

This issue has contributions from **Morris Beattie, Jack Brandt, Brian Copeland, Ross Gray, Peter McCarthy** and a friend of the study group, **Simon Taylor-Young**.

Sean Weatherup reports on BNAPEX Ottawa 2019 and presents his first financial report since assuming the responsibility of Secretary-Treasurer from Chris Anstead at the beginning of the year.

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A Surprising Western Discovery!



Ross Gray collection

RY-22.05, C. P. RY. M.C. / BRIT. COL. , WEST, AP 20, 85 , is a new **early date for the listing** and the first example of a **previously unreported fifth hammer**. There is a partial Victoria, BC, Canada transit backstamp dated the following day and a partial Port Hope receiving backstamp dated May 1. Also remarkable is the fully spelled “WEST” direction indicium which has not been previously reported used for any of the CPR / BC listings. It is probable that the clerk had earlier worked on the CPR West of Winnipeg R.P.O. where it was in common use.

This early date is before the “last spike” was driven at Craigellachie, BC on November 7, 1885.

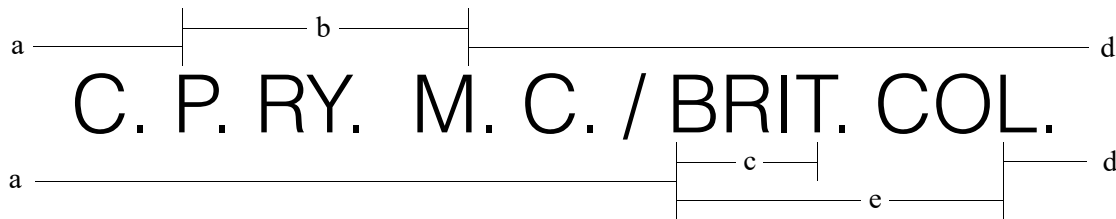
Brian Copeland analyzed the routing of the cover as follows;

At the time the CPR had not yet reached Vancouver and had its western terminal at Port Moody.

According to the Postmaster General’s report for the year ending in June, 1885, the CPR was carrying mail between Spence’s Bridge and Port Moody so the cover was likely posted on the mail car somewhere between those two points. The same report tells us that mail was being carried between Port Moody and New Westminster by horse or vehicle and that mail was carried by steamer between New Westminster and Victoria. (Victoria was the place where mail destined for eastern Canada, the U.S. or Europe was sent on its way, first by steamship and then via the U.S. rail system. The cover would have re-entered Canada at Windsor.)

According to the PMG reports for year ending June 1883 (published in 1884) and year ending June 1884 (published in 1885), there does not seem to have been a mail car in BC (the western part that went to Port Moody) in 1883, but there was as of Nov 1884 (presumably with a mail clerk).

RY-22 Hammer Study Update



Hammer	Proof	ERD	LRD	Indicia	a	b	c	d	e
RY-22.01	1886/08/02	1887/02/20	1892/01/19	E,W	10 ½	15	10 ½	13	18 ½ +
RY-22.02	unknown	1887/02/10	1892/12/07 ¹	E,W	10 ¾	15 ½	10	12 ¾	18 ½ +
RY-22.03	unknown	1887/07/30	1891/11/23 ²	E,W	10 ½	15 ¾	10 ¾ -	12 ½	18 ½ +
RY-22.04	1886/08/02	1887/03/29	1896/01/25 ³	E,W	11	16	11	12 ¾	19
RY-22.05	unknown	1885/04/20	1885/04/20	WEST	11	16 ½	10 ½	14	19 ¼
Listing	1st Period	1885/04/20	1885/04/20	WEST					
	2nd Period	1886/09/07 ⁴	1898/09/24 ⁴	E,W					

Brandt¹, Copeland², Lane³, Ludlow / Robinson records⁴ (hammer id unrecorded)



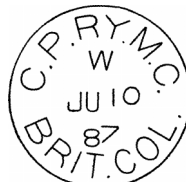
RY-22.01



RY-22.02



RY-22.03



RY-22.04



RY-22.05

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BNAPLEX OTTAWA REPORT by Sean Weatherup

By all accounts the 2019 BNAPS Convention in Ottawa this past fall was a well attended and successful show. The 22 dealers seemed to have plenty of activity about them, and for once I managed to visit all of them as well as having a pretty good look at the 35 exhibits. Congratulations to Peter McCarthy. Peter was awarded the William G. Robinson Award, for his Gold Level exhibit: "Railway Post Office Markings". This innocuously named exhibit presented an insightful study of RPO markings used during the Grand Trunk Railway era of 1856 to 1923 on the Montreal & Toronto route as well as connecting lines. Well done, Peter.

The RPO Study Group seminar at the BNAPS Convention in Ottawa was one of the best attended in the recent past. Our fearless leaders, Peter McCarthy and Brian Stalker were there to host and I myself (not so fearless) presented my first treasurer's report, which appears in a separate article. Attendees included new BNAPS member Ross Dulmage of Ottawa, who has now joined the RPO study group. Standing BNAPS members Ron Major, Geoff Meyer and Gordon Richardson were there as well, with Geoff and Gordon also joining the study group. Along with the three people who joined this past year, this makes six new members in 2019. Most unfortunately, we have lost three members this past year due to failing health issues.

We had three interesting presentations for show and tell:

Peter showed the St. Hyacinthe and Nicolet Run and talked about it running to Iberville and St. Brigitte. Brian discussed the Rouses Point and Montreal R.P.O. and the debate as to which line it ran on: The Grand Trunk or the Napierville Jct. Line via Delaware and Hudson. Sean showed some unusual mail tags. These were the standard 1" x 3" type that slip into the closures of mail bags. What was unusual was that they were preprinted with the originating train run and some had RPO Clerk Cancels on them. There will be a forthcoming newsletter article showing more of these fascinating items.

We hope to see an even bigger turnout in 2020 at the Halifax-Dartmouth Conference.

Treasurer's Report November 30, 2019 - Sean Weatherup

General Account

Forwarded Balance from 2018		1151.58
Incoming Monies to date in 2019	+	788.83
	Total	1940.41
Outgoing Monies to Date in 2019	-	556.72
	Balance	1383.69

Observations

Estimated expenditures for the December (this) Newsletter will be around \$160.00.

The sole source of incoming monies is from dues and a small stipend to cover costs associated with the ex-officio members. Outgoing monies cover costs associated with the printing and mailing of the newsletter including postage which we acquire at a considerable discount. Over 80% of the membership is paid up to the end of 2020 so there will be five more newsletters to come from the account balance with little going in. There will also be a need in the spring for more postage. Our account is sufficient to see us through the coming year.

Dues Increase

The modest dues increase described below won't affect most members until the 2021 calendar year, since, as stated above, most are paid up until then.

At the BNAPS Convention in Ottawa, a discussion was held regarding the membership dues. In the transition of treasurer from Chris to myself, I held the dues to the current rate despite the rise of postal rates and an increase in printing costs. I have since located a printer with much better pricing, but it is still slightly higher. Now there is another postal rate increase in the coming year (2020). The discussion centered on whether to raise dues or not. The consensus was that dues should go up. Further discussion of the matter focused on the fact that memberships changed to an 18 month period instead of the standard one year. This came about when newsletters went from six issues per year to four. As a result, renewals occur at various dates, and I am sending out a number of renewal forms with every issue. It was discussed and decided that the best way to overcome the two matters was to bring memberships back to the standard one year while holding costs down to a moderate increase.

Therefore, beginning January 2020 membership dues will be as follows:

For those receiving an electronic version of the newsletter, regardless of location, dues will remain at \$5.00 and be for one year's duration.

For those receiving a printed version of the newsletter:

Canadian Members: One year \$12.00

American Members: One year \$18.00

Overseas Members: One Year \$20.00

To receive both a printed and the electronic version add \$3.00 to the above rates.

All the above prices are in Canadian dollars.

As memberships become due I will send out notices individually and will pro-rate the membership cost in order to get each person on a January to December schedule.

William G. Robinson Award Fund

Forwarded Balance from 2018		218.21
Incoming Monies to date in 2019	+	.00
	Total	218.21
Outgoing Monies to Date in 2019	-	18.98
	Balance	199.93

Note: This balance is separate from the general account summary above.

Treasurer's Report November 30, 2019 - Sean Weatherup

Observations

As you see the fund is drying up. Depending on how many awards go out in any given year, this fund could be depleted within two years or less. In 2011 there was an overwhelming response from the membership to raise dues by \$2.00 to fund the Robinson Award. This was never implemented and instead the fund was supported by donations. With the raise in dues already outlined above an additional raise does not seem prudent at this time. I have had some members communicate their wishes to make additional contributions to the fund to keep it going, and I would like to see it go that way for the immediate future. If you would like to support the award with a small contribution, you may send a cheque to me (address on back page). This is both a wonderful tribute to Bill and by presenting the award at national level shows apart from BNAPS, we are truly raising the breadth and scope of RPO collecting throughout the country.

Conclusion

This has really been a great year and I have enjoyed taking over these duties. I will be present at the Halifax-Dartmouth Convention and will make a preliminary report for 2020 and an outlook for 2021 at that show. Hope to see you there.

New Reports from Simon Taylor-Young



ON-339.03, N. BAY & S. S. MARIE R.P.O. / N^o 3 ,
E, NO 9, 07 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.



WT-2.02, BAR. & P A. R.P.O. / N^o 2 ,
16, 8 IV, 57 , is a new **early date** for the
hammer and the listing.



WT-2.02, BAR. & P A. R.P.O. / N^o 2 ,
15, 30 V, 59 , is a new **late date** for the
hammer and the listing.



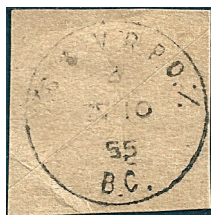
WT-20.03, BRANDON & BULYEA R.P.O. / No. 3 ,
59, DE 12, 55 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.



WT-64.04, CALGARY & EDMONTON · R.P.O. / N^o 4 ,
24, FE 24, 18 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.

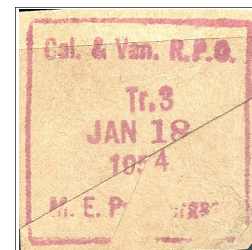


WT-64.062, CALGARY & EDMONTON · R.P.O. / N^o 6 ,
525, MY 28, 54 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.



WT-91.160, C. & V. R.P.O. / % B.C. % ,
?, IV 10, 55 , is a new **early date** for the
hammer.

WT-154, Cal. & Van. R.P.O. / M. E. Prendergast ,
Tr. 3, JAN 18, 1954 , is the first report of **train 3** for the
listing.



WT-192.012, COR. & LAC. R.P.O. / N^o 1 ,
530, OC 20, 50 , is the first report of **train 530**
for the hammer.

New Reports from Simon Taylor-Young



WT-240, HOPE & VAN / R.P.O. , 11, AP 3, 53 ,
is a new **late date** for the listing and the run.



WT-267.032, KAM. & SASK. R.P.O. / No. 3 ,
10, DE 3, 48 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.



WT-337.03, M. H. & CRAN · R.P.O. / No. 3 ,
12, 31 V, 52 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.



WT-337.04, M. H. & CRAN · R.P.O. / No. 4 ,
12, 23 VIII, 52 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.



WT-383.092, MOOSE JAW & CALGARY · R.P.O. / N^o 9 ,
4, DE 3, 14 , is the first report of **train 4** for the hammer.



WT-384, MOOSE JAW & GALGARY · R.P.O. / N^o 7 ,
3, JUN 19, 51 , is a new **late date**.

WT-414, M. JAW & CAL. / H. J. GRIFFITHS ,
TR. 8, DEC 22 1952 , is a new **late date**.

WT-415, M. J. & CAL. R.P.O. / R. H. VENABLES ,
TR. 8, FEB 8, 1955 , is the first report of **train 8**.



WT-423, M. J. & Cal. RPO / J. F. Webster ,
9, Sep - Tr, 18 , is the first report of **train 18**.

WT-435.022, M. JAW & EMP. R.P.O. / N^o .2 , 65, DE 21, 39 , is an
early date for the hammer and a December date as usual with this hammer.



New Reports from Simon Taylor-Young



WT-440.031, M. JAW & MACKLIN · R.P.O. / N^o 3 ,
E, MR 23, 16 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.

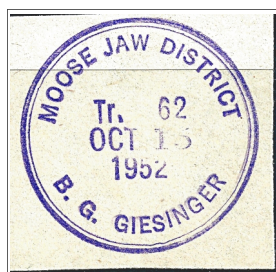


WT-491, NEL. & MID. R.P.O. / B.C. ,
12, JUN 16, 49 , is a new **early date**.



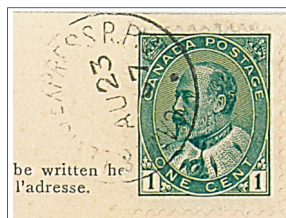
WT-501.011, NORTH B'FORD & EDN : R.P.O. / N^o 1 ,
1, FE 13, 19 , is the first report of **train 1** for the hammer.

WT-501.021, NORTH B'FORD & EDN : R.P.O. / N^o 2 ,
5, MY 14, 45 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.



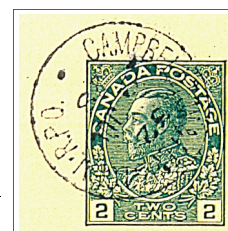
WT-1037, MOOSE JAW DISTRICT / B. G. GIESINGER ,
Tr. 62, OCT 13, 1952 , is a new **early date**.

New Reports from Jack Brandt



MT-7.05, CAMP. & LEVIS EXPRESS R.P.O. / . ,
blank, AU 23, 07 , is the first report of a **blank indicium** for both the hammer and the listing.

MT-17.07, CAMPBELLTON & LEVIS . R.P.O. / . ,
32, 9 JUL, 28 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.



MT-50.03, CH'TOWN & SACKVILLE · R.P.O. / . ,
40, JAN 3, 55 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.

MT-65.03, CH'TOWN. & TIGNISH / M.C. ,
blank, SP 21, 04 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.



MT-79.03, HALIFAX & AMHERST / M.C. , EAST, JY 16, 85 , is a
new **early date** for the hammer.



New Reports from Jack Brandt

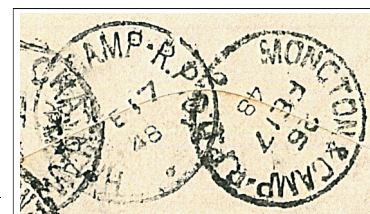


MT-96.02, HALIFAX & CAMPBELLTON · R.P.O. / . , 3, DE 23, 20 , is a previously unrecorded unique **2nd period date** and the first report of **train 3** for the hammer. (It was probably briefly revived for the Christmas rush.)



MT-99.05, HALIFAX & CAMP · R.P.O. / . , 200, JAN 4, 18 , is the first report of **train 200** for the hammer.

MT-99.13, HALIFAX & CAMP · R.P.O. / . , blank, FE 17, 48 , is the first report of a **blank** train number indicium for the hammer.



MT-151.01, HAL DIGBY & YAR. / · R.P.O. . , 98, DE 4, 51 , is the first report of **train 98** for the hammer.

MT-166.04, HALIFAX & ST JOHN R.P.O. / NIGHT , W, JUL 18, 20 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.



MT-185.01, HALIFAX & SYDNEY · R.P.O. / . , 6, MR 3, 32 , is a new **late date** for both the hammer and the listing.

MT-240.01, MONCTON & CAMPBELLTON / M.C. , S, NO 20, 88 , is the first report of an **"S" direction indicium** for the hammer.



MT-252, MONCTON & CAMPBELLTON / R.P.O. , 14, VII 23, 66 , is a new **late date**.

QC-59, LEVIS & CAMP'B'TON EXP. - R.P.O. / . , 631, 8 AP, 57 , is the first report of **train 631** for the listing.



QC-209.07, MONT. & NORTH BAY · R.P.O. / . , 6, JUL 14, 32 , is both the first report of **train 6** and a new **early date** for the hammer which was proof struck on November, 24, 1931.

QC-229.03, MONTREAL & OTTAWA · R.P.O. / . , 2, JUL 17, 26 , is a new **early first period date** for the hammer.



New Reports from Jack Brandt

QC-238.02, MONTREAL, RIGAUD & OTTAWA · R.P.O. / . ,
505, DE 21, 42 , is a new **early date** for the hammer, just 4 days
after the proof date.



QC-394.02, QUEBEC & CHICOUTIMI · R.P.O. / . ,
164, 19 JUL, 58 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.

QC-399.05, QUEBEC & COCHRANE / R.P.O. ,
112, DE 26, 46 , is the first report of **train 112** for the
hammer.



QC-415, QUEBEC & MONTREAL · R.P.O. / . , 18, NO 28, 17 ,
is the first report of **train 18** for the listing.



QC-451.06, QUE. ROB. & CHIC. R.P.O. / . , 21, SP 1, 24 ,
is the first report of **train 21** for the hammer.



QC-452.04, QUEBEC ROBERVAL & CHICOUTIMI · R.P.O. / . ,
163, AU 16, 33 , is the first report of **train 163** for the hammer.



QC-553, VICT. & MONT. R.P.O. / . , 137, 20 NO, 57 ,
is a new **late date**.



ON-34, TRAIN NO. / BLEN. & SAR. R.P.O. ,
12, MY 27, 29 , is the second report of the rare
train 12 for this hammer. **Brian Stalker** earlier
reported train 12 used on June 19, 1929.



ON-40.03, BRIDGEBURG & GODERICH R.P.O. / . ,
220, JAN 27, 26 , is the first report of **train 220** for the
hammer.



ON-83.01, CAT. JCT. & ELORA · N^o 1 / . ,
722, OC 7, 14 , is a new **early date** for both the
hammer and the listing.



ON-83.02, CAT. JCT. & ELORA · N^o 2 / . , 722, OC 19, 14 ,
is a new **early date** for the hammer.



ON-99, FT. ERIE & NO. ST. T. / R.P.O. , 5, MY 10, 32 , is
a new **early date**.



ON-99, FT. ERIE & NO. ST. T. / R.P.O. , 365, JUL 30, 51 ,
is a new **late date**.



New Reports from Jack Brandt



ON-166.02, HAMILTON & MEAFORD · R.P.O. / . , 56 FE 26, 09 , is the first report of **train 56** for both the listing and the hammer.

ON-506.03, ST THOMAS & WINDSOR · R.P.O. / . , W, DE 5, 27 , is a new **early date** as well as the first report of a **W** direction indicium for the hammer.



ON-714.01, TORONTO & MIDLAND · R.P.O. / N^o 1 , 62, MY 11, 12 , is a new **early date** for both the hammer and the listing.



ON-741.111, TOR. & NORTH BAY R.P.O. / N^o 11 , 46, MR 7, 29 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.



WT-64.061, CALGARY & EDMONTON · R.P.O. / N^o 6 , 24, FE 7, 12 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.



WT-267.021, KAM. & SASK.- R.P.O. / N^o 2 , 9, FE 2, 50 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.



WT-340.02, M. HAT & NEL. R.P.O. / B.C. , E, AU 22, 10 , is a new **late date** for both the hammer and the listing.



WT-381.024, M. JAW & CAL. R.P.O. / N^o 2 , 6, JUN 16, 55 , is the first report of **train 6** for the hammer.

WT-435.022, M. JAW & EMP. R.P.O. / N^o .2 , 66, DE 22, 38 , is a new **early date** for the hammer and a December date as usual with this hammer.



WT-523.041, NOR. PORT. & M. JAW · R.P.O. / N^o 4 , 14, AU 5, 11 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.



WT-660.02, RIV. & S' TOON / R.P.O. No. 2 , 11 SP 5, 62 , is a new **early date** as well as the first report of **train 11** for the hammer.



New Reports from Jack Brandt

WT-724.051, SASK. HARD. & ED. R.P.O. / No. 5, 52, JAN 24, 50, is the first reported use of this hammer which was proof struck on April 24, 1948.



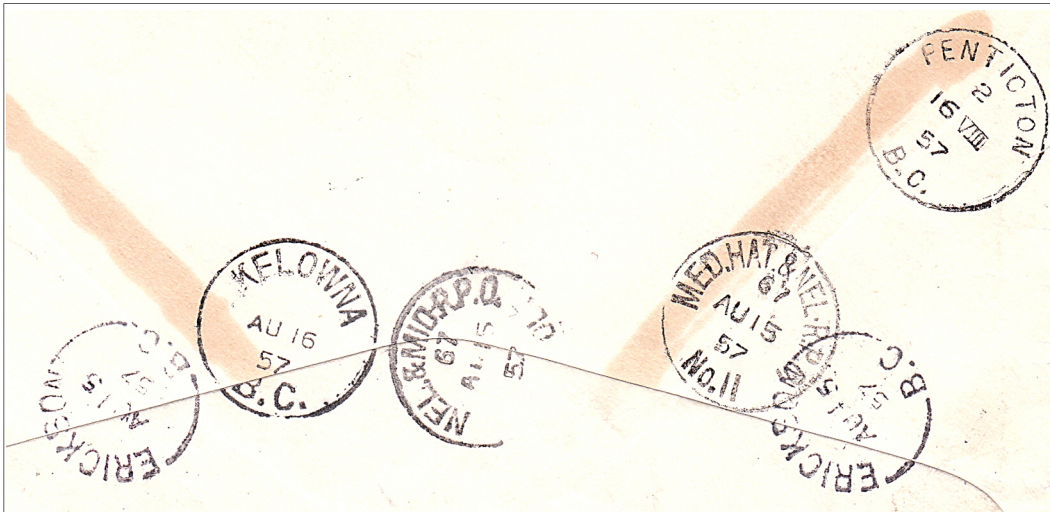
WT-885.033, WPEG & KAM. R.P.O. / NO. 3, 10, MY 6, 63, is a new **late date** for both the hammer and the listing.



WT-975.04, WPEG. & SWAN RIVER · R.P.O. / N^o 4, 4, JAN 30, 17, is a new **early date** for the hammer.



SN-23.05, MONCTON STATION / N.B., 16, 29 VI, 64, is the first report of **time mark indicium 16** for the hammer.

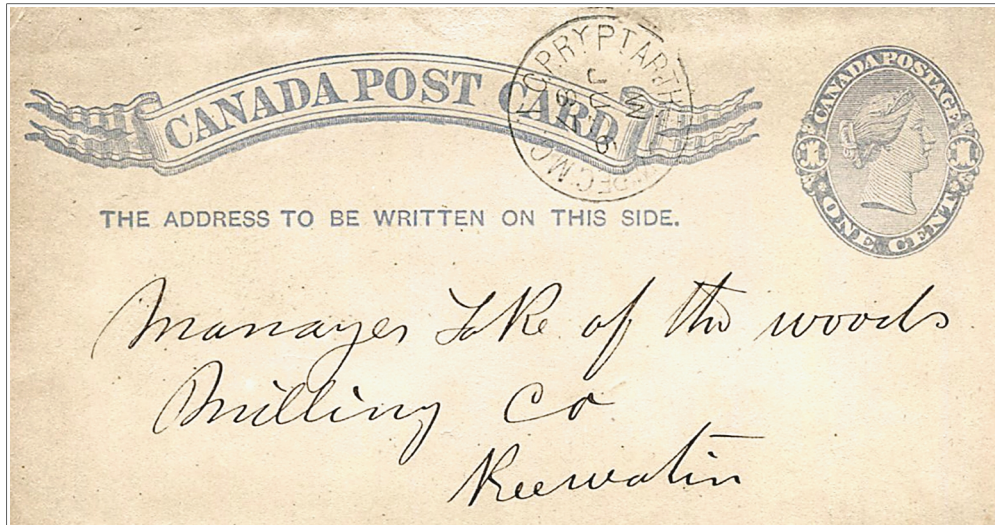


Morris Beattie reports a new **late date** for **WT-489**, NEL. & MID · R.P.O. / BRIT. COL., 67, AU 15, 57. It was used as a transit backstamp on a registered cover sent from Erickson, BC to Kelowna via Penticton.

Peter McCarthy reports a new **late date** for hammer **ON-788.02**, TORONTO & OWEN SOUND · R.P.O. / N^o 2, 70?, OC 24, 46.



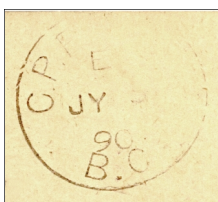
New Reports from Brian Copeland



ON-461.01, C.P.R.Y PI ARTHUR & W'PEG. M.C. / 1. , W, JU 6, 87 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.

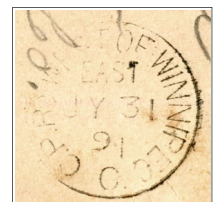


ON-461.07, C.P.R.Y PI ARTHUR & W'PEG. M.C. / 7. , E, AP 7, 88 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.



Cancelling a post card to Ashcroft, BC datelined from Vancouver, is a new **early date** for hammer **RY-23.04**, C. P. RWY. M.C. / B.C. , E, JY 5, 90. The Ashcroft receiving backstamp is dated the following day.

Cancelling a post card which is addressed to Sturbridge, Massachusetts and is datelined on the back, "Near Rush Lake, Assiniboia, July 31", is a new **early date** for hammer **RY-30.26**, C. P. R.Y WEST · OF · WINNIPEG / C. , EAST, JY 31, 91.

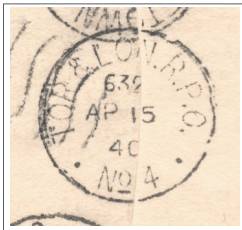


New Reports from Ross Gray

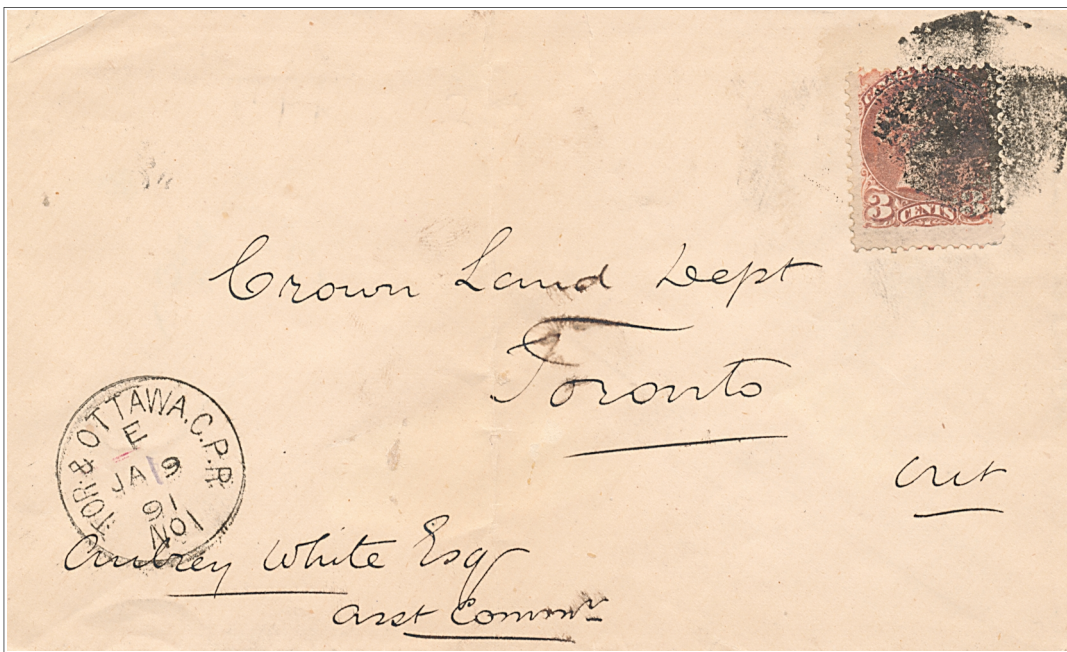


Proof struck on April 9, 1949, **QC-118.05**, MALONE & MONTREAL · R.P.O. / . , 2, 15 VI, 49 , is the first report of **train 2** and a new **early date** for the hammer. It is used as a transit backstamp on a registered cover from Ottawa to Syracuse via Montreal. (Usually U.S. bound mail was sorted into closed bag mail in Montreal for further direction in the U.S.)

ON-154.011, G'LPH. & G'RCH. R.P.O. / N^o 1 , 91, AP 2, 08 , is a new **early date** both for the run and for this hammer whose proof date is unknown. The first CPR passenger train on the Guelph-Goderich line operated on August 26, 1907.



Found as a transit backstamp on a registered cover from Hornby, ON to Georgetown, ON , is a new **late date** for **ON-635.04**, TOR. & LON. R.P.O. / · N^o 4 · , 632, AP 15, 40 .



Proof struck on January 3, 1891, **ON-781.01**, TOR · & OTTAWA · C.P.R / N^o 1 , E, JA 19, 91 , is a new **early date** for both the hammer and the listing. The Toronto receiving backstamp is dated the following day.

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