

# The Registry

Newsletter of the BNAPS registration study group

SPECIAL TRIPLE ISSUE

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# Postage due, or mixed franking?

David Handelman

THE 1930 cover shown in Figure 1 was initially franked with the 12¢ map stamp of 1927, paying the 10¢ registration fee and 2¢ first class rate to the US. There is also a US 2¢ stamp, which *may* have been applied at the time of mailing, or later on. Foreign stamps are not normally cancelled in the source country, so the lack of a Canadian cancel on the American stamp does not mean anything.

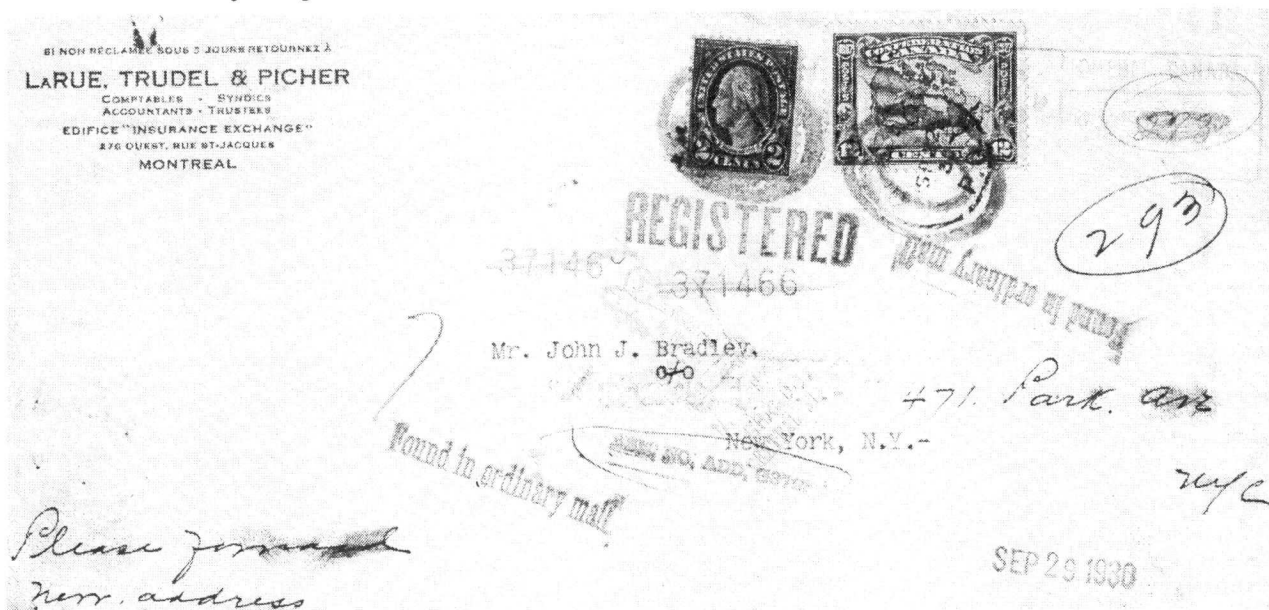


Figure 1. Mixed franking (1930)

The US 2¢ stamp was probably applied by the sender to prepay forwarding.

A hint appears in the lower left corner: *Please forward new address*, presumably written by the sender. The address, originally typed, has been very heavily erased, and replaced by one written by the sender (same pen, ink, and handwriting). It is plausible that the sender added the 2¢ stamp (cancelled in the US by "railroad tracks") to cover the fee (if any) for forwarding. (I don't think such a fee existed in the US; it does however exist in the UK.)



Figure 2. Reverse of cover in Figure 1

The image has been cropped.

In the meantime, the faint purple Quebec registration handstamp (upper right; it will probably not come out well in the illustration) was not seen at some point, and the registered letter entered

the first class mail bag (rather than the registration bag). This accounts for the **Found in ordinary mail** handstamp.

The back shows an array of datestamps; the letter was mailed on 22 September 1930; it made it to New York on the 24th. There are three handstamps on that date, reading from left to right, the registry division double oval, the Station P double circle, and the C.H. Station registered marking. I don't know that the initials stand for, nor the order in which they occurred. Next day, it went to the Madison Square Station (double circle), and the following day, it was hit with the Madison Square duplex, and the ? . C Station double oval registered marking (two faint strikes).

There is a purple date mark (lower left) with some handwriting nearby dated on the 29th (385 S.H.?), and then another double oval New York registry division cancel on the 2nd of October, and finally a Montreal stamp dated 4 October.

On the front, encircled in pen is a barely legible handstamp reading REM; NO; ADD; G8726; this possibly stands for removed and something else. Finally there is a pointing finger returned to sender marking applied at Grand Central Station.



## Complimentary compulsory registration?

David Handelman

THE cover shown in Figures 1 & 2 is a very interesting 1892 mourning cover from UK to Canada, forwarded several times, and covered with numerous markings. It is one of those covers I really enjoy contemplating (in contrast to the simple-minded 12d black covers paying only double rate to the us, that clutter my desk).

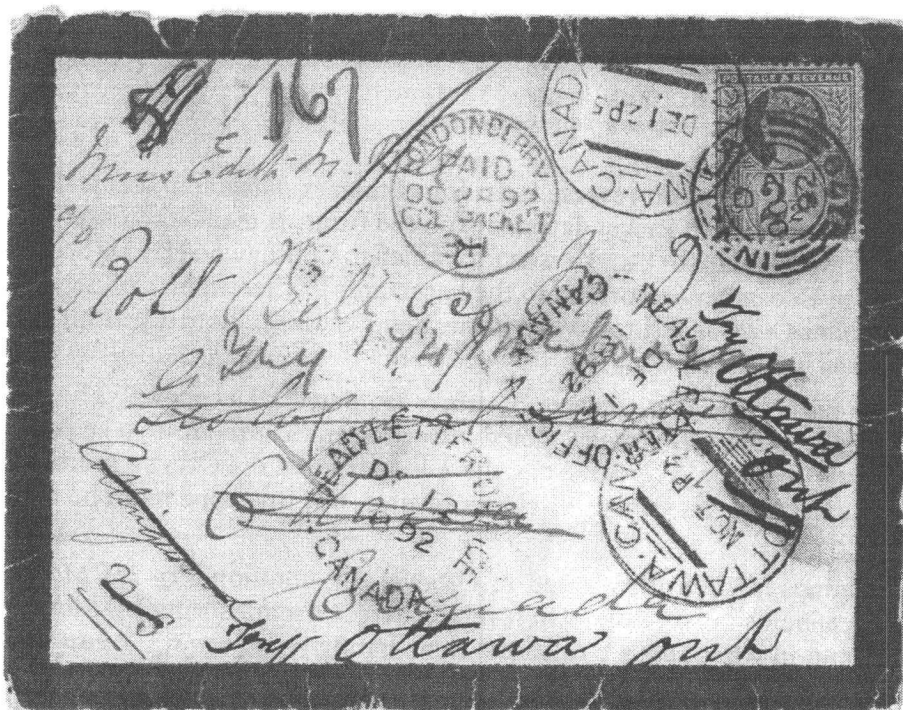


Figure 1. Scotland to Canada with the works (1892)

Postage of 2 1/2d paid by singleton. The Londonderry Paid Col Packet is listed in Whitney *Collect British Postmarks* (seventh edition) as #14/70 (p214), in use 1877-1889—so this is a late use by three years (at least according to this edition). It gives a value of £50!

I bought it some years ago at a Ron Leith auction. I saw the number 167, as well as the struck through 5c. The former suggests that at some point it was registered, and the latter, that it was charged the registration fee, which was withdrawn.

We start from the beginning. It is a letter addressed to Miss Edith M Bell c/o Robert Bell of the Geological Survey. Of course, the latter has been written up in Gray's BNAPS Exhibitors monograph (#4). Initially it was addressed to Ottawa.

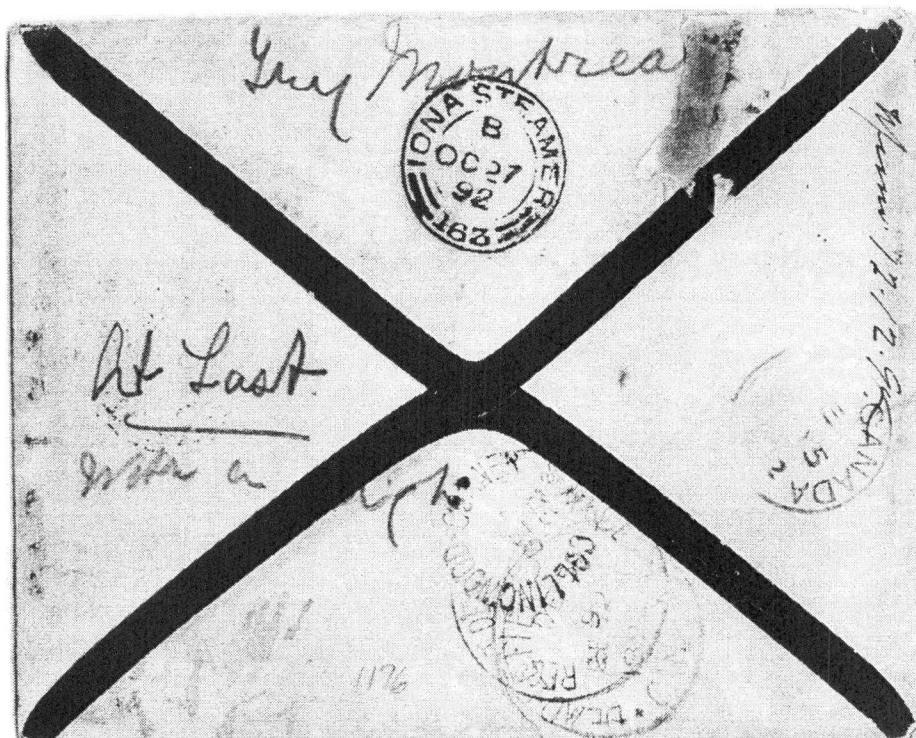


Figure 2. Reverse of cover in Figure 1

The Iona Steamer marking is listed in Whitney as #14/105, in use 1884-1900 (p216), a marking of steamers on the Clyde River. It gives a value of £40!

It was mailed from Inella (Scotland), and on reverse is an Iona Steamer datestamp (same date). Then there is a brown Londonderry Colonial Packet datestamp on the front. It made it to Ottawa on 7 November 1892 (lower right Ottawa precursor), and it was forwarded to Collingwood (Nova Scotia). It stayed there until some time in December (according to the backstamp), whereupon Collingwood was struck through and *Try Ottawa Ont* was written twice (same handwriting). Here it was hit with three different Dead Letter Office handstamps.

The first is faint and on the back, and reads RECD AT DEAD LETTER OFFICE, dated 5 December. The next one is just to the left, and reads DEAD LETTER OFFICE CANADA, dated 7 December. There are two strikes of the large broken circle, dated 12 December. The same day there is a strike of the Ottawa precursor. There is a partial strike of the small Ottawa Canada circle on reverse, but this appears to be dated 5 November, so plays no role.

There are no further datestamps. When it returned to Ottawa, the notation *Try 174 McLaren* (Avenue—still in existence) was pencilled in on front. On reverse, there is a manuscript *Try Montreal* in pencil (same handwriting), and in what appears to be the same handwriting again, *At last(!)*. In a different pencil, there is the notation, *With a xxigh?* (sleigh?—one expects to see the word “parcel” here). There is also what appears to be docketing at the extreme right of the reverse, *xxxxx 12 12 92*, indicating that the letter was finally delivered.

The numeral 167 suggests that at some point the letter was opened, found to contain something of value, and registered compulsorily, and charged 5¢, the registration fee. Since there was no return address, during its prolonged stay in the Dead Letter Office, it would have been opened, so perhaps the registration occurred then.

Any comments?

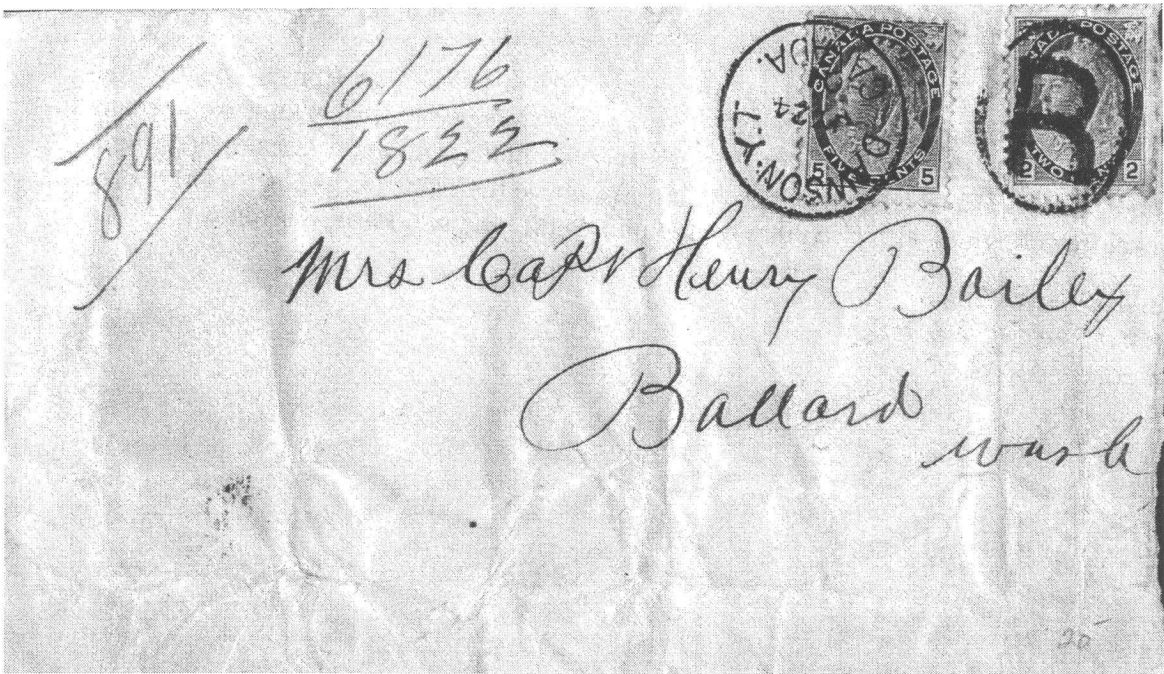




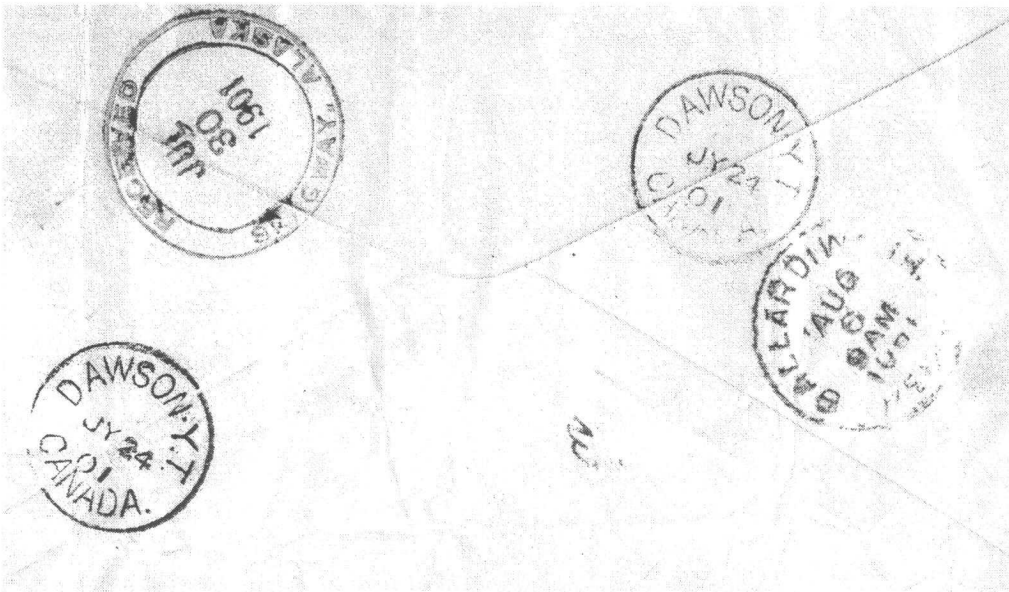
# A 1901 registered letter from Dawson

David Handelman

WHILE 1901 is too late to be considered a gold rush cover, I thought that the contents were interesting. Mailed in July and addressed to Ballard Washington (state), this letter went via Skagway, and took only two weeks to get to its destination (Figures 1 & 2).



Registered letter from Dawson (July 1901)  
Postage of 5¢ registration plus 5¢ first class to the us.



Reverse of cover in Figure 1  
Unusual (?) “received at Skagway” double circle cancel.

From Captain Henry Bailey (Captain of what?) to his wife, the letter reads as follows.

Dawson July 24th

Dearest Darling wife  
I managed to arrive and xxx to day for a few minutes so went to the post office and bought a money order for \$65 that piano man sent me a bill for that amount. I thought it would be better to send the amount to you instead, so you could get a receipt for the same.

How are you darling wife? Are you well? I hope you are. You must excuse this short letter. Not got time to write any longer one from your Dear Henry.  
My love to all and kisses.



## Wild oval

David Handelman

**T**HIS item (Figure 1) was bought (at much too high a price—\$90 + taxes and tip) just so I could get an example of the weird eye-shaped oval registration marking from Zealandia (Saskatchewan). There is room for the registration number, and the postmaster has obliged by filling in 231. There is also some sort of decoration just above the name of the town. There is also a mundane oval from Regina, with two more strikes on reverse, and two RPOs, also on reverse.

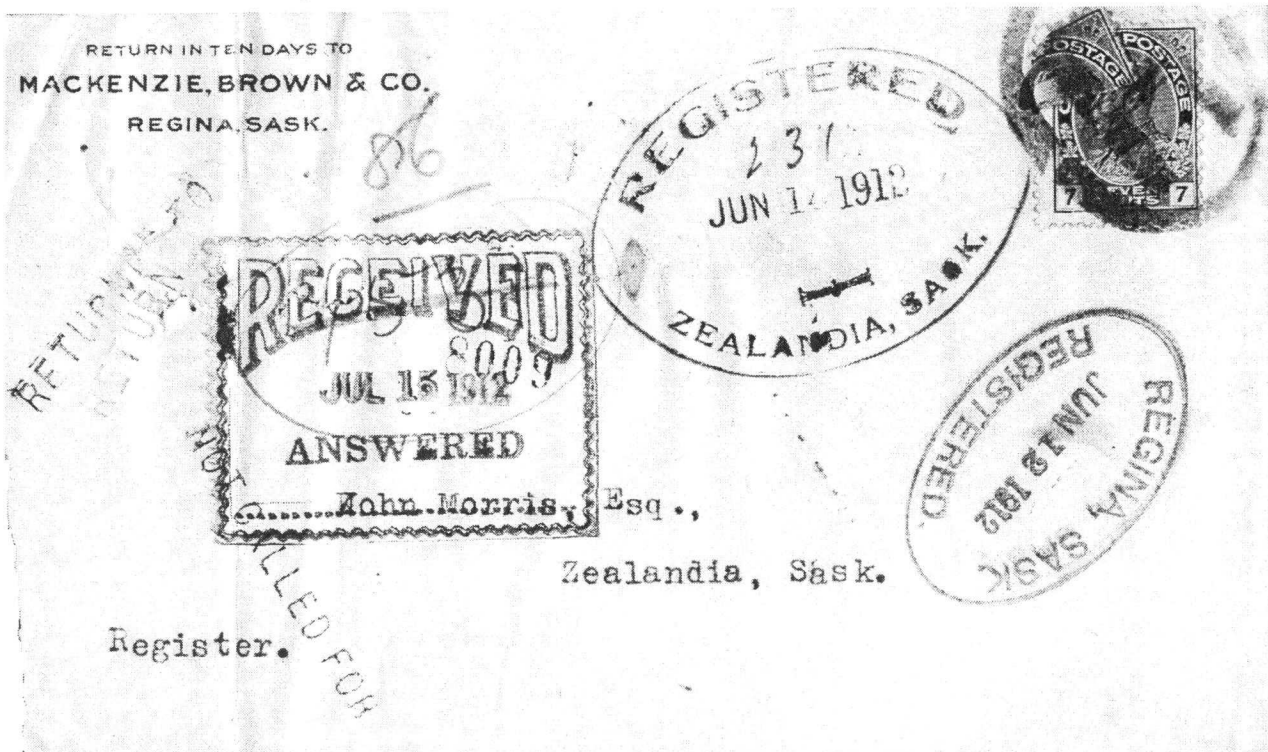


Figure 1. Zealandia eye-catcher (1912)

Postage of 5¢ registration fee and 2¢ domestic rate. There are NOT CALLED FOR and RETURNED TO straightlines.

There is an extra piece of the olive-bistre 7¢ Admiral (issued January 1912) applied by the sender (it has received part of the large R in oval killer). The cover has been well-pleated at left.



## Registered third class to Canada

David Handelman

**T**HIRD class covers non-subscription printed matter, as well as a huge variety of miscellaneous things, such as samples. Third class mail is seldom sent registered, and even when it is registered, it is usually sent in a flimsy wrapper, making survival problematic. Shown here is a very large wrapper, almost completely intact, for what was handstamped as third class (see the explanation of the rates in the legend to the first illustration) registered matter from the United States to Canada in 1935. The paper is dark brown, so I had to lighten the images extensively in order to see anything. As a consequence, the two stamps come out much too light.

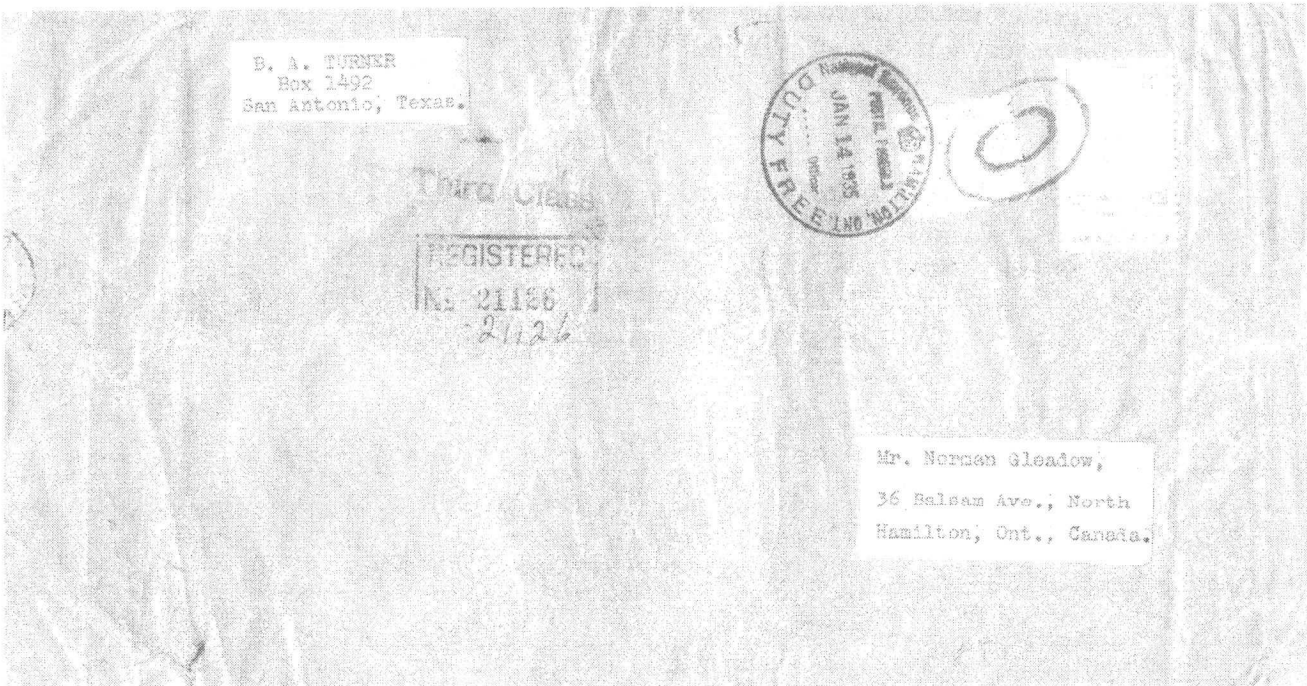
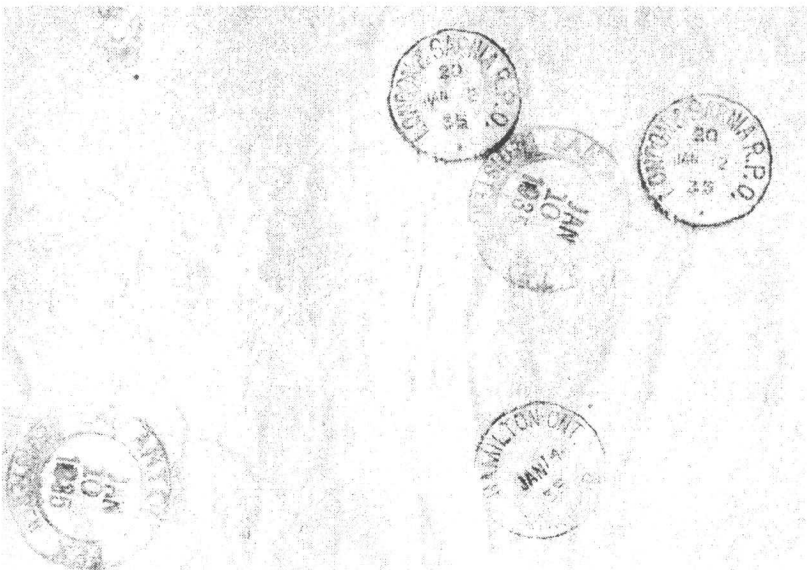


Figure 1. Registered third class to Canada (1935)  
 The postage of 18¢ is made up of 15¢ registration plus double the printed matter/commercial papers rate of 1½¢ per two ounces. On international mail, the us did not have third class category. There is an unusually clear Hamilton customs stamp. Mailed from Texas.



Reverse of cover in Figure 1  
 Showing cancels at San Antonio, a Canadian RPO, and Hamilton.



# Misrated Grüss aus registered postcard

David Handelman

COLLECTORS of postcard rates will recognize the German expression *Grüss aus* (“greetings from”) as the generic term for postcards sent by tourists to their friends back home. The one illustrated here was sent as a registered partial airmail postcard (airmail Montreal to New

York), with a return address on board the *SS Crefeld* (or *Biefeld*, it is difficult to read the handwriting). This was mailed the day after the one illustrated on p75 of *Air mails of Canada · 1925-1939* by Arfken & Plomish.



Grüss aus registered partially flown airmail (August 1930)  
Shows a view of the Montreal City Hall and Court House.

The latter was sent airmail all the way, correctly paying the 10 ¢ registration fee and the 15 ¢ airmail rate to Germany (air mail postcards were treated as air mail letters at this time). Intriguingly, it has the same inscription in red as the one here, *Via Air Mail Montreal-N. York*. If it had been sent by air within North America only (and surface the rest of the way, the rate would have been 13 ¢ rather than 15 ¢.

This one we can be fairly certain went by surface from New York to Switzerland—on reverse is a New York double oval dated 23 August 1930, and a Bern receiver dated 3 October, about ten days travel time. According to Arfken & Plomish the rates established on 1 June 1930 were 15 ¢ by air all the way (to Switzerland) and 13 ¢ by air within North America followed by surface. After deducting the 10 ¢ registration fee (and there is evidence of registration—the number 4567 at right), the postage paid on this card leaves 9 ¢. There is no evidence of any stamps missing (front or back). Airmail rates were particularly complicated in this period, so it is plausible that mistakes were made.



## Registered Newfoundland COD return envelope

David Handelman

THE illustrated cover shows a very unusual 1929 Newfoundland item. It is the form envelope used by post offices to send payment for COD items back to the original sender. For Canada, these are fairly common, but even Ron McGuire hadn't seen one of these for Newfoundland.

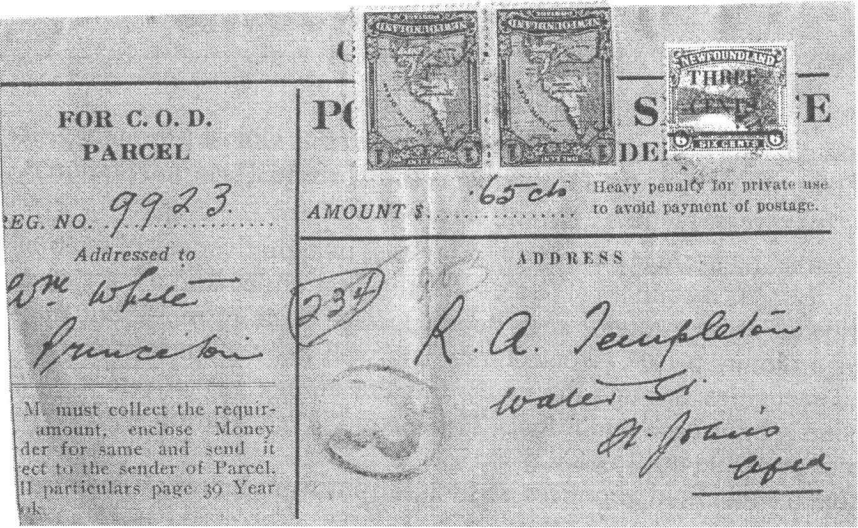
As indicated on the envelope, the postmaster was to make out a money order in the amount collected, and mail it to the sender. Here, as indicated below the stamps, the amount was 65 ¢. There would be no postage required. Some offices may not have been able to make out money orders, and presumably, as in Canada, they were supposed to send the cash to a central office, where a money order would be made out—there was a special envelope (at least for Canada) which would be sent by registered mail to the central office).

It appears that the postmaster at Princeton (the stamps are tied by rather faint and small Princeton broken circles) figured it was simpler to send the small amount as cash to the sender, and then decided



to register it. He applied the registration fee of 5¢ (using a decidedly unusual stamp for an outport), probably a mistake—in Canada at least, the corresponding envelopes (containing cash) were sent by registered mail with no franking.

There is a faint turquoise double circle receiving mark for St John's on reverse.



Registered payment of COD fees (1929)

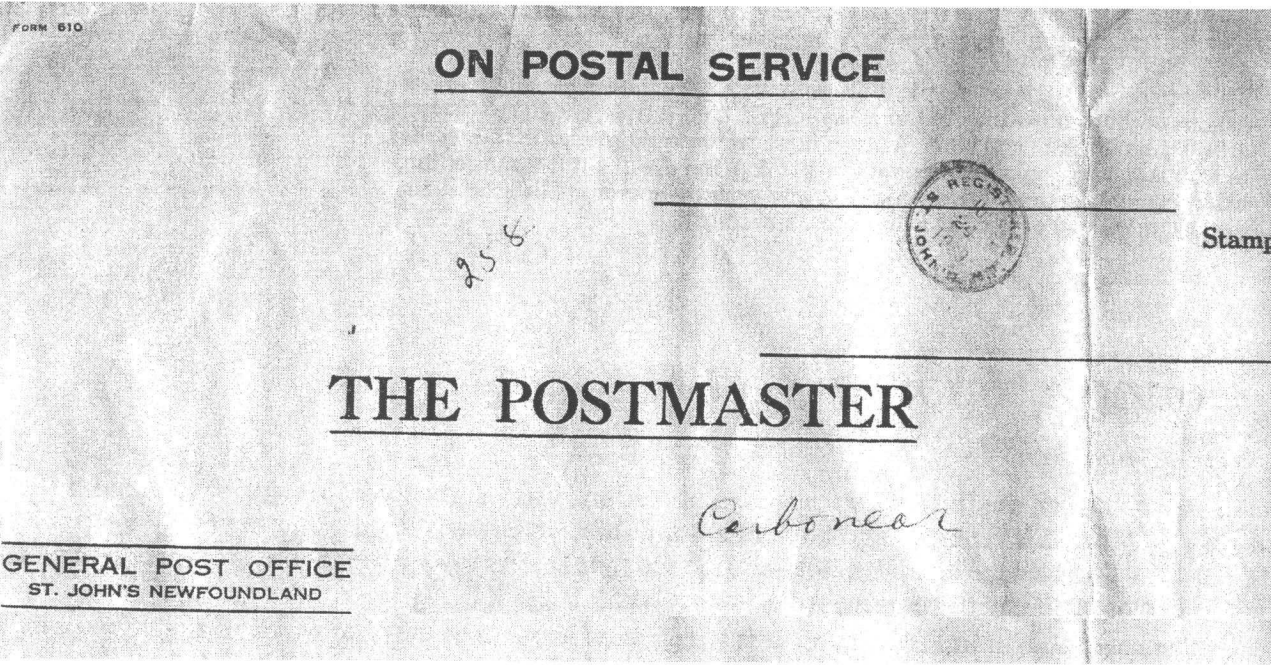
As Ron McGuire pointed out, the printed envelope refers not to a postal guide, but to the current year book for the rates and procedures.



# Newfoundland stamp mailer

David Handelman

WE see these things from Canada, but I've never seen one from Newfoundland before. This large envelope (30 cm, a bit larger than my scanner, so the right side is slightly truncated) was used to mail stamps from St John's to the post office at Carbonear. There is a single registration number and no backstamps.



Newfoundland registered letter mailing stamps between post offices (1939)

A dark brown colour; the scanned image has been lightened considerably.

## A big cover

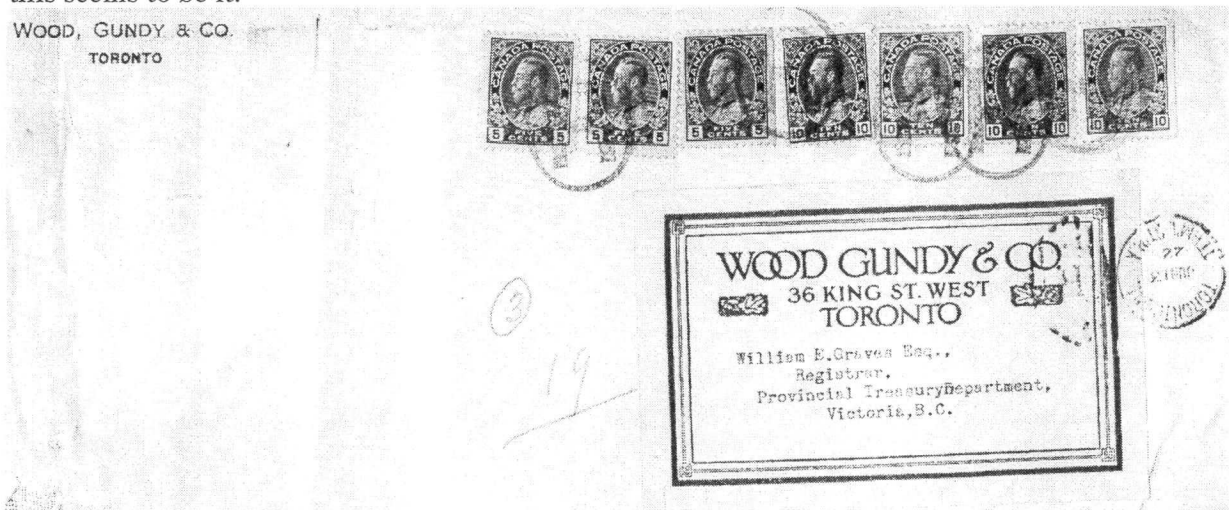
David Handelman

THE Wood Gundy cover shown in the illustration is made of cloth and is almost 30 cm long. It was mailed in 1922 from Toronto to Victoria. Of interest is the Toronto Terminal Station A “R” duplex (also appearing on reverse) which I haven’t seen before.

However, what is of most interest is the postage paid—55¢. The least imaginative way of making this up is via the 10¢ registration fee plus 22 ounces (!) at 3¢ for the first ounce and 2¢ for each additional. At least two other ways of accounting for such heavy postage come to mind, but they are easily refuted. The first is as a money packet (Wood Gundy is a well known stock broker, so presumably would regularly send securities through the mail); but the money packet rate at this time was 6¢ for the first ounce and 5¢ for each additional. The second is registration with extra indemnity—except that this was not available until 1924.

The size and material suggest that it could hold 22 ounces, so in the absence of a better explanation, this seems to be it.

WOOD, GUNDY & CO.  
TORONTO



### Duo-vigintuple rate (1922)

The stamps are tied with purple R in oval killers. The sender has alternated the colours of the stamps—the 5¢ stamps are purple, blue, purple, and the 10¢ stamps are alternately plum and blue. Some of these were issued about a decade earlier, but firms such as banks, etc, typically buy stamps in large quantities and continue using them, sometimes for decades. In any event, whoever applied the stamps decided to make the franking a little more interesting.

## Coupon réponse

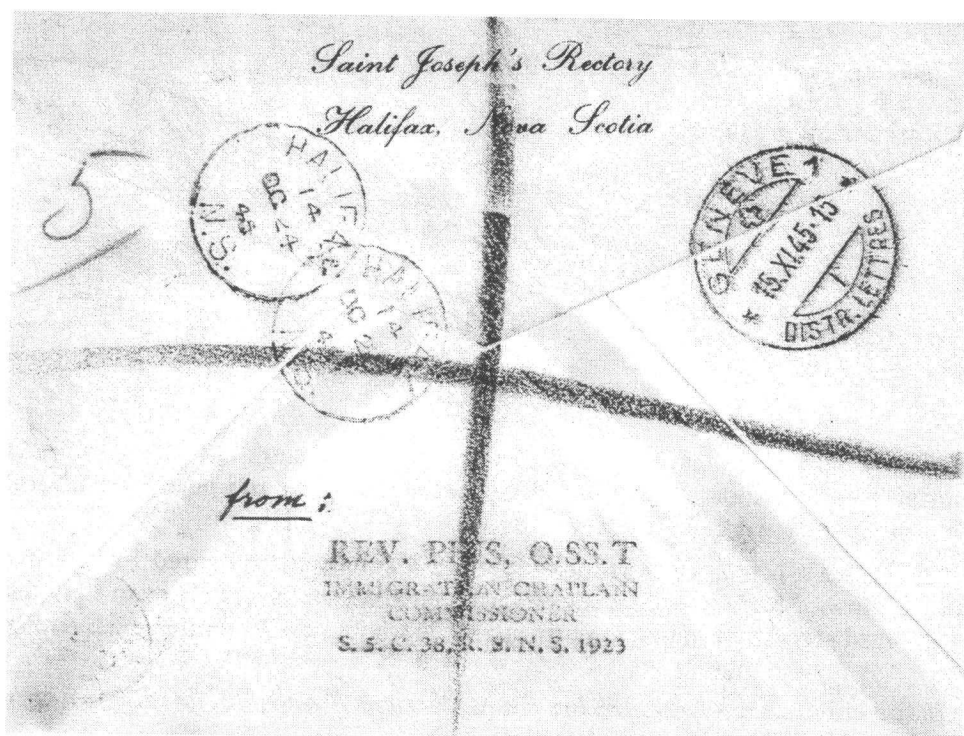
David Handelman

WE often see the handstamp COUPON RÉPONSE on letters to the Red Cross in Switzerland. I think that this refers to enclosed letters that the senders wished to send to enemy territory, in this case the Axis. Presumably, the “coupon” refers to an international reply coupon which was enclosed, to pay the postage from Switzerland.

The cover shown in Figures 1 & 2 is a registered letter from the “Immigration chaplain commissioner” with a return address of St Joseph’s rectory in Halifax. It was mailed in October 1945, after the war had ended—so it may have had something to do with displaced persons, or people liberated from concentration camps, but there is no way of knowing without the contents.



Coupon réponse registered letter to the Red Cross (October 1945)  
 Postage of 10¢ registration plus 5¢ UPU first class to Switzerland. The British blue registration cross indicates that it passed through Britain.



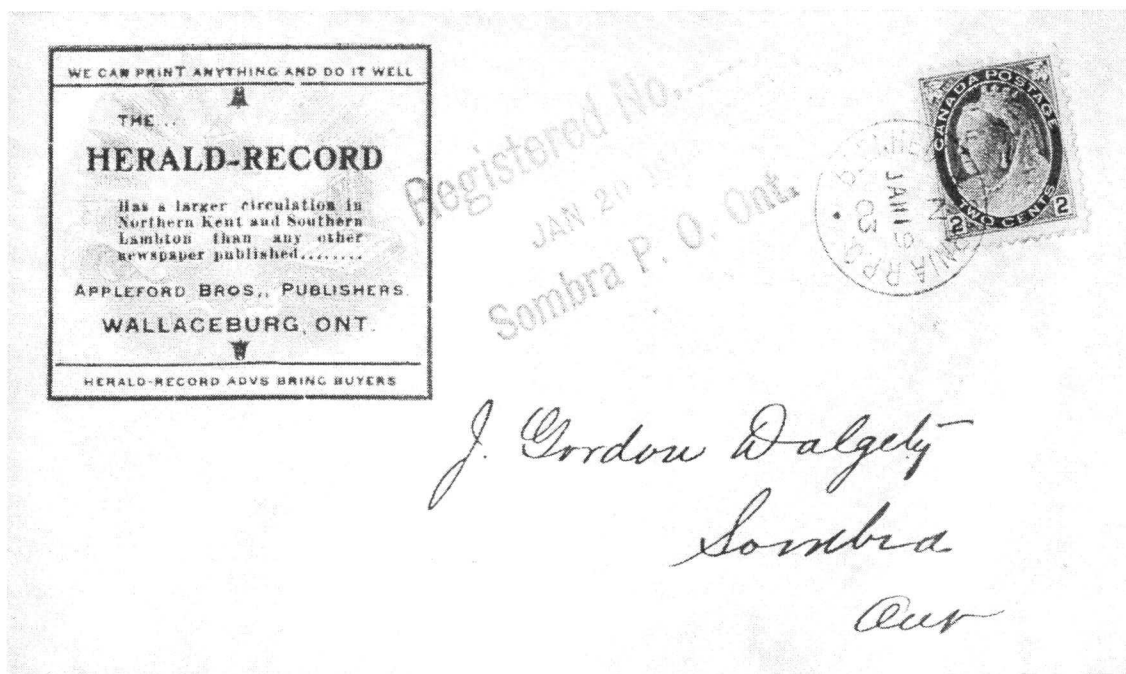
Reverse of cover in Figure 1  
 Arrived in Geneva mid-November.



# Misapplied registration marking

David Handelman

WE have all seen many examples of registration markings mistakenly used as killers (on non-registered mail). Here is a rather odd misuse, as a dater, on a lovely corner cover. Mailed from the Appleford Brothers Publishers in Wallaceburg (in green), it was initially postmarked on the Blenheim & Sarnia RPO. On reverse is a Sombra circle of the same date. For some reason, the next day the postmaster at Sombra used his dated registration handstamp on the front. Of course, it is remotely possible that this is a case of complimentary registration, except that the registration number was not filled in. I have no idea why the second Sombra datestamp was needed.



Misused Sombra registration handstamp (1903)



## Repaired A R cover

David Handelman

REPAIRED covers always appeal to me, because condition-fanatics can't condemn them as "damaged", no matter how they look. The cover illustrated here (front and back) has several very interesting features.

To begin with, it is an 1898 AR cover from France (there is a somewhat smeared French AR handstamp at the bottom). I know of only one other nineteenth century French AR cover to Canada. The postage stamps were arrayed around the edge, something that is frequently seen on French covers of the period.

On reverse in red ink is the endorsation *Rec'd at 8 hrs pm at Carrier's Branch [Montreal], torn open at ends and at one side*. This is followed by two sets of initials.

Notice how the cover was repaired. Portions of a registered package have been glued around the sides. Recall from an earlier issue of the *Registry* that these registered package envelopes were used to send registered matter between post offices, and after use, were probably destroyed. Only a couple of nineteenth century examples have survived.

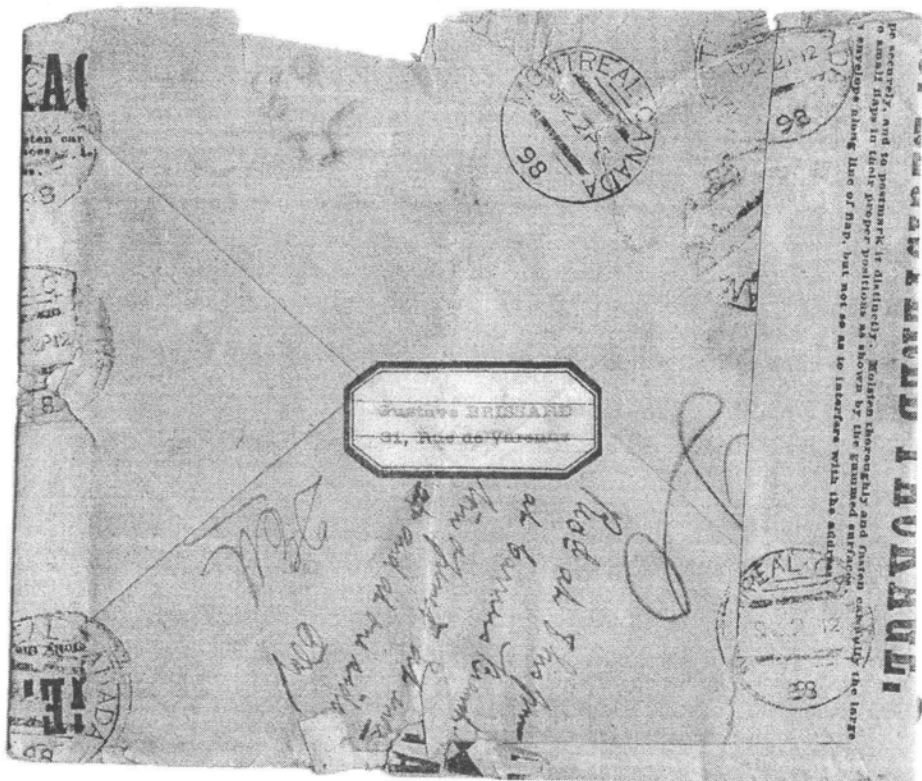
A mere 11 strikes of the Montreal precursor tie the remnants of the registered package to the cover.





France-Canada AR cover repaired at Montreal (1898).

Postage of 1.35 Francs made up of 25 centimes for registration, 10ctm AR fee, and quadruple UPU rate at 25ctm per weight (no wonder the letter arrived in bad shape). There is a red London registration marking near the centre.



Reverse of repaired cover

The return address is 32, Rue de Varenne in Paris.



# AR postage due

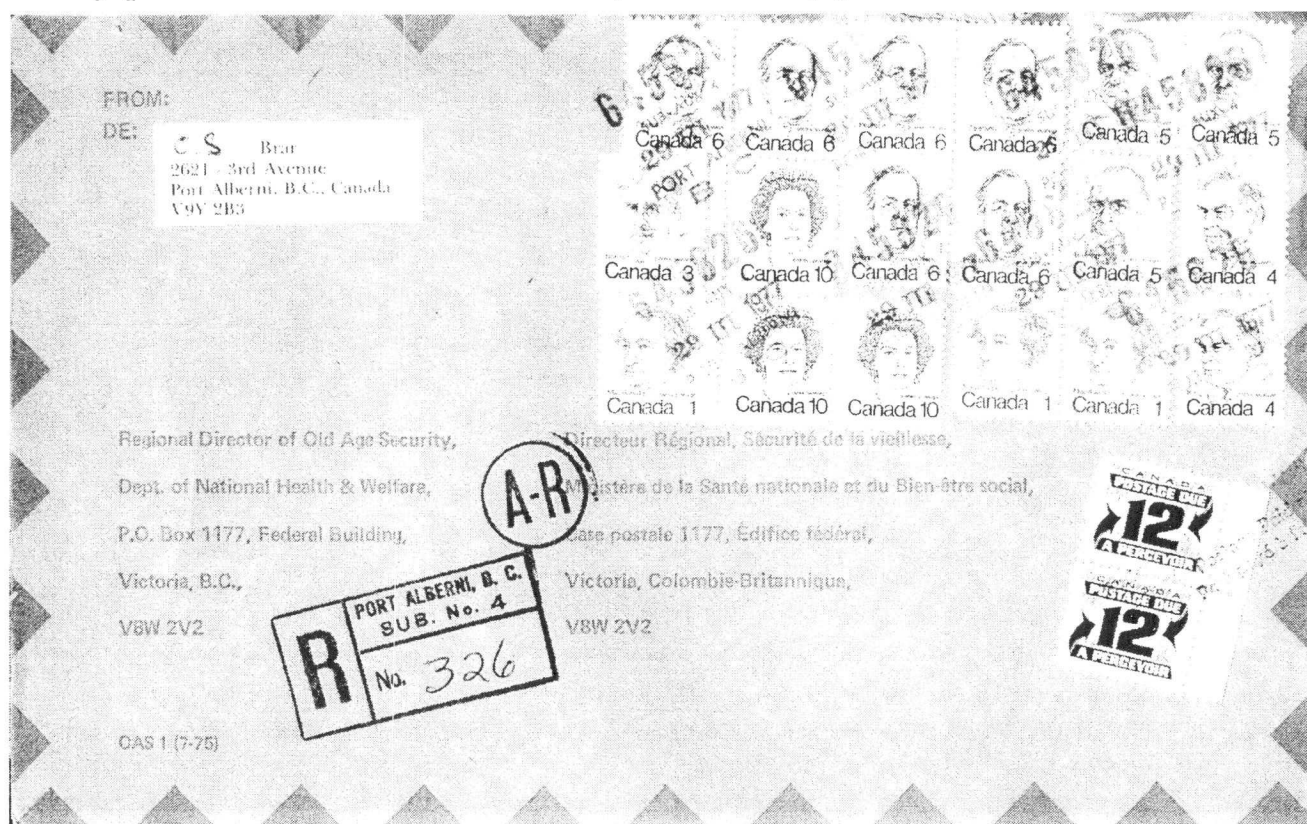
David Handelman

**S**HOWN is a 1977 large and colourful non-philatelic AR cover that was charged postage due. The sender obviously had a pile of low value definitives around, and used them to send this to a Federal Government office in Victoria. It is form envelope used to send in applications for old age security.

The registration fee was 75¢, the AR fee 20¢ (by this time, usually paid on the cover, not the card), and domestic postage was 12¢ per ounce. A total of 95¢ postage was applied, and although the clerk who registered it accepted it, it was subsequently rechecked, and found to be deficient (I can imagine him spending time adding up the postage).

The question is, how deficient? The letter was charged 24¢ postage due. On registered letters, only single deficiency is supposed to be charged, so at first glance, it appears that this was a double rate cover. However, it happens very frequently, especially on modern registered covers that double deficiency is mistakenly charged. So it could have been a single rate cover, although the size suggests that it was more likely double rate, charged single deficiency.

The vertical pair postage due stamps are tied by several strikes of a cancel that seems to read "Postage paid at Postal xxxx" with the French equivalent "Port payé à l'xxxx".



Postage due AR cover (March 1977)



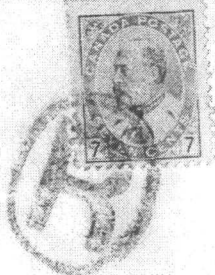
## Number one, yet again

David Handelman

**R**EADERS will be familiar with my enthusiasm for registration number one. On all the previous examples, the one was the first registration number. Finally, I've found an example with the one as the second number.

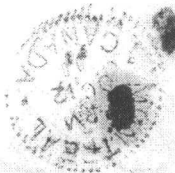
IF NOT DELIVERED IN FIVE DAYS  
RETURN TO NEW P. O. BOX 1959, MONTREAL.

7  
2366



Walter G. Parish Esq.,

A T H E N S, Ont.

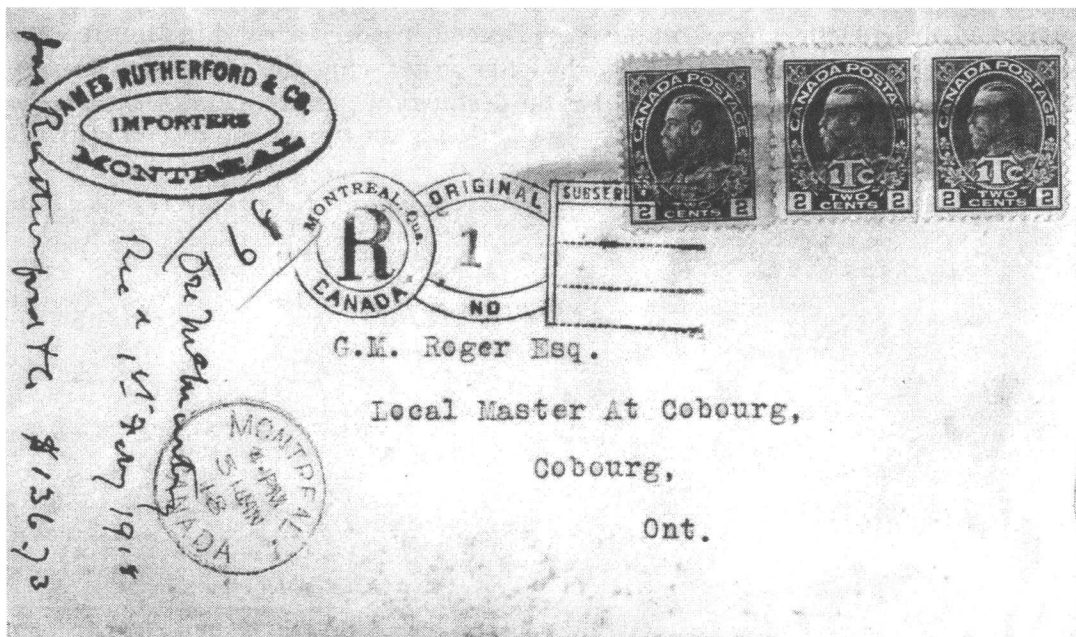


PERSONAL

### Registration number one (1911)

First number is 2366 at Montreal. According to the backstamps, this letter passed through an RPO and then Brockville. There is no marking from the destination, Athens, in southwestern Ontario—quite far from Brockville. It's quite likely that the number one was applied at Athens, a much smaller town than Brockville. Postage is made up as 5¢ registration plus 2¢ domestic. Dotted Montreal circle.

The next example has a stamped 1 and is the original number—but look where it's from: Montreal. Finding a number one from a very large post office is a real coup, especially since it is with an exceptionally clear strike of the fancy Original/Subsequent number cancel, presumably at the main post office.



### Registration number one at Montreal (1918)

The number is stamped in turquoise; the registration marking is purple-blue, and exceptionally clear. Postage made up of 5¢ registration fee plus 3¢ first weight domestic first class.



# A registered letter to Moshe Landau

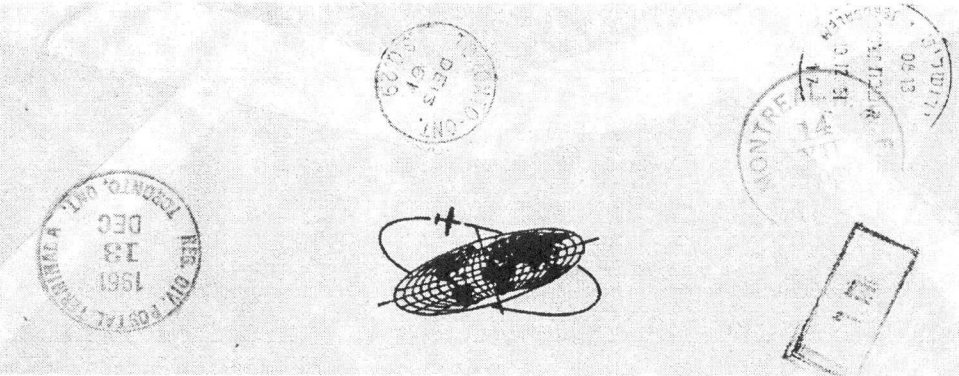
David Handelman

MOSHE Landau (b 1913 in Danzig, emigrated to what was Palestine in 1933) was the presiding judge (and representative of the Israeli Supreme Court) at possibly the most famous trial of the 20th century, that of Adolf Eichmann. The trial took place in 1961 after a forceful method of extradition from a very reluctant Argentina. The trial had concluded by the time the illustrated cover was sent—in fact, the appeal process had already begun.



Registered letter to Israel (December 1961)  
Postage of 20 ¢ registration plus 25 ¢ (per quarter ounce) airmail to most countries of Asia and Africa. Mailed from Toronto Sub-office 29.

Mailed as a registered airmail letter from Toronto on 13 December 1961, it arrived in Montreal the next day, and in Jerusalem on the 19th. Interestingly, the letter writer wrote the address in German, and instead of Israel, referred to *Palaestina* (Palestine) as the destination country. (*Einschreiben* is the standard German term for registered.) On the reverse, in addition to the transit and receiving marks is what appears to be an Israeli censorship marking.



Reverse of cover (cropped)  
Showing transit markings at Toronto Terminal A, Montreal AMF, and Jerusalem.  
The boxed rubber handstamp with two Hebrew letters is likely a censor marking.

The 1987 *Landau Commission* was presided over by Judge Landau, and investigated accusations of torture by the Israeli security force Shin Bet. He has long since retired, but still writes the occasional article, in print or on the Internet.

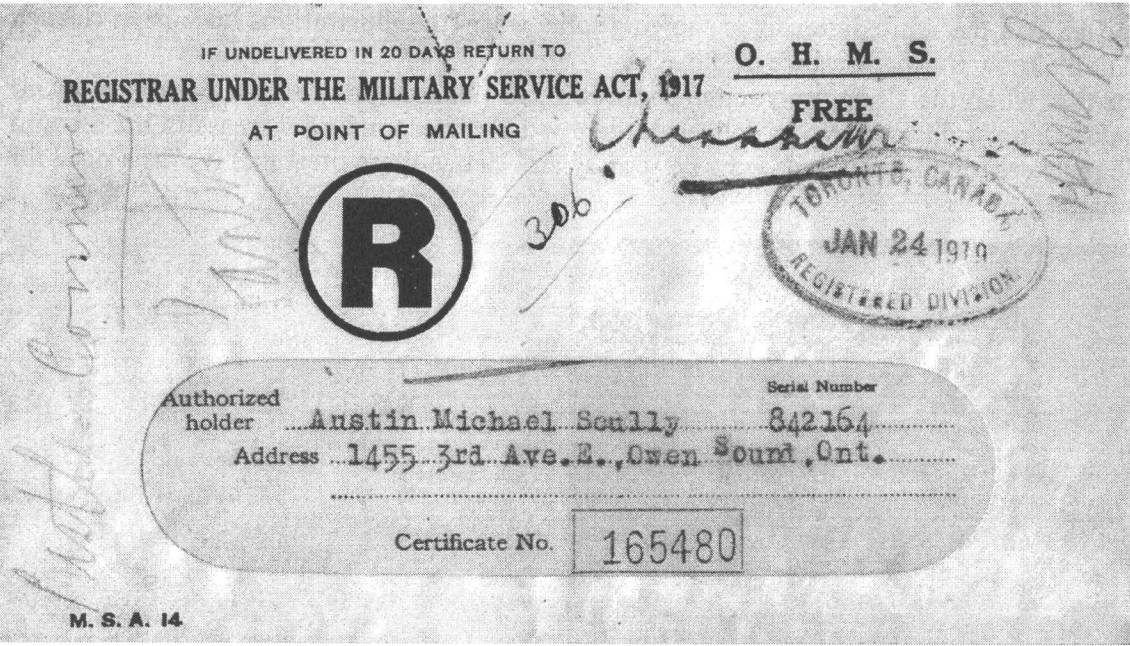




# Military service act

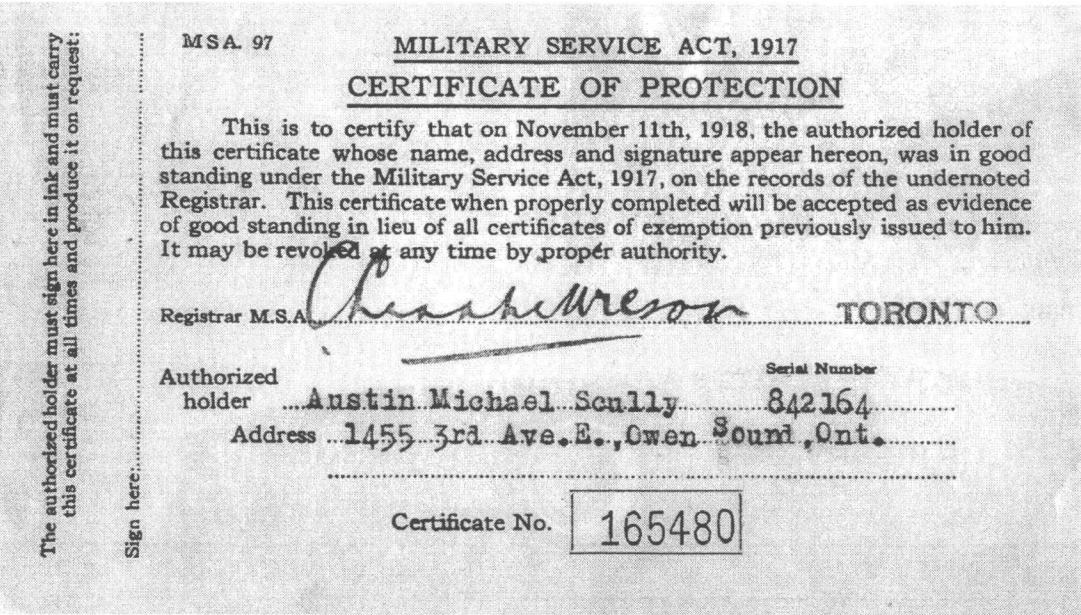
David Handelman

CANADA instituted the draught in World War I, resulting in another level of bureaucracy. The contents of the envelope illustrated below is a certificate of protection—in other words, the person was exempt from the draught. The certificate was sent in a window envelope, as a free registered letter. The large R in oval is printed. I have seen several different printings of this form.



Free registered (1919)

Preprinted free registered window envelope. Very unusual double oval Toronto registered marking in purple.



Contents of window envelope

Never signed, presumably because the War didn't last much longer.



# A baggy for registered airmail

David Handelman

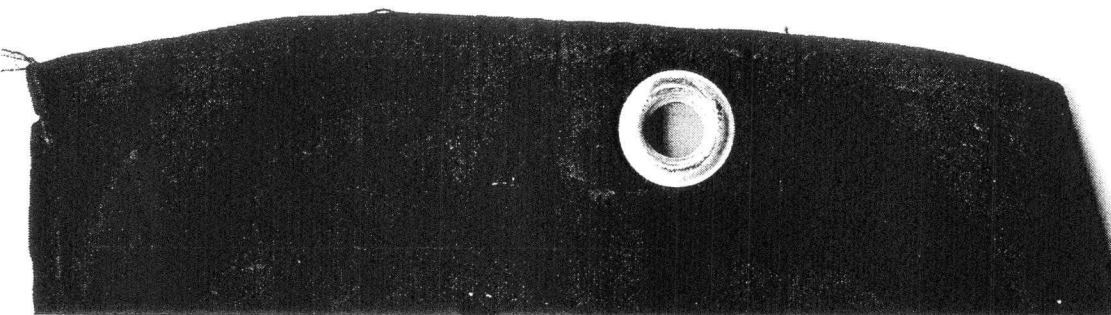
On e-Bay recently, a seller in Hull was offering several examples of a small bag used by the post office for registered airmail (or that's what it says on the bag. The illustrations below show the design (cut off at both sides because my scanner isn't wide enough) and the top, with the single reinforced hole (why there isn't a second hole is clear to me).

The colour is bright scarlet—the same colour as a Mountie's dress uniform. It is 25cm×48cm when lying flat, and the white lettering is showing some wear (the illustrations have been cleaned up a bit). I don't know the significance of the A.18.

I imagine that when the all-up programme began in 1948 (all domestic first class was sent by air mail whenever that would speed up its delivery), there was a corresponding increase in the amount of domestic registered mail that would now be sent by air. Hence there presumably was a need for more such bags.



Registered airmail bag (1948)



Top of bag



# Philatelic drop drop letter

David Handelman

As we have seen in past issues of the *Registry*, a *drop* registered letter is one for which registration was intended (and the appropriate postage paid), but which was dropped in the mail box. The other drop refers to a local letter.

The 1950 cover shown here was plastered with the five denominations of the recalled King George VI stamp (issued 19 January 1950, so this isn't a first day cover!)—obviously an attempt to get all the stamps used. At the time, registration was 10¢ and the drop letter rate was 3¢ for the first ounce, and 1¢ for each additional. This envelope (which has not been opened) could not have weighed more than one ounce.

There is no indication that the sender wished to have the letter registered; however, the clerk, seeing that there was more than enough postage to cover registration decided to register it, and in indelible pencil (same as that of the registration number) endorsed it *DROP*. The registration hammer is in blue, while the Ottawa CDS's are in black. The envelope is embossed with the Canadian coat of arms and CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES CANADA, in French only.



Registered drop drop philatelic letter (1950)



## Quintuple registered and more

David Handelman

SHOWN in Figure 1 is a somewhat run-down cover with a 1909 solo use of the 15¢ Tercentenary. I imagine this is fairly scarce, as it is a genuine commercial use of this stamp (as opposed to the grossly philatelic ones we see frequently). The stamp pays the 5¢ registry fee plus five times the 2¢ per ounce domestic rate. The cover is legal size, and could easily hold five ounces of papers; moreover, it is from a bank.

The fact that it is dated (early) 1909 should not detract—banks often kept large denomination stamps around for years, sometimes decades, and this is less than a year after the stamp was issued. There would not be much call for this stamp.



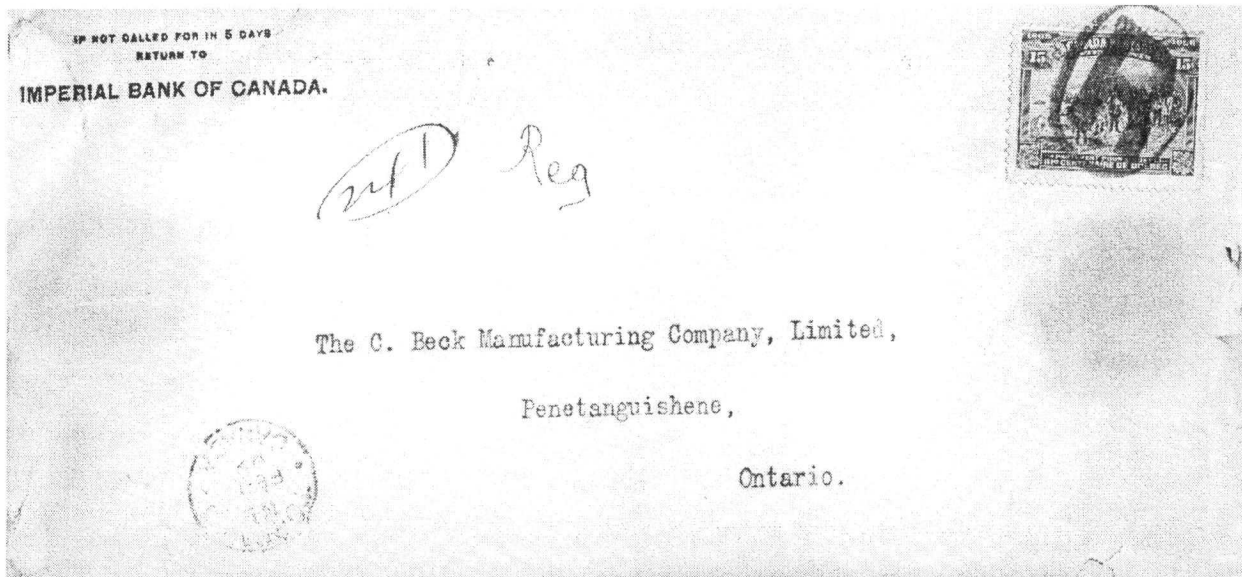


Figure 1. Solo 15¢ Tercentenary paying quintuple registered rate (1909)  
Mailed from Toronto. The large oval stains (left and right) are a result of the wax seals (still intact) on reverse.

Part of the same correspondence, but six years later, is shown in Figure 2. With 32¢ in postage, it obviously pays the tri-decuple rate (13 times); from April 1915, there was a flat 1¢ war tax on top of the domestic 2¢ per ounce rate. The registration fee was still 5¢. The cover is even more run-down than the previous example, and the paper is heavier, and this time they used three wax seals.



Figure 2. Tri-decuple registered rate (September 1915)



## Registered verification note

David Handelman

THESE things are relatively easy to find to Canada, but I have never before seen one emanating from Canada. I do not know what a verification note is, although it is obviously a post office to post office communication, possibly referring to registered mail. As it is post office to post office, no postage is required.





Canada  
Post

Postes  
Canada

B.C. AND YUKON POSTAL DISTRICT  
MAIL DISTRIBUTION  
500-750 CAMBIE ST.,  
VANCOUVER, B.C.  
V6B 4K1

AIR MAIL



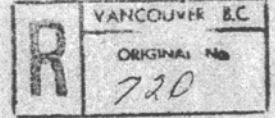
AIR MAIL

Postmaster,  
Au Maître de poste,  
BRISBANE,  
AUSTRALIA



VERIFICATION NOTE  
BULLETIN DE VÉRIFICATION

45-65-041



Registered airmail verification note to Oz (1968)

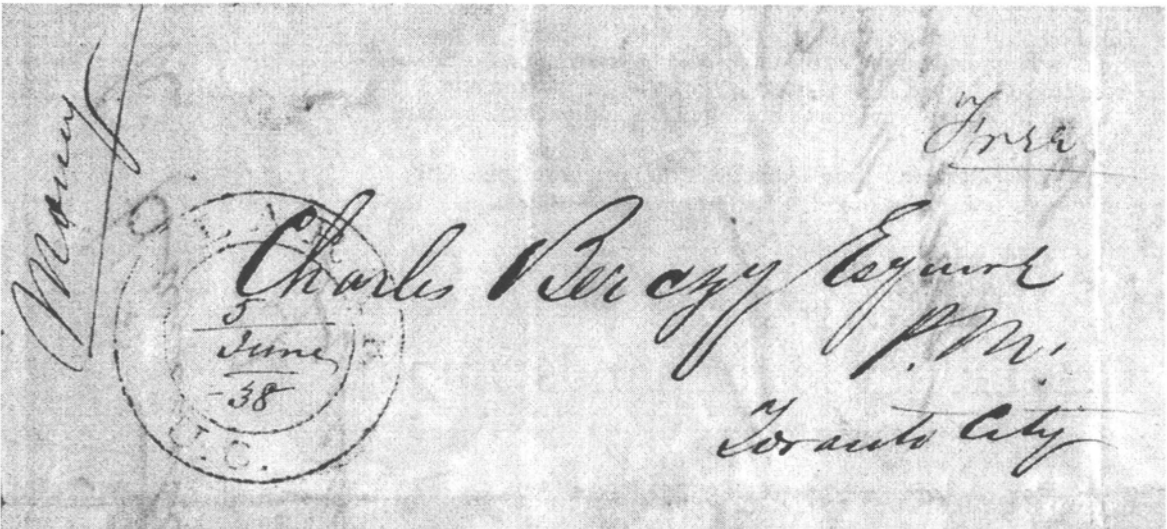
From Vancouver to Brisbane. Postage was free. There is an indistinct Brisbane dater on reverse, and judging from the 65 in the print-data (lower left corner), it was printed in 1965. The small red registration R in oval is Australian.



## Another free money letter

David Handelman

PREVIOUS issues of the *Registry* have illustrated free money letters. These are said to be rare, at least by some auctioneers. Anyway, this one is somewhat better than the run-of-the-mill free money letter—it shows the first reported example since Campbell of the Clarke uc double circle. Graham lists a double circle, but with no reports. Campbell & Konwiser do not list it, but Campbell's rare *Postmarks* gives a range 1837-1839. Apparently there are at least three examples, but none of them were in the reports sent to Bruce.



Free money letter from Clarke (1838)

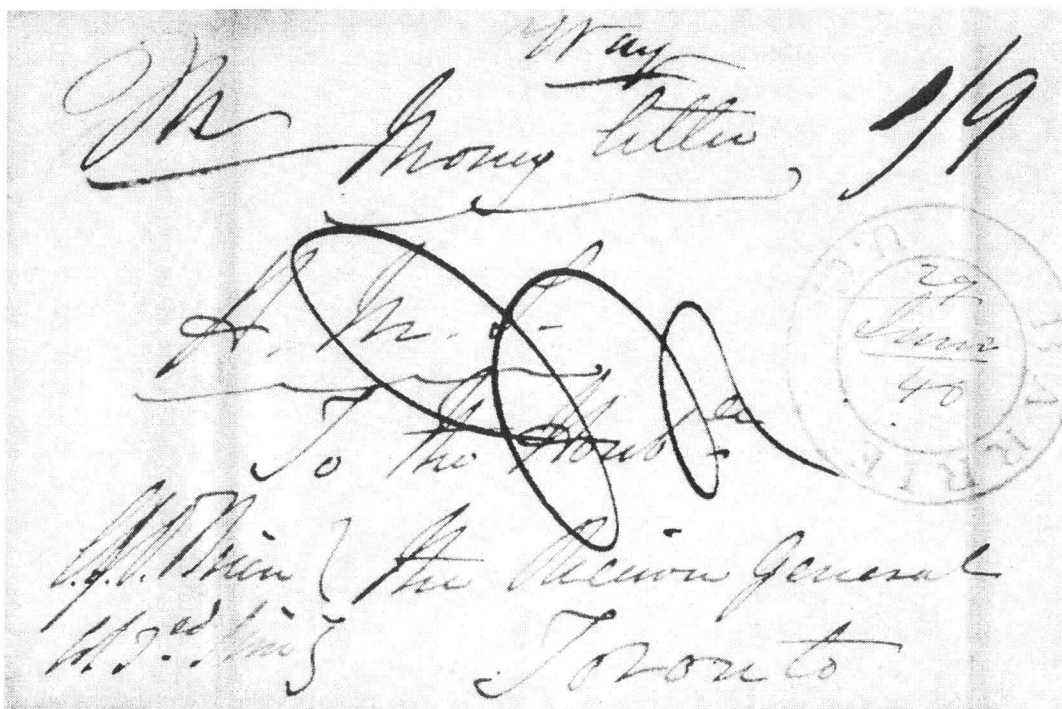
Addressed to Charles Berczy, postmaster of Toronto.



# A military way money letter

David Handelman

**H**ERE is an unusual combination. I haven't previously noticed (although I may have seen) a way money letter (a *way letter* is a letter handed to the letter carrier by the sender, hence picked up along the way). In addition, it was written by a member of the military—unfortunately, the letter writer was an officer (in fact, a colonel), so the letter was ineligible for the concessionary rates of the period.



## Military way money letter (1840)

Mailed from Col E G O'Brien to Receiver-General Dunn in Toronto. There is a small red manuscript *Way* at the top, and the sender has written *Money letter*. It has two different ms Ms; both appear to be from Toronto.

It was mailed on 26 June 1840; the Barrie double circle (Graham lists known use 1839–1842) was applied on the 27th—this would be the first post office at which the letter carrier stopped. It was rated 1/9 cy collect, triple the rate 61–100 miles. The two enclosures would have been draughts, although the amount was only £1/15/-.

I have another cover—not a way letter—from this Col O'Brien, and his attribution there is more complete. He belonged to the third Simcoe Battalion.



## The first money letter handstamp

Len Belle

**I**T appears that MONEY LETTER handstamps were not officially ordered until 1839. However, a distinctive handstamp was in use at Quebec from 1831. An example is illustrated below. The marking is in red, which appears to be unusual. According to the new Harrison-Arfken-Lussey registration book (an excellent production), all known strikes are in black except one, dated FE 2 1836, in red. The authors say that this example is very rare—six examples are known to them, two in the Chateau de Ramezay, and four in private hands. This example appears to be the fifth privately owned one.

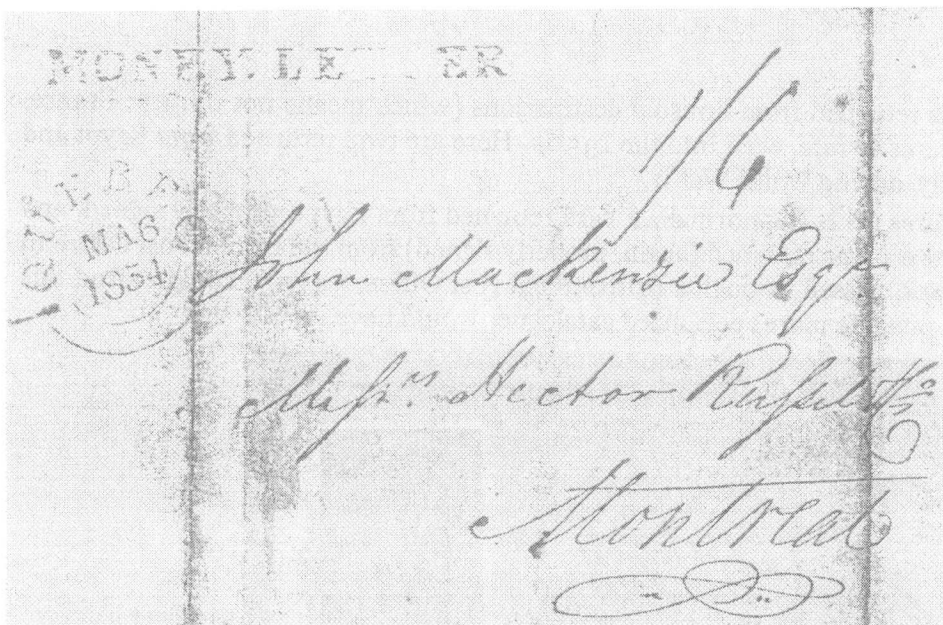


Figure 1. Red Quebec MONEY LETTER handstamp (1834)

While this strike does not show it very clearly, there is a well-kerned period after MONEY. Charged double rate, 1/6 cy, for one enclosure a distance of 101-200 miles. The letter refers to an enclosed note on SDulmage for £50/4/1.

[I am sorry to report that Len's wife passed away in January 2003. Len writes, I am doing my best to cope with things. Fortunately, having an absorbing hobby is a great help.

I went searching through my stuff and found another example, also in red (rather than black). This makes me wonder whether the statement on p 9 of HAL has interchanged red with black. In fact, the illustration on the following page of the book appears to show a red rather than a black stamp, as indicated by the relative lightness of the image.—dh]

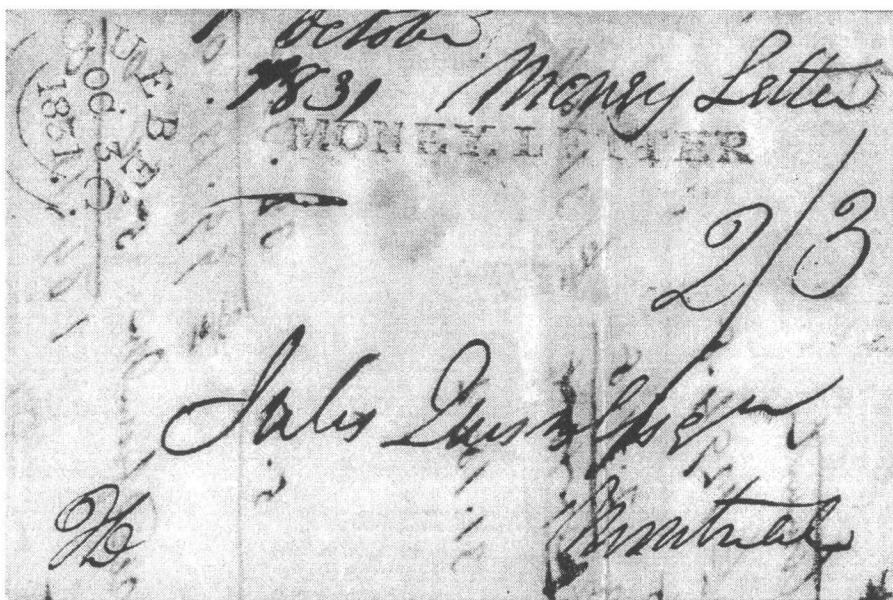


Figure 2. Another red Quebec MONEY LETTER handstamp (October 1831)

The registration book lists a June example, so this is not the earliest known. Triple rate (two enclosures), to Montreal, containing £104/13/-.

—dh





# Wartime A R cards

David Handelman

CANADIAN AR cards returned from unusual destinations (which means not US, UK, France, or Germany) are scarce to rare, even into the 1950s. Here are two, returned from Egypt and Morocco respectively, during World War II.

The card shown in Figures 1 & 2 is a normal AR card returned from Egypt, properly signed, and censored. The card in Figure 3 was returned (again, properly signed) from the British Post Office in Tangier, and on its way back, passed through a British Field Post Office, #475. I couldn't find this number in Whitney, but I imagine more specialized catalogues would have it.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT  
ADMINISTRATION DES POSTES  
CANADA

This side to be filled in by office of origin  
Le recto est à remplir par le bureau d'origine

**REGISTERED ARTICLE**  
Envoi recommandé

ENTERED AT THE OFFICE OF  
Enregistré au bureau de poste de

DATE 23 UNDER NO 39

ADDRESSED TO  
Adressé à Mr. W. Nairne

AT 39

39B-225,000-10-6-43

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT  
AVIS DE RÉCEPTION

Date 23 Time 10

To be filled in by sender who will indicate below his full address  
A remplir par l'expéditeur qui doit inscrire ci-dessous son adresse complète.

RETURN TO Mr R Nairne

STREET AND NUMBER  
Rue et numéro 42 BATTERY ST.

PLACE OF ORIGIN OF REGISTERED ARTICLE  
Lieu d'origine de l'objet recommandé VICTORIA B.C.

IN PRINTED CHARACTERS  
En lettres moulées

CANADA

Figure 1. Censored AR card returned from Alexandria (1944-45)

Payment of 10¢ AR fee as usual on the card. There is a blackout cancel, obviously from Victoria, since the same cancel kills the stamp, and the card is to be returned to Victoria. The purple octagon is an Egyptian censor. The handwritten *Mr* refers to the sender (*Mr R Nairne*, and by complete accident is contained in the circular part of the censor marking).

THE UNDERSIGNED ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE REGISTERED ARTICLE DESCRIBED ON THE  
Le soussigné déclare que l'envoi mentionné d'autre part

OTHER SIDE WAS DULY DELIVERED ON THE 19  
a été dûment livré le

Date stamp of office of destination  
Timbre du bureau destinataire

SIGNATURE OF THE ADDRESSEE  
Signature du destinataire Mr R Nairne

OF ADDRESSEE'S REPRESENTATIVE  
du représentant du destinataire. 39

OF THE POSTMASTER OF THE OFFICE OF DESTINATION  
de l'agent du bureau destinataire

(1) This advice should be signed by the addressee or if the regulations of the country of destination so provide, by the Postmaster of the Delivery office and returned by first mail to the address shown on the other side.  
Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire, ou si les règlements du pays de destination le comportent, par l'agent du bureau destinataire, et renvoyé par le premier courrier à l'expéditeur, dont l'adresse figure sur l'autre côté de cette carte.

(2) When delivery is made to the authorized representative of the addressee, both addressee's name and representative's signature must appear on this receipt.  
Lorsque la remise est faite au représentant autorisé du destinataire, le nom du destinataire et la signature de son représentant doivent paraître sur ce reçu.

Figure 2. Reverse of card in Figure 1

Properly signed (in pencil, and a little difficult to make out). The Alexandria postmark is dated 8 January 1945, making a transit time of over two months.



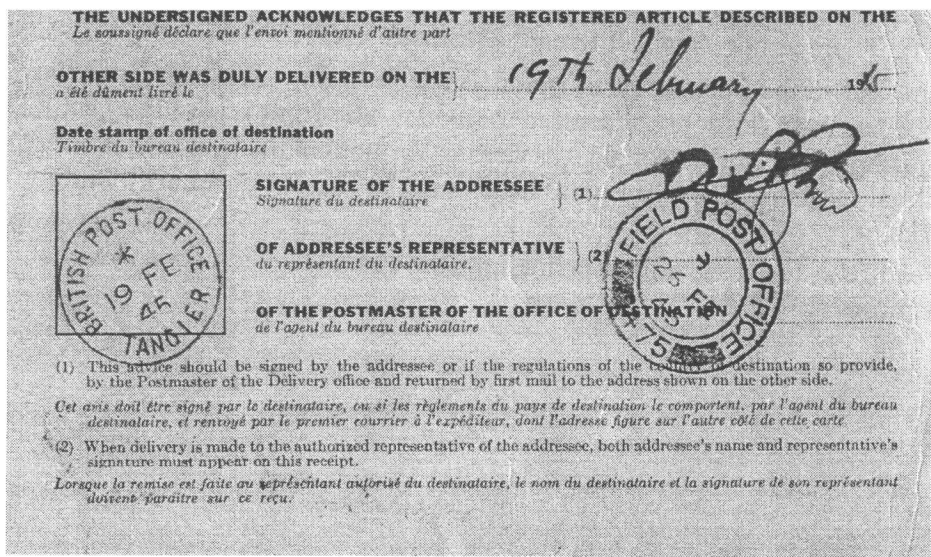


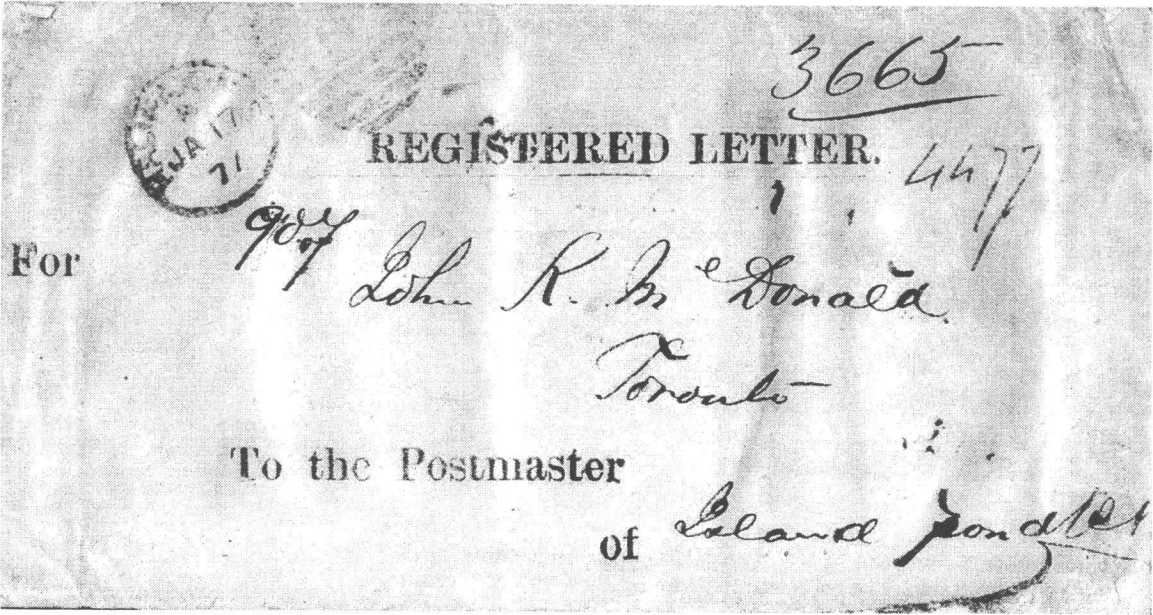
Figure 3. Reverse of card returned from BPO Tangier (1945)  
 Properly signed and cancelled at BPO Tangier, then it passed through British FPO 475 on its return to Montreal. I haven't a clue why it should go through a Field Post Office.



# Post-Confederation registration wrapper to the US

David Handelman

ISSUE number one of what was then called simply the newsletter of the registration study group included an article on registration & money letter wrappers of the Maritime provinces. I was quite surprised to find that registration wrappers (used to wrap registered letters, or at least some registered letters) continued to be printed in Canada after Confederation.

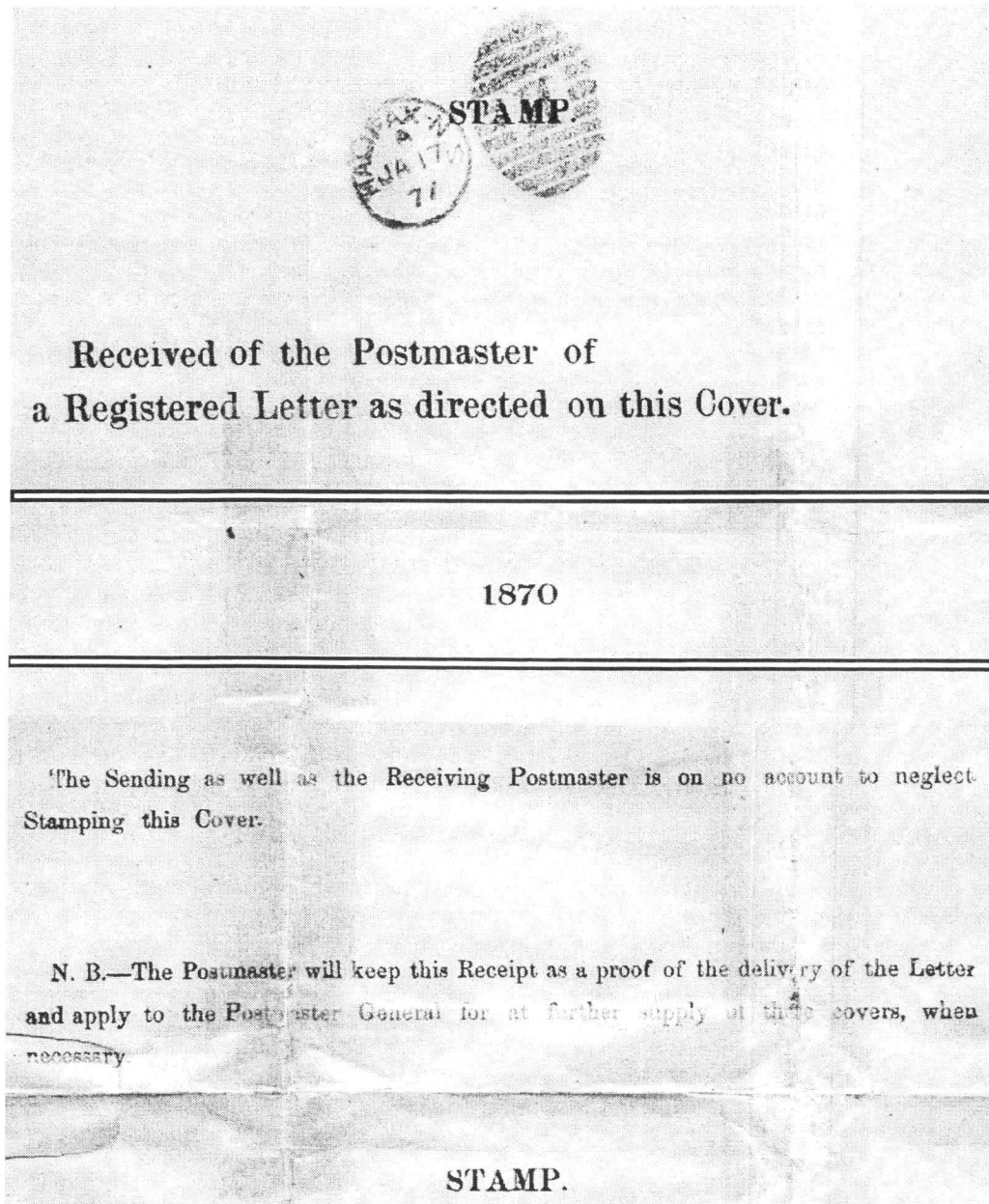


Canadian registration wrapper (1871)  
 With Halifax "H" duplex; although the second digit of the year appears to be a 7, it is actually a tilted 1 as is evident from other strikes of this relatively common dater. Three registration numbers appear.

The wrapper shown here was purchased at the recent Bennett sale of part of Horace's registration collection. It is a lovely emerald green cover (similar to some of the earlier registration wrappers of the three Maritime provinces). There are two really interesting features.

The first is that it is addressed to the postmaster at Island Pond, Vermont. While registration wrappers are few and far between, even fewer are addressed to the US. The front reads "For *John K McDonald Toronto*," so one presumes that Mr McDonald was visiting Vermont at the time. On reverse of the folded letter is a Montreal CE datestamp (three days later than the Halifax postmark), but no other transit or receiver marks.

The second interesting feature is the date, 1870, printed on the interior. This confirms that Canada was still using these things even then.



#### Inside of the wrapper

The narrow boxes indicate that a lot of blank space has been removed from the image in order to reduce the size. The actual dimensions of the unfolded wrapper are 13" x 8 1/2". There is extensive use of tape which I will have to spend some time removing and replacing by archival tape.

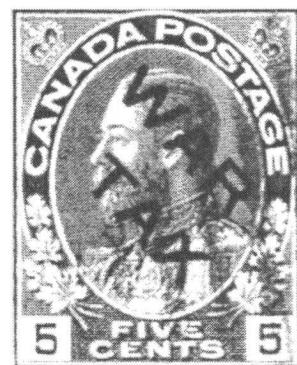


# The 5¢ War Tax stamp

David Handelman

ACCORDING to Robson Lowe's Encyclopædia of British Empire postage stamps (Volume 5), the Inland Revenue Department issued the diagonally overprinted WAR TAX Admiral stamps, in the 5¢, 20¢, & 50¢ denominations on 12 January 1915. They were intended for revenue use only. However, on 16 April 1915, the Post Office authorized their use as postage. Finally, on 30 December 1915, their use postally was forbidden. Thus proper use for these stamps is April–December 1915.

The cover (with the image of the overprinted stamp manipulated so the overprint could be seen) here was mailed from Nipigon to the Indian Agent in Port Arthur, in May 1915. So this is in the proper period, and in all likelihood is not philatelic. I obtained this at a Longley auction some time ago. Now to find a 20¢ or a 50¢ properly used (or merely an AR form with the 5¢)!



Diagonally overprinted War Tax stamp (May 1915)

Postage of 5¢ registration fee plus 3¢ domestic. A not terribly clear purple Nipigon registered oval cancel.



## Carrier and courier auxiliary markings

David Handelman

AUXILIARY markings are those extra handstamps giving information about the delivery of the cover. They are frequently seen on registered matter of course. The two covers shown here have plenty of auxiliary marks, but what is of interest here are the references to the carrier and rural courier, neither of which I have seen before.

Mailed from Woodstock in 1955 & 1959 and typed on the same typewriter, they both pay the same postage, 20¢ registration plus 5¢ domestic rate. The earlier one addressed to Brantford, in addition to "Not in Directory", *Not known at . . .*, and RETURNED TO (in the direction of the return address), has the handstamp "Not Known by Carrier".





"Not known by Carrier" (1955)

A couple of RPOS are on reverse.

The later one, addressed to RR #3 Woodstock (which excludes it from being a drop letter), has a more modern RETURN TO SENDER box, a RETURN TO pointing finger, and an unfilled notice box; but what it makes it interesting is the handstamp NOT KNOWN BY RURAL COURIER NOT IN DIRECTORY (it is possible that there are two handstamps here).



NOT KNOWN BY RURAL COURIER (1959)

Three more Woodstock strikes (two different dates) are on reverse.



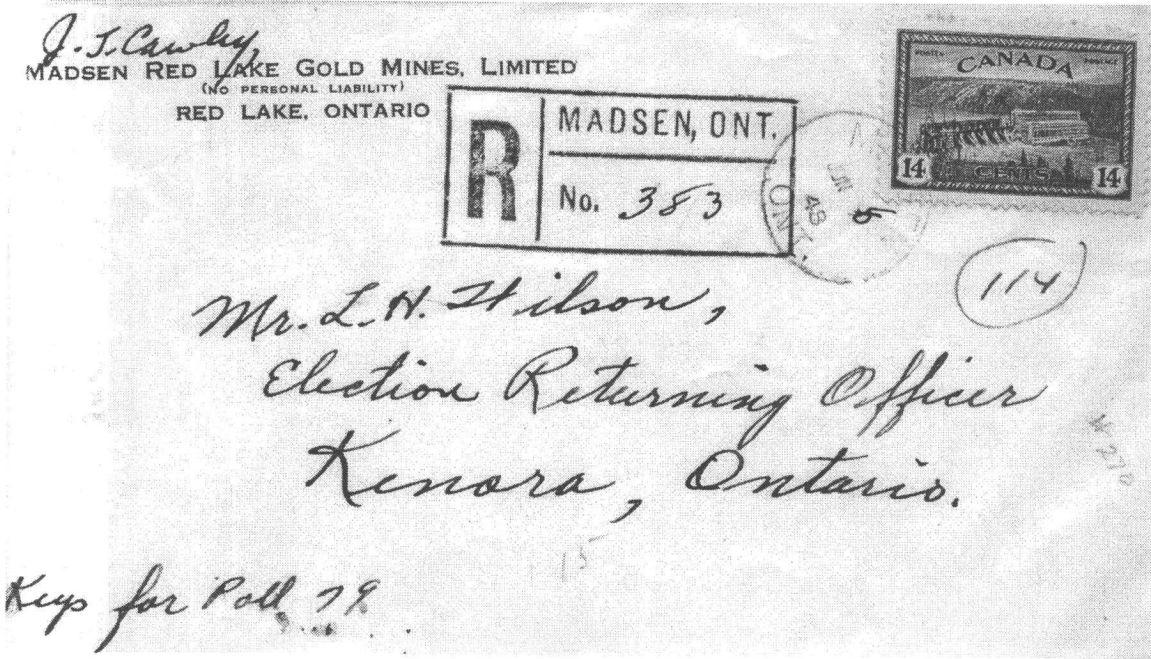


# Small towns in Kenora District

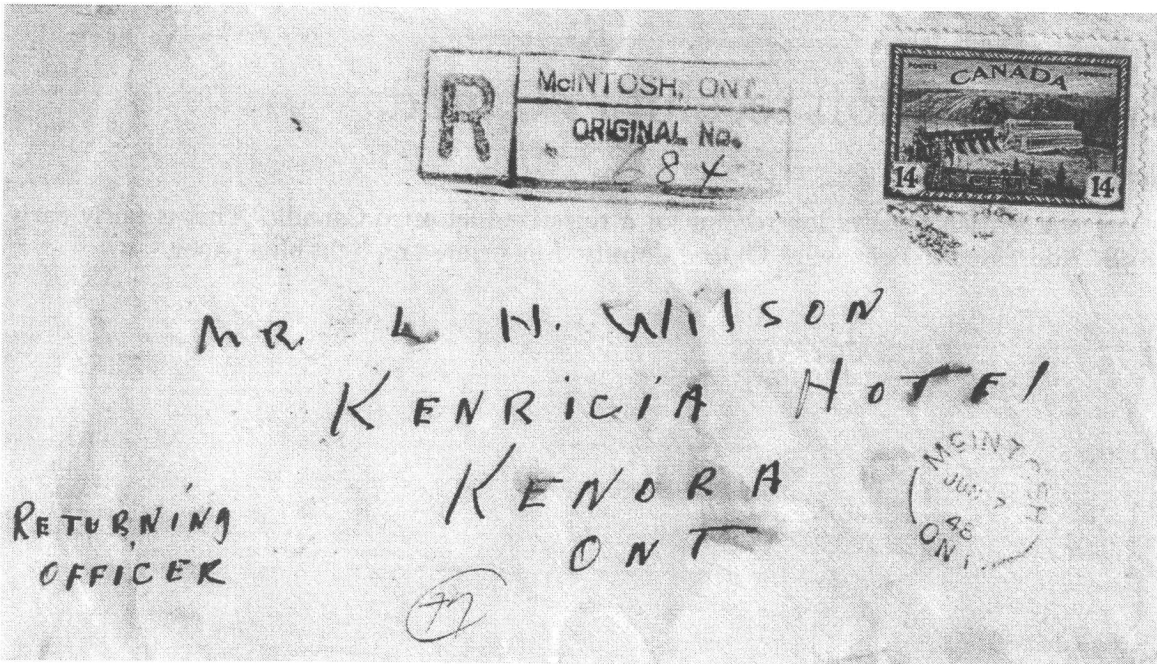
David Handelman

THE two 1948 covers shown below are addressed to the Returning Officer in Kenora (the first one has the notation *Keys for Poll 79*). Both Madsen and McIntosh are in Kenora, and are both quite small towns, so it is somewhat unusual to find registered letters from them. Particularly nice is that the first one has a Gold Mine return address, although there is a small piece missing.

Both made it to Kenora via the Armstrong Station & Winnipeg RPO (on reverse), and they also have a Kenora backstamp.



Madsen to Kenora (1948)  
Postage of 10¢ registration fee plus 4¢ domestic rate.



McIntosh to Kenora (1948)

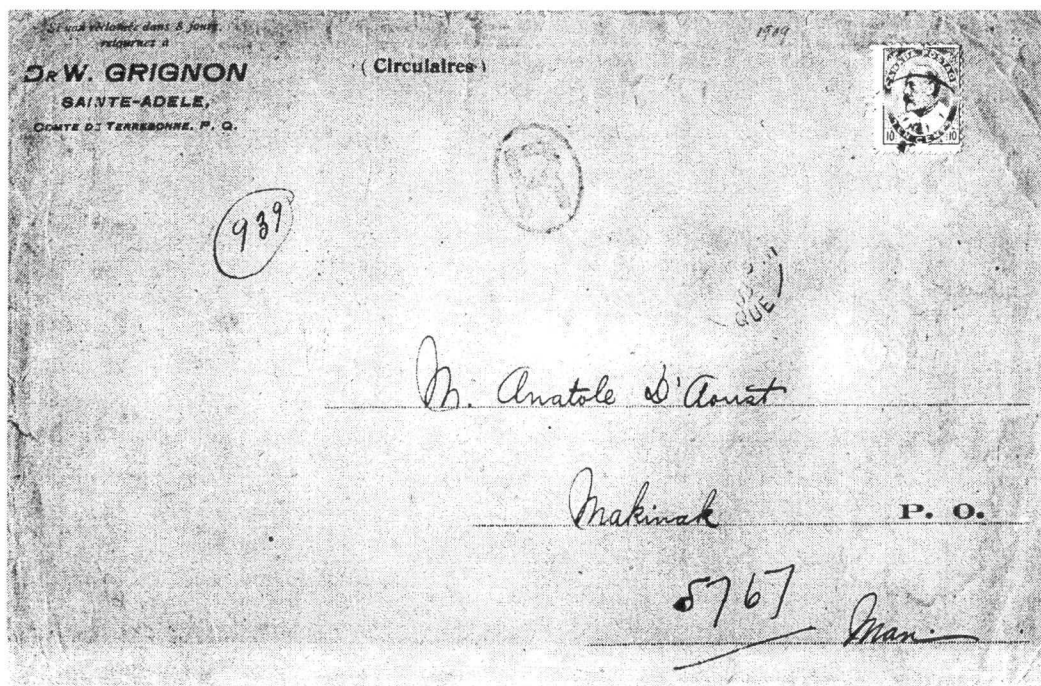


# A weird registered printed matter rate

David Handelman

**W**HEN we see a single use of the 10 ¢ Edward stamp, we expect it on a single registered letter at the UPU rate, or a double UPU rate letter. The oversize cover shown here appears to pay quintuple printed matter rate (at 1 ¢ per four ounces) and the 5 ¢ registration fee.

The envelope has a clasp at the back and the flap was never glued, so it could have been printed matter rate. The word "(Circulaires)" supports this contention as well.



Singleton 10 ¢ Edward (1909)

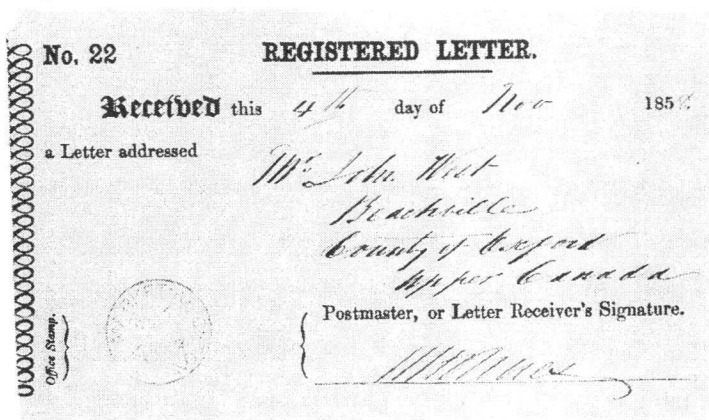
From Terrebonne (QC) to Makinak (MB). Unfortunately, there are no backstamps of the latter, but a few RPOS.



## Early registration receipt to Canada

David Handelman

**B**ELOW is a British registration receipt for a registered letter to Canada. This is fairly early, 1858. Addressed to Beachville, Oxford County. It is printed on light blue paper.



Singleton 10 ¢ Edward (1909)

# Junk or gem

David Handelman

SOMETIMES optimism gets the better of me. The cover (actually a front) below has the stamp tied, and is a US patriotic, but that's about all that's good about it. I really haven't tried to figure it out. I should never have bought it.

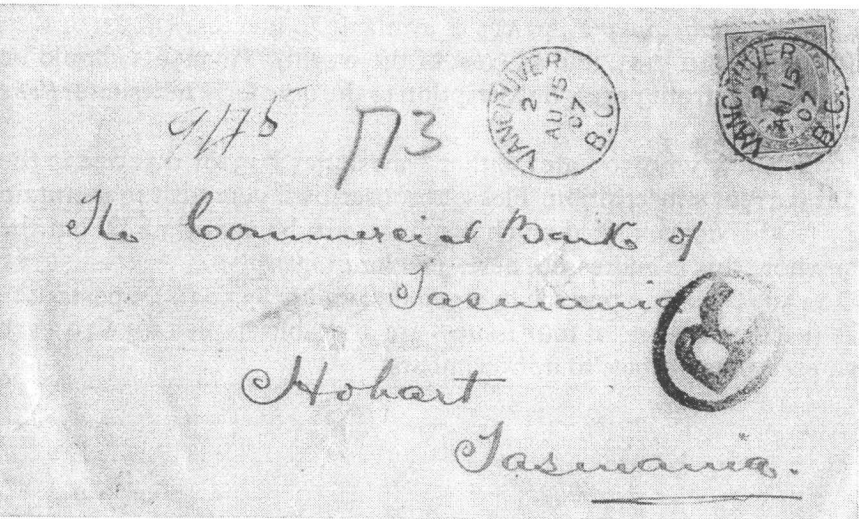


At least the stamp is tied (186?)

# To Tasmania

David Handelman

BY 1907, the Australian States had accepted the Imperial Penny Post Scheme on *incoming* letters—hence, at this time, the first class letter rate from Canada was the same as the domestic one. Below is a registered letter to Hobart.



Vancouver to Hobart (1948)

Postage of 5¢ registration fee plus 2¢ Empire rate. Backstamped Vancouver and Hobart.

# The back page

## Introduction

**T**HIS group is devoted to the study of practically anything in postal history related to the registration and money letter systems of what is now Canada. A brief look at the contents of this issue shows the diversity that is possible. The *Registry* is issued quarterly, subject to the availability of articles (long and short). Information on how to join appears at the bottom of The Back Page.

This is a triple issue (at ten pages of articles plus one front and back page per issue) to catch up to the approximate schedule of quarterly. In fact, #13 (also included in this mailing was completed in November), but I thought I would do the next issue very quickly, so delayed sending it out. I just couldn't find time until very recently to do any work on the *Registry*. For this reason, I have decided to give it up, and I hope someone will come forward to continue as Editor of the *Registry*.

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**A**s usual, we need more material. We are also still looking for comments, illustrations, questions, &c on any aspect of registration or the money letter system. Please send hard copy, preferably with text files, to either the editor or the secretary; their addresses appear below the masthead on the first page.

We need articles!

I can't resist pleading for articles for *Topics* as well (on *any* aspect of philately related to BNA).

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## Announcement

**I**(dh) am sorry to say that I cannot continue as editor of the *Registry* for much longer. As editor of *Topics*, I have been devoting an enormous amount of time to the hobby, and I simply cannot maintain the schedule for both this newsletter and *Topics*. I hope that someone will volunteer to take over the editorship of the *Registry*, so I will have some time to myself. I plan to continue as editor of *Topics*. Part of the reason for the long delay between this issue and the last one is the lack of time.

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The *Registry* was prepared in the typesetting language (plain) T<sub>E</sub>X ("tek"), on a Macintosh, using the ITC Esprit font family. It is printed on the secretary's 600 dot per inch LaserWriter. We have now adopted xeroxing from the original (to save a lot of time), and the quality of the images has deteriorated correspondingly.

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**M**EMBERSHIP in the *registration study group* of BNAPS is available to members of BNAPS, at an annual cost of \$10 (Canada), \$10 (US), and £5 (rest of the world). Payments should be made to the secretary (address on front page). Subscription to the quarterly newsletter (*The Registry*) comes with membership.

® **Reminder:** For some of you (you know who you are), either Newsletter #13 or this one is the last number of your current subscription. Please resubscribe if you wish to maintain your membership. (If this doesn't yield much response, maybe next time I'll put the initials of those to whom this is addressed, here—just kidding!)

Back issues are now available (@ \$2.50 (C) each + postage to members, and @ \$3.50 (C) + postage to non-members). Volumes I and II (each consisting of four issues) are available stapled for \$10 each plus postage to members and \$12 each plus postage to non-members.



Remember to send your registered letters with AR—abroad!—and register your postcards!