



Maple Leaves

*JOURNAL OF THE
CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
OF GREAT BRITAIN*

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MAPLE LEAVES

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Founder:

A. E. Stephenson, FCPS

Edited by: Graham Searle

Ryvoan, 11 Riverside, Banchory, Aberdeenshire, AB31 6PS

Email: searle711@btinternet.com

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EDITORIAL

This issue of Maple Leaves includes the usual annual subscription reminder. I would ask members to take note of some important changes in subscriptions this year. The first, and most important, is a change in contacts both in the UK and North America. We must offer thanks to Les Taylor in the UK and Leigh Hogg in North America for undertaking these duties in recent years. The new Subscription Manager is yours truly (a moment of weakness at last years Convention if I recall correctly). This does, however, mean that UK members can conveniently send their subscription monies in the same envelope as their Maple Leaves articles for publication! Members in North America should direct their subscriptions to Mike Street who has kindly offered to take over this task. Contact details for both of us are on the form and also in the box on page 124.

The second change affects our North

American members. For many years we have offered two different subscription rates for those living in North America; corresponding to surface mail and air mail delivery of Maple Leaves. Recent changes in GPO mailing rates have made the cost of surface mail almost the same as the cost of airmail. This coupled with the rather erratic service we have experienced with surface mail in recent years has lead us to decide that all overseas copies of Maple Leaves will be mailed by airmail in future and that there will, for 2007/8 onward, be just one subscription rate for North American members. This new rate also reflects the ups and downs of currency movements and will be set at \$US 34 or \$CAN 39. The UK rate remains at £16. The usual discounts apply for those who pay up before 1st January 2008.

I should briefly explain how we have arrived at the above numbers. Members will note that the largest cost the Society incurs is in production and mail out of this

journal. The current cost of getting Maple Leaves to overseas members is approximately £4 per annum greater than for UK members (higher mailing charges). All other things being equal, therefore, the overseas subscriptions should be set at the equivalent of £20 (approx \$US 39 and \$CAN 45 at today's rates). The Committee have, however, recognised that overseas members cannot access all the benefits of membership (e.g. Society Library, exchange packets etc) and thus believe a discounted rate is appropriate. There is, I regret, no more science to it than that.

Those members thinking of attending Convention in October should hasten their booking forms to David Sessions to ensure you qualify for the special rates. Details are in the box on the inside back cover. If anyone has lost their booking form, I do know that David has a supply of spares, so

please ask.

I would draw members attention to the boxed item at the bottom of page 133. After many years of excellent service, bad health is forcing our Covermart Manager, Malcolm Jones, to give up his position. A volunteer is being sought to take over the position. If you feel that you can help or if you simply want more information on what is involved, please contact our Secretary, John Wright, without delay.

Lastly, I note that, after of period of 'plenty', the editorial cupboard is looking a little bare once again. I would urge members to send in any articles – large or small – for inclusion in future issues.

Happy stamping, and I hope to see as many of you as possible in Worthing in October.

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ADMIRAL COVERS (PART 3)

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 third part concludes the look at some of the unusual cancellations to be found in the Admiral era and continues with some of the special uses of the stamps and postal stationary.

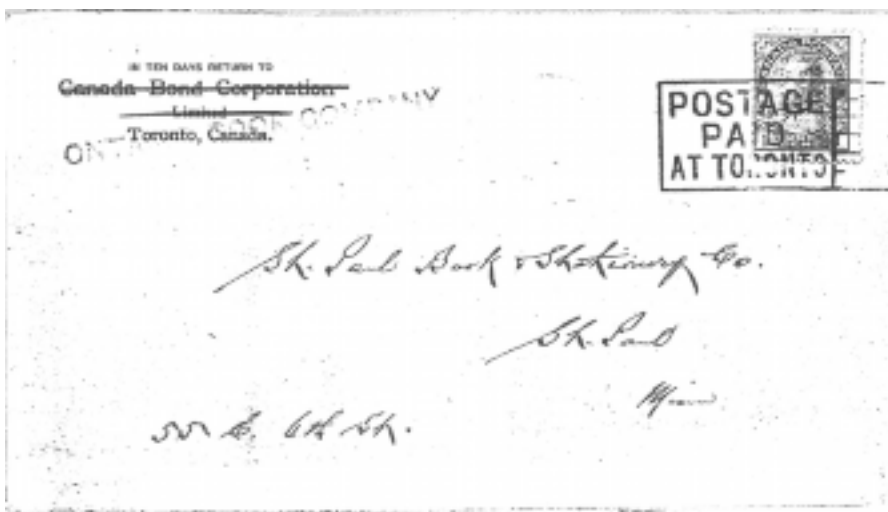


Fig 40 A 'POSTAGE PAID AT TORONTO' machine slogan style cancellation tying a 1 cent yellow to a Toronto printed matter rate cover to the USA.

The other slogan cancel that is unusual enough to merit inclusion here is that shown in fig 40. The absence of a town-date hub on this cancel suggests that it was used on third class mail, especially when mailed in bulk. Presumably, this "Postage Paid at..." type marking was used only on printed matter, commercial papers and samples. Information such as other cities that used this type of cancellation, period of use and whether it was used on other classes of mail matter would be welcomed.

MILITARY POSTMARKS

There are a host of military cancels to be found on the Admiral stamps as their period of use spanned World War I. Fig 41 shows a circular style 'FIELD POST OFFICE CANADA MILITIA' cancel. There are at least twenty camps that used this style of cancel and a very interesting study can be made of them.

One other military postmark is worth highlighting. This is the machine slogan

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Fig 41 FIELD POST OFFICE CANADA MILITIA CAMP HUGHES MAN. There are at least twenty camps that used this style of cancellation.

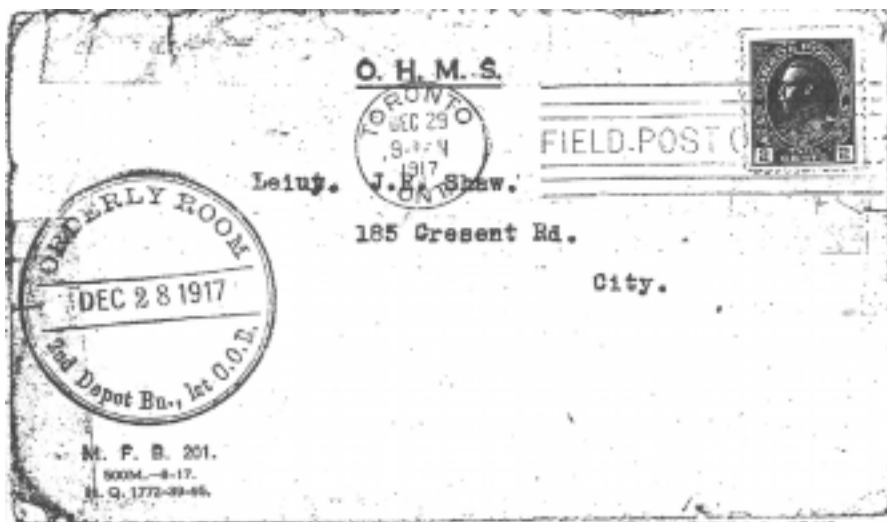


Fig 42 TORONTO DEC 29 1917 FIELD POST OFFICE – this machine slogan style cancellation is seldom seen.

cancel shown in fig 42. This Field Post Office cancellation is seldom seen.

MILITARY MAIL – PRECANCELS USED FOR REGISTRATION

Another interesting area of military mail is shown in fig 43. After the first world war, the Post Office allowed the Militia Department to use precancelled Admiral stamps to send out thousands of medals to discharged soldiers – a great time and labour saving device. Not many of these wrappers survived so they are well worth hunting for.

PRISONER OF WAR MAIL

A number of Prisoners of War were interned in Canada during the war and mail to or from these internees provides another fascinating group of Admiral covers. The first illustration (fig 44) does not in fact merit an Admiral stamp as it is an example of PoW mail that was postage exempt; in this case a letter to the International Red Cross in Geneva. The second example is an internal PoW letter franked as normal first class mail (fig 45).

RAILWAY POSTMARKS

There are many RPO cancels to be found on Admiral stamps and details of these are available in the various specialist texts. My particular favourites are shown in figs 46 and 47; which show respectively an 'END OF STEEL' and an 'END OF TRACK' postmark. I have included the 2 cent Edward postcard here as it is used well within the Admiral period in 1913.

SQUARED CIRCLES

The use of squared circle cancels had

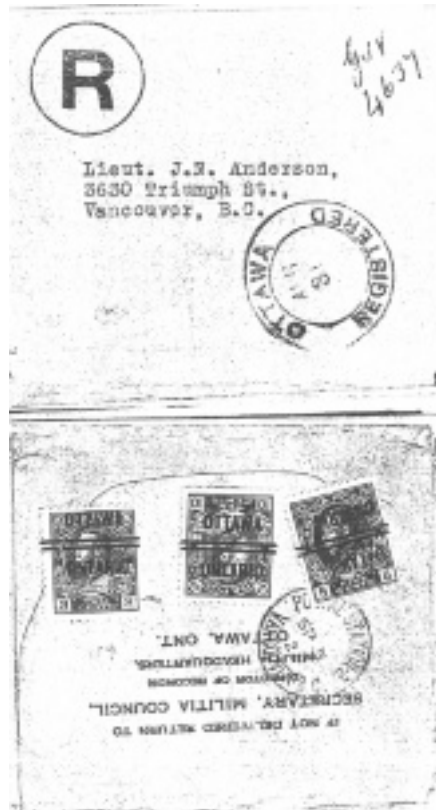


Fig 43 Front and back of an August 31 1922 registered packet to Vancouver paid by 2 cent carmine, 5 cent violet and 10 cent blue Ottawa precancelled Admirals (triple rate 3 x 2cents postage + 1 cent War Tax + 10 cents registration fee).

pretty much died out prior to the Admiral series being issued. However, a few of these popular cancels can still be found on Admiral covers. Two examples are shown below from Gore, Ontario and Nanaimo, B.C. (the second state) in figs 48 and 49.

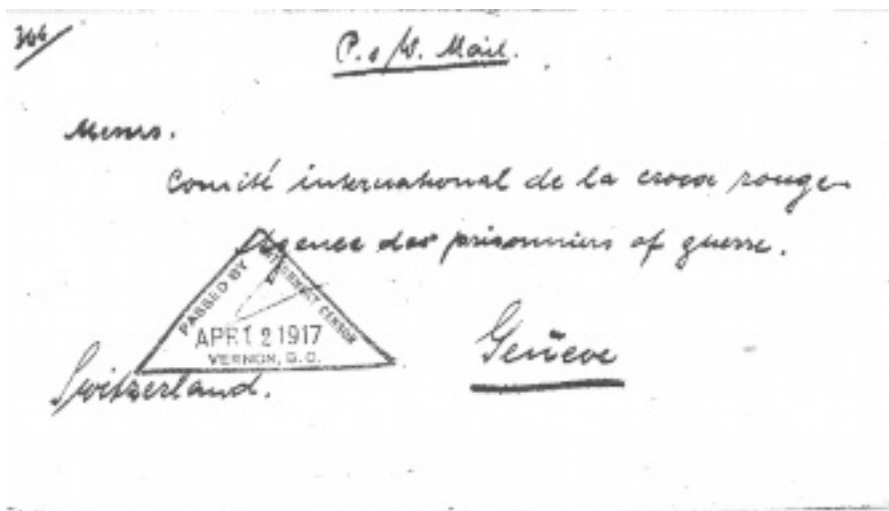


Fig 44 A 1917 PoW cover from Internment Camp Vernon B.C. to the International Red Cross in Geneva. Postage exempted.

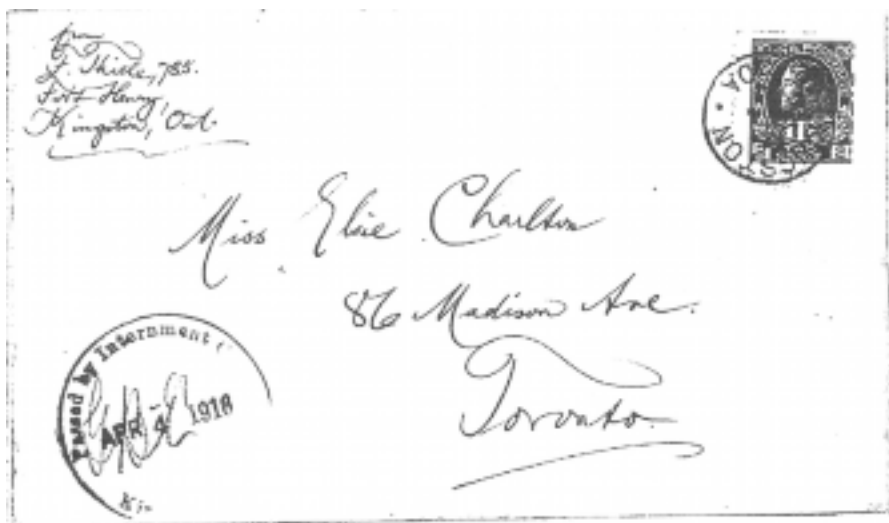


Fig 45 A 2 cent + 1 cent red War Tax stamp tied by a Kingston AP 4 16 cds on a PoW cover from Fort Henry to Toronto.



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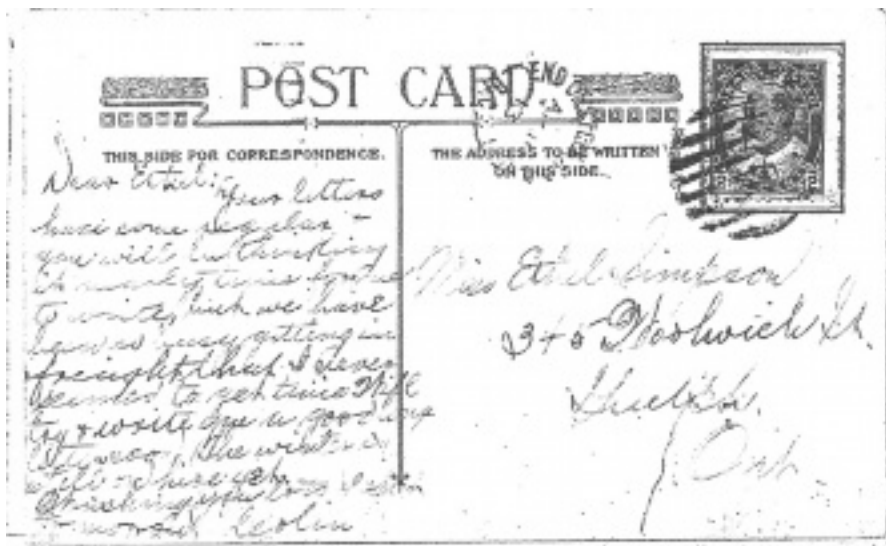


Fig 46 This card, addressed to Guelph was probably posted on a train travelling westbound from either Edmonton or Wainwright where it was cancelled "END OF STEEL G.T.R. WEST B.C. AP 11 13"

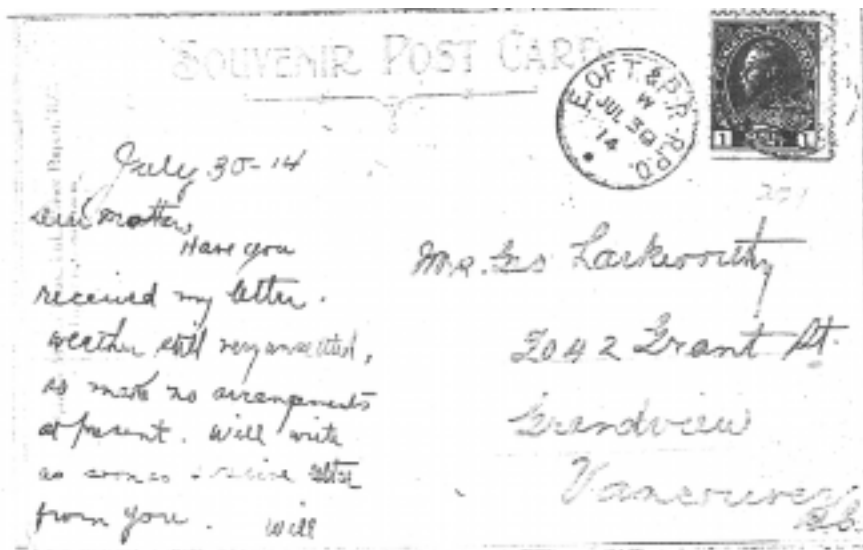


Fig 47 A souvenir post card depicting a steamer on the Skeena River on the back; addressed to Vancouver and cancelled "E. OF T. & P.R. R.P.O. W JUL 30 14"

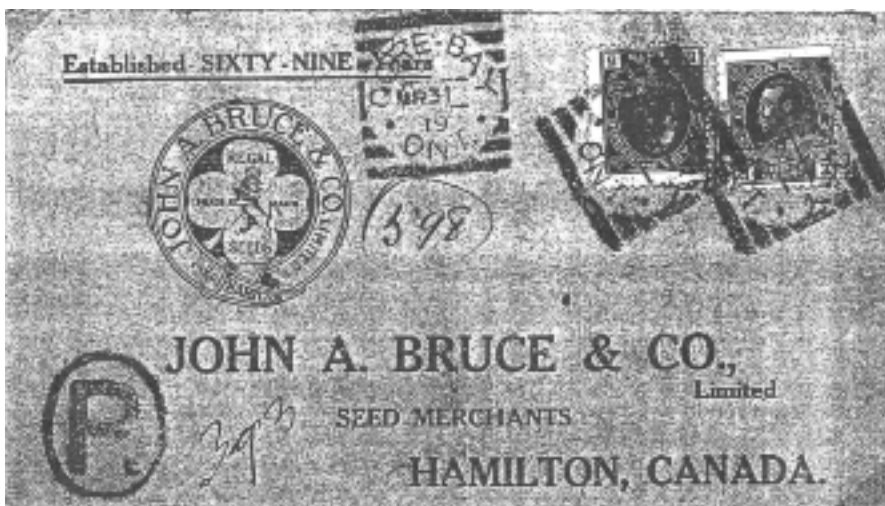


Fig 48 Gore Bay squared circle; 31st March 1919 on a registered cover to Hamilton (5 cents registration, 2 cents postage, 1 cent War Tax. Paid with 5 cents blue and 3 cents brown stamps).

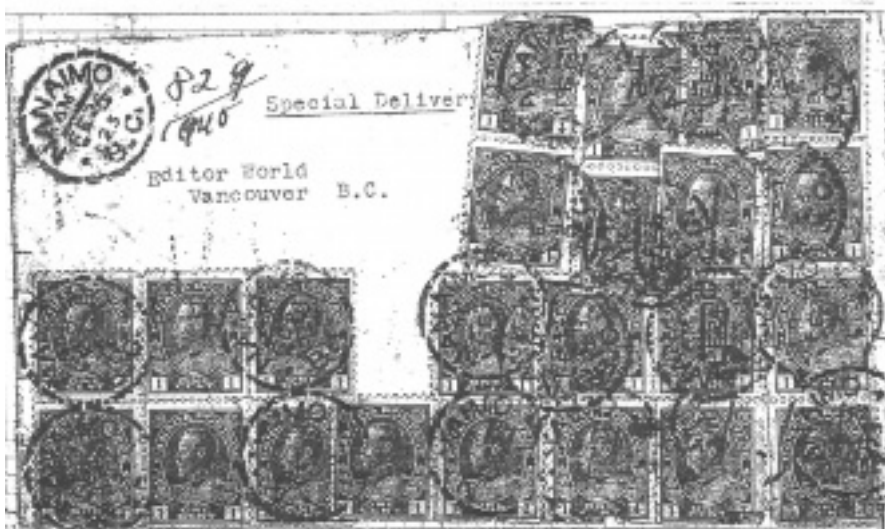


Fig 49 Nainimo squared circle, second state – 24th February 1923 on a special delivery cover to Vancouver (20 cents Special Delivery + 2 cents postage + 1 cent War Tax; all paid with 1 cent yellow Admirals).

SPECIAL USES

AIRMAIL

Although airmail began in Canada with the pioneer flights prior to 1920, there was no special charge by the post office for this service on a regular basis until 1928. With very few exceptions, all the other charges for domestic airmail, prior to 1928, were made by private companies or individuals.

The 20th January 1922 flight from Halifax to St. John's, Newfoundland was one of the few early flights where a special rate of 30 cents for the flight was prepaid by Canadian stamps in addition to the normal postage. As things turned out the fee was not wholly justified as the plane was wrecked and the mail was forwarded

by steamer! Fig 50 shows a letter carried on this ill-fated flight.

Most early airmail was carried and charged privately giving rise to a wealth of semi-official and aero club stamps which are often seen used in conjunction with Admirals. Fig 51 shows one of the Aero Club of Canada semi-official airmail stamps which had a 25 cent value. Fig 52 shows the Estevan semi-official stamp which cost a princely \$1.

DOG TEAM MAIL

During the winter seasons, mail services for the north shore of the St. Lawrence were performed by dog teams along the coast. These ran ten times during the winter starting at Betsiamitas. (In the 1924/5 season they ran on 1st, 15th and

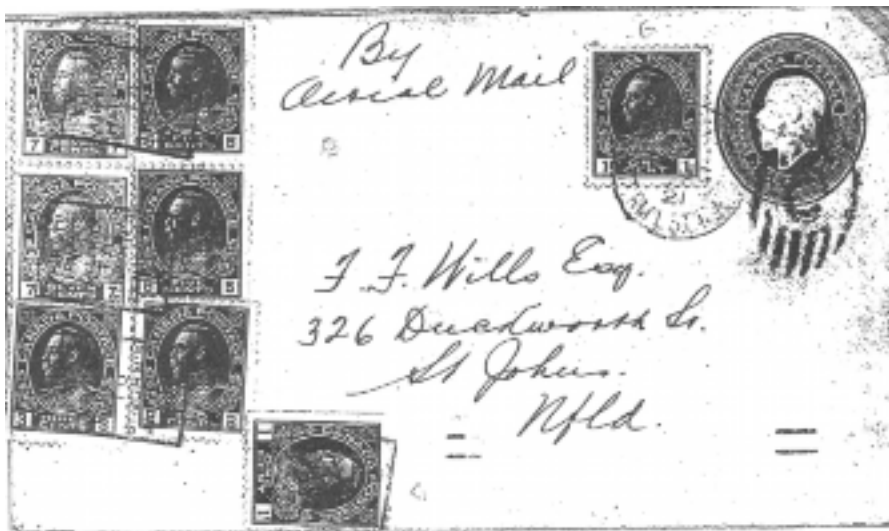


Fig 50 The special 30 cents rate for the flight from Halifax to St John's Newfoundland made up by 1 cent, 2 cent, 3 cents, 5 cent (2) and 7 cent (2) Admirals and the normal 4 cents (3 cents postage + 1 cent War Tax) Empire rate.



Fig 51 3 cent brown and 5 cent blue Admirals and a 25 cent 'no numeral' Aero Club of Canada semi-official airmail stamp on a registered flight cover from Toronto to Ottawa, 26th August 1918.

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Fig 52 10 cent blue Admiral and \$1.00 Estevan semi-official stamp on a flight cover to Latvia. 1st October 1924.



Fig 53 17th December 1925 letter registered at Lourdes du Blanc Sablon. It arrived at Fabourg St Jean Baptist on 16th March 1926. There it was re-addressed to Paris and a 5 cent stamp applied to make up the 8 cent UPU rate. Just before re-registering the letter, the French address was changed to the Bank of Montreal, Waterloo Place in London. The letter was redirected to the Berkeley Hotel in Piccadilly.



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29th December, 12th and 26th January, 9th and 23rd February, 9th and 23rd March and 7th April). Fig 53 shows an example of this dog team mail from December 1925.

PATRIOTIC COVERS

Quite a few Patriotic covers can be found, during the World War 1 period, with Admiral stamps. The example shown in fig 54 shows the Maple Leaf – Patriam Amamus design and has the ‘Maple Leaf’ song on the back. It is interesting for a second reason. It is overpaid by 1 cent as the 3 cent rate (2 cents plus 1 cent War Tax) did not come into effect until 15th April 1915. This cover sent one day earlier shows the new War Tax stamp cancelled one day before its’ official date of issue.

THE ½ CENT BUSINESS REPLY CARD RATE

Most readers will be aware that no ½ cent denomination of stamp was ever issued in the Admiral series. There was, however, a ½ cent rate. This was the business reply card rate which commenced in April 1924. Special Business Reply Postal Stationery Cards, prepaid ½ cent postage were issued by the Department to be sent out as enclosures with printed matter, sent in quantity and addressed to places in Canada.

The ½ cent Business Reply Card and the 1½ cent Double Reply Card were issued in order to allow businesses to send out these prepaid reply cards to prospective customers without incurring too great a loss owing to the small percentage of such cards actually likely to be used. They were mailed out in lots of 1000 or more and



Fig 54 This colourful patriotic cover is over-paid 1 cent as the 3 cent rate (including War Tax) was not in effect until the following day; 15th April 1915.



Fig 55 A ½ cent Business Reply Card – precancelled.

Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain

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‡Members may claim a subscription discount of £3.00 (or \$ equivalent)
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will be removed from the *Maple Leaves* circulation list.

could only be used to prospective customers; not for existing or regular customers. Given their use, it is no surprise that few of these cards have survived. Figs 55 and 56 show an example of the ½ cent Business Reply Card – precancelled. Figs 57 and 58 show examples of the 1½ cent Double Reply Card.

REGISTERED MAIL

Collectors of registered covers will find a wealth of material in the Admiral era. Several rate changes, both up and down, provide a bewildering array of rates



Fig 56 The reverse side of the above card.



Fig 57 The ½ cent blue portion of the 1 ½ cent double reply card.



Fig 58 The 1 cent orange precancelled part of the double reply card.

and the covers illustrated here only touch the surface of a complex area.

The first cover (fig 59) is both a registered letter and an RPO item. It shows the 5 cent registration rate which applied from 1912 until July 1920. Although the cover was registered at Hunt's Point, Nova Scotia, the stamps are cancelled by an RPO postmark.

The second cover (fig 60) shows a rare example of free registration. During the April 1916 – April 1917 censorship period, any first class unregistered letter that was found to contain something of value in the envelope was registered, at the place of censor, at no charge to the sender or to the addressee. The registration fee was

absorbed by the Post Office or the Government.

Fig 61 shows another unusual registered item. The sender had tried to pay the registration fee on this letter with a 5 cent Inland Revenue War Tax stamp. As the revenue stamp was not valid for postage, the letter was rated and taxed 5 cents. The registration fee ended up being paid by five 1 cent postage due stamps. In reality, this was not a bad deal as the letter could have been charged 10 cents – double the deficient amount.

Figs 62 and 63 shows a rarely seen registered picture postcard. Although this is slightly outside the Admiral period (1931), I have included it as it is franked with a 3 cent red Admiral.

TO BE CONTINUED

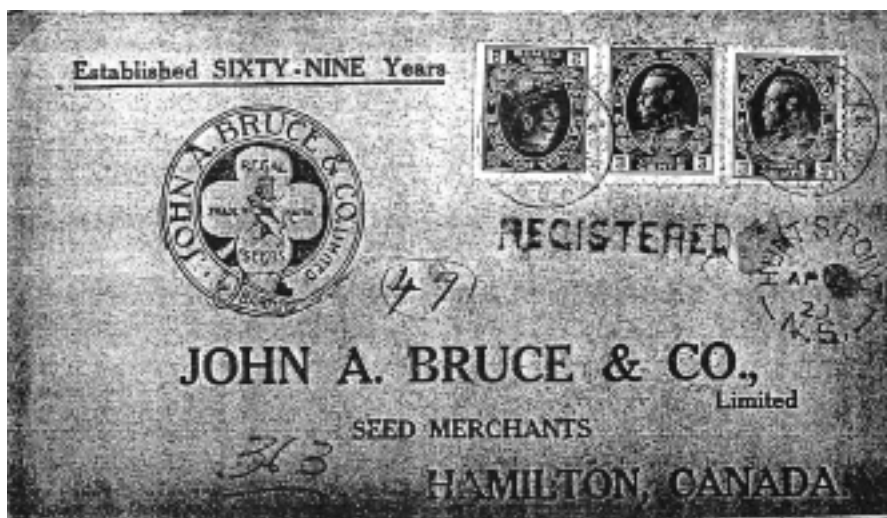


Fig 59 3rd April 1920 registered cover (5 cents registration, 2 cents postage + 1 cent War Tax. The stamps are cancelled by the "HALIFAX & S.W. RY R.P.O."

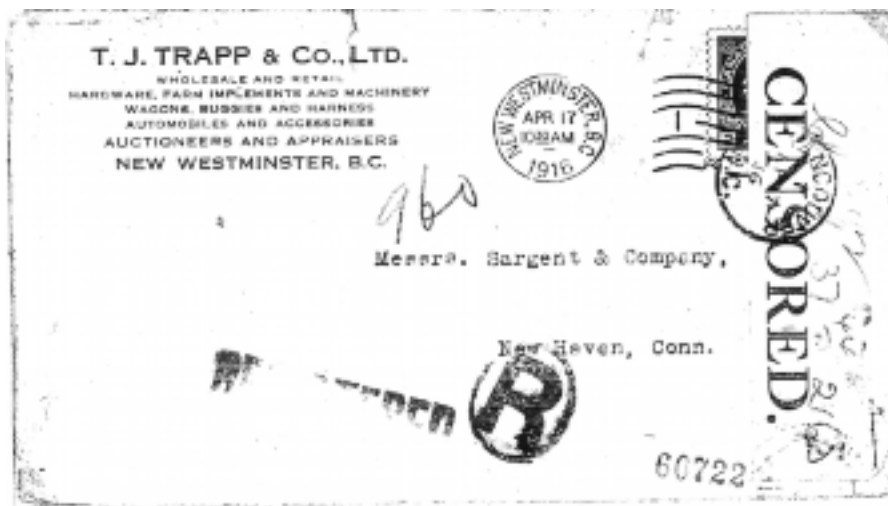


Fig 60 This New Westminster letter to New Haven Conn. was posted on 17th April 1916. It was censored and registered at Vancouver.

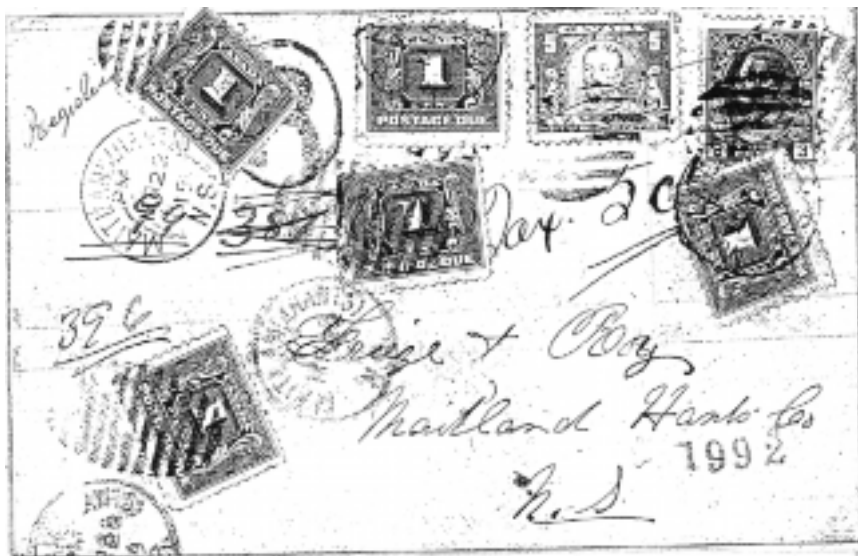


Fig 61 The registration fee on this domestic letter was paid by a revenue stamp, invalid for postage. The letter was rated and taxed 5 cents, paid by five 1 cent postage due stamps.

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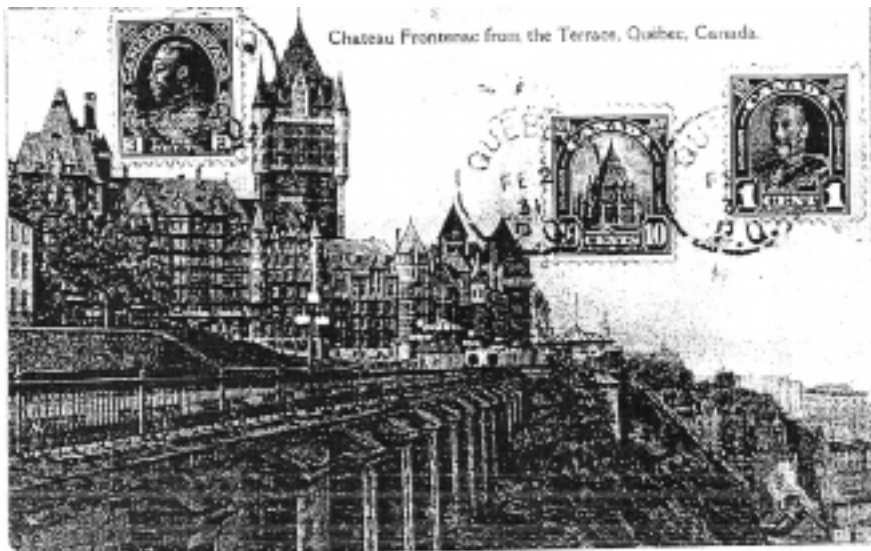


Fig 62 2nd February 1931 registered picture postcard to France. The 14 cent rate (10 cents registration plus 4 cent UPU rate) was paid with a 10 cent 'Library', 3 cent red Admiral and 1 cent green Arch stamp.



Fig 63 Reverse of the above card.

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STAMP ON THE WRONG SIDE – THEREFORE UNPAID

L.D. (Mac) McConnell

Some while ago (ML, April 1997) your Editor's predecessor was sufficiently desperate for articles as to publish one with idle thoughts on the 1907 effect of UPU directives. The particular regulation cited required the despatching administration to change from marking single deficiency to double deficiency on outgoing short-paid mail.

Interpreting postal regulations can become a trip into a mini-minefield and a serious hazard to mental well-being. Take, for instance, the innocuous 1906 picture postcard shown below in figs 1 and 2. Sent from Ottawa to a UK address, it has a 2 cent King Edward VII stamp – the correct rate, unchanged for many years but has

sufficient other markings to require the addressee to pay 2d (= 4 cents) postage due.

Canadian PO Departmental Order No 20 came into effect on 1st January 1877 and fixed a postcard rate to the UK at 2 cents, well ahead of the UPU directive of 1st August 1878. This rate remained unchanged until the War Tax imposition of 15th April 1915. So, our card was not affected by any recent rate changes.

Private postcards were authorised by the UPU at the 1897 Washington Congress. A restriction precluded any writing other than the address on the front of the card. This was not relaxed until 1st October 1907. However, a separate, non-



Fig 1. Front Ottawa FE/10/06 showing postage due markings



Fig 2. Back Un-cancelled 2 cent stamp

UPU, agreement of December 1903 between Canada and the UK allowed divided back cards to pass without penalty between the two countries. Thus the postage due imposed was not in response to any infringement here.

Until September 1898, unpaid postcards were treated as unpaid letters but Article V of the 1897 Washington Congress said that these were now to be charged at double the postcard rate only. The fine on our card certainly accords with that ruling.

The Canadian Postal Guide of October 1897 was specific in that it required all postal markings to be confined to the address side only. The reason given was to prevent any impairment of the message on the reverse (a very considerate and laudable reason!)

This instruction ruled out any cancelling of a stamp stuck on the picture side. Because the stamp could not be cancelled, it was therefore deemed unusable and thus invalid. UPU regulations required an invalid stamp to be indicated by a cipher (O) placed alongside, but this would also have breached the 'no marking on the message side' ruling.

The Canadian PO had no other course available than to ignore the 2 cent stamp placed on the picture side and treat the card as an unpaid item. The rest of the story is obvious.

Now, if you, dear reader, have thought that this story of regulations and instructions is complex and confusing, so, apparently did the staff in post offices.

Figs 3 and 4 below show a similar postcard sent from Montreal in April 1906. The card was directed, via New York, to a Madame Mariso in Montevideo, Uruguay.

In this case, the divided back restriction was strictly observed but the postage stamp on the picture (message) side was duly cancelled despite the PO Regulations. This card reached Montevideo unchallenged on 4th May 1906.

Less than two months separate these two cards but the treatment differs very significantly. Was there a change of regulations causing this?

The 1906 Rome Congress of the UPU swept away these restrictions and from 1st October 1907, divided back cards with stamps on the message side could be postmarked with impunity and passed through the international mails. The 'maximum' card would be born and much of the fun would fade from 'modern' postal history. Shame!



Fig 3. Montreal AP6/06 with stamp cancelled on the picture side

VOLUNTEER WANTED

The Society is looking for a volunteer to take up the position of Covermart Organiser. The Covermart service allows members to buy and sell 'non-stamp' items (covers, postal stationery etc). It also helps to raise some income for the Society.

If you are able to give up a small amount of time to undertake this job or would simply like some more details of what it involves, please contact the Secretary, John Wright as soon as possible (contact details inside back cover).



Fig 4. Delivered Montevideo, May 4th without penalty

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THE STORY BEHIND THE COVER (4)

Graham Searle

The cover below was one of the first stampless covers I can recall buying many years ago. It was bought for no specific philatelic reason but simply because it looked good (I have since discovered that this is not a wholly bad basis for acquiring these old covers!) It had also once been in the collection of Dr. Fred Stulberg and I reckoned that anything good enough for him was more than OK for my fledgling collection.

What made it such a “good looker” will not be fully apparent in black and white. The front carries three different early circular date stamps from Queenston, Toronto and Montreal; and they are all three in different colours, green, black and red respectively. The City of Toronto mark is, incidentally, the first to carry the name

Toronto after the town of York was renamed. Add to this the fact that the letter was forwarded and it clearly carries some interest.

The letter was originally sent from Queenston to Toronto on 4th August 1838. It was routed across Lake Ontario as the rate (4½ pence Currency) was lower than that which would have applied had it gone via the longer road route. Unfortunately, the addressee had moved on to William Henry in Lower Canada by the time the letter arrived in Toronto. It was forwarded, the original rate of ‘Paid 4½’ was crossed through and a new rate of 1 shilling and 2 pence Currency (‘1/2’ for a distance of 301 to 400 miles) was applied; to be collected from the addressee.



Fig 1. Folded lettersheet sent from Queenston to Toronto and forwarded to William Henry L.C., 4th August 1838.

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The real interest, however, is the addressee himself. This is one Sir John Colborne. Colborne had a full and interesting life. He was born at Lyndhurst in Hampshire on 16th February 1778, the only son of Samuel Colborne. He entered the British army as an ensign in the 20th Regiment in 1794 and fought throughout the Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars. At the battle of Waterloo, where he commanded the 52nd Regiment, he was chiefly responsible for the defeat and rout of Napoleon's Old Guard. In 1825 he was appointed lieutenant-governor of Guernsey, and in 1829 lieutenant-governor of Upper Canada. He administered the affairs of Upper Canada with a good deal of prudence under several colonial secretaries until, in 1836, he was allowed to retire. In 1835, however, he had been appointed Commander-in Chief of all British forces in Canada and thus, despite his 'retirement' from colonial office, it fell to him to deal with the rebellions of 1837 and 1838 in Canada.

These rebellions were armed uprisings that took place in Upper Canada and Lower Canada in 1837 and 1838. Many residents demanded change to their system of governance, which gave a great deal of power to the small ruling elites in Upper and Lower Canada. Calls were made by reformers to make the executive accountable to the elected legislature. These calls for change were ignored by the government; thereby instigating the rebellions. The rebellions subsequently led to the two Canadas being united into one colony and the introduction of responsible government.

We can, thus, see why he was moving about the country so much in 1838 that his mail had to follow him around.

Colborne was no friend of Quebec (or Lower Canada as it then was). For a long

time after the rebellions he was known there as 'le vieux brulot' – the old firebreather – in recognition of the many farms of suspected patriots that were vengefully burned by his troops.

The British rewarded him for his efforts, however, and in 1839 he became governor-in chief of British North America a post he held for less than a year as he was raised to the peerage and became Baron Seaton.

Later in life he became Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands and from 1855 to 1860 he was commander-in-chief of the forces in Ireland, with the rank of general. In 1860 he retired for a second time, at the age of 82, and was promoted to be a Field Marshall. He died in Torquay, Devon in 1863 and a memorial to him stands, to this day, in Winchester.



Fig 2. Statue to John Colborne in Winchester, Hampshire.

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CANADA PAYS ITS DUES (1) - THE ONE CENT POSTAGE DUE RATE

David F. Sessions, FRPSL, FRPSC, FCPS

In my younger days, guided by the general dictum that unpaid or short paid mail attracted postage due at double the deficiency, I occasionally wondered at the justification for a 1 cent postage due stamp. In more recent times, the study of the 1930 'Arch' series has brought me the answer.

Of course, the basic 'double the deficiency' rule was originally laid down by the UPU in relation to International mail but many countries followed it for domestic purposes as well and Canada was no exception.

The 1934 cover from Montreal, illustrated below in fig 1, is correctly stamped 1 cent for printed matter, so there was no deficiency. However, the addressee had moved on and the missive was returned to sender, as instructed at upper left on the envelope. The charge for so doing was a single rate, in this case 1 cent. Receipt of payment is evidenced by the 1 cent postage due stamp.

Within Canada, a letter that is delivered from the post office at which it is collected is referred to as a 'drop letter' and usually attracts a lower rate of postage. In the early thirties, when the domestic rate was 3

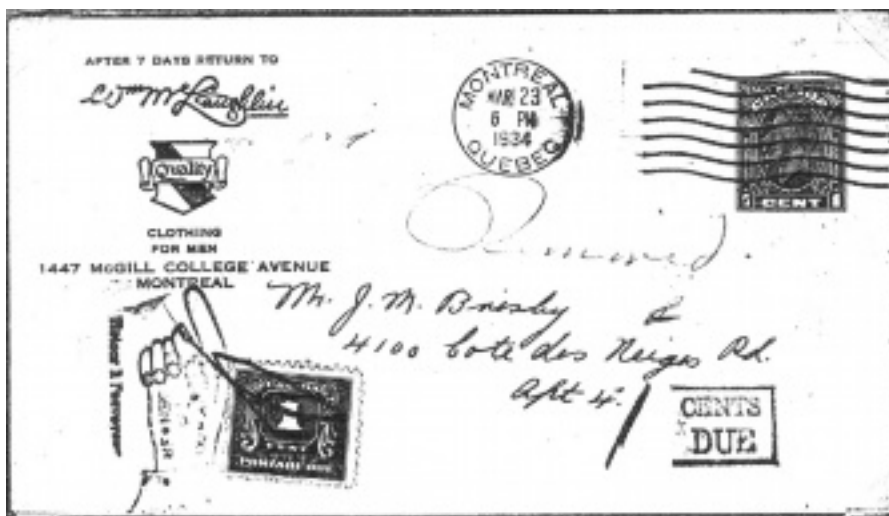


Fig 1. 1 cent postage due stamp correctly used on returned printed matter, March 1934.

cents, the drop letter rate was 2 cents. The 1934 Toronto letter shown in fig 2, started out as a drop letter but the addressee had moved from Toronto to Beamsville, thus the correct rate became 3 cents. As the letter was correctly stamped at the outset

no fine was incurred, just the additional charge of 1 cent. In this instance, it has been, unusually, acknowledged by a 1 cent postage stamp as opposed to a 1 cent postage due stamp.



Fig 2. 1 cent postage due incurred by a redirected drop letter and paid by a 1 cent Medallion postage stamp.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Derrick Avery

**MONTREAL SPLIT CIRCLE
CANCELLATION**

With reference to Sandy Mackie's query (Maple Leaves Jan 2007), re. Montreal split circle cancellations without the year date. I can't provide an exact answer to the query but I can narrow the period down somewhat.

The United Kingdom postcard with the imprint shown was issued in 1877 and the UPU post card with the same imprint was issued in 1879.

I have a similar datestamp used as an arrival mark at 10AM OC 3 on a 1 cent postal stationery post card from PRESCOTT postmarked PM OC 2 87.

Montreal duplex cancellations showing the exact hours, e.g. 6PM, but without the year appeared in 1880 and cancellations showing the year appeared in 1891; reference Smythies Duplex handbook.

I hope this may be of some interest.

John Milks

LAWRENCE STATION

Regarding the inquiry by Derrick Avery about a Lawrence Station, Ont. postmark, my Dominion of Canada Official Postal Guide for 1899 lists a Lawrence Station in the township of Southwold Ontario in the Elgin Electoral District. The postmaster was Chas. B. Campbell.

There was no Lawrence, Ont. post office at that time but there was a Lawrence Mills in McMurrice township in

the Electoral District of Muskoka and Parry Sound. Neither Lawrence Mills nor Lawrence Station are shown on an Ontario road map today.

My suggestion is that the post office in question may be in the area of Port Elgin, on the east shore of Lake Huron because of the reference to the Electoral District of Elgin.

Derrick Avery

1 CENT POSTCARD RATE TO THE UK

I have a number of 1 cent post cards of the late 19th century with additional 1 cent stamps applied to make up the 2 cents post card rate to the U.K. However, the example illustrated below (figs 1 and 2 show front and back) is the only such card I have seen that made it, unpenalised, to the U.K. with no additional stamp.

It was posted at Toronto on 1st December 1894 and addressed to Victoria, B.C. so the 1 cent rate was initially fine. On arrival at Victoria (backstamped "NT DE 8 94"), it was redirected to Paignton in Devon but no additional postage was applied. It carries a Victoria dispatch mark of 10th December 1894 and appears to have made it to England without any penalty. Is this unusual?

Dr. J.R. Frank

BRITISH SOLDIERS LETTERS

I very much enjoyed the article on 'British Soldiers' Letters' by Arfken et al. (Maple Leaves 304), but would like to add a few comments.

The 2 cents Large Queen cover from



Fig 1.

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Fig 2.

John Hales (fig 8) has been endorsed by Lt. Sir Redvers Buller Bt., who later played a prominent role in the South African War, 1899 – 1902.

There are indeed some British Soldiers' Letters with Small Queen franking. The Gerald Sattin collection (Spink 5th May 2000) contained a 2 cents Small Queen letter from A.E. Walker, Band R.I. Fusiliers from Halifax, N.S. on 22nd August 1876 to Liverpool (illustrated in fig 3 below). Furthermore, Arfken may have overlooked that he reported a 2 cents Small Queen cover from Berlin, Ont. To Amritsar, India, and redirected to Rawalpindi, in his excellent 'Canada Small Queens Era' (page 93). Dated 2nd October 1878, it is addressed to Sergeant L.H. Anderson of the 72nd Highlanders.

Seaman Domestic D. Sampson must have been a prolific correspondent, as I can illustrate another 2 cents Small Queen cover from him to the same Devonport address, and similarly endorsed, on 5th February 1895 from Esquimaux, B.C. (see fig 4). I also have a cover correctly franked

with a 5 cents Small Queen by civilian mail from Nanaimo, B.C. on 26th February 1895 to the same address. This cover, in the same handwriting, has no service endorsements but has the printed 'H.M.S. Pheasant' on its flap. It makes me question whether there was a monthly limit on the number of letters at the Concessionary rate.

Finally, I report a cover, a couple of months outside of the Concessionary rate period, but of considerable interest (fig 5). It is addressed to Gunner J. McAndrews, 2nd Company, Royal Artillery, Citadel, Halifax City and bears hand stamps reading 'Returned For Postage' and '2'. A 2 cents Imperial Penny Postage commemorative stamp has been applied at the Branch Dead Letter Office, Halifax and cancelled 17th February 1899. The cover may have been mailed locally or elsewhere before 25th December 1898 and held up at the D.L.O. The garrison at Halifax, N.S. was an Imperial Unit before the commencement of the South African War, when it was replaced by a Royal Canadian Regiment (First Contingent) one in March 1900.

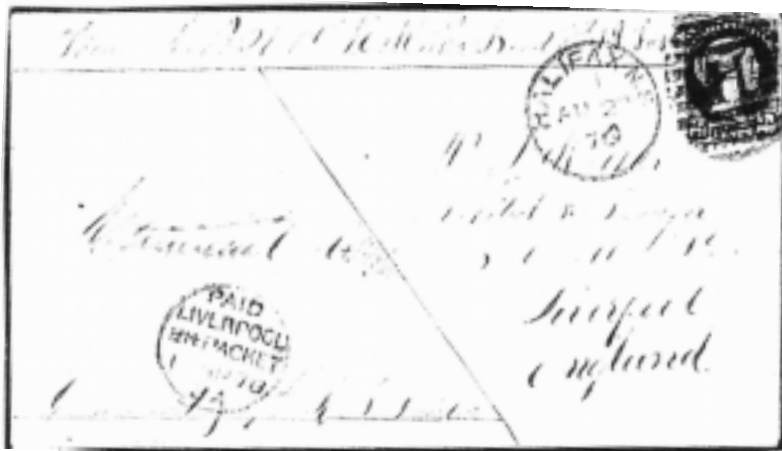


Fig 3.

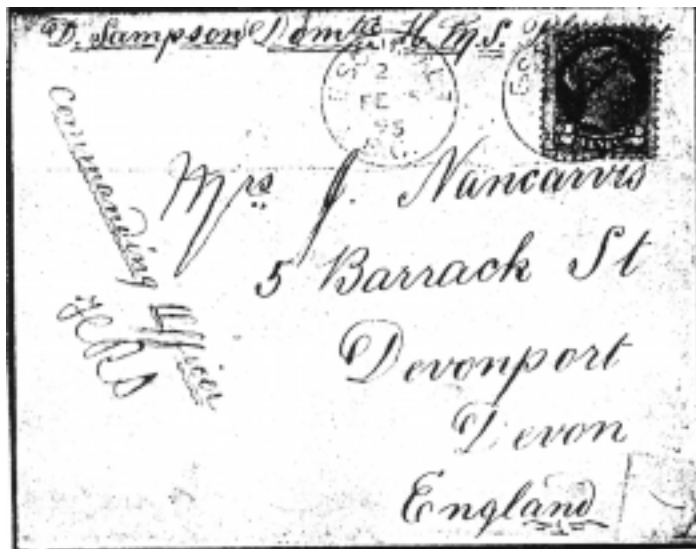


Fig 4.



Fig 5.

Ray White

NEW CENTENNIAL VARIETY?

In May of 2005, I bought two bulk lots of Centennial plate and corner blocks, comprising over 80 sets, from Bob Lee's penultimate auction, which included a total of 9 sets of the 15 cents, Bylot Island, value. The primary reason for the purchase was to add to my collection of fluorescent paper varieties. The secondary reason was to try and locate examples of the 'plastic flow' variety which, to this date, had eluded me, as I had not even seen a copy, never mind owned one. The resultant search was rewarding in that I found the flaw on all 8 copies in two different lower right corner blocks, on low fluorescent flecked paper, Ottawa (OP2) tagged, PVA gum; on both vertical marginal copies in an upper right corner block, paper as above; and also on both marginal copies in an upper right and all 4 copies in a lower right corner block on low fluorescent, flecked paper, with a Winnipeg (W2) tag and PVA gum.

Of greater interest, however, is what appears to be a different 'plastic flow' variety on a copy from R2/1, upper left corner block of plate 1 on dextrine gum. The normal plastic flow variety is accepted as being confined to the right hand columns of the sheet.

This new variety (illustrated in fig 6 – *variety enhanced slightly so that it shows better. Ed*) takes the form of an arc joining up the gap in the lower section of '5' and

also an angled, rippled, line, extending from the lower curve of the figure 1, to beneath the 6th horizontal line to the left vertical of the '1'. Continuing my search produced a further two upper left blocks from plate 1 which show the identical variety.

The three copies of the variety I found are on different papers. One is on plain non-fluorescent paper and the other two are on plain, dull fluorescent paper (although even these two differ slightly).

Whilst the normal 'plastic flow' varieties are not, in any way, constant, this



Fig 6.

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DEALERS IN FINE STAMPS SINCE 1924

new variety appears to be constant from position 2/1 of plate 1.

(Editors note: if this variety is, indeed, constant from plate 1, it would be interesting to hunt for it on UL corner blocks on PVA gum. This value is known to have been printed from plate 1 with PVA gum but only a handful of LL plate blocks exist. The presence of this variety on an UL block with PVA gum would potentially prove the stamps to be from plate 1 despite the lack of imprint.)

The article entitled "KNOW IT ALL" by the Yellow Peril in the April issue of Maple Leaves has provided a flurry of responses from members. I share a few of these below....

Gib Wallace

There is one definite legitimate use of Postage Due on registered letters other than Business Reply. This is for registered 'drop' letters re-directed and upgraded to

the Dominion rate (see fig 7 for an example, albeit without postage due stamp). In this case, the 1 cent postage rate was correct for the original address inside Hamilton city. When redirected to Philadelphia, the postage required was 2 cents. Fig 8 shows a more bizarre use of Postage Due stamps on a registered letter. The procedure for registration was to hand the letter to the postmaster who would affix the correct postage and registration fee, then cancel the stamps, issue a certificate which would have a number, also written on the cover. To ensure its safe arrival, each handling office entered a number in the registration book and on the letter. It is possible that Sevogle, a small post office had run out of 2 cent stamps and used a postage due stamp instead. Newcastle forwarded it, Halifax & Campbellton R.P.O. moved it and Hamilton received it and delivered it. All of the handling offices ignored the P.D. stamp, assuming it to be justified.



Fig 7.

Mike Street

It was fun to see Figure 2 in the Yellow Peril's KNOW IT ALL! article in the April 2007 ML as I have a companion cover from the same correspondence. Now knowing about the pair, and seeing the gap in registration numbers between the two covers, it seems clear that the sender mailed himself a First Day Cover of each of the stamps of the 16 September 1946 Peace Issue. My cover, shown herewith (see fig 9 below), was written up in a 'Cover Stories' article in the April-June 2004 BNA Topics (v. 61, no. 2, p.61) because of an interesting feature which the YP also noted - only single deficiency postage due, not double, was charged. Here's why this happened.

Section 179 of the 1944-1945 Canada Official Postal Guide reads "Unpaid or insufficiently prepaid registered articles are subject to a tax of single the deficiency as regards postage and registration fee. (In the absence of any indication to the contrary, the intention of the sender to prepay a registration fee of 10c will be assumed.)"

This rule was still in effect when both YP's and my covers were mailed at Toronto's Adelaide St. Postal Station on 16 September 1946. First class postage was only 4 cents at the time. How the sender got the post office clerk to send the items by registered mail without asking for more postage is a mystery. In any case, the receiving post office at Sydenham, Ontario was aware of the rule quoted above and charged only the single deficiency, six cents on YP's cover and four cents on mine. Both were cancelled in Sydenham on 18 September 1946. The postage dues and unusual single deficiency charge turn what would be otherwise fairly common First Day Covers into display pieces.

Marc Eisenberg

I can show two more registered short paid items (see figs 10 and 11). The first is a piece of 1925 registered mail that was short paid 2 cents and charged double deficiency, noted by the 'MORE TO PAY' handstamp. The fine was paid by two 2 cent postage due stamps from the first issue. This one is unusual in that the clerk sent the registered letter out even though it was short paid. The second is a 1931 mailing which was also short paid 2 cents. The fine here was paid by a 4 cent postage due stamp from the first issue.

Nicholas Lazenby

Once again an article by the Yellow Peril in Maple Leaves prompts me to put pen to paper, this time the article 'Know it All!' in the April 2007 issue. I show below some covers in my possession which may add to the subject, and may be of interest to members.

The first (fig 12) is a 1948 cover franked 3 cents postage for local delivery in Peterborough, Ontario. The only reason I can think of for the 1 cent postage due charge is that it was accepted without being weighed and that it was subsequently found to weigh over 1 oz but under 2 oz which would have required a postage charge of 4 cents. As the cover had been accepted by the post office only the deficiency of 1 cent was charged.

The 1908 cover (fig 13) is precisely the type the Yellow Peril had originally thought could not exist. What is not clear, however, is whether the charge of 4 cents is a double deficiency on a double rate cover or a single deficiency on a triple rate cover.

The 1951 cover in fig 14 and fig 15 is a puzzle. In the UK, registered covers can be

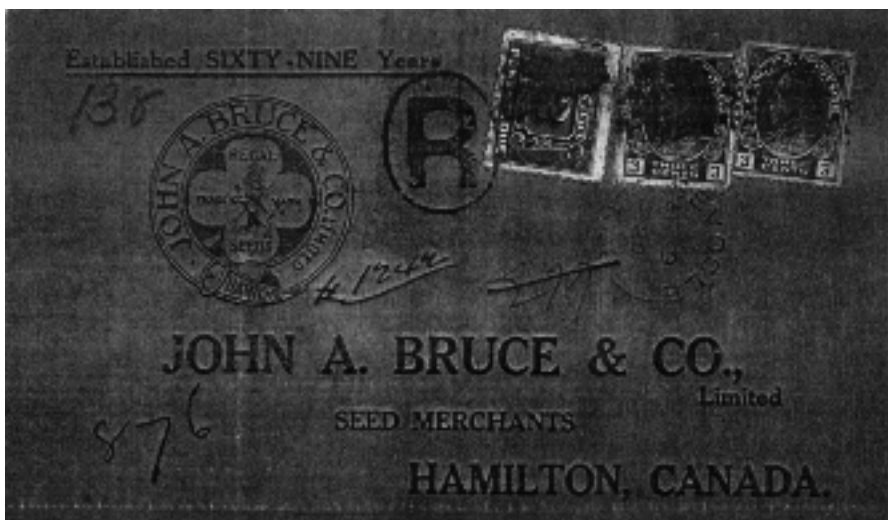


Fig 8.



Fig 9.



Fig 10.



Fig 11.

taxed either a) because they were 'posted out of course' i.e. in a post box, or b) because they were compulsorily registered, often when ordinary letters are found to contain coins etc. The latter does not appear to apply to this cover but I am suspicious that the manuscript marks indicate that it was properly franked for



Fig 12.

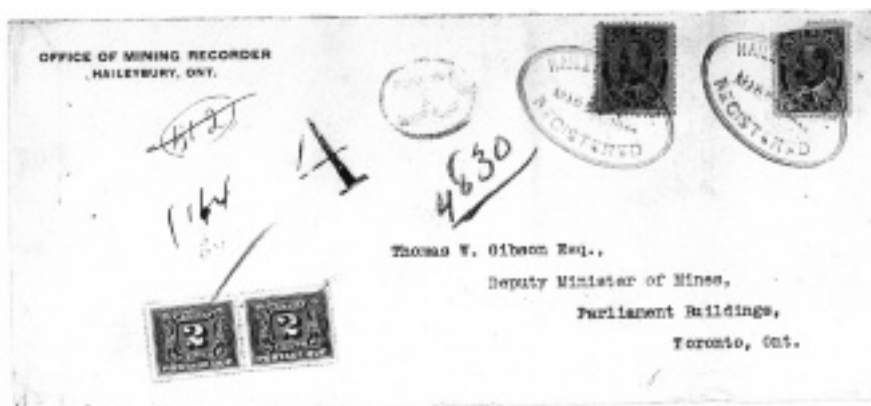


Fig 13.

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registration but not handed in over the counter. Either way, the recipient paid a fine of 10 cents as a result.

The 1975 cover (fig 16) has a 'Request for Additional Delivery' label with a 25 cents charge for the service. This charge has been collected with postage dues.



Fig 14.

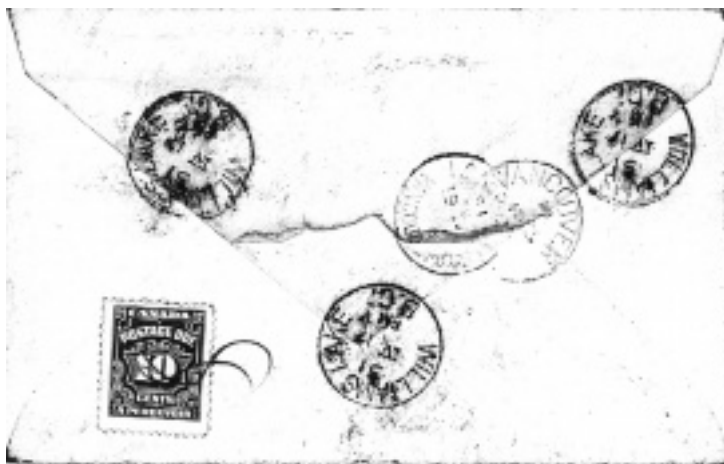


Fig 15.



Fig 16.

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SOCIETY NEWS

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Members are reminded that booking forms for Convention should be with me by 1st August if the quoted rates are to be guaranteed. Mike Slamo is also eagerly awaiting your competition entry forms. I know a deadline of 26 September seems a long way off but one does tend to forget things (well, I do!) so best do it now.

In the last issue I mentioned that a coach trip was still to be investigated. Patrice and I have since visited the 36 acre site of the Amberley Working Museum which should offer something of interest to everyone. Traditional craftsmen demonstrate their skills from pottery to walking stick making. There is a print workshop, telecommunications exhibition, electricity hall, vintage wireless exhibition (it's the cat's whiskers!) and much more. Whilst there is much ground to be covered, a miniature railway and vintage buses provide an alternative to perambulation. Whilst one always hopes for fine weather for such an outing, most of the centres of interest are under cover.

As Convention veterans are aware, it is not mandatory to attend for the full four days but that is the best way to relax, look and learn. So why not forget about the triviality of everyday existence and concentrate on the meaning of life for a few days? If you have not already booked, NOW is the time to do so.

David Sessions

SCOTLAND AND NORTH OF ENGLAND LOCAL GROUP

Seven members from Scotland and the North of England gathered at the Buccleuch Arms in Moffat on Saturday 14th April for our recent meeting. The new

venue proved excellent (and it's restaurant even better!) As usual we had a varied mix of displays. Table cloths were required as John Hillson had brought the good stuff along; a selection of Large Queens, including several unique items, some 8 cent Small Queens and a range of Revenue Stamps. Ray White brought us into the modern era with some varieties on the 15 cent Centennial stamp. These included the 'plastic flow' varieties and an unlisted, but constant, variety which appears in the UL plate blocks. John Atkinson showed some sheets which showed the designs and stories behind the stamps; mostly of the War Issue of 1942. Graham Searle showed some early straight line postmarks from the 1780 to 1830 period. Jim Bisset showed George 6 material up to the 1946 Peace Issue and Ken Andison showed two lots of material covering the 1991 to 1993 period.

The members present agreed to a local group fee of £5 per annum to cover the costs of the venue etc. Members who normally attend but were not able to be present in April are asked to note this.

The next meeting of the group will be on Saturday 3rd November, 1400hrs, at the same venue.

Graham Searle.

SOUTH WEST AND WALES MEMBERS GROUP

There will be a meeting of this group at Somerset Hall, Portishead on Sunday 12th August at 2 pm. (This is within the Annual Convention of the Bristol and District Philatelic Societies). All members are welcome. If possible, bring along a few sheets for display.

John Crocker.

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