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# BNA Topics



Whole number 544

Volume 72 Number 3



10¢ Landscape with 2 mm OP2 tagging, p. 13

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# BNA pics

Volume 72 Number 3 Whole Number 544

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

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Cover Illustration: A 10¢ Landscape with 2 mm OP2 tagging instead of the regular 3 mm width.

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# Editorial

Ronald Majors

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## Readers Write

**Follow-up to Old Post Office Box Door Story:** Member *James Carvary* was reading through the last *BNA Topics*, Volume 72, Number 2, April–June, 2015 and noticed the picture of the door on page 54. Immediately, “Dominion of Canada” came to mind as to what DC stands for. He searched on the Internet, first finding doors with US on the front which reinforced the thought. But then he found the link below, where the seller of a similar **Antique Canada Post Office Box Door** indicated that DC stands for Dominion of Canada: <https://www.etsy.com/ca/listing/176235175/antique-canada-post-office-box-door-bank?ref=market>. He hopes this information helps.

**BNAPS Member Wins Large Gold in London:**

*Bob Dyer OTB* reports that member *Jean-Claude Vasseur* won a Large Gold (95 points) for his exhibit “Newfoundland Airmail” at the London 2015 Europhilix International Stamp Exhibition in May.

He also won Best of Class in Aerophilately. Jean-Claude is a member of the Newfoundland Study Group and a frequent contributor to the *Newfie Newsletter*.



**Compliments on Postal History of Alberta Series:** Member and noted philatelic/history author and editor *Dr. Everett Parker*, writes: “Usually when a BNAPS member writes to the editor(s), it's to complain about something. As the current editor of five similar publications, I know it's not often someone sends a “thanks” letter. And that's what this note is about. I have thoroughly enjoyed Dale Speirs' series on the prairie towns of Alberta. He has done a marvellous job of interweaving history and postal history, as well as contemporary photographs into the story. I do wish the photos and illustrations were a bit larger, but I know the constraints of a smaller format. I made the transition to 8.5 x 11 inch format in all of the philatelic journals I have edited and found more flexibility in design and layout. I have traveled through much of the area he writes about and always thought there was more history there than perhaps met the eye “on the highway.” But in any regard, a big thanks to Dale for his work. Personally, I much prefer this type of article and other anecdotal articles over long discourses on early covers and the like.”

**World Stamp Show NY2016 Update:** By the time you get this issue of *BNA TOPICS*, there will be just over nine months left before this once-in-a-decade stamp show takes place in New York City on 28 May–4 June 2016. BNAPS was an early supporter and should have a booth in a good location. Seventy-five philatelic societies and organizations have signed up to participate. BNAPS will share a booth with both the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and the Postal History Society of Canada thereby putting forward a coordinated effort to promote Canadian/BNA Philately. In the near future, we will be seeking volunteers to help staff the booth and offer philatelic presentations.

Although time is running out, opportunities still exist for those interested in exhibiting at NY 2016. Complete rules and application forms can be found on and downloaded from the show website: <[www.NY2016.org](http://www.NY2016.org)>. The Canadian Commissioner for NY 2016 is Jan J Danielski ([jjad@rogers.com](mailto:jjad@rogers.com)) assisted by



member Robert Pinet (pinet.robort@gmail.com). Check the NY 2016 website for their mailing addresses. These gentlemen will handle all *Canadian* exhibit submissions. Those living east of Toronto should send their forms (three copies, all with original signatures) to Robert, while the rest of the country should send their forms to Jan. Applicants can submit a title page as well, if they wish. The deadline for applications is 15 August 2015. Exhibits will be chosen by December, 2015, at which time the Commissioners will collect the frame fees (\$150 US for single-frame exhibits and \$95 US for each frame of a multi-frame exhibit). American and foreign BNAPS members have their own Commissioners; consult the website for contact information. A total of 3,800 frames are being constructed for NY 2016.

For those interested in attending NY 2016, special hotel rates, starting as low as \$120 US, have been negotiated. For those interested in the bourse, 135 worldwide dealers have already signed up and more are expected. At least four auctions will take place, with rarities promised by all. “Unavailable” philatelic rarities will be exhibited in the Court of Honor, topped by the recently sold unique 1856 British Guiana one cent magenta.

**John Hall’s article “Fiscal War Tax stamps of World War I”:** Member *Christopher Ryan* writes: “The funds from the fiscal (and postal) War Tax stamps were NOT used to finance Canada’s war effort. Policy during World War I was to borrow the funds required for military expenditures. The postal war taxes simply went into general postal revenue. The fiscal war taxes were used for general domestic expenditures, replacing Customs revenue lost as result of the decline in international trade during the conflict.

“The short title of the Act of 1915 was the *Special War Revenue Act*. This was not changed until 1947, when it became the *Excise Tax Act*. The name used for the taxes imposed under the *Special War Revenue Act* was ‘War Tax’ in 1915, ‘War Excise Tax’ in 1918, and ‘Excise Tax’ from 1920 onwards.

“The rates for the stamp taxes on wines were as follows:

12 February 1915–Non-sparkling, 5¢ per quart, or fraction thereof and Sparkling, 25¢ per quart, or fraction thereof

18 March 1915–Non-sparkling, 3¢ for one pint bottles, otherwise 5¢ per quart, or fraction thereof and Sparkling, 13¢ for one-half pint bottles, otherwise 25¢ per quart, or fraction thereof

“Prior to the release of the strip-stamps, both the overprinted postage stamps and the small sheet stamps were used on wines.

“The fiscal War Tax stamps in sheet form were on sale by 12 April 1915. A Post Office directive of 16 April 1915 permitted the use of the postal war tax stamps for postage and postal fees, and forbade the use of the Inland Revenue Department’s fiscal war tax stamps on postal matter. The use of postage stamps to pay the fiscal war/excise taxes in general was permitted by the Special War Revenue Act up to and including 30 September 1923. The Inland Revenue Department actively opposed the use of postage stamps for fiscal purposes.

“The booklets of fiscal War Tax stamps were sold by the Inland Revenue Department to compete with sales by the Post Office Department of postage stamps for fiscal purposes. Postmasters generally did not sell the Inland Revenue War Tax stamps. When these stamps were first issued [February 1915] they were, in a few cases, put in the hands of postmasters by Collectors of Inland Revenue but since the Government decided that postage stamps can be used for all war tax purposes [April 1915], it is not necessary for postmasters to sell any



other stamps.' (Source: Library and Archives Canada, RG 3, Vol. 641, File 74625 from 1915.). Under Order in Council PC849 of 30 April 1915 any postmaster selling fiscal war tax stamps would have been paid a 5% commission on such sales by the Inland Revenue Department. This rate compared quite unfavourably with the 15 to 50% commission paid by the Post Office Department on postage stamps. Furthermore, the Post Office actively promoted the use of postage stamps for fiscal purposes.

"Excise Tax meters were introduced in February of 1932 for cheques and other types of commercial paper only. Postage meters were not permitted to pay the tax on commercial paper until 10 December 1949."



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# Researching the Caricature and Landscape Issues at Library and Archives Canada, Part 2

*Larry Margetish*

**T**HIS three-part article describes discoveries made while researching the Caricature and Landscape definitives at Library and Archives Canada in 2014. Part 1 dealt with stamp pre-production findings [12]; this part describes discoveries about tagging; and Part 3 will focus on production and miscellaneous research. All images are reproduced with the permission of Canada Post Corporation.

These definitive stamps played a pivotal role in the history of tagging. The medium-value Landscape stamps were the last definitives to be Winnipeg-tagged, and the Caricature and medium-value Landscapes were the first definitives whose entire print run was tagged.

From the mid-1960s, Canada Post used the Pitney-Bowes Mark II facer-cancellers prior to the general use of tagging. These machines were designed to respond to light reflectance, and required a contrast of 13 percent or more between the envelope and the darker stamp to trigger it. The machine detected the stamp on the envelope and then routed the envelope to a properly oriented canceller [13].

Following is a quick summary of the basics of tagging: For more background information, refer to my article on tagging [14] or the *Unitrade* catalogue [15]. The tagging used on stamps is nearly invisible, but it glows under ultraviolet (UV) light. Three different types of tagging were used in the Caricature and Landscape period:

- 1) Winnipeg Tagging, a phosphorescent ink that glows a soft white under UV, and continues to glow for a short period after the UV is removed. This tagging was used to activate the SEFACAN automatic facer-cancelling machines installed at Winnipeg in 1962 and was phased out by the end of 1972.
- 2) OP4 Ottawa Tagging, a fluorescent ink with a yellowish-green glow under UV that migrates or bleeds from the stamp onto any other paper with which it comes into contact.
- 3) OP2 Ottawa Tagging, a more stable, non-migrating, fluorescent ink, also with a yellowish-green glow under UV.

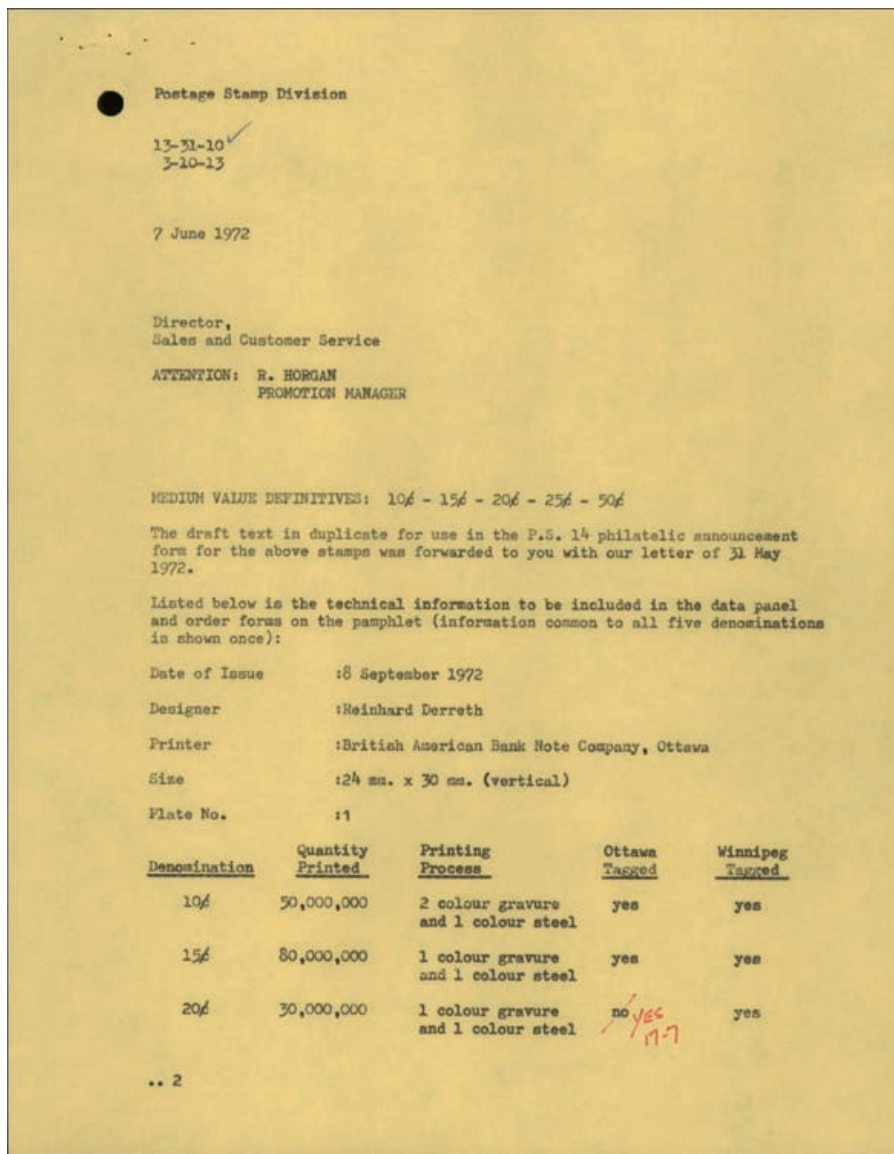
When Winnipeg Tagging was phased out, Ottawa Tagging was renamed General Tagging.

The medium-value Landscape definitives were issued on 8 September 1972. My article on tagging [14] illustrated a letter from Canada Post dated 12 May 1972 [16]. This letter was the initial printing order for the 10¢ value from British American Bank Note Co (BABN). The order letter specified that the stamps were to be untagged, Winnipeg tagged, and Ottawa tagged. Since tagging was first introduced in 1962, the practice was to tag just a percentage of the total print run of definitives and Christmas stamps. Untagged stamps were issued with

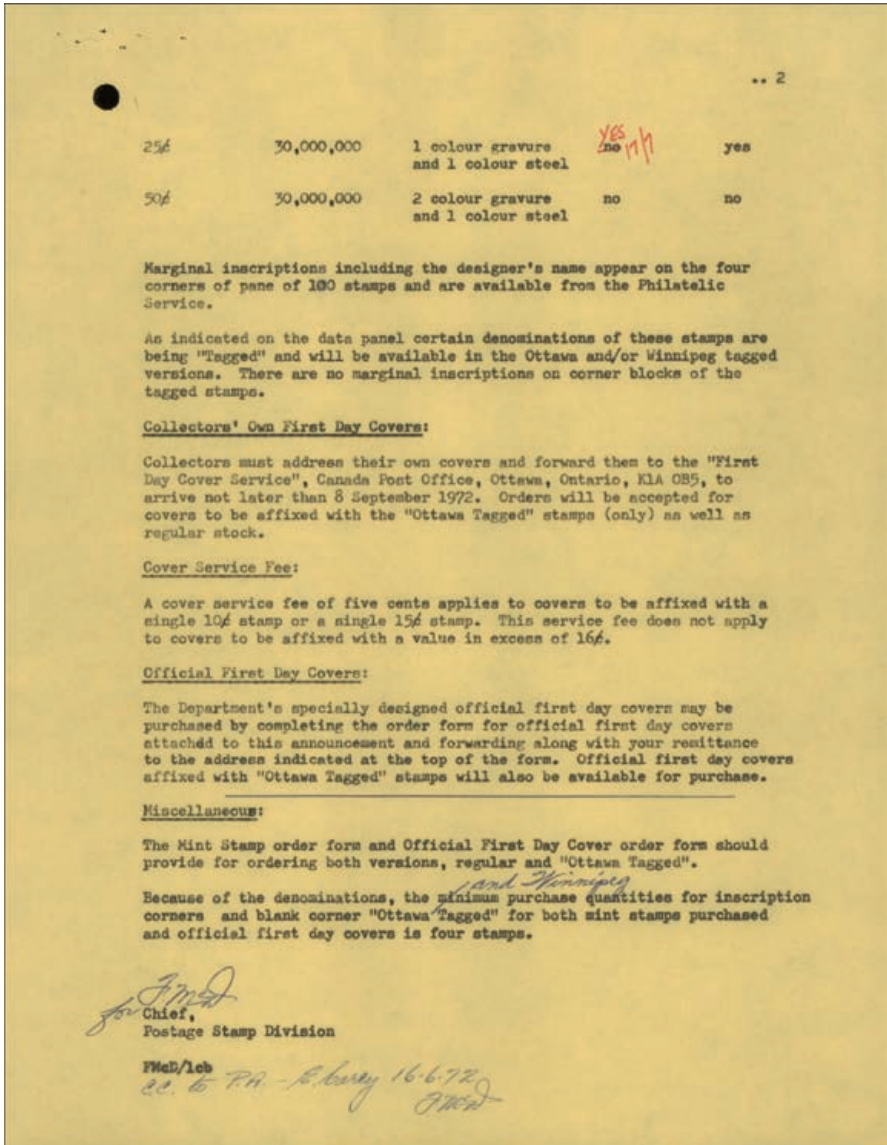
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Keywords & phrases: Caricature and Landscape issues, tagging

plate inscriptions for the philatelic market, but tagged stamps were issued without inscriptions. The 12 May order for the 10¢ Landscape reflected this practice. In fact, tagging was considered optional until at least 17 July 1972. Shown in Figures 21a and 21b is a two-page letter describing revisions to the PS 14, or philatelic stamp announcement [16].



**Figure 21a.** Postage Stamp Division letter (cropped) dated 7 June 1972, page 1.  
© Canada Post Corporation [1972] [16].



**Figure 21b.** Postage Stamp Division letter (cropped), dated 7 June 1972, page 2.  
© Canada Post Corporation {1972} [16].

This 7 June 1972 letter from the Postage Stamp Division reflected the practice described above for tagged stamps. The letter has corrections in red ink dated 17 July that still called for Winnipeg and Ottawa Tagged stamps to be issued without plate inscriptions in the corners. In addition, the entire print run of the 50¢ stamp was to be issued without tagging. Thus, the decision to do away with untagged stamps and to release philatelic stock



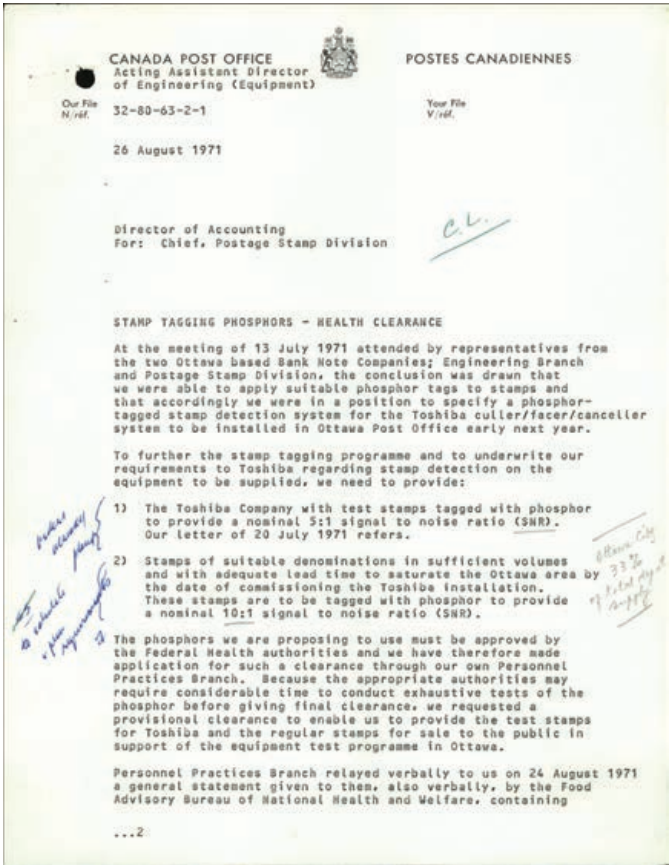


Figure 22a. Stamp Tagging Phosphors letter, page 1 © Canada Post Corporation [1971] [18].

(2.5%) and Castor Oil (2.0%). The quality standard for UV glow was a comparison of a “stamp, newly tagged” to the “British regular issue 3d blue stamp.” Note that even Winnipeg Tagging has a “rub-off” capability, as was documented in a letter dated 28 November 1972, from the Postage Stamp Division to a concerned individual [17].

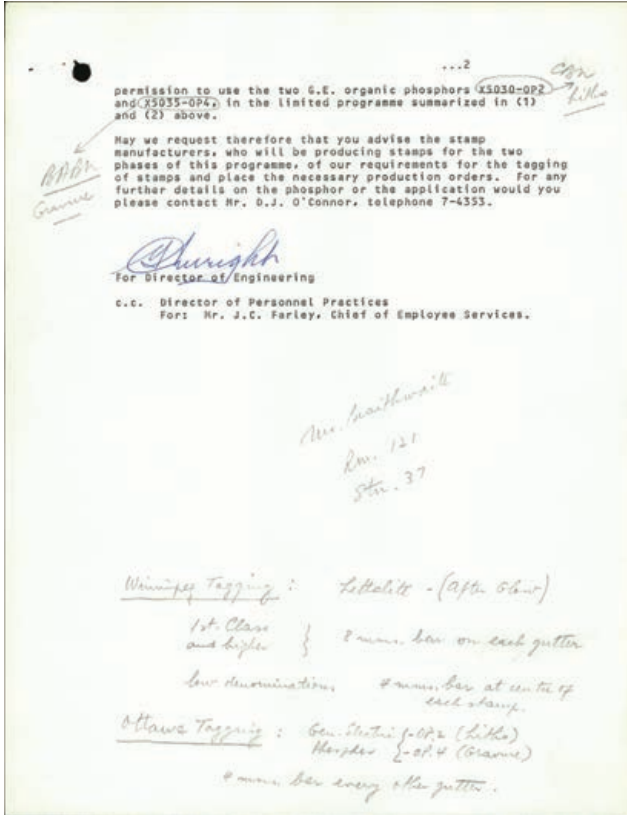
What all this means is buyer beware when purchasing “untagged” varieties of the 10¢ to 50¢ Landscape stamps perforated 12½ x 12. Stamps having lost nearly all of the Winnipeg Tagging or the OP4 migrating tagging might, at first impression, appear under UV to be untagged. A completely dark room is strongly recommended for such testing.

General Electric manufactured the phosphor compounds used in the early OP4 and OP2 Ottawa Tagging, but apparently not the actual inks used on the tagging plates. While collectors refer to the ink or tagging as OP4, it is more properly the OP4 phosphor component, **X5035-OP4**, that migrated. The OP4 tagging was used in the photogravure ink on stamps that BABN printed on its Goebel web-fed press. CBN used lithography for the

of all five medium values with Ottawa Tagging and plate inscriptions was made between mid-July and mid-August, 1972. All the medium values except the 50¢ were also released Winnipeg Tagged, but with no plate inscriptions.

Research has revealed that Winnipeg Tagging had a key ingredient. It was called “Carbazole” (**Letalite B2**), at 48 percent by weight. This phosphor glows under UV light at the wavelength of about 2537Å (angstrom). This information comes from a document titled Schedule “D” (circa 1963), appended to the printing contracts with Canadian Bank Note Co (CBN) and BABN [17]. The remaining ingredients were No 2 Litho Varnish (27.5%), Aroplaz 1273 Varnish (20.0%), Hypothiolate concentrate

tagging on the stamps it printed. The lithographic ink incorporated organic phosphor **X5030-OP2**, which did not migrate. See Figures 22a and 22b for specifics in a letter on “Stamp Tagging Phosphors,” from 26 August 1971 [18]. OP2 phosphor was adapted for use with photogravure by the end of October 1972, eliminating the need of the troublesome migrating tagging [13].



**Figure 22b.** Stamp Tagging Phosphors letter, page 2.  
© Canada Post Corporation {1971} [18] (right).

The original tagged ink for lithography, containing OP2, was the **50872 Phosphor Tagging Ink** distributed by Canadian Fine Color Company, Limited. This was described in a 30 November 1972 letter and attachment from the Postage Stamp Division to *The Toronto Star* [17]. The attachment listed the components of the 50872 Phosphor Tagging Ink. Twenty percent of the ink consisted of the OP2 Organic Phosphor pigment made by General Electric. “The balance consists of a resin solution of a vinyl toluene-styrene copolymer in a high boiling point aliphatic hydrocarbon solvents together with small amounts of natural and synthetic waxes, cobalt octoate, manganese [sic] octoate, tung oil and N-methyl 2-pyrrolidone.”

About five percent was of a proprietary solvent known as NASCA Anti-Offset Compound, manufactured by NASCA Compound Inc. of Long Island, New York. Its non-toxic composition was not known to the Canadian distributor. The November 1972 letter also revealed that the new OP2 tagging for photogravure was formulated with an acrylic resin, reduced with alcohol. There was no information on the components of the tagging containing OP4.

However, the stamp tagging question was not completely settled. For example, BABN tested a material called “Lumogen” for tagging trials [17]. Interesting details about the testing appear on the printer’s invoice to Canada Post, dated January 31, 1973, reproduced in Figure 23. More facts about Lumogen will appear in Part 3, “Production and Miscellaneous Research.”



Some 10¢ Landscape stamps with the original design have been identified with OP2 tagging with a tag bar width of only 2 mm instead of the regular 3 mm. An actual block of such stamps, with the 2 mm tagging simulated in yellow-green highlighting, is displayed in Figure 24. While this might have been testing of the tag bar width, it is also possible this was an error on the tagging plate. When the medium values were redrawn or re-issued, the tag bar width on all stamps was increased from 3 mm to 4 mm.



**Figure 24.** OP2 2 mm tag bars, simulated in yellow-green (bottom right).



**Figure 23.** Lumogen Tagging Trials invoice. © Canada Post Corporation {1973} [17] (below).

These changes occurred between December 1973 and February 1975. Starting October 1973, the low-value Caricatures and the \$1 Vancouver had 4 mm tag bars. After the increase to 4 mm bars, there were no other changes to the tagging.

One can consider the tagging issues as “case closed” and decided by 28 February 1974. It was by that date that all Mark II Facer/Cancellers were converted from “reflectance testing” to “phosphor tag recognition” [19]. This conversion is recorded in the 26 February 1974 letter pictured in Figure 25. This concludes my research findings on tagging.

## References

- [12] Larry Margetish, “Researching the Caricature and Landscape Issues at Library and Archives Canada, Part 1,” *BNA Topics*, Volume 72, No 2 (April–June 2015).
- [13] “All About Tagging,” Canada Post Corporation, circa 1972.
- [14] Larry Margetish, “A Short History of Canadian Tagging,” *Corgi Times*, Volume 18, No 2 (September–October 2009): pp 22–23. Reprinted in *BNA Topics*, Volume 67, No 1 (January–March 2010), pp 56–58; also in *The Canadian Philatelist*, Volume 61 No 2 (March/April 2010), pp 108–109.
- [15] D Robin Harris, editor, *Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps*, The Unitrade Press, 2015.
- [16] Library and Archives Canada (LAC), “Financial Branch–Postage Stamps–Regular Issue, middle values,” RG 3, Series G-1, Volume 3860, File 13-31-10 Part 1, MIKAN 765538.

- [17] LAC, "Identification of Postage by electronics/General, 1972-1974", RG 3, Series C-2, Volume 3477, File 13-1-58 Part 2, MIKAN 763253.
- [18] LAC, "Financial Branch-Postage Stamps-Identification of postage, 1960-1972," RG 3, Series G-1, Volume 3827, File 13-1-70 Part 1, MIKAN 765166.
- [19] LAC, "Contracts and Marketing of philatelic products-Phosphor Tagging," RG 3, Accession 2010-00769-7, Volume 14, File 208-6-1 Part 4, MIKAN 4113874.

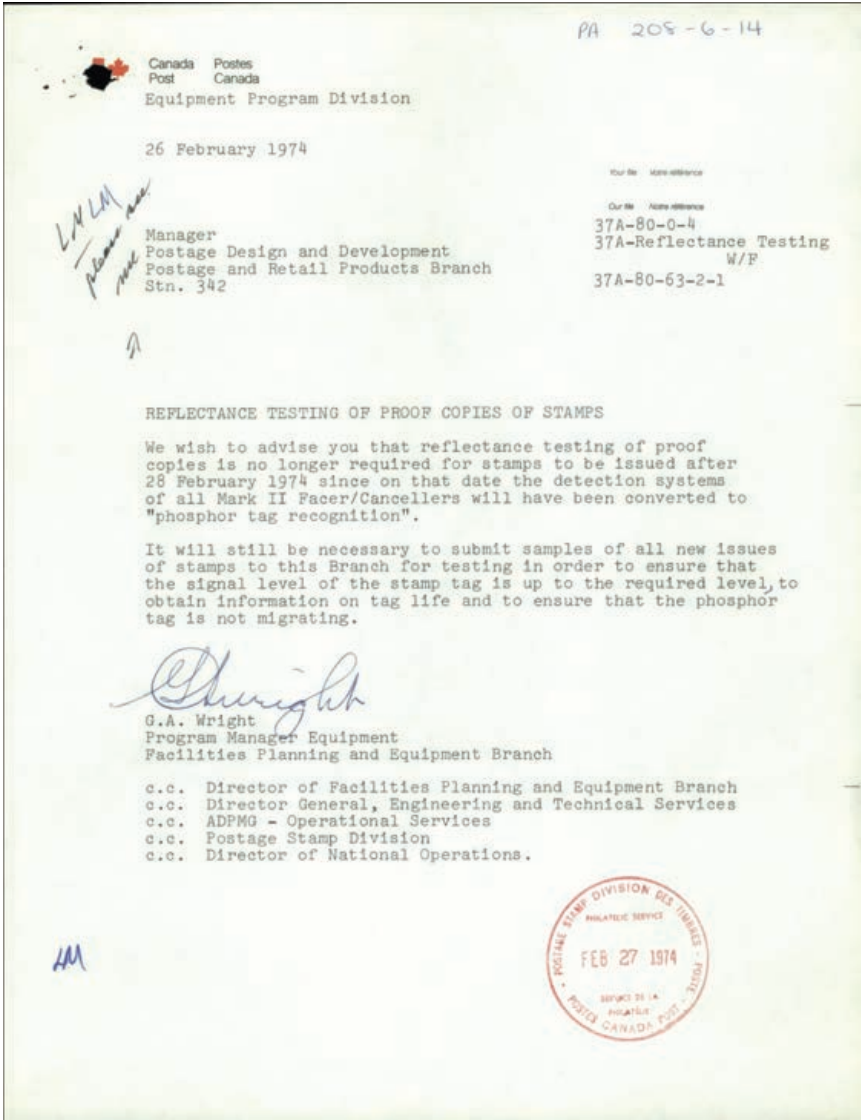


Figure 25. Reflectance Testing Conversion. © Canada Post Corporation [1974] [19].


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# Update on the “D.w.” covers—Part 3

*Chris Hargreaves*

What does “D.w.” stand for?

Who applied the handstamp? When? Where? Why?

The mystery of the D.w. handstamp was initially studied in *BNA Topics* No 532, (July–September 2012). This article has since been updated: By Part 1 in *BNA Topics* No 539 (April–June 2014) and Part 2 in *BNA Topics* No 541 (October–December 2014). Similar articles have been published in *The Canadian Aerophilatelist*, and can be viewed on the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society’s website: <[www.aerophilately.ca](http://www.aerophilately.ca)>. Cover numbers refer to a specific cover, and they remain constant from article to article.

Many thanks to everybody who has responded to the previous articles by sending in details of additional covers with the handstamp, by suggesting what it might stand for or why it might have been used, or just commenting that they are enjoying this mystery.

Peter Edwards sent me the cover in Figure 1, which is a very late usage of the handstamp (the latest recorded is 27 March 1932). Hal Vogel alerted me to a lot of five commemorative covers, all franked for air mail, and mailed from the US to Reginald Schmitt in East End, Saskatchewan, in 1931. They are a very interesting group to study (Table 1), as three of the five covers had a D.w. handstamp (two did not). Covers (a), (b), and (e) have the D.w. handstamp, which indicates that they travelled via Winnipeg. Since they were mailed after 2 February 1931, they would have flown by various routes across the US to Chicago, and then continued on US CONTRACT AIR MAIL Route 9 to St. Paul, Pembina, and Winnipeg.



**Figure 1.** D.w. Cover 31: postmarked WINNIPEG 19 MAR 1932.

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Keywords & phrases: D.w., airmail, postal markings



**Table 1. Study group of five covers**

Cover (a)	Postmarked: SOUTH BEND, IND	April 15th 1931
Cachet	SOUTH BEND, IND WELCOMES COM. RICHARD E. BYRD	
D.w. Handstamp	Cover 32	Figure 2
Cover (b)	Postmarked: MONROE LOUISIANA FIRST FLIGHT AIR MAIL ROUTE AM 33 MONROE LOUISIANA	July 1st 1931
Cachet		JULY 1 1931
D.w. handstamp	Cover 33	Figure 3
Cover (c)	Postmarked: SEATTLE	Sep 3 1931
No D.w. handstamp	Backstamped: MANYBERRIES ALTA CONGRATULATIONS POST and GATTY WORLD ENCIRCLING RECORD HOLDERS SEATTLE - WASH. SEPTEMBER 3, 1931	SP 8 31
Cachet		
Cover (d)	Postmarked: INGLEWOOD CALIF SEP 12 1931 AIR FIESTA LOS ANGELES AIRPORT SEPT. 12-13 IN CONJUNCTION WITH LA FIESTA DE LOS ANGELES SEPT. 4-13 1931	SEP 12 1931
Cachet		
No D.w. handstamp		
Cover (e)	Postmarked: LOS ANGELES 1911 - 1931 TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY FIRST AIR MAIL FLIGHT P.O. DEPARTMENT SEPTEMBER TWENTY THIRD LOS ANGELES	September 23rd 1931
Cachet		
D.w. handstamp	Cover 34	Figure 4

**Figure 2. Cover (a). D.w. cover 32, postmarked South Bend, IND.**

by train from Moose Jaw to Assiniboia; then by another train from Assiniboia (Map, Figure 5). Manyberries is on the same railway line from Weyburn to Stirling. Cover (c) appears to have

Since Cover (e) from Los Angeles travelled via Winnipeg, it seems reasonable to assume that Cover (c) from Seattle, and Cover (d) from Los Angeles also flew via Chicago and Winnipeg, even though it is a long way round to get to Saskatchewan.

The shortest routing from Winnipeg to East End would have been by air to Moose Jaw;



**Figure 3.** Cover (b). D.w. cover 33, postmarked Monroe, L.A.



**Figure 4.** Cover (c). D.w. cover 34, postmarked Los Angeles Cal.



**Figure 5.** Railway line from Weyburn to Stirling

He found that sometimes there had been bad weather that caused delays, but at other times the D.w. handstamp occurred when the weather had been fine.

The covers to Reginald Schmitt in East End give us an opportunity to expand on Barry Countryman's study, and to see if there is a correlation between the application of the D.w. handstamp on the East End covers, and the weather conditions at the time of the flights.

Weather conditions at the time of the flights were obtained from *The Winnipeg Free Press* archives at <[www.newspaperarchive.com](http://www.newspaperarchive.com)>. The paper was published each morning (except Sunday). It contained a report on the weather conditions up to 7 pm the previous day and a forecast for the day of publication.

The weather conditions, as reported by the Winnipeg weather report, at the time of mailing for covers (a) to (e) are indicated below:

**Cover (a).** The Winnipeg weather report of 18 April. Pressure is low over western Manitoba, and strong winds have prevailed in Saskatchewan. It has been warm in Manitoba, but it is becoming cooler further west. High 75. (24 °C).

Forecast: Manitoba—Mostly fair and warm: followed by northwest winds and becoming cooler by night; probably by a few scattered showers. Saskatchewan—Fresh or strong north-westerly winds: mostly fair and somewhat cooler: probably a few scattered showers.

**Cover (b).** The Winnipeg weather report of 3 July: The weather has been for the most part fair and comparatively cool throughout the west, while it has been

been mis-routed.

In the previous D.w. update, I reported that Barry Countryman had been looking into the weather conditions when some of the D.w. covers were flown, to see if the covers marked "D.w." were likely to have been "Delayed by weather."



comfortably warm in most parts of Ontario and Quebec. High 72. (22 °C)

Forecast: Manitoba—Moderate northwest winds: fair and comparatively cool. Saskatchewan and Alberta. Moderate to fresh winds: mostly fair with not much change in temperature: possibly a few scattered showers in northern districts.

**Cover (c).** Winnipeg weather report of 5 September: The weather has been for the most part fair and moderately warm throughout the west. A few light scattered showers have occurred in some districts. High 73. (23 °C)

Forecast: Western provinces—Mostly fair and moderately warm: a few light scattered showers.

**Cover (d).** Winnipeg weather report of 14 September: The weather has been mostly fair cool in the western provinces. High 71. (21 °C)

Forecast: Western provinces—northwest winds: mostly fair and cool with a few scattered showers.

**Cover (e).** Winnipeg weather report of 23 September: It has been cool throughout the west with scattered showers in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and fair in Alberta. High 57. (14 °C)

Forecast: Manitoba and Saskatchewan mostly fair and cool: a few light scattered showers. Alberta: fair and cool.

*It seems to me that this analysis produces a similar conclusion to Barry Countryman’s research, and that there is not a significant correlation between the use of the D.w. handstamp and weather conditions that indicate a cover is likely to have been “Delayed by weather.”*

I have also received copies of nine covers with a D.w. handstamp from Alain Gauthier. They are part of a group of fourteen First Day Covers for the C3 airmail stamp issued on 22 February 1932, that were mailed from various locations to his father-in-law, JO Tourigny, in Ponteix, Saskatchewan. Most of these covers were backstamped on arrival in Ponteix, so they provide an opportunity to test whether or not the nine covers with the D.w. handstamp were in fact “Delayed”! The group of covers (Table 2) included two covers from Winnipeg and two from Toronto. Ponteix, like East End, was on the Canadian Pacific Railway line from Stirling via Assiniboia to Weyburn.



**Figure 6.** Cover (a), front.



**Figure 7.** Cover (a), back.

Cover (a) (Figure 6 and 7), from Calgary to Ponteix, is backstamped in Moose Jaw, indicating that the route taken was by air to Moose Jaw, by train from Moose Jaw to Assiniboia; then by another train from Assiniboia to Ponteix.

Cover (b) is from Moose Jaw and, like Cover (a), it was backstamped in Ponteix on 23 February. If there was one mail service from Moose Jaw to Ponteix daily, Covers (a) and (b) would have travelled together from Moose Jaw. Cover (b) is just a First Day Cover for the C3 air mail stamp. It did not travel by air anywhere.

**Table 2. Study group of fourteen First Day Covers**

Cover	Postmarked	Backstamped	D.w. handstamp
(a)	CALGARY 11.30AM FEB 22	MOOSE JAW 6AM FEB 23 and PONTEIX FE 23 32	no
(b)	MOOSE JAW 11PM FEB 22	PONTEIX FE 23 32	no
(c)	WINNIPEG 7AM FEB 22	PONTEIX FE 23 32	yes - D.w. Cover 35
(d)	WINNIPEG 7AM FEB 22	PONTEIX FE 23 32	yes - D.w. Cover 36
(e)	WINDSOR FEB 22 11AM	PONTEIX FE 24 32	yes - D.w. Cover 37
(f)	LONDON 11 FE 22	No Backstamp	yes - D.w. Cover 38
(g)	HAMILTON 4 PM FEB 22	PONTEIX FE 24 32	yes - D.w. Cover 39
(h)	TORONTO FEB 22 1.30 PM	PONTEIX FE 24 32	yes - D.w. Cover 40
(i)	TORONTO FEB 22 1.30 PM	PONTEIX FE 24 32	yes - D.w. Cover 41
(j)	MONTREAL 9AM FE 22	PONTEIX FE 24 32	yes - D.w. Cover 42
(k)	OTTAWA FEB 22 11AM	PONTEIX FE 25 32	no
(l)	SAINT JOHN N.B. 8 FE 22	PONTEIX FE 25 32	yes - D.w. Cover 43
(m)	CHARLOTTETOWN P.E.I. FE 22 32	MONTREAL C 10AM FE 23 and PONTEIX FE 26 32	no
(n)	HALIFAX N.S. FEB 22 11.30AM	MOOSE JAW date unclear and PONTEIX FE 26 32	no

Covers (c) and (d) are both from Winnipeg, and are also backstamped in Ponteix on 23 February. They would have reached Moose Jaw on the westbound Prairie Air Mail Service, (which was scheduled to leave Winnipeg at 20:00 Central Time and to arrive in Moose Jaw at 23:10 MT), and continued by train with Covers (a) and (b).

WHY DO COVERS (C) AND (D) HAVE A “D.w.” HANDSTAMP? Since the covers originated in Winnipeg, they wouldn’t have been delayed en route to Winnipeg and, since they reached Moose Jaw in time to connect with the mail to Ponteix, the flight would appear to have been approximately on schedule! So if the “D” in “D.w.” stands for “Delayed,” how long was the delay, and why did it warrant the covers being handstamped? With regard to weather, *The Winnipeg Free Press* reported that the weather on 22 February was “fair and decidedly cold from Alberta eastward to Northern Ontario.” Maximum temperature in Winnipeg was -8 (-22 °C), the minimum was -30 (-34 °C).

Covers (e) (from Windsor), (g) (from Hamilton), (h) and (i) (from Toronto), and (j) (from Montreal) all arrived in Ponteix on 24 February. Cover (f), from London, Ontario, may well have arrived on 24 February too, but since it was not backstamped one cannot be sure.

According to the air mail schedule (Table 3) in the February 1932 *Post Office Guide*, Cover (e) was postmarked in Windsor at 11 am, and would have travelled to Detroit by surface mail, to connect with the 9 pm flight to Chicago.

**Table 3. Air Mail Schedule from the February 1932 Post Office Guide**

Leave	Toronto	6.10 PM EST	Arrive	Detroit	8.30 PM (Feb22)
Leave	Detroit	9.00 PM EST	Arrive	Chicago	10.50 PM CT
Leave	Chicago	11.50 PM CT	Arrive	St. Paul, Minnesota	4.05 AM (Feb 23)
Leave	St. Paul	8.00 AM	Arrive	Pembina	12.10 PM
Leave	Pembina	12.20 PM	Arrive	Winnipeg	1.00 PM

Cover (g), postmarked Hamilton 4 pm, would have been added to the Toronto–Windsor flight when it stopped in Hamilton at 6:30 pm (It was scheduled to leave Hamilton at 6:35 pm).

Once they arrived in Winnipeg, covers (e), (g), (h), and (i) were handstamped “D.w.” and then connected with the 8 pm flight to Moose Jaw. It would be strange for these covers to be marked “Delayed” after making several connections en route to Winnipeg and also making the onward connection to Moose Jaw!

Cover (j) from Montreal is backstamped Ponteix 24 February, so it would have made a connection with the flight from Chicago to St Paul on 23 February. Since the Montreal–Toronto air mail service had been discontinued in August 1931, the cover would either have travelled by train to Toronto to connect with the Toronto–Detroit flight, or flown from Montreal (departing 12:15 pm), to Albany, New York (arriving 2:30 pm) to connect with US Air Mail service to Chicago. This cover was also handstamped “D.w.” in Winnipeg, but it doesn’t seem to have been delayed.

Cover (k) was postmarked in Ottawa at 11 am on 22 February. It was not able to connect with air mail flights from Toronto or Montreal, so it arrived a day after the covers from Toronto and Montreal, and was backstamped in Ponteix on 25 February.

Cover L from Saint John, New Brunswick, reached Montreal on 22 or 23 February in time to connect with air mail flights from Toronto or Montreal. It arrived in Ponteix at the same time as Cover K from Ottawa and was backstamped there on 25 February. However, Cover (l) received a D.w. handstamp, but Cover (k) didn’t!

Cover (m) was mailed in Charlottetown on 22 February, (no time in postmark), and was backstamped in Montreal at 10 am on 23 February. The Montreal C–S duplex cancellation indicates it was handled by the air mail section in the Montreal Post Office, which implies it

left Montreal by the Montreal–Albany air mail flight. However, it is backstamped in Ponteix on 26 February, so it took three days to travel from Montreal to Ponteix, whereas Cover (j) that was mailed in Montreal only took two days. Cover (m) therefore seems to have been delayed in reaching Winnipeg, but it did not receive a D.w. handstamp!

Cover (n) is from Halifax. It arrived in Ponteix on 26 February at the same time as Cover (m). It did not receive a backstamp in Montreal like Cover (m), but it did receive a backstamp in Moose Jaw that none of the other covers travelling from or via Winnipeg did.

*My analysis of the covers to Ponteix suggests that the D.w. handstamp was applied to some covers that weren't delayed, and my analysis of the covers to East End indicates it was applied to some covers that flew while the weather was fine! But if "D.w." doesn't stand for "Delayed by weather," what does it stand for?*

After the last update, I was pleased to receive an e-mail that raises an issue not considered previously:

*We may be forgetting an important fact: that a post office cancellation is a time/date stamp, admissible, I should think, in a court of law. The post office often postmarks mail before and after the date that appears on the cover. This is done every time Canada produces a first day cover. I'd argue that given all the marketing and hype that went with first flights, the pride of the post office, a real need to develop postal customer support and use for air mail (i.e., proving it is trustworthy and worth the extra expense) leading in time to the "all up" concept, that ALL mail targeted for a particular flight out of Winnipeg (and there would have been a lot of it) was rigorously managed. And that rigorous management included cancelling mail IN ADVANCE of flights, ready to go when that flight departed. Maybe the lower case "w" is in fact Winnipeg, and the "D" is for Date. Its meaning is that the post mark date is "anticipated" but not necessarily valid.*

I think this theory could explain some of the D.w. covers, but not all of them. Perhaps there was more than one reason for the handstamp's use? I'm also thinking that it is new ideas like this which may lead us to the final solution. When it comes, the final solution will also need to explain the latest D.w. Cover I've received (Figure 8), mailed in 1942! This is D.w. cover #44: the previous forty-three covers were all mailed during the period that the Prairie Air mail service was operating: 3 March 1930 to 31 March 1932.



**Figure 8.** D.w. Cover 44. Postmarked SOUTH EDMONTON, OCT 26 4.30PM 1942 (error in datestamp). No backstamps.

This cover came from Kevin O'Reilly, who commented:

*The cover is part of a lot acquired from a Quebec dealer. The lot included three covers sent by an employee of Bechtel-Price-Callahan, the prime contractor for the Canol Project, the pipeline from*

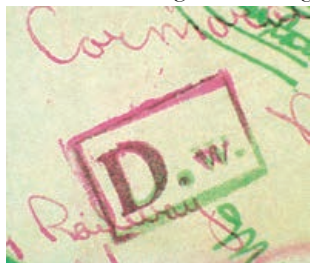
*Norman Wells, NWT to Whitehorse, Yukon and associated infrastructure during WWII. These were mailed from the Canol Hotel used to house employees in the Edmonton area before most of them moved on to locations to the north. The covers were postmarked 9 October 1942, 26 October 1942, and 7 November 1942. They were all sent to the same address in VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA.*

Although the date of this cover is quite different from the other forty-three, it is similar to the others in some respects, as the handstamp has still only been found on Air Mail covers, and they all travelled through Winnipeg. VIRGINIA is in eastern Minnesota, so this cover would have flown from Edmonton to Winnipeg, then been transferred to surface routes.



**Figure 9. D.w. cover #24.**

Kevin also sent me a scan of D.w. cover No. 24 from 24 June 1931, (Figure 9), and #44 taken at the same time. I passed this on to Garfield Portch of the Vincent Greene Foundation, who very kindly analyzed it with their Celestron microscope. He changed the colours of the two covers to make them distinctive, enlarged the images, and then superimposed one handstamp on the other. The result is shown in Figure 10.



**Figure 10. Scan overlay of covers 24 and 44.**

It looks from Garfield’s image that the impressions may have been made by two different handstamps, which raises more questions. Was a new D.w. handstamp produced in 1942? Why was it re-introduced in 1942? I’m also wondering why Kevin’s cover is the only one with a D.w. handstamp from 1942 that I’ve ever seen or heard of?

Many thanks to Alain Gauthier, David Jones, Derek Rance, Gord Mallett, Gray Scrimgeour, Hal Vogel, Kevin O’Reilly, Nino Chiovelli, Norris Dyer, Peter Edwards, Peter Motson, Peter Wood, and Rick Parama for their recent comments on the D.w. mystery, and to everybody who previously contributed to this enquiry.

If anyone has comments about this cover from 1942, new ideas, suggestions, more information, comments on the analysis in this update, and/or copies of additional covers with a D.w. handstamp from any year, please send them to Chris Hargreaves, 4060 Bath Road, Kingston, ON K7M 4Y4, <hargreavescp@sympatico.ca>.



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# Admiral era fraud orders

R Parama

**I**N his booklet, *The Admiral Era: A Rates Study 1912–1928*, Allan Steinhart outlines the basic regulations regarding the treatment of mail matter suspected to be fraudulent. He extracted his information from the 1912 *Canadian Official Postal Guide*, which established the general characteristics of such suspect mail matter, as follows [1]:

*176. It is forbidden to post for delivery or transmission by or through the post any obscene or immoral book, pamphlet, picture, print, engraving, lithograph, photograph or other publication, matter or thing, of an indecent, immoral, seditious, disloyal or scurrilous character, or any letter upon the outside or envelope of which, or any post card or post band or wrapper upon which there are words tending to injuriously affect the commercial or social standing of persons addressed, or any letter or circular concerning an illegal lottery, so-called gift concert, or other similar enterprise offering prizes, or concerning schemes devised and intended to deceive and defraud the public for the purpose of obtaining money under false pretenses. Matter posted contrary to this prohibition is to be stopped and sent specially by first mail to the Chief Superintendent of the Dead Letter Branch at Ottawa.*

*177. [deals with name rings]*

*178. [not provided by Steinhart].*

*179. The Postmaster General has power, under the Statute, to mark or cause to be marked upon the covers of letters, circulars, or other mail matter suspected to concern illegal lotteries, so-called gift concert, or other similar enterprise offering prizes, or concerning schemes devised and intended to deceive and defraud the public for the purpose of obtaining money under false pretenses, whether such letters, circulars, or other mail matter are addressed to or received by mail from places within or without Canada, a warning that they are suspected to be of a fraudulent character of a lottery or other scheme or enterprise has been clearly established, postmaster may, and shall under instructions from the Postmaster General, carry out the provisions of the Statute upon this point.*

Paragraph 179 was specifically focused on illegal lotteries. At this time, all lotteries, sweepstakes, and the like were illegal in Canada, but they were not illegal in some foreign countries. It would seem the POD was entrusted to play the moral guardian on such matters and, at minimum, made an attempt to interrupt or inconvenience correspondence with entities holding or promoting lotteries.

There were many foreign lotteries at the time, and it seems the numbers increased as the Great War progressed. When there was sufficient knowledge about the nature of the lottery, the Postmaster General had the power to take stronger action.

It seems he often did by issuing “Fraud Orders.” Such fraud notices often appeared in the Quarterly and/or Monthly Supplements to the *Canadian Official Postal Guides*. If there was less-than-sufficient evidence, a slighter softer version appeared.

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Keywords & phrases: Admiral, Fraud Orders, postal markings

The earliest such notice to this effect, available to online researchers, is from the January 1913 Quarterly Supplement to the 1913 *Postal Guide* (covers November and December 1912 and January 1913. (The underlining is my own.):

*(17.) Foreign Lottery Circulars.—Circulars of Foreign Lotteries are observed to be passing in the Canadian mails. One of these is in a square greenish envelope and relates to the "Great Danish Money Lottery", Messrs. Gewecke & Cie, Copenhagen, Agents; mailed at Copenhagen; another is in a buff envelope of ordinary size and relates to the "Belwarosi Valtouzlet, Hungarian Lottery" mailed at Budapest; a third is in a greenish gray envelope and relates to the Hamburg Lottery, P. Lindvig, Hamburg 37, Agent.*

*Postmasters are requested to deal with such circulars, if observed, in the customary manner that is to say that one or two shall be delivered as addressed and enquiry made of the addressees as to whether they relate to lotteries. If such is the case the entire batch will probably be of the same character, and Postmasters will mark them "Suspected to be of a fraudulent character" and forward them to the Chief Dead Letter Office, Ottawa.*

*Letters are not to be forwarded to any of the above addresses, neither are money orders to [be] made payable to any of them.*

Note, however, that the wording was still such that mail matter, at least for lotteries, could be forwarded, as long as it went to the Chief Dead Letter Office. Presumably the Chief Dead Letter Office had access to police for the latest information regarding the status of the fraud notices for each entity in question.

Steinhart did not publish any later updates of clauses 176 and 179 of the 1912 *Postal Guide*, but I have since found some later Admiral regulations on fraudulent mail.

The 1927 *Post Office Act*, Chap. 161, Section 7 is titled 'POWERS OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.' Specifically in Section 7 (d) it states:

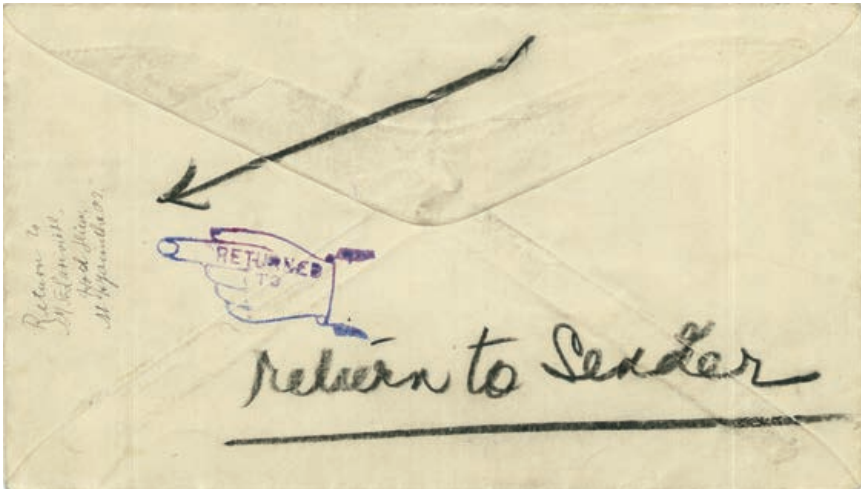
*7. The Postmaster General may, subject to the provisions of this Act,*

*(d) make regulations declaring what shall and what shall not be deemed to be mailable matter for the purposes of this Act, ... [various topics such as setting size and weight limits, restricting the mailing of explosives, contraband, obscene or immoral matter, etc.] ... and for the marking on the covering of letters, circulars or other mailable matter suspected to concern illegal lotteries, so-called gift concerts, or other illegal enterprises of like character, offering prizes, or concerning schemes devised or intended to deceive or defraud the public, for the purposes of obtaining money under false pretences, whether such letters, circulars or other mailable matter are addressed to or received by mail from places within or without Canada, a warning that they are suspected to be of fraudulent character and for returning such letters, circulars or other mailable matter to the senders;*

The 1927 *Post Office Act* closely mirrors the regulations in the 1912 version, so one can presume the regulations were more or less the same for the entire Admiral period (the extracts from 1927 *Post Office Act* were still being used as a guide to postmasters into the 1950s), and that there exists a statute dated earlier than 1927 from which the 1912 regulations were formulated.



**Figure 1.** “SUSPECTED TO BE OF A FRAUDULENT CHARACTER”: The cover was posted at St Hyacinthe, Que. on 2 May 1912 and addressed to “Roxroy,” with a location in London, England. The cover was held in Canada, stamped with the “SUSPECTED TO BE OF A FRAUDULENT CHARACTER” hand stamp in magenta and returned to the originator.



**Figure 2.** Back of cover in Figure 1, showing return information.

A few covers illustrating the process and some of the procedures for mail (or addressees) “suspected to be of a fraudulent character” exist. Steinhart had a penchant for illustrating the rate with covers that had a little pizzazz. One such cover, illustrated on page 30 as a lead-in

the Empire and Preferred Foreign First Class Letter Rates was a cover sent to England in 1912 and stamped “SUSPECTED TO BE OF A FRAUDULENT CHARACTER” and boldly marked in crayon “\_\_\_ / not transmissible / \_\_\_ / over.” I have managed to acquire this cover, the front and back of which are illustrated in Figures 1 and 2. The “SUSPECTED TO BE OF A FRAUDULENT CHARACTER” handstamp is in magenta and just barely ties the perforations on the two 1¢ green adhesives. To my mind, the black-and-white illustration in Steinhart does not do justice to the attractiveness of this cover. The cover is postmarked with a St Hyacinthe, Que. machine cancellation and dated MAY 2 / 1912, so it is a reasonably early Admiral example and the earliest “fraud” cover that I recall seeing. I believe that the handstamp on the front was applied in Canada, primarily because it so



**Figure 3. Fraud Order of October 1915. Registered cover to Switzerland.**

closely matches the wording in the regulations. Apparently, the item was returned to the sender before it was placed on a ship. There is also a second St. Hyacinthe machine postmark on the front, dated MAY 4 / 1912. Presumably this was the date of the return receipt (there was a regulation that all letter mail, included redirected letter mail, was to be date-stamped). The return postmark would seem to verify that the “Fraudulent Character” marking was applied in Canada. There is no direct evidence that it was sent to the Chief Dead Letter Office. The nature of the suspected fraud is not known to me.

I have another cover that is a written “Fraud Order” against the addressee, and yet this cover was allowed to pass to the addressee. The cover is illustrated in Figures 3, 4, and 5.



The specific regulation in the form of a Fraud Order against the addressee was published in the October 1915 Monthly Supplement to the 1915 *Postal Guide*. The fraud order was again typical of the many provided in the other Postal Guide Supplements.

*(17) Fraud Order.—A fraud order has been issued against the “Empire Patriotic Prize Drawing,” Bouveret, Switzerland, and letters to that address, or to the address of W. Ernest Pattison, Secretary, are not to be forwarded, but returned to the senders thorough [sic, through] the Dead Letter Office. Money Orders are not to be issued in favour of the above.*



**Figure 4. Fraud Order of October 1915: Back of registered cover to Switzerland showing Swiss receiving postmark.**

The letter / cover in Figure 3 drew the attention of the postal clerks in Montreal. It was mailed in the same month of the new fraud order and was apparently originally registered, highlighting that it may have contained something of value.

The evidence that the content of the cover seems to have been examined is the application of the POD seals. There is no indication on the seals as to the reason of examination (Figure 5). However, the envelope and contents must have passed scrutiny and the letter was forwarded to Switzerland, as evidenced by the Swiss back postmark. There is no record in later Monthly Supplements of this particular Fraud Order being withdrawn. One wonders: If there were no Fraud Order withdrawal, why did the POD forward the letter? It also would seem the Montreal Foreign Branch had the authority to undertake the examination. Perhaps the Montreal clerks determined that the content was not related to the “Empire Patriotic Prize Drawing.” Alternatively, the seal was applied for its intended purpose; that is, the envelope was found to be in damaged condition

The letter was originally posted at Castlegar, British Columbia, on 29 October 1915. It was apparently registered at that point. The scan of the front makes it appear the oval “R” is tied to the folded overseal at the top, but actually a small corner of the seal is missing making it only appear to be a tie. A tiny dog ear on the seal folded back over the oval “R” marking also makes it appear that the letter was registered first. Regardless, there are manuscript registration serial numbers on the front, which support the registration at the point of origin. I have assumed it was.



**Figure 5. Fraud Order of October 1915: Seal detail. The printing indicates it was intended for damaged mail. No reasons were given.**



(previously opened?) and the contents (something of value) lost.

At least one other cover that is somewhat akin to a Fraud Order cover exists. Steinhart illustrates a domestic cover; the postage stamp upon which it was discovered had been previously used. It was sent to the Dead Letter Office and, I assume, there stamped “BY FRAUD” and “CONTRARY TO REGULATIONS” by the Dead Letter Office. In this case, the fraud was perpetrated against the POD. No Fraud Order was necessary; the POD itself declared the fraud by stamping the envelope in the manner illustrated in Steinhart [2].

The Fraud Order for the cover in Figure 3 makes mention of money orders. It may also be of interest to some as to why money orders were singled out. The answer seems to lie in the *Post Office Act*. Section 83 of the 1927 Act (under “OFFENCES AND PENALTIES”) states:

*83. Ever one who unlawfully issues any post office money order or postal note with fraudulent intent, is guilty of an indictable offence, and liable to imprisonment for a term of not less than three years. R.S. c. 66, s. 118.*

The summary at the right of the paragraph stated: “Unlawfully issuing money order,” which I believe, by nature of the guide from which I obtained the extracts for the POD Act, was intended to caution postmasters.

A pretty harsh penalty, but not unlike many others referred to in the Act. What is of interest is the reference to another statute (R.S.C. 66, s. 118). Recall that it was not only the POD that issued money orders but other institutions (e.g., banks) as well. When the POD also began issuing money orders, they were subject to the same laws that were applicable to others (unless of course there were special amendments). There are many references to other statutes sprinkled throughout the *Post Office Act* and not only references the *Criminal Code*. This was the only one I found that mentions fraud.

It may also be of interest to some that the cover in Figure 3 was mailed during the Great War, but prior to the periods of civil censorship to neutral countries. The cover in Figure 3 was secretly examined during an earlier phase of the war, and thus was a kind of predecessor of things to come under civil censorship. Like the civil censorship covers, many possible reasons exist for examination, yet the reason is seldom stated. It makes it fun to try and determine why Fraud Order and civil censorship mail was targeted, as not all the answers are in the printed regulations.

## **Postscript: Penalties for defrauding the public**

The 1927 *Post Office Act* makes no mention of the specific penalties for mailing in defiance of a Fraud Order, but I suspect they existed. The following, from the booklet *Information for Postal Inspectors* (1 March 1950), was the penalty in 1950. I would hazard a guess that it is similar in nature to those imposed during the Admiral period:

*Under Offence and Penalty (p.8-9) Section Guide note C. Code 209, Obscene books, etc., letters, etc, with intent to deceive and defraud.*

*6.Mailing Explosives, Obscene, Immoral, Indecent, Scurrilous, or Fraudulent Matter.*

*Section 87 of the Post Office Act is hereby suspended and the following substituted therefore:*

*Posting or transmission or delivery by or through the post:*

(a) [refers to obscene or immoral matter].

(b) [refers to such matter on the outside of the mail matter].

(c) any letter or circular containing schemes devised or intended to deceive and defraud the public, or for the purpose of obtaining money under false pretences.

PENALTY – 2 YEARS –INDICTABLE.

## References and endnotes

- [1] Allan L. Steinhart, *The Admiral Era – A Rate Study, 1912–1928*, 1979, pp. 30, 141, 143, 156.  
 [2] Allan L. Steinhart, *Civil Censorship in Canada During World War I*, 1986, various pages.

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# The St John's Central Post Office

David Piervey, FRPSC

ON 5 July 1886, JO Fraser, the Postmaster General of Newfoundland, used the daily newspaper, the *Evening Telegram* [1] to announce the establishment of a Receiving Office in the premises of Thomas McConnan, bookseller, for the “reception of Letters and Registered Correspondence” (Figure 1). Earlier that year, Frank Hawkins [2], a consultant from the Canadian Post Office Department had advised Fraser that, following practice in other larger cities, he should consider opening post office branches in the city in order to modernize its postal services. A small number of “Way Offices” [3] were then opened to expedite mail delivery in outlying areas of the city proper, but this announcement was particularly about a new downtown post office branch office, and indicated its special designation as a “Receiving Office.”



**Figure 1** *Evening Telegram* 5 July 1886 announcement of new Receiving Office in McConnan's book store.

There was an important, and somewhat political, reason for opening this Receiving Office downtown. The old St John's General Post Office, located in the Market House building at 190 Water Street East, had just been closed. The Post Office had shared this building with both the Colonial Court and the Police Department since 1857, and these quarters had much earlier become too small to accommodate the Post Office and its growing business. Accordingly, a new site had been purchased and a Post Office building was constructed. This new Post Office building, at 352-356 Water Street East, was opened for business to the public on 7 June 1886 [4]. This new building was, however, located several long blocks west of the old Market House location, and, as mentioned in a newspaper editorial [5], it was perceived as an inconvenience for the commercial interests of the city. Many businesses were centred more to the east and nearer to the old Market House building, and they had been accessing their mail there for many years.

An item in the *Evening Telegram* of 15 May 1886 indicates the Post Office's acknowledgement of this concern, as follows: “The Post-office authorities have assented to a proposal made by us this week and intend to keep open a window in the present building for the sale of stamps and the receipt of letters, much to the satisfaction of East End business establishments and the Banks.” (p. 4). Although things did not turn out quite this way, a solution was found, and thus was begun the St. John's Central Post Office operation in McConnan's bookstore at 201 Water Street East [6], across the street and about a block west of the Market House building.

Keywords & phrases: Newfoundland, Postal History, Receiving Office

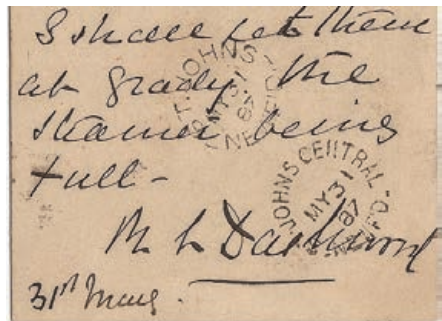
As a Receiving Office, its functions were somewhat limited. For example, it did not register mail, nor did it apparently accept newspapers for mailing. Yet it did have a postmark hammer, proofed 9 October 1886, reading “ST. JOHNS CENTRAL” (*sic*), and letter carriers from the General Post Office would call twice a day to deliver and distribute the mail (Figures 2 and 3).



**Figure 2.** St. Johns Central (first hammer, no apostrophe, shorter arcs) used 31 December 1886 to New Jersey, while Thomas McConnan was postmaster. (It is hypothesized that the “235” cancel was applied at the General Post Office, and after the mail had been transferred from the Central PO to the General PO for processing.)

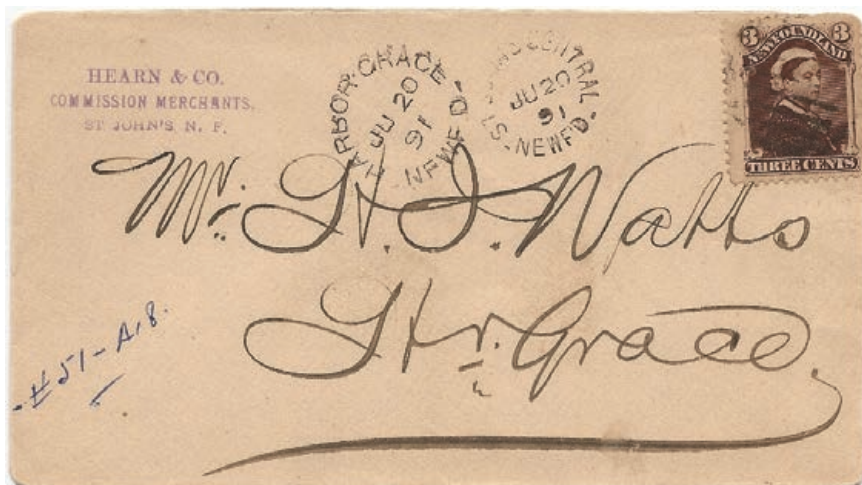
Thomas McConnan had operated his bookstore for many years. More than just a bookstore, the daily newspaper, the *Evening Telegram*, featured regular advertisements for a variety of stationery supplies, greeting cards, artists’ supplies, sheet music, and fancy goods. He also sold concert and theatre tickets for local performances. By April 1887, however, and regularly for the next several months, he was advertising his decision to sell off his entire stock and, by February 1888, the final sales of his “insolvent estate” were advertised by his agent, the stock having been removed by then to other premises [7].

The Receiving Office at 201 Water Street nevertheless continued operation (Figure 4). A Mrs Rouse is listed in the 1889 *Almanac* [8] as its postmistress, as a bookseller, and also as a stamp vendor. The *Almanac* also confirms that the Receiving Office continued to be located in the same premises after McConnan had retired. Mrs Rouse had previously been listed in



**Figure 3** St. Johns Central, detail of 1887 strike from the first hammer, showing shorter arcs. Backstamps on local use of a 1-cent BABNC postal stationery card.

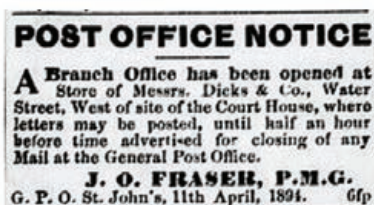
the 1887 *Almanac* as a licensed stamp vendor in Becks's Cove, a nearby street leading off Water Street to the harbour, so she must have moved up to Water Street in late 1887 to assume this new role as this Water Street location is mentioned in October of that year as a place that sold concert tickets for some local performances.



**Figure 4** St. John's Central (first hammer), used 20 June 1891 on domestic cover to Harbour Grace, sent while Mrs Rouse was postmistress.

Mrs Rouse is also mentioned in an editorial on “Postal Reform” in the 17 February 1892 *Evening Telegram*, as “one of the most efficient and obliging officers in the whole Post Office department,” while at the same time the editorial decried the fact that patrons could not register letters or receive newspapers and book packets at this office [9].

Unfortunately, Mrs Rouse was postmistress at the time of the great St John's fire of 8 July 1892, which destroyed much of the commercial district, including much of Water Street, her premises and its Post Office. She lost her business, and the reactivation of the Central Post Office would have to wait until the city's downtown was rebuilt, a process which was to take over a year.



**Figure 5** *Evening Telegram* 12 April 1894 announcement of new Branch Office in Dicks and Co. book store.

The St John's Central Post Office is not mentioned again in the *Almanac* until 1894, where it is once again named one of the branch post offices in the city [10]. Its opening is officially announced to the public in the *Evening Telegram* of 12 April 1894, which notes that “A Branch Office has been opened at Store of Messrs. Dicks & Co., Water Street, West of site of the Court House ...” (Figure 5). This is the new premises of the Central Post Office, and our phoenix, literally rising from the ashes of the 1892 fire, has been reborn.



Dicks and Co advertised themselves as stationers, bookbinders, and printers, and had a long history of doing business in successive premises on Water Street. On 2 September 1893, following rebuilding after the 1892 fire, they opened a new store in the Merchant's Block, 200-208 Water Street East [11] The *Evening Telegram* of 5 September 1893 featured an article on this opening, stating that "perhaps the finest bookstore that has ever been in the East End of the city was opened on Saturday evening last, a few doors west of the site of the old Market House, by Messrs. Dicks and Co. The building is a large one ..." (p 4).



**Figure 6.** St. John's Central (second hammer, now with an apostrophe and longer arcs) used 7 August 1894 to Toronto, posted from the Dicks and Co Merchants Block store. Correspondence from the Commercial Bank of Newfoundland.

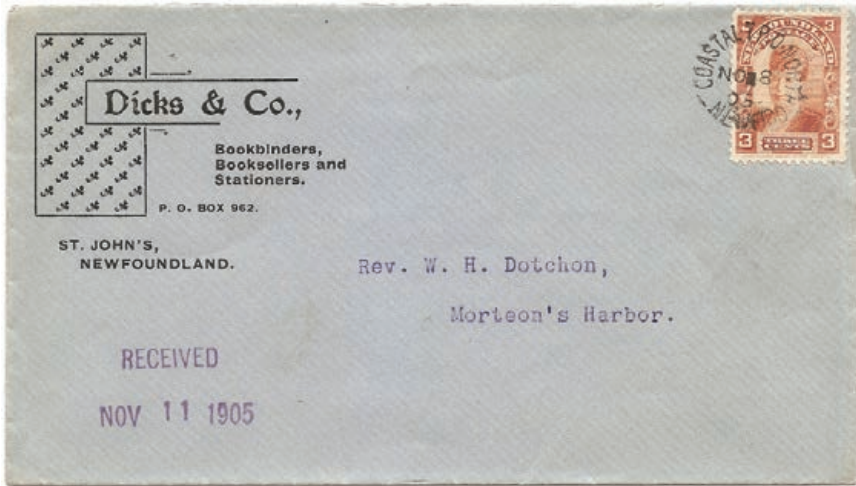


**Figure 7.** St. John's Central (second hammer), used 18 September 1897 to New York, posted from Dicks and Co, located at 245 Water Street.



The 1894 reopening of the Central Post Office, now in the Dicks and Co store, continued the Post Office Department's practice of providing a branch post office in the central commercial district of the city. A new postmarking hammer, reading "ST. JOHN'S CENTRAL" (this time with the apostrophe) was then proofed on 9 May 1894, and saw regular use through the rest of the existence of the office [12] (Figure 6).

Dicks and Co remained on these premises for only the next few years, however. In July 1897, the business moved across the street and about a block west to 245 Water Street East, in the Goodfellow's block of buildings, adjoining Ayre's Cove Road (Figure 7). Its Central Post Office remained at this new location well into the 1920s. Also, while at this location, at some point mail boxes were installed in the premises for the convenience of its postal patrons, as evidenced by occasional newspaper advertisements (ads) using Dicks Post Office box numbers as return addresses (Figure 8).



**Figure 8** Dicks and Co corner card cover, used 1905. (Not posted from their store; instead likely posted at the docks for Coastal North conveyance.) Note high PO box number, possibly indicating Dicks and Co. also maintained a PO box on premises for their correspondence.

Over the years that the Central Post Office operated, Dicks and Co advertised postal services as a benefit of doing business in their store. I note, particularly, a recurring ad from 1913, in which "visitors are cordially welcomed" to "make our store your office during your stay in St. John's," "to write your letters and post cards," as "it is the Central Post Office" (Figure 9). Other than these occasional ads, however, I have been unable to locate any other information about the ongoing operation of this branch Post Office.



After the 1922 edition of the *Almanac*, the Central Post Office receives no further


**Figure 9** Evening Telegram Dicks and Co recurring advertisement, mid-1913.

mention, indicating it must have finally closed for postal business sometime before the 1923 edition was published. Perhaps for reasons of economy and consolidation it was closed (some of the other branch offices were purportedly closed around this same time too). In addition, the St. John's East post office nearby on Duckworth Street had come to assume greater prominence in the mail services for the commercial interests located in this part of St John's, so perhaps two east end post offices so close together were no longer required. Yet the story of the St John's Central Post Office continues to live on through the covers and postal ephemera we can discover and collect.

## References and endnotes

- [1] All *Evening Telegram* and Newfoundland *Almanacs* articles cited above may be accessed on the internet through Memorial University's Digital Archives Initiative <<http://collections.mun.ca/index.php>>.
- [2] His name was also spelled "Hawken" in other places.
- [3] "Way Office" was a term used, in this period, by the Newfoundland Post Office to designate locations where, under the supervision of a "waymaster" (presumably someone paid a nominal salary to be in charge of the mail from his location), postal patrons could securely pick up and post letter mail. In St John's, these initial Way Offices, all established in early 1886, were at River Head, King's Bridge, and South Side, and postal hammers were proofed for each on 9 October 1886. (Strikes from any of these three hammers are exceedingly scarce, with South Side apparently unreported.) These Way Offices seem to have been located in the private residences of each waymaster, though further research is required here
- [4] "What Say You Mr. Hawkins?" *Evening Telegram*, 12 May 1886, (p4).
- [5] "The New Post Office," *Evening Telegram*, 8 June 1886, (p.4). The article calls this location "the new post office at Riverhead," satirizing the location *as if* it were as remote as the River Head Way Office, when in fact it was located on Water Street at the far west end of the city.
- [6] Pratt, in *his Nineteenth Century Postal History of Newfoundland* (Collectors Club, 1985) indicated his uncertainty on the location of the first St John's Central post office. However, the *Almanac* for 1887 (p 60) places T McConnan, a "licensed stamp vendor," at 201 Water Street. It also includes the first listing of the St John's Central Receiving Office with McConnan as its Postmaster (p 59).
- [7] McConnan had in fact decided to retire. Final mention of him is made in the *Telegram* of 18 October 1892, "Funeral of Mr. McConnan" (p 4). McConnan in retirement had moved to Victoria BC, where he died in September 1892.
- [8] There is no 1888 *Almanac* in Memorial University's Archives.
- [9] Mrs Rouse apparently did not advertise her bookstore business, at least not in the *Evening Telegram*, in the same way as McConnan previously had. Little published mention is found of her aside from her ongoing involvements in the charitable works of her church, where it is noted that she relocated to the offices of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge (the oldest Anglican missionary society) after the 1892 fire. OCR searches using possible alternate spellings of her surname have provided no additional information. The operation of the Central Post Office in this period before the fire nevertheless is documented through existing covers up through to the great fire of July 1892.
- [10] Another branch Post Office, St John's East, had been opened a few months earlier, (but also after the fire). It was intended to serve the commercial interests located even further east along Duckworth Street.
- [11] In the *Encyclopedia of Newfoundland and Labrador*, the address is given instead as 247 Water. In archival photographs, the Dicks and Co store is shown as located at the (west) end of the Goodfellow's Block of building.
- [12] There is a "St John's Postal Markings" exhibit that purports to show three different St John's Central split-ring postmarks. It indicates one with arcs of 2.5 mm in the 1886–1890 period; one


with arcs 1.0 mm in the 1891 period; and one with arcs 2.0 mm in the 1896–1902 period. However, the strikes shown are not particularly definitive for this assertion, as the strikes in the exhibit appear somewhat weak. As well, correspondence with the known proof strikes is not indicated. I currently think that there are only two hammers, as proofed, and as apparent from other strikes I have examined. Aside from other differences between the two hammers, the arcs on the 1886 proof strike are noticeably shorter than the arcs on the 1894 proof strike, the former measuring approximately 1 mm, the latter approximately 3 mm. Strikes on known covers seem to indicate that just two hammers were used—one before the 1892 fire, and one subsequently after. One could consequently hypothesize that the first hammer was destroyed in the fire, and the second hammer was its replacement. Further research may yet be warranted here.



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AU 28, 1877; 1959 PF cert.  
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# Canada: Little-known facts of WWII—Part 1

*John Burnett*

I have been an active collector of the postal history of Canada in WWII for the past twenty-five years. During that time, I have discovered some interesting facts of postal history that seem to have been lost on collectors (or at least exhibitors).

This is part 1 of a series of brief articles that will address a number of these discoveries: They are not meant to be the “be-all and end-all” of historical facts, rather simply to provide BNAPS members with suggestions about what to keep an eye open for when visiting that bourse table, and perhaps to help judges make an assessment of the relative scarcity of material shown in an exhibit.

This first article concerns a very rare piece of Canadian postal history that is quite difficult to identify, even though the identification is just staring at you from the cover.

It all starts on 26 May 1940, at the little town of Dunkirk on the shores of France, where approximately 350,000 British troops are surrounded, with their backs to the sea.

Britain mounts an operation called “Operation Dynamo,” mobilizing 850 ships and boats (mainly boats) to evacuate her troops from the coast of France. In case you don't know the difference between a ship and a boat, the classical distinction is that “you can carry a boat on a ship.” Amazingly, by 4 June this operation is complete, and 338,000 troops had been evacuated, many of them in open longboats towed behind ships.



**Figure 1.** Examples of the types of boats used in Operation Dynamo. Here a tug pulls a small pleasure craft the 22 miles to the English shore.

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Keywords & phrases: WWII, military, postal history



**Figure 2.** Small arms, piled on the beach of Dunkirk by the Germans.



**Figure 3.** A sampling of Britain's cars, trucks, and armoured vehicles left on the beaches of Dunkirk.

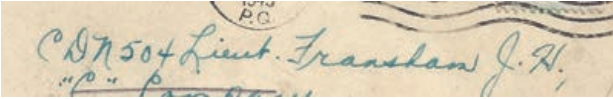
At the end of the evacuation, Great Britain had left seventy-five percent of her small arms, cars, and trucks (Figures 2 and 3) in Dunkirk. More important, seventy percent of Britain's Army Infantry Officer Corps remained in the hands of the Germans! Had Hitler decided to invade at that time, the only thing Britain would have had to defend herself with was an unarmed army and an armed Home Guard (generally carrying personal shotguns).

But Great Britain had an important assignment for its army officers—to supply members of the Officer Corps to the Indian Army and African Armies. Churchill was not prepared to abandon this effort. Consequently, he put out a call and asked Canada to “lend” England officers from the Canadian Army. Canada put out a call for volunteers and thus was created the “CANLOAN” Operation. Canadian Military archives show that 622 Canadian Infantry officers were loaned to the British by 1944 and that, early on, many were Majors who took a demotion to be part of this force.



**Figure 4.** To a CANLOAN officer with a Battalion of the 15th Scottish Division.

Figure 4 shows a CANLOAN cover mailed on 14 February 1945 from Montreal. Lt JH Fransham was part of XXX corps. The 15th Scottish were on the immediate right of the 3rd Canadian Division in the heavy fighting in and around the Moyland Wood where he was probably wounded. This letter has been redirected to the hospital where he was recuperating.



**Figure 5.** The only way CANLOAN covers can be identified is by the “CDN” followed by three figures.

To know that this is a CANLOAN cover, you must look closely at the address. All CANLOAN Officers were given a three-figure number between 001 and 622, prefixed by the letters “CDN” (Figure 5).

The vast majority of the Canadian CANLOAN officers joined the British forces in 1944, in time for the invasion of Europe at Normandy, so there are not going to be a lot of these envelopes around for us collectors to find.

The 622 officers who joined British forces acquitted themselves well, earning military decorations disproportionate to their numbers.

They also suffered many casualties: Forty-three CANLOAN officers were killed in action. On a recent visit to Ottawa, I went to see the memorial erected to their memory, located on a quiet street next to the Ottawa River, at Sussex Drive and Stanley Avenue, in the diplomatic area of the nation’s capital.



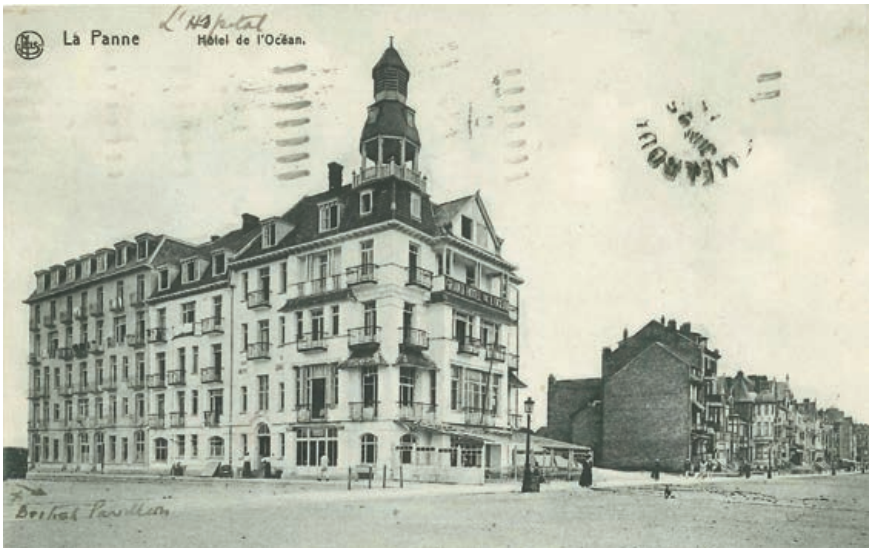
**Figure 6.** The CANLOAN Memorial, erected in Ottawa.



# Canadians at Ambulance de l'Océan, Belgium, 1915

*Jonathan C Johnson, OTB*

**A**FTER six weeks of renovating the requisitioned seaside Grand Hotel de l'Océan at La Panne, Belgium (Figure 1), on 18 December 1915 Dr Antoine Depage [1] opened a 200-bed military hospital (ambulance) [2]. The location was chosen because it was close to the front lines only eight miles away, reducing the time required to transport casualties to the surgical hospital. The building was four stories high, with 100 rooms. As more room was needed, barracks were built between the rolling sand dunes. Unlike most military hospitals the staff members were civilians, chosen for their medical skills. The doctors and nurses were volunteers from England, Canada, the United States, and Denmark. Only two nurses were from Belgium. Although a Belgian military hospital, Ambulance de l'Océan was totally funded by donations, mostly from England, with the Belgian army supplying some vehicles and manpower. In less than a year, the hospital was expanded to 1,000 beds. As demand for hospital services and donations grew, the hospital expanded further, to a total of 2,000 beds, and a staff of 160 nurses.



**Figure 1.** Viewcard of the Grand Hotel de l'Océan with “Hotel” scratched out and “l’Hôpital” added to the name. At lower left, the sender has put an “x”, a small arrow, and the words “British Pavilion.”

In April 1915, Dr GB Armstrong of Montreal recruited 22 Canadian nurses for volunteer service at Ambulance de l'Océan. The nurses signed up for a six-month tour of

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Keywords & phrases: WWI, military, postal markings

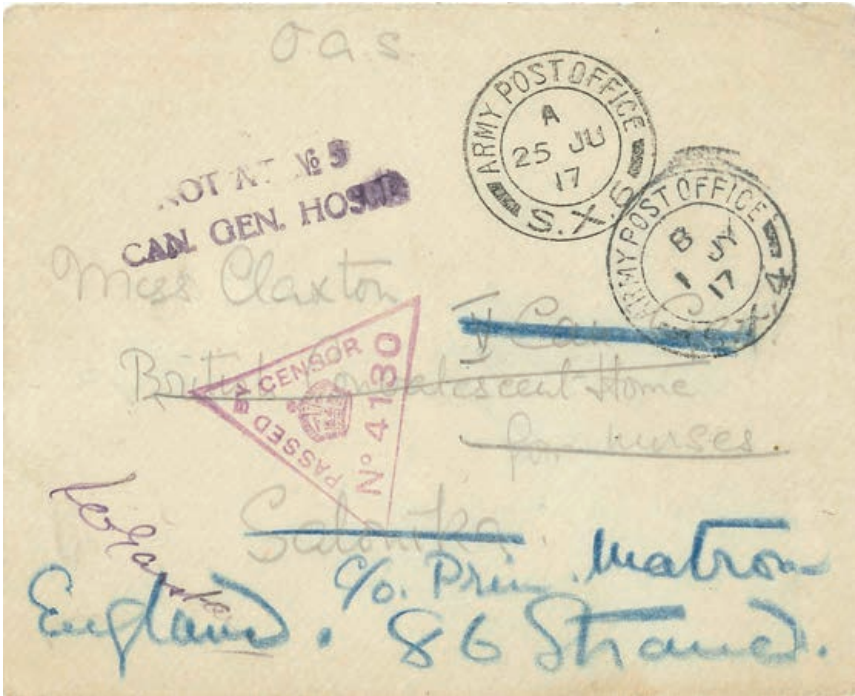




For a time during WWI, when military mail arrived in Canada the Canadian Post Office added postage stamps so the addressee would not be charged postage due. The message on the post card (Figure 2) reads:

*Have been asked to take charge of one 50 bed section of the British Pavilion. Drs speak only French, rather dread the problem in some respects spirit among the nurses isn't the best. Wish we were among our own people. Had a big fire here the 6th, a 300 bed pavilion was burned. It only contained 30 beds, very glad of your flash(light) that night. Quite exciting while it lasted. S.B.R.*

The post card in Figure 3 was sent by Nursing Sister JE McCosham, to her mother in Montreal on 20 November 1915. After her service at Ambulance de l'Océan, N/S McCosham did not join the Canadian Army Medical Corps.



**Figure 4. Cover to Nursing Sister HC Claxton after she joined the Canadian Army Medical Corps.**

After her service at La Panne, N/S Helen Catherine Claxton joined the CAMC and was appointed to #5 Canadian General Hospital in Kalamaria, Greece. The cover in Figure 4 was mailed at APO SX6 on 25 JU 17 from Vertekop, Greece (70kms west of Salonika) to Nursing Sister Claxton at the British Convalescent Home for Nurses, Salonika, Greece. As she was not there, the envelope was redirected with cachet to “V Can Gen” hospital at Kalamaria, Greece, with a BAPO X, 29 JU 17 forwarding postmark on the reverse. The

envelope then received the cachet “Not at No 5 Can Gen Hosp” and, with an APO SX4, 1 JY 17 postmark on the reverse was forwarded to “C/C Prin Matron/86 Strand/England”.

In 1917 the Ambulance de l’Océan at La Panne was damaged by enemy action, so the hospital was relocated to Vinkem, Belgium, about ten miles closer to Dunkirk, France. Ambulance de l’Océan was closed on 15 October 1919.

## References and endnotes

[1] <fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antoine\_Depage>.

[2] <fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ambulance\_de\_l’Océan>.


[3] Andrew MacPhail, *History of the Canadian Forces—The Medical Services*, FA Acland, Ottawa, 1925, 90.

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# For a Penny or Two...#10

## Shortpaid post card to the United States

*Victor Willson*

**A**FTER the agreement was reached, on 1 July 1873, between the United States and Canada to accept each other's post cards at 2¢ per card, a provision was established that a card shortpaid at 1¢ would be treated as a shortpaid letter. This provision apparently remained in force until 1 February 1875, when a new agreement went into effect. Under its terms, each country's domestic rate was effectively reciprocated as the inter-country rate.

The government post card shown below was sent from London, Ontario, on 13 January 1875, to Springfield, Massachusetts. Being shortpaid, it was rated "10" and "Due 10" to the recipient. Interestingly, eighteen days later the card could have been sent for one cent with no postage due. The card was a receipt for reception of the *Canadian Entomologist*, the journal of the Entomological Society of Ontario. Its yearly dues were \$1.25. If the Secretary/Treasurer of the Society had known or been considerate, he might have delayed sending the card until after the rate drop. Likely, he did what most of us would do, write out the receipt on the back, address it, and not think about the destination!




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Keywords & phrases: Postage rates



# SPARKS

★ AUCTIONS

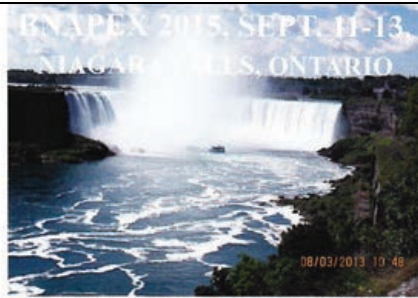
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## BNAPS book release notes

**B**NAPS has released one new handbook since the last issue of *BNA Topics* went to press. At press time for this issue, seven new books are being prepared for printing in time for the BNAPEX 2015 convention in Niagara Falls.

**SPECIAL NOTE** re books available at BNAPEX 2015 Niagara Falls: Because it is not possible to bring a complete selection of BNAPS books to a show, members who would like to pick up specific books at Niagara Falls in September and save shipping charges are asked to contact Brian Wolfenden at Sparks Auctions by e-mail at <bnaps@sparks-auctions.com> or by telephone (613-567-3336) as far in advance of the Convention as possible so he can package and bring the books.

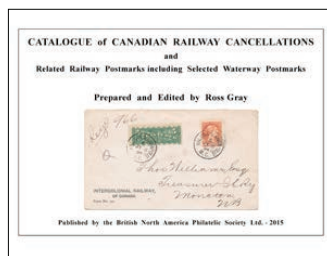
*Catalogue of Canadian Railway Post Office Cancellations and Related Railway Postmarks including Selected Waterway Postmarks (Excluding Newfoundland & Labrador)*, edited by Ross Gray, 2015. Spiral bound, 384 pages, 8.5 × 11, black and white. ISBN: 978-1-927119-49-5. Published by the British North America Philatelic Society. Stock # B4h073-1; C\$80.

In 2009, *The Catalogue of Canadian Railway Cancellations*, edited by Ross Gray, replaced Lew Ludlow's 1982 *Catalogue of Canadian Railway Cancellations and Related Transportation Postmarks*. The Ludlow book had been in use for twenty-seven years, with annual annexes numbered 1 to 22, and later amendments published in the Railway Post Office (RPO) Study Group Newsletter. A major change (and a concern for the Editor in 2009) was the renumbering of all listings. This was obviously not a deterrent to the avid group of RPO enthusiasts. Since 2009, Ross has been gratified by the response of fellow collectors, both inside and outside the RPO Study Group, who have sent numerous reports of new earlier and later dates, as well as train numbers not previously reported or confirmed. Their contributions have enabled publication of a new edition encompassing thousands of updates, resulting in a much more complete and accurate reference.

The 2009 edition of the catalogue, assembled from decades of accumulated data from many and varied sources, included a number of errors and omissions which have now been corrected. Many more illustrations of postmarks have been added, to the extent that additional separate hammer data not in the 2009 edition is now included. The known proof and order dates of individual hammers have also been added.

There is one additional significant change in the 2015 edition. In consultation with Brian Stalker, it was decided that Newfoundland and Labrador postmarks should be moved into a completely separate volume, which is scheduled for publication later this year. This separation is being done to enable Brian to include much more detail and context in the catalogue, as he did with his book, *Travelling Post Office Postmarks of Newfoundland & Labrador*, published by BNAPS in 2004.

Even with the removal the Newfoundland and Labrador section, the new 2015 edition of *The Catalogue of Canadian Railway Cancellations* is 368 pages long, compared to 316 in 2009.

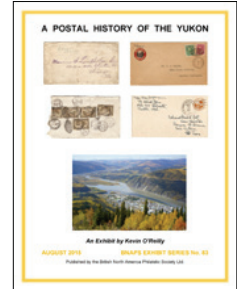


## BNAPS books in production at press time

As this issue of *BNA Topics* goes to press, seven new BNAPS books—two in the exhibit series, one catalogue and four handbooks—are in production. All are scheduled to be ready for purchase at BNAPEX 2015 NIAGARA FALLS, which starts on 11 September 2015.

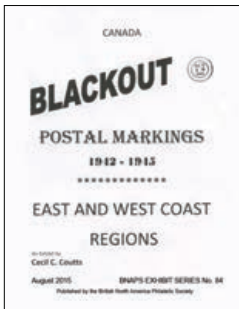
*A Postal History of the Yukon*, by Kevin O'Reilly

Kevin O'Reilly has been chronicling the postal history of northern Canada for over thirty years. Joining his books on Northwest Territories Postal Cancellations and the Pre-Confederation Postal History of Labrador, Kevin's *Postal History of the Yukon* won the Horace H Harrison Grand Award at BNAPEX 2014 BALPEX in Baltimore. It is the 83<sup>rd</sup> volume in the BNAPS Exhibit Series.



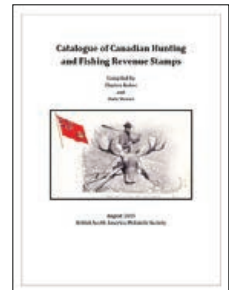
*Blackout Postal Markings of Canada*, by Cecil (Cec) Coutts

One of the very interesting aspects of Canada's Postal history in the WWII period was the "Blackout" cancellation, used in an attempt to hide from the enemy the place of origin of mail posted in the ports along the east and west coasts. Although the effort was somewhat effective, there were gaps, usually caused by the presence of return addresses, whether hand- or typewritten or on printed corner cards. On the other hand, there are several "Blackouts" whose place of origin is debated to this day.

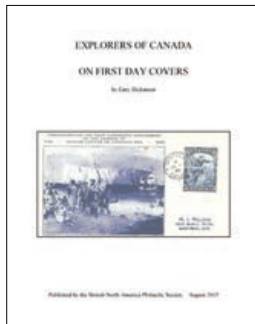


*Catalogue of Canadian Hunting and Fishing Revenue Stamps*, compiled by Clayton Rubec and Dale Stover

Since 1964, the Canadian provinces and territories have collectively issued at least 4,532 hunting and fishing revenue stamps. Until now, awareness of these stamps has been quite limited, mainly within the hunting and fishing communities and to a few collectors of Canadian Revenues. With this extensive catalogue by Clayton Rubec and Dale Stover, that situation no longer exists.



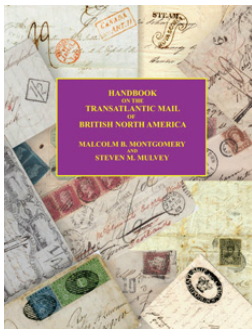
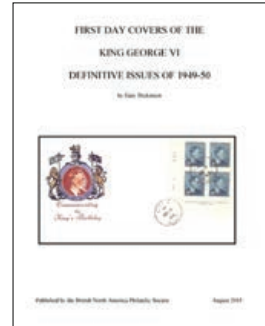
*Explorers of Canada on First Day Covers*, by Gary Dickinson



In the first of two books being published by BNAPS this summer, Gary Dickinson continues to show how much variety there is to be found in Canadian First Day Covers. Although Jacques Cartier and Samuel de Champlain were depicted on stamps as early as 1855 and 1908 respectively, it was not until the Cartier stamp of 1933 was issued that any of the men whose efforts served to open up the continent for further exploration and settlement was honoured by being the subject of a Canadian First Day Cover. The quality and variety of designs of Explorer related stamps and cover cachets is quite surprising.

*First Day Covers of the King George VI Definitive Issues of 1949-50*, by Gary Dickinson

The first post-WWII stamps to show King George VI in civilian clothes appeared in late 1949. They were complicated by a design error. The words “Postes” and “Postage” were supposed to appear on the stamps to show Canada’s status as a bilingual country, but the first stamps printed were missing the words. This was quickly corrected, but the decision was made to issue the first set regardless so as not to waste the money invested and paper used. One can imagine the variety of First Day Covers arising from such an unusual set of circumstances.



*Handbook on the Transatlantic Mail of British North America*, by Malcolm B Montgomery and Steven M Mulvey

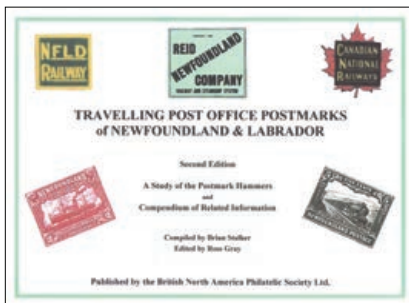
Malcolm Montgomery’s and Steven Mulvey’s decision to revise and update Jack Arnell’s 1987 *Handbook on Transatlantic Mail* has benefited greatly not only from new information that has come to light in the intervening twenty-eight years, but also from the incredible advancements in technology of the same period. In addition to extensive reference quotations, the book will feature a significantly expanded section on the handstamps used on transatlantic mail, and some 250 colour plates illustrating the covers that carried these handstamps.

*The Rates and Postal History of Canada’s Peace Issue 1946–1952*, by HM (Mike) Street

The period just after World War II saw a huge expansion of the world’s postal systems, due largely to the increased use of aircraft to carry mail. In this book, Mike Street presents and illustrates the postage rates that were in force on 16 September 1946, when the set of ten stamps, immediately named the “Peace Issue,” were released, and the changes in the rates paid for by those stamps until the end of 1952, shortly after the death of King George VI.



## Publishing in Fall 2015



*Travelling Post Office Postmarks of Newfoundland & Labrador, Second Edition*, compiled by Brian Stalker, edited by Ross Gray.

Section 1 of the “Second Edition” documents over 300 updates that have been received and eleven more years of research undertaken since the First Edition. The completely new Section 2, “A Compendium of Related Information,” gathers—for the first time in one place—twenty-five years of research in the form of summarized and



tabulated data relating to the carriage and sorting of mail on Newfoundland and Labrador's railways and mail steamers.

Another very significant change is that all the Newfoundland and Labrador postal hammer information, formerly found in the RPO Catalogues of Lew Ludlow and Ross Gray, has now been moved to the Second Edition of Brian Stalker's book.

All BNAPS books are available from: Sparks Auctions, 1550 Carling Avenue, Suite 202, Ottawa, ON K1Z 8S8, Canada. E-mail: <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.

## Correction

In the April-June 2015 issue of *BNA Topics* Dean Mario, Editor of the *Newsletter* of the BNAPS Canadian Military Mail Study Group, was credited for the excellent summary of the evolution of *A Guide to Canadian Military Postal History 1636-1970*, by Lt Col Roland H Webb, edited by Robert Toombs, Gray Scrimgeour, and Brian Plain and published by the Postal History Society of Canada. Dean wrote to say that many of his comments originated in release notes prepared by Gray Scrimgeour. Our apologies to both Dean and Gray.



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# New issues

William J F Wilson

## Canadian dinosaurs

**F**IVE dinosaurs (or actually four plus a marine reptile) whose fossils have been found in Canada are featured on stamps released by Canada Post on 13 April 2015:

They are:

- *Euoplocephalus tutus* was a vegetarian dinosaur of the family ankylosauridae, about 6 m in length and 2 tonnes in mass. Ankylosauridae were characterized by bony armour over the head and body; in fact, the generic name *Euoplocephalus* comes from the Greek *eu*, “well”; *boplo*, “armed”; and *kephale*, “head.”
- *Chasmosaurus belli* was a vegetarian dinosaur of the family ceratopsidae, about 4.5 m in length and 1.5–2 tonnes in mass. The ceratopsidae were characterized by a wide, bony frill that projected up and back from the forehead.
- *Tylosaurus peminensis* was not actually a dinosaur; *i.e.*, it was not a member of the clade dinosauria. Rather, it was a mosasaur, a type of large lizard whose limbs had evolved into flippers for life in the sea.
- *Ornithomimus edmontonicus* was a fast-running, ostrich-like dinosaur about 4 m long from beak to tail with a mass of about 170 kg. *Ornithomimus* was a theropod (suborder therapoda), a large group of bipedal dinosaurs that included *Tyrannosaurus rex*, other large, bipedal dinosaurs such as *Allosaurus* and *Ceratosaurus*, and smaller bipedal dinosaurs such as *Velociraptor*.
- *Tyrannosaurus rex* (see Figure 1), perhaps the most famous of all dinosaurs, was a carnivorous member of the family tyrannosauridae. A strong contender for the title of largest land predator ever, *T rex* reached a length of about 12 m, stood about 4 m high at the hip, and had a mass of more than 6 tonnes.



**Figure 1.** Dinosaur stamp depicting *Tyrannosaurus rex*

The term tyrannosauridae refers specifically to *T rex* and its large, close relatives such as *Albertosaurus* and *Gorgosaurus* that lived only during the last fifteen million or so years of the dinosaur era. These were the primary predators of the day. The family tyrannosauridae

shared certain defining characteristics—such as fused nasal bones in the snout—with some earlier species. Together, they form the super-family tyrannosauroidae, referred to hereafter as tyrannosaurs. *Allosaurus* and *Ceratosaurus*, the primary predators before the tyrannosauridae appeared, looked similar to *T rex* but were not tyrannosaurs.

Until about fifteen years ago, the evolutionary history of the tyrannosaurs was unknown (the following description is taken primarily from [1]). Several large tyrannosaurs had been discovered in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, including *T rex*, *Gorgosaurus* and at least two species of *Albertosaurus*, but these had all lived at or near the close of the ~180-million-year-long dinosaur era.

Since the turn of the twenty-first century, our understanding of tyrannosaur evolution has expanded markedly. New tyrannosaur fossils have been discovered, and some older fossils have been re-evaluated and recognized as tyrannosaurs. Two relatively complete skeletons of a new tyrannosaur, *Guanlong wucaii*, were found in China and described in the scientific literature in 2006. *G wucaii* lived about 160 million years ago and was far from gigantic—it was only about 3 m in length, 1 m high at the hip, and 50–100 kg in mass. Standing erect, it would have been about the height of a human. Two similar-sized but even earlier tyrannosaurs were found not long after these: *Kileskus aristotocus* in central Siberia (described in 2010), and *Proceratosaurus bradleyi* (discovered in England in 1910 but not recognized as a tyrannosaur until 2010). Both lived about 170 million years ago.

Our knowledge about dinosaurs that lived during the period between *Guanlong* and *T rex* has also been partly filled in, although large gaps still exist. *Juratyran langhami*, about 6 m long and 2 m high at the hip, lived about 150 million years ago. About 25 million years later, two tyrannosaurs that were very different from each other lived in China: *Dilong paradoxus* (described in 2004), which was about the size of a golden retriever, and *Yutyranus huali* (described in 2012), 8–9 m long, 2.5 m high at the hip, and about 1 ton in mass. In addition, *Yutyranus*, although much smaller than the allosaurs and ceratosaurs of its day, illustrates that tyrannosaurs were already appearing in large sizes long before the advent of *T rex* and *Albertosaurus*.

This discussion raises two interesting questions about tyrannosaurs: how did they take over from the allosaurs and ceratosaurs as primary predators, and why did it take so long? Something else likely caused the allosaurs and ceratosaurs to largely disappear sometime between ~110 million and ~80 million years ago, leaving their ecological niche open for the expansion of the tyrannosaurs. Brusatte [1] suggests that a “mass extinction about 94 million years ago—when temperatures increased and sea levels fluctuated—may be to blame.” Unfortunately, dinosaur fossils from this period are extremely rare, so little is known for sure.

However tyrannosaurs became primary predators, they didn’t last: Sixty-six million years ago, Earth was hit by a large asteroid and—with the exception of birds—all dinosaurs disappeared. It is interesting to note, however, that birds are descended from theropod dinosaurs. Thus, birds are—in a sense—living dinosaurs, and distant cousins (many times removed) of *Kileskus aristotocus* and *T rex*.

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).

**Table 1. 2015 Commemoratives**

Stamp	Canadian Photography	Dinosaurs	Love Your Pet	Flanders Fields	Women's World Cup
Value	5 × P, \$1.20, \$2.50 (s-t on two SS)	5 × P	5 × P (s-t on SS)	P	P
Issued	8 Apr	13 Apr	2 May	3 May	6 May
Printer	CBN	L-M	L-M	L-M	L-M
Pane	Bk: <sup>(a)</sup> SS: <sup>(b)</sup>	Bk: 10 SS: 5	Bk: 10 SS: 5	Bk: 10 SP: 5	Bk: 10
Paper	C	C	C	C	C
Process	3CL (black & white) 6CL (colour)	4CL + foil (embossing on SS)	6CL + varnish	5CL	8CL
Qty (1000s)	P: 125 SH A: 180 Bk B: 300 SS C: 150 SS	Bk: 500 SS: 200	Bk: 400 SS: 150	Bk: 400 SS: 60	200
Tag	G4S	G4S	G4S	G4S	G4S
Gum	SS: PVA Bk: P-S	P-S	SS: PVA Bk: P-S	SP: PVA Bk: P-S	P-S
Size, mm	Landscape: 36 × 30 Portrait: 30 × 36	28 × 28 <sup>(d)</sup>	40 × 40	40 × 32	40 × 32
Perf	SS: 12.8 × 12.7 <sup>(c)</sup> Bk: Simulated	Simulated	SS: 13.0 × 13.0 Bk: Simulated	SS: 12.5 × 12.5 Bk: Simulated	Simulated
Teeth	Landscape: 23 × 19 Portrait: 19 × 23 Bk: Simulated	Simulated	SS: 26 × 26 Bk: Simulated	SS: 25 × 20 Bk: Simulated	Simulated

**Footnotes for Table 1**

<sup>(a)</sup> Three booklets: one of 10 P stamps (5 designs), one of 6 × \$1.20, and one of 6 × \$2.50.

<sup>(b)</sup> Two SS: one of four black-and-white photographs and one of three colour photographs.

<sup>(c)</sup> 12.7 × 12.8 for portrait format.

<sup>(d)</sup> Basic size (but listed as 28.5 × 28.5 in *Details* booklet). Four stamps have projections beyond 28 mm (e.g., see Figure).

**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; s-t = se-tenant; SH = sheet; SP = special pane; SS = souvenir sheet.

**Reference**

[1] Stephen Brusatte, "Rise of the Tyrannosaurs: New fossils put *T. rex* in its place," *Scientific American*, Vol 312, No 5, (May 2015) pp 34–41.

# Study group centreline

*Peter McCarthy, OTB*

**C**ENTRELINE presents brief summaries of the specialized research done by BNAPS members as published in the newsletters of its many Study Groups. This column reviews those received between 15 March and 15 June 2015.

## British Columbia

A standard feature of the British Columbia Postal History newsletter is a favourite cover pictured on its cover page. Vol 24, No 2 of June 2015 features one from the Geddis file and dated 8 October 1890: R James Geddis was a CPR locomotive engineer. Tracy Cooper shows an 1867 letter from Clinton merchant Frederick W Foster, describing the conditions of the day. Cooper also writes on World War I civil censorship in British Columbia with reference to Allan Steinhart's book *Civil Censorship in Canada during World War I*. Glenna Metchette contributes an article on Whiteman Creek in the Okanagan Valley. Andrew Scott comes in with two more previously unreported post offices: Hockin Landing and Hilliam are now struck off the list. At the end is a member's request on the meaning of Vancouver's "number in circle" markings, suspected to be Bell Telephone internal markings.

## Confederation

*Confederation* is the newsletter of the Large and Small Queens study group. The April 2015 issue (Volume 59) opens with an illustrated article by Brian Hargreaves on the cracked plate variety of the 15¢ Large Queen. Brian writes of a variety within a variety in the form of—what appears to be—ink smears across the crack. Can anyone shed light on this subvariety? In Part 2 of his contribution on the ½¢ Large Queen, the conclusion of an examination of sheet positions 1, 2, and 3, Geoff Browning writes about the varieties found. Glen Archer and Jim Watt combined on the article *An Alternate Six-Cent Small Queen Plate "A" Theory*. The article deals with the position dots in the first, second, and third states and is meant as a guide for researchers doing further study. The newsletter ends with an illustration of a purchase made by Bill Radcliffe of a block of nine of the 12 ½¢ Large Queen with missing frame lines.

## Dots and Scratches

*Dots and Scratches* is the newsletter of the Re-entries and Constant Plate Varieties Study Group. In Vol 2, No 2, Whole No 4, Editor Michael Smith shows the plate proof of the 5¢ Beaver major re-entry, followed by the 5¢ Beaver position 45, re-entry 3a and plate flaw 57. Jim Jung sent in images of the 5¢ Beaver position 83, state 8, re-entry 13. Jim also sent in a 1¢ Large Queen with a possible re-entry. Information is shown by Guillaume Vadeboncoeur for a constant re-entry on a 3¢ Small Queen. Michael Smith wrote up a re-entry on the ½¢ Jubilee in position five found on Ralph Trimble's web site. Also shown are the major re-entries on the ½¢ Quebec Tercentenary and the Jacques Cartier scarface variety. Closing out the newsletter is the re-entry on the 2¢ Tax stamp MR4. In this newsletter, re-entries are easily visible and certainly can help a beginner.

In Vol 2, No 3 of *Dots and Scratches*, Editor Smith reports on the meeting of the Large and Small Queen and Re-entries and Constant Plate Varieties Study Groups hosted by



Guillaume Vadeboncoeur during ORAPEX 2015. Guillaume Vadeboncoeur shows a constant variety of what is called the “extra nostril” variety on the 2¢ Small Queen. Guillaume Vadeboncoeur writes confirming the “feather in hair” variety on the 5¢ Small Queen and asks collectors to be on the lookout for the same and to report any finds to him at <guillaume@vadeboncoeur.ca>. Scott Robinson closes the newsletter with an article on the portrait doubling on the 5¢ Edward.

## Elizabethan II

The March-April *Corgi Times* newsletter, Vol 23, No 5 begins with an illustration and explanation of Picture Postage within the Dinosaur stamp. This is the first time Canada Post has used its own Picture Postage design on mailings. Editor Robin Harris asks the question: “Can you get a jet spray date stamp on a single stamp?” and answers the question with an illustration of a jet spray cancel showing the date and most of the postal code. Canada Post is no longer printing postal rate pamphlets, but one can download and print a copy from this webpage: <<http://www.canadapost.ca/tools/pg/prices/default-e.asp>>. Doug Karns reports on a new Centennial booklet find with partial security numbers (believed to be booklet BK65). Andrew Chung reports a series of dots on the back of the \$1 burrowing owls definitive below the printer, designer, and photo credits. It is a constant variety.

The \$5 stamp commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Canadian flag has produced several collecting varieties. Robin Harris discusses them.

The Dinosaur stamps were released in April as a booklet of five, an embossed souvenir sheet, and an uncut press sheet of eight sheets. Robin illustrates these and explains notched tagging and the embossing. This is followed by a report on stamp perforation changes implemented in 1962, includes a listing of stamps with the old and new perforations.

Paul Smith contributes an interesting article on *Selected Philatelic Firsts for Canada Post*. This is the second part of his article; it deals with such things as issuance errors, post-error issuance corrected reprints, and joint issues. Andrew Chung reports an untagged error on the Beaver coil, the first tagging error reported in eighteen years. John Kevern notes that he has found three examples of what appears to be a constant variety scratch on the booklet cover of the 39¢ Flag Over the Prairie stamp. Ending the newsletter is a look back at the commemorative stamps issued fifty years ago. The title *It Seems Like Yesterday* certainly makes one realize how quickly time goes by.

## Fancy Cancels

In Issue No 68, Dave Lacelle, Editor of the *Fancy Cancels & Miscellaneous Markings* newsletter, explains his thinking about what constitutes a fancy cancel as opposed to a simple slashed cork and why everything is not published. Gary Steele reports that he is half way through his research for a new book on *Internal Hand Stamps of the Canadian Post Office*. Guillaume Vadeboncoeur sent in a series of cancels with queries. Roger Squires provided an example of a purple RPO or RPC partial cancel on the back of a 3¢ Small Queen that prompts comments. Mike Halhed sent in several items, many of which are referred to as “fancy fours.” Roger Squires supplied more cancels, including a Yarmouth cancel with a cork insert. Some of the last shown are unlisted, and Dave is asking for comments. From Brian Hargreaves comes a series of the Toronto 2 and the Ottawa 8. These are various unique corks with the numbers cut in the centre. Bob Stock and Ron Smith sent in some unusual

items, including a late-usage St Catharines marking that resembles a Maltese cross. A late-usage of an Ottawa crown was sent in by Doug Lingard. Bill Pekonen has a post card with a Shellbrook, NS, duplex cancel with the indices removed. Bill asks if any other duplex hammer has been converted for cancelling third class mail. Keith Mackay has some unusual cancels that read NPB and FB. Dave explains that they are UK cancels: the NPB stands for News Paper Branch, while the FB is Foreign Branch. George Dresser is concerned about an “R” for a registered cancel on a block of 2¢ Edwards that appears to be genuine to Dave. The well-represented newsletter closes with illustrations of a substantial number of fake and bogus cancels.

## First Impressions

Issue No 24 of the First Day Covers Study Group newsletter begins with a George Basher article entitled *Collecting Canada Post Official First Day Covers 1971–1974*, in which he discusses the impact that the Canada Post FDC program had on private cachet makers. Alan Warren reviews the book *Dorothy Knapp: Philately and Family* by Douglas S Weisz. Dorothy Knapp was an artistic cachet maker. More information is available at <[www.douglasweisz.com](http://www.douglasweisz.com)>

The Joseph C Rosenbaum (JCR)–Robert L Markovitz correspondence makes for interesting reading, as pointed out by Gary Dickenson in an article about JCR and Rosecraft cachets. Closing this issue is a Post Office announcement of the 1935 Jubilee issue, including the preliminary version, as well as a more detailed version giving instructions to First Day Cover collectors. This article was reprinted from originals found in the Markovitz archives.

## Military Mail

The Canadian Military Mail Study Group sadly announces the passing, on May 25, of its chairman, Henk Burgers. Mike Street has been named Interim Chairman off the group. The election of a permanent Chairman will be held during the MMSG meeting on Saturday, 12 September, at BNAPEX NIAGARA FALLS.

The BNAPS book department has announced that preparation of the late Doug Sayles’ *Canadian Military Mail Postmarks*, Volume 1, will be taken over by Wayne Schnarr of Toronto. Volume 1 includes all Canadian military postmarks prior to the start of World War II in September 1939. Wayne is asking for help from all MMSG members. He can be reached at <[gwschnarr@rogers.com](mailto:gwschnarr@rogers.com)> or by mail at 619–112 George St, Toronto, ON M5A 2M5. Please send information to Wayne, not to the newsletter editor.

In this March 2015 newsletter, No 218, Alan Baker writes about the Jamaica “Y” force and asks whether or not Captain William Askey was ever a member of the Winnipeg Grenadiers. He was not listed among those who served in Hong Kong. Ron McGuire provided the answer, stating that not all were unlucky enough to be sent to Hong Kong. Alan also shows a cover with a “Y” force censor No 4. Colin Pomfret sent a scan of a 1916 censored cover from No 4 Canadian General Hospital, Kalamaria, Greece. The hospital was apparently organized in Toronto. Mike Street sent in a story from the March/April 2015 edition of the *Legion Magazine* entitled “Wartime Letters Preserved at High School,” written by Tom MacGregor. It tells the story of students at Danforth Technical School (in Toronto) sending newsletters, with reply cards, to former students serving in the armed forces. These letters are now being photocopied; the originals will be presented to the Canadian War Museum.

Jim Felton sent in new recorded dates with regards to the Great War censor markings. John Watson sent in a fleet mail cover similar to the one published in a previous newsletter. Hank Narbonne contributed a further report of a Toronto Airgraph 2 strike. Mike Street provided a post card of the Transportation Building, at the Toronto Exhibition Grounds. It was used for church services by the Canadian Expeditionary force. The card carries a Toronto Sub Post Office X strike. Dave Kelly provided a well-travelled cover with multiple MPO, Auxiliary, and civilian postmarks: It makes one wonder if the letter ever reached the recipient. David Hanes ends the newsletter with three pieces: a registered letter and a receipt for a registered letter—both with a Camp Borden MPO 208 circular cancel, and a money order receipt with a MOTO cancel, all dated 1 September 1942.

## Newfoundland

The *Newfie* Newsletter is edited by Norris (Bob) Dyer and Malcolm Black, who welcomed five new members to the study group. David Piercey is researching the various branch post offices established in St John's and is asking people to help by sending him scans of, in particular, St John's Central and St John's East, circa 1892–1893. You can reach David at <dpiercey@telus.net>. Barry Senior shows the seven positions of the George Knowing perfin and the only known fiscal usage of the 2¢ perfin used to pay the revenue tax fee of more than ten dollars.

AB Thompson joins the debate between CA Stillions and John Walsh over the printed sheet size for the 1942 Second Resources Lower Values. Bruce Robertson continues with Part 2 of “Reverend Butler and the Orphan.” Clyde Hynes was Reverend Butler's assistant and apparently had been a ward of the Church of England. A good story. David Piercey hypothesizes about what he believes to be a late fee on the illustrated cover to Moncton, NB from St John's and is looking for some feedback. Klaus Wehlt tells the story of Pte Rueben Legrow, who became a prisoner of war after being captured during the battle of Monchy-le-Preux on 14 April 1917. Malcolm Back illustrates a Tilley cover. Lt Colonel R Tilley was an officer in the Salvation Army. Malcolm lists his achievements, and includes his obituary, released by Memorial University College. Rounding out the newsletter, Doug Hannan sent in three illustrations and comments on favourite covers. This segment covers “More to Pay” covers. There should be comments on the one addressed to Quebec!

## Railway Post Office

In the January–March issue, Vol 43, No 3, Editor Ross Gray of the RPO study group newsletter announced that the files for the new catalogue had been forwarded to the book department for printing. Many changes are noted, including the elimination of the Newfoundland section. It will be released as a separate publication by Brian Stalker. Brian also provided an update on the Newfoundland & Labrador RPO cancels. Ferdinand Belanger discovered, through the Public Archives of Canada, that cancelling devices had been ordered from the Boston Hand Stamp Company. It is believed that this company provided most of the devices for Canada East RPO routes from 1855 to 1859. Despite a new, completely up-to-date catalogue, several members, including Ross Gray and Wayne Schnarr, continue to report new discoveries. Ross Gray recently noticed two time periods for the RIV. DU LOUP. & LEVIS R.P.O./ and encourages members to go through their collections to look for new dates and train numbers.

## War Times

*War Times* is the newsletter of the World War II study group. It is currently edited by Bill Pekonen, who is still looking for a permanent editor. In this issue No 61 of May 2015, the group has once more gone back to looking at war-saving stamps with a listing of other newsletters that deal with the subject. In this issue, we see a form used by employers to attach appropriate stamps for deductions made from the payroll, with a chart explaining where the employees' money supposedly went. The Canadian Post Office made arrangements for Walt Disney characters to be used on stamp folders; these are shown in the newsletter. Charles LaBlonde ends the newsletter showing a Swiss letter to the Swiss Consulate in Winnipeg and explaining how the Germans changed the routing so that mail had to go through the German censors in Paris. Each German censor office was designated by a letter. The Paris office was designated "X."

## Postscript

The Pre-Cancel Study Group has been re-activated, and Andy Ellwood is looking for articles. Andy can be reached at <andy\_ellwood@rogers.com>. You can create interest by sending in items and articles to various newsletter editors. Remember that old adage, "There is no such thing as a stupid question." So, ask away, and make the hobby interesting. Hope to see you all at BNAPEX 2015 in Niagara Falls in September.



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by Cliff Brown

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# BNAPEX 2015 Niagara Falls meeting and seminar schedule

Thursday, 10 September 2015

Time	Seminar/Meeting	Chair	Speaker/Topic	Room
0900-1600	BNAPS Board of Directors Meeting	Victor Willson		TBA

Friday, 11 September 2015

Time	Seminar/Meeting	Chair	Speaker/Topic	Room
1000-1100	Revenue Study Group	Frederick Angst	Annual Meeting	1
1100-1200	First Day Covers Study Group	Peter MacDonald	Annual Meeting and Online Catalogue Update	2
1200-1300	Squared Circles Study Group	Gary Arnold	Annual Meeting	1
1300-1400	Perfins Study Group	Jon Johnson	Show and Tell or Ask	2
1400-1500	Dead Letter Office Study Group	Gary Steele	Annual Meeting	1
1500-1600	George VI Study Group	Gary Steele	Annual Meeting	2
1600-1700	Admirals Study Group	Andrew Chung	Annual Meeting	1
1700-1800	Illustrated Mail Study Group	Ken Lemke	Annual meeting	2

Saturday, 12 September 2015

Time	Seminar/Meeting	Chair	Speaker/Topic	Room
0700-0800	Order of the Beaver breakfast	Bill Walton	Annual meeting	1
0800-0930	Order of the Beaver meeting	Bill Walton	Annual meeting	1
1000-1100	Precancel Study Group	Andy Ellwood	Annual BNAPEX Meeting	1
1100-1200	Newfoundland Study Group	Bob Dyer	Bring a "mystery" or unusual Newfoundland cover for the group to study.	2

<b>Time</b>	<b>Seminar/Meeting</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Speaker/Topic</b>	<b>Room</b>
1200-1300	Railway Post Offices Study Group	Peter McCarthy	Annual Meeting	1
1300-1400	Air Mail Study Group / Canadian Aerophilatelic Society	George Dresser and Chris Hargreaves	Joint Meeting and presentation: "Gerhard Zucker's project for rocket mail over Niagara Falls in 1936"	2
1400-1500	Postal Stationery Study Group	Earle Covert	Annual Meeting - Show and Tell	1
1500-1600	Elizabethan II Study Group	Robert Elias	Annual Show and Tell	2
1600-1700	Canadian Military Mail Study Group	Jon Johnson	Presentation: Mike Powell - "Interned in Canada" - World War I POW Mail	1

### Sunday, 13 September 2015

<b>Time</b>	<b>Seminar/Meeting</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Speaker/Topic</b>	<b>Room</b>
0800-0930	BNAPS Annual General Meeting	George Dresser	BNAPS Society Business and Members' Meeting	1 & 2
0930-1100	Judges' Critique	Mike Street		1 & 2
1100-1200	Re-Entries and Constant Plate Varieties Study Group	Michael Smith	Annual Meeting	1
1200-1300	Christmas Study Group	Peter MacDonald	Show and Tell	2
1300-1400	Pence-Cents Study Group	Ron Majors	Annual Meeting	1
1400-1500	Large and Small Queens Study Group	Bill Radcliffe	Annual Meeting	2
1500-1600	Study Group Leaders' Meeting	Peter MacDonald	Review of 2014/15 and Looking Ahead	1

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# BNAPS business and reports

## President's column

*George Dresser, OTB*

### BNAPEX 2015

**B**Y the time you receive this issue of *BNA Topics* it will be almost time for BNAPEX 2015. Are your plans in place? Mary Elizabeth and I are very much looking forward to this gathering, as it has been many years since we visited Niagara Falls and then only on the American side. Many convention-goers take a little additional time to explore a part of Canada, and this year's convention site offers wonderful opportunities to do so again. Need additional reasons to attend?



The annual convention provides opportunities to build the personal cohesion that helps hold the Society together, along with the opportunity to renew friendships and make new friends, to advance your knowledge of BNA philately, to share your new finds at Study Group meetings, to enjoy the outstanding exhibits and, of course, to do some shopping at the bourse to advance your collections. If you have never attended a BNAPEX, this is the year to start attending. If you have been attending, you *know* you want to attend this convention.

### The annual meeting

The BNAPS annual meeting is on the Sunday morning of BNAPEX 2015. I know, you helped close up the hospitality room Saturday night and that little extra sleep feels so good, but we need your participation at the this meeting. Note that "Thirty members of the Society, who are in good standing in and present in person at any meeting of the members, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business." This is your opportunity to hear from your elected officers, directors, and the appointed officials, to ask questions and to make suggestions and recommendations for the continued welfare of the Society. Be a responsible member and participate in the annual meeting.

### Members' health

Like many philatelic societies, BNAPS has an older membership and, with age, health issues become more common. Although Past President Bob Dyer has been challenged by several health issues that prevented him from attending BNAPEX 2014 in Baltimore, I expect him to be at this year's convention as his health is now much improved. Please welcome Bob when you see him. Director, Circulation Manager, and Illustrated Mail Study Group Chairman, Ken Lemke also has had health issues, and I expect to see Ken back and well at BNAPEX 2015. Say congratulations to Ken.

### A bit of history

Ken Lemke provided me with some older issues of *BNA Topics* at ORAPEX in May. I took advantage of some airplane time to read through some of the issues. Of course, the back issues are all indexed and online and can be read by anyone anytime, but, for me, I like

having paper in my hand. The February 1949 issue was of particular interest to me because it contained a picture and sketch of Jack Levine written by V G Greene. The previous day I had had the pleasure of presenting to Geoff Newman the BNAPS Jack Levine Award for his many contributions to the Saint Lawrence Seaway Regional Group. Jack Levine was the founder of the British North American Philatelic Society and our member number One. In 1943, he realized there was no society in the US devoted entirely to the study of BNA stamps so, with characteristic energy, he went about forming one. The early years were tough, and without his help, financial and otherwise, the Society might have floundered before it really got started. Happily, those days are long since passed, and BNAPS is now established on a firm footing.

Also in the same issue Edward A Richardson of Ithaca, N.Y. was identified as BNAPS President. Ed was the founder of the Prairie Beavers Regional Group in 1975 in Houston, Texas. This regional group is still going strong some forty years later. Also noted in the February 1949 issue was that “the New York Group meets on the third Tuesday of each month, at the Collector’s Club on 35<sup>th</sup> Street. The Philadelphia Group meets the first Tuesday of each month on Pickering Street, and the Twin City Group meets the second Tuesday of each month on Morgan Avenue.” I wonder what happened to these three early regional groups. The feature article was “Pre-Adhesive Postal History and Postal Markings of Newfoundland” by William S and Daniel C Meyerson.

## **Member profile**

In the last issue of *BNA Topics*, I made a plea to every member to go to the BNAPS website to complete an individual profile. It may be too soon for me to expect to see results, but so far I haven’t seen any. This is a second plea: Please take a few minutes to provide your email address and information on your collecting interests in the Members’ Section” of the website. Several collectors give me a heads-up when they see an item on eBay or elsewhere that may fit my collecting interests, and their help is greatly appreciated, so the profile page can be a wonderful networking tool for the Society’s members. Until next quarter, enjoy your collecting. I hope to see you in Niagara Falls in September.

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

**Ramada Plaza, Niagara Falls, ON, Canada  
Sunday, September 13, 2015 at 8 am**

- 1. Welcome and Introductions**
- 2. Minutes of AGM 2014**
- 3. Moment of silence for departed members**
- 4. New Emeritus Members**
- 5. Summary report, 2015 Directors meeting**
- 6. Summary reports, Elected Officers**
- 7. Summary reports, Appointed Officials**
- 8. Financial reports and audit**
- 9. Dues rate for 2015-2016**
- 10. Conventions, 2016/2017**
- 11. Other business**
- 12. Adjournment**

## From the Secretary–Report date: 16 June 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. The membership fee is reviewed each year at the Board meeting held just before the Annual Meeting. 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 application form and cheque or money order to the Secretary.

### Applications for membership

After an application is received, 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* to be published. If no objection from any other BNAPS member is received within approximately 60 days, then the applicant is confirmed as a Regular Member.

### New Members -applied between 6 March 2015 and 15 June 2015

R-6816 Mario Chevrette, Montreal, QC  
 R-6817 Scott Robinson, Pierrefonds, QC  
 R-6818 John Morrell, Ottawa, ON  
 R-6819 Ken Fry, Havelock North, NZ  
 R-6820 Patrick Delmore, London, ON  
 R-6821 John Lewington, Cambridge, ON  
 R-6822 Clifford Hurst, London,  
 R-6823 Ijaz A Qureshi, St-Laurent, QC  
 R-6824 Donald Marion, Brampton, ON

R-6825 Yohann Tanguay, Bathurst, NB  
 R-6826 Jacques Lacombe, Edmundston,  
 NB  
 R-6827 John Perquin, Hamilton, ON  
 R-6828 Lloyd Slaven, Laval, QC  
 R-6829 John M Stoffman, London, ON  
 R-6830 Lee Grace, Louisville, KY  
 R-6831 James Herder, Aurora, ON

All applicants assigned membership numbers between 6807 and 6815 have been confirmed as Active Regular members of BNAPS with full membership privileges. Their names were published in the previous issue of *Topics*, Vol 72, No 2, April–June 2015, p75.

### Address changes: Addresses changed between 6 March 2015 and 15 June 2015

R-4692 Frederick P Angst, Stuart, FL  
 E-2711 Paul J. Arcand, Quebec City, QC  
 R-6043 Andrew R. Basar, Johnson City,  
 NY  
 R-5853 Hugo Deshayé, Courcellette, QC  
 R-5691 David C Deveney, Penticton, BC  
 E-1757 Thomas D Drew, Ft Frances, ON  
 L-4030 Peter K Eggett, St-Isidore, ON  
 R-6657 Martin Eichele, Arlesheim,  
 R-6294 John D Eldridge, Halifax, NS  
 R-6768 Ian Fairnington, Mt Vernon, WA  
 R-6830 Lee Grace, Louisville, KY  
 R-6822 Clifford Hurst, London, ON

R-6703 Kristin Jakobson, Missoula, MT  
 R-5847 Ian Kimmerly, Victoria, BC  
 E-3222 Cameron A. Lindsay, New  
 Westminster, BC  
 R-5957 Peter R. MacDonald, Ottawa, ON  
 R-6050 Ray Misklock, Jr., Georgetown, TX  
 R-3809 Timothy R Morgan, Cheltenham,  
 R-6827 John Perquin, Hamilton, ON  
 E-3130 John W Porter, Calgary, AB  
 R-6828 Lloyd Slaven, Laval, QC  
 R-6825 Yohann Tanguay, Bathurst, NB  
 R-6675 Vernon Vonderheydt, St. Louis,  
 MO

**Resigned**

R-5518 Robert A Spencer  
R-5911 James Davidson

**Deceased**

E-2100 Wayne R Curtis  
R-3753 Hendrick Burgers

**Active membership counts**

Regular Members 875  
Emeritus Members 111  
Emeritus Family 3  
Life Members 53  
Complimentary 15  
Topics Subscription 5  
Total Active Members 1062

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

**Treasurer's report**

*J Claude Michaud*

**Members whose dues are still outstanding as of 17 June 2015 (alphabetical listing)**

<b>Mbr#</b>	<b>Member name</b>		
		4936	Kelly, Jeff J
6666	Adams, Ann	6507	Kirker, Joe R
6253	Ahrens, Philip	5558	Levy, Louis K
6043	Basar, Andrew R	5553	Macdonald, Rev.Roderick B.
6263	Belisle, Laurent	6069	Magnan, Francine
6068	Blaser, Mark	6147	Mainprize, Terry
5915	Cal, Don S	6143	McKeever, Jr, James C
6606	Chiles, JP	6790	Miller, Paul A
6425	Connors, Kevin C	5905	Millman, Barry M
5522	Cooper, Graham M	6609	Morrell, David
6658	Cortan, John	5417	Naas, David H
3552	Dillaway, Guy R	6673	Persaud, Rohan
6644	Ferguson, William	6268	Pollock, David F
5696	Fisher, Edward F	4335	Richards, Vernon AJ
6270	Fontaine, Louis E	6766	Rinnemaki II, William
3778	Foss, Elwood T	5661	Simson, Robert W
4740	Fridhandler, Daryl S	4877	Sprague, Arthur W
4323	Froud, Fred H	6723	Szeto, Ping
6052	Goldberg, Virginia	6769	Treier, Jakob
6748	Goldshinsky, Edmund	6777	Wagner, Dietrich E.
5894	Gulliver, Aaron T	6484	Werner, Stephen
6668	Haddad, Hany	6315	Worsfold, Alex

**Exchange circuit news**

*Andy Ellwood*

**T**HIS is a heads-up for anybody who is looking for new material. One of our long-time member dealers has decided to start the disposal of his stock by listing it in the Exchange Circuit. It will be received and scanned over the next few months and be

listed on the BNAPS website. The items I have received so far are not normally seen. There are generally single stamps in the Small Queen and Admiral eras as well as some Newfoundland items. The future will see items from all periods as well as some back-of-the-book and possibly covers. Prices seem to be quite reasonable and are usually in the range of 25–40 percent of catalogue. When the material is posted to the website, a notice will be entered in the introduction to the Circuit. Those members who wish to be directly advised of specific material when it is registered can record their interests with me. I will e-mail when something arrives that is of interest. Items will be sent on approval. Payment is by cheque or money order (no PayPal). Contact information: Andy Ellwood 10 Doris Avenue, Gloucester, ON K1T 3W8, or <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.donslaur.com](http://www.donslaur.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](http://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>.

**NEWFOUNDLAND:** Seeking to buy for personal collection any covers with usage of the following stamps (single, multiple, correct or not): 24a, 25, 26, 27a, 28, 31, 32a, 34, 37, 38, 46, 47, 49, 50, 52, 56, 59, 89, 90, 92, 94-103, 106, 110-113, 121, 123, 125, 126, 139, 141, 143, 152, 157, 159, 167-170, 174, 177, 178, 180-182. Also: FFC as follows (NSSC#): FF8 to FF18, FF20, FF21, FF34, FF37, FF39, FF40, FF42, FF48, FF49. Tom Moyes, 962 La Felice Lane, Fallbrook, CA 92028, USA or <tommymoyes@gmail.com>.

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### LITERATURE

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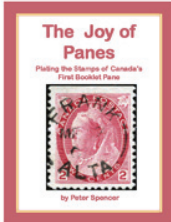



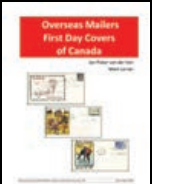
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On the website you will find a short review and a scanned image of the book cover. A text-only list is also available on the website. A hard copy will be sent free on request.




New Titles	C\$ Retail
	<p><b>The Joy of Panes: Plating the Stamps of Canada's First Booklet Pane, 2015, by Peter Spencer.</b> A plating study of the stamps of the first booklets ever issued by the Canada Post Office Department. Colour, spiral, 100 pp. ISBN: 978-1-927119-48-8. Stock # B4h072-1.  <b>\$53.00</b></p>
	<p><b>Canada Postal Stationery Letter Cards of the Victorian Period, 1893-1899, 2014, by Colin G Banfield.</b> In the latter part of the Victorian era, letter cards became quite popular. Their many variations, rates, and destinations are illustrated in this exhibit. Colour, spiral, 74 pp. ISBN: 978-1-927119-45-7. Stock # B4h923-81-1.  <b>\$47.00</b></p>
	<p>The King Edward VII Issue of Canada July 1, 1903-October 6, 1908, 2014, by George Dresser. <b>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.</b> Colour, spiral, 136 pp. ISBN: 978-1-927119-44-0. Stock # B4h923-80-1.  <b>\$62.00</b></p>
	<p><b>1927 Canada Confederation Stamps and Covers, 2014, by Stephen Sacks.</b> The first Canadian issue after the Admiral era was a colourful set of stamps honouring the 60<sup>th</sup> 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.  <b>\$53.00</b></p>
	<p><b>Overseas Mailers First Day Covers of Canada, 2014, by Jan Pieter (John) van der Ven, and Mark Lerner.</b> 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.  <b>\$66.95</b></p>

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## More New Titles (See website for complete list)

## C\$ Retail

	<p>Seasons of the Maple on First Day Covers, 2014, by Gary Dickinson. <b>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.</b></p> <p>\$40.95</p>
	<p><b>Rennie's Seeds, 2014, by Richard Lamb.</b> 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><b>\$51.00</b></p>
	<p>Victorian Montreal: Economic Hub of the Dominion (Illustrated Mail, 1844-1903), 2014, by Robert Pinet. <b>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.</b></p> <p><b>\$51.00</b></p>

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## Regional Group Rant

*George Dresser, OTB*

### Overview!

Remember: 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. Contact your Regional Group chairperson, who can be identified by going to the website (the list is also periodically in the Business Section of *BNA Topics*).

### Regional Group Reports

Please remember to advise me (<G-Dresser@suddenlink.net>) and our website coordinator, Dave Bartlet (<dave.bartlet@shaw.ca>) of the dates of upcoming meetings. Here 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.

### Atlantic Provinces Regional Group

The *Atlantic Provinces Regional Group* will meet at NOVAPEX 2015, September 26th at a **new location**, Dartmouth Seniors Centre, 45 Ochterloney St, Dartmouth. The time of the meeting will be posted at the reception desk. Among the topics to be discussed will be the Fredericton Stamp Club's staging of BNAPEX 2016 in that city, the usual Show-and-Tell, and planning for the second meeting of the year, possibly in Moncton, NB.

### Calgary Regional Group

The *Calgary Regional Group* meets the second Wednesday of each month, ten times a year, with a presentation/program at most meetings. The group has been producing and showing non-competitive, one-frame exhibits with each page focussing on a different BNA subject to promote collecting of BNA stamps and postal history. At the 8 April meeting, Eldon Godfrey gave a talk entitled *World War II—The Communications Contributions of Canada Post*, featuring slogan postmarks of recruitment, financing, conservation and saving and victory and support to others.

At the 13 May meeting, Hugh Delaney presented two different stories. The first entailed an interesting “post-war” US War & Navy Departments V Mail correspondence written on 10 May 1945 and mailed to Pittsburgh, USA on 20 May 1945, relating the writer's last days and awaiting his return home. The second, and certainly a highlight, was Hugh's most recent acquisition: The A Thomas Darcy McGee correspondence, a most welcome addition to his “Fathers of Confederation” material.

### Dixie Beavers

After a great meeting in Atlanta in January, the *Dixie Beavers* will hold their second biannual meeting of 2015 at CHARPEX in Charlotte North Carolina on Saturday 26 July 2015. The Dixie Beavers are encouraged to exhibit, as BNAPS offers a Best BNA award. CHARPEX may be the only show that does not charge a frame fee and gives every exhibitor a very nice gift for exhibiting. Area members are invited to join a great group and enjoy a day of social and philatelic camaraderie.

## **Edmonton Regional Group**

The *Edmonton Regional Group* continues to meet monthly during the regular season and sponsors the annual BNAPS breakfast at the Edmonton Spring National each March. This year, twenty-seven members and guests attended our breakfast (a new record for attendance!), where we were regaled by Tom Watkin's slide presentation of over seventy commercial covers showing proper usage of most all the semi-official air mail stamps. The group will have its annual June farewell dinner at a local restaurant, and all members or visiting philatelists are invited.

## **Golden Horseshoe Regional Group (GHRG)**

The GHRG held its final gathering of the season on a very lovely 30 May, a day that promised the coming of summer, warm and pleasant. Twenty-seven members and one guest were present and enjoyed a good philatelic day with coffee, conversation, and browsing through dealer stocks in our familiar haunt, the second floor of the Rousseau House Restaurant in Ancaster. We were very sorry to hear of the recent passing of two of our members. Wayne Curtis was a member of several philatelic organizations and a life member and Fellow of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain. Henk Burgers was also a member of several philatelic groups and chairman of the Canadian Military Mail Study Group of BNAPS. At BNAPEX 2012 in Calgary, Henk's "Canadians in World War I: The First Contingent" won Gold, as well as the Sam Nickle Award for the best Military Mail exhibit for the second year in a row. Our sympathies are extended to both families.

Our guest was Kathy Hartley, Librarian of the Vincent Graves Green Foundation. She spoke about some of the changes taking place with the celebration of their fortieth anniversary. For more information, visit the website at <[www.greenefoundation.ca](http://www.greenefoundation.ca)>. Barry Millman announced a new effort to research the markings and labels used on Canadian Inter-University Mail. For more information you can reach Barry at [millbar@millbar.com](mailto:millbar@millbar.com). Our speaker for the afternoon was Derek Smith, whose topic was *The Empress of Ireland 1906–1914*. From the two stamps issued to commemorate the tragic sinking of the *Empress of Ireland* one hundred years ago in the St Lawrence River, near Rimouski, Derek put together an impressive exhibit of post cards, covers, and documentation. Thanks, Derek, for a most interesting presentation. Again, thanks to Simon Claughton for supplying the electronics.

This ended another great season of philately. We look forward to next year's interesting presentations. Andrew Chung and Bob Vogel will start off the year with a presentation on *First Day Covers, Oddities, Freaks and Errors*. Before that meeting, however, the society's annual convention, BNAPEX 2015, is being held at the Ramada Plaza Hotel in Niagara Falls, ON.

## **Golden West Regional Group**

The *Golden West Regional Group* met as scheduled during the WESTPEX 2015 Stamp Show at the San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront Hotel. Five members gathered on Saturday, 25 April 2015. No meetings are currently planned until WESTPEX 2016 (late April 2016).

## **Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Regional Group**

The next meeting of the *Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Regional Group* will be held sometime in late October or early November. Our format is generally Show and Tell. If visiting from out-of-town, please contact Don Fraser, email <[dafra1@mymts.net](mailto:dafra1@mymts.net)>, and information will be provided to you.

## Prairie Beavers

The *Prairie Beaver Regional Group* met on 18 April 2015, in College Station, TX. Ten members attended (Larry Ballantyne, George Dresser, Gary Giroux, Dave Nixon, Rick Parama, Ralph Poore, Denise and Jay Stotts, George Watkins, and Vic Willson). A round of trading and selling was followed by a presentation by Gary Giroux on postal history related to people important to US revenue regulation and stamps of the nineteenth century from the Illinois Canal bonds of the 1830s to Sherman-related items, illustrating how various taxes and revenues were developed through the Civil War.

## St. Lawrence Seaway Regional Group

The *St Lawrence Seaway Regional Group* met on Saturday, 2 May in Ottawa in conjunction with ORAPEX 2015. Chris Anstead gave a most entertaining talk entitled *The Royal Flying Corps based in Deseronto, 1917-1918*, PER ARDU AD ASTRA (“Through Adversity to the Stars”), describing the training activities and the supporting mail services of the Royal Flying Corps at their base in Deseronto, Ontario.



During the meeting, Geoff Newman received the BNAPS Jack Levine Fellowship Award, from President George Dresser, for his outstanding contributions to the Regional Group over the past twenty plus years.

The Award recognizes one or more “spark plugs,” members who have made major contributions to the success of a regional group. Geoff’s numerous contributions over many years were described in the nomination letter, a copy of which was provided to Geoff with the award.

**BNAPS President George Dresser presents Geoff**

**Newman with the Jack Levine Fellowship Award**

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## Executive, Directors and Officers, Study Group Contacts

*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

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*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

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*Vice-President Regional Groups* Vacant

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

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*Secretary* Andy Ellwood, 10 Doris Avenue, Gloucester, ON K1T 3W8

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*Treasurer* Jean-Claude Michaud, PO Box 31248, Halifax, NS B3K 5Y1

<jcm.ph@ns.sympatico.ca>

### Elected Officers: Board of Directors

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

#### *Serving 2012-2016:*

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Vic Willson (Chairperson), PO Box 10026, College Station, TX 77842-0026

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#### *Serving 2014-2018:*

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## Study group contacts

**Note: These contacts are updated between *BNA Topics* publications on the BNAPS website at [www.bnaps.org/study.php](http://www.bnaps.org/study.php)**

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*Air Mail (on hiatus - contact Peter MacDonald for more information, <studygroups@bnaps.org>)*

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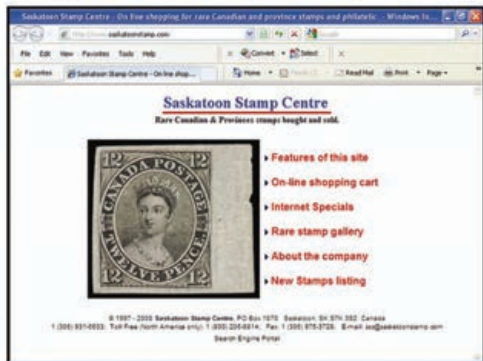
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