

# THE 1898 CHRISTMAS MAP STAMP NEWSLETTER

Volume 5 No. 4

October - November - December 2004

Whole #18

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

This being my last editorial, allow me to ramble and put on paper some of the thoughts that have gone unwritten in the last ten issues of the Newsletter.

During my time as editor I have used editorial privilege either to comment upon or to criticize some aspects of our hobby. At times there was reaction from some members who did not agree with my opinion. This exchange of views was welcome. What was not appreciated were strong verbal comments by members unwilling to put their opinion on paper for publication. I have not, and will not, accept the suggestion that the editor should have no views or opinions.

It is natural for individuals to assume that any comments or criticisms are personal. This, of course, is an error in judgment. The purpose of an editorial or of editor's comments is to make the reader think, to question established practices, to offer varied opinion and to provide food for thought. Free exchange of opinions can only result in benefit to the hobby.

As consumers of the literature we should remain skeptical and question what we are reading. This should be done regardless of who the author is or what his or her affiliations or credentials are. As we all realise, abuses tend to develop in areas no one dares to criticize and thus we should not expect our hobby to be immune from the cleansing action of free opinion.

The utmost desire during my tenure as editor was to push the frontiers of knowledge. I firmly believe in the Platonic notion of "aporia" or pathlessness – the value of admitting that you don't

know. Plato maintained that wisdom always started with aporia, when you recognise you are off the well-worn path, you are not following anyone else's path, you are not in a rut. Because we do not know everything, the ability to admit to others that you don't know something is a priceless asset, in many ways more important than knowing mere content. Creating knowledge is hard work: new ideas can turn on you; your data could be flawed; some people might not like what you say. We need confidence that new ideas are the products of disciplined inquiry.

My other focus from the beginning was to improve communication among our members and hoping the end result would be a better product and a satisfied consumer. My endeavour was to present material of interest to the general membership and avoid overspecialization in an already highly specialized branch of philately.

As I put this issue to bed, it occurs to me that I have been producing and editing this newsletter for nigh on three years. The years brought challenges and opportunities. I want to thank all contributors and authors who supported my efforts with articles, suggestions and questions. Members' suggestions, comments and criticisms helped to improve the newsletter and I trust they will continue to do so.

Let me close with a quotation from Sir Winston Churchill: "The farther backward you look, the farther forward you are likely to see."

Best wishes to all members for 2005. It has been an honor to serve you.

AVE ATQUE VALE

## Letter to the Editor

From Fred Fawn:

*Very big "Thanks" to Dr. John Anders*

John has just completed four years of most enthusiastic, constructive and successful work as Editor of our Newsletter.

The improvements which John initiated are many. His striving for excellence is exemplary. He increased publication from the previous three, to four issues per year.

After his first year of editorship, ORAPEX 2002 Literature Competition granted a most welcome award to the Newsletter. Credit also goes to John for the redesigning of the Newsletter's format, as well as the initiation of the "Letters to the Editor" column.

John also found time to do research into the Map stamp's historical background and diligently reported on his findings. His articles comprised several very different aspects of the Map stamp ranging from Postal History to forgeries. As John is a successful exhibitor at the International level, he shared with us excerpts from his exhibits.

I would like to repeat and to quote here the kind words of BNAPS Vice-President Study Groups, Doug Lingard:

*"John, I have thoroughly enjoyed reading your newsletters for the past few years."*

*Compared to the other study groups, this is a VERY, VERY HIGH participation rate. In most study groups, probably 10-20% of the members actively participate in the study group."*

*John, in view of the excellent way you are laying out the newsletter, compared to some of the other study group newsletters (some editors are still using typewriters), you are probably actually*

including 15+ pages worth of material in each 8-page newsletter when compared to some of the other newsletters that are being produced."

John, thank you in the name of all of us. We wish you good stamp endeavours, and look forward to your further articles for the Newsletter.

Fred

## Pages from the Past

J. T. Anders

The following item was passed on to me by Dave Hanes who was a close friend and co-author of several article with Ron Winmill.

6 - 117 Shibaura 4 - Chome  
Minato-ku, Tokyo 108, Japan  
April 14, 1978

R. B. Winmill, Esq.  
P. O. Box #4691  
Station C  
London, Ontario  
CANADA

Dear Mr. Winmill,

Further to your recent letter, my records on the catalogues are at my office, so I do not know whether you have a copy of my catalogue that I put out in 1975. It was an up-dated version of Shaw's 1963 R.P.O. catalogue published in 1963, and long since out of print. Gillam in England put out a R.P.O. historical work in 1967, but it too is out of print. You might watch for these two on auctions or through your dealers. I will be putting out another catalogue within one - two years which will be much expanded from the last one I put out.

In the meantime, we would not want you to get discouraged. Enclosed is a tentative, approximate, suggested, probably highly inaccurate list of the R.P.O.s, using our catalogue numbers, on which the R.P.O.s should appear on the Map stamp. Out of some 3,000 known R.P.O.s, there are only 170 that I figure should be found on the Map stamp. My highly tentative feelings on this list are because I did not spend all that much time on it; I just went through the entire book and took out those that are currently known in 1898. Anyway, this should give you a starting place. Check and see how many of these you

have. Let me know if you have any that are not on the list, and I will add them to it. I'll give you a three month head start, since you brought the idea to me, and then I'll send our amended list to Stan and Nels, and we will see if we can't get something started on R.P.O.s on the Map Stamp.

I wish you were into Jubilees or the Quebec Tercentenary; I seem to have large numbers of these with R.P.O.s. A quick glance at my Maritimes shows that I only have M-50 and M-80 on the Map Stamp.

Let me know if I can be of further help.

Sincerely, Lewis M. Ludlow

*Editor's Comments: This letter predates the publication of Winmill's The Evolution of Imperial Penny Postage and the Postal History of the Canadian 1898 Map Stamp by approximately four years. In his book he notes the fact that the research relating to this aspect of the Map stamp has been sadly neglected. From my reading of the literature, this still seems to be the case today. In the book there is a listing of reported strikes, and it appears that it would be an excellent project for the Map stamp Study Group to work on an update of the reported listings.*

## Show and Tell

Doug Lingard

Although I do not really collect the Map stamp, the two covers submitted are from my Flag Cancel collection, one of my main and continuing interests.

The first one is a Moore advertising

cover from Hamilton with the Bickerdike Type 8 "B" indica barred obliterator flag cancel dated December 25, 1898, tying a Map stamp to a cover addressed to England. Flag cancel collectors are always looking for interesting usages of these cancels and finding one cancelling a Map stamp properly used on the first day of the new 2c. Empire rate is a nice way to show this cancel's usage

The second one (top of Page 155) is an interesting inverted usage of a Montreal Bickerdike Type 8 Die VI barred flag cancel dated December 2, 1899. It ties a Map stamp to a domestic cover. These obl iterators were sometimes removed from the cancelling machines to be cleaned or when the cancelling machines were used to date stamp incoming mail. Every now and again the obl iterators would be reinserted in an inverted position, but as these errors would normally be noticed and remedied within a short period of time, inverted usages of these flag cancels are very hard to find. In fact, even though this cancelling die was used from April 1898 to March 1902, only one other reported usage of this cancelling die in an inverted position has been reported to date. That usage is dated 29 April 1899."

*Editors comments: Thank you Doug for your contribution. Any official first day cover, correctly used, is very desirable, especially in the 19th. century issues. Your second cover will make all of us with a flag cancel collection of the Map stamp search our material in the hopes of finding another of the elusive inverts.*



E. F. WALTER & CO.,  
IMPORTERS,  
St. Sacrament Street,  
Fraser Building, MONTREAL.



Mr Adams Barclay  
Pictou  
N.S.

Montreal Bickerdike Type 8 Die VI

### Food for Thought

A New Year's resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other.

*Anonymous*

After all is said and done, more is said than done.

*Anonymous*

Blondes have more fun because they're easier to find in the dark.

*Anonymous*

### Thank You

Our thanks and appreciation go to Editor Tony Shaman for using the cover of *The Canadian Philatelist* Nov-Dec 2004, Vol.55, No. 6, to display the Map stamp in its various forms being admired by Santa Claus. The cover page was written up on page 325 of the issue and stated the following: "Although Canada's 1898 Map stamps were issued in anticipation of a 2-cent Imperial Penny postage rate, they have become better known as the world's first Christmas Issue. Illustrated on the cover are selected essays, including the "mystery essay" showing a 3-cent denomination, die and progressive plate proofs, and a block of "as issued" stamps overprinted on the occasion of their Golden Jubilee. (Illustrations: courtesy Fred Fawn and Canadian Postal Archives)

It makes our members, and all Map stamp collectors, very proud to see their favourite stamp honoured by the RPS of Canada. Once again, thank you Tony Shaman.

### EFOs

There are times when we see the above phrasing in magazines and auction lists. Do we really understand what these terms signify? Here is one explanation:

#### Errors

- ☐ mistakes in production
- ☐ an omission
- ☐ a duplication
- ☐ a reversal

Examples are imperfs, omitted colour, double prints, inverts.

This is not always true in the case of the Map stamp, where imperfs and colour proofs are not regarded as errors.

#### Frecks

A mistake in production of a partial or ephemeral nature:

- ☐ shifted perfs
- ☐ miscuts
- ☐ preprint paper folds
- ☐ misregistered colours
- ☐ crazy perfs.

#### Oddities

Unusual items that do not fit precisely one of the above two items.

### Quotable Quotes

The nicest thing about egotists is that they don't talk about other people.

*Lucille Harper*

You can fool all the people all the time if the advertising is right and the budget is big enough.

*Joseph E. Levine*

God heals, and the doctor takes the fee.

*Benjamin Franklin*

## Down Memory Lane

J.T. Anders

In our last issue (Whole #17) we had an article from the British Philatelic Bulletin which at some length discussed the activities of John Henniker Heaton in relation to the establishment of Imperial Penny Postage.

Since that time, I was fortunate enough to obtain copies of the *London Times* of 1891 in which several letters to the editor and other notations by Mr. Heaton were reported.

*London Times February 16th. 1891  
Page 6*

The Reduced Postal Rates to the Colonies.

Sir, - I have just received from Mr. Edward Grenville, editor and proprietor of the *Australian Year-book*, a Melbourne telegram giving most gratifying reports of the way even the "twopenny-halfpenny" reduced rate of postage from Australia is appreciated. By the first mail to England under the new postal charges 18,791 letters were dispatched from Melbourne alone, as against 9,820 letters by the previous mail. This represents one of the seven Australasian colonies, but the increase from the others is equally gratifying - from 20 - 50 per cent. From England, Mr. Raikes courteously informs me, the increase is also very large.

What, then, would the increase of correspondence be if it were to reach the masses by establishing a penny post between England and Australia?

*Very faithfully yours,*

*J. Henniker Heaton*

*36 Eton Square, February 15.*

*London Times March 7th., 1891.  
Page 12*

Imperial Penny Postage

Sir, - The Associated Chambers of Commerce assembled today in London passed, by an overwhelming majority, a resolution in favour of Imperial penny postage.

In the course of my address, I should have explained to the representative men from all parts of Great Britain and Ireland there assembled that the Postal Union Convention meets in Vienna in May, when leave may be obtained by England to permit her to exchange letters with her colonies and India at the

popular and profitable penny rate, even if his Excellency Von Stephan, Postmaster General of Germany, does not carry a resolution for universal penny postage.

*Very faithfully yours,  
J. Henniker Heaton  
March 5*

**London Times September 2nd, 1891.**

**Page 4**

Announcement

Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, M.P. was supporting an International or preferably an Imperial or Intercolonial penny postage.

**London Times May 9th., 1891.**

**Page 9**

Announcement

A deputation from the Associated Chambers of Commerce met with PMG Raikes and Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Goschen. They strongly advocated postal reform; they emphasised support for IPP, and Goschen, in his reply, acknowledged that the P. Office was viewed outside as a revenue generating department.

**London Times July 27th., 1891.**

**Page 11**

Imperial Penny Postage and  
the Postal Union

Sir, - In the attractive resume which your Vienna correspondent has prepared from the somewhat dry records of the recent Postal Union Convention, he has omitted one important item - that is, the great fact for Her Majesty's subjects, that we have at length received from the other powers represented at the Congress perfect freedom of action as regards the institution of ocean penny postage to our colonies.

From a statement made in the House of Commons by Mr. Raikes, we have good reason to believe that ocean penny postage will shortly be established to some, if not all, the British colonies.

This is essentially a poor man's question. The long sought boon of cheap postal communication for the Empire means signal advantage for the trade which gives employment to our working classes, and priceless facilities for intercourse with the millions of their brothers, sisters, sons and daughters from whom they are divided by the ocean.

Its concession will be highly popular as affording another and conclusive proof of the anxious desire of Lord Salisbury's Government to further the interests and promote the happiness of this great Empire.

*Very faithfully yours,  
J. Henniker Heaton  
36, Eaton Square, S. W. July 24*

**Editor:** We also have two references relating to postal rates quoted from records of the Canadian House of Commons debates:

**Canada House of Commons debates,  
March 16th, 1892. Page 190**

Letter postage - Reductions

Mr. Somerville asked, "Is it the intention of the Government

to reduce postage from three to two cents?"

Sir Adolphe Caron: "In answer to the Hon. Gentleman, I beg to state that it is not the intention of the Government to reduce the letter postage from three to two cents."

**Canada House of Commons debates,  
February 13th, 1893. Page 611**

Letter Postal Rate

Mr. Rides asked: "Are the Government aware that in consequence of the lower rate of postage prevailing in the United States, particularly on ordinary letters, large numbers of Canadian letters destined to Canadian and other points are mailed in United States post offices along the border, thereby causing a considerable loss to the postal revenue of Canada? If so, what remedy does the government propose to apply? Have the Government any intention of reducing the present rate of postage on ordinary letters?"

Sir Adolphe Caron: "The government is aware that a number of letters are mailed at United States post offices where such post offices are in close proximity to Canadian towns or villages, as in the case of St. Stephen and Calais, Derby Line and Stanstead, Windsor and Detroit. The Postal convention between the United States and Canada provides that where mail matter is posted in either country in order to evade payment of the rate of postage payable in the other country, then the country to which such correspondence is mailed may charge an additional rate, and this regulation has been acted upon in cases where it has been deemed expedient to enforce it. The Government has no intention of reducing the rate of postage upon letters. The loss of revenue would be about \$700,000.

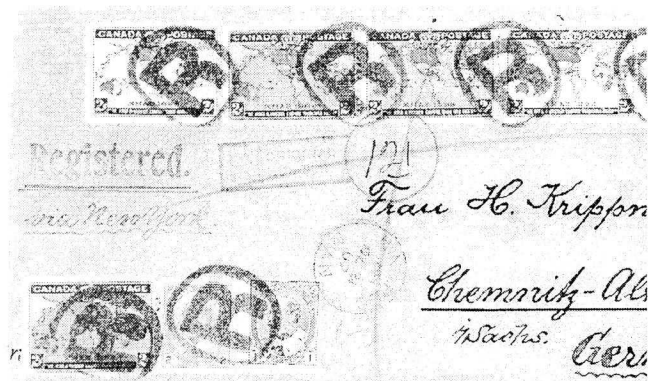
## **How Many Maps on a Cover?**

**Fred Fawn**

In the eyes of the purist, beauty lies in a single Map stamp on a cover, paying the one penny Empire rate. It must be addressed to the U. K., or one of the British Colonies or Possessions on one of the five continents of the World. And, of course, the mailing should be "in-period", that is, 1898, 1899 or 1900; ideally December 25th., 1898, first day of Imperial Penny Postage.

But having several Maps on a cover can offer a lot of fun as well, even though side-stepping the above-mentioned preferences.

A few days ago, a friend of mine phoned asking me whether I might be in the market for 6 Maps on a cover to Germany,

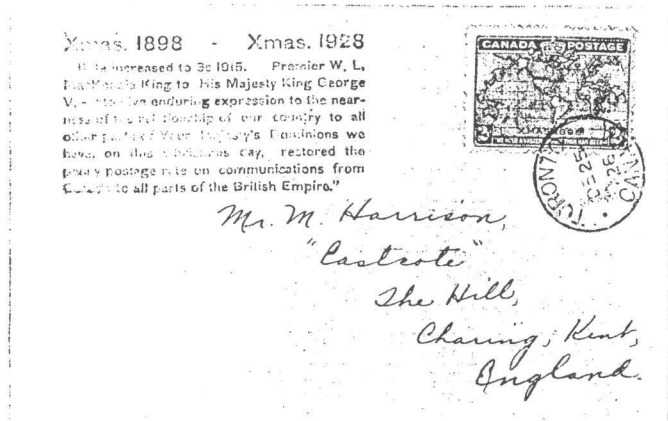




1907. My reply was positive, adding that I have an 1899 cover to Germany with 5 Maps, one with 7 to France and one domestic registered with 9 Maps.

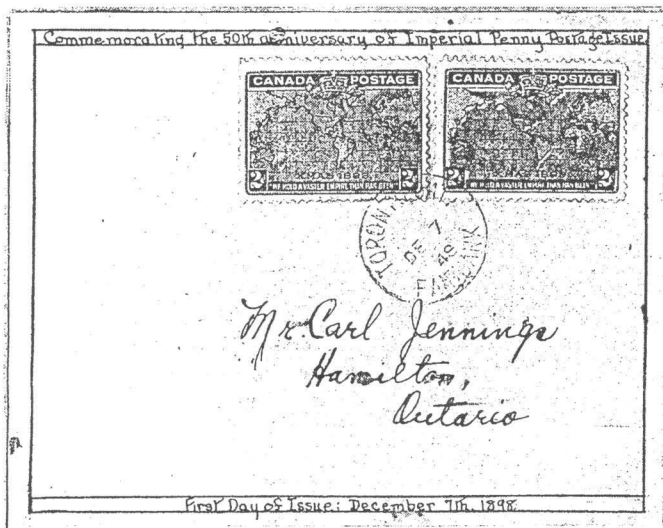
Multiple Maps on cover often show divergent shades and colours, adding to the appeal of the envelope.

"Later dates" are quite collectible, as late usages have been widely documented. For example:

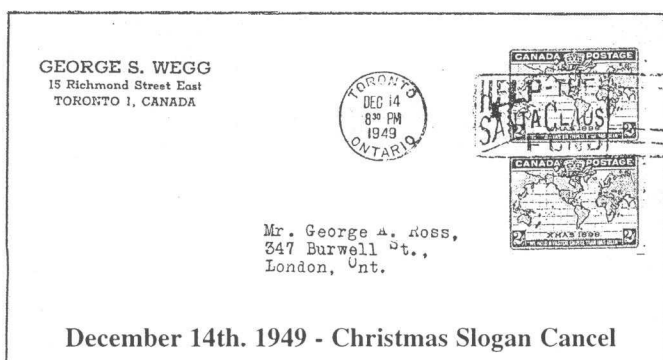


#### December 25th. 1928

Rate increased to 3 cents in 1915. Premier W. L. MacKenzie King to His Majesty King George V, - "to give enduring expression to the nearness of the relationship of our country to all other parts of Your Majesty's Dominions we have, on this Christmas day, restored the penny postage rate on communications from Canada to all other parts of the British Empire."



#### 50th Anniversary, December 7, 1948



#### December 14th. 1949 - Christmas Slogan Cancel

## Income Statement for November 2003 - December 2004

| Revenue              | Amount          | Details   |
|----------------------|-----------------|---|
| Carried forward      | \$ 44.59        | Corrected from previous statement as expenses for issue #13 were estimates. |
| Memberships 2004     | \$285.00        |   |
| Memberships ppd 2005 | \$ 50.00        |   |
| Donations            | \$110.00        | Brigham, Osborne, Fawn, Anders  |
| Sale of Newsletters  | \$ 49.80        | Back copies to new members  |
| Advertisements       | \$ 48.00        |   |
| BNAPS stipend 2004   | \$116.00        |   |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>\$703.39</b> |   |

| Expenses         | Amount          | Details       |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Production costs | \$400.00        | 4 issues      |
| Printing         | \$126.50        | 4 issues      |
| Postage          | \$122.31        | Mailing costs |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>\$648.18</b> |               |

Cash Balance, Dec. 31, 2004 \$ 55.21

## Swansong

**Definition:** A song like that fabled to be sung by a dying swan or also sometimes referred to as the last work of a poet or musician.

I cannot lay claim to either of the above descriptions, but this will be my last "literary" effort as editor of the Newsletter. It would be very much amiss of me not to recognise and thank two individuals who have supported and helped me immensely in the production of the Newsletter.

Fred Fawn, our President, was always available with suggestions, encouragement and support. As you all know, he was always ready to contribute another fine article for the Newsletter. His help and support was sincerely appreciated.

Kurt Schick, our Technical Producer, was the genius behind the scenes that took our ideas and converted them into the layout, type and presentation of the final product.

To these two gentlemen, my sincerest thanks. Without you there would have been no Newsletter.

The last, but very pleasant duty that I have to perform is to announce that Mr. Orville F. (Ozzie) Osborne has very generously offered to become our next Editor, and that he will also assume the positions of Secretary/Treasurer.

Ozzie is one of our newer members, and as he told me, only a recent convert to the realm of the Map stamp. He thinks it is a most fascinating issue. His collecting interests apart from the Map stamp are Canada First Cents, Canada Booklets and Admirals. Fred Fawn and I had the privilege of inviting Ozzie to a recent PSS Meeting which all of us enjoyed greatly.

On behalf of all the members of our study group I welcome Ozzie as Editor of the Newsletter and wish him every success.

Please mail all your 2005 membership dues and all other matters pertaining to the Newsletter to:

**Mr. Orville F. Osborne**  
**471 Oriole Pkwy.**  
**Toronto, ON M5P 2H9**  
**email ofo471@aol.com**

## Membership List

### Current – Paid up for 2004

## Honorary Member

Sutherland, Harry  
R-2161

## Regular Members

Anders, Dr. John T.  
R-5445

Boisclair, Roger  
R-5248

Brigham, Ron R

Carmichael, Vance W.  
R-2921

Clark, Dr. A. M.  
R-2766

Fawn, Fred  
R-4178

Firby, Charles G.  
R-2264

Harnsberger, Scott  
R-6054

Jamieson, John I.  
L-2395

Eichele, Manfred  
R-5112

Kellet, Harold F.  
R-3728

Kershaw, Dr. Kenneth A.  
R-5993

Hasid, Ariel

Lamb, Richard M.  
R-1255

Lingard, Douglas  
R-3377

Lee, Robert A.  
L-2470

Longley, Bill  
R-5118

Lyon, Gary J.  
R-2918

Lunn, Robert  
R-6028

Milks, Dr. John E  
R-5029

Nixon, J. Edward  
R-2223

Hennok, Jim  
R-2447

Osborne, Orville F\*.  
R-5972

Pekonen, Bill\*  
R-2091

Quinlan, Mary

Smith, Joseph  
R-4461

Spencer, Peter  
R-3290

Trimble, Ralph E.\*  
R-3655

Voss, Harry  
R-3904

Verge, Charles J. G.  
R-4849

Watt, Dr. Jim\*  
L-3825

Westgate, Dr. Hugh  
R-6062

Yelsik, W\*

\* indicates members prepaid for 2005

**Memberships are now due for all members that are not prepaid**