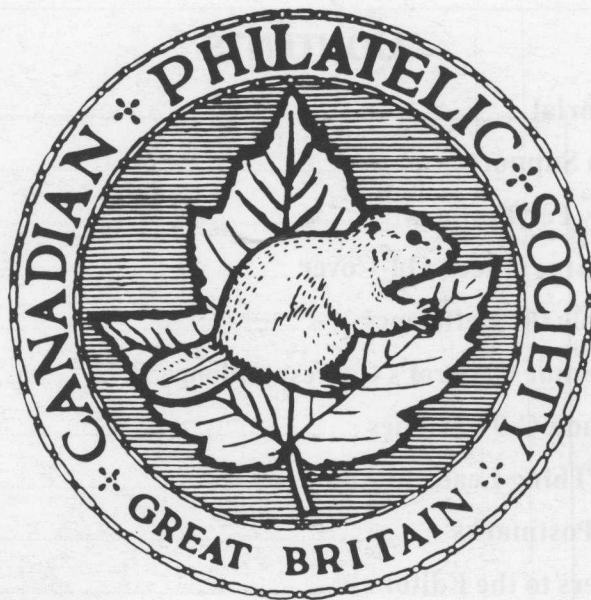


285



Maple Leaves

*JOURNAL OF THE
CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
OF GREAT BRITAIN*

ISSN
0951-5283

Summer
2002

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MAPLE LEAVES

Journal of

THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

INCORPORATED 1946

Founder:

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31 Eastergate Green, Rustington, Littlehampton, W. Sussex, BN16 3EN

Opinions expressed in the various articles in this journal are those of the writers and
are not necessarily endorsed by the Society.

Published four times a year by the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain

Annual Subscription £14.00 – Due 1 October

Vol. 27 No. 7

July 2002

Whole No. 285

EDITORIAL

We offer our warmest congratulations to members Ron Brigham and Dick Lamb on their election as fellows of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada at the Society's Convention in Edmonton. Fellowship of the RPSC is an honour that has to be earned, it is not given lightly, only three new Fellows were elected this year.

While in congratulatory mode we also salute Jim McLaren who received a Scottish Award of Merit at the Scottish Congress in April. Whilst many members will know Jim from his attendance at Conventions and will be aware of his activities in promoting Canadian philately in Scotland; it is good to see his efforts being recognised at club level, outside the rarefied atmosphere of the CPS.

Staying with the good news, members will (one hopes) be pleased to learn that 'Maple Leaves' was awarded a silver medal at Canada's Sixth National Philatelic Literature Exhibition in Ottawa, early in May. Speaking to Charles Verge, we learned that the Exhibition was a great success, attracting no less than 123 entries. It does seem that 'there's a whole lotta writing going on', at least in the philatelic field.

At our last AGM, in Shrewsbury, the problems associated with bringing into this country material for exhibition/ competition purposes were raised. Our representative on the ABPS committee, Rodney Baker, was asked to raise the matter at national level. As some members have found, there

seems to be a lack of consistency of treatment, at least in respect of non-EU members. Enquiries confirmed this lack of consistency and it was suggested that the best approach is to get an Indemnity Carnet with a bank in the member's own country agreeing to temporary export. This can be negotiated by the whole philatelic community (i.e. the country's national philatelic association) and then applied to the member. It would be an expensive process for an individual.

This does seem to be a very heavy-handed approach and is no encouragement to collectors to share their knowledge with members on distant shores. My own personal experience in taking material abroad (other than for International exhibitions where an entry goes with the National Commissioner) has followed

discussion with H.M. Customs. The recommended course was to photocopy the first and one or two sample sheets of the exhibit and show the exhibit to Customs before departure, they will need to know the number of sheets. The photocopies were retained and a 'certificate' issued. The exhibit could then be declared on re-entry to this country and the question of charging VAT would not arise. Of course, this is only a protection against a possible claim for VAT on one's own material when bringing it back into the UK, it may not satisfy a Customs official here who feels material is being brought into the country from overseas to be sold without accounting for VAT. Overseas members wishing to bring display material into the UK may find it helpful to speak to their own Customs officials and seek their advice.

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ARCH SUPPORTS

David Sessions FRPSL, FRPSC, FCPS.

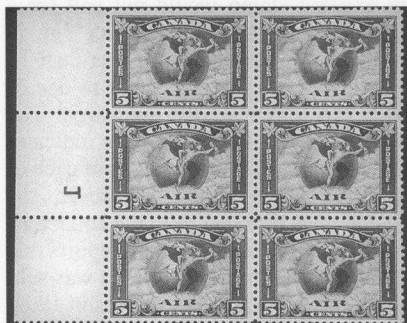
In studying the stamps and postal history of the Arch series of 1930 it seems sensible to consider the supporting issues printed by the British American Bank Note Co. (BABNC), namely the airmail, postage due and special delivery stamps. Unlike the definitive series, the supporting stamps seem to be a well-ordered bunch, apart from the usual fun and games one comes to expect from surcharges. However, there are a few apparent anomalies.

Airmails

The BABNC printed only one basic airmail stamp (SG310, USC C2) and it was issued on 4 December 1930, the same day as the Arch high values. There was obviously no rush to issue a new airmail stamp as the Post Office had literally millions of the original airmail stamp (SG274, USC C1) on hand, as we shall see.

Winthrop Boggs reports a die proof as having been approved on 30 July 1929 but this is actually a die essay; the word 'POST' appears, reading down at right, as on the essays of the definitive Arch series. A small die essay in black is also listed in 'Essays and Proofs of BNA'. The proof of the approved die was initialised and dated 9 January 1930, the same date as that seen on the die proofs of the high values of the Arch definitives. An example of both the essay and the die proof has been noted, each in the colour of the issued stamp, but without date or initials.

Although the stamp was not released until December 1930, it would seem that it was printed at the same time as the initial batch of low value definitives. It will be recalled that the first printings of



The only plate marking

the 1¢, 2¢, 4¢ and 5¢ carried a punched-in plate number, in reverse, in the margin of the upper left pane alongside either row five or six. The only plate marking found on the sheets of the 1930 airmail stamp is a reversed '1' in the left margin alongside row six. It seems quite likely that the total printing of 900,000 was done at one time. Subsequently 500,000 of these stamps were overprinted for the Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa in 1932. No worthwhile varieties have been noted on the basic stamp or, surprisingly, in the overprint.

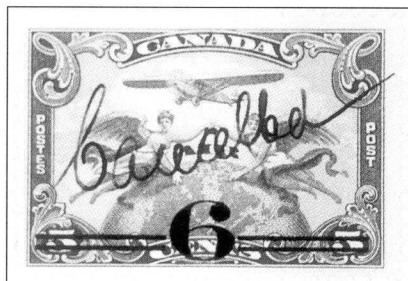
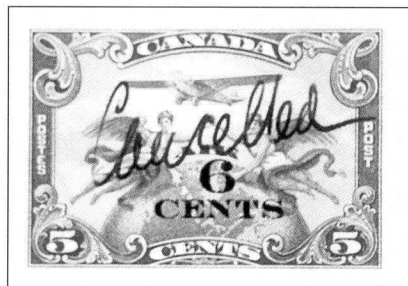
It was mentioned earlier that the Post Office had in hand a surfeit of the original 1928 airmail stamp. Ten million of them had been printed. A rate rise in July 1931 led to the need for a 6¢ airmail stamp; instead of printing a new stamp, or surcharging the 1930 airmail stamp, it was decided to surcharge the stocks of the 1928 stamp that were still on hand. Two million were surcharged and a further 2,950,000 were destroyed, thus leaving 5,050,000 stamps as having been issued in their original form. The surcharged stamp did not appear until 22

February 1932, nearly eight months after the rate rise so, obviously, much thought had gone into the decision.

One may feel that the surcharging of an existing stamp would not call for a great deal of preparatory work but, in this case, we know that no less than 12 essays were prepared in order to decide upon the format of the surcharge! The Robson Lowe Encyclopaedia indicates that from one to four examples of each of the essays are known. However, the position has changed from the collector's point of view. John Jamieson reports that a complete set of the 12 essays was sold to the Canadian Postal Archives in 1992, this being the only complete set in existence. Whilst the exact number of copies of each essay is not on record it is believed that at least half were only one of a kind. John reckons that only four to six of the essays now remain available to private collectors and, of course, there will be no more than three copies of any given essay. A diligent search through auction catalogues has done nothing to suggest that John's estimate is anything less than accurate.

A proof of the accepted surcharge in the shape of a surcharged stamp, mounted on a piece of paper and carrying a purple oval handstamp of the BABNC, dated 19 January 1932, and the initials 'AS', appeared in a Firby auction in 1995. The item had previously graced the Ed Richardson collection and was described as 'probably unique'. This remains a fair comment.

Despite the time and care apparently spent in preparing the surcharges, the production seems to have caused problems. Either that or security was slack, or both! The surcharge has been noted misplaced, inverted, doubled, tripled, missing in pair with normal surcharge and having bled through the back of the stamp. In this last case it is



Three of the 12 essays for the surcharge

said that a different ink was used. The other cases have all been declared printer's waste by the Post Office in a formal notice issued in November 1963.

The surcharging was done by means of an electrotpe plate of 100 (10x10) subjects and it has been recorded that only one pane of the double and two panes of the triple surcharges were printed. Whilst these varieties are not common, their occurrence at auction suggests either a greater number than 100/200 or a high turnover rate.



Surcharge errors

Furthermore, with only one pane involved, the doubling should be more or less consistent as to the relative positions of the numerals and bars. While many of the doubled impressions noted show a relatively constant juxtaposition, there is some divergence. One particularly interesting example of the double surcharge was noted in a Maresch auction of 1996. A block of eight (4x2) is illustrated in the catalogue and shows a gradual divergence of the double surcharge, moving from left to

right. As for the triple surcharge, several different configurations have been granted certificates of authenticity, though one might expect there to be only two. Despite their illicit provenance, the surcharge errors are keenly sought by collectors so it is no surprise to find that they have been forged; this of course confuses the issue still further. In passing we would mention that the Encyclopaedia indicates that 200 examples of the inverted/misplaced errors 'escaped' but only ten pairs showing the missing surcharge are recorded.



Faked double surcharge attributed to Andre Frodel but probably made by Alex McMaster

The last claim too is cause for conjecture. With a surcharging plate 10x10, the existence of ten pairs with 'missing surcharge' suggests that one row or column on one pass failed to receive the surcharge. The error could arise from misplacement or paper fold. The result would be one row or column without surcharge but not both. The catalogues fail to mention whether the listed pairs are vertical or horizontal, leading one to suspect that both exist. Reference to auction catalogues confirms that the variety does not appear often but it can be found in both horizontal and vertical pairs.

1952 – Our Golden Jubilee – 2002

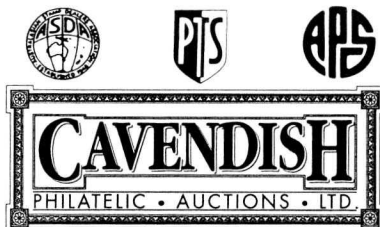
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Vertical pairs have been noted with the surcharge missing from either top or bottom stamp. This seems to preclude the top or bottom row of a pane from being the sole culprit.

An interesting left margin block appeared in a Sissons sale (February '92) showing the two LH stamps with surcharges shifted to the right so that the obliterating bars obtrude onto the RH stamps, where the surcharge is otherwise missing. A pair in Maresch's October '97 sale showed a similar shift, with the RH stamp showing just a small portion of its otherwise missing surcharge. A left margin pair (Maresch November '87) shows a similar shift but with the RH stamp completely free of surcharge and, indeed, the right cancelling bars of the LH stamp are also missing. In the same sale, another left margin pair, from the top of the lower pane, shows a downward shift of the surcharge on the RH stamp and just the right bars on the LH stamp. In this case the description tells us that a fold-over has resulted in the missing part of the surcharge appearing on the reverse of the LH stamp. It does seem that, while one major fold may have created several examples of the error, there are likely to have been other single instances.

It would seem therefore that the report of 'ten pairs only' should be treated with caution as the phenomenon appears not to be confined to one particular episode. It must also be realised that, if double and triple surcharges can be faked, then it is not a big step to create a faked 'missing surcharge'. A certificate from a reputable source is highly recommended for the 6¢ on 5¢ errors.

Both of the first two airmail stamps and the 6¢ on 5¢ surcharged version have been noted with a 'SPECIMEN' overprint in violet.

First day covers of the 1930 airmail stamp are extremely scarce, on a par with FDCs of the Arch issue. The stamp was released on 4 December 1930, the same date as the high value Arch stamps, and no prior warning was given. It is expected that FDCs will only have emanated from Ottawa, with T.R. Legault as the most likely source. However, with the wide interest in airmails at the time it is possible that one or two airmail enthusiasts got wind of the imminent issue and acted accordingly.

The situation is quite different when it comes to the surcharged stamp of 1932, there must have been forewarning and, what is more, supplies were made available to post offices across the country for issue on 22 February. At a Firby auction in 1986 one lot comprised FDCs of the surcharged stamp from 18 different cities at a very modest estimate.

Whilst no varieties of note can be found on the 1930 airmail stamp, the surcharged version of the 1928 stamp exhibits that stamp's listed variety, the swollen breast. This intriguingly titled flaw is nothing more than a constant dot strategically placed on the left angel, but it is something to look for when all the possibilities of the surcharge itself have been exhausted! The flaw can be found on the ninth stamp of row one from plate two, which means it can be collected in a plate block.

Mention has already been made of the paucity of plate markings on the 1930 stamp but, as implied above, the surcharged 1928 stamp does provide some relief. Two plates were involved, each producing a sheet of 200 (10x20) subjects; the sheets were divided into post office panes of 100 (10x10) before issue. The plate imprint appears twice in the top margin, over columns 2, 3, 4 and 7, 8, 9 and reads OTTAWA-NoA-1(or 2) 915-A.

Postage Due

The BABNC produced five new postage due stamps with the same face value as the previous issue. As with the postage stamps, they were released as required. The first to appear was the 1¢, on 14 July 1930; the 10¢ value was last, it did not see the light of day until 24 August 1932. This was only 16 months before the 10¢ value of the next postage due set appeared. A low print run (309,000) and a short life makes the 10¢ the key value of the set. The indecent haste to bring out a new postage due series arose from demands for bi-lingual stamps.

The dies for all five values were approved on 3 January 1930. Only one plate was used for each value; the 1¢ plate was approved in June 1930, 2¢ and 4¢ in July 1930, 5¢ late in 1930 and the 10¢ at the end of 1931. In each case the plate consisted of 100 subjects.

The Unitrade Specialised catalogue (USC) makes no reference to imperforate postage dues in this series though it lists the part perforate 10¢ value. The R.L. Encyclopaedia follows suit. However, Messrs Chung and Reiche, in 'The Canadian Postage Due Stamps' (PD handbook), clearly state that 100 imperforate copies of the 1¢, 2¢ and 4¢ were released. They state that the 5¢ value may also have been issued imperforate but no examples have been recorded and, for the 10¢, they claim that 100 imperf were supposed to have been released. Gibbons gives footnote status to imperf 1¢, 2¢, 4¢ and 10¢. This apparent conflict sent me scurrying back to Boggs, who lists 100 imperf for the 1¢, 2¢ and 5¢ values; Holmes, who makes no mention and Hansen, who also makes no reference. An extended search through auction catalogues failed to turn up one imperforate for this issue. It seems quite likely that the printers or the Post Office would have kept perhaps one

imperf sheet of each on file but have any examples leaked into the market place? Perhaps a student of the issue can throw some light on this little mystery.

What we do know is that one sheet (100) of the 10¢ value, imperf horizontally, did fall into philatelic hands. As the footnote in the USC explains, the vertical perforations on the sheet run at a slight angle, which means that most pairs are badly off centre. The catalogue indicates that only ten very fine pairs exist, from rows 5 and 6, which is a reasonable assumption. However, for what it is worth, a partial reconstruction of the sheet by John Jamieson, from material handled, suggests the better examples come from rows 3 and 4. Most of us have to be content with whatever we can get! The PD handbook indicates that the 2¢ also exists imperf horizontally. No example has yet been noted by the writer.

The plate marking is confined to a solitary '1' above and between columns five and six in the top margin in relation to the stamps. The stamps are, of course, horizontal rectangles as opposed to the ordinary postage stamps which are vertical rectangles. Even with just one digit to contend with, life is not that simple! The USC lists the numbers as 'inverted' on the 1¢ and 4¢ plates; this is not so, it is reversed. The PD handbook correctly lists the 1¢ as reversed but insists on 'inverted' for the 4¢ plate. The only illustration seen by this writer clearly shows the number as reversed, even though the perforations run through it. The 5¢ plate is shown in the USC to have the number at the bottom of the sheet, the PD handbook sits on the fence by stating "has a numeral 1 in the margin". I do not have an example and neither did an illustration turn up in the trawl through auction catalogues.

Quite why one plate should differ from the others as to the position of the

plate numeral is yet another of life's little mysteries. Perhaps one of our members can put the matter to rest.



The 10¢ postage due, imperf. horizontally. Note the slight slope of the vertical perforations

Special Delivery

With the new Arch series came a new 20¢ Special Delivery stamp; it was released on 2 September, 1930. The UPU diktat that values should be shown only in numerals, not words, resulted in a revised version appearing on 24 December, 1932. The revised version carries the word 'CENTS' in the bottom tablet, between the numerals, instead of 'TWENTY CENTS'.

So, we only have two single stamps to consider. No problem – you wish!

An essay die proof for the 1930 issue is illustrated in 'Canada Special Delivery' (SD handbook), this is dated 13 July 1929 and carries a manuscript "Not approved". A further die proof, close to the issued design, is shown as having been approved, four days later, subject to the addition of a maple leaf in each of the upper corners. However, the story of proofs does not end there as the illustration shows 'POST' down the right hand side instead of 'POSTAGE'. It will be recalled that the Arch series was originally approved in this form but was subsequently changed before issue. A large die proof, in the issued form, appeared in a Maresch auction in 1987 and showed an approval date of 3 January 1930. A second example, without approval date or initial, was noted in a Sissons sale from 1984, while a similar die proof, described as 'ex Liechtenstein' appeared in a Firby sale in 1999. The 'Essays & Proofs of BNA' records a die proof on India paper, mounted on thick card. This last example differs from the 'Sissons' example which is described as on thick wove paper. It is not known whether the 'Firby' example is a third undated proof or whether it is identical to one of the other two. The SD handbook indicates that no plate proofs have been recorded and this still seems to be the position.

Two plates were made for the 1930 stamp, which is quite surprising in view of the fact that only 950,000 stamps were printed. There is general consensus that both plates were of 200 subjects (10x20) and that plate 1 was divided into two P.O. panes (10x10), while plate 2 was divided into four panes (5x10). Boggs is a dissenting voice, showing both plates to be only 100 subjects.

According to most authorities, plate 2 follows the general run of Arch plates in that the imprint appears at top and

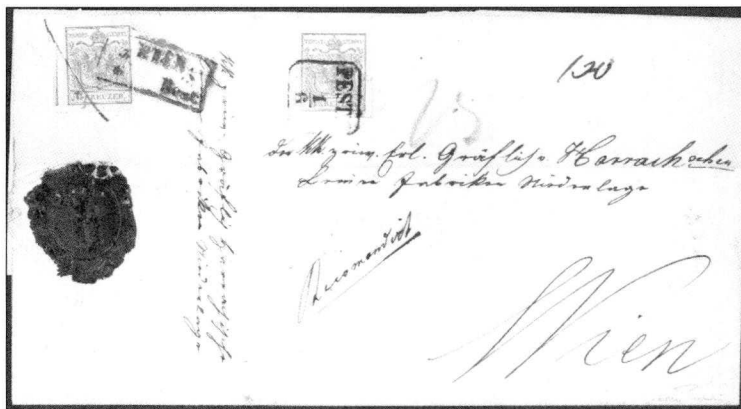
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bottom of both vertical margins. This is consistent with providing an imprint on each P.O. pane. However, the USC lists plate blocks for plate 2 as from upper left only. My own experience with this stamp is limited and, at present, I have only noted illustrations of 'PLATE NO. 2' from the upper left position. This little difference of opinion should not be difficult to resolve, has anyone got a 'PLATE NO. 2' example from another position?



Plate 2, UL plate position



LL plate position from either plate 1 or 2 with no imprint

Plate 1 also presents a positional problem, particularly if we accept the majority verdict of a plate configuration of 10x20. The PB catalogue indicates 'a centre position only' and USC agrees, 'centre block'. This implies an imprint in left and right margins, alongside rows 10 and 11. The SD handbook indicates

'centre left margin' and Boggs says the plate numbers for both plates are in the left margin (of 10x10 plates). The RL Encyclopaedia indicates 'top centre only' for plate 1 and I have a feeling that this may be nearest to the truth. The only illustrations I have seen have been from the left margin and these include the full 'PLATE NO. 1.' imprint. If the 200 subject sheets were broken down to P.O. panes of 100 (10x10) before issue, then the full imprint could not exist if it were sited between rows 10 and 11. Therefore I suggest that the imprint on plate 1 appears in the left margin, alongside rows 5 and 6 only, as implied by the RL Encyclopaedia. As always, if someone has evidence to the contrary then I shall be most interested to see and record it.

The stamp itself was issued on 2 September, 1930, thankfully there seems to be general agreement on this point! The revised version was issued on 24 December, 1932; the USC had shown 24 December, 1933 as the issue date but fell into line in its 2002 edition.

As mentioned earlier, the reason for the revision was to comply with UPU guidelines which called for the face values on stamps to be presented in numeral form only. The SD handbook tells us that the postmaster at Halifax sent a requisition, in January 1933, for 500 of the new Special Delivery stamps. He was told that, as they were bi-lingual, they were only being sent to post offices in the Province of Quebec, since there was a large stock remaining of the original issue. The postmaster responded that the stamps were for him and local collectors and he was sent 100 copies. I find Ottawa's response, "...as they were bi-lingual..." most odd; the original stamp carried the words 'Postes' and 'Expres', neither of which have, to my knowledge, infiltrated the English language even today!

The SD handbook makes no specific reference to die proofs, other than to indicate their existence in 'large' or 'small' form; while 'Essays & Proofs of BNA' makes no mention at all. One large die proof (145x106mm) appeared on the market via a Maresch auction in 1987, this one is significant in that it carries, on the reverse, initialled approval and, within the BABNC's violet handstamp, a date, 3 November 1932. No doubt one or two more exist, possibly without initials and date, as is the case with the 1930 stamp and, indeed, stamps from the Arch series. The handbook indicates that 150 plate proofs, in colour of issue are recorded. One might expect true plate proofs to exist in units of 100, the size of the plate, but it just goes to show that there is no practical way to differentiate 'plate proofs' from 'imperforates' that have appeared for whatever reason.

Only one plate was made and, from

it, 600,000 stamps were produced. There seems to be general agreement that the plate was configured 10x10 and sheets were divided into two P.O. panes (5x10).

When it comes to the position of the plate imprint there is a wide diversity of opinion. The SD handbook, R.L. Encyclopaedia and the PD catalogue all indicate that four imprints can be found, at the top and bottom of the vertical margins; Boggs says plate numbers are in the left hand margin only; the USC lists imprints at upper left and upper right. The only illustrations of an imprint that I have seen have been at upper left and upper right; in addition, illustrations of a corner pair and corner block at lower right have shown no imprint at all so, presumably, lower right can be ruled out. If anyone has hard evidence of plate markings at lower left then the membership is agog to know about it, well perhaps one or two of us are!

Continued on page 311

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A FEW WORDS ON EARLY PERFORATIONS

John Hillson, F.C.P.S.

Have you ever wondered why perforation gauges are almost universally based on so many holes per 2 cm? With the exception of course of the Kiusalas, whose aficionados will tell you that nineteenth century North American engineers used imperial, not metric, measurements, and therefore standard gauges are somehow inappropriate. It may not be startling news that so did the contemporary British. So are perforation gauges a fiendishly clever continental plot to get us early inured to the use of metric, or is it just the result of eccentricity?

Well no. If one bothers to check, one will find that all early Canadian stamps of 'normal' size, from 1851 to the Admiral plates of 1912, are horizontally at 2 cm centres, that is the distance from the left, or right, edge of a stamp to the corresponding edge of its immediate neighbour is 2 cm. (Remember the 'beavers' were laid down sideways up). Not only that, the size of the stamps is not easily measurable in imperial, only metric. Why?

Archer's perforator

For the reason one has to go to the very first adhesive postage stamps, the British penny and twopence line-engraved stamps, first issued in 1840 and printed by Perkins Bacon, whose founder, Jacob Perkins, was an American. It will be found that, at first nominally, as the registration of subjects on the very early plates was 'all over the place', but quite soon, accurately, not only were the stamps metric in size, but they were at what was to become the standard, horizontally they were at the aforesaid 2 cm centres. So it was, when Henry Archer invented the first practical

perforator, a comb machine, he had to use metric measurements also; thus the first perforated stamps to appear, in 1850, were separated by a comb head incorporating 16 pins to the 2 cm. In 1855 a new comb was introduced, 14 pins to that length. Since the Canadian and Provincial postal authorities came under the authority of the British G.P.O. at that time it is just conceivable, is it not, that they were well aware of what was happening on this side of the Atlantic.

Bemrose line perforator

The problem with comb perforators is that one size does not fit all. Bemrose, who did some work with Archer, came up with the idea of a line perforator where perforation pins were inserted in collars that could be adjusted along a bar, each being locked in place by a screw. They patented the machine and in due course sold one to Toppen Carpenter of New York, along with, I suspect, their rouletting device of which more later. Toppen Carpenter used that machine to perforate the U.S. issue of 1859. It will be found that Bemrose too had used metric, this time 15 pins to what by now was the standard 2 cm. Which is the answer to the first question posed in this article, why universally, perforation gauges measure so many holes to a metric, not imperial, length.

Toppen Carpenter, being canny men of business, did not buy any more machines from Bemrose; in spite of the patent they 'acquired' the ideas. I do not know who made the perforating machines for, say Large and Small Queens, but it is obvious that the Bemrose patent wouldn't work if one actually looks at their perforations. That patent called for sets of

male collars with the pins protruding, which meshed into a corresponding female which had holes instead of pins. For this to work one had to use instrument makers' precision. The perforation of early Canadian stamps is anything but precise. Even without a magnifying glass one can note often uneven spacing and the odd hole out of alignment. Furthermore the distances that the collars were set at vary from one vertical row to the next. It does not take an engineering genius to realise that if that had presented a problem to the printers, all that was necessary to eliminate it was to make a set of spacers to slip on to the bar between each perforating collar. As this was not done it could only be because it was not necessary. Taking these two factors apart, erratic spacing both of the collars and the pins meant that the patented idea of corresponding male and female collars would not work. Further, whoever was making the perforating devices was not working to instrument makers, but to tool room standards. So how did the printers manage?

I mentioned it likely that Toppen Carpenter were supplied by Bemrose with a roulette cutter. The female part of that consisted of two shoulders around a continuous groove. That would give considerable latitude to minor variations in the pin arrangements, and even to the somewhat slapdash spacing of the collars. It also explains the phenomena of blind perms and adhering confetti in pre 1897 Canada, impossible where pins in an upper collar are fully engaging with corresponding holes in a lower one.

Ambient temperature

A word on the effect of ambient temperature on perforation measurements. A few years ago I immersed a Small Queen on horizontal weave paper in water for a couple of hours. It

lengthened by exactly 1mm, or about 5%; the width increased by precisely nothing. When it dried the length of the stamp had returned to its starting point. Since few collections are kept in a state of immersion I would suggest the effect of ambient temperature on off-cover stamps is exactly nil. On cover they must also be reasonably dry or they would float off!

Seriously there is even less chance of perforation movement on cover than there is off.

Finally to return to the statement that Canadian and American engineers used imperial not metric measurements, and therefore pins were set using imperial, the *raison d'être* of the Kiusalas gauge. In my view it is a totally false premise. For whatever reason, the stamps were metric in size, spaced at a metric distance, the original perforating machines, both comb and line were based on metric, and from 1897 on, there is no question that perforations were based on metric – a general standard of 12 holes to 2 cm as far as Canada is concerned. Why on earth should anyone imagine that those responsible for making the perforating devices used in Canada from 1858 through to 1897 should adopt an entirely different standard from anyone else. That is not to say that a Kiusalas gauge is entirely useless in spite of the fact it can't be used on anything on cover, or on blocks of stamps except at non-selva edges – and the idea that one can get round the problem by gauging a single copy first and placing it over whatever is a triumph of hope over experience, since as stated the blinking holes are anything but even – no it does have a use. It is great for measuring the accuracy of one's 'Instanta', and the early thick ones that measure only up to 16 thus checked prove to be dead accurate. At least mine is!!

A ½¢ LARGE QUEEN ON-COVER? (3)

The Yellow Peril

A letter to the editor in the last summer issue (*Maple Leaves* #281) indicates that there is a dire need to reiterate and define precisely the difference between a ½¢ LQ cover and a ½¢ LQ on a cover. It would, however, be superfluous to repeat the description of a ½¢ LQ cover, already described in a previous report. Illustrated below are two ½¢ LQ covers.

The similarities of the covers are as follows: both are periodicals, intact, in-period, stamps are affixed to the periodicals and each weighs less than one ounce. They differ in that: the stamp on the 1873 periodical is cancelled by a

cork postmark (the cork and its ink have since been expertized); and the cancel on the 1876 periodical is a split ring style circular date stamp. As well the address on the earlier cover is by means of an address label gummed to the periodical and the two vertical folds on the Canada Beaver show that the address was achieved by means of a wrapper.

The education periodical was gavelled down to my understudy for \$10,000.00 (Cdn.). This hammer price does not include the customary 15% buyer's premium or the 7% G.S.T. (Gouge and Screw Tax.)

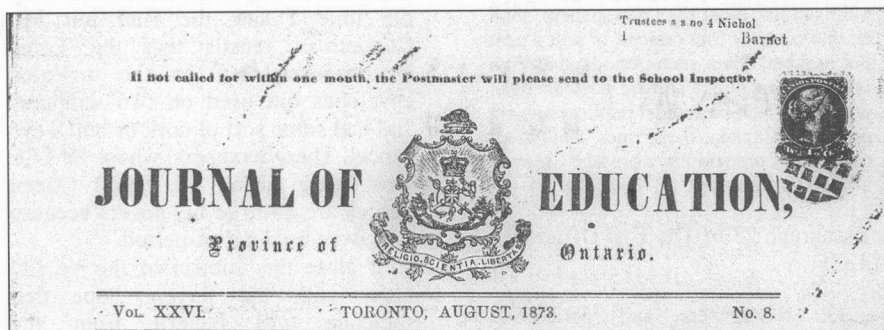
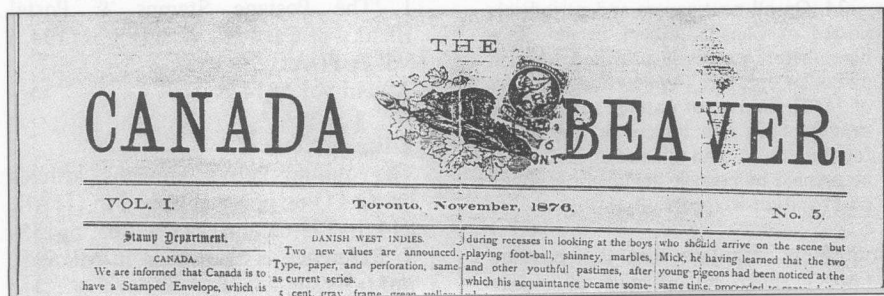


Fig. 1 above. A ½¢ LQ tied to an August 1873 'Journal of Education' periodical with a Toronto 'cork.'

Fig. 2 below. A ½¢ LQ tied with a 'Toronto Nov 4 76' split ring to 'The Canada Beaver' periodical.



Effective 1 May 1875 newspapers could also be mailed for ½¢ each – providing they weighed less than one ounce.

Wrappers with a ½¢ LQ affixed, on the other hand, are just that, a ½¢ LQ on a cover. Wrappers, such as those fakes illustrated on pages 259 (MLs #214) and 53 (MLs #280) are neither periodical nor newspaper. They are not in accordance with paragraph 25 of The Post Office Act of 1867:

24. For the purpose of this Act, the word "Newspapers" shall be held to mean periodicals published not less frequently than once in each week, and containing notices of passing events.

25. The rate of postage upon periodical publications, other than newspapers, shall be one cent per four ounces, or half a cent per number, when such periodicals weigh less than one ounce and are posted singly, and when such periodical publications are posted in Canada, these rates shall in all cases be prepaid by postage stamps affixed to the same.¹

or paragraph 23 of The Post Office Act of 1875:

23. Newspapers and periodicals weighing less than one ounce each may be posted singly at a postage rate of half a cent each, which must be in all cases prepaid by postage stamp affixed to each.

24. On all newspapers and periodicals posted in Canada, except in the cases hereinbefore expressly provided for, and on books, etc., etc., [repeats Sec. 26 of Act of 1867], the rate of postage shall be one cent for each four ounces or fraction of four ounces, ... and this postage rate shall be prepaid by postage stamps or stamped post bands or wrappers...²

Both Acts stipulate that the postage stamp(s) must be affixed to single

newspapers or periodicals weighing less than one ounce.

Notwithstanding the requirements stipulated in paragraphs 25 and 23 above, there are instances where a ½¢ LQ on a wrapper can be proper but late use. One such example was when dealer Robert Cooperman of Montreal purchased in 1999 an entire find of single ½¢ SMALL QUEEN franked unsealed covers from a numismatist at a Toronto coin and stamp show. The vendor had discovered the envelopes while travelling in the Maritimes. Most of the stamps were cancelled with the St. John NB '1' duplex. Amongst the envelopes were a couple of items, each with a ½¢ LQ. The two LQ items had been sold by the time I saw the find but Mr. Cooperman recalls that the Large Queens were not on the unsealed envelopes but used on two wrappers and had some sort of cork or bull's-eye cancel. These wrappers, whose ½¢ LQs were used during the Small Queen period, are not true LQ covers because they were used out-of-period.

I close this subject of the ½¢ LQ cover with the fervent hope that someone will benefit from my observations.

References

1. 'The Postage Stamps & Postal History of Canada', W.S. Boggs (1945) Vol 2 p11-A
2. *ibid* Vol 2 p14-A

Editor's Note:

The Yellow Peril's previous articles on ½¢ LQ on cover appeared in (1) ML 214, pp259-63 and (2) ML 265, pp155-7. Reference is also made in ML 280, pp51-3.

'DOUBLE THE DEFICIENCY' POSTAGE DUE ERA IS OVER Mike Street

For many years, with assistance from the mailroom staff, I collected envelopes from incoming mail at work to help a postage meter collector feed his habit. Occasionally an unusual postmark or similar interesting item would pop up as a reward. I was also able to watch development of the use of 'spray-on' cancelling machines in Canada and even discovered an instance of a spray-on being used only for a few days and then dropped, apparently for political reasons. (See 'Comic Book' *Spray-On Cancels Hold Surprise*, *BNA TOPICS*, Vol. 53, No.1, 1st quarter 1996.)

At some point in 1998 an unstamped cover with a 'T/.91 cents' postage due mark (Fig. 1, L) arrived at my desk. The 0-30g first class domestic postage rate (hereafter 'the rate') at the time was 45 cents. Since postage due charges were supposed to be double the deficiency¹ and thus could not produce an odd number, I assumed the handwritten '.91' was an error and put the envelope aside as a curiosity. Then a second envelope arrived with a 'T/.91 cents' postage due charge indicated by type set in a rubber hand stamp (Fig. 1, C). Someone caught the value error as another typeset example, 'T/91 cents' with no period, turned up still later (Fig. 1, R).

The fact that the '91' amounts were

twice set in type indicated the value was correct. A visit to the local (rural) post office and a look at the then current Canada Postal Guide led to *Section B, Chapter 6, Paying for a Mailing*. The 'Outgoing mail' section covered short paid or unpaid mail carrying a return address, but said nothing about processing such mail without a return address *destined for a recipient in Canada*. Nowhere in the guide could we find any indication of what was done with such mail.

Then we noticed, at the very end of Section B, Chapter 6, the somewhat cryptic statement, "The administrative charge does not apply to incoming international mail." Seeing this, the Postmistress recalled something and advised me that the 91cent charge on my envelopes was the total of the missing postage and this 'administrative charge'. Deducting the rate of 45 cents from 91 told us that the 'administrative charge' was 46 cents, but we were unable find text specifying the meaning or application of the charge or confirming the amount.

Pressure of work and other activities forced me to put the matter aside. Sometime in the year 2000 another unstamped envelope arrived carrying (in bright red ink) an attractive but even-

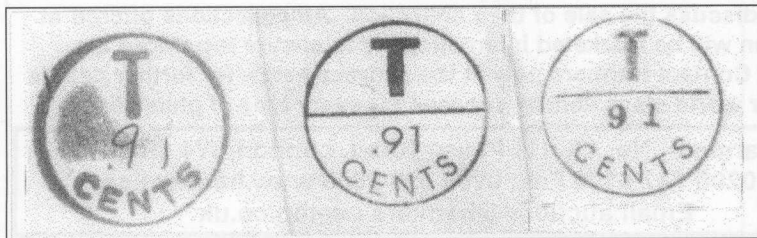


Fig. 1
left
centre
right

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Fig. 2
left & right

numbered 92 cent postage due mark (Fig. 2, L). The rate at the time was 46 cents, exactly half of the amount indicated. Were we back to 'double the deficiency'?

After retirement in May 2001 one of my first (still unfinished) tasks was to deal with the many covers acquired and 'put away' during the previous 25 years. After sorting out Peace Issue rate material, my prime area of interest, I turned to envelopes received at work and not forwarded to my meter man. When the 91 cent postage due cover appeared I resolved to find out what was going on and, if there had been a change from 'double the deficiency', when the change had occurred.

The first step was to send myself an unstamped cover without a return address. It arrived with an old-style (i.e. dull) 94 cents hand stamp (Fig. 2, R) applied - and uncollected. The rate at the time was 47 cents, also nicely half of the amount indicated as due. A visit to Canada Post's Internet site showed that the wording of Section B, Chapter 6 of the 2001 Postal Guide was very close to that used in 1998, but the 'administrative charge' sentence was missing.

An electronic search of this guide for the term 'administrative charge' turned up nothing, but a search for 'deficient postage', a term also used in

Section B, Chapter 6, led me to Section C, Chapter 7, Lettermail. There, in a table titled Pricing Information / Feature and Option Prices, was an entry for 'Deficient Postage Fee', given as, "\$.47 plus the amount of deficient postage, effective Jan. 1, 2001." The first question was answered! Adding 47 cents unpaid postage to the 47 cent 'Deficient Postage Fee' produced a total of 94 cents, as indicated on the cover returned to me. Obviously, the 92-cent charge in 2000 was 46+46 cents. The discovery confirmed the earlier surmise that during 1998 the 'Deficient Postage Fee' was also 46 cents, but did not explain why the fee then was not equal to the rate at the time (45 cents), as was the case in 2000 and 2001?

The approximate answer to when this had all started came as a result of additional post-retirement sorting work. In one of the boxes I found Press Release 85-16, dated 10 April 1985, from the Corporate Communications Department of Canada Post Corporation, advising the public as follows:

CHANGING TIMES CATCH UP TO 'POSTAL' PRACTICE

Since 1875, Canadians have been charged double the postage owing on mail that they receive with insufficient postage.

Now, 110 years later, Canada Post has proposed replacing this practice with one that would make the sender responsible for paying any postage due.

Times and modern living patterns are behind the change. Today, the trip to the post office is no longer a part of most Canadians' daily routine, and fewer and fewer people are home when the postman calls. The move into cities and apartments, and the growing number of women in the work force, are major factors in this trend.

The collection procedure was effective when it was introduced in the late 19th century, because it suited the times. Until 1875, postage could be paid either at the time of mailing or on receipt at a higher rate. When prepayment of postage - paying at the time of posting - came into effect, however, the "Double Taxing" penalty was introduced by Departmental Order Number 15. It ensured that full postage could be collected, and that partially paid letters would not languish or be disposed of in the "Dead Letter" office.

The new procedure was simple and convenient for the post office and postal customers alike because few Canadians received their mail any other way than at the post office.

As postal customers' mailing habits changed, however, the system was slowly modified to reflect the changes that were occurring in Canadian society.

In 1954 an honour system for payment of postage due was introduced in rural delivery areas.

By 1970, rising collection costs led the Post Office Department to expand the honour system to letter carrier areas.

With nearly 20% of Canadians living in apartments, three million Canadians changing addresses annually, and both husband and wife working in half of Canadian families, collection at the doorstep today has continued to be

costly, and the alternative - a special trip to the post office - increasingly inconvenient to customers. A recent customer survey has shown that while many people intend to pay, they often do not get around to it because of the small amounts and inconvenience involved.

Today, Canada Post Corporation estimates losses from shortpayment at \$50 million a year. These losses become one of the costs of doing business which are reflected in the prices the Corporation must charge all its customers.

Under the proposed procedure, shortpaid mail would be returned to the sender. Instead of the addressee being billed for double the postage due, the sender would make up the missing postage and re-mail the item. There would be no additional charge. The Corporation would continue to forward shortpaid mail to the addressee in the event that the sender can not be identified. The addressee would have the option of refusing delivery, or paying the amount owing plus a 25-cent administrative charge.

The Corporation believes simplifying the procedures and shifting responsibility to the mailer will control losses, better reflect normal business practices, and be fairer to postal customers and consumers, who will no longer be penalized for postage errors made by others.

With the time frame now pinpointed, a search of Canada Postal Guides at the National Archives and National Library was in order. The end of 'double the deficiency' and the introduction of the 'administrative charge' plus single deficiency was confirmed as follows:

Canada Postal Guide, issue/supplement effective 24 June 1985; Topic: General Conditions; Key Subject: Unpaid and Shortpaid Mail, Section 48.12 - Delivery:

"First, Third and Fourth Class Mail that is unpaid or shortpaid is:

Effective 31 August 1985

- *forwarded to destination ; and*
- *double the deficiency is subject to collection on delivery*

Effective 1 September 1985

- **returned** to sender for application of the deficient postage
- with no return address:
- **forwarded** to the addressee for collection of the **single** deficient postage; and
- **rated up \$0.25** (administrative charge)

Further research in the Postal Guides from 1985 to 2002 produced the information in the table below, which shows changes in the administrative charge from first implementation to the present.

At the time of the implementation of the administrative charge the 0-30g first class domestic postage rate was 34 cents. As can be seen from the table, in April 1987 Canada Post raised the amount of the charge from 25 cents to 36 cents, making it equivalent to the new rate (and thus creating the appearance of 'double the deficiency' for a 0-30g domestic letter mailed with no postage). The practice of raising the amount of the charge to match the rate as it increased continued until 1994, when the charge was set at 1 cent over the 0-30g rate. This occurred at a time when the Canadian Government, facing public and business opposition to constant postal rate increases, refused to let Canada Post raise the rate from 43 cents to 44 cents. Canada Post went along, of course, but added the penny to the administrative charge, presumably as a

Canada Postal Guide ² / Effective Date of Change	0-30g Domestic First Class Rate	Unpaid/Short paid Mail Administrative Charge
1 September 1985	34 cents	25 cents
01-1987/ 1 April 1987	36 cents	36 cents
1 January 1988	37 cents	37 cents
1 January 1989	38 cents	38 cents
1 January 1990	39 cents	39 cents
01-91/1 January 1991	40 cents	40 cents
01-92/1 January 1992	42 cents	42 cents
01-93/1 January 1993	43 cents	43 cents
01-94/1 January 1994	43 cents	44 cents
01-95/1 October 1994	43 cents	45 cents
08-95/1 August 1995	45 cents	46 cents
1 January 1999	46 cents	46 cents*
1 January 2001	47 cents	47 cents
14 January 2002	48 cents	48 cents

* 'Administrative Charge' changed to 'Deficient Postage Fee' in 1998



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way of getting some increased revenue. This discrepancy continued until 1999 when the rate went to 46 cents but the charge was not altered.

Figure 3 shows a 61 cents postage due charge, made up of 25 cents administrative charge and the missing 36 cents postage, applied in July 1987. Obviously word about the increase in the charge to 36 cents on April 1 of that year had not filtered down to all ranks! Figure 4 shows a postcard mailed 8 Jan 1989, franked with a 37 cent stamp, which attracted a 39 cent due charge. This is an example of a change being applied quickly - the first class rate and the administrative charge had both been raised to 38 cents only 7 days earlier, and the missing 1 cent in postage

produced the 39 cents due charge. In this case, double the deficiency would have been much better!

References

1. New general postal regulations were introduced on 1 October 1875. Prepayment of postage was mandated and unpaid letters were sent to the Dead Letter Office. Double deficiency postage was introduced whereby mail short paid would be charged double the deficient amount and to be paid by the addressee. (National Archives of Canada. Philatelic Records. The Post Office Department Circulars Collection. Accession 1995-156. Department Order No. 15, 1 September 1875; Canada. Post Office Department. Canada official postal guide, Ottawa, October 1875, p.vi)
2. Because Canada Post has changed the format and/or numbering of the Canada Postal Guide at least four times between 1985 and today, obtaining the data in Table 1 was not straightforward. From 1985-1997 the amount of the administrative charge was found under

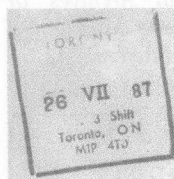


Fig. 3 above

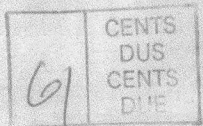
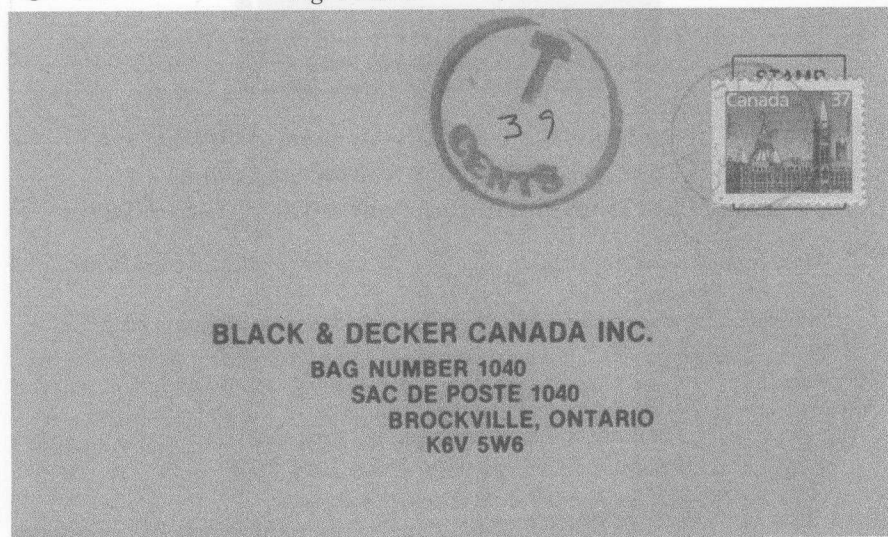


Fig. 4 below



'Unpaid and Shortpaid Mail, Delivery'. For 1985-88 this was in Section 48.12; from 1990-92 in Section 3.2; from 1993-95 in Section 8.2.2, later in 1995 in Section 8.17, from 1996-7 in Section 8.16; after 1998, the 'Deficient Postage Fee' is found in Section C, Chapter 7, Lettermail, Pricing Information / Feature and Option Prices.

The 0-30g first class domestic postage rate was found under Lettermail. For 1985-88 this was in Section 10.21; from 1990-92 in Section 35.2; from 1993-95 in Section 4.2, later in 1995 through 1997 in Section 3.2.; after 1998, in Section C, Chapter 7, Lettermail, Pricing Information / Feature and Option Prices.

Section numbers given are for the English Editions of the Postal Guide. Section numbers are different in the

French edition. Most Postal Guides and supplements up to 1996 can be found in the National Archives Library. Postal Guides and supplements from 1990 to present are in the collection of the National Library of Canada.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: My thanks to Cimon Morin of the National Postal Archives; Anne Whitehurst and Dale Ward of the National Archives of Canada, and Steve Johnson of the National Library of Canada, for their help in locating and accessing the Canada Postal Guides necessary for the completion of this article. Thanks also to Tom Hillman, formerly Archivist responsible for the records of the Post Office at the National Archives of Canada, for the reference to the origin of 'double the deficiency' in Reference 1.

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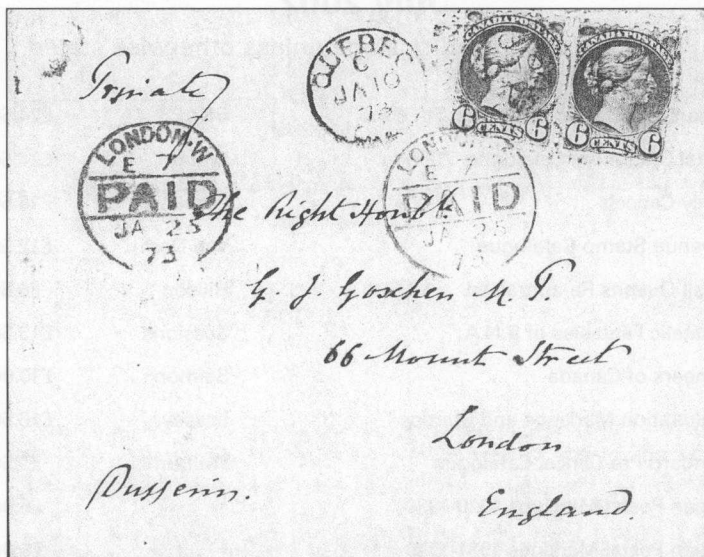
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GOVERNOR GENERAL'S CORRESPONDENCE 1873

L.D. (Mac) McConnell



In 1840 Queen Victoria set a precedent which had a far-reaching effect. The postal reforms introduced by Rowland Hill in 1839-40 had, amongst other things, severely curtailed the franking privilege.

The young Queen was one of the few for whom franking privilege was retained but she entered into the spirit of the reforms by declaring that her personal mail would be subject to postage just like that of her loyal subjects.

The Governors General of overseas territories are, ipso facto, the Queen's personal representatives. Her Majesty's decision therefore carried through to them. Their private correspondence would no longer pass free of postage and, furthermore, had to be prepaid.

In Canada a new Governor General, Lord Dufferin, had been appointed on 2 May 1872. A letter written by him the following January to the Rt. Hon.

George Goschen was subject to postage. George Goschen was a British MP and had recently been appointed First Lord of the Admiralty.

Intended to go by Canadian Packet and being overweight it acquired a pair of 6¢ small queens. To clarify its status it was marked 'private' and endorsed by Lord Dufferin at the lower left corner.

From Quebec, 10 Jan. 1873, it went by the Allan Line steamer SS Moravian, sailing ex Halifax, 14 Jan., and would be landed at Queenstown on the 24th. These mails reached London on 25 Jan. where two strikes of the 'Paid' marking were applied.

When Queen Victoria died in 1901 her son, King Edward VII, reclaimed the franking privilege. Evidence from across the Dominions and Colonies suggests that the Governors General were not included in this perquisite of office.

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CANADA C-9 VARIETIES (8)

1946 AIR MAIL STAMP

Bill Pekonen

The 'OHMS' perforated stamps are a challenge of a different kind.

A number of inconstant varieties exist amongst the various stamps perforated with the so-called 4-Hole OHMS initials – an abbreviation for 'On His/Her Majesty's Service'. The stamps were perforated using a Model 53 Cummins Perforator. The 5-hole stamps were perforated using the Model 52 Perforator, but were issued under a different policy administered by the Department of Finance between 1923 and 1935. Perforated stamps were used around the world and are subject to intense study by perfin collectors. For more detail on the beginnings of this system, read *The Development of the Federal OHMS Postal Security System* by J.C. Johnson and G. Tomasson (BNA Topics, January-February 1988 pp19-24).

Short, missing or broken pin varieties have been ignored by many collectors, mostly because it is difficult to describe which pin holes are missing. A hole numbering system for the 4-hole OHMS stamps has been developed to help describe the stamp with some form of uniformity. The chart is reproduced with this article.

These perforation devices were in general use from 1939 to 1949. The pins on the two different perforators were destroyed 1949 and 1951. (Another 4-hole perforation device was introduced during that period. It had minor differences.)

Most collectors have ignored these legitimate postal issues because they were not available for use by the public, even though the history of official

government mail precedes public mail by thousands of years. Others ignore them because fakes exist of the normal OHMS perfin issues – mostly on O7, O8 and O9. It is an indisputable fact, however, that OHMS postage stamps are a legitimate use within the mail system. The important criterion appears to be whether it qualified for *legitimate use in the mail system by those authorized to use them*. Perforated stamps were used by private companies well before 1900. The purpose of the perforation was to prevent theft by employees and to ensure that the stamps were used only on company business. That is the same reason why the OHMS perforated stamps exist. It was an internal control measure authorized by the post office. It is not a 'cancellation'. Whether or not the public could use the stamps is not an issue – the fact is that government officials could use the stamps under certain controlled conditions.

Having dispensed with those issues, let us see what exists. The illustration showing OHMS perfins was loaned by Ron Whyte, a perfin specialist. (The other perfins are from the writer's collection.) Please note that several varieties are included in Whyte's group. The varieties are consistent with those found on the regular C9 issue.

A number of private firms also used perforation machines to punch holes in the C9 Air Mail Stamp. The book *Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials* by J. C. Johnson and G. Tomasson, provides a list of the different initials which appear on the C9 stamp in addition to the OHMS perfins. These are summarized overleaf:



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CENTENNIAL (1967) ISSUE
CINDERELLA MATERIAL
DEAD LETTER OFFICE
DISASTER COVERS
DUPLEX CANCELLATIONS
EDWARD VII ISSUE
EXHIBITION & FAIR COVERS
FANCY NUMERAL & SPECIALTY CANCELLATIONS
1859 FIRST CENTS ISSUE
FIRST DAY COVERS
FLAG CANCELLATIONS
FOREIGN COVERS
FORGERIES
INTERNATIONAL MACHINE CANCELLATIONS
JUBILEE ISSUE
LARGE QUEEN ISSUE
LEGISLATIVE MARKINGS
LITERATURE
MANITOBA POSTAL HISTORY
MAP (1898) ISSUE
MAPLE LEAF ISSUE
MILITARY POSTAL HISTORY
MOON, MOTO & POCON CANCELLATIONS
NASCOPIE POSTAL HISTORY
NEW BRUNSWICK POSTAL HISTORY
NEW BRUNSWICK STAMPS
NEWFOUNDLAND POSTAL HISTORY
NEWFOUNDLAND STAMPS
N.W.T. POSTAL HISTORY
NOVA SCOTIA POSTAL HISTORY

NUMERAL ISSUE
OFFICIAL STAMPS
OFFICIALLY SEALED STAMPS
O.H.M.S. PERFINS
ONTARIO POSTAL HISTORY
PATRIOTIC COVERS & POSTCARDS
PENCE ISSUES
PERFINS (PRIVATE)
PLATE BLOCKS
POSTAGE DUE ISSUES
POSTAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS & LARGE LOTS
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PRECANCELS
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PERFINS FOUND ON THE 1946 AIRMAIL STAMP (C9)

Private:

Johnson/Tomasson Number shown in left hand column

- C9 Canada Cement Co. Ltd.
- C15 Canadian General Electric Co.
- C30 International Harvester Company of Canada
- C38 Consolidated Mining & Smelting Company of Canada
- C51 Canadian Pacific Railway Co. – Montreal
- C52 Canadian Pacific Railway Co. – Winnipeg
- C53 Canadian Pacific Railway Co. – Vancouver
- G8 Gordon MacKay & Co. Ltd.
- G17 Great West Life Assurance Co.
- M16 Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. – Ottawa
- N12 New York Life Insurance Co. – Vancouver
- N22 New York Life Insurance Co. – Buffalo, N.Y., USA
- R6 Royal & Queen's Insurance Cos.
- W17 William Wrigley Jr. Co.

Federal Government Offices and Agencies

- C6 Canadian Broadcasting Corp.
- C41 Canadian National Railways – Toronto
- C42 Canadian Northern Railways – Toronto
- C43 Canadian National Railways – Vancouver
- C45 Canadian National Railways – Winnipeg
- C46 Canadian National Railways – Montreal

The only province using perforated stamps on the C9 stamp is

- P15 Province of Saskatchewan. For example, the Province of Saskatchewan used the initials 'PS'. Both the 'P' and the 'S' have 14 holes. Varieties exist with missing pinholes. Some reported examples may have only one pin hole missing. Several extreme examples show only four complete holes in both letters (20 holes missing) and only one complete hole in each letter (26 holes missing)!

Missing pinholes on OHMS perfins can be seen both on or off cover. One needs to examine these covers under good lighting conditions.

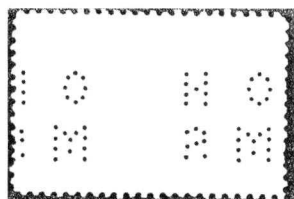
There are two main reasons for the missing perforations: broken pins and blind pins. The broken pins result from a damaged die used for punching the holes. The blind pin may be shorter than the rest, resulting in an incomplete hole – usually identified because the indentation can be seen on the stamp instead of the hole. These are not to be confused with a partial perfin where the

stamp was incorrectly placed in the perforating machine and received parts from what would otherwise be two complete perfins. Some stamps can be seen with ragged edges in the holes. This might happen when too many sheets were placed into the machine at the same time and the die could not completely penetrate each of the stamps or from worn pins.

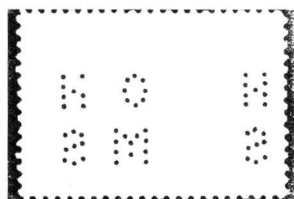
Why did the pins break on OHMS stamps with such regularity? The perforators were being used during the WWII period when metals were under

strict control. The war effort used up as much metal as it needed. The softer metal used in the pins simply could not stand up to the continued use. These pins broke off and had to be replaced from time to time. It is known that an impression taken just before the pins were destroyed shows some of the missing pins which can be found on stamps. Broken pins were replaced infrequently.

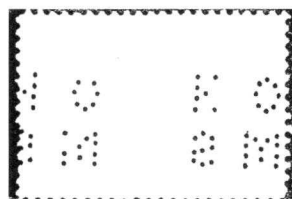
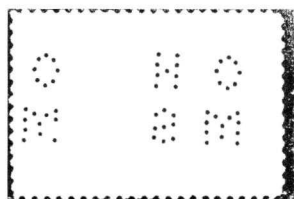
Perhaps the best known missing perf is the missing bottom hole on the letter 'S' in the 5-hole perfs. The same variety can also be found on the 4-hole OHMS. As will be illustrated with this article, each of the four letters can be found with one or more missing pin hole. Other stamps can be found with missing pins showing up on all four letters. Some stamps are perforated more than once.



Missing pin – Letter 'S'



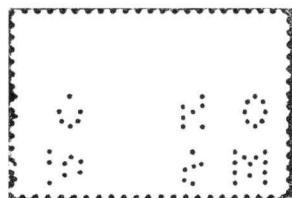
Letter 'H' above, 'M' below



Missing pins 'H' & 'M'



Missing pins 'O', 'H' & 'M'

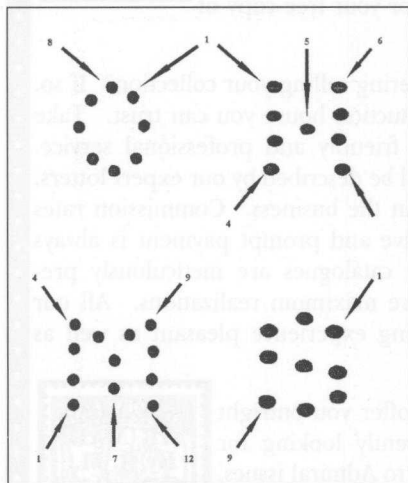


Missing pins 'O', 'H', 'M' & 'S'

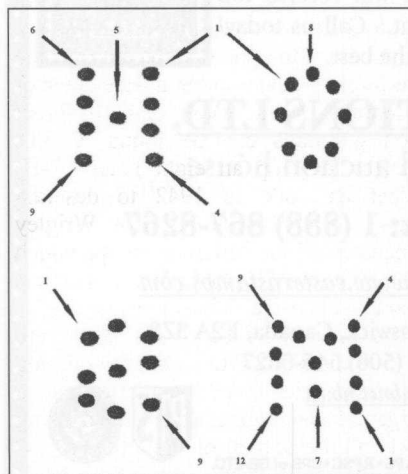
As if these factors are not confusing enough, some stamp panes were perforated face down instead of face up. Sometimes the panes were fed into the perforating device either upside down or sideways. As a result, eight different configurations can be found. G.B.D. Garrett develop an eight letter (A-H) identifier code in 1942 to describe these different positions. Roy Wrigley documented the different stamps which can be found with these OHMS perfs, along with Garrett's positions.

This article describes a system which can be used to codify the missing pin hole varieties and a suggested way to organize them. For example, the missing perf on the bottom of the letter 'S' (4-hole series) can be identified as 'S-8' according to the chart appearing with

this article. Two versions of the chart appear. One chart shows the numbering system as if one was viewing the perforated stamp in a face-up position. The other chart shows a mirror image of the first chart with the numbering reversed. Normally, it is easier to view the perforations with the face side down.



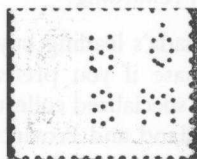
Identification chart 'normal' OHMS



Identification chart 'reverse' OHMS

The perforations are more clearly seen and identifiable in this manner.

Some perforated stamps can be found with an extra punched hole. These extra holes may be either a 'control' measure, purposely inserted in the design, or an unplanned 'random' hole which is not part of the design. C9 stamps can be found with an extra 'random' hole. There is one extra hole above the 12 o'clock position of the letter 'O' (see illustration). On some stamps, this anomaly appears on the third stamp from the right end of the strip (when viewed face up). In the case of the extra hole above the 'S', this appears to be a die design flaw. Trelle Morrow found one such occurrence on a strip of ten stamps, supporting the theory that it is not a 'control' hole in the same sense that can be found in private perfins.



Example of extra hole above the 'O'



Two versions of the CNR perfin C43 (above) and C46 (below)



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ONE THING LEADS TO ANOTHER (2)

L.F. Gillam, F.C.P.S.

I began this article with an unprecedented parade of ignorance. This uncharacteristic step on my part so astonished our Editor that he thought it had a certain novelty value and forthwith published it in *Maple Leaves* (Whole No. 283). By so doing I am not quite sure that he was not in breach of the Society's aims and objects. As I interpret our Constitution its purpose is to further members' knowledge and interest in Canadian philately and postal history which, manifestly, I was failing to do. However, I disclaim any responsibility for this unusual aberration on his part; I merely passed the buck. It could have stopped on his desk, on a spike where it rightly belonged.

The fish are biting

Fortunately for this 'compleat ignoramus' I went on my 'fishing expedition' armed with some bait (which is always advisable) and as a consequence landed some fish, some very big fish in fact, none other than Wayne Curtis, Dick Lamb and Brian Stalker. All the credit that may be due (apparently) to me is really theirs. I am merely going to tell the tale as it was told to me.

Now, as every tyro writer knows, when you start it is best to do so at the beginning, and in the beginning I was looking at six stamps. Four of these were in a se tenant strip (Unitrade Cat. Nos. 890 to 893) and the other two in a se tenant pair (Nos. 894, 895). The former showed the development of Canada from its original confederation of four provinces in 1867 to its present Dominion of ten provinces and two vast territories. The following pair depicted two botanists, Frère Marie-Victorin and John Macoun and the stamps were

issued on 30 June and 22 July, 1981 respectively. It was probably just coincidental that Canada Post should issue these two sets (sic) in sequence; but in fact they could not have been more appropriately juxtaposed. That this does not seem on the surface immediately obvious must be conceded. It was not plain to me at first, and then by some unaccountable sort of osmosis I thought of that great, but unacknowledged benefactor of Canadian philately, William Rennie, "the largest purveyor of agricultural and horticultural seeds and supplies in Canada."

That accolade I owe to one, Mike Filey, a journalist who contributes a column entitled 'The Way We Were' in the *Sunday Sun*, a magazine with which our Canadian members will be familiar. On 27 May, 2001 his editor published Mr. Filey's then latest contribution entitled 'Planting the seeds'. And here I must add that I owe an even greater debt to Wayne Curtis because it was he who sent me a copy of Mr. Filey's article in which William Rennie and three of his four sons figure most prominently.

Seeds are Sown

What follows can only be a summary into which I put an occasional oar, a temptation that I find irresistible. It does not need the deductive powers of an Agatha Christie to reach the conclusion that William was a Scot. With a name like Rennie; an acute business mind alert to the golden opportunities that Canada offered to the energetic and the enterprising; two sons, John and Thomas, who later loved the game of curling to the extent that the latter was acknowledged to be one of Canada's best players, while John also became a

golfing addict; how could that not be so?

Leaving aside that very confident guess, for it cannot be other than that, I can now move on to the realm of irrefutable facts. In 1870 William established himself and his young family in the little community of Markham, 13 miles from Scarborough on the Lake Ontario foreshore and nine miles east of Toronto. At this time what was known as the 'back country', between the lake and the Ottawa River, was rapidly being occupied by immigrants. The tree line was receding to the north, the virgin soil was rich with agricultural potential and soon Markham would be served by a railway, the Toronto & Nipissing, a narrow gauge line designed to link Toronto, via Scarborough Junction on the Grand Trunk Railway, with what was considered to be the likely starting point (near Lake Nipissing) of a transcontinental railway. This, the Canadian Pacific Railway, would link the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans and open up the fertile great western plains to millions of immigrants from Great Britain and Europe, lured by the offer of free land in a free country. Canadians, politicians and businessmen especially, had thought and talked of little else since Confederation in 1867; the problem lay in implementing such a vast and immensely expensive venture, the like of which the world had never known. But there were compelling political imperatives for such a railway to be built, and no one knew better than John A. MacDonald (another Scot), despite all his misgivings. In 1864, at the Quebec Conference that set the seal upon Confederation, he had declared that as far as he was concerned the western prairieland could remain a desert for the next 50 years.

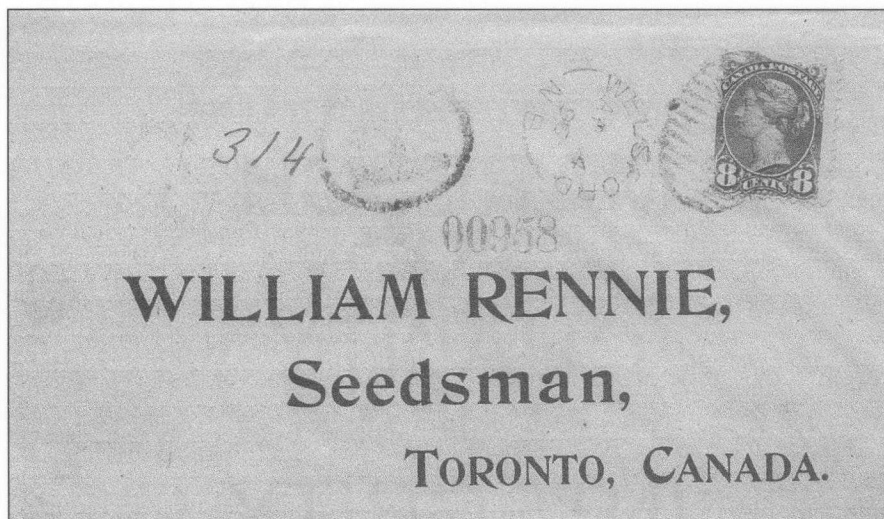
Prime Minister recants

Canada's first, and arguably greatest,

Prime Minister was given to intemperate remarks; he was, as everyone knew, an intemperate man, and not long afterwards he was compelled to eat his words. Territorially, Canada had little claim to the 'desert' between the Rockies in the west and the wilderness north of Lake Superior. Most of it belonged to the Hudson's Bay Company, apart from the Red River Colony, where a few hundred British settlers farmed the fruitful land beside the Red and Assiniboine Rivers. Some of them were the descendants of Lord Selkirk's hardy band of Scots and Orcadians who had settled there in 1812. Of the rest, apart from the various tribes of the Plains Indians to whom the ownership of land was a mysterious concept peculiar to the white man, there only remained at the most perhaps 500 employees of the fur company, scattered in outposts or 'forts' stretching from Vancouver Island to the shores of Labrador. To these must be added the half-breeds, the Métis as they were called. Half British or French and Indian they were the descendants of the voyageurs and coureurs du bois who had long abandoned a settled way of life. In their pursuit of buffalo and as intermediaries between 'The Bay Company' and the Indian fur-trappers they neither knew nor cared about the 49th parallel. It was just a line on the map.

Invisible barrier

Now this much-vaunted imaginary boundary line, completely unfortified, has for the better part of 100 years, been paraded before the world as an example of how two nations (one, the richest and most powerful in history) can live in peace, without fear that their territory would be violated, their political institutions overthrown and their people subjected to an alien and possibly tyrannical rule. This was not always so;



'Rennie' cover 4 April 1896 shows the business well established in Toronto

it was not so when John Macdonald made his famous 'U-turn' and decided to buy out the Hudson's Bay Company and secure its immense territory. It would not be done with fortifications, walls or standing heavily armed forces; it would be done with a ring of steel, from the Pacific shores to the Atlantic. Macdonald was fond of waving the Union Jack, especially at election times; but this was not just politicking. His love for his native country was only matched by the loathing and detestation in which he held his republican neighbours. All kinds of other reasons have been

advanced by historians for the construction of the 'impossible' Canadian Pacific Railway. Most of these are derived from what hindsight has revealed. The plain fact is that, at the time, the Canadian Pacific Railway was built to keep the Americans out of a land that cerealists and minerologists considered to be very promising indeed. By the time the C.P.R. was completed in 1885 William Rennie had established a flourishing experimental farm and garden in Markham. Four years later with his wife and sons (now in their early twenties) he moved to Toronto.

Arch Supports – continued from page 288

And then there are the imperforates. Robson Lowe is silent on the subject and so is Winthrop Boggs. However, Holmes lists them and Gibbons gives them footnote status, while the USC lists them as E5a and indicates 75 pairs known. As we saw earlier, the SD

handbook refers to 150 plate proofs which amount to the same thing. A rummage through the auction catalogues shows that imperfs do exist, whatever one decides to call them.

It is intriguing that there are a number of unanswered queries amongst so few stamps, even after 70-odd years. Perhaps it's time they were sorted.

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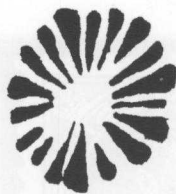
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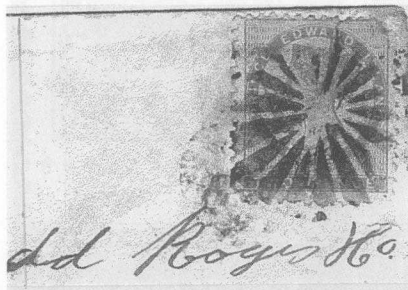
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND PRE-CONFEDERATION POSTMARKS TWO RECENT DISCOVERIES

Michael J. Salmon

James Lehr listed 146 pre-confederation cancels used in Prince Edward Island in his book¹ published in 1987. Two more cork marks have recently been identified on internal P.E.I. mail. The first is a sunray mark on a two pence stamp on a cover to Messers Dodd Rogers and Co. in Charlottetown, postmarked with Lehr P8 for Wednesday 2 August 1871 on the reverse. Dodd Rogers and Co. was a large hardware and grocery store at 137 Queen Street. The mark seems to be that identified by Day and Smythies² as type 823, of unknown origin. The detail, including the two short rays, seems to match exactly and it can now be suggested that this is a P.E.I. mark.



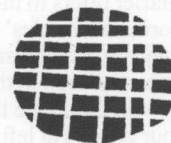
*Smythies'
type 823*



*Detail of cover with recently identified
sunray mark, tentatively P148.*



Above left: P144 1870-1871 (8 cut lines).



*Above right: 11 Cut Lines Late 1870
Early 1871.*



*Detail of cover with 11 cut line mark,
tentatively P147.*

The second mark can resemble Lehr's P144 and only after the discovery of clear examples of this new mark did a reappraisal of other marks, previously identified as poor strikes of P144, provide more examples. The clear example in the author's collection is on a two pence stamp on a cover dated Thursday 16 March 1871 addressed to a Mrs Helen McLean, Head of St. Peter's Bay. The cork cancel consists of 11 cut lines rather than the eight of P144. Four other examples are known in the

Continued on page 320

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Derrick Avery

ADMIRAL LATHEWORK – MARLER TYPE A

Marler refers to the design in the top border as 'circles' whereas under a glass they are actually small Maltese crosses, as can be seen in the illustrated pair.

On the single illustrated there are four crosses at left. The fifth cross shows the first signs of the mis-shapen crosses, from number six onwards, which have a truncated left horizontal arm to the crosses. These are interspersed with a vertical white line, while the top and bottom arms become small white triangles.

Marler does refer to lathe-work re-entries and, as I see it, the variety shown could be caused by a re-entry to the right of the original. This being so, if the geometric pattern and the border are all one die then how come there is no doubling visible in the geometric part of

the print? There is a thickening to the top line of the border, so was a separate die available to re-enter the border only?

John Hillson

\$1 ADMIRAL

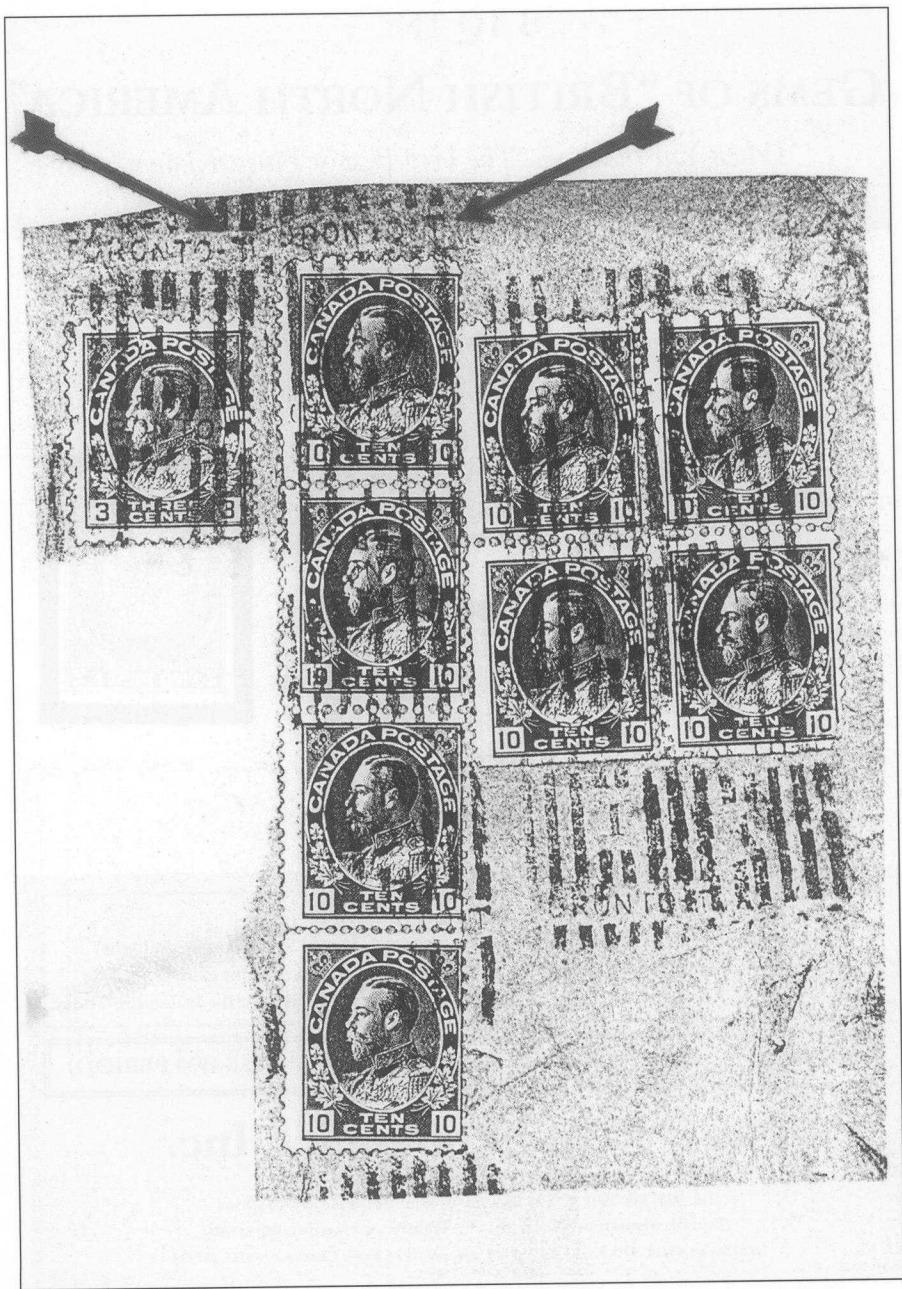
The \$1 Admiral was printed in sheets of 400 and guillotined into sheets of 100. I would hazard a guess that Nigel Harris' freak perforation (Spring ML, p271) occurred after it had been bought from the post office. And a pretty mess the faker made of it too!

Derrick Avery

TORONTO ROLLER

Illustrated is a piece bearing an Admiral 3¢ and 8 x 10¢ plum, cancelled with four vertical impressions numbered '1' in the 2-bar cutout. This matches Smythies Type 1V A, but 'Toronto' is followed by a hyphen and the letter 'T'. Can anyone confirm this variety?





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SOCIETY NEWS

From the President

Ten members met at Moffat on Saturday 27 April and, since nine had material with them, it proved to be an entertaining and varied afternoon. The reason I mention this here, rather than in the usual report on Society events is that one of the displays shown was part of a collection which had belonged to a recently deceased member. The whole collection had been purchased intact for a few pounds over what was a pretty low estimate in the first place. The auction house involved is a household name, deservedly with a fine reputation, and long in business. The fact is that the material was too modern for them, resulting in a sketchy description as well as the aforesaid low estimate. The purchaser did not realise to whom the collection had belonged, nor its extent until he received it.

Doubtless whoever advised our late member's widow where to dispose of the collection did so with the best of intentions, but with little or no knowledge. This Society for long has been happy to give advice, without prejudice, as to which avenue for disposal of a collection might prove suitable. May I urge members to make sure that if they have not left specific instructions as to how their holdings are to be disposed of in the event of their demise, that at least their executors are made aware of this facility. In this instance I regarded our late member as a particular friend and I am shocked at what has happened, through, I must stress, no fault of the purchaser who bid sight unseen.

Now for a happier note; the Convention. Trips were actually organised before last year's end, apart from coach hire. As already announced, Thursday afternoon will be a visit to Tullie House in Carlisle, it has an excellent tea room quite

apart from the absorbing displays. If, after all, time hangs heavy on your hands, you can always nip across to the twelfth century Cathedral just up the road but I shall be surprised if you don't find it is time to take the coach back to the hotel before you realise it. Friday sees our visit to Drumlanrig Castle by special dispensation of the Duke of Buccleuch, as it is usually shut to the public at the end of August. It is full of treasures; last year when Christine and I visited it to see if it would be a suitable venue the extensive grounds were off limits because of the foot and mouth epidemic but I would imagine restrictions will have been lifted by the time of our visit. Mind you it could be bucketing which is why both venues are under cover. Cost will be in the region of £8 per head each afternoon and Betty Stephenson will once again be in charge of bookings, bless her.

One slight error in the programme published in the Spring issue; Friday night may well have Stan Lum giving us the long awaited display, health permitting, but in any case he is likely to have some heavyweight and also attractive support. I ain't saying nothing more. See you there; if you haven't yet booked, do it now, otherwise you may be disappointed.

Annual General Meeting

In accordance with Rule 20, notice is hereby given of the Society's Annual General Meeting to be held at the Cairndale Hotel and Leisure Club, Dumfries, on Saturday 12 October 2002. In accordance with Rule 18, nominations are sought for the following posts:

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer

Nominations, and any proposed amendments to the rules, should be sent to the Secretary before 12 July.

Fellowship

Members of the society are eligible for election as Fellows for:

- outstanding research in the postal history and/or philately of British North America;

or

- outstanding service in the advancement of the interests of the Society.

Nominations are sought for submission to the Fellowship sub-committee in accordance with Fellowship Rule no. 2. Such nominations must be on a prescribed form, which is available from the Secretary, and must be submitted to the Secretary by 12 August 2002.

Founder's Trophy

The Trophy, which shall be awarded only to members of the Society, is awarded for work considered by the Judging Committee to be the best subject of ORIGINAL or INTENSIVE research in any branch of British North American Philately.

A nomination for the Award, which must be proposed and seconded, may be submitted in writing to the Secretary by 12 August 2002.

From the Auction Manager

As you will see from the enclosed catalogue, we have another bumper auction scheduled as part of the Convention activities.

In the light of the success of the inter-Convention postal auction I hope, with your help, to produce another in the spring of 2003. Deadline for the submission of lots will be Saturday 16 November and the auction date will be 1 March 2003. It would be of great assistance if I could have your lots well before the deadline, it does spread the load.

Forthcoming Events

2002

Jul 26/7 York Stamp Fair, The Racecourse, York

Aug 2-11 Korea 2002, Seoul

Aug 11 S.W. Group meet at Portishead*

Aug 30-Sep 3 Amphilex 02, Amsterdam

Sep 18-22 Autumn STAMPEX, Islington, London

Sep 26-29 BNAPEX, Spokane, WA, USA

Oct 9-12 CPS Convention, Dumfries

Oct 31-Nov 2 Philatex, Horticultural Hall, London

Nov 29/30 Chester 2002, The Racecourse, Chester

Nov 29-Dec 1 Monacophil, International Exhibition, Monaco

2003

Feb 26-Mar 2 Spring Stampex, Islington, London

Jun 28 MIDPEX, Coventry

Sep 17-21 Autumn Stampex, Islington, London

Oct 4-13 Bangkok 03, Thailand

*For details contact Neil Prior on 01656 740520.

SPECIAL OFFER – BACK ISSUES OF ‘MAPLE LEAVES’

Peter Rooke, son-in-law of our late member John Swailes, is generously offering a complete run of ‘Maple Leaves’ from 1957 to 1993, plus a few other lists and indexes. The only cost will be that of transportation. It’s a case of ‘first come, first served’.

Mr Rooke, of the Rookery, 14 Mirfield Close, Lowton, Warrington WA3 2PT, can be contacted by telephone, 01942 714261, or e-mail lizrooke@thelowtonrookery.fsnet.co.uk

Palmares

The following members, showing BNA material, met with success in March at the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada's annual show in Edmonton. Our thanks go to Richard Thompson and Dean Mario for keeping us posted, our congratulations go to the medal winners.

Gold

- Ron Brigham – Dominion of Canada – Maple Leaves & Numerals 1897-1902
Horace Harrison – Canadian Money Letters (also received the APS Award of Excellence pre 1900)
Dick Malott – Canadian Interrupted Covers to, from and within Canada 1918-84
Bill Pawluck – Canada: Postal Regulations, Rates & Usages, Domestic & International Mail 1897-1911
Richard Thompson – The First Decimal Issue of Canada 1859-1868
Bill Topping – Yukon Airways – A Pioneer Air Mail Company

Vermeil

- Barry Brown – Canadian Revenues for War: World War I & II
Dick Malott – Armed Forces Air Letters, Forms & Cards
Ted Nixon – Canada – Airmail Rates & Routes 1937-42

Silver

- Earl Covert – Permits
Steven Luciuk – Military Conflict & Saskatchewan 1885-1945

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Annual subscription, due on 1 October 2002, £14.00‡, payable to the Society,
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Silver-bronze

Dean Mario – Newfoundland in the Second World War 1939-46

Single Frame Exhibits – Vermeil

Jim Brown – British Columbia Airways Limited Air Mail Service Between Victoria & Vancouver 23 July to 24 August, 1928

Silver-bronze

Leslie Clinton (2) – Saskatchewan Military Post Offices & Royal Welcome to Canadian Troops 1939.

AMENDMENTS TO MEMBERSHIP to 15 May, 2002

New members

2843 Yount, Eugene M. 227 Long Park Drive, Rochester, NY14612, USA RM, CG
2844 Thibaudeau, Pierre, PO Box 356, Chesterville, ON, Canada,
K0C 1H0. CS, CE, CG, PH

Reinstated

2561 Lunn, R. 27 Mill Bank Rd., Nasonworth, NB, Canada, E3C 2C5

Resigned

2426 Skrepnek, R.

Amendment to Handbook

0637 Harris, M.A. Revised interests: COV, CR-CS, PE, PH, PL, RM

Address required

2733 Morowitz, A. formerly at Short Hills, NJ, USA

Removed for non-payment of dues

2686 Anderson-Brown	2799 Ribler
2832 Dean	1482 Taylor
2803 Gliniecki	2701 Whiteley
2473 Le Mesurier	2759 Williams
2733 Morowitz	

Revised total 407

PEI Postmarks, continued from p.313

Cusworth collection, dated 29 December 1870 to Souris, 4 March 1871 to England, 6 March 1871 to Montague Bridge and 11 April 1871 to Halifax, N.S. Possibly there are more in other collections currently identified as P144. There is little danger of confusing the rectangular segments of this new mark with the square or diamond segments of P146.

References

1. LEHR, James C. The Postage Stamps and Cancellations of Prince Edward Island 1814-1873. BNAPS. The Unitrade Press, Toronto. 1987
2. DAY, K.M. and SMYTHIES, E.A. Canadian Fancy Cancellations of the Nineteenth Century. Second edition BNAPS Handbook. Toronto 1973

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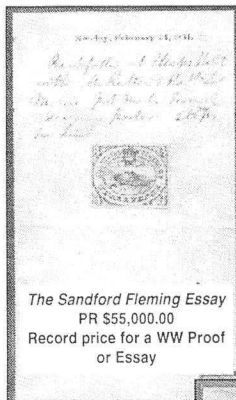
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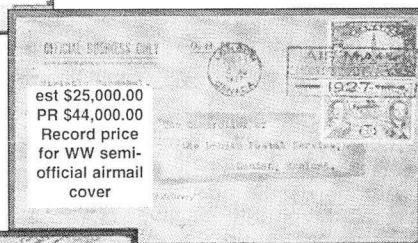
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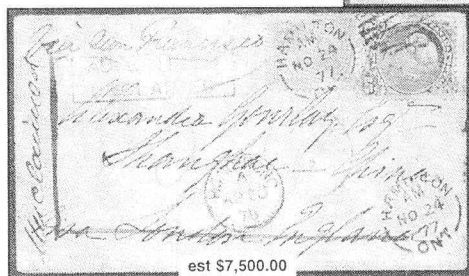
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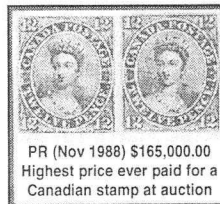
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