



JOURNAL OF THE
CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
OF GREAT BRITAIN

Maple Leaves

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Whole No. 206

Vol. 20 No. 2

January 1986



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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.

Edited by: Eric Killingley,

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Vol. 20 No. 2

JANUARY 1986

Whole No. 206

EDITORIAL

May I first of all extend my thanks to Lew Warren who kindly undertook the work of compiling the Index to Volume 19. Unfortunately the index arrived after I had prepared my Editorial so I was unable to give credit for the work involved. The index went out with the October issue and all members should have had their copy.

During my recent visit to Canada I was very pleased to make the acquaintance of members of our society, who had previously been but names and as a result I have already had numerous letters offering articles for Maple Leaves. It was particularly nice to meet the Editor of Topics – Mike Street and be able to discuss our mutual problems.

There are still many collectors in Canada who regret the lack of facilities at the National Postal Museum for study into postal history, and information required for research. I was therefore fortunate in meeting Thomas A. Hillman, of the Federal Archives Division who assured me that if any of our members were in the process of, or intending to research any subject and were requiring information, he would see that their letter was channelled to the right person who would hopefully deal with the enquiry. Letters in the first place should be sent to Mr. Thomas Hillman, Federal Archives Division, 395, Wellington Street, Ottawa K1A 0N3.

NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM REOPENS

OTTAWA — Canada Post Corporation announced that the National Postal Museum, which moved out of premises on Wellington Street earlier this year, reopened on Monday, July 8, 1985, at 365 Laurier Street on the corner of Laurier and Kent in downtown Ottawa.

The new temporary location will house the National Stamp Collection, the philatelic library, and a counter where the public will be able to purchase philatelic items.

Among other items, this counter will sell First Day Covers to mark the reopening — stamped envelopes bearing the Museum's own cancellation mark.

The National Collection and the philatelic counter will be open to the public Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The library will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on these days, and philatelists and collectors will continue to have access to library reference services.

Exhibits and other collections not housed at the new temporary museum location are in active storage in a vault in Ottawa. Curators will continue to maintain and add to these holdings.

In announcing the opening of the new temporary location, the Corporation reaffirmed its commitment to relocate a permanent postal museum within the next three years.

CONVENTION AUCTION 1986

Members are asked to note that all lots for the Convention Auction which will be held at the Pitlochry Hydro, Pitlochry on Saturday the 4th October, 1986 should be sent to :—

Mr. J. M. H. Parkin, C.P.S.,
c/o Cavendish Philatelic Auctions Ltd.,
Progressive Buildings,
Sitwell Street,
DERBY, DE1 2JP.

NOT LATER THAN 1st MAY, 1986. It is most important that all envelopes or packages containing material for the Convention Auction are clearly addressed EXACTLY as above in order to avoid confusion.

Only B.N.A. material is acceptable and lots must be accompanied by a brief description and estimate of value (minimum £2.00). Lots received after 1st May may not be included in the Auction Catalogue but they will, however, be disposed of at the conclusion of the sale. Prospective vendors are urged in their own interests, therefore, to ensure that their material is in Mr. Parkin's hands by May 1st at the latest.

NO RESPONSIBILITY CAN BE ACCEPTED FOR MATERIAL WHICH IS EITHER LOOSELY MOUNTED OR BADLY PACKAGED.

A stamped addressed postcard will ensure a prompt acknowledgement of receipt of your material.

SHORT PAID TRANSATLANTIC MAIL (Part 3) by Geoffrey Whitworth, F.C.P.S., F.R.P.S.L.

In David Pritchard's recent review of the Short Paid Transatlantic Mail he notes one cover with a two rate deficiency. He has allowed me to illustrate this cover in Fig. 6. It is one of those cases where two rates short paid is arguable. The weight written on the cover is '1 oz' which is the top limit for a two rate postage and yet alongside is also written '1/3', ie 2 rates of 6d, plus half rate fine of 3d. An initialled '1/6' is added which is the amount to be collected from the recipient. Note also that this was now 'an irregular letter' and carries the Canadian Pkt. handstamp.

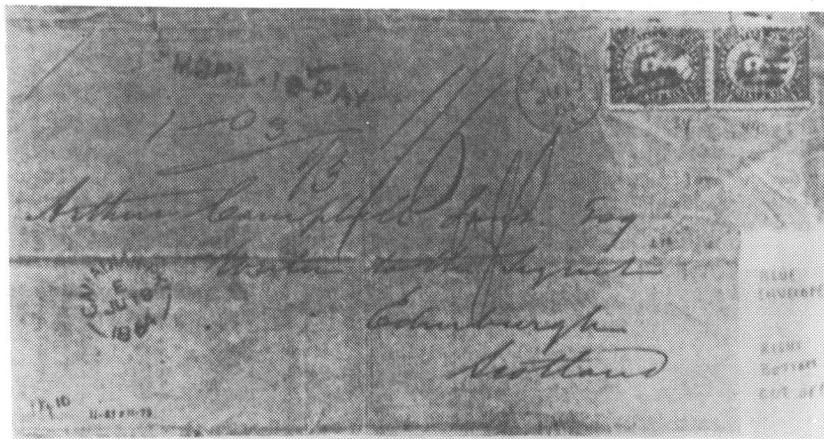


Fig. 6

Fig. 7 illustrates another irregular letter of an earlier period. The letter is directed by Canadian Mail and prepaid $7\frac{1}{2}$ d Cy., the equivalent to 6d Sterling. Being handstamped '2' and 'More to Pay' would indicate that the next mail leaving Hamilton for the U.K., was via New York and the Royal Mail Packet. That this is what happened is confirmed by the Liverpool receiving mark 'BR PACKET' Ap 24 1859. Hamilton, being a shorting office for transatlantic mails, would also have added the manuscript 'Fine 6d' which then added up to 8d. This '8' was repeated in England and was the amount to be collected from the recipient. Of this amount 5d, ie 2d plus half the fine, 3d, would be credited to the Canadian Post Office account.

The stamp itself is not tied to the cover as it is only pen cancelled.

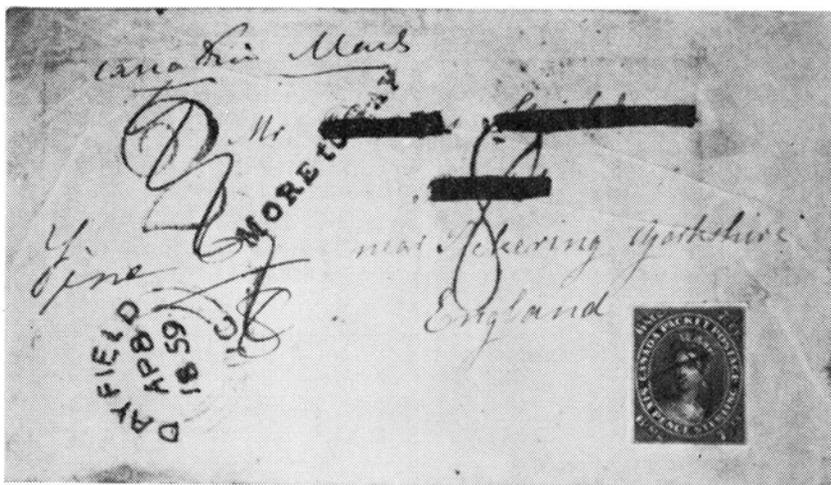


Fig. 7

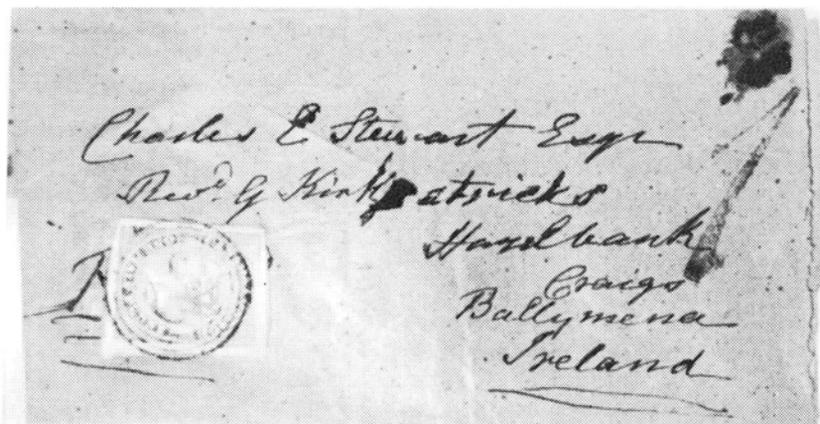


Fig. 8

Figure 8 illustrates an undirected wrapper of circa early 1859 carrying a newspaper to Ireland. The 1/2d stamp is tied by the four ring 30 hammer of Peterborough. The writing under the stamp appears to be 'PAID'. From Peterborough, mail for the United Kingdom was sent to Kingston for sorting, checking and bagging. Here the next bag must have been for Boston or New York and the Cunard Mail Packet. Newspapers carried through the

United States were liable to a transit rate of one penny each and was collected from the recipient. The mail bag would be offloaded in Ireland and as there is no receiving backstamp its date of arrival is not known. It is not possible to say with certainty which packet boat carried the mail. It is probable that the '1' handstamp was applied at Kingston.

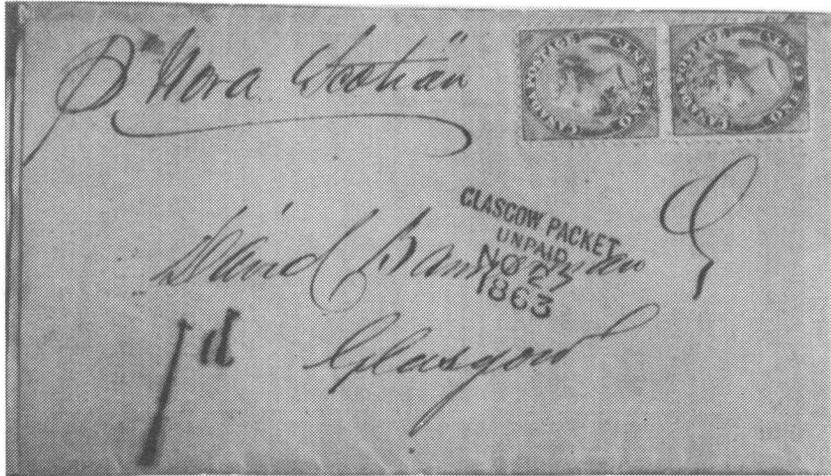


Fig. 9

Figure 9 illustrates a folded Thos. W. Raphael's Circular of current prices and forward information, dated Montreal November 13 1863. It is prepaid two cents, the correct rate for such an items, and directed to be sent by the Canadian Packet 'Nova Scotian' leaving Quebec on the 14th November. The stamps are cancelled by a very indistinct four ring 27 numeral mark. According to the records the ship arrived in Liverpool on the 26th but as this circular was addressed to Glasgow it would be put off at, possibly, Derry, and sent directly to Glasgow by another vessel. The Glasgow receiving handstamp is dated NO 27 1863 with the words 'UNPAID' as part of the handstamp. The prominent '1d' was added by handstamp but the ink used was not that of the Montreal ring cancel. The circular weighs under one ounce and should not have been surcharged for excess weight. So the question is – Why was the extra 1d necessary? The late J. J. Bonar once owned this and another similar market report but dated 1861, two years earlier, and also showing the same Glasgow UNPAID handstamp and also 1d surcharge. He could not find any reason for the claim as they were carried by Canadian ships which, according to the records, were on the Quebec to Liverpool run. On the illustrated cover the penny claim would be legitimate if the mail had travelled on a Cunard ship but a boat of this line had just left Boston on the 11th November, before the date on the circular.

The contents of the Raphael Circular is very interesting in that it contains a glowing report on the West coast of America and its white wine industry. It states that new supplies are on their way via Cape Horn and are expected to dock in a few weeks time.

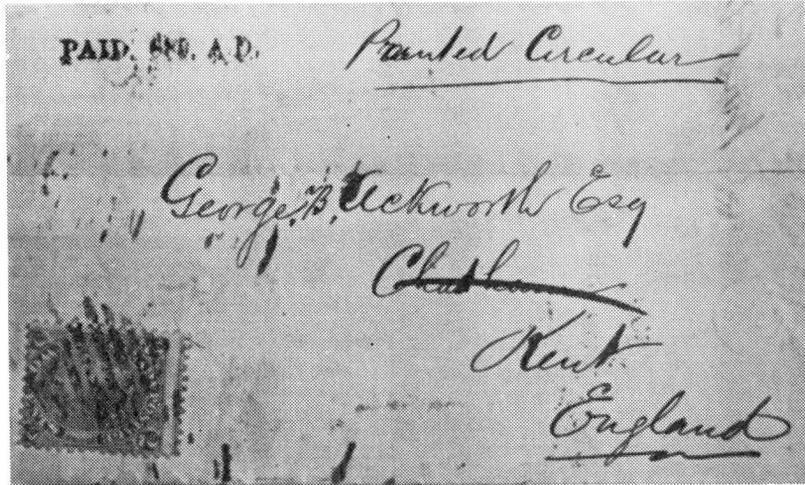


Fig. 10

Fig. 10 illustrates a printed circular sent from Toronto to England which was prepaid 2 cents and not surcharged. The circular is dated Toronto December 1866 and an arrangement must have been made to debit the cost to a numbered account. There are two backstamps, the first Chatham De 28 1866 and the second Rochester De 29, showing that it was redirected without any further charge.

The records show that the boat most likely to have carried this mail was the Canadian Packet 'St. David' which left Portland on December 15th and arrived at Liverpool December 28th. How quick the Postal service was to get it to Chatham the same day!

(to be continued)

SOCIETY TIES

By popular request a further supply of Society ties has been obtained; they feature the Society's logo on a plain ground and can be obtained from the Secretary at £5 each. Overseas members should add 30p for postage (sea mail) or 80p (Airmail). A small number of ties with a green background, as previously supplied, have been secured together with a supply featuring a navy blue background.

1864 FORERUNNER OF REPLY-PAID MAIL by L. George Bellack

I have recently come across and acquired an interesting Montreal Drop Letter cover which suggests just this. What aroused my curiosity was the fact that the cover had been re-used by the recipient, by turning it inside out and despatching it to the original sender.

Both sides are franked with the 1c stamp of the first decimal issue (S.G.29) paying the then applicable drop letter rate. On its outward journey, the "top stamp" was postmarked Montreal 8th August and on the return trip the Montreal c.d.s. on the other stamp is dated 9th August.

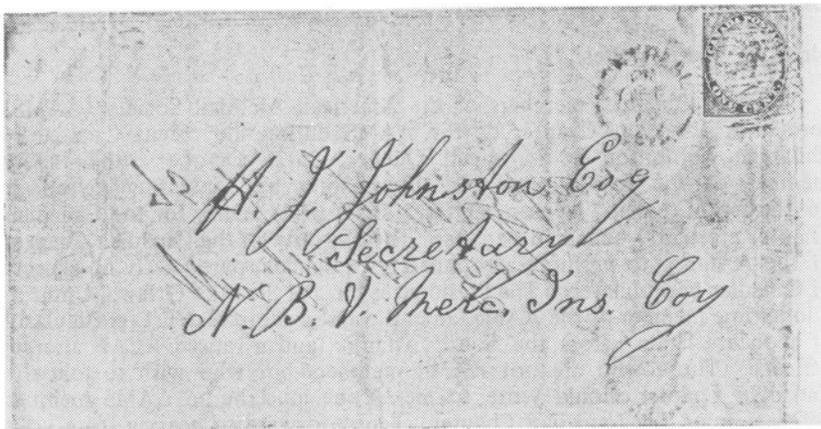


Fig. 1

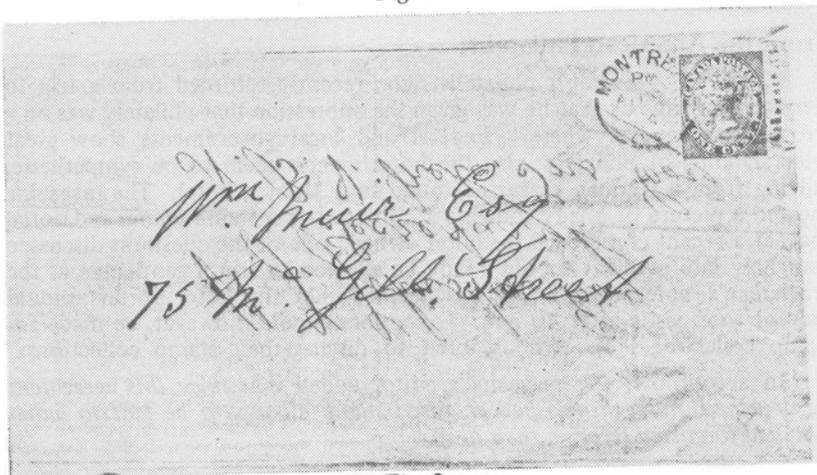


Fig. 2

Since, as Figs. 1 and 2 clearly show, the handwriting on both addresses is identical, one can surmise that the original sender, Wm. Muir, writing to the Secretary of a local insurance company not only asked for a reply by re-addressing the letter, but also paid for the reply. After all, Wm. Muir was clearly determined to "facilitate" H. J. Johnstone's response to his letter and simply providing his address would hardly have been enough of an incentive.

How debatable does this premise appear to other readers of *Maple Leaves*?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mr. R. K. Malott writes:

Twelve Canadian members of the American Air Mail Society (AAMS) formed a Canadian Chapter of the AAMS during the recent Canada 84 Philatelic Exhibition at Montreal, Quebec, 25-28 October 1984. Any member of the AAMS may join this chapter by contacting myself at 16 Harwick Crescent, Nepean, Ontario, K2H 6R1. Dues for the Canadian Chapter are \$5.00 Canadian per year. The objective of the Canadian Chapter of the AAMS is to promote aerophilately in Canada, particularly all aspects of Canadian aerophilately. The President is Mr. Pat Sloan of Ottawa, Ontario, a long-time member of the AAMS, an enthusiastic aerophilatelist (particularly of pioneer flights across the South Atlantic, and a retired RCAF aircrew officer). Those who are not AAMS members but who wish to join the Canadian Chapter should write to me as one must be an AAMS member before joining the Canadian Chapter. I look forward to hearing from your readers.

From the American Philatelist :—

"Trust — A Swedish philatelist who recently returned from a trip to Germany informs us that he was given the impression that philately was on a strong increase everywhere. Federal and local governments show great understanding of philately; also the hotel owners seem to be sympathetic, judging from a German magazine found in a Munich hotel. The magazine showed a picture of a lady showing a hotel porter a stamp album and noted that, at a recent conference for hotel owners, one of the questions discussed was 'how late at night should a lady be allowed to visit a gentleman at the gentleman's hotel room?' It was decided that the hotel porters should prevent such visits after 10 p.m. Exceptions should, however, be made for stamp collecting ladies who wanted to discuss their stamp collections."

In a footnote, the magazine's editor added that *since this agreement was reached, many hotels had acquired stamp albums to be lent to ladies who had forgotten to bring their own!*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE from Margaret A. McGregor

Once again it is January and the time of year when a New Year message is sent from your President telling you of the venue for next year's Convention. I am very conscious of the honour bestowed upon me as President of your Society and hope the Convention will be a happy one. The Society meant a great deal to my late husband and I have been very grateful over the years for the opportunity to keep in touch with old friends.

The 40th Convention 1986 will take place in Pitlochry, Perthshire, from Wednesday 1st October – Saturday 4th October, and the venue will be the Pitlochry Hydro Hotel. Those who golf bring your golf clubs.

Pitlochry can be reached quite easily by road and rail.

I extend a warm welcome to you all and hope you will take the opportunity to see some of the lovely countryside. Further details will appear in the April issue of *Maple Leaves*. Meanwhile do look out your material for the Auction which will be in the capable hands of Mr. Geoffrey Manton and Mr. John Parkin.

Please send your LOTS to Mr. John Parkin, 12 Lime Grove, Ashbourne, Derbyshire, DE6 1HP, as soon as possible.

In conclusion I wish you all a Happy New Year and hope to see you at Convention.

1986 CANADA STAMP PROGRAMME

13 February	–	34c Winter Olympics – Calgary 1988
26 February	–	24c, 39c EXPO 86
14 March	–	\$5 La Mauricie National Park
2 May	–	34c, 68c EXPO 86
9 May	–	34c Canadian Forces Postal Service
22 May	–	34c Birds (block of 4)
27 June	–	34c Canada Day – Explorers (block of 4)
23 June	–	34c CBC – 50th Anniversary
29 August	–	34c Science and Technology (block of 4)
5 September	–	34c James Macleod/Chief Crowfoot
15 October	–	34c Winter Olympics (pair)
29 October	–	34c, 39c, 68c Christmas
21 November	–	34c (pair), 39c, 68c Trains

NEW SQUARED CIRCLE DISCOVERIES

by J. L. Winmill and R. B. Winmill

Before their fine work was published in 1981¹, Glen Hansen and Bill Moffatt each spent years carrying on the pioneering works of the late Dr. Alfred Whitehead. Yet, despite all the years spent in research, new finds are being made every day. This book will no doubt not be revised for many years to come for various reasons. Hence, to keep students aware of new finds, and to stimulate further interest and research, it is important to publish articles periodically, which will serve to motivate all students, old and new alike.

Below, are outlined new finds, some on new material recently discovered and others gleaned from auction catalogues, estate material and private collections. Finds which revise either the main text or the appendices are included provided they extend a period of use, indicate previously unknown usage or further study in indicia errors, except for inverted "8" 's.

Barred Circles

Hamilton JA 19 6P 92 – This is a new early date.

Montreal – Hammers II, IV and V are all now recorded on the map stamp.

This means all five of these hammers are now known as map covers.

Type I Squared Circles

Beeton – The first strike of this hammer on map cover (JU 21/99) has been found. No Beeton strike was previously known.

Byng Inlet North – A cover is now known.

London (2nd state) – AM is now known to JA 30/95.

Shannonville – "1" is definitely known to AU 12/93. Three map covers are now recorded.

Type II

Canso DE ?/99 is known. This is a new late date. Two strikes are known on map stamp and a further example on cover was sold by Wm. Maresch some years ago. Two map covers are also recorded.

Kentville OC 6/93 – This is a new early date.

Lunenburg JU 3/99 – This date on map is a new late date.

Fredericton AM JA 20/94 – This is a new earliest date of use.

Aylmer (East) 2 FE 12/95 – This is the first timemark recorded.

Iberille – Also known in 1904.

Magog – The purple coloured strikes noted on the 7c goose stamp also exist on the 8c small head.

Richmond – The /30 year date error also exists with a date ending in "2" hence the error is known for at least three separate dates.

Waterloo JA £ 5 (25)/99 – This magnificent goof appears on a map cover.

Bracebridge – Two covers are now recorded.

Brantford Blank DE 2/96 – Normally the indicia AM/PM were employed.
This strike is now known both on and off cover on map.

Cache Bay – This is known on map stamp now.

Goderich – Further indicia errors include JA 70/99 and NO 3 07.

Gravenhurst PM MR 5/o0 (one large and one small zero) – Obviously an error.

International Bridge DE 4/93 (bluish purple) – This colour is not noted in the book.

Kingston (Hammer II) – Two peculiar indicia have been noted, 04 JU 6/94 & 14 JU 16/98. A December 8/98 map cover is well known. This represents a new late date.

Leamington JA 21/ε9 – This error is on the map stamp, hence the year is probably 1899.

Listowel MR 20/99 – Cannot be the latest recorded date as later dates are known on map and map cover.

Manitowaning – This is now known on map cover.

Markdale (Hammer I) – A cover dated FE 1/93 is known but backstamps reveal this to be 1894. (Proof date is SP 2/93).

Martintown /25 MR/9 (on map stamp) – This is further confirmation of both 1898 and 1899 dates for this error.

Merrickville – Three line dates are known from at least OC 25/01.

Mount Brydges – Numerous indicia errors exist from 1905 onwards.

Oxford Mills OC 49/S6 – Note the weird indicia error.

Perth NO 89/? (probably 1897) – This is obviously an error. Probably on the ninth, the date was inserted without removing the previous day's date.

Pontypool – Now known on cover.

Prescott FE 23/01 – This is a new late date. 20 has also been observed but due to the position of the strike the date is unknown. JA 71/98 is known and presumably represents either January 12 or 21. PM is known inverted OC 25/95.

Rocton – This is now known on map cover.

Seelys Bay – While 11 as a time mark is known, it was discovered on cover in 1983!

Smiths Falls – This is now recorded on the 15c large head. The missing “0” in many 1900 dates is almost certainly due to an improperly registered “0” as numerous covers have been recorded with partially formed “0”s and proper indicia exist for some dates with the alleged error.

Stouffville – The timemark also exists for AP 6/00 (on map), this being a new late date reported for this timemark.

Strathroy – A Jubilee cover is now known.

Sudbury AP 12/95 – This is a new early date.
Tara – Several map covers are now known.
Thornbury 01/AP/96 – This marking on cover is AP 10/96, with back-stamps confirming it!
Thornhill – 1907 strikes are also now known. At least four map covers are now known.
Weston – A brownish strike also exists MY 1/99 on map cover.
Woodville – This strike was erroneously recorded on map stamp by the late Nels Pelletier who misidentified a Wooler. Because of this, no 1899 date is known either.
St. Boniface – Now known as 15c large head.
Hartney – At least two map covers are known.
Grenfell – Now known on Jubilee.
Maple Creek – A map stamp with a strike dated DE 20/99 exists and this represents a new late date.
Moose Jaw – A second hammer may exist for this town.
Edmonton AP 22/29 – This is a new late date.
Lethbridge – At least two map covers exist.
Kamloops AU 30/00 – This is a new late date.
Union FE 8/94 – This is a new early date.
Victoria (Hammer I) – This strike is now recorded on 5c RLS.

It is certain that over the next few years, many new squared circle finds will be made and reported. Hopefully such reports will serve to stimulate ever increased levels of interest in these fascinating cancels. To state that the squared circle field is dead, is silly. A new Kingston hammer was discovered only a couple of years ago, and now it is highly likely that two Calgary hammers exist, hence one new one will have been discovered. It will be many years yet, before we can claim to know all there is to know about these cancels – if indeed we ever can!

1. Moffatt, Dr. W. G. & G. Hansen, *The Squared Circle Postmarks of Canada*, Altona: D. W. Friesen & Sons Ltd., 1981.
-

POSTAL AUCTION

It is proposed to run a postal auction on similar lines to the one held in January 1985 but in order that this will not clash with material required for the Convention Auction, the auction will not be held until April, 1987. Once again Roger Grigson will be in charge of accepting lots but members should watch for further information in *Maple Leaves* sending any lots as these will not be accepted until after the closing date for the Convention Auction.



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TELEPHONE: (0332) 46753

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ADMIRAL NOTEBOOK (Part 14)
by J. Hannah, F.C.P.S.

2 Cents – Plates 25 and 26

While Marler groups these plates with Plate 18 and part of Plate 17 with no nick in the upper right corner which had been evident in Plates 19 to 24, I have a number of copies with dates from January 1913 through to April 1913 with the identifying breaks in the vertical line of the right numeral box, and I have allocated them to Plates 25 and 26 as a separate group.

One of the objectives of these notes has been to illustrate as well as providing descriptive notes on recorded plate varieties. From this group of plates I have selected three plated subjects.

The first recorded example has extensive evidence of re-entry in the lower half of the stamp with doubling of the top and the numerals in both boxes, in the letters "WO" of TWO and the doubling continues in almost all the horizontal lines in the lower right spandrel extending even into the numeral box, and also in the portrait oval. The print which I expect will have to be reduced in size to fit the magazine page should show the doubling in the lower right quarter of this stamp. I have two copies of this variety and in both cases there are also traces of doubling of the outer frame as well, being most evident above the numeral box. (Fig. 1)



Fig. 1

As Marler tells us there was comprehensive retouching of the upper right corner to remove the nick in the outer frame. In general this work seems to have been well done. I have several stamps where it appears that the spandrel was also retouched in this area and I would submit two examples to illustrate this.

In the first there is a medium line added to close the spandrel from just below the top line down to line 13. The top horizontal line has also been strengthened and tends to slant upwards at the corner. These lines fail to meet. In both my copies there is also a very short line projecting inwards from the outer frame. The other short line to be seen on the print just below this point, is in fact not part of the design and is not constant. This listed variety is from Plate 25, upper right pane, stamp 14. (Fig. 2)



Fig. 2

In the second example, which is the stamp below the previous subject on the printing plate, there is again the vertical line added in the upper right, and in this case the top horizontal line has been doubled by retouching. This stamp is from Plate 25, upper right pane, stamp 24. (Fig. 3)

This article concludes my notes on the Original Die plates for this value. I hope my comments have been helpful to collectors of this issue. The Retouched Die plates is another story.

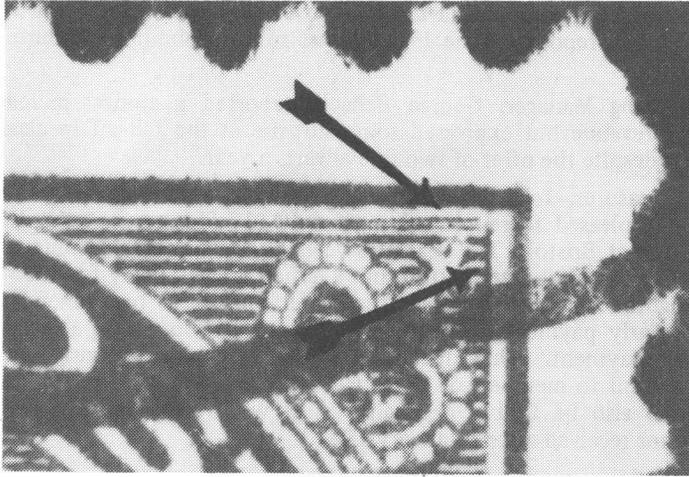


Fig. 3

FROM THE SECRETARY

The following are the salient points arising from this year's A.G.M., held at the Chequers Hotel, Newbury, on 31 August 1985. A full version of the minutes can be obtained from the Secretary; similarly a full statement of accounts can be obtained from the Treasurer. SAE would be appreciated.

Mr. G. E. Taylor was the only member to respond to the call for a new Assistant Editor and he was duly elected.

Following the death of Matthew Carstairs, FCPS, two vacancies were created, one on the Handbooks Committee, the other as co-ordinator for the expertising service. The Secretary agreed to look after these matters; consequently any member with a manuscript felt to be suitable for publication should contact him, similarly any member seeking an opinion on the authenticity of a stamp or cover should forward it to him.

The Editor expressed his thanks to Mr. Lew Warren for kindly preparing the index to Volume 19 that was despatched with the October issue of *Maple Leaves*.

The Packet Secretary, Roger Grigson, reported only 81 books received for circulation during the year so, with 10 circuits to be serviced, it meant that two of them would not see a packet this year. The Exchange Packet is a popular service for members but can only flourish if more members provide books for circulation; only 19 did so in the year under review which is most disappointing. The new venture, a postal sale, was poorly supported both in terms of vendors and buyers, nevertheless sales exceeded £500 and Mr. Grigson expressed willingness to run a similar sale in 1986.

President Tom Almond, having taken over handbook sales following Dr. Carstairs' death, reported some 170 volumes sold for about £770 during the year.

Advertising Manager, George Bellack, reported a modest increase in advertising revenue but expressed some surprise at the fall-off in classified advertising despite the offer of two free adverts a year.

The Treasurer, John Hillson, having forecast a substantial deficit for 1983/4, was pleased to report a loss of only £17 for the year, thanks to a good auction at Bristol. The year 1984/5 is likely to show a surplus, thanks again to a good auction at Buxton, but a deficit is again likely for 1985/6 on current figures. In the circumstances he felt unable to recommend a discount for early payment of dues as at September 1986, rather a penalty of £1 for late payment. Thus dues for 1985/6 are £7, as previously notified, with a discount to members of £1 if paid before 1 December 1985; dues for 1986/7 will also be £7 but a penalty of £1 will be payable in respect of subscriptions received after 1 January 1987.

It was also agreed that the title of Assistant Treasurer be amended to Subscription Manager to avoid any confusion as to whom subscriptions are payable.

The following Officers were elected :-

President – Mrs. M. MacGregor	Advertising Manager - G. Bellack
Vice-President/Treasurer – J. Hillson	Publicity Officer – M. Cusworth
Secretary – D. Sessions	Subscription Manager – E. Burchell
Librarian – C. Banfield	Asst. Editor – G. Taylor
Editor – E. Killingley	Committee:
Packet Secretary – R. Grigson	Scotland – Miss E. Stephenson
Handbooks Manager – T. Almond	North – G. Whitworth

Mrs. MacGregor announced that convention 86 will be held at the Pitlochry Hydro Hotel from Wednesday 1 October to Saturday 4 October 1986.

Competition Awards –

- Class 1** 1. D. F. Sessions – Montreal, the Summer of '97
 2. F. Fawn – The Map Stamp
- Class 2** 1. The London Section – The 2c Registration Stamp
- Class 3 (a)** 1. H. E. Duckworth – Transatlantic Mail
 2. B. Stalker – T.P.O's of Newfoundland
- Class 3 (b)** 1. R. Lockyer – 1972-77 Definitives
 2. M. Russell – The Scroll Issue 1928

Trophies

Godden Trophy – D. F. Sessions	Admiral Cup – T. Almond
Bunny Cup) – R. Lockyer	Members Trophy – F. Fawn
Lees-Jones Trophy)	Aikens Trophy – H. K. Dodwell

The Founders Trophy was awarded this year to W. Gutzman in recognition of his published work on Patriotic Postcards.

NOTES ON THE 1985 CONVENTION

Convention this year visited the Chequers Hotel, Newbury.

On the Wednesday afternoon a welcome cup of tea awaited us in the lounge where there were keen collectors busily searching through bundles of covers and stamps. Others just gossiped and heard the saga of Tom and Jean Almond's car with no oil.

That evening Dorothy Sanderson entertained the philatelists with her display of a Pot Pourri of Postal History.

The study circle on Thursday morning was led by David Sessions when the King Edward VII definitives were under the magnifying glass. There was a lively discussion on the reasons for the issue of the 1908 2c imperforate stamps and the differences between these and the proofs.

A cruise in the afternoon on the KENNET and AVON canal was most relaxing and included afternoon tea on board. Neil Prior and other keen golfers enjoyed their afternoon on a local golf course.

An early dinner and the ladies were off to the Watermill Theatre to see a production of "Once upon a mattress". Back at the hotel Len Belle gave a display of covers illustrating the registration system. The rate on one cover he could not explain, but by the end of the evening the markings were unravelled. Lew Warren's Q.V.'s Maple Leaves and Numerals followed.

Competition entries were judged and displayed on Friday morning followed by Colin Banfield's collection of mourning envelopes and cards.

The afternoon excursion was a visit to Blenheim Palace. Poor Tom Almond found himself without the wherewithal to pay the entrance fee. He was soon bailed out and we entered the Palace. Our first guide continually interrupted her talk as each new person entered with the question "May I see your ticket please". This was followed by recordings of Sir Winston Churchill's speeches as we progressed and other guides said their piece.

We were walking around the gardens when Betty Stephenson realised she was without her cardigan. Search parties were dispatched to retrace her steps and the garment was found.

Fred Fawn provided a rich philatelic feast after dinner with his Gold Medal display of the Map stamp.

Saturday saw the usual meetings followed by the auction ably conducted by Geoffrey Manton.

At the reception and banquet there were three members from Canada: Dr. Harry Duckworth, Fred Fawn and Stan Lum.

Mr. R. Garrett, immediate past president of the Reading Philatelic Society, proposed the toast to the C.P.S. of G.B. to which the President replied. Alan Judd gave a delightful speech with his toast to the Ladies and Mrs. Esther Avery replied. Dr. John Gatecliff proposed the toast to the

guests and overseas visitors and also reported on his latest research into hotel toast.

Dr. Harry Duckworth replied with a very amusing speech. It was quite late when the party broke up.

Sunday, the end of another enjoyable Convention. As we took our leave from Tom and Jean we looked forward to meeting again in Pitlochry when our new president Mrs. Margaret McGregor would be there to greet us.

REPORT ON THE 1985 CONVENTION AUCTION

It is pleasing to report that all payments to vendors of material in this year's Convention Auction were despatched by November 2nd, that this was possible was due to prompt payment of accounts by postal purchasers. The continued interest of postal bidders can be gauged from the summary of sales listed below, where sixty out of eighty bidders were successful with one or more of their bids.

FLOOR SALES	182 lots	Sold at	£2,026.00
UK POSTAL SALES	83 lots	Sold at	£ 833.00
OVERSEAS POSTAL SALES	104 lots	Sold at	£1,688.50
	<u>369 lots</u>		<u>£4,547.50</u>
UNSOLD	151 lots	Est/Reserve	£1,135.00

A list of prices realised is available on request from Brian T. Stalker, the inclusion of a stamped and addressed envelope with your request would be greatly appreciated.

CAVENDISH AUCTION — 9th November, 1985

The collection formed by the late Dr. Matthew Carstairs, F.R.P.S.L., P.C.P.S. was auctioned on the above date, and the room was filled with potential buyers. A contingent of dealers came over from Canada and it was clear from the outset that prices were going to be high. Lots 1 & 2 for instance were knocked down at £1,300 and £1,500 against estimates of £175 and £180 respectively. One stamp that most of the members of the society knew Matthew had in his collection was the Coleman, Ont Type 1 squared circle on a 3c small queen. This was sold to a Canadian dealer for £3,200 against an estimate of £750. A rough estimate would indicate that at least 75% of the material on offer returned to Canada. Some 45 lots realised 4 figures and it would seem that the market for quality material is still very much in demand. When the Canadian dealers have sorted through their lots perhaps we shall have the opportunity of repatriating some of the items for our own collections.

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BOOK REVIEWS

CANADIAN MAIL BY RAIL 1836-1867 by L. F. Gillam, F.C.P.S.

This work on the history of Canada's pioneer railways deals in far greater detail with the history and postal markings of the individual railroads than in previous books on the subject. Apart from details of the railway post offices in far greater detail, there is ample information on the railroads themselves and the locomotives which were used at the time, including numerous illustrations, maps and reproductions of all known postmarks of the period. Anyone having a copy of the Author's previous publication – "A History of Canadian R.P.O.'s, 1853-1967" will not need reminding of the meticulous research which has gone into this new emission. Published in a strictly limited issue of 500 copies and available only from the author – L. F. Gillam, F.C.P.S. at 66, East Bawtry Road, Rotherham, S. Yorks S60 4BU. Price £12 (\$15.50).

THE FIVE CENTS BEAVER STAMP OF CANADA by Geoffrey Whitworth, F.R.P.S.L., F.C.P.S.

The original study of the five cents Beaver stamp set out to resolve how many printing plates were actually used during the ten year period of the stamp. At first it was thought that nine plates were used but by 1939 this was revised to two. The conclusion of this work is that only one steel printing plate was ever prepared and that it was repaired ten times giving eleven states to the plate.

All the previous information published on this value has been collated under this one heading and for any student of the 1859 issue this book is a must. Extremely well illustrated pages of the flaws in the various positions in the sheet enable the stamps to be readily plated.

The book is available from the Royal Philatelic Society, London. Price £7.50 which includes U.K. postage. Air mail postage overseas extra.

POST OFFICES OF ALBERTA

This publication follows the success of the book on British Columbia Post Offices last year by the same authors. Once again it has been computerised in order that it can be up-dated in the light of new information. Opening and closing dates of the offices are given in most cases and it contains a wealth of information for the postmark collectors of Alberta. Copies will be available from the Handbooks Manager in due course and prospective customers should watch the back page for an announcement.

CANADA SPECIALIZED POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE 1986

This latest edition once again extends the scope of the catalogue by again including a listing of the Four Hole Perforated O.H.M.S. as well as a new listing of the Five Hole Officials. There is now a Commemorative Index so that any stamp may be easily located in the catalogue by its subject matter. A listing of the Bahamas Special Delivery stamps used on cover from Canada has also been provided. Available from the Handbooks Manager (see advertisement on the back cover).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mr. Fred Fawn writes :—

“Newbury” has come and gone but while it is still fresh in my mind I would like to express my thanks to the many members who helped to make my first visit to the C.P.S. of G.B. Convention such an enjoyable occasion. Transportation to the hotel upon landing in the UK and back to Heathrow upon departure by the welcoming team of President Tom and Chauffeur-Librarian Colin was much appreciated. The congenial and relaxed atmosphere; the large array of interesting philatelic conversations broadened my philatelic knowledge but, unfortunately, rendered the convention weekend all too short.

My greatest surprise was that the hotel tariff included breakfast and dinner. Other pleasantries were: a complete absence of registration fee, optional sight seeing trips and even optional banquet. My one and only regret was that I did not tape the award banquet proceedings. Mr. Judd's toast to the lovely ladies was an all time classic. “Like Zsa Zsa Gabor's fifth husband who knows what to do but don't know how to make it interesting!”

I look forward to participating in future conventions.

P.S. The Society tie that was so kindly bestowed upon me will be worn with only my best suit.

Mr. P. E. Woodland writes :—

I am enclosing a slightly enlarged photo-copy of an 1897 Jubilee 20c which I have in my collection showing an apparent extraneous foreign body on the printing plate in the bottom margin.

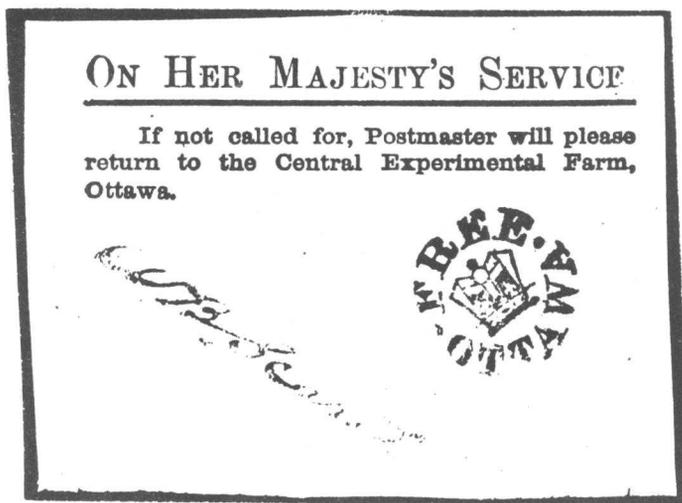
Are any other similar copies known please?



The Yellow Peril writes :—

Re: C. Leigh Hogg's inquiry on the crown postmarks in the August issue of *Maple Leaves*

Perhaps this photocopy will provide the clues to enable Mr. Hogg to research this marking.



This attractive miniature Ottawa crown, encircled by the words "FREE OTTAWA", appears to be a handstamp used by the Central Experimental Farm to designate official mail. It was not a postal marking device even though it (and other markings such as "PAID, TOO LATE, FREE" etc.) was sometimes used to cancel stamps. A virtually identical illustration of this free frank is illustrated on page 64 of Robson Lowe's "PRICED CATALOGUE OF THE HAND STRUCK POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE (1680-1900)".

The facsimile "WB Scarth" signature should assist Mr. Hogg to pin-point the period this marking was used.

Lt-Col. D. M. C. Prichard, F.R.P.S. writes :—

Messrs Thomas Prosser & Son

Many early Canadian covers were addressed to Messrs. Thomas Prosser & Son, 28 Platt Street, N.Y. In *Maple Leaves* of August 1977 I asked whether anyone knew the nature of the business carried on by Messrs. Prosser. There was no reply.

In the Maresch Sale of 22 May 1985, however, there were two covers dated 1860 and 1861 addressed to Messrs. Thomas Prosser & Son, Patentees. This may be the answer but not necessarily the whole scope of their business.

NOTICE OF
5TH PUBLIC AUCTION



OUR *FIFTH PUBLIC AUCTION* WILL BE HELD IN *MARCH 1986*, ON OUR PREMISES AT 185 QUEEN STREET EAST. PLEASE CONTACT US FOR A COPY OF THE CATALOGUE.

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The London Section of the C.P.S. proposes to host a
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on a Saturday during April - June 1986. The venue will be in a central accessible area of LONDON commencing at 10.30 a.m. through to 4.30 p.m. with coffee and lunch breaks.

To enable adequate accommodation to be arranged we will welcome members indicating their intention to attend and perhaps display 15-20 sheets. Your prompt reply will be appreciated to :-

London Section Secretary:

L. E. Warren, 82 Cleveland Road, WORTHING, Sussex BH13 2HE.
Telephone - Evenings - 64170

Full details will appear in the next issue of *Maple Leaves*.

AMENDMENTS TO MEMBERSHIP TO 14 NOVEMBER 1985

New Members

- 2455 PIERCEY, David J., 318-5925-63St., Red Deer, Alberta, CANADA, T4N 6K7.
PH (Arctic)
- 2456 WILBY, J. Bruce, 40 Seaview Drive, Port Moody, B.C., CANADA, V3H 1N7. C.
- 2457 GARTLAND, Trevor E., c/o Airwork Ltd., PO Box 18929, Salalah, Sultanate of Oman. PH, FF, PB, RPO, F, A, CGE.
- 2458 TYLER, Geoffrey P., 134 Warren Avenue, Shirley Warren, Southampton, Hants, SO1 6AE. C, CGE, CEN.
- 2459 DODIER, Robert, CP 473, East Angus, QC, CANADA, JOB 1RO. CS.
- 2460 LYON, Reginald D., 44 Scott Close, St. Athan, Barry, S. Glamorgan, CF6 9JL.
C, CGE, FDC.
- 2461 WILKINSON, Thomas R., 210 Lodge Lane, Grays, Essex, RM16 2TH. C.
- 2462 MANCHEE, Eric B., 2420 Rector Avenue, Ottawa, ON., CANADA, K2C 1M3.
PH, PA.
- 2463 ROBERTSON, Peter A. T., 26, Recreation Avenue, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, SS9 3JX.
C, B, CR-CGC.

Reinstatement

- 1758 TOWNSEND, Prof. W. Godfrey, Silver Howe, 61 Iffley Turn, Oxford, OX4 4HN.
CR-CGC, P, PH.

Resignations

- 2414 Jones, J. E.
1934 Knighton, J.
2135 Purcell, J. L.

Change of Address

- 89 Anderton, J. - 39 Southlands Avenue, Thornton, Bradford, BD13 3BQ.
- 1040 Charron, J. - 30 Boul. Quinn #402, Longueuil, PQ, CANADA, J4H 4B3.
- 2250 Gordon, Dr. Z. M. - 2002 Bathurst St., Apt. C, Toronto, ON., CANADA, M5P 3L1
- 2162 Krawec, T. - 43 Education Rd., N.W., Calgary, AB., CANADA, T3A 3K8.
- 1876 McGuire, C. R. - 24 Parkside Crescent, Nepean, ON., CANADA, K2G 3B5.
- 2106 Parama, R. - 302 Sonoda Yamate House, 11 Suwa-Cho, Naka-Ku, Yokohama 231,
JAPAN.
- 2353 Shanks, T. P. - 72 Ivygreen Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester M21 1EX.

Revised Membership - 560.

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RE-ENTRIES – Interested in all issues 'though favour Small Queens through Edwards. Please send with asking price or write: Ralph E. Trimble, P.O. Box 532, Stn. 'A', Scarborough, Ontario, Canada, M1K5C3.

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Selling a stamp collection is not a simple exercise if the value of any one country in that collection is more than £200. The basic reason why we hold such a variety of sales is to simplify the work of those marketing the sales. The costs of printing and posting catalogues for the R.L.O. is over £100,000 a year. If we made all these auctions general sales, then the cost would be nearer £200,000. This aspect is easily understood when you consider the possibility of a Greek specialist buying British stamps.

Of course the vendor's basic interest is to get the highest nett sum for his sale. This can only be achieved in a specialists market by the auctioneer seeing that as many collectors as possible who are interested in a particular theme know about the auction through advertising, personal letters or catalogue subscription.

Then there is the X factor which we do not describe, as we can see no reason we should teach others our particular marketing skills. The X factor is a form of publicity which is basically illogical. One gambles £10,000 to £20,000 a year on illogical publicity in several different forms. Part of the money is completely lost, much of it shows no appreciable return but several times every season the X factor comes home and a new market is formed.

Look down any of our auction programmes and see how the sales are geographically lotted. Now look at any other auctioneer's programme. Do you see the difference? Now you know what we mean by



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L. G. Bellack, 11 Mardley Heights, Welwyn, Herts, AL6 0TX

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Publicity Officer:

M. R. Cusworth, 12 Near Bank, Shelley, Huddersfield, HD8 8JE

CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Books available — January 1986

NEW

- 1986 Canada Specialised Catalogue, Maresch & Leggett £4.00
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The Nova Scotia Post, J. J. Macdonald £15.50 + £1 p&p

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- The Early Rapid Cancelling Machines of Canada, D. F. Sessions £6.50
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