

THE R. P. O. NEWSLETTER  
OF THE CANADIAN R. P. O. STUDY GROUP (BNAPS)

Volume III. No.5

October 1975

Annual Meeting One of the Best

The Annual Meeting at Toronto was one of the best, with the largest attendance ever. Our Study Group meeting was our best to date, with 6 new members joining and 23 attending. Chairman Lew Ludlow opened with a report on the handbook status. We had sold 188 (more were sold after meeting) out of the 250 sales needed to break even. He commented that 500-600 new runs were added between Shaw's Handbook and his revision and over 40 more since its publication. (At the Board of Directors meeting the next day they requested the Handbook Committee to plan several future BNAPS publications including a complete revision of the RPO Handbook!! This will probably take two years for publication.)

There was considerable discussion of the RF factor accuracy and Joe Purcell agreed to be Chairman of a committee to revise all RF factors. At present the committee consists of all Study Group members and will function as follows: Everyone should send Joe a breakdown of what runs you have in your collections and the number of duplicates of each run. For RF 50 and below, you can estimate the number of duplicates if you have many. Above RF 50 please send an exact count of your duplicates. If we get data from everyone, we may even be able to run a statistical analysis. We discussed the probable need to broaden the number range, perhaps to 5 - 500 or more, but agreed this could best be decided after we get the count from the members.

We also discussed a need for more individual projects or studies by members, with the hope that several of these could be reported on at next year's Study Group meeting. Several possibilities were mentioned.

Although a financial report will be given in the next Newsletter, the Secretary-Treasurer moved that dues again be waived for next year and this motion was carried.

How Does Your Collection Compare?

With reports from only 6 members, here is how the different groupings look in terms of scarcity:

	Listed #	Lehr	Purcell	Mayo	Robinson	Ludlow	Belanger	Av. Total	% of Listed number	
Newfoundland	157	7	19	26	30	59	24	27.5	18%	29
Maritime	261	90	91	30	84	168	94	93	36%	79
Quebec	558	130	163	39	160	358	225	180.5	32%	140
Ontario	719	251	233	77	262	451	254	255	36%	281
Western	775	113	109	62	185	505	124	183	25%	117
Railroads & Steamers	368	33	34	11	53	194	35	60	16%	116
Depots	71	12	14	4	21	39	20	18	25%	25
Totals	2909	636	663	249	795	1774	772	817	28%	

Note that the rarest grouping is the Railroads & Steamers, with Newfoundland a close second. I would be interested in getting your breakdown.

The controversy continues over covers with multiple RPO strikes, with the main argument on whether the cover was delivered or returned. For letters which were returned undelivered, Ralph Jackson is tops with 8 strikes, but only 5 different strikes. The best record to date for all different strikes on a delivered letter belongs to Jim Miller (#47). As shown on the attached Xerox copy, his cover has 7 different RPO's all in one direction. This is a first flight letter from Regina to Medicine Hat in 1930. Note the error in the Regina stamp, with some cancels showing 1929 and other 1930.

A Question & Several Proposals

Had a nice letter from Gayle Mayo (#16) with several things of interest.

- 1) She enclosed a drawing of a partial blue strike not listed. Covering the left half of a strike is NEWFOUND

RAILWA  
APR  
12  
190

Any help from anyone on this?

- 2) She is on the Steering Committee of the Midaphil Stamp exhibition and bourse, which is held annually in September in Kansas City. She was wondering if we would be interested in a regional meeting there next year, at a central location. If so, she would arrange. The time coincides with our Annual Meeting time, which probably would make it impractical, but what do you think?
- 3) She belongs to the Civil Censorship Study Group and is editor for Canada and Newfoundland. She has the preliminary listing of the censor devices from both places and would be happy to send copies to anyone interested in the subject for their comments, additions

or just for their information.

Bill Robinson Reports on several interesting new steamer routes and proof of O-314D Sault Ship Canal roller. Two pages of some of these finds are attached. He continues to come up with lots of real beauties!

"O For the Good Old Days" Corner

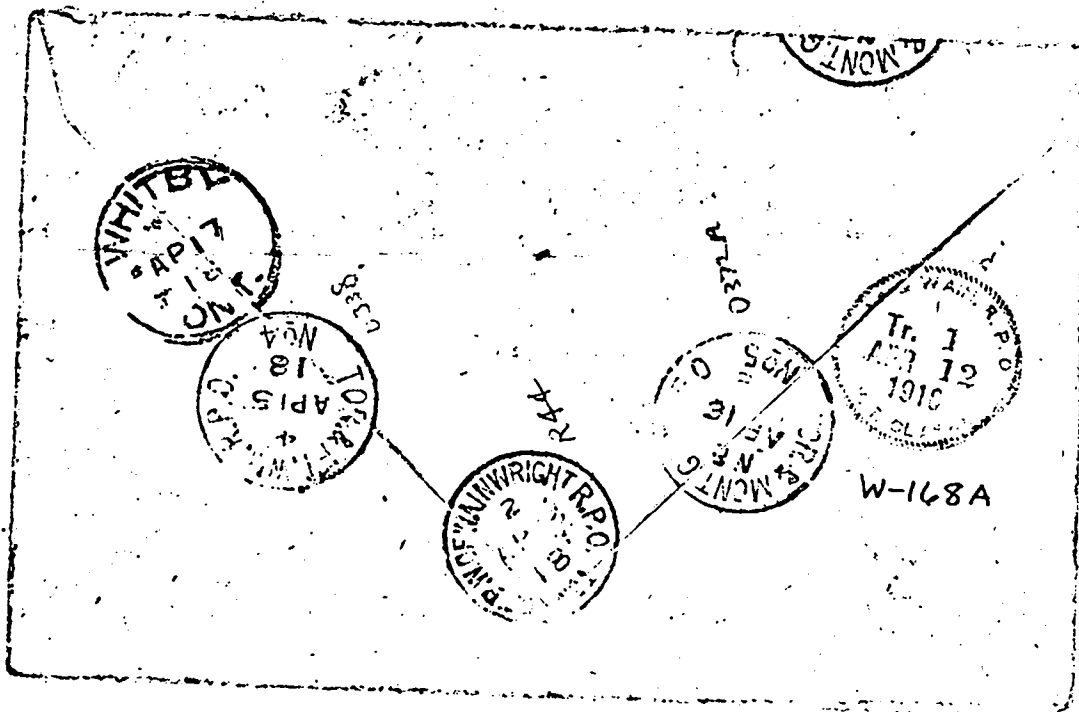
Don Cambridge (#31) sent two covers, Xerox attached. The large cover contains five RPO cancellations during a 24 hour period from Monteith, Ont. to Whitby. Just compare this 24 hour service with six transfers in light of present day service! The small cover shows the new W-168A "WAT. & WAIN. R.P.O./V.T. CLARKE" listing discovered by him.

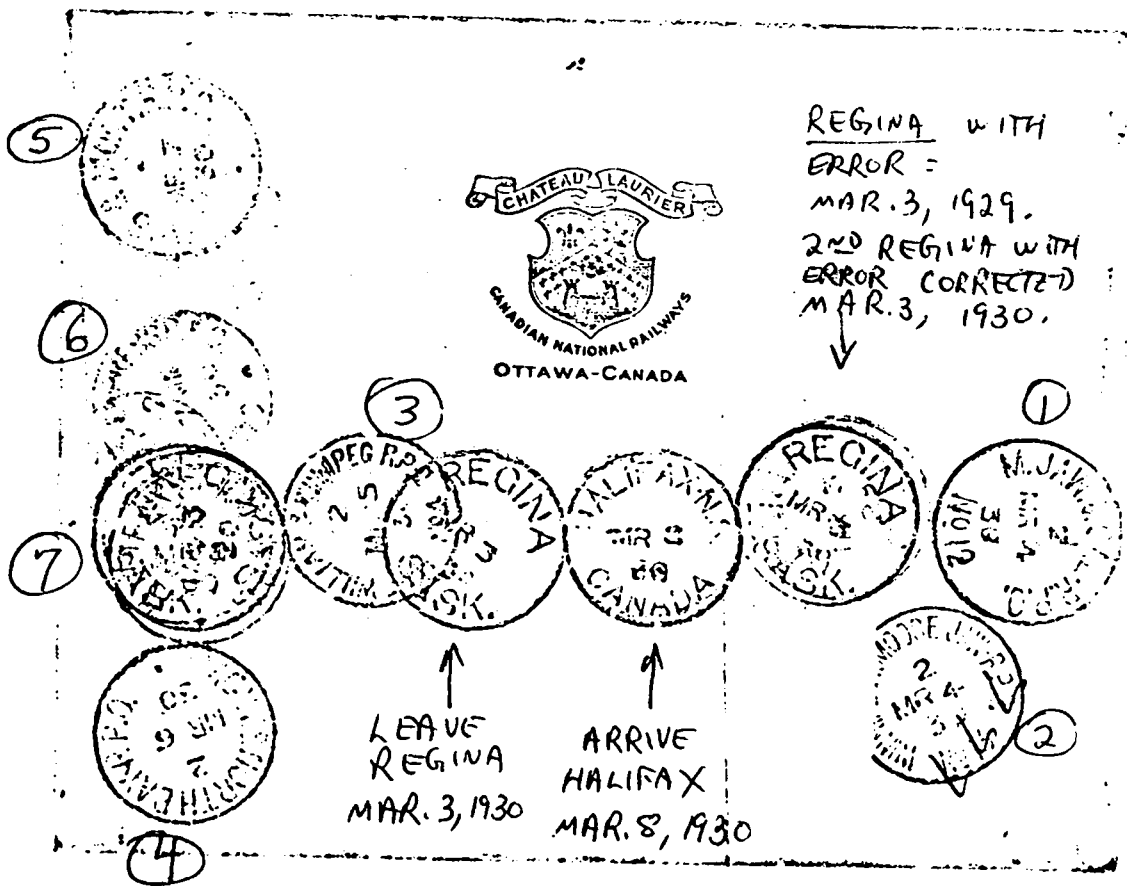
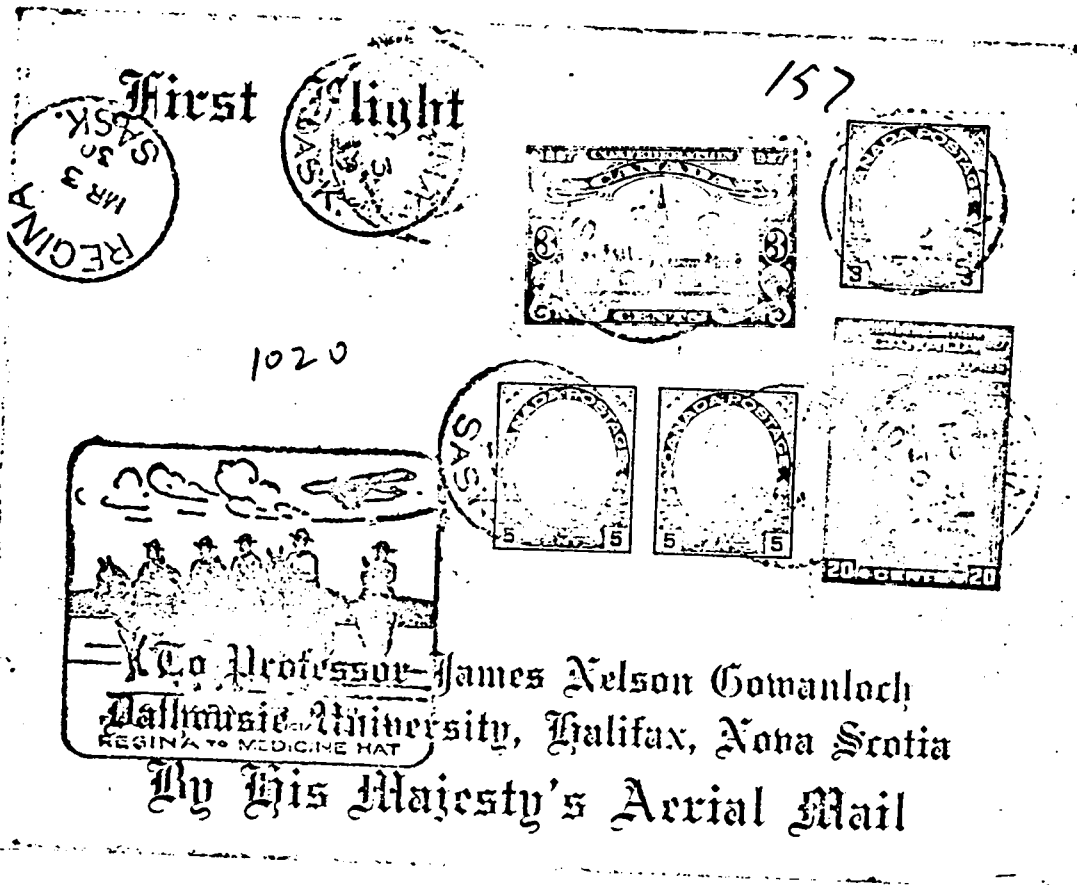
*shown below*

That's All For Now

but have a real good holiday season and new year, find lots of old and new things for your collection and be sure to send me anything of interest for the Newsletter.

Jim Lehr





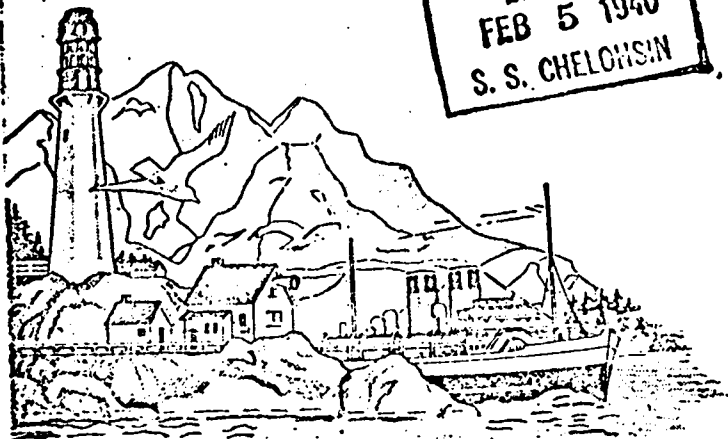
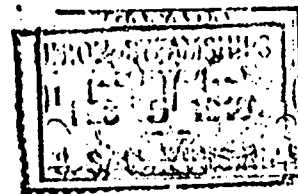
1. W-87  
Mar. 4
2. W-191  
Mar. 4
3. O-74  
Mar. 5
4. Q-120  
Mar. 6
5. Q-46  
Mar. 7
6. M-12  
Mar. 7
7. M-38  
Mar. 8  
(Placed over doubled Regina cancel)

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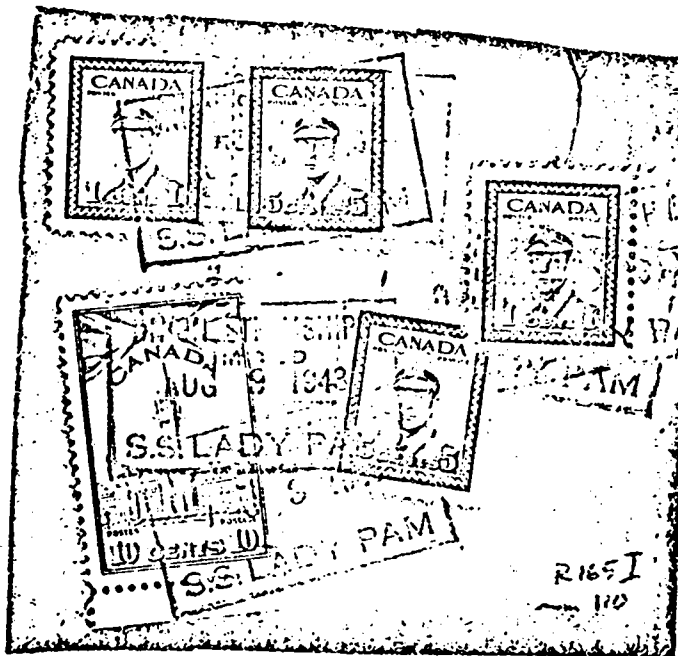
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