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Volume 74 Number 3 Whole Number 552

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Editorial

Celebrating Canada's 150th birthday

Mike Street, OTB, Guest Editor

AT 12:01 am on 1 July 1967, I celebrated Canada's 100th birthday in Schefferville, Quebec, a few kilometres above the Labrador border. At 12:01 am on the 150th birthday, 1 July 2017, I was in Ottawa. Later that day, in Deer Lake, Newfoundland, it occurred to me that I'd spent other Dominion/Canada Days away from home—in Nova Scotia, British Columbia and London, England for instance—and I asked myself, "Where did this interest in travel come from?" The answer was easy—collecting stamps. In Montreal's elementary schools in the 1950s, geography was an important subject; when new stamps from foreign places came in, I couldn't wait to get to the atlas to see where they were on the map.

Sixty-odd years later, having spent so much time involved with Canadian stamps and postal history, I realize that the hobby has given me and my fellow BNA philatelists a unique perspective on Canada's 150 years as a nation, as well as on the many "founding of Canada" years before. Why? Because Canada would not exist as we know it without a postal system, and everything that enterprise has entailed over the centuries.

BNA postal historians have perhaps the best possible view. Letters, with their associated subjects of routes, rates, and regulations, exist from the 1600s right through to today. As the country was settled, provinces and territories were established, and more and more post offices were opened. Transportation methods changed, opening other doors within the postal history world. On water, mail travelled on sailing ships, steamships, and steamboats, and even by canoe. On land, it went first by horse-mounted courier, then by carriage, then by rail, occasionally by dogsled, and finally by truck. Airplanes sped up communication between villages, towns, and cities, whether in the populous south or the remote north.

Relatively few postage stamps were issued between 1851 and 1867, but soon after Confederation the total number of issues doubled, then doubled again by the turn of the twentieth century. With few exceptions, early stamps showed images of the Monarch and members of the Royal Family, but with the Quebec Tercentenary Issue, stamp designs began to deal more and more with historic events, or locations, and famous landmarks. Following World War II, wildlife, economic, and entertainment subjects began to appear on stamps and postal stationery, as did images of non-royal but nevertheless important personages in our history. After the Centennial Year and Expo '67, the number of stamp issues exploded, most dealing with the same themes as before and telling, in one way or another, the story of Canada.

Whether studying the broader subjects detailed above, or specializing in issues, or postmarks, or towns/cities/provinces/regions, or lesser-known aspects of the postal system, or related fields such as revenue stamps, anyone who spends time on any aspect of BNA philately is lucky to be learning about Canada. Those of us who live here are luckier still.

Readers Write

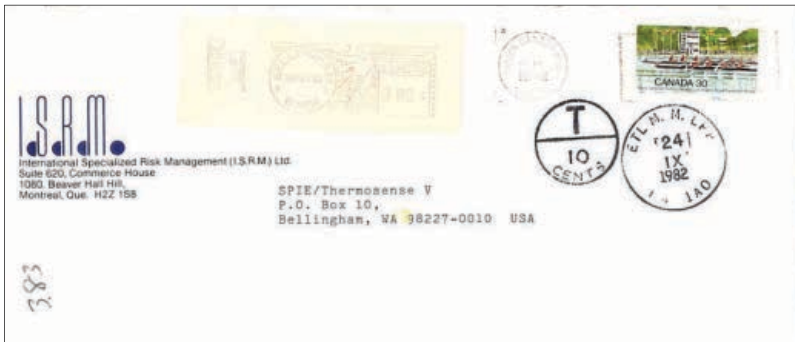
Iain Stevenson: *Dave Armitage and Mike Street* write to advise that member Iain Stevenson passed away suddenly on 1 March 2017 in Bishop's Stortford, England, after being involved in a collision with a car. Recently retired as Professor Emeritus in Publishing in the Department of Information Studies at University College London (UCL), Iain was also the author of *Book Makers: British Publishing in the Twentieth Century*.



Iain was very active in United Kingdom philately and was an International Judge for Postal Stationery and Postal History. Having studied at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, BC he was very interested in Canadian subjects. At the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain convention in 2009 Iain showed his history of the Canadian Pacific Railway as told by CPR Railway View Cards, company correspondence and postal memorabilia. At BNAPEX 2012 CALTAPEX in Calgary he received a Silver medal and the Order of the Beaver Novice Award for his exhibit *Vancouver Island: Explorations in Social Philately*.

His other Canadian collecting interests included the postal history of British Columbia and Vancouver Island from the Wells Fargo period onwards, a Gold Medal level collection of Electric Light/Gas/Weights & Measures Revenue stamps, and British Columbia Revenues. He will be missed by his many philatelic and academic friends and colleagues.

Jeff Arndt writes: Here is a postage due cover I found in a \$1 cover box. I picked it up originally for the due marking and noticed that it was addressed to the town I grew up in. After examining the cover more closely, I noticed the ETL cancel. With Mike Street's help, the cancel was identified as used by THE main mail processing plant for Montreal and most of Quebec. On weekends, it even handles mail from Ottawa-Gatineau. The "T" mark is almost always applied in the country of origin, and this one is definitely Canadian. The postal code is H4T 1A0. The name of the plant then was Montréal Metro Letter Processing Plant. ETL is the French abbreviation for LPP. Is it normal or likely to see cancels from the main processing plant? Why did it get cancelled at the LPP after it had been cancelled in Montreal? If you have any thoughts or information please send to either editor or arndt123@aol.com.



The fortunes and misfortunes of Nils Ohman

Norris (Bob) Dyer, OTB [1]

AT BNAPEX 2016 FREDERICTON I gave a PowerPoint presentation, *Sbenanigans*, about the goings-on at the St John's General Post Office (GPO) between 1889 and 1900. One of the main players was jeweller, watchmaker, stamp dealer/opportunist, Nils Ohman.

Looking back on it, I think that Nils deserves an article dedicated just to him. If not for his influence at the GPO, I think there would be fewer Newfoundland stamps in catalogues. At this point, you might expect to see a photograph of the subject, but (alas) I do not have one and have *never* seen one. A member of our group knew Ohman's granddaughter (her name is not available). She provided significant biographical material, which follows, but she knew of no photograph.

Early life

Nils Ohman was born in the north of Sweden, near Lulia in Boden, in July, 1843, one of nine children. His father, Nils Erikson Ohman, had a sawmill and a farm. Nils Jr had a happy, carefree youth, riding horses until he was 16 years old, when he broke his legs. He spent two months in bed recovering. At this time, a next-door neighbor knew of a watchmaker in Umea who needed a "young fellow of good reputation" to come and learn the watchmaking business. The watchmaker sent passage to Umea, 200 miles south. Nils worked for six years as an apprentice there, for 50 Crowns a year with board and lodging included. He also studied mathematics by candlelight. He received a certificate from a board of watchmakers, making him an expert watchmaker. A friend told him that a John Lindstrom in St. John's, Newfoundland needed a good watchmaker. Nils accepted the position, landing in St. John's on 2 August 1869. He worked for Mr. Lindstrom for two years, six months. He married Jesse Murray in 1880 [2]. [The biography concludes at the end of this article.]



Figure 1. Nils Ohman's business card from the 1890s.

1886-1889: Ohman multitasks

I photographed the covers in Figures 2 and 3 at PIPEX2002. I believe they were in an exhibit by Ronald Battersby, and they are the earliest Ohman covers I have seen. I asked Colin Lewis,

Keywords & phrases: Nils Ohman, Newfoundland philately

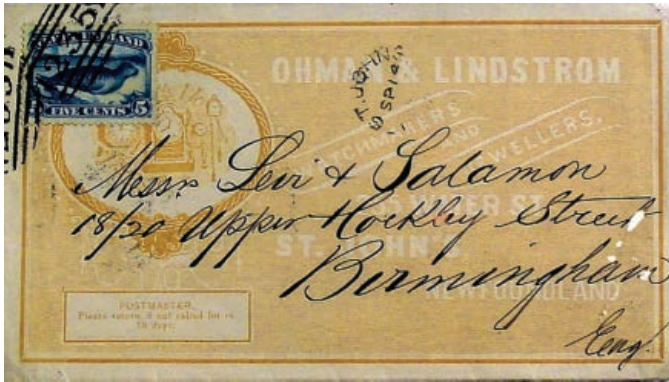


Figure 2. 1886 Cover to England from Ohman and Lindstrom with “235” cancel.

our BNAPS expert on Newfoundland nineteenth century postal history, what he knew about Ohman and his thoughts on the covers, both of which were sent to the same addressee in England. Colin replied:

According to the 1880-81 issue of McAlpine's Maritime Business Directory of Newfoundland, Ohman and Lindstrom (first name believed to be Augustus) were in business together at 255 Water Street. Evidenced by the cover [Figure 2] they were still in business in 1886, at the same address ... I cannot say for sure be [Ohman] was trading alone [when it was mailed]. Since this cover is a few months earlier than the other [Figure 3], perhaps he was. In 1885 Ohman lived at Barnes Road, St. John's ... [3]

Sammy Whaley has studied the (235) marking [4], which was used between 1873 and 1888. He cites Robert Pratt, who reported that there was a similar obliterator used in Staindrop, England about 1860, and that someone could have brought it to St. John's. Perhaps Ohman obtained it at some point, used it for a while, but decided to retire it, as its use by then was widely seen as suspect.



Figure 3. A second 1886 cover with Ohman's corner card to the same addressee, with a vertical (235) cancel and tax marks.

About Figure 3, Lewis wrote:

The 2 over 25 has been quite distinctly written... At the time the letter was mailed the factor for assessing the amount due on short-paid letters to Europe from BNA was 25 Swiss Gold Centimes (as "International Currency"). The 25 centimes converted to 5¢ Newfoundland. Here the postage due was levied at twice the basic charge ... The "5" marking is, in fact, 5d, and the d is a smudgy blob ... It was used on short-paid mail arriving in the U.K. from overseas destinations ... The 5 pence was equal to 10¢ and was double the deficiency. The fine was paid by the addressee in Birmingham.

Ohman, a man of more than one trade, wrote to England on both jewellery and philatelic matters. Robert Pratt tells us that Ohman was *also* the operator of the Late Letter Office in the Atlantic Building from 1887–1889 [5].

1889: The Newfoundland Stamp Company and a bit of good fortune

In 1889, the Newfoundland Stamp Co was formed, a partnership between Ohman, with (surprisingly) a Mr DuTot, a clerk and translator for the GPO, and George LeMessurier Jr, first clerk and general accountant at the GPO. An early advertisement is seen in Figure 4. The firm remained in business for three years until LeMessurier had a "little disagreement" with Postmaster General JO Frasier about officials dealing in stamps. Ohman dropped the company name, continuing business under his own name, at the same PO Box 371 [5]. DuTot was still involved as



Figure 4. Ohman seeks philatelic material for the Newfoundland Stamp Co in this early 1889 advertisement.

I have seen replies from him for Ohman, in French, well into the 1890s.

In its first year, the new company had a windfall. On 14 May 1889 George LeMessurier Sr responded to an inquiry from stamp dealer George Calman in New York using a *newly* surcharged post card (Figure 5). LeMessurier Sr wrote: "The Postal matter not received, and do not expect for some time, yet." To Calman this card was actually *good news*, as it was a new creation! He wired Ohman, who hurried to the GPO where he purchased almost the entire stock of the surcharged card. This was not a great expense as the 700 cards, surcharged to 2¢ because of a shortage of the regular 2¢ stamp, cost only \$14! Calman and Ohman negotiated a split, but the only known cards *used during* the provisional period other than LeMessurier Sr's earliest-known use (EKU) card—five in all—are from Ohman. This card is in all catalogues, with copies used in period valued at \$1,000 or more. All Ohman's cards were addressed to Europe.



Figure 5. 2¢ Newfoundland surcharged card used by Nils Ohman on 12 June 1889. The message indicates that he has sent additional cards to his correspondent in England.

Both sides of my own copy of a 2¢ Newfoundland surcharged card used by Nils Ohman are shown in Figure 5 [6]. Mailed on 12 June 1889 to a correspondent in Birkenhead, England, the message is clear: “By post you will receive eight of these cards. / Yours &c / CD”. This wasn’t the first card sent by Ohman, but his use of “CD” was peculiar. Because he usually signed his correspondence with an “N. Ohman” flourish, his use of these initials is cryptic. The square printing on the front of the card was not typical of Ohman, either.

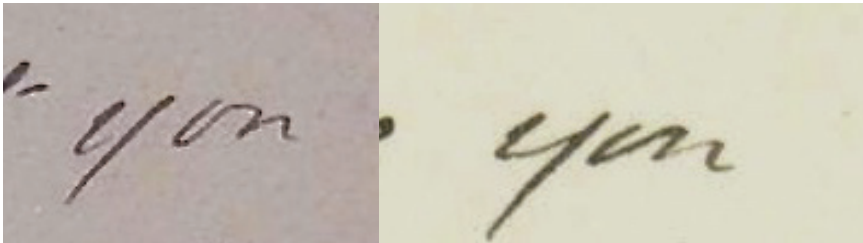


Figure 6. The word “you” from two post cards written by Nils Ohman at different times.

Was there another dealer involved? I have other signed examples from Ohman, so I checked. The word “you” at left in Figure 6 is from the card in Figure 5. The “you” on the right is from a different card Ohman mailed in 1890. There is no doubt Ohman wrote both cards, so why did he disguise his identity? Perhaps by then, five weeks into this “shenanigan,” collectors smelled a rat! Guiltless, LeMessurier Sr had even referred a collector to Ohman for the cards, as he said the GPO had none. Perhaps Nils was getting a little antsy.

Another of Ohman’s surcharged cards was mailed on 15 May 1889 to the same “Levi & Salamon” addressee on the covers in Figures 2 and 3. On it he wrote, “Gentlemen. Will you also send me one doz 9 carats rings?” This tells us Ohman was doing jewellery business, not stamps, with this firm *using what would become a great piece of postal history!*

1890: Ohman has a good customer in Rotterdam

In 1890, the post card rate to Europe was 2¢, often paid by uprating the then-current 1¢ green Prince of Wales post card with additional postage. There were a number of ways to do this, and Nils found a customer in Rotterdam, J Kohler, who wanted examples. If you look at a catalogue, you will see the many Newfoundland ½¢ and 1¢ stamps available to Ohman.



Figure 7. Number XXV in a series of post cards uprated from 1¢ to 2¢ and sent by Ohman to J Kohler in Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

I have no idea how many cards there were in this series, but I have seen a note from Ohman, which I think was to Kohler, suggesting he was a bit slow paying. On “21/1/90” he wrote: “You must not think that I will not send the cards because you have not sent the money—for the sake of my honour I would not do such a thing, unless it was an unknown correspondent. N.O.” Ohman and Kohler must have worked it out, as I have seen cards in this series dated later, including one from 21 January 1891. A DE 10 / 90 example is shown in Figure 8. There had to have been duplicates.



Figure 8. Two ½¢ Newfoundland Dog stamps used to uprate a card mailed by Ohman to Kohler.



Figure 9. All the 1896 reissues on an August 1897 cover to collector Tessier.

1895-1896: Ohman scores again, but a mystery emerges

In 1895, Postmaster General JO Fraser ordered a special printing of the five stamps you see in Figure 9, above. His order requested only 20,000 of each, where normal orders for stamps were for 400,000. At an 1890 inquiry of the GPO, stemming from citizens' various complaints, none of the GPO witnesses knew *why* the stamps were ordered.

Frasier "forgot" that he had even ordered them. One witness speculated that the "reason was to please some stamp collector or other." Placed on sale early in 1896 at a special window, Nils Ohman was the first in line [5]. I believe Ohman's friendship with the two LeMessuriers played a part in this, and that Frasier (who always appeared to be slightly addled) was an innocent go-between. LeMessurier was in "charge of the stamps," Frasier stated during the inquiry.



Figure 10. Three cards to Ohman, all dated 15 April 1895, all addressed in the same hand.

There is no question that on 15 April 1895, someone addressed and sent the three cards in Figure 12 and 13, with, I believe, the same script on the reverse. The signed names seem different, however. The cards were not pre-addressed by Ohman (not his handwriting). The three messages:

*How do you do?
Case follows by mail
Safely arrived here*

I cannot read the hour the cards were sent. Why not use just one card to send these three messages? I can't believe the drop post could deliver *three* cards at different times on the same day. So why am I suspicious? Here I have to leap ahead for a bit to 1897, and this notice in the *St John's Evening Herald*, of 8 October 1897:

*Jewelry seized for smuggling from the shop of N. Ohman, was sold for \$220, its cost.
Mr. Ohman became bankrupt in "September". [7]*

Could the three cards refer to some illegal transaction(s)?

1897–1899: Felon, good citizen, and then *adieu*

Newfoundland issued nineteen stamps in 1897. First, Secretary Robert Bond mismanaged the Cabot issue, leading to the need for surcharged 1¢ stamps by October. December saw the beginnings of the Royal Family issue. I have written much about the ins and outs of this fiasco, and I will not swim that river again at this time. Ohman's conviction and September 1897 bankruptcy did not stop him from continuing to work, as Figure 11 shows.

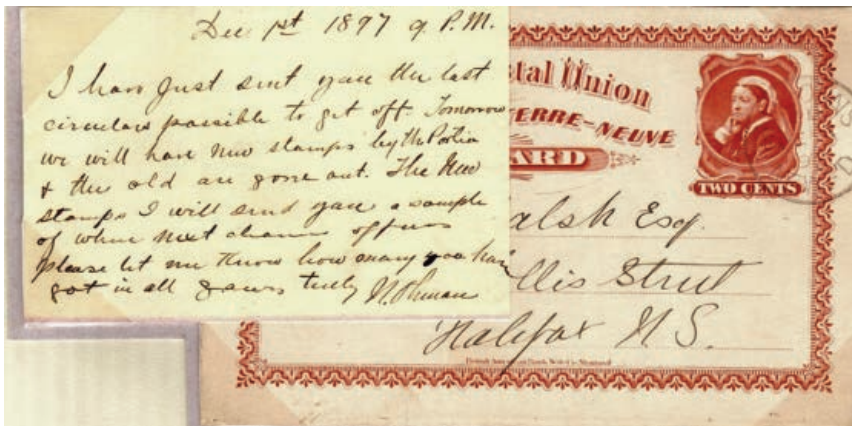


Figure 11. On 1 December 1897, Ohman awaits the arrival of new stamps, especially the 1¢ value.

The text on the back reads:

*Dec 1st 1897 9P.M.
I have just sent you the last circulars possible to get off. Tomorrow we will have new stamps by the Portia & the old are gone out. The New stamps I will send you a sample of when next chance offers. Please let me know how many you have got in all.*

Yours truly. N. Ohman

The red 1¢ Queen Victoria issue, and 2¢ orange Prince of Wales stamps arrived at St John's by the *Portia* on Saturday, 4 December 1897. Ohman needed the 1¢ stamps for the universal circular rate.

The 1¢ on 3¢ surcharged stamps had been first available in October 1897, leading to what was described as a “stampede,” and some fraudulent handling by certain clerks [7]. Eventually, collectors/speculators discovered that the *sans serif* font, at Positions #49-50, was different from the font on all the other stamps in a sheet. Fewer than 1,600 of the “Type III”—the stamp at lower right in Figure 12—were printed.

As Ohman pointed out in the message on the card in Figure 11, the provisionals were gone by the beginning of December 1897, but their story was not done, as carefully documented by Robert Pratt [7]. Forgeries of the rare Type III showed up in early 1898. Pratt states one sheet of one hundred was forged as Type III. A number of parties were involved, and one party brought thirteen copies into Ohman's shop for an opinion. Ohman later testified before a judge:

I examined them and as soon as I saw them I noticed they were not regular issue. By comparing them with stamps of the regular issue I was convinced they were spurious. The two stamps marked 13 and 14 [evidence shown to Ohman] I recognize as two stamps that Allen showed me, and I showed them to the Postmaster General...

So Ohman, in this instance, served as a good citizen, to his credit. Unfortunately, Pratt's document search never revealed the case's outcome. He (Pratt) ended up calling the whole thing an “overrated aberration.”

From the above, we know Ohman was still dealing in stamps in 1898, but he may soon



Figure 13. After a decade's absence, in December 1898 the Newfoundland Stamp Company reappears.



Figure 12. The 1897 provisionals. The stamp at the lower right is the rare “Type III”.

have undergone an epiphany brought on, perhaps, by a drop in his reputation from the incident in the prior year. He must have decided it was a time for a change. In December 1898, after a decade of not being used, the “Newfoundland Stamp Company” name reappeared. As seen in Figure 13, the company address was still at Box

371. The long slash on the “t”s in the second and third line of the address is another Ohman handwriting hallmark.

I believe that Ohman sold the company to another stamp dealer at this time. I have another cover with same corner card dated January 1899 which, I believe, is in a different hand. Pratt also mentions one from 1904. With the company went the Box 371 address and, I would wager, his inventory and client lists. Colin Lewis and I have searched for Ohman covers after 1899 and have found none.

Now it is time for the balance of his granddaughter’s biographical sketch of Nils:

The great fire of July swept through St. John’s after which many banks failed. I feel this may have precipitated the move to Montreal in 1899, where my grandfather’s sister and husband were living in Westmount. My father, Nils Eric, was born at Brazil’s Square in St. John’s in 1894... Nils and Jessie are buried in Mount Royal Cemetery in the old section [Montreal]. Grandpa died in 1936, age 92 years, of pneumonia. He died while reading the “funnies”, bright to the end. Grannie Jessie died the following year of a broken heart, a very happy couple [2].

When she obtained the granddaughter’s report, Anne Pallen of the Newfoundland Study Group added that after Nils Sr died, his son took over the Ohman watchmaking shop in Montreal. Nils Jr died in 1959, and his wife operated it until the shop closed for good [2].

Afterword

Nils Ohman was only fifty-six years old when he left St John’s. Looking back upon the *entirety* of his career, it can be stated that, above all, and in keeping with his training as a young man back in Sweden, he was primarily a watchmaker. He was also a stamp dealer for perhaps half his working years in Newfoundland, but left the business and that aspect of his life when he departed the country in 1899. That doesn’t mean he did not have an impact on its philately even while he actively pursued the watchmaking trade. The backs of his outgoing philatelic letters often carried the **N. OHMAN, WATCHMAKER** logo seen in Figure 14.



Figure 14. N. Ohman, Watchmaker logo. (Courtesy Doug Hannan)

References and endnotes

- [1] Sadly, Bob Dyer passed away on 3 April 2017 and so did not get to see this article in print. It marks the twenty-fourth consecutive year that Bob has had an article published in *BNA Topics*, a record of which he was very proud.
- [2] Anne Pallen, *Newfie Newsletter* 99, March/April, 2003, p. 7.
- [3] Colin Lewis, *Newfie Newsletter* 98, January/February, 2003, pp. 4-5.
- [4] Sammy Whaley, “The Newfoundland ((235)) Cancel,” *Newfie Newsletter* 88, May/June, 2001.
- [5] Robert H Pratt, *The Nineteenth Century Postal History of Newfoundland*, Steinway Fund Collector’s Club, 1985.
- [6] The faint “R.P. 5/75 Trade” at lower left of the card in Figure 5 signifies “Robert Pratt,” who had traded with Horace Harrison for the card in May 1975.
- [7] Robert H Pratt, *Newfoundland—The Gray 1890 Three Cent Ten Years of Turmoil*, Fifty-Second American Philatelic Congress, Dover, Delaware, 1986.



Calgary BNAPEX 2017

Please join us in Calgary from 1-3 September 2017 for the 69th annual Convention of BNAPS. The convention will enable you to renew acquaintances that you made in Fredericton at BNAPEX 2016. The convention will celebrate the 150th anniversary of Confederation and will be held at the downtown Hyatt hotel.

In addition to the show, exhibits, and Study Group meetings, there will be plenty to do in Calgary. We invite you to see some of the many attractions in town such as the new National Music Centre, the zoo, the science centre, the Glenbow Museum, and many other local places of interest.

If your desire is to go further afield, travel an hour west to visit Banff and the Rocky Mountains, walk on a Glacier at the Columbia Icefields; or travel ninety minutes east to the Royal Tyrell Museum and see the dinosaurs; or travel to the south to visit Waterton Park, Head Smashed In Buffalo Jump, or the Star Trek museum in Vulcan.

So please make it a date—**1-3 September 2017**—to have an adventure in Calgary and to enjoy some western hospitality.

Check out the BNAPEX 2017 CALTAPEX webpage at <http://www.bnaps.org/bnapex2017/>.

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The neighbourhood and suburban post offices of St John's, Newfoundland, Part I, 1877–1932

David Piercey, FRPSC

THIS article completes my archival research on the early branch post offices of St John's [1]. The research on these remaining offices has proved more difficult than my previous research on the early downtown branch post offices, since these suburban branch offices were only small post offices, much less information on them is available through archival source material. The *Evening Telegram*, for example, usually reliable for reporting on significant events in the city, has only very occasional mention of any of these other branch offices, suggesting they rarely passed an editor's benchmark for public newsworthiness. As well, the Annual Reports of the Postmasters General only quite infrequently mention anything at all about the operations of these offices.

In fact, a philatelic record of their existence cannot yet be demonstrated for each and all of these offices [2]. Nevertheless, some archival documentation exists, as each year's *Newfoundland Almanac* gives the names of the then-current postmasters, and an occasional *McAlpine's Directory* gives a fair indication of the branches' addresses and the retail business conducted at each premise. These documents help substantiate the existence of these branch offices and their function within the larger postal system of St John's.

Post Office date stamps for the original three suburban branch post offices—South Side, Riverhead, and King's Bridge—were each proofed on 9 October 1886, although, as indicated below, each had opened as a "Way Office" somewhat earlier—South Side in 1877, and Riverhead and King's Bridge in 1885.

It is likely that their postal equipment was introduced as the result of the full implementation of city mail delivery in June 1886 and, as these initial, three suburban branch offices were at the city limits, beyond which it had been determined letter carriers would not make house delivery. Mail was thus instead delivered to these way offices, and area residents outside the city delivery limits could then conveniently buy their stamps and pick up and post their mail at these locations. As envisioned, branch office postmasters would be responsible for postmarking mails for dispatch or receipt as in any regular post office, thus ensuring a record for the tracking of the mails.

A "Post Office Notice" in the *Evening Telegram* of 5 July 1886 reads:

Carriers will call regularly with and for Letters at the Way Office kept by Mr. Henry Collis, Riverhead, Mr. Richard Hayse, King's Bridge, and Mrs. Leah Taylor, South-side, where Stamps will be sold and Letters may be Registered. [Figure 1]

As initially arranged, postal carriers would call with, and for, letters six days per week at 8 am at each of these offices, particularly to ensure outgoing morning mail was then transported for prompt dispatch from the downtown GPO [3].

As newer neighbourhoods continued to be developed within the city's boundaries, and as postal services thus continued to be expanded, more branch offices were added to serve city postal patrons in subsequent years.

Keywords & phrases: Newfoundland, postal history, post offices

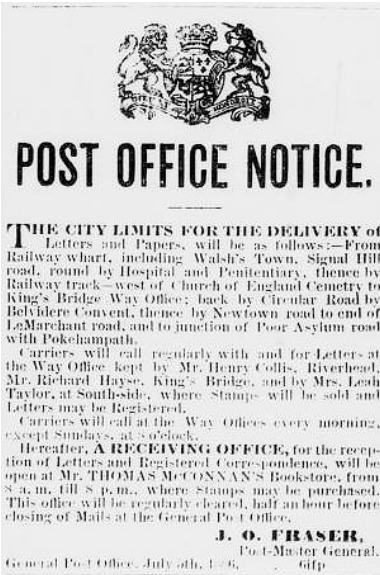


Figure 1. Evening Telegram 5 July 1886 announcement of the three way offices (second paragraph).

immediately south, though despite such limited real estate, rows of houses lined the south side of the road. There was also room for a church—the Church of England's St Mary the Virgin parish church—a schoolhouse, and even a small fire hall. The population of South Side numbered at least 450 individuals around the turn of the twentieth century.

The South Side office was open between 1877 and 1906, and it receives no further mention in the *Almanacs* after 1906. Its split-ring postal hammer read "SOUTH SIDE ST. JOHNS NEWFD" [Figure 2].

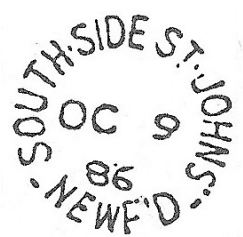


Figure 2. Proof Strike: South Side 1886.

A George Read is listed in the 1877 *Almanac* as the first St John's South Side waymaster, suggesting he began his assignment in 1876. The 1876 *Journal of the House of Assembly*, in further clarification, lists him as waymaster, with his six-month salary being the grand total of \$4, in reasonable confirmation of an assignment that must have started in early July 1876, as the 1878 *Journal* lists his 1878 annual salary as \$8. He likely continued in this assignment until early 1880 [5]. A George Nixon is listed as waymaster in the *Almanacs* for 1881 and 1882, and a Charles Nixon for 1883.

The location of the branch post office at this time would probably have been somewhere along the eastern extension of South Side Road, as an early Directory (1885-86) has several Reads and Nixons living along this portion of it. No indication has yet been found, however, as to the primary sources of livelihood of any of these waymasters. Also, as the General Post Office had two letter carriers at this time (one for the east end of the city, and one for the west), and as there had been a

In practice, most of these suburban branch offices were located in small retail establishments, often neighbourhood grocery stores [4], and they may have had only small quantities of mail handled through each office. As well, each location may have had only a relatively short existence, depending on how long the proprietor remained in business and, as we shall see, as long as they enjoyed the favour of the Postmaster General and in consideration of the larger budgetary restraints of the country.

South Side (1877–1906)

The earliest branch office was opened on the south side of the harbour. South Side is an area of St John's just across the harbour from the downtown section of the city. It was reached by a short bridge—Job's Bridge—over the Waterford River, near where the train station was later opened, in 1902. Crowded by docks and warehouses along its shoreline, it was an area of the city where the sealing ships would discharge their cargo for rendering. Geographically, South Side Road was wedged in between the docks and warehouses on the waterside and steep hills

“pillar box” (*i.e.*, mailbox) by the gas lamp across Job’s Bridge for several years prior to this, it is conceivable that the west end letter carrier was also assigned to deliver and pick up mail posted through the South Side way office.

A Mrs Leah Taylor followed George Read, and her tenure was noted in the *Almanacs* from 1886 to 1896. Her assignment probably began in mid-1885, as the 1885 *Journal of the House of Assembly* lists her salary as waymaster at \$30. In confirmation, there is a note in the Colonial Office Records, dated 24 July 1885, which reads: “a Way Office to be established at Mrs. Taylor’s on the South Side, St. John’s, \$30 pa” [6].

Mrs Taylor was succeeded by a Mrs Warren, as listed in the *Almanacs* from 1897 through 1906, after which the office was closed.

Mrs Leah Taylor was the widow of Mr Thomas Taylor (who was a cooper by trade) and, according to *Might and Co’s Directory St. John’s, Carbonear, Harbour Grace, Newfoundland* (1890) [7] resided at “h South Side rd 3 w Long Bridge.” This would likely place her just west of Job’s Bridge (*i.e.*, Long Bridge), along the western stretch of South Side Road, and probably in the row of small businesses and houses nearest the bridge and St Mary’s. Her successor, Mrs Jemmia Warren, was the wife of Cyrus Warren, a master cooper [8] and, according to the same *Might’s 1890 Directory*, seems also to have resided at the same address as Mrs Taylor. The little post office then likely remained at the same location for the last twenty years of its existence, perhaps housed in the offices of a busy cooperage [9].

Whether the post office date stamp was used is open to conjecture. Although Butt [10] illustrates a hand-drawn example of its postmark, with a different date than that of its proof strike, the author has never seen one included in any specialized St John’s postal markings’ exhibit, nor has he otherwise been informed of one’s existence. Mail to the South Side post office certainly exists (see, for example, Figure 3), but a receiving postmark has not been seen on such examples.



Figure 3. 1896 domestic cover addressed to Nicholas Cousins, South Side Post Office.

Riverhead (1885–1932), became St John's West in 1932

Water Street extends to the far west end of the city where such industries as a tannery, a biscuit factory, and at least one brewery were located. In fact, St John's West was, for electoral purposes, a separate ward of the city, and the general area was known as Riverhead, being at the far end of salt water where the Waterford River drained into the harbour.

The Riverhead branch office, opened in 1885, was first located at 239 Water Street West, on the premises of Henry Collis, its first way officer, who operated a grocery business and a coal yard from this location. His appointment may have begun in mid-1885, as the *Journal of the House of Assembly of Newfoundland* for 1886 shows a salary of \$12.50, an uncommon amount for an annual salary. His business was in the block of buildings immediately south and across the street from Victoria Park, and near the tannery.



Figure 4. Proof Strike: Riverhead 1886.



Figure 5. Riverhead to Boston, January 1899, not 1898, (see text).

The office's postal hammer, proofed in October 1886, reads “RIVERHEAD ST. JOHN'S NEWF'D” [Figure 4]. Illustrated here as Figure 5 is a 3 January 1899 cover to Boston, received in Boston 10 January 1899. (The postmistress had forgotten to change the year slug to “99” from “98”.) The author has seen only one other example of postal use

on cover, dated in July of 1898, suggesting the relative scarcity of this marking.

By 1893, Collis had been succeeded by Mr Frederick Colyer, who was the operator of a dry goods, groceries, and general provisions store at the same address, now expanded to 237 and 239 Water Street West. Mr. Colyer was the postmaster through to 1896, then a Miss Wilson (perhaps one of his employees?), was identified as postmistress in the 1897 *Almanac*. By 1898, as announced in the *Evening Telegram* of 29 October 1897 [Figure 6], the branch office was then



Figure 6. *Evening Telegram* 29 October 1897 announcement of the Riverhead branch office relocation.

relocated to 344 Water Street West, a few short blocks further west, and immediately east of the intersection of Topsail Road, Waterford Road, and Water Street West, and on the north side of the street. This was the residence of Richard Mealey, a master mariner, and Captain of several of Job Brothers' vessels over the years.

From 1898 through 1904 the *Almanacs* indicate a Miss Johanna Mealey was the postmistress; from 1905 through 1923, the *Almanacs* indicate a Mrs M Mealey (the widow of Richard Mealey) was postmistress, and, from 1924 through to the *Almanac* of 1931, a Miss A Power was postmistress. The *Almanacs* give no indication of the sort of business the Mealeys may have operated. In January 1913, however, this is found in the Colonial Office records:

On recommendation of the PMG, it was ordered that the Post Office at Riverhead, St John's, be equipped to meet the present requirements of the locality. The shop and an adjoining room to be rented from Mrs. Mealey, the present PM, for rental for which as well as cleaning and attending she will be paid the sum of \$100 pa. The said office to be fitted as a Postal Telegraph Office.... a messenger boy to be engaged to act as Courier between said office and the GPO. [11]

This is confirmed in the 1914 Insurance Map of St. John's [12], which indicates both a cable office and a post office on these premises [13].

By 1924, the *Almanac* indicates Miss Agnes Power as postmistress at Riverhead, though by 1932 both the *Almanac* and the *St John's Classified Business and City Directory* indicate Miss Power as the postmistress of the "Water Street West End Post Office," now located at 372 Water Street West. This then is a new location, and a new name, for the Riverhead post office, slightly further west than before. In fact, a new postal hammer, a circular date stamp reading "ST. JOHN'S WEST, NEWFD," was subsequently introduced, probably about 1932 and as a replacement for the old hammer. The West End Post Office was to continue for many more years following, outlasting many of the other branch post offices in the city.

King's Bridge (1885–1932)

King's Bridge, an actual bridge over the Rennie River, was the northeast entrance into the city. Both local farmers and fishermen residing outside the city would bring their produce to market by this well-travelled route. Mr Richard F Hayes (also occasionally spelled "Hayse"), a local cooper and grocer, had moved into the neighbourhood from downtown on Cochrane Street in 1884, re-establishing his business at 62 King's Bridge Road [14]. His appointment as a waymaster may have begun about August of 1885, as the *Journal of the House of Assembly of Newfoundland* for 1886 shows his 1885 salary as \$13.75, which suggests it was pro-rated, covering a period of perhaps about five months. His appointment is first mentioned in the Colonial Office records from July 1885, as follows:

A way office to be established at Richard Hayes, Kings Bridge and Mr. Le Messurier to report suitable place for one at River Head. [15]

In 1886, with the introduction of city letter carriers, he became another postal branch office, a city location where the letter carriers could deliver the mail to his office for pick up by residents further out in the country or residing in the village of Quidi Vidi. Mr Hayes was listed as postmaster here between 1886 and 1903, at which point, Mrs (Margaret) Hayes assumed the postmistress' position shortly after his death. She would hold the position through 1931.

Beginning about 1907, the Kings Bridge branch office was also authorized to sell postal money orders, a service few other suburban branch offices ever offered [16]. Subsequently, the 1932 *St John's Classified and Business Directory* lists Miss Margaret Hayes as postmistress, so perhaps Mrs Hayes was succeeded by her daughter in 1932 before the post office closed in the retrenchment of January 1932.

Unlike many other suburban branch offices, the first King's Bridge postal hammer (simply reading "KINGSBRIDGE NEWF'D" [Figure 7] saw regular use, both as a dispatching and a receiving postmark. Though decidedly uncommon, strikes are occasionally seen. Figure 8 is an example of a dispatching postmark, and Figure 9 is an example of a receiving postmark. Interestingly, and as Figure 8 indicates, Judge Prowse, an early Newfoundland historian, resided in



Figure 7. Proof Strike: King's Bridge 1886.



Figure 8a. Front: 1898 post card to Great Britain, dispatched from King's Bridge Branch office, then carried to GPO for processing.

the area, and he made regular use of the King's Bridge branch office for the dispatch of his mail. In addition, in June 1928, a new split-ring postal hammer, reading now "KING'S BRIDGE ST. JOHN'S, NEWF'D" (too weak a strike to reproduce for this article) was subsequently proofed in replacement of the original 42-year old hammer.

Figure 8b. Back: Showing King's Bridge dispatching postmark. DW Prowse correspondence..

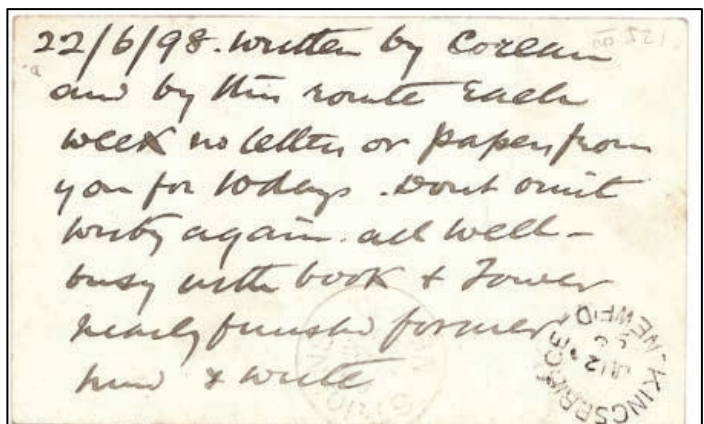




Figure 9a. Front: 1889 cover to Quidi Vidi, posted aboard Labrador North steamer, received in St John's, then carried to King's Bridge branch office for addressee pick up.



Figure 9b. Back: 1889 cover showing St John's and King's Bridge receiving postmarks.

Garrison Hill (1890–1922)

In 1890, four years after the introduction of city letter carrier delivery, the next branch post office was established on Garrison Hill, just north of the downtown area.

Miss Mary Delaney was Garrison Hill's first postmistress, with an initial annual salary of \$40, and with a tenure extending from 1889 through to her death in 1920 at the age of 96 years. Mary Delaney was the eldest daughter of Newfoundland's second Postmaster General [17], John Delaney (in office from 1860 to 1883), and she would have assumed her Garrison Hill responsibilities at about age sixty-five.

The post office was located in her residence (the 1908-09 *McAlpine's Directory* lists her address as "Delaney's Place") at the NW corner of the intersection of Harvey Road, Military Road, and Garrison Hill, and just west across the street from the Roman Catholic Cathedral, the Bishop's Palace, St Bonaventure College, and otherwise in a neighbourhood dominated by other churches and parochial institutions. It seems possible then that it was a location for the expedient drop off and pick up of mail primarily for those in residence or cloistered at such institutions, as a letter carrier would arrive each morning (except Sundays) to deliver and receive mail at this location. Unlike the other downtown branch offices, the Garrison Hill branch office (along with the Roman Catholic Cathedral complex) survived the great fire of July 1892, fortunate to be just outside the fire's extent.

Following Miss Delaney's death in 1920, the *Evening Telegram* of 9 September 1920 [18] indicates that the Branch Office for the neighbourhood was then relocated to the residence of Mrs Selina L. Sullivan, Allandale Road. A *Newfoundland Directory* of 1928 places her actual address at 40 Bonaventure Avenue (some streets had the annoying habit of being renamed in successive blocks), which was up the street, about a block north of Miss Delaney's residence, and probably just north of the Fort Townsend Fire Hall. By the 1923 edition of the *Almanac*, however, this branch office is no longer reported, suggesting that it closed some time in 1922.

The Proof Books show no strike for this office, and the author is not aware of any covers suitably postmarked. There is yet no immediate evidence that any postal equipment was supplied to this branch office, though stamps were sold to patrons from this office.

Monkstown (1898–1922)

Just a few blocks north and east of the Roman Catholic Cathedral is Monkstown Avenue, running north from Military Road to Circular Road through a primarily residential area of the city. In 1898, a branch post office was opened in the building of John WW and Elizabeth Spry, 55 Monkstown Ave., with their daughter, Miss Lucy Spry, becoming the Monkstown postmistress [19]. Miss Spry was to hold this position until its closing sometime in 1922 (though her father, JWW Spry, a former commission agent, was listed as postmaster in the *Almanac* for 1907 [20]). The 1894, and 1894-97 *McAlpine's Directory* indicates there was a grocery and dry goods store at this location run by a Miss S Spry; though Miss Lucy Spry, our postmistress, was also listed as a music teacher in the 1915 *McAlpine's Directory*, and she seems to have been but one of several extended family members all living at the same residential and business address.

The Monkstown branch post office utilized two different postal hammers. Pratt (1985) illustrates a drawing of a large oval date stamp reading "MONKSTOWN NEWFOUNDLAND" and dated September 1898, and Butt (1992) illustrates a drawing of a split-ring date stamp reading "MONKSTOWN ST. JOHNS, NEWF'D," dated September 1901 [21]. Both hammers are decidedly scarce—this author having seen only one of the former and none of the latter.

Thorburn Road (1909–1932)

Although listed as a city post office by some authors, Thorburn Road was in fact a small post office in a farming area about five miles outside the city limits. Thorburn Road, an extension of the city's Freshwater Road, was constructed in the late 1800s as a public works project to link up St John's with St Phillips (previously known as Broad Cove) on Conception Bay, ten or so miles distant. In the early 1900s, agricultural settlement began to be encouraged, and a small community of about two hundred individuals with a parish church came into existence part way along the road by 1909, the date of the opening of the Thorburn Road post office.

Mrs Thomas Tucker (Mary A Tucker) is listed as the postmistress in all the *Almanacs* from 1910 to 1932. In the 1921 census (St Philips district), she is enumerated and listed as sixty-three years of age. In 1932, the office was closed in the general retrenchment of post offices that year.

Mundy Pond Road (1910–1932)

Mundy Pond is a small lake just outside of St John's. The road to it strikes off in the far northwest part of the city. The roads to it (including Pleasant Street) circumscribed a working class residential neighbourhood, residents attracted by the large Colonial Cordage Company rope-making plant built in the 1890s near the lake.

Albert Taylor, a grocer listed in the 1915 *McAlpine's Directory* at 174 Pleasant Street, is listed as the postmaster for Mundy Pond in the *Almanacs* of 1910 to 1914. From 1915 through 1925, his post office is instead called the Pleasant Street branch post office, a more accurate reflection of his actual street location. The *Almanac* of 1926 indicates that his successor, a Mrs Matthew J Murphy, living on Mundy Pond Road, who serves as the Mundy Pond Road postmistress through to at least 1932 (the last year of the *Almanac*).

A split-ring hammer, proofed 6 November 1925 [22], and reading "MUNDY POND RD. ST. JOHN'S NEWFD" [Figure 10], was likely introduced around the same time as Mrs Murphy became postmistress. Based on the hand-drawn illustration in Butt (1992), this hammer was utilized at her location for the next few years following, until being superseded by a large rectangular hammer during the 1930s [23].



Figure 10. Proof Strike: Mundy Pond Road 1925.

Water Street West (1911–1921)

Located near the north end of Job's Bridge, near the western end of the city's street car track, and diagonally across the street from the train station and the Reid Newfoundland steamer docks, Peter O'Mara ran a drugstore at 46-48 Water Street West that especially catered to outpost travellers. Advertising himself as the "West End Druggist," he also stocked the city's largest selection of prosthetic devices.

His store became the "Water Street West Post Office" first listed in the *Almanac* of 1912. It continued in this function until sometime in 1921, when it closed. Figure 11 shows a photograph of the storefront taken during the period of the operation of its branch post office.



Figure 11. Photo of O'Mara's Drug Store, circa 1920. Courtesy John O'Mara, St John's.

The Minutes of the Executive Council of 4 June 1910 state:

A Post Office to be opened at St John's West in the Drug Store of Mr. Peter O'Mara, who will provide a box in which letters may be posted; will collect said letters, date stamp, and deface them; will register letters and provide necessary space for his assistant to attend to the Post Office work, and will allow use of his telephone by the Post Office for Postal Telegraph purposes. The payment to him for the above to be \$420 pa. This office will be cleared by Coughlan or one of the Postal Carriers. [24]

The Postmaster General, HJB Woods, later reports favourably about the service:

...The branch office in Mr. O'Mara's Drug Store, at the West End, is also admirably conducted and of great convenience to the public in that vicinity. [25]

Whether postal equipment was ever supplied to this branch office remains, I believe, open to conjecture. The Proof Books are mute on this question, and Butt did not report any postmark in his enumeration of known hammers.

Quidi Vidi Road (1919–1932)

Quidi Vidi Road is another road in the east end of the city leading out to the fishing village of Quidi Vidi, which was always considered part of the city of St John's. First mentioned as a branch post office in the *Almanac* of 1919, a Miss Phoebe Andrews was postmistress. The *St John's City Directory* of 1924 gives her address as 101 Quidi Vidi Road, and the post office continues under her supervision to 1926, when the *Almanac* reports a new postmaster, Robert

Tucker. The *St John's Classified and Business Directory* of 1932 gives his address as 39 Quidi Vidi Road, identifying him as a grocer and the proprietor of the East End Variety Store at that address. The post office was, however, closed in early 1932 as part of the retrenchment of postal services announced in January of 1932.

Despite its relatively short existence, two split-ring hammers are known. The first, reading “QUIDE VIDE ROAD, NEWF'D”, is illustrated by Butt (1992) showing a 1919 date; the second, reading “QUIDI VIDI ROAD, NEWF'D” [Figure 12], was proofed on 6 November 1925. Likely each location, then, had its own hammer, the second hammer replacing the first when the branch post office moved to its second location.



Figure 12. Proof Strike: Quidi Vidi Road 1925.

Rawlins' Cross (1928–1932)

Formed by the intersection of Monkstown, Military, and Prescott Roads, and a block or two east of the Roman Catholic Cathedral, the intersection and adjacent neighbourhood was called Rawlins' Cross. A busy commercial neighbourhood, in the 1940s, it was also the site of St John's first traffic signal, manually controlled by a policeman from a sidewalk booth.

The Postmaster General's Report for 1926/27 states:

Preparations are being made to fit up and open a combined Post Office and Telegraph Office at Rawlins Cross, to serve that section, also a large number of people outside the carrier's delivery, North of the Railroad track.

The office was also assigned to be a Money Order Office. A postal hammer, a circular date stamp reading “RAWLINS' CROSS/ST. JOHN'S NEWF'D.” [Figure 13], was proofed on 26 February 1928, and it is known used throughout the duration of the office's existence.

Miss Florence Martin was appointed the Rawlins' Cross postmistress, probably in 1928 [26]; she first appears in the *Almanac* for 1929. An assistant also is noted, Sylvia St John. Miss Martin's annual salary was \$740 in recognition of her supervisory and telegraphic office responsibilities. With stenographic training, she had previously worked in various capacities at the General Post Office downtown, before being promoted into her position. However, the branch post office was to last only until early 1932, as it was one of the several branch offices closed around the same time due to the retrenchment of postal services announced in January of that year. Miss Martin was then reassigned to the GPO, where she subsequently appears as a clerk in the 1932 *Classified and Business Directory*.



Figure 13. Proof Strike: Rawlins' Cross 1928.

According to the 1914 Insurance Map of St John's, a cable office had operated at 108 Military Road in the immediate neighbourhood, so this is a possible location for the Rawlins' Cross post office in 1928.

Battery (1929–1932)

The Battery, part of the Hoylestown neighbourhood, is a residential area of St John's immediately below Signal Hill, where its few small homes and narrow lanes seem to cling precipitously to the steep hillside at the harbour entrance. Its post office was opened in 1929, with Gladys Snelgrove, the postmistress, receiving an annual salary of \$100 for her postal duties [27]. Gladys Snelgrove might have been either the wife or daughter of George Snelgrove who, as indicated in the 1932 *St John's Classified Business and City Directory* managed Snelgrove's Grocery on Lower Battery Road (no house number) [28]. Gladys Snelgrove continued to be listed as postmistress in the *Almanacs* of 1930 and 1931 when, as part of the retrenchment of postal services announced in January of 1932, the branch office was closed.

Collectors are not aware of any postal equipment being utilized from this location, although a split circle proof strike, reading "BATTERY ST. JOHN'S/NEWF'D" [Figure 14] and dated 5 May 1926, is recorded, as another proof strike reading "BATTERY ST J.C.E" [Figure 15] (though the "C" could also be an "O") dated 13 December 1928 is also recorded [29]. Two hammers a couple of years apart is suggestive of two separate offices, although there is no listing in the *Almanacs* of a Battery branch office before the 1929 edition with its listing of Gladys Snelgrove as postmistress.



Figure 14. Proof Strike: Battery 1926.



Figure 15. Proof Strike: Battery St J.C.E 1928.

Conclusion

In the post-World War I period, Newfoundland had struggled along, attempting to manage its public debt. There had been a recession in the early 1920s, the markets for Newfoundland's primary export of fish had weakened, the Post Office Department had reduced salaries to postal officials in the order of up to twenty percent, and some smaller post offices were closed. In St John's, by the end of 1923, the Branch Offices at Garrison Hill (Allandale Road), Monkstown, and Water Street West (O'Mara's Drug Store), had all been closed in the retrenchment efforts.

Further difficulties ensued, not the least of which was the government's decision in July 1923 to assume the operation of the railway and coastal steamship services previously provided by the Reid Newfoundland Company. This continued to drain the public purse.

In 1932, in the midst of the Great Depression, the government passed the *Reduction Act*, causing further significant budget reductions in all government departments, including the Department of Posts and Telegraphs. There were reductions in salaries of postal employees, some as much as twenty-five percent, and many smaller post offices were instead summarily closed. In particular, and as indicated, branch offices at King's Bridge, Quidi Vidi Road, Rawlins' Cross, the Battery, and Thorburn Road were closed to save the small salary costs incurred by their incumbent postmasters.

The offices that remained at the end of 1932, after retrenchment and consolidation of all the downtown and suburban branch offices, in addition to the General Post Office downtown, were the following: the Water Street West End Post Office at 372 Water Street West, the Water Street East End Post Office at 173-175 Water Street East, and the Mundy Pond Road office. In effect, then, there remained a branch post office in each third of the city proper.

Although a new branch office was to briefly operate on the site of the Newfoundland Hotel during 1934, it would take several years, and the influx of American servicemen and other civilian workers during WWII, before additional branch offices were once again established in city neighbourhoods. And it would take even more years, post-Confederation, before an even more complex network of neighbourhood sub-offices would be established by the Canada Post Office Department.

References and endnotes

- [1] Branch offices previously covered were St John's Central, St John's East/Duckworth Street, Duckworth Street East, and Late Office St. John's. See my articles "The St. John's Central Post Office," *BNA Topics*, Vol 72, No 3 (Jul-Sep 2015), pp. 33-39; "The St. John's East Post Office," *BNA Topics*, Vol 73, No 1 (Jan-Mar 2016), pp. 18-24; and "Late Letters and the Newfoundland Mails," *PHSC Journal* 162-63 (Summer-Fall 2015), pp. 9-17.
- [2] The Pritchard and Andrews Proof Strikes books, although usually quite reliable for determining proof strike dates of new hammers, seem to fall short on Newfoundland after about 1900. Not only is there a significant missing period of split-ring proof strikes (and for all of Canada too) that falls within a portion of our period of interest, the full circle proof strikes period too may be incomplete. However, and of especial consideration, both the lack of such proof strikes and otherwise of known strikes on cover suggest instead that some of these branch offices may never even have had postal hammers provided to them or otherwise used them.
- [3] In this period, city letter carrier delivery was usually effected twice per day, about 10 am and 3 pm. Coastal steamships left during the morning hours; and steamships taking the foreign mails left at different times of the day, depending on their destinations and schedules.
- [4] As was common for the era, most proprietors of small stores would live upstairs and/or at the back of their business premises.
- [5] The *Evening Telegram* of 26 April 1880 indicates a Mr "George Reed" had died in Southside a few days earlier, aged 78 years. Given the general inaccuracy of the spelling of surnames in the nineteenth century, I believe this is a notice about the waymaster George Read. The death in 1880 is consistent with the date of appointment of the next South Side waymaster, George Nixon, by 1881. Similarly, the *Evening Telegram* of 29 November 1882, indicates the death of a Mr. Charles Nixon of St. John's, aged 72 years. If this was indeed the office's third waymaster as mentioned in the 1883 *Almanac*, he could only have had a very brief period of service in the latter part of 1882 prior to his death.
- [6] Minutes of the Honourable Executive Council 1881-1885 (24 July 1885), CO 197/75, Colonial Office Records, UK Archives. I am indebted here to Brian Stalker for providing me with the comprehensive notes he has made of various Newfoundland postal matters as recorded in the Colonial Office Records of the UK Archives. All further reference to Colonial Office records in this article are also from his notes.
- [7] Found at <<http://ngb.chebucto.org/M1890/m1890-might-a-city.shtml>>.
- [8] Cyrus Warren is mentioned with some frequency in the *Evening Telegram*. An officer of the Newfoundland British Society, and a member of the school board, he (and his wife) were

probably well connected in St John's civic affairs and social life, and thus Mrs Warren could be depended upon to manage the small post office provided for South Side residents.

- [9] Although I have been unable to find any evidence that either Mrs Taylor or Mrs Warren operated any retail business from their home address, it could have been a grocery store located on the cooperage premises. Alternatively, either may have been involved in the operation of a small grocery store elsewhere, as there is a listing in the *Might's 1890 Directory* for a Miss Eliza Warren, a grocer at "h South Side e". Indeed, there were several Warrens (likely related) in South Side.
- [10] J Butt, "The Postal Markings St. John's General Post Office and Sub Offices," *BNA Topics*, Vol 49 No 4 (Jul-Aug 1992), pp. 20-22.
- [11] Minutes of the Honourable Executive Council 1913 (30 January), CO197/167, Colonial Office Records, UK Archives.
- [12] Found at <<http://lib-lespaul.library.mun.ca/cdm/ref/collection/maps/id/735>>.
- [13] The building nevertheless continued to house some of the Meale's extended family. The 1924 *Almanac* lists a Mr Denis Mealey, an assistant clerk at the Money Order Branch of the downtown GPO, residing at this address.
- [14] *Might's Directory*, 1890. Devine and O'Mara's 1897 *St John's Directory* lists his address instead at 65 King's Bridge Road. I get the impression that house address numbering was not an exact science—similar confusion also exists for the Monkstown branch office—either 55 or (less commonly) 53 Monkstown Road.
- [15] Minutes of the Honourable Executive Council 1881–1885 (July 11, 1885), CO 197/75, Colonial Office Records, UK Archives.
- [16] The *Almanacs*, never perfectly consistent, indicate it was a money order office in each of 1909, 1910, and 1911, before apparently dropping the practice of such identification in later years.
- [17] "Obituary," *St John's Daily Star*, 15 March 1920, p. 1.
- [18] "Here and There," *Evening Telegram*, 9 September 1920, p. 4.
- [19] "A branch post office to be opened at the shop of Mr JW Spry, Monkstown. Miss Spry to be Postmistress." Minutes, Honourable Executive Council 1897(13 December), CO197/117.
- [20] In a separate section of each year's *Almanac*, in the alphabetical listing of all towns and their postmasters, Monkstown's postmaster is instead identified as Mrs. JW Spry (1912–1921), despite the main listing of the Post Office Department staff continuing to list Miss Spry throughout.
- [21] The large oval date stamp is set with a curious typeface, which appears to match the typeface used in the "Labrador T.P.O. Newfoundland" special rectangular date stamp of 1897–1898 (illustrated in Pratt, p. 500); whereas, the split-ring is of the normal Pritchard and Andrews type. The author has seen pre-printed postal cards from this same period, with their message printed in the same curious typeface, so he speculates that the oval date stamp was of local origin and used until its replacement with the "official" split-ring date stamp perhaps a year or two later. (Note: Walsh (and Boggs) also list a Monkstown (Placentia Bay) split-ring date stamp, beginning in 1901, so these two offices should not be confused).
- [22] At least two SON strikes of a Mundy Pond Road split-ring, both on loose stamps (one dated in 1919 and the other in 1920) have been seen by this author. Both are on the 12¢ Trail of the Caribou issue of 1919, a quite uncommon stamp to see regular postal use. By all appearances, the cancel is from the same hammer as proofed in 1925, so one could speculate that they had been backdated using this hammer. Some members of the St John's Stamp Club are aware that Canon Rusted, an early stamp collector in Newfoundland, had favour SON strikes made for him at various post offices, so perhaps these are the result of his pursuits. Otherwise, one must postulate an earlier hammer than the one proofed in 1925.

- [23] *Full Circle Proof Strikes of the Maritimes* also shows (on p. 44) a particularly weak strike of a full circle that may read “St. John’s Mundy Pond Nfld,” with a superimposed, rubber-stamped “1914”. The date of the strike is illegible, but the style of the lettering and the abbreviation “Nfld” are characteristic of postal hammers introduced during the 1940s to 1960s.
- [24] Minutes of the Executive Council 1910 (4 June), CO197/160, Colonial Office Records, UK Archives.
- [25] Report of the Postmaster General for the Year Ended 30 June 1913.
- [26] Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Revenue and Appropriation Accounts for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 1929, found at <<http://collections.mun.ca/cdm/compoundobject/collection/cns/id/142178/rec/9>>.
- [27] “New Appointments,” Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Revenue and Appropriation Accounts (1929), p. 9, found at: <<http://collections.mun.ca/cdm/compoundobject/collection/cns/id/142178/rec/9>>.
- [28] It is also possible the branch office was located at the intersection of Signal Hill Road and Battery Road, as two grocery stores are shown there on the 1914 Insurance Map of St John’s. To add to the confusion, the 1928 *St John’s Directory* has a Miss Gladys Snelgrove, clerk, living on Middle Battery Road. In fact, there were several Snelgroves residing within the Battery district, all in convenient walking distance of each other.
- [29] This second proof strike would be more in keeping with a possible hammer being prepared for the new Battery branch office opening in 1929 (if indeed this was intended as a St John’s branch office hammer). However, I have otherwise been unable to discover the meaning of the “St. J.C.E.” designation. (Perhaps it is instead an “O.E.”, standing for “Outer Entrance”—*i.e.*, to the harbour?).



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Canadian air squadrons in England during World War I

Colin Pomfret [1]

As the air battle in Europe developed during World War I, the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) set up bases in Canada to train pilots and navigators to fly the airplanes, as well as tradesmen to service them, establishing the Royal Flying Corps Canada (RFCC) in January 1917. By late 1918, Canadian squadrons were mobilized in England but, with the war ending soon after, the “Canadian Air Force” was short lived [2]. This article is primarily intended to help collectors look for mail from, and hopefully to, Canadians serving in the RFCC in the short period they were active in England.

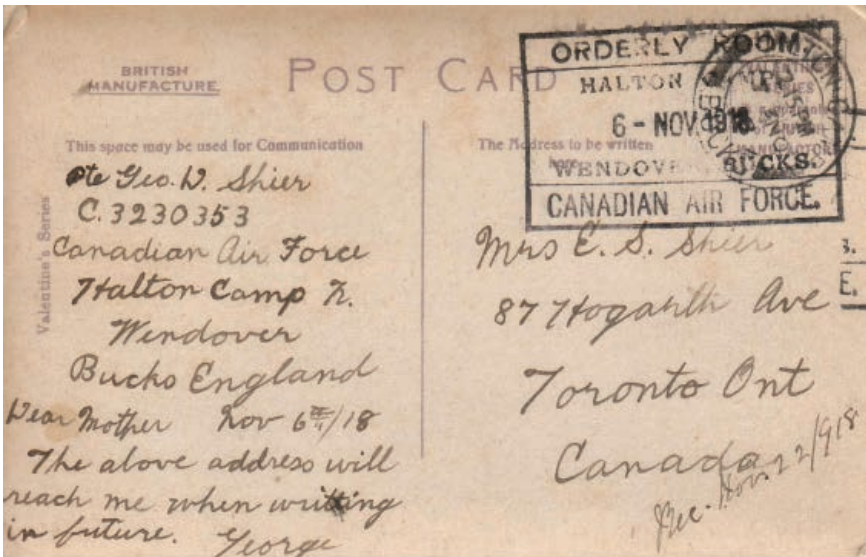


Figure 1. A 6 November 1918 post card from a Canadian in the RFCC, stationed at Halton Camp, Buckinghamshire, to his mother in Toronto.

The post card in Figure 1 was written—soon after arriving at his new posting—by Pte George Shier, a Canadian in the RFCC, to his mother, giving her his mailing address. Postmarked 7 November 1918 at Halton Camp, Bucks (Buckinghamshire), it also received the ORDERLY ROOM / 6- NOV 1918 / HALTON CAMP / CANADIAN AIR FORCE mark.

Private George Shier was one of the 237 tradesmen who were remustered from the Canadian Army Depots in England to be trained as aircraft mechanics and riggers by Royal Air Force personnel [3, 4]. The card was received on 22 November 1918.

Keywords & phrases: Royal Flying Corps Canada in England, WWI

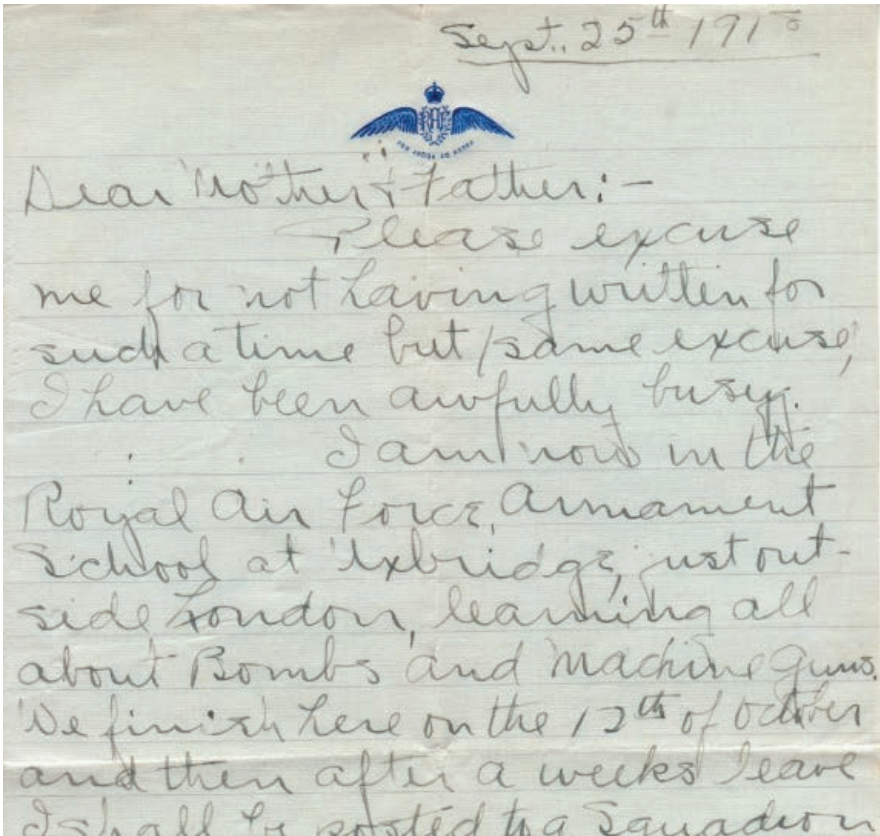


Figure 2. Letter dated 25 September 1918 from a Canadian soldier at the Royal Air Force Armament School at Uxbridge.

A second group of one hundred Canadians recruited from the Canadian Army Depots was sent to Halton Camp and to the Armament School at Uxbridge [3]. The letter in Figure 2 was mailed in the envelope shown in Figure 3. In it, Soldier William Tite tells his parents:

Please excuse me for not having written for such a time but same excuse, I have been awfully busy. I am now in the Royal Air Force Armament School at Uxbridge, just outside London, learning all about Bombs and Machine Guns. We finish here on the 12th of October and then after a week's leave I shall be posted to a Squadron. ...

Uncensored letters to Canada dated in late 1918 or early 1919, bearing British postage stamps and the Uxbridge civilian postmark shown in Figure 3, should be examined closely in case they are actually Canadian military postal history. Even without the contents, this cover could have been identified as a Soldier's Letter by researching the family name in the Library and Archives Canada WWI personnel records database [5].

Figure 3. Envelope with 1½ d British stamp and Uxbridge, England civilian postmark that carried the letter in Figure 2.



Figure 4. Letter and envelope from a Canadian at No. 7, Observers' School of Aeronautics in Bath, England.

The letter and envelope in Figure 4 were written by one of the twelve Canadian Cadets who were being trained as Observers for the Canadian Air Force at No 7, Observers' School of Aeronautics in Bath, England [3]. Dated 24 November 1918, and postmarked the next day with a Bath civilian machine cancellation, the contents of the letter reveal some of the confusion that arose when the war ended thirteen days earlier.

Since the Armistice Terms came into effect this school has practically been sitting on the fence waiting for definite information regarding closing down & etc & all I can give you at present is this. No temporary commissions to be granted. Our Air Board Exam and indefinite leave posted for Dec. 6th has fallen through. Just fancy we have completed our course & cannot take the final exams.

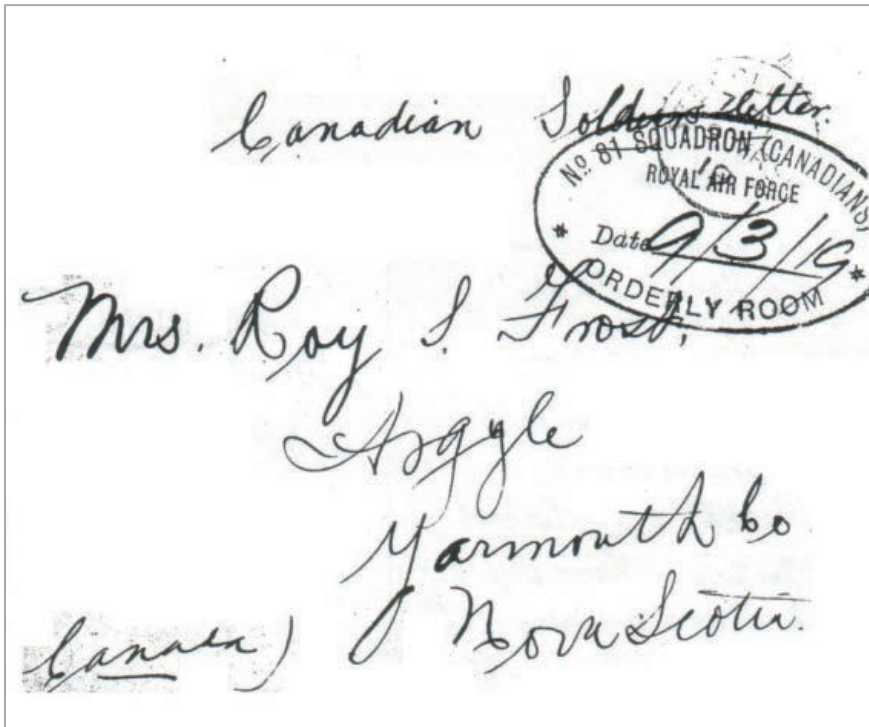


Figure 5. Letter from a Canadian Airman serving in No 81 Squadron (Canadians).

No 81 Squadron Royal Flying Corps was formed on 7 January 1917, but it was not mobilized for active service, and it was disbanded on 4 July 1918. The squadron reformed on 25 November 1918 with all Canadian personnel and was officially known as No 1 Squadron, Canadian Air Force. No 2 Squadron, formerly 123 Squadron RFC/RAF, formed on the same day, again with all Canadian personnel. No 1 Squadron flew Sopwith Camel fighters, No 2 flew AIRCO/DeHaviland 9 bombers. When the British government cut funding for the squadrons in June 1919, the Canadian government decided that a permanent peacetime air force was not needed. Both squadrons ceased operations early in 1920 [3, 6].

The cover in Figure 5 above was mailed by a Canadian in No 81 Squadron to a relative or friend in Nova Scotia. The single oval mark reads “No 81 SQUADRON (CANADIANS) / ROYAL AIR FORCE / Date 9/3/1919 / ORDERLY ROOM.” The date is in manuscript. The British civilian postmark is illegible, but it does not appear to be from either of the towns where the two Canadian squadrons were based.

When mobilized in November 1918 both No 1 and No 2 Squadrons were based at Upper Heyford, Oxfordshire. On 31 March 1919, the squadrons moved to Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex, where they remained until they were disbanded. The post card in Figure 6, written by the same Pte Shier as in Figure 1, was postmarked on 27 March 1919 at Upper Heyford. The sideways text at upper left reads: “I do not expect to see Canada for some time.” The triple oval mark reads “ORDERLY ROOM / No. / Date.... / No. SQUADRON R.F.C.” Neither the date nor the Squadron number in the second oval were filled in.

Figure 6. Post card from Pte George Shier when his squadron was stationed at Heyford, Oxfordshire in March 1919.

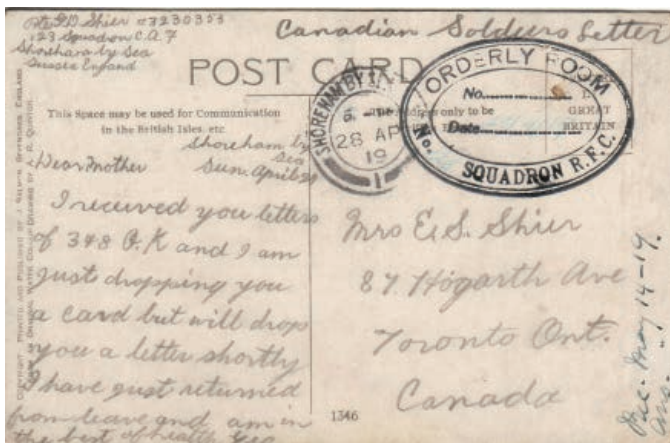


Figure 7. Post card from Pte George Shier when his squadron was stationed at Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex, in April 1919.


The post card in Figure 7, also written by Pte Shier, was postmarked on 28 April 1919 at Shoreham-by-Sea. This postcard carries the same triple oval mark as the postcard in Figure 6, but in this case both the date and the Squadron number in the second oval were filled in. The very faint Squadron number is “123” and the equally faint date is 28/4/1919. The “123” tells us that Pte Shier was in No 2 Squadron, and that this double oval device was previously used by the 123 Squadron when it was part of the Royal Air Force.

I hope that this article will help others find postal history items from the Canadian Air Force in England during World War I.

References and endnotes

- [1] Colin Pomfret passed away in Waterdown, Ontario on 28 October 2016. A long-time member of BNAPS, Colin was noted for his ability to patiently sort through covers and post cards looking for text and/or markings relating to Canadian military postal history.
- [2] <http://www.rcaf-arc.forces.gc.ca/en/history-heritage/royal-flying-corps-canada/introduction.page>.
- [3] Personal research by the author, source unknown.
- [4] The Royal Flying Corps (RFC) was the air arm of the British Army before and during the First World War, until it merged with the Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS) on 1 April 1918 to form the Royal Air Force (RAF). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Flying_Corps.
- [5] <http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/search.aspx>.
- [6] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/No._81_Squadron_RAF.
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canadian_Air_Force_\(1918%E2%80%931932\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canadian_Air_Force_(1918%E2%80%931932)).

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What is the Order of the Beaver?

Bill Walton, OTB, Chairman

I was inducted into the Order of the Beaver (OTB) at the 1994 Burlington convention, and became Chairman in 2002, with Mike Street elected as Vice-Chairman. There is an OTB Breakfast at each BNAPEX convention for all members in attendance, where all business is conducted. At a recent breakfast I agreed to write an information piece about the Order for *BNA Topics*.

The official history of the Order, reflected on the BNAPS website, shows it as beginning in 1968 with four members. I was surprised to learn that this may be inaccurate. A *BNA Topics* report on the 1968 Austin, Texas convention notes a “BNAPS Fun Society, Order of the Three Beavers,” was “... recently founded by Clarence Westhaver and Ed Richardson,” but offers no detail on “recently” (prior to the convention? in its first day or two?). There is also no clue as to “Three Beavers,” given the two founding members—is there an emblem or design incorporating three beavers? We do know, however, that at that convention, Clarence and Ed added Jack Levine and Fred Jarrett as members—the original OTB nucleus of four as shown on the website.

The focus of the Order changed dramatically in short order, and I can only speculate on the influence of Jack and Fred. By 1972, *Topics* described the Order as “an honorary award, given only to BNAPS members ... who have given noteworthy service for a considerable time to BNA philately or to BNAPS.” Service remains a key OTB underpinning today.

Twenty years ago, the OTB initiated the BNAPS Order of the Beaver Lifetime Achievement Award, recognizing philatelists, who have made major contributions to BNA philately over many years, and who are not members of the Order and may not even be active in BNAPS. To date, sixteen Awards have been presented, and information about the recipients and their accomplishments can be found on the Society website. OTB members have agreed and resolved that no member of the Order is eligible for this award.

At each OTB Breakfast, members are asked if there are any members of BNAPS who might be considered for nomination to the Order, or for the Lifetime Achievement Award, in the following year. Any names proposed are discussed, and the result is often the volunteering by one or more members to prepare a written nomination of a candidate against a mandatory set of criteria. Once completed, nominations are submitted to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, reviewed for proper completion, then distributed in advance of the next convention to all current OTB members for their consideration before the meeting. Discussion of any such nominations becomes an order of business at the Breakfast.

Only OTB members in attendance at the Breakfast have a vote on the nominee once discussion is completed. There is good reason for this: OTB members may hear comments about a candidate from their fellows that had not occurred to them previously. I have seen a number of occasions where a compelling case was made to members who had been hesitant about a candidate, and other cases where an issue was raised by someone that led to a postponement while further information was sought. For this latter reason, candidates are not supposed to be aware they are under consideration. Once discussion is completed, a ballot vote is conducted. Any candidate receiving sufficient votes will learn of their induction at that year’s banquet.

The established criteria against which a candidate is assessed include three broad categories: (1) distinguished service to BNAPS, (2) service to organized philately in general and, (3) a history of freely sharing philatelic knowledge. Reasonably regular BNAPEX attendance is mandatory. Each of these categories has various points of eligibility. The criteria are modified over time; for example, contributions to websites or study group newsletters are taken into consideration today. Personality is NOT a factor (neither “he’s a good fellow” nor “what a jerk”) carry any weight. It is intended to be an honour society with membership based on the twin pillars of service and BNA philatelic knowledge. It is always a distinct pleasure for OTB members to announce the induction of new members at the closing Banquet.

Members of the Order, in my experience, simply continue their quiet service and sharing of knowledge. A look at the OTB membership list reveals names familiar to BNAPS members as current major writers, exhibitors, and key society management figures. BNAPS can take pride in what the Order represents, and the services it will continue to provide our Society.



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Combination postal items featuring the 8¢ Small Queen issue

JA (Jack) Forbes, FRPSC

IN 1893, Canada issued three stamps: the 20¢ and 50¢ Widowed Queens (17 February), and the 8¢ Small Queen (1 August). While the Widowed Queen stamps were in the large-style format that was used for the Large Queen issue, the 8¢ appeared in the same size as the other Small Queens (excepting the smaller half cent denomination). The 8¢ did vary from its companion values in that the side view of the Queen's head faced to the left, in an oval frame, while for all the other denominations, it faced to the right and was in a circular format. There was speculation that this was an attempt to allow postal workers to quickly identify this particular adhesive, as it was issued to provide a convenient manner to pay the combined first-class postage rate (3 cents) and the registration fee (5 cents) with a single stamp. Although in use for a relatively short time, this denomination experienced a number of colour and shade changes; these changes are described for the stamps shown in this article.

The fact that the two higher denomination Widowed Queen stamps were issued in close proximity to the 8¢ had consequences for the usage of the latter. Because the Post Offices had access to the 20¢ and 50¢ stamps, the 8¢ saw only limited use in multiples, and the writer has in his collection, a used block of twelve, off paper, which is the largest-recorded use of this issue. Also, he is aware of a strip of four, and a single plus a 1¢ Small Queen on an unaddressed piece.

An indication of the relative scarcity of covers franked with 8¢ in combination with other values comes from a search of Firby and Willson's *The Canadian Posted Letter Guide—The Classic Period, 1851–1902*. Although there is an illustration of a cover with an 8¢ combined with a pair of 10¢, dated 26 June 1896 mailed from Berlin, Ont, to Berlin, Germany, and another of a multi-franked item (including two 8¢ examples) sent from New Glasgow, NS to Halifax, NS, on 16 January 1897, the only reference to the 8¢ denomination in the valuation tables for the period involves a bulk newspaper receipt.

Surviving covers or pieces showing the 8¢ in combination with other values are scarce, and they form the basis of this article.

Registered items to Canada and the United States



Figure 1. Double rate registered cover with blue-grey 8¢ from Fenelon Falls, Ont, to Minden, Ont.

As might be expected, the most likely format to appear is that of a double-weight, registered item, featuring the 8¢ with a 3¢ to pay the added postage. One example of this combination is shown in Figure 1, mailed at Fenelon Falls, Ont on AP 16 95. The 8¢ is the blue-grey shade of that period and is up-rated with a 3¢ Small Queen. The reverse shows Lindsay & Haliburton MC (N) transit marks, and Minden, Ont receivers. A second cover (Figure 2) with the same franking, this time

Keywords & phrases: Small Queens rates

with a dark blue-grey 8¢, again with a 3¢ Small Queen, is a cross-border item mailed at Wroxeter, Ont on AU 26 95. It was destined for New York City, and the back shows a T. G. & B. Ex. Ry. E RPO cancel., and Toronto, Ont transit marks, both dated AU 26 95, and an AUG 28 1895 New York receiver. The 8¢ plus 3¢ practice continued through to the end of the 8¢ Small Queen period. Figure 3 shows a blackish-purple 8¢ in combination with a 3¢ Jubilee, mailed at Flesherton, Ont, OC 6 97 destined for Durham, Ont TE the sealed reverse features Flesherton squared circles and a Durham receiver. Later still is a cross-border item (Figure 4) from Amherst, NS, FE 14 98, also to New York. This time, an 8¢ violet black (on yellowish paper) is combined with a 3¢ Leaf issue. On the back are Amherst and Halifax & St. John M. C. CDSs, along with various US transit and receiver marks.

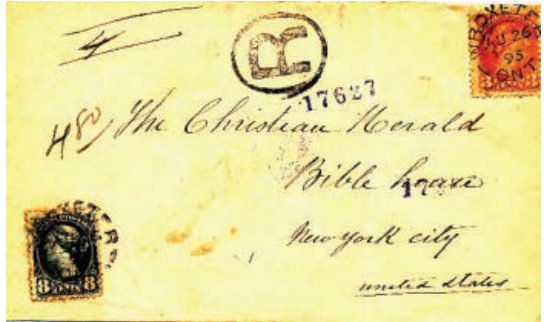


Figure 2. Cross-border, double weight registered cover featuring a dark blue-grey 8¢ mailed at Wroxeter, Ont, to NY, NY.



Figure 3. Blackish-purple 8¢ with 3¢ Jubilee posted at Flesherton, Ont, to Durham, Ont.

A partial Ott. & Parry Sound M. C. (E) JY ? 95 is shown on the underside. Similarly franked covers are shown, first in Figure 7 with a very dark blue-grey 8¢, sent from Rat Postage AU 20 96 to Toronto, back-stamped as the previous item from Rat Postage.

A later example of the triple-weight class is shown in Figure 8 and is an example of mixed franking, where the deep blackish-purple 8¢ and a 3¢ Small Queen are combined with a 3¢ from the numeral issue to pay the correct rate. This item was

Next in popularity are combinations paying for triple-rate items, usually the 8¢ and two 3¢ Small Queens. Figure 5 shows one such example—an envelope piece mailed at Rat Postage dated MY 13 95 to Toronto with a deep blue-grey shade of the 8¢. The reverse has a Rat Postage squared circle and a CPRY. PTARTHUR & WPEG MC CDS. Figure 6 shows another partial envelope cancelled at Eganville, Ont on JY 19 95 and featuring the Dark Grey shade of the 8¢ and a pair of 3¢ Small Queens.



Figure 4. Cross-border registered cover with 8¢ violet black on yellowish paper, combined with 3¢ Leaf issue.

posted on OC 13 98 at Sundridge, Ont, and is back stamped with Toronto, Canada, and Toronto & North Bay M. C. G.T.R. (S) No.3, transit marks, both on OC 13 98, and an Owen Sound, Ont receiver dated OC 14 98. The envelope was sealed using an 1886 one-cent coin for the impression.

The triple weight could also result in different combinations; Figure 9 shows a medium blue-grey 8¢ combined with a 6¢ Small Queen. Mailed at Ottawa AP 2 94 going to Trenton, NJ, US, this item was backstamped with various US marks.



Figure 6. Partial envelope franked with the dark grey shade of the 8¢ and a pair of 3¢ Small Queens cancelled with Eganville, Ont CDS.



Figure 5. Triple-rated domestic large piece with deep blue grey shade of the 8¢ combined with two 3¢ Small Queens; Rat Portage to Toronto.



Figure 7. A partial envelope with very dark blue-grey shade of the 8¢ with two 3¢ Small Queens; Rat Portage to Toronto.

The medium blue-grey 8¢ combined with a 5¢ Small Queen in Figure 10 appears to be a shortpaid (by one cent) triple-weight item. Sent from Toronto AP 14 96 to St. Louis, MO, US, the deficiency wasn't noticed. The reverse has Toronto CDS's and a Chicago, IL transit mark.

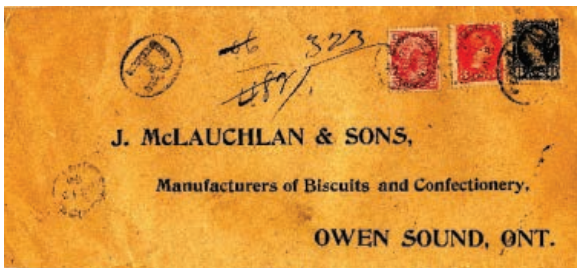


Figure 8, left. Three-colour combination paying domestic triple registered rate using deep blackish-purple 8¢, 3¢ Small Queen and 3¢ Numeral.

rate (6¢ per four ounces). Destined for Durham, Ont, it was cancelled with squared circle of Flesherton, Ont, on OC 23 97.

Registered Items to the United Kingdom and Europe

A dark bluish-grey slate 8¢ combines with a pair of 1¢ to pay the single UPU rate and the registration fee on the cover in Figure 12. Mailed from Ambleside, Ont on OC 1 96, and destined for Baden, Germany, it received two London Registered transit marks on the front,

In Figure 11 (below), we see a registered parcel post piece with a pair of blackish slate 8¢ combined with a 1¢ paying the registration fee, plus double the parcel post

with W. G. & B. RY No. 4 and Hamilton, Canada, Canadian transits and Wertheim and Kulsheim German transit marks on the reverse.



Figure 9. Medium grey 8¢ and 6¢ Small Queens paying the cross-border registered rate to Trenton, NJ.



Figure 10. Cross-border 1¢ short paid registered cover franked with 8¢ medium blue grey and 5¢ Small Queens to St. Louis, MO.

A triple-weight registered cover to England is featured in Figure 13. It illustrates the 5¢ UPU rate with two bright, blue-grey 8¢ and a pair of 2¢ paying the 20¢ (3 x 5¢ + 5¢ registration fee) total. Mailed at the Bathurst Street, Toronto, office on SP 3 95, it was processed at London, England, and received at Norwich on SP 13 95.

One of only two reported examples of a strip of three 8¢ Small Queens on piece or cover is illustrated in Figure 14. This registered parcel post item was mailed at Ossekeag, NB, on MR 1 94 to Vienna, Austria. A 14 MAR 94 London Registered transit is shown on the front.

The 1¢ Small Queen plus the three, deep blue-grey 8¢ stamps combine to pay the 5¢ registration charge, the 16¢ parcel post rate for up to sixteen ounces and the



Figure 11. A registered doubled-rated parcel post piece with a pair of blackish slate 8¢ combined with a 1¢ Small Queen.



Figure 12. Registered cover to Germany franked with dark bluish grey slate 8¢ and a pair of 1¢ Small Queens.



Figure 13. Triple weight registered cover to England franked with pairs of bright blue grey 8¢ and 2¢ Small Queens.



Figure 14. Registered parcel post cover with strip of three 8¢ and one 1¢ Small Queens paying 5¢ registration, 16¢ parcel post rate (up to 16 ounces) plus 4¢ surcharge; sent to Austria.

squared circle cancel dated MY 8 94 and the reverse has a Woodstock, Ont, squared circle dated MY 9 94, as receiver.

Despite the availability of 10¢ stamps, the combination of a medium blue-grey 8¢ and a 2¢ was used to pay double the UPU rate to England and are shown on the cover in Figure 16. Mailed at Quebec, Canada on AU 8 94, it is backstamped as received at Plymouth on AU 20 94.

The magnificent Small Queen cover illustrated in Figure 17 features an example of the bright blue-grey 8¢, a 10¢, and a 2¢ in concert with a gutter pane block of thirty of the ½ ¢ —

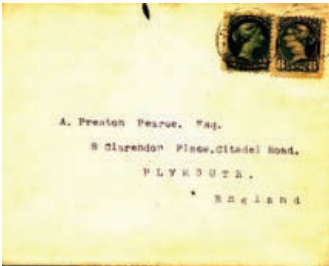


Figure 16. Double UPU rate to England, paid with medium blue-grey 8¢ and 2¢ Small Queens.



Figure 15. Triple-weight cover to Woodstock, ON franked with robin's egg blue 8¢ and 1¢ Small Queens.



Figure 17. Seven times UPU rate to England (35¢) paid with block of 30 half-cent, bright blue-grey 8¢, 10¢, and 2¢ Small Queens.

all totalling 35¢, which pays seven times the UPU rate to England. It was mailed at Toronto, Canada on JUN 10 95, and a London EC JU 20 95 confirms receipt at that time.

This denomination had a relatively short life; the Diamond Jubilee commemoratives of 1897 and the “Leaf” and “Numeral” definitive issues of 1897–98 eventually replaced all the Small Queens.

The author welcomes comments and/or scans of similar items at: jafrebs@aol.com.

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 March 2017 and 15 June 2017.

British Columbia

The favourite cover on the front page of the June newsletter, edited by Andrew Scott, features a New Westminster Provincial Exhibition cover dated 4 October 1928, a seemingly very collectable item. In addition, this cover is addressed to Charles B Hill-Tout, not only a philatelist but also a noted amateur ethnologist. Andrew follows up with an article that shows a cover franked with the colony's first postage stamp and tells the story of a crooked postmaster by the name of John D'Ewes and a gold seeker named John Bastedo. Tracy Cooper has an updated the list of BC cancels. It has been twenty years since Bill Topping last updated the list. Andrew Scott tells another story about Brownsville, the Fraser River, the only method of crossing the lower part of the river, and the opening of its first post office in 1891. Glenna Metchette continues the story of the post offices flooded because of the construction of the WAC Bennett Dam, showing a couple of first flight covers in the process. Mike Sagar discovered a new MOON (Money Office Order Number); it will appear in his new catalogue due out this fall. Ending the newsletter is an illustrated listing of recent British Columbia Post Office markings.

Confederation

Glenn Archer begins the April issue of *Confederation*, the Large and Small Queens study group newsletter, with an article from Guillaume Vadeboncoeur on the acquisition of two 5¢ Small Queen stamps with the triangular printing flaw in the lower right corner. Vic Willson writes about two Large Queen covers with plate flaws on 12 ½ ¢ and 15 ¢ stamps. Jim McCormick admits to having written some hotly debated articles on plating the 6¢ of the Small Queen issue and, in this issue, he presents an article on plate position 96, well illustrated as usual. Ron Smith writes how to have fun searching for and confirming the use of a fancy cancel. Jim Jung submitted an article on the spur in the left outer frame line of the 2¢ Large Queen in plate position 4. Ending the newsletter, study group chair Bill Radcliffe illustrates two rare pre-UPU 12¢ rate covers to Cuba and British Guiana.

Corgi Times

Robin Harris is the editor of *Corgi Times*, the newsletter of the Elizabethan II Study Group. The March-April issue begins with an article about the Battle of Vimy Ridge commemorative stamp issued on 8 April 2017, pointing out that there are seven die cut varieties in the ten-stamp booklet and heavier horizontal lines in the stone wall. In a second article, Robin points out the historical value of the stamp compared to many others. Note that the official first day cover of the Group of Seven Kiosk stamps is shown, and it is quite attractive. A chart is illustrated showing the new meter/postal indicia postal rates for 2017. There's quite an interesting article in this issue about the scarce Kolor Kover first day covers made between 1961 and 1969. Robin takes us back fifty years to the stamps issued in 1967. While your favourite issue may be the Centennials, mine is the flag stamp commemorating one hundred

years of Confederation. Robin also notes that the 2015 Year of the Rooster issue provided two distinct varieties. Peter Skwarczynski further notes that the 2005 FINA World Championships pair were also printed at ninety degrees to each other. Gunter Sawatski sent in scans of illustrated permit indicia, the hot new collecting craze. Earle Covert reports that there are more than a thousand different illustrated permit types. The issue includes a report on the Daisies stamps, issued by Canada Post in March 2017, which require that you purchase an entire roll in order to read the complete song, *Daisy Daisy* written by Henry Dacre in 1892. Ending this newsletter are some Beausejour, Manitoba, centennial-period, water meter reading cards that Earle Covert shared with Robin.

In the May-June newsletter of the Elizabethan Study Group, Robin points out a Canada post error on the Star Trek prestige booklets—they have a face value of \$22.25 and are selling for \$21.95. Also, there's a recall on the Villeneuve first day cover. Note the ten different subjects on stamps for Canada 150, featuring ten significant events since Canada's centennial in 1967. The launch of these stamps took place on 1 June. In addition to the first two errors made by Canada Post, the Vimy souvenir sheet was not available until three weeks after the issue date. Note also the Official Postal Cards issued to celebrate Canada 150. On 16 May, the F1 Canadian Grand Prix Press Sheet was released. Canada Post released two stamps on 24 May, featuring two of the most-celebrated Muslim festivals, *Eid al-Fitr* and *Eid al-Adha*. Various detail pamphlets featuring single issues were also noted. The ten Canada 150 stamps featuring the most significant events since 1967 are shown with corresponding stamps of the individual periods—imagine! The Environment definitives celebrate their fortieth this year. By the way, did you notice your editor Robin Harris hobnobbing with celebrities at the Canada 150 Summit series launch on 1 June? Closing this newsletter is an article from Andrew Chung, showing Canada Post replacement and presentation first day covers of the 1967 Centennial Definitive issue.

Dots and Scratches

This is the newsletter of the Re-entries and Constant Plate Varieties Study Group, edited by Michael Smith. In the May 2017 issue, Michael revisited his attendance at ORAPEX and the group get-togethers on Friday and Saturday nights. As in all issues, very detailed illustrations are provided with each subject discussed. Michael begins with the description and illustration of re-entered imprints and a repeating plate flaw on the Queen Victoria 7½d. He then writes about the chin flaw on the 10¢ decimal issue. The map stamp has always been a popular issue, and Scott Robinson writes about a spectacular, misplaced entry. Next, Michael explains two re-entries on the 5¢ King George V Medallion issue—one called “The Bluenose” and, from the Pictorial Issue, the “mole on the forehead” variety on the King George V 2¢ brown. The 50¢ Victoria Parliament Building issue had major re-entries in “Canada” and “cents.” Don't tell anyone that Michael dared to show a revenue stamp with a re-entry to end the newsletter!

Fancy Cancels

The *Fancy Cancel & Miscellaneous Markings Newsletter*, edited by Dave Lacelle, is always loaded with variety, and the April issue is no different. The “Bogey Head” cancellations are difficult to describe, but several different ones were sent in by Jim McCormick. Barry Dale and Mike Halhed contributed “IXI” and “X” geometrics. Mike also gave a plug for using the Postal History Society of Canada (PHSC) website in doing research on the legitimacy of a fancy cancel on cover. Hugh Rathbun provided proof strikes from crown wax hammers as well as

photos of the hammers. Robert Coulson sent in a series of roller cancels. Then there is the roller cancel borrowed from MOOSE along with some input from Mike Sagar and Doug Murray showing a traditional Doukhobor house, hat, and beard. More items were provided by Paul Varty, Doug Lingard, Ron Smith, and Bob Stock. Fakes, bogus, and spurious items occupy the next two pages. Like most of us, Dave likes to receive letters with stamps attached. He forwards them to OXFAM (<https://www.oxfam.ca/stampoutpoverty>). The last item is devoted to the famous Beebe house that once served as a post office for Canada and the US. I wrote a story on this post office; it appeared in *BNA Topics* several years ago.

First Impressions

Gary Dickinson brings us another very colourful newsletter from the First Day Cover Study Group. In this issue, Number 32, John van der Ven shares another of his cachet-maker discoveries with an article on JW Snowball of Toronto. Donald Leblanc continues with the examination of Royal Visit covers showing some gorgeous material. Next, you can read firsthand why SK McGuffin of London, Ontario, left the first-day cover business. Gary finishes the newsletter with the evolution of H & E Cachets. The H & E Stamp Company derived its name from Harold Crick and Earl Graziadei.

King George VI

In the first quarter of 2017, issue Number 36, Ken Lemke, editor of the *King George VI Post & Mail*, begins with a cover story by Gary Steele on the 4¢ airmail rate to New Zealand under the Empire Airmail Scheme. This topic is continued further on in the newsletter by Stephen Prest, who talks about the timeframe. Donald LeBlanc continues with the second part of his story on the Royal Visit of 1939 and “The Impossibles” plate blocks. The research is extensive, with lovely illustrations of plate blocks. These articles are a must-read for collectors of the Royal Visit issue. Eldon Godfrey continues with part nine of his coverage on the Foreign Exchange Control Board. This installment is titled “Censorship—Perceived & Specified,” another well-illustrated and well-written article.

Military Mail

The Canadian Military Mail Study Group publishes a very interesting newsletter edited by Dean Mario. In the April issue, Jerome Jarnick tells the story of Exercise Polar Strike, a large mock-warfare exercise that took place in Alaska in 1965. In his article, he shows an illustration of a very clean airmail cover, a rarity because of the short period of the exercise. Robert Toombs submitted Part II of his story of the Canadian Armed Forces in the Indian Ocean during the Second World War. This article is entitled “RCAF Trans Ocean Flights.” Some good history on the subject is accompanied by nice covers. Mike Sagar is putting together a catalogue on MOON cancels (Money Order Office Numbers) and is looking for information on the QE II-era Military Moons. Michael was hoping to have things tied up by the end of March of this year, but there may still be time to help out. You can send scans to gailandmike@shaw.ca. Wayne Schnarr has been doing hammer studies on FPOs from the Great War and shows some comparisons. To make the catalogue as complete as possible, he is looking for assistance from readers, asking them to provide scans. David Collyer sent in a little more information on Canadian Nursing Sister at Shepherd’s Hotel. Hal Kellett provided a cover illustrating censorship in the Anglo-Boer mail to Canada. The newsletter ended with congratulations to all who exhibited at the Edmonton National Spring Show.

Newfoundland

Norris (Bob) Dyer, Past President of BNAPS, long-time Newfoundland collector, and Chairman and Editor of the *Newfie Newsletter* died suddenly on 3 April 2017. He will be missed. We send our sincere condolences to his wife Brigitte and the rest of his family. The newsletter's second quarter issue, Number 167, is the last that he edited. It opens with a story from CA Stillions of a theft from the St John's Museum of three binders of stamps, followed by the arrest of WJ Walsh, Minister of Agriculture, in 1934. The story includes an outline of Walsh's political life. Contributed by George McGowan is a document from the US Post Office Department outlining money order changes, US to Newfoundland, 1902. Bob Dyer described a card written by ER Krippner (who also went by the name of R Reichard), based on some information by Peter Motson in trying to make a stamp-trading deal. Ken Wehit shows what is presently the earliest-known usage of a 7¢ Gilbert line perforation stamp on a registered cover. George McGowan provided an article showing covers of Newfoundland's participation at the British Empire Exhibition of 1924–1925. Captain Bruce Robertson writes quite a story entitled "In Search of the Dakota Indian and Pancho Villa." It all starts with a red wax seal on a Rev Butler cover. From the Robert Pratt files of the Collector's Club of Chicago we see the finished proof on 1906 Hert's Philatelic Society Menu; this ends the newsletter.

Pence-Cents

I'm sure we all have material that has little to do with our specialties, but we keep it for whatever reason. And in most cases, we really have no idea if there is anything meaningful. Well, this newsletter along with *Confederation* and *Dots & Scratches* will certainly help in identifying possibilities. The editors of these three publications provide extraordinary illustrations of numerous varieties, pointing out the exact locations of re-entries, flaws, errors, dots, etc. Nothing can describe what they do here, so it is highly recommended that you avail yourselves of these newsletters, available online at BNAPS.org. You never know what you will come across!

In the May issue, editor Jim Jung has put together another fine publication, starting with an article by Ron Majors entitled "Death Through the Letterbox: Early Canadian Mourning Covers." In Ron's article, illustrations of Canadian mourning covers, the backflap floral designs, both with and without embossing, from the Pence-Cents era also has explanations of the meaning of the black borders. It's a great article. Jim Jung follows with the secret varieties of the 10¢ Consort beautifully illustrated. Vic Willson provides an illustration along with the history of a newly discovered Pence-era soldier's letter.

Editor Jung shows a cover that he believes was sent by George Brown in 1861. Scott Robinson sent an addendum to his Part I of repeating Constant Plate Varieties on the 7½d Queen. Part II will appear in the next newsletter.



Newly discovered Pence-era soldier's letter (front), franked with two ½d Queen Victoria Stamps; sent to Ireland in 1859.

Postal Stationery Notes

Robert Lemire does such a good job as “interim” editor of this group’s newsletter that the meaning of the word “interim” might be being changed to “for life.” In the May edition, Chris Ellis’ contribution heads up the front page, introducing another new facsimile money order card, this one a Canadian Express French postal card. Chris also submitted an article telling the story of the J Winer and Co of Hamilton, Ontario, showing illustrated cards issued prior to the company’s amalgamation with the National Drug and Chemical Company of Canada. Seven more postage prepaid cards are shown, two from the daisy issue and five Star Trek cards. Robert contributed an article on two new PCF views. Several members sent in scans of the new official post cards from Canada Post celebrating Canada’s 150th birthday. Ending the newsletter is an update on the Earliest-Reported Postmark (ERP) project by Bill Walton, in which he is documenting the ERPs for American Bank Note and Canadian Bank Note stationery issues from 1903 to 1929.

Railway Post Office (RPO)

The first quarter of the *RPO Newsletter*, edited by Ross Gray, is loaded with new updates and new finds. The front page features a cover with a new early date and direction indicium for the Montreal & Isl’d Pond/M.J.E. Blais transit stamp, with an explanation of its use, and a new oval clerk stamp from the Moose Jaw and Empress RPO.

Chris Anstead sent in a new discovery made by Louise Daigneault of a clerk handstamp for the Montreal & Mont Laurier RPO, with a routing story. Ross reports several ERDs and LRDs as does non-BNAPS member Jack Brandt. Brian Stalker has discovered a second hammer for the G.T.R./S. Branch scarce postmark. Brian Copeland, Rick Parama, and Morris Beattie also sent in illustrations of updated RPO markings to round out the newsletter.

Revenues

Issue Number 92 of the *Canadian Revenue Newsletter* is dated March of this year. Edited by Christopher Ryan, this issue starts off with two short articles by Dave Hannay. One shows a new variety of excise tax meter, and the other a triple perfin on the 50¢ Saskatchewan electrical inspection stamp. Further on in the newsletter, Dave shows two cheques with embossed war and excise tax stamps in horizontal orientation. Although these date from 1921 and 1953, they are listed for the first time in the 2017 Canadian Revenue Stamp Catalogue.

John Walsh sent a scan of the composite die proof of Edward VII inland revenue stamps that he came across in the files of the Collectors Club of Chicago and wants to know if the original is in someone’s hands. Illustrated (courtesy of John Jamieson) is a Newfoundland postal money order with the details of the money order tax stamp. Fritz Angst shows a second Saskatchewan electrical inspection bisect document, a practice that was not sanctioned. Christopher provides the remainder of the articles beginning with Newfoundland’s stamp duty on postal money orders between 1914 and 1915 and explains in a second article how Canada’s inland revenue and postal war tax stamps did not finance its war expenditures during the first World War. Included are tables showing revenue and expenditures. Next is an illustrated list of Ontario municipal user-pay garbage tags and bags. Closing out the newsletter is an article entitled “Introduction of Small Packages of Pressed Tobacco in the late Nineteenth Century.” Quite a story.

War Times

Bill Pekonen, the editor of *War Times*, begins the February issue of the newsletter by describing how the contributed-article file has dried up. But in this issue, Charles LeBlonde submitted a mourning cover from Switzerland to Canada said to have been sent by the Princess of Lichtenstein and routed by Geneva, Barcelona, Lisbon, New York, and finally to Canada. A good portion of the newsletter is then taken up with War Exchange tax, Munition and Supply covers with department notices. The last item is a 1939 directive from the Vancouver Director of Postal Services, indicating how prisoner-of-war mail is to be treated.

Postscript

From what I am given to understand, an editor's job is to gather articles, review them, adjust them and put them together to create an interesting periodical for recipients to read. In this case, the outcome are newsletters. However, in many of our Study Group newsletters, the editor is also the one who supplies the bulk of the articles. We all have philatelic pieces that we treasure and, perhaps, associated stories to go with the piece.

Share them with your colleagues and help your editors. If you don't feel comfortable writing an article by yourself, Study Group editors can assist you in putting the article together, and you will learn from the process. Just ask. Only you can benefit the philatelic hobby by sharing your knowledge.

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New issues

William J F Wilson

The Battle of Vimy Ridge

CANADA Post released one P stamp and a souvenir sheet with two \$2.50 stamps on 8 April, as part of a joint issue between Canada and France to commemorate the Battle of Vimy Ridge in WWI. A design by Susan Scott of Montreal appears on the P stamp and one of the \$2.50 stamps, showing the Male Mourner statue on Canada's Vimy Monument in France (Figure 1). The twin pillars of the monument rise up behind it. The design for the other \$2.50 stamp is by Sarah Bougault of France. It shows the monument's Canada Bereft statue and the Canadian and French flags.



Figure 1. Vimy Monument.

Vimy Ridge runs for seven kilometres in a northwest to southeast direction, a short distance north of Arras in northeastern France. The crest of the ridge reaches 135 m above sea level in its southeastern part at a point known as Hill 135, and 145 m in its northwestern part (Hill 145). A spur of the ridge extends northwest from Hill 145 for a little over a mile to another high point known as the Pimple, elevation 120 m [1, p. 245]. The steep, eastern side of the ridge faces the Douai Plains and the coalfields of Lens, located about 60 to 80 m in elevation below the ridge crest. It is less steep on

the western side, with the steepest parts being the approach to Hill 145 and the Pimple. The ridge provides a commanding view in all directions, giving anyone who occupies it a tremendous tactical advantage over an opposing army below.

The Lens coalfields were vital to Germany's war effort. To solidify their control of these coalfields, they captured Vimy Ridge in October 1914 [2, p. 53] and fortified it with trenches, tunnels, barbed wire, concrete machine gun emplacements, and artillery. They also protected the western approaches with a wide zone of trenches, machine guns, and barbed wire to slow and deplete enemy forces before they could reach the ridge [1, p. 246]. The French attacked from the west several times between December 1914 and the end of 1915, incurring 300,000 casualties (100,000 of these men died), but were unable to secure the ridge. They did, however, push the German front line back to the base of Hill 145 in the northern part of the ridge and to a line about 4km in front of the ridge in the southern part. Without these gains, the later Canadian assault may well not have succeeded [2, p. 60].

At the end of February 1916, at the request of the French, the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) replaced the French in the Arras sector [2, p. 58]. A Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) had been raised from across Canada, beginning with the outbreak of hostilities and

continuing through the war. By early 1915, a Canadian Division had been formed from the CEF, attached to the BEF, and sent to France. They first saw action in March at the Second Battle of Ypres [1, p. 51]. A 2nd Canadian Division crossed to France in September 1915 [1, p. 113]. During the preceding month, it and the earlier one, now renamed the 1st Canadian Division, had been joined together to form a permanent Canadian Corps. The commander of the Corps was Lieutenant-General EAH Alderson until 28 May 1916, then Lieutenant-General Julian Byng until after the Battle of Vimy Ridge. Both of these men were British officers. A 3rd Division had been formed by late March 1915, and a 4th Division crossed to France in August 1916 [1, p. 134]. At full strength, the Corps consisted of about 100,000 men. (For clarity, the Canadian Corps and the CEF were not the same thing. Rather, the Canadian Corps was a fighting unit drawn from the CEF but under the command of the BEF, and staffed by British officers when qualified Canadian officers were not available.)

With the battle for the St Eloi craters near Ypres in April 1916, it became the rule rather than the exception that the Canadian Corps (at that time consisting of three Divisions) entered and left the line as a whole [1, p. 140], rather than being parcelled out to different BEF units. At the Battle of the Somme (July to November 1916), the first three Divisions fought together starting 3 September. Then, beginning 17 October, they began to move to the northern part of the Arras sector, which included Vimy Ridge. There, they joined the British First Army (part of the BEF). The new 4th Division, however, joined the Somme battle only on 10 October, relieving the 1st and 3rd Divisions [1, p. 187], and then moved to Arras at the end of November [1, p. 198]. Here, a new offensive was being planned, the Battles of Arras.

Byng was informed on 19 January 1917 that the Canadian Corps would attack the whole of Vimy Ridge from south of Hill 135 north to and including Hill 145 [1, p. 245]. (Later, they were also assigned the Pimple.) On 5 March, he submitted his “Scheme of Operations” for the Canadian Corps’ attack to the First Army commander, General Sir Henry Horne. It was approved with only a few alterations [1, p. 247]. The Canadian Divisions were arranged in numerical order from south to north, and the infantry in each division was to move in waves, the wave behind overtaking the lead wave at predetermined lines within the enemy trenches, to reach the target line beyond the ridge crest. If the plan went according to schedule, Vimy Ridge and its eastern slope would be in Canadian hands within eight hours from the start of the battle [1, p. 248]. The Pimple was to be taken the next day (see below).

Because the ridge was so heavily defended, the artillery of the Canadian Corps was reinforced with artillery from the First Army, giving a total of 245 heavy guns and howitzers, and a field artillery of 480 eighteen-pounders and 138 4.5-inch howitzers [1, p. 248]. This came out to one heavy gun per twenty yards of frontage and one field gun per ten yards.

For the three weeks prior to the attack, the artillery bombarded the enemy defenses continuously to clear barbed wire, smash fortifications, destroy artillery, target strongpoints and ammunition dumps, and harass enemy troop movements [1, p. 249]. During the attack, the field guns laid down a creeping barrage that stood still for (typically) three minutes and then moved one hundred yards further on, with the infantry keeping forty to seventy yards behind to avoid short-falling shells. A series of standing barrages targeted known defensive positions beyond the creeping barrage, and they moved forward as the creeping barrage moved forward [1, p. 249]. A similar barrage had been tried at the Somme offensive, and again at the Battle of Verdun, but its effectiveness had been compromised in three ways. First was the problem of short-falling shells, caused by factors such as wind, rain, and changes in the range

of the guns due to wear in the barrel [3, p. 111]; second, the infantry could move too quickly and walk into its own barrage; and, third, they could be delayed by terrain or enemy fire and be left behind as the barrage moved off ahead of them. They would then be cut down by enemy soldiers and machine gunners emerging from their dugouts after the barrage had passed.

Byng minimized these problems as much as possible at Vimy by thoroughly training the gunners to allow for the sources of error, improving communication and coordination between the gunners and the advancing infantry, and training the infantry on a full-sized mock-up of the battlefield constructed on sloping ground behind their own lines. Enemy trenches were laid out with tape, and infantry units practiced their advance behind a line of officers who moved forward at precisely-timed intervals to simulate the creeping barrage.

At precisely 0530 on the morning of Monday, 9 April, the artillery began the creeping and standing barrages, and the first wave of 15,000 infantry left the trenches for No-Man's-Land. There was a driving northwest wind with snow and sleet, and previous rain had turned the ground into mud, but the wind was behind them and into the faces of the enemy [1, pp. 252 f]. Long-range machine-gun fire from beyond the standing barrages, and artillery that had survived bombardment, produced heavy losses among the men. Despite this, the first three Divisions were at the final target line on schedule by mid-afternoon on 9 April.

The 4th Division, attacking Hill 145, had a much more difficult time. Not only was it the most heavily-defended part of the ridge, but it also overlooked everything else. The slope was steep, the ground had been completely pulverized by shelling and turned into a sea of mud by the earlier rains, and there was nowhere to hide. Progress up the muddy slope was slow, the creeping barrage moved too far ahead to be useful, and the attackers were fully exposed to enemy fire. By noon, the attack had become disorganized, and had ground to a halt at various positions on the slope, from the lowest line of German trenches up to the trenches at the crest of the hill [1, pp. 259-261]. It was only when the 85th Battalion (Nova Scotia Highlanders), a unit that had never seen battle, stormed up the slope at 6 pm that the west side of the hill was cleared of defenders [4, p. 220]. The north side of the hill and the eastern slopes were secured on 10 April.

The 4th Division's 10th Brigade was initially held as a reserve unit in the assault on Hill 145 on 9 April, and was then to attack the Pimple on 10 April. However, the difficulties on 9 April required it to be called into action. The need to recuperate on 10 April, and bad weather on 11 April, meant that it finally attacked the Pimple, again with a snowstorm blowing in the faces of the enemy, on 12 April [1, p. 262]. That success put the Canadian Corps in full command of Vimy Ridge by the end of the day on 12 April. Further advances were made eastward on 13 and 14 April.

The victory at Vimy was a remarkable achievement, and significant because the tactically-important high ground of the ridge passed permanently from enemy to Allied hands. There were also many heroic acts, with four Victoria Crosses awarded, three of them posthumously. However, the Corps paid for its victory with 10,602 casualties over the period 9–14 April, including 3,598 dead [1, p. 265]. Even this number, large as it is, is small compared to the 56,638 dead that Canada lost in battle during the war [5]. France had earlier lost 100,000 dead at Vimy Ridge, as described above, and suffered over a million dead in the war as a whole. The total for all countries in the war was about eight million.

It is perhaps fitting, then, that the stamps do not depict the battle, but rather the monument erected afterward. The monument is not dedicated to glory or triumph, but to loss and remembrance. Its designer and sculptor, Walter Allward, placed Canada Bereft centrally atop the eastern wall, facing the Douai Plains. Representing Canada mourning her fallen sons, she stands with her head bowed, looking down on an empty casket at the base of the wall. On the western side, the wide steps of the monument are flanked by the Male Mourner on one side and the Female Mourner on the other. The Male Mourner symbolizes the fathers of all of the dead soldiers, and the Female Mourner the mothers. Their heads, too, are bowed. Above them rise the twin towers, and atop these are the allegorical statues of Knowledge, Hope, Faith, Justice, Truth, Charity, Honour, and Peace. Peace gazes upward toward the sky, her face forever hidden from those walking below.

The information in the accompanying table is from the Canada Post website:

<https://www.canadapost.ca/web/en/blogs/collecting/list.page?cattype=collecting&cat=stamps>

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).

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- [1] Colonel GWL Nicholson, *Canadian Expeditionary Force 1914-1919: Official History of the Canadian Army in the First World War*, Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationery, Ottawa, 1962. Available online at http://www.cmp-cpm.forces.gc.ca/dhh-dhp/his/docs/CEF_e.pdf.
- [2] Michael Boire, "Vimy Ridge: The Battlefield before the Canadians, 1914-1916," in *Vimy Ridge: A Canadian Reassessment*, Geoffrey Hays, Andrew Iarocci, and Mike Bechthold, eds., Laurier Centre for Military, Strategic, and Disarmament Studies and Wilfrid Laurier University Press, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, 2007, pp. 51-61.
- [3] Tim Cook, "The Gunners at Vimy," *Ibid.*, pp. 105-124.
- [4] Andrew Godefroy, "The 4th Canadian Division," *Ibid.*, pp. 211-224.
- [5] Statistics Canada, https://www65.statcan.gc.ca/acyb02/1947/acyb02_19471126002-eng.htm.

Footnotes for Table 1 (next page):


- ^(a) Intermeshed "Canada" on back.
- ^(b) Number of booklets, prestige booklets, special panes, or souvenir sheets.
- ^(c) Four pages of the Star Trek Prestige Booklet are gummed PVA on the back and contain one or more perforated stamps. One of these pages has three P stamps (Captain Kirk); one contains a \$1 stamp, a \$1.20 stamp, a \$1.80 stamp, and a \$2.50 stamp; one contains a single, hexagonal \$5 stamp, and one is a souvenir sheet containing the P, \$1, \$1.20, \$1.80 and \$2.50 stamps. The souvenir sheet and the \$5 stamp are available only in the Prestige Booklet, not separately.
- ^(d) Canada Post lists the booklet of ten as 4CL, but the booklet itself has the same five colour "dots" as the pane of five and the souvenir sheet in the Prestige Booklet.
- ^(e) On all of the Star Trek stamps except the \$5 (which is untagged) and the coil stamp, the top tagging bar contains the words "CANADA 150."

Table 1. 2017 Commemoratives

Stamp	Daisies	Battle of Vimy Ridge	Star Trek
Value	2 × P	P, 2 × \$2.50	5 × P, \$1.00, \$1.20, \$1.80, \$2.50, \$5.00
Issued	1 Mar	8 Apr	27 Apr
Printer	L-M	Bk: CI SS: Phil@poste (France)	L-M
Pane	Bk: 10 Coil: 50 ^(a) SS: 2	Bk: 10 SS: 2	Bk: 10 Pane: 5 Coil: 50 ^(a) Prestige Booklet: ^(c)
Paper	C	C	C
Process	4CL	Bk: 6CL + 1 matte finish SS: 5CL + 1 engraving	5CL ^(d)
Qty (1000s)	Bk: 1,000 ^(b) Coil: 130 SS: 100 ^(b)	Bk: 200 ^(b) SS: 130 ^(b)	Bk: 350 ^(b) Pane: 85 ^(b) Coil: 60 PB: 75 ^(b)
Tag	Bk, SS: G2S Coil: G4S	G4S	\$5.00: untagged All others: G4S ^(e)
Gum	Bk, coil: P-S SS: PVA	Bk: P-S SS: PVA	Bk, coil: P-S All others: PVA
Size, mm	SS: 26 × 32 Coil: 24 × 20	41 × 30	Coil: 24 × 20 \$5.00: 39.5 × 28.5 × 45.5 All others: 45 × 30
Perf	SS: 13.1 × 13.1 Bk, coil: Simulated	SS: 13.2 × 13.3 Bk: Simulated	Bk, coil: Simulated \$5.00: 13.2 × 13.3 × 13.2 All others: 13.3 × 13.3
Teeth	SS: 17 × 21 Bk, coil: Simulated	SS: 27 × 20 Bk: Simulated	Bk, coil: Simulated \$5.00: 26 × 19 × 30 All others: 30 × 20

Abbreviations for Table 1:

*number*CL = (*number of colours*) colour lithography; Bk = booklet; C = Tullis Russell Coatings (coated paper); CI = Colour Innovations; *Gnumber*S = general tagging (*number of sides*); L-M = Lowe-Martin; P = permanently equal to the domestic rate; P-S = pressure-sensitive; PVA = polyvinyl alcohol; SS = souvenir sheet.



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c/o Sparks Auctions

1550 Carling Avenue, Suite 202, Ottawa, ON K1Z 8S8

(613) 567-3336. (If no answer, please leave a voicemail. Your call will be returned.)

BNAPS@sparks-auctions.com



Sparks Auctions is the agent for the BNAPS Book Department. Specific inquiries should go to Brian Wolfenden, who can be reached at the address above. The entire BNAPS book inventory can be viewed on the Internet at: <http://sparks-auctions.com/bnapsbooks/>

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

New Titles




C\$ Retail

	<p><i>The Arthur W. Leggett Exhibit Decimal Stamps of Canada.</i> Probably <i>the</i> classic exhibit of Decimal issue stamps and covers, in book form for the first time. 2017, Spiral bound, 144 pages, 8.5 × 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-927119-79-2. BNAPS Exhibit Series No. 94. Stock # B4h923-094-1.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$66.00</p>
	<p><i>Benjamin Franklin and Postal Services in British North America,</i> Gary Dickinson. First Day Covers honouring a man who played a large part in developing the postal system in early British North America. 2017, Spiral bound, 82 pages, 8.5 × 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-927119-78-5. Stock # B4h089-1.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$49.00</p>
	<p><i>Canadian Prisoners of War and Civilian Internees in Europe during the Great War,</i> Michael Powell. An incredible collection of material telling a little-known WWI story. 2017, Spiral bound, 174 pages, 8.5 × 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-927119-80-8. Stock # B4h090-1.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$73.00</p>
	<p><i>Québec 1763-1867, One Century of Postal History and Postmarks, Un Siècle d'Histoire Postale et de Marcophilie</i> by Grégoire Teyssier. The definitive study of the postmarks of Quebec City up to the time of Confederation, and the first BNAPS exhibit book with an English translation on the pages opposite the French originals. 2017, spiral bound, 344 pages, 8.5 × 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-927119-77-8. BNAPS Exhibit Series No. 93. Stock # B4h923-093-1.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$105.00</p>
	<p><i>Emerging Saskatchewan: The Postal History of Territorial Assiniboia 1882-1905</i> by Donald W. Thompson and Norman E. Wagner. The limited printing 2004 original edition, digitally scanned and reprinted in 2017 to make the information available to a larger audience. 2017 Spiral bound, 342 pages, 8.5 × 11, colour and black and white. ISBN: 978-1-927119-76-1. Stock # B4h087-1.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$82.00</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>International Rapid Cancelling Machines Volume 3 – Quebec, the Maritimes and Newfoundland</i> by Cecil Coutts. The third of three volumes detailing the use of International Machines to cancel Canadian mail, with many contemporary examples. 2017 Spiral bound, 124 pages, 8.5 × 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-927119-73-1. Stock # B4h088-1. C\$59.00</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$59.00</p>
	<p><i>Travelling Post Office Postmarks of Newfoundland & Labrador (Second Edition) – A Study of the Postmark Hammers</i>, compiled by Brian Stalker, edited by Ross Gray. The Second Edition, completely reformatted using new listing numbers, incorporates around 300 updates since publication of the First Edition. 2016, spiral bound, 136 pages, 8.5×11, black and white with some colour. ISBN: 978-1-927119-74-7. Stock # B4h084-1.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$47.00</p>
	<p><i>Travelling Post Office Postmarks of Newfoundland & Labrador Compendium of Related Information</i>, compiled by Brian Stalker, edited by Ross Gray. The Compendium summarises twenty years of research and will aid anyone wishing to identify the routes taken, the vessels and the mail officers who handled mail to and from outports around Newfoundland and Labrador’s coastlines. 2016, spiral bound, 388 pages, 8.5 × 11, black and white with some colour. ISBN: 978-1-927119-75-4. Stock # B4h085-1.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$78.00</p>

New Books

Be among the first to receive new books! We will notify you by e-mail whenever a new BNAPS publication is available. Simply go to: <http://sparks-auctions.com/bnaps-books-mailing> to subscribe.

Shipping

A few of the BNAPS books when shipped individually will qualify for “other lettermail” postal rates which are reasonable; similarly U.S. and overseas “small packet” rates can sometimes apply. Many other packages have to be sent Parcel Post (starting at about \$8.50), or, sometimes, Xpresspost can be less expensive. We will find the most cost-efficient mailing system and charge exact postal charges plus \$2 per order (regardless of the number of books) for packaging and handling. Please e-mail us giving your address with Postal Code or Zip Code and we will give you the exact postage and handling charge. If you do not have e-mail, please telephone. We will do the calculation and return your call.

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Payment by Visa or MasterCard is preferred because this allows an exact “to the cent” payment and conversion of currencies if applicable. To pay by cheque, please contact Sparks Auctions directly for a total. For \$US or £UK cheques, amounts will be calculated at the current rate of exchange.

BNAPS Book release notes

BNAPS has released three new books since the last issue of *BNA Topics* went to press, the 94th volume in the BNAPS Exhibit Series and two new handbooks. All are available through our agent, Sparks Auctions. Also included in this issue is a review of the new van Dam Revenue catalogue.

The Arthur W Leggett Exhibit Decimal Stamps of Canada. Probably the classic exhibit of Decimal issue stamps and covers, in book form for the first time. 2017, Spiral bound, 144 pages, 8.5 × 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-927119-79-2. BNAPS Exhibit Series No. 94. Stock # B4h923-094-1. C\$66.



In talking about how he started the BNAPS Exhibit Book Series, the late Ken Ellison lamented only two things, the fact that twenty-first century digital technology was not available at the beginning so that all books in the series could be available in colour, and that virtually all the great exhibits of the last half of the twentieth century had been broken up before the series was started. This volume remedies in part one of those laments—an exhibit long dispersed, the Arthur W Leggett Exhibit Decimal Stamps of Canada, brought back through the forethought of the exhibitor and persistence of a current collector of the material. BNAPS thanks Ron Majors for arranging permission from the Leggett family to print this book and for scanning all the pages from Art Leggett's original colour photocopy.

Stamp and postal history dealer Arthur Leggett passed away on 26 February 2011. Art's full-time occupation was a partnership in Belmont Chevrolet Oldsmobile of Weston, Ontario. He was Treasurer of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) and a founding member of the Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation Expertizing Committee. With William Maresch, Art published the *Canada Specialized Postage Stamp Catalogue*, the first Canadian catalogue to accurately price postmarks. *Canada Specialized*, which went through eleven editions between 1974 and 1986, also included prices for covers. Art was well known for his fine exhibits, including Maple Leaves and Numerals, Canada Large Queens, and the 1859 Decimal Issue, the subject of this volume in the BNAPS Exhibit Series. Art was made a Fellow of the RPSC in 1984 and elected to the BNAPS Order of the Beaver in 1985.



Benjamin Franklin and Postal Services in British North America, Gary Dickinson. First Day Covers honouring a man who played a large part in developing the postal system in early British North America. 2017, Spiral bound, 82 pages, 8.5 × 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-927119-78-5. Stock # B4h089-1. C\$49.

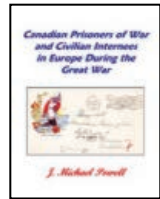
Everyone knows that Benjamin Franklin was a Founding Father of the United States of America, and that he also proved that lightning carried electricity, but not everyone knows how involved he was with the early postal system in the British part of continental North America. In his latest BNAPS handbook, *Benjamin Franklin and Postal Services in British North America*, Gary Dickinson tells this story and documents the Franklin-related stamps issued by Canada, especially the stamp jointly issued with the United States for the 1976 Bicentennial of the latter country, and the many First Day and event covers that resulted from these issues.

Dr Gary Dickinson worked in British Columbia secondary schools, colleges, and universities for thirty-five years until he retired in 2001, the last twenty years at Okanagan

College and Okanagan University College, where he served as South Okanagan Regional Director for five years and Dean of the Faculty of Adult and Continuing Education for fifteen years. He was also Acting Vice-President, Academic, for the year-and-a-half prior to his retirement. Gary has continued his association with Okanagan College by chairing its Central Okanagan Advisory Committee and serving on the Research Ethics Board. He was co-founder of the BNAPS FDC Study Group and is editor of its newsletter, *First Impressions*. Gary and his wife Barbara have six grown children and were foster parents for twenty years.

Canadian Prisoners of War and Civilian Internees in Europe during the Great War, Michael Powell. An incredible collection of material telling a little-known WWI story. 2017, Spiral bound, 174 pages, 8.5 × 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-927119-80-8. Stock # B4h090-1. C\$73.

Canadian Prisoners of War and Civilian Internees in Europe during the Great War by J Michael Powell is an amazing study of the subject of Canadians held in camps in Europe during World War I. It has taken the author years to obtain the hundreds of covers and post cards sent both to and from Canada, as well as collateral photographs, images of postmarks, and other items—and that was just the beginning of the effort. The author then conducted an incredible amount of research to not only locate each of the dozens of camps geographically, but also to identify mail right down to the name, rank, and unit of the sender or receiver at those camps.



J Michael Powell, BSc, FSA, FCIA is an actuary and long-time philatelist, who took up the hobby at a young age, under the tutelage of his father. After retiring early from professional practice for health reasons, he took up the study of postal history and has exhibited at the national level on several occasions. His exhibits have included his Canadian POW and internment camp material as well as related foreign subjects. He has also exhibited his collection of the 1934 Jacques Cartier commemorative stamp issue of Canada.

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

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

Book review

Earle L Covert, OTB

The Canadian Revenue Stamp Catalogue including Hunting & Wildlife Conservation Stamps, Erling van Dam. 2017, Spiral bound, 212 pages, 6 × 9, colour. \$27.95.



Erling van Dam has expanded the 2009 edition of *The Canadian Revenue Stamp Catalogue* by thirty-four pages. The convenient 6 × 9-inch format with spiral binding allows easy use at a stamp show. The crisp, clear colour illustrations have been expanded to clarify listings, show varieties, and additional values in the same series. With philately being a visual hobby, it was good to note the additional illustrations of the stamps of the Embossed Cheques, Postal Script, Petroleum Labels, Province of Manitoba Law and Fee

Search, New Brunswick Law and Tobacco, Nova Scotia Law, Ontario Law, PEI Tobacco, Quebec Law and Prohibition, Saskatchewan Telephone, Yukon Law, Alberta Hunting, and Hamilton Savings Bank.

Some renumbering was necessary as additional Manitoba Vacation Pay Stamps were found. A New Brunswick Telephone Company Employee Frank was added. Colour replaced black-and-white illustrations of Prisoner of War Franks and British Columbia Revenue Meters. There was some expansion in the Local Airport Improvement Fee Tickets.

More information and illustrations are presented as additional items have been found. Tea Tax stamps now list and show eleven instead of five items. Wildlife Conservation listings were expanded to show new issues, among them Quebec Fish and Game, Quebec Wildlife Habitat Conservation, British Columbia Fishing Stamps, Manitoba Fisheries Enhancement Stamps, and Alberta Resource Development Stamps. A completely new section lists thirty-six Northwest Territories Hunting Stamps, of which twelve were illustrated. (Disclaimer: I contributed a few of the Northwest Territories Hunting Stamps to the new listing.)

I did not find any typos, which shows excellent writing and editing. Not everything was priced—for instance, the Alberta Hunting Stamps—more than 1,000 of them—were only listed. Prices for lower-value items generally remain unchanged. Some of the medium- and high-priced stamps increased in value. The price increases appear to be reasonable and not just a percentage across the board. At the \$27.95 suggested retail price, the catalogue is a recommended purchase. It is available from ESJ van Dam Ltd, PO Box 300, Bridgenorth, ON, Canada K0L 1H0.

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BNAPS business and reports

President's column

Eldon Godfrey

AS I write this message to you, the calendar is racing towards 21 June, the longest day of the year in our northern hemisphere. Paraphrasing the words of *Camelot*, “I wonder what YOU are doing tonight—what merriment are YOU pursuing tonight?”

Well, obviously at this moment YOU are reading *BNA Topics*, but *what* are you reading? Are you reading “postal history” or are you reading about “stamps”? Lately, several of our readers have expressed their belief that *Topics* is heavily weighted towards postal history over stamp-related articles. In response to this concern, our co-editor Ron Majors reviewed the exhibits displayed at ORAPEX in early May and also surveyed *Topics* for the past six years. Ron found roughly two-thirds of the ORAPEX exhibits were postal history in nature, whereas the postal history content of *Topics* is approximately fifty-two percent, suggesting there is actually a reasonable balance of subject matter in our journal.

Speaking of subject matter published in *Topics*, our editors can only publish articles written by YOU. Articles can be as simple as a single stand-alone piece that has particular appeal to you and that YOU wish to share, or as complex as a series of articles that tell a bigger story. Isn't it time for YOU to tackle the “simplicity” of becoming a BNAPS philatelic author?

In my previous message to you, I mentioned the concern for the future of philately faced by philatelic societies worldwide. I am extremely pleased to announce that Past President George Dresser has accepted the invitation to reactivate and serve as chairman of the BNAPS Long-Range Planning Committee. To date, George has been reviewing articles from various philatelic organizations and establishing a framework for conducting his study. He will be reporting to the 2018 BNAPS meeting of the Board of Directors.

I ask you to remember that BNAPS is YOUR society; an effective positive plan for the future of BNAPS therefore must reflect YOUR thoughts. So I ask YOU to express YOUR ideas and opinions to George or any member of the BNAPS Board: All ideas are important and all opinions are valued. Contact information for Board members appears later in this issue.

In the last issue of *Topics*, you received a registration form for BNAPEX2017CALTAPEX—September 1st to 3rd, 2017. A special room rate at the Hyatt Regency host hotel is available to you if you book before 30 July. Come to Calgary and meet with strangers and friends—remember, a stranger is actually a friend you have not yet met—broaden your band of BNAPS friends and celebrate Canada's 150th Anniversary. I look forward to meeting YOU in Calgary. With warm regards,

Eldon



From the Secretary—Report date: 15 June 2017

Andy Ellwood, OTB

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

Membership fees

Membership fees for 2017 are C\$35 for Canadian members, \$30 US for US members, 26 Pounds for UK members and C\$40 for members from any other country. The membership fee schedule has been confirmed (with no change) by the AGM.

Applications submitted during the second and third quarter of the year are 75 percent and 50 percent of the annual fees, respectively, while those submitted in the fourth quarter are 25 percent plus the full fee for the coming year. Three year memberships can be obtained at a 10 percent reduction. Application fees can be paid through PayPal, using an on-line application available on the BNAPS website (www.BNAPS.org) or by sending a cheque to the Treasurer or to the Secretary.

Applications for membership

After the receipt of an application for membership, the applicant is classified as a new member. The person's name and membership number are printed in the next issue of *BNA TOPICS*. If no objection from any other member is received within approximately 60 days, the applicant is confirmed as a Regular Member.

New members—applied from 16 March to 12 June 2017

R-6920 Barry McGuire, Okemos, MI

R-6921 William H Carson, San Clemente,
CA

R-6922 Donald Wainwright, Toronto, ON

R-6923 Richard Kohl, Farmington Hills, MI

R-6924 Garner Field, Regina, SK

R-6925 Thomas Moran, Machinery, IL

R-6926 George Basher, East Greenbush,
NY

R-6927 Leonard Zahra, Windsor, ON

R-6928 Max Schwartz, Tucson, AZ

R-6929 Gary Smith, Willowdale, ON

R-6930 Jean-Philippe Guay, Montréal, QC

R-6931 Ruth Stevens, Shoreline, WA

R-6932 Paul Bradford, LaSalle, ON

R-6933 Alexander Forde, Nelson, BC

R-6934 Robert W Martin, Kathie, HI

R-6935 Harold Kristie, Langley, BC

R-6936 Tommy Worley, 100 Mile House,
BC

R-6937 Michael Imbroglio, Cranston, RI

R-6938 Darin Cherniwchan, Chilliwack, BC

R-6939 James Oliver, Ransburg, VT

R-6940 David Eisenhower, Beaverton, OR

R-6941 Al Kazlauskas, Kelowna, BC

R-6942 D. James Gordon, Chamcook, NB

R-6943 Sylvia Sicken, Conception Bay
South, NL

R-6944 Jim Dixon, Beaverton, ON

R-6945 Steve Moreland, Angus, ON

All applicants assigned membership numbers between **6913** and **6921** have been confirmed as Active Regular members of BNAPS with full membership privileges. Their names were published in the previous issue of *Bna Topics* Vol 74, No 2, p. 66.

Deceased

E-1514 Robert L Burton

R-5239 Norris R Dyer

Members reinstated

R-5508 James C Woodfill

Postal address changes between 16 March and 12 June-2017

R-4515 Harry C Acheson, Edmonton,

AB

L-3678 Patrick J Burns, West Vancouver,

BC

S-99127 Sebastian Dane au, Ottawa, ON

L-4030 Peter K Leggett, Maxville, ON

R-6933 Alexander Forde, Nelson, BC

E-2145 Don Fraser, Winnipeg, MB

R-6500 RJ Graham, Markdale, ON

R-6628 Stéphane Jeannet, Chaponost,

France

R-5118 William R Longley, Waterdown,

ON

R-6872 David McClelland, Woodview,

ON

R-5468 William W Radcliffe, Oxford, PA

R-4305 Anthony A Shaman, Kitchener,

ON

E-949 William E Topping, Burnaby, BC

R-6936 Tommy Worley, 100 Mile House,

BC

L-3898 Ted Wright, Toronto, ON

R-6583 Domenic Selenga, Stouffville,

ON

R-6927 Leonard Zahra, Windsor, ON

Email address changes between 16 March and 12 June-2017

R-5853 Hugo Deshayé, Quebec, QC

R-6628 Stéphane Jeannette, Chaponost,

France

R-6872 David McClelland, Woodview,

ON

R-6905 Robert Pinet, Toronto, ON

R-6557 Bruce Robertson, London, UK

R-6919 John Saunders, Kemptville, ON

R-3958 Victor L Willson, College Station,

TX

L-3898 Ted Wright, Toronto, ON

R-6583 Domenic Selenga, Stouffville,

ON

R-5468 William W Radcliffe, Oxford, PA

L-4254 K Wayne Smith, Scarborough,

ON

Total active members: 1029

Note: Exchange/non-member subscriptions (22) are not counted as active members.

NOTICE TO BNAPS MEMBERS
2017 Annual General Meeting
of the British North America Philatelic Society, Ltd.
BNAPEX 2017 CALTAPEX
Calgary Hyatt Regency, Herald Room, Calgary, Alberta Canada
Sunday, September 3, 2017 at 8 a.m.

From the Treasurer—Report date: 15 May 2017

J Claude Michaud

Members whose dues are still outstanding as of 15 May 2017

R-3752 Tom Collop	R-6610 Rocky Longshaw	R-6568 Richard Cromwell
R-4456 Svend Sturup	R-6627 Matthew Gaiser	R-6822 Clifford Hurst
R-5271 DS Affleck	R-6630 Bev Hills	R-3908 Richard J Wendt
R-5452 Stuart Reddington	R-6644 William Ferguson	R-4375 Stanley J Kalabza
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R-6190 John Geoffrey Hill	R-6850 Rejean Dufour	R-6465 Allan Maki
R-6232 Matthew C Daw	R-6870 Orié Niedzwiecki	R-6579 Kemp Fairbanks II
R-6296 Marilyn L Melanson	R-6881 Leon Matthys	R-6703 Kristin Jakobson
R-6464 Martin J Schofield	R-6894 Ronald Tremblay	R-6858 Michael Archer
R-6484 Stephen Werner	R-5740 Oke JT Millett	R-6861 Rev Larry Loring
	R-6236 Gregory M Spring	R-6864 Virginia Smith

Donations received in 2016

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Linda Warman-Holt	Alexander J Clark
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Colin D Lewis	Sid Mensinga
David R Murrell	Darlene Burt
Brian J Paul	David Macmorine
Terry W Sitth	
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Contributing Level (to \$25)

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John R Reynolds	Paul P Russell	Rick Hordern	Kriston Jakobson
Andre M Giguere	James C Williams	Ingo G Nessel	Gregoire Teyssier
Boyd J Mudra	John T Bailey	Bruce Robertson	Peter Baxter

Norris Robert “Bob” Dyer OTB (1935–2017)



Bob Dyer passed away unexpectedly at his home in Petaluma, California on Monday, 3 April 2017. A member of BNAPS since 1994, he was active in all major areas of BNAPS activities as a writer, exhibitor, Newfoundland Study Group Editor and Chairman, and Director, Vice-President, and President of the Society.

Bob was born in Portland, Maine in 1935 and lived there until the family moved to California in 1952. He attended San Diego State College, graduating in 1958, then joined the United States Air Force and served as an active duty officer from 1958–1962. While touring in Europe he met his wife, Brigitte (Schneider), whom he married in 1964.

After serving with the Air Force, Bob joined the State Compensation Insurance Fund in 1965 and worked his way up to State Contract Services Manager, with a staff of over five hundred employees. While employed, he attended the University of California San Francisco earning a Master’s degree in Rehabilitation Administration in 1979. Bob officially retired in 1997, after working for thirty-two years.

Bob and his family moved to Petaluma in 1975. After his retirement, his passion for wildlife, nature photography, writing, stamp collecting, and education all came together. In his later years, he spent much of his energy supporting the Petaluma Wetlands Alliance. In 2008, he was awarded the designation of “unofficial Mayor of Shollenberger Park,” where he acted as a Senior Docent—leading tours and educating children about the wildlife in the area. Bob was also an active, award-winning member of the Madrone Audubon Society since 1998 and contributed photos, essays, and presentations about the birds and animals of the Petaluma wetlands. As a Senior Docent, he trained other docents and led tours for thousands of park visitors over two decades. He also wrote a section in the book, *Celebrating Petaluma*, published in 2007.

In December 2000, Bob became Chairman of the Newfoundland Study Group and Editor of the *Newfie Newsletter*, for which he received the John S Siverts award in 2004, 2010, and 2012. He compiled and edited the “Recent Awards Won by BNAPS Members” webpage on the BNAPS website from 2003 to 2013, and he was Coordinator of the BNAPS Youth Program from 2005 to 2013. Bob served as a Director of BNAPS from 2006 to 2010, First Vice-President from 2010 to 2012 and President from 2012 to 2014. Illness forced him to cut back his activities in 2013 and 2014, but he and Brigitte attended BNAPEX 2015 NIAGARA FALLS and BNAPEX 2016 FREDERICTON. Bob was elected a member of the Order of the Beaver in 2008.

Over a period of twenty-five consecutive years, Bob published almost forty articles on Newfoundland philately in *BNA Topics* and many more in the *Newfie Newsletter*, as well as in *The American Philatelist*. He was the author of BNAPS Exhibit Series Volume 19: *Postal Shortages, and Surcharged Issues of Newfoundland*. In addition to many Gold and Vermeil awards and two Meyerson Awards at BNAPEXes, Bob received an International Gold at Washington 2006 for his multi-frame “Postal Shortages and Surcharged Issues of Newfoundland,” the *Prix d’Honneur* at the APS AmeriStamp Expo 2004 Single-Frame Champion of Champions show for “Newfoundland’s 1897

Postal Shortage'; Gold and the 2004 BALPEX Grand Award for "Newfoundland's 1920 Postal Shortage" (single frame). Bob was very pleased to receive a Large Gold for his single-frame exhibit *Sbenanigans at the Newfoundland General Post Office 1889-1900* at AmeriStamp Expo 2017 in Reno, NV, just a month before his death. He served as the Internet contact for the Redwood Empire Collectors Club in Petaluma, CA, and he was Resident Philatelist for the Vickers Vimy Atlantic team, whose members, in 2005, recreated the 1919 Alcock & Brown Transatlantic Flight. Bob was an active supporter of the American Philatelic Society, the Council of Northern California Philatelic Societies (Norcal), and the Federated Philatelic Clubs of Southern California (SESCAL).

Bob is survived by Brigitte, their two sons and a granddaughter; a brother and sister, and many close friends within and outside of BNAPS.

The Dyer Family, with additions by Mike Street



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Our 2017 Convention will be in Grantown-on-Spey in Highland Scotland from October 4th to 8th.
www.canadianpsgb.org.uk

BNAPS Book Department announcements available by e-mail

To receive occasional e-mails from the BNAPS Book Department announcing new releases, additions to the list, and special offers, go to the BNAPS webpage (<http://www.bnaps.org/books/books.php>), and look for "Click here to subscribe to BNAPS Books" at the bottom of the page.

Illustrated cover exhibits in BNAPEXes, and a judging mistake in Fredericton

Bill Walton, OTB

THE BNAPEX Judging Committee agreed several years ago to view potential exhibits of illustrated mail covers as a new and legitimate exhibiting category. Such exhibits might, for example, show covers relating to a specific industry, or to the development of industries or institutions in a specific city or broader geographic area. Such exhibits—as with any others—would then be judged on their merits and possible shortcomings.

An outstanding illustrated mail exhibit, *Victorian Montreal: Economic Hub of the Dominion (1844–1903)*, was shown by Robert Pinet at BNAPEX 2011 North Bay and won a Gold. I was the Chief Judge at that show. This exhibit was an outstanding example of this new category at BNAPEX shows.

Five years later, at BNAPEX 2016 FREDERICTON, Derek Smith displayed his exhibit *Advertising Mail of St. John Business and Institutions—Victorian Period (1857–1903)*. This exhibit was awarded a Silver. Once again, I was the Chief Judge.

A number of BNAPS members, particularly those with an interest in and knowledge of illustrated mail, called this award into question, and I (and others) have subsequently reviewed Derek Smith's exhibit. There is no question in my mind that it was misjudged in Fredericton, and I have no excuse for the lapse. I simply forgot the legitimacy of this exhibit category, and thus failed to make my fellow judges aware of it.

In reviewing the exhibit again frame by frame, I and other BNAPS judges are quite certain that this exhibit should have been awarded a Vermeil, and that it has the potential for further development. Exhibit awards are the province of the Judging Committee, and it has been agreed that Derek Smith will receive the Vermeil he should have been awarded, with the Palmares on the BNAPS web site corrected accordingly.

To the best of my knowledge, a judging correction in medal level has never occurred before for any BNAPEX exhibit award, and it occurred this time because of unique circumstances—a relatively new and still largely undeveloped exhibit category in our shows—and my own lapse in taking the category into account. Future illustrated mail exhibits may earn any level from bronze to gold, but each will be judged on its merits as a legitimate BNAPEX exhibit category.

As with any category new and relatively unfamiliar to judges and exhibitors, each will learn from the other over time. Patience on both sides is recommended. There are many exhibit categories at any BNAPEX that were once new territory (RPOs and postal stationery are two prime examples), where both exhibitors and judges now feel on firm ground. Over time, judges will learn more about evaluating illustrated mail covers from the exhibits they see, and exhibitors will learn more about what judges value or downgrade in those exhibits. If and when new exhibiting categories emerge in the future, the same principle should be kept in mind.

My apologies to Derek Smith and my fellow judges for the mistake, and my congratulations to Derek on receiving the award he should have received in Fredericton.

Regional group rant

David Bartlet

Overview

SUMMER is fast approaching as I write, and most Regional groups are shutting down for the summer to resume in September. There will be a Regional Group meeting at BNAPEX—watch the schedule—where ideas can be exchanged to see what might be done to improve or hold a meeting in your area. Hopefully this spring you had the opportunity to participate in one of them.

Please review the website or *BNA Topics* to see where your closest Regional Group is and have that meeting, or help set it up: On the website at www.bnaps.org/regional you will find upcoming meetings, contacts for each group and reports of the meetings of the various groups. I can be contacted by email at any time at regionalgrouops@bnaps.org. Please send all your meeting notices and reports to me there.

Regional group meetings have been held this spring by the Atlantic, Calgary, Edmonton, Golden Horseshoe, Golden West, Prairie Beaver and St Lawrence Seaway groups. I recently attended a great meeting held by the St Lawrence Seaway Group at ORAPEX, and I look forward to visiting the Pacific Northwest group later in September.

Around the Region Reports

Excerpts of the reports from various regional meetings are shown here. The full reports can be seen on the BNAPS website on the webpages for each regional group.

Atlantic

The Atlantic Regional Group (ARG) held its annual get-together in conjunction with NOVAPEX 2017 at the Senior Citizens' facility in Dartmouth, NS, on 22 April. Eight members attended. Numbers were down because this year's NOVAPEX was classified as a regional event, and therefore it didn't attract as many out-of-town BNAPS members as usual. Although arrangements are at a very preliminary stage, the expectation is that NOVAPEX 2018 will be a national-level show held in the fall.

The Nova Scotia Stamp Club (NSSC) is assisting the South Shore Stamp Club with the staging of its annual show and bourse this coming 28 October. We hope BNAPS members will support that event. Sometime this fall, the Moncton Stamp Club, with the assistance of NSSC, is proposing to hold a demonstration of exhibiting at one of its Stamp Fairs. If this gels, some of our frames and exhibits would be used to try to encourage collectors from that area to exhibit. If this takes place, it is hoped that New Brunswick BNAPSers will organize an Atlantic Regional Group meeting at the same time. Stay tuned!

As usual, the Show-and-Tell portion of the ARG get-together included some interesting items such as a Charlottetown, PEI, cover cancelled with a "Parcel Post Section" handstamp, and a binder containing a series of Canadian Postal Corps field notes from 1915 to 1919.

St. Lawrence Seaway

On 6 May at ORAPEX, the St Lawrence Seaway group's meeting featured a presentation by Chris Anstead on the *Colonization Roads of Eastern Ontario*, telling the story of early settlers and what they had to do to secure land claims offered by the government of the day.

Calgary

The Calgary group held monthly two-hour meetings in April, May, and June. Each meeting started with ten minutes of general business, a presentation, then a round-table show-and-tell. At the 12 April meeting, with twelve members in attendance, Earle Covert provided an entertaining presentation on Illustrated Permit mail based on his exhibit, which you might have seen at the Edmonton or ORAPEX shows this spring. Some members brought examples of airmail—some to show the group and others for Earle—enhancements to his collection.

At the 10 May meeting, Hugh Delancy presented a talk on 150 years of Canadian history based on his extensive study, through postal history, of many of the Fathers of Confederation. The 14 June meeting was the last until BNAPEX, and presentations focussed on members' interests. The first major presentation was about hospital covers from WWII; the second on the new Kiosk coil stamps issued in November 2017 in Vancouver, Edmonton and Toronto.

Dixie Beavers

The Dixie Beavers will meet later this summer at the Charlotte, North Carolina show, CHARPEX, 29-30 July in Worrell Hall, Central Piedmont Community College. This is a fun show held in an auditorium with nearly perfect lighting for a philatelic exhibition. There is no charge to exhibitors for frames and the judging is always of the highest calibre.

Edmonton

The Edmonton Regional Group hosted its end-of-season dinner at the Bauernschmaus Restaurant on 21 June, in honour of Vince Cowell, one of its local members, who is moving away to Courtenay, BC. The group will miss Vince, especially for his knowledge of Centennial material. A members' "show and tell" is held each month during the season, and all local and visiting BNAPS members are most welcome to attend. Meetings are held at 7:30 pm on the third Thursday of each month at Temple Beth Ora, 12313-105 Ave NW, Edmonton.

Golden Horseshoe

The Golden Horseshoe Regional Group met on 27 May at Rousseau House for lunch and preliminaries. The formal meeting started with announcements on three new BNAPS books being published in June and BNAPEX 2017 CALTAPEX in Calgary on the Labour Day weekend. David Hobden gave a rundown on the PHSC Symposium being held in Hamilton 20-23 July. Rob Leigh gave a presentation about features of the PHSC website. Then came the auction, a bit of fun and a fundraiser for the expense fund.

The speaker for the day was Mike Street, who presented Owen White's "*Y Force, The Canadian Army in Jamaica during World War II*". Owen, who is no longer able to make public presentations, gave the group permission to show the PowerPoint program he had created. It generated discussion and questions that may be answered at the next meeting (30 September). At that meeting, the guest speaker will be Sam Chiu, who will present the philatelic story of "*Force C*"—the Canadian Army troops sent in 1941 to help reinforce the garrison at Hong Kong.

Midwest

The Midwest Regional Group will hold its next meeting at the APS Stamp Show in Richmond Virginia, from 3-6 August 2017. See the website for further information.

Pacific Northwest

The Pacific Northwest group plans to meet in Penticton, British Columbia on the weekend of 29-30 September-1 October 2017. It should be a great weekend during the grape harvest!

Golden West

The Golden West Regional Group met as scheduled during the WESTPEX 2017 Stamp Show at the San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront Hotel. Nine people gathered at on 29 April, all BNAPS members, including two from other regional groups. The meeting opened with a short memorial service for local member Bob Dyer, who died, unexpectedly, in early April. The service covered his contributions to both the philatelic world, particularly BNAPS, and to his local community. A copy of his obituary was circulated and there was a minute of silence to honour him. Bob had long been an active member of the Golden West group and his presence will be missed. Following the service, Arno Kolster gave an excellent overview of Canada's Centennial Issue, now celebrating its fiftieth anniversary. He covered the basic stamps, booklets, postal stationery, printers, and papers and perforations. Tagging, including tagging errors, was discussed and examples of various printing errors were shown. A range of covers provided examples of the intended usage of the various values. The presentation was warmly received and Arno was encouraged to turn his presentation into an exhibit for 2018.

Prairie Beavers

The Prairie Beaver Chapter of BNAPS met for a day on 27 May in Convent Station at St. Mary's Catholic Centre. The thirteen members present first participated in an auction of books from George Arfken and were able to raise \$800 US. Jeff (John) Furlong then presented *Ribbons and Paper Go to War*, focussing on various media used in WWI by both the Allies and Central European powers to support war goals, raise morale, and raise funds. This included an outstanding representation of various medals and ribbons, especially by French entities, associated with military units, battles, and individual bravery. He then presented voluminous material—including propoganda material—especially post cards, associated with all aspects of the war, produced by various belligerents. He finished with examples of post-war material, including a death plaque for a UK soldier (a large bronze featuring the soldier's name, of which 1.3 million were issued to families of deceased combatants).



Group Photo of Prairie Beaver Meeting Attendees of 27 May 2017; Front row seated left to right: John Seate, Denise Stotts, David Nickson, Ron Strawser. Back row standing left to right: John Furlong, Larry Ballantyne, Jay Stotts, Allan Price, Frank Senz, Gary Giroux, Vic Willson, George Dresser. Photographer: Vicky Furlong.

A clothesline presentation was followed by a business meeting that alerted members to the need to raise PB funds at the next meeting through a donation auction. The future of BNAPS was discussed, eliciting various perspectives from members active at the national level in the US.

Vic Willson made the second presentation, on the 10¢ Consort Decimal stamp, focussing on the various printing orders and their separation by colour and perforations, drawing from Whitworth's seminal 1966 book and illustrating his presentation with stamps and covers ranging across the eight-year

period. The meeting then adjourned to a local BBQ restaurant for a meal and fellowship.

**2017 Annual General Meeting
of the
British North America Philatelic Society, Ltd.**

**Calgary Hyatt Regency, Herald Room,
Calgary, Alberta Canada**

Sunday, September 3, 2017 at 8 a.m.

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome and Introductions**
- 2. Minutes of AGM 2016**
- 3. Moment of silence for departed members**
- 4. New Emeritus Members**
- 5. Summary report, 2017 Directors meeting**
- 6. Summary reports, Elected Officers**
- 7. Summary reports, Appointed Officials**
- 8. Financial reports and audit**
- 9. Dues rate for 2017-2018**
- 10. Conventions, 2018/2019**
- 11. Other business**
- 12. Adjournment**

BNAPEX 2017 CALTAPEX 31 August - 3 September 2017**Study Group Meeting & Seminar Schedule (as of 15 July 2017)**

This schedule is tentative. Please check the show program for the final schedule.

Questions? Contact Bill Radcliffe <studygroups@bnaps.org>

Thursday, 31 August 2017

Time	Seminar/Meeting	Chair	Speaker/Topic	Room
0900-1600	BNAPS Board of Directors	Charles Livermore	Annual meeting	Bannerman

Friday, 1 September 2017

Time	Seminar/Meeting	Chairman	Speaker/Topic	Room
1000-1100	Open	Open	Open	Herald
Time slots are available on the half hour and hour between 10:30 and 1400. Please contact Jon Johnson <jcperfins@hotmail.com>				
1400-1500	Perfins	Jon Johnson	Gary Tomasson – 5-hole OHMS checklists	Herald
1500-1600	Admirals	Leopold Beaudet	Annual Meeting	Doll
1600-1700	Dead Letter Office	Gary Steele	Annual Meeting	Herald

Saturday, 2 September 2017

Time	Seminar/Meeting	Chairman	Speaker/Topic	Room
0700-0800	Order of the Beaver breakfast	Bill Walton	Annual Meeting (private)	Hyatt Restaurant
0800-0930	Order of the Beaver meeting	Bill Walton	Annual Meeting (private)	Bannerman
1000-1100	RPSC Board meeting	Jim Taylor	Special Meeting (private)	Bannerman
1000-1100	Airmails	Chris Hargreaves	AAMS Catalog Revisions	Herald
1030-1130	Canadian Military Mail	Mike Street	Jon Johnson - WWII Merchant Navy Mail	Doll
1100-1200	Open	Open	Open	Herald
1130-1230	Open	Open	Open	Doll

1200-1300	Open	Open	Open	Herald
1230-1330	Fakes and Forgeries	Ken Pugh	Annual Meeting	Doll
1300-1400	Postal Stationery	Earle Covert	Annual Meeting	Herald
1330-1430	Fakes and Forgeries	Ken Pugh	Faking by Fred Eaton	Doll
1400-1500	Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada	Bob Vogel	Sandy Freeman - Development of Bolivian Airmail 1905-1945	Herald
1430-1530	Elizabethan II	TBA	Annual Meeting	Doll
1500-1600	Pence-Cents	Ron Majors	Annual Meeting	Herald
1530-1630	George VI	Gary Steele	Annual Meeting	Doll
1600-1700	Large/Small Queens	Vic Willson	Uses of each Small Queen Stamp	Herald

Sunday, 3 September 2017

Time	Seminar/Meeting	Chairman	Speaker/Topic	Room
0800-0900	BNAPS Annual General Meeting	Eldon Godfrey BNAPS President	BNAPS Society business and members' meeting	Herald
0900-1030	Exhibits Critique	Vic Willson Jury Chairman	Exhibits Critique	Herald
1030-1130	Open	Open	Open	Doll
1100-1200	BNAPS Judging Criteria	Bill Walton	Discussion	Herald
1130-1230	Revenues	Fritz Angst	Annual Meeting	Doll
1200-1300	Precancels	Andy Elwood	Annual Meeting	Herald
1230-1330	Re-entries	Dave Freeman	Annual Meeting	Doll
1300-1400	Regional Groups	Dave Bartlet	Annual Meeting	Herald
1330-1430	Railway Post Offices	Peter McCarthy	Annual Meeting	Doll
1400-1500	First Day Covers	Bob Vogel	Annual Meeting	Herald
1500-1530	Study Group Leaders	Ron Majors	Annual Meeting	Herald

BNAPS exchange circuit news

Andy Ellwood OTB

THE Exchange Circuit is undergoing a major review of its offerings. Material which has been in the Circuit for more than five years will be retired and returned to its owners. At the same time, about fifty new sheets have been added. Please note that new sheet numbers will be assigned starting with **100**. Contact me at (613) 737-2137 or by email at andy_ellwood@rogers.com.

Classified advertisements

***RATES FOR 25 words—\$6 Canadian, 20¢ for each additional word.** All ad copy and payments should be sent to the Advertising Manager, Hank Narbonne, 136 Morphy St., Carleton Place, ON, K7C 2B4, Canada, to be received by the fifteenth of March, June, September, or December for the next issue of BNA Topics. Ads requiring photos, cuts, logos, and other production tasks will incur charges at a nominal, industry-standard rate. These costs will be billed to the advertiser. Please identify the number of issues in which the ad is to appear. All payments should be made to BNAPS Ltd., at the rates listed above, in Canadian dollars or US equivalent.*

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LITERATURE

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.

www.bnaps.org



Executive, Directors, and Officers, Study Group Contacts

British North America Philatelic Society Ltd

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

Elected officers: Executive

President Eldon C Godfrey, 2 Varbow Place NW, Calgary, AB T3A 0B6

<ecg@godfrey-godfrey.ca>

First Vice-President, Ken Lemke, 3488 Rubens Court, Burlington, ON L7N 3K4

<kwlemke@sympatico.ca>

Past President George Dresser, 501 Fairview Ave., College Station, TX 77840-2933

<g-dresser@suddenlink.net>

Vice-President Regional Groups David Bartlet, 1955-9th Ave NW, Calgary, AB T2N 4N3

<regionalgroups@bnaps.org >

Vice-President Study Groups William W Radcliffe, 500 Columbia Ave, Pitman, NJ 08071-1734

<bsbvp88@hotmail.com>

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

<andy_ellwood@rogers.com>

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

<jcm.ph@ns.sympatico.ca>

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Mark Berner, 3767 Notre Dame West, Montreal, QC H4C 1P8

<drmberner@videotron.ca>

Richard Fleet, 1570 Buckingham Close, Victoria, BC V8N 5J2, 250-721-2880

<jrfleet@shaw.ca>

P Charles Livermore, 100-08 Ascan Ave, Forest Hills, NY 11375

<charleslivermore@hotmail.com>

Adri Veenstra, Dr Joop den Uytsingel 34, Arnhem, 6836 GR, Netherlands, +31 263232416,

<a.veenstra@chello.nl>

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Barry Casanova, 12193 Woodford Dr. Marriottsville, MD 21104 <bwcasanova@msn.com>

Robert Lemire, PO Box 1870 Deep River, ON K0J 1P0 <rlemire000@sympatico.ca>

Ron Majors, 253 Caleb Dr., W. Chester, PA 19382-6177 USA

<Ronald.e.majors@gmail.com>

Peter R MacDonald, 1264 Sherman Dr, Ottawa, ON K2C 2M8

<petermac613@gmail.com>

Gary Steele, 83 Baker Drive, Middle Sackville, NS B4E 1V2 <gwsteele57@gmail.com>

Regional group contact persons

Atlantic Provinces (NS, NB, PEI, Newfoundland and Labrador): J A Forbes, Jr, PO Box 38205, Dartmouth, NS B3B 1X2 <JAFRBS@aol.com>

Calgary (Calgary and surroundings): Jon Johnson, 39 Highgrove Cres SW, Calgary, AB T2V 3K8 <jcperpins@hotmail.com>

Dixie Beavers (Alabama, Georgia, both Carolinas, Mississippi, Tennessee): John Burnett, 127 Bluebelle Dr, Madison, AL 35758, <jb45855@aol.com>

Edmonton (Edmonton and surroundings): David Piercey, 181 Blackburn Dr, Edmonton, AB T6W 1B6 <dpiercey@telus.net>

Florida: Mark Isaacs, PO Box 52453, Sarasota, FL 34232 - Tel: 941-951-1419.

Golden Horseshoe (Southern Ontario, Western New York, Northern Ohio, Eastern Michigan): Peter McCarthy, 573 Griffith St, London, ON N6K 2S5 <BNAPS-GHRG@bnaps.org>

Golden West (California, Arizona, Nevada): Joe Schlitt, PO Box 263, Knightsen, CA 94548-0263 <wylecotejs@earthlink.net>

Lower Canada (Québec): Hugo Deshayé, PO Box 1000 Stn, Forces Box 444, Courcellette, QC G0A 4Z0 <hdphil@videotron.ca>

Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario (Manitoba, Northern Ontario, Minnesota, North and South Dakota): Don Fraser, 1183 Warsaw Ave., Winnipeg, MB R3M 1C5 <dafrase1@mts.net>

Mid-Atlantic (Virginia, West Virginia, DC, Delaware): Jeff Arndt, 4121 Marble Lane, Fairfax, VA 22033 <arndt123@aol.com>

Midwest (Indiana, Western Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois, Wisconsin, Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska): Richard Judge, 2900 Lincolnwood Dr., Racine, WI, 53403-3738 <CH2Se@sbcglobal.net> Tel: 262-554-7958.

Northeastern (Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, Massachusetts): P Charles Livermore, 100-08 Ascan Ave, Forest Hills, NY 11375 <charleslivermore@hotmail.com>

Pacific-Northwest (BC, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Yukon): Peter Fralick, PO Box 34, Hagensborg, BC V0T 1H0 <peterfralick@hotmail.com>

Prairie Beavers (Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana): George Dresser, 501 Fairview Ave, College Station, TX 77840 <g-dresser@suddenlink.net>

St Lawrence Seaway (Eastern Ontario, Western Quebec): Co-chairmen: Chris Anstead, 3258 Elphin Maberly Road, McDonald's Corners, ON K0G 1M0, <acropolis@superaje.com>; Don Ecobichon, RR1-1512 Chaffeys Lock Road, Elgin, ON K0G 1E0.

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