

THE RPO NEWSLETTER  
OF THE CANADIAN R.P.O. STUDY GROUP (BNAPS)

VOLUME XI, NO. 3

September, 1983

CONVENTION REPORT - Your editor withstood the polite barbs and arrows on his editorial performance from the convention goers, and besides a guilt trip and a bit of ego deflation, survived and will carry on as editor for at least another year. Notwithstanding, we all had another fine BNAPS convention with many RPOers in attendance.

First and foremost, this year we had an exhibit of RPOs to study put together by Bill Robinson from out in Vancouver. Bill's exhibit featured the Ornaments of British Columbia, and was awarded a Silver. Quite an award for an RPO exhibit. Now, if I can get Bill to send me a copy, we can let others not in attendance view some of his material and perhaps encourage more exhibiting. It did show that we can pick a small area, cover it well, display it properly and expect recognition.

Secondly, our very own Sheriff was awarded the Order of the Beaver for his many, outstanding and dedicated services to BNAPS and Canadian philately. Lew well deserves this high philatelic honor, and we are sure that you all join in a hearty congratulations!

Thirdly, the study group meeting was a success with 25 in attendance. Made more enjoyable were the comments and questions of Lew's self proclaimed needler, Frank Waite, who put forth the following points on the catalog, which I will summarize:

1. Should colored strikes be so identified. Lew ask that we canvass the membership in the newsletter and try and determine how many of such strikes exist and whether it would be worthwhile. So, let's hear from you on this point.
2. Should scarce denominations be identified, for example if a strike usually only appears on certain high value stamps.
3. Should 1st and last dates be shown for different types. I'm really not sure what Frank meant by this point but he can write and explain. Could he have meant different types such as found in RR-28? Since I forget, he will have to help out here.
4. Should a column be included for the number of hammers for each run? I think it was generally felt that this would be a good idea, space permitting.
5. Should terminus identification be made? I think by this Frank meant a separate listing of the ending terminus.
6. Frank suggested the the identification of reporters be dropped in favor of leaving more space for additional information. At this point he suggested that those of us that favored leaving this item in the catalog were being a bit high-schoolish - now really Frank!
7. Should identification be made as to whether the hammer was rubber or steel - he didn't mention cork?

All in all his points generated an interesting discussion and I am sure they will be given due consideration in the next edition.

Lew took some time to discuss a new report - and circulated a picture of same - Q-188, clearly showing in large letters similar to the "OT" and "13" the letters "DB". He made the point first as to how this little gem went undected in all these years. He forgot to give me the picture but believe me it was quite striking and we will give a report on his interesting hammer analysis of Q-188 in a later issue - showing where these

initials fit in to the history of these hammers.

Lew also reported that there had been 24 new run reports since the catalog was published - with new information on other elements coming in daily.

If you missed this one - you missed a good one - maybe next time!

FROM HORACE HARRISON - Our registry expert - a copy of a cover with a new backstamp of an RPO clerk strike with the name "L. Marshatt" showing half the run "QUEBEC" with no terminus. Horace would like any information you might have which might help figure out the name of the run - anybody have partials of other parts of this hammer?

CORK CANCELS - Have made headway on this project. Have gotten reports on at least 105 different runs where the clerk used a cork or some other means of cancelling the stamp or cover, in addition to his regular hammer. Most are in the Railroad section but there are numerous ones also reported in the other sections. I am in the process of documenting and redrawing each as they will not recopy well enough for distribution. In all we have 175 different corks to work with, which is certainly more than the four D&S identified. However, all are not "fancy" - in fact some are pretty poor and not at all in keeping with the high standards that we should have expected from our railway clerks - but then, again, we didn't have much choice in the matter at the time - did we! Will have this material ready next month. Still waiting for more reports - I hope Burchill, Noble, Robinson and a few others still hiding their gems heard that. We'll be patient!

CHASTISING THE SHERIFF - It isn't often that one gets a chance to really get one on the Sheriff, but this time he is cornered. Reference is made to Volume X, No. 1, March issue of the RPO Newsletter, page 3, in which a post card acquired by your editor was illustrated with a note to the Sheriff to take note. Now I admit that in reproduction, this was not the clearest strike around, but one would certainly expect some note to be made of such a new find. But yet, not a word! Now, I receive the May-June issue of Topics, and there illustrated is the very same strike of S.S. Princess Sophia as the first reported strike - and not a mention - nary a word - of my report of a year earlier. Murphy's law I guess, ~~and~~ one doesn't have to be a student of Norman V. Peale to make a direct point from a published and as authoritative a source as the RPO Newsletter. And then Frank thinks we act a bit highschoolish now and then - and what's wrong with that! That's not all, though! To make matters worse, Lew goes on to illustrate Jim Lehr's copy of O-367B as the only second strike he had seen (the other his own). In the very same newsletter referenced above, directly below the Princess Sophia strike, is O-367B on a strip of 3¢ small queens. Believe me, I showed that strip to Lew in Japan - made a special trip for the purpose. Now what! Apologies will be expected by return mail from the Sheriff to this ignominious offense, ignoring these "truly rare and historical markings".

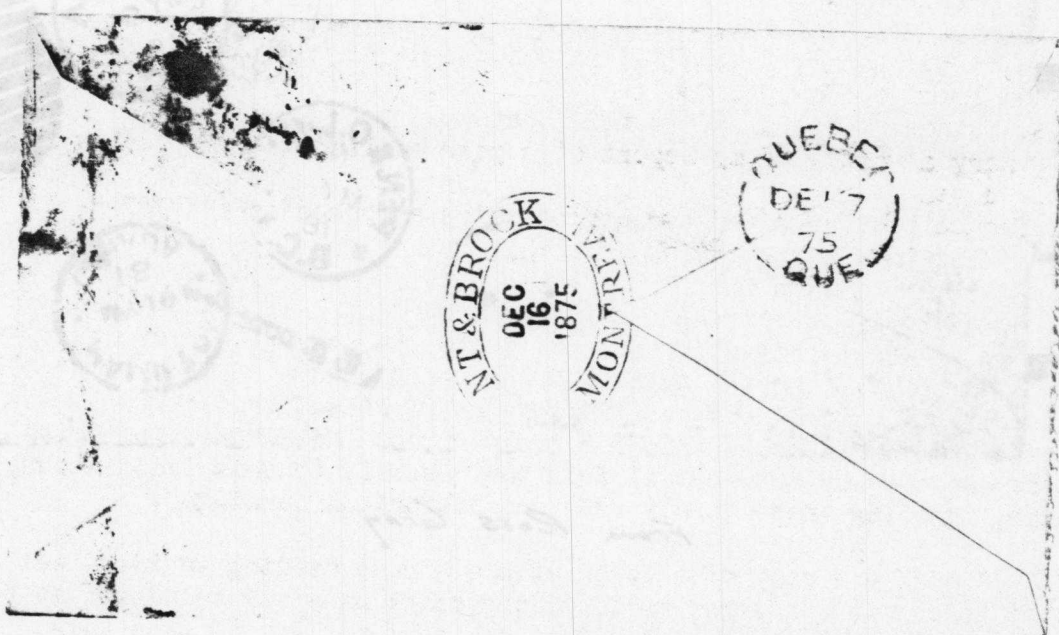
FROM ROSS GRAY - a copy of a cover with a strike needing an identical twin, so that it can be confirmed as to proper clerk name (if such), and as to whether the clerk name is fastened to the hammer. Anyone seen this apparent unique item who can help Ross out? It does appear from positioning to be fastened to the hammer, but it would take two identical *strikes* for proof - for you know whom. Do we have any leads.?

INTERESTING - Enclosed is a strike that I picked up in my early days of searching out RPOs. Was in Palm Beach for the BNAPS convention, going through a dealers stock, when what we all want to happen - happened! Out jumped a beautiful strike, in blue, of a new RPO find - or at least I thought so - of MONT & BROCK/MONTREAL, dated 12/16/75. Our unconquerable and usually unstoppable fellow member and dealer, Allan Stainhart, was standing next to me on the occasion. I turned to him with delight and showed him the piece. His comment was "where did you find that, I just went through that box (it wasn't his box) and didn't catch that gem. I promptly paid the dealer the \$2.00 asked, and went on to mark down that day as a great day in my RPO search. As you can see, it is a beautiful strike showing the "NT & BROCK". However, sad, it isn't MONT at all, but HUNT, which showed faintly when I got home and gave it careful scrutiny in good light, not available in hotels. While it lasted, it was a fantastic feeling! One good part of the story was that I caught it before rushing it off to the Sheriff for you know what kind of comments. Anyone having stories like the above ought to send them along. We have all had the same kind of experiences, and when shared with the rest of the membership, they can be shared. The more you send, the less you will have to hear of mine!

That's all for this issue. Good Luck!

Regards,

David L. McKain  
5 Meadowcrest  
Parkersburg, W. Va. 26101



L MARSHATT  
MAIL CLERK  
JUN 26 West  
1891.  
QUEBEC

*From Horace Harrison*

W-1066  
(VAR)

KELOWNA  
PM  
JUN 26  
1891

PEN & O. L. W. N.  
M. Y. 9  
18  
B.C.

W. G. DORR  
JUN 26  
1891

*From Ross Gray*

NEW EARLIEST AND LATEST DATES OF USE

The most extensive data received since the publication of the catalogue involves earlier or later dates than that previously entered for the listings under Period of Use. Those dates that have been confirmed are listed herewith. It should be remembered that as the period of use is widened and extended, there is usually ( but not always ) a change in the rarity factor. Sequence for dates is "day/month/year".

Listing #	Status	Date	New R.F.	Reporters	Listing #	Status	Date	New R.F.	Reporters
N-5a	Latest	5/31/56	No change	101	Q-23	( Establish existing dates as 1st Period )			
N-5b	Earliest	7/26/50	270	218	Q-23	2nd Period	9/ 2/47	No change	150
N-6	Earliest	10/28/15	300	218	Q-45a	Earliest	5/ 1/15	340*	150
N-15b	Latest	4/ 7/20	265	209	Q-65	Earliest	12/24/31	No change	150
N-18	Latest	8/10/15	450	218	Q-88	Latest	5/17/62	No change	215
N-30	Earliest	10/15/27	310	151	Q-167Cb	Earliest	10/23/34	455	179
N-30	Latest	9/21/41	310	197	Q-173	Earliest	3/18/26	90	24
N-35	Earliest	5/13/10	485	218	Q-218	Earliest	10/17/10	No change	24
N-38	Earliest	7/26/15	No change	151	Q-223	Latest	7/29/70	425	216
N-39	Earliest	9/20/96	500	209	Q-241	Earliest	12/20/14	No change	156
N-52	Latest	7/29/26	460	218	Q-247	Earliest	6/ 2/26	500	137
N-53	Earliest	8/26/96	370	173, 197	Q-264B	Latest	8/30/20	335	177
N-64b	Earliest	9/ 7/29	380	209	Q-264E	Latest	8/ 7/15	No change	16
N-64b	Latest	11/23/39	380	197	Q-284C	Earliest	5/ 4/23	450	108
N-71	Latest	4/ 9/13	No change	209	Q-296	( Establish existing dates as 1st Period )			
N-74	Latest	3/30/33	No change	101	Q-296	2nd Period	8/30/93	No change	197
N-77	Latest	1/10/30	470	179	Q-311	( Establish existing dates as 1st Period )			
N-87	Latest	5/16/70	320	101	Q-311	2nd Period	2/13/57	150	146
N-90	Latest	8/24/58	275	218	Q-315A	Latest	3/29/49	210	146
N-120	Latest	8/29/30	No change	218					
MA-24c	Earliest	12/ 9/12	No change	150	O-14	Earliest	8/11/94	335	142
MA-73	Latest	3/ 4/60	415	101	O-14A	Latest	10/ 1/13	490	156
MA-104	Earliest	9/ 1/55	No change	218	O-50	Earliest	10/24/21	No change	137
MA-125	Earliest 2nd	4/15/33	200	156	O-53	Latest	7/25/25	235 (ex 240)	142
MA-168	Latest	7/22/66	200	101	O-77	Latest	1/20/13	No change	146
MA-169	Earliest	7?/ 2/16	No change	151	O-156	Earliest	10/ 5/89	190	142
MA-196	Earliest	4/ 2/92	275	146	O-164	Latest	6/28/30	200	218
MA-217	( Establish existing dates as 2nd Period )				O-195	Latest	12/30/09	310	173
MA-217	1st Period	10/ 6/28	475	136	O-207	Latest	11/24/49	No change	173
MA-221	Latest	4/24/55	185	218	O-216	Latest	1/12/21	475	137
MA-230	Latest	11/ 7/02	300	24	O-270	Latest	1/13/20	205	136

NEW EARLIEST AND LATEST DATES ( continued )

Listing #	Status	Date	New R.F.	Reporters	Listing #	Status	Date	New R.F.	Reporters
O-272	( Establish existing dates as 1st Period )				W-26Ba, #108	Latest	1/23/19	270	151
O-272	2nd Period	12/20/43	350	101	W-30a, #116va	Earliest	5/15/13	475	151
O-311	Latest	3/18/48	120	146	W-30a, #116va	Latest	11/ 2/16	475	142
O-393	Earliest	4/30/10	No change	16	W-30g, #128	Latest 1st	11/27/18	No change	151
O-399	Latest	12/ 7/22	500	16	W-30h, #130	Earliest	7/ 7/99	300	16
O-416	Earliest	12/21/14	No change	156	W-30h, #130	Latest	7/ 5/10	300	151
W-1	Latest	4/16/57	No change	218	W-30k, #136	Latest	6/17/24	240	221
W-19	Latest	1/ 4/06	220	136	W-30p, #146	One Period	6/14/15-	140	16, 151
W-25Z	Earliest	10/15/21	No change	16	W-30t, #154	Earliest	7/25/54		
W-26N	Earliest	12/19/54	345	4	W-30u, #156	Earliest	2/24/29	150	151
W-27Ga	Earliest	12/22/53	455	4	W-111b, #182	Earliest	5/30/25	210	151
W-28Bc	Earliest	7/12/25	480	108	W-111c, #184	Earliest	9/24/15	No change	151
W-64Ca	Latest	5/ 9/49	330	173	W-166	Latest	11/23/15	No change	151
W-102B	Latest	3/ 5/60	360	137	W-166c, #208	Latest	9/13/26	190	16
W-127	Earliest	3/19/29	No change	173	( For all ornament changes above, change text where appropriate				
W-127Db	1st Date	6/18/43	No change	151	RR-30	Earliest	4/19/96	395	16
W-131C	Latest	1/11/16	No change	221	RR-46	Earliest	10/23/90	No change	151
W-131D	Earliest	12/14/13	500	221	RR-66	Latest	8/28/84	330	179
W-138C	Latest	12/23/49	440	16	RR-67	Earliest	7/26/80	480	146
W-140C	Latest	4/23/59	300	146	RR-85	Earliest	12/24/79	500	137
W-141C	Latest	12/ 6/57	340	137	RR-94	Earliest	5/31/79	500	24
W-161J	Latest	1/ 4/36	460	151	RR-118	Earliest	6/29/79	500	146
W-161K	Earliest	4/23/43	405	137	RR-132	Latest	4/ 7/11	475	137
W-164	Latest	9/ 2/13	No change	137	RR-136	Earliest	9/ 3/85	200	101
W-166	Latest	9/13/26	190	16	RR-165	Latest	3/13/56	325	220
W-168	Latest	3/15/19	460	142	RR-184	Latest	2/24/92	No change	179
W-176Bc	Earliest	6/ 7/49	400	151	RG-7	Latest	3/15/76	480	216
W-193Db	Latest	3/ 6/60	420	151	RG-16	Earliest	9/ 7/75	500	216
W-193G	Earliest	10/22/52	385	4	RG-21	Latest	9/20/80	500	179
W-196Cd	1st Date	5/ 9/61	No change	151	RG-23	Earliest	7/ 4/81	500	142
W-203C	Earliest	10/23/20	425	142					

NEW EARLIEST AND LATEST DATES ( continued )

Listing #	Status	Date	New R.F.	Reporters	Listing #	Status	Date	New R.F.	Reporters
TTS-61b	Earliest	2/25/19	500	136	DD-98	Earliest	7/27/99	No change	142
TTS-184k	Latest	5/ 7/43	400	209	E-30	New Dates	6/ 7/54	450	179
TTS-184r	Latest	3/31/49	350	197	E-40	New Date	1/26/63		137
TTS-188m	Latest	11/ 3/43	350	209	E-42	New Dates	5/27/52	350	137
TTS-190	Earliest	10/23/32	440	156	E-42	New Dates	11/17/32	300	101
TTS-192i	Earliest	3/23/30	300	156			10/11/43		137
S-24a	Earliest	12/30/06	No change	97	E-43	New Date	3/24/45	370	150
S-25	Earliest	10/18/19	340	151	E-70	New Date	1/16/50	310	146, 150
S-157	Earliest	10/17/34	No change	179	E-75	New Date	2/20/41	465	101
S-173b	Earliest	9/ 4/33	490	218	E-95	New Dates	3/22/35	220	137
S-191a	Latest	6/ 3/51	395	179			7/10/42		151
S-231	Latest	4/ 9/37	No change	179			4/ 6/70		151
S-243	Latest	1/27/10	470	97					
S-254	Latest	8/17/34	375	97					
S-268	Latest	4/21/54	No change	16					

NEW TRAIN NUMBERS

All of the following new train numbers have been confirmed for the indicated listings; no rarity factors are involved.

Train No.	Listing #	Reporters	Train No.	Listing #	Reporters	Train No.	Listing #	Reporters
1	MA-92	137	3	Q-226	145	6	Q-156	145
	Q-56A	137		W-26Bb	137		O-257	145
	Q-247	137		W-30k	221		W-26A	137
	W-26N	4	4	O-422	137		W-27J	4
	W-30p	137		W-26Ba	101		W-72Ea	151
	W-189	136		W-30p	137		W-111e	101
2	Q-54	137	5	MA-259	142		W-164	137
	Q-162	137		Q-120A	145		W-166a	137
	Q-176C	16		Q-123	145	7	O-185	137
	O-38F	151		W-24A	136		O-416B	101
	O-72	136		W-30g	149		W-43A	137
	W-42	136		W-30w	149		W-87H	145
	W-152A	101		W-43	137		W-191	146
	RR-122	137		W-60B	101			

NEW TRAIN NUMBERS ( continued )

Train No.	Listing #	Reporters	Train No.	Listing #	Reporters	Train No.	Listing #	Reporters
8	W-30w	149	30	Q-274	101	157	Q-219	142
	W-43	137		W-202	136	165	Q-40	137
	W-87La	16	33	O-26	136	174	O-164	218
9	W-193	137	34	Q-38	145	184	O-114	136
	W-62M	137	41	W-141C	137	197	W-43A	145
10	Q-288	137	44	W-193Db	151	199	MA-24c	150
	W137Qa	4	45	O-361A	101		MA-29	150
11	Q-43	137	50	Q-156	145	201	W-102B	137
	Q-56	145		Q-173	145	209	Q-164	145
12	W-28Bc	108	51	W-213	101	210	Q-156	145
	O-91	145	59	MA-81	137		Q-164	145
13	W-210	136	60	O-218	145		Q-173	145
	W-30m	137	62	O-361	136	219	O-69	24
14	Q-85	137	67	W-79	137	245	Q-16B	145
	W-26	142		W-98b	151	264	O-421	136
	W-30a var.	149	70	O-135	142	301	W-102E	159
	W-301	137	77	O-348	101	305	W-14	145
	W-30m	137		O-350	101	348	Q-218	142
15	W-102N	4	80	Q-78	145	354	Q-217	145
	MA-74	145	84	O-383C	101	421	O-236	136
	MA-217	16	86	O-178	173	490	O-137	101
17	Q-23	16	88	O-178	16	534	O-235	142
	W-87H	101	96	O-51	137	543	O-220	142
18	W-30q	142		W-30m	149	556	O-248a	150
	W-87R	16	97	W-30g	149	559	O-249	145
19	MA-19	16	101	O-15	156	630	O-354	145
	RG-52	101	104	W-203	137	638	MA-21	137
20	O-64	142	105	O-178	137	696	W-113B	145
22	O-262A	136		W-203C	142	707	W-64D	137
24	Q-311	146	109	O-416B	145			
25	MA-23	145	122	W-186	136			
	MA-169	151	123	W-179C	137			
27	O-197	145	127	O-311	142			
	O-335A	136	135	O-282	136			
28	Q-173	145	139	O-282	145			
29	W-32A	24	150	Q-36	145			



NEW DIRECTION AND TIME MARKS

The following Direction and Time Marks for the indicated listings have never been previous reported; no rarity factors are involved.

Listing #	Dir./T.M. Reporters	Listing #	Dir./T.M. Reporters	Listing #	Dir./T.M. Reporters
A-202	W 218	O-121	T2S 146	W-191	W 136
A-237	S 24	O-168	T1N 146	W-215	W 136
-44	EAST 101	O-230	DOWN 137	RR-11	WEST -24
-53	N 218	O-272	T1S 137	RR-45	E 16
-90	NW 108		AM 101	RR-91	West 146
-165	NE 16	O-277	E 137	RR-94	NORTH 24
	WN 16	O-322	T1S 24	RR-99	W 136
	SW 16	W-57C	E 137	RR-136	SOUTH 101
	W7 142	W-61	W 136	RR-137	S 24, 137
-224	PM 136	W-77	W 24		SP 137
-234	E 137	W-102E	N 142	RG-52	NW 142
-253A	*E 145	W-121	N 136	S-245	S 101
-284C	RM 108	W-125T	E 137	DD-22	9 24
-290	NO 16	W-126	W 136	DD-40	4 137
-296	N 16	W-131C	S 221		13 150
	S 197	W-131D	S 221	DD-82	13 137
-316	E 101	W-134	SOUTH 142	E-1	AM 101
-40	N 101	W-152	N 108	E-30	AM 137
-111	T2N 146	W-160J	W 24	E-43	AM 146, 150
				E-44	PM 137

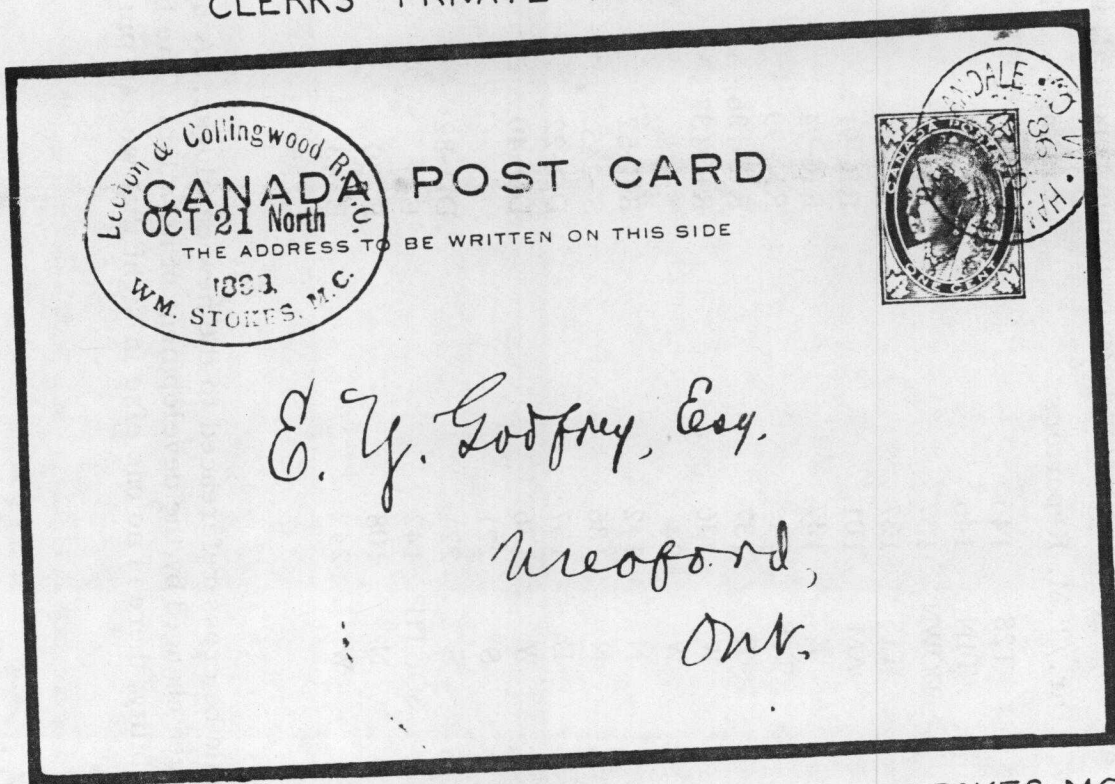
CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS

The following changes, alterations or corrections should be cross-referenced to the new catalogue. A number have been clarified reporting from second strikes, while others have been changed by the development of new data. The bulk are the result of a typographical error for which we assume full responsibility; there is no one else in sight that we can pin with the "rap".

Page No.	Change or Correction	Reporters
22	For N-98, change Type from "4H" to "4J".	16
23	For N-123, change Type from "22C" to "1L".	217
24	In the 4th paragraph, change "1974" to "1874"	16
28	For MA-65, change "1950" to "1953"; no change in rarity factor.	16
31	For MA-131b, change "1914" to "1916"; no change in rarity factor.	16
45	For Q-85, after "PONDS", add "R. P. O."	137
48	For Q-132A, change "W" to "N"	24

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY

CLERK'S PRIVATE HANDSTAMP



*E. Y. Godfrey, Esq.*

*Neoford,  
Ont.*

O-11B BEETON & COLLINGWOOD R.P.O. WM. STOKES M.C.  
OCT 21 NORTH 1898

O-94 HAMILTON & ALLANDALE M.C. NORTH, OCT 21, 98

*From Ross Gray's CAPEX exhibit*