

# MAPLE LEAVES

Journal of  
THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN  
INCORPORATED 1946

**Founder:**  
A. E. Stephenson, F.C.P.S.

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Opinions expressed in the various articles in this journal are those of the  
writers and are not necessarily endorsed by the Society

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## EDITORIAL

### **Binding of 'Maple Leaves'**

We are indebted to Mr. C. G. Thompson for informing us that Mr. M. J. Martin, of Solihull Bindery, 45, Thurlestone Avenue, Solihull, Warwickshire, is willing to undertake the work of binding issues of *Maple Leaves* into separate volumes.

Mr. Martin, who is a handicapped worker, would need to be contacted first for an estimate of the costs involved, and for the arrangement of a suitable time when he could undertake the work. Members should also mention *Maple Leaves* in any enquiries they may make since Mr. Martin has bound a number of volumes for Mr. Thompson who specially commends the standard of Mr. Martin's work as 'a first class job'. If separate issues of one volume or more are sent to Mr. Martin for binding they should be accompanied by the appropriate index or indexes for inclusion at the end of each separate volume.

### **April Issue**

We apologise for the lateness of the issue of our last number. That this was due to difficulties still being encountered by our printers will probably be appreciated by members. The printing trade has been exceptionally affected by the incidence of the three day week, power restrictions and,

not least of all, the shortage of paper. Every possible step had been taken to ensure publication as soon as possible in April, and we can testify at first hand to the undoubted fact that quite exceptional efforts were made by our printers to overcome very real difficulties. While apologising to our readers, therefore, for the lateness of the appearance of the April issue we would also remind them that we owe a debt of gratitude to Messrs. Cockburn and Son for the efforts made on our behalf under most frustrating and difficult circumstances.

### **Convention 1974**

The usual hotel booking/competition entry forms are inset with this issue and we would urge all members who intend to attend Convention to complete the former as soon as possible. These should then be sent to Mr. Grant. Details of entries for the competition should also be despatched to him.

Undoubtedly one of the greatest difficulties encountered by those whose responsibility it is to ensure the satisfactory organisation of Convention is caused by those members who leave everything to the last minute, and we make no apology for urging everyone to 'do it now'. If you are supporting the Convention Auction prepare your lots NOW and despatch them to Mr. Hannah after referring to the notice which appears on page 75 of this issue. If you are going to Convention, please inform Mr. Grant immediately and if you wish to be accommodated at Convention headquarters complete and despatch the hotel booking form NOW. If you are supporting the Convention Exhibition with a competitive or non competitive entry let Mr. Grant know by completing and despatching the appropriate form NOW. A very great deal of work lies ahead for all who are involved in the work of preparation for Convention and the Auction, and their tasks can be considerably lightened if everyone co-operates in the ways suggested above.

### **1973 SOUVENIR COLLECTION**

Twenty-two commemorative and special issue postage stamps reflecting Canada's cultural heritage and history were issued by the Canada Post Office in 1973.

It is now possible to buy all these 22 stamps in the 1973 Souvenir Collection, together with a detailed description of each stamp, contained in an attractive booklet, at most Canada Post Offices or by mail at Philatelic Service, Canada Post, Ottawa, Canada K1A 0B5.

This series features Indian motifs, the arts, Canadian participation in the Commonwealth, prominent Canadians and, as a prelude to 1976, the first two Olympic stamps.

The stamps in the 1973 Souvenir Collection have a face value of \$2.13 and cost \$2.50 a set or \$22 per lot of 10.

## President's Message

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This is being written at the beginning of May and arrangements for Perth are practically complete. The first reservations have come in and I hope that by the time you read this there will be many more. If you have not yet booked, DO IT NOW.

The displays will be varied and I am sure there will be something of interest to everyone. The first coach tour will be a sight-seeing journey through nearby hills and moors, with a short stop at Dunkeld and tea at Blairgowrie. The second will be a visit to Blair Castle the home of the Duke of Atholl. It is of considerable antiquity and has a fine collection of furniture, paintings, armour, etc.

For the ladies a short trip—3 miles—will allow a morning visit to Scone Palace to see a fine collection of porcelain and furniture. It is hoped to have a theatre evening also, but this will depend on Perth Repertory Company whose programme has not yet been fixed. They have an autumn break—but we will hope not in our week.

The new index to *Maple Leaves* was reviewed in the April issue. Mr. Downing states modestly in the Preface 'It has been quite a considerable labour'. The Society owes him a great debt of gratitude for this excellent piece of work. But I know that he enjoyed doing it and that it was a real labour of love. Many members will be truly grateful. Thank you, Owen.

Many of you will be on holiday before the August number appears and I hope you will all have a good break and good weather. We hope that some of the good will still be with us for Perth, when I look forward to seeing a good turn out of members *and wives*.

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### CONVENTION AUCTION, SATURDAY, 5th OCTOBER 1974

All lots should be sent to:

Mr. J. Hannah,  
4, Hammersmith Road,  
Aberdeen, AB1 6NB.

Members are particularly asked to note that:

- a. Only B.N.A. material can be accepted.
- b. Closing date to guarantee inclusion in the catalogue is 1st July 1974.
- c. A brief description should be included for each lot and also the estimated value or reserve.
- d. Lots should have an estimated value of not less than £1.
- e. Single stamps and small lots should be mounted or housed on paper or card not more than 5 in. x 6 in.
- f. Commission on sales is 15 per cent.
- g. A stamped addressed card should be enclosed if a receipt is required.

# Some Famous Forgers

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by E. A. Smythies F.R.P.S.

Although the origin of the adhesive postage stamp—as everyone knows—was in May 1840 with the issue of the British one penny black, the hobby of stamp collecting started long afterwards. There was, of course, the eccentric governess in the Isle of Wight, who started collecting 1d blacks straight away, not for study or financial reasons—used one penny blacks had no value whatever at that time—but with the bazaar idea of papering her room with them. She raised up for herself a hornet's nest of trouble, as the authorities refused to believe her reason and were convinced she intended to use these stamps again on her letters, and considered arresting her. However the great Rowland Hill himself noted on the file that eccentric old ladies sometimes collected the most valueless rubbish (what a comment on the birth of our great hobby-) and as she seemed quite harmless, let her carry on if she wished.

The next reference to stamp collecting came 16 years later, when the youthful Stanley Gibbons put a notice in his little shop in Plymouth offering foreign stamps for sale. This was followed seven years later by his historic purchase of a sack full of Cape triangular for £5, followed in 1865 by the publication of the first 'Price List and Catalogue of British, Colonial and Foreign Postage Stamps'. I will refer again later to this particular publication.

From then onwards stamp collecting spread like a forest fire before a gale, and by 1870 the conditions were ripe for the activity of stamp forgers and the first of the famous forgers I propose to describe in this article started operations. This was the Spiro Brothers of Hamburg, who originally had a small printing works.

The conditions for the forgers were ideal. The information on stamp issues available to the hosts of new stamp collectors was, according to modern standards, almost nil. Gibbons' price-list and catalogue, mentioned above, had no illustrations nor even (in most cases) descriptions of designs, no mention of paper, perforations, watermark, method of printing, etc. For most stamps the information was limited to the face value, the shape, and the colour—and this was the best—indeed frequently the only information available to stamp collectors. There were no stamp albums printed in Britain—Gibbons advertised albums printed by Moens of Brussels at 7/6d. each. It was not until 1879 that Gibbons catalogues had illustrations. There were no stamp journals or magazines, no stamp societies or expert committees, no Crown Agents giving lists of coming issues, no Agency for getting 'kiloware' (The modern collector does not realise how lucky he is!).

For a quarter of a century, sheets of stamps priced in pfennigs, centimes, pennies, etc. were to be found in hundreds of small shops scattered over Europe, supplied by the Spiro Brothers. In the absence of wholesale dealers,



their main difficulty was in meeting the demand, and this they ingeniously solved by printing their own supplies! They must have printed tens of thousands of forgeries, and their neat little sheets usually of 25 (5 x 5) can still be seen in the two big forgery collections in London mentioned below, and in a third big collection of 50,000 forgeries in over 200 albums from Vienna, which was sold in 1968 at a Robson Lowe auction in Bournemouth for over £5,000. The R.P.S. collection has 80 albums of forgeries, the Harmer collection has 100!

The Spiro Brothers also met the demand for used stamps by making their own cancelling hammers and using them indiscriminately on their forgeries. In my B.N.A. Forgery Collection (now in the Canadian Postal Museum, Ottawa) there were 27 single copies of Spiro forgeries of the Newfoundland triangular 3 pence green stamp, which between them had 5 different forged postmarks. These proved very useful in identifying Spiro forgeries of other countries—B. Columbia, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Australia, Bahamas, etc. since no other forgers used similar forged postmarks, and so their presence proved a Spiro forgery.

Before passing to the next famous forger, I should like to fill a short interlude with the account of an episode that has always amused me. When the independent Provinces (New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Isles., Br. Columbia) joined the Federation of Canada, and when Newfoundland changed the currency from £ s d to dollars and cents, large stocks of

## *An Invitation*

### **To Members of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain**

If you are not already a member of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and would be interested in joining the 'Royal' please write to The Secretary, The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, Box 3144, Station 'C', Ottawa, Canada, for membership application forms or information.

Members receive The Canadian Philatelist, published bi-monthly, and are entitled to use the sales circuit.

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**Annual Dues: \$6.00**

**Admission fee: \$1.00**

## ***GROW WITH THE ROYAL***

stamps became superfluous and were replaced by new issues. The fate of these stocks varied with each Province. Thus the stocks of Br. Columbia were destroyed, those of Newfoundland were sold on demand to stamp collectors, and one or two values were still being sold 40 years later. But the fate of the New Brunswick stocks of cents stamps totalling over *two million* stamps was most interesting.

Soon after 1868 a quantity of sheets were made over to a Post Office Inspector called Malcolm McDonald (himself a collector) who, in order to meet the demand for used stamps, made a dozen or so cancelling hammers, circular in shape, with the names of various New Brunswick post offices, such as Richibusto, Hampton, Sussex, etc. and dated 1864 or 1865. (These are easily recognised as there were no circular N.B. cancels with post office named at that date). With these he cancelled the bulk of his stock making a large number of used fakes.

The rest of the stock was stored in the Custom House at St. John, N.B., where in 1891 a fire broke out and much of the stock was damaged by fire or water. However a portion of the stock was rescued, and in October 1892 the following extraordinary notice was published:— 'This lot has now been secured by American dealers, through the agency of a number of small boys'. Evidently juvenile delinquency was prevalent 80 years ago in St. John, N.B! As a result, the juvenile delinquents benefited, the American dealers benefited, stamp collectors generally benefited by getting genuine stamps comparatively cheap. Only the authorities in St. John did not benefit and they did not deserve to since they had not given adequate protection to their property.

Finally, we come to the disposal of the remainder of Prince Edward Island. These totalled nearly \$100,000 in face value, and were sold in one lot to a speculator for the ridiculous price of one per cent, i.e. one cent per dollar of the face value. And then the authorities forgot to demonitise these stamps, so that one hundred years after they had been withdrawn from sale to the general public, I was getting air letters from various friends, franked with these P.E.I. stamps *to their full face value!!* (I published an illustration of one of these covers in my book on B.N.A. Forgeries, to prove I was not lying.) So someone had mighty cheap postage for a mighty long time. If ever there was another comparable blunder in the postal history of our planet, I have not heard of it.

We can now pass on to deal with another famous forger *Francois Fournier* of Geneva, Switzerland. Fournier was undoubtedly a conceited popinjay who spent much time and energy blowing his own trumpet on all possible occasions. He was on quite a different footing to Spiro and many other forgers, for whereas they tried to deceive collectors that their forgeries were genuine, Fournier on the other hand was trying to sell gaudy sets of 'facsimiles', claiming they were more attractive and better in every way than the originals, and welcomed publicity. He issued regular price lists or catalogues of his 'facsimiles', the last one in 1914 of 64 pages. The following extract illustrates his bombastic style:—

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## IMPORTANT

'Fr. Fourmier is the only firm that has reached perfection in the reproduction of old and obsolete postage stamps for collecting purposes. These first-rate imitations are made by a new and up-to-date process. The finish and execution of the figures, inscriptions, surcharges, colours and paper as well as the cancellations on them, are mathematically true and correct. Their exact likeness to the real and genuine stamps causes them to be 'unequaled', and they have nothing in common with other cheap productions of inferior quality and finish so frequently found; they are furthermore cancelled with stamp and date as used at the time the original stamp was in circulation.

Six crosses or merit, insignia of honor, six gold medals, four grand prix, and six diplomas of honor have been awarded the firm at International stamp exhibitions in 1895-98.—That is 23 top awards in four years!

In international stamp exhibitions during the last 40 years I have acquired six gold medals. If I had acquired as many premier awards as Fourmier acquired in 4 years, I too might have become a 'conceited popin jay'. But Fourmier had an advantage denied to modern exhibitors. At most exhibitions he managed to wangle a place for himself on the panel of judges so that he was both judge and exhibitor! This would be impossible today.

In addition to printing forgeries, Fourmier opened a '*Philatelic Clinic*' for the skilful repair of his customers' damaged stamps.

'I beg to inform my many customers that I have opened a new branch of my business. I have instituted a *Philatelic Clinic* for the repair of defective stamps, i.e. torn, stained, punctured, or stamps with deficient margin or perforation. I have therefore acquired the services of first-class specialists in this line who will be exclusively employed in this branch. When leaving my *Clinic* the most defective stamp becomes irreproachable—at least very presentable and can be put on an album with the most choice stamps. It is generally impossible to recognise, even with a lens, the smallest sign of repair'.

This was, of course, before the use of X rays or the vapour lamp in philately. His charge for such repair work was 10 per cent of the value of the stamps by any standard catalogue, Gibbons, Yvert or Senf.

Fourmier himself died in 1914 but his organisation carried on until 1927 when it was bought out by the *Philatelic Union of Geneva*. It gives us a idea of the scale of his operations when it is noted that 13 years after Fourmier died his stock of 4,000 different forgeries weighed over 800 lbs., which was sufficient to make 480 collections in special albums which were sold for \$25.00 each to reliable dealers and stamp societies. I wonder how many of these special albums survive

Let us turn now to another great forger *Jean de Sperati* of Aix-As-Bains, France. Robson Lowe made a detailed study of this forger, recorded in his book '*Sperati and his work*', which contains most of the information known about him. Sperati was the supreme artist in making skilled forgeries. He described himself as an 'artistic counterfeiter', and his chief delight was in fooling the experts. He made only about 300 different forgeries, but they were all of very rare stamps and quite beyond the competence of the

average collector to distinguish from the genuine. For example I will give some interesting examples of his skill to prove this:—

One of the most valuable of BNA stamps is the Vancouver 5 cents imperf., watermarked Cr. and C.C. printed by De La Rue (S.Q. No. 12, priced at £2,250 unused). Sperati was the only forger who successfully forged this rarity. He overcame the watermark difficulty most ingeniously. De La Rue used his Cr.C.C. paper for a number of their issues, including the Natal large size 5 shillings stamp of 1874–75, which was commonly used fiscally and of small value. Sperati apparently obtained some of these, faded out the printed design and obliteration with chemicals, printed on the Vancouver 5 cents design very accurately, and cut down the size to the correct measurements, thus obtaining an imperf stamp with genuine paper and watermark!

When examining a collection of BNA forgeries, I was very interested to find a genuine imperf. unused copy of Vancouver 5 cents, mounted and described as a Sperati forgery! This is, I think, the highest compliment that could be paid to a forger—to describe a genuine stamp as one of his forgeries!

I will give one more example of his skill. He made a forged set of about a dozen rare early European stamps and sold them to a dealer in Lisbon. At that time in France the export of rare stamps was prohibited except under licence which Sperati had not got. So the French Government prosecuted him and called leading experts, who swore the stamps were genuine. Sperati's defence was that they were his forgeries, and offered to make a similar set in evidence. So the Court was adjourned for a month, when Sperati produced two identical sets, which left the experts speechless and red-faced!

Unfortunately for Sperati, there was another law in France at the time making it an offence to buy, sell or deal in forgeries, and Sperati now had no defence. However, he was leniently treated, and allowed to wind up his business and in 1953 to sell all his assets to the B.P.A. in London, who made up suitable lots for reliable dealers and societies. In a Swiss auction in 1972 the prices realised for Sperati forgeries were quite astonishing—even a small set of photographs cost me over £1 per photograph!

I will deal with one more forger who operated recently in Canada, and whose work is little known in Europe. Indeed, in the big Vienna collection of forgeries mentioned above, which claimed to have examples of every forgery ever made, and listed 30 or 40 (European) forgers by name, made no mention of *Andre Frodel*, and had no examples of his handiwork.

A Vancouver paper dated 7th March 1963 published the following obituary notice:—

'Andre Frodel was born in Poland, and served in the Polish Army in two world wars, and received nine decorations for valour from the British, French and Italian Governments. After the second war he emigrated to Canada and settled in Vancouver, B.C. in 1953, where he lived on a small war pension, supplemented by dealings in stamps. He died aged 72 in January 1963 intestate with no known heirs, so the Provincial Government took charge of his estate which consisted of several hundred Canadian and B.C. fakes and forgeries, and little else.'

The police took possession of these forgeries to prevent them getting into the wrong hands. I believe what still survives of Frodel forgeries are now safely housed in the Canadian Postal Museum in Ottawa, He always told collectors who bought his stamps that they were forgeries, and they were often back-stamped ANDRE FRUDEL FORGERY. A truly pathetic figure, the victim of war.

(The information given in this article has been partly obtained from the book *B.N.A. Fakes and Forgeries* by the same author.)

## Programme

### 28th Annual Convention, Station Hotel, Perth

2ND-5TH OCTOBER 1974—

Wednesday, 2nd OCTOBER—

Arrival of Members.

8.15 p.m. Display, 'Admirals', by Mr. John Hannah, F.C.P.S.

Thursday, 3rd OCTOBER—

10.15 a.m. for 10.30 a.m. Visit to 'Woods of Perth' Printing Works.

10.15 a.m. (Ladies) Visit to Scone Palace.

2.00 p.m. Coach Tour. Via Sma'Glen, to Dunkeld, to Blairgowrie for tea.

8.15 p.m. Display 'London Postmarks' and 'Jubilee 1897', by Mr. Colin G. Banfield.

10.00 p.m. Auction Material on view.

FRIDAY, 4TH OCTOBER—

10.00 a.m. Study Circle—To be arranged.

1.45 p.m. Coach Tour. Visit to 'Blair Castle'. Tea at Castle.

8.15 p.m. Display, 'Fancy Cancels', Mr. Stanley F. Cohen, F.C.P.S.

10.00 p.m. Auction Material on View.

SATURDAY, 5TH OCTOBER—

9.15 a.m. Meeting of Fellows.

9.30 a.m. Meeting of Committee.

11.30 a.m. Annual General Meeting.

2.30 p.m. Auction conducted by Mr. G. Manton.

7.30 p.m. Reception by the President, Mr. J. A. Grant.

8.00 p.m. Annual Banquet and Presentation of Awards.

# Canadian Railway Postmarks Hammer Varieties

## Part 4

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by P. R. Grey

The first three of these articles covered the R.P.O.'s south of the St. Lawrence River, We now enter the second geographical region and deal with the lines to the north of the river; the summary of the R.P.O. routes for this region is given below. (*See map overleaf.*)

### Quebec and Montreal to Toronto, North Bay and Cochrane C.N.R.

#### Transcontinental Line

1. Montreal, Coteau, Ottawa, Pembroke, North Bay. (344 miles)

#### C.N.R. Main Lines

2. Quebec, Garneau Jct. Montreal. (186 miles)
3. Quebec, Hervey, La Tugue, Senneterre, (Noranda), Cochrane. (575 miles)
4. Quebec, Chambord, (Roberval), (Lake St. John), Chicoutimi. (227 miles)
5. Quebec, La Malbaie. (88 miles)
6. Montreal, Brockville, Kingston, Belleville, Port Hope, Toronto. (335 miles)

#### C.N.R. Branch Lines from Montreal—Toronto Route

7. Brockville—Westport. (44 miles)
8. Napanee—Tamworth—Tweed. (52 miles)
9. Trenton—Picton. (31 miles)
10. Trenton—Coe Hill—Bancroft—Maynooth. (102 miles)
11. Belleville—Madoc—Peterboro—Lindsay—Toronto. (132 miles)
12. Port Hope—Peterboro—Lindsay—Toronto. (123 miles)
13. Blackwater—Orillia—Midland. (74 miles)
14. Ottawa—Barrys Bay—Depot Harbour—Parry Sound. (187 miles)

#### C.P.R. Transcontinental Line

15. Montreal, Rigaud, Ottawa, Pembroke, North Bay. (359 miles)

#### C.P.R. Main Lines

16. Quebec, Three Rivers, Montreal. (178 miles)
17. Montreal, (Ottawa), Smiths Falls, Toronto. (339 miles)

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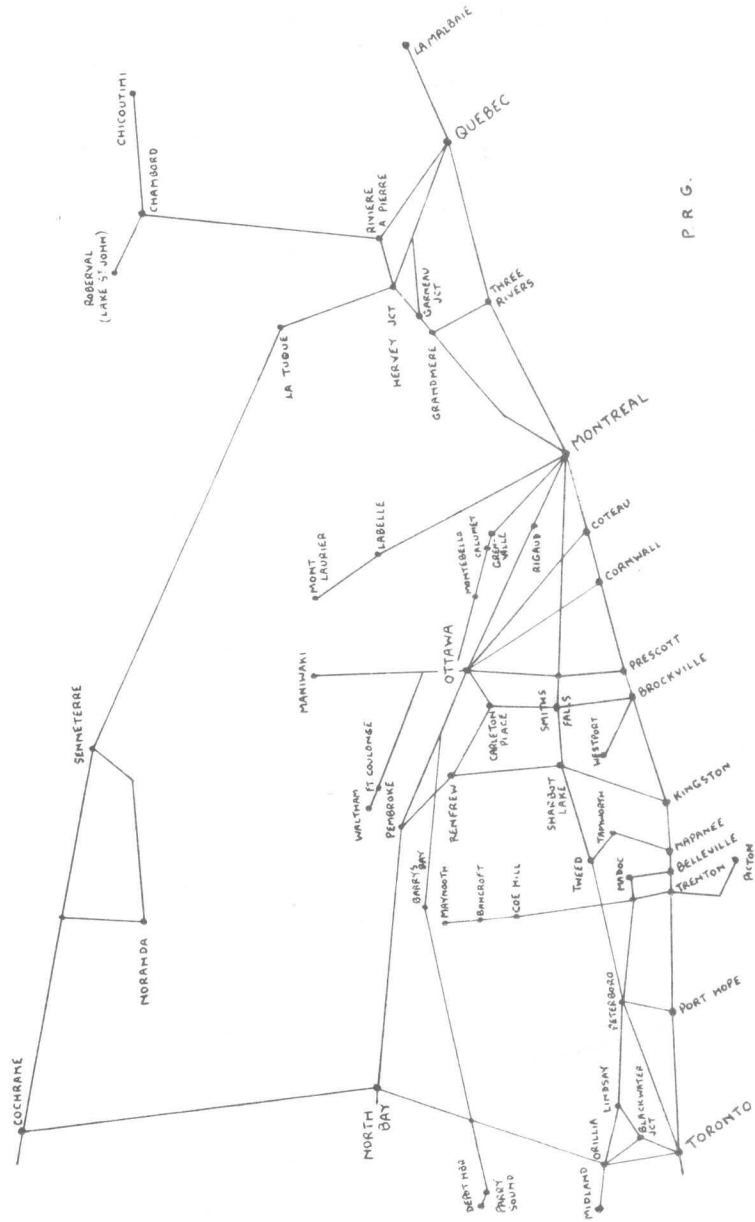
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- Booklets of the Admirals—Marler ... .. £1.25 (post paid)
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### C.P.R. Branch Lines

18. Montreal, Grenville, Calumet, Montebello, Ottawa. (126 miles)
19. Montreal, Labelle, Mont Laurier .(158 miles)
20. Ottawa-Prescott. (53 miles)
21. Ottawa, Carleton Place, Brockville. (76 miles)
22. Ottawa-Maniwaki .(82 miles)
23. Ottawa, Fort Coulonge, Waltham. (80 miles)
24. Renfrew, Sharbot Lake, Kingston (104 miles)

### New York Central System (U.S.A.)

25. Cornwall—Ottawa. (57 miles)

The following is a list of R.P.O. hammer varieties for the C.N.R. and C.P.R. lines radiating from Quebec City.

Shaw No.	Shaw Type		Period Recorded
Q207	17	<i>Que. Garn. Inc. &amp; Mont. R.P.O.</i>	
		1. Small letters	1910
		2. Tall letters	1922-1938
Q203	17H	<i>Quebec &amp; Cochrane R.P.O.</i>	
		1. Narrow 'U'	1934-1945
		2. Normal 'U'; wider spaces each side of 'R.P.O.'	1930-1943
		3. 'C & C' widely spaced	1935-1947
Q220B	17H	<i>Quebec &amp; Noranda R.P.O.</i>	
		1. Ampersand to left ( <i>Fig. 1</i> )	1949-1955
		2. Amp.central;wider space to right of 'R.P.O.'	1949-1951
Q248A	17H	<i>Que. &amp; Sen. R.P.O.</i>	
		1. 'P' of 'R.P.O.' to left ( <i>Fig. 2</i> )	1966
		2. 'P' slightly to right	1965
Q276B	17H	<i>Sennetrre &amp; Cochrane R.P.O.</i>	
		1. 'E & C' widely spaced ( <i>Fig. 3</i> )	1949-1956
		2. 'E & C' close	1948-1956
Q241	17	<i>Quebec Roberval &amp; Chicoutimi R.P.O.</i>	
		1. Outer ring 23mm. diameter	1918-1951
		2. Outer ring 22mm. diameter	1929-1949
Q243	17	<i>Que. Rob. &amp; Chic. R.P.O.</i>	
		1. Small letters. No stop after 'Chic.'	1911-1917
		2. Small letters. Stop after 'Chic.' 'R.P.O.' wide spaced	1910-1911
		3. Larger round letters	1915-1917
		4. 'Que' narrower; wider Amp.	1913-1934
		@A Hammer 4 with 'Rob' removed ( <i>Fig. 4</i> )	1944-1955
		('Rob.' was removed from an old hammer in use until 1955. Roberval is on a branch line 12 miles from the direct Quebec to Chicoutimi line. In 1935 Roberval was excluded from the R.P.O.)	

★

**Contributions  
for the**

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service and a new postmark introduced: 'Quebec & Chicoutimi R.P.O.' (Shaw Q.201, Type 17).

- |      |     |   |                                     |
|------|-----|---|-------------------------------------|
| Q217 | 10C | <i>Quebec &amp; Montreal C.P.R. M.C.</i><br>(There are several hammers very similar to Fig. 5. Another has 'M.C.' very widely spaced (recorded 1915).                       | 1906-1955                           |
| Q219 | 19  | <i>Quebec &amp; Montreal C.P.R. R.P.O.</i><br>1. Central dot after 'C.P.R.'<br>2. Stop after 'C.P.R.'   | 1909-1934,<br>1923-1953             |
| Q218 | 17  | <i>Quebec &amp; Montreal R.P.O.</i><br>1. Tall letters; tall narrow Sq.Amp. (Fig. 6)<br>2. Normal letters. Outer ring 23mm. (Fig. 7)<br>3. ditto. Outer ring 22mm. (Fig. 8) | 1940-1958<br>1933-1958<br>1934-1954 |

## 'Paris, Ontario, Some Postmark Notes'

by Dr. C. W. Hollingsworth, F.C.P.S.

Dr. Whitehead tells us in the *Squared Circle* handbook that Paris, is situated in Brant County, Ontario, at the junction of the G.W.R. and Buffalo and Goderich Div. of the G.T.R., 8 miles from Brantford, and was named for the local beds of plaster of Paris. The population in the 1890's was around 3,500. The best known Paris postmark is its Squared Circle which was in use from 30th June 1893 to 12th September 1900.

These notes refer to three other postmark types of about the same period, the details of which were obtained from the examination of a batch of covers to the same addressee which in fact covered the period 1891 to 1910.

The three postmarks are:—

1. Circular datestamp.
2. Duplex.
3. Fancy 'cork'.

1. *Circular datestamp (Fig. 1)*. This is of the standard type with Paris at the top and Ontario at the bottom and is 24 mm. diameter. It came into use in 1892 and remained in service until 1910. On most of my covers it was used on mail addressed to Paris, as a receipt stamp. Above the date are time marks 1 to 9 inclusive and blank. In a number of cases the covers bear two strikes of the postmark, but with different time marks. The inference is that the strike with the lower number i.e. earlier in the day, was applied when the letter was received at the Paris office, whilst the strike with the higher number was applied when the letter was sorted and ready for delivery. This suggestion is confirmed by the finding of letters with two strikes two days apart. Invariably the days are Saturday and Monday, suggesting that the mail arrived on Saturday, was date-stamped on arrival and being too late for delivery on Saturday, was left in the office over the week-end for delivery on Monday.

This postmark is notable for a remarkable series of abnormal indicia and the following numbers have been found occupying the space above the date in addition to the normal series of 1 to 9:

00, 01, 0, 49, 52, 53, 70, 78, 87



(Fig. 1)



(Fig. 2)

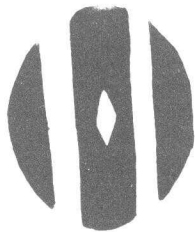
An explanation can be put forward to account for a few of these but the remainder must be put down to plain carelessness or peculiar whim of the postal clerk. '53' occurs on the same cover as another strike with '9' above the date. Could the clerk have mislaid his number '8' then representing the datestamp on arrival and '9' representing the time mark when the mail had been sorted and was ready for delivery.

Several covers occur with '78' or '87' above the date and in each case there is a second strike of either '7' or '8'. In these cases therefore the clerk simply omitted to remove the earlier time mark '7' before putting in the subsequent time mark '8'.

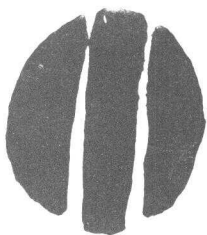
2. *Duplex* (Fig. 2). Mr. Smythies in his *Duplex* handbook records a postmark consisting of a circular datestamp 26 mm. in diameter and a killer of the same size consisting of a circle made up of nine thick horizontal bars. There were probably several hammers of virtually identical appearance. The time markings above the date provide an interesting study since four separate series of markings existed. Three of these ran in sequence, starting with small capital letters A, B, (?C) and D, my copies running from 29th September 1899 to 9th August 1900. The next series are numbers 1, 2, 3, my copies all being in September 1900, with blank above the date on 18th September. The third series are large capital letters A. B. C. D covering the period 14th January 1901 to 14th January 1910. The last set of time marks are AM and PM, which appear to have been used concurrently with the first three series. My copies cover the period 19th September 1899 but fall into three periods—10th September 1899 to 8th November 1899, 19th December 1902 to 29th December 1903, and one copy on 2nd May 1910, no copies having been noted in 1900, 1901 or early 1902. It would be interesting to learn if any members have copies in these periods.

#### Check List of Duplex Time Marks

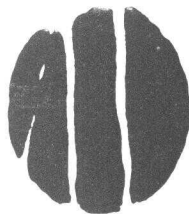
1. Small capital letters A, B, (?C), D.  
229 Numbers 1, 2, 3  
Blank
3. Large letters A, B, C, D.



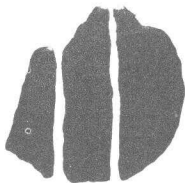
(Fig. 3)



(Fig. 4)



(Fig. 5)



(Fig. 6)



(Fig. 7)

4. AM, PM.

29 Sep. '99 to 9 Aug. '00.

18 Sep. '00 to 25 Sep. '00

18 Sep. '00

14 Jan. '01 to 14 Jan. '10

19 Sep. '99 to 8 Nov. '99

19 Dec. '02 to 29 Dec. '03

2 May '10

3. *Fancy 'cork'*. Only two fancy cancels are recorded by Day and Smythies, an eight petal flower (D and S 56) and a large intaglio 'A' in a circle (D and S 361) There is a third, which is of interest since it can be followed through a full year from its beginnings as a clear new cancel in November 1891 to its virtual disintegration in December 1892. It is a circle 25mm. diameter which has been divided by vertical cuts into three segments (Fig. 3), the centre one having exactly in its centre a neat intaglio diamond. At least this is how it started life and it was in this state until May 1892. On the 9th July 1892, the rot has started (Fig. 4), the diamond no longer exists and the two vertical gaps have been narrowed by squashing of the sidepieces and probable clogging with ink debris. On 15th August there is a crack through the left hand sidepiece (Fig. 5) and by 7th October the outer part has dropped off (Fig. 6). By December the disintegration has gone much further and my last copy dated 21st of that month shows little more than a messy blot. (Fig. 7). How different is this sorry tale from that of the Paris Squared Circle which followed it on June 30th 1893 and which is noted for its clear well centred strikes.

My thanks to Dick Lamb of Kitchener for making this material available to me.



# Post Offices in Franklin, Keewatin and Mackenzie (From 1904 and above 60 degrees North)

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by **F. W. Campbell F.C.P.S.**

(Continued from Whole No. 131)

25. *Cameron Bay* (Mackenzie District)  
Opened 1st May 1933. First postmaster: G. D. Murphy. Name changed to *Port Radium* 23rd November 1937.
26. *Cape Dorest* (Franklin District)  
Opened 16th July 1960.
27. *Discovery* (Mackenzie District)  
Opened 16th May 1960. First postmaster: S. F. H. Stedman.
28. *Fort Smith* (Mackenzie District)  
Opened 1st December 1907. First postmaster: A. Brabant. In operation 1960.
29. *Fort Wrigley* (Mackenzie District)  
Opened 1st February 1922. First postmaster: J. McLellan. Name changed to *Wrigley* 1st July 1923.
30. *Frobisher Bay* (Franklin District)  
Opened 23rd November 1953. First Postmaster Constable R. D. Vannorman. In operation 1960.
31. *Great Bear Lake* (Mackenzie District)  
Opened 1st December 1932. First postmaster: G. D. Murphy. Name changed to *Cameron Bay* (q. v. above) 1st May 1933.
32. *Grise Fiord* (Franklin District)  
Opened 23rd November 1956. First postmaster: Constable H. Johnston. Name changed to *Craig Harbour*.
33. *Hay River* (Mackenzie District)  
Opened 1st February 1914. First postmaster: Rev. A. J. Vale. In operation 1960.
34. *Inuvik* (Mackenzie District)  
Opened 2nd September 1958. First postmaster: Mrs. V. North. Name changed to *New Aklavik* (q. v.).
35. *Lake Harbour* (Franklin District)  
Opened 28th August 1927. First postmaster: Sgt. J. E. Wright. In operation 1960.
36. *Mould Bay* (Franklin District)  
Opened 20th April 1949. First postmaster: R. W. McKay. In operation 1960.
37. *New Aklavik* (Mackenzie District)  
Opened 19th May 1958. First postmistress: Mrs. V. North. Name changed to *Inuvik* (q. v. above) 2nd September 1958.

38. *Norman Wells* (Mackenzie District)  
Opened 15th December 1938. First postmaster: J. Desrosier. In operation 1960.
39. *Outpost Island* (Mackenzie District)  
Opened 16th June 1941. First postmaster: D. S. Hamilton. Closed 20th September 1942.
40. *Pangnirtung* (Franklin District)  
Opened 20th August 1924. First postmaster: Sgt. J. E. Wright. In operation 1960.
41. *Port Brabant* (Mackenzie District)  
Opened 20th September 1948. First postmaster: Rev. J. L. Helgouche. Name changed to *Tuktoyaktuk* (q. v. below) 9th June, 1950.
42. *Pond Inlet* (Franklin District)  
Opened 5th July 1921. First postmaster: Sgt. A. H. Joy. In operation 1960.
43. *Port Burwell* (P.Q. and Keewatin District)  
There is some confusion about the location of this office. The designation was changed to Keewatin after the Deputy Commissioner for all the North West Territories objected to the 'Quebec' listing in the Postal Guide. It is hundreds of miles from Keewatin on a small island near Labrador at the northern tip of Quebec Province. The Money Order Number was changed to fit the new 'site' and the 1937 Guide listed it in Quebec, M.O. No. 75168. The 1938 Guide used Keewatin M.O. No. 55565. Officially the office operated from 18th July 1933 to 22nd September 1937. The handstamp wording changed from 'P.Q.' to 'N.W.T.' when the re-opening took place
44. *Port Radium* (Mackenzie District)  
Opened 23rd November 1937. First postmaster: Rev. M. M. Giroux. In operation 1960.
45. *Rae* (Mackenzie District)  
Opened 15th July 1929. First postmaster: Rev. N. Laperriere. Closed 11th December 1954.
46. *Rankin Inlet* (Keewatin District)  
Opened 1960.
47. *Reindeer Depot* (Mackenzie District)  
Opened 7th September 1948. First postmistress: Mrs. M. McInnes. In operation 1960.
48. *Resolute Bay* (Franklin District)  
Opened 1st October 1948. Name changed to *Resolute Bay* (q.v. below)
49. *Resolute Bay* (Franklin District)  
Opened December 1947. Name changed to *Winter Harbour*.
50. *Rocher River* (Mackenzie District)  
Opened 23rd September 1950. First postmaster: G. H. Greenway. In operation 1960.
51. *Sachs Harbour* (Franklin District)  
Opened 29th October 1955. First postmaster: D. C. Archibald. In operation 1960.

52. *Tuktoyaktuk* (Mackenzie District)  
Opened 9th June 1950. First postmaster: Rev. J. L. Helgouche. Name changed from *Port Brabant* (q.v.) 9th June 1950.
53. *Winter Island* (Franklin District)  
Opened 31st August 1947. First postmaster: G. D. Cleghorn. Name changed to *Resolute Bay* (q.v.) December 1947.
54. *Yellowknife* (Mackenzie District)  
Opened 27th September 1937. First postmaster: O. J. Thibert. In operation 1960.
55. *Yellowknife Sub. Office No. 1.* (Mackenzie District)  
Opened 14th March 1955. First postmaster A. S. Hodgson. In operation 1960.

## PHILATELIC SPOOFS

Postal authorities of the Icebox Islands, a series of bergs that float in the Antarctic Ocean and are under the mandate of the Amanas, are going all-out to supply philatelic material that ties into their stamps.

Chill Blain, postmaster general, said today the issues of 1973 will be completely documented. In addition, pages will be supplied for albums; complete sets will be furnished at the end of each postal year and—for a nominal sum—the assistant superintendent of philately (Howcold Itis) will personally visit the home of each collector and paste the stamps in the albums.

'We want to thaw out the relationships between Icebox and its patrons' he announced.

The first 1973 set of stamps from the Icebox Islands will be the new definitives for dogsled delivery and will appear in the usual denominations—from 1 to 217 icicles, inclusive. First day covers will be stamped at sunrise (7th July, 5.11 a.m.) or as soon after that time as the dating machine thaws out.

Blain cited the 2 icicle denomination as typical of the set. It will be offered in the normal 3 x 6 foot size, printed in the traditional ice blue and will have a life-sized portrait of Mush, the lead sled dog, on its face. This and other items in the series will be defrosted to order, Blain noted.

Stamps of the Icebox Islands have become very popular in recent years. The 9 icicle denomination of last year's set, in which was frozen an olive, sold out in New York City last 1st July in a record time—a matter of 35 minutes.

By placing the stamp in a glass and adding vermouth and gin, collectors rapidly discovered, it made an excellent martini.

*The above from Linn's Stamp News, 16th April 1973 by Lucifer Lightfoot, All in Fun—Editor.*

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

---

## Bogus Covers of the 15 Cents Large Queen Issue

F. Laycock writes:

I was recently offered a genuine pair on Cover to the U.K. of the 15 Cents Large Queen issue dated 1908: although the use was probably purely 'Philatelic' it does indicate that this stamp was utilized for at least 40 years. Yet in spite of its long existence it is very hard to find on Cover, especially the early printings. Its rarity seems to have caught the attention of at least one happy forger. A London dealer shortly before last Christmas sent me two bogus items. The first was on cover addressed to Coventry Sheppard and Co. It was undated and with no London Receiving Cancels. The original gum was still on the envelope flap indicating that it had enclosed a circular or similar item and the flap tucked inside. The stamp was tied by a poor 'Bogey Head'. Unfortunately it was from one of the late Ottawa Printings not found until 1891. Whereas the 15 Cent Rate to England expired in 1870 and the Cover seemed hardly big enough to warrant treble weight. There was also signs of thinning in the centre of the stamp. The forger obviously did not want to waste a perfect stamp even at the inflated price of this cover. Dr. Dorothy Sanderson who had previously been offered the same item was able to show me an identical one franked with the 1 cent Small Queen issue. No doubt it was made from a similar conversion.

The second item was a label also addressed to Coventry Sheppard bearing the 2 Cent Registration stamp and another copy of the 15 Cents from the same late Ottawa Printing. Again the rate was wrong. The Registration rate should have been 5 Cents and although 3 of the 15 Cents could have been used towards the cost of the Registration this would have left 12 Cents for the rate to the U.K. which was 5 Cents per  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. until the 25th December 1898 when it was reduced to 2 Cents per ounce. Underneath a similar type of poor Bogey face cancellation (very useful for hiding defects) the 15 Cents showed traces of rubbing. There were also signs of another type of cancel on both values neither of which tied the stamp.

With the value of all Postal History items escalating even faster than the cost of living there is obviously more and more need to check most carefully all new acquisitions.

## Canadian Olympic Stamps

Mr. I. F. Thomas writes:

Your footnote on page 27, December Issue asking for contributions, prompts my submission herewith, and I trust that you will find it of interest for inclusion.

Enclosed you will find a mint block (LR) of 4 of the Canada Post Office March 22nd issue of Canada Olympic stamps, depicting in set-tenant, 4 Canadian summer sporting activities.

These stamps were issued in sheets of 50, and bear the usual Ottawa general vertical 2 bar tagging.

Now at this early date of issue, I have found a few paper differences, which our members may find of interest, hence my prompt report.

According to the Ottawa Post Office policy, sets of Plate Blocks (4) are now issued in a sealed package for Philatelic counter sale at \$1.28 per package. I found all of these sealed Plate Block sets to be on high brite paper, plain wove.

On the day of issue, I purchased several corner (blank) blocks of 4, which were surprisingly printed on a dull paper, seemingly coated. In addition, the paper shows fine horizontal ribbing along the lower selvedge.

Now, which of these papers will prove scarce, is a moot question at the moment, but this information may interest our U.V. specialists.

These stamps bear a PVA gum. Furthermore, their design is considered a world first in that with a glass or light or from an oblique angle, you can see the Olympic symbol (refer to page 28, Whole No. 145) impressed on each stamp.

### 2 Cents Admiral Experimental Coils

Mr. L. D. Carn writes:

Some months ago Dr. Carstairs was browsing through some of my albums when he noticed a pair of 2 cent Admirals which aroused his excitement. They were the 2 cent Carmine with Toronto experimental coil perforation, mint and ungummed (see illustration). At his request I sent these stamps to Sandie Mackie who reports that after careful examination and comparison he can find nothing to suggest that they are not genuine.

I enclose a photograph of the pair together with a similar pair of the 1 cent, both of which have been in my collection upwards of 30 years. It will be interesting to know if any member has a similar item or has any knowledge of this issue, other than that given by Winthrop Boggs.



## Amendments to Membership to 7th May 1974

### New Members

1980. OSBORN, W., 18 Portland Court, Lyme Regis, Dorset, DT7 3ND C  
1981. LOVE, A. G., 72 Baycrest Pl., Calgary, Alta, Canada, T2V OK6. CG  
1982. COLLINS, Dr. Dorothy E. M., 185 Gudge Heath Lane, Fareham, Hants., PO15 6QA. C  
1983. DOYLE, M. A., 12614 El Pacacio, San Antonio, Texas 78233.  
1984. MARRION, H. J., 885 Cunningham Road, Victoria, B.C., Canada, V9A 4M7. CL—CGE  
1985. HILL, T. W., 316 Fisher Avenue, Apt. 6, Rockford, Illinois, U.S.A. 66603. CR—CGE  
1986. SUMMERELL, 2 Sandpiper Avenue, Manitouwadge, Ont., Canada. C.N.B.  
1987. IKEDA, H., 13-22 Hachizuka 2-chome, Ikeda, Osaka 563, Japan. CGE  
1988. ECKHART, W., 187 Frankfurter Landstr, D-61 Darmstadt-Arheilgen, West Germany. C,N,B.

### Deaths

75. STUDD Brig. M. A.                      793. BROOKS, G. S.

### Change of Address

866. ATKINSON, F. G., 3300 Cavendish, Room 205, Montreal, Canada, H4B 2M8.  
1442. McGOWAN, L., 426 Eaton Street, Providence R.I., 02908, U.S.A.  
1947. McSWEENEY, P., 5 Dillbridge Road, Colchester Essex.  
1864. MOSS, Lt. J. S., 036-324645, H.H.T. U.S. Army, Kaserne Christensen Brks, 8581 Bindlach uber/Bayreuth, Fed. Rep. Germany.  
1581. SESSIONS, D. S., 56 Hoyle Court Road, Baildon, Shipley, Yorks.  
177. WALBURN, H. G., Box 731, Kelowna, B.C., Canada.  
715. WALTERS, E. P. F., Cox's Farm, Steart, Bridgewater, Som. V1Y 7P4.

### Corrections to Year Book

1950. ROBINSON, W. G., 5830 Cartier Street, Vancouver 13, B.C. V6M 3A7.  
1632. CAPLAN, Dr. J., amend Postal Code to M2R 3G2.

Net Change: Plus 7

New Total: 731

## **OBITUARY**

### **Dr. A. E. Whitehead**

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of Dr. A. E. Whitehead on 2nd April. He was 86 years of age and was one of Canada's foremost composers and organists. To students of Canadian postal history he is best known for his work on the squared circle postmarks of Canada, and there is little doubt that his published work on this topic will long remain a memorial to him. It is, perhaps, less widely known that his interest in the Canadian postmark field extended to Railway Postmarks where at one time his collection of these was undoubtedly the most comprehensive in the world. This is now in the possession of Louis M. Ludlow whose painstaking research into the many hammer varieties used in Canadian Railway Post Offices is now being made available to collectors through the medium of *B. N. A. Topics*.

Dr. George Procter, Head of Music at Mount Allison University, where Dr. Whitehead taught for two years, has referred to his death as 'a real loss, the end of an era'. This, in one sense, is undoubtedly so; but to musicians and postal historians alike his work will live on, a perpetual memorial of incalculable value and inspiration to those who knew him personally, and they are many, and countless others to whom he was but a name, but a name, assuredly, to be conjured with in both the world of music and Canadian postal history.

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### WANTED

CANADA Brant County entires cards postmarked Ameronto, Buncrana, East Oakland, Kanyengeh, Ranelagh, Rosebank, Sixty-Nine Corners, Woodbury. Correspondence invited. — Barchino, Box 953, Brantford, Ontario, Canada.

ALL New Brunswick items including pre-stamp material, stamps, covers and Canadian stamps and covers used in New Brunswick since Confederation. Please advise what you can offer and price required.—M. Wedgwood, 6 Birkhills, Burton Leonard, Harrogate, Yorkshire.

MY special interest is Arctic Yukon and N.W.T. west from Coronation Gulf to Barrow, south to Fort Yukon, Dawson, and Great Bear Lake. Correspondence invited. — Rob. G. Woodall, Forest Cottage, Holtwood, Wimborne, Dorset, England.

ACCUMULATIONS of Canadian and Newfoundland Airmail First Flight Covers, Military Cancellations on Cover, mint and used Canadian Forces Air Letter Forms and Aerogrammes, and Canadian Souvenir Postcards issued on and dated 24th July 1972 from the various provincial capitals. In particular, I am seeking used Canadian Aerogrammes 15c between 22nd July 1972 and 1st October 1972; Canadian 1930 GV sepia coloured postcards, 2 cents; and Canadian U.N. Military Envelopes and Aerogrammes.—Major R. K. Malott, 16 Harwick Crescent, Ottawa K2H 6R1, Canada.

ANY Mint Large Queens. Mint or used 8 cents Registered 1859 17 cents used. 5 cents used Large Queens. Good prices—or will exchange.—Cohen, 51 Westfield Road, Birmingham B15 3QE.

SQUARED CIRCLES on the 5 cts REGISTERED LETTER STAMP. Thanks to help from C.P.S. members and B.N.A.P.S.'ers in response to an earlier ad. in 'Maple Leaves', I have now the following 18 different towns on this stamp: Type I—Beaverton, Grimsby, Point St. Charles, Rat Portage, Westville (cover). Type II—Antigonishe, Freeport, Windsor N.S., Almonte, Arnprior, Glencoe, Gravenhurst, Harriston (cover), Ingersoll, Paris (cover), Prescott, Tilsonburg, Parl. Street, Strachan Ave. Also 3 duplicate towns for trade: Rat Portage, Westville, Glencoe. There are 20 more towns known on this stamp. Would anyone like to trade?—Stanley F. Cohen, F.C.P.S., 51 Westfield Road, Brm-ingham B15 3QE, England.

FINE mint used singles multiples 1897 Jubilees up to \$1, 8 cent Registry and good numeral cancellations. Send only description and price, please—Peter Sturdy, 42 Church Street, Goderich, Ontario, Canda N7A 2V4.

OLD covers and postcards mailed from Leamington, Measea, Ruthven or neighbouring post offices for historical collection for Leamington's Centennial. — Eugene Barna, 203 Seacliff Dr. W., Leamington, Ont., Canada.

MONTREAL duplex numeral cancellations on stamp, piece or cover. Particularly interested in acquiring Nos. 5 and 12. Suggest offer with price wanted.—Wayne R. Curtis, 4640 Cranranald Ave, Apt. 3, Montreal 248, P.Q., Canada.