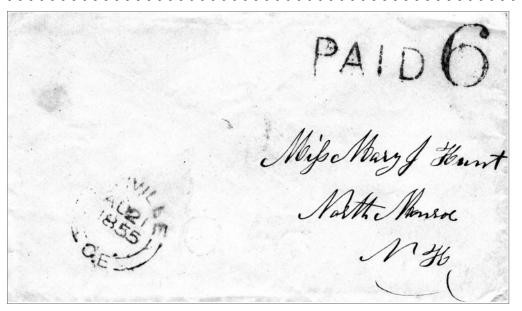
Volume 39 - No. 4 Whole No. 213 March - April, 2011

In this issue we see more of the continuing new reports which have been streaming in since the new catalogue was published. Many more are on the editor's desk for inclusion in future newsletters.

Reporters are Jack Brandt, Cecil Coutts, Hugo Deshaye, Ross Gray, Bob Lane, Colin Lewis, Peter McCarthy and Jim Miller.





This transit backstamp, **RY-170.01**,  $S^{I} \cdot LAWRENCE \cdot \& \cdot ATLANTIC - RAILROAD / = , AU 22, 1855, 1, on a 6 pence stampless cover to North Monroe, New Hampshire is$ **a new late date for both the hammer and listing**.

It was replaced by QC-166.04, MON. & ISLD. PD. GRAND TR'K R. WAY / : No. 4. : , which is known used as early as 1855/09/05. Reported by Ross Gray.

#### CONGRATULATIONS!

I don't know what Ross had in mind for a lead article in the January – February, 2011 issue of the Newsletter, but I bet it was not a self-congratulatory pat on the back. Regrettably it was right and proper that the sad news of the passing of our dear friend, Bill Robinson, should head the front page.

Why the celebrations and congratulations? Surely a tenth anniversary is worth celebrating?

The November – December, 2010 issue of the Newsletter (Whole No. 211) completed a ten year run with Ross Gray as our Editor and Whole No.212 should have been celebrated as his ten year anniversary issue. During his first ten years of stewardship Ross has issued sixty Newsletters, 600 pages of informative, well-researched, superbly illustrated articles. During the last year or so it has been a joy to see so many of our members providing input to the Newsletter, but far too many of the preceding issues were all the work of one man ... Ross Gray. Please join with me in thanking Ross for all his endeavours during the last ten years. Well done Ross! We look forward to many more Newsletters under your editorship.

We should also thank Chris Anstead who has arranged the Newsletter printing and mailing-out during the last ten years. Well done, Chris.

Brian Stalker - Chairman

#### New Reports from Jack Brandt



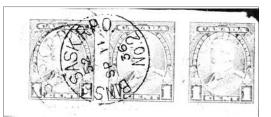
This example of MT-286.02, SAINT JOHN & ED'STN · R.P.O. / . , N, JUL 19, 54 , is the first report of a direction indicium "N" for the listing and the hammer.

This **SN-22.01**, MEDICINE HAT · C.P.R. DEPOT / . , 31, AU 17, PM , on a 3 cent stamp, is a **new late date** for the first of the two hammers. As usual, the normal time and year date slug positions are reversed.



On a 5 cent cover to Calgary is a **new late late** for the second of two hammers, **SN-22.02**, MEDICINE HAT. C.P.R. DEPOT / . , 65, FE 2, AM.





Here we have **WT-6.02**, BINS. & SASK. R.P.O. / No. 2 , 52, SP 11, 36, a new **early date** and **WT-6.02**, BINS. & SASK. R.P.O. / No. 2 , 51, AU 20, 48 , a new **late date** for the hammer.

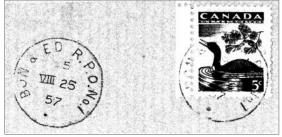




This WT-6.03, BINS. & SASK. R.P.O. /  $N^Q$ . 3 , 52, AU 20, 36 , is a new early date for the hammer.







This lightly struck **WT-13.01**, BON. & ED. R.P.O. No. 1 / . , ?5, VIII 25, 57 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.

WT-17.02, BDRY. LINE & WPG. R.P.O. /  $N^{\circ}$  2 , 109, MY 4, 30 , is a new **early date** for both the hammer and the listing.





**WT-37.01**, BRANDON & REGINA  $\cdot$  R.P.O. /  $\mathbb{N}^{Q}$  1 , 5, MR 7, 46 , is a new late date for the hammer.

#### New Reports from Jack Brandt



**WT-48.01**, BRED & SASK. R.P.O. / No. 1 , 52, NO 11, 53 , is a **new late** date for the hammer.

WT-48.02, BRED & SASK. R.P.O. / No. 2 , 52, OC 3, 53 , is a new late date for the hammer.

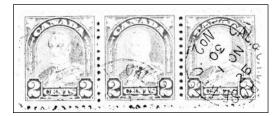




This is the **first report of a "No. 1" hammer** for listing **WT-58**. The "No. 2" hammer was proof struck on January 25, 1915 but no record of the "No. 1" exists, although it probably shares the same proof date. It will be listed as **WT-58.01**, BULYEA & SASK · R.P.O. /  $\mathbb{N}^{\Omega}$  1, E, DE 4, 15 and the "No. 2" hammer will now be listed as **WT-58.02**.

WT-59.021, CAL. & CAMROSE  $\cdot$  R.P.O. /  $\mathbb{N}^{Q}$  2, 25, AU 1, 27, is a **new early date for this hammer**, which was proof struck on May 15, 1924. It is also the **first report of train 25** for the hammer.





**WT-59.021**, CAL. & CAMROSE  $\cdot$  R.P.O. /  $\mathbb{N}^{Q}$  2 , 25, NO 1, 30 , is a **new late date for this hammer**. As a result of this increased period of use, the R.F. will change to "F".

**WT-59.022**, CAL. & CAMROSE  $\cdot$  R.P.O. / No 2 , 26, OC 13, 36 , is a new early date for the hammer.





**WT-64.011**, CALGARY & EDMONTON R.P.O. /  $\mathbb{N}^{Q}$  1 , 26, MY 14, 12 , is a new late date for the hammer.







**WT-64.022**, CALGARY & EDMONTON R.P.O. /  $N^{\Omega}$  2 . , S, DE 8, 02 , is a new early date for the hammer.





#### New Reports from Jack Brandt



**WT-64.052**, CALGARY & EDMONTON  $\cdot$  R.P.O. / Nº 5 , 23, JAN 15, 37 and **WT-64.052**, CALGARY & EDMONTON  $\cdot$  R.P.O. / Nº 5 , 23, AP 19, 46 , are the **first reports of train 23** for this hammer.



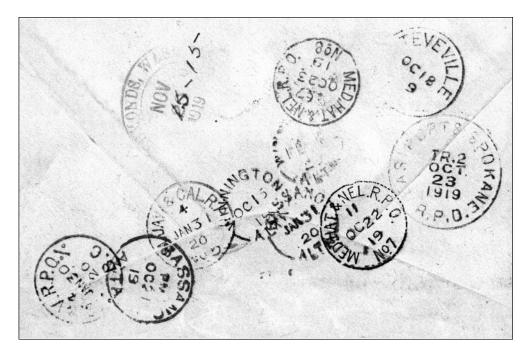
On too dark a 3 cent brown Admiral to illustrate, a **WT-064.062**, CALGARY & EDMONTON . R.P.O. /  $N^{\circ}$  6 , 25, JAN 30, 24 , is a **new early date** for the hammer.



**WT-212.01**, EDM. & PR. GEORGE  $\cdot$  R.P.O. / N $^{o}$  1 , 5, JUN 26, 28 , is the **first report of train 5** for the hammer.

**WT-318.022**, MACLEOD & CALGARY · R.P.O. / ·  $\mathbb{N}^{Q}$  2 · , 41, AP 20, 36 , is a new **late date** and **second confirmed date** for the hammer (*See Page 2217*).





One of many transit backstamps on a well travelled cover, this **WT-344.07**, MED. HAT. & NEL. R.P.O. /  $N^{\circ}$  7 , 11, OC 22, 19 , is the **first report of train 11** for the hammer.

WT-435.021, M. JAW & EMP. R.P.O. /  $N^{\Omega}$  2 , E, JUL 6, 22 , on a 3 cent brown Admiral is the **first report** of this hammer being used. Unfortunately the image is too dark to illustrate here. The hammer was proof struck on August 2, 1918 and WT-435.022, its replacement, was proof struck on April 26, 1923.

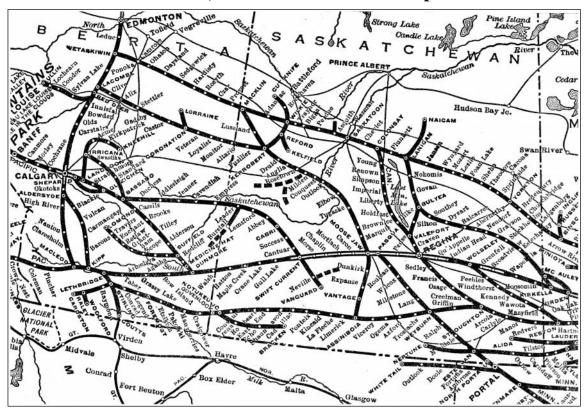


**WT-435.022**, M. JAW & EMP. R.P.O. /  $N^{\Omega}$  2 , 66, DE 20, 45 and **WT-435.022**, M. JAW & EMP. R.P.O. /  $N^{\Omega}$  2 ,66, DE 22, 54 are the **third and fourth reports of a December date for this hammer**. It was likely used on the Swift Current & Empress R.P.O. only during the busy Christmas season when an extra clerk may have been assigned.



Page 2231

### Moose Jaw, Swift Current and Empress



C.P.R. Public Timetable - 1924

M 673 Tue.	M 671 Thu.	M 611 Tue. Sat.	65 Ex. Sun.	Miles	TABLE	107	66 Ex. Sun.	M 612 Mon., Fri.	M 672 Wed.	M 674 Tue
	4.40 /5.08 5.18 5.40 P.M.	8.300 8.500 9.355 10.270 11.15 12.2725 12.75 12.	M 634 Tue. P.M. 1.40 2.10 2.30	13.9.8.4.4.6.3.82.6.1.8.1.8.1.8.1.8.1.8.1.8.1.8.1.8.1.8.1	Mounts LySwirt Cu Cant Succo Penn Batti Cas Shack Abb Lan Portr Lems Soep Prele LEADE Weste Estuar Empress, Shar Bind Caver Burf Maje Atl Halsi Jen Iddes Denn Prit Ducl Rosem Rosem Hus Stan Gra Make Caver Hus Chan Stan Stan Tuc Han Tuc Han Stan	uar	II. 050 10.5	P.M. 6.100 5.500 4.350 7.3.315 7.2.00 1.2.25 10.000 10.000	A.M.	P.M. 4.54 4.21 3.55 P.M.

After reviewing the reports which we now have for the Moose Jaw & Empress R.P.O. and the Swift Current & Empress R.P.O., as well as a number C.P.Ry. public timetables between 1920 and 1953, I am led to believe that the actual Moose Jaw - Empress run was short lived and that it was reduced to operating between Swift Current and Empress, early in its existence.

Except for **WT-435.02**, the other steel hammers of the Moose Jaw & Empress R.P.O. are only known used between 1918/12/09 and 1924/08/20. We now have recorded **WT-435.02** dated 1943/12/17, 1945/12/20, 1953/12/16 and 1954/12/22, with either train 65 or 66, suggesting that it was only used as a spare hammer for an extra clerk on the Swift Current & Empress R.P.O. during the busy Christmas season.

Lionel Gillam (*Page 47*, "A History of Canadian R.P.O.s") noted the temporary Christmas use of the Moose Jaw & Empress hammer and suggested that the Moose Jaw - Empress run was revived for Christmas.

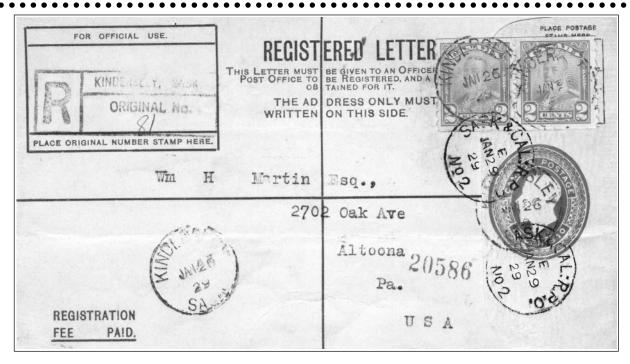
### North Portal & Moose Jaw New Reports



**WT-523.031**, NOR. PORT. & M. JAW  $\cdot$  R.P.O. / No 3. , 14, JAN 21, 15 , is a new **late date** for the hammer, reported by **Jack Brandt**. The R.F. will change to "E".



**Ross Gray** adds this **new late date** and **first report of train 14** for the hammer, **WT-523.05**, NOR. PORT & M. JAW - R.P.O. /  $N^{\Omega}$  5. , 14, NO 18, 32 , which was used as a transit mark on a registered cover from Zehner, Saskatchewan to California



On a registered cover from Kindersley, Saskatchewan to Altoona, Pennysyvania, **Ross Gray** found a new **late date** for the hammer, **WT-689.022**, SASK. & CAL : R.P.O. /  $N^{\circ}$  2 , E, JAN 29, 29.

# A Former Ticket Stamp Relisted



In the **Eastern Auctions** November 6, 2010 sale, was this registered cover, with manuscript "Adamsville / Sept 1884" on reverse, franked with single 3c orange and a well centered 2c orange registration tied by superb Railway Ticket Stamp oval "J.D. ANDERSON / ABERCORN / SEP 4 South / QUEBEC / Montreal & Mansonville Ag't" handstamp in purple on cover, slightly reduced at left, addressed to Magog, Que. A exceptional RPO cover, XF (Ludlow TS-140 listed as "no report", R. Gray 2009 catalogue, unlisted) ex. Harry Lussey, R. Lee Auctions, May 1999, Lot 302. (*This handstamp has now been relisted in the catalogue as QC-554.55*, including a note that it is an **agent's stamp** not that of a RPO clerk.)

### A "Grand Trunk Railway East" Early Date



In the **Eastern Auctions** November 6, 2010 sale, was this cover described as "1c Deep Orange, Perf 12 (35ii) Horizontal pair, left stamp with slight crease from position on edge of cover, alongside a nicely centered example of 3c copper red, perf 12 (37b), true rich colours and each stamp cancelled by clear fancy "9" cancels from Kingston on registered cover addressed to Sandwich, ON, portion of Kingston (AP 29) 1870 CDS dispatch at left, cover lightly reduced, straightline and boxed REGISTERED cancels, with Grand Trunk Railway East / Night (AP 30 70) and G.W.R. / West (AP 30) RPO backstamps".

The **RY-56.01**, GRAND  $\cdot$  TRUNK  $\cdot$  RAILWAY  $\cdot$  EAST /  $^-$  A  $^-$  , NIGHT, AP 30, 70 , transit backstamp is a **new early date for both the hammer and the listing**. The proof date is unknown.

We are grateful to **Eastern Auctions** for kindly providing the scan of the cover back for this report.

# An Early Montreal & Quebec Indicia Variety



Observed in **Hugo Deshaye's** price list, was this second reported example of **QC-236.01**, MONT. & QUE. GRAND TRUNK R'WAY / : No. 1. : , C, blank, SEP 10, 1857, with blank direction indicium. **Peter McCarthy** reported the first such example on page 2211 of the November-December, 2010 newsletter. It was dated 1858/12/29 and also had a "C" indicator.

#### New Reports from Colin Lewis



This **WT-9**, BLAINE & VANCOUVER / R.P.O., 355, JUN 17, 37, transit backstamp on a registered cover from Vancouver to Birmingham UK, is a **new late date**. (The month is confirmed by other backstamps.)

This **new late date** for a very worn **WT-689.01**, SASK. & CAL. R.P.O. /  $N^{\Omega}$  1, W, MY29, 27, is on a #10 revalued stationery envelope to Winnipeg.



This well struck WT-744.04, SASK. & MUN. R.P.O. / No. 4 , 10, SP 8, 30 , on a post card to Saskatoon, is a **new early date** for the hammer.

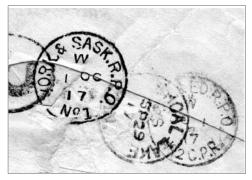


This **WT-213.05**, EDM. & PR. GEO. R.P.O. / NO. 5, 190, JUL 27, 53, is a **new late date** and **first report of train 190** for the hammer.



### A Yorkton & Saskatoon Update from Bob Lane

Bob Lane reports a new late date for WT-994.011, YORK. & SASK. R.P.O. / № 1., W, 1 OC, 17, found as a transit backstamp on a registered cover from Shoal Lake, Manitoba to Edmonton. This is also the first report of the "W" direction indicium for the hammer.



# Medicine Hat & Nelson Updates from Jim Miller

**Jim Miller** advises us of some additions and corrections to a number of the Medicine Hat & Nelson run listings as follows;

WT-344.032, MED. HAT. & NEL  $\cdot$  R.P.O. / No 3 , 67, JAN 8, 18 , is the first report of train 67.

WT-344.051, MED. HAT. & NEL R.P.O. / No 5, W, AP 14, 11, is the first report of direction W.

**WT-344.07**, MED. HAT. & NEL. R.P.O. / Nº 7, 67, JUN 7, 20, is the first report of train 67.

**WT-344.08**, MED. HAT. & NEL. R.P.O. / № 8 , 12, OC 7, 12 , is the first report of train 12.

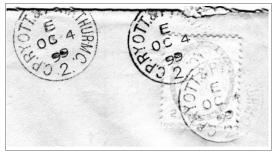
**WT-344.08 correction**. It appears that dates later than 1918/10/04 were mis-identified other hammers. As a result, **the new LRD for this hammer is changed to 1918/10/04 and the R.F. becomes D**.

WT-344.12 correction. The reported early date of 1917/11/28 was a mis-identified WT-344.02. The new ERD for WT-344.12 has been corrected to 1925/06/04 and the R.F. changed to "B".

WT-344.13, MED. HAT & NEL . R.P.O. / No. 13, 68, JUN 27, 53, is the first report of train 68.

**WT-346**, TRAIN No. / Med. Hat & Nel. R.P.O. No. **5**, 67, JUN 20, 19, reveals the number at the hammer base.

#### New Reports from Ross Gray

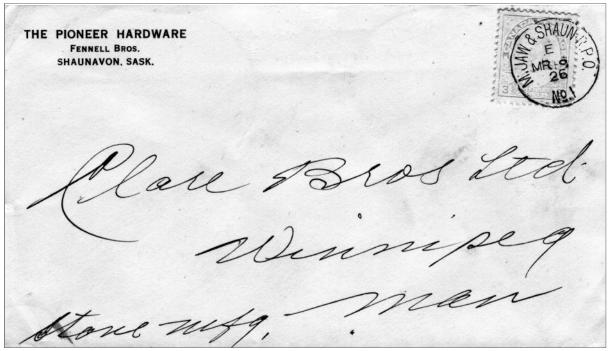


On a  $2\phi$  Numeral cover from Port Arthur to Toronto, where it was received the following day, is a new late date for **ON-415.02**, C.P.RY OTT. & PI ARTHUR · M.C. / 2. , E, OC 4, 99.

This new **late date** for the hammer, **WT-344.011**, MED. HAT. & NEL. R.P.O. /  $N^{\Omega}$  1. , 68, JUL 15, 24 , is on a Cranbrook Hotel cover to Winnipeg.



On a 3 cent cover from Blairmore, Alberta to Winnipeg, is a new **early date** for **WT-347.08**, M. HAT & NEL  $\cdot$  R.P.O. / N $^{\circ}$  8 , 68, MR 12, 25 . The hammer was proof struck on June 6, 1924.



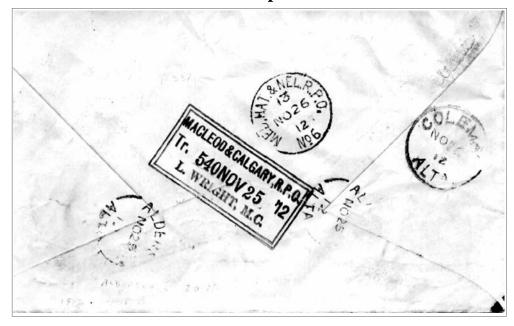
This new **early date** for **WT-459.012**, M. JAW & SHAUN  $\cdot$  R.P.O. /  $\mathbb{N}^{Q}$  . 1 , E MR 9, 26 , is also the first report of an "E" direction indicium for the hammer, which was proof struck February 16, 1923. The R.F. will change to "D".

# A New Train for QC-478 from Peter McCarthy



**Peter McCarthy** reports a **new train number** for **QC-478**, RIV. DU LOUP & LEVIS · R.P.O. / . , 5, 8 JUL, 29 . According to a contemporary timetable, there was no train 5 on this route at the time, so the the clerk probably substituted the "5" for "35", having lost or misplaced the "35" slug.

#### New Reports



We are grateful to Cecil Coutts, Author/Publisher of "Slogan Postmarks of Canada" 3rd ed. 2007, for reporting this **previously unrecorded example of train 13** for **WT-344.061**, MED. HAT. & NEL. R.P.O. / Nº 6, 13, NO 26, 12.

The registered cover originated at Aldersyde, Alberta on November 25, 1912. It was transferred to southbound C.P.R. train #540 (Calgary to Macleod) the same day, where it received the only reported example of WT-321, MACLEOD & CALGARY, R.P.O. / L. WRIGHT, M.C., Tr. 540, NOV 25, '12, which was struck in blue. At MacLeod, it was transferred to westbound C.P.R. train 13 (Medicine Hat to Nelson) and postmarked with WT-344.061, MED. HAT. & NEL. R.P.O. / No 6, 13, NO 26, 12. The Coleman, Alberta C.D.S. receiver is dated November 26, 1912.

On a related matter, the Aldersyde, Alberta 1912 split ring cancel is not reported in the Proof book.

# R.P.O. Award Progress Report from Peter McCarthy

In the recent questionnaire sent to the R.P.O. study group members with regards to a Bill Robinson memorial award, there were twenty-one responses; twenty for the award and one against. Many of you were quite comfortable with the award being given to the best R.P.O. exhibit whether it was for postal history or literature. Megan Robinson's wish is for the award to be named formally; "The William G. Robinson Award".

Twenty respondents were in favour of a raise of two dollars per year to help finance the award. Some of you have pledged donations for which we are very thankful. We are now in the process of working on the criteria and so far it looks like we will have the award in place for BNAPEX 2011 North Bay.

# Secretary's Report from Chris Anstead

Brian Copeland of British Columbia, Roger Waivio of Kalamazoo, Michigan and Michael Reid of Schomberg, Ontario have joined the group. Welcome aboard!

Newsletter Editor, Catalogue Editor Ross Gray, 33 George Street East, Lindsay, ON, K9V 1W6 Phone 705 324-6020 e-mail oshrr@sympatico.ca Secretary-Treasurer, Newsletter Mailer Chris Anstead, R.R. #1, McDonald's Corners, ON, K0G 1M0 Phone 613 278-1428 e-mail acropolis@superaje.com