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BNA Topics



Whole number 546 Volume 73 Number 1



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Volume 73 Number 1 Whole Number 546

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BNA Topics, Volume 73, Number 1, January–March 2016

Editorial

Jeffrey Arndt

RELECTING on the past year of co-editing this journal and, as we begin a new year, I asked myself a few questions and came up with some partial answers I would like to share with you.

How is our Journal doing?

Our *BNA Topics* is a vigorous, well-established, and respected philatelic publication. Sharing our passion with others has generated and continues to generate many interesting and exciting articles. And *Topics* paired with Study Group newsletters? No other philatelic publication or Society offers such a diverse array of philatelic knowledge. I have no doubt that all of you will continue to enjoy and contribute to this effort.

What is our Journal's place in philatelic literature?

It is not about size. We try to choose articles that will advance Canadian philately and add new insights to old (and new) questions. This may mean that what I collect and am interested in will not be covered in an article in every issue, but many of you have interests that interest others. *BNA Topics* is the place to share your passion, stamps, covers, and research with others who share the passion for stamp collecting.

Join your Regional Group and a Study Group

Each of us has our own ways of enjoying our hobby. The events, research, and camaraderie of these groups is incredible. Each region is different. Some are very active, meeting often for lunch and Show-and-Tell sessions, and more. Some are currently not as active—but they have the potential to be as active as you desire. And the Study Groups are gems of knowledge exchange: each newsletter has new information and discoveries!

Exhibit!

This is a very scary, at times frustrating, but always rewarding activity. A million-dollar collection is not required. While I have seen some awesome exhibits of very expensive material, I have also seen some fascinating exhibits of current or “common” material. Many resources exist for those who want to start or improve current exhibits. Our Society publishes examples of major exhibits, in print and online.

A final word

Each of us enjoys our hobby in a different way. Stamp shows, travel, exhibiting, publishing, or judging. However you enjoy philately, have a wonderful time!

Change of address: Notify the Secretary (address on p69).

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

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

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

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

Readers write

Researching the Caricature and Landscape Issue: *Leopold Beaudet* offers the following comments on Larry Margetish's Part 3 of a series in *BNA Topics*, Vol 72, No 4, October-December 2015, pp 42-49 with a reference to Part 1 [*BNA Topics*, Vol 72, No 2, April-June 2015, pp 5-12]: "Larry Margetish is to be commended for his research on the 1972–1973 Caricature and Landscape definitives at Library and Archives Canada (LAC) and describing his most interesting discoveries. However, I have observations on some of the statements in Part 3.

1. On page 44 of Part 3, Margetish states that the contract to print the \$1 and \$2 definitives was initially awarded to Ashton-Potter Ltd for the lithography and Canadian Bank Note Co (CBN) for the engraving. However, as explained in my article in this current issue, the records at LAC show that initially CBN was awarded the contract to provide both the lithography and engraving. CBN encountered production difficulties and the contract then went to Ashton-Potter and British American Bank Note Co.

2. On pages 47 and 48 of Part 3, Margetish discusses a well-known variety on the 6¢ Pearson, in which the precancel overprint is doubled. Hans Reiche (Ref. 40 of Part 3) suggested that the sheet was fed twice through the press that printed the precancel bars. Margetish quoted my reason for thinking the variety was just a kiss-print: that if Reiche was correct, the sheet would have first been precancelled, then tagged, and finally precancelled again, an unlikely sequence of events. Unfortunately, [mention of] the second step, the tagging, was omitted from his published article.

3. On page 47 of Part 3, Margetish illustrates a proof of 100 of the 4¢ with one stamp precancelled and with the French version only of the warning message in the left and right pane margins. Based on this proof, he suggests that the Post Office contemplated issuing a 4¢ precancel.

I believe his suggestion is unwarranted because this proof appears to have been produced at very early stage in the design of the precancel overprint. It was more likely produced to get approval of that design rather than get approval of 4¢ precancelled stamps.

4. On page 44 of Part 3, Margetish suggests that there is some doubt about when the 'improved printing' of the 50¢ was issued. He quotes two sources, one saying the date is March 1974 and the other saying it is 19 August 1974. In fact, the source of the March 1974 date admitted that he wasn't able to substantiate the date, and the 19 August 1974 date is consistent with the 30 July 1974 date on the imprimatur plate proof that Margetish illustrated in Part 1 of his article".

Larry Margetish responded to Leopold Beaudet's comments as follows. "Point 1: As pointed out by Leopold, there was certainly evidence to suggest that Canadian Bank Note Co was to print the entire run of \$1 and \$2 stamps (Reference: LAC, RG 3, Series G-1, Volume 3799, File 3-10-13 part 2, MIKAN 764954). It seems that I was confused by the notation on the \$1 and \$2 proof sheets 'CBN production at point of cut-off'. I stand corrected. As for points 2-4 above, there is a difference of opinion."

World Stamp Show NY2016 Update and Request for Booth Assistance: This will be the last update to be published in *Topics* before the once-in-a-decade stamp show takes place in New York City 28 May-4 June 2016 at the Jacob Javits Convention Center. BNAPS will share a booth with both the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and the Postal History Society of Canada, thereby coordinating our efforts at promoting Canadian/BNA philately. Our booth number is 881.

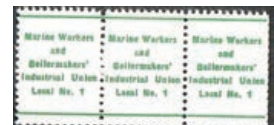
In this update, I am asking for BNAPS members who are going to this monumental philatelic event to volunteer a small portion of their time to help staff the booth. According to the rules, we need to staff the booth for at least seven hours a day for each of the eight show days. I am asking those of you attending NY2016 for a minimum of two hours, anytime during the show. In order to sign you up, I need you to send your e-mail address to me (ronald.e.majors@gmail.com). I will then formally invite you via an online sign-up sheet on which you can sign up for specific days and one-hour time slots. It is a very simple process. You will most likely will want to sit down and rest your weary feet at our booth anyway. For those assisting in booth duty, we will provide handouts, Study Group Newsletter examples, and other information to try to attract the interest of attendees in Canadian/BNA philately.

If you have never attended an international stamp show like NY2016, you are in for a real treat. More than 200 dealers will be there, in addition to over 4,000 exhibit frames, plus philatelic rarities exhibited in the Court of Honor, topped by the recently sold, unique 1856 British Guiana one cent magenta. A minimum of four auctions will take place, with rarities promised by all involved. At least 200,000 attendees are expected, but they will be spread out over 294,000 square feet! For more information, and to sign up for booth duty, contact Ron Majors, NY2016-Canada liaison, at <ronald.e.majors@gmail.com>.

Union Dues update: Member *Clayton Rubic* writes of a new book and new discoveries: Those interested in my recent article on union dues stamps in *Topics* should obtain a copy of an excellent new book that appeared a few weeks ago that has more extensive information on some of these stamps. Look into the “Union Dues Stamps” section, pp 282-287 of *Field Guide to the Cinderella Stamps of Canada*, Second Edition (2015) by Ronald G Lafrenière, Bird Bear Press of Verdun, Quebec. 344 pp.

That book is available directly from Ron (see pg. 48 of this issue), and also on eBay. A separate small catalogue on the union dues stamps used in Canada may follow someday, as so much more material exists. Did you know that, in 1936, over 175 unions were active in North America, of which at least 74 had locals in Canada? It is not known how many of these unions used stamps.

Dean Mario writes of a new discovery and the cover it came in (figure at right)!



3¢ Small Queens: Massive obliterations at top and bottom

Kenneth Kershaw

BOTH of the two 3¢ Small Queens shown below in Figures 1 and 2, found quite by chance on eBay, show what I call “massive obliterations” that are illustrated in the subsequent figures. While preparing my book on the 3¢ Small Queen [1], published by BNAPS in 2013, I examined a substantial amount of material, probably over 1,000 stamps, and I did not find any trace of similar obliterations.



Figure 1. Stamp 1, obliterations at top only.



Figure 2. Stamp 2, obliterations at top and bottom.

In both Stamp 1 and Stamp 2, much of the top portion of the letters of the words “CANADA POSTAGE,” marked by ovals, has been obscured by red ink. In Stamp 1, this is most noticeable in “ADA” and “POS.” In Stamp 2, a large slice of the top portion of “CENTS” has been similarly obscured by red ink.

The enlargement in Figure 3 compares the top portions of Stamps 1 and 2 against the top portion of a 3¢ Small Queen that shows no sign of obliteration of lettering. The enlargement in Figure 4 compares the bottom portion of Stamp 2 against the bottom portion of the same 3¢ Small Queen shown in Figure 3 that shows no sign of obliteration.

Keywords & phrases: Small Queens, unusual obliteration of lettering



Figure 3. Top. Comparison 3¢ Small Queen. Centre: Stamp 1. Bottom: Stamp 2.

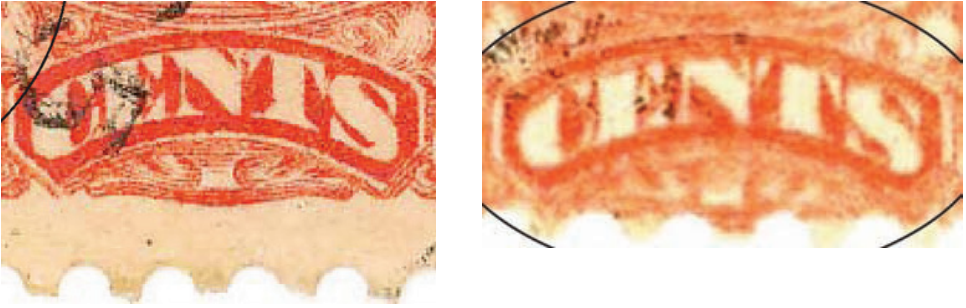


Figure 4. Left: Comparison 3¢ Small Queen. Right: Stamp 2.

I suggest that these two stamps were probably printed late in the 3¢ Small Queen period. They are not re-entries, but I currently have no explanation for their differences from normal stamps, nor why one stamp has the obliterations top and bottom, while on the other there is only obliteration at the top of the stamp.

Reference

[1] Kenneth A. Kershaw, *The Re-Entries and Varieties in the 3-Cent Small Queen*, BNAPS, 2013, 448pp.



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Canada–Little known facts of WWII, Part 3: POW mail from Japan

John Burnett, OTB

HAVE you ever wondered why you see so little mail from Canadian prisoners of war (POWs) held by the Japanese, in Japan, during WWII? POW letters and cards that actually made it to Canada during the war are scarce; to understand why this is so, we need to look at a little history. On 25 November 1936, Germany and Japan signed the Anti-Comintern Pact, directed at the Soviet Union. Germany and Japan thus had a special relationship with each other. At the outbreak of war in September 1939, Japan's overland mail route to the west was through Russia via the Trans-Siberian railroad. Figure 1 shows an outline of that route.



Figure 1. Shown is Japan's overland route for mail from Japan through Manchukuo, pick up the Trans-Siberian rail at Harbin, through Russia, down the Caspian Sea to Teheran, Iran, onto Cairo (or Alexandria), from there to London and finally across the Atlantic to Canada.

Japan further tightened its political ties with Germany on 27 September 1940 by signing the Tripartite Pact with Germany and Italy, creating what was to become known as the Axis Alliance. Now Japan was officially an ally of Germany which declared war on Russia on 22 June 1941. As an ally, Japan also declared war on Russia which, predictably, immediately shut down access to the Trans-Siberian rail system for Japan's mail.

In December 1940, both Hong Kong and Singapore fell to the Japanese and, consequently, many Canadians were taken prisoner and interned in Japan. Japan was not a signatory to the Geneva Convention that set standards for the treatment and care of prisoners of war, and Japan's treatment of them was atrocious! More than 35,000 allied troops were held by Japan, and the death rate of POWs in Japanese camps was 37 percent, compared to 1.1 percent in German POW camps [1].

Keywords & phrases: World War II, POW mail, Japan

BNA Topics, Volume 73, Number 1, January–March 2016

In my WWII collection, I have one POW card which is shown in Figure 2. Upon arrival in Canada, this card was passed by a Canadian censor; it is marked “PASSED BY DB 559” just below the address.

The card features two sets of Japanese chop marks. Figure 3 shows the translations of these marks. On the left, the markings signify “PRISONER MAIL”; on the right, the markings are translated “TOKYO PRISONER ACCOMODATION (sic) INSPECTION”.

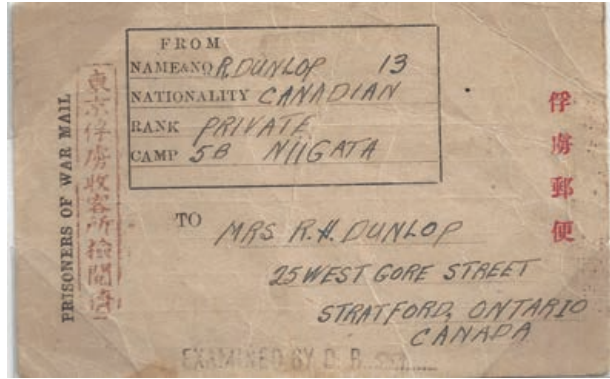


Figure 2. A POW card from Camp 5B Niigata, Japan which travelled the Trans-Siberian route all the way to Canada.

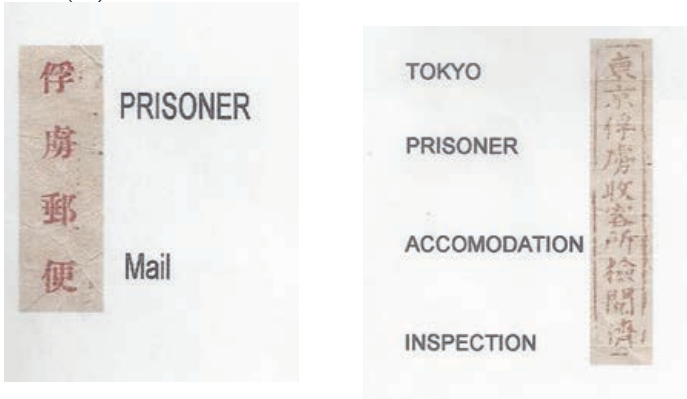


Figure 3, left, and 4, right. Japanese chop marks on prisoner mail, translated.

And now for the rest of the story. Japan never acknowledged it, but POW mail was not actually being sent out. At the end of the war, as prisoners were being liberated, they were handed all the letters they had written in the previous four years. Most simply threw them on the ground—perhaps because they knew they would be seeing their loved ones before any of this mail arrived home?

I know some of this story firsthand. My uncle was taken prisoner by the Japanese in Singapore. He survived imprisonment but was never again the same person he had been when he left for the war. I can remember our family welcoming him home during Christmas of 1945. He had been in hospital for nearly four months being “fatted up,” but when this tall (6 foot, 4 inches) man arrived at our house he still only weighed 125 pounds.

Reference

[1] Source: <pinohistory.proboards.com/thread/679>

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Canadian fliers in Texas, 1917–1918: New covers, photos, and post cards

Colin Pomfret

IN the early 1980s, Jeff Switt and Ed Richardson discovered and researched the story of Canadians sent to Fort Worth, Texas, at the height of World War I, to train as pilots for the Royal Flying Corps [1]. A cover to a Canadian in Texas and a Christmas card from a Canadian in Texas were illustrated in this article. Later, in a 1989 article, Ken Ellison showed a Christmas post card that featured a training airplane at a Texas airfield [2].

In a nutshell, the story of the Canadians in Texas is this: In January 1917, the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) Canada was formed to establish and operate flying fields in Canada for twenty training squadrons. Canadian aviator cadets were recruited and paid by the British as members of the Royal Flying Corps. In June 1917, an arrangement was made whereby 300 American aviator cadets came to Canada for training. In exchange, the United States provided facilities to train RFC Canada personnel during the winter months. Camp Taliaferro, near Fort Worth, Texas, was chosen as the base for RFC Canada. Camp Taliaferro had three airfields: Hicks, Everman, and Benbrook. Canadian and Royal Air Force instructors accompanied the cadets [3]. The training period for the Canadian cadets was November 1917 to April 1918. Although the experiment went well, a number of Canadians were killed during training. They are buried in a special Canadian section at Greenwood Cemetery in Fort Worth [1, 2].

In the years since Ed's and Ken's articles appeared, the author has had some success looking for additional covers and post cards to or from or relating to Canadians in Texas during the winter of 1917–1918. The results are illustrated below.



Figure 1. Curtiss JN-4 “Jenny” of the 87th Canadian Squadron over Texas, winter 1917–1918.

Keywords & phrases: Military mail, WWI, Canadians in Royal Flying Corps, Texas

Figure 1 shows a Curtiss JN-4 “Jenny” of the 87th Canadian Squadron over Texas during the winter of 1917–1918.

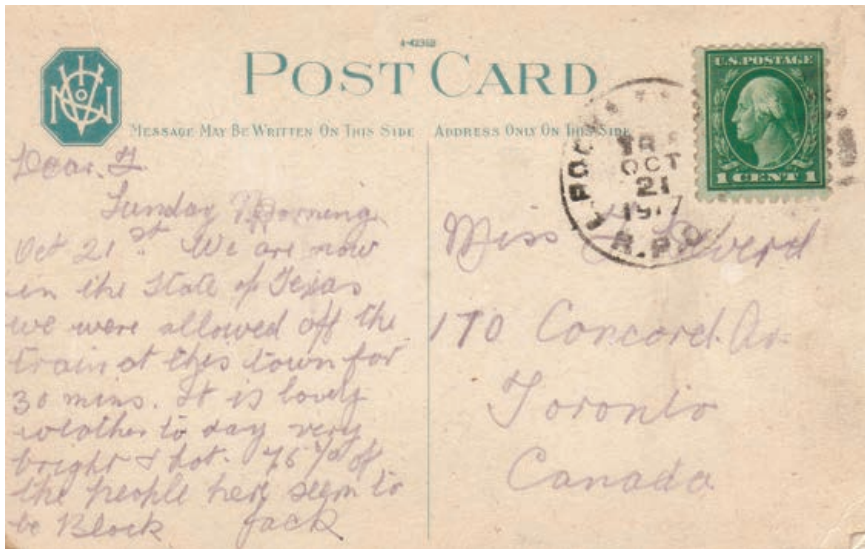


Figure 2. Post card from Canadian serviceman en route to Texas, 21 October 1917.

On the back of the post card showing Texarkana, Texas in Figure 2, a Canadian en route to Fort Worth wrote, “Dear G. Sunday morning, Oct 21st. We are now in the State of Texas. We were allowed off the train at this town for 30 mins. It is lovely weather today, very bright and hot.”



Figure 3. Letter home from a Canadian wireless operator, January 1918.

The return address on the letter contained in the cover in Figure 3 contains interesting details. It reads:

#72330 Wireless Opr 83 C.T.S
 R.F.C. Field #3
 Camp Taliaferro
 Fort Worth, Texas

An online search has not identified the wireless operator who wrote this letter. Reference [3] does not mention No 83 Canadian Training Squadron being in Texas in 1917.



Figure 4. Post card sent from Toronto to a Canadian in Texas in February 1918.

The post card in Figure 4, mailed from Toronto to a Canadian in the 82nd Canadian Training Squadron in Texas in February 1918, may be unique. It is the only one the author is aware of. Reference [3] does not mention No. 82 Canadian Training Squadron being in Texas in 1917. Figure 5 shows a post card mailed in April 1918 from a Canadian to his mother in Bayfield, Ontario. The message on the card refers to a previously sent letter.

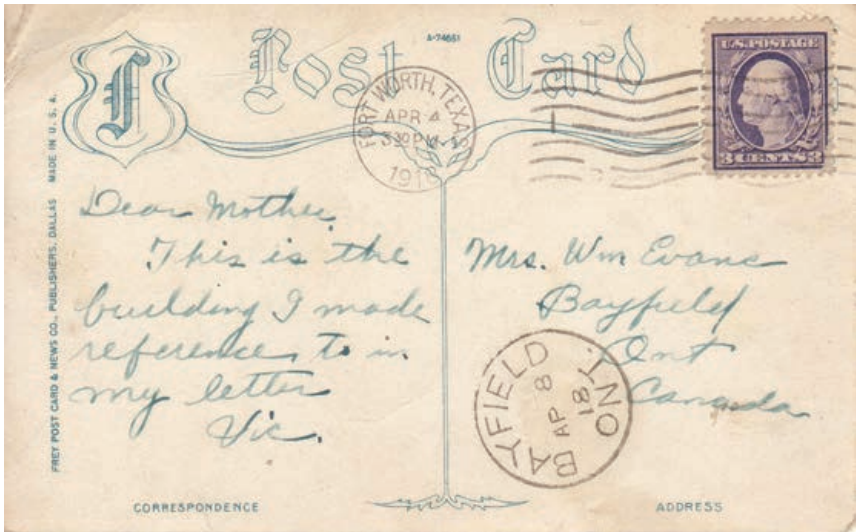


Figure 5. Post card from a Canadian in Texas in April 1918 to his mother.



Figure 6. 1917 Christmas card from a Canadian in Texas.

The 1917 Christmas card from a Canadian in Texas in Figure 6 is the eighth such card known to have been prepared by units of the Royal Flying Corps Canada or the Royal Air Force in Canada during 1917 and 1918. The other seven are listed in Reference [2].


References

- [1] Edward A Richardson OTB, Canadian Military Postal History: Canadian Aviation Cadet Training in Texas 1917-1918, *BNA Topics*, Vol 41, No 1, Whole No 399 (January/February 1984), pp22-26.
- [2] Kenneth V Ellison OTB, RFC/RAF Canada Christmas Post Cards 1917-18, *BNA Topics*, Vol 46, No 6, Whole No 434 (November/December 1989), pp26-28.
- [3] Don Clark, *Wild Blue Yonder: An Air Epic*, 1972, Superior Publishing Company, Seattle. Printed in Canada by Evergreen Press, Vancouver. ISBN-10: 1199576816, ISBN-13: 978-1199576811, Library of Congress 72-85488, 172 pp.

Additional information

CW Hunt, *Dancing in the Sky: The Royal Flying Corps in Canada*, 2009. Dundurn Press, Toronto. ISBN: 978-1-55002-864-5, 360 pp, Dundurn Press.

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The “St John’s East” post office

David Piercey, FRPSC

IN 1892, the Postmaster General decided to establish a second downtown Branch Office in the eastern part of St. John’s, Newfoundland. The first downtown Branch Office, St. John’s Central, was established in 1886; this new office was to be the “St. John’s East” receiving office. Mention of this new office is made in the *Evening Telegram* of 6 July 1892 [1]. Its location is given as Duckworth Street “near Gambier and the Beach” in the shop of Patrick Kelly. This location was convenient to many of the steamship docks where mail was often dispatched for off-island destinations. As the announcement mentions, Mr. Kelly was only “lately empowered” to retail postage stamps and to receive letters and newspapers. The Branch Office was probably established just a few days earlier, around the beginning of July 1892. The postal authorities had intended this to be a fully functioning Branch Office attested to by the preparation, by Pritchard and Andrews of Ottawa, of a new postal hammer, a normal split-ring reading “St. John’s East,” proofed 28 June 1892 (see Figure 1).

Patrick Kelly was a grocer [2] and, in November 1891, he opened his new grocery store after previously working at another grocery store in the same area of the city. But Irish luck was not to favour Mr. Kelly. Shortly after the new Branch Office opened, and just two days after it was mentioned in the newspaper, the great St. John’s fire of Friday evening, 8 July 1892, swept the city, destroying nearly all of the buildings in the east and central part of the city, including Mr Kelly’s grocery store.

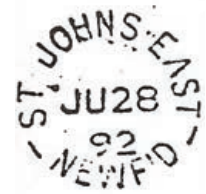


Figure 1. Proof strike of “St. John’s East” hammer.



Figure 2. Advertisements for City Hotel and City Fruit Store, *Almanac, 1894-1897*, p 184.

Consequently, the new postal hammer most likely never saw use at this location. Even given the most expeditious dispatch from Ottawa after its proof date, it could only possibly have arrived by boat from Halifax either on Monday 4 July (by SS *Miranda*, sailing from Halifax 1 July), or Wednesday, 6 July (by SS *Caspian*, sailing from Halifax 4 July). Whether it actually arrived in St John’s before the fire and was given to Mr Kelly during those few days cannot yet be determined, though it appears highly unlikely. Yet letters would still have been mailed from this location in the week or so that the Branch Office was in operation. A letter carrier from the GPO would have picked them up on his twice daily rounds, taking them along to the GPO for postmarking and processing.

In 1893, following rebuilding after the July fire, the Branch Office was reopened in the City Hotel building, 206 Duckworth Street, four doors down from the corner of Prescott Street. Mrs George Walsh, the proprietress of the hotel, was also the new Postmistress.

Keywords & phrases: Postal history, Newfoundland, Branch Offices

Mrs. Walsh also operated the Central Fruit Store (see Figure 2) at the street level entrance in her building. She sold fruit, vegetables, and confectionaries along with a full range of tobacco and smoking products, and she even sold admission tickets to a variety of cultural performances sponsored through local community or religious groups. The Branch Post Office was most likely initially located within this particular business; its hammer was the same “St. John’s East” hammer as was proofed in June 1892 (see Figure 3).



Figure 4. St John’s East, AP 20 (18)95 [note the error in the St John’s East dispatching postmark, indicating (18)95, which should be (18)96] to local address. Mailed at St. John’s East Branch Office, it was then carried by city letter carrier to General Post Office for processing, and then delivered by city letter carrier. Postmarked ST. JOHNS EAST NEWF’D split-ring and ST. JOHNS NEWF’D circular date stamp AP 20 (18)95.

appears as Postmistress in the 1900–1903 *Almanacs*. The Branch Post Office probably remained here throughout this period. In the same storefront shop, the old fruit store had, it seems, been succeeded by the “east end branch” of Fred Wood’s Confectionary, a local manufacturing company of jams, jellies, and conducting a wholesale and retail business in fruit and baked goods. Presumably, Mrs Bulley was the clerk-in-charge at this retail location [4]. And as of April 1901, the East End Post Office was authorized to register letters and to sell money orders, a major increase in responsibility for any Branch Office (Figure 4). Figure 5 is an example of mail posted during Mrs Bulley’s tenure.

Sometime in 1904, Mrs Bulley was succeeded by a Miss Jessie Bulley, who remained as Postmistress through 1922. During Miss Bulley’s tenure, the East End Post Office was referred to by a variety of names in the *Almanacs*. While it had previously been referred to as the “St. John’s East” Branch Office in earlier *Almanacs*, in 1903–1906 it was referred to as the “St John’s Prescott Street” Branch Office [5]; in 1907–1909 as the “St. John’s East End” Branch Office; in 1910–1925 as the “St. John’s East End M.O. Office”; and in 1925–1932 it was referred to as the “East End P.O. Office” [6].

Mrs Walsh’s annual stipend from the Post Office Department for her service in operating the East End Post Office was \$60, as reported in the 1893 Postmaster General’s *Annual Report* [3]. As was typical for the licensed stamp vendors throughout the city, she also received a commission of five percent on the sale of postage stamps sold through her office.

Mrs Walsh remained Postmistress through to early April of 1899, when the hotel was sold to a new owner and renamed the Waverley Hotel. She was succeeded by a Mrs Fannie Bulley, who then

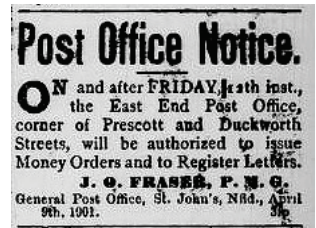


Figure 3. Post Office Notice, *Evening Telegram*, 30 April 1901.



Figure 5. St. John's East SP 6 (19)00 to Long Point, Quebec. Postmarked ST. JOHN'S EAST NEWF'D splitting; and ST. JOHNS NEWF'D circular date stamp SP 6 (19)00. No other postal markings.

regular split-ring reading “Duckworth St. St. John’s”, was introduced. As there is otherwise no record in the *Almanacs* of any additional post office on Duckworth Street at this time, it is my working hypothesis that this hammer, *although it is worded differently*, was used at the St John’s East Branch Office as another postmarking device available to the two staff members. My fuller reasoning is included in the endnote to this paragraph [9]. Figure 6 provides an example with the “Duckworth St. St. John’s” hammer used as a receiving mark on mail likely mailed to a post box in the Branch Office.

In mid-September 1908, under new ownership and after undergoing further renovations, the name of the Waverley Hotel was changed to the Hotel Royal [10]. By 1909, Miss Meehan is identified by the *Almanac* as the assistant in charge of the Money Order office at the Branch. The 1913 *Almanac* reports an additional assistant at the Branch, a Miss March. In 1919, another assistant was hired, and by 1923 there were three assistants at the Branch Office, different individuals having come and gone, though Miss Bulley, Miss Meehan, and Miss March remained throughout.

Sometime in this period, facilities at this location were again improved, with the addition of a public area where patrons could access their post boxes after regular hours [11]. In 1923, Miss Bulley retired and Miss Meehan became the new Postmistress. Throughout this period, a variety of new steel and rubber postmarking hammers are introduced, all reading “St. John’s East” or some variant [12].

On 8 May 1906, the Branch Office moved into new quarters “in the Waverley Hotel” (presumably to another storefront location in the same building), where post boxes were now also to be available for patrons [7]. Shortly thereafter, as announced in the *Telegram* of 27 September, a Miss Frances Meehan was appointed to be the assistant to Miss Bulley [8].

Miss Bulley’s annual salary was reported to be around \$400, perhaps because of her supervisory and money order office responsibilities.

In 1907, a new postal hammer, a



Figure 6. Harbor Grace, 14 October 1909 to St John’s. Carried by day train from Harbor Grace to St Johns; then by letter carrier from General Post Office to East End (Duckworth Street) Branch Office, for mail box delivery. Postmarked and dated OC 14 (19)09 with HARBOR GRACE NEWF'D split-ring, C.B. RAILWAY T.P.O. NEWF'D CDS and DUCKWORTH STREET ST. JOHNS NEWF'D split-ring.



Figure 7. General Post Office - Removal Notice, *Evening Telegram*, 30 April 1924.

In 1924, a particularly significant event took place. The East End Post Office moved from its longstanding location at the address on Duckworth Street down to Water Street, into newly renovated premises in the Stott Building. Located at 173-175 Water Street, this building was one of the first of the new structures built on Water Street after the 1892 fire (see Figure 7) [13]. In 1930, the number of staff increased from four to seven, including a night watchman. Over 400 post boxes were initially installed on these new premises. A machine canceller was introduced in 1925, manufactured by the same company as had made the one installed in the General Post Office in 1908, attesting to the volume of business now conducted at this new location.

It appears that by 1924 the East End Branch had become a fully stand-alone Post Office, occupying its own premises with a relatively large and specialized

staff. What had started as a small Branch Office in 1892 had become the *second* major Post Office in St John’s, second only to the General Post Office located further west along Water Street.

Conclusion

This article has presented newly researched information, previously unreported in the philatelic literature on the St John’s branch offices and has involved inferences drawn on and hypotheses built on information found in archival resources. Like all historical research such inferences are open to rebuttal and refutation should further substantive information be discovered. The author welcomes input and reaction from other collectors interested in this topic. He may be contacted at dpiercey@telus.net.

References and endnotes

- [1] “Postal Matters – Yet Another Convenience,” *Evening Telegram*, 6 June 1892.
- [2] One might expect that in a city with such a large population of people of Irish descent there would be several people named “Patrick Kelly”. McAlpine’s *Newfoundland Directory 1894-1897* indeed lists several. However, the 6 June *Evening Telegram* article mentions that he “is a young man of excellent repute, and has been long and favorably known in that neighbourhood.” An additional article in the 30 June 1894 *Evening Telegram* states “In Cupid’s Bonds – Marriage of Miss H.K. Morrissey and Mr. Patrick Kelly,” mentions the couple as “two of the most popular young people in St. John’s,” and indicates that his occupation as that of a grocer. Finally, an article in the 9 November 1891 *Evening Telegram*, states “Local Events – New Shops Opened,” confirms that Patrick Kelly was a grocer of some reputation. The only other potential Patrick Kelly in business at this time was Patrick Kelly, the tailor, who was much older (and was soon to pass away). It is also worth noting that the St John’s River Head branch post office, opened earlier in 1886, was also located in a grocery store.

- [3] “Report of Postmaster General for the Year 1893,” *Journal of the House of Assembly of Newfoundland*, 1894, Appendix, p.214; found at http://collections.mun.ca/cdm/compoundobject/collection/cns_tools/id/130611/rec/127 (Very few PMG *Annual Reports* are yet to be found on this site). A salary in this range was typical for the operators of the other Branch Offices as well, though it also appeared dependent upon volume of business at each location.
- [4] McAlpine’s *Directory* for 1904 indicates the confectionary’s street address was 202 Duckworth, and a schematic of the building on a 1914 insurance map indicates his store occupied both 202 and 204 Duckworth Street. McAlpine’s 1907–1908 *Directory* gives the Post Office Branch Office address as 204 Duckworth.
- [5] This mention of the “Prescott Street” Branch office has, I believe, created some ongoing confusion in our philatelic literature, and some authors suggest it was a separate Branch Office. As Miss Bulley was the East End Postmistress continuously between 1904 through 1922, regardless of the branch name given in the *Almanacs*, we are actually talking about a *single* Branch Office. It may have moved around a bit during her tenure, it was nevertheless the *same* Branch Office (i.e., St. John’s East) throughout this period.
- [6] Mention must also be made of another Duckworth Street Branch Office also occasionally referred to as the “East End Post Office.” This other office was located at 66 Duckworth Street and much further east, at the intersection of Duckworth Street and Ordnance Street, in the block west of the old train station at Fort William. It was located in a variety store operated by a Miss Coonan, and in the same building from which her family had previously operated a bakery. Originally just authorized to sell stamps as one of the many other licensed stamp vendors in the city, a Branch Office with Miss Coonan as Postmistress was established there in early 1902, particularly to assist with the posting of late letters for the “Bruce Express,” the three-times-a-week train service to Port aux Basques with the off-island mails. This Branch Office had its own postmarking split-ring datestamp reading “St. John’s N.F. Duckworth Street East,” in use beginning 1903 (see Figure 8). Though the train station subsequently moved to a new location in the west end of the city for June 1903, Miss Coonan’s Branch Office remained open well through 1931 as a convenience for the many nearby residents. It was apparently closed in 1932, as it no longer received a mention in the 1932 *Almanac*.



Figure 8. Duckworth Street East, JA 21, (19)08 to Worcester, Mass. Posted at the Branch Post Office, then picked up by letter carrier for conveyance to the GPO for dispatch by the foreign mails. Postmarked ST. JOHN'S N.F. DUCKWORTH STREET EAST split-ring. Back-stamped ST. JOHN'S N'F'L'D. circular date stamp 22 January, 1908; BOSTON MASS duplex 28 January, 1908, and WORCHESTER MASS. machine roller 28 January 1908. (The Empire Woodworking Company was located immediately across Duckworth Street from this Branch Office).

- [7] “Local Happenings – East End Post Office,” *Evening Telegram* 8 May 1906, p3. Post box rentals were, however, arranged through the accounting office at the GPO, the main

Post Office. It appears that post boxes at the East End Post Office were assigned numbers beginning from the number 1000.

[8] “By the Way: Assistant at Post Office,” *Evening Telegram*, 27 September 1906, p6.

[9] Referencing an illustration in Walsh’s *Catalogue*, use of the “Duckworth St. St. John’s” hammer is known beginning May 1907. Its existence has led some authors to believe it was utilized at a *separate* Duckworth Street Branch Office. However, I can find no evidence of another Duckworth Street Branch Office operating at this time, the exception being the much further away “Duckworth Street East” Branch (mentioned above), with its own listing in the *Almanacs* and with its uniquely identifying hammer. In particular, no additional Branch Office is listed on Duckworth in the *Almanacs* (the official government publication) during the period in question. Nor is mention made in the *Almanacs* of any other nearby licenced stamp vendors on Duckworth other than of Miss Bulley’s Branch Office.

A General Post Office Notice in the *Telegram* dated 9 July 1906, indicated that a “Court House Branch Post Office” for the posting of letters had become available in the Posts and Telegraphs office in the Court House Building. (The building straddled the grounds between Duckworth and Water streets, but it had an official street address of 186-194 Water Street East). However, it similarly receives no mention in the *Almanacs* as an official Branch Office. Instead, the 1907 Almanac states that “collectors will call regularly for letters at Postal Telegraph Offices at Court House and Customs’ Buildings, and at the Branch Offices...,” suggesting that it was a drop point only and not otherwise a functioning Branch Office.

The Customs House at or near 145 Duckworth Street East remains another possibility. The formation of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs in 1905, (after the expiration of the Anglo-American Telegraph monopoly) opened the possibility for Post Offices and Telegraph Offices to be located on the same premises, though with separate organizational reporting structures. However, the Customs House was only two blocks from the East End Branch Office, and it is improbable that two Branch Offices were located so close together. Again, since there is no indication of another Postmaster on Duckworth, the Customs House was more likely just another secure drop point for the posting of letters by patrons frequenting this otherwise busy location.

Consequently, I now believe the simplest and most logical answer is that the “Duckworth St. St. John’s” hammer was used as an *additional* postmarking device in the St John’s East office, having been routinely ordered by the GPO around the time when the new employee, Miss Meehan, joined the Branch Office staff. The relatively new Postmaster General, HJB Woods, may simply have decided to have the name on the new hammer relate more directly to the branch’s location. Also, although the Butt article (mentioned in a footnote below) says the “Duckworth St. St. John’s” hammer was used until 1931, this may be a confusion with the “St. John’s NF Duckworth Street East” hammer, which would have been used until this other office’s closing around 1932. Further research on the known usage dates of these two hammers is required.

[10] “Hotel Royal,” *Evening Telegram* 9 September 1908, p4.

[11] “Here and There: Post Office Windows Broken,” *Evening Telegram*, 13 January 1912, p6. Acts of petty vandalism and theft from mailboxes were occasionally reported in the

newspaper. The thefts were usually committed by street boys breaking mailbox glass, looking for money in letters.

- [12] The various St John's East postal markings are listed and illustrated in John Butt's "The Postal Markings: St. John's General Post Office and Sub Offices 1840-1949," *BNA Topics* Volume 49 No 4, pp20-22, 1992.
- [13] "East End Post Office Removing," *Evening Telegram* 30 April 1924, p6. I think either the lease for the retail store that housed the East End Branch Office at the Duckworth Street location had run out, or the proprietors of the confectionary store had decided to move it. The old Waverley Building had become the Times Building, (the Times was a large St John's printing company), and the new owner was seeking new tenants for this street level location. In any case, the consequence of its move to larger premises on Water Street and the increase in its subsequent staffing was the Post Office Department's decision in 1923 to consolidate post office business in one location. Also closed was the old "St. John's Central" Branch Office in the Dicks and Co. stationery store, located just two blocks west at 245 Water Street.

Addendum

After completing this article and submitting it to *BNA Topics*, I found a photograph in the Newfoundland Provincial Archives that may well show the inside of the East End Post Office. Identified by the Archives only as "two women working in a post office," there are enough defining characteristics that would seem to indicate the picture is of Miss Jessie Bulley and perhaps Miss Frances Meehan. The photograph was taken sometime after the Post Office moved to new quarters in the Waverley Hotel and after Miss Meehan had been hired as the assistant. This would date the photograph to between late 1906 and about 1912.



Figure A1. Two women working in a post office [ca. 1910]. Newfoundland Provincial Archives photograph collection. Published with permission.

The photograph clearly shows a money order wicket and a stamp wicket in fairly substantial, well-constructed room, a safe and a work table, post boxes, and what appears to be electric lighting for the room. The younger of the two women is holding a postmarking device, and there are additional postmarking devices lying on the table. I am unaware of any other Post Office, including those in the outports, that had two women working in similar accommodations.

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Printing the \$1 and \$2 1972 Landscape definitives

Leopold Beaudet

THIS article pieces together the story behind the printing of the \$1 and \$2 1972 Landscape definitives from Post Office records preserved at Library and Archives Canada (LAC). Larry Margetish used these same records and printing proofs to write a three-part article on the Caricature and Landscape definitives [1-3]. In Part 3 of his article, he states that “the contract [for the \$1 and \$2] originally went to Ashton-Potter to do four colour lithography with the steel engraving to be completed by CBN.” This article presents a different narrative.

While planning the replacement to the 1967 Centennial definitives, the Post Office identified the need for a \$2 stamp and decided to separate the definitives into two distinct sets, the medium values (10¢ to 50¢) and the high values (\$1 and \$2). The medium values were printed by British American Bank Note Co (BABN), using photogravure and engraving on its Goebel web-fed press. The Post Office decided that the high values would be twice as big and would be printed by a combination of lithography and steel engraving. The design themes and dates of issue accentuated the distinction between them. The \$1 and \$2 depict city rather than rural scenes. The date of issue was 17 March 1972 as opposed to 8 September 1972 for the medium values (Figure A).

The choice of printing method turned out to be a major challenge, one that had the Post Office and printers scrambling to meet the 17 March issue date. The LAC records suggest that initially the Post Office awarded the entire printing of both stamps to the Canadian Bank Note Co (CBN) sometime in 1971. CBN had demonstrated success with the combination of lithography and engraving, notably with the Provincial Flowers and Coat of Arms commemoratives issued between 1964 and 1966.

Under the terms of their contracts, the stamp printers were to provide the Post Office with an itemized list of all the die and plate proofs that they produce. In a letter to M Lysack, Director of Accounting, dated 5 April 1972, CBN listed all the items produced from 31 October 1971 to 1 April 1972 [4]. The list included:

- \$1 and \$2: Four /on colour transparencies
- \$1 and \$2: negative, 1½ times stamp size
- \$1: 200/on positive, four items
- \$1: 50/on negative, four items
- \$2: 50/on positive, four items

These items were required to produce lithographic plates. Each of the four lithographic colours (magenta, yellow, cyan, and black) required a separate plate, hence the four 50/on and 200/on positives and negatives. I would argue that CBN would not have produced these items had it been responsible for printing only the steel engraving.

Keywords & phrases: Landscape Definitives, Canadian Bank Note Co., plating

Figure A. PS 14, Announcement of First Day of Issue.

Postage Stamp Division

3-10-13

11 January 1972

Marketing Branch

ATTENTION: B. BOGAN, MANAGER
PROMOTIONS DIVISION

INFORMATION FOR P.S. 14 ANNOUNCEMENT DATA PANEL

\$1.00 - \$2.00 DEFINITIVES

Date of Issue : 17 March 1972

Design : Eberhard Berreth, Vancouver

Printer : Canadian Bank Note Company, Ottawa

Size : 48 mm x 30 mm

Quantity : Continuous Printing

Plate Number : 1

Printing Process: These stamps are printed in multicolour by a combination of four colour lithography and one colour steel. Marginal inscriptions will appear on the four corners of each pane of 50 stamps available from the Philatelic Service.

Collectors Own First Day Covers: Collectors should address their own covers and forward them to the "First Day Cover Service", Canada Post Office, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G5 to arrive not later than 17 March 1972. NOTE: Cover service fee, not applicable.

Official First Day Covers: The Department's specially designed official first day covers may be purchased by completing the order form for official first day covers attached to this announcement and forwarding along with your remittance to the address indicated at the top of the form.

.. 2

In a letter dated 17 December 1971, CBN submitted a series of "preliminary proving trials" to the Post Office [5]. These 2/on proofs included:

- \$1 and \$2, lithographic printing only on uncoated paper
- Same as above on coated paper
- Same as above with the engraved denomination on uncoated and coated paper plus a \$2 design showing "a solid denomination \$1."

The litho-only proofs were trials that showed different strengths of the lithographic colours. Again, I would argue that CBN would not have produced such proofs had it not been responsible for also printing the lithography.

Letters to the Post Office dated 3 February 1972 and 6 March 1972 show that CBN was still working on its contract as late as 4 February 1972 [6]. In the letters, CBN listed the dies, transfer rolls, and plates it had produced during the months of January and February 1972. They included:

- \$1 copper master plate, 50/on, engraved on 26 January
- \$1 nickel printing plate, 200/on, engraved on 4 February
- \$2 copper master plate, 50/on, engraved on 24 January
- \$2 nickel printing plate, 200/on, engraved on 31 January

These plates were for the engraved colour. The production of 50/on copper master plates and 200/on nickel printing plates reveals that CBN was using its plastic mould process to produce the plates [7].

In December 1971, the Post Office asked BABN to submit a quote for the entire printing of the \$1 and \$2 stamps. BABN submitted its quote on 20 December 1971 [8]. Its estimated delivery was 1 May 1972, well beyond the targeted date of issue, 17 March 1972. At some point, CBN informed the Post Office that it was unable to complete the printing contract. Neither the date this happened nor the nature of CBN's difficulties is revealed in the LAC files. One might assume that the date was early February except for the quote submitted by BABN on 20 December. In any event, a Post Office memo dated 15 March 1972 from M Lysack to AC Boughner, Assistant Deputy Postmaster General (ADPMG), Finance and Administration, states the following [9]:

“Due to production difficulties, the Canadian Bank Note Company relinquished our order to supply the new \$1.00 and \$2.00 definitive stamps, therefore, it was necessary to arrange, on an urgent basis with Ashton-Potter Limited and the British American Bank Note Company to produce these stamps in time to meet the announced date of issue.”

At the time the Caricatures and Landscape definitives were current, the Post Office published a brochure for each new issue to inform collectors about forthcoming stamps. These PS14 brochures routinely identified the stamps' printer(s). A memo from the Postage Stamp Division to the Marketing Branch dated 11 January 1972 provided PS14 data for the \$1 and \$2 definitives [10]. It identified CBN as the printer. Ashton-Potter was not mentioned. This implies that CBN was responsible for the entire printing, for both lithography and steel engraving. No printer was mentioned in the issued version of the PS14. Given the turmoil that erupted in January or February 1971, it is doubtful that the printer was known with certainty when the brochure was finalized.

Figure 18 in Part 1 of Margetish's article [1] shows a progressive plate proof of the \$2 value with the four lithographic colours but no steel engraving. The proof has the annotation “CBN production at point of cut-off” with the initials FGF (Frank G Flatters, Chief, Postage Stamp Division, Canada Post Office at the time). When Part 1 of Margetish's article was written, it was thought that this proof had been printed by Ashton-Potter; however, given the sequence of events described above, CBN's difficulties, and the wording of the annotation, it seems likely that the proof was produced by CBN.

To meet the pre-announced date of issue of 17 March, the Post Office turned to BABN and Ashton-Potter. In addition to printing the steel engraving, BABN was asked to perforate the sheets of two hundred, cut them into panes of fifty, and package them for distribution to post offices across the country. BABN confirmed the Post Office's requirements on 4 February, but it was unable to provide a quote for the work [11]. The date is interesting because it is the date when CBN produced the nickel printing plate for the \$1 value. CBN must have informed the Post Office of its difficulties sometime before this date. The Post Office gave BABN approval to proceed without a formal quote.

Ashton-Potter provided a quote on 18 February [11]. This quote would not have been required had Ashton-Potter been awarded the original contract. In another letter dated 10 March, BABN informed the Post Office that it was still unable to estimate the cost of the work involved, although much of that work had been done [11]. The situation was certainly unique—two printers collaborating to print stamps using different processes under a very tight deadline.

The Post Office authorized Ashton-Potter to produce 13 million stamps, or 65,000 sheets of two hundred stamps of each value [11] (The authorization was dated 7 March, but Ashton-Potter had already completed the printing). Ashton-Potter's printing plant was in Toronto, and BABN's was in Ottawa. This meant that after printing the litho colours, Ashton-Potter had to package the 130,000 uncut sheets and ship them by armoured truck to BABN to meet the date-of-issue deadline. In its 4 February confirmation of the Post Office's requirements, BABN specified that the sheets from Ashton-Potter had to arrive by 21 February. The Post Office contracted with BABN to deliver a total of ten million stamps of each denomination, three million fewer than Ashton-Potter actually delivered to allow for "spoilage in the steel engraving operation." BABN committed to an initial delivery of 3.5 million of each stamp by 10 March. The remainder would be delivered around the end of the month. About 15 percent of the total printing was set aside for philatelic stock.

Ashton-Potter used a sheet-fed press, so BABN could not use its Goebel web-fed press to finish the printing. Instead, BABN used a sheet-fed press to print the steel engraving and a line perforator (what BABN referred to as "MacAdams random rotary perforation") to perforate the stamps. Fortunately, the printers met their deadlines and the two stamps were issued on the announced date, just a month after Ashton-Potter submitted its quote. However, a problem occurred during the printing, as revealed in the following Post Office memo, dated 20 April 1972, from M Lysack to AC Boughner. [11]:

\$1.00 AND \$2.00 DEFINITIVE STAMP

It was necessary, on an urgent basis, to arrange with Ashton-Potter Limited and the British American Bank Note Co. Ltd. to produce the \$1.00 and \$2.00 definitive stamps in time to meet the announced date of issue. The British American Bank Note Co. could not submit a price until their part of the production was completed, as certain problems had to be solved. We have now received their quotation. The cost of the production of these stamps are:

\$1.00 Definitive

<i>Ashton-Potter Ltd</i>	<i>\$14,324.00</i>
<i>British American Bank Note Co.</i>	<i>\$14,291.20</i>
	<i>Total \$28,615.20</i>

Quantity 5,900,000 stamps

This quantity is below our original order of 10 million stamps. The British American Bank Note Co. made an error due to the inevitable haste, in the preparation of the steel plate. The time required to correct the error by making a new plate (one week) could not be allowed without missing the date of issue. Therefore only 50 per cent of the finished work is acceptable. The circumstances were essentially beyond the control of the suppliers.

\$2.00 Definitive

<i>Ashton-Potter Lte. [sic]</i>	\$14,324.00
<i>British American Bank Note Co.</i>	\$14,884.80
	Total \$29,208.80

Quantity 9,225,000 stamps

The accounts from British American Bank Note Co. are enclosed herewith for your approval.

The following was handwritten by M Lysack at the bottom of the memo:

P.S. Going to Ashton-Potter--B.A.B.N. Co resulted from CBN. Co not being able to proceed with printing at a very late date in relation to the date of issue. The BABN Co. could not quote a price to us under such emergency conditions.

This memo explains why fewer \$1 than \$2 stamps were printed even though the postal demand for the \$1 was greater. A letter dated 29 March 1972 from KS Sargent, Executive Vice President, BABN, to FG Flatters elaborates on the shortfall [11]:

You will recall that only one-half of the litho-printed stock for the One Dollar issue was considered usable because of a registration problem with the engraved printing on Plate Number One.

No details are available about the “registration problem”; however, given that only half the printing order was delivered, it is likely that the impression of two adjacent panes on the engraved plate was out of register with their counterparts on the lithographic plates. The final quantities delivered are listed in a letter from BABN to the Post Office dated 21 April 1972: 5,950,000 \$1 stamps and 10,800,000 \$2 stamps [11]. Of these, 750,000 \$1 and 1.2 million \$2 stamps were allocated to philatelic stock.

Being definitives, both stamps were eventually reprinted. Given the larger postal demand and the shortfall in the initial quantity delivered, it is not surprising that the \$1 was the first to be reprinted. What is surprising is that the Post Office contemplated reprinting the stamp using the same method as the initial printing. On 1 May 1973, the Post Office contracted Ashton-Potter to produce a test printing of the litho portion of the \$1 on a specially coated paper and BABN to print the steel-engraved portion using the existing plate [12]. The purpose of the test was to evaluate the quality of the printing. Two papers were used in the test [12]: Abitibi super-calendered paper and Wiggins Teape gummed paper.

Separately, the Post Office also asked BABN in April 1973 to prepare photogravure cylinders to determine the feasibility of printing the \$1 design by two-colour photogravure and one-colour steel engraving on the Goebel web-fed press [12]. The Post Office chose the Goebel press option. A new, engraved cylinder was prepared, cylinder 2, and the new printing was released on 24 October 1973.

In contrast, the \$2 Quebec reprint from plate 2 released several years later on 28 March 1978 was produced using the same printing methods as plate 1. In a 19 April 1978 memo to the Treasury Board, with the subject line “Authority to Ratify Contracts,” the Post Office explained its decision to stick with Ashton-Potter and BABN [11]:

It is necessary, on an urgent basis, to reproduce the \$2.00 (Quebec) definitive stamps in the same manner as the production of the first printing, namely lithography by Ashton-Potter Limited and steel by British American Bank Note Co. The British American Bank Note could not obtain a successful essay of the stamp by means of gravure and steel. The Canadian Bank Note was unable to supply a satisfactory proof of this stamp.

On 6 September 1977, Ashton-Potter submitted a quote to print 16 million stamps by four-colour lithography at \$1.60 per thousand stamps (total \$25,600) [11]. On 1 September 1977, BABN submitted a quote to print 12 million stamps (subsequently increased to 13 million) by one-colour engraving and perforate them at \$2.04 per thousand (total \$24,480) [11]. Ashton-Potter printed the litho colours and shipped the sheets to BABN on 12 October 1977. The difference in quantities between Ashton-Potter and BABN was to allow for spoilage while setting up the press to print the engraved colour. The interval between the quotes and the issue of the reprint was about seven months. Contrast that with the one to two months BABN and Ashton-Potter were given to produce the initial printing.

The plates consisted of two hundred stamps like the first printing, but the spacing between panes was different. Figure 20 in Part 1 of Margetish's article [1] shows a plate proof produced by Ashton-Potter. Individual stamps from the two printings were virtually identical; it is not possible to identify from which printing a stamp comes.

The postal requirement for \$1 was much greater than the \$2. According to *The Charlton Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Postage Stamps* [13], 68 million \$1 stamps were printed from cylinder 2 as compared with 14 million \$2 stamps.

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Paper “stuff”

Anthony Thompson

THE Unitrade stamp catalogue reads as follows about stamp paper “... of no more consequence than the name of the tree from which its paper was made.” [1]. Apart from the fact that the raw materials for stamp paper include more than just trees, the text misses the important point that stamp paper is the base for the ink and gum that form the stamp. Stamp paper must have particular properties. It must typically withstand being wetted and dried, being subject to the considerable pressures of the intaglio printing process, being gummed, being pulled through various printing presses, being able to take security features such as watermarks, being cleanly perforated, and then being separated from adjacent stamps for sticking onto envelopes. It is a remarkable substance.

Stamp paper is typically made principally from a mix of two or more plant fibres, and almost always contains a large proportion of cotton and linen obtained from rags [2, 3, 4]. Other materials can include hemp fibres from old ropes, jute fibres from old sacks, softwood fibres from conifers, and various fibres from grasses like esparto and straw. This article focuses on the paper Perkins, Bacon and Waterlow used to print the stamps of Newfoundland during the 1930s and 1940s. The paper for these stamps, with the exception of the 1929–1931 issue, was watermarked with Newfoundland’s coat-of-arms and was manufactured at Croxley Mills, Hertfordshire, England [7]. The most informative set of articles on the production of paper, principally at Croxley Mills, was written by Barry Watson [5, 6]. In addition, the last two chapters of Joan Evan’s book *The Endless Web* [17] are very informative. The information in the next paragraph is drawn from these sources. Though not specifically referring to stamp paper, Croxley Mill’s fibrous material used to make paper included rags, esparto grass, and bleached chemical softwood pulps. Rags were principally cotton, but some were made of linen (flax), hemp, and jute.

Of interest to this article are the raw materials that were imported into Britain, as their supply was disrupted during the Second World War. This included esparto grass imported from Spain and Morocco, and softwood pulp imported from North America and Scandinavia. Imports of esparto grass ceased between 1940 and about 1946, and returned to pre-war quantities by 1948. Esparto grass was replaced by home-grown straw, especially wheat straw and, in 1942, the esparto plant at Croxley Mill was modified to digest straw. There was a shortage of wood pulp even in 1936, and supplies from Scandinavia ceased with the invasion of Norway in April 1940. The supply of wood pulp remained difficult to secure even in 1947 after the war had ended. It is worth noting that, in the autumn of 1941, Croxley Mill installed a new Yarrow Boiler, a new super-calendar 120 inches wide, new rag-breakers, and a new machine for cutting and teasing jute.

Around 1900, Croxley Mills made its paper from rags, esparto, and timber. The best paper was made from linen and cotton rags. It was used for handmade paper and superior notepaper. The next best papers, for better-class books, were made from esparto. The cheap

Keywords & phrases: Paper, equipment

newsprint was from supplies of wood, mainly spruce owing to the suitability of its fibres for paper making, prepared in mixed pulp made by the mechanical process and the sulphide chemical process [11]. The pulping of rags, esparto grass, and probably wheat, was accomplished using the soda process that suited the hard waters at Croxley Mills, and often included a subsequent bleaching stage. Softwoods arrived as bleached chemical pulps [5, 6]. In general, the best archival grade permanent papers are made from 100 percent rags (cotton, linen, hemp) with few or no additives. Rags, especially when beaten and partially fibrillated, give paper its strength, as long as the fibres do not become too short. Softwood provides bulk and adds a little to the strength but it does not fibrillate. Esparto improves formation of the paper, allowing it to take ink readily, resist shrinkage and stretching, and does not tend to dust or fluff during printing. Its major shortcoming is its low strength, which is due to its relatively short fibre length. Wheat straw has similar properties to esparto grass [13]. Lower-grade permanent papers are generally made from about 30 percent rag and 70 percent wood pulp or 35 percent wood pulp and 35 percent other materials such as esparto grass or wheat straw. The lower grade would be used principally for printing first editions, issues of important books, periodical publications, important reference books, and the like [12].

This article examines selected Newfoundland stamps printed by Perkins Bacon and Waterlow during the 1930s and 1940s and the plant species used in the production of the stamp paper.

Paper thickness

The 1932 Definitive set was printed by Perkins Bacon using a wet process until the printing works was destroyed. Printing was taken over by Waterlow and sons in 1942 using a dry

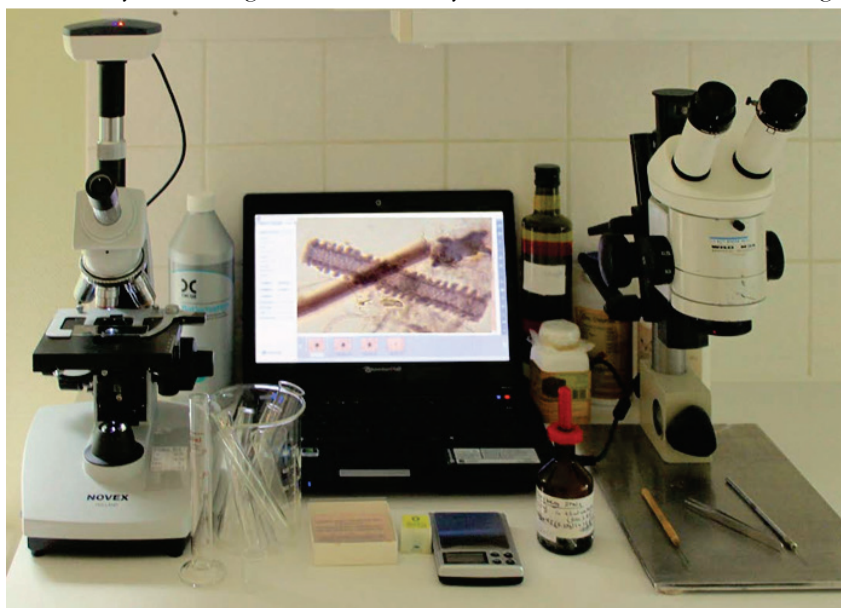


Figure 1. Basic equipment for fibre analysis.

process that produced stamps of slightly larger dimensions (see any stamp catalogue for details).

The change in printers was not well known until sometime soon after 1965, but it was known that the “re-issue” was different. Apart from the size of the stamp, there were references to the paper being thinner, more transparent, and unlike any used before for Newfoundland stamps [8, 9, 10]. However, there are no obvious differences in the paper when the Perkins Bacon and Waterlow printed stamps are compared nowadays, either visually or when measuring the paper thickness with a micrometer (unpublished personal observations). It is possible that the observed differences in the paper thickness and transparency were caused by the differences in the printing processes and that they have become less obvious over the past 70-plus years due to aging processes.

Methods of identifying fibres

The identification of fibres in paper requires a small laboratory set-up, including a compound microscope with magnifications of $\times 40$, $\times 100$, and $\times 400$, and the basic skills necessary for staining and examining wet-mounted glass microscope slides (Figure 1) [14].

A small piece of stamp paper was torn from a postally-used stamp and treated with one percent sodium hydroxide for sixty minutes (Figure 2). This removed most or all of the ink and made the fibres easier to separate. The paper was disintegrated with the help of dissecting needles and the fibres suspended in water. A drop was placed on a microscope slide and stained with Herzberg stain.

The identification of fibres was made with reference to various text books [e.g., 15, 16], though this was not always easy in beaten samples of pulp fibres. The following were identified (Figure 3): Rags (identified to cotton, linen/hemp, and jute when possible), softwoods (spruce and pine), esparto grass (identified by the presence of fibres and characteristic epidermis and comma cells), and wheat (identified by the presence of fibres and characteristic epidermis and parenchyma cells).



Figure 2. 1932 1c Green (Scott 183) after sixty minutes in one percent sodium hydroxide and (b) paper disintegrated with the help of needles.

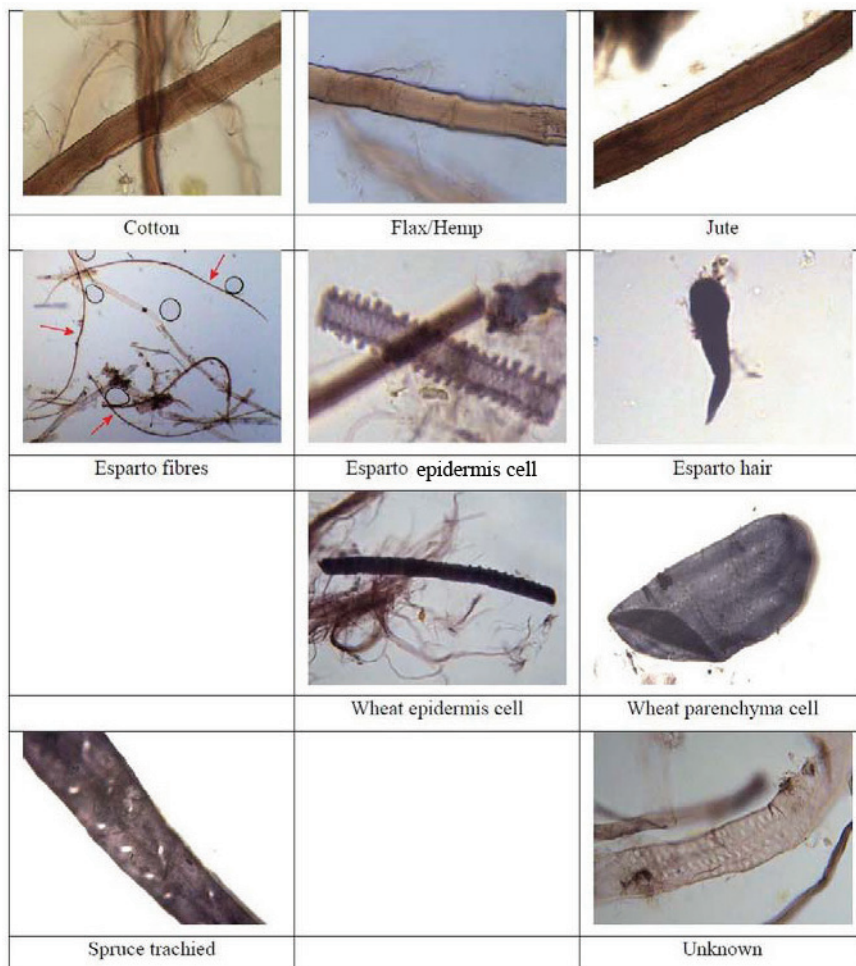


Figure 3. Rags (identified to cotton, linen/hemp, and jute when possible), softwoods (spruce and pine), esparto grass (identified by the presence of fibres and characteristic epidermis and comma cells), and wheat (identified by the presence of fibres and characteristic epidermis and parenchyma cells).

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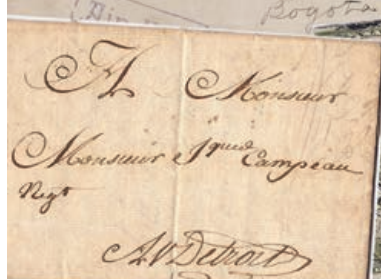
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An early letter to Western Canada

Julian Tweed

I bought the letter in Figure 1, written and posted in Belfast on 4 June 1825, because of my interest in mail crossing the Irish Sea. At the time, neither I nor the eBay seller realised the significance of the cryptic pen endorsement above and to the left of the address, which took the full story of the letter much further.



Figure 1. 1825 letter from Belfast to York Factory.

The letter was originally addressed care of the Hudson’s Bay Company in London. Postage of 2/- was paid by the sender in Belfast for that stage of its journey. The postal charge was split between the Irish and British Post Offices as indicated by a now rather-faded manuscript endorsement in red ink to the left of the address; 9d for the 80 Irish miles to Dublin and 1/3d thereafter, the latter made up of 2d packet boat fee, 1d Menai Bridge charge, and 1/- mileage to London from Holyhead. Before leaving Belfast the letter was also datestamped 4 June 1825 in black and marked with a black boxed “P PAID”.

The letter passed through Dublin on 5 June, receiving a red dated octagonal datestamp, and on 7 June it arrived in London, where two red dated tombstone “PAID” marks were added. It was immediately forwarded unpaid to John Rae, the local agent for the Hudson’s Bay Company in Stromness, Orkney. On the reverse there is a black circular London dispatch datestamp for 7 June, and a red Edinburgh circular arrival dated 9 June. The onward charges to Orkney were 1/6½ d, including ½ d Scottish wheel tax indicated by a black boxed “½” applied in London. Those charges are consistent with a routing via Wick and the Huna ferry to Kirkwall. There are no further Post Office marks.

Keywords & phrases: Postal history, early northwestern Canada, York Factory

BNA Topics, Volume 73, Number 1, January–March 2016

Probably also in London, it was marked by a Hudson's Bay clerk at the top left with the above-mentioned pen endorsement. This distinctive mark reads "YF" and stands for York Factory, the main Company trading post on Hudson's Bay itself, south of the modern settlement of Churchill. Several of the Company's major trading posts in North America were identified by abbreviated marks at that time. It is thought that these rarely-seen marks were only applied to the top letter in each bundle of letters for each trading post, accounting for their relative scarcity. From Stromness, the letter was carried privately to Canada by the Hudson's Bay Company in its own vessels. Once at York Factory, the letter would have been carried by Company employees to the addressee, John Stuart, who was at this date in charge of its interests in Saskatchewan.

The letter, written by John Stuart's brother with his spelling and punctuation, begins:

My dear Brother

I have now before me your letter of 1 August 1823, the last I have had the pleasure to receive from you, and the contents of that letter has been really too distressing to me to brood over it without any other information from you since.

In the first place, your sudden return from the N.W. to Hd Bay and your discouraging prospects in trade were to me a consideration of distress, much heightened by your disappointment in receiving my letters, which was twice a year and for two years miscarried. This made me suspicious of some foul play (as children say) and, having received none from you last season, am exceedingly concerned on your account, but sincerely hope that this may reach you and that I may be fortunate in the ensuing Autumn so as to hear from you and better tidings.

He continues with much family news before finishing:

I must now conclude in hopes that I am not too late for the H. B. ship and that in return I may receive your reply in the course of the coming autumn. Mrs S & children join me in fondest love and best wishes for your welfare and happiness and in fond hopes of better encouragement in all your concerns.

I remain, my Dear John, your most affectionate Brother, P. Stuart.

So who was the recipient of the letter and what was his news from 1823 that was too awful for his brother to think about?

Though John Stuart (1780-1847) was born and died in Morayshire, he spent most of his life in what would eventually become western Canada and the far northwest of the United States of America. In 1796, he joined the Canadian North West Company and, by 1805, had risen to be an important member of Simon Fraser's epic expedition to explore the lands across the Rockies that became British Columbia. On that expedition, he became the first commander of the garrison at Fort St James, on what was later called Stuart Lake, after him. Further exploration with Simon Fraser followed in 1808 along a river that was thought to be the Columbia River—but which turned out not to be—and was eventually named the Fraser.

Stuart spent most of the next decade in an area beyond the mountains then called New Caledonia, in charge of various posts on behalf of the North West Company. During that time, the company was in an intense rivalry with the Pacific Fur Company, which had been set up in the US by John Jacob Astor. Much of Stuart's time was taken up with fending off their encroachments and harassing them in turn. The North West Company eventually won out, largely as a result of the disruptive effects of the War of 1812 on American interests in the region, and it purchased Pacific Fur in 1813.

From 1817 to 1820, Stuart was based at Fort Pierre au Calumet in Alberta warding off encroachment from the east by another major rival, the Hudson's Bay Company. This time, the rival eventually came out on top, and the two companies merged in 1821 as the reformed Hudson's Bay Company. Stuart became a chief factor for the new enterprise in the west.

It seems that he had always prided himself on his good relations with the native population, and he therefore felt perhaps overly responsible when two Company employees were murdered by two of the local Carrier Indians at Fort (now Prince) George in 1823. The incident prompted a breakdown and led him to ask for a more settled and less demanding posting. His account of the incident in his 1823 letter home is likely to have been the news that so disturbed his brother. As a consequence of his request, Stuart was sent to take control of the Saskatchewan District in 1824. He would have been there when his brother's June 1825 letter reached him.

Later postings included taking charge of the Winnipeg District from 1826 to 1832 and the Mackenzie River District (now in Oregon) from 1832 to 1835. The latter posting was a demotion. Stuart fell out with the Governor, George Simpson, apparently because he disagreed over Simpson's abandonment of his "country wife."

In 1835, Stuart returned to Scotland for health reasons and was followed, in 1836, by his own "country wife," Mary Taylor. Ironically, in light of his earlier disagreement with Simpson, she returned to Canada in 1838 because Stuart refused to honour his promise to marry her formally. After Stuart's death in 1847, his sisters succeeded, after considerable litigation, in having his legacy of £500 to Mary reduced to £350.

I am aware that other letters sent to John Stuart exist, a number of which were once owned by the late Allan Steinhart. I would be most interested to know if the contents of any of the others throw more light on the "incident" referred to in this letter, or on other aspects of the life of this intriguing pioneer of the Canadian West. Please contact me at <ruth-julian@care4free.net> or through the Editors.

Acknowledgement

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Six-cent shortpaid Small Queen cover to England with a half-fine

William Radcliffe

I am always on the lookout for stamps and covers with a 2-ring cancel and was lucky enough to come across what may be a special-rate cover with a 2-ring 13 (Belleville, Ont.) cancel (Figure 1). The cover was posted in Belleville in May 1872 and was addressed to Doncaster, England. Although the 6¢ Small Queen stamp paid the normal rate for a letter weighing less than one-half ounce delivered by Canadian packet, the British (Cunard) packet rate via the United States was eight cents, the extra two cents to cover US transit [1]. So this letter was directed by the more expensive route. Normally, this would have involved only an extra charge of the difference (2¢/1d) but the British Post Office had dictated that letters directed by the more expensive route, but paid only for the cheaper rate, should be charged *and* fined [2]. The fine at this time was 6¢/3d, split equally between the two nations. This rule was probably enforced at the exchange office in Kingston (Figure 2), thus the manuscript “2½” (pence Sterling) Canadian claim. The letter was probably carried by the Cunard Line *Samaria* but this is difficult to state with certainty, as three ships meet the sailing dates. The addressee was charged 4d (m/s), which included the other half of the fine. This is the first time that such a half-fine on a Canadian outbound cover has been observed [3-4].



Figure 1. Shortpaid SQ cover to England (reduced)



Figure 2. Transit stamps on back of cover (cropped).

If anyone knows of others, please contact me at bsbvp88@hotmail.com.

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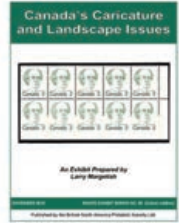
Keywords & phrases: Small Queens, Six-Cent, shortpaid, international mail to England

New book releases

BNAPS Book release notes

BNAPS has released two new books in the Exhibit Series since the last issue of *BNA Topics* went to press. Both are available through our agent, Sparks Auctions. A revised catalogue of Canadian Pre-Cancel stamps has been published, as has the second edition of the Canadian Cinderella catalogue.

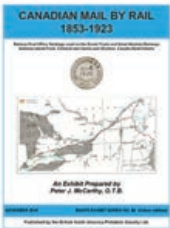
Canada's Caricature and Landscape Issues, by Larry Margetish, 2015. Spiral bound, 126 pages, 8.5×11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-927119-57-0. Published by BNAPS; Stock #B4h923-085-1. BNAPS Exhibit Series #85. C\$60.



The stamps of the Caricature and Landscape series replaced the Centennial series. Released between March 1972 and October 1973, they remained in use until 1979. This period saw many changes in the stamps themselves, including the first multi-coloured definitives, definitives without an image of Queen Elizabeth, and standardized tagging. On the mailing side, postal codes were introduced, experiments with bar codes were begun, and many postal rate changes implemented. Larry Margetish's *Canada's Caricature and Landscape Issues*, a classic treatment of this modern issue, includes pre-production material, plates, printing and paper varieties, errors and freaks, and postal history.

A retired computer programmer, Larry has been collecting the Caricature and Landscape stamps since they were first issued. He prepared his first exhibit in the early 1980s, and it has grown from simple beginnings into what is now a comprehensive exhibit of the Caricature and Landscape definitive stamps of Canada. At the Spring National Show 2013 in Edmonton, the exhibit received Gold, the Grand Award, and the BNAPS Best BNA Exhibit Award. Most recently, at BNAPEX 2015 NIAGARA FALLS, it received Gold and the John D Arn "White Queen" Award for the Best Exhibit of QEII stamps and/or postal history. Larry's philatelic memberships include the British North America Philatelic Society, the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, the American Philatelic Society, and the American Topical Association. He is also active in the Postal History Society of Canada, of which he is a Director. Besides writing articles for stamp magazines, Larry's other hobby is duplicate contract bridge. He currently lives in Victoria, BC.

Canadian Mail by Rail 1853–1923, by Peter McCarthy, 2015. Spiral bound, 100 pages, 8.5×11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-927119-58-7. Published by BNAPS; Stock #B4h923-086-1. BNAPS Exhibit Series #86. C\$55.



In *Canadian Mail by Rail 1853–1923*, Peter McCarthy illustrates the Railway Post Office Markings used on the Grand Trunk and Great Western Railways between Island Pond, Vermont and Sarnia and Windsor, Canada West/Ontario. More than a postal history, it is also the story of the development of the major railroad network from the Quebec-Vermont border on the east to the Ontario-Michigan border on the west.

Born in Montreal, Peter McCarthy worked for thirty-one years for the Canadian National Railways, retiring in 1994 as a Train Conductor. About 1980, his lifelong stamp

collecting evolved into specialization in Canadian Railway Post Office cancellations and postal history. He wrote stamp columns for the *Sherbrooke Record* for six years and for *Keeping Track*, the CNR's monthly newspaper, for three years. He has also written numerous articles for the British North America Philatelic Society's *BNA Topics*, the *Postal History Society Journal*, and *The Newsletter of the Canadian R.P.O. Study Group*, and contributed to *STAMPS*, *Stamp Collector*, and *Canadian Stamp News*.

Peter has exhibited extensively since 1990. He is a member of BNAPS, the Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada, the Middlesex Stamp Club, and the Oxford Philatelic Society. Since 2005, he has served as the Secretary-Treasurer of BNAPS' Golden Horseshoe Regional group. He was Chairman of BNAPEX 2003 in London, Ontario and Exhibits Coordinator for BNAPEX 2011 in North Bay, Ontario. In 2009, Peter was inducted into the Order of the Beaver, the Fellowship of BNAPS, and he considers this the crowning event of his time as a philatelist.

Canadian Mail by Rail has been a work-in-progress for the past twenty-five years, first receiving Silver and Vermeil awards at both regional and national level exhibitions. A national Gold award finally came in 2008 at the Edmonton National Spring show, followed by Gold at BNAPEX 2008 in Halifax. In 2010, the exhibit was awarded Gold, Best of Class, and the APS Award of Excellence at the Omaha Stamp Show. More recently, it has received Gold at both ORAPEX 2013 in Ottawa and at FILEX 2015 in Montreal.

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New release

Field Guide to the Cinderella Stamps of Canada, 2nd Edition, by Ronald Lafrenière, 2015. Spiral bound, 344 pages, 8.5×11, colour. Published by Bird Bear Press, Verdun, QC. C\$80 plus shipping & handling. Available from Ron Lafrenière, 1264 Osborne Ave, Verdun, QC, Canada H4H 1X5. Payment can be made by cheque, money order or PayPal. <www.birdbearpress.com>.



The response to the first edition of the *Field Guide to the Cinderella Stamps of Canada* was tremendous. Many collectors and dealers shared so many images and details of their Canadian Cinderellas that the second edition now describes a total of 1,647 separate stamp issues, representing over 12,350 stamps and labels, twice as many as in the first edition. It is now a larger 8.5 x 11 inch spiral-bound book, with over 5,300 colour images. Chapters on air mail etiquettes, security seals, union dues stamps, and postal labels and etiquettes have been added. Each stamp is described textually, with information on perforation, gum, size, scarcity, and market value. Catalogue numbers are assigned. Literature references pertaining to the stamps are also indicated when known.

Nearly all stamps are illustrated in colour, and a fourteen-page index allows readers to identify stamps based on dates, names, or slogans. Each chapter is organized either alphabetically or chronologically.

Ronald G Lafreniere is a genetics researcher and consultant who has contributed to the fields of migraine, epilepsy, and other neurological disorders. He has been collecting Canadian stamps since he was ten, and more recently became a fan of Canadian Cinderellas. Sensing a void in the philatelic literature for a centralized reference on these stamps, he has put together this Field Guide to help enthusiasts of Canadian Cinderella philately.

Book review

Kyle Taylor

The Standard Canada Precancel Catalogue, 7th Edition, updated and enhanced by David Marasco and Bruce Field. Unitrade Press, ©2015. 6×9", spiral bound, 108 pages. Cost: Andy Ellwood has obtained a small stock and can supply this book to Study Group members for \$12 Cdn, including shipping to Canada. Copies shipped to the US will be \$13 Cdn or \$10 US. Copies shipped to the UK will be \$17 Cdn or \$12 US or £9. The retail price is \$21. Payment may be made by cheque or through PayPal at <andy_ellwood@rogers.com>

The latest edition of the Standard Canada Precancel catalogue continues to enhance and broaden the study of Canadian Precancels. Specializing in an area of stamp collecting that continues to grow in popularity, this latest edition is an essential reference book for the serious collector of Canadian Precancels. Building on the information from the sixth edition, ©2010, Unitrade Press, the editors have refined and expanded the content to incorporate additional reference material and previously unidentified Canadian precancel varieties that have come to light since the last edition.

As noted in its Table of Contents, the catalogue is practically organized into what I would term an "introductory section" and four main parts, each part dealing with specific types of precancels. The introductory section incorporates reference material and pertinent information for the collector to refer to while using the catalogue. New in this edition is the inclusion of an illustrated Guide to Bar Precancels, prepared by the BNAPS Precancel Study Group, and a listing of the Montreal "21" forerunner precancels.

Part I provides a listing of all known styles of Bar Precancels. Part II provides a listing of all known Town and City Precancels. Part III lists known Canada Precancels with Perforated Initials. Part IV lists Canada Constant Precancel varieties, introducing with this edition a refined numbering system and expanding by fifteen pages since the last edition to include previously unidentified constant precancel varieties. The catalogue finishes with the inclusion of a practical illustrated Addendum of hard to identify precancel types, a welcome addition to assist collectors in their determination of type.

The editors have once again been able to maintain the relevancy of the Precancel pricing guide through continual comparison of current market value realized at auctions. The consolidation and further expansion of reference material from other sources into this latest edition benefits both novice and serious collector alike. The spiral binding format lends itself well to allowing the catalogue to lie flat for a double-page view. The compact size chosen and reference material included makes this catalogue an easy companion for travel. The editors should be commended for their efforts.

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New Titles




C\$ Retail

	<p><i>Canada's Caricature and Landscape Issues, 2015</i>, by Larry Margetish. A classic treatment of a modern issue, including pre-production material, stamps, varieties, and postal history. Colour. Spiral, 126 pp. ISBN: 978-1-927119-57-0. Stock #B4h923-085-1. BNAPS Exhibit Series #85.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$60.00</p>
	<p><i>Canadian Mail by Rail 1853-1923, 2015</i>, by Peter McCarthy. The Railway Post Office Markings used on the Grand Trunk and Great Western Railways between Island Pond, Vermont, and Sarnia and Windsor, Canada West/Ontario. More than a postal history, it is also the story of the development of the major railroad network from the Quebec-Vermont border on the east to the Ontario-Michigan border on the west. Colour. Spiral, 100 pp. ISBN: 978-1-927119-58-7. Stock #B4h923-086-1. BNAPS Exhibit Series #86.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$55.00</p>
	<p><i>Postal History of the Yukon, 2015</i>, by Kevin O'Reilly. The BNAPEX 2014 Grand Award winning exhibit of the postal history of the Yukon from before the Gold Rush to modern times. Colour. Spiral, 142 pp. ISBN: 978-1-927119-50-1. Stock # B4h923-083-1. BNAPS Exhibit Series #83.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$62.00</p>
	<p><i>Blackout Postal Markings of Canada, 2015</i>, by Cecil Coutts. The full story of the WWII attempt to hide from the enemy the place of origin of mail posted in the ports along Canada's east and west coasts. Colour. Spiral, 170 pp. ISBN: 978-1-927119-51-8. Stock #B4h923-084-1. BNAPS Exhibit Series #84.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$68.00</p>
	<p><i>Explorers of Canada on First Day Covers, 2015</i>, by Gary Dickinson. First Day Covers honouring the men whose efforts served to open up the continent for further exploration and settlement are colourful and well designed. Colour. Spiral, 118 pp. ISBN: 978-1-927119-53-2. Stock # B4h075-1.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$57.00</p>

Pricing

BNAPS Books are published with only a Canadian retail price shown. BNAPS members receive a forty percent (40%) discount from this price. There are three reasons for doing this. We want to have greater market penetration outside traditional BNAPS venues. Showing only retail prices helps in this effort. Secondly, with the fluidity of currency markets, quoting US\$ prices can lead to inequities either for BNAPS or the purchaser. Finally, quoting only one price reduces the likelihood of mistakes.

More New Titles (See website for complete list) C\$ Retail

	<p><i>Handbook on the Transatlantic Mail of British North America, 2015</i>, by Malcolm Montgomery and Steven Mulvey. An extensive and welcome update to Jack Arnell's 1987 <i>Handbook on Transatlantic Mail</i>, including 220 colour plates illustrating the subject's many different aspects. Colour. Spiral, 434 pp. ISBN: 978-1-927119-55-6. Stock #B4h076-1</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$116.00</p>
	<p><i>The Rates and Postal History of Canada's Peace Issue 1946-1952, 2015</i>, by H.M. (Mike) Street. Thorough coverage of the many uses and destinations of the first set of high value definitives issued by Canada after World War II. Colour. Spiral, 282 pp. ISBN: 978-1-927119-56-3. Stock #B4h077-1</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$92.00</p>
	<p><i>Catalogue of Canadian Hunting and Fishing Revenue Stamps</i>, compiled by Clayton Rubec and Dale Stover. A major effort to organize the more than 4500 hunting and fishing revenue stamps issued by the Canadian provinces and territories since 1964. Spiral, 174 pp. ISBN: 978-1-927119-52-5. Stock B4h074.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$58.00</p>

New Books

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Triple charged fourth class mail across provincial boundaries

Hugo Deshaye and John Cooper

THE wrapper in Figure 1, enclosing a parcel mailed originally from Toronto, Ontario to Jasper, Alberta, was franked with 36¢ in stamps of the Scroll issue paying the 2-3 lb domestic inter-provincial fourth class rate –10¢ for the first pound plus 7¢ for each additional pound, plus 2¢ per pound for each provincial boundary crossed, not including the destination province [1].

In this case, two chargeable boundaries were crossed, Ontario to Manitoba and Manitoba to Saskatchewan. After arriving in Jasper, the parcel was returned to Uxbridge, Ontario on 13 September 1929 and charged 36¢ postage due [1] with “O.K. all postage paid” in manuscript. It was then redirected to Clinton, Ontario, and charged 20¢ for 10¢ for the first pound and 5¢ for each additional pound or fraction thereof rate for all points in the same province outside a 25-mile radius.

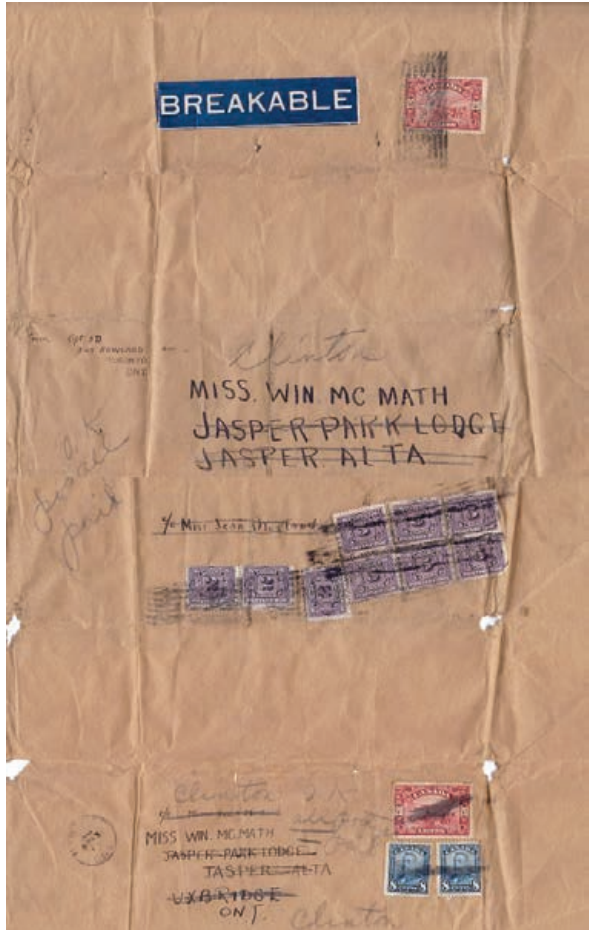


Figure 1. 1929 Parcel wrapper processed three times.

Our thanks to Kathy Hartley, Mike Street, and Ron McGuire for help with this article.

Reference

- [1] *Canada Official Postal Guide*, Canada Post Office Department, King's Printer, Ottawa, 1929, section 120. Forwarded or returned parcels were charged postage for each journey.

Keywords & phrases: Domestic fourth class/parcel post mail, 1929

Study group centreline

Peter McCarthy, OTB

CENTRELINE presents brief summaries of the specialized research done by BNAPS members as published in the newsletters of its many Study Groups. This column reviews those received between 15 October and 15 December 2015.

British Columbia

The December issue of the *British Columbia Postal History Newsletter* (Number 96) leads with a favourite cover sent in by Morris Beattie telling the story of a cover posted from Bevan, BC to Cobourg, Ontario, how Bevan received its name, where it is located, the principal industry, and the RPO routing. In the “Here & There” section, Cecil Coutts shows two covers from the handbook of international machine cancels that he is working on. Earle Covert wants some light shed on a BC MAIL Plus Postage Prepaid cover, and Pete Jacobi talks about a stationery card sent to Rossland from Chicago in 1902 advising of a lodge assembly. Tracy Cooper wants to know if anyone can provide information on many BC covers addressed to the Post Master, Seattle, Washington. Does it have anything to do with the money order exchange office? To members with e-mail, Tracy sent a nine-page brief history of BC postal censorship between 1939 and 1945. Brian Plain tells about undeliverable mail handling at Victoria in 1874, and the fate of the steamer *Prince Alfred*. David Piercey writes about the establishment of Bull River by the CPR, the logging operations carried on



Figure 1. Postcard (reduced) depicting Cat and Kitten Islands, part of Discovery Islands archipelago, British Columbia

there, and shows a couple of post cards and a splitting and duplex cancellations. From Peter Smith comes “The Tale of the Cat and Kitten Islands” involving Henry Hague, the Postmaster of Manson Landing, the Hawkins Family, chickens, eggs, and mail. Sound interesting? It is (Figure 1). Next comes the updating of unreported BC post offices, with thanks to all the reporters. Tracy Cooper has been doing a survey of BC cork cancels

and here is Part 2 of Victoria. The newsletter ends with an illustration of a large cover featuring a large ‘R’. Gray Scrimgeour is looking for enlightenment.

First Day Cover Study Group

First Impressions, the newsletter of the First Day Cover Study Group, is edited by Gary Dickinson. In this issue, Gary is trying to document all the FDCs produced by the Robert Fulton Stamp Co. Gary tells the story of Robert Ruppin, its founder, and includes many

illustrations in the article. He continues with a story of how he came across the Robert Gordon Sharpe cachets and the cachet-maker, K Peter Lepold, who happened to live but a stone's throw away from him. John van der Ven is always digging and looking beyond, and it paid off with his request for information about Gordon Bazeley's General Cachet, when John received an e-mail from Gordon's daughter. The two met, and the results are in this issue for you to read. It's amazing what stories may lie behind a single cover.

First Impressions Issue No 26 opens with the story of the Jacobi Jewelbox. Herman Jacobi was a cachet-maker from 1948–1957, with one hundred and fifteen documented cachets to his credit. From 1957 on, he concentrated his efforts on the King George V Silver Jubilee plate blocks and was considered by some to have been the leading specialist on the topic for more than thirty years. The complete Jewelbox may be viewed on the study group's website. Gary then weighs in with a story on Scotia Stamp Studio cachets and Stu Blumenthal. Andrew Chung next shows a few EFO (errors, freaks, and oddities) first day covers. The Golden Horseshoe Regional Group recently had the pleasure of a Chung and Vogel presentation on this subject. It certainly was well received. Brainard Fitzgerald provided a few covers from his exhibit "Cacheted First Day Covers of Canada's Coronation Stamp of 1937." He included a few covers that were not in the exhibit, which received a silver award at BNAPEX 2015. The fourth edition of *The New Specialized Catalogue of Canada Post First Day Covers* by Andrew Chung and RF Narbonne will be available from Andrew in January.

Elizabethan II

The big news in the July-August issue of *Corgi Times* was the recall of the booklet and souvenir sheets containing the HOODOO stamp. Robin Harris, the editor of *Corgi Times*, shows the recalled items and the replacements. Other recalls are illustrated to go along with the story. The beneficial insect series is listed and, except for the one- and two-cent values, all now have transparent gum. A new security printer has come on the scene: Colour Innovations Incorporated. In this issue, Andrew Chung illustrates Cameo Image used on product advertising.

The September-October issue of *Corgi Times* begins with the NHL Part 3 and an illustration of the invitation to the launching of the goalies' stamps at the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto. All attendees were given First Day Covers with the opportunity of having them signed by four of the six NHL goalies present to be honoured. Robin explains who signed and who didn't and the reasons why. Robin apparently enjoyed his three speaking engagements in Toronto—all well received. Please note Robin's change of address. Robert Elias contributes an interesting article on the fifty-cent Textile Industry "Engraver's Slip" and when they were printed. Canada Post "Picture Postage" used by Canada Post for stamp launch invitations are shown. Andrew Chung discusses the earliest-known dates of the comb perforated postage due stamps with illustrations. As reported in *The Globe and Mail*, Canada Post has opened a drive-through parcel post centre geared towards online shoppers. Andrew Chung supplies images of the operation. Also included is a report that Canada Post has introduced Flex Delivery. You can read and learn all about it on CP's website.

Volume 24, No 3, the November-December issue of *Corgi Times* mentions Canada Post's proposed rate changes for 2016. [Editor's Note: These planned changes were put on hold by the new Canadian government. For the time being at least there won't be any changes in rates for letters paid with postage stamps, but effective 11 January 2016 letters

paid by meter will cost five cents more than last year.] Robin is updating Canadian definitive handbooks by indexing *BNA Topics*, and in this newsletter he promotes the website. Philatelists who missed Canada Post's Black Friday and Cyber Monday sales apparently missed out on nothing according to Robin. The \$10 Blue Whale stamp has appeared with white/colourless gum and thicker paper. Robin asks the question "When is a first day cover not a first day cover?" looking at UNESCO stamps and "after the fact" creation. Your thoughts on the subject are solicited. We hope that First Day Study Group members will take part. Robin reproduced a letter from 1968 from Ken Rose concerning the perf 10 commemoratives of 1968/69. It brought back a lot of memories of Ken Rose. The newsletter closes with 2015 Canada Post rarities. They are the UNESCO Postal Card, UNESCO Official First Day cover, and the Martin Brodeur Autographed Souvenir sheet.

Fancy Cancels

Dave Lacelle, editor of *The Fancy Cancel and Miscellaneous Markings Newsletter*, reports that fifteen people have sent in what he terms "stuff." Fifty-six fancy cancel items in the book are described as unconfirmed. If you have any, please send them in. Alexander Globe is preparing a detailed study of the Toronto 2 fancy cancels L18 to L54. Two covers plus a series of cancels are shown and described on page two. Guy Jeffries discovered an old fancy cancel collection in Florida and sent in some examples of the Masonic triangle and a homemade R used in St Hyacinthe representing an early date, among other treasures. In addition to the Florida purchase, Guy also sent in other material. John Burnet, Ron Smith, Mike Halhead, Randy Evans, and Mark Berner sent in an array of material. Gary Steele is looking to purchase any strikes of ink or wax of Canadian Crown seals. Next is an article on Fakes, Bogus, and Spurious items with explanations and illustrations. Ending the newsletter is the 1892 list of "Canada and Her Stamp Collectors" by LM Staebler of London, ON. If you have covers mailed among some of these collectors, send them in.

Newfoundland

The October/December issue of the *Newfie Newsletter* was edited by Bob Dyer and Malcolm Back. The newsletter begins with Barry Senior's Perfin Corner featuring the GK perfin on the 1919 Trail of the Cariboo issue. Bruce Robertson writes a story titled "Fogs, Logs, and Dogs." The story has to do with Dr Samuel Johnson, Cecil Harmsworth, newspapers, and Alcock & Brown: A very good read. Bob Dyer writes about the elusive Gilbert issue line perforations with fine illustrations of blocks of four. Bob is asking for comments on the Gilbert perfs. Jean-Claude Vasseur is congratulated on his large Gold award for best-in-class in Aerophilately at Europhilex 2015 held in London last May. Ron McGuire shows one of his favourite covers, a first day of issue with original art of the three-stamp Coronation Issue and another of the Grenfell issue using the "V" for victory sign. Bob Dyer provided two very scarce first day covers, the first with Scott #165 dated 6 August 1929. It had previously listed as 10 August. The second is of Scott #160 with proper usage.

Pence-Cents

Jim Jung and Richard Thompson are the new editors of the *Pence-Cents Era Study Group Newsletter*. In the November issue, Volume 3 No 1, Jim writes about the seventeen-cent Cartier and illustrates some of the interesting varieties to be found. He also discusses usage and rates illustrating covers and destinations. Richard then discusses the perforation varieties

on the first decimal stamps. It is quite a study. Michael Smith made a presentation at the Re-entry and Constant Plate Variety Study group seminar at BNAPEX 2015 on Whitworth's plate flaws on the One-Cent Decimal Issue, which he has graciously permitted to be printed in this newsletter. There are twelve pages of plate flaws and descriptions. All can look forward to Part Two in the next issue.

Perfins

In the November issue of the *BNA Perforator*, the newsletter of the Perfin Study Group, the editor's post has Jon Johnson's report of the group's seminar at BNAPEX 2015. The fifth edition of *Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials* received an International silver medal in the literature class at the Singapore International Stamp Show. The suggestion of lifting the five-year embargo of the newsletter on the web-site brought about some interesting discussion. For now, things will remain as they are. Jean-Guy Dalpe is in possession of the Parke-Davis Perforator and the five-die P6 pattern is illustrated. Jean-Guy will not be perforating stamps! Leopold Beaudet explains the rarity of private perfins on booklet stamps and lists sheet stamps with straight edges with references. Something to look out for. This is followed by six pages of changes to the fifth edition of the catalogue as of September 1, 2015. Russell Sampson contributes an article with an illustration of a cover bearing the E4 Eby-Blain Co. Ltd perfin that is eight months older than the earliest-reported cover in the catalogue. This change is noted in the updates. He also has an interesting sidebar about the Droste Cocoa Company to which the cover is addressed. Research by Russell Sampson has revealed that the NRB perfin was used by Nares, Robinson & Black, an insurance, real estate, and loan company out of Winnipeg. A short bio is given of each of the partners.

Postal Stationery

Postal Stationery Notes newsletter begins Volume 27, No 2 with illustrations of various types of meteorological cards, the way they are dealt with and a proposed listing. Members are asked to send in scans to help with the project. Bill Walton talks of another Expenses & Earnings unstamped formula letter. There's a correction to the listing "French or English first" for the Montreal Canadiens cards. Pierre Gauthier has found a copy of the capital "C" two-cent surcharge on the three-cent card. The card with the normal surcharge is listed in the catalogue L1c; a new letter card entry will be made in the next edition of Webb's. The recalled HOODOO cards have been replaced, and it is reported that copies of the original HOODOOs are selling at a high price on eBay and elsewhere. Some further thoughts are presented on envelope hidden numbers (described by Dick Staecker in Volume 21, pp 5-9). A list of unreported hidden numbers is given, and readers are asked to look for more numbers on the Regina envelopes. Pierre Gauthier illustrates a non-philatelic use of Webb's L9e, the rare perforation variety on the three cent card surcharged to 2¢. Nine new views of Postcard Factory® postage paid cards have made their way onto the market—one Montreal scene, one Niagara Falls, four Niagara-on-the-Lake, and two Toronto scenes. Ending the newsletter is the report of five more "Haunted Canada" postage paid cards being issued. This reporter notes that there was an error in the translation. The first card translates the English "Brakeman" into French as *Chef de Train*, which is, of course, completely wrong. The word "Brakeman" or "Trainman" is translated *Serre Freins*. A *Chef de Train* is a Conductor. Among many other changes that have taken place since I retired from the railroad, the word

“brakeman” has disappeared, replaced by “Assistant Conductor,” which in French is *Chef de Train Adjoint*.

Railway Post Office

Ross Gray, the editor of the *Railway Post Office Study Group Newsletter* begins the July-September issue with a nice find of a late date for a rare postmark, the MONTREAL & ROUSES POINT RAILWAY P.O. This newsletter is taken up mostly with new reports from several sources. However, Ross did a hammer study on four different RPOs, ON 259 London & Sarnia RPO, ON 350 Train No/N Bay & Cochrane RPO and ON 351 N Bay & Timmins/RPO. The newsletter concludes with a BNAPEX 2015 report by Peter McCarthy.

War Times

The August issue of *War Times*, the newsletter of the World War II Study Group, noted that Bill Pekonen is still carrying the extra load of editing the newsletter in addition to being Chairman and secretary/ treasurer of the group. The hunt is still on for an editor and for material. Peter Wood contributed information about Walter Purkis, a Vancouver stamp dealer who produced a number of cacheted WWII covers. A double blackout cancel on a first-flight cover is illustrated with a description of the rates and the cancels, with a request for information from anyone who might know who the addressee was. Barry Brown sent in examples of war saving stamps, a war saving movie poster and a Fourth Victory Loan application.

Postscript

Most of your editors need articles and the WWII Study Group needs an editor. The newsletter editors do a great job but could probably do a lot more with your help. Please consider helping out, and may 2016 be a year of happiness and prosperity for all.



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New issues

William J F Wilson

A ghostly wanderer

CANADA Post released the second set in its Haunted Canada series on 14 September 2015. A final set is planned for next year. Whether one credits the existence of ghosts or not, the artwork on the stamps certainly does convey the feel of their subjects. The images are by Sam Weber, whose works are well known for combining reality with imaginative detail. Born in Alaska and now living in Brooklyn, NY. Mr. Weber has strong Canadian ties from growing up in Deep River, Ontario. He developed an early interest in art and went on to receive a Bachelor of Design (BDes) from the Alberta College of Art and Design in Calgary, and a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) from the School of Visual Arts in New York City. He is now a Faculty Member at the School of Visual Arts. Examples of his work include the front cover and interior illustrations for the Folio Society's editions of William Golding's *Lord of the Flies* (2009), Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451* (2011), and Frank Herbert's

Dune (2015), as well as the illustrations on the front covers of *National Geographic*, illustrating their articles on Cleopatra (July 2011) and Nero (September 2014).



Figure 1. Marie-Joséphite Corriveau stepping over her “chains”.

If ghosts exist, then that of Marie-Joséphite Corriveau (Figure 1) certainly has reason to haunt the roads and forests of Lévis, opposite Quebec City on the St Lawrence River. (Her name and that of her father are spelled slightly differently in reference [1], and she is often known as La Corriveau in folklore.) The earliest-known record is her baptism certificate, dated 14 May 1733, from the rural parish of Saint-Vallier, about 30 km east of Lévis along the south shore of the St Lawrence. According to WikiTree [2], the certificate gives her age at that time as about three months, which would place her birth in January or February 1733. Her father was Joseph Corriveau (1709 - ?), a farmer at Saint-Vallier, and her mother was Marie-Françoise Bolduc (1708–1771). The couple married in 1728 and had eleven children, of whom only Marie-Joséphite survived past childhood.

In 1749, at the age of 16, Marie-Joséphite married a farmer in Saint-Vallier named Charles Bouchard (1726–1760), and they had three children: Marie-Françoise (1752–1827), Marie-Angélique (1754–1789), and Charles, Jr (1757–1820). Charles, Sr died on 27 April 1760 from unspecified causes. Fifteen months later, on 20 July 1761, Marie-Joséphite married

Louis Étienne Dodier (1735–1763), another farmer in Saint-Vallier. On the morning of 27 January 1763, only about a year and a half after they were married, Dodier was found in the stable, dead, with severe head wounds. As described below, a military court-martial was convened on 29 March 1763, and the following description is based on the proceedings of this trial and the one that followed [1]. (New France had fallen to British invasion forces in 1759 and 1760, but even though New France had officially been ceded to Britain by the Treaty of Paris, signed 10 February 1763, it was still being administered by the British military at the time of the trial.)

The same morning, with the body still in the stable, the Captain of the Militia of Saint Vallier, Jacques Corriveau, conducted an inquest to establish the cause of death. Several “strangers” (non-relatives) were summoned to see the body and act as witnesses, and the *Curé* (priest) of Saint-Vallier, Thomas Blondeau, drew up the Coroner’s report. The Captain and the witnesses then signed it (some of the witnesses made an oral declaration since they could not write). The report stated that the signatories had seen the body lying under the feet of his horses, that one of the horses had blood on its hooves, and that Dodier had died from being kicked in the head by this horse. The report was conveyed to Major James Abercrombie of the Seventy-Eighth Regiment later the same day. Seeing that so many witnesses had signed the report, Abercrombie accepted it and gave permission for the body to be buried.

Two days later, however, Sergeant Fraser of the Seventy-Eighth Regiment (not a signatory to the Coroner’s Inquest) informed Abercrombie that, when he examined Dodier, it appeared to him that Dodier had been killed by a sharp instrument, not something blunt like a horseshoe. The body was disinterred in Abercrombie’s presence and was found to have four wounds, all consistent with blows from a sharp instrument. They did not in the least look as if they had been inflicted by a horse. Marie-Josephte and her father were brought before a court-martial in Quebec City, conducted by twelve British officers, and presided over by Lieutenant-Colonel Roger Morris. A defence lawyer, Jean-Antoine Saillant, was appointed by the court to represent her. Testimony was taken from Major Abercrombie, from the Captain of the Militia, from the other signatories to the Coroner’s Inquest, and from various other witnesses. Abercrombie, in addition to describing his own role (see above), also stated that over the previous six months Joseph Corriveau had had frequent disputes with Dodier about a mare they jointly owned. The day before Dodier’s death, Corriveau complained to Abercrombie that Dodier had beaten him, and Abercrombie threatened to levy a fine of twenty dollars on the first of them whom he found culpable (presumably meaning the first one found to have broken the law). Corriveau demanded that he fine Dodier, Abercrombie required witness testimony first, and Corriveau replied that if he did not receive justice “then some misfortune will happen.” Other witnesses testified to hearing these arguably threatening words, although some of this testimony was hearsay.

Testimony during the trial contradicted the Coroner’s Inquest’s findings. The Captain of the Militia (a close relative of the accused) stated they were reached to hide his family’s shame, that he did not believe Dodier was killed by his horses, and that the horses were not in the stable at the time of the inquest. The other signatories to the inquest stated that they had not agreed that Dodier had been killed by kicks from a horse, and that the horses were not in the stable at the time of the inquest. In addition, some stated the report was not read to them before they signed it; others that they did not hear it read clearly; others that the

document they signed was not the one being read to them in court. One of the signatories, Claude Dion, provided further testimony to Joseph Corriveau's hostility to Dodier, and also that Marie-Josephte was "much addicted to drunkenness" and that "he heard her say several times, 'I liked Bouchard much better, I wish I was fairly rid of this Dodier at any price, that she caressed him often, saying my little Claude, I should like a Claude'...."

The defence agreed that Dodier had been murdered, but claimed that the evidence against the defendants was slight and circumstantial. Arguments included the following: There was another suspect—a labourer had lived with Dodier for one month and seven days, and "had left his house upon second of January last, ... very much displeased, and had threatened he should pay for it, or the Devil take him else." Eleven witnesses (the *Curé*, the Captain of the Militia, and nine others) had put forward a false Coroner's Inquest report, so there was no reason to trust their courtroom testimony either. Other witnesses who testified were hostile toward Corriveau and were therefore untrustworthy; *e.g.*, not long before, one witness "broke two of Prisoner Joseph Corriveau's ribs, and they have been at law together..." Disputes arise in the best of families, and should not be considered proof of intent to commit murder. If Marie-Josephte were a drunkard, it would be well known in the parish, and she would not have found two men in the parish willing to marry her. As to the arguably flirtatious words of Marie-Josephte to Claude Dion, "Those who are acquainted with the manner of speaking and thinking of the Country People, will not be surprised at this kind of Language, nothing more innocent." Isabella Silvain, Joseph Corriveau's niece, who was working as his maid, changed her testimony markedly several times during the trial, which ended on 9 April.

Despite the defence's arguments, the court returned three guilty verdicts:

That Joseph Corriveau found Guilty of the Murder of his Son in Law Dodier shall be Hanged. That Marie Josephe Corriveau Alias Dodier found Guilty of the knowing of said Murder, shall receive Sixty Lashes at three different places, viz. under the Gallow, upon the Market place of Quebec, and at St. Vallier, twenty at each place, and be Branded in the Left hand with the Letter M. That Isabella Silvain found Guilty of Perjury, shall receive Thirty Lashes, ten in the same manner, and at the same time and place as the Widow Dodier, and be Branded in the Left hand with the Letter P.

After the sentences were pronounced, Joseph spoke to his confessor and claimed that he was innocent, and that his daughter was the sole perpetrator. A second court-martial took place on 15 April, and Marie-Josephte confessed to having killed her husband with hatchet blows to the head while he was in bed, sleeping. She also stated that she acted alone, and that "she is conscious that she deserves death, only begs of the Court, she may be indulged with a little time to confess, and make her Peace with Heaven." She added "that it was indeed a good deal owing to the ill Treatment of her Husband, she was Guilty of this Crime." The court showed no leniency, and returned the following verdict:

The Court is of the Opinion that Marie Josephe Corriveau Widow Dodier is Guilty of the Crime laid to her Charge and doth adjudge her to suffer death for the same by being Hanged in Chains wherever the Governor shall thing (sic) proper.

The sentences passed by the previous court were not carried out, and both Joseph Corriveau and Isabelle Sylvain were given certificates of innocence.

The wording of the sentence does not make it clear whether Marie-Josephte was hanged and then her body was placed in chains, or whether she was hanged alive in chains and left to starve to death. Folklore claims the latter, but most now believe the former [3]. A scant few days after the second trial, most likely on 18 April, she was hanged at the Buttes-à-Nepveu near the Plains of Abraham. Her body was then placed in the aforementioned “chains,” visible under the ghost’s feet in Sam Weber’s illustration. The chains consisted of an iron frame to hold her body, legs, and arms in position, with a small cage at the top to support her head. This assembly was suspended from a gibbet in public view in Pointe-Lévy (Lauzon, now part of Lévis) until at least 25 May [3]. (This gruesome fate was prescribed in English law for particularly serious crimes [3].) The apparatus was then taken down at the request of people living nearby, with the permission of the Governor. The final resting place of the body was forgotten until about 1850, when a gravedigger at the cemetery in Pointe-Lévy hit a metal object—the frame, still containing a thigh bone [4]. The frame no longer exists, though photographs do, and the image on the stamp is an accurate rendition.

With the gibbet and chains swinging and creaking in the wind, one can easily imagine ghost stories developing about Marie-Josephte Corriveau. One is left wondering, though: Was she really guilty? Did she confess to save her father, or perhaps because death was preferable to sixty lashes from a cat-o’-nine-tails? Does her ghost walk the earth—whether in reality or imagination—as a murderess driven by evil (or wracked by guilt), who cannot die, or as an innocent person unable to rest because of an unjust and grievous punishment? It is not likely that we will ever know.

The information in the accompanying table 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 selvedge differs from that published by Canada Post, the selvedge is taken as correct. Stamp size, perforations and number of teeth are my own measurements, and are given as (HORIZONTAL) × (VERTICAL).

References and endnotes

- [1] *Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec* (BAnQ) website, http://pistard.banq.qc.ca/unite_chercheurs/description_fonds?p_anqid=200702122255012358&p_classe=P&p_fonds=1000&p_centre=03Q&p_numunide=2120 (or do a websearch on the term “P1000,S3,D435” and select the choice that contains this URL). From the screen that appears, click the tab *Voir les image(s): 128*. Images 2 to 11 contain reference [4], below. Images 13 to the end contain the proceedings of the court martial.
- [2] <http://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Corriveau-173>.
- [3] Luc Lacourcière, in *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, available online at http://www.biographie.ca/en/bio/corriveau_marie_josephte_3E.html.
- [4] James MacPherson Le Moine, “Marie-Josephte Corriveau, A Canadian Lafarge,” *Maple Leaves*, 1863, pp 68-74 (available online in reference [2], above).

Footnotes for Table 1

- ^(a) Number of booklets, souvenir sheets, or special panes;
^(b) Six different SS, each with one \$1.80 stamp.

Abbreviations for Table 1

numberCL = (*number of colours*) colour lithography; Bk = booklet; CBN = Canadian Bank Note Co.; G4S = general tagging (four sides); L-M = Lowe-Martin; P = permanently equal to the domestic rate; P-S = pressure-sensitive; PVA = polyvinyl alcohol; s-t = se-tenant; SP = special pane; SS = souvenir sheet

Table 1. 2015 Commemoratives. (All stamps were printed on Tullis Russell Coatings coated paper and tagged G4S)

	Historic Reign of Queen Elizabeth	Haunted Canada	Community Foundation	Great Canadian Goalties	Christmas-Animals	Madonna and Child
Value	P	5 × P (s-t on SS)	P+10	6 × P (2 × 3 s-t on SS) 6 × \$1.80	P, \$1.20, \$2.50 (s-t on SS)	P
Issued	9 September	14 September	28 September	2 October	2 November	2 November
Printer	L-M	CBN	CBN	L-M	L-M	CBN
Pane	Bk: 10	Bk: 10	Bk: 10	Bk: 6 × P SS: (b) SP: 6 × P	P: Bk 12 \$1.20, \$2.50; Bk 6 SS: 3	Bk: 12
Process	6CL	5CL + holographic foil	6CL	Bk, SS: 8CL SP: 8CL + 1 foil stamping + embossing	Bk: 5CL SS: 7CL	6CL
Qty^(a) (1000s)	400	Bk: 340 SS: 125	150	Bk: 600 SS: 100 packs of 6 SP: 152	Bk (P): 1200 Bk (\$1.20), Bk(\$2.50): 400 SS: 110	400
Gum	P-S	SS: PVA Bk: P-S	P-S	Bk, SS: P-S SP: PVA	SS: PVA Bk: P-S	P-S
Size, mm	40 × 32	32 × 32	24 × 36	Bk: 40 × 32 SS: 52 × 78 SP: 40 × 32	22 × 24	26.25 × 32.25
Perf	Simulated	SS: 12.5 × 13.1 Bk: Simulated	Simulated	Bk: Simulated SS: Simulated SP: 12.5 × 12.5	SS: 13.6 × 13.3 Bk: Simulated	Simulated
Teeth	Simulated	SS: 20 × 21 Bk: Simulated	Simulated	Bk: Simulated SS: Simulated SP: 25 × 20	SS: 15 × 16 Bk: Simulated	Simulated

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For a Penny or Two...#13: Divided-back post cards not permitted

Victor Willson, OTB

ONE of the interesting aspects of the development of the private post card at the turn of the century was that the evolution of the form outpaced the postal administrations of the world. Collecting picture post cards was a real mania in the Gilded Age, as attested by the scrapbooks of cards that can still be found in antique shops and estate sales. The general principle of government postal cards worldwide was that the front was to be used for the address and the back for the message. Once pictorial cards became the rage, the address side was the only place to put a message, unless one wrote around the borders of the picture (as many did). These cards began to have a separating line down the middle of the address/message side, and began to be called divided-back cards.

Steinhart states in his book *The Postal History of the Post Card in Canada 1878–1911*, (Toronto, 1979) that the United Kingdom permitted domestic use of divided-back cards by January 1902, and Canada permitted them domestically as of or after December 1903. Since the format mattered, cards were treated as letters for the Universal Postal Union and for transmission to the US. Since the letter rate and post card rate were identical to the British Commonwealth postal authorities as of 25 December 1898 (except for those countries that joined later), the divided-back issue was not a problem for cards to the UK or most countries in the Empire by 1904. Steinhart also notes this and that divided cards could also be sent to France for 2¢, and erroneously to the US.

The US did not allow divided-back post cards until 1 March 1907. Thus, a card to the US ordinarily could be sent for 1¢, the rate established way back in February 1875, but the divided-back cards were treated as letters prior to the 1907 date. If a divided-back card were sent, it would be rated shortpaid 1¢ and charged 2¢ due under ordinary double deficiency regulations. That stated, it appears that several alternate variants actually occurred, from no charge (which seems quite common) to single deficiency charged, which is shown here.

I have not noted a double deficiency due card yet, and I would appreciate any readers with examples contacting me to verify them. The first card shown (Figure 1) was mailed at North Sydney, NS, on 9 May 1906, and has “Due 1 cent” in a purple straightline handstamp and a Newark, NJ, 11 May transit marking. Presumably the US 1¢ postage due stamp was affixed in Irvington for delivery.

The second card (Figure 2) shows another example not allowed at the 2¢ rate, mailed from Montreal on 14 June 1905. One Edward 1¢ stamp was cancelled on the picture side, the other wrapped around and pen-cancelled. The UPU did not permit divided-back cards until January 1907. The 3d due mark, placed on the card in London Foreign Branch (F.B.) most likely was collected by the British Post Office Constantinople, where it was received 29 June.

Keywords & phrases: Post cards, postal markings, postal rates, postal history.



Figure 1. Divided-back card not permitted to US,
9 May 1906 mailing,
US postage due 1¢.



Figure 2. Divided back card not permitted to Constantinople,
14 June 14 1905 mailing,
3d due.

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BNAPS business and reports

President's column

George Dresser, OTB

Christmas and New Year's greetings

I am writing this column the week before Christmas even though you will not be reading it until sometime in late February-early March 2016. I hope that each of you had a joyful Christmas season and New Year's celebrations. My wish for you is that you will enjoy your hobby and add at least one long-sought-after new item to your collection in 2016.

BNAPS donation to the APS

Youth Program

BNAPS has donated \$750 to the American Philatelic Society (APS) Youth Program. This donation is the residual from the BNAPS Youth program administered by Bob Dyer from 2006 to 2013. Under Bob's leadership, the BNAPS Youth Program issued almost \$20,000 in youth grants and ran two successful contests. The program, headquartered in the United States, gave away almost 250,000 stamps, but increased postal rates to Canada made sending quantities of bulk stamps there impractical. In 2014, BNAPS denoted the balance of their stamps (75,000) to Ed Jarvis, Director of the WESTPEX APS Show, for its youth room. The APS youth program has been growing steadily and is today reaching a great many young people through their Stamps Teach, All Star Stamp Club, and the Young Stamp Collectors of America programs.

I have been the adult leader of a local youth stamp club for about ten years and have enjoyed a great deal of fun and satisfaction from introducing youngsters to stamp collecting. The club is supported by the APS and twice yearly receives a box of stamps and covers from donations to the APS. The two Texas stamp shows that I regularly attend, the Greater Houston Stamp Show, and the Mid-Cities Stamp Show in Grapevine just north of Dallas, both have an actively attended Kids' Table, where kids of all ages can acquire stamps and philatelic publications for very modest prices or for free.

I value the "Kid Collector" columns by Randy Heimpel published in the *Canadian Stamp News*. His suggestions are very helpful. One of them: Volunteer a few hours of your time to a youth stamp club. A second: Do you have philatelic materials (stamps, covers, albums and accessories, publications, etc.) that no longer interests you, or material not suitable for resale by a stamp dealer or an auction house? Box it up and send it to the youth program director of your favorite stamp show, the APS, or a kid's stamp program in your state or province.

BNAPS publications program in the news

During the last several months, the BNAPS publication program has been frequently recognized in the philatelic press to include the *Canadian Stamp News*, *Linn's Stamp News*, the *American Philatelist*, and the *Philatelic Literature Review*. All of these articles have been highly favourable. The fourth Quarter 2015 *Philatelic Literature Review* in the "New Books Noted" column reported on six recent BNAPS publications, with extensive write-ups, in the Book



Reviews column, of Gary Dickinson's *First Day Covers of the King George VI Definitive Issues of 1949-50* and *Explorers of Canada on First Day Covers*. BNAPS can be justly proud of its many contributions to philatelic knowledge through its book-publishing program, its study group newsletters, *BNA Topics*, and its website. Horace W Harrison and our other benefactors should be very pleased with the work their financial contributions have made possible.

BNAPS Member Links Directory

This is my second appeal to members to add and/or expand their e-mail address and collecting information to the Member Links Directory on the BNAPS website. Only BNAPS members can see this directory; it is not available to the public. There are currently 157 members listed (only fifteen percent of total BNAPS membership), and the majority of these members have provided only an email address. I understand that much collecting information is shared and exchanged through the Study Group newsletters. However, we do not have a study group for every collecting interest. I collect Fair and Exhibition covers, and I know that others do too, because you are bidding against me when these covers appear in auctions. But I don't have a clue who you are. Competition is fine, but collaboration is good too. I would like to know what exists and have some idea as to how scarce it may be. The directory opens up this and many other possibilities if members would simply use it.

BNAPS conventions

The first BNAPS Convention and Exhibition was held 16-18 September 1949 in Buffalo, New York. The most recent Convention and Exhibition was held in Niagara Falls, Canada, across the Niagara River and about twenty-three miles from Buffalo. Judging from the reports of the 1949 convention published in *BNA Topics*, the first convention was a resounding success. I can attest that the most recent one was as well! I find the parallels between the first and this most recent convention interesting. The quality of the BNA philatelic exhibits was exceptional at both. The pleasure that members received from their participation in the conventions was memorable. Thirty-six members attended the Annual General Meeting in 1949, about the same number as attended the 2015 AGM. In 1949, membership stood at 500, and today it is about 1,000. The 1949 banquet was attended by eighty members, the 2015 banquet by about one hundred. The 1949 Grand Award went to William S and Daniel C Meyerson for "Newfoundland." The 2015 Grand Award went to Martin Eichele for "Postal History of Nova Scotia." Incidentally, the judges at the 1949 convention were Walter S Bayley, Winthrop S Boggs, and Fred Jarrett. I want to encourage all BNAPS members to participate in the Society's annual conventions. If you decide you want to go, you can figure out how to make it happen. I would like to quote from the Jack Levine's report of the 1949 event: "It was truly a marvelous affair and we missed you if you weren't there and you missed it if you didn't attend. Our next one will be at least as good (that's possible) because when BNAPSers get together, you just have to have a swell time!"

Volunteer needed

On the website under the Society icon is a list of Exhibition Awards won by BNAPS members. I need a volunteer to take on the work of collecting the information displayed and providing it to the Webmaster to be posted on the BNAPS site. Bob Dyer diligently did this work for many years and has offered to help a new volunteer get started. Please send me an e-mail, or call if you are interested in this opportunity.

From the Secretary—Report date: 3 October 2015

Andy Ellwood

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

Membership fees

There will be a slight change in membership fees for 2016. For Canadian members, the annual membership fee will be \$C35; for US members, \$US 30; for UK members, £26, and C\$40 for members from any other country.

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 seventy-five or fifty percent, respectively, of the annual fee. Applications submitted in the fourth quarter of the year should be accompanied by twenty-five 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. All memberships can be paid via PayPal, using an online application on the BNAPS website (www.BNAPS.org). Applicants can fill out an application form (also available online as a pdf file) and send the form and a cheque or money order to the Secretary (address above).

Applications for membership

After receipt of an application, the applicant is classified as a new member and the person's name and membership number are printed in the next issue of *BNA Topics*. If no objection from any other BNAPS member is received within approximately sixty days, the applicant is confirmed as a Regular Member.

New Members—applied between 4 October and 28 December 2015

- R-6847 Christopher White, Ottawa, ON
- R-6848 Stephan Preston, Mount Airy, NC
- R-6849 Allan Price, Temple, TX
- R-6850 Rejean Dufour, Terrebonne, QC
- R-6851 Barry Dales, Lindsay, ON
- R-6852 John Graham, London, ON
- R-6853 Terrance McCann, Glen Carbon, IL
- R-6854 Ken Forrester, Calgary, AB
- R-6855 Peter Stahl, Toronto, ON
- R-6856 Reg Beck, Williams Lake, BC
- R-6857 William (Willy) Schlatter, Barrie, ON
- R-6858 Michael Archer, Golden, CO
- R-6859 Thomas Reyman, Scottsdale, AZ

All applicants assigned membership numbers between 6832 and 6846 have been confirmed as Active Regular members of BNAPS with full membership privileges. Their names were published in *BNA Topics* Volume 72, Number 4, September–December 2015, pp 67–68.

**Address changes: Information received between 4 October
and 28 December 2015**

- R-6271 Bill Aaroe, Maple Ridge, BC
 R-3459 Neil B Blake, Red Lion, PA
 R-6832 David Brennan, Bernardsville, NJ
 R-6346 Alexander J Clark, Halifax, NS
 R-6689 Stephen L. Dunn, Hope, BC
 E-3343 Donald J Ecobichon, Elgin, ON
 R-6854 Ken Forrester, Calgary, AB
 R-4588 Sandra E Foss, Sidney, BC
 R-6693 Keywood L French, Guelph, ON
 L-3989 D Robin Harris, Beausejour, MB
 E-2386 J Graham McCleave, Fredericton,
 NB
 R-4559 Gary Paul, Cornwall, ON
 R-5518 Robert A Spencer, Kelowna, BC
 R-6353 Jean-Claude Vasseur, Saint Palais
 sur mer, France
 R-3499 John M Walsh, St. John's, NL
 E-2431 Dr Wayne Walton, Jr.,
 Washington, DC
 R-5552 William J Woolsey, Ladysmith,
 BC

**E-mail addresses: Information received between 4 October
and 28 December 2015**

- R-6698 Claude R Belanger, Longueuil,
 QC
 R-6832 David Brennan, Bernardsville, NJ
 R-3797 William G Burden, Bathurst, NB
 R-6707 Brian C Bursey, Middle Cove, NL
 R-6346 Alexander J Clark, Halifax, NS
 R-5529 Randy M. Collins, Green Cove
 Springs, FL
 R-5880 Brian R Copeland, Delta, BC
 R-5388 Brian W Draves, Toronto, ON
 R-6689 Stephen L Dunn, Hope, BC
 R-5202 Bruce Field, Greenfield Park, QC
 R-5012 Peter M Fralick, Hagensborg, BC
 R-6693 Keywood L French, Guelph, ON
 R-6798 Rick Friesen, Kirkland, QC
 R-6602 Michael Graf, Toronto, ON
 R-6500 RJ Graham, Kimberley, ON
 R-6731 Maxime S Herold, Brampton,
 ON
 E-2777 Jerome C Jarnick, Troy, MI
 R-6000 Gordon G Mallett, Kelowna, BC
 R-4728 Arthur McCann, East Hampton,
 NY
 R-5726 Danny C McCoy, Utica, NY
 R-6780 Thomas McDonald, Nanaimo,
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 R-4262 George W McGowan, East
 Greenbush, NY
 R-6037 Jeremy Mierka, Gatineau, QC
 R-6633 Robin J Moore, Mount Pearl, NL
 R-6293 J Michael Powell, Lombardy, ON
 R-4352 Hugh D Rathbun, Waverley, NS
 R-6763 David Ross, Barrie, ON
 R-6386 Anthony B Thompson, Saltsjo-
 Boo, Sweden
 R-6353 Jean-Claude Vasseur, Saint Palais
 sur mer, France
 E-2431 Dr Wayne Walton, Jr.,
 Washington, DC
 R-6681 Bert Woodruff, Jr, Santa Monica,
 CA

Deceased

- R-5522 Graham M Cooper
 R-6715 Jean Lafontaine
 R-5296 Conrad C Lutes
 R-6572 Gordon A Payne
 R-5941 John H Perry-Hooker

Active membership counts

Regular Members	848
Emeritus Members	127
Emeritus Family	3
Life Members	51
Total Active Members	1,029

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

Regional group rant

David Bartlet

Overview!

WE are now halfway through the Fall and Winter season of group meetings. Activities have been held at Regional Group meetings across the US and Canada. **You are the key component of every group:** without your participation they wouldn't exist. Your regional group can offer philatelic education, fellowship, and other benefits, especially if you can't make it to a BNAPEX Annual Meeting. Every regional group leader would be interested in discussing ways you could enhance a meeting by making a presentation or helping to organize a meeting. Information on all regional groups can be found on the website at www.bnaps.org/regional, including notices of upcoming meetings, group contacts, and reports of previous meetings. I can be contacted by e-mail at anytime at regionalgroups@bnaps.org. Send all your meeting notices and reports to me there.

I am writing this Rant in early December: Fall meetings have taken place and Winter meetings are being planned. I hope some of you have taken the opportunity to attend one these meetings if it is in your area or even if you are just passing through. Regional group meetings are open to all BNAPS members.

Reports from the regions

Excerpts of the highlights of various regional meetings are shown here. Full reports can be seen on the website, on the webpage of each regional group.

Atlantic

The Atlantic Regional Group held its annual get-together in conjunction with NOVAPEX 2015 in Dartmouth, NS. Eight members attended, and two who weren't able to attend sent Show-and-Tell presentations. Sean Weatherup outlined his trip to BNAPEX 2015 and told members about the event. At NOVAPEX, there was ample room for up to 240 frames of exhibits, and with the 150-frame limit on BNAPS exhibits, there were also some non-BNA exhibits. The show featured more than 120 frames of exhibits, and several dealers were in attendance. Six members of the Atlantic Regional Group attended and presented four exhibits—the two gold and two silver medals they garnered attest to their high quality.

Keeping BNAPEX at the forefront was Ron Smith, who outlined plans for the 2016 show to be hosted by the Fredericton Stamp Club, from 30 September to 2 October 2016, at the Fredericton Inn. Ron says that there will be an emphasis on Atlantic hospitality, with ambitious plans for publicity entries. There are already plans for a Fall Foliage Tour, a Brew

Pub Night, and a Meet-and-Greet at Government House. Ron has enlisted the assistance of BNAPS members from outside the Fredericton area and has already received offers to help with some of the tasks. Other volunteers are welcome; please contact Ron at rsmith0225@rogers.com.

Our Emeritus member, Peter Douglass attended, sharing items from his days of collecting the Admiral issue. An e-mail from Earle Covert contained scans of one section of his latest project: *Illustrated Permit Lettermail*. This is a relatively new field of philatelic interest, and Earle is keen to correspond with other collectors of these items. Bill Burden showed examples of a recently reported neck flaw on 6¢ Small Queens as well as a new 10¢ Small Queen variety. Jack Forbes had two different First Day Covers (one with an incorrect description of the back) for the same recent Canadian commemorative, and passed around an excellent presentation put together by Peter Butler on the topic of *One Page Exhibiting*. Jack also showed a recent purchase of dated copies and covers of 8¢ Small Queens.

Another emailed Show-and-Tell item came from Tony Thompson—scans of some of the extensive work he has done on the make up of the paper used in the printing of the Newfoundland codfish stamps. The possibility of a mid-year meeting in New Brunswick was discussed again, and members in that province are following up. The next annual get-together will be held at BNAPEX 2016.

Calgary

The season started on 9 September with a review of the summer activities and upcoming shows. Attendance was low as several members were on their way to the BNAPEX convention in Niagara Falls. Peter Hay provided an interesting presentation on *Canadian Art on Stamps*, which was followed by Show-and-Tell offerings from several members.

The 14 October 14 meeting started with general business in preparation for the Calgary CALTAPEX show. The group had a one-frame exhibit on Canadian philately, which was changed from the previous year and could evolve into a multi frame exhibit. The results of BNAPEX exhibit awards were reviewed: Members received four Gold and two Vermeil awards. Eldon Godfrey reported on the sixty-ninth convention of the CPS of GB, noting in particular the very high quality of the material featured in ninety-minute presentations of members, the members' one-frame Show-and-Tell, and the competitive one-frame exhibits.

The feature presentation of the evening was a pre-publication preview of Dale Speirs' forthcoming article for the *Canadian Philatelist* presenting Alberta Rural Post Offices of the Red Deer River and the Drumheller "Badlands" between Rosedale and the Dinosaur Provincial Park. Post Offices of Rosedale, Rosedale Station, Wayne, Dorothy, Finnegan Ferry, Steveville, Patricia, Duchess and Millicent were documented with historical notes and highlighted by Dale's photographs from his explorations of the area. For Alberta Post Office buffs the forthcoming article will be a "must-read."

At the 11 November meeting, business included discussions of upcoming shows, the results of CALTAPEX, and planning for the group's Christmas dinner. Jim Taylor then gave a PowerPoint presentation on *How to Build a Philatelic Exhibit*. Members brought examples of exhibit pages or material they would like help in laying out. Jim also reviewed the list of exhibits accepted for New York 2016 International show.

Nine members attended the 9 December meeting. Three members made presentations on some aspect of Christmas collecting, including *Christmas Slogan Cancels*, *Christmas Post Cards*, and one that covered both *Christmas Seals* and the *Christmas War Savings Cards and Folders*. On 11 December, the group held its annual Christmas dinner at the Silver Springs Gold and Country Club. Seven members and partners enjoyed the buffet and conversation.

Edmonton

The Edmonton BNAPS Regional group continued to meet monthly between September and December 2015. Members brought new acquisitions and interesting material for the Show-and-Tell, with questions and discussion following each presentation. A highlight each Christmas season is a dinner out to a local restaurant; this year it was the popular Italian restaurant, Chianti's, in the city's Old Strathcona district—a particularly apt choice, as the restaurant is housed in the original Strathcona Post Office building.

Golden Horseshoe

The Golden Horseshoe Regional Group held two meetings last autumn. The first meeting of the new season was held on Saturday, 26 September, a lovely fall day that saw twenty-six BNAPSERS and guests gather at the Rousseau House Restaurant for the first get-together of the season. Much of the talk around the coffee urn centred on BNAPEX 2015 and its pros and cons: the consensus was that a good time was had by all. Lunch, always a treat at the Rousseau House, was followed by the slightly more formal part of the day. Starting things off, it was a great pleasure to present Andrew Chung with the Order of the Beaver Life Achievement Award for his contributions to BNA philately. Congratulations Andrew, a well-deserved honour.

Bob Vogel and Andrew Chung made a very interesting presentation on *Oddities, Freaks, and Errors on First Day Covers* that generated strong audience participation and many questions. Thanks to Bob and Andrew and to Simon Claughton for providing the electronics. Eric Cogswell had an interesting piece that apparently came out of a garage sale. In an old frame was a very small Alberta revenue stamp and what appeared to be a leaf-tobacco revenue wrapper, although there was no revenue expert there to confirm it. The day ended with an auction of various first day cover pieces. Bidding was brisk enough to cover the day's expenses. Thanks to those who donated material and also to the successful bidders.

The CSDA show was held 6-8 November at the International Centre where the Golden Horseshoe Regional Group staffed the BNAPS booth. Sadly, it seems that this may have been the last CSDA show. The next GHRG meeting was held on 28 November 28 at the normal venue. Following lunch, the regular program got underway with announcements. Two new books in the BNAPS Exhibit series—one of them Peter McCarthy's *Canadian Mail by Rail*—are being printed and will soon be listed on the BNAPS Book Department webpage and described in the next *BNA Topics*. The auction followed, and some excellent pieces of literature found new homes.

The speaker for the day was Chris Ellis, whose spoke about the *Great Canadian Postal Stationery Cards Advertising Series*. Chris is a professor of Anthropology and Archaeology at Western University in London. An interesting topic and presentation enjoyed by all. The unbelievably beautiful Fall weather that continued through Christmas together with the fact

that several philatelic events were taking place in Southwestern Ontario at the same time may have kept some members away, but the sixteen BNAPSers who met had splendid time.

At our next get-together on Saturday, 30 January 2016, speaker Nick Poppenk will explain the origins and development of Canada's Postal Code system. We encourage all BNAPS members to attend. If you are visiting from another area we extend a warm welcome. No one is a stranger.

Manitoba NW Ontario

The Manitoba NW Ontario group was planning on meeting in October, but the location used for the meeting had sustained flood damage and was not available to hold the meeting. A meeting is being planned for early in the new year.

Pacific Northwest

The Pacific Northwest Regional Group was unable to hold its fall meeting but is planning its spring meeting for 29 April-1 May 2016 in Chilliwack, British Columbia. Please see the website for additional information. Any BNAPS member wishing to attend the meeting is welcome to do so. The plan is for social activities on the Friday evening, philatelic presentations on Saturday morning, outings on Saturday afternoon, a banquet that evening, and final philatelic discussions on Sunday morning. Please mark these dates in your calendar.

Prairie Beavers

The Prairie Beavers held their fall meeting on Saturday 10 October. It included book reviews, Buy/Sell/Trade, and three presentations: *Adams Express Company* by Larry Ballantyne, *APS Nontraditional Exhibiting* by Jay Stotts, and *Modern Canada Special Delivery to International Places* by Vic Willson. The day ended with a BBQ at the Willsons.

St Lawrence Seaway

The St Lawrence Seaway Regional held its semi-annual meeting at the historic McMartin House, in Perth, on 24 October 2015. Fourteen members attended. Robert Lemire, Chairperson of the BNAPS Publications Committee, presented Chris Hargreaves (on right side of photo) with the Vincent G Greene award for his *BNA Topics* articles on the "D.w." mystery.



The popular Show-and-Tell showed how diverse BNA collecting is, and the cumulative knowledge of the group led to lively discussions!

Topics spanned 179 years of history, including, in chronological order: Carleton Place postmarks; early illustrated Gananoque covers; half-cent stamp usage; Small Queen covers to Mexico; World War I Ottawa POW postmarks; shortpaid special delivery; the "D.w." mystery postmark; a World War II internee's correspondence; five-cent OHMS missing period; promotion of our postal code; Christmas mail curiosities; and 2015 post office goofs. The next meeting will be held at ORAPEX, 30 April, 2016, in Ottawa. Aerophilately from Canada to the US will be featured.

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BRANDON PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION or Winter Fair. Covers, postcards, slogan cancellations, 1800's to present. Darcy Hickson, hicksondj@gmail.com; ph.204-724-2028.

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OLD ISSUES OF BNA Topics Needed: Volumes 1-15; please consider donating unneeded issues to BNAPS. Contact Ken Lemke, BNAPS Circulation Manager, c/o CFS, 3455 Harvester Road, Unit 20-22, Burlington, Ontario L7N 3P2 <kwlemke@sympatico.ca>.

OLD ISSUES OF BNA Topics FOR SALE: Add valuable info to your library. Will do first come, first-served basis. Contact Ken Lemke, information above.

BNAPS exchange circuit

Andy Ellwood OTB

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If you wish, let me know of a particular interest and I will advise you when such material is submitted. Of course, there is always room and demand for new material so, if you are downsizing, consider the Circuit.

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