

MAPLE LEAVES

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EDITORIAL

Convention 1972

Arrangements for Convention are now well advanced, thanks as usual to the band of volunteers who willingly take on a great variety of tasks of a time-consuming nature. They have already done much; but much remains to be done as well and many will be busy for the next three or four months. Among these we must single out Eric Killingley who, not for the first time, has elected to be responsible for the auction lots and the compilation of the Auction Catalogue. Additionally Geoffrey Manton, our auctioneer, will assist him in the task of lotting and valuation. Mr. Manton will also be responsible for printing the catalogue and visitors to past auctions will not need to be told of our good fortune in being able to call upon his services in a professional capacity. In more ways than one we are, as a Society, indebted to these two gentlemen. As a result of Convention auctions the Society's funds receive a very welcome and necessary injection of a commodity which gladdens our treasurer's heart; successful bidders rejoice in the acquisition of long sought-for items for their collections and vendors are presented with further evidence that good Canadian (or should we say B.N.A.?) material still commands a good price. If this is not the understatement of the year it will almost certainly be a close runner-up.

Those who study and use auction catalogues will be familiar with the following, and we quote with a tongue very slightly in our editorial cheek:

'Lot 999: S.G.X.Y.Z., a fair copy of this much sought-after stamp. Poorly centred, as usual, rather heavily postmarked, with two pinholes. Torn and creased *AND* thinned in several places. Some blunt perfs. This stamp shows very evident signs that at some time in its chequered career it has been chewed by a very aggressive, if not mad, Alsatian, *OTHERWISE Fine*. . . Est. Val: £100.'

Owners of this kind of 'material' are very respectfully asked to resist the temptation to send it to Eric in the fond hope that it will receive star billing in the catalogue. What he will welcome is good material with sensible valuations and those who are sceptical about the outcome are referred to the list of prices realised at the 1971 Convention Auction and which can be obtained from Mr. Greenhill. Prospective vendors are asked to refer to the inset in this issue for further details about the Auction. All we would repeat here is that the deadline for the guarantee of inclusion in the Auction Catalogue is 1st July. Lots received after this date will almost certainly NOT be included in the catalogue. Every member of the Society will receive a copy of the catalogue and since postal bidders take a very large share of the lots on offer the advantages of inclusion in the catalogue are obvious. Very few of our readers will have nothing to offer for sale. Most will have something or other surplus to their needs but which they know would be of interest to others. Please take advantage of this opportunity to 'unload' in a market that has never been more favourable to vendors and, incidentally, to help Society Funds.

Library List

Owing to an unfortunate oversight our printers did not insert the Library List in our last issue. We apologise for this and express our regrets, particularly to those many readers who wrote enquiring about its omission. The list is included with this issue.

Book of Scottish Philatelists

News that J. J. Bonar has been elected to sign the Book of Scottish Philatelists, the highest philatelic honour which can be conferred in Scotland, will be well received by all our members everywhere. 'J.J.' is the 13th Scottish philatelist to be so honoured and is the fifth member of our Society to join this distinguished band. Heartiest congratulations 'J.J.', on this, the latest honour to you, and through you, to our Society.

The Stamps of British Columbia and their Forgeries

By E. A. Smythies, F.R.P.S.L., F.C.P.S.

(Part II)

Spiro and Fournier also tried their hands at forging the Vancouver Island 5 cents and 10 cents stamps, both imperf. and perf 14 (Scott Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6. Gibbons Nos. 11, 12, 13, 14) with very indifferent results. The collection has one copy of the 5 cents, postmarked 35, noted 'perforation trimmed', i.e. a fake from the genuine perforated stamp.

Of the perforated 5 cents, there are five examples, crudely lithographed in two shades of rose, all perf 11, and probably a Spiro product (*Forgery No. 5*).

Of the 10 cents value, there are 9 imperf copies, lithographed in blue, with well-known Spiro forged cancellations. In those days, a century ago and years before the C.P.Ry had been built, Newfoundland was further from B. Columbia than the Moon is today. It was beyond coincidence that the two Colonies should have adopted identical postmarks. Yet we find the Spiro brothers of Hamburg made a series of cancelling hammers and used them indiscriminately on their forgeries of Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and various other countries, as well as on their forgeries of British Columbia, which is adequate proof of their forged origin.

The 9 imperf copies are *Forgery No. 6*, another imperf copy, very crudely lithographed, is *Forgery No. 7*, and yet another copy, still more crudely lithographed, and perf 12, is *Forgery No. 8*.

The THREE PENCE value and overprinted Cents Values

We come now to a most interesting but very complicated series of forgeries, which I will describe as clearly as possible.

It will be recalled that De La Rue, having made a die for the THREE PENCE value in 1866, on the adoption of decimal currency in 1868-69, used this die to make the different cents values by changes of colour and overprint. At least three different forgers (and possibly more) adopted the same expedient! Each made his own THREE PENCE die and used it to make his own set of cents forgeries. So we have to distinguish between the genuine THREE PENCE and its derivatives, and the three sets of forged THREE PENCE and their derivatives, and also to distinguish each set of forgeries from the other two. It sounds complicated and difficult, but actually it is quite easy, owing to the incredible mistakes made by each forger. For the present I will call the three principal forgers A, B and C, and describe and illustrate the principal points to be noted.

The THREE PENCE value

(Scott No. 7; Gibbons Nos. 21, 22). Genuine.

Note the following points:—

(1) Design

(a) The central V shows in each branch the Morse sign for V, i.e. ...—(three dots and a dash), the dots all equally small.

(b) The outer-frame-line a thin unbroken ruled line.

(c) In the central oval, the two stars or rosettes separating the words British Columbia Postage and Three Pence are shaped as illustrated on page 97.

(2) Colour and Printing

Blue, in large sheets of 240, divided into 4 panes of 60 stamps.

(3) Paper and Perforation

Paper watermarked Cr and CC, perf 14.

Type A Forgery

(1) Design

(a) The central V shows in each branch not the Morse sign for V but two dashes —.

(b) The outer frame-line is extremely broken in irregular blobs.

(c) The two rosettes are similar to the genuine.

(2) Colour and Printing

A bogus colour—deep grey in small sheets of 25 (5 x 5).

(3) Paper and Perforation

Unwatermarked paper. Perf 11 (*Forgery No. 9*) A Spiro product (probably).

Type B Forgery

(1) Design

(a) the two branches of the central V show the Morse sign, but the central dot is larger than the others, thus ...—

(b) The outer frame-line is as in the original.

(c) The two rosettes in the central oval have 6 petals instead of 8.

(2) Colour and Printing

Blue, Pattern of printing not known.

(3) Paper and Perforation

Unwatermarked paper. Two varieties of perforation, i.e. imperf and perf 12 (*Forgeries Nos. 10 and 11*). Another Spiro product (probably).

Type C Forgery

(1) *Design*

(a), (b), and (c) as in genuine, but readily distinguished, as stamps are overprinted FALSCH!

(2) *Colour and Printing*

Not known. (The collection has only Cents values).

(3) *Paper and Perforation*

Unwatermarked paper. Perforation (on Cents values) very distinctive, approx. 17¹/₂. (*Forgery No. 12*). Origin unknown.

Two more forgeries of the THREE PENCE value may be noted, which apparently were *not* used to produce any Cents values. These are:

Type D Engraved

Colour deep blue. Perforation 12¹/₂. (1 copy only in collection. *Forgery No. 13*).

Type E Lithographed

Colour pale mauve. Perforation 11 (1 copy only in collection. *Forgery No. 14*).

It should be noted that all the errors, mistakes, and variations recorded for types A, B, C appear also in the overprinted Cents values, with added mistakes noted below, making them easy to recognise.

We turn now to record the overprinted Cents values, i.e. Scott Nos. 8-18, Gibbons 23-33. The current standard catalogues give us the details of the genuine overprints:—

Value	Overprint	Colour of o'pt. on stamp	Perf.	Remarks
2c	TWO CENTS	black on brown	14	All watermarked Cr. & CC.
5c	5 CENTS 5	black on red	14 & 12 ¹ / ₂	The 10 cents and \$1.00 values perf. 14 were not issued
10c	10 CENTS 10	blue on lilac-rose	14 & 12 ¹ / ₂	
25c	25 CENTS 25	violet on orange	14 & 12 ¹ / ₂	
50c	50 CENTS 50	red on violet	14 & 12 ¹ / ₂	
\$1.00	1 DOLLAR 1	green on green	14 & 12 ¹ / ₂	

Note on the *genuine* stamps a numeral at each end and two full stops (except the 2 cents value).

I illustrate some examples of *genuine* cents overprints overleaf.



Perf 14



Perf 14



Perf 12 $\frac{1}{2}$

And now for details of the overprinted cents issue, one of the most astonishing features of British Columbia philately! As mentioned above, three different forgers got busy forging a number of these overprints (from 3 to 6 each) from the THREE PENCE die, and (omitting the TWO CENTS value) *every single overprint was wrong!* (At least that is true of the 190 overprinted forgeries in the Harmer collection). As illustrated above, each genuine overprint has a numeral in front and at the end and two full stops, e.g. 5.CENTS.5

Forgery Type A has one numeral and no full stop, e.g. 5 CENTS



No. 18



No. 20



No. 15

Mr. Cyril Harmer tells me that type A forgeries, printed in sheets of 25, were the products of Spiro brothers, who could not get sufficient genuine stamps to meet the demand, and so manufacturing their own!

Forgery Type B has no numerals nor full stops:



No. 26



No. 27



No. 25

Forgery Type C has two numerals but no full stops, e.g. 5 CENTS 5 (it also has the additional overprint 'FALSCH')



No. 30



No. 28

Type B, possibly Fournier forgeries, had the comic error ONE DOLLER, evidently the forger did not know how to spell it!

In addition, there were some mistakes in colour, as shown by the table overleaf.

Value	Type A (Spiro)	Type B (Fournier?)	Type C (Unknown)
2c	black on red-brown	black on pale brown	? (not in collection)
5c	black on orange	black on yellow	? (not in collection)
10c	black on bright rose	black on bright rose	black on pale mauve
25c	red on chrome	black on pale lemon	? (not in collection)
50c	red on pale mauve	red on purple	red on purple
\$1.00	faint mauve on dark green	black on green	black on pale green
	Forgeries Nos. 15-21	Forgeries Nos. 22-27	Forgeries 28, 29, 30

In addition there is a forgery (No. 31) of TWO CENTS in black on brown, similar to the genuine but overprint somewhat larger.

It will be noted that three values are missing in Type C. Whether these still await discovery or were never made I do not know.

I have now recorded and described 31 forgeries of Br. Columbia and Vancouver Island, all except two found in the Harmer collection of forgeries. The two exceptions are Sperati's superb counterfeits of Vancouver Island 5 cents and 10 cents, illustrated in the *B.P.A. Book*. The remaining 29 forgeries (including the perforated 17 cents overprints) were the product of at least four different forgers, so crude and crowded with obvious mistakes, that it is impossible for the modern philatelist to understand why they ever deceived anybody. If any of my readers would like a quick test of their B.C. Cents stamps, I suggest the following 4 points would establish their genuine or fraudulent nature: (1) Design. The two branches of the central V each have the Morse V sign, with the three dots equally small. (2) Perf 14 or 12½. (3) Colour—as recorded in Scott or Gibbons. (4) Overprint as illustrated in Gibbons, i.e. 5.CENTS.5—with two numerals and two full stops. Only those stamps satisfying these four conditions will, I think, prove genuine, while those that fail to pass the test are forgeries. Anyone who has inadvertently picked up some forgeries can console himself with the idea that many of these B.C. forgeries appear to be rarer than the stamps they imitate! In a long hunt around the World for the forgeries I have picked up 60 per cent of a complete collection of *genuine* but not a single *forgery* except two Sperati items of Vancouver Island! I wonder sometimes what percentage of the World's supply of these forgeries is now in the Harmer Collection? I feel very privileged to have had the opportunity to study it at leisure. Without this unique collection, our knowledge of the B. Columbia forgeries would be very limited and incomplete. I venture to think that the descriptions and illustrations given in this article will go some way to fill the gap in our knowledge, for which, indeed, we must thank Mr. H. R. Harmer, the founder of the International firm of Philatelic auctioneers.

Late Notes. An interesting note from J. J. Bonar suggests there are still further discoveries to be made. He writes:—"I have an imperf. corner

piece and a perf. used copy of 1 Dollar value in the proper green shade with an overprint

1.DOLLAR.1

as on the genuine stamps. They are noted on the reverse

FORGERY ANDRE FRODEL

and appear to be on paper without watermarks.'

I have never heard or read of a forger of this name, and have no information about him. He is the only forger (to date) to get the overprint correct, except that it is in black or very dark green, and should be in paler green. The forger has the correct perf. 12¹/₂, but the shade is not so yellow green as in the genuine.

A rare forgery in the Stuart Johnstone collection showed the correct perforation (14) and watermarks Cr. and CC, but had several mistakes, including:

1. Width 19¹/₂m.m. instead of 18¹/₂m.m.
2. Letters slightly too large and some the wrong shape, e.g. 'P' of 'PENGE'.
3. The three dots in the morse sign for V incorrect in both branches, i.e., too large and too spaced out.

This might possibly be a Frodel product.

(N.B. for 'overprint' read 'surcharge' throughout this article, if the distinction is considered necessary—Editor.)



King Edward VII Definitive Series—Conclusion

by D. F. Sessions (Part V)

16. The Imperforates

The only official imperforate stamps issued in this series were the 100,000 (1,000 sheets of 100) 2 cent stamps which were placed on sale at Ottawa from July 1909; they remained on sale for a considerable time and it is still not too difficult to pick up a pair or a block. The first decade of the Twentieth Century saw the Post Office, and therefore enterprising private firms, taking a deep interest in stamp vending machines and it is reasonable to suppose that the imperf. stamps were made available so that they could be cut and perforated to suit the various machines undergoing experiment at the time. The difficulty in using regularly perforated stamps is discussed in the section on coils.

The *Postal Guide* (April 1909) announced the proposed release of the imperf. stamps but was not explicit as to the reason:—'In view of the representations which have been made to the Department it has been decided to permit the sale of the 2-cent denomination of Canadian postage stamps of the current issue, in sheets of 100, without the usual perforation'.

The imperforates were printed from Plates 13 and 14 and there is no reason to suppose that the plates were specially prepared for the purpose. As no less than 86 plates were prepared for the 2 cent value it is reasonable to suppose that by 1909 the printers had long since placed Plates 13 and 14 into store. Whether they were reserve plates which had not previously been used does not seem to have been established. Has anyone seen plate blocks of the perforated stamps from these two plates?

In addition to the regular imperforates the usual crop of 'irregular' imperf. stamps also found its way into the philatelic market and Boggs reports the 1 cent from Plate 2, the 2 cent from Plates 1 and 2, and the 5 cent, 7 cent and 10 cent from Plate 1. No imperf. stamps of the 20 cent and 50 cent values have been reported. One defaced sheet from each of Plates 31, 32 and 43 have been reported in respect of the 2 cent value.

Ed. Richardson (*BNA Topics* June 1947) reported on the differences in paper between the 'regular' and 'irregular' imperf. stamps. He stated that the 'irregulars', all values, without gum, measured over 0.004in. thick, the average being 0.0043in. the regular 2 cent imperf. stamps measured 0.0027in. to 0.0032in. without gum and 0.0032in. to 0.0043in. with gum. He further mentioned that the regular imperf. stamps could be analysed into three main groups:—

	Paper	Gum	Thickness (inc. gum)
A	White	White, smooth	0.0035"
B	Greyish, semi-transparent	White, mottled	0.0032"
C	Yellowish	Yellowish, smooth	0.0043"

We regret that lack of sufficient material has precluded us from confirming or elaborating upon these interesting findings.

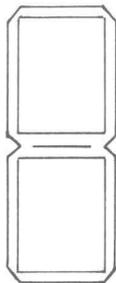
Further information from the encyclopaedic Ed. Richardson is that one sheet each of the 1 cent, 5 cent, 7 cent and 10 cent imperf. were obtained from the P.M. General, R. M. Coulter after his retirement. These sheets were date stamped prior to the date of issue of the stamps and were initialled by Wm. Mulock who was P.M.G. at the time, so they can safely be described as plate proofs. Frederick T. Norris of Bay City, Michigan had more than one sheet of each value imperf., though his exact holdings are not known. The source of the Norris imperf. is shrouded in mystery so they could be either plate proofs or 'complimentary' sheets; to my mind there is nothing to separate the two descriptions anyway!

17. The Experimental Coils

The experimental coils are well documented by Boggs on pp. 356-361 of Vol. I of his epic work and it is not proposed to go into detail, merely to summarise for those interested parties who are still saving up to buy a copy; always supposing one becomes available.

The American Bank Note Co. carried out experiments on behalf of the Canadian P. O., with coil stamps for use in automatic vending machines. These primitive coils were merely sheet stamps torn into strips of ten and pasted together. The stamps were precancelled with either the then standard precancel of a wavy line between bars or with the Ottawa parcel roller. According to Boggs only about 150 copies of the coil stamps survived, of which there would be only 15 paste-up pairs. As one of the under-bidders (by a considerable margin!) I was interested to read Roland Greenhill's note in *Maple Leaves* (Vol. 14, No. 2) on the sale of these items last year.

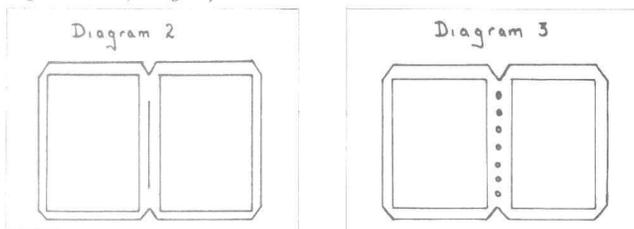
Diagram 1



As well as the American Bank Note Co., the United States Automatic Vending Co., were experimenting on similar lines in an effort to adapt their existing ticket vending machines to accommodate postage stamps. The tickets were notched and fed forward by lugs, so similar notches were cut in the stamps on the line of perforation. The combination of notch and perforation led to the coils breaking too easily. The next move was to use imperforated stamps and notch them, but these would not separate easily so the refinement of a slit between the notches was added. This type of separation is described by Boggs as Type I Roulette (*Diag. 1*).

The Type II Roulette (*diag. 2*) is similar but appears on coils prepared for sideways delivery.

The machines were offered either for sale or free on a profit sharing basis; 2 x 2 cent stamps were delivered in exchange for a 5 cent piece. Instead of marketing the machines themselves the U.S.A.V. Co., turned the operation over to Messrs. Heiman and Zorke who, for some obscure reason, did not acquire the patent for the 'slit and 2 notch' separation. Therefore they had to produce their own and settled for 2 notches and a perforation gauging $8\frac{1}{2}$, after some experimentation. This is referred to by Boggs as the Type III separation (*Diag. 3*).



Boggs notes that some, at least, of the U.S.A.V. Co's coils, both Type I and II were made for the Canadian Post Office whilst it was doubtful if any of the Heiman and Zorke, Type III, coils were. F. Walter Pollock, writing in *B.N.A. Topics*, states that as a result of correspondence between himself, the late Stanley Deaville (Canadian Post Office) and Alfred Coe (son of one of the owners of U.S.A.V. Co.) he was satisfied that the Vending Co's machines were sold only to the Post Office Department for installation in Post Offices and that they made no 'private' perforations. Thus, by inference, the Type I and II coils could be termed semi-official, whilst the Type III should be termed unofficial or private. It is perhaps no coincidence that the Type III coil is the most common.

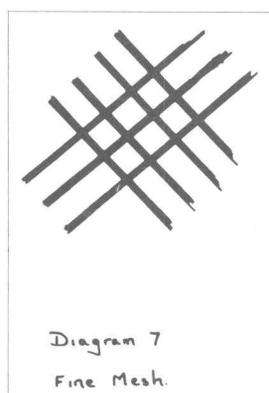
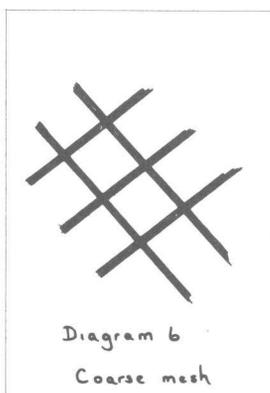
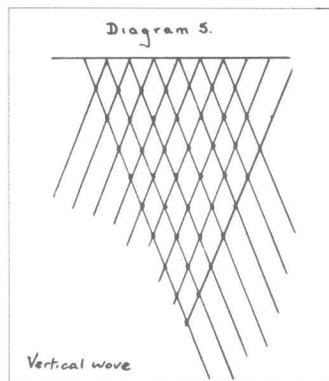
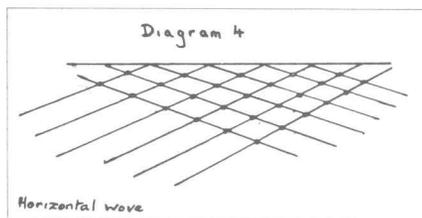
18. The Paper

In the light of the deep philatelic research that has taken place over the years it is somewhat surprising that comparatively little has been published in connection with the actual paper upon which the stamps are printed. Knowledge of the paper used can be extremely useful as witness the recognition of fake booklet panes (section 15 d) and the classification of early and late plates of the 5 cent value (section 14 d).

A particularly fine piece of research into the papers of the Edward series was published by G. B. Harper some years ago and such is its interest that I make no apology for quoting fairly extensively from it.

Reference is frequently made to 'vertical' and 'horizontal' wove paper. If the back of the stamp is held at a shallow angle towards a light source, faint 'lines' can usually be seen, running either from top to bottom or from side to side. The former is described as vertical wove whilst the latter is horizontal. The lines are formed by thin spots in the paper caused by extra pressure, during manufacture, at the points where the wires of the

dandy roll cross. (*Diagrams 4 and 5.*) In addition to the horizontal and vertical lines, quite often a criss-cross pattern can be seen on the back of the stamp when it is laid flat; this would be caused by the actual wires of the dandy roll as opposed to the points of intersection and shows that various patterns of wire grouping exist (*diagrams 6 and 7*).



Harper, as a result of his investigation, was able to place the paper used into two broad categories:

- (a) Medium wove with a coarse mesh and rough soft surface, similar to that used for the 'Numeral' issue and
- (b) Medium wove with a fine distinct mesh, the surface being much smoother and harder than (a).

Category (a) appears to have been used during the period 1903-05, and category (b) from 1905 onwards. The practice of hardening the surface of the plates was introduced in 1905 and Harper suggests this may have given rise to the use of a different quality paper.

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The two main groups were sub-divided by Harper as follows:—

Group (a)—

- (1) Coarse mesh, rough surface. Thickness 0.0035in. (95 per cent).
- (2) Coarse mesh, rough surface. Thickness 0.004–0.0045in. (5 per cent).

Group (b)—

- (1) Fine distinct mesh, smooth surface. Thickness 0.003in. (30 per cent).
- (2) Fine mesh, very smooth surface. Thickness 0.003in. (10 per cent).
- (3) Fine distinct mesh, smooth surface. Thickness 0.0035in. (30 per cent).
- (4) Fine distinct mesh, rough surface. Thickness 0.0035in. (25 per cent).
- (5) Fine mesh, rough surface. Thickness 0.0035in.–0.004in. (5 per cent).

Classifying the papers by values, Harper reported:—

- 1 cent — all vertical mesh from both groups, paper sometimes toned.
- 2 cents — with the exception of booklet panes, all vertical mesh from both groups, paper sometimes toned. I do, however, have several sheet stamps on horizontal wove paper; dated copies indicate c.1904. Booklet stamps are all horizontal wove and all examined by Harper were from Group (b) although the early issues should come from Group (a).
- 5 cents — vertical and horizontal mesh in approximately equal proportions from both groups. Paper toned blue. I have noted papers ranging from white with a bluish tinge to bright blue and greenish blue. It is apparent that with the allocation of vertical wove paper to the early plates and horizontal to the late plates that Group (a) should predominate in vertical and Group (b) in horizontal wove examples.
- 7 cents — All vertical mesh from both groups. I have one copy which is substantially thicker than the others.
- 10 cents — All vertical mesh from both groups.
- *20 cents — All vertical mesh, mainly from Group (b).
- *50 cents — All vertical mesh, from Group (b) only.

**(See footnote overleaf)*

Conclusion

It is hoped that the foregoing notes will stimulate interest in this rather neglected series of stamps, assist students in collating their material and avoid unnecessary duplication of effort. Correspondence has not exactly poured in but it is reassuring to find that at least half a dozen people have actually read some or all of the notes! There are one or two 'matters

arising' and it is proposed to deal with these in the form of a postscript, so if you have any comments, information or questions it would be helpful if you would send them direct to: David F. Sessions, 7 Glen Dale, Cottingley, Bingley, Yorkshire BD16 1QY, so that the various points can be collated into one postscript.

Incidentally, I have no doubt that the Editor would be interested to learn whether articles/series of this nature are of use to the membership at large and, if so, equally sure that he would love to hear from volunteer authors. How about it London?

* Of 84 copies measured, 4 were less than 0.003in. thick, the thinnest being 0.0028in.; 7 were more than 0.004in. thick, the thickest being 0.0047in. It was interesting to find that copies dated 1905 ranged from 0.0040in.-0.0044in.

Book Review

'Canada . . . Varieties of the Queen Elizabeth Era. Part 1 . . . Basic Types. By Kenneth W. Pugh

It is refreshing to see a Canadian Handbook that does not deal with 19th Century Canadian, but brings the modern issues into focus with all the fascination of depth of research into printings and the faults and varieties that collectors can now happily hunt for. The first in a two-part series, this book details and well illustrates upwards of 80 basic types of modern varieties, of which perhaps the most well-known is the famous Inverted Seaway and then on to as late a stamp as the 1972 Figure Skating commemorative.

If there is a fault to find with this work, it may well be that a little too much attention has been given to what is sometimes referred to as 'fly-mark' philately . . . the over-emphasis on somewhat minute plate flaws and scratches. This aside, the coverage of the tagged issues and the 'G' varieties is particularly well described. There are some new varieties that will have collectors eagerly scanning their stock-books. The phosphor tagged stamps with a mysterious luminous number overprint are described but not explained. The experimentation of the Canadian Post Office to find the perfect sorting, facing and cancelling machine is the only explanation offered.

The second Part of this work, to be issued after the 1967 definitive series has been completely replaced (only the new \$1 and \$2 values having appeared so far), will consist of a Check List and Price Guide. The Part 1 covers all aspects of what to look for, and is going to be a 'must' in any library of a modern Canadian collector.

S. F. C.

Footnote:— (Copies of this book can be obtained from Mr. S. F. Cohen, 51 Westfield Road, Birmingham 15. Price. 95p post paid.)

Roller Corner No. 8

By E. A. Smythies, F.R.P.S.L., F.C.P.S.

ROLLER CORNER No. 8

Our correspondent, Max Rosenthal, has been busy with his Roller collection, and he has kindly sent a long and interesting list of Rollers not recorded before, or not recorded in particular periods, which is reproduced below for the benefit of other Roller fans.

Chatham N.B.	IV.1.I	Lachum Lake		Montreal QUE	VI.R.I
Bridgewater		QUE.	III.1.III	Montreal	
N.S.	IV.1.II	Longueuil QUE.		(Canada) V B.	
Yarmouth N.S.	IV.1.II		IV.1.III	Station E	3.III
		Rock Island		Point St. Charles	
		QUE.	IV.1.III	QUE.	III.1.II
		Thetford Mines		Faubourg St. Jean	
		QUE.	III.1.III	Baptiste	
		Waterloo		QUE.	III.1.III
		QUE.	IV.1.III		
Campbellford		Queen St. Centre			
ONT.	IV.1.III	Toronto V C.	1.III	Grand Forks	
Dundas ONT.	IV.1.III	Victoria Harbour		B.C.	IV.2.III
Marmora ONT.	IV.1.III	ONT.	III.1.III	Nelson B.C.	IV.1.II
Norwich ONT.	IV.1.III	Grenfell ASSA.		Revelstoke	
St. George Brant			IV.1.II	B.C.	IV.1.II
ONT.	III.1.III	Edmonton ALTA		Vernon B.C.	IV.1.II
Toronto ONT.	IV.A.		VI-III		
Nos. 18, 20, 28,					
29, 41, 52	III				

Annual General Meeting

Members are reminded that in accordance with the Society's rules nominations for Officers of the Society to be considered by the Annual General Meeting should be sent to the Secretary no later than 14th July 1972.

The retiring Committee members are: R. B. Hetherington, I. T. Pickering, Miss A. E. Stephenson.

Nominations for Fellowship which must be made on the appropriate forms obtainable from the Secretary, must be received by 9th August 1972.

Canada: Large Queens A Mystery Essay

By A. G. Fairbanks



Fig. 1.

A 'Reford' Sale in N.Y. 1951 had 2 Canada 1868 lots:

'A blue trial colour small die *proof* on India'

'A green trial colour small die *proof* on India'

To my surprise I noticed the cut showed a *curved* 'three-cents' instead of almost in straight line—so obviously they were *not* proofs.

My floor agent said that the late Clarence Brazer and a prominent Canadian dealer, amongst others, were after these items, and 'had never seen any before'. In *Popular Stamps*, June 1951, a report noted 'Die *essays* in blue and green of the Large Cent 3c. drew bids of—'. These are hitherto unrecorded items and it is believed that this is the first time they have appeared in an auction'.

In later years, two more appeared in a Sissons auction and I obtained a 2nd blue copy but the green copy was torn and I do not know who bought it.

Finally, in a London auction in 1963—ex-material of the late Mr. Grant Glassco, I believe—a 3rd green copy appeared, in a darker shade and described 'Essay—3c green on thin wove' and this one came to the writer.

After the late Dr. Reford's sales, I spoke to his philatelic secretary about these, and, although she recalled them, did not know their history nor where he had obtained them.

No copies appeared in the Lichenstein, Jarrett or Smart auctions, nor are they recorded in the Jarrett or Boggs catalogues—but they are noted in Holmes, under 'British American Bank Note Company, Montreal and Ottawa—3c die essay in blue, green'.

Evidently Dr. Holmes' listing was added after the Reford sales, but there appears to be no evidence as to why he attributed them to the B.A.B.N. Co.—although it would seem a logical inference—since essays by the National Bank Note Co. (N.Y.); and Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company (London) were of very different designs and not accepted.



Fig. 2.

Fig. 1 illustrates these 'mystery' essays—finely engraved, size and design identical to the issued stamps—except for the bottom part and all copies are cut close to design—perhaps to mount on card?

Fig. 2 shows a pair of plate proofs on card, with the B.A.B.N. Co. part imprint—as a comparison.

So, the questions remain—

- (1) Who produced these essays and when?
- (2) Why have only 5 copies turned up, in over 100 years, and all cut close?

Perhaps some specialist can give us the answers?

Canadian News & Comment

Without advance notice to collectors, Canada's postal administration released during the last week in March a new series of ten 25 cent booklets that include a pane of three 1 cent stamps, two 8 cent and a single 6 cent. These new booklets are more attractive than their predecessors.

A different illustration is featured on the covers of these booklets. Each illustration features a scene relating to Canada's postal history. The Post Office advertising that has been featured on the back cover of previous booklets appears on the inside cover of these new booklets, and a narrative description of the scene shown is on the back cover.

It's interesting to note that the Post Office issued two editions of this new series of booklets. One is tagged for use in Ottawa and the other is untagged.

The Philatelic Agency in Ottawa is offering these new booklets in a set of ten for \$2.50. Officials stipulate that they must be purchased in a set of ten. So, in other words, if you want to have both sets, the tagged and untagged editions, it will cost you \$5. Remit in Canadian funds and make your money order payable to the Receiver-General of Canada. Write to the Philatelic Agency, Post Office Department, Confederation Heights, Ottawa, K1A 0B5, Ontario, Canada.

According to a usually reliable source here in Ottawa, Canada's postal administration plans to sign a reciprocal agreement with a European country. It would involve each postal administration selling new issues of the other country in addition to its own postal items through its respective philatelic sales outlets.

In my column of 1st April, I reported the remarks made by an official of the Marketing Division of the Post Office Department about the possibility of having reciprocal agreements with other postal administrations. Those remarks were made during a recent address which this official delivered before an Ottawa philatelic organisation. He said that he and his colleagues had already polled a number of Canadian dealers about this idea, and all were in favour of it because they felt that it would create an increased demand for the older issues of Canada.

But that's all right for the dealers who cater to the needs of the advanced collector, but what about new issue dealers? The new issue dealers I interviewed regarding this proposal told me that they aren't too happy about it. They believe that it would eventually hurt their business. They added that the Post Office shouldn't become involved in the promotion of postal items of another country.

As a matter of fact, there are many collectors who are opposed to the idea of the Post Office becoming involved in the promotion of postal items of other countries. I haven't revealed the name of the European country

involved, but I can assure you that its stamps are very colourful and very attractive. In fact, they would be in great competition with our own stamps which aren't what one would call masterpieces of art in miniature.

Have you ever tried purchasing a copy of the now obsolete 2 cent green 1967 definitive precancel? For some unknown reason this precancel is much scarcer than most of us realise.

A reader reports canvassing many dealers in search of this item and found only one who had a stock. He wanted \$3 mint or used.

There is a rumour to the effect that officials will change the tagging on stamps used in Ottawa. It seems that the present method of using two yellow bars down the sides of the stamps has not proven satisfactory. The yellow tagging comes off on anything it touches.

Ken Rose, of Calgary, the leading specialist in Canadian tagged issues, reports that the Ottawa tagging can be transferred to another stamp by passing a warm iron over the gum side.

A Vancouver collector recently said that he had a variety because he had a stamp bearing both the Ottawa and Winnipeg tagging!

Frank Flatters, Chief of the Philatelic Agency, reports that complete matched sets of plate blocks of the 7 cent Pierre Laport stamp, which was released last October, have been sold out.

Many collectors who have standing orders with the Philatelic Agency in Ottawa for every plate in matched sets received plates 1 and 2 of the 8 cent black definitive during the middle of February. Since they had already received matched sets of plates 1 and 2 of this denomination during January, they thought that Ottawa had duplicated their orders, not realising it was actually a new die and perforation.

What happened? Well, for some unknown reason the Post Office Department authorised the Canadian Bank Note Company to produce the 8 cent stamp during the early part of February. Until then, it was produced by the British American Bank Note Company, from plates 1 to 4. That accounts for the new printings, plates 1 and 2. And just recently the Philatelic Agency has taken into stock plate 3 of this stamp, produced by the Canadian Bank Note Company.

The cloud background on the reworked die of plate 4 is dark (Scott lists this as Die 2), while plates 1, 2 and 3 have a light background (produced by the British American Bank Note Company).

The frame on the new stamps produced by the Canadian Bank Note Company, from plates 1, 2 and 3, is much thinner than plate 4 of the British American Bank Note Company.

On the reworked die plate 4, produced by the British American Bank Note Company, there's a minute line extending up from the right frame of the stamp. The perforation on this stamp is 11.9 x 12.4, while the perforation on the new stamp is 11.8 on all sides.

(With acknowledgement and thanks to the contributor, Lorne Wm. Bentham, and the Western Stamp Collector—Editor.)

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Stampex Awards

Congratulations to members for the awards (in parenthesis) gained at 1972 Stampex:

S.E. Chapman (American Philatelic Society's Diploma).
W. E. Lea (Silver Gilt).
N. D. Campbell (Silver).
P. S. S. F. Marsden (Bronze Silver).
G. W. Smith (Bronze).

Apologies, in advance, to any members whose names may have been overlooked in the long list of 190 awards recently published.

Congratulations also to:

Dr. Colin Philip who has gained the individual award for the best entry in the Howard-White Trophy Competition 1972, and to G. S. Merrylees who has been presented with the A. McConnell Memorial Medal at the recent congress of the Association of Scottish Philatelic Societies.



NEW STAMP ISSUES

WORLD HEALTH DAY COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE

Details of the 8 cent stamp on heart disease which was issued co-incidental with World Health Day on 7th April, are given below:

The stamp was designed by Joyce Wieland of Toronto, Ontario and incorporates the figure of a heart in keeping with the theme this year for World Health Day, 'Your Heart is your Health'. (*see above*).

The stamp is red in colour and measures 40mm. by 24mm. Twenty-six million of the stamps were printed by the British American Bank Note Company of Ottawa, using the process of one-colour steel engraving. Marginal inscriptions including the designer's name will appear on the four corners of each pane of fifty stamps available from the Philatelic Service.

FRONTENAC, GOVERNOR OF NEW FRANCE

The Canada Post Office issued on 17th May an 8 cent stamp commemorating the 300th anniversary of the appointment of Frontenac as Governor of New France. (*see over for illustration*).

The stamp was designed by Laurent Marquart, of Montreal, who also created the designs for the Louis-Joseph Papineau and Samuel Hearne commemorative stamps issued last year. Marquart's design for the current stamp shows the statue, in Quebec City, of Frontenac by Philippe Hébert. In the background appears a sketch of Fort Saint-Louis, Quebec, residence of the Governors of New France, as it was at the time of Frontenac's arrival. (*see over for illustration*).

Twenty-six million of the stamps were printed by the British American Bank Note Company of Ottawa. The stamp measures 40mm by 24mm and is being printed in one colour steel (blue), and two colour gravure (beige and brown). Marginal inscriptions including the designer's name will appear on the four corners of each pane of fifty stamps.

Louis De Buade, Comte de Frontenac et de Palluau and Governor General of New France

Frontenac came to New France for the first time in 1672. He had been appointed Governor of the French colony in America, a position that he held from September 1672 until September 1682, when he was recalled

to France, and from October 1689 until November 1698. As Governor, Frontenac was the representative of Louis XIV. It has long been accepted that he was the greatest of the king's representatives in New France.

Louis de Buade, comte de Frontenac et de Palluau, was born on 22nd May 1622, at Saint-Germain, France, the son of an old family of the 'noblesse d'épée! He derived the title of Frontenac from the name of a family estate in Guyenne. In 1648 he married Anne de la Grange-Trianon. While she never came to New France she served her husband's interests through her influence at the court of the King of France.

A military man at heart, Frontenac was named 'marchal de camp' which today would be equivalent to the rank of brigadier. Like many noblemen of his era, he was very extravagant and greatly in debt. He was soon impoverished and this circumstance led him to accept the position of Governor of New France.



As Governor, Frontenac had authority in military matters. However, during his first term he neglected this principal responsibility in favour of territorial expansion to increase the lucrative fur trade. For this reason, in 1673 he founded Fort Frontenac, a trading post on the shores of Lake Ontario where the city of Kingston now stands.

In October 1689, when appointed Governor for the second time, Frontenac received more specific instructions concerning the defence of the colony. He discharged his duty on two important occasions. First, in 1690, he repelled an attack on Quebec City by a force from the British colonies led by Admiral William Phips. Secondly, in 1696, Frontenac undertook a campaign against the Iroquois whose attacks seriously endangered the colony. This campaign resulted in the peace treaty of 1701.

During the major part of the year, Frontenac stayed at Fort Saint-Louis in Quebec City, where he lived in a grand style and gave sumptuous receptions. He died in Quebec City on 28th November, 1698. His widow survived him until 1707.

A man of bold and dynamic personality, Frontenac was an influential figure in the early history of Canada. He is best remembered as the architect of French development in North America and the defender of New France against the attacks of the Iroquois nation and the British colonies to the south.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mr. R. Maresch writes:

Experimental Coils

In reply to R. B. Hetherington's article on the 1 cent Edward 'Experimental coils', I would like to add the following:

The difficulty with these 'Experimental coils' is to establish if indeed they are *coils*, or portions of precancelled sheets. Mr. Hetherington writes . . . 'George Manley . . . came into the possession of an accumulation of partial sheets of the K.E. 1 cent and 2 cents precancelled. . . This is exactly what they are: precancelled stamps, which any enterprising collector could form into 'coils' by pasting them up.

The 271 copies I stated exist are indeed the three lots in Messrs. Robson Lowe's auction of September 1971. The interesting point is where these come from (*see article by R. S. B. Greenhill on the page after Mr. Hetherington's article*). They come from the F. W. Hall estate—a manufacturer of stamp vending machines!! What better source can one obtain, especially when Mr. Greenhill was kind enough to explain that experimental coils of Austria, Belgium and Sweden, not previously seen, came from the same estate? There was no question in my mind that these 271 copies were indeed 'Experimental Coils'. I therefore issued certificates for all strips (paste-up or ordinary) that they come from this find and are genuine.

Since the publication of the article in *B.N.A. Topics* I have learnt of three other collections that contained 1 cent Experimental coils, in Canada and the United States. The 2 cent Edward Experimental coils have occasionally shown up although mostly in the type 'T' precancelled. The 1 cent—although mentioned by Boggs—had to that time not shown up and was unknown by a number of prominent collectors I consulted.

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1833. SAMUEL, E. A., 27 Georges Wood Road, Brookmans Park, Hatfield, Herts.
1834. BIRCH, B. J., 24 Calder Drive, Maghull, Liverpool, L31 9DS. C,R
1835. SMEATHERS, E. W., 96 Eastfield Road, Wellingborough, Northants. FDC
1836. McCALLUM, R. S., Lansdowne Gardens, Pointe Claire 710, P.Q., Canada. CG,N,B,A
1837. LAINE, E. W., 6541-30 Avenue, Montreal 409, P.Q., Canada.
1838. NOUSS, H. O., P.O. Box 2754, Pompano Beach, Florida 33062, U.S.A.
1839. CLARKE, A. R., 51 Fidler Avenue, Winnipeg, Man., Canada, R3J 2R6. CS,P
1840. FIRBY, C. G., 23100 Purdue, Farmington, Mich., 48024, U.S.A. CR,CR2
1841. PUGH, K. W., 644-13th, Brandon, Man., Canada. C,V
1842. SMITH, A. D., 254 Broad Road, Braintree, Essex, CM7 5NJ. CR—CGC
1843. BURLEY, E. F., Box 164, Keswick, Ontario, Canada. C,N,B
1844. SPENCER, K. R., 10631-148 Street, Edmonton, Alta, Canada, T5N 3G9. PH
1845. HARRIS, N. B., 1 Piers Close, Guys Cross Park, Warwick. CR—CS
1846. LAZENBY, N. B., Vacuna, Eden Vale Road, East Grinstead, Sussex, RH19 2JJ. SD,PD
1847. ARMSTRONG, H., 1644 Raindance Way, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89109.
1848. BRIERLEY, W. L., 66 Surrey Street, Glossop, Derbyshire. C,CQ
1849. CLARK, J. C., Bundys, Bolney, Sussex. CR—CS

Rejoined.

1117. KERN, K. F. 2430 Park Street, Bellingham Wash, U.S.A., 98225. C,Co.

Deaths

752. CATER, J.
1111. RUSSELL, W. H.
1191. WESTHAVER, C. A.

Resignations

1472. PENDLETON, D. H.
787. SMITH, D. C.
1787. SNURE, H. F.

Change of address

1575. BANFIELD, C. G., 32 Coolgardie Avenue, Chigwell, Essex
1208. BETTS, E. C. Jr. 3701 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C., 20008, U.S.A.
1183. CHRISTENSEN, E. J., delete '18' after Edmonton and add T5G 1H8 after Canada.

1756. DIXON-NUTTALL, Col. J. F., H.Q., S.E. District, Aldershot, Hants.
 471. ELSTON, T. F., The Wee House, High Street. Brancaster,
 Kings Lynn, Norfolk.
1112. FERGUSON, Mrs. W. P., P.O. Box 238, Montebello, P.Q., Canada
 84. HETHERINGTON, R. B., c/o 50 Alexandra Road, Worthing, Sussex
1562. KENNEDY, D. D., amend town to Oakington
 487. LUSSEY, H. W., 142 Driftwood Circle, Atlantis, Lantana, Florida,
 33462, U.S.A.
1566. MORGAN, G. G., 4 Victoria Road, Chingford, London E.1
 1547. PAWLUK, W. S., change postal code to KZC OB9
 943. PINION, G. R., 61 Worthery Road, Horsham, Sussex
1315. ROSENBLAT, D. G., 1207 Ballena Blvd., Alameda, Calif., 94501,
 U.S.A.
591. SMILLIE, I. S., Milton of Drimmie, Bridge of Cally, Blairgowrie,
 Perthshire
1345. St.LAURENT, J. C., R.R.1, Salmon Arm, B.C., Canada
 1740. TAYLOR, E. H., 10 Millfield Crescent, Northallerton, Yorkshire
1689. TINDALE, W. A., 1968 Main Street, West, C. Building, Apt. 1208,
 Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
1729. WATERMAN, R., R.R.1, Val David, Quebec, Canada
 1797. WHEELER, Mrs. P., amend code to BH12, 1La
 877. WOOLEY, R., change Apt. number to 206
 971. WRIGHT, G. B., Box 24 Sharon, Ontario, Canada

Net Change: Plus 13

New Total: 696

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*

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