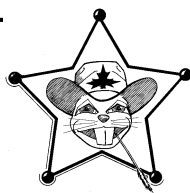


BEAVER



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**

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April 2 MEETING IN COLLEGE STATION

We will meet at the St. Mary's Catholic Center, Church Avenue, College Station, Texas 77840, meeting wing on the second floor, probably Room 207, but it should be easy to find. Map p.2

CANADA AIRMAIL TO FORMOSA

Canada airmails pre WWII to Japan are scarce. This cover was sent at the 15¢ per half oz. rate effective Feb. 2, 1931 to June 30, 1934. It included all airmail service offered during the route. In this case, going from Vancouver, it likely went by ship to Yokohama, then air to Fukuoka and then to Keelung, as no other transit cancels are on the cover, with a Japanese receiver with an Oct. 6 receiving date, presumably Keelung



EARLY CARRIER FEE

Canada instituted a carrier delivery system in the major cities beginning in 1851. The fee was 1/2d paid by the sender. When Decimal currency was instituted, the fee was raised to 2¢ payable by the recipient, as it had been 1d at cities not employing their own carriers and was standardized at that amount. This is perhaps the only cover expressly noting the fee as it was usually paid by recipients in cash. I owned it and exhibited it in my early rate study, but sold it in about 1995. It recently was available on ebay, not described except unpaid, and I got it back quite reasonably given its rarity.

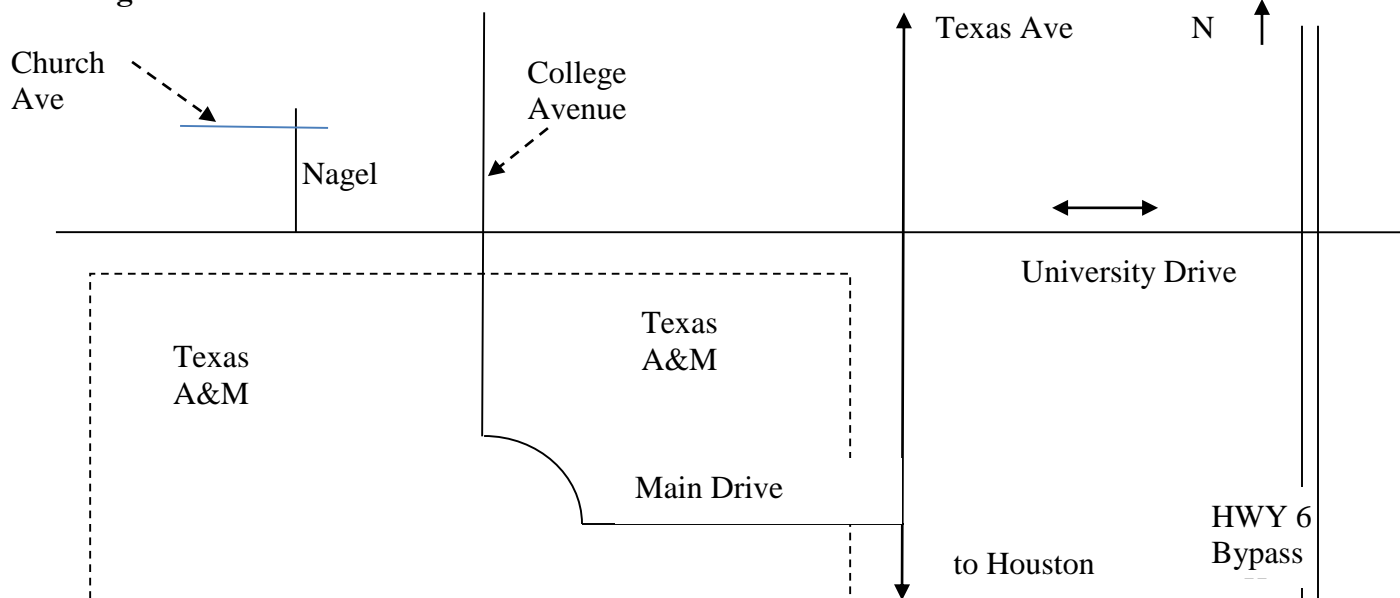


PRAIRIE BEAVER MEETING, April 2, 2016

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

8:45 - 9:00	Coffee, donuts, informal
9:00 - 9:15	Introductions
9:15 - 9:45	Book reviews- new BNAPS books, auctions
9:45 - 10:15	Swap, Sell, Swap
10:15 - 11:00	Calgary Obliterators 1883-1890- Rick Parama
11:15 - 12:00	Clothesline Exhibit
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch
1:00 - 1:15	Business meeting
1:15 - 2:00	Presentation: Toronto Fancy Cancels- Vic Willson
2:00 - 2:45	Swap, Sell, Buy, Trade
2:45 - 3:15	Presentation: Teddy's 1909 Safari- Jay Stotts
3:15 - 4:00	Swap, Sell, Buy, Trade; Silent Auction
4:00 - 4:30	
4:30 - 5:00	Wrapup
5:00	Leave for dinner at local venue

Map of College Station north side of TAMU



The Short-lived 2 Cent Franking to England 1877-1878

When Canada and the UK agreed to penny post cards, 2¢ in Canadian currency, Canada immediately prepared a special card for the rate. The Canadian post office neglected to require the card to be used exclusively, so the rate could be made up with a domestic 1¢ blue card plus 1¢ Small Queen. Eventually the CPO caught on and prohibited any card but the official card to be used as a post card on April 1, 1878. Even with that prohibition, there were ways to use the domestic card, including putting letter rate postage of 5¢, since there was no prohibition on using a domestic card as a letter. Also, a card could pass at the printed matter rate of 2¢ per 1 oz. using the domestic card. Whether the CPO would accept the 1¢ the card paid was not clear, but since examples exist, at least some postmasters passed the cards for that use.



Montreal Nov. 15, 1877, to
Brighton



St. Mary's Ont. July 11, 1877
to Brighton

Toronto Aug. 30. 1875 to Brighton

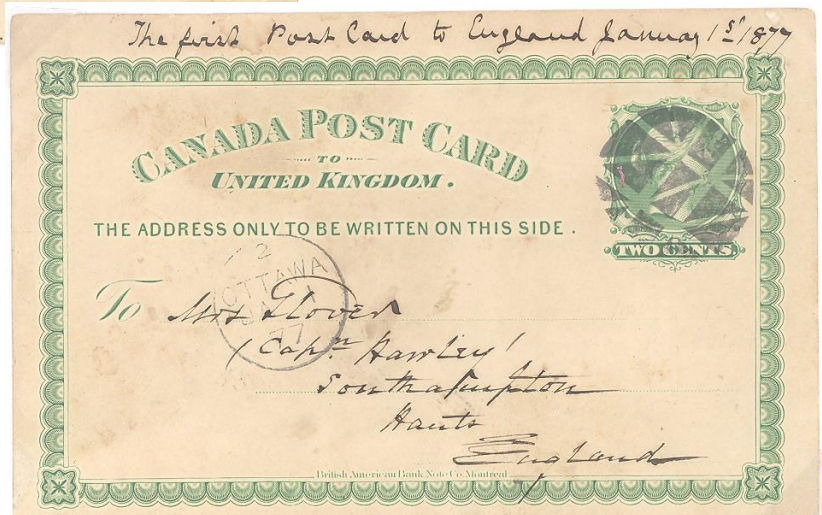
Paid at 6¢ per half oz. letter rate
Jan. 1, 1870 – Sep. 30, 1875



Montreal Apr. 25, 1876 to Sheffield
Pays letter rate 5¢ per half oz. Oct. 1,
1875 to Dec. 31, 1876 prior to
availability of post card rate



The official card intended for use only
to the UK. First day of issue Jan. 1, 1877,
Ottawa to Southampton.



King Edward VII Insured with Assuré Label- George Dresser

I have been looking for a King Edward VII cover with an Assuré label for a several years. If any have come up for auction I did not see them. So, I do think they are rare. There was one cover in the January 23, 2016 Brigham Auction with the desired label. The cover was described as follows:

Lot 220: 90, 91: 2¢ carmine and 5¢ blue, both tied by grids to REGISTERED advertising cover SENT INSURED with FRENCH 'ASSURÉ' LABEL from St. Donat 1 AP '04 to Rive-St-Pierre, various transits on back, stamps pay 2¢ postage and 5¢ registration, with the 5¢ INSURANCE FEE (for up to \$20 value) being paid in cash, slight edge toning at right, still a fine and very early insured cover (this service only came into effect four days earlier) and the EARLIEST RECORDED COVER with the rare FRENCH INSURANCE LABEL. Ex - Brigham. Est. C\$1,250. Realized. C\$1,300.

Is this a genuine Assuré cover? Maybe it is or maybe it is not. The insured registered mail system went into effect on March 28, 1904. This cover is dated April 1, 1904. The system was new and mistakes are to be expected.

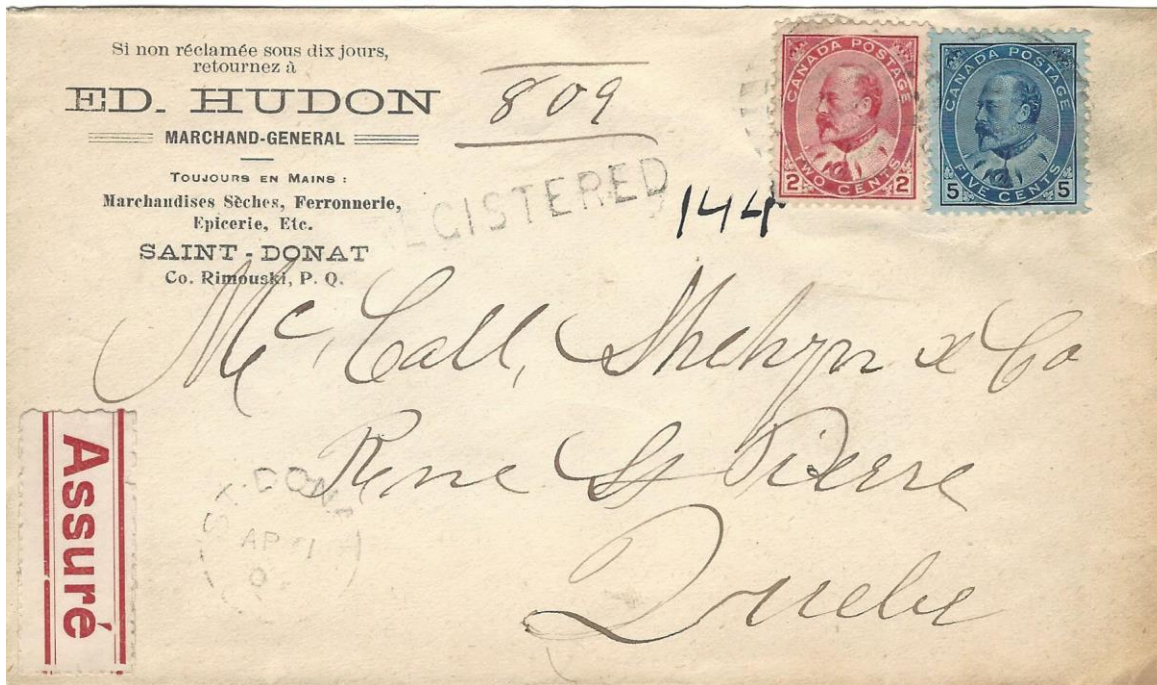
The Assuré label is not tied. This by itself is not unusual. Arfken and Pawluk in their *A Canadian Postal History 1897-1911* illustrate five covers with insurance labels; none of the labels are tied. The Circular states and the accompanying illustration shows that: "A space must be left between the label and the postage stamps."

The amount of the insurance is not written on the cover. Sometimes this was done and sometimes this was not done. Harrison's *Canada's Registered Mail 1802 – 1909* illustrates a cover with an Insured label with no indication of the amount of insurance. He states that the postal clerks frequently failed to follow Postal Guide instruction when insuring a registered letter.

The fee for the insurance was paid in cash. Maybe yes maybe no. The sender was given a receipt for the registration and insurance services purchased and a copy of the receipt was retained in the post office ledger book. The instructions for insured mail are silent about the insurance fee being paid in cash. However, instructions are provided for how to handle a letter with insufficient postage. If somewhere on the cover someone had written "6 cents collect" the question would be resolved.

In examining the back of the cover, it is obvious that a wax seal had originally been applied to the back flap and subsequently removed. A wax seal on this cover would be expected.

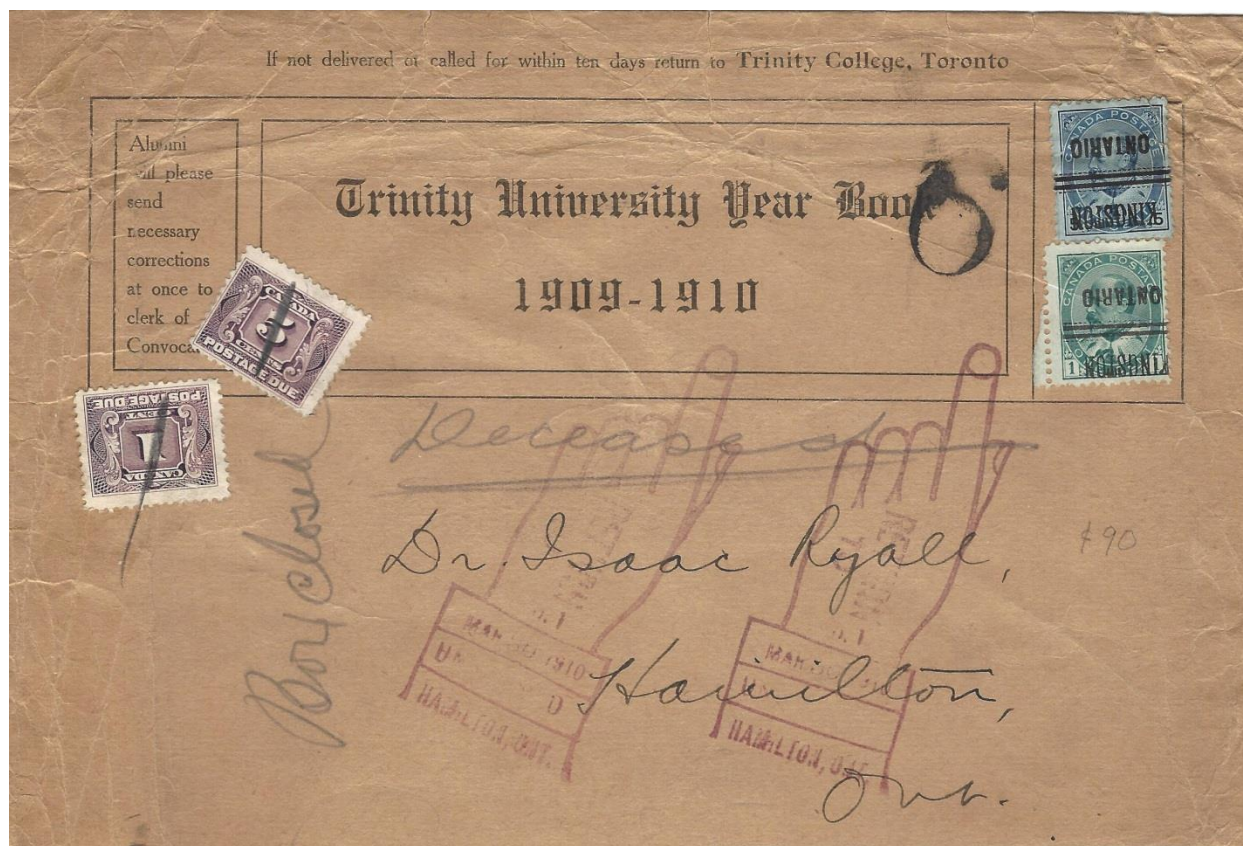
On balance, in my opinion, this cover would probably get a "No Opinion" if a certification was applied for. The cover could easily be a properly paid registered letter to which someone subsequently added an Assuré label to enhance its value. If this is the case it worked.



King Edward VII Precancels on Cover, George Dresser

I have been looking for Canada King Edward VII precancels on cover with limited success. The few covers that I have are almost all franked with the 1¢ green paying the printed matter rate of 1¢ ≤ 2 ounces. Canada's first regularly issued precancels were issued in 1889 beginning with bars on the Small Queen issue. Town and City Precancels were first issued on the King Edward VII issue. In all 23 different towns and cities used precancels during the Edward period. Town and cities precancels were issued for all values, 1¢, 2¢, 5¢, 7¢, 10¢, 20¢ and 50¢. The higher values were available in only a few cities. The 50¢ value was only available in Montreal. Most are fairly easy to find as used stamps off paper. All are hard to find with the exception of the 1¢ value on cover or piece. Consequently I was pleased to purchase the cover illustrated at the January 23, 2016 Brigham auction.

Lot 92 was described as follows: 89xx, 91xx, J1, J4: 1¢ green and 5¢ blue KINGSTON PRECANCELS applied to large printed TRINITY UNIVERSITY YEAR BOOK envelope to Hamilton (paying six times the 1¢ per 2 oz rate), envelope was undeliverable and return was requested in that case, so the envelope was liable to a charge of the original postage for the return and a 1¢ and 5¢ violet POSTAGE DUE were applied (and cancelled by pencil) to pay the charges, marked with two large 'RETURN TO' POINTING HANDS dated 30 MAR 1910, envelope trimmed/opened at bottom and some corner rumples/bends, still an attractive and very rare rate/postage due cover, the only one we've seen. Ex - Brigham. Est. C\$400. Realized C\$250.



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, College Station TX 77842 or emailed to lloydwill@aol.com or v-willson@tamu.edu