

2020 third quarter

BNA Topics



Whole number 564

Volume 77 Number 3



Page 11. 13¢ orange-yellow Schooner, 25 July 1868.

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Behind the scenes, we have been fortunate to be able to continue working on various projects, such as new retail price lists and Mail Auction catalogues recently published. Feedback has been very positive. Overall there has been an increased demand for stamps, covers and other specialty items.

Due to the cancellation of the Royal 2020 stamp show in Fredericton, our public auction has been postponed to a later date. This has permitted us to continue lotting for what will be a very interesting and larger sale. We are still accepting consignments and invite you to take advantage of this opportunity. Should you wish to dispose of a portion of your collection (to someone who will also cherish it for years) we are here to serve you. Please contact us today to discuss your needs and answer any questions you may have.

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BNA pics

Volume 77, Number 3, Whole Number 564

The Official Journal of the British North America Philatelic Society Ltd

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Cover Illustration: 13 orange-yellow Newfoundland Schooner, dated 25 July 1868.

Prepared in Microsoft Word™ (text, images, and layout) and Adobe Acrobat™ (printing file)

Note: Illustrations may not be in original size.

Publication date	13 July 2020
Editors	Jeff Arndt, William JF Wilson
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Advertising Manager	Hank Narbonne, 136 Morphy St, Carleton Place, ON, K7C 2B4 (advertising copy to Jeff Arndt <arndt123@aol.com>, or by mail to 4121 Marble Lane, Fairfax, VA 22033 USA)
Published quarterly by	Philaprint Inc, 10 Summerhill Ave, Toronto ON M4T 1A8 © 2020 by Philaprint Inc
Printed by	St Joseph Printing, Ottawa, ON
ISSN 0045-3129	Canadian Publications Agreement 40069611

Missing or damaged copies: Contact the Circulation Manager, Ken Lemke, BNAPS
Circulation Manager, c/o CFS, 3455 Harvester Road, Unit 20-22, Burlington, ON L7N 3P2
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Guest editorial: Seventy-five years

Mike Street, OTB

ON 28 October 1943, a group of philatelists met at the Collectors Club of New York and agreed to form a new society dedicated to the study of the philately of British North America—Canada and the provinces before Confederation. Nineteen months later, in June 1945, with World War II ended in Europe and soon ending in the Pacific, membership in the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) had reached one hundred and seventy-nine. By the end of 1949, this had more than tripled, to six hundred and fourteen members. Today, seventy-five years after the end of the war, and in the midst of a worldwide epidemic, it seems a good time to look at how the environment of the first few years affected the growth of BNAPS.

Many of the earliest members, some of them veterans of World War I, were people working in civilian fields supporting the war effort. Most of the over four hundred collectors who joined between May 1945 and December 1949 were men and women who had served in Allied Army, Navy, Air Force, and Medical branches of the armed forces. As they came home and resumed hobbies that had been left behind for many years, or picked up a new hobby, BNAPS grew. Issues of *BNA Topics* in these years show that there was interest in many different aspects of BNA philately. Some of these new members, almost all no longer with us, had served all over the world. I knew a late member who had served in Burma and another who had parachuted into Normandy on D-Day.

Perhaps the most important effect of returning veterans joining the society showed up thirty-four years later. While there was interest in Canadian military postal history and other specialty areas in the early years, things really picked up in the 1970s as some of those veterans retired from their post-war civilian jobs and, more importantly for BNAPS, the “Baby-Boomer” generation came of collecting age and joined the society. Many of these were children of veterans who had returned from the war; some were children whose parent(s) did not return. My father, who was seriously wounded in Normandy in 1944, was not a member of BNAPS but enthusiastically encouraged me as I started collecting stamps. A significant proportion of today’s most active BNAPS members are Baby Boomers like me, while a small number of current members were children during WWII. It is very likely that a good percentage of today’s younger members are grand- and great-grandchildren of WWII veterans.

Regardless of background or personal interests, all members, past and present, have carried BNAPS to the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II. The society is lucky to have or have had all of them. Perhaps twenty-five or fifty years from now, members of the time will look back and reflect on BNAPS in the day of COVID-19.

BNAPS regrets that it was necessary to cancel BNAPEX 2020 Halifax. We hope that it will be possible for members to gather for BNAPEX 2021 Winnipeg.

Readers Write

Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation stamp theft

Nine (9) valuable British North American revenue stamps were stolen between 6-8 May 2020. They were on their way back to their owner in the United States after being expertised by the VG Greene Philatelic Research Foundation's Expert Committee.

The theft happened while the material was in the custody of the FedEx Corporation somewhere in the Southeast US. The theft was reported to FedEx and to Hugh Wood (US), Ltd and case files have been opened. We [VG Greene Foundation] are also working with the owner of the material. The stamps, photos attached, are all identified by their individual number in the *Canadian Revenue Stamp Catalogue* (aka the Van Dam Catalogue), the leading authority on Canadian and British North America Revenues.

They are BCD1, BCT1, FB53a, FSC10, FSC13, FSC19, FWS2, NFB1 and TNR7. For more information, please contact: Ingo Nessel at b62hkg@yahoo.ca.



Newfoundland's first Cents stamps, 1865

Stephen Baker

ON 31 December 1857, the Province of Canada revised the *Currency Act of 1854*, legislating that provincial accounts would be kept in decimal currency only [1, p 24]. The Colony of Newfoundland did not pass *An Act for the Regulation of the Currency* until 24 March 1863. Decimal currency reform by Newfoundland did not take effect until 1865 with the release of the 1¢ bronze, the 5¢ silver, the 10¢ silver, the 25¢ silver, and the \$2 gold coins, all struck at the Royal Mint in London, England.

Newfoundland's then-Postmaster General, John Delaney, proposed that the colony's new decimal rates follow the postal rates already in place in Canada and the Maritime provinces [2, p 146]. The Newfoundland Assembly had passed *An Act to Regulate the Inland Posts of this Colony* [3] on 12 May 1856; then, with the currency changes driving reforms, the Assembly amended this *Act* on 7 April 1865 to align the colony's postal rates with the new decimal currency [4, p 50]. The Newfoundland pence stamps, which had been introduced in 1857, continued to be sold at the Newfoundland post offices during the interregnal period, which lasted from 7 April 1865 to the arrival of the decimal currency stamps from the American Bank Note Company (ABNC) of New York on 15 November 1865 [2, p 147].

Table 1. 15 November 1865: The first Cents stamps

Scott No.	SG No. ^(a)	NSSC No. ^(a)	Value	Colour	Paper ^(b)	Quantity	Release Date	Description
24a	25	26	2¢	Green	Thin, hard	100,000	15 Nov 1865	Codfish
25	26	27	5¢	Brown	Thin, hard	100,000	15 Nov 1865	Seal
27a	27	28	10¢	Black	Thin, hard	100,000	15 Nov 1865	Prince Consort
28a	28	29	12¢	Reddish-brown	Thin, hard	100,000	15 Nov 1865	Q Victoria (profile)
30	29	30	13¢	Orange-yellow	Thin, hard	100,000	15 Nov 1865	Schooner
31	30	31	24¢	Dark blue	Thin, hard	100,000	15 Nov 1865	Q Victoria (front)

Footnotes for Table 1:

^(a) SG No. = Stanley Gibbons number; NSSC No. = *Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue* number.
^(b) The 1865 2¢, 10¢, 12¢, and 24¢ stamps on the thin, hard paper, Scott numbered as 24, 27, 28, and 31, respectively. These four would have another printing. The Scott numbers for three of these were changed in 2000 to 24a, 27a, and 28a, respectively. Scott did not change the number for the 24¢ stamp.

The *Journal of the House of Assembly of Newfoundland* in 1866 states that “[t]he sum of \$1,139, for New Postage Stamps, Dies, Labels, Date Stamp and Expenses has been paid... [5, p 689].” The *Journal's* Appendix further breaks down this amount to \$793 which was “[r]emitted the

American Bank Note Company, New York, [this] being [the] amount ... for New Postage Stamp Plates and Labels” and \$346 for the “Post-Master General’s (John Delaney’s) travelling expenses to the United States” [5, p 221].

Boggs [4], Lowe [6], Walsh [7], and Whaley [8] all agree with the 15 November 1865 release date for the new decimal stamps, but Poole claims that the public did not have access to the stamps until 1 January 1866 [9, p 11]. Whaley lists a 12¢ cover, from St John’s to London, England on 27 December 1865 [8, p 27].

This cover would seem to negate Poole’s claim. The *Journal of the House of Assembly of Newfoundland* in 1866 states unequivocally that “[a]fter due notice had been given to the public, the compulsory prepayment of letters was put in operation on the 15th November, (and at the same time, the issue of the new Decimal Postage Stamps) [5, p 690].”

All the stamps were line perforated 12 and appeared in sheets of one hundred subjects arranged in ten columns of ten stamps. The inscription, *American Bank Note Co., New-York.*, appeared twice along each of the four edges of a sheet. Lowe states that one hundred thousand of each value were printed [6, p 462]. Whaley states that one hundred thousand of the 2¢ green codfish were produced [8, p 9].

Philatelists often describe the paper used for these first cents as “pelure paper” [7, p 3] or “fragile pelure paper” [10, p 19]. Robert H Pratt’s extensive collection of early Newfoundland images, which were bequeathed to the Collectors Club of Chicago, contains multiple references to the “thin pelure type paper” used for the 1865 stamps [11, p 163]. Like Pratt, this writer believes that the thin, hard paper used for the Newfoundland 1865 issues is *pelure-like*, but that genuine pelure paper would be significantly more translucent.

The 1865 2¢

The 7 April 1865 Act, *An Act to Regulate the Inland Posts of this Colony*, did not mention a two-cent postal rate. Postmaster Delaney probably ordered the 2¢ stamp (Figure 1) to cover two vestigial usages: local delivery (drop letter) and mailing circulars.

Whaley states that the 2¢ stamp was for use on local delivery letters and for sending circulars to the Maritimes and the province of Canada [8, p 8]. Lowe indicates that the 2¢ stamp was for the drop letter rate and circulars [6, p 465]. Boggs indicates that the 2¢ green cod was for drop letters [4, p 51]. Burnett *et al* also write that the two-cent rate was for drop covers [12, p 46].

Pratt indicates that there was a 1p Local Delivery rate, effective 1 September 1863 [13, p 160]; however, not a single pence cover has survived illustrating this particular usage prior to the 1865 *Act*. For two-cent drop letters, Pratt writes that a two-cent local delivery rate was effective 8 April 1865, but no pence drop-covers have survived the interregal period [13, p 160]. Lowe indicates that the two-cent drop letter rate was available but that no example exists [6, p 465].

Whaley indicates that the 2¢ stamp was for use on local delivery letters [8, p 8], but only *two* drop-letter covers with the 1865 2¢ stamp have survived [8, p 19]. The great fire of 1892, which destroyed most of St John’s and any drop letters still lingering in chests in the attics, possibly accounts for the paucity of these drop letters today.

With respect to the circulars, Pratt provides the most helpful rationale for this two-cent rate. He indicates that the circular rate was 1p Sterling, effective 1 October 1857, although only two 1p covers have survived showing this circular rate prior to 7 April 1865 [13, p 160]. As already indicated, following the passing of the 7 April 1865 *Act*, no cent stamps from the ABNC were available until 15 November 1865. The 1p Sterling stamps were substituted for the absent 2¢ stamps for the circular rate in this interregnum period as there were still numerous pence stamps remaining in the various Colonial Post Offices. Pratt notes that again, only two circular covers are known with the 1p rate in the interregnum period [13, p 160]. When the cent stamps were sent to the Post Offices on 15 November 1865, Whaley indicates that there are only three known covers using the 1865 2¢ stamp for the circular rates between 1865 and 1870 [8, p 19].



Figure 1. 2¢ green Cod.

The 7 April 1865 *Act* indicated that “[n]ewspapers circulated in this Colony, transmitted therefrom, or coming into the Colony; by post, shall be free of Local Postage [14, XIV].” The 1865 *Act* also indicated that “...if such Newspaper or other Printed Paper shall have been opened, it shall be charged with the rate of a single Letter from the place of direction to the place at which it shall be ultimately delivered [14, XXV].”

The 1865 *Act* rate for letters was five cents within the Colony. Pratt indicates that the two-cent rate for forwarding newspapers within the Colony was *not* part of the original 7 April 1865 *Act*, but rather, it was a Post Office notice in the *Royal Gazette* newspaper on 1 January 1866 that changed the rate for forwarding an opened newspaper within the Colony from five cents to two cents [2, p 149].

Because most forwarded newspapers bearing the 2¢ stamp were probably used to light the splits for morning fires, not a single example of this usage has survived. It is particularly curious that, despite the lack of examples of drop letters (two), circulars (three), and forwarded newspapers (zero) using the 1865 thin, hard paper, 2¢ stamp in period, the actual stamp is fairly common in used condition.

The 1865 5¢

The 7 April 1865 *Act* stated that "...the Colonial Postage on Letters and Packets ... shall be at the rate of Five Cents Currency per half ounce for any distance within the Colony [14, VIII]." As another portion of the *Act* states, "Printed Books, Magazines, Periodical Publications and Pamphlets, may be transmitted by Post, within this Colony, at the rate of five cents for one quarter of a pound [14, XVII]." The 1865 *Act* indicates that "...if such Newspaper or other Printer Paper shall have been opened, it shall be charged with the rate of a single Letter from the place of direction to the place at which it shall be ultimately delivered [14, XXV]."

If the newspaper had been sent to another colonial destination, the postal charge would have been five cents. As indicated above, Pratt states that after the cent stamps were released to the public on 15 November 1865, a Post Office notice in the *Royal Gazette* on 1 January 1866 changed the forwarding rate from five cents to two cents [2, p 149]. Thus, the five-cent forwarding charge would have been in effect for only the six weeks between 15 November 1865 and 1 January 1866. There are no surviving examples of such a usage.

Only pence stamps were available for colonial covers in the interregnum period. The 3p currency is equal to the two-and-one-half pence Sterling. Both are equal to the five-cent decimal rate. Pratt notes that eleven pence covers are known using the 3p green stamp as the substitute for the five-cent rate in the interregnum between 7 April 1865 and 15 November 1865 [13, p 157]. After 15 November 1865, Whaley lists forty-three surviving covers in which a single brown seal is used on a colonial cover, and three covers with two brown seals for double-weight colonial covers [8, p 22]. An example is shown in Figure 2.



Figure 2. 5¢ brown colonial cover, 5 February 1868.

Unfortunately, Postmaster General Delaney miscalculated the demand for colonial letters. The 100,000 brown seals were exhausted by late summer, 1868 [8, p 9]. To adapt to the demand, the Post Office allowed a bisected 10¢ stamp to attain the correct colonial postage

[8, p 25]. Two known covers of this bisected stamp exist. Pratt also lists sixteen colonial covers using the 3p green stamp during the second interregnum, between the time the 5¢ browns became exhausted in the late summer of 1868 and the arrival of the new 5¢ black seals in February 1869 [13, p 157]. The 5¢ brown seal with its clawed feet instead of flippers had a short life span of only thirty-three months.

The 1865 10¢

In the seven-month interregnum between the 7 April 1865 *Act* which proposed decimal currency to be used on Newfoundland mail and the actual release of the cent stamps on 15 November 1865, eight covers have survived using the 5p Venetian-red stamp, as a pence substitute for the St John's-to-first-port rate [13, p 166].

The 7 April 1865 *Act* stated that “[t]he Packet Postage *from St. John's* [italics mine] to the United States, Halifax, and Prince Edward Island, Bermuda and the West Indies, which shall be ten cents single rate... [14, XVIII].” Whaley indicates that the 10¢ stamp was created to pay for mail from the single port (St John's) to the first port rate in the Maritimes, Canada, or the US [8, p 9]. Boggs states that the 10¢ stamp was for double-weight “domestic” letters, but he makes no mention of the St John's-to-first-port rate [4, p 51]. Whaley writes that others have suggested that the 10¢ stamp may never have been sent to the outports [8, p 9].

Following the arrival of the 10¢ stamp and its release on 15 November 1865, Whaley lists



Figure 3. 10¢ front paying the colonial double-weight rate, 1 July 1869 (from Pratt).

twenty single and double-weight Prince Albert covers from St John's to either a port in the Maritimes or the US [8, p 25]. While there are three known examples of two 5¢ brown seals being used for the double-weight colonial cover, Whaley [8, p 25] reports that there is only one known double-weight colonial usage with the 10¢ stamp—sent from St John's to Harbour Grace on 11 July 1869 (*sic*) (Figure 3). There are no known examples of the 10¢ stamp *originating* in an outport for the double-weight colonial rate.

The black, 10¢ stamp of Prince Albert was probably intended only for the St John's Post Office. However, Whaley does list two known period covers from outports (Trinity and Harbour Grace) using bisects of the 10¢ stamp to pay the single-weight colonial rate [8, p 25]. Whaley also illustrates a 10¢ stamp with two 1p stamps slightly overpaying the interior (Harbour Britain) to first Maritime port (Sydney, CB) rate [8, p 130]. Lacking covers, could a study of recognizable postmarks of the period from interior post offices on 10¢ stamps on the thin, hard paper shed any more light as to whether the 10¢ stamp had been widely dispersed to the outport post offices?

The 1865 12¢

The 7 April 1865 *Act* stated that “[t]he Packet Postage for Letters to Great Britain shall be twelve cents the half ounce... [14, XVIII].” Lowe indicates that the rate to the UK was twelve cents [6, p 465]. Boggs states that the twelve-cent rate was for letters to Great Britain [4, p 51]. The twelve-cent rate to Great Britain applied equally to mail originating from either St John's or the outports. Figure 4 shows an example to Dorset.

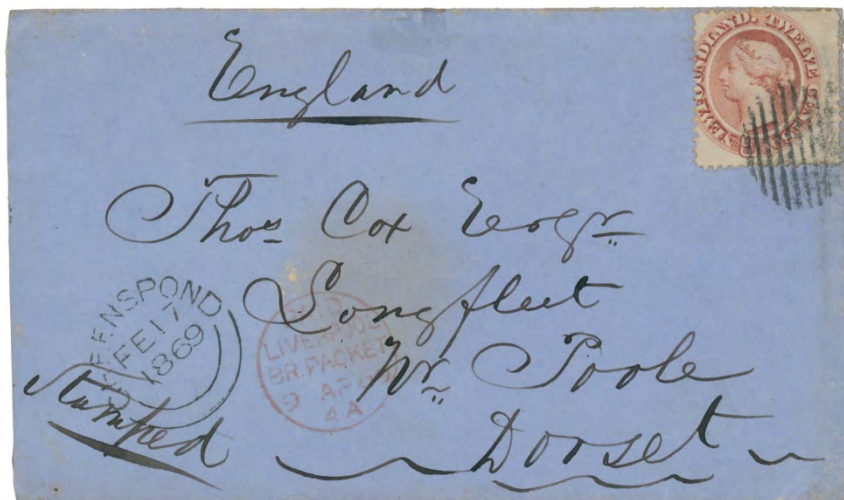


Figure 4. 12¢ paying single-weight packet postage to England, 17 February 1869.

Whaley lists forty-five surviving covers using a single 12¢, reddish-brown, Queen Victoria stamp on the thin, hard paper addressed to the British Isles [8, p 27]. Thirty-five of these covers were sent to Poole, many to a single business, William Waterman & Co., which acted as a general fish merchant in many Newfoundland outports at the time. Whaley reports that of the forty-five single-rate covers to Britain using the 1865 12¢ stamp in period, seventeen covers originated from the outports and twenty-eight from St John's [8, p 27].

The 1865 13¢

The 7 April 1865 *Act* stated that “[t]he Packet Postage to the United States and the Provinces shall be thirteen cents single rate, except the Packet Postage from St. John's to the United States, Halifax, and Prince Edward Island, Bermuda and the West Indies, which shall

be ten cents single rate... [14, XVIII].” Whaley writes that the 13¢ stamp paid the “interior to the first port rate to the Maritimes, St. Pierre and Miquelon, Canada and the U.S.A. [8, p 10].” (An example to St Pierre and Miquelon is shown in Figure 5.) Boggs indicates that the 13¢ “orange yellow [was required] for letters to the United States [4, p 51].”

The single packet rate from St John's to the United States, Halifax, and Prince Edward Island, Bermuda, and the West Indies was ten cents. As indicated in a previous section, Whaley provides evidence of twenty-three single and double weight, ten-cent covers from St John's to destinations in the United States, Canada, Bermuda, or the West Indies [8, p 25].



Figure 5. 13¢ orange-yellow Schooner, 25 July 1868.

Whaley lists twenty-one single or double-weight covers originating in the interior of Newfoundland to the United States or the Maritimes using the 13¢ stamp [8, p 30]. Packets sent from Newfoundland interiors to North American destinations cost thirteen cents.

Whaley lists eighteen single and double-rate covers from St John's to ports carrying the 13¢ stamp [8, p 30]. Whaley reaches the conclusion: “If an item originated in St. John's but went to an interior destination within Canada the 13¢ rate also applied [8, p 128].” Packets sent from St John's to destinations other than the United States, Halifax, and Prince Edward Island, Bermuda, and the West Indies, required thirteen cents.

Whaley lists six covers sent from the interior of Newfoundland to the French Islands of St Pierre and Miquelon, all using the 13¢ stamp [8, p 30]. Whaley indicates that, until June 1871, most of the mail sent from Newfoundland to St Pierre and Miquelon went through the port of Halifax [8, p 98]. The St John's and North Sydney, CB, receiver marks on the back of the 1868 Harbour Grace cover (Figure 3) suggest that there may have been another route to the French islands.

The 1865 24¢

Whaley proposes that the dark blue 24¢ stamp of Queen Victoria (Figure 6) was produced to pay the double-rate packet postage for letters to Great Britain [8, p 10]. Boggs indicates that the 24¢ blue stamp was “for double weight letters to Great Britain” [4, p 51]. Whaley also

indicates that the 24¢ stamp could pay for domestic packages up to one-quarter of a pound [8, p 233].

Whaley notes that not a single cover has survived paying its intended usage—a double rate cover to Great Britain [8, p 10]. Whaley illustrates a cover from Harbour Grace to Sydney, Nova Scotia in 1866 with two 24¢ stamps, paying the package rate, as the only known cover within period for this stamp [8, p 115]. After 1890, many philatelic covers were sent from St John's utilizing the 24¢ stamp prior to the remainder of these stamps being destroyed by the Post Office in 1900.



Figure 6. 1865 24¢ dark blue Queen Victoria.

Collectors of Newfoundland stamps probably know that it is not difficult to obtain used copies of the 24¢ stamp on the thin, hard paper with cork cancels that were typically used during the early cents era. Used copies containing the general nine-bar cancellation device issued to all important post offices in the island in 1888 [2, p 265] are also relatively easy to obtain. Lacking covers, could a study of recognizable postmarks of the period on the 24¢ stamps on the thin, hard paper shed any more light on the actual period use of this particular stamp?

Summary

This has been a very short examination of a portion of the existing published information and a few general observations on the first six decimal stamps issued by the Colony of Newfoundland on 15 November 1865. Robert Pratt's two books, *The Pence Issues of Newfoundland 1857–1866* [13] and *The Nineteenth Century Postal History of Newfoundland* [2] are invaluable in the study of the Newfoundland early postal system. Sammy Whaley's book, *Newfoundland: 1865–1879, The New York Printings, A Cover Study* [8], has contributed immensely to the overall study of Newfoundland's early cent stamps. Pratt's books and Whaley's cover census have had a tremendous influence on this author's study of the production of

Newfoundland's early cent stamps by the ABNC in the Merchant's Exchange building on 55 Wall Street in New York.

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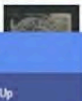









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Entires posted from Halifax to New York in 1810—Part II

Martha Harris (Introduction and references by Winston Williams)

THE second and third entires—written by Martha Harris to near relatives between 6 and 25 April 1810—are presented below. The first entire appeared in *BNA Topics* Volume 77, No 1 (2020). All three were posted from Halifax, Nova Scotia, to N^o 15, White Street [1], New York, each pencilled L35, L36, L37 in order of date, and annotated as “rec^d. May 15, 1810”—dated April xx. 1810 M(artha) Harris to xxx Greene, & all with circular handstruck POST PAID (25 mm, good strikes) in black-and-red manuscript 4½ on obverse, handstruck straightline HALIFAX APR 23 [1] (poor to good strikes) on reverse.

(1) Addressed to Mrs Greene in writer’s hand and annotated in another hand (by a family member of the recipient?) “to Sophia Greene.”

Halifax April 22nd 1810

My dear very dear Sister

We have at length after an uncommon long passage of 17 days, 6 of which we were in sight of land (bad beating, off by North Easterly winds) reached this place. I have suffered considerably from Cold, particularly during the night as we have been so battered(?) about it is almost impossible to keep the clothes on. Your delicate form could not have supported it, and I trust you will never undertake a voyage without Mr Greene with you. I am formed of tougher materials and have not been sick at all to speak of. Capt Sampson (see Figure 2) frequently tells me he never saw a lady bear the sea so well. Mr Wilkins too said, Miss Harris I have looked at you with astonishment and wonder and cannot comprehend how you bear this wind with so much composure. As soon as we anchored yesterday morning [10] the Governor sent us word not to come to the wharf but to prepare for sailing in 24 hours. But the surveyor has pronounced our mast not sea worthy, so we must have an entire new one, which will detain us here until Wednesday or Thursday. I never leave my Cabin till near dinner time. So when I came out, I found the Gentlemen all on shore. Mr Bennet who Mr Greene may recollect offered to entertain me at his house during my stay at Halifax, insisted upon my accepting his offer with the hospitality of his Country (Ireland) impatient to see his Wife and Children, he went on Shore by day break. So my situation was not the most pleasant in the world, the Capt being completely occupied about his boat meeting his Officers, and with Gentlemen about the passage(?) money to England, and to tell you the Truth he is quite a stranger to all those little attentions our sex requires and expects, although he admired it very much in Mr Greene, whom he calls a very pleasant man. He likewise requests I will stay at his house at Falmouth and not think of going to an Inn, in should he is a complete Jack Tar. Halo(?) and courageous as a lion, making himself Upon his great strength, which they all agree is immense, but quite illiterate To give you a specimen of his language. He told Mr Van Ness the other day that [*end page 1*] “he had jaw enough for half a dozen sets of teeth” However he is pleasant and goodnatured. Well while I was waiting for an opportunity to speak to the Capt.

Keywords & phrases: Ship mail, Halifax, New York

BNA Topics, Volume 77, Number 3, July–September 2020

Mr Harris came to my Cabin and taking me hand told me he had brought a Boat to take me on Shore, Mrs Bennet was expecting me, and he advised me to go there in preference to Mr P(?)artshorn as it was so much nearer the shore. Mr Van Ness and Mr Norris, accompanied him, and upon my expressing my thanks Mr H replied it was his bounden duty to see me taken care of. He is an officer in the 2nd regiment of foot I had great difficulty in getting down the side of the vessel. Mr H kindly got into the boat first and told me he would take care my clothes(?) were properly arranged. They accompanied me to Mr Bennet. I found her very busy

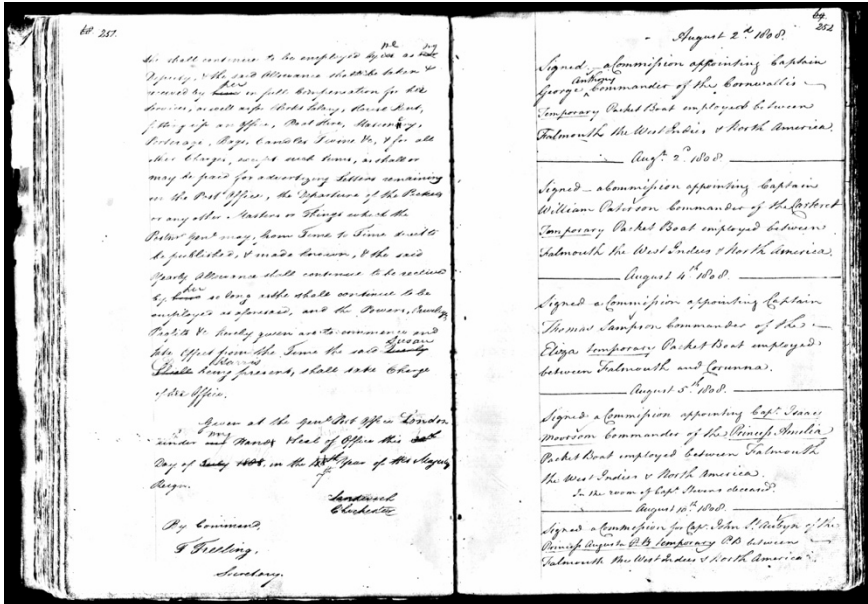


Figure 2. 1808 British Postal Service Appointment Book, p 71, showing the entry on the right-hand page, "August 4th 1808. Signed a Commision appointing Captain Thomas Sampson Commander of the Eliza temporary Packet Boat employed between Falmouth and Corunna."

in her shop. The gentlemen ushered me into her parlour, which was most superbly furnished, her daughter received me a very nice girl of 15 educated in a French convent in Quebec. Mr H and the other two then took their leave, and I received visits of congratulations from Mr Carrol and Mr Wilkins. The former is Nephew to Bishop Carrol [11] a young Man of large fortune in Maryland keeps 20 servants and is going to Ireland to recover a large property and estate. When in New York he boards with Mrs Beadish at 30 dollars a week. Mr Vanness who is cousin to the celebrated Judge [12] advises him to buy a Peerage and calls him Earl of Tipperary and Viscount Carrol. This same Mr Carrol is very pleasing. There is a native elegance about him and a politeness that springs from the heart neither acquired by education nor good company. To me he is uniformly civil and polite if I am upon deck. He instantly throws off his great coat and puts it over my shoulders insists upon my wearing it, and Mr Barnet told me he was quite distressed(?) at the Hotel until he got me on shore, Mr Macon too waits upon me with a thousand apologies for having left the ship, without seeing me. He is a french officer in the service of the United States. A man of remarkable elegance of manners and a universal

font of information. His 3(?) servants were crying when he came on board at New York, and remained upon the wharf watching the vessel till it was out of sight, he continuously waving his hand kerchief. after dinner Mr Genoar(?), who is an english officer and knows Mr Barton came and sat with me two hours. Mrs B and her daughters being both engaged in his shop I am very much pleased with this place, they pay no taxes and are considered British subjects and under the protection of the British Government. Mr Bennet says it is the happiest spot on the earth. The Duke of Kents [13] late mansion is very elegant *[end page 2]* situated on the top of the hill. Sir John Borlase Warren is the resident Admiral about eleven oclock, I retired to a most delightful bed. the contrast was so great after having been tossed about so many nights on the stormy waves, that I could not sleep for a long while, but when I did I never woke till this morning, during breakfast Mr Carrol and Mr Macon paid me a visit. You will find me a great egotist, but I know how kindly and after(?) honestly(?) you are interested about me. Mr Greene, affectionate, delicate kind I know felt for me and entered into all my feelings, when he left me on board indeed it was a situation not the most enviable, many women would not have supported it. But I believe it is a very true observation, that when a woman of respectability is thrown as it were on the mercy of so many men, they make it a point of honor to treat(?) her with the greatest respect and attention. Our Steward is exceedingly ill with a gathering in his place(?) from a wound he received 12 years since. I fear we must leave him at this place, we have two others in the Cabin, my greatest apprehension on board is on account of the fire. There is so much gun powder on board and they are so universally careless. Mr Van Ness is very fearful of fire and is continually *[missing 3 cm of paper]* Watch. The Boys will take a candle and will hunt for things the Cap(t) *[missing 3 cm of paper]* the under part of which is full of straw and close to the Magaz(ine) *[missing 3 cm of paper]* Mr Macon too is very apprehensive. Mr Bennet used to go round the ship every night, when the Capt and all was gone to rest. The Capt goes regularly to bed every night. The Watch is very regularly held to my great annoyance as it is always preceded by a great stamping of the feet immediately over my head, then “Starboard Watch a hoy.” Capt Sampson the second day of his arrival in New York [14] enquired of a gentleman in appearance whom he met, the way to Mr Berwick’s Ship Yard. Do you belong to the British Pacquet was the reply. Yes. Then Damn the British Pacquet and the Nation to which you belong. The Captain immediately knocked him down and rolled him in the mud several times, and then made the best of his Way on board his Ship. You will easily conclude he is not very fond of the Yorkers. Well my Sister has not yet mentioned one of the Children! She has forgotten them already! Ah do not think so. They are my Cabin’s solace. over and over again do I recall their dear Faces. Their little engaging attentions dear inextorably(?) dear, are they to the heart of their Aunt, neither will she be perfectly happy till she is again with them. Neither is Papa and Moma forgotten. How many times do *[end page 3]* I see you in imagination, walking before me so briskly the last sad morning. Dear Sophia trudging by your side with my port folio. I think if I live a 100 years I shall remember exactly how your gown was pinned up, how your shawl was put & co & co I trust and hope you make that beautiful little Emily lay upon the floor, little pop(?), the last kiss I imposed on her soft cheek is not yet worn off, never did I love her half so much as at that moment, tho tears are now trembling in my eyes at the recollection of it, darling Mary, how much am I indebted to her for her smiles had she wept she would have deprived her Aunt of all her fortitude – do not, do not, let her forget me, her affection is one of the sweetest of my existence and dear dear little Whit *[to other side of letter]* how unconscious he was of the weeping carrefors(?) I lavished upon his benevolent angelic Face, as he lay sleeping by my side. Tell my dear Sophia,

I shall write to her if possible before I leave here. I am just returned from dinner, and find I am indebted to Mr Harris for a visit but finding I was writing he would not suffer me to be called. Mr Bennet has just late(?) one that I am as safe on board that Pacquet as in my own house. That in the course of his life he never saw her so respectful to a lady but says the(?) your own dramatic(?) conduct merits it. I am now going to take a Walk. Give my most affectionate love to dear Mrs Pell do not forget to write by the said Pacquet which is not arrived here yet. Tell me where she goes and all about(aboar?) her I am very much interested in all that concerns her. Adieu d^r Sophie(a?), every wind that blows will waft me from you, but my affection remains with you and your d^r Family, advise my love to Eliza. I hope she has taken care of the bass(?) your affectionate sister I settle(?). I am so afraid the children will get to it. It is one of my melancholy Good arises my reflections. Mess(?) see it is properly cleaned(?) and her my up(?) – Martha Harris

(3) Addressed to Miss Sophia Greene.

And in another hand (by a family member of the recipient?) dated Halifax April 25. 1810
Martha Harris to her niece Sophia Ann Greene

[rest of line & 2 cm to top of letter eaten away] 1810

My dear Sophia

You know not with what great pleasure I am set down to write to you. I think of you, your dear Sisters and Brother incessantly. I trust and hope you will not forget me, I have no amusing account to give you of the wonders of the deep. the high winds would not allow me to be on deck, but I am delighted with this place, which is built on a high Hill and laid out in eight parallel streets with the Sea, each street above the other. The Barracks are more convenient than any I have seen in England. There are now 3 regiments here consisting of a 1000 men each. The eighth regiment leaves this place on Saturday for Quebec, having been sent for express to quell a serious Insurrection, which has just broken out, it is supposed to be occasioned by the baleful influence of french gold, circulated by means of Buonparte's Agents – there are many of the first Canadians implicated in the Conspiracy among whom is a Member of the Senate and Clerk of the Assembly. Had it not been providentially discovered, there would have been much blood shed The principal leaders are now in prison, the Guards are doubled and every precaution taken [15]. The presence of the eighth regiment under the command of Colonel Young [16], will no doubt restore order. — I took a very pleasant walk on Sunday about three miles out of Town. We went to a Farm House and had a Syllabub. It was quite fun(?) but(?) before we got home, and very cold – Yesterday Morning, I was visited by all our Party and in the evening Captain Sampson and the Officers of the Sloop of War, came and took Coffeé at Mr Bennetts, his daughter was out and his wife busy serving in the Shop. So I presided at the Tea Table Capt Sampson made an apology, for not having called me. The first Lieutenant of the Jenobia is a middle aged Scotchman a very pleasant man. *[end page 1] [top of next page eaten away]* India *[eaten away]* .ly invitation to c ... *[eaten away]* ed to see(?) their boat at 11, but I of course declined it. They seemed to commiserate my being the only Lady passenger, and the Lieutenant with the Freedom of an old acquaintance shook hands with me and wished me a safe voyage – This morning [17] I took a long walk hafsed(?) the parade while they were mounting guard. There is a large lot of gariad(?) nailed(?) in for the purpose. The Grenadiers were particularly striking They wear immense Large Fur Caps, with a quantity of gold chain and two superb gold tassels hanging down on the left shoulder. The Board of Music is equal to that of the Duke of Yorks I wished for you my dear girl with the

same earnestness that you did for me when we lived at Albany. and the soldiers were going by on the 4th of July. From thence I walked by the Governors, which is a superb but heavy edifice of stone. The rest of the houses are generally of wood one story high, but built in a very picturesque manner. When I returned home, I found I had had a great many visits but however they returned and engaged me to go to the Parade tomorrow The Captain has just been here and we are to sail on Thursday but the surgeon of the *Jenobia* had just done me the honor of a call and he says that if the *Pacquet* from England comes in we shall be detained longer [18]. I expect I shall not see England until the end of next month. The Captain has laid considerable bets that we shall reach it in 25 days [19]. However it is very uncertain the winds are not so firm now as in the Fall. There is plenty of fish here, to day we had some of the finest Salmon, I ever tasted. Lobsters here are a penny each. They are reckoned very dear at 2 here. I long most exceedingly to hear how you do. Tell your Moma not to fail writing by the next packet. I shall be most exceedingly anxious for her arrival in *[end page 2] [top of next page eaten away]* you come *[eaten away]* that I shall *[eaten away]* Mary as she does sometimes *[4 words eaten away?]* or I shall not bring you so many pretty things as I intend, do not forget to say your prayers every morning, and remember to wear your sun Bonnets all-ways in the Garden, tell me how the trees grow? How your plants come up? and if the house is painted. Tell dear Whit, he must not forget his Aunt, you will never forgive him. I hope Mary has not lost her new Thimble, pray take care she does not let that or her needle fall, so that dearest Emily or your Brother may get it and choke themselves – give my love to Eliza. I do not doubt, she will do everything in her power to save your Moma a trouble – Has your Moma seen Mrs Duval. I trust she will keep her at a distance – our poor Steward will not be able to wait us the rest of the voyage – Mr Harris is exceedingly atten *[2cm missing]* to me indeed, has called upon me every morning since we *[2cm missing]* been on shore. He is not unlike Colonel Bruce when he is well dressed, at other times he puts me in mind of poor little Perryer. I am very fortunate in being situated so near the shore Mr P(?)artshorn is near the Governor had I been there. I should have been in continual anxiety of their sailing without me, for they are so uncertain, to day we were ordered on board, now tomorrow and so on, adieu my dear dear Niece, believe me your

Most affectionate Aunt

Martha Harris

Pray take care Sophia, that Mary nor Whitaker puts any crumbs(?) or anything else in Emily's [20] mouth

References and endnotes

- [1] See Part I of this article (*BNA Topics* Vol. 77, No. 1, 2020, p. 4), footnotes [1] and [2].
- [10] That date must be Saturday 21st April 1810, as letter written on (Sunday) 22nd April 1810.
- [11] The letter writer throughout spells the name with one l, but his name is Bishop Carroll, the first Roman Catholic bishop and archbishop of the US and cousin to Charles Carroll of Carrollton, a signatory to the Declaration of Independence.
- [12] Presumably Judge Peter Van Ness (1734-1804) [father of William P Van Ness, a US federal judge].
- [13] Prince Edward Augustus, Duke of Kent, Commander-in-Chief in Halifax 1794-1800, father of the future Queen Victoria.
- [14] The *Eliza* arrived New York late on 3 March 1810 [per US newspaper report, but 5 March recorded by both Montgomery and Olenkiewicz] with the December and January mails, some 7,000-8,000 letters.

- [15] Matches description in letter of 21 March 1810 published by the *Novator* newspaper of Halifax.
- [16] There is reference to Colonel Robert Young, of the first battalion of King's Liverpool Regiment during the American War in 1813 and him being in the 8th then. The first battalion of the King's embarked from Nova Scotia in May 1810, for Canada, and landed at Quebec on the 28th of that month and moved to Montreal in 1812 when war broke out.
- [17] That would be Tuesday 24 April, if writer giving a daily account with no gaps, but annotated elsewhere as dated 25 April and handstruck Halifax mark appears to be APR 23.
- [18] The next packet arrived 6 May 1810 at Halifax from Falmouth, the *Princess Amelia*, Captain Moorson. As that packet arrived at New York on 15 May (Olenkiewicz/Lloyd's list), the date of receipt annotated on the letters, all three must have been letters taken by that packet to New York.
- [19] The Packet *Eliza* arrived at Falmouth on 22 May, having set sail on 27 April (a Friday) and "miraculously escaped the Islands of Ice and several severe gales," so taking twenty-five days! Extract from Masson's log for 3 May at 6 am: "An Island of Ice abreast 100 yds. This was about 150 ft. high and 1 mile in diameter. When first discovered, it was not 100 yds. from the vessel, and we were sailing directly towards it."
- [20] Sophia, Mary, Whitaker, and Emily were four of the children of William Greene. Sophia Ann (from letter 3) was born 3 Sept 1805 per Vermont birth records and was living with her nephew Algernon Greene in English 3 April 1881 census (recorded as Sophia A Green, age 76), d and buried 2 April 1883, birth year 1804, age 79 (so 1 yr discrepancy with birth record, would be aged 4½? in April 1810). Her sister Emily Jane was living with her in the same census recorded as age 70, birthplace New York, d Q3 1887 (buried 13 Sep) age 77, birth year 1810 (newly born April 1810?). Nicholas Whitaker Greene (married Frances Sophia), father to Algernon, and the 30 March 1851 census said his birthplace was the United States and age 42, occupation Solicitor retired (6 June 1841 census Attorney at Law, age 32 (so as old as 1yr 9 mo in April 1810)); d 1856 (recorded as spelt Whittaker).

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“Photographing” stamps

Anthony Thompson

There are many reasons for wanting to produce a digital copy of a postage stamp. We may want to copy an entire sheet, a single stamp, or part of a stamp to see some fine detail. This article describes several methods for producing digital images of stamps from life-size to about one hundred times (100×) magnification and concludes with an examination of printed images in commercial publications, made by home printers, and in electronic format.

It is assumed that readers have a basic knowledge of digital images, pixels, magnification, resolution, and digital photography. The more challenging technical aspects of this process have been omitted here but can be found on the Internet.

Digital image

Digital images are made up of tiny squares or dots called pixels. Smaller pixel size results in sharper images with higher resolution and more detail. Resolution is measured by the number of pixels per inch (ppi) or dots per inch (dpi), measurements that are typically used interchangeably. The size of a digital image is measured in pixels and inches (or mm). A life-size image of a one-inch-wide stamp taken at 300 dpi would measure one inch and 300 pixels. The same image could be magnified 30× and it would measure 30 ins wide but still be 300 pixels, and the resolution would now be 10 dpi. Care is therefore needed when expressing resolution, as it varies with image magnification. *BNATopics* suggests that authors submit images as 300 dpi .jpg files. *The London Philatelist* prefers .tiff files at 300 dpi and notes that .jpg files are compressed and of a slightly lower quality of reproduction. In general, publishers print images of stamps at around 1.5× and covers at 0.5× life-size. A resolution of 300 dpi at life-size meets most publisher’s requirements.

The reason that many publishers do not want to receive higher resolution images is mainly file size. For example, the file size of the .tiff scan in Figure 1 is 0.3 MB at 300 dpi, 1.0 MB at 600 dpi, and 4.0 MB at 1200 dpi. The same scans as .jpg would be around 0.1, 0.2, and 0.6 MB, respectively, because of compression and the slight, corresponding loss of colour information and detail. The higher resolutions are not required for printing to paper or electronic pdf, which use a lower resolution, and so there is no need or advantage to submit images at higher resolutions.



Figure 1. Proof of stamp used for the images
(Sc 24P, 30 mm)

Keywords & phrases: Photography, scanner, magnification, resolution, dpi

Magnification and resolution

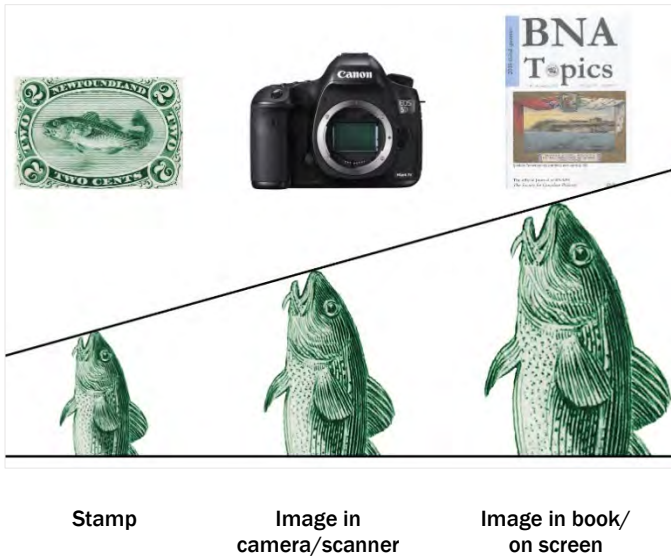


Figure 2. The two-stage magnification process from stamp to camera/scanner and then to book/screen.

Magnification is a two-stage process (Figure 2). The primary magnification occurs when the image is captured by the scanner’s or camera’s sensor and stored digitally. Scanners typically produce this image at life-size, *i.e.*, 1× magnification. For cameras, this varies according to the lens system used. The secondary magnification occurs when the digital image is enlarged when printed or viewed on a screen. The total magnification is the primary multiplied by the secondary magnifications.

Scanners produce images at resolutions pre-selected by the user prior to scanning, typically within the 50-1200 dpi range. Cameras are similar: For example, my Canon 7D camera, with its 20 megapixel APS-C crop sensor, has an 820-6200 dpi range (though this is expressed in the camera’s menu as 720×480–5472×3648 pixels).

The main reason to use the maximum resolution is to display fine details when the digital image is magnified. Maximum resolution is also recommended when processing images with photo-editing software, *e.g.*, to straighten a crooked scan or to increase the contrast. Conversion to 300 dpi for submission is then performed at the last editing stage.

There are several advantages to using a camera over a scanner. Cameras have a higher resolution, much better optics to capture details and colour, and different lens systems covering a range of magnification requirements can be used with them. Their disadvantage is that they are more expensive and much harder to use than scanners. If the same scanner is used and the set-up remains the same, a scanner can also offer “repeatability.” This can be achieved with cameras, but lighting and white balance must be constant and fully controlled. Scanners also hold the stamp flat, which is a significant problem when using a camera.

Figure legends

The legends to Figures 3-10 include a mm measurement, which is the width of the figure as measured on the stamp. Total magnification is the figure's width divided by the measurement in the legend. Many of the figure legends also give the primary (first value) and secondary (second value) magnifications. For example, in Figure 3 (top) the image width is 28 mm in the figure and 4 mm on the stamp, the primary magnification is 1 \times , and the secondary magnification is 7 \times . The total magnification is 7 \times ($=28/4$ or 1×7).

Proof stamp

The stamp used for making the digital copies shown in Figures 3-10 is a proof printing of the Newfoundland 1865 2 c cod stamp (Figure 1; Scott 24P) which has a sharper, clearer image than the issued stamp.

Scanner images

Scanners typically scan at pre-selected resolutions up to 1200 dpi, with 300 dpi being deemed acceptable quality by most publishers when images are reproduced about life-size in the final print copy. If you intended to magnify the scanner image four times and show only a quarter of the stamp to illustrate some feature on the stamp (*i.e.*, a 9 \times 4 mm area is printed at 36 \times 24 mm), then a 1200 dpi scan will provide the required submission resolution of 300 dpi.

A Canon CanoScan 8800F was used to scan the proof stamp at 300, 600, and 1200 dpi. The head and eye are reproduced here at higher secondary magnifications (Figure 3). This shows that 1200 dpi produces an acceptable image of the cod's head at a magnification of 7 \times , but is insufficient to produce a clear image of the cod's eye at the higher magnification of 28 \times . The individual pixels are clearly visible in the magnified eye at 300, 600, and even 1200 dpi.

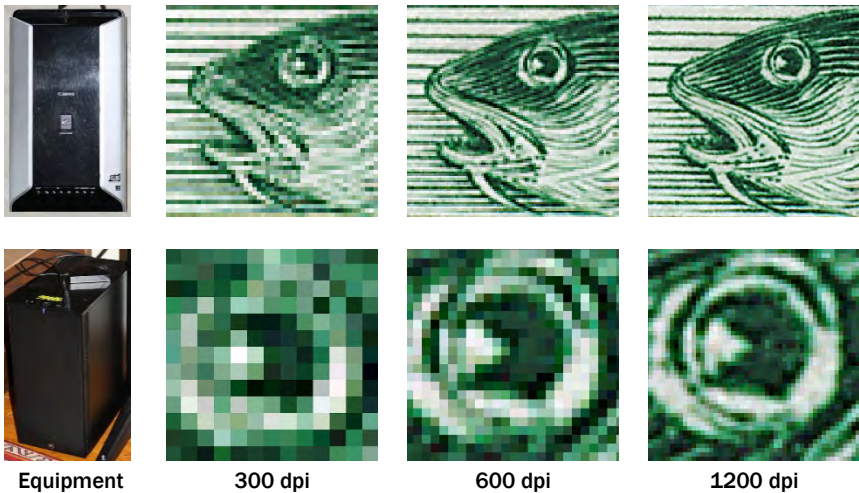


Figure 3. Scans of the proof at three resolutions magnified to show the head (top, 4 mm, 1 \times , 7 \times) and eye (bottom, 1 mm, 1 \times , 28 \times).

Digital microscope

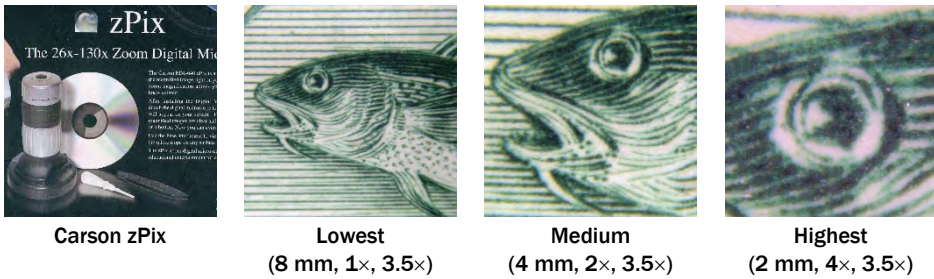


Figure 4. Digital zoom microscope (left) and images at three magnification settings.

There is a wide range of digital microscopes in terms of price and quality. These will blend into the more expensive compound microscopes with dedicated camera, as described below under “Microscopes.” At the lower end are the cheaper, single-unit systems that plug into a computer’s USB port and have a focus and zoom ring. The example shown here is the older type Carson zPix 26–130× digital microscope 640×480 pixels (0.3 megapixel purchased around 2012 for \$80; Figure 4, left). This model was upgraded to a 2-megapixel sensor in 2018. The claimed magnification range is not on to the sensor but enlarged to a 21 ins monitor; the magnification on to the sensor is approximately in the 1–4× range. The photographs of the stamp shown in Figure 4 were taken at low (1×), medium (2×), and high (4×) primary magnifications and are printed with the same secondary magnification of 3.5×. The images all look a little blurred, with blurring increasing with magnification. Therefore, the higher magnifications only modestly increase the observed detail. This appears to be due to poor optics and not the result of the relatively low number of pixels.

In terms of comparison, the lowest power on the digital microscope gives about the same resolution as a 1200 dpi scan. Higher powers further increase the resolution beyond that of a scanner, but far below that obtained using quality photographic optics.

Photographic images

There is a wide variety of photographic lenses that can be used to make digital images of stamps at different magnifications (Table 1). The image quality and magnification depend, understandably, on the equipment and its cost.

Table 1. Photographic equipment required for various magnifications (Canon examples given).

Magnification (on to sensor)	Camera body	Lens system	Comments
max. 1× 1×–5×	Canon 7D	Canon EF-S 60 mm f/2.8 macro Canon MP-E 65 mm f/2.8 1–5× supermacro	Normal macro lens No focus on lens, zoom only
2×–5×		Canon 35 mm f/2.8 macrophoto	No focus, bellows
5×–10×		Canon 20 mm f/3.5 macrophoto	No focus, bellows
1×–4×	None	Carson zPix digital zoom microscope	No camera needed
0.6×–3× ¹	Cmex-5C ²	Dissecting microscope	Long working distance
2×–20× ¹		Compound microscope	Oblique light

¹ Up to four times more magnification possible. ² Cmex DC 5000C 5.0 Mpix CMOS colour camera

Macro lens

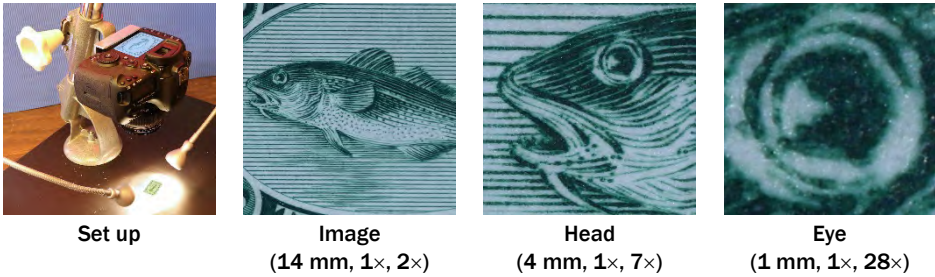


Figure 5. Set up and image taken with a Canon EF-S 60 mm macro lens, set at 1 \times magnification.

Macro lenses are widely available, and many users of system cameras will likely have one. A macro lens is a lens that produces a life-size image on the sensor at its nearest focus distance, *i.e.*, 1 \times magnification. Macro lenses are typically of high quality and take pictures at a higher resolution than is possible with a scanner. Macro lenses, when used at their closest focus distance, really require a stand to frame and focus the stamp (Figure 5, left).

The set-up and image are shown together with secondary magnifications of the eye and an engraved line in Figure 5. All images are reasonably sharp, with the highest magnification showing at least some detail on the engraved lines without pixellation. Comparisons with Figure 3 show the greatly increased resolution when using camera systems over scanners. The image of the eye, however, shows a loss of clarity and signs of being over-enlarged. The macro lens was also considerably sharper than the digital zoom microscope. A normal macro lens provides enough detail for almost all philatelic needs; however, we need to use a different camera system if we want to look at the inked lines in more detail.

Supermacro lens

Very few manufacturers make a lens similar to the Canon MP-E 65 mm f/2.8 1–5 \times supermacro. There is no focusing ring—focus is achieved by adjusting the distance between the lens and the subject. Further, it does not focus between infinity and life-size and, unlike a macro lens, it cannot be used for normal photography. It is designed specifically with modest magnifications in mind. A good quality stand that can focus the camera must be used (Figure 6, left). Also, it is necessary to have strong lighting owing to the extra magnification.

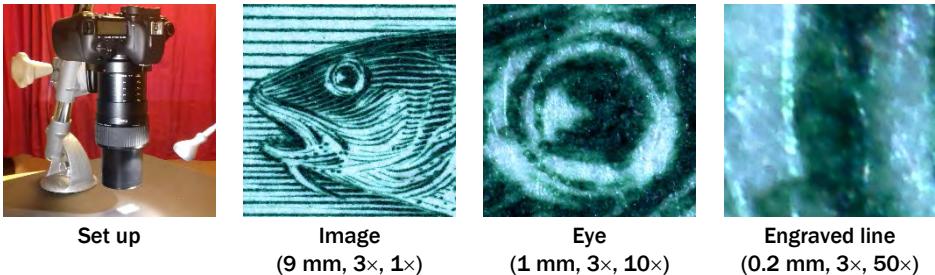


Figure 6. Set-up and image taken with a Canon MP-E 65 mm f/2.8 1–5 \times supermacro lens set at 3 \times magnification. The engraved line is from the left side of the eye.

The image was taken at the 3× setting on the lens, the middle of the zoom range, meaning the image on the camera’s sensor is 3× life-size. The image is enlarged during printing to show the eye and further enlarged for the engraved line (Figure 6). The eye is very sharp, but the engraved line looks over-enlarged and lacks detail. It would be acceptable at a slightly lower enlargement, and probably also acceptable if the original photograph had been taken at the maximum lens magnification of 5× (hence requiring less secondary magnification enlargement of the digital image).

Macrophoto bellows lens

Some manufacturers have produced other specialised lenses able to produce magnifications greater than life-size. In the 1970s, Canon sold a 35 mm and a 20 mm macrophoto lens for use with bellows and capable of respectively providing 2–5× and 4–10× magnification on the sensor (or, back then, on the film!). Bellows are placed between the camera body and lens to adjust the magnification. These higher magnifications require a stable stand and a bright light source. Images of the cod stamp—at 10× magnification with the 20 mm lens on to the sensor, using this set up—are shown in Figure 7. The eye diameter on the stamp is about 1 mm, and this has been enlarged when printed to show the head and an engraved line. The first image is clear and sharp, showing details in the engraved lines and some paper fibres. Further enlargement shows the embossing and more detail in the fibres, but it is beginning to lose sharpness. This relates more to the quality of the lens [1] than any loss due to pixellation (as seen in the scanner images). Nevertheless, such a set-up would be sufficient for looking at the very finest details of the engraved lines (for example, see [2]).

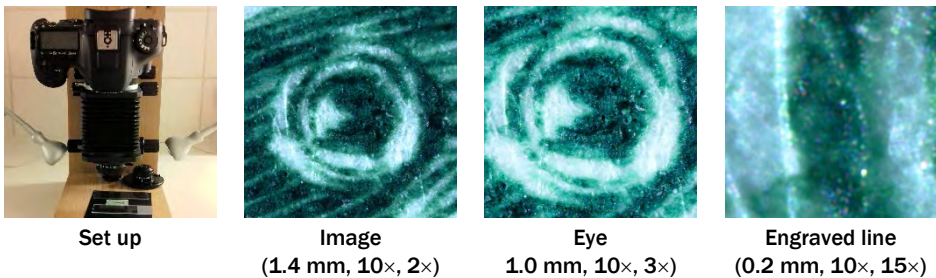


Figure 7. Set up and image taken with a Canon 20 mm macrophoto lens set at 10× magnification.

Microscopes

Microscopes can be purchased for prices similar to those of camera lenses. They open a range of exciting possibilities. Microscopes deploy a two-lens magnification system: the eye-piece and the objective. Most of us will have used microscopes at school and have some knowledge of their function. They come in two basic designs: The lower power stereo (dissecting) microscope with magnifications of around 4–40× and a long working distance between the objective and the object being examined. These are ideal for looking at details and produce a much brighter and sharper image than are provided by a 10× magnifying glass (albeit the microscope is much less portable). They take pictures of similar magnifications to the photomacro lenses described above.

A compound microscope is required for higher magnifications of 40–400×. The magnification is also a two-stage process: The lower objective lenses are switchable at typically 4×, 10×, and 40×, and the eyepiece is usually at 10×—the product giving the total magnification. Compound microscopes are typically used to examine specimens mounted on glass slides with transmitted lighting from underneath. However, they can be used to examine stamps, as it is possible to illuminate the stamp from above when using the 4× and 10× objectives but not the 40× objective. A special camera attached to the microscope and linked to a computer is really required to take good quality pictures, though adaptors are available to use a normal camera body. The camera has its own “eyepiece” at 0.45×, which produces magnifications of around 2×, 5×, and 20× to the sensor. However, the depth of field is exceedingly small, and only parts of the image are in focus in any one picture. This focus problem can be solved by taking pictures at many focus levels and using a technique called “focus stacking.” The technique uses thirty or more pictures, each taken at a different focus level, and stacks them into a single image that is all in focus.

Figure 8 shows the set-up for oblique (above side) lighting and transmitted (below) lighting and images, using the 10× objective and Cmcx DC 5000C 5.0 Mpix CMOS colour camera. The different lighting produces different effects. Surface features are more visible when illuminated from above, and the structure of the paper is more evident when illuminated from below. There is good detail in the eye and the engraved line, but the fibres in the highest magnification are over-enlarged. Different techniques are required to see three-dimensional structures at these higher magnifications. These are at the limits of useful magnifications for stamps and show all the detail likely to be required for any philatelic needs. Therefore, with a basic laboratory set-up and a little knowledge, anyone can enter the fascinating world of microscopy (see for example [3]).

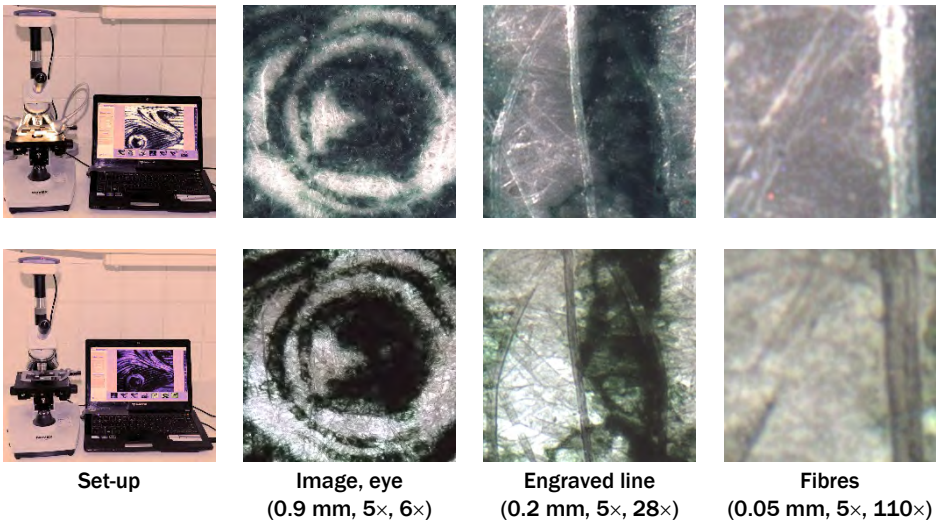


Figure 8. Set-up and image taken with compound microscope under 10× objective under (top) oblique above, and (bottom) transmitted underneath illumination.

The published image

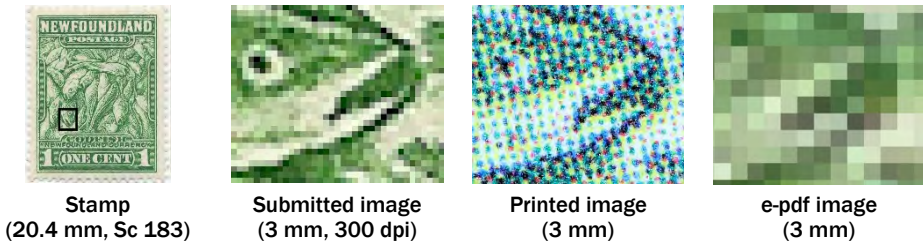


Figure 9. Stamp and 10× magnification from three sources for *BNA Topics* (Figure 1 in Thompson, 2013, for the image printed in the paper copy and in the electronic pdf on BNAPS website).

The discussions above about equipment, magnification, and resolution are all very interesting, but these “original” pictures are not what the reader sees. How does the above translate to the printed paper copy or electronic pdf image?

Figure 9 is from the 1932 1¢ Newfoundland cod stamp (Sc 183) and shows the stamp and three magnified images (the cod’s head above the “c” of codfish rotated 90 degrees anti-clockwise). The image was submitted at 300 dpi, and it shows clear pixelation at 10× magnification. The image in the print copy uses half-tone technology and reproduces the submitted image quite well, but at a lower resolution. The electronic pdf image, from the pdf on the BNAPS website, uses small pixel squares at around 120 dpi (ppi) and produces a very low-quality image when enlarged. All these images, when not magnified, look acceptable with a viewing distance for the paper copy of about 20 cm and the pdf copy viewed on screen at about 60 cm. Whereas a magnifying glass can be used to see fine details on a postage stamp, the same is not the case for printed images—you actually see less detail! This means that, if the intent is for the reader to see fine details, then it is important to submit a suitably enlarged image with the detail clearly visible.

Home printing

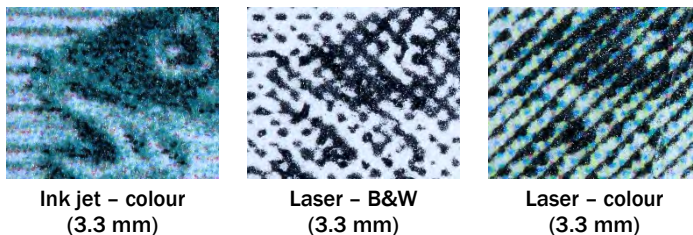


Figure 10. Enlargements at 10× of the proof in Figure 1 printed by three different home printers.

If the intent of an image is to show fine details, then it is desirable to see previews similar to the published image. It is possible to use image software to produce half-tone images (e.g., Corel’s Paintshop Pro has a half-tone effects option), but the processed half-tone image is different to that seen in the paper print reproduction. Also, home printers do not seem to use the same technology employed by commercial printers, and so the half-tone image shown in

Figure 9 cannot be accurately reproduced. It is also likely that different home printers use different technologies. Three examples of re-photographed printed images are shown in Figure 10 and are comparable to the published images shown in Figure 9. The printed image was the photograph of the whole stamp shown in Figure 1, reproduced life-size. It shows that the technology used in home printers is very different from the commercially reproduced image in Figure 9. The resolution on the colour inkjet printer is high and is equivalent to around 600 dpi. The fish head printed in the black-and-white and colour laser printers is difficult to see, and at a much lower resolution than the colour ink jet printer. Again, all images appear sharp when not enlarged and viewed from about 20 cm.

Conclusions

Most philatelists will have a scanner but not specialist photographic equipment. Scanners can distinguish high-contrast lines down to 0.05 mm at 1200 dpi (Figure 3, right) and can provide good images of re-entries. Scanners are sufficient for most philatelic needs and can be supported by digital microscopes to add a little more magnification. Scanners cannot, however, reproduce the fine printing details of mottling or feathering within and around the engraved lines (Thompson, 2013); for this we need a macro lens and preferably a lens that can magnify at 5× or more. A microscope is desirable in some cases. This is beyond the equipment normally available to philatelists, though the cost of such equipment is similar to the cost of a valuable stamp (say \$500–\$2000)! Such magnifications are required when examining and photographing fine details caused by different printing methods.

Consideration must also be given to the printed image, as this will have a lower resolution and lower contrast than the submitted digital image. If an author wants to clearly show fine details to the reader, then the submitted image must be at a high-enough magnification, resolution, and contrast to overcome the reduction that will occur in the printing process. As a guide, 10× total magnification from a scanned image at the highest dpi (1200 or more) is about the limit. Higher magnifications require one of the systems described in this article.

References and endnotes

This article will be read in printed or electronic format with the images being reproduced at that quality. I hope I have provided them at a high-enough magnification so the details can be seen in the published formats!

- [1] Subsequent investigations showed that these images were subject to vibrations due to the shutter opening and closing and diffraction due to a low effective f-stop. These aberrations can be minimised by using long exposure times and the maximum lens aperture.
- [2] AB Thompson, "Intaglio printings of the Newfoundland 1¢ 'Pile of Cod' stamps," *BNA Topics*, Volume 70 No 4, October–December 2013, pp 19–30.
- [3] AB Thompson, "Paper stuff," *BNA Topics*, Volume 73, No 1, 2016, pp 34–38.

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Modern international postal rates: 2007

Vic Willson

SINCE 1 July 1979, when Canada went on the kilogram standard, there have been at least twenty-nine rate changes to letters and parcels, nearly one a year—in some years at least two changes if not more. It is quite difficult to determine what was changing from about 1990 onward, as the designations for classes of mail changed so rapidly.

In this article, I am going to discuss the rate changes of 2007 as an example of what can be done in postal history for mail to UPU countries, excluding the US, for which there were separate rates under the reciprocal rate (no longer enforced but still with preferred rates) of 1 February 1875.

The source for almost all that I discuss below is Robin Harris' excellent website, adminware.ca, under the "Philatelic" folder. He gives basic rates from 1943 to 1998 and, for the period from then on, he reproduces Canada Post rate sheets given to the public. Using the material on this site, along with *Canada Domestic and International Postal Rates and Fees 1870-1999* (2000) by Robert Smith and Anthony Wawrukiewicz, one can get a pretty good handle on much of the rate structure. Clearly, Harris extended what the book, published in 2000, covered.

As of 1 January 2007, there were twenty listed rates or rate ranges for various classes of mail. They are listed below (Table 1 with the 1 January 2006 rates and changes made on 1 April 2007). The 1 January 2008 rates are shown also for changes after one year or nine months. Several of the rates in effect for three months are among the shortest in Canadian postal history.

The other limitation is that, as of 2008, the separate weight rates for Small Packets are no longer listed, only the rate range. One can infer much of what the change would be from the previous rate. Perhaps these changes are to be found in the minutes of Parliament, but I have not been successful so far in finding them.

Thus, collecting just the single 2007 year's international rates is a daunting task. I attempt to collect all such rates from 1 July 1979 to present, and I have found that beyond first and second weight letters, anything else is a challenge. We have stamp dealers to thank for most of the material I have been able to assemble for 2007, as they generally try to get the correct rate, or within a few cents with stamp overpayment. I would happily include metered mail, particularly for the high rates, but these do not seem to hit the market. While 2007 is perhaps too recent for some material, I have found the same problem with earlier mail.

Below are some of the shorter rates after 1 April 2007, illustrating the changes. First is an illustration of the under fifty grams weight for \$2.20 on a cover mailed from Côte Saint-Luc, Quebec (Figure 1) to Greece on 1 July.

Next from the same correspondence is the under one hundred grams Other Letter-post rate of \$3.60, mailed 18 September (Figure 2). This required size limits less than 380 mm × 270 mm × 20 mm and greater than 140 mm × 90 mm × 0.18 mm. It is cropped here to save space.

Keywords & phrases: postal rates for international mail, 21st century rates

Table 1. Rates for various classes of mail from 1 January 2006 to 1 January 2008.

CLASS		1 January 2006	1 January 2007	1 April 2007	1 January 2008
Standard Letters^a					
	30gr	\$1.49	\$1.55	\$1.55	\$1.60
	50gr	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.3
Other Letter-post					
	100gr	3.49	3.49	3.6	3.75
	200gr	5.98	5.98	6.2	6.4
	500gr	11.98	11.98	12.4	12.8
Small Packet					
	Air				7.75- 48.40 ^b
	250gr	7.30 ^r	7.6	7.6	7.75
	500gr	14.05	14.6	14.6	?
	1kg	27.55	28.65	28.65	?
	2kg	43.05	44.75	44.75	48.4
	Surface				5.65- 20.00 ^b
	250gr	5.35	5.55	5.55	5.65
	500gr	7.2	7.5	7.5	?
	1kg	12.1	12.6	12.6	?
	2kg	17.8	18.5	18.5	20
Light Packet					
	100gr	— ^c	3.49	3.6	3.75
	250gr	—	6.98	7.29	7.52
	500gr	—	11.98	12.4	12.8
Prepaid Envelope					
	500gr	40.5	42.9	42.9	45.8
Flat Rate Package					
	Puroletter 500gr	45.13- 86.58 ^b	46.71- 89.61	46.71- 89.61	48.34- 92.75
	Puropak 1.5kg	53.41- 107.00 ^b	55.28- 110.75	55.28- 110.75	57.21- 114.63

^a Full title is *Standard Letter-Post through 7-4-2007 and Standard Letters and Cards on 1-1-2008*.

^b Only rate ranges given for these classes.

^c No such designation.

In Figure 3 (page 35) is a cover that falls under the same Other Letter-post classification but for the under two hundred grams weight paid \$6.20 to England, mailed 1 May. The stamp dealer assiduously put the correct fee in stamps, for which I give thanks.

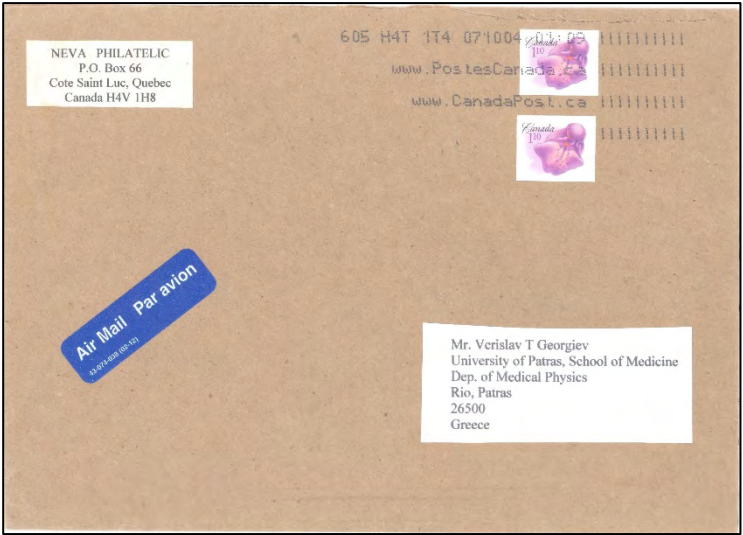


Figure 1. \$2.20 letter rate to Greece.



Figure 2. \$3.60 Other Letter-post rate to Greece.



Figure 3. \$6.20 Other Letter-post to England.

Figure 4 illustrates a puzzling different classification, Light Packet, whose requirements are identical to the Other Letter-post for size. Here it is labeled Small Packet, which does not have a \$3.60 rate.



Figure 4. \$3.60 Light Packet to Greece.

Perhaps the label was used for both Parcel classes. Mailed 25 December to Greece, it is paid the identical \$3.60, as for Other Letter-post. This may be because of Customs requirements as the value is listed as \$4.00 for a perf gauge.

Figure 5 shows the Small Packet under 500 gr rate of \$7.60 mailed 13 June to England. It also has the Small Packet Customs label valued at \$60 on the back.

From a philatelic point of view, it would be nice if each cover were mailed to a different country. The covers to Greece were obtained in a correspondence a few years ago, while the



Figure 5. \$7.60 Small packet rate to England.

England covers periodically show up on eBay. At this point, I take what I can get and, except for some first- and second-weight letters, these are all the other rates I have accumulated to date. One other thing—I omitted additional services, such as registration and return-to-sender, that can be applied to each rate.

Return-to-sender fee covers are rare in my experience, but I have received registered material for almost all rate periods already. That said, I think it will be impossible to find them for most of the rates listed above. Still, it makes for an interesting search.

Neglected at this point too is printed matter. I do not have the rates for them beyond 2001, but I have obtained some material clearly labeled “printed matter.” They are somewhere in the archives to be listed. I am always interested in new information from readers and have a good stash of material for trade or sale across all the modern rate periods, some to unusual destinations. Email me at lloydwill@aol.com or write to P O Box 10026 College Station TX 77842 if interested in this area of collecting.

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Sea Island post office and air force base

Andrew Scott

TWO British Columbia Postal History newsletter readers, Mike Street and Jon Johnson, got in touch recently with a query about the RCAF cover (Figure 1) below. The addressee, Aircraftman Ian Thompson Machum, sadly, died on war service at the age of twenty-one, just days before the envelope was mailed. He was involved in a flying accident on 16 January 1943, four kms southwest of Aldergrove. Mike and Jon wondered if the handstamps on front had been applied at a civilian post office or a military one.

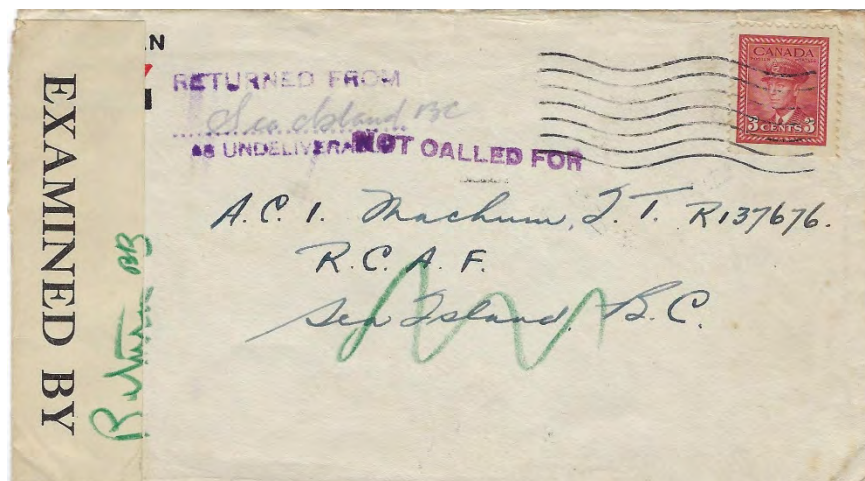


Figure 1. Three-cent War issue paying domestic rate on undated, censored, undeliverable cover to Sea Island.

Sea Island (Figure 2) is, of course, the site of Vancouver Airport. A military post office—Vancouver MPO 1116—opened there on 23 May 1944, and closed on 21 May 1947. The proof date for the MPO’s circular date stamp (2 September 1943) was much earlier, however, than the “official” opening date. According to Bill McNulty’s booklet, *Richmond’s Postal History* (published by Friends of the Richmond Archives in 2007), MPO 1116 was “mainly for the use of members of the RCAF stationed at the Sea Island base.” Vancouver AMF (Air Mail Facility), established 1 June 1942, was also located on Sea Island. This was a dispatch centre for airmail, located in the airport administration building. It only offered limited postal service. (A nineteenth-century post office named Sea Island was also established here, 1885-92.)

Vancouver Airport was taken over by the Department of National Defence during WWII. It became one of the many sites of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan (BCATP), a massive program that, in Canada alone, prepared more than 130,000 pilots and aircrew

Keywords & phrases: Sea Island Airport post office, RCAF, WWII

technicians for combat overseas, among them those at #8 Elementary Flying Training School, which opened at Sea Island on 22 July 1940. In *Canadian Military Postal Markings* [1], WJ Bailey and ER Toop state that the following squadrons were based at Sea Island during WWII: No 14 (F), No 147 (BR), No 165 (T), and No 166 (Comm). I'm guessing that the abbreviations stand for "Fighter," "British," "Transport," and "Commonwealth." The base was also home to No 22 Service and Repair Depot. Aircraftman Machum may have been a trainee at the Sea Island base.

I'd never seen the "RETURNED FROM . . . AS UNDELIVERABLE" marking before and couldn't find it in any of the volumes of Paul Hughes' proof book series. Because the cover predates the establishment of the MPO, it seems likely that the marking was applied at a civilian post office such as Vancouver AMF, or perhaps it was applied at the main Vancouver post office (at the Enquiry Branch or Letter Carrier Branch).



Figure 2. Sea Island airport, aerial photo, south, from biplane. Ca 1930. [2]



Figure 3. Reverse of cover in Figure 1.

Vancouver (on Jan 28), scrutinized ("UNDELIVERED MAIL," Jan 29), then finally sent to the Dead Letter Office (Jan 29). I presume that the "It is deeply regretted..." notice was pasted to the cover at Sea Island.

Do any study group or other BNAPS members have additional thoughts or comments about this remarkable cover?

With files from Mike Street and Jon Johnson.

References and endnotes

- [1] William Bailey and E Ritchards Toop, *Canadian Military Postal Markings*, two volumes, Charles G Firby Publications, 1996.
- [2] City of Vancouver Archives photo collection. AM1376 CVA 50-1

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An April 6th, 1895 domestic 3¢ rate cover from Halifax ship chandlers "**Black Brothers**" and addressed to CPR agent, Robert Bauld, in Vancouver. Received on May 9th after an unusually long 33 day delivery and Bauld had already left for Asia. The letter was redirected to the Yokohama-Japan CPR office and taxed 10 centimes (2¢) to pay the 5¢ UPU rate. Routed via CPR "**SS EMPRESS of CHINA**" arriving in Yokohama on May 26th where the postage due was converted to 14 Sen and paid by Japan postage stamp pairs #73,74. The letter was again forwarded to Hong-Kong where Bauld was finally located on July 11th. A showpiece with over 3 months transit.

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hard wove paper



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superb mint NH; 1990 Greene cert.



1897 ½c Leaf progressive die proofs
— unfinished designs in violet



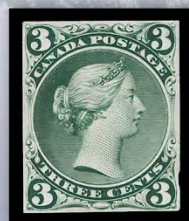
1919 3c Hawker Flight
Overprint mint LH;
1980 BPA and 2019 Greene cert.



1861-1862 1p red brown (Scott 16)
error of colour; 1994 Holcombe cert.



1880 5c pale dull blue mint NH;
a great rarity in this condition.



1868 3c die essay in green

Matters military 18. Torpedoed! The 1943 attack on No 14 Canadian General Hospital

Dean W Mario

NO 14 Canadian General Hospital (No 14 CGH, 1,200 beds) was activated as part of the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps (RCAMC) on 23 June 1940 at Westmount Barracks, Military District No 4, Montreal, Quebec. On 20 June 1941, the unit boarded the *Stirling Castle* for duty in the United Kingdom, initially locating in Pinewood and by November at Farnborough, near Aldershot. The envelope in Figure 1 shows the hospital's Orderly Room straight-line handstamp on an unrelated cover, which can be helpful in identifying WWII military hospital correspondence.

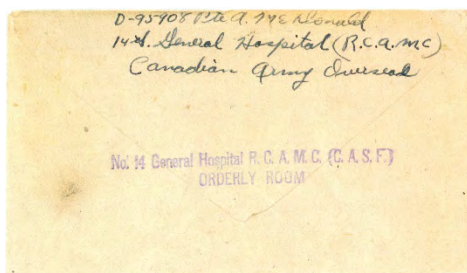


Figure 1. Envelope showing No 14 Canadian General Hospital Orderly Room handstamp.

By the fall of 1943, Allied efforts to expand Canadian forces in the Mediterranean Theatre were underway. This resulted in a call for a greater presence of medical facilities and personnel. On 27 October, No 14 CGH, along with one thousand eight hundred Canadian army personnel, joined a convoy and boarded the American liner SS *Santa Elena* of the Grace Line (which formerly ran between New York and Santiago, Chile) [1].

In the late afternoon of 4 November, the convoy passed through the Strait of Gibraltar, with the North African coast in sight. While the Atlantic portion of the trip had been troubled by the usual warnings of enemy submarine activity, this rather uneventful voyage would turn disastrous two days later.

On 6 November 1943, at approximately 1810 hours (6:10 pm), about twenty miles north of Philippeville, Algeria, the convoy came under aerial attack from a dozen German torpedo-bombers [2]. The *Santa Elena*, along with two other ships (the Dutch *Marnix van St Aldegonde* and the American destroyer *Beatty*) were hit. Ten minutes later the attack was over. The *Santa Elena* had been severely damaged by a torpedo that struck near her waterline and another that crashed through her deck and damaged the engine room. Despite the serious nature of the attack, the noise of exploding bombs, defensive anti-aircraft fire, numerous alarms, and *Santa Elena's* list to port, there was an absence of panic or confusion [3]. Miraculously there was no Allied loss of life from the attack.

When the attack began, all ranks, including most of the nursing sisters (in battledress due to the cool evenings), moved through *Santa Elena's* corridors, boarded lifeboats, and were lowered into the water. Some nurses took the oars themselves and rowed around in circles until they were rescued several hours later [4]. While the rest of the convoy moved on, two

Keywords & phrases: WWII, No 14 Canadian General Hospital, ship torpedoed.

lifeboats were taken aboard an American destroyer escort. The majority of the *Santa Elena's* passengers and crew were taken aboard the troopship *SS Monterey*. Many of the nurses refused to be hoisted aboard in slings as it took too long—perhaps a bit of pride too?

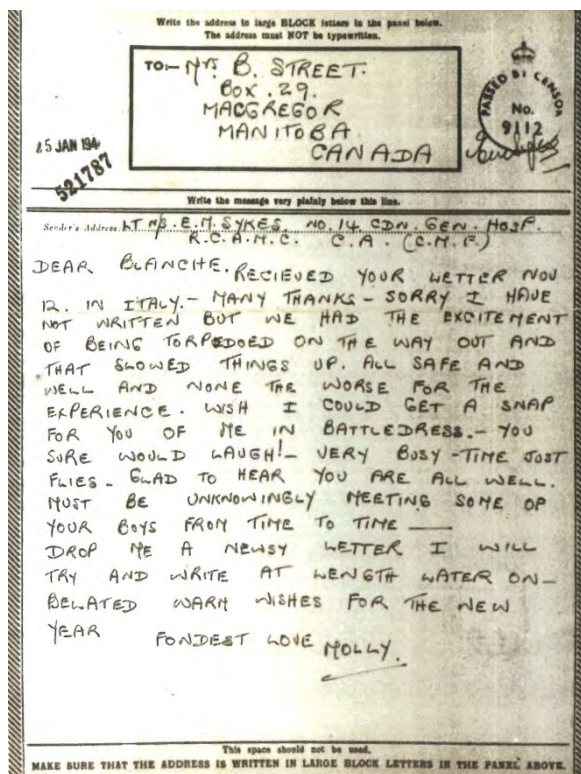


Figure 2. Airgraph from N/S EM (Molly) Sykes, writing about the ship being torpedoed and the battledress she was given after the sinking. Nurses normally did not wear battledress.

enough, the nurses later received new issues of battledress from the Quartermaster Stores—but they were only in men's sizes! Most nurses had to undertake some innovative tailoring [6].

The letter shown in Figure 2 described this awkward situation. It is a self-censored airgraph dated 25 January 1944 from Lt Nursing Sister EM (Molly) Sykes, No 14 CGH, Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps, Canadian Army, Canadian Mediterranean Force. She mentions "...being torpedoed on the way out..." and "Wish I could get a snap for you of me in battledress. You sure would laugh." Her sense of humour after such a trying ordeal reveals the steadfast resilience and tenacity of Canadian nursing sisters during the Second World War.

Several scaled the fifty-foot climb up the liner's scramble nets. Nursing Sister Elsa Turnbull fell forty feet into the sea but was rescued by a Chinese cook who dove in from a nearby lifeboat. Another nursing sister, Ida MacKay, fell from fifteen feet up, but was also rescued [5].

A submarine alarm sent the *SS Monterey* quickly sailing to Philippeville. Survivors aboard watched the *Santa Elena*, fully loaded with hospital equipment and personnel kit, sink several hours later as she was being towed into the harbour.

Rough seas prevented *Monterey* from docking, so she was ordered to Naples, Italy, where her passengers disembarked on 10 November. The heavy seas had also prevented attempts to transfer some medical personnel from the American destroyer to the *Monterey*. After some time, they were finally able to land at Philippeville. They later rejoined fellow members of No 14 CGH at Caserta, northeast of Naples. As if their trials at sea and during the attack weren't

The A500 series censor marking is consistent with usage by Canadians in Italy [7]. The accompanying airgraph envelope, Figure 3, postmarked 11 February 1944, with a “FE 12/44” Macgregor, Manitoba CDS receiver on the reverse, suggest that the airgraph film was processed and printed in Winnipeg.



Figure 3. Envelope that carried N/S Sykes Airgraph. Likely processed and mailed in Winnipeg.

References and endnotes

- [1] EA Landells, Ed *The Military Nurses of Canada*, Vol II, White Rock, BC: Co-Publishing, 1995, p 286.
- [2] GWL Nicholson, *The Canadians in Italy 1943-45: Official History of the Canadian Army in The Second World War*, Vol II, Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 1957, p 352.
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- [5] Author? *The Canadians at War, 1939-1945*. Vol I, Montreal: Reader's Digest Association (Canada) Ltd, 1976, p 280.
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- [7] JA Daynes, Ed, *World War Two Censor Marks*. Essex, UK: Forces Postal History Society, 1986, p 25.

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Newfoundland to Boston, 1703

Timothy O'Connor, FRPSL

THE purpose of this report is to introduce the BNAPS family to a 1703 letter from Newfoundland to Boston, via Bermuda. (The address panel is shown in Figure 1.) The letter was written by Captain William Pickering of Salem, Massachusetts, and addressed to Samuel Lillie, at that point a wealthy Boston merchant who would join with others to underwrite commercial maritime ventures. In this particular case, he was a majority owner of the Sloop *Content*, Pickering's vessel. By 1707, Lillie would be destitute, as war and weather conspired to reward him with a series of financial setbacks.

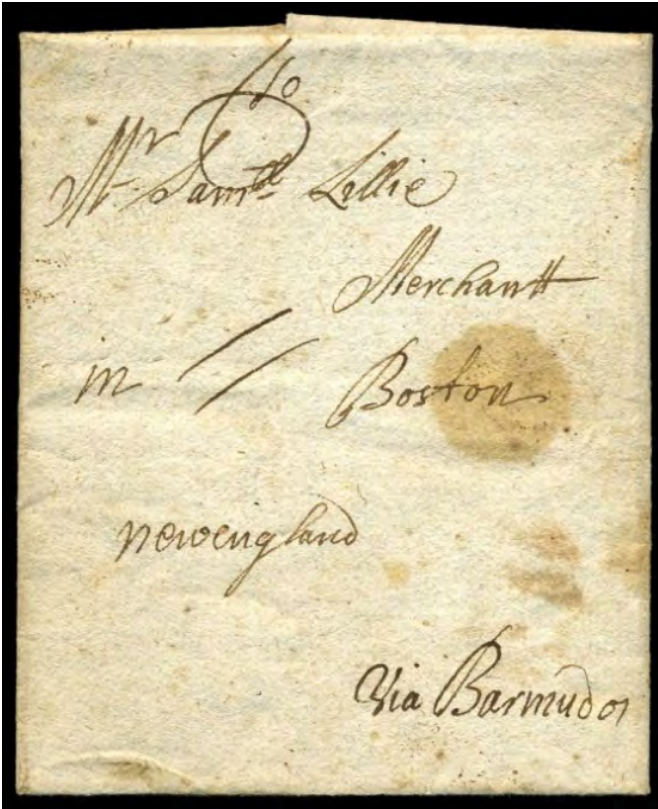


Figure 1. Address panel of a 1703 letter, from Newfoundland to Boston, via Bermuda.

Captain Pickering was a frequent visitor to St. John's, being Lillie's agent on this voyage, but also acting similarly for other Boston investors.

The year 1703 was marked by conflict with the French empire, as the War of the Spanish Succession (1701–1714) raged in Europe [1]. St John's in Newfoundland had enjoyed a recent period of relative quiet, after the Peace of Ryswick ended the Nine Years War (1689–1697). During this time, Fort William was rebuilt and enlarged. Fishing for cod off the Grand Banks was successful, as Newfoundland's fishery resumed its role as an economic engine. English merchants had been seeking fortune there since the Elizabethan age. By 1703,

however, many Englishmen had transplanted their zeal to Boston, a move that began with the Puritans in 1620.

Keywords & phrases: Newfoundland, Maritime

The letter (Figure 2) is datelined “Saint John’s Newland July3, 1703”. He reports his successful sales, assistance in a military cause and hopes for a successful voyage to Europe...

“Mr. Lillie

Sr this comes to Acquaint you that we Arrived with your Sloop Content bear the 4th day of June & have sold all your goods except some pork and rum The molasses I have sold for 2/6 & 3/pr Gall I could have sold three times as much to good paymasters Rum I have sold for 5/ & 6/6 & 7/pr Gall That fetches some ready money The flower I have sold for 30/pr (?) Could have sold three times as much & have sold some pork for 4 (?) pr Barrl & some att 3:15p & what bread I have sold for 30/pr hundred & tobacco all /9p pr Oz. Sloop is taken upon the Queen’s Service upon an Expedition bt Thom Mitchell Commndr of Her Majesty’s Shp Shearness (?) Galley Edw Rumley Commndr of Bonadventure. Entered into pay (?) day of June att (?) per month they (?) & a man Wm Harbuttis in her & a boye on the Queen’s pay We had her appraised by two old Masters of vessels and they valued her att 130 (?) Sterling My other two Hands I (?) ashore for coming home from New England made the Ile of Sables & being fare weather took off the people that were there (?) Hillyerd & his Company so having these hands to keep a boat fishing hoping to get something of itt & to imploy hands until the fish be ready to rearrive I am in hopes that fish will fetch a good price on (?) by reason that there is but very few ships in the land fishing. Your Brother Thomas Lillie is not in the Land The last news I hear of him he was in Lisbon Salt is now at 3 Quintos pr Hogshead not at present

Remain your Servant to command Wm Pickering”

We have the benefit of the archived Pickering Papers at the Hesburgh Manuscript and Rare Documents Room at the University of Notre Dame Indiana. Sixteen items are in the collection, and the author has read them all. The following three relate directly to Newfoundland:

- (1) Samuel Lillie to Capt William Pickering at St. John’s Newfoundland, 3 August 1703. Per Capt Carlisle (or Castle) QDC, Lillie issues instructions to Pickering, lovely address panel without any postal markings. Letter verifies Pickering’s whereabouts.
- (2) Pickering to Messrs Timothy Harris, Jackson and Pine of Oporto. A retained copy of the letter, no address panel.
- (3) Lillie to Pickering Boston to Newfoundland 2 Sept 1706, no postal markings, per Capt Thomas Lewis, Sloop *Panther* [2]. Lillie asks Pickering to urgently settle Accounts and receive monies due him.

The letter’s superscription “Via Barmuda” is intriguing and begs for a short discussion of sailing routes to and from Newfoundland. There were two main routes to the Grand Banks and Newfoundland, both used to lessen the damaging influence of the predominant westerlies. The first went north of Ireland northwest toward Cape Farewell (southern tip of Greenland). There captains would catch the southwest-flowing Labrador Current, which would take them to their destination. This route was less frequented in winter months. Another path led southwest from the Lizard at Falmouth, just east of the Azores, then northwest once the latitude of the Canaries was reached [3].

West-to-East voyages were much easier due to the prevailing winds and ocean currents. In general, a voyage in this direction could be accomplished in half the time of an East-to-West track. I suspect this letter to Lillie was given to a captain headed East towards Europe

but planning to stop at Bermuda on his way to New England. Authors, in colonial times, often sent copies of the same letter via a number of vessels, hoping that one would arrive.

Mr Lillie

Saint Johnes newland July 3rd 1703

For this comes to Acquaint you thatt we Arrived with your Shoop
Contentt near the 1st day of June & have sold all our Goods expect
some pack & Runn this whole of June sold for 2/6 & 3/4 Gall sold
have sold three times as much to good pay, making 2 Run have
sold for 3/4 & 6/8 & 7/4 Gall thatt makes some ready money the
flower have sold for 30/40 thatt have sold 3rd time, as much & have
sold some pack for 4/4 thatt. Of some att 3:15/4 thatt & whatt be
have sold was for 30/40 hundred & to be sold att 3/4 & 1/2
Shoop is taken up on the Queens Service upon an Expedition by
the Minut & Command of his Majesty's ship the Carnage gallye &
Sewery Runn by one of the Bonadventure. Entered into pay the 20th
day of June att 55/4 month they Kill & man will have it is go
in that & the boye on the Queens pay: we had for Appraised by two
old masters of vessel & they valued her att 10 Sterling: and other
two hands of myers ashore for coming from new england made
the life of Lillie & being fore weather took of the people thatt were
there thatt killed & his company so having these hands do Recor
about fishing hoping to gett something by it & to employ the man
until the fish be Ready to Reaceave: I am in hope thatt fish will
be a good price on by Reason thatt there is but very few ships in the
Land fishing your Brother the Lillie is nott in the Land the lastt news
thatt I hear of him was att Loston thatt is now att 3 Quarters of his butt
nott yett att presentt butt Remaine your Sonant to founland -

J. Lillie

Figure 2. Original letter.

Summary: This report documents the earliest, non-archival letter from Newfoundland. The usefulness of archival research is noted. I benefitted from the wisdom of Malcom Back, John Walsh, Bill Longley, and Colin Lewis.

References and endnotes

- [1] DW Prowse, *A History of Newfoundland*, 1895 (now reprinted). This is a magnificent tome, replete with much data.
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Even more hotel forwarding labels

Mike Street

IN three previous articles [1-3], Brian Plain and I have shown many examples of hotel forwarding labels. Almost all the examples shown came from Brian's collection of forwarding and redirection labels from all over the world, which includes more than forty Canadian Hotel labels, as well as American, Japanese, and European labels.

More Canadian hotel labels can be found in Ron Lafrenière's catalogue of Canadian Cinderella Stamps [4]. Shown in this article are forwarding labels used by four of Canada's most iconic hotels.

The cover shown in Figure 1, was mailed 28 February 1908 from Prince Albert, Saskatchewan on stationery of Saskatoon's Iroquois Hotel, and sent to Mrs JK Leslie, c/o Empress Hotel, Victoria, BC. It was forwarded to the "CPR Hotel" in Vancouver using an Empress Hotel label.

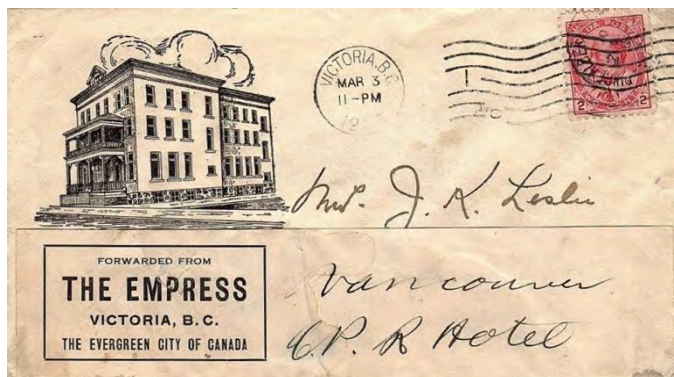


Figure 1. 1908 letter from Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, to Empress Hotel, Victoria, forwarded to different hotel in Vancouver.

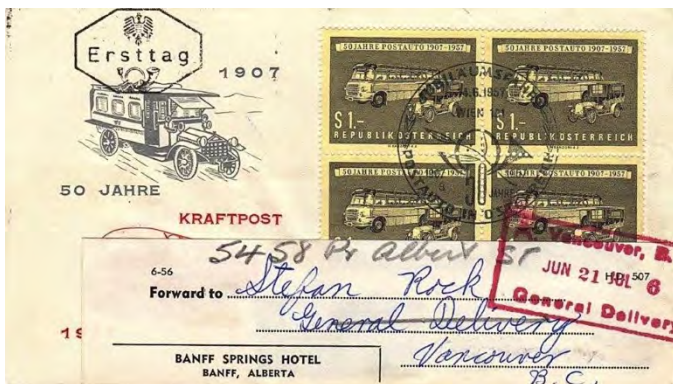


Figure 2. Letter from Germany to a guest at the Banff Springs Hotel, forwarded to an address in Vancouver in 1957.

The letter shown in Figure 2 is a First Day Cover celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the postal bus service in Germany in 1957.

Addressed to a guest at the Banff Springs Hotel, it was forwarded to an address in Vancouver.

Keywords & phrases: Hotel forwarding labels

Figure 3 shows a 1947 letter from Cuba, forwarded by the Banff Springs Hotel to the Jasper Park Lodge, then forwarded again by the Jasper Park Lodge to the Hotel Vancouver.



Figure 3. 1947 letter from Cuba forwarded by the Banff Springs Hotel to the Jasper Park Lodge, forwarded again by the Jasper Park Lodge to the Hotel Vancouver.



Figure 4. Letter from Augusta, Maine to a guest at the Chateau Lake Louise Hotel in August 1926. Returned to the sender using a Chateau Lake Louise forwarding label.

The cover in Figure 4 was mailed on 26 August 1926, from Augusta, Maine to a guest at the Chateau Lake Louise Hotel. It appears that the letter arrived after the guest had left Lake Louise. The cover was returned to the sender in Augusta via a Chateau Lake Louise label.

References and endnotes

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- [2] Mike Street, "More hotel forwarding labels," *BNA Topics*, Volume 69, Number 3, Whole No 532, July–September 2012, p 63.
- [3] Brian C Plain, "Still more hotel forwarding labels," *BNA Topics*, Volume 70, Number 3, Whole No 536, July–September 2013, pp 60-62.
- [4] Ronald G Lafrenière, *Field Guide to the Cinderella Stamps of Canada*, 2nd Edition, Bird Bear Press, Montreal, 2015.



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Well the moment has arrived! After 15 years of negotiations, the owner of these three UNIQUE imperforate sheets has finally agreed to sell. The editors of the Unitrade Canada Specialized were aware of their existence and they were listed in a footnote. Orders will be taken on a first come first basis and cut up accordingly. Sheets are all VF Never Hinged and were originally bought from an Archive Sale. Prices will be as follows. Payment plans can be arranged.

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	<p><i>Catalogue of Privately Produced First Day Covers of Canada, 1927-1977</i>, Gary Dickinson. An illustrated catalogue of the first day covers produced by private individuals and organizations for Canadian stamps issued over five decades. 2020, Spiral bound, 222 pages, 8.5 × 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-989280-05-8. Stock # B4h101-1.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Price: C\$44</p>
	<p><i>Collecting First Day Covers of Canada</i>, Gary Dickinson. A comprehensive overview of collecting and studying first day covers for Canadian stamp issues. 2020, Spiral bound, 144 pages, 8.5 × 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-989280-06-5. Stock # B4h102-1.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Price: C\$36</p>

Pricing: BNAPS has discontinued the practice of having a retail price with a forty percent discount for members. Effective 1 November 2019, the prices shown on the website and in this advertisement have been calculated or recalculated to be close to the former “Member Price” amounts.

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	<p><i>The National Christmas Seals of Canada 1927–2018 Second Edition</i>, Cliff A. Beattie, Andrew Chung and Robert D. Vogel. A profusely illustrated and amazingly detailed catalogue of all the different aspects of the Christmas Seals released in Canada since 1927. 2019, Spiral bound, 182 pages, 8.5 × 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-989280-02-7. Stock # B4h099-1.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Price C\$38</p>
	<p><i>Letters from Santa</i>, David A. Hanes. A very colourful journey through the Christmas-time letters from Santa Claus to children originated by the T. Eaton Company in the early 1900s, and later by the Robert Simpson Company and the Canada Post Office, continuing into the 1960s. 2019, Spiral bound, 104 pages, 8.5 × 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-989280-03-4. Stock # B4h100-1.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Price C\$32</p>
	<p><i>NEWFOUNDLAND Early Legal Documental History: via Stampless Precursor and 1898 Queen Victoria First Revenue types</i>, John M. Walsh. After the fortunate 2006 acquisition of a holding of many documents from a long defunct law business, John Walsh realized that much of the information contained therein was not in the “reference” literature. The result was this exhibit. Because of the physical size of the various documents it was necessary to mount them vertically on legal-size paper. Accordingly, the resulting BNAPS Exhibit Series book is, for the first time ever, also printed and bound in the 8.5"×14" legal size. 2019, Spiral bound, 88 pages, 8.5 × 14, colour. ISBN: 978-1-989280-00-3. Stock # B4h923-106-1.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Price C\$38</p>

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Book release notes

BNAPS is pleased to announce the release of a new book on the many Canadian First Day Covers prepared for the 1939 Royal Visit stamp issue, and another, the 107th volume in the BNAPS Exhibit Series, on Canadian airmail rates to different parts of the world between 1925 and 1954. Our sister society, the *Société d'histoire postale du Québec* (SHPQ), has released a new book on the Postal History of Quebec. A note at the end of this article reminds readers of BNAPS' new book distribution arrangement with Longley Auctions.

First Day Covers of the 1939 Canada King George VI Royal Visit Issue, Donald J Leblanc. Over four hundred and fifty pages illustrating and describing the myriad First Day Covers issued for the set of three 1939 Royal Visit stamps. 2020, Spiral-bound, 464 pages, 8.5 × 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-989280-07-2. Stock # B4h103-1. Price: C\$81.

The voyage to Canada of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in the spring of 1939 was not the first to the country by a royal, but it was the first by a reigning monarch. The fact that Their Majesties travelled coast-to-coast by train provided citizens with an unprecedented opportunity to see them, and it gave rise to an incredible number of First Day Covers for the three stamps issued in honour of the tour. *First Day Covers of the 1939 Canada King George VI Royal Visit Issue* is a profusely illustrated and amazingly detailed catalogue of all the different First Day Covers issued in 1939.

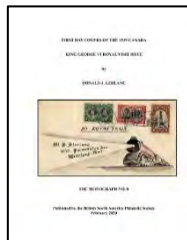
Donald LeBlanc was born in Moncton, NB, in 1949. After completing his early education in Dieppe and Moncton, he obtained his Bachelor of Commerce degree from the Université de Moncton in 1971. He continued his education, receiving a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton in 1974.

Moving to Caraquet, NB, in 1975, he practiced law with his own law firm for twenty-six years until 2000, when he was appointed a Provincial Court judge, a position he still holds in 2020. He is married and has two adult children.

On the philatelic side, he has collected stamps ever since his childhood. Over the years, he focussed his interest in Canadian philately, heavily researching the Royal Visit Issue of 1939 and the War Issue of 1942. Rather than exhibit, he preferred writing articles to document his research.

From 1993 to 1998 he was a regular contributor to the *Canadian Philatelist*. His column, "Don's Corner," consisted of fairly long studies of Canadian Plate Blocks. In 1998, his writings earned him the Geldert Medal for Philatelic Authorship from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

After 1998, he put his pen aside for a time, but not his passion for collecting plate blocks and First Day Covers. In 2010, he started writing articles again for the George VI Study Group of BNAPS and continued these articles on the War Issue and Royal Visit Issue until 2018. He has been an active member of BNAPS for over forty-five years. This venture is his first complete study in book form.





Canada Commercial Air Mail Between 1925 and 1954, Per-Olof Jansson. A very interesting selection of covers from the earliest days of airmail services in Canada to the post-war expansion in the early 1950s. 2020, BNAPS Exhibit Series No. 107. Spiral-bound, 136 pages, 8.5 × 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-989280-08-9. Stock # B4h923-107-1. Price: C\$38.

Canada Commercial Air Mail Between 1925 and 1954 is the result of many years of research into the subject, coupled with extensive scanning of dealers' stocks at stamp shows in Europe and, more recently, on eBay. In their handbook, *Air Mails of Canada 1925-1939* (Firby, 2000), George

Arfken and Walter Plomish presented the first fifteen years of the story with reduced size illustrations in black-and-white.

In this book, Per-Olof Jansson takes the story out another fifteen years. He illustrates the whole period with appropriate full-size covers, many of them ex-Plomish, in colour. The exhibit received a Vermeil and the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society Best Aerophilatelic Exhibit Award at BNAPEX 2019 OTTAWA.

Born in 1947, Per-Olof Jansson was raised in Gothenburg, Sweden. He started collecting stamps at the age of ten. That his interest turned to Canadian philately was something of a coincidence. When Per-Olof's mother talked about her son's interest in stamp collecting, her employer, a retired major collector in Gothenburg, wanted to encourage the boy's interest. As a gift, he gave Per-Olof a collection of Canadian stamps, including many older issues. Per-Olof trained to be a construction engineer, married and had a family. When his children were grown, he took up the hobby again—and the Canadian Collection was right there.

By the mid-1980s, he had become more and more interested in the Postal History presented by letters, post cards, and the philatelic stories they told. For several years he had been acquiring airmail items, but he didn't really know that much about them.

He contacted Canada Post about airmail rates and received a very good base of information, which gave him a starting point. In 1988, he sent his first attempt to set up postage tables to Robert C Smith in 1988 and received more information. Between 1988 and 2000, more and more articles on different airmail rates and routes were published, and auction sales provided additional information. With this as a basis, he began to create the collection shown in the following pages. Per-Olof joined BNAPS in 1993 and became a Life Member in 1996. He is also a member of the Royal Philatelic Society (1978), the Postal History Society of Canada (1980) and Life Member (1991), the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain (1986), the Royal Philatelic Society of London (2017), and the Swedish Philatelic Federation.

Catalogue des marques postales du Québec – Type 20 : Cercle interrompu « P.Q » [Catalogue of Québec Postal Markings – Type 20: “P.Q” Broken Circles], Ferdinand Bélanger, Société d'histoire postale du Québec, 2020, 134 pages, ISBN 978-2-920267-53-4. \$10 + \$6 (postage in Canada). PayPal: yant@shpq.org / Information: shpq@videotron.ca



This publication records about eighteen hundred broken-circle markings of Québec with “P.Q” as the provincial designation. The catalogue is fully illustrated and includes the probable dates of use of the markings found in philatelic collections. The instruments of this category of markings were

produced by Pritchard & Andrews of Ottawa in the years 1912 to 1934. This book is the fourth title in the *Catalogue of Québec Postal Markings* series.

Attention BNAPS Members!

Effective 30 September 2019, Longley Auctions became the agent for the BNAPS Book Department sales. To review or shop for available BNAPS books go to: <https://longleyauctions.com/product-category/bnaps-books/> **Please note:** To simplify the process of buying books, BNAPS has decided to replace the “Retail Price to Member Price” discount and price all books, both existing and new titles, at what will be close to the previous “Member Price” level. These new prices are now in effect for all titles.

Readers Write (cont’d.)

Member Bryan Dunne writes: Newfoundland 1890 Queen Victoria 3c slate Forgery.



This forgery was first described by Ed Werner in his 2012 booklet *Newfoundland Fakes and Forgeries*. I obtained it from an Eastern Auction sale after his Newfoundland forgery collection was sold. It is crudely lithographed, compare to the engraved genuine on its right. It is black while the genuine varies from slate to lilac and is on a rough card stock, perhaps it came from a stamp dealers’ business card? The forgery

lacks the fine details of the genuine, the serifs on NEWFOUNDLAND are mostly missing and the words THREE and CENTS are poorly formed. I doubt it was made to fool anyone.

Ed speculated that it “is a surprising stamp to see forged. Perhaps the idea was to eventually add a surcharge for it to look like a #77.” I believe that given the low value of the genuine that is unlikely, a forger would just use the cheap normal stamp, as many have. Maybe it was made as a dealer similitude or advertising piece? Either way it is the only one I have ever seen. Does anyone else have a copy, or know of the source? If so, please contact Bryan Dunne, Email: stampspecialist@gmail.com

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BNAPS business and reports

President's column

Ken Lemke

THE world has changed dramatically since I wrote my last column. As I write this (4 June 2020) the good news is that, depending where you live, we are slowly emerging from the lockdown. My last philatelic meeting was this past February, and since then all club meetings and club bourses have been cancelled. Based on reports I have received, we won't see much philatelic activity until the Fall and, in some cases, late Fall. The only exception in Canada is the Trajan National Postage Stamp and Coin Show, which is scheduled to be held 12 and 13 September in Toronto.

As you know, the BNAPEX 2020 Halifax/Dartmouth convention has been cancelled. While we won't be able to meet with our favourite dealers (see below), hold Study Group meetings, view the finest collection of BNA exhibits, plus meet with friends, there is some good news.

As there will be no exhibit awards, we will be announcing non-exhibit awards in September, and the recipients will be presented with their awards at BNAPEX 2021 Winnipeg. Elections are going forward as normal. The Board of Directors will hold a virtual meeting, and the AGM will be a virtual meeting. At this moment, I do not know which platform/app will be used for the virtual meetings. This information will be communicated through the eLetter and the BNAPS website.



Hosting a convention is no small feat, and I know from speaking with some of the organizers that this was going to be another great event! Since we will not be having our banquet, I would like to acknowledge and thank the committee for all their time, effort, and hard work over the last few years in preparing for BNAPEX 2020:

Co-Chairmen	Gary Steele, George Lafontaine, and Jeff Parks
Treasurer	Keith MacKay
Registration	Joanne Hodder
Exhibits Co-ordinator	Sea Weatherup
Study Group Co-ordinator	Bill Radcliffe
Dealer Liaison	J-Claude Michaud
Souvenir cover sales	Hugh Rathbun
BNAPEX Webmaster	Leo Beaudet
Roommate Co-ordinator	David Bartlett
Facilities Chair and Dinner	John Hall
Marketing/Promotion	Michael Pierce and George Lafontaine
Additional Committee Members	Jack Forbes and Jim Graham

We also need to thank Mike Street, who assisted with facility arrangements, especially with hotel negotiations.

BNAPS is fortunate that we have a strong group of BNA dealers who support our conventions. Our conventions are an important source of income for these dealers, some of whom only sell philatelic materials. I encourage all members to reach out to your favourite dealers with your wants and needs. I am on the mailing list for many dealers; if you aren't on dealer mailing lists, call them and ask to be put on theirs if they have one. All businesses are struggling through this difficult time, and our philatelic dealers are no different. So, again, I urge you to contact our dealers and help them get through this.

During this lockdown, have you dug a little deeper into your collection and possibly found a treasure you didn't know you had, or have you started a new collecting area of interest? My own major BNA interest has been the King George VI era; however, I finally decided to start collecting Small Queens and Large Queens. My primary interest is to try and understand the paper differences and shades, and I hope to find some varieties. I found that you can purchase fairly large quantities of the 1¢, 2¢, and 3¢ Small Queens for low prices. To help my endeavours, I have purchased some of the BNAPS publications written by Ken Kershaw and available from Bill Longley. How about you—why not investigate a new collecting area?

This is my final column as BNAPS President. I would like to thank the BNAPS Executive, the Board of Directors, the twenty-seven Appointees and their Committee members, the Chairs and Editors of our twenty-two Study Group newsletters, the Regional Group Executives, the Co-Editors of *BNA Topics*, our Webmaster, and all the authors who contribute to our newsletters and *BNA Topics*. A special thank you to Vice-President Ron Majors and Past President Eldon Godfrey for their valued advice over the past two years.

Finally, I would like to thank all the members who make BNAPS an amazing society.

I hope by the time you read this, things will have improved further and there are some philatelic events on the horizon.

Stay safe; I look forward to seeing you at BNAPEX 2021 in Winnipeg.

Ken Lemke

From the Secretary—Report date: 15 March–15 June 2020

P Charles Livermore, OTB

(100-08 Ascan Avenue, Forest Hill, NY 11375 USA, <secretary@bnaps.org>)

Membership fees

Membership fees for 2020 are \$35 for Canadian members, \$30 US for US members, 26£ for UK members, and C\$40 for members from any other country. The membership fee schedule was confirmed (with no change) at the 2019 AGM. People who apply for membership during the second and third quarter of the year pay seventy-five percent and fifty percent of the annual fees, respectively, while those who apply in the fourth quarter are charged twenty-five percent of the annual fee, plus the full fee for the coming year. Three-year memberships can be obtained at a ten percent reduction in cost. Application fees can be paid via PayPal, using an online application available on the BNAPS website (www.BNAPS.org), or by sending a cheque to the Treasurer or Secretary.

Applications for membership

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

New members—applied

All applicants assigned membership numbers from **7082** to **7091** have been confirmed as active regular members of BNAPS with full membership privileges. Their names were published in the previous issue of *BNAPS Topics*—Volume 77, Number 2, 2020.

R-7092 Gareth Williams, Banbury

R-7093 Karl Giroux, Repentigny, QC

R-7094 Joseph Merla, Stoney Creek, ON

R-7095 Fred Messacar, Brampton, ON

R-7096 Francois Deschamps, Laval, QC

R-7097 Alexandre Ajami, Montreal, QC

Deceased

R-6926 George Basher

Members reinstated

None

Members dropped

None

Members resigned

None

Postal address changes

R-6782 Claude Cholette, Chambly, QC

R-4427 Harold M. Forbes, Castleton, VT

R-7051 Gino Gagnon, Hubley, NS

R-6964 Neil T Gregory, Fort Erie, ON

E-3577 John W Hamilton, Markdale, ON

R-5118 William R. Longley, Waterdown, ON

R-6203 Steve Mulvey, Ottawa, ON

R-6495 Peter Newroth, Victoria, BC

R-5137 Robert M. Philmus, St. Bruno, QC

E-3605 Garfield J Portch, Etobicoke, ON

R-6320 Richard P Thompson, Esquimalt, BC

R-6404 Peter Vandervalk, Welland, ON

R-6255 Firmin Wyndels, Victoria, BC

Email address changes

R-4427 Harold M Forbes, Castleton, VT

R-4922 Steven A Friedenthal, St. Albert, AB

R-6964 Neil T Gregory, Fort Erie, ON

E-3577 John W Hamilton, Markdale, ON

R-5179 Chris Hargreaves, Kingston, ON

R-6118 David L Keenlyside, Charlottetown,
PE

R-6449 William McNaught, Thornhill, ON

R-6982 Brian Mitchell, Galiano, BC

R-6203 Steve Mulvey, Ottawa, ON

E-3462 Bruce D. Murduck, Sydenham, ON

R-7014 Jack Myers Jr, Bellefonte, PA

R-6255 Firmin Wyndels, Victoria, BC

Members with unknown addresses

None

Active member and non-member count by membership type

Total active members: 977

Note: Exchange/non-member subscriptions (18) are not counted as active members.

New issues

William JF Wilson

Veronica Foster

CANADA Post released a pair of Permanent stamps on 29 April to commemorate the end of World War II in Europe. Rather than depicting the war's end, Canada Post has depicted two people who, in very different ways, contributed to the ultimate success of Canada's war effort. Veronica Foster (Figure 1) was an employee of the John Inglis Co Ltd of Toronto during the war, working in the manufacture of Bren light machine guns. Private Léo Major of Montreal was a soldier in the *Régiment de la Chaudière* during D-Day and the subsequent liberation of the Netherlands. Among other outstanding deeds, he single-handedly captured ninety-three German soldiers during the Battle of the Scheldt. He also single-handedly liberated the town of Zwolle from the German Army. His action at Zwolle saved the town from being shelled by the advancing Canadian Army.



Figure 1. Veronica Foster.

Veronica Foster was born in Montreal on 2 January 1922, the fifth of eight children of Daniel Leo Foster and Catherine Frances Empey Foster [1]. She later moved with her mother and siblings to Toronto, and then lived in both Montreal and Toronto as a teenager. She appears to have first entered the public eye in 1941 when, at the age of nineteen, she was featured in a series of photographs taken at the Bren gun facility of the John Inglis Company in Toronto [2, p 91].

Six of these photographs appear in this stamp issue: the head-and-shoulders view in Figure 1; inspecting a lathe, on the left side of the stamp; walking outside the company buildings, in the background image on the stamp; cleaning a lathe, on the booklet cover; putting on a head scarf for safety when operating machinery, inside the booklet; and hitting a baseball, on the Official First Day Cover. The first five of these, along with thirty others in the Veronica Foster series, can be accessed in the National Film Board of Canada (NFB) fonds at Library and Archives Canada (LAC) [3]. The sixth is an Alamy Stock Photo, according to the credits on the back of the First Day Cover. The photo can be viewed on the website in reference [4].

According to the information on the LAC website, the Foster series was created in May 1941 (photographer unknown). It is part of a larger collection within the NFB fonds entitled "Photographs and posters from the Wartime Information Board." The Government had established a Bureau of Public Information on 5 December 1939 [2, p 208, Note 4] to create, coordinate, and disseminate wartime information. This Bureau existed until September 1942. It was then replaced by the newly created Wartime Information Board, with the latter taking over the former's photographic branch [2, p 80]. The 1941 date for the Veronica Foster series thus indicates that it was created by the Bureau of Public Information.

The Foster series played an early role in a publicity campaign by the government to encourage women to take employment in the war industry. Prior to this time, the general expectation in Canadian society was that men worked and women tended the home and family. Although this statement is a simplification, it was certainly true for most business and industry; and in the first few months of the war, there was no need for these roles to change. The government did not want Canadians losing their lives overseas, and they had limited Canada's contribution to supplying raw materials, foodstuffs, and munitions, and training Commonwealth air crews. Men, therefore, were still available to work.

With the fall of France and the expulsion of the British from the Continent in the spring of 1940, however, this "limited liability" policy became untenable, and the government began a strong recruiting effort both for overseas duty and for Home Defence. At the same time, the government began to ramp up war production. This, of course, created a problem: Just when the war effort at home needed ever more men, the military was taking them away. Women therefore became a major resource for filling the jobs at home—jobs such as shipbuilding, aircraft manufacture, and the production of guns and ammunition.

As noted above, the task of creating the publicity campaign fell to the Bureau of Public Information. They looked for role models to attract women into the workforce and, after finding Veronica Foster at the John Inglis Company, they created a campaign persona for her as "Ronnie, the Bren Gun Girl." Some photos show her being fingerprinted as part of the identification procedure for all employees, lining up to show her identity pass to a night security guard, tying up her head scarf, working at a lathe, and selecting food in the company cafeteria. Others portray her lifestyle outside working hours—dressing up for a company party at the Glen Eagle Country Club, leaving with a friend to attend the party, and chatting and jitterbugging at the party. A few also show classic "pin-up" poses: Pulling the hem of her dress up to adjust her stockings; holding a finished Bren gun while striking a theatrical pose in front of a patriotic poster of Winston Churchill; and, in perhaps the most iconic "Ronnie, the Bren Gun Girl" image, sitting on the edge of a table, cigarette in hand, blowing out a cloud of smoke as she looks down at a finished Bren gun.

The publicity campaign changed as the war progressed, and the way it changed illustrates the emotional conflict in society at that time between the traditional gender roles described above, and the need for women to work to support the war. Married women were homemakers and, so as not to distract them from this role, the campaign initially targeted single women [2, p 89]. To make employment attractive to them, as the 1941 Veronica Foster series shows, the imagery combined industrial work with a glamorous social life. In this way, the work was seen not only as a patriotic sacrifice, but also as an adventure [2, p 92].

In 1942, with more and more women needed, the campaign expanded to include married women without children. To address concerns about the effects on family life of women working, the promotional emphasis became more domestically oriented [2, pp 90-103]. Gone was the glamour of the Foster series, and a 1942 photo shoot shows three wholesome sisters, Céline, Roberte, and Hélène Perry, at work, relaxing at the beach, and praying at bedtime. Still later, the focus changed to include married women with children. This created new problems, because worries arose in the House of Commons and across the country that children's welfare and women's morals would be under threat if housewives left home to work [2, p 100]. Scenes of women partying and jitterbugging with the guys would not calm these fears. Instead, the campaign stressed how work in the war industry need not detract from a harmonious family

life. A 1943 photo shoot shows Mrs Jack Wright (never identified by her own first name) balancing the care of her two young sons with her work at a munitions plant in Toronto. In addition to working, she spends time with her sons at breakfast, visiting a neighbour, relaxing on the beach, and reading with them at bedtime.

The photos, of course, were all carefully set up by the Bureau of Public Information and, later, the Wartime Information Board, to deliver the desired messages. They don't necessarily reflect the real life of the person who posed for them. Veronica Foster, for example, was never called "Ronnie," and, as pointed out by her daughter, Laura Guerrette [4], she never smoked.

An interesting tension comes out of these photographs. They show women working in industrial environments that traditionally emphasize masculine brawn [2, p 89], yet the photographer accentuates their femininity [2, pp 102f]. This image is further developed through scenes of their social and family life. The tension arises from the fact that they *are* working in industry, traditionally a male environment, and they are doing just as good a job as the men would have done. Thus, while the photos attempt to show that working in the war effort is compatible with the traditional gender roles of women at that time, they also cannot avoid showing a major shift in these roles [2, p 80].

An interesting question then arises: Was this gender shift able to persist after the war, or did it disappear without a trace? One might suspect the latter, because the women were expected to go back to their traditional roles after the men returned, and many companies simply dismissed them as temporary workers whose employment had ended. Men once again dominated industry. However, it is also true that, although women were not employed in the same numbers after the war as they had been during it, they were nevertheless employed in greater numbers afterward than they were before the war [2, p 105]. Some progress had been made. One might also add that, once people feel freedom, they never forget it. The war effort may therefore have accelerated later progress in less visible ways. Society has come a long way since then, and it is hard to believe that the war effort had nothing to do with it.

What happened to Veronica Foster after the "Ronnie, the Bren Gun Girl" photos? (Except where noted, the information presented here is from [5, pp 166f].) In the summer of 1943, Mart Kenney and his Western Gentlemen (Canada's top dance band during the 1930s and '40s) was looking for a new lead female singer. Foster had been singing in amateur revues in Montreal and Toronto to entertain war workers, and Kenney invited her to apply. He liked what he heard, and she started singing with the band in late August. A short time later, a new trombonist, George Guerrette, joined the band, and Guerrette and Foster soon fell in love. After two Canadian tours with the band, one east and one west, Foster left in February 1944 to stay home in Toronto, doing occasional work with various orchestras. She and Guerrette married on 6 July 1944 and went on to have five children. Guerrette stayed with the band until August 1946, then he and Veronica joined the Trump Davidson orchestra in Toronto for two years. They then moved to Guerrette's hometown of Edmundston NB. Guerrette died suddenly in 1963, and Veronica and the children moved back to Toronto. After a successful career as a real estate agent [1], she passed away in 2000 at the age of 78.

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 selvage differs from that published by Canada Post,

the selvage is taken as correct. Stamp size, perforations and number of teeth are my own measurements, and are given as (HORIZONTAL) \times (VERTICAL).

References

- [1] Katrine Raymond, "Veronica Foster," in *The Canadian Encyclopedia*. The article can be found at <<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/veronica-foster>>.
- [2] Carol Payne, *THE OFFICIAL PICTURE : The National Film Board of Canada's Still Photography Division and the Image of Canada, 1941–1971*, Martha Langford and Sandra Paikowsky, eds., McGill-Queen's University Press, 2013.
- [3] Library and Archives Canada, <<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/Pages/home.aspx>>. Click "Search the Collection," then "Archives search." For the head and shoulders view of Foster, enter the keywords "MIKAN 3194850" and click "Submit." The MIKAN numbers for the other four photographs are: inspecting the lathe, 3193623; outside the building, 3195846; cleaning the lathe, 3193556; and tying her headscarf, 3195842. To find the other thirty photographs of Foster accessible on the LAC website, enter "Veronica Foster" in the keyword box and click "Submit."
- [4] "Liz", *The Canadian "Rosie the Riveter"-Veronica Foster*, on The Vintage Inn website, <<http://www.vintageinn.ca/2014/02/the-canadian-rosie-the-riveter-veronica-foster/>>.
- [5] Ross Brethour, *"The West, a Nest, and You, Dear" : A bio-discography of Mart Kenney and his Western Gentlemen*, revised edition, Nomadic Records, Stroud, Ontario, 2000.

Table 1. 2020 Commemoratives and definitives.

Stamp	Eid	Victory in Europe	Group of Seven	Radio
Value	P	2 \times P	7 \times P	2 \times P
Issued	24 Apr	29 Apr	7 May	20 May
Printer	L-M	L-M	L-M	L-M
Pane	Bk: 10	Bk: 10	Bk, SP: 7	Bk: 10
Paper	C	C	C	C
Process	6CL	4CL	6CL	4CL
Qty (1000s)	130 ^(a)	130 ^(a)	Bk: 180 ^(a) SP: 35 ^(a)	130 ^(a)
Tag	G3S	G4S	G4S	G3S
Gum	P-S	P-S	Bk: P-S SP: PVA	P-S
Size, mm	28 \times 35	40 \times 32	40 \times 36	34 \times 29
Perf	Simulated	Simulated	Bk: Simulated SP: 13.0 \times 13.3	Simulated
Teeth	Simulated	Simulated	Bk: Simulated SP: 26 \times 24	Simulated

Footnotes for Table 1:

^(a) Number of booklets, coil packets, or souvenir sheets.

Abbreviations for Table 1:

*number*CL = (*number of colours*) colour lithography; Bk = booklet; C = Tullis-Russell coated paper; L-M = Lowe-Martin; P = permanently equal to the domestic rate; P-S = pressure-sensitive; PVA = polyvinyl alcohol; s-t = se-tenant; SP = special pane.

SPARKS

★ AUCTIONS

A sampling of what will be offered in our October 2020 sale:

- One of the most important collections of Canadian Pre-1959 First Day Covers we have offered, loaded with scarce and rare items
- Extensive and advanced collection of used People's Republic of China stamps in six albums.
- Extensive collection of early Great Britain stamps and postmarks
- Retired postal history dealer stock, featuring worldwide censored mail
- The Jerry Olesnyckj worldwide stamp collection in 100 albums, offered by country



Looking to sell your collection?

Our sales are viewable not only in our coveted print catalogues, but also online on Stampauctionnetwork.com, where many thousands of high quality images can be seen, as well as offering the ability to bid live during the auction from all around the world. We work with a large base of new and repeat consignors and give each consignment the attention it deserves. With hundreds of buyers worldwide, Sparks Auctions can help you find a new home for your material. We are always seeking good quality material for our auctions, please contact Stéphane Cloutier, our Director of Lotting and Consignments.



Newfoundland #C5
Mint l.h.
Realized \$4,680



B.C. #1 Unused
Realized \$7,020

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Study group centreline

Peter McCarthy

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 and 15 June 2020.

British Columbia

The June newsletter of the *British Columbia Postal History Research Group* is edited by Andrew Scott and associate editor Tracy Cooper. The favourite cover, sent in by Tim Woodland, is an interesting first cover from Long Beach Post Office. A tribute is paid to Dr Donald Michael Leslie Shorting, who recently passed away. Three successive articles are by Andrew Scott on epidemics and quarantines, and the quarantine station at Albert Head. Brian Copeland writes about a smallpox outbreak in Victoria in 1892. Ed Mannings writes about Dr Edward Arthur, his wife Isabel, also a doctor, and their life in BC. Each story has a postal-related reference. Morris Beattie tells the story of the mail ship *Sardonyx* from its arrival on the BC coast in 1882 until it was wrecked on an uncharted reef in 1890. Morris shows two covers, one being the earliest *Sardonyx* cancel, dated 21 October 1889, and the other a *Sardonyx* ship marking dated 30 December 1889. Tracy Cooper is beginning a new series of Unusual Destinations—from BC, that is. The first shows a cover to Keffi, Nigeria, dated 24 June 1903. Glenna Metchette has an article on BC's ham radio operators and QSL cards. (QSL in radio code means "I confirm receipt of your transmission.") It's an interesting story, with some fascinating post cards, and it ends the newsletter.

Confederation

Vic Willson is the editor of *Confederation*, the newsletter of the Large and Small Queen Study Group. In the March issue, Jim André asks about the various marks and dots on the 6¢ Small Queen, and the editor asks about a dot in the lower right "6". Earl Noss asks about scratches on four 6¢ Large Queen stamps and shows extensive scratches on a 2¢ Large Queen on cover. Vic Willson shows two covers purchased through eBay, one fraudulent to France and the other affixed with a 15¢ Large Queen to the USA. This is five times the regular rate, with only three previously known. Vic is unsure if this is one of the three. Gary Steele sent in a cover to the West Indies, with two Dead Letter Office markings of different dates—and with an explanation. Darin Cherniwchan provided three pages plus an illustration describing how to determine the perforation of a stamp using a scanner, a PC, and Photoshop. The next newsletter should provide some interesting comments. In an article titled "19th Century Canadian Mail To The Bahamas," Vic Willson shows a recent acquisition of only the second recorded example of a cover mailed to that destination at the 6¢ / ½ ounce rate, prior to the 1872 rate change. Brian Hargreaves recently purchased a cover with a strip of 2¢ Large Queens that he claims gives evidence for a second plate. Brian illustrates his explanation. Closing the newsletter is a small article by Gerald Wulkowicz.

Elizabeth II

The March–April issue of *Corgi Times* made it, but just. Robin Harris, the editor, is not fooling when he prints the notice "ARTICLES WANTED." In this issue, there is the regular Canada

Post news and the welcoming of new members Rob Lunn and Richard Wilson. Robin asks if life during the COVID-19 pandemic is a new normal. Like many collectors, he is working on long overdue projects. One is the updating of the Elizabethan-era specialized books. A two-page sample is shown. These books should be very valuable to anyone even remotely interested in this, the modern era. The Far and Wide definitive stamps show scenes from across Canada. Robin shows a map surrounded by the stamps, with lines indicating the locations. Ingo Nessel sent in a lovely registered cover that was mailed to the senders by themselves as a proof of invention, franked with four Wilding 6¢ stamps. He looks upon this cover as a mystery because of the rate. Maybe someone can solve it. Scott Traquair illustrates five pages of the \$1 Centennial stamp, together with other centennials on cover, depicting uses and rates. This is only Part One. Fascinating! Mirko Zatka brings the newsletter to an end with an article on the Lowe-Martin vertical coil and vertical booklet production of the orchid flower series. Look forward to the continuation of this article in the next issue.

First Impressions

In the first article of the January–March issue of *First Impressions*, the First Day Cover Study Group newsletter, edited by George Basher, John van der Ven explains the Flock printing process of the Dargis Vela-Tone cachets. He also exhibits five examples of cachets featuring the Boy Scout stamp of 1955. Bob Vogel and Andrew Chung are doing a comprehensive study on Canada Post replacement and publicity FDCs, and they need your help in producing a handbook to complement the Chung/Narbonne *Canada Post Official First Day Covers* catalogue. Thanks to Mark Lerner and his US contact, John van der Ven was able to acquire Lou Hahn FDCs from a dealer who only shipped within the US. The lot determined the Leo Hahn-created FDCs from 1956 to 1960. John is anxious to find out if there are any before 1956 or after 1960. Michael Pierce has done a nice story on fifteen of what are supposedly hand-drawn cachets done by Walter O'Hara of Fredericton, NB. As Michael says, "It is always nice to find different things." Finally, new books from BNAPS are reviewed: *Catalogue of Privately Produced First Day Covers of Canada, 1927–1977*, by Gary Dickinson; *The New Specialized Catalogue of Canada Post Office First Day Covers*, by Andrew Chung and RF Narbonne, published by Unitrade; and *Collecting First Day Covers of Canada* by Gary Dickinson.

The April–June edition of *First Impressions* begins by announcing the sudden passing of George Basher on 9 March. George was the first and third editor of the newsletter. We all join in sending condolences to the Basher family. Gary Dickinson will take over as interim editor. Continuing with Editor's Notes, Michael Pierce is looking for material of the 1970 Christmas stamps. Bob Vogel, always looking for the unusual, sent in an FDC with the 1956 Paper Industry stamp on it, sent to Abitibi Power & Paper Ltd from Pulp & Paper Mill Accessories Ltd. The envelope is watermarked Roland Parchment, and the letter is printed on paper with the Howard Smith Krypton Parchment watermark. Oh yes, and the stamp was printed by Canadian Bank Note Company. As Bob puts it, "impartiality."

Gary Dickinson writes about the Karsh issue FDCs, and illustrates all seventy-five known cachets. The issue was only in circulation for thirteen months. If you can find others, Gary would like to see them. It is well known that Charles Verge is a student of the Seaway stamp issue. He sent in scans of the August W Dargis Vela-Tone cachets. To end the newsletter, Alan Warren reviews the two BNAPS publications by Gary Dickinson mentioned above.

King George VI

Changes are taking place in the King George VI Study Group. In a bulletin titled *King George VI Herald Dispatch*, Chairman Gary Steele has outlined how it is hoped the newsletter *Post & Mail* will continue to be published periodically, dependent, of course, on the contributions of the membership. Ken Lemke is looking for a co-editor of the *Post & Mail* to eventually take over as editor. Meanwhile, Stephen Prest has volunteered to compile issues of the *Herald Dispatch* for the remainder of 2020 at least. This will be a two-page bulletin, and Stephen goes on to explain how things will come together. He then introduces new members, explains what is being done on the website, and takes a look at what has been seen on eBay. Kudos for working to stay alive! We should have some good material for the next Centreline.

The second bulletin of *KGVI Herald Dispatch* again has Stephen Prest doing the honours. In this, the June issue, Stephen talks about crossover collecting, and this will be discussed further in the August issue. Shown is a dated 1948 post card with a Newfoundland 10¢ stamp from the 1942–1949 second resource issue paying the airmail rate to the US. Earle Covert writes, saying his exhibit of George VI Special Order Postal Stationery is all ready for ORAPEX and BNAPEX. Less work for next year. Seen on eBay was an example of the missing earring variety of the re-issue of the 3¢ Queen Elizabeth, on a marginal block of nine. That's it for this issue.

Military Mail

Dean Mario, the editor of the *Canadian Military Mail Study Group* newsletter, begins the May issue with John Watson's explanation of a POW letter that was sent to a camp in Lethbridge in 1946, then redirected to the United Kingdom.

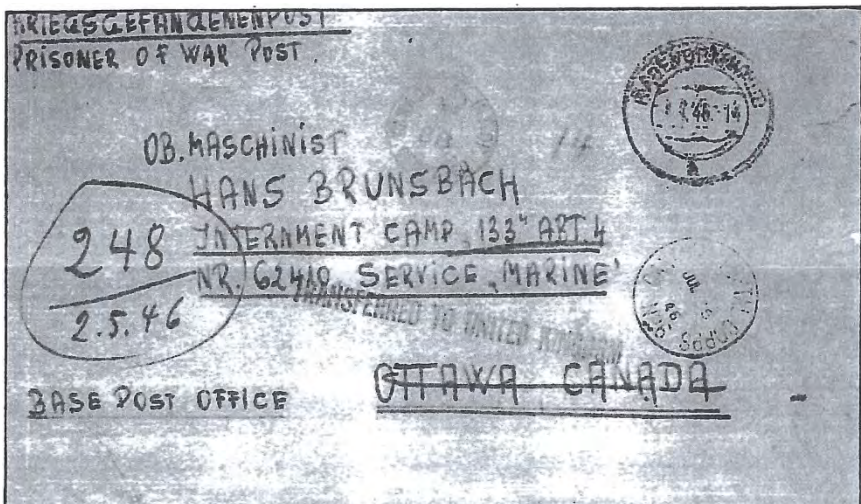


Figure 1. POW letter sent to a camp in Lethbridge in 1946, then redirected to the UK.

Have you ever heard of the CANOL project? Hal Kellet tells the story of this Canadian and American joint effort in planning a defence strategy in the Northwest Territories. Jennifer Denman has been going through back issues of *BNA Topics*, and she came across an article by

Gordon McDermid on Billy Bishop's AFALs (*Armed Forces Air Letter*) to Egypt. Two questions come out of the article: How many of these AFALs were printed? Was it two hundred? And how many did Billy Bishop sign? Also in this issue, Ron McGuire and Bob Toombs write about the method they use in lifting stamps covering various postal and censor markings. I think this would be a useful reprint in *BNA Topics*. Mike Street provided an information sheet that had been sent to his grandparents after his father was seriously wounded, describing how the wounded Canadian soldier was cared for. Dean slipped in a very appropriate modern cover with a Second World War cachet that reads KEEP CALM and CARRY ON. Also from Dean are a couple of illustrations of seldom-seen 1911 special delivery covers from military camps. He asks if any members have done a detailed study of the covers and the unusual usage. John Watson writes about a card sent to Halifax from Gibraltar by an RCAF member serving with the RAF in 1942. John also writes about a cover from the Air Observer School in Malton, Ontario, prior to its receiving a Military Post Office number, along with some interesting observations of his own. Ending the newsletter as always are greetings from Dean and Mike.

Newfoundland

In the April–June edition of the *The Newfoundland Newsletter*, edited by Malcolm Beck, a lovely tribute was paid to Peter Motson, who passed away on 20 January. Peter was a good BNAPSER and a good exhibitor. Congratulations are extended to Clarence A Stillions, Julian J Goldberg, and John M Walsh on receiving the Col Robert H Pratt Award for 2019. *Post Offices of Pre-Confederation Newfoundland*, by Carl Munden, is now online and downloadable. Another installment of David Piercey's exhibit of Newfoundland cancels is shown, with more to come—this is a must-see exhibit. Barry Senior asks an interesting question about a Reverend Butler cover advertising his 1932 price list. Why was it mailed from Times Square, New York? Barry Senior then provides more to the story of the “Missing Link” connecting the typed letters “A. & S. L.” to the AYRE perfin, by providing a page from his Gold winning exhibit, “Perforated Insignia on Stamps of Newfoundland.” Andrew Hussey wrote a story about an unlisted AYRE perfin, and claims the 5¢ stamp from the Silver Jubilee issue should be added to the Perfin Handbook under the A11 perforator under position 2. John Walsh responded to Robert Coulson's article in the previous issue about the re-entry on the plate proof of the Colony Seal stamp of 1897. John Walsh shows and explains the 1920 Provincial 2¢ overprint on the 30¢ Cabot Slate, including varieties. Gorgeous! David Piercey wrote an interesting piece on the use of the St John's 1846 Crown Circle Paid handstamp sometime in the 1880s. David shows his discovery copy on the 5¢ Harp Seal of 1880 and gives Newfoundland philatelists another item of interest to look for.

Pence-Cents

The *Pence-Cents* newsletter, edited by James Jung, deals with the first stamps and postal history of the pre-Confederation era. In the April issue, the front page shows a pair of 17¢ Cartier stamps submitted by Jim McCormick. The stamps show an interesting plate scratch. Vic Willson recently acquired a cover franked with a 2¢ circular rate that he is querying, as he feels it should have been sent free, as indicated by the word “FREE” on the cover. Ron Majors provided an explanation with a certificate of a similar cover, as illustrated in the newsletter. Michael Smith writes about and illustrates the “S” flaw on the 3p Beaver. He then continues with the “N” flaw on the 3p Beaver, illustrating what people should look for in the various positions listed. Michael maintains that much more study needs to be done to determine cause

and consistency. Ron Majors submits an article in which he discusses the question of restoration of a cover using ethical means and illustrates a cover before and after professional restoration. He then asks for opinions. This is a question that really should be addressed by every member. Michael Smith comes in again with a plate flaw found on the late state of the half penny plate, with excellent illustrations. He then does an extensive illustrated article as Part Four of Canada's 5¢ Beaver proofs. This brings the newsletter to an end.

Perfins

The April issue of *The BNA Perforator*, edited by Jim Graham, begins with a little chat to the members. Next is an article by Russell Sampson on what he sees as a fascinating and fruitful journey: it all has to do with perfins and the Foreign Exchange Control Board. This could lead perfin collectors down a different path. Russell has a second article on the identity of the HE Verran Co. The pattern HEV/Co is found on both Canadian and US stamps, and some fine detective work produced an interesting story of this "Art Needlework company." Jim Graham has done a nice piece on International Harvester broken dies. Jim shows a 1935 10¢ broken leg variety RCMP stamp with a Bell Telephone perfin that sold at an Eastern Auction for \$2,500, the highest known sale price for a perfin so far. Speaking of high bids, Bob Symanski relates a story of a Rexall perfin that attracted a bid of \$10,000 and ended up going for \$11.00. Russell Sampson ends the newsletter with a new earliest period of use of a John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company perfin, along with some insurance history.

Postal Stationery

On the front page of the April issue of *Postal Stationery Notes*, edited by Robert Lemire, an interesting unused 1¢ green King George VI card with an illustration of an indigenous warrior is shown. Bill Walton, who has an intensive collection of illustrated postal stationery cards, has never seen one before. Also on the front page, sent in by Pierre Gauthier, are two postal museum cards used for BALPEX Maryland that precede similar cards listed in the Webb's catalogue. George Dresser writes about a 1904 registered post band to Chile and the comments made by Mike Sagar about an article by George in the previous issue. Michel Ledoux writes about an advertising card disguised to look like a postal stationery card and illustrates the same. Robert Lemire continues with Part 9 of the printings of the railway advice flimsy forms. The article covers the 4¢ red second Karsh, 4¢ Cameo, and 4¢ Centennial issues for CP Merchandise Services. Chris Ellis has done Part 1 of an article on National Drug and Chemical Co cards. Not only is it well illustrated, it is also a good piece of history. Concluding the newsletter is an illustration of an EN63 cover with a new ERP of 11 June 1925.

Precancels

Dave Maresco, the editor of this, the April newsletter, is encouraging all members to send an article in of their favourite precancel, now that everyone is sitting around looking for things to do. Gary Steele sent in a couple of colourful covers with precancels. Tom Meyerhof has written an interesting article about precancelled stamps being used on parcels, and provides an example of a Hudson's Bay Company piece addressed to the US with a customs declaration attached. Kyle Taylor sent in an unusual paste-up coil pair with two different examples of cancels. Two 1¢ Admirals are shown, with the major re-entry on the right one—the Admirals were found in a junk box. Various sideline collecting areas of precancels are illustrated and suggested. Re-entries, lathework, plate blocks, and errors then bring the newsletter to a close.

Revenues

The *Canadian Revenue Newsletter* is edited by Chris Ryan. The March issue begins with Clayton Rubec giving a Hunting & Fishing licence stamp update province-by-province. He also notes that the stamps are in decline. Chris gives an update on the cannabis and tobacco stamps, with an illustration of the new excise stamps of October 2019. Jim McCormick has done quite an article on the re-entries of the third-issue bill stamp, with illustrations and talks of re-entries on the 3¢, 6¢, and 9¢ values. Jim is interested in dated examples to learn when they first appeared. Dave Hannay and Ed Zaluski have teamed up to do an article on the early French-language tax paid imprint on a matchbox. There is also an accompanying article by Chris Ryan entitled “Notes on Match Companies in Canada, 1921-1928.” Richard Fleet was a successful bidder for two British Columbia Law Stamp proofs in a Michael Aldrich auction and shows the 30¢ blue proof from 1879. Christopher Ryan illustrates a few tobacco stamps with freak numbering or perforations, and he explains how these things happen. Fritz Angst, Brian Peters, and eBay have provided an update on weights and measures verification labels. From Fritz Angst, there is a Newfoundland meter tape paying the stamp tax on a cheque. The final article of this newsletter comes from Chris Ryan, on Mekeel’s Chronicle of the George V inland revenue war tax stamps. This originates from Mekeel’s Weekly Stamp News for 1915 through 1917. It’s a good article with a great many comments.

Railway Post Office (RPO)

Ross Gray, the editor of the *Canadian Railway Post Office Study Group* newsletter, always manages to place nice, clean covers from his collection on the front page. The January–March edition is no exception. Ross then presents two pages of new reports consisting of directions, early and late periods of use, and train numbers. Bill Longley sent in an interesting item on the price of installation of a letterbox at the Perth railway station on the Brockville & Ottawa Railway Line in 1859. A new report of a late date for the hammer reading MOOSE JAW & CALGARY · R.P.O. /N^o 9 of 14 July 1918 was sent in by Simon Taylor-Young. Ross has provided two hammer studies of the Halifax & Pictou Railroad and the Hamilton & Allandale hammer, based on a Brian Stalker observation. This is followed by four pages of new reports from Jack Brandt and Cec Coutts. If you have been following this newsletter, you will know that Sean Weatherup has been cataloguing and studying a horde of clerk cancels that came into the hands of Gary Steele. In this issue, Sean presents Part III of this extraordinary lot. This is also the final part, containing three and one-half pages of facing slip cancels. Sean thanks Terry Stitch for the postage, and best wishes are sent to Walter Veraart, who fell and broke his neck. This ends the newsletter.

Squared Circles

The *Roundup Annex* is the newsletter of the Squared Circle Study Group, edited by Gary Arnold. He has used the first page to bring new reports and updates to the membership. Laurent Bélisle questions the existence of a Magog cancel on the C-9 Goose airmail stamp; he claims it is a London cancel. Rick Friesen has done a study of the square cancels on the Map Stamp. He claims the Windsor strike that Jim Hennok said existed is actually a Lindsay strike, and at the present time a Windsor squared circle strike is not known on the map stamp. Joe Smith has related quite a story of the fake High Street Toronto cancel. Joe feels it was probably

Oneglia who used his engraving skills in the late 1890s. A caution is issued to buyers, bringing a close to the newsletter.

Postscript

It has been a strange few months. Four weeks between fill-ups for the car with gas at the lowest price we have seen in years and no place to go. Local and national stamp shows and philatelic get-togethers cancelled. Sitting in an eight-by-eight foot stamp den most days writing this column, trying to catch up on philatelic matters, virtual Bible studies, and I don't think I have received as many jokes in the last two years as I've had in the last three months. The end of May and the garden is in. It's nice to see the flowers and the trees budding and the bright green of grass once more. Things are looking up. So now I can only wish you good health and hope and pray this virus remains away from your door. Stay safe; we'll get through this.

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**BNAPS regrets that it was
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2020 Halifax. We hope that it will
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gather for BNAPEX 2021
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Regional group rant

Dave Bartlett

Overview

MEETING activity has fallen off, of course, due to the pandemic, with the last-reported in-person meeting held in Calgary on 11 March. I am pleased to report, however, that BNAPS has subscribed to ZOOM and, as I write this Rant, we have completed a number of Zoom meetings. The first was a combined session of the Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic groups on 6 June, followed by the Golden Horseshoe group on 7 June, then Calgary met on 10 June. We have found that this is an excellent way for us to maintain our groups. In fact, we now have people attending a Zoom meeting who might not have come to actual in-person meetings. Zoom allows people from anywhere in the world to participate. I hope I can encourage all regional groups to try it. Just contact me, and I can schedule your meeting.

While unfortunately we will not have a BNAPEX this year where we can meet and greet, you can spend time now that it is summer to continue pursuing your philatelic endeavours—maybe even write something up in PowerPoint and present it at a regional meeting on Zoom or in person. I can be contacted by email anytime at regionalgroups@bnaps.org. Please send all of your meeting notices and reports to me there, and we will post them on the website and on the Facebook pages. Watch the BNAPS website for upcoming meetings. These are always posted there. If you want to attend any meeting—and you are welcome to attend all regional group meetings either in person or via a Zoom meeting—and you need a link, contact your Regional Chairman or myself, and we will get you on. As an aside, everything I have mentioned for Regional Groups can be applied to any Study Group whose members want to hold a virtual meeting.

Reports below are few due to the pandemic, but we will see an increase as in-person contact allows and as we continue to use Zoom. Please view the Regional Groups webpages to see when things are happening in the various groups and what transpires at those meetings.

Around the region reports

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

Atlantic

While there have been no specific regional meetings from Atlantic Canada, the team was busy working towards BNAPEX in Dartmouth. Unfortunately, BNAPEX 2020 had to be cancelled, but the team will be trying the same show again in 2023—same place, same station, similar weekend! Let's thank the team for their efforts.

Calgary

The Calgary Regional Group held its first Zoom meeting on Wednesday, 10 June, with twenty participants, after missing their April and May in-person meetings. Being on Zoom, additional people were able to attend—people who might not have driven to Calgary but are happy to

participate when they can do it over the Web. The meeting began with some administration items, followed by a presentation by Dave Bartlet on BC Hospitals Aid Stamps. Ron Majors then presented “Death Through the Letterbox: Early Canadian Mourning Covers,” and this was followed by a Show-and-Tell.

The BNAPEX 2022 Organizing Committee was to meet in June, but they postponed the meeting until later in the summer when group meetings are again allowed—or they might conduct it over Zoom. The convention preparations are, however, well underway, with the venue secured and teams assigned to all the required functions to ensure a great BNAPS convention.

Dixie Beavers

Meetings have not been held, and the usual July/August show has been cancelled. At present, there are no further meetings scheduled.

Edmonton

As with other groups, not much has happened in this last quarter; it was nice, however, that the Edmonton Group was able to join in with the Calgary Zoom meeting on 10 June.

Golden Horseshoe

The Golden Horseshoe Regional Group, which had not met since the end of January, was able to hold a virtual Zoom meeting on Sunday, 7 June. In this instance, there was no lunch or beer from the local restaurant, but all participants were able to provide both those items for themselves while they enjoyed the meeting! Aside from that, we missed Peter cajoling the attendees to buy some auction items, but that may yet get worked out for a future meeting! Another thing missed was the visit with local dealers who would bring their material; however, Bill Longley made a special list for the meeting that he sent to the participants to peruse and buy from. There were forty-five participants at this virtual meeting, which is about ten more than might normally attend. There were people from Alberta, Northern Ontario, various US locations, and also someone from Qatar.

Peter and Nick opened the meeting with a few administrative items (anyone who wants to be secretary, please contact Peter). This was followed by a presentation by Wayne Schnarr, who spoke about World War I and II collectible items, such as censor marks, unit postmarks, and MPOs, amongst the many things available. Due to the vast array of material, you need to pick specific areas of these items that interest you, so you don't become overwhelmed. There were questions asked of Wayne after the presentation, and a couple of people showed items.

Everyone enjoyed the meeting, which went off with no difficulties or problems. Another meeting will be scheduled. The details will be announced directly to the Golden Horseshoe Regional Group members and will also be posted on the BNAPS website in the Meetings and Shows section, at the bottom right of the home page.

Lower Canada

The Lower Canada/Bas Canada Regional Group was a week away from holding its 22 March meeting when the Lakeshore Stamp Club show was cancelled. The meeting will likely be rescheduled using Zoom. Watch for announcements.

Manitoba—Northwestern Ontario

No meetings have been held by this group since February, but they are hard at work on the Winnipeg 2021 BNAPEX Convention, so that you will have an enjoyable time there.

Midwest

The Midwest Regional Group hoped to hold another meeting in Hartford CT in August, during the American Stamp Show but, like most other shows, this was cancelled. Please watch for future scheduled meetings.

Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic

The first of the Regional Group Zoom meetings was hosted by the Northeastern Regional Group on Saturday, 6 June. This was a combined meeting with the Mid-Atlantic Group. The meeting was conducted by Charles Livermore and attended by fourteen participants. There were three excellent presentations. First off was Dave Bartlet with a talk on BC Hospitals Aid Stamps, followed by Charles Livermore discussing the CNE (Canadian National Exhibition) from a philatelic point of view, as well as its predecessors (before it was named the CNE). A vast array of non-philatelic material is available on the CNE, and some was shown—including a video of Roy Rogers and his dancing horse. It all made for an enjoyable presentation. To top it off, Ron Majors provided a “deathly” discussion of Death Through the Letterbox: Early Canadian Mourning Covers. Examples of various collectible features that can be found on these early covers were shown. After the meeting, several Show-and-Tell items were displayed for attendees.

Pacific Northwest

The Pacific Northwest Regional Group normally holds one meeting each year on an evening and full day in September. Their next meeting is scheduled to be held in Vernon BC from 25–27 September 2020. There might even be some Okanagan wine to partake of at a winery. This event is open to all BNAPS members, and a registration form will be added to the Pacific Northwest Regional Group webpage when available. At this point, this meeting has not been cancelled, as they wait on where British Columbia will be in relation to meeting rules. As this is generally a meeting of twenty or so people, it may be allowed, but it will only be held if organizers can take all the necessary precautions to protect members’ safety. Watch for announcements about this meeting.

Prairie Beavers

The Prairie Beavers wanted to hold their spring meeting on Saturday 28 March in College Station, TX, at the St. Mary’s Student Activity Center. However, this meeting was cancelled due to the pandemic. It may be rescheduled using Zoom, or they may wait until their normal fall meeting.

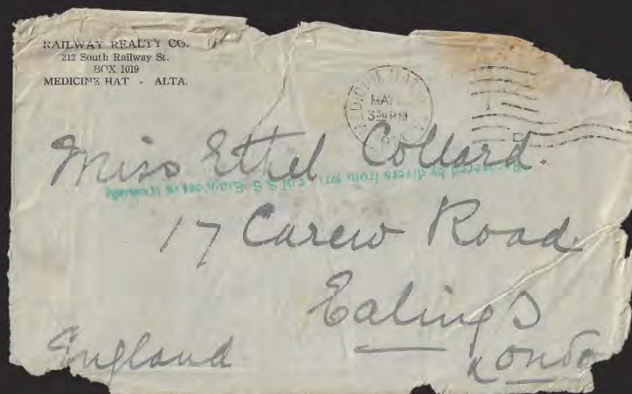
St Lawrence Seaway

The St. Lawrence Seaway Regional Group was to meet at ORAPEX on 2 May 2020, but the show was cancelled. A meeting may be held over Zoom to take its place.

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From the Treasurer—Report date: 06 June 2020

J Claude Michaud

Members whose dues are still outstanding as of 06 June 2020

Due to COVID-19, mail has been slow and irregular and dues that have been mailed may not have reached us in time. It has been decided to reprint the list of unpaid members from TOPICS 2020 Second Quarter, omitting those received.

R-5072 Francois Alarie	R-7008 Michel Guilbault	
R-4144 Ronald Battersby	R-5290 James E Kloetzel	R-5031 John Roger Rossiter
R-5244 Brian Cameron	R-7047 Mike LaLonde	R-6198 Ben J Rostron
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R-6020 NF Lee Dowsley	R-6465 Allan Maki	R-6652 Michael Stewart
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BNAPS exchange circuit news

Andy Ellwood OTB

THE Exchange Circuit continues to operate in an effort to provide members with opportunities to stay mentally active by engaging in their hobby. Approximately 50 sheets of new material have been received from members, many of which offer items at very reasonable prices. There have also been some interesting scarcer items posted. It seems that the philatelic hobby is providing an opportunity for collectors to stay active, while riding out our current disruptive world. Have a look at the more recent listings in the area of your interest. You may find some items that you have been searching for.

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