



JOURNAL OF THE  
CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
OF GREAT BRITAIN

# Maple Leaves

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Whole No. 195

Vol. 19 No. 3

October, 1983



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

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and are not necessarily endorsed by the Society

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## EDITORIAL

In our last issue we posed some of the practical problems involved in the production of the society's journal. At the time when those lines were penned, however, we omitted the most intractable difficulty of all: how to ensure that, as far as is humanly possible, we meet the needs of our members. Among them there must be some, if not many, who prefer to live simple philatelic lives and who collect Canada "generally" without involving themselves in the minutiae which delight the hearts of others. In modern jargon "in depth" studies are not to everyone's taste as letters which we occasionally receive will testify. Others will confine their interests to more recent issues, perhaps exclusively to the Elizabethan period which, after thirty years, is a wide enough field to engage the time and interest of dedicated philatelists to such an extent that nothing will tempt them to browse in other pastures. We know that too as well as we know the contempt which others hold for what they choose to call modern "wallpaper". Others find the postmark field in all its infinite variety of absorbing, if not exclusive, interest. The close affinity which postal markings have with postal history has often helped to foster the illusion that postmark collectors must be, of necessity, postal historians. That is a classical *non sequitur*; many postmark collectors have no such delusions of grandeur. Conversely, to some postal historians, postal markings are but signposts, purely incidental, or at the most, "prologues to the swelling theme".

In the broadest terms, therefore, we have to try to cater for stamp collectors who may in the fulness of time become "philatelists" or even "specialists", and postmark collectors who may ultimately graduate in postal history! All this is conjectural: it can be nothing else. It is the proud boast (if that is the word) of those whose business it is to promote our hobby that it has no rules; all are free to "do their own thing" and there are none to say "nay". For all we know some of our members may string their stamps on lengths of cotton as Victorian ladies are alleged to have done with their Penny Blacks. One member we definitely know of used to trim the perforations from common used stamps, cut off any remnants of postmarks and make a multi-coloured collage of the rest. The bits and pieces were glued to cardboard, covered with clear varnish to preserve the original colours and then framed. "A delight for sore eyes", was the way in which he described these pictures which were then hung on his study walls. We were given a detailed step-by-step description of the whole process and an open invitation to publish what was called "A New Approach to Stamp Collecting". Now if this was an elaborate leg-pull it was skilfully camouflaged. Reference to the society's handbook quickly established that surrealist philately was not numbered among the fifty-two varieties of interests which engage the attention of our members, apart, of course, from one who had hitherto hidden his light under a bushel. We mustered all our resources of tact and diplomacy and politely (we think) declined our member's kind offer on grounds of "minimal appeal" or words to that effect.

At this point we come (not too soon) to the meat of the matter. We have just referred to the fifty-two varieties of interests that our handbook compiler lists. A generous count in our last issue reveals that it covered ten of them to a greater or lesser degree, which means that many of our members must feel that their interests are being neglected. Perhaps Commander Scott-Fox was prompted by this feeling to "rush into" the Centennial field with his thought-provoking and novel article that we published in our last issue. If only those who have sought, but not found, what they would like to see in *Maple Leaves* would let us know we could publish a list of "neglected" topics and someone, somewhere, expert or novice, could help to remedy the situation. If the number of contributors could be swelled (optimistically) or doubled (realistically) that intractable difficulty mentioned earlier would be eased, and the editor's life made a little more tolerable. At this point we can do no better than echo the words of Dr. Robert C. Smith, the Editor of *The Postal History Society of Canada Journal* who in his June issue writes:

"Has there been an article on your favourite subject in the Journal recently? No? Well, how about telling us all about it? The only way to get articles in the Journal is to have knowledgeable people write them. Give it a try."

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## THE SEVEN CENTS GEESE OF CANADA, 1946 (CORRIGENDUM)

On page 26 of our June issue the captions under the illustrations used in the above article were unfortunately transposed. Moreover, the illustrations were shown horizontally and not vertically as intended. The top illustration is the bottom *RIGHT* corner (base at left as published) and the lower illustration is the bottom *LEFT* corner (base at right as published). This was entirely our fault and we wish to apologise to the author, Mr. G. W. Smith, and our readers for any inconvenience and confusion caused by these errors – Editor.

## BINDING FOR MAPLE LEAVES

We are indebted to Mr. G. Thompson for reminding us that Mr. M. J. Martin is still willing to offer his services to those members who have their copies of *MAPLE LEAVES* bound. Those who are acquainted with Mr. Martin's work will know that it is excellent, and that his charges are most reasonable. The work is done in maroon, with gold lettering on the spine and two volumes of the journal are contained in one binding, together with indexes if these are also supplied. Mr. Martin can be contacted at: Solihull Bindery, 45 Thurlston Avenue, Solihull, West Midlands. Tel: 021-743-5454.

## NEW STAMP NEWS

Abitibi-Price Inc., the only Canadian mill producing postage stamp paper in recent years, decided at very short notice to cease to do so and as a consequence Canada Post, beginning with the World Council of Churches issue on 22nd July, 1983, has been compelled to produce postage stamps on PVA, gummed, non-fluorescent paper coated for either gravure or litho printing supplied by well-known, quality, non-Canadian mills. Until a Canadian paper supplier can be obtained the supplier's name will appear bracketed on the paper specification line in the Philatelic Service bulletins which are issued with each new stamp. In the case of the World Council of Churches issue the suppliers were Harrisons as is the case with the subsequent Sir Humphrey Gilbert and Nickel Discovery issues of the 3rd and 12th August respectively.

## FROM THE SECRETARY

Members are asked to note that their copies of *MAPLE LEAVES* are sent to addresses as they are known at the time of going to press, i.e. about six weeks *BEFORE* the due date of issue (the first week in the relevant month). It is, therefore, impossible to activate "last minute" notification of changes of address and members are earnestly requested to notify the secretary at the earliest possible date when their addresses are going to be changed. It would also help if the new addresses were typed or printed in bold capitals in order that the addressograph can be altered correctly and printed correctly in the list of amendments published in *MAPLE LEAVES*.

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## THE SIX CENTS SMALL QUEEN 1872-1897

by N. J. A. Hillson

### Date of issue

It is generally accepted that this, the third value of the series to appear, was first issued in January 1872, its arrival being chronicled in the February 1872 issue of the 'American Journal of Philately'.

### Quantity issued

28,634,730 were issued between 1872 and 1897 of which 4,209,400 are from the 2nd Ottawa Period, 1889-1897.

### Usage

The denomination's main purpose was the prepayment of cross-border mail and mail to the U.K. However on January 31, 1875 the letter rate to the U.S.A. was reduced from 6c to 3c, and on October 1, 1875 the rate to the U.K. was reduced to 5c, after which time its main use was for the double letter rate (Domestic and to the U.S.), and from 1879 for parcels not exceeding 4 oz.

After 1875 it was also used in combination with the 2c to prepay the letter rate (3c) plus Registration (5c) to the U.S., a combination that had a rather wider application from 1889, when the domestic registration rate per ½oz. was increased to 5 cents, until 1893 when the Eight Cents denomination was issued.

As can be seen, after 1875 demand fell to about a tenth of what it had been – 3 to 4 million a year. Usage built up from the middle 1880's to close on a million a year, but during the 2nd Ottawa period it fell again and rarely touched 400,000 in a year.

### Proofs

Large Die Proofs probably do not exist. Small Die Proofs are known in Brown, Red-Brown, Black, Blue and Lilac. Plate proofs exist in Black and in Brown on India paper, on card, and on India paper mounted on card.

Holmes records a 6c Essay Die Proof with different frame ornaments from the issued design.

### Colour of Issue

1872 – 1889 Yellow-Brown  
1889 – 1897 Red-Brown

There is comparatively little difference in the Yellow Brown shades over the years. The early printings associated with the 1st Ottawa period are a little warmer in tone than the Montreal printings (Mid 1873-1889). Perhaps one of the red inks used in the colour mix was a little stronger than latterly. A distinct deep shade is noted from Aug./Sept. 1874, perforated 11½ x 12.

The 2nd Ottawa period shows a greater shade range in view of the comparatively short time involved, shades ranging from light Red-Brown to deep Red-Brown; a deep Chestnut coming from the end of the period, and a Chocolate-Brown in the middle, c. 1893.

#### **The Plates**

2 plates were used, both standard format arranged in 2 panes each 10x10 subjects separated by a central gutter, the sheets being guillotined into two halves before delivery to the Post Office Department.

The first plate must have been laid down toward the end of 1871. Type IV Imprint – BRITISH AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO., MONTREAL & OTTAWA (1mm high colourless lettering on a coloured background) was placed in the usual positions and in its original state it had the normal single lower left position dot on all subjects except those from the left hand vertical row. It had no letters above the top centre imprint. During one of the subsequent repairs to the plate the letter 'A' was added to the Left-Hand pane above the middle of the top imprint, and a reverse 'R' to the left of the 'SIX CENTS' counter, which on this pane is above the 1st - 3rd vertical rows.

All Yellow-Brown stamps were printed from this plate.

The second plate had the Type V Imprint – 'British American Bank Note Co., Montreal', a counter to the left of the L.H. pane and above the centre of its top imprint the letter 'B' upside down and reversed (so that at first glance it appears normal). The R.H. pane, naturally, had the counter to the right of the top imprint above which is the letter 'C' reversed. Position dots can occasionally be discerned at the 9 o'clock position on the rim of the medallion indicating the plate is from the 'late' Montreal group of plates, but is an early example laid down around 1880. (Later 'late' Montreal Plates, i.e. c.1886 have the position dot at 3 o'clock). A position dot and traces of a horizontal guide line bisecting all the dots in each horizontal row is to be seen in the selvage of the R.H. ('C') Pane.

This plate was used only for the red-brown Ottawa printings, and had been in store for so long before its commission that early printings from it show that it had become slightly corroded in places.

#### **Plate Varieties**

The 'Montreal & Ottawa' plate had one fresh entry with doubling throughout the design, which is illustrated in most handbooks concerned, and is known on cover as early as 28 March 1872. I do not believe its location on the plate has been properly established. Repairs to this plate gave rise to a number of other re-entries, while removing the original one, generally to be found in evidence of doubling to the numerals of value, or to the base line.

There must have been at least two general repairs, plus one or more particularised repairs, to this plate. In the second state of the plate, i.e. after the first general repair, carried out probably in the fall of 1874, 2 lower left position dots became the norm on this plate instead of the usual one. The second general repair gave yet a third dot to many of the vertical rows and it is recorded that in its 3rd state the L.H. Pane showed :—

1st stamp — no dot.      2nd stamp — 2 dots.      3rd-10th stamps — 3 dots.  
(horizontal rows).

Unfortunately the R.H. Pane from this plate is so elusive that the author has no record of any positional pieces from it, so it is not even known if the L.H. vertical row had a L.L. position dot in its original state or not, a feature that some plates at least from the early period most certainly did have.

At some time subsequent to the 2nd general repair, and probably after 1890, position 24 L.H. Pane was extensively re-entered, noticeably to the left and base of the design. Curiously Position 35 in this late state actually has 4 position dots, and gives a strong clue as to why all these extra dots were punched in (by hand). The Position 24 Re-entry is not recorded in Yellow-Brown.

Two other varieties from the first plate are the 'Dot in "P"' which is on stamp No. 2 L.H. Pane, and the 'Gash below the Neck' — plate damage similar to the 'Plume in Hair' flaw on the 5c, which is only known on stamps Perf  $11\frac{1}{2}$  x 12, therefore must have occurred after the plate was commissioned, and then corrected fairly quickly.

The 'Montreal' Plate, repaired around 1892 which removed evidence of corrosion, in its 2nd state contained three major re-entries, all similar in that the left side of the stamps are strongly affected, and all three show considerable distortion to the word 'CENTS'. One from Pane 'B' is still not located, the other two from Pane 'C' are at Position 7 (one of the corroded positions in the 1st state) and at Position 81. All three are very scarce.

The most well documented variety from the plate came from a later repair, probably done in 1895. This is the 5c/6c Re-entry which may come from Position 25 Pane 'B'. The fifth vertical row shows the subjects 'jumped' at positions 25 and 35; unfortunately the phenomenon repeats itself at positions 85 and 95, so there is doubt as to its exact location. Readers are referred to *Maple Leaves* Vol. 18 No. 2 p.33/34 and No. 3 p.80 for a description of the variety and possible reasons for its cause. This is still not clearly understood, but the weight of evidence suggests that the wrong transfer roller was used by the operator in a moment of mental aberration.

Various minor re-entries are found on this plate and interested students are referred to Reiche's handbook on the subject.

### Perforations

The usual pattern is followed. 1st Ottawa are found Perf 12 x 12, then Perf  $11\frac{1}{4}$  x 12, occasionally  $11\frac{1}{4}$  x  $11\frac{1}{4}$ .

Montreal printings appear mid 1873 Perf  $11\frac{1}{2}$  x 12, later  $11\frac{1}{4}$  x 12 again, and from 1876 Perf 12 x 12 concurrent for a while with the compound perforation. One example is known Perf 12 x  $11\frac{1}{2}$ .

2nd Ottawa printings are Perf 12 all round.

### **Paper**

Again this follows the typical Small Queens pattern – good quality wove in the early years, poorer thinner quality from the 1880's, and very poor thin paper, rough on the reverse, from about 1888, but showing a slight improvement in quality around 1893.

### **Imperforates**

These were produced from the 'Montreal & Ottawa' plate some time during, or just after, 1893, and possibly after this unusually long-lived plate had been finally taken out of service.

### **Bisects**

A few examples exist prepaying the domestic letter rate, where a genuine need may have existed. Others, also few in number, are philatelic – all these are from the Maritime provinces where there was a tradition of allowing bisects through the post without penalty.

### **Conclusion**

It is surprising that a stamp printed from just two plates during its entire 25 year span should present so many conundrums to the student, many of the answers to which even today are imperfectly understood. I suppose more than any other stamp in the series, this one indicates why the last word on the Small Queens will never be written.

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## **CANADIAN STAMP HANDBOOKS**

### **The 1967-73 Canadian Centennial Definitive Issue Published by The Unitrade Press, Toronto.**

Canadian Stamp Handbooks, edited by Michael Milos, has released the second in a series of handbooks for the advanced collector. The second release covers in depth one of the most popular definitive issues Canada has ever produced, the 1967-73 Definitive Issue, popularly known as "The Centennials".

This issue is, without doubt, the most complex issue produced during the Elizabethan Era. What began in 1967 as a single issue produced by the Canadian Bank Note Company, soon mushroomed into a plethora of varieties with the advent of the British American Bank Note Company on the printing scene. *The Centennials, 1967-1973* provides the collector with a clear understanding of this complex issue.

Prepared by five leading "Centennial" specialists; Richard Fournier, Murray Freedman, Peter Harris, Douglas Irwin and Ken Rose under the editorship of Michael Milos, this 44 page looseleaf handbook includes an up-to-date comprehensive price list of all the material listed.

*The Centennials, 1967-1973* is printed on durable, quality paper and contains: information on the technical aspects of the Centennial Definitives separated into the three types of paper used during the life of the issue including the designs, format, coils, booklets, imprint, gum, perforations, phosphur tagging, precancels, dies, printing methods; a separate listing of the main varieties and their locations; and a comprehensive listing (using the primary Scott numbers) of the regular issues and varieties listing the paper fluorescence, texture, gum, tagging, plates, issue date and other pertinent data. The detailed nature of the regular issues has also been used in the listing of the coils and booklets (both complete booklets and booklet formats with integral panes). The latest up-to-date Tagging Varieties Chart by Ken Rose has been reproduced to complement the listings.

The comprehensive listing of the stamps is followed by several pages of illustrations using half-tone plates to clearly depict the major sheet, coil and booklet varieties as well as the re-entries of the 6c black noted in the listings.

Canadian Stamp Handbooks is planned as an on-going project over the next two to three years, and will culminate in a comprehensive work encompassing the whole of Canadian philately. The series will be published in compact 6x9" booklets in a loose-leaf format. A matching binder for the handbooks is also available from Unitrade Associates, the sole distributors of the handbooks (retail \$4.95).

The first handbook, *The First Cents Issue, 1859-1868* sold out the initial printing and the second edition is again available at \$2.95.

The second handbook, *The Centennials, 1967-1973* retails for \$5.95 (44 pages) and may be obtained from local stamp dealers or by writing directly to The Unitrade Press, 127 Cartwright Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M6A 1V4. Please note that all prices are in Canadian funds and orders should include \$1.00 for postage and handling. The Unitrade Press accepts VISA or Mastercard.

To ensure receiving all editions of the handbook series, the publisher suggests collectors set up a standing order to receive all future releases. The next planned handbook will cover the popular "Admiral Issue" and should be available in the early autumn.

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## AIR MAIL NOTES

### Jack Knight Air Log & A.F.A. News

We are indebted to our well-known member Major R. K. Malott for the receipt of information (unfortunately far too copious to reproduce) which we are sure will be of interest to aerophilatelists. This is contained in the July-September issue (sub-titled above) and is available from Major Malott at 16 Harwick Crescent, Nepean, Ontario, K2H 6R1.

## POSTAL HISTORY OF THE KLONDIKE GOLD RUSH

by A. E. Barlow

*(The material in this article is based upon the author's study of various files in the Yukon Archives during July and August 1977. Permission to write on this subject and to reproduce copies of letters was given to the author verbally – Editor.)*

Letters showing clearly some of the problems encountered when the postal service was being established, during the great Klondike Gold Rush, can now be seen by visitors to the Yukon Archives in Whitehorse, capital of the Yukon Territory of Canada.

The modern Archives Building stands beside the Public Library on Second Avenue in Whitehorse. It is open Monday to Friday, from 8.30 a.m. to 5.0 p.m. and holds many historical records of the Yukon since it became a Territory at the time of the Gold Rush. There are a number of files of official post office correspondence which may be consulted, on request.

Gold was discovered at Rabbit Creek, a tributary of the Klondike River in August, 1896, by George W. Carmack and his two Indian companions, Tagish Charlie and Skookum Jim. By 1897 the news had spread to prospectors in other parts of the Yukon and Alaska. They moved in to stake their claims, during that year, on the creeks flowing into the Klondike. Rabbit Creek was renamed Bonanza Creek. Dawson City was built near the junction of the Klondike and the mighty Yukon River. It was founded by Joseph Ladue in September, 1896.

The Great Stampede followed in 1898. Thousands of people moved north into the area of Dawson and the creeks of the Klondike. They turned Dawson into a tent city as they arrived. In that year it became the largest Canadian Community west of Winnipeg. It was then capital of the Yukon, an honour it lost to Whitehorse in 1951.

The letters in the Archives File No. 890 illustrate the role played by the North West Mounted Police, with Captain Harper of that Force as first Postmaster of Dawson. Later the responsibilities of the postal service were taken over by the Commissioner for the Territory, and the appointment of a civilian postmaster, Mr. Hartman. Finally, the Post Office in Ottawa took over responsibility, but by that time most of the great mass of stampedeers had moved on to new claims and new dreams.

A handwritten letter from Frank Harper of the N.W.M.P. is the earliest in the files. He wrote from Dawson on 23rd August, 1898,

“To whom it may concern –

The Yukon Mail and Express Delivery Company is going to endeavour to establish a service for the delivery of mail in the town of Dawson and on the creeks adjacent to Dawson. They have interviewed me regarding this service, and I have agreed to assist them in any way I can in giving them letters for those who may wish to avail themselves of this accommodation by a small charge.

This is entirely voluntary on any one's part who may wish to obtain their mail through this source and is done entirely for the PUBLIC BENEFIT. As a good deal of expense will be incurred in connection with this delivery, I have given the within mentioned the sole right of this delivery for the time being."

Signed — Frank Harper, Postmaster, Dawson.

The letter was headed "North West Mounted Police", also handwritten.

The second item in File No. 890 of the Yukon Archives is another handwritten letter from Frank Harper, Inspector N.W.M.P., Postmaster. On six foolscap-size pages, it is dated 7th September, 1898 and addressed to W. Ogilvie, Esq., Commissioner of the Yukon, Dawson. Harper writes very clearly of his efforts to establish a post office.

"Sir, I was sworn in as the post master at Dawson in Victoria on the 14th of August 1897, and then was caused to provide a guarantee of \$250 for the due performance of my duties, the premium for which guarantee they caused me to pay from my personal finances, and I have received no allowance whatever since being Postmaster of Dawson for any responsibilities or superintendence I have had in connection therewith. I arrived in Dawson on the 10th of October, 1897 with a small mail and \$100 worth of postage stamps. I reported to Supt. Constantine that I had been appointed Postmaster but he replied he could not see that I had anything to do with it as he had already sworn in a man named Sarsen as Postmaster. So for a short time I did not take any active part in the Post Office, but when I found that Sarsen was residing at Fortymile, I then assumed control. At this time the Post Office was in a tent in the town, on the main street near the Opera House. As it was necessary to move from there at once, Supt. Constantine erected a small building adjoining the Guard Room in the Barracks to be used as a Post Office. This was alright (*sic*) until the first mail arrived from the outside on the 26th February 1898, consisting of a ton or more, when it was quite inadequate for distribution purposes. So I obtained then, from James Kerry, the use of his saloon in town to distribute the mails. He had it closed at the time and allowed me to use it free of charge. I still used the building in Barracks for the distribution of the old mail and sale of stamps. I continued to use this building for quite a long time but when it was required I had to return to the small building in Barracks. I then handled the sorting of any new mail that came, and the Registered Mail and sale of stamps in the Hospital Building in the Barracks. This continued until it was simply impossible with the accommodation in Barracks to handle the crowd requiring their mail daily. I then obtained the loan of a building in town from Macdonald and Harrison for the distribution, which place is still being used, though we are likely to have to vacate the same at any time.

On the 1st mail leaving Dawson after my arrival, 4th January 1898, I sent a full report to the Post Office Inspector in Victoria, regarding having suitable buildings erected here and the great necessity for same, also a proper staff be supplied to carry on the Post Office duties and sundry other matters regarding the supply of stamps or etc."

Captain Harper goes on to say he received a reply that his report was being sent to Ottawa. He adds that he sent a similar report to Major Walsh "up the river". Then he goes on:

"When Major Walsh arrived at Dawson I explained to him the great necessity of having a proper building for a Post Office and he told me to get estimates, which I did. On learning the figures he said he would do nothing until he heard from Ottawa."

After explaining some of the frustrations in getting a new building started, Captain Harper notes that Major Walsh left "without giving any more instructions or authority to erect a building". The Major had, however, given Captain Harper authority to engage civilians, as required, for Post Office work, paying them 75 or 80 dollars a month, "they to board and lodge themselves". He goes on "Under this authority, I have now 8 civilians employed. The hours that the Post Office has been open during the Summer months have been from 8 to 5, now from ½ past 8 to five, and a few days during the Summer, when the great rush was on, I kept it open until eleven o'clock at night, the police getting so much per hour extra for the extra hours. But the men thought they were not getting enough so I could get no volunteers for the night duty after a few nights. Further to accommodate the Public I allowed some of the Police under Const. Henson to obtain letters from the Post Office during closed hours, for friends of theirs."

He ends: "I allow ladies to enter by a side entrance and only give them their own mail and that of their husbands."

Mr. Ogilvie, the Commissioner for the Yukon Territory, was evidently dissatisfied with the postal arrangements being in the hands of the N.W.M.P., for on 27th September, 1898 he wrote from Dawson a letter to Hon. William Mulock, Postmaster General, Ottawa, a copy of his typed letter being the next item in the Archives. He writes: "Sir, As an oppprtunity has occurred by which I can send a few lines, I take advantage of the occasion to say that I found the Post Office here, to put it mildly, is in a disgraceful condition.

Who is to blame for this I cannot at present say, and would rather not make any remarks in that direction."

Ogilvie goes on to report that he has put the office on a different footing and rented a building at One thousand dollars a month.

"At present the Postmaster here, Capt. Harper is busily engaged in his police duties.

By an Act of Parliament erecting the Yukon Territory into a separate province, I, as Commissioner, am armed with Supervisory power over all the Departments, but I would ask you to make me Post Master or Post Office Inspector (or whatever title it is designated by) over the whole Yukon Territory, so that I may be able to deal promptly with any emergency that may arise."

The Postmaster General replied on 1st November, 1898. He told Ogilvie that he was pleased to learn that Ogilvie was putting post-office matters in Dawson "upon a more satisfactory footing, and in compliance with your suggestion will recommend that, as Administrator, you be clothed with the power of a post-office Inspector for the Yukon District."

Mulock went on to advise the Commissioner that Mr. I. J. Hartman had been appointed postmaster at Dawson.

"Mr. Hartman will show you his instructions", the P.M.G. adds, "and I am sure will work loyally with you in order to make the service a credit to the Department."

An Order in Council was then passed on 5th November, 1898. This gave the Commissioner for the Yukon the power to exercise supervision over postal matters in the Territory. Signed by H. G. LaMothe, Assistant Clerk of the Privy Council. A copy (unsigned) of the Order in Council, together with the original covering letter to Ogilvie from the Post Office Department, Ottawa, is in the Archives.

Mr. G. Hartman settled in as Postmaster. Six months after he took over the Commissioner asked him for a report. A copy is to be seen in the Archives file. Written 24th April, 1899 by Mr. Hartman it starts:

"Wm. Ogilvie Esq.,

Commissioner, Sir :- As requested in yours of 20th, I here give you a report of the work connected with the Post Office since my arrival on Oct. 17th 1898.

Three days previous to my arrival, the building which you had secured and had fitted up for a Post Office immediately after your arrival on 5th September was destroyed by fire on the 14th October. On the 17th, when I arrived here, you had secured the present building, and men were fitting up the interior as fast as it could be done, and in the best possible way for the distributing of the mail and for the convenience of the public.

On the 18th, you turned the superintending of the work over to myself and I had the work finished as you had planned, which I consider was to the best advantage that possibly could be considering the shape and size of the building.

I believe nearly all the mail was saved from the fire. The letters were all thrown into sacks from the pigeon holes, thus mixing them all up, and as there were tons of it, you had wisely set the staff at sorting the letters out alphabetically so as to have them ready by the time the office would be ready."

Hartman goes on to say he had eight people working, except that when a large quantity of mail arrived in March and April 1899 he employed two extra workers. During March 225,000 letters had arrived. He reported that no man had to wait in line over a half an hour to receive his letters!



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Before Hartman's appointment Dawsonites and miners on the surrounding creeks had been constantly complaining of bad service. They were tired of lining up for hours and sometimes days outside the post office to get their mail. So Hartman's efforts had evidently brought some improvement.

The building reported destroyed by the fire which scoured Dawson on 14th October, 1898 was that owned by Alex McDonald and which Harper had borrowed for use as a post office.

The establishment referred to as "the present building" in Hartman's letter was the Brewery Saloon. The Government had leased it and set up semi-permanent quarters. Until finally, in November, 1900 a new permanent post office building was opened in Dawson.

On 5th November, 1901 a letter was sent by the Deputy Postmaster General, Post Office Department, Ottawa to the Commissioner for the Yukon Territory, Dawson. It reads as follows :-

"Sir - The establishment of direct telegraphic communication with Dawson having made it possible for this Department to assume entire control of the Postal Service in Yukon Territory, it is no longer necessary to impose any responsibility upon you in respect to postal matters. And an Order in Council, copy of which I enclose for your information, has accordingly been passed withdrawing the authority which was conferred upon the late Commissioner for the Yukon by Order In Council passed on the 5th November 1898."

For the men who had been in Dawson from 1897 or 1898 the efficiency resulting from the construction and opening of the new post office in late 1900 was a miracle. It enabled families to communicate and businesses to expand. Without a settled and efficiently run postal service it is unlikely that Dawson could have developed into a modern city and centre of communications for the Yukon Territory for many years to follow.

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IN "MAPLE LEAVES"

## POSTAGE DUE ON BUSINESS REPLY STATIONERY

by G. A. Wallace

It is 19 years, October 1964, since R. B. Hetherington wrote a series of articles on Permit and Business Reply Stationery for *MAPLE LEAVES*. The information he gave was accurate and well worth re-reading. I do not intend to try to better his articles, just to give a few aspects of Business Reply Cards and Envelopes a new lease of life. Personally, I think this form of Postal Stationery is about the dullest form of philately, with regard to a long list of ELECTRO sizes and the tedious number of CHEVRONS; so, these will not be mentioned again.

I am interested in the use of Postage Due stamps on these envelopes and cards, having in mind the rates and methods of payment. To recap on previous articles, Business Reply Envelopes are a spin-off of Permit stamped envelopes; which in turn is an alternative form of pre-cancelled envelopes. The difference being, that the postal fee on Business Reply Cards and Envelopes was only charged if the item enclosed was returned by post. This service could save business firms huge amounts in postal wastage, which more than compensated the 1 cent per item extra charge.

A large firm sending out printed matter in thousands could expect to receive about a ten percent response on the advertising, order forms and reply envelopes despatched. During the 1930's, a thousand stamped envelopes for inclusion would cost \$30.00 in postage, of which approximately \$3.00 worth resulted in actual business, thereby constituting a postal waste of \$27.00 — not a very promising return on the initial outlay. This new service, which began early in 1930 (possibly February), would only cost the business the original \$3.00 plus the 1 cent per item, amounting to \$1.00, this keeping in mind the average response of ten percent. The saving of \$26.00 per thousand made this service a viable solution to postal wastage.

As this service was on a C.O.D. basis, and the majority of returned items were received within the first week following despatch, the system of payment could be arranged with the Postmaster in three different ways :—

1. By a special bank account with sufficient money deposited in advance.
2. By the purchase of sheets, or part sheets of the largest denomination Postage Due stamps, i.e. 10 cents — which were pre-cancelled and held in abeyance until the total had been used, (this is why cancelled sheets can be found with original gum). Many Postmasters used Postage Due stamps as a form of accounting.
3. By individually affixing Postage Due stamps to the straggling replies coming in after the initial surge of the first week's post; or for smaller firms with a lesser turnover.

The last method could be used to rectify any mistakes made, such as :— (a) old stationery used after a change in rate; (b) a drop letter reply mistakenly posted out of town; or (c) an enclosed addition causing an overweight reply. All three reasons are rare, but can occur. The first reason of which I have an example in my collection, is a 3 cent Reply Envelope of 1930, used in 1935 with a 4 cent Postage Due stamp. This could have been taxed double on the 1 cent deficiency, creating a 5 cent rate; or double taxed on the whole amount which is an 8 cent rate. The last two reasons have been reported, but to date they have eluded me.

Business Reply Cards and	Feb. ? 1930 – Apl. 01 1943	3c
City Rate Envelopes	Apl. 1 1943 –	1951 4c
Business Reply Envelopes	Feb. ? 1930 – July 01 1931	3c
at Domestic Rate	July 1 1931 – Apl. 01 1943	4c
	Apl. 1 1943 –	1951 5c

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## FORMER AIRMAN COVETED FAMOUS ADMIRAL by The Yellow Peril

The collection of Admiral stamps formed by the late George Marler – the best of the best Admiral collectors – contained fantastic sections of gorgeous plate strips, exotic engine turnings, and irresistible mouth-watering proofs. Viewing such rare items is commonplace for me. However, the Marler collection proved to be an exception. It was the first time since my youth that there was something that I coveted. More than any stamp, lathe-work, or proof that I longed for was that 10c (blue) “R-GAUGE”! For many years I harboured the thought that it would one day cross my path. An even greater surprise was that I encountered only token resistance during the skirmish to capture this little jewel. (*see below*)

Auctioneer Bill Maresch of Toronto did the honours on September 29th, 1982. Despite the fact that this was a very highly specialized sale the “floor” was larger than expected. The famous collection was broken down into fine lots thereby enabling anyone who was even remotely interested to buy some Admirals. Dealers’ stock purchases, as anticipated, were less than at general sales. Prices were seemingly a shade on the low side. There were more bargains than record prices. For example: the 29 volume reference collection was santa-claused to a deserving student for \$2,400 against an estimate of \$15,000. The six-volume study of Edwards, housing over 7,000 stamps, made \$1,000 against an estimate of \$3,500. Out of the forty-nine lots of booklets and panes, there were eight lots of the rare 2c squat die. Although the War Tax stamps represented only 15% of the overall Admiral issues, the fighting in this section was the fiercest. Two lots made over five thousand Canadian dollars. Lovers of plate material had a field day! Some plate strips were sold for less than the price of the ordinary stamps. The precancel R.P.O.’s and Perfin collections averaged about double their estimates.



The lovely die proofs sold between \$600 to \$5,250 each. Amongst the engine turns, there were two rarities. A corner block of the 50c with an unmistakably type "D" turning (65%) was known down at \$7,000, a spectacular price for a truly spectacular piece. The block of the 3c brown with inverted "C" turning realized only \$1,700, yet this lathe design on this stamp is at least twice rarer than the 50c lathe.

A week preceding the above sale, Marler's second book on the Admiral Issue appeared. Like his first book, it was published by the American Philatelic Society. Member Horace Harrison is to be congratulated for his role in getting this excellent book to the printers.

(The above figures do not include the 10% buyer's privilege premium. The Yellow Peril served with the Royal Canadian Air Force, later the Canadian Armed Forces, until his retirement in 1975 – Editor.)



**13**



**39**



**37**



**41**

## THE BROKEN PETALS OF THE PITCHER PLANT

by D. C. Speirs

On February 23, 1966, the Canadian Post Office issued a five-cent stamp depicting *Sarracenia purpurea*, the pitcher plant. This species is the floral emblem of Newfoundland, and the stamp was part of a series showing the floral emblems and coats-of-arms of the Canadian provinces and territories. The secret date "1966" is below the Latin inscription on the coat-of-arms, directly underneath the vertical bar of the cross.

This stamp was printed by a combination of intaglio and offset. The red flowers were printed by offset, requiring a litho plate. The plate was produced by a step-and-repeat machine, which repeated the stamp image fifty times to produce a sheet. The sheet image was in turn stepped and repeated to produce the final printing plate with 300 stamps on it, that is, six sheets. The sheet image was scratched before being put through on the step-and-repeat machine, and therefore all sheets have the same flaws on them, known as "broken petals".

Of the four constant broken petal varieties, only one is at all well known, that being the "5 o'clock break" on stamp number 41 on the sheet. (numbering is left to right, top to bottom). The 5 o'clock break is exactly as rare as the other three breaks, yet has achieved catalogue status when the other three are seldom discussed. One probable explanation for this peculiar state of affairs is that the 5 o'clock break is part of the lower left corner block. Collectors of matched plate blocks will therefore have this stamp. The other three breaks are dispersed over the sheet, and are more likely to have been used for postage.

Even a prominent Canadian dealer was unaware of the other broken petals, and put an advertisement in the June 7 1983 issue of *Canadian Stamp News* offering one of the breaks for sale. The advertisement speculated that the stamp was position 28. The photo was indistinct but was probably position 13 or 39.

The four broken petal flaws are as follows:

Position number 13 — Diagonal break on far left flower of the stamp. The break is a thin line just below the centre of the flower, running at an angle of about twenty degrees.

Position number 37 — 12 o'clock break on far left flower. Just above the centre of this flower is a vertical line. Where this line contacts the centre of the flower there is a break in it.

Position number 39 — Diagonal break on far left flower. This break is almost identical to the number 13 flaw, but is tilted upwards at a much steeper angle of about 45 degrees and is only about two-thirds the length.

Position number 41 — 5 o'clock break on far right flower. On this flower, just to the right of centre, is a broken line. The break is several times thicker in width than the other broken petal flaws, and is much more conspicuous. (*see illustration opposite*)

## RIGHTS OF THE POST OFFICE DEPT. IN THE MATTER OF DIES, ROLLS AND PLATES USED BY BANK NOTE CO.

by Hans Reiche, F.C.P.S.

An interesting philatelic sideline, which can be viewed as philatelic history, is revealed from correspondence between the Canadian Post Office and the Bank Note Co. The original correspondence between the British American Bank Note Co. and the government has been reviewed and studied. This information is now in the files of the Archives in Ottawa.

On 7th July, 1897 the Deputy Minister, Finance Dept. raised a question with the Deputy Minister of Justice regarding the ownership of the dies, rolls and plates which were used in connection with the work of the Finance Dept., the Dept. of Inland Revenue and the Post Office Dept., and which were manufactured under a contract with the B.A.B.N. Co. The Deputy Minister replied that these items should be delivered by the company to the government.

In the answer provided by the Deputy Minister of Justice he referred to Clause 5 in the contract which provided that all plates, dies and rolls specially used in connection with the said work or any part thereof, and which had been paid for by the government of Canada to the company should be reserved for the exclusive use of the said government of Canada as well as all plates from which the said work or any part thereof should be printed, and should be the property of the government, and the company should, on demand, deliver to the Minister of Finance of Canada for the time being or as he might direct, all said plates, dies and rolls which the company might hold after they had been prepared and paid for.

In connection with the question of payment it was suggested that under Clause 5 all plates which had been paid for and all plates prepared for the production of any stamps mentioned and which had been furnished to the government, were the property of the government, and it was the duty of the company under that clause to deliver the same to the Minister of Finance on demand. Mention was also made that with respect to dies and rolls there was no provision in the contract for payment, but that some had been paid for as part of the cost of engraving the plates. It was suggested that even those which were prepared for banknotes, but used for stamps, were also the property of the government.

Later on after some further enquiry by the Deputy Minister, Finance Dept., the Deputy Minister of Justice wrote that he wished to state that the advice given in the previous letter should be modified. Plates, dies and rolls which the government had paid for became under each contract the property of the government. Payment for plates did not, however, necessarily constitute payment for the dies and rolls with which the plate was produced.

But this did not end the correspondence. In April, 1898 the Deputy Postmaster General wrote to the Deputy Minister of Justice to clarify certain further points. The questions raised were the legal rights to the dies, rolls and plates, the right to destroy or cancel dies, rolls and plates for security reasons, and the company's persistent refusal to cancel these. The first questions were resolved by the previous correspondence with the Department of Finance. With regard to the question of destruction the Justice Dept. did not think that the government had any right to insist upon the destruction of items not under the provisions of the contract, but that all plates from which work had been printed were to be reserved for the exclusive use of the government.

In May, 1898 the Office of the Superintendent of the Postage Stamp Branch wrote to the Deputy Postmaster General. In this memorandum mention was made that on 2nd February, 1898 the department received from the B.A.B.N. Co. the final delivery of stamps (Small Queens) under the contract and that a small account remained outstanding against the department. This amount was withheld pending the surrender or cancellation of all dies, rolls and plates used. Mr. G. B. Burland, the President of the B.A.B.N. Co. was interviewed and he contended that only the plates, dies and rolls, for which the Dept. had paid, were the property of the government. The plates etc. paid for by the dept. were those used to print the 8, 20 and 50 cents stamps, the U.P.U. postcard of 1896 and the letter cards of the 1, 2 and 3 cents denominations. The other dies, rolls and plates which the B.A.B.N. Co. claimed to be the property of the company were those which had been used for the ½, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10 and 15 cents stamps, the 1, 2 and 3 cents stamped envelopes, 1 cent postcard, the old U.P.U. and U.K. postcards, the 2 cents reply card and the 1 cent newspaper wrapper. He mentioned that the Deputy Minister of Justice was averse to the view that this dept. had any right under the contract to take such precautionary measures as previously suggested.

The reason for the concern of the Post Office was that it was noted that *certain material* (our italics), such as proofs and imperforated sheets appeared to come into the possession of unauthorised persons and that the unauthorised re-use of dies, rolls and plates must be prevented. The word 'rolls' is used frequently and in today's terms these would be called transfer rolls.

An interesting fact can be gleaned from all this: all catalogues, including the booklet on the Small Queens of Canada, quote the last date of stamps issued to postmasters as 1897, with the exception of the 8 cents. From the above information we now know that the last day the Post Office received from the B.A.B.N. Co. was 2nd February, 1898. This delivery included many other denominations for the printing of which the dept. had not yet paid.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Commander C. Scott-Fox, F.B.I.M., R.N. writes:

### Definitive Issue, 1977-83, Plate Numbers

I have been having a long correspondence with the Canadian Philatelic Bureau to ascertain the precise state of the Plate Numbers of the 1977-83 definitives and have now been sent their list. They themselves were very confused – not surprisingly – and said that they were surprised at one or two of their findings! If this would be of use to other members you may believe it to be worth space in *Maple Leaves*. All that I can say is that my readings of the various catalogues and brochures against stamps that I held did not tie up and I have found this to be useful.

#### Perf. 11.9 x 12.4

Flowers	1c – 10c	smooth background; printed CBN	Plate 1
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#### Perf. 12.9 x 13.25

Flowers	1c – 5c	rough background; printed BABN	Plate 2
	10c	smooth background; printed CBN	Plate 2
	10c	rough background; printed BABN	Plate 3
	12c, 15c	printed BABN	Plate 1
Parliament	12c, 17c	printed CBN	Plate 1,2
	14c	printed CBN (Plate 4 with wide and narrow selvedge)	Plate 1-4
	12c	printed BABN	Plate 1
Queen Elizabeth	12c, 17c and 30c	printed BABA	Plate 1,2
	14c	printed BABN	Plate 1

#### Perf. 13.25

Trees	15c-35c	printed BABN	Plate 1
Streets	50c	printed BABN	Plate 1
		printed CBN (1978)	Plate 2,3
	60c	printed CBN	Plate 1,2
	75c, 80c	printed BABN	Plate 1
Scenery	1 Dollar	printed CBN; tagged	Plate 1
		untagged	Plate 2
	1.50 Dollars	printed CBN; tagged	Plate 1
	2 Dollars	printed CBN; untagged	Plate 1,2

Precancels are all identified as being from Plate 1 printings although in some cases plate numbers have not been found on the sheets, except 12c Parliament which cannot be positively identified as being from Plate 1 alone.

Major R. K. Malott writes:

### Souvenir Envelope for "The Loyal Americans"

The Canadian War Museum (CWM) has issued a souvenir envelope to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the immigration of the United Empire Loyalists to Canada commencing in 1783. A size 8 envelope with a Loyalist soldier in black on the left side with the wording "Canadian War Museum/National Museum of Man/Musee canadien de la Guerre/Musee National de l'Homme", in black print and "1783-1983 Loyalist Bicentennial/Bicentenaire loyaliste" in red print. On the right side one of ten of the new 32 cent, military and fur trading forts stamps is cancelled with a commemorative three-line die cancellation "The Loyal Americans/Les loyalistes/1783-1983" dated 1 July 1983, Canada's official birthday - Canada Day. Inside the envelope is a bilingual information insert concerning the United Empire Loyalist.

These envelopes are available from the Canadian War Museum at a price of \$1.25 Canadian each, post paid. In conjunction with the exhibition *The Loyal Americans* the Canadian War Museum which is part of the National Museum of Man/National Museums of Canada has published a 208 page book entitled *The Loyal Americans* by Robert Allen. This book is available from the Canadian War Museum at a price of \$14.95 Canadian. Orders should be addressed to The Chief Curator, Canadian War Museum, 330 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0M8, Canada. Money orders or cheques made payable to the Marketing Branch, National Museum of Man for the envelopes desired should be addressed as indicated above.

This is the fourth commemorative envelope issued by the Canadian War Museum. The last issued and still available at \$1.25 each also, was the souvenir envelope issued to commemorate the Dieppe Raid of 19th December, 1942.

Mr. H. W. Harrison, F.C.P.S., writes:

### 2 cents Edward VII envelope

Appended herewith is an actual count of the number of different dies in a lot of 1,438 Scotts Cut Squares of the 2c King Edward VII envelope, Webb #EN17 to EN17e.

Based upon this study, I suggest that the price scale for used entires be as listed below.

EN17	Die 1	\$ 2.00
EN17a	Die 2	10.00
EN17b	Die 3	20.00
EN17c	Die 4	6.00
EN17d	Die 5	40.00
EN17e	Die 6	25.00

Of course, I have no way of knowing whether these cut squares were accumulated over the entire period of use of the King Edward envelopes, since the prevalence of wavy line machine cancels is overwhelming. What dated cancels there are, seem to predominate in the period of 1906 and 1907, but this would be normal as the use of machine cancels became ubiquitous as the period of use of the envelope extended. Based on the fact that cut squares from this lot were accumulated from the 1870's to the Queen Elizabeth II era, I believe it is logical to assume that the accumulation of Edward VII envelopes does run for the entire period of their use, and therefore this study should be statistically valid.

My reasoning behind the pricing which does not reflect the real scarcity is because the demand for the scarce dies does not begin to approach the demand for the standard envelope which was in common use. Prices for the rarer dies could be raised as the demand increases due to the additional publicity recently generated by the inclusion of the die varieties in the Webb Catalog.

Cut Squares 2c King Edward VII:

Webb EN17	Die 1	1,375
Webb EN17a	Die 2	16
Webb EN17b	Die 3	8
Webb EN17c	Die 4	28
Webb EN17d	Die 5	4
Webb EN17e	Die 6	7
		1,438

## THINGS NEVER CHANGE by R. B. Winmill

The printers of Canada's postage stamps have still not remedied the production problems which have plagued them in recent years. The writer has had the good fortune to locate three errors – a major colour error and two major tagging errors. The colour error occurs on the Canada Day, 1981 stamps. Entire sheets exist where the yellow in Ontario is totally replaced by the green of Saskatchewan. Thus far a used single and a mint block of four have been observed; but sheets have been reported. A philatelic clerk also confirms the existence of this error and reports others on these stamps as well.

The booklet containing 25 of the 17 cents Queen definitive has been found to exist untagged. Of course, as these were not found in philatelic stock, but rather in field stock, it is likely that any which were bought would be used.

Finally, once again in field stock, a quantity of the 17 cents Parliament stamps with error tagging were uncovered. Owing to mistagging these are all tagged down the centre of the stamps rather than on each side as intended. What will be seen next?

## BOOK REVIEWS

### LYMAN'S STANDARD CATALOGUE OF CANADA — B.N.A. POSTAGE STAMPS 36th EDITION, WINTER, 1983.

This edition includes the completely revised order of listings which was introduced in the 34th edition. All regularly issued postage stamps, including definitives, commemoratives, semi-postal, registration, airmail, special delivery, airmail special delivery and war tax issues are listed in chronological order by issue date. Booklet panes and miniature sheets are listed immediately following their corresponding regular issues. Postage due, official and officially-sealed stamps, which were not intended for public use, comprise a different category and are listed separately. The catalogue covers all issues for the Provinces and Dominion of Canada and for the pre-Confederation regions of British Columbia and Vancouver Island, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland. While this catalogue is basically a standard one, a semi-specialised listing of many early issues is included as usual. For the price (\$3.50) it must be about the "best buy" on the market and as up-to-date (April, 1982) as can reasonably be expected.

### CANADIAN PHILATELY, BIBLIOGRAPHY & INDEX (Supplement)

This supplement to Cimon Morin's standard work covering the period 1864-1973 comprises publications which include monographs, brochures, specialised catalogues, auction catalogues and articles on B.N.A. philately and postal history that have appeared during the years 1974 to 1980. It also lists pre-1974 documents that were omitted in the original work. No references are given to the development of philately itself, nor are official publications from government sources listed with the notable exception of *The Postmark*, the official journal of the Canadian Post Office published during the years 1939 to 1969. Those who are acquainted with *The Postmark* will testify that this magazine frequently contained original articles on Canadian postal history, and its inclusion now in this supplement will be welcomed by researchers and students.

The supplement's value is considerably enhanced by the inclusion of an index listing all the stamps, aspects of postal history, postal markings and stationery as well as authors covered in the original work together with those dealt with in the present volume. The numbers in bold type refer to the previous edition, and there are also references (marked with an asterisk) which indicate additions and corrections to the original edition. In fact all of this supplement is a glowing testimonial to the painstaking work undertaken by Cimon Morin in order to provide as complete a guide to B.N.A. philately and postal history as is humanly possible.

For students, researchers, philatelic authors and journalists this work is as indispensable as the original. At the time of its publication the many favourable reviews which it attracted were so well merited that it would be superfluous to add that this 246 page supplement is equally deserving of commendation. It is obtainable from the Canadian Government Publishing Centre, Supply & Services, Ottawa KIA 0S9 or from booksellers at \$18.25 or \$21.90 from members in the U.K.

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