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Researching the Caricature and Landscape issues, p. 5

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Volume 72 Number 2 Whole Number 543

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Contents

| | | |
|----|---|---|
| 3 | Editorial | |
| 4 | Readers write | |
| 5 | Researching the Caricature and Landscape Issues at Library and Archives Canada, Part 1 | <i>Larry Margetish</i> |
| 14 | A WWI Canadian nursing sister serving overseas | <i>Jonathan C Johnson, OTB</i> |
| 18 | Small differences in Newfoundland's intaglio stamps printed by Perkins Bacon in the 1930s | <i>AB Thompson</i> |
| 31 | Cinderella Corner: Union dues stamps of Canada | <i>Clayton Rubec</i> |
| 38 | Postal stationery business reply card delivered by magazine | <i>CR McGuire, OTB FRPSC</i> |
| 42 | Canadian overseas postal history WWI cover | <i>Gordon McDermid</i> |
| 46 | Canada—coil stamp perforation 8 measurements | <i>Julian Goldberg</i> |
| 52 | Returned for War Tax | <i>Victor Willson, OTB</i> |
| 56 | A crown wax seal used on the CPRy west of Winnipeg RPO! | <i>Ross Gray</i> |
| 58 | New issues | <i>William JF Wilson</i> |
| 61 | Study group centreline | <i>Peter McCarthy, OTB</i> |
| 68 | New book releases | |
| 69 | Book review | <i>Mike Street</i> |
| 73 | BNAPS business and reports | |
| 73 | President's column (George Dresser) | 77 Regional group rant (George Dresser, Ron Majors) |
| 75 | From the Secretary (Andy Ellwood) | 79 BNAPS Executive, Board of Directors |
| 76 | Exchange circuit news (Andy Ellwood) | 80 Regional group contact persons |
| 76 | Classified advertisements | |

Cover Illustration: David Annesley line drawing for the Caricature and Landscape issue. © Canada Post Corporation, 1973.

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Editorial

Jeffrey Arndt

ANOTHER *BNA Topics* complete. I used the short pause between this issue and the next to ask myself a few questions, and I came up with some answers I would like to share with the readership.

How is our journal doing?

BNA Topics is a respected journal with an excellent reputation in the philatelic community. It is the flagship of a vigorous and active society. The publications of the society include study group newsletters and books, all of which contribute to the increase in all realms of philately knowledge. Advancement of Canadian/*BNA* philatelic knowledge is the main goal of this journal, and it is your contributions that are vital to its success. I would like to thank authors past, present, and future. Without you there would be no journal.

What are the factors affecting the timing of article publication?

There are a few primary issues that determine how long it takes for an article to get into print after it is submitted. We first consider how long the article has been in the “to-be-published” file; the longer it has been there, the harder we try to get it into the current issue. We then look at the last time an author was published over against the topics of articles in the issue so that, as best we can, we feature a balanced set of topics in each issue.

Space must be allotted to the Society’s business issues and to our loyal advertisers. The bottom line is that we have a fixed number of pages in each issue, and that limits how many articles we can publish and how long they can be. With a long article (e.g., 12–14 pages), we frequently ask the author to divide it into two parts so that we can fit within our usual limits. We welcome short articles as well, and fit them between longer pieces.

Conclusion

I hope that you enjoy this journal as much as I do. We continue to seek input to improve it, seeking to ensure that *BNA Topics* continues to be your philatelic journal of choice.

Change of address: Notify the Secretary (address on p73).

Missed or damaged copies: Contact the Circulation Manager, Ken Lemke, BNAPS Circulation Manager, c/o CFS, 3455 Harvester Road, Unit 20-22, Burlington, ON L7N 3P2 <kwlemke@sympatico.ca>.

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

Illustrations must not be embedded in WordTM or WordPerfectTM files! PLEASE do not format text files other than for normal paragraphing, italicization, bolding, or underlining. If tables are required, please consult the Editor before preparing a file in WordPerfectTM. Illustrations MUST be sent as separate files from text files. (Scans at 300 dpi in .jpg format are preferred for illustrations sent as attachments). Text and image files should be sent to Jeff Arndt by email at <arndt123@aol.com> or by regular mail to: 4121 Marble Lane, Fairfax VA 22033 USA.

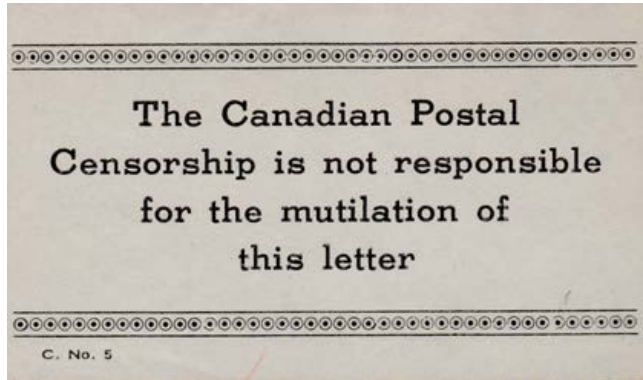
Publications Committee: Robert Lemire (Chairperson), Mike Street, Charles Livermore, Jeff Arndt, Ron Majors

Readers write

Alberta Hunting Stamps and Canada National Parks Car Licenses: Further to their article, “A new look at Alberta hunting stamps” in *BNA Topics* January-March 2014, Clayton Rubec and Dale Stover have placed an updated and expanded listing of these stamps in the “Online Resources and Exhibits (ORE)” section of the BNAPS website. In addition, Clayton has also posted to ORE his “Ninety Years of Canada’s National Parks Motor Vehicle Licences, 1923 to 2013, Version 2, Jan. 2014.” Both can be found at: <http://www.bnaps.org/ore/ore-index.htm>. Clayton is also hoping to release a *Catalogue of Canadian Hunting and Fishing Revenue Stamps* in 2015. It will incorporate the Alberta project noted above and will cover about 4,700 license stamps nationwide.

Canadian Postal Censorship Memo No 5 request:

Charles Lablonde, co-author of *The Postal History of World War II: Mail Between Canada and Switzerland* and avid student of civil censorship during WWII, asks if any member has seen another example of the memo reproduced at right: “The Canadian Postal Censorship is not responsible for the



mutilation of this letter / C. No. 5”. The example shown is the only copy Charles and other members of the Civil Censorship Study Group have seen, and they would like to know if more exist. Please contact Charles through the Editor.

EXTENDED HOURS and new OPENING DAY for the Harry Sutherland Library:

The Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation is pleased to announce that in addition to their regular opening hours, Monday through Thursday from 10 am to 4 pm, collectors can now visit and/or conduct research at the VGG on the fourth Wednesday of the month, from 10 am to 7 pm, and on the first Saturday of the month from 10 am to 4 pm. This three-month trial began in February 2015. At press time, VGGL staff hope to continue extended hours beyond April. (Cont’d. p.13)

PLEASE HELP US KEEP TRACK OF WHERE YOU ARE

Keeping our address list up-to-date is very important as it is the basis for all of our mailing activities, including the distribution of *BNA Topics* and mailouts for voting and surveys. You can advise the Secretary of any changes by writing to 10 Doris Ave, Gloucester, ON, Canada K1T3W8, or by e-mail at andy_ellwood@rogers.com. Alternately, you can simply go online to the BNAPS website and update your address and any other personal information there.

Researching the Caricature and Landscape Issues at Library and Archives Canada, Part 1

Larry Margetish

TO replace the 1967 Centennial definitives, the British American Bank Note Co (BABN) prepared a set of stamp designs based on the theme “The People and the Land.” The Landscape definitives, consisting of five medium-value and two high-value stamps released in 1972, were based on this theme. The medium values depicted terrain across Canada, and the high values featured urban scenes. BABN prepared designs based on the same theme for the low values, but they were rejected in favour of designs showing line drawings of prime ministers and the Queen. These were the Caricature definitives issued in 1973. The Caricature and Landscape definitives were assigned Unitrade catalogue numbers 586 to 605.

These definitives boast several firsts:

- The Caricatures were the first complete set of stamps without frame lines or borders;
- For the first time, the majority of the low values depicted non-royalty;
- This series had the first multi-coloured definitives ever; and
- The higher values were the first to be split into two groups and two formats: the smaller 10¢ to 50¢ medium values and the larger \$1 and \$2 high values.



Figure 1. Queen Elizabeth II by Anthony Buckley, 1965. ©estate of Kenneth Hughes, National Portrait Gallery, London (NPG x76305) [2].



Figure 1a. Detail from NPG x76305, Queen Elizabeth II.

My almost-annual pilgrimage to the nation’s capital to research the Caricature and Landscape issues has resulted in my unearthing some of the philatelic treasures held by Library and Archives Canada. My latest research discoveries have been broken down into a three-part article: (1) pre-production; (2) tagging; and (3) production and miscellaneous steps in the manufacture of these definitives. The first part, an overview of pre-production research, is covered in this installment.

Illustrations of items held by Library and Archives Canada are identified by a “MIKAN” number (MIKAN being the Archives online database) and reproduction copy numbers (“e” number). All images are reproduced with the permission of their respective copyright holders.

Pre-production starts with original, source material. For example, the 8¢ Queen Elizabeth II stamp began with a photograph taken by Anthony Buckley [1] (Figure 1).

Keywords & phrases: Caricature and Landscape issues, pre-production

Presumably from the angle of Her Majesty's face and her necklace, the stamp design was based on this 1965 photo [2]. The head and shoulders are cropped and enlarged in Figure 1a. The five medium values were inspired by the work of the following photographers: The 10¢ by John deVisser, the 15¢ by Harry Rowed, the 20¢ by Chris Lund, the 25¢ by Ted Grant, and the 50¢ by Fred Ruggles [1]. The high values also originated from photos. For instance, the genesis of the \$2 Quebec stamp was the black-and-white image in Figure 2.



Figure 2. Detail from original black and white photograph (e011087368). © Canada Post Corporation (1972).

The late David Annesley (Figure 3) executed a line drawing of Queen Elizabeth II based on the Anthony Buckley photo. Annesley's first drawing of the Queen was rejected.

The final artwork of the second submission is shown in Figure 4 (compare Figure 4 with Figure 1a). David Annesley also made the line drawings of the prime ministers that were used for the other low values. The other stamp designer in this series is Reinhard Derreth,

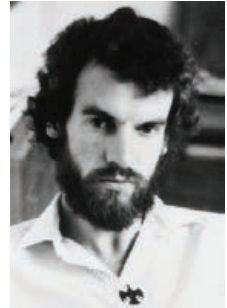


Figure 3. Stamp designer David Annesley, circa 1977 (e001217389) MIKAN 2267048.

© Ted Martin Cartoon Gallery and Illustrators' Salon. Courtesy Library and Archives Canada

whose recent picture appears in Figure 5. From the photos of the medium values mentioned above, Reinhard Derreth painted versions adaptable for stamps. Held by the Archives and illustrated in Figure 6 is the artist's actual painting, the prototype for the 20¢ Prairie stamp. Note that an 18¢ stamp was never issued. Perhaps an increase from 15¢ to 18¢ for international airmail was planned. It never occurred. As further evidence, handwritten minutes of a meeting with British American Bank Note Co, dated 25-2-72, listed the five accepted designs. The 50¢ "seascape" design was recorded as an 18¢ value, and the denominations were listed as "10-15-25-18-20" [3]. My search of documents has so far yielded no more information on a proposed 18¢ rate of any kind.



Figure 4. Queen Elizabeth II line drawing by David Annesley (e011087369). © Canada Post Corporation (1973).

When the design is accepted, a mock-up of the stamp is prepared. For example, the 4¢ and 5¢ stamps were mocked up both with and without a translucent overlay, as per Figures 7 and 8. Once the design is finalized, a die is engraved for stamps printed by engraving. The engraver for the 2¢ through 7¢ stamps is recorded as being Yves Baril [1].

Next, samples are printed in trial colours to showcase the possible look of the final stamp. Figure 9 displays forty-nine essays of the 3¢ Borden, in various hues and shading. After due consideration, one representation and colour was selected and approved. On 1 July 1973, while visiting Prince Edward Island, Queen Elizabeth II approved the design with Her image [4, 5]. This was the first time royal



Figure 5. Stamp designer R. Derreth, 2013. © Reinhard Derreth.

approval. This was the first time royal

approval for a stamp design was given on Canadian soil. Proofs of stamps depicting the monarch are normally sent to Buckingham Palace for approval.



Figure 6. Detail from Reinhard Derreth original painting (e011087365). © Canada Post Corporation (1972).

print the stamp. This is accomplished by photographing the design through coloured filters. The design is replicated through a step-and-repeat camera to produce a pane.

The approved design is transferred as many times as necessary onto the printing plate or cylinder. The method of transference depends on the printing technique: photogravure, lithography or steel engraving. All three techniques were used in this series. For engraving, the design is transferred from the die to a transfer roll. There are typically between three and six reliefs on the transfer roll, depending upon the size of the design.

For photogravure and offset lithography, a black-and-white negative of the design is prepared for each colour used to



Figure 7. Four and five cents without overlay (Detail from e011087367_s1). © Canada Post Corporation (1973). Upper Figure.

Figure 8. Four and five cents with overlay (Detail from e011087367). © Canada Post Corporation (1973). Lower Figure.



Figure 9. Three cent essays (e011087357) MIKAN 2221375. © Canada Post Corporation (1973).

the denomination serving the first class letter rate, as well as all the coils by engraving and lithography;

Figure 10 is a photographic negative of the magenta colour for one pane of 50 subjects used by Ashton-Potter in the first printing of the \$1 Vancouver by offset lithography. This negative was replicated to produce the four panes on the printing plate for the magenta. Once the plates or cylinders are produced, proofs are made, usually imperforate, so that any flaws can be identified and corrected.

Three printers were used to print the Caricature and Landscape definitives:

1. Canadian Bank Note Co (CBN) printed the Caricature sheet stamps except for the

2. British American Bank Note Co (BABN) printed the Caricature sheet stamps for the first-class letter rate, all the booklets, the medium-value Landscape definitives, and the second printing of the \$1 Vancouver by engraving and photogravure; and
3. Ashton-Potter and British American Bank Note Co jointly produced the first printing of the \$1 Vancouver and the entire printing of the \$2 Quebec by a combination of lithography and engraving.



Figure 10. Photographic negative of red colour for \$1 Vancouver lithography (e011087370). © Canada Post Corporation (1972).

The 8¢ and 10¢ coils were printed by the CBN on a web-fed press. The paper was fed through the press using a tractor feed mechanism. A plate proof of the 10¢ coil is shown in Figure 12. The sprocket holes for the tractor feed are clearly visible. No plate proofs were found of the 8¢ coils, although they probably would have had an identical layout to the 10¢. The coils were printed from two plates of 720 stamps. Each plate was bent to a semi-circular shape with 36 stamps around the curvature and 20 stamps along the axis. The 20 stamps were separated by a gutter in the middle. Each row of 36 stamps became part of a roll of 100. The 10 rows on each side of the gutter formed the 10 rolls of 100 stamps in a post office “stick”. At the lowermost edge of the illustration, left of the right corner and inverted, is the printing order number and plate number “784 No. 1”.

BABN used a Goebel web-fed press, model BRNST-500 [7], for all the sheet stamps and booklets except the \$2 Quebec and the first printing of \$1 Vancouver. This press

CBN printed the low values issued in sheet format by engraving on a sheet-fed rotary press. The tagging and the precancel bars on precancelled stamps were printed by offset lithography on a different press. The sheets of 600 stamps were then perforated and guillotined into panes of 100. A plate proof of 600 of the 5¢ precancel, tagged and imperforate, is shown in Figure 11. At the lower right is some cross-hatching that is normally guillotined off the issued panes, but has been seen on corner-fold varieties. Its purpose remains a mystery. In 1976 Leopold Beudet published an article describing the low-value plate layouts [6].

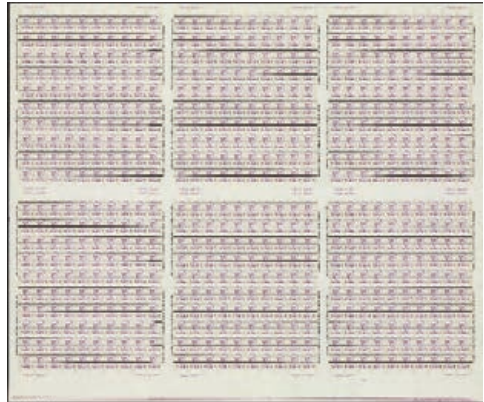


Figure 11. 5 cent precancel plate proof of 600 (e011087361) MIKAN 2221450. © Canada Post Corporation (1973).



Figure 12. 10 cent coils plate proof of 720 (e011087360) MIKAN 2228699. © Canada Post Corporation (1976).



Figure 14. 25 cent booklet plate proof of 432 (e011087363) MIKAN 2222533. © Canada Post Corporation (1974).

printed all the colours, both engraved and photogravure, and perforated and guillotined the web into individual panes, all in a single pass. The tagging was one of the “colours” printed by photogravure. The designs were impressed directly onto a cylindrical roll, hence the term “cylinder” rather than “plate”. The cylinder for the low values consisted of six panes of 100, three around the circumference by two along the axis. Only the panes on one side of the axis had plate inscriptions. Figure 13 shows an 8¢ plate proof of 600, with the inscriptions only on the three rightmost panes. A plate proof of the 25¢

booklet is

depicted in Figure 14. A diagram of a similar cylinder layout is shown in a 1984 article by Leopold Beaudet [8]. A proof of the \$1 booklet is shown in Figure 15. No plate proofs of the 50¢ booklet were found in the Archives, although it is reasonably certain that they would be similar to Figure 16. Interestingly, the second and fourth columns of 50¢ booklet panes are tête-bêche relative to the first and third columns. This layout was discovered by Andrew Chung in 1978 [9]. The cylinders for the medium values consisted of three panes of 100 around the circumference. An example is shown in Figure 17. Numbers are printed at the base of this 10¢ proof sheet: A887241, A887242, and A887243. These numbers exist on only some of the medium value plate proofs, and are security control numbers according to Robin Harris [7].

The first printing of the two high values was a collaboration of Ashton-Potter and BABN. Ashton-Potter printed the four lithographic colours using a rotary sheet-fed press. BABN then printed the engraved portion of the design also using a rotary sheet-fed press. BABN also perforated

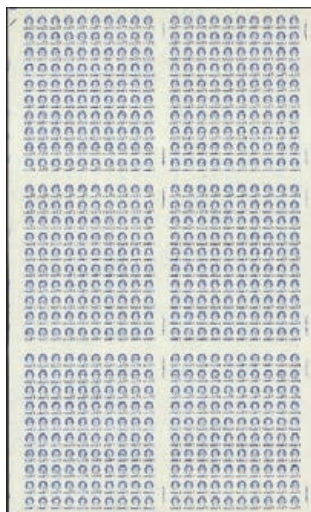


Figure 13. 8 cent Plate 1 proof of 600 (e008312173) MIKAN 2221711. © Canada Post Corporation (1973).

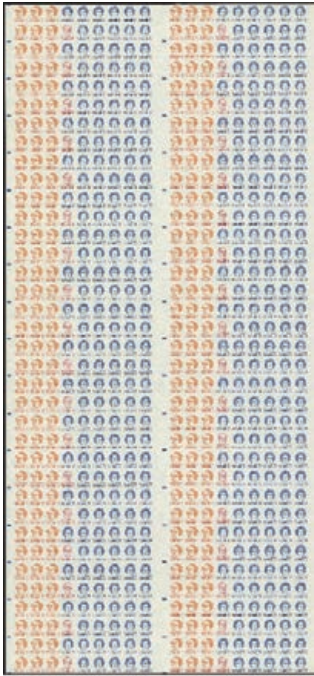


Figure 15. \$1 booklet plate proof of 648 MIKAN 2222537. © Canada Post Corporation (1975).

and guillotined the sheets into panes of 50. An Ashton-Potter plate proof of 200 is pictured in Figure 18. The annotation on this proof sheet implies that the printing was to be completed by CBN. However, the contract ultimately went to BABN. The redrawn Plate 2 printing of the \$1 Vancouver was produced entirely by BABN on its Goebel Press. Figure 19 shows a Plate 2 proof of 150. The layout of Plate 2 was first suggested by Jim Watt in 1980 [10]. Equally interesting is Plate 2 of the \$2 Quebec released in 1978. Canada Post continued to use Ashton-Potter and BABN as in the original arrangement for Plate 1. However, for some reason, Ashton-Potter widened the gutters between the four panes, as per Figure 20 (compare Figure 20 with Figure 18). This partial or progressive proof sheet of 200 was approved by Canada Post stamp design manager William F. Danard [11], as per the annotation written on the sheet: *OK to print Wm F Danard 26.09.77*. On all four panes of the proof sheet, there is the constant “airplane in sky” variety in

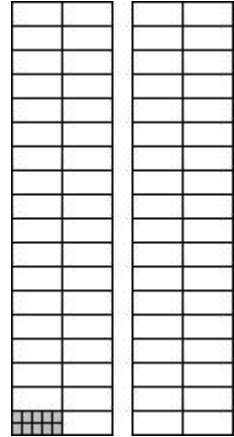


Figure 16. Drawing of the probable layout of the 50 cent booklet proof, 720 subjects, with one pane in grey.

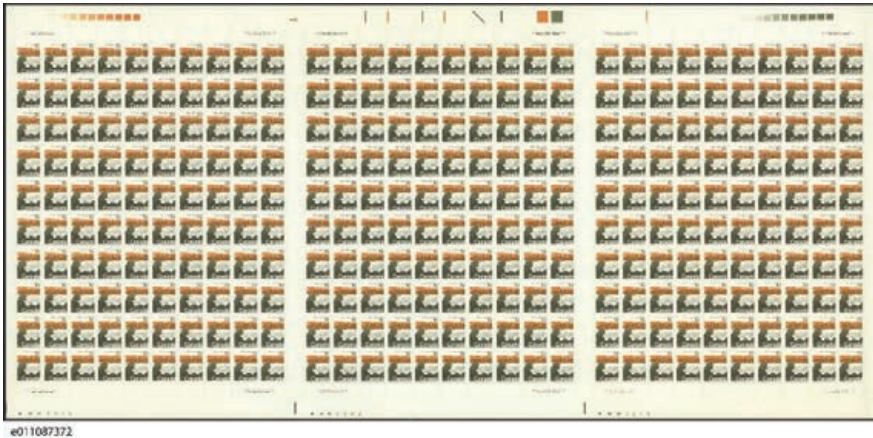


Figure 17. 10 cent Forest plate proof of 300 MIKAN 2221797. © Canada Post Corporation (1972).

position 2. Also in the Archives is a \$2 Plate 2 signed final approval proof, known as an imprimatur. This proof sheet of 50 is annotated *OK to print Wm F Danard 17.1.78*. This concludes my summary of pre-production research. The items I illustrate and describe here help to delineate the process of printing of these fascinating postage stamps.

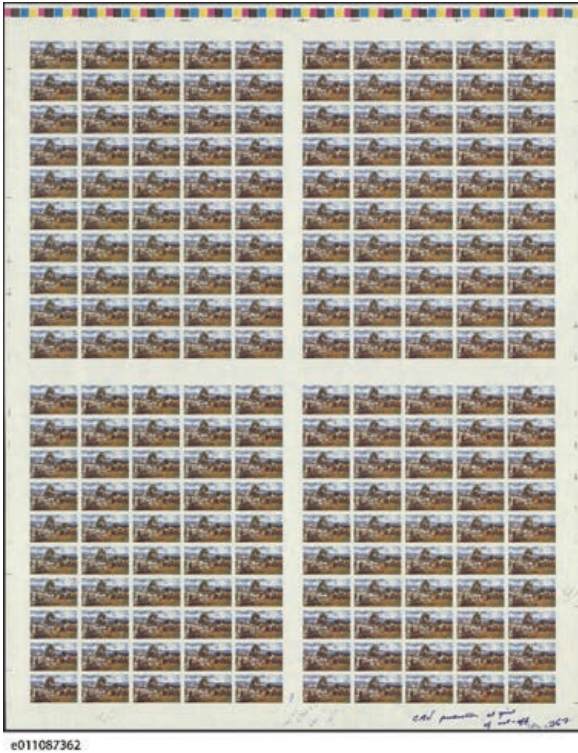
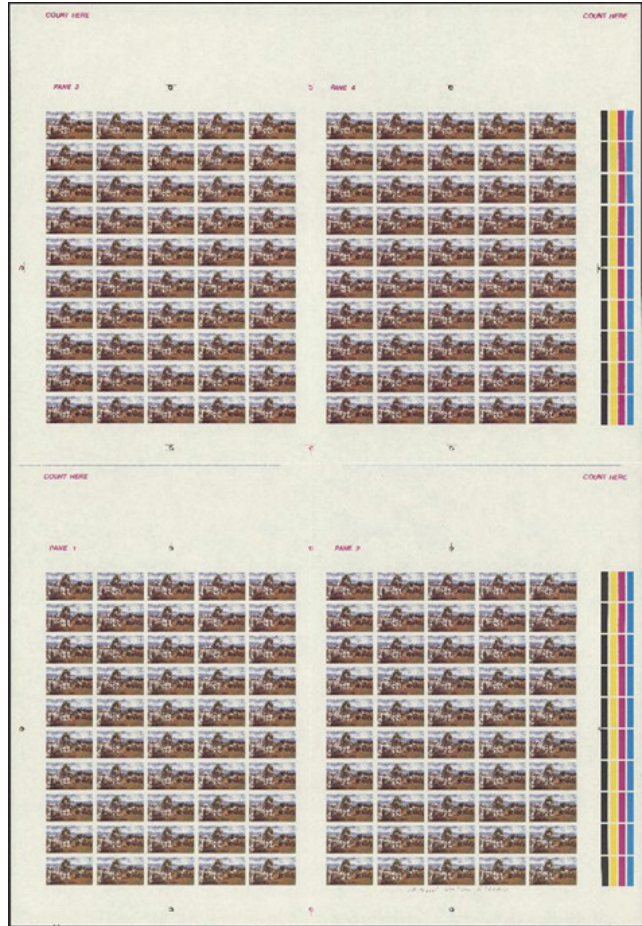


Figure 18. Ashton-Potter \$2 Quebec progressive plate proof of 200 (e011087362) MIKAN 2222996. © Canada Post Corporation (1972). (Left)



Figure 19. British American Bank Note Co. \$1 Vancouver Plate 2 proof of 150 © Canada Post Corporation (1973).

Figure 20. Ashton-Potter \$2 Quebec second plate proof of 200 (e011080193) MIKAN 2222989. © Canada Post Corporation (1978).



References

- [1] Library and Archives Canada's "Philatis" database (Canadian Postal Archives), online: <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/postal-archives/080608_e.html>
- [2] National Portrait Gallery image online: <<http://www.npg.org.uk/collections/search/portrait/Large/mw50286/Queen-Elizabeth-II>>.
- [3] Library and Archives Canada, "Financial Branch - Postage Stamps - Regular Issue, middle values", RG 3, Series G-1, Volume 3860, File 13-31-10 Part 1, MIKAN 765538.
- [4] Collection of Canada Post press releases kept in the Library and Archives Canada Reference Room.
- [5] Library and Archives Canada, "Prime Minister's Office press releases, Pierre Elliot Trudeau fonds", MG26-O13, R11629, Volume 54, File "State Visits – Royal Visit – 30 June - 3 July 1973", MIKAN 129698.
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- [11] Jim Phillips, Director, Stamp Services of Canada Post, personal communications.

Readers write (cont'd.)

Pratt Award for Best Newfoundland Philatelic Research: *Canadian Stamp News*, Vol 39, No 23, March 10-23, 2015 reported that the Collectors Club of Chicago named the 2014 recipients of the club's Pratt Award, given for the best Newfoundland philatelic research published during the previous year. BNAPS member Jim Taylor of the Calgary Regional Group and co-author Henk Slabbinck of Belgium received this award for their illustrated account of the postal history of Newfoundland's French Shore between 1727 and 1906. Their book is entitled *Mail from the French Shore of Newfoundland*. According to the CSN article, the book tells the fascinating story of "...how the French, through a series of treaties and agreements, were able to enjoy fishing rights and established landing stations off the coasts of Newfoundland." The award is named for Col Robert H Pratt, pre-eminent Newfoundland stamp and postal history collector, researcher, and author and provides a \$1,000 honorarium to the authors. Congratulations to Jim and Henk. (Cont'd. p 54)



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A WWI Canadian nursing sister serving overseas

Jonathan C Johnson, OTB

WORLD War I, and in particular the Canadians' attack at Vimy Ridge, is credited with cementing Canada as a nation. In a similar vein, WWI's requirement for military manpower meant that the role of women in society expanded overnight. Leading the women's presence in WWI were the Canadian nursing sisters, commissioned officers in the Canadian Army Medical Corps who wore military uniforms. Nursing sisters made many sacrifices, including the fourteen who died in the sinking of Canadian hospital ship *HMHS Llandoverly Castle*. Recorded here is the military service of Nursing Sister E Frances Upton.



Figure 1.
E Frances Upton.



Figure 2. Letter postmarked Halifax, NS, 8 February 1915.

Ethel Frances Upton (Figure 1) was born in Montreal on 28 March 1884. She attended the Montreal General Hospital School of Nursing, graduating in 1908. After graduation, she was Superintendent of a private hospital, then became acting Superintendent of the Montreal Maternity Hospital.

appointed to the Canadian Army Medical Corps as a Nursing Sister on 4 February. Four days later, N/S Upton boarded the troopship *SS Northland* for England. Figure 2 shows an envelope addressed to her father, postmarked in Halifax, NS, 8 February 1915.

N/S Upton arrived at Liverpool, England, then took a train to London, where she stayed at the Kingsley Hotel, awaiting her posting to France and #1 Canadian Stationary Hospital (CSH). The letter in Figure 3 was postmarked London, England, 8 March 1915. Stationary hospitals were 400-bed facilities with forty nursing sisters. They were able to move wherever their medical services were required.



Figure 3. Letter postmarked London, England, 8 March 1915. Civilian mail—postage paid.

Keywords & phrases: WWI, military, postal markings, Nurses, Military Hospital

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While #1 CSH was being set up, for the first time, at Wimereau, France, N/S Upton was posted to #2 Canadian General Hospital (CGH), first at Le Treport then at Boulogne. The post card in Figure 4 was signed by six Canadian nursing sisters posted to #2 CGH and mailed to N/S Upton at #1 CSH. The cover was posted unpaid, as military hospital service personnel did not have to pay postage when overseas. Once set up, #1 CSH stayed at Wimereau for almost five months.



Figure 4. Postmarked APO S.13, Boulogne, France, 27 March 1915. Censor: CM2/1924 #2 CGH.



Figure 5. Postmarked APO S.15, Bruyère Camp, Rouen, France, 20 June 1915. Censor: CM3/965 #6 BGH.

Figure 5 shows a post card from a Canadian nursing sister at # 5 British General Hospital, thanking N/S Upton for helping out there. When nearby hospitals were very busy, or their own hospital was relocating (take down, moving, and set up), the nurses frequently worked, on loan, at neighbouring hospitals.

The letter in Figure 6 was mailed on the hospital ship *HMHS Delta*, postmarked unpaid at British Army Post Office Y, which was located on a British transport



Figure 6. Postmarked BAPO Y, HMT Aragon, off Lemnos Island, Greece. 24 August 1915. Self-censored.

ship. The Canada Post Office department added postage (later removed), so postage due was not charged in error. N/S Upton had to wait on *Delta* until the tents for #1 CSH were set up. Conditions were primitive, and Matron J Jaggard and N/S M Munro of nearby #3 CSH died of disease. After being set up, #1 CSH stayed at Lemnos for just over five months.



Figure 7. Postmarked BAPO X, 4 March 1916, Salonika, Greece. Censor: CM4/1539 #1 CSH.

While on board the British hospital ship *HMHS Lanfranc*, on stationery from the Majestic Hotel in Alexandria, Egypt, N/S Upton wrote the letter in Figure 7, which was delivered to the Base post office upon the arrival of #1 CSH at Salonika, Greece, where #1 CSH stayed for 18 months. The stamp was added by the Canadian Post Office.



Figure 8. Postmarked BAPO X, 22 March 1917, Salonika, Greece. Censor: CM3/4045 #1 CSH.

diseases). On 16 August 1917, N/S Upton returned to England and was promptly sent to a hospital for nursing sisters due to a recurrence of malaria.

The letter shown in Figure 9, from the acting Commanding Officer, Major Charles Dupond, 9th Canadian Field Ambulance, was sent to N/S Upton in care of the Canadian Matron-in-Chief, Margaret MacDonald, where nurses' mail was directed when they were on leave. The enclosure was probably a congratulatory letter, as the cover is dated nine days after N/S Upton was awarded the Royal Red Cross, 2nd Class. Note the RRC after her name.

Figure 8 shows a letter written when N/S Upton was a patient in her own hospital, having been stricken with malaria. She mentions in her letter that, after seven months service in Greece, only three of the original nurses remained (most departing due to fatigue or having contracted tropical



Figure 9. Postmarked FPO 7.P, 7th Cdn Brigade, 10 January 1918. Censor: CM6/3219 Cdn 9th Field Ambulance.



Figure 10. Postmarked Hastings, England, 17 June 1918. Not censored.

she mailed the letter in Figure 11. It was self-censored though it was no longer required. This hospital was quite small, having only 275 beds. N/S Upton endorsed this letter "Canadian

In October 1917, #1 CSH moved from Salonika, Greece, to Hastings, England, where it was expanded to a 1,040-bed hospital and renamed #13 Canadian General Hospital. She served at #13 CGH for nine months and wrote the letter shown in Figure 10 late in her stay there.

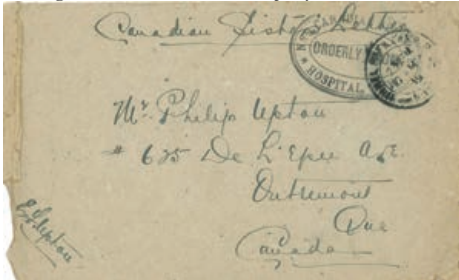
N/S Upton was then posted to the Canadian Red Cross Special Hospital, Buxton, England, for seven months, where

Nursing Sister” instead of the “On Active Service” she had used on most of her previous letters.

N/S Upton was then posted to #9 Canadian General Hospital for five months, until it ceased operations on 6 June 1919. During that period, she mailed the letter shown in Figure 12. The cover was self-censored even though it was no longer required. N/S Upton was “Struck Off Strength” of #9 CGH 5 July 1919, when she



Figure 11. Postmarked Buxton, England, 23 December 1918.



boarded *SS Carmania* for Canada. She was discharged from the Army on 15 July 1919. Due to another recurrence of malaria, Miss Upton was unable to return to work until 1921, when she became Superintendent of Nurses at the Sherbrooke Hospital. In the 1930s, Miss Upton was the Registrar of Nurses for the Province of Quebec. [7]

Figure 12. Postmarked Kimmel Park, England, 10 March 1919.

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- [7] Mike Street, personal communication. Mike's aunt trained as a nurse in Montreal during the 1930s and remembered Miss Upton very well.

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Small differences in Newfoundland's intaglio stamps printed by Perkins Bacon in the 1930s

AB Thompson

PERKINS Bacon resumed the printing of Newfoundland stamps from 1929–1941. Mounting evidence indicates they used both flat-bed and rotary printing presses. In addition, it appears they always printed to damp paper. Different dies were used, and lathework are seen on some of the stamps printed. This article shows that differences exist in the images when viewed at high magnification that separates the dies types and those printed with lathework from the other stamps. It is believed these differences were caused by differential use of flat-bed and rotary presses.

Introduction

Perkins Bacon printed Newfoundland stamps from 1857–1861 and again from 1929–1941. It appears their return to printing was, in part, due to dissatisfaction with the quality of the printing for the 1928 Pictorial issue, printed by De La Rue (Scott #145-159) [1]. The company that controlled the printing works at Southwark Bridge Road, London, Perkins, Bacon & Co Ltd, went into liquidation in 1935. The printing works was then acquired by WW Sprague & Co [2], and printing continued until the factory was destroyed by a German bombing raid on the night of 10 May 1941. Waterlow and Sons Ltd took over the printing contract [3]. In 1936, though there was a new owner, printing continued using the same staff, plant, equipment, and operated as Perkins Bacon & Co [4] to produce the 1937 and 1938 issues, and the later printings of the 1932-1941 industrial issues [5]. In May 1939, the company's name became Perkins Bacon Ltd.

It would appear that WW Sprague purchased the equipment at the Southwark Bridge Road factory and simply continued the printing of stamps with the same staff and no other apparent changes. However, there are certain events that indicate this may not have been fully the case:

- (1) The last entry in the Perkins Bacon Engravings Book [6], written on or soon after 6 December 1935 is “Vale,” which is Latin for “farewell” or “goodbye.”
- (2) The company records and proof books were released and acquired by the dealers Charles Nissan, Harry Nissan, and Thomas Allen and then by the Royal Philatelic Society, London in January 1936 [1, CG Harman personal communication].
- (3) Lathework appeared in the left sheet margin of some stamps and some of the proofs were printed on bookend paper in 1937–1938.
- (4) The locator marks on the dies were changed from a single short line for the 1929–1933 issues to a pair of crosses for the 1937 and 1938 issues [4].

Of relevance here is the comment made in a letter to the contractor John Dickinson dated 4 April 1929 and quoted in full in Easton's article: *NOTE: I call your attention to the 2*

Keywords & phrases: Newfoundland, printing, Perkins Bacon, 1930

cents, which bears a scroll at one edge, which does not appear in the others, this I think shows it was printed by machine. [1]. Lathework has since been found on other denominations [7]. Pratt, talking more generally on Easton's article, stated: *There is a further note in this article that in 1933 certain of the dies were recut so as to make them better adapted to machine-rotary press printing*, and Pratt clearly believed that Perkins Bacon had the capabilities to print stamps using a rotary press [8]. It is not clear that Easton's article [1] (or the actual entries in the Perkins Bacon Engraving Book [6]) actually stated this, but the implication is certainly there. It is known that dies specifically used for rotary press printing are cut more deeply to compensate for the reduction in depth during plate bending [9]. Thompson [10] provided further evidence that Perkins Bacon used both flat-bed press printing and rotary machine printing to produce their stamps, though in many respects it was based on the same evidence that Pratt used in his conclusions.

Three stamps printed in the 1930s by Perkins Bacon are known to have had two dies, Die I and Die II. These are the 1932 2¢ King George V (Scott #185-186), the 1932 5¢ Caribou (Scott #190-191), and the 1937 3¢ Newfoundland map (Scott #234) stamps. The die types are commonly identified by features on the stamps and are illustrated in this article. The only entries in the Perkins Bacon Engravings book relating to the production of second dies for Newfoundland stamps during the period 1923-1935 are the 1932 2¢ King George V (entry 11 May 1932) and the 1932 5¢ Caribou (entry 31 May 1932) [6]. The existence of two dies for the 1937 3¢ map stamp was debated even after its recognition by Winthrop Boggs in 1942 [11]. The observed differences recorded in the literature are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Recorded differences between Die I and Die II of the 1937 3¢ Newfoundland map stamp (Scott #234).

| Die I | Die II |
|--|---|
| Boggs, 1942 [11]; Robson Lowe, 1973 [23]. The entire impression is weak. There are apparently white spaces throughout the design, which under a glass are seen to be merely weak lines. The portrait is particularly poor. | The entire impression is much clearer and stronger. The apparently white spaces are no longer noticeable. The portrait is improved, but still poor. |
| Stanley Gibbons, e.g. 1954 [24] | In Die II the shading of the King's face is heavier and dots have been added down the ridge of the nose. The top frame line is thicker and more uniform. |
| Haverbeck 1955 [245]. The entire impression is weak. Shading on the King's portrait is weak and indistinct. Weak lines are evident throughout the design. | Lines of the portrait are heavy and clear. The entire impression is clearer and stronger. |
| Kenneth Minuse and Robert Pratt, 1970 [26]. Only mentions Die #1220. | |
| Robert Pratt, 1986-1987 [12]. Dots on King's nose almost invisible in the first printing. Colour is less orangy and more brownish. Die #1220. | Set of engraving dots runs down the King's nose. Vignette, background and crown of King's head fuzzy. Frame lines deeper. Colour is lighter and more yellowing tone. Die #1226. |



Figure 1a.



Figure 1b.

Perkins Bacon appears to have had “lathework,” the engine-turned-engraved scroll work along the left hand side of the printed sheets, on their plates only for a few stamps printed in 1937–1939 [12]. There exists a “make-shift” lathework on plate 3 of the 5¢ stamp (Scott #191) (Figure 1a) (Courtesy John Jamieson, Saskatoon Stamp Centre, Saskatoon, Canada) and the ornate lathework (Figure 1b) that has been observed on the following stamps printed by Perkins Bacon during this period: the 1932 Industrial issue 1¢ (plates 5 and 6, Scott #184) and 5¢ (Die II, Scott #191), the 1937 Long Coronation issue 1¢ (Scott #233) and 3¢ (Die I and Die II, Scott #234), and the 1938 Royal Family issue 2¢, 3¢ and 4¢ (Scott #245, 246, 247) [13]. All these stamps, except for the 5¢, are commonly found showing slip (“kiss”) print shadowing that is not seen on the stamps without lathework [14]. Typically, with some exceptions, the lathework is not seen on the issued sheets of perforated stamps. A number of suggestions have been proposed as to the purpose of the lathework [12, 15]. This article shows that stamps from plates bearing lathework have a distinctive appearance when viewed under a microscope.

In a detailed article on the printing of the 1932 1¢ “pile of cod” stamp (Scott #183-184) printed by Perkins Bacon from 1932 to 1941, Thompson identified three “Types” based on an examination of considerable quantities of stamps, including many plate-numbered blocks [14]. Such a study was only possible because of the many plate blocks that were available. In this current study, a different approach was used, as too few plate-numbered blocks were available for study for the other denominations. The stamps examined were those having two die types and those having lathework (denominations and catalogue numbers given above). In addition, other denominations in the 1937 Long Coronation issues and the 1938 Royal family issue were also examined.

The purpose of this article was to determine if the three “Types” of stamp images found for the 1932 1¢ stamp [14] are also applicable to other stamps printed by Perkins Bacon during the 1930s through an examination of the fine “microscopic” details of the printed images, to ascertain if the issued stamps were printed by the flat-bed press or rotary press printing processes that were being used by Perkins Bacon during this period.

Materials and methods

Stamps were examined under a Wild M3Z 6×-40× zoom stereo dissecting microscope with a supplementary 0.5× lens. Stamps were photographed with a Canon EOS 500D digital camera using bellows and 35mm and 20mm Canon FD macrophoto lenses. Illumination was provided by two IKEA Jansjö 70 lumen LED warm white (2700K) work lights. The terms used in this article to describe the fine details of the image are defined and illustrated in Thompson [14].

Results

The three “Types”

The differences between the three types of images on the stamps examined, Type I, Type II, and Type III, are described in Table 2. One cannot, in all cases, assign individual stamps to each of these categories. They represent “averages,” but when there is another characteristic, such as die type or lathework, it is clear that the majority of stamps can be assigned to a type.

The Type III stamps show shadowing to one side of the engraved lines. This is only seen on the stamps known to exist with lathework, as listed in the introduction. Shadowing has not been observed on the 5¢ Industrial stamp (Scott #191) that is known to exist with lathework. Type III is considered a special form of Type II and the images are well illustrated in an earlier article [14].

Table 2. Characteristics of Type I, II and III images on Newfoundland stamps, printed by Perkins Bacon in the 1930s, as seen under high magnification.

| | Type I | Type II | Type III |
|--------------------|--|--|--|
| Overall appearance | Softer blurry appearance. Fine details reproduced but often not sharply defined. | Sharp and clear, but fine details often missing. | Sharp and clear. Shadowing present on some stamps that produces poor blurry double images. |
| Colour | Slightly richer and darker | Tend to look paler and slightly lighter shade. | Good |
| Inking | Can look over-inked | Can look under-inked | Good |
| Inked lines | Usually wider with ragged edges and surface bleeding | Usually narrower with straight edges, a little surface bleeding and some feathering | Usually narrow with straight edges, no surface bleeding and more feathering |
| Embossing | Not evident and not usually seen on the back of the stamp | Evident and usually seen on the back of the stamp | Evident and usually seen on the back of the stamp |
| Mottling of ink | Yes, marked giving patches of light and dark areas under high magnification | Not usually, though ink sometime clumps. Generally a more even and flatter appearance. | No, generally a more even and flatter appearance. |
| Ink penetration | Ink appears to sit more on the surface of the paper. | Ink appears to penetrate the surface of the paper | Ink appears to penetrate the surface of the paper |
| Density of ink | Thicker | Thinner | Thinner |
| Lathework | No | No | Yes |
| Slip “kiss” print | No | No | Yes, seen in some to most stamps, slight to obvious. |

1932 2¢ King George V

The 1932 2¢ King George V stamp was produced from two different dies. Die I, which produced the “scar on face” effect, was used for the 2¢ rose (Scott #185) and the 2¢ Green (Scott #186). Die II, which “removed” the scar by the addition of several fine lines, was also used for the 2¢ Green (Scott #186ii). Lathework has not been observed on this 2¢ stamp.

The differences in the image between Die I and Die II stamps follow the descriptions given in Table 2. Some stamps cannot be clearly assigned. Die I stamps are classified as Type I and tend to be slightly darker in colour, more heavily inked, and giving the impression of

less white space, particularly in hatched areas (Figure 2a). The engraved lines are thicker, with edges that are often wavy when viewed under a microscope. The ink sits more on the surface of the paper and has a mottled appearance (Figure 2b). Though not seen well in this figure, spewing of the ink away from the lines to form “half-puddles” of ink is often seen.



2a



2b



Figure 2. The 2¢ green King George V stamp (Scott #186) (a) Die I showing the heavier lines with mottling and the reduced amount of white space in the hatched areas due to the thicker lines with the wavy edges; (b) Die II showing lighter lines with no mottling and more white space in the hatched areas due to the thinner lines with straighter edges.

There is little embossing and usually none is seen on the back of the stamp (Figure 3a). The images of the Die II stamps tend to be of a slightly lighter shade with less ink having been transferred to the paper, and there seems to be more white space in the hatched areas. The printed lines are thinner and the edges straighter, and they often appear to sit on top of embossing that is more evident in Die II stamps and can be seen on the back in most stamps (Figure 3b).

The ink does not have a mottled appearance, and it gives the impression that it was thinner and soaked more into the paper. Feathering, where the ink runs along paper fibres, is sometimes seen around the lines. Slip prints have not been observed for this stamp, and so none were designated as Type III.

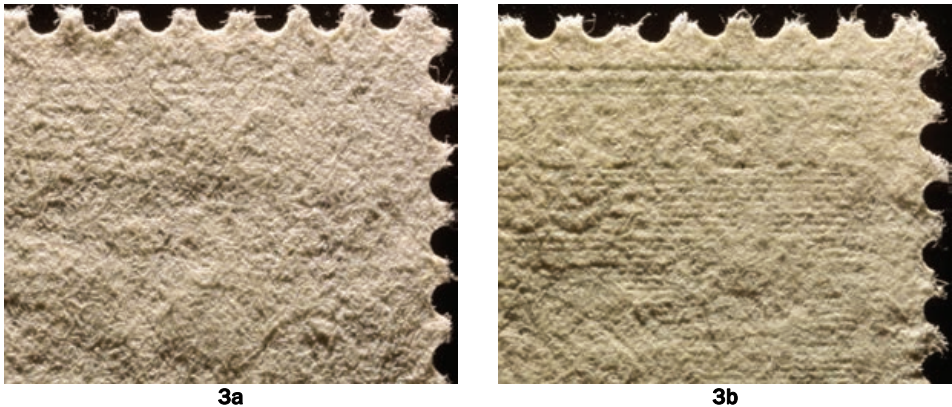


Figure 3. Back of 1932 2¢ King George V stamps, viewed under oblique lighting (Scott #186) (a) Die I, used, no gum, showing a lack of embossing
(b) Die II, used, no gum, showing embossing.

1932 5¢ Caribou

The 1932 5¢ Caribou stamp was also printed from two different dies. Die I, which can be identified by looking at the upper two points of the right antler—more rounded and at the same height, was used for the 5¢ violet brown (Scott #190) and the 5¢ deep violet (Scott #191a). They are more pointed and of different heights in Die II, which was also used for printing the 5¢ deep violet (Scott #191).

Both Die I and Die II of the 5¢ deep violet exist in a couple of major shades, “violet” and “purple violet”—they can be further divided into minor shades (with their years of use) as follows: Die I “violet” (deep violet 1933–1934) and “purple violet” (deep red-violet 1936), and Die II “violet” (deep violet 1936–1938, violet 1938–1940, pale violet 1939–1940) and “purple violet” (dark purple-violet 1933, dull purple-violet 1934, deep reddish-brown violet 1939–1941) [16]. It is fairly easy to distinguish the major shades, but the minor shades are more subtle and harder to differentiate.

Lathework exists on some Die II plates in the form of “make-shift” engraved lines (plate 3; Figure 1a) and the beautiful engine-turned ornate pattern (possibly plate 4; Figure 1b). The lathework occurred at a time when Perkins Bacon used book-end paper for their plate proofs from late 1937 to early 1938. The shade of these stamps with lathework has not been recorded.

The 5¢ Die I stamps consistently show the features described for Type I for both the “violet” and “purple violet” major shades (Table 2; Figure 4a). The features shown on Die II stamps are differentiated to some extent according to the major shade. The “violet” shade falls into the Type II description (Figure 4b), although the embossing on the back of the stamp is usually faint.

The “purple violet” shade appears in most cases to be Type II but often shows many features associated with Type I, such as a general lack of embossing on the reverse side and



4a



4b

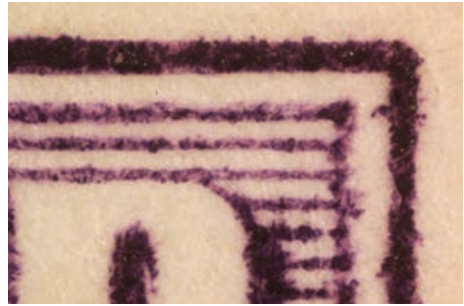


Figure 4. The 5¢ deep violet caribou stamp (Scott #191) (a) Die I showing the heavier lines with mottling and the reduced amount of white space in the hatched areas due to the thicker lines with the wavy edges; (b) Die II showing lighter lines with no mottling and more white space in the hatched areas, due to the thinner lines with straighter edges.

engraved lines that are not that sharp with a tendency to show the wavy edges that can reduce the white space between fine hatching. Slip prints have not been observed for this stamp, and so Type III features have not been observed.

1937 Long Coronation issue

The 1937 Long Coronation issue printed by Perkins Bacon consisted of 11 stamps (Scott #233-243). The only denomination in the series having two dies is the 3¢ orange brown map stamp. Lathwork is seen on the 1¢ grey black codfish (Scott #233) and on both Die I and Die II of the 3¢ map (Scott #234) stamps.

The images of both Die I and Die II of the 3¢ map stamp look the same, and both fit well into Type II (Figure 5). The 1¢ codfish stamp is also Type II (Figure 6a) and has the same appearance as the 3¢ map stamp.

Slip prints were commonly observed on the 1¢ codfish and 3¢ map stamps, and these were then designated as Type III. The other nine denominations in the series (7¢-48¢) are all clearly Type I, and none of these have been found with lathwork (examples shown for 10¢, 20¢ and 48¢ in Figure 6b-d).



5a



5b

Figure 5. The 3¢ orange brown Long Coronation map stamp (Scott #234) (a) Die I showing the paler thinner lines forming the King's head and the thin top frame line b) Die II showing darker thicker lines forming the King's head and a strong top frame line.



6a



6b



Figure 6. Examples from the 1937 Long Coronation series (Scott #235-243), showing Type II (a) 1¢, and Type I (b) 10¢, (c) 20¢, and (d) 48¢ printing. Notice how little white space is seen in the hatched areas (Figures 6b-d) compared to the 1¢ (Figure 6a) and 3¢ stamps (Figure 5).

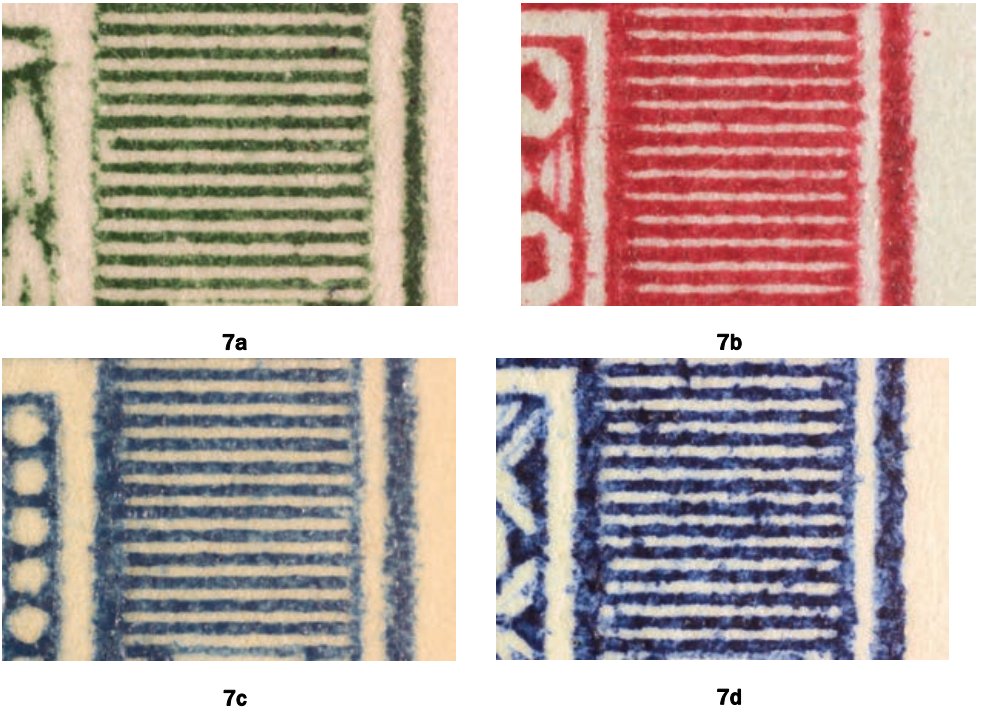


Figure 7. The 1938 Royal Family issue (Scott #245-248). The (a) 2¢, (b) 3¢, and (c) 4¢, all show Type II features. The (d) 7¢ shows Type I features.

1938 Royal Family issue

The 1938 Royal Family issue was also printed by Perkins Bacon and consisted of the 2¢ green, 3¢ dark carmine, 4¢ light blue and 7¢ dark ultramarine (Scott #245-248). These were required to replace the earlier equivalent denominations following the death of King George V in 1936. The lower three denominations are known with lathework and are of Type II (Figure 7a-c) or Type III when showing the slip print feature. The 7¢ has not been observed with lathework or showing slip prints and is of Type I (Figure 7d).

Discussion

The literature is generally confusing when it comes to discussing the effects of flat-bed/rotary press printing and wet/dry printing on stamp size and the image. Often it is not always clear if the rotary press printings were to wet or dry paper. The primary criteria used for identifying flat-bed and rotary press printings, or between wet and dry printings, is the size of the stamp. Plate bending increases the size of the stamp in the direction of the bend by an amount that depends on the bend. Wetting the paper has the opposite effect and causes the stamp to shrink, mostly in the cross-grain direction. It is known that wet and dry printing could be used on both flat-bed and rotary presses [8, 17, 18]. Perkins Bacon is reported to have always printed on damp paper [4] and probably used both flat-bed and rotary presses [8, 10]. The Newfoundland stamps printed in the 1930s by Perkins Bacon and examined here all have yellow-brownish thick cracked gum (indicating that pre-gummed paper was not used). The average sizes of the stamps show only small differences of c. one percent between the die types. It is therefore not possible to identify Perkins Bacon printings based on stamp size.

Plate wear also needs to be considered as an explanation for the observations seen in this paper. Engraved plates wear with use and begin to yield unsatisfactory impressions because the surface wears away. The recesses become less deep and do not hold sufficient ink, producing a paler image. The resulting lines on the image become finer and can even disappear [9, 19]. The consistency of the Type I and Type II stamps for Die I and Die II stamps, and for lathework and non-lathework stamps, rule out plate wear as an explanation for the differences between Type I and Type II images. However, plate wear may explain why some Type I stamps appear to show Type II features. This makes it difficult to assign all stamps to one or other type categories.

Scattered references are made in various articles regarding the image of stamps printed to wet and dry paper [17, 20]. Generally, when a stamp is printed by both methods, the dry print will be clearer, sharper, have finer lines, and be of a lighter shade, than their wet printed counterparts. In wet printing, the ink on the stamp is reported to sink into the moistened paper and even spreads slightly, often producing an overall tone. It is not always clear if these differences are due to the change in printing from wet to dry paper, or to a change from flat-bed to a rotary press printing. However, the changes to rotary printing were made for reasons of printing speed and efficiency and not necessarily for image quality. Examination of wet, flat-bed printed die proofs, e.g., by Perkins Bacon, show that these can be of a very high quality indeed (Figure 8) [14], but the same care and printing equipment is not applied to the mass production of issued stamps. Notice that the portrait (Figure 8) is made from two intensities of dots. The faint dots (including those along the bridge of the King's nose) are not seen in the finished stamps). The dots on the King's nose here do not



Figure 8. View of King George's head in the vignette from a die proof of the 1¢ 1937 Long Coronation series.

was removed and the antlers lengthened. These stamps were Type II. Stamps examined with lathework were also Type II. It is here proposed that the stamps with lathework (see introduction for catalogue numbers), along with certain other denominations that have not been found with lathework, namely the 1932 1¢ pile of cod (plates 3 and 4) [14] and 2¢ Die II King George V, were printed on rotary presses. This led to the Type II and Type III stamps described here. It is further suggested that the other stamps printed by Perkins Bacon during the 1930s were printed on flat-bed presses and this led to the Type I stamps described here.

The reason for a second die for the 3¢ map stamp was not related to printing methods, as both dies produced Type II stamps. The plate for the Die I 3¢ map stamp was wearing badly, producing unsatisfactory impressions, notably in the top frame line and vignette, and needed to be replaced. A new die was made, probably from the original die roller. The top frame line was repaired and the vignette made stronger reportedly by re-rolling Die No. 1214 (the King's vignette) into the stamp impression on the new die block [12]. The fuzzy appearance and less clear impression on the vignette reported by Pratt in Die II [12] was not confirmed in this study. Good fresh impressions of Die I are similar to Die II in their sharpness and colour intensity, but fuzziness can be subjective and dependent upon magnification. There were, however, problems regarding the quality of the vignette in the printed stamps (Table 2).

An examination of the vignette in a die proof of the 1¢ codfish Long Coronation stamp, shows that the quality of the vignette on the actual die is quite acceptable (Figure 8). The deterioration occurred during the making of the plates and subsequent printing, as many of the details failed to properly reproduce (cf. Figures 5 and 6). A closer look at the King's portrait in the die proof impression shows a series of darker dots and a series of fainter dots. The fainter dots are not seen in the finished stamps and many of the darker dots are only weakly reproduced. It is also seen that the dots along the bridge of the King's nose in Die II (Figure 5b) are not present in the die proof (Figure 8). They must have been added to the block of the second Die when the top frame line was repaired. The re-rolling of the vignette, if it occurred at all, would not have achieved this.

It is hoped that this article will stimulate students of the Admiral and Arch Canadian series [15, 21], and various US series [22], to look at the fine printing details and build up a more detailed knowledge of the differences resulting from different printing methods.

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Cinderella corner: Union dues stamps of Canada

Clayton Rubec

TRADER and professional unions have been in place in Canada for over 150 years. In most cases, union members have paid monthly fees to belong to, and receive benefits from, these unions. Receipts proving payment of these fees often existed in the form of an adhesive stamp showing the month and year of the payment, placed in an annual or multi-year booklet (Figure 1). The stamps thus served a clear, non-government revenue purpose.



Figure 1. 1937 Union Dues Booklet for United Association of Journeymen.

known for many other countries, particularly in Europe, where trade unions were established in the mid-1800s.

It appears that no comprehensive listing of Canadian union dues stamps has yet been attempted. Other organizations have also used monthly membership stamp systems including the Canadian Legion. Lafrenière (2012) includes a dues stamp for the Royal Canadian Legion for example.

Information on union membership was also included in these booklets. There is, however, relatively little literature on these stamps that would be considered cinderellas. Union dues stamps are potentially a challenging but almost unexplored field for Canadian stamp collectors.

This article serves as a short introduction to a number of Canadian unions as well as international unions with members in Canada that used such stamps. Union dues stamps are also

Keywords & phrases: Cinderellas, labour union, union dues, union stamps

Labour union stamps

Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders International Union/Bartenders International League of America/Hotel and Restaurant Employees Alliance



Formed in the United States in 1891, this labour union soon moved into the hospitality sector in Canada. It was merged with various other unions in 2005 and 2007. One stamp is known, featuring red type and design on white paper. It has “1939=C” overprinted at the top in black. It is for dues of 30 cents per capita per month in 1939. Similar 1962 and 1963 examples are rated at 40 cents per capita per month. They include “Printed in the U.S.A.” in blue at the bottom with “1962” or “1963” in blue at the top. The stamps are perforated and 22x22 mm in size.

International Association of Bridge, Structural, and Ornamental Iron Workers



This union was formed in 1896 and still exists, with members in Canada and the United States. A number of stamps of varying designs have been noted. 1918 *Renewal Stamp*, brown with “1918-19” overprinted in black; 1942 *Monthly Due* stamp in brown, with year overprinted in black; *Initiation Renewal* stamp, green on white paper; *Death Benefit Fund/Pension Benefit Fund* stamp, black type and rust background on white paper, \$1.50, dated 1962; *Death Benefit Fund/Pension Benefit Fund* stamp, black type and yellow background on white paper,

\$1.50, dated 1967; *Death Benefit Fund/Pension Benefit Fund* stamp, black type and grey background on white paper, \$1.50, dated 1969; *Monthly Due* stamp, purple on white paper overprinted (local) “498” in black, dated 1968; *Monthly Due* stamp, purple on white paper overprinted (local) “498” in black, dated 1968; *Monthly Due* stamp, dark purple on white paper overprinted (local) “498” in black, undated; *Monthly Due* stamp, orange on white paper overprinted “Honorary Member “ in black, undated; *Monthly Due* stamp, red on white paper, \$1.00, dated 1968; *Convention Fund* stamp, green on white paper with \$2.25 fee in black, dated 1963; *Convention Fund* stamp, green on white paper with \$2.25 fee in black, dated 1968; *Convention Fund* stamp, red brown on white paper with \$3.75 fee in black, dated 1969. The stamps are perforated.



International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers

The IAMWA was formed in 1888 in Atlanta, Georgia. Its first Local in Canada was established in 1890 at Stratford, Ontario. Several stamps are known, including an *Initiation* stamp from 1943 (black type on green paper); a *Monthly Dues* stamp from 1933–1934 (\$1.75 month dues), 1944–1945, 1958–1959 and 1968 (black type on pink paper); an *Apprentice Monthly Dues* stamp from 1941 (black type on brown paper); an *Apprentice Initiation* stamp from 1941 (black type

on yellow paper), and a *Reinstatement* stamp from 1934 and 1968 (black type on blue paper). All these stamps are perforated.

International Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees of America



This union was formed in 1899; later, airline workers were able to join. In 2012, it merged with the International Association of Machinists. Annual membership booklets from 1920–1935 and 1958–1960 have been seen with stamps of a different colour used each month, always overprinted in red or black with the month and year. Blue, olive green, lime green, purple, pink, red, grey, brown, orange and yellow stamps on white paper have been noted. A list of known stamps is given in Table 1. The stamp colours include Bl – blue; Br – brown; Gr – green; Gy – grey; Ol-Gr – olive green; Or – orange; Pk – pink; Pu – purple; R – red; Y – yellow; Y-Gr – yellow green. The stamps are

perforated and measure 22×25 mm.

Table 1: Colours of some Union dues stamps of the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees of America, 1920–1960.

| Year | Month | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|-------|-----|------|-----|-----|------|------|-----|------|------|------|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| 1920 | | | | | | | Bl | Bl | Bl | R | R | R |
| 1921 | Gr | Gr | Gr | Gy | Gy | Gy | | | | | | |
| 1923 | Gr | R | Bl | Pu | Br | Or | R | Gr | Bl | Br | Pu | Or |
| 1924 | Br | Pu | Y-Gr | R | Or | Bl | Y-Gr | Pu | Br | Bl | R | Or |
| 1925 | Y-Gr | Br | Pu | Or | Bl | R | Pu | Br | Y-Gr | Or | Bl | R |
| 1929 | Or | Pu | Y-Br | Bl | R | Y-Gr | Pu | Or | Bl | Y-Gr | Y-Br | R |
| 1935 | Ol-Gr | Gy | Or | R | Y | Pu | Gr | Pu | Y | R | Br | Gy |
| 1958 | | | | | | | | | | | Gy | |
| 1959 | | | | | | Y | | | Pk | | | Gr |
| 1960 | Gr | | | | | Or | | | | | | |



International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers of America/International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen, and Helpers of America

This labour union, now called the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (or just “The Teamsters”), was formed in 1903 with members in Canada and the United States. Two Per Capita stamps are known: blue type on white paper (30 cents) from the 1938–1948 period and red type on white paper (40 cents) (from the 1940s). Additional examples used in a monthly dues booklet have been seen for April to September 1947. They include a \$1 Initiation stamp with black type on green paper (dated 1947), and monthly stamps with blue type on white paper at a rate of 30 cents. These stamps are perforated 12 × 12 and measure 22 × 24 mm.

International Ladies Garment Workers Union



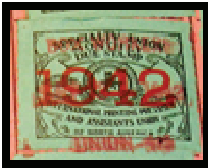
This trade union was formed in 1900 in New York City and was one of the largest unions at its peak, with members in both the United States and Canada. One of the few unions to mainly serve women workers, it merged with other groups in 1995. Two monthly dues stamps have been seen from 1959, with purple text on white paper and brown text on white paper. All have black month/day/year hand stamps applied to the face of the stamps; they are perforated 12 × 12 and measure 20 × 11.



International Molders and Foundry Workers Union of North America

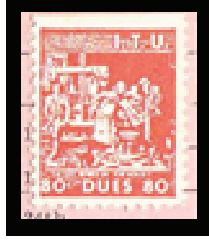
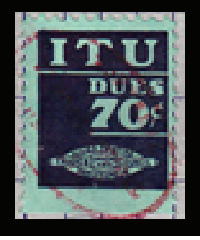
This union traces its roots to the Iron Molders Union of North America established in 1859. Today, it is part of the GMP International Union. One dues stamp from the 1938–1939 period and has been seen, with orange type on white paper at a monthly rate of 75 cents. The stamp is perforated and hand stamped in black with month/day/year.

International Printing Pressmen and Assistants Union of North America



This union still exists, with members in the United States and Canada. Several stamps from this union have been seen. A 1932 Monthly Due Journeyman stamp has black type on green with the year in red. A 1940 Monthly Due Journeyman stamp has black type on orange paper, dated in red. A 1942 Monthly Due stamp has black and red type on green paper with red handstamps. A similar 1944 version of this stamp has black type on yellow paper with a larger “1944” year overprinted. The dues that month were rated at four percent of the current monthly pay scale. A 1955 redesign of this union dues stamp has red and black type on yellow paper with handwritten ink cancels. It is a Per Capita Tax stamp with a \$5.70 monthly dues amount. All of these stamps are roulette.

International Typographical Union



The International Typographical Union, formed in 1852 in the United States, first organized newspaper workers in Canada in 1869. The union was dissolved in 1969. Union cards seen from two Locals, the Montreal Typographical Union and Ottawa Typographical Union, (see below for Toronto Typographical Union stamps), in the 1912–1913, 1928–1929, 1940–1941, 1945–1946 and 1949–1956 periods are

similar. Their stamps of various designs were placed each month in booklets confirming union membership. Monthly rates ranged from 45 cents in 1912 to \$1 in 1956. Most of these stamps are with a single colour (green, red, brown, and black have been seen) on blue, brown, or white papers. A 100th ITU Anniversary stamp in blue and purple was issued in 1952. All these stamps are perforated 11.5 × 11.5 and measured 19 × 22 mm.

Journeyman Barbers, Hairdressers, Cosmetologists and Proprietors International Union of America



The author has little information on this union that had members in Canada and the United States. One 1965 Monthly Dues Official Receipt stamp with black type on white paper has been seen. The stamp is perforated and handstamped in black with the month/day/year.

P.M.T.T.



Little is yet known about this stamp, but it appears to be a Canadian union dues stamp, dated in purple ink in French “Juin 1957.” It has black type on yellow paper with a white maple leaf in the background, and is initialed in blue ink. An assumed monthly dues fee of \$3 is found at the centre of the stamp. The stamp is roulette and measures 21 × 21 mm.

Toronto Topographical Union



The Toronto Typographical Union represented the interests of newspaper printers, tracing its roots back to the formation in 1832 of the York Typographical Society. In 1866, the Society affiliated itself with the International Typographical Union (see above) and received a union charter, becoming the Toronto Typographical Union (Local 91). In 1994, the Union merged with the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada. One stamp has been seen, used to indicate payment of union dues. This stamp was printed with a blue design on white gummed paper, hand stamped “A. Lamont/FIN. SEC.” The stamp is perforated 12 × 12 and measures 22 × 27 mm. (Lafrenière personal communication).



Union Association of Journeymen Plumbers and Steam Fitters of the United States and Canada

Formed in 1890, this trade union today has members in Canada, the United States, and Australia. Only one \$2 Monthly Dues stamp has been seen for this union, from 1937 with lime-green type on white paper. The stamp is perforated.

United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America Union



This labour union was formed in 1936, peaking in size in the 1940s. A much-diminished union today, it is still active in Canada, the United States, and Mexico. Various 1942 and 1943 dues stamps have been seen, many with printed dates in red or black on coloured papers including: July 1942 – orange; August 1942 – green; September 1942 – peach; October 1942 – purple; November 1942 – grey; and December 1942 – yellow. January 1943 – yellow; February 1943 – orange; March 1943 – green; April 1943 – pink; May 1943 – blue; June 1943 – grey; July 1943 – green; August 1943 – purple; September 1943 – yellow; October 1943 – white; and November 1943 – red. Also seen are stamps from 1941 and 1942 with black type on pink paper and blue handstamped month/day/year cancels. All these stamps are perforated.

Other organization stamps

Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League



The Canadian Legion was formed in 1926 to serve current Canadian military and Royal Canadian Mounted Police members and veterans. It is now called the Royal Canadian Legion. A membership booklet from 1928 to 1930 with three-month quarterly membership Per Capita Tax stamps has been seen. The stamps are brown on white paper handstamped with day/month/year in purple ink. The stamps are perforated 12 × 12 and measure 33 × 21 mm. See Lafrenière (2012).

Conclusions

The stamps issued by trade unions and other membership-based organizations to validate monthly membership fees is a generally unexplored part of Canadian philately. This article describes fifteen types of stamps for Canadian unions or international unions with members in Canada. Many more likely exist. Anybody interested in this group of stamps is welcome to contact the author (email: <rubec@rogers.com>).

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Postal stationery business reply card delivered by magazine

CR McGuire, OTB FRPSC

I submit what I think is the “ultimate” item for a specialized collection of the ½¢ purple Admiral postal stationery Business Reply Card. The card was normally used to publicize and/or order products from suppliers of various goods. A page from a ca1930 quarterly magazine, *MacLean Builders Guide on Planning, Building, Financing, Furnishing, Decoration, and Gardening*, on which an actual ½¢ Admiral post card was attached by an adhesive sticker is shown in Figure 2 opposite. Readers could use it to ask the magazine to have advertisers send them information. To say the least, *MacLean Builders Guide* appears to have been quite the all-encompassing publication for the building contractor and home owner.

A reader lifting the card saw an example of how to fill out the post card, Figure 1. Readers could write in advertisers’ numbers and a description of information wanted. Advertisers would then send the information to the subscriber. I recall seeing Business Reply Cards in collections with half a similar sticker, which confirms that they too came from cards placed in magazines and were not used by collectors to hold the cards in an album.

| Kindly place me in touch with the advertisers numbered as follows: | | | |
|--|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ADVERTISER NUMBER | INFORMATION WANTED | ADVERTISER NO. | INFORMATION WANTED |
| 10H | Leaded or Stained Glass for large stairway windows | 8H | Literature and prices |
| | | 102 | Booklet as advertised |
| 27 5H | Insulating materials | 25 | do |
| 16 | | 77 | Loan of \$4000 on 1st Mortgage |
| | Prices on 10000 Face Brick also backing brick or tile | | |
| NAME <i>John Doe</i> | | ADDRESS <i>1 Broadway, Toronto</i> | |

The reproduction above shows how the postcard should be filled in
*Use the Inquiry Postcard and Refer to Advertisers by Number

Figure 1. Instructions to readers on how to fill out the post card to obtain information.

Keywords & phrases: Postal stationery, Admiral, Business Reply Card

Use This Postcard

Being interested in building you will find this copy of the MacLean Builders' Guide helpful in securing the best service in work and materials. This publication is really a directory or catalogue of leading firms well equipped to cater to your needs. As the advertising messages are of necessity brief it will be well worth your while to secure the interesting literature which these firms are prepared to send you.


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As a special service to our readers we will transmit to the various advertisers your request for information. For your convenience in referring to individual firms we have given each advertiser a number. When using the inquiry postcard below fill in these numbers and state briefly the information you desire from each firm—personal call, samples, catalogues or prices.

It will well repay you to study the advertisements and then secure complete information by using the attached STAMPED GOVERNMENT POSTCARD. This service costs you nothing and places you under no obligation.

MacLEAN BUILDING REPORTS, LIMITED
 PUBLISHERS MacLEAN BUILDERS' GUIDE
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sure
and
use
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card*

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Figure 2. Page from magazine with 1/2¢ postal stationery Business Reply Card attached.



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Canadian overseas postal history

WWI cover

Gordon McDermid

THIS short article is about a unique cover with an interesting postal history. Addressed to Toronto, it has a strike of the World War I Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force steel hammer on a French postage stamp, and a separate free strike. The steel hammer postmark has been researched and included in earlier postal publications by the well-known military postal historians Bailey and Toop, with specific reference to the spelling error on the hammer—EXEPDITIONARY—and rare use of the steel hammer COEF cancel on a cover. Bailey and Toop reported that the steel hammer used for this cover is a “favor” or “courtesy” cover, with very few known to exist. The cover is illustrated in *The Major E.R. Toop Collection of Canadian Military Postal History*, (Volume 1, p 71). Also, Toop wrote in the *PHSC Journal* 31 and 32, dated 1982 that:

... the use of distinctive Canadian postmarks overseas during WW I was short-lived ... removed from use in early 1915 and, although eight smaller steel cancellers were prepared with proofing dates of Feb 1915, presumably for the Second Division, none have been reported as being used. Further, the significance of the numbers is unknown, and it is interesting to note the spelling of hammer number 15 as EXEPDITIONARY rather than the correct EXPEDITIONARY ... the crown-over-circle postmarks are fine examples of the early military period.

Toop also wrote that the error steel hammer 15 is one of only two of these steel hammers held by the Canadian Postal Museum. It is not known where, or if, any of the other eight such steel hammers exist. An illustration of the hammer showing the proofing date is at Figure 1.

Specifically, the steel hammer cancels on Figure 2 reads “CANADIAN OVERSEAS/ JUL27 1915/ FIELD POST/ OFFICE 15/ EXEPDITIONARY FORCE.” The envelope is addressed to “Lieut.-Col. Geo. Ross, J.S.O., A.D. of P.S., Toronto, Ont. Canada.” The stamp is France # 123 50c bis brn & lav.

Lieutenant-Colonel George Ross was the Joint Staff Officer, Army Director of Postal Service at Toronto, with the civilian position of Chief Post Office Superintendent for Canada, as his Attestation Paper outlines. He served in the Active Militia with the Canadian Postal Corps and was known for his strong support of the military postal services for years before WWI.

His early postal involvement is noted in a June 1959 *BNA Topics* article by Lloyd Sharpe, “Canada Militia: Field Post Office No. 1,” and he is titled Founding Commander, CPP in 1911 and DPOST (Overseas) in *Canadian Military Postal Markings*



Figure 1. Illustration of Steel Hammer from E.R. Toop article *PSHC Journal* 32, p 25, December 1982.

Keywords & phrases: WW1, military, postal markings, Overseas, Expeditionary Force



Figure 2. Misspelled Steel Hammer COEF WWI Special Cover 1915.

shows Lt Col Ross at the gravesite of a family friend at Advance, east of Arras, France near the end of the war in Sept 1918.



Figure 3. Lt Col Ross, D Post. France 1918.

From experience with military postal operations, as a former Director of the Canadian Forces Postal Service, I would like to provide a few additional observations on the probable history of the special cover to Lt Col George Ross, further to the technical writings to date on the steel hammer cancellations.

Upon study of the cover, it seems apparent to me that it was handwritten by Lt Col Ross, noting certain similarity to writing on his military records as reviewed at National Archives. Possibly he cancelled it himself or had one of the fine Posties of the day carefully cancel it for him with the misspelled steel hammer during a working visit to CEF Overseas in France on 27 July 1915. He travelled to France in 1915 as verified by the photo of him at a Brigade Post Office in France dated 1915 shown in *Canadian Military Postal Markings* (Volume 1,



Figure 4. CCSFOR VELIKA Kladusa, BOSNIA, CFPO 5003. Favour Cover, 1998.

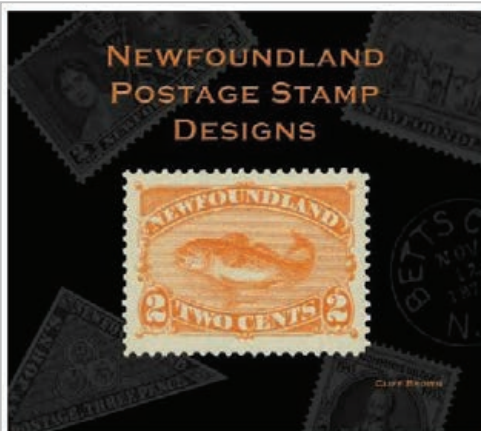
p 158) by Bailey and Toop. Also, it is recorded on his Certificate of Service that he served in France. Thus, it does not seem unreasonable to believe the cover was made and cancelled the date postmarked on it “Jul 27, 1915.” (As a note of interest, to illustrate that such special favour covers are made by visiting officers to the field, I once made a similar special cover while on duty travel to CFPO 5003, serving the Canadian Contingent in Bosnia, April 1998 (Figures 4 and 5). It was hand-carried by me on the return travel from Bosnia to Canada.)



Figure 5. CFPO 5003 Camp Post Office Canadian Contingent Stabilization Force Velika, Kladusa, Bosnia. (L to R) MCpl Cayer, Lt Col McDermid, and Sgt Schnare in front of CFPO 5003 post office, constructed from sea containers. April 1998.

The Lt Col Ross cover of 1915 is in pristine condition, and I suspect that it was hand-carried by him after it was cancelled, rather than placed in the outgoing bags of mail from the Field Post Office or taken to the French Post Office for delivery via the existing international mail system. If it had been moved through the international system, there would undoubtedly have been further cancellations and possibly more postage charges added to the cover, as well as additional marks and signs of handling. Similarly, if the cover had passed through the Canadian Army system from the field to final destination Toronto, it would not have required Canada or France postage, because I suspect it would have been within a closed CEF postal dispatch.

I must acknowledge that my comments are mostly conjecture, based on current Canadian Forces mail service methods. Still, this unique cover was undoubtedly made with the aim of being a special postal item, showing the never-used, misspelled, wartime EXEPDITIONARY steel hammer, and I suspect that it was made by or for Lt Col Ross. As for the provenance of the cover, I do not know who received it after George Ross, but eventually it became part of the collection of Richard Toop, then of Bill Robinson. It is now one of my military postal covers: I obtained it from Jim Miller on the West Coast. It is important to me, a special cover, not only because of its showpiece appeal, but because it was originally in the collection of the first Director of the Canadian Forces Postal Service, and I served as the last Director until 2000, when the Postal Branch was disbanded and absorbed into the larger Logistics Branch of the Canadian Forces.



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Canada—coil stamp perforation 8 measurements

Julian Goldberg

A change in printing method can also sometimes result in a change in perforating method and in perforation measurement. Such a change occurred in the coil stamps that were printed by the American Bank Note Company (ABN) from 1912 to 1922 and the Canadian Bank Note Company (CBN) from 1922 to 1948. The American Bank Note Company (ABN) branch in Ottawa, a subsidiary of the American Bank Note Company (ABN) of New York, changed its name to the Canadian Bank Note Company (CBN).

From 1912 to 1930, the American Bank Note Company (ABN) and later the Canadian Bank Note Company (CBN) printed its coil stamps by using curved printing coil plates of 400 (20 × 20) stamp subjects (made from bent flat plates) on a sheet-fed rotary press made up internally by two panes of 200 (20 × 10) stamps for horizontal coil stamps, with a horizontal gutter between the two panes, or with two panes of 200 (10 × 20) stamps for vertical coil stamps, with a vertical gutter in between the two panes. The printed stamp sheet of 400 stamps would be perforated in one direction only (vertically for horizontal coils or horizontally for vertical coils), and it would then be guillotined (cut) in the opposite direction (horizontally for horizontal coils or vertically for vertical coils). This would result in twenty guillotined (cut) strips of twenty perforated stamps. These strips would then be attached (pasted up), by hand, to each other by their end selvage and made (rolled) into coil rolls of 500 stamps. Twenty-five strips of twenty stamps would make up each coil roll of 500 stamps, with a paste-up joint after every twenty stamps in a roll.



Figure 1. Rotary wheel perforator (7.95).
(US Library of Congress Digital Library)

Some early coil stamps (Scott/Unitrade 125 and 127) were also first printed from curved regular sheet plates of 400 stamp subjects, with four panes of 100 (10 × 10) stamps, each pane divided by vertical and horizontal gutters from each other before later being printed by curved coil plates. This produced forty strips of ten stamps, i.e., fifty strips in each coil roll of 500 stamps, with a paste-up joint after every ten stamps in a roll. The perforator that was used to perforate sheet-fed, rotary press, printed coil stamps was a rotary wheel perforator (Figure 1).

Only one perforator was used to perforate the coil stamp sheet in one direction (either vertically or horizontally) for coil stamps. Most of these were horizontal coil stamps that were perforated vertically. The perforation measurement used gauged approximately 7.95

Keywords & phrases: ABN, CBN, George V, George VI, coils, perforations, perforator

perforations per two centimetres ($Kiusalas-99=7.95$), usually rounded to 8 perforations per two centimetres. The position of the perforation holes from row to row across from each other does not correspond (align/match).

This perforation applies to Canadian coil stamps from 1912 to 1930 with 1916 (MR5) and 1931 (184) part coil stamps with perforation 8 vertically. The horizontal coil stamps that were perforated 8 (7.95) vertically from 1912 to 1930 with printing curved coil plates of 400 (20×20) stamp subjects and their plate numbers are Scott 125 (Plates 1-12); 126, 126a, 126c (Plates 11-17); 127 (Plates 1-12); 128, 128a (Plates 11-17); 129 (Plates 1-10); 130, 130a (Plates 11-15); 160 (Plates 1-3); 161 (Plates 1-3), (Plate 4, Pane of 200 (20×10) stamp subjects); 184 (Plates A13-A15, Perforated 12×8); MR5 (Plates 1-2, Perforated 12×8); MR6 (Plates 1-4); MR7 (Plates 1-8). Scott 123 (Plates 1-2) and 124 (Plates 1-2) were the only vertical (horizontally perforated) coil stamps that were perforated 8 (7.95) horizontally.

From 1935 to 1948, the Canadian Bank Note Company (CBN) first printed its horizontal (vertically perforated) coil stamps primarily by using only one curved printing coil plate of 250 (25×10) stamp subjects (made from a bent flat plate) on a web-fed rotary press made by the company itself. Later, they used one or two curved printing plates of 425 (25×17) stamp subjects. The printing plate rotated and printed in a continuous motion on a long web roll of paper. Each time the printing plate completed a full rotation, it contact printed the paper at a slightly different height than during the previous rotation. This resulted in a slight vertical height jump difference between horizontal coil stamps after every twenty-five stamps in a coil roll of 500 stamps. After the paper roll was printed and perforated, it was cut along its long side by a coiler with rotating blades and wound up into first ten and later seventeen horizontal coil rolls of 500 stamps at a time. It took twenty printed sheets on a

web roll to make first ten, and later seventeen, horizontal coil rolls of 500 stamps each.



Figure 2. Rotary Bar Perforator (7.85). (US Library of Congress Digital Library)

This perforation measurement applies to Canadian coil stamps from 1935 to 1948 with printing plates of 250 (25×10) or 425 (25×17) stamp subjects and their plate numbers are Scott/Unitrade 228 (Plate 1); 229 (Plate 1); 230 (Plate 1, Pane of 400 (25×16) stamp subjects), (Plate 2); 238 (Plate 1), (Plate 2, Pane of 425 (25×17) stamp subjects); 239 (Plate 1), (Plate 2, Pane of 425 (25×17) stamp subjects); 240 (Plate 1), (Plate 2, Pane of 425 (25×17) stamp subjects); 263 (Plates 1 and 2, Pane of 425 (25×17) stamp subjects); 264 (Plate 1, Pane of 425 (25×17) stamp subjects); 265 (Plate 1, Pane of 425 (25×17) stamp subjects);

266 (Plate 1, Pane of 425 (25 × 17) stamp subjects); 267 (Plates 1 and 2, Pane of 425 (25 × 17) stamp subjects).

Thus, in stamp catalogues there are two different kinds of perforation measurements (Figure 3) generally referred to as perforation 8 for Canadian coil stamps.



Figure 3. Scott # 161, Perf 7.95 and Scott # 230, Perf 7.85.

One perforation measures approximately 7.95 perforations per two centimetres for coil stamps from 1912 to 1930 and another perforation measures around 7.85 perforations per two centimetres for coil stamps from 1935 to 1948. These perforations are slightly different from each other since they were made by two different perforating machines for stamps made by two different kinds of rotary press printing methods.

References

- [1] George C Marler, *The Admiral Issue of Canada*, American Philatelic Society, 1982.
- [2] Douglas and Mary Patrick, *Canada's Postage Stamps*, McClelland and Stewart, 1964.
- [3] *The Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps*, Unitrade Press, 2014.



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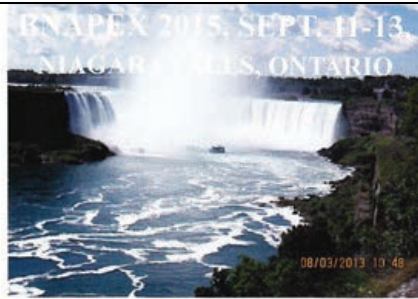
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Returned for War Tax

Victor Willson, OTB

AS part of the financing needed for Canada's contributions to the British Empire effort in fighting World War I, a 1¢ surcharge was added to the first ounce of first class letters sent domestically to preferred foreign countries (US and territories, Mexico), and to all members of the British Empire. In addition, the tax was added to penny

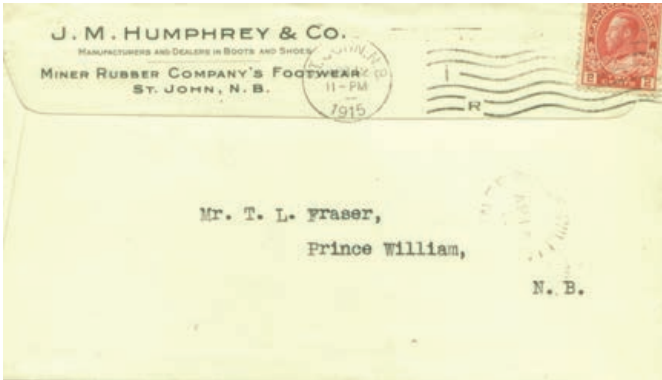


Figure 1. Commercial letter sent from St. John, NB to Prince William, NB, at the 2¢ per ounce rate.

post card rates for domestic and US destinations. This was made effective on 15 April 1915. For just over sixteen years prior to that date, the letter rate to all the countries listed above was 2¢ per ounce, with city drop and local letters within the same postal service being charged 1¢ per ounce. Figure 1 shows a commercial letter sent from St. John, NB,

12 April 1915, to Prince William, NB, at the 2¢ per ounce rate.

The exact date when the rate was to take effect was uncertain to many Canadians. Figure 2 illustrates an early use of the extra penny, paid with the newly issued 1¢ War Tax stamp in addition to the regular postage. Sent from Montreal on 14 April to Berlin, ONT., it is not philatelic. It is a letter of commiseration over a death of a friend's relative. This is a scarce pre-first day use.



Figure 2. Early use of the extra penny rate, paid with the newly issued 1¢ War Tax stamp.

Keywords & phrases: Admiral, War Tax, Returned for War Tax

There was great confusion over the use of the War Tax stamp at the time—could it only be used for the war tax or for all postal purposes? A March 1915 circular stated that the stamp could not be used for any other postal purpose; however, this statement was contradicted in a circular dated 9 April and in another dated 16 April. Much uncertainty remained for a long time afterward. Initially, shortpaid mail was to be sent to the Dead Letter Office—a patently stupid idea—one that was also quickly abandoned. Mail was to be returned to the sender, when possible, for payment of the additional war tax. The recipient was not to be burdened with double deficiency for shortpaid mail if the amount for the weight was otherwise properly paid.

On 15 April the tax went into effect, and domestic covers are not too hard to find for the first day of the rate. Figure 3, however, shows what is at this time the only recorded example, from 15 April to a British Empire destination, sent from Port Arthur, ONT., to Glasgow, Scotland. It is properly paid, with the War Tax stamp properly placed next to the regular postage as was specified in the postal circulars.



Figure 3. Only recorded example to a British Empire destination.

Finally, we get to the primary subject of this article. Figure 4 shows a post card sent from Niagara Falls, ONT., on 17 July 1915, to Baltimore, Maryland, probably from a tourist to his daughter. Shortpaid, it was sent by the Niagara Falls post office to Toronto stamped with a RETURNED FOR WAR TAX



Figure 4. Shortpaid cover sent by the Niagara Falls post office to Toronto with a RETURNED FOR WAR TAX hand stamp

handstamp that had been issued to all post offices doing a certain volume of business[1]. A 1¢ War Tax stamp was added, and Toronto sent it on, apparently on 23 July. Another handstamp commonly applied is also shown: THIS IS THE MAIL FOR WHICH YOU SENT POSTAGE. This is often seen on such returned mail. If there was a return address, the originating post office

sent a notice, or a postman brought the item back and the additional cent was collected. In this case, it would have been impossible to collect from the sender, so perhaps another card was sent to the recipient in Baltimore asking for payment. I doubt that happened; however, as I have examples from hotels which, I am fairly sure, paid the additional cent after the guest had left. I also suspect that, for mail to the United States, the post office added the stamp as a gesture of goodwill, rather than irritate visitors or their guests: The cost of sending the notice out would have been greater than the amount collected. This is, however, conjecture on my part.

Although the war tax continued in effect until 30 June 1926, I have not recorded a use of the RETURNED FOR WAR TAX stamp after 13 September 1920. I would ask any reader with such an example to let me know about it, directly or through the Editors. Also, I have seen more examples on mail to the USA than within Canada. In the post-1920 period, I note that all shortpaid for war tax examples I have were charged double deficiency, so perhaps at some point the post office decided to go back to ordinary shortpaid mail rules. This remains to be investigated.

Endnote

- [1] The exact volume of mail required for a post office to be issued a “RETURNED FOR WAR TAX” handstamp is not known.

Readers write (cont'd.)

Old Post Office Box: Member Denny May brought the brass door of an old post box (pictured right), to the last Edmonton BNAPS regional meeting but attendees could not come up with a lot of answers about it. Denny’s cousin (long dead) had told him that he found it at the site of an old Post Office on his farm, on the North Shore of Buffalo Lake in Central Alberta. We know of two Post Offices on that shore—Manfred (1904 to 1918) and Whitebrush (1904 to 1967). There may have been others. Denny wonders what the letters D and C at the top represent, and if they might give a hint as to the manufacturer or help to date the door. On the locking mechanism can be seen “PAT Feb 25 1896.”

If any BNAPS member can come up with information on this PO Box door, Denny can be contacted through the *BNA Topics* editors.





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A crown wax seal used on the CPRy west of Winnipeg RPO!

Ross Gray

THIS return envelope containing cash was mailed at Calgary on 16 March 1891. On board the eastbound CP Railway west of Winnipeg RPO., the clerk noticed that the flap was unsealed and that there was \$3 inside. He applied his steel hammer, RY-30.22, C.P.RY WEST . OF . WINNIPEG / C. , EAST, MR 17, 91 , to the back and wrote in ink, "Recd open contents \$3.00." He then sealed the flap with his crown wax seal.

This new crown wax seal discovery will be listed as RY-32.51, C.P.R. M.C. WEST OF W'PEG. / C-I , R.F. - G in the new catalogue.



Keywords & phrases: RPO, postal markings

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New issues

William J F Wilson

Nelson Mandela

CANADA Post released a pair of stamps on 30 January 2015 (see figures), honouring Nelson Mandela for his lifetime achievement in the struggle for racial equality. Mandela died on 5 December 2013 at the age of 95, at his home in Johannesburg.



Born into a royal family of the Thembu tribe in the Transkei district of South Africa in 1918, the young Mandela was not in line for the throne but was expected to become an advisor to the rulers of the tribe [1, p 5]. By 1941, however, his outlook had begun to extend beyond the limits of a single tribe: He was articling with a law firm in Johannesburg and becoming increasingly involved in politics and the fight for racial equality in South Africa. He joined the African National Congress (ANC) in 1943, an activist organization dedicated to racial equality, and he helped found the ANC Youth League in 1944 to increase the organization's mass appeal.

The policy of the ANC was non-violent resistance, and at first Mandela accepted this. However, with the government using increasingly violent means to enforce apartheid, he began to doubt the policy would ever succeed. A particularly important event that influenced his position occurred in 1960—the Sharpeville Massacre—in which South African police fired on a crowd of 5,000–7,000 black people, killing 69 and wounding more than 400 [1, p 238]. Most of those who died were shot in the back as they tried to run away. The following year, Mandela and others convinced the ANC leadership to allow them to establish a militant group, *Umkhonto we Sizwe* (“Spear of the Nation”), abbreviated MK. They decided to begin with a form of violence which

“... inflicted the least harm against individuals: sabotage. Because it did not involve loss of life it offered the best hope for reconciliation among the races afterward. We did not want to start a blood feud between white and black. ... But if

sabotage did not produce the results we wanted, we were prepared to move on to the next stage: guerrilla warfare and terrorism.” [1, pp. 282-283]

Not long after, already an outlaw in South Africa, he left on a tour of several countries for training as a soldier and in organizing an army, as well as to find money and support for the struggle. Armed resistance then suddenly ended for Mandela: only a few days after his return in 1962, he was captured by the police. The charges brought against him were inciting African workers to strike and leaving the country without valid travel documents [1, p. 317]. Brought to trial and found guilty, he was sentenced to five years in prison. Less than a year into the sentence, however, the MK headquarters was discovered by police and raided. Evidence obtained in the raid resulted in charges of sabotage aimed at facilitating violent revolution and an armed invasion of the country being brought against Mandela and ten others [1, p. 352]. The expected sentence was death by hanging, but both trials had attracted considerable attention and, perhaps bowing to both national and international pressure (and resisting government pressure), the judge instead imposed life sentences.

International pressure to free Mandela and end apartheid was maintained, and armed resistance within South Africa increased (as did government attempts to quell it). Finally, in 1990, after 27 years in prison, he was released. He spent the next several months touring many countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and North America, including Canada. Among other goals of the trip, he encouraged support for sanctions against the apartheid government and thanked “the world’s anti-apartheid forces for the tremendous work they had done in pressing for sanctions, for the release of myself and fellow political prisoners, and for the genuine support and solidarity they had shown the oppressed people of my country.” [1, p. 574] Mandela was elected president of the ANC in 1991, and in 1994 the first free election in South Africa brought the ANC to power with Mandela as President of the country.

Mandela returned to Canada again in 1998 and 2001. During his 1998 visit, he was made an honorary Companion of the Order of Canada, the first foreign national to receive this honour. In 2001, he was granted honorary Canadian citizenship, the first living person to receive this recognition. Raoul Wallenberg (1912–1947?), the Swedish businessman and diplomat who enabled 100,000 Hungarian Jews to escape Nazi persecution, was awarded honorary Canadian citizenship posthumously in 1985). A stamp honouring Wallenberg was released by Canada Post on 17 January 2013. Three others have since received honorary Canadian citizenship: Tenzin Gyatso, the fourteenth Dalai Lama, in 2006; Aung San Suu Kyi, in 2007, with the certificate being presented to her in person in 2012 by Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird at her home in Myanmar, where she was under house arrest; and the Aga Khan, Prince Shah Karim Al Husseini, in 2009. A sixth person, Malala Yousafzai, the Pakistani schoolgirl who continues to advocate for women and education even after being shot in the head by the Taliban for her activism, was scheduled to receive honorary Canadian citizenship on 22 October 2014; however, the ceremony was summarily cancelled because of the shootings on Parliament Hill which occurred that morning.

The portrait on the stamps honouring Nelson Mandela was taken by Canadian photographer Yousuf Karsh during his visit to Canada in June, 1990. It is one of several shots (in black-and-white and colour) that Karsh took during the sitting; an internet search will turn up some of the other images. This is the sixteenth Karsh portrait to be used on a Canadian stamp; the other fifteen are listed in the *New Issues* column in *BNA Topics*, Volume 70, Number 4 (2013). Interestingly, the height-to-width ratio of the portrait is different on

the two stamps: 0.875 on the P stamp and 0.915 on the \$2.50 stamp. This difference gives Mandela a noticeably thinner face on the \$2.50 stamp (see figures).

The \$5 flag stamp

On a separate note, the new \$5 flag stamp is a first for Canada Post: It is being printed on fabric rather than paper. According to Canada Post's *Details* booklet (January–February 2015 / No. 2), “the print stock consists of a specialized satin rayon fabric applied, using adhesives and silicones, to a paper backer similar to, but thicker than, that used with most postage pressure-sensitive stamps.” The upper surface of the stamp is quite brightly fluorescent in UV light, and the teeth are unusual for a pressure-sensitive stamp in being opposite (i.e., teeth on opposing sides of the stamp are exactly opposite each other) like those on sheet stamps, rather than alternate (i.e., teeth on one side line up with the spaces between teeth on the other side of the stamp) as on peel-and-stick booklets and coil stamps. As a result, if two flag stamps are placed adjacent to each other as if they were part of a sheet of stamps, the teeth touch, creating holes between them like the perforation holes in a perforated sheet. Alternate teeth, on the other hand, allow the teeth on adjacent stamps to intermesh, as on Canada Post's booklet panes and coil stamps.

Canada Post turned to a new paper manufacturer, Wausau Coated Products, for the \$5 flag stamp. The company was founded in 1981 and is based in Wausau, Wisconsin, with branch offices elsewhere in the US, in Mexico, and in Whitby, Ontario. On its website, the company bills itself as “a leading manufacturer of pressure sensitive products, label materials, and custom coating technologies serving a wide variety of markets.”

The information in the accompanying tables is from the Canada Post website,

<http://www.canadapost.ca/cpo/mc/personal/collecting/stamps/2015/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 1

- (a) A: Bk 6 × \$2.50; B: SS 1 × \$2.50; C: Transitional SS with one \$2.50 Ram stamp from 2015 and one \$1.85 Horse stamp from 2014.
- (b) P: 6CL + embossing and 1 foil stamping. A: 5CL + 1 foil stamping. B: 7CL + embossing and 1 foil stamping; C: 5CL + embossing and 1 foil stamping.
- (c) The booklet pane shows six colour “dots”, but the two outer ones appear to be identical shades of blue.
- (d) 6CL, aqueous plus invisible red tagging.
- (e) The Pansies coil stamps have intermeshed printing of “Canada” on the back.

Abbreviations for Table 1

*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; PVA = polyvinyl alcohol; SH = sheet; SS = souvenir sheet; W = Wausau Coated Products.

Reference

- [1] Nelson Mandela. *Long Walk to Freedom: The Autobiography of Nelson Mandela*. Little, Brown and Company, New York. First paperback edition, 1995.

Table 1. 2015 Commemoratives

| Stamp | Year of the Ram | Sir John A Macdonald | Nelson Mandela | Flag: 50 th Anniversary | Pansies |
|-------------|--|----------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Value | P, \$2.50 | P | P, \$2.50 | P, \$5.00 | 2 × P |
| Issued | 8 Jan | 11 Jan | 30 Jan | 15 Feb | 2 Mar |
| Printer | L-M | CBN | CBN | Bk: L-M SS: CBN | L-M |
| Pane | P: SH 25 A,B,C: ^(a) | Bk: 10 | Bk: 10 × P SS: 1 × \$2.50 | Bk: 10 × P SS: 1 × \$5.00 | Bk: 10 SS: 2 Coil: 50 ^(e) |
| Paper | C | C | C | Bk: C SS: W | C |
| Process | ^(b) | 5CL | 6CL | Bk: 5CL ^(c) SS: ^(d) | 6CL |
| Qty (1000s) | P: 125 SH A: 180 Bk B: 300 SS C: 150 SS | 150 | Bk: 500 SS: 150 | Bk: 500 SS: 300 | Bk: 600 SS: 135 Coil: 120 |
| Tag | G4S | G4S | G4S | SS: ^(d) Bk: G4S | G4S |
| Gum | P,B,C: PVA Bk: P-S | P-S | SS: PVA Bk: P-S | P-S | SS: PVA Bk, coil: P-S |
| Size, mm | 32 × 32 | 32 × 40 | SS: 40 × 41 Bk: 32 × 32 | SS: 101 × 61 Bk: 40 × 32 | 26 × 32 |
| Perf | P,B,C: 12.5 × 12.5 Bk: Simulated | Simulated | SS: 12.5 × 13.2 Bk: Simulated | SS: Simulated Bk: Simulated | SS: 13.1 × 13.1 Bk, coil: Simulated |
| Teeth | P,B,C: 20 × 20 Bk: Simulated | Simulated | SS: 25 × 27 Bk: Simulated | SS: Simulated Bk: Simulated | SS: 17 × 21 Bk, coil: Simulated |

Study group centreline

Peter McCarthy, OTB

CENTRELINE 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 received between 15 December 2014 and 15 March 2015.

British Columbia

The March 2015 edition of the British Columbia Postal History newsletter starts off with this edition's favourite cover from Minto, BC to Vancouver. Minto was a promising gold mining town north of Vancouver that failed by 1938. It was then occupied by Japanese-Canadian families sent there for internment during WWII.

Last issue's Vancouver suburban straightline markings article brought in quite a response from several members; their responses producing a preliminary update. A cover addressed to a Mrs SV Logan, with a notation "Returning on Gripsholm," inspired Andrew Scott to write a most interesting article about this WWII repatriation vessel. Gray Scrimgeour added a fascinating article on early stampless covers from Quebec to Vancouver Island and other parts of British Columbia. All pertain to John Vanfelson Woolsey (1838–1909), the son of a prominent Quebec merchant. The covers span five years from 1859 to 1864. Some gorgeous covers are illustrated with route descriptions. Russ Janes provided a post card with the Janes Road post office split ring marking and a photo of the grocery and post office run by William Janes, along with a thumbnail sketch of his family. Tracy Cooper has undertaken the task of cataloguing BC cork cancels, not simply the fancy cancels but all cork cancels. Part 1 in this issue deals with Victoria. You'll note that Dave Lacelle is credited with having completed major research on fancy cancels. The newsletter finishes with recent updates on the Sechelt post office.

Elizabethan II

In the January–February issue, Volume 23, Number 4 of *Corgi Times*, the newsletter of the Elizabethan II study group (ESG), Editor Robin Harris is quick to point out a glaring error in the cachet of the recent Sir John A Macdonald first day cover. The cover shows an early map of Canada, but Prince Edward Island is missing. The question is: Will there be a recall as was done with the Catherine O'Hara stamp? News from Canada Post news is followed by some negative feedback on the 2015 stamp releases to-date. If you belong to the ESG, you can get some good books at a special price. Check it out. A constant variety on the "Wait For Me Daddy" stamp has been reported. Robert Lemire reports a new postal stationery envelope depicting the non-denominated 43¢ with the Canadian flag has been available since last mid-November. The Canada flag celebrating fifty years was commemorated by the release of a Permanent™ domestic rate stamp in booklet form, a single five dollar stamp and an uncut \$115 sheet. Thanks to Andrew Chung, the Santa Claus envelopes and post card for 2014 are shown. In a previous issue, an uncut press sheet of the Krieghoff stamp was shown, pointing out the better-known varieties. Brian Common has undertaken to study this stamp closely, and he illustrates some of the constant other varieties in the present issue. Paul Smith wrote an extremely interesting five-page article on methods used by Canada Post to produce stamps over the years. The article will be continued in a future issue and should not to be missed.

First day cover study group

First Impressions is the newsletter of the First Day Cover study group. In issue No 22, Gary Dickinson begins with a Bob Vogel article on "First Day Cover Errors, Freaks and Oddities." This is the first part of a two-part series and deals with printing errors. Gary then tells the story of the first day covers of the joint US-Canada Bicentennial issue, along with a short sketch of Benjamin Franklin's involvement with the post office in British North America. More than thirty-five different cachets are illustrated. John Van der Ven rounds the newsletter with part five of the Wolstencroft cachets. They are most colourful.

Issue No 23 of the newsletter starts with the continuation of Bob Vogel's study on errors, freaks, and oddities that appear on first day covers. I'm sure that we all have a first day cover or two in our philatelic hoards. Bob would no doubt be very happy to hear from

anyone who thinks he or she may have such a cover. From the Robert L Markovits' archives comes a letter, on his letterhead, signed by well-known Ottawa cachet maker Robert Cole. Enclosed with the letter were two of his first commercial covers. John Van der Ven pens part VI, the last of the Wolstencroft cachets articles. Eighteen beautifully illustrated covers are shown to end this series. I believe the entire collection would make an outstanding exhibit. Two handbooks by members have recently been published and are available through Sparks Auctions. Gary Dickinson needs some assistance concerning the use of a cachet featuring the Canadian coat of arms in 1966 and 1967, resurrected in 2005, 2007, and again in 2015. Gary wants to know "What's 'The Story'?"

Military Mail

To open the January newsletter, No 217, of the Canadian Military Mail Study Group. Jon Johnson tells the story of a letter sent to a "Donkeyman" on the *SS Victoria* in 1943. The *SS Victoria* was one of twenty-four merchant vessels built by Foundation Maritime in Pictou, NS. John Watson chimes in with a few observations on the first RCN censor stamp. Perhaps someone could help John out with a Navy List for 1915. A 10¢ Small Queen cover, with full description, recently sold in an Eastern Auction Ltd sale is shown. The cover was sent to a Captain Sandbach in Afghanistan, a rare destination during this period. David Collyer did some research on a previous article by Robert Henderson about a Gustave Pohlig post card, with a picture on the reverse, produced by Australians for the use of POWs. The regulations on receiving mail are quoted. Graham Mark and Jim Felton are working on an update to Alan Steinhart's *Civil Censorship in Canada During World War I*. They are seeking information on examples they mention, especially for 1916 and 1917. Two items were provided by Lee Dowsley. One shows a circular Canadian/Fleet mail/Office/Overseas marking outgoing from Leith House, and the other an unlisted oval Canadian Fleet Mail Office marking, also from Leith House. Henk Burgers sent a Dunster Force Censor cover that has no Canadian connection, but it does follow an article previously published by John Watson. Colin Pomfret shows two covers of the "Eskimo Force" FPO 1212. John Watson shows a 1957 cover addressed to Denmark from Egypt CFPO 35, which was routed via Montreal. The newsletter ends with a Second World War election letter also sent in by Colin Pomfret.

Newfoundland

As reported in the January–March issue. No 158, Malcolm Back answered Bob Dyer's call and is now the co-editor of the *Newfie Newsletter*, the Newfoundland Study Group's publication. Malcolm is the son of Cyril Back, who made news by celebrating his ninetieth birthday in Hamilton with a flight in the Lancaster bomber. In the Perfin Corner, Barry Senior illustrates the George Knowling perfin on the 1911 Royal Family issue, including a Knowling cover.

Rob Moore's favourite covers are those created by the Pope Furniture Manufacturing Company, believed to have been the oldest such factory in Newfoundland. Shown are covers illustrating various pieces of furniture. Bruce Robertson submits a Reverend Butler story involving (according to the title) an orphan. In this segment, Bruce outlines the Reverend's marketing methods. Looking forward to the next installment. Jean-Claude Vasseur closes out the newsletter with an in-depth look at the Newfoundland airmail and slanted surcharges. I'm sure there will be reader feedback on this one.

Perfins

The January issue of *The BNA Perforator*, Volume 36, Number 1, reprints ten years of EXPONET with the co-operation of Maurice Harp, editor of the British Perfin Society's Bulletin, and with permission from the author Vladimir Munzberger. If you want to know more about EXPONET, go to the website at www.exponet.info. Changes to the Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials are listed along with a list of perfins on RPO cancels. Jim Black tells the short story of the Eby-Blain Company, which operated as wholesale grocers, and illustrates the perfin used. The company closed in 1922. Both Joseph Eby and Hugh Blain were directors of the Port Arthur, Duluth and Western Railway. Ron Whyte sends in a story of the WH Malkin Co perfin on an RPO cancel, affixed to a CPR post card featuring a picture of the *SS Princess Victoria*. Sean Weatherup provided information on the three inverted lines of the RPO cancel. Gary Steele sent in a copy of a cover with thirteen \$1 Chateau de Ramezay stamps perforated with the four-hole OHMS in addition to nine Memorial Chamber stamps and a 2¢ Mufti. Gary even includes the weight and rating. What a cover! Closing out the newsletter is a story of the Curzon Brothers, world-renowned tailors. The article was compiled with the help of Jim Black, Peter Maybury of Johannesburg, SA, and Maurice Harp. The conclusion is that identical dies of the CB perfin used on stamps from Canada, France, Great Britain, and South Africa.

Railway Post Office

Ross Gray, the editor of the RPO Study Group Newsletter, starts off Volume 43, Number 2, with a new Western discovery of a registered money bag tag addressed to Vancouver. It consists of an oval cancellation reading M JAW & CAL. Ross also describes an interesting RPO journey of a cover addressed to St Louis, MO, from Blair, ON, complete with timetables. Ross then comes up with a unique application of a station cancellation being used on the back of a cover. This type of cancel was normally used on mail posted at station boxes, and not as a transit stamp on a registered item. It also has a direction indicium instead of time marks. Unique indeed! A number of new reports mostly on early and late periods of use were submitted. Ross reports that the new catalogue is progressing well, Ross and Brian Stalker decided to publish the Newfoundland & Labrador section separately from the main catalogue mainly because of the increase in the number of pages. In addition, consideration is being given to reducing the frequency of publication of newsletter from bi-monthly to quarterly due to the lack of articles. Does this sound familiar to other newsletter Editors?



Picture courtesy of John Jamieson, Saskatoon Stamp Centre

Re-entries

Dots and Scratches is the newsletter of the re-entry group. Editor Michael Smith begins Volume 2, Number 1, by showing the 3d Beaver proof cracked plate variety that is also referred to as the Railway Tracks (shown here, courtesy of John Jamieson, Saskatoon Stamps). Michael believes the variety was produced by scratches rather than plate cracks. Michael then goes on to the 5¢ Beaver plate flaw, showing an enlarged portion of the "O" in "postage" illustrating the described

flaw. Michael acknowledges two authors, Geoffrey Whitworth and Kenneth A Kershaw for their work on the 5¢ Beaver stamp, and in this issue he looks at re-entry position 71 state 9. Michael follows with the spur varieties on the half cent Large Queen and the dot in the "E" variety. Michael shows the major re-entry on all six shades of the 8¢ Small Queen.

Earl Noss sent in images of the weeping princess variety from the King George V Silver Jubilee Issue, along with the repaired state and a normal stamp. Earl also provided a copy of the 17¢ Airmail Special delivery stamp, with an anomaly that appears to be abrasions rather than a re-entry, and Michael shows a lower left plate block of ten with the flaw. Earl also shows a copy with the OHMS perfin. The major re-entry on the John Cabot Newfoundland stamp is brought to the forefront and, with the help of John Trimble and his proof block, shows the major re-entry on the lower right image. An enlargement of a used copy of the stamp is also shown as a comparator. The addendum, which includes corrections and correspondence, rounds out the newsletter.

War Times

Bill Pekonen, Chairman and Secretary of the WWII Study Group as well as Editor of *War Times*, the Group's newsletter, is still looking for an editor as of this Issue Number 60. Barry Brown's information on the War Tax—and the products on which it was imposed and when it was repealed—is reproduced, as are excerpts from the 1929 postal yearbook, describing the different categories subject to the War Tax. From that same book is a list of all revenue collected for the fiscal years 1915–1928 and another list of the revenues collected between 1923 and 1928. Cheques are illustrated, with a description of the taxes collected for different periods with notices to postmasters that postage stamps could be used to collect war tax on cheques. Charles LaBlonde sent in an interesting cover addressed to Toronto from Lausanne, Switzerland on 12 November 1942 and suspended twice, finally arriving in Canada, where it censored by censor DB/483. For those who have read the article, Charles welcomes comments and opinions. That closes this issue of the newsletter.

Postscript and invitation to a reactivated study group

The postal practice of pre-cancelling stamps was in vogue for approximately 100 years, and it has been an area of study and collecting for a long time. More recently, interest in pre-cancels by philatelists seems to have declined. At present, there are fewer than 25 active aficionados within BNAPS. By contrast, the collecting and study of pre-cancels in the US is still a very large world.

In addition to the standard types of pre-cancels—bar types, town types, numeral types—a number of sub-categories have also been studied over the years. These include revenues, varieties, nailheads, and perfins. Some of these have been listed and catalogued, but many are collected on a sporadic and isolated basis. Some years back, a BNAPS Pre-Cancel Study Group persevered for a while, but closed up shop about ten years ago. A few of the leaders of that group are still active, but there is no organized BNAPS activity currently underway. It is proposed to re-activate this Study Group and to extend its previous mandate to include all of the lesser known areas of study. If you are interested in pre-cancels and in joining this reactivated Study Group, please contact Andy Ellwood at <andy_ellwood@rogers.com>. Let's see if we can get the area active again.

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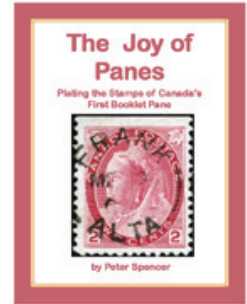
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New book releases

BNAPS has released one new book, the seventh volume in Peter Spencer's continuing look at all the stamps of the Queen Victoria Numeral issue, and the Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada has reprinted a 1993 book that has long been out of print. A separate book review describes the latest publication of the Postal History Society of Canada.

The Joy of Panes—Plating the Stamps of Canada's First Booklet Pane; Peter Spencer, 2015. Spiral bound, 108 pages, 8.5 × 11", colour. ISBN: 978-1-927119-48-8. Published by the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS). Stock # B4h072-1; C\$56.00



The Joy of Panes—Plating the Stamps of Canada's First Booklet Pane is the seventh volume in Peter Spencer's series on the plating of Canada's Queen Victoria era Numeral Issue. Using today's technology to produce scans of vivid clarity, the author has closely examined the two plates used to prepare the six Two Cent stamps in each booklet pane to show readers how to determine the plate position of individual copies of these popular stamps. *The Joy of Panes* is a companion to the author's previous Numeral volumes, the Two Cent (2005), the One Cent (2006), the Five Cent Plate 1 (2007), the Ten Cent (2008), the Twenty Cent (2010) and the Five Cent Plates 2 and 3 (2012).

The Joy of Panes is the first major plating study of the Two Cent values of Canada's first booklet pane. Printed from plates specially made for the purpose and not from those used to print the general issue Two Cent value, the author has discovered enough varieties to fill this 108-page book. It will form an excellent basis for further studies of these stamps and possible additional discoveries that readers might make as they examine their holdings.

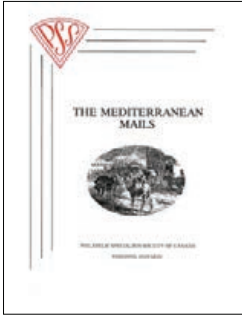
Peter Spencer began stamp collecting in the 1950s. After schooling in his native Alberta, he received degrees in Physics from Queen's University at Kingston and the University of Waterloo. He taught Physics for a third of a century and was privileged to be the Head of Science at Leacock Collegiate in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

On retirement, Peter quietly metamorphosed into a full-time philatelist with the world as his interest, looking especially for used, pre-1900, engraved, colourful, or odd and unusual—preferably all five at once. His interests have ranged from Afghanistan to the Bomba Heads of Sicily to Zaire. In 2003, he co-taught the "Detecting Fakes and Forgeries" APS Summer Seminar in State College, Pennsylvania, with Bill Dixon.

All BNAPS books are available from: Sparks Auctions, 1550 Carling Avenue, Suite 202, Ottawa, ON K1Z 8S8, Canada. Email: <BNAPS@sparks-Auctions.com>. Phone: (613) 567-3336. (If no answer, please leave a voicemail. Your call will be returned.) Internet orders can be placed at <<http://sparks-auctions.com/bnapsbooks/>>.

Prices given above are the retail prices in Canadian Dollars. BNAPS members receive a 40 percent discount from retail prices. Shipping is extra. Credit card orders (Visa,

MasterCard) will be billed for the exact amount of shipping plus \$2 per order. For payment by cheque or money order, please contact Sparks Auctions in advance. Applicable taxes will be charged on orders delivered in Canada.



The Mediterranean Mails, Fred R Stubens, editor. Republished by The Philatelic Specialists Society Of Canada, 2015, electronic (ebook) format. Free. Available online at:

<<http://www.philatelicspecialistsociety.com>>

In March of 1993, the Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada (PSSC) published *The Mediterranean Mails*, a study of the mails from, to, and through the Mediterranean to the end of the nineteenth century. The book, a compilation of articles written by various members, edited by Fred R Stubens, sold out some years ago.

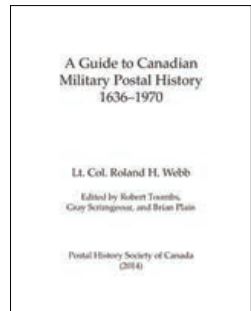
Over the years, the Society has continued to receive queries about the availability of the book, and information on acquiring a copy. The PSSC executive decided some months ago to re-publish the book as an “ebook” (electronic book). It has now been assembled into a PDF file, along with an interactive Contents page: Clicking on the title of any article will take you directly to that article without having to scroll through the entire book to get to it—a great time-saver.

The Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada is extremely pleased to announce that *The Mediterranean Mails* is now available digitally for download on the PSSC website COMPLETELY FREE OF CHARGE! The file is ~13.5 MB in size. There are links on the PSSC website Home and Publications pages, at the web address shown above. The only request the PSSC makes is that if any of the information contained within is used or quoted in any form, the Society be given proper credit. This is an exciting step in the history of the Society, and postal historians and collectors alike are encouraged to take advantage of it!

Book review

Mike Street

Lt Col Roland H Webb, *A Guide to Canadian Military Postal History 1636–1970*; edited by Robert Toombs, Gray Scrimgeour, and Brian Plain; 2014, Postal History Society of Canada. 555 pp. A limited number of 8.5 × 11” casebound copies will be printed at C\$79.69 plus shipping. These should be ordered by 31 May 2015 from Gus Knierim, 115 Lydia Street, Kitchener, ON N2H 1V6, or by email at: <gknierim@postalhistorycanada.net>. After the paper version has been published, a lower-resolution, electronic (ebook) version will be available on the PHSC website for its members.



In 2009, this writer was fortunate to learn about and then locate a typeset—but never published—manuscript by Charles De Volpi on Canadian Domestic postage rates between 1608 and 1875. That book is now being prepared for publication by the VG Greene Foundation. Late in 2014, I was surprised and very pleased to learn that another “missing” manuscript had been found and was being published by the Postal History Society of Canada (PHSC).

In 2012, while visiting the shop of Vancouver auctioneer Brian Grant Duff with Robert Toombs and Gray Scrimgeour, Brian Plain noticed a copy of a 1970 typescript: *A Guide to Canadian Military Postal History, 1636–1967*, by Lt Col Roland H Webb, who died in 1970. Although announced in 1974 as being prepared for publication by Ed Richardson for the Canadian National Postal Museum, the project was never completed.

Bob purchased the copy, and a major project ensued. After getting permission—and a copy of an original typescript—from the Webb family, Bob, Gray, and Brian began the arduous task of preparing the book for publication. Bob compared his copy to the Webb family's and the one in Library and Archives Canada (LAC) and found all three identical. Bob also photographed as many items in the LAC copy as he could. The original was scanned through Optical Character Reader (OCR) software to provide a starting point for Bob and Gray to process into a working text file. Brian provided proofreading and wrote additional material. It was determined that seven chapters missing from all three copies had never been written. Of these missing topics, censorship is now included as a chapter, and a Canadian Forces Air Letters (AFALs) section appears as a newly composed Appendix. General notes have been compiled in an Introduction, abbreviations listed, and an index prepared. Each chapter has a Suggested Reading list, with references both contemporary and recent. The Editors believe the book has been completed in a form that presents Webb's wording and intentions, and it provides a framework for future research.

The primary focus of Lt Col Webb's book is the Military Postal Service. Part One covers its development from 1636 to 1901, in the South African War, and the Canadian Postal Corps (CPC) and its Field Post Offices in Canada to 1941. Postal Service in the First World War, including the Canadian Expeditionary Force in Siberia, is the subject of Part Two. Similarly, Part Three covers the period of the Second World War, with emphasis on the campaigns in Europe and North Africa, but not forgetting the smaller missions to places such as Newfoundland, Alaska, Hong Kong and South East Asia. The focus of Part Four is the 1949–1967 “Cold War” era, including service under the United Nations flag, and censorship of forces mail. Among subjects in Part Five, the Appendices, are “Concessional Postage Rates for the Canadian Armed Forces,” an interesting article on the 3rd Echelon, the administrative arm of the CPC in WWI, an RH Webb Bibliography, and an extensive Index.

The book is filled with tables outlining where and when different units of the CPC were deployed during its long history, illustrations of military postmarks of different periods, and covers to and from Canadian men and women serving in Canada and overseas. Since the book's coverage ended in 1967 and the manuscript is dated 1970, it is no surprise that the postmark illustrations are not comprehensive. I suspect that Lt Col Webb would have been more than pleased to see how this aspect of his work was carried on by his successors, notably in the Canadian Military Postmark catalogues published first by Bill Bailey and Ritch Toop, and subsequently by Doug Sayles, and particularly by the Editors and members of the BNAPS Canadian Military Mail Study Group who, since 1970, have together produced almost 1,400 pages of their newsletter.

Acknowledgement

Thanks very much to Dean Mario, Editor of the *Newsletter* of the BNAPS Canadian Military Mail Study Group, for his excellent summary of the evolution of this book, from discovery of the typescript through production of the print and ebook versions.

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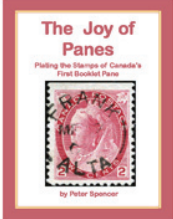


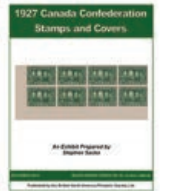

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|  | <p>The King Edward VII Issue of Canada July 1, 1903–October 6, 1908, 2014, by George Dresser. The second book in the BNAPS Exhibit Series to feature King Edward VII stamps and postal history contains almost 100 percent different material from the first, including more and, in some cases, much rarer postal history. Colour, spiral, 136 pp. ISBN: 978-1-927119-44-0. Stock # B4h923-80-1. \$62.00</p> |
|  | <p>1927 Canada Confederation Stamps and Covers, 2014, by Stephen Sacks. The first Canadian issue after the Admiral era was a colourful set of stamps honouring the 60th Anniversary of Confederation. The exhibit includes the stamps, with research on the imperforates, and many covers. Colour, spiral, 92 pp. ISBN: 978-1-927119-46-4. Stock # B4h923-82-1. \$53.00</p> |
|  | <p>Overseas Mails First Day Covers of Canada, 2014, by Jan Pieter (John) van der Ven, and Mark Lerner. Between 1954 and 1977, a small family-owned business in New York produced over 130 first day covers, each containing an informational insert, for 144 Canadian stamps of the era. Colour, spiral, 158 pp. ISBN: 978-1-927119-47-1. Stock # B4h923-80-1. \$66.95</p> |

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More New Titles (See website for complete list)

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|  | <p>Seasons of the Maple on First Day Covers, 2014, by Gary Dickinson. With the release of the 1971 “Seasons of the Maple Leaf” issue, the Canada Post Office joined the ranks of First Day Cover producers, a presence which eventually led to greatly reduced competition in the field. Colour, spiral, 52 pp. ISBN: 978-1-927119-41-9. Stock # B4h070-1.</p> <p>\$40.95</p> |
|  | <p>Rennie's Seeds, 2014, by Richard Lamb. Every collector of Canadian postal history has seen covers from the Rennie Seed Company. This is the story behind them. Colour, spiral, 90 pp. ISBN: 978-1-927119-42-6. Stock # B4h923-78-1.</p> <p>\$51.00</p> |
|  | <p>Victorian Montreal: Economic Hub of the Dominion (Illustrated Mail, 1844-1903), 2014, by Robert Pinet. A fascinating look at the beautifully illustrated envelopes used by the many companies, large and small, which formed the economy of Montreal in the Victorian era. Colour, spiral, 88 pp. ISBN 978-1-927119-43-3. Stock # B4h923-79-1.</p> <p>\$51.00</p> |

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President's column

George Dresser, OTB

Volunteering

BNAPS is a volunteer organization and, as such, I think, it works amazingly well. Some volunteers give a lot of time to the Society on a continuing basis. Some volunteers do important activities that require concentrated amounts of time and effort, not continually but periodically. Still others give BNAPS the benefit of their thinking, experience, knowledge of the Society and its history, but may no longer perform specific activities that result in a product or identified outcome. When everyone is doing their work well, we tend not to notice. When something doesn't get done on time or perhaps doesn't get done at all, then we notice, and maybe we even get a little annoyed. These same things can be said about almost any volunteer organization. Americans and Canadians seem to thrive on volunteering and, if you are like me, you probably belong to several. I encourage you to participate in a meaningful way, sharing your time and talent, in at least one or two volunteer organizations. Furthermore, I invite you to consider BNAPS as one of those organizations. Here is where it gets a bit more challenging. How does one go about volunteering for a Society when you don't know anyone personally—say you haven't been to a BNAPEX conference and you haven't participated in a Regional Group? I have a few suggestions, but don't be limited by these.



First: What do you like to do? What are your skills? What do you have fun doing? What need do you see that BNAPS is not filling or perhaps not filling as well as you would like? What collecting interest would you like to advance further? Do you see a need for a new study group? Do you see a need for a new regional group? Is there an article you have been thinking about writing but are not sure how to get started? Is there a current BNAPS activity that you would like to learn more about? Do you have an interesting philatelic item or knowledge about an item that you think others would like to see or learn about?

Second: Introduce yourself and share your interests with a BNAPS official. The last four pages of *BNA Topics* list just about every member who holds an official capacity, providing a home address and an e-mail address. Simply contact someone and share your interests. For example, if you have an interest or talent in writing or publishing, the Editors of *BNA Topics* could use a hand reviewing and laying out articles.

Third: Introduce yourself and share your interests with the members. This is also easily accomplished. Go to the BNAPS website, <http://www.bnaps.org/>. Click on Member Routines, click on Member Directory and click on View My Profile. Complete your profile information and save the results. The information you input to the Online directory description box in your profile screen will appear on the Member Links Directory page.

This is a free-form box, so whatever you write in that box will appear with your name on the BNAPS Member Links Directory screen. As an example, let's say you have the ability and interest to prepare indexes for keyword searches for back issues of *BNA Topics*, but you don't know who to contact. Simply write this interest in the Online directory description box. It is up to the appropriate official to contact you and my job to see that that happens.

Member profile

Now, some encouragement and a plea for those many BNAPS members who have chosen to be—or through oversight are—anonymous. BNAPS has over 1,000 members. Currently there are 120 members listed on the BNAPS Member Links Directory screen, and most of those are simply a name and an email address. Note that your home address does not appear, just your e-mail address and the information you have put in the online description box on your member profile screen. You have to be a BNAPS member to see this page; therefore, I don't think there is a privacy issue concern. So, members, let's use this page to improve our internal communications abilities. Let members know what your collecting interests are and, if you are able, volunteer. Contribute some time to advance the services provided by BNAPS to its members!

The aging population

My spouse and I attend Texas A&M University sports events and travel to some away games. This past week we traveled to Little Rock, Arkansas for the Southeastern Conference (SEC) women's basketball tournament. We had fun and saw twelve basketball games in four days, missing only one of the thirteen games played. The age cohort among the adults in attendance reminded me of the age cohort that I see at stamp shows in the US. At a recent basketball fan luncheon our basketball coach, Gary Blair, asked several ladies present what we needed to do to get people in the 30-55 age group to attend women's basketball games. I thought it was an excellent question, but he did not get positive suggestions. He did get several reasons why this age group does not attend often and certainly not in proportion to their numbers in our community. Families in this age group still have children at home, are busy with their work and careers, discretionary income is limited, etc. In an earlier column, I talked about the need for succession planning for BNAPS. In going about this task, I most probably need to realize that the most likely candidates to succeed those now holding positions of responsibility are members who are already over 55 and are most probably near retirement or already retired. These are the folks who have the interest, time, and income to advance their hobbies, and their life expectancy is now greater than at any previous time in history. Furthermore, the medical evidence is overwhelming that an active mind helps mitigate the impacts of aging. Philately may not be recognized as a medical deduction on our income tax returns, but it can have a very healthy impact on the quality of our lives.

George Arfken Library

Philatelic legend George Arfken has generously donated the Canadian-related portion of his philatelic library to be sold for the benefit of BNAPS. I have arranged for the transportation of his books from Florida to Texas and, in the coming months, I will be making them available for purchase through the BNAPS website. Watch the website for details.

From the Secretary—Report date: 15 March 2015

Andy Ellwood

(10 Doris Avenue, Gloucester, ON K1T 3W8, <andy_ellwood@rogers.com>)

Membership fees

There will be no increase in membership fees for 2015. 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 ten percent reduction in cost. Send your application form and cheque or money order to the Secretary.

Applications for membership

After receipt of an application, the applicant is classified as a new member, and the person'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, the applicant is confirmed as a Regular Member.

New Members (applied between 15 December 2014 and 5 March 2015)

R-6807 Brian McA'Nulty, Dartmouth, NS

R-6808 Bruce Hodina, Oak Forest, IL

R-6809 Brian Livingstone, London, UK

R-6810 Douglas Hull, Ottawa, ON

R-6811 Rob Learmonth, Whitecourt, AB

R-6812 Mark Woodward, Redding, CA

R-6813 Paul Tissington, Burlington, ON

R-6814 James Wardell, Mt. Albert, ON

R-6815 William Courtney, Peachtree City, GA

All applicants assigned membership numbers between 6788 and 6806 have been confirmed as Active Regular members of BNAPS with full membership privileges. Their names were published in the previous issue of *BNA Topics*, Vol 72, No 1, January–March 2015, p 71.

Address changes: addresses changed between 2014-12-15 and 2015-03-05

R-6271 Bill Aaroe, Surrey, BC

E-2923 Colin Geoffrey Banfield,

Loughton, UK

R-6548 John Cranmer, Mirfield, UK

R-4675 John E Croker, Bristol, UK

R-6619 Sebastien Delcampe, Tubize,

Belgium

R-5531 Judith M Edwards, Welshpool, UK

R-5675 Albert R Govier, Castle Douglas,

UK

R-5832 Walter A Insley, York, SC

R-6703 Kristin Jakobson, Missoula, MT

E-2575 Hugh Laurence, Toronto, ON

R-6811 Rob Learmonth, Whitecourt, AB

R-6329 Pascal Leblond, Thurso, QC

R-6809 Brian Livingstone, London, UK

R-5304 Dr Iain MacInnes, Skye, UK

R-6251 John C McCuaig, Edmonton, AB

R-5077 Robert McLeish, Perth, UK

R-6690 Jason Moisan, Gander, NL

R-6739 Greg J Nesteroff, Nelson, BC

E-3198 Rick Parama, Houston, TX

R-6697 William A Phillips, Schwenksville,

PA

R-5452 Stuart Reddington, Mississauga, ON

R-6247 Terry W Sitch, Winnipeg, MB

R-5532 Arlene M. Sullivan, New

Westminster, BC

R-6379 Simon Taylor-Young, Cranbrook,

BC

R-6803 Ed Tittley, Toronto, ON
 E-2428 Miss Elizabeth Todd,
 Mississauga, ON
 R-6521 Robert Wallace, Dundee, UK

R-6812 Mark Woodward, Redding, CA
 R-5783 John Michael Wright,
 Eastbourne, UK

Resigned

R-4447 Anne Pallen
 R-4835 R (Bob) Pickell
 R-5240 Paul Hurtubise
 R-5311 Dwight D Gray
 R-5569 David A Medeiros
 R-5792 Andrew Salmon

R-5899 Robert S Olds
 R-6061 David G Bree
 R-6103 Louis Fiset
 R-6382 Bob Adams
 R-6533 James K Oliver
 R-6544 Randal Warnock

Deceased

L-4757 Wilson E Born

Active membership counts

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| Regular Members | 864 |
| Emeritus Members | 113 |
| Emeritus Family | 3 |
| Life Members | 53 |
| Complimentary | 15 |
| Topics Subscription | 5 |
| Total Active Members | 1033 |

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

Exchange circuit news

Andy Ellwood

THE Circuit continues to receive new material. Since my last report, I have received a number of new sheets of Classics, Admirals, Perfins, KGVI Coil Strips, Pre-Cancels, Revenues and Nfld postal cards. Some of the Classics items are quite unusual. Many prices are often in the range of 30 percent of catalogue. The total value of material in the Circuit is now over \$50,000, but there is still room for lots more, especially in covers. I am particularly looking for Publications, Perfins, and interesting Bulk Lots. Contact me at (613) 737-2137 or at <andy_ellwood@rogers.com>.

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

CANADA, NEWFOUNDLAND COVERS. Thousands scanned, online at www.donslau.com, Stampless to WW II—have a look. Don Slaughter, Box 8002, RPO Sherwood Forest, London, ON, N6G 4X1 (4-13)

WALSH STAMP eCATALOGUE. at www.nfldstamps.com are found Newfoundland Specialized 490 pgs; (\$55.95 Cdn) and British North America Specialized (New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, British Columbia, Prince Edward Island, Classic Canada (1851-1951) 569 pgs; (\$55.95 Cdn). In color for your digital devices. The companion Walsh u-print albums also available. Check out <http://www.lulu.com/spotlight/jmwalsh>

WANTED

DECIMAL ISSUE ON COVER. (Sc.#14-20), overseas destinations, multiples, rates; also looking for U.S. Civil War patriotics to/from Canada/BNA; phone: 610-399-1509; R. Majors, 253 Caleb Dr., W. Chester, PA 19382; ronald.e.majors@gmail.com.

LITERATURE

OLD ISSUES OF BNA Topics FOR SALE: Add valuable info to your library. Will do 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>.

Regional Group Rant

George Dresser and Ronald E Majors

Overview!

BNAPS President George Dresser is still searching for a new Regional Group Vice-President! Remember that if you are a BNAPS member you are automatically enrolled in your local Regional Group so, by all means, take advantage of the opportunity to meet with fellow BNAPSers, even at a local stamp show in the US or Canada.

Regional Group Reports

Please remember to advise one of us (<ronald.e.majors@gmail.com> or <g-dresser@suddenlink.net>) and our website coordinator, Dave Bartlet (<dave.bartlet@shaw.ca>) of the dates of upcoming meetings. We provide brief outlines of the meetings in this column, so please check out the BNAPS website for further details on Regional Group activities in your particular geographical area.

Prairie Beavers

The *Prairie Beavers* are holding their spring meeting in College Station, Texas at St Mary's Catholic Center on 18 April 2015 from 9:00 am–4:30 pm. Request a copy of the *Beaver Chatter* newsletter from George Dresser, <g-dresser@suddenlink.net>.

Dixie Beavers

The *Dixie Beavers* reported that they had a successful meeting in Atlanta at the recent Southeastern Stamp Expo and the Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs held 30 January to 1 February 2015.

There was a general show-and-tell session followed by a talk by John Burnett called *The Story of Three Covers*. John showed some of his research techniques and sources and the assumptions he was able to draw from his research. He told the story of the *SS Eros*, a small steamer torpedoed off the coast of Ireland on 17 August 1918, during the waning days of WWI. John had also researched the history of the German commander of the U-Boat that sank the *SS Eros*, and John included details of this in his talk.

The *Dixie Beavers* plan to have their next meeting on 25 or 26 July 2015, during CHARPEX in Charlotte, North Carolina, with a subsequent meeting and a social event at the 29–31 January 2016 Southeastern Stamp Expo and the APS AmeriStamp Expo in Atlanta.

Edmonton Regional Group

The *Edmonton Regional Group* continues to meet on the third Wednesday of each month from 7 to 9 pm. On Sunday, 29 March, the Group will be holding its annual breakfast in conjunction with the Edmonton Stamp Club's 2015 Spring National Stamp Show. The theme for this year's show is the 100th Anniversary of the 49th battalion Loyal Edmonton Regiment. At the breakfast, Tom Watkins of North Saanich, British Columbia, will be the featured speaker. His topic: *Canada's Semi-Official Airmail Stamps & Postal History*.

Florida Regional Group

The *Florida Regional Group* held a meeting in conjunction with the Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition on 6–8 February. An extremely interesting talk was given by Mark Isaacs on the postal history of the Canadian Forces in Vietnam in 1964 as a part of the International Control Commission, composed of military forces from Canada, India, and Poland. A post office established by the Indian contingent served all three contingents. (For more information, see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canada_and_the_Vietnam_War).

Calgary Chapter

The *BNAPS Calgary Chapter* has held two meetings since the last edition of the *BNA Topics Regional Group Rant*. On 11 February 2015, eleven members got together and listened to a feature presentation by Hugh Delaney on *The Fathers of Confederation*, with emphasis on Sir John A Macdonald. At the meeting, Jon Johnson summarized the contents of upcoming exhibitions, shows, and bourses. It was decided that Dave Bartlet will coordinate the "One Frame Exhibit" for the Edmonton National. Members show-and-tell included the *1939 Royal Visit and Geo. VI coils of 1949–1950* (Eldon Godfrey), *St. Pierre & Miquelon Migratory Birds, CBC Stamp Club of the Air* (Jim Taylor), and *Recent Military Hospital Acquisitions* (Jon Johnson).

The next Calgary meeting was held on 11 March 2015 with seven members in attendance. The program included a presentation by Cec Coutts on the "Northwest Mounted Police—The March West." Dave Freeman reported on the progress for the May Bourse of the Calgary Philatelic Society. Congratulations were offered to member Jim Taylor and his co-author Henk Slabbinck for being named the recipients of the 2014 Pratt Award by the Collectors Club of Chicago. During the March show-and-tell, Eldon Godfrey showed three pages of the Chapter's One Frame Exhibit, Jon Johnson showed four pages of Military Hospitals, and Dave Bartlet provided some philatelic examples from the 1962 Dawson YT Gold Rush Festival and the 1946 Hamilton Centennial Celebration.

The next meeting of the Calgary Group will be on 8 April and will feature Eldon Godfrey's presentation on *WWII Slogan Cancells*.

Golden Horseshoe Regional Group (GHRG)

Twenty-one individuals turned out for the GHRG January meeting at the Rousseau House. The meeting began with small groups enjoying philatelic talk and stories over coffee or going through dealer materials. GHRG will have a table at the April CSDA show in Toronto.

An auction is held at each meeting, with items donated by members. The funds raised go towards the Group's operating costs. The speaker for the meeting was Larry Cherns who gave an interesting talk on the "Overview of Correspondence from Hamilton during the period 1840–1950." The next monthly meeting will be held on 28 March.

Pacific Northwest Regional Group

Chair/Newsletter Editor Peter Fralick reports on the details of the group's upcoming Annual Meeting that will take place in Vernon, BC on 24–26 April 2015. Let Peter know, (e-mail: <peterfralick@outlook.com>) if you book a room, so that the meeting can get credit for the stay. Volunteers will be needed to help with presentations at the Annual meeting. A banquet will be held that evening. The meeting will finish up at noon Sunday. Help is solicited for a project of listing all post offices in BC and obtaining their postmarks, extending the work of Bill Topping and others.

Golden West Regional Group

The *Golden West Regional Group* will meet at WESTPEX (San Francisco, CA) on 25 April 2015 from 1–2:30 pm. At the time of this writing, the speaker and room had not yet been identified. For those seeking further information, contact Joe Schlitt (email: <wylecotejs@earthlink.net>).

Executives, Directors and Regional Group Contact Persons

British North America Philatelic Society Ltd

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

Elected officers:

Executive

President George Dresser, 501 Fairview Ave., College Station, TX 77840-2933
<g-dresser@suddenlink.net>

First Vice-President, Eldon C Godfrey, 2 Varbow Place NW, Calgary, AB T3A 0B6
<ecg@godfrey-godfrey.ca>

Past President Norris R (Bob) Dyer, 1708 Granada Ct, Petaluma, CA 94954-4531
<nrdyer@comcast.net>

Vice-President Regional Groups Vacant

Vice-President Study Groups Peter R MacDonald, 1264 Sherman Dr, Ottawa, ON K2C 2M8,
<studygroups@bnaps.org>

Secretary Andy Ellwood, 10 Doris Avenue, Gloucester, ON K1T 3W8 <andy_ellwood@rogers.com>

Treasurer Jean-Claude Michaud, PO Box 31248, Halifax, NS B3K 5Y1 <jcm.ph@ns.sympatico.ca>

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 William W Radcliffe, 500 Columbia Ave, Pitman, NJ 08071-1734 <bsbvp88@hotmail.com>
 Vic Willson (Chairperson), PO Box 10026, College Station, TX 77842-0026 <lloydwill@aol.com>

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Calgary (Calgary and surroundings): Jon Johnson, 39 Highgrove Cres SW, Calgary, AB T2V 3K8 <jciperfins@hotmail.com>
Dixie Beavers (Alabama, Georgia, both Carolinas, Mississippi, Tennessee): John Burnett, 127 Bluebelle Dr, Madison, AL 35758 <jb45855@aol.com>
Edmonton (Edmonton and surroundings): David Piercey, 181 Blackburn Dr, Edmonton, AB T6W 1B6 <dpiercey@telus.net>
Florida: Mark Isaacs, PO Box 52453, Sarasota, FL 34232 - Tel: 941-951-1419.
Golden Horseshoe (Southern Ontario, Western New York, Northern Ohio, Eastern Michigan): Peter McCarthy, 573 Griffith St, London, ON N6K 2S5 <BNAPS-GHRG@bnaps.org>
Golden West (California, Arizona, Nevada): Joe Schlitt, PO Box 263, Knightsen, CA 94548-0263 <wylecotejs@earthlink.net>
Lower Canada (Québec): Hugo Deshayé, PO Box 1000 Stn, Forces Box 444, Courcellette, QC G0A 4Z0 <hdphil@videotron.ca>
Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario (Manitoba, Northern Ontario, Minnesota, North and South Dakota): Don Fraser, 1183 Warsaw Ave, Winnipeg, MB R3M 1C5 <dafraser@escape.ca>
Mid-Atlantic (Virginia, West Virginia, DC, Delaware): Jeff Arndt, 4121 Marble Lane, Fairfax, VA 22033 <arndt123@aol.com>
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Northeastern (Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, Massachusetts): P Charles Livermore, 100-08 Ascan Ave, Forest Hills, NY 11375 <charleslivermore@hotmail.com>
Pacific-Northwest (BC, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Yukon): Peter Fralick, PO Box 34, Hagensborg, BC V0T 1H0 <peterfralick@belco.bc.ca>
Texas Prairie Beavers (Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana): George Dresser, 501 Fairview Ave, College Station, TX 77840 <g-dresser@suddenlink.net>
St Lawrence Seaway (Eastern Ontario, Western Québec): Co-chairmen: Chris Anstead, 3258 Elphin Maberly Road, McDonald's Corners, ON K0G 1M0, <acropolis@superaje.com>; Don Ecobichon, RR1-1512 Chaffeys Lock Road, Elgin, ON K0G 1E0.

Vice-President, Regional Groups: position currently vacant (as of 1 April, 2015).

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