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JOURNAL OF THE
CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
OF GREAT BRITAIN

Maple Leaves

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Vol. 17 No. 7

October 1979

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Journal of

THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

INCORPORATED 1946

Founder:

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

Edited by L. F. Gillam, F.C.P.S.

66 East Bawtry Road, Rotherham, Yorkshire

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

Published five times a year by the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain

Issued Free to Members

Additional copies 80p each

Vol. 17 No. 7

October 1979

Whole No. 175

EDITORIAL

MINT STAMPS

In our April issue we published an article under the above heading by Mr. G. F. Hansen. This first appeared in the *Winnipeg Free Press* and was deemed to be of sufficient interest and value to warrant its wider circulation among the majority of our members who had, for obvious reasons, not been able to read it in its original form. How many other philatelic journals have followed our example we do not know; but that it deserves the widest possible publicity we have no doubt.

Since its publication news has reached us of a development which stems directly from the demand for unmounted mint stamps on a scale which hitherto was restricted, but which is now becoming increasingly widespread. We refer to the practice of 'regumming' mint stamps which had been previously mounted with stamps hinges, or which had gum which for a variety of reasons had been 'disturbed'. Predictably stamp 'doctors' are responding to the almost obsessive demand for unhinged or 'never hinged' stamps by manufacturing by foul means what cannot be supplied by fair ones. What makes this practice all the more deceptive (and therefore dangerous to the unwary) is the increasing sophistication which gum 'fakers' are bringing to their art. The days when gum was redistributed on valuable 'classic' stamps

or replaced by such an inadequate substitute that none but the most gullible tyro could be deceived have long since passed. In many instances indeed the gum has been removed deliberately in order to prevent the deleterious effects which primitive or ageing adhesive substances were having upon early classic (and now not so classic) stamps. After a hundred years or more they have graduated from pristine unmounted mint to mounted mint (with various unnameable mounts!) to the 'unused' condition beloved by generations of standard catalogue editors. And the better they are for it, and the more likely they are to endure the ravages that time will undoubtedly wreak upon them.

'Down market' the situation is entirely reversed. The advent of the stamp investor, the increased collector demand, the growing scarcity and inflated values of the middle issues of the first three decades of the twentieth century have made the latter attractive propositions to fakers who have seized upon the opportunity to exploit 'unhinged' collectors and investors to the full. So far removed are they from the fumbling, bungling amateurs of the past that the products of their handiwork are at their worst scarcely distinguishable from the genuine article, and at their best are so skilfully executed that reputable dealers and knowledgeable experts alike can easily be deceived.

It is rumoured, with what degree of credibility we cannot say, that the regumming industry is centred 'somewhere in Europe' in a country that shall be nameless, but where the unmounted mint craze reached epidemic proportions several post-war years ago. That the disease has spread to the four corners of the philatelic world needs no emphasis; but the popularity of Canadian stamps is such that they are particularly vulnerable to the virus, and it is with these that we are exclusively concerned.

Original, genuine gum can be removed, analysed and then manufactured to order. It can be applied so skilfully to an unused (or apparently unused) stamp with such finesse that for all intents and purposes it can be converted into the desirable unmounted mint state that can command, in some instances, a premium of 100 percent or more over its poorer relation, be it so lightly hinged that the traces of the hinge mark can scarcely be detected under a powerful glass! To such heights (or is it depths?) of the ridiculous has the unmounted 'craze' reached (or sunk?) that the first thing many dealers or collectors do with a newly acquired mint stamp, or one that *may be* acquired, is to turn it over (with or without tweezers) and peer closely at the gum on the back with such intensity and concentration that the uninitiated might well be forgiven for concluding that they were about to witness some bizarre experiment in hypnotism! In the world of art if a dealer or collector displayed so little concern for the 'picture' and such a morbid interest in the canvas (or whatever) at the back of it, he would not be deemed eccentric; he would quite rightly be considered to be in need of the attention which only a psychiatrist specialising in obsessional neuroses could provide.

Now, as if this horror story was not enough, comes news from a valued correspondent in Canada that the *REPERFORATED* stamp has made its appearance in response to the demand for 'mathematically' centred stamps. Again, this is nothing new, as specialists in early perforated classic stamps know very well. To a stamp forger all things are possible, even to the extent of deceiving the experts (or setting them at each other's throats). That the experts can be made to look foolish, or provoked to ungentlemanly abuse, is well known. To the past masters of the art of forgery reperforming stamps would be an elementary exercise that they could safely leave to a 'prentice hand. The comparative ease with which such a technique can be applied makes it all the more dangerous.

CAVEAT EMPTOR by all means, but more importantly let the buyers (and sellers) get their priorities right. Mr. Hansen deserves well in his efforts to restore some sanity to a hobby which has always had its faddists, but which really cannot afford an army of collectors who are permanently and irretrievably unhinged. In this, as in many other respects, dealers have a responsibility which if properly exercised can contribute enormously to their own well-being and that of philately as well. In the long run, if not the short, their own self-interest should remind them that they depend upon the health of the hobby, and that by pandering to its morbid symptoms they only exacerate a condition which they can, if they are so minded, do much to cure.

SECRETARY, CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Members are requested to note that the address of the Secretary, Mr. D. F. Sessions, is now 3 Langfield Close, Henbury, Bristol, BS10 7ND.

SUBSCRIPTIONS 1979/1980

It will not come as a surprise to members to learn that increases in printing charges, the cost of paper and stationery and the prospective increase in postage rates will necessitate an increase in subscription rates if the Society is to be enabled to maintain its present services and remain on a sound financial footing.

What may be surprising is the fact that, after all these considerations have been taken into account, the Committee has decided that a modest increase of 50p per annum, *RAISING THE SUBSCRIPTION TO £4*, will be sufficient to enable the Society's anticipated expenditure to be met.

We are confident that members will appreciate the reason for this decision and will continue to lend their support to the Society during these most difficult times.

It will also help if members pay their subscriptions promptly. According to rule these are due on 1st October and should be sent (by cheque or postal order made payable to the Society) to the Assistant Treasurer, Mr. J. H. Bryce, 3 Swanston Place, Fairmilehead, Edinburgh 10, Scotland.

910 sent
1-24



CANADA'S MEDIUM VALUE

DEFINITIVES 10c.-50c.

1972-76

by Peter Harris

This issue has produced many major variations which have yet to be widely noticed. It seems likely to rival the now famous "Centennial Issue". I have used my own numbers in the listing which follows as no catalogue as yet even starts to cover this issue adequately.

I acknowledge with thanks the information which I have received from many correspondents. In particular I would mention Leo Beudet in Ottawa who has done some remarkable detailed research on many modern Canadian issues.

Any additional information would be appreciated (my address 11 North Parade, Lowestoft, Suffolk, England, NR32 4PA). In particular, dated copies are needed to establish dates of issue more accurately.

(I) **WINNIPEG TAGGED.** (Phosphorescent bars). Tag Bars 9mm. wide. Perf. 12.4 x 11.9.

(1) **Vertical rib paper.** (LO/LO to LO/MED).

MV1 10c. Type I 17 Oct. '72 Blank Corners only (CB).

MV2 15c. Type I 17 Oct. '72 Blank Corners only (CB).

MV3 20c. 17 Oct. '72 Blank Corners only (CB).

MV4 25c. Type I 17 Oct. '72 Blank Corners only (CB).

(2) **Smooth paper.** (LO/MED).

MV1b Type 1 Oct. '72 ?? CB only.

(II) **GENERAL TAGGED** (Fluorescent bars). **Fugitive tagging** (OP-4).

Tag Bars 3mm. wide. Perf. 12.4 x 11.9. **Vertical rib paper.** (LO/LO).

MV5 10c. Type I 17 Oct. '72 Plate 1.

MV6	15c.	Type I	17 Oct. '72	Plate 1.
MV7	20c.		17 Oct. '72	Plate 1.
MV8	25c.	Type I	17 Oct. '72	Plate 1.
MV9	50c.	Type I	17 Oct. '72	Plate 1.

(III) GENERAL TAGGED. Non-fugitive tagging (OP-2). Tag Bars 3mm. wide. Perf. 12.4 x 11.9

(1) **Vertical rib paper.** (LO/LO to MED/HI).

MV10	10c.	Type I	early '73 ?	Plate 1.
MV11	15c.	Type I	early '73?	Plate 1.
MV12	20c.		early '73?	Plate 1.
MV13	25c.	Type I	early '73?	Plate 1.
MV14	50c.	Type I	early '73?	Plate 1.

(2) (Lightly) **horizontal rib paper.** (LO/LO to MED/LO)

MV12b	20c.		May '74?	Plate 1.
MV13b	25c.	Type I	May '74?	Plate 1.

(3) **Smooth paper.** (LO/MED to MED/HI).

MV10c	10c.	Type I	June '74?	CB only
MV11c	15c.	Type I	June '74?	CB only
MV13c	25c.	Type I	June '74?	CB only
MV14c	50c.	Type I	June '73?	CB only

(IV) GENERAL TAGGED. OP-2. Tag Bars 4mm. wide. Perf. 12.4 x 11.9.

(1) **Vertical rib paper.** (MED/MED).

MV15	10c.	Type II	June '74?	CB only
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(2) **Smooth Cream paper.** (DULL/DULL to MED/HI).

MV15a	10c.	Type II	June '74?	Plate 2.
MV16a	15c.	Type II	Mar '75?	CB only
MV17a	20c.		Mar '74?	CB only
MV18a	25c.	Type II	Nov. '74?	CB only
MV19a	50c.	Type II	Aug. '74.	Plate 1.

(3) **Smooth White paper.** (HI/HIB to HIB/MED).

MV15b	10c.	Type II	June '74	Plate 2.
MV16b	15c.	Type II	Mar. '75?	CB only
MV17b	20c.		Sep. '74?	CB only

(V) GENERAL TAGGED. OP-2. Tag bars 4mm. wide. Perf. 13.2.

Smooth paper. (DULL/DULL to MED/HI).

MV20	10c.	Type II	Jan. '76?	Plate 3.
MV21	15c.	Type II	Jan. '76?	Plate 2.
MV22	20c.		Jan. '76?	Plate 3.
MV23	25c.	Type II	July '76??	Plate 3.
MV24	50c.	Type III	Jan. '76?	Plate 2.

The following have been reported but I have not seen copies :-

(MV12c)20c. OP-2, 3mm., Perf. 12.4 x 11.9, **Smooth paper.**

(MV17) 20c. OP-2, 4mm., Perf. 12.4 x 11.9, **Vertical rib paper.**

Plates 2 of 20c. and 25c. are reported by the Canada Post Office as not having been used as they were "found to be substandard in some details".

10c. Type II "has a much deeper recess impression of the green colour, the original cross hatching around "Canada" being entirely obscured".

15c. Type II has changes to the shading, the mountains in particular having a large new much darker area.

25c. Type II: the polar bears and their shadows now have "solid" centres of shading.

50c. Type II is explained by the Canada Post Office as follows. "The difference is the result of improvements in the gravure ink, the inking process and the wiping process on the press." It is a much darker blue than Type I. Type II is still from Plate 1 as the *engraved* cylinder was not involved in this improvement and it is this cylinder which prints the marginal inscriptions.

50c. Type III is intermediate in appearance between Type I and Type II. Although visibly different it is hard to pinpoint definitely differing features. However, all the Type IIIs have a different perforation (13.2).

Other notes on the above listing:

- (1) Paper fluorescence. Statements such as "LO/LO to MED/HI" indicate two or more different papers within the range, distinguishable with a uv lamp. The terms are standardised by the Peter Harris Canada Fluorescent Papers Standard Card.
- (2) The OP-4 to OP-2 tagging change is very clear under a uv lamp as the OP-4 smears all over the place. To the naked eye the OP-4 is not as easily seen as the OP-2. All other variations listed here do NOT require a uv lamp to see them.
- (3) The ribbing of papers can easily be seen by looking along the lines of the ribbing, holding the stamp up to the light if necessary. Strictly speaking, "ribbed effect paper" is the correct description, but this is usually abbreviated to "ribbed paper".
- (4) The change in width of the tag bars is distinguishable by the naked eye, particularly with left or right hand marginal singles, horizontal pairs or blocks. It is not so easy to discern in ordinary singles.

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS

(Reprinted from the Philatelic Bulletin Vol. 1 No. 2 with acknowledgements and thanks to Canada Post – Editor.)

In early 1967 Canada Post began to replace the postage due stamps that had been used since 1935. The new postage dues were originally issued in a regular stamp size of 20 mm x 17 mm, using a line perforation 12 with dextrine gum. The denominations and quantities printed were as follows :—



1c	—	2,603,000
2c	—	6,511,500
3c	—	3,502,000
4c	—	5,000,000
5c	—	4,010,000
6c	—	5,519,000
10c	—	11,520,000

Some of the values in that set had a relatively short period of use. During 1969 Canada Post released some of the same values and added two new values, but using a new modular size of 20mm x 15½mm. The denominations printed, once again using the same perforation type and gum, were 1 cent, 4 cents, 5 cents, 8 cents, 10 cents and 12 cents.

The next changes occurred during 1973-74 when nine values were released in the modular size but with PVA rather than dextrine gum. The denominations issued were 1 cent, 2 cents, 3 cents, 4 cents, 6 cents, 8 cents, 10 cents, 12 cents and 16 cents. Some values of this set are still available from the Philatelic Mail Order Service. Please consult the latest Mail Order Product List.

The current set of postage due stamps available from the Philatelic Service was released during 1977. The main difference between this set and the former is that the stamps have been printed with a comb perforation of 12½ x 12 rather than the former line perforation of 12. In addition, the inscription on corner blocks has been moved from the top and bottom margins to the selvedge on the sides of the panes. The complete set is available from the Philatelic Service in denominations of 1 cent, 4 cents, 5 cents, 10 cents, 12 cents, 20 cents, 24 cents and 50 cents.

UPDATE ON CANADA'S REGISTRY SYSTEM 1826-1911 by Horace W. Harrison, F.C.P.S.

Because of a misunderstanding, Post Office Department Order No. 22 was omitted inadvertently from the Canadian registry system update that appeared on Page 968 of the October 1978 issue of *The American Philatelist*. Here, then, is the omitted order.

DEPARTMENT ORDER
No. 22

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT
Quebec, 10th April, 1855.

On and from the 1st May next, the instructions now in force, regulating the manner in which letters marked, or supposed to contain money, are to be recorded by Post Masters, will be superseded by a system of Registration to be applied to all letters without reference to the nature of their contents, for which the senders may desire to secure the benefit of a special record of the receipt and delivery by the Post Office, and for which record they may be willing to pay in advance a charge of one penny on each registered letter or packet, in compensation of the trouble and expense attendant upon such registration.

The following Regulations are to be carefully observed by all Post Masters :

1. When a person posting a letter or packet desires to have the same registered, the fact must be notified to the Post Master and a penny paid in advance as the registration charge, and it will then be the Post Master's duty to stamp or mark the letter conspicuously on the face with the word "REGISTERED", and to enter the address both in his Sent Mail Book, and on the Letter Bill with which he forwards the letter to its destination.
2. Post Masters if asked so to do, will grant a certificate of the Registration of a letter handed in for Registry, to the party posting the same, on a form which will be supplied by the Department.
3. Post Masters receiving Registered Letters for delivery, must be careful to deliver them only to the individuals to whom the letters are directed or to their order, and a receipt is to be taken for the delivery of each Registered letter, which should be carefully preserved by the Post Master.
4. All Registered letters received in a Mail either for the receiving Post Master's own delivery or to be forwarded on by him to another Officer are to be entered in the Book of Mails Received.
5. At Forward Offices, the record in the Mails Sent Book of Registered letters sent away, is to include all Registered letters received from other offices to be forwarded to destination, as well as Registered letters actually posted at the despatching office.

6. When a Registered letter is sent as "*Forward*" although the postage may not be included in the Letter Bill, the address must nevertheless be entered therein, and a record kept of the address and amount of Postage rated upon it, and also of the Forward Office to which it is sent and of the date of despatch.
7. Any neglect of these Regulations which shall involve the loss of a Registered letter or render it impracticable to trace the transmission or delivery of a Registered letter, will make the Officer in fault liable to be held accountable for the consequences.
8. Any complaint of the loss or supposed miscarriage of a Registered letter must be immediately reported to the Post Master General with all the particulars of the case, such as the name of the writer of the missing letter, the Office in which the letter was mailed, and the date of posting, the description of the contents, the postage paid, if any, the address of the letter and the reason for supposing it to be lost.
9. Should a Post Master receive a letter stamped as Registered, the address of which has not been entered on the Letter Bill by the sending Post Master, he will carefully correct the fault by entering the address himself upon the Bill, and report the circumstance to the Post Master General, or Inspector of his District.
10. At Offices where Registration entries are numerous, the entries of Registered letters received should be daily compared strictly with the entries of Registered letters sent away and delivered, in order to verify, the accurate disposal of every Registered letter passing through the Office.
11. Post Masters who are not paid by fixed salary will be permitted to retain the amount received by them for the Registration of letters in compensation for their trouble.
12. No charge is to be made on the delivery of a Registered letter, except the ordinary postage, should any be due upon the same.
13. The instructions now given are intended to supersede Part XII of the Book of Regulations, and the term "*Money Letter*" will not henceforth be used to designate the class of letters receiving the benefit of Registration.
14. The Letter Bills, Dead Letter returns and other forms supplied by the Departments will be altered to provide for the entry of "*Registered*" instead of "*Money*" letters, and Stamps bearing the word "*Registered*" will be furnished to the Offices requiring them.
15. Post Masters having "*Money Letter*" Stamps in their possession will be so good as to return them to this Department by the first post after 1st May.

ROBERT SPENCE
Post Master General.

ON DEALING WITH PACKETS

It is hoped the following suggestions may be of some help in some way or other to members both new and of long standing.

1. Give yourself ample time to look through the packet. Mistakes come when one has to be hasty.
2. First check that the correct number of books are in the packet, as stated on the circulation list and put them in numerical order.
3. Next fill in date received on the advice slip, which must be sent to the Packet Secretary even if you take nothing at all. Also the name of next on the list. It is best to fill in the certificate of posting at this point also as it is most frustrating to seal up the packet and then find you have left the next chap's address inside!
4. Before removing any stamps look through all the books, there may be cheaper or better copies of stamps to be found in another.
5. As many of us are perhaps limiting our expenditure, make a list book by book of the stamps you want, with price, so that you can eliminate those necessary to bring the total within bounds.
6. Then go through each book *one at a time*. Always sign a space as soon as a stamp is removed. It is very easy to overlook a space if you don't do this. On finishing a book, check the number of stamps taken against the number of spaces and put them on one side. Do each book separately like this and if you find a discrepancy it is much easier to go through one book than try and check through several with stamps all mixed up.
7. As each book is finished, enter the total number and cost on the book *and on your advice slip*. It is a good plan to enter your name in the column on the book as soon as you know you are going to remove stamps.
8. Finally check all your totals of stamps and cost, book by book, and enter the final total on the circulation list and advice slip.
9. Replace books in box in numerical order.
10. Generally, always be on the lookout for unsigned spaces and deal with them as instructed in the rules. Also, for loose stamps, the space can always be found. Give more than a passing thought to your Packet Secretary. He has a most trying job checking every book, reading rotten writing, (use a rubber stamp) and trying to rectify careless mistakes.

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PLATING OF THE CANADA 1859 12½ Cents (Part 3)
 by Lt.-Col. D. M. C. Prichard, F.R.P.S.

Plate		
Group	posn.	
6	42	C dot – N ½ (half dot).
9N		S dot – Centred between 1st and 2nd line over centre line, touching rim. Weak rocking-in around “12” in N.W, S.W, and S.E cnrs: all recut later.
6	43	C dot – S 1/3 (further away from top than 25).
9S		S dot – Centred on centre line and just cuts thro white oval. Weak under “C” of N.E 12½.
6	44	C dot – S 1/3 very small.
9S		S dot – Touches rim and its top touches underside of centre line. Slightly weak rocking-in under centre of top margin.
6	45	C dot – N ¼
9N		S dot – Centred on centre line bisected by rim. Very faint vertical weakness west of N.W 12.
5A	46	C dot – None
6		S dot – Central below centre line – just cuts into white oval.
7		Spot of colour in “N” in CANADA and another immediately over it in white oval. Weak network top and bottom.
9S	47	C dot – S 1/6.
		S dot – Rests on centre line touching rim. Strong frame line opposite “12” in the vertical line in S.W cnr.
9S	48	C dot – S 1/6.
		S dot – Rests on centre line, touching rim. Weak frame line in S.W cnr. – horizontal and vertical. Strong frame opposite “12” in vertical line in S.E cnr.
5A	49	C dot – Minute dot on south in top cnr. – almost non-existent.
9S		S dot – Centred on 2nd line above centre line – cuts thro rim. Fine line extends from “E” in POSTAGE horizontally thro white oval border of medallion thence thro white frame border Late: – Dot in oval under N.E “C” and an extra dot in “S” in POSTAGE (normally there is only one).
2	50	C dot – None.
5A		S dot – Rests on centre line not quite touching rim.
7		Dot over “K” in PACKET outside stamp (same dot as the one under 40). Tiny guide dot opposite “E” in vertical white border adjoining inner side.

- Late :- Outer frame line in N.W. cnr. doubled horizontally westwards and vertical line from "NA" to N.W. cnr.
- 3 51 C dot - None. S dot - None.
6 Guide dot central outside west margin.
7 Guide dot outside frame at N.W. cnr. in line with top inner frame line (about ½ mm from top) and another central outside west margin.
Weak rocking-in at bottom south from S.W. "½" east to a position under "ES" in PENCE STERLING. Recut later.
Note:- This appears to be the only stamp in the 1st vertical column which does not have the spot of colour in the white oval under the "1" of N.E. 12. Having examined 5 copies, it does show in any of them.
- 5B 52 C dot - N ½ large.
9N S dot - Central on centre line just free of rim. Spot of colour in white oval under "1" of N.E. 12. (reported but not seen - one copy (proved by pair) without this spot.
- 5A 53 C dot - N ½.
9N S dot - Rests on centre line width of a dot away from rim. Tiny spot of colour in "E" in STERLING about 1mm away from S.E. cnr. on a diagonal line eastwards.
Late :- Extension of "2" of ½ at base over S.W. frame.
- 9C 54 C dot - C 1/3.
S dot - Centred on centre line, bisected by rim.
Late :- The two west vertical frame lines prolonged upwards in N.W. cnr.
- 5A 55 C dot - S 1/3 S dot - Centred on centre line ¼ in
6 white oval and ¾ in horizontal lined area.
9S 1st State :- Weak rocking-in round "1" of 12 in N.W. cnr. and round "1" in S.W. cnr.
2nd State :- N.W. cnr. recut.
3rd State :- Dots in last "E" in PENCE, in white oval below and outside centre of bottom frame.
- 5A 56 C dot - S ¼. S dot - Central - just cuts rim.
6 Weakness along top, starting in N.W. cnr. cutting round "2"
9S of 12 all along top to N.E. cnr. (not recut later).
Late :- Large dot near top of shaft of "1" of S.W. 12.
- 9N 57 C dot - N ¼ small, resting on north side.
S dot - Between 1st and 2nd line above centre line and touching rim.
- 9S 58 C dot - S ¼ - small.
S dot - Small, centred between centre line and line above and

- just cuts thro rim into white oval.
- 7 59 C dot – None. S dot – Largish centred on centre line half in horizontal background and half in white oval.
- 2 60 C dot – None.
7 S dot – Centred on centre line – bisected by rim.
Large double guide dot east of “E” in POSTAGE central in white oval, thro which faint N & S guide line.
- 3 61 C dot – None. S dot – None.
5A Major re-entry. Base of “1” of 12½ in S.W cnr. extends over
5B inner frame line; doubling in both top frame lines at left and in lettering. (Note especially “S” and “T” in SIXPENCE).
Spot of colour in white oval under “1” of N.E 12 (6 seen).
Minute dot in background midway between diadem and inner frame line opposite “T” in POSTAGE (6 seen).
- 5A 62 C dot – C 2/3. S dot – Under centre line but top
9C touching it – just away from rim.
Late :- Re-entry all over; base of S.W “1” extends over frame line; inner frame lines doubled vertically in S.W cnr. many letters and figures show doubling; note “N” in PENCE.
- 5A 63 C dot – C 1/3 S dot – Between 1st and 2nd lines above
9C centre line – touching rim.
Smudgy double dot over “E” in PACKET and dot over “D” in CANADA in white oval margin.
Note (Lees-Jones) :- There are stamps of this position from early printings both with and without dot over “D”; also early and late proofs with and without the dot.

(To be continued)

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FUTURE
ISSUES ARE URGENTLY
REQUIRED – EDITOR**

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SMALL QUEENS STUDY CIRCLE PERFORATIONS AND SHADES

MACHINE GAUGE Perf. 11.5 to 11.6

The correspondence which appeared under "Letters to the Editor" (Maple Leaves April 1975 to April, 1976) relating to Mr. J. Hillson's theory that the Machine Gauge, generally known as P.11½ x 12 was used at Montreal only, created considerable interest amongst our members. Following Mr. Hillson's summing up, there was a note by the Editor stating . . . "it is learned that several members are now engaged on further research to try to establish whether the Machine Gauge P.11.5 to 11.6 was used at Montreal only, or at both places".

Briefly Mr. Hillson's theory appears to rely on the change of colour from rose-red in 1873 in respect of the 3c S.Q. and that the correlation of shade and perforation indicates to him the progressive transfer of the S.Q. plates from Ottawa to Montreal and that he had never seen an orange-red or dull red 3c perforated 12 before the end of 1875. Members may wish to refresh their memories by re-reading the correspondence referred to in the opening paragraph.

During the past three years a few of our active members have made a careful study of early to present day Specialized Handbooks and Catalogues, published articles dealing with the classification of the printings as well as some original notes on the Small Queens printings, which were passed to us by one time Authors and Students. We read in the well known Shoemaker Article "In view of practically no governmental or printers' records being available on this issue it is only through dated copies that any dates may be assigned to the different varieties". However, the Postmaster General's Report for the year ended 30th June, 1897 (re-printed in Boggs Vol. 2) states that 24,508,900 3c postage stamps were issued to Postmasters (Small Queens) under the heading of "First Ottawa and Montreal Printings Perf. 11½ x 12". In recent Specialized Catalogues we find that the number issued has been rounded off to 24,500,000 3c Orange red/First Ottawa Printing/Perf. 11½ x 12.

In our opinion the information given in Specialized Catalogues is based on the orders placed with Ottawa, which still leaves in doubt the actual place of printing, prior to the official change when ALL the printing was transferred to Montreal (before the end of 1874).

Specialized Catalogues from Jarrett onwards appear to agree that there was a change of Shade to Orange Vermilion in March, 1873 and there was a change of perforation to 11½ x 12 in September, 1873.

It is also generally accepted that a Machine Gauge P.11.5 to 11.6 was introduced for Postage Stamps sometime in 1873 which used in conjunction with the P.12 gauge provides the perforation known as P.11½ x 12.

It is known that P.11½ x 12 was also used for the 1868 Third Issue of Revenue Stamps and we have inspected several with Bank Circular dates from 1869 onwards. (P.12 x 12 was also used.)

It was decided to make a detailed examination of the stamps used on Covers between 1873 and 1875, particularly those posted from larger Towns or Cities and check the Shades and Perforations, in the hope that we might gain some further information.

1873 (Jan. to Mar. 3) All Rose shades. Perf. 11¾ x 11¾.

(Apr. to June 16) Vermilion Shades including Orange/Verm. Perf. 11¾ x 11¾. on White Paper (untoned).

These stamps appear to be the first Vermilion Shades as classified by Shoemaker as No. 9 (March 6, 1873) and various catalogues as March 1873.

Note: Stamps of this period were susceptible to oxidization probably due to mercuric sulphide being used to produce a vermilion colour.

June 18 as before but P. 11½ x 11¾ (Cover from Montreal).

June 23 to July 29. 3 covers from one correspondent, all posted at Guelph, Shade Orange/Verm. (free from oxidization) P. 11½ x 11¾.

July to Nov. Variety of Shades Red/Orange/Verm. Perfs. 11½, 11¾ x 12 and 11¾ x 11¾.

Dec. 11 Copper Red shade (almost pale Indian Red). Perf. 11½ x 12. Posted at Kemptville.

1874 April 17 Orange Shade P. 11½ x 12. Posted at Ottawa.

1875 March 1 Pair of Orange/Red P.11½ x 12 (Hamilton to England)

Later covers examined show that P. 11¾ x 12 (as well as P. 11½ x 12) was used during 1875 at Montreal.

Apart from finding that P. 11½ was used in June, 1873 which is three months earlier than the catalogued date of September, our studies may have added little to Philatelic knowledge. The Orange shades 1874 and 1875 are of the same Colour Group which is generally accepted as the Montreal shade. Until we have a mass produced Colorimeter that will give a consistent reading for each shade there is nothing more that we can do but continue to have fun with our stamps.

The Secretary of the Small Queens Study Circle is Mr. W. Williams, 53 Central Road, Wembley, Middx. HA0 2LQ, England.

BOOK REVIEW

A HISTORY OF THE CANADIAN RAILWAY POST OFFICES 1853 – 1967

by L. F. Gillam, F.C.P.S.

When this work first appeared in 1967 in a limited edition of 500 copies it so quickly sold out that a second edition was called for within a few months of its publication. Now that, at long last, a reprint has been undertaken by the American Philatelic Society we can make a fairly confident assertion that it will prove as successful as the original edition. This was printed on art paper, with cased full blue cloth and blocked on the spine in gold lettering. Such refinements are now, alas, a thing of the past. A limp cover encloses the 196 pages of text, illustrations and maps which represent the result of fifteen years of study and research into the history of every Canadian railway over which R.P.O.'s have operated, together with a detailed commentary upon every railway postmark known at the time of publication. This work will be available from dealers in philatelic literature in Canada and U.S.A. and from Mr. R. L. Sine, P.O. Box 800, State College, Pa. 16801 price \$11.00 postpaid. Members in the United Kingdom may, however, obtain copies from the Handbooks Manager, Mr. S. F. Cohen, 51 Westfield Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 3QE price £5.00 postpaid.

STAMP COLLECTING by F. J. Melville

This well-known work has now gone through four editions and the latest, in 1978, now appears in paperback form as one of the "Teach Yourself Books" published by Hodder & Stoughton. When it first appeared in 1949 it was hailed by philatelic reviewers as an instrument for popularising stamp collecting among those to whom it was no more than a schoolboy's hobby, or a pastime for somewhat eccentric old gentlemen.

Such attitudes still exist, of course, but if they are less widespread than formerly a great deal of credit for this must go to the author, the late Fred Melville. Now, nearly 40 years after his death, the debt that is owed to him for his services to philately is gradually being recognised. His books and articles and his work in founding what is now known as the National Philatelic Society will remain as monuments to his memory as long as the most popular hobby in the world exists.

"Stamp Collecting", is far more than a popular "introductory" work for the uninitiated, however. It has rightly been described as "practically an encyclopaedia of stamp collecting", herein lies the author's genius. His ability to simplify his subject without talking down to his readers was undoubtedly his greatest gift. This is then indeed a book for beginners, both

young and old alike; but the wealth of information that it contains in most readable form also makes it a work from which even the most experienced collector or advanced philatelist can derive a great deal of benefit and knowledge.

The publishers are to be congratulated on their initiative in issuing this work in paperback form and thus making it readily available (at £1.25) to a wide potential readership throughout the world. One final word: this latest edition has now undergone three revisions and the latest, in 1978, by Arthur Blair has ensured Mr. Melville's work remains up-to-date without detracting in the least from the freshness or originality which characterised "Stamp Collecting" when it first appeared.

NEW BOOKLET STAMPS

\$4.25 Stamp Booklets were issued on 3 July 1979. The booklets contain twenty-five 17-cent Queen Elizabeth II definitives, and the covers are available in five separate designs featuring cartoons that encourage the use of the postal code. The cover designs are the same as those used on the \$3.50 booklets issued last November.

The stamps in the booklets are perforated 12 by 12½, similar to those in the 50-cent booklets released in March. Sheet stamps of the same definitive issue are perforated 13. Seven of the stamps in the booklets are perforated on all four sides. The British American Bank Note Company printed these booklets as well as the 50-cent vending machine booklets issued in March.

Letters to the Editor *(continued from page 192)*

Mr. G. George writes :-

Ottawa FREE duplex

No doubt some members will be as surprised as I was to come across an unsuspected duplex with FREE as the 'killer'.

I have three examples on cover of the 19.5mm dia. c.d.s. OTTAWA with 2 line date under and indicia 1 or 2 above, with FREE in plain capitals 16mm x 5mm to its right and slightly under 8mm from the nearest point of the circle. The conclusive evidence to my mind is that one example is a partial double strike, having the doubling exactly matching. The dates are between May 2 1882 and March 21 1883.

I should be interested to hear of other indicia and earlier or later dates.

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Express Covers

At the beginning of the Century there existed an arrangement with the U.K. Post Office which by payment of an additional fee urgent letters may be delivered by special messengers immediately after arrival at the office of destination. This fee cannot be prepaid but had to be collected from the addressee at the rate of 3d per mile.

I have enjoyed all sorts of weird covers – first day covers, sunken ship covers, train wreck covers, bed covers etc. – but never an express cover. I am curious to know if the above express service was ever utilized and whether there are any species in captivity. Since this is a U.K. destination cover, I request anyone in the U.K. who has information on this subject to please enlighten me. Moreover, anyone who may have such an express cover to trade for “bread” is invited to take full advantage of “The YELLOW PERIL”!



*STAN LUM,
19 Bamber Court, Don Mills, Ontario,
CANADA M3A 2N5*

LONDON SECTION PROGRAMME 1979/1980

Monday, November 26th, 1979
Members – Bring, buy and display.

* * *

Monday, February 18th, 1980
George Manley – Precancels

* * *

Monday, March 17th, 1980
Annual Auction – Material from Canada and members.

* * *

Monday, April 21st, 1980
Roland Greenhill – Display

* * *

Monday, May 19th, 1980
A.G.M. and Members competition for the “Beaver Cup”

* * *

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Members normally meet from 18.30 onwards for exchange and discussion. Displays begin at 19.00.

All members of the society are invited to these meetings and visitors will be welcome.

The London Section Secretary is TOM ALMOND, 2 FILBERT DRIVE, TILEHURST, READING, BERKS, RG3 5DZ. Telephone: 0734-411052.

NOTES ON THE CANADIAN POSTAGE DUE ISSUES FROM 1906 to 1966 (Part 2)

by Gib Wallace

Second Issue 1930-32

The British American Bank Note Co. having secured the contract to produce and print the Canadian postage stamps for a five year period, changed all the designs including those used for insufficient postage payment. One plate was made for each value showing a marginal '1' for the imprint. This was reversed on the 1 and 4 cents.

Two new values, the 4 cents and 10 cents, were needed for different rates coming into use. The 1, 2 and 4 cents were issued in 1930; the 5 cents at the end of 1931; with the 10 cents in August 1932. The 10 cents, in use for only twelve months, is scarce because only 309,000 were produced.

The first orders were printed in a dark almost slate violet, but the last order, which produced the 10 cents, changed considerably to a light bright violet. The dated copies are mostly 1933.

A re-entry was reported in *Maple Leaves* in October 1958 on the 1 cent. This consisted of a double right frame line from 1½ mm. from top to the bottom frame. I discovered a mint block of the 1 cent having this re-entry in an old stock book along with a block of the 10 cents. I was amazed to find an identical re-entry. Some years later I purchased a similar re-entry block of the 10 cents. Sorting through used copies, I found a grubby 2 cents similarly re-entered. This one was not so pronounced due to over inking near the top.

I thought one die was used for all values, with the numeral omitted, but the spacing of the numerals is too perfect. Re-cut frame lines would seem to be ruled out. Adjacent stamps are much weaker than those with doubled frames. What then is the reason? I would appreciate help on this point.

Third Issue 1933-34

In this issue the 5 cents value was not produced for economy reasons. One plate was made for each value and printed in a dark violet; almost the same shade as earlier previous issue. A late order of the 2 cents came in a reddish shade which is much scarcer.

Fourth Issue 1935-66

The contract for printing was won back by the Canadian Bank Note Co. who held it until 1967. In the early printings only the 1, 2, 4 and 10 cents values were produced. As this issue had the longest run of any Canadian stamps, including the 15 cents Large Head of 1868, there are needless to say colour differences. This issue covers the last two years of the reign of King George V, the short reign of King Edward VIII, the whole reign of King George VI and the first 15 years of Queen Elizabeth.

Most catalogues list only one shade for all values except the 1 cent, also in red-violet. All the first four values produced can be seen in the early shade of dull violet, the middle period of red-violet and the later orders in dark violet. The new values; 5 cents, 1948; 6 cents, 1955; and 3 cents, 1965 are only in dark violet.

With the introduction of 'Hibrite' or re-cycled paper containing chemicals to brighten it, the last order of this issue was affected. The modern world even caught up with this humble stamp. The 1, 2, and 6 cents are the ones printed on this paper and are not easy to obtain.

Errata in Part 1: Line three from the bottom of page 149 should read "5 cents".

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CANADA V5Z 1R4. C, CEN.
2250 GORDON, Dr. Zane M., 58 Duncannon Drive, Toronto, Ont., CANADA, M5P
2M2. CL.

REINSTATEMENTS

- 2099 MARTEL, Marcus, 5 Furzehatt Park Road, Plymstock, Plymouth, Devon.
C, P, SC, RPO, D.
1759 THORNE, Leonard B., Top Flat, 28 Clarence Street, Dartmouth, Devon TQ6
9NW. C, N, B, PH, BS.

RESIGNATIONS

- | | | | |
|------|-------------------|------|------------------|
| 842 | Catterall, F. W. | 9 | McNeill, H. |
| 1982 | Collins, D. E. M. | 1547 | Pawluk, W. S. |
| 1275 | Dawson, A. | 963 | Pickering, I. T. |
| 1446 | Fraser, R. T. | 2051 | Woolcott, R. J. |
| 1622 | Irvine, A. F. | | |

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1040 CHARRON, J. J., 419 Boul, Lafayette, Apt. 4., Longueil, Quebec, CANADA
J4K 3A4.
1404 GOODALL, J. D., 87 Akins Drive, St. Albert, Alta, CANADA, T8N 3A5.
2077 GUGGENHEIM, M., Leuengasse 2A, Fach 22, CH4007, Basel 7, Switzerland.
806 HILLSON, N. J. A., 52 Stamperland Gardens, Clarkston, Glasgow.
1959 MANN, P. M., P.O. Box 575, Guelph, Ont., CANADA N1H 6K9.
1683 MARK, K. Y., 100 Ellerbeck Place, Kingston, Ont., CANADA.
392 MARSDEN, Maj. P. S. S. F., "Ashgarth", 36 Church Meadows, Milton-under-
Wychwood, Oxford, Oxon.
1958 MOIR, B. M., 4 Chute Lake Road, Kelowna, Brit. Col., CANADA V1Y 7R3.
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1990 WILKINSON, J. L., P.O. Box 3058, Denver, Colorado, U.S.A., 80210.

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THE MACKENZIE DISTRICT OF N.W.T., Arctic Yukon, Old Athabasca, and Peace River, are my areas of interest. Please offer any covers, postcards, or other interesting oddments. Rob Woodall, Forest Cottage, Holtwood, Wimborne, Dorset.

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