

MAPLE LEAVES

Journal of

THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

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EDITORIAL

A. E. Stephenson, F.C.P.S.

The announcement of the death of our Founder President in our last issue will have been received by all our members with a deep feeling of regret whether or not they had had the privilege of knowing him personally. It was also accompanied by the sad news of the passing of several other members to whom the Society will also owe a debt of gratitude because they too have played a prominent part in its affairs and have been identified with it over very many years. Inevitably, however, the sense of loss which everyone must have felt in some degree was overshadowed by the sudden passing from the scene of our activities of one who, above all, represented the Society in a way that defies description. Those who knew 'Stevie' as a personal friend over many long years have said that they cannot imagine the Society without him, and their feelings are understandable. At the same time they will admit that it is the true measure of the man that he was not so much a driving force as a source of inspiration. His enthusiasm and interest in every aspect of the Society's activities were infectious and very few indeed must be those who knew him and yet managed to escape the contagion. It is in this sense true to say, and we do so at the risk of sounding trite, that his spirit lives on. It is not therefore impossible to think of the Society without 'Stevie'; it is impossible to think of it without the inspiration which he supplied in full measure, 'pressed down and running over'. That this inspiration may long continue to inform all our activities must be the earnest wish of everyone. A final tribute to 'Stevie' appears on page 153.

Small Queens Study Circle

On page 159 we are glad to be able to publish a report from Mr. W. Williams, the Secretary of the Small Queens Study Circle. This is the fifth of the series emanating from an obviously 'live' group and drafted by an equally 'lively' secretary. We should obviously be missing an opportunity if this report were not given wide publicity for two reasons: one, it is an example to others and two, it should encourage the very many members who must be interested in the

Small Queens to lend their support to what is very much a 'going concern'. We are also happy to publish an article (which accompanies the report) on the 8 cents issue, about which we cannot remember having published anything before and about which we know little apart from the obvious opportunity which it presents for serious research of the kind which Mr. Williams is undertaking. The report and the article should whet the appetite of many of our members who must hold these stamps in reasonable quantities and who could help the group tremendously. This then is an open invitation to members to get in touch with Mr. Williams NOW. He will be delighted.

Appreciation

Those of our readers who are skilled in the art of reading between the lines of some of our recent comments will doubtless have detected signs that an editor's lot, like that of the policeman, is not ALWAYS a happy one. We have not kept a strict account of the number of kicks in the pants received 'in the course of duty' during the past few years neither have we made a tally of the occasional pats on the back that also, fortunately, come our way. To mix metaphors we take both equally in our stride and have the hide of a rhinoceros, a qualification which your officers always insist upon when making appointments to the hot seat which is euphemistically known as the editorial chair and which one of our predecessors has likened to a Procrustean bed or Elizabethan rack. That neither he nor the present occupant is a 'broken man' is not only a tribute to our resilient constitutions; we also owe a great deal to those who boost our morale in this wise (and here we quote verbatim a letter from a new member by way of illustration):

'An interesting question would be—why do you wish to join the C.P.S. of G.B. ?

My answer would be just to continue a philatelic education as offered through your terrific issue, 'Maple Leaves'.

Why do I say continue? Last summer I spent two weeks' vacation at a cottage just relating-and-reading the complete uninterrupted range of 'Maple Leaves' from 1957 to 1967. I believe I learned more from those ten years of issues than ever before.

In fact, 'Adanac's' series of articles on 'An Approach to the Admirals' opened up a new collection study and made me dig up a few thousand of the low values I was fortunate to obtain. It would be a crime not to take advantage of information formulated by a tremendous amount of study and furnished to your membership through your journal.

Gillam's R.P.O. articles re-kindled my interest in that pursuit. The QV-numeral articles made me dig some more and by golly I had some varieties there!

I could go on but in general your 'Maple Leaves' have gotten me back into stamp collecting, or, more precisely into the study of my stamps.

As advertisers still like to claim, 'this is a completely unsolicited testimonial', from an American member who among others help considerably to ease our 'bed of nails' and persuade us occasionally, at least, that it is 'roses, roses, all the way!'

Random Notes on

Admirals

By E. A. Smythies, F.C.P.S.
part I

Lathework

Every student of Canada's 'Admiral' series of stamps knows and desires those coloured bands of intricate and complicated design that are found at the base of most plates and panes of stamps used and produced between 1917 and 1924. Reiche has designed and illustrated four main patterns (and a possible fifth), and, following Marler, gives them the following dates of use. Type A—January to March, 1917; Type B—March, 1917 to October, 1920; Type C—March, 1920 to January, 1921; Type D—November, 1920 to December, 1924. He also notes:—'Of interest in these designs are the various overlapping breaks which may occur over the total length of a complete bottom margin of ten stamps.'

I have half a dozen of these complete bottom margin stamps on various values, i.e. 1 cent chrome (type D), 3 cents brown (type B), 4 cents ochre (type D), 7 cents red-brown (type D), 10 cents purple (types A and B), 20 cents olive (type A). An interesting point is that all these Lathe strips measure 20.7 cms. in length (horizontally), i.e. the full space of 10 stamps, *except* the 20 cents (type A), which measures only 17.7 cms. and has been cut short to show the plate No. A5 in the S.E. corner (see accompanying illustration). This was done for a short period in early 1917, and is found only on 20 cents, 10 cents purple, and 2 cents plus 1 cent brown, all with lathe type A.



How thick (vertically) these bands of lathework were I cannot say, as all my examples (more than two dozen in all) are incomplete. They are either partial weak transfers (down to $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. or a thin straight line in the case of the 5 cents violet), or part has been cut off by guillotine action (my maximum thickness is 9 mm.).

These bands of lathe-work were put on the printing plates by means of transfer rolls, and it is very strange to note the frequently faulty and careless impressions of the lathe-work rolls compared to the meticulous accuracy of the die transfer rolls. This suggests they were not considered an important or permanent part of the design and so little trouble was wasted on an ephemeral item.

The reason for putting these ephemeral marks on the plates has long intrigued students of these Admiral stamps. Reiche quotes a Major Williams: 'the essential purpose of the lathe-work is the early detection of plate-wear'. He added: 'Another explanation which is more plausible is that the lathe-work helped in wiping action prior to printing'.

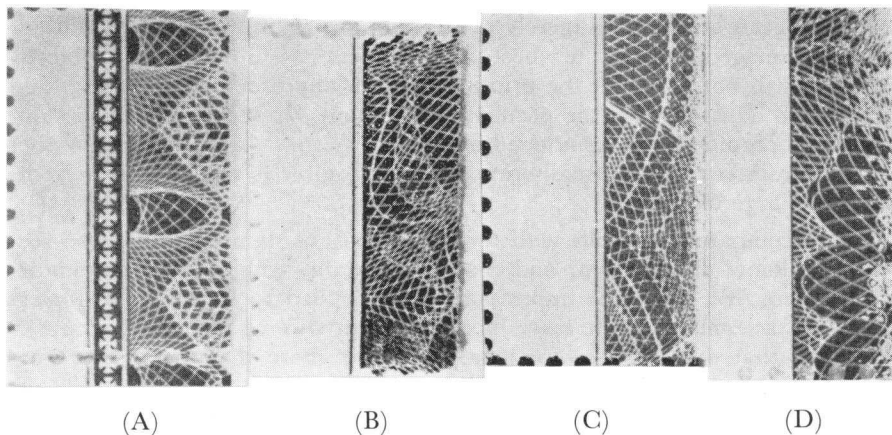
Neither of these explanations strike me as particularly plausible. A third explanation, which is the official explanation—it was sent to me by the Director Information and Public Relations P.O., Ottawa, and is an extract from the book *Canada's Postage Stamps* by D. and M. Patrick—reads as follows:—

The following explanation of the interlaced lines at the bottom of some stamps of the George V Admiral issue has been given by the *Post Office Dept.*—'The manufacturer used to refer to these as 'hold down strips'. Ink in the recesses of the design prevented the paper from lifting from the printing plate before the first row of stamps was printed'. This explanation is official and certainly sounds more plausible. But sometimes, due to careless transfer work, there is so little lathe-work that it could have served no useful purpose at all!

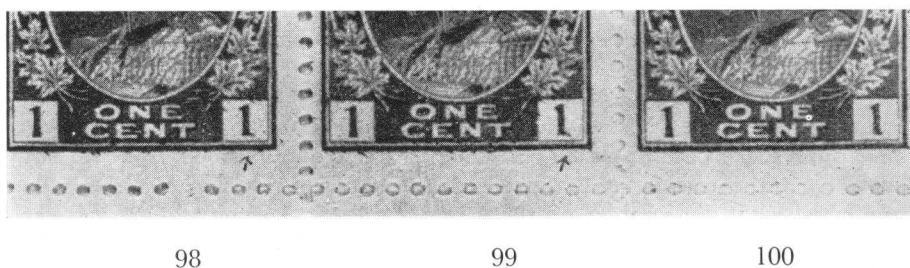
Whatever their object was, they are often useful in determining the plate from which the stamps were printed, and are one of the several attractive features connected with Admirals which Gibbons catalogue ignores, but which adds appreciably to their value. The different types of lathe-work are easy to recognise. Note the following points—Type A, a series of pointed arches of more solid colour; Type B, feathery wavy lines like a tangle of fishing nets; Type C and D, both big arches, but C arches concave inwards and with a straight line bordering the inside, D arches curving outwards and no straight line. See illustration opposite.

Transfer Rolls

Some of my readers who saw the special Canada edition of *Stamp Collecting* in October, 1967, will recall my article on the dies and printing plates of the Admiral series, and how **16 billion** stamps were derived from the Master Die. In that article one important step in the process was rather slurred over, i.e. how the transfer rolls made the impressions of the working dies on the printing plates. To be quite frank I did not know and could not discover how exactly the transfer rolls worked. I had the impression—shared (I find) by others—that a transfer roll was a wheel around the rim of which were a



number of die impressions in close contact, and when it was rolled along the printing plate under strong pressure, it left a string of die impressions behind, and the whole plate was built up by a series of such rolls, so that a flaw or conspicuous feature on one of the impressions would recur at regular intervals—every 4th or 5th—or whatever number of die impressions were on the roll. But when I came to examine some big blocks of stamps for these recurring features I was surprised and disappointed to find no evidence at all of them. In fact the only evidence I obtained suggested the impressions on the plate were entirely at random. For example, in a block of 70 one cent chrome (Nos. 31 to 100), one impression of the roll had a characteristic flaw at the base of the right numeral which I found only in positions 37, 54, 57, 98 and 99 (see illustration).



This shattered any idea of a recurring feature at regular intervals!

A letter from the Director, I.P.R., giving further extracts from the book *Canada's Postage Stamps* has cleared up the difficulty, and shown that the idea of a wheel rotating and leaving a string of die impressions behind is completely wrong. We must visualise a transfer roll as a wheel of 3 to 6 inches diameter (9 to 18 inches circumference) with only a few (i.e. 3 to 5) die impressions at wide intervals, islands in a sea of blank, which obviously could never produce a printing plate by any rolling motion. The description in the book specifically states that to make a plate of 400 subjects, **400 separate applications of the roll are necessary**, i.e. the transfers are made **one at a time**. There are

several subjects on each roll merely as an insurance against one or two getting worn or damaged, causing the wheel to be made useless. Obviously the subjects on a roll will not occur on the printing plate in any order but will be quite at random. This explains the peculiar distribution 37, 54, 57, 98 and 99 on the 1 cent chrome block mentioned above. So we must be reconciled to the fact that transfer rolls are usually practically impossible to recognise even from stamps in large blocks.

Let us compare these rolls with the other items of stamp printing and see what we know about them, and, more important, what we do not know about them. We know the impressions were applied to the printing plates singly and at random (wide large block of 1 cent chrome mentioned above). We know that one roll was frequently used for more than one plate. For example, I have a top strip of 10 two cent carmine with plate No. 122 of June 1918, which shows flaws characteristic of the contemporary coil plates 11 and 12, i.e. a small horizontal dash outside the outer frame in the S.E. corner. So the transfer roll must have been used on the sheet plate 122 and on the coil plates 11 and 12. There are plenty more examples of this, in fact it seems to have been a regular feature to use a transfer roll indiscriminately on a sheet plate and a contemporary coil plate. For example, we find the same flaws and characteristics occurring in (1) **2 cents carmine** sheets 40–42 and horizontal coil 2 (1913); sheet 19 and vertical coil 1 (1912). (2) **2 cents green** sheets between 193 and 221, horizontal coils 15–17 (1925, i.e. a small spur in S.E. corner and dot in S.W.), (3) **3 cents brown**. ‘File-marks’ in sheets 38–57 and horizontal coils 3–6 (1919). (4) **3 cents carmine**. Die I in sheets 129–134 and coils 11–12 (January 1924); Die II in sheets 162–164 and coils 13–15 (July 1925). (There were, of course, no coils or booklets in the higher values.)

We know there were 17 working dies, one for each value plus one extra for three low values. We know there were about 800 printing plates made and used between 1912 and 1928. We do not know whether there were 100 or 800 or what the number was of transfer rolls. We know when the various printing plates were made and used and what they looked like, as the archives have proof sheets of most plates, conveniently dated and numbered. We do **not** know what the transfer rolls looked like, as none has survived, and we do **not** know what die impressions there were on them. Reiche tells me Marler and he have been collaborating for years on transfer rolls, but have made little progress. As Boggs wrote 25 years ago: ‘it has been the subject of much study by many students, and the last word will probably never be written’.

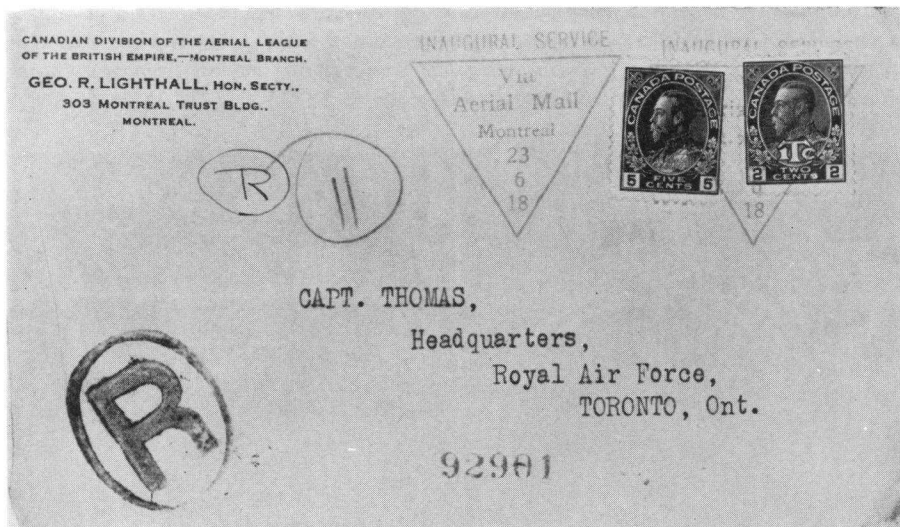
new \$1 stamp booklets

The Post Office plans to introduce two new stamp booklets—one of four cent and one of five cent stamps—to be sold across the counter at \$1 each.

Booklets now selling at 25 cents soon will be available only from vending machines, the Post Office said.

(We are indebted to Wayne R. Curtis for this information. It is not known when the new booklets will be issued. Editor)

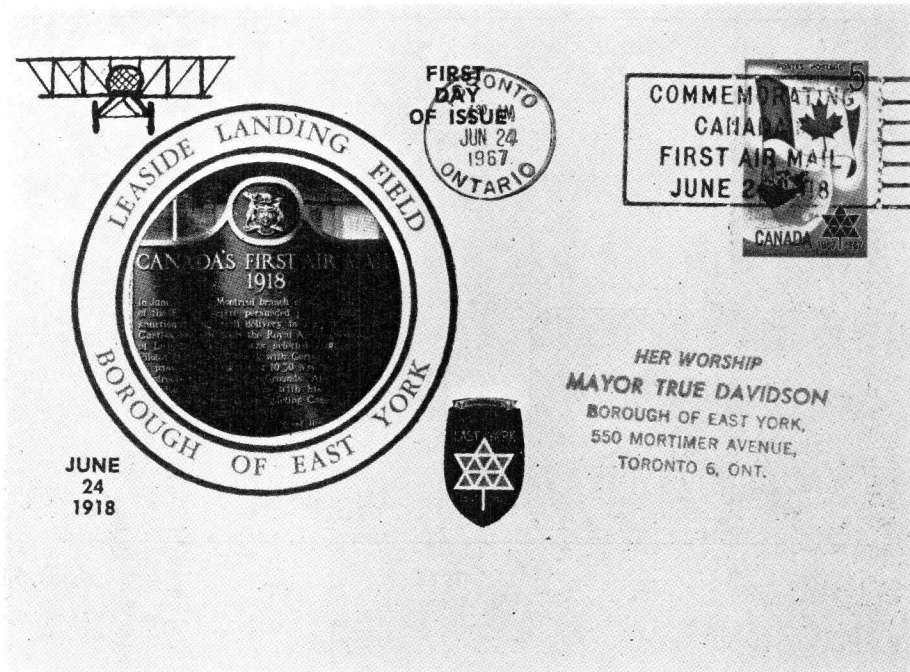
**Anniversary of First Air Mail Flight in Canada
24th June 1918 to 24th June 1968**



One of the 124 envelopes flown on the first Canadian Air Mail flight, Montreal to Toronto, on 24th June, 1918. The registered envelope bearing the red triangular cachet dated 23-6-18, Montreal, is from the sponsors of the flight, the Canadian Division of the Aerial League of the British Empire, Montreal Branch.



Another of the 124 envelopes flown on the first Canadian Air Mail flight Montreal to Toronto, 24th June, 1918. The envelope, addressed to Miss M. Upton of Westmount, Quebec, was registered and flown by Air Mail for a total charge of .08 cents. To-day's rate, within Canada is 50 cents for registration and 5 cents for first class and Air Mail rate, for a total charge of 55 cents. The envelope bears the red triangular cachet dated 23-6-18 at Montreal. (See page 147)



The Borough of East York, Toronto, during Centennial Year, commemorated Canada's First Air Mail Flight with a souvenir helicopter flight on a site near the old Leaside Aerodrome. The above souvenir envelope was one of 300 flown on this commemoration flight. (See above)

Annual General Meeting

The A.G.M. of the Society will be held
at the Imperial Hotel, Aberdeen on Saturday
19th October 1968

NEWFOUNDLAND

selected items from our stock

1. 1857. 3d. yellowish green. Superb used example with light clear cancellation and full, large margins. S.G.3. Scott 3. £60

2. 1857. 4d. scarlet vermilion. Fine unused example with B.P.A. certificate. An extremely rare stamp. S.G.4. Scott 4 £500

3. 1857. 5d. brown purple. Superb mint vertical pair will full, large even margins. Attractive. S.G.5. Scott 5 £50

4. 1857. 6½d. scarlet vermilion. Superb used example with light cork type cancellation. S.G.7. Scott 7 £275

5. 1860. 3d. green. Rare used example with cork type cancellation and large margins. B.P.A. certificate. S.G.11. Scott 11A £30

6. 1860. 1s. orange vermilion. Brilliant used example with enormous margins and light cancellation to one side of the design. Slight thinning but an outstanding stamp cat. £1,100. S.G.15. Scott 15 £550

7. 1861. 2d. deep rose lake. Brilliant mint example with large even margins and deep rich colour. Ex. Caspary. S.G.18. Scott 17 £35

8. 1861. 1s. deep rose lake. Fine used example with light bar type cancellation. A rare stamp in this condition. S.G.23. Scott 23 £75

9. 1866. 5c. brown. Superb mint marginal single. S.G.26. Scott 25 £60

10. 1868. 5c. black. Fine unused example showing re-entry. S.G.38. Scott 26 £14

11. 1897. 1c./3c. grey purple. Fine mint example with overprint in BLACK AND IN RED. A rare stamp. S.G.80c. Scott 75 £175

12. 1929. 3c./6c. slate. Fine mint example with rare variety 'surcharge inverted'. B.P.A. certificate. S.G.179a. Scott 160a £50

13. 1932-8. 24c. bright blue. Fine mint block of four variety IMPERF. S.G.228aa. Scott 210(var) £35

14. 1933. Balbo trans Atlantic Flight cover. Bears rare overprinted 75c. yellow brown. Cachet on front and attractive. S.G.235. Scott C18 £160

15. 1941-4. 5c. violet. Fine mint pair showing variety 'with and without watermark.' Scarce. S.G.280a £50

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The Study of *Canadian Postal* *Stationery*

by

J. P. Macaskie,

F.C.P.S., part 3

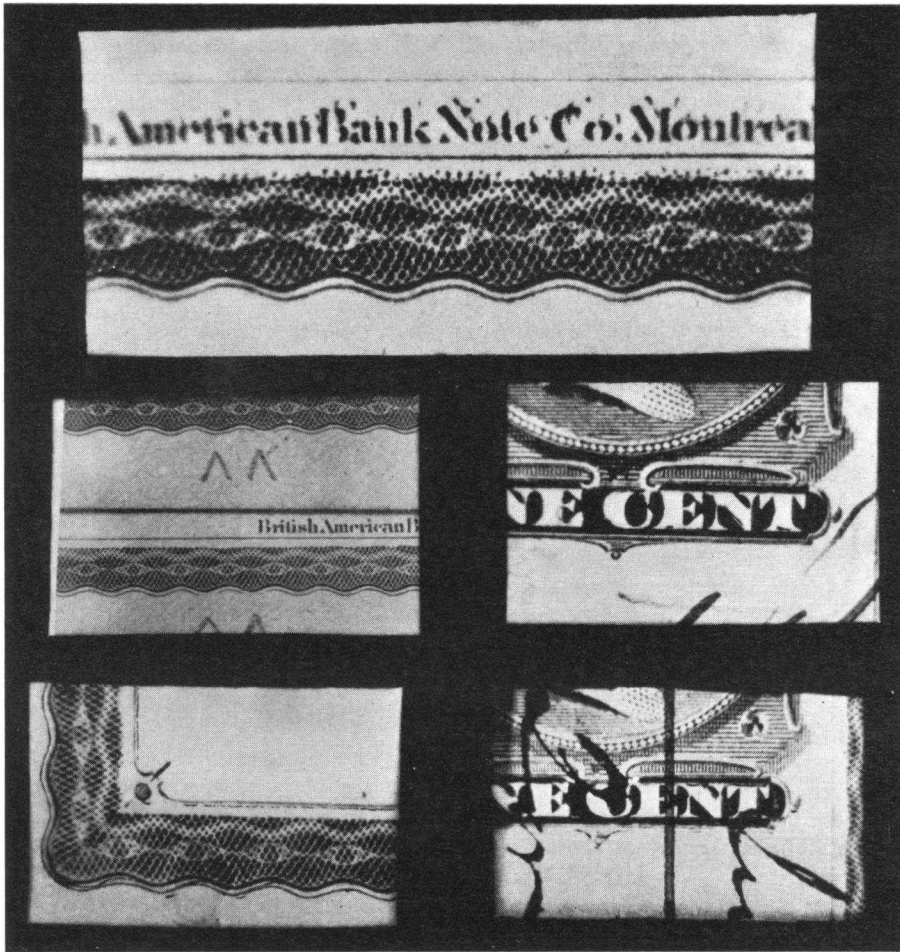
On turning his attention to any issue for the first time the student of philately usually wants to know the date of issue, the plate format, the number of plates required and any special characteristics of each plate including any evidence of repairs by retouching or re-entering—as well as variations in shade and paper. Such details are not always easy to determine in the case of postal stationery. The date of issue was discussed in my last article and I propose to cover the question of card stock and shades later in the series, turning my attention meanwhile to the plates used.

The first postcards fall into two distinct groups: (a) 1871–76. Those bearing the imprint ‘British American Bank Note Co. Montreal and Ottawa’ and, (b) 1876–81. Those in which ‘and Ottawa’ has been omitted from the imprint. Although the two groups give the superficial impression of being similar in other respects there are a number of basic differences as follows:

	(a) <i>Montreal & Ottawa</i>	(b) <i>Montreal</i>
(i) Overall design size	107½ × 65 mm.	109½ × 66½ mm.
(ii) Canada post card	62½ mm. long	64 mm. long
(iii) Canada post card	Letters filled in with vertical or diagonal lines	Letters filled in normally with horizontal lines
(iv) Imprint	—	Larger lettering

A close examination reveals that the design has been completely re-engraved for the ‘Montreal’ cards with the sole exception of the stamp. In this one case there are sufficient similarities to indicate that the same die was used for each group and that, therefore, a separate die existed for that part of the design and was probably used to build up a composite die before the plates were laid down.

An examination of group (a) provides useful evidence of the number of plates required. I can find no indication that more than one plate was required until the 3rd July, 1872, after which date many cards show relief breaks, especially in the fine lines outside the border. I think it is reasonable to allocate these to a new plate. No sign of a third plate comes along until the 23rd May, 1873 when a significant double break appears in the outer border below and to the left of ‘British’ (illustrated). This seems to be the result of damage to the transfer roll rather than wear whilst in use and traces of it persist throughout the remainder of group (a) despite occasional rough retouching of one (illustrated) or both breaks and, later on, careful retouching of both breaks. It seems probable that the damage occurred when the roll was being handled ready for the preparation of plate three. From this time also it will be found that two dots appear to the left of the ‘T’ in ‘THE’ and that there is no longer a guide dot below the lower left corner of the design.



From late 1874 the situation becomes extremely complex, coinciding no doubt with the removal of printing work to Montreal. Up to this time 14 different re-entries have been noted over a period of $3\frac{1}{2}$ years but for the period from November, 1874 to December, 1875 I have catalogued a further 62, including several double re-entries. A few of these are illustrated; the doubled imprint shown is the strongest of several affecting this part of the design, my earliest copy of this one being 7th May, 1875. Of the two value tablet re-entries illustrated the upper example has been noted from 15th November, 1875 and the lower one from 5th June, 1875. The final illustration (of the lower left corner of a card) shows typical doubling of the border. All the re-entries shown, and many of the others in my collection, affect many parts of the design and the portions shown here are intended only to draw your attention to some of the more prominent features.

Apart from the retouched border mentioned earlier retouches are not common in group (a), the best example being a strong repair of the inner border line to the right of the stamp from July, 1875. Strengthened address lines are also found occasionally. The general impression however is that all the plates were given a thorough overhaul at least once during this period and this may well have extended to every position on every plate. So far I have no evidence pointing to the production of a fourth plate for this group and it may be that the extensive work on existing plates obviated the need for a new plate for the time being. It is also reasonably certain that any new plates laid down after the transfer to Montreal would fall into group (b) as soon as work on the new dies was completed.

I am therefore left with the following rough timetable:

		Approx. quantity issued (millions)	
May, 1871	Plate 1	1871	1.5
July, 1872	Plate 2	1872	1.5 (?)
May, 1873	Plate 3	1873	1.9
November, 1874	Major overhaul	1874	2.5
1875	Use of repaired plates	1875	3.3
March, 1876	First issues from new die	1876	4.4
			<hr/> 15.2
Deduct say 50% of 1876 issues for group (b)			<hr/> 2.2
Total issue of group (a)			<hr/> 13.0 mill. <hr/>

These figures seem to indicate that each plate might have produced about two million copies before a major overhaul was necessary and a further two million afterwards. By late 1874 however the demand was so great that it was probably necessary to have two or three plates in use simultaneously. This leads me to conjecture on the maximum output which could be achieved with one plate. If for this purpose I assume a 72 hour week (six days of 12 hours work) and an output of one sheet every $1\frac{1}{2}$ minutes then the total weekly output is 2,880 sheets, or about 150,000 sheets a year. At this rate it would require a sheet of 10 subjects to meet a demand for $1\frac{1}{2}$ million cards a year. This may be compared with two independent facts (a) that a full plate of 10 cards (2×5) would be almost the same size (250×400 mm.) as a plate of 200 small cents issues (10×10 plus 10×10) and, (b) that the Newfoundland one cent cards of 1880 which were produced by the same printer have already been plated (by the Meyerson Bros.) into a sheet of 2×5 .

Plating work on the Canadian cards (to be covered in a later article) shows that the 2×5 format is likely but it would also be quite feasible to have two panes of this size side by side if postcard boards of such size were obtainable at that time. I should welcome readers' comments on this and on the potential output rates I have suggested.

The edges of cards in group (a) are commonly found to coincide approximately with continuous lines of colour which appear to have been used as cutting guides. In fact on some cards these lines have obviously been retouched, an operation which would hardly have been necessary if their only purpose was to assist in the laying down of the plate.

It does not seem to be widely known that these cards are occasionally found with numbers in the top margin, usually in the top right corner but in a few cases at the top left. At one time I thought that these numbers existed only on group (b) but I now have one card from group (a) with part of a number in the top right corner. Such cards obviously come from the top corners of the sheets and usually suffer from the trimming of the sheets to exact size after printing—thereby removing a part or sometimes nearly all of the number. Also, in most cases, the number is in reverse, indicating that it was engraved in positive on the plate for the operator to read. Examples of these will be illustrated in a later article. My solitary example on group (a) looks like the lower part of a '3' in reverse. I am inclined to think that these are plate numbers and that the rarity of them on group (a) may be accounted for by such numbering being introduced after the transfer of work to Montreal.

(To be continued)

Obituary ALFRED E. STEPHENSON, F.C.P.S.

Alfred E. Stephenson, our Founder President, No. 1 on the Society's Roll died on 10th May after a brief illness. In spite of family sorrows during the last few years culminating in his wife's death at Easter he was still his active cheery self at the Scottish Congress at the end of April.

He was immensely proud of the Society, his dream child, and was ever full of ideas for its advancement, and we were proud of him. We shall miss not only the drive that kept us on our toes but the genial debunking we received from the drivel (his own word) of Jack Canuck.

As a collector 'Stevie' was a one country man. It was always Canada in some facet. He has told us that his first love was the blue tenpence but by the first issue of *Maple Leaves* he had taken up the Maple Leaves and numeral issues. Within a few years after digressions into pre-cancels, watermarks and postmarks he turned to what was to be his great love, the Admiral Issue. It was from a six volume collection that he gave a display at the Worthing Convention.

More, much more, might be said. Suffice it here to acknowledge our indebtedness to him for much of the pleasure we have all received from our membership of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain and to offer to his daughter Betty, bereft of both her parents in one short month, our most sincere sympathy.

J.J.B.

The Registry Markings of Canada's

Railway Post Offices by Horace W. Harrison part IV

For introductory remarks see Whole No. 111.

37. Port Dover and Lake Huron Railway. Recorded by Jarrett and Shaw. (R. 137)
38. Port Whitby, Port Perry, Lindsay and Victoria Railways. Recorded by Jarrett and Shaw. (R. 139a)
39. Southern Extension, of the Wellington, Grey and Bruce Railway. Recorded by Jarrett and Shaw. (R. 141)
40. Toronto and Sarnia. Recorded by Jarrett and Shaw. (R. 144)
41. Welland Railway. Recorded by Jarrett, Boggs and Shaw. $40\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ mm. June, 1869. Harrison collection. (R. 145)
42. Western Extension, of the Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railway. Recorded by Jarrett and Shaw. $42\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ mm. December, 1877. Harrison collection. (R. 147)
43. Western Extension, of the Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railway. Recorded by Jarrett, Boggs and Shaw. (R. 147)
44. Wellington, Grey and Bruce Railway. Recorded by Jarrett, Boggs and Shaw. 42×12 mm. October, 1876. Siverts collection. (R. 148)
45. Whitby, Port Perry, Lindsay and Victoria Railways. Recorded by Jarrett, Boggs and Shaw. $48 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$ mm. November, 1878. Siverts collection. (R. 149)
46. Squamish and Quesnel Railway Post Office. Recorded by Shaw. (W. 153a)
47. Squamish and Quesnel Railway Post Office. Recorded by Shaw.
48. Squamish and Quesnel Railway Post Office. $49 \times 21\frac{1}{2}$ mm. November, 1927. Tracing from the Proof Book. (W. 153c)
49. Royal Train Post Office. 49×23 mm. February, 1939. Harrison collection.
50. Royal Train Post Office. 49×23 mm. February, 1939. Tracing from the Proof Book.
51. Great Western Railway, Sarnia Branch. Recorded by Jarrett, Boggs and Shaw. 40×30 mm. March, 1879. Siverts collection. (R. 129)
52. Great Western Railway, Sarnia Branch. $35\frac{1}{2} \times 24\frac{1}{2}$ mm. October, 1883. Steinhart collection. (R. 129b?)
53. Prince Edward Island Mail Car. 40×24 mm. Tracing from the Proof Book. (R. 139b)
54. Montreal and Rouse's Point, N.Y. (R.P.O.). 40×24 mm. Tracing from the Proof Book. (R. 135d)

37. REGISTERED
P.D. & L.H.RY.

38. REGISTERED
P.W.P.I P.L. & V.RYS.

39. REGISTERED
SOUTHERN EXT.

40. REGISTERED
T. & S.

41. REGISTERED
WELLAND-R.

42. REGISTERED
WEST.EXT

43. REGISTERED
WEST.EXT.

44. REGISTERED
W.C & B

45. REGISTERED
W.P.I P.L & V.RYS.

46. R SQUAMISH & QUES.
R.P.O. CANADA
ORIGINAL No.

47. R SQUAMISH & QUESNEL R.P.O.
No.

48. R Squamish & Quesnel
R. P. O. Canada
ORIGINAL NO.

49. R ROYAL TRAIN
POST OFFICE
CANADA.
No.

50. R BUREAU DE POSTE
TRAIN ROYAL
CANADA.
No.

51. REGISTERED
C.W.R. SARNIA BR.

52. REGISTERED
C.W.R. SARNIA BR.

53. REGISTERED
JAN 6 1908
P.E. ISLAND - M.C.

54. REGISTERED
MAY 5 1911
Montreal & Rouse's Point. N.Y.

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The First Decimal

Issue by G. Whitworth, F.R.P.S.L.



The rare use of a block of four 1 cent stamps

This interesting letter was prepaid by the use of a block of four 1 cent stamps from plate positions 71, 72, 81 and 82 and a single from position 92. All are perforated 12×11.75 .

The cover contains a letter headed Ottawa, June 28th 1864 but the letter must have been posted in the mail car of the Ottawa and Prescott Railway as the cover carries this handstamp dated June 29th. The stamps are cancelled by five pen and ink crosses which could have been applied by the train mail clerk.

There are also five strikes of a seven concentric ring hammer. On the reverse is the backstamp Ju 29 1864 and the receiving mark Hamilton Ju 30 1864. It would appear that at Prescott the mail was resorted when probably the target cancels were added.



An unusual three cents postal rate

A wrapper from Aylmer, U.C. dated May 9 1865 to New York State.

This is a wrapper, sealed at the back, with an opening of $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches. It is dated May 9 1865 at which time the printed paper rate was 1 cent per ounce for delivery to any place in British North America or the United States. The rate for newspapers was 1 cent per copy, unless posted by the publisher, when of charge of $\frac{1}{2}$ cent only was made. Newspapers, even in those years, were of more than one sheet and must have been too bulky for this small wrapper. It would therefore appear to have been used to hold a small booklet weighing between two or three ounces and must be quite rare because, like newspapers, a booklet wrapper was of no further use and was often torn from the package it was holding and burnt.

ALL of CANADA Service

FROM

NORMAN TODD

74, LINDEN RD.
BOGNOR REGIS

NEW

PRECANCEL Cat 8th Edn. 1968 17/6 post paid
HOLMES B.N.A. Cat 11th Edn. 1968 99/- post paid

SMALL QUEENS STUDY CIRCLE

From the letters received since our last *Circulation Sheet*, it appears that several members have been busy hunting for the RARE Carmine Rose on SOFT paper (Jan. 1871). Four members report they have been successful in acquiring copies at quite reasonable prices because the stamps were off-centre. (Fortunately the vendors did not read our last sheet when it was estimated that 99% were off-centre.) Looking through the very fine auction catalogue produced by Stanley Gibbons for the 'Sale of the Connoisseur' on 24th May last, it is noticed that one copy was on offer and described as 'the very rare shade discovered by Lawrence Shoemaker and considered scarcer than 3 cents Indian Red perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$ "—good colour, few faults, town and bar cancel, est. £30.' No doubt, in due course, this Shade and Paper variety will be catalogued by S. G. The shade now appears to be generally described as Deep Carmine Rose by specialist dealers in this country. *Maple Leaves* (February issue) contained an advertisement by W. E. Lea offering a pair on cover and also gave this shade.

Members have reported finding a number of varieties on the 2 cents and 3 cents issues and as some may not have been previously recorded, these will be checked and details set out in a future *Circulation Sheet* for general reference.

Meanwhile, four of our members have started on a study of the 8 cents issue of 1893-98 and this has taken up most of the time and space.

Apart from the four shades as catalogued most members have given little attention to this issue (maybe they were annoyed that the Queen had turned the other way. Do you know the reason the Queen faces left in this design?)

At last we have an opportunity of starting on something new and to save members' time in looking up the standard reference books etc., such information as is generally available has been set out in another article.

It is recorded that P $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ has been found and if this is correct then there must be other copies about. How many have bothered to check the perforations on this issue when it is generally assumed that P.12 was the only perforation?

A.F.S. of N.S. reports finding a copy on very thin, almost transparent paper, this stamp is of the blackish shade.

We have all probably heard about the RARE *GREENISH BLUE* shade and also that several copies have been known as chemically treated. If you have a 'treated' copy, just brush some water over the back of the stamp and it immediately becomes transparent and as it dries you will see that something is wrong with the paper. Try this experiment with a normal stamp at the same time and see the difference.

Do you collect cancelations?

While it is very difficult to provide illustrations in a *Circulation Sheet* such as this one, there is an opportunity to give members' interests and if you would like to correspond DIRECT with other members' they would be delighted to hear from you.

Colin G. Banfield, 6 Almond House, 84 Church Hill, Loughton, Essex.
(Legislature postmarks.)

Dr. M. W. Carstairs, 5 Tennyson Road, High Wycombe, Bucks. (Numeral rings and barred-circles.)

R. B. Hetherington, F.C.P.S., 104a Broadwater Street West, Worthing, Sussex. (Pre-cancels.)

K. Willington, 234 Brasenose Avenue, Gorleston, Great Yarmouth. (Unusual fancy cancels.)

and last, but not least

Dr. C. W. Hollingsworth, F.C.P.S., 17 Mellish Road, Walsall, Staffs. (Still waiting for STREET cancellations.)

W. Williams

Canada (8 cents) Small Queens

Engraved by the British-American Bank Note Company and printed at Ottawa.

The design shows the profile of Queen Victoria facing left (the earlier issues of the Small Queens show the profile facing right). The stamps are generally known as perforation 12, but P. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ has been reported. It would appear that 800 imperforated stamps were issued by act of favour. Official records show that 6,660,000 copies were issued to postmasters for the five year period ended 1898. It is interesting to note that in 1870, nine million of the 3 cent (Indian Red, Copper Red and Early Rose shades) were issued as compared with approximately seven million of the 8 cent during a life of five years.

The 8 cent issue was mainly for the use as POSTAGE and REGISTRATION (3 cent postage plus 5 cent registration).

The shades fall within four groups and although these are fairly accurately listed in the Standard Catalogues, there is, of course, the usual slight difference in describing the shades.

As Holmes gives the dates of the shade groups, the listings by Gibbons and Holmes are set out for comparison:

GIBBONS		HOLMES		
SG 117	Pale bluish grey	(a) Blue grey	August	1893
	a Imperf.	(b) Imperf.		
118	Bluish slate	(c) Grey	August	1895
119	Slate purple	(d) Slate	November	1895
120	Blackish purple	(e) Slate purple	July	1897

(Shades varying from grey to blackish purple)

It is recorded that the blackish-purple and slate-purple shades were printed from a new plate and all fine lines are sharp and distinct as compared with the earlier printings which are often smudgy and worn.

The stamps were printed in sheets of 200 (20×10) and it would appear from the references made that there were no marginal imprints.

Owing to the lack of precision in perforation only a small percentage of the copies may be classified as 'in superb condition'. Many were very much off-centre with the perforations cutting into the design on one or two sides.

DIE PROOFS: 8 cents red on wove. 8 cents slate, olive (shades), green (shades), black, blue-purple on India.

PLATE PROOFS on card grey (shades).

It would appear that this issue offers plenty of scope for the specialist, as unlike the earlier Small Queens few varieties have been reported to date.

The recorded varieties are as follows:

Two distinct DOUBLE STRIKES (accidental second impressions) one showing 'CANADA POSTAGE' doubled, the other with figures of value and 'CENTS' doubled.

One RE-ENTRY showing faint doubling under the above 'CENTS' in white border and in white oval under bust and thin line in letters 'AD OSTA E' appearing on both the blue-grey and purple-black shades. The really SCARCE SHADE is the peculiar GREENISH-BLUE and it is possible that less than twenty copies have been found. It is, however, well known that some of the blue-grey shades have been chemically treated in an attempt to produce this rare shade but fortunately a detailed examination of the paper will usually reveal, so let the buyer beware.

Although the stamp was primarily for registration use a number of other interesting cancellations can be found, the 'Crown' and 'Dead Letter Office' being nice items. Circular date cancellations can help to identify the first issues of each shade and if sufficient copies are available a Calendar of Dates can be built up.

Covers usually show several markings covering the transit of the registered packet and Railway Cancellations are frequently found. The Squared Circle specialist may find some late markings.

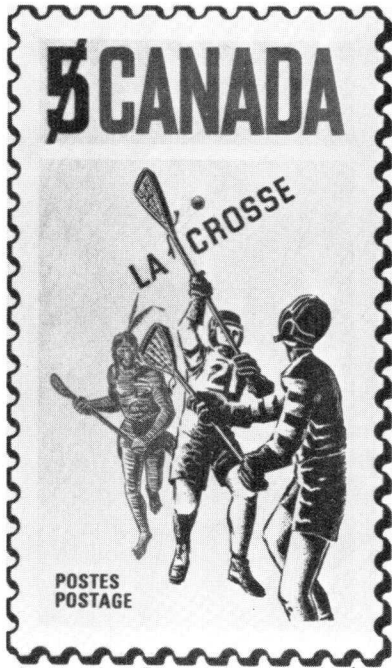
(The Small Queens Study Circle of the C.P.S. of G.B. is now working on this issue and it is hoped that members will find further information regarding varieties, paper, perforations etc. Mr. W. Williams, the author of this article, would be pleased to hear from anyone willing to help in the study of this issue. Mr. Williams's address is: 53 Central Road, Wembley, Middlesex. Editor.)

Did you know?

Montreal isn't as uncommon a place name as you might suspect. For example there's a Montreal Lake, Sask. A Montreal river, near Cobalt, Ontario, and a Montreal River Harbour, near Sault Ste. Marie. There's a Montreal, in Mo., a Montreal, Wisc., and two Montreals in France (in Ain and Yonne Departments) as well as Montreal De L'Aude—and Montreal Du Jers in that country. There's a Monreal (without the 'T') in the Rhineland section of West Germany, a Monreal del Campo in Spain, and a Monreale in Italy's Palermo Province. And to top it off, there's a Montreat (a 'T' instead of an 'L' at the end) in North Carolina. It's Billy Graham's birthplace. *(From Philatelic Echos.)*

NEW STAMP ISSUES

Lacrosse



A three colour 5 cent Lacrosse stamp to be released by the Canada Post Office on the 3rd July, 1968 provides recognition for a sport that has its roots deep in the history of the early native people of Canada.

Vertical in format and having dimensions of 24 x 40 mm., the new stamp was designed by James E. Aldridge, a native of Toronto who makes his debut as a designer of Canadian stamps. The full issue of 24 million stamps will be printed by the British American Bank Note Company Limited of Ottawa utilizing a combination of the steel engraving and photogravure techniques. Three figures in action poses appear as the principal design elements; two in the lower right foreground, reproduced in black by steel engraving, are clothed in present day Lacrosse attire. The third figure, printed in red, representative of early Indian involve-

ment, occupies a position to the left and to the rear. An upper horizontal narrow segment of the design, separated by a white line, consists of the word 'Canada', in red flanked on the left by the denomination 5 in black. Wording in black in the principal design area consists of 'Postage' surmounted by 'Postes' in the lower left corner and 'Lacrosse' intersected between the 'a' and the 'c' by a player's upraised Lacrosse stick. The whole stamp has a background colouring of deep yellow.

Customary First Day Cover service will be provided by the Postmaster, Ottawa 2, Ontario.

The game of Lacrosse is known to have been an organized activity of Indians before Columbus completed his famous voyage to North America in 1492. White men, upon their arrival, renamed the pastime, then known as Baggataway, before they adapted it to their own pleasure; they likened the Indians' curved webbed stick to a Bishop's crozier, this in turn became 'La crosse' and 'Lacrosse'. There is little evidence that the game became organized as a sport of white men much before 1840.

Evolution of the game through the centuries brought major changes in the size of the playing area and the number of persons involved. The early Indian

version, more of a battle training than sport for tribal warriors, had tribe pitted against tribe or village against village. As many as 1,000 men took part in these tests of endurance which are known, in some instances, to have lasted several days. Goals in the primitive era consisted of one or two poles set in the ground anywhere from 400 yards to five miles apart. Participants in the wild melees were exhorted to greater fury by women of the tribes who wielded stout switches as they followed the play on the sidelines.

Doctor G. W. Beers, a Montreal dentist who died in 1900, is generally recognized as having first been responsible for the writing of rules in the late 1860's to govern field Lacrosse as a modern sport. A major revision of rules in 1932 led to Box Lacrosse in which teams of six players compete in indoor arenas or enclosed outdoor boxes.

An interesting aspect of the sport in Canada is the continuing almost exclusive manufacture of Lacrosse sticks by Indians. An Indian Company located on the St. Regis Reserve near Cornwall, Ontario, utilizing methods as old as the game itself and manned by an all-Indian staff, is recognized as being responsible for the manufacture of 97% of the world's production. Their products not only supply the major part of domestic requirements but are exported to the U.S.A., England, Australia and other countries where the game is played.

George Brown

A multi-colour 5 cents commemorative stamp to be issued by the Canada Post Office on the 7th August 1968 pays tribute to the Honourable George Brown, one of Canada's Fathers of Confederation who was born 150 years ago. In addition to playing a prominent role in the emergence of Canada as a nation, George Brown, a native of Scotland, left a legacy in a continuing Toronto daily newspaper which he founded as *The Globe* in 1844.

The design chosen for the new issue is the first executed by Nickolay Sabolotny, a native of Yugoslavia, who came to Canada in 1951. Mr. Sabolotny, now living in Ottawa, studied art in his homeland, in Germany and in other countries.

Steel engraving and photogravure have been employed by the British American Bank Note Company Limited, Ottawa to print 24 million George Brown stamps which are horizontal in format and have overall dimensions of 40 × 24 mm. A portrait slightly to the left of centre is in natural colour showing Brown wearing a magenta coat; he is flanked on the right by a multi-colour reproduction of the Prince Edward Island Legislative Buildings in which the famous Charlottetown Conference took place. A background to the left of the portrait is a facsimile of an early copy of *The Globe* indicative of the journalistic involvement. Red lettering on the ochre background consists of the denominative '5' in the lower left; 'Hon. George Brown' and '1818-1880' in the lower right, and 'Canada' which surmounts the right segment. 'Postes' and 'Postage', in dark grey, are inserted on a line immediately above the Charlottetown building.

Book Review

The new eighth edition of the Gilbert W. Noble *Catalogue of Canada Precancels*, editor H. G. Walburn, is to hand. Price \$2.00 (U.S.A.). It is in the same format as the seventh. The same plates seem to have been used for printing the illustrations, which are now showing some signs of wear, and are not very clear.

Prices on the whole are up, in some cases by 100%. This was to be expected as the 1965 edition was far behind the market. However some prices are still on the low side, such as the Bar Type 'A' which are still quoted at \$20.00 each, although they are very rare. In my opinion they are well worth at least double the quoted figure.

A new feature in the eighth edition is the inclusion of a check list (unpriced) of the Precancelled Stamps with Perforated Initials (*PERFINS*), which are mostly very scarce. An indication of the rarity factor would have been of considerable help to collectors.

Some varieties reported during the past few years by the Precancel Study Group are still not included, such as Toronto 5/77a. This is to be regretted.

Sidney, N.S., is now spelt SYDNEY, which is the correct spelling according to the Canadian Gazetteer.

Once again the Precancelled Postal Stationery has NOT been listed, although at least the George VI and Q.E. II Envelopes and Post Cards are quite 'official'.

All those interested in collecting Canadian Precancels should get this new edition, as there are so many alterations in the pricing. The PERFIN listing is also new.

As this Catalogue is supposed to be issued for specialists it is a great pity it does not list the 'forerunners', as mentioned in Jarrett, nor the unofficial, but quite genuine ROLLER precancels which are of so much interest. Smythies' Handbook deals in part with the 'Rollers', but does not price them as his work is not a catalogue.

Catalogues can be obtained from R. J. Woolley, Apt. 206, 1520 Bathurst Street, Toronto 10, Ont., Canada at \$2.25 (Canadian) plus 45 cents Air Mail Post. Messrs. Harris Publications Ltd., are NOT stocking this work.

**Contributions and articles on all branches
of B.N.A. philately and postal
history are urgently required
for publication in this journal**

The Philatelic Congress of

Great Britain

This year's Congress was held at Buxton, Derbyshire from 4th to 7th June.

The C.P.S. was well represented in the large attendance. The weather was kind to us and the coach trips to Chatsworth House and Haddon Hall were much enjoyed. The hospitality of the Buxton authorities was unsurpassed and the Lady Mayor and her Mayoress were present at several of our functions.

Twelve C.P.S. members attended the Canadian study group and we were glad to meet one or two who had not attended previous gatherings. Our studies led us well into the night and we were obliged to ask for accommodation in order to continue our deliberations on the following evening.

The two resolutions brought to Congress were passed after slight amendments had been accepted.

Marcus Arman gave us an account of the work that is going forward at the National Postal Museum of which he is curator. He told us that it was hoped to have 20,000 album sheets on view at one time and that slides and recorded lectures were being prepared for loaning out.

Cyril Andrews entertained us with a description of the duties of an International Exhibition Commissioner. Most members were astonished by the amount of work and responsibility undertaken by the Commissioner.

R. A. G. Lee told us something of the preparations being made for the 1970 International Exhibition to be held at Olympia. This will be staged on three floors with a total space of 120,000 sq. feet. 3,500 frames, 100 dealers stalls, lounges, bars and rooms for society meetings are a few of the details he gave us.

Friday afternoon the very impressive ceremony of signing the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists took place. H. J. Block of U.S.A.; Francis J. Field, G.B.; and Dr. Achilli Rivolta of Italy were present to sign. Michel Lipschutz of France was prevented by the disturbances in Paris. After this ceremony the Congress Medal was presented to Mr. Kenneth F. Chapman.

The Melville address was given by Mr. Martin Baxendale and was very well received and was followed by the presentation of awards to the winners of the Melville competition.

Our own P. G. Walker delivered the closing address in his usual forthright manner.

The reception and banquet in the evening was again attended by the Lady Mayor and Mayoress. The speeches were witty and interspersed with the presentation of mementoes to the authors of the papers presented to Congress. A presentation was also made to Mrs. Nugent Clogher.

An excellent exhibition was put on, in the Public Library, by the Buxton and High Peak Philatelic Society.

Next year Congress will be held at Bristol.

L. D. Carn

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

Mr. J. M. H. Parkin writes:

Indiana U.C.

I was fortunate enough yesterday to receive a gift of a quantity of back numbers of *Maple Leaves*, from the start of Volume 2 with a few gaps to Volume 8.

I have for the past five or six years been endeavouring to trace the actual whereabouts of a place called Indiana U.C. which postmark I have on two separate covers of the 1850 era. These marks are of the old two ring type with serifed letters and a manuscript inserted date. One is in black and the second in red. My enquiries had revealed absolutely nothing until I was browsing through these magazines. In the issue dated July, 1953, Vol. 4, No. 8, I saw an article by P. Marsden headed 'More light on a Vanished Village'. It solved the problem for me completely. Incidentally the covers are addressed to Cayuga, the then neighbouring village which seems to have taken over. Although my covers are both well within the period already proved I thought it might be of interest for members to know that the mark exists in both black and red, and for myself, it is nice finally to sort out a problem that has been causing me quite some annoyance for such a length of time.

My thanks, once again, to all the officers of our society without whom it would, I'm sure, cease to function. The best of luck for this year's Convention.

Dr. L. G. Jacob writes:

S.G.254 Imperf.

The difference between the two enclosed S.G.254 seem marked enough to warrant different printings and the strong probability, if not certainty, that the imperf. copy was issued as such and not cut down.

The most marked differences are that in the imperf. copy there is a vertical white mark in the right epaulette, and the limbs of both 7s are thicker and shorter than in the normal. The colour behind DA PO has the appearance of very small shining pebbles. Less conspicuous are the slight differences in the white lines in the hair and the fact that the lowest horizontal line below the collar is slightly curved in the imperf. and almost straight in the normal copy.

(We have examined the perforated and imperforated examples of S.G.254 submitted by Dr. Jacob and the differences enumerated by him are certainly most apparent. We do not reproduce them here, however, since it is most improbable that illustrations of the two stamps would reveal the differences sufficiently well.—Editor)

Amendments to Membership to 1st July, 1968**New Members**

1660. EDWARD, R., 7 Broadway East, Newton Park, Chester, Cheshire. RPO, NWT

Deaths

1. STEPHENSON, A.E.

Resignation

775. ASHCROFT, J.

Changes of Address

1257. ARONS, M. L., 4422 Cerise Avenue, New Orleans, La., 70128
 1594. ASBURY, Lt. Col. W. B., 96 Sutherland Drive, Toronto 17, Ont., Canada.
 486. COLTON, C. H., Appin House, Cobham, Surrey.
 1628. BOSCH, Dr. W., 1135 Springhill Road, Staunton, Va., 24401, USA.
 1337. DEVLIN, M., 601, 630-17 Ave. S.W., Calgary 3, Alta, Canada.
 1066. HILL, J. R., University Hospital, Edmonton, Alta., Canada.
 973. McCUSKER, 4245 - 58th Avenue, Bladensburg, Maryland, 20710, USA.
 1200. POTTS, G. H., Box 533 Duncan, B.C., Canada.
 1172. TARDIFF, Dr. G., 500 Lafontaine, Riviere du Loup, Quebec, Canada.

Information required of new address

135. DE VOLPI, C. P., Suite 1710, The Regency, 3555 Cote des Neiges Road,
 Montreal 25, P.Q.
 1654. ADAMS, C. J., Apt. 3, 14 Novawood Drive, Dartmouth, N.S.

Net Change: Minus 1. New total 700.

The Exchange Packet

As you will know I have taken over the running of our Exchange Packet from the capable hands of Mr. J. E. Bielby. So far I have not made any changes, and, as far as I know, it is running smoothly.

The following points must be made:

1. I shall be on holiday from September 1st until the 15th; so please do not send me any booklets during this period.
2. The supply of booklets for circulation is very low. I should be grateful if some of the hundreds of members, who have never tried to sell material through the packet, would make the effort. They would be agreeably surprised at their sales.
3. For our regular vendors, my great thanks, but please try and keep your prices down. Sometimes I wonder if the vendor really wants to sell. Too much ordinary material is priced too high.
4. For potential vendors: Remember the vendor has priority in seeing the packet in which his books appear.

M. W. Carstairs.

Hon. Packet Secretary.

CLASSIFIED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reserved for members' small classified advertisements.
Special price 2d. a word for
C.P.S.G.B. members only.

WANTED

CRASH Covers—Wreck covers—salvaged mail, modern and older.—Sergeant, 64, Susans Road, Eastbourne, Sussex.

CAN anyone let me have the following small queen covers with 2 Ring Numerals to complete my collection: 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 13, 16, 17, 20, 22, 29, 31, 32, 39, 42, 52, 53, 60. Liberal price paid or other Numeral covers offered in exchange. Also wanted 4 Ring covers and New Brunswick numerals on cover.—Cohen, 51, Westfield Road, Birmingham, 15.

GIVE AWAY. Don't give away your accumulations of Canadian airmail flight covers, Canadian military cover cancellations or semi-official and pioneer flight covers. I'm anxious to buy them.—Major R. K. Malott, 16 Harwick Crescent, Ottawa 6, Ontario, Canada.

FOR SALE

CANADIAN New Issues, F.D.C.'s., 1/10 Mint 6d. each or 8 for 3/11. Members with interests in the following:—Ireland, Gibraltar New Issues can obtain F.D.C.'s. at 1/- plus Face Value. Mint sets 12½% over Face. New Zealand F.D.C. at 1/4 plus face value. Mint sets 20% over face. Overseas Members enquiries welcomed.—H. Linford, 29, Little Hill Grove, Kings Norton, Birmingham, 30, England.

PERIODICALS

CANADA calling is one of the interesting features frequently appearing in the Philatelic Magazine. Price 9d. from your newsagent or local dealer.

EXCHANGE

JOIN Continental Exchange Club. Magazine and membership 13/6. Sample magazine 1/-. Mint commemorative sets accepted. Continental Exchange Club, Box 472, Woodstock, Ontario, Canada.

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