

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

VOLUME XI, NO. 4

November, 1983

ASTOUNDING - It truly astounds me to open my mail and receive more reports of new RPOs. But the astounding process goes on and on. The only regret is that these new reports aren't coming from pieces in my collection. Here are the reports received recently:

1. Ludlow reported the "DB" on Q-188 at the convention. Since I didn't have the picture, I had to wait for its arrival to pass on to the membership. Enclosed is a copy. Lew has not apparently received permission to announce from whom the report came, so we will leave it unattributed.

2. From Frank Waite comes a new one "CANADIAN CENTRAL R'WAY MAIL CLERK" dtd Jan, 1876. Don't know whether Frank sent a copy to Lew, but I assume he has. That way Frank can get his number listed appropriately in the next catalog for this new find. A copy, with a little retouching, is enclosed. Actually, this is not really a new report but is among those delisted because nobody reported its existence. It had previously been reported by Gillam and Hollands in the old catalog as R-16A. Interesting Frank, where you been hiding this gem!

3. From Ross Gray - "HALIFAX & ANNAPOLIS R.R./" dtd Jun 1875. This amazing, or should I say astounding, new run Ross sends along as an editorial scoop, along with some other very nice pieces he has acquired recently for his collection. Note, Ross, that the Sheriff sometimes doesn't accept new reports in the newsletter, so you had better get a copy directly to him. Don't know whether he doesn't read it or whether he just likes being obstinate, whichever, Lew, please take note. And Ross, I appreciate the scoop. I would suggest that anyone having partials of MA 63 (and there aren't many) take a look to see if they might not have instead a copy of this new rarity. What a beauty!

4. From G. Smalley a report of RG-18, listed in the catalog as "Proof only". Actually Jarrett listed this run on page 553, but a copy has not been available recently, until now. This is truly a significant find, George, as there are so few of any of the RGs. The story of how George found the cover, shown at enclosure, is enough to make one wonder. Seems that he bought it at the Gananoque post office - from a clerk who had it in his cash drawer and really didn't know what he had. Lucky for Smalley. Now Steinhart, don't go running to the Gananoque post office to see if there is more.

It isn't often that three major finds will be reported in one issue of the newsletter. It is encouraging that we are sent copies of such to be shared with the membership. It shows that, even with a failure for an editor, our group is alive and well. It is my experience that this kind of input from the membership is what makes a newsletter, no less what makes a study group active and interesting - so keep it flowing!

MORE CATALOG UPDATES - Attached are more pages of update information from Lew providing new information for the catalog. Updating is a chore which almost requires a secretary. It is pertinent, though, to comment that the new catalog has brought a lot of new information out of dormant collections that hitherto had been hidden. Lew has gotten reports from far and wide, with new information or changes. That's encouraging in that it makes me feel that all the many, many hours that us "regulars" spent documenting and redocumenting material for the new catalog, is now being

used by so many previously unknown collectors, or new ones . That is great for the speciality and all its members, who put so much into helping Lew get the catalog updated to begin with. While I was late getting started, right after the inventory in 1978, I have a notebook full of correspondence with information going back and forth to Japan. I'm sure there are other notebooks the same or thicker. With the new catalog in hand, it was obviously worth the effort. We really have a fine reference. Of note is the fact that Lew has entered it for recognition in international competition.

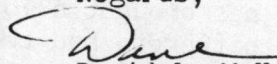
FUTURE CATALOG CHANGES - Concerning Frank Waite's suggestions for changes in the catalog format made at the convention in Winnipeg, have received several responses, including one from Frank and I quote, "I'm glad I don't carouse all night so that I couldn't keep awake at a morning meeting. (he is referring to the RPO study group meeting at winnipeg) My suggestion was simply that after each type description (page 236-66) the period of use of that type be given. Boy! Can you garble things - but then what can you expect from a hi-schooler, heh, heh." You see, Frank never makes it easy! If you haven't checked, his comment refers to Item 3 of the last newsletter. Received another comment concerning the reference to the reporter column in the catalog that Frank called hi-schoolish, stating "I love to see my name in print; I guess I am hischoolish too.". Also, the point was made that the next edition be in loose-leaf form so that material could be added or deleted as we go along or so that one could leave certain sections at home when traveling to a show or whatever. I personally think this should be adopted and if you are energetic enough, you can get a three hole punch and accomplish the same with the current catalog. Only problem is, that unless we all did it, corrections to a whole page couldn't be made - only partials. Any other ideas. Only received three responses so far on Frank's comments. Will go into this in detail when more comments/ideas have come in. Unless Lew is getting ready for a new reprint, which I strongly doubt, I think we have time to mull this one over. Let me have your ideas.

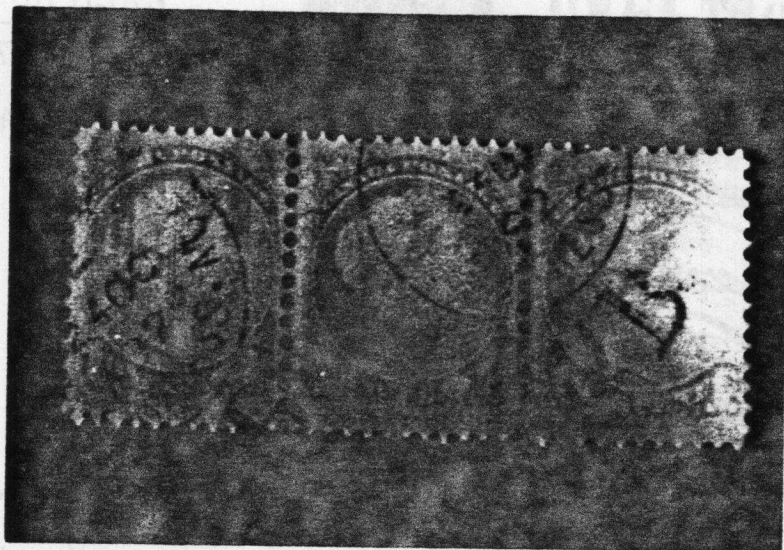
FROM J.C. JOHNSON, CALGARY - A second report of the clerk strike W-211C WPG & YORKTON R.P.O./D.W.WATSON/WINNIPEG. Am enclosing a copy of this cover from Hungary. Interesting piece. Congratulations.

CORKS USED BY RPO CLERKS - Have received several more report and am still working on presenting the results of this interesting project. If any of you have more to report, please do so, because it will significantly add to our ability to understand more about the use of these "hammers". In case there is a misunderstanding, what I mean by "carks" is any strike used in addition to the regular RPO hammer - usually applied to the stamp when the cover was mailed on the train - or given to the RPO clerk where regular post office facilities were not available. These run the gamut from the very simple to the very fancy. So far though, have received no initials.

That's all for this issue. Keep those cards and letters flowing.

Regards,

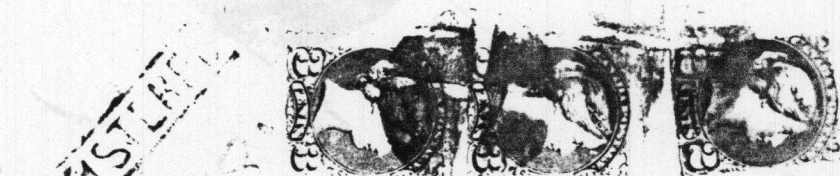

David L. McKain
5 Meadowcrest
Parkersburg, W. Va. 26101



Q-188 "DB"



VERY
RARE



Commissioner of Crown
Lands

PROV
Gang
18/1876

4863

One

Frank White



UNLISTED

HALIFAX & ANNAPOLIS R.R.

JU 24, 75

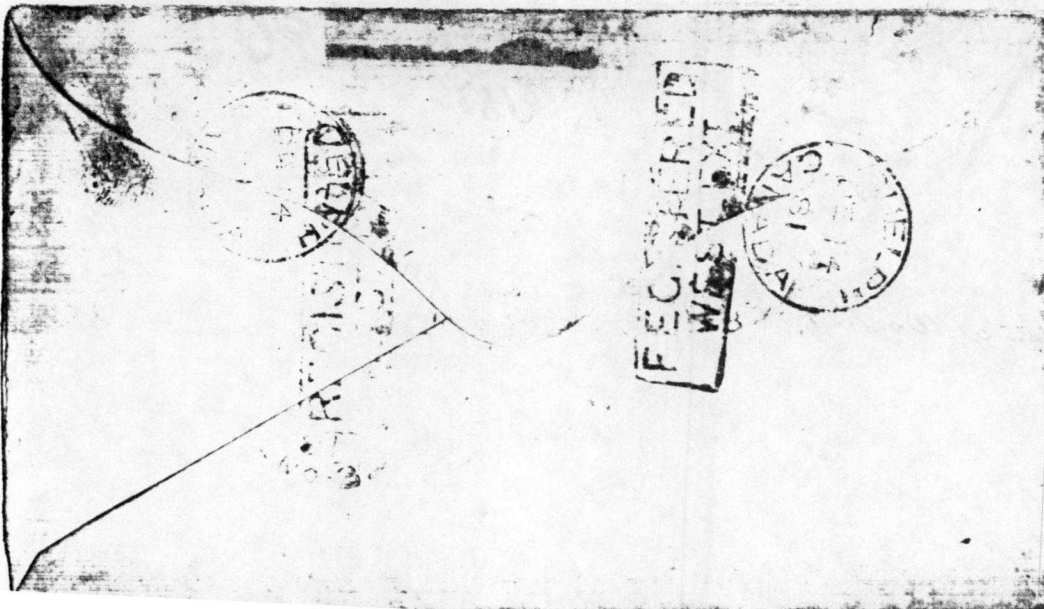
TYPE 4D



O-402

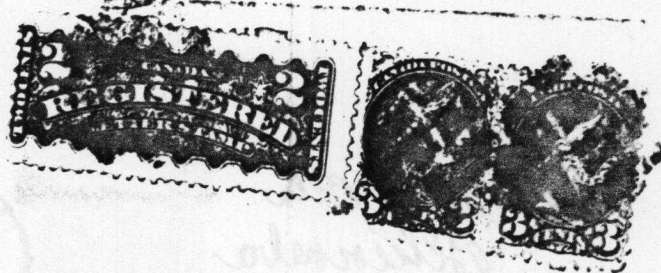
UP, APR 29, 1950

Nº 2



RG-42

(DE 14, 81)



Mr. George H. Armstrong

REGISTERED

Teacher

Doston. N. C.

And



THE CISTERN

From G. Smailey

F. Bayer Bela
Bekesaba



M. Bayer Bela
Bekesaba
Hungary

From J. C. Johnson

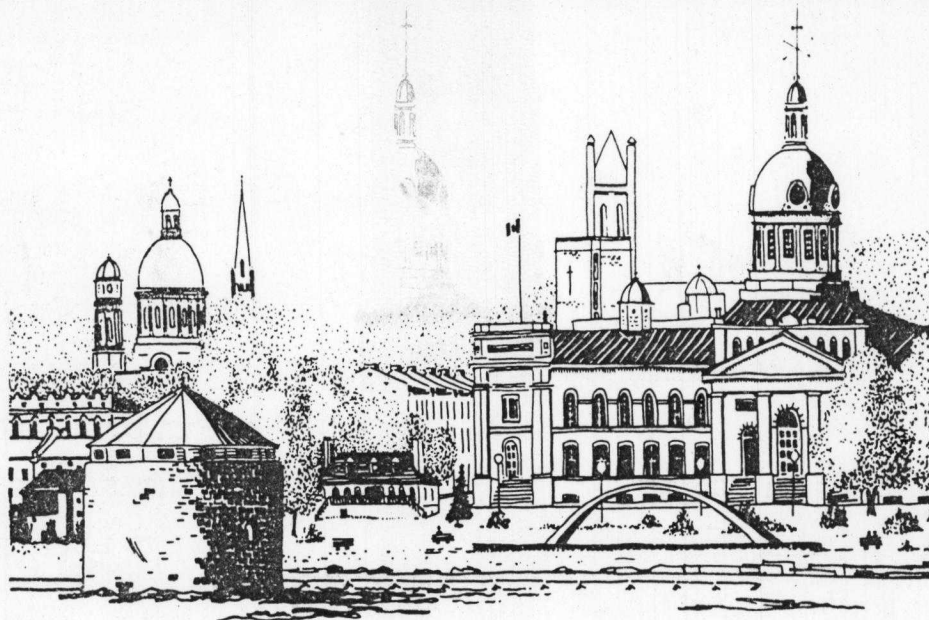
CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS (continued)

Page No.	Change or Correction	Reporters
50	For Q-165, change 2nd "NW" to "DW".	24, 101
50	For Q-169, after "No.", add "(#)".	16
54	For Q-222, change Type from "8A" to "6A".	16
58	For Q-284B, change Type from "7E" to "5I".	16
58	For Q-284B, change "PM" to "WEST".	16
63	For O-53, change rarity factor (R.F.) from "195" to "240"	16
64	For O-59, change "WM." to "W.".	142, 151
70	Delist O-183; this was reported in error for Q-147	16, 137
79	For O-338Mc, change Period from "1955" to "1951" and Reporter from "23" to "151".	16
83	For O-377, change former Listing # from "(O-367A)" to "(O-376A)".	16
84	For O-382A, there is no base period after the "C" of "M.C".	16
87	For O-412B, the Period should read "1953-1954".	16
87	Delist O-415; this entry was reported in error for a strike of O-207.	16
92	For W-12C, change Type from "17A" to "17J".	151
99	For W-43G, change "1946" to "1955"; no change in rarity factor.	16
104	For W-83Gb, change "no date" to "1950"	16
107	For W-89H, change the clerk name from "PAWKIK" to "PARKER".	16, 151
107	For W-89J, change the clerk initials from "A. K." to "A. A.".	151
108	For W-98, the Period should read "1927-1957".	16
111	For W-111, the Period should read "1915-1955".	16
115	For W-131, the Period should read "1912-1950".	16
115	For W-133B, remove the asterisk (*) from over the "W" of "W. D.".	16
115	For W-134, change Period to read "1883" only; change rarity factor (R.F.) to 500*	16, 142
117	For W-140, the Period should read "1918-1955".	16
120	For W-152A, the Period should read "1935-1938".	16
120	For W-153C, change the clerk initials from "E. R." to "E. G.".	151
123	For W-178, change "No." to "#".	16
137	For W-30q, Ornament #148, the Period should read "1919-1956".	16
139	For W-98, the Period should read "1927-1957"	16
140	For W-106a, Ornament #176, the Period should read "1912-1915".	16
142	For W-131, the Period should read "1912-1950".	16
148	For RR-39, add a slash (/) between "ARCTIC" and "PATROL".	16
151	For RR-91, change the direction "EAST" to "East".	16
154	For RR-154, the Period should read "1885-1896"; change the rarity factor (R.F.) to 265.	16

CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS (continued)

Page No.	Change or Correction	Reporters
166	For TS-290, the Period should read "1922-1926".	16
167	Change "GRENVILLE, SASK" to read "GRENFELL, SASK".	151
169	Change "PACQUEBOT" to read "PAQUEBOT".	136
171/184	In the Steamer Section, for all appropriate entires, change Reporter "189" to read "97".	16
173	For S-103b, add a slash (/) between "S. S." and "KINGSTON".	16
178	For S-145, change Reporter from "204" to "127".	16
178	For S-151b, change the Period from "1939" to "1935".	136
189	For DD-2, change "C. N. R." to "G. T. R." for the station.	142
191	For DD-96, change the Period from "1900" to "1899".	16
194	For E-85, change the Period from "1927" to "1929".	16
195	For O-11, change Direction from "SOUTH" to "South".	16, 220
195	For O-202A, change "TIMMONS" to "TIMMINS".	16
195	For O-294B, change "O-295Ba" to "O-294Ba".	16
196	For W-91F, change " (W-102Q) " to " (W-91Q) ".	16
196	For W-91G, change " (W-102R) " to " (W-91R) ".	221
197	For W-131D, change the clerk name from "WILLS" to "WILLIS".	16, 101
207	For Trains 11 & 12, change "W-98" to "W-98b", for both.	16
217	For Train 199, change "MA-24b" to "MA-24c".	16
222	For Train 756, delist O-415; reported in error for a strike of O-207.	16
223	For ATTREE, H., change "W-156D" to "W-155D".	151
229	For LeCLAIRE, change clerk initials from "A. K." to "A. A.". .	16, 151
231	For PARKER, F., add "W-89H"; cancel clerk name PAWKIK, F.	16, 221
234	For WILLIS, E. V., add "W-131D"; if previously added, cancel clerk name WILLS, E. V.	16
234	For WILLISON, A., change "W-91F" to "W-91H"	146
265	For Type 30K and 30L, reverse illustrations.	136
268/269	For Reporter 120, Rankin, add the initials "H. E.". .	

Here ends Annex I; future reports received during the coming year, when confirmed will be put forth in Annex II. We feel that the development of this volume of new data during the first year following publication of the new catalogue to be firm evidence that specialization in Canadian R.P.O.s is a live and growing field.



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BNAPS, RPSC, APS, CPS-GB, MPOS, PHS, PHSC, AFDCS

28 September, 1982

ANNOUNCING THE PUBLICATION OF
ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT
CANADIAN POSTAL HISTORY REFERENCE WORKS

CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN RAILWAY CANCELLATIONS

By

Lewis M. Ludlow

272 pp. (8½" X 11"), soft cover, coil bound,
Privately published by Lewis M. Ludlow, Tokyo,
Japan, 1982 edition (1500 copies)

\$32 in Canada; \$25 U.S.; £15 Sterling

The 1982 edition of Ludlow's Canadian Railway Cancellations is the product of seven years intensive work in completely revising and updating the 1975 Shaw/Ludlow catalogue and the culmination of nearly sixty years research into Canadian and Newfoundland R.P.O's, T.P.O's, Steamers, Mail-boats, and related transportation postmarks.

The study of Canadian R.P.O.'s began in 1923 with the illustration of a handful of early cancels in the first edition of Jarrett's Postage Stamps of Canada. The pioneer collector and student of this field, Rev. F.W. Gedye of Brome, Quebec, designed the classification system which, considerably expanded, remains the basic framework today. Working with Gedye, Jarrett included a listing of R.P.O.'s in his 1926 edition, further expanded in 1929. Rev. Gedye's first study appeared in the Stamp Herald 20th December, 1926, and he was later joined in this pursuit by a small group of early cancel specialists, notably Prof. A.V. Richardson, Dr. Alfred Whitehead and T.P.G. Shaw.

The result of the first two decades of study Canadian Railroad Cancellations, a 53 page catalogue, was published by Shaw in 1944. Another contemporary listing appeared in Bogg's, 1946 Postage Stamps of Canada.

For thirty years Tom Shaw (in the words of Ludlow, his successor) served "as compiler, arbiter, correspondent and general factotum of R.P.O. records". In addition to keeping abreast of the multitude of changes in R.P.O. listings, an awesome and precarious task before the advent of photocopying, Shaw and a growing circle of specialists popularized the field through the pages of numerous philatelic journals. The Meyerson brothers tackled the complex area of Newfoundland T.P.O.'s, Shaw updated listings and Whitehead wrote a series of articles in B.N.A. Topics beginning in April, 1953, in which he ably demonstrated the possibilities for specialist study of R.P.O.'s opening up many new avenues of study to another generation of collectors.

Shaw's publication of new reports in the Canadian Philatelist beginning in the fall of 1959 was followed with the publication of his greatly expanded Canadian Transportation Postmarks by the R.P.S.C. in 1963. This catalogue included the results of Meyerson's Newfoundland study, water routes, clerk's hammers, ornaments, train numbers and, most significantly, a historical section on R.P.O. Routes.

The study of Canadian R.P.O.'s began in 1923 with the publication of a
handbook of early stamps in the collection of James A. Postage Stamp
of Canada. The pioneer collector and student of this field, Rev. T.W.
Daly of Prince Rupert, described the classification system which, consid-
erably extended, remains the basic framework today. Working with Daly,
James included a listing of R.P.O.'s in his 1925 edition. Further expand-
ed in 1930, Daly's first study appeared in the Stamp Review 23rd
December, 1930, and he was later joined in this pursuit by a small group
of early stamp specialists, notably Prof. A.V. Richardson, Dr. Alfred
Winstead and T.G. Shaw.

The result of the first two decades of study (Canadian Philatelic Collections
a 35 page catalogue, was published by Shaw in 1941. Another contemporary
listing appeared in Daly's, 1945 Postage Stamp of Canada.

For thirty years, Tom Shaw (in the words of Lubbock, his successor) served as
collector, editor, correspondent and general factotum of R.P.O. records.
In addition to seeing to it that the field of stamps in R.P.O. was
kept, an active and productive task before the advent of photocopying,
Shaw and a growing circle of specialists popularized the field through the
pages of numerous philatelic journals. The Postage Stamp of Canada included the
complete area of Newfoundland, P.O. Post Office, Islands and United
States of America. In 1953, he wrote a series of articles in R.P.O. books dealing with April, 1953, in
which he only mentioned the possibilities for specialist study of R.P.O.'s
opening up many new avenues of study to another generation of collectors.

Shaw's publication of new reports in the Canadian Philatelic Bulletin beginning in
the fall of 1955 was followed with the publication of his greatly expanded
Canadian Postage Stamp by the R.P.O.C. in 1957. The catalogue
included the results of a Newfoundlander study, water routes, clairs
names, ornaments, train numbers and, most significantly, a historical
section on R.P.O. houses.

The enthusiasm with which the catalogue was received was demonstrated in the continuous flow of new reports through the 1960's and the release of Lionel Gillam's History of Canadian R.P.O.'s in 1967. Shaw's addenda of 1970 documented this new research.

By this time the field was in danger of falling victim to its enormous success. While Shaw continued to encourage and share his knowledge with the enthusiastic new converts he felt, at age 75, he was unable to begin anew the exhaustive task of another catalogue.

In 1972, a long-time student of Canadian postal history, Lewis M. Ludlow, initiated an R.P.O. forum 'The Cowcatcher' in B.N.A. Topics. This venture led to the formation of the B.N.A.P.S. R.P.O. Study Group in 1974. With Shaw's help, Ludlow undertook the preparation of a revised edition of the catalogue section which included all the changes and additions reported since 1963, augmented with an examination of the Whitehead collection and data from the Pritchard Andrew's proof books not previously available. With the publication of the revised Shaw/Ludlow catalogue in 1975 the most intensive period of R.P.O. study was underway.

Acting as co-ordinator, compiler and arbiter, Ludlow led a group of over a hundred contributing specialists who worked steadily fleshing out the listings, adding some 600 new runs to the data bank and weeding out hundreds of spurious entries. A major survey of R.P.O. holdings conducted between 1975-77 which recorded some 150,000 strikes was the first step in a bold revision of the rarity factor system. The scale was extended from 5 to 500 allowing for much finer gradations than previously possible and the raw inventory coupled with two new elements, length of use and era of existence was subjected to the analysis of professional statisticians to arrive at a working model that may very well revolutionize rarity assessment for all postal history studies.

the manuscript which the editor had received was determined in the numerous flow of new papers through the 1950s and the release of the History of Canadian R.P.O.s in 1967. Shaw's students in 1970 continued this new research.

By this time the field was in danger of falling victim to the enormous success. While Shaw continued to encourage and share his knowledge with the students, new converts he felt, at age 75, he was unable to begin the exhaustive task of another catalogue.

In 1971, a long-time student of Canadian postal history, Lewis M. Lawlor, initiated an R.P.O. forum, "The Cowcatcher", in B.N.A. Journal. This venture led to the formation of the B.N.A.P.S. R.P.O. Study Group in 1971. With Shaw's help, Lawlor undertook the preparation of a revised edition of the catalogue section which included all the changes and additions reported since 1965, augmented with an examination of the Whitbread collection and data from the Whitbread Library's book not previously available. The Whitbread collection and the Whitbread catalogue in 1975 the most intensive period of R.P.O. study was underway.

During as co-ordinator, compiler and editor, Lawlor led a group of over a hundred contributing specialists who worked steadily fleshing out the catalogue, adding some 600 new items to the data bank and writing out hundreds of articles. A major survey of R.P.O. holdings conducted between 1975-77 which recorded some 150,000 articles was the first step in a total revision of the entire section. The scale was extended from 2 to 300 allowing for much finer gradations than previously possible and the new inventory coupled with two new elements, length of use and era of existence was subjected to the analysis of professional statisticians and a new working model that may well revolutionize future research meant for all postal history studies.

While all sections of the catalogue underwent a complete revision between 1977-82, a group of specialists applied their talents to a thorough re-examination of the Newfoundland, Maritime, Depot, Steamer, hammer/type, railway and route sections which have been overhauled and largely re-numbered. New research has resulted in the addition of several new sections detailing ticket stamps, ornaments, Royal Trains, Centennial Trains and Emergency hammers.

Ludlow's 1982 Catalogue of Canadian Railway Cancellations is the end product of this work. In addition to the 3,000 separate entries, the listing of clerk's and train numbers has been brought up to date and all listings have been cross-indexed and cross referenced to the 1975 edition. A detailed introduction offers the beginning collector as well as the seasoned veteran the tools with which to obtain the maximum benefits from the catalogue.

The publication of the Ludlow catalogue brings into sharp focus the results of sixty years research into one of the most interesting and complex fields of Canadian postal history, and brings the basic listings to a ninety per cent degree of completion. It offers a solid foundation for the pursuit of many avenues of individual and co-operative research and all students of Canadian postal history owe Lewis Ludlow a tremendous debt for the herculean task which he has undertaken and mastered with excellence. An even more remarkable achievement when one realizes that the author is an American, who admits to having only a sketchy background in Canadian history and geography and has undertaken this entire effort from his home in Japan!

While all aspects of the catalogue underwent a complete revision between 1975-82, a group of specialists applied their talents to a thorough re-examination of the Newfoundland, Maritime, Provt. Stamp, Stamp-type, and New Brunswick sections which have been overhauled and largely re-numbered. New research has resulted in the addition of several new sections detailing first stamps, ornaments, Royal Trials, Continental trials and temporary patterns.

Volume 1-2 is a volume of Canadian Railway Cancellations in the end of the 19th century. In addition to the 2,000 separate entries, the listing of clerks and train numbers has been brought up to date and all listings have been cross-indexed and cross-referenced to the 1975 edition. A detailed introduction offers the beginning collector as well as the seasoned veteran the tools with which to obtain the maximum benefits from the catalogue.

The publication of the *Index Catalogue* brings into sharp focus the results of sixty years' research into one of the most interesting and complex fields of Canadian postal history, and brings the basic listings to a ninety per cent degree of completion. It offers a solid foundation for the pursuit of many avenues of individual and co-operative research and all students of Canadian postal history owe Jack's Index a tremendous debt for the nervous lack which has been undertaken and mastered with excellence. An even more remarkable achievement when one realizes that the author is an American, who seems to have only a passing acquaintance with Canadian history and geography and has undertaken this entire effort from his home in Japan.

ORDER FORM

CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN RAILWAY CANCELLATIONS

By

Lewis M. Ludlow - 1982

We have just received our first shipment of the Ludlow catalogue from Japan and orders will be filled immediately on a first come, first served basis. Orders may be sent by mail or phoned. All catalogues will be shipped postpaid. We will also have a supply of the catalogue with us at the following shows:

BNAPEX (Virginia Beach, Va) 7 - 9 October

STAMPFEST (Toronto) 15 -17 October
(Available at Robert A. Lee's table)

BYPEX (Ottawa) 23 -24 October

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CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN PATWAY INNOVATIONS

BY

LEWIS W. JARROW - 1983

We have just received our first shipment of the Jarrow catalogue from Japan and orders will be filled immediately on a first come, first served basis. Orders may be sent by mail or phone. All catalogues will be shipped postpaid. We will also have a supply of the catalogue with us at the following shows:

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- (available at Robert A. Lee's table)
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