



Maple Leaves

**JOURNAL OF THE
CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
OF GREAT BRITAIN**

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MAPLE LEAVES

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EDITORIAL

100 NOT OUT!

I start this issue with a special thank you to our most prolific contributor – the Yellow Peril. He has been contributing articles to Maple Leaves for longer than he or I would care to remember but this issue is the 100th consecutive one to include an article by him. A unique record and one that, I suspect, may never be repeated. Equally impressive is the fact that 100+ articles on, his input still produces the most follow up in terms of letters and responses of anything we publish. Keep up the good work, Stan and thanks from all of us!

In large part due to our regular contributors, the Yellow Peril foremost amongst them, I am pleased to report that Maple Leaves has again been in the honours. We won a Silver Medal at the recent New Zealand National Philatelic Literature Exhibition and we also won first prize in the Association of British

Philatelic Societies Journal competition. I must thank Ken Flint and Judith Edwards who kindly collected our prize from the ABPS at Midpex. Two nice certificates will be on show at Convention in Worthing just to prove I am not making all this up!

On behalf of all members, I must thank Warren Wilkinson who recently made a most generous monetary gift to the Society. In his note, Warren says, "I hear a lot of wonderful things about the Canadian Philatelic Society. Here is a contribution to our general funds". Members will know that it takes a lot to draw a smile from our treasurer but I fancy this did the trick!

The annual subscription reminder in the last issue resulted in a couple of queries from members that I can most easily answer here. The first was a question about whether it is possible to pay for more than one year at a time. The simple answer to this is 'yes' and several members do already do this. You can pay

for as many years in advance as you like (at current rates). There is only one small proviso – we don't give refunds! The second query was whether members could pay using PAYPAL. At present the answer to this is 'no'. We have looked at this internet based payment system which could be used to collect annual subscriptions. The system is, however, more designed for normal retailers and traders with high turnover and the admin costs associated with using it for a once a year payment are very high; and would, of course, need to be passed on in some form to members. We will keep this under review as rates and technology change rapidly in the internet world.

Members who collect the Canadian Widow Weeds and Jubilee issues may be interested to take a look at the Postal History Society of Canada website where the recent finding of a newspaper postage booklet is reported. This booklet was used

by the Toronto Globe between 1895 and 1897 and shows the postage paid to mail newspapers to non-subscribers. Because the Globe was a very heavy newspaper, the postage involved was sometimes very large. Those of us who doubted the postal need for those high value Jubilee stamps may have to think again as pages of the book show postage paid of over \$20 with many dollar value Jubilee and 50 cent Widow weeds multiple frankings. Well worth a look for those of you who have internet access.

This issue of Maple Leaves contains a special 4 page insert inviting those members who are not already members of BNAPS to consider joining our sibling organisation. Anyone who is not already a member and is interested in joining up can find the relevant contacts on the inside of the front cover. A similar insert inviting CPSGB membership will appear in this quarters' issue of Topics.

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STREET CANCELS 1886 - 1918 (PART 1)

Graham Searle

INTRODUCTION.

This is the first in a series of articles that will attempt to list and illustrate the "Street" cancels used in Canada between 1886 and 1918.

The Canadian population grew steadily in the second half of the 19th century. Between 1871 and 1911 the national population doubled from 3.6 million to 7.2 million and almost all of this growth occurred in the big cities of southern Ontario and Quebec. By 1891, the population of both Toronto and Montreal had grown to around 200,000 inhabitants. By comparison just 19,000 people lived in Vancouver. The growth in the west would come later.

This rapid growth in the size of the big eastern cities put a considerable strain on the capacity of the postal services. It required the rapid development of sub or branch post offices in the bigger cities to keep pace with the growth in postal volume and also to provide a local service to the spreading population.

The result was Canada's first city sub post offices. By 1890, these had opened in Toronto, Hamilton and Montreal and by 1915, they existed also in Ottawa, Quebec, Halifax, Vancouver, Winnipeg and St John.

In the early days, many of these new branch offices were named after the streets in which they existed and thus "Street Cancels" were born. In later years, many of these same offices were re-named

with rather less glamorous sounding sub-office numbers (thus Ottawa's Bank Street became Sub # 33).

So what are "Street Cancels"? Well, to my knowledge, no-one has yet produced a comprehensive checklist or catalogue that may impose a defined list on us, so unlike many other collecting areas, we are free to include or exclude pretty much anything we like around the general theme of branch post offices. For the purposes of this series of articles, I have confined myself to the early period of branch office development from 1880 up to the end of the first World War in 1918 and to the cancels that were used in this period from branch offices bearing a street name. This time period neatly includes most of the known post offices with an actual street name in them; as, following World War I most cities changed over to numbering, rather than naming, sub post offices. Some of those that came later are mentioned briefly for completeness. I have also included a few of the early branch offices that do not have a street name in them where they are important to the overall story or where I know they are often included as part of a collection of "Street Cancels".

Note that "street" in the context of street cancels includes a fair few "avenues", "boulevards", "squares", "roads" and one "rue".

Information on these early branch office cancels is patchy at best and any attempt to list them, never mind provide background on the development of the

post offices that created them is bound to include a lot of gaps, contradictions and errors. I apologise for all of these in advance and note that one of my main incentives in writing these articles is to tap the collective knowledge of our members who, I trust, will be quick to fill the gaps and correct the errors. If sufficient information is forthcoming, I will try to compile a list of all known cancels with earliest and latest known dates in the last instalment so please do not be shy in coming forward with corrections and additions.

I must make special mention of three sources of information that have been tapped extensively in producing this article. The first of these is the excellent National Archives of Canada (available on line at <http://data4.collectionscanada.ca>) that contains much information on post offices and postmasters as well as 1895 vintage maps of Canadian cities which are a great help to those of us not familiar with the street layouts. The second is the equally good web site created by CPSGB members Charles Livermore and William Walton that includes many details of the Toronto named and numbered post offices from 1880 to date. This can be found at <http://charleslivermore.com/streets/0street.shtml>. (Note that this source contains illustrations of many later Toronto 'Street' and sub-office cancels outside the scope of this article). The third is the series of books illustrating Proof Strikes of Canada cancels edited by Paul Hughes and published by CPSGB member, Robert Lee. A number of the illustrations of cancels have been taken from these last two sources with permission.

This current series of articles will, however, illustrate many cancellations not shown in the Proof Books and also add new information and correct some errors,

omissions and inconsistencies in the other sources.

My story starts in Toronto. Toronto may not have the largest number of 'Street' offices (that honour falls to Montreal although Toronto does have the largest number of different "Street Cancels") but it was the first of the growing cities to set up branch post offices so it seems a good place to begin. It also retained 'Street' names on its sub post offices for much longer than many other cities.

TORONTO

THE BRANCH OFFICES - pre-cursors to the "Street Cancels"

In 1881, the Canadian Post Office opened three branch offices in Toronto to supplement to main Toronto post office. These three offices went under the rather uninspiring names of Toronto East Branch, Toronto North Branch and Toronto West Branch (those unfamiliar with the geography of southern Ontario should recognise that a Toronto South Branch would be somewhere in Lake Ontario!)

These three branch offices were the first such city sub-offices to be opened in Canada. Collectors of duplex cancels will be familiar with these three offices as they each produced two different duplex cancels in the 1881 – 1885 period. The first of these shows the initial letter of the branch (E, N or W) set into the 14 bar killer of the duplex as an intaglio letter. The one for Toronto North branch is illustrated in fig 1. These first duplexes are only known dated in 1881 and are quite scarce. The second type, which is more common and dates from 1882 to 1886, shows the full post office name in



Fig 1 Toronto North Branch – first type of duplex cancel from 1881

the CDS and has 'TORONTO NORTH' (or EAST or WEST) set into the 14 bar killer. This type is shown in fig 2. In addition to these two duplex cancels, the Proof Books (3) show strikes of what appear to be CDS cancels (fig 3). At first glance these appear to be the dater portion of the second type of duplex hammer but close inspection shows that they have dots rather than dashes separating the location from 'BRANCH OFFICE'. (The differences are shown in fig 4). The author has never seen these cancels used on stamp or cover and would be interested to know if they were ever used.



Fig 2 Toronto East Branch – second type of duplex cancel

The Toronto East Branch was initially located at the corner of Queen Street and Parliament Street although it may well have moved location in 1882. George



Fig 3 CDS style cancel from the Toronto Branch offices shown in the Proof Books

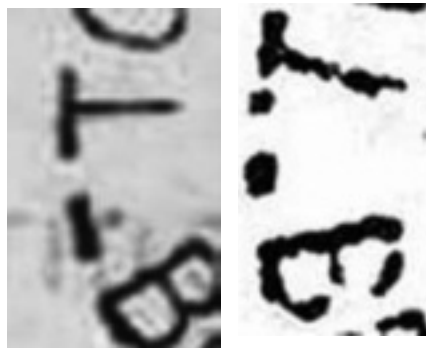


Fig 4 Differences between the Proof Book CDS cancel and the second duplex cancel

Giles was the first postmaster at this branch and he was succeeded by W.C. Price. Price was still postmaster in January 1887 when the East Branch office had been re-named 'Toronto, Queen St. East'.

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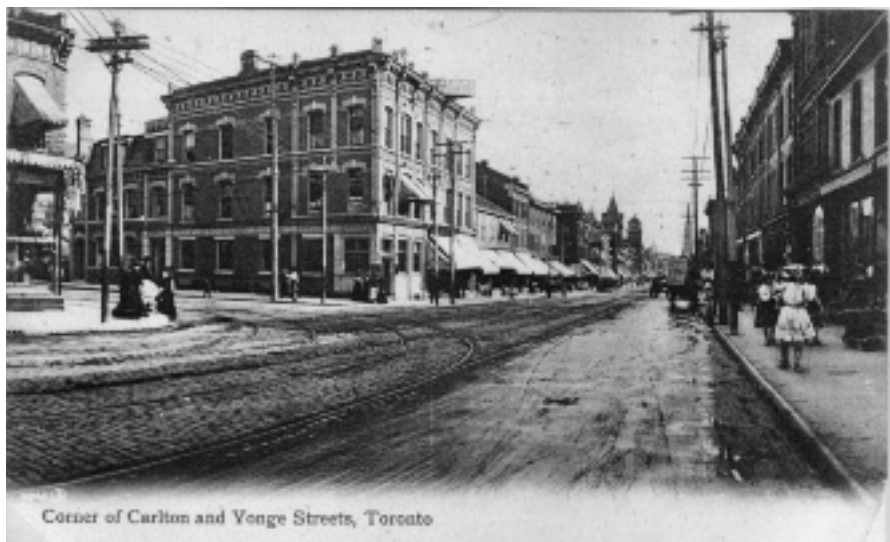


Fig 5 The corner of Yonge and Carleton – site of two different “Street” post offices and the Toronto North Branch office

The Toronto North Branch was located at the corner of Yonge Street and Carleton Street (fig 5). Andrew Jeffrey was postmaster of this office until 1891. The office was re-named ‘Toronto, Carleton Street’ in late 1886.

which opened as a branch office in 1884. I have only seen one cancel type from this period which is a split ring CDS illustrated in fig 6. In October 1892, this office changed its name to ‘Toronto Junction’ and remained as such until July 1908

The Toronto West Branch, was located at the corner of Queen Street and Bathurst Street. Follis Johnson was the first postmaster here and he remained in post well into the 20th century. This branch was re-named ‘Toronto, Bathurst Street’ in late 1886 (1, 4).

These early branch offices thus went on to become three of the first ‘Street’ offices.

There is one other Toronto branch office of this period that is often included in collections of Street cancellations. This started life as ‘West Toronto Junction’



Fig 6 West Toronto Junction split ring CDS

when it was re-named again and became 'Postal Station D, West'. I know of only two cancels from the 'Toronto Junction' period. One is a CDS (23.5mm) shown in fig 7 and used throughout the period and the other is a duplex (22.5mm date hub and 9 bar killer with blank indicia) used in the 1901 – 1905 period (no illustration available).



Fig 7 Toronto Junction CDS cancel

THE PERIOD UP TO 1890.

By the start of 1887, Toronto had six 'Street' post offices. Three were those mentioned above; the re-named branch offices. The other three were at Blecker Street, Dundas Street and Spadina Avenue. In May 1888, a seventh office was opened at Peter Street.

Bathurst Street:-

This sub-office remained open for a long time. Indeed, it was not re-named until 1942 when it became 'Toronto Sub # 14'. Three different CDS cancels have

been seen from this office in the period up to 1918. The first and earliest type is shown in fig 8.



Fig 8 Bathurst Street CDS cancel earliest type

This has a 24mm dater and I have only seen it with blank indicia. The two later types are shown in the Proof Books (3) but I have not seen examples on stamp or cover. These are illustrated in figs 9 and 10; maybe our members can confirm the existence of these cancels in use.

In addition to the CDS cancels there are three different duplex cancels (figs 11,12 and 13). The first of these has 10



Fig 9 Bathurst Street CDS cancel – second type

bars in the killer, a 24mm dater and a known period of use up to 1889. The second has 9 bars in the killer a 25mm dater and was used from 1889 up to 1901. The third type also has 9 bars in the killer but a much smaller dater (22.5mm). This type is known used only in 1900 and 1901.

All of these duplexes show AM or PM indicia.

Bathurst Street also used a roller cancel. I have only ever seen one example of this cancel which is shown in fig 14. There is also a parcel post oval cancel reading 'TORONTO ONT. B' which is believed to come from this office (see fig 15).



Fig 12 Bathurst Street duplex cancel – second type



Fig 10 Bathurst Street CDS cancel – third type



Fig 13 Bathurst Street duplex cancel – third type



Fig 11 Bathurst Street duplex cancel – first type



Fig 14 Bathurst Street roller cancel



Fig 15 Bathurst Street parcel oval 'B'

Bleecker Street:-

Bleecker Street sub-office opened in December 1886. It was one of the largest Toronto sub-offices and, in fact, was still open well into the 1980's. It was located on the corner of Bleecker and Wellesley Streets. The first postmaster was a Mrs Eliza Newton who remained in office into the 20th century.

The post office seems to have had some difficulties with the spelling of this office. In the 1887 Postal Guide it is referred to as 'Blecker Street' (although I have seen no postmarks bearing this spelling so I assume it is simply a

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misprint). By the 1892 Postal Guide this had been corrected to 'Bleecker Street'. There are also three separate cancels with the spelling 'Bleeker Street'. These all have early Proof dates/ usages and appear to have been changed later to the correct spelling. Suffice to say that the contemporary maps all show the spelling of 'Bleecker Street' so I have assumed this to be correct throughout the period.

There are a wide range of cancels from this office. There are two different CDS cancels. The first has a 24mm dater which I have seen used in the 1890's (see fig 16). The indicia is always blank on this cancel. The second has the 'Bleeker' spelling (see fig 17). This is one that appears in the



Fig 17 Bleeker Street CDS cancel



Fig 16 Bleeker Street CDS cancel

Proof Books (3). There are also two squared circle cancels (both type II); one with the correct spelling and one with the 'Bleeker' error (figs 18 and 19). This latter is the earlier and scarcer of the two and is found used only in the first three months of 1895. The 'Bleeker' type is



Fig 18 Bleeker Street Squared Circle cancel

found used from March 1895 up to mid 1900 and presumably replaced the spelling error type once someone had spotted it. Both Squared Circle types only occur with blank indicia.

There are also two duplex cancels; one with the correct spelling and one with the 'Bleeker' error (figs 20 and 21). Both have a 23mm dater with AM or PM indicia. The earlier, Bleeker, spelling has a 10 bar



Fig 19 *Bleecker Street Squared Circle cancel*

killer. The Proof strike of this spelling error is dated 1886. The later 'Bleecker' spelling has a 9 bar killer and I have only seen strikes of this type from the 1900/1901 period.



Fig 20 *Bleecker Street duplex cancel*

Livermore and Walton (2) also illustrate a roller cancel (of the general type illustrated in fig 14 above). Although this strike is on a ½ cent QV Numeral stamp, they note the date as December 1924 so it may well be outside of the period considered in this article. I would be interested to know if anyone has seen earlier examples of this roller cancel.

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Fig 21 Bleecker Street duplex cancel

Lastly, Bleecker Street used at least two different parcel post oval cancels. The first is a fancy design with no central letter or number (fig 22). Dated copies of this



Fig 22 Bleeker Street fancy parcel oval

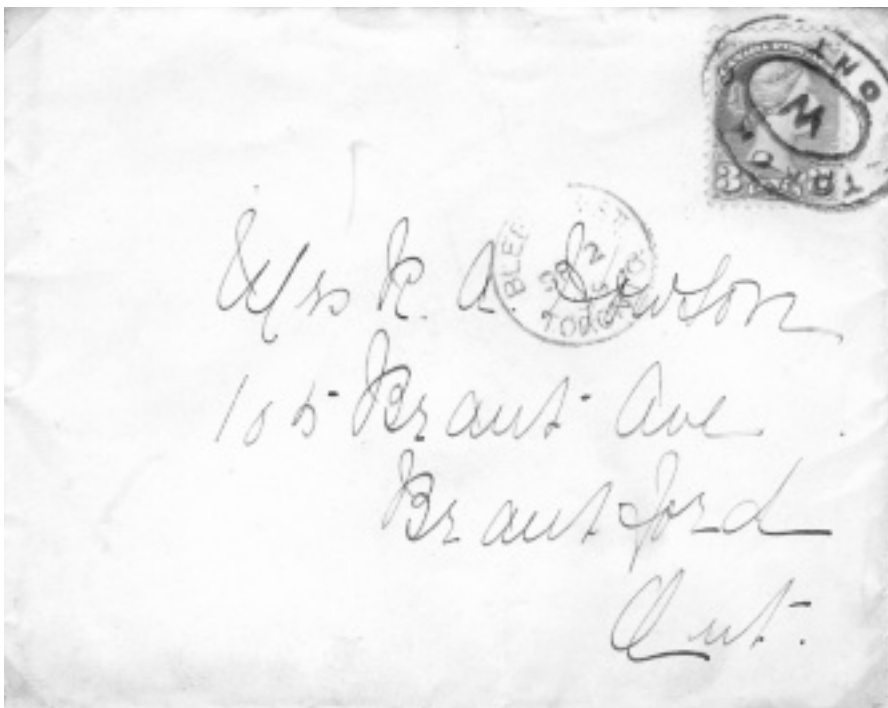


Fig 23 Bleecker Street parcel oval 'W'

cancel are from 1888 and the design appears to be unique to this office. The second type is shown in fig 23 and appears to be slightly later (1890 - 1899 in the two dated copies I have seen). The significance of the 'W' in this cancel is unclear as Bathurst St. had been the original Toronto West Branch. As noted above, however, Bathurst Street used a 'B' parcel oval. Livermore and Walton (2) suggest that the 'W' may be because the office was on the corner of Wellesley Road.

Carleton Street.

The spelling of this street and associated post offices causes much confusion. The Toronto North Branch office was renamed 'Carleton Street' in 1886. In the 1891 Postal Guide, the spelling changes to 'Carlton Street' and then back again to 'Carleton Street' in 1892. Contemporary maps show both spellings so it would appear that they were interchangeable. By the late 1890's, however, almost everyone seemed to have settled on 'Carlton' as the spelling.

The original Carleton Street office at the corner of Yonge and Carleton Streets remained open only until 1892 (this was most likely a result of the original postmaster, Andrew Jeffry, having resigned in early 1891). The demand for a post office in this area was met by two new sub-offices. The first was located two blocks up Yonge Street and opened in 1893 as 'St. Joseph Street'. The second was also opened in 1893, one block down Yonge Street at Gerrard Street. To add real confusion, another sub-office named 'Carlton Street' was opened at the original location, but in the Eaton Department store, in April 1899 – restoring, almost, the original name and location (1, 4).

In its original guise as 'Carleton

Street', it appears to have used only duplex cancels. Two types are found. The first has an 11 bar killer (see fig 24) and appears (from proof dates) to have been the earlier. I have never seen this type used on cover or stamp and would welcome confirmation of its use. The second has a 10 bar killer – see fig 25. This second type is found with AM or PM indicia or indicia blank. All of these Carleton Street duplexes are elusive.

Dundas Street.



Fig 24 Carleton street duplex cancel – 11 bar killer

The Dundas Street sub-office was opened in 1886. The first postmaster here was Albert Hudgin. The Postal Guides (4) suggest that Hudgin was replaced by a R.P. Seidmore for a short time in the early 1890's but he was back in charge by 1895.

The main postmark used by the Dundas Street office in our time period was a duplex type (24.5mm dater with an 11 bar killer). This is illustrated in fig 26 and is found up to 1899. Livermore and Walton (2) illustrate a second type of duplex cancel (see fig 27) which has a smaller, 23mm, dater and what appears to be a 9 bar killer. This dates from 1900-1901.

There is also a scarcer CDS cancel

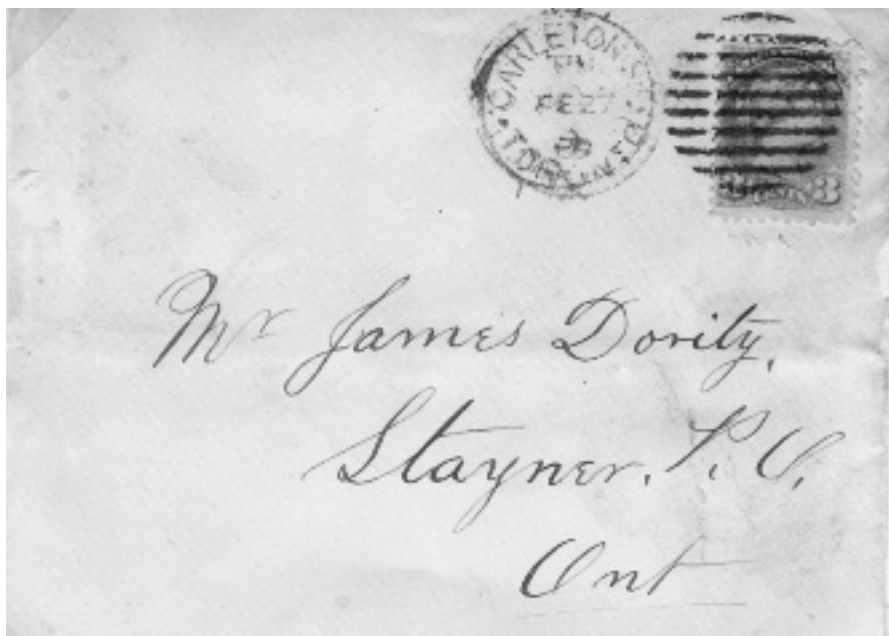


Fig 25 Carleton street duplex cancel – 10 bar killer

from this office (shown in fig 28) which was used sporadically; firstly between October 1895 and December 1896 and then again in 1902. There is a second type of CDS cancel which is much later

(proofed in 1910). This is shown in fig 29. I also have in my collection one example of a roller cancel from Dundas Street on a 2 cent QV Numeral stamp – see fig 30. **Queen St. East.**



Fig 26 Dundas Street duplex cancel – early type



Fig 27 Dundas Street duplex cancel – later type

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Fig 28 Dundas Street CDS cancel – early type



Fig 29 Dundas Street CDS cancel – later type



Fig 30 Dundas Street roller cancel



Fig 31 Queen St. East – one of the main thoroughfares of Toronto that gave its name to two different street offices

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As noted above, Queen St. East (fig 31) was the re-named Toronto East Branch and began life as such in 1886. W.C. Price was its' first postmaster but by 1891 he had been replaced by the Boddy family. Edward H. Boddy appears as postmaster in the 1890 Postal Guide but he was replaced by William H. Boddy in 1891. William appears to have remained as postmaster until after 1900.

Queen St. East produced two cancels which seem to have enjoyed roughly equal usage in the early part of my time period. The first is a duplex cancel (23mm dater with a 10 bar killer, AM or PM indicia) shown in fig 32. The second is a Squared Circle cancel which was in use between 1894 and 1900 (see fig 33). This type is found with blank indicia up to November 1899 and normally AM or PM thereafter. The PM indicia is reported to be four times more common than AM (5) so this office clearly did most of its business in the afternoons.

There is a later duplex cancel which has 'Street' in full – see fig 34. This type dates from 1900 onward and has a 9 bar killer. There is also a later CDS cancel, proofed in 1912. This is shown in fig 35.

Livermore and Walton (2) also report a



Fig 32 Queen St. East duplex cancel – early type



Fig 33 Queen St. East Squared Circle cancel



Fig 34 Queen St. East duplex cancel – later type

roller cancel although their date of use is 1927 and it is not clear if this roller was in use prior to 1918.

Spadina Avenue.

The Spadina Avenue sub-office was also opened in 1886. The first postmaster there was Joseph Reading who was still in



Fig 35 Queen St. East CDS cancel

office in 1900. This was one of the largest and most important of the Toronto sub-offices, located at the corner of Spadina Avenue and College Street, and it produced a very wide range of cancels.

The first of these is a CDS cancel with a 24mm dater, illustrated in fig 36. This is found with AM and PM indicia and all the copies I have seen are in the period 1897 to 1899. There are later types of CDS cancel, which just creep into the back end of our time period. The first of these



Fig 36 Spadina Avenue CDS cancel

shows the street name at the left hand side of the dater (see fig 37). The earliest date recorded on these is 1914. They have a smaller dater (22.5mm) than the earlier type as well as the different wording. The second shows the street name at the bottom of the dater which is most probably later than the 1918 cut-off. I have one of these dated 1929 on a 2 cent QV Jubilee stamp so it pays to double check the dates!



Fig 37 Spadina Avenue – second type of CDS cancel

The office used four different duplex cancels in the period. The first of these has a 24.5mm dater and a 10 bar killer with no numerals or letters. The indicia are AM or PM. It is illustrated in fig 38 and was in use from 1886 to 1896. The second type, shown in fig 39, has the number '3' inside the killer bars and has a larger dater (26.5mm). On this style the indicia are normally timed (10AM etc), although AM and PM are also known. The period of use of this second type was 1889 to 1898. A later type of duplex is shown in fig 40. This type which was used between 1899 and 1901 has a 26mm dater reading 'TORONTO CANADA S-DEPOT' and an

11 bar killer. The indicia on this type are timed (number only). The fourth duplex cancel is shown in fig 41. This type has a 22mm dater with a 9 bar killer. It is only known used in 1900 and 1901 and appears to be much rarer than the preceding types. The indicia on this last type are AM or PM.

Spadina Avenue also used at least two roller cancels; numbered 1 and 2 (#1 is shown in fig 42). There is also a Squared Circle cancel (see fig 43), used between 1896 and 1899, which is found with both AM and PM indicia. Finally, Spadina



Fig 38 Spadina Avenue – first type of duplex cancel

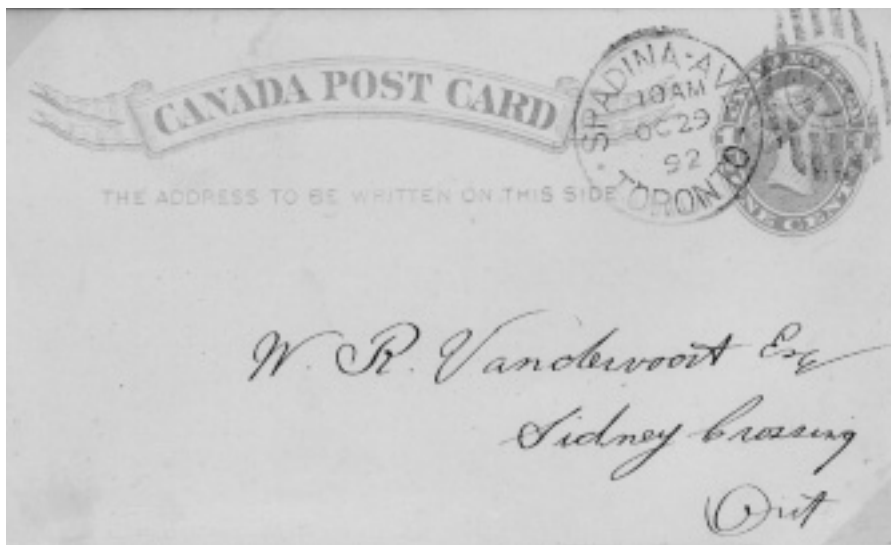


Fig 39 Spadina Avenue – second type of duplex cancel

Avenue used a parcel post oval cancel with an 'S' in the centre (see fig 44); similar to the Bathurst Street and second Blecker Street types.

Peter Street.

The Peter Street sub-office was opened in May 1888 at 299 Queen Street

West. The first postmaster was a J.L. Bird who served until November 1901. This was another long standing sub-office which did not close until 1957.

In the early part of its life, Peter Street appears to have used only a duplex cancel. This cancel has a 23.5mm dater and a 9 bar killer and is illustrated in fig 45. Lee (6) lists two sub-types of this cancel. One



Fig 40 Spadina Avenue – S depot duplex



Fig 43 Spadina Avenue Squared Circle cancel



Fig 41 Spadina Avenue – fourth type of duplex cancel



Fig 42 Spadina Avenue roller cancel



Fig 44 Spadina Avenue parcel oval 'S'

shows a hyphen between the R and S; the second does not have this hyphen. I have only seen the 'no hyphen' variety as illustrated. This type was used from 1888

to at least 1904. I say 'at least' as the earliest example of a CDS cancel I have seen recorded is 1912 and it is unclear precisely what cancels this office used in

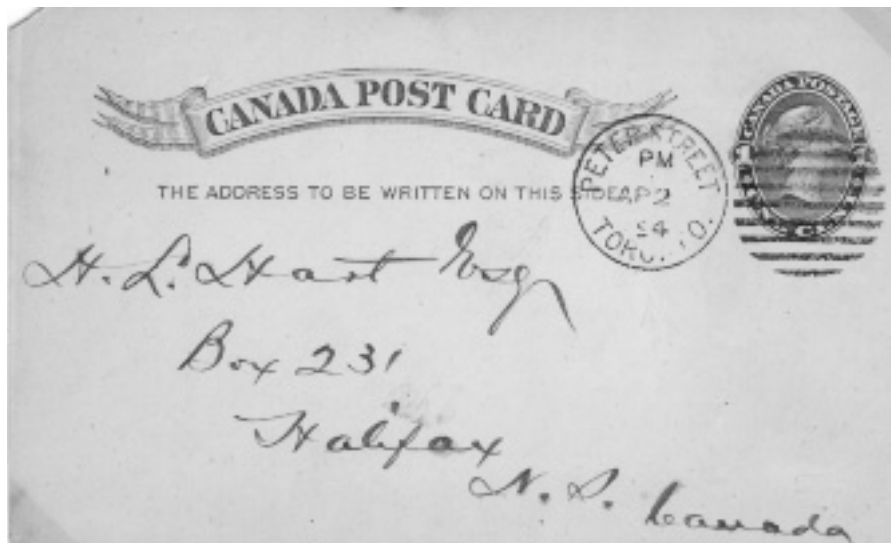


Fig 45 Peter Street duplex cancel

the 8 year period from 1904 to 1912 – perhaps some of our members can throw some light on this? Very early examples of this duplex cancel (pre- 1890) have blank indicia, later types show either AM or PM.

Two CDS cancels were used in the early part of the 20th century. The first of these (fig 46) has a 23mm dater and the words 'Peter Street' appear at the bottom. This one is known used as early as 1912. The second type (fig 47) has a slightly smaller dater (22mm) and has the words 'Peter Street' at the top. Its ERD is in 1918.

Peter Street also employed a roller cancel which is illustrated in fig 48. Whether this cancel should be included in this listing is unclear. The Proof Books (3) show a date of August 1927 for this cancel. However, the two examples I have seen are both on late QV stamps. These could, of course, be late usages but it



Fig 46 Peter Street CDS cancel – early type

seems more likely that this cancel is much earlier than shown in the Proof Books.

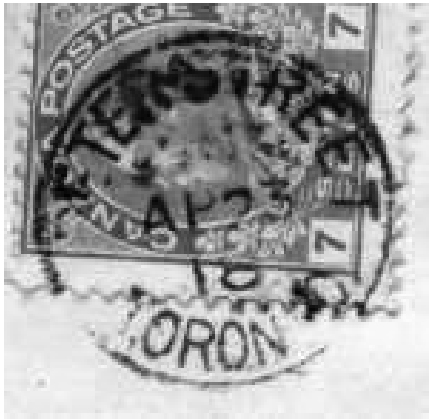


Fig 47 Peter Street CDS cancel – later type



Fig 48 Peter Street roller cancel

CHANGES AND GROWTH UP TO 1900.

The 1890's saw a considerable growth in the number of 'Street' post offices in Toronto. In 1890 and 1891, three new ones were opened at Bloor Street, Parliament Street and Rusholme Road. In 1892 a further four opened at Gerrard Street, Strachan Avenue, York Street and St. Joseph Street. These were followed in 1893 by a further two new offices at Broadview Avenue and Clinton Street. In January 1894, the Gerrard Street sub-

office, opened only two years earlier, was re-named Elm Street. In 1896, two further sub-offices were opened at Lee Avenue and Pape Avenue. In April 1899, the original site of the Carleton Street office was taken by a new office named Carlton Street. The last addition to the list came in July 1900 when an office was opened at Queen St. Centre. This gave Toronto a total of 18 'Street' sub-offices in late 1900 – a peak for the city at one point in time. From 1901 onward the story was of decline, closure and re-naming with the gradual loss of the 'Streets'.

Bloor Street.

The Bloor Street sub-office opened in November 1890 and was another long lived 'Street' office, existing as such until June 1967. It remained in place after this time but became Toronto Sub # 46. It started life at 380 Bloor St. West under postmaster William H. Gilpin who remained in office until 1899. In later life it seems to have moved twice; first to 475 Bloor St. West and later to 378 Bloor St. West but I cannot confirm the dates of these moves. In the time period up to 1918, I have seen only CDS cancels from

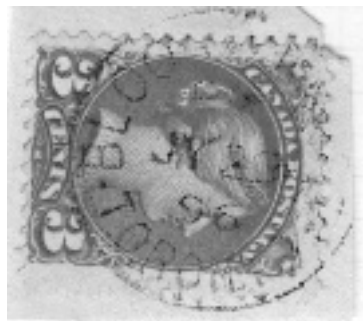


Fig 49 Bloor Street CDS cancel – early type

this office. The first, and most common, type has a 23.5mm dater and either AM or PM indicia. An example is shown in fig 49. The second, later type, proofed in 1914, is shown in fig 50.

Broadview Avenue.

The Broadview Avenue sub-office opened sometime in 1893 and is, to the



Fig 50 Bloor Street CDS cancel – later type

best of my knowledge, still operating. The first postmaster there was C. Sneath but other information on its early life is sadly lacking. It has the distinction of having one of the longest lived cancels amongst all “Street Cancels”. The CDS cancel from Broadview Avenue was used from its inception until late 1946. This is a 24.5mm dater shown in fig 51. Despite the long life, this cancel is far from common. Even scarcer, however, is the roller cancel from this office shown in fig 52. I have seen examples of this roller cancel used on Small Queens and QV Maple Leaf stamps so it was clearly used in the mid to late 1890’s but beyond that I have no information on its period of use.



Fig 51 Broadview Avenue CDS cancel



Fig 52 Broadview Avenue roller cancel

Carlton Street.

As noted above, Carlton Street office was re-opened with the ‘e’ missing from the name in April 1899. The office was located in the Eaton Co. store on the corner of Carlton Street and Yonge Street. The initial postmaster was H.P. Withers who held office until his death in 1907. The Withers family remained in charge, however, as his son H.H. Withers took over until 1919.

The principle cancel from this office in our time period is a CDS cancel with a 25mm dater and AM or PM indicia. This is most commonly seen in the 1899 – 1900 period but is known used up to at least

1908. It is illustrated in fig 53. A later CDS cancel has been reported by Livermore and Walton (2). Dating from 1909 – 1918, this type somewhat bizarrely reverts to the Carleton Street spelling. I have only seen the Proof Book (3) strike of this cancel which is shown in fig 54.

Carlton Street also used a roller cancel of the general type (see fig 14). As with many of the smaller sub-offices, this roller cancel is scarce.

TO BE CONTINUED.



Fig 53 Carlton Street CDS cancel



Fig 54 Carlton Street CDS cancel from 1909 onward

References:-

- (1) National Library of Canada and National Archives of Canada; available on-line at:
<http://data4.collectionscanada.ca>
- (2) Toronto Named and Numbered Post Offices – Livermore and Walton; on the web at
<http://charleslivermore.com/streets/0streets.html>
- (3) Series of books entitled 'Proof Strikes of Canada' edited by J. Paul Hughes and published by Robert Lee 1990 – 1994. The relevant volumes for this article are:-
Volume VI Duplex Proof Strikes of Ontario
Volume IX Full Circle Proof Strikes of Ontario
Volume XVII Transportation Part 2 and Squared Circle Proof Strikes of Canada
Volume XXVIII Roller Proof Strikes of Ontario
- (4) Canadian Post Office, Postal Guides for October 1886, January 1887 and January of subsequent years up to 1900. Library and Archives Canada.
- (5) The Squared Circle Cancellations of Canada, 5th Edition, BNAPS, 2001.
- (6) Catalogue of Canadian Duplex Cancellations, Robert Lee, 1987.

A SHORT-PAID, UNPENALISED REGISTERED POSTCARD

John Wright

Starting with the reasonable assumption that Registered Postcards are not common, it would follow that a Registered Postcard from Canada to the UK will be hard to find, and, further, that one which was short-paid and passed unpenalised will be at least scarce. Below is illustrated one such card.

Canada, the first non-European country to do so, issued its first postcard on 1st June 1871, a rate to the U.K. of 2 cents being established on 1st January 1877. This remained in effect until the imposition of a 1 cent War Tax on 15th April 1915. Registration was initially permitted (on the addition of a 2 cent Registered Letter Stamp) but was then forbidden on 11th April 1882 before being again permitted on 8th May 1889 when the registration fee was raised to 5 cents.

Sent on 18th January 1902 by stamp dealer Ch. Louis van Brabant (the firm is

still trading according to Richard Lamb, from whom the card was purchased), this card queried the non-receipt of an order for stamps sent on 25th November 1901. Brabant's serrated oval is at top left and his private 'REGISTERED' is at lower left, both in deep mauve. The card is a 1 cent QV postal stationery card (Webb # P17), to which a 5 cent QV Numeral has been added to pay the registration fee. The face has a strike of "ALPHONSE MAN JA 13 02" (two on the back). The back also has transit marks of "MARIAPOLIS MAN JA 13 02" and "C.N.R. W'PEG & BRANDON No 1 W JA 13 02". The "R in oval" is struck four times on the face and twice on the back. An oval receiver "REGISTERED S.W.D.O. 7:15 AM JA 27 02" is on the front as is what appears to be a violet hooded circular "REGISTERED LONDON 27 JAN 02", the date being extremely clear.

The card is thus 1 cent short-paid but was not penalised.



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A CENTENNIAL PUZZLE

The Yellow Peril

Illustrations by Susan So

To any member who enjoys a mystery or solving puzzles, the following circumstances should prove entertaining.

On 29th January 1975, George Wegg or a member of his staff mailed this letter to Brazil (see fig 1) at the Adelaide Street Post Office in Toronto. The letter is franked with eight 8 cent Centennial coils and a 1972 1 cent MacDonald stamp to make up the combined 50 cent registration fee and 15 cent International Airmail postal rate of 65 cents. The letter was allocated the registration number 00291. The stamps are cancelled with four large "Adelaide St. Postal Stn. 29 I 1975 Toronto, Ont. M50 1J0" circular date stamps. The cover is also backstamped twice with this cds.

The back of the cover is shown in fig 2 and it shows that the letter arrived in Rio de

Janeiro on 5th February 1975. It was returned to Canada on 15th March via Montreal (25th April) and arrived back in Toronto on 28th April 1975.

Seemingly, after 9 months of waiting and not receiving any reply, the sender put out a tracer on 5th November. A month later, on 3rd December, Canada Post sent Geo.S. Wegg Ltd. a form letter (see fig 3) which states that the Postal Administration of Brazil had delivered registered letter 00291 to the proper person on 17th March 1975.

However, according to the back stamps (fig 2), registered letter 00291 was on its way to Montreal on 15th March – just two days before it was delivered!

I wonder what really happened to registered letter 00291?



Fig 1 An airmail registered letter to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

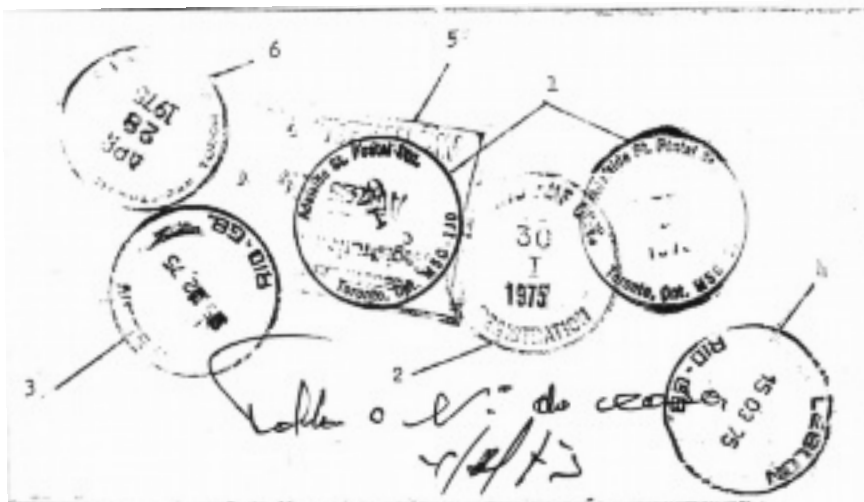


Fig 2 Reverse of the cover showing six different backstamps

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 – Toronto Adelaide 29 1 1975 (2) | 2 – Toronto AMF 30 1 75 |
| 3 – Leblun, RIO – GB 5 2 75 | 4 – Leblun RIO – GB 15 03 75 |
| 5 – Montreal Registration AP 25 1975 | 6 – Toronto Registration APR 28 1975 |

CANADA POST OFFICE POSTES CANADIENNES

Our file / Notre dossier
RMA#

Toronto 144, Ontario
M5H 1A5
25th November, 1975

Mr. E. Vagg Ltd,
36 Victoria St.,
Toronto, Ontario
M5C 2H8

Schlemmer

This refers to your enquiry concerning Register No. 1000
poured on 28th 1975 at Adelaide St. E. at Victoria St.
addressed to:

Mr. Alexander S. Lebl
Resell

The Postal Administration of Resell advises this register
was delivered to the proper person on 10/12/75

Yours truly
Michaelson
Customer Service
Central Ontario Postal District

Fig 3 Form letter from Canada
Post dated 3 December 1975

POSTAGE DUE HANDSTAMPS - THREE SECTIONED RECTANGLES

Gib Wallace

After a reasonable success with the Unenclosed Numerals with Cents or Cents Due (see Maple Leaves, October 2006), the Three Sectioned Rectangles looked to be an easy job. This proved not to be so, as new material came to light. These handstamps were all produced in a format of an upper title, a blank space for a written amount and a section for CENTS or CENTS DUE. The titles, for lack of a better word, were; COLLECT, TAX, SHORTPAID, POSTAGE DUE/ A PERCEVOIR and POSTAGE DUE (this latter in various forms).

I have listed these groups in the order given above. In each section there are images which show the dimensions and earliest and latest dates known for each type.

COLLECT

The COLLECT types exist in three forms (figs 1 – 3). The first type has COLLECT with serifs and CENTS DUE, without (Roman type). This type was used in Winnipeg between 1921 and 1934. The second type is larger with COLLECT having smaller serifs but Cents Due has small serifed letters. This one I have used in 1929 and 1930 with a possible 1925. Happily content with these two, Dean Mario sent me a 1955 strike appearing different in lettering. The top bit is off the postcard so I had to make up the image, which I sent to Ken Barlow in Vancouver as I remembered a letter of his twenty years ago with a similar drawing. He not only agreed it was the same but sent along his copy which is now proudly mounted.



Fig 1. Dimensions 43mm x 25mm, period of use 1921 to 1933

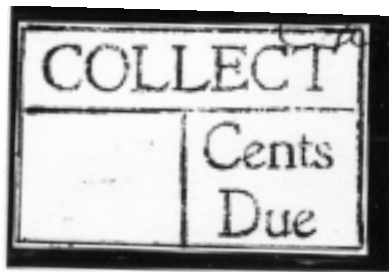


Fig 2 Dimensions 46mm x 29mm, period of use 1925 to 1930



Fig 2 Dimensions 41mm x 25mm, period of use 1955 to 1958



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This third type has Roman type lettering for COLLECT and small seriffed letters for Cents Due.

TAX

The TAX type is found in four forms (figs 4 – 7). These are large and small with 'CENTS DUE' and large and small with just 'CENTS'. The first type (fig 4) was used from 1922 from which I have many partial strikes, mostly the top half. However, Mac McConnell has kindly sent me a perfect lower half strike. Put together with a reasonable top, this has allowed me to create the image. If not perfect, it is the best I can offer. TAX is large with a form of serifs but CENTS DUE has a smaller Roman type. The smaller type (fig 5), as with the COLLECT type, did not appear until thirty years later in 1960. The 'T' of Tax has large serifs and Cents Due is with capitals and small letters. The other two types (figs 6 and 7) have smaller serifs on 'TAX' but only use 'Cents'. These types are not common.



Fig 4 Dimensions 44mm x 29mm, period of use 1922 to 1931

SHORTPAID

The next title to be used is SHORTPAID, which is a complete mystery as the only example I have seen is in an article by the Yellow Peril in Maple Leaves, July 2005. The original photo had

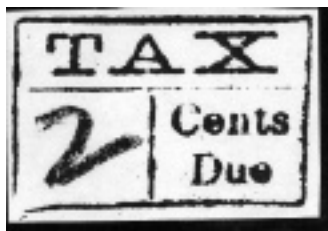


Fig 5 Dimensions 39mm x 25mm, used in 1960



Fig 6 Dimensions 40mm x 25mm, used in 1934



Fig 7 Dimensions 46mm x 28½mm, used in 1940

been reduced but using a postage due stamp for size, I was able to blow it up to actual size. Postage Due stamps cover part of the original but using my steady hand and a bit of conniving, I came up with an image (fig 8). None of my colleagues have seen this handstamp before so, any of you readers that can give more information on this type, I would be beholden to.

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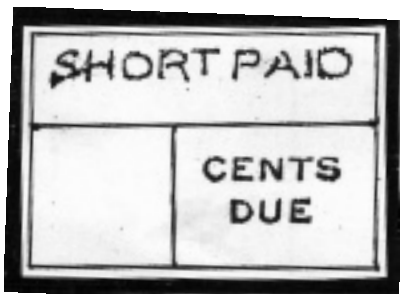


Fig 8 Dimensions 46mm x 31mm,
used in 1928

POSTAGE DUE / A PERCEVOIR

This bi-lingual handstamp (figs 9 and 10) was brought out to coincide with the third issue of postage due stamps of late 1933 and 1934. This type seems to have been used exclusively in Quebec Province. In a batch of, what I thought was junk, covers, one of these didn't ring true and sure enough it proved to be 2mm shorter than all others. Generally speaking, I would not expect this to be real, as a strike often gets distorted by enclosures etc., but this cover had two clear strikes so, I've included it.

POSTAGE DUE

The series entitled POSTAGE DUE consists of eight distinct types which I have designated with the letters 'A' to 'H'.

The first type 'A' (fig 11) has 'Postage Due' with capital and small seriffed letters. The earliest known example of this type is displayed in Topics in an article by Trelle Morrow and is dated 1925. There is a gap then until 1934 when there are several examples up to 1939, all from Ontario.

Type 'B' (fig 12) was popular, having clear rounded Roman letters for the title



Fig 9 Dimensions 33mm x 25mm,
period of use 1934 to 1946



Fig 10 Dimensions 31mm x 25mm

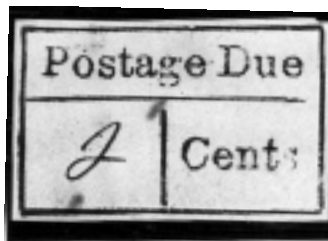


Fig 11 Type 'A' dimensions 40½mm x
25mm, period of use 1925 to 1939



Fig 12 Type 'B' dimensions 39mm x
24mm, period of use 1932 to 1951

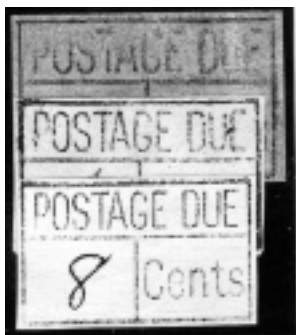


Fig 13 Type 'C' dimensions $38\frac{1}{2}$ mm x $23\frac{1}{2}$ mm or 40mm x 25mm or $42\frac{1}{2}$ x 26mm, period of use 1942 to 1964, period of use 1932 to 1951

and serifs on 'Cents'. This first appeared in 1932 but for the first two years all strikes I have seen are on incoming mail from the USA. After this, they are seen across Canada until 1951. One example from Ken Barlow has a fixed numeral 14 (two strikes) posted in Calgary to Victoria and returned. This was probably struck in Victoria but I'm not certain.

Type 'C' (fig 13) has rounded Roman letters but taller than type 'B'. The length of the frame on the majority of strikes is $38\frac{1}{2}$ mm, but two examples have shown up measuring 40mm and one, again from Barlow, measures $42\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Type 'D' (s 14 and 15) has thick Roman letters in a narrow format. The handstamp comes in two forms; the first with a horizontal dividing bar $13\frac{1}{2}$ mm above the base frame, the second is only $12\frac{1}{2}$ mm. The ratio is approximately two to one in favour of the higher central dividing bar. Type 'E' (fig 16) is very similar to type 'D' in lettering but the spread is different, the 'P' of POSTAGE is much closer to the left frame. The horizontal bar is of the lower type.



Fig 14 Type 'D' dimensions 40mm x 25mm, period of use 1952 to 1969



Fig 15 Type 'D' dimensions 40mm x 25mm, period of use 1954 to 1960



Fig 16 Type 'E' dimensions 40mm x 25mm, period of use 1952 to 1969

Type 'F' (figs 17 and 18) has the same lettering as 'D' and 'E' but the whole framework is generally larger. Most strikes are distorted, being used on large bundles of forms or parcels. As with type 'D', this type has a horizontal bar both high and low in about equal proportions. Both types were used until the demise of the Three Sectioned Rectangles in 1969.



Fig 17 Type 'F' dimensions 42mm x 26½mm, period of use 1955 to 1969



Fig 19 Type 'G' dimensions 37mm x 19mm, used in 1935



Fig 18 Type 'F' dimensions 43mm x 27mm, period of use 1963 to 1969



Fig 20 Type 'H' dimensions 45mm x 26mm, used in 1956

The last words on these rectangles is left to Ken Barlow, who has sent me two photostats of completely new types, both unseen before by me. I have called these 'G' and 'H'. Type 'G' (fig 19), dated 1935 is a short squat rectangle which looks to

be cut off at the knees. Type 'H' (fig 20), is a vague strike which appears to be struck through a fur coat (mink I hope!) and is dated 1956. Until I hear more from Ken, they are something of a mystery.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dean Mario

SEAMEN NOT SOLDIERS

I enjoyed the fine article by Messrs. Arfken, Pawluk and Jacobson on "British Soldiers' Rates" (ML April 2007). I can confirm that figs 10 and 11 shown in this article were, in fact, letters from seamen rather than soldiers. Fig 10 was sent from F. Burton, Boy, aboard H.M.S. Renown, and fig 11 was written by Percy W.W. Fitz, Chief Carpenter, aboard H.M.S. Rambler. Seamen's letters from 1851 – 1898, as the authors rightly pointed out, are very rare.

Richard Johnson

In his letter published on page 148-153 in the July 2007 issue of ML, Nicholas Lazenby presented a cover dated May 19, 1948 from Peterborough ON on which the 3 cent drop letter rate was paid (along with the 10 cents Registration). It was charged 1 cent Postage Due. The explanation for this charge is as described in David Sessions' article and illustrated on page 140 of the same issue; it is a drop letter redirected to outside the

Peterborough drop letter area, in this case to "R(ural) R(oute) #11" which would not have been part of that drop letter area. As Sessions points out, the regulation in such a case requires an additional charge to bring the total to the domestic rate of 4 cents and not double the deficiency.

Graham Searle

CENTENNIAL COVER

The cover shown below (fig 1), purchased in a mixed lot of Centennial covers in the last CPSGB Mail Auction, may be of interest to collectors of the Centennial issue. It is franked by a 6 cent black paying the surface mail rate to the UK. The stamp is the rare perf. 10 booklet stamp on hibrite paper (from the BABNCO booklet CS 61d). The most interesting part is the date of the franking; November 7th, 1970. This is more than a month earlier than the previous ERD (December 17th) for this variety. Centennial experts had always assumed that this hibrite variety first appeared in November 1970 and we now have proof of this.



SOCIETY NEWS

MIDLANDS GROUP

The Midlands Group organised a very successful meeting at Worpex in May to coincide with the meeting of the Midlands Federation and Worpex which are held in Worcester. A dozen members attended from the Midlands and Wales. A good number of displays were presented including some really interesting material from Colin Lewis and Neil Prior. Sadly I missed most of the meeting but I am assured a good time was had by all.

The Midlands group also organised and manned the stand for the Canadian Philatelic Society at Midpex held in Coventry at the end of June. A large number of members made themselves known at the stand (I counted 25 but wasn't present all day). There were displays from Ken Flint, Mac McConnell, Don Barnes and Derrick Avery. The bad weather did not deter visitors and over 500 people attended Midpex throughout the day. The photograph alongside shows Mac, Derrick Avery and Derek Moseley at the stand. The CPS was presented with a certificate and cheque for Maple Leaves which gained first place in the ABPS competition for specialist literature. The certificate, which was collected by Ken Flint and Judith Edwards, will be at Convention.

The next meeting of the Midlands group will be November 10th at Arden School in Knowle (close to Solihull). All are welcome to attend.

Ken Flint

SOUTH WEST AND WALES MEMBERS GROUP

An enjoyable meeting was held in Portishead on Sunday 12th August. Colin Lewis showed early mail into Portugal from Newfoundland. Neil Prior showed us Yukon postal history and view cards. Derek Low showed stamps of the provinces. Colin Bulloch showed the Guy and Coronation issues from Newfoundland and John Croker showed Customs and War Savings stamps from Newfoundland.

For details of future meetings please contact John Croker.

John Croker



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BOOK REVIEWS

With Christmas fast approaching, I have saved up a few book reviews for this issue for those members who like to choose their own presents from Santa!

The first group of titles have been produced by member Bill Topping. These are four booklets listing the post offices of Western Canada in the period 1990 – 2006.

The booklet 'British Columbia post Offices 1990 to 2006' has been published in response to many requests for an update of the earlier 'check list' series listing the post offices in Western Canada. It is designed to update the many openings and closings that have taken place since the earlier series was published in the 1980's. Other booklets in the series provide information for Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, including Northern Canada. The booklets have been produced from the Canadian Post Office database and provide a single line entry for each postal outlet. The books are divided into two parts. The first provides an alphabetical listing of the postal outlets and provides the RC number, outlet name, address, postal code, old RC number and opening and closing dates. The second section lists the RC numbers and the outlet name and is arranged in numerical order by RC number.

One minor problem to note is that the post office database started life in the early 1980's and all outlets open at that time are shown as opening in 1981. The result is that it is necessary to refer to the earlier works for information on postal facilities established prior to that date.

To keep costs down, the 40 page booklets are held together by a single large

staple and are designed to be mounted in a loose leaf book. The four booklets each sell for \$CAN 12 plus postage and are available from Bill Topping at 7430 Angus Drive, Vancouver, BC V6P 5K2, Canada. Full title details are:-

BRITISH COLUMBIA POST OFFICES 1990 – 2006 ISBN 978-0-9783489-0-8

ALBERTA POST OFFICES 1990 – 2006 ISBN 978-0-9783489-1-5

SASKATCHEWAN POST OFFICES 1990 – 2006 ISBN 978-0-9783489-2-2

MANITOBA POST OFFICES 1990 – 2006 ISBN 978-0-9783489-3-9

The British Columbia booklet is in the Society Library.

Also from the same supplier is a reprint of the earlier book '**BRITISH COLUMBIA POST OFFICES TO 1991**'. This has been published at a cost of \$CAN 25 plus postage.

Mailing costs (in \$CAN) for the above books are as follows:-
In Canada, \$2 for single book, \$3 for 2 or more books and for the BC 1991 reprint.
In the USA, \$3.50 for a single book, \$7 for 2 or more books and for the BC 1991 reprint.
In the UK, \$7 for a single book, \$14 for 2 or more books and for the BC 1991 reprint.

The remaining titles have all been published by BNAPS. In most cases they are available from the Handbooks Manager. If not, they are all available from Ian Kimmerly Stamps, 112 Sparks Street, Ottawa, ON K1P 5B6, Canada. Phone: (001) 613 235 9119. Internet orders can be placed at www.iankimmerly.com/books

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NEWFOUNDLAND POSTAL HISTORY 1857 - 1899

Colin D. Lewis F.C.P.S. BNAPS Exhibit Series # 42, published November 2006. Spiral bound, 146pp, 8.5 x 11, colour. BNAPS Exhibit Series #42. ISBN 0-919854-95-8 (B&W), 0-919854-94-X (Colour); Stock # B4h923.42 (B&W) \$C35.95, B4h923.421 (Colour) \$C100.00

Colin Lewis will need little introduction to most CPSGB members. He was introduced to philately as a 5-year old in World War II Wales, and to Newfoundland philately a few years later when his cousin and her husband, a Newfoundlander who had served in the Royal Navy, responded to his request for stamps with a package that contained lots of beautiful stamps from the Colony. Over time he graduated to Newfoundland postal history and, after retirement in 1991, decided to concentrate on the more traditional and classic period, pre-1900. This was the time when rates and routes were often quite complex, making interpretation of the markings more of a challenge. Encouraged by members of his

local philatelic society, Colin began exhibiting his collection. He has since won many awards, most recently a Large Vermeil at the 2006 International Exhibition in Washington, and that exhibit forms the core of this book.

Figuring out the postal history of Newfoundland in the period of the exhibit was no easy task. Although in 1856 the British Government authorised the issue of Newfoundland postage stamps, stamps were slow to become popular and many continued to send letters unpaid, the recipient paying upon delivery. Alternatively, postage could still be fully paid or part paid in cash, with the amount paid normally endorsed on the item in red crayon together with a paid handstamp.

To complicate matters – greatly – in 1857 there were two monetary systems in use, Newfoundland Currency and Sterling. Domestic mail and that to Canada and the Maritime Provinces was paid in Currency. Mail rates elsewhere were charged in Sterling. In 7 April 1865 decimal currency was introduced, but it was more than 6 months later before decimal valued cents stamps became available, meaning that with a conversion from pence Sterling or Currency pence stamps continued to be used on mail. The many and varied rates of the 1857-1878 period became more standardized after Newfoundland adhered to the Universal Postal Union, but even then there were exceptions, such as the 1880s rate to Bermuda and West Indies, that did not conform to UPU guidelines. Within the three time periods the exhibit is chronological and rate ordered within geographical boundaries.

The exhibit is divided into four sections:

- 1) The Pence period - 1857 to 6 April 1865;

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- 2) The Cents period to pre-UPU membership - 7 April 1865 to 1878;
- 3) The post UPU period - 1879 to 1899;
- 4) Significant items that do not form part of the main exhibit.

Whilst this is primarily a rate study, it also looks at the different routes taken by mail in the period and at the many varied manuscript currency endorsements.

The exhibit contains numerous rare and unique usages and this book will be a must for all serious collectors of Newfoundland. The reviewer would recommend the colour edition, even though there is a big price difference, as it shows the material in all its original glory. For those who wish to sample before they buy, the review copy is in the Society Library.

NEWFOUNDLAND 1897 ROYAL FAMILY, DEAD LETTER SEAL AND MAP STAMPS

John M. Walsh, BNAPS Exhibit Series # 43, November 2006. Spiral bound, 122pp, 8.5 x 11, colour. ISBN 0-919854-97-4 (B&W), 0-919854-96-6 (Colour); Stock #B4h923.43 (B&W) \$C33.95, B4h923.431 (Colour) \$C90.00

It is rare for us to review one new book on Newfoundland philately, let alone three in one issue. John Walsh's book is the latest in the excellent BNAPS exhibit series.

With encouragement from his father, John Walsh began collecting Newfoundland stamps in the 1950s. His intent was to own each of the stamps issued by his birthplace, Newfoundland, and of his country, Canada. As school progressed his stamp interest waned until

the 1970s when his interest was renewed. Deciding to one day exhibit what he collected, he went through several stages of development, learning through experience a style of collecting that was able to withstand the vigour of competitive exhibiting and going down that path. Along the way he researched and wrote about his findings in philatelic journals such as BNA Topics, journal of the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS), and the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada's Canadian Philatelist.

In addition to exhibiting John dreamed of creating a specialized catalogue of the philatelic collectibles of Newfoundland. Encouragement from a group of distinguished philatelists at CAPEX '87 spurred him on and with his friend, the late John Butt, he published The Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue. Early in 2006 he published the catalogue's 6th Edition, now grown to almost 500 pages with the inclusion of the stamps of Classic Canada to 1951, and the Colonies before Confederation.

Newfoundland 1897 Royal Family, Dead Letter Seal and Map Stamps shows all the values, from ½¢ to 5¢, of the Newfoundland 1897 Royal Family issue; the Postal Stationery Postcards; the Dead Letter Seal stamp and the Map stamp. Many items that are seldom encountered or are one of a kind are included. Informative research results that correct earlier statements in the literature are also revealed.

For all values are shown proofs, issued stamps, and errors where they are known. The exhibit is strong in postally used covers mailed to seven general destinations: Newfoundland Local; Newfoundland Inland; Canada; the United

States; the United Kingdom; British Empire and Foreign. Many of the illustrated rates were very difficult to find due to both their rarity and not often being available on the philatelic market. Notable are multiple weight rate covers as well those that feature registration with multiple weight rates. A particular favourite is a spectacular cover with the Dead Letter Seal used for its intended purpose.

Once again, this volume will be essential reading for Newfoundland collectors. As with the majority of these exhibit series, the colour edition really is worth the price differential and the colour reproduction is excellent.

As usual, the review copy is in the Society Library.

**PLATING STUDIES ON PRINCE
EDWARD ISLAND STAMPS
I THE TWO PENCE ISSUE – SCOTT
1 AND # 5**

Kenneth A. Kershaw F.R.S.C., Spiral bound, 158pp, 8.5 x 11, colour ISBN 0-919854-89-3 (Colour) Stock # B4h026.1 C\$105.00

**II THE THREE PENCE ISSUE –
SCOTT # 6**

Kenneth A Kershaw F.R.S.C., Spiral Bound, 76 pages, 8.5 x 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-897391-05-1. Stock # B4h027.1; C\$67.00

**III THE FOUR PENCE ISSUE –
SCOTT #9**

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In these three volumes, Ken Kershaw continues his phenomenal output of plating information and new discoveries, expanding his work beyond the plating of Canada's Half Cent Maple Leaf and Christmas Map Stamps to the Pence issues of Prince Edward Island. These three books are the first of at least five Ken plans for the PEI Pence issues.

The work in the first volume is based on research done using five complete sheets of Scott # 5, supplemented by numerous blocks and pieces. Work on the imperforate Scott # 1 was based on a block of four, several singles and covers and an imperforate plate proof block of 25.

The book sets out to show both the varieties on the design and also to show the constant varieties to be found on all 60 plate positions. This latter section will be of particular value to those seeking to plate a single copy of one of the stamps. While working on the Two Pence stamp Ken discovered that a major variety, previously believed to be constant, did not in fact appear in all sheets. In the process he discovered a significant previously unreported variety in the adjacent stamp.

In the Three Pence book he reveals a most interesting discovery relating to the very structure of the plate material and how this affects the stamps printed from the plates. In the third book he shows how this structural element is in some ways more pronounced in the white and yellow paper printings of the Four Pence issue.

All three books contain minimal text, rather they are made up of very large and detailed scans showing the main features at 20 x or greater magnification. The books show these scans for all of the plate positions. These pictures are very clear

and are the main feature of the books, although I fear that much eye strain may be involved in seeing the same detail with such clarity on one's own stamps!

Highly recommended to all those who collect P.E.I., the review copies of the books are in the Society Library.

A POSTAL HISTORY OF LABRADOR BEFORE CONFEDERATION

Kevin O'Reilly. 8.5x11 Spiral Bound, 108pp. BNAPS Exhibit Series #6.

ISBN 978-1-897391-03-7 (B&W), 978-1-897391-02-0 (Colour).

Stock # B4h923.6 (B&W) C\$32.95, B4h923.61 (Colour) C\$80.00

This is a reprint of an earlier BNAPS Exhibit Series book; now in full colour. It features the Gold Medal winning collection of Labrador postal history formed by Kevin O'Reilly.

Commercial mail to and from Labrador before Confederation is scarce. The permanent population of Labrador in 1949 was only 6,000 people, with many more during the summer fishing season. Registered mail often did not receive transit or receipt markings until it went to St. John's or even outside of Newfoundland. Much of the mail originating from Labrador bears Travelling Post Office (TPO) date stamps rather than town cancels. 'A Postal History of Labrador before Confederation' shows only material that can be traced to specific locations. The exhibit has been expanded by almost 50% over what was illustrated in the original Exhibit Series book and has received both the Allan L. Steinhart Reserve Grand and Meyerson Newfoundland Awards at BNAPEX 2005 in Edmonton, and the Reserve Grand award at Royal 2006 in Calgary. Suffice to say that it is the most comprehensive and thorough coverage of the topic ever presented.

continued overleaf

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