



MAPLE LEAVES

JOURNAL OF THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF G.T. BRITAIN

Vol. 2, No. 8

JULY, 1949

Whole No. 12

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MAPLE LEAVES

JOURNAL OF THE

CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Edited by A. BRUCE AUCKLAND, M.A.

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Vol. 2, No. 8

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Notes and Comments

This Issue of "Maple Leaves"

This issue ends a volume of eight printed numbers and we therefore include an index to the articles and features. The four numbers of the first volume were duplicated ones and it has been suggested that when space permits some of the articles from these numbers should be repeated. Views of readers will be welcomed.

Group Activities

Groups are not very active at this time of the year and no reports have reached the Editor except that of the Glasgow Group whose programme has already been arranged.

B.N.A.P.S.

Our new publicity and advertising manager, Member Baresh, is representative on this side of the Atlantic of B.N.A.P.S. (British North-American Philatelic Society) and will gladly inform members of the arrangements for joining that Society.

Next Congress of British Philatelic Societies

The next Congress will be held at Tunbridge Wells, and our genial Vice-President J. C. Cartwright is to be its chairman.

Rumour

It is rumoured that a **very** important collection of Canada formed in Canada is soon to be sold in London.

X.Rays in Philately

Member Cheavin points out that the foundation of his discoveries with X-Rays was his discovery that the 6d. New Zealand stamp of 1830 was reproduced in all its detail. By mistake—a natural one when dealing with B.N.A.—his "N.Z." was read as "N.S." and so appears as "Nova Scotia" on page 90.

BRICKS WITHOUT STRAW

At our last Committee meeting and at the Annual General Meeting "Maple Leaves" came under fire from many quarters. One of the objections was that there was not enough Society or Group News. Our editor took this criticism in good part as he has been sending out S.O.S. messages for material for the last three years.

It is now the end of July and I am told that the deluge of news notes expected as a result of the April discussion has not materialised and that NOT ONE report of Society news has come forward. It was suggested also that "Maple Leaves" should publish Group Programmes. Up to date one only has come to hand. Our Editor cannot make bricks without straw.

We are now approaching another season of Study and I hope I will be forgiven for throwing a few friendly brickbats; I get plenty myself. To Contact Members I would say: "Have you got your Group Election and Programme arranged for next season?" Some Groups are well established, but others, to put it bluntly, are not. We are not concerned about the size of the Groups, but want to have them working and giving members service and opportunities for study.

May I appeal to our general members to support their office-bearers—they are all stamp-lovers, but seldom get time to see stamps because of their Committee duties, which are all **Voluntary and Honorary**.

The 1949-50 season is approaching: let us all pull together and make it a real bumper season.

A. E. STEPHENSON,
President.

POSTAL BALLOT

The results of the Postal Ballot are as follows:—

Executive Office-Bearers.—Nominees listed on the Ballot Form were in all instances elected with a large majority.

Amendments to the Constitution.—Recommendations made by the General Committee. Item 1 on Ballot Form. This item was split into three parts, each part to receive a separate vote. In each case the amendments received the required majority for its inclusion in the Constitution. The percentages of votes in favour being 76, 86 and 81 respectively. Full details of motions are given in Amendments to Handbook.

Amendments to the Constitution.—Proposed at Annual General Meeting. Item 2 on Ballot Form. This amendment proposing an increase of the annual subscription to twelve shillings and sixpence was defeated by a very small majority of those who voted.

It was disappointing that so few members took part in the ballot. Indeed, the office-bearers feel strongly that more members should have taken an interest in the election of their office-bearers and in the proposed amendments to the Constitution.

Wings Over Canada

By FRED L. WELLMAN.

Continuation of Reprint from the "Jack Knight Air Log,"
Journal of the Jack Knight Air Mail Society, U.S.A.

THUMB-NAIL HISTORIES OF CANADIAN AIRLINES

Algoma Air Transport, Ltd.—This company operated in Northern Ontario and the Province of Quebec from 1928 on. Their main base was located at South Porcupine, Ont. They did a freight and charter business and few philatelic items of the Company are available from which a collector can get information or build a collection. We have no schedules or other information to be able to tell you where they went and when they stopped operations.

Arrow Airways, Ltd.—This company operated throughout the provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. They carried mail, passengers and freight and did a lot of advertising. The main operating base was at the Pas. We have no record in our files to say when Arrow Airways began operations, but in 1942 they were incorporated in the Canadian Pacific Air Lines merger of smaller airlines.

Austin Airways, Ltd.—This is a rather new line operating out of Toronto. They serve Toronto, Nakina, Sudbury, South Porcupine and Moosonee. They haul charter passengers and freight.

British Columbia Airways, Ltd.—The first flight of this Company took place on July 23, 1928. They operated between Victoria and Vancouver in British Columbia. They operated for only one week, after this losing their plane and crew.

Canadian Airways, Ltd.—This Company was founded in 1930 by J. Richardson. Later Western Canada Airlines merged operations with Canadian Airways and they became one of the biggest air transport companies in Canada, before they in turn merged in Canadian Pacific Airlines in 1942. A story on this line is in the C.P.A.L. issue. They used huge Junkers JW52 planes to haul air freight, and did a tremendous business.



Canadian Colonial Airways, Ltd. — This is one of the Canadian-Colonial Airways companies which have operated between New York City and Montreal for many years. They began operations over F.A.M. Route 1 on October 1, 1928, and still hold the air mail contract for this route.

Canadian Pacific Air Lines.—Canada Pacific Air Lines, a subsidiary of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, is one of the bigger airlines of Canada. In 1942, Canadian Airways, Dominion Skyways, Quebec Airways, Wings Limited, Arrow Airways, Prairie Airways, Yukon Southern Air Transport, MacKenzie Air Services, Ginger Coote Airways and White Pass and Yukon Airways were incorporated into the C.P.A.L. system. While these lines don't form a transcontinental route, they do serve as a feeder system to almost every corner of Canada. C.P.A.L. is now planning for transoceanic routes over the Pacific to Australia and the Orient. More complete information on this great line can be found in the C.P.A.L. issue, July-Aug.-Sept., 1946, of the Air Log which can be had from the Society.

Cherry Red Airline, Ltd.—This company operated throughout the Northern Saskatchewan Area from their base at Prince Albert. They operated from May of 1929 to April 30, 1931, and used no cachets at any time. They received authority from the Post Office at Ottawa to use semi-official air mail stamps under the date of May 30, 1929.

Chinook Flying Service, Ltd.—Chinook is one of the newer Canadian air services and they serve the Calgary-Banff area. The main office is located at the Calgary Municipal Airport, and their main business is charter flying. Other means of income include: timber cruising, aerial photography, air training, sales and service, and also commercial flying. Two labels only are known of this company, similar to the one above, but one is a window sticker.

Commercial Airways, Ltd.—This company operated in Alberta from 1929 until April of 1931. In 1931 Canadian Airways took over the line. They operated between Edmonton, Athabaska, Fort Murray, Peace River and Grand Prairie.

Dominion Skyways, Ltd.—This airline is now a part of Canadian Pacific Air Lines. They operated in the Haileybury, Mud Lake, Montreal, Rouyn, Sullivan and Val d'Or areas. Regular schedules were kept and charter business was also handled by Dominion Skyways.

Jack V. Elliot Air Services.—This air transport company was formed in 1926 to serve miners in the Red Lake gold rush. Their first flight took place on March 6, 1926. First flight covers are also known to be marked Red Lake—Hudson and are very scarce. Most of this company's work was done in the charter field.



Elliot-Fairchild Air Service.—The Jack V. Elliot Company operating in the Red Lake gold mining area as a charter service and air mail service lasted for just a little over a month, when it became the Elliot-Fairchild Air Service. This new company then issued its own stamps, one of which was like the one shown.

Elliot-Fairchild Air Transport.—This company was a successor to the Elliot-Fairchild Air Service. We lack more information from this line.

Fairchild Air Transport, Ltd.—This was the last of the Elliot-Fairchild companies to operate. They operated in the Haileybury-Rouyn area and their stamps picture a flying seaplane over the Rouyn Gold-fields.

Small Cents Varieties

By R. W. T. LEES-JONES.

At the Edinburgh Convention (1949) the variety of the 6c. 1895 "re-entered with the 5c. roller" was referred to and there was some criticism of the theory. Since then the writer has had a request to vet a specimen of the stamp. Readers may be interested in the result of the examination of the stamp.

W. S. Boggs, in his book on Canada advanced the theory that the variety came about thus: the roller die possibly had more than the 6c. transfer on it, perhaps next to the 6c. was that of the 5c. impression. When the operator was at work, it is assumed that when re-entering he inadvertently placed the 5c. transfer die down on the 6c. plate, then noticed his error and partially corrected it.

Examination of the actual stamp shows that the rocker die was placed $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm. below the normal position and just under $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. to the left (as one looks at the stamp). Outside the stamp on the left appears a circle with an inner circle evenly spaced. On the design of the stamp is a horizontal frame line and just under $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. below there is a second line running parallel, and from a number of positions on this line start vertical lines running towards the three horizontal lines.

If the small cents are examined—values 1c., 2c., 3c., 5c., 6c. and 10c. and for completeness the other stamps of the same size, viz., the $\frac{1}{2}$ c. 1868, 8c. 1893, $12\frac{1}{2}$ c. and 15c. Essays and plate proofs of the reduced size—if will be seen that with the exception of the 5c. all have leaf scroll work at the top of the design and no trace of parallel lines. The 5s., however, has parallel lines with vertical lines adjoining the N.E. and N.W. corners and actually at the corners there are two concentric circles.

Boggs' explanation that the first impression was that of the 5c. seems correct, but how it occurred is not conclusively proved. (See Brig. Studd's theory in his notes in this number.—Ed.)

While on the subject of the small cents, I would like to report other stamps showing varieties. Again it is the 6c. light chestnut shade. They appear on a strip of three, and two singles confirm the varieties. The piece comes from the top of the sheet, big margins being attached. I shall number them "A, B, C" from the left. "C" is a normal stamp.

"A" shows a group of dots in "N" of "CAN" and also in "T" of "POST"; a dot of colour appears in the head under the right side of "A" of "DA"; another dot appears under the right of "P" of "POST." In the white circle between "POST" and the head there is a string of dots.

"B"—A large dot appears in "N" of "CAN" and large dots in the letters "OSTAG"; a larger dot appears by the hair at the top of the head immediately under the centre of "P" of "POST"; between the stamps, in the gutter and near the top, about 1mm. under the top level of the stamps is a further series of colour spots. These colour spots give food for thought. They savour of re-entering and/or a partly cleaned plate. I have at present no definite theories and shall be glad to have from members notes about these varieties and any suggested explanations.

Canadian Pre-Cancels

By R. B. HETHERINGTON

The first issues of pre-cancelled stamps were made at Ottawa Post Office in 1888, sheets of the 1, 2, 3 and 5 cents being postmarked, i.e., with the "Killer" then in use. This consisted of the numeral 1 in a circle made of nineteen horizontal lines. Later in the same year St. John used a somewhat similar "Killer" consisting of the figure 1 in a circle surrounded by a vertical oval made up of fourteen horizontal lines; as far as it is known, this was applied to the 1 cent only. In the early part of 1889, Montreal pre-cancelled sheets of the 1, 2, 3, 6 and 10 cent values with the old 21 roller postmark consisting of the figures 21 with a background of 7 thin broken lines.

Toronto pre-cancelled the 1, 2 and 3 cents with parallel lines ruled with a pen and ink. All the above are uncommon to rare and are worth from 100 to 150 times the catalogue values of the ordinary stamp. These unofficial forerunners of the regular issues of pre-cancels are of great interest and should be in every collection of pre-cancels if they can be obtained.

THE EARLY LINE TYPES. 1890—1894.

The first official issues were made from Ottawa in 1889: sheets of the $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 and 3 cents were cancelled by a revolving, self-inking roller which imprinted a number of bars about 2mm. in width across each stamp. This roller cancelled only one row at a time, so it is not unusual to find these bars out of alignment, double, vertical or diagonal. The early line types can be divided into three groups, of which Group 1 is referred to above.

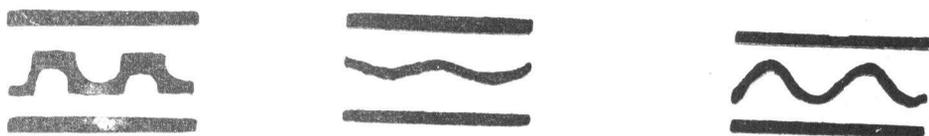
- Group 1.—Three to six thick lines about 2mm. wide on the $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 and 2 cents.
- „ 2.—Six to eight thinner lines, used on the $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, 3 and 5 cents and later in 1892 on the 6, 8 and 10 cents.
- „ 3.—Two to eight diagonal dashes used on the 1 and 3 cents only.

Each Group is known in black, but Group 1 occurs also in violet (rare)

The next type to be issued was again another form of the Line or Bar Type, consisting of two straight bars with a wavy bar between. This type can be divided into four sub-types or styles of the centre bar:

1. A short sharp "wave."
2. A long shallow "wave."
3. A large deep "wave."
4. A bold heavy square-shouldered "wave."

Roller Types



Sub-types 3 and 4 of this Group were in continuous use from 1894 to 1903 and can be found on the Small Heads and the Queens issues of 1897-1902. The 15 cent Large Head also is known with this form of Pre-cancel.

Sub-types 1 and 2 were cancelled by a self-inking hand roller, ten stamps wide. They are found both horizontal and vertical and there are many minor variations of these sub-types.

Sub-types 3 and 4 were cancelled by Electro-Type, a sheet at a time.

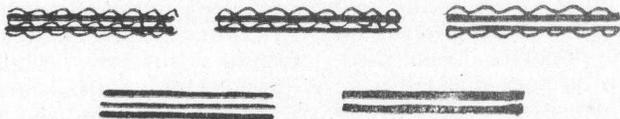
City Type.**CITY TYPES (1903-1935)**

From 1903 all pre-cancellation was done with electrotypes, which cancelled one hundred stamps at a time. Over 50 cities used this type of pre-cancellation in which the city name appears with bars in various combinations. There are so many types and variations of the bars that it is impossible to give a complete list in this short article. These types were not printed very carefully and they are as common inverted as normal. Vertical and double cancellations are, however, rare to very rare.

The type for these electros was cast on a Ludlow machine in rows of ten and this was repeated to make up a plate of 100 subjects. This was how the well-known BRIBGEBURG (for BRIDGEBURG) error appeared. This error occurs on the last vertical row of the sheet on all stamps overprinted by the Bridgeburg electro, the original error having occurred on the right-hand electro, i.e., No. 10.

1922 BAR TYPES

During 1922 some of the smaller users reverted to using stamps cancelled with three pairs of plain bars; this, together with variations of it, has been used on low denominations and 1 cent coils since then.

Bars of Electro Types

The 1922 Bar Types are divided into three groups as follows :

1. Three pairs of thick lines, electrotyped by the Canadian Bank Note Co.
2. Electrotyped by the British American Bank Note Co., who used a similar arrangement of lines, but the electro has thinner lines and the space between each pair is wider.
3. Printed from machine-set plates instead of electros, by the Canadian Bank Note Co., and as the metal was melted down after each printing, every setting produced different varieties of spacing.

MONEY ORDER OFFICE NUMBER SYSTEM

In 1931 a new form of Precancel was introduced, and by 1935 had superseded the City Type. It consisted of a number between parallel double lines, the number used corresponding to the particular post office's number in the Money Order System during the period 1931-1935. This type gradually replaced the city name types in all but the smaller offices which from early in 1922 were supplied with parallel double line type.



There are three forms of the double parallel line type : the chief differences are as follows :

| | Numerals | Serifs | Spacing of lines |
|----|------------|--------|------------------|
| 1. | 3mm. tall | slight | 9½mm. |
| 2. | 2½mm. tall | none | 10mm. |
| 3. | 2½mm. tall | yes | 10mm. |

The printing of Type 1. is rough and the parallel lines are thicker and on occasion, owing to heavy inking, appear as one line instead of two.

Fifty-eight cities and towns in Canada are using or have used pre-cancels. Of these, ten are not now using them : Amherst, Bridgeburg, Brown's Nurseries, Carberry, Chatham, Estevan, Perth, Sydney, Truro and Walkerville. Three others — Fredericton, Sherbrooke and Owen Sound—had a period of non-use for several years after commencing, then again began to use them.

The history of some of these cities is rather interesting. Nothing was known of Amherst pre-cancels until 1936, though the stamps had actually been used more than ten years previously. I am informed by officials that several of the lower denominations were pre-cancelled for Amherst, but only single copies of the 2c and 4c have yet been found. Bridgeburg was a very heavy user of pre-cancels for years, but since its change of name to Fort Erie, none has been used. Brown's Nurseries, as the name implies was a nursery, located near Welland, Ont., with a separate post office. Pre-cancels from there are scarce; two types were used all on the 1c Edward VII. With the closing up of the business, the pre-cancels and post office vanished. Carberry used the 1c green George V in 1922, but the permit holders have been using pre-cancelled envelopes since then. Sydney and Truro are believed to have used the 1c yellow, 2c green, 5c violet, 7c red-brown and 10c light brown in 1926; all these are known from Truro, but from Sydney I have seen only the 10c light brown. The use of pre-cancels by these two cities was declared improper and the remainder were destroyed. Estevan used the 1c green and 1c yellow from 1922 to 1926, but the firm using them discontinued business at that time and since then none has been issued. Walkerville was a prolific user of pre-cancels from 1918 to 1926; the merging of that office with Windsor, Ont., marked the end of Walkerville pre-cancels. The values above 2c are very rare. Fredericton used the 1c yellow and 2c green in 1924, but none was known to collectors until 1932 when a few were found accidentally. Pre-cancels were again used there from 1933. Owen Sound used the 1c green in 1922, but did not issue any other pre-cancels until 10 years later. Sherbrooke has a similar story, used the 1c yellow in 1924 and then no more until 1933. All the first issues of these three cities are decidedly scarce.

(To be continued)

The First Four Issues of Canada

1851—1897

A Precis of an Address given by Brigadier M. A. STUDD, F.C.P.S., at the Convention of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain, held in Edinburgh in April, 1949

I feel honoured at being asked to address you at this Convention, especially as I sold my Canadian collection over 20 years ago.

Mr Lees-Jones, however, has come to my rescue and has provided splendid material to illustrate some of the points which I will be discussing.

Obviously it is not possible to cover such a vast subject in a short talk, and all that I am going to attempt to do is to raise various points at random in connection with each of the first four issues.

A great deal has been written about these early Canadian issues and I find it difficult to think of anything new to tell you. Some of the points which I will raise, however, have not often been written about or discussed, and they may be new to you.

PENCE ISSUE

(a) Boggs, in his recent book on Canada, states that the 6d. imperf on Thin Wove paper did not exist, whereas the 12d. on Thin Wove was put into circulation. He bases his contention on the fact that only one printing of the 6d. imperf was made prior to 1855 and that all this first printing was on Laid paper. All subsequent printings were made on Medium or Thick Wove papers. The 12d., however, had two printings, one being on Laid and the other on Wove paper, of which the major proportion was on Thin Wove.

Now many of us have seen the 6d. imperf on Thin paper which shows (i) Laid Lines very evident; (ii) Laid Lines hard to locate; and (iii) Laid Lines entirely absent even when examined under the Quartz lamp.

One must realise that the paper was hand made, and was liable to a great deal more variation than subsequent papers which were machine made. The Thin paper on which the Laid Lines cannot be identified is described in most catalogues as Thin Wove. My own opinion on this subject is that each consignment of paper varied a great deal, with Laid Lines very evident, hardly evident, or quite indiscernible.

I think, therefore, that both the 6d. and 12d. are in the same category and if one agrees to the 12d. as coming on Thin Wove then one must agree, equally, to the existence of the 6d. on Thin Wove. Perhaps a better description for both would be: "Thin paper on which no evidence of Laid Lines can be discerned."



(b) The 12d. Black has always been regarded as the major rarity of all Canadian stamps. There is, however, one stamp in particular which, in my opinion, is far rarer than the 12d. I refer to the 6d. imperf in mint state, or approaching a mint state, i.e., fresh with full gum. In the

R.P.S.L. Jubilee Exhibition of 1925, which displayed the cream of the Liechtenstein Collection, there was only a strip of three 6d. Imperf on Thick Wove Soft paper which had full gum and could be described as mint. In the Tapling Collection in the British Museum there are 36 copies of the 6d imperf unused, but only two of them (one on Laid and one on Thick Soft Wove paper) can be described as in mint state, i.e., fresh with full gum. Mr Lees-Jones informed me that he has no 6d. imperf with full gum, and I do not know if any exist in the Reford Collection.

The Expert Committee of the R.P.S.L. in past years have passed only eight copies as being genuine unused and of fresh appearance (1 Laid, 4 Thin Wove, 1 Medium Wove, 1 Thick Hard Wove and 1 Thick Soft Wove) and I do not believe that any of these carried full gum.

It is surprising how rare the 6d. imperf in mint condition appears to be, especially as the other values in mint condition are comparatively more plentiful.

(c) In the Rarity class I would like to mention two more of the Pence Issue, viz., blocks or strips of the 3d. and 6d. perforated. I have never seen a block used or unused of the 3d. perforated. Boggs illustrates a strip of 5 and I had a strip of 3 in the R.P.S.L. Jubilee Collection mentioned above. This stamp is rare also on entire cover.

Equally, I have never seen anything larger than a pair of the 6d. perforated, although a strip of three may exist. It is extremely hard to get this stamp well-centred, and a well-centred pair on entire cover in the Lees-Jones collection is, in my opinion, a very great rarity.

(d) The issued stamps of the 12d. Black did not carry an excessive amount of Re-entry on the plate. On the other hand, all the plate proofs overprinted "Specimen" that I have examined, carry a tremendous amount of Re-entry on practically every stamp, and in several places on each stamp.

This was so excessive that I do not think that it was feasible to have erased even a proportion of it before the plate was used for printing the stamps of issue.

There were, I believe, two plates for the 12d. Black, which seems one too many for an issue of 1500 odd to postmasters. I believe that these plate proofs mentioned by me must have come from a plate which was not used for printing the stamps of issue and that another (the Second) was used.

The late Mr Liechtenstein had, I believe, complete plate proof sheets of both plates and an examination of them to prove or disprove the above theory would be interesting.

(e) A Short Description of the Method of Producing Line Engraved Stamps.

Before I go further I must give a short description of the process of producing postage stamps by line engraving, as it is relevant to much I will say later on.

First of all the engraver produces his design on a small soft steel, alloy or copper die plate, using his engraving tools for that purpose. All the lines of the design are in **recess** on this die plate. After several "pulls" to check the building up of the design, the engraver finishes his work, and the result is generally called the Master or Matrix Die. This Matrix Die is then transferred under pressure to the periphery (about 1 inch or more wide) of a cylindrical steel roller. Several such transfers may be made to the same steel roller to act as reserves in case any damage is done to one of the transfers. The lines of the engraving, of course, stand out in **relief** on this steel roller and they are generally known as the "Roller die" or "dies." This steel roller is then hardened and used to build up the printing plate (of soft steel or alloy) by successive impressions.

(either horizontally or vertically) under pressure on to the printing plate. After examination, the printing plate, so made, is sometimes hardened and is then ready for the printing of stamps. The lines of design on the printing plate are in **recess** and the printing ink goes into these recesses, all surplus surface ink being wiped off before printing commences.

If, in making the plate, the roller is brought down out of alignment for any one unit, the impression thus made on the plate is burnished off and a new impression is then made by the roller. If any details of the first impression fail to be burnished off, they will register on that unit of the plate when stamps are printed. This result is what philatelists call a **Re-entry**. In strict parlance the re-entry is the second application from the roller, and the remains of the first impression on the plate merely indicate that re-entering has been resorted to.

After the plate has been in use for some time and has become worn it is possible to re-enter the whole plate by using the roller in the exact positions of the original units. If done carefully, no signs of this re-entry are visible except that the lines of the design have been deepened on the plate, resulting in a clearer stamp unit, especially in the frame lines. This re-entering of the plate is usually called "Fresh Entry."

If, during this process of fresh entering an old plate, a different pressure is used to that originally applied, it is possible to set up a visible re-entry. Under pressure, as the roller is rocked in, say from South to North, on any one unit the steel of the plate becomes almost fluid, and flows in front of the roller. With too much pressure this "fluid" mass may result in (say) the top frame line registering in a different place to the original impression on the plate, thus causing a visible re-entry.

A good example of this Fresh Entering of a plate is the single plate of the 12½ cents Canada 1859 issue. The later blue-greens all show deeper and more distinct detail than the middle printings in green and yellow-green and a "Re-entry" appears in the frame lines of two of the left marginal stamps. Other varieties were also set up, but without any doubt whatsoever, only one plate was used for this value.

Finally, I must describe one other type of plate variety which can occur on a line engraved printing plate. I told you that the roller generally carried more than one impression of the matrix die in relief on its periphery. Sometimes there are very slight differences in these various roller dies and these differences are illustrated on the printing plate when more than one roller die is used to build up the plate. Again, one roller die may have suffered slight damage, e.g., a portion of the design in relief may have got broken off. This results in a colourless flaw on stamps printed from the plate which may continue on each of several consecutive units of the plate before it is spotted and another roller die brought into use. This happened in the build-up of the 1849 (epaulette) 10 cent plate of Belgium.

1859 CENTS ISSUE

Mr Lees-Jones has told you so much about this issue that it leaves me with little to say in addition.

(f) The question has already been raised at the Convention as to how the master dies of the Pence Issue were used to produce partly the master dies of the 1859 Cents Issue.

Without a detailed study of the corresponding designs, I cannot give you an exact answer, but I can certainly indicate how the change-over **could** have been effected. To take the 6d and 10 cents 1859 values as an example: the master die of the 6d could have been transferred to a roller and the latter used to make a replica of the master die also on a small steel plate, i.e., a working die. This working die could then either



have had the design outside the oval completely burnished off and replaced by a new design made by the engraver, or the currency in words and numbers could have been erased and replaced by currency in cents by the engraver. At the same time the engraver could have strengthened or altered lines in parts of the existing engraving which had not been burnished off.

(g) The first printing of the 10 cents value came in black-brown, but I want to draw your attention to the second and fourth printings, which are equally rare. The second printing to be found dated 1860 came in a rich deep red-purple shade on paper thicker than normal and with ragged perforations. It is a very pleasing shade.

The fourth printing also had thicker paper and ragged perforations and came in an equally pleasing deep rich violet-purple or plum shade.

(h) The flaw over Cartier's shoulder on the 17c value came on the last two printings of 50,000 each, so not more than 1000 can have been printed, probably less, as I think that the flaw did not commence till after the last printing but one was well under way.

Twenty years ago I knew of only 10 copies and I do not suppose that more than 30 copies are to be found in the world today.

The flaw wore rapidly and several "states" of it can be found on the stamps of issue. It can also be found, in its last state, on post-contemporary plate proofs in various lurid colours such as chocolate, pale green, ultramarine, etc.

(i) To revert again to the 10 cent value. This had a single plate and about 36 printings. Nos. 2 and 12 on the plate show a small colourless circular-shaped flaw adjoining the Prince Consort's hair on the left side, as you look at the stamps.

At first sight this would appear to be due to a flaw in the roller die, but after about 10 printings both these flaws disappeared completely. On later printings there is absolutely no signs of touching up where the flaws had been, and it remains a mystery as to how they were caused. If it had come on only one stamp I would have said that something akin to sealing wax had adhered to the plate for the early printings and was then rubbed off or removed. Although it is difficult to distinguish No. 12 without the flaw, No. 2 can always be distinguished with or without the flaw, as it also has a true plate variety, viz., a cluster of dots in and above the top frame lines immediately N.E. of the N.W. figure "X".

1868 LARGE CENTS ISSUE

(j) The early printings of the 15c value on thin crisp "Bank note" paper with practically colourless gum are not easy to acquire. Among these can be found two really brilliant shades, viz., a brilliant purple and a brilliant plum. They are very hard to come by, and I have seen very few copies, but I can show them to you tonight, as Mr Lees-Jones bought my Large Cents collection which contained them.

(k) If you want to find the 15 cent script watermark and perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 varieties you should first of all go through your "muddy" shades of Montreal printings. The script watermark also came with perf. 12 and some of the grey-blue shades can be found perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$ x 12.

(l) The 15c of 1880 in cold violet on very thick carton paper is hard to come by and in mint state it is, in my opinion, one of the rarest stamps of Canada. I found only one mint copy, and Mr Lees-Jones in 30 years (?) has found only three more. These four copies will be shown tonight, and I know of no others unless the Pack and Reford collections contain copies.

Stanley Gibbons catalogues this stamp mint at £20, and the 15c script watermark used at £40, and the 6c ordinary watermark used at £25.

Values, of course, may have changed, but 25 years ago the above did not reflect the then comparative rarity of these three stamps. I had no undue difficulty in acquiring the 15c script watermark used, or 6c ordinary watermark used, but, as stated above, I could find only one 15c on thick carton paper mint. The same shade, "cold violet," comes also on the normal thin paper, but you must have a copy on the thick carton paper for comparison, as many shades of the Grey Blue were similar.

(m) Over 20 years ago the 15c Ottawa printings were quite common even in mint blocks. These Ottawa printings were often sold by auctioneers and dealers as Montreal printings, which are rare. This was due to a genuine mistake on the part of those concerned and not to any other motive.

With practice it is always possible to separate the 15c Ottawa printings from the Montreal printings of similar shade. On Ottawa printings the horizontal lines of background in the central circle are always much more blurred and the outline of the Queen's profile does not show up so clearly as on the Montreal prints. This was not due to wear, but to the poor quality of the paper used for the Ottawa printings.

(n) Mint blocks of the Montreal printings of the 15c are rare, except in the Grey Blue shades. I have never seen a mint block of the 15c early printing, or even of the perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ variety. Tonight Mr Lees-Jones will show you two used blocks of four of an early printing of the 15c and I regard these as being extremely rare.

(o) In spite of Mr Boggs' question mark, the 2c on Laid paper does exist and two copies have been passed by the Expert Committee of the R.P.S.L.

1870-1879 SMALL CENTS ISSUE

(p) Certain stamps of this issue are extremely rare in mint blocks or strips. They are as follows:—

The first printing of the 1c in deep Orange.

The 3c Indian Red of 1870.

The 3c Rose of 1870-1873.

The 3c Rose Carmine of 1888-1889.

The 10c Magenta shades in either perforation.

Care must be taken with the 1c Orange, as some of the subsequent shades of orange-yellow were similar. The real 1c Orange is without any tinge of yellow and comes on a thin medium paper of fine texture, which is particularly "white" to look at, i.e., with no discolouration.

(q) I first wrote about the 3c perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$ variety nearly 25 years ago. In an article written for the Collectors' Club Philatelist, I notice that I gave the dates of two copies which I had on entire as being February and April, 1871, respectively. I have now seen these two entires once more in Mr Lees-Jones' collection and I observe that they are dated February and April, 1870 — the earliest known dates for this perforation variety.

I believe that only two mint copies are known and about 60 to 80 used, so the use of this perforation gauge could only have been due to some emergency.

(r) Boggs (page 297) draws especial attention to the major re-entry on the 6c Ottawa printing. I knew and wrote about this stamp many years ago, but Mr Boggs' discovery that the first impression was from the 5c value is new information.

He states that the variety probably occurred by the first impression on the plate being made by a roller containing the 5c roller die in mistake. Another possibility discussed by him is that the roller used was a mixed Relief roller containing roller dies of both the 5c and 6c on its periphery. On page 296, Mr Boggs illustrates a 2c Ottawa print with a re-entry of the **central** portion of the circle containing the Queen's head misplaced as far south as the bottom margin. I also had copies of this 2c re-entry in my collection. The cause of these exceptional varieties must of course be conjecture but, personally, I prefer the following possible solution to the solutions put forward by Mr Boggs.

On the 6c, the first erroneous impression was misplaced by about one-third of the total length of the stamp, and on the 2c it was misplaced by over half of the total length of the stamp.

As late as 1890 I cannot believe that any workman with comparatively modern equipment could have made such a bad shot so far out of position when applying the roller to the printing plate.

Again, the printing plates at this time were not hardened (Boggs, page 294), and it was a period of economy, as illustrated by the poor class of paper and gum used for the Ottawa printings.

I suggest that old printing plates had their original designs entirely burnished off and that the plate material was then used again to make a new plate by fresh applications of the roller.

In the case of the 6c the old plate used was one for the 5c value, and part of the design on one unit missed the burnishing process.

This practice was resorted to in Mexico and Brazil, and I hope that Mr Aitcheson will endorse this. (Mr Aitcheson endorsed this in the subsequent discussion).

Finally, I must thank Mr Lees-Jones for supplying such excellent material to illustrate my talk tonight. Taking the first four issues of Canada as one unit, I should say that probably Mr Lees-Jones has the finest collection of Canada in the world today, bracketed with the collection of Dr Reford of Canada, which latter I have not seen. The late Mr Liechtenstein had of course the finest collection of Canadian Pence Issues in the world and I believe that it is still intact, with its marvellous assembly of 12d. blacks, in the possession of his daughter, Mrs Dale.

AMENDMENTS TO THE HANDBOOK

Constitution and Rules. Pages 10 and 11:

- RULE 6. Delete the words "on a card vote postal before the new session starting 1st October."
and insert "elected annually at the Annual General Meeting."
- RULE 15. Delete completely and insert "Nomination of officials together with proxies, if any, should be in the hands of the Secretary one month prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting."
- RULE 13. Add after "on the 1st October": "a certain sum to be allocated from each annual subscription to be placed to the Convention Fund, the said sum to be agreed upon at the Annual General Meeting."

Committee and Office-Bearers of the C.P.S.G.B. Page 7.

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| 242 | Macdonald, A. R. | 31 The Cliffe, High Street, Lewes, Sussex. |
| 347 | Paine, H. L. | For Saskatoon read Saskatchewan. |
| 395 | Sandford-Johnson, P. B. | Pear tree Barn, Felpham, Near Bognor Regis, Sussex. |

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