



JOURNAL OF THE
CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
OF GREAT BRITAIN

Maple Leaves

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Whole No. 196

Vol. 19 No. 4

January, 1984



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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. 4

JANUARY, 1984

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EDITORIAL

STAMP COLLECTING MONTH

The announcement of Canada Post that it was supporting a campaign to promote stamp collecting was, unfortunately, received too late for the inclusion of this news in our last issue. "October", they say, "is National Stamp Collecting Month." Apparently October is observed as stamp collecting month in many countries, apart from Canada, which is news for us, anyway. We were always under the impression that stamp collecting was an all-the-year-round hobby, with a possible lull during the summer months when the garden, the golf course and holidays prove to be compelling, irresistible alternative attractions, at least for older collectors. In the spring, according to Tennyson, fancies lightly turn to something else, at least for younger collectors. In the winter, we suspect that "Sportsnight", "Morecambe & Wise" or "Coronation Street" *et al* sometimes present alluring prospects that many, young or old, cannot resist. All of which leaves us with the autumn, and with the seasons being what they are, that means October, *STAMP COLLECTING MONTH*. So now we know! But there is more yet. According to Mr. R. M. Warren, President and Chief Executive Officer of Canada Post, "Five percent of Canadians aged 18 or over, about 765,000 persons, collect stamps". He was modest enough **NOT** to say "collect Canadian stamps", but we know what he meant! He will know what every-

one knows and that is that the stamps of any one country prove to be the most popular among collectors who are natives of that country. They are, of course, collected by "foreigners" as well, but by no means anywhere near to the same extent. So, out of those 765,000 Canadian collectors there must be, according to the pundits and polsters, at least half who "put Canada first". And so say all our members, or most of them, here in Great Britain, in Canada, the United States and at least half a dozen European countries. Which means, if our powers of elementary deduction have not atrophied with age, that there must be many *POTENTIAL* members of our Society in Canada who are just waiting for an invitation to join us . . . Members in North America (we make no invidious distinctions!) please note that supplies of application forms can be obtained from the Secretary, David Sessions.

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Overseas members (Canada)	\$11.00 (\$17.00 airmail)
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Members are asked to note that the annual subscription to the society is due on 1st October each year and should be sent to the ASSISTANT TREASURER, Mr. T. Almond (for address see Officers Panel inside back cover). New members who join the society during the course of the year (October to September inclusive) will automatically receive any back numbers of *Maple Leaves* to which they are entitled.

In view of the fact that it is expensive for overseas members to obtain sterling drafts and also expensive for the society to convert dollar cheques, the following two overseas members have kindly agreed to assist. Members in North America may now send dollar cheques to: Mr. W. R. Curtis, P.O. Box 74, Postal Station "A", Toronto, Ont. M5W 1A2 (if resident in Canada) or Mr. J. S. Siverts, Box 425, Wilmington, Delaware 19899 (if resident in the U.S.A.). Cheques for \$11.00 (Canada) or \$9.00 (U.S.A.) should be made payable to Mr. Curtis or Mr. Siverts respectively.

Those members who wish to receive their copies of *Maple Leaves* by airmail are respectfully reminded that \$6.00 (Canada) or \$5.00 (U.S.A.) should be added to the above amounts.

ALL CHANGES OF A. DRESS SHOULD BE NOTIFIED TO THE SECRETARY OR THE ASSISTANT TREASURER IN THE NORMAL WAY AND NOT TO MR. CURTIS OR MR. SIVERTS. FOR ADDRESSES PLEASE REFER TO THE OFFICERS PANEL ON THE INSIDE BACK COVER.

CANADIAN PACKET SHORT PAID TRANS-ATLANTIC MAIL by Lt-Col D. M. C. Prichard, F.R.P.S.

By the beginning of the 1st Decimal Issue in July 1859 there were two different weekly trans-Atlantic mail services :—

- (a) Cunard every Wednesday alternately from New York and Boston to Liverpool.
- (b) Canadian Packet (Allan Line) each Saturday from Quebec in the summer and from Portland, Maine, U.S.A. in the winter to Liverpool.

The Cunard rate was more expensive (17c per ½oz.) as compared with 12½c Canadian Packet, because it was thought to be more reliable, although there is little to support this view. True, the Canadian packet had the rare wreck or breakdown, but in general both Canadian and Cunard ships took about 11 days for the eastward voyage and 12 for the westward (not much longer than the Air Mail today!).

It was customary for the senders to nominate on their letters which route they intended, but here arose a difference of opinion between Canada and the U.K. The latter thought that correspondents were or should be aware of the merits and the sailing days of each route and would have in mind the cost rather than the speed. Thus if a letter from the U.K. was endorsed for a specific route, the British postal authorities complied with this direction, even though it might mean a delay of up to a week before a ship of that line sailed. The Canadian P.O. Department, however, took a different view, maintaining that correspondents valued speed above cost and therefore wished their mail to go by the next available ship. This meant that if a letter franked with a 17c stamp was sent by Canadian Packet the writer had wasted 4½c, but if a 12½c letter went by Cunard the U.K. Post Office demanded extra payment. This led to a barrage of complaints from disgruntled recipients in the U.K. Arguments between Canada and the U.K. continued for some years before the U.K. finally agreed to drop the extra charge.

The Canadian P.O. Department, as a result of experience, decided that it could not trust local postmasters to rate the trans-Atlantic mail correctly. Consequently instructions were issued that such mail was to be forwarded to either Quebec, Montreal, Kingston, Toronto or Hamilton where more experienced clerks would check the rating before bundling up the mail for despatch to the ships.

Letters underpaid were subject to a fine of 6d (12½c) plus the deficient postage. Half of the fine (plus the deficient postage) was retained by Canada and the other half of the fine by the U.K. all of which was collected from the addressee on delivery in the U.K. This procedure, which was worked in reverse in Canada for mail from the U.K. entailed the complication of detailed cross-accounting between the two countries so that each received their exact dues. In the mid 1860's the total number of letters per year averaged only about half a million each way of which the proportion of underpaid was minute. Considering that the two accounts must have nearly balanced out, one wonders whether all this clerical labour was really worthwhile.

The method of indicating the sum due on short paid mail varied considerably. At first such mail was usually marked MORE-TO-PAY (which hammer had been in use since 1856) with the sum due marked in manuscript. Fig. 1 illustrates the markings on a letter two rates short, the sum due being 12d deficient postage + 6d fine = 1/6d.

MORE-TO-PAY

1-03

 1/3 1/6

(Fig. 1)

In April 1862 the Canadian P.O. Department ordered from Berri of London eight hammers for use in the five rating offices. Figs. 2 & 3 are typical examples.

SHORT PAID $\frac{6}{3}$
 HALF FINE $\frac{3}{9}$ 1/-

[CANADIAN MARKING] [UK MARKING]

(Fig. 2)

SHORT PAID $\frac{8}{3}$
 HALF FINE $\frac{3}{9}$ (

(Fig. 3)

It will be noted that the Canadian postal clerks found it necessary to put the calculation in writing and add it up, but the U.K. did the sum in their heads and scrawled the result, sometimes crossing out the Canadian markings and sometimes not. One of the objects of the new hammer was to make it quite clear how and why the extra charge was being levied. Fig. 2 shows this plainly but the untidy squiggles in Fig. 3 could well have puzzled both the postman delivering the letter and the recipient from whom 1/- was due.

We have seen several letters dated before 1 January 1866 bearing three 12½c stamps and described as triple rate. This however is an impossibility. The internal Canadian domestic rates increased on a simple linear scale of 5c per ½oz; but the Canadian Packet rate was more complicated i.e. under ½oz. 1 rate (12½c); ½ to under 1oz. 2 rates; 1 to under 2oz. 4 rates. Not until 1

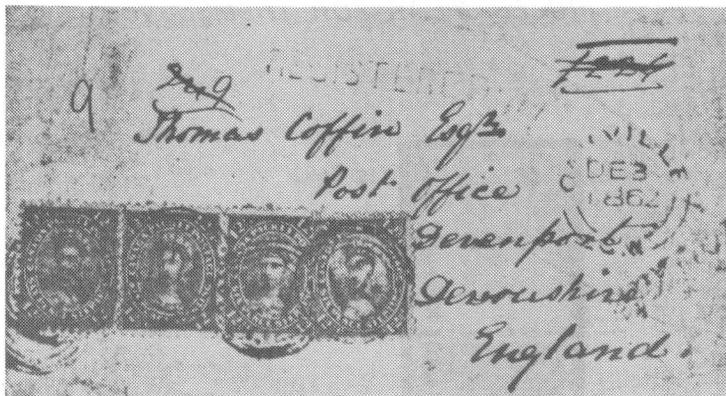


Fig. 4

Jan. 1866 was the Canadian Packet scale brought into line with the domestic rates i.e. in even steps of $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. (Boggs Vol. II 26B No. 37). Thus before this date there was no triple rate. When we see a letter so described, it can usually be seen on close inspection that either one stamp is missing or that in fact it has been rated for the missing postage. Fig. 4 is an example, being described as triple rate registered and dated 3 Dec. 1862. In fact it must be 4 times rate + $12\frac{1}{2}$ c registry = $62\frac{1}{2}$ c ($12\frac{1}{2}$ c underpaid). Perhaps the registry fee confused the issue but we can see that someone at some stage had his doubts and added a manuscript "9" which would tally with 6d due + 3d half fine = 9d. Presumably 1/- should have been collected but for once the U.K. Post Office seems to have slipped up.

I have only seen one cover with the correct use of the triple rate. This is dated FE 9 66, five weeks after the new rate came in.



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POSTAGE DUE HANDSTAMPS 1906-1930 (Part I)

by G. A. Wallace

The different types of handstamp markings pertaining to non-paid or shortpaid mail during the twenty five years of the first issue of Postage Due stamps are quite extensive but difficult to collect. The reason being that much material has been destroyed; such as: (a) many covers were soiled through being carried several times to make delivery, (b) the carrier's cancellation of the Postage Due stamps by indelible pencil showed a complete lack of artistry, and (c) totally unpaid letters, as well as having no postage stamps, received no Postage Due stamps and were considered uncollectable. The last reason is due to the fact that large firms had various agreements as to the method of payment for bulk amounts of mis-paid mail, with no Postage Due stamps being affixed.

Eastern Canada seems to have exclusively used black ink for handstamping, but the Prairie Provinces used various blue and violet inks. The re-directional markings such as RETURN TO SENDER and GENERAL DELIVERY, are often in pink or violet, but I do not class these as Postage Due handstamps. Roughly the 1906 to 1930 handstamps fall into four divisions :-

1. Single numerals.
2. Numerals with CENTS DUE.
3. Words in single or double lines.
4. Rectangles in three sections.

The single numerals constitute the largest proportion, with the large '2' in various forms being prolific. It can be seen thick or thin, serif or script and measuring anywhere between 21 to 25mm in height. All the other numerals measure 21 to 23mm except '4' which also comes as a short squat 19mm type and a tiny one only 11mm. Photos 1 and 2 show a script and serif '2', the latter being a late usage. I have a recent addition on a leather post card, Photo 3, which has an ornate '2'. This was used in Milton, Ont. and is an exact replica of Jarrett's No. 649f (first numeral) against which he says "No information".

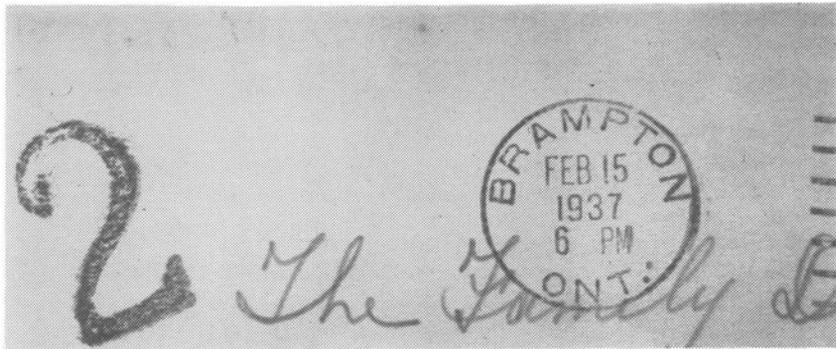
The numerals noted are 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10 and 0. The '0' was used in conjunction with another to make 10, 20, etc., but in Steinhart's book on Admirals Rates on page 43, there is an example of a '10' which looks too perfect to have been applied with two strikes. All other large denominations seen, so far, have been mis-aligned or with one numeral taller than the other. As there was no 3c rate, except for Returned Dead Letters, this seems impossible to find. A collector in Toronto recently sent me a photostat of one with two '3's' making up a rate of 33c for eleven Returned Dead Letters in one envelope. '5' is also very scarce, as it was mostly used on U.S. to Canada mail; where American postmasters, more often than not, stamped the deficiency not the double rate. The Canadian Post Office often allowed the single charge as a courtesy.

During 1929 the '2' and '4' of Toronto can be seen with two breaks, horizontally on '2' and vertically on '4'. This would appear to have been a whim of some postmaster as similar breaks or cuts often occur on later rectangular handstamps of the 1930's.

The second section has only four types, all stemming from Western Canada. The earliest is small and neat, Photo 4. The odd thing about this stamp is the script '2', serified 'CENTS' and 'DUE' in sanserif lettering. A slightly larger type, 2.5mm taller, was also used in Manitoba. This has serif lettering and numeral, Photo 5. A much larger third type, also used in Manitoba, has been seen with '2', '4' and '6' CENTS DUE, all having serif lettering except a sanserif 'DUE' on 6c handstamp. The last type has 'DUE' horizontal and 'CTS' vertical, Photo 6. This could be either Victoria or Vancouver as it was re-directed.



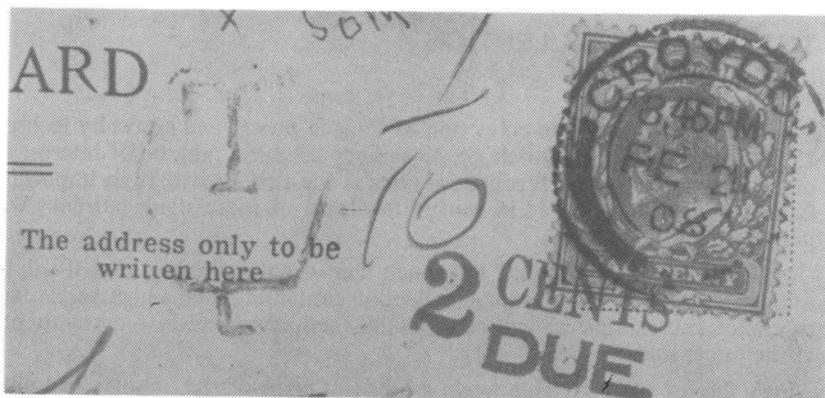
(1)



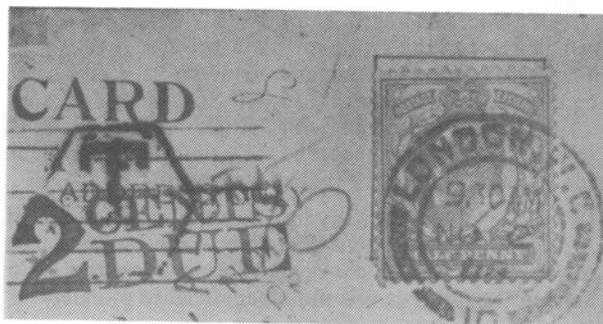
(2)



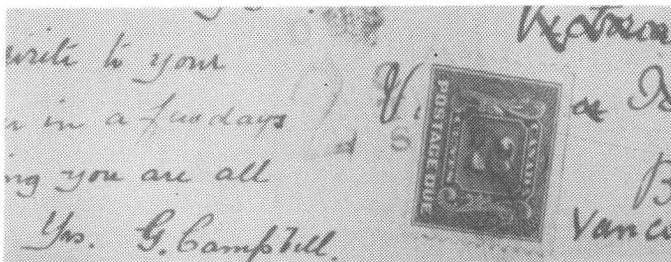
(3)



(4)



(5)



(6)

(to be continued)

THE "SENIC" COLLECTION by The Yellow Peril

The sale of the Senic collection of Canada proofs and essays by Robson Lowe International in Zurich on November 25 1982 may be of interest to our members. To my recollection, it was the first time that an important Canada collection was sold in neutral territory. A more stable currency was perhaps the rationale.

It can be stated, without too much fear of contradiction, that it will be a long time before another small collection containing such a high percentage of choice and rare pieces will come under the hammer again — certainly not at the prices sold.

A few of the highlights were: a block of eight of the popular 12d with the standard vertical red "specimen" fetched 11,000 Swiss francs. Even with the buyer's premium, it averaged only \$928 against a specialized catalogue listing of \$2500 each. The three scarred die proofs in violet, brown, and green colours averaged 2500 SF (\$1688) — just slightly over half the specialized listing for the common plate proof. A set of 1897 Jubilee plate proofs in block form was hammered down at 25,000 SF a difficult set to replace even at its valuation of 35,000 SF. Many lots sold over their valuations. The ½c SQ die proof with "British American Bank Note Co. Montreal" imprint (the only recorded SQ die proof with imprint) for example, made 11,000 SF against a realistic valuation of 5,000 SF.

The latter was only one of many lots that sold far in excess of valuation, however. It is the writer's view that moderate realisations are just as interesting as the record high prices being routinely reported. Furthermore, this deviation from the norm can be more beneficial to philately.

(All bidding was in Swiss francs and the buyers' premium 12½% — Editor.)

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ADMIRAL NOTEBOOK (Part 8)

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

2 Cents – Plates 10(part), 11, 12, and 14(part)

In addition to the re-entered subjects mentioned in the previous part, there are also a number of other noteworthy plate varieties to be recorded. In the first of these the photo print of the stamp of which I have two copies, has been cut into two parts. In the top right we note clear retouching of the top two horizontal spandrel lines, and along with this repair work there is also a strengthening of the outer frame at the bottom right corner with a short extension to the vertical frame line as shown. (Figs 1 and 2).



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

The above is probably one of the retouches of the upper right pane of Plate 12 listed by Marler and from the varieties described this could be Stamp 50.

There is another repair of interest with retouching of the spandrel lines in the top right corner including strengthening of the outer frame as well. In addition there are clear traces of a line of colour across the stamp from the left through the letter "N" of CANADA across the brow of the portrait and extending through the letter "A" of POSTAGE as far as the outer frame line. (Fig. 3).



Fig. 3

This variety has been recorded as Stamp 18 of the Upper Right Pane of Plate 12. I have three copies one of which is in a used block of four and I find the adjacent stamp on the left has also been retouched in the upper right including the top outer frame line. (Fig. 4).

This stamp should be No. 8 in the Upper Right Pane of Plate 12 and should be added to the list of varieties.



(Fig. 4)

CANADA STAMP PROGRAMME 1984

1984

- March 15 one domestic rate stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of Yellowknife.
- March 24 one domestic rate stamp in recognition of 1984 as the "Year of the Arts".
- April 20 one domestic rate stamp commemorating the 450th anniversary of the first voyage to Canada by Jacques Cartier
- May 18 one domestic rate stamp to mark the visit of a flotilla of "Tall Ships" to Atlantic Coast ports
- June 18 one domestic rate stamp for the bicentennial of the establishment of New Brunswick
- June 26 one domestic rate stamp marking the 25th anniversary of the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway
- June 29 twelve different domestic rate stamps in a miniature sheet format for Canada Day
- July 3 one domestic rate stamp marking the 200th anniversary of the arrival of the United Empire Loyalists
- August 15 \$1.00 definitive showing Glacier National Park
- Sept. 21 four domestic rate stamps depicting Canadian lighthouses
- Oct. 2 two domestic rate, one U.S. rate and one international rate stamps showing different steam locomotives
- Nov. 2 one domestic rate, one U.S. rate and one international rate stamps for Christmas
- Nov. 9 one domestic rate stamp for the 60th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Air Force

It is interesting that the actual values for the "domestic rate", "U.S. rate" and "international rate" are not given. This suggests another rate increase in the coming year, and it is likely various definitive stamps will be added to the programme.

SMALL QUEENS STUDY CIRCLE

All member who are interested in the Small Queens issue and who would care to join the Small Queens Study Circle are asked to contact John Hillson, 52 Stamperland Gardens, Clarkston, Glasgow, G76 8HG. Mr. Hillson would be particularly interested in members' views about how the Study Circle should operate. A regular exchange of views and a newsletter is envisaged for which a charge of £1 (or dollar) would be made to cover postage and other expenses.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

from John Parkin

Eash season, about this time, it is customary for some space in *Maple Leaves* to be devoted to your "President's Message", thus solving one of your Editor's main problems – that of filling a half or three-quarters of a page of your magazine. Perhaps if there were enough contributors of articles your President would not be expected to put pen to paper each year.

Personally it is with great pleasure that I assumed the role of President of the Society that I hold most dear and to which I devote a fair amount of time and energy. I am also sorry that I was unable to accept the honour in person at Bristol, but at that time I was fulfilling my ambition to actually visit Canada, the Country whose stamps and postal history have claimed my interests for so long. However I am reliably informed that my wife, Brenda, deputised very capably for me in several ways, even to the extent of giving some members prior notice that I should be asking for their support for next year's Convention, either by giving displays, working on the Auction, or one of the many other tasks that need doing if Convention is to be a success.

As mentioned I have already been to Canada and whilst there was busy spreading the Gospel according to the C.P.S. of G.B., at least as far as Winnipeg where I partook in displays and study groups and also conveyed our greetings to the British North American P.S. Members at their Convention. I have also agreed to give about a dozen Canadian displays to various Societies around the Country during my year in office.

This year will culminate with the 1984 Convention which will be held at the St. Anne's Hotel, Buxton, Derbyshire from Wednesday the 3rd to Sunday the 7th October, 1984. This is a beautiful old style hotel in the centre of Buxton, which is really the "Capital of the Peak District". The tariff includes bed, breakfast and evening meal and snacks at mid-day are obtainable at moderate prices where required. Further details of Convention will be issued in the April edition of *Maple Leaves* but in the meantime please sort out and send your Auction Lots to Derrick Avery at 20 North Street, Beeston, Nottingham, NG9 1FF as soon as possible. He has already started describing and collating the lots and the sooner he gets your material the easier will be his task in that he can spread the work as it comes in instead of having a mad rush at the last minute.

I am looking forward to meeting many of you at Buxton, whether you are a regular Conventioneer or not. If you have never attended Convention before why not make 1984 your first visit? I'm sure that once you have joined us you will be loathe to miss any future Conventions.

In the meantime Brenda and I extend our heartfelt greetings to you all for a Happy and Prosperous New Year – see you at Buxton.

THE SMALL QUEEN HALF-CENT VALUE OF 1882

by N. J. A. Hillson

An article which appeared recently in *BNAPS Topics* on the numerous re-entries to be found on this interesting little stamp led me to see what had been written in *Maple Leaves* about it over the years. In point of fact there was not a lot, so I thought the following notes might be of interest.

This value was issued in July 1882, although the earliest covers known are on circulars dated 1st Feb. 1883 which is a fair time later, perhaps not so surprising when one considers one of its main uses was to prepay postage on unsolicited circulars, most of which, like today's mail shots, would probably go straight into the bucket. It is the only miniature size stamp issued by the Canadian Postal Authorities — so far — measuring 15mm x 18.25mm. It was Black in colour.

Quantity Issued

According to the reports of the Postmasters General 3,833,000 were issued to June 1889 which would represent virtually the entire printing from the Montreal works. The new Ottawa premises were opened April/May 1889; a further 5,314,600 ½c. stamps were issued to June 1897, giving a grand total of 9,147,600.

Usage

- i) Newspaper rate internal postage — a few examples on newspaper wrappers still survive.
- ii) Unaddressed circular rate, i.e. for delivery to every house in a particular area. Surviving examples are probably even scarcer than the newspaper wrappers.
- iii) Unsealed envelopes containing printed matter — seems to have been confined to the Maritime Provinces whose postmasters seemed to enjoy bending Confederation rules.
- iv) To make up other rates. Multiples on cover are quite common, pairs, strips or blocks, whereas single usage is rare.

Proofs

Large Die Proofs are known and are of extreme rarity. Plate proofs exist on both India Paper and on card, and are scarce. Both Die and Plate proofs are in black but a plate proof is also known in brown.

The Plate

Only one plate was laid down in what at that time was the standard format, two panes consisting of 100 stamps each arranged 10 x 10 and separated by a central gutter margin. This was only 11.5mm wide, measuring to the edge of the stamps on either side, and separation was not done by guillotining as it was with the other Small Queen values which all had a wide gutter between the panes (and generally a guillotine guide line). In fact there

is some evidence to suggest that the ½ cent sheets were supplied to the Postal Authorities unseparated; at least one complete sheet with both panes intact is still in existence, as well as a few, very few, gutter pairs and blocks. Complete panes also exist, generally with a missing margin — it can now be understood why.

The Type V imprint (British American Bank Note Co. Montreal) appears centrally above each pane stamps 4-7, also centrally at the bottom, reading upright, and additionally on the left margin of the left pane, reading upwards, and the right margin of the right pane, reading downwards. There are no imprints in the central gutter, unlike normal practice. There was no room. The panes do not have counters at the top, again contrary to normal practice, but the left pane has a reversed '2' and the right pane a reversed '1' inscribed dead centre above the imprint in each case.

Constant plate markings consist of a position dot which is to be found just above the design at 12 o'clock, and a prominent dot is to be found in the 'G' of 'POSTAGE' and another in the 'H' of 'HALF'. Both the latter are almost certainly transfer roller flaws.

The plate was re-entered at least once. It is unlikely however that after its major repair in 1891 or 1892 any further work on the plate was necessary. It had about the same working life as the 10 cents Small Queen plate — 45,000 impressions as compared with the high value's 42,750 (in round figures). The 10c plate was never repaired and contains one fresh entry — i.e. the deepening of an impression by re-entry before production runs started. The ½c. plate shows a number of such fresh entries in its original state.

Comment has been made that re-entries are so numerous that it must indicate more than one repair job. This really does not follow. Examination of an 'across the board' block of 20 left pane in the re-entered state showed every subject had been re-entered, the lines of shading being coarse in comparison to the original state, and the white interstices almost non-existent. Of those 6 were coincident re-entries, that is there is no doubling, only deepening and coarsening of the shading, and 14 were non-coincident, either some minor, or on positions 10 and 20, major doubling of the design.

The reason that noticeable re-entries are so common on the Ottawa printings is probably because of the design of this stamp. On other values the scroll work round the vignettes is made up by numbers of curved lines, and any thickening which may in fact be due to re-entry is often put down to over inking, paper creep and what have you. The design round the vignette of the ½c. is made up by hundreds of thin straight lines, and a siderographer would have had a devil of a job getting the transfer roller exactly into place. Any slight deviation is therefore much more likely to show up as clear doubling than it was on the other values. I am not suggesting incidentally that overinking etc. did not cause thickening of the lines on an impression. I am only suggesting that perhaps the cause could be re-entering more commonly than is thought.

Perforations

All printings seem to be 12 x 12 dead. Because of the small size of the stamp the perforation wheels could not be fixed close enough together to perforate the entire panes vertically in one operation, so only half the vertical rows were perforated at a pass of the perforating head. This was achieved by removing 5 of the 11 wheels on the head, and running each pane twice vertically through the machine. This gave rise to a number of varieties, commonly wide/narrow/wide stamps, less commonly imperforate between when the second pass was inadvertently omitted altogether, and imperf. between, but with the perforated stamps with double perforations close together, when the second pass was totally misplaced.

There was no problem perforating the horizontal rows which was done in the normal manner.

Paper

From 1882-1887/8 Paper E was used, that is a medium to thick wove, poorish quality, grayish to white in colour, the paper sometimes showing a distinct quadrille mesh. A variant of this paper – Thick White is not too common. Around 1887/8, that is before the new premises were opened in Ottawa, Paper Gi, that is medium to thick poor quality paper, fibrous and rough in appearance under magnification, was introduced. This paper is associated with Ottawa printings but in fact was used in the last year or two at Montreal too. After 1893 Paper Gii which is a rather better quality version of Gi made its appearance. Gi and Gii tend to be yellowish and toned.

Imperforates

The stamp exists imperforate. There are quite a number of singles about which are probably all fakes. Anyone who is interested in collecting genuine imperforates would be wise to stick to pairs.

Conclusion

The writer has always had a fondness for Black stamps. It probably goes back to his early schooldays when the possession of a G.B. "Penny Black" was the absolute peak of philatelic desirability. However, unlike the British "Penny Black" and the rather exotically priced Canadian Classic Black, enough material exists of the Half Cent Small Queen, both used and unused, and if you insist, mint, to be able to make a fair study of it without risking the bankruptcy courts. It is perhaps still one of the 'fun' stamps of Canadian Philately.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mr. George W. Smith writes :—

The Seven Cents Geese of Canada 1946 — Some Listed and Unlisted Varieties

Readers who took an interest in my previous article with this title, which was published in the June 1983 issue of *Maple Leaves*, will have had difficulty in trying to relate the text to the illustrations as these have been printed incorrectly.

Both illustrations should have been shown vertically, not horizontally, the top illustration being the bottom *right* corner (base at left as published) and the lower illustration being of the bottom *left* corner (base at right, as published).

Hans Rieche, our member in Ottawa, who is referred to in my article, has written to me to say that he has listed three varieties in his book and that “there also exists a nice slanting line above the right 7”. He gives further interesting details which have been discussed in *Topics* regarding the correct description of the double frame varieties, which he says are caused by “metal displacements from the subject roll and are not re-entries at all. But how can you tell a metal displacement from a re-entry? So it has become a re-entry.”

This would explain a shift to left and to right on the same stamp which could not occur with a single re-entry, so perhaps one should be careful with the description of these varieties.

While referring to articles which I have contributed, may I take this opportunity of mentioning a confusion regarding illustrations to “The U.P.U. Centenary Issue of Canada 1974” on page 279 of the October 1982 *Maple Leaves*.

“Figure 3” should not exist and the text refers to Fig. 2 as being a “Miniature Sheet” and this had the two values one below the other, printed on a deep blue background. Unfortunately, “someone” decided to cut them out and place them side by side as singles. (*The “someone” was the editor who ought to have known better and can only apologise to the author and readers.*)

Mr. T. Almond writes:

River St. Dennis Paquebot

I have recently obtained four commercial Edwardian covers addressed to J. A. Macaulay, South Side, River Dennis, Cape Breton. These covers do not all emanate from the same source (three are from Hawkesbury and one from

CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Minutes of the 37th Annual General Meeting, held 20 August 1983 at the Grand Hotel, Bristol.

The *President*, Mr. David Sessions, welcomed members and then called for a moment's silence in memory of two Past Presidents, Bill Williams and Graham George, who had passed away during the year.

Officers' Reports:

The *Secretary*, David Sessions, reported that enrolments had increased from 44 to 49 over the year but these were more than offset by deaths, resignations and removals for non-payment of dues. The net result was a revised membership of 597 against 616 at the same time last year.

The *Librarian*, Colin Banfield, reported 49 books and 11 files borrowed over the year, a marginal increase over last year. A number of back issues of *Maple Leaves* had been sold during the year. Guidance was sought on future purchasing policy, and it was confirmed that a copy of each handbook handled by the Society should be passed to the Library.

The *Editor* made his usual plea for more contributions to *Maple Leaves*.

The *Packet Secretary* reported, via the President, that only 4 packets were sent out during the year; he has 6 circuits and very little material. The Committee had suggested that postal sales be held in place of the Exchange Packet and the meeting concurred with this suggestion. The matter is to be discussed with the Packet Secretary.

The *Handbooks Manager*, Matthew Carstairs, said that last year 162 books were sold totalling £900. This year, so far, 122 books had been sold for over £1200, the most popular were Ludlow's R.P.O. and Marler's Admiral Books.

The *Advertising Manager*, George Bellack, disclosed the Committee's agreement to giving members free classified adverts, and said that further details would be published.

The *Publicity Officer*, Dorothy Sanderson, said that professional calls had made it very difficult for her to carry out her duties and offered her resignation. She apologised for the fact that these same calls had prevented the organisation of a study circle at BPF Congress in October. The resignation was reluctantly accepted and the President thanked Dr. Sanderson on behalf of the Society.

Financial Statement

Accounts had been prepared and audited but were not circulated to members in view of cost. Copies are available upon request of the Treasurer. Against a forecast loss of £152 for year ended 30.9.82 the working loss had been just under £50 thanks to improved subscriptions and handbook sales income. A technical loss had also been made on the disposal of the Society's

holding of 3½% War Stock but re-investment in a dated gilt should make good the loss by maturity date (1988). A highly successful auction at the Carlisle Convention produced a surplus of £363 so the overall financial position is unimpaired.

The current year to 30.9.83 is expected to show a surplus of around £400, but increased costs envisaged for 1983/4, including production of the Members Handbook, will likely produce a deficit for the year. It was not felt to be necessary to raise subscriptions for the coming year, however.

The direct debit system launched last year has been well supported and has eased the administrative burden somewhat, nevertheless more participation would be welcome.

Election of Officers

The following nominees having been duly proposed and seconded as indicated, were elected.

Office	Nominee	Proposer	Seconder
President	J. Parkin	D. F. Sessions	L. F. Gillam
Vice-President	D. Avery	E. Killingley	J. Gatecliff
Secretary	D. F. Sessions	E. Killingley	D. Avery
Treasurer	J. Hillson	E. Killingley	C. W. Hollingsworth
Committee member			
Scotland	J. Hannah	J. Hillson	C. W. Hollingsworth
North	C. Hollingsworth	D. Avery	M. W. Carstairs
South	C. A. King	M. W. Carstairs	D. F. Sessions

Committee Appointments

Librarian – C. Banfield
 Editor – L. F. Gillam
 Packet Secretary – R. Grigson
 Handbooks Manager – M. W. Carstairs

Advertising Manager – L. G. Bellack;
 Publicity Officer – M. Cusworth;
 Assistant Treasurer – T. Almond
 Assistant Editor – E. Killingley

Auditor

Eric Killingley, having been duly proposed and seconded, was unanimously re-elected.

New Trophy

It was reported that the Committee had considered the kind offer of Mrs. M. Salmon, daughter of the late Bill Williams, to donate a trophy in memory of her father. The Committee had recommended a memorial medallion for retention by overseas cup winners, with the possibility of extending this to all winners if finances permitted. The Secretary would investigate costs and discuss with Mrs. Salmon.

1984 Members Handbook

The meeting was advised that the Committee had agreed to a new edition being published.

Life Membership

It was reported that, following several enquiries, the Committee had agreed to reinstate the status of Life Membership of the Society. The Treasurer stated that as the Society is taxed on investment income it was necessary to pitch the lump sum requirement at a fairly high level. The Committee had agreed that £120 was a realistic amount at the present time.

Venue of Next Convention

This was announced as the St. Anne's Hotel, Buxton to be held from 7-10 October, 1984.

Other Business

(i) The Committee had discussed the question of revenue material and post-cards in relation to the Society's Constitution and had agreed that both these subjects could be considered within the scope of the Society's activities without any formal amendment being made to the Rules.

(ii) The President said that a replacement should be sought as leader of the 'Small Queen' study group to follow the late Bill Williams and he proposed the name of John Hillson. Mr. Hillson agreed to accept the post and the proposal was carried unanimously.

(iii) It was reported that, following a suggestion from the Fellows, Committee had agreed that the period covered by entries for the Godden Trophy should be extended to the end of the Edwardian period (1911).

Competition Awards

- Class 1** 1. G. Whitworth – The First Decimal Issue of Canada.
 2. G. Manley – Precancelled Postal Stationery of Perth.

- Class 3a** 1. J. Donaldson – Free Markings.
 2. G. Whitworth – 17c Value of the 1859 Issue.

- Class 3b** 1. D. F. Sessions – 2c Value of the K.E.VII Definitive Series.
 2. L. Lockyer – 1977 Houses of Parliament Definitive.

- Trophies:** Godden J. Donaldson
 Bunny D. F. Sessions
 Lees-Jones M. Lockyer
 Members D. A. Fraser – Winnipeg Squared Circles
 Aikins J. Hillson – Small Queens
-

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BOOK REVIEW

OFFICIAL CATALOGUE OF CANADA PRECANCELS

There can be no doubt that over the last years Canadian Precancels have increased in collecting popularity. Not only have such stamps been sold by dealers but they have appeared more frequently in major auctions. Prices have reflected this interest and many new finds have been made. Mr. H. G. Walburn, editor of this catalogue for many years, continues to be the main source of information for Canadian precancels. Not only does he probably own the most complete collection but his knowledge of many important facts allows him to represent a very accurate picture of this philatelic facet. Now a new edition, the fourteenth, has been prepared by him to make this catalogue an updated version of the previous one. Two facts can be noted when reviewing this new catalogue. The first is that a large number of new finds have been recorded, so that the total possible precancels must be around 3600. One of them is Perth 1c green Arch issue, 1930, Die II, with the Money Order number 4030 which can be confused with 4530 Toronto. The second one is that the prices better reflect the actual market, since the majority of sales reflect the prices quoted in this catalogue. With almost sixty pages of information it is amazing that the catalogue costs only four dollars in Canada. It is available from all dealers and distributors, as well as from Mr. Walburn.

FREE CLASSIFIED ANNOUNCEMENTS

At the Annual General Meeting of the Society, held on 20th August, 1983, it was decided that the classified announcements columns of *Maple Leaves* should, with effect from the April, 1984 issue, be made FREE to collector members on the following basis and subject to review at the end of the year at the discretion of the Advertising Manager:

- (a) each collector member to be allowed TWO free advertisements (either 'wanted' or 'for sale') per annum, with further insertions, if required, at the current rates.
- (b) no advertisement to exceed 30 words, excluding name and address, and
- (c) subject to availability of space. In the event of advertisements being refused because of lack of availability of space in one issue these to receive priority in the next issue.
- (d) the Advertising Manager reserves the right to refuse any advertisement submitted at his discretion and without providing reasons for such refusal.

The officers and committee of the society hope that members will take advantage of these facilities which are designed to further the range of services available.

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WANTED: Sunny Alberta. Alberta postal history — town cancels territorial period forward. Covers, post card views and stamps. Also Alberta Government Telephone stamps. Keith R. Spencer, 3659 — 109 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T6J 1C2, Canada.

WANTED: Collections or accumulations of Canadian Precancels or Perfins. Offers to David Izzett, 7 Barbary Road, Hemel Hempstead, HP1 1SD.

CANADIAN 'FREE' or FRANKED markings on cover — all types, any period. Offers to John Donaldson, 23 Lingen Avenue, Hereford HR1 1BY.

WANTED: Eastern Arctic postal history — covers, postcards, collateral — pre, post, and "R.M.S. Nascope". Send Xerox for offer to D. J. Beagrie, Gen. Del, Yellowknife, N.W.T., Canada, X1A 2L8.

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**SEE PAGE 109 FOR FUTURE
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THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN 1983/84

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CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Books available now

- NEW: 14th edition Canada precancel catalogue by Welburn @ £2.50
- The Admiral Issue of Canada C.C. Marler @ £22 plus £2 postage
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- Canadian Stamp Handbook edited by Michael Milos 1st release, the first cents
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- A History of Canadian Railway Post Offices 1853-1967 by L. Gilliam @ £5
- Collect Canada Covers by Ed Richardson @ £3.95
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- A Large Queen's Report by Hans Reiche @ £2.75
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