

2014 • third quarter

# BNA Topics



Whole number 540    Volume 71    Number 3



Newfoundland's WWI Monument at  
Beaumont-Hamel



Canada's WWI Monument at Vimy Ridge

Memorial Issue: 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the beginning of World War I

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*For highlights see pages 56 and 57*



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# BNA pics

Volume 71 Number 3 Whole Number 540

**The Official Journal of the British North America Philatelic Society Ltd**

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## Memorial Issue: 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of World War I

*Mike Street*

In May of 2013, as Robert Lemire and I were preparing for the year-end transition to the new *BNA Topics* Editorial Team, I proposed to Jeff Arndt and Ron Majors the idea of a special issue devoted to the philately of the World War I era. It would be to be published in the July-September 2014 issue, coincident with the hundredth anniversary of the beginning of the war. Ron and Jeff agreed, and during our conversations at BNAPEX in Charlottetown, I offered to coordinate the issue as Guest Editor. Last fall, I wrote to a group of members whose collecting interests fall into the WWI period and asked if they would be willing to contribute to a special WWI-era issue. The response was almost instant and the variety of articles offered amazing. During e-mail discussions of the issue, one author, Jean-Claude Vasseur of France, wrote to say that we must include something that spoke to the causes and ultimate effects of WWI. Asked what he had in mind, Jean-Claude responded with this short essay:

### WHY?

*At the beginning of the twentieth century, Bosnia-Herzegovina, a state previously part of the Ottoman Empire, was governed by the Austro-Hungarian Empire and its Emperor, Franz-Joseph, per the 1878 Berlin Treaty. On 8 October 1908, the Emperor decided unilaterally to extend full sovereignty to the country. At the same time, the Kingdom of Serbia was trying to unify all the Slavic populations in the Balkans, including Bosnia-Herzegovina. Despite the "moral support" of Russia, Serbia did not have the strength to oppose the Austro-Hungarian decision. While the Bosnian administration seems to have desired to maintain the status quo in the area, it appears that young activists, possibly connected to the Bosnian secret service, wanted to take action against the Austro-Hungarian administration.*

*On 28 June 1914, Archduke Franz-Ferdinand, heir to the throne of Franz-Joseph, was sent to Sarajevo to inspect the Army, even amid rumours of a possible coup. There, one Gavrilo Princip, the seventh member of a group of activists that had made two previously unsuccessful attempts, shot the Archduke and his wife to death. Franz-Ferdinand had been out of favour with his uncle, the Emperor, and his Court, because of his ideas and because of his marriage to the Duchess of Hohenberg, a lady considered to be of poor origin. After the assassination, a Minister of the Emperor was heard to say, "It is God's Will!"*

*The Austro-Hungarian government requested the right to make an inquiry in Bosnia and, when refused, declared war on the Kingdom of Serbia. After that, various pre-existing alliances became active. Russia was obliged to support Bosnia and Serbia, while Germany and Turkey, allied through the "Triple Alliance" Treaty, supported Austro-Hungary. Allied through the "Triple Entente" Treaty, France and Great Britain supported Russia. Nobody wanted what was to happen, but it happened nonetheless. For no other reason than "honour," the death of an outcast prince led to ten million casualties of military personnel and an additional six million civilians. Why?*

Sadly, as we have seen right through the rest of the twentieth century to the present day, the "War To End All Wars" did not. In commemorating the beginning of WWI in this issue of *BNA Topics*, we hope that that all readers will reflect on this fact.

On your behalf I would like to sincerely thank each of the authors. In the following pages you will see the results of their efforts. If you think that you are in for tons of military mail, think again. During the WWI period many different philatelic activities were going on in Canada; military mail being just one of them. Read on and see for yourself.

## Readers write

**Canadian Postal Reform:** Member *Robert Philmus* writes: “The proposal publicized late last year for “reforming” Canada Post is ill-conceived in every respect. It offers drastic “solutions” to a projected deficit of \$1B by 2020. The “remedies”—curtailing home mail delivery or eliminating it altogether, reducing the number of postal workers by 8,000, and increasing letter rates by up to 60% overnight—would not, by CPC’s own admission, eliminate the expected shortfall. I am concerned that anything written will not carry weight with Mr Chopra or the CPC bureaucracy. They see their job as that of reducing a deficit, regardless of what impact this may have on Canadians and Canadian Stamp Collectors.”

**World War I Exhibits in Ottawa:** *C.R. McGuire* writes, “Since 1997 I have assisted Nepean-Ottawa area institutions with advice and the loan of artifacts and postal history material from my collections. Three of these exhibits, all remembering the beginning of the First World War, are being held this summer. Residents and visitors may wish to visit one or more.

**War Craft: Art and memorabilia of the Great War,** September 2014 until November 2015, Nepean Museum, 16 Rowley Ave., Ottawa, ON K2G 1L9. Free admission. For hours and further information phone 613-723-7936 or visit the website:

<http://www.nepeanmuseum.ca/>

**In it Together: Our city during the Great War – the war on the Home Front** July 1 to 30 October, thereafter by appointment until Remembrance Day, 11 November 2014, Billings Estate National Historic Site, 2100 Cabot St., Ottawa, ON K1H 6K1. Admission fees. For hours and further information phone 613-247-4830 or visit the website: <http://www.ottawa.ca/billingsestate>

**Charles Pinhey and the 38th Ottawa Battalion: From Bermuda to the Somme:** June 7 to August 31, Pinhey’s Point Historic Site, 270 Pinhey’s Point Road, Dunrobin, ON K0A 1T0. Free admission. For hours and further information phone 613 832-4347 or visit the website: <http://www.ottawa.ca/pinheyspoint>

The exhibit in the Nepean Museum is a large selection of examples from my collection of “Trench Art” and other forms of handicrafts made by serving, convalescing, or post-war veterans of the three services, and Prisoners of War. Most of these objects were made from artillery shell casings, originally things of destruction, and now items of beauty, ingenuity, and utility. They were made to commemorate battles, occupy spare time, and for sale or trade. In addition to the WWI exhibits, the interiors of the two historic homes are well worth a visit to see what else they have to offer. Both are located on beautiful sites, the Pinhey estate in the country, west of the city overlooking the Ottawa River. Be sure to bring a picnic to enjoy on the grounds.”

### NOTIFY THE SECRETARY IF YOU ARE MOVING—PLEASE!

It costs BNAPS—every member—triple the postage if a copy of *BNA TOPICS* is returned and a copy is then sent to a new address. BNAPS volunteers will make every effort to locate you, but is it fair that they, and your Society, should spend time and money to track you down? *PLEASE* let us know of your change of address—before it happens if at all possible Write or e-mail: David G Jones, 184 Larkin Dr, Nepean, ON K2J 1H9 <[shibumi.management@gmail.com](mailto:shibumi.management@gmail.com)>



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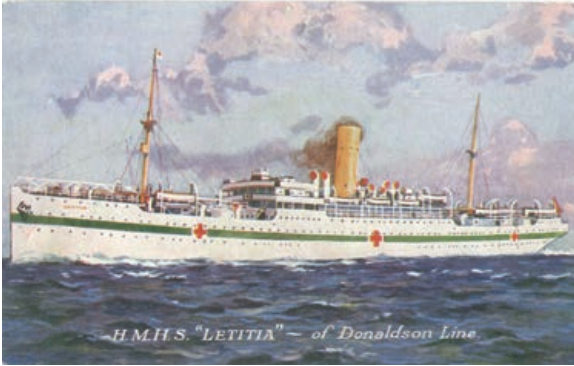
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# Canadian military hospitals at sea 1914–1919

*Jonathan C Johnson, OTB*

AS there was an ocean between Canada and the fighting during WWI, moving wounded soldiers needing lengthy treatment required special arrangements. Many of those returning home, especially in 1915 and 1916, came back to Canada on relatively empty troop ships (ex-passenger ships) and were accompanied by a small medical team. The more serious casualties came home on either hospital ships or ambulance



**Figure 1.** Colour post card of *HMHS Letitia*, with the correct colour scheme under the Geneva Convention for a commissioned hospital ship.

transports, most of which were equipped as floating convalescent hospitals. Hospital ships and ambulance transports were, generally, identically equipped. The former were commissioned naval auxiliaries, painted white with green stripe and large red crosses and protected by the Geneva Convention (Figure 1). The latter were normal naval auxiliaries—painted troop ship colours—that sailed in convoy and were not protected by the Geneva Convention.

Like most military units, each ship had an “Orderly Room” where mail could be posted and where, if one was lucky, mail could be picked up upon arrival at port. Military service personnel overseas could post mail unpaid. For much of the war, the Canada Post Office added postage upon the mail’s arrival in Canada so postage due would not be applied. Canada had six hospital ships and ambulance transports during WWI. Of these, two were lost while in service. A return trip—from Liverpool to Canada and back—took one month.

## **HMCHS Prince George**

The *HMCHS Prince George* was Canada’s only naval hospital ship. The *SS Prince George*, a Grand Trunk Pacific Railway coastal steamer, was requisitioned as a hospital ship on 8 August 1914, four days after war was declared.

The crew stayed on as Merchant Marines, and the hospital was staffed with Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) personnel. On 11 August, the *Prince George* was commissioned and the painting of the ship began. As a hospital ship, enemy powers were notified of her existence and location, as required by the Geneva Convention.

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Keywords & phrases: WWI, Canadian hospital ships and ambulance transports





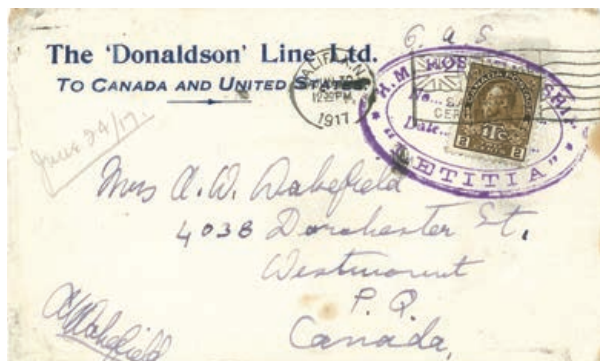
**Figure 2.** Post card from RCN Acting Sister Elizabeth Pierce to her sister upon *HMCHS Prince George's* return to Vancouver from Prince Rupert.

The *Prince George* stayed close to the *HMCS Rainbow*, an obsolete cruiser, until more modern and larger Allied cruisers arrived at Esquimalt, BC. With the German Asiatic Fleet's departure from the Pacific Ocean, action with German warships appeared unlikely. *HMCHS Prince George* was decommissioned on 2 September 1914 and returned to her passenger route on 4 October. Figure 2 shows a card sent from the *Prince George*.

Although in service only for a short time, she recorded several firsts:

- First hospital ship commissioned in WWI
- First female members of the RCN (six nurses on board)
- First female officers in the RCN
- First women in the RCN to serve at sea.

### **HMHS *Letitia***



**Figure 3.** *HMHS Letitia* cover self-censored by CAMC Capt. AW Wakefield, medical officer, posted unpaid upon Voyage 4 arrival at Halifax. The postage was applied by the Post Office.

The *HMHS Letitia* was commissioned as a hospital ship by the British Admiralty on 19 November 1914. She was made available to the Naval Staff, Ottawa, in March 1917. The *Letitia* had a Merchant Marine crew and Canadian Army Medical Corp (CAMC) officers, enlisted men and nurses staffing the hospital. Staffing was the same as all subsequent hospital ships and ambulance transports.

The *Letitia* sailed the round trip from Liverpool to Halifax four times (see Figure 3 from

the fourth voyage). On the fifth trip, she ran aground on Portuguese Cove, near Halifax, in dense fog. Although fully loaded with patients, many in stretchers, the only fatality was a member of the crew, who drowned. The wreck of the *Letitia* is today a popular diving site located only a few minutes drive from downtown Halifax.



## HMAT Araguaya

The *HMHS Llandoverly Castle* was the thirteenth allied hospital ship lost due to enemy activity. As a result, most Allied hospital ships had their commissions revoked and were painted troopship grey. They travelled in a convoy whenever possible. Their titles were changed to His Majesty's Ambulance Transport (HMAT). After the change to ambulance transports only one ship was lost to enemy activity. The *HMAT Araguaya* made eleven voyages as an ambulance transport. Due to damage from the Halifax Explosion on 6 December 1917 and the volume of returning troops from February, 1919, the ambulance transports landed their patients at Portland, Maine rather than at Halifax. The ship is pictured in Figure 6; a paysheet from her last voyage can be seen in Figure 6a.



**Figure 6.** Post card of *HMAT Araguaya* with a dazzle paint style. The reference to Hospital Ship is in error.

Date	Particulars	Credits	Debits
		£	s
	Balance owing L.P.C. in England		
	Advance due to L.P.C.		
	Pay and allowance to		
	Childs Clothing Allowance	22	00
	1st Payroll W. S. G.	10	00
	Assigned Pay		
	Food Expense Money		
	Trunk Expense Money		
	Charge No.		

**Figure 6a.** Paysheet processed on *HMAT Araguaya's* last voyage.

## HMAT Neuralia



**Figure 7.** Disembarkation card from the *Neuralia* and hospital train boarding identification card for patient Private R Fleming, age 18, after two years' military service. Military district 11 is British Columbia (Esquimalt military hospital).

The *HMAT Neuralia* had originally been a commissioned as a British hospital ship on 12 June 1915. However, she was made an ambulance transport when transferred to Canadian control in September, 1918. She replaced the *Llandoverly Castle*. The *Neuralia* made only two trips to Portland, Maine, before being transferred back to the British Admiralty. Figure 7 shows a disembarkation card from the *Neuralia*.

## HMAT Essequibo

The *HMAT Essequibo* was originally commissioned as a British hospital ship, on 2 September 1915. In March 1917, with an RAMC unit on board, *HMHS Essequibo* was the first hospital ship to cross the Atlantic to Canada. On the return voyage, the ship was stopped at sea north of Ireland for seventy-five minutes by a German submarine, after two warning shots were fired. The *Essequibo* was made an ambulance transport in December 1918 when transferred to Canadian control to replace the *Neuralia*. With *Neuralia* and *Essequibo* docked side-by-side, the CAMC hospital staff carried their equipment from one to the other. Even the post cards of the *Neuralia* were taken. The *Essequibo* made five trips to Portland, Maine, before she was transferred back to the British Admiralty. Figure 8 shows a cover from an orderly serving on the *Essequibo*.



**Figure 8.** Cover from CAMC orderly Private Edward Clarke, posted on the second day of disembarking patients at Portland, Maine, after the third voyage.

## Summary

During WWI, Canada made use of six hospital ships and ambulance transports, one with Naval and five with Army medical staff. Of the six, two were lost: one due to navigation error by the pilot and one to enemy action. Patients were screened before boarding to assess their ability to travel; only one patient died on board and was buried at sea (on the *HMAT Essequibo*'s last sailing). Upon landing in North America, patients were transported by Canadian hospital train to hospitals in the military district where they had enlisted.

## References

- [1] National Archives, Kew, England: File WO95/4142 (*Araguaya, Essequibo, Letitia, Llandoverly Castle, Neuralia*).
- [2] Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Canada: File RG9, Series III-D-3, Volume 5055, Reel T-10949, File 955 (*Araguaya*); File RG9, Series III-D-3, Volume 5056, Reel T-10950, File 956 (*Neuralia*); File RG9, Series III-D-3, Volume 5056, Reel T-10949, File 955 (*Essequibo*).
- [3] A MacPhail, *History of the Canadian Forces—The Medical Services*, FA Acland, Ottawa, 1925, pp. 239-243.
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# WWI War Savings stamps and promotions

David Bartlet

THE costs of waging war are high on all fronts, from personal loss of life to the cost of food and equipment. Through four years of war, up to March 1918, Canada spent nearly \$900M for war purposes; by 1919 the costs were over \$1M per day—a small amount by today’s standards, but very large for those times. To raise funds, the government took several steps. In 1915, taxes were applied to a variety of goods, including a 1¢ War Tax on some postage rates, and the infamous “temporary” Income Tax in 1917. “War loans,” which in 1915–17 raised \$336M, were followed by “Victory Loans” in 1917. The Victory Loan bonds, however, cost a minimum of \$50, which few people could afford up front, so Thrift Stamps and Savings Certificates became the method for the average Canadian to save in order to buy Victory Bonds.



**Figure 1.** 1917 Flag Cancels promoting wartime savings, English text.

In this article, the tools used to enable and promote war savings will be examined. Prior to any Thrift Stamps being issued, the Post Office had a variety of Slogan and Flag cancels, in both English and French, promoting the purchase of bonds. These were used in many cities across Canada, with the text of a particular message the same for each city. The first of these appeared in 1917.

The three examples in Figure 1 are: Calgary—“Save Your Money—Lend it to Your Country”; New Westminister—“\$25.00 for \$21.50 How?—Ask Your Bank or Postmaster”; and Montreal—“\$25.00 for \$21.50—HOW? Ask your Bank or Postmaster”—in a third class cancellation with undated hub, but text similar to New Westminister’s.

The next group of slogans from 1917, Figure 2, shows the French version of the New Westminister cancel, used at Trois-Rivieres, with “\$25.00 Pour \$21.50 Comment? Demandez A Votre Banque Ou Au Maitre De Poste.” The second cancel in this image is from Medicine Hat and states “Save Your Money, Buy War Savings Certificates.”

---

Keywords & phrases: War savings stamps, thrift stamps, war bonds



**Figure 2.** 1917 Flag Cancels promoting wartime savings, French and English text.



**Figure 3** 1918 Flag Cancels promoting War Bonds, English and French versions.

Figure 3 shows a 1918 Toronto example of “Buy Victory Bonds to the Limit of Your Ability” and the French version, again from Trois-Rivières, with “*Achetez Autant D’Obligations De La Victoire Que Possible.*”

Fundraising promoted by cancellations continued in 1919 with the following slogans: in French “*Achetez des Timbres D’Economie de Guerre et Aidez A La Reconstruction*” and “Victory Loan 1919, The Bridge from War to Peace” in English. Shown in Figure 4 are: Vancouver: “Keep our Farms and Factories Busy Buy Victory Bonds”; Winnipeg: “Buy War Savings Stamps and Help Reconstruction”; Ottawa: “Let Us Not Demobilize Patriotism Buy Victory Bonds”; and Winnipeg: “Buy Victory Bonds All Canada is Your Security.”



**Figure 4** (left, above left, above). 1919 Slogan cancels promoting War Savings Stamps and Victory Bonds.

Postal Cancellations were, however, a form of advertising and, by themselves, did not raise funds. The Thrift and War Savings stamps of December 1918 were the next step in actually raising money. There were only two stamps for the program, a 25¢ orange Thrift Stamp and a \$5 green War Savings Stamp. Both were issued in English and French; the French versions are very rare, with only a few copies known.



Figure 5. \$5 War Savings Stamp and 25¢ Thrift Stamp.

The stamps are found most often pasted into Thrift or Savings folders and rarely found mint with gum—ungummed stamps originate from the folders. The scarcity of the French versions can be attributed to the lack of popularity of the war effort amongst French Canadians. The French version of the 25¢ Thrift stamp, with perhaps ten known copies in existence, shows up in the stamp market every couple of years. The \$5 stamp in French is even rarer, with just one copy known on a War Saving Certificate card and a couple of copies off-card. The 25¢ stamp was printed in sheets of 25 (5 × 5) with imperforate edges. The \$5 value is believed to have been printed in the same manner. The English versions of the \$5 and 25¢ stamps are illustrated in Figure 5:

To easily enable the public to save to purchase the \$5 Savings stamps, the Thrift Card (Figure 6) was used. The orange 25¢ Thrift Stamps were purchased and applied to the card. Once sixteen stamps (\$4) were attached, the card could be exchanged for a \$5 War Savings stamp.

Figure 7 shows the inside of a Thrift Card with eight 25¢ stamps affixed. As Thrift Stamps were non-refundable, if the card was not filled completely and exchanged for the \$5 saving stamp, the value of any stamps affixed to the card was lost.

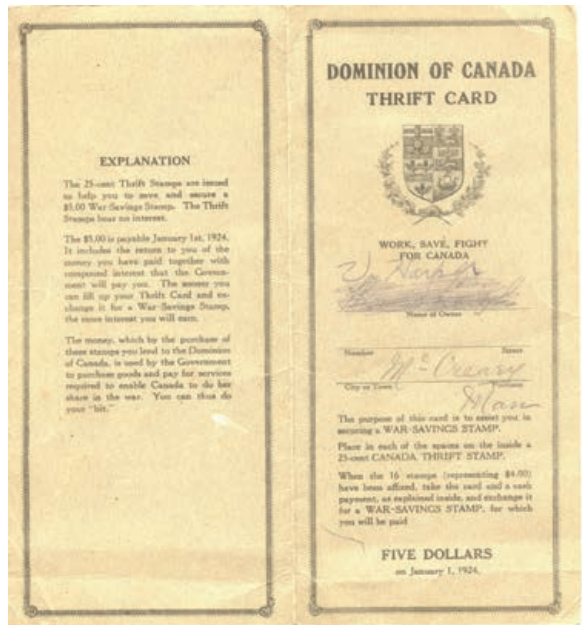


Figure 6. Front of Thrift card.





**Figure 7.** Inside of Thrift Card with eight stamps affixed.

After the Thrift card was filled, the owner received a \$5 Saving stamp that could be redeemed in 1924 for \$5. Thus, if the \$5 stamp was bought for \$4 in January 1919, in 1924 the owner would receive a 25 percent premium on the transaction.

Owners of \$5 stamps were given a War Savings Certificate card that could hold ten \$5 Savings stamps. A card with ten \$5 stamps could be exchanged for the lowest value of Victory Bond, which was \$50. Shown in Figure 8 are the front and inside of the Savings Certificate.

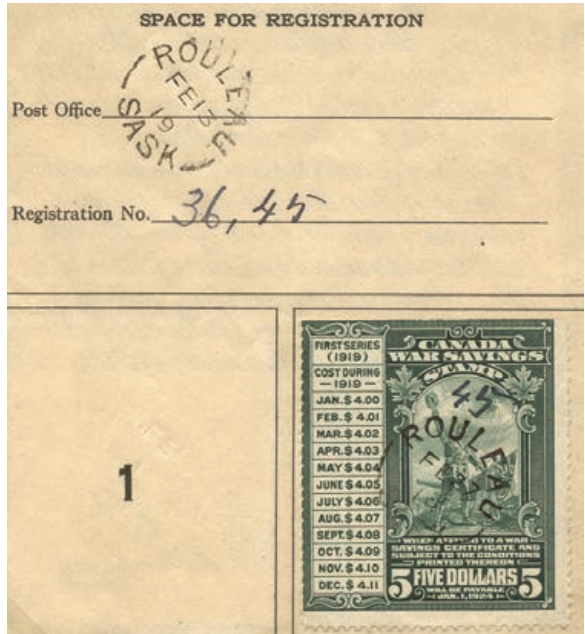


**Figure 8.** A War Savings Certificate card that could hold up to ten \$5 Savings stamps.

One of the difficulties with the certificate program was the ability to track them. As shown in Figure 9, a properly filled-in form would have the stamp(s) cancelled at the Post Office where purchased, with a registration number added to the form and also written on the stamp.



Given that the registration number was on the stamp, if the certificate was lost there would be a record in the Post Office confirming that a \$5 stamp had been purchased. Therefore, the owner could still claim the \$5 on maturity in 1924. The problem was that, in many cases, the registration number was not recorded on the certificate, and the stamps were not cancelled nor was the Registration number written on the stamp. The cost of the stamp increased as the year progressed, representing the accrued interest. In January 1919, the price was \$4; in December 1919 each stamp cost \$4.11, the 11¢ representing the interest accumulated for the bond to that time. The cost amounts are shown on the left side of the stamp.



**Figure 9.** Postmark and registration number of stamp shown in Figure 8, with the registration number (45) also written on the stamp.

The problems with tracking the sales of the \$5 Savings Stamp resulted in the stamps being replaced with a “Five Dollar” Savings Certificate in 1920. This certificate (Figure 10) carried a serial number and was cancelled upon redemption.



**Figure 10.** Redeemable \$5 War Savings Certificate introduced in 1920.

Promotion of Victory Bonds and War Savings Stamps was not limited to postal cancellations. A variety of labels, in English and French, were prepared and released. Shown in Figure 11 are examples of promotional labels and a blotter promoting Victory Bonds.



Figure 11. Labels and ink blotter used to promote the sale of Victory Bonds.



Figure 12 Labels used to promote the sale of War Savings Stamps.

Victory Bond labels were not unique. With the start of the War Savings Stamp program in 1919, several labels, shown in Figure 12, were produced to promote the purchase of the stamps. The left label, very similar to the \$5 Savings stamp, reads “BUY above what was the campaign’s logo, a beaver above a triangle that contains the “W-S / S” part of the text. The

centre label reads, “Invest today / Saving today prevents sorrowing to-morrow / BUY / W.S.S. / War-Savings Stamps / The Canadian Government New Security.” In this example, the red “W.S.S.” is shifted on top of the “Saving” text and the red campaign logo, the beaver above a triangle that contains “W-S / S” is partly cut off at the top of the label. The right hand label reads, “Help the Work of Reconstruction / Buy War Savings Stamps.”



**Figure 13.** Lower left corner of a Robert Simpson Company envelope with “BUY WAR SAVINGS STAMPS” and the campaign logo.


Finally, War Savings were not only promoted by stamps, labels, and postal cancellations. The business world provided support, also through the mails. The Robert Simpson department store in Toronto sent out its annual catalogue in an envelope that carried some store advertising, but also, in both lower corners of the envelope, the text “BUY WAR SAVINGS STAMPS” and the beaver above triangle with “W-S / S” campaign logo (Figure 13). Just the lower left corner of the envelope is shown above.

(Editor’s Note: elsewhere in this issue see Doug Lingard’s full treatment of WWI Flag cancels and Ron Lafrenière’s article on WWI-era Cinderella Stamps.)

## References

- [1] National War Savings Committee, *The Canada War Book*, January 1919, prepared by the National War Savings Committee and issued by the Dept of Education, Province of New Brunswick.
- [2] Edward A Richardson, “BNA Revenues: The 25¢ French Issue of the 1919 Thrift Stamp,” *BNA Topics*, May 1964.

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# Canada and British North America The Harvey Poole Collection October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014



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1878 (circa.) Engraved "Goodall" die essay of Chalon portrait in brown.



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4c to \$1 Admiral, superb set of imperforate pairs.



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10c Consort imperforate pair on wove paper, with "String of Pearls" variety. Unique. 2014 Greene cert.



12 pence + 10 cent composite die proof in vermilion



1914 Unissued Macdonald Cartier, very rare full set of die proofs.

Catalogues free upon request



Figure 1. WWI patriotic post cards honouring Newfoundland's contribution to the war effort.

# Newfoundland and the Great War

## Part 1: Preparations



*CR McGuire, OTB FRPSC*

**Frontispiece** (Figure 1): Four World War I patriotic post cards honouring Newfoundland's contribution to the war effort [1].

**I**NTRODUCTION On 31 March 1949 Newfoundland, now officially Newfoundland and Labrador, became Canada's tenth province. In this series of articles, all references to "Newfoundland" include Labrador. The island, discovered by John Cabot in 1497, has the distinction of being Britain's first colony. After the 1907 Colonial Conference in London, Newfoundland and other self-governing colonies became Dominions. It was also decided that future meetings would be known as Imperial Conferences.

The series will make only brief references to the many WWI actions in which Newfoundlanders, including Labradorians, fought bravely. For more details, the history of the Newfoundland Regiment (NR) is well documented in the first of two volumes recording its history by Colonel GWL Nicholson. [2] Several other sources have excellent coverage of all the other significant contributions that Newfoundland made to the allied cause. It is important to remember that Newfoundlanders also served with other allied forces, particularly those of Britain and Canada.

It is estimated that at least 12,000 of a population of less than one-quarter million served overseas. Of these, more than 1,500 gave their lives and thousands more suffered long-term ill effects to their health. To say the least, this was a tremendous sacrifice made by a relatively small island ally and its people. The resulting hardships and losses continued to adversely affect Newfoundlanders long after the war ended and contributed to the loss of its independent status [3, 4, 5].

### **Newfoundland receives the call**

On 4 August 1914, Sir Walter Edward Davidson [1859–1923], the Governor of Newfoundland, received a cable informing him that Britain was at war. As a Dominion, Newfoundland officially entered the war when Britain did. The exact role the colony would

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Keywords & phrases: Newfoundland and Labrador, World War I



play was still to be determined, but Davidson reacted quickly. On 8 August, he wired London to say that Newfoundland would raise five hundred men for land service and another thousand for naval service. Prime Minister Patrick Morris supported this decision without calling the Legislature together.

## Military activity in Newfoundland before WWI

The government now faced what was basically a management problem. Since Newfoundlanders were chronically under-employed, men could easily be supplied, but how the government could enlist, train, and equip them was not immediately apparent. The last British soldier had left Newfoundland's Garrison in 1870, and no local militia had emerged thereafter. The government had no military department, nor experienced civil servants to spare, and few financial resources. Aside from a branch of the Royal Newfoundland Naval Reserve in St John's, there were four church-sponsored cadet corps, a branch of the non-denominational Legion of Frontiersmen, and the St John's Rifle Club.

This club was what survived after the St John's Volunteer Rifle Brigade, a local militia unit that assisted the British, was disbanded when the garrison was withdrawn. The club trained members—potential recruits—at their range on the Southside Hills. Figure 2 is a rare post card showing the St John's Rifle Club team at a competition held in Ottawa in 1907 [6].



**Figure 2.** Post card showing members of St John's Rifle Club, at 1907 competition in Ottawa.

Apart from the lack of military expertise in the government, Morris' hold on the electorate was shaky. His People's Party had won only 41 percent of the popular vote in the 1913 election, and its support was regionally and denominationally based. It was obvious that, in order to raise a military force, the government would need the support of the two opposition Liberal and Union parties, and the Anglican, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Roman Catholic church leaders.

Morris was confident his government could meet its commitment. Newfoundlanders, at least those in St John's and surrounding areas, supported the war effort, and not to answer Britain's call was inconceivable. Governor Davidson was prepared to take the lead, with Morris working behind the scenes. At a public meeting on 12 August, Davidson established himself as head of what became the Newfoundland Patriotic Association (NPA).

This was a non-partisan, extra-parliamentary body which quickly grew from its original fifty-five St John's members to three hundred island-wide. Its initial purpose was to raise and equip a military force of five hundred men plus reserves. After that, its responsibilities grew to encompass most aspects of the war effort. Various committees did the majority of work,



but major decisions had first to be approved by the NPA, the Prime Minister, and opposition leader John M Kent (and later William F Lloyd).

The NPA managed the war effort for nearly three years, with generally good results. It was a complex but flexible arrangement that drew on available military, business, and professional expertise, enjoyed the support of those who most counted, and kept potentially disruptive forces at bay. By the spring of 1917 it was clear that, if the Newfoundland Regiment was to be maintained as a fighting force, the Dominion's elected representatives had to do more, particularly concerning recruitment. In July 1917, the National (coalition) Government was created, which included a Department of Militia. As the department gradually took over the various war-related tasks, the NPA faded into the background. At the end of hostilities, it resurfaced to address the question of a war memorial to remember those who fought and died [4].

### **The Contributing organizations and the Newfoundland Regiment**

Between 1892 and 1914, four local churches sponsored uniformed youth organizations that combined religious instruction and military training. Their separate existence is a reflection of the sectarian divisions prevalent in Newfoundland at the time. The first to appear was the Church Lads' Brigade (CLB), formed in 1892 by the Church of England and based on an English organization. In early 1914, the Newfoundland Regiment existed only on paper.

On 10 August 1914, soon after the outbreak of the war, a meeting was held at the Colonial Office at which the CLB, the Methodist Guards, the Newfoundland Highlanders, the Catholic Cadet Corps, the Legion of Frontiersmen and the St John's Rifle Club were all represented. The outcome of the meeting was to provide the men to meet the government's offer of five hundred soldiers. A Reserve Force committee was set up to be responsible for the administration of raising and maintaining the reactivated Newfoundland Regiment. The Chairman was Sir Joseph Outerbridge, a former Colonel in the CLB. WH Rennie was made a Captain and Convener of the Musketry Committee.

The enrolment of recruits into the NR began on 21 August at the CLB Armoury on Harvey Road, St John's, which had been offered to the Government free-of-charge by Col Robert Rendell, Commanding Officer and, on Bell Island, the CLB Armoury became the central recruiting station for the island (Figure 3). This invaluable service was also offered in other towns with a CLB Armoury.



**Figure 3.** Post cards showing CLB armouries at St John's (l) and Bell Island.

In addition, the CLB provided a number of tents, rifles for drill purposes, and other equipment for the first training camp at Quidi Vidi (Figure 4a). At this time, nine CLB officers volunteered, including the inaugural Commanding Officer, Colonel William Franklin, and the first Adjutant, Captain Walter Rendell. Twelve CLB Warrant Officers also joined the NR, becoming the nucleus of its non-commissioned leadership. Together they directed the NR's initial training in the St John's armoury and on the camp ground at Pleasantville (Figure 4b). Four of the CLB Warrant Officers are shown in Figure 5.



**Figures 4a & 4b.** Post cards of 1914 Newfoundland Regiment training camps at Quidi Vidi Lake (l) and Pleasantville. [7]

Of Prime Minister Morris' "first 500" soldiers, one hundred and eight came from the ranks of the CLB, a ratio of one in five. The first man to be accepted was a CLB lad, Leonard T Stick, who had been nicknamed "Eagle Eye" in the Brigade. He eventually rose to the rank of Captain. Col Nicholson recognized and described the CLB as follows: "No other youth organization in Newfoundland made a more valuable contribution to the war effort" [2, 8].



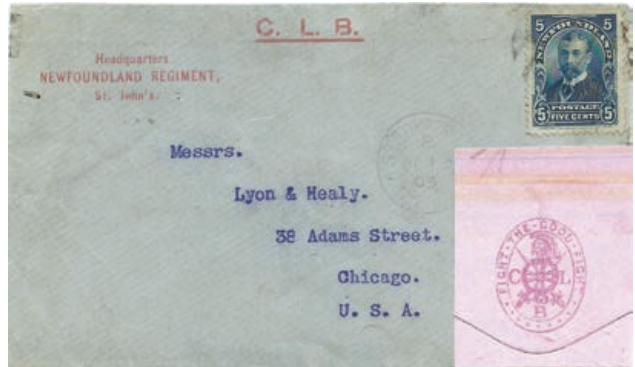
**Figure 5.** Post card of CLB Warrant Officers in the Newfoundland Regiment.

The poem that follows, by John V Rabbitts, a former CLB officer, is based on the CLB motto, "Fight the Good Fight," and well describes their credo:

*Only a motto 'Fight the Good Fight',  
when darkness assails us it leads us to the light,  
Strengthening weakness, guiding the strong,  
Helping each lad to shun which is wrong.  
A stay to the lads who, in the Great War,  
Left home, friends and loved ones, to see them no more.  
They set an example for me and for you  
still guided on by their motto so true.  
Their souls have gone on to that Heaven of light,  
Still the echo comes back to us –  
"Fight the Good Fight".*

The CLB cover in Figure 6, dated 1903, has the return address, “Headquarters Newfoundland Regiment, St John’s. Though dormant at that time, the regiment was still in existence. The backflap emblem (inset) has the “Fight the Good Fight” motto in the oval around the CLB crest.

**Figure 6.** 1903 CLB envelope.



Three other quasi-militia organizations formed after the CLB: the Catholic Cadet Corps (CCC) in 1896, the Methodist Guards in 1900, and the Presbyterian Newfoundland Highlanders in 1907 (Figure 7). The primary concern of the church-sponsored groups was the moral and physical development of their youth, based on the discipline and example of the British soldier. The only non-denominational military organization in the colony was the Legion of Frontiersmen, an Empire-wide commando-type organization established during the Boer War. By 1914, it operated two bases, one in St Anthony and the other in St John’s.



**Figure 7.** (top) Catholic Cadet Corps; (lower left) Officers of the Methodist Guards, ca 1910, (PANL B1-199); (lower right); Newfoundland Highlanders in kilts, ca 1910, (PANL G-14-18); lower images courtesy of the Provincial Archives of Newfoundland and Labrador, St John’s, Newfoundland.



The envelope in Figure 8, with “CATHOLIC CADET CORPS” at lower left, is quite rare. The inset shows the CCC crest from the backflap.

**Figure 8.** CCC envelope with CCC backflap crest inset.

The majority of recruits were young men, eager to wear the uniform of one of the corps. The only exception was the more professional non-denominational Legion of Frontiersmen. These paramilitary groups, a far cry from the professional soldiers of the British Army, imbued a generation of Newfoundlanders with military values and a strong sense of public service. Thus, while unprepared for the kind of conflict the “Great War” would come to represent, Newfoundlanders were not entirely unfamiliar with military affairs. By the end of August 1914, these brigades accounted for the majority of the more than seven hundred volunteers Governor Davidson had promised for the Newfoundland Regiment and the Royal Naval Reserve. In December 1914, the Reverend Levi Curtis said that, once the call for recruits went out,

*430 lads belonging to the Brigades entered the ranks—a magnificent response. This was the supreme test as to the value of Brigades, and demonstrated beyond all contradictions their great value to the country and Empire. ... In this alone we have abundant returns for all the investment in these organizations.”*



**Figure 9.** Newfoundland Regiment officers with the Governor and Prime Minister of Newfoundland, September 1914.



Figure 9 is a photograph taken in front of the Newfoundland Regiment officers' mess in September 1914 [9]. The various uniforms clearly show the different brigades that comprised the regiment. Seated second from the left in the front row is Walter Rendell, later a Colonel, wearing the distinctive uniform of the Legion of Frontiersmen [10]. Sitting in the centre of the front row is Governor Sir Walter Davidson [1856–1923], the prime mover behind the formation of the NR and its first Colonel [11]. Second from the right in the front row is Sir Edward Morris, the Prime Minister, later Lord Morris, the only native-born Newfoundlander to be raised to the British peerage.

The initial volunteers for Newfoundland's First Contingent are known as the "First Five Hundred", although there were actually a total of five hundred and thirty-seven men. They are also referred to as the "Blue Puttees" because, when war was declared, no khaki material for puttees was available. Newfoundland asked the British, who replied they could not help because of their own demands and recommended contacting the Canadians [12].

As the Canadians were also pressed for the material, the Newfoundlanders had to make do. It is thought that the material for the blue puttees came from either the Anglican Church Lads Brigade, who had blue uniforms, or the Royal Newfoundland Naval Reserve. In any case, the First Five Hundred went overseas with a "bits and pieces" uniform that included blue puttees. They were the only contingent so outfitted and only used them until they arrived in Britain and were issued with standard British infantry uniforms.

### The First Five Hundred go to war

Colonel WH Franklin, the regiment's commanding officer, left for England on 2 October 1914. The Newfoundland First Contingent left St John's harbour two days later aboard the *SS Florizel*, the flagship of the Bowring Brothers, New York, Newfoundland and Halifax Steamship Company Limited's Red Cross Line (Figures 10, 11).



**Figure 10.** Photos taken aboard *SS Florizel*; First contingent soldiers, City of St John's [13].



**Figure 11.** Bowring Brothers and *SS Florizel* stationery crests; (l) 1908, (c) 1910, (r) 1914.

The *Florizel* eventually joined the thirty-one ship convoy, accompanied by seven British Navy warships, transporting the Canadian First Contingent. The largest convoy of ships formed up to that time, it arrived safely at Plymouth on 14 October 1914. The postcard in Figure 12 depicts all the naval ships in the convoy [14]. Figure 13 lists all the ships in the convoy. *SS Florizel* is number 11 [15].



**Figure 12.** Warships accompanying First Contingent convoy.

The order of the first Canadian Expeditionary Force of which we sailed was: Officers and Men 33,000 Landed at Plymouth October 14, 1914.			
SHIPS OF CONVOY			
H.M.S. ECLIPSE		H.M.S. MAJESTIC **	H.M.S. CHARYBDIS (Flagship)
H	1. Megantic	12. Caribbean	22. Tunisian
M	2. Ruthania	13. Athenia	23. Arcadian
S	3. Bermudian	14. Royal Edward	24. Zealand
P	4. Alania	15. Fraconia	25. Corinthian
R	5. Ivernia	16. Canada	26. Virginian
I	6. Scandinavian	17. Monmouth	27. Andania
N	7. Sicilian	18. Manitou	28. Saxonia
C	8. Montreal	19. Tyrolia	29. Grampian
E	9. Lapland	20. Scotia	30. Lakonia
S	10. Cassandra	21. Laurentic	31. Monteruma
S	11. Florizel		
Rear Cruiser: H.M.S. Talbot			

**Figure 13.** List of First Contingent ships.

## Acknowledgements

My sincere thanks to the following people: Mike Street, for his initiative in proposing and co-coordinating this special remembrance of WWI edition of *BNA Topics* and his invaluable assistance with the preparation of my contribution; Christopher Butt, for assistance in numerous ways during the last decade. He is one of the foremost historians of Newfoundland's military history, and I am fortunate to know him. Stephanie Mansfield, for Latin translation, taking photographs, providing scans, and other assistance. Sandra Ronayne, Still & Moving Images Archivist, Provincial Archives, The Rooms Corporation of Newfoundland and Labrador, for prompt and informative replies to my enquiries. Jean Edwards and Peter Stacey for providing scans and permission to quote from their book.

This article will continue in future issues of *BNA Topics*.

## References and endnotes:

- [1] The patriotic picture post cards in Figure 1 are four of the most attractive and significant of the very few which I know exist for Newfoundland. The three printed cards are "Oilettes," which is on the cards above an artist's easel. They were a popular line of artist drawn images by one of Britain's premier manufacturers of the era, Raphael Tuck and Sons. The top right card is #3160, from the "Colonial Badges and Their Wearers" series, the work of "Harry Payne," whose signature is at lower right.

The top left card is #P2357, from "The Victorious Peace" series. The soldier defiantly holds Newfoundland's Red Ensign with crest and motto, *Primus inter pares*, Latin for "the first among equals" in the fly of the flag. While unsigned, it is the work of Italian artist/sculptor, Elio Ximenes (1855–1926) [3]. The lower right card is #3150, from the "Overseas Regimental Badges" series, the work of an artist whose monogram "H-A-G-Y" is at lower left. During the war, embroidered cards were made by a cottage industry of skilled Belgian and French women following patterns.

After being inserted in a frame by local post card makers, they were sold to allied troops. This is the only example of an embroidered card concerning Newfoundland of which I am aware.

- [2] Colonel GWL Nicholson, *The Fighting Newfoundlander*, Government of Newfoundland, St John's, Newfoundland, 1964, 614 pp.
- [3] Provincial Archives, The Rooms Corporation of Newfoundland and Labrador, website: <http://www.therooms.ca/archives>
- [4] Newfoundland and Labrador Heritage digital collection website: (2014) <http://www.heritage.nf.ca> (19 May 2014).
- [5] Memorial University website: <http://www.collections.mun.ca>
- [6] The post card in Figure 2 is mis-captioned, "Newfoundland-Ottawa -Rifle Team." It should have been "Newfoundland Rifle Team in Ottawa," where the team competed in 1907. WH Rennie is the man sitting front row centre. He was most closely associated with the rifle club and its recruit training programme. Rennie was made a Member of the British Empire (MBE) for his contributions to the war effort.
- [7] Standing at left in Figure 4b is Sgt Major Victor William Miles. Sadly, he was killed in action on 1 July 1916 at Beaumont Hamel.
- [8] To honour the men who gave their lives in the conflict, the CLB decided to supply the boys of the Anglican Orphanage with proper equipment and training. The boys would be an ordinary company, with friends of the Brigade responsible for the upkeep of uniforms and anything they required. The girls of the orphanage were supplied with outdoor training to make them stronger and healthier.
- [9] Sir Robert Bond Papers website: <http://bondpapers.blogspot.com/>
- [10] Rendell was Adjutant at the Gallipoli landing 20 Sept 1915. He was badly wounded on that first day and invalided out. He returned to active service after Beaumont Hamel and was with the regiment less than a week before he was wounded again at Gueudecourt, the next major battle on 12 October 1916. That ended his overseas service, and he spent the rest of the war in support roles and recruiting activities. After the war, Rendell had a long career as Newfoundland's all-around military man.
- [11] Governor Sir Walter Davidson was the prime mover behind the formation of the Newfoundland Regiment and served as its first Colonel. Davidson crossed the line in taking an active role in all war-related activities; Governors were supposed to remain aloof from local politics. His activist role led to his departure from Newfoundland in 1917. He was appointed Governor of New South Wales, where he died in office in 1923.
- [12] This request led to Newfoundland soldiers beginning the war with the infamous and, often fatal to the user, Ross rifle.
- [13] The real photo post card of St John's was taken on the *Florizel* by Samuel Joseph Ebsary, as confirmed by the message he wrote and sent from Britain: "Mother, took this as we sailed from home with the Kodak you gave me. ["Kodak" was a common reference of the period to a camera regardless of the manufacturer.] Could not help wonder when I will see it again, hope it is not long before I will." Sam and his cousin Hubert Edgar Ebsary never did see St John's again; Hubert was killed in action at Gallipoli in 1915, and Sam died of wounds in France in 1916. I will have more on the Ebsary family in later parts of this article. Sadly, the *SS Florizel* did not survive the war either.
- [14] The message side of this card, written "8 Nov/14" at Salisbury Plains by one of the Canadians, reads, "We are very busy getting into shape. Arthur is in Salisbury [the nearby town] for a week on police duty." Arthur would have been one of the first Military Policemen (MPs).
- [15] AJ Stacey and Jean Edwards Stacey, *Memoirs of a Blue Puttee—The Newfoundland Regiment in World War One*, DRC Publishers, St John's, Newfoundland, 2002, 190 pp. A revised and expanded 280-page second edition was published in 2013.

## BNAPEX 2014 BALPEX Schedule

(Please see Show Program for Locations)

### Thursday, 28 August 2014

0900 – 1700	BNAPS Board of Directors Meeting
1500 – 2030	BNAPS Registration
1600 – 1900	Exhibits and Bourse set-up
1930 – 2300	Hospitality Room open

### Friday, 29 August 2014

0730	Judges working breakfast
0800 – 1530	Tour 1: National Postal Museum
0900 – 1600	Tour 2: Fort McHenry & Historical Society or Art Museum
1000 – 1800	Exhibition and Bourse open; BNAPS Registration (until 1645)
1700	Buses leave for BNAPS dinner at Garrett - Jacobs Mansion
1800	Exhibition and Bourse close
2200 – 2300	Hospitality Room open

### Saturday, 30 August 2014

0715 – 0800	Order of the Beaver Breakfast & Meeting (private)
0800 – 0930	Order of the Beaver Breakfast & Meeting (private)
0900 – 1600	Tour 3: Downtown Baltimore
0930 – 1030	Military Mail Study Group meeting
1000 – 1800	Exhibition and Bourse open; BNAPS Registration
1000 – 1100	Study Group Leaders meeting
1100 – 1200	Christmas Philately Study Group meeting
1200 – 1300	George VI Study Group meeting
1300 – 1400	Elizabethan II Study Group meeting

1400 – 1500	Large and Small Queens Study Group meeting
1500 – 1600	Seminar: Forensic Philately and the VG Greene Foundation
1500 – 1600	Admiral Study Group meeting
1600 – 1700	Seminar on the BNAPS Website
1600 – 1800	BALPEX Judges' Critique
1700 – 1800	Pence-Cents and Re-Entries Combined Study Group meeting
1800	Exhibition and Bourse close
1800	BNAPS members – dinner on your own
1830	BALPEX Awards Banquet, Cocktail Party
2200 – 2300	Hospitality Room open

### Sunday, 31 August 2014

0745 – 0820	Roman Catholic Mass
0830 – 0930	BNAPS Annual General Meeting
0930 – 1100	BNAPS Judges' Critique
1000 – 1500	Exhibition and Bourse open; BNAPS Registration
1100 – 1200	Postal Stationery Study Group meeting
1300 – 1400	Canada Illustrated Covers Study Group
1300 – 1400	Seminar: Forensic Philately and the VG Greene Foundation
1500	Bourse closes; Exhibit take down
1800	BNAPS Past Presidents' Reception
1900	BNAPS Awards Banquet
2130 – 2300	Hospitality Room open

**All times and sessions valid as of 12 July 2014. Please check show program for locations and possible changes.**



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## HOLLAND (Escape from Germany)

*J Michael Powell*

**D**URING the Great War, just under 4,000 Canadian soldiers and airmen found themselves interned in various prison camps. These camps were primarily in Germany, but some prisoners were interned in neutral Holland and Switzerland. As postal historians, sometimes we get very interested in the stories behind the covers we collect, and this article is in large part an indulgence into a personal predilection.



**Figure 1. Mervin Cecil Simmons.**

Escape was always on the mind of an interned soldier. Many Canadians tried; one hundred succeeded. This is the story of four who tried, two of whom ultimately made it to Holland.

Mervin Cecil Simmons (1886–1964) (Figure 1) was a Private with the 7th Battalion, British Columbia. A member of the Active Militia, he was employed as a carpenter in Trail when the war began. Like many young men, he wanted to serve, formally enlisting in the Canadian Expeditionary Force at Valcartier on 13 September 1914.

He found himself in a trench at Ypres, Belgium on 24 April 1915 watching a German plane overhead marking his unit's position with smoke bombs. Soon, they were under heavy bombardment. While evacuating his trench, he was shot in the right shoulder. Shortly thereafter, he was among those captured. He was first taken to a village where his wound was treated, then he was put on a light rail car with POWs and wounded German soldiers and taken to another village. From there, he was marched to Roulers where POWs were assembled at a school. Loaded on a train, they were moved to Giessen. Simmons spent some time recovering in a lazaret, and then was moved into the main camp in the first week of June.

This large camp (Figure 2) for other ranks was located two miles outside of the town of Giessen in the XVIII Army Corps District (Frankfurt-am-Main). Barracks were laid out in streets and built two to three feet off the ground. The camp



**Figure 2. Large camp located two miles outside of the town of Giessen in the XVIII Army Corps District.**

had a YMCA hut and, at one time, held a large concentration of Canadians. Some of the prisoners worked in *Kommandos* outside of the main camp in construction and on farms.

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Keywords & phrases: WWI, Prisoner of War mail

Lance Corporal Thomas Bromley (1881–1974) is shown here (Figure 3) in a coat bearing his prison number and sleeve band. He was also a member of the Active Militia, working as a machinist in Toronto when he answered the call. He joined the 3rd Battalion, Toronto Regiment, signing his attestation papers at Valcartier on 22 September 1914. He was taken prisoner on the same day as Simmons, also at Ypres.

Simmons was thinking of escape when he met the like-minded Bromley. Escaping the camp would be difficult, so they volunteered for farm work and were sent to Rossback, some eighteen miles from Giessen and that much closer to Switzerland. The two worked at different farms, but they were housed in the same building in the village every night.

On Sunday, 3 October 1915 there was no work. Simmons and Bromley snuck out during the rainy night with a small amount of supplies and a compass. Their sojourn ended on 8 October when they were spotted by a young boy, who called on a group of labourers working in a field. Turned in, they were taken to the district military Headquarters and interrogated before being returned to Giessen. Simmons and Bromley then spent five days in the strafe (punishment) barracks until space in the cells became open. Simmons and Bromley then spent two weeks in the cells, followed by six more weeks in the strafe barracks. During this period of punishment, they did not send or receive mail or parcels, although towards the end some things from their parcels were given over to them.

Edward E Edwards (Figure 4) was born 15 July 1876 at Aberdeen, Scotland. He was an experienced soldier, having served eight years in Africa and India with the 2nd Battalion, Gordon Highlanders, seeing action in the Boer War. After that service, he emigrated to Canada, settling in Toronto and finding work as a gasfitter. He enlisted at Ottawa for CEF service, joining the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry as a Corporal (later Sergeant).



**Figure 4.** Edward E Edwards

Edwards was wounded in the foot in February 1915 at St Eloi, where the Princess Pats were the first Canadians to see action. He was again in the action at Ypres. Initially, the Princess Pats were largely observers at that battle, which ultimately lasted from 22 April to 25 May 1915. However, on 8 May they were attacked by a vastly superior German force. The unit suffered 400 casualties and seventeen were taken prisoner, Edwards among them. The prisoners were interrogated while being marched to Roulers where they were assembled at a church. Next, they were marched to the railway and crammed into freight cars, arriving at Giessen on 10 May.

Discipline was severe at Giessen, but Edwards would later write: "Except for the starving ... Giessen was not such a bad camp as such places go." POWs were allowed two post cards and two letters per month. In those, they could not complain or talk about the war. From Edwards' observations, fully half would be returned for real or perceived violations, or sometimes the censor would simply burn them. After three or four months at the camp, parcels started to arrive, although there was a lot of pilfering by the



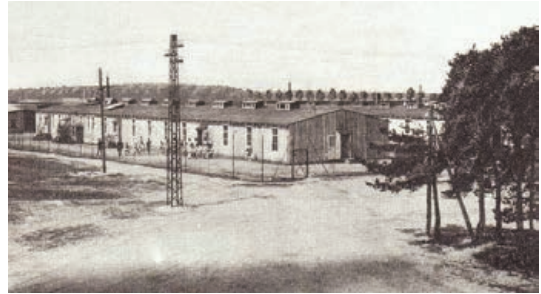
**Figure 3.** Lance Corporal Thomas Bromley.

German guards. It was worse for the POWs seconded to working *Kommandos*. In the event that an expected parcel did not arrive, a prisoner would acknowledge receipt anyway. To do otherwise would just discourage the sender from sending more.

Edwards was aware of the escape plans of Simmons and Bromley, but he thought at the time that more than two escaping together was too risky. He looked for a partner, found one, and they made an aborted attempt to escape from a railroad work detail. They were gone for over an hour, but they returned because of his partner's fear of detection.

Simmons and Bromley made their escape a few days later. After their return, Simmons approached Edwards about making another attempt. Edwards readily agreed, not only because he wanted out, but because he felt he needed to restore his reputation, tarnished among his comrades because of the circumstances of the earlier failed attempt. All four of these POWs were assigned to a group being transferred out of Giessen.

There was a central prisoner of war camp at Celle in the X Army Corps District (Hanover) (Figure 5), as well as a series of small camps, some a significant distance from the town. Several of these smaller camps were punishment camps for prisoners deemed by the Germans to be disciplinary problems.



**Figure 5. Prisoner of war camp at Celle in the X Army Corps district.**

Edwards, Simmons, and Bromley spent about two weeks at Cellelager (Figure 5), located north of Giessen towards Holland. They were then sent to Cellelager 6, a sub-camp also known as Vehnmoor. There, they were housed in a single large barracks with 700 prisoners. The conditions were poor, and the water was bad.

Not surprisingly, the three intrepid POWs were intent on escape. They were joined by Edwards' partner from his aborted first attempt. They formulated a bold plan which involved dodging lights and cutting the barbed wire fence in close proximity to the guards. On 18 January 1916, Edwards went first, followed by Simmons, and then Bromley. True to form, the fourth man, who had been reluctant even in the planning, backed out. The escapers heard gunshots, but looking back they saw that the other POWs were milling about as they had been, still providing cover for the escape, so they carried on.

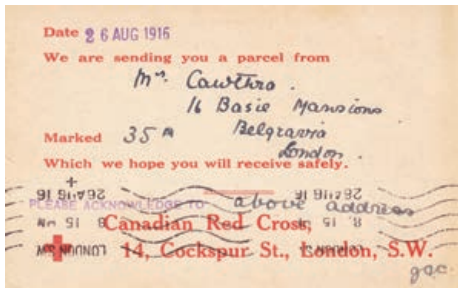
They had to traverse a bog and a number of ditches. Bromley was a heavier man, who kept breaking through the crusty bog. This exposure caused him great leg pain. The three persevered, travelling by night and resting by day. On the second night, because of Bromley's leg problems, they risked going through a village rather than the safer, but more difficult, route through the country fields. Spotted, Bromley could not go on. By prior agreement, he gave himself up, allowing Edwards and Simmons time to get away into the woods.

The two carried on for days, navigating by the stars. The going was difficult. They were constantly wet from crossing swamps, and it was very cold. Food was in short supply. They had not brought much in the way of rations, and finding food in winter was challenging. On



the eighth day they arrived at the icy, fast-moving River Ems. For two days, they searched for a means of crossing it. Finally, they found a bridge, but they were apprehended when they crossed it. They were at Lathan, just four miles from Holland. It was the Kaiser's birthday.

Edwards and Simmons were kept in the civilian jail at Meppen for two days. It was relatively comfortable compared to the camp. On 30 January, an escort came to take them back to Vehnmoor. They spent eleven days in cells, which were four-by-eight foot wooden boxes, waiting for court martial. Sentenced to thirty days in the dark cells at the Oldenberg military prison, about eight miles away, they were again denied mail privileges. Bromley was also at Oldenberg, and Simmons spoke with him briefly while each was being escorted by a guard. Edwards and Simmons were released from the cells on 22 February.

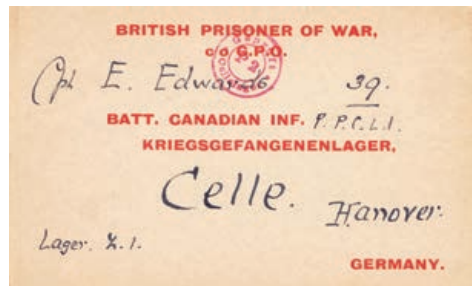


**Figure 6. Post Card (back) sent from the Canadian Red Cross to Cpl Edwards.**

correspondence. That mail was censored and held back as evidence against them. A sympathetic Russian POW working as an orderly managed to get the mail back for them, and they burned it.

Above is a card sent from the Canadian Red Cross Offices in London, advising that a parcel had been sent to Edwards (Figure 6) at Cellelager and requesting that he acknowledge receipt when it arrived. The card was examined upon arrival and received a Cellelager censor marking in red (Figure 7). Mail was generally routed through the main camps, then distributed to the sub-camps and working *Kommandos*. Edwards would never receive this card. He and Simmons would again escape while it was en route.

They wanted to make their next attempt in August to take advantage of the longer nights before the weather turned cold. Simmons received a compass from his brother, concealed in cream cheese. Their nightly watches from the barracks revealed no opportunity, so they volunteered for work which they had refused to that point. They were assigned to a turnip farm, but they could not safely bring along the bulky supplies they had saved up. On the second



**Figure 7. Upon arrival, the post card (front) received a Cellelager censor mark.**

trip to the farm, an inattentive guard and an unlocked farmhouse door provided a chance they could not pass up, and off they went into the rainy night.

They had not gone too far when their absence was noticed and the town bells began to ring. They hid in a ditch, concealed by overhanging heather, while the guards searched for them, at times only a few feet away. Eventually, the search was called off. They went on as before, travelling by day and resting by night. There were several close calls as they crossed fields, swamps and small canals. It was summer, but they were always wet, always cold.

On 4 September they encountered a farmer, apparently out hunting, accompanied by a dog and armed with a shotgun. In Edwards' account, he describes a fierce fight which ended with the farmer and the dog being killed. Simmons, however, describes the incident as quite mundane, passing the farmer with barely an acknowledgement of each other's presence.

On 9 September, Edwards and Simmons swam across the River Ems, and needed five hours to traverse a bog. Finding a bridge and crossing another river, they entered a village. There they noticed a difference in architecture as well as other signs. They were in Holland.

They decided not to reveal their presence right away, uncertain of the loyalties of the local Dutch. Also, they wanted to avoid internment in the neutral country. They did meet the locals the next day and were warmly greeted. They were generously fed and supplied with



**Figure 8. Post card from Rotterdam to Simmons' aunt.**

tobacco. With the help of the local police and the American consulate in Aaschen, they avoided being interned. Under an international agreement, soldiers returned with the aid of a neutral country could not be returned to the fighting, which suited Edwards and Simmons just fine.

Simmons wrote to his aunt in an un-censored post card from Rotterdam

(Figure 8). On 16 September Edwards and Simmons boarded the *SS Grenadier* and arrived in England two days later. Eventually, they were returned to Canada and released from service. Tom Bromley would remain a POW until the end of the war, released on 27 December 1918. The fourth man was not named in either Edwards' or Simmons' accounts. Both of the books giving complete accounts of their wartime experiences, detailed below in References, are long out-of-print but can occasionally be obtained online through used booksellers.

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- [1] E Edwards, *The Escape of a Princess Pat by George Pearson as told by Edward Edwards*, George H Doran Company, 1918.
- [2] Nellie L. McClung and Pvt Cecil Simmons, *Three Times Out: A Canadian Boy's Experience in Germany, as told by Private Simmons*, Riverside Press Cambridge, 1918.
- [3] EH Wigney, *Guests of the Kaiser*, CEF Books, 2008.



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# An overview of World War I patriotic flag cancels

*Douglas Lingard, OTB, FRPSC*

## Introduction

**A**FTER the post office ceased using the classical flag cancels in 1902, flag cancels were normally only used nationally for very important events, such as to support the WWI and WWII war efforts, coronations, and the Diamond Jubilee of Confederation. In early 1917, the post office revived the use of patriotic flag cancels to promote the War Savings Certificate campaign. The next year, flag cancels were again used to promote the Victory Bond campaign.

In 1917, forty-nine different War Savings Certificate flag cancelling dies were used across Canada. They can be assigned to the sixteen different groupings identified in *The Canadian/Flag Cancellation/Handbook/1896–1973*, by the late Ed Richardson, OTB.

However, since some of these forty-nine flag cancelling dies were used in more than one post office, there is actually a total of sixty-four different collectible flag cancels, if you include the dater-hub spelling error showing “GANANOQUE” for Gananoque, used with one of the flag cancels from that town. Forty-four of the forty-nine were used in International Postal Supply Co cancelling machines, and five were used in Universal Stamping Machine Co cancelling machines. Of the total, forty-five were in English and four in French.

In 1918, only one English and one French version of the “Buy Victory Bonds” cancelling dies were used. All eleven of these 1918 English obliterators and the sole French obliterator were used in International cancelling machines.



**Figure 1.** Use of the “HELP TO/WIN THE WAR ...” cancelling die, with a mast at the left side of the cancel.

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Keywords & phrases: Flag cancels, WWI, International machines, Universal machines

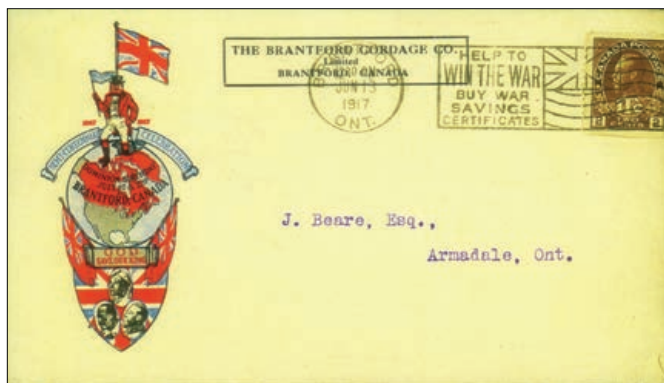


## The 1917 War Savings Certificate flag cancels

The earliest-recorded use of any of these flag cancels is 5 February 1917 from Montreal, and the latest-recorded use is 10 October from Vancouver and Victoria. However, it seems a number of post offices stopped using these flag cancelling dies on Saturday, 6 October. For this article, Richardson's sixteen different groupings are being consolidated into a more manageable seven distinct types, with wording as follows:

### (a) "HELP TO/WIN THE WAR/BUY WAR/SAVINGS/CERTIFICATES"

The post office obtained nineteen of these obliterations and used some in more than one post office, so a total of twenty-five collectible flag cancel varieties exist. Three of them had a mast at the left side of the cancel, like the example in Figure 1, from Montreal, on a CPR Statement of Earnings card. Figure 2 shows a patriotic cover with a Brantford Universal flag cancel. The province, instead of the year, is shown at the base of all Universal cancelling machine dater hubs.



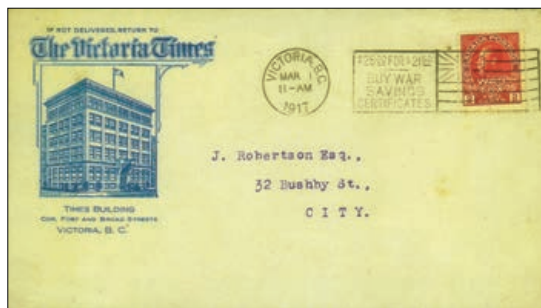
**Figure 2.** Cover with a Universal cancel flag "HELP TO/WIN THE WAR...."

### (b) "\$2500 FOR \$2150/BUY WAR/SAVINGS/CERTIFICATES"

Only three of these cancelling dies were used. One was used at Victoria (Figure 3) and then sent to Edmonton. The other two were employed at Saint John and Toronto.

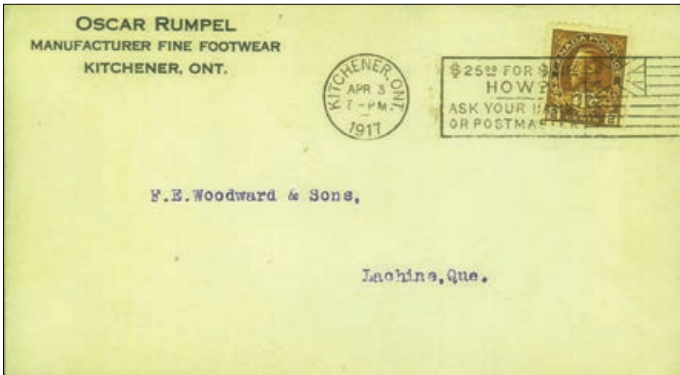
### (c) "\$2500 FOR \$2150 /HOW?/ASK YOUR BANK /OR POSTMASTER"

Eight of these "HOW?" cancelling dies were produced. Figure 4 illustrates a complete impression of a Kitchener "HOW?" cancel. No impressions of this type appear in the Pritchard and Andrews' proof books, so it is thought that they may have been engraved by the International Postal Supply Company itself. The Gananoque obliterator, which was not listed in the Richardson monograph,



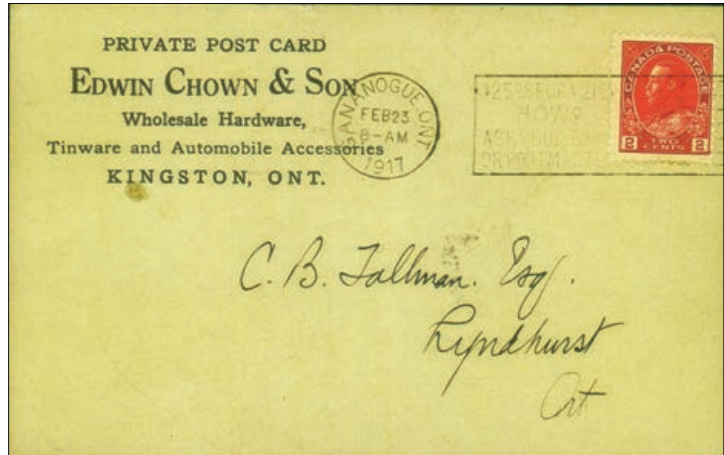
**Figure 3.** "The '\$2500 FOR \$2150/BUY ...' flag used at Victoria.

was sent to Vancouver, thus giving us ten different flag cancels, if the Gananoque dater hub spelling error is included. Figure 5 illustrates a light impression of the cancel, clearly showing the “GANANOQUE” error.



**Figure 4.** A complete impression of a Kitchener “\$2500 FOR \$2150/HOW ...” cancel.

**Figure 5.** The “\$2500 FOR \$2150/HOW ...” obliterator with the “GANANOQUE” dater spelling error.

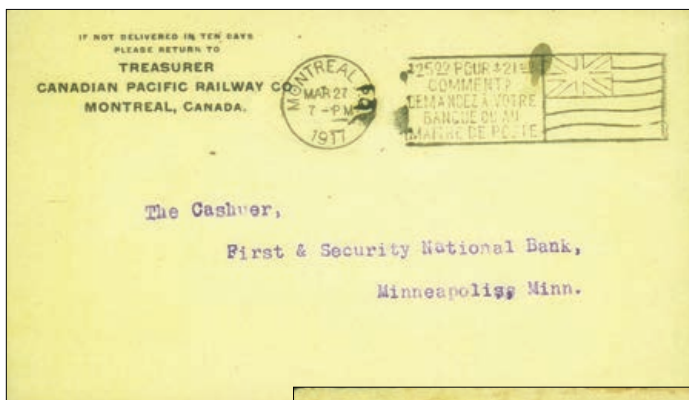


**(d) “\$2500 POUR \$2150/COMMENT?/DEMANDEZ À VOTRE/BANQUE OU AU/MAITRE DE POSTE”**

Four of these French-language obliterations were used at Montreal, Quebec, St Hyacinthe, and Trois-Rivières. The cover shown in Figure 6 is an interesting usage from the last day this cancelling die was employed at Montreal. Note that there is no postage nor postage-due marking on the cover.

**(e) “SAVE/YOUR MONEY/LEND IT TO YOUR/COUNTRY”**

The post office purchased five of these “LEND IT” cancelling dies. A full impression of the Montreal “LEND IT” flag cancel on a cover to India with an Indian censor mark is shown in Figure 7. The Vancouver die was sent to Victoria and the Edmonton die was sent to Calgary, giving rise to seven different flag cancels.



**Figure 6.** The last day this “\$2500 POUR \$2150/COMMENT? ...” cancelling die was employed at Montreal.

**Figure 7.** A full impression of the Montreal “SAVE/YOUR MONEY/LEND IT ...” flag cancel on a cover to India with Indian censor mark.



**Figure 8.** A WWI patriotic cover with a Winnipeg use of the “SAVE/YOUR MONEY/BUY WAR ...’ flag cancel.

**(f) “SAVE/YOUR MONEY/BUY WAR/SAVINGS/CERTIFICATES”**

Eight of these flag cancelling dies were used, in ten cities. The Stratford obliterator was sent to Brockville, and the Brandon obliterator was sent to Winnipeg. Figure 8 shows a WWI patriotic cover, addressed to England with a Winnipeg use of this flag cancel. The Richardson monograph did not list the use at Brandon.



**Figure 9. The earliest - reported use of the “SAVE, SAVE, SAVE,/AND/BUY ...” flag cancel.**

### **(g) “SAVE, SAVE, SAVE,/AND/BUY WAR/SAVINGS/CERTIFICATES”**

Only two of these “SAVE, SAVE, SAVE...” cancelling dies were produced. One was used at Winnipeg, then at Hamilton. The other one was used at Renfrew, then at London. Figure 9 shows the earliest-reported use of this cancel, from London, on a 1917 Western Fair cover.

## **The 1918 Buy Victory Bonds flag cancels**

English and French versions of the Buy Victory Bonds flag cancel were used to promote the 1918 Victory Bond campaign. Eleven English obliterators were used across Canada, while the French obliterator was used at Trois-Rivières. The earliest-recorded use of any of these English or French 1918 flag cancels is dated 19 October, from Toronto. Edmonton and Winnipeg have the latest-recorded use, dated 23 November. The 1918 Buy Victory Bond flag cancelling dies used the following wording:

### **(a) “BUY VICTORY/BONDS/TO THE LIMIT/OF YOUR ABILITY”**

These cancelling dies were used in eleven major cities across Canada, including Montreal and Quebec City. The earliest-recorded use for any of these cancels is from Toronto, on 10 October (Figure 10).

### **(b) “ACHETEZ AUTANT/D'OBLIGATIONS/DE LA VICTOIRE/QUE POSSIBLE”**

The French version of the 1918 flag cancel was used only at Trois-Rivières. About twelve examples of this cancel are now known, but nine of them are cancelling stamps applied to the picture side of post cards (a typical example is illustrated in Figure 11). Only three examples have been recorded cancelling stamps on covers.

## **Conclusion**

The intent of this short article has been to show how the post office used different types of patriotic flag cancels in 1917 and 1918 to help promote Canada’s WWI war effort. An overview of the different kinds of 1917 and 1918 WWI flag cancels has been provided.

Those wishing to learn more about these cancels are encouraged to access the article called “Thank You Mr. Pike!” on pages 7 to 12 of the September 1988 (v2n2) edition of *The Flag Pole*.





**Figure 10.** The earliest-recorded use for any of the 1918 “BUY VICTORY BONDS...” flag cancels.

**Figure 11.** A typical 1918 Trois Rivières “ACHETEZ AUTANT D’OBLIGATIONS DE LA VICTOIRE QUE POSSIBLE” French-language flag cancel.



This journal of the old BNAPS Flag Cancel Study Group is in the Study Group Newsletter section of the Horace Harrison Online Library, on the BNAPS website. The article provides more information on these cancels, such as the early and late dates of use for the sixty-four 1917 and the twelve 1918 flag cancels used. Although it was published in 1988, the article is still reasonably current. The periods of use for some of these cancels have now been expanded by up to a few days, but no new varieties have surfaced since 1988.

A detailed listing and examples of all the 1917 and 1918 flag cancels, other than the Gananogue dater hub spelling error, are shown in my publication *Canadian Flag Cancels 1896–1919*. It is still fairly current and has updated information as of July 1995. Over two hundred copies of this out-of-print monograph were sold between 1993 and 2010, so it is sometimes offered on eBay.

If anyone decides to start collecting World War I patriotic flag cancels, they will face a number of challenges, such as the 1917 Brandon, the 1918 Charlottetown, and the 1918 Regina cancels. However, those who do begin collecting them will enjoy the fun of the chase, and gratification each time they add one of the scarcer cancels to their collections.

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# WWI-era Canadian Cinderella stamps

Ronald G Lafrenière, PhD

## Introduction

IN the early hours of 7 June 1915, flight Sub-Lieutenant Reginald A J Warneford, flying his single-seat Morane Parasol fighter plane, intercepted German zeppelin LZ-37 returning from a bombing raid on Calais. Chasing the airship to the outskirts of the town of Ghent, Belgium, and despite heavy machine-gun fire, Warneford was able to release his six 20-lb bombs, the last one causing such an explosion on the airship that the fighter plane was flipped over. Luckily, Warneford was able to regain control of his plane in time to see the airship on the ground in flames. It was the first victory of a fighter plane over a dirigible, and it earned Warneford the Victoria Cross [1]. Despite this, German air raids intensified over Britain during the next year. On the night of 2–3 September 1916, a fleet of sixteen German airships set out to bomb London. One of these, the newly commissioned Schütte-Lanz SL 11 was intercepted, over Cuffley, Hertfordshire, by Lt W Leefe Robinson, who was flying a converted BE2c night fighter. Robinson raked the airship with gunfire, starting a fire that sent the airship to its fiery demise. Witnessed by thousands of Londoners on the ground, it was a spectacular confirmation that German airships were not invincible. The victory did wonders to boost the morale of British civilians. It also convinced Germany that airship raids over Britain would be costly. As a consequence, their numbers were significantly reduced.

The image of a flaming zeppelin being shot down by fighter planes was used to rally the troops and mobilize the public to support the war effort. It may be most familiar to Canadian airmail enthusiasts as the central vignette of the semi-official stamps (Scott CLP1 and CLP2), issued by the Aero Club of Canada for letters carried on its inaugural air mail flights between Toronto and Ottawa, in August and September of 1918. But less well-known is that the image was likely inspired by that of a charity seal issued earlier by the United Empire Loyalists (Figure 1) [2, 3]. Lithographed in blue and printed by the British American Bank Note Company (Ottawa), the seal was sold as part of the effort to raise money for the Canadian Aviation Fund, launched in 1915 by Colonel William Hamilton Merritt, under the patronage of the Duke of Connaught. By May 1918, the fund had raised over £33,500, which was used to purchase sixteen fighter planes, of which ten were retained in Canada for pilot training [4, 5]. This is but one example of the role that Canadian Cinderella stamps played during the First World War, which role we will explore further in this article.



**Figure 1.** United Empire Loyalists donation stamp.

## Poster stamps before the onset of WWI

To begin, it may be best to define exactly what a Cinderella stamp is. The simplest definition is that it is a stamp or label that is not a postage stamp, *i.e.*, not issued by a

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Keywords & phrases: WWI, Cinderella stamps, poster stamps



government entity to indicate payment of postage. Revenue stamps (*e.g.*, bill stamps, law stamps, weights & measures inspection stamps, telegraph franks, *etc.*) are sometimes lumped in with postage stamps as they indicate receipt of a fee. Others tend to lump Revenues in with Cinderella stamps as they are not used to indicate postage. Anything else, that has the appearance of a postage stamp but is not used for postage or revenue, can be considered a Cinderella. The term “label” is sometimes used interchangeably with “Cinderella stamp,” though it may be best to apply the terms based on physical appearance rather than intended use. For instance, a “stamp” would be any item that was square, rectangular or triangular, and either perforated or rouletted, *i.e.*, resembling a regular postage stamp. It could also be imperforate, if a perforated example of the item also existed. A “label” would be an item that was imperforate and square, rectangular, circular, or die-cut into a particular shape, without a perforated example. Cinderella stamps and labels can also be designated by their particular uses. For instance, the term “etiquette” designates a stamp or label which indicates a special postal service or a particular instruction, such as “air mail,” “special delivery,” or “Fragile.” The term “seal” is sometimes used to designate a stamp or label used for fundraising purposes, such as a Christmas or Easter seal. Other terms (*e.g.*, reprint, forgery, counterfeit, similitude, facsimile, fake, local post, strike post, *etc.*) can also be applied to Cinderellas. Finally, a “Poster Stamp” is essentially a stamp-shaped miniature poster that was used to advertise an event, a company, or a product.

Poster stamps first appeared in the 1850s, but it wasn’t until the Parisian artist and lithographer Jules Chéret—called “the father of the modern poster”—revolutionized poster art that collectors began to take notice. In 1895, Chéret created the *Maîtres de l’Affiche* collection, a series of two hundred and fifty-six smaller reproductions featuring the best works of ninety-seven Parisian artists. Printing firms in Germany shrank reproductions of posters even further to create poster stamps that could be pasted into albums by collectors [6]. The craze began, and soon chocolate makers and coffee roasters were including collectible stamps in their packages to boost sales. As the bulk of correspondence then was sent through postal systems, poster stamps inevitably made their way onto envelopes and post cards as a cheap and highly effective advertising medium.



**Figure 2.** Poster stamps issued by Fairweathers, of the 1915 Montreal Motor Show, and the Soo Line.

It was estimated that, at the peak of the poster stamp craze, just prior to the onset of WWI, five thousand different poster stamp designs were being produced annually in Germany alone [6]. As the firms in Germany suddenly saw their factories and wares boycotted internationally, companies turned to producing war materials to help the national economy. In Canada, the poster stamp craze was much less pronounced than in Europe, but nonetheless it led to the production of beautiful examples, such as a poster stamp advertising fur coats from Fairweathers Ltd., one promoting the 1915 edition of the Montreal Motor Show, and a stunning view of the Rockies care of the Soo Line (Figure 2), with other stamps in the series featuring the Panama Pacific Exposition held in San Francisco in 1915.

## Patriotism and propaganda

With the onset of the war, companies adopted patriotic themes and slogans in their poster stamps (Figure 3). For instance, Christie, Brown & Company, maker of the famous Christie's Biscuits, issued a stamp with bulldogs guarding every corner of the Union Jack and the slogan "ARE WE AFRAID? NO!" The bulldog theme also made it into other such Cinderellas, such as that from the Dominion Fire Insurance Co., or one from the town of Walkerville, founded by the whiskey magnate Hiram Walker.



**Figure 3.** Cinderella stamps with wartime themes.

Brandram-Henderson Ltd., a paint and varnish manufacturer with factories in Montreal, Halifax, St. John's, Toronto, and Winnipeg, issued a set of three colourful stamps to advertise its paint. The stamps feature the first warships of the Canadian Navy: *HMCS Niobe*, *HMCS Rainbow*, and two submarines, *HMCS CC-1* and *HMCS CC-2*. The *Rainbow* and *Niobe* were acquired from England in 1910. The *Niobe* was damaged in the 1917 Halifax explosion, and scrapped in 1920. The two submarines were purchased in 1914 from the Seattle Construction and Drydock Company and scrapped in 1920. These Cinderella stamps were the first to depict Canada's fledgling navy.

Other companies used images of the flag or troops to demonstrate their patriotism (Figure 4). The firm of Henry Birks & Sons Ltd, which was formed in Montreal in 1893, grew to be one of the major jewellery stores in Canada. During the war, it issued a Cinderella

stamp featuring a beaver on a shield, surrounded by the flags of the Allies (Great Britain, France, Russia, Italy, Serbia, and Belgium) and the slogan “These colors will not run.”



**Figure 4.** Cinderella stamps with flags or soldiers.

Consolidated Optical Company Limited of Toronto, Ontario, which manufactured and sold its high-end brand of “Consol” and “Consol-ex” spectacleware, issued a stamp featuring a waving Canadian flag and the slogan “Each one helps or hinders.” Morton, Phillips & Co of Montreal issued a set of at least six different stamps with various slogans, and the Canada Furniture Manufacturers Ltd put out a multicoloured stamp featuring a beaver and flags with “GUARANTEED FURNITURE / MADE IN CANADA.” The patriotic stamp issued by Bulman Bros & Co of Winnipeg featured a troop of singing soldiers, guns on shoulders, and with the flag waving above the fray. Finally, for those companies that wished to produce patriotic stamps but couldn’t develop their own designs, a mini-sheet of six stamps was issued, on which any company name could be overprinted at a strategic location. Companies such as Molson’s Brewery, Durham Furniture Co., and the Imperial Oil Co., Ltd., have been seen on such stamps.

A common theme that also flows through these patriotic stamps and labels is the push to purchase “Made in Canada” products, and thus keep industry active at home and funds in the country. In fact it was also very important to ration such things as fuel, rubber, metal, and foodstuffs (meat, butter, sugar, *etc.*). The Canada Food Board was established in 1918, with the aim of boosting wartime food production and discouraging food hoarding, leading to increased food exports to Britain and other allied countries. A set of at least ten stamps,

each with a different slogan or reminder, was issued to promote the Board's objectives (Figure 5). Thus patriotic Cinderella stamps helped boost morale at home, reminded the public of the sacrifices being made abroad, and encouraged everyone to be active in the war effort.



**Figure 5.** Cinderella stamps issued by the Canada Food Board.

## Fundraising

Raising funds for the war effort was a main concern, both for the federal government, and for relief agencies. From 1915 to 1917, Canadians subscribed \$336 million to three “war loans.” Encouraged by this success, on 1 December 1917 the Government launched the sale of the first “Victory Bonds,” which earned interest at 5½ percent annually [7]. The campaign was a huge success; 820,035 Canadians lent the Government \$398 million. To help promote the sale of Victory Bonds, a number of promotional stamps were issued (Figure 6).



**Figure 6.** Cinderella stamps promoting Victory Bonds.



After the end of the war, and with a significant war debt still to manage, the federal government launched the sale of War Savings stamps, which allowed persons of lower income to contribute to the war costs by investing in government securities. “Thrift stamps,” as they were known, could be purchased for 25¢ each and accumulated in booklets. A booklet filled with sixteen stamps could be exchanged for a War Savings stamp that would be worth \$5 on 1 January 1924 [8]. At least four different advertising labels, two of which are shown in Figure 7, were issued to promote the sale of War Savings stamps in the years following WWI. (See also David Bartlet’s full treatment of WWI War Savings Stamps and Victory Bonds elsewhere in this issue of *BNA Topics*. - Ed)



Figure 7. Cinderella stamps promoting War Savings stamps.

### Charitable organizations

Charitable organizations also played an important part in the war effort. Women, who—except for Nursing Sisters—were not allowed to participate in the military at this time, were especially active. For instance, the Patriotic Association of the Women of Newfoundland, formed in 1914 in St John’s, reached 15,000 members by the end of 1914. The organization raised over \$500,000, in part through the sale of a charity seal (Figure 8). Printed in sheets of fifty by Ayre and Sons in St. John’s and issued in December 1914, the stamp features a wounded soldier on a stretcher, flanked by Newfoundland and British soldiers shaking hands, and the slogan “Remember Us.” In addition to their efforts to raise money, contributions, Newfoundland women knitted scarves, socks, mittens, mufflers, and waistcoats for the men overseas [9, 10]. After the war, the organization turned its attention to the cause of child welfare.

Figure 8. Examples of charity seals.



As for the Canadian Red Cross Society, the First World War saw it transformed, from an agency tasked with helping the sick and wounded in war to Canada's leading wartime humanitarian aid organization. During the war, with enthusiastic support from private and public donations and an army of homefront volunteers, the CRCS provided an increasing number of knitted comforts to soldiers at the front, medical supplies to army hospitals, food parcels for Prisoners of War, funding to hospitals in other countries, and help to wartime refugees. To aid in fundraising efforts, the CRCS sold a charity seal bearing a red cross at centre (Figure 8), starting in 1914. Wartime also increased the spread of tuberculosis, and various sanatoriums that had been established earlier depended on the sale of annual Christmas seals to meet their financial goals. The Toronto Free Hospital for Consumptives, the Essex County Sanatorium, the Royal Edward Institute, the Royal Ottawa Sanatorium, and the Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives all issued charity seals during the war.

### Cinderellas for collectors

Finally, the war-themed stamps continued to fuel the interest of stamp collectors, leading one notorious Frenchman named Gaston Fontanille, but known better as Delandre, to produce what would become thousands of Cinderellas depicting military themes and regiments, including some 20 Canadian regiments (Figure 9). Delandre also printed and sold a host of stamps under the premise that the funds would be to the benefit of the Red Cross or to wounded soldiers. His failure to actually share the profits of such stamps with the Red Cross landed him in prison, and thus brought an end to his rather intense stamp factory. In New York, the Picture Paster Publicity Company created hundreds of Cinderella stamps, many with military themes, including at least four showing Canadian regiments or soldiers. These Cinderellas are characterized by the small “PPP” symbol in the bottom corner.



**Figure 9. Cinderella stamps with wartime themes targeted to collectors.**



## Conclusions

Cinderella stamps reached their peak of popularity just as war broke out in Europe in 1914. Companies integrated patriotic themes and slogans into their poster stamps to help promote their products. Cinderella stamps were used to advertise Victory Bonds and War Savings stamps, to promote wartime food production and discourage food hoarding, and to raise funds for charities and hospitals. Cinderella stamps captured the hopes and dreams of the wartime population. They form a testament to the social and cultural changes that marked a generation and propelled Canada into position as a nation on the world scene.

## Photo Credits

All images are from the author's collection except: Figure 3, Christie's biscuits, courtesy of Charles Kiddle; Figure 5, Canada Food Board, and Figure 6, Count that day..., courtesy of Peter Spencer.

## Acknowledgement

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Website: <<http://www.birdbearpress.com>>

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# Fiscal War Tax stamps of World War I

*John Hall*

**S**TARTING in 1915, Canada issued fiscal War Tax stamps to raise funds for fighting World War I in Europe. The chronology of usage begins with the Special War Tax enactment of 12 February 1915 and continues until the early 1930s, by which time most stocks of these specialized War Tax stamps were used up (several can be found in use until the late 1940s). The *Special War Tax Act* of 1915 was renamed the *Special War Revenue Act* in 1918, then the *Excise Tax Act* in 1920, finally being repealed in 1953. (While the title eliminated the words “War Tax,” the body of the acts retained the use of the words “War Tax”). This article deals with the tax from inception in 1915 until the end of the war in 1918, with some notes on the years beyond.

## Start of War Tax

Beginning 12 February 1915, War Tax stamps were to be affixed to bottles of sparkling and non-sparkling wines, including imported wines, but not to bottles of wines exported to other countries.

To meet this new need, overprinted stamps were released on 12 February 1915. Admiral stamps in the values of 5¢, 20¢ and 50¢ (Figure 1) were overprinted with “War Tax,” and released for use on wine containers.

Responding to post office concerns about usage and general public confusion, these same Admiral stamp values were released with a new overprint—“Inland Revenue War Tax”—on 13 February (Figure 2).

Forgeries of the overprints are known (see Figure 3 for examples). These have thicker letters in the overprints.



**Figure 1.** 12 February 1915 overprinted “War Tax” stamps.



**Figure 2.** New overprints “Inland Revenue War Tax” released 13 February 1915.



**Figure 3.** Forged War Tax stamps.

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Keywords & phrases: War Tax, fiscal usage



**Table 1. Rates of war tax on wines and alcohol**

	12 FEB 1915	18 MAR 1915	10 MAY 1921	19 MAY 1920	24 MAY 1922	22 SEP 1923
Wines	5¢ per quart	3¢ per pint	30¢ per gallon			7.5¢ per gallon
Sparkling Wines	25¢ per quart	13¢ per half pint	\$3 per gallon			\$1.50 Per gallon
Alcoholic Drinks (Ale, beer, porter, and stout)				30¢ per gallon (Repealed 10 May, 1921)	12.5¢ per gallon (Repealed 01 July, 1934)	

## Wine strips

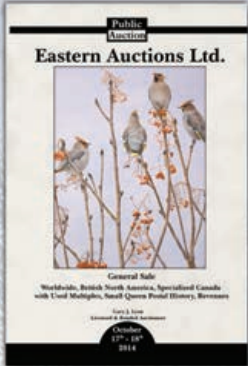
Wine strips were released in June 1915 in sheets of twenty. They had no gum and were roulette-cut (Figure 4). The 1917 issue were gummed (Figure 5). Used sheets of up to twenty strips can be found where used on casks and crates. Wine strips were placed on top of corks of wine and champagne bottles and were also used on other taxable liquids, such as barber's hair tonics. All strips were printed by the American Bank Note Company. The 1915 stamps showed a vertical view of the king's head; with a horizontal view on the 1917 stamps.



**Figure 4.** June 1915 Wine Strip stamp issue.

Given rate changes and numerous sizes of wine containers (*i.e.*, pints, quarts, gallons, casks, jeroboam, *etc.*), a variety of stamps was required. Overprinted stamps were used until wine strips could be produced: After 15 April 1915, postage stamps could also be used to pay this tax. The war tax on wine was not a big income earner, as wine was not popular in Canada and counties and municipalities could declare prohibitions on alcohol within their boundaries, for example, Prince Edward Island enacted an alcohol prohibition in 1915.

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**Figure 5.** June 1917 Wine Strip stamp issue—king’s head shown horizontally.

**Table 2. Wine Strip Stamps**

Value	Colour	Issue Date	Intended Use
5¢	Black	June 1915	Wines, champagne, Taxable liquids
10¢	Black	June 1915	"
13¢	Black	June 1915	"
25¢	Black	June 1915	"
50¢	Black	June 1915	"
5¢ – head sideways var.	Black	1917	"
20¢ – head sideways var.	Black	1917	"

**Sheet stamps**

On 13 April 1915, a new set of eight stamps was issued to meet the new war tax taking effect 15 April 1915. Two values were added later as tax rates and taxable items changed (Figure 6). The war tax sheet stamps were issued in sheets of one hundred (perforated 12 × 12), and all issues of the War Tax stamps were printed by the American Bank Note Company.

The new tax was to be paid on the following:

- Financial documents (commercial paper) that involved a bank – 2¢ per document, regardless of value.
- Proprietary or patent medicine and perfumes – 1¢ per each 25¢ of retail price.



**Figure 6.** War Tax sheet stamps issued April 1915. The 4¢ and 8¢ stamps (highlighted in red box) were issued in 1916 and 1918 respectively.



The 4¢ value was added in 1916, while the 8¢ value was added to meet a new tax on playing cards of 8¢ per each fifty-four-card pack of playing cards (or part thereof) starting on 1 May 1918.

**Table 3. War Tax Stamps – Sheet Stamps**

Value	Colour	Issue Date	Intended Use/Rate
1¢	Orange	13 April 1915	Proprietary & patent medicine
2¢	Brown	13 April 1915	Commercial paper
3¢	Green	13 April 1915	Wines – quart (March, 1915)
5¢	Olive yellow	13 April 1915	Wines – quart (February, 1915)
10¢	Olive green	13 April 1915	Bulk rate
13¢	Vermillion	13 April 1915	Sparkling wines – half pint (March, 1915)
25¢	Carmine	13 April 1915	Sparkling wines – quart (February, 1915)
50¢	Brown	13 April 1915	Bulk rates
4¢	Blue	1916	General War tax use
8¢	Brown	June 1918	War tax on playing cards

General confusion led to a new directive on 16 April 1915 that allowed any combination of War Tax stamps, excise, and postage stamps to pay the fiscal tax. Except for a short period of confusion lasting several months in 1931, meters were not permitted to pay fiscal war tax until 10 December 1949.

## Coils

The 2¢ war tax stamp was issued in 1915 in coils of 500, 200, 100, and 80 stamps. After 1915, coils of the 2¢ stamp were only available in coils of 500.

**Table 4. War Tax Stamps – Coils**

Value	Colour	Issue Date	Intended Use
1¢ coil	Orange	Nov 1920	War tax on matches
2¢ coil	Brown	1915	Perfumes, proprietary and patent medicines; Commercial paper

At the request of match importers, a new 1¢ coil stamp was issued in 1920 to show payment of taxes on matchboxes. These coil stamps were costly to make, and thus a small number of stamps was printed.

With the removal of war tax on patent and proprietary medicines on 1 July, 1920, the only use of the 1¢ stamp was for matches, and most were over-printed.

Thus, 1¢ coil stamps (Figure 7) are rare un-overprinted. The 1¢ coil stamp was only issued in the year 1920 in coils of 500. Both the 1¢ and 2¢ coils were perforated 8.



**Figure 7. 1¢ and 2¢ War Tax Coil stamps**

## Booklets

Both the 1¢ and the 2¢ stamps were re-issued in 1916 in booklets with sheetlets of six stamps—all perforated 12 × 12. The 1¢ booklet had four sheets of six stamps, while the 2¢ came in booklets of twelve, twenty-four, and forty-eight stamps. The booklets were produced as a convenience for the public and to help shore up sales through post offices: Postmasters got a commission on postage stamps sold, but not on war tax sales. These stamps are summarized in Table 5, below.



**Figure 8.** 1¢ and 2¢ War Tax booklet stamps issued in sheetlets of six stamps.

**Table 5. War Tax Stamps – Booklets**

Value	Colour	Issue Date	Intended Use/Rate
1¢ booklet	Brown	Early 1916	Public convenience
2¢ booklet	Brown	Early 1916	Public convenience

## Collecting challenge

War Tax stamps can be found with perfins, lathework, overprints, precancels, and a wide range of official and private precancels. Some examples are shown in Figures 9 and 10.

### Lathework



**Figure 9.** This block of inverted precancels on the 2¢ stamp has type “C” lathework.



**Figure 10.** Block of six 1¢ stamps overprinted “¾ cent”. Lathework is type “B.” Note the cutting arrow in the top left margin.

**Precancels**

Official precancels (Figure 11) can found on most of the war tax stamps and, to add to the collecting challenge, can be inverted such as the 5¢ and 8¢ on top row—note that the short “v” of the X precancel is on the bottom. Also, the flag precancel is inverted on the middle stamp in the second row.



**Figure 11.** Examples of precancels on War Tax stamps.

**Perfins**

Figures 12 and 13 show two War Tax stamps with commercial perfins.

**Figure 12.** Perfin M15—Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, New York.



**Figure 13.** Perfin C8—Canadian Cement Co. Ltd., Montreal



**Overprints**

In 1918 a new tax was imposed on the sale of matches, and several overprinted stamps were released to meet the need.

**Table 6. General Tax Rate for matches (larger boxes)**

Date	Per 100 Matches
01 May, 1918	1¢
01 July, 1927	¾¢

**Table 7. Special Tax rates for small packages of matches**

Date	01–29 Matches	30–60 Matches	01–20 Matches	21–30 Matches	31–60 Matches
24 May 1922	¼¢	½¢			
01 July 1927	3/16¢	¾¢			
22 March 1933			3/20¢	3/16¢	¾¢

Figure 14 shows four examples of War Tax stamps prepared for use with matches. Note the two different singles of the “¾ Cent” overprint on the 1¢ stamp. Note also the spelling difference of the “2¼ CENTS” overprint (“Cents” vs “Cent”) on a 3¢ stamp compared to the other examples.



**Figure 14.** Overprints for Match tax on War Tax stamps.  
 14a - ¾ Cent overprint on 1¢ War Tax stamp.  
 14b - ¾ CENT overprint on 1¢ War Tax stamp.  
 14c - 1½ Cent overprint on 1¢ War Tax stamp.  
 14d - 2¼ CENTS overprint on 3¢ War Tax stamp.



The 1¢ coil precancelled “DIV. 17”—the number for the Montreal Inland Revenue office is shown in Figure 15. Regulations required the office issuing the stamp to cancel it. Montreal was flooded with imported boxes of matches during the early 1920s.

**Figure 15.** 1¢ War Tax coil overprinted “DIV. 17.”

## The 1920s and beyond

During the 1920s, war tax was added to receipts, purchase of stocks and bonds, and the purchase of luxury items. Also instituted was a complex system of taxation on advances of money, promissory notes, demand notes, sight notes, overdrafts, and liens. One needed a solid understanding of financial terms in order to deal with the complexity, and many errors in tax calculation were made. Rates on cheques varied, depending on the amount of the cheque and issue date.

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# Newfoundland: The “Trail of the Caribou” issue

Jean-Claude Vasseur

**T**ECHNICALLY speaking, there is not much to say about Newfoundland's “Trail of the Caribou” issue of 2 January 1919—a simple design, repeated twelve times without much appealing colour, contrary to the usual descriptive issues of the country. However, as it marks the sacrifices of those volunteers who crossed the Atlantic Ocean to help their parent nation fight a distant enemy, it is one of the most powerful and significant stamp issues of the world. It is the only set of stamps dedicated to the commemoration of World War I actions of a single country and issued for use on ordinary mail.



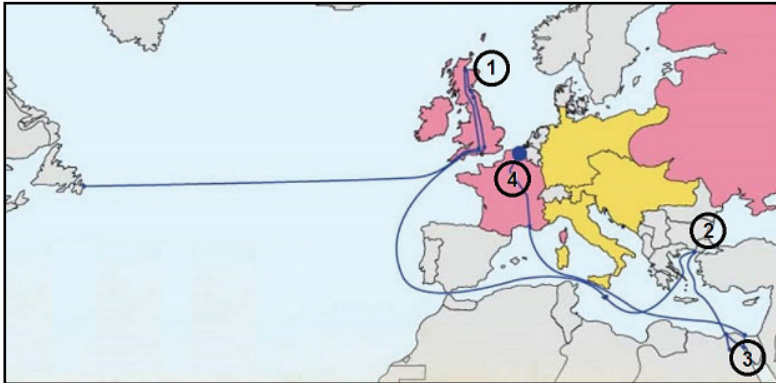
**Figure 1.** (left) Suggested design for the “Caribou” issue; (centre) badge of the Newfoundland Regiment; (right) issued design of the 1¢ value.

Figure 1 shows a design sketch proposed by a local artist, JH Noonan. Two sketches were reported by Robson Lowe, one with the head of a caribou, one with head of a moose. Sketches were sent to London, to Whitehead, Morris & Co, contractors for the Newfoundland Post Office from 1910 to 1922. The final design shows the head of a caribou with the antlers of a moose, conforming to the emblem of the 1st Regiment of Newfoundland. Below the “animal” is a scroll with the wording “TRAIL OF THE CARIBOU,” which was originated by Reverend Lt Col Thomas Nangle, Roman Catholic Chaplain of the Regiment. Recess printing was done by De La Rue. Proofs without text and/or values are known.

At the bottom of each stamp in the set, between the value tablets, are either the Latin word *UBIQUE* (elsewhere), commemorating actions of the Royal Naval Reserve (2¢, 5¢, 8¢ and 12¢. values), or the name of a battle in which the Royal Regiment of Newfoundland participated: Suvla Bay (1¢), Gueudecourt (3¢), Beaumont Hamel (4¢), Monchy (6¢), Steenbeck (10¢), Langemarck (15¢), Cambrai (24¢), and Combles (36¢). Note that the order of the stamp values varies from actual dates of the battles.

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Keywords & phrases: Newfoundland, World War I, Caribou issue



**Figure 2.** Map showing the “Trail of the Caribou.”

The map in Figure 2 depicts the “TRAIL OF THE CARIBOU,” the route followed by the regiment during the war. (1) Joining the 29th Division in Scotland, (2) Suvla Bay, (3) Egypt, (4) Northern France.

## I. History of the 1st Regiment of Newfoundland

Following the removal of the British Garrison in 1870, at the beginning of the twentieth century there was no actual army in Newfoundland. Safety and security were in the hands of the local police forces. Thus the colony was wholly unprepared when Great Britain’s declaration of war on Germany included the entire British Empire. Governor Walter Davidson decided to raise and equip a force of 500 volunteers to form the Newfoundland Regiment. The new regiment was trained at Pleasantville and, on 4 October 1914, the 537 men, known as the “Blue Puttees” left St John’s for Plymouth, aboard the *SS Florizel*. In Great Britain, they continued their training at various locations in Scotland. After being joined in February and March 1915 by other volunteers, the Contingent quickly grew to the strength of a Regiment, comprised of almost 1,500 men in June 1915.

## II. Gallipoli, September 1915/January 1916

The Regiment travelled from England via Egypt to join the British Middle East Force on the Gallipoli Peninsula. On 18 September 1915, they were transferred to Suvla Bay where they joined the 88<sup>th</sup> brigade of the 29th Division and were greeted by shelling of the Turkish batteries. The Regiment suffered its first casualty on 22 September.

The unsuccessful engagement lasted about three months, during which troops were ten days on duty on the front line, then ten days out. The distance to the rear area was so small that they were constantly under the fire of Turkish batteries. The Regiment suffered a limited number of casualties, but encountered sickness in the trenches, dysentery, and jaundice. Despite some meritorious actions (*e.g.*, Caribou Hill, November 1915), the whole campaign was a complete failure and the troops were removed commencing end of November. The Newfoundland Regiment furnished part of the rear guard, leaving the Gallipoli Peninsula in January 1916. After rest and recuperation at Suez, the troops embarked 14 March 1916 for France ... and hell.

### III. **BEAUMONT HAMEL** First day, Battle of the Somme, 1 July 1916

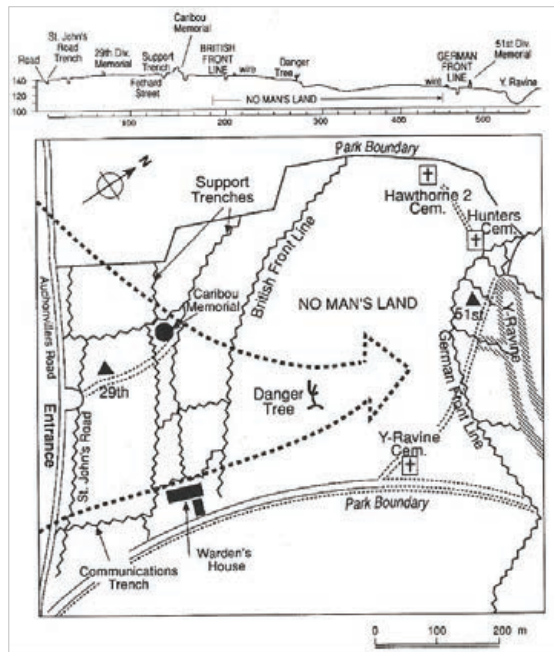
After the German Army assault towards Paris had been driven back beyond the Somme River (Battle of the Marne, September 1914), positions remained unchanged for a year and a half, both German and Allied Forces having built a network of trenches, making any assault very difficult.

With the French army preparing an assault in the area of Verdun in eastern France, responsibility for the Somme sector fell on British troops. The Newfoundland Regiment reached the area at Leuvencourt, about 10km from Beaumont Hamel, at the beginning of April 1916 and assisted in the construction of communication trenches while an assault on German positions was planned. The Germans knew, as a result of several raids, that the Allies were preparing the assault, and they also heard work by sappers, digging under their own lines to install the "Hawthorne Mine," which was expected to disorganize the enemy just before the assault.

The majority of the men from the Newfoundland Regiment moved to the Beaumont-Hamel sector at night on 30 June, taking places in the "St John's Road" trench. Their assignment, after the explosion of the mine and a first assault by British troops, was to cross "Ravine Y," a strong enemy position about 300 yards in front of them, presumed to have been taken during the first assault, and continue toward Beaumont with the Essex Regiment on their right (Figures 3 and 4).

Despite the ineffective "Hawthorne Mine" and an unsuccessful first assault, the Regiment nevertheless received the order to attack. Unable to progress in the communication trenches due to the presence of the first assault soldiers, they quickly found themselves in the open space above "Ravine Y," where they were decimated by German machine gun positioned in Ravine Y.

At 0945, forty-five minutes after the beginning of the Regiment's assault, it was all over. Of the eight hundred one men, about seven hundred twenty were casualties, and only sixty-eight men were available for duty the next day. This was the second-largest loss of life in a single Regiment during a single assault throughout the entire war.



**Figure 3.** Map of the Beaumont-Hamel Battle Field.





**Figure 4.** View of the Beaumont-Hamel battlefield today, taken from the “Caribou” Memorial. (photo JC Vasseur)

#### IV. **Gueudecourt, 12 October 1916**

After the Beaumont-Hamel devastation, the Regiment was moved to the northwest, near Ypres, where the men were subjected to gas attacks, hopefully protected by their gas masks—invented in 1915 by a Newfoundlander, Dr Cluny MacPherson, and improved enormously since. On 12 October, the Regiment attacked the German lines near Gueudecourt, using a new tactic. In what became known as the creeping—or rolling—barrage, instead of waiting for the end of the artillery bombing, the assault began while the bombing was underway. By the time the Germans were alerted, it was too late, and the Regiment gained control of the first line of trenches (the Hilt trench) after fifteen minutes of close combat.

The second objective proved more difficult to reach, when the Essex Regiment—at the right of the Newfoundland Regiment—was obliged to move back. Left alone, the Newfoundlanders reinforced their position—waiting for the Hampshire Regiment to come forward that night as reinforcements—before suffering a German counterattack. On that day, the Newfoundland Regiment was one of few units of the 4th Army to be successful, gaining position on the enemy, the most profound progress since the First Battle of the Somme. Later, the Newfoundland Regiment occupied “Grease Trench,” today the site of a war memorial.

#### V. **Saillie-Saillisel “Silly Sally,” 27 February 1917**

Positioned at Coisy at the beginning of February, on the 17th of the month the Regiment made a 20-km march to Bourdeux Wood (between Guillemot and Combles), relieving the Lancaster Fusiliers in the front line north of Saily-Salissel, where they suffered shell bombing and gas attack before withdrawing to Hardecourt.

On the 27th, they again moved up as reserve of the 86th Brigade in an attack of Saillie Sallisel. The three following days were hard, but resulted in a significant gain on German positions. After what, on 5 March, the Regiment was moved back to Divisional Reserve. The Regiment’s losses were heavy, with twenty-seven fatal casualties and forty-four wounded.

## VI. Monchy-le-Preux, 14 April 1917

The Battle of Arras began on 9 April 1917, and the Regiment soon found itself heavily engaged. At Monchy-le-Preux, the plan, for the Newfoundland and the Essex Regiments was to seize the front line “Shrapnel Trench” and take “Infantry Hill,” one thousand yards away, while German shelling harassed the troops through the entire night (Figure 5).

Company A quickly captured the windmill and progressed as far as “Machine Gun Woods.” On the northern part of the battlefield, the Essex also captured their objectives, but on another Newfoundland company’s front, a so-called “elastic defense,” progress was insufficient.

In the morning, it was reported that the German counterattacks had killed or captured men from the Essex as well as a number of Newfoundlanders. Capturing the village while under shelling by the Germans became crucial.

Meanwhile a handful of Newfoundlanders, commanded by a Captain Forbes, retained a favourable position behind a protective bank. From there they began a series of rapid fire bursts on the enemy who, believing they faced a strong force, stopped and awaited the arrival of reinforcements. At night, the village was safe, and the action, known as the “Action of the Ten” was highly praised, although losses were heavy: four hundred sixty from all ranks, including prisoners, of whom one hundred sixty-six were casualties.

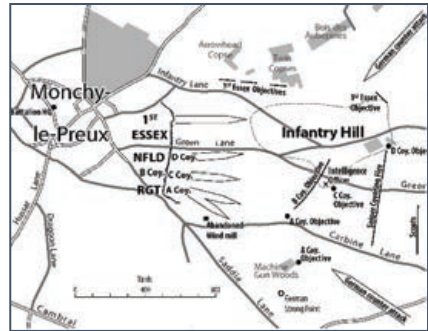


Figure 5. Battlefield at Monchy-le-Preux.

## VII. Third Battle of Ypres (Passchendaele), July–November 1917

By July 1917, some five hundred new recruits from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion had arrived to join the Regiment. The attempt to breakthrough at Arras being abandoned, the Regiment moved back to Ypres. On 18 August, it was engaged at Steenbeck, with a large number of objectives along the railway. The offensive was very effective and progressed as planned. Afterward, the Regiment was moved back to a reserve camp (Figure 6).

The Third battle of Ypres continued relentlessly. The Regiment was involved again in the Langemark Battle on 7 October. The attack went as planned, and substantial ground was gained. At end of the day, the Newfoundlanders has reached their second objective in front of the Poelcapelle Road. Overall, the progress of the 29<sup>th</sup> Division (including the

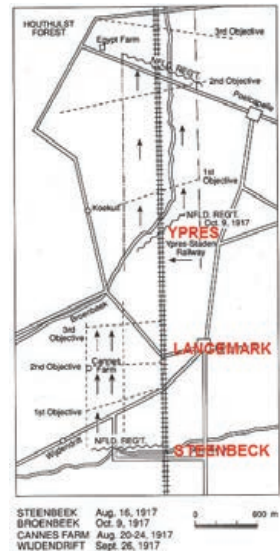


Figure 6. Steenbeck-Langemark battle area.

Newfoundlanders) was the only gain in the first days of a larger attack known as the Battle of Passchendaele.

Newfoundland Regiment losses were one hundred twenty-seven wounded and sixty-seven killed. The Regiment was then removed and stationed at Berles le Roi from 17 October, to recover from the horrible conditions experienced at Ypres: the mud, the gas, and more.



## VIII. **Battle of Cambrai, November 1917 (Masnières)**

One month later, after a new period of training, the Regiment was moved to Sorel, marching at night to avoid being observed by enemy air planes (Figure 7). On 20 November 1917, they advanced to Villers Plouich, a position previously occupied by the 20th Division.

The overall objective of the assault was to cross the St Quentin canal, south of Cambrai, between Marcoing and Masnières.

With the help of the tanks—one of the first uses during WWI—progress was somewhat easy, but the city of Masnières had not been captured, and heavy resistance and fire came from there. Newfoundlanders turned right toward the city and the battle raged for several days, the Regiment being under heavy shelling at the foot of the city.

The Regiment was relieved on 22 November 22 and marched back to Marcoing. The cost of the attack was heavy: fifty-three men were killed and one hundred and eighty-eight were wounded, and it was all for naught. A violent German counterattack in the following days forced the Allies to remove themselves from the positions they had gained.

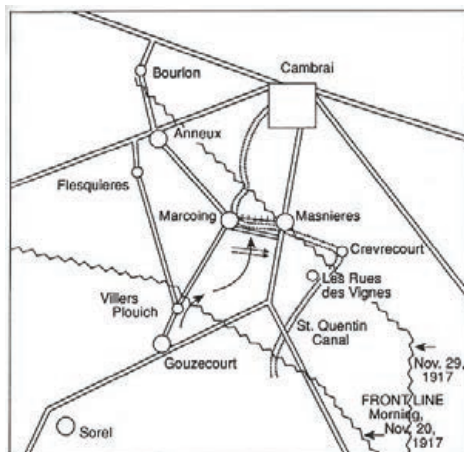
At the end of the year, on 17 December, King George V awarded the title “Royal” to the Newfoundland Regiment.

## IX. **Better times**

1918 was a decisive year, and Allied progress was significantly faster. On 11 November, the day of the armistice with the Germans, the Regiment was at Harlebeke. It crossed the Rhine on 4 December 1918 as part of the Army of Occupation, and it removed from Germany in February 1919. The Regiment participated in the Victory Parade in London on 3 May and arrived in St John’s on 1 June 1919.

## X. **The memorials**

A total of five thousand and forty-six Newfoundland men served overseas. Of these, about one thousand three hundred men were killed and two thousand three hundred were wounded. A short time after the war ended, the Government of Newfoundland decided to



**Figure 7. Battlefield area, Cambrai.**

promote the erection of war memorials, and Lt Col Nangle (Figure 8), the Roman Catholic Chaplain of the Regiment, headed a committee. Colonel Nangle had previously been at the head of the commission which, in 1917, tried to recover and identify the remains of soldiers lost at Beaumont-Hamel after the Germans had moved back from the area.

A decision was quickly made to purchase land in France and have memorials built in the form of a caribou. In particular, the whole area (30 hectares) of the Beaumont-Hamel attack was purchased in 1921 to form the Newfoundland Memorial Park, shared with British 29th Division Memorial.

The Newfoundland Memorial Park at Beaumont-Hamel was inaugurated in 1925. At the foot of the Beaumont-Hamel Caribou there are three bronze plates with the names of the eight hundred twenty Newfoundlanders, soldiers of the Newfoundland Regiment, naval forces, and Merchant Marine, men whose bodies or remains have never been found or identified. Most of these disappeared at Beaumont-Hamel. Their remains are still in the field, undiscovered. The land has been declared sacred and walking out into the preserved trenches is not allowed. The initial five memorials were created by a British sculptor, Basile Gotto. Photographs of the five “Caribou,” as seen by the author at the beginning of 2014, are shown in Figure 9.



**Figure 8.** Lt Col Nangle.

**Figure 9.** Newfoundland “Caribou” monuments at the battlefields. (photos JC Vasseur)



**Beaumont-Hamel**



**Courtrai**



**Gueudecourt**





Masnieres



Monchy

### **Personal thoughts**

My father, Roger Vasseur, was engaged in another part of the front line, at Verdun, where he was wounded, twice, but survived. During my youth, after World War II, I heard the terrible stories of life in the trenches. Thus, the sacrifice of those soldiers coming from the New World to help my country remains a sad echo in my head.

### **Acknowledgements**

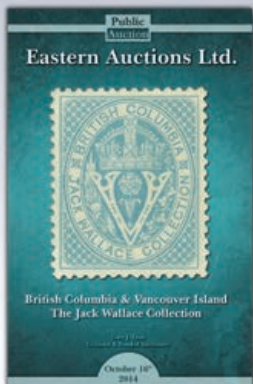
Many thanks to the editors for including this presentation in this special issue of *BNA Topics*. All Canadians—especially Newfoundlanders—coming to France should spend an hour at Beaumont-Hamel Memorial Park, a mere one hundred miles from Paris. It is unforgettable.

Many thanks to the Royal Newfoundland Regiment Council, which authorized use of documentation included on its website ([www.rnlfdr.ca](http://www.rnlfdr.ca), highly recommended to people interested in the history of the Regiment); the Newfoundland Memorial Park at Beaumont-Hamel (France); and the Rooms Corporation of Newfoundland and Labrador, and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador ([www.therooms.ca](http://www.therooms.ca)).

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1871 BC 25c + USA 10c combination from Williams Creek to Ontario



1868 Vancouver Island 25c rate cover to Scotland



1869 cover to England franked with 50c perf 12½ tied by grid '10' of Williams Creek

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## Marler's Admiral types

*Randall W Van Someren*

**T**HE first Canadian definitive stamps featuring a portrait of King George V were issued in December 1911 and January 1912. They were in use for the next seventeen or so years—longer than any other definitive set except the Small Queens. Stamp collectors call these stamps “the Admirals” because the portrait shows King George V in uniform—Admiral of the fleet.

The original seven denominations were the same as those of the Edward VII issue; they were even printed in the same colours (except for the 50¢ denomination, which was printed in black rather than purple). During the Admiral era, Canadian stamps and their usage were affected by many factors:

- Increased use of stamp-vending and -affixing machines prompted the Post Office to issue stamps in coil format, starting in late 1912.
- Increased popularity of stamp booklets resulted in their continued issuance during this era.
- Beginning mid-1914, World War I interrupted the supplies of pigments from Europe, as well as the supply of high-quality steel used for printing plates. The visible results of this interruption are the numerous shades that appeared on the stamps printed after this date.
- In 1915, a 1¢ War Tax was placed on each piece of mail, resulting in the issue of several War Tax stamps. Eleven years later, the War Tax was repealed.
- From 1920 on, several changes were made to the postal rates. New stamp denominations were issued to meet these rates, and stamps of existing denominations were issued in new colours.
- A growing population, and increased use of the mails, required that printers find faster ways of printing greater numbers of stamps. This led to larger printing plates, and printing presses that could handle more plates at a time.
- Between late 1922 and 1926, the printers changed from printing stamps on wet, ungummed paper to dry, pre-gummed paper.
- New services, such as Airmail, were offered by the Post Office.
- Old cancelling devices were gradually phased out as new types of cancels were introduced.

All of these factors combine to make the Admirals and their usage a most fascinating issue to study. It is fortunate for us that they attracted the attention of the Hon George C Marler. His study of the Admirals over several decades eventually led to the posthumous publication, in 1982, of the definitive book on these stamps: *The Admiral Issue of Canada* [5]. Although many of the illustrations and the index are wanting, this five hundred sixty-seven-page book is indispensable for the study of the Admirals. It is a superior example of

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Keywords & phrases: George Marler, Admirals, Edward VII, plating



technical writing for a specialized audience, using a specialized vocabulary. Unfortunately, the book's strength can pose a problem for stamp collectors starting to specialize, as they may have difficulty understanding its terminology. Marler also assumes a fairly thorough understanding of the intaglio plate making process—something fewer and fewer stamp collectors possess these days. To be fair, Marler does give detailed descriptions of some of the terms he uses, but he does not illustrate them. He also offers a summary of the plate-making process in the first section of the book.

This article discusses a key component of Marler's terminology; what a Marler *type* is, why *types* are important to the study of the Admirals, and how he came up with his system of *types*. Perhaps his greatest contribution to the study of the Admirals is the idea of *types* as a way of identifying a plate or group of plates from which a stamp originated. Even though much of his book consists of meticulous descriptions of several hundred *types*, Marler never provides a definition of the word *type* or tells how he came up with his *types*, although in two places he does mention some of his criteria for determining *types*. They are worth quoting:

In the section on the 1¢ denomination (p. 105):

*The use of plates laid down with transfer rolls from either the Original Die or the Retouched Die, and "relief breaks" that occurred in the engraving of the many plates that were made, account for the existence of a number of "types" of the ONE CENT Green ....*

In the section on the 2¢ denomination (pp. 226-227):

*It will readily be understood that whenever a change is made in a die and one or more transfer rolls are taken from it, the plates laid down with these rolls will show the change. So that there will be a group of plates that corresponds to and reproduces each state of the die, and when the change in the die is noticeable the stamps of one group of plates may readily be distinguished from those from the other group of plate . . . Within the plates of the same group, there may be differences resulting from a break in a line in relief or other damage to the transfer roll or some other peculiarities that are sufficiently distinctive to constitute a "type" that can be identified positively with a particular plate or plates. Unfortunately, because of the large number of plates . . . it is not possible to describe a type for each and every plate.*

From these quotes, it can be gathered that a *type* is a set of characteristics common to a group of stamps on a significant part of one or more plates. These characteristics are usually (but not always) caused by changes to the die or by relief breaks on the transfer roll, and they serve to identify the stamp as coming from a particular plate or group of plates. It should be noted that Marler uses the word *type* without any qualifiers. Since there are also plate layout types and lathework types, students of the Admirals often use the term *design type* instead of just the word *type*. It is usually clear from the context, however, which *type* is being discussed.

The term *relief break* may need some explanation. The stamp design on the die is "incuse," that is, below the top surface of the piece of steel that is the die. To reproduce the stamp design multiple times on a printing plate, a transfer roll is used. The transfer roll is a steel cylinder whose circumference—for the Admiral issue—was typically equal to six stamp designs. It is rolled back and forth over the die, under great pressure, to force the metal down into the grooves engraved on the die, thereby transferring the design from the die to the transfer roll.



**Figure 1.** The 1¢ green endwise coil: the bottom of the vertical line of the left numeral box is bent outward at an oblique angle, where a piece of the relief on the transfer roll is breaking off.

The lines of the stamp design on the transfer roll are in relief; that is, they are metal ridges rising above the surface of the transfer roll. To impress the stamp design into the surface of a plate, the transfer roll is rolled back and forth on the plate under great pressure. If a piece of a metal ridge on the relief breaks off, it will leave a flaw on the plate that will usually show up as a white spot when the stamp is printed. This is a *relief break*.

An excellent example of a relief break occurs on plate 2 of the 1¢ green perf 12 endwise coil. The initial stamps transferred to the plate are type ERR2. On this type, the vertical line in the left numeral box has no breaks. As the fifth column of stamps was being laid down, the ridge of metal on the relief corresponding to the vertical line started to break off. The break was gradual. A small sliver of metal hung on, while several stamp designs were transferred to the plate. This can clearly be seen in Figure 1, where the bottom of the vertical line bends outward at an oblique angle. Only when the stamps

in the sixth column were being transferred to the plate did the sliver of metal break off completely from the transfer roll. All stamps transferred to the plate from column 6 onwards show a complete break in the vertical line as shown in Figure 2. Marler calls the stamps with a complete break type ERR3 [5, pp. 189-90].

The number of types for each denomination varies considerably but is generally proportional to the number of plates made. The 10¢ plum denomination with twelve plates has three types. In contrast, the post office sheets of the 3¢ brown denomination with one hundred twenty plates has twenty-nine types with eight more types for booklet panes and coil stamps.

Marler described about two hundred sixty-four types in his book (see listing in Table 1). He did not assign any types to eight denominations, but he did provide detailed descriptions of re-entries, retouches, *etc*, found on these stamps.

A type may consist of only a small number of stamps on part of a plate, or it may cover many plates. For example, type 13 of the 3¢ brown Admiral is a very hard stamp to find, since it comes from only twenty-one positions on plate 58, whereas type 8 of the 2¢ + 1¢ brown War Tax stamp comes from part of plate 17 and all of plates 18-36.



**Figure 2.** The 1¢ green endwise coil: the piece of the relief on the transfer roll has broken off leaving a complete break.

At this point the reader may wonder what is to be gained from studying Marler's types. Consider the following examples:

- You purchase a 2¢ carmine Admiral from a circuit book because you notice it has a re-entry in the lettering. You use Marler to determine that your stamp is type R23 (plates 105-106) because the outline of the portrait is broken at and below left center. You look over the descriptions of the re-entries Marler found on these two plates, and there it is: 106LR92. You are in luck, because Marler illustrated this particular re-entry.
- You have a 2¢ green coil perf 12 horizontally. Is it genuine? You check Marler, who says the type should be R(2)5. You read his description of that type, and it does not fit your stamp. In fact, your stamp turns out to be type RE3 (re-engraved die) with a dot by the lower left corner. It is a fake coil.
- You have several nice, used copies of the one-line 2 CENTS surcharge on the 3¢ carmine Admiral. Are they genuine surcharges? You check Marler and find out that the surcharge on a Die II stamp is rare and worth sending in for a certificate. You probably won't find Die II stamps with this surcharge "out there" without the seller not knowing about it. And you read that Marler went through a lot of hundreds of used stamps all of which had forged surcharges.
- Stamps from booklet panes—either singles or on cover—are quite scarce compared to stamps from the regular post office sheets. And nineteen stamps from each post office sheet had straight edges on them. How to tell the difference? Booklet panes were printed from special plates. Marler identified distinct types for booklet stamps, and they often differ from those on post office sheets.
- The "Provisional Coils" of the 2¢ carmine have puzzled students of the Admirals for nearly a century. It has been suggested some were made up as late as 1921, because the backstamp on these examples reads "Postage Stamp Division" instead of "Postage Stamp Branch." (That year, the Postage Stamp Branch became the Postage Stamp Division.) An article in *The Admiral's Log* [3] indicates that, upon close examination of several of these rare coils, they *all* appear to be type R5. This type is from plates 46-50, which were approved in July and August of 1913. The rose carmine shade corroborates this date. This is evidence that all the coils were likely made up in 1915, but the backstamp "Postage Stamp Division" still leaves many unanswered questions.
- The 2¢ + 1¢ carmine War Tax coil was issued as post office sheets of one hundred stamps, perforated 12 × 8. At the same time, imperforate sheets of this coil were perforated 12 × 12 and also issued as post office sheets of one hundred. These coils come from different plates than the normal post office sheets of the 2¢ + 1¢ carmine War Tax stamps. Can this perf 12 × 12 stamp from coil plates be distinguished from the common perf 12 × 12 stamp from the regular plates used to print post office sheets? Another article in *The Admiral's Log* [11] suggests that it is possible in some cases. The author used Marler's types to reach this conclusion.

**Table 1. Number of Types per denomination**

1¢ green		1¢ yellow	
post office sheets	37	post office sheets	5
Booklet panes	7	booklet panes	3
coil stamps	14	coil stamps	5
2¢ carmine		2¢ green	
post office sheets	63	post office sheets	12
booklet panes	8	booklet panes	4
coil stamps	14	coil stamps	4
3¢ brown		3¢ carmine	
post office sheets	29	post office sheets	4
booklet panes	1	booklet panes	1
coil stamps	7	coil stamps	2
4¢ olive bistre	2	10¢ plum	3
5¢ blue	4	1¢ green War Tax	7
5¢ violet	4	2¢ carmine War Tax	4
2¢+1¢ carmine War Tax		2¢+1¢ brown War Tax	
post office sheets	5	post office sheets	10
coil stamps	2	coil stamps	3

used these relief breaks to sort stamps by groups of plates chronologically over the life of the issue. He applied this idea first to the Edward VII issue and then the Admirals. But it could not have been done without plate proofs.

In his first book on the Admirals [7], published in 1949, Marler uses the word *type* to identify differences seen on stamps caused by differences between the original die, retouched die, and re-engraved die. He also identifies some of the more obvious relief breaks and retouches as types. For the 3¢ brown Admiral, for example, he identifies five types that in his 1982 book he calls types 1, 6A, 10, 11, and 12. He then says (p. 39), “The types mentioned above are merely a few of many but are of interest because they show some departure from normal. Many other types will be found which do not merit description or enumeration.”

Hans Reiche’s 1965 two-part book on the Admirals [8a, 8b] continues with this idea of types. Generally, he has a few more types for each stamp than Marler had in 1949. For the 3¢ brown Admiral, to use this example again, Reiche identified fourteen types. It is likely that Marler (1949) and Reiche (1965) got most of their information by studying collections of Admiral plate-imprint blocks and bulk lots of used stamps.

By the time his book, *The Edward VII Issue of Canada* [6], was published in 1975, Marler’s idea of using relief breaks to define types was fully developed. In the Preface, he notes that he examined the plate proofs as part of his research. (He also had access to the Harry Lussey collection of Edward VII stamps and used stamps with dated cancels.) What Marler did for the Admirals in 1982, he did first for the Edward VII issue. His Edward VII book is written in the same style, and uses the same format as the Admiral book. One could be seen as sort of a trial run for the other. The Edward VII issue is simpler than the Admiral issue. It was in

So how did Marler come up with all these types for each Admiral denomination? It has long been known that relief breaks on the transfer roll will cause visible defects on the printed stamps. James Baxter’s 1939 book, *Printing Postage Stamps by Line Engraving* [2], has a section on broken reliefs (pp. 71-74). Of progressive relief breaks, he writes (p. 73): “Only by carefully comparing each successive entry with the previous impression, as well as with a normal variety, can the full extent of digression in each entry be determined.”

Studying the progress of relief breaks on printing plates had been done before. Marler’s genius was that he



use only from 1903-1911, consisted only of seven denominations, and was printed with far fewer plates.

A proof was made of every plate manufactured for the Admiral stamps, and each was submitted to the Post Office Department for approval. In almost all cases, the proof was rubber-stamped with the date of approval and initialled by representatives of the printer and Post Office Department. These proofs were stored at the Post Office Department in Ottawa until they were moved to the Canadian Postal Museum, which opened in 1974. When the Canadian Postal Museum merged with the Canadian Museum of Civilization in 1988, the proofs were transferred to Library and Archives Canada where they are today. Marler's reputation as a distinguished stamp collector, exhibitor, and philatelic author likely gained him extended access to the Admiral plate proofs.

We know the order in which stamp designs were transferred to the printing plate. For most plates of four hundred stamps, the first stamp transferred was the one in the lower left corner, position LL91. The next stamp transferred was the one above, position LL81. This continued until the entire first column of twenty stamps was entered on the plate. Then the second column was entered from the bottom up. Work continued in this manner until the stamps of all twenty columns (four hundred stamps) were transferred to the plate. In passing, Marler often uses the word *row* when describing the place on a plate where a relief break developed. When he uses *row* in this context, he usually means *column*.

Marler examined the proofs in chronological order and, on each proof, he examined each stamp in the order it was transferred to the plate. (By the way, chronological order and plate number order are not necessarily the same.) This way, theoretically, he could record exactly where relief breaks occurred and how long stamps continued to be transferred to the printing plate(s) with the same relief. All the stamps with the same relief break constituted a type. This description is simplified: Often two, sometimes three, relief breaks are used as characteristics of a given type, and they usually do not progress at the same rate. For example, types R26 and R27 of the 1¢ green Admiral have relief breaks in the lower left frame junction line *and* the left numeral box. Type R27 has more breaks in the left numeral box than type R26, but the relief breaks around the lower left frame junction line remain the same on both types (Figure 3).

In his book on the Edward VII issue, Marler says (p. 44), "The task of establishing more precisely what subjects on a plate show a particular break is one at which the author quails, for ... the aggregate number of individual impressions reaches the formidable number of 23,600." And that was only for the 1¢ Edward stamp. Given that there are about seven hundred fifty plates of the Admiral issue, most of which have four hundred subjects on them, the total number of stamp positions for all the Admiral plates approaches three hundred thousand. In addition to recording descriptions of all his types, Marler also wrote descriptions of all the significant re-entries, retouches, defective transfers, *etc*, found on these proofs. The amount of work that went into this is simply staggering.



**Figure 3.** Type R26 of the 1¢ green (left) has two relief breaks in the vertical line of the left numeral box. Type R27 (right) has four. They both have the same relief breaks around the lower left frame junction line.

As a result of re-examining the plate proofs and plate imprint material, some students have found deficiencies with several of Marler's type designations. This indicates, perhaps, that the way he came up with some of his types was not always an exact science. Two examples:

- Stamps from plates 50-51 of the 3¢ brown Admiral (type 16) have been found to have file marks (a series of white diagonal lines) on the frame lines that Marler apparently missed.
- Marler stated that some 3¢ brown stamps from plate 62 were type 18, a "generic" type that encompasses all stamps with no distinctive characteristics, and the rest were type 17, a type that occurs on a large number of plates. But it has recently been found that the stamps from plate 62 have unique characteristics that allow them to be distinguished from other type 17 and 18 stamps.

However, more than thirty years later, Marler's types are a part of the accepted way of studying the Admirals, and new discoveries should probably be discussed in the context of existing types rather than in a revamped version of Marler's framework.

Where does Admiral type research go from here? Marler gives the earliest-known usage of most of his types. Admiral students have found, and continue to find, examples that are earlier than Marler's dates. Marler's types are being closely examined for differences that would further refine them, making it possible to attribute a stamp to smaller groups of plates or even to a specific plate. Plate 62 of the 3¢ brown has already been mentioned. Other such discoveries have been made on the 3¢ brown, and it looks like there may be some on the 2¢ carmine as well. Similar discoveries on the 1¢ green would be very welcome, especially for types R1 and R4, since they cover numerous plates.

Marler lived in the era of film cameras, where close-up photography required bulky bellows or costly lenses, and colour was expensive. Making detailed images of small features on stamps was a major challenge. With today's personal computers and digital scanners, making images of the re-entries and retouches Marler described so carefully is much easier. A website is devoted to displaying high-quality scans of these sought-after varieties [10]. A similar online archive of all the Marler types would be a worthwhile project.

Some relief breaks seem to occur in nearly the same places on stamps made with different transfer rolls. For example, a relief break on the outer part of the top frame creates a noticeable dent in the frame above the right crown. This characteristic can be found on some stamps of types 1, 22, SR1, and SR4 of the 3¢ brown. Many stamps from columns 9 to 20 of plate 10 (type 3) of the 3¢ brown have a bulge in the frame above the right crown. This indicates a weakness in the frame that was retouched. Figure 4 shows the following, from top to bottom:



**Figure 4.** Apparent relief breaks above the right crown on the 3¢ brown. The middle scan shows a retouch of the same area. From top to bottom: type 1, type SR1, type 3, type SR4, and type 22.

- Type 1, plates 1-6, engraved 8-26 June, 1918, dent above right crown.

- Type SR1, sidewise coil plates 1-2, engraved 28-29 June 1918, dent above right crown.
- Type 3, plates 9-10, engraved 14 August 1918, bulge in top frame line indicating a retouch to a problem in this area.
- Type SR4, sidewise coil plates 7-8, engraved 1 April 1920, rough spot above right crown.
- Type 22, plate 96, engraved 20 November 1920, dent above right crown.

Although it is virtually impossible to identify which transfer roll was used on a specific plate, Marler thinks the top two examples (type 1 and type SR1) may come from the same transfer roll. However, each transfer roll had up to six stamp designs on it. To further confuse things, not all stamps of these two types have this dent above the right crown. Why a nearly identical relief break pops up on all these stamps of different types is an intriguing question.

## Acknowledgements

I want to thank Leopold Beudet who suggested improvements in the draft of this article and patiently answered my many questions. He also provided the images of the 1¢ green perf 12 endwise coil that first appeared on page 72 of the December 2013 issue of *The Admiral's Log*. Parts of this article are adapted from my pages on the BNAPS website, entitled *Guide to the Admiral Stamps of Canada* [12].

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# Postal history of the Great War

*Victor Willson, OTB*

**M**AIL to and from Canadian soldiers during the First World War provides a window on both their situation and on the government departments supporting them. Most mail is composed of the folks back home writing their sons and husbands, or those at the front trying to reassure their loved ones about their condition, while hiding just how awful their situation really was. The mail is either letters or post cards, sent not only to the Canadian Expeditionary Force but also to the British, French, and Belgian armies, because Canadians volunteered for all four. Americans also volunteered in the Canadian forces, and sending their mail home produced another complexity for the Canadian Post Office. The war was indeed a worldwide affair, with Canadian soldiers serving on many fronts where conflict occurred, not only the Western Front. A smattering of mail from soldiers goes to places other than home, and that is another aspect of the postal history of this period. While there are many stories to be told, this one focuses on rates and destinations that can be assembled.

## Mail from soldiers

### Canadian or British Empire Armies

**Mail back to Canada:** At the time war on Germany was declared by Canada on 4 August 1914 and the Canadian Expeditionary Force was being formed, the first cancelling hammer was made of rubber, Figure 1. This post card is paid at the 1¢ per card rate then in effect. It was sent from the ship, the *SS Lapland*, the day before sailing on 3 October 1914. Seven more hammers were used, all with slightly different wording or placement of the daters. Once Canadian soldiers got to England, the British Army and British Post Office considered them at home, so they were not afforded soldier's rate or free mailing. While the 1d was not an onerous cost, it certainly did not sit well with the soldiers, who may not have had any spending money at that point. After a number of letters were sent home unpaid, with double deficiency postage due applied at home, the Canadian government decided to pay the letter rate postage, without deficiency, upon arrival in Canada. Figure 2 illustrates an early letter sent from DC2, Headquarters, 2<sup>nd</sup> Div., 25 January 1915, and received in Halifax on 6 February. It is properly paid at the 1¢ per ounce drop letter rate. This rate is relatively uncommon, since it ended 14 April 1915.

Eleven cities, as well as RPOs, were designated as exchange offices to handle the soldiers' mail coming back from the front. The cities were Halifax, Hamilton, Kingston, London, Montreal, Ottawa, St John (NB), Toronto, Vancouver, Victoria, and Winnipeg. A number of other post offices also cancelled covers and cards when either forwarded on RPOs or sent on from the exchange offices without stamps. I have collected the following with cancels: Charlottetown, PEI; Kamloops, BC; Quebec City; Revelstoke, BC; Regina, SK. A number of RPOs also exist; among those that I have found with the 1¢ drop letter rate in addition to Halifax are Montreal, Toronto, and Winnipeg.

---

Keywords & phrases: WWI, military mail



Figure 1.



Figure 2.



Figure 3.



Figure 4.



Figure 5.



Figure 6.

Post cards also qualified for the Canadian service to home. Figure 3, franked in Winnipeg on 10 February 1915, is an example of the Field Service Card available to soldiers. It gave little information as a form card with a few boxes or dates to fill in. Figure 4 is an example of a private post card sent home, with a Winnipeg franking and transit 30 March 1915, forwarded to Rochhaven, SK, received 3 April.

Letters not qualifying for the drop letter rate were franked 2¢. I have found very few of these for some unknown reason. Figure 5 shows a cover with enclosure mailed 14 March from the front, received at Toronto 29 March 1915 and sent on to Caledon, ON, the same day. The writer speaks of the destroyed villages along the front, and of health problems resulting from wet trenches. Figure 6 shows a 1-2 ounce letter mailed to Barrie, ON, franked

4¢ in Toronto on 18 March 1915. This is the only example of this rate I have seen in the pre-War Tax period.



Figure 7.



Figure 8.



Figure 9.



Figure 10.



Figure 11.



Figure 12.

To pay for the escalating costs of the war, Canada raised the postal rates for domestic, preferred foreign, and British Empire letters and post cards by imposing a 1¢ War Tax. Thus, the rates discussed above were all raised by 1¢. For the most part, these are not particularly interesting, but from a collecting point-of-view one can now look for a drop letter (2¢), forward letter (3¢), and post card (2¢) for each exchange city. Figure 7 provides an interesting variant, with a soldier sending something dutiable enclosed, with 2¢ customs duty charged and paid by a customs stamp. Mailed to Windsor, ON, its stamp was affixed in



Montreal on 7 May 1917. How did the post office know? The cover was opened by a censor at Montreal. Note that the stamp and CDS are on the censor tape.

While the great bulk of mail came from the Canadian forces along the northern front in France and Belgium, there were Canadians scattered around the world, mostly serving in the British Army. Figure 8 shows a cover to Waterloo, stamped at Toronto on 11 January 1916, sent back on 14 December 1915 from Malta, where wounded soldiers from the Dardanelles campaign were housed. While the cover was franked with two ½d Malta stamps, the censor and additional franking at Toronto indicates that this letter came from a soldier. Figure 9 is a post card from Malta, as confirmed by the handstamp “ACTIVE SERVICE- MEDT” used in Malta. The writer notes “a number of Canadian nurses on the island, mostly from out west.” He is recuperating and looks forward to an upcoming twenty-eight days leave in England.

Finally, on 28 July 1917, thirty-two months after first arriving in England, the British and Canadian Post Offices allowed free soldiers’ mail for all Canadian servicemen in the UK and France (and assumed from other places on active service with the British Army). While of interest to cancel collectors of military mail, there is no significant postal history in general at this point for ordinary mail back to Canada.

**Letters to other places:** Canadians overseas also sent mail elsewhere than to Canada. Figure 10 shows a cover sent from the 10th Canadian Resupply Bn at Shoreham Camp, England, to Kislovodsk, Russia, on 6 August 1917. It was not covered by the free frank agreement and should have been charged double deficiency UPU rate in Russia. It did get there, with Moscow transit and censor marks on 17 September, and a Kislovodsk 21 September receiver. The most likely route was north through the Baltic, although Kislovodsk was about as far south as you could go, between the Black and Caspian Seas. It is amazing that it only took four days from Moscow. Russia was neutral at this time, on the eve of the Communist revolution.

**Mail to the US from American or Canadian soldiers:** Since the US was neutral until April 1917, there was no agreement between Canada and the US about Canadian soldiers’ mail from the front to the US, and it would thus either follow the preferred rate for Canada (2¢ per ounce) or the UPU rate of 5¢ per ounce, depending on how it was sent. Figure 11 shows a letter sent back with 31 May 1916 TX (Third Division Train) CDS, bundled with other soldiers’ mail to an exchange office, probably Montreal, then forwarded to the US with a New York City Penn Station transit, 17 June, T20 due noted, sent onward to Fredricksburg, MD, but no postage due collected. Given that the letter rate was 3¢ for the first ounce, the due amount must have been stamped in the US, otherwise it would have been T30 as a Canadian due. It is unclear how this was handled, since the rates were no longer reciprocal between the US and Canada. On the other hand, Figure 12 shows virtually the same type item, in this case a field post card sent to New York City and charged double deficiency postage due, or 4¢, since the post card rate from Canada was 2¢ per card, the T20 was stamped and that amount collected. It was sent from the 11<sup>th</sup> Canadian Brigade 30 August 1916, and received in New York 14 September. Other mail was forwarded from Canada after having been paid at the exchange office for the letter or post card rate, and thus had free forwarding. Figure 13 illustrates this procedure. Sent to St John, NB, and received on 20 August 1916, it was forwarded to Chicago, received on 30 August.

Canadian soldiers sent mail to very unusual places. Figure 14 shows a Field Service Card sent from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Brigade, 17 October 1915, to Peru. It clearly indicates that this soldier had previously received mail from the addressee in Peru. A Lima receiver on the back dated 18 November indicates the card got there. No indication of any postage due appears anywhere on the card, an interesting result.



Figure 13.



Figure 14.



Figure 15.

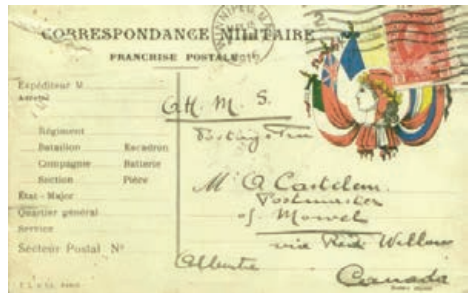


Figure 16.

**Mail from Canadians in other armies:** Many Canadians joined the British, French, and Belgian armies early on in the war. A Canadian in the French army sent back the cover in Figure 15, which has a French military *Depot* and another French cancel under the Montreal exchange office CDS of 11 February 1916. Clearly, it either was passed to the Canadian Army postal corps or went in ordinary mail to Canada; the routing is not clear from the markings. Figure 16 shows a card from a soldier in the Belgian army, a “Corporal cyclist.” The notation “OHMS” suggests it was passed to the Canadian postal system in Belgium, as they were on the same lines.

The stamp was affixed in Winnipeg on 15 May 1916; it has a Monvel, ALTA, 19 May receiver. British army enlistee mail to Canada is quite common, mostly identifiable from the army post office mark. While it is possible that there were Canadians in the US army after it arrived in France, I do not have any examples of their mail, as it probably went through the US Army postal system and on to Canada via the US.

## Mail to Soldiers



**Figure 17.**

10 18.” It finally reached the Ottawa Dead Letter Branch on 10 April 1919.

Figure 18 illustrates mail sent to a Canadian (presumably) in the French Army from Levis, Que, on 21 November 1917. Franked originally with 5¢, it appears 3¢ fell off. The letter was charged 50 cm postage due, apparently with no credit for the part-payment. The soldier not being found in Secteur 1, it was forwarded to Secteur 5; he was not found there but no tax due was noted. Eventually, the tax was paid by someone, and a 28 December date stamp applied. These sorts of problems were endemic to mail to soldiers, as they were moved around on the front, wounded, sent to hospital, or died in battle, sometimes never interred or even located. There are one million men whose bodies lie in unmarked graves or elsewhere in the soil in France.

World War I was a tragedy for all concerned, but particularly for the soldiers on the front. Generals, imagining they were fighting the Napoleonic wars or nineteenth-century skirmishes with natives sent soldiers directly into automatic weapons’ fire year after year. Insanity is said to be defined as doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result. This was insanity.



**Figure 18.**

The postage rate from Canada was the ordinary first class letter or post card domestic rate. Occasionally, a writer in Canada paid, unnecessarily, the 5¢ UPU rate. Mail to soldiers mostly suffered the fate it has ever since paper became reasonably available: It was used to start fires and as toilet paper. Thus, most such mail, returned to loved ones, bears the sad indicators of wounds or death, indicated in stark handstamps or manuscript notations.

Figure 17 is a letter and enclosure dated 16 July 1918, addressed to a Lt Milford, indicating that his \$1,000 life insurance policy, paid by the city of London, ON, for four years, will lapse on 30 October 1918, advising him that it may be continued for an additional three years, three months, but that he will then be responsible for the yearly premium of \$16.23, plus \$25 war risk, a total of \$41.23. Enclosed was a form of surrender of the policy should he not wish to extend it. Sadly, the issue was rendered moot as the cover reveals, in manuscript: “Died of Wounds 20

# A WWI card postmarked on Armistice Day, 11 November 1918

David Daves

THE humorous post card in Figure 1 was written on 9 November 1918 at Seaford, Essex, by a soldier named “Jim,” and sent to Mr RV McCullough (sp?) at Hunting(t)on, Que Canada. Jim wrote, “Received clothes OK yesterday. Thanks very much—will write you soon. Love to all. Jim.” The post card itself, by well-known artist Reg Carter, depicts a soldier lying in a comfortable bed in a nicely-appointed room, and bears the ironic text, “Life at Seaford - - - I don’t think.”

What makes this card a prized item in my collection are the two handstamps on the back, which can be seen in Figure 2. The rectangular mark reads “11<sup>th</sup> BATTALION / NOV 11 1918 / ORDERLY ROOM / CANADIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.” The circular postmark is “Chyngton Camp B.O. / 7 PM / 11 No 18 / Seaford”—just seven hours after the Armistice ending World War I went into effect at 11 o’clock that morning.

As the guns were finally silent, perhaps “Jim” did get a good sleep after all.



**Figure 1.** Humorous WWI post card postmarked on 11 November 1918.



**Figure 2.** Reverse of card in Figure 1.

I wondered why the 11th Battalion of the CEF was at Chyngton Camp that day, and learned first that its members had been recruited in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. The battalion was 1,119 men strong when it went overseas; Lt Col E Burritt was the commanding officer. Apparently, the 11th Battalion arrived in England, but didn't get to France [1].

Learning this led me to look for more in the *Newsletter* of the BNAPS Military Mail Study Group, with interesting results.

Keywords & phrases: WWI, military, Armistice Day



In January 1917, the personnel of the more than two hundred fifty Canadian battalions in England were placed in twenty-six new reserve battalions. Each of these new battalions was composed of men from the same military district in Canada, and the battalion reinforced infantry battalions in France that had been mobilized in the same military district. [2]

The 11th Canadian Reserve Battalion (Manitoba) was organized at Shorncliffe Base on 4 January 1917, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel P Walker. (The authorization was published in Canadians' Routine Order 271, dated 20 January 1917.) It was initially formed by absorbing the 11th Battalion, brought over to England under the command of Lt Col Burritt, into the 100th Battalion. The coincidence of the 11<sup>th</sup> Battalion being absorbed into the 11th Canadian Reserve Battalion led to the use, twenty months later, of the 11th Battalion postmark on the post card discussed in this article.

Subsequently, on 6 February 1917, the 11th Canadian Reserve Battalion absorbed the 197th Battalion, then the 221st Battalion on 29 April 1917, and the 200th and 223rd Battalions on 14 May 1917. Soldiers from the 11th Canadian Reserve Battalion were sent to reinforce the 27th, 78th, and 107th Battalions. On 15 October 1917, it absorbed the 14th Canadian Reserve Battalion, after which it also reinforced the 16th, 27th, and 43rd Battalions. On 29 March 1919, the 11th Canadian Reserve Battalion was itself absorbed by the 18th Canadian Reserve Battalion. After the war, all these units were officially disbanded, with the 11th Canadian Reserve Battalion (Manitoba) named as a predecessor to the Winnipeg Grenadiers.

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# BNAPS Book Department update

*Mike Street*

After a long trip abroad, followed by a battle with a virus, then by helping prepare this special WWI issue of *BNA Topics*, it is time to get back to BNAPS books.

By the time BNAPEX 2014 BALPEX opens the following books will be in print:

- Gary Steele's *1937–1938 Canadian Definitive Issue*, which won the Horace W Harrison Grand Award at BNAPEX 2012 in Calgary, is No 76 in the BNAPS Exhibit Series.
- David McLaughlin's *The Maple Leaf Issue of Canada 1897–1898*, which won the Horace W Harrison Grand Award at BNAPEX 2013 in Charlottetown, is No 77 in the BNAPS Exhibit Series.
- Gary Dickinson's *First Day Covers of Canada's 1976 Olympic Games Issues* is the newest volume in Gary's ongoing series.

At least six more books are currently being prepared. We hope to have them all printed by the end of November 2014.



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# Study group centreline

Peter McCarthy, OTB

**C**ENTRELINE presents brief summaries of the specialized research done by BNAPS members as published in the newsletters of its many Study Groups. This column reviews those newsletters received between April 2014 and the end of June 2014.

## British Columbia

The *British Columbia Postal History Study Group* newsletter has undergone changes under the editorship of Andrew Scott and associate editor Tracy Cooper. An expected regular feature in future issues is My Favourite Cover and Tracy started things off with a favourite registered cover from Silverton, B.C. to Summerside, P.E.I. showing the transit markings and well researched explanation. A nice tribute is given to Bill Topping for his twenty-two years of dedication as editor of the newsletter and for his contribution to BC postal history. A report is given on the sale of British Columbia covers from the Steve Walske collection by New Mexico dealer Richard Frajola. There were a total of fifty-four covers. Tracy Cooper then talks of the uses of Large Queens in British Columbia. Apparently quite a challenge for BC postal historians. The feature story by Andrew Scott is of Surf Inlet, a gold and silver mining town on the remote Princess Royal Island in northwest BC. Some rare covers are illustrated, along with photos of the site: British Columbia gives a feeling of still being a frontier province waiting to be fully discovered. The newsletter ends with a listing of recent six-digit markings and a request for further contributions from members. Well done and interesting.

## First Day Cover Study Group

First of all, an apology to Gary for inadvertently referring to him as Gary Dickens in the last issue of *BNA Topics*. Issue No 20 of *First Impressions*, the first-day cover study group newsletter edited by Gary **Dickinson** begins with a story of Polly Berndt showing twenty-nine beautiful and colourful first day covers classified as add-ons or “all overs” and hand



**Figure 1.** Example of hand-painted Polly Berndt First Day Cover for Unitrade #364.

painted. An example is depicted in Figure 1.

Gary came up with the question about earliest-known uses and the suggestion of identifying the earliest-known uses of stamps from Canada and Newfoundland that do not have an official date of issue. In his article, there is a list of possibilities: Check it out—maybe non-members of this group can assist. Barry Douch submitted a

story of the FDC cachets made by JF Burns. Shown are two covers franked with the dollar export stamp and three of the provincial emblems and flowers. In his article, he has identified a total of twenty-nine hand-drawn covers. Barry would like to know if there are others around. Peter Wood sent in a reproduced 1976 CSN story of an early two-cent Newfoundland stamp first-day cover John Talman found in an Allan Steinhart box, purchased for a bargain price. Rob McGuinness wants to know who the Colliers are. He is referring to six hand-drawn cachets of FDCs, franked with the two- and three-cent Cameos of 1963. Were they the cachet-makers or simply the recipients? Rounding out the newsletter is John Van der Ven's part III of the TG Wolstencroft cachets. This time he covered those sent to New Zealand. All of these are hand-drawn and very colourful. There always seems to be a mystery about these cachet-makers? Who are the people they are sent to and why?

## **Military Mail**

The CMMSG newsletter #213 edited by Dean Mario begins with a story of the US Navy Air Stations in Nova Scotia during the Great War at the time the US entered the war in April 1917. Canada and the US combined their efforts to provide aerial reconnaissance that would detect U-boats around Newfoundland and Canada. Jerry Jarnick, the author, provides an illustration of a Curtiss HS-2L flying boat along with a cover of a US sailor's mail to Boston, MA that Gerry suspects was carried aboard a US warship and conveyed to the addressee as a free-franked military letter. Jim Miller sent in a query about an airgraph cancel and a new report. CR McGuire writes of his personal connection with Colonel George Harry Lawrence, and Lawrence's involvement with the postal system during both WWI and WWII. He served both the civilian and military postal system from 1913 to 1957. Colonel Lawrence passed away on 3 December 1981 at the age of eighty-nine. Bill Pekonen would like some information about the 4 Int Trg Coy C INT. Colin Pomfret always has a little gem stashed away in his treasure box. The first item is a thank-you letter from the 5 Squadron, Royal Flying Corps, thanking a French family for billeting an airman. The second gem is a cover with an enclosure signed by GRS Flemming, who was shot down on a bombing raid in early April 1917. Finally, David Hanes provided a Trenton Stamp Club commemorative cover with a MPO 303 BPM cancel with special related picture postage.

## **Re-entry and Constant Plate Variety Study Group**

After a considerable absence, the Re-entry Study Group has been re-started by Michael D Smith, who recently finished his first newsletter, *Dots and Scratches*. The object of the Study Group and Newsletter will be to allow collectors to share and discuss constant plate varieties found on engraved stamps. The content of the newsletter will include classic re-entries and plate varieties as well as new or unusual finds that may turn up. Currently, the focus will be Canada and the Provinces, but it could expand beyond the geographies. Since re-entries cover a wide gamut of engraved stamp issues starting with the pence and extending into the twentieth century, the fifteen-page first issue of the full-colour *Dots and Scratches* covers examples of Pence, Large Queens, the Admirals, the 50¢ Bluenose and Newfoundland stamps.

The Group is hoping to hold its *re-inaugural* meeting at BNAPEX 2014 in Baltimore. For more information, please contact Michael at [dotsscratchesnwsltr@hotmail.com](mailto:dotsscratchesnwsltr@hotmail.com) or Bill Radcliffe at [bsbvp88@hotmail.com](mailto:bsbvp88@hotmail.com), or by phone at 1-856-589-1945.



## Railway Post Offices

Ross Gray, the editor of the Railway Post Office Study Group newsletter, starts Volume 42 with a lovely new, early date cancel of the CPR West Of Winnipeg marking, AP 19, 1882. Proofs of the hammers made for this marking were struck on 2 January 1882. The next four pages feature an array of new reports of early and late dates for RPO routes across Canada. Jim O'Connor sent in updates on mostly western routes. New study group member Wayne Schnarr sent in a well-travelled cover with seventeen transit strikes on the back along with a full explanation of the routing. Wayne also sent new reports on Ontario and western routes. All these updates will appear in the new catalogue, expected by the end of summer.

## Revenues

Christopher Ryan, the editor of the *Canadian Revenue Newsletter*, begins issue No 83 with an illustration of a proof of a Fritz Angst unrecorded frank of the Okanagan Telephone Company. Chris Ryan uses the illustrations from the collection of Fritz Angst to tell the story of B Houde and the National Snuff and the Small Snuff stamps of the 1897 series. The story is quite interesting of how these snuff and tobacco producers were intertwined and the different excise taxes involved. Chris' contribution is a well-illustrated and equally well-researched story. Dale Stuver, Ed Zaluski, and Earle Covert helped assist Clayton Rubec with illustrations in writing an article on the Alberta Stampless Resident Special Hunting Licence Cards. Chris Ryan also finishes the newsletter with an article on the Yukon Gold Commissioner's Court which is an addendum to an earlier article in CRN No. 81. A great deal of effort is put into these articles as noted by the list of references.

Issue No. 84 of the *Revenue Newsletter* begins with a great article about the fact that the War Tax stamps of 1915 did not finance WWI. The tax actually went into the post office general funds. Chris Ryan goes on to explain what taxes did finance the war. Take note of the full list of references. Dave Hannay published an illustrated article on the precancelled excise stamps used to revalue match imprints in 1922. He also contributed another article relating to a vehicle search within the British Columbia Motor Vehicle Branch with three revenue stamps totaling seventy-five cents. Christopher tells the story of René Édouard Campeau, a senior accountant and later Chief Accountant of Canada's Inland Revenue Department, showing a private post card offering to exchange fiscal stamps for numismatic items. Chris then tells of different excise licences in the article "Colours of the Series 1897 Tobacco Stamps" and the absence of Red Snuff Stamps. Ending the newsletter is another article by Christopher Ryan. It is part 4 of "Quebec's Law Stamps Taxes, Registration Stamp Duties and Stamp Fees in Provincial Registry Offices, 1864–1992." Part 4 deals with illustrating the Law Stamp Tax, Special Registration Stamp fees, and Exemptions.

## Squared Circles

The *Roundup* has been resurrected, with Gary Arnold as editor and Joe Smith as the chairman of the study group. Volume 35 Number 1/120 begins with an introduction and a list of new reports and updates by issue category. Gary gives a plug for the American Philatelic Society and encourages members to exhibit their squared circles. Gary won a vermeil and the novice award at the World Series of Philately in Plymouth, Michigan two years ago. Ending the newsletter is a cover from the Temiscouata Railway, with a beautiful Rivière-du-Loup squared circle strike on a three-cent Leaf issue stamp. Gary and Joe are looking forward to your help in rebuilding the newsletter by submitting articles.

## World War II Study group

Bill Pekonen is still wearing two hats as chairman and editor of *War Times*, the newsletter of the WWII Study Group. In issue #57, Bill advises that information on War Saving stamps sent in by Barry Brown will appear in the next few issues. Members asked about blackouts and now they are going to get them. Apparently, it was reported some time ago that the whereabouts of the HE Guertin blackouts collection was unknown. Well, things have changed, and the collection has surfaced thanks to information supplied by Bob Thorne. In this issue of *War Times*, several of the blackouts are shown with comments; noted is one from the Tuft's Cove post office. Tuft's Cove can't be found on the map but it is listed in the Halifax District H in the 1941 and 1947 Postal Guides. Does anyone have an answer?

### Conclusion

The articles and updates in study group newsletters are, for the most part, supplied by the editors, who would appreciate receiving articles from you—perhaps an illustration of your favourite cover or series of stamps. Your questions can also lead to interesting and helpful responses and articles. Give your editors a hand and become more involved.

## New issues

William J F Wilson

### Markings on the adhesive side of definitive stamps

JOHN Carley reports that he has found repetitive printing of the word “Canada” on the reverse (adhesive side) of peel-and-stick definitive stamps from 2012 and 2013, as well as the 2014 sets listed in Table 2. This feature will be referred to below as “reverse printing.” So far, neither John nor I have seen it on stamps with PVA gum. Canada Post mentioned some time ago that they were going to introduce new security features—not all of which would be announced—to combat counterfeiting. It is possible that the reverse printing is one of these security features.

John is preparing an article for a future issue of *BNA Topics* but, in the meantime, we thought it would be useful to summarize some features of this reverse printing here. Figure 1



**Figure 1a.** UV-enhanced photo of back of 2013 \$1.10 Porcupine.

shows the backs of two stamps, photographed in UV light by Earle Covert. (Although the repetitions of “Canada” are easily visible, it is very difficult to obtain a printable image except by using ultraviolet light).

Figure 1a is a copy of the 2013 \$1.10 Porcupine stamp, and Figure 1b is a copy of a 2013 Flag P stamp (people

making up a Canadian flag). In both cases, the top of the stamp (as viewed face-on) is at the top of the image. The

large-scale pattern of the word “Canada” is not immediately apparent when looking at an individual stamp, but when stamps in a booklet or coil strip are examined together, the words form the interlocking pattern shown in Figure 2. (Figure 2 is schematic only, and does not replicate the font, spacing, or other details.)



**Figure 1b.** UV-enhanced photo of back of 2013 Flag P stamp.



**Figure 2.** Large scale interlocking pattern of the word “Canada.”

Individual stamps can be positioned differently within the pattern, giving rise to many variations in how the pattern appears on the backs of individual stamps. In addition, the entire pattern in Figure 2 can be found rotated by a multiple of  $90^\circ$  relative to the design on the face of the stamp. Individual stamps can be positioned differently within the pattern, giving rise to many variations in how the pattern appears on the backs of individual stamps. In addition, the entire pattern in Figure 2 can be found rotated by a multiple of  $90^\circ$  relative to the design on the face of the stamp.

To identify the rotational orientation of the pattern on a given stamp, place the stamp face down, with the top of the stamp facing upwards. If the words “Canada” step upward to the right, then the pattern either has the same orientation as in Figure 2 or is rotated  $180^\circ$  from Figure 2. If the words “Canada” step downward to the right, then the pattern is rotated either  $90^\circ$  to the right or  $90^\circ$  to the left from Figure 2. Finally, rotate Figure 2 to each of the two possibilities from the previous step (e.g.,  $90^\circ$  to the right and  $90^\circ$  to the left) and see how adjacent letters of horizontal/vertical pairs of the word “Canada” match up (e.g., “a” with “C”, “C” with “C”, etc.). As examples, Figure 1a shows the same orientation as in Figure 2, whereas in Figure 1b, the pattern is rotated  $180^\circ$  from Figure 2.

John has also found different typefaces: One relatively fine, one bold, and one or possibly more that appear to be intermediate between these. For example, Figure 1a shows a bolder typeface and Figure 1b a finer typeface. Interestingly, some 2012 and 2013 definitives exist both with and without reverse printing. Evidently, the reverse printing did not simply replace the unmarked paper at a single moment. Perhaps the production process did not allow old paper stock to be reverse-printed, or perhaps it was considered less efficient to do so, and the old stock was used up gradually.

## New Postal Rates

In late 2013, Canada Post announced a major increase in postal rates to be implemented on 31 March 2014. The old and new lettermail rates are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1. Old and New Postal Rates**

	14 January 2013	31 March 2014
Domestic to 30 g:		
Booklet, coil or sheet (price per stamp)	\$0.63	\$0.85
Single stamp purchased separately	\$0.63	\$1.00
Non-standard and oversize:	\$1.34	\$1.80
U.S.A.:	\$1.10	\$1.20
International:	\$1.85	\$2.50

The third set in Canada Post’s Baby Animals series was released on 31 March for the new rates, along with a new set of permanent stamps entitled World Heritage Sites in Canada.

The latter replaces the previous Flag definitive series. To make it easy for people with 63¢ stamps to make up the 85¢ rate, a special 22¢ Monarch Butterfly stamp was also released on 31 March

An increase in the 30-g domestic lettermail rate from 63¢ to 65¢ had already been announced for 13 January 2014 and this increase took place as scheduled. However, Canada Post's postal prices brochure T455161 (14-01) states:

*Effective January 13, 2014, for a limited time only, Canada Post is accepting all standard lettermail items weighing up to 30 g and mailed within Canada at a reduced rate of \$0.63, subject to the terms of this Offer. By participating in this Offer, you agree to the following: Canada Post has the right to limit quantities and can terminate this Offer at any time.*

The effect was that the 63¢ rate continued until the 31 March rate increase, although as a special reduced rate and not as the official postal rate. Presumably, the reduced rate saved Canada Post the expense of printing 65¢ definitives that would be in use for only a short time, and (lacking such definitives) saved postal outlets the trouble of having to stock up on 2¢ stamps to make up the postage—and perhaps saved Canada Post the expense of printing extra 2¢ stamps to allow this to occur.

To prevent a run on permanent (“P”) stamps leading up to 31 March 2014, the Post Office removed them from sale and issued 63¢ versions of the Queen, Flag, and Baby Woodchuck definitive instead. The six commemorative stamps for the 30g lettermail rate that were released during the period of the reduced rate were also denominated 63¢.

The name of each of the World Heritage Sites P-stamp definitives (e.g., Joggins Fossil Cliffs/Falaises Fossilifères de Joggins) is hidden in fine, dark print within each stamp design. The fine printing is also darker on the souvenir sheet than in the booklet. This is easily apparent to the naked eye in the ©2014 symbol at the lower left of each stamp.

## Table 2 Information

The information in the accompanying Table 2 is from the Canada Post website, (<http://www.canadapost.ca/cpo/mc/personal/collecting/stamps/2014/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).

### Footnotes for Table 2

- (a) Listed as 5CL in Canada Post's *Details* booklet, but the selvage shows four colour dots.
- (b) The top and bottom tagging bars on each stamp are not solid, but consist of alternating UNESCO and World Heritage Convention symbols.
- (c) Listed as 32 × 40 in Canada Post's *Details* booklet.
- (d) Listed as 31 × 38 in Canada Post's *Details* booklet.
- (e) Listed as 6CL in Canada Post's *Details* booklet, but the selvage shows five colour dots.

**Abbreviations for Table 2:** *number*CL = (*number of colours*) colour lithography; Bk = booklet; C = Tullis Russell Coatings (coated paper); CBN = Canadian Bank Note Co.; G4S = general tagging (four sides); L-M = Lowe-Martin; P-S = pressure-sensitive; s-t = se-tenant; SH = sheet; SS = souvenir sheet.



**Table 2. 2014 Commemoratives and Definitives (all are on Tullis Russell coated-paper; see footnotes on opposite page)**

Stamp	Heritage Sites Definitives	Baby Animals Definitives	Monarch Butterfly	Royal Ontario Museum	Roses	Komagata Maru	National Film Board	Heritage Sites Commemoratives
Value	5 × P (s-t on SS)	P: \$1.00, \$1.20, \$1.80, \$2.50 (s-t on SS)	22¢	2 × P (s-t on SS)	2 × P (s-t on SS)	\$2.50	5 × P (s-t on SS)	3 × \$1.20, 2 × \$2.50 (s-t on SS)
Issued	31 Mar	31 Mar	31 Mar	14 Apr	23 Apr	1 May	2 May	16 May
Printer	CBN	L-M	CBN	L-M	L-M	CBN	CBN	L-M
Panc	Bk: 10, 30 SS: 5	P: Coil of 100 \$1: Coil of 50 \$1.20, \$1.80, \$2.50: Bk of 6 and coil of 50 SS: 5	SH: 50	Bk: 10 SS: 2	Bk: 10 Coil: 50 SS: 2	Bk: 6	Bk: 10 SS: 5	Bk: 6 SS: 5
Process	4CL <sup>(a)</sup>	Coil, Bk: 5CL SS: 9CL	5CL	5CL	6CL	5CL	5CL <sup>(e)</sup>	5CL
Qty (1000s)	SS: 160 Bk: Continuous	SS: 155 Coil, Bk: Continuous	Continuous	SS: 150 Bk: 300	Bk: 1400 Coil: 250 SS: 155	250	SS: 130 Bk: 250	SS: 160 Each Bk: 160
Tag	G4S <sup>(b)</sup>	G4S	None	G4S	G4S	G4S	G4S	G4S
Gum	SS: PVA Bk: P-S	SS: PVA Bk: P-S	PVA	SS: PVA Bk: P-S	SS: PVA Coil, Bk: P-S	P-S	SS: PVA Bk: P-S	SS: PVA Bk: P-S
Size, mm	SS: 24 × 20 Bk: 23.25 × 20.25	24 × 20	24 × 20	31.9 × 40 <sup>(c)</sup>	26 × 32	30.7 × 38.2 <sup>(d)</sup>	32 × 32	40 × 32 <sup>(e)</sup>
Perf	SS: 13.3 × 13.0 Bk: Simulated	SS: 13.3 × 13.0 Bk: Simulated	13.3 × 13.0	SS: 12.5 × 12.5 Bk: Simulated	SS: 12.5 × 12.5 Coil, Bk: Simulated	Simulated	12.5 × 13.1	SS: 12.5 × 12.5 Bk: Simulated
Teeth	SS: 16 × 13 Bk: Simulated	SS: 16 × 13 Bk: Simulated	16 × 13	SS: 20 × 25 Bk: Simulated	SS: 20 × 25 Coil, Bk: Simulated	Simulated	20 × 21	SS: 25 × 20 Bk: Simulated

# BNAPS business and reports

## President's column

*Norris (Bob) Dyer with assistance from Andy Ellwood and Peter MacDonald*

### Introduction

**I**N the fall of 2013, BNAPS' Membership Committee conducted a survey of members to find out more about them, how they evaluated current membership services and products, and ideas they had for new ones. Five hundred-and-forty-four members, fifty-one percent of the membership, completed surveys. In the second quarter 2014 *BNA Topics*, we presented the results of responses to closed questions. This article deals with responses to questions seeking ideas and opinions. Future issues will detail the changes that will result from the survey.

Of the twenty-four questions in the survey, five asked for opinions that could be expressed in narrative form. Responses to these open-ended questions cannot easily be quantified by automated means and needed to be reviewed individually and carefully analyzed. This portion of the project has now been completed, and the results are presented here.

In addition, a sample of typical responses to the last survey question, "Final Comments or Questions?" is highlighted. Much of the analysis that follows was conducted by Board member Andy Ellwood, an *ad hoc* member of the Membership Committee. Most responses consisted of only a few words, but some were extensive. We have tried to accurately assess the intent of the responder but may have occasionally misinterpreted something. Where appropriate, some actual comments have been included in the text. While it is possible to take comments out of context, those chosen were intended to reflect overall findings.



### Overview: Joining and remaining in BNAPS

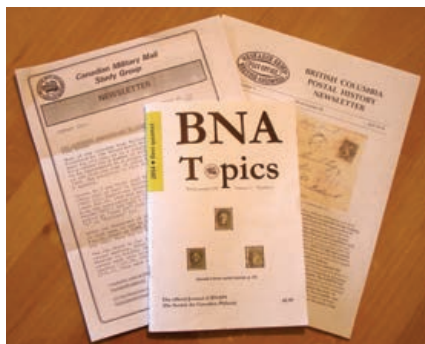
In the survey, questions Nos. 7 and 8 asked why people joined BNAPS and why they have remained members. The analysis revealed eight basic, straightforward reasons (see Table 1) that should help BNAPS management develop approaches to attracting and retaining members as well as services that will satisfy members on an ongoing basis.

**Preliminary conclusions:** Most people join BNAPS because they would like to know more about Canada/BNA philately, and they recognized BNAPS as the best source of information in this area. About one-quarter of responding members were interested in a specific area of BNA philately before joining. After joining, responding members' interests evolve and become more specific. About half of the respondents see *BNA Topics* as the best source of information. Communicating with other philatelists is also important, and participating in Study Groups, Regional Groups, and Conventions also serve to meet this desire. One can conclude that BNAPS is making a meaningful contribution to the BNA philatelic world by assisting members in their efforts to gain knowledge and enjoyment from their collecting activities. Tables 2 and 3 provide examples of direct feedback in responses to questions 7 and 8.

**Table 1. Reasons for joining and remaining a member**

	Responses Common to Both Questions	Q# 7*	Q# 8*	Observations
1.	General interest in BNA Philately, and good source of information	246	147	Non-members recognize BNAPS for BNA specialization and good source of information and remain members because of that
2.	Interest in one or more specific areas of BNA philately	119	50	This suggests that before joining BNAPS, non-members were already specializing in BNA
3.	<i>BNA Topics</i> , newsletters, books and online library	61	205	Almost half of respondents mentioned these as reasons for retaining membership
4.	Desire to be in a Study Group or Regional Group	38	82	Although not mentioned as much as for Nos.1 and 3, group membership is important
5.	Desire to meet and talk with other philatelists with common interests	35	74	Study and Regional Groups mentioned as well as BNAPEX conventions
6.	Recommended / recruited by members	31	N/A	Important means of obtaining new members
7.	Interest in exhibiting, conventions, and meetings	19	44	In common with No.5
8.	Desire to belong to BNAPS and want to support philately	16	45	BNAPS seen as having a good image. Feeling grows after joining the Society

\* Total number of respondents whose answer corresponded to topic of itemized response

**Table 2. Examples of specific quotes on reasons for joining**

- Learn more about Canadian stamps, and the prestige of adding BNAPS after my name
- As a collector of BNA, wanted to learn more
- To collect a country other than Australia
- Invitation from member
- *BNA Topics* and transatlantic books
- To enable me to access the study groups
- To be better informed about the philatelic hobby and to meet other philatelists
- To support North American philately
- Curiosity
- The journal and philatelic contacts

**Table 3. Examples of specific reasons for remaining a member**

- Enjoy the services
- Excellent philatelic organization in every respect
- Support hobby
- Good question—I am still learning about Canadian stamps and postal history
- I enjoy reading *BNA Topics*
- Valuable sources of information
- I have attended most conventions over the past 20 years and the journal is still top-notch
- Enjoyed the fellowship and visiting great locations
- My study group is great. Learn lots and have met some nice people (albeit via email) that I keep in touch with and continue to learn from
- Discount on literature and keeping up in developments in different areas of collecting

## Overview: BNAPS programs, services, and products

In the survey, three open-ended questions—No. 17 (What ideas do you have for improving existing BNAPS programs/services/products?); No. 18 (What new BNAPS programs/services would you like to see made available?); and No. 20 (If you could change one thing about BNAPS, what would it be?)—sought to identify which *improvements* to services are needed to best meet members' needs, what *new* services would be of interest, and what the *most important* services are. The responses offered a diverse set of comments which provided range and depth. They can be grouped into several basic areas. A significant number of members do not see a need for change. With 621 responses to these questions, there were many ideas offered and much grist for further research. Many suggestions for improvements or new services provided serious food for thought. In addition, there were several unique and unusual suggestions which may open new avenues to be explored.

**Preliminary conclusions:** The primary thrust of the responses continues to be a desire for knowledge about philately, in general, as well about specialty areas. There were several requests for the Society to evolve from an emphasis on extensive research (especially on postal history) to general knowledge on a broader range of collecting interests. Equally significant is the call for a major increase in the provision of online services. While a couple of people commented that they were not being comfortable with computers, there were other requests for more online information. Specific areas mentioned include current articles in *BNA Topics*, Study Group newsletters, Regional Group meeting minutes, exhibits, and explanations and information about specialty areas.

There were suggestions about supporting online interpersonal communications, such as chat rooms, as well as improving the ability to directly contact others within the Society who have similar interests. This was coupled with a need to recruit younger members, although some appear to think that “younger” means 40-60, not 20-40. Finally, a number of rather unusual and unique ideas that could take BNAPS in different directions were identified (see Table 4), which outline possible ways to entice members, not otherwise actively engaged in BNAPS management or administration, to become involved by tackling one or more of these ideas, possibly as one-person efforts.

### Table 4. Examples of suggestions about programs, services and products

#### Study groups

- New Groups: re-entries, airmail, pre-cancels, KGVI, varieties, perfins, BOB, flags, slogans, booklets, local/strike cancels, Alberta, forgeries, telegraph post
- Membership: mandatory to belong, open them up to the World
- Communications: newsletters should be online and open to all, including non-BNAPS members
- Promotion: continuous activities diary online, list *BNA TOPICS* article titles online
- Management: develop a how-to guide to establish and manage Study Groups

#### Regional groups

- Meetings: re-think location, choose better time of day, create group in British Isles
- Reports: presentations and minutes online

#### Migration to online services

- Basic Change: major effort needed to develop better and more online services and support
- Suggested Areas: publishing, networking, exhibits, forums, newsletters, show / auction calendar
- Technical: need to simplify access, recognize different facilities, and relate to level of knowledge and skill

### **Publications and *BNA TOPICS* articles**

- Books: produce bound books for major studies, publish on disks, advise how to acquire reference works, improve quality of book bindings, produce book reviews
- Editorial: peer reviews of books and articles
- Archives: develop ability for members to access
- Management: develop long-range plan for type and production of articles

### **Education**

- How-To: access to online library, stamp design, selling collections
- Markets: assessments and guides to philatelic markets, advice on values, new discoveries
- Appraisals: who does them, how to do them, provision of expertise

### **Promotion and management**

- Mentor Program: emphasis on youth & new members
- Club Talks: speakers, DVDs, how-to articles
- Focus: - concentrate on 25-50 year olds
- Philatelic World: interact with other societies, booths at shows, conventions, bourses, advertising

### **Conventions**

- Exhibits: encourage affordable exhibits, recognize and publicize less valuable material
- Judging: change to international standards
- Location and Dates: Labour Day conflicts with demands on time, accessibility, promote other activities

### **Member support**

- Interface: simplify direct contact between members, provide links, chat rooms, online discussions
- Services: insurance, estate appraisals, disposal of collections, inventory software
- Philatelic sales: improve circuits, add literature to circuits, online sales like APS and eBay
- Auctions: members-only, like CPSGB

### **Unique and unusual suggestions**

- Use of disks for the collection and distribution of information and articles
- Expand convention bourse, more dealers, non-BNA material
- Use stamps on BNAPS mailings (available at 50 percent of face)
- Write history of BNAPS
- Use larger print
- Ephemera and hardware of Post Offices
- Bring BNAPS and Postal Museum closer together
- Add French to mailings
- Order of the Beaver creates a level of exclusivity of some members (remove need to attend convention)
- Relate postal history to Canadian history

### **Unique and unusual suggestions (continued)**

- Increase dealer ads, auction announcements
- Reduce lead time for *BNA TOPICS* submissions
- Improve search engine for online library
- Reinstate newsletter with a focus on material for junior/new members

### **Final comments or questions**

These *ad hoc* responses spanned a wide gamut, from the Society becoming “more open and welcoming” to a desire that the organization better define its mission and mandate. Several other comments encouraged members to promote local history or to reach out to organizations from which members could be recruited. We have decided to provide examples of some of the more substantive responses (see Table V). We understand that the selection is subjective; however, we felt that a number of the responses were worthy of dissemination.





Respondents spoke highly of BNAPS.org, and also offered suggestions for enhancing it.

**Table 5. Examples of final comments**

- Become more open and more welcoming. Remember the not-well-heeled collector. Please follow up with Mike Street on BC post offices. Regional group reports given to Jack but not on website, *etc.*
- Best move, making *Topics* available online—was able to unload bound copies. Glad to see more attention to QE2 issues.
- Philately is a great catalyst to promote local history. Many collectors could take advantage of this to develop their own local program, even get it documented. Over the years, there has been much emphasis on value of stamps, filling gaps in the collection. There are many rewards in researching mail processes; e.g., in the Fort George region we have one small post office accessed by VIA Rail only three times a week each way.
- An annual award to the best writer of the study groups.
- I'm happy for the opportunity and welcomed this survey. I do hope that it is not a “one off.” Perhaps it should be done every so often. I do hope that you get a good many responses.
- I am a passive member. I have neither the depth of collection nor the pocketbook to more fully participate in volunteering, authorship, *etc.* I read each publication from both BNAPS and Newfoundland Study Group for interest.
- BNAPS is a treasure that needs to be unearthed for many more potential members. We need to define our vision, mission, and mandate clearly, and constantly welcome smart innovation, even if it is temporarily disruptive. We need to find ways to take volunteers up on their offers of help.
- For over 15 years I have promoted that our philatelic organizations try to attract adults to our hobby.
- I suggested appropriate articles be written by members for their respective company, professional, and alumni journals, as well as for periodicals concerned with retirees and seniors. I continue to recommend this be done.

# Regional group rant

*Jack Forbes*

## Overview!

**T**HERE have been many interesting stamp shows, conventions, and fairs during the spring months. They all serve to invigorate, or in some cases reinvigorate, the interests of stamp collectors in our midst, and their success always depends on many volunteers working together. Many of our members, particularly those active within our Regional Group network, are front and centre in these efforts, and we salute their commitment to the hobby! Although the summer months are traditionally a “slow” time, nonetheless, many members are working diligently to complete their exhibits for the upcoming BNAPEX 2014, being held in conjunction with BALPEX, in Hunt Valley, Maryland, near Baltimore from August 29 to 31. This year’s convention is the first to be held in the US since 2004 (that one also held in conjunction with BALPEX). Traditionally, our annual conventions alternated between Canada and the US; however, increased border vigilance proved difficult for both dealers and exhibitors, so this was suspended. Bringing the 2014 Convention back to the Baltimore area should make it more convenient for a greater number of our American members to attend, especially those on the East Coast, and we hope they take advantage of this opportunity.

## Congratulations!!!

Geoff Newman, long-time St Lawrence Seaway Regional Group supporter, was singled out for special recognition during Orapex 2014 in Ottawa in May. A two-page testimonial in the Orapex Show Bulletin listed his many accomplishments. Thanks, Geoff, for being such a valuable member of BNAPS!

## Regional group website upkeep

Regional Group Representatives are asked to log onto the BNAPS website to take a look at the information posted for your region. In many cases, information is woefully out-of-date, so people checking for activities will be disappointed. Please keep your group’s site updated with timely announcements of meetings and reports of recent meetings. Much time and effort has gone into re-energizing our website, and we hope to see this newfound vitality reflected in the Regional Group listings as well. Thanks for looking after this!

## Regional group reports

We are still having difficulties receiving timely reports of Regional Group activities. Please remember to advise me ([JAFRBS@aol.com](mailto:JAFRBS@aol.com)) **and** our website coordinator, Dave Bartlet ([dave.bartlet@shaw.ca](mailto:dave.bartlet@shaw.ca)) of the dates of upcoming meetings, with agendas, if available. Dave can also post notices of other events (stamp shows, bourses, *etc.*) in your area. It is also important to send copies of your meeting reports to both of us. The information they contain is of considerable value to our membership as a whole. Few meeting reports have been submitted; so I can only provide a brief outline of a few meetings in this column. Please check out the BNAPS website for further details on activities in your particular area.

Note that the **Golden Horseshoe Group** continues to gather at the popular Rousseau House Restaurant in Ancaster. However, they now meet on Saturdays instead of Sunday.

Their final spring meeting was held on May 24. Several guests were attended, and a new member was signed up. The usual round of activities was abruptly interrupted by the arrival of the guest speaker, David Hobden, attired in an 1812-era military uniform. This dramatic entrance was a fitting start to a very interesting presentation. Clearly, a great deal of research had gone into David's talk. Fall meetings are expected to start on September 27.

The **Dixie Beavers Regional Group** held a very successful meeting in conjunction with the South East Stamp Show in Atlanta, Georgia. Eleven members and four guests were on hand to hear John Burnett speak on the subject of "Little Known Facts about Canada in WWII as shown in Her Postal History."

John augmented his talk with photocopies of WWII articles he had written for various publications. This is intended to be an annual event, as organizers have negotiated very favourable rates with the Hilton Hotel in Atlanta. John has been asked to repeat his presentation for CHARPEX in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The **Golden West Regional Group** met at WESTPEX in San Francisco on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Joe Schlitt engaged Randy Shoemaker to speak to the group about "Using a Reference Collection." Randy pointed out how important this is when it comes to expertizing and grading stamps. Although the principles outlined could apply to any area of collecting, it is particularly pertinent to BNA philately. Six members were very involved in the follow-up question-and-answer period, reflecting the interest Randy generated with his presentation.

The **Atlantic Provinces Regional Group** met on May 30<sup>th</sup> at the Royal\*2014\*Royale, staged in conjunction with NOVAPEX in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Ten group members, including one from Argentina (the Group also has a member in Sweden and another in Australia), welcomed three visiting BNAPSers.

Information on BNAPEX 2014 was provided; representatives from this region are likely to be there. The group discussed the release, at that show, of a stamp commemorating the sinking of the *Empress of Ireland*. There will not be a Fall Show in the Halifax-Dartmouth area, and Ron Smith agreed to investigate holding a meeting in New Brunswick in September or October.

Show-and-Tell, as usual, provided a lot of interesting material. There were examples of 8¢ Small Queens, other Small Queens on cover, including a 2¢ imperf., a significant variety of early Nova Scotian material going back to 1812, including mail facilitated by three different forwarding agents, misspelled cancels, a post card picturing the ship that struck the *Empress*, a duplex cancel with a cork insert on cover, comments on the need for certain denominations of Postage Due stamps, and a human-interest story relating the last-minute cancellation by ancestors of tickets for passage on that ill-fated voyage.

The **Northeast Regional Group** held its meeting at NOJEX, the North Jersey's philatelic exhibition, on Saturday, 31 May 2014. Eight members attended and heard talks on topics including advice marks that offered an explanation as to why their mail was delivered later than expected (Charles Livermore); first flight covers from Winnipeg (John Trosky); revenue collection (Alan Hicks); censored marks on his collection of World War II postcards (Gil Vatter); two-ring circle cancels (Bill Radcliffe); and a presentation (Ron Majors) on the Royal Tour of Canada by the Prince of Wales in 1860, including an authenticated cover signed and wax-sealed by the future king himself. Bill and Jean Walton also attended, adding their educated opinions.

## Upcoming events

John Burnett is suggesting an informal gathering of BNAPSers at CHARPEX, July 25-27. The Dixie Beavers plan to get together on the Saturday, 26 July, from 3:30 to 4:30pm. Richard Judge, of the Midwest Regional Group, has booked Room 21 (Connecticut Convention Center) at the APS Stamp Show in Hartford, Connecticut, on Thursday, 21 August. He's inviting any BNAPS members in attendance at this show to join him then and there, as he presents his findings from spectroscopic research on the shades of the 2¢ Carmine Admirals. He can be contacted at CH2Se@sbcglobal.net or phone (262)554-7958.

## Exchange circuit news

*Andy Ellwood*

**T**HE BNAPS Circuits are alive and well, and major efforts are underway to upgrade it. Much of the older material has been retired and new material is finding its way onto the BNAPS website. Detailed scans of the new material have been posted and new categories have been added for large lots, collections, and literature. To review what is now available, go to the web ([www.bnaps.org/circuits/circuits.htm](http://www.bnaps.org/circuits/circuits.htm)). There are new sheets in the following categories: **Perfins, Pre-Cancels, Admirals, Small Queens, Squared Circles, Newfoundland, Provinces, KGV (covers), and Revenues**. If you see something that looks interesting, e-mail me ([andy\\_ellwood@rogers.com](mailto:andy_ellwood@rogers.com)) or call (613)737-2137 to arrange for it to be sent to you on approval. Note that the cost of mailing is paid by BNAPS.

When the updated BNAPS website is online, members should be able to identify specific types of material they are looking for, and we should be able to advise members by e-mail when such material is posted. If you have material you no longer need, ask Andy how to list it. Members have expressed interest in **Perfins, Small Queens, and early Covers**.

Watch this space for future Exchange Circuit news.

### **Agenda for the Annual General Meeting of the British North America Philatelic Society, Ltd.**

Hunt Valley Inn, Hunt Valley (Baltimore) MD  
Sunday, August 31, 2014 at 8a.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Minutes of AGM 2013
3. Moment of silence for departed members
4. New Emeritus Members
5. Reports of Officers (summary)
6. Financial report and audit
7. 2014 Director's meeting (summary)
8. Dues rate for 2014–2015
9. Election of Directors
10. 2015/2016 Conventions
11. Other Business
12. Adjournment

# BNAPS 2013 financial statements

## BNAPS income and expenses 2013\*

	Jan-Dec 2013	Jan-Dec 2012	\$ Change	% Change
<b>Income</b>				
Advertising Sales	8,140.00	6,744.50	1,395.50	20.69%
Book Sales	18,772.52	19,904.04	-1,131.52	-5.69%
Circuits Sales Revenue	244.43	124.12	120.31	96.93%
Gain/Loss - Investments (MS)	15,594.72	38,112.18	-22,517.46	-59.08%
Gifts and Donations	2,138.07	1,387.10	750.97	54.14%
Interest and Dividends (MS)	25,851.75	28,736.68	-2,884.93	-10.04%
Inventory Adjustment	41.75	-466.35	508.10	-108.95%
Membership Dues	31,815.33	29,785.81	2,029.52	6.81%
Other Income	1,500.00	17.59	1,482.41	8,427.57%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>104,098.57</b>	<b>124,345.67</b>	<b>-20,247.10</b>	<b>-16.28%</b>
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>				
Cost of Books Sold	11,653.49	11,439.18	214.31	1.87%
<b>Total COGS</b>	<b>11,653.49</b>	<b>11,439.18</b>	<b>214.31</b>	<b>1.87%</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>92,445.08</b>	<b>112,906.49</b>	<b>-20,461.41</b>	<b>-18.12%</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
Advertising	365.00	371.49	-6.49	-1.75%
Agent Fees (Book Sales)	2,452.26	2,781.18	-328.92	-11.83%
Bank/Financial Fees	224.60	215.05	9.55	4.44%
Book Publishing	6,948.05	5,562.48	1,385.57	24.91%
Convention	1,031.14	6,129.84	-5,098.70	-83.18%
Election	0.00	1,432.02	-1,432.02	-100.0%
Financial Fees (Morgan Stanley, MS)	175.00	175.00	0.00	0.0%
Foreign Tax Withheld (MS)	1,860.51	1,631.59	228.92	14.03%
Insurance	1,077.00	1,043.59	33.41	3.2%
Medals and Awards	-273.48	1,470.69	-1,744.17	-118.6%
Miscellaneous	45.00	993.98	-948.98	-95.47%
Office Supplies	78.61	96.71	-18.10	-18.72%
Operations	2,417.34	0.00	2,417.34	100.0%
Paypal Fees	443.89	493.94	-50.05	-10.13%
Postage and Delivery	588.43	1,205.36	-616.93	-51.18%
Printing and Reproduction	40.38	250.20	-209.82	-83.86%
Professional Fees	721.33	609.00	112.33	18.45%
Study & Regional Groups	1,556.00	1,576.50	-20.50	-1.3%
Topics Printing & Mailing	38,258.97	36,935.64	1,323.33	3.58%
Travel	1,621.31	0.00	1,621.31	100.0%
Website	8,420.90	420.96	7,999.94	1,900.4%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>68,052.24</b>	<b>63,395.22</b>	<b>4,657.02</b>	<b>7.35%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>24,392.84</b>	<b>49,511.27</b>	<b>-25,118.43</b>	<b>-50.73%</b>

\*2012 values for comparison



**BNAPS assets and liabilities 2013\***

	Jan-Dec 2013	Jan-Dec 2012	\$ Change	% Change
<b>ASSETS</b>				
<b>Current Assets</b>				
<b>Chequing/Savings</b>				
Cash/Scotia Bank	9,742.51	5,620.69	4,121.82	73.33%
Morgan Stanley Cash	7,865.20	77,124.54	-69,259.34	-89.8%
Morgan Stanley Securities	768,957.89	675,292.59	93,665.30	13.87%
<b>Total Chequing/Savings</b>	786,565.60	758,037.82	28,527.78	3.76%
<b>Other Current Assets</b>				
Accounts Receivable	8,104.85	8,592.54	-487.69	-5.68%
Donated Books	9,500.00	9,500.00	0.00	0.0%
Inventory				
Members Circuits & Funds	22,700.39	48,375.94	-25,675.55	-53.08%
Prepaid Expenses	250.00	900.00	-650.00	-72.22%
Published Books Inventory	50,356.52	51,725.22	-1,368.70	-2.65%
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	90,911.76	119,093.70	-28,181.94	-23.66%
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	877,477.36	877,131.52	345.84	0.04%
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Contributed Books - Firby 2	32,000.00	32,000.00	0.00	0.0%
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	32,000.00	32,000.00	0.00	0.0%
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>909,477.36</b>	<b>909,131.52</b>	<b>345.84</b>	<b>0.04%</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>				
<b>Liabilities</b>				
<b>Current Liabilities</b>				
<b>Accounts Payable</b>				
Accounts Payable	5,092.74	1,791.25	3,301.49	184.31%
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	5,092.74	1,791.25	3,301.49	184.31%
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>				
Prepaid Awards	2,179.35	2,229.35	-50.00	-2.24%
Prepaid Dues	21,179.74	22,214.89	-1,035.15	-4.66%
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	23,359.09	24,444.24	-1,085.15	-4.44%
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	28,451.83	26,235.49	2,216.34	8.45%
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>				
Circuits Payable	22,700.39	48,375.94	-25,675.55	-53.08%
<b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b>	22,700.39	48,375.94	-25,675.55	-53.08%
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	51,152.22	74,611.43	-23,459.21	-31.44%
<b>Equity</b>				
Currency Adjustment	-587.79	0.00	-587.79	-100.0%
Member's Equity	834,520.09	834,520.09	0.00	0.0%
Retained Earnings	0.00	-49,511.27	49,511.27	100.0%
Net Income	24,392.84	49,511.27	-25,118.43	-50.73%
<b>Total Equity</b>	858,325.14	834,520.09	23,805.05	2.85%
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>909,477.36</b>	<b>909,131.52</b>	<b>345.84</b>	<b>0.04%</b>

\*2012 values for comparison

## From the Secretary Report date: 24 June 2014

David G. Jones

(184 Larkin Dr, Nepean, ON K2J 1H9 <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*.

### New applicants: Applied between 23 March and 24 June 2014

R-6771 TP McDermott, White Plains, NY

R-6772 John B Wiens, Morden, MB

R-6773 Mark Rubin, Lachine, QC

R-6774 Peter Piszko, Etobicoke, ON

R-6775 Luc Legault, Montréal, QC

R-6776 J Randall Shoemaker, Melbourne,

FL, C: *expertising: USA, Canada, provinces*

R-6777 Dietrich E Wagner, San Francisco, CA

R-6778 George A Vanderburgh, Flesherton, (Eugenia), ON

R-6779 Peter Orlick, Selkirk, MB

R-6780 Thomas McDonald, Nanaimo, BC

R-6781 Barry Pitt-hart, Sioux Falls, SD

**New members:** All applicants between R-6754 and R-6769 have been confirmed as full members of BNAPS.

### Address Changes: Dates between 23 March and 24 June 2014

E-2923 Colin Geoffrey Banfield, Loughton, Essex, UK

R-3752 Tom Collop, Dover Centre, Chatham-Kent, ON

R-3740 Cecil C Coutts, Calgary, AB

E-2749 Lex C De Ment, Fort Erie, ON

R-6240 Bob Finlay, Hemel, UK

R-6750 Earl Foster, Charlottetown, PE

E-2635 Ross D Gray, Peterborough, ON

E-729 EA Harris, Calgary, AB

R-5624 Brian Limbourn, East Perth, Australia

R-5657 Richard M Morris, Cumberland, RI

R-6431 Peter Motson, Seaton, UK

L-3462 Bruce D Murduck, Sydenham, ON

R-4793 Thomas F Nemeč, St. John's, NL

R-6377 Gloria Neyhart, San Diego, CA

R-5986 Eugene F Ritz, Whitehorse, YT

R-6776 J Randall Shoemaker, Melbourne, FL

R-6642 Edward Stephens, La Ronge, SK

R-6149 Ian Sutherland, Almonte, ON

R-6770 Gregoire Teyssier, Quebec, QC

R-5715 Hans Van Dooremalen, Rijen, Netherlands

**Resigned:** R-6632 C Victor Hanson, Jr

**Members dropped for non-payment of 2014 dues**

3278	Charles	Jacobson	6494	Cheryl	Edgcomb
3795	Michael	Reid	6554	Janet	Osborne
4139	Allen	Jones	6585	Zachary	Agatstein
4287	William	Thornburgh	6598	Peter	Petrov
4333	Bruce	McCallum	6600	Karl	Mackinnon
4637	David	Robinson	6605	Evan	Jenkins
4829	Samuel	Rock	6607	Roger	Waivio
5149	Erik	Thureson	6608	George	Muralee
5157	Anton	Mamic	6636	Elizabeth	Collon
5391	Robert	Larson	6659	David	Kidd
5445	John	Anders	6671	Robert	Champagne
5919	Bret	Evans	6687	Daniel	Whiting
5998	David	Petry	6694	Norman	Friesen
6005	Kurt	Ottenheimer	6701	Edward	York
6127	William	Gilson	6703	Kristin	Jakobson
6236	Gregory	Spring	6709	Michel	Tittley
6285	George	Basher	6716	David	Law
6289	Steve	Johnson	6717	John	Warner
6334	Tom	Gosse	6718	Kenneth	Davies
6350	Roland	Cipolla	6719	Gilbert	Moylan
6478	Bruce	Walker	6722	Daniel	Tremblay
6480	John	Simms	6734	John	Beckett
6488	Trevor	Nieforth	6687	Daniel	Whiting

**Active Member Count as of 24 June 2014**

Regular member	858
Emeritus	106
Life member	58
Emeritus family members	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1025</b>

Exchange/library/non-member subscriptions (20) are not counted as active members

## Classified advertisements

**RATES FOR 25 words—\$6 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.

### FOR SALE

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### WANTED

**NEWFOUNDLAND:** (1) covers to non-English foreign destinations; (2) covers with pictorial issue stamps to foreign and Empire destination. Graham Worrall, Box 241, Gloverton, NL A0G 2L0 or [gworral@mun.ca](mailto:gworral@mun.ca).

### LITERATURE

**OLD ISSUES OF BNA Topics FOR SALE:** Add valuable info to your library. Will do our best to fill want lists. If on hand, issues from #1 on may be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Write to Ken Lemke, BNAPS Circulation Manager, c/o CFS, 3455 Harvester Road, Unit 20 - 22, Burlington, Ontario L7N 3P2 <[kwlemke@sympatico.ca](mailto:kwlemke@sympatico.ca)>.

## Executive and directors

*British North America Philatelic Society Ltd*

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

Young Philatelists' Page: <http://www.bnaps.org/stamps4kids>

### Elected officers: Executive

*President* Norris R (Bob) Dyer, 1708 Granada Ct, Petaluma, CA 94954-4531 <[nrdyer@comcast.net](mailto:nrdyer@comcast.net)>  
*First Vice-President*, George Dresser, 501 Fairview Ave., College Station, TX 77840

<[g-dresser@suddenlink.net](mailto:g-dresser@suddenlink.net)>

*Past President* Robert Lemire, PO Box 1870, Deep River, ON K0J 1P0 <[rlemire000@sympatico.ca](mailto:rlemire000@sympatico.ca)>

*Vice-President Regional Groups* J A Forbes, Jr., PO Box 38205, Dartmouth, NS B3B 1X2

<[jafrbs@aol.com](mailto:jafrbs@aol.com)>

*Vice-President Study Groups* Peter R MacDonald, 1264 Sherman Dr, Ottawa, ON K2C 2M8,

613-226-5949 <[studygroups@bnaps.org](mailto:studygroups@bnaps.org)>

*Secretary* David Jones, 184 Larkin Dr, Nepean, ON K2J 1H9 <[shibumi.management@gmail.com](mailto:shibumi.management@gmail.com)>,

613-825-5062 (winter); 902-825-4091 (summer)

*Treasurer* Jean-Claude Michaud, PO Box 31248, Halifax, NS B3K 5Y1 <[jcm.ph@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:jcm.ph@ns.sympatico.ca)>

### Elected officers: Board of Directors

**Ten sitting members; five elected, in even-numbered years, for four-year terms.**

#### *Serving 2012-2016:*

Eldon C Godfrey, 2 Varbow Place NW, Calgary, AB T3A 0B6 <[ecg@godfrey-godfrey.ca](mailto:ecg@godfrey-godfrey.ca)>

Kevin O'Reilly, PO Box 444, Yellowknife NT X1A 2N3 <[kor@theedge.ca](mailto:kor@theedge.ca)>

Ken Lemke, 3488 Rubens Court, Burlington, ON L7N 3K4 <[kwlemke@sympatico.ca](mailto:kwlemke@sympatico.ca)>

William W Radcliffe, 500 Columbia Ave, Pitman, NJ 08071-1734 <[bsbvp88@hotmail.com](mailto:bsbvp88@hotmail.com)>

Vic Willson (**Chairperson**), PO Box 10026, College Station, TX 77842-0026 <[lloydwill@aol.com](mailto:lloydwill@aol.com)>

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Mark Berner, 3767 Notre Dame West, Montreal, QC H4C 1P8 <[drmberner@videotron.ca](mailto:drmberner@videotron.ca)>

Andy Ellwood, Unit B, Starr Centre, 10 Doris Ave, Gloucester, ON K1T 3W8

<[andy\\_ellwood@rogers.com](mailto:andy_ellwood@rogers.com)>

Richard Fleet, 1570 Buckingham Close, Victoria, BC V8N 5J2, 250-721-2880 <[jrfleet@shaw.ca](mailto:jrfleet@shaw.ca)>

P Charles Livermore, 100-08 Ascan Ave, Forest Hills, NY 11375 <[charleslivermore@hotmail.com](mailto:charleslivermore@hotmail.com)>

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