

# MAPLE LEAVES

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**THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN**  
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**Founder:**  
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## EDITORIAL

It will be no great loss, if any at all, if editorial effusions are drastically curtailed in this issue. With apologies then, in advance to the one reader who will write in protest against such self-abnegation, we are confining ourselves to a few important announcements:

Firstly, this issue contains the revised library list drawn up by Mr. Greenhill and to which we direct attention. The Library is well used but could be used by more members still. Please read the list carefully; there is something here for everyone, including new works as well as the hardy perennials which have stood the test of time. New members, particularly, have a wealth of interest and many happy hours of fascinating reading in store for them at the cost of the postage entailed. Drop a line to Mr. Greenhill and he will do the rest.

Secondly, hotel booking and competition entry forms in connection with Convention in October, are enclosed. To insert these seven months in advance of the event may seem a little premature to some of our new members. Experience has shown, however, that there are those who like to 'get in first' and certainly the work of those who have the responsibility for making Convention arrangements is eased if everything is not left to the last minute. Indeed, the longer that members delay in making their arrangements, the more difficult it is for the organisation to be planned effectively. If you are attending Convention or if you intend to exhibit your treasures please complete and despatch the necessary forms now. Full particulars will be found on the forms themselves.

# Canada's Parcel Post Ovals

By Max Roseothal

Part 1

The parcel post ovals of Canada can be considered as forerunners of the roller cancellations which began in 1894, since both were designed to cancel stamps on parcels. One also finds both sometimes used where they were not supposed to be—on letter rate mail. The ovals began over a decade earlier, but continued even after the introduction of the rollers, and this article will follow their progress into the Edwardian period.

## Halifax

The first parcel post oval, according to Jarrett's *B.N.A. Handbook* of 1929, appeared from Halifax, N.S. in 1872, but is more commonly seen on stamps of the 1880 period (*Fig. 1*): a double oval filled in with horizontal bars, and HALIFAX N.S. in the centre.

Considerably more common is a large oval used at Halifax in the mid-1890's, similar to one used at Montreal then, even to being in purple (*Fig. 2*). Two rings enclose HALIFAX at the top and N.S. at the bottom, a star ornaments each end, and the centre is occupied by the day on the left and the month on the right, the latter expressed numerically.



*Fig. 1*



*Fig. 2*

Jarrett lists as being used in 1895 a single line oval 24mm high at its tallest point, with PARCEL POST at the top and HALIFAX at the bottom, and four long and one short bar in between (*Fig. 3*). I have yet to see one, but on an 8 cent small queen I have a similar type, only with HALIFAX at the top and N.S. at the bottom. In 1908 appears a larger oval, 26mm high, with PARCEL POST at the top and HALIFAX at the bottom, having four long bars in between (*Fig. 4*).



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

### St. John and Charlottetown

St. John, N.B. was supplied with a parcel post oval similar to those used at Toronto in the 1890's, two horizontal ovals enclosing the name of the city at the top, the province at the bottom, but the inner oval, 10mm high at its tallest point, is blank within, whereas Toronto had numbers or letters (*Fig. 5*). Fredericton, N.B., is also said to have had one of these, but I have not seen it.

Charlottetown, P.E.I. was supplied with a similar oval, but it is quite scarce, and I only have a partial strike, so I cannot completely describe it (*Fig. 6*).

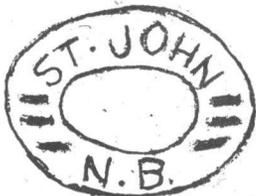


Fig. 5



Fig. 6

### Montreal

In the first Montreal parcel post oval, which came out about 1890, the double lines of the oval, 17mm high at its tallest, were too close together to enclose lettering, so MONTREAL, QUE. appears within, the city at the top and the province at the bottom (*Fig. 7*). It set a pattern followed by the later Montreal ovals in that it was in purple, and two numbers in the middle indicated the month and the day.

In July 1894, according to Jarrett, appeared a large double-lined oval, with MONTREAL, QUE. between the two lines, and a star at either end (*Fig. 8*). The height at the tallest point within the inner oval between top and bottom is 16mm. It is far more common than the first type, in purple. However, one finds it once in a while in black—quite a rare item.



Fig. 7



Fig. 8

Sometimes the inner line of the oval does not show up, because of ineffective inking, so that it seems to be a single line oval. Another freak has the lettering colourless, surrounded by colour filling in between the two oval lines. This seems to have been caused by the rubber of the device rejecting the ink.

Not at all common is a smaller version of this marking, with the inner space 15mm tall at its highest, and the lettering 3mm high instead of 4½mm. It is also in purple.

The only branch post office of Montreal which seems to have been supplied with a parcel post oval was St. Catharine Street Centre, the busiest of all the 'street' post offices (*Fig. 9*). It is similar in style to the large Montreal oval, even to being mostly in purple, but sometimes in black. I have it from the small queens of the Mid-1890's to the 3 cent numeral of 1898; in black only on the small queens.

### Quebec City and St. Hyacinthe

Quebec, Que. employed a parcel post oval of the small type first used at Montreal around 1890, with the two lines too close together to enclose the lettering (*Fig. 10*). It is also in purple, with the day and month expressed similarly.

St. Hyacinthe, Que. used an oval similar to the kind employed at St. John, N.B., also blank within, but in purple as well as black (*Fig. 11*). It is not often seen.

### Victoria, B.C.

As far as the Western Provinces are concerned the only known parcel post oval comes from Victoria, B.C. It is similar to the St. John, N.B. type, but there are few of them to be found (*Fig. 12*).

*For figures 9-12, see page 72.*



Fig. 1

## The K.E. VII Definitive Series 1903- 1912 Part IV

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EDWARD IV ISSUE

by D. F. Sessions

### The Booklets

No less than 11,500,000 King Edward booklets were issued, the first making its appearance in July 1903, the month of issue of the sheet stamps. Despite the fact that only 1,200,000 Queen Victoria booklets were issued, the Edwardian booklet today is as rare, if not rarer, than its Victorian counterpart. It is generally supposed that a fair number of the Victorian booklets were retained intact as novelties, as they were the first Canadian booklets issued, whereas the later Edwardian booklets were treated as commonplace and were nearly all used for purely postal purposes. Suffice it to say that fine Edwardian booklets have now topped the £100 mark in the auction rooms and even a single pane of six can be regarded as a scarce item.

#### (a) The Covers

The front cover (See Fig. 1) is pinkish white and bears an armorial shield in red with the legend 'CANADA POSTAGE,' beneath. The binding is red and the pages are stapled. The booklets contain the usual information as to postal rates and insurance etc., the text varies slightly in different editions. There are four pages of such information (i) inside front cover (ii) front of first fly leaf (iii) reverse of back fly leaf and (iv) inside back cover.

The earliest booklets were undated but later editions carry a date at the foot of the first fly leaf. Winthrop Boggs illustrates the fly leaves from editions dated 7th July 1908 and 1st December 1910 whilst an edition dated 1st November 1907 has also been reported.

Diagram (A)

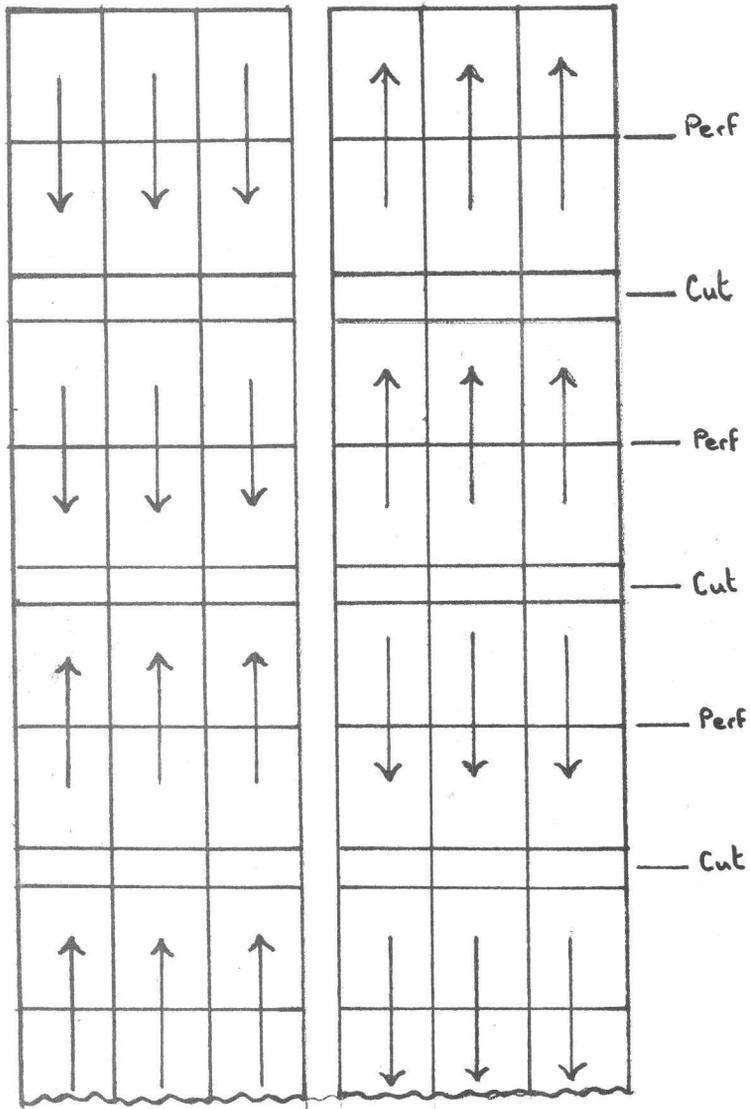


Fig. 2

Diagram (B)

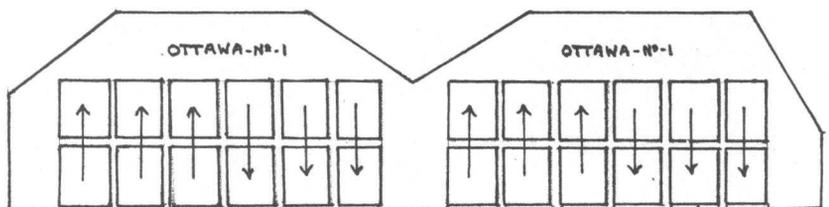


Fig. 3

### (b) Plate layout

Boggs indicates that the plates for the booklet panes consisted of 120 subjects laid out as shown in the accompanying diagram (*Fig. 2*). The arrows indicate the direction of the subjects i.e. upright or inverted, and it will be seen that a block of six lies tête-bêche to an adjacent block of six. Imperforate tête-bêche blocks of twelve exist and it was in comparing two of these from plate 1 that Ed Richardson and Clare Jephcott discovered that their two blocks matched perfectly at the separation (by tearing) down the central gutter. Thus it was established that the booklet plates were of 240 subjects in two panes of 120 (*B.N.A. Topics* Sept. 1951) and not of a single pane of 120 as had hitherto been assumed. Furthermore it established that the wide margins appeared not between panes of six but between panes of twelve as illustrated (*Fig. 3*).

### (c) Printing impression

Richardson, in the aforementioned article, indicates that, in his opinion, the 2 cent Edward exists in two different forms (1) the entire stamp has a fuzzy appearance, in particular, the lines outlining the letters are either indistinct or missing (2) the lettering is distinct.

He further notes that some 2 cent sheet stamps, including Plates 1 and 2 are type (1) whilst other plates, but not all, are type (2). The imperfs from plates 13 and 14 are type (2) whilst those from plates 1 and 2 are type (1). Booklet panes from undated covers are type (1) as are those from the imperf tête-bêche blocks, whilst other panes are nearer type (2). The general implication is that the earlier printings, both sheet and booklet, are type (1) whilst the later printings are type (2).

Insufficiency of plate blocks has precluded our pursuing this line of study but examination of dated copies of the 2 cent was illuminating in that the 1903 copies all showed evidence of the intrusion of the cross-hatching into the lettering whilst late copies showed a clear definition. Anyone wishing to study their dated copies is recommended to concentrate on the 'PO' of 'POSTAGE' as these two adjacent letters provide a good example. The illustrations show an enlarged photograph of a 1903 copy of a sheet stamp (*Fig. 4*) and an imperf from Plate 14 (*Fig. 5*).



*Fig. 4 above*

*Fig. 5 below*



The earliest type (2) in my collection is dated March 1904. One is naturally led to the conclusion that the secondary die was re-engraved fairly early in its life owing to the unsatisfactory appearance of the lettering.

#### **(d) Fake panes**

Because of the scarcity of complete panes, the faker has been at work; producing them for the unwary. Dr. Hollingsworth reports a fine fake pane cunningly attached to genuine selvedge!

The first test is the direction of the weave of the paper. Owing to the different shape of the booklet plate the paper was presented to the presses differently when printing booklets than when printing the ordinary sheet stamps. Thus *all* booklet stamps so far examined have been on horizontal wove paper. *Most* sheet stamps are found to be on vertical wove paper but the occasional copy turns up on horizontal wove so the test is not absolutely conclusive. However a 'booklet pane' on vertical wove paper can safely be regarded as a fake.

The second test, which should be used in support of the first, is the horizontal measurement of a row of three stamps in the pane, measuring from the left vertical frameline of the left hand stamp to the right vertical frameline of the right hand stamp. The booklet stamps are spaced slightly wider apart and it will be found that the sheet stamps, including the imperfs, measure 58-58½ mm across the three whilst the booklet stamps measure 59-60 mm across. One or two plates of the sheet stamps are slightly wider spaced than the others so the second test is not conclusive on its own. However, the two tests run together should suffice to sort the gold from the dross.

#### **(e) Production cost**

The cost of printing and stapling the booklets was 75 cents per hundred, excluding the cost of printing the stamps. The Post Office re-couped itself by charging an additional 1 cent per booklet. Each booklet contained two panes of six stamps and was sold to the public at 25 cents.

## **54th Philatelic Congress of G.B.**

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Imperial Hotel, Llandudno, 23rd May to 26th May 1972.

All Members of the C.P.S. of G.B. are cordially invited to attend. Numerous features include a 'Canada' Study Circle (Q.V. Numerals, etc.).

# The Large Heads of Canada

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By Geo. R. C. Searles

Part VII

12<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cents Blue, March 1868

Ottawa printing. One Plate, *Perf 12*; approximately 2,500,000.

Thin hard rather transparent paper.

Bright Blue, Medium to Stout Wove.

Bright Blue.

Blue.

Pale Dull Blue. Watermarked Large Capitals.

Bright Blue. Stitch Watermark.

Blue. Imperf. x perf 12.

Bright Blue. Coarse Medium Wove.

Pale Blue. 11<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x 12 Perf.

Blue.

## Varieties

1. No outer frame line opposite Twelve at left to bottom of design.
2. No outer frame line opposite Twelve at left.
3. Coloured flaw in the A of half, constant on all printings.
4. Line of colour through Top of letters LF in half.
5. Normally one guide dot in SW Corner, variety with three guide dots also on this stamp.

## Proofs

Deep Rose on India die proof.

Black on India die proof.

Blue on Thin Card plate proof.

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## THE LIBRARY

A new library list is inserted in this issue. Among the additions is a list of the Post Offices of Prince Edward Island compiled by Dr. Byth for which we are very grateful and an additional list of amendments to Whitby and Millar's *List of the Post Offices in the County of Simcoe*, both of which are available on loan to members in the usual way. Our grateful thanks are also due to the authors for making their work available to members.

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## MAPLE LEAVES (BINDING)

Members are reminded that Volume 13 of *Maple Leaves* can be bound by our printers, S. Cockburn and Son Ltd., of Station Road, Ossett, Yorkshire. The 12 numbers (Whole Nos. 121 to 132 inclusive) should be sent to the printers, together with the index and a remittance for £2.30.

## Canpex '72

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'Hit the Trail in '72 for the Trail of '98'—this is the slogan of CANPEX '72, the 44th Annual Convention of the ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA, to be held 6-8 July in *Edmonton, Alberta, Canada*. This slogan is a reminder of Edmonton's place in history as the *end of the rail and the start of the trail* for some 1,500 hardy souls who undertook the trek to the Gold Rush from Edmonton, in the years 1897 to 1898.

2,000 *commemorative covers* have been prepared for CANPEX '72. The design portrays the historic South Edmonton station of the C.P.R., and the Edmonton Stamp Club, hosts to Canpex, have made arrangements to service these covers with the 'Canadian Indians'—first of a series—postage stamps. The first day of CANPEX '72 coincides with the first day of 'Canadian Indians'.

Collectors wishing to obtain these covers should write to Mrs. Wyn Goodall, 13068-124 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, and note that prices are 35 cents each or 3 for \$1.00 (Canadian Funds).

Further information regarding CANPEX '72 may be obtained by writing to Box 399 (Edmonton Stamp Club) Edmonton, Alberta.

J. G. MacGregor, author of *The Klondike Rush through Edmonton 1897-1898* will be the featured speaker at the Friday night 'Klondike Barbecue' 7th July, and Sam C. Nickle, President of The British North America Philatelic Society, who was recently appointed to the Canadian Stamp Design Advisory Committee, will be the guest speaker at the Awards Banquet, 8th July.

In addition to outstanding Stamp Exhibits, historic artifacts from the archives of the RCMP will be on display, and the Post Office Department will be featuring a CANPEX POST OFFICE in authentic Victorian style.

The Post Office Department in Ottawa will be sending three frames, to include the world-famous 'Jubilees' of 1897.

*(We are indebted to Doris McKay, Publicity Chairman of Canpex '72 for this news item—Editor.)*

## Convention Auction, 1971

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A list of prices realised is available on loan from the Librarian. For address see page 88.

THE MEETING PLACE OF  
ALL  
SERIOUS B.N.A.  
COLLECTORS

**The British North America  
Philatelic Society**

for information write:

**JACK LEVINE**  
2121 - G. North Hills Drive  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27609  
U.S.A.



Fig. 9



Fig. 10



Fig. 11



Fig. 12

## Canadian National Exhibition Postcards

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By S. Shantz

(In our last issue we made a brief reference to new postal stationery about which little was known at the time. We are glad to be able to publish the following additional information thanks to the author and the *London Free Press* in which this article originally appeared—Editor.)

The philatelic surprise which the Post Office Department sprang on collectors at the Canadian National Exhibition last June turned out to be a much bigger production than indicated at first. Initial reports were that only a set of five illustrated postcards were being sold by the C.N.E. Post Office. These had views on the front of the cards reproduced in miniature on the address side as imprinted stamps.

Actually three different sets were sold at the C.N.E. In addition to the five C.N.E. views, a similar set of five views of Ontario Place and five of Toronto generally were also sold there, all with the illustrations reproduced as imprinted stamps. The entire production of fifteen cards was handsomely executed by the Ashton Potter Company of Toronto, the first printing firm to obtain a post office contract apart from the two Ottawa printers who traditionally have been responsible for the production of Canadian stamps since 1851.

The three sets were produced for the Post Office Department as an experiment. If sales response from the general public is favourable, similar sets may be produced for other Canadian events and communities, *According to Frank Caron, of the Post Office Marketing Branch, Toronto.* Western Fair and London's Storybook Gardens conceivably could qualify for such a production effort, providing there was some assurance of a sufficient volume of sales to guarantee that at least the Canadian Post Office would recover the costs involved.

Other major Canadian exhibitions such as the Central Exhibition of Ottawa, the Calgary Stampede and the Edmonton, Saskatoon and Pacific Exhibitions are likely subjects for similar sets of postcards.

While the original sets were only obtainable at the C.N.E. Exhibition and Ontario Place the sets will be offered to collectors generally. Descriptions of the sets will be sent to all subscribers to the Philatelic Information service in Ottawa, from which department they can now be ordered.

While there will undoubtedly be protests from some collectors that this is just another gimmick designed to mulct further hard-earned cash from philatelists, in our opinion they are desirable acquisitions. Certainly the price of \$1 for a set of five is not exorbitant. Illustrated postcards of the quality of these sets retail at 10 cents each or more. Add the cost of a seven cent stamp and the total is little more than the cost involved if card and stamp were purchased separately. As far as we are concerned they are 'a good thing'.

# CAVENDISH PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

*International Auctioneers with Buyers in over 60 Different Countries. If you have worthwhile material for sale we should like to hear from you. It is part of our service to visit intending vendors of large and valuable properties in order to discuss the sale and take delivery of the material.*

*If you are Buying we shall be pleased to send you a specimen copy of the current sale catalogue. Readers of 'Maple Leaves' will find that British North American material is frequently a feature of our sales.*

We shall be happy to send you a specimen copy of our  
current catalogue

***Wardwick Chambers***  
***69, Wardwick, Derby***

**Telephone: 46753**

## **CONVENTION AUCTION**

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**Saturday, 14th October, 1972**

All Lots should be sent to:—

E. Killingley,  
21 St. James' Road,  
BRIDLINGTON,  
Yorks.

Members are particularly asked to note that:—

- a. Only B.N.A. material can be accepted.
- b. Closing date to guarantee inclusion in the catalogue is 1st July 1972.
- c. A brief description should be included for each lot and also the estimated value or reserve.
- d. Lots should have an estimated value of not less than £1.00.
- e. Single stamps and small lots should be mounted or housed on paper or card not more than 5in. x 6in.
- f. Commission on sales is 15 per cent.
- g. A stamped addressed card should be enclosed if a receipt is required.



## The Stamps of British Columbia and their Forgeries

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By E. A. Smythies, F.R.P.S.L., F.C.P.S.

The information in this article has been obtained—for the genuine stamps from two pamphlets, published (i) by A. Stanley Deaville in 1929, (ii) by Bertram Poole in 1953, (iii) as well as from the contemporary catalogues of Gibbons and Scott, and for the forgeries chiefly from (iv) the unique Harmer collection of forgeries and (v) the new handbook by the author—*BNA Fakes and Forgeries*, published by BNAPS.

The stamps of British Columbia are rarer than their catalogue prices in Scott and Gibbons would suggest, which is evident when we remember the tiny population before federation was composed largely of illiterate miners busy hunting for gold rather than trying to write letters! But there are, of course, comparatively few modern collectors of a country which issued only 18 stamps, the most recent of which are over 100 years old.

To understand the genuine stamps of British Columbia and Vancouver Island, and the reasons for them, we must first look briefly at the early postal history of these (originally) two small independent Colonies.

Vancouver Island was first opened to colonisation in 1840, and the Hudsons Bay Company in 1843 erected a hut on the site of what is now Victoria, but no Government postal administration was attempted until 1856. Earlier Wells, Fargo and Co. opened a post office and sent or brought letters from all parts of the United States. 'When a steamer came in, Wells Fargo were the first to deliver, and their office was crowded. The names on the envelopes were called out, and anyone responding, the letter was pretty well accurately hurled at him!' (A primitive way of delivering mail).

In 1856 Vancouver Island was made a Crown Colony, and two years later, owing to a big gold strike in 1858, British Columbia was also made into a separate Crown Colony. In 1860 Messrs. De La Rue of London were given the contract for the first postage stamp, of face value 2½d, which was the cost of posting a newspaper, and was intended for use in both colonies, who had agreed to share the cost of production, since

neither could afford the cost alone. De La Rue sent a first consignment of 235,000 stamps at a cost of £104. (It was stated that Vancouver Island never paid their share!).

By 1864 this solitary 2½d rate was causing considerable confusion The rate in British Columbia for a ½ ounce letter was now 3d, and the 2½d stamp was sold for 3d, while in Vancouver Island, which was now on decimal currency, it cost 5 cents. In September 1865 Vancouver Island obtained from De La Rue its own postage stamps, 5 cents rose and 10 cents blue, imperf and perf 14. (The 5 cents imperf unused is now a great rarity, catalogued by Gibbons at £2,250!.)

About the same time—November 1865—British Columbia received its own stamp, 3d blue, perf. 14. The design of this stamp featured the Imperial Crown over a large V (for Victoria) and in both branches of the V we find the Morse sign for V, i.e. 3 dots and a dash (. . . —).

In 1867 the two Colonies were amalgamated into one Administration, and the current stamps of each (one with face value in pence, the other in cents) were used indiscriminately in both areas.. Steps were also taken to prepare a new issue with more values, and De La Rue were asked how to keep costs down to a minimum, since neither Colony had any funds, and were losing heavily on their postal services. De La Rue suggested using the existing plate of the 3d British Columbia (a large plate of 240 stamps, with four panes of 60), printing in different colours for the different values, and surcharging the new values in Cents—an experiment which had been tried and proved successful for St. Helena.

The most urgent demand was for 2 cents stamp, i.e. the rate for posting a newspaper. So the 3d plate of 240 impressions was printed in brown and over printed TWO CENTS in black, perf 14. The date of issue was March 1868. Five more values were then prepared as follows:—

| Value  | Colour | Overprint Colour | Pattern     |
|--------|--------|------------------|-------------|
| 5c     | red    | black            | 5 CENTS 5   |
| 10c    | lake   | blue             | 10 CENTS 10 |
| 25c    | yellow | violet           | 25 CENTS 25 |
| 50c    | mauve  | red              | 50 CENTS 50 |
| \$1.00 | green  | green            | 1DOLLAR 1   |

As the Somerset House machine perforating 14, usually used by De La Rue, was not available and the need was urgent, another machine perforating 12½ was used for the first printing of March 1869.

The second printing was similar except that the machine perforating 14 was used. The 5 cents was issued in May 1869, the 25 cents in July'69, the 50 cents in February '71. The 10 cents and \$1.00 perf 14 were never issued, as there were adequate supplies of these two values from the first printing.

In 1871 the Province of British Columbia joined the Canadian Federation, and the local stamps became redundant. There is a certificate signed by a Post Office official, that all stamps of British Columbia and Vancouver Island, totalling over 2 million in all, were destroyed by fire in his presence except for one pane of 60 of each value, which were kept as samples. Thus for British Columbia the modern Philatelist is saved the confusion and faking that has resulted from the masses of remainders that survived in the other Provinces—Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island—for which we may be duly grateful. It will be noted that all the stamps issued before Federation came from *four* designs only, i.e. the original 2½d, the Vancouver Island 5 and 10 cents, and the British Columbia 3d. Variations of colour, shade, value, and perforation increase the total of issued stamps to *eighteen* only, truly a very small number. But I doubt if there are a dozen complete collections extant today. Indeed the number of different genuine stamps is appreciably less than the number of forgeries—in the proportion of approx. 3 to 5, as I shall now proceed to show.

### **The Forgeries of the Stamps of British Columbia**

The existing literature on the subject of B.C. forgeries is extremely meagre and incomplete, the only exception being the two forgeries of Vancouver Island 5 cents and 10 cents imperf, which are fully described and illustrated by Robson Lowe in the B.P.A. book on *Sperati and his*

#### **Work.**

The information recorded below for the numerous remaining forgeries by other forgers is based on a study of the unique Harmer collection of British Columbia forgeries, made possible by the kind action of Mr. Cyril Harmer. This famous collection was started by the late Mr. H. R. Harmer in the 1890's, when forgeries were abundant and easily obtained. (Pember-ton recorded examining a collection of Newfoundland in which there was not a single genuine stamp!) It would, I think, be impossible to make such a collection of forgeries today. The total collection, i.e. of forgeries of all the world, I believe, exceeds 100 albums!

It is a remarkable fact that four or five forgers (and possibly more) took the trouble to make forgeries of the comparatively few (18) issued stamps of this small Colony, making in the aggregate between them far more different forgeries than there were genuine stamps! And it is still more remarkable that with the two exceptions by Sperati, the forgeries were perfectly obvious and crowded with the most stupid mistakes of all descriptions, as the accompanying notes and illustrations will show.

### **The Br. Columbia and Vancouver Island 2½ pence**

This was the first stamp to be issued (in 1860). There are two forgeries of it in the Harmer collection, details of which are difficult to see in the shiny rose pigment used, but there is one feature which immediately ranks them as forgeries and saves us further trouble—i.e. it is perf 11 (*forgery No. 1*) and 12½ (*forgery No. 2*) instead of the correct perf. 14. The origins of these two forgeries are unknown.

Turning now to the forgeries of the later stamps, I will start with the two superb counterfeits by Sperati, which provide such a contrast to the clumsy and obvious forgeries of the other forgers.

The information noted below is taken from the B.P.A. book *Sperati and his Work* by Robson Lowe, completed after he had bought out Sperati and all his stock in 1953. To see the minute differences described and illustrated by Robson Lowe requires a high magnification and very good eyesight, the latter of which unfortunately old age has stolen from me. I saw no examples of Sperati forgeries in the Harmer Collection (I believe it dates from an earlier epoch), but I have examples of these two which I call *forgeries Nos. 3 and 4*. (Scott No. 3, 4. Gibbons 11,12).

The following minute differences were noted by Robson Lowe:—

#### 5 cents

1. Constant flaw in the 4th oblong in the top border.
2. A constant weakness in the bottom frame-line below the right corner of the N of Cents.
3. In the upper and lower lips the lines of shading are more broken and have a spotty appearance.
4. The fine lines around the nostril and mouth are coarser than the genuine.

#### 10 cents

1. There is a constant flaw in the background above and between the N C of VANCOUVER.
2. There are two weak spots in the outer-frame-line above the N of ISLAND.
3. There is a constant break through two lines of shading in the extreme right of the background on a level with the end of the pendant curl.
4. There are two constant weak spots in the solid background in the lower right corner.
5. The lobe of the ear has been retouched.

The paper, watermarked Cr and CC, is genuine, probably obtained from fiscal copies of Natal 5/- 1874-78, cut down to correct size and thus inperforate, with the original design and fiscal cancel removed.

Two superb forgeries!

An article in the *London Philatelist* February 1962, by Boggs, dealt with the 'perf trimmed' fakes of the Vancouver Island 5 cents and 10 cents imperf. and came to the following conclusion—and I quote:—'We can therefore say that any stamp more than 19½mm. wide and 23mm high is genuine.'

A word of warning is necessary here. This criterion applies only to faked copies of the genuine and more common perforated stamps (Scott 5, 6. Gibbons 13, 14) which have been trimmed down to appear imperf. It does not apply to the forgeries by Sperati, my copies of which measure—5 cents 25½ x 22m; 10 cents 26 x 21 mm—which are well above Boggs' limits for genuine stamps, but are undoubtedly forgeries.

# NEW STAMP ISSUES

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## WORLD FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS



The first issue of the 1972 Stamp Programme was a special 8 cent stamp commemorating the World Figure Skating Championships which were held in Canada this year from 6th to 12th March.

Twenty-five million of the stamps went on sale on 1st March, five days before the week-long Championships open in the city of Calgary, Alberta.

The stamp was designed by the Design Workshop of Toronto, Ontario. It is purple in colour and measures 30mm by 36mm. The stamp was printed in one-colour lithography by the Canadian Bank Note Company of Ottawa. Marginal inscriptions appear on the four corners of each pane of fifty stamps available from the Philatelic Service.

The first international skating competition was held in 1890 in St. Petersburg, Russia. It was won by Louis Rubenstein, a Canadian and the first president of the Amateur Skating Association of Canada (which later became the Canadian Figure Skating Association).

In 1905 the first Canadian National Championships were held and in 1924 Canada was represented for the first time in World and Olympic championships. In 1947 the Canadian Figure Skating Association became an elected member of the International Skating Union. That same year Canada won her first World Championship when Barbara Ann Scott became Ladies' World Champion for 1947 and again in 1948.

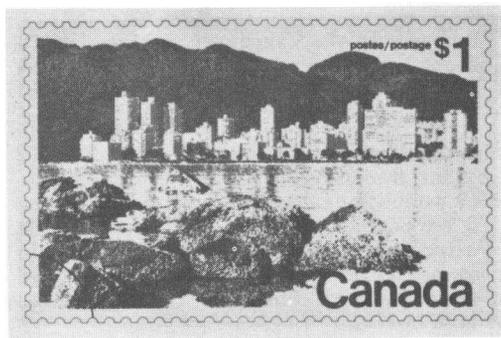
Since then top honours have gone to several other Canadians. In pairs competition Frances Dafoe and Norris Bowden, Barbara Wagner and Robert Paul, and Maria and Otto Jelinek have all won one or more world championships. Donald Jackson, Donald McPherson and Petra Burka have all been world champions in singles events.

Any country that is a member of the International Skating Union is entitled to enter one skater, or pair of skaters, in each category. If in

the previous years competition a country was placed in the top ten, it is then permitted two competitors in that event. A place in the top five allows the successful skater to enter again along with two countrymen. Canada then is this year entitled to enter three skaters in the ladies' singles event, one in the men's singles, two couples in the pairs category and one couple in the dance category.

Calgary is the third Canadian city to host the World Figure Skating Championships. In 1932 the Championships were held in Montreal, Quebec, and in 1960 in Vancouver, British Columbia.

### NEW \$1.00 and \$2.00 DEFINITIVES



The Canada Post Office has announced the design details of its new \$1.00 and \$2.00 definitive stamps which went on sale 17th March.

Both stamps were designed by Reinhard Derreth, of Vancouver, whose previous works include the design for the 6 cent. Louis Riel commemorative issued in June 1970.



These stamps show two great and representative Canadian cities—Quebec which has found the secret of preserving the charm of yesterday while keeping pace with the times, and Vancouver with its accent of the twentieth century and, in particular, the Seventies. The \$2.00 stamp shows a view of some of Quebec's historic buildings. A view of Vancouver's skyline appears on the \$1.00 issue.

The multicolour stamps are being printed by a combination of four-colour lithography and one colour steel engraving. Marginal inscriptions appear on the four corners of each pane of fifty stamps available from the Philatelic Service.

## Quebec, P.Q.

Quebec is the oldest city in Canada, founded by Samuel de Champlain in 1608 and incorporated as a city in 1832. It is an important eastern seaport and capital of the province of Quebec. The city has 476,236 residents within its metropolitan area.

Quebec is situated on a promontory of land (named Cape Diamond by explorer Jacques Cartier in 1535) on the north bank of the St. Lawrence where the great river narrows to a width of one mile. The origin of the name is generally believed to derive from an Indian word, 'kebec', meaning 'the river narrows here'. It is the only fortified city in North America today with walls and gates encircling one of the oldest sections of the city.

## Vancouver, B.C.

Situated on the shores of Burrard Inlet, Vancouver is the largest and most important Canadian seaport on the Pacific coast. It is also the third largest city in Canada with a total metropolitan population of 1,071,081.

The area was first explored by the Spanish and the English in 1791-92 and then, in the early 1800's, by fur traders from the Hudson's Bay Co. The first settlers arrived in 1862, establishing on the south shore of the inlet a settlement that came to be popularly known as 'Gastown'. The construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway in the early 1880's led to the settlement's incorporation as a city in 1886. The city was named Vancouver by Sir William Van Horne of the C.P.R. after Captain George Vancouver who had explored the area in 1792.

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Major R. K. Malott writes:

## **Orapex '72**

ORAPEX '72 sponsored by the RA Stamp Club, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, K1H 7X7, will have for sale a specially designed commemorative envelope for the 11th Annual Exhibition and Bourse of the RA Stamp Club.

The envelope will commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the RA Stamp Club. Envelopes will be sold in sets of 3 for \$100. A different Canadian .08 cent postage stamp will be used on the three envelopes, including an Ottawa .08 cent tagged and an .08 cent coil definitive issue (Parliamentary Library) issued 30th December 1971. Each envelope will be cancelled by a special four-line bilingual die cancellation to be used for one day only (6th May 1972)—ORAPEX '72, 1947-1972, 25th Anniv 25 ieme, May 6 and 7 mai.

The envelopes will be sold in sets of three only for \$1.00 per set. Payment should be made by postal money order. No stamps or personal cheques please. Orders should be sent to Miss Margaret Over, c/o RA Stamp Club, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, K1H 7X7. The set of 3 envelopes will be returned under cover to the purchaser. Orders will be accepted now.

Mr. L. McConnell writes:

## **Availability of Newfoundland Stamps**

Old-time collectors and dealers were at least as persistent and just as ingenious in their search for material as their present-day successors. The result is that occasional snippets of information survive which might otherwise have been lost.

Early in 1891, Mr. Walter MacKay of Perry Barr, Birmingham, wrote to the Postmaster General of Newfoundland offering to exchange stamps (on what basis we do not know).

The P.M.G. (no less) took time off from his activities of running the Post Office and, on a current 2 cent postcard of the day, set down in his own hand the following reply to Mr. MacKay:—

Dear Sir,

We do not exchange stamps, our time being fully occupied in regular office work. I have handed your card to N. Ohman, St. John's, Newfoundland stamp dealer.

The following stamps are attainable at this office at face value, viz:—

Issues 1857 to 1863—

4d lake, 5d red brown, 5d brown, 6d lake, 12d lake ... .. \$0.64

Later issues—

1 cent bro, 1 cent green, 2 cent green, 2 cent red, 3 cent blue,  
3 cent brown, 5 cent blue perforated, 6 cent rose,  
10 cent black (Ship), 12 cent, 24 cent, 1/2 cent, 1 cent  
postcard, 2 cent postcard ... .. 72<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

Latest—

Envelopes 5 cent 2 sizes, 3 cent 2 sizes  
Wrappers 1 cent, 2 cent and 3 cent ... .. 0.29  
Recent issue ... .. \$0.03

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\$1.68

St. John's, Nfld.  
3rd April 1891.

J. O. FRASER,  
P.M.G.

#### Transatlantic Mail

The article, 'Sharing the cost of Transatlantic Mail,' by J. J. Bonar (*Maple Leaves*, October 1971) records that the cover by cover division of postage between London and Canada ceased about the end of 1856, presumably strangled by its own volume.

*Maple Leaves*, October 1950, p82, provides a probable answer for J. M. Stevenson set out some of Rowland Hill's Instructions to British Postmasters, which include:

#### No. 61—1856 Arrangements for Forwarding Mails to Canada

Letters for Canada, unless specially addressed to be sent by any particular route, or by any particular line of Packets, will in future be forwarded, as a rule, by the First Mail Packet, whether British or Canadian, which may be despatched from this Country after they are posted.

The British Packets leave Liverpool every Saturday and the Canadian Packets are appointed to sail from that Port once a Month during the winter season, commencing on Wednesday the 26th instant.

The rates of postage chargeable on Letters, etc., by these two lines of Packets will remain as heretofore.

ROWLAND HILL, Secretary.

#### General Post Office, 22nd November 1856

The rates referred to were 8d by British Packet and 6d by Canadian Packet.

I believe that this instruction and Mr. Bonar's problem are interconnected.

A scan through the latest yearbook shows that at least 35 people profess an interest in Postal History and I know of a number of others who do not admit publicly to their addiction. The Yorkshire Group recently gave a useful lead in their article on rates. I suggest that it is time that a properly constituted Group was formed to study the subject. For instance, I would like to know more about the use of FORWARDED marks on which information seems to be rather conflicting. Collectively there may be sufficient information to enable the problems to be solved.

Br. J. F. H. Sutton writes:

### Modern Stamp Issues

The Editorial in the latest issue of *Maple Leaves* prompts me to make some comments which may be of interest. I appreciate your remarks on the dilemma of publishing articles on less popular aspects such as stationery and tagged Stamps.

In my view you should cover these and all news directly connected with philately. As you say this records such matters for future reference. At the same time one or two articles a year could open our eyes to the interesting aspects of stationery and tagged stamps.

May I put in a 'plug' for modern issues? Granted there are not the varieties and wealth of detailed interest in the stamps themselves as there is with the 'classics'. Nevertheless, approached from the angle of learning about Canadian history, industry, art etc. it can be both interesting and instructive. I think this is worthy of the attention of general collectors of Canada and especially those who find the 'classics' and postal history too expensive.

This brings us to the dilemmas of keeping a balance between the specialist and the general collector and between the collector of modest means and the ones who are not so restricted.

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| 275 | 2(8)          | 1.40  |     | 3 LL Flat  | 12.00 | 301a | —            | .70   |
| 276 | 1(8)          | 1.80  | 292 | 1          | 4.00  | 302  | 6 UR         | 10.00 |
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| 279 | 1(8)          | 3.25  |     | 1 LL       | 12.00 |      | 8 UL         | 5.00  |
| 280 | 3(8)          | 4.75  | 294 | 1 LL       | 3.75  |      | 8 LL or LR   | 2.25  |
| 281 | 3(6)          | 5.25  | 295 | 1 LL       | 4.75  | 303  | 1            | 1.25  |
| 283 | 2(3)          | 6.00  | 300 | 1, 2, or 5 | .75   |      | 2 LL or 3 UR | 15.00 |
| 288 | 1 or 2(4)     | .65   |     | Numeral 1  | 4.50  |      | 4 or 5       | 2.25  |
| 290 | 1             | 2.85  |     | 6, or 7    | 2.25  | 304  | 3            | 1.60  |
| 290 | 1 + Numeral 1 | 14.00 |     | 8 UL       | 2.75  | 305  | 1 or 3       | 2.40  |
| 290 | 1 UL          | 1.60  |     | 8 LL       | 12.00 | 312  | 1            | 5.75  |

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## Amendments to Membership to 2nd March 1972

### New Members

1826. McNEY, F. G., P.O. Box 177, Stony Plain, Alberta, Canada. C,N,B  
1827. JAMES, L. R., 36-2705 Cook Street, Victoria, B.C., Canada. C,RO,T,Per,PC  
1828. GALBRAITH, C. M., 22 Moreland Way, Chingford, London, E4 6SG. CQ—CE  
1829. LAW, C., Box 1507, Station B, Montreal, Canada. C  
1830. BROWN, H. W., 242 Baldwins Lane, Croxley Green, Herts. CQ—CGE  
1831. SCRIVENER, 106 Woodridge Crescent, Apt. 20, Ottawa 14, Ontario, Canada. C

### Deaths

232. CHELLEW, E.  
735. SMITH, C. L.

### Resignations

1620. DOULL, R. M.

### Change of address

142. BLACK, C. F., Flat 9, 24 Hyde Park Square, London W2 2AB  
1040. CHARRON, J. J., 450 Boul. Lafayette, Apt. 23, Longueuil, Quebec  
568. GILLAM, L. F., add postal code S60 4BU  
1697. HERBERT, Dr. F., 1 ave Shorncliffe, Westmount, Montreal 217,  
Canada  
206. JARRETT, F., Box 302, Adelaide Street, P.O., Toronto  
1562. KENNEDY, D. D., 20 High Street, Pakington, Cambridge  
1159. LITTLETON, J. H., 19 Kingsway, Ansdell,  
Lytham St. Annes, FY8 1AB  
1666. PHILLIPS, J. G., 33 Chichele Road, London NW2  
808. SMITH, J. R., 38 Evergreen Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk

### Additions to Year Book Listing

1774. CLARK, S. A., 924 North Drive, Winnipeg, Man., Canada, R3T OA8  
1804. KEMP, R., Cossipore, 25 Herne Bay Road, Whitstable, Kent. CQ—CG,P  
1805. DODWELL, H. K., Panitola T. E. and P.O., District Lakhimpur,  
Upper Assam, India  
1806. GOODWIN, L. J., 'Ninepins', One Pin Lane, Farnham Common,  
Slough, Bucks., SL2 3QY  
1186. FALKEN, S. R., Sr., 500 East 4th Street, Boyertown, P.A., U.S.A.

### Delete

1260. DANE, P. P. R.  
345. RUSSELL, E. C.

Net Change: Plus 3      New Total: 683



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