



JOURNAL OF THE
CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
OF GREAT BRITAIN

Maple Leaves

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS

Admiral Notebook (Part 6)	5
Letter & Postcard Rates of Canada (Part 6)	8
1906 Postage Due Issue	12
Ottawa Crown Postmark	15
Seven Cents Geese of Canada, 1946	25

Whole No. 193

Vol. 19 No. 1

June, 1983



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MAPLE LEAVES

Journal of

THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

INCORPORATED 1946

Founder:

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

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Vol. 19 No. 1

JUNE, 1983

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EDITORIAL

GOING, GOING, GONE!

The 358th sale of Cavendish Philatelic Auctions held on the 12th February last in their sale room in Derby was the scene of some frantic bidding which certainly nailed the belief that the stamp trade is in the doldrums. Of the 101 lots of Canadian material on offer no less than 74 exceeded the estimated prices, many to a degree which will certainly raise the eyebrows of our readers. Most of the lots were the property of our well-known member and Past President, Graham George, whose collection of pre-stamp covers, postal history and postmark material attracted bidding that left even Geoffrey Manton breathless, if not speechless, as he tried to keep up with the contestants. Hardened as he is to "spirited" bidding, this was certainly one auction sale that he will not forget. The "floor" carried him along. There was no question of coaxing. It was a matter of trying to control the frenetic activity below the rostrum where bidders vied with each other for the many delectable items on offer, with no holds barred! One lot of Canadian covers with "interesting markings" and estimated at £100 finally fell under the hammer at £525. Another, a 10 cents Small Queen on cover, modestly expected to fetch £35 found a new owner who considered £205 to be about the right price! These are but two of the many instances which reflect the demand for good Canadian material. Many more could be quoted if space

permitted. On reflection, to call Graham's collection "good" does him a grave injustice. For "good" substitute "superb", the right adjective and one that is a tribute to a discerning collector who over the years has undoubtedly derived considerable pleasure from his hobby, and his study of the wide field of Canadian philately and postal history. Without the latter none of this would have been possible. There is a moral here that we have no need to stress.

So much for those who have been telling us that the stamp market was "depressed". They ought to go to Derby, London, New York or Toronto for that matter. A letter from Bernard Harmer, which followed closely on the heels of the "good news from Derby" (kindly supplied by our member, Frank Laycock, the new proprietor of Cavendish Philatelic Auctions) informs us that Harmer's New York sales of January and London of February totalled almost one million pounds and "showed a remarkable increase in activity in bidding both by mail and in person". (All of which adds up to a considerable rebuff to the dismal Jimmies who cannot recognise a bull when they see one and who insist that it is a bear!) If that were not enough, a letter from Charles Shoemaker, of Jim A. Hennok Ltd., the well-known stamp dealers of Toronto, informs us that "the stamp trade in Canada is clearly flourishing despite the *RECENT* (our italics) depression". In testimony of that he goes on to say that "Downtown Toronto, at the corner of Adelaide and Victoria, is the site chosen for Canada's Postage Stamp Centre". Here, it will provide for the first time, a permanent location where stamp collectors can browse among the stock of many leading dealers. The Centre opens Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Things are clearly looking up!

AWARDS TO MEMBERS

We are pleased to announce that there is at least one reader of the editorial columns! We are much more pleased, however, to announce that our President and Secretary, David Sessions, was awarded a bronze-silver at "Stampex" for his recently-published book, "The early rapid cancelling machines of Canada" and a silver for the same entry in the Postal History Section.

INDEX TO VOLUME 18

We are indebted to Eric Killingley for the compilation of the above and which is inset in this issue. In this connection we should be grateful for any information which members might have of a binding service so that this can be publicised in our next issue.

CONVENTION AUCTION

Also inset with this issue is the Auction Catalogue. Convention auction takes place at the Grand Hotel, Bristol on Saturday, 20th August at 2 p.m. All members who intend to bid by post are requested to send the bidding form as soon as possible. In the event of 'tie' bids the first bid received will take precedence. For full details refer to the catalogue.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

With this issue of *Maple Leaves* you should receive your copy of the auction catalogue; it's full of 'goodies' and I hope every member can find something of interest in this extensive list of items. May I take this opportunity of publicly thanking those members, both here in the U.K. and from overseas, who took the trouble to submit material; I hope your effort will be well rewarded.

As experienced collectors will know, the best buying results come from being there in the room so, even if you cannot make it for the whole Convention, why not drop into the 'Grand' on Saturday, August 20? As you will see, postal viewing facilities are available to U.K. members for most lots and all lots will be on view on the Thursday and Friday of Convention. If you are planning to come to Convention and have not yet returned your booking form then please do so right away as our block reservation only holds until the end of June.

Any overseas members who have not yet contacted me but wish to join in please airmail or telephone straight away; the £/\$ relationship is still very much in your favour!

THE EXCHANGE PACKET from the PACKET SECRETARY

The 1982 packet sales were not unsatisfactory, and to date results indicate that this figure will at least be reached again. But this is not the whole picture by any means.

I think the wider view is the wiser one, and when I review the sources of material which give these results, I cannot escape the conclusion that the burden of contributing rests on too few willing shoulders.

The names of certain members keeps recurring, and frankly without them there would be no packet. They send not merely the once-a-year donation, but a number of books annually, and in some cases an almost unflinching supply of books. I feel this should be said, and read, for the society as a whole benefits quite considerably from their loyalty and industry.

I am well aware that many members may not have the surplus material to send, even on a modest scale, but I am also well aware that there are other members who could send in material for the Exchange Packet, but who choose to stand aside.

No words will be wasted in reference to the varying reasons for this, but from my viewpoint there are too few members who think it a worthwhile thing to take part in the active life of the society, and do so by contributing when they can to the Exchange Packet. It may be said that there will always be such members. That may be so, but my point, I think, loses nothing in the telling, and if you feel you should respond, the packet is waiting and at your service.

I need at least 400 books annually to a value exceeding £10,000. There is opportunity for all with surplus material to sell.

R. Grigson.

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ADMIRAL NOTEBOOK (Part 6)

by J. Hannah, F.C.P.S.

Since the last Note the late George C. Marler's new book on the Admirals has come to hand and, as was expected, it is undoubtedly the most advanced work of reference on the stamps of this fascinating issue. The detailed studies take us to the stage of the plate when a proof sheet was printed and there is a comprehensive listing of plate varieties as identified from this state of the printing plates. However as we know plate repairs were also undertaken, and other features could appear, at later stages in the life of the printing plates. These important, additional constant plate varieties have also to be recorded and identified as to plate and, if possible, position. We must therefore carry on George Marler's good work.

As to the identification of the various plates of the Original Die of the Two cents Carmine, which at the moment is the subject matter of these Notes, in the light of the new information, the plate type I have been following will be amended as necessary as these Notes proceed. I hope therefore, they will continue to be of interest to the Admiral enthusiast.

2 Cents — Plate 9

We can readily identify most of the subjects from this plate which have a series of three breaks in the upper third of the vertical line of the right numeral box. (Fig. 1)



Fig. 1)

Marler states that several subjects from the Lower Left Pane of Plate 15 also show these breaks in the numeral box which are so typical of Plate 9. It would appear that when the transfer roll subject was selected some four months later, the same subject was taken to engrave Plate 15 as had been used for Plate 9. The further use of this particular subject seems to have caused another break in the relief with the loss of the top dot of colour in the vertical line of the numeral box to give us the feature typical of Plates 15 and 16. This change in the state of the transfer roll subject will be referred to later.

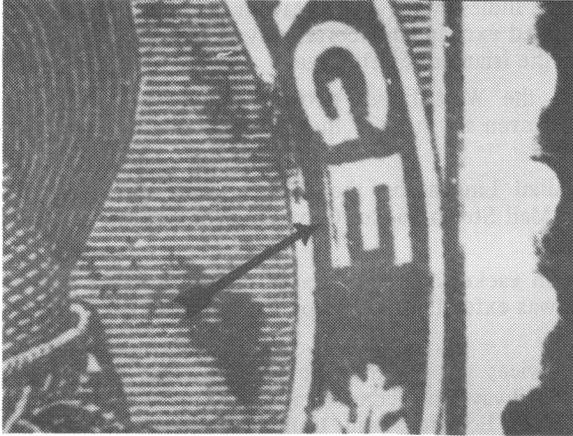
To return to Plate 9, I have this type in two imprint strips and a mint block. However, from the mass of used copies of this stamp examined by me I could find only 11 dated copies of this type from the period July to September 1912 and even undated copies were not numerous.

From the relatively few examples from this plate I was fortunate to find a worthwhile re-entry which is listed in the new book but is not illustrated. It is recorded as stamp 95 of the lower right pane with marks of colour in the letters CANADA, strongest in the letters CAN. There is also a series of dots of colour following the curve of the inner oval portrait border as shown – (Fig. 2).



(Fig. 2)

I also found two copies of a minor re-entry which may be of interest when illustrated. It is listed by Marler as stamp 89 of the Upper Right Pane. There are faint signs of doubling in the letters C and D of CANADA along with a strong line of colour in the bottom arm of E of POSTAGE. There is also a short line of colour to the right of the band of colour just below the E of POSTAGE as shown – (Fig. 3).



(Fig. 3)

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THE LETTER & POSTCARD RATES OF CANADA (Part 6) by Dr. M. W. Carstairs, F.C.P.S.

South American Rates

Fortunately the postal rates and routes to South America are less complex than those to the West Indies and Central America. Great Britain had always regarded the West Indies with special favour and in the late 18th Century had even considered exchanging "certain icy wastes called Canada" with France in return for the Island of Martinique.

In comparison with the West Indies network, the South American services were meagre, but even so, in 1875 there are a number of routes to consider.

First the familiar Allan Line across the Atlantic (Route A) and then back again by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company from Southampton to Rio de Janeiro.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet had started a monthly service in January 1851. In June 1869 it was extended to Buenos Aires and in 1872 became fortnightly.

Other Royal Mail services ran via St. Thomas to Colon, crossing the isthmus by Aspinwall's railway and connecting with the Pacific Steam Navigation Company to reach Ecuador, Peru, Chile and Bolivia. All of these I will include under Route G, but it should be noted that letters carried on the English leg of the journey by the Cunard line instead of the Allan cost 2c extra per ½oz.

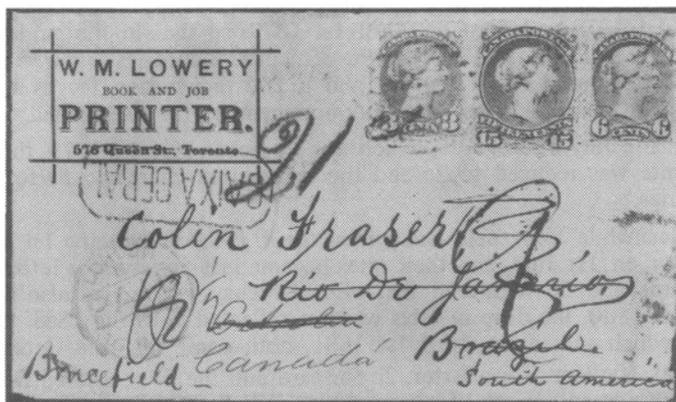
By route G the Eastern half of the Continent, Argentina, Brazil, Surinam, Uruguay and Venezuela could all be reached for 28c/½oz. in 1875 but registration was allowed only to Surinam and Venezuela for a fee of 20c.

For the longer route to the Western half of the Continent the rate was 40c/½oz. for Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador and Peru and no registered items were accepted.

In 1876 the rate for Brazil fell to 24c/½oz. and a registered letter service was introduced for 20c extra to Chile as well as Brazil. A cover of 1877 illustrating the 24c rate is shown as Fig (i). However the registration service was withdrawn to Venezuela, perhaps because of political unrest.

In the 1877 guide the rates have fallen again. Letters to Brazil and Surinam now cost 16c per ½oz. and a registration charge of 16c and from August 1st 1878 the U.P.U. rates started to come in and bring about even cheaper postage.

Paraguay does not appear in the Postal Guides of 1877 or 1878, but in the 1879 guide correct to 1st August 1878 mail was received via Brazil for 27c/½oz. which was reduced to 17c/½oz. from July 1st 1879. On joining the U.P.U. on July 1st 1881 the rate became 5c per ½oz., postcards were accepted for 2c and registered items allowed for 5c extra. In January 1885 the letter rate was raised to 10c per ½oz. but dropped again to 5c in January 1888.



(Fig. 1) Cover from Toronto to Brazil via England (routes A & G) May 1877. rates at 24c/½oz.

Sandy Point, Patagonia appears as a separate entity in the 1879 guide with a letter rate of 27c/½oz., which continues until January, 1886 when the rate dropped to 10c/½oz. for letters and cards were allowed at 2c and registered items for a fee of 5c. Sandy Point was part of Chile, and should have been included in the U.P.U. framework when Chile joined in 1881, but it would appear it was forgotten. It is now Punta Arenas.

In 1875 it was quicker and cheaper to send a letter to the Western side of the Continent by routing it overland to New York to catch the British packet for St. Thomas and Colon, across the isthmus and again connect with the Pacific Steam Navigation Co. for the voyage south. This I will call route H.

The Pacific Steam Navigation Company had been created by William Wheelwright from Massachusetts, who failing to get United States support, secured a Royal Charter of Incorporation from Britain in 1839.

His first two ships, the Paddle Steamers "Peru" and "Chile" reached Valparaiso after a long voyage from England via Cape Horn, and by 1865 he had twelve steamers providing a fortnightly service from Valparaiso to Panama. Later, in 1879, Bolivia lost her access to the Pacific and Peru lost a lot of territory in their disastrous war with Chile in 1879; but it did not appear to affect the Mail routes.

By route H, which cut out two Atlantic crossings, the rates in 1875 were only 20c per ½oz. with a registration fee of 12c to Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador and Peru.

With the birth of the U.P.U. and the enforced drops in postal charges of member states the picture in routes G & H changed dramatically as the countries joined the Union.

Surinam joined on May 1st 1877, Brazil on July 1st 1877, Argentina April 1st 1878 and Peru on April 1st 1879, so that in the guide of 1879 correct to August 1st 1878, all these member countries required a 10c per ½oz. letter rate, a 4c postcard and a 10c registration fee as they were considered remote areas, but the non-member rates remained the same.

In the July 1880 guide, which was correct to July 1st 1879, the 4c postcard rate was reduced to 2c and the registration charge to 5c for member countries.

Meanwhile Venezuela had joined the U.P.U. on January 1st 1880 and Ecuador on 1st July, and their rates became just 5c/½oz. for letters, 2c for postcards and 5c registered fee. For Uruguay which had also joined on July 1st 1880, the drop in rates was not reflected until the 1881 guide, and Chile which joined on April 1st 1881, both come into the October 1882 guide at 10c/½oz. for a letter, 2c for card and the 5c registered fee as they were considered remote. Uruguay which initially had dropped to a 5c letter rate in 1881 was back up to 10c/½oz. from 1885-1888.

On April 1st 1886 Bolivia, the last of the South American countries to stay outside the U.P.U. joined, and by 1888 all of them accepted letters at 5c per ½oz.

We have met route E, the Royal Mail Steamship route from New York to the West Indies before, and by 1875 its steamers were serving the Northern countries of the continent, French Guiana, Surinam and Venezuela for 16c per ½oz. for a letter and a 12c registration fee. There was also a closed mail to Ecuador via Panama for 23c per ½oz. which can fit in here and which lasted until July 1st 1879. But see under route H.

French Guiana joined the U.P.U. with the other French Colonies on July 1st 1876 and from 1st August 1878 both Surinam and French Guiana are quoted for a 10c per ½oz. letter rate, a 4c postcard and a 10c registration rate. Letters for Venezuela also went for 10c per ½ oz., but there were no postcards or registry service until it joined the U.P.U. (see under route H).

In 1875 the United States was running a packet of their own down the Eastern seaboard to Venezuela and Brazil direct, and then on to the Argentine, Paraguay and Uruguay. This I call route I.

For Venezuela the rate was 13c per ½oz., for Brazil 18c and for the Argentine, Paraguay and Uruguay 26c/½oz. Registered letters were accepted for Brazil for 12c. In 1876 the rate to Venezuela was increased to 16c/½oz. but in the 1877 guide there is no further mention of this route and it is presumed to have stopped.

Route J was a small feeder service to the Falkland Islands.

From 1873-1880 the Falklands Islands Company used a couple of schooners, the "Black Hawk" and the "Sparrow Hawk" to meet the Royal Mail steam packet of Route G at Montevideo, Uruguay, and transfer the mail to the Islands. From 1880 to 1900 the Germon Kosmos Line took over and called at Stanley on their monthly steamer from London to San Francisco via

Punta Arenas.

The rate was 16c per ½oz. for a letter plus a fee of 20c for registration in 1875 which dropped to 16c in 1877.

By a remarkable co-incidence a cover posted in Montreal on March 12th 1877 and passing through London on 29 March to arrive at the Falkland Islands on June 21st 1877 has survived and it is illustrated in Fig. 2.

From August 1st 1878 U.P.U. rates of 10c/½oz. for letters, 4c for cards and 10c registration applied, and as expected from July 1st 1879 2c for post-cards and 5c registration. The Falklands had joined the U.P.U. on January 1st 1879.

By 1891 the letter rate had fallen to 5c/½oz.

Lastly there was a short lived monthly service by the Cunard Line from Halifax, Nova Scotia to Rio de Janeiro in 1882 and 1883 which served only the Argentine, Brazil and Uruguay at cheap rates of postage of 5c/½oz., instead of the 10c/½oz. by route G, and it must have been quicker. However like route I it did not last, and the rates anyway were to come down to the uniform 5c/½oz. by 1888. I have called this route K.



(Fig. 2) Cover from Montreal 1877 to the Falkland Islands via London and Southampton and Montevideo. Marked "Too Late" probably at Halifax as it had to await the sailing of the "Caspian" on 17 March to reach Liverpool on 29 March.

(Both illustrations "Courtesy W. E. Lea Ltd.")

1906 POSTAGE DUE ISSUE – SOME NEW THOUGHTS by N. B. Lazenby

Having been accumulating Canadian Postage Due stamps for some ten years or more I have read with interest a number of recent articles by Mr. G. A. Wallace commencing with that in the August 1979 issue of *Maple Leaves*. There are a number of statements made by him with regard to several issues of Postage Due stamps that I might dispute having regard to my own collection, but would like, here, to draw attention to a number of points with regard to the 1 cent, 2 cents and 5 cents values of the first issue.

These three stamps, it seems to me, have to be viewed as running in parallel to the Admiral issue. It is already well known that both Postage Due stamps and the Admiral stamps were printed by both wet and dry printing methods and also that all three Postage Due stamps and three values of the Admiral stamps were for a while printed on a thinner inferior paper. It will be noted that the changeover from wet to dry printing method and the printing on the thinner paper both occurred in the early to mid 1920's. A study of the Admiral issue for this period would reveal one other major change i.e. new dies were made for the 1 cent and 3 cents values and the die of the 2 cents value was re-engraved. This change took place about 1924-1925. Having examined quite closely the copies I have acquired of the three values of the Postage Due issue it is clear to me that new dies were prepared for all three values at about the same time and that in all probability all printings by the wet method utilised plates made from the original dies and all printings by the dry method utilised plates made from the new dies.

Figs. 1, 2 and 3 illustrate stamps from each die and indicate the most easily seen differences between the new dies and the original ones. There are other minor differences. I do not, unfortunately, have access to plate block material of these stamps but if my thesis is correct a 5 cents stamp could not possibly be printed from plate A3 for both a wet printing on thinner paper and a dry printing in the 1928 dark violet shade as stated by Robson Lowe in Volume V of his Encyclopedia and referred to by Mr. Wallace in his article "Unrecorded Postage Due Re-entry" in the June 1982 *Maple Leaves*. All my copies printed on the thinner paper show the characteristics of DIE I and all my copies in the late shades printed by the dry method show the characteristics of DIE II.

Mr. Wallace in his article in the June 1982 *Maple Leaves* also refers to a sheet of 200 impressions being cut into two panes of 100 in a 10 by 10 format. This repeats exactly what is said by Robson Lowe in his Encyclopedia. However I think this statement is open to question. On page 225 of his Encyclopedia and referring to the Admiral issue Robson Lowe states :- "The printing plates produced sheets of 200 or 400 which were divided to yield the Post Office sheets of 100. There were four types :-

- A. 200 subjects 20 x 10 divided by a vertical gutter
- B. 400 subjects 20 x 20 divided by vertical and horizontal gutters
- C. 200 subjects 20 x 10
- D. 400 subjects 20 x 20

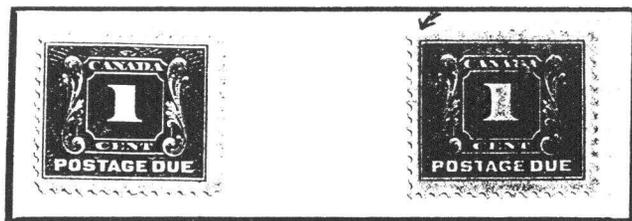
Type C was guillotined vertically and type D vertically and horizontally into the Post Office sheets thus producing stamps with one or two straight edges. Until January 1914 only types A and B were used.”

An examination of the Postage Due stamps in my collection reveals examples with straight edges *both on horizontal and vertical sides and on adjacent sides*. The only inference I can make from this is that they came from a sheet of 200 impressions divided into four panes of 50 in a 10 x 5 format or from a sheet of 400 impressions divided into four panes of 100 in a 10 x 10 format, but not as stated by Robson Lowe in respect of the Postage Due stamps. It also appears that the straight edge copies are to be found amongst the DIE I copies in shades appearing to date from sometime during World War I onwards, and amongst the DIE II copies. If ever there was a demonstration of the importance and relevance of the often despised straight edge copies of Canadian sheet stamps, this is it, as such copies not only give an indication of overall sheet format but can also assist in dating shades at least approximately. It would seem probable that stamps produced during the first eight years (including some distinctive shades) came from sheets type A or B with no straight edges and that subsequently they came from sheets type C or D producing some stamps with straight edges. It is not inconceivable that both type C and D were used and guillotined into panes of 100 in which case stamps with a horizontal straight edge could only come from a sheet type D. Two other points with regard to Robson Lowe's listing arise. Firstly he states that the change from wet to dry printing took place in December 1922. In my view this change did not take place until at least 1925. Secondly in his listing of the 1928 issues (including the new 4 cents and 10 cents values) he omits completely a 1 cent value in dark violet. This stamp most certainly exists and together with the 2 cents and 5 cents values was probably issued before 1928 as I have a copy dated 8th December 1927.

Much more research is required on these stamps, particularly with regard to the dies, plates and shades (of which there are many) and I am sure both Mr. Wallace and I will be fascinated to see what further information members can provide from material in their collections or other knowledge. Mr. Wallace has already raised some interesting questions with regard to lathe-work on these stamps (*Maple Leaves*, January 1982) and further research is required in that area. Useful Postage Due material is hard to find as I know from long experience, so help from other members will be very welcome.

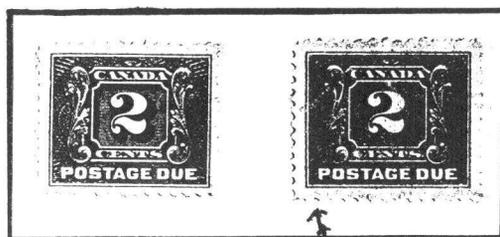
I will conclude, if I may, with a plea to the membership at large for more articles for publication in *Maple Leaves* on the subject of Postage Due stamps,

not only the stamps themselves but their usage. If any member has knowledge on the uses to which they were put, rates, methods of cancellation, Post Office instructions to staff using them etc. I for one would be very interested to know more as I have a number of covers in my collection which raise all sorts of questions.



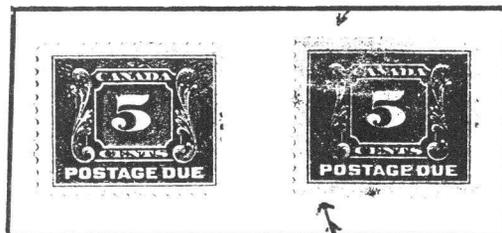
(a)

(b)



(c)

(d)



(e)

(f)

KEY TO VARIETIES

- (a) 1 cent, die 1
- (b) 1 cent, die 2 (Dot in U.L. corner longer and extends through inner frame line)
- (c) 2 cents, die 1
- (d) 2 cents, die 2 (Additional dot beside foot of 'P' of 'Postage')
- (e) 5 cents, die 1
- (f) 5 cents, die 2 (Kink in inner frame line and additional dot beside foot of 'P' of 'Postage')

OTTAWA CROWN POSTMARK by "The Yellow Peril"

Mr. McConnell's letter in August issue of *Maple Leaves* (No. 189) has again aroused my curiosity in this postmark. It would indeed be interesting and informative to learn of the why's, when's and where's this attractive cancellation was used. It may even be useful to compile a list of stamps with this strike. To this end, I list my present meager stock:

3c SQ	1
6c SQ yellow brown	1
15c LQ later print	5
15c LQ	31 — an irregular block with at least 31 strikes (illustrated in <i>Maple Leaves</i> No. 66 June/July 60)

Only genuine strikes are included in the above listing.

Hopefully the following account will contribute something to the overall picture of crown postmarks.

A couple of years ago I let myself be "hanged" with a horde of Small Queen covers with crown cancels. The fact that there have been similar covers from the same correspondence offered in two recent auctions implies that this horde was the remnants of a larger horde.

This horde of covers, however, do have some redeeming value and philatelic interest. A cursory examination reveals that most of the covers were franked with 3c SQ's; two with 1c and 2c SQ's; and one without any adhesive. The covers were addressed to a Dr. or Prof. Robert Bell, Geological Survey, Ottawa. Some have "FREE" rubber handstamps; some with manuscript "FREE" and/or "OHMS" markings; and some, plain. The covers (known return addressees are Toronto and Montreal commercial firms) were mailed during the period January 1884 — July 1888. All the stamps were cancelled by the Ottawa crown.

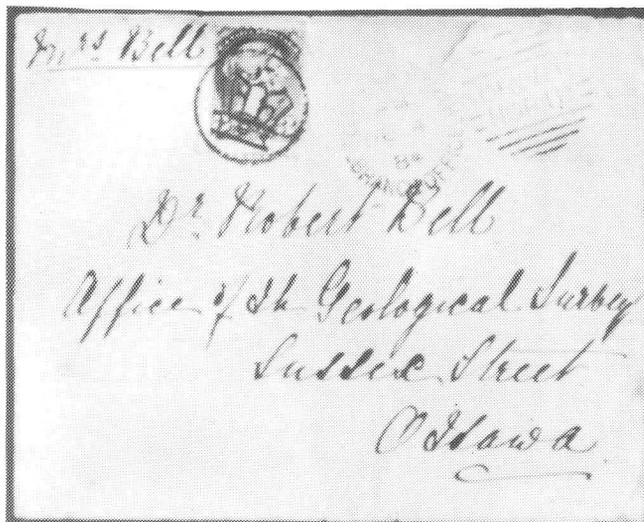
It would appear that senders of these letters and even the postmasters at Toronto, Montreal and at other points of despatch were under the impression that letters addressed to public departments in Ottawa could be sent free of postage. These letters, therefore, were posted without stamps and upon their arrival at Ottawa, the Department or someone (which or who is anyone's guess) affixed the correct postage on the letters after which the stamps were graced by the Ottawa crown. Because of the ambiguous postal regulations, the customary 3c fine was waived and only the 3c postage was charged.

It was not until 1887 that the Canada Official Postal Guide was amended to include Geological Survey in the list under Dept. of The Interior entitled free postage.

Since there are sufficient examples of these covers illustrating this usage, could it be conjectured that one of the uses of the Ottawa crown postmark was to cancel letters that required special handling? Are there any

registered covers from this correspondence? Would any of our learned members care to share their views?

From photos courtesy of Bill Edward.



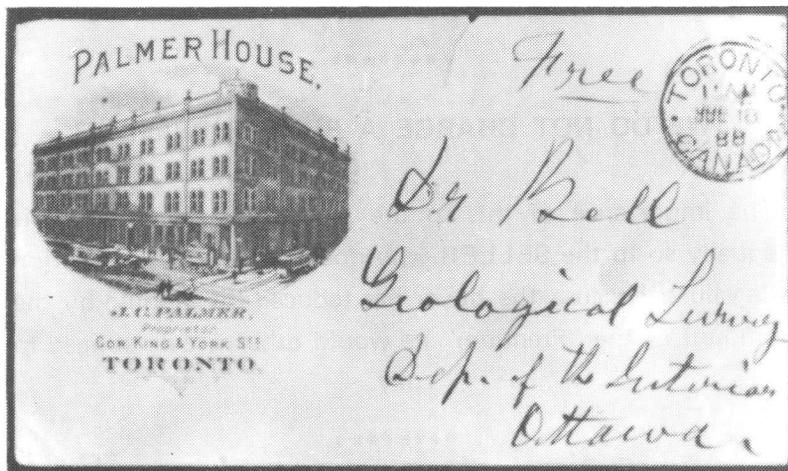
Cover postmarked with Toronto North Branch Office DE 4 84 duplex.



Burland Litho Co. Montreal advertising corner card backstamped Ottawa
MR 7 85



Envelope with "C.P.R.Y OTT & PT ARTHUR MC '12' E JU 30 87" rpo. Note OTTAWA-CANADA JY 2 87 FREE" cds – year Geological Survey was officially added to list of Dept. of Interior authorized free postage. Despite the Ottawa 'FREE' handstamp, postage was paid. Force of habit?



Toronto Palmer House advertising cover postmarked JY 18 1888 – free postage finally!



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BNA BOOKLET VARIETIES – TAB GUIDE LINES by **W. J. McCann**

While preparing material for an exhibit at Orapex in Ottawa by chance the light reflected off a pane of the 2c green from the combination booklet at a different angle and revealed a partial guide line in the tab. After some diligent searching another was found.

The line is quite feint, extending from the top edge of the tab about 18mm. down and 11mm. from the left edge. Then two more turned up with the line running from the bottom edge of the tab up about 22mm. On the second two panes a tool mark or scratch was found at about a 45° angle. It extends from the upper left to lower right in both examples, stopping short of the third perf. hole above the centre line of the tab. The lines have been intensified in the photographs for clarity.

From personal observation of the proof sheets at the National Postal Museum it can be stated that the lines are not present on the proofs.

Now, there must be more copies of this variety in existence. Please check all panes in your possession for more examples and notify the editor or the writer of any luck. (*For illustration see page 23.*)

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Major R. K. Malott writes:

RECENT NEW BOOKLETS AND STATIONERY

The following data may be of interest to your readers concerning recent Canada Post releases, 4 out of 5 of which did not receive first day of issue service.

Canada Post does not offer First Day of Issue Service for philatelic items that are the same design with only a value change, usually aerogrammes because of the difficulty in cancelling, and booklets with the cover attached to the envelope. Patrons at Post Office Philatelic Counters can obtain through the handback system examples of cancelled booklets and postal stationery on the first day of availability at the local philatelic outlet. The date obtained is not necessarily the first day of issue but it will be close if not the actual one.

Items recently obtained include the following:

- a) **15 February 1983:** A set of 10 fifty cent booklets were issued with the legislature buildings on separate booklets. The pane of stamps in the booklet contained one .32c Maple Leaf stamp, two .05c Maple Leaf Stamps, one .08c Maple Leaf stamp, and two advertising labels. The P.O.D. issued an official First Day cover with a pane of the aforementioned stamps but none depicting the booklet covers with the pane of stamps for the ten designs.
- b) **1 March 1983:** A .32c post card printed in brown depicting three horse-drawn stage coaches was released on 1 March 1983 replacing a similarly designed post card printed in rose red that was released on 2 March 1982. Both post cards are tagged at the left of the design. The description of the design of the post card is a new addition.
- c) **1 March 1983:** A .32c size 8 envelope printed in a light black depicting three express passenger engines of the Grand Trunk Railway, engine No. 93, 4-4-0 type, was released on 1 March 1983. This envelope, now including a description of the engine, replaced a similarly designed envelope printed in a light green that was released on 2 March 1982. Both envelopes are tagged to the left of the design.
- d) **1 March 1983:** A .32c size 10 envelope printed in a light and a dark blue depicting three stern-wheelers — Bonnington — that operated on the Arrow, Kootenay and Okanagan Lakes of British Columbia from 1911 to 1946, was released on 1 March 1983. This envelope, now including a description of the stern-wheeler, replaced a similarly designed envelope printed in light and dark green that was released on 2 March 1982. Both envelopes are tagged to the left of the design.
- e) **1 March 1983:** A newly designed .64c Canadian aerogramme in the regularly shaped aerogramme layout was released on 1 March 1983. The aerogramme is printed in various shades of blue on light grey paper,

unwatermarked, with "AEROGRAMME" and "64", printed in bright red. Will there be aerogrammes coming on the market without the red printing? I would bet a \$1.00 that some will be located eventually. The cloud design used so successfully in the last aerogramme releases has been replaced by the three design technique of a mode of transportation of the mail – an aircraft. The design depicts a Fairchild FC – 2 cabin monoplane, Canadian Airways Ltd. aircraft G-CANC, used extensively for first airmail flights in Canada from 1928 to 1930. A description of the aircraft is printed in the bottom panel in English and French. The aerogramme is tagged to the right of the value "64". There is one deficiency in this attractive design. The aircraft is presented in a flying mode as no propeller blade is seen as is proper for a flying propeller operated aircraft. Close inspection of the aircraft design will reveal that there is no pilot at the controls and pilots were needed in those days to maintain elevation. Perhaps when the next revision comes out with the yearly increase in postage costs the designer will place a pilot at the controls. Personally I like the design and hope that we will have a series of different aircraft on Canadian aerogrammes.

Anyone wishing further data on these specially cancelled items may contact the writer: Major R. K. Malott, R'td, 16 Harwick Crescent, Nepean, Ontario, K2H 6R1, Canada.

NEW STAMP NEWS

32 cents definitive

SHEET, issued 10.3.83, brick red on background of two shades of yellow brown, photogravure, B.A.B.N.Co., Perf. 13 x 13¼, G.T., coated paper, little or no fluorescence.

COIL, issued 10.2.83, brick red, one colour intaglio, C.B.N.Co., Perf. 10 vertically.

BOOKLET (50 cents) issued 15.2.83, brick red, B.A.B.N.Co., Perf. 12 x 12½ G.T., uncoated paper with one 8 cents and two 5 cents purple (the 8 cents is a new stamp and the 5 cents is the same as in the 1982 booklet.) The latter is dated 1982 in the lower left corner; but the 32 cents and the 8 cents are dated 1983. Four stamps and two labels.

BOOKLET (\$8.00) issued 8.4.83. Printed by B.A.B.Co. using the same design as the sheet version and perf. 12 x 12½. All other technical detail as for sheet stamps. Booklet covers will continue the Library of Parliament design. Twenty-five 32 cents stamps.

SHEET (Queen Elizabeth II) issued 24.5.83 but it is not yet known whether or not the current Cameo design will be used.

(Our thanks, as usual, to Stuart Clark for the above information – Editor.)

BOOK REVIEW

TEACH YOURSELF STAMP COLLECTING

For anyone who wants to learn, young or old alike, or who needs to be reminded of things passed and forgotten, Arthur Blair's revised edition of F. J. Melville's classic work (first published in 1949!) this cannot be bettered, and no one has ever tried. That this book has seen three new editions since it was first published speaks for itself. It is the nearest thing to an encyclopaedia of stamp collecting that can be crammed into 200 pages in the inimitable style of the author — easy to read, understandable, interesting and uncondescending to the novice, revealing even to the expert. Fully indexed for reference purposes and with too many fine illustrations for this reviewer to count, it is priced at £2.50 with a semi-stiff cover that makes it a gift with a difference. It could be a birthday or Christmas present for the young budding collector, grandfather, grandmother or anyone in between, in fact for 'everyman', or woman, boy or girl. Published by Hodder & Stoughton, readers will find it at their local booksellers. But how they manage it at this price is a trade secret!

CANADIAN STAMP HANDBOOKS

A matching binder (price \$4.95) for the handbooks is available from Unitrade Associates who have been chosen as sole distributors of this and future handbooks.

A Unitrade Associates spokesman notes: "This handbook marks a new phase in Canadian philatelic literature. I see this as the counter-part to the fine Campbell-Patterson work which is available to the collector of New Zealand issues but which has been unavailable to the Canadian collector".

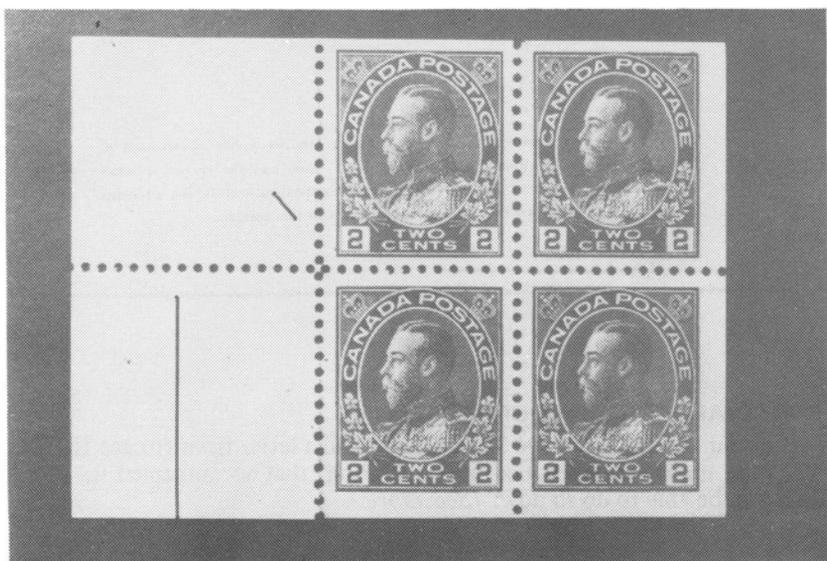
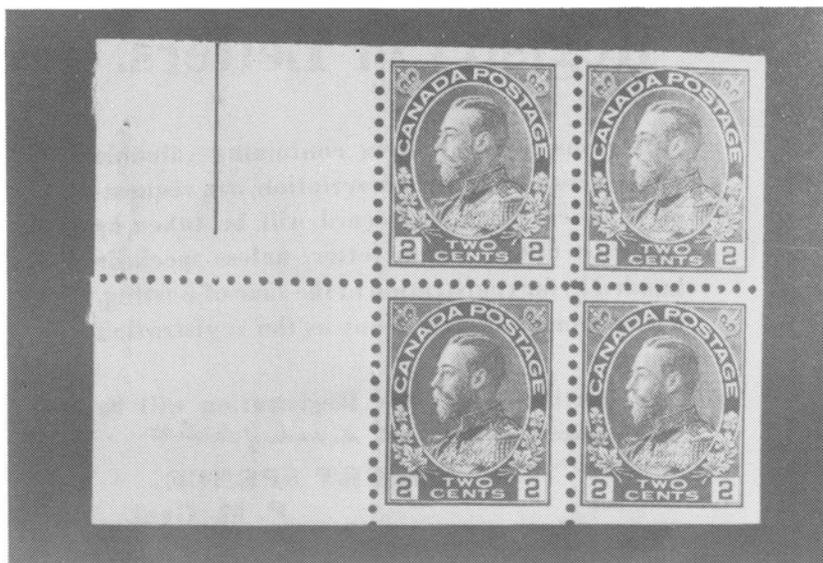
To ensure, receiving all editions of the handbook series, the publisher suggests collectors set up a standing order to receive all future releases.

(See page 330 of our last issue for details of the first part of this series of handbooks — Editor.)

EARLY AMERICAN PERFORATING MACHINES AND PERFORATIONS 1857-1867 by Winthrop S. Boggs

An important study by the eminent Winthrop S. Boggs, published originally in the Collectors Club Philatelist in 1954. Boggs not only collated what was known about early American perforations and perforating machines, but made many new and interesting discoveries. This important study is divided into three parts: 1) An examination of the early perforating machines used in America, their construction and mechanism; 2) An examination of the stamps perforated by such machines from 1857 to 1867 (including the stamps of the United States, Canada, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Hawaii, Argentine Republic, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru and Salvador); 3) The occurrence of varieties in the perforating done by the machines and the cause of such varieties. An

excellent work covering all aspects of this subject. Softcover, Retail \$3.95 and obtainable from Unitrade Press, 127, Cartwright Avenue, Toronto, Ont. M6A 1V4.



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Post Office Department,
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CANADIAN REGISTRATION SYSTEM

In our last issue on page 328 we published a letter from Horace Harrison, but were unable to reproduce the illustration that accompanied it. We are happy to be able to do so now. (*See above*)

THE SEVEN CENTS GEESE OF CANADA 1946 – Some Listed and Unlisted Varieties

by W. Smith

I believe that Hans Reiche has listed varieties on two stamps, numbers 10 and 39 of the upper right pane of Plate 2 of this issue and if other varieties have not been listed, this is difficult to understand as one or two are equally distinct.

All these varieties can be referred to as re-entries but some may prefer to call them shifted transfers, and the best one is on stamp No. 10 which is found in a plate block, being at the end of the second horizontal row. From the accompanying photographic enlargements, the doubling of left and right outer frames, of left hand side and bottom of left value tablet as also of right hand side of right value tablet, can be seen to be quite distinct and the space between the two impressions quite considerable. The little verticals in the border are also doubled in the four corners. How can you get a shift to the left and a shift to the right on the same stamp, as appears to be the case?

The other listed variety, on stamp No. 39, shows widely separated doubling of the right hand frame, the space between the two impressions narrowing towards the bottom. The verticals in top and bottom borders are doubled in the corners at right and each of the value tablets has a frame which is partly doubled or thickened.

With regard to other varieties which I have found and which apparently are unlisted, I had hoped to obtain mint sheets in order to establish positions but this has not proved possible, so I will record as much as I know.

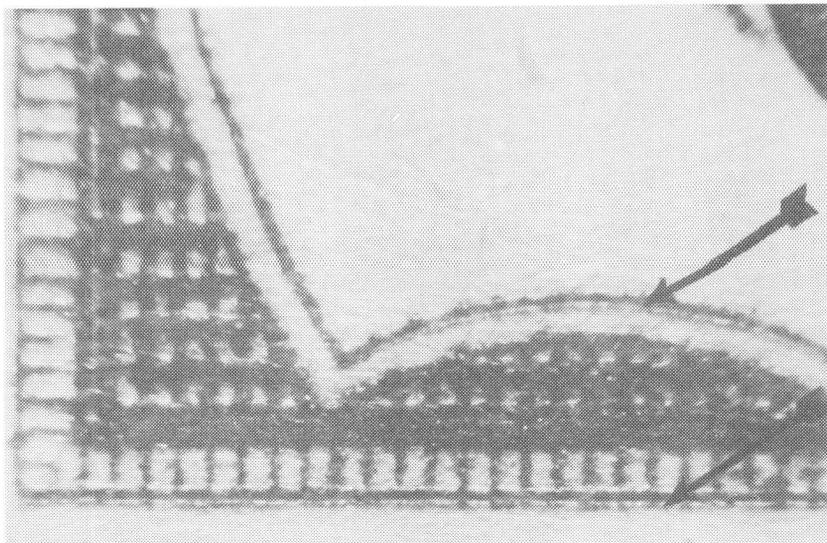
Fortunately I have one good variety in a block of four which can be positioned as it is immediately below No. 39 with the variety which has been described. How one has been recorded without the other is puzzling as No. 44 has very clear doubling of the right hand frame and the inner scroll border as well as the little verticals in the border above. Perhaps this variety has been confused with No. 39 as they are similar, a slight difference being that No. 44 shows the right hand frame of the right hand value tablet thickened, not doubled.

A further variety shows the left outer frame doubled (but closely), with a similar effect in the border verticals at top and bottom and also in the value tablet on that side. As I have two copies with narrow margins at right, it can be said that this will be found in the right hand vertical row of a left hand pane.

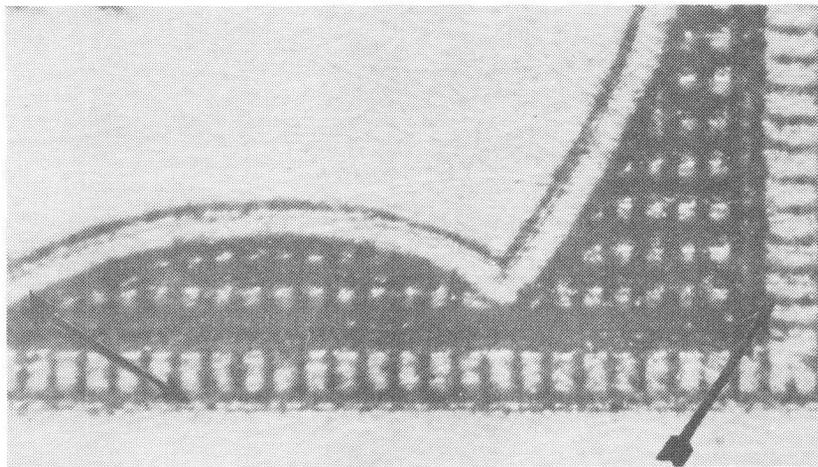
A different sort of variety which I cannot position is the thickening of the bottom frame, particularly towards the centre where it shows doubling under "1946".

Thickened vertical frames can be found elsewhere, and some broken frames, the latter perhaps being only printing imperfections.

No doubt there are other varieties which I have not found and as all four panes of both Plates 1 and 2 (which were issued simultaneously) were overprinted O.H.M.S. and G and at least some were perforated O.H.M.S., quite a collection of these varieties could be formed.



(Bottom left corner)



(Bottom right corner)

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