

JOURNAL OF THE
CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
OF GREAT BRITAIN

Maple Leaves

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WHOLE No. 167

VOL. 16 No. 11

APRIL 1978

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MAPLE LEAVES

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Founder:

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EDITORIAL

CONVENTION 1978

Enclosed with this issue is the usual hotel booking/competition entry form for use in connection with this year's convention and exhibition. Invariably, every year, we remind readers of the need to be prompt in their submission of these forms, not merely for the convenience of those responsible for the organisation of convention (although that is important enough) but also to avoid disappointment. The block-booking of accommodation at the Viking Hotel is limited; there are also limits to the number of frames that the exhibition can house.

Every year we report upon the growing popularity of convention; every year we report an increasing number of 'first-comers'; and every year we report that the latter, invariably, so much enjoy their new experience that they become habitues. Elsewhere in this issue we are pleased to publish one new-comer's impression of what a first visit to convention meant to him. This is recommended reading to all who may have doubts or reservations about 'taking the plunge'. We can do no more than say that our member's lively pen does no more than justice to an occasion which is always memorable, always enjoyable and increasingly popular.

We make no apologies for what is a perennial plea to members to submit their forms as soon as possible AFTER having read them carefully and

AFTER completing them legibly. It is also helpful if they are sent to the correct addressees whose names and addresses appear on the relevant forms! This is always appreciated by those who bear the responsibility of ensuring the smooth-running and organisation of convention, a task which can always be made easier given the co-operation of members.

CONVENTION AUCTION

We must, finally, also draw attention to the regulations governing the submission of lots for the annual convention auction. These appear on page 255 of our last issue; but for convenience they are summarised here. All lots should be sent to Mr. J.M.H. Parkin at 37a, Green Lane, Hollingworth, Nr. Hyde, Cheshire, NOT LATER THAN 1st June. ONLY B.N.A. material is acceptable and lots should be accompanied by a brief description and estimate of value (minimum £2). Single stamps or small lots should be housed on paper or card (preferably the latter) not more than 5" by 6". This is the last occasion upon which we shall be able to draw members' attention to these details. BY THE TIME OUR NEXT ISSUE APPEARS IT WILL BE TOO LATE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF AUCTION LOTS IF MEMBERS WISH THEM TO BE INCLUDED IN THE AUCTION CATALOGUE. ALL LOTS RECEIVED AFTER THE 1st JUNE WILL BE SOLD AT THE END OF THE SALE OF LOTS THAT HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE AUCTION CATALOGUE.

Last year the total sales of lots at convention auction exceeded £3,000. With the co-operation of members we can confidently look forward to this record total being broken once again.

THE YEAR BOOK

The 1978 edition accompanied the January 'Maple Leaves' and was the prime reason for the late arrival of the magazine. The information contained therein is largely in line with amendments published up to and including the January 1978 issue of 'Maple Leaves'. Would you please check your own entry and advise the Secretary of any amendment; in particular are the special interests still those that are currently claiming your attention? In this connection one or two amendments have been made to the list of interest "codes", notably provision for the increasing number of members showing interest in the Centennial issue.

Would Contact members and Special Study Group leaders please consider their position and advise the Secretary if they are unable to continue. In order to produce the Year Book by the beginning of January it was not possible to circularise the office holders.

Similarly if any member wishes to co-ordinate a special study or to act as contact for a particular area, then please write to the Secretary.



HINTS ON IDENTIFICATION OF ADMIRAL PRECANCELS

by R. S. Cheshire and H. Reiche

PART ONE

These notes are complementary to and run parallel with the articles on this subject by F. W. L. Keane and R. B. Hetherington.

The Admiral Issues of 1911-25 are one of the most popular issues of Canada and lend themselves to study. Over the years much research has been conducted into various facets of the issue. The result of this study has been published in many articles and handbooks which in turn has resulted in a 'snowballing effect' of interest amongst collectors.

I have always found these issues fascinating and all my interest of late has been devoted to them to the exclusion of all others. My pocket restricted what I could acquire of the basic Admiral issues and the avenues of precancels seemed to be a wonderful sideline and one worthy of closer scrutiny.

Interest in precancels has been neglected. The cost of the normal issues have been rising at such a rate over recent years that it seems likely that fields such as precancels, which have been sleeping, are going to come into their own and become increasingly popular in the years ahead.

The object of this article is to 'OPEN THE DOOR' to Admiral precancels with the hope that other members, like me, will catch the bug. They will want to look closer at what they have in their collections, and be on the lookout for the alternative printings thus opening up a new field of study which need not be too expensive. This introduction will be basic and the more advanced collector is asked to 'mark time' and allow the members who are starting with these issues to catch up to the stage they have reached.

What are Precancels – and why were they issued?

Precancels are defined by W. S. Boggs as:

"These are stamps having cancellations applied before the mailing of the article on which they prepay postage. As a rule, these are cancelled with a distinctive device, most commonly consisting of the names of a city and state between two lines, either printed or rubber stamped."

My own precancel collection has the introduction – "Precancelled stamps are stamps which have been cancelled before being affixed to the mail matter. The object of precancelling stamps is to expedite the handling of large mailings."

In other words, it was a method whereby large mailing houses could purchase precancelled stamps for use on large volumes of mail which would enable the Post Office to effect speedy handling. Precancels were first issued in Canada in 1889. Initially the sale of precancelled stamps was restricted to mailings of 15,000 pieces or more. This figure has been reduced over the years and in more recent times no minimum has been required. Modern issues have been available, in single sets, from the Philatelic Bureau.

Reference Books

The most widely used publication on the precancelled issues is the "Official Catalog of Canadian Precancels" by H. G. Walburn. The most recent edition, the 11th Edition, 1976, is available from the Handbook's Manager at £1.25 per copy. Prices quoted, in Canadian currency, are nett market values.

Members who catch the bug would be well advised to obtain the basic handbooks on the Admiral Issues. These will provide much food for thought and learning. These publications are :

- (a) Canada – Notes on the 1911-1925 Issue by G. C. Marler.
- (b) Canada – The Admiral Stamps of 1911-1925, Vol. 1 by H. Reiche.
- (c) Canada – The Admiral Stamps of 1911-1925, Vol. 2 by H. Reiche.

Acquiring Precancels

Few dealers, in this country, stock precancels to any extent. They tend to be put in the box together with 'those issues with holes in' (Perfins). They are however to be found if one is persistent. You can't expect everything on a plate!! The Society's Sales Packets often have selections, which are generally favourably priced – and many variations of printing can be found.

There is a Precancel Stamp Society of Great Britain with a membership of people who 'have caught the bug'. Their Sales Packets naturally have a fair proportion of Canadian Precancels to offer.

One of our own members, the Editor of the Precancel Catalog, has a very good stock. Indeed I have found Mr. Walburn, most helpful, and one of the few dealers I have found to whom one can send a 'wants list' and get results.

CAPEX '78

The President and the Secretary will be in Toronto for CAPEX in June, and it is hoped that all C.P.S. of G.B. members attending the Exhibition on Monday 12th. June will make an effort to be at the Royal Beaver Lounge at 2p m. so that we can all meet and have a discussion.

NOT SO MUCH A POSTAGE STAMP

. . . . MORE A WAY OF FRANKING

Part XXVI — The day that postage went down!

by S. F. Cohen, F.C.P.S.

Combinations of the Large Queen stamps of 1868 on covers are nice to see in a collection and the postage rates of the era can be shown to best advantage this way.

The introduction of the new series coincided with a very unusual change in postage rates. In these days of ravaging inflation it would be almost beyond belief to wake up one morning and find that instead of .9p first-class and 7p second-class, the rates had been reduced down to .5p and .4p.

Such indeed was the happy lot of anyone living in the then new Dominion of Canada on the 1st of April 1868. Nor was it an April Fool's joke on the part of a whimsical Post Office. Ever since decimalisation in



1859 it had cost 5 cents to post a single rate internal letter, and 10 cents for one going to U.S.A.

From April 1st 1868 these rates were reduced to 3 cents for an internal letter and 6 cents to U.S.A. Indeed, there was no need for the commonly used 5 cents (Beaver) stamp and not until seven years later (1875) was there a printing at all of a 5 cent value, Large Queen.

It is with this background history that one should now glance at the illustrated cover bearing 5 cents postage in a Large Queen combination of a 2ct and a 3ct stamp.

The letter was posted from Delta in Upper Canada to Toronto, where it duly arrived the next day (b/s), but why not a 3 cent rate? Or if it was a little heavy, why not 6 cents, double rate?

The answer lies in the date of posting, which was March 31st 1868. The very last day of the 5 cent internal postage rate (normally serviced with a 5 cent Beaver). The sender had used the new stamps, obviously on sale a day or two early at his local Post Office, and paid the correct postage by using one of each of the new 2 cent and 3 cent stamps. Indeed, had he waited to post the letter one day later he would have saved almost half the postage, and I would have had a First Day Cover of the 3 cent Large Queen!! *The same combination.*

Some collectors of this series of stamps may be surprised when I say that covers bearing these same two stamps are not all that rare. Certainly, the usage described above is rare, if not possibly unique. But, there was another need after April 1st 1868 when such a rate was essential. This happened when an ordinary letter with 3 cents postage required registering. The registration fee at that time was 2 cents, and the special registration stamps had not been thought of until 1875.

So a normal weight registered internal letter was almost invariably made up with a 2 cent Large Head for the registration fee and a 3 cent stamp for the postage.

The new 5 cent stamp issued in October 1875 was in use for a short while for this combined purpose of postage and registration, when in December of the same year it became obligatory to use the new 2 cent Registration stamp.

This highlights the unusual aspect of the illustrated cover, which, had it been registered, would not have qualified as being quite in the same class as an unregistered (or normal) letter which this is.

This is an example of the fascination of covers which illustrate unusual rates of postage.

“LA PHILATELIE AU QUEBEC”

The Federation quebecoise de philatelie publishes for the fourth year a magazine entitled “La Philatelie au Quebec”. The magazine is published monthly from September to June inclusively, for a total of 10 issues a year. It is available on a subscription basis for \$4.00 Can. a year, postpaid and mailed in a stamped envelope. The articles are in French, and deal with Canadian philately and research, as well as postal history, world philately and articles of topical interest. All correspondence concerning the magazine should be addressed to:

LA PHILATELIE AU QUEBEC,
a/s Federation quebecoise de philatelie,
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*

If you are not already a member of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and would be interested in joining the "Royal" please write to The Secretary, The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, Box 4195, Station "E", Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1S 5B2, for membership application forms or information.

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THE THREE CENT "MYSTERY" ESSAY

by R. B. Winmill

In June 1948, an alleged, hitherto unreported, three cent essay of the map stamp came to light. This essay depicted a map of the world in the form of two globes. Prior to this date, only four two cent essays were known to exist and since three cents, during the period of January 1, 1899 paid no commonly used rate, the question naturally arose, why a three cent essay? Indeed, some authorities even questioned its being in any way related to Imperial Penny Postage or to the map stamp. Despite at least three requests in the philatelic press (1948, 1949 and 1956)¹, no full explanation for the existence of this essay was ever advanced.



It was suggested in the *Essay Proof Journal*, that this three cent essay was produced "before the decision reported by the *Canadian Philatelic Weekly*, of Nov. 19, 1898 to reduce money (sic) rates to certain British Dominions on Christmas day?"² This statement is almost cryptic! It does nothing to explain the reason for the three cent essay because the rate to Great Britain prior to this time was five cents (2½d.).

The statement contains several errors and technical inaccuracies. For one thing, the two cent rate, as adopted on December 25, 1898 (and by certain other British possessions later) applied not only to the British Dominions but also to various protectorates, crown colonies, India and of course Great Britain itself. It is implied that the decision to adopt the two cent (1d.) rate was made shortly prior to November 19, 1898. This is not correct.

A conference was convened on July 5, 1898, in London, with British Postmaster-General, the Duke of Norfolk presiding.³ Canadian Postmaster-General the Honourable William Mulock proposed Imperial Penny Postage — this was seconded by the Honourable Sir David Tennant, Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope. Strong support was also accorded by Sir Walter Peace, Agent-General for Natal. As irony would dictate, the latter two nations, which may have been expected to promptly embrace the new rate, were not in the vanguard of those states adopting the measure.

This conference concluded on July 12, 1898 and in an announcement prepared by the Duke of Norfolk, it was revealed that the question of a

uniform Empire rate had been considered and was rejected because it was unacceptable to some of the Colonial Governments.⁴ Thus a resolution was prepared which left it open as to whether or not individual Governments adopted the rate. In any event, the decision was rendered on July 12, long before November 19, 1898, as reported in the article. The final communique, as reported in the *London Times* stated that "The date on which the reduction will come into effect will be announced later on".⁵

On July 27, the original date proposed for the introduction of Imperial Penny Postage was announced as November 8, 1898 (the birthday of the Prince of Wales).⁶ By August 11, 1898, the date finally adopted, was set.⁷ This was, of course, December 25, 1898. Consequently, there would be no conceivable reason for a three cent essay after July 1898. The three cent essay could not merely be an earlier version of the two cent map stamp.

Yet, the article is correct in one crucial respect. The essay probably is an early attempt at a three cent commemorative. But why the three cent denomination? The essay almost certainly relates to the unilateral Canadian attempt in late 1897, to adopt Imperial Penny Postage. A notice which appeared in the *Canada Gazette* reads:

"Whereas the Post Office Act provides that the Postmaster General may, subject to the provisions of the Act, establish the rates of postage on all mailable matter not being letters, newspapers or other things therein specially provided for: And whereas, the rates of postage upon letters from Canada to the United Kingdom or to any British possession is not specially provided for by the Post Office Act or any amendments thereof, now therefore I, William Mullock, Postmaster General of Canada, under and by virtue of authority vested in me, do hereby establish the rate of postage upon all letters aforesaid transmitted or post from any point in Canada to the United Kingdom or to any of the British possessions as follows :— There shall be charged and paid one uniform rate of three cents per ounce weight, a fraction of an ounce being chargeable as an ounce, upon all letters as aforesaid transmitted from any point in Canada to any point in the United Kingdom or British possessions. That this regulation shall come into force and take effect on, from and after the first day of January, one thousand, eight hundred and ninety-eight. Dated at Ottawa this twenty-third day of November 1897.

"W. Mullock,
"Postmaster-General"⁸

Why did this order never take force? The answer is simple. The UPU Convention provided that two or more countries could arrive at a mutual agreement as to lowering rates between them. It (in part) read:

XXXI . . .

2. In [the 1891 Vienna Convention] does not restrict the right of the contracting parties to maintain and to conclude treaties, as well as to maintain and establish more restricted Unions, with a view to the improvement of postal relations.⁹

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However, Canada was not empowered to initiate a lower rate on a unilateral basis with respect to foreign mails. In Great Britain where the rabble rousers, led by J. Henniker Heaton¹⁰ strived to achieve this postal 'reform', a proposal for an international stamp or a stamp commemorative of a proposed ocean penny rate, had been advanced at least 15 years prior to the Mulock essay.¹¹

Thus we can speculate that Mulock borrowed the idea for a commemorative postage stamp from the ramblings of the British agitators during the preceding fifteen years. As a consequence, he probably had an essay for the proposed three cent (1½d.) rate, produced. Given the facts presented, it would appear reasonable to conclude that the 'mystery' essay represents a proposed idea for a three cent commemorative designed to commemorate the aborted three cent (1½d.) rate. It is quite obvious why this stamp was never printed and released!

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1. See Vol. 6 No. 2 P.49, in *Maple Leaves*, February 1956.
 2. "Another Canada 1898 Map Essay?" in *The Essay Proof Journal*, October, 1948, P.44.
 3. For details see "Imperial Penny Postage" in the *London Times*, July 5, 1898, p.8.
 4. Imperial Penny Post: Decision of the Conference in *The London Times*, July 13, 1898, P.9. Chief amongst the objectors were the Australasian States. Canadian papers also reported the event. See the *Mail and Empire*, July 13, 1898 or the *Manitoba Free Press*, July 13, 1898. The *London Advertiser* ran a front page banner which read "Penny Postage Goes", see July 13, 1898, p.1.
 5. *Loc. cit.* (London Times).
 6. *Ibid.*, July 27, 1898, P.5.
 7. *Ibid.*, August 11, 1898, P.6. See also British Parliamentary Debates, August 11, 1898, Series 4, Vol. 64, P.914.
 8. See *The Canada Gazette*, December 3 & 11, 1897, P.1150 and 1216 respectively.
 9. Universal Postal Convention as in Sir Edward Hertslet (ed.) *HCT* Volume 19, London: Butterworth & Co. 1895, P.334. The Washington Convention of 1897, did not take effect until January 1, 1899.
 10. Even a cursory glance at the *London Times* or the *British Parliamentary Debates* between the mid 1880's and the turn of the century reveals that this man was a chronic malcontent and was constantly harassing the Government.
 11. Typical of the agitation for an International stamp was a J. Henniker Heaton question. See the *British Parliamentary Debates*, February 19, 1895, Series 4, Volume 30, P.1079. A late example of the question of a commemorative stamp in Great Britain can be noted. See Lord Balcarras, *British Parliamentary Debates*, August 4, 1898, Series 4, Vol. 64, P.102.

THE LONDON SECTION AND ME

by Roy A. Mewse, A.M.I.S.E.

Mr. Average, that's me. I can lose myself in a crowd of two and with my sort of luck find the other half wears a clown's red nose! I'm the Guy who dreams up all sorts of excuses for not doing something. I just wonder how many of you reading these lines come from my half of the 'crowd'.

For instance, I really joined the Society some years ago to be able to receive copies of *Maple Leaves* and make use of the very excellent library. At least, I think that was the reason. Oh yes, and each year I received a copy of the Convention Auction catalogue and most times submitted a modest *Postal* bid . . . all to no avail. What's that you say? Attend the Convention. But I never joined with such an idea in mind. Quick, come up with half a dozen reasons for not being able to do so!

Well Mr. Average, how's that for starters? Does this sound like you? Could it be you also are an excuse dreamer? So what! you might say. What else is there to do, we genuinely cannot attend Convention. Well, you could consider coming along to one of our Section meetings . . . Here we go again, quick, another excuse needed . . . how about "can't make Mondays" . . . that really squashes any enthusiastic regular trying to talk you into coming along.

Wait a minute, I'm Mr. Average, how have I fared these past years? As far as Convention is concerned, I must admit that for one reason or another, so far I have not been able to attend for the whole period. However my first attempt was to make the Oxford Auction a few years back . . . the first hour was horrific. My wife and I arrived not knowing a soul, only to find everyone at lunch. However, we did manage to find the lots on view and honestly, I could have bought them all and not found a single item amongst my collection. I had never seen such a wealth of material. In fact, we very nearly crept away and would have, had one friendly person not appeared on the scene to welcome us both as if we had been attending for years! So, stay we did and I think we purchased two moderately priced lots, which enhanced my collection a hundred fold.

From time to time in *Maple Leaves*, there appears invitations to join the London Section and one Monday, the day we couldn't make you may recall, very hesitantly we arrived at the Liberal Club, Charing Cross. The welcome we received needed to be seen to be believed. Were these friendly folk really the Canadian Experts! Not at all the Fuddy Duddies one usually associates with so called 'Experts'.

The outcome of this first visit has been that Mr. & Mrs. Average have hardly missed a meeting since. We have seen some extremely fine displays of material I will personally never be able to afford. We have also seen other material which when compared with my own has made me realise that a fine display does not necessarily have to be worth a fortune. O.K., so this guy's 'junk' just happens to be my absolute pride and joy . . . who the hell cares? Certainly, it would appear, not the other members.

My wife always accompanies me and although she has no collection of her own, helps make my indulgence a 'joint effort'. We have been attending the London Section for some years now and at the last meeting I promised to take along some pages from my collection the next time we congregate, in October.

Why not come along? I can assure you, it will not be as spectacular as some we have been privileged to see but with my warped sense of humour it will certainly be different! You can be sure that this next hesitant step into complete participation in the Society, will not be the last. I guess we will just keep on going . . . See you there! O.K.?

BOOK REVIEW

THE COMMONWEALTH Q.E. II STAMP CATALOGUE (1978 EDITION)

(Urch, Harris & Co. Ltd., 7 Richmond Hill Avenue, Bristol, BS8 1BQ.)

This catalogue will need no introduction to most of our readers in Great Britain. It is so widely known and used here that we hesitate to lavish praise upon it. For members, however, in Canada and the U.S.A. it will certainly come as a surprise and delight if they are unfamiliar with its contents. Of particular interest will be the excellent treatment accorded to the definitive issues of Canada, particularly those of 1967, the 'Centennial' issues to which the publishers have applied themselves with such assiduity that it is difficult to fault them. All the known paper, gum and tagging varieties are clearly listed and the booklets and pochettes are comprehensively covered with realistic prices. Some of the latter will come as a surprise, perhaps; but those who are aware of the scarcity of, for example, the pane of 20 five cents value with Winnipeg tagging, will not quarrel with the £22 valuation placed upon it. The BABN six cents die 1 in a booklet pane of 25 is listed at £10 and the same value perforated 12½ by 12 at £12. Such is the popularity of this issue that it would be unwise to speculate on future prices of these and other rarities, except to say with every confidence that they will never be any cheaper. Practically all the prices given represent advances, some of them very considerable, over those of 1977 and anyone who is hesitant about the publisher's assessments will not find any profit in delaying purchases. For a recently obsolescent issue the 'Centennials' have a long way to go yet. Specialists in this issue will not need to be told this; but for those 'hovering on the brink' it is almost a case of 'now or never'. And for assembling a worthwhile collection no one can afford to be without the catalogue, which at £8.95 postpaid, or £8 from dealers, must be an indispensable guide.

STAMP PROGRAMME FOR 1978

34 new stamps will be issued by Canada Post in 1978. The programme includes definitives to accommodate the rate increases planned for 1978. Twenty-eight commemorative stamps will also be included in the programme.

The programme began on 18 January with the issue of the second endangered wildlife stamp, this year featuring the Peregrine Falcon. On the same day, the first of four stamps marking Canada's largest international stamp exhibition, CAPEX '78, were also issued. The remaining three will be produced as both a souvenir sheet and regular sheets at the time of the exhibition in June. The exhibition will coincide with the centenary of Canada's entry into the Universal Postal Union.

On 7 March, new low-value definitives were issued in time for the rate increases of 1 April. The definitives will picture Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, the Parliament Buildings, and a Canadian tree. On 31 March, the first two of six stamps marking the Commonwealth Games to be held in Edmonton, Alberta next August, will go on sale.

In April, the Post Office will join with the province of British Columbia in the bicentennial celebrations of the exploration of the West Coast by Captain James Cook. Two stamps will be issued in his honour.

The popular ships series will be continued with four ice vessels stamps, and the Inuit lifestyle series, begun this year, will carry on with four stamps featuring travel in the Arctic.

Mere d'Youville, founder of the Grey Nuns religious order, Resource Development in Canada, and the Canadian National Exhibition will be the subjects for four other commemoratives. A wildflower, a Canadian street scene, and a national park will be pictured on the final set of definitives to be issued in July.

The traditional three stamps on the Christmas theme round out the programme. The complete schedule is outlined below:

1978 STAMP PROGRAMME

Jan. 18	ENDANGERED WILDLIFE – PEREGRINE FALCON (one stamp)
Jan. 18	CAPEX '78 – INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION (one stamp)
Mar. 7	LOW-VALUE DEFINITIVES – QUEEN ELIZABETH II, PARLIAMENT, TREE (three stamps)
Mar. 31	COMMONWEALTH GAMES (two stamps)
Apr. 26	CAPTAIN JAMES COOK (two stamps)
May 19	RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT – COBALT, SILVER; ATHA- BASCA TAR SANDS (two stamps)
June 10	CAPEX '78 – INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION (three stamps – souvenir sheet)

- July 6 DEFINITIVES – WILDFLOWER, STREET SCENE, NATIONAL
PARK (three stamps)
 Aug. 3 COMMONWEALTH GAMES (four stamps)
 Aug. 16 CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION (one stamp)
 Aug. 21 MERE D'YOUVILLE (one stamp)
 Sept. 6 INUIT – TRAVEL (four stamps)
 Oct. 20 CHRISTMAS (three stamps)
 Nov. 15 SHIPS – ICE VESSELS (four stamps)



STREET SCENES STAMPS ISSUE

In our January number we announced the issue, on 7th December, 1977 of 45, 50 and 60 cents definitive stamps depicting various Canadian street scenes. A change in postal rates and labour disruptions have, however, led to delays in production and at the time of going to press we are still unable to state when the stamps will be issued. The details, however, are as follows:

The new series, illustrated herewith, will depict Canadian street scenes including the main street of a prairie town (50 cents), a street in a maritime community (60 cents) and an older-style street of a city (75 cents).

Tom Bjarnason of Toronto designed the three stamps using a line and wash technique, and the British American Bank Note Company Limited of Ottawa will do the printing using a three-colour gravure and one-colour steel engraving process. The stamps, 36mm by 30mm, will be in the horizontal format and will be available on a continuous basis. The printing will be done on coated-one-side gravure type paper. PVA gum will be used throughout.

Marginal inscriptions, including the designer's and printer's names, will appear on the four corners of each pane of 50 stamps (one denomination per pane).

The total production of these stamps will bear the general tagging and will not be available in any other form.



INUIT ISSUE

The four inuit lifestyle stamps issued on 18 November 1977 show hunting by the Inuit as revealed through their art.

One pair shows two stonecut prints: a view of a disguised Caribou hunter in a blind, by Lypa Pitsiulak and Soloman Karpik, and the other a walrus hunt, by Parr. The second pair of stamps depicts seal-hunting, in an anonymous Inuit soapstone sculpture, and fishing with spears, in a stonecut print by Pitaloosee.

Reinhard Derreth of Vancouver designed the stamps which were printed by Ashton-Potter Ltd. of Toronto.

The stamps were printed se-tenant with two designs per pane of 50. One pair represents the Seal Hunter/Fisherman's Dream, with the Seal Hunter design in the upper left corner. The other pair represents the Disguised Archer/Hunters of Old, with the Disguised Archer design in the upper left corner.

Each stamp measures 36mm by 30mm in the horizontal format, and 20.5 million of each pair have been printed.

The stamps were all printed in five-colour lithography on paper coated on one side. P.V.A. gum was used throughout the printing and all stamps bear the general tagging.

Plate inscriptions carry the titles of the artwork, the name of the designer and the name of the printer.



PEREGRINE FALCON

The 12-cent endangered wildlife commemorative stamp issued on 18 January 1978 depicts the Peregrine Falcon.

Robert Bateman, the well-known Canadian wildlife artist who prepared the artwork for the Eastern Cougar stamp last year, is once again the designer of the stamp.

A total of 31.8 million stamps have been printed by Ashton-Potter Limited of Toronto in four-colour lithography on litho paper coated on one side only.

Each pane of 50 stamps bears the names of the designer and printer in the side margins facing in at the four corners.

The stamps measure 40mm by 24mm in the horizontal format, and the total production bears the general tagging.

CAPEX 1978

CAPEX '78, the second international stamp exhibition to be held in Canada, will be honoured by the release of four stamps in 1978. The show, scheduled for 9 to 18 June at the Canadian National Exhibition Grounds in Toronto, commemorates the centenary of Canada's entry into the Universal Postal Union. The first stamp, issued on 18 January 1978, features a stamp-on-stamp design picturing a pair of the 12-penny Queen Victoria stamps of 1851, frequently referred to in philatelic circles as the 12-Penny Black. This stamp is considered by collectors to be a classic in Canadian postage design and the keystone of any complete Canadian collection.



The stamp released in January was designed by Carl Brett of Toronto, Robert Coutoure prepared the engraving from the mint corner margin pair in the National Postal Museum collection in Ottawa.

The remaining three stamps will be issued on 10 June; and for the first time in Canadian postal history, a miniature souvenir sheet of the stamp will also be available.

In addition to the four stamps honouring CAPEX, Canada Post will have a wide-ranging involvement in the programme.

Universal Postal Union and Postal Administrations Day will be celebrated on 13 June, and to mark the occasion Canada Post has invited Mr. M. I. Sobhi, Director General of the Universal Postal Union, a UN agency, to be its guest at the show. Mr. Sobhi will be taking part in the events of the day and will be in attendance for several days.

As agent for CAPEX, Canada Post has invited postal administrations from around the world to take part in the CAPEX activities. To date, 27 foreign postal administrations and two international stamp-marketing agencies have indicated that they will attend and will be selling their countries philatelic items.

CAPEX '78 heralds the greatest involvement Canada Post has ever had in a philatelic show. The Department has arranged for approximately 12.5 thousand square feet of floor space for displays showing the development of the Canada Post Office since its entry into the Universal Postal Union in 1878, and for philatelic sales counters.

A total of 33 million of the first "Capex" stamps each measuring 36mm by 33mm in the horizontal format, has been printed in one-colour steel engraving plus one-colour gravure by the British American Bank Note Company of Ottawa.

Each pane of 50 stamps bears the names of the printer, designer and engraver in the side margins facing in at the four corners.

P.V.A. gum has been used throughout the printing and the total production will bear the general tagging.

THE TWELVE-PENNY BLACK

On 6 April 1851, Great Britain transferred the responsibility for the operation of the Post Office to the Province of Canada. Canada's first postage stamp was issued shortly thereafter, on 23 April 1851. It was a red three-penny stamp designed by Sir Sandford Fleming of Toronto for the Postmaster General, the Hon. James Morris, and depicted a beaver in its natural environment. The second denomination, a six-penny stamp printed in slate-violet, was distributed to post offices sometime between 2 and 17 May 1851. This stamp depicts a vignette of Albert, the Prince Consort, from an engraving by W. H. Egleton after a portrait drawn by W. Drummond. The highest denomination in this series was a Twelve-Penny stamp issued on 14 June 1851.

All the stamps were engraved by Alfred Jones (1819-1900), an accomplished British portrait engraver. All sources agree that of the total printing of 51,000 stamps, 1,510 were distributed to postmasters throughout the Province of Canada and of these, sixty were returned by the postmaster at Ingersoll, Ontario. The stamp was printed in sheets of 200, arranged in two panes, each having 10 rows of 10 subjects. From Post Office records it is known that the Twelve-Penny stamp was available for use until 4 December 1854, when it was withdrawn from sale. On 1 May 1857, the remaining stocks of this stamp were destroyed in accordance with Post Office procedure.

In 1851 Canadian Post Office authorities believed there were no printing firms in Canada capable of producing the high quality engraving which was required for postage stamps. Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson of New York City, had gained a reputation as security printers of high quality banknotes and postage stamps. This firm, together with several others, formed the American Bank Note Company in 1858. Prior to being awarded the contract to print Canada's first stamps, Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson had esta-

blished an agency in Canada and had undertaken work for a number of private banks. No doubt this factor was taken into consideration when the Hon. James Morris (Postmaster General 1851-1853) awarded the contract to the New York firm.

In the matter of choosing the designs for Canada's first stamps, the postal administration for the Province of Canada sought to demonstrate a measure of independence from Great Britain. It appears certain that, for a short time, consideration was given to use only the beaver design prepared by Sandford Fleming. The existence of a one shilling essay containing Fleming's design would appear to substantiate this theory. Post Office authorities, however, eventually adopted the policy that all letters addressed to foreign destinations should bear the effigy of the sovereign. As the Twelve-Penny stamp was expected to primarily serve this purpose, it was decided that the most suitable likeness of Her Majesty Queen Victoria would be used. The beaver design was retained for the three-penny stamps, which was the rate for internal mail.

The vignette for the Twelve-Penny stamp was taken from the portrait of Queen Victoria in her Robes of State, painted in 1837 by Alfred Chalon, R.A. (1781-1860). The painting was presented by Her Majesty to her mother, the Duchess of Kent, as a memento of the Queen's first visit to the House of Lords on 17 July 1837. The Chalon portrait was the basis for many postage stamps issued by British Colonies, notably New Zealand.

Canada also utilized this vignette for two other postage stamps — the 7-1/2-pence, issued in 1857 and the 12-1/2-cent, issued in 1859 — as did the provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

“Twelve Pence” was used to identify the value of the stamp rather than “One Shilling”, to avoid confusion between the monetary values of British Sterling and Colonial currency.

The Postal Museum is fortunate in having an original 24” x 36” engraving after the Chalon portrait. This rare engraving was formerly in the collection of Mr. Gerald E. Wellburn of Victoria, B.C., a prominent Canadian postal historian and charter member of the Postal Museum Advisory Committee. The engraving is the work of Samuel Cousins, A.R.A., and was published on 28 June 1838 by Francis Graham Moon of London, England. Mr. Wellburn presented the engraving to the Postal Museum in 1975.

The “Bank Note Companies” in Canada and the United States place great importance on their engravings, since they were used many times for various purposes. Correspondence between the Canada Post Office and the printers in New York suggests the design for the Twelve-Penny stamp was prepared in Canada and taken personally by the Postmaster General to New York. The engraving was done by Alfred Jones under the direction of James Parsons Major, a script engraver and designer, and head of the engraving department at Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson.

The Twelve-Penny stamps do not bear the Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson imprint. Imprints did not appear on the sheet margins of Canadian stamps until 1852. When the first and only consignment of Twelve-Penny

stamps reached Toronto in May 1851, problems became apparent. An exceedingly thin grade of transparent laid paper had been used by the printers, which brought criticism from the Postmaster General. A theory to explain this would be the Company's use of an existing supply of paper which was not normally used for postage stamp printing purposes. The paper used for the "pence" stamps was manufactured by the Ivy Mills of Chester, Pa., a company noted for its quality banknote papers. It seems quite possible that the laid paper printings were in fact printed on a type of banknote paper.

Thirty-five die and plate proofs are known to exist for the Twelve-Penny stamp. This figure includes the contemporary plate proofs and the composite die proofs that were made from 1859 to 1878. Some authorities claim that the last printing of composite die proofs was probably authorized in 1878 by A. C. Goodall, President, American Bank Note Co.

Based on reliable authority, it is believed that there are between 100 and 145 of the Twelve-Penny stamps, both mint and used, in existence. The same source suggests the following quantities exist:

- (1) 5 mint pairs
- (2) 50 mint singles
- (3) 3 to 5 covers
- (4) 2 used pairs
- (5) 75 used singles

Why the stamp saw such limited use has been discussed among philatelists for many years. The consensus is that it prepaid seldom used rates such as the following: 12d per ounce to Newfoundland and the British West Indies via Halifax and Liverpool; double weight letters to the United States; quadruple-rate domestic letters. The sale of so few Twelve-Penny stamps during the period of its availability, must have been a matter of some concern to Post Office authorities, and the reason for its unpopularity may therefore be only part of the story. Some other significant reason may yet be uncovered to clarify this explanation further.

In his Epilogue to the Provincial Issues on page 216 of Vol. 1 Boggs states that in 1902, "The various dies and plates (of both the pence issues and the decimal currency issues of 1859) were cut apart and thrown into a river some miles from Ottawa, after having been lying in the vaults of the Department for years". There is no evidence that this occurred. The Twelve-Penny plate that was sent to Canada on 26 March 1857 was not destroyed, since it is now on display at the National Postal Museum.

In 1963 Post Office officials attending the annual convention and exhibition of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada in Windsor, Ontario, surprised those assembled by bringing a sealed box to the banquet. When this box was opened during the dinner, all were astonished to see that it contained defaced printing plates of early postage stamps of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, including the plate for the Twelve-Penny stamp. It is interesting to note that the name "J. Garside, N.J." is stamped into the metal on the reverse side of the plate. Perhaps this is the name of the supplier of the original steel plate.

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Letters to the Editor

Mr. K. W. Pugh writes:

B.N.A. Fakes, Forgeries and Counterfeits

I am presently conducting a research project, and seek the assistance of fellow CPS/GB members. Titled, the "Reference Manual of BNA Fakes, Forgeries and Counterfeits" it is an attempt to record the fraudulent imitations of every BNA area forger, for all periods.

The manual, of which Release No. 1 has already taken place, consists of enlarged black and white photographs (4 x 5), and informative data on characteristics, paper, gum, design, method of printing, etc.

Not only are the actual stamps illustrated but cancellations, surcharges, overprints are also covered in this manual. All areas of BNA philately – regular issues, airmails, semi-official airmails, officials, perfins, from Canada, and the Provinces, from the first to the most recent are covered.

As can be expected, such a project is a mammoth undertaking and will require the assistance of as many concerned collectors as possible. Although my own BNA forgery reference collection is modest, there are numerous imitations, shades, perforations, cancellations etc. that I do not possess. I am therefore asking for assistance from all CPS/GB members.

If any one has any BNA fake or forgery that may be loaned to me for examination, recording (measurements, shades, etc.), photographing, for inclusion in the manual, I would be anxious to hear from them.

All such assistance will be acknowledged by a credit note under each photo illustrated. As the manual illustrates genuine stamps as well, anyone with a superb mint genuine issue that has been imitated at one time or another, is also invited to participate.

As the manual is in 5½ x 8½ binder format, new releases of 50 pages can be prepared as material is submitted. At present I am working on release no. 2, which features early Canadian issues, as well as faked overprints and surcharges.

Inquiries are invited for anyone wishing to receive information in release No. 1, or be put on my mailing list of recipients.

Release No. 1, features some of Sperati's Newfoundland issues, Spiro's British Columbias, Fournier's and Spiro's later Newfoundland, modern counterfeits and philatelic forgeries, the map stamps and some early Canadian fakes.

(Please refer to outside back cover of August 1977 for details of the Author's first release – Editor.)

Mr. G. E. L. Manley writes:

RECENT PRECANCELS

I think that it might be of interest to report a recent difference that has appeared on Type Y. The overall measurement of the precancel on the set of 1 cent to 8 cent is 11mm. However, on the recently issued 10 cents the overall measurement is barely 10mm. and the difference of over 1mm. is clearly discernible by eye. Has anyone found this narrower print on any other value?

Major R. K. Malott writes:

REVISED 25 cents AEROGRAMME

I enclose the following data that may be of interest to your readers:

"The Canadian Post Office Department has issued the .25c aerogramme with a revised design and painting on the back panel. The revised aerogramme was first noticed at Stampex 77 at Toronto, Ontario on 10 June 1977. A limited number were available for sale and a few were cancelled with the Stampex die cancel dated 10:30 AM 10 VI 1977 Ontario with the words "STAMPEX'77 - POWER II/POLISH P.O.W. DAY/JOUR DES P.G. POLANTS/JUNE-10-JUIN". No advance information was provided on this new issue. In lieu of the grain elevator scene on the aerogramme released 31 December 1976 for use on 1 January 1977 (this must be a famous Canadian painting also) the painting of Tom Thomson entitled "Blue Sky, White Clouds, Green Trees" is depicted. The painting done in 1917, the year of Thomson's mysterious death, is 8½" x 10½", and is part of the McMichael Conservation Collection of Art at Kleinberg, Ontario, 20 miles north of Toronto.

The aerogramme differs also from the first .25c aerogramme in 3 ways: (1) There are three broken lines of eight dashes separating the four sections of the aerogramme; (2) The word "CODE" appears on the fourth line of the return address location; and (3) There is a red diagonal line, right to left, between the words "Air Mail/Par Avion". If this is to be a new series of aerogrammes depicting Canadian art it would be appropriate to provide the name of the artist and the name of the actual painting. The presentation of this type of design is, however, most commendable. For further data readers are invited to contact R. K. Malott, 16 Harwick Crescent, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K2H 6R1.

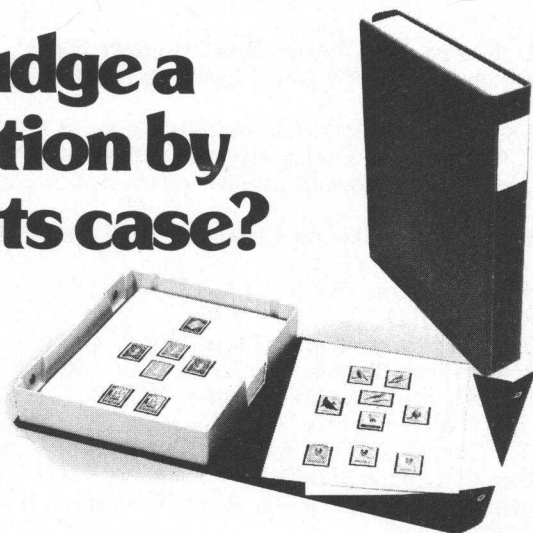
The aerogramme was released for sale at the Ottawa Philatelic Counter at Confederation Heights, Ottawa, on Friday 24 June 1977. Aerogrammes were cancelled with the Postal Museum date stamp and also with the Philatelic Counter's date cancellation.

Activity in Canadian aerogramme collecting is starting to pick up with the issue of two new .25c aerogrammes and the discovery of the inverted printed .20c aerogramme in Northern Ontario in April 1977."



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2184 FEAGAN, Robert D., 2398 Drury Lane, Ottawa, Ont., Canada K2C
1G5. C, B.
2185 WILSON, R.G.J., 52 West Mead, Windsor, Berks SL4 3NL. C, BS.
2186 FRANCIS, Wilfred L., 13 Fairlea Avenue, Didsbury. C.
2187 ELLIS, Barry D., 2 Sutherland Avenue, Norwich, Norfolk NR6 5LN.
PS, BS, PH, CG.
2188 BULLOCH, Dr. C., The Mount, Clarendon Road, Leeds 2, W. Yorks.
C, N, CEN.
2189 MENSFORTH, Sir Eric, C.B.E., D.L., 3 Belgrave Drive, Fulwood,
Sheffield S10 3LQ. C, B.
2190 ATKINSON, Norman, 4 Ashleigh Close, The Parklands, Axwell Park,
Blaydon-on-Tyne, Tyne & Wear NE21 5NG. CR-CGC, Cov.
2191 STILLIONS, Clarence A., 4944 Ashby St.N.W., Washington DC,
20007, U.S.A. N-PE, PH.
2192 HALLETT, Thomas C., 63 Brisbane Street, New Church Road,
Camberwell, London SE6 7NJ. C
2193 KING, David A. H., 49 Langhorn Road, Swaythling, Southampton,
Hants SO2 3TP. C.
2194 HONEYBOURNE, Kenneth R., "Sorrento", Upper Sunbury Road,
Hampton, Middx TW12 2DL. CGE, CEN.
2195 STALKER, Brian T., 3 Rutherford Way, Tonbridge, Kent TN10
4RH. C.
2196 SPECTERMAN, David B., 69 Thornfield House, Rosefield Gardens,
London E14 8EP. GCE, CEN.
2197 HUGHES, John P., 10745 Deep Cove Road, RR//1, Sidney, B.C.
Canada V8L 3R9. P
2198 HANSEN, Glenn F., 375 Jefferson, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
R2V 0N4. C, SC.
2199 GENDRON, Raynald, CF 591, Papineauville, Quebec, Canada JOV
1RO. B, C, UO.

Deceased

- 593 FAIRBANKS, A.G.
29 MERRYLEES, J.S.
2023 NUNN, F.A.

Resigned

- 464 TILLEY, E. W.
1410 SMITH, M.W.
1877 TARBOLTON, G.H.
2052 CURRAH, M.

Revised Membership = 722

Change of Address

- 2031 AMES, R. F., 29 Oakwell Drive, Ilkeston, Derby.
866 ATKINSON, F. G., P.O. Box 427, N.D.G. Station, Montreal, Que.
Canada H4A 3P7.
- 2017 AYSHFORD, J.M., 129 Burges Road, Thorpe Bay, Essex, SS1 3JL.
1935 BELLACK, L.G., 11 Mardley Heights, Welwyn, Herts, AL6 0TX.
1320 FLETCHER, J.R., "Cantley", Great Doward, Symonds Yat, Herefordshire.
- 1998 GOLDSTEIN, E.M., 70 Charing Road, Ottawa, Ont., Canada K2G 4C5.
- 2088 GRIFFEN, R.D., 38 Ribblesdale, Thornbury, Bristol. (temporary).
1788 HARRIS, P., 11 North Parade, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 4PA.
806 HILLSON, N.J.A., 52 Drumby Crescent, Clarkson, Glasgow G76 7HW.
- 206 JARRETT, F., 27 Don Woods Drive, Toronto, Ont., Canada, M4N 2E9.
- 1061 KENYON, S.S., 8024 - 179A Street, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5T 0T1.
- 1766 LAURENCE, H., 817 Kate's Lane, Pickering, Ont. Canada L1V 3C3.
- 1413 LEA, W.E., Kestrel Grange, The Mount, Esher, Surrey. (Delete 'Jr' from title).
- 1864 MOSS, J.S., 30 The Village Green, West Lebanon, NH03784, U.S.A.
1733 PHILIP, Dr. C.M., 2 Coniston Way, Church Crookham, Aldershot, Hants, GU13 0RS.
- 1943 PURDON, A.J., 1 Ludlow Court, Kingston Park, Kenton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE3 2YN.
- 2136 SMITH, R.B. c/o Dames and Moore, 605 Parfet Street, Lakewood, Colorado, U.S.A.
- 1248 WHITEHEAD, K., Inglewood, 7A Park Road, Hesketh Park, Southport, Merseyside.

National Postal Museum Booklet

The National Postal Museum, Ottawa, has released a new 50-page illustrated booklet entitled "The National Postal Museum". It is a reversible-type bilingual publication printed in English and French, the two official languages of Canada.

The booklet, which is illustrated in colour, consists of several chapters devoted to a section of the Museum or to interesting artifacts owned by the Museum. Several of these artifacts are not on display at the present time, since new exhibits are in the process of being assembled for display in the Museum's new enlarged quarters. Plans are advanced for Canada's Postal Museum to relocate to a much larger downtown site on Wellington Street in Ottawa sometime late in 1978 or in 1979.

The booklet is on sale at the National Postal Museum, Confederation Heights, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1A 0B1. at 50c a copy. Those interested in obtaining a copy may order direct from the Museum at the above address. All booklets are sent postpaid. Individuals in other countries may send two (2) International Reply Coupons for each copy required.

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