



JOURNAL OF THE  
CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
OF GREAT BRITAIN

# Maple Leaves

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Whole No. 200

Vol. 19 No. 8

October 1984



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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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## EDITORIAL

When I took over the post of Editor last April, I inherited numerous articles from my predecessor and I have since received a number of articles from our regular contributors and I am pleased to say I have also received several articles from first timers.

In all, there appeared to be sufficient material for some time to come, but I soon found out that when the manuscripts were reduced to proofs I had far less material than I had anticipated.

In fact, at the time of writing this editorial and preparing the material for the October issue, apart from some copy which will appear over the next 12 months, I have virtually used all available material.

I therefore make an appeal to all members to see if you cannot write even a short article on your particular subject so that the continuity of *Maple Leaves* will be maintained. It had been mentioned to me that if we had sufficient articles for publication, the Society could increase the size of the magazine by four pages occasionally, but with the position as it is at the present moment and unless some more articles are forthcoming in the very near future it will be necessary to resort to publication of material which has also appeared elsewhere.

Forty-four years ago our local Post Office and Telephone Exchange suffered a direct hit by a bomb and in 1946 a new Post Office and Telephone Exchange were opened, the latter having the latest automatic equipment

which enabled us to be one of the first areas in the country to adopt the STD system. This equipment has now become obsolete and a new electronic telephone exchange has been installed. The result is that it is necessary to have a six figure number so that as from 3 September 1984 my telephone number will be Bridlington (0262) 673984. If you are contemplating writing an article and need any advice or information, why not give me a ring.

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## LONDON SECTION

At the Annual General Meeting of the London Section on 21st May, 1984, B. Stocker was elected Chairman; L. E. Warren was elected Secretary/Treasurer; and M. W. Carstairs and C. Banfield elected to the Council.

A provisional programme was drawn up commencing on 15th Oct. 1984 with a Bourse and new acquisitions.

The Treasurer reported a satisfactory year and it was agreed that subscriptions should remain as at present.

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## SUBSCRIPTIONS

U.K. members . . . . .	£6.00
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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 ADDRESS 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.

## THE STYLIZED MAPLE LEAF DEFINITIVES

by D. C. Speirs

Most collectors wishing to specialize in a modern Canadian stamp will usually pick a definitive issue. Commemoratives do not lend themselves to a multiplicity of varieties because of their short life and lithographic printing methods. Other than flyspecks, imperfs, and colour shades, little can be done with a commemorative issue. Definitives enjoy longer runs during which all manner of changes can occur, as demonstrated by the Centennial definitives.

The newest definitive series to date started in late 1981. A previous series of Canadian stamps has pre-empted the name 'Maple Leaf', so the new definitives must go as 'Stylized Maple Leaf'. This new stamp design was prepared by Raymond Bellemare, of Montreal. All of the stamps to be mentioned in this article have PVA gum and general tagging unless otherwise stated.

The Stylized Maple Leaf series began with a bit of confusion. The Canadian Post Office had applied for rate increases but was unsure of getting what it wanted. The first stamp therefore had no denomination but, like an American predecessor, carried the letter 'A'. Universal Postal Union rules require a numerical denomination and as a result the 'A' stamp was valid only for domestic postage. Undoubtedly it was used for international mail without protest, as were the American 'A', 'B', and 'C' stamps, but only as a courtesy by other postal administrations. The value of the 'A' stamp was eventually set at 30c, the new first-class domestic letter rate.

The 'A' stamp was released 1981-12-29 in both sheet and coil form. There were 100 stamps per sheet or coil roll. Coil rolls could, like other coil issues, be purchased as sticks of ten rolls. The 'A' stamp had a short life but was issued in sheet form with three plate numbers. Three plates were needed because a large quantity of stamps were required in a short period of time. The printing was done at both British American Bank Note (BABN) and at Canadian Bank Note (CBN) in order to speed up production (ref. Marin 1982). Details of these stamps are as follows. All 'A' stamps were printed in red on a white background. (*Fig. 1*)

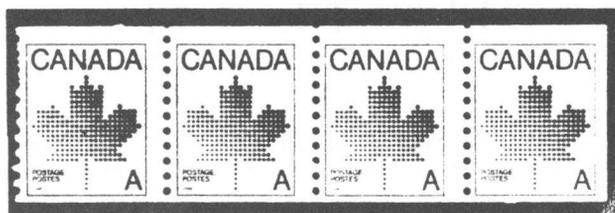




Fig. 1 Sheet and coil versions of the 'A' stamp. The coil strip shows the terminal stamp with three straight edges.

Sheet plate number 1 was printed on coated paper by BABN, with perf 12.8 x 13.2. Plate block selvedge is 9mm wide on the sides and 7mm wide on the top and bottom of the sheet.

Sheet plates 2 and 3 were printed on uncoated paper by CBN, perf 12.8 x 13.2. Plate block selvedge is 11.5mm wide on the sides and 4.5mm wide on top and bottom.

Coils have a vertical perf of 10. There is a design jump every 36th stamp. (Fig. 2)

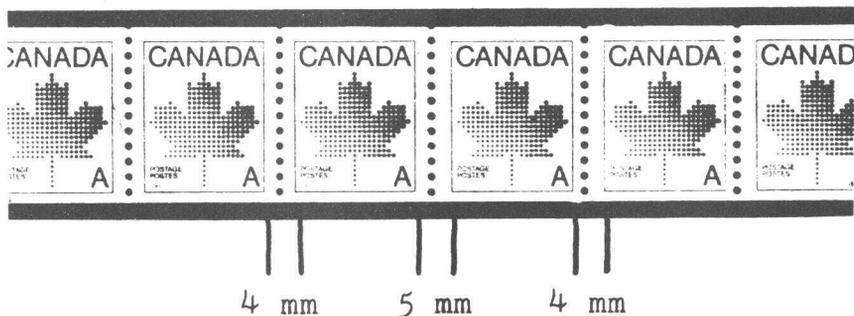
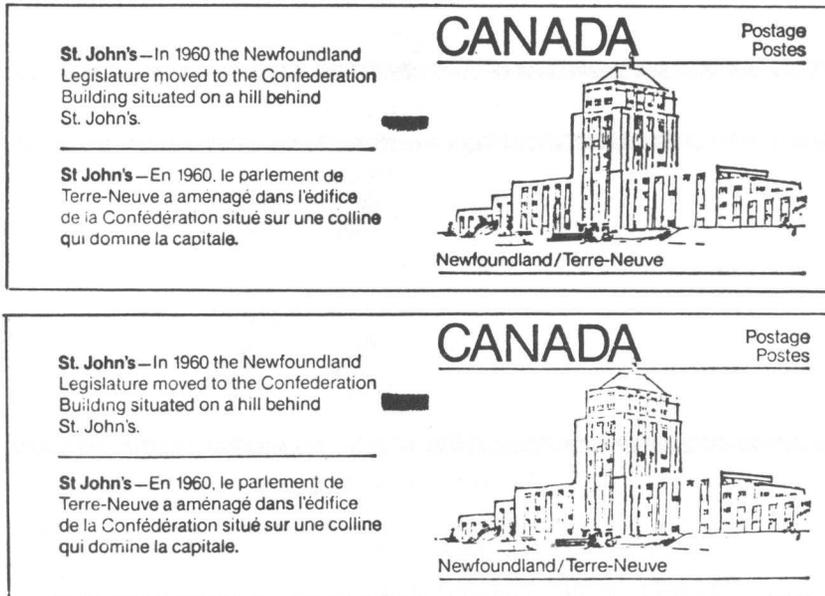


Fig. 2 The coil has a regular design jump on every 36th stamp. At the point of the jump, the design is 5mm from its neighbour instead of 4mm.

Fifty-cent booklets were released 1982-3-1 for use in vending machines. There were ten cover designs, depicting provincial capital buildings. The designs were line drawings printed with black ink. The inside back cover had a promotional message advising that:

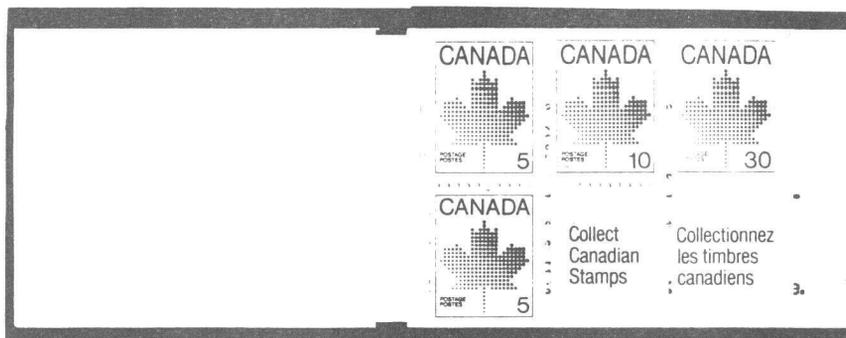
- '30-cent stamps are also available
- in booklets of 20
- in rolls of 100'

This message was then repeated in French. (*Fig. 3*)

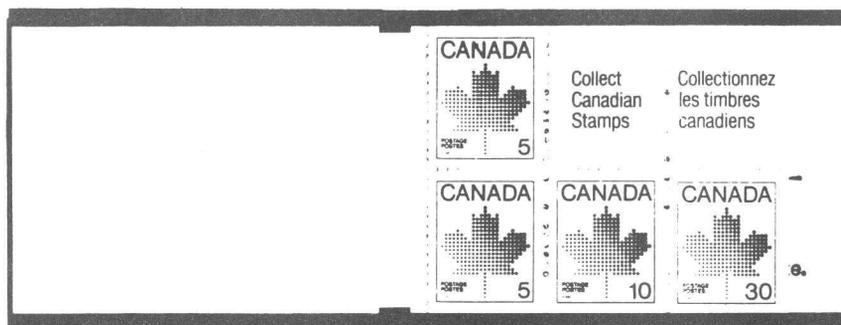


*Fig. 3 A counting tab appears on every fiftieth booklet as a convenience for post office inventory. The tab is always on the Newfoundland booklet. The position of the tab may vary somewhat.*

The stamps are perf 12 x 12.5, although each stamp had at least one straight edge. The makeup of the booklet resulted in two labels, a red 30c, a green 10c, and two purple 5c. The 10c and 5c stamps appeared only in booklet form and were not issued as sheets or coils. A study of constant printing varieties (Beaudet 1982) has led to the conclusion that the cylinder used for printing booklet panes was 4 panes wide and 18 panes long. In late 1982, a new plate had to be prepared due to damage to the original. The engraver of the new plate made a mistake and put cutting marks one row out of order. As a result, the second printing of the booklet has the two rows of stamps trading places. The value of the booklet pane was unchanged though, and therefore the booklet was released. Both the normal and the error booklets are found with either coated or uncoated paper. (*Fig. 4*)



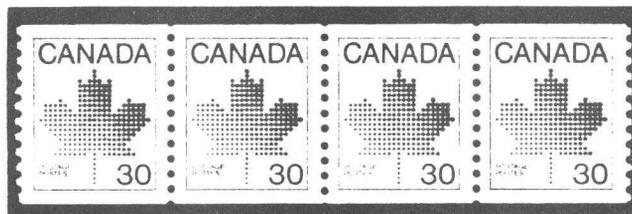
First printing



Second printing

Fig. 4 The two booklet printings, showing the reversed rows. The English labels are green and the French labels are red.

On 1982-5-11, a 30c value was released in both sheet and coil form. The sheet stamp was printed by BABN, using one-colour steel engraving and two-colour gravure. It was different from previous Stylized Maple Leaf stamps because the background was pale blue instead of white. Another difference was that the value was not the same colour as the Maple Leaf, in this case being medium blue. The Maple Leaf was red, but the word 'Canada' was the same medium blue colour as the value tablet. (Fig. 5)



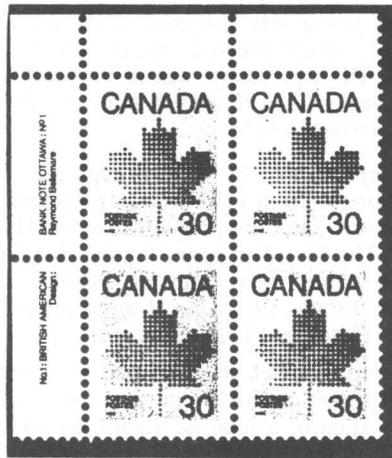


Fig. 5 Sheet and coil stamps released 1982-5-11.

The 30c coil was printed by CBN with one-colour steel engraving. The perf was 10 vertical. The stamp was identical in colour and appearance to the 'A' coil, excepting of course the value tablet, which read '30'.

A \$6.00 booklet was issued 1982-6-30, with perf 12 x 12.5. The cover showed the Parliament buildings, and was done in black ink. The booklet contained twenty 30c stamps and one label. The stamps were the same design and colour as the 30c sheet stamps. (Fig. 6)

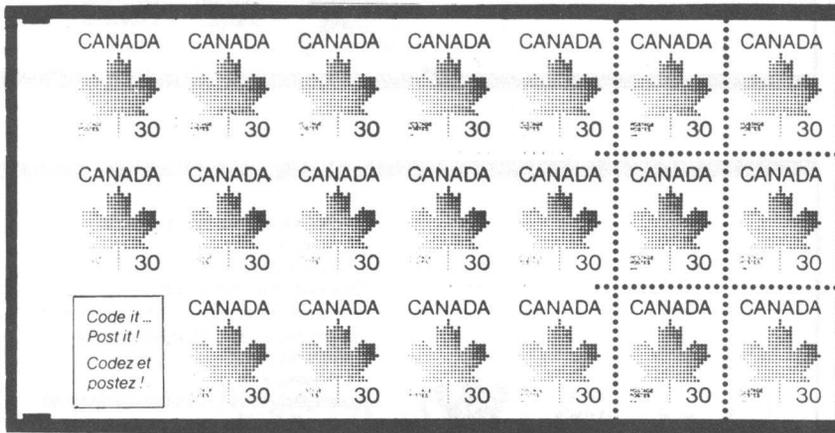


Fig. 6 \$6.00 booklet. The front cover has a drawing of the Parliament buildings, and the back cover has a paragraph discussing the 1916 fire.

The year 1983 saw a rate increase, which pushed domestic mail up to 32c on February 15. Sheet and coil stamps with the new value of 32c were issued 1983-2-10. The coil stamp was unchanged in design except for the value tablet. The background remained white but the colour was changed to what is best described as 'dried blood'.

The sheet stamp, printed by BABN, kept the red Maple Leaf, but the background was changed from light blue to cream yellow. 'Canada' and '32' were printed in brown ink. Jumping ahead a bit, Plate 2 of this stamp was issued 1983-8-31. The Canadian paper supplier for the Post Office discontinued production of stamp paper, and for Plate 2, the supply came from Harrisons of Great Britain. A major change was in the gum. Plate 1 has colourless gum, but Plate 2 has blue-tinted gum.

A new fifty-cent booklet was released for vending machine use on 1983-2-15. It was printed by BABN and had the usual perf 12 x 12.5. There are two purple 5c stamps, a blue 8c stamp, and a dried blood 32c value. There are two labels, the English version in blue and the French in dried blood. The cover designs were unchanged but now printed in red. The inside back cover was altered, as seen in Figure 7.

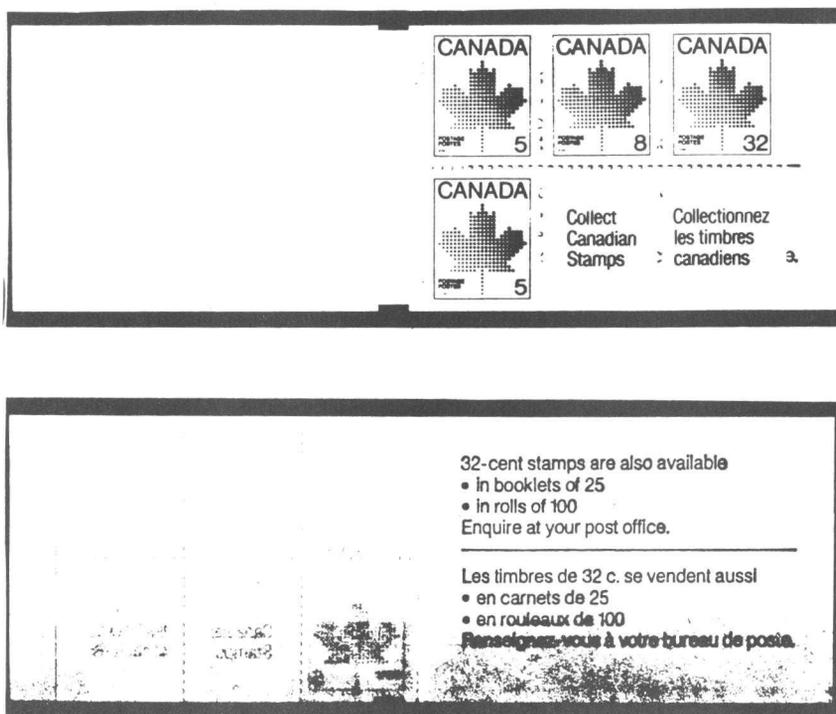


Fig. 7 The fifty-cent booklet of 1983.

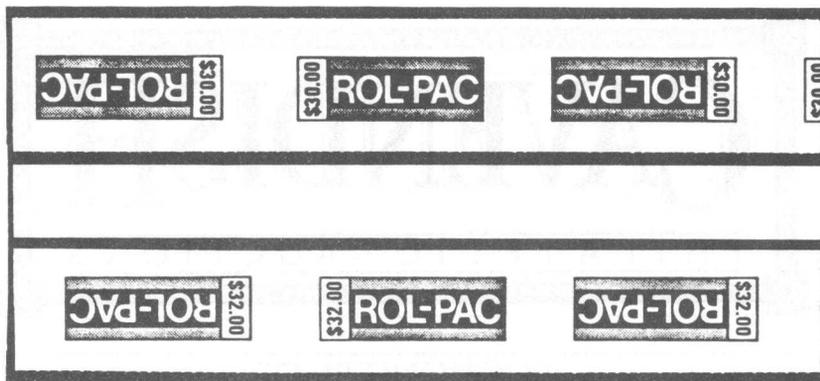


Fig. 8 Coil wrappers. The \$30.00 wrapper comes from a roll of 100 30c stamps and is printed in red. The \$32.00 wrapper is printed in the dried-blood colour of the 32c stamp.

An \$8.00 booklet appeared 1983-4-8, with twenty-five 32c stamps and two labels. The outside cover was unchanged from the \$6.00 booklet but was now in red ink. The inside cover of the \$6.00 booklet was blank, but the \$8.00 booklet carried a blurb in this space for postal stationery and stamp collecting. The two labels in this booklet were printed in red ink on a white background.

As of February 1984, no new stamps have been issued in this series.

#### REFERENCES

- Beaudet, L. (1982) Canadian stamp varieties – 9.  
 CAND. PHIL. 33(4): 210-219.  
 Marin, R. J. (1982) Commemorative vs definitives.  
 CAND. PHIL. 33(3): 139.

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## SURVIVAL RATES

by Lt-Col. D. M. C. Prichard, F.R.P.S.

The proportion of early Canadian stamps still surviving is a fascinating subject about which little has been written, possibly because it is so speculative. In this attempt to arrive at an estimate, I have had to resort to a number of assumptions and analogies, all subject to challenge.

For the starting point of my calculations I am indebted to Charles G. Firby, who has compiled a record (which I have endeavoured to keep up to date) of all the recorded covers of the Canadian pence issues.\* Taking this as a basis, we arrive at the following :—

TABLE A — PENCE ISSUES

Stamp	No. issued	Covers recorded	% surviving	Ratio
½d	3,389,960	106	.0031	1 in 31,000
3d	3,778,500	1115	.0295	1 in 3,400
6d	502,500	397	.079	1 in 1,265
7½d	82,100	60	.073	1 in 1,370
10d	141,000	87	.062	1 in 1,620
12d	1,450	4	.27	1 in 365
		or 5	or .34	or 1 in 192

The first point which jumps to the eye is that the lower values have a smaller percentage survival rate than the higher values. This is as might be expected. The ½d and 3d were mainly used for correspondence within Canada, the ½d on newspapers, local or drop letters and printed circulars, while the 3d paid the ordinary rate for domestic letters. The majority of such mail (particularly the ½d rate) was likely to be of ephemeral and fleeting interest and was thrown away. Hence the lower survival rate. The 6d stamp paid the single rate to U.S.A. the 7½d and 10d the Canadian packet and the Cunard trans-Atlantic postage and the 12d the double rate to U.S.A. Such letters tended to be of business or family interest and were therefore preserved.

The next step in the calculation is to translate the pence cover survival rates into their counterparts in the 1859 decimal issue on the possibly questionable assumption that they correspond. This gives us :—

TABLE B — FIRST DECIMAL ISSUE COVERS

Stamp	No. issued	Approx. No. of covers surviving	% surviving	Ratio
1c	27,155,000	850	.0031	1 in 32,000
5c	39,653,772	11,750	.0296	1 in 3,375
10c	5,639,048	4,450	.079	1 in 1,267
12½c	3,107,882	2,270	.073	1 in 1,369
17c	566,103	350	.062	1 in 1,617

The estimation of the total number of surviving stamps, including both on and off cover, is more speculative. I can only find two cases of anything in the nature of a census. Both of these are of necessity rare stamps and such small samples may be subject to distorting factors :—

TABLE C — TOTAL OF STAMPS

Stamp	No. issued	No. surviving	%
17c Burr on shoulder variety	c.300	c. 30	10
12d 1851	1,450	c.140	9.7

These estimates are taken from :—

- (a) 17c Burr. G. Whitworth; B.N.A. Topics No. 357 (Jan-Feb 1977).
- (b) 12d 1851. I have seen three estimates in *The Canadian Philatelist*, one of 130, another of 140 and finally one by Robson Lowe himself (what greater authority can we find?) who says "less than 150". I therefore take 140 as being the best estimate.

The fact that the estimates of both the 17c Burr and the 12d survival percentages agree gives us some confidence. Taking therefore 10% survival for the 17c, we now substitute the equivalent percentages appropriate to the other values as calculated from the ratio of surviving covers. This gives us :—

TABLE D — PENCE AND 1859 ISSUES — SURVIVAL RATES

% Survival	Stamp	No. issued	Approx. number	Stamp	No. issued	Approx. No. surviving
0.5	½d	3,389,960	17,000	1c	27,155,500	136,000
4.75	3d	3,778,500	180,000	5c	39,155,500	2,000,000
12.7	6d	502,500	64,000	10c	5,639,148	716,000
11.8	7½d	82,110	10,000	12½c	3,107,882	367,000
10	10d	141,000	14,000	17c	566,123	57,000
9.7	12d	1,450	140	No decimal equivalent.		

It was to be expected that the proportion of 1c stamps would be smaller than the other values, but not to such a great extent as in Tables B and D above. Instinctively I thought that something was wrong. There are some possible explanations. The 1860's were a period of growing expansion of trade leading to an increase in local letters, circulars, prices current and registered letters all involving the use of 1c stamps. In addition, 5c covers franked with five 1c stamps are not uncommon because thrifty people gradually became aware that 1c stamps could be bought in quantities of not less than 20 at a discount of 5%. Times were changing and the analogy with the ½d stamp of the preceding decade might not be valid.

I therefore decided to check by a different approach. I went through 90 of the main Canadian sale catalogues over the last 25 years and recorded the number of 1859 issue covers. Such figures of course do not represent the true total of surviving covers for two reasons. First, they only show those

covers which have actually come under the hammer. Secondly, some of the covers appear more than once. In fact, when scanning through these catalogues, some covers became quite old friends, reappearing time and time again. Neither of these factors however affect the comparative ratios of the scarcity of the different values. It may be interesting to compare the empirical ratios resulting from sales with the purely theoretical ratios which would be expected if all values had the same survival ratio (which we know that they do not) :-

TABLE E — 1859 ISSUE COVERS

	1c	5c	10c	12½c	17c
Actual numbers in sales	465	1215	539	220	94
Ratio in sales . . . . .	4.9	13	5.7	2.3	1
Theoretical ratio from stamps issued . . . . .	48	70	6	5.5	1

The sales statistics, whilst confirming the finding in Tables B and D that the lower values have a much smaller survival ratio, bring the 1c more into line with what one feels is realistic.

One curious point emerges. In Maresch's Specialized Catalogue the 10c on cover is listed at 2-2½ times the price of the 1c, although the sales figures in Table E show that the 1c is actually scarcer.

It is interesting that pure chance plays a part in the number of surviving covers, particularly in the case of rare rates. For instance, there are not more than about 30 soldiers' letters at the concessional rate of 2c to the U.K. About half of them were written by 2nd Class Army Schoolmaster J. Chambers, 2nd Bn Scots Fusilier Guards to his wife (or mother?) in Dublin. Fortunately these were preserved. Again, had not a missionary in China kept the letters she received from Canada in the 1860's, there would be no surviving covers of the 35c rate to China. A significant proportion of the 6d, 10c and 12½c covers emanate from the offices of D. J. Kennedy, Thomas Prosser (both of New York) and the Royal Bank of Scotland respectively. This raises a curious question of office procedure. Why did these firms file their correspondence still enclosed in their envelopes? This must have made the filing system twice as bulky and the location of wanted letters more laborious. We should be grateful however for this habit as many years later these covers appeared in large batches, probably the result of office turn outs.

*\*The Postal Rates of Canada 1851-1868 by Charles G. Firby.*

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# WORLD WAR II COVERS FROM CANADA TO THE I.R.C.C. GENEVA

by H. K. Dodwell

Early in World War II the International Red Cross made arrangements for the sending of special Postal Messages between belligerent countries, from anxious relatives to the ever growing multitude of refugees, displaced persons and others separated by the war.

The International Red Cross Committee (I.R.C.C.) in Geneva was the clearing house for these messages, which had to be kept to 25 words written on a special form which also provided for the recipient's 25 word reply. Message and reply both had to be routed through the I.R.C.C., and the forms were subject to censorship by both sides on both outward and return journeys. (Fig. 1)

**+** **SMO.** R.C.B. GURKESKY. 122/102

Deutsches Rotes Kreuz  
Präsidium / Auslandsdienst  
Berlin SW 61, Blücherplatz 2

ANTRAG  
an die Agence Centrale des Prisonniers de Guerre, Genf  
— Internationales Komitee vom Roten Kreuz —  
auf Nachrichtenvermittlung

REQUETE  
de la Croix-Rouge Allemande, Présidence, Service Etranger  
à l'Agence Centrale des Prisonniers de Guerre, Genève  
— Comité International de la Croix-Rouge —  
concernant la correspondance

1. Absender G. Adam,  
Expéditeur Dalle Rue, Gordier Hill, St P.P. GURKESKY, G.I.  
bittet, an  
prie de bien vouloir faire parvenir à

brother

2. Empfänger Mr F. Wolfstald,  
Destinataire 18 Myrtle Ave, Galt, Ontario, CANADA.

folgendes zu übermitteln / ce qui suit  
(Höchstzahl 25 Worte!)  
(25 mots au plus!)

Waiting news. Both well, good wishes for New Year.  
Longing to write letter, send message often as  
believe go astray. Love to friends Grace and Vic.

EXAMINED BY D. B. / 50

(Datum / Date) 8-1-44

3. Empfänger antwortet umkehrend  
Destinataire répond au verso

-9 Mills 1944  
Signature: G. Adam




Fig. 1 Example of the Postal Message Form. Recipient's 25 word reply is on reverse.

The Canadian Red Cross Civilian Message Scheme opened on 6.6.40, and before it closed, on 30.6.47 handled 122,142 messages. It was originally intended that the Canadian Society would forward messages in bulk, after collecting them at headquarters, but this proved slow and later many messages were posted direct to Geneva by their senders; it is the covers of these messages with which we are concerned now. The actual messages are scarce, but the envelopes in which they were forwarded from Canada have become common recently, and it seems that a mass of WWII covers enclosing messages to the I.R.C.C. from many countries were saved and released on to the philatelic market about three years ago.

These covers form a legitimate part of any general collection of WWII postal history, being of great interest to anyone studying the overall history of the war in Europe. Unfortunately most of their interest lies in their travels after leaving Canada, but as information on the subject seems scarce (Guertin, for instances, does not mention them in his otherwise comprehensive treatise on WWII), members may find these notes of use in writing up their own covers.

#### A. Details common to some or all covers throughout the period.

1. **Franking.** Correctly, seamailed covers should have been prepaid at 5c, and transatlantic airmail covers at 30c. In fact many variations can be found. 3c, 10c and 6c are not uncommon. Although the last would have prepaid air service within Canada in the early war years, it and the incorrect rates often show 'tax' marks, but there is nothing to show that any postage due was ever collected, or that they did not go forward normally.
2. **Canadian censorship.** All but one of my covers have the sealing strips of the Civil Censorship authorities, in all their variations of paper, wording, format and ink.
3. **"COUPON RESPONSE"**. This single line handstruck mark in red on the face of almost every cover after 18.10.40 was applied on arrival at I.R.C.C. It signifies that the mail clerk found the requisite International Postal Reply Coupon inside the cover. Some covers also have a single line handstruck date, also in red, on their face. The month portion of the date is in French words, and this mark, too, would have been applied as a receiving mark.
4. **"O.A.T."**. The Onward Air Transmission handstamp, in varying shapes, sizes, and shades of red/purple is on about 5% of the airmail covers. Lee (Aerofield, 1975) states that this mark was only applied in the U.K. at this period, and this is borne out by some OAT covers showing British censorship. However, most of the airmail, especially in the early years, would have been carried direct to Lisbon by P.A.A., thereby avoiding the dangerous and delay-prone Bristol-Lisbon leg of the U.K. routed airmails.

5. **Transit Times.** Information is scarce due to lack of transit or receiver markings on most covers. Seamail was probably all via the UK to Lisbon, with the last leg subject to delays and irregular sailings, but my only receiver-dated cover shows 45 days (13.4.42), and compares well with airmail times. Five airmail covers with Lisbon transits average 35 days Canada-Lisbon, in the range 11-51 days. My only dated air cover with evidence of UK routing shows 285 days! (Fig. 2)



Fig. 2 Censored by Canadians, British and Germans. Nine months in transit!

- B. Details found at certain periods only.**  
(Dates in brackets are my earliest/last dates for Canadian posting.)
1. **No German censorship – early covers.** While the Vichy regime existed in Southern France, mail was all routed Lisbon – Spain – Vichy France and avoided German censorship (24.9.42, seamail).
  2. **German army censoring with “y” code (Bordeaux)** on labels (seamail, 6-22.10.42). Following the Allied landings in North Africa of 8.11.42, Germany occupied the whole of Vichy France. For a very short period Lisbon-Geneva mail was censored by the Wehrmacht at Bordeaux. (Fig. 3)
  3. **Lisbon transit marks** on airmail covers (13.10.42 - 7.10.43). Found on about 25% of the airmail covers of this period only. No German censoring on these covers, so may indicate conveyance by the Italian Airline, Ala Littoria (see below).

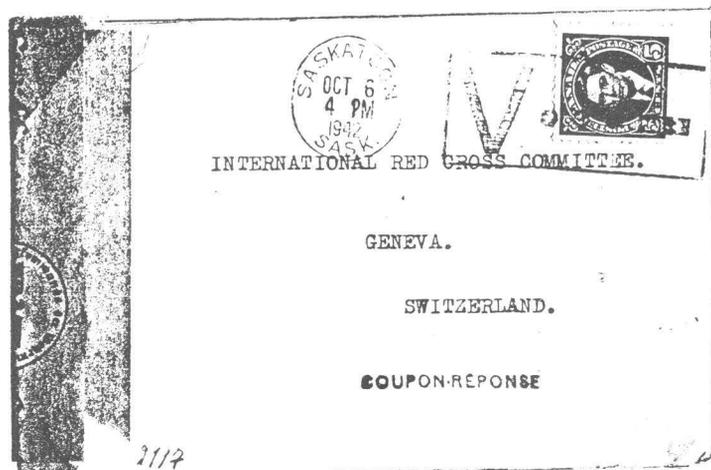


Fig. 3 Cover that reached Lisbon just after the German occupation of Vichy France, and censored by the Germans in Bordeaux.

4. German army censoring with “x” and “b” code marks. From Lisbon seamail went via Paris, where the Wehrmacht HQ there (code “x”) censored it, but some airmail rated covers also show “x” markings. Airmail from Lisbon was carried by Lufthansa to Stuttgart, and on by rail via Berlin where code “b” censoring took place, before being released for Geneva (Fig. 4). Paris censoring was by the use of a horizontal slit across the back, while Berlin opened with a vertical slit down a side edge of the envelope. The strips used to seal these slits were tied with a variety of red handstamps that attract specialist study. Individual censors had their own pencil codemarks, usually seen on the bottom front of covers. Mail passing through headquarters uncensored was marked with a ringed “Ax” or “Ab”, usually in reddish purple, as a transit mark.
5. No German censoring – middle period. (a) A small proportion of Red Cross mail reaching Lisbon was forwarded to Geneva by the Swiss ship which sailed infrequently from Lisbon to Genoa. (b) Airmails were carried by the weekly Ala Littoria flights to Rome, via Madrid and Barcelona. The Italians did not seem to censor mail to the I.R.C.C. (c) Some mail reaching Lisbon soon after the Italian surrender of 3.9.43 was allowed through uncensored by the Germans, until this gap in their security system could be closed.
6. German censoring taken over by the S.S. Following the abortive attempt on Hitler’s life on 20.7.44, in which many high-ranking army officers were involved, the censorship of foreign mails was handed over to the more fanatical S.S. “Oberkommando der Wehrmacht” handstamps were replaced by ones reading “Zensurstelle”, with a monogram “SS” in black. Some if not all, censoring was now done in Munich (seamail 11.5.44), code “d”.



Fig. 4 Typical mid-period airmail cover, censored by Canadians and German army in Berlin.

7. **No German censorship – late period.** As France was liberated by the Allied advance, an overland route to Geneva was opened by 11.12.44 (airmail 15.11.44) and thereafter German markings no longer appear.

A friend in the Helvetia Study Circle has given me more detail on German censoring than there is space for here, and I would be glad to pass on this information to anyone interested. I have seen, or seen photocopies of, some 250 Canada-I.R.C.C. covers, but I do not claim that my study is complete, and I would welcome help from any member who can fill gaps or correct errors.

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If you are not already a member of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and you would be interested in joining the "Royal", please write to The National Secretary, Department C, The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, National Office, P.O. Box 5320, Station "F", Ottawa, Ontario, K2C 3J1, Canada, for membership application forms or information.

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## THE 2 CENTS GREEN ADMIRAL

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

One would not think that much can be written about the Admirals any more after three major works have been published plus numerous articles. This article deals with the question of wet and dry printings of the re-engraved die.

In the "Canada Notes on the 1911-1925 Series" published by G. C. Marler the following note appears: "the re-engraved die will be found printed by the latter process only". The word latter refers to the dry printing process. In "Canada The Admiral Stamps of 1911 to 1925" published by H. Reiche the following note appears: "Stamps from the re-engraved die have been found from the wet process". In his new book "The Admiral Issue of Canada" G. C. Marler writes: "Reiche reports that some stamps from the re-engraved die are known wet printed, but the author considers it likely that these originated from booklets and not post office sheets". In a private correspondence Mr. Marler writes to the writer: "there is no evidence from the proof sheets in the Bank Note Company that the re-engraved stamps were printed by the wet process".

After sorting 860,000 2c green stamps the result was that Marler Types RE1, RE2 and RE3 all from the re-engraved die exist printed on wet paper. All types show the typical slight extension of the lower right frame line and the fine dot in the left margin on Types RE1 and 3. The differences in horizontal width of the dry and the wet printed stamps is about 1mm with the wet printed stamps narrower than the dry one. The proof sheets were all printed by the dry method but the actual post office sheets by both methods. All stamps found and sorted were perforated on all four sides and did not come from the booklets. The quantities found were small with only one percent coming from the wet printings. The illustration hopefully shows the difference in size. The bottom stamp is a dry printed specimen cut to show the difference better.



## THE PERTH STRAIGHT LINE

by R. B. Winmill

An abiding interest over the years, spurred on by the spending of childhood summers in Lanark County, has been the study of this areas postal history.

The principal settlement of this area, in early times, and later the county seat, was the town of Perth (surpassed in terms of size now, by Smiths Falls). Perth was the headquarters for the military settlement of 1816, one of the oldest in Upper Canada. By March 26, 1816, the first trail to Perth was blazed and by April of the same year settlers were pouring in. The first military settlers arrived in June 1816. These events necessitated the establishment of a Post Office, at an early date.<sup>1</sup>

It has been repeatedly stated that from 1816-1820 a manuscript marking Perth-Upon-Tay was employed. However, in over twenty five years of research, this marking has not been noted, nor could the late Frank Campbell<sup>2</sup> recall having seen it. However, there is reason to believe that it may well exist on archival documents as letters dated at least as early as May 11, 1816, from Perth, are recorded.

Manuscript markings aside, the first postal instrument employed was a straight line device which left a marking 30mm in length and 4mm in height. Konwiser and Campbell<sup>3</sup> recorded a period of usage from 1820-1827 and Maresch and Leggett claim in *Canada Specialized* that usage occurred from 1820 to 1829.<sup>4</sup>

During the past twenty five years, 23 covers have been personally inspected and another 17 have been noted but not personally examined. This number probably represents a hefty proportion of all of these extant in private hands. However, despite this study, no covers dated 1820 or 1821 were located and examined, though the existence of one 1820 cover was claimed. Another interesting point is that Konwiser and Campbell noted only black strikes, yet several prominent contemporary dealers suggest that both red and black are equally scarce while one argues that black ones are far scarcer. The results tabulated below suggest that black ones are far more common than the red ones.

---

### REFERENCES

1. For a history of Perth (and the county), see McGill, J. S. *A Pioneer History of the County of Lanark*, Bewdley: Clay Publishing Company Ltd. 1968.
2. Personal communication from the late Frank Campbell.
3. Konwiser, H. M. and F. W. Campbell, *The Canada and Newfoundland Stampless Cover Catalog*, Verona: Stephen G. Rich, 1946, p.26.
4. See Maresch and Leggett's *Canada Specialized Postage Stamp Catalogue*.

### Perth Straight Lines

(Bracketed numbers refer to those reported but not examined)

Year	Red	Black
1820	— (1)	—
1821	—	—
1822	1 —	—
1823	—	1 —
1824	—	— (1)
1825	—	3 —
1826	—	2 (2)
1827	1 —	5 (5)
1828	1 (1)	2 (5)
1829	5 (2)	—
No Date	—	2 —
Totals	8 (4)	15 (13)

Since Konwiser and Campbell have a report for 1820, yet no report of red strikes, presumably they must be aware of yet one more strike — a black 1820. In any event, 40 examples in all were examined or reported and black examples numbered 70% while red examples numbered 30% only, which suggests that some assessments of relative scarcity are to say the least, somewhat inaccurate. Red appears to have been employed throughout the period, though there are no reports from 1823-1826. The usage of black appears to begin in 1823 and cease in 1828. However, these remarks are definitely preliminary and subject to revision.

Early money letters are recorded from Perth, though all but one known to the author are endorsed “Cash” or “Cash Letter” while only one (dated JAN 23, 1828) is endorsed “money letter”. Without much doubt, the straight line instrument was retired in mid to late 1829 as the small double broken circles were manufactured in England and shipped over in mid 1929 and examples of usage are recorded in 1829, as early as November 16.

All strikes examined or reported, were found on outgoing mail. With but few exceptions, all the letters whose contents were still legible, concerned magistrates and fines collected or the trials they presided over. Notable exceptions included a letter to a lawyer at Bytown seeking legal advice about suing a local physician, a letter to a religious order, a letter from a preacher (the Rev Michael Harris was the first Church of England preacher at Perth) to his family and one other personal letter.

This survey of the Perth straight line can by no means be construed as a definitive study due to the small sample size and several other considerations, however, with a scarce cancellation examples of which are widely scattered, it is almost impossible to assemble the material required for an in depth study.

## THE CANADIAN NUMBERING SYSTEM

After extensive research, *Lyman's* and *Canada Specialized* have finalized the *Canadian Numbering System (CN)*. Years of consultation with leading experts and the Canadian philatelic community has yielded a system which is precise, logical and easy to use. Current numerical discrepancies will be resolved so that each stamp will have only one *Canadian Number (CN)*.

*Lyman's* and *Canada Specialized* would like to thank the stamp collecting fraternity for their help in developing the following policies and rules used in the *Canadian Numbering System (CN)*. The rationale is as follows :—

1. Stamps available for use by the public are assigned whole numbers in chronological order according to issue date, with the exception of definitives which are grouped and listed in denominational order
2. A stamp is assigned a new whole number only on the basis of a change in denomination, colour or design. Booklet Panes, Miniature Panes, Coils and other format changes are assigned suffixes, while shades, perforations and other varieties are given sub-numbers.
3. Postage due and other stamps not available to the public are listed separately at the back of the book.

*(We are indebted to our member Stuart A. Clark of Winnipeg for this information.)*

---

## THEFT OF MATERIAL FROM UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Earlier this year, several thefts of material from university archives in Ontario were reported and on 9 June some of this material was offered to a London, Ontario dealer. Due to a discrepancy in his story, which was spotted by an assistant at the store, suspicions were aroused but the man got away leaving behind some of the material which was identified by a representative from the University Library.

Apparently he is still in business, and his latest strike was in New York. The man has now been identified and a warrant issued for his arrest.

Amongst the items offered to the dealer were 11 documents from the War of 1812, two of which were signed by Sir Isaac Brock. It is understood that there is a possibility of some of this material being unloaded in this country and both members and dealers are advised to use extreme caution when being offered any of this type of material.

*(We are indebted to our member R. B. Winmill for this information – Editor.)*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mr. N. J. A. Hillson writes:

I was a bit nonplussed by the illustration as it appeared in my article on Small Queens Position Dots etc. The left hand portion is supposed to represent the printed sheet, the shaded area being schematic of a stamp from the 1st vertical row. The right hand, which is a mirror image of the left is meant to represent the plate, the shaded part being the subject on it from which the stamp at the left was printed. Perhaps those interested might like to void the centre parts of the rectangle put round the illustration.

I note also that the first Small Queens Newsletter I put out is full of the 'usual' information. I had hoped the word used would be 'Useful' instead, but perhaps you are right!

Mr. David F. Sessions writes :—

### **3c Domestic Rate also applied to British Empire**

A propos the above article on page 193 of the August *Maple Leaves* whilst no doubt the point which the author is making is an interesting one, even more interesting to a leading authority on flag cancellations (see page 192) is the fact that the two covers illustrated are the only known examples of the Prince Albert slogan flag (Richardson 40-3).

Richardson's handbook indicated this cancellation was "known only on proof sheet", my own book listed only the 4 Jun cover although the other had subsequently become known to me.

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— Redfield's Stamp Weekly, August 29, 1907.

(From *The Buffalo, Journal of the Winnipeg Philatelic Society.*)

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2424 TOZER, Peter., 2138 Northcote Road, Armadale, Victoria, Australia 3143.  
CR-CQ.

### DECEASED

602 Howard, L.D.  
507 Pole, Dr. W.

### RESIGNED

1756 Dixon-Nuttall, Col. J. F.

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1610 Arrol, A. B. B., Crescent Cottage, White Horse Lane, Pontesbury, Shrewsbury,  
SY5 0RR.  
1512 Campbell, N. D., c/o Robson Lowe Ltd., 47 Duke St., St. James's, London, SW1Y  
6QX.  
2333 Harrison, D. A., Box 75, Saanichton, Brit. Columbia, Canada, VOS 1MO.  
759 Lowe, R., 47 Duke Street, St. James's, London, SW1Y 6QX.  
374 Rocke, S. F. P., 4 Wyeside, Whitney-on-Wye, Hereford, HR3 6ER.  
2324 Watt, Dr. J., 843 Temperance Street, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, S7N 0N2  
1532 Wirth, E., 1234 Chancellor Drive, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, R3T 4H9  
2397 Vergne, J. de la, Apt. 712, 2770 Aquitaine Avenue, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada,  
L5N 3K5

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