

THE 1898 CHRISTMAS MAP STAMP NEWSLETTER

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Whole #13

The Journal of the Map Stamp Study Group of the British North American Philatelic Society (1999)

President: Fred Fawn, 20 Palomino Cr., Toronto, ON, M2K 1W1 Email: thefawnfamily@yahoo.com

Sec/Treasurer & Editor: Dr. John T. Anders, P.O. Box 122, Barrie, ON L4M 4S9 Email: johntanders@hotmail.com

Technical Production: Kurt Harding Schick, Publishing Consultant Email: khs@csolve.net

Editorial

A study group – in our case, through its Newsletter – fulfills three main functions: advocating the interests of members, providing useful information to members and other interested parties, and building a sense of community.

The vitality of our “Maps” community is very important to me being the one who is tasked with paving the avenues of communication. The potential for more effectively linking our individual members through the Newsletter is dependent on making our publication more pertinent, timely, interesting and challenging.

My goal as editor is to meet the three criteria stated above. It is my fervent wish to give quality information and keep you up-to-date on matters of interest in the world of the Map stamp. The more YOU become involved, either by writing articles or by suggesting the questions you would like addressed, the more this newsletter can be showcase for the Map stamp collector.

May I also remind all our members that it is the editors prerogative to comment on any or all articles and issues, as it is the reader's privilege to disagree. That is why there is a section devoted to “letters to the editor”. Whether the editorial comments are liked or disliked, accepted or rejected, popular or unpopular – everyone has the opportunity to provide their input and opinions.

Letters to the Editor

From J. E. Milks

Hi John: I would like to comment on “The Fred Fawn Letter” recently published in our Newsletter, Vol.4 No.2 Apr-June 2003.

1. The letter I sent to Fred Fawn which he apparently excerpted for you

was to alert him to the content of my recent study on the origin of the colours in the 1898 Map stamp. The study was recently published in Topics Vol.60, No.2 2003, P34.

2. Fred apparently misread my letter since water-wet paper was only needed to print the black border, ie recess printing. The red ink used for the British possessions could have been applied to dry paper since printing was by typography, ie letterpress. Migration of a water-soluble, U.V. fluorescent component through the paper shows that the paper was still wet when the red ink was applied and was not dried after printing the border.

3. Your comment that only a relatively small number of Map stamps were affected by hydrogen sulfide is not correct. The overwhelming conclusion is that all stamps were affected. I do not have a stamp, nor have I ever seen one where the blue colour of the ocean is the same as that printed initially.

4. The colour change reported by Ralph Trimble in the March 2002 Newsletter may have occurred in two different ways. (a) By mildew from a warm high humidity atmosphere or (b) by a spontaneous crystallization of amorphous lead sulfide to the black crystalline form. I hope this information will be of value to our readers.

John E. Milks 10/21/03

Ed. Comment:

Great to hear from you and note your comments. My question to you would be that according to your statement in Point 3: how do we ever establish what the colour of the original printing was? And furthermore, in Point 4, the term “spontaneous crystallization” and a time lapse of 100 years since issue of the stamp seems contradictory to me.

From Ken Kershaw

John: Herewith an offering for your next newsletter, which hopefully may stimulate some correspondence from other members. Fred found it raised his interest, but most of his lavender is not plated.

**5B51 FEB 2nd 1899 Toronto &
Montreal Grand Trunk Railway DE
(Direction East) Train #3**



After my earlier comments on the “earliest” known Plate 5 stamp, the above item came to light.

Following a discussion with Roger Boisclair, who also generously interpreted the RPO information for me, it is now very evident, that we have to re-think the time sequence of printing and issue of Plate 5.

In one of my last comments I reported a March 20th date as the possible earliest date on a Plate 5 stamp. There was little need then to re-think the timing of the issue of Plate 5 stamps, but now with a Feb 2nd date, which immediately raises the possibility of even a January date, the date of issue of Plate 5 now must be seriously questioned. It seems plausible that all the plates were in fact processed over a relatively short and continuous time span. Plate 4 was in this sequence but then perhaps was accidentally but seriously physically damaged beyond repair and

replaced by Plate 5 probably in early January.

Tomlinson suggests Jan 1 st 1899 as the earliest issue of Plate 2, dark blue stamps, but the 7th of March for the lavender issues of Plate 3. However, his earliest date for Plate 5 is the 27th of March, with Bradley suggesting March 24th. Either Plate 5 was issued ahead of Plate 3 or we have some searching to do for early Plate 3 issues. I have examined my own collection of over 1000 stamps and the earliest cancel for Plate 3 is March 6th with several examples around March 10 - 17th. Has anyone got earlier cancels for Plate 3?

It does appear though, that Plate 5 was issued before Plate 3.

Ken Kershaw June 2003.

Report on Bangkok 2003

Bangkok, Thailand hosted the only 2003 World Philatelic Exhibition under the Patronage of the F.I.P.

Two Map stamp exhibits were shown under the same title: "Canada's Imperial Penny Postage 1898". John Anders received a Large Silver award for his 5-frame exhibit, Fred Fawn a Gold award for his 8 frames.

For our Study Group the Gold is significant, as no Map exhibit had previously attained this level. Nor has any other single Canadian stamp.

From the collector's perspective it is momentous that a SINGLE ISSUE Canadian stamp can successfully compete against overpowering SETS OF STAMPS from around the world.

It is sincerely hoped that more and more collectors will exhibit Maps on local, national and international levels. The popularity of single-frame exhibits has skyrocketed from local clubs even to the Bangkok World Exhibition.

Congratulations to our member, Ron Brigham for having brought home three Gold Awards from Bangkok, 2 of which were for 1-frame exhibits. This can be a great venue for Map specialists!

Welcome New Members

I would like, on behalf of all our members, to welcome William E. Yelsik to our study group.

We are looking forward to having William as an active participating member in the not too distant future. Williams address is P.O. Box 116,

Hernando, MS 38632 USA.

Also, a late, but sincere, official welcome to Hugh Westgate and Ben Cohen. Their involvement in our study group is eagerly anticipated.

Kudos

Kitchener, Ontario dealer Richard Lamb is very knowledgeable about philately and has often written about it. But what sets Lamb apart, is his work in ensuring that fraudulent stamps such as fakes and forgeries are identified. Expertising genuine stamps has led him to serve on the Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation. As well, he has helped, and advised people in putting great exhibits together. Inducted into the Fellows of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada at the Royal "2002" Royale show in Edmonton, we extend our heartiest congratulations to Dick.

Imperforate 2c Map Stamps

By Richard M. Lamb, FRPSC

Before sharing my personal stories and experiences with fellow members of the Map Stamp Study Group, I would like to comment on the status of the imperforate Map stamps.

For decades Scott catalogues have listed #85a and #86a as imperforate without gum, and dealers and auctioneers often describe them as "without gum as issued".

The fact is that no Map stamp in this condition was ever officially sold to the public to qualify as legitimate errors and thus join catalogue status.

With proof collectors in a minority, catalogue publishers were always under pressure from the stamp trade to list imperforate stamps as legitimate errors rather than proofs.

According to *Fundamentals of Philately* published by the American Philatelic Society, the Essay Proof Society in 1944 defined a proof as follows: "Any impression from an officially approved design die, plate or stone, or a new plate made from the approved die in



Plate 1 Imperforate block with centre line cross.

Ungummed as issued. Plate 1 cross is 9mm, all other plates are 4mm

which the design is exactly like the stamp as officially sold to the public, regardless of the colour, kind of paper or material on which it is printed or any experimental treatment to which it was subjected and not used on stamps sold to the public. Proofs were not sold to the public."

The Essays and Proofs of British North America by Minuse and Pratt (1970) relegates the Map imperforate Plate Proofs in normal colour on Stamp Paper to Appendix B values at \$40 for pairs, \$80 for blocks, all four shades.

Robson Lowe's *Encyclo-paedia of British Empire Postage Stamps*, Volume 5, North America (1973) on page 289 states that various imprimatur or proof sheets including 2c Maps, were illicitly removed from the archives of the Canadian Post Office. Some 2c Map sheets in different colours were said to have had original gum. On page 216 the imperforates are stated to total 1200 or 12 sheets for the three main shades.

Thefts from the archives and gifts to prominent Post Office officials supplied the stamp trade from the early 1900's on. In the 1929 *Jarrett Stamps of British North America*, Fred priced 2c Map imperforate pairs, all colours at \$50 a pair. Jarrett's March 1931 B.N.A. Record offered unpicked 2c Maps at \$20 per 1000 and 200 on cover at \$10. Therefore, at that time an imperforate pair equalled 2,500 stamps or 1,000 covers.

Sir William Mulock

Jan. 19, 1844 - Oct. 1, 1944

William Mulock represented York North in the House of Commons as its

Liberal member from 1882 to 1905. Prime Minister Laurier appointed him as Postmaster General in 1896. He served until 1905 and his initials appear on die proofs of Jubilee, Leaf, Numeral, Map and Edward issues.

In 1897 he proposed unsuccessfully to the Imperial Postmaster General that a penny (2c) postage rate be introduced for Canada and within the Empire. Mulock then proclaimed that Canada would adopt a 3c rate to England. A conference on Imperial rates was called in London in 1898 and after a bitter debate, Mulock's 2c rate was passed by a one-vote margin.



Sir William Mulock
1844 - 1944

He then was instrumental in having the Imperial cable completed to Australia in 1901. In 1902 he was knighted by King Edward VII for those services to the Empire.

After the Imperial rate conference, Mulock had four artists work on essays for his proposed 2c Map and also on a 3c design. W.L.Green, president of the American Bank Note Co., also submitted an essay which was more like the approved design. The issued stamps appeared in December, 1898, with the Imperial 2c rate effective on Christmas Day.

Presumably the Post Office would normally present the Postmaster General with at least a large die proof of the Map stamp. However, since Mulock conceived the idea, proposed and approved the design, a significant exception

appears to have occurred. I suggest that somewhere in the Postmaster General's expense accounts is an invoice for framing a substantial number of imperforate sheets of the Map stamp.

The framed sheets may have been intended to grace the corridors of power in Ottawa or to be hung in the offices of senior postal officials or bureaucrats to emphasize the extent of the British Empire. In 1905, when he retired, or earlier, presumably Sir William had the remaining sheets shipped to his Toronto residence.

On October 1, 1944, the nation mourned the death of Sir William Mulock, a truly great Canadian. At his bedside among others, was Colonel the Honorable W.P. Mulock, Postmaster General of Canada. The Colonel may have been standing within a few feet of the mother lode of imperforate Map stamps. They would have made a great addition to the stamps of the 1920s on sale at the Philatelic Agency in Ottawa. If sold by the Agency; they could have gained true catalogue status!

Milton Leroy Ritter

In the late 1920s and 1930s, Fred Jarrett and Milton Ritter were among the leading Toronto stamp dealers. Both had offices on or near Yonge Street and both responded swiftly to advertisements listing collections in the Toronto newspapers.

In a book on Fred Jarrett, now in preparation by Gray Scrimgeour and Merrick Jarrett, Fred's notes will express a cautious respect for Ritter and will record some amazing stories.

Ritter attended the first meeting of the Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association in October, 1942. Later after a fire at his Yonge Street Arcade stamp and coin shop, Ritter, who was a bachelor, ran his business from his home.

In 1952 I was in the Bloor Subway station stamp shop of Neil Carmichael, late father of Vance Carmichael. Neil purchased a collection, made a phone call and within the hour a stocky figure entered the store. He was protected by a heavy coat and a hat which covered all but his eyes. He quickly checked the lot, paid cash in large bills and left. I innocently enquired regarding this unusual character and was advised in confidence that the visitor was Ritter.

Later that year I visited Ritter at his three-story red brick house at 124 Isabella Street. The door only opened a couple of inches, but unlike many other visitors, I passed scrutiny and was soon seated at the dining room table.

Ritter enjoyed my reaction to unpriced items - if I made an offer it was always too low. At this and subsequent visits I made some minor purchases. Eventually Ritter invited me into the library where he kept his enormous wholesale stock of Canada and his better retail items and collections.

He produced an envelope of imperforate Maps without gum, priced to me at \$30 a pair or \$60 a block in the two main shades. My hourly wage at Massey Harris was only \$1.19 so I had to sell these at local stamp clubs before buying others. Demand was low as Ritter had flooded the market and placed ads in U.S. stamp magazines.

With my limited means, Ritter obviously saw no reason to offer me a complete sheet. However, he did show me an almost perfectly centred mint sheet of the 50c Bluenose which was stored in a rolled up newspaper!

I had no idea then that these imperforate Maps were from a fortunate find made by Ritter a few years earlier. Apparently some time after Sir William Mulock died on October 1, 1944, a pile of household trash was allegedly spotted by Ritter outside the Mulock mansion at 515 Jarvis Street, just around the corner from 124 Isabella. To his surprise it included a number of imperforate Map sheets which either were or had originally been framed for display purposes.

Members of the stamp trade claimed that the find consisted of between 8 and 16 sheets. It is unclear whether a picker was involved, if workmen were paid off or Ritter had to borrow a wheelbarrow to haul them home.

What is less clear is why after nearly 50 years this hoard was en route to the dump. One would have thought that someone in the family, like the Postmaster General himself, would have realized the significance of this material.

After 100 years, title to any imperforate map stamps is technically in doubt. They are probably actually still the property, of the government which is not planning any action now or ever.

Ritter got the sheets home safely but then the fun began. The sheets were glued to a card mat 3/16 of an inch in thickness by an adhesive which defied all efforts to remove them. Jim Sissons and others were consulted but experiments damaged or destroyed many copies. Finally, it was found that boiling water would do the trick. Bill Maresch clearly recalls soaking off a sheet for a customer by this method with almost perfect results.

Lot 444 in the Sissons' Jarrett sale May 25 - 26, 1960, was described as #86a imperforate block, red omitted which made \$170; could this have been too long in the boil cycle?

In the Sissons' Walter Bayley sale on March 29, 1961, a #86a centre line block of 10 made \$65. It had faults likely caused by attempts to free it from the mat.

Ritter was brutally murdered in his home on March 19, 1971. A man living in the next street was charged with non-capital murder on March 21, 1971. This was front page news in the *Toronto Star* and the *Globe and Mail* with speculation about the number of imperforate sheets and the value of his huge stock of stamps and coins. Several hundred thousand dollars of old bank notes were found by the Toronto police investigating the crime. The suspect was apparently looking for cash, of which Ritter was known to carry a large amount

The H.R. Harmer Ritter Sale March 6 - 8, 1973

After a couple of years of rumour and speculation, H.R. Harmer Inc. of New York announced the Ritter stock had been consigned by Canada Permanent Trust, administrator of the estate. Most Toronto dealers and collectors had hoped that a Toronto auction house would handle this important local estate, there being no premium for U.S. funds at that time.

Keith Harmer and Bill Roscher rented a van and picked up the stock in Toronto. Bernard Harmer assisted them in breaking down the huge accumulation into 1491 lots.

Apart from the 1950 Reford Sales, this may be the only three-day sale of a Canadian consignment not auctioned in Toronto.

I attended the sale with several other Canadian dealers. There were approximately 245 imperforate 2c Maps, includ-

ing two imprint sheets of 100 and blocks from at least three other sheets. As plate #s were not indicated, they could have been trimmed off to fit the Mulock picture frames.

Lot 426, the imprint sheet of 100 of #85a made \$4,000 against a Scott catalogue value of \$5,500 and lot 431, the similar sheet of #85b with the same Scott value, realized \$4,800.

After the sale approximately 11 further sheets, not in equal quantities of the two colours, were sold to the buyer of lots 426 and 431, who was almost certainly Kasimir Bileski of Winnipeg. He could then take over distribution previously controlled by Ritter.

Taking into account personal sales by Ritter, his original find may have been more than 20 imperforate sheets, far more than previously suggested by writers on the subject.

The sales also included about 200 mint 2c Maps and also 6,100 used examples, including 5,500 in bundles of 100. However, most bundles had been picked over for cancellations and then made up to strength by fortunate collectors who resold them to Ritter.

The Amercian Bank Note Company Archives Sale, New York

On September 13, 1990, Christies Robson Lowe sold B.N.A. material from the ABN Co. Archives. 2c Map collectors, noting the 2c Map Essay on the front cover, eagerly examined the 2c Map section.

After noting up to 10 sheets of proofs of some Pence and 1859 issues, a huge lot of 8,095 Numeral issue proofs, disappointed 2c Map collectors found only 98 black proofs and 71 black, blue and carmine proofs.

At the time, the significance of the small number of 2c imperforate Map proofs offered was not connected to the large number of sheets framed by Mulock and later salvaged by Ritter.

The Canadian Post Office is said to have forced the withdrawal of 186 lots in the sale. It is not clear if they purchased them or claimed title to them in accordance with contracts signed with the printers of the day.

Lot 1828, the 2c Map production file, estimated at \$5,000 - \$7,500, was hammered down for \$60,500, including the 10% buyers' penalty!

Of all the lots in the sale, this was probably the most historically significant to the people of Canada, stamp collectors in general and 2c Map collectors in particular. This lot should have been repossessed or purchased for or by the Canadian Post Office for display and for researchers to access at the National Postal Museum.

Ed. Comment:

We are privileged to have this exclusive, detailed, historical/philatelic presentation concerning the imperforate Map stamp by Dick Lamb. Any of you that attended the recent BNAPEX 2003 in London, were, I am sure, deeply impressed by the wonderful exhibit of the Rennie Seed Company history which included many postal covers, cards, photos, catalogues etc. displayed by Dick Lamb. His research into the subject area is exhaustive and no detail is too small for him to investigate and report on.

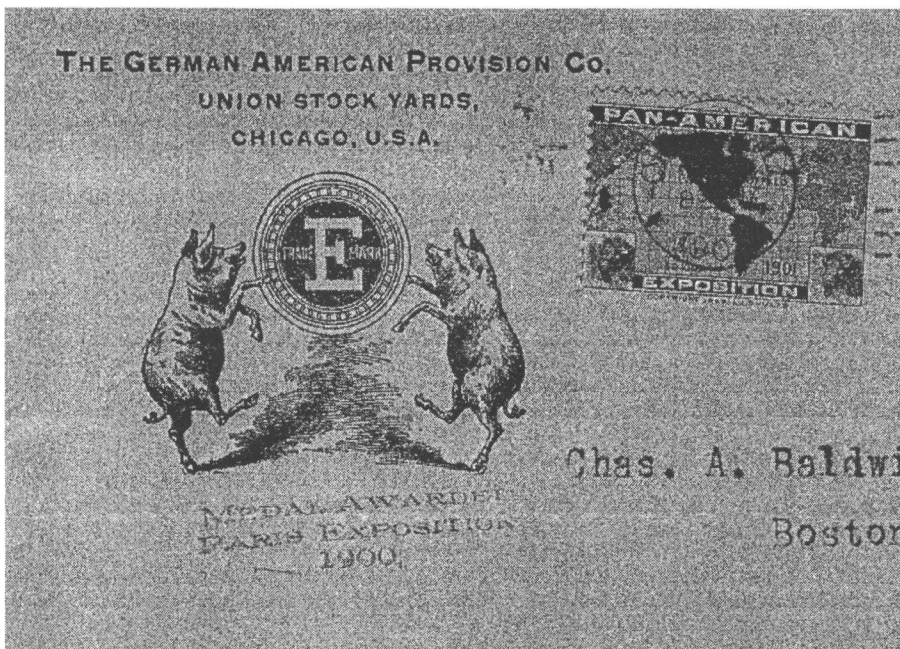
We are indeed honoured to have Dick Lamb as a contributor to our Newsletter.

Pan American Labels

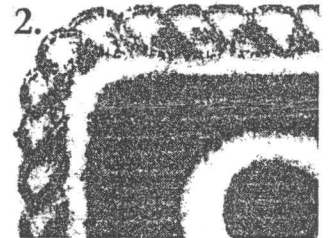
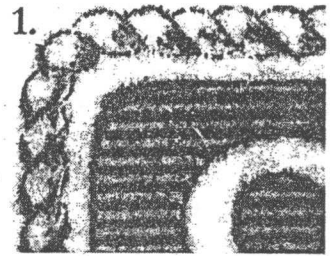
By Rob Lunn

Our editor has asked newer members to write an article or perhaps respond to something that has appeared in a previous newsletter. Well I have chosen to respond not to an article from our current study group but to its predecessor that was edited by Whit Bradley. In particular this is in response to whole numbers 16 and 17 (reprinted in our current newsletter whole #11).

In whole number 16, Mr. Bradley illustrated the 1901 Pan American label. Like Mr. Bradley I had a few unused copies of the label in my collection. The label shows that I.J. Shults had copyrighted it in 1899. Little information appears to be available on Shults. In an extract from the Pan American Herald printed in Dec 1899, it is mentioned that the labels were meant to advertise the Pan American exposition in Buffalo which took place between May 1st and November 2nd 1901. There were 5 designs one of which was the map stamp look alike. The article mentioned that the labels could be "attached to any mail matter along side of the regular stamp or they can be used on the flap of any envelope



later report will keep member informed of our findings.



as a seal". Mr. Bradley seemed to have conversed with John Jamieson about the use of the label, because in his Interesting Letters section of whole number 17 he reports that Jamieson "... says he has never seen a Pan American seal used on cover". In the same newsletter a photocopy supplied by Stan Lum shows the use of a label on a Canadian cover to England.

Conversations with an American dealer in labels and cinderella items also seemed to indicate that it was very diffi-

different applications of the label as discussed in the Pan American Herald. The cover with the label used as a seal is dated March 22, 1901. The cover with the label used alongside of the stamp is dated March 18, 1901. Both appear to have been used for their intended purpose which was to advertise the upcoming exposition.

Also of some interest is that in a reply to Bradley it was mentioned that the label had very little monetary value however in a recent auction there has been an unused label listed for \$35 US! They appear to be rising in value.

It would be interesting to hear if anyone has a cover with the label and a map stamp used within period.

Ed. Comment:

Members please check your collections for conjoined use of map stamp and label on cover.

Flash

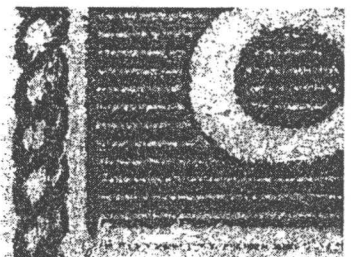
At the recent Hennok auction (Sales #162 & 163) there was, under item #297, "Carton of Ron Windmill correspondence with much related to his Map stamp book and older Philatelic journals, etc., interesting reading...". Your secretary, at the request of the President, bid on this lot and bought it for the Newsletter files for a combined cost of \$73.83. We hope that this material will be of archival value to Map stamp collectors. At the time of going to press, we have not been able to extensively view the material, and a

First & Second States

By Ken Kershaw

Position 16. First & Second States

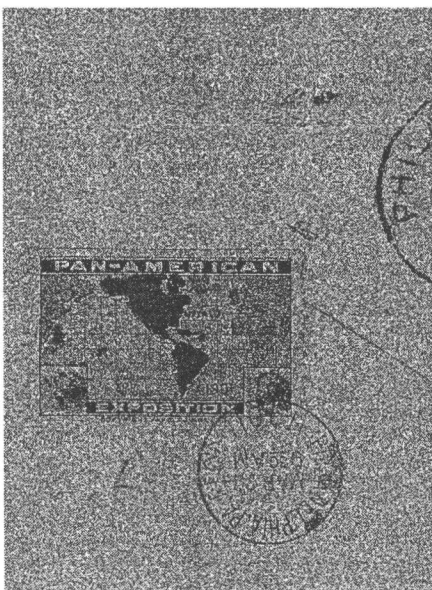
Very contrasting top left corner, with



clear doubling of the cable and heavily thickened hatch lines in the second state (2), contrasting markedly with the thin crisp lines of the first state (1).

Position 35. Second State

After considerable thought and after seeing over 40 1 st, 2nd & 3rd states in Plate 5, it now is now very apparent that Position 35 was re-entered along with Position 91. Both these re-entries are clearly visible in the photograph which is extant, of the half sheet of State 1 Plate 5. Roger Boisclair and I, in our article (Canadian Philatelist currently in press) suggested it was merely a first state thickened cable. I am now certain it is a re-entry, and one which was never retouched again. Thus it is only found in its second state, along with Position 91.



cult to find this label on cover. In fact he had none.

Illustrated above are two covers I have recently acquired that show the two

Map Varieties

W.L. Bradley

What Is a Re-Entry?

What is a Retouch?

What is a Die Proof?

What is an Essay ?

What is a Plate Proof?

The Map stamp is a real mecca for those philatelists who study Re-entries, Retouches etc and these occur in a multitude of positions on Black Plates 1, 2, 3 & 5 of the Map Issue. In fact, I sometimes think it is harder to find a perfect copy of the stamp if you also take into consideration variances in the two Red Plates A & B. It wasn't many years ago that I wrestled with these terms in an attempt to understand the process of production of this issue and to find a system that would accurately plate individual copies.

The following definitions and explanations should help students in their understanding of the technique of the printing process. These are taken from a recent price list of John Jamieson's Saskatoon Stamp center (text by H. Reiche, from his handbook on Constant Plate Varieties).

Re-Entries

Once you have seen a re-entry you will not misjudge it. Re-entries can range from minor to major depending on their extent. All of them have one thing in common: they show clear, sharp, duplicated parts of the design of the stamp. In almost all cases these extra lines are slightly shifted up, down, left or right from the original lines and are parallel to them. For example, a stamp may have a frame around its design. If the bottom part of the frame appears again just below as a fine line, most likely you have a re-entry. Similarly, if any other part of the design appears to be doubled this suggests a re-entry. Sometimes, in major re-entries almost the entire design is doubled. These stamps are seldom found but are so outstanding that even without a magnifying glass you can see the doubling. Because of the doubling these stamps usually look darker in shade than the original stamp. There are extremely few modern stamps which have re-entries and if they do they are often minor. Modern printing techniques and much better quality control reduce the occurrence of such varieties. Many

Income Statement for October 2002 - October 2003

Revenue	Amount	Details
Carried forward	\$ 9.96	Stamps from R. Boisclair
Memberships 2002	\$190.00	
Donation of postage	\$(25.00)	Ralph Trimble
Memberships 2003	\$275.00	Some members prepaid
Sale of newsletters	\$ 70.00	Back copies to new members
Donation of postage	\$12.18	Ron Brigham
BNAP stipend 2002	\$126.00	
Total	\$708.14	
Expenses	Amount	Details
Production costs 2002	\$125.00	One issue
Mailing cost	\$ 18.73	
Production costs 2003	\$300.00	Three issues
Printing and stationary	\$ 93.78	
Mailing cost	\$ 65.14	
Hennock Auction	\$ 73.83	R. Winmill's correspondence
Total	\$676.48	
Cash Balance, Oct.30, 2003	\$ 31.66	

years ago techniques were not so sophisticated and the materials used for stamp production were not as good, thus these varieties are usually found on the older issues. Once you have seen a major re-entry, you may wonder why the inspector did not see such an extensive fault in the plate. Here one must not forget that the inspection of a sheet of 100 or 400 stamps from one plate is tedious and in almost all cases the printing press produces not only one but two or even three plates at one time. This would mean that up to 1200 stamps have to be examined for a fault. The reason for not finding many such major re-entries amongst your stamps is simply that you are looking for a needle in haystack. For example out of 170 plates used for the King George V, 1911, 1 Cent green, only one single stamp in about 65, 000 stamps from one sheet amongst the 170 plates will show this re-entry. And therefore what appears to be a rather inflated price for such a stamp compared to its catalogue value of the normal stamp, is really not so at all.

Retouches

This type of variety is not as easily identifiable as is a re-entry. Philatelic dictionaries refer to a re-entry as a form of doubling transfer and depending on how well the second transfer was carried

out, a doubling of the design may or may not occur. A retouch is described as a deliberate repair to correct a deficiency. In the re-entry we may find this to be an accidental fault, but retouches are always caused by a deliberate action by the manufacturer of the plate or die. Many retouches are very crude and these can be noted without magnification. Retouches were carried out on the early classic stamps as well as a few very modern. The so called Die 2 of the 6 Bents Centennial, black is a retouched Die not a new Die.

There may be a number of reasons why a certain stamp on a plate requires a retouch, normally it is some correction which the engraver has made. If, for instance, a frame line breaks or wears out on one stamp on the plate, then the engraver may want to re-engrave this frame line. With a special tool he will try to reconstruct this line. It is not always possible to do this without some deviation from the original line and thus the line may appear heavier, not as regular and straight as, or slightly shifted from the original line. It is interesting that some stamps may exist with and without a retouch, indicating that at a later stage in the life of the plate a correction was made. Many retouches are made even before the plate is run on the printing press. Retouches can be found not only

on older issues, but also on recent stamps. The cost of making any correction to a plate is high, but the cost of laying down a new plate is much higher. (e.g. Bottom cable on bottom row on Plates 2, 3, & 5. Also right side cable of the right hand column of Plate 3.)

Essay

Any proposed stamp design, or portion thereof, considered but rejected by an established government or private post.

Proof

Any impression, the design of which was approved for use on an issued stamp of an established government or private post, from any die, plate, stone, or type, printed for the purpose of (1) examination or reference, or (2) for determination of satisfactory quality of design, color, ink or imprinted surface, or (3) for determination of effect of cancellation or method of separation. *

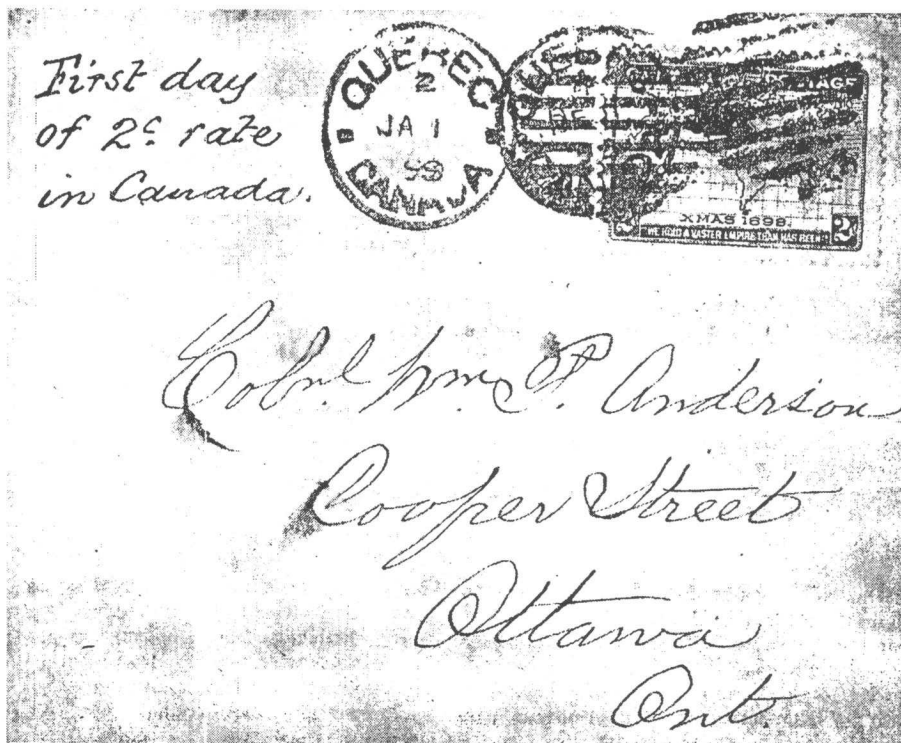
Die Proof

An impression from a completed die is known as a Die Proof. After the die has been completed and approved, various proofs in a number of colours may be taken for selection by the authorities. These are known as colour trials ** (or colour trial die proofs). When a proof is printed in the colour used for the issued stamp, it is called a colour proof. Impressions taken from the die by the engraver at various times during the engraving of the die, in order to check the progress and results of the work are called Progressive Die Proofs. Die Proofs are usually of a single stamp design. When the die is completed, approved, and hardened, it is then used to lay down the complete plate from which the stamps will be printed.

Plate Proof

Proofs which are pulled (printed) from a plate before printing are called Plate Proofs. Proofs may be pulled during or after the printing is completed to check the wear on the plate or for record purposes. Thus Progressive Plate Proofs are produced.

I hope the above has been or will be, helpful to all those of our group who are bewildered by the many varieties of the Map and what these terms mean.



* *The Essays and Proofs of British North America*, K. Munuse & R. Pratt for the Catalog Committee, copywrite 1970 by the Essay Proof Society. Pages 34.

** *"The Foundations of Philately"* (2nd Edition) by Winthrop S. Boggs. Published by the Philatelic Foundations. Copywrite 1955• Pages 110112.

Ed. Comment:

This article was reprinted from the *Map Stamp Newsletter* # 15, July 1987.

Is It or Isn't It?

Chris Moore

In the collecting of covers, you often acquire those which tell a very interesting story. Just how would you classify this illustrated cover? It is both a last day cover and also a first day cover of the new rate. The actual letter is dated Quebec Midnight at 31st Dec. 1898 and says "Thought you might perhaps like one of the first 2c stamps used in Canada on the new Rate. Will post this just after midnight" and is signed John. He also marked the envelope "First day of 2c rate in Canada". However, John must have reached the Post office well before midnight as the first cancellation reads "Quebec Canada Dec 31st 98" and tho addressed to Ottawa, had as postage only a two cent map stamp. This cancellation was by Clerk No. 4 who must have been a knowledgeable chap. He took the cover out of the stream of cancelled

letters and handed it to Clerk No. 2 on the incoming shift. Thus we have a second cancellation by Clerk No. 2 "Quebec Canada Ja 1st 99".

Thus the cover is cancelled on the last day of the three cent rate for use between two points in Canada and also on the first day of the two cent rate between two points in Canada. Also illustrated is the fact that the two postal employees were on the alert as to the correct rates and did indeed fulfill the senders wish.

Copied from BNA TOPICS/April 66

**Hear Ye!!!
Hear Ye!!!
Hear Ye!!!**

Get rid of those duplicates, or ask for that last vital piece for your collection.

Starting with issue #14, the Newsletter will carry Classified Ads from its subscribers. Ads will be charged at \$1.00 per 5 lines or portion thereof. Please send copy and remittance to the editor (address on masthead).

Protest Cover - Imperial Penny Postage

C.D. Blair



The Imperial Penny letter rate between all points within the British Empire became effective on 25th December 1898, and Canada's 1898 Xmas (Map) stamp was conceived to commemorate this new rate. Because of popular demand, this stamp was authorised for distribution at an earlier date and the first known usage was 7th December 1898; however, it was to be used in combination in order to meet the then existing letter rate of three cents.

At the time of this early release date, it appears no official announcement had been made that mail between Canadian points would be included in this new rate as evidenced by the emphatic notation of this unique cover which is illustrated above. The protest concerns the new rate of two cents which would permit delivery between points halfway around the world and which would take weeks while the present Canadian internal rate of three cents would remain in effect for points approximately 150 miles apart and taking only one day for delivery, (Route is assumed to be Kingston - Toronto - Newmarket.)

The cover itself is interesting in that someone took the time to use both the one half cent Maple Leaf and Numeral

Q.V. issues to make up the three cent rate. The Map Stamp is from Plate 1 Position 94. Cancellation is by Kingston square circle Type-2, Hammer-2, dated 8th December 1898 with the scarce numeral "1" time-mark which hints this cover was actually posted 7th December. Backstamp is (c.d.s.) Newmarket, 8th December 1898, dated scarce Numeral "1" 2, Hammer-2,

Copied from MAPLE LEAVES, Vol. 14, #5, August 1972.

Search is on for Historical Document

Can you help?

One hundred years ago, Sir William Mulock was instrumental in establishing a free postage rate for books mailed to the blind. In 1938, forty years after the event, the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) presented to Sir William a bound volume of 100 letters from blind readers.

Today, the CNIB is looking for this book and has sought the help of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) in locating it. The book is described as "beautifully bound in blue morocco, with the inscription 'THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR WIL-

LIAM MULOCK, P.C., K.C.M.G., M.A., LL.D. from Canadian blind readers, June 13th, 1938' in gold lettering the cover and a suitable forward preceding the letters."

The book is not in the National Archives of Canada or the Canadian Postal Archives nor does Sir William's family have the book or are they aware of what happened to it.

Any reader knowing the whereabouts of this book should contact C.J.G. Verge, Historian, FRPSC, P.O. Box 2788, Station D, Ottawa, ON, K1P 5W8. Email to President@rpsc.org

Ed. Comment:

I recently came across this short article in the July - September 1998 BNA Portraits. If the book is still missing, maybe someone knows its whereabouts. If it has been found, then this is an interesting historical tidbit for our readers.

A Closing Thought

Barbara Streisand

Why does a woman work ten years to change a man's habits and then complain that he is not the man she married?

Your Contributions to this Newsletter are Eagerly Awaited!

Please send your typewritten contribution, including photos, to the editor. (See masthead for address.) You can also email your material to khs@csolve.net Documents can be in any

word-processing format; photos should be scanned in high-quality jpeg format (level 10-12) at 300dpi. Thank you in advance for your interesting and timely contributions. J.T.A.