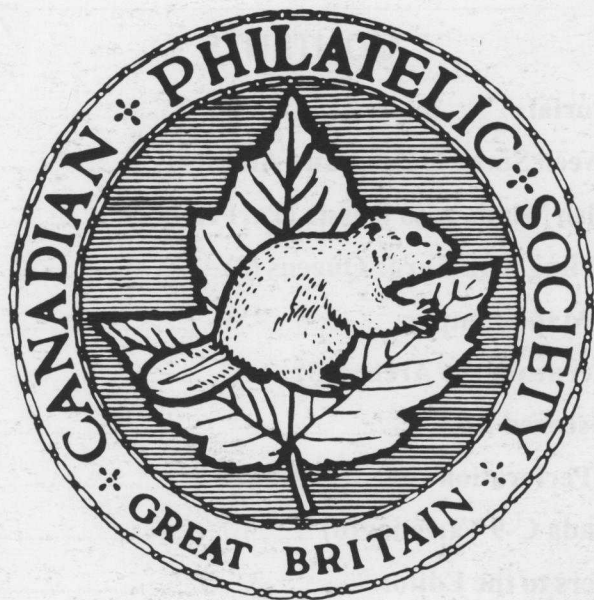


262



Maple Leaves

*JOURNAL OF THE
CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
OF GREAT BRITAIN*

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Autumn
2001

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MAPLE LEAVES

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EDITORIAL

Members will no doubt be pleased to know that the Society now has its own website, thanks to the efforts of Hugh Johnson and his wife Dawn. Members who are equipped to do so can visit the site via stampdomain.com/canada; the Society's official e-mail address is cpsofgb@hotmail.com. Enquiries via e-mail will be picked up by Hugh and passed to the officer(s) concerned. Comments and (helpful!) suggestions concerning the site should be addressed to Hugh. Meanwhile we, as a Society, are very grateful for his efforts in putting the Society on the map.

Before leaving the realms of information technology, we recommend that students of maritime mail visit web site <http://ist.uwaterloo.ca/~marj/genealogy/allan.html> where can be found details of

Allan Line mail ships and other miscellaneous information.

A glitch in the assembling of the last issue of ML resulted in a few copies with missing/duplicated pages. We thought we had captured them all but at least one copy escaped. If you have not yet read the July issue (shame on you) you may care to check its make-up. A note to the Editor will produce a replacement copy.

John Jamieson of Saskatoon Stamp Centre has drawn our attention to spurious 'SPECIMEN' overprints on various Canadian and other stamps that have been offered at auction via e-Bay. Additional information has come from member Ian Robertson via 'Canadian Stamp News'. We understand that the powers-that-be at e-Bay have been

alerted. Such items have been allowed to continue to appear via the Internet auction site but should now be more accurately described. The vendor is based in Hialeah, Florida and is now using the pseudonym 'atinvest'. We have no real idea how many such stamps have been sold, though it is reported that several thousand have changed hands, not all are Canadian of course. They may well turn up elsewhere – you have been warned.

In this issue we feature an article by Horace Harrison on the Canadian registry system. Many members will be familiar with Horace's original book, 'Canada's Registry System 1827-1911', published in 1971; well a substantially expanded version, which

also includes the registration stamps themselves in some detail, is due out shortly, co-authored by Horace and George Arfken. The article is not a straight extract from the book, it is meant to whet the appetite!

Accompanying this issue should be the new edition of the Members' Handbook. We are indebted to Tom Almond, with sterling support from Jean, for producing the camera-ready copy at short notice, having volunteered to bridge the Secretarial gap until the AGM. Our thanks also go to Colin Lewis who arranged the printing and delivery of the Handbooks to the mailing house. Will you please check your entry and, on this occasion, advise the Editor of any discrepancy.

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A new book on the Canadian Registry System to 1911
is on the way, the following article is a taster!

BETWEEN SMALL QUEENS & ADMIRALS H.W. Harrison FCPS, OTB

Stamps Printed by the new Contractor: the American Bank Note Co.

In 1897 the American Bank Note Co. took over the stamp printing contract from the British American Bank Note Co. Its first stamp issue was the Queen Victoria Diamond Jubilee issue. The 8¢ value was intended to pay the combined postage and registry fee on a single weight (1 oz.) first class letter, replacing the 8¢ Small Queen. See Figure 1.

Registered mail no longer had myriad numbers of backstamps, applied as the letter went through various post offices. The envelope shown in Figure 2 provides the reason for this dearth. Beginning about 1875, a number of mail facilities were issued brown manila envelopes to enclose a number of registered letters for the same destination.

This envelope is identified by the printing data at the extreme lower left: S.

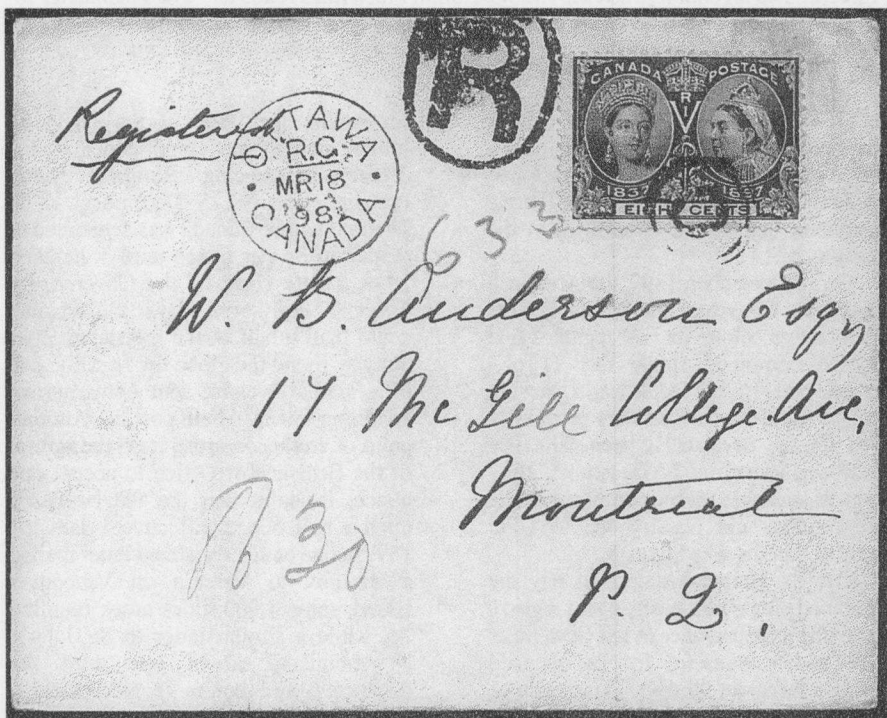


Figure 1: Registered at the Confederation Hill post office, indicated by the 'c in circle' killer. The c.d.s. with 'R.G.' in the time mark space was used on registered mail there as well.

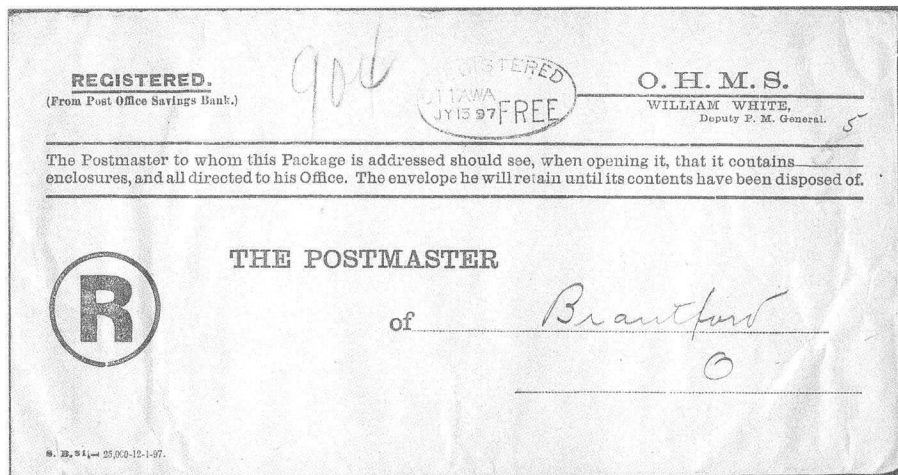


Figure 2: The legend between the two horizontal black lines reads as "The Postmaster to whom this Package is addressed should see, when opening it, that it contains 5 enclosures, and all are directed to his Office. The envelope he will retain until its contents have been disposed of."

B. 81 - 25.000 - 12 - 1-97. As can be observed from the figure, there is only a single registered letter no. 904, assigned in Ottawa. There is but a single backstamp applied at Brantford on the morning of 14 July.

On 15 December, 1897, the American Bank Note Co. issued the 8¢ Maple Leaf in an orange colour, its first regular value for the combined single rate (1 oz.) postage and registry fee. It was a startling change from the dark colours previously used for the 8¢ Small Queen. The 10¢ value was issued on 27 December, 1897 and was available for the combined single rate postage and registry fee to UPU member nations. See Figure 3.

The 8¢ Numeral stamp, to pay the combined single rate postage and registry fee, made its appearance in late September 1898 and was useful for its intended purpose for about 90 days. Consequently, single usage on a cover is rather scarce.

The ill-advised premature announcement by Postmaster General Mulock

concerning the issue of the Diamond Jubilee stamps was compounded by his decree announcing Empire Penny Postage effective 25 December, 1898. The rate within Canada was scheduled to remain at 3¢ per ounce until 1 January, 1899, a date fixed by the Governor-in-Council. For seven days a Canadian could mail a half ounce registered letter halfway round the globe for 7¢ while one of a similar weight, sent between two adjoining towns, would cost 8¢. Another point of confusion arose from the refusal of the British Post Office to accept one ounce, insisting that the fee be based upon a half ounce. Effective 1 January, 1899, a one ounce registered letter mailed at Halifax to Victoria on Vancouver Island, some 3,000 miles away, required 7¢, while a similar letter to St. John's, Newfoundland, about one third the distance, would require 9¢. Nevertheless, the map stamp celebrating the extent of the Empire was a great success. Available at some post offices as early as

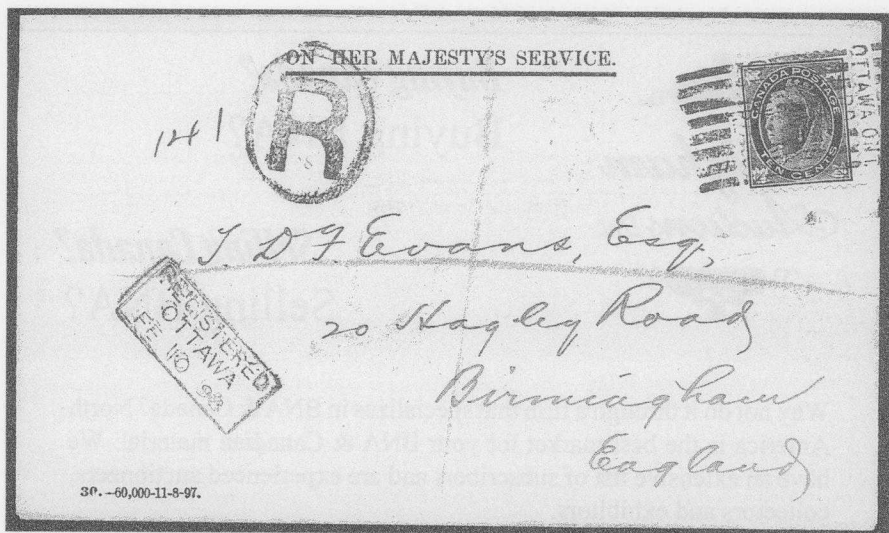


Figure 3: Superseded by the 10¢ Numeral issue in less than a year, proper single usage of the 10¢ Maple Leaf is difficult to find. Mailed on 10 February, 1898, it is tied to the letter with the Ottawa registered roller.

7 December, 1898*, it came into general use on New Year's Day, 1899. It replaced the purple 2¢ Numeral which had been in use to pay the postage on registered local carrier delivery mail, there being no 7¢ value to pay the combined fee. The remainders of both the 3¢ Maple Leaf and the 3¢ Numeral were not revalued until the end of July 1899. Thus, for seven months the Empire rate 2¢ Map was the predominant issue on Canada's domestic registered mail. See Figure 4.

With the advent of Imperial Penny Postage at 2¢ per half ounce and a domestic rate of 2¢ per ounce, the 6¢ values of the Maple Leaf and Numeral series became useful to pay the combined postage and registry fee on a 1¢ stamped envelope, the 3¢ envelope requiring at least two adhesives to meet the combined rate since there was no 4¢ value available and none would be

available until July 1922. Figures 5 and 6 illustrate such usage.

The 3¢ Letter Cards were revalued to 2¢ in black ink by two different hard rubber handstamps in mid March of 1899. The card shown in Figure 7, revalued by the more common handstamp but on the very scarce comb perforated card, was sent registered to Bern, Switzerland on 19 July, 1899. The combined postage and registry fee of 10¢ was covered by the addition of 2¢ and 6¢ values of the Maple Leaf series.

The letter in Figure 8 has the 2¢ postage and 5¢ registry fee paid by a pair of the ½¢ and a 6¢ Jubilees. In a debate in Parliament, a month in advance of the issue date, Mr. Mulock, the Postmaster General, had given not only the quantities to be printed, but also the fact that the plates were to be destroyed once those quantities had been printed. Philatelic speculators formed syndicates and attempted to corner the market on the ½¢

*But see article on page 155.



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Figure 4: A pair of the Map Stamps and a 3¢ Numeral pay the 7¢ postage and registry fee from MAPLE CREEK, ALTA, February 15, 1899, a very unusual franking.



Figure 5: A registered letter mailed on 9 February, 1900 at St. Roch de Quebec and put into a closed bag or envelope at Quebec the same day. It arrived at London, UK on 22 Feb. and was received at Singapore on 18 March for 37 days en route.

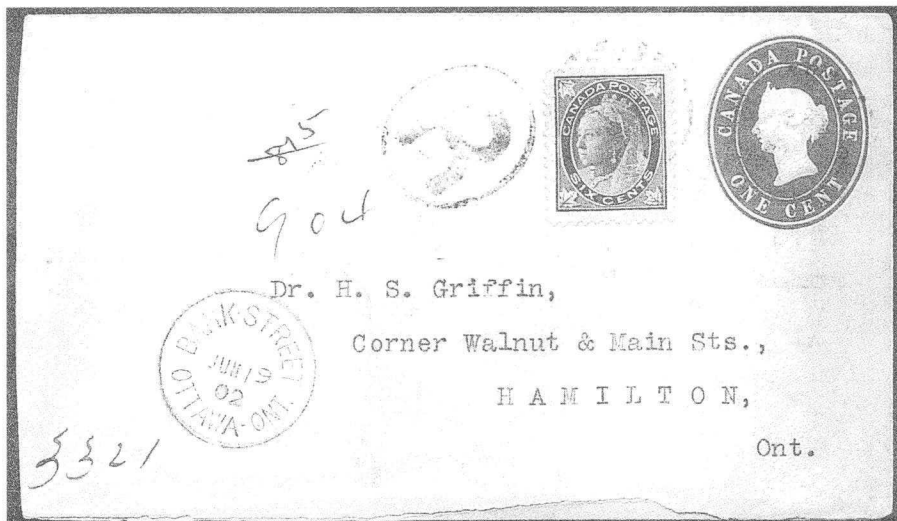


Figure 6: A registered letter mailed on 19 June, 1902 at the Bank Street post office in Ottawa and dispatched at the main post office to the mail car of the MONT. & TOR. G.T.R.Y. the same day. It was sorted to the closed envelope for Hamilton. Arriving 20 June, 1902, it was taken out for delivery by carrier no. 2.



Figure 7: This registered Letter Card was placed in a closed bag or envelope at Toronto on 19 July, 1899 and was received in Bern on 31 July, 1899, 12 days in transit.

value with a printing of 150,000, a total cost of \$750 for the whole of the printing. They also made an attempt to corner the market on the 6¢ value with a printing of 75,000, a total cost of \$4,500, together a grand total of \$5,250 to control two values. They nearly succeeded. The POD stymied their completion of the corner by promptly limiting the sale of those two values to orders for complete sets only.

In November 1900, the innkeeper's daughter at Grand Mere, Que. mailed a registered letter to her boyfriend with some prized stamps from her father's collection. She might have used the 8¢ value which followed the 8¢ SQ but that would have overpaid the rate by one cent. The 2¢ plus a 5¢ Jubilee would have preserved the scarce ½¢ and 6¢ values.

The attempt to corner the market on the ½¢ and 6¢ Jubilees had far reaching consequences for the Post Office Department. Because the plates had been destroyed and there had been a collector driven run on the ½¢ and 6¢ denomina-

tions, the first values of the new Maple Leaf series required to meet the needs of regular customers were these two values. Table 1 shows the issue dates and numbers issued of the Maple Leaf in time sequence order. Table 2 shows the issue dates and numbers issued of the Numeral Series also in time sequence order.

Table 1. The Maple Leaves Issue

Denomination	Issue Date ¹	Number Issued ²
½¢	8/11/97	2,000,000
6¢	22/11/97	500,000
1¢	1/12/97	34,000,000
5¢	11/12/97	3,500,000
2¢	4/12/97	12,000,000
8¢	15/12/97	1,400,000
10¢	27/12/97	300,000
3¢	8/ 1/98	44,000,000

References

- ¹Unitrade Specialised Catalogue 1998.
- ²Canada's Postage Stamps, D. & M. Patrick, pub. McClelland and Stewart Ltd, Toronto 1964.

To be continued

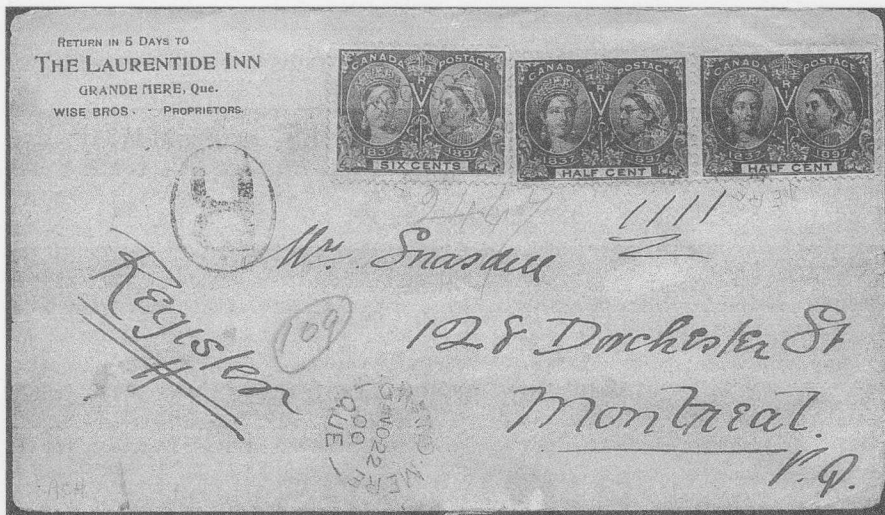
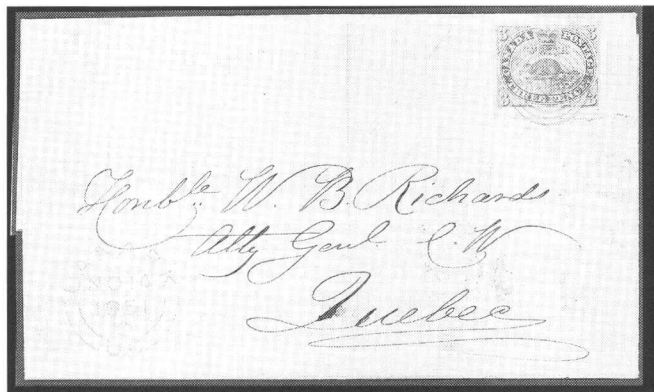


Figure 8: An unusual franking for the 7¢ combined postage and registry fee on 22 November, 1900.

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THE BRITISH MISSIONS TO RUSSIA 1918-1920 (PART III)

Canadian Airmen in North Russia: 1918-1919 (2)

David Whiteley

Elope Force

Once General Poole had captured Archangel, Lieutenant-Colonel Carraws was able to establish a Base Post Office (Army Post Office P.B.2) in the former Academy of Music, which was operational from October 1918 to September 1919. As he had done at Murmansk, Carraws established stationary Field Post Offices at the following locations; Bakharitz (P.B. 44 1 Nov. 1918 to 23 Sep. 1919); Beresnik, Dvina Force H.Q. (P.B.55. 18 Dec. 1918 to 19 Aug. 1919); Obozerskaya, Vologda Force H.Q. (P.B.66. 15 Dec. 1918 to 19 Sep. 1918); Emetskoe (P.B.77 16 Jan. 1919 to 19 Jul. 1919). The relief force used some additional date stamps at Troitsa (F.P.O. P.B.13), Grogan's Brigade and at Troitsa and Yakolevskoe (F.P.O. P.B.14), Sadler-Jackson's Brigade.

The following double ring British FIELD POST OFFICE, (Whitney type 666) cancelling devices were also issued to the Forces in North Russia; P.B.12, P.B.15, P.B.16, P.B.32, P.B.99 and X19. To date no examples on letters from Canadians have been reported.¹¹⁰ F.P.O.200, which had originally been allocated to the British 67th Division in preparation for its move to France in 1917, but was cancelled, was possibly allotted to 236th Brigade when it was sent to Russia in September 1918; it has not been reported used as 236th Brigade H.Q. F.P.O. This was probably due to the piece-meal division of the Brigade along the Archangel front. Censor devices as outlined above were allocated to units operating with 'Elope Force'. PE/C/2, PE/C/16, PE/C/29, PE/C/32, PE/C/44,

and X19 have been seen on mail from personnel serving with 'Elope Force'.

Mail Handling

Mail to members of 'Elope Force' was forwarded from London to either Archangel or Murmansk. Some members made special arrangements for their mail to be forwarded from London. One Canadian Officer who made this type of arrangement was Lieut. A.K. Griffin, who had his mail addressed c/o Dominion Securities Corp., 6 Austin Friars, London, England. Figure 1 is an example of a letter so addressed, mailed from Toronto, postage paid from Canada with a 2¢ war tax and cancelled with a LONDON F.S./6.15 PM/OCT 10 18 machine cancel. From London the letter was redirected to R.F.A. Elope North Russia Expeditionary Force. Figure 2 is another example of a letter similarly addressed, mailed at Toronto, Ontario, 24 February, 1919 to Lt. A.K. Griffin. It was redirected to R.G.A. 'Elope' North Russia Expeditionary Force, after being postmarked London 10 March, 1919. Mail from members of the 'Elope Force' was passed either through the nearest British Army Field Post Office or the Army Post Office at Archangel, where it was forwarded via England to Canada. The only known F.P.O. handstamp to be used on correspondence from a Canadian is an example of FIELD POST OFFICE P.B.44 (Figure 3), a letter from Lt. A.K. Griffin to Toronto, Canada endorsed O.A.S. and cancelled with a FIELD

Text continues on page 154

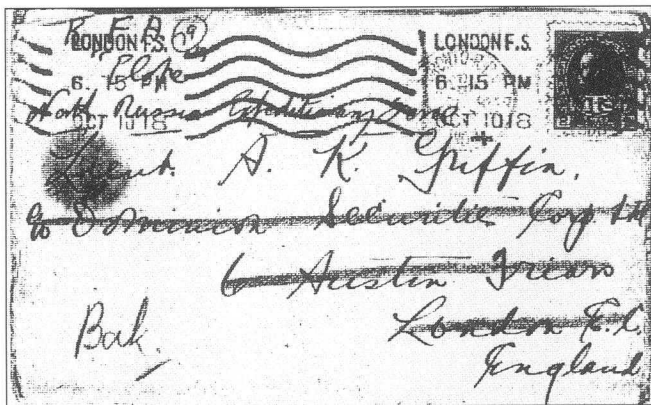


Fig. 1: Letter to Lt. A.K. Griffin Serving With 'Elope Force'. Mailed Toronto, Sept. 1918. London 10 Oct. 1918. M/s 'Bak.' – Maybe Bakharitza where Lt. Griffin was in January, 1918. (Courtesy Bill Robinson)

Fig. 2: Letter to Lt. A.K. Griffin, 'Elope Force'. Dated Toronto 24 Feb./19. (Ex. Toop)

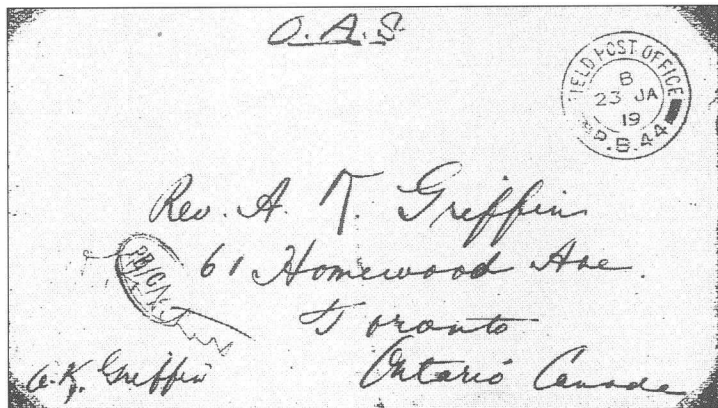
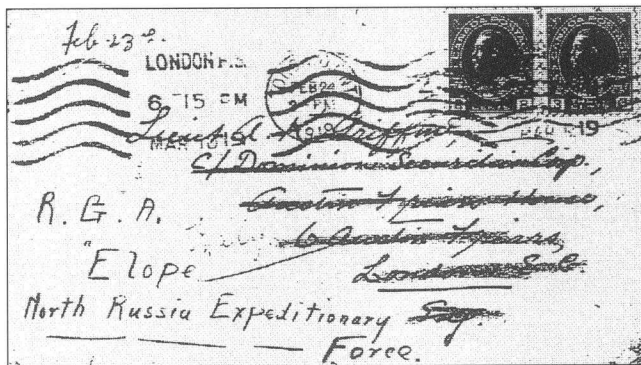


Fig. 3: Letter from Lt. A.K. Griffin. Mailed from FPO. PB.44 23 Jan./19. (A stationary P.O. at Bakharitza. Oval Censor PE/C/2. (Ex. Toop)

Fig. 4:
Letter from
Lt. A.K. Griffin,
'Elope Force'.
APO PB.2
Archangel
16 May/19.
Oval censor
PE/C/32.
(Ex. Toop)

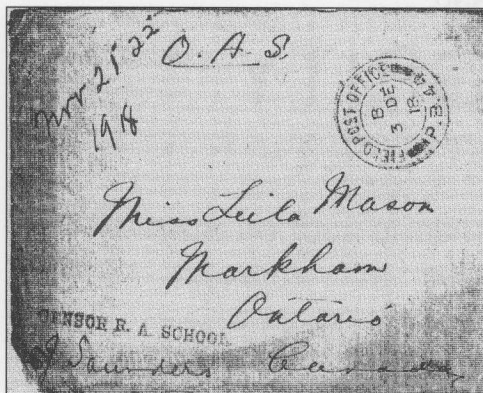
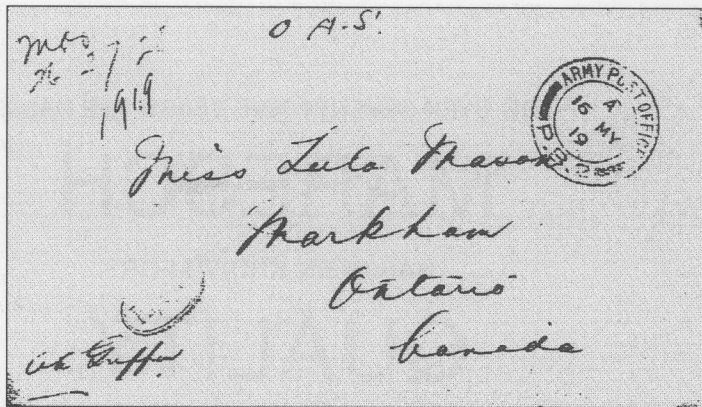
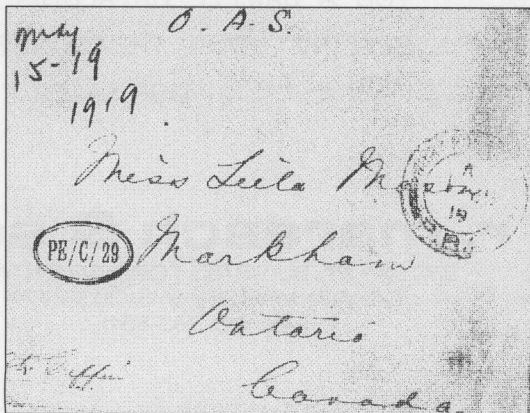


Fig. 5:
Letter on Royal Artillery stationery
from Lt. A.K. Griffin, 'Elope Force'.
FPO. PB.44 3 Dec./18 d/s.
S/L CENSOR R.A. SCHOOL.
7 Jan/19 receiver.
(Courtesy Bill Robinson)

Fig. 6:
Letter from Lt. Griffin.
APO.PB.2 Archangel,
1 June/19.
Oval Censor
PE/C/29.
(Courtesy Bill Bailey)



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Types of British Army Post Office Cancelling Devices Used in North Russia: 1918-1919

The illustrations have been taken from A. Kennedy & G. Crabb, *The Postal History of the British Army in World War I* & from E.B. Proud, *History of the British Army Postal Service, Vol. II. 1903-1927.*



A.P.O. P.B.1
Murmansk
(Sep. 1918-Sep. 1919)



A.P.O. P.B.2
Archangel
(Oct. 1918-Sep. 1919)



F.P.O. P.B.11
Type A - Soroka
(5-11-18 to 11-7-19)



F.P.O. P.B.11
Type B - Soroka
(sent 20-11-18)



F.P.O. P.B.12
Type A - Omega
(3-4-19 to 11-6-19)



F.P.O. P.B.13
Type A - Troitsa
(1-7-19 to 15-8-19)



F.P.O. P.B.14
Type A - Troitsa & Yakolevskoe
(4-7-19 to 31-8-19)



F.P.O. P.B.15
Type A - Kem
(8-6-19 to ?)



F.P.O. P.B.15
Type B - Kem
(22-8-19 to 22-9-19)



F.P.O. P.B.22
Kandalaksha
(19-12-18 to 7-4-19)



F.P.O. P.B.33
Type A - Petchenga
(7-12-18 to 26-1-19)



F.P.O. P.B.33
Type B - Petchenga
(15-4-19 to 2-7-19)



F.P.O. P.B.44
Type A - Bakharitsa
(15-11-18 to 25-11-18)



F.P.O. P.B.44
Type B - Bakharitsa
(1-12-18 to 23-9-19)



F.P.O. P.B.55
Type A - Beresnik
(Sent 13-8-18)



F.P.O. P.B.55
Type C - Beresnik
(9-1-19 to 10-7-19)

Types of British Army Post Office Cancelling Devices Used in North Russia: 1918-1919

The illustrations have been taken from A. Kennedy & G. Crabb, *The Postal History of the British Army in World War I* & from E.B. Proud, *History of the British Army Postal Service, Vol. II. 1903-1927.*



F.P.O. P.B.66
Type A - Oberzerskaya
(13-8-18 to 20-8-19)



F.P.O. P.B.66
Type B - Oberzerskaya
(12-5-19)



F.P.O. P.B.77
Type A - Emetskoe
(28-6-19 to 16-8-19)



F.P.O. P.B.88
Type A - Kem?
(8-2-19)



F.P.O. P.B.99
Type A - Kola
(2-2-19 to 30-4-19)



Examples of Censor Devices
used in North Russia



ARMY T.P.O. No.1.
N.R.E.F.
Murmansk



Kennedy & Crabb
Type CM9 - X2 to X81
(6-19 to 9-19)



Kennedy & Crabb
Type CM10 - PE/C/5-45
(6-18 to 5-19)



Kennedy & Crabb
Type CM11 - Nos. 2-32
(1-19 to 6-19)

INTELLIGENCE
G. H. Q. Northern
Russia Exp. Force
Passed by Censor.

Kennedy & Crabb
Type RCM1
Used by G.H.Q. Intelligence Section

MY FLING WITH LARGE QUEENS (Part 3)

The Yellow Peril

It must have been in the late 70s or early 80s when a big dealer broke up a Large Queen collection. At that time we were still very good friends. In the collection, there were two, maybe even three 6¢ Large Queen double prints. I remember the stamps because I like varieties and double prints are right up my alley. I could have bought them all, but I didn't like the Aylmer postmark. Had I known that there are only four such stamps, I certainly would have latched onto them.

Years later, I was still unaware of its rarity, when I bought this double print. It shows the doubling very clearly. It is illustrated on page 56 of Jarrett's book.



To me, this pair of the 5¢ Small Queen shows the doubling better than that of the 6¢. It is, of course, mint. There is a fine illustration of this variety on page 233 of Boggs.

According to Boggs (p.232) the above two varieties are really "kisses – those impressions, apparently double prints, which are caused by the sheet falling back on the plate when being removed, or similar causes." Specialist books and the various trade publications, on the other



hand, list them as 'double prints'. On page 329 of the April, 1992 *Maple Leaves*, (similar variety on p.335, Jan 88 ML) I used (and I still do) the term 'kiss'. A kiss is just so romantic. Regardless of whether this exciting variety is labelled a kiss or a double, it is significant to note that in 1997 a chap paid US\$20,700 to kiss a 6¢ Large Queen.



Cover, piece (p151) and stamp showing the three known double prints of the 6¢ LQ, each with Aylmer postmark.

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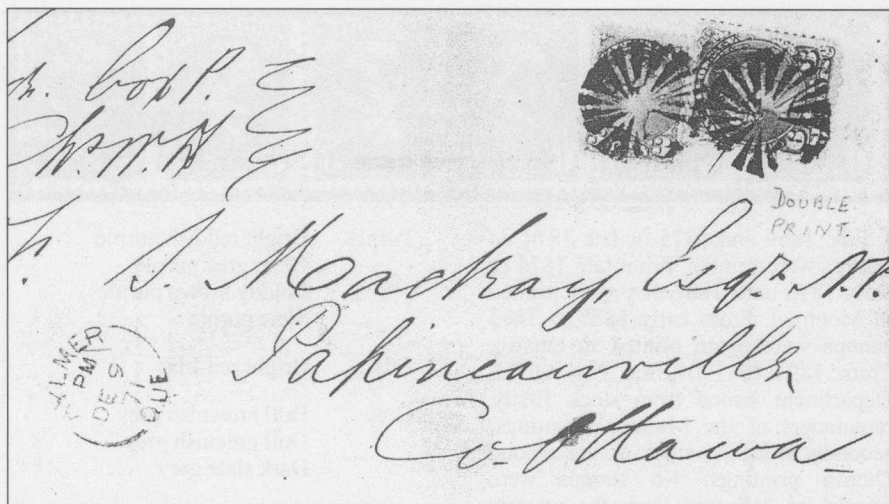
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Somewhere between 1955 and 1958 the strip of 6¢ Small Queens shown overleaf was advertised and illustrated in either Gibbons or Wingfield Stamp Journal. A collector told me at the time why this strip was cancelled with two types of fancy postmark. I did not pay

too much attention to him because I never expected to own it. Member John Wannerton says that it was the Wingfield journal. Small Queen specialist John Hillson advises that this strip was also illustrated, in full colour, in the 1969 Glassco sale catalogue.

The 15¢ value... This is where the fun really begins, I am still suffering from a hangover from trying to do in 12 months what Firth did in 45 years. For me to do the Large Queens in one year is a mission impossible – the 15¢ alone will take at least a year just to become acquainted with them. It is actually a study of the combination of papers, perforations, colour and gum. Therefore, I think that it would be more useful if I were to point out some of the more interesting stamps and outline the circumstances that make the collecting of the 15¢ Large Queen so challenging.

The 15¢ Large Queens were printed over a period of 25 years and in use for well over 30. The printings of these stamps fall into four periods:

From 1 April, 1868 to 30 June, 1869 they were printed in Ottawa. Between



1 July, 1869 and 1875 or late 1874 no stamps were printed. From late 1874 or early 1875 until 1887 they were printed in Montreal. From early 1888 to 1893 stamps were again printed in Ottawa. From 1894 to 1901, the Post Office Department issued from stock firstly, remainders of the Montreal printings; secondly from the stock of the second Ottawa printings. No stamps were printed or delivered from the printers after 1893 except 400 in 1896.

Stamps received from the printers

1868-69 Ottawa printings	812,500
1875-87 Montreal printings	995,000
1888-93 Second Ottawa printing	770,000
1896 probably Montreal printing	400

2,577,900

(Firth, Appendix 1)

Firth has broken down the printings into 14 groups. I can identify only seven (see below). Of the seven I am certain of only four.

The 15¢ Large Queen comes in five colours: Firth has broken them down into 12 shades: His criterion is the 'Maerz & Paul' colour chart.

Purple	Bright reddish purple Clear grey purple Muddy brown purple Slate purple
Lilac	Bright red-lilac
Grey	Dull brownish grey Dull greenish grey Dark slate grey
Blue	Deep slate blue
Violet	Pale grey violet Deep dull violet Slate violet

The early Ottawa printings were on a thin to a medium, semi-transparent paper that did not give a very clear impression. Almost immediately trials were made of other papers of varying thickness – including the Bothwell paper. The stouter, sometimes softer, paper gave a definitely clear impression. The watermarked paper, incidentally, has a vertical grain whereas the other Ottawa papers have a horizontal grain. The vertical grain is an important guide in identifying stamps printed on Bothwell paper which do not show any watermark. In a sheet of 100 stamps

Ottawa Group	III	Bothwell watermark	Late 1868 and 1869
Montreal	V	Perf 11½	1875-76
Montreal	VI	Perf 11½ Script	1876-79
Montreal	VIII	Dull deep violet	1880
Montreal	IX	Perf 11½	1881 and 1882
Montreal	XI	Brilliant cold blue	1887 and 1895-96
Ottawa	XIII	Imperf	1891 to 1894?

only 13 stamps have watermark letters.

The colours of the first Ottawa printed stamps vary from bright reddish purple to red lilac shades. The Bothwell shades run from reddish purple to a pale grey violet. When the printing was moved to Montreal at the end of 1874, the bright lilac shades were dropped and the perforation was changed to $1\frac{1}{2} \times 12$. There were also changes in colour and paper:

1875-76 a muddy brownish purple shade appeared on two types of paper:

- a. 1875 – A medium smooth surface paper with horizontal grain.
- b. 1876 – A thicker, rougher surfaced paper with vertical grain (same paper used for the 5¢ of 1 October, 1875).

Between late 1876 and 1878 a dull, faded brownish or greenish grey shade appeared: on a stout smooth surfaced paper with horizontal grain. Included in this period is the Pirie Script Watermark paper.

In 1879 the compound perforation of $1\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ was changed back to perf 12 and the brownish or greenish grey shades were changed to a pale grey violet.

The deep dull violet colour appeared in 1880 on a very thick white carton paper with a feint vertical grain – used for only one printing. This colour also exists on a medium wove paper with a definite horizontal grain – quite rare.

In 1887 (and 1895-96) a deep greyish-blue to an almost true blue appeared on a thin to medium rough surfaced paper with a vertical grain. The gum is bright, sticky looking and yellowish. Brigadier Studd called it 'Brilliant Cold Blue'. I like to use this term because it helps to sell the stamp!

The move back to Ottawa produced two new shades:

The first was: A slate-violet shade on a thin to medium, rough surfaced

paper with a vertical grain.

In 1890 the slate violet was changed to a slate-purple shade on the same 1888 thin to medium, rough surfaced, paper.

Around 1893 a dark brown-purple imperforate stamp appeared.

Whew! Enough of this. Reading these monotonous details makes me sleepy. Hope that you were not too terribly bored.

I don't have a script watermark (Pirie) to show you but the (part) Small Queen cover overleaf is just as interesting if not more so. The envelope is on watermarked laid paper. According to Boggs, Appendix P, pages 8 and 9, part of paragraph #15 reads:

"Paper D. Apparently a small lot of this paper was used late in 1868 possibly due to a shortage of the regular paper; to use up a small surplus stock discontinued; but what is more reasonable is that some of the laid paper intended to be used for correspondence by the firm after having the letterhead printed on it was inadvertently used in printing some of the 1c and 3c stamps. We have seen several letters dated in the 1870s bearing the B.A.B.N. Co.'s letterhead, on a laid paper, with the





Envelope on laid paper with the 'Pirie' script watermark.

watermark of "Alex^r Pirie & Sons" in Old English letters! A careful search through the laid paper stamps may result in finding examples with part of the watermark."

I assure you that I have checked all

my laid paper stamps but no luck. Mind you, I don't have that many laid papers!

15¢ Large Queens with perforated initials are quite scarce – that illustrated on p.153 is only the second one I've had.

To be continued

MISSIONS TO RUSSIA

Continued from page 143

POST OFFICE P.B.44/B/23 JA/19. The oval PE/C/2 censor stamp countersigned by Lt. A.K. Griffin is an example of one of the censor stamps used by 'Elope Force'. Figure 4 is a cover from the same correspondence to Markham, Ontario, cancelled with an ARMY POST OFFICE P.B.2/A/16 MY/19 date stamp endorsed O.A.S. and struck with an oval PE/C/32 censor stamp countersigned by A.K. Griffin. Figure 5 is a Royal Artillery embossed cover addressed to a Miss Leila Mason, Markham, Ontario,

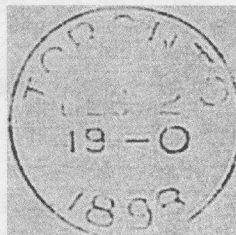
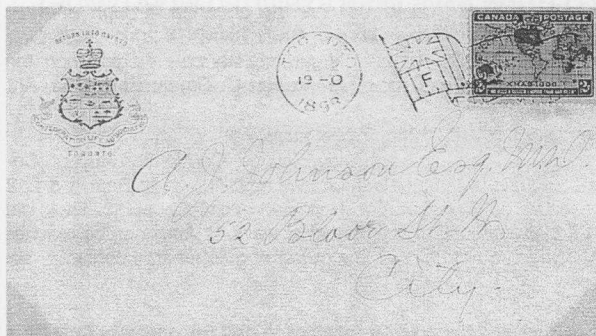
endorsed O.A.S. with FIELD POST OFFICE P.B.44/B/3 DE/18 date stamp, endorsed in m/s Nov 21 22 1918 top left and a CENSOR R.A. SCHOOL/C.J. Saunders marking bottom left, also a notation that it was received on 7 January, 1919. Figure 6 is addressed to the same person and endorsed O.A.S. with ARMY POST OFFICE P.B.2/A/1 JU/19 date stamp and PE/C/29 oval censor stamp signed bottom left by A.K. Griffin.

Reference

¹⁰Dr. J.T. Whitney, *Collecting British Postmarks*, Fifth Ed. (Ruddington, Nottingham: Adlard Print, 1990). pp202, 208.

There is consensus between catalogues that the Map stamp was issued on 7 December, 1898, though reports have been made of earlier use. The following article, by a very well known Map student, first appeared in the Map Stamp Newsletter #5 (May 2001)

THE MAP STAMP EARLIEST REPORTED POSTMARK Fred Fawn



Cover dated 2 Dec 1898
(left) with enlarged
dater (above)

In 1998 I reported the existence of a Map cover with a 2 December 1898 Toronto flag cancel (*The Canadian Philatelist* Vol. 49 No. 2) and at that time received a number of favourable comments. Two issues later, a letter to the Editor expressed incredulity, the writer said that he “doubts that it probably happened”. That contention queried whether delivery time from Ottawa to Toronto and posting the same day was possible. Readers were again asked, in the Map Stamp Newsletter #3, for a train schedule of 2 December, 1898. A 2 December, 1898, Post Office Department circular to postmasters stated: “The new (Map) stamp will be available forthwith”. Also the 2 December, 1898, ‘Toronto Telegram’ reported that “Mulock presided over the first printings of the Map stamp”. We know that the owner of the ‘Toronto Telegram’, John Ross Robertson, was not only a leading member of Canadian society but also a great promoter of the

Map stamp in both Canada and England. The addressee of the 2 December cover is Confederation Life of Toronto. Can we imagine the cream of Toronto society standing at Union Station awaiting the arrival of the train carrying crates of Map stamps? It’s rather like today’s US President lining up at Delta Airlines tourist class. As reported earlier, the London STAMPSHOW 2000 examination of all material was most stringent. When the judges viewed the 2 December cover, the critique was: “Since this is a most important piece, it should be alone on the page; remove the other stamps”. Nice endorsement.

At the January ‘PHILEX’ show I found a Map stamp with a 2 December, 1898 cancel. Just like the cover, it was cancelled in Toronto but with a duplex postmark. Its Greene Foundation certificate states: “Canada Scott No. 85, used, dated December 2, 1898, genuine in all respects”.

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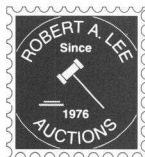
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UNDERNEATH THE ARCHES (3)

David Sessions FRPSL, FRPSC, FCPS



Figs 1 & 2: Reference was made at the end of the previous instalment to problems of under- and over-inking

Booklets

The initial booklet consisted of two panes of six of the 2¢ green. As a result of rate and colour changes, five other booklets were produced during the life of the Arch issue, as shown in the tabulation at the end of this series of articles. Two were 2¢ (red and brown), one was a four-pane booklet of 1¢ green, one contained two panes of four 3¢ red. The remaining booklet, issued in November 1931, consisted of a pane of four of each of the 1¢, 2¢ and 3¢ values. In all cases booklets were sold for 25¢, a premium of 1¢ over the value of stamps inside.

In the case of the 1¢ and 2¢ stamps, where two dies exist, it is die 1 that will be found in the panes of six and die 2 in the panes of four. The Gibbons catalogue has now (2001 edition) been corrected in this respect, having previously shown the 1¢ green pane of four as die 1. The Unitrade Specialised Catalogue (2000) is slightly misleading in its description of BK17, the reference to die 2 should

be ignored, the description '2 panes of 6 (166c)' is correct.

All six booklets exist in both English and French and a glance at the tabulation will show that considerably more of the former were printed. All the booklets are becoming scarce and, naturally, the French language ones command a premium. Fortunately such premium is not directly proportionate to the numbers printed, it is usually a factor between 1.5 and 2.

All the booklet stamps were printed on rotary presses. Whereas the plate layout for previous issues had the panes of six arranged tête-bêche, the Arch plates had the panes all the same way up and, for the first time, plate markings can occasionally be found on the tabs of panes. Such panes command a substantial premium. The whole plate inscription is too long to fit onto one pane, the marking on a given pane would normally be either 'PLATE' or 'NO...'; though sometimes only a

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Fig 3: Plate inscription on 2¢ red booklet panes

portion of such markings will be found (Fig. 3). Albino impressions are found, as in the case of sheet stamps.

Generally speaking, the plate markings on the tabs of the 4-subject panes are confined to plates 1 and 2, though the Unitrade Specialised Catalogue (USC) lists only plate No. 1 for the 1¢ value under the list of panes (163aii). McCann lists both plates and the existence of both plates is implied in the USC booklet listing (BK19) but I still await my first sighting of plate 2. The Plate Block Catalogue (PBC) also lists both plates 1 and 2. Still speaking generally, we find the 6-subject panes confined to plates 4 and 5. The USC shows only plate 4 for the 1¢ green and 2¢ brown; McCann agrees but lists only plate 5 for the 2¢ green. Oddly, the USC also shows only plate 5 in its list of booklets (BK15), but shows plates 4 and 5 under panes (164av & vi). The PBC also lists only plate 5 for the 2¢ green. A recent auction catalogue from Chuck Firby (Feb. 2001) confirms the existence of both plate markings. What's more, it features a complete booklet of the 2¢ red with one pane showing '4', the other '5'! The PBC does cover itself with regard to the 6-subject panes by indicating in each case that all plate numbers from 1 to 5 'may exist'! Its listing of the 3¢ pane as being

of six subjects is clearly wrong, it should be shown as four subjects.

As ever, things are not even that simple! McCann lists a partial '1' and a partial '3' under the 2¢ green 6-subject panes and he is vindicated by their appearance in the aforesaid auction catalogue. In fact, as Fig. 4 shows, the '1' is a full impression but reversed, the partial '3' is also reversed. The USC does not list these admittedly rare



Fig 4: Unusual plate inscriptions, reversed 1 and 3, on 2¢ green panes



varieties under panes, but the '3' is listed under the booklets (BK15f).

The USC has a footnote to the 2¢ brown 4-subject pane that indicates a pane is thought to exist with an albino plate 'NO. 6' imprint on the tab; it is not noted by McCann or the PBC. The existence of this rare item is confirmed in the Firby catalogue where it can clearly be seen, in full colour, on the back cover. It is reproduced here as Fig. 5. The piece, which is probably unique, changed hands at \$2,500US plus buyer's premium.



Fig 5: Rare albino 'No. 6' inscription on 4-subject booklet pane (C.G. Firby Auctions)

The use of plates 1 and 2 for the 4-subject booklet panes and 4 and 5 for the 6-subject panes, would have been nice and tidy. However, the appearance of plates 1 and 3 for the 6-subject pane is a bit baffling unless a whole series of plates from 1 to 5 was made, similarly the appearance of plate 6 for a 4-subject pane, implying another series from 1 to 6. It seems very unlikely that so many plates would have been required but, if they were used, then what has happened to the 'missing' plate numbers? Comments are invited.

On the plate, each group of six subjects was 8mm apart horizontally, to create the binding margin, and the left and right vertical edges were trimmed. It seems that, in at least one printing of the 2¢ green panes, the cutting wheel was

replaced by a perforating wheel. Panes can be found with either the left edge or the right edge of the pane perforated, or both (Fig. 6). The phenomenon has only been noted in relation to some 2¢ green panes of six, another variety that commands a premium. An even more unusual variety, again confined to the 2¢ green, shows the stamp perforated at right, followed by selvage.



Fig 6: 2c green booklet pane perforated at both left and right

Coils

Prior to the Arch issue and the introduction of the Stickney rotary press, coils had been produced by printing the stamps in sheets and pasting strips together, end to end. This gave rise to the collectable variety 'paste-up pairs', which would occur at regular intervals within a roll. The rotary press enabled stamps to be printed in a continuous run, thus obviating the need for paste-ups.

However, paste-ups of a sort can be found in the Arch issue. Occasionally, during the production process, the paper web or strip would break. It would then have to be re-joined by means of a backing piece of thin white paper which would subsequently be perforated.

The coils do have their own variety in lieu of the paste-up. As mentioned earlier, the plates are curved into a semi-circle and, when fitted together in the

press, form a roll or drum which is a continuous printing surface. At the two joints, ink seepage creates a thin line between every 24th and 25th stamp in a roll of 500, the plates being in a 24 x 16 format. This variety is known as a 'line pair'. Sometimes the subjects on the two curved plates do not quite line up so, at the junction, one stamp is slightly out of line with its neighbour, giving us a 'jump pair' (Fig. 7).

As a matter of interest, the whole of the first printing of 1¢ orange coil stamps (c.8.5M) was precancelled.



Fig 7: 2¢ red coil 'Jump pair'

Colour Changes and Additional Values

Up until now we have mainly been concerned with the original issue of stamps, between June and December, 1930, and their production. A glance at the catalogue shows that most of the low values exist in two or even three colours and a 3¢ value has crept into the listing quite late in the life of the series.

The new printers BABNC, followed the colour distribution used in the preceding Scroll series, which seems perfectly reasonable. In fact one wonders whether serious thought was given to the various colours. Canada had, by this time, been a member of the UPU for over 50 years, yet their stamps did not wholly conform to the recommendations of that supra national body. As an aid to international rate recognition, the UPU had long recommended the use of green for a stamp prepaying the printed matter rate

to other UPU countries, red for the postcard rate and blue for the letter rate. This seemed a sensible idea, though it did mean a tiresome change of colour for one or more stamps in a current series when rates were changed. Furthermore, as obsolescent stamps were not instantly demonetised, their continued use would not conform and could cause confusion.

On 1 July 1930, the foreign letter rate was reduced from 8¢ to 5¢. The 8¢ stamp in the Arch series had not at that time appeared; the 8¢ Scroll, correctly blue, was still in use. In order to conform to UPU requirements, the 5¢ Arch stamp, hitherto in violet, was changed to blue on 13 November. Although not issued until 13 August 1930, supplies of the 8¢ blue Arch stamp were no doubt already at an advance stage of production and the Post Office was not about to waste money, so they were released. The colour was changed as soon as practicable and an orange version appeared on 5 November 1930.

It seems that, around this time, a decision was made to bring the low values into UPU conformity. The 1¢ orange was changed to green from 6 December and the 2¢ to red on 7 November 1930.

A year later, on 1 July 1931, the domestic letter rate was raised from 2¢ to 3¢. This, in itself, was not a problem but, at the same time, the postcard rate to other UPU countries was also raised from 2¢ to 3¢; thus more changes were called for. A new 3¢ stamp was required and this needed to be red to conform to UPU requirements, the 2¢ red, in turn, became the 2¢ brown. The new 3¢ stamp appeared on 13 July and the 2¢ brown on 4 July 1931.

In setting a date for the increase, the Post Office left insufficient time for a

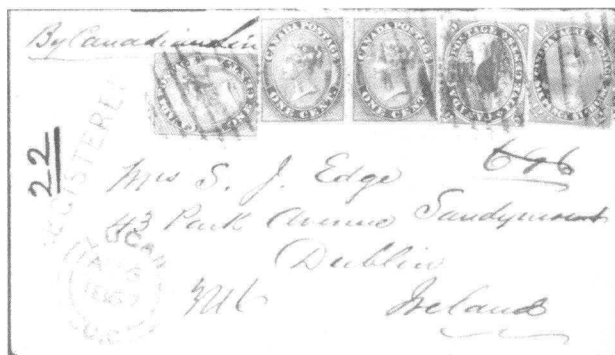
Continued on page 164

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MIS-SCORED!

The Yellow Peril

Although a very interesting and spectacular collection could be formed of modern non-constant varieties (mis-placed perforations, corner foldovers, printed on gummed side etc.), this phase of collecting has, so far, escaped me as I am over saturated with too many sidelines and I lack sufficient where-withal. If, on the other hand, varieties come to me, then that's a different kettle of fish!

In the first week of March this year a close friend purchased a few of the current 47¢ stamp booklets. He noticed that 50% of the stamps were only 'half a stamp' and, fearing that the half-stamps would not be accepted as full payment for domestic letters, he asked me if he should return them to the postal outlet for a refund or to exchange his half-stamps for full stamps. I replied, "If you do, I will cease diplomatic relations with you!"

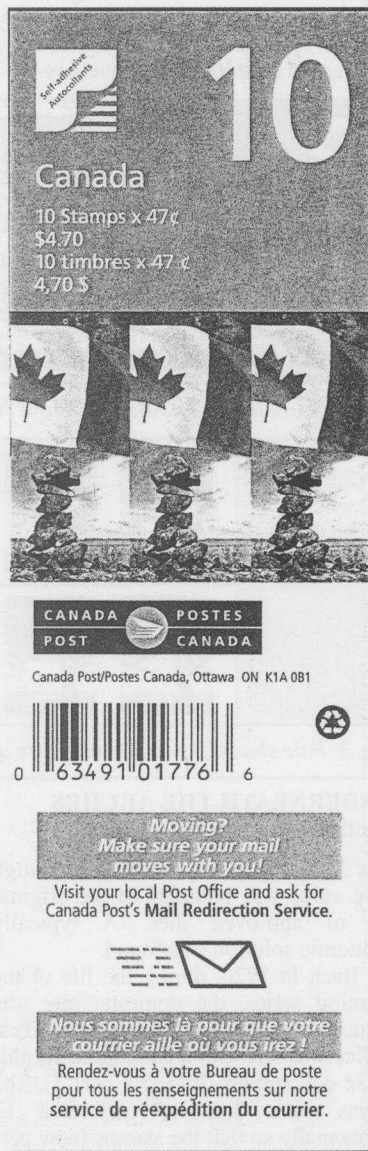
I am reporting these 'half-stamps' because they are from booklet panes and, as such, they are not as commonplace as sheet stamp varieties. Illustrated are: a 47¢ booklet cover (Fig. 1) and two booklet panes. The score line in the top pane (Fig. 2) is misplaced across the centre of the top row, dividing the top stamps into two equal halves and leaving the stamps in the bottom row one and a half times taller than normal.

The score line in the bottom pane (Fig. 3) is correctly placed in the middle of the horizontal gutter. The colour of this pane, however, is noticeably paler – especially the red tab and the blue background – than the mis-scored pane.

This flag stamp booklet of ten self-adhesive 47¢ stamps was issued on

Fig. 1. Colourful (red, white, blue, black and yellow) cover of the 47¢ booklet.

Photos by Susan So



28 December, 2000. It was also issued with thirty 47¢ stamps. The stamp depicts a fluttering flag against an inukshuk. An inukshuk is a figure of a human made of stones, originally used to drive caribou into an ambush and now used as a marker to guide travellers.

Reference

“Collection of Canada” – Spring 2001
(A Canada Post publication).

Editor’s note:

The score line which runs from left to right margins of the stamps has been inked in.



Fig. 2. Score line in middle of top row. Normal colour (red, white, blue, brown).



Fig. 3. Pale shade. Score line in centre of horizontal gutter.

UNDERNEATH THE ARCHES

Continued from page 161

new 3¢ stamp to be printed, even though a 3¢ value was included in the original set of approved dies. A typically economic solution was found.

Back in 1926, during the life of the Admiral series, the domestic rate was reduced from 3¢ to 2¢; as a result the Post Office was left with a substantial surplus of 3¢ coil stamps (imperf x perf 8). The sheets were therefore perforated 12 horizontally so that the stamps (now perf 12 x 8) could be released in sheet form as

required. A need did not arise and they were carefully put aside. Five years later, on 24 June 1931, they were issued as provisionals to bridge the gap until the new 3¢ Arch stamp was produced. Thus we have the unusual situation of a stamp printed in coil form by one printer in 1924 issued seven years later, in sheet form, to fill a gap in a rival printer's production schedule. As the 3¢ Admiral in this form was only used from 1931, it properly forms part of the Arch series. The stock came from plates A13, 14 and 15.

To be continued

P.E.I. PERFORATION CONSTERNATION

M.R. Cusworth & M.J. Salmon

We recently received a note from Alan Griffiths raising some interesting points about the perforations on P.E.I. stamps. Alan is a keen P.E.I. collector (and now a member of the CPS) and he provided an incentive to look again at the confusing topic of perforations on P.E.I. stamps. Alan had recently discovered two 2d P.E.I. covers wherein the stamps appear to be perf. 11¼ all round.

The recording of perf. 11¼ was made some time ago by Sir George Williamson in an article in 'Maple Leaves' on the P.E.I. 4d stamp. To quote Sir George – "the normal perforation on both papers is 11½ x 12. There are a number with perf. 11 on two sides and I have seen perf. 11¼ on one side..."

Leslie Tomlinson did a lot of work on these stamps and he concluded that there were five single-line perforating machines (we are unsure of the source of this information) used by Charles Whiting on P.E.I. stamps:

On the pence issues

- MACHINE A 11½ pins/inch
= 9.05 gauge/2cm (i.e. perf 9)
MACHINE B 14 pins/inch
= 11.02 gauge/2cm (i.e. perf 11)
MACHINE C 15 pins/inch
= 11.81 gauge/2cm (i.e. perf 11¼)

On the cents issues

- MACHINE D 15½ pins/inch
= 12.20 gauge/2cm (i.e. perf 12-12¼)
MACHINE E 16 pins/inch
= 12.59 gauge/2cm (i.e. perf 12½-13)

The perforating machines in use in Britain at that time would have had imperial settings and it is easy to see how off-standard variables (described later on) could shift the reading from

perf. 11 to perf. 11¼ or back the other way. The difference using an Instanta Perforation Gauge is not very much and could be explained by:

1. Off-standard machine set-up (that is unequal distances between the pins). This could have been done in error or perhaps deliberately (see reference to paper in the conclusion).

2. Differences in moisture content of the paper when perforating. It is generally accepted that the paper must be 'dry' to perforate or you do not get a result. However my years as a textile technologist on cotton goods taught me that two fabrics can feel 'dry' but have quite different moisture content with resultant variation in dimensional stability.

3. Rag content of the paper which could in turn affect the tensile and tear strength plus dimensional stability of the paper.

4. The gauge of the paper used.

5. Wear and/or abuse of the devices used. We really do need to know more about the line perforating machines used by Charles Whiting.

Recently discovered notebooks belonging to a Mr. Deakin, who was employed by Charles Whiting, indicate that Whiting moved premises to Duke St. in Lincoln's Inn Fields from the Strand at the end of March 1869. With all the upheaval attending this relocation it is quite possible that perforating may have been subcontracted prior to this move and subsequent to it. Mike Salmon has been making a study of Charles Whiting's printing business and he feels that not only may the perforating have been subcontracted but possibly the electrotype plate-making too, leaving the actual printing as the operation

performed in-house by Whiting. As a side-issue we find it strange that the Prince Edward Island postage stamps are of a much cruder form than most of Whiting's other work, which often took the form of attractive compound plate printing (particularly the four penny whose whole design is at odds with not only the rest of the series but with their other work. This value was also printed in a double pane format). There are, in fact, a couple of proofs in Deakin's notebook, printed in two colours, which suggest that he may have been recommending compound plate printing, but the colony seems to have opted for the cheaper route in every way. We are digressing here however.

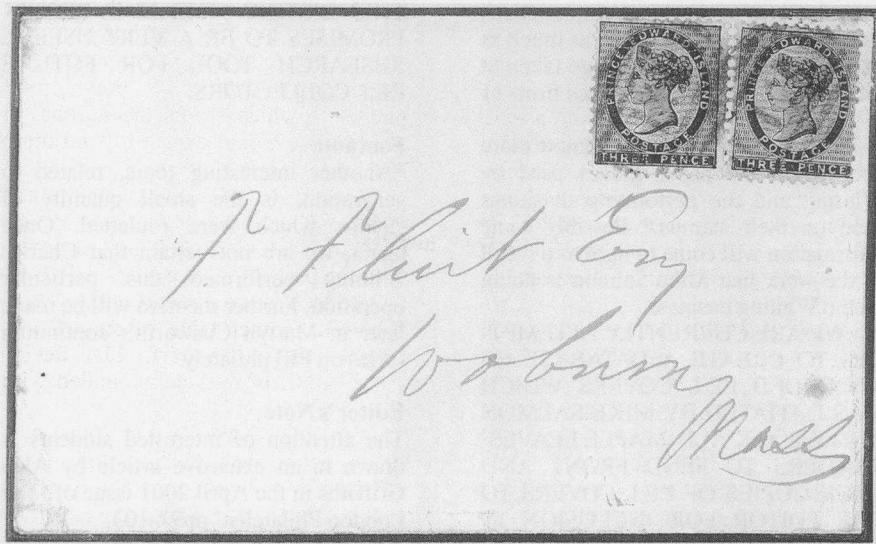
Returning to the matter in hand, we find it even stranger that Whiting had no less than five perforating machines on site when they in fact only handled one postage stamp contract (they did also print some telegraph stamps, railway tickets and assorted labels but most of these items were not perforated). If, as

has been suggested, a sixth machine existed, reliably churning out perf. 11¼ stamps, this gauge would equate to an imperial pin setting of around 14.3 pins/inch, which seems incongruous. In addition we would expect to find more stamps and covers perf. 11¼.

Alan produced a table of stamps and covers where the perf. 11¼ device (MACHINE C) was used in conjunction with the perf. 11 device (MACHINE B) to produce a compound perf. There followed another table of stamps and covers where the perf. 11¼ device (MACHINE C) was compounded with 11¼.

For the purposes of our own investigation we examined 65 pence covers after eliminating the perf. 9 covers. The study was confined to covers at this stage since they should be dateable. The majority conformed to a perf. 11¼-12 format (i.e. within the scope of the 15 pins/inch MACHINE C). The ones which did not conform are listed below in chronological order:

STAMP ON COVER	COMPOUND DETAILS	DATE OF USE
9d	sides p11, rest p11¼	23 April 1863
1d	rhs p11, rest p11¼	25 October 1863
1d	bott. p11¼, rest p11	29 July 1865
9d	sides p11, rest p11¼	23 March 1865
3d (pair)	top/bott. p11¼, lhs p12, rhs p11* (other stamps p12 all round)	18 April 1865
2d	bott. p11, rest p11¼	May or July 1866
6d	lhs p11, rest p11¼	10 September 1866
9d	sides p11, rest p11¼	25 April 1867
3d	top p11¼, rest p11¼	14 July 1869
6d (with 2d)	top p11¼, rest p11¼	4 August 1869
2d	top p11¼, rest p11¼	10 February 1870
4d (bisected)	top p11¼, side p11½	22 April 1870
1d (with 3d)	top & bott. p12, sides p11¼	19 July 1870
1d	lhs p11¼, rest p11¼	25 April 1871
*A bizarre combination		



A bizarre combination – see tabulation on previous page.

CONCLUSIONS

1. MACHINE B, capable of perforating 11 to 11¼, was used initially to perforate the late 1861, perf. 11, issue (i.e. the 1d and 9d values) and subsequently, from late 1863, it was used as a finishing off machine on sheets partly perforated 11¼-12 by MACHINE C.

2. The p11-11¼ device (MACHINE B) was not really used much from 1861 to 1871 since the bulk of the covers fell into the p11½-12 bracket.

3. The suggestion that a sixth machine was churning out perf. 11¼ stamps seems remote since this would produce an imperial pin setting of 14.3 pins/inch and more of our sample population of covers would read p11¼.

4. The role played by the grades of paper used by Whiting could be significant. All P.E.I. collectors are aware of the poor quality of paper used by Whiting on P.E.I. stamp production.

It is feasible to speculate that the operatives adjusted the pin density as they went along to compensate for the greater strength or weakness of the paper in one direction. In doing so they unwittingly created compound perforations for collectors today. To quote L.N. Williams again in 'Fundamentals of Philately' (p672) – "paper has a greater tearing strength across the grain than with the grain. To prevent the sheets of perforated stamps from disintegrating during handling (a problem P.E.I. collectors are well aware of!), the perforation with the grain is made to gauge slightly less than that across the grain."

5. Perforating machine design and set up could also be very important. In 'Fundamentals of Philately' page 681 a passage describes how Perkins, Bacon purchased a single line perforating machine in 1862 and it was noted that... "the pins are however extremely

irregularly spaced, a few almost touch one another, while others are as much as 1¼mm apart, so that the gauge taken at different parts of the line varies from 11 to 12.”

It would be very useful to know more about both the paper grades used by Whiting and the perforating machines used on their stamps.* Possibly some information will come to light as a result of the work that Mike Salmon is doing on the Whiting business.

WE ARE CURRENTLY ATTEMPTING TO CREATE A DATABASE OF RECORDED P.E.I. COVERS WHICH WAS INITIATED BY MIKE SALMON AND WE ASK ALL ‘MAPLE LEAVES’ READERS TO SEND FRONT AND BACK COPIES OF P.E.I. COVERS TO THE EDITOR FOR INCLUSION IN

THIS LISTING. THE END RESULT PROMISES TO BE A VERY USEFUL RESEARCH TOOL FOR FUTURE P.E.I. COLLECTORS.

Footnote

*Another interesting topic, related to separation, is the small quantity of stamps which were rouletted. Once again, we are not certain that Charles Whiting performed this particular operation. Further mention will be made later in Martyn Cusworth’s continuing series on PEI philately.

Editor’s Note

The attention of interested students is drawn to an extensive article by Alan Griffiths in the April 2001 issue of ‘The London Philatelist’ pp97-103.

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CANADA C-9 VARIETIES (6)

1946 AIR MAIL STAMP

Bill Pekonen

This part reports on plate blocks. While the plate block subject may appear to be simple on the surface, the old saying "the devil is in the detail" comes to mind. A complete collection of plate block corners is more extensive than at first may be apparent. The differences are paper, gum, inking, printing sequence, and type of the issue. Regarding shade differences, the contrast between light and dark shades is attributed to the amount of ink applied and not to different kinds of ink. The printing sequence in this issue is unknown. It can be demonstrated, however, that the printing plates for Plates 1 and 2 were changed at least twice. Plate 2 was probably changed up to three times.

Field stock was used for both the OHMS (CO1) and G overprints (CO2); 400,000 stamps of each category were printed. The total printing is equivalent to 8,000 panes. Consequently, it is logical to conclude that the possibility for 8,000 plate corners (or 2,000 sets of four corners) existed for each of CO1 and CO2. Apparently, field stock was also used to produce the stamps perforated OHMS (OC9). No reliable records of the amounts perforated can be reported.

Although these OC9 stamps were intended for use by federal government departments and agencies, they were not sold to the general public. Many complaints were made by stamp collectors, as indicated by letters found in RG3 at the National Archives. Finally, a decision was made to make plate blocks and small orders of mint stamps available from the Philatelic Department,

Post Office in Ottawa. Some collectors ordered only one consistent plate block position for appearance sake. Others had to take what might be available at the time the order was completed. The lower left position of both plates 1 and 2 were usually ordered by the dealers active at the time. Consequently, this position presumably should be easier to find today than the other corners. For that reason, plate blocks containing the missing period after the letter 'S' on the 7¢ airmail CO1 stamp have survived, as well as on the other issues in the Peace series. All basic positions for the 'G' stamp cannot be confirmed at this time although the Unitrade catalogue shows prices for all four positions. The 'G' overprint on plate blocks is difficult to find. Donald J. LeBlanc prepared a summary of perforated OHMS plate blocks in the July-August 1994 issue of the *Canadian Philatelist*, pages 269-274. In that article, for instance, he lists all of the eight possible plate block positions of OC9 as being known to exist. All basic plate block positions are known for the perforated and OHMS overprint versions of the stamp.

The research collection has located all four positions for each of the plates 1 and 2 on white, white ribbed, cream and cream ribbed papers. Not all positions for OC9, CO1 or CO2 have yet been found. No attempt has been made to reconstruct the plate corners using the gum differences as the criteria.

The following list describes those plate blocks which also usually contain the 're-entry'. One should understand, however, that each position may exist in two states.

Plate 1 LL This plate contains the 're-entry' in the upper left of the four stamps. It is stamp #141 in the scheme and #41 in the pane, see below and right.

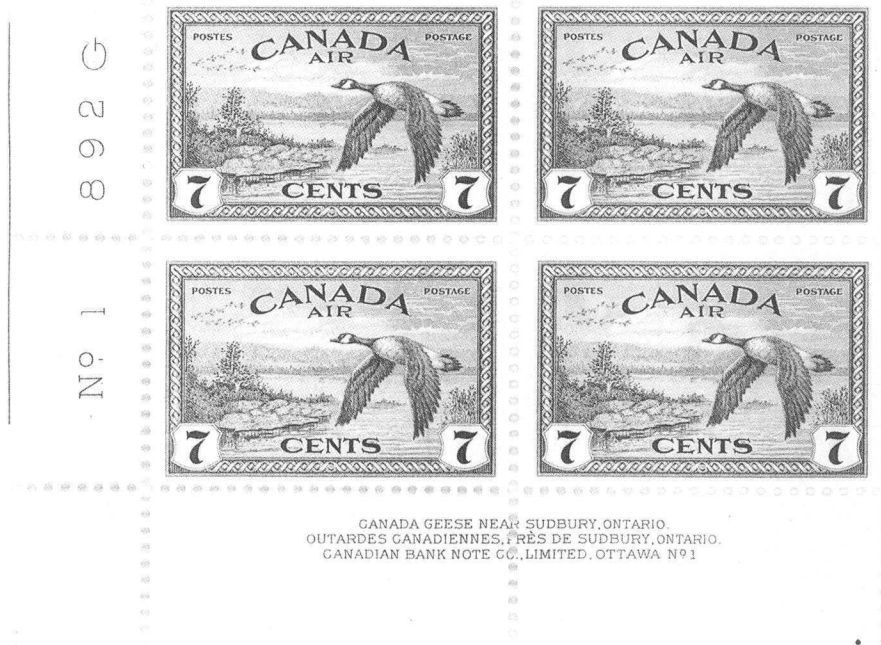
Plate 1 LR The 're-entry' appears on the bottom left of the four stamps. It is stamp #49 on the pane.

Plate 2 UR The suspected 're-entry' appears in the UR corner. It is stamp #255 in the scheme and #5 on the pane. This can exist in two states. It is difficult to spot. This 're-entry' is a doubling of the outer left frame line opposite the tree in the design.

The late Hans Reiche reported that Stamp #10 at



the National Archives also shows a 're-entry' on position #10. No further details are available since the rules do not permit copying. As of July, 2001, there has been no confirmation of the existence of a 're-entry' in private hands. If so, it would be a late printing.



O. H. M. S. O. H. M. S.

PLATE 1 UL

PLATE # 1 UL

O. H. M. S. O. H. M. S.

PLATE # 1 UL

PLATE # 1 UL

O. H. M. S. O. H. M. S.

PLATE # 1 LL

PLATE # 1 LL

O. H. M. S. O. H. M. S.

PLATE # 1 LL

PLATE # 1 LL

O. H. M. S. O. H. M. S.

PLATE # 2 UL

PLATE # 2 UL

O. H. M. S. O. H. M. S.

PLATE # 2 UR

PLATE # 2 UL

O. H. M. S. O. H. M. S.

PLATE # 2 LL

PLATE # 2 LL

O. H. M. S. O. H. M. S.

PLATE # 2 LL

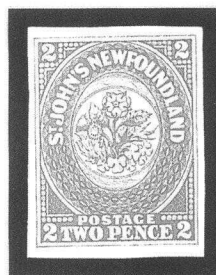
PLATE # 2 LL

Plate 2 LR The 're-entry' appears on the LR stamp. It is stamp #400 in the scheme and #50 on the pane. This exists in two states.

There are three dots in the left hand selvage of Plate 1 UL, opposite stamp #1. Two dots are one above the other close to the outer frame line. The third

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O. H. M. S. O. H. M. S.

PLATE # 1 UR

PLATE # 1 UR

O. H. M. S. O. H. M. S.

PLATE # 1 UR

PLATE # 1 UR

O. H. M. S. O. H. M. S.

PLATE # 1 LR

PLATE # 1 LR

O. H. M. S. O. H. M. S.

PLATE # 1 LR

PLATE # 1 LR

O. H. M. S. O. H. M. S.

PLATE # 2 UR

PLATE # 2 UR

O. H. M. S. O. H. M. S.

PLATE # 2 UR

PLATE # 2 UR

O. H. M. S. O. H. M. S.

PLATE # 2 LR

PLATE # 2 LR

O. H. M. S. O. H. M. S.

PLATE # 2 LR

PLATE # 2 LR

dot is over to the left of the two dots, forming a triangle of sorts. The third dot may be absent simply because the

perforation has taken it out.

There are three small dots in the LR corner of the UR stamp of the Plate 1

UR plate block (stamp #55 in the numbering scheme and #5 in the pane).

Faint hairline cracks exist on the right hand selvage on some copies of Plate 1 LR. The other noticeable variety on Plate 2 UL is cracked plate marks between stamps #2 and #7 and along the bottom of stamp #7 running down to stamp #12 directly beneath. Stamps #2 and #7 are the two right hand stamps on a block of four stamps. The plate cracks are faint and are often difficult to see.

There is a strong dot in the selvage of stamp #400 (LR stamp) on Plate 2 LR. The dot does not appear on all copies of the plates.

Other inconstant differences exist, many of which are minute and difficult to spot without a powerful magnifying glass.

The perforated OHMS stamps are subject to variation. Details of these variations are examined in another part of this series. The plate blocks would be affected by similar differences.

There are minor differences in the serifs of 'H.M.S.' in the overprinted 'OHMS' stamps. When considering that the overprint was accomplished using lead slugs produced by lino-type machines, these differences are understandable. It is unclear whether panes of 50 or full sheets of 200 were overprinted. Not enough full sheets exist for inspection to enable the study group to reach any firm conclusion. (See computer enhanced image of the plate 1 and 2 block corners on pages 171 and 173.)

Roy Wrigley and Kasimir Bileski describe three different types of 'G' used during the period these stamps were used by government departments. The other 'G' types were introduced in 1953, 1955, and 1956. Furthermore, the new type faces reportedly were only used on the 10 cent Eskimo, 20 cent Pulp and Paper and 50 cent Textile stamps. Obviously, only the original 'G' type can be found on the CO2 stamp.

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Members who have not paid the current year's subscription by 30 April will be removed from the *Maple Leaves* circulation list.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Neil Prior

PORT TALBOT

The entire illustrated below was acquired from the CPS Postal Auction earlier this year; I am hoping that members can provide some additional information.

It is a 'Free' cover, posted from Port Talbot on 11 December 1829, signed by M. Burwell, PM, and sent to Francis L. Walsh, PM, in Vittoria.

What I would like more information on is:

- Does 'PM' signify Prime Minister?
- Who was Francis L. Walsh?
- Who was M. Burwell, and was he associated with Port Burwell?
- I understand that Port Talbot was around 150 miles from Toronto, but am unable to find it on present-day maps. What happened to the settlement? Was it absorbed into another town, or did it disappear altogether?
- Was Port Talbot named after any individual in particular? This interests me as I was born in Port

Talbot in South Wales and wonder if there is any connection.

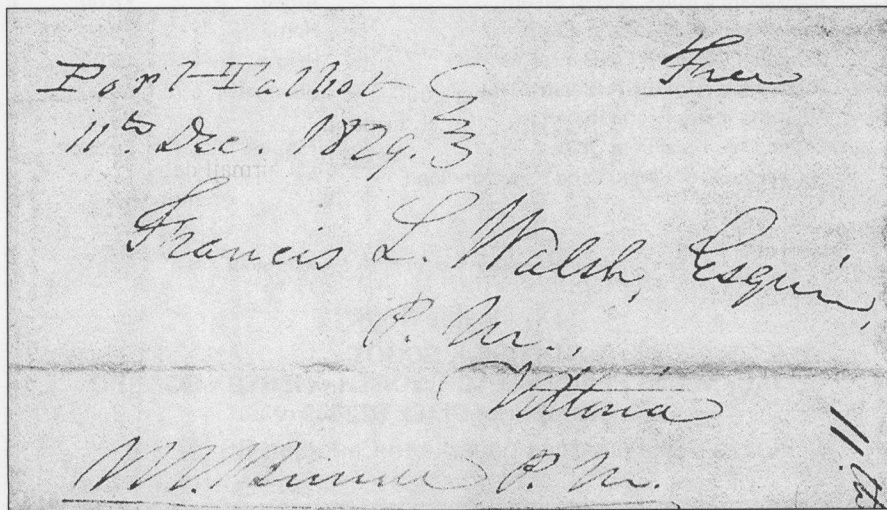
Editor's note:

As an initial contribution I submit that 'PM' in this instance signifies 'Post Master'. Prior to 1844 postmasters were allowed free postage provided the letter was properly endorsed, as it is here. Manwell Burwell was a postmaster at Port Talbot and it is reasonable to assume that Francis Walsh was postmaster at Vittoria. Interested readers may like to refer to the late John Donaldson's article on 'Postmasters Perks' in ML April 1985, p261. Answers to the rest of Neil's questions are eagerly awaited.

James Felton

POSTAGE DUE

In recent Maple Leaves, the Yellow Peril and Mac McConnell clearly demonstrated how interesting postage due mail can be. Perhaps members would like to know about the Postage



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Slogan Postal Markings 1912-1953		£6.00
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For more information I suggest contacting one of the editors, Michael Furfie, 37 Town Tree Road, Ashford, Middlesex TW15 2PN, or Graham Marks, Oast House West, Golden Hill, Wiveliscombe, Somerset TA4 2NT.

The Yellow Peril

FAKE ½¢ LQ COVERS

There are good jokes and there are great jokes, but the one about fake ½¢ LQ covers (ML 281) has got to be an all-time classic! It gave me such a big chuckle that it broke up my otherwise humdrum day.

Every stamp and cover, including the fake ½¢ LQ cover – and it is a fake – that I showed at the Glasgow Convention in 1999 and illustrated in ML 280, was properly identified in the opening paragraph on page 47 of ‘My Fling...’ as belonging to an estate. The fake cover illustrated on page 53 was definitely NOT the good doctor’s cover.

Lionel Gillam

ERRANT HAMMERS

In the Autumn, 2000 issue of Maple Leaves (page 343) an anonymous warning was published alerting members to be on their guard as far as ‘Doyle’s Station’ (Newfoundland) postmarks are concerned. These, apparently, may be misused as a result of the sale of hammers that ought, following the closure of the office in 1940, to have been defaced, destroyed or

retained securely by the Newfoundland Post Office. This is, of course, a timely and proper warning for which Newfoundland stamp collectors and, more especially, Newfoundland postal historians will be most grateful.

Our informant, however, is mistaken if he believes that this is a unique instance of post office property falling into improper hands. Many years ago the late Frank Campbell reported that he was offered a bagful (or possibly a sackful!) of old Canadian postmark hammers, either as a gift or for sale. I believe the former, but whether for sale or not Frank certainly accepted them, gladly I might add. I do not know if news of this acquisition was published in ‘Topics’ or ‘Maple Leaves’; but I do know that Frank at the time was producing a series of mimeographs for Canadian postmark collectors. These contained illustrations of old split ring postmarks, and it was in one of these, I believe, that the news first saw the light of day. Incidentally, one of his publications contained an illustration of one of the hammers and its integral parts, including the spring. What happened to the hammers subsequently I do not know. Nor do I know to what extent (if any) this acquisition of old post office property contributed to his well-known book on early Canadian Post Offices.

Certainly Frank did not regard the ‘lucky strikes’ that came into his possession as in any way illegal or improper. He was a man of such utmost integrity that I believe that it never crossed his mind that in the wrong hands the hammers might be used in an attempt to deceive collectors. Because of this, and because their ultimate destiny is not known, I can only repeat

Continued on p179

SOCIETY NEWS

Local Groups

The annual get-together of the South West and Wales Group was held under the auspices of the Bristol Federation Convention at Portishead on Sunday, 12 August.

Six members and one possible new member were present to see mini-displays of 'Miscellaneous Canadian Postal History' from Colin Lewis, 'Recent Newfoundland Acquisitions' from John Croker, and a variety of 'Canadian covers, cancellations, and postal rates' by Neil Prior.

In addition, Rod Morley and Colin Bulloch presented RPO Postmarks and Centennial Issues respectively, requesting advice and thoughts as to the best way to write-up and display them.

MIDPEX

MIDPEX, the biennial show for specialist philatelic societies, took place again this year at Tile Hill, Coventry, at the end of June. The CPS stand was manned by a succession of 'volunteer' members and attracted a number of visitors. The result – lots of fellowship and at least one new member.

Some important impressions remain. The visitors who showed the greatest interest were those who, hitherto, had been unaware of our existence and who held the belief that 'specialist' societies cater *solely* for specialists. We hope that they went away enlightened, clutching their application forms and with a greater interest in the wider field of Canadian philately.

It is up to us to promote ourselves as a user-friendly group. MIDPEX helped.

Forthcoming Events

2001

Oct 16-21 Hafnia 01, Copenhagen, Denmark

Oct 25-27 Philatex, Horticultural Halls, London

Nov 10 S&C Scottish Group, Annandale Arms Hotel, Moffat

Nov 10-15 Kadikay 2001, Turkey

2002

Jan 18/19 York Stamp Fair, The Racecourse, York

Feb 27-Mar 3 Spring STAMPEX, Islington, London

Aug 2-11 Korea 2002, Seoul

Aug 30-Sep 3 Amphilex 02, Amsterdam

Sep 18-22 Autumn STAMPEX, Islington, London

Oct 9-12 CPS Convention, Dumfries

Nov 29/30 Chester 2002, The Racecourse, Chester

Palmares

The following records competitive success by members in Canadian National shows and by members' exhibits of Canadian material in international exhibitions. We are indebted to Richard Thompson for supplying the details. We should be happy to record successes by other members, particularly from the UK, if they can be made known to the Editor. Whilst all the award winners are deserving of our plaudits, particular mention must be made of Ron Brigham who won the Grand Prix d'Honneur at Belgica 2001. This is, in effect, the world championship and it is the first time it has been won by a Canadian in its 75-year history.

Malcolm Jones will sell your surplus covers if you give him the chance

International Exhibitions

Belgica 2001, June 2001.

FIP Championship Class, Grand Prix – Ron Brigham – ‘The Province of Canada Pence Issues 1851-1868’.

Large Gold and Special Prize – Ron Brigham – ‘The Large Queens of Canada 1868-1897’.

Literature Large Vermeil – Cimon Morin – Philatelic Canadienne Vol. 3.

Philanippon 2001, August 2001.

Gold – Ron Brigham – ‘Small Queens’.

Large Vermeil – Fred Fawn – ‘Canada 1898 Map Stamp’.

Richard Malott – ‘Canada Crash Covers’.

Large Silver – Bill Robinson (2) – ‘Prisoner of War Internee Mail’ & ‘Post Offices of Alberta’.

National Shows

ORAPEX 2001, May 2001.

Gold – John Cooper – ‘A Study of the Admiral Booklet Stamps’ – Grand Award.

Horace Harrison – ‘Early Express Company Operations in Ontario and Quebec’.

Richard Malott – ‘Canadian Crash Covers 1918-1984’.

Ron Brigham – ‘The Numerals and Maple Leaves Issues 1897-1902’.

Silver – Dr Alan Selby ‘Early Canadian Postal Rates’.

One Frame Exhibits

Vermeil – Charles Verge ‘The Post Office Dispute of 1978’.

Horace Harrison – ‘Canada’s Registered Letter Stamps, Proofs and Essays’.

Silver Bronze – ‘Brown Brothers Continental Nurseries 1890-1920’.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Continued from p177

the ‘caveat emptor’ warning, unnecessary though this must be. Having been assured that there were no railway post office hammers among his collection (sic) I lost interest. It must have been upwards of 30 years before he died (well into his nineties) in a nursing home in Royal Oak, Michigan. Since I corresponded with him almost to the last, my regret now is that it never occurred to me to ask what happened to the hammers. That must remain a mystery, as much a mystery as the man who brought the hammers to him. He was a complete stranger to Frank.

Editor’s note:

I too corresponded with Frank Campbell in his (very) latter years, he contributed the occasional short piece to ML. I was aware of the postmarking devices that ‘landed on his doorstep’, he referred to the hoard as a ‘bushel’. I have no idea whether this was gross exaggeration but it does suggest a substantial number of hammers. I too have a couple of hammer heads (no handles) and a tin of indicia; one head is Vonda, Sask., the other Franquelm, PQ. Fitting the slugs into the heads seems to be an awfully fiddly job so I have never made up a full postmark; the object is merely to show what these things look like and to warn of the possibility of misuse.

AMENDMENTS TO MEMBERSHIP to 12 August, 2001

CHANGES INCLUDED IN THE 2001 HANDBOOK

New Members

- 2836 Mason, Douglas S. Little Roscaddon, Manaccan, Helston, Cornwall
TR12 6JH CG, PH
- 2837 Wynns, John P. PO Box 1995, Dayton, NV
89403-1995, USA PL, PC, PQ, YU, K, PH
- 2838 Buttimore, David 61 Burnham Road, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex
SS9 2JR CL-CGC, Cov, PS

Resigned

- 2740 Scott, David V.
- 2440 Lewis, Col. E. (Ted)

INFORMATION RECEIVED AFTER PRINTING THE 2001 HANDBOOK

Deceased

- 1448 Bell, Mrs M.J.

Resigned

- 2777 Mercer, Michael B.

Reinstated

- 2597 Kolfage, Don 14 Orton Blvd, Chatham, ON, Canada, N7L 4A9
- 2757 Kruczynski, L. 19 Petersfield Place, Winnipeg, MB, Canada R3T 3V5

Amendment to address

- 1373 Wannerton, John W.T. Postal Address: PO Box 53087, Kenilworth 7745,
W Cape Province, S. Africa

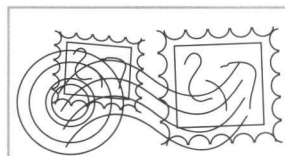
E-mail address

- 1912 Gatecliff, John jsgatecliff@doctors.org.uk
- 2734 McLean, Gary mclea002@tc.umn.edu

Revised Total 413

E-mail addresses

If any members wish to have their e-mail addresses published in Maple Leaves, please forward details to the Secretary.



**Have you made up a book for the
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patiently waiting!**

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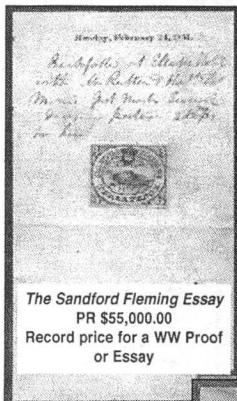
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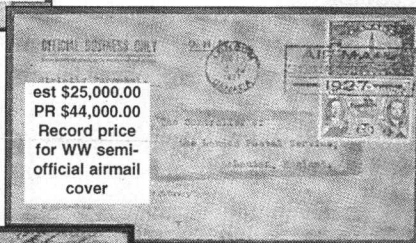
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