In this issue, Chris Anstead, our Secretary-Treasurer, contributes an interesting article about a previously unreported Quebec R.P.O. clerk handstamp discovered by Louise Daigneault. We also have new reports from Morris Beattie, Jack Brandt, Brian Copeland, Ross Gray, Rick Parama and Brian Stalker.

A New ERD and Time / Direction Indicium for QC-175





This transit backstamp on a registered cover from Montreal to Boston is a new **early date** and the first report of a time / direction indicium, **D.W.**, for

Normally, registered mail from Montreal to Boston would have travelled in closed bag registered mail into the U.S. The presence of this transit backstamp suggests a misdirection which was corrected by the R.P.O. clerk.

A New Clerk Stamp From the Moose Jaw & Empress R.P.O.

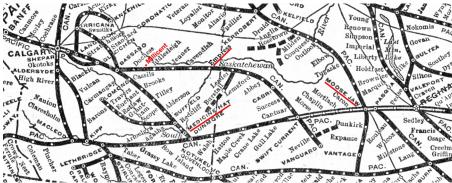




This registered cover from Millicent, Alberta to San Francisco was posted on Tuesday, October 10 and not received on the Empress & Moose Jaw R.P.O.until two days later which suggests that it was misdirected and that may account for the clerk using his personal handstamp instead of the normal steel hammer. This previously unreported rubber stamp will now be listed as,

WT-437.55, M. JAW & EMPS. / R.P.O. / E. E. JENNER, TR. 66, OCT 12, Type OV2R, R.F. - G.

At Swift Current or Moose Jaw, the letter was transferred to westbound **WT-381.11**, M. JAW & CAL \cdot R.P.O. / N $^{\circ}$ 11 , 1, OC 12, 22 , and at Medicine Hat to westbound **WT-344.091**, MED. HAT. & NEL. R.P.O. / N $^{\circ}$ 9 , 67, OC 12, 22 . Arrival in San Francisco was on October 15.



The Newsletter of the Canadian R.P.O. Study Group (B.N.A.P.S.)

A Clerk Handstamp for the Montreal & Mont Laurier Run by Chris Anstead

Louise Daigneault, collector of Quebec postal history reports a clerk's hammer used on a registered cover from Ottawa to Weir, Quebec (Argenteuil County).

Posted in Ottawa JUL 15 / 24

Transit in Montreal same day

H. G. ROSSER / > MONT & MT. LAURIER < / JUL 16-1924 TR N



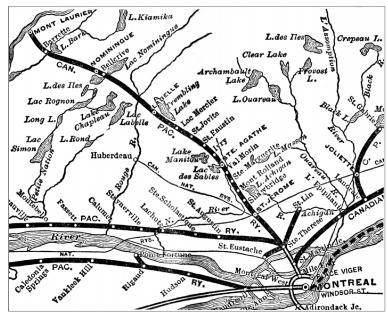
This strike is the first clerk reported for Montreal & Mont Laurier and is assigned a catalogue listing QC-206.55.

While researching this cover, I found a quirk in the mail delivery to Weir.

The *Post Office Distribution* of 1924 item below shows that mail for Weir was to be sent to the Montreal & Mont Laurier R.P.O. The train was operated by the CPR. The mail was then placed on a CNR train for delivery to Weir via Baggage Car Service (B.C.S.).

Distribution routing direction to Weir - Source https://archive.org/details/que192400postuoft

How did the letter get to Weir?



Map showing CPR line between Montreal & Mont Laurier

Once in Montreal the cover was sent to the CPR terminus at Viger Station for dispatch on the Montreal & Mont Laurier RPO. Following the route on the map, the cover travelled to Mile End, north to Ste. Therese and on to St. Jerome. The clerks were busy sorting the mail as they had only one hour before reaching St. Jerome.

A CNR train route of 45 miles ran from St. Jerome westward to Huberdeau (see map). There was no RPO service on this line. Weir is about 40 miles from St. Jerome along that CNR line.

A Clerk Handstamp for the Montreal & Mont Laurier Run by Chris Anstead



Stations on the 1924 CNR table from Montreal to Huberdeau via St. Jerome

By the time the CPR RPO reached St. Jerome, H. G. Rosser had recorded and marked the registered letter and bagged it with other mail for Weir.

In the 1920s St. Jerome had two train stations. Of similar architecture, the stations were less than a mile apart. The post office was located midway between the two stations.

When the northbound CPR train arrived in St. Jerome it was met by a post office contractor. All bags for points between St. Jerome and Huberdeau were offloaded for delivery to the CNR station, where they would be loaded on the baggage car of the next train to Huberdeau. When the train reached Weir the bag containing the letter would have been conveyed from the station to the post office for delivery.

New Reports from Ross Gray

MT-61.03, CH'TOWN & SOURIS · R.P.O. / P.E.I., W, JAN 9, 50, is a new early date for the hammer.



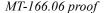


MT-91.02, HALIFAX BR. & YAR. / R.P.O. , 87, DE 30, 53 , is a new $early\ date$ for the hammer.

MT-108.04, HALIFAX & CAMP / R.P.O., 4, DE 3, 56, is a new early date and first report of train 4 for the hammer.









MT-166.06 altered state

MT-166.06, HALIFAX & ST. JOHN \cdot R.P.O. $/\cdot$ NIGHT \cdot , has only been reported with the 'NIGHT' at the base missing. Once thought to be damaged, it is more likely that **this hammer was deliberately altered by removing the 'NIGHT' at the base in order to makes it useful for all trains.**

New Reports from Ross Gray

MT-226, INVERNESS & PT. TUPPER \cdot R.P.O. / . , 156, JAN 30, (4)1, is a new early 2nd period date.



 $MT\text{-}298.01,\,\text{SI}$ JOHN & MONTREAL / R.P.O. , 40, AP 17, 31 , is the first report of train~40 for the hammer.



 $MT\text{-}334.10, \, \text{SYDNEY} \& \, \text{TRURO} \, / \, \text{R.P.O.}$, 5, MY 27, 40 , is a new early date for the hammer.



MT-334.11, SYDNEY & TRURO / R.P.O., 7, 20 IV, 52, is a new early date for the hammer.



MT-336, SYD. & TRU. / R.P.O., 8, MY 10, 48, is a new early date for the listing.



QC-484.01, ROUSES POINT AND / MONTREAL, R.P.O., MAY 9, 1918, on a dated postcard to Syracuse, NY, is a new late date for the hammer.



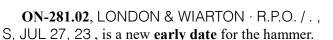
ON-102.01, FT. FR. & WPG. R.P.O. / N^{Ω} 1, 20 JUL 26, 35, is a new **early date** for the hammer.



Found as a transit backstamp on a registered cover from Toronto to Newton, ON is a new **early date** for **ON-253**, LONDON & O. SOUND / JOHN F. DEANE, N, APR 17, 1922.



ON-259.03, LONDON & SARNIA R.P.O. / . , T1E, JUN 12, 15 , is the **second report** for this rare hammer and now the **ERD**.





ON-315.05, NORTH BAY & FORT WILLIAM . R.P.O. / . , 2, AP 11, 15 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.



ON-476.02, PT. HOPE & TOR. R.P.O. $/\cdot N^{\Omega}$. $2\cdot$, 95, JUL 24, 47, is a new **early 2nd period date** for the hammer.



 $\mathbf{ON}\text{-}\mathbf{540.05}$, SUD. & FT. WM. / R.P.O. , 7, AP 4, 63 , is a new late date for the hammer.



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New Reports from Ross Gray



ON-632.03, G. T. R[⊻] T. & K. / R.P.O. N^Q . 3 . , WEST, SP 22, 87, is a new late date for the hammer.

> WT-91.116, C. & V. R.P.O. / + B.C. +, 4, SP 24, 18, is a new early 2nd period date for the fully dated hammer.





WT-970.02, WP'G & SOURIS . R.P.O. / № 2, 129, SP 13, 39, is the first report of **train 129** for the hammer.

RY-114.022, MID · R'WY / _ NO. 2 _ , SOUTH, SP 21, 87, is new late date for both the hammer and the listing.



RY-195, THIS MAIL WAS CARRIED BY / TRAVELLING LETTER BOX / TO TORONTO, FEB 10, 930 AM, 1935, is a new early date.



RY-28.02, C. P. RY · WEST OF WINNIPEG / 2., blank, JY 27, 83, is the first report of a blank direction indicium for both the hammer and the listing.



SN-18.03, CAN. NAT'L. RY. STN. / · LONDON · ONT. · . 18, OC 27, 39, is a new early date for this scarce hammer which was proof struck on August 25, 1939 and is only reported used until August 11, 1940.



MT-87.04, HX. BR. & YAR. / R.P.O. ,87, OC 15, 52, is a new **late date** for the hammer.



QC-253.02, MONTREAL & SI JOHN / M.C., W, AU 9, 97, is a new early date for the hammer.





QC-253.03, MONTREAL & SI JOHN / M.C., W, AP 27, 08, is a new late date for the hammer.



 $QC\mbox{-}253.06,$ MONTREAL & SI JOHN / M.C. , W, NO 27, 96 , is a new early date for the hammer.



QC-253.06, MONTREAL & SI JOHN / M.C., W, OC 11,(0)1, is a new late date for the hammer.



QC-253.07, MONTREAL & SI JOHN / M.C., W, DE 2, 96, is a new early date for the hammer.



QC-253.07, MONTREAL & SI JOHN / M.C., W, MR 9, 11, is a new late date for the hammer.



QC-253.08, MONTREAL & SI JOHN / M.C., W, JY 7, 97, is a new early date for the hammer.



QC-253.08, MONTREAL & SI JOHN / M.C., E, FE 8, 11, is a new late date for the hammer.



ON-40.03, BRIDGEBURG & GODERICH R.P.O. / . , T.2.E, MR 20, 09 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.



ON-40.03, BRIDGEBURG & GODERICH R.P.O. / . , 219, MR 23, 26 , is a new **late date** and first report of **train 219** for the hammer.



ON-40.04, BRIDGEBURG & GODERICH R.P.O. / . , T.2.W, AP 11, 11 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.



ON-76.02, CAPREOL & ARMSTRONG STN. / R.P.O., 3, AP 29, 55, is the first report of **train 3** for the hammer.



 $\mathbf{ON\text{-}266.03}, \mathsf{LON}. \& \mathsf{SOUTH} \, / \, \mathsf{R.P.O.}$, 178, JUN 6, 50 , is a new early date for the hammer.



ON-266.03, LON. & SOUTH / R.P.O., 169, DE 30, 54, is the first report of **train 169** for the hammer.

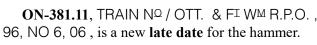






ON-282.03, LONDON & WINDSOR / R^{Σ} .P.O., E, JU 21, 00, is a new **late date** for the hammer.

ON-340.06, NORTH BAY & S. S. MARIE · R.P.O. / . , 28, JUL 29, 36 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.







ON-540.01, SUD. & FT. WM. / R.P.O. , 8, II 13, 62 , is a new late date for the hammer.



ON-540.02, SUD. & FT. WM. / R.P.O. , 7, SP 1, 63 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.



ON-540.02, SUD. & FT. WM. / R.P.O., 8, AP 3 5?, is the first report of train 8 for the hammer.

ON-596.02, TOR. & GRAVENHURST \cdot R.P.O. / N $^{\circ}$ 2, S, JAN 12, 04, is a new **late date** for the hammer.





ON-634.031, TOR. & LON. M.C. / N^{Q} 3, E, JY 4, 98, is a new **early date** for the hammer.

WT-48.01, BRED & SASK. R.P.O. / No. 1, 52, DE 2, 53, is a new **late date** for both the hammer and listing.



WT-383.041, MOOSE JAW & CALGARY R.P.O. / N° 4, 3, NO 8, 15, is the first report of **train 3** for the hammer.

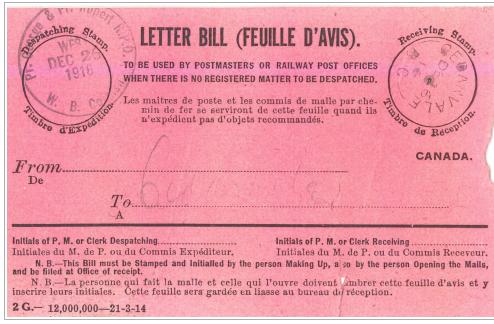




WT-523.031, NOR. PORT & M. JAW \cdot R.P.O. / No 3. , 14, AU 18, 26 , is a new late date for the hammer.



WT-523.05, NOR. PORT & M. JAW - R.P.O. / N° 5. , 13, DE 8, 32 , is a new late date for the hammer.



WT-572.01, Pr. George & Pr. Rupert / W. B. Cornish , WEST, DEC 26, 1916 , is a new late date for the hammer.



WT-589.01, PRINCE GEORGE & TERRACE / \cdot R.P.O. \cdot , 195, 9 XII, 61, is a new early date and the first report of train 195 for the hammer.



 $WT\text{-}681,\,\text{RUBY}$ CREEK & VAN / R.P.O. , blank, JUL 12, 38 , is the first report of a **blank indicium** for the listing.



WT-691.02, SASK. & DRUM \cdot R.P.O. / No. 2, 10 JUL 9, 60, is a new late date for the hammer.



listing.

WT-755.031, SASK. WAIN. & EDM. R.P.O. / N^{Ω} 3 91, MR 20, 54, is a new late date for the hammer.





WT-791, STETTLER & LACOMBE R.P.O. / \mathbb{N}° 1, JAN 2, 14, is the first report of **train 7** for the

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 $WT\text{-}793.032,\,\text{S.}\,\text{R.}\,\text{\&}\,\text{P.}\,\text{A.}\,\text{R.P.O.}\,/\,\text{No.}\,3$, 8 VI, 51 , is a new early date for the hammer.



WT-805.011, S. C. & EMP - R.P.O. / \mathbb{N}^{Q} . 1, 66, JUL 19, 37, is a new **late date** for the hammer.



WT-811.03, VIC. & COURT · R.P.O. / B.C., 2, OC 10, 51, is a new **late date** for the hammer.



WT-870.01, WPG. & DEL. R.P.O. / N^{Q} 1, 122, AP 25, 55, is a new late date for the hammer.



WT-885.033, WPEG. & KAM. R.P.O. / NO.3 , 10, AP 12, 63 , is a new late date for both the hammer and the listing.



WT-896.01, W'P'G. & M. JAW \cdot R.P.O. / Nº 1 , 18, AP 26, 55 , is the first report of **train 18** for the hammer.



WT-896.022, WPG. & M. JAW \cdot R.P.O. / No. 2 , 44, MR 26, 60 , is the first report of train~44 for the hammer.



WT-896.042, WPG. & M. JAW \cdot R.P.O. / No 4, 7, MY 19, 55, is the first report of **train 7** for the hammer.



WT-896.08, WPG. & M. JAW \cdot R.P.O. / No. 8 , 44, FE 8, 58 , is the first report of $train\ 44$ for the hammer.



WT-897.062, WINNIPEG & MOOSE JAW \cdot R.P.O. / Nº 6 , 4, AP 19, 39 , is a new late date for the hammer.



WT-897.11, WINNIPEG & MOOSE JAW \cdot R.P.O. / Nº 11 , 2, JU 11, 35 , is the first report of a 2nd period date.



WPG & M JAW TR IS MAY 14

WT-945, WPG & M JAW TR T8 MAY 14 , R. INGLIS , is the first report of $train\ 8$.

WT-945, WPG & M JAW TR 17 JUL 2, R. INGLIS, is the first report of **train 17**.

WPG & N AW TR 17 JUL 2
Re- 2NGLIS

WT-961.03, WPG. & REG. R.P.O. / N^Q 3 , 54, MY 3, 49 , is a new late date for the hammer.





WT-972.022, WPG. S. & REG. R.P.O. / No. 2, 56, 28 III, 55, is a new **early date** for the hammer.

WT-984.01, WPG. & VIRDEN R.P.O. $/\cdot NQ 1 \cdot$, 12, SP 8, 38, is a new **early date** for the hammer.



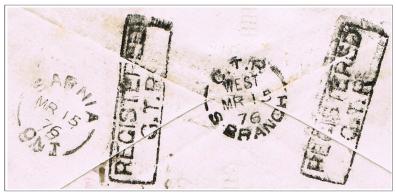


WT-1059, SASKATOON DIV. / E. W. HENDERSON, Tr. 42, JUL 3, 1959, is a new late date and the first report of train 42.

Two Hammers for RY-59!

Brian Stalker observed that one of his examples of RY-59, G.T.R / $_$ S \cdot BRANCH $_$, WEST, MR 15, 76, used as a transit backstamp on a registered cover from Widder Station to Sarnia, is a previously unrecognized different hammer, which will now be listed as RY-59.01.

RY-59 is a scarce postmark and complete strikes are rare. The 'WEST' direction indicium is also much scarcer than 'EAST'. The spacing of the text of the two hammers differs substantially in the lower left quadrant.



RY-59.01 Proof - unknown ERD - 1873/01/11 LRD - 1878/07/12 Indicia - EAST,WEST



C.T.A EAST JAII JAII JAII SRAN

RY-59.02 Proof - unknown ERD - 1879/01/11 LRD - 1879/01/11 Indicia - EAST

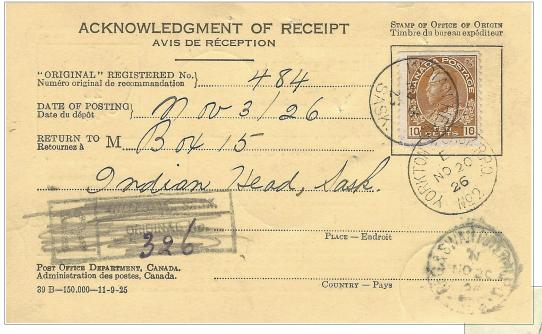
New Reports



Brian Copeland reports a new previously unrecognized early hammer which will now be listed as **ON-461.051**, C.P.RY PI ARTHUR & W'PEG. M.C. / 5., W, SP 11, 86. The proof date for the second hammer which is now listed as ON-461.052 is 1886/11/05, suggesting that the earlier hammer was soon lost and required replacement.



Brian also reports a new **early date** for **WT-686.02**, SI VINCENT & WINNIPEG / _ P.C. _ , SOUTH, JA 06, 82. It is used to cancel a 3¢ Small Queen cover (ex V. G. Green) to Lindsay, Ontario with an arrival backstamp dated January 10. The latest reported date for **WT-686.01** is 1882/03/06 therefore this example shows overlapping use of the two hammers rather than consecutive use.



Rick Parama shares this AR card with the first report of an 'N' direction indicium for **WT-642.02**, REG. & S. R. · R.P.O. / · N^{Ω} 2 · , N, NO 20, 26 .

Morris Beattie has discovered the first example of WT-91.130, C. & V. R.P.O. / + B.C. + , W, AP 11, 01 , with a 'W' indicium.

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