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BNA Topics



Whole number 534 Volume 70 Number 1



Quantity of imperforate 3¢
1917 Confederations stamps, p. 8

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Volume 70 Number 1 Whole Number 534

The Official Journal of the British North America Philatelic Society Ltd

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... continued on page 3 ...

We still need *more* articles

IN an earlier editorial (*BNA Topics*, Vol. 68, No. 2, pg. 3 (2011)), we indicated that a key facet of putting together a publication such as *BNA Topics* is the issue of balance. Although we currently have a reasonable backlog of material, for which we are *extremely* grateful, we are having a bit of a problem providing collections of articles that might appeal to a broad range of interests. There are several articles on hand about military postal history, and a couple of substantial pieces on Newfoundland. There also are some shorter articles available which the authors expect to appear gradually over a number of issues. However, the cupboard is close to bare for several BNA categories including postal stationery, provincial/colonial issues, cancellations, revenues, air mails, perfins, stamps (modern and classic), postal history and any other specialty not included above.

It is obvious that the content of the magazine will reflect what is submitted to the Editor. Furthermore, if one article is published concerning a particular subject it seems to encourage submission of articles on related subjects. So, if you feel that your area of interest in BNA philately is not being discussed often enough in *BNA Topics* your best course of action is to write something about the subject. If you've been promising one or more articles for *BNA Topics*, now would be a good time to put pen to paper or fingers to a keyboard?

A different issue. Many collectors are bemoaning the recent actions of Canada Post in marketing large numbers of stamps, post cards, and “souvenir” items, often in awkward formats. Some of these items are commercial failures—the Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee packs were quickly being sold by Canada Post at such a discount that the stamps in some packs had a greater value than the selling price. Some items are joint commercial ventures and, for example, we probably will never know if the “Turtles” packages with the \$1.29 picture postage stamp (packages available now at a discount, and mailable for \$1.29 even after the January rate change!) sold in sufficient quantity to satisfy both Nestlé and Canada Post. On the other hand, there reportedly was a large demand for the CFL posters. Most of these items are prepared with collectors in mind, *but are not necessarily intended to interest traditional stamp collectors*. Indeed, the traditional collector generates little revenue for Canada Post compared to patrons who like to see cute baby animals on their letters or collect sports-related souvenirs. Canada Post is a business, and delivery of parcels and time-sensitive documents is their main focus; souvenir marketing is secondary, but helps subsidize the main postal products. The interests of stamp collectors are not, and probably should not be, important to Canada Post. Conversely, we should collect only what truly is of interest to us.

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> or **416-431-3899**).

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

Newfoundland “Cancelled” stamps: *John Walsh* writes, “The article “The CANCELLED overprints of Newfoundland—new discoveries” by Kenneth W. Pugh in *BNA Topics* Oct-Dec 2011 has left me puzzled. The letter at the beginning of the article written by Mr. Ormand Hill specifically shows a private individual asking a contracted printing company (*via* its owner) to make stamp items for him and his friends. Not at anytime did the Newfoundland Government or any other Colony Government’s Post Office give postage stamp orders for such items to be made by the government contract printer Perkins Bacon. Even a named government official, Penrose Julyan, realized what had occurred and called it for what it was, misuse of government property. He then proceeded to prevent such happenings from reoccurring.

I feel that Mr. Pugh misrepresents the legitimacy of these ‘stamps’ by saying in a sentence in a later paragraph, “...without a doubt, some of the rarest stamps of the Colonies...” These are not rare stamps of the Colonies as they were never officially issued by their respective Government Post Offices. That cancel style was never used by Newfoundland Government Post Offices.

Mr. Pugh does state he was asked to authenticate their status. It is my opinion that he missed a fine opportunity to publicly label these ‘stamps’ for what they are, unauthorized printings.

Ontario School Merit Stamps: In “Readers Write”, *BNA Topics* Jan-Mar 2012, under the title “School merit stamp Cinderellas” *Mike Street* illustrated a block of four un gummed stamps printed on heavy paper by or for “Public Schools/Upper Canada”, each with a value of “1 MERIT” in the categories of “Perfect Recitation” or “Good Conduct” or Punctuality” or “Diligence.” *Brian Hargreaves* and *CR McGuire* have since sent scans showing not only multiple printings of the “Public Schools/Upper Canada” but also at least one printing by/for “Public Schools/Ontario.” Subsequently, *Mike Street* learned that when a student obtained 50 of any one of the stamps he or she was given a special card acknowledging the achievement. The card for 50 merits of “Diligence” is shown here.



Murray Heifetz: *Dick Malott* advises that at the American Air Mail Society (AAMS) Fall Meeting at Milcopex in Milwaukee, WI the AAMS “George W. Angers Memorial Award” for 2012 was presented to former BNAPS member *Murray Heifetz* of Toronto for his years of dedicated and untiring work for the advancement of the American Air Mail Society, the Canadian Air Mail Society and Aerophilately worldwide. The citation read, “Murray is a diligent researcher on several aspects of Canadian, USA and foreign Aerophilately. He has won the highest respect for his research, writings on “OAT and AV2 Markings” in three AAMS sponsored books, exhibits, and serving as an

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Plans are well underway for our BNAPS convention in Prince Edward Island on the Labour Day weekend, August 30 – September 1 (Friday, Saturday, Sunday). It will be at the Rodd Royalty Hotel in Charlottetown.

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(photos from the on-line Tourism PEI brochure)

In addition to the usual philatelic events and a lobster dinner on the Friday evening, provided that there is sufficient interest as many as three island tours will be possible: a 2½-hour tour of Charlottetown (Friday), a 6-hour bus trip to the PEI North Shore—Green Gables House and the Cavendish Beach, fishing villages, lighthouses (Saturday), and a 2½-hour sailing trip afloat past historic sites, lighthouses, and including a lobster haul demonstration (Sunday).

Plan an extended holiday around the show. We hope to see you in Charlottetown!

For further information please contact

Robert Lemire, PO Box 1870, Deep River, ON, K0J 1P0
rlemire000@sympatico.ca 613-584-1574

Information about submitting exhibits (130-140 frames maximum) is enclosed as an insert with this issue of *BNA Topics*. Details about accommodations and convention registration are on the BNAPS website, and also will be enclosed with the 2013 Q2 issue of *BNA Topics*.

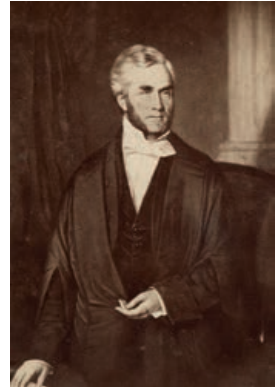
international FIP Aerophilatelic judge. Murray Heifetz epitomizes the unselfish dedication of the person after whom this award is named, George W. Angers.”

Sadly, Murray passed away in Toronto on 4 November 2012 after a long illness. Murray was a Past President of the Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada; a Fellow of the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society and of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, and the Canadian delegate to the *Fédération Internationale de Philatélie* (FIP) Aerophilately Commission.

James Kraemer (correction): We are advised of a title error in the “In Memoriam” for James Kraemer in *BNA Topics* Jul-Sep 2012. Jim Kraemer was hired as Manager of Canada’s National Postal Museum in October 1971. He was reclassified as Curator in August 1974. In January 1980 he was transferred to the Administration Branch, Accommodations Section of the Canada Post Office Department.

King George V “Medallion” 3¢ Dies: *Peter Wood* advises that he has had two replies to his note under the same title in “Readers Write”, *BNA Topics* Jul-Sep 2012. *Yobann Tanguay* wrote, “I have a quicker and easier way to detect if a Scott #197 stamp is die I or die II. Die I: the bottom horizontal frameline is uniform, solid and well defined as a straight line. Die II: the bottom horizontal frameline is composed of two very close lines together, not a solid line, and is a touch blurry.” *Norman Seastedt* wrote, “I agree with you. In fact the thickness of the ends of the center prongs seems to me somewhat more diagnostic than the position of the top prong *vs* the line.”

James Morris: One of the three subjects of *CR McGuire’s* “My favourite stampless covers #9”, *BNA Topics* Oct-Dec 2012, was James Morris, the Postmaster General of the Province of Canada who in 1851, with Sandford Fleming, arranged for the design and printing of Canada’s first postage stamp, the 3d Beaver. By coincidence, the Jul-Sep 2012 issue of *Bulletin d’Histoire Postale et de Marcophilie*, the journal of *La Société d’Histoire Postale du Québec* (SHPQ, the Quebec Postal History Society) carried an article on The Start of mail service in the town of St. Philomene, Quebec by Ferdinand Belanger, which featured a photograph of James Morris taken in 1871 by Livernois and Bienvenue. It is reprinted here courtesy of the SHPQ.



Canada Post Military Mail Bag Tags:





In *BNA Topics* Apr-Jun 2006, *Hugo Deshayé's* article "The Canadian Forces Postal Service in Bosnia" described mail service to Canadian servicemen and women serving with the United Nations SFOR operation in Bosnia between 1996 and 2004. Illustrated on the cover of that issue were several bag tags used for the mail. Illustrated above, courtesy of *John Parkin*, are the front and back of a earlier version of the bag tag used for Canadian Forces mail during the 1992 to 1995 United Nations UNPROFOR operation in Yugoslavia. The bag was dispatched from the Canadian Forces Base Petawawa mail room on 26 October 1994.

Major Quebec Postal History Resource: *La Société d'Histoire Postale du Québec* (SHPQ, the Quebec Postal History Society) has announced that the first 100 issues of its journal, *Bulletin d'Histoire Postale et de Marcophilie*, and four separate indexes to these issues, are now on-line, all in PDF format. The indexes—by Author, Topic, County and Location—were prepared by Michel Gagné. Each line of the index gives, in alphabetical order, the subject being indexed and the full reference of the article in which it appeared in the Bulletin (author, title, number, page). These resources can be found at: <http://www.shpq.org/num1_100.htm>.

Colin Lewis: At its annual convention in September 2012, the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain (CPSofGB) honoured retiring Auction Manager Colin Lewis, also a BNAPS member, for the very significant contribution he has made to that Society. Over the last 15 years, Colin received and lotted material for two large mail auctions a year, replied to queries with details and/or scans as required, conducted the actual sale, then sent out lots to winning bidders, many of them in North America.

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Postal and email addresses for both are on p. 79 of *BNA TOPICS*.

Quantity of imperforate 1917 Confederation stamps: Mystery solved!

Stephen Sacks

THE 2013 *Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps* description of Scott Canada 135a, the 3¢, 1917 imperforate Confederation stamp, shows 200 pairs (400 stamps) released with lower left and right plate blocks from plates 7 and 8. A top block of the stamp is shown in Figure 1. This stamp was printed in sheets of 200, divided into four panes of 50. The 2010 *Unitrade* description listed 100 pairs (200 stamps). The change to “200 pairs” was made in 2011. Catalogue changes of this type are very unusual. The change may have been based on the realization that two different plate numbers would suggest two sheets, 400 stamps, or it might have been due in part to my 2005 *BNA Topics* article [1], which examined this issue statistically using auction sales and a position study. In it, I concluded that 200 pairs, 400 stamps, was a better number. Because the plate block data and my statistical study were, in any case, circumstantial indicators, my research continued to provide a more concrete basis; that is, accounting for the actual stamps.



Figure 1. Imperforate block of four of the 3¢ 1917 Confederation stamp.

The recorded numbers of most imperforates of this era correspond with the writings of Henry Gates and CM Jephcott, summarized in a two-part, 1971 *BNA Topics* article [2]. The most significant aspect of these articles—relevant to the present discussion—is the inclusion of an undated letter quoted by Henry Gates. The letter is from Fred Norris, a well-known collector with connections to the Canada Post Office Department, stating, that after the Third Canadian Philatelic Exhibition in Montreal in October 1925, he (Norris) was shown three panes of 50 of the imperforate, 1917 Confederation stamp. These were shown to him in the office of LJ Gaboury, then Deputy Postmaster General of Canada. Norris indicates that he “handled” two of the panes and that a friend handled the third.

Norris’ description is important because it is a primary source account. As a premise of this research, we will take primary-source statements as fact. Norris also mentions that JO Lebreque had earlier sold another pane of 50, possibly from the same sheet. In a 1953 *Stamps* article [3], CM Jephcott tabulates all known imperforates and mentions three panes

Keywords & phrases: 3¢ 1917 Confederation stamp, imperforate copies

and an earlier 50 stamps of 135a. The most important takeaway from all of this is that at least three panes of 50 clearly came to light after the 1925 Philatelic exhibition.

Identifying a significant number (over 50) of the 1917 Confederation stamps as having come to light before the 1925 exhibition would go a long way toward meeting our research goal. Identifying a whole sheet would elicit a “eureka” and would bring the identified number to 400, or something close to it. Some hope in this endeavour came from Fred Jarrett’s 1923 book [4], *i.e.*, written before 1925, which mentions the imperforate variety but does not indicate a quantity.

| MEKEEL'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS. | | JULY 26 1919 | |
|---|---|--|--|
|  <p>Information regarding new issues and varieties will be gratefully received. We cannot give the addresses of correspondents.</p> <p>The chronicle of United States is edited by PHILIP H. WARD, JR., Box 4216, Germantown, Phila., Pa. The foreign chronicle is edited by PERCY C. SMITH, 49 Packard Ave., West Somerville, Mass. Correspondents will please be careful to send their matter to the right address.</p> <p>UNITED STATES.—Mr. Montgomery Evans, 2nd, sends for our inspection the finest double print or rather shift of the 1c surface print perforated 11, unwatermarked, that we have seen. It is similar to the double print 3c values but to date it seems that the 1c has not been as plentiful as the 3c. The stamp in question was from plate 9247 and was found</p> | <p>previously) were not officially issued; this was done in a few cases by the Post Office employees with a hand-stamp for their own convenience. Messrs. Bright, therefore, do not consider these improvised “Dues” worthy of catalogue rank. —<i>Stamp Collecting.</i></p> <p>BRAZIL.—Miss Cora H. Fosbala advises us:—“On May 11 began the sale of the new official set, with the portrait of the last President Wenceslao Braz in the center, and the value and color are as follows:—10r sepia, 20r violet, 50r green, 100r carmine, 900r blue, 500r orange, 600r chestnut, 1000r bistre, 2000r purple, 5000r emerald green, 10000r vermilion. The old values of 300, 400, 700, 20,000, 50,000, 100,000, 500,000 and 1,000,000 of the official series are suppressed.”</p> <p>CANADA.—It is reported to us that a complete sheet of the 3c Confederation stamp has been found in imperforate condition. It was located in a small office in northern Manitoba. We are indebted to R. F. Robinson for this information.</p> <p>GUATEMALA.—Our first examples of</p> | <p>SEND FOR MY LATEST LIST BRITISH COLONIALS BARGAINS Just Issued. ALL UNUSED. CHAS. S. OSGOOD, Salem, Mass.</p> <p>125 Diff. U. S. Post. inc. P.P. 1-50c 65c 60 diff. U. S. Rev. 15c; St. Louis 1-10c 35 20 diff. For. Rev. 15c; 100 diff. 35 20 diff. Mex. Rev. 10c; 100 diff. 35 M. Tausig, EMP. Sterling Pl., Brooklyn, N.Y.</p> <p>“BAVARIA overprinted “Volkstaat” 3pf to 20mk 5.00 “AUSTRIA “Flugpost” 1.50, 2.50, 4kr 2.00 E. PAIMANN, Box 276, City Hall Sta., NEW YORK.</p> <p>STAMPS WANTED I want to buy in lots of 10 to 1000 of a kind, stamps issued within the last four years. Will buy War, Red Cross, Provisionals and regular issues, either used or unused. Will buy single copies of rarities. Foreign correspondence solicited. 34 CARL YOUNG, 112 N. Fifth St., PHILA., PA.</p> <p>8 1/3% NEW ISSUE SERVICE of British Colonials at 1d in the 1sh Particulars on request. MINT WAR STAMPS. Per 1 11 Bahamas, 3d on white paper, obs. 12 91.25 Dominica, set of five complete .. 48 5.00 Postage extra. Pub. Hemmings Stamp News—Sub. 24c</p> | |

Figure 2. Brief Mekeels' Weekly Stamp News article, mentioning an imperforate sheet of the 3¢ 1917 Confederation stamp.

Each of several stamp journals of this era published a column in which readers who wrote in could record their finds. In *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, the column, edited by Philip H Ward, Jr, and Percy C Smith, was titled “Chronicle of New Issues and Discoveries.” The United States National Postal Museum Library in Washington, DC has a long run of this publication. Beginning with the mid-1917 issues, I went through *Mekeel's* page by page. The “eureka” moment came when I reached page 258 of the issue dated 26 July 1919, wherein RF Robinson reported that a complete sheet of the Confederation imperforate variety had been found in a small office in northern Manitoba. This is the smoking gun in the mystery. Since a paper copy of this *Mekeel's* issue would be difficult to locate, the relevant part of the column is reproduced in Figure 2.

A devil’s advocate might suggest that Robinson was confused, that he was actually reporting on a pane of 50. The response is that, if you doubt primary sources such as Norris and Robinson, what is the better alternative? RF Robinson was apparently an experienced philatelist who would know the difference between a pane of 50 and four panes that would constitute a sheet of 200. In the same column in the 5 November 1921 issue of *Mekeel's*, Robinson reported on the re-engraved Canada 10 ¢special-delivery stamp. He clearly knew

something about stamps. Furthermore, if the column editors—Ward was a major figure in the stamp world—had any concerns as to whether Robinson could have been confused, they would have inquired further. On the other hand, there is some logic in doubting whether Robinson could have found a whole sheet at a small post office, but such a find would not have been impossible. An alternative is that Robinson was given the sheet by a post office official as a favour, the same way many other early imperforates were released. If this were the case, he obviously would not want to state the source in *Mekeel's*, so he might give a false location of the find, but he would have no reason to change the quantity of stamps found.

Discussion

Even if Robinson actually did mean 50 stamps, those stamps would still have had to come from a sheet of 200. A sheet of 200 of Scott 135a coming to light, supposedly from normal distribution to a post office, before the Third Philatelic Exhibition in 1925, and another 150 and apparently an additional 50 released by a post office official after the exhibition, suggests that 400 stamps is the appropriate number. After my 2005 article, it was suggested to me that the word “issued” is not the best word to describe stamps coming about from Mr Gaboury. The better word would be “released.” I would be remiss not to note that a “release” could be considered unethical.

Henry Gates first quoted the Norris letter in an article he wrote in 1950 for the *Essay Proof Journal* [5]. The sole reference in that article was to a 1949 *Essay Proof Journal* article by Clarence Brazer, the leading authority on United States proofs and essays. Brazer believed that twentieth-century Canadian imperforates were proofs, that four panes of each were given to the Postmaster General, and that all eventually reached the marketplace. Perhaps, and this is speculation, this earlier article dissuaded Gates from looking further into the matter of the actual quantity of 135a produced.

Conclusion

The most logical conclusion is that two sheets, a total of 400 stamps, of the 1917 imperforate Confederation stamp, Scott 135a, were produced and eventually released.

References and endnotes

- [1] Stephen Sacks, Counting imperforate & part perf 1917 and 1927 Confederation stamps, *BNA Topics*, 2005, Vol. 62, No. 1, p. 7.
- [2] CM Jephcott and Henry Gates, Imperforates and part perforates of Canada, 1859 to 1942, *BNA Topics*, 1971, Vol. 28, No. 10, p. 282 and No. 11, p. 314.
- [3] CM Jephcott, Imperforates & Part Perforates of the Cents Issues of Canada, *Stamps*, July 18, 1953, p. 90.
- [4] Fred Jarrett, *Stamps of British North America*, WR Phillips & Co, Toronto, 1923, 610 pp.
- [5] Henry Gates, Some Notes on the “Norris Imperforates,” *Essay Proof Journal*, No. 27, July 1950, p. 14.
- [6] Clarence W Brazer, Canada Imperforates are Proofs, *Essay Proof Journal*, No. 24, October 1949, p. 215.

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Un nouveau Lamoureux

Hugo Desbays and Rob Leigh

The post office at Montreal is known to have experimented with postal cancelling machines developed in the 1920s by Joseph O Lamoureux. These are thought to be forerunners of the Perfect machines adopted for extensive use by the Canada Post Office beginning in the 1930s. Reference 1 includes an extensive account of both the Lamoureux and Perfect machines. It identified nine types of postmarks made by the Lamoureux machines between May 1922 and January 1926 [1]. For earlier reports on these experimental machines, see references 2-6.

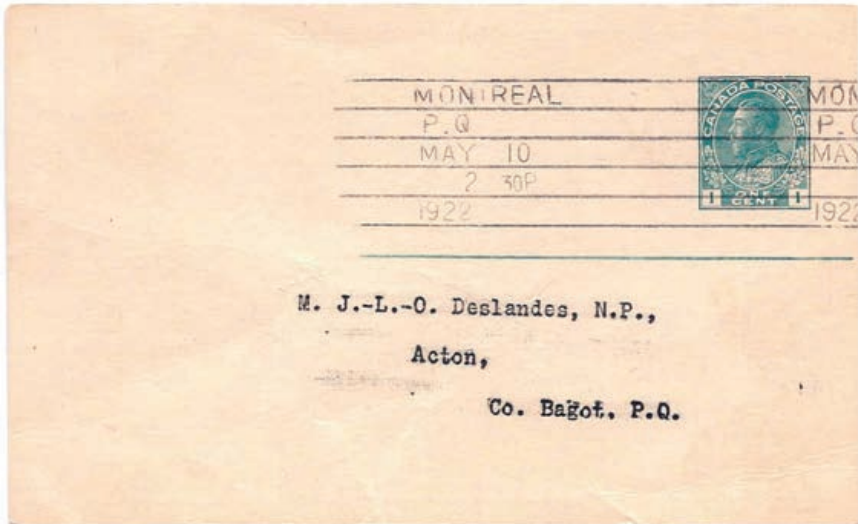


Figure 1. The new Lamoureux discovery showing date, time and year in the indicia.

We are now able to report on the discovery of a new example of a Lamoureux cancel, and the earliest use of the machine on 10 May 1922. This brings to fifty the number of reported Lamoureux covers of all types. Not only is this cover the earliest known, it has features that are not shared by any other example. As we will explain in detail, the postmark is identical to those made by Types 1 and 3 but, unlike those types, it includes *both the date and time* within the postmark.

Given this discovery, it is natural to revisit the type classification of Reference 1. We have examined carefully the one known example of Type 1 and the four known examples of Type 3. We believe that Type 1, Type 3, and the new example were all made by the same cancellation die. In Reference 1, Type 1 was identified as having five horizontal lines with the text MONTREAL / P.Q. / / / 1922 / repeating periodically. Careful examination reveals that there is, in fact, a very faintly printed sixth line at the top. Type 3 is classified as having

Keywords & phrases: Montreal machine cancellations, Lamoureux

six lines with just the text / MONTREAL / P.Q. / / / /, *i.e.*, without any date or year information at all. The four recorded examples of the Type 3 were all used on CPR financial statement postal cards, dated 28 February 1923 on the back. Given the error in the number of lines in Type 1, we carefully measured various properties of all six of the postmarks and found that they are identical. The distance from the bottom line to the fifth (which is clearly printed in all examples) is 19mm (24mm is the distance from first to sixth). The text within the lines is repeated in all examples, every 64mm (measuring from the M of MONTREAL to the next), the font being the same in each case.



Figure 2. Examples of Type 1 and 3 Lamoureux postmarks. In Type 1 (one example known, CPR statement dated 29 May 1922), the year 1922 appears within the postmark. In Type 3 (four examples recorded, all attributed to 28 February 1923), no date, time or year appears.
(Scans courtesy of WC Walton).

In Figure 3, we show sequentially the Type 1, the new one, and the Type 3. We have lined them up, left-to-right, to show that the 64mm period is consistent. Although it probably does not show in the printed version, a top line, indicated by an arrow, is just visible in the Type 1 example.

It seems clear then that all of these examples were made by the same cancellation die, with varying amounts of date and time slugs included. Given this, it would be appropriate to re-label them sub-types; say, Types 1a, 1b, and 1c.

An extensive account of all recorded examples (including cover scans) of Lamoureux cancels is maintained at the website of the Postal History Society of Canada:

<<http://postalhistorycanada.net/php/Machines/Lamoureux/>>



Figure 3. Three examples lined up to show periodicity, which is about 64mm.

We wish to thank the respective owners for making high-quality scans available to us.

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The RPO Cowcatcher

Transition from Steamboat to Railway Mail Service between Montreal and Toronto

Chris Anstead, Bruce Graham, Ross Gray, and Robert Parsons



Figure 1. August 1857 letter from Montreal to Toronto.

DATELINED Montreal, 26 August 1856, the cover in Figure 1 travelled on the Grand Trunk Railway (GTR) the next day as far as Brockville. On the train, the letter received this cancellation:

QC-135.01, MON. & BR. GRD. TRK. R.W. / : MAIL COND'R No 1 : ,
A, UP, AUG 27, 1856

Keywords & phrases: RPO, steamboat mail, railway mail, Grand Trunk Railway

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In Brockville, it was transferred to a lake steamer for Toronto (one of the Royal Mail steamers, *Kingston*, *Passport*, *Arabian*, or *Magnet*, which travelled from Brockville to Toronto, stopping at Kingston, Cobourg, Port Hope, and Darlington en route) and received a Kingston Steamboat Letter postmark dated 28 August 1856, which extends the known period of use of the listing by twenty-two days. The steamboat cancellation reads:

ON-951, STEAM -BOAT -LETTER / = KINGSTON = , AU 28, 1856, blank

Thanks to Bruce Graham for locating this latest-recorded postmark. It appears that the indicium is blank. Indicia 4, 5, and 6 were used by conductors on steamboats departing Kingston headed towards Toronto, calling at points between. Indicia 1, 2, and 3 were used on steamboats departing Kingston, calling at points downstream en route to Montreal. In later years (1855–56), the blank indicium is fairly common on Kingston and Hamilton steamboat postmarks and was probably used in both directions. The historical significance of the cover can be understood by examination of the time line for completion of the Grand Trunk Railway between Montreal and Toronto and the changing of mail conveyance from water to rail. The Kingston-Montreal river service likely ended at the end of the 1855 season, when the Grand Trunk Railway line was completed as far west as Brockville (The earliest-recorded date for QC-135 is 1855/12/ 06). The summer of 1856 was to see the completion of the Grand Trunk Railway between Montreal and Toronto. The last hurdle was the completion of a bridge over the Rideau Canal at Kingston Mills.

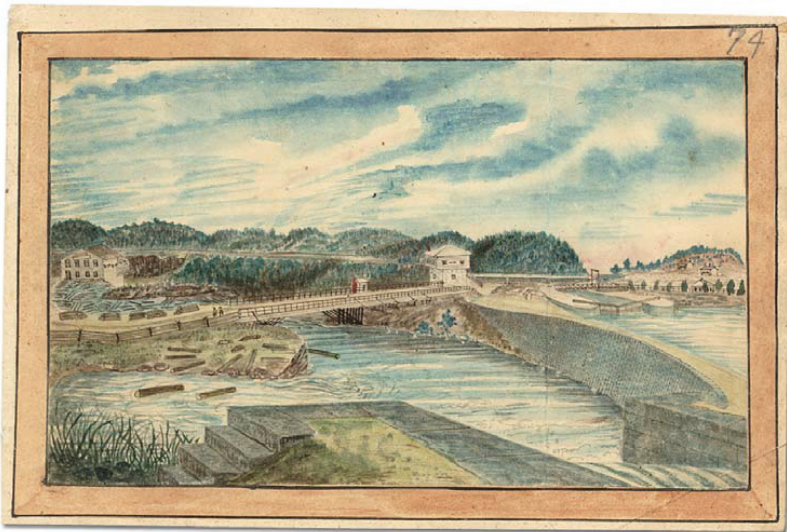


Figure 2. Lower Kingston Mills, Grand Trunk Railway bridge completed, 1856.
(Watercolour courtesy Archives of Ontario).

With the opening of navigation in 1856, new arrangements were made with the Royal Mail steamers to connect with the Grand Trunk Railway at Brockville. These arrangements were short-lived, as by 2 June the Great Western Railway steamers were carrying much of the mails. It soon became apparent to the Great Western Railway that it was losing money, leading the directors to withdraw their boats from this service on 23 August.

Arrangements were quickly made with the American Mail line to provide daily service from Toronto to Brockville from 10 September to 26 October 1856. The letter in Figure 1 was conveyed during that period, most likely by the Royal Mail Line of John Hamilton & James Sutherland, which was still carrying mail at this time.

On 21 October, a letter was sent to the steamboat conductors terminating their employment on the Steamboat Mail Service.

*P.O.D. 21st October
Mr. Robt. H. Bengough
Steamboat Mail Conductor
Kingston
Sir,*

On and after the 26th instant, the conveyance of the Mails by Steam Boat between Hamilton and Montreal will terminate, and as consequently occasion will then also cease to exist for your employment by the Department in your present capacity of Steam Boat Mail Conductor, your services as such will be recorded as closed on the date in question.

The expiring Steam Boat Mail service will from Monday the 27th instant be superceded by the conveyance of the mails between Toronto and Montreal by Railway over the G.T.R.R., and I am desired by the P.M.G.. to inform you that in order to give to you an opportunity of continuing to serve in the Department he appoints you to the discharge of an office which will be required under the new Railway Mail arrangements and which is similar in its duties to those performed by you on the Mail Steamboat Line.

You are therefore under these circumstances appointed to a Railway Mail Clerkship of the 2nd class on the Grand Trunk Railway and your retention of this employment will of course depend upon your ability to discharge the duties attached to it.

(Sgd) W. Griffin

On 27 October 1856 the first train ran between Montreal and Toronto. The earliest-known date for **QC-187, MON. & KINGS. GRD. TRK. R.W. POST OFFICE / No. #**, is 1856/11/11.

The writers acknowledge Robert Parsons' excellent study, *The Steamboat Mails of Eastern Canada* [1], as the source of the information above. Additional information will be found in CR McGuire's article in *BNA Topics* Number 527 [2].

No matter how poorly the Grand Trunk Railway fared in the marketplace, the government and two of London's major banking houses had a vested interest in keeping it out of receivership. This was the main reason why the mail contracts were awarded to the GTR. The region's ship owners were constantly threatened with bankruptcy. The loss of the mail contract and the 1857 recession did in the steamboat operators. Many of the boats that operated on Lake Ontario were sold to US interests and wound up being used during the Civil War. Steamboat operators then began to build more elaborate and ornate vessels to attract the tourist trade.



Figure 3. Cover from Montreal to Toronto, 26-27 August, 1856.

Ross Gray has a slightly earlier cover (Figure 3).

MONTREAL / L.C. , AU 26, 1856 to TORONTO / C.W. , AU 27 , via **QC-135.02**, MON. & BR. GRD. TRK. R.W. /: MAIL COND'R No 2: , A, UP, AUG 26, 1856, via **ON-950**, STEAM-BOAT-LETTER / = HAMILTON = , AU 26, 1856, blank

Bruce Graham comments as follows:

With respect to the Hamilton Steamboat Letter, I would rule out the GWR as I have not run across anything in the archives relating to conductors operating on board their steamers. The mail carried by these "Express Steamers" tended to be closed bags, bound for Montreal,

Quebec and beyond (overseas). As well, both covers in the article fall outside the operating dates of the GWR mail service. The cover would, more than likely, have been carried by one of the Royal Mail Line steamers.

*I'll go out on a limb and suggest it was carried by the Steamer "Magnet." This was Sutherland's steamer, and there were another two steamers (John Hamilton's) running also. Why the Magnet? Tuesdays and Fridays were typical sailing days from Kingston for the Steamer Magnet. Mondays and Thursdays were the usual sailing dates from Hamilton. I have newspaper ads for 1851, 1852 and 1854 that show this routine, and it's quite likely that the Magnet continued to sail on those days. **The SBL handstamp is dated 26 August, a Tuesday.***

As well, there had been an ongoing dispute between the Post Office and the steamboat proprietors about Hamilton being the terminus. Only Sutherland's boat, the Magnet complied with the contract requirements and used Hamilton as the "layover" port. Betbune refused to layover at Hamilton, and the Post Office eventually conceded. The other two boats on the Lake Mail Line returned to Toronto from Hamilton.

Fred Stulberg's collection included four examples of the SBL Hamilton handstamp (s). Two contained blank indicia, one had a clear "3," used in September 1854. This was a **RED** strike and was coming from Montreal. The fourth has a questionable strike, which Stulberg also called a "3." This whole area surrounding the use of the Hamilton SBL handstamps bears a lot more analysis. More examples and specific sailing dates might help greatly.

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Stamps with a story

John Burnett

I was recently asked to share this story with the members of BNAPS. George Dresser of College Station, Texas asked me to tell readers about a chance meeting with a now-deceased BNAPS member, the late Abe Charkow. During the 1990s, I was travelling extensively into the South Pacific region on business and usually tried to come home to Ohio by way of Vancouver or Seattle so I could visit with my mother in Vancouver.

In 1996, I was visiting Mom and had taken a couple of hours to go to a local stamp shop, with whose owner I had had extensive dealings. After a pleasant visit, a gentleman walked in to the shop. I was asked if I knew Abe Charkow. I said I hadn't had the pleasure, and we were introduced. Abe asked if I was any relation to the John Burnett who was a former member of the 21 Club? "Yes," I said, "I'm his son." Abe replied, "Then we have met, many years ago!" When I said I was sorry but I had no recollection of our meeting, he replied, "You were a little boy when we met." Abe proceeded to tell me about our meeting.

"It was the Christmas dinner of the British Columbia Philatelic Club in 1945," he said. (I would have been just five years old at the time). He said my Father and I had taken a seat at a table for four. My Dad had just returned from service in the Canadian Army, and this was his first philatelic event since going away in 1939. Abe recounted how he entered and took a seat at another table. He also told me, "There was quite a bit of anti-Semitism in those days," and he was sure he would be dining alone. My Dad evidently sent me over to Abe's table to ask him to join us for dinner (I have no memory of this). "Which you did," Abe said.

Shortly after that another gentleman, Fred Langer, an Austrian immigrant to Canada and local stamp dealer, entered the room. (Fred had escaped the Nazis in 1939.) He also took a seat by himself. Abe told me he and my Father talked about how Fred would also probably be eating alone. My Father sent me over to Mr. Langer to invite him to join my dad, me, and Abe for dinner. He joined us. Abe said, "Here we were, your Dad, a newly returned soldier, a Jew, and an Austrian sitting down for a most enjoyable dinner together. I will never forget your dad for doing that very kind thing."

I would visit my Mom twice a year for the next couple of years, and each time I would call Abe. He, my Mom, and I would go out to dinner. Sooner or later, the conversation usually got around to stamps. I told Abe about my Small Queen collection and how I was striving to do better at the international level, but was frustrated by what I needed to add to the collection. At dinner in 1998, Abe asked me to visit him in his office the following day, which I did. I was looking through some material, when Abe pulled out of his desk drawer the block of 5¢ Small Queens shown in Figure 1. It was the slate green perf $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$.

Abe asked, "Would you like to buy that from me?" I can remember being blown over and telling him, "I couldn't afford one of those stamps let alone a block of ten of them!" His reply was classic, "I haven't told you how much I want for them yet. I want to know; would you like to buy this block?"

Keywords & phrases: Small Queens, philatelic generosity

“Of course,” I said, “But they are way past my stamp budget.” Abe said, “I won't give them to you, but would you give me \$100 and a promise not to break the block up?” I said, “Yes, of course.” Abe then said, “This is for your father, who never had a bad thought about people in his life.”



Figure 1. Five Cent Small Queen Block.

Today I am the owner of a really important piece of philatelic material, shown in Figure 1. It is the largest-known multiple of this very scarce Small Queen stamp. All because my father showed some kindness to two people forty years ago.

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The War of 1812: Problems with privateers

Malcolm B Montgomery

THE United States' Declaration of War against the United Kingdom was approved on 18 June 1812 [1]. The Act authorised the issue, to private armed vessels of the United States, of commissions and letters of *marque* and general reprisal. A further Act of Congress, passed on 26 June 1812 [2], refreshed and approved the regulations governing privateer activity. Atlantic shipping and correspondence were severely disrupted by the consequent naval and privateer activity, and the exchange of mail across the border between Canada and the United States ceased. For one ship in particular, and for a letter on board that ship, 1812 proved to be an especially bad year.

The letter, which was rated at one ounce, passed through Montreal on 22 April 1815. In the United States it had been charged under the rates of postage established in 1799 and re-enacted in 1810: two cents ship letter fee plus inland postage for 301–500 miles, for a total of 80 cents [3]. The inland rate had been increased by 50 percent on 1 February 1815 [4], but it appears that this was not applied to mail that had been detained in the United States. In Canada, the 82 cents was converted to Currency [5], and the Canadian inland postage added [6], for a total charge of eight shillings and two pence Currency, (concealed by the '*Ralph*' of *Ralph Nicholson*).

The *Ralph Nicholson*, a ship of 363 tons, was registered with Lloyd's in 1811–1812 for voyages between London and Quebec [7]. In May 1812, she was in Gravesend taking on cargo, passengers, and some private letters, including the one illustrated. On 12 June, just before the formal declaration of war, she set sail under her new master, William Findlay [8]. She joined a fleet lying off Portsmouth—a fleet that included *HMS Rosamund*—and left for Quebec with the fleet on 25 June 1812 [9]. The arrival of the *Ralph Nicholson* at Quebec on 31 August 1812 was reported in the *Quebec Gazette* and confirmed later in the year in Lloyd's List [10]. It is worthy of note that at least one of the other ships in the convoy, the *Betsy*, arrived at Quebec three weeks earlier than did the *Ralph Nicholson* [11].

In the meantime, the *Ralph Nicholson* had parted with at least one of the letters she was carrying. That letter, shown in Figure 1, bears a New York handstamp for 2 August. There are several possible sets of circumstances that could account for this:

- The letter was carried to New York by another ship (but the letter was clearly directed to the *Ralph Nicholson* and annotated as such when delivered in 1815).
- The *Ralph Nicholson* called at New York on route for Quebec, but she was scheduled for Quebec. Had she detoured to New York, she would have arrived there after war had been declared and would most likely have been detained.
- The *Ralph Nicholson* was intercepted en route by a United States Navy vessel or privateer and the letter removed.

Keywords & phrases: War of 1812, privateers, postal history



Figure 1. England to Quebec, Canada, via New York and Montreal, May 1812. The wrapper of a letter dated May 1812 directed to the *Ralph Nicholson* out of Gravesend for Quebec, but bearing a New York datestamp for 2 August (presumably 1812) and forwarded to Canada only in 1815.

There is little merit in dwelling on the cause of the anomaly. However, privateer activity remains an attractive possibility, as it was not unusual for ships to be raided and released at the commencement of hostilities or, having been taken, to be “released” by the appearance of a Royal Navy vessel. The presence of passengers—in particular, children—on board could also have been a factor.

If fortunate on her outward passage, the *Ralph Nicholson* and her crew were less so on returning from Quebec headed for London with a cargo of timber (ironically, for the Royal Navy). An encounter with the United States privateer *America* ended with the *Ralph Nicholson* and her cargo being sent into a port in the United States. There remain some contradictions in the various accounts and contemporary evidence of the ship’s fate: Lloyd’s List [12] gives two brief references in the *Notes* on 5 March 1813, “*The Ralph Nicholson, Finlay, from Quebec To London, is taken by the America Privateer of Salem?*” and, on 23 March 1813, “*By accounts from Salem of 14th February ... and the ship Ralph Richardson from Quebec to London (within the frames of a 74-gun ship) had arrived at Kennebeck, Prize to the America Privateer.*” George Coggeshall [13] informs of the capture of a “*Ship from Quebec for London laden with timber comprising the whole frame of a ship of*

seventy four guns sent into Kennebeck by the America. The timber was doubtless duly seasoned and was just in time.” He also gives some information on the privateer involved: “*The privateer ship America alluded to in this chapter was a well armed and well manned vessel. She was very conspicuous and very fortunate during the whole war. She belonged to Salem and was commanded by I.W. Chever. Perhaps this vessel made more money for her owners, captain, officers, and crew than any other privateer cruising out of the United States.*”

Various American newspapers and a document in the national Archives at Kew allow a narrative of the subsequent fate of the *Ralph Richardson* and her crew to be assembled, although some of the details in this information conflict.

From the *American Mercury*, 20 January 1813:

“*Salem, 7th January 1813: Arrived the fast sailing private armed ship America, of 20 guns, Capt. Joseph Roper, from a cruise of 4 months. Extract from her journal, November 19th Lat. 42, captured British ship Ralph Nicholson, from Quebec for London, with oak timber, etc.*”

And from the *Salem Gazette*, 26 January 1813:

“*Prizes: Arrived at Marblehead on Sunday ship Hope, prize to ship America, from Grenada, with rum, sugar and cotton. Arrived also at Bath, ship Ralph Nicholson, from Quebec for London, with oak timber.*”

The last word concerning the *Ralph Nicholson* appeared the *Essex Register* of 24 March 1813:

“*PRIZES AND PRIZE GOODS: United States of America, District of Massachusetts: Pursuant to Warrants from the Hon. John Davis, Esq., Judge of the District Court of the United States for the foregoing District, I shall expose for sale at public auction and to the highest bidder on Thursday the first day of April next at ten o'clock a.m. at the Wharf of Messrs. Crowninshield's in Salem the following Merchandize and Vessels, which having been captured by the private armed vessel at war, America, Joseph Roper commander, and brought into the port of Salem, within the District, are decreed by the said Judge to be good and lawful prizes to the captors - viz:*

The Cargo of the ship Ralph Nicholson consisting of about:

| | | | | | |
|-------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|------|------------------|
| 73 | <i>pieces of</i> | <i>Oak</i> | <i>timber about</i> | 3118 | <i>feet</i> |
| 37 | <i>do</i> | <i>Red</i> | <i>Pine do</i> | 1153 | <i>do</i> |
| 82 | <i>do</i> | <i>White</i> | <i>do do</i> | 3904 | <i>do</i> |
| 310 | <i>Oak Plank</i> | | | 3112 | <i>to 5 inch</i> |
| 210 | <i>Deck</i> | <i>Pine</i> | | 334 | <i>do</i> |
| 21 | <i>Pieces short</i> | <i>do</i> | | | |
| 10080 | | <i>do</i> | <i>Staves</i> | | |

Also the copper fastened ship Ralph Nicholson, 357 tons burthen. Given under my hand at Boston, this seventeenth day of March AD 1813. Matthew D. Clark, Deputy Marshal.”

The fate of the crew is recorded in a ledger now held in the National Archives at Kew. It lists the details of all British prisoners taken during the War of 1812, and their disposal [14]. Again there are some inconsistencies: not all the crew appear to have been listed: The master, a mate, a steward, eight seamen, and two boys (there is no mention of the ship's cook!). One of the seamen is listed as being captured by the privateer *Montgomery* (no connection to the author); the dates recorded related to their capture vary, predominantly 19 October 1812, but one each on 29 October, 24 November, 4 December, and 31 December. The majority are recorded as having been incarcerated in Boston; one seaman was sent to Salem. Most were released on parole on 3 May 1813 and taken, in the cartel *Martha*, to Halifax. Three had to wait until 3 July 1813, when they were paroled to an agent in Boston. Seaman Doncaster in Salem fared best: he was paroled on 1 February 1813.

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- [3] Act of Congress (United States), 1 Stat. 734, 738-740, 2 March 1799.
- [4] Act of Congress (United States), 3 Stat. 159, 23 December 1814.
- [5] These calculations are not always consistent, but an exchange of 1 cent equivalent to 0.6d Cy is a reasonable approximation (derived from 25 cents equivalent to 1s 3d Cy, frequently seen on cross-border mail), thus 4s 2d Cy.
- [6] Sanderson & Montgomery, *Cross-Border Mails*, p. 22 after EE Palmer and S McDonald, no official source known: 'The Lines' to Quebec, one ounce 4s Cy.
- [7] Lloyd's Register, 1811-12.
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- [9] Lloyd's List, #4680, 30 June 1812: Portsmouth, 25 June, '*Rosamund*', Sloop of War for Quebec (with a convoy).
- [10] Quebec Gazette, Thursday, 3 September 1812: *Arrived August 31st, Ship Ralph Nicholson, (?), 357 tons, W. Findlay, (?) days from Plymouth, to order general cargo, passengers 6-10 with children.* Lloyd's List, #4709, 9 October 1812: *Ralph Nicholson*, Findlay, arrived Quebec (date not given).
- [11] Quebec Gazette, Thursday, 13 August 1812: *Arrived August 10th Betsy, Troop, 37 days from Plymouth, under convoy of H.M.S. Rosamund, Capt. D. Campbell, for Quebec, parted company with the Rosamund in Long 23W.*
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George Eppstadt's second cachet

Harold Houston and Gary Dickinson

GEORGE Eppstadt of Maxville, Ontario published the first Canadian first day cover (FDC) cachet in 1927 and used it for the nine stamps of the Sixtieth Anniversary of Confederation and Historical issues, including Scott numbers 141 to 148 and E3. It was long thought that this was the only cachet he produced [1], but another one came to light recently and is the subject of this article.



Figure 1. Eppstadt's 1927 FDC cachet with #142 and Vancouver flag cancellation.

Eppstadt's original cachet was printed in four colours and featured an all-over design, with provincial shields and text at upper left (Figure 1). Although 2,000 copies were printed, only about half of them were used at the time. Most bore printed addresses to Eppstadt himself. About 100 were addressed to New Jersey stamp dealer AC Roessler, with the hope that he would resell them, but Roessler did not do so. Eppstadt mailed the majority of his covers at Maxville and Ottawa, although some were sent to postmasters at Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Edmonton, and Vancouver for posting. The example shown here has a relatively rare Vancouver flag cancellation.

Eppstadt was not pleased with the volume of sales of his cacheted FDCs. He had hoped to at least cover his costs, but did not do so immediately and continued to market them for many years afterwards. His main motivation, though, had been to honour his adoptive country and that objective was achieved admirably.

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

George Eppstadt was a stamp collector for most of his life, but his experience as a cachet maker was thought to have ended with his 1927 effort. Recently, however, a new Eppstadt cacheted cover was discovered in a stamp dealer's junk box at an Ontario show. It was purchased for the grand sum of 25 cents.

This find (Figure 2) is not a FDC as it was postmarked on 20 September 1967 and is franked with a pair of Scott #453, the 5¢ stamp issued on 11 January of that year to commemorate Canada's centennial. Eppstadt's motivation for making the cover was to celebrate the one-hundredth anniversary of Confederation, just as his first cachet forty years earlier celebrated the sixtieth anniversary. The hand-drawn and coloured cover was addressed by Eppstadt to a correspondent in Pointe Claire, Quebec; his return address is on the back flap (Figure 3). The envelope and the pair of stamps both have red and blue-lined borders. The circle at the left encloses a maple leaf, a fleur-de-lis, and a salute to 100 years of Confederation.

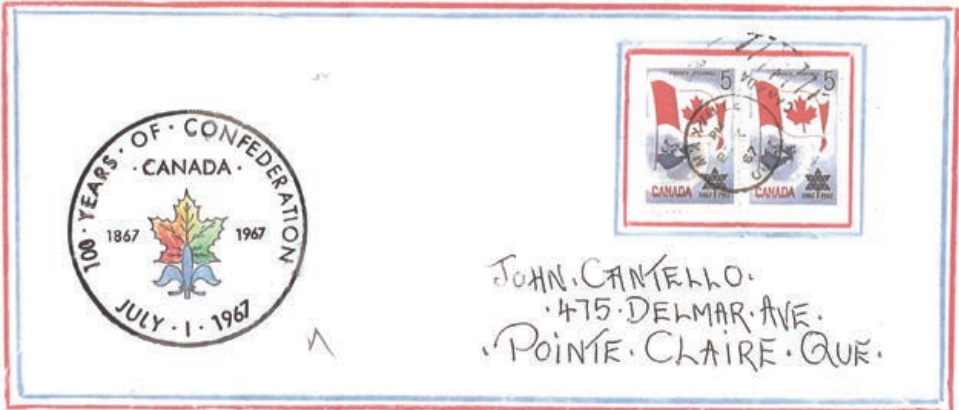


Figure 2. Eppstadt's 1967 cachet with #453 pair.

The letter enclosure (Figure 4) offered his 1927 cacheted FDC for the Historical set at \$2, about one-hundredth of its current value. The letter also offers other unspecified stamps and covers dating to about 1960, and it indicates that he stopped collecting new material at that point.

At the time George Eppstadt prepared this second cachet, he was 72 years old. He died some five years later, in 1972, leaving a philatelic product that is still widely known and sought after by collectors, as well as the one that has only recently been unearthed.

Figure 3. Return address in Eppstadt's handwriting.

MAXVILLE, ONT. Sept: 20. 1967.

Dear Mr. Cantello.

Thanks for your order and I hope you like the covers. The design was by me and they were printed at that time in four colors in Montreal. The other cover (2nd) was the "Historical Issue" issued on the same date June 29, 1927, but not many knew about it. It is the 5¢ - 12¢ - and 20¢ stamp on one cover. I have a lot of stamps and covers up to about 1960 since then I been kind of quiet. If you tell me your interest I could write what I have. I am not a Dealer and have a corner store in this village, it is about 90 miles west of Montreal. If you have a car I might be seeing you.

Thanks again

GEORGE EPPSTADT
BOX 58
MAXVILLE, ONT.

Figure 4. Letter from Eppstadt to John Cantello of Pointe Claire, Quebec.

References and endnote

- [1] Gary Dickinson, George Eppstadt's Cachet, *BNA Topics*, Vol. 66, No. 4 (October–December 2009), pp. 31–41.
- [2] An earlier version of this article was published in *First Impressions*, newsletter of the BNAPS First Day Cover Study Group, Issue 12, July–September, 2012.

Usage of the 1937 8¢ Mufti stamp

Gary Steele

AFTER the NOVAPEX 2010 exhibition in Halifax, as a dealer, collector, and exhibitor of the 1937–1938 Definitive issue that includes the 8¢ Mufti stamp and its usage, I found myself reflecting on many more questions than answers. This stems from a judge having written—on my exhibit report—a note about wanting to see more single usages of the 8¢ Mufti in my exhibit.

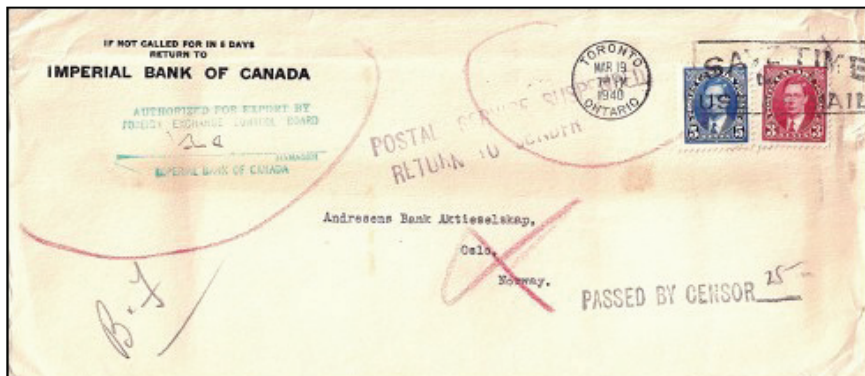


Figure 1. Double weight UPU letter to Norway mailed 18 March 1940 returned to sender after Germany invaded Norway on 9 April 1940.

Finding covers carrying eight cents in postage to pay a specific rate during the Mufti era is not easy, but a few are around. The letter shown in Figure 1 above is a particularly nice example. It started out as a double-weight, UPU surface letter to Norway mailed in Toronto 18 March 1940, with a 5¢ Mufti paying for the first ounce and a 3¢ Mufti paying for the weight above 1 ounce and below 2 ounces. Because it was a commercial letter from the Imperial Bank of Canada, the bank itself certified that the letter’s contents were “Authorized for export by the Foreign Exchange Control Board.” It then went to Canadian Censor 25 and, somewhere along the line, was held up long enough to be stopped when Germany invaded Norway on 9 April 1940. It was then stamped ‘POSTAL SERVICE SUSPENDED / RETURN TO SENDER’ and sent back to the bank.

A nice example of a scarce rate, but paid by two stamps. Over the past 31 years of collecting this material, I have only seen a handful of covers with a single 8¢ Mufti stamp on them, and only one, shown below, appeared to be a legitimate, single-use item.

There were no special fees, such as Special Delivery or Registration, requiring the use of an 8¢ stamp during the Mufti period of use. With two exceptions, all single 8¢ items I have seen were underpaid, overpaid for convenience, or nowhere in the ballpark of a proper rate. Take, for example, a very small cover with an 8¢ stamp attached and mailed within Canada

Keywords & phrases: 8¢ Mufti, single use on cover

BNA Topics, Volume 70, January–March 2013

or to the US. There would have been no way it would have been heavy enough to require that fee except, perhaps, if the envelope contained a thin, four-ounce bar of gold. But who would have mailed such a valuable item without registering it, which would have required an additional 10 cents in postage?

There are a few combination rates that might require an 8¢ stamp as a single usage. All are legitimate, but all would be rare. The first is the double UPU-weight rate of 5¢ for the first ounce and 3¢ for each additional ounce shown in Figure 1. The cover to Italy shown in Figure 2 is the only letter I am aware of that has an 8¢ Mufti paying that UPU rate. The only domestic letter rate requiring eight cents postage would have been for a drop letter weighing between six and seven ounces. While certainly possible, it is very unlikely that such an item



Figure 2. Double weight UPU letter to Italy paid by 8¢ Mufti. (Courtesy JE Nixon.)

exists. A parcel post item is possible. Shown in Figure 3 is only the second 8¢ Mufti, single-use item I consider to be legitimate. A manuscript 8¢ is circled in pencil under the roller cancellation on the right. Since there are no foreign imprints or customs labels visible, I am assuming it was a domestic parcel post item, for which there were only a few rate options. Parcels mailed between post offices less than 20 miles apart would have been charged 8¢ for over three pounds up to four pounds. Alternatively, the minimum rate for parcels mailed

between any two post offices in Canada was 8¢ for up to 8 ounces, at the rate of 1¢ per ounce.



Figure 3. Part of wrapper from parcel paid by 8¢ Mufti stamp.

Two unlikely possibilities would be an $8 \times 1\text{¢}$ per 2 ounces printed matter, commercial papers, or sample item, or payment of 8¢ to pay the postage due for Business Reply Mail. I have never seen regular issue stamps pay for this service, but it is always possible.

It is easy for a judge to pretend to be knowledgeable and say, “Where are the 8¢ uses?” in the Mufti issue or similar values in other issues of the 1930s and 1940s. As can be seen above, however, they should know better. Anyone with a single-use, 8¢ Mufti item is asked to contact me. It would be a very good to show a legitimate use on a letter. I can be reached through the Editor or by email at <gwsteele57@gmail.com>.

Editor’s Note: This is an updated version of an article that first appeared in *King George VI Post & Mail*, the newsletter of the King George VI Study Group, April-August 2011, Issue 23, p. 9.

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The postal history of the Amyot brothers, from the Red River Rebellion into the early twentieth century—Part 2

CR McGuire OTB, FRPSC—Over a decade ago Ron McGuire acquired an archive of documents, letters, photographs, and prints relating to the Amyot family of Quebec. The article is a distillation of both the contents, totalling hundreds of items, and the story they told about the two Amyot brothers. This installment covers the period after Jean-Baptiste Amyot returned to Quebec from the Red River Expedition and his admission to the Quebec bar in 1872, to his death in 1913.

JEAN-BAPTISTE Amyot remained in the Militia all his life. Figure 16 shows a #9 size envelope, franked with a 2¢ Large Queen paying the double, one cent per half ounce drop rate, mailed to then Major Amyot in Quebec City on JU 21/71. No double drop rate cover, paid with either two 1¢ or a single 2¢ Large Queen, is listed in what has become the most commonly used postal rate reference book [17]. I believe it may be unique.



Figure 16. Possibly unique 1871 2¢ Large Queen drop rate letter sent to Major Amyot.

The letter, dated 20 June, concerns the Brigade Camp at Levis that was to begin 3 July 1871. Written and signed by Lt Col E LaMontmagny, it confirms the names of several officers and their assignments, including Major JB Amyot, "...to be Brigade Musketry Instructor." Special tickets for the Quebec and Point Levi [*sic*] Ferry—an 1872 version is shown in Figure 17—were issued to the militiamen and authenticated



Figure 17. Militia ferry ticket.

Keywords & phrases: Amyot family, postal history, military

on the reverse by the Adjutant's signature. The postcard in Figure 18, showing Camp Levis as it looked ca 1905 was used in 1908, likely by a soldier taking part in the Quebec Tercentenary celebrations.



Figure 18. Postcard showing Levis militia camp used in 1908.

From 19 January 1872 until late in 1876, Amyot served as Aide de Camp (ADC) and Private Secretary to the first two Lieutenant-Governors of Quebec; Sir Narcisse Fortunal Belleau and the Hon RE Caron.

Figure 19 shows a ca 1905 postcard depicting “Spencer Wood,” the residence of Quebec’s Lieutenant-Governors, much as it would have appeared when Amyot was ADC. Built in 1854, the house and property were acquired by the Quebec Government in 1870 and served as the residence for the Lieutenant-Governors, until 1966 when a major fire destroyed the building.



Figure 19. “Spencer Wood,” residence of Quebec’s Lieutenant-Governors.

Many of the letters that crossed Amyot’s desk during his term as ADC are of historic interest. A very early one, dated 12 February 1872 and signed “Lisgar,” (Sir John Young, Baron), Governor-General of Canada, and Governor of Prince Edward Island as the latter did not join Confederation until 1 July 1873, was sent to Belleau, attaching a circular dated

19 January 1871, from the British Government, concerning the “Scheme” book for the International Exhibition of 1871. Lt Col TB Strange, “Inspector of Artillery for the Dominion,” wrote on 15 February 1873 on his crested stationery, headed, “The Citadel, Quebec” to congratulate Amyot on his appointment as ADC to the Lieutenant-Governor. This was one of many letters between Amyot and Strange [18] in the archive. A third letter, on embossed, crested “Ontario” letterhead, datelined “Government House, Toronto, May 15th 1875,” was written and signed ‘Fred’k C Law, Commander, Royal Navy, Private Secretary,’ informing Caron of the death of the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, the Honourable John Crawford, on 13 May. This letter was somewhat unusual in that mourning stationery had not yet been prepared.

A 25 October 1875 letter signed “Dufferin,” (Frederich Temple Hamilton-Temple-Blackwood, 1st Earl of Dufferin, 1st Marquess of Dufferin and Ava), Governor-General of Canada, announced that, following a trip to England “... I have arrived in Canada on Friday the 22nd Inst. and resumed the administration of the Dominion” [19]. On 8 November 1876, Hector L Langevin wrote on Department of the Secretary of State embossed, crested stationery, to advise Caron of the appointment of Antoine Amie Dorion as the Chief Justice of Quebec.

For two years, 1877–78, Amyot was the second Commissioner of the Quebec Provincial Police [QPP], which was formed on 1 February 1870. The QPP took over the Quebec City Police building after that force was disbanded, and Amyot replaced Judge Pierre Antoine Doucet. Amyot’s Commission, signed by Luc Letellier de St. Just, Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec from 1876 to 1879, carries an intact “Seal of the Province of Quebec” and Amyot’s Oath of Office.

In July 1877, Amyot personally helped settle a disturbance over a church fire, between the Iroquois and other citizens in Oka. He spent several weeks in Oka, during which he received several letters written and signed by Emile Bureau, “Supt de la PP,” his second in command. The archive also includes an undated letter on Police Provinciale de Quebec crested letterhead from Amyot to the Chief of the Iroquois at Oka [20].

The 1879–1880 period was a time of additional change in Amyot’s life. In 1879, he was appointed Deputy Sherriff of Quebec, and the next year he was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel of the Militia and appointed to a two-year term as the fourth Commanding Officer of the Ninth Regiment, *Voltigeurs de Quebec*. He also became a founding member of the Garrison Club, formed to promote good relations between military personnel and civil and business leaders of Quebec. Figure 20 shows the crest of the club, which is still in operation today [21, 22].

Not to be confused with American “wild west” law enforcers, the Deputy Sherriff was an officer of the legal courts, responsible for court operations including schedules and the issuance of summons and writs. Amyot held this position until his death. The letters shown in Figures 21 and 22 were among many received by Amyot while he was Deputy Sherriff.



Figure 20. Crest of the Quebec Garrison Club.

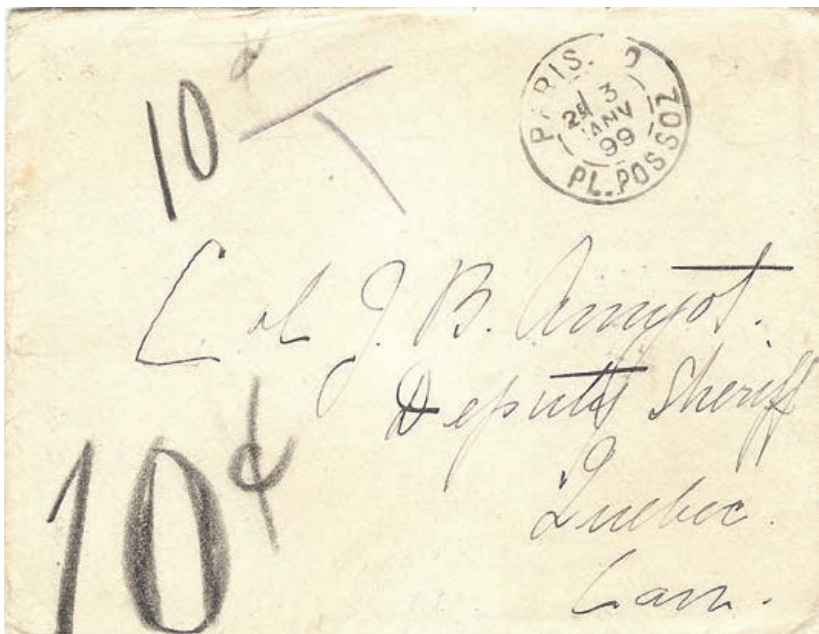


Figure 21. This unpaid 1899 letter from France to Deputy Sherriff Amyot was taxed 10¢ on delivery.



Figure 22. A letter to Amyot postmarked by the British Great Western (Railway) Travelling Post Office in 1904.

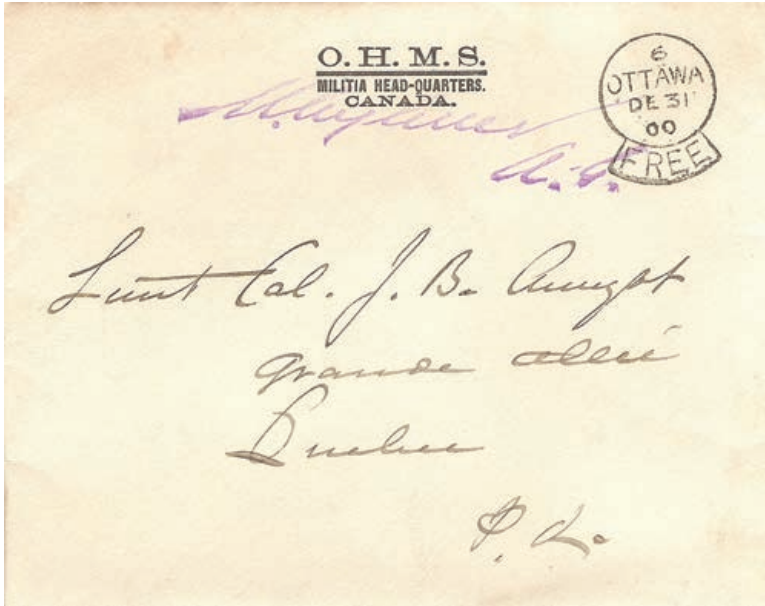


Figure 23. Letter to Amyot, from Surgeon-General Hubert Neilson, postmarked on the last day of the nineteenth century.

As mentioned in Part 1 of this article, Amyot and Herbert Neilson were good friends from the 1870–71 Red River Rebellion or earlier. Neilson, of course, is well known to Canadian military postal historians for the series of letters he wrote as Surgeon-Major of the Canadian Contingent in the Nile Expedition of 1885. The cover shown in Figure 23, headed “O.H.M.S./MILITIA HEAD-QUARTERS/CANADA” and carrying the purple free frank of the Adjutant General of the Militia, was mailed by Neilson on 31 December 1900, the last day of the nineteenth century. In the letter, written in French, Neilson thanks Amyot for his “charming letter of congratulations,” acknowledges their friendship of “30 years and more,” and sends best wishes to Amyot and his family for the about-to-dawn “XXth century.” The letter was backstamped in Quebec the next day, 1 January 1901.

After his return from the Red River Amyot and his family lived at two addresses on Quebec City’s famous *Grande Allée*. The ca 1906 postcard in Figure 24 shows a military unit, possibly one of Amyot’s, on parade down the avenue. The Amyot family was always quite involved in Quebec City’s social scene and were very interested in the theatre. Amyot, his wife and daughter attended the Quebec Tercentenary celebrations and are listed on page 116 of *The Quebec Tercentenary Commemorative History*, an impressive publication from the *Daily Telegraph*.

The Amyots also liked to travel. The letter in Figure 25 was mailed to them from New York on 18 August 1910 while they were on their last overseas trip. Received in Quebec on 19 August, it was forwarded to them in care of the Canadian High Commissioner at “10 rue de Rome” in Paris. From France it was again forwarded to the Amyots in Weymouth, England via London. It finally reached them on 1 September 1910.



Figure 24. Military parade down Quebec's Grande Allée, ca. 1906.



Figure 1910

25. letter

from New York to the Amyots in Quebec, forwarded to them in Paris, France and then to Weymouth, England.

The Amyots had a daughter, Louise, and a son, Charles. Louise was well educated in England and France and married George FW Rideout-Evans [23] about 1913. There is relatively little in the archives concerning the son, Charles. I have been able to determine that he left home about 1903 and worked as a surveyor in the Yukon, where he met his future wife, who was from California. After their marriage, they settled in San Francisco.

Following a long and eventful career, and after a lengthy illness, Jean-Baptiste Amyot died at his home in Quebec on 4 April 1913, in his seventieth year. His funeral notice from *The Quebec Chronicle* of 5 April 1913 is shown in Figure 26.

In the third and final part of the Amyot story, I will tell you about Amyot's brother, Guillaume, who also had an interesting and similar—yet somewhat quite different—career.

Acknowledgement

I wish to once again thank Mike Street for his welcome and invaluable assistance with the preparation of this article.

References and endnotes

- [17] Charles G Firby and Victor L Wilson, *The Canadian Posted Letter Guide for the Classic Period 1851–1902*, Charles Firby Publications, Waterford, MI, 1996, p. 47.
- [18] Lt Col TB Strange had a very impressive military career, well documented on the Royal Regiment of Canada website. The son of a Scots British Army officer, he followed his father and brother into the Army and graduated from the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, at age 20. He served in many places before coming to Canada in 1872 to take the position of “Inspector of Artillery and Warlike Stores for Canada” and Command of “B” Battery.

He was well liked and respected and is often referred to as “a father to the Artillery of Canada.” In his position, he recommended establishment of three important Canadian institutions: the Royal Military College, the Dominion Artillery Association, and the Dominion Cartridge Factory. He also recommended that west coast defence be based on a four battery Brigade of Garrison Artillery. Unfortunately, at the height of his career, Strange was forced to retire in 1882 at age 51, shortly after being promoted to a full Colonel. Even though the powers-that-be granted him the honorary rank of Major-General, he was very bitter and unhappy.

Strange moved to Alberta, purchased a tract of land, and established a ranch. With the outbreak of the Second North-West Rebellion in the spring of 1885, he organized the defence of the Alberta District. The result was the Alberta Field Force, comprised of cowboys, North West Mounted Police, and three untested Militia battalions. Under Strange's command, the Force had a major role in the Battle of Frenchman's Butte. As a “reward” for his service, which only added insult to injury, Strange was informed by the British War Office that, because he had returned to service with the Canadian Militia, and despite over 30 years of dedicated service, his British military pension was being cut off; a thankless government to say the least. As far as I know, this long exchange with Amyot is the only Strange correspondence to survive.

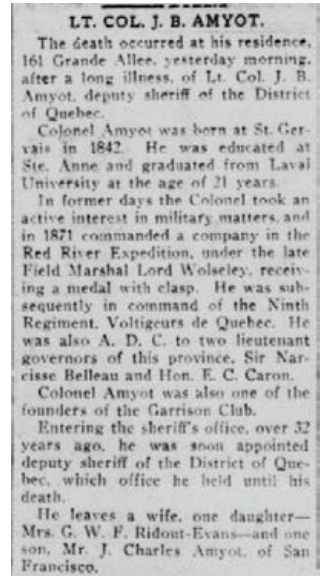


Figure 26. Funeral notice for JB Amyot.

- [19] There are several other documents relating to Dufferin, including a notice dated “Quebec, 20 Sept. 1878” announcing his departure from Canada. In 1884, Lord Dufferin became the Viceroy of India.
- [20] History does repeat itself. On 11 July 1990, in what became known as the “Oka Crisis,” a land dispute between the local Mohawk band and the town of Oka, Quebec, over a proposed golf course, erupted in a military standoff which lasted until 26 September 1990.
- [21] The Garrison Club building, located immediately adjacent to Quebec’s City’s St. Louis Gate, is now a National Historic Site of Canada. More information is available at:
<http://www.historicplaces.ca/en/rep-reg/place-lieu.aspx?id=4423>.
- [22] From the 1860s into the 1920s, envelope flaps and letterhead stationery often carried colour or blind embossed crests. Crests were a popular collectible in the period and were mounted in special albums. *The Pocket Album of Crests, Arms and Monograms*, a leather-covered volume, published in London in 1863 by Johnson and Rowe at 17 Warwick Square, Paternoster Row, is the only one I have seen in over 40 years of collecting crests.
- [23] George FW Rideout-Evans appears to have come to Canada about 1908. A professional engineer, he worked in Alberta and British Columbia for the Construction Department of the Canadian Pacific Railway. He joined the Canadian Militia, possibly influenced by his new father-in-law, and in 1915 qualified for the rank of Lieutenant in the Eighth Regiment, Royal Rifles. After going overseas, he served with the British Army’s Royal Engineers in the battle zones and with the occupation forces in Germany until mid-1919. During the war, he wrote lengthy, interesting letters to his wife Louise and always included a separate letter to their daughter, Nesta. As an officer, he could self-censor his letters, which often contained details the censor would likely have obliterated or cut out, making them particularly good reading for a war buff. *The Times of London* of 29 November 1917 reported that Captain George Rideout-Evans, Royal Engineers was awarded the Military Cross.

After he returned to Canada, Rideout-Evans worked in Northern Ontario and Quebec on a variety of projects requiring his engineering skills. Daughter Nesta continued the family’s practice of public service during World War II with the Royal Air Force Transport Command at Dorval Airport and, after the war, with the forerunner of the International Civil Aviation Organization in Montreal, the only United Nations agency located in Canada.

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Study group centreline

Derek Smith

CENTRELINE presents brief summaries of the specialized research contained in newsletters produced by BNAPS Study Groups. This review includes newsletters received to the end of December, 2012.

British Columbia

Issue #83. Editor Bill Topping details the history of Slocan Park post office, which is still open, in the district of Kootenay. It began life as Gutelius in 1903; the name change was effective from 1 May 1912. He reproduces many communications between the POD and the Slocan Park unit, including letters appointing postmasters in 1903 and 1946, as well as illustrations of various hammers used over the period. He also reproduces a page on compensation for Rural Postmasters dated in 1938.

Bill also studied the large circular time-date stamps applied to Special Delivery letters between 1977 and 1987. Most were used in Vancouver, but they are also known for Kamloops, Prince George, Richmond, and Victoria.

Issue #84. Tim Woodland submitted covers mailed aboard BC coastal steamships during the 1930s—all addressed to the US (if to Canada, they had to be processed at a post office). Most were cancelled to order, which officially was not permitted. They went through nevertheless. They bear numerous hammers used aboard the vessels (specifically *Princess* ships *Charlotte, Kathleen, Maquinna, and Marguerite*).

Andrew Scott illustrates an initial date stamp used in April and May 2012 with the PO spelled “BRACLENDALÉ,” and its corrected version “BRACKENDALE,” issued in June. Andrew also shows fifteen Vancouver rectangular designs issued in 2011-2012. Editor Bill Topping presents a list of all known Special Delivery Time/Date stamps used in BC, including illustrations of a few. He also lists all Canadian Post Offices that had SD service in 1961.

Dead Letter Office

Issue #9. Brian Plain and Gary Steele expound on a unique DEAD LETTER OFFICE / CANADA handstamp proofed in 1883—the side bars consist of five dots rather than the usual solid lines. It was used only from 6 June until 28 December 1888. They show three examples of this rare marking.

Gary reports a newly discovered Branch Dead Letter Office handstamp used in Vancouver on 23 December 1907. It differs from another oval used in the period—2mm wider, with three lines in the border, and in a different letter font.

Elizabethan II

Corgi Times—Issue #122. Editor Robin Harris applauds Canada Post’s issue of a 15¢ souvenir sheet of three, low-value Beneficial Insects stamps. The three values reprint the basic designs of the definitives in current use, but with hidden features, as indicated in the sheet’s selvage. Each also has a copyright date. Given its low cost, the need for a

magnifying glass, and required sleuthing, it is an encouragement to younger stamp collectors. Good for Canada Post!

Robin reviews the new BNAPS book written by the late John Arn on the “Red” postage due stamps and their uses.

Robin notes that on the Coast Guard Stamp materials issued in January, there are four different versions of the ship and the flag on the four formats—stamp, souvenir sheet, booklet cover, and post card.

Canada Post has issued a corrected version of the Bobsled issue, this time spelling Pierre Lueders’ name properly. Robin has updated his list of Canada’s Elizabethan stamp count for each year of her reign, including stamps, souvenir sheets, varieties, and semi-postals. The total for commemoratives, definitives, and BoB issues comes to 3,267 so far.

Fancy Cancels

Issue #61. Editor Dave Lacelle has identified a Main River (Nfld) crown wax seal as being struck at Nardini Crossing, now part of Stephenville.

Ron Smith shows a cover from Spence’s Bridge, BC which was returned for required 3¢ postage and struck twice with a fancy H in oval cancel. Two more Toronto fancy “2”s were reported by Brian Hargreaves.

Guy Jaffrey shows an 1874 Toronto cork with decorative circular holes, possibly caused by using screws to expand it to fit the hammer’s collar. Guy also depicts an “EEXAT” strike, but with no identifying town dater.

Ron Majors sent an unrecorded radial cancel from Trois Pistoles, PQ used in the 1880s. George Pond sent a number of letter/initials strikes.

Mike Street illustrates an OHMS cover, bearing a 4¢ stamp placed over a “FREE” marking, as required on a government letter addressed abroad, this time to New Zealand in 1952. It is cancelled by a solid cork.

New member Alexander Forde sent an 1875 cancel from Coburn, ON made either from a small-mouthed bottle or even the end of a thread spool. Jack Forbes illustrated more 1870s Paradise Lane, NS fancies, with daters placed very close to the stamp.

First Day Covers

First Impressions Issue #13 features articles on three lesser-known Canadian FDC cachet producers, all, as ever, lavishly illustrated. John Van der Ven presents the cachets of DS Rose of Vancouver, who produced covers in 1958, and then again in 1970–1972.

Bob Vogel writes on the hand-drawn and colored FDCs made by Lester Small of Victoria—an active collector and promoter of youth philately. His output covered the 35 year period from 1946–1981.

Editor Gary Dickinson discusses the output of Barrett’s Print Shop, located in Curling, NL. Its output centred on the Newfoundland commemorative issues from 1943 on. The last set of cachets was for the Canadian 4¢ issue, saluting Newfoundland’s entry into Confederation.

Harold Houston and Gary have discovered two unlisted JC Rosenbaum covers—one for the 1941 Grenfell issue and the other for Canada’s 1959 Country Women stamp.

Peter Wood details the presentation folder produced by Canada Post to its employees to celebrate its becoming a Crown corporation on 16 October 1981.

Issue #14 is devoted to two articles by Bruce Perkins. One outlines the abundance of private cachet-makers in the 1950s and 1960s, and the subsequent decline and eventual demise of all. The reasons were twofold, both the result of the entry of Canada Post into the field in 1971—it had better distribution through its post offices and outlets, and the doubling of handling costs to the private sector producers. Bruce outlines the work of a number of the early “artists” and those who attempted to stay in business in the face of PO competition. Now there are none.

Bruce’s second article introduces three previously uncovered makers with illustrations of their work—Ken Covers (1983–2003), Marg (1966 to the late 1980s), and an unknown Winnipeg maker (mid–1970s). The article also traces the major players in developing interest in FDC collecting over three “periods,” ours now being in the third.

Large and Small Queens

Confederation—Issue #49. Ted Nixon details the plate characteristics and plate numbers used on the ½¢ to 10¢ values of the Small Queen issue, based on his study of BABNCo material held by the National Archives. Together with his own holdings, he discusses printings of these values and tabulates printing plate data for each.

Bill Burden discusses a new “5 on 6” variety at the lower left of position 10 of Plate A of the Montreal and second Ottawa printings.

Issue #50. Bill Radcliffe and Victor Willson present the earliest-recorded cover to France at the lowered rate of 10¢ to France, dated 10 September 1870, disproving the existing notion that the rate came into effect only on 1 October.

John Burnett illustrates four covers that feature farm machinery advertising and Small Queen stamps, three of which have duplex cancellations—one of his specialist areas.

Guillaume Vadeboncoeur discusses a right-side block of six from a sheet of the 10¢ rose lilac/magenta Montreal printing. It has the only two constant plate varieties from the Montreal printings—probably the only such block there is. Guillaume also shows the 1¢ Small Queen on thick soft paper with 1871 pen cancels, used for an unauthorized fiscal purpose.

Jim McCormick illustrates eight misperfs on Small Queen stamps.

Editor Glenn Archer reviews some of the data mined over the years by Wayne Smith from 5,717 Large Queen covers he has studied—the first of a series, perhaps.

Military Mail

Issue #206. Editor Dean Mario displays a letter from P/O Peter Barnicke, written in 1943 when he was stationed at No 9 Bombing and Gunnery School in Mont Joli, PQ. Dean delves into the base’s history. Barnicke was killed in action on a raid in 1945.

Paul Binney shows a post card bearing six postal markings, used at the Fleet Mail Office at the HMCS *Avalon* naval base in 1945 and discusses the uses of each.

Colin Pomfret shows a CEN/O/SOR / 9 SQ marking applied on mail from a ship serving on the Dover Strait patrol. The writer, Lt. John Hales, was killed in 1918 while serving with 203 Squadron RAF.

The custom of showing Armed Forces Christmas Greeting cards continues. Robert Henderson displays 1942 cards from an identified RCAF station and another from The Officers’ Mess at the Canadian Parachute Training Centre at Camp Shilo, Manitoba.

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Ken Ellison illustrates a card from the Sergeants' Mess of "The Malamutes" of the Canadian Mobile Force based in Northern Russia in 1917.

Newfoundland

The Newfie Newsletter—Issue #149. Ron McGuire writes about the business of World's Products Company located in Botwood. It issued many colourful covers, which Ron shows, illustrating its products from 1946 to 1971.

Gary Dickinson presents the second part of his study of the cachets made for the 1939 Royal Visit to Newfoundland, twenty-nine of which he has reproduced. Most of the cachets noted in this article are by unknown artists—colourful nonetheless.

Chairman Norris (Bob) Dyer shows page 11 of his exhibit of the 1897 Overprints during the period of a shortage of 1¢ stamps. This page is devoted to a 10¢ registered cover bearing an overprinted stamp as part of a multiple usage to the famous dealer/philatelist August Dietz, with follow-up notes on him.

Barry Senior illustrates the three types of "SPECIMEN" perfins applied to Newfoundland stamps by Perkins Bacon and Bradbury & Wilkinson in the 1930s.

Carl Munden records the discovery of an unproofed and hitherto unknown Burgeo double split-ring date stamp used in 1873.

Issue #150. Editor Norris (Bob) Dyer presents page 12 of his 1897 Postal Shortage overprint exhibit, featuring Type 1A, with a spacing of 17mm between the bars, found only in the top row of the sheets. Additional notes describe different spacing in rows 2-4.

Dean Mario illustrates three "serrated edge" rectangular postal markings used at St. John's and Gander during the 1940s, probably locally made – two for registration and one "received without contents".

Barry Senior showed a number of Canadian provincial and corporate perfins applied to Newfoundland stamps when they were distributed for use throughout the country after Confederation.

Ron McGuire shows an airmail cover using 25¢ and 10¢ Resources issue stamps to make the airmail rate to Wales in 1942. Very few non-philatelic uses of the former are known.

Paul Binney asks for help in his study of the circular Army censorship markings used in Newfoundland during WWII.

Bruce Robertson looks at the colourful exploits of Arthur D Sullivan, who established and operated Newfoundland Airways. Bruce illustrates a cover from the return leg of Newfoundland's first mail flight - from St. Anthony to St. Johns in February, 1931. The other is from St. John's to North Sydney, NS in August, 1931.

Perfins

The BNA Perforator. Issue #136 introduces the fifth edition of "Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials," edited by Jon Johnson and Gary Tomasson. There have been numerous changes to pattern numbers, and newly discovered patterns have been introduced. The catalogue is available in "eBook" form, at no cost, on the BNAPS website.

The final four-page installment of Russell Sampson's colourful and thorough exhibit of perfins on King Edward VII stamps is presented.

Editor Jim Graham examines an International Harvester IHC pattern on the first airmail stamp. He also discusses the use of CPR type C34 in BC. Gary Nummelin looks at distinguishing patterns of various CPR formats.

Owen White writes about late usages of the "LA" perfin of the Ontario Government. Patrick Durbano was actually shown the perforating machine in 1993, and he was permitted to make one strike on paper. The machine's current whereabouts is no longer known.

Postal Stationery

Notes Volume 25, #3. A talk by Mike Sagar led Bill Walton to examine different shades of the pictures on his Grand Trunk Railway "sepia view cards." He illustrates three shades on one view used from 1904 to 1907.

Hans van Dooremalen illustrates a 5¢ Maple Leaf post card mailed in 1902 to Tandjoeng Poera on the east coast of Sumatra. It had quite a journey—*via* England, Penang (Straits Settlements), Taiping (Malaya), Singapore, back to Penang, to Medan on Sumatra and finally to its destination—forty-nine days.



Canada Post has issued new "Write Me Back" stationery items with a pre-printed envelope and notepaper, which contain similar but smaller items for the return note. There are four different designs.

The final of six Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee cards was issued on 1 June. Other post card sets recently issued include Signs of the Zodiac (4) and CFL Football team cards (9). Robert Lemire's PCF Corner records four new Quebec City views found by Raymond Gagne.

RPO

Issue #222. Brian Stalker presented a transcription of the staff at the PO Inspector's Office in Toronto and of the Railway Mail Clerks in the Toronto Division at 18 September 1880.

Editor Ross Gray includes several new studies of RPO hammer strikes, covering printing details and layout, number of different hammers, and dates of use for each, all illustrated. They include Chappleau & Fort William, North Bay & Chappleau, London & Walkerton, North Bay & Fort William, North Bay & Sault St. Marie, North Bay & Soo, and Ottawa & North Bay.

Newly reported ERD, LRD, Train Nos and Clerk strikes were reported by Jack Brandt and Ross Gray.

Noteworthy: Peter McCarthy is the first recipient of the William G Robinson Award for the best BNA RPO exhibit, awarded at Orapex 2012.

Issue #223: Two repaired registered covers with clerk markings are described. John Cheramy shows a 1935 cover from St. John's (with the three Jubilee values) addressed to New

Westminster. On the way to Montreal, it was damaged. Clerk H Garant repaired it, and he applied his handstamp, which included his initials, HG.

Editor Ross Gray illustrates a cover from Dartmouth to Toronto, repaired by a mail clerk on the Halifax & Campbellton CNR run, stamped with the RPO hammer and signed by him—L. J. Young.

Brian Stalker shows two “Case Examination” forms showing successful results of tests taken in 1940 and 1942 by a clerk in the Moose Jaw postal district known for his knowledge of distribution points in his area.

Ross Gray detailed size, date, and indicia data for known hammers used on the Bridgeburg & Goderich RPO (used 1903–1926), Bridge & Goderich RPO (1926–1931), and Bridgeburg & St Thomas RPO (1901–1927).

New ERD, LRD, train numbers and direction marks are reported by Daniel Tremblay and Jack Brandt.

With help from Ross, Jack Brandt, Albert Govier, and Murray Smith, Brian Stalker updated his Newfoundland & Labrador RPO listing.

Revenues

Issue #78: Erling van Dam reports on 1,864 Ontario Law Stamps found perf 13 or 13½. They are fakes—the issue was perf 12 only.

Chris Ryan produced a thorough study of the production details for the Second Issue of Canada Bill Stamps printed by the American Bank Note Company, adding new data from Mark Tomasko. He lists the eight printing/order dates from 1864 to 1867, the paper and perf varieties as well as the total number of stamps issued of each value.

Chris also presented part 3 of his illustrated study of Quebec’s Law Stamps Taxes, Registration Stamp Duties and Fees—this time regarding the counting of words in documents as a determinant of fees to be assessed, and regarding additions to these tariffs. Finally, with information from Erling van Dam, he updates the Listing of Canada’s federal Bottled-in-Bond Liquor Stamps.

World War II

War Times, Issue #50. Bill Pekonen investigates unusual collectable facets of wartime mail—covers from various government departments addressed to civilians, and the Acts authorizing their enclosures. Those shown were issued by the Department of Labour, requests for data for a National Registration program of all citizens over 15 years old (skills, ages re eligibility for call-up); and from the Department of War Services (a host of activities). He illustrates a completed foreign travel permit issued by the Foreign Exchange Control Board and full instructions for its use, including amounts of money being carried abroad by a traveller.

Bill also shows an Export Stamp issued by the Department of Agriculture. It was attached to meat carcasses noting that they have been inspected. He discusses local Ration Board communications re delivery of coupon books and their usage.

Issue #51. Robert Henderson sent an envelope from the “Dependents Advisory Committee” mailed in Saskatoon in December 1944 and containing a Temporary War Ration Card (RB 2), along with an application and instructional pamphlet for the upcoming RB 3 type—all nicely illustrated. Editor Bill Pekonen added information of the envelope type and the duties of the DAC Board.

A windowed envelope (that probably contained a cheque) used by the Department of Finance in 1941 from the Chief Treasury Officer’s Dependents Allowance and Assigned Pay Branch in Ottawa was shown, and the functions of that Branch were described.

The Editor displays an unusual “marketing ploy,” in the form of a Christmas gift card with four War Savings stamps properly attached within the sixteen available spaces.

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C\$ Retail




| | |
|--|---|
| | <p>Canada Red Postage Due Issues — The Stamps and Their Usage, 2012 by John Arn. A comprehensive look at the stamps and postal history of Canada's last issue of postage due stamps. BNAPS Exhibit Series #69. Colour version. Spiral bound, 170pp. (also available in black & white edition at \$41.95). \$66.00</p> |
| | <p>Post D-Day Swiss Mail To/From Great Britain and the Americas, 2012 by Charles J. LaBlonde. A valuable follow-up to the author's previous book about WWII correspondence between these two countries, published by the American Helvetia Philatelic Society, colour. [NB: Not eligible for BNAPS member discount.]. \$29.00</p> |
| | <p>The Royal Visit of 1939—Philatelic Highlights from the Royal Train Post Office, 2012 by Paige, Larry R. Philatelic rarities arising from the 1939 Royal Visit to Canada and the USA. Colour edition. Spiral bound, 60 pp. \$42.00</p> |
| | <p>Canadian Patriotics—J.C. Wilson & Company, 2012 by Paige, Larry R. The most beautiful envelope and post card designs ever used with Canadian stamps. BNAPS Exhibit Series #66. Colour version. Spiral, 82 pp. (also available in black & white edition at \$34.95). \$49.00</p> |
| | <p>Fines on Trans-Atlantic Mail between Canada and the United Kingdom 1859-1899, 2012 by Montgomery, Malcolm. A full study of the treatment of letters between Canada and England short paid for one of several reasons, based on the covers in the author's collection, with rates, markings and source references. Black & white edition. Spiral bound, 230 pp. (Also available in black & white edition at \$44.95). \$75.00</p> |

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More New Titles (See website for full list)

C\$ Retail

| | |
|---|---|
|  | <p>A Postal History of Marks Stamp Company, 2012 by Dickinson, Gary. History and output of a major Canadian philatelic dealership of the 20th Century. Spiral bound, 54 pp. \$35.95</p> |
|  | <p>Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia: Communications of the 1700s and Postal Markings of the 1800s, 2012 by Rathbun, Hugh. Postal history and postmarks from the second two hundred years of Canada's oldest settlement. BNAPS Exhibit Series #67. Colour version. Spiral bound, 78 pp. (also available in black & white edition at \$35.95). \$50.00</p> |
|  | <p>Canadian First Day and other Philatelic Covers by Joseph C Rosenbaum, 2012 by Dickinson, Gary. The story behind the numerous designs of JCR and Rosecraft First Day and other covers. Spiral bound, 88 pp. \$43.95</p> |

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New issues

William J F Wilson

The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

CANADA Post has issued a souvenir sheet dedicated to the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and the 125th anniversary of organized philately in Canada. The souvenir sheet contains three values from the current series of low-value definitives (Beneficial Insects): the 3¢ golden lacewing, 4¢ paper wasp and 8¢ margined leatherwing. The 3¢ was first released on Oct. 12, 2007, and the 4¢ and 8¢ on Oct. 19, 2010, and are still available in sheet form in post offices.



Souvenir sheet issued for the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

The history of the RPSC and its predecessors has been described in at least two articles in *The Canadian Philatelist*, one by Charles JG Verge in Vol. 63, No. 5, pp 283–288 (Sept/Oct 2012) and the other by Kenneth Rowe in Vol. XX, No. 1, pp 7–9 (Jan/Feb 1969). The following summary is based on those two articles. The first national philatelic society in Canada was the Canadian Philatelic Association, formed in 1887, with *The Toronto Philatelic Journal* as its official publication. In 1890, the journal became *The Dominion Philatelist*.

A second, competing but short-lived national society, the Philatelic Society of Canada, was formed in 1891, with the publication *The Canadian Philatelist* (not the same as the present publication); and a third national society, the Dominion Philatelic Association, was formed in 1894 with the publication *The Philatelic Advocate*. From 1903 to 1919, no national society appears to have existed (Rowe, 1969), although local societies continued across the country. 1919, however, saw the formation of the Winnipeg Stamp Society, which in the following year changed its name to the Canadian Philatelic Association and extended membership to all of Canada.

The name changed again in 1923 to the Canadian Philatelic Society, and in 1959, in recognition of the Society's international stature, they were granted permission to include the title, "Royal," in the name of the Society. A number of different journals were published in

the earlier years, and in 1950 *The Canadian Philatelist* began publication and continues to the present day.

The RPSC is an excellent society and fills a much-needed role in uniting stamp collectors across the country. The same need clearly existed in 1887, because by the end of that year 80 members had already signed up, and by 1890 the membership was 218. In the United States, with a much larger population, the American Philatelic Association in June 1887 had only 300 members, so this was an impressive response.

Without optical aid, the new stamps appear identical to the previous ones except for slight differences in shade, which might be expected after 2–5 years between printings, and a different shade of PVA gum (greenish on the older issues, white on the new ones). With a view to encouraging young collectors, however, Canada Post has hidden several new features in the stamp designs that are visible only when viewed under magnification (unless you have sharper eyes than I have): The names of each insect in English and French, and several symbols showing why the insects are beneficial. With the changes to the design, the copyright date has been updated to 2012.

This year's semi-postal stamp focuses on young people, with a heart surrounded by images of children's hands. Previous stamps in this series, beginning in 2008, focused on mental health issues, with the 10¢ surcharge on each stamp (\$1.00 on a booklet of 10) used to raise money for the Canada Post Foundation for Mental Health. Between 2008 and 2011, the foundation distributed \$6.7 million to 140 organizations across Canada. This year, the name of the Foundation has been changed to the Canada Post Community Foundation, and the focus has shifted to children's charities, school groups, and other local initiatives, including mental health initiatives aimed at youth. Prior to the current series, the only semi-postal stamps issued by Canada Post were several stamps in 1974–1976 to support the Montreal Olympics, and in 1996 to support Canadian literacy.

Canada Post has vastly expanded its Picture Postage offerings, effective 5 November. As before, you can go to www.picturepostage.ca, upload a digital photograph or other image of your choice, and (subject to their approval) Canada Post will print it on a peel-and-stick stamp for use on mail. In the new offering, you can choose any of twelve different frames, four different rates (Permanent, \$1.05, \$1.29, and \$1.80), and three different formats (booklets of 12, sheet of 50, or sheet of 25+1 plus an enlarged image of the photo).

Any rate can be combined with any frame, and the 25+1 sheet is arranged to allow you to trim off the enlarged photo plus one stamp as a keepsake and have the other 25 stamps as a separate sheet to use on mail. You can also buy customized postcards and greeting cards, and then upload your photo, message, and addresses. Canada Post will then print and assemble everything, stamp them all (presumably with your personalized stamp) and mail them anywhere in the world for you. Invitations and pre-stamped envelopes will be available in January. Although now a product that stands on its own, Picture Postage was originally introduced in combination with Greeting Stamps. In honour of the new offering, here is a brief history:

28 January 1994: Introduction of customizable Greeting Stamps. The peel-and-stick stamp was long and curved, shaped somewhat like a banner (two forms: left and right), with a choice of 5 different circular peel-and-stick labels that could be placed on the stamp. (Of course, it didn't take people long to figure out that they could make their own stickers, too.)

The stamps were sold in booklets of ten stamps and ten stickers. According to the Jan/Feb 1994 *Details* booklet (Vol. III, No. 1), these were the first customized self-adhesive stamps in the world.

15 August 1997: Last Greeting Stamp issue with circular stickers. Still offered for sale on the order form in the May/June/July 1999 *Details*, but not on any later ones. No specific “off sale” date was listed.

28 April 2000: New-format Greeting Stamps and the introduction of Picture Postage. The Greeting Stamps were now rectangular with only one frame available and only in landscape format, with five different rectangular stickers. The Picture Postage option allowed you to mail a personal photograph to Canada Post along with an order form that was included in the Greeting Stamp booklet. Canada Post would put your photograph on stickers which you could place on the Greeting Stamp frame.

The Greeting Stamps came in a bi-fold booklet of five frames and five stickers, and the Picture Postage stamps were sent in a package containing a sheet of 25 frames, 25 stickers, and 25 personalized return address labels. According to the May/June 2000 *Details* booklet (Vol. IX, No.3), this was the first personalized postage stamp in the world. Australia had introduced a personalized tab attached to a regular stamp by perforations, but the stamp itself wasn’t personalized. The same article also comments that “Canada Post holds the world-wide patent for the double-sticker greeting stamp.”

5 October, 2000: A new, Christmas-style frame, designed for use in both landscape and portrait format, with five different inserts (three landscape and two portrait) and a Picture Postage application form included. The layouts for the booklet and package were the same as for the April 2000 issue.

28 December 2000: Three new frames plus revised versions of the previous two. Each of these frames was designed so that the stamp could be used in either landscape or portrait format. Again, a Picture Postage application form was included in the booklet. The layouts for booklet and package were the same as for the April 2000 issue.

21 September 2001: A new frame plus four old ones, but without denomination; small printing along the edge of the frame simply says “Domestic Lettermail” in English and French—a precursor to the Permanent stamp. (All previous issues had denominations, and all Greeting Stamps and Picture Postage stamps were at the domestic letter rate until the 2012 issue.) Again, a Picture Postage order form was included with the booklet, and layouts were the same as for the April, 2000, issue. This issue was listed for sale on the order forms in the *Details* booklets until the Oct/Dec 2005 issue, inclusive, but not afterward, and no specific “off sale” date was given.

8 October 2004: Introduction of pre-printed Picture Postage stamps (*i.e.*, with the picture printed directly on the stamp, rather than on a separate sticker), and discontinuation of the Greeting Stamps. Two frames were available, a silver ribbon and a photo album design, with “Domestic Postage Paid” printed on the stamp frame in English and French. Both regular and digital photos could be submitted. They still had to be mailed or perhaps ordered at a post office, but the *Details* write-up (Vol. XIII, No. 4, Oct-Dec 2004) says that “Canada Post expects to introduce online ordering through its website in the near future.”

Table 1. 2012 Commemoratives and Definitives

| Stamp | Community Foundation | Regiments | Christmas Cookies | Stained Glass | Beneficial Insects |
|---------------|------------------------|--|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Value | <i>P+10¢</i> | <i>3 × P</i> (<i>s-t on SS</i>) | <i>P, \$1.05,</i> <i>\$1.80</i> (<i>s-t on SS</i>) | <i>P</i> | <i>3¢, 4¢, 8¢ s-t</i> |
| Issued | 17 September | 11 October | 15 October | 15 October | 16 October |
| Printer | L-M | L-M | L-M | L-M | CBN |
| Pane | Bk: 10 | 10 each booklet SS: 3 | P: Bk 12 A,B ^(a) : Bk 6 SS: 3 | Bk: 12 | SS: 3 |
| Paper | C | C | C | C | C |
| Process | 8CL | 7CL | 5CL | 6CL + spot varnish | 5CL |
| Qty (million) | 3.75 | 2.5 each booklet 0.25 SS | P: 21 A,B ^(a) : 4.2 each SS: 0.195 SS | 18 | 0.7 SS |
| Tag | G4S | G4S | G4S | G4S | None |
| Gum | P-S | Bk: P-S SS: PVA | Bk: P-S SS: PVA | P-S | PVA |
| Size, mm | 25 × 35 ^(a) | 40 × 30 | 22 × 24 | 24.75 × 32.20 ^(c) | 20 × 24 |
| Perf | Simulated | Bk: Simulated SS: 13.0 × 13.3 | Coil: Simulated SS: 13.6 × 13.3 | Simulated | 13.0 × 13.3 |
| Teeth | Simulated | Bk: Simulated SS: 26 × 20 | Coil: Simulated SS: 15 × 16 | Simulated | 13 × 16 |

^(a) Listed as 26 × 36 in Oct-Dec *Details*. ^(b) A: \$1.05; B: \$1.80. ^(c) Listed as 24 × 32 in Oct-Dec *Details*.

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; Bk = booklet; SS = souvenir sheet.

The available layouts were either a sheet of 20+1 stamps with an enlarged image of the stamp, with a layout and purpose similar to the 2012 issue described above, or a sheet of 40 stamps. These two frame designs remained current until the present 2012 release.

May, 2006 *Details Extra*: This special edition of *Details* contains an advertisement for Picture Postage as part of the order form insert, saying to choose a digital photograph or image, then visit www.picturepostage.ca and follow instructions. The image submitted will be printed directly onto the stamp. This shows that online submission of orders and images was available by May, 2006, but it is not clear when the service was inaugurated.

The information in the table is from Canada Post's website, <http://www.canadapost.ca/cpo/mc/personal/collecting/stamps/2012/index.jsf> Canada Post's *Details* publication, and 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).

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New book releases from BNAPS

THE work of documenting the many and varied aspects of BNA philately continues! Three new books released by BNAPS, including the first electronic book or ebook, are described below, followed by a review of the newest volume published by *La Société d'Histoire Postale du Québec*.

Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials—Fifth Edition, Jon Johnson and Gary Tomasson, eds, prepared by the BNAPS Perfin Study Group, 2012, 172 pp. Available at no charge in PDF file format from the BNAPS website.

BNAPS is examining ways to make books available when it may not be economical to publish them by traditional means, *i.e.*, on paper. The result is BNAPS' first electronic book, or "ebook," *Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials—Fifth Edition*, available at:

<http://www.bnaps.org/PerfinHandbook/PerfinHandbook.htm>

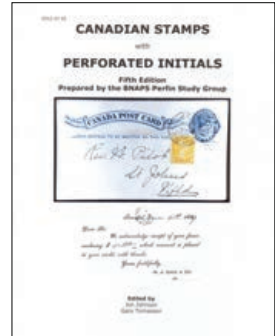
Access to and use of this handbook is free. The authors hope readers will find it useful or of interest to their collecting needs. The entire handbook—or any individual section—can be printed for one's own personal use or for a friend who does not use the Internet.

The Fifth Edition of *Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials* is a change from the Fourth Edition in several ways, some less obvious than others. The most dramatic change is the addition of the checklist of Canadian stamp issues that have been reported perforated by each perforating machine. There were some inconsistencies in the numbering of prior editions. The editors decided that, although it would mean some extra work for collectors to get used to the new numbers, the short-term pain was worth the long-term gain, so in the Fifth Edition there is some renumbering, most notably the move of the International Harvester Company alphabetically, from the Cs to the Is, and the rearranging of New York Life Insurance to reflect the code holes. It was also decided that any new perfin listings—one has already been received—will now be added to the end of the respective section regardless of the alphabetic order of the initials.

A major feature of the electronic Fifth Edition is the Table of Contents page. When an individual section is revised, both the section date and the date at the top of the Table of Contents are changed as updates are added. Collectors who choose to download or print the entire book in a single file should be aware that individual sections may have been changed since preparation of the current complete book single file. This is noted on the website. Congratulations and thanks are due to Jon Johnson and Gary Tomasson for this long-awaited update to the Perfin catalogue.

First Day Covers of Newfoundland, by Gary Dickinson. 2013, 70 pages, 8.5 x 11, spiral bound, colour. ISBN: 978-1-927119-15-0. Published by the British North America Philatelic Society. Stock # B4h060.1.1; \$C46.95

After his first three BNAPS books, on AC Roessler, Joseph C Rosenbaum, and the Marks Stamp Company, Gary Dickinson has now added a fourth, the first-ever, detailed





compilation of information on, and illustrations of, the First Day Covers (FDC) of Newfoundland. The book was produced with the generous assistance of BNAPS First Day Cover Study Group members Ivan Hebert-Croteau, Maurice Malenfant, and Bob Vogel.

Although the history of First Day Covers of Newfoundland stamp issues spans less than 30 years, three characteristic styles developed during that period. From dated postmarks as the only indication of FDC status in the 1920s, Newfoundland FDCs progressed to handwritten, typed, and rubber-stamped markings into the early 1930s. These were gradually superseded by printed cachets through the final Newfoundland stamp issue in 1947.

The intent of this monograph is to outline the development of Newfoundland FDCs by documenting and recording them, with an expectation that this will serve as a baseline for further study.

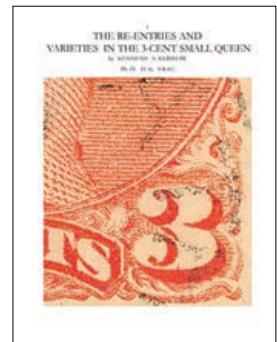
The four main chapters cover early FDCs produced from 1920 to 1936, those prepared for the Coronation of King George VI in 1936, the many varieties arising from the Royal Visit of 1939 and, finally, those printed in the 'forties. The Appendix is a 24-page illustrated catalogue of all FDC cachets, which were duplicated through a printing process from 1933 to 1947. Each cachet type has a unique number tied to the Scott number for the stamp. This should be a significant help as the study of Newfoundland FDCs carries on into the future.

Pricing was not addressed in the cachet catalogue. The very limited supply of Newfoundland FDC material available in the marketplace at any given time is often counterbalanced by the small number of collectors, which results in low demand. Prices can range from a few dollars, for FDCs that are relatively widely available, to a few hundred dollars for scarcer early covers or attractive cachets produced in very low numbers.

Dr Gary Dickinson worked in British Columbia secondary schools, colleges, and universities for 35 years until his retirement in 2001. His final 20 years in education were spent at Okanagan College and Okanagan University College. There he served as South Okanagan Regional Director for five years and Dean of the Faculty of Adult and Continuing Education for fifteen years. He was also Acting Vice-President, Academic, for the year-and-a-half prior to his retirement. Since 2002, Gary has followed up on his interest in continuing education by serving as President of the Society for Learning in Retirement, a 700-member organization providing educational programs for seniors in the Central Okanagan. Gary and his wife Barbara have six grown children and were foster parents for 20 years.

The Re-Entries and Varieties in the 3-Cent Small Queen, by Kenneth A Kershaw, 2013, Spiral bound, 448 pages, 8.5 × 11. Published by the British North America Philatelic Society. ISBN 978-1-927119-16-7; Stock # B4h061.1.1 \$C128.00

The Re-Entries and Varieties in the 3-Cent Small Queen, likely to be Ken Kershaw's last BNAPS book, is a major study of probably the most collected and studied stamp ever issued by Canada. Using his technique of first scanning a stamp at a high (1200



DPI (dots per inch)) resolution to produce a master image, then reducing that image to a more workable 300DPI for illustrating the book, he has filled this 448-page volume with easy-to-see-and-use replicas of a huge number of the variations of the 3¢ Small Queen.

Setting the stage with illustrations of guide dots and lines, marginal flaws, kiss prints, imprint types, plate corrosion flaws, and short transfers, he then moves on to 145 pages of re-entries and 250 pages of varieties. Both the re-entries and varieties are listed according to the position of particular segments of the stamp and then by stamp position on the printing sheet. Because of the long life and the large number of plates prepared for the 3¢ Small Queen, with few exceptions it is not possible to identify each variety by the actual printing plate used to produce the stamp being viewed. It is expected that collectors of the 3¢ Small Queen will have hours of fun checking their holdings against the illustrations in this book.

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 earn a Ph D, working on patterns in vegetation, and he was appointed lecturer in Plant Ecology at Imperial College London in 1957. He was then 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 and fascinating hobby. He is now working on plating the stamps of Nepal and Tibet.

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

Prices given above are the retail prices in Canadian dollars. BNAPS members receive a 40 percent discount from retail prices. Shipping is extra. Credit card orders (Visa, MasterCard) will be billed for the exact amount of shipping plus \$2 per order. For payment by cheque or money order please contact Ian Kimmerly Stamps. Applicable taxes will be charged on orders delivered in Canada.

Book review

Mike Street

Historique du bureau postal de Montréal (1763–2012) [History of the Montreal Post Office (1763–2012)], by Jacques Nolet, Société d'histoire postale du Québec, 2012, 1360 pp, ISBN 978-2-920267-48-0. \$150.00 **SOLD OUT.**



Why review a book that is sold out? Two reasons—first to let collectors know that the book exists and, second, to give due credit to the author. Although we have published release notices about M Nolet's previous books in *BNA Topics*, I had never actually seen one until now. By a fortunate coincidence, I was in Montreal the day the Montreal book was released and was able to attend the launch with Mark Berner and Robert Pinet. At 1,359 pages, the physical book itself is impressive. The contents are even more so.

The year 2013 marks the 250th anniversary of the establishment of the first postal system—between the major towns in the St. Lawrence Valley—in what is now Canada. M Nolet's newest book is the fourth of five volumes in his “pentalogy,” his tribute to the 250th anniversary. His books on the post offices of L'Assomption, Berthierville, and Trois-Rivières were published between 2009 and 2012. The last, on the post office of Québec City, will be published in 2013. Together, the five books will number close to 5,000 pages of simply amazing research and organization, not only of facts but also of illustrations. The Montréal book alone has 919 illustrations, gathered from hundreds of sources.

Historique du bureau postal de Montréal (1763–2012) is divided into 12 chapters. Chapters 1–4 cover the creation of the first Montreal post office and its early history. Chapter 5 contains 625 pages of very detailed information about the 28 Postmasters of Montreal who held the office between 1763 and 1971, when post office reorganization eliminated the position. Chapter 6 contains histories of the different building locations used by the Montreal Main Post Office in the same 1763–1971 period. Chapter 7 largely consists of tables detailing the names, locations, and dates of operation of the different district post offices, postal stations A–T, named “street” post offices and, finally, numbered sub-post offices. Reflecting Montreal's position as the hub of early train service in Canada, Chapter 8 devotes 125 pages to the city's links with the Railway Post Office (RPO), including not only trains with mail cars that came and went from Montreal, but also the city's railway stations that had RPO offices as part of their operation. Statistics on postal revenues, salaries paid, numbers of employees, money orders, and postal notes take up Chapter 9. This is followed by 331 well-illustrated pages on the postmarks of Montreal, from manuscripts and straight lines through to machine cancels, as well as “Paid” markings and ship letter and steamboat cancels. The last two chapters offer a complete list of the illustrations in the book, and a bibliography.

Since printing was limited to only 30 copies, interested collectors may consult library copies at: Ottawa—Library and Archives Canada; Toronto—VG Greene Philatelic Library; Montreal—National Library and Archives of Quebec, Archives Centre of Montreal, Museum of Archaeology and History of Montreal (Pointe à Callière and Place d'Youville), University of Quebec at Montreal Library and Archives of the City of Montreal. If the book is reprinted, we will advise members.

Jacques Nolet retired in 2008 after a 32-year career as a Professor of History at Montreal's *Collège Notre-Dame de Sacré Coeur*. A philatelist since the early 1980s, he first became interested in the production of Canadian stamps and in the designers and engravers who created them. His professional background led him to postal history. In 1990, he received the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada's Geldert Medal, awarded for the best article in *The Canadian Philatelist*, for his series on Monaco UPU, 1949–1950. In 2004, he was elected a fellow of the RPSC. After completion of the fifth book of his “pentalogy,” on the Post Office of Québec City, M Nolet hopes to take a (well-deserved!) break from his labours.

Notes on AC Roessler's "stamps"

Clayton Rubec

ALBERT C Roessler, of East Orange, New Jersey, is well known for his many philatelic cover cachets and covers. He is best known for putting items with questionable provenance on the market. Issues of many sorts and from many places originated from Mr Roessler. He was also very much a pioneer philatelic cachet-maker, who created a lot of interesting material that is still sought after by collectors today. A recent BNAPS book by Gary Dickinson, *A.C. Roessler's Canadiana* [1], outlines Roessler's many Canadian cover designs and manufactured items. What is less clear is that Roessler was also a busy stamp manufacturer. Some are quite crude, while others are well designed and printed. Most of these stamps would be considered fantasy labels, but some fall into the class of forgeries. This article discusses two of his stamp productions—two from Canada and two from Newfoundland, and he mentions a further six from the United States and three from Germany. He also created a flood of cachets that are stamp-like images, usually a rough sketch of existing USA postal issues. Like his covers, Roessler's interesting "stamps" appear worth collecting in their own right. Do more exist? I would welcome information on other Roessler "stamps."

Canada

Canadian Airways Limited 1933: This label by Roessler comes in two colour versions (green trees and light brown airplane and text, or reversed colours), perforate and imperforate. It was successfully used on covers mailed at Gogama, Ontario in October 1933, but the genuine Canadian Airways Ltd had no connection to this effort.



London to London 1928: Roessler created a crude facsimile of the very rare stamp for a 1927 London, Ontario to London, England flight that failed. The Roessler label is deep orange in colour, a photo of a photo. First-flight covers were flown from Montreal to Albany, NY, with this label as a decoration, addressed to Roessler in New Jersey. This stamp exists in three formats: (a) Imperforate, red on deep yellow paper; (b) Perforated, red on light yellow paper; and (c) Perforated, red on white paper.



Keywords & phrases: AC Roessler, forgeries, overprints, fantasy stamps.

Newfoundland

Newfoundland Aerial Service Forgery 1931:

In 1922, the Government of Newfoundland commissioned an engraved airmail stamp essay to be printed by the De La Rue Company of England, in red-brown, sepia/black or sepia/blue and perforated 14×13.5 . In 1931, Roessler also created a lithographed forgery of the essay. It has a red-brown centre surrounded by a dark green frame. Apparently perforated 11×11 , the stamp is actually die-cut to produce a perforated edge.



Maritime and Newfoundland Airways 1931: This stamp was created by Roessler in partnership with a real company. These labels and covers were not entirely bogus, as the company had been refused authorization for a proposed airmail flight from Sydney, Nova Scotia to St-Pierre and Miquelon by the governments of Newfoundland and France. The Canadian postal authorities had also refused to mail any of these covers, but a few were successfully mailed in Chapleau, Ontario and Newark, New Jersey. When the covers and stamps continued to be sold as genuine, they fell into the forgery category. The labels come in numerous paper types, paper colours, ink colours, and in imperforate, perforate, and part-perforate versions.



There are two basic types and at least 17 varieties: (a) OFFICIAL stamps in perforated sheets of four with black type on silver paper. "Proofs" exist with "OFFICIAL" misspelled and imperforate. (b) Regular stamps in sheets of 20 (some were created by Roessler after 1938): (i) Red type on yellow paper and perforate; (ii) Red type on yellow paper and imperforate; (iii) Red type on vertically-lined yellow paper, imperforate; (iv) Red type on yellow paper, imperforate with dark red vertical lines and faint horizontal lines forming a checkerboard; (v) Red type on orange paper and perforate; (vi) Red type on orange paper and imperforate; (vii) Dark green type on plain green paper and imperforate; (viii) Dark green type on light green paper and perforate; (ix) Black type on yellow paper and perforate; (x) Black type on yellow paper and imperforate; (xi) Black type on yellow paper, vertically imperforate; (xii) Black type on plain yellow paper, vertically imperforate; (xiii) Black type on light yellow paper with a darker yellow background of squares set in horizontal rows and imperforate; (xiv) Black type on plain yellow paper, imperforate; and (xv) Black type on yellow paper, perforate with red, lined symbols in the background.

Other Roessler stamp creations that I have noted include:

United States

- USS Akron Air Mail. 1933. At least 20 distinct versions of this label exist.
- Wright Brothers “Kitty Hawk” Overprint. 1928. USA Scott #649 and #650, privately overprinted in many varieties.
- “Graf Zeppelin” Overprint 1928. Roessler privately overprinted the one-cent Franklin stamp USA Scott #632.
- Europe Airmail Transatlantic Post 1936. This label is a blue 53-cents bogus airpost stamp.
- Washington Stamp 1930. This is a Roessler cinderella label featuring George Washington, possibly modeled on the “Carrier’s Stamp” by the famous forger SA Taylor (around 1860).

Germany

- Bavaria Forgeries 1920. There are several forgery stamps attributed to Roessler imitating a Bavarian stamp but touted as a “printing errors” of Germany, Scott #252. Comes in several colours and an overprint.
- Germany Forgery 1920. This is attributed to Roessler, a well produced forgery of a 1902 stamp from Germany, Scott #78.
- Germany Forgery 1920. This is also attributed to Roessler, another excellent imitation of a 1920 stamp from Germany, Scott #114.

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Canada's "Stealth" MPOs—Part 4

Henk Burgers

Parts 1, 2, and 3 of this series were published in *BNA Topics*: 2010Q1 (pp. 49-55), 2011Q3 (pp. 62-73), and 2012Q2 (pp. 52-64). This is the final installment.

The "Imposters"

OTHER MPO postmarks during the Second World War and shortly afterwards also omitted the location of the city and/or province. As mentioned in part 3, the Royal Canadian Navy never included the location on its daters, not even for its shore-based facilities (colloquially known as "stone frigates"). However, this was not always for the same reasons of security as it was for MPO 101 to 601. This article will illustrate some examples of these postmarks.

MPO 503—Bagotville, Quebec



Figure 78. MPO 503 proof strike of Sayles D760; B&T M13-216.

Bagotville, near Chicoutimi in the Saguenay region, was home to 1 Operational Training Unit RCAF (1 OTU). The post office was issued with its devices in August 1943 before it opened on 17 August. Sgt Lucien Poirier was the postmaster [2].

The devices had been proofed in June and July, and they do include the name of the province. Figure 78 is the proof strike of the 24-mm steel hammer shown in the Pritchard & Andrews proof book, and Figure 79 below shows a strike of this 24-mm CDS (Sayles D760; B&T M13-216) on a cover to Montreal. The other devices (Figure 80) were a MOTO (D761; M13-218) and a registration marking (D762; M13-217). The office closed on 8 November 1944, but it was reopened in 1953 as RCAF Station Bagotville.



Figure 79. Cover to Montreal with 2 strikes of Sayles D760; B&T M13-216.

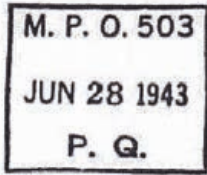
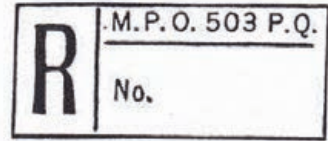


Figure 80. Proof strikes of the MOTO and the Registration box for MPO 503.



MPO 619—Sydney, Nova Scotia

Several coastal artillery forts (Chapel Point, Edward Point, Fort Petrie, etc.) were located around Sydney harbour during World War II, as part of the coastal defences in Cape Breton. Only parts of Fort Petrie and Chapel Point Battery still exist; they are now National Historic Sites. MPO 619 served Sydney Fortress, whose headquarters was located in the Lyceum Building on George Street in Sydney [27]. It opened on 10 August 1943 and closed on 20 September 1945 [2].



Figure 81. Proof strike of Sayles D1000; B&T M13-270, a 24-mm steel dater.

The first postmaster was A/Sgt EG Kehler. He was succeeded by A/Sgt KE Waugh on 9 November 1944, then by Sgt BC McKenzie on 8 February 1945, and lastly by Sgt JA Riordan on 15 March 1945 [2]. Its devices (the steel CDS dater shown in Figure 81 and the registration marking in Figure 82) were proofed in April 1943, and did not show location or province.

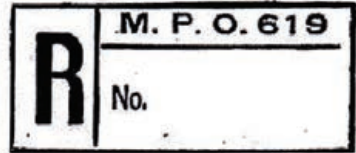


Figure 82. Proof strike of the registration marking D1003; B&T M13-579.

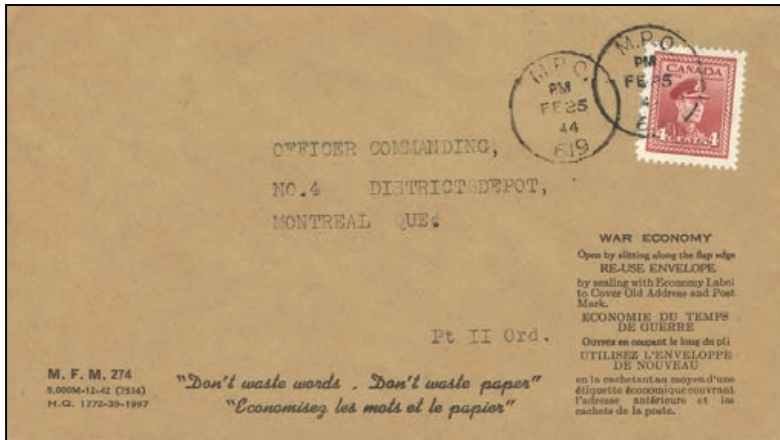


Figure 83. A War Economy envelope to Montreal from Sydney with two strikes of Sayles D1000; B&T M13-270.

MPO 621—Halifax, Nova Scotia

This military post office was opened on 1 November 1943 with Cpl LG Halferty as the postmaster [2]. It served No 6 District Depot. There were six changes of postmaster, the last being Sgt KE Waugh (who had previously been in Sydney), who served from 11 March 1946 until the office was closed on 8 July 1946 [2].



Figure 84. Proof strike of the CDS hammer for MPO 621, Sayles D1020; B&T M13-272.

This office had a full range of devices (CDS, MOTO, registration, and a roller cancel). All were proofed in May 1943, except for the roller cancel, which was proofed in December 1943. Figure 84 shows the proof strike of the 24-mm CDS hammer. An example of this device on cover is shown in Figure 85 below. The proof strikes of the other devices are shown in Figures 86 and 87.

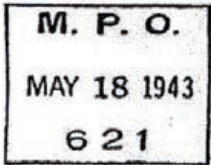


Figure 86. Proof strike of MOTO D1022 (B&T M13-274).



Figure 85. Airmail cover to Toronto with two strikes of Sayles D1020; B&T M13-272.

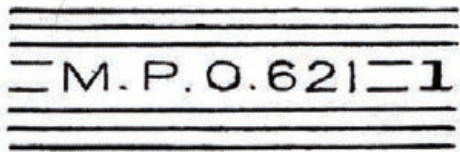
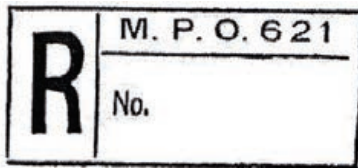


Figure 87. Proof strikes of the registration marking D1024; B&T M13-273, and the roller D1025; B&T M13-275.

MPO 624—Yarmouth, Nova Scotia

This office opened on 9 June 1944, although its devices had been proofed in the previous year. Yarmouth was home to No 60 Canadian Army (Basic) Training Centre, as well as to various air force units (1 NAGS, 34 OTU), and an anti-aircraft artillery unit (1 LAA).



Figure 88. Proof strike of Sayles D1050; B&T M13-276, a 24-mm steel dater.

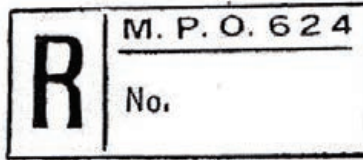


Figure 89. Proof strike of the registration D1054; B&T M13-277

Its CDS was proofed on 2 October 1943, and the registration marking (Sayles D1054; B&T M13-277) was proofed in September 1945.

The first postmaster was Sgt WD Wood, who served until 25 September 1944. He was replaced by Cpl JS Wilson. Figure 90 below shows a cover with two strikes of the steel hammer. The office was closed on 29 March 1945.

Figure 90. Cover to Rochdale, Lancashire, England with two strikes of the MPO 624 CDS D1050; B&T M13-276.



FPO 1126—Exercise Polar Bear

The urge to show only the office number continued into 1945 for some special military post offices. The next few illustrated here were used during exercises and equipment trials in Canada's north.

FPO 1126 was used for two- and- a-half months only during Ex POLAR BEAR, an exercise in northern BC to test the effects of winter weather on men and materiel. The routes were from Prince George to Anahim Lake and to Bella Coola, BC [28]. The office opened on 12 February 1945 and closed on 30 April 1945. Its only postmaster was Lt ER Thede [2]. Interestingly, Library and Archives Canada lists the office as having been in Ontario [2].



Figure 91. Proof strike of Sayles D1620; B&T M20-84, a 24-mm steel hammer, proofed 6 January 1945.

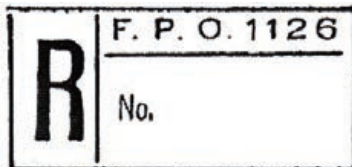


Figure 92. Proof strike of the 48 × 23 mm registration marking Sayles D1622; B&T M20-85, proofed in January 1945.



Figure 92. An oversized OHMS cover (reduced) sent to HQ Pacific Command, Vancouver, on 27 February 1945, using a War Economy label. Four Scott 254 4¢ and one Scott 250 2¢ George VI War Issue stamps are tied by four strikes of the D1620 CDS steel hammer. There is also an additional free strike.

FPO 1212—Exercise Eskimo

This office was used during Exercise Eskimo in north-central Saskatchewan, from 21 January 1945 to 26 February 1945. The exercise was to test men and materiel in extreme dry cold [29]. The office was operated from 24 October 1944 to 21 March 1945. Lt VR Brown was the postmaster [30].



Figure 93. Proof strike of Sayles D1730; B&T M20-86, a 24-mm hammer proofed on 30 September 1944



Figure 95. OHMS cover to a Private in 1 CORU (Canadian Ordnance Reinforcement Unit) from a Sergeant in the FPO 1212 post office on Exercise Eskimo dated 24 October 1944. The item was redirected several times, finally to the Canadian Scottish Regiment. One strike ties the 4¢ George VI Scott 254 and another is a free strike. The reverse has a strike of British FPO 751 used as receiver and the OR stamp of 1 CORU.

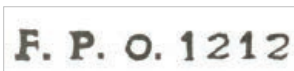


Figure 96. Straight line marking D1732; M20-87, size 36 x 3.5 mm, proofed in October 1944.

MPO 1314—Edmonton, Alberta

The Mountain Warfare School in Jasper was the location of this military post office, although officially it was at Western Command Headquarters (Army) in Edmonton. Its devices were proofed in December 1943, and the office opened on 23 December 1943. They showed the MPO number, the date and “Canada.” This was yet another different layout of the cancels. A proof strike of the CDS hammer is shown in Figure 97. The registration marking (D1882; M13-488) (Figure 100) was proofed sometime in December 1943.



Figure 97. Proof strike of Sayles D1880; B&T M13-487, a 24-mm steel dater.1

The first postmaster was A/Cpl H Hockman who ran the office until 28 April 1944. At that time, Sgt DL Smith took over and was there until the office was closed on 31 May 1944 [33]. The reference in the Library and Archives database is a bit confusing, since it claims that Sgt Smith took over on 23 December 1944!

The cover in Figure 98 was used by the late Ritch Toop to illustrate an article in the Military Mail Study Group newsletter in 1993. It has the postage due endorsement of 8¢ (double deficiency, as the domestic first class rate had gone up to 4¢ on 1 April 1943).

The reverse of the cover is also interesting as it has a strike of the 20-mm small crown over circle censor marking number 310. Censored covers from the coasts are fairly common, but an inland censored cover is not seen very often.

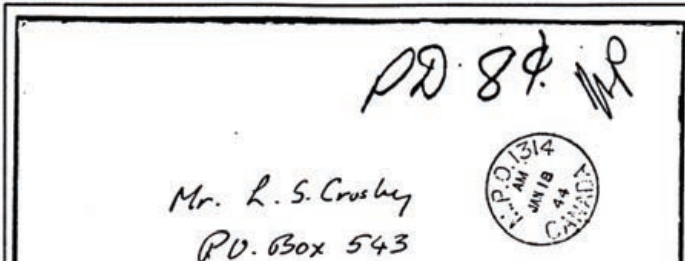
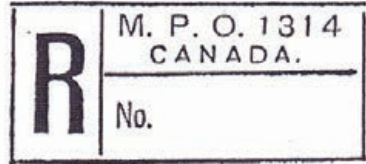


Figure 98. Cover from MPO 1314. Unfranked and rated 8¢ postage due.



Figure 99. Reverse of the above cover (reduced).

Figure 100. Proof strike of Sayles D1882; B&T M13-488, a 51 × 23 mm registration stamp.



FPO "Z"

There has been some speculation that these devices were manufactured for use in England in case of a potential evacuation during the invasion worries of 1940 [32]. According to reference 32, there were actually three FPO cancels prepared: X, Y, and Z.

Another suggestion has been made that these were made for Z Force, the troops sent to Iceland [31], [34]. This Force was authorized on 22 May 1940 and landed in Iceland on 16 June. It is possible that the devices were then sent sometime in July. Mail from Canadian soldiers in Iceland dated in June and from the RCAF early in 1943 was cancelled by British Army and RAF cancellers.



Figure 101. Proof strike of B&T M20-10, a 24-mm steel dater.



Figure 102: Proof strike of B&T M20-11, also a 24 mm steel dater, but with a slightly different arrangement of the letters.



Figure 103. Proof strike of B&T M20-12, a 31 mm rubber dater.

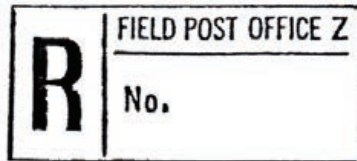


Figure 104. Proof strike of the 50 × 22 mm registration marking, B&T M20-13.

The dates on the circular cancels above are the proofing dates. The registration cancel was proofed sometime in June. Please note that Figures 101 and 102 depict two different hammers; the inscriptions vary in the positioning of some of the letters. None of these devices is listed in Sayles Volume 2 or 3.



Figure 105. One of the two known strikes of the FPO Z cancel (B&T M20-11) on cover. An obvious favour cancel. Courtesy: Dean Mario

Conclusion

As we have seen in this series of articles, these cancellations can form the basis of an interesting and fairly low-cost collection. Despite the modest cost, several are nevertheless difficult to find.

For the reader's convenience, I am repeating the full list of references and endnotes from all three parts of the article here.

As nothing is ever complete in philatelic research, I am certain that someone will find further information about this most interesting range of cancels. If you do, I would be grateful if you shared it with all of us.

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www.bnaps.org



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BNAPS business and reports

President's Column

Norris (Bob) Dyer



In this column, I want to tell you about our wonderful online library and why we are updating email addresses.

Thanks to the support of BNAPS members over the years, there are now over 10,000 pages of valuable articles on BNA philately available! All of this is easily accessible on www.bnaps.org. Go to the Horace Harrison Library from the Main Page. You will find copies of *BNA Topics* from 1944–2008, some 517 journal issues. You'll also find over 1,000 study group newsletters. This is great for research or just for reading pleasure.

While your dues help pay for *BNA Topics*, a bequest from Horace Harrison provides additional support, and it led to the creation of the library. BNAPS members—among them John M Walsh and Charles Livermore—have spent countless hours scanning *Topics* and study group newsletters. Charles has also indexed the Tables of Contents for most *Topics*, so you can more quickly identify articles that might interest you. You will note that recent issues are not online. A 2013 re-design of our website may include a “members only” section of the site that includes more recent material.

As I noted in the last issue, Mike Street and Robert Lemire have done a stellar job producing the journal for over five years, but they will be focusing on other BNAPS interests come 2014. We are looking for candidates for editor, or co-editor, to replace them. Both Mike and Robert will offer any training needed. This is an opportunity to help continue the philatelic legacy the journal constitutes.

At the BNAPS Board of Directors meeting in Calgary, the board engaged in lively discussion about ways that we can better understand and serve the needs of members. A subcommittee was appointed to look into ways we could gather relevant data from members. The committee soon realized that the most cost-effective ways would be by using email and online tools to survey members.

A special request for updated members' email addresses was included in the 2013 dues notices, as our existing information is incomplete and many of the addresses are not current. We are pleased that so many members have provided their email addresses with their renewals. We also recognize that some members do not use email or do not want to be contacted by email. We will respect that.

Why is maintaining an email list important for the Society and its members? The primary reason is that we want to keep members informed of important news, including updates on BNAPEX conventions. We are also looking at using an Internet survey tool for a membership survey. Although it would be done on the survey website, the invitations and login information need to be delivered to members by email. Member privacy would be strictly maintained. There will be more on this survey in the near future—you will be hearing about it in *Topics* and from your regional and study group leaders. Thanks to everyone in advance for your support as we work to get this important work accomplished.

From the Secretary—Report date: 31 December 2012

David G Jones

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

Membership fees

Annual membership fees are \$C35 or equivalent in US dollars, C\$40 for members from outside North America. Membership applications submitted during the second or third quarter of the year should be accompanied by 75 or 50 percent, respectively, of the annual fee. Applications submitted in the fourth quarter of the year should be accompanied by 25 percent of the annual fee plus the full fee for the coming year. Three-year memberships can be obtained at a 10 percent reduction in cost. 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.

- 6698 Claude R. Belanger, Longueuil, QC C: Admirals, Elizabethan, Fakes, WW II
- 6699 Eric Bisaillon, Gatineau, QC C: Canada Centennial Definitive Issue
- 6702 Gary David Fisher, Vernon, BC C: Postal history
- 6693 Keywood L French, Guelph, ON C: Canada postal history
- 6694 Norman Friesen, Nassau C: BNA, British Caribbean, Burma, Ceylon, Hong Kong
- 6692 Edward M Innes, Brantford, ON C: Elizabeth II definitives
- 6696 Jean-Guy Olivier, Victoriaville, QC C: classic stamps and revenues
- 6700 Tadas A Osmolskis, Rockville, MD C: General
- 6697 William A Phillips, Ashuelot, NH C: Revenues and early issues
- 6695 Karl Siemens, Kanata, ON C: Canada postmarks, varieties, re-entries, retouches
- 6701 Edward J York, Barton, VT C: British North and South America and Canal Zone

New members

All applicants 6675-6691 have been confirmed as full members of BNAPS.

Address changes/corrections (current town of residence is noted)

- 1382 FW Catterall, Saskatoon, SK
- 1525 Jacques Charron, Notre-Dame-de-Perrot, QC
- 2698 Earle L Covert, Raymond, AB
- 3908 Richard J Wendt, Rochester Hills, MI
- 4026 Amoz I Chernoff, Silver Spring, MD
- 4045 Hans Steinbock, Niagara Falls, ON
- 5191 Larry M Buchanan, Desert Hot Spring, CA
- 5196 Ivan E Killins, Hamilton, ON
- 5221 Richard A Johnson, Winnipeg, MB
- 5240 Paul Hurtubise, Tamar, FL
- 5290 James E Kloetzel, Port Ludlow, WA
- 6381 Sam Chiu, North York, ON
- 6605 Evan Jenkins, Woodlesford, Leeds, West Yorkshire

Reinstated

| | | |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| 6606 JP Chiles | 6349 Neil Philip | 6386 Anthony B Thompson |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------------|

Resigned

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 4712 Robert Tomlinson | 5467 Judy Woodburn | 6032 Steven Bassett |
| 6134 Peter Butler | 6157 Steven Roth | 6481 Albert Aldham |
| 6664 Andrew Liptak | | |

Deceased

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1255 Richard M Lamb | 1450 Robert S Traquair | 2115 Michael B Dicketts |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|

Total active membership, including new applications, as of 31 December 2012 *1095*

In Memoriam

BNAPS' policy is to print brief Memorials in *BNA Topics* to honour Past-Presidents, Members of the Order of the Beaver, and OTB Lifetime Achievement recipients who have passed away.

Michael Dicketts, Past-President

Michael Dicketts passed away in Kingston, Ontario on 18 October 2012. BNAPS member 2115, he joined the society in 1965. After emigrating to Canada in 1958 and marrying his wife Betty in 1960, Mike obtained a BA from Sir George Williams College (now part of Concordia University) in Montreal and a Masters in Library Science from Rutgers University in New Jersey. From 1977 to retirement in 1994 he worked as the Reference Librarian for the Kingston Public Library. He and Betty were benefactors of the Queen's University Human Mobility Research Laboratory at Hôtel Dieu Hospital in Kingston.



He served on the BNAPS Board of Directors (1976–1980) and was Handbook Committee Chairman (1977–1980). He was elected First Vice-President (1981–82) and then President (1983–84). Mike and Betty last attended BNAPEX in 2007 at Calgary.

Michael collected Admirals, Cameo, and Centennial booklets and panes, Cancellations and especially Perfins, writing seven columns on that subject for *BNA Topics* and serving as Secretary of the Perfins study group for five years, starting in 1980. Jim Graham wrote, "He was one of the pioneers of the BNAPS Perfin Study Group, identifying new patterns and providing information about perfin usage. He had a particular interest in perforating machines, helping to identify the various models used and in plating the dies of various machine. Although he had sold his collection some time ago, he remained interested and wrote me a couple of times with comments, suggestions and overall support for my efforts as a new Editor of the newsletter." Michael was also active with the Gallery Association of the Agnes Etherington Art Centre of Queen's University.

- Mike Street, Jon Johnson, Jim Graham

Regional group rant

Jack Forbes

Overview!

WINTER has set in with vengeance in most areas of North America as this column is being prepared. Philately seems to take on a special aura in these conditions and many Regional Groups are furthering that interest with a variety of get-togethers. The BNAPS website can be a good resource for members to see what activities are planned for your area. If you're not a regular attendee at our regional meetings, why not make a New Year's resolution to get more involved! It is through the active participation in BNAPS' Regional and Study Group programs that continuing advancement of the available information on different subjects is provided. This results in a domino effect: increased data spurs further research, all to the greater benefit for all our members. Last issue's column listed several proposals and suggestions from the Regional Group representatives attending BNAPEX 2012 in Calgary: were you able to implement them for your meetings?

Following are reports of recent activities within various groups. Again, I would like to remind our Group Representatives to advise both me (<JAFRBS@aol.com>) and our website coordinator, Dave Bartlet: (<dave.bartlet@shaw.ca>) of the dates of upcoming meetings, with agendas if available, and any other events in each of your areas, along with copies of your meeting reports. These provide information that is valuable to our general membership, as Regional Group activities can be the "glue" to maintaining interest in BNAPS in the various geographic areas.

Updating BNAPS information

The executive of BNAPS has undertaken the task of bringing the Society's database to a higher level. Recently, the Regional Group representatives have been asked to provide email addresses for the members in each of their groups. It is hoped that we will soon have a comprehensive file of contact information for all our members that are on an email system. If you are not active in any particular group, it would be appreciated if you would forward your email address to David McLaughlin (<david.mclaughlin@rogers.com>), so that yours will be among the "registered" names. Thanks in advance for your assistance with this.

Regional group reports

(Note that, as usual, only brief outlines of the meetings will appear in this column ... please check out the BNAPS website for further details.)

The *Golden Horseshoe Group* has held a couple of gatherings so far this Fall. These were convened at their usual location—the popular Rousseau House Restaurant—in Ancaster. The September and November meetings followed the usual morning format of poring over dealer stocks, stamp conversation, and food offerings combined with general congeniality.

In September, there was a report on BNAPEX 2012 at Calgary and a reminder that BNAPEX 2013 will be held in Charlottetown, PEI. The guest speaker, Hans Steinbock, finished his presentation on Zeppelin Mail to and from Canada. November's speaker was Ken Lemke, who illustrated his presentation with an interesting array of items from the George VI era.

Both meetings featured the “voluntary donation” auction, the proceeds of which help defray some of the meeting costs.

In late September, the *Atlantic Provinces Regional Group* gathered at NOVAPLEX 2012 Exhibition and Bourse for their annual meeting. Eighteen members were in attendance, considered an excellent turnout, with representation from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland, with a further submission from our member in Sweden. Charlottetown’s hosting of BNAPEX 2013 was discussed, with several of those present actively involved with assisting Past-President Robert Lemire, who is coordinating the event. There was also a degree of support for holding another BNAPS Convention in this region somewhere in the not-too-distant future. Also the possibility of staging a regional get-together outside the Halifax area (Moncton or Fredericton, NB were among the suggested sites) seemed to be favourably received.

A suggestion was brought forth that in light of increased travel and accommodation costs, and the advantages that stem from early booking of these items, the Exhibitions Committee give consideration to a “first-come, first accepted” policy with regard to exhibit applications. Carl Munden announced that information on Newfoundland Duplex Cancels would be updated on the Nova Scotia Stamp Club website.

There was an animated Show-and-Tell session with a great variety of items passed around the room: a double-rate PEI cover, a previously unreported AYRE perfin, and examples of marginal spotting on Newfoundland issues were among the highlights.

Perth, Ontario was again the site of the Fall meeting of the *Saint Lawrence Seaway Regional Group*. The morning session commenced with lots of banter and barter activities, and was followed by the ever-popular Show-and-Tell which, as usual featured a wide variety of interesting items. The oldest example to be shown was a 200+ year-old way letter wherein a surveyor was seeking payment for work completed. There were other articles from almost all periods culminating with new, colourful tobacco revenues. The next meeting of the group will be held in conjunction with ORAPEX 2013 in Ottawa.

In closing, I wish all our members and their families a most Happy New Year!

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 rates listed above, in Canadian dollars or US equivalent.*

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WWI NEWFOUNDLAND POSTAL HISTORY: (soldiers' mail, censored); WWI/WWII POW's in Germany; Dominion Police (Secret Service/WWI). Mario, Box 342, Station Main, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3L3. (4-12)

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