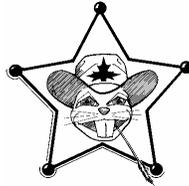


BEAVER**CHATTER**

The Newsletter of the Prairie Beaver Regional Group of the British North America Philatelic Society, Ltd.

Chairman: **George Dresser** Treasurer: **John Furlong** Editor: **Vic Willson**

Volume 32, No. 1 Whole Number 123 February 2007

March 31 MEETING IN COLLEGE STATION

The next meeting of the Prairie Beavers will be held at the College Station Conference Center, 1300 George Bush Drive and Holik across from the Texas A&M golf course. Call George Dresser at 979-696-4361 to confirm attendance or email him at g-dresser@cox.net. If you require a motel, contact Vic at 979-696-0193 or make your own reservation. Reasonable venues include the Holiday Inn, Hampton Inn, Clarion Inn, Days Inn, Motel 6, Ramada Inn, Super 8, all on South Texas Ave. in College Station, within a mile or two from the Conference Center. Prices range from \$40 to 70 per night for these in general.

“ASTOC” King Edward VII Sale by Firby March 9

Perhaps the best sale of Edward VII material of Canada in the last 30 years is in the March Firby auction. Ed’s material included more of the De La Rue 1d die essays on wmk paper as he had them in red, blue, green, brown, and orange, while the current auction only has the red. Both showed the essays on card in brown, orange, and green, while Ed had them in red and blue as well. Both showed the 4d die essay in black on card.

Ed’s two “1” die essays on windowed card in black and green are in the Firby auction. The ASCTOC sale includes large die proofs for 1,2,5,7,10,20, and 50c values, while Ed only had the same 1c, 5c, and 10c, the latter with imprints and approval marks. The ASTOC sale also has small and large plate proofs of the set in black, the latter with serial numbers., while Ed only had the small die proofs (not in this sale, but I recall seeing them). Both had sets of the Downey trade sample essays in various colors.

In issued stamps both collections show great range in plate number strips and blocks of all values, highlighted by strips of 3 of the 50c with late No 1 (different strips in Ed’s and ASTOC). The ASTOC sale is much richer in imperforate material, including two unique items, the imperf 1c block of 4 from the original experimental dry printing (Plate 14) shown at left that resulted in producing imperforate stamps for collectors from new plates given old plate numbers 13 and 14. The unique interpanneau block of 4 showing part of the stamp from the right plate is in the sale.

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PRAIRIE BEAVER MEETING, MARCH 10, 2007 SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

8:45 - 9:00	Coffee, donuts, informal
9:00 - 9:15	Introductions
9:15 - 9:30	Book review
9:30 - 9:45	Internet review (new sites, action)
9:45 - 10:15	Swap, Sell, Buy, Trade
10:15 - 10:45	Presentation: 19 th Century Newspapers by Vic Willson
10:45 - 11:30	Swap, Sell, Buy, Trade
11:30 - 12:15	Clothesline Exhibit (BNA stuff, anything else of philatelic interest)
12:15 - 1:00	Lunch (hosted- bring appetite)
1:15 - 1:45	Business meeting 1. Plan spring meeting 2. BNAPEX 07- Calgary exhibits 3. BNAPS issues- George Dresser
1:45 - 2:30	Instant exhibit competition: 10 item selection from unsorted cover boxes
2:30 - 3:00	Presentation: TBA
3:00 - 3:30	Swap, Sell, Buy, Trade
3:30 - 4:00	Presentation: TBA
4:00 - 4:45	Swap, Sell, Buy, Trade
4:45 - 5:00	Wrap-up, settle up
5:30	Dinner- tba

15c Cunard rate to UK. As of Jan. 16, 1868, the rate to the UK per half oz. via New York was 15c. This rate remained until Dec. 31, 1869, just under 2 years. A few Decimal covers are known paying the rate prior to the introduction of the Large Queens, but most examples have the single 15c stamp, such as shown at right. It was mailed JUN 29, 1868, in Montreal, went to New York by train, caught the Cunarder "Russia" on July 1 and arrived in Queenstown, Ireland, offloaded, sent to Cork, Dublin, Holyhead, England, then to London and on to Liverpool, both of the latter with JY 13 cancels.



Edwards continued from p.1 Other rarities include defaced multiples from the 1907 experimental imperf printings of various plates.

Ed owned the unique imperf tete-beche booklet pane of 12 with plate No 1 also in this sale, now valued well above \$25,000 (it went for C\$20,000 + bidder fee in 1979). One of the seven or so others without plate no. goes for about \$12,000, an example in the Dresser collection. Coil examples of both 1c and 2c are available in the Firby sale, including examples from the British Stamp and Ticket Co., U.S. Automatic Vending Co., and Heiman and Zorke perf 8 strip of 4 and pair of the 2c.

Overall the ASTOC collection exceeds Ed's in quantity and variety of material, an impressive result.

Harry Lussey sold his material the next year after Ed, and took a bath relative to the prices Ed got. A few of the plate strips from Lussey are in the ASTOC sale, but mostly all three had different examples. The major items among high values in Lussey were a top plate block of 20 of the 5c and similar for the 7c, both in the ASTOC sale. Lussey had a plate #1 strip of 5 of the 50c, perhaps the largest remaining multiple if it still exists.

UNIQUE INTERPROVINCIAL NEWSPAPER RATES

Newspapers that went through the mails are relatively uncommon in 19th Century Canadian mails. After 1857 the rate was 1/2d per item for newspapers mailed privately. This was not uncommon as one person might mail a copy of their local paper to a friend somewhere else. Only 3 full papers with 1/2d stamps have been recorded to date, and a few more

Shown below is part of a masthead of a newspaper mailed privately (termed transient newspaper in officialese Canadian P O terminology) from London, ONT., to Bridgewater, NS circa late October, 1862. Dating can be inferred from the classifieds on the reverse side of the piece. Interprovincial mail after July 1, 1859, received the same rates as domestic mail, in this case 1c @ until March 31, 1868. Nonletter mail to NS, NB, and PEI is exceedingly scarce except for circular fronts to NS, as a batch of about 20 were once uncovered. To date two wrappers have been

recorded, one to PEI and one to NS, and this Decimal piece.



Above: 1c on masthead to NS

Left: 1/2 d on wrapper to NB

COLLECTING CANADA COMMEMORATIVES ON COVER Jeff Switt

If you are looking for a new philatelic endeavor, or just something else to search for while at a show, may I suggest Canada commemoratives on cover. While there is no shortage of collectors competing for unusual usages of the major definitive issues, and occasionally one finds a collector who searches out a particular commemorative issue (such as Rick Parama and his quest for usages of the 5-cent Royal William), personally know of no collector who has an across the board interest.

And that is surprising to me. Because from my experience collecting US commemoratives on cover, I believe use of virtually any commemorative is at minimum 10 times scarcer than a definitive stamp in concurrent use.

If such a broad spectrum seems too daunting, try narrowing the field. Post WWI KGVI commems and pre-Centennial QEII commems are 2 areas that come to mind. And, finding them used on small size business envelopes as illustrated make the search more challenging.



Beaver Chatter is the unofficial newsletter of a bunch of BNAPS members who, through no fault of their own, happen to live in the state of Texas. Opinions expressed are those of the authors who like to put their thoughts, philatelically or otherwise, into writing. Unless noted, articles are the effort of the Editor. Distribution is free to BNAPS members in the area who find it worth their while to participate in the group's activities, to certain BNAPS officials, and to whoever strikes the Editor's fancy. Newsletters are available to editors of other publications who wish to exchange samples of their labors. Articles, opinions, and general BS are solicited for publication by anyone who cares to write, and contributors will be rewarded with a complimentary copy of *Beaver Chatter*. Submissions can be sent to Vic Willson, P.O. Box 10026, Colleege Station TX 77842 or emailed to llovddwill@aol.com or v-willson@tamu.edu