



# MAPLE LEAVES

JOURNAL OF THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF G.T. BRITAIN

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Vol. 2, No. 7

MAY, 1949

Whole No. 11

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# MAPLE LEAVES

JOURNAL OF THE  
CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Edited by A. BRUCE AUCKLAND, M.A.  
Ythancraig, Currie, Midlothian.

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Vol. 2, No. 7

MAY, 1949

Whole No. 11

## Notes and Comments

### **The Convention.**

Notes about the Convention will be found on another page. Here all we need say is that it was a great success and members who attended spent four interesting days. Some expressed regret that there is not to be another until 1951; there is always the prospect of meeting in London at the Exhibition next year. The Society will have frames at the Exhibition and our good member Stanley Godden, whom we missed at this year's Convention, will be in charge of exhibits.

### **The Handbook.**

Comments on the Handbook made by members visiting the Convention were mostly favourable. But some members could not refrain from gentle leg-pulling about the condition of some of the members of Committee in the photograph. (Some copies have the photograph smudged). By the way, on page 9 put your pen through the part line beginning "by him" that unaccountably strayed into the middle of the page to mar an otherwise fine specimen of printing. We must again thank our member Ian Pollock, of Glasgow, who so kindly arranged the publishing of the Handbook for us. We hope to keep the membership list up to date by publishing membership alterations occasionally. A start will probably be made with the next issue. In this, however, we must report with regret the passing of our valued members Ethel M. Smith, of Bude, Cornwall, G. H. Leigh Clare and Sir Lindsay Everard.

### **The Groups and their Activities.**

New Groups are being formed in Newcastle by member John Bird; Hampshire by member Fred Walker, of Bournemouth; and the West Riding of Yorkshire by member James Macaskie, of Huddersfield.

The Glasgow Group are well ahead with their arrangements for next season. Meetings are to be held on the third Monday of each month from September. Further details will be given later.

London Group report a most successful past season, the highlight of which was the dinner held on 31st March to commemorate the inclusion of Newfoundland as the tenth Province. Notable speakers at the dinner were Col. W. F. Rendell, the Newfoundland Representative in London, and Sir John Wilson, the Curator of His Majesty's collection. A unique event took place during the evening, when those present were presented with specimens of the "Matthew" commemorative stamp. For the first time in the history of Imperial philately, British subjects had legally in their possession stamps not yet current.

### **New Stamps.**

The "Matthew" stamp will be a favourite with all collectors of B.N.A. Some criticism there is about details of the design, but there should be none about its general appearance. Published illustrations of the new Canadian low value stamps with new portraits of the King are very pleasing.

### **Spandrels.**

A discussion raised in the Glasgow Group concerned the origin and meaning of the word "spandrel." An explanation from the building vocabulary is that it is the corner block or support for an arch, originating in the Anglo-Saxon words "span thirl." Member Falconer, our heraldic expert from the North, has since suggested that the heraldic spandrel is an oval. What is a philatelic spandrel?

### **O.H.M.S. Perfs.**

It is hoped to have a small number of the O.H.M.S. Perfs. check list printed in booklet form in a cover similar to that of this journal. Will members who wish to obtain a copy write, enclosing 2s. 6d., to Leopold Baresh, 82 Baker Street, Weybridge, Surrey. Member Baresh has kindly agreed to act as the Society's business manager.

## *Extracts from Letters*

### **Postal Scrip Stamps.**

There is no commission charged for Postal Note Scrip. These are sold at face value and since the article in the last issue of "Maple Leaves" was written there have been several additions to the issue of Postal Scrip stamps. The stamps are now issued in the following values: 1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c, 6c, 7c, 8c, 9c, 10c, 20c, 25c, 50c and 75c.

H. L. PAINE, Saskatchewan.

### **Ring Postmarks.**

I enjoyed reading the article on "Postmarks of Canada" in the October number and it occurred to me that some of our members might be interested in a bit of additional information that has recently come to hand in reference to some of the "2 Ring Numerals." From various sources I have obtained the following which seems to be the correct allocation of certain of these numerals:

22—Galt.                      31—Oshawa.                      34—Chatham, N.B.  
57—Paris.                      58—St. Thomas West.  
20 and 39 still remain unlocated.

I have been making a collection of these numeral cancellations for several years. The task I have set myself is to obtain one of each of the numbers in three groups:

1. Any one value of the Pence issues for each 4 ring numeral.
2. One of each stamp of the 1859 issue for each 4 ring numeral.
3. One of each stamp of the 1859 issue for each 2 ring numeral.

I am still quite a long way from completion.

REG. BARRACLOUGH, Quebec.

### **An Unrecorded Maritime Postmark**

The following mark has been found on a 2c. stamp of 1868. It is enclosed in what appears to be an oval. At the top of the oval the letters "EAS MAIL SE" can be distinguished above a crown; below there are the letters "CANADA." The shape and size of the oval suggest that the letters above are part of the words "OVERSEAS MAIL SERVICE." Has any member seen this mark?

R. W. T. L.-J.

# The Convention, Edinburgh, 1949

These were crowded days from 20th to 23rd April! Exhibition, displays and talks, study groups, committee meetings, A.G.M., theatre, bus tour and dinner. We could not take part in them all! Space does not permit of a description at length of all that should be described. First, largely due to the intensive work of our acting Secretary, Major Harper, and a few willing helpers, the Exhibition was ready on time. The selection was an excellent one, containing as it did exhibits to suit all tastes from that for pre-adhesive entires to that for "varieties" of recent stamps.

A few words cannot due justice to the displays and talks by R. W. T. Lees-Jones, F.C.P.S., F.R.P.S.L., on the 1858 issue of Canada (What a collection can be built up on five stamps!); by Dr Willan on Newfoundland (What a fine show); by Brig. Studd, D.S.O., on Canadian classics; and by W. H. Cheavin on X-Ray in B.N.A. Philately. An article in this issue by member Cheavin will give some idea of the nature of his talk and a resume of Brig. Studd's talk will appear in the next issue.

Committee meetings and morning study circles were inclined to overlap—a point we have noted for consideration by organisers of future Conventions. However, very successful circles gathered round Ethel Harper and Major Hopkins to discuss Postal History and Packet-Boat Letters and round A. E. Stephenson to consider "Conducting a Group."



**A HAPPY GROUP TAKEN DURING THE C.P.S. DINNER**

As for the Committee meetings: there was much talk, but we did get through quite a lot of business. Major Harper's good work as acting Secretary earned him the nomination as Secretary in place of Albert Smith, who has unfortunately had to resign on account of ill health. By the way, I wonder if members appreciate what an immense amount of work Albert put in for the Society. In the critical early months of the revival of the Society, it was largely due to him that there was such a growth in membership. His friendly letters to enquirers about the Society made many recruits—and his help in getting the duplicated "Maple Leaves" issued was most valuable. Thank you, Albert! May you soon be restored to health!

The Committee recommended in its nominations the return of the principal officers (with the exception of the Secretary). Other decisions

reached at the Convention meetings were that the next Convention should be held in 1951 in the North of England and that the next A.G.M. should be held in London next year during the Philatelic Exhibition week in May.

Two sub-committees were appointed : (a) under the chairmanship of J. C. Cartwright on the question of honorary membership; and (b) under D. Gardner to consider the allocation of the membership funds.

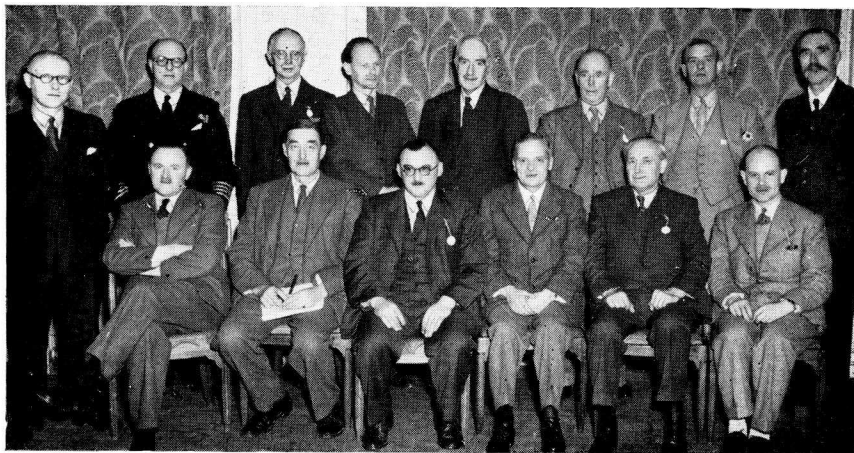
The Bus Tour and the Theatre Outing were not so well supported this year, but those who took part enjoyed themselves.

Now as to the Dinner, there is not much space left, so I shall have to be brief, and cannot comment much on the speeches. These were by members Fairweather, Stephenson, Hopkins, Gardner, Ethel Harper, Cartwright, Clougher and Binks (How pleased we were to have Capt. Binks over from Vancouver to take part in our meetings !) Shall make no comment on the speeches other than that they were all witty and were well received, but must mention one of the highlights of the evening when, by good staff work on the part of Ethel Harper, Montreal and Edinburgh were linked up during the dinner by trans-Atlantic phone. Greetings were exchanged between the assembled company and Major Watson, Chairman of the C.P.S. Convention running at the same time at Westmount, Montreal.

The signing of the roll by our new Fellow, Brig. M. A. Studd, D.S.O., (Thank you, Member, Gabbitas, for the gift of the handsome Roll Book) and the presentation of the awards by Mrs Stephenson, wife of our President, were other high spots. What a nice gesture on the part of our Sassenach members to give a bouquet to Mrs Stephenson.

Over eighty members and delegates attended during at least part of the four days of the Convention, coming from Aberdeen to Bournemouth in Britain, and from Northern Ireland and Vancouver. They all seemed to enjoy the meetings, much to the satisfaction of those who had made the arrangements.

We are indebted to member Ian Pollock for the loan of the blocks of photographs taken at the Convention.



#### THE COMMITTEE AND CONTACT MEMBERS

Standing, l. to r.—H. B. Davie, Lenzie; Capt. P. B. Hewison, Motherwell; J. B. Wardhaugh, Glasgow; A. Bruce Auckland, Edinburgh; N. M. Clougher, London; J. F. Bird, Newcastle-on-Tyne; R. W. T. Lees-Jones, Hale, Cheshire; F. S. Walker, Bournemouth. Sitting, l. to r.—D. Gardner, Airdrie; Brig. M. A. Studd, Sunninghill, Berks.; A. E. Stephenson, Kinross; Capt. B. C. Binks, Vancouver; J. C. Cartwright, Kent; Major G. B. Harper, Edinburgh.



A study group in session with prominent: Major A. E. Hopkins, Bath; Miss Ethel Harper, London; F. S. Walker, Bournemouth; W. C. Hinde, Stockport; George Irwin, Bangor, N.I.; A. E. Stephenson, Kinross; and Dr. R. Willan, Cheshire.

### AWARDS AT THE CONVENTION

Award of Fellowship of the Society was made to :  
Brig. M. A. STUDD, D.S.O., F.R.P.S., London. Study and Research.

The Aikins Trophy was awarded by an ad hoc Examining Committee to our President, A. E. Stephenson, F.C.P.S., for his articles in "Maple Leaves."

Diplomas were awarded as follows :

#### Invitation Class :

R. W. T. Lees-Jones.  
Dr. R. Willan.  
Brig. M. A. Studd.  
W. H. S. Cheavin.

#### Specially Contributed Class :

1. J. Younie Mann, Edinburgh.  
2. C. G. R. Jacques, Edinburgh.  
3. J. F. Bird, Newcastle.

#### Contributed Class :

1. W. Wardhaugh, Glasgow.  
2. Miss E. Harper, London.  
3. Miss B. L. Ogden, Penzance.

#### Research and Study Class :

1. A. E. Stephenson, Kinross.  
2. G. R. C. Searles, Belper.  
3. E. McGuigan, Stirling.

#### Group Displays :

1. Kent and Sussex.  
2. Newcastle-on-Tyne.  
3. London.

# MAPLE LEAVES'

Check List of O.H.M.S. Perfs.

Positions			
A	B	C	D
O H	H O	S W	W t S
M S	S M	H O	O H
<i>Normal</i>	<i>Reversed</i>	<i>Inverted</i>	<i>Inverted Reversed</i>
E	F	G	H
H S	S O	O S	S H
O S	S H	H S	S O
<i>Read up</i>	<i>Read down</i>	<i>'E' Reversed</i>	<i>'F' Reversed</i>

TYPE I — 5 HOLES

TYPE II — 4 HOLES


t — Double Perforation.



246-256

No.	Scott No.	Gibbons No.		Type	Positions
<b>1912—1927</b>					
1	105	246	1c. Yellow.	1	A.
2	107	247	2c. Green.	1	A.
3	108	205	3c. Brown.	1	A.
4	109	249	3c. Red.	1	A, B.
5	110	250	4c. Bistre.	1	A, C.
6	112	252	5c. Violet.	1	A, C.
7	113	208	7c. Bistre.	1	A.
8	115	254a	8c. Blue.	1	A.
9	117	255	10c. Blue.	1	A.
10	118	255a	10c. Brown.	1	A.
11	119	212	20c. Olive.	1	A.
12	120	214	50c. Grey.	1	A.
13	122	256	\$1 Orange.	1	A, B, C.



Scott Gibbons			Type	Positions
No.	No.	No.		
<b>1928—1929</b>				
14	149	275	1c. Yellow.	1 A.
15	150	276	2c. Green.	1 A.
16	153	279	5c. Violet.	1 A, C.
17	155	281	10c. Mountain.	1 A.
18	157	283	20c. Harvest Scene.	1 A.
19	158	284	50c. Boat.	1 A.
20	159	285	\$1 Parliament.	1 A.
<b>1930—1931</b>				
21	163	300	1c. Green (i).	1 A, C.
22	163b	300a	1c. Green (ii).	1 A, C.
23	164	289	2c. Green.	1 A.
24	165	301	2c. Red (i).	1 A, C.
25	165a	301a	2c. Red (ii).	1 A, C.
26	167	303	3c. Red.	1 A, C.
27	170	304	5c. Blue.	1 A, B, C.
28	173	293	10c. Library.	1 A.
29	175	295	20c. Tractor.	1 A, B, C.
30	176	296	50c. Church.	i A, B, C, D.
31	177	297	\$1 Mountain.	1 A, B, D.
32	191	314a	3c. on 2c	1 A.
				
319-323				
<b>1932</b>				
33	195	319	1c. Green.	1 A.
34	196	320	2c. Brown.	1 A, B, C, D.
35	197	321a	3c. Red.	1 A, At, B, C, D.
36	199	323	5c. Blue.	1 A, B, C.
37	201	325	13c. Quebec Citadel.	1 A, B.
<b>1935</b>				
38	219	343	3c. Red.	1 A.
39	223	347	10c. Mountie.	1 A.
40	223	347	10c. Mountie.	2 A, C, D, E.
41	224	348	13c. Confederation.	1 A.
42	226	350	50c. Violet.	i A, E.
43	226	350	50c. Violet.	2 A, C.
<b>1937</b>				
44	231	357	1c. Green.	1 A, C.
45	231	357	1c. Green.	2 E, Et, F, Ft.
46	232	358	2c. Brown.	1 A, F.
47	232	358	2c. Brown.	2 E, Et, F, Ft, G.
48	233	359	3c. Red.	1 A, C, F.
49	233	359	3c. Red.	2 E, Et, F, Ft.

No.	Scott No.	Gibbons No.	Type	Positions
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## 1937—cont.



## 357-362

50	234	360	4c. Yellow.	1	A.
51	234	360	4c. Yellow.	2	E, F, Ft.
52	235	361	5c. Blue.	1	A.
53	235	361	5c. Blue.	2	E, Et, F, Ft.
54	236	362	8c. Orange.	1	A.
54a	236	362	8c. Orange.	2	E, F.
55	241	363	10c. Rose.	1	A, E, F.
56	241	363	10c. Rose.	2	C, E, F.
57	241a	363a	10c. Red.	1	A, E, F.
58	241a	363a	10c. Red.	2	C, E, Et, F, Ft.
59	242	364	13c. Blue.	1	A, C.
60	242	364	13c. Blue.	2	A, C.
61	243	365	20c. Brown.	1	A.
62	243	365	20c. Brown.	2	A, At, C.
63	244	366	50c. Green.	2	A, At, C.
64	245	367	\$1 Violet.	2	A.

## 1942—1945

65	249	375	1c. Green.	2	E, F, Ft.
66	250	376	2c. Brown.	2	E, F, Ft.
67	251	377	3c. Red.	2	E, Et, F, Ft.
68	252	378	3c. Mauve.	2	E, F, Ft.
69	253	379	4c. Grey.	2	A, C, E, F.
70	254	380	4c. Red.	2	E, Et, F, Ft.
71	255	381	5c. Blue.	2	A, E, Et, F, Ft.
72	256	382	8c. Brown.	2	A, C, E, F.
73	257	383	10c. Brown.	2	E, Et, F, Ft.
74	258	384	13c. Green.	2	A, At, C, Ct, E.
75	259	385	14c. Green.	2	A, C.
76	260	386	20c. Brown.	2	A, At, C.
77	261	387	50c. Guns.	2	A, C, E.
78	262	388	\$1 Destroyer.	2	A, C, E.

## 1946

79	268	401	8c. Brown.	2	A, C.
80	269	402	10c. Green.	2	A, At, C, Ct.
81	270	403	14c. Brown.	2	A, At, C.
82	271	404	20c. Grey.	2	A, C.
83	272	405	50c. Green.	2	A, C.
84	273	406	\$1 Train ferry.	2	A, C.

No.	Scott No.	Gibbons No.	Type	Positions
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### COMMEMORATIVES



316

#### 1927—1939

101	141	266	1c. Confederation.	1	A.
102	142	267	2c. Green.	1	A.
103	143	268	3c. Parliament.	1	A.
104	144	269	5c. Laurier.	1	A.
105	148	273	20c. Baldwin, etc.	1	A.
106	190	312	10c. Cartier.	1	A, B, C, D.
107	192	315	3c. Conference.	1	A.
108	193	316	5c. Prince.	1	B.
109	202	329	5c. Parliament.	1	A, B.
110	203	330	20c. Regina.	1	A, B, C, D.
111	209	333	10c. Loyalists.	1	A.
112	237	356	3c. Coronation.	1	F.
113	246	372	1c. Royal Visit.	1	A.
114	246	372	1c. Royal Visit.	2	A, E, F.
115	247	373	2c. Royal Visit.	1	E.
116	247	373	2c. Royal Visit.	2	A, C, E, F.
117	248	374	3c. Royal Visit.	1	A.
118	248	374	3c. Royal Visit.	2	A, E, F.

#### AIR

A1	C1	274	5c. 1928.	2	A, C.
A2	C5	355	6c. 1935	2	A.
A3	C6	371	6c. 1937-38.	1	A.
A4	C6	371	6c. 1937-38.	2	A, At, C.
A5	C7	397	6c. 1942-43.	2	A, C.
A6	C8	398	7c. 1943.	2	A, At, C.
A7	C9	407	7c. 1946.	2	A, C, Ct.
A8	CE1	S13	16c. 1942-43.	2	A, C.
A9	CE2	S14	17c. 1942-43.	2	A, C.
A10	CE3	S16	17c. 1947. "Circumflex."	2	A.
A11	CE4	S17	17c. 1947. "Grave."	2	A.

#### SPECIAL DELIVERY

SD1	E7	S9	10c. 1938.	2	A, C.
SD2	E9	S11	10c. on 20c. 1939.	2	A, C.
SD3	E10	S12	10c. 1943.	2	A, C.
SD4	E11	S15	10c. 1947.	2	A, C.
SD5	E12		10c.	2	A, C.

We are indebted principally to Member C. B. D. Garrett of Vancouver for the most of the facts on which the foregoing list has been compiled, but we are much indebted also to the many other members who wrote to us about the list or showed us specimens.

The original listing of these perforated stamps (in 1939) was done by the late Mr Nicholson of Vancouver and Member Garrett. After the list was published in "Maple Leaves" last year, Members Garrett and Gordon of Vancouver and Member Pollock of U.S.A. got together a combined listing of all the varieties they knew of up to January, 1949. The list will be published by Member Gordon in "Popular Stamps," and by Member Pollock in a U.S.A. magazine. This list, with the additions supplied by other members is probably almost complete to January, 1949, so far as the main varieties are concerned, but double perfs. may yet turn up for any of the other types and positions.

It may be useful to have the following notes reprinted from Member Garrett's article in the April, 1948, issue.

In Canada, the O.H.M.S. perfs. were first used in 1924 or 1925, at which time they were used by the Department of Finance, to whom the Dominion Government gave their sanction to perforate the stamps with the letters "O.H.M.S." Thus it may be considered that from their earliest use, all O.H.M.S. stamps were perforated by the Government.

It wasn't until 1939 that O.H.M.S. stamps were used by all Federal offices throughout the Dominion in all branches such as: Police, Forestry, Entomology, Customs, etc. In that year an Order in Council was put through authorising their use.

Neither the Government nor the Post Office Department had a machine that could do the perforating, so they borrowed the one used by the Finance Department. This machine perforated the letters with five holes in each vertical stroke, and this type has become identified as Type I. A machine was later made for the Government which used four holes to each vertical stroke, and this style has become identified as the "small hole" Type II.

It is quite possible that there were two machines, each effecting a different setting—one, a normal setting with the letters O.H.M.S. in the vertical position; the second may have been with the letters set horizontally or sideways.

The pins were arranged to fit the small size, ordinary stamp. Rare specimens are found with double perforations. This "double" variety should not be confused with the usual appearance of two sets of perforations on the larger size stamp. As explained, the arrangement was made for the smaller stamp and thus the larger size would naturally result in two sets of perforations. The true double variety shows two **overlapping** strikes: these are quite rare.

The varieties are caused by the manner in which the unpunched sheets are fed into the machine. The figures show these variations as seen from the front of the stamp.

## *X-Rays in B.N.A. Philately*

By W. H. S. CHEAVIN, F.R.M.S., F.R.E.S.,  
F.C.S., F.R.P.S.L.

Many members of the C.P.S. of Gt. B. have already seen some of the remarkable results produced by means of X-rays, in the case of the various issues of Canada and Newfoundland. They may have wondered why X-rays should have been used for reproducing postage stamps. Everyone knows what an important part the X-rays play in medicine today and that they have completely revolutionised medical diagnosis.

X-rays have the power of penetrating opaque materials. The operator has, however, to regulate the voltage used to suit the thickness of the material being examined. If the material is very thin, like the paper of a postage stamp, the voltage has to be low compared with that used to penetrate metal castings to detect flaws.

Another fact we must note about X-rays is that they are absorbed by various chemical compounds of a metallic nature, such as the colours Vermilion, which contains mercury, and Prussian Blue, which contains iron.

This absorption effect produces a shadow picture which can be photographed on sensitive emulsions.

Such X-ray photographs are known as radiographs; they are negative images of the objects affected by the rays. In medical radiographs the bones of the hand or other parts of the body appear as heavy dark outlines against the lighter parts because they absorb the X-rays more than the skin. These negative pictures give all the information necessary and positive pictures do not have to be made from them.

It will be seen later that the negative images of postage stamps are used to produce positive images as in ordinary photographs taken with ordinary light.

Let me now very briefly show how after a long period of research in philately I was led to the use of X-rays.

### **The Microscope**

As far back as 1913 I advocated the use of low magnifications of a microscope for examining the details of the design of postage stamps for the detection of flaws, retouches and re-entries. I explained then how the texture or fibre of the paper could be examined and classified and how it was possible by using a micrometer eyepiece to measure the dimensions of overprints, etc.

By combining the microscope with some form of camera "bellows" for extension purposes it was possible to produce photographs of any magnification, and it was discovered also that such photographs of the design made the same size as the original were much finer than those produced by a camera lens in the ordinary way.

The reason for this is that a camera lens, however well made, is liable to produce some distortion and always so when it is used for magnification. Thus magnified images of any kind can be shown clearly by only using a microscope in which all the lenses are carefully corrected to prevent such distortion.

### **Ultra-Violet Rays**

It was in 1928 that Ultra-Violet rays were first applied to the examination of postage stamps and I am proud to say that I helped the late A. J. Sefi in this new form of research. Since then this method has been greatly developed.

Ultra-Violet rays are absorbed by any material exposed to them, hence the Ultra-Violet lamp is very useful in the examination of postage stamps, particularly their inks and papers.

This absorption of Ultra-Violet rays produces what is known as a fluorescent effect and it is the differences in fluorescence that show up fakes, repairs, etc.

Arising out of the research with Ultra-Violet rays, I was able to show the folly of mounting used stamps along with unused stamps. The weight of the covers and the leaves are sufficient to produce "ghost postmarks" which wander through several thicknesses of album leaves.

### **X-Rays**

In 1928 I realised that the internal structure of the various papers would be shown much better if X-rays were used. This would be particularly useful in the case of repaired stamps, as the penetration and absorption effects of X-rays might show other features such as filling materials in addition to those of the fibre and possibly show the watermark.

Early experiments gave poor results for the reason that the ordinary type of X-ray machine, which worked at 40-60,000 volts, was unsuitable, as the rays produced were too penetrating for such a thin piece of paper and consequently there was little or no absorption. It was soon realised that a much lower voltage—about 9-10,000 volts—was necessary, but at that time a machine producing such voltages was not available.

It was not until 1945 that it was possible to procure a suitable machine which would produce X-rays of a "soft" nature at the lower voltages mentioned. These rays are known as GRENZ or SOFT X-RAYS. They can only penetrate and be absorbed by thin materials. They have to be produced in a special form of X-ray tube fitted with a special window made of Lithium Borate or Beryllium. They cannot penetrate ordinary glass and, indeed, a proportion of them are absorbed by materials in the air between the tube and the postage stamp.

This Grenz machine produced excellent results showing the textures of papers, watermarks and even the filling materials used in preparing the paper, and thus far surpassed the results obtained by Ultra-Violet rays.

The next discovery with Grenz-rays was made accidentally when a Nova Scotia 6d stamp of 1860 was being examined for added paper: instead of the repair, the whole design in all its detail appeared in the radiograph! This unexpected result was at once realised to be an important one—for the first time the design of a postage stamp had been produced by X-rays and, moreover, the postmark had been eliminated and the stamp appeared as if it were in unused condition. Another milestone in scientific philately had been passed.

From this chance result all subsequent work has been developed.

It was known that most of the early B.N.A. and U.S.A. stamps had been printed with inks containing pigments of various metallic compounds, and attention was therefore directed to them for further examination by Grenz-rays.

An enormous field of research was opened and many of these results will be shown at the lecture before the members attending the 1949 Convention held in Edinburgh.

### **Hard Rays and Electrons**

The higher voltages at 40-60,000 volts are not suitable for philatelic research, but I was led to consider whether X-rays at 190-200,00 volts might be suitable. It was known that when Hard X-rays strike a metallic surface or compound, they are absorbed by the metal, which then in turn produces electrons. These electrons also affect photographic emulsions.

In theory, stamps, such as those of B.N.A., printed with metallic pigments, when bombarded with these Hard X-rays, might produce electrons. This theory was found to be correct. A stamp placed face downwards in close contact with a photographic emulsion on a film, plate or paper and exposed to the Hard X-Rays, reproduced its own design in reverse in wonderful detail. This method, like the Grenz method, eliminated the postmark, if it had been prepared from a carbon ink or non-metallic ink.

An important point to note is that the design appeared in reverse as a direct positive image of the original.

This was another step forward in scientific philately. Those who understand photographic technique will realise its importance. No focus problems are involved, no light filters or panchromatic plates required, and no camera is necessary! All that is required for preparing these Electron Photographs is several pieces of cardboard placed over each other and, in the middle, the stamp face downwards in contact with the photographic emulsion: then an exposure of 2-5 minutes.

The reversal of any typescript or figures of value is remedied by making a negative image from the original positive and then producing from it a second positive image. Loss of detail by this process is very small.

These electron photographs show the design in remarkable detail and are far superior to those produced by Grenz rays, and immeasurably better than those produced by the microscope and camera alone.

The future of this discovery is not known, but I venture to suggest that it may have a revolutionary effect on stamp reproduction.

A point of particular importance to philatelists is that all photographs taken by means of X-rays are reproduced in exactly the same size as the original stamp and in every detail.

I should add that early postmarks, such as the Maltese Cross, are made of inks containing metallic compounds. These are therefore reproduced by X-rays in the same way as metallic printing inks.



A Grenz photograph of a forgery showing the overshadowing effect of the mineral filling in the paper and the presence of a hinge at the back of the stamp.

## **SUMMARY OF WHAT THE DIFFERENT METHODS DISCLOSE**

### **I. The Microscope.**

Details of design, re-entries and retouches.  
Internal structure of papers, position of fibres, etc.  
Measurement of overprints.



**Above:** Electron photograph of the genuine 3 dollar stamp in mint condition.

**Below:** Electron photograph taken under identical conditions of a forgery. Note presence in lower left corner of the perforations. The forgery is heavily postmarked but the electron method eliminates this from the photograph.

(Illustrations by courtesy of "Philately," the journal of the British Philatelic Association).



## II. Ultra-Violet Rays.

Fluorescent effects of printing papers, overprints and postmarks.

## III. X-Rays.

### A. GRENZ or SOFT RAYS.

Design, Paper and filling materials if present, Watermarks, Elimination of postmarks or Reproduction of metallic ink postmarks, Faked and Repaired stamps.

N.B.—A Grenz radiograph or radiograph print always shows the paper and perforations if present, as well as the design.

Filling materials if present appear irregularly dispersed in the paper, white particles in radiograph and black particles in radiograph print.

### B. HARD RAYS AND ELECTRONS.

A positive though reversed image without detail of paper and postmark (non-metallic), Faked Designs, etc., Metallic ink postmarks.

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## AN INTRODUCTION TO CANADIAN "AIR MAILS"

Reprinted with thanks from the "Jack Knight Air Log," Journal of the Jack Knight Air Mail Society, Brookfield, Illinois, U.S.A.

# Wings Over Canada

By FRED L. WELLMAN

Canada is a country of vast areas that are linked together by the airplane to unite a nation from coast to coast and from the Arctic Circle to the States. Many small airlines and a few large airlines have operated in Canada during the last 25 years. "Wings over Canada" has been written to answer requests to the Jack Knight Aeronautical Reference Library for information on these airlines which have issued air labels and semi-official air mail stamps that are of interest to the aero philatelist.

The short thumb-nail histories which this article contains have probably some of the most complete information available, and have been gathered from data in our own Jack Knight Aeronautical Reference Library and from the American Air Mail Catalogue, Sanabrias Air Post Catalogue, The Specialised Catalogue of Canadian Airmails by Jack Knight member Ian C. Morgan, and from information in the "Canada Corner," by F. Walter Pollock in the Western Stamp Collector.

Canada issued its first air mail stamp in 1928, but the mails were carried by air many years before. The American Air Mail Catalogue refers to two possible mail-carrying flights in 1912, and Morgan lists two attempted flights—one in 1913, and the second in 1915. The first completely successful flight, on which about 125 covers were transported, was from Montreal to Toronto on June 24, 1918. In the following month, on July 9, Katherine Stinson flew 380 covers from Calgary to Edmonton, and in August and September of the same year, several flights were completed between Toronto and Ottawa.

For the next several years there were several experimental flights, but no permanent routes were established, and some of the flights were made as a part of air shows at exhibitions, or for publicity purposes.

The real beginning of Canada's air mail history starts in 1924. In that year gold was discovered in the Rouyn-Noranda region of northern Quebec, and a further discovery of this precious metal occurred in the Red Lake district of northern Ontario in 1926. To reach these and other mining and trading operations in the northern areas of the provinces and in the North-west and Yukon Territories — all far removed from railroads and heretofore accessible only by river-boat or canoe in the summer and by dog-sled in the winter—the airplane was the obvious answer. The planes were first used to bring in men and supplies, and to bring out ore samples, etc., but the need for more rapid communication was also immediately essential. As the Post Office Department had no way of transporting the mails satisfactorily, it made agreements with the air carriers, whereby they would transport the mail as a private operation. On the face of each letter or parcel regular postage was affixed—the charges made by the air carriers were evidenced by labels with no value shown, which had to be affixed to the reverse side of the letter or package. How completely this arrangement was sanctioned may be judged from the fact that some of these labels were actually available at the larger post offices, or how else could one write to relatives and friends working at the mines?

This continued for several years, the various semi-official flights are duly recorded by Morgan and in the American Air Mail Catalogue. The semi-official stamps are catalogued by Sanabria and also by Morgan. The A.A.M.C. lists over 150 "semi-official first and special flights."

By 1927 the Government was undertaking surveys looking toward regular air mail service, which started in 1928, and which soon replaced the semi-official service by private carriers. The regular service expanded rapidly and the A.A.M.C. to 1943 lists over 650 first flights, which means thousands of covers to be collected, as Canada provides a separate cachet for point-to-point coverage in each direction. Of course, official first flight covers, being largely philatelic in character, and well publicised in advance, are fairly common, but, nevertheless, covers flown to and from such far distant outposts as Arctic Red River, Fort McPherson, Aklavik, Port Radium and Coppermine, all far north of the Arctic Circle, cannot but stir the imagination, and have a value to the owner beyond that which the catalogue may give it.

A list in alphabetical order will follow of some of the Canadian airlines of most interest to collectors. Any member of the society (the Jack Knight Air Mail Society) who has any old Canadian air-line schedules, advertisements, photos, etc., lying around, is invited to donate them to the Jack Knight Aeronautical Reference Library. We believe we have one of the best in the world on air line data and hope to make it better by further donations from Aero Philatelists.

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## Thousands of Beavers

These were the days! In replying to the toast of "Our New Fellow," Brig. Studd referred to the days when he could buy unpicked "Beavers" by the thousand and find among them numerous "logs in the waterfall," "spots in the sun," and "bats in the belfry." WE should have liked to have reproduced illustrations of these varieties, but we find the blocks are missing!

## Varieties for the Finding

(25) **1 Dollar Current.** Member F. W. Keane, British Columbia, reports two distinct shades of the current 1 Dollar purple, one being of a much lighter shade than the other.

(26) **1 Cent, small cents issue.** Member J. J. Bonar, Edinburgh, reports a variety, a short line about two millimetres long under the scroll in the S.W. corner. It appears to be No. 40 on the sheet as a small piece of margin adjoining a copy on cover dated 23rd July, 1884, shows, much hidden by postmark, the upper end of an imprint, apparently Boggs' No. V with beaded edge.

(27)  **$\frac{1}{2}$  cent Maple Leaves 1897.** Member Bonar comments: The plates of this value were extensively re-entered and many of the stamps show re-entries, usually very slight. The best one occurs, at least in the third and last state, on No. 69 of the left pane. A bold line leaves the left outer frame just below the middle and reaches the inner frame just above the lower maple leaf. There are traces of a similar oblique line outside the right outer frame. Much of the lettering shows traces of re-entry, especially "STAGE" of "POSTAGE" and "H" and "NT" of the value. The adjoining stamps, Nos. 67 and 68, also are worthy of examination. A line, apparently caused by a slip of the graver, leaves the S.E. corner of No. 67 opposite the centre of the bottom frame line and curving slightly down reaches the bottom S.W. corner of No. 68.

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### The 3 Cent 1870, Perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$

Boggs informs us that there are about 60 copies known of the 3 cent 1870, perf.  $12\frac{1}{2}$ . Since his book appeared, the B.N.A. journals have been able to record that over two thousand copies have been located. I wonder how many copies can be traced in the British Isles. The Society, I am sure, would like to locate them and trace the dates of use and towns at which they were used.

As a start I shall record my own copies and hope that other owners will co-operate:

- (1) Cover postmarked Truro, 20th April, 1870, and Halifax, 2nd February, 1870 (Earliest date recorded).
- (2) Pair off cover, cancelled "7" in two rings—St. John N.B.

R. W. T. L.-J.

## Rambling Notes

Report. A good time was had by all at the Convention—and the party left the hotel each having paid his own bill! Any dissatisfaction there was was because there were about four hundred non-attenders who were missing so much! These may read accounts of the proceedings, description of the displays and the exhibits, but they miss the joy of meeting others and shaking hands in that camaraderie of those who share in a common interest. Personal contact and first-hand information is always best, but second-hand news is not to be despised and the absentees will no doubt read with interest the reports of the proceedings.

A point unofficially discussed was the subscription and what members were getting for it. Let me mention a few of the items:—Introduction to other members, even if for postal correspondence alone, the list of members being a valuable help in contacting other members with similar interests to compare notes and opinions on stamps; and articles of philatelic merit, helpful and instructive. What do YOU contribute to the Society in return? Your sub. was welcome, but can you give help as well? The Society was started and welded together by the President and a few others for disciples of B.N.A. philately. Just think of the amount of time put in by the Office-Bearers and Committee on behalf of all the members. Remember that the Office-Bearers also collect stamps and study them. They give many of their leisure hours to the Society when they could be "stamping" themselves. In other spheres the attitude of too many nowadays is: "What am I getting from this, that or the other thing?"—not the old spirit of: "What can I contribute?" Don't let the take-and-not-give spirit have sway in Our Society. We want it to prosper. It is now more than established, and from year to year will grow in strength—if it gets YOUR co-operation!

(Contributed).

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By C. H. DOMBEY

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