

# MAPLE LEAVES

Journal of

THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

INCORPORATED 1946

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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 £16.00 – Due 1 October

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**Vol. 29 No. 8**

**October 2006**

**Whole No. 302**

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## EDITORIAL

By the time this issue reaches you the 60th Convention of the Society in Llandrindod Wells will have come and gone. Even though, as I write this, the event is still some weeks away, I can confidently predict another convivial gathering of friends, old and new; and maybe even a few stamps and covers to look at, as well. A full review of the convention will appear in the January edition as usual. If you have not tried out the social side of society membership yet please do make the effort to come along to Worthing next October, you will not be disappointed.

Whilst we do not actively advertise the service, I would remind members that they can place classified advertisements (for sale or wanted) in Maple Leaves at no charge. The only 'rules' are as follows:-

- limited to 2 ads per annum per member

- private members only, no dealers ads please

- inclusion is at the sole discretion of the editor who will make every effort to include them as space permits.

It is some time since I last included a plea for material for Maple Leaves and, in truth, the cupboard is not bare at present. However, I am finding it increasingly hard to offer a good balance of articles. Whilst I have a steady flow of items relating to the most popular classic Canadian stamp issues (Small Queens, Admirals etc.), finding material relating to the Provinces and, in particular, to Modern issues (post 1935) is almost impossible. I know that we have many members who collect in these areas (or who admit to do so in their listed interests!) Maybe one or two could find the time to share something on their particular collecting area with the wider

membership. This need not be a lengthy research article – although these are always most welcome. It could be something as simple as a description of a particular cover or piece in your collection.

I must apologise to the many Small Queen enthusiasts amongst our readership, and to author John Hillson, that the pictures on pages 282 and 286 of the last issue showing the superimposed 6 cent values failed rather dismally to show the key ‘dots’ referred to in the text with any clarity! You will find re-prints of these two pictures on page 332 of this issue where the magic of ‘Photoshop’ has been applied to enlarge the ‘dots in question’. Hopefully this will make the key points somewhat clearer but please do not look for dots this big on your copies of the stamp! Anyone possessing e mail and wishing to see some better quality original scans in colour can e mail the editor and I

will oblige.

We are hoping to produce an updated version of the cumulative index to Maple Leaves during the next year. This is courtesy of Charles Livermore who has produced the recent volume indices.

The index will cover all issues of ML up to and including issue 300. At this stage I am interested in feedback on how members would prefer to see this information. We could produce it via any or all of three options, namely;

- a) a hard copy A4 book of approx 200 pages
- b) on CD for use on your own computer or
- c) via the society website

Please let me have your views on this a.s.a.p. so that we can plan the final production.

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# MOURNING COVERS FOR QUEEN VICTORIA AND KING EDWARD VII

George B. Arfken and William S. Pawluk

Mourning covers, usually envelopes edged in black, have a fairly ancient postal history. Mosher[1], with a collection of over 2000 mourning covers, has traced them back to 1767. Queen Victoria did not invent mourning covers. She did, however, popularise them. After the death of her Consort, Prince Albert, in 1861, the Queen went into mourning and used black bordered stationery for forty years until her death, on 22nd January, 1901. The Queen had a profound influence on society in English speaking countries the world over, both on the elite in society and on those who wished to copy the elite.

When Queen Victoria died, there was a tremendous outpouring of grief. The use of morning covers was at its peak and many were sent to express personal grief and to memorialise the Queen. These covers were not limited to domestic use. Many Canadian covers went to the U.K. and parts of the British Empire and to the U.S. Figure 1 shows an elaborate cover mourning the Queen sent to the U.S.

This cover shows the traditional black border in the envelope with an additional rather fancy black border or collar around the stamp. The stamp, of course, shows

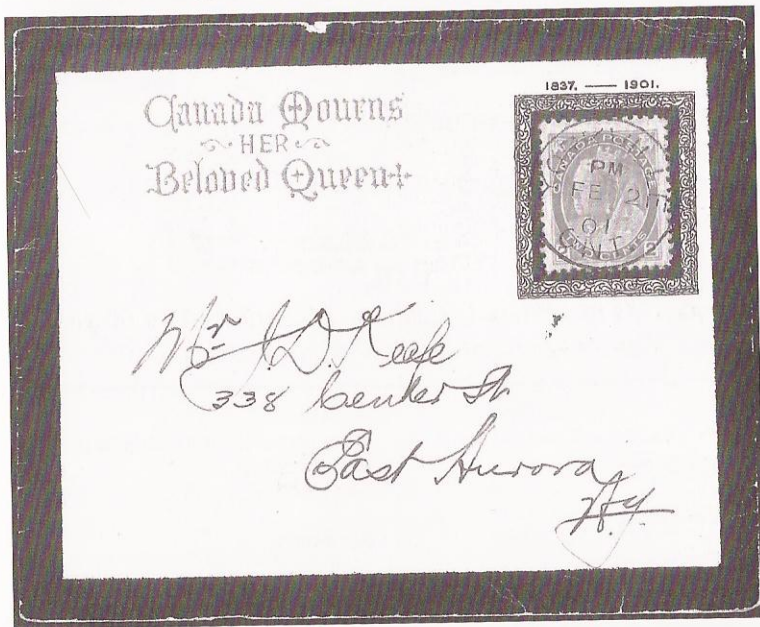


Figure 1. A formal mourning cover posted in Yorkville, Ont. (Toronto), 2 February, 1901, and addressed to East Aurora, N.Y. This date, 2 February, 1901, was the date of Queen Victoria's burial.

1793  
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the Queen. This black border around the stamp picturing the monarch became the general way of expressing grief at the death of the monarch and the outer black border on the envelope was omitted. Mosher shows examples of this usage as did Switt in his extensive collection of Canadian mourning covers [2].

Figure 2 shows this more restrained style of mourning the Queen. It is a commercial cover from a "manufacturing stationer." The black collar may have been meant to say "We mourn the Queen." in the same spirit that U.S and Canadian companies advertise "We support the Olympics (buy from us.)" As an example of a cover going to the British Empire, figure 3 shows a mourning cover to Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. Note that the blue Maple Leaf says "five cents." Australia, concerned about high transit costs, had not yet joined Imperial Penny Postage.

With no printed corner card, the cover of figure 3 was intended for personal use. It is a rather elaborate mourning cover with fancy borders around the stamp and around the address space and then, the significant dates for Queen Victoria's reign. The Pawluk collection includes an identical card sent to Holland - to let the Dutch know that Canada mourned its Queen.

Mourning covers included private post cards. The message on the mourning card of figure 4 was strictly commercial: a request for a quote on assorted crates and nested baskets.

King Edward VII died on 6th May, 1910. Figures 5 and 6 show two mourning covers for King Edward. Both of these are commercial envelopes but they could have held personal letters. The second, a registered cover to London, England, again emphasises the international range



Figure 2. A mourning cover for Queen Victoria with a bold black border around the stamp, 26 April, 1901.

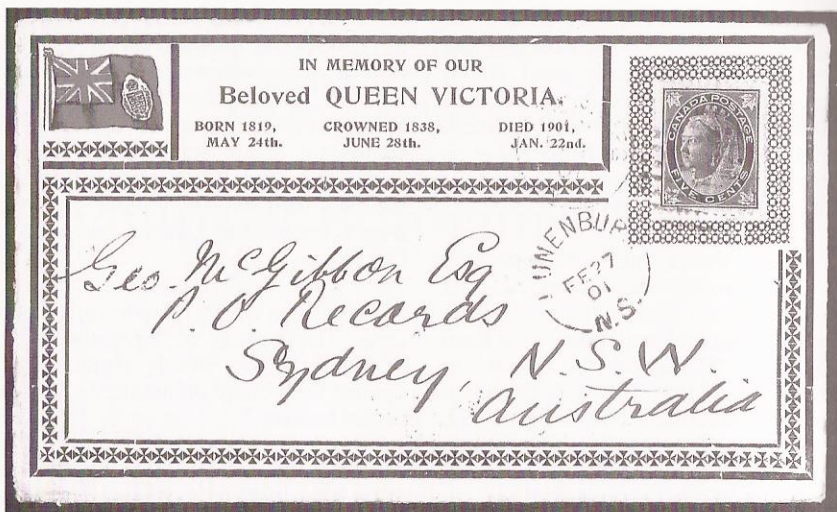


Figure 3. Mourning the death of Queen Victoria. This cover was mailed in Lunenburg, N.S., 27 February, 1901 and addressed to Sydney, N.S.W., Australia. St. John N.B. MR 3 01, Vancouver MR 11 01, San Francisco MAR 15 1901 and Sydney AP 23 01 back stamps. 55 days transit.



Figure 4. A Queen Victoria mourning card. A Toronto flag, AP 9 01, cancelled the 1¢ Numeral.



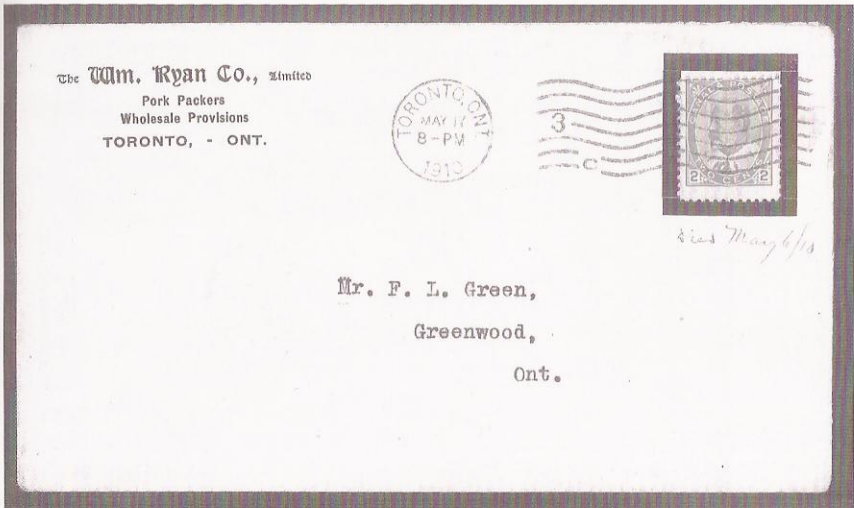


Figure 5. Mailed in Toronto, 17 May, 1910, and addressed to Greenwood, Ont. The black border around the stamp, more restrained than the black border around the envelope, may have been chosen for mourning a monarch.

of these mourning covers.

Mosher notes Canada's unusual practice of mourning covers with a black collar around the stamp [1, 231]. All of the black collar examples shown in Mosher and in Switt's sale [2] are mourning covers for Canada's monarchs: Queen Victoria, King Edward VII, King George V and King George VI. This is hardly proof but, to us, this suggests that the black collar around the image of the monarch was considered a fitting tribute to the deceased monarch and was reserved for monarchs [3].

### Endnotes

[1] Mosher, Ernest A. *Mourning Covers: The Cultural and Postal History of Letters Edged in Black*, privately printed, 2003.

[2] Jeffrey Switt Collection. Most of the Switt collection was sold under the name of "J.G. Reaper" by Charles G. Firby Auctions, January 30-31, 1998.

[3] This article has been adapted from *A Canadian Postal History, 1897 - 1911*, George B. Arfken and William S. Pawluk, British North America Philatelic Society, 2006.

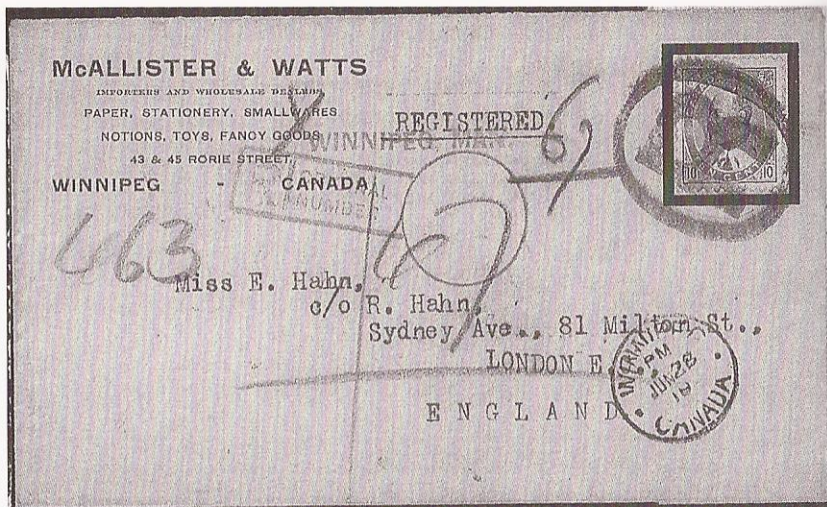


Figure 6. 10¢ brown lilac Edward neatly tied within mourning border on a blue commercial cover from Winnipeg, 28 June, 1910 registered to England. NOTE: The rate, 5 cents registration plus 4 cents for 2 oz., Imperial Penny Postage, is overpaid 1¢. Courtesy of Firby Auctions, Switt collection.

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# SHADES AND PERFORATIONS FOR THE MONTREAL AND SECOND OTTAWA PRINTINGS OF THE 10¢ SMALL QUEEN

## *What happened at the gazette building?*

### **Richard M. Morris in consultation with Ron Leith**

I have been intrigued by the suggestion that there was a special printing of the Ten Cents Small Queen in Montreal at the Gazette Building in 1888. I have examined only one mint copy suggested to be from this special printing which was a unique shade from any other Ten Cents Small Queens that I had seen before. As concerning shade it falls within the parameters of the Second Ottawa printings and indeed under intense light it relates to the Brown Reds. The Munsell color chip number is 10 R 6/6, identical to the color chip for the Copper Red second printing of the Three Cents Small Queen. Since the naming of shades in philately is absolutely arbitrary, I have called this Ten Cents Small Queen shade a Pale Rose Copper. First, it is a pale or light shade. Second, it shares the Rose shades of the Second Ottawa Printings, and third, it is definitely copperish. i.e. there is a brownish tint to the rose. So much for naming an unusual shade.

The further distinguishing characteristic of this stamp is the 'unique' combination of perforations. Horizontally it is a 12.10 gauge and vertically it measures 12.25. We have been told that the Montreal printing was temporarily moved to the Gazette Building and stamps were printed there for a brief period while the newly restored facilities in Ottawa

were completed (after a fire). The October 1886 printing contract required the printing be returned to Ottawa and the move occurred in late 1888 or early 1889. Coincidentally it was at this time that the Three Cents Rose Carmine stamps appeared that are presumed printed at the same Gazette facility with the same perforation measurements of 12.10 x 12.25. This perforation combination becomes the easy way to distinguish these stamps from the deep Roses of the First Ottawa Printing. All this has moved me to explore both some history and my very large collection of Small Queens, and being a specialist in shades, having produced a number of Color Guides for both 19th Century U.S. and Canada stamps, to see, if possible, if other stamps were produced at the same time at the Gazette Building.

#### **History.** The BABNCo had the following Perf Machines

1870 3 Perf machines on hand ( 1 January 1870)  
1870 2 Perf Machines purchased  
1870 1 Perf Machine modified  
1871 2 sets of perf wheels purchased  
1878 2 Perf machines purchased  
1882 1 Perf Machine purchased  
1894 1 Perf Machine purchased

The introduction of the horizontal perf



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11.50 Small Queen was in August of 1873. Very quickly after that date we record increases in perfs to 11.60 and 11.75. Since there was no report of a new perforation machine or new perf wheels, we suspect this was the result of pins getting shorter either from wear or from sharpening the pins by filing off the worn tips. A simple calculation shows that a pin length reduction of 1/4 millimeter would result in a perf count increase of close to 0.10. If so, it would only take two filings to move the perf count from 12.00 to 12.20. The purchase of the new machine in 1882 with new pins appears to have a perf count of 12.00 to 12.10. When the printing was moved to the Gazette Building, the company would likely have moved both the presses and perf machines to the new location. This appears to have included an old 12.25 gauge machine that was used for vertical perforations and a newer 12.00-12.10 gauge machine used for the horizontal perfs. This is in keeping with the inventory of equipment that we know existed.

Until very recently I owned the Simpson Study of the One Cent Small Queen in which he had meticulously identified the paper, ink shades, paper thickness, and the perforation gauge of all of the stamps, and they all had clear socked-on-the-nose dated cancels. He had a One Cent Small Queen dated in November 1882 with perforations measuring 12.10 x 12.25. He also had the same readings for stamps from 1883 through to 1892. At the end of 1893 there was one stamp with perforation measurements of 12.00 x 11.90 where a new machine must have been used. I rechecked all of Simpson's perf readings while I owned that collection to confirm his measurements.

The Ten Cents Montreal printings went from Pale Milky Rose Lilac/Pinks, through the Rose Lilacs to the Deep Magentas, the Lilac Magentas, the Plum Magentas and finally the Pale Dull Magentas as the plates began to wear. They begin with readings of 11.6 x 12.00 but 12.25 appears among the early Lilac Roses and I note readings of 12.10 x 12.25 and combinations thereof during the entire Montreal printing period. In Second Ottawa printings of the Ten Cents Small Queen, I have perfs of 12.10 x 12.25 on stamps with shades of Deep Rose Carmine, an Orange Rose Carmine, a Brownish Red, and a Deep Brown Red with a Jubilee Cancel putting it in an 1897 late usage.

My conclusion from all this is that no unique perforations were produced at the Gazette Building that weren't already produced in Montreal from 1882 until after the move back to Ottawa in late 1888 or early 1889. It appears the equipment was simply moved to the Gazette Building and production went on as usual.

However, I do believe in that brief period before production moved back to Ottawa that ink shades were changing. I have a number of Two Cents stamps that are more yellowish than the late Montreal shades. We also know that the Rose Carmines were deeper than any previous Three Cents shades. I have a Five Cents which is an Olive Slate dated in the period and a Six Cents which is uniquely light brown with no trace of the early yellow brown or of the later chocolates and red browns. And certainly the Ten Cents copy to which I referred at the beginning of this article is a unique shade and deserves special mention. All of these stamps, with unique shades, have perforations measuring 12.10 x 12.25.

Clearly, these perforation measurements are typical of the late Montreal printings in 1888, and in this period shades of some denominations tend

to be different. How specifically we can identify these as special 1888 printings is open to debate, for which philatelists are always ready.

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## REPRINT OF THE 6 CENT SMALL QUEENS PICTURES.

The two pictures below are enhanced versions of those first appearing on pages 282 and 286 of the July 2006 issue of *Maple Leaves*. Hopefully, they show the dots more clearly than the originals did.

Readers should, however, note that the dots have been enlarged in these versions to make them easier to see – do not expect to see this on your copies of the stamps!





## ADMIRAL COVERS (PART 2)

### The Yellow Peril

Photos by Susan So

*At our Convention in Renfrew in 2005, The Yellow Peril gave a display of Admiral Covers that drew much admiration. This series of articles is based on that display. This part completes the covers showing the uses of the individual stamp values. It then goes on to show some of the unusual cancellations to be found in the Admiral era*

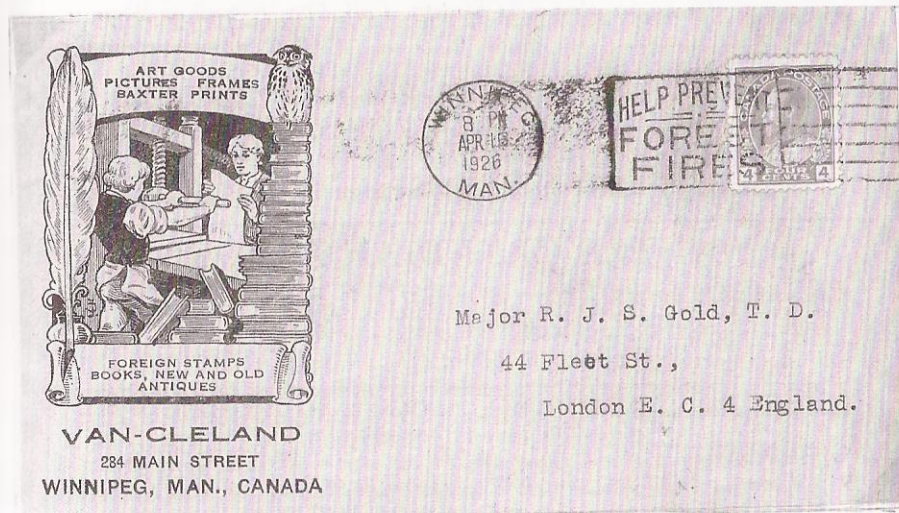


Fig 21 4 ¢ Empire rate of 3 cents + 1 ¢ War Tax on cover to England, 1926

The 4¢ Olive Bistre was issued on 7th July, 1922 to pay the 3¢ + 1¢ War Tax Empire rate (and to the various Latin American countries). On 1st July, 1926 the War Tax was eliminated and the 3 + 1 Empire rate ceased to exist but with the domestic rate reduced to 2¢, the 4¢ Admiral could pay the double domestic rate and the U.P.U. post card rate which was reduced to 4¢ on 1st October, 1925.

So as not to be confused with the 4¢, the colour of the 7¢ Yellow Ochre was changed to Red Brown on 12th December, 1924. The 7¢ Red Brown could not pay any single rate but it could be used to pay

the double 3¢ Empire rate + 1¢ War Tax (3+3+1), and the triple 2¢ domestic rate + 1¢ War Tax (2+2+2+1). Both these rates became obsolete when the War Tax was removed on 1st July, 1926.

On 1st October, 1925 the U.P.U. letter rate was reduced from 10¢ to 8¢ and to conform with the U.P.U. regulations, the 8¢ Blue was issued on 1st September, 1925. After the removal of the War Tax on 1st July, 1926, the 8¢ Blue could also pay quadruple domestic first class rates and various other rates.

In 1912 the rate to Haiti was 5¢ the



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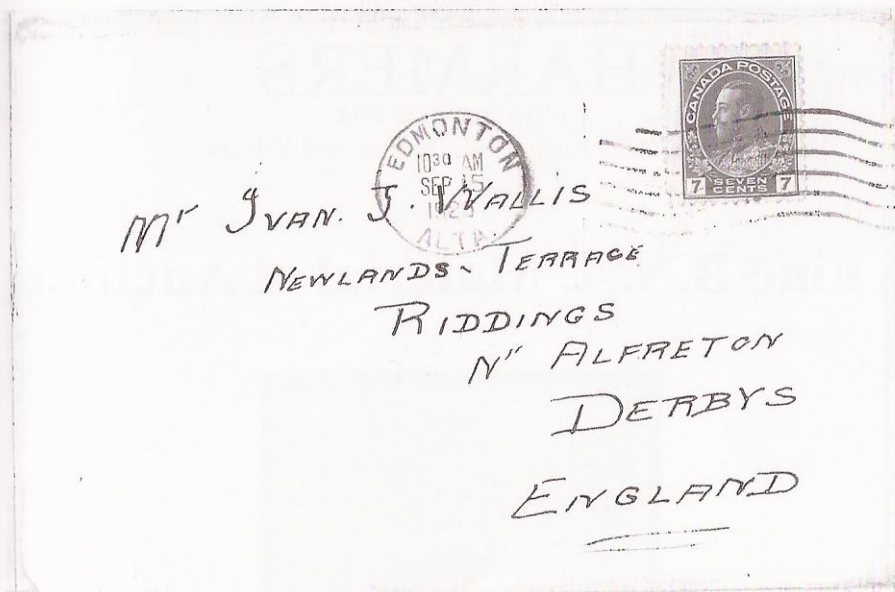


Fig 22 The rarest of all single use Admiral rates – the 7cent red-brown paying the double Empire rate plus war tax on a 1925 letter to England.



Fig 23 8 cent blue on a 1927 cover to Haiti – an overpayment of 6 cents

# HARMERS

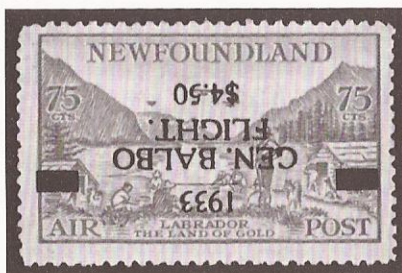
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Fig 24 8 cent blue paying the correct UPU rate to Germany on a September 1928 cover

first ounce and 3¢ each additional ounce. On 1st October, 1921 these rates were increased to 10¢ and 5¢. On 1st September, 1925 (first day for the 8¢) the domestic rate of 3¢ and 2¢ was applicable to any part of the North American continent. On 1st July, 1926, the rate was further reduced to 2¢. Readers who disagree with me on my understanding of the rates to Haiti are more than welcomed to comment. The 8 cent cover to Haiti posted in 1927 (fig 23) would, therefore, appear to be overpaid by 6 cents.

Because of the new 8¢ blue stamp, the colour of the 10¢ Blue was changed to brown on 1st August, 1925. Its only normal use was for the 10¢ acknowledgement of receipt fee. The 10¢ Brown could also be used to pay the U.P.U. foreign letter rate but only for a period of two months: 1st August - 30th September, 1925.

The removal of the War Tax on 1st

July, 1926 reduced the domestic rate from 3¢ to 2¢ and the Empire rate from 4¢ to 3¢. As there were enough 3¢ stamps to pay the Empire rate for twenty-five years, the 3¢ Carmine was surcharged 2 CENTS to help meet the expected demand for the 2¢ domestic rate. Five hundred sheets (50,000 stamps) were surcharged 2 CENTS in one line by the King's Printer on 12th October, 1926. Eight hundred and eight sheets (80,800) were surcharged 2 CENTS in two lines by the Canadian Bank Note Company on 4th November, 1926.

Admirals were occasionally used as postage dues when there was a temporary shortage (see fig. 28).

On 1st October, 1921 the foreign U.P.U. post card rate was increased to 6¢. Although a die proof was made the 6¢ post card was never issued. Instead, the 2¢ U.P.U. post card was surcharged "6 CENTS".



Fig 25 10 cent brown on a cover to Palestine – 18th September 1925

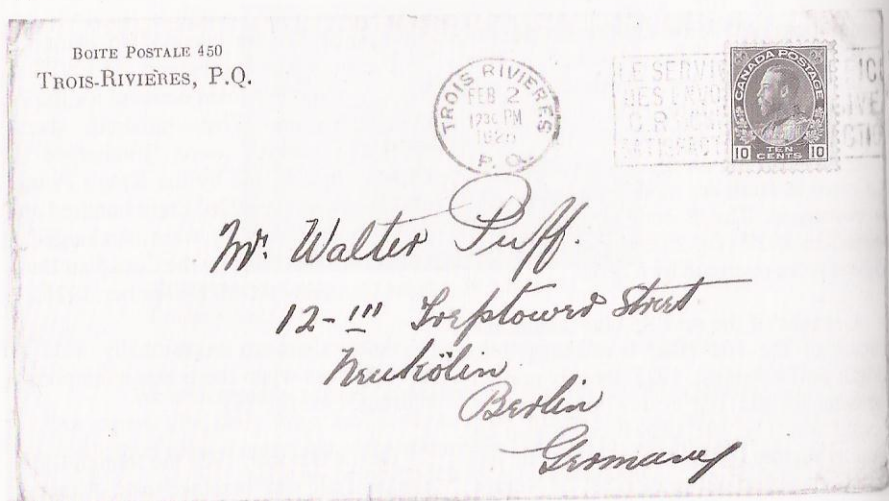


Fig 26 10 cent brown on a cover to Germany from Trois Rivières, P.Q. Apparently sent on 2nd February 1925 – some 6 months before the date of issue!





Fig 27 A pair of the "two-line" surcharges on a cover to India – one cent overpaid in 1927.



Fig 28 A 2 cent rate cover posted without stamps and rated '4'. The tax was paid by a 4 cent Admiral – 2nd November 1926.

The 3¢ Carmine, perf 12 x 8 was issued on 24th June, 1931 to pay the 2¢ one ounce first class forward rate plus 1¢ War Tax. The War Tax was re-imposed on 1st July, 1931 but there was no 3¢ Arch issue to pay this rate. An old redundant stock of 3¢ coil in sheet form, imperf x

perf 8 was perforated 12 horizontally and released as provisionals until the 3¢ Arch issue could be issued on 13th July, 1931. In period use (July 1-12) of this stamp is scarce. This perf 12 x 8 stamp used during this period to pay the U.P.U. post card rate is a rate that is well worth looking for.

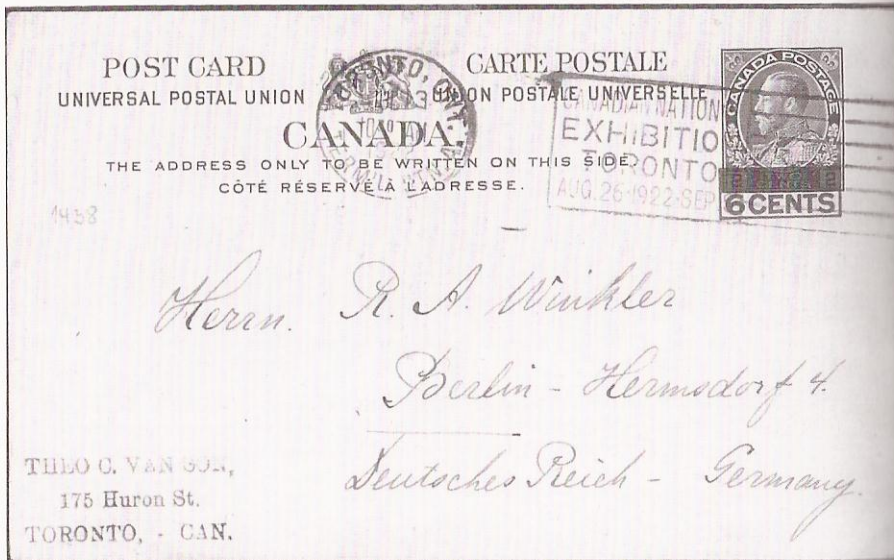


Fig 29 A "6 cent on 2 cent" U.P.U. post card to Germany – used in 1922. The in-period use of this card was from 1st October 1921 to 30th September 1925

### CANCELLATIONS

Apart from a small handful, there are virtually no fancy cancels (such as those found on Small Queens) on Admirals. The good news, however, is that the vast field of cancellations used during the 1912-1928 period can be as interesting as those of the nineteenth century. Some of the cancellations used during the Admiral period are: emergency cancels; flags and slogans; military and prisoner of war mail; Montreal letter and numeral duplexes; my favourites are shown on the following pages.

### FANCY CANCELS

The attractive B.C. crown in rays and the WAY LETTER in a circle were also used in the Small Queen era. The crown exists on Edwards but the WAY LETTER has not been seen on Edwards.

### BRITISH MAIL BRANCH

In September, 1973 I wrote a letter to the editor of the Canadian Philatelist asking for information on this cancel (see fig 35). Maybe some member can help now?





Fig 30 A 6 cent rate post card sent to China on 12th August 1925. It was underpaid 2¢ and was correctly charged 30 centimes (6 cents). This 6 cents minimum charge was in effect from December 1921 to July 1926.

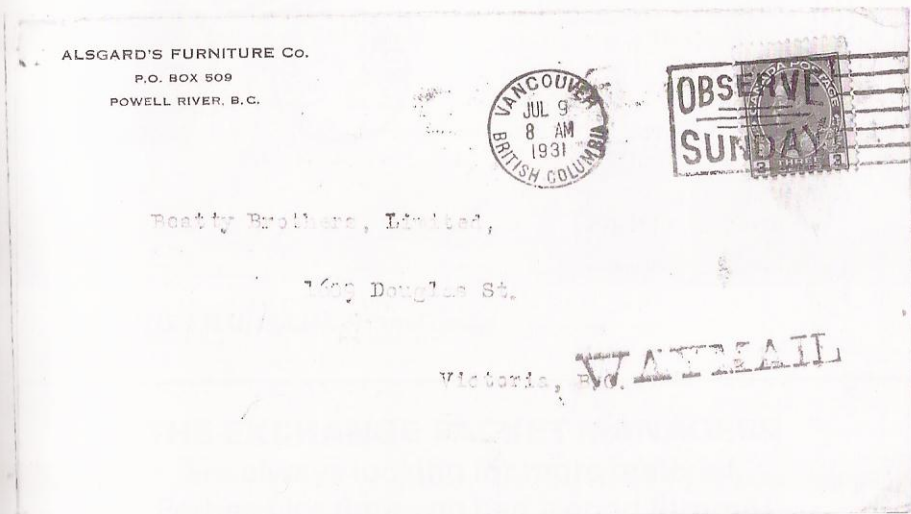


Fig 31 3 cent Perf 12 x 8 used on a 9th July 1931 cover from Powell River to Victoria. A rare use of this stamp in period. Note the straight-line "WAYMAIL" handstamp.

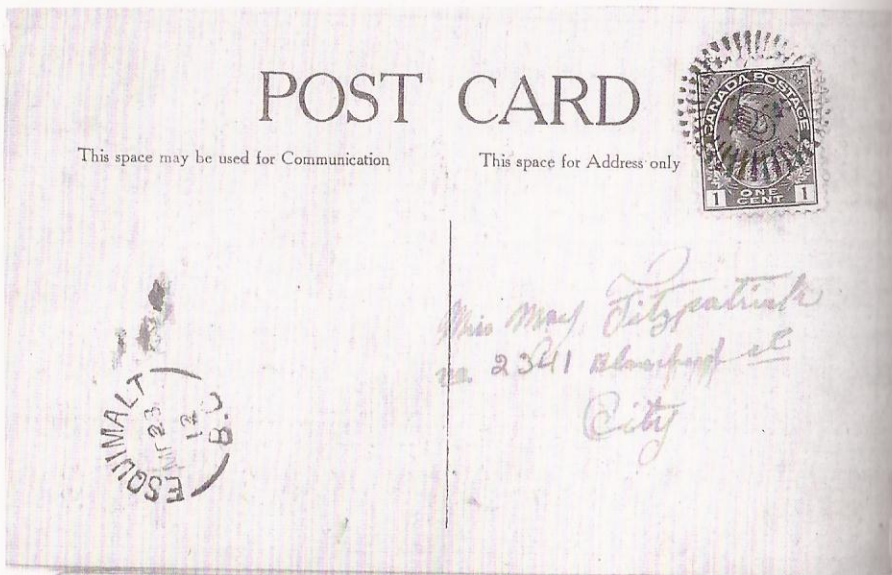


Fig 32 The B.C. crown used in 1912 on a 1 cent Admiral from Esquimalt.

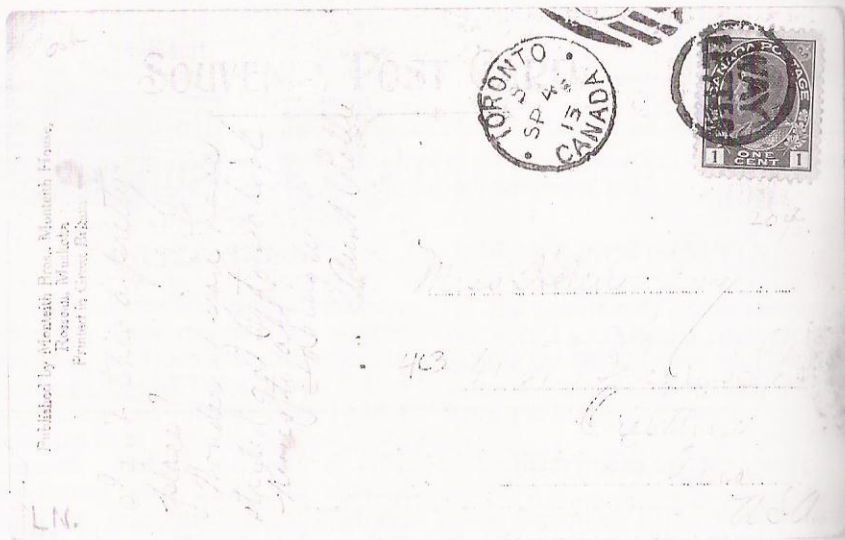


Fig 33 "WAY LETTER" on a picture post card from Rousseau, Muskoka Lakes, Ontario to Ohio, USA. The pencil message and address are too light to reproduce satisfactorily.



Around 1993 I examined my three British Mail Branch covers to write another letter to someone - perhaps to member Alan Spencer. After which, I put two of them away carefully - so carefully that I still can't find them!

### DUPLEX CANCELS

Very little is known about these duplex cancels other than to say that I've seen only one other registration duplex, also a backstamp and dated in 1922. The question posed is, "Was this "R" duplex ever used to cancel stamps?"

As for the Department of the Interior duplex, I've had three: the first with a 3¢ red Admiral tied to cover with a strike in black dated 2nd June, 1924; the second, a rather attractive strike in blue on a 2¢ green Admiral; and the third, a fine black impression on a 3¢ Geo V Arch dated 11th February, 1931... are there any registered covers with this Department of the Interior duplex?

### SLOGAN CANCELS

Many machine slogan cancels exist on the Admirals but the most interesting is a trial cancel shown in fig. 38.

TO BE CONTINUED



Fig 34 "BRITISH MAIL BRANCH" oval cancel

**THE EXCHANGE PACKET MANAGERS**  
are always looking for more material.  
Perhaps it's time you had a good turnout!



Fig 35 The rare TORONTO ONT. TERM'L STNA "R" duplex cancel



Fig 36 Front of the cover on which the Toronto Duplex cancel appears



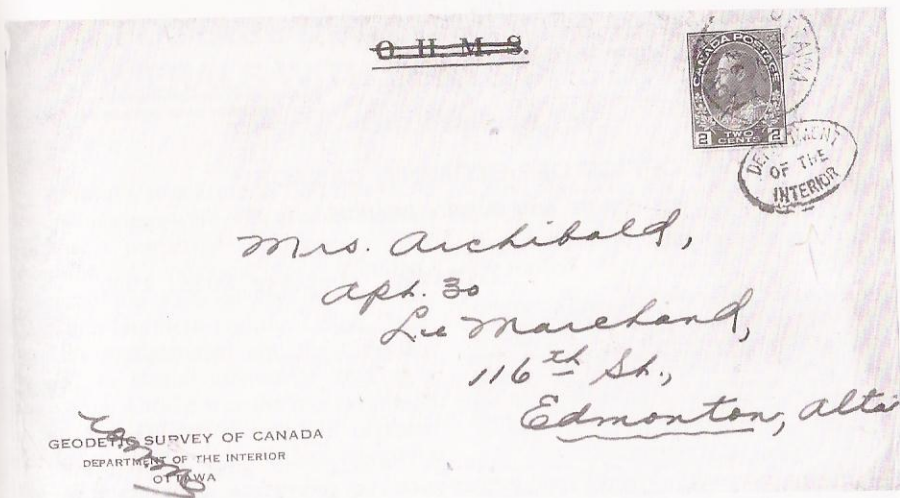


Fig 37 Department of the Interior duplex cancel

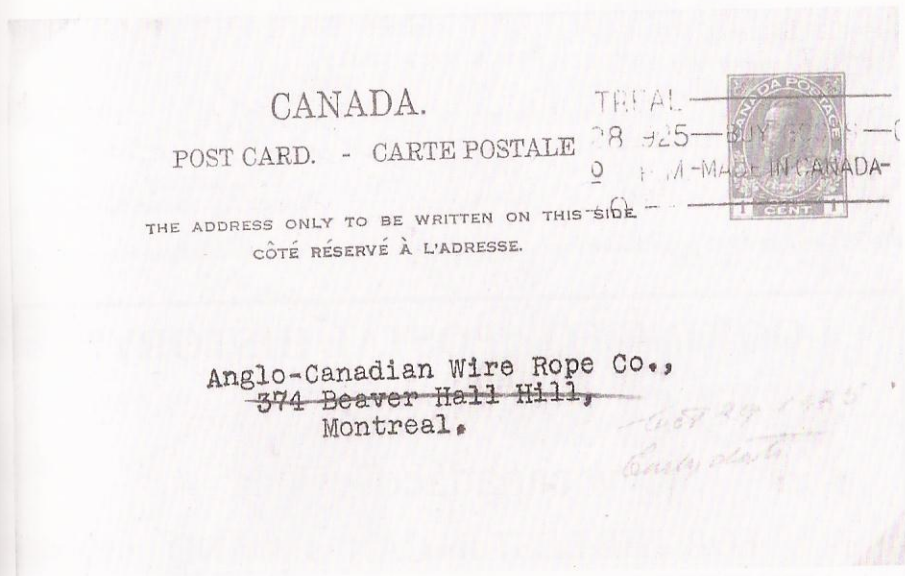


Fig 38 1 cent yellow stationary card with "BUY GOODS MADE IN CANADA" machine cancel.

and  
goods made in Canada &  
and goods are best

1925 - 1945

IN ANY FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE  
ON THIS CASE PLEASE QUOTE  
NO.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, CANADA  
EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLY BRANCH

OTTAWA, October 20th, 1945.

C. Garrett, Esq.,  
Box #512,  
Cranbrook, B.C.

Dear Sir:

I desire to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, which has reference to previous correspondence relative to cancelling die "Buy Goods Made in Canada", and to say that it has now been ascertained that the impression in question is from a cancelling machine which was given a trial at Montreal for a short period during 1925. This machine was used at Montreal, only, for test purposes.

The impression submitted by you is returned herewith.

Enc.

Yours very truly,

✓  
l.l

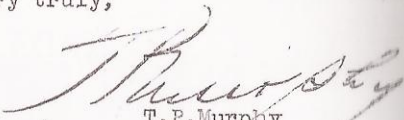
  
T.P. Murphy  
Superintendent.

Fig 39 October 1945 letter which explains the background to the above trial machine cancel.

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# POSTAGE DUE MARKINGS 1906-1930 NUMERALS WITH CENTS DUE UNENCASED

Gib Wallace

It always struck me as odd that these postal markings were only used in Western Canada, primarily Winnipeg. The geographical position of Winnipeg squeezed the vast railway systems; the Canadian Northern and the Grand Trunk Pacific, amalgamated into the Canadian Pacific, to spread westwards covering a huge area. The 2¢ was the most common having ten different forms. All of these were used in Winnipeg unless otherwise indicated.

Fig.1 shows the word DUE with the numeral 2 below. My only example is from Calgary in February, 1905. The only other two reported were 1904 and 1924. Fig.2 is from Edmonton, February 1908, which sports a script 2 with serified

CENTS and san-serif DUE. Fig. 3 begins a series from Winnipeg, starting in November 1908. The numeral and words are serified.

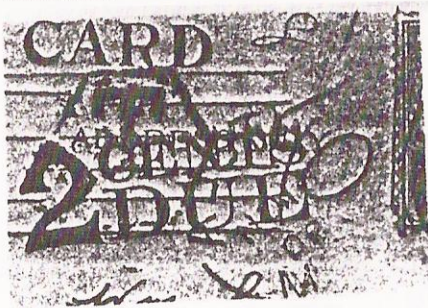


Fig 3

Fig. 4, April 1911, has a thick 2 with serif CENTS DUE, whilst Fig. 5, February 1915, is similar to Fig. 3 except for a curved base to the 2. Fig. 6, July 1922, shown in *Maple Leaves* by McConnell in April 2001, has san-serif numeral and words.

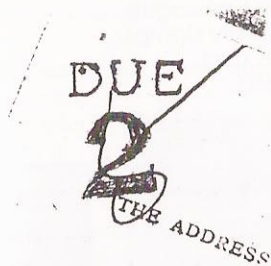


Fig 1

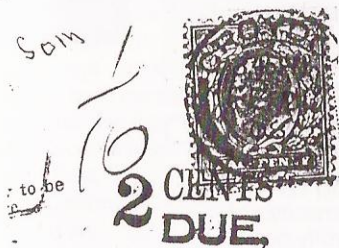


Fig 2



Fig 4

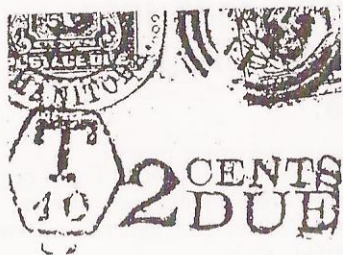


Fig 5

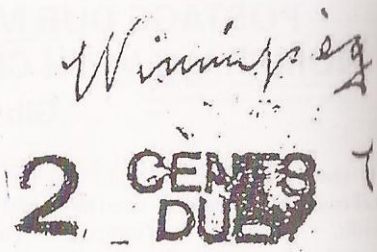


Fig 6



Fig 7

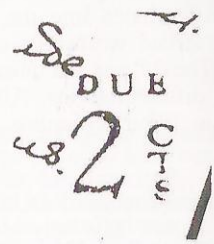
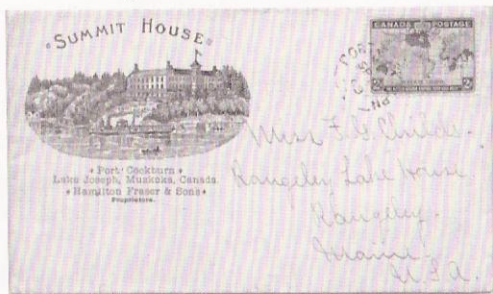


Fig 8

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The format becomes taller with Fig.7, October 1925. My only example is a weak strike and has been 'doctored' for showing. Calvin Cole shows Fig. 8, in Topics (Jan/Feb 1988), but I have one earlier dated December 1925, but not as clear. The penultimate 2 CENTS DUE I have is Fig. 9, December 1930 and the last with a similar script 2 but the Cents now being serif and wider spacing of DUE. This last is twenty two years later in 1952, (Fig. 10).

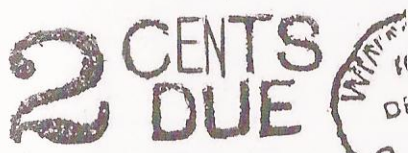


Fig 9



Fig 10

The 1¢ handstamp is very uncommon, the only example I have seen is in an article in Topics by Trelle Morro in 1982. This shown in Fig. 11 as well as the 4, 6 and 10¢ values are all from Winnipeg. The 1¢ was used on a pre-cancelled, undated and returned second class envelope. Fig. 12 is the 4¢, in use from 1927 to 1930 that I have, but probably used earlier. The 6¢ has been seen from 1922 onward. Fig. 14 shows the rare 10¢ from Winnipeg, May 1913. Except for the unusual Fig.10 all seemed to have been scrapped by 1930.

Anyone having differing material I would welcome to hear from at:

- Sant Pere, 5,
- San Clemente,
- Menorca,
- 07712,
- Espana.

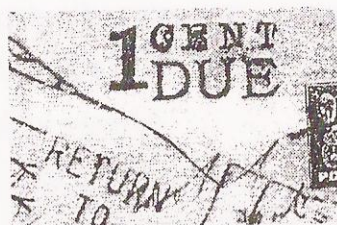


Fig 11

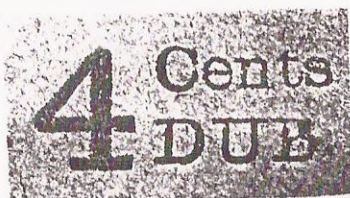


Fig 12

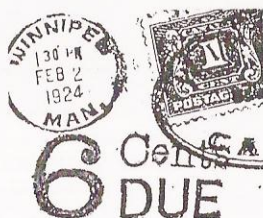


Fig 13

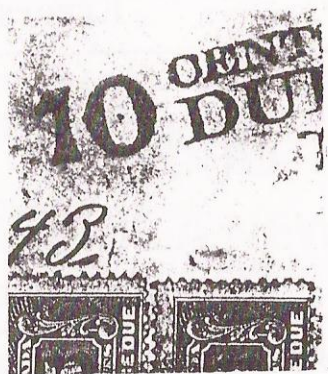


Fig 14

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## A POSTCARD FROM LABRADOR

Judith Edwards

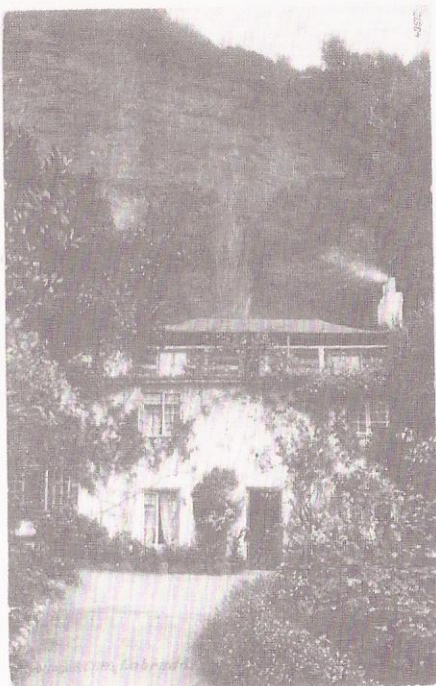
Whilst leafing through my copy of the Walsh and Butt Specialised Catalogue of Newfoundland a few months ago, I was somewhat surprised to see two entries in the Picture Postcard section under F.Firth (sic) & Co. Ltd., Reigate. The two cards listed were 'Cottage and Cliffs Labrador' and 'Labrador Cottage and Cliffs'.

Frith's were one of the major producers of postcards in the golden postcard era along with Tuck's, Judge's and Bamforth's, but to my knowledge had never produced cards for anywhere outside the United Kingdom. Francis Frith did do the Grand Tour of Egypt in the 1890's and he produced several photographs of the ancient sights, but that was all.

There I thought the puzzle would end but as luck would have it, it did not. A purchase of a large quantity of British postcards with Squared Circle postmarks was to provide the answer. Doggedly going through each card I was staggered to find the Teignmouth squared circle card illustrated here and overleaf. 'Cottage & Cliffs Labrador', but where was this scene? On my visit to Canada in 1997, Labrador certainly did not look like that! A search of the Ordnance Survey database provided the answer. Labrador Bay is a place some three miles south of Teignmouth.

I was very amused with the writing on the back of the card, could it be that Master Whiteway's sister may have written it?

Clearly this is an entry in the Newfoundland Catalogue that does not belong there!



*Fig 1 The postcard in question.*

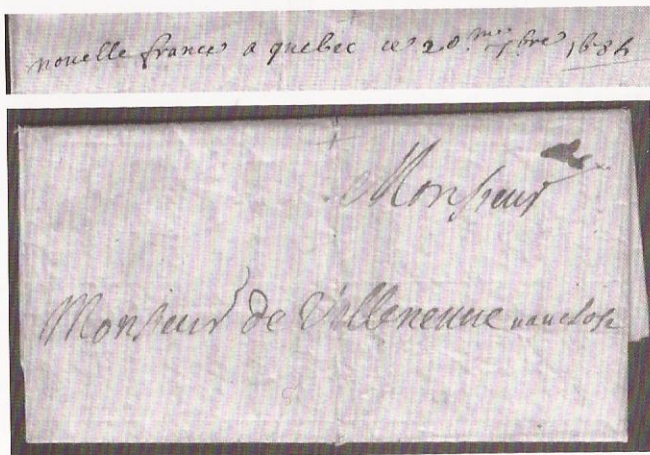
**HAVE YOU  
TRIED TO  
ENROL A NEW  
MEMBER  
RECENTLY?**

# Canada #1!

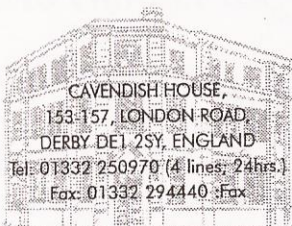
The earliest-recorded letter from Canada – a September 1684 item from 'Nouvelle France Quebec' to Paris via La Rochelle – sold in our June auction of Dr Dorothy Sanderson's Collection for a record...

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Fig 2 The reverse of the postcard.

## YOUR WELP WANTED

Readers will recall the series of articles last year concerning the date of the first printing of the 1 cent Small Queens. Some follow up work by Ron Leith has highlighted that a census of all dated copies of 1 cent Yellow Large Queens and early 1 cent Small Queens in 1870 will help to throw some more light on the answer to this puzzle.

Clearly, the more data that can be gathered, the better the chance of getting a meaningful set of answers. I am, therefore, inviting all members to submit details of any 1 cent Large or Small Queen stamps or covers in their collections with 1870 dates. Please check your holding – even if you have

only one example – and submit the following information by e mail or normal mail to the editor.....

Stamp type - Large Queen (SG 56, or Scott 23) or Small Queen (SG 72 or Scott 35)

Stamp or Cover

Postmark date (including any backstamp dates on covers)

All dates in the calendar year 1870 are of interest.

I will compile the data from CPSGB members and the results of the survey will be made available in a future issue of *Maple Leaves*.

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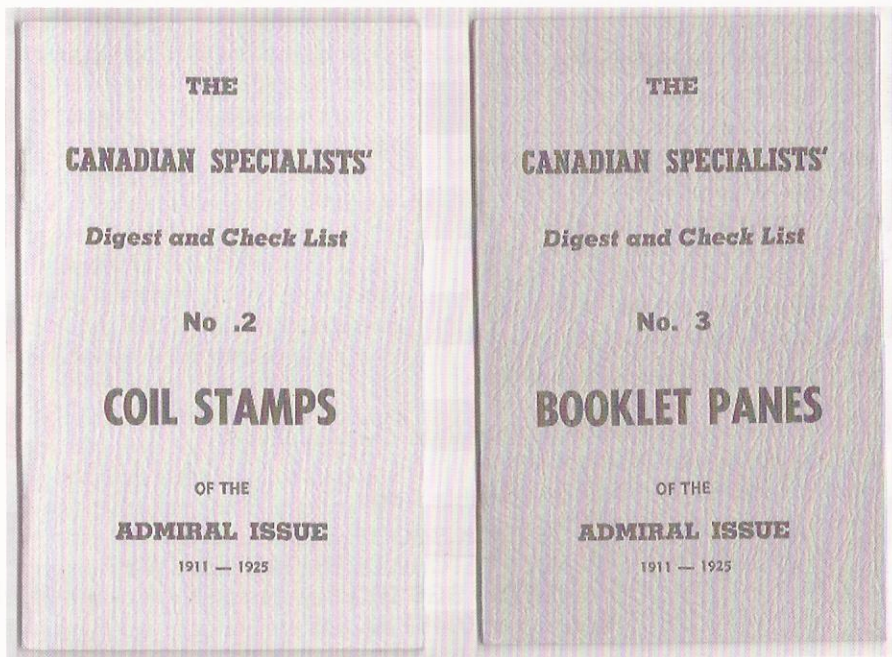
## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Charles Verge

I am interested in finding out more about the two publications shown below. How many were there, what was their print run and were they all on the subject of the Admiral Issue? Any information on their author/compiler would also be useful. His/her name was G. Drew-Smith and the address given in the publication is 28 Wentworth Ave., Galt, ON. Booklet # 2 was published in October 1961 (First Edition) and booklet #3 (First Edition) was produced in July 1961. An interesting order of print. Were there other editions?

Mike Street

First, sincere congratulations to you and your predecessors from one who has 'been there' on ML300. In that issue Sandy Mackie wrote about how he and John Hannah introduced tasting of the malt at convention in the 1960s. Sandy is being a dram modest - he has not mentioned how he and John were also responsible for leading astray young and impressionable philatelists from overseas. At Pitlochry in 1986 the flavour of the year was a fine concoction named 'Strath Isla', and I don't recall objecting to being led to my downfall. Well done Sandy!





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*Several members responded to the query from Derrick Avery in ML 301 on the MAYVRILLE postmark. Our thanks to them all and all responses have been forwarded to Derrick. For the information of other members, this reply from Richard Parama nicely summarises all the information supplied.....*

### **Richard Parama**

I think I can help with Derrick Avery's query on Maryville, Alberta. Actually the postmark is not a spelling error. The name of the post office was Mayvrille. It opened on 1st November 1905 and closed on 27th December 1909. Additional data can be found on the ArchiviaNet website.

Mayvrille was located east of present day Stettler. The definitive source of the naming of Mayvrille seems to be lost in history, but one local history source states the name may have been taken from a place in California. Unfortunately I have not been able to verify this; though certainly some of the earliest settlers in the area were from the USA. "Mayvrille" was also applied to the local school district (School District No. 1717, established in November, 1907), which adds additional confirmation of the spelling.

Mayvrille had some promise of being a town, but when the CPR extended the line east from Stettler in late 1909, the railway dashed any such prospects by bypassing the Mayvrille community. Such was the fate of many early Alberta post offices. The closest railroad point became Botha. A station was built there and the businesses at Mayvrille gravitated to there. Indeed, some buildings were

literally picked up and moved.

Botha post office opened the day after Mayvrille closed, and as far as I know, it is still an operating post office. Some local history sources imply that Mayvrille post office became Botha; however, when Botha opened there was a new postmaster assigned, and in such cases the POD treated Mayvrille as permanently closed and Botha as a new office.

### **The Yellow Peril**

During my visit to the big show in Ottawa on 6th May 2006, David Handelman, a relatively new member, told me that he liked my cover illustrated in MLs #300. He confirmed the early use of the postage due stamps which were in fact earlier than the one in his registration collection. His exhibit, by the way, won a GOLD for best PHSC BNA Postal History award. Moreover, he also pointed out to me that my cover although adequately prepaid as an ordinary first class letter, was compulsorily registered....somewhere through the system, a postal clerk spotted something of value in the envelope and registered it.

The clue which led to David's astute observation was the absence of any indication that the letter was to be registered. Unlike the FREE compulsory registered Admiral covers during the April 1916-1917 censorship period, the deficient registration fee (twice the 5 cent) had to be collected from the addressee.

On behalf of the Society, I extend a warm

welcome to Mr. Handelman and I hope that he will share some of his vast knowledge and experience with us.

### John Hillson

When I saw the article 'The Known facts About Early Perforations' in ML 301, I hoped that it would shed some genuine light on why early Canadian perforations are so erratic. I was disappointed, in spite of the fact that the author had done some valuable research into the part George C. Howard played in improving the Bemrose system. While it was interesting to note that Bemrose sold three machines to firms in the U.K. and Howard did business in the United States, nowhere is there a mention of the B.A.B.N.Co., so I am not entirely clear as to how this information throws light on the problem. Indeed there

were a number of assertions which made the odd eyebrow twitch; perhaps I might deal with these in the order they appear in the above mentioned article.

'Facts 1.1' There were no perforation gauges in the 1850's because until 1855 there were no perforated stamps, one would have thought that self evident. That one was invented just 12 years later is, in itself, surprising. Perhaps as surprising is that having been invented by a Frenchman, out of patriotic fervour Stanley Gibbons (est. 1856) did not produce one to imperial measurements. However, since it is a bit difficult to measure stamps using imperial (ever tried it?) maybe he and other early British and American dealers had more sense. As to the suggestion in 'Facts 1.2' that neither the inventive engineers Archer nor

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It would help the Society considerably if Canadian and US members pay in \$CAN / US via Leigh Hogg as we are liable to a bank handling charge of £6. Please make your cheque payable to the Society, his address is PO Box 1000, Waterloo, Ont, Canada N2J 4S1.

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



Bemrose realised that they were working to a metric scale, but arrived at 16 and 15 pins to 2 cm by some form of osmosis beggars belief. Nor, I suppose, did David Napier and Sons who actually built the machines, and when Somerset House asked for a wider gauge than 16 as sheets were tending to separate involuntarily, no doubt it was pure chance that exactly 14 to 2 cm was happened upon. Might I refer interested readers to 'The Postage Stamps of Great Britain' Part Two, edited by W.R.D. Wiggins and published by the R.P.S.L. where chapters one and two will be of particular interest.

'Facts 2.3'. The illustrations on page 306 of the Howard arrangement are not quite as described. The illustration on the left does not show 'how little pins penetrated the holes'. It is the illustration on the right that shows the extent of the penetration, (*Editor; my mistake, I fear*) and the pins are not tapered but have parallel shanks with a broad chamfered head to fit countersunk seating in the wheel. Neat but not particularly novel.

The main problem I have with the article as a whole is that it fails to explain the common phenomena on early Canadian stamps of the irregularly spaced perforation holes, generally in line, but occasionally not so, as shown in the illustration of lot 1240 in the Maresch June 1999 sale. I had another look at the illustration and I can't see any evidence of tearing as suggested by the author. I do, of course, have a slight advantage as I own the stamp, and can assure you, it is a perfectly cut hole, no signs of fibres in it, which there would have been if there

were any evidence of tearing. This comes back to the fact that if you have a male perforating head, fitting into a female counterpart – as did the Archer/ Napier machines, the Bemrose machine and the Howard machine as described in the article, the two halves have to be a perfect match. They will, in general, (i.e. until a bit worn) cut perfect holes, and the holes will be evenly spaced, and yes I do know about the precision engineering required, because without it, the contraption would jam. If pins were so far out of line as evidenced by the results on early Canadian stamps then the machines used would not work, it is as simple as that. I might add that the comment under 'Facts 4.1' that the centre of precision engineering shifted soon after the 1850's to New England would have been news to the engineering firms of Birmingham (England) and the Black Country of that time.

Pins were hollow ground and were and are, in effect, miniature punches; the remarks about sewing machine perforations are totally irrelevant to the case in question. Just why was the result on soft papers a tearing rather than clean cutting, as evidenced by fibres in the holes and adhering 'confetti'? How did the irregular spacing come about? And why was scant attention paid to even spacing of the wheels giving rise to the 'jumbos' which some collectors seem prepared to pay over-inflated prices for? The only answer I can think of to these questions is that the female counterpart had to be a hollow grooved wheel. If there is another answer, and there may well be, I would be delighted to learn of it.

## BOOK REVIEWS

*2006 has seen a steady stream of new book releases from the BNAPS Book Department. With Christmas fast approaching we review a few of the new titles below. More reviews will follow in the January issue.*

### **MINING – BRITISH COLUMBIA'S HERITAGE**

Peter Jacobi, 2006. BNAPS Exhibit Series #11 (Revised). Spiral Bound, 226 pages, 8.5 x 11. – ISBN: 0-919854-81-8 (B&W). ISBN: 0-919854-80-X (Colour). Published by the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS). B&W Edition Stock # B4h923.11 Retail Price: \$C 47.95 – Colour Edition Stock # B4h923.11 Retail Price \$C 140.00. BNAPS members receive a 40% discount on all BNAPS books.

Those collectors having copies of the earlier edition of Mining – British Columbia's Heritage, are advised to throw the earlier edition away and buy the new colour version. The book is one of the best examples of what colour can do for a postal history collection. Unlike the earlier black and white edition, the crispness of the many post cards and the clarity of the many corner cards show what the use of modern printing methods can do.

Peter Jacobi in his introduction states "The intent of this exhibit is to show the socio-economic impact the mining and smelting industry has had on the early development of the province of British Columbia in a philatelic setting." Through the use of envelopes and corner cards, postcards and photographs, personal correspondence and mining company notices, etc. he has produced an outstanding

overview of the mining industry in British Columbia. The book is divided into four sections, namely: the mines, the smelters, the financial side, and mining today and within each section he discusses in some detail the history and operations of each of the companies included. Each page contains one or more items of philatelic, or quasi-philatelic material that is used to enliven what is at times a very dull history of the individual companies.

The transfer from a 160 page exhibit to a 226 page book presents some problems. An exhibit is examined and then forgotten while a book is set aside and read at leisure and often portions are reread. Had this work contained an index of the mining companies included and a separate index of the mine locations it would have been much easier for the reader to locate a particular reference without having to do a page by page search to find an item of particular interest.

The book is an extension of Peter Jacobi's exhibit, on the British Columbia mining industry, and has won many major awards at such philatelic exhibitions as BNAPS and RPSC in the Display or Social Philately class as well as the "People's Choice Award" at VANPEX. This type of recognition clearly indicates the quality of the material and the method of presentation used in this revised edition of his earlier work. It should be obvious that with this type of recognition the book would make an excellent addition to the library of anyone with a genuine interest in the history of British Columbia.

The review copy of the book is in the Society library.

Bill Topping, FRPSC, FRPSL



## JAPANESE INTERNMENT IN CANADA 1941-1946 A POSTAL HISTORY

Kenneth V. Ellison; 2006, Spiral Bound, 86 pages, 8.5 x 11 – BNAPS Exhibit Series # 39. ISBN: 0-919854-78-8 (Colour), 0-919854-79-6 (B&W) Published by the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS). Stock # B4h923.391 (Colour Version) - \$C 70.00; B4h923.39 (Black & White Version) - \$C 29.95.

Ken Ellison's exhibit is one of the three outstanding displays of mail from Japanese interned in Canada during the Second World War. Like the other two exhibits the collection is strong in some areas and weak in others as many of the available items are unique. Of particular note are the various envelopes used by British Columbia Securities Commission and the Department of Labour. Also the letters mailed from the Motorship Gripsholm to Kaslo may be the only reported copies. As an overview of the Japanese internment period the exhibit is outstanding in that each page provides a good background statement on the material included. The many photographs, although not postal history, do add greatly to the social history of the period and provide a good overview of the conditions the Japanese were relocated to in the interior of British Columbia.

As an exhibit of Japanese internment mail the collection provides many interesting snippets of the social history of the war period. On the other hand the collection fails to provide an overall understanding of the relocation of the Japanese from 1941 to 1946. Following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on 7th December, 1941 the Canadian Post Office was ordered to censor all mail to and from persons of Japanese origin and at the same

time the Japanese were required to register with the Government. In the spring of 1942 an evacuation order was given to remove all Japanese from within 100 miles of the BC coast. Although the majority of the Japanese were relocated to old and often deserted mining camps in the interior of the province, many were moved to road camps and later to farm labour or logging camps across Canada. Japanese with sufficient funds moved on their own to semi-deserted mining camps such as Bridge River while those who could not afford to move were required to report to Hastings Park Manning Pool for transportation to the interior. Initially the relocation was under the supervision of the B.C. Securities Commission and later the Federal Department of Labour.

The exhibit tends to lack balance as half the covers are from 1942 and are mainly to or from the Hastings Park Manning Pool. Had the exhibit been organized in a chronological order or by the destination of the letters, such as letters from the Road Camps, or to the Farm Labour Force, or mining camp settlements, the reader would gain a much better understanding of the Japanese internment period. A minor reorganization of pages and a few pages of explanatory information, throughout the exhibit, would have made it easier for the reader to follow the movement of the Japanese-Canadians during the war period.

The exhibit consists of outstanding material and therefore collectors of Second World War mail, would do well to add this book to their library, as it deals with a highly specialized aspect of censorship and provides a different view of the Japanese internment that is not found in other works.

Bill Topping, FRPSC, FRPSL

## **THE WEARING OF THE GREEN: PLATES AND STATES OF THE CANADA 1898 ONE CENT NUMERAL ISSUE**

Peter Spencer, 2006. Spiral Bound, 108 pages, 8.5 x 11, colour. ISBN: 0-919854-76-1. Published by the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS). Stock # B4h019.1; \$C80.00.

The Wearing of the Green: Plates and States of the Canada 1898 One Cent Numeral Issue follows closely on the 2005 release of Peter Spencer's *Pretty in Pink: The Plates and States of the Canada 1898 Two Cent Numeral Issue* (See review in ML 299). Again using today's technology to great advantage, the author has closely examined the One-cent value of the Queen Victoria Numeral Issue to advise readers how to determine the plate of individual copies of the stamp.

The book is divided into four main sections. These deal respectively, with:-

a) a rough grouping of the 12 plates (and 30 states) in time periods and a census of over 9000 used stamps to show dates for each plate.

b) a detailed reference section that describes the design elements that allow you to distinguish between the different plates and states

c) a section – probably the most useful to the collector - presenting the steps that you need to follow to identify the plate and state of any stamp and

d) a section showing the 'abnormals' and interesting non-constant features.

The key feature throughout is the very high quality of the illustrations – resulting from high quality scans plus good printing. Based around these excellent pictures, the Wearing of the Green, the first major plating study of this issue, will form an excellent basis for further studies

of this stamp and possible discoveries which readers may make as they examine their holdings.

In addition to plating details, this volume contains a ten-page major study of the renowned "10 cent on 1 cent foreign entry" with a well-illustrated startling new discovery that there are actually three of these, not one or two as previously believed. It also shows all the other significant varieties on the stamp including the engravers slips, the 'Comet Flaw' and many others.

The book ends with a 'final puzzle' – an enlarged picture of the stamp which readers are invited to plate. This is one way to make sure you were paying attention when reading the preceding 100+ pages!

The book also includes my favourite philatelic quote of 2006... "Bloodshot eyes are one of the most endearing features of the philatelic platers, as opposed to raters, routers, cover lovers, exhibitionists and the unhinged".

Collectors of this issue will, no doubt, find this volume invaluable and if you are looking for something intriguing on which to spend your free philatelic time, this book may point the way.

If you wish to try before you buy, the review copy is in the Society Library.

GS

## **PLATING THE MORE DISTINCTIVE RE-ENTRIES IN THE HALF CENT MAPLE LEAF STAMP**

Ken Kershaw, 2006, Spiral Bound, 8.5 x 11. In two volumes; the first deals with the first and second printings, the second



with the third and fourth printings.

Both volumes on the Half Cent Maple Leaf stamp follow closely on Ken Kershaw's previous major effort (with Roger Boisclair), the four book series 'The Canadian Christmas Map Stamp of 1898, A Definitive Plating Study'.

This two volume work represents the most exhaustive study yet on this popular stamp. The author has scanned every plate position from each of the four printings to provide the illustrations. The very high resolution scans used make for some very detailed pictures of the key features although a very high magnification glass would be required to see the same detail on the actual stamps (more bloodshot eyes I fear!)

At the time of going to press only Volume 1 – covering the first and second printings – was available for review. This volume covers the die and plate proofs and also provides details of the constant varieties on the value. After a short section covering the stamp design and nomenclature (to aid later descriptions), it

goes on to cover the plate layout and guide dots to be found. The main body of the text covers the plating criteria and re-entry characteristics including detailed pictures and text showing the characteristics of most of the 200 individual plate positions. The level of detail included will make it relatively simple to plate most copies of the stamp – provided your eyesight can stand the strain!

Once again, this will be an invaluable guide to those who collect this issue. It will also provide a good general read for those who may be thinking of collecting this issue for the first time.

The review copies of both Volumes are in the Society Library.

GS

Note that most BNAPS books are available from our own Handbooks Manager, Derrick Scott (see advert on page 356). All BNAPS books are available from: Ian Kimmerly Stamps, 112 Sparks Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5B6, Canada Phone: (613) 235-9119

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### 2006

**Oct 21 Midlands Group Meeting – Womourne**

Oct 21 – 22 Scotex, Perth

Oct 26 – 28 Philatex, London

**Oct 28 Scottish Group Meeting**

Nov 16 – 20 Belgica 2006, Brussels

Nov 24 – 25 ABPS National Philatelic Exhibition, Torquay

### 2007

Feb 28 – Mar 4 Spring Stampex, Islington, London

**Mid May WORPEX 2007 and Midlands Group Meeting**

**June 29 Midlands Group Meeting – MidPex, Coventry**

Aug 31 – Sept 2 BNAPEX/ CALTAPEX Westin Hotel, Calgary

Sept 19 – 23 Autumn Stampex, Islington, London

**Oct 3 – 6 CPSGB Convention, Beach Hotel, Worthing**

Nov 23-24 ABPS National Exhibition and Congress, Croydon.

### 2008

May 14 – 22 Israel 2008, Tel Aviv

June 20 – 28 Efiro 08, Bucharest, Romania

August 29 – 31 BNAPEX Halifax, N.S.

Sept 18 – 21 WIPA 2008

**Sept 24 – 28 CPSGB Convention, Queens Hotel, Perth**