



Maple Leaves

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

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CONTENTS

Editorial	393
The Empire Airmail Scheme	395
Stanley Cohen <i>FCPS</i>	411
Large Queen Usage in British Columbia	413
Straight Line Postmarks - Part 2, Upper Canada	424
Canadian Commemoratives of the QEII Era - Part 4	439
Letters to the Editor	445
Book Reviews	448
And Finally	450
Society News	451
Amendments to Membership	452

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EDITORIAL

This issue of Maple Leaves sees us back to our normal 64 pages and also with a slightly earlier than usual publication date; this latter to give your Editor time to get ready for the 2014 Convention and handle the incoming auction bids in a timely manner.

The early publication should mean that you are reading this in time to get some last minute bids in for the Convention auction on 5th October (see advert overleaf). Bids sent by ordinary mail will need to reach me no later than Friday 26th September to be sure of inclusion. If sending by e mail, the deadline is Tuesday 30th September. I will do my best to include any bids sent by e mail after this deadline (up to midday on the date of the sale) but I cannot guarantee having a good wifi connection so bids after 30th September are at your own risk!

I can also report that our next web-based sale will feature Military Mail material from the collections of past President, Ged Taylor. The sale will have a closing date in late January 2015 and I hope to have the listing up on the website by late November. Please check back at the Society website at www.canadianpsgb.org.uk for further details.

Finally, can I repeat an oft-made request for articles on matters pertaining to Newfoundland and/ or the Maritime Provinces. I am acutely aware that our Journal is regularly under-represented in these areas but if members do not provide the material, your Editor cannot publish it. So, come on you Newfie and Provinces collectors - let's be hearing from you!





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THE EMPIRE AIR MAIL SCHEME

John Watson

This scheme and its postage rates are well enough known to aero-philatelists, but are not widely known to the general collector. What is more, many factors combine to obscure the fact that this rate actually exists. Apart from being an interesting and varied area of collecting, at generally speaking reasonable costs, putting together a collection of George VI postage rates, or showing examples of usages of some George VI stamps would be incomplete without at least a couple of examples of this scheme.

Also known as the 'All-Up Empire' rate, this scheme aimed to allow people in various parts of the British Empire to communicate with each other via air mail at relatively cheap rates. It was started in mid-1937, although Canada did not join the scheme until 23rd February 1938. Canadian participation was somewhat limited as mail was still carried across the Atlantic by ship as far as England and then carried from England via air mail. There were also a couple of downsides - mail was charged per half ounce instead of the previous surface rate one ounce, and the scheme was compulsory - there was no option to continue to send mail by surface means.

The Post Office Weekly Bulletin of 5th February 1938, announced:

Empire Air Mail Scheme
Service beyond England for Letter Mails
to certain Empire Countries to be by Air only

All first class mail (letters, post cards and other articles prepaid at letter rates) posted in Canada on and after 23rd February for the following Empire Countries will be carried exclusively by air BEYOND ENGLAND under the new Empire Air Mail Scheme as the normal means of transmission instead of by surface transport as at present:

Anglo Egyptian Sudan
Kenya Colony and Protectorate
Uganda Protectorate
Tanganyika Territory
Mauritius
Nyasaland Protectorate
Northern Rhodesia
Southern Rhodesia
South Africa:
 Union of South Africa
 South West Africa
 Basutoland
 Bechuanaland Protectorate





Swaziland
Zanzibar Protectorate
Egypt
Aden
Palestine and Transjordan
British India (including British Post Offices on the Persian Gulf, in French India and in Tibet, but excluding Portuguese India)
Ceylon
Seychelles
Burma
Malaya:
 Federated Malay States (Negri, Sembilian, Pahang, Perak, Selangor)
 Unfederated Malay States (Johore, Kedah, Keletan, Perlis, Tregganu, Brunei, Straits Settlements)
North Borneo
Sarawak

Under the new arrangements the Postage for the above countries will be:

Letters - 6 cents per half ounce
Postcards - 4 cents

Registered first class mail will also be forwarded by air as the means of transmission.

The present air mail rates to the countries mentioned in the list above will be discontinued on the 23rd February. Letters and postcards for those countries should not bear either air mail label or other marking indicating air transmission.

Several issues arise from this; firstly, it can be seen that in the case of post cards the postage rate doubled from the previous 2 cents for Empire post cards, and the letter rate doubled for letters up to ½ oz, but for a longer letter up to 1 oz it quadrupled. Secondly, the instruction not to indicate air mail can obscure the fact that this was actually an air mail rate, although, as will be seen, many of the covers that I will show ignore this instruction. Even letters which indicate air mail can be overlooked as the airmail rate within Canada and North America was also 6 cents at this time.

Other factors which obscure the fact that mail was fully paid for this scheme are illustrated in figures 1 and 2 opposite; namely, that within the duration of the scheme the Royal Visit took place, giving rise to many souvenir covers which, when franked with the 1, 2 and 3 cent stamps issued to commemorate the visit happen to pay the All Up Empire rate. Similarly, at this time many first flights were taking place across Canada, and innumerable cacheted envelopes were prepared. Some collectors turn up their noses at such material, but when they correctly pay a fairly obscure rate to such exotic destinations I am quite happy to have them in my collection, no matter what the purpose of sending them.





Fig 1. Royal Visit souvenir cover but paying the 6 cent 'All - up' rate to Burma



Fig 2 Typical cacheted first flight cover bearing a 6 cent airmail stamp but in this case paying the 'All up' rate to the Seychelles.

So many different stamps were available for making up this rate, and figures 3 and 4 overleaf illustrate usages to Southern Rhodesia and Brunei using two different air mail stamps just to reinforce the fact that these letters were to go by air.

Canada Post realised that many letters were being sent incorrectly paid and so produced a hand stamp reading:

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Fig 3 Example of the 'All Up' rate to Brunei.

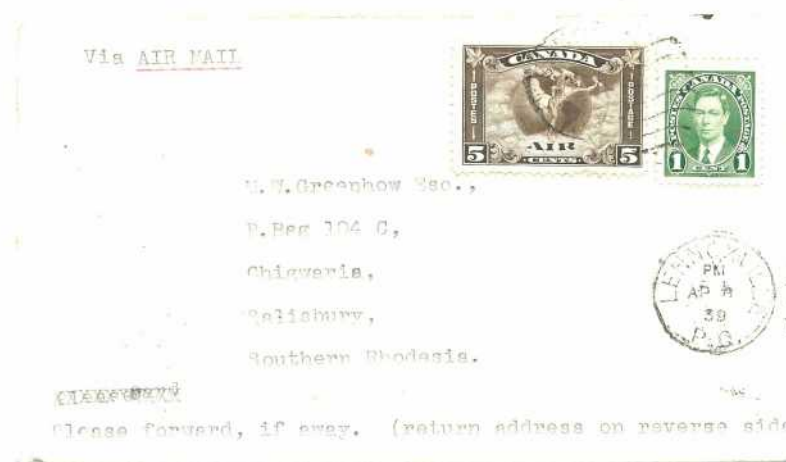


Fig 4 Example of the 'All Up' rate to Southern Rhodesia.

However, treatment of underpaid mail was not necessarily consistent. Figure 5 overleaf shows a letter to India from Toronto with the above hand stamp but not taxed, whereas figure 6 shows a letter, also to India from Toronto, taxed 20 centimes (i.e. 4 cents double deficiency). Needless to say mistakes were made and figure 7 shows a letter to Pondicherry, French India, correctly franked 5 cents for the UPU surface rate (note that in the February 1938 Weekly Bulletin only *British* Post Offices in French India were entitled to All Up airmail rates). This was not picked up either by the Royal Train postal



Fig 5 Letter to India underpaid for the 'All Up' rate but not charged.



Fig 6 Another letter to India, also underpaid but this time correctly charged postage due.

clerk, or else by the Canadian dispatching office, and the advice hand stamp was applied, and the letter taxed 10 centimes. At some point the mistake was realised and both the hand stamp and the tax marking were crossed out and the letter was forwarded. There is a Pondicherry 11th June receiving cds on the reverse.

Figure 8 is a bit of a puzzle as Cyprus was not listed as an Empire destination to which the All Up rate applied, however, Arfken and Plomish (1) state that "Cyprus got special treatment as part of the Empire Air Mail Scheme in 1938". The same authors say,



Fig 7 Letter to Pondicherry in French India. Correctly franked for the UPU surface mail rate, it was initially charged postage due against the 'All Up' airmail rate.

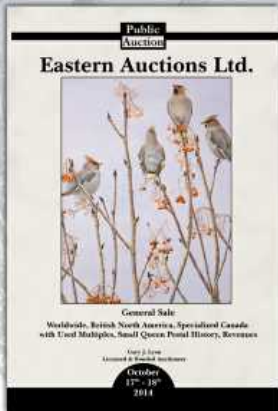


Fig 8 Letter to Cyprus, sent at the 'All Up' rate but not accepted as such and charged a massive 38 cents due.

basically, that rates for Cyprus were generally ignored in bulletins of both the British and Canadian Post Offices so confusion as to how much the rate was before the All Up rate came into force was the rule - they illustrate an airmail letter paid at 15 cents (the European rate), but also note a letter paid 10 cents and not taxed. (1) Whatever the rate actually was, the letter in figure 8 has been taxed 190 centimes (38 cents) being double deficiency of 19 cents to make up the airmail rate to Africa or Asia - surely a bit excessive. It wasn't just the postal authorities who made the mistakes - figure 9 also



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Canada 2c green on laid paper
THE NEWLY DISCOVERED EXAMPLE.
2014 Greene cert.



Newfoundland 1930
"Columbia" Flight
mint NH. 2014 Greene cert.



New Brunswick 1860
5c Connell, choice
mint OG. 1962 BPA cert.



Saskatchewan 1911 25c Saskatoon
Electrical Inspection, with inverted
border.



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British Columbia 1946 50c green & black Duck stamp, mint VLH.



1927 London to London Flight airmail stamp mint OG.
1987 Diena & 2006 Greene certs.



Falkland Islands 1964 6p "H.M.S. Glasgow" error of vignette, pristine mint NH.
2012 RPSL cert. (SG 216a £40,000)

Canada 1858 Half penny rose, exceptional strip of four on rare vertically ribbed paper. 2010 Greene cert.



Superb 1873 cover showing 16 cent mixed franking to Norway

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shows a FDC to Cyprus, but the sender has addressed it incorrectly to Nicosia, Ceylon. At what point the mistake was noticed I am not sure, but I'm almost certain that it went to Ceylon under the All Up Scheme (even though there is no Ceylonese transit marks) because, as figure 10 shows, on the reverse there is a Port Taufiq 11th July transit and a Nicosia 15th July receiver. Port Taufiq is at the Red Sea end of the Suez Canal so, given the time scale, I think this cover went by ship from Ceylon, through the canal and either into the Mediterranean by boat, or through Cairo, which was the route of the previous cover. It was not charged tax, but this was possibly (in fact probably) because it was addressed to an All Up member country originally.



Fig 9 All Up rate cover incorrectly addressed to Ceylon - when it was destined for Cyprus

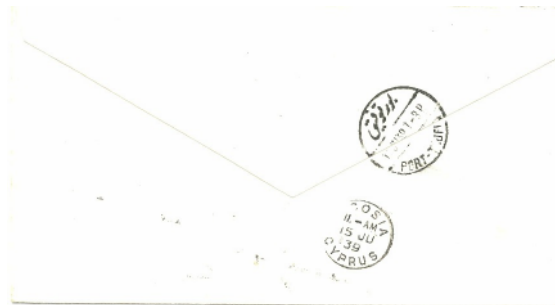


Fig 10 Reverse of the cover above showing the routing of the cover to Cyprus.

As was stated in the February 1938 bulletin, registered mail was also to be given air mail transmission, and figures 11 and 12 show, respectively, a single weight registered letter to Ceylon and a double weight registered letter to Sudan, both paid at the correct All Up airmail rates. Note that although the air mail hand stamp on the Sudan cover has been



Fig 10 Registered letter to Ceylon sent at the 'All Up' airmail rate.

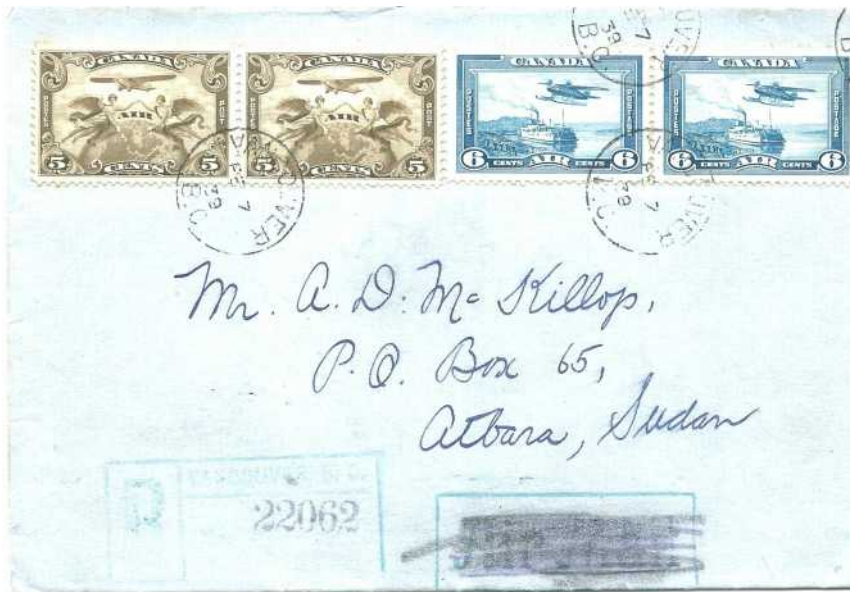


Fig 11 Double rate airmail letter to Sudan (12 cents postage plus 10 cents registration all paid by airmail stamps).

scribbled out, a Montreal British Mail Branch transit of 11th February 1939 and a Khartoum 19th February 1939 receiver (both as backstamps) indicate that air mail service was certainly given once the letter reached England. I can only think that with a four day transit time from Vancouver to Montreal, no air mail service was given within Canada. Similarly, the letter to Ceylon in figure 10 had a five day transit of



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Canada. Perhaps the clue is to be found in the cover illustrated in figure 2 - the first airmail flight from Vancouver to Montreal didn't take place until 1st March 1939; perhaps those useless first flight covers aren't so useless after all.

The Post Office Weekly Bulletin of 11th March 1939 contained the following notice:

Empire Air Mail Scheme extended to Hong Kong,
Australia and New Zealand

Under this extension first class mail will be carried by air beyond England as the normal means of conveyance for:-

Australia	New Hebrides
Banks Islands	New Zealand
Cook Islands	Norfolk Island
Fanning Island	Papua
Gilbert & Ellice Islands	Samoa (Territory under British Administration)
Hong Kong	Solomon Islands
Nauru	Tonga
New Guinea (Mandated Territory)	

The postage for first class mail addressed to the countries mentioned will be:-

Letters - 6 cents per half ounce.
Postcards - 4 cents.

Figure 13 shows a letter to New Zealand which, while being a first day cover for the Royal Tour, unequivocally states that this letter is to be forwarded via the Empire All



Fig 13 All Up rate to New Zealand.



Up scheme. Figure 14 shows a commercial letter to Australia paid for double the rate - up to one ounce. Obviously letters to these Australasian destinations are a little scarcer than those to places like India, simply because of the shorter duration of the rate. Figure 15, however, shows a much rarer item - a properly prepaid 4 cent post card to Hong Kong. I am told that only a handful of such items exist, although short-paid post cards, whilst still scarce, are not quite so rare. Note that although this is a post card, and correctly paid, the advice hand stamp concerning the letter rate was still applied.



Fig 14 Letter to Australia paid at the 1 oz double 'All Up' rate of 12 cents.

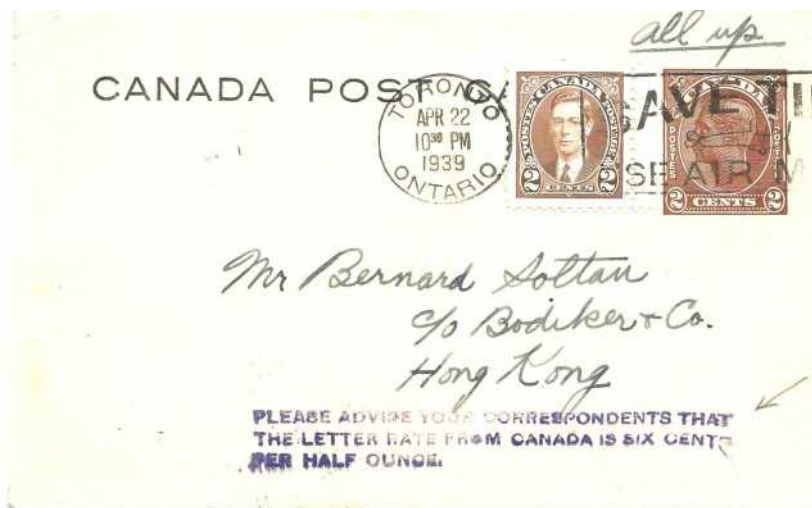


Fig 15 Rare example of the 4 cent 'All Up' postcard rate to Hong Kong.



Some people will find a way round any rule. The cover shown in figure 16 should have been paid 6 cents as Tonga was in the All Up scheme, and would probably have been flown via Australia. However, it is endorsed “via Fiji Islands”, which was not included in the scheme, and so this letter could be, and was, paid at the 3 cents Empire surface rate without being taxed.

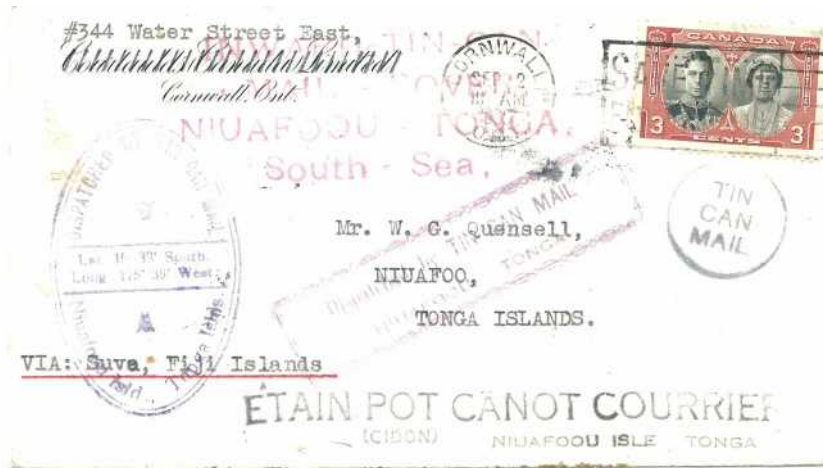


Fig 16 A neat way around the 6 cent ‘All Up’ airmail rate for the thrifty - find a nearby country not in the scheme and send your letter by surface mail via that country!

Of course the Empire Air Mail Scheme also included mail coming into Canada from participating countries, and my last illustration (fig 17 overleaf) shows a letter to Canada from Southern Rhodesia paid 3d, the equivalent of the 6 cent Canadian fee.

World War 2 put an end, effectively, to this service and it was suspended in October 1939 (1), although Andrew Liptak in his Postal History Corner blog cites a suspension date of September 3rd (2). So it can be seen that this 6 cent per half ounce letter, 4 cent per post card rate was fairly short lived, especially for the Australasian / Pacific destinations.

References:

1. Air Mails Of Canada. 1925-1939, by George B Arfken and Walter R Plomish. Published by Charles G Firby Publications, 2000
2. http://postalhistorycorner.blogspot.co.uk/2011/06/george-vi-muftiperiod-1937-1942_14.html





Fig 17 Letter from Rhodesia into Canada mailed at the 'All Up' rate of 3d - equivalent to 6 cents Canadian.



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STANLEY COHEN *F.C.P.S*

It is with great sadness that I must report the recent death of our longest serving member, Stanley Cohen. Stanley joined the CPSGB in its first year of existence in 1946 and was, for many years, our only surviving member with a roll number below 100. In addition to being a member of the Society for over 67 years, he was also a past President of the Society; in 1974/75 and organised the 1975 Convention in Birmingham.

Stanley had many philatelic interests and is probably best known for his work on the Squared Circle cancels of Great Britain; a subject on which he wrote the seminal work. His love of cancels extended through his many BNA collections and in addition to a splendid collection of Canadian Squared Circles he formed what was probably the finest ever collection of Fancy Cancels having brought together the collections of Dr. Day and E.A. Smythies and built further upon them. He wrote extensively in *Maple Leaves* on the subject of fancy cancels and was responsible for getting many younger collectors (your Editor included) hooked on this previously neglected area of our hobby.



Stanley was very much an 'old time' collector who was happy to build his collection by acquiring large lots and then getting great enjoyment by trading out duplicates for the items he still needed to fill his own gaps. His trades were famously generous but resulted in him enjoying a wide network of friends around the world who would, in return, help to hunt down the items Stanley was looking for.

The bulk of his BNA collections were sold as long ago as 1986 and in recent years he enjoyed a long and happy retirement in Spain. This did not, however, diminish his interest in BNA philately or the CPSGB and your Editor regularly received e mails from him offering words of advice and encouragement.

He will be sadly missed and we offer our condolences to his family.

GS.





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This article was originally published in the British Columbia Postal History Newsletter (issue 89) but we felt it would be of interest to a much wider audience so it is reproduced here with the kind permission of the BC Postal History Newsletter Editors and the author who is, of course, a member of CPSGB.

LARGE QUEEN USAGE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Tracy Cooper

The collecting of Large Queens used in British Columbia, either on stamp or on cover, is a tough challenge for even the most advanced BC postal historian. Such stamps are considerably rarer and more difficult to acquire than similar examples used in central Canada. When British Columbia entered Confederation, the Post Office Department was already beginning to phase Large Queens out in the rest of Canada, with the stamps replaced by Small Queens as they became available. This article provides a summary of Large Queen usage in BC.

British Columbia joined the Dominion of Canada on 20 July 1871, and many British Columbians felt that federal mail advantages would soon follow. The following notice, for instance, appeared in the 25 July 1871 issue of the *British Colonist*, Victoria's foremost newspaper at the time:-



Fig 1 Six cent Large Queen paying the US rate from Victoria to Placer County, California. BRIT.COL split-ring dated JA 4/72 and number 35 Victoria grid cancel. San Francisco receiver dated JAN/10/PAID. There are no backstamps. (courtesy of Malcolm Leitch)





‘POSTAL RATES – No change has been made in the Postal Rates since Confederation; and none is expected until after the arrival of Lieut. Governor Trutch or Minister Langevin to set the Union machinery in motion. Query – Is the imposition of the old rates legal?’

In the interim period after Confederation, Colonial rates and postage continued to be the only available option.

In his definitive 1928 work, *The Colonial Postal Systems and Postage Stamps of Vancouver Island and British Columbia*, Alfred Stanley Deaville wrote that a ‘truly Imperial vision of a united Canada from coast to coast became a reality on 20 July 1871 when British Columbia ceased to be a Crown Colony and took on the status of a Canadian province. The Federal authorities assumed charge of the entire postal establishment of the Colony under the terms of the *British North America Act* of 1867, which provided that the postal service of any colony absorbed by the Dominion of Canada should come under the exclusive legislative authority of the Canadian Parliament.’

In addition, Deaville noted that ‘Mr Gilbert E. Griffin, of London, Ontario, Post Office Inspector for the territory west of Hamilton, visited British Columbia in July 1871 for the purpose of taking over, on behalf of the Post Office Department of Canada, the postal services of the Colony. He was empowered to make tentative arrangements for carrying on the necessary Post Offices and mail services and was entrusted with the task of calling in and destroying all remainders of Colonial postage stamps, arranging for the redemption of colonial stamps sold to the public, and placing on sale the current postage stamp issues of the Dominion Government.’

Deaville, unfortunately, erred on the dates of Griffin’s visit. It is clear from the following British Colonist articles, dated 15 August 1871, that while the inspector left Ottawa in July 1871, he did not arrive in BC until August:-

‘THE MAILS – The *Sparrowhawk* brought the English, Canadian and American mails, which were brought up from Esquimalt at 5 o’clock yesterday morning by Mr Howard, the mail carrierPOST OFFICE AFFAIRS – Gilbert E. Griffin Esq, Post Office Inspector of the Western Division, who came on the *Sparrowhawk* will at once proceed to put postal matters in this Province upon a satisfactory basis. Mr Griffin, who will remain in the Province a few weeks, has been 30 years in the Postal service of Canada and is a brother to Wm Henry Griffin, Deputy Postmaster General of the Dominion..... The Canadian Postal Rates come into operation today, so that, in place of paying the late high rates, we shall pay on letters three cents to any part of the Province and Canada, and six cents to the United Kingdom and the United States. Postal cards may be had at the Post Office by means of which short messages may be sent to any part of Canada for one cent. The full postal rates were published in the *Colonist* a few days ago.’



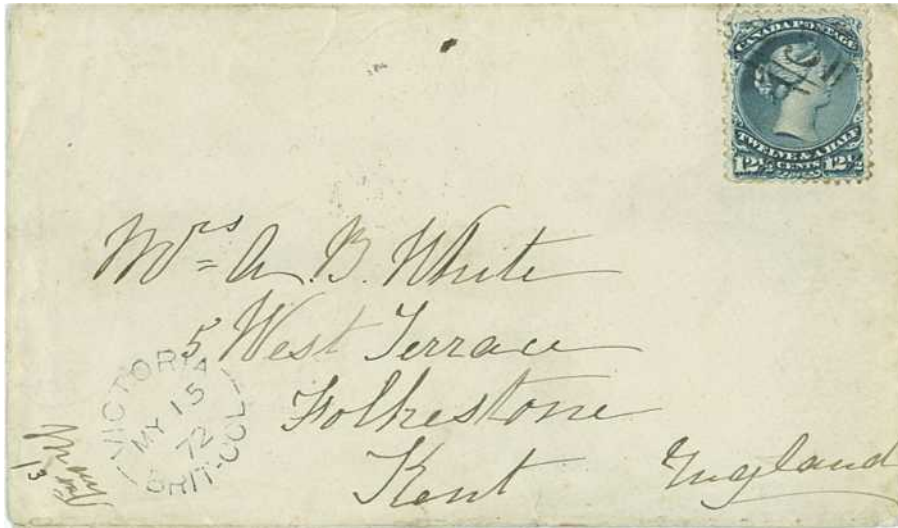


Fig 2 A 12 1/2 cent Large Queen, presumably overpaying the 12 cent double weight Allan Line letter rate from Victoria to Folkestone, Kent, England. BRIT. COL. Split ring dated MY 15/72 and number 35 Victoria grid cancels. Backstamps: Windsor MY 27/72, Hamilton MY 28/72, London 12E/JU 12/72 and Folkestone D/JU 12/72. (courtesy of Malcolm Leitch)

Post Office Notice.

POSTAGE STAMPS OF ALL DENOMINATIONS are now for sale at the Victoria and New Westminster Post Offices.

The Rate of Postage to all places in the Dominion of Canada is **THREE CENTS** prepaid—**FIVE CENTS** unpaid—per half ounce.

The Rate of Postage to the United States is **SIX CENTS** prepaid—**TEN CENTS** unpaid—per half ounce.

The Rate of Postage to the United Kingdom is **SIX CENTS**.

All Newspapers to places in the Dominion of Canada must be Prepaid **ONE CENT** each.

To places in the United States **TWO CENTS** each. To the United Kingdom **TWO CENTS** each.

Postal Cards can be used only to places in the Dominion of Canada—the face of the Card must contain only the address; the back of the Card can have anything written or printed on it. The Cards can only be used once and must have nothing whatever attached thereto, and nothing written of an immoral or improper character.

The Post Office Inspector has an Office at the Victoria Post Office and the public are invited to apply to him for any information they may require.

GILBERT GRIFFIN,
Post Office Inspector.
Victoria, B. C., 16th Aug., 1871. salt St

No. 64



REDUCTION
 OF
Postage on Letters, &c.,
 IN
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BRITISH COLUMBIA having become a part of the Dominion of Canada, all correspondence for that Province will henceforth be chargeable with the same rates of postage, and will be subject to the same regulations of transmission, as correspondence for other parts of Canada.

By Command of the Postmaster-General.

GENERAL POST OFFICE,
 25th October, 1871.

Printed for the Major and Minor Colonies by W. J. Gairner, Printer to the Queen, at the Victoria, B.C.



British Columbia & Vancouver Island The Jack Wallace Collection October 16th, 2014



Numeral Grid Cancellations On Postage Stamps and Covers



Quesnellemouth grid '13'
on pair of BC & V.I. 2½p rose



Lytton grid '7' on
pair of BC 3p blue



Spences Bridge grid '27'
on Small Queen cover



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1858 Vancouver Island's Customs Seal use as provisional (5c) handstamp frank on Freeman & Co's express paid cover



1871 BC 25c + USA 10c combination from Williams Creek to Ontario



1868 Vancouver Island 25c rate cover to Scotland



1869 cover to England franked with 50c perf 12½ tied by grid '10' of Williams Creek

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The *Colonist* documented the genesis of the Dominion postal administration in the new province. A large 'Post Office Notice' in the 17 August 1871 issue of the newspaper (see page 415) officially validated the postal rates and stated that:-

'Postage Stamps of all Denominations are now for Sale at the Victoria and New Westminster Post Offices'

The advertisement itself is dated 16 August 1871, thus the earliest possible usage of a Canadian stamp used in BC would be at Victoria on 15 August 1871, some 26 days after BC's entry into Confederation.

The *Colonist* for 19 August 1871, reported that 'The Enterprise sailed for New Westminster at 11 yesterday morning – Among her passengers were Mr Griffin, Inspector of Post Offices. She will return this evening POSTAL - The Inspector will return from New Westminster today. The franking privilege heretofore enjoyed by Officials ceased with the adoption of the Canadian rates. The mystic characters 'OHMS' will no longer secure a letter or document carriage post free.'

It is highly likely that Griffin brought stamps to the New Westminster Post Office – and probable that Dominion stamps did not go on sale at that office until 19 August 1871.

Griffin continued to organize Dominion postal services in British Columbia. The *Colonist* for 22 August 1871, reported that: 'Mr Griffin of the Post Office Department



Fig 3 An unusual six-cent franking to England with three two-cent Large Queens, tied by fancy cork cancels. The Victoria BRIT.COL split-ring is dated JY 27/72. The Allan packet rate to England was reduced from 12½ cents to six cents on Jan 1, 1870.





went yesterday to Nanaimo to arrange matters there.’ One might infer that 22 August 1871 would be the earliest possible date for Dominion stamp usage from Nanaimo.

The great BC postal historian Gerry Wellburn had access to sources of information that are no longer readily available. The table below, obtained from Gerry’s long-time friend Jack Wallace, shows a listing of stamps received at the Victoria Post Office by Valentine B. Tait, who was appointed New Westminster postmaster when BC entered Confederation (Gerry noted in his spidery handwriting that this information was recorded in Victoria’s old stamp-record book). Why Tait should have entered these figures is a bit of a mystery. A record search at the BC archives found no trace of this document. (Note that Large Queen totals are in **bold** type and shaded boxes).

Wellburn estimated that half of the Large Queens were used in Victoria, the other half elsewhere in BC. Cancelled examples have been reported from New Westminster, Yale, Quesnelmouth, Burrard Inlet, Ladner’s Landing and Nanaimo.

Date	½¢	1¢	2¢	3¢	6¢	12½¢	15¢	1¢ Card
Aug 17, 1871	600	5,000	5,000	10,000	5,000	400		1,000
Aug 22								4,000
Sept 8				10,000				
Oct 4								2,000
Oct 6					2,000			
Oct 10				10,000				
Nov 6		3,000		10,000	2,000	600		
Jan 23, 1872	300	1,000		5,000			1,000	
Mar 7			1,000		2,000			
Mar 18		2,500						
Apr 27				5,000	500			
May 28				9,801	2,000			
LQ totals	900		6,000		7,000	1,000	1,000	

It is interesting to see from this table that no one cent or three cent Large Queens were ever used in BC, as the three cent Small Queen was introduced in January 1870 and the one cent in March 1870. This writer has seen three cent Large Queens copies with a BX cancel, purportedly used in BC, which were obvious fakes. The six cent Small Queen was made available in January 1872, while the two cent denomination followed in February. While the half cent Small Queen did not appear until July 1882, the use of half cent Large Queens, except to pay for some periodical rates, was not common. No covers have been reported to date showing the half cent Large Queen used in period in BC. The 15 cent Large Queen was in general usage in BC well into the 1890’s and while



used stamps are not uncommon, covers are very rare. The 12½ cent Large Queen did not pay a genuine letter rate beyond the early 1870's. (*Editors note:- it did pay the parcel post rate until 1879*). Henry and Harry Duckworth, in their book *The Large Queen Stamps of Canada and Their Use 1868 to 1872*, noted that 'declining supplies of the 12½ cent continued to be distributed to postmasters until 1888'.

One obvious omission from the table above concerns the five cent Large Queen, which was first printed in 1875 but phased out of use in 1876 when the five cent Small Queen began to be printed in Montreal. Numerous copies of the five cent Large Queen have been reported from BC (see fig 5 opposite), including several covers from the Helmenken correspondence in the 1876 – 77 period. The exact quantities employed in BC are not known, however.

It is clear that very few Large Queen stamps were ever used in BC and that their apparent rarity is entirely justified. Society members are encouraged to report any BC Large Queen covers for future publication in the BC Postal History Newsletter.



Fig 4. Front and back of a typical Wells Fargo carried letter from Victoria to Montreal via the union Pacific Railway - mailed in March 1872 and franked with a 6 cent Large Queen.





Fig 5. The packet rate for mail to England was reduced further, from six cents to five cents, on 1 Oct 1875. This five-cent Large Queen cover is dated NO 10/75.



Fig 6. Another six-cent Large Queen cover from the Davies correspondence to Placer County, California. Instead of the split-ring datestamp, the much scarcer Victoria "money order" cancel was used. The SEP/13/1871 date is a very early post-Confederation usage. The routing was via Olympia, Washington Territory.





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1913 Officially Sealed on military censor cover to Syria


circa 1865 Dewe/Ellis Essay for registration stamp


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1876 Registered Letter Stamp inscription sheet of 50





Early editions of the Canada Specialised Catalogue (1) included listings of the Straight Line postmarks used in Canada in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Unfortunately, since 1989, no such listing has been available to collectors. This collaborative series of articles is intended to correct this omission. The intention is to list and illustrate all the known straight line postmarks and to provide sufficient information to help in their identification. An earlier article (in the January 2013 issue of Maple Leaves) covered the known marks from Lower Canada or Quebec. No market valuations are given but the articles will provide an indication of relative scarcity and note where the particular marks are known only from the Postal or Provincial Archives.

STRAIGHT LINE POSTMARKS – (PART 2, UPPER CANADA)

Graham Searle F.C.P.S. and Bill Longley

Early straight line marks are known from twenty four post offices in Upper Canada. The majority come from the 1800 – 1829 period; prior to the introduction of the first circular date stamps in the late 1820's which saw the end of most of these marks. Just two, from Houghton and Windsor, come from later in the 19th century.

As noted in the earlier article on Lower Canada, these postmarks were locally produced. In many cases, these early post offices were located in the same building (or nearby) the local newspaper office and many of these simple postmarks were made up using printers' typeface. In some cases, the datelines of these marks show variations in the order of day/month/year and in the punctuation. These variations probably reflect nothing more than different staff setting up the typeset or the postmaster feeling like a change but for the record we have noted all the types we have seen. As with the Lower Canada article, we have ascribed a type number to postmarks from different devices with a sub-type letter for those types we believe to be the result of modification to that device.

In general it can be said that virtually all of these Upper Canada postmarks are scarce to rare. In some cases, examples are only known from official archives. In other cases, only one or two examples have been recorded. This has made study of these postmarks very difficult for collectors over the years and, as a result, it is more than likely that additional types (in particular variations in date lines) do exist, unrecorded, in collections. Members are asked to report any types not listed to the Editor.

These marks were, in general, applied as dispatch marks only and generally appear on the back of folded letters (often, rather irritatingly, across the fold). Marks appearing on the front of letters are scarce and even examples of the more common types tend to fetch very high prices if they are struck on the front of letters.





Several of these postmarks were struck in both black and red ink. We have found no evidence to suggest that this represents a systematic use of red for paid and black for unpaid as has been suggested in some texts. It seems, rather, to have been a case of whatever ink-pad the postmaster happened to have to hand. In addition, several types are reported in red brown or brownish red. In all such cases, we believe these may well be oxidised forms of original red cancels. What is true is that from 1827 onward, postmasters were asked to strike these marks on the front of letters in red ink (2). However, even in the short, post 1827, period there is no evidence of any great adherence to this directive.

Table 1, at the end of this article, lists all the known types from Upper Canada along with our estimates of rarity factors. Details of the specific cancels are given in the notes below.

Bath:- this small settlement on the north shores of Lake Ontario had a post office from 1819. Only one type of straight line postmark is known from Bath and this is shown in fig 1 on the reverse of a 1819 letter to Montreal. This mark is known used between 1819 and 1822 but we are aware of only two examples existing in private collections. The old CS catalogue recorded this mark in black and red. The example shown has the handstamp in black although the manuscript date below is in red-brown and it may be that the original cancel was in red. The other example we know of is dated in October 1822 and is struck in red. Confirmation of any example of this mark definitely struck in black would be welcomed. The cancel measures approx. 20 x 5 mm.



Fig 1. The straight line postmark from Bath, Upper Canada. struck on the back of a 1819 letter to Montreal.





Brantford:- this early settlement west of Hamilton opened its first post office in 1825. Only one type of straight line cancel has been recorded from Brantford and only one copy is known of this rare mark in private hands. It is shown in fig 2 and is a rather indistinct strike on the back of a March 1825 letter from Walsingham to York. For the record, it measures approx. 28 x 8 mm and is struck in black. Our last record of it being sold was in the Maresch sale of the John Young collection in 1992 (5) where it fetched a very modest \$660; even allowing for the time gap and the condition, something of a bargain for a unique cancel.

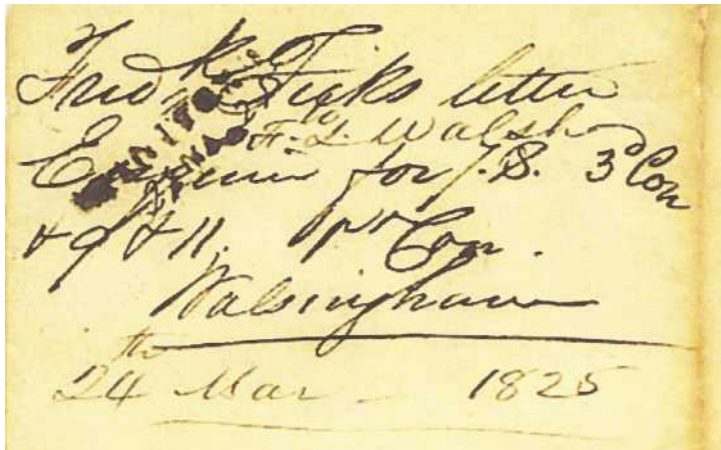


Fig 2 Cropped picture of part of the back of a 1825 letter showing the unique Brantford straight line postmark (courtesy of Robert Anderson)

Brockville:- this early settlement on the St. Lawrence River between Kingston and Cornwall had a post office from 1813. An earlier settlement on the same site was called Elizabethtown. Two different straight line postmarks have been recorded from this office. The first, and one of the few relatively common Upper Canada straight line marks, is shown in fig 3 opposite. This mark is sometimes accompanied by a manuscript date below. It is found in both red and black and is known used from 1816 to 1830. The cancel measures approx. 45 x 5mm.

A second type from Brockville is shown in fig 4. This is a two line handstamp, the second line showing the month and date. We have only seen this type used in 1828 and struck in brownish-red (probably originally red). It is much rarer than the first type. The only copy we are aware of in private hands was sold as part of a lot in the Cavendish sale of the Dorothy Sanderson collection in 2006 (3).





Fig 3 The Brockville straight line postmark type I on a 1829 Money Letter.

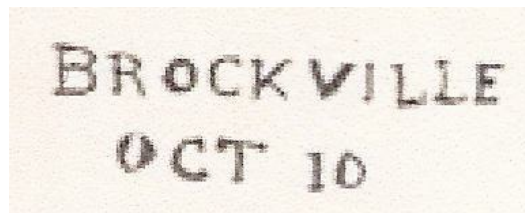


Fig 4. Brockville straight line postmark type II

Chippawa:- this early settlement on the Niagara River just south of the Falls opened a post office in 1801. Early editions of the CS catalogue (1) show a simple straight line postmark from this office (see fig 5) with a period of use noted as 1810 – 1817. Some experts have questioned the existence of this mark and we have certainly never seen a copy to confirm it. Allan Steinhart's notes indicate one known copy but the CS listing shows a date range so we can only assume that copies must exist in the official archives. If it does exist outside of the archives, it is one of the rarest of the Upper Canada marks.

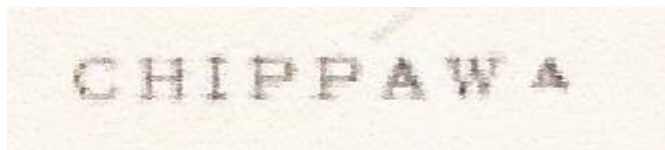


Fig 5 Chippawa straight line mark – taken from ref 1.





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Cornwall:- another early settlement on the St Lawrence River, this one midway between Montreal and Lake Ontario. A post office opened at Cornwall in 1789 making it one of the first in Upper Canada. Only one type of straight line postmark is recorded from this office and this is shown in fig 6. It measures approx. 45 x 5 mm and has been recorded in black, red and brownish – red (latter probably just an oxidised red). The cancel is usually accompanied by a manuscript date (full or partial) underneath as in the example shown. It has been recorded used between 1820 and 1829 and is one of the more commonly seen straight line marks from Upper Canada and one of the few that is regularly seen on the front rather than the back of letters.

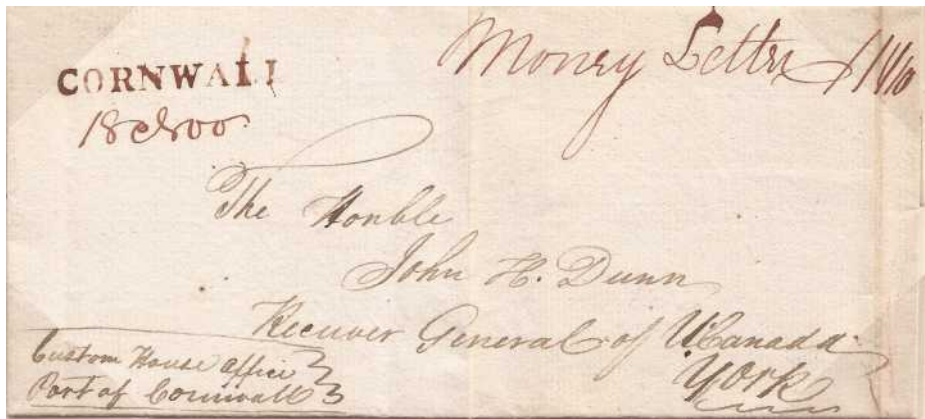


Fig 6 Cornwall straight line postmark on an early, 1828, Money Letter.

Detroit:- the early history of Detroit is interesting to say the least. At various times between a fort being built there around 1700 and 1830 it was under the control of the French, the British, the North West Territories controlled by the Hudson Bay Company, Indiana Territory then Michigan Territory, reoccupied by the British during the war of 1812 before eventually becoming part of the United States. A post office opened there in 1792 (despite there being no regular mail service) and the mails to and from continued to pass through the Canadian postal system even when the fort was occupied by United States forces. A single straight line postmark is known from Detroit dating from 1792 when it was very much part of Canada. Only one example of this famous cancel is known in private hands, struck in black on the reverse of a folded letter from Saginaw, Michigan to Montreal (see fig 7 overleaf). This cover fetched a staggering SF47500 (around £32000) plus premium when the Steinhart collection was sold in 2005 (5) which must make it Canada's most expensive postmark. For the record, the overall size is approx. 50 x 7mm.

Dundas:- this early settlement on the north shore of the St Lawrence was midway between Cornwall and Brockville; a post office opened there in 1814. Five different straight line handstamps are known from this office.



Fig 7 The unique Detroit straight line postmark, struck on the back of a letter— Canada's most expensive postmark (picture courtesy of Harmers SA).

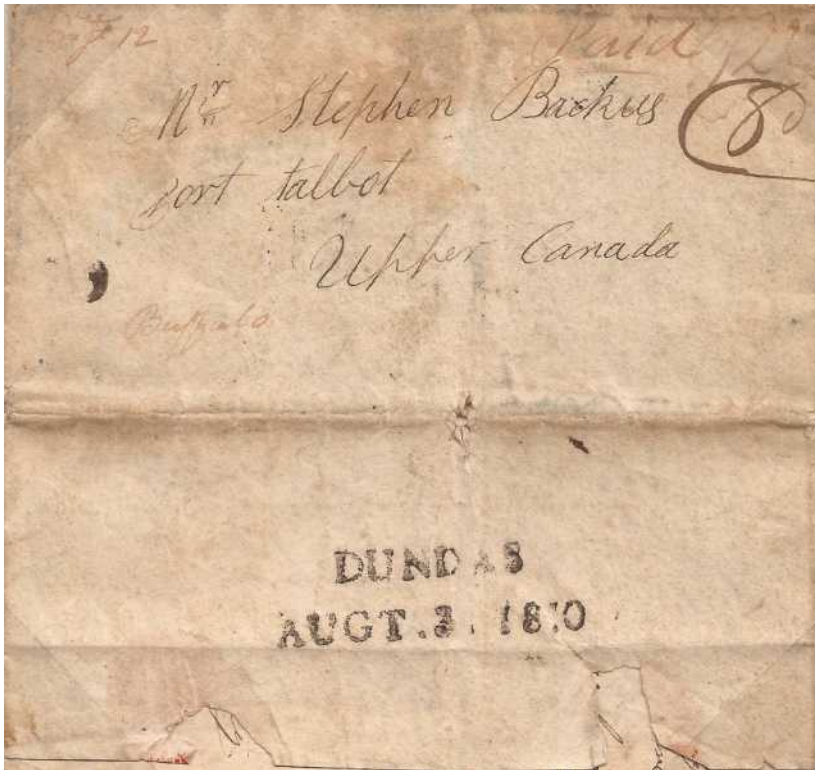


Fig 8 Dundas type I straight line postmark complete with an impossible year date error.





The first of these, shown in fig 8 opposite is a two line mark with the date line in full. (Note that the date of 1810 is a nice example of someone picking up the wrong piece of typeset. The letter is actually dated 1816 and the office was not even open in 1810!) We have only seen this mark struck in black. It is approx. 50 x 15mm in size and is known used between 1816 and 1819.

The second type, shown in fig 9 below, is essentially identical to the first type but shows the last number of the year date always in manuscript and the day also in manuscript. (Note that the illustration of this type in the early CS catalogues – as type I – appear to show the cancel from this specific cover). The dimensions are the same as the first type and again we have only seen this struck in black.

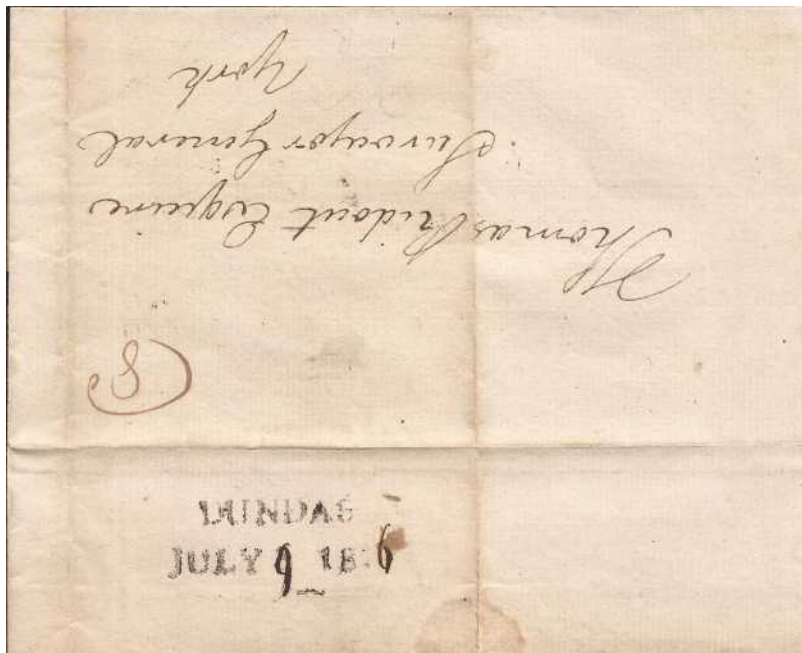


Fig 9. Second type of Dundas straight line mark (type Ia) with the dateline partly in manuscript.

The third type, shown in fig 10 overleaf, is a tiny mark, measuring only 19 x 10 mm, again in two lines with the date line under the town name. We have only seen this mark struck in black and it is only known used from 1817 to 1819. A variant of this third type can be found having the same tiny town name but with a much longer date line with the day of the month written in manuscript. We have only seen this type (illustrated in fig 11) from 1819.



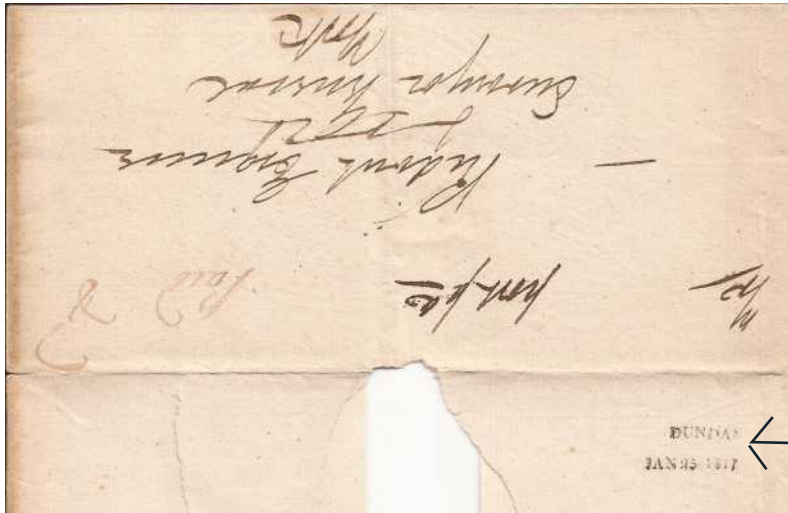


Fig 10 The tiny third type of Dundas straight line mark (type II).

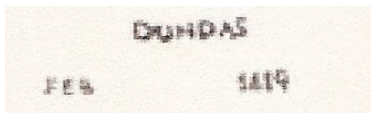


Fig 11 Variant of the small Dundas straight line mark with longer date-line (type IIa) – taken from ref 1.

A fifth type, shown in fig 12, is a single line mark showing just the town name with the date in manuscript below. The design is similar to types I and Ia but the size of the mark is larger; 40 x 5mm compared to 30 x 5mm for the town name in type I. This type has only been recorded struck in black in 1820.



Fig 12 The fifth type of Dundas straight line mark (type III).



Whilst the Dundas cancels are not amongst the great rarities, none of the types is easy to find with no more than a handful of each type existing in private hands.

Gananoque:- this early settlement at the head of Lake Ontario between Kingston and Brockville had a post office from 1817. A single type of straight line postmark has been recorded from Gananoque and this is shown in fig 13.

This single line mark is always accompanied by a manuscript date below. The impression of the postmark is not always very good with the final 'E' often appearing as an 'I' and the tops of some of the letters being missing as shown in the example in fig 13. The mark is recorded struck in black and in red. It is known used from 1821 to 1829 and measures approx. 55 x 5mm.

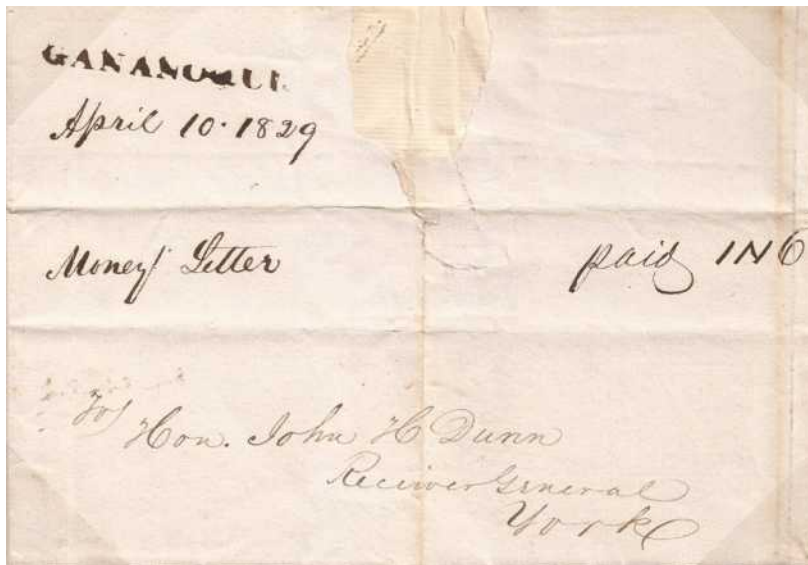
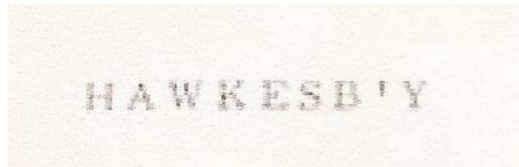


Fig 13. Straight line postmark from Gananoque U.C.

Hawkesbury:- this early settlement on the Upper Canada side of the Ottawa River had a post office from 1819. One straight line postmark has been recorded from Hawkesbury, see fig 14. This simple one line mark has only been recorded used in 1823 in black. It is one of the rarest of all Upper Canada postmarks and neither of us has ever seen it. It is possible it only exists in the archives. The town name measures approx. 49 x 5 mm.

Fig 14 Straight line cancel from Hawkesbury – taken from ref 1.





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die proof in black with
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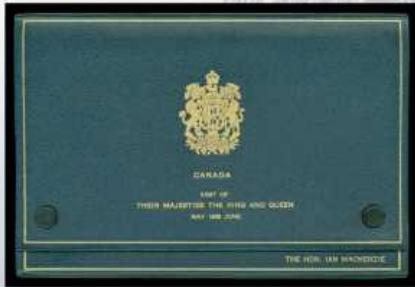
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Houghton:- this early settlement on the north shore of Lake Erie had a post office from 1842. It is unusual in having a late straight line cancel; used in 1843, probably prior to the office being issued with circular date stamps. Only one type is known and this is shown in fig 15. It is a simple one line mark containing the year date. A manuscript date (also with the year) is written in below. The approx. size of the mark is 26 x 3 mm and it is only known struck in black. This is a rare postmark with only a few copies known.

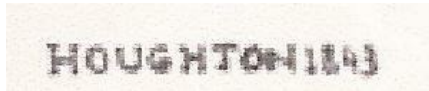


Fig 15 Straight line mark from Houghton U.C. – taken from ref 1.

Kingston:- this was one of the first major settlements in Upper Canada and the first of the Upper Canada post offices to open in 1789. Up to five different types of straight

line postmark are known from this office, depending on your point of view. The first of these is shown in fig 16. This type dates from 1796 and only the one copy is known (this was sold in the Sanderson sale at Cavendish in 2006 as lot 156 and fetched £2000 before premium – a veritable bargain for a unique cancel compared to the Detroit straight line mark!) It is notable for having a spelling error in the town name – there is no ‘G’ in Kingston. The only known strike is in black.



Fig 16 The earliest type of Kingston straight line mark (type I) – complete with spelling error (picture courtesy of Cavendish Auctions).

There are several later types all of which are two line postmarks with the town name (correctly spelled) on top and a full or partial date on the second line. The first of these is shown in fig 17 and is the most elusive of these types. This type has the date line in full with a full four digit year. It measures approx. 38 x 14 mm and is known struck in both red and black between 1803 and 1806.



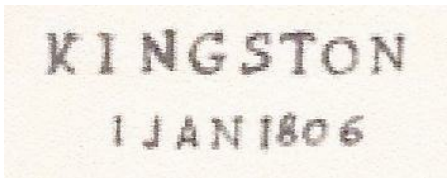


Fig 17 Kingston type IIa straight line mark – taken from ref 1.

Fig 18 shows the second of these later types. Some early listings (1) show this as two different cancels but we are inclined to the view that they are one and the same, some show the date before the month, some after. Both types can be found struck in red or black and both measure approx. 38 x 14mm. They are recorded used in the period 1800 – 1830.



Fig 18 Kingston type IIb straight line mark. The date sometimes appears after rather than before the month.

The last of these types is probably the most common and is shown in fig 19 overleaf. This shows a full date line but the year is shown as only two digits. We have only seen this cancel struck in black but its period of use was large; from 1800 to 1826. The mark measures approx. 38 x 14mm.

These various two line types may well be considered as only one type of postmark with varying date indicia, as the typeface and size (38 x 5mm) of the town name appears to be identical in all.

TO BE CONTINUED





Fig 19 Later two line postmark from Kingston (type IIc).



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CANADIAN COMMEMORATIVES OF THE QEII ERA (PART 4)

John Burnett, *OTB*

In the last Maple Leaves I wrote about actual uses of commemorative stamps from 1959 until 1964. I am picking up at 1965 and in looking at my collection I'm starting to see a dearth of appropriate material for these articles. I do have copies of the stamps used correctly paying the proper rates but I lack attractive advertising covers. I will say the vast majority of these "plain Jane" covers were all found in dollar boxes at local shows.

My first example is one of my all time favourite Canadian commemorative stamps; the new Canadian flag shown in figure 1. This great stamp is paying the 5¢ first class postage rate to the United States, which at the time was the same as domestic mail.



Fig 1. The new Canadian Flag commemorative on an E.T. Steele corner advertising cover addressed to Pennsylvania

This particular stamp interests me for a number of reasons, the first is that it has a known start date, 30 June 1965, and the theme has no end date in sight. This theme has gotten me interested in forming a small collection I title "I Stand for Canada" which simply is a collection of Canadian stamps that depict her new flag. I also remember being at sea onboard HMCS Ste. Therese the day we lowered the RCN's White Ensign and raised Canada's new flag at her stern. What mixed feelings I had that day! One of sadness as the White Ensign came down as it was one the RCN had sailed under with much distinction but at the same time a new flag was flying that was uniquely representative of Canada.





Many people don't know that the Prime Minister of Canada (Lester Pearson) had lobbied for a flag design he referred to as the "Unity Flag" which was shown on a commemorative stamp in 1964. It shows three maple leaves joined at a common base and was intended to symbolize "French, English, and All Others" as making up Canada. I have added this cover to this article as I believe it appropriate here.



Fig 2 The Unity flag was Prime Minister Lester Pearson's recommendation for a distinctive Canadian flag.

The red flag of the Hudson's Bay Company can be found on a cover from just about every city of reasonable size in Canada.

I am a great fan of the writings of Winston Churchill and was pleased to hear Canada would honour him with a commemorative stamp but I can say I was less than pleased with what she issued on 12 August 1965. Looking in my collection I don't have a single Illustrated Mail cover but do have the one shown in figure 3 opposite.

I was raised in British Columbia and so can relate to some of her many strange area names. I think names such as Blubber Bay just add to the cover. I show a close up of the cancellation in figure 4

The easiest commemoratives to find postally used in period I find are those commemorating Christmas. Shown in figure 5 is another example of an E.T. Steele corner cover addressed to Pennsylvania and franked with the 5¢ "Gifts of the Three Wise Men" Christmas commemorative stamp. The cover has an added attraction as it has passed through the cancelling device upside down, was caught and re-passed through the device to kill the stamp.

This design also had a 3¢ olive coloured stamp to pay the "Printed Matter" rate. Canada still allowed Christmas cards to move as printed matter as long as the envelope was not





Fig 3 I wonder how many folks have a cover mailed from Blubber Bay?

Fig 4. Blubber Bay is a hard cancel to find.



Fig 5 An example of a cover that has passed through the cancelling device twice.

sealed and the card contained no writing beyond a salutation. I am still looking for a 3¢ version used to mail a Christmas card or any other printed matter. I do have one cover that utilizes a pair of the 3¢ stamps which is overpaying the first class letter rate by 1¢



In 1967 Canada's centennial was celebrated and there are a ton of various stamps that can be found. The biggest set was a definitive set which is complicated enough to have an extensive amount of literature available on just that issue. I will end this article with the commemorative stamps of 1967 and with the next part of this series I will pick up the definitive's as they will probably fill an entire article by themselves

Shown in figure 6 is a particularly attractive naval cover. The cover has a hand stamped cachet from HMCS Algonquin, destroyer number 224. Algonquin was one of the last Tribal Class destroyers still in commission in 1967. The cover is franked with another commemorative featuring Canada's new flag and carries a light but readable FMO cancel from Victoria BC. Fancy Canadian Naval ship covers are not found too often and generally only carry a small hand stamp of the Quartermasters office. This cover franked with the Centennial of Confederation commemorative stamp has a large and very colourful cachet.



Fig 6 A very colourful cover franked with the Centennial of Confederation commemorative stamp.

Figures 7 and 8 opposite show a Forces Air Letter folded letter sheet and a close up of the cancellation. The stamp is the 5¢ Expo 67 commemorative that shows a stylised picture of the Canadian Pavilion at the World's Fair held in commemoration of Canada's centennial.

The cancel CFPO (Canadian Forces Post Office) 5001 was located in Cyprus where Canada had troops on a peace keeping mission. Military personnel were required to affix postage to their mail in the same way they would if they were home in Canada. Here a 5¢ stamp pays the domestic letter rate; the letter was carried by military transport and put in the mails in Canada. Collecting CFPO cancellations could create quite a collection as Canada has been a major contributor to peace keeping in the world.





Figs 7 and 8. Mailed from CFPO-5001 located in Cyprus.

My final example for this article is a very clean cover sent from White Rock, British Columbia and franked with the 5¢ deep ultra marine coloured stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Canadian Press.

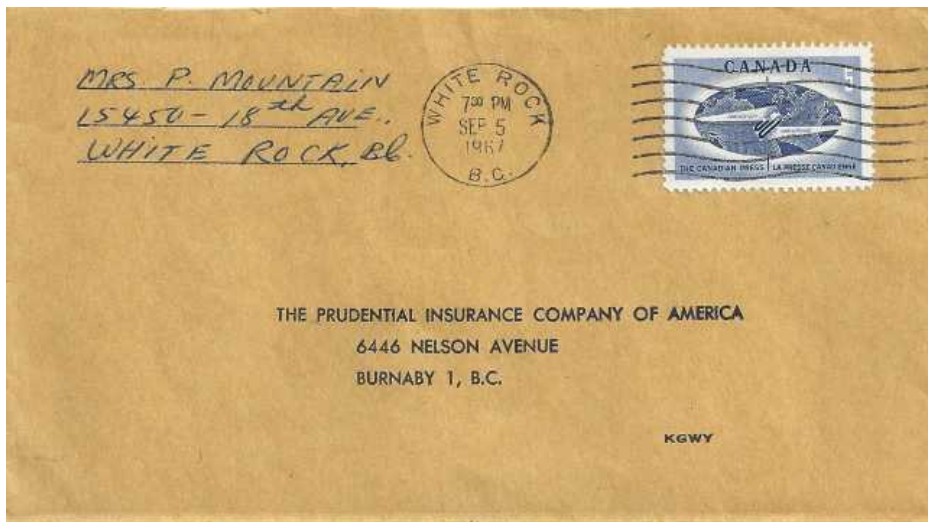


Fig 9 A nice clean cover franked with the Free Press commemorative stamp.

This series of small articles came out after reading one neat article by fellow member John Watson about the difficulty in collecting modern commemorative stamps used correctly and in period and as I look at my own collection I realize just how correct he was. I have been able to fill an album a year for the past 50 years but the commemoratives I have are sometimes those plain Jane covers found in junk boxes at shows. You



folks in England have a great opportunity to find covers with more postage on them as mail to you was at the international rate. As you attend shows and find them you should be accumulating them, mail to the UK is probably the most readily available, I urge you to look for mails into Eastern Europe, I'm finding that particularly scarce. I would love to see some more articles by the membership depicting more of the international use of Canada's modern commemorative stamps.

With part 5 I will explore the use of the 1967 Definitive stamps that covered the range from a 1¢ stamp all the way to a \$1 stamp.

Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain

Annual subscriptions for the 2014/15 year will fall due on 1st October 2014.

Subscription levels are:-

£22 for members resident in the UK

£25 for members resident in Europe (airmail delivery) and

£28 for members residing in the rest of the world (airmail delivery)

For members living in North America, the dollar equivalents are currently \$50 CAN or \$47 US. These \$ rates will be reviewed after 1 November 2014 and adjusted should exchange rates have moved significantly.

Payments made prior to 1st November 2014 will be eligible for a 'prompt payment' discount of **£2 or \$4** from the above amounts (these discounts automatically apply to payments made via Direct Debit arrangements).

Members may pay subscriptions by PAYPAL in any local currency via the Society website or by cheque from a UK, Canadian or US bank. If paying by PAYPAL you will be offered the option to pay for 3 years subscriptions at a 10% discount.

Cheques should be made payable to the Society and sent to:-

Malcolm Montgomery, Subscription Manager, Cae Glas, Llechwed, Conwy, North Wales LL32 8DX (**sterling cheques only**)

or to:-

Mike Street, 73 Hatton Drive, Ancaster, Ontario, Canada L9G 2H5 (**for cheques in CAN or US dollars**).

Members who have not paid the 2014/15 subscriptions by the end of February 2015 will be removed from the *Maple Leaves* circulation list.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

John Watson

FOREIGN PARCEL POST RATES

Since writing about postal rates of the early QEII era in which I asked if anybody had any information about foreign parcel post rates, I came across this piece (fig 1 below) which very conveniently sets out the weights of articles included in the parcel. The date of the postmark is unfortunately unreadable, but the form is dated 1942 which, together with the release date of the stamps and the contents of the parcel, suggests a date of around the middle years of WWII or possibly just after when rationing in the UK was still in force. Assuming that the weights given are roughly accurate, even if rounded, and that there are no stamps which have been cut off the piece, this gives a rate of 96 cents for up to 4 pounds - that is 24 cents per pound to Great Britain. Unfortunately for my article this does not confirm the rate during the QEII era, but I hope it is useful for somebody else. I also hope it encourages others to share snippets of information like this, which, while not forming a full article, help to contribute to the total sum of knowledge about the hobby.



Fig 1



Frank Henry

HALF CENT LARGE QUEEN ON SOFT FIBROUS WOVE PAPER

I'm hoping that you might be able to steer me towards someone who might be able to confirm/refute my identification of a stamp which I bought last year on eBay which, as we all know, can be a treacherous marketplace for specialists! I show below in fig 2 a couple of images of the item concerned and I provide below a summary of the reasoning behind my own identification. I don't have any technical means of measuring the actual thickness of the paper and have had to rely on appearance, published articles and logic alone.

The seller described this item as follows: "a gorgeous used example of this stamp printed in the most intense black shade imaginable and on a soft horizontal wove paper that is exceedingly fibrous, so much so that numerous stray fibres are visible from all of the perforations, whereas these are not normally visible at all on the usual paper that is found on this issue".

This paper is similar to the (thick) soft blotting paper (Duckworth Paper 8) which has been found on other LQ values, but is of medium thickness and chalky white in colour. Although the seller has described the wove as horizontal, it is only slightly discernible as such.

Bruce Craw of Bow City Philatelics, Calgary has produced a sharpened image of this stamp and was able to identify the date Oct 14, 18(8)0 and he associates the paper with that used for the 15c deep violet stamp in 1880 (listed in the Unitrade catalogue as #30c ~ very thick paper). John Hillson discusses this same paper in his 2008 collaborative study with Ted Nixon of the SQ issue and terms it "thick, carton paper (F)".

In my view, the paper on this stamp is definitely not carton paper and is far more likely to be the same as or closely similar to Duckworth's Paper 8 (Hillson's Paper B). Consequently, the date is probably 1870; this would also accord with the intense black shade, which does not appear in later printings of the half-cent LQ. Although Duckworth concluded that it was unlikely that the half-cent value existed on Paper 8, he did report that Menich had exhibited two such examples at CAPEX 1995 (with thicknesses of .0032" and .0040").



Fig 2





(Editors note:- I fear that the limitations of the printing process may be apparent in fig 2 but I have looked closely at Frank's scans provided and would concur that this does not show the characteristics of the 'thick carton paper' associated with the 15 cent LQ value. It certainly shows many of the characteristics of the 'soft blotting paper' found on other Large Queen values and on the 1 cent and 3 cent Small Queens from printings made around 1870. However, I have no doubt our Large and Small Queen experts may be able to provide some additional guidance.)

Doug Lingard

STREET CANCELS

Re. the article on page 365 of the July 2014 issue of Maple Leaves, I would like to report another Notre Dame St. W L.C.D. CDS; this one dated 7/JA 29/98. It seems to be similar to the one illustrated on page 365 except mine has a dot between the 'T' in 'ST' and the 'W'. In the one you show, there seems to be a light dot between the 'E' in 'DAME' and the 'S' in 'ST', but nothing between the 'T' and 'W'. The CDS was used in the same circumstances as the one on the PC, in that there is a Letter Carriers date stamp showing 4/JA 28/98 and another one showing 1/JA 29/98. My cover has the CDS used as a b/s as well, and it appears the cover was either first sent to a wrong Letter Carrier Depot for delivery or it was not delivered on the 28th as originally intended. The addressee resided in the Waddell Building at 30 St. John Street Montreal.

(Editors note:- Doug and I have since examined the two examples of the cancel more closely and have concurred that they are indeed identical – albeit with a few odd dots appearing and disappearing over time!)

Roy Ferguson

CANADA POST'S DECISION TO USE SURFACE-MAIL IN FUTURE – UPDATE

As a follow-up to my previous letter concerning Canada Post's decision to use sea-mail rather than air-mail for its despatch of new issue stamps etc, I now wish to let you know about my more recent experiences of this decision.

Having decided not to buy any more Canadian new issues, I was tempted to try once more with the Canadian issue relating to the loss of the "Empress of Ireland" ship. I really liked the designs of the stamps, in particular how they related to the previous "Titanic" ship issue. The total cost of the order was 66.95CAD, which is equivalent to £36.55.

Because the order was sent by sea-mail, Parcel Force Worldwide picked up the shipment, which was in two parts (£16.37 & £20.18). This exceeded the VAT import value thresholds concerning goods coming in over a value of £15.00. I was therefore presented with one bill for £1.86 Import VAT plus Clearance Fee £8.00, together with another





bill for £1.89 Import VAT plus Clearance Fee £8.00. Over the last 20 years or so of air-mail deliveries, I have never had to pay for Import VAT plus charges.

The latest revised small Canada Post magazine now states that due to “new regulations they can no longer accept credit card orders by mail”. (Credit Cards are accepted for orders on line).

This latest blow now means that I will definitely not be ordering by mail any more Canadian new issue stamps from Canada Post. Of course this could be good news for the few remaining stamp dealers in this country.

BOOK REVIEWS

With Christmas fast approaching (yes it really is!), it is timely to take a look at some of the recent BNA philatelic book titles. The following books have been published by BNAPS. All BNAPS books are available from: Ian Kimmerly Stamps, 62 Sparks Street, Ottawa, ON K1P 5A8, Canada. Phone: (613) 235-9119. Internet orders can be placed at www.iankimmerly.com/books/

Prices given below are the retail prices in Canadian Dollars. BNAPS members receive a 40% discount from retail prices. Shipping is extra. Credit card orders (Visa, MasterCard) will be billed for exact amount of shipping plus \$2 per order. To pay by cheque, please contact Ian Kimmerly Stamps directly for a total. For US\$ or £ cheque payments, amounts will be calculated at the current rate of exchange. Applicable taxes are payable for Canadian orders.

As usual, review copies of these books, in colour, can be found in the Society Library so if you wish to sample before you buy, please contact Mike Slamo.

A SUMMARY OF THE KNOWN FLAWS, GUIDE DOTS AND CORK CANCELS IN THE 1 CENT SMALL QUEEN, by Kenneth Kershaw. 128 pages, 8.5 x 11, spiral bound, colour. ISBN: 978-1-927119-31-0. Stock # B4h065.1.1; \$C57.00

Rather than being a plating book where stamps are examined position by position, this volume is exactly what the title indicates, a summary of the known flaws, guide dots and cork cancels found on the 1¢ Small Queen, compiled after close examination of more than 6000 examples of the stamp. The flaws are grouped by type or common characteristic such as the “Strand of Hair”, which is covered in detail. While collectors of the issue will be pleased to find that many of the items they too have found are illustrated, the author makes it clear that many more are likely to be found.

Members familiar with Ken’s other works will know what to expect from this volume. Don’t expect to be able to see all of the flaws listed with the naked eye; a good quality magnifying glass may be required for many. The 1 cent value of this series has often been neglected by specialists looking for flaws and varieties as the colour of the stamp





makes eye strain a serious problem. However, one should not assume that the lack of reported varieties means they are not to be found.

An interesting book, especially for those who collect Small Queens, but a rather eclectic mix of varieties, flaws and cancels.

CANADIAN WILDING AND ASSOCIATED HIGH VALUE DEFINITIVES: PAPER TEXTURE, PRINTINGS, PERIODS OF USE, by Robert J Elias. 2014, 88 pages, 8.5 x 11, spiral bound, ISBN: 978-1-927119-32-7. Stock # B4h923.75.1, colour; \$C51.00

This exhibit by Robert Elias presents the most comprehensive research ever undertaken on the paper texture of the Canadian Wilding and associated high-value definitives of the 1950's and early 1960's. It represents the culmination of a succession of studies and exhibits on this topic, which began at the Winnipeg Philatelic Society's STAMPSHOW '99. The final exhibit, at BNAPEX 2012 CALTAPEX in Calgary, received a Gold medal, the Ed and Mickey Richardson Award, the John D. Arn White Queen Award, and the APS 1940-1980 Award of Excellence. In addition to the stamps themselves, the exhibit includes a very fine selection of covers showing their use.

It is unusual to find a serious philatelic study on material from the modern era which is still readily available at modest cost but this display and book may give encouragement to others to devote more time to this area of our hobby.

It has been well documented for some time that stamps of this era could be found on ribbed paper. Robert's work indicates that the ribbing can be found both horizontal and vertical and appearing on both the front and back of the stamp. The alignment of the ribbing results from nothing more than the orientation of the paper with respect to the printing plate. One might expect, therefore, that such 'varieties' of paper would be entirely random. However, Robert's study found that there was clear pattern over time (and by plate number) of the alignment of the paper with some types being much scarcer than others.

A most interesting display and one that will interest all members who collect QEII material. Those who may be inclined to frown upon the collecting of ribbed paper varieties that owe their existence to the way the paper was fed into the machine may reflect upon the importance now given to ribbed paper varieties from the 1850's era. Maybe these Wilding stamps will one day be equally cherished!

FIRST DAY COVERS OF CANADA'S 1937 CORONATION ISSUE, by Gary Dickinson. 2014, 60 pages, 8.5 x 11, spiral bound, colour. ISBN: 978-1-927119-33-4. Stock # B4h066.1.1; \$C44.00

After the death of King George V and the abdication of King Edward VIII in 1936, in 1937 Canada and the other countries of the British Empire were ready for some good news and celebration, which were provided by the coronation of King George VI.

Philatelically, the 1937 Coronation Issue was the turning point for First Day Cover (FDC) development in Canada. It was the first stamp issued by Canada which resulted





in the production of more than 200 different cachets, far more than any previous stamp and rarely equalled in the years following. Canada's commemorative stamp was issued on 10 May 1937, two days before the actual coronation.

In *First Day Covers of Canada's 1937 Coronation Issue*; the more than 200 different known FDCs are illustrated in separate chapters according to the style of cachet, eg those featuring the King alone, the Royal Family, words or pictures, crowns and other printed cachets and rubber stamped and hand made cachets, with a final chapter on First Day Postmarks.

This is another area of our hobby that has been neglected over many years and one where available material is both plentiful and relatively cheap. This colourful book may encourage a few of us to take another look at FDC's and maybe add a few to our collections.

GS.

AND FINALLY

I am not sure we have ever featured a non-BNA stamp in this journal but it seems churlish to let the sale of the world's rarest stamp pass without a mention.

The famed British Guiana 1 cent black on magenta of 1856 was sold earlier this year in New York for the first time since 1980. At a cool \$9.5 million (around £5 million) this unique stamp is apparently the most expensive thing on the planet if measured by weight or size.



I can recall reading about it as a schoolboy collector and it's story was one of those that inspired many of us to take up the hobby. I wonder if it will be another 35 years before it surfaces again?

The stamp was on show at the auctioneers office in London for a brief time this summer and I hope some of our members in the South of England got the chance to go along and view it.

When last sold 35 years ago the stamp fetched less than \$1 million so the value has improved a wee bit in that time.

The next time your partner complains about your stamp collecting budget you can always remind them of this story!





SOCIETY NEWS

FROM THE SUBSCRIPTION MANAGER

Members are reminded that Subscriptions are now due for the 2014/2015 season; my thanks to all of you have who already paid. The Subscription reminder was included in the July issue of Maple Leaves but if you have mislaid your copy you can find the relevant details on page 444 of this issue or on the Society website.

Payment can be made using PAYPAL via the Society website or by mailing a cheque to me (in Sterling only please) or to our North American agent, Mike Street (in either US or Canadian \$). Make sure that you pay by the end of October to receive the prompt payment discount of £2 or \$4.

Finally, if you are unsure if you have already paid for 2014/15, you can contact me by e mail or phone (see inside back page for contact details) and I will let you know.

Malcolm Montgomery

LONDON GROUP

The programme for the next season, up to January 2015 is as follows:-

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------|
| October 20 | - New Acquisitions |
| November 17 | - Subjects G, H &/ or I |
| December 15 | - Colin Banfield entertains |
| January 19 | - Brian Hargreaves entertains |

All meetings are held at 31 Barley Hills, Thorley Park, Bishops Stortford and all commence at approx. 12-30pm for around 2 hours followed by a late pub lunch. Contact Dave on 01279 503625 or 07985 961444 for more details.

Dave Armitage

SCOTLAND AND NORTH OF ENGLAND GROUP

Our next meeting will be held on Saturday 25th October at 2pm at the usual venue of the Buccleugh Arms Hotel in Moffat. All members are welcome (passports are not yet required for those living south of the border!) Please bring along a few sheets to display and/or some questions to which you are seeking answers. Please contact the Editor for any more details.

Graham Searle





AMENDMENTS TO MEMBERSHIP to 1st September 2014

New Members:-

3030 VANCOUVER PUBLIC LIBRARY, Attn Dianne Lagden; 350 W. Georgia St., Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6B 6B1.

Change of Address and Corrections to Address:-

1143 OKIN, Anthony; 16 Clewer House, Wolvercote Road, London SE2 9TQ; also add interest **A**
2068 REYNOLDS, John R.; correction to e mail address, jr.reynolds1@virginmedia.com, also interests **TORONTO PH**
2106 PARAMA, Rick; 3919 Essex Lane, Apt # 130, Houston, TX 77027, USA
2495 TRIPLETT, Brian; e mail correction, should be: brianboru@netcarrier.com
2701 WHITELEY, David; 704 60 Whellams Lane, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R2G 2G7
2916 COLOP, Tom; 1 Dover Centre, 7687 Marsh Line, Chatham, Kent, Ontario, Canada N0P 1L0
2946 MOIR, Gordon; new e mail address, gordongmoir@gmail.com
3025 TAYLOR-YOUNG, Simon; Lambsland Farm, Rolvenden Layne, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 4PX

Resigned:-

1805 DODWELL, Kim (due to failing eyesight) 2454 JONSSON, Wilbur
2648 BROWN, Linton (due to failing eyesight) 2747 ROSSITER, John
2885 BLACKBURN, Richard

Deceased:-

0072 COHEN, Stanley, *FCPS* 0607 GREY, Peter

Revised Total:- 298

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

2014

Oct 2 - 6 CPSGB Convention, Kings Manor Hotel, Edinburgh
Oct 20 CPSGB London Group Meeting, Bishops Stortford
Oct 25 CPSGB Scotland and North of England Group Meeting, Moffat
Nov 17 CPSGB London Group Meeting, Bishops Stortford
Dec 1- 6 Malaysia 2014, Kuala Lumpur (FIP)
Dec 15 CPSGB London Group Meeting, Bishops Stortford

2015

Jan 19 CPSGB London Group Meeting, Bishops Stortford
Feb 16 CPSGB London Group Meeting, Bishops Stortford
Feb 18 - 21 Spring Stampex, BDC Islington, London
Mar 16 CPSGB London Group Meeting, Bishops Stortford
Apr 20 CPSGB London Group Meeting, Bishops Stortford
May 13 - 16 London 2015 FIP and FEPA Exhibition, BDC Islington
May 18 CPSGB London Group Meeting, Bishops Stortford
May 22 - 24 Royal 2015 Royale, National Philatelic Exhibition, London, Ontario
Jul 4 MIDPEX 2015, Leamington Spa
Aug 14 - 19 Singapore 2015 (FIP)
Sep 11 - 13 BNAPEX 2015 Ramada Plaza Hotel, Niagara Falls, Ontario
Sept 16 - 19 Autumn Stampex, BDC Islington, London
Sept 28 - Oct 2 CPSGB Convention, Crown & Mitre Hotel, Carlisle





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Auction Announcement

October 16th - 18th, 2014
Presented in three lavishly illustrated catalogues



Canada and British North America The Harvey Poole Collection October 16th, 2014

Extensive coverage of rarely seen proofs, essays, imperforates, classic postage stamps, varieties and presentation booklets. The core of this impressive collection was assembled during the 1960s & 1970s and has been hidden away for almost a half century.

For highlights see pages 434 and 435

British Columbia & Vancouver Island The Jack Wallace Collection October 16th, 2014

Formed over a span of 60 years, this extraordinary collection reflects the allure and tumultuous times during which these elusive colonial postage stamps, rare postal markings & numeral grid cancels were used. As a result, the complex postal history and changing scenes of the Gold Rush and beyond are portrayed.

For highlights see pages 416 and 417



General Sale Worldwide, British North America, Specialized Canada with Used Multiples, Small Queen Postal History, Revenues October 17th - 18th, 2014



A remarkable sale offering high quality stamps, proofs and postal history with numerous rarities and specialized collections. The Worldwide portion includes better Great Britain, Israel and the Levant among others. British North America is well represented with classic stamps and proofs of Nova Scotia and Newfoundland. Certainly one of the most extensive of its kind - The Joel Stern Collection of Canadian Used Multiples deserves special mention and has its own section within the catalogue, starting from 1851-1859 Pence issues continuing to the modern era. Canada is very powerful throughout including two World class rarities - the newly discovered 2c Large Queen on laid paper and a mint example of the 1927 London to London semi-official airmail. We are also very proud to offer the George Arfken Small Queen postal history collection and the Ian McTaggart-Cowan collection of Canadian revenues and wildlife conservation stamps.

For highlights see pages 402 and 403



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