



KING GEORGE VI POST & MAIL

Oct – Dec, 2009

Issue 17

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Vanier Cover - by Eldon C. Godfrey

1 Here is a delightful combination of a Rate Cover, a Foreign Exchange Control Board Marking, a Routing Speculation and a Distinguished Addressee.



Continued on page 2

► Chairman's Notes - by Gary Steele

Many would like to know that we signed up a number of new members during the BNAPS 2009 convention and afterwards. I am very surprised at the interest in the King George VI area after having collected it since 1979. Each area has its own characteristics spanning the 15 year period.

Specific areas of note are the printing and design styles, quantities and plates produced with many more from the War Issue period due to lower quality steel being produced. Changes in not only the rates during the Mufti and War Issue periods but in how the mail was transported. Mail by rail decreased and gradually air mail took over.

The Peace issue high value stamps which followed the War Issue stamps were the last full series of definitives used until the Centennial issue. Add in the Post/Postes issues and you have very complex usage structure that clearly defines the King George VI period.

In retrospect I wonder why I am surprised at the successes of writers' articles, exhibitors' exhibits and researchers' information. Keep it up, we are being noticed.

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Vanier Cover —cont'd**Trans-Atlantic Air Mail Rate to France –1940**

Air Mail Letter mailed on February 13, 1940 at Sainte-Anne de la Pocatiere, Quebec to Paris, France, franked with a combination of 1 x 50 cent Pictorial Issue (Vancouver Harbour) plus a 1 x 4 cent Mufti Issue, plus a 1 x 6 cent 1938 Air Mail Issue (Mackenzie River) total 60 cents for up to 1 ounce to France at double the 30 cent per 1/2 ounce trans-Atlantic air mail rate.

The letter is forwarded in the stationery of “Ecole Superieure des Pecheries”. Laval University maintained this school which granted a four year degree “Bachelor of Science in Fisheries”

Foreign Exchange Control Marking

The cover, addressed to Col. V. Vanier at the Legation canadienne in Paris, bears the FECB manuscript marking “accepte pour exportation”. Dated February 13, 1940, this is the earliest example of this marking in my FECB collection.

A Routing Speculation

David Whiteley writing in Post and Mail, Issue 9, with regard to an Air Mail letter to Holland on January 2, 1940 advises “*By this time air mail services had been suspended over the northern route and so this letter was forward to New York and carried by Pan American Airways to Lisbon. Onward dispatch from Lisbon could have been by train through Spain and France or by sea directly to Holland*”.

With no back stamps on the cover to map the 22 days in transit routing of this letter, and accepting the logic of **Whiteley**, I speculate that “*this letter was forwarded to New York and carried by Pan American Airways to Lisbon. Onward dispatch from Lisbon could have been by train through Spain and on to Paris? or by sea to England” and then forwarded to Paris?*

The Distinguished Addressee-A Governor-General in Waiting

Col. Vanier was appointed Minister to France in 1939. The letter was received by the legation in Paris on March 6, 1940, a short time prior to the invasion of France by Nazi forces in May, 1940 at which time he relocated in London. In 1944 Vanier was named Canadian Ambassador to France, a position he held until 1953.

On September 15, 1959 Colonel Vanier became Governor-General of Canada, a position in which he served until his death on March, 1967.

On September 15, 1967 in the Centennial Year, the “Great Canadian”, the first “French Canadian” appointed Governor-General of Canada was honoured with a 5 cent Commemorative Stamp. (see page 3)

KING GEORGE VI POST & MAIL

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Vanier Cover —cont'd

Vanier Commemorative Stamp

September 15, 1967

► FECB Question from Eldon C. Godfrey

Referring to Volume 12 War Times, page 182, I have extracted from “History of the Postal and Telegraph Censorship Department 1938-1946” the following “*On Canada’s entry into the war a censorship was immediately instituted of mails to and from neutral countries, but not to places within the British Empire or to the United States. All services to enemy countries ceased*”. We know that first class surface mail to France received the same postage rate treatment to British Empire countries (Canada Official Postal Guide 1940/1941), so what was the case with respect to this FECB marking. France in 1940 was certainly not British Empire or United States, so how is it that this cover received an FECB marking but was not sent for Censorship to France? Does the answer lie in the addressee, Colonel Vanier, or did mail to France receive “special treatment”? This cover is not just my only example of “accepte pour exportation”, it is also my only FECB cover addressed to France.

Please send any comments regarding Eldon’s question to the Post and Mail Editor at kwlemke@sympatico.ca. I’ll forward the responses to Eldon as well as incorporate them in the next issue of Post and Mail.

► Editor’s Desk

Issue 17 of the Post and Mail features an Interim Study of the Plates, Papers and Gums of the 1937-38, 3 cent Mufti Issue of Canada by **Stephen F. Prest**. The article discloses some very interesting findings with respect to the papers and gums used in conjunction with the 23 plates used in the production of the 3 cent Mufti. The article also illustrates to me that there is probably much more to be learned about the Mufti series of definitive stamps.

The second feature article is the ninth instalment in **Gary Dickinson’s** series on the FDCs of the KG VI era. The current instalment deals with the “The Newfoundland Joins Confederation Issue”. This issue also features Gary’s next instalment (Part XIII) of his TOPICS Revisited series.

The cover article demonstrates how a single cover can be a wealth of interesting information. It also produced a question by the author (page 3) which hopefully will result in comments from members of the study group. A primary purpose of a study group is to share information with one another and the Newsletter is one of our major communication tools. It is also a way to ensure that we preserve our findings and studies for the future.

On page 17, (Letters to the Editor) you will find an informative exchange between **Pascal LeBlond** and **Gary Dickinson** regarding Gary’s FDC article “The Responsible Government Issue” found in Issue 16, of *Post and Mail*. **David Whiteley** also provides some information on War time trans-Atlantic Mails philatelic literature.

As I write this, the stock of material for future issues is very low. In addition to feature articles, I need smaller articles that may feature a single cover, or maybe you have a cover or stamp for which you are seeking additional information. Simply submit a scan of the cover or stamp along with your question and I will publish it.

In closing I would like to thank everyone who has helped me in my first year as Editor of Post and Mail. I especially want to thank all the authors who contributed material for publication. Everyone has been wonderful and this was a most enjoyable year.

MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY HOLIDAYS, AND A

VERY HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR !!

An Interim Study of the Plates, Papers & Gums of the 1937 Stamps of Canada

The 3¢ Mufti Issue of Canada

by Stephen F. Prest

Summary

The article entitled “The Papers, Plates and Gums of the 1937 1¢, 2¢ & 3¢ Mufti Issues” which appeared in Issue 13 of the Post & Mail summarized my research of the three lower value Mufti stamp issues. Following that article, a number of Study Group members noted that I had not published an article which described the papers, plates and gums of the 3¢ Mufti on its own and asked if it might be possible to publish such a paper. This present article is in response to those requests.

This is the third paper of a series of studies of the 1937-38 stamps of Canada that examines the visually observable differences of the plates, papers and gums of the 1937-39 King George VI low value “Mufti” definitive stamps. Some 430 plate blocks of the 1937 3¢ Mufti stamp have been examined for this present study. An approximate time line for the production of the twenty three printing plates used between 1937 and 1942 to produce Canada’s 3¢ Mufti stamp is put forward based on analysis of Post Office Control Number information.

Unlike the case with the 1¢ and 2¢ issues, the findings in this study indicate comparatively fewer sheets of the 3¢ Mufti stamps were released with the Narrow Selvedge variety. In the current survey only 4 plate blocks, three from Plate No 2 and one from Plate 15, exhibited Narrow Selvedge and represent less than 1% of the total number of plate blocks examined. As was the case with the 2¢ stamp, two experimental plates of the 3¢ Mufti (Nos. 12 & 13) were produced featuring six panes of 100 stamps, also apparently in late 1939.

Four types of paper; Ribbed, Wove (diagonally), Hatched and Regular, have been identified by visual observation of differences in physical characteristics of paper texture. Similarly, three types of gum have been visually identified, namely Streaky, Mottled and Smooth. These classifications are the same as those found in the earlier 1¢ & 2¢ Mufti studies.

Ribbed, Hatched and Regular Papers appear to have been predominantly used in the initial production of the 3¢ Mufti stamps but their general use appears to have fallen away by 1941. Diagonally Wove Paper appears to have been introduced in 1938-39 and its relative use in production grew in importance from 1940 onwards.

There are proportionally fewer examples of the 3¢ Mufti exhibiting Streaky Gum compared to the findings with the 1¢ Mufti. Ribbed Paper examples examined in this 3¢ Mufti survey predominantly featured Mottled Gum while Wove Paper examples predominantly exhibit Smooth Gum with a slight yellowish colouration.

As is the case with the previous studies on the 1¢ & 2¢ Mufti issues, further study is required to confirm whether the observed differences between Hatched (and possibly Regular) versus Ribbed Papers are significant or, alternatively, are caused by differences in paper thicknesses. Similarly, further study is also indicated to confirm whether the observed differences between Streaky and Mottled Gum is significant and to confirm time based and other production parameters cited in this current study of the 3¢ Mufti.

Introduction

The interim study of the plates, papers & gums of the 1937 1¢ & 2¢ Mufti issue stamps of Canada was published in Issues No. 7 & 10 of the Post & Mail^(1,2). Those studies identified four visually distinctive paper types and three distinctive gum types among the 1¢ & 2¢ Mufti plate blocks reviewed. Further, two significant classes of selvedge width (Normal & Narrow) were identified in those studies. This current study of 3¢ Mufti plate blocks utilizes the same classes of paper, gum and selvedge with types as identified in the earlier studies and compares findings between the studies.

Certain limitations and areas where further research may be warranted were identified in the study of the 1¢ Mufti plate blocks and these apply equally to this current study of the 3¢ Mufti issue. Readers are encouraged to consult the Introduction section of the earlier study on the 1¢ Mufti for relevant details of these limitations.

Plate Numbers

Twenty three different plates were used for the production of the 3¢ Mufti over the 1937 - 42 period. Post Office records indicate some 2.82 billion 3¢ Mufti stamps were printed by the Canadian Bank Note Co. Ltd ⁽³⁾. The first day of issue was April 1, 1937.

The author is not aware of records indicating the periods of use or the number of sheets produced from each of the twenty three 3¢ Mufti plates. It would seem from first order analysis of the data described in this paper, the plates came into use sequentially over time in ascending plate number order. This aspect needs further study as time and access to Post Office Archives permit but known records related to plate block Control Numbers do provide some guidance.

Control Numbers

Each lower left plate block printed by CBNC during the Mufti period contains a “Control Number” printed in the left hand margin. T.B Higginson’s 1952 article in TOPICS ⁽⁴⁾ on this subject provides a detailed listing of Control Numbers found on George VI Stamps of Canada. An important observation in Higginson’s article concerns the Post Office’s confirmation that control numbers between 500 and 1400 were used for postage work. Some of the numbers in this range were used for printing plates and appear on the lower left selvedge of Mufti and other sheet stamps, while others were assigned to other aspects of postage work.

Tabulating Higginson’s data to take into account the Control Numbers found on the 1937 Coronation, the 1938 Pictorials, the 1939 Royal Visit and the first War Issue stamps, and, assuming that the Post Office Control Numbers were used sequentially over time, one can estimate the likely time period each of the Mufti 3¢ plates were produced as follows.

<u>Mufti 3¢ Plate Nos.</u>	<u>Time Period</u>
1, 2, 3, & 4	Winter 1937
5, 6, 7, & 8	Late 1937 to Winter 1938
9, 10 & 11	1938
12, 13, 14 & 15	1939
16 & 17	1940
18 & 19	1941
20, 21, 22 & 23	1942

While printings from these plates could take place at any interval following the time periods noted above, this pattern of dates provides a useful framework against which other observed changes in the papers and gums of the 3¢ Mufti can be considered.

Production Methodology – Normal and Narrow Selvedges

The production method for the 1937 low value Mufti stamps generally involved the printing of a sheet comprising 400 images assembled in four panes of 100 stamps of 10 rows and columns each separated by unprinted gutters. The sheets of 400 were slit through the gutters to create the individual panes of 100 stamps. The printer’s inscription and Plate Number were printed along the top and bottom selvedge generally above (or below) the first two columns of stamps at the four furthest corners of the sheet.

Panes were then subject to a perforation process. All Mufti stamps were line perforated 12 gauge with the perforations extending through the sheet selvedge. The author is not aware of any regular perforation varieties having been reported on the 3¢ Mufti.

As observed with the 1¢ & 2¢ Mufti stamps, two noticeable variations of selvedge width exist for the 3¢ Mufti, Normal and Narrow. Typically the Top, Bottom and Side selvedge are 5 mm wider for the Normal versus the Narrow Selvedge 3¢ Mufti plate

Selvedge Width in mm - 3¢ Mufti

	<u>Top/Bottom</u>	<u>Sides</u>
Normal Selvedge	14 to 18	12 to 13
Narrow Selvedge	9 to 10	7 to 8

Narrow Selvedge

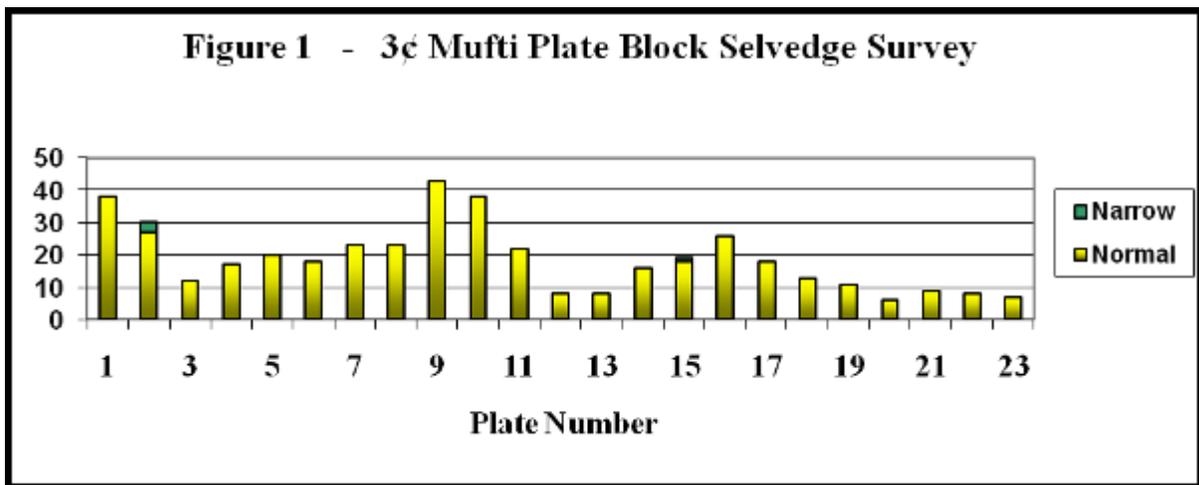
Normal Selvedge



Plate Nos. 15 Lower Left & 2 Lower Right

Plate No. 23 Lower Left & Lower Right

One noticeable difference however is the relatively small number of Narrow Selvedge examples among the 3¢ Mufti plate blocks examined in this study as illustrated in Figure 1 below. In fact only 4 examples, representing less than 1% of the total number of plate blocks examined, had Narrow Selvedge, three from Plate No. 2 and one from Plate No. 15. The corresponding percentages of Narrow Selvedge plate blocks were 25% and 9% for the 1¢ and 2¢ respectively. While these results may well be influenced by the sample size and collection technique employed by the author, it does seem that there is a significant difference in the proportion of Narrow Selvedge production between the 1¢ and 3¢. The reason why this might be so remains to be determined.



As was the case with the 2¢ Mufti, two experimental plates of the 3¢ Mufti (Plates 12 & 13) were prepared comprising 600 images assembled in six panes of 100 stamps laid out in a configuration of two rows by three columns. The inscription in the two centre panes of 100 stamps are placed above stamps numbers 5 and 6 (upper pane inscription) and below stamps number 95 and 96 (lower pane inscription) as illustrated on page 7.



3¢ Top Centre Pane, Plate 12 & Bottom Centre Pane, Plate 13 Blocks

Papers

It has long been recognized that the Mufti stamps were apparently printed on a number of different papers ^(5,6). Four main paper types, Wove, Ribbed, Hatched and Regular were identified and described in the earlier 1¢ & 2¢ Mufti studies. The paper types of the 3¢ Mufti plate blocks examined during the course of this present study all fell into one of the four previously defined categories.

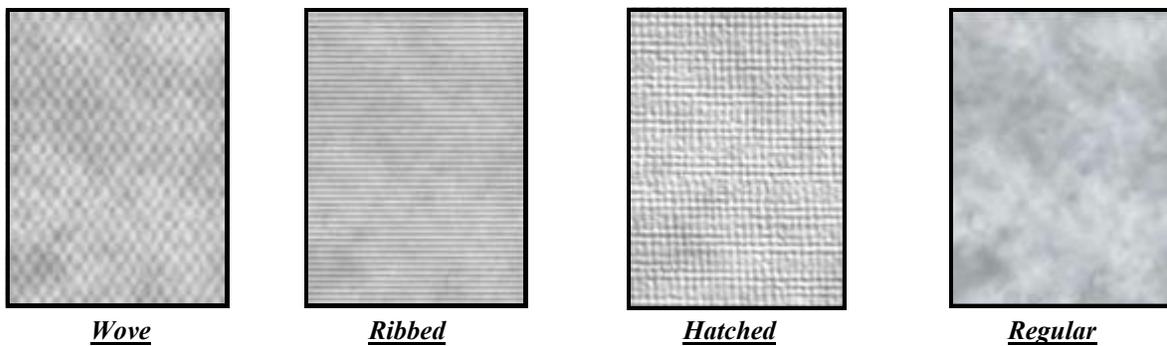
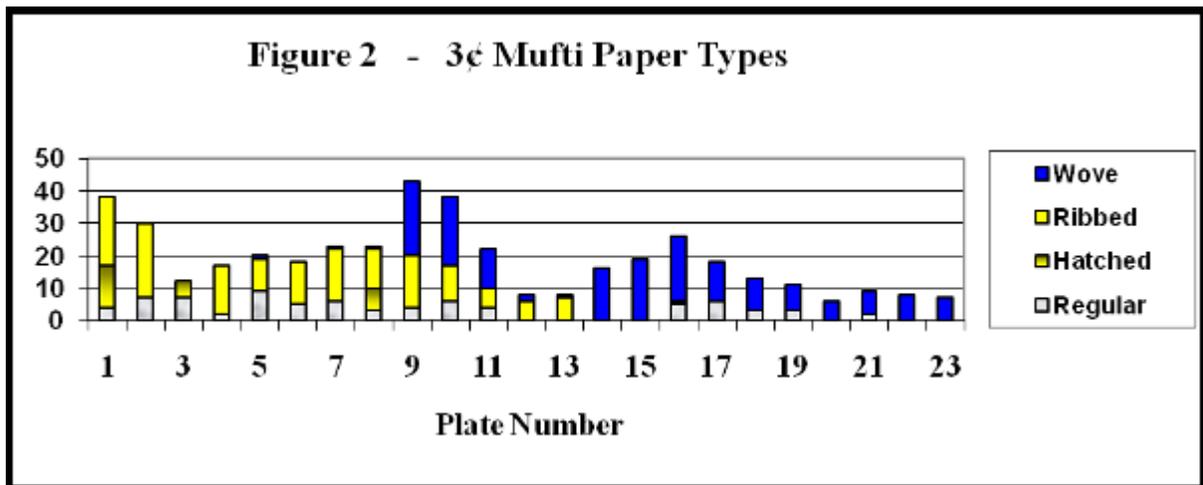


Figure 2 depicts the number of each of the four defined paper types identified in the twenty three 3¢ Mufti plate numbers examined in this study



A number of trends are evident. The Ribbed and Hatched Paper examples represent some 40 % of the total 3¢ Mufti plate blocks under study, about the same as was the case of the 1¢ Mufti at 45% but lower than the 2¢ Mufti at some 70%. Also, as was the case with the 1¢ & 2¢ Mufti issues, it would appear that stocks of these papers were exhausted by 1941 as no examples of these types of paper appear among the Plate Nos. 18 through 23 3¢ Muftis. A similar pattern is observed with the Regular Paper type although some Regular Paper examples do appear among the Plates produced later in the period.

The Wove Paper would seem to have been first introduced sometime in 1938 given its general absence from Plate Nos. 1 through 4. While a limited number of Wove paper examples appear in blocks examined from Plates 5 through 8, it would seem that Wove Paper began to be predominantly used in the production of the 3¢ Mufti stamps from the early 1940s. This pattern of use is fairly similar to that observed with both the 1¢ and 2¢ Mufti stamps.

Gum Types

Three main gum types were identified as appearing on the back of 1¢ & 2¢ Mufti stamps. Plate block examples evaluated in this study of 3¢ Mufti plate blocks can be classified in the same way; streaky amber, mottled amber and shiny yellow-tone gum. As was the case with the 1¢ & 2¢ Mufti stamps, the colouration of the gummed surface of the 3¢ stamps studied in this survey can range from dark amber-brown to light honey for the Streaky and Mottled Amber gum types. The Smooth gum type ranges from creamy off-white to light honey.

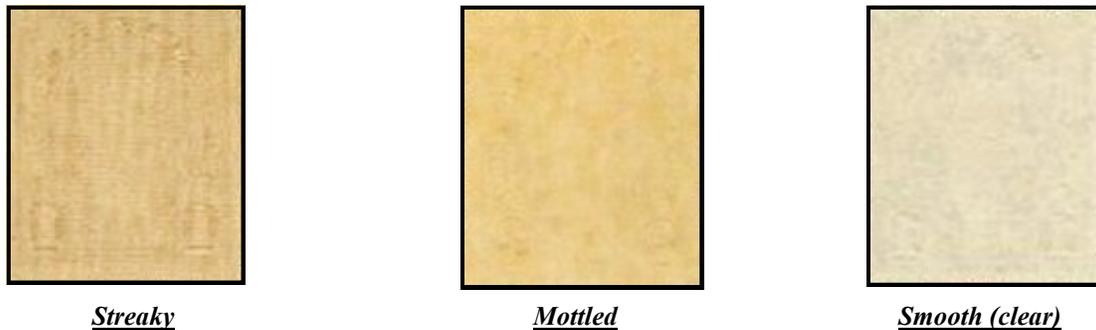
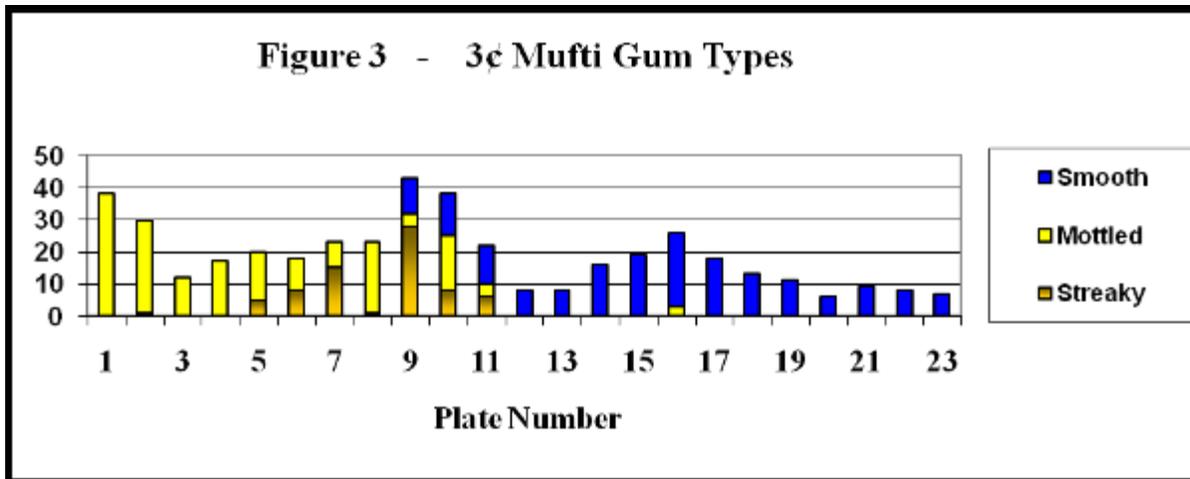


Figure 3 depicts the number of each of the three defined gum types identified in the twenty three 3¢ Mufti plate numbers examined in this current study.



As with papers, a number of trends are evident. First, Streaky and Mottled gums predominate among examples of the early Plates 1 through 8 but become relatively less important with the later plates. The proportion exhibiting Streaky Gum (about 17%) is considerably lower than was the case with the 1¢ Muftis (46%) but is higher than the proportion of Streaky Gum examples reported in the 2¢ Mufti study (8%).

Of the 149 examples of Mottled Gum, the majority (53%) were associated with Ribbed Paper plate blocks, followed by Regular Paper (27%), Hatched Paper (13%) and the balance (7%) with Wove Paper. This pattern is quite different from that observed with the 1¢ Mufti where no Ribbed Paper examples were associated with Mottled Gum. Again, as with Streaky Gum, paper stock with Mottled Gum appears to have been used in the early part of the period although two examples did appear among the Plate No. 16 blocks examined.

Smooth Gum examples generally begin to appear with production associated with the later plates. About 74% of the 207 Smooth Gum examples are associated with Wove Paper, with the balance distributed between Regular Paper (23%) and Ribbed (3%).

Other Features

Paper Colouration & Varieties

Paper colouration noted in the 3¢ Mufti plate block examples in the author's collection are various shades of "off-white". There are no examples similar to the "whitish" papers one finds in later issues of the King George VI reign. The papers of some plate block examples however do exhibit a rose tint which I have named "rose blush" for convenience. The upper right Plate block No. 7 illustrated below shows the rose blush colouration which can be quite visually distinctive when compared to the normal off-white papers as illustrated by lower left Plate blocks No. 7 & 23. I am not aware how this type of fugitive ink colouration of some 3¢ Muftis came about. Perhaps other members of our Study Group members might be able to shed some light on the subject.



Thin Paper

There were no Thin Paper examples identified among the 3¢ Mufti plate blocks examined during the course of this study.

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- (1) The Plates Papers & Gums of the 1937-38 Stamps of Canada; Part I - The 1¢ Mufti Issue - An Interim Study" by **Stephen Prest**, *King George VI Post & Mail*, Issue 7, July-Dec 2005, pp 7-13.
- (2) The Plates Papers & Gums of the 1937-38 Stamps of Canada; Part 2 - The 2¢ Mufti Issue - An Interim Study" by **Stephen Prest**, *King George VI Post & Mail*, Issue 10, July-Dec 2006, pp 11-16.
- (3) "The 3¢ (Mufti)", Canadian Postal Archive website at www.collectionscanada.ca/postal-archives/080608_e.html; via, in sequence, the "Canadian Stamps" and "Canada 1935 - 39" links.
- (4) "Control Numbers on George VI Stamps of Canada" by **T.B. Higginson**, *BNA TOPICS* Vol. 9 (Whole No. 89, March 1952), Pages 66 to 71
- (5) "Specialized Philatelic Catalogue of Canada and British North America" (1954) page 90, Editor **L. Seale Holmes**.
- (6) "Collecting the Canada King George VI 'Mufti' Issue", by **D.H. Whiteley**, *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*, November 1998, Pages 69 to 71

Studying King George VI First Day Covers

Part IX—The Newfoundland Joins Confederation Issue

by Gary Dickinson

Introduction

Canada issued a 4-cent stamp on April 1, 1949 to mark the occasion of Newfoundland joining the Confederation. The stamp design (Scott No. 282) showed John Cabot's ship "Matthew" on the high seas. Almost 100 different FDC cachets have been identified to date for this issue, and this article reviews the range of cachets that were produced and highlights some that originated with Canadian makers.

Previous Studies

FDCs of the Newfoundland issue were mentioned in an article by Maxwell Taylor (1) who featured one such cover in *First Days* in 1966. Taylor's article dealt mainly with the events leading up to Confederation, and the single cover shown was signed by seven of the eight signatories to the Confederation document. A more extensive review of known covers was published by Melvin L. Baron (2) in 1981. He described 22 different cachets, five of which were produced by J.C. Rosenbaum of Montreal, but only illustrated six of them. Pierre Dorval (3) subsequently identified 32 different cachets in 1983 and illustrated about half of them.

The number of documented cachets jumped significantly to 83 with the publication of Dickinson's monograph (4) in 2008 and an additional 11 cachets have been identified since then, bringing the total to 94. Work on the Newfoundland issue by U.S. cachet makers was reviewed in an article in *First Days* (5) and the monograph itself is viewable on the BNAPS KG VI Study Group website (6).

Organizing the Cachets

The number of different cachets for stamps issued some 60 years ago has generally proven to be much greater than had been anticipated or had been reported previously. To facilitate the processes of documenting, organizing, and retrieving these cachets, a classification scheme was developed and applied initially to the commemorative stamp issues of 1947-1949. The classification includes the Scott catalogue number, in this case 282 followed by a three-digit basic cachet number (eg. 102) and then a two-digit number for any variations on the basic design (eg. 10). Thus, a typical cachet would be number 282.102.10, in this case a multi-coloured design by Herman Jacobi.

The largest number of cachets (20) for #282 incorporated maps of Canada or Newfoundland in their designs while another 18 showed symbols representing one or more provinces. (Table I) Animals were featured on 14 cachets and 11 dealt with miscellaneous themes such as Cabot's ship. Seventeen cachets consisted predominantly of text, 9 were general purpose cachets, and the remaining 5 consisted either of postcards, rubber-stamps, or were hand-made.

See Table I on page 11

Some Noteworthy Cachets

As almost 100 different cachets have been documented, it would be impossible to replicate all of them in a short article. Consequently, a very limited sample is shown here, and all of the cachets were produced by Canadian makers.

The first cachet shown in Figure 1 represents a busy design which was produced by Barrett's Print Shop in Curling, NL in at least five different versions. The cachet shows eleven coats of arms against a background of maple leaves. There is a banner at bottom centre and a large maple leaf behind it. Text appears in three different places. As this was an in-house production of a print shop, the covers were readily varied with different textual material and colours. For example, "FIRST Day COVER" in the lower left corner appeared in either green or blue. "First Canadian Stamp issued in Newfoundland" appeared in orange or green or not at all. Text on the back flap read, "This Cover was printed in Newfoundland/ by/ Barrett's Print Shop, Curling" and was printed either in black, green, or red.

TABLE I

CATEGORIES OF CACHETS FOR NEWFOUNDLAND JOINS CONFEDERATION ISSUE

CATEGORY TITLE AND NUMBER	NO. OF CACHETS
<u>Thematic Categories</u>	
Map of Canada or Newfoundland	20
Symbols of Province	18
Animals	14
Miscellaneous themes	11
<u>Standard Categories</u>	
Postcards	1
Hand-Made	2
Predominantly text	17
Rubber Stamps	2
General Purpose	9
Total	94



Figure 1. Barrett’s Print Shop cachet with green and orange text on the front and black text on the back flap, postmarked at Corner Brook, NL and addressed to a resident of that city.

Herman Jacobi of Hamilton, ON prepared a single design for the Newfoundland stamp although there were at least a dozen different colour variations. (See Figure 2) These included single-colour versions in red, green, blue, and black as well as two-colour and multi-coloured editions. The variation shown here has a black central column with the Newfoundland map and elements of a coat of arms in yellow, green, and red.



Figure 2. Hand-tinted, multi-coloured version of Jacobi cachet on a FDC postmarked Toronto Station L and addressed to Dorset, England.

Montreal cachet maker J.C. Rosenbaum continued his output of FDCs with six variations on a common design for the Newfoundland issue. Marcel Cool (7) described them as follows:

- 1) brown frame with black printing
- 2) brown frame with green printing
- 3) brown frame with light green printing
- 4) green frame with brown printing
- 5) green frame with red-brown printing
- 6) green frame with blue printing.

The example shown on page 13 (Figure 3) is the version with the green frame and blue printing. J. C. Rosenbaum's return address is rubber-stamped on the back of the cover.



Figure 3. JCR cachet with green frame and blue printing addressed to New London, CT, with a block of four stamps and postmarked with a Montreal circular date stamp.

Among a small number of philatelic organizations which produced FDCs to mark the entry of Newfoundland into Confederation, the Canadian Philatelic Society offered the greatest variety of cachets. Their basic design showed a wheel with renderings of the coats of arms of the ten provinces, with Newfoundland’s at the centre of the wheel. There were both text and colour variations on the basic design including three versions of the text in the lower left corner of the cachet and three different treatments of colours within the wheel. The example shown as Figure 4 is franked with 21 cents total postage (an overpayment of 4 cents) including a block of four #282 and a Newfoundland #270, the last regular stamp issued there.

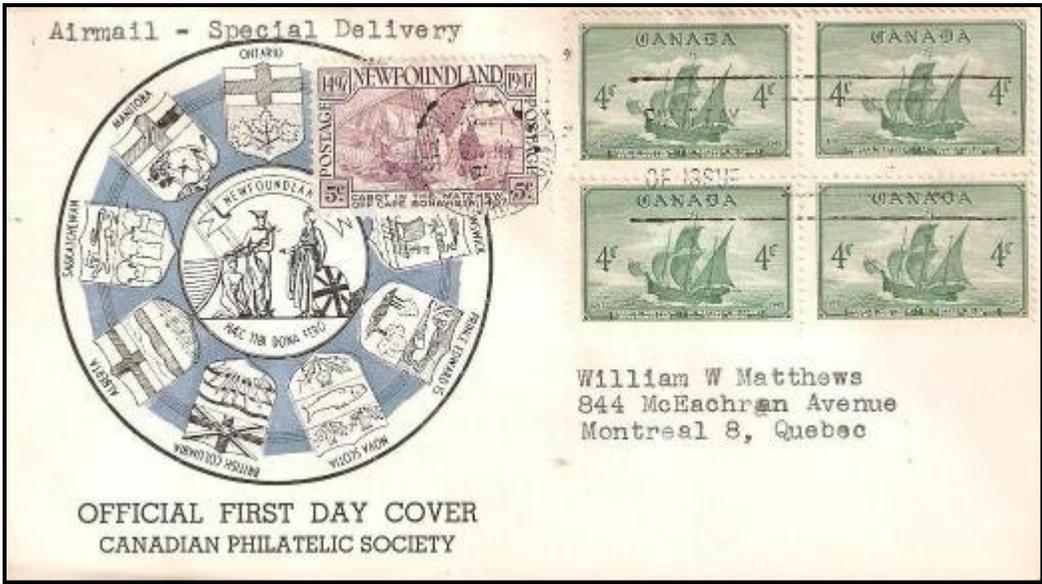


Figure 4. Canadian Philatelic Society cachet addressed to Montreal, QC with St. John’s official first day cancellation and “Air Mail-Special Delivery” typed notation.

KING GEORGE VI POST & MAIL

One of the more elaborate hand-made covers for this issue emanated from Flesherton, ON and is shown as Figure 5. The cachet featured several elements including a newspaper clipping showing the new stamp, a rubber stamp with "WELCOME/NEWFOUNDLAND/CANADA", another rubber stamp for the date, and a typed "FIRST DAY ISSUE."



Figure 5. Hand-made cachet, probably by the addressee Charles J. Bellamy, postmarked and delivered at Flesherton, ON

Business corner cards are occasionally amended to produce FDC cachets, as was the case for the cover shown in Figure 6. Radio station CKNW in New Westminster, BC sent the cover to an addressee in Vancouver. The corner card was supplemented with a rubber stamp reading, "FIRST DAY OF ISSUE/COMMEMORATING NEWFOUNDLAND ENTRY."



Figure 6. CKNW corner card addressed to Vancouver and postmarked with New Westminster, BC slogan cancel #G-190.

The highly politicized nature of Newfoundland’s entry into Confederation has been described elsewhere from a philatelic point of view (8, 9) and will not be repeated here. Suffice it to say that the process generated considerable controversy in Newfoundland. One of the principal forces favouring confederation was Joseph (Joey) R. Smallwood who emerged as Newfoundland’s first Premier. He apparently spent a considerable amount of time autographing FDCs as a number of them have been available at stamp auctions recently, including the one shown as Figure 7.

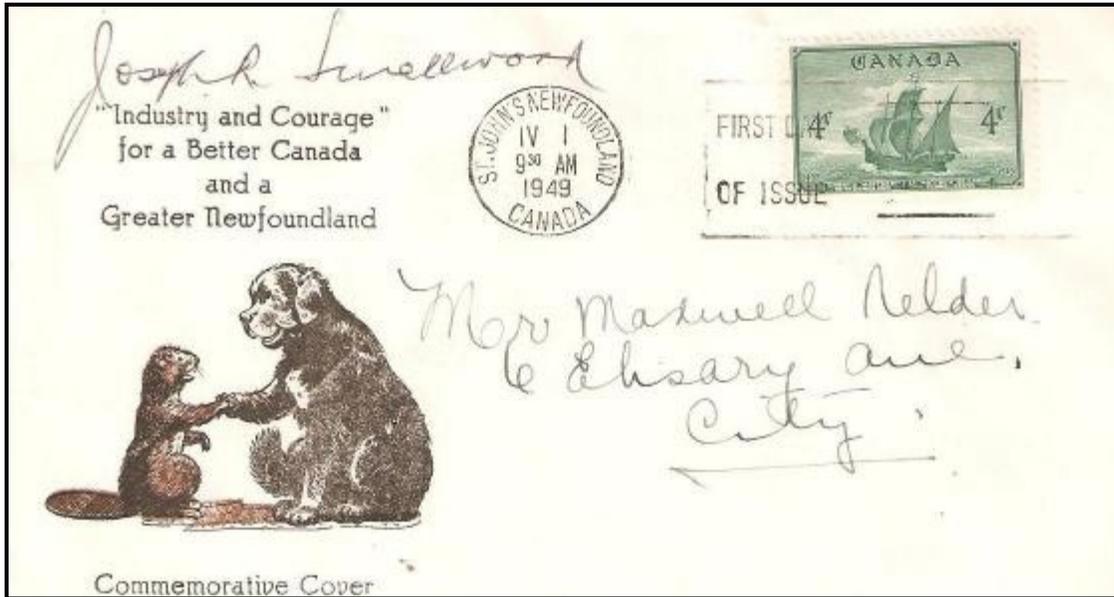


Figure 7. “Industry and Courage” cachet on a FDC autographed (and apparently addressed) by Joey Smallwood to a resident of St. John’s, with official day of issue cancellation.

Not everyone was happy with the outcome of the political process as the “mourning cover” shown in Figure 8 attests. In addition to the cover’s black border, the text “IN MEMORIAM” for responsible government in Newfoundland.



Figure 8. “Mourning cover” cachet for the loss of Newfoundland responsible government, addressed to Cheshire, England and postmarked with a St. John’s first day cancellation.

Day of Issue Locations

The Newfoundland issue marked two significant firsts for FDC collectors. The official first day cancellation was the first ever used by the Canada Post Office (10), and the CPO began to record the number of FDCs that it processed which was 47,588 in this case. (11)

First day cancellations have been documented for 85 different post offices, 43 of which were in Ontario. Twenty different post offices in Newfoundland had first day postmarks, but only one other office in the Atlantic provinces (Halifax) has had first day cancellations documented. Three Montreal post offices were the only ones in Quebec with documented first day cancellations.

Conclusion

In addition to celebrating a historically important event for Canada, the Newfoundland enters Confederation issue was noteworthy for the first Canadian official first day cancellation and for the commencement of tallying FDCs processed by the Canada Post Office. Some philatelists were disappointed that only a single stamp was issued to mark the occasion, but there was general satisfaction with the stamp's execution. Several cachet producers including the Canadian Philatelic Society, J.C. Rosenbaum, and Herman Jacobi all produced multiple versions of their cachet, and almost one hundred different FDC's have surfaced to date, with more undoubtedly remaining to be documented.

Acknowledgements

I am most appreciative for the information, suggestions, and images forwarded to me by the following FDC collectors:

Ivan Hebert-Croteau, Harold Houston, Maurice Malenfant, and Bruce Perkins.

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► Letters to the Editor

Official First Day Covers — The Responsible Government Issue

The following letter was received from **Pascal LeBlond** regarding **Gary Dickinson's** article on First Day Covers for the Responsible Government issue which appear in Issue 16 of *Post and Mail*.

On page 9, **Gary Dickinson** wrote that: "Ottawa was the official first day city for the Responsible Government issue". This statement was incorrect as no first day cover service was provided for this issue (*Postmark*, October 1948, p. 15). See also, *BNA Topics*, Vol. 5, No. 9, October 1948, p. 141. The Post Office Department issued a circular earlier in 1948. It reads in part: "it is not now Departmental policy to provide First Day Cover Service on the occasion of new postage stamp issues in Canada." The full text is reproduced in *Popular Stamps*, Vol. XI, No. 6-7, July-August 1948, p.8. This policy was revised in time for the next commemorative issue on April 1, 1949.

Sincerely,

Pascal LeBlond

Gestionnaire, Collections philatéliques/Manager, Philatelic Collections

Bibliothèque et Archives Canada/ Library and Archives Canada

550, boul. de la Cité, Gatineau, QC, Canada K1A 0N4

Gary Dickinson replied as follows:

From the early 1930s until the end of the King George era, Ottawa was designated as the "official city" for about half of the new stamp issues. In other cases, as many as 24 cities were designated for official day sales or else a city rather than Ottawa was so designated, for example, Halifax for the Halifax Bicentenary issue (Scott # 283) and Brantford for the Alexander Graham Bell issue (Scott # 274). My identification of Ottawa as the official first day city for the Responsible Government issue (Scott # 277) was based on **Melvin L. Baron's** article about the FDC cachets for the issue which appeared in *First Days* in Vol. 27, No. 2, February, 1982, pp. 253-255. Baron stated, "The Official First Day City for this issue was designated as Ottawa, Ontario."

Pascal LeBlond is correct as the *BNA Topics* extract (Vol. 5, No. 9, October 1948, p. 141) states, "No First Day Services will be provided by the Post Office Department." However, the next paragraph goes on to state that orders should be addressed to the Philatelic Division of the Post Office Department in Ottawa, with remittances payable to the Receiver General of Canada. One senses some ambivalence about the official Department policy which, as **LeBlond** notes, was revised by the time of the Newfoundland issue (Scott # 282) on April 1, 1949 when they began to keep records of the number of FDC's serviced and applied a first day slogan cancellation for the first time.

War Time trans-Atlantic Mails - from David Whiteley

Since writing my article on war time trans-Atlantic mails, *Post and Mail*, Issue 15, pp.11-12, new information has become available and can be found in **Edward Pound's** three volume work on War Time airmails. Volume I covers the North Atlantic and South Atlantic. I have had the opportunity to browse through this book. It contains voluminous Flight Numbers, Flight Schedules and dates of flights both to and from North America. It covers all major airlines. There is over 630 pages of information. The book is carried by Amazon and various dealers in philatelic literature. Amazon Canada is offering the book at \$ 120.

Hopefully this information will be of interest to some members of the Study Group.

TOPICS Revisited - Part XIII (BNA TOPICS Vol. 47-54)

by Gary Dickinson

This edition of "TOPICS Revisited" covers the KG VI-related items appearing in **BNA Topics**, volumes 47 to 54 (whole numbers 435 to 473) from 1990 to 1997. During this period the six issues per year in 1990 were gradually reduced to five issues in 1993 and four beginning in 1994.

1942-43 War Issue

W. Whitehouse's article "Canada's \$1.00 1942 Destroyer Stamp" in **BNA Topics Vol. 53, Whole No. 467** (Apr.-Jun. 1996) pp. 49-50 addressed the question of which destroyer was depicted on the stamp.

Aerophilately

The period 1928 to 1946 was covered in **Walter Plomish's** "Airmail to U.S.A." in **BNA Topics Vol. 48, Whole No. 444** (Jul.-Aug. 1991), pp. 17-25.

About half of the content of **Walter Plomish's** article "Canadian Partially Flown Mail to European U.P.U. Destinations from February 2, 1931" which appeared in **BNA Topics Vol. 49, Whole No. 450** (Jul.-Aug. 1992), pp. 24-30 dealt with KG VI era content.

"Canada Joins the Empire Air Mail Scheme" by **Walter Plomish** in **BNA Topics Vol. 49, Whole No. 451** (Oct.-Nov. 1992) pp. 22-26 described Canada's participation from February, 1938 until the scheme was cancelled because of WW II in September, 1939.

"Canadian Partially Flown Mail to Great Britain 1931-1945" was the topic of a **Walter Plomish** article in **BNA Topics Vol. 50, Whole No. 457** (Nov.-Dec. 1993) pp. 64-68.

Air Letters

Jeffrey Switt's article "1950 'Plane Over Landscape' Aerogramme Essay Artwork...Unrecorded or Just Forgotten?" appeared in **BNA Topics Vol. 51, Whole No. 458** (Jan.-Mar. 1994) pp. 74-75.

Military Mail & Postmarks

A Letter to the Editor from **Steven Luciuk** in **BNA Topics Vol. 47, Whole No. 436** (Mar.-Apr. 1990) pp. 9-10 sought information about two of the Christmas greeting cards mentioned in an earlier article in Whole No. 434.

"Collecting Canada: WW II Cigarette Cards" by **John Burnett** appeared in **BNA Topics, Vol. 51, Whole No. 460** (Oct.-Dec. 1994), pp. 58-59.

A Letter to the Editor by **David Whiteley** in **BNA Topics Vol. 53, Whole No. 466** (Jan-Mar. 1996) p. 71-72 described a WW II cover with possible "Canadian Army Hut (CAH) marking.

Newfoundland

John Butt published a multi-part series of articles under the general title, "The Postal Markings St. John's General Post Office and Sub Offices 1840-1949 in **BNA Topics** starting in July-August, 1991. Articles containing at least some KG VI era content included the following:

Postal Markings, **Vol. 48, Whole No. 444** (Jul.-Aug. 1991), pp. 30-33.

Machine Cancels, **Vol. 48, Whole No. 445** (Sep.-Oct. 1991), pp. 10-11.

Paid All and Postage Paid, **Vol. 48, Whole No. 446** (Nov.-Dec. 1991), pp. 44-45.

St. John's Postal Markings, **Vol. 49, Whole No. 447** (Jan.-Feb. 1992), pp. 16-18.

Registration, **Vol. 49, Whole No. 448** (Mar.-Apr. 1992), pp. 32-33.

Sub-Offices, **Vol. 49, Whole No. 450** (Jul.-Aug. 1992), pp. 20-22.

Ancillary Markings, **Vol. 50, Whole No. 457** (Nov.-Dec. 1993), pp. 6-12.

Parcel Post, General Delivery, Postage Due, etc., **Vol. 51, Whole No. 458** (Jan.- Apr. 1994), pp. 24-30.

The plates of the Cabot commemorative (Scott #270) were discussed by **John M. Walsh** in "The Dilemma of the Newfoundland Issue" which appeared in **BNA Topics Vol. 50, Whole No. 456** (Jul.-Aug. 1993), pp. 12-13.

Philatelic Literature

Victor Wilson reviewed **The Canadian Military Posts, Volume 3, Operations in NATO, United Nations and Canada 1947 to 1989** by **W.J. Bailey** and **E.R. Toop** in **BNA Topics Vol. 48, Whole No. 445** (Oct.-Nov. 1991), p. 8.

Postage Rates

John Burnett presented and discussed a 90 cent rate cover from WW II in "Collecting Canada: Always Look at That Cover Carefully" in **BNA Topics Vol. 52, Whole No. 464** (Jul.-Sep. 1995) p. 53.

WW II rates and regulations were described in a section of **W.J. Bailey's** "Military Post Rates" in **BNA Topics Vol. 54, Whole No. 472** (Jul.-Sep. 1997) pp. 35-52.

Postal History

"How a Philatelic Cover Becomes a Non-Philatelic One" by **Charles J.G. Verge** in **BNA Topics Vol. 48, Whole No. 442** (Mar.-Apr. 1991) pp. 34-36 told the story of a Shediac-Foynes First Flight Cover in 1939.

John Burnett's article "Collecting Canada: Paper is a Munition of War" in **BNA Topics Vol. 52, Whole No. 462** (Jan.-Mar. 1995) pp. 37-38 described how recycled newspaper was used for envelopes in WW II.

"Internment Camp Mail from Alien POWs and Internees Detained in Canada: 1940-1941" by **David H. Whiteley** appeared in **BNA Topics Vol. 53, Whole No. 468** (Jul.-Sep. 1996) pp. 44-47.

Postal Markings

Bob Parsons' article "Canada-West Indies Mail Service. Part 3. The Post-War Years" in **BNA Topics Vol. 47, Whole No. 439** (Oct.-Nov. 1990) pp. 30-35 focused on postal markings.

Jeffrey Switt reported a 1948 marking, "Posted on Rural Route" in **BNA Topics Vol. 49, Whole No. 448** (Mar.-Apr. 1992), p. 8.

"Those Passed for, Approved for, and Authorized for Export Markings" of WW II were reviewed by **Jeffrey Switt** in **BNA Topics, Vol. 52, Whole No. 464** (Jul.-Sep. 1995) pp. 44-51. In **Vol. 53, Whole No. 466** (Jan.-Mar. 1996) pp. 53-54, **David H. Whiteley** provided more examples in "Some Additional Foreign Exchange Board Covers." **Whiteley** presented yet another cover in a Letter to the Editor in **Vol. 53, Whole No. 467** (Apr.-Jun. 1996) p. 68.

Note: "Topics Revisited Part XIII" will be continued in Issue 18 of Post and Mail.

► KGVI Study Group

We would like to welcome **Rick Hills** of Hamilton and **Colin Pomfret** of Millgrove as our newest members of the study group. Both joined at a recent meeting of the BNAP'S Golden Horseshoe Regional Group.

► BNAPEX 2010

BNAPEX 2010 will be held at the Victoria Conference Centre and the Fairmont Empress Hotel in Victoria, Sept 3-5, 2010. The event is being conducted by the Pacific Northwest Regional Group of BNAPS.

The conference will include a dealers bourse, exhibits, seminars and study groups.

Currently the following non-philatelic activities are planned:

- 1) City Tour including a visit to Craigdarroch Castle
- 2) Butchart Gardens Tour
- 3) Whale Watching Tour.
- 4) Dinner at the Union Club, Past Presidents' Reception and Awards Banquet.

If you have never been to Victoria, this is a great chance to plan a vacation touring Victoria and Vancouver Island while taking in BNAPEX 2010.

More information regarding BNAPEX 2010 can be found on the BNAPS web-site at www.bnaps.org.

Peace Issue Rates and Destinations Mike Street is looking for Peace Issue Stamps (Sc #s 268-273, C9, CE 3-4 and E11) on mail to China and the American Pacific (Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, Philippines) up to June 1952 but especially Sept 16-Nov 15/1946. Also Parcel post anywhere, legitimate paquebot and unusual foreign destinations, including Russia and components of the USSR from 1946 to June 1952.

1937 3 cent Mufti Issue Ken Lemke is looking for an end strip for the 3 cent mufti coil (Unitrade #240). Ken is also looking for the following pre-cancels on the 3 cent mufti (Unitrade #233) a) #4260 -- St. Thomas b) # 7550 --Saskatoon c) # 4940 --Windsor. Varieties and errors of Unitrade # 233 are also sought. He can be reached at kwlemke@sympatico.ca

Special Delivery stamps and usage David Whiteley is working on Special Delivery stamps, usage and regulations during the King George VI era. His special focus is Air Mail Special Delivery Express Issues (Unitrade CE1-4). Any input from members would be appreciated. His e-mail address is david-whiteley@hotmail.com

► Members' Wants

1942 War Issue 1¢ Green John Munro-Cape specializes in the 1¢ War Issue (in all its forms) and is looking to buy/sell exchange items related to these issues. John can be contacted by mail at RR #3 Picton, Ontario, Canada K0K 2T0 or by telephone at 1-613-476-5133

KGVI Booklets - All Issues Eirwyn Jones is looking to buy/sell/exchange KGVI booklets and has duplicates to offer. Eirwyn can be contacted by mail at 10 Low Green, ATHERTON, Manchester, United Kingdom M46 9HS or by email at jennifer.jones45@btinternet.com

KGVI Used Plate Blocks Ed Harris is interested in used plate blocks for his KGVI collection and has a few duplicates for trade or purchase. Ed can be contacted by mail at 620 75th Ave. NW, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2K 0P9 or by email at harrise@shaw.ca

1937 - 42 Mufti, Pictorial Issue etc. Gary Steele is looking for covers, proofs, plate blocks, misperfs etc. of all issues in the Mufti period.

Dead Letter Office Covers - All Issues Gary is also looking for DLO covers for the 1937 - 52 period.

KGVI Covers with Foreign Postage Dues Gary is also interested in underpaid Canadian covers to foreign destinations charged/marked Postage Due and paid with foreign dues or regular stamps. Gary can be contacted by mail at 6 Braemont Court, Lower Sackville, Nova Scotia, Canada B4E 3A1 or by email at gary.steele@ns.sympatico.ca

1949 Postes - Postage OHMS Peter Kritz is looking for O285 & O286 (2 & 3¢ KGVI Poste - Postage issue) on cover. Peter can be contacted by regular mail at RR #3, Hanover, Ontario, Canada, N4N 3B9 or by email at pkritz@coldwellbankerprb.com

1949 - 51 Poste Postage Greg Spring is looking for in period postal history items featuring the last Canada KGVI issues incl. overprints postally used to destinations outside of Canada and the US particularly, dated 1949 but no later than Feb 6, 1952 (the King's death). Greg can be contacted by email at g.m.spring@asch.co.uk.

KGVI Period Articles or Want Lists Your Editor is always looking for articles or images of special items from Members for future Post & Mail Issues. Also this space is available for any member who wishes to place a Want List ad. Detailed want lists can be published on the Study Group website. Contact Stephen for further info at snail mail or email addresses given on page 2 of the Post & Mail.