Forbes

Please note that with the closing of my original Post Office, I have had to transfer to another location, and my new mailing address is: PO Box 38205, Dartmouth, NS B3B 1X2.

Another reminder

John Burnett reports that the **Dixie Beavers Group** hopes to hold a reorganization meeting in conjunction with the Huntsville Show (HUNPEX) this spring. Interested members should contact John directly at: <JB45855@aol.com>.

Still another reminder re Presidential visits

Our President, Robert Lemire, still hopes to visit some of the regions over the period of his term. If you would like to have Robert attend one of your meetings, you could contact him at: <rlemire000@sympatico.ca> to book a mutually appropriate time.

REGIONAL GROUP REPORTS (Note that only a brief outline of the meetings will appear in this column, and you are encouraged to check out the BNAPS website for further details. (Please remember to send me: <JAFRBS@aol.com> and our webmaster, as noted above, copies of your meeting reports.)

We have only two meeting reports for this period, both from the Golden Horseshoe Regional Group. Both appear to have been very successful, and reasonably well attended. The question is frequently raised: “How should a Regional Group function?” I thought I would use excerpts from the minutes of the November meeting of the Golden Horseshoe to illustrate some elements of a successful approach. Some practices may well work better for a region with a reasonably “tight” geographic territory, but others apply universally.

Consistency: “... there’s always a warm feeling when the Golden Horseshoe group gathers on the upper floor of the Rousseau House Restaurant in downtown Ancaster.” A regular meeting place adds to the feeling of hospitality and camaraderie, and removes doubts and questions as to “where are we meeting next time?”

BNAPS promotion: “The GHRG attended the Canadian Stamp Dealer’s Association bi-annual stamp show earlier in the month, promoting both BNAPS and BNAPEX 2011 in North Bay next 2–4 September. Thanks to Ken Lemke and Nick Poppenk for their assistance in manning the table.” New members are the lifeblood of any organization, and making sure that our group is constantly in the eye of the stamp-collecting fraternity is a great way to promote BNAPS to those who may not realize the extent of our activities.

Social interaction: “Noontime comes around rather quickly, or so it seems, and twenty-seven of us enjoyed lunch served from the excellent Rousseau House cuisine.” It’s nice to be able to inject a sense of community in our get-togethers, and what better way to do this than sitting down together for a meal?

Standard program features: “Members began sauntering in about ten o’clock and three dealers were on hand with stock.” An opportunity to buy items.

“Our **featured speaker** for the afternoon was Nick Poppenk, whose topic was “Canada’s Postal Code System”. Ho, hum, you say. Not a bit. Postal history has a future in deciphering all those little slashes you see at the front bottom of a cover, and the orange ones on the back.” A speaker, either from within the group or an invited guest, helps broaden the knowledge of those in attendance.

“The afternoon came to an end with **show-and-tell** subjects from Henk Burgers and David Hobden.” Another entertaining and informative aspect of a good meeting—collectors see the interests of other members, and all learn from the interchange. This portion of a meeting can be tailored in a variety of ways by pre-setting the topic for a given meeting—specific historic event; specific issue; covers only, etc.

Happy New Year to All—I hope 2011 provides many opportunities to embellish your collections.

Classified advertisements

RATES FOR 25 words - \$6.00 Canadian, 20¢ for each additional word. All ad copy and payments should be sent to the Advertising Manager, Hank Narbonne, 136 Morphy St., Carleton Place, ON, K7C 2B4 Canada, to be received by the fifteenth of March, June, September, or December for the next issue of BNA Topics. Ads requiring photos, cuts, logos, and other production tasks will incur charges at a nominal industry standard rate. These costs will be billed to the advertiser. Please identify the number of issues in which the ad is to appear. All payments should be made to BNAPS Ltd. at the above rates in Canadian dollars or US equivalent.

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OLD ISSUES OF BNA Topics FOR SALE: Add valuable info to your library. Will do our best to fill want lists. If on hand, issues from #1 on may be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Write to K. Wayne Smith, BNAPS Circulation Manager, 20 St. Andrews Rd. Scarborough, ON, M1P 4C4; e-mail <waynesmithtor@yahoo.ca>.

YOUR OLD UNUSED BNA Topics: Donations (pre-1975 issues only) solicited and gratefully accepted. Will pay postage, but write first. Send list of available items to: K. Wayne Smith, BNAPS Circulation Manager, 20 St. Andrews Rd. Scarborough, ON, M1P 4C4; e-mail <waynesmithtor@yahoo.ca>.

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