



KING GEORGE VI POST & MAIL

January - June 2015

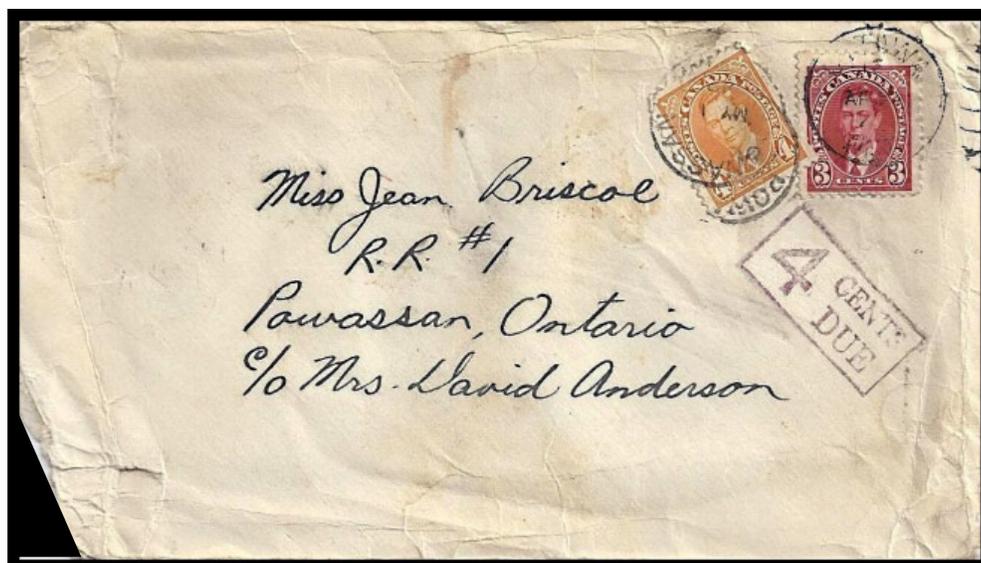
Issue 31

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Another 4¢ Mufti Single Use - by John Burnett

Stephen Prest wrote in Issue 30 about the single use of a 1937 4¢ Mufti to raise the rate on a postal stationery post card. Although not strictly a single use of the 4¢ stamp to pay a four cent rate; it was a single use of the value in adding postage to make up the required six cent domestic airmail rate. As such, I certainly think it qualifies as a single use of the 4¢ Mufti stamp. Shown below is another example of the use of a single 4¢ Mufti to pay, in this case, 4¢ postage due on a overweight domestic letter.



In this example an army member has written a 10 page letter home which have been preserved with the cover. The letter is double rate but only has paid 3¢ for the first ounce. The letter actually weighs more than one ounce and up to two ounces, hence is short paid 2¢ and at double the deficiency is postage due 4¢. It is this postage due fee that the single 4¢ Mufti is paying. I think this is another example similar to Stephen's where we see single use of the 4¢ when it is used in combination with other stamps or franking on the cover.

This cover is pretty ratty but it is a darn scarce use and so it goes on display when I show my Mufti's. Finding single use of the 4¢ Mufti is very difficult and deserves your attention when you are looking through KGVI covers at the next bourse you attend.

► Chairman's Notes - by Gary Steele

We are only a few weeks away from BNAPEX 2015 to be held in Niagara Falls this year. From all accounts, the exhibition will be well attended. Our George VI Study Group will have its general meeting at 15:00 on Friday September 11. We are planning a general show and tell and I look forward to seeing items that members in attendance will be presenting at the meeting. There is a good cross-section of dealers booked to attend so hopefully members will be able to locate useful George VI items for their collection during BNAPEX 2015.

On another matter, I am pleased to be able to relay to members that **Ken Lemke** has indicated his health is returning to normal and will once again take up the Post & Mail Editor's pen from Issue 32. On behalf of our Study Group membership, I would like to thank **Stephen Prest** for filling in for Ken and acting as interim Editor for Issues 30 and 31. Either Ken or Stephen have been the Post & Mail Editor since the formation of our George VI Study Group at BNAPEX 2003. We are very fortunate to have had them fill this role in support of our Study Group.

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► EFO's & Varieties

Gary Steele sent along this image featuring visible ink smears on five of six stamps on the bottom row of this 1937 1¢ Mufti block from an Upper Right sheet.

► Editor's Desk

This Issue 31 of the Post & Mail features the second instalment of **Donald Leblanc's** series on the Royal Visit Issue of 1939.

Mike Street has written a follow-up to his article that appeared in Issue 30 on short-paid mail during the Peace Issue period. **Peter Kritz's** Letter to the Editor posed a number of questions about Mike's article in Issue 30 to which Mike provides, in response, further background on the definition of Gold Centimes used by postal authorities to determine postage due on various classes of short-paid mail.

Hugh Delaney's article on the War Disease Control Station established on Grosse Isle (Île) Quebec in 1942 provides interesting postal history background and references to that island's history. **Gary Dickinson's** article on the Earliest Known Usage dates (EKU's) of the 1950 Unrevised KGVI definitive opens up a new field of collaborative study by Study Group members. Hopefully Gary's article will encourage members to review their cover stock to add to the list of post offices and EKU's for this issue.

John Burnett's Cover Story shows an example of the use of a single 4¢ Mufti on cover, this time to pay postage due. The article on KGVI Rarities - 1937 Coronation Issue courtesy of **Ron Brigham** and the **Brigham Collection** is gratefully acknowledged. **Stephen Prest's** second article on Canadian mail to New Zealand discusses the changes in New Zealand and Canadian exchange rates relative to Gold Centimes used to determine postage due payable.

In addition to **Peter Kritz**, Letters to the Editor were received from **Bruce Field** on a 1941/42 wrapper forwarded to the Philippines marked "MAIL SERVICE SUSPENDED" and **Simon Cloughton** on a Newfoundland FDC to Singapore also returned due to suspension of mail service. **Gary Steele** responded to **John Watson's** request for comments on his cover published in Issue 30's Letters to the Editor.

Your interim Editor appreciates the time and effort members have put in to forward material for this current issue of our newsletter.

KING GEORGE VI POST & MAIL

King George VI Post & Mail is produced in Word using Microsoft Publisher. Manuscripts can be submitted to the Editor either by mail or, preferably, in electronic format with text documents in M/S WORD. Scanned illustrations (using a black background) should be sent as separate electronic files or colour photocopies.

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The Royal Visit Issue of 1939 - Part II

Pre-production Planning for the 3 values of the Royal Visit Issue

by Donald Leblanc

Introduction

As stated in my article appearing in Post & Mail Issue 29, page 3, within 2 weeks of the official announcement in the Canadian Parliament of a planned Royal Visit to Canada in May 1939, suggestions had already been made by two senior postal officials to issue a series of 3 postage stamps, to honour the first visit of a Royal Monarch on Canadian soil.

The first one would be a portrait stamp of the King and Queen, the second, the National Memorial, then being constructed, and the third, to be decided on later, with one possibility, another portrait stamp of the two princesses, **if** they should accompany their parents to Canada.

The two portrait stamps would be arranged horizontally and the National Memorial, arranged vertically. These stamps would be the larger format, double-size of the current definitive stamps (Mufti issue of 1937) in the low values, with borders and frames dignified and simple in tone.

Request for photographs

The above decisions or suggestions were taken on October 18th 1938. I could not find any memo or activity in late October in the archives, but we can assume that meetings were held to plan the issue of these stamps.

The first item found in the Postal Archives is a letter dated November 9th 1938, addressed to the Honourable Vincent Massey, High Commissioner, Canada House, London, England ⁽¹⁾.

Dear Mr. Massey :

It has been decided that we shall issue special commemorative postage stamps in connection with the visit to Canada next year of Their Majesties, the King and Queen. We understand also that there is a possibility that Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret Rose will come to Canada.

In any case, we shall issue a stamp bearing portraits of Their Majesties, and it is possible that a stamp may issue with portraits of the two Princesses.

Could you have some action taken to obtain for the Postmaster General copies of the latest official photographs of the King and Queen, and also latest photographs of the two Princesses.

Any expenses in the purchase of those photographs will be met by this Department in the same manner as those for the photographs which were provided some time ago in connection with the Coronation issue.

As it takes considerable time to prepare commemorative stamps, which in Canada are prepared by line engraving processes, we wish to get the material as soon as possible. Anything you can do in the matter will be very much appreciated.

*Yours very truly,
John A. Sullivan
Deputy Postmaster General*

On November 17th 1938, a press release (see overleaf) was sent out with very little detail. The subjects of the stamps are not mentioned ⁽²⁾.

... Pre-production Planning for the 3 values of the Royal Visit Issue

by Donald Leblanc

ITEM FOR THE PRESS

"Hon W. D. Euler, Acting Postmaster General announces that there will be a commemorative issue of the postage stamps on the occasion of the visit to Canada next year of Their Majesties the King and Queen.

The commemorative stamps will likely be three in number, and will issue to the public at a time to coincide as closely as possible with the arrival of Their Majesties in Canada. The exact date of issue will be announced in due course."

The King and Queen Stamp

In late November, there is a memo from Mr. Massey indicating that he received the Deputy Postmaster General's letter of November 9th and would discuss this with the King's secretary as soon as possible.

Finally, there is a telegram dated December 6th 1938 from Mr. Massey, to the Secretary of State for External Affairs and it reads as follows ⁽³⁾:

" The King desires the same photographs to be used for the special issue of commemorative stamps in Canada next year as were used for the current Canadian stamps..... Photographs of Princesses will be taken shortly."

This short message causes more problems than it resolves.

A telegram is quickly drafted from the Deputy Postmaster General, dated December 12th 1938 and sent for the purpose of getting more explanations concerning the portraits. It reads in part ⁽⁴⁾:

" The meaning of this (abovementioned telegram) is somewhat obscure. On the stamps which are currently issued to the public, the photograph of the King represents him in mufti, and we have no picture of the Queen on the current stamps.

It is possible that reference is actually made to the Coronation stamp which was issued in May 1937, on the occasion of Their Majesties' Coronation.....

The 3¢ Coronation stamp is not currently issued to the public as it was a commemorative issue and was discontinued a short time after the Coronation..... "

The response is immediate and the High Commissioner scheduled an urgent meeting with the King's Secretary. On December 15th, a telegram is sent ⁽⁵⁾:

*From : the High Commissioner for Canada in Great Britain
To :The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Canada Dec 15th 1938*

" Your telegram of 12th December received. His Majesty has now decided that special photographs of himself and the Queen should be used for commemorative Canadian stamps. These photographs will be available about December 20th and will be forwarded to the Postmaster General immediately on receipt."

... Pre-production Planning for the 3 values of the Royal Visit Issue

by Donald Leblanc

The King is a man of his word. He decides on Dec 15th, the same day, to have new portraits taken and surprisingly, the private photographer Dorothy Wilding is available the same day.

Telegram from The High Commissioner for Canada , Mr. Massey, dated December 16th 1938 ⁽⁶⁾.

" In reference of my telegram of December 15th, photographs of Their Majesties received today and being forwarded by bag today for transmission to Postmaster General. Massey "

A related item in the archives is an account from Dorothy Wilding Portraits Ltd, 22 Old Bond Street, West London, dated Dec 31st 1938.

*Account - To right of reproduction on stamps
Portraits of T.M. The King and Queen £10.10.0*

There is also attached a receipt dated Jan 10th 1939 for a cheque received in the amount of ten pounds ten shillings and signed by Dorothy Wilding.

In passing, this is the same photographer that would continue taking official photographs of Princess Elizabeth when she would be crowned the Queen of England and the Issue of 1954 is appropriately known as the Wilding Issue. Another example of her work is the photograph of Princess Elizabeth used for the Royal Wedding stamp of 1948 (# 276).

Finally, the portraits were in the hands of the printers by January 3rd 1939.

The Princesses Stamp

In October, November and early December 1938, no final decision had been taken by the P.O. Dept to approve this stamp unless it was confirmed that the Princesses were going to make the trip to Canada with their parents. Everything was contingent on this confirmation. Nevertheless, they had requested photographs from London in November 1938 in preparation. Mr. Massey in one memo, hinted that he thought that they would not make the trip. If this turned out to be true, the stamp may be abandoned and replaced by another subject.

However, on December 15th a statement in the local press, which appeared to have emanated from the Prime Minister's office without the P.O.'s Dept.'s knowledge or consent, gives all the particulars of the subjects and denominations including the portrait stamp of the princesses. This caused panic and frustration in the P.O. Dept. as evidenced by the following memo dated December 17th from the Financial Superintendent ⁽⁷⁾.

"The undersigned does not know just how the press report emanated, which seemed to come from the Prime Minister's Office, and which included mention of commemorative stamps in connection with the visit of Their Majesties...."

The issue has been authorized by the Postmaster General, but no report to Council has been prepared. It seems likely, however, that the Acting Minister has discussed the matter with his colleagues. In any case, through the official statements given, it would seem that we are now committed to an extent that was not contemplated as regards the subjects of the new stamps.

It was decided to issue a stamp bearing portraits of Their Majesties the King and Queen, and another stamp picturing the National Memorial. The third stamp was to have been left for further consideration, but as apparently we are now committed to the subject, it will have to bear portraits of the two Princesses. The Princesses' stamp will be the 1-cent green, the National Memorial 2-cent brown, and the King and Queen stamp the 3-cent red."

... Pre-production Planning for the 3 values of the Royal Visit Issue

by Donald Leblanc

In hindsight, one of the most beautiful Canadian stamp bearing a portrait of the two Princesses owes its existence to a blunder from the Prime Minister's Office.

By January 1939, the race is on to try to obtain the two current photographs of the princesses. The printers are already working on proofs, but are using older photographs. Memos and telegrams are constantly sent to London to try to obtain these photographs. On January 18th, there is another desperate message to try to get new information on the photographs.

The telegram of January 24th is even more urgent and I quote; *"Very urgent to have Princesses' photographs for special stamp earliest possible. Have you any further information? "*

The answer from the High Commissioner on January 25th ⁽⁸⁾:

" His Majesty's Secretary states today hopes within few days to be able to give us instructions about Princesses' photographs. Delay has been caused by Court being at Sandringham and The King desiring special photographs to be taken for special stamps. "

Finally, on February 3rd 1939, the High Commissioner sends the following one line message : *" Photographs of Princesses going forward by bag today. "*

They only arrived on February 13th and were sent immediately to the printers, only about 3 months before the actually Royal Visit on May 15, 1939.



Illustration 1

Photographs of the 1st essays or proofs prepared by the engravers for the new stamps on December 28th 1938, using older photographs of the two younger princesses and the 1937 Coronation portraits of the King and Queen, all in one colour only.

The 4th essay uses the new photographs, but this draft is still using only one colour. Note the work order # 0-904 in December 1938, 0-907 in February 1939.

Source : the author's private collec-

... Pre-production Planning for the 3 values of the Royal Visit Issue

by Donald Leblanc



Illustration 2

Illustration 3



Illustrations 3 & 4 (scaled 60% of actual size)

Large Die Proofs on India paper on card of the 1-cent stamp, green (XG-685), and the 3-cent stamp, red (XG-687), the work of the engravers, Sydney Smith and William Ford respectively. On the back of both cards, in pencil, the work order # 0-907, with the 1 cent also dated Feb 27/39 on the reverse.

Source: the author's private collection.

... Pre-production Planning for the 3 values of the Royal Visit Issue

by Donald Leblanc

National Memorial Stamp

I could write an article on all of the memos and correspondence sent out to get pictures of the monument, but at least these arrived in November and December and the printers had sufficient material to work with. One concern for the P.O. Dept. was to acquire the exact name of the monument. They sent out inquiries to all departments, both federal and municipal (Ex : Ottawa Parks and Recreation Dept.) to be certain that they had the correct name to be added to the stamp. They were assured that the official name would be "The National Memorial". The common feeling by everyone involved was to avoid the term **war** or **peace** in the name. They verified this information by numerous memos. They sent this information to be included in the plate block inscription to the printers.

However, as luck would have it, politicians have their own agenda. At the ribbon cutting ceremony, in the presence of King George VI, the politicians referred to it as the National War Memorial and the name has stuck.

In my next article, I'll address the next phase of the process, that is the work done by the printers, the Canadian Bank Note Company. It was quite a feat to have these stamps ready for public sale for the Royal Visit on May 15th 1939.

As an introduction to the Essays and Proofs for this issue, I am including some photos from my own collection. In passing, I never found the original photographs of the princesses in the archives. Marcus Adams was the photographer who took the photographs of the princesses, not Mrs. Wilding.

Good hunting!

I can be reached at jeanmall@hotmail.com

Donald J. LeBlanc



Illustration 4 (scaled 80% of actual size)

Centre Portion of Large Die Proof (XG-686) on India paper on card of the 2-cent stamp, brown, the work of the engraver, Joseph Keller. On the back of the card, in pencil, the work order # 0-907, Feb 27/39.

Source: the author's private collection.

References:

- (1) Letter from the Deputy Postmaster General to the High Commissioner in London, England, dated November 9th 1938. Canadian Postal Archives, File 13-7-23, page 1-29.
- (2) Item for the Press, dated November 17th 1938. Canadian Postal Archives, File 13-7-23.
- (3) Telegram from the High Commissioner for Canada in Great Britain to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, No 280, dated December 6th 1938. Canadian Postal Archives, File 13-7-23.
- (4) Letter to the Secretary of State for External Affairs from the Deputy Postmaster General, dated December 12th 1938, page 1-3. Canadian Postal Archives, File 13-7-23.
- (5) Telegram from the High Commissioner for Canada in Great Britain to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, dated December 15th 1938, No 239. Canadian Postal Archives, File 13-7-23.
- (6) Telegram from the High Commissioner for Canada to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, dated December 16th 1938. Canadian Postal Archives, File 13-7-23.
- (7) Memorandum for A.S. Deaville, Esq, Chief of the Philatelic Division from H.E. Atwater, Financial Superintendent, dated December 19th 1938. Canadian Postal Archives, File 13-7-23.
- (8) Telegram from The High Commissioner to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, dated January 25th 1939, No.28. Canadian Postal Archives, File 13-7-23

King George VI Rarities - 1937 Coronation Issue

Courtesy of The Brigham Collection

Introduction

The Brigham Collection of Canada Part V Sale on June 13, 2015 brought to market an extraordinary selection of George VI period pre-production essays, proofs, imperforate blocks and varieties. Many of the items had not been displayed at philatelic shows and therefore had not been seen by collectors of George VI Canada for many years. Post & Mail readers will recall Donald Leblanc's article on imperforate war issue plate blocks which appeared in Issue 30 credits the Brigham Collection with providing access to various examples that formerly resided in the collection. We are very grateful to have received the gracious permission from Ron Brigham to present various images of George VI era material in this issue of the Post & Mail that are coming to light as a result of their inclusion in the recent Sale #5 of the Brigham Collection.

Sale #5 featured three die proofs of the 1937 3¢ Coronation Issue all featuring the Die Number 'X-G-663' and 'CANADIAN BANK NOTE COMPANY LIMITED' imprint below the design. The two large die proofs were in dark carmine (darker than issue) and carmine (colour of issue). The third die proof, depicted in Figure 1, was a small die proof in light rose carmine.

Further examples of essays and die proofs in both issued and unissued colours for all of the definitive issues, the Royal Visit issue and many of the other commemorative issues during the King George VI reign were included in the Part V Sale of the Brigham Collection.



Figure 1. The 1937 3¢ Coronation Issue Small Die Proof in Light Rose Carmine on India - Courtesy of the Brigham Collection

The Imperforate 1937 3¢ Coronation Issue

The Brigham Collection of Canada contained two of the three recorded imperforate plate blocks of the 1937 Coronation Issue. Figure 2 depicts the Upper Left No. 1 and Lower Left No. 1 Plate Blocks. It is likely that the third imperforate plate block also came from Plate No. 1 but this remains to be confirmed. Further information about the imperforate plate blocks of the early George VI period can be found in an article entitled "Imperforates and Part Perforates of Canada, 1859 to 1942" by C. M. Jephcott and Henry Gates in BNA Topics Vol. 28, Whole No. 307 (Dec. 1971) pp. 314-319 which lists the numbers of the various imperforates and part perforates issued, concluding with the period 1930 to 1942.



Figure 2. The 1937 3¢ Coronation UL and LL Plate No. 1 Imperforate Blocks of 4 - Courtesy of The Brigham Collection

1947 Change of Postage Due Centime Conversion Rate

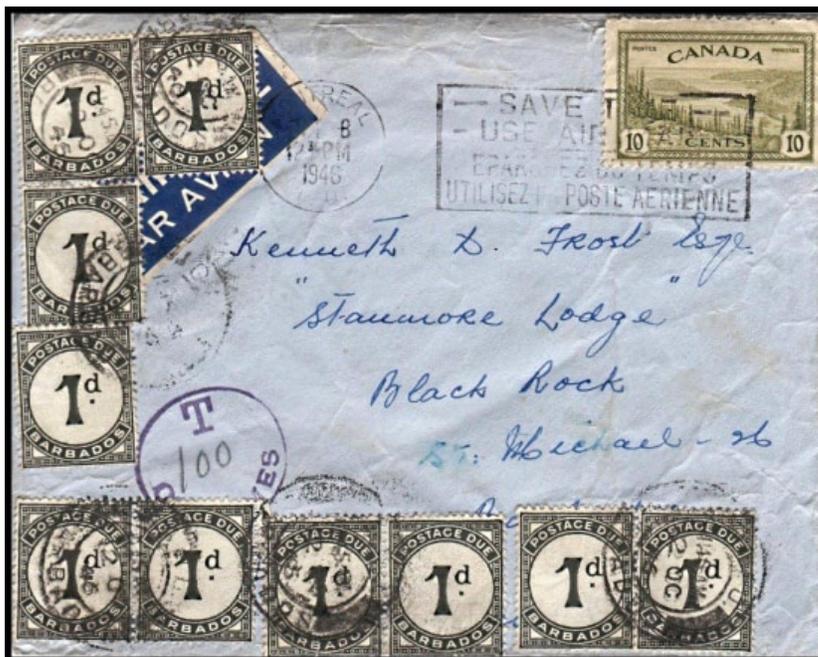
Short-paid Peace Issue Covers to Barbados and the United Kingdom

by Mike Street

1946 Short-paid letter to the Barbados

The note included with my article on page 8 in the *Post & Mail* Issue 30 gave July 1947 as the date that Canada changed its conversion rate for the postage due on short paid international mail from 5 centimes to 3 centimes per Canadian cent. The two covers shown below illustrate the change.

The letter illustrated to the right was mailed from Montreal to Black Rock, St Michael, Barbados, postmarked 8 October 1946, was franked with a 10¢ Peace Issue stamp to pay the rate for ¼ oz. Determined to be over ¼ oz. but less than ½ oz., the Post Office calculated the double deficiency postage due To be $10¢ \times 2 \times 5$ centimes per Canadian cent = 100 centimes and the T/100/Centimes mark was applied accordingly. On arrival in Barbados, the 100 centimes was converted to 10 Barbados pence and ten 1d Barbadian postage dues stamps were affixed to the cover.



1948 Short-paid letter to the United Kingdom

A little over two years later, on 28 October 1948, the cover shown at right was mailed from Halifax to the Hampstead area of London, England. The 20¢ Peace Issue stamp was sufficient to pay the rate for ¼ oz, but not for a letter weighing over ¼ oz and less than ½ oz, which required 30¢ in postage. As the centime conversion rate had changed in July 1947, the postage due was calculated to be $10¢ \times 2 \times 3$ centimes per Canadian cent = 60 centimes, and the T/60/Centimes handstamp was added. In England 60 centimes was converted to 10 British pence and two 5d UK postage dues applied. Note that the handstamp added in England reads "MORE TO PAY 10 RATE OVER ¼ OZ", confirming the weight assessment made in Canada.



Footnote: As a follow-up to his article on short-paid mail to France in Issue 30 of the Post & Mail, Mike provides the following reference in respect to the restrictions placed on the use of special delivery stamps: [3] Canada Post Office, Canada Official Postal Guide, 1947 and 1947 Reprint (January 1949), section 232. (pp 58) "Special Delivery stamps may not be used for the payment of ordinary postage."

War Disease Control Station, Grosse Isle, Quebec 1942 - 1946

by Hugh Delaney

Introduction

In 1832 the Government designated Grosse Isle, a small island in the St. Lawrence River about 30 miles down-stream from Quebec City as a medical inspection and quarantine station for immigrants arriving on ships coming to Lower and upper Canada. In 1847, it was overwhelmed by the influx of over 100,000 immigrants, mainly Irish who fleeing the effects of the Great Irish Famine. Most arrived weak, malnourished and many were carrying typhus due to the unsanitary conditions that existed on the incoming ships.

A post office was opened on the island in late 1913. Previously mail went to Montmagny, Quebec on the south side of the river opposite the Island. The inhabitants would row over by boat or canoe and bring the mail to the Catholic Rectory on the island to distribute, no mail was ever cancelled there before 1913. The post office closed at the end of 1937 and responsibility for the island subsequently transferred from the Department of Health to Public Works in August 1938.

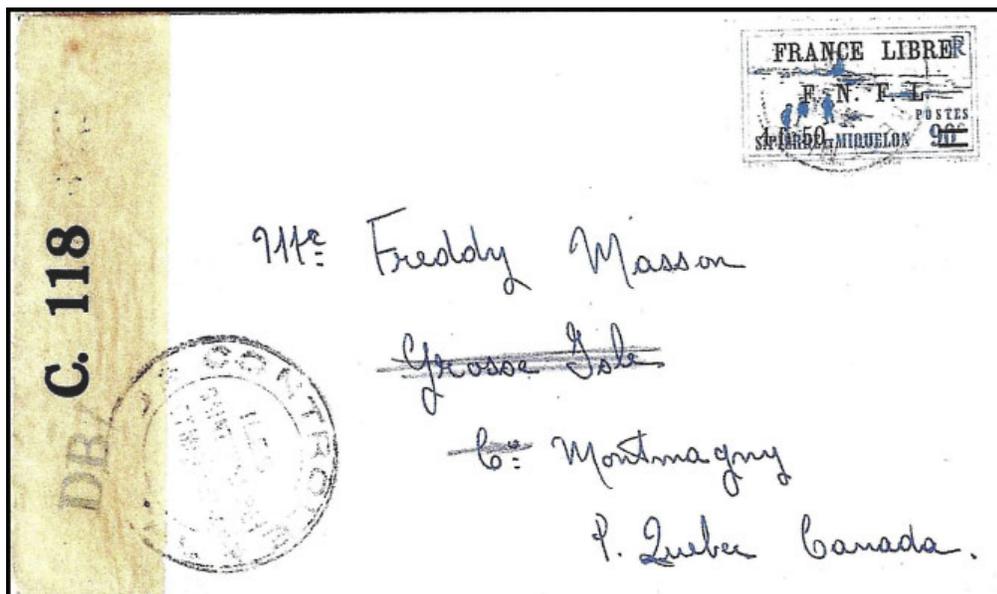
The island had ceased to be used as an immigrant entry point into Canada and was shut down until World War Two and particularly after Japan attacked the United States. Canada and the U.S. agreed to use the island for research into bacteriological and biological work. This work started in 1942 and closed in 1946. The Department of National War Services declared in October 1943 that mail to and from Grosse Isle would be censored. By mid-November 1943, the mail was marked with a rectangular censorship hand-stamp bearing the letters W.D.C.S. (abbr. for War Disease Control Station) with a space for the censor's initials in the middle. In the top of the rectangle was the word CENSOR. During its use, three different Censors put their initials on the mail.

The Superintendent of the island was J Alfred (Freddy) Masson whose family lived and worked on the island for 117 years. Freddy was obviously a stamp collector who sent or received mail with or without the censor mark during the 1942 to 1946 period. He used his artistic ability to place cachets on letters some of which are among those illustrated below.

St Pierre et Miquelon to Grosse Isle - February 1943

Letter addressed to Grosse Isle from the Free France territory of St Pierre and Miquelon prior to the introduction of censorship in November 1943. Montmagny and Isle aux Grues back-stamps dated February 13 and February 14 1943 respectively indicates routing through the Isle aux Grues Post Office prior to delivery to Grosse Isle. The cover was censored in St Pierre. Gagné⁽¹⁾ mentions that many of the local people employed on Grosse Isle actually lived on nearby Isle aux Grues and travelled back and forth to Grosse Isle on a regular basis.

Figure 1



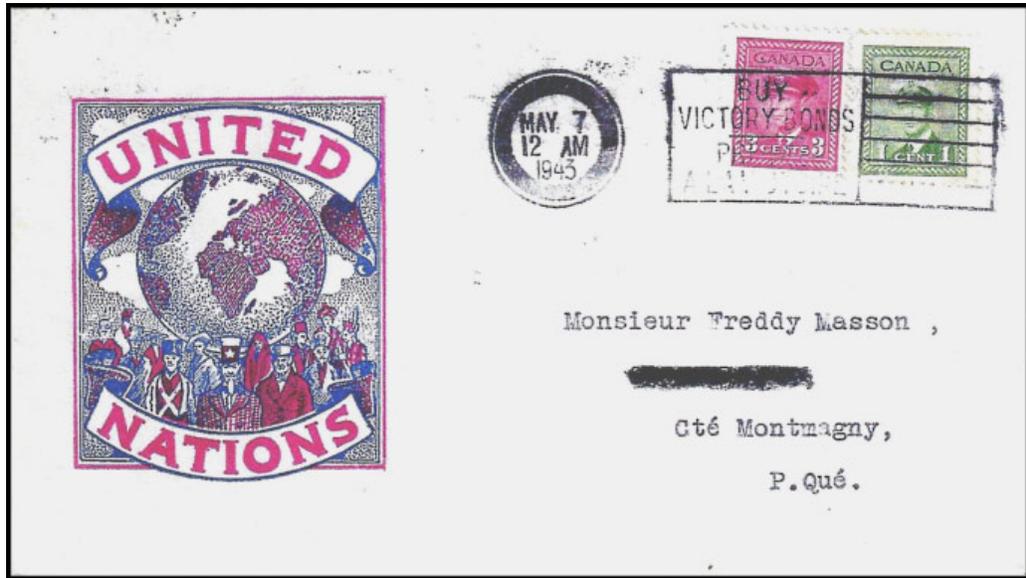
... War Disease Control Station, Grosse Isle, Quebec 1942 - 1946

by Hugh Delaney

Via Quebec - May 1943

Letter addressed to Freddy Masson apparently via Quebec City as evidenced by the Type 5 Blackout Cancel known to be used in Quebec⁽²⁾. Again, the letter was received prior to the introduction of censorship in November 1943 and there is no "W.D.C.S" marking on the cover. Montmagny and Isles aux Grues back-stamps dated May 17 and May 18, 1943 respectively again indicates routing through the Isle aux Grues Post Office prior to delivery to Mr. Masson.

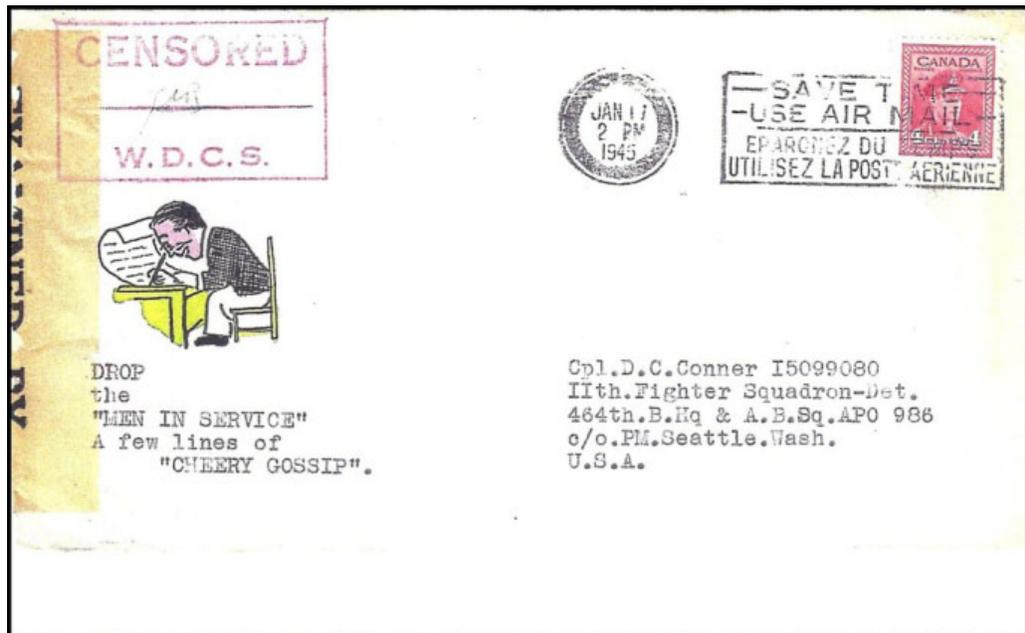
Figure 2



Via Quebec - January 1945

Letter addressed to Cpl. D.C. Conner in Seattle again apparently via Quebec City as evidenced by Freddy Masson's return address of Box I28, Upper Town Quebec City on the reverse. The letter features the boxed Grosse Isle W.D.C.S. & CENSORED hand-stamp and an example of Freddy's art work encouraging the recipient to "DROP the "MEN IN SERVICE" A few lines of "CHERRY GOSSIP".".

Figure 3



... War Disease Control Station, Grosse Isle, Quebec 1942 - 1946

by Hugh Delaney

Via Montmagny - February 1946

Letter addressed to Melle Charlotte Fournier in Montmagny, postmarked February 28, 1946 - five days before the last usage of the boxed W.D.C.S. & CENSORED handstamp (March 4, 1946). This envelope also features a circular War Disease Control Station back-stamp dated Feb 28 1946 on the reverse. The cachet on the front cover is another example of Freddy Masson's artwork with his initials appearing in the boxed W.D.C.S. hand-stamp facsimile in his illustration. The cover also features the boxed W.D.C.S. - CENSORED handstamp with the initials PEB.

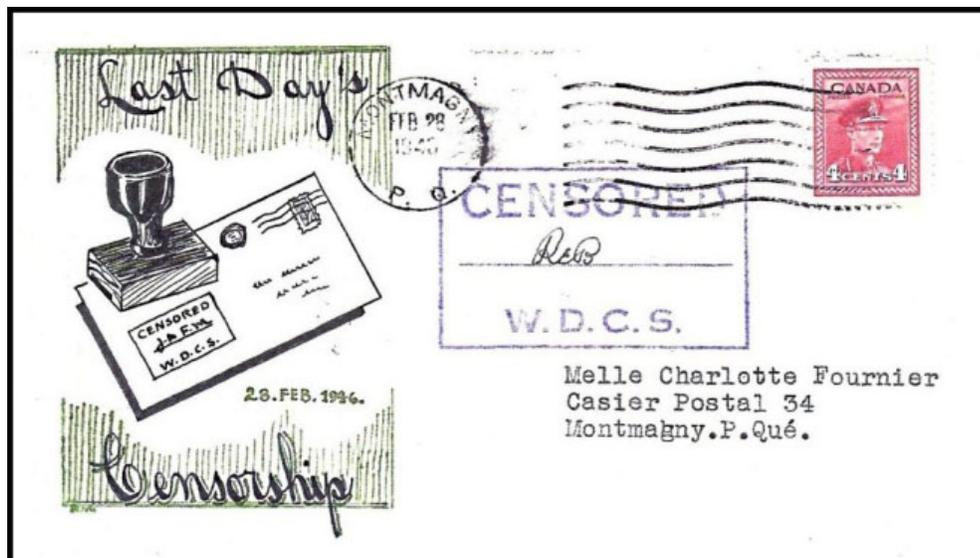
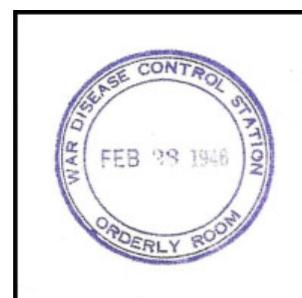


Figure 4



Concluding Thoughts

Following the conclusion of the Second World War, Grosse Isle remained in the hands of various Government of Canada departments. It was declared a "Prohibited Site" by Order in Council in late 1947 and remained under the Department of National Defence until the end of the 1950's. The Department of Agriculture established a research station on the island in 1957 to study animal borne diseases. An animal quarantine station was established in 1960. Subsequently, the island was declared a national Historic Site and National Park dedicated to the history of immigration into Canada. A monument commemorating the Irish immigrants who succumbed to disease and malnourishment in 1847 is located on the island of Grosse Isle.

Readers interested in learning more about the postal history associated with Grosse Isle (Île in French) are encouraged to consult Michel Gagne's paper entitled "*L'histoire postale de Grosse Île*"⁽¹⁾. Gagne's research draws upon BNAPS'er E. R. Toop's article entitled "War Disease Control Station" which appeared the Canadian Military Mail Study Group Newsletter No. 81⁽³⁾. Finally, I would like to acknowledge the support received from fellow BNAPS'er **James Taylor** who kindly gave me the cover depicted in Figure 1 of this article and provided access to his own research on correspondence between residents of St Pierre et Miquelon and Grosse Isle⁽⁴⁾.

References

- (1) "*L'histoire postale de Grosse-Île de 1832 à 1937*" by Michel Gagné, Les Cahiers de L'académie - Opus IX, (June 1991) pp. 35-72 (<http://aqep.info/opus/09d.pdf>)
- (2) "*Some notes on Canadian 'Blackout' Cancellations*" by T. P. G. Shaw, BNA TOPICS, Vol 14, Whole No. 152 (Dec 1957) pp 303-305
- (3) "*War Disease Control Station (CENSORED W.D.C.S.)*" by E.R. Toop, Canadian Military Mail Study Group Newsletter No. 81, (April 1988) pp. 1-10
- (4) "*A Cover from Miquelon to Grosse Île, Quebec*" by James R Taylor, St. Pierre & Miquelon Philatelic Journal, Volume 19, No. 2 (April 2013) p.4

Some early Uses of the 1950 Unrevised KGVI Definitive Issue

by Gary Dickinson

Introduction

Preparing for the final definitive issue of the King George VI reign proved to be a lengthy, expensive, and ultimately embarrassing process for the Canada Post Office. Towards the end of it, CPO had on hand more than 300 million stamps which, for the want of the two words “Postes-Postage”, appeared to be unusable. It was eventually decided that they should be released after the replacement issue appeared.

It has long been thought that sales of the unrevised issue first took place in London, Ontario on January 19, 1950, but little research has been done to identify the first dates of issue in other Canadian centres. This article reviews and updates previously reported earliest known use dates (EKUs) and then adds to that list a number of EKUs from other centres with postmarks dated within a week of the first known release date.

Background

The original set of five stamps had been designed, approved, printed, and distributed to post offices across the country, ready for sale on June 6, 1949, which had been the scheduled issue date for many months. On June 4, however, postal officials sent out instructions that the stamps were not to be sold but rather returned to Ottawa so that the original “unrevised” set could be “revised” with the two missing words “Postes & Postage”. This was thought to be a political decision as a looming federal election had raised concerns that the French-speaking population might be offended by the absence of their language on the new Canadian stamps.

Considerable discussion took place regarding what to do with the unrevised stamps. At first it was thought that they should all be destroyed to prevent any of them from leaking into the hands of sharp stamp collectors or unscrupulous speculators as even a small number of escapees could conceivably cause a significant disruption in the marketplace. As the postal officials apparently lacked confidence in whatever security measures they might undertake, it was eventually concluded that all of the stamps that had been printed would be sold so as not to risk the creation of instant rarities.

Rather than releasing all of the unrevised stamps at once, CPO announced that: *“These stamps will be placed on sale in Post Offices throughout Canada sometime in January, 1950, and will remain on sale until the supply is exhausted. No further stocks of these stamps will be printed. No First Day Covers will be serviced for these stamps.”* (BNA Topics, 1949)



Figure 1: Toronto Terminal A circular sate stamp, January 16, 1950

... early Uses of the 1950 Unrevised KGVI Definitive Issue

by Gary Dickinson

Previous Research

In his landmark and extensive review of early Canadian FDCs, Melvin L. Baron (1981) listed six usage dates for the unrevised issue including, London on January 19, Ottawa and Toronto on January 20, Windsor on January 21, Montreal on January 23, and Hamilton on January 26. There appears to be no other published studies on this topic.

Earlier EKUs

This present study identifies three earlier usage dates of the six EKUs documented by Baron. Of particular interest is the cover shown in Figure 1 which was postmarked at Toronto's Terminal A on January 16, 1950, three days earlier than the London date which has long been thought of as the earliest known use of an unrevised stamp. An enlarged version of one of the four strikes is also shown in Figure 1. This cover, with a Litho Art cachet that was used earlier for the revised issue, was sold via the Internet in February, 2015.

FDC specialist Bruce Perkins has documented a set of four uncached covers, missing only the 2 cent denomination, postmarked at Montreal Place D'Armes on January 19. These covers were addressed to a local resident. The example illustrated in Figure 2 has no cachet or notation proclaiming first day status. This cover moves the EKU for Montreal four days earlier than previously identified by Baron.

The Hamilton Philatelic Society used their FDC rubber stamp on the cover shown in Figure 3. This registered cover has a typed notation, "Special Unrevised Issue" at the top of the envelope and was postmarked on January 23. It moves the EKU identified by Baron for Hamilton from January 26 to the 23rd.

Figure 2
Montreal Place D'Armes
circular date stamps
January 19, 1950
Image courtesy of
Bruce Perkins



Figure 3
Hamilton
circular date stamps &
registration markings
January 23, 1950

... early Uses of the 1950 Unrevised KGVI Definitive Issue

by Gary Dickinson

New EKUs

In addition to the six post offices with EKUs reported by Baron, nine additional postal markings were recorded during this study. Ten of the 15 total EKUs were in Ontario and none was east of Montreal. All 15 offices are listed in the summary and three with distinctive cachets are illustrated here. Only four cachet makers produced special designs for the unrevised issue and they were Garthe, Grover Stamp Exchange, Fulton Stamp Company, and Ottawa Stamp Shop. Three of those four are illustrated below.

The Garthe FDC is shown in Figure 4 with Kitchener circular date stamps for January 21. The cachet artwork is the same as on the Garthe cachet for the revised issue, except that a line of text at the bottom reading "Original Printing - Without Postes-Postage" was added. This cover was airmailed to El Paso, Texas.

Grover Stamp Exchange, which was based at Windsor, published a cachet similar to the one they used for the revised issue with additional text at bottom left reading "First Day of use at Windsor/ Unrevised George VI Issue." The cover shown in Figure 5 is unaddressed and has Windsor circular date stamps from January 21.



Figure 4

Figure 4
Kitchener
circular date stamps
January 21, 1950
on Garthe cachet cover

Figure 5
Windsor
circular date stamps
January 21, 1950
with Grover cachet



Figure 5

... early Uses of the 1950 Unrevised KGVI Definitive Issue

by *Gary Dickinson*

New EKUs (cont'd)

The Fulton cachet illustrated in Figure 6 is doubly scarce because in addition to being an EKU dated January 25 for Vancouver, it also has an uncommon variation of this maker's cachet without text. The cover is also short paid by 2 cents for surface mail to the U.S.

*Figure 6
Vancouver
circular date stamps
January 25, 1950
With Fulton Cachet*



Summary

The updated list of EKUs for the unrevised issue now includes the following fifteen post offices:

Earliest Known Usage Dates of the 1950 Unrevised KGVI Definitive (all January 1950)

Calgary	25	Ottawa	20
Edmonton	24	Ottawa Sub. 7	20
Guelph	21	Toronto	21
Hamilton	23	Toronto Adelaide	23
Kitchener	21	Toronto Terminal A	16
London	19	Vancouver	25
Montreal	19	Windsor (Ontario)	21
Moose Jaw	21		

Undoubtedly there are other EKUs remaining to be found and documented as they are usually not as obvious as first day covers where there is a widely-known and publicized issue date. Hopefully this article will encourage other Study Group members to review their holdings of covers of the unrevised KGVI definitive issue and report through the Post & Mail any new discoveries of EKUs for this issue. Of particular interest will be the EKUs of smaller post offices which due to their limited turnover may not have received stocks of these stamps well into February or March 1950.

References

Canada Post Office; "Announcement." BNA Topics, Vol. 6, No. 9 (November 1949) p.26

Baron, MelvinL. "FDCs of the Canadian Postal Issues of 1940-1950, Part IV (Sc 284-288 and 289-293)" First Days, Vol. 26, No. 2 (March-April, 1981) pp. 184-191

Canadian Postal Rates to New Zealand 1937-1954 (Part 2)

Canadian Short-paid Mail to New Zealand

by *Stephen Prest*

Introduction

One of the more fascinating subjects one finds when collecting postal history is the matter of short-paid or postage due mail. This subject becomes all the more interesting in the George VI period as the growth in international air mail resulted in instances of relatively high postage deficiency for underpaid air mail letters. Further, the impact of World War II necessitated changes in routing and postage rates. Lastly, post war devaluations of various currencies, particularly in the Sterling area, led to changes in (gold) centime exchange rates adopted for short-paid mail.

I have found short-paid mail often provides useful information in determining the ruling rates between New Zealand and Canada at various times during the George VI period. This article illustrates an example of postage due mail in the early years of the George VI period, thus complementing the postal rates and routes described in Part 1 of this series on Canadian mail to New Zealand that appeared in Issue 30.

The Short-paid Mail Process

The determination of deficient postage by the forwarding postal jurisdiction and the collection of postage due by the destination jurisdiction are governed in the first instance by a framework of U.P.U. regulations into which each jurisdiction would then put in place its own rules and regulations. The two most important sets of information used by both jurisdictions were the ruling postal rates and the ruling home country currency to Gold Centime exchange rate at any particular time (*see footnote below*). With these in hand, the respective postmasters would go about determining what would be the appropriate action in the case of a short-paid letter. In the current instance, the decision points of Canadian to New Zealand short-paid mail process could be described as follows.

In Canada:

First a letter would need to be recognized as being short-paid, say overweight, incorrectly franked for the service etc.

Then the appropriate amount of deficiency would be determined (single, double) and the ruling Canadian cents to centime exchange rate applied.

In New Zealand:

The letter would need to be accepted as being in a short-paid category (at least one example in the author's collection indicates the New Zealand postal authorities may have declined to charge the recipient postage due).

Then the appropriate amount of postage due would be determined using New Zealand's ruling pence to centime exchange rate.

Canadian and New Zealand Postage Due Exchange Rates

The footnote to Mike Street's article on short-paid Canadian cover to France described the change in exchange rate of a Canadian cent expressed in centimes that took place in July 1947 when the exchange rate was set at 1¢ = 3 centimes. Prior to that date the exchange rate had been 1¢ = 5 centimes. Of particular interest to this author, New Zealand also changed its exchange rate in the post war period, albeit at a later date than was the case in Canada. The change in New Zealand's exchange rate took place in March 1950 when the rate was set at 1d. (one pence) = 4 centimes. Prior to that, the New Zealand exchange rate had been set at 1d. = 10 centimes.

Both Canadian and New Zealand Postal regulations stipulated with a few exceptions that the amount of postage due on short-paid mail to other countries be indicated in centimes. The fact that Canada and New Zealand changed their centime exchange rates at different times results in three periods of distinct pairings of exchange rates between the two countries in the period between December 1936 and early 1954 as illustrated in Table 1 overleaf.

Footnote: Study Group Member Mike Street provides a description of the Gold Centime on page 22 of this newsletter. He points out that the Gold Centime (and Franc) are notional currencies the U. P. U. established for the purposes of determining amounts due in local currencies. Gold Centimes are not to be confused with currency of countries like France or Switzerland who also use the same terminology to describe their currencies. Further, postal authorities around the world generally shortened the reference for Gold Centimes to just the single word "centime(s)" for convenience and this can sometimes cause confusion when considering postage due amounts on postal history covers.

Canadian Postal Rates to New Zealand 1937-1954 (Part 2)

Canadian Short-paid Mail to New Zealand

by Stephen Prest

Canadian and New Zealand Postage Due Exchange Rates (cont'd)

The first period runs from the start of George VI period in December 1936 to July 1947 when the Canadian Post Office set it's exchange rate at 1 cent = 5 centimes while New Zealand rate was 1 pence = 10 centimes. For convenience, this period is referred to as the **T5/T10** Period. The subsequent periods are referred to as **T3/T10** and **T3/T4** to reflect the relative Canadian and New Zealand exchange rates during those periods.

Table 1

Pairings of Canadian and New Zealand Exchange Rates for Postage Due purposes during the King George VI Period (in Gold Centimes)

<u>Period</u>	<u>1¢ Canadian</u>	<u>1d. New Zealand</u>	<u>Dates</u>
T5/T10	= 5 centimes	= 10 centimes	Dec 11, 1936 to June 30, 1947
T3/T10	= 3 centimes	= 10 centimes	July 1, 1947 to Feb 28, 1950
T3/T4	= 3 centimes	= 4 centimes	March 1, 1950 to Feb 28, 1954

Canadian short-paid triple weight letter to New Zealand - 1939 (T5/T10 Period)

The envelope in Figure 1 below, mailed in Vancouver August 10, 1939 to Kilbirnie, Wellington New Zealand was franked with 11¢ in postage which would pay the domestic airmail rate for a letter weighing between 1 and 2 ounces. The Empire rate to New Zealand in August 1939 was 6¢ per half ounce and the letter was determined by Canadian postal personnel to be between 1 and 1½ ounces, i.e. triple weight, and should have been franked with 18¢ in postage. The double deficiency charge was determined to be 70 centimes (7¢ x 2 x 5 centimes) by the Canadian Post Office. On arrival, the New Zealand Kilbirnie post office charged the recipient 7d. (pence) in postage due (70 centimes ÷ 10 centimes per pence).

This cover features the "PLEASE ADVISE..." handstamp applied by the Canadian Post Office as part of its campaign at the time to get senders to properly frank mail to empire at the correct 6¢ per half ounce rate. This handstamp was discussed in some detail in Issue 13 of the Post & Mail and the example of this handstamp used on the cover below exhibits "Type I" features as described in the earlier article.

Figure 1



► Letters to the Editor ...

Bruce Field wrote regarding Mail Service Suspended to the Philippines in 1942:

Hi Steve:

Here are a few notes about the attached cover which I acquired from **Doug Lingard** a few years ago. It is a wrapper from The Stamp Collectors Exchange Club in Toronto to the Philippines probably in January 1942. It is franked with a one cent Mufti precancelled with a Toronto style 15 precancel, paying the one cent for 2 ounces printed matter rate. There is a manuscript notation in the top left corner which reads Dec 1941 - Jan 1942 which probably refers to the issue date of the contents ("THE MAGAZINE FOR HOBBYISTS").

There are two different strikes of PASSED BY CENSOR_____, one in black and one in purple ink. The purple ink one has a manuscript 36 at the end of it and ties the stamp to the wrapper. There a MAIL SERVICE SUSPENDED strike, a RETURN TO strike above the senders address and a faint pointing finger and a second boxed RETURN TO SENDER handstamp on the front of the wrapper. The back of the wrapper has a boxed "INSPECTION SERVICE, / MAR 19 1942 / DEAD LETTER OFFICE / OTTAWA." (17) hand-stamp.

Regards Bruce

P.S. Maybe there is someone in the group that you can contact to verify the information including a date that the service was suspended and if it had gone via the U.S. which suspended the service on Dec 16, 1941.

(Editor's Note: Perhaps one of our members who is active in the BNAPS' Military Mail or World War II Study Groups can answer Bruce's questions as to when Canada Post suspended mail service to the Philippines and whether such mail was directed through the United States in the normal course of events prior to the suspension of mail services in late 1941.)



► Letters to the Editor ...

Simon Cloughton also wrote regarding Mail Service Suspended in the Pacific in 1942:

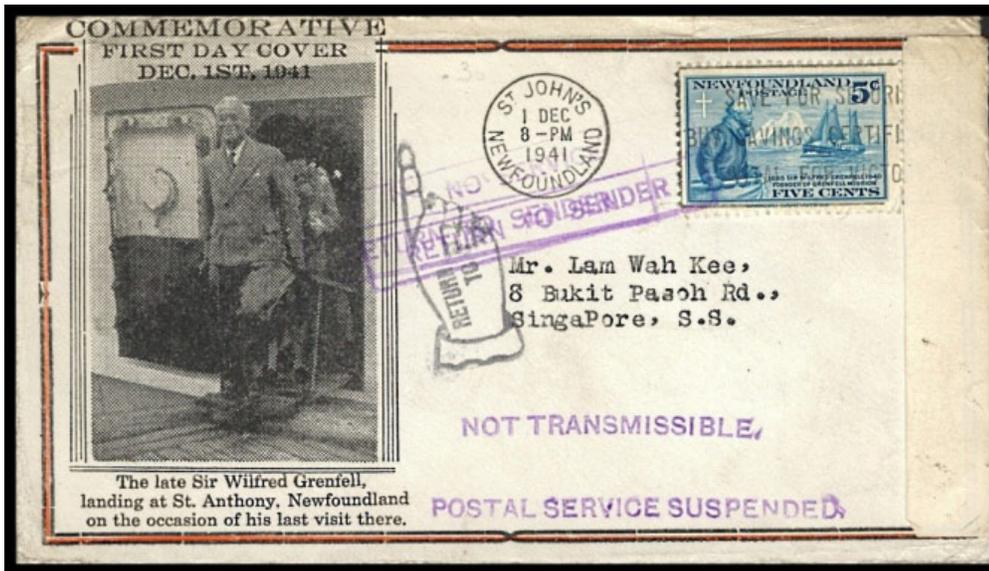
Hi Stephen:

During a BNAPS Golden Horseshoe Regional Meeting a little over a year ago, I presented a number of covers during the show and tell session and it was suggested by **Mike Street** and **Ken Lemke** I forward the cover below for the general interest of Study Group members. This is a Grenville Commemorative FDC postmarked Dec 1, 1941 in St. John's Newfoundland to Singapore franked with the 1941 5¢ Grenville which correctly pays the Newfoundland "Empire" first weight surface letter rate. The front features **POSTAL SERVICE SUSPENDED, NOT TRANSMISSIBLE**, and two **RETURN TO SENDER** handstamps. The back features two October 1942 Wellington New Zealand Dead Letter Office post marks and a Canada Post Office **INSPECTOR DIVISON DEAD LETTER OFFICE** November 30 1942 postmark.

While not entirely certain, this letter probably travelled across the Atlantic by sea to England and then onwards around Africa and across the Indian Ocean. Alternately, it may have travelled west and across the Pacific. Either way, ten months after leaving Newfoundland it turned up in the Dead Letter Office in Wellington, New Zealand and began its return journey back to Newfoundland via Canada.

Simon

(Editor's Note: Simon is among the Study Group members who assists with proof reading the Post & Mail. On reading Bruce Field's letter on the proceeding page, he forwarded the abovementioned cover which adds useful background to the subject of suspended mail in late 1941.)



► Letters to the Editor ...

Peter Kritz wrote with questions regarding **Short Paid Mail** to which your interim Editor and Mike Street replied:

Hi Stephen

I read with great interest the item (*Mike Street's article on a short paid letter to France*) and explanation for the short paid letter in the most recent Post and Mail where it talks about conversions to centimes etc. I have some postage due letters with different foreign dues stamps on them and wonder where the information is on the conversion rate for more countries than Canada.

Is there something somewhere that the UPU publishes in regards to conversion factors for specific countries? How did you know what France's conversion rate was? I am very glad to learn of the July 1947 date for change in centime exchange rate for Canada.

Thanks, Peter

Hello Peter

... As for your interest and questions regarding postage due and conversion to centimes by various postal administrations, this is not easy information to come by. Mike Street did the hard work of tracking down July 1947 as the date the Post Office of Canada devalued its exchange rate to 3 centimes per Canadian cent from the previous rate of 5 centimes. It took me about three years of searching in New Zealand Post Office records and correspondence with a collector in Queensland to nail down the dates when New Zealand and Australia devalued their respective currencies against the centime in the late 1940's. As for other countries, I suspect that they also changed their exchange rates in the 1940's but do not have any reference sources as yet to be more specific.

Regarding the conversion rate used by France, I think Mike relied on the information provided on the front of the cover where the French postal clerk wrote out his calculation of .39 franc/centime x 90 centimes = 35.10 France in postage due. I have copied Mike on this email so that he can perhaps expand on this explanation and possibly advise us of the period when this rate of .39f per centime was in effect.

Kind regards, Stephen

Mike explains the **Role of the Gold Franc (100 Gold Centimes) used to determine Postage Due**

Hi Peter and Stephen:

Since every country's currency fluctuates I don't think it's possible to find out what a country's exchange rate to the UPU Gold Centime was at any given time except through the kind of research Stephen and I have done, i.e. country by country. See the two links below for other countries. Stephen is correct re how the rate on my cover (to France) was determined.

<http://www.nswtaxmarks.com/?p=34>

<http://greatbritainphilately.blogspot.ca/2011/02/postage-due-mail-international.html>

It may be that the UPU kept a record of individual countries' rates of exchange, but I wouldn't know where to look. Sorry I can't help more.

To clarify, it is not the Swiss franc that was converted to centimes. Per the web site referred to above, "The UPU monetary unit was the Gold Franc of 100 centimes of a weight of 10/31 of a gramme and of a fineness of 0.900. The Gold Franc was a notional currency. No country actually minted the UPU (Gold) Franc. Nations converted their currencies to Gold Francs based on the definition above."

From what I can see, most countries changed their conversion rates after World War II, around 1947-1948. I'd suggest one look for postage due covers with the tax shown in centimes before and after those years, then calculate from the actual amount of postage due applied the apparent exchange rate in the local currency. Once one finds two different rates one can start to narrow in to the centre of the dates to determine the actual transition in exchange rates.

Hope this helps, Mike

► Letters to the Editor ...

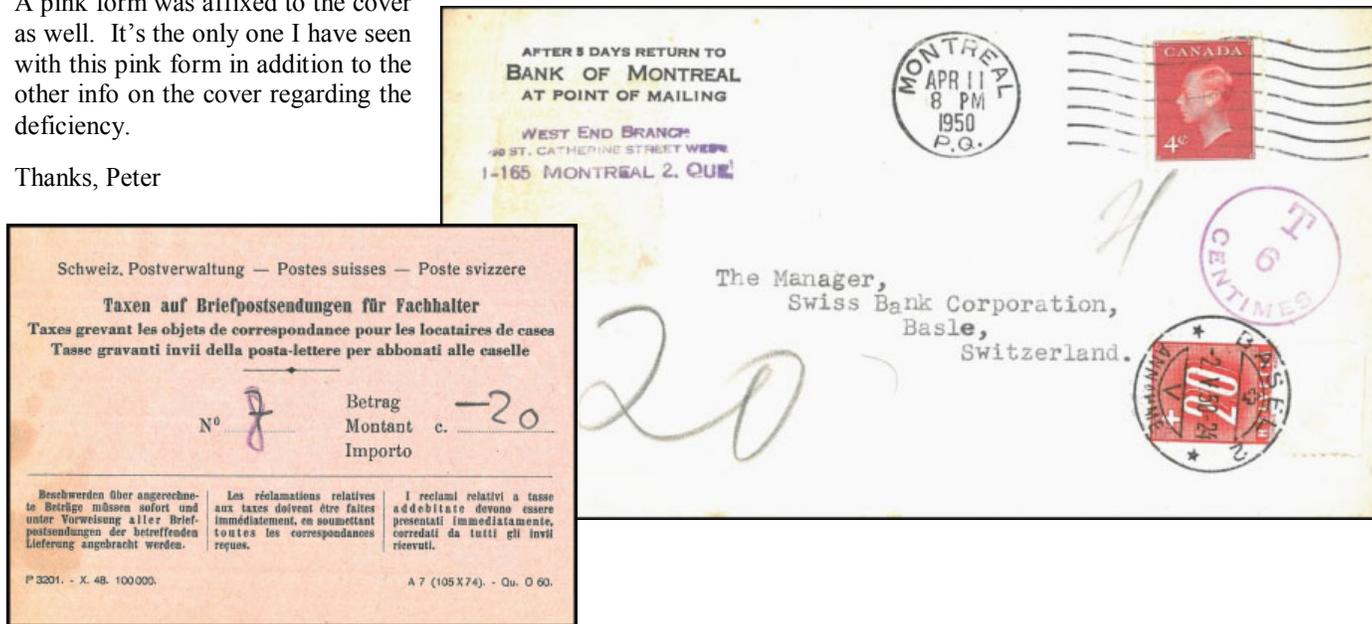
Following on from Mike’s suggestion, **Peter Kritz** forwarded an image of a short-paid Canadian cover to Switzerland.

Hi Stephen

Letter mailed April 11, 1950 from Montreal to Basle, Switzerland, short paid 1 cent for the 5 cent rate. Double deficiency would be 2 cents converted at 3 centimes = 6 centimes as shown on the cover. The Swiss postal authorities converted the 6 centimes to 20 Swiss Francs which would indicate a conversion rate of 3.33. If one looks just below the stamp there is in pencil mark what could be a 31 and 6 x 3.1 is 18.6 and so maybe rounded would be 20???

A pink form was affixed to the cover as well. It’s the only one I have seen with this pink form in addition to the other info on the cover regarding the deficiency.

Thanks, Peter



Gary Steele wrote:

Hi Stephen, ... regarding **John Watson’s** cover on page 15 of Issue 30 with and without the G overprint, I think the second stamp is definitely from a different sheet and not an adjoining stamp with a missing overprint. The overprinted stamp is more “off-centre”, image shifted to the top, as shown by comparing the upper and lower selvages of the two stamps at right. The cover is a nice example of a re-used envelope however, something often done as an economy measure during the period!

Gary



► Members Corner ...

A warm welcome is extended to **Brian Livingstone** and **Robert S. (Steve) Keowen** who joined our George VI Study Group earlier this year. Both Brian and Steve submitted items that were included in Issue 30 of the Post & Mail which your interim Editor was most grateful to have received.

On a more sombre note, we have received the sad news of **Henk Bergers** passing in May. Hugh Delaney has also written to say that **Ed Harris** now resides in a long term care facility and is no longer able to pursue his philatelic interests. Both Henk and Ed were among the founding members of the BNAPS George VI Study Group. Ed in particular often forwarded material for inclusion in the Post & Mail during the early years.

► Members' For Sale Corner

For sale –KG VI Stamps and Postal History

Member Dealers can help you find that special item you are looking for

See the back page of Issue 30 for further details

Dave Jones has a few hundred MNG Unitrade 285 plate blocks (3, 6, 7 and 8); 286 (plates 12, 13 and 14) for sale and a few 306 (plate 18) also some mint and NG singles for these issues. If of interest to anyone studying these issues please email shibumi.management@gmail.com. Not looking for a million dollars.

► Members' Wants

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 reached by email at gwsteele57@gmail.com

Mufti Pre-cancels Bruce Field is seeking any values of Mufti pre-cancel warning strips of 20. Bruce can be contacted by e-mail at a.b.field@sympatico.ca

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.

Members

Your Want or For Sale List Could be Here

Contact Ken at kwlemke@sympatico.ca

► Members' Wants

Covers Wanted Eldon Godfrey is seeking "Mail Suspended Service" and "Foreign Exchange Control Board" covers. His e-mail address is ecg@godfrey-godfrey.ca

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

KG VI Patriotic Covers Bill Verbruggen is assembling a collection of KG VI Patriotic Covers for the purpose of studying the Postmarks used. He's interested in corresponding with study group members who can assist him with:

- * Postmarks used during the KG VI era
- * Cachets produced during the era.
- * Any references pertaining to the above mentioned subject.

His e-mail address is verbill@dccnet.com

George VI Postes-Postage production materials

Peter Kritz is asking for members' help in locating any production materials for the George VI Postes-Postage or withdrawn issues including any press releases or correspondence they may have for these issues. Also looking for #285 Plate #4 UR. Peter can be contacted by email at pkritz@coldwellbankerpbr.com

Postmarks on KG VI wanted: Patrick Moore in Bonn, Germany, is looking for a nice large collection or collections of clear and readable postmarks on KG VI stamps. Geographic diversity rather than scarcity is important. His e-mail address is patrick.moore@snaflu.de

1949 - 51 Postes-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 Wanted 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 Ken or Stephen for further info at snail mail or email addresses given on page 2 of the Post & Mail.