

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

Newsletter of the BNAPS

First Day Cover Study Group

Issue No. 18 January-March, 2014

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Editor's Notes

This issue includes articles about two unheralded cachet makers, H.L. Woodman and Robert Salamon, as well as John Van der Ven's information about a business-based stamp club and how it promoted FDC collecting. There are also two short articles highlighting earliest known uses of two Canadian stamp issues.

An intended series of articles about how other BNAPS study groups have included or excluded FDCs from their newsletters is launched with a review of the relevant items in the Centennial Definitives newsletter which was published for almost 30 years.

In looking back on the eighteen issues of First Impressions that have appeared since our inception in 2009, I was somewhat disappointed to find that only a dozen members have made contributions to it. This is about 25% of our membership. I would encourage all of you to consider submitting material, whether it is a study of a cachet maker, a scan of your favorite FDC, or a challenge to other members on a particular topic.

Submitting Articles to First Impressions

Articles may be submitted in writing or MS Word, and scans should be in JPEG format at 300 dpi. E-mail submissions should be sent to Gary Dickinson at gandbdickinson@shaw.ca or mailed to Gary at 648 San Michelle Road, Kelowna, B.C., Canada, V1W 2J1.

CACHETED COVERS BY H.L. WOODMAN

by Brainard Fitzgerald

It was in 2011 at ORAPEX that I was approached by a gentleman who had recognised my name from the program. We had purchased items from each other on eBay, but never had met. His interest was that since I was from Nova Scotia, did I know Harold (Woody) Woodman. I told him I did not know him personally but he had been a guest speaker at the Valley Stamp Club on its anniversary milestones. The gentleman went on to inform me that Harold Woodman had made cacheted FDCs. Being from the same area, he thought I might have some information on him and he wanted to know if I had any more of those FDCs. He went on to explain that the FDC Study Group was interested in learning more and obtaining the Woodman covers. From this conversation I began to understand why I had been getting very high bids on what I had thought were FDCs of little value, especially when the cachet maker was unknown to me. This began my interest in Woodman FDCs. When I got back home I began searching for these covers and for more information about the cachet maker.

I have been a member of the Valley Stamp Club since the middle 70s and do not recollect hearing a comment about, knowing about, or seeing a Woodman FDC. I did learn that Harold Woodman had been the first Valley Stamp Club President. Imagine my astonishment that I could have been a member of the Club for so long but learned about Woodman FDCs in Ontario.

As I have learned since, many of his covers ended up in Ontario. I believe a number were in the stock of Roger Greer and most of his stock was sold in Ontario. He had also bought material from club members and others who would have had a cover or two. In fact, over the years buying at the club auctions, I found that I too had

Woodman covers that I did not realize I had until I learned how to identify them. Not all are identified by the cachet maker.

Harold Woodman not only made FDCs but also on occasion would do a cover for a special event. One such early cover is the “Le Bon Temps” cover cancelled appropriately at Annapolis Royal on March 31, 1947. (See Figure 1) It is the only one I have seen that was signed by Woodman.



Figure 1.

His early cachets were hand drawn in black. In the years after the war he did some cartoons for the *Kentville Advertiser* pertaining to local sporting events and this was a great background for cachet making. Being hand drawn, they are one of a kind covers. The two Alexander Graham Bell FDCs for Scott #274 shown in Figures 2 and 3 illustrate that even though the cachets have the same subject, they can vary in many ways. The cover addressed to Mr. Walter E. Jarrett is owned by Terry Mainprize and the other addressed to H.L. Woodman is part of my collection. Note in both cases they are not signed or denoted in some manner. Both were addressed by Woodman himself. Jarrett appears frequently as one of the people to whom Woodman would send FDCs.

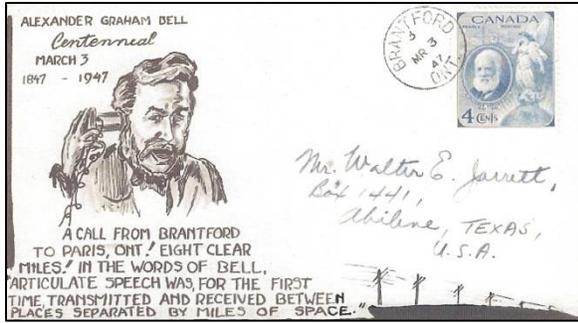


Figure 2.

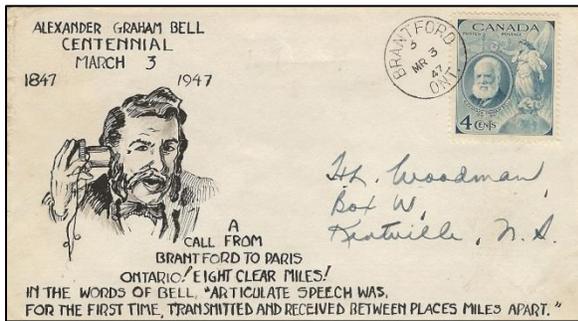


Figure 3.

Harold Lovett Woodman was born in Smith's Cove, Digby County, and was known to his friends as "Woody." He died in 2005 at the age of 88.

A veteran of the Second World War, Woodman in 1945 became employed in Halifax with the Department of Labour. He later moved to the Annapolis Valley and worked with the Department of Veterans Affairs in Kentville, Nova Scotia. In 1953, at the age of 36, he was named News Editor for the *Kentville Advertiser*. In 1977 the newspaper was purchased by R. B. Cameron and at that time Woody was named Vice President of Kentville operations for Cameron Publishing. He later became Managing Editor for all Cameron Publications. Harold Woodman retired in 1984, but wrote a column titled "Between the Lines" for another 20 years.

An appropriate FDC of Woody's was for the free press stamp (Scott #375) as the cachet (Figure 4) showed a first page of *The Advertiser* where Woody worked. The

FDC is signed by the editor, H. L. Woodman.

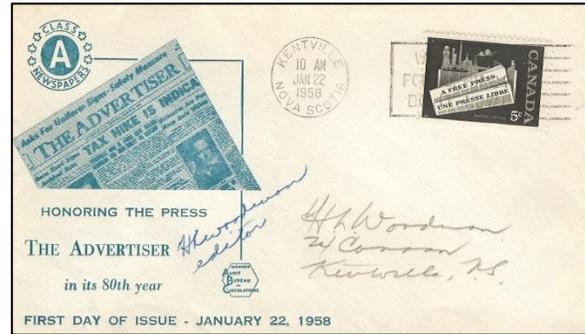


Figure 4.

Throughout his life he was very involved in community organizations. He was an Assistant Scoutmaster for six years and between 1953 and 1961 he was President of the Kings District Council of Boy Scouts. He combined this with his love of philately to develop one of the best collections of world Scout covers and stamps. It was at one of the special anniversaries of the Valley Stamp Club that he informed everyone to their great surprise that he had sold his Scout collection.

He joined the Kentville Lions Club in 1949 and was president in 1959-60. While a member of the Lions Club he edited their bulletin for eight years.

In 1961 at the age of 44 he became a founding member and the first president of the Valley Stamp Club. He is shown at the left in Figure 5 with two other club officers.



Figure 5.

Although Woody did not remain a long term member of the Valley Stamp Club, he returned for special anniversaries as a guest speaker. In 1991 an article by Wendy Elliot reports in the *Community Magazine* that Woody began collecting stamps as a boy in 1928. In his anniversary address he noted that Canada had only issued 390 stamps until 1961 and in 1991 the national total had reached 869. He would need a full time staff if he had not specialized in his collecting to something less than the whole world. In 1992 he published a book titled *A Pictorial History of the Apple Blossom Festival*. The festival has been held each year since 1932 involving the whole Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia from Digby to Windsor.

Woody held the position of Provincial President for the Red Cross and during his lifetime contributed 69 blood donations. He was also a charter member of the Horton Masonic Lodge No. 132 as well as the Cornwallis Chapter, Royal Arch Masons. He served two terms as Council Member for the town of Kentville and served on the Kings County Amalgamated School Board from 1972 to 1976. He served seventeen years as secretary for the Kentville Board of Trade and later as a director of the Annapolis Valley Affiliated Board of Trade, including two terms as President. In 1965 he founded the local chapter of the Society for the Preservation of and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America.

It was in 1973 that Woody joined the Kentville Rotary Club, where he was President in 1981-82. He transferred from Kentville to Wolfville and in 1995 was named a Paul Harris Fellow. It was with the Rotary that Woody made three or four event covers marking Rotary events. Pictured in Figure 6 is one of his later cacheted event covers of the Rotary International District

782 Annual Conference in Wolfville, Nova Scotia in 1978.

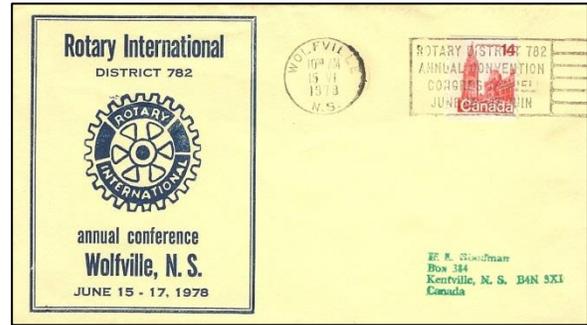


Figure 6.

Harold “Woody” Woodman’s cacheted covers, whether FDCs or event covers, spanned some 33 years, a number gained from the covers I have or have seen. What I believe to be his last event or FDC was cancelled at Kentville on February 23, 1980 and marked Rotary International’s 75th Anniversary. This cover, shown in Figure 7, was cancelled 75 years to the day of the founding of Rotary in 1905.



Figure 7

The earliest cacheted covers of his that I have or have seen were for the Alexander Graham Bell stamp of March 3, 1947 as was discussed earlier. It does not mean there are no other covers earlier than 1947 or later covers than 1980, only that I have not seen any.

In the early years it is clear that his cachets were drawn by hand in black lines. I am sure his background in cartooning was very helpful. It is not clear when he began to

design cachets that were easy to duplicate, although it seems to be around the middle 1950s. I suspect he was in the right place to have this done. As Editor for the *Advertiser* he would have had the expertise and craftsmen able to help. As you see from the accompanying pictures they did vary in colour but overall many of the cachets were printed in blue. All that I have seen are of one colour per cachet with no identifying name or mark.

Identification of whether a cover is by Woodman or not usually involves a combination of several elements. Many of the covers were cancelled at Kentville, especially if they were sent to himself or to his daughter Janet Woodman. She has told me that her father always sent her FDCs, so one can always be sure that it is a Woodman cover if it is addressed to her. The covers shown in Figures 8 and 9 are addressed to them in Harold Woodman's handwriting and so are his products.

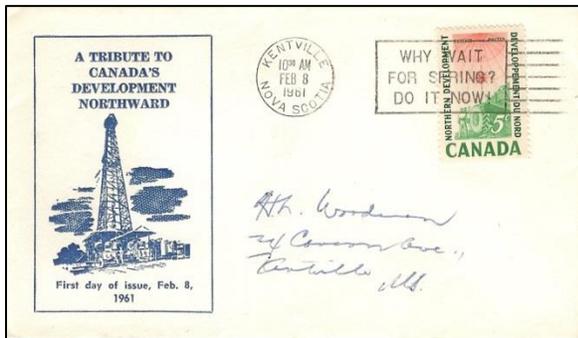


Figure 8.



Figure 9.

Finding covers that are consistently addressed to several other people can also help identify Woodman's products. FDCs that match those sent to Janet Woodman will almost assuredly be Woodman covers. For example, those FDCs addressed to Miss Marie Bishop and cancelled in Ottawa will also be Woodman's even though they were not cancelled in Kentville. An example of a FDC addressed to Bishop is shown in Figure 10.

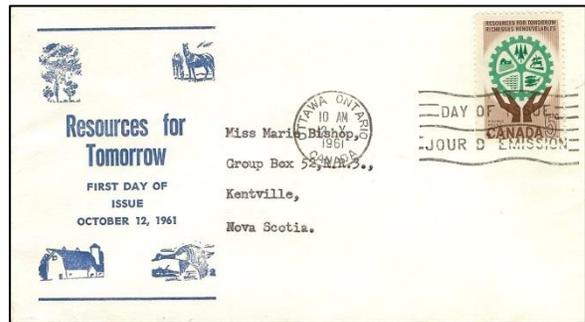


Figure 10.

A few Woodman covers were cancelled in Port Williams, Nova Scotia and the Christmas 1971 FDC shown in Figure 11 is an example.



Figure 11.

Ann-Marie Belliveau, whose address was Kentville Sanatorium, also had her Woodman cacheted covers cancelled at Kentville or Kentville Sanatorium while its post office was still open. One from the former office is shown in Figure 12.

Other collectors who received Woodman FDCs were W. E. Jarret (Texas),

Albert Carter, (cancelled Kentville), Don Dawson (at Nova Scotia Sanatorium, Kentville but cancelled at Ottawa), and Stewart Peterson (at Berwick but cancelled at Ottawa).

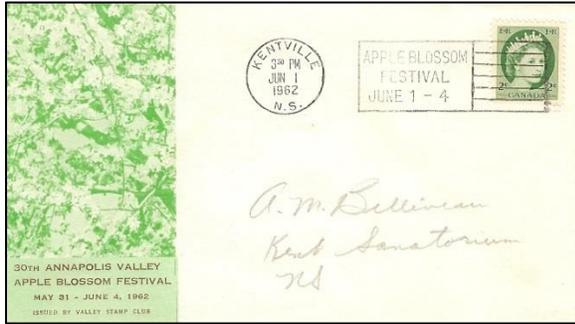


Figure 12.

In the late 1950s and early 1960s, Woodman’s FDCs can often be found with a hand stamp with name and address that he would use to address covers to himself. Later on, the hand stamp changed not only in the size of letters but the Postal Code was added. This later version appeared on the covers in Figures 6 and 7.

I have previously stated that I knew of no Woodman FDC that had more than

one colour to print the cachet. I propose that the event cover issued by the Valley Stamp Club in 1962 was by Woodman and it has two different colours, green and red. I believe he probably designed it and had the cover printed for the club at the *Advertiser* where he worked. By this time he had experience in making many cacheted covers, and was also President of the Valley Stamp Club.

One final clue to identifying a Woodman FDC is that he frequently used a picture of the stamp or at least a portion of it for the cachet as was the case with the cover shown in Figure 9, for example. If the stamp depicted a person he tended to use the portrait of the head as part of the cachet. I believe that he had to use the advance pamphlets issued by the Post Office Department that informed the public of the new stamp. The pamphlets included an order form, information about the stamp, and a large picture of the stamp. With this picture it was possible to have the cacheted cover ready for the day of issue of the stamp. Some of these FDCs were mailed to Ottawa for first day cancellation.

Note: The following short article is intended to be the first in a series that will review how other BNAPS study groups have (or have not) included material dealing with FDCs in their newsletters.

PERSPECTIVES ON FDCs BY THE CENTENNIAL DEFINITIVES STUDY GROUP

by Gary Dickinson

The BNAPS Centennial Definitives Study Group published 82 issues of its

newsletter between 1981 and 2008. Those issues were reviewed to identify how the

group dealt with FDC topics, and that material is summarized here.

Most of the earlier items in this newsletter were unsigned and untitled as they were compiled by the editor from material submitted by members. Identification of the items is by issue and page number with authors and titles excluded from these early references in most cases.

The newsletters are readily accessible via the BNA Topics section of the BNAPS website at <http://bnatopics.org/hhlibrary/newsletters/n-cen.htm>

A census of earliest dates for booklet singles, hibrites, Ottawa tagged, and six cent orange fluorescent stamps was launched in Issue 7, p. 24 in 1982 and findings were reported in seven subsequent issues until 1986. Individual reports were noted for booklet singles in Issue 11; hibrites in 9, 10, 11, 16, and 23; Ottawa tagged in 16, and six cent orange fluorescent in 7 and 8. Issue 32 (p. 198-200) contained a summary of all of the earliest recorded dates reported.

A member's question regarding FDCs for the 7c Centennial stamp (#543) in Issue 11, p. 51 produced the reply that covers were known by Rosecraft (2 different), ArtCraft (4), and Cole (2) as well as the official FDC.

The editor began a series of articles about FDCs in 1990 with an introductory article (Issue 47, pp. 300-304) that focused on Canada Post's role in using replacement covers. The article illustrated seven replacement covers that had been used.

Ralph Mitchener continued the discussion of CPO replacement covers in Issue 48, pp. 318-320 and an article by Marcel Cool in *In Touch* about Canadian Bank Note Company FDCs was printed in the same issue, pp. 321-323.

Combined Issue 49-50 contained four items about FDCs. Bruce Perkins (p. 333) showed a pair of high-value Centennial FDCs that had been signed by the artists whose works were represented on the stamps as well as a pairing of the 6c orange with a 5c Christmas stamp (p. 336) to produce an uncommon FDC. A third item (pp. 337-338) consisted of an article by Marc Chevalier about Canada Post presentation covers that had appeared originally in *First Days*. Finally, an article by Bruce Perkins (pp. 356-359) described the first day cachets and stuffers produced by the British American Bank Note Company.

In Issue 51, pp. 380-384, Bruce Perkins described and illustrated seventeen different cachets that had been used for FDCs for the 6c orange Centennial stamp.

Notes by Robert Lemire and John Aitken in Issue 52 (pp. 401, 402) described the difficulties that Toronto area collectors were having in 1991 in obtaining FDCs from Canada Post.

John Aitken had an article in Issue 61 (pp. 536-539) about drug company FDCs that described and illustrated covers by such firms as Elliott-Marion, Schering, and others, in some cases giving dates of publication. Special attention was given to the Centennial issues.

Part II of a series of articles about Cole Covers which had appeared originally in Marcel Cool's *Canadian FDC Specialist* was reprinted in Issue 64 (pp. 571-572).

The final mention of FDCs in the Centennial newsletter was in Issue 79, p. 718 in December, 2003. It was an illustration of a colorful cachet by an unknown maker franked with all of the stamps in the initial release.

TWO CACHETS BY ROBERT SALAMON

by John Van der Ven

Robert G. Salamon was born in 1924 and died in 2011 at the age of 87. He was a life-long resident of New Jersey and spent his last four decades in Boonton. He was an engineer and taught at the New Jersey Institute of Technology for 33 years. He co-authored several engineering textbooks and held a number of U.S. patents.

One of his hobbies was FDC cachet making, and he did many for stamps of U.S. personalities, especially in sports. He apparently made very few cachets for Canadian stamp issues, but two known cachets shown below were for the Citizenship issue of 1947. They show some finely-detailed drawing. I would appreciate hearing from anyone who knows of other FDCs Salamon may have made for other Canadian stamps.



Figure 1.

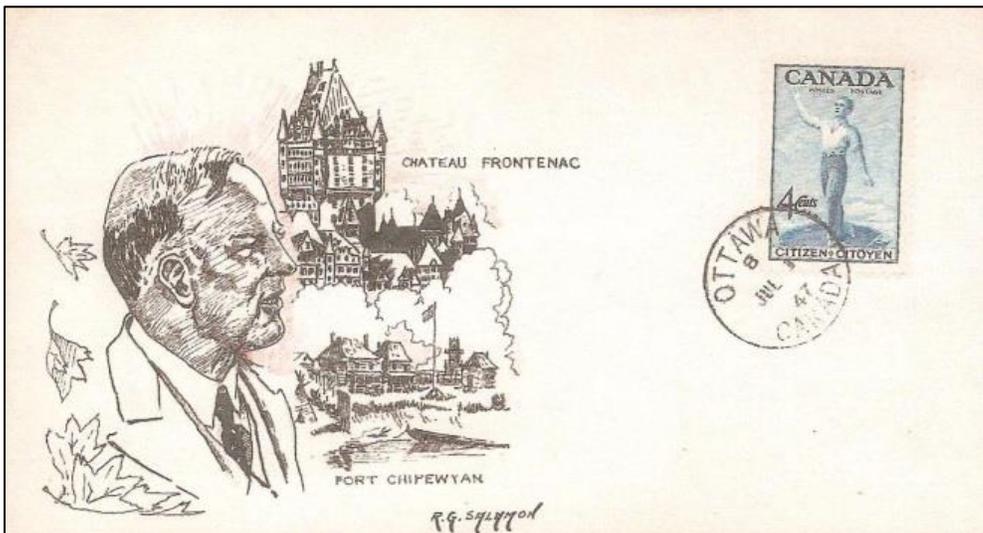


Figure 2.

ROSECRAFT AND COLE CACHET PRINTING ERRORS

A pair of commemorative stamps (Scott 620 and 621) was issued on August 2, 1973. The Rosecraft cachet for this set is shown in Figure 1 and features a portrait of the Queen along with a “C” encircling a globe to represent the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Ottawa which she opened during her visit.

FDC Study Group member Ivan Hebert-Croteau sent along a scan (Figure 2) showing a printing variation which omits the top line of text, bilingual “First Day of Issue,” as well as the Rosecraft logo which normally appeared at bottom left.

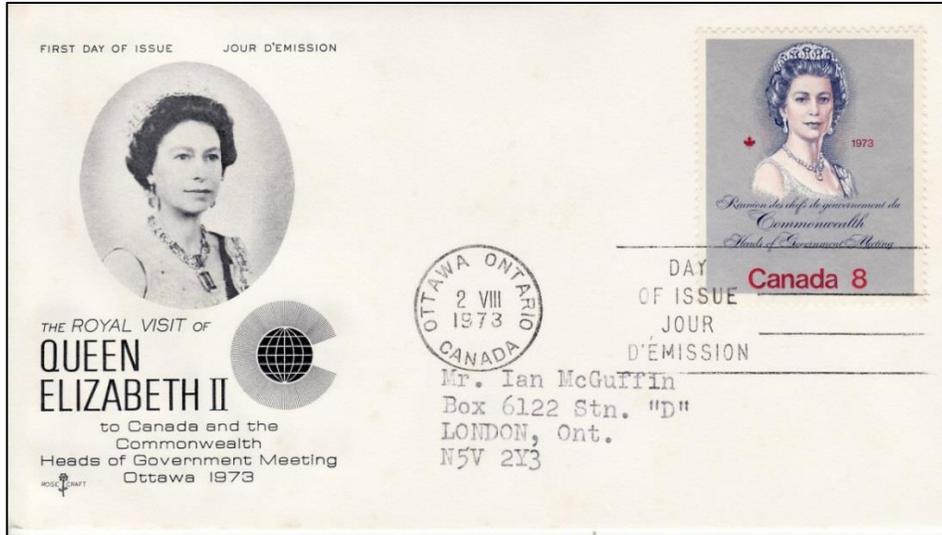


Figure 1. The normal Rosecraft cachet for #620-621.



Figure 2. The Rosecraft cachet with text omitted.

MANUFACTURERS LIFE STAMP CLUB PROMOTED FDC COLLECTING

by John Van der Ven

Manufacturers Life Insurance Company at 220 Bloor Street East in Toronto had a stamp club in 1934. The M.L.I. Stamp Club published a newsletter, and a portion of the June 26 edition is shown in Figure 1.

The thrust of this issue was to encourage their members to collect FDCs, and the newsletter was enclosed in a day of issue cover (Figure 2) for the 3c Cartier commemorative (Scott 208) of July 1. The

cover was addressed to a company employee who was also probably a member of the Club.

I would be interested in hearing from any other FDC Study Group member who has similar newsletters or other information about the M.L.I. Stamp Club, or who has information that would help identify the source of the rubber-stamped cachet shown here.

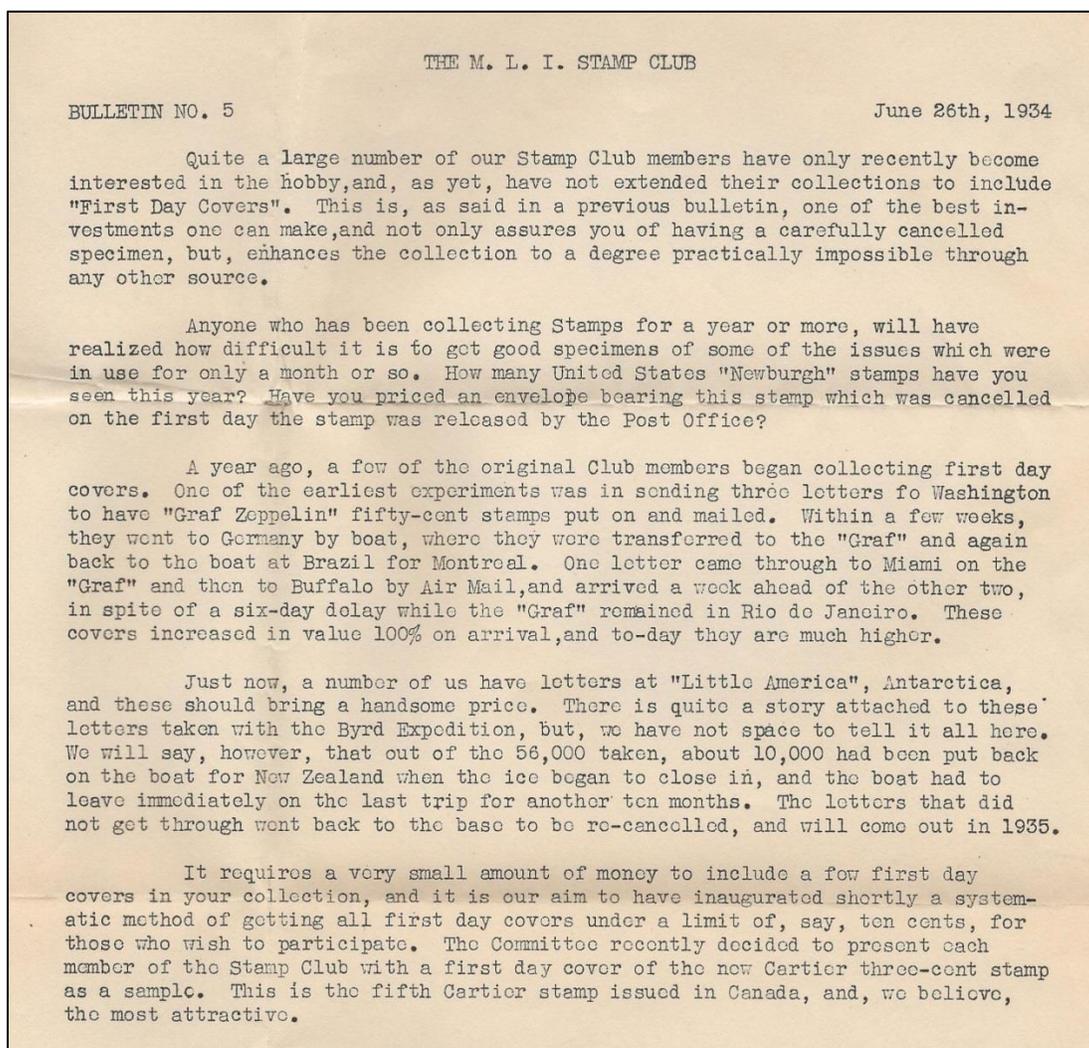


Figure 1. M.L.I. Stamp Club newsletter of June 25, 1934.

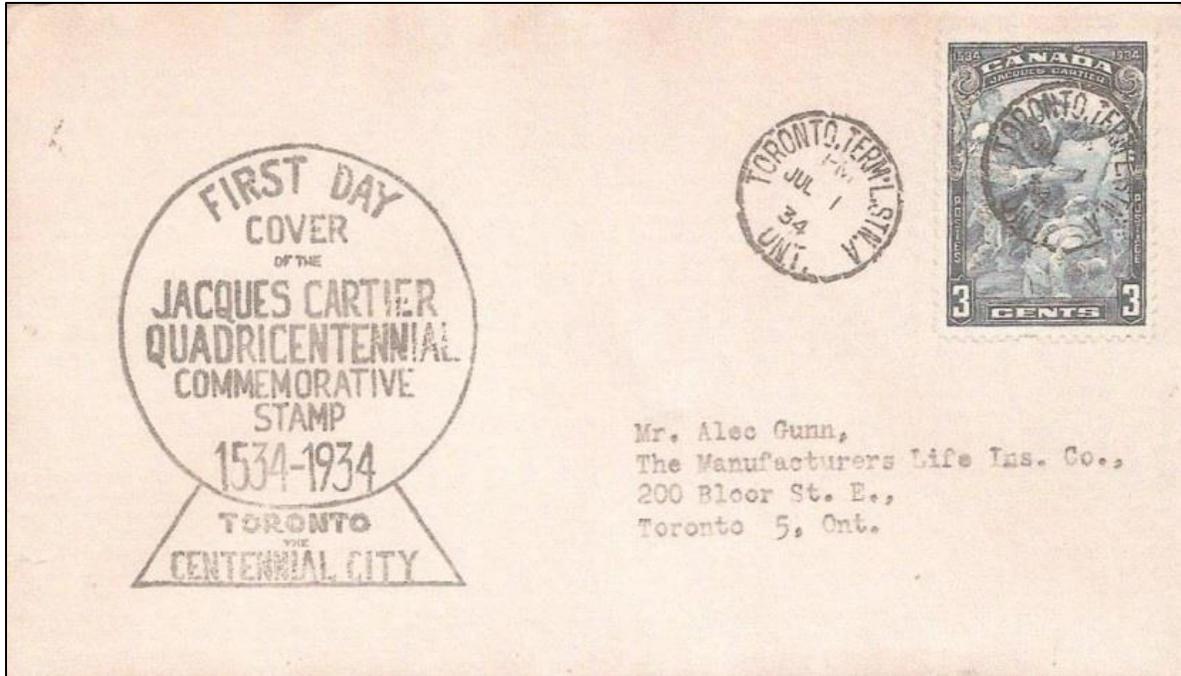


Figure 2. Cartier FDC with black rubber-stamped cachet.

Editor's Note:

Below is a registered FDC bearing the same rubber stamped cachet in violet and franked with #208 as well as #209, both issued on the same date. It is also addressed to a Manufacturers Life employee.



AN EKV COVER FOR CANADA #18



The Saskatoon Stamp Centre offered for sale in early August an “earliest recorded date” cover for Canada #18, perforated $11 \frac{3}{4}$, of which 1.1 million copies were printed. The cover has a Montreal split ring cancellation dated July 13, 1859, a Southampton backstamp dated July 23, and a red “Paid London” from July 27. The cover was part of Melvin Baron’s collection at one time, and would be a marvelous addition to anyone’s collection of early Canadian FDCs and ERUs.

A NEW EKU FOR DIE I OF THE 1932 PROVISIONAL

by Gary Dickinson



Figure 1.



Figure 2

The cover illustrated in Figure 1 appears to establish a new earliest known use date for Die I of the 1932 3c on 2c provisional issue catalogued as Scott No. 191a.

This provisional stamp was first issued on June 21, 1932 with the Die II plate. FDCs have been documented but are not plentiful. Stamps printed with Die I began to appear before the end of 1932.

According to the *Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps* the earliest recorded date of first usage was November 30, 1932. The Saskatoon Stamp Centre's catalogue of stamps for sale dated September 23, 2013 offered two covers described as "very early dates for Die I." It noted that "the actual first date is unknown," and that the covers were from the Melvin Baron collection. They were postmarked at

Drummondville East, QC on November 30, 1932 and St. John, NB on December 5.

The cover shown above was postmarked at Montreal at 11 AM on November 18, 1932. The envelope bears the business corner card of Robert C. Green of Montreal and was addressed to Belgium. Franking totaled 9 cents including one copy each of #163, 166, 167, and 191 of the Arch set. This represented an overpayment by 1c of the prevailing double-weight rate to non-British Empire UPU countries. The cover has no back stamps.

Figure 2 shows the stamps and postal markings enlarged while Figure 3 has a larger rendition of #191.

That the copy of #191 is Die I rather than the more commonplace Die II can be confirmed by comparing the stamp from the

cover with enlargements of the two unused stamps shown in Figure 4.

There are several small differences between the two dies, but the most readily discernible one is the “P” in “Postage” at the right side of the arch. With Die I the hole in the “P” is tiny and the tail of the letter is long. Die II has a much larger hole in the “P” and a much shorter tail so that the letter almost looks like a “D” rather than a “P.”

The relevant portion of the EKU stamp is shown in Figure 4 between the same portions of Die I and Die II stamps, establishing quite clearly that the stamp from the cover is from Die I.

Thus, the EKU for Die I seems now to be earlier than had been thought previously at November 18, 1932 rather than November 30.



Figure 3



Die I

EKU
Figure 4

Die II